

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."

May 2012

1959 **Pink** Thunderbird Convertible Will Keep On Running Until May 12th



Shara Campsall, Melissa Taylor and Kate McCallum-Pagett
Talk and argue in *Laundry and Bourbon*. Photo by **David Lowes**.



Morgan Cranny and Alisdair Howie exchange confidences in
Lone Star. Photo by **David Lowes**.



Art Show



From April 25th to May 12th, during the run of *1959 Pink Thunderbird Convertible*, the featured artists will be **Caroline Waelti** and our own **Heather Jarvie**. From June 14th to June 30th during the run of *The Foreigner*, the featured artists will be **Todd M. Ayotte**, **Ken Mason** and **Chris Raines**. The three artists will be in the lounge on Sunday, June 17th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Todd M. Ayotte

Todd has been drawing and creating for as long as he can remember. He attended the **Alberta College of Art and Design**, where he fell in love with sculpting. Since moving to Victoria in 2000, Todd has found his release through illustration and painting, and has recently begun experimenting with stone etchings. He has many muses – both real and imagined. An apprentice carpenter, Todd dreams of one day building the sculptures that exist in his head.

Ken Mason

Ken was born in Calgary. Stricken with boredom at an early age, he devoted his life to alleviating it with art and pedagogy across Canada, the U.S. and Japan. Since arriving in Victoria with his wife last fall, he has been warmly welcomed by **Langham Court Theatre** and the **Selkirk Montessori School**. He briefly explains why he uses hair at www.haircraft.org.

Chris Raines

Chris has been surrounded by photography his entire life, as his Dad and Granddad were both shutterbugs, but only recently has he truly focused on the more artistic side of photography. He enjoys capturing travel adventures, the beauty of where he lives, and the people and world around him. This display at **Langham Court Theatre** represents only his second public exhibit. He is thankful for the opportunity, and hopes you like what you see.



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 June issue will be May 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. Let's support each others' endeavours in our theatre community.

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.

A Word From the Strategic Planning Committee

In the March newsletter we updated the membership on our strategic plan in terms of the Vision Statement, Mission Statement and areas for which we want to set objectives.

They are: **Education, Facility Development, Fundraising, our Play Selection Process, Staffing, and Membership/Volunteer Development.**

We provided a synopsis of the Education and Facility Development objectives. Here's what has happened since then (exciting isn't it!):

Education: **Luke Krayenhoff** is chairing a committee with **Peter McNab, Keith Digby** and **Caroline MacKenzie** looking at beefing up our education offerings.

Facilities: **Toshik Bukowiecki** is exploring options for drafting plans for an expansion.

Staff Development

Why: We want high quality, well-qualified staff who can contribute to the growth and smooth running of our theatre. We need a good mix of staff and volunteers. Those who are paid should receive fair compensation for their work. We would like to retain our staff, provide a career path where possible, and ensure continuity of positions if people move on or retire.

What: This involves providing competitive salaries (bearing in mind some have other sources of income and are comfortable with an honorarium), mentorship, staff training and succession planning.

How: We surveyed those in paid positions regarding their duties, required qualifications, needed training, salary expectations, and any overlap of duties. This task has been completed by **Mike Kuss** and recommendations are being forwarded to the Board.

Any increases in salaries or benefits must be offset by corresponding budget cuts or revenue increases. The Personnel Committee will canvass sponsors to help us with our training needs (Link to Fundraising).

Fundraising. A Committee headed by **Michael King** and including **Christopher Causton**, former mayor of Oak Bay, will be examining different approaches to raising funds for the theatre.

Membership/Volunteer Development. This is the last topic for which we need a strategic plan and we'll tackle it once we're finished with Staffing. **Kevin Stinson** will be chairing this endeavour.

Play Selection Process. This has been left to the end as it requires a separate level of discussion and membership involvement. The Board is interested in moving away from having Production Chairs elected annually, and appointing an Artistic Director. The position would be appointed for a minimum of two years but work on a three-year 'template.' This would allow us to plan more ambitious productions one or two years in advance and have a greater consistency in the type of productions we offer our patrons. It will be structured as a part-time volunteer position so that people with full-time jobs should be able to undertake the duties. We will be presenting new by-laws at the Summer General Meeting for the members' approval. If it is approved, we'd like to have the position filled by the end of August. For this to work as envisioned, the Artistic Director will be selected by and report to the Board. There will no longer be annual votes for Production Chair (or Artistic Director) at the Summer General Meeting.

Please feel free to send feedback to me, to Toshik, or to any board member with whom you feel comfortable.

*Luke Krayenhoff for the
Victoria Theatre Guild
Strategic Planning Committee*

Life Members Welcome!!!

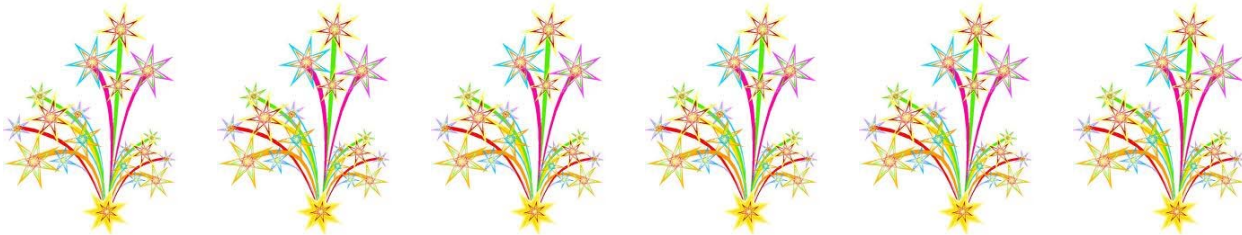
The President and Board extend an invitation to all Victoria Theatre Guild Life Members to the Meet and Greet for each Production. The Meet and Greet for *The Foreigner* is on Tuesday, May 15th at 6:00 p.m. Life Members, please join the cast, crew, Board members and new members in an evening of eats, drinks, and interesting conversation.

Langham Court and Victoria's 150th Birthday

On September 8th of this year, the City of Victoria will be celebrating its 150th Birthday, and **Langham Court Theatre** has been invited to share in the celebrations. Not only will this be a fantastic, fun event but it will also be an opportunity to garner some positive publicity for our theatre. However, in order to be a part of the city-wide Birthday Bash, we need people who can come up with some great ideas and who can then lead us in turning those ideas into a series of fantastic, fun events that show our theatre in its best light and demonstrate how fortunate Victoria is to have such an amazing community theatre in its midst.

If you are creative or organized or have good leadership skills, we are desperate for your help in making our contribution to the Birthday Bash a success. Either contact Peter McNab (overall coordinator of this event) at petermcnab@shaw.ca or Toshik Bukowiecki at toshik@pacificcoast.net as soon as possible.

We are also looking for someone to organize the **Langham Court Theatre** contribution to the Rockland neighbourhood Giant Garage Sale which will take place on August 25th and September 1st. The purpose of the garage sale is to raise money for the Birthday Bash, and it is also a way of disposing of all those items that are gathering dust in your attic or basement. If you are interested, please let Toshik or Peter know as soon as possible.



The Foreigner: Cast and Crew

On Stage

Charlie – **Perry Burton**
Froggy – **Drew Waveryn**
Betty – **Leslie Gibbs**
David – **Paul Short***
Catherine – **Sarah Sabo***
Owen – **Henry Skey**
Ellard – **Nick Sepi***

Behind the Scenes

Director – **Toshik Bukowiecki**
Producer – **Christine Karpiak**
Stage Manager – **Nick Stull**
Assistant Director – **Jon Scheer**
Set Designer – **Dick Newson**
Sound Designer – **Max Terpstra**
Costume Designer – **Anne Marie Arneson**
Lighting Designer – **Stephen Jackson***
Properties – **Brittany Vis***
Prompter – **Joan Emery**
Board Operators – **Rod Hogg, Katt Campbell,
Diana Keating, Ken Mason**
Stage Crew – **Leann Trenchard, Michelle Mitchell**

*Newcomers to **Langham Court Theatre**

A Stamp Made at Langham Court Theatre

By *Lisa Leighton*
The grim-looking woman settler

On May 3rd, Canada Post will release a uniquely made-at-Langham postage stamp.

The “**Red River Settlement stamp**” was created as an oil painting by my partner, artist **Mark Heine**. And **Langham Court Theatre** figures prominently in its production.

The stamp commemorates the 200th anniversary of the settlement by **Lord Selkirk** at Red River (Assiniboia territory) – what is now Winnipeg. To represent the various ethnic groups that came together in the territory, the stamp includes a variety of representative characters.

When Mark received the commission, he naturally thought of Langham for staging the photographs from which he would paint. I jumped at the chance to co-ordinate and costume it. **Denise Brown** was the first on board, generously offering us the use of the Lounge for an evening shoot. **Ned Lemley** was just as enthusiastic, and gave us the run of the Costume Loft for recreating 1812, as did **Carol-Anne Moore** with Props. As we got down to the particulars of props, **Jean Topham** generously offered some of her own.

It was an unusual casting call ... “Would you like to be on a postage stamp?” is not something one hears every day. Who could say no?



Happily, no one did, so the stamp includes Langham Courtiers and friends. From left to right are **Bob Gaba**, one of our closest friends, as a hunter/trapper; **Paul Terry**, Life Member, as a Métis man; **Samantha Harvey**, Bob’s stepdaughter, as a Métis woman; **Jared Gowan**, another **Victoria Theatre Guild** member, as a Scottish settler; **Sabine Kane** (toddler), daughter of good friends **Heather Vincent** and **Sean Kane**; **Lisa Leighton** (me), **Langham Court** member, as a Scottish settler; and, on the far right, **Julius Maslovat**, long-time Guild member, as a courier de bois. (Mark painted the main figure, Selkirk, and Chief Pegwis, just behind Selkirk to the left, from existing materials.)

Bob Gaba, who deals in rare and antiquarian books and papers (and is himself from Winnipeg), provided a range of background information when Mark was researching materials for the stamp. Lithographed in five colours, the stamp, the 16-stamp pane, and the Official First Day Cover will be available on May 3. The stamp will carry the domestic rate.

This was Mark’s fifth stamp. He illustrated Canada’s two stamps for the **2006 Olympic Winter Games** in Turin (team pursuit speed skating and skeleton) and painted Lichtenstein’s two stamps for the **2010 Olympic Winter Games** in Vancouver (downhill and cross-country skiing). He is now painting a series of **12 stamps for Lichtenstein**, of classic automobiles. (Details at www.markheine.com/news.)

Thanks again to everyone who was involved in the making of this beautiful stamp!

Editor's Notes . . .

"April is the cruellest month" and this April has been particularly cruel to all of us at **Langham Court Theatre** with the loss of two most valued members of our community: Life Member, **Jim Buckley** who passed away on April 6th and **Thelma Midori**, Producer Extraordinaire, who left us on April 10th. Both Thelma and Jim contributed so much to our theatre and gave all of us who knew them so much pleasure and joy in their company. They will both be sorely missed.

Once again, I thank all those who contributed to this issue of the Newsletter. First my thanks go to **Danda Humphreys**, whose sharp eyes and stern red pen keep me on the straight and narrow; to **Denise Brown**, without whom the newsletter would not be available to one and all; to my faithful contributors **Ned Lemley** and **Lisa Leighton** who add so much to our monthly tome. As well as her regular column, Lisa has given us the background to the Selkirk Stamp, a creation of her partner **Mark Heine** with help from friends and members of **Langham Court Theatre**. Thank you to **Peta MacKenzie** and **Angela Henry** for sharing their memories of Jim and Thelma.

Thanks also to Bill Adams for providing a history of the **Langham Court** rat, to **Luke Krayenhoff** for his update on the work of the Strategic Planning Committee, to **Lorene Cammiade** for letting us know that it's party time in May and to all those who let us know what's on when and keep us informed of upcoming audition notices. Thank you, all of you.

If you have recently walked by the Props room, you may have noticed several boxes of paperback books bound in leather with gold lettering. They were donated to the **Friends of the Greater Victoria Public Library** during their last book sale. The Friends donated them in turn to **Langham Court Theatre** to dress the set of our first production of the 2012-2013 season, *84 Charing Cross Road*. More books will become available to the theatre at the end of the Friends next book sale June 23rd and 24th at the **Nellie McClung Library**.

It looks as though May will again be a busy month around the theatre. On Wednesday, May 2nd we've all been invited to help **Jill Groves** celebrate her 70th birthday. On May 6th, those of us who knew and loved **Jim Buckley** will be coming together at **Langham Court** to celebrate his life. On May 26th there'll be another rowdy evening of singing (?) at the second Karaoke party. Meanwhile, *The 1959 Pink Thunderbird Convertible* will still be running on stage until May 12th, while Toshik, his cast and crew rehearse *The Foreigner*, which opens June 13th, and Ned and his band of Costume Loft helpers get things ready for the **Giant Annual Costume Sale** on Sunday, July 15th.

Here's to a May full of sunshine for all of us.



Flying Down to Spokane



Alan and **Peta MacKenzie** will be taking the plane and other large props from *The Drowsy Chaperone* down to Spokane, Washington. **Spokane Civic Theatre** will be presenting the play next February and after several phone calls between Peta and **Donna Heighes** (former **Langham Courtier** who lives in Spokane), calls to the Customs authority in Port Angeles and **Bill Adams** arranging with the contact in Spokane, the logistics were finally in place. Many thanks to **John** and **Sally Crickman** for the loan of their truck.

Peta MacKenzie
Assistant Director, *The Drowsy Chaperone*

Our Laughing Gentle Warrior is Gone!

Thelma Midori

Jan 18, 1945 – April 10, 2012

By Angela Henry



Thelma, our producer extraordinaire, died suddenly with her beloved daughters and sister by her side. A colourful, buoyant celebration of her life was hosted by **Langham Court Theatre** on Wednesday April 18th. It was with some surprise that many Langham Courtiers learned of the extraordinary life that Thelma lived and her many accomplishments. She was born in Lethbridge, Alberta to **Sam** and **Mary Kosaka**. She devoted her life to healing and leadership. After receiving her R.N., her B.Sc.N. and M.Sc.N degrees, Thelma arrived in Victoria to start up the nursing program at **Camosun College**. She soon became the Dean of Health and Human Services where she remained until her retirement in 2005. She was a born educational leader. It was at **Camosun** that I met Thelma in 1979. She was my dean and was known as “The Laughing Gentle Warrior.” Thelma knew how to move people, quiet anxiety, shift energy and bring a joyfulness to the workplace that was surpassed by none. She could “slap you up the side of the head” and you would leave her office smiling and thanking her. She excelled at curriculum development and carried these skills into her retirement where Gil and I snapped her up and lured her into the theatre. She began her theatre life co-producing *Waiting in the Wings* in 2006/07. It was clear that her gentle, organized, warrior nature was a perfect fit for the role of producer at **Langham Court**. She could get the job done! During her time with us, she spent a year on the board as secretary and co-authored the much-needed Producer’s Manual. She went on to produce many plays at **Langham Court**, culminating in the smash success, *The Drowsy Chaperone* this year. She was

hard on tasks and soft on people”, says Gil in his eulogy to her. “She was a perfect team player”. Thelma’s daughters, **Kimberly Sohal** and **Kathryn Becker** and her sister **Brenda Kosaka** described **Langham Court** as Thelma’s great joy of retirement. It was a creative complement to her academic life. In her retirement, Thelma travelled, wrote her Japanese-Canadian family history and explored new horizons in the arts, often with **Pearl Arden** and me at her side. She also became a practicing Buddhist, which intensified her calm in the face of adversity (she battled cancer), and increased the delight she took in the simple pleasures and the majesty of friendships. Thelma will be sorely missed. She loved life and was loved by many.

Mary Oliver, in her poem “When Death Comes” says:

*When it’s over, I want to say all my life
I was a bride married to amazement
I was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms.*

And **Kahlil Gibran** writes:

*And when the earth shall claim your limbs,
Then shall you truly dance.*

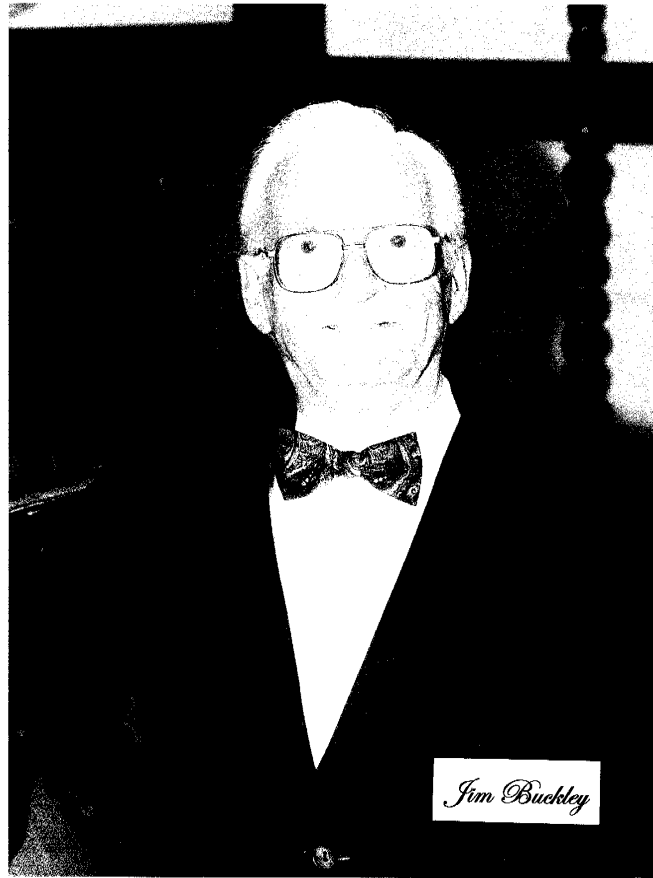
Dance on, dear friend. Goodbye.



About to cut the cake at her birthday during *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Photo by **Cam Culham**

Jim Buckley Remembered

By Peta MacKenzie



We are saddened to hear of the recent passing of long time member Life Member **Jim Buckley**. Jim passed away on April 6th after several years of ill health. Jim was very active at **Langham Court** and with the **Victoria Operatic Society**. His stage appearances included *Beyond Reasonable Doubt*, *Ring around the Moon* and *Hobson's Choice*. He was also on the set construction crew for many of our productions and was a regular Front of House volunteer. His numerous appearances with **VOS** included *Jesus Christ Superstar* (1979), *Brigadoon* (1979), *The Music Man* (1980), *Show Boat* (1982), *Dick Whittington and His Cat* (1982) and *Guy's & Dolls* (1984). His favourite role was that of the Rabbi in the 1980 production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. Jim is survived by his wife Sylvia, and by many friends and relatives both here and in the U.K. A Celebration of Life for Jim will be held in the **Langham Court Theatre Lounge** from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 6th.



News From Aloft

Donations

Thanks for holding off until late May or early June. As always, storage is the problem and once the final show gets on stage to rehearse we will have some space to put things.

Here is a list of donors for the past couple of months: **Loretta Slavik, Thyra Matthews** via **Lori Kiernan, Jane Sutherland, Lorna Elder, Roger Walker, Richard Hicks, Louise Campsell** via **Glen Campsell, Adrian Gardener, Patrick and Gail Woods** via **Ned Lemley, Laurel Lemley** via **Ned Lemley, Movimento Early Dance and Theatre, Karen Hughes, Robert McCrane** (or **McCrone**, sorry Robert), **The Royal B.C. Museum** via **Delphine, Anita Fownes, Sylvia Rhodes, Andrea Brimmell, Virginia Landucci, Anne Christiansen, Gabriella Toeneboehn, Susan Ellyin, S. Fossey, Guy Fraumeni** via daughter **Andrea Brimmell, Gloria, Leona Russell**, and several more by Anonymous plus **Pauline Quinlan** who just keeps hauling stuff in here!

Included in the above offerings were some Oriental items including a fancy mask from Chinese Opera, some wonderful vintage garments and accessories such as hats, gloves, shoes, purses, fans, glasses, and more. Check your closets and drawers!

The Big Haul

On April 3, I went to James Bay along with three volunteers and their vehicles: **Kate Mooers, Eileen Bennett**, and **Jean de Cartier**, and we hauled away three vehicles full of garments, hats, purses, shoes, fabric and notions. We hauled it all to my house and moved it into my living room. There is no place to put it at **Langham Court** until the rehearsal room becomes free. At the end we decided there probably wasn't a lot that was worth adding to the Loft, but all of it will be sellable at the **Giant Annual Sale**.

We are so grateful to **Lorna Elder**, the friend of the 100-year-old lady who passed away and left so many fine garments to the **Victoria Theatre Guild**. It took 4 hours of labour plus transportation to my house after which we went to **El Greco** and had a lunch that we all enjoyed. I had the first pasta dish I've had in months and it was delicious! I think the others felt the same.

This lady, whose name will follow, gave us a lot of material for the **G.A.S.**, all of it size 14. I only glanced at the purses but there are wonderful pieces there and we are grateful to have received it. Also, as a result of collecting this donation, we now have cashmere tops that go with

'50's poodle skirts.... it's the **Lana Turner** look we haven't had until now.

Giant Annual Costume Sale

Put July 15th on your calendar. That's the day of the **Giant Annual Sale**. If you have volunteered for the preparation and/or the sale before now, or if you haven't but would like to, please contact Ned by phone (250-475-1418) or email l.n.lemley@gmail.com. The prep will begin on Sunday, July 8th, and work parties will be formed each day during the week following. We have a special need for young labour (younger than Ned), and on the day of the sale we need energetic people to do the take-down at 2:00 p.m. so that those who have been there from early morning can sit down.

Other Special Jobs:

We need to provide a light lunch for all volunteers on sale day. I anticipate more than three dozen will need to eat.

If you have adopted a rack, it's time to think about not only tidying but also culling in anticipation of the **G.A.S.**

I suggest that all costume designers who anticipate working on a show next season do a browse through the loft **before** June looking for items that may be needed for your particular show. As we cull we want to keep items that may be of use to you. Last year a number of our regular Designers spent time culling and setting aside before the **G. A. S.**

I'm looking for sturdy clothes racks to use in our new storage area. I might buy from you if the price is right.

We recently received an antique wedding dress of wonderful lace. It is too delicate to rent and too beautiful to throw away. It needs a new home with someone who would like to lavish skill and time. You can adopt a gown just by asking.

Our dog costume is dog tired. Want to recreate the old one or design a new one? Talk to Ned.

Thank You

Many thanks to our wonderful regular volunteers (in no particular order) **Madeleine Mills, Jane Krieger, Mary Stendall, Peta McKenzie, Aja Young, Koichiri Ito, Sean, Pearl Arden**, and our very badly missed **Thelma Midori**.

Ned Lemley
Costume Loft Manager

Notes from the Costume Workshop

Thank You!

Once again, thanks to **Danda Humphreys** for donating another two books. *Claire Shaeffer's Fabric Sewing Guide* and *Every Sewer's Guide to the Perfect Fit* are wonderful additions to our growing library. Thank you, Danda!

The Prodigal Pattern Returns

The **Butterick 4790** pattern that went missing recently has found its way home. Ironically, when it was first published back in the 1950s, this pattern was called the "Walkaway" dress, because it's easy to sew, so you could make it and simply 'walk away' in it. In our case, the pattern itself went for a stroll, but we are delighted to have it back. Thank you.

Next Costume Guild Workshop?

As this issue is in production, we will be sorting and cleaning the Costume Workshop, on Sunday, April 29th. After that, we don't yet have May or June workshops planned, so we're open for suggestions. If you have an idea, **please let me know by Monday, May 7th**, and we'll try to organize a workshop for later in the month.

Any Aspiring Models Out There?

We will be photographing our **special costume collection** in the next while (schedule to come), and we hope to have volunteers model the costumes. It's mostly women's costumes, but we will need a few men, as well. If you are interested, please let me know, or let **Ned Lemley** know. Langham member **Lara Eichhorn**, who is a professional photographer, has kindly agreed to take the photos for us. Thank you, Lara!

Still Missing



Have you seen these scissors?? Two pairs of our good large scissors are still missing from the Costume Workshop. (The three pairs of smaller scissors that were originally purchased with the large pairs went missing a long time back. They look similar, but have straight blades.) These are silver with blue and black rubber handle grips. The blades are 6 inches long. The smaller pairs are, well, smaller.

If you have seen them, or if you have them, please either let me know, or return them to the Box Office to my attention. Thanks.

Lisa Leighton
for the Costume Workshop
250-595-5523 leighton@islandnet.com

Karaoke Night: the Sequel

The anti-Valentine's karaoke in February went so wonderfully well, we are holding another! Please mark your calendars for Saturday, May 26th 2012 for **Karaoke Night: The Sequel!** There will be incredible edibles (complete with table service) and fabulous, fun drinks (since tequila shots apparently help give Dutch courage and improve vocal range!), plus a local celebrity hosting! Come sing your hearts out, have fun with friends and win prizes! The fun starts at 8 p.m. in the Lounge and will continue until 11 p.m. If you have any special requests for the karaoke deejay, please forward them to **Lorene Cammiade** at lorenemc@shaw.ca.

Lorene Cammiade
Purveyor of Frivolity

Market Place

Refrigerator Needed

Langham Court desperately needs a new fridge to replace the one in our kitchen that is dying slowly each day. If you are thinking of replacing your fridge, would you consider donating your old one (so long as it's not too old and has plenty of life left in it) to a good cause. Think of all the delicious goodies that need a temporary home whenever we have a potluck, a meet and greet or a party. If you have a fridge to donate, please contact **Denise Brown** at theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca.

Stage Manager Wanted

KeepitSimple Theatre Productions is proud to announce its revival performance of **William Shakespeare's *Henry V*** in the **Victoria Fringe Festival** and its debut performance of **Shakespeare's *Henry IV Part 1*** at the **Metro Studio Theatre** in mid-August.

KeepitSimple is seeking a volunteer Stage Manager for either or both productions. If you are interested or know anyone who might be interested in expanding their experience/resume with either of these two exciting productions, please contact Marianne at 250-208-7936 or by email at keepitsimpletheatre@hotmail.com or visit www.keepitsimpleproductions.ca.

Rattus langhamensis, Langham Court's Rat

By Bill Adams



Stage productions at **Langham Court Theatre** have developed a new tradition over the past few years. Each set is blessed with our mascot rat (fear not – it's plastic), which is always placed in plain view to the actors, but hidden from the audience.

It started five or six years ago, I think, when one of our enthusiastic back stage crew, (could it have been Erin Hoyt? I'm not sure), produced this rat as a gag. It wound up on stage and was loved by all of the production team. Since then it became a requirement for every set, appearing unannounced shortly before the opening date.

Naturally it has startled some of the uninitiated actors and stage crew, but once they learned of the tradition, they warmly embraced the tradition.

A new twist to the tradition has emerged recently. Each production gives the rat a show-appropriate name; a name of a person talked about but not seen in the play. For example, in *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* the rat was named **Mairten** after a young man who was beaten by the local priest. In *The Drowsy Chaperone* it was **Carmelita** after the 'Man in Chair's' maid.

So now with *1959 Pink Thunderbird Convertible* about to open, the rat has now been put in place and it is up to the cast of each of the two plays to provide an appropriate name for him/her. Poor rat is going to develop a multiple personality disorder.

Auditions

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

Victoria G & S Society

Invites you to audition for

Ruddigore

Auditions will be held on Saturday, May 12th and Sunday, May 13th, 2012. To book an audition and for more information please contact Joy at 250-889-5962 or at joyousb@shaw.ca.

Performance dates are: March 16th, 17th, 23rd and 24th and April 6th and 7th, 2013.

What's On

Langham Court Theatre Presents

1959 Pink Thunderbird Convertible

Two Plays in One

Written by **James McLure**. Directed by **Paul Terry** and **Heather Jarvie**

Lone Star. Outside a small-town Texas bar, Roy regales his brother, Ray, with stories about his three loves: his country, his wife, and his beloved 1959 pink Thunderbird convertible.

Laundry and Bourbon. Bourbon and gossip flow freely while Elizabeth waits for her wayward husband, Roy, with friends Hattie and Amy Lee. As the bottle empties, past indiscretions and present fears bubble to the surface.

1959 Pink Thunderbird Convertible runs to Saturday, May 12th. To purchase your tickets, call our Box Office at 250-384-2142, 805 Langham Court, Victoria, or go to www.langhamtheatre.ca.

Langham Court Theatre Presents

The Foreigner

By **Larry Shue**. Directed by **Toshik Bukowiecki**

What will people say to your face if they think you cannot understand a word of their language? **Larry Shue's** two-time Obie Award-winning farce with a big heart, answers this question in a hilarious two hours of challenges overcome, evil plans thwarted, and good intentions eventually triumphant.

The Foreigner previews Wednesday, June 13th and runs from Thursday, June 14th to Saturday, June 30th. To purchase your tickets, call our Box Office at 250-384-2142, 805 Langham Court, Victoria, or go to www.langhamtheatre.ca.

St Luke's Players Presents

Murdered to Death

By **Peter Gordon**. Directed by **Neville Owen**

St Luke's Players changes gear for its final production of its 2012/2013 Season, switching from the recent successful thriller *Be Back Before Midnight*, to a light-hearted farce, *Murdered to Death*.

This hilarious spoof of **Agatha Christie's** Miss Marple and **Blake Edwards' Inspector Clouseau**, twists and turns with side-splitting antics and ever-increasing merriment and confusion, with an assembled cast of characters guaranteed to delight. The play introduces the inept and bungling Inspector Pratt, who battles against the odds to solve the murder of the house's owner. But will the murderer be unmasked before every one else has met their doom, or will the audience die laughing first?

A strong cast, comprising **Didi Tipping, Amy Culliford, Steve Eastman, Vicky Etchells, Alan Ormerod, Kathy Macovichuk, Matt Cowlrick, Jane Forner, Mitch Barnes** and **Ira Shorr** are directed by **Neville Owen**. Don't miss your chance to join the merriment! Tickets for **St Luke's Players'** latest production of **Murdered to Death** go on sale April 23rd at **Ivy's Bookshop, Petals Plus Florist, Russell Books** and **Amica at Douglas House**.

Production Dates: May 23rd to May 26th, May 30th to June 2nd at 8:00 p.m. and May 26th and 27th, June 2nd and 3rd at 2:00 p.m.

Target Theatre* Presents

You Can't Take It With You

Directed by **Barry Bowman**

Starring local celebrities: **Jack Knox, Vee Cooper, Al Ferraby, Forbes and Marshall, Karen Elgersma** and other well known surprise guests!

Expect hilarious miscues, advertising jingles, and old time dramatic fun. And this just in! Delicious pre-show appetizers and after show treats are included: Plus silent auction items and mystery boxes are up for bid!

When: Saturday, May 19th. Doors open: 7:00 p.m. Performance: 8:00 p.m.

Where: Langham Court Theatre.

Information: Jane Krieger: 250-478-6030.

Tickets: \$20.00 at 250-590-6291.

*Target Theatre: **Victoria's Target Theatre**, established in 1986, is a community theatre made up of mature actors (55+). Target's mandate is to provide a voice for older people within theatre that both entertains and informs, not only the actors but the public as well. The numerous performance topics address health and safety concerns, seniors' quality of life, spirituality, and seniors' roles and place in our society as well as the community's role in the lives of the elderly. For more information, check their web site at www.TargetTheatre.ca

Now Hear This!

Does the sound of a frozen Romaine lettuce being torn in half remind you of a bone crushing injury? Does the crinkling of cellophane conjure up a crackling fire? Here's one more – lurking footsteps of a mysterious stranger crunching over snow, is actually cornstarch being squeezed in a leather pouch. These sound effects are created through the old fashioned art of Foley, and you can hear more in **Target Theatre's** fundraiser radio play performance.

The art of Foley is actually the skill and production of creating and dubbing sound effects to film and radio dramas (remember the coconut shells?). It was perfected by **Jack Foley**, a sound technician employed by the Hollywood film studios in the 1920s. Precision and timing were crucial to the 'talkies' that followed the silent film era. One of the first films Foley dubbed by his method was the musical *Show Boat*. The art of Foley is usually associated with mysteries and dramas (the slamming of a heavy telephone book sounds like a punch, and a stapler sounds like gun shots!) but **Jack Foley's** technical advancements were used in dubbing dialogue for Hollywood's features, and our advanced digital technology today came from Jack's early invention.

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, May 4 – Sunday, May 13

Four Seasons Musical Theatre Presents *Charlotte's Web*

Friday, May 4 – Sunday, May 13

Victoria Operatic Society Presents *Brigadoon*

Sunday, May 6

1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Celebrate the Life of Jim Buckley

Saturday, May 12

Auditions for G & S Production, *Ruddigore*

Sunday, May 13

Auditions for G & S Production, *Ruddigore*

Tuesday, May 15

6:00 p.m. Meet and Greet for *The Foreigner*

Saturday, May 26

8:00 p.m.—11 p.m. Karaoke Night: The Sequel

Wednesday, June 13

Preview of *The Foreigner*

Thursday, June 14 – Saturday June 30

The Foreigner

Sunday, June 17

1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m. Art Show in the Lounge

Saturday, June 23

5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Friends of the Library Summer Book Sale

Sunday, June 24

9:00 a.m. -- 1:00 p.m. Friends of the Library Summer Book Sale

Sunday, July 15

9:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m. The Giant Annual Costume Sale



2012/2013 Board of Directors

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

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