



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS



OCTOBER 2018

NEWSLETTER

2018-19 EXECUTIVE

President Janine Longy

Vice President Michael King

Treasurer Mike Chadwick

Secretary Susan Nicholl

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Geli Bartlett

Maegan Elena

Neville Owen

Bronwyn Taylor

Beverly van Druten-Blais

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www.stlukesplayers.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to our 2018-19 season. I am very happy to once again assume the role of President of St. Luke's Players.

Over forty members attended the AGM in July. The weather was warm and sunny, lovely food brought by all and a great opportunity to catch up. Thank you to Merry Hallsor and Dave Hitchcock, the nominating committee, for their work and to Daniel Fournier, Rector of St. Luke's Church for presiding over the elections.

We are happy to welcome Michael King, Vice President and Maegan Elena, member at large. Thank-you to Jane Guy and Helena Descoteau, departing members, for their contributions. Although no longer on the executive, they are members of St. Luke's Players and will continue to play a significant role.

St. Luke's Players is celebrating its 70th season. We have an amazing crew of designers and set constructors who turn a small stage into magic. Our costumes are as professionally executed as any theatre group in Victoria. Where else do you get a cushion for comfortable sitting handed to you when you arrive? Where else do you get tea or coffee served to you in a china cup for a \$1, refills free. Where else do you get top dedicated actors and crew producing four great plays a year, for a ticket price of only \$16?

From the earliest days, the objective of the Players has been to produce "good, clean plays for your enjoyment". Audience numbers have grown over the years. Our plays focus on comedies, murder mysteries ("who done-its") and classics (such as "The Constant Wife", "On Golden Pond", "Steel Magnolias". Each Christmas we have a traditional British panto (fun for the whole family). Tickets for the panto sell out well before opening night.

Over the years, St. Luke's Players has contributed much to the St. Luke's Church. Each year at least 80% of the net profits are handed over in lieu of rent. In addition, the Players have upgraded the stage facilities by purchasing new lights and improved sound equipment. We have provided curtains, chairs, and



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

to our 123 members and
338 season ticket holders

MEMBERS ACTING UP AROUND TOWN

Always at the ready to help any of our fellow troupes, St. Luke's Players support our fellow community theatre groups with our vast wealth of talented members.

The **Mikado**

Over the next few weeks Dave Hitchcock, Guy Blais, Don Lambton, Paul Hawkes-Frost and Erne Roger will be busy building the sets for the upcoming production for the "Mikado" by the Victoria Gilbert and Sullivan Society.

Beverly van Druten-Blais, Bill Tolson, Ron Skelton and Linda Troke will be singing and dancing their way into your hearts in this wonderful production at Dave Dunnet Theatre, November 2, 3 & 4 and Charlie White Theatre, November 9, 10 & 11.

Tia Niedjalski will be assistant directing "The Mousetrap" for Peninsula Players this fall.

Ann Harris and Merry Hallsor are doing props for "Goodnight Mr. Tom" at Langham Court.

Gail Straughan is in a new Readers Group that is doing readings at Tooks on Cook once a month on Saturdays from 2 to 4. Check it out.

We're so proud! Geli Bartlet and Jean Topham won best drama award in the Fringe with "Measure of Love"? Well done ladies!

President's message continued....

contributed towards a new hall roof, indoor painting and the handicapped washroom. We very much appreciate the support, cooperation and assistance provided by St. Luke's Church.

To celebrate our 70th season, we will, together with St. Luke's Church host a special event early in 2019.

We are a small, but enthusiastic and friendly theatre group. We welcome new members those interested in acting (whether new to theatre or experienced) or to help "behind the scenes" (lighting, sound, costumes, set design, costumes, props, front of house, concession, etc.)

I look forward to an exciting season. Sincerely, Janine Longy

NIGHT WATCH

With just a days to go, we are excited about the production to open our 70th anniversary year. We have a wonderful cast and the chatter before rehearsals begin describes the camaraderie and good spirit. A big thank you to the cast for their hard work learning lines, blocking and the excellent characterizations. Also, a big thank you to the crew. The show would be lost without you. Be sure to mark your calendars for our show. You will be entertained and left wondering even after the curtains close.

Neville Owen and Janine Longy





Doug Witty, Deb Taylor and Susan Ko in a scene from Night Watch.



Cher Owen, Gary Johnson, Paul Hawkes-Frost and Dave Hitchcock working hard (?) and having some fun building and painting the Night Watch set.

Congratulations!

To the winners of the vouchers to Langham Court Theatre's "Blithe Spirit":
Jim Lambton and
Patricia Shapka.



Play Reading Committee

The Play Reading/Selection Committee is well on its way reading plays for the 2019/20 season. If you have a play you would like to see on stage, please send your suggestions to Michael King, chair of the committee, Errege@icloud.com. We welcome submissions from Directors for a play they would like to direct and/or for consideration.

You've Got Talent!

Join the St. Luke's Players' team and put your skills and talents to good use! On stage or behind the scenes, our gang of volunteers enjoys a myriad of activities while supporting the community—and we have lots of fun doing it!

www.stlukesplayers.org

MEMBERS' UPDATE

To date, we have 123 members with a few more expected from the Panto cast and crew, and also some patrons apply for membership when renewing their season tickets.

Season Ticket sales are about the same as for this time last year, with applications still dribbling in. More are expected once Night Watch is on the stage. For some reason over the past two or three years, the second Thursday evening performance is by far the most subscribed, so if you haven't renewed and want a seat closer than the sixth or seventh row, it would be best to choose a different date. Currently the best seats are available for the first Thursday or Friday evenings, and the first Saturday matinee, followed closely by the second Sunday matinee and the second Wednesday evening.

Panto auditions were held August 24, 25 and 28. The turn out was fantastic—enthusiastic returnees as well as several new faces. With such talent, it was difficult for new director, Heather Lee, to make her choices. Others in attendance at the auditions were the Assistant and Musical Director, Stage Manager, Choreographer and Co-Producers

Dance and music rehearsals were underway in mid-September and the cast and crew will move into the hall and onto the stage on October 24, following the close and strike of "Night Watch".

~ Bronwyn Taylor