

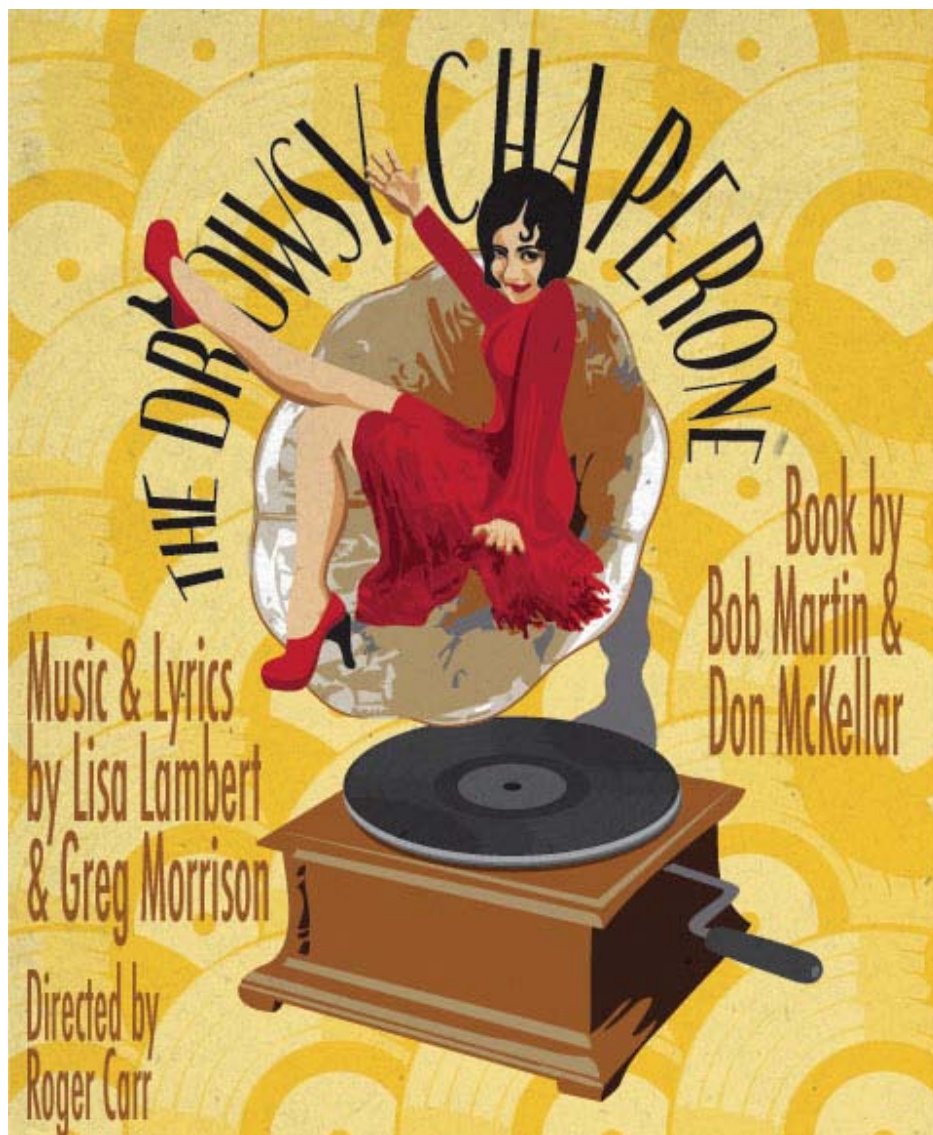
LANGHAM COURT

NEWS

Langham Court has been the home of the Victoria Theatre Guild since 1935. Its Mission Statement:
"To foster and celebrate the art and practice of sustainable community theatre."

January 2012

Start the New Year on a High Note with



Anything But Drowsy!!



A lively scene from *The Drowsy Chaperone*. L to R: Jeffrey Stephen, Cam Culham, Lindsay Robinson and Linda O'Connor. Photo by David Lowes

A Broadway Musical comes to Langham Court Theatre!

The third show of this season is *The Drowsy Chaperone* – a Broadway musical. Plus, it's Canadian. This was a multiple Tony Award winner in 2006 and is a major event in the **Langham Court Theatre calendar**. *The Drowsy Chaperone* began as a stag party spoof for two Toronto actors, **Bob Martin** and **Janet Van De Graffe**, and morphed into a Broadway and West End hit.

The play is conjured by an eccentric recluse, The Man In The Chair, who loves the big Broadway musicals of the 1920s. He leads us into his delightful world of song and dance as *The Drowsy Chaperone*, a wildly crazy 1928 musical, comes to life in his apartment. As The Man In The Chair might say:

“Everybody loves a wedding, right? Well, that's what this show is – a musical journey through a wedding day gone awry. But don't worry, this isn't one of those big modern musicals where the bride and groom are torn apart by gang warfare or flying monkeys, and there's no flashy spectacle like landing a helicopter on the stage to distract from a lack of proper melody. It's the 20s, and the tunes are wonderful! But if you enjoy that flashy kind of show, don't worry – we do have gangsters, and dancing monkeys with little cymbals, and an airplane – but it's all very tasteful and fun! That's exactly what this show is – fun!”

Roger Carr
Director

Introducing Leading Canadian Producer, Director and Choreographer Jacques Lemay

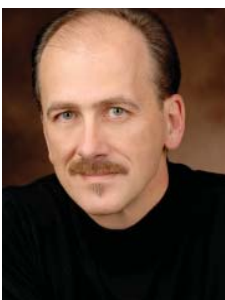
Jacques Lemay has been described as one of Canada's most talented and versatile Producer, Director and Choreographer. Jacques was Artistic Director of the Opening Ceremonies for the **1988 Calgary Olympics**; Producer and Director of the **1989 and 1991 Jeux Canada Games**; Producer and Director of the **1994 XV Victoria Commonwealth Games**; Producer and Director of the **1997 Special Olympics World Winter Games**; and Producer and Artistic Director of **Bridge Fest** for the Opening of Confederation Bridge in Prince Edward Island.

His creative work spans the full gamut of theatrical and television productions including operas, ballets, symphony concerts, musicals, multi-cultural productions, royal galas, variety shows and special events. Mr. Lemay was the Artistic Director of the **Charlottetown Festival** from 1991 to 1997 and was Founding Director of the Modern Jazz Dance department for the professional and general schools for the **Royal Winnipeg Ballet**, a position he held for thirteen years from 1976 to 1989. He has directed and choreographed musicals and operas in several major theatres across Canada including **The Manitoba Theatre Centre, Grand Theatre, London, Toronto's O'Keefe Centre, Winnipeg Opera Association, Pacific Opera, Victoria, Bastion Theatre, The Citadel Theatre**; and many more. He had the great honour of being selected as Artistic Director for six Royal Visits held throughout the country. He also gained renown as choreographer for the **Royal Winnipeg Ballet** and other international dance companies. His services have been retained as a consultant, teacher,

adjudicator and advisor by government agencies; arts organizations; theatre and dance companies; First Nations organizations, and colleges; including **Canada Council for the Arts, B.C. Arts Council, Manitoba Arts Council, Saskatchewan Arts Council, Yukon Arts Advisory Council, Cultural Human Resources Council, Pan Am Games** and the **Office of the Auditor General**.

Jacques has served on many Boards of Directors across Canada. He is the Past Chair of the Advisory Committee for Marketing and Planning for the National Capital Commission in Ottawa. He served as the Vancouver Island Director for the Celebrate Canada Committee for the **Department of Canadian Heritage**. Jacques was recently named Community Arts Leader of the Year and is a recipient of the **Queen's Jubilee Medal** for his work in arts and culture. He was the staging director for the Unveiling of the **New 7 Wonders of the World** in Lisbon, Portugal with such stars as **Ben Kingsley, Hilary Swank, José Carreras, Chaka Khan** and **Jennifer Lopez**. Jacques was also selected as a member of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies Team for the **2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics**, and was Creative Advisor to the Executive Producer. . Also in 2010, Jacques and his wife, Director/Actor, **Janis Dunning** were named **CFAX Community Arts Leaders of the Year**.

Jacques recently retired as Co-Director of the **Canadian College of Performing Arts**, which he founded along with wife and co-Director Janis in 1998. Jacques's reason for retiring? To pursue a freelance career which so far includes (apart from choreographing *The Drowsy Chaperone*), a one-man show with opera singer **Ken Lavigne**, which has been developed by both Jacques and Janis. Then when his stint



with **Langham Court** is finished, he will be choreographing *Carmen* for **Pacific Opera**, and shortly after *Carmen*, he will be off to Alberta to direct *CATS the musical* for **Theatre**

Calgary. Not only a sensational Choreographer and Director, Jacques is also very much in demand, and we are all thrilled to have him working with us at **Langham Court Theatre**.



Art Show



During the run of *The Drowsy Chaperone*, the art show will feature the work of **Lil Dobson** who will be at the theatre from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, January 22nd.

Lil Dobson

Lil was born and raised in the north-east of England before emigrating to Canada. In Canada, she settled first in rural Alberta then moved to urban Victoria. Over the years Lil has studied art and has taken instruction from established local and international artists. Well travelled, she uses a multi-faceted approach to her art, using many sources of inspiration. Landscapes, seascapes, pets, portraits, all are subjects for Lillian's work.



Rabbit Hole Cast and Production Team

Cast:

Lorene Cammiade, Kate Harter, Eric Holmgren, Graham Miles and Gloria Snider.

Production Team:

Director, **Sylvia Rhodes**; Producer, **Andrea Pite**; Stage Manager, **Elizabeth Whitmarsh**; Set Designer, **Toshik Buckowiecki**; Lighting Designer, **Carol-Ann Moore**; Costume Designer, **Vinnie Chadwick**; Sound Designer, **Diana Keating**; and Assistant to the Director, **Gigi Mossman**.



Important Reminder

Victoria Theatre Guild & Dramatic School memberships are due for renewal!!

You have a few options to renew:

- At the AGM on Sunday, January 29th, 2012
- By phoning the Box Office at 250-384-2142
- By visiting the Box Office during office hours at 805 Langham Court, off Rockland Ave (hours listed below)
- By visiting the online membership sign up page at <https://www.langhamtheatre.ca/support/membership/>

As a member of the Victoria Theatre Guild & Dramatic School, you will have the privilege of voting for the board you want, receiving a reminder of the monthly newsletter keeping you informed of all auditions and activities. Also, you'll receive notice of the many activities and opportunities in the six Main Stage productions, Readers' Theatre, or notices to learn a new theatre craft. You also have a chance to meet and work with interesting, like-minded people of all ages and from all walks of life, and to enjoy many wonderful pot-lucks and the annual Christmas Party. Like all clubs, a membership fee is obligatory.

For one calendar year a Regular Membership is \$20.00 and a Senior (ages 65+) or Student Membership is \$15.00! It's a steal! Don't miss out!

Box Office Hours:

Monday thru Friday 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. (non-performance weeks)

Closed December 26th, 2011 thru January 2nd, 2012 (reopening January 3rd)



Editor's Notes. . .

First order of business is the huge apology I have to extend to **Sylvia Lindstrom**. After she retired as Front of House Manager, she sent a letter to the **Langham Court News** thanking all those who had worked with her, both front of house and behind the bar. Unfortunately, your editor misplaced the letter somewhere between her email and her desktop. As a result, Sylvia's letter that should have been in the August issue, never made it. This lapse on my part came to light in a conversation during a rehearsal break for *The Drowsy Chaperone* which Sylvia is stage-managing. Once again, I apologise to Sylvia and to all those who worked with her during her time as Front of House Manager.

This month's Newsletter owes its existence to a number of individuals starting with **Danda Humphreys** who with her keen eye and overworked red pen, manages to take all my commas, semi-colons, colons and dashes and put them in the right places. Were it not for Danda, I would be exposed as punctuationally deficient. I also owe a big thank-you to **Denise Brown** for many reasons, including the fact that it is she who gets the Newsletter onto the website so quickly each month. Thank you to all those

who contributed to this month's issue: to **Paul Gillan** for sending some amazing photos of the Christmas party (your editor attempted to take photos on her new iPhone but managed to take videos by mistake), to **Roger Carr** for his insights into *The Drowsy Chaperone*, to **Jacques Lemay** for sending his biography and picture, so we can learn more about this amazing choreographer, to **Jeani Reynolds** who sends us inside information on the Lounge art show and provides the artists' biographies. I also want to thank **Michael Tyler** for his pertinent letter, **Carol-Anne Moore** for her props room report, **Peter McNab** for keeping us in touch with **Readers' Theatre** and **Elizabeth Brimacombe** and **Barbara Knoop** for doing the same with **St. Luke's Theatre** and the **G & S Society** respectively. Thank you too, **Sylvia Rhodes**, for letting us all know who-all is down the *Rabbit Hole* and **Lisa Leighton** for keeping us up-to-date on the happenings with the Costume Workshop. Last but not in any way least, a big thank-you and a round of applause to **David Lowes** for once again sending one of his amazing publicity photos.

We have a busy month ahead. On Monday, January 9th, **Luke Krayenhoff** will be holding auditions for the next

Readers' Theatre production, *She Stoops to Conquer*. After that, our big, bouncy, Broadway musical, *The Drowsy Chaperone* comes to *Langham Court Theatre*. The show previews on Wednesday, January 18th and opens Thursday, January 19th. Get your tickets as soon as possible; this one is a sell-out for sure! While you're picking up your tickets for *The Drowsy Chaperone*, it would be a good idea to renew your membership in time for the AGM on Sunday, January 29th at 7:00 p.m. It is important for you to be there, to vote, to have a say in the running of our theatre. For those who like to curl up with a book when the wind blows and the rain lashes against the window, you can build your personal library at the **Friends of the Library** book sale at the Nellie McClung library on Saturday, January 21st and Sunday, January 22nd.

Lots to do in January to help stave off those post-Christmas blues, and to start the New Year on a positive note. So to each one of you, may you have a happy, healthy and successful 2012.



Life Members Welcome!!!

The President and Board extend an invitation to all Victoria Theatre Guild Life Members to each Production. The Meet and Greet for *The Drowsy Chaperone* is on Monday, February 13th, at 6:00 p.m. Life Members, please join the cast, crew, Board members and new members in an evening of eats, drinks and interesting conversation.



We Got Mail



I would ask the Board to make clear on-line and in our logo that our theatre's name is **Langham Court Theatre** and not Langham Theatre. **Langham Theatre** is in Kaslo, B.C.

Please return our website to langhamcourtheatre.bc.ca, and change the logo used on our programmes, press advertisements, season brochure, etc. to **Langham Court Theatre**, where equal emphasis is given to all the three words in our name. The current logo has "Court" in much smaller type than "Langham" and "Theatre." This gives a very wrong impression of our name.

I am sure the changes were made with the best intentions, but we are and will always be, **Langham Court Theatre**.

Michael Tyler

Life Member and former President

Do you have something to say?

This is your newsletter, and we welcome your news, comments, letters and ideas. The deadline for each monthly issue is the 20th of the preceding month, i.e. the deadline for the February issue will be January 20th, and

so on. Please send your information by e-mail to Corinna Gilliland catfael@shaw.ca. Langham Court News welcomes news from other groups too. So, let's support each others' endeavours in our theatre community

Christmas Party Retrospective

Pictures by Paul Gillan



We were greeted by our kindly, kilted host

then we were served by some very important



people behind the bar

and on the stage.



We were entertained by singers who made us weep,



and

Pirates who made us quake,



and a chorus that left us laughing.



. By the end of the party, we knew that Christmas had begun.



News from the Costume Workshop

Thank you!

Many thanks to **Jane Sutherland** for her recent donation of fabrics, a thread rack and pressing ham, a score of designer buttons, and an enormous bag of beautifully organized notions, patterns and fabric. Jane was also generous enough to donate a lovely sheer black overblouse and a custom-embroidered black shell, which are on their way to the Costume Loft. Thank you, Jane, and thank you to **Danda Humphreys**, who referred Jane to us. We appreciate it!

December Workshop: Tea and Vogue Pattern Magazine

On Sunday, December 11, several steadfast Costume Guild members took over a corner of the Lounge and had a first crack at our collection of 164 issues of *Vogue Pattern Magazine*. The afternoon flew by. The issues from the 1970s and 1980s were more hilarity than nostalgia, but nearly every issue offered something for our new electronic archive of articles: techniques, fitting and altering, textiles and equipment, working with specialty fabrics and stitches, couture tips, tailoring ... the list includes 113 titles so far, and we didn't get through half of the issues. As we complete the browse – and please let me know if you'd like to join in ... we'll have some more ad hoc sessions – I will finalize the list and post it in the Costume Workshop. I'll also make it available as a searchable electronic document.



Next Workshop: Sure-Fit Designs tutorial/DVD

Our next workshop will be on **Sunday, January 29th, 2012, from 1 to 4 p.m.** in the Lounge. We'll be exploring the Sure-Fit Designs method of creating and fitting custom patterns with the kits we have purchased for the Costume Workshop (dress, pants, shirt). The introductory video clips on the website are eye-opening (www.surefitdesigns.com), and Sure-Fit is renowned for its simplicity and results. If you would like to attend, please contact me for details of what to bring, and **please RSVP no later than Tuesday, January 24th**. Hope you'll join us.

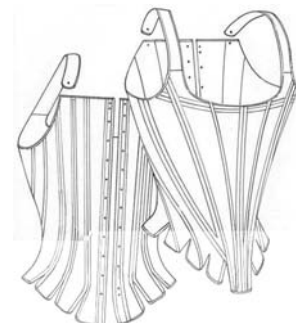
April Workshop Change of Date

Our April workshop, previously scheduled for **April 14th**, has been **moved to Sunday, April 29th, from noon until 5 p.m.**, in the Costume Workshop and the Rehearsal Room. We will be workshoping a complete costume as a continuation of the March session, or TBD. Please mark your calendar!

Lisa Leighton

for the Costume Workshop

250-595-5523 and leighton@islandnet.com



A note from the Props Room . . .

The Properties Department would like to thank all those who have donated items throughout the year. Although many arrived without names attached, we do thank you for thinking of future plays for your treasures.

Carol-Anne Moore, Small Props Coordinator

Jean Topham, Small Props Coordinator

Sally Crickman, Large Props Coordinator

Auditions

(Langham Court Theatre auditions are posted on our web site at: <http://www.langhamtheatre.ca/support/auditions/>)

Readers' Theatre

She Stoops to Conquer

You are invited to audition for Langham' Court's second Readers' Theatre performance: *She Stoops to Conquer*, Oliver Goldsmith's enduring 18th century comedy of manners. It will be directed by the sometimes incomparable and sometimes totally comparable Luke Krayenhoff.

Auditions will be held on Monday, January 9th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the rehearsal room. We especially encourage all those who have wanted to be on the Langham Court stage but did not want to memorize all those lines or wear period costumes. Of course, we also invite experienced actors to audition.

Readers Theatre requires only four rehearsals, generally held on Monday evenings, followed by one brilliant performance on Saturday evening, February 18th.

Please consider auditioning for this lovely comedy. Luke is a really nice guy. But if he gets uppity, he shall have to answer to me. I would appreciate some notice as to your

willingness to audition. Please e-mail petermcnab@shaw.ca or phone 250-298-9189.

Peter McNab
Producer, Readers' Theatre

Four Seasons Musical Theatre

Charlotte's Web

Directed by: **Margaret Dean**

Audition Dates: Friday, January 13th to Sunday, January 15th. Call-backs: Monday, January 16th.

Production Dates: May 4th to May 13th, a total of 6 performances.

Review Scripts: contact Marie Rowsell at

info@fourseasonsmusicaltheatre.com

Cast: multiple, all ages.

For further details go to the Four Seasons website at www.fourseasonsmusicaltheatre.com

Are you receiving us??

If you do not have an e-mail address, could you please arrange to pick up your copy of the Newsletter from the theatre during Box Office Hours. If there are any concerns about this please, contact Denise at theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca

We will have Newsletters available in the theatre lobby on the first of the month in a limited amount. Because we are trying to be 'green,' please ask someone in the Box Office if you need a hard copy. We thank you for your understanding.

What's On

Langham Court Theatre Presents

The Drowsy Chaperone

Written by **Bob Martin and Don McKellarson**; Music & Lyrics by **Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison**.

Directed by **Roger Carr**, with Choreography by **Jacques LeMay** and Musical Direction by **Donna Williams**.

A five-time Tony Award-winning Canadian musical comedy that takes us back to the golden age of musical theatre. A lonely man escapes his drab existence by listening to a recording of his favourite musical. As the needle falls, the fourth wall shatters and the musical comes to life around him.

The Drowsy Chaperone previews Wednesday, January 18th and runs from Thursday, January 19th to Saturday, February 4th. To purchase your tickets, call our Box Office at 250-384-2142, 805 Langham Court, Victoria, or go to www.langhamtheatre.ca.

Friends of the Greater Victoria Public Library

Bring you

A wild winter Book Sale

At the **Nellie McClung Branch Library**, 3950 Cedar Hill Road (Cedar Hill Rd near McKenzie) on Saturday, January 21st from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. (\$3.00 admission) and Sunday, January 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (admission free). Then from 1:45 p.m. to 3 p.m., it's all the books you can take away for \$5.00.



St Luke's Players Present

I'll Be Back Before Midnight

By **Peter Colley**. Directed by **Jon Scheer**

This spine-tingling murder mystery runs from March 14th to March 25th.

The cast includes **Jo Barnes, Michael King, Mur Meadows**, and **Michelle Mitchell**.

The Victoria Gilbert & Sullivan Society Present

HMS Pinafore in Concert,

an event sure to be wonderful.

For performances at 2:00 p.m. on March 24th and 25th at the **Mary Winspear Centre**: you can book online <https://tickets.marywinspear.ca/TheatreManager/1/tmEvent/tmEvent374.html> or call the Box Office at 250-656-0275.

For performances at 2:00 p.m. on March 31st and April 1st at **Oak Bay High School**: Tickets will be available in the New Year from **Ivy's Book Store, Long & McQuade, Munro's Books, Larsen Music, Lyle's Place** and **The Shieling Cards & Gifts**.



Mark Your Calendar

Monday, January 9	7:00 p.m. Readers' Theatre Auditions
Friday, January 13 – Sunday, January 15	Auditions for the Four Seasons' Production <i>Charlotte's Web</i>
Wednesday, January 18 – Saturday, February 4	<i>The Drowsy Chaperone</i>
Saturday, January 21	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Friends of the Library Book Sale
Sunday, January 22	2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Art Show in the Lounge
Sunday, January 29	7:00 p.m. Annual General Meeting
Sunday, January 29	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Costume Design Workshop
Monday, February 13	6:00 p.m. Meet and Greet for <i>Rabbit Hole</i>
Saturday, February 18	7:00 p.m. Readers' Theatre Presents <i>She Stoops to Conquer</i>
Wednesday, March 7 – Saturday, March 24	<i>Rabbit Hole</i>
Wednesday, March 14	St Luke's Players opens with <i>I'll Be Back Before Midnight</i>
Saturday, March 24	G & S Society opens with <i>HMS Pinafore in Concert</i>
Sunday, April 29	12 Noon – 5:00 p.m. Costume Creation Workshop
Friday, May 4 – Sunday, May 13	Four Seasons Musical Theatre Presents <i>Charlotte's Web</i>
Wednesday, April 25 – Saturday May 12	<i>1959 Pink Thunderbird Convertible</i>



2011/2012 Board of Directors

President: Toshik Bukowiecki
Vice-President: Luke Krayenhoff
Secretary: Andrea Pite
Treasurer: Jon Scheer
2011-12 Production Chairs: Keith Digby and Cynthia Pronick
2012-13 Production Chair: Wendy Merk
Past President: Sylvia Rhodes
2-year Members-at-Large: Kevin Stinson, Michael King
1-year Member-at-Large: Michael Kuss, Peter McNab

Membership Chair & Volunteer Co-ordinator: TBA
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Technical Director: Alan MacKenzie, petabob@shaw.ca
Facilities Maintenance: Dick Newson, dick_newson@telus.net
Head Scenic Carpenter: Bill Adams, bill-adams@shaw.ca

Webmaster: Contact Denise Brown, theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca
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Art Co-ordinator: Jeani Reynolds, jeani-renoir@shaw.ca

Costume Co-ordinator: Ned Lemley, 250-384-2025, l.n.lemley@gmail.com
Small Props Co-ordinators: Jean Topham, 250-592-7270, jtopham@telus.net
Carol Anne Moore, 250-592-2497, tothe4winds@gmail.com
Large Props Co-ordinator: Sally Crickman, 250-598-1706, sjcrickman@shaw.ca
Custodian: Pauline Quinlan, vmaxgal@hotmail.com

Theatre Manager: Denise Brown 250-384-2142,
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Box Office: www.langhamtheatre.ca/boxoffice/

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Editor: Corinna Gilliland. Proof-reader and Editorial Consultant: Danda Humphreys
Archival photos enhanced by Paul Bertorelli

Deadline for submissions is no later than the **20th day of the month** preceding the month of publication, e.g. the deadline for the **February 1st issue is January 20th**. Please send submissions by e-mail to Corinna Gilliland (catfael@shaw.ca) or by mail to the Victoria Theatre Guild.

Newsletter address changes or deletions: please contact Denise Brown, theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca

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