



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948

SEPTEMBER 2019

NEWSLETTER

2019-20 EXECUTIVE

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St Luke's Players' Newsletter is published 2 weeks before each play opens

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For information about St. Luke's Players:

www.stlukesplayers.org
www.facebook.com/stlukesplayers.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *from Michael King*



Here we are again. It's autumn in Victoria and St. Luke's Players is charging head- first into

our 71st season! Our first show of the NEXT 70 years, *Play On!*, is well under way and I guarantee as the director, it will be a lot of laughs to start us off.

Dozens of pirates and townsfolk and wily characters are working hard already on our Panto, *Treasure Island*, at the St. Luke's Players Private Training School for Pirates.

In the spring we present the touching, *I Never Sang For My Father* followed by the thrills and chills of *The Unexpected Guest*. Mike Chadwick and his committee should be commended for once again for reading dozens of plays and whittling it down to another great season.

Many other exciting things are in the works as well. Not the least of which, Janine Longy, our past president has pushed hard to work with the church and is now leading a committee who

are developing and designing what will eventually become our new light and sound booth. Reverend Daniel Fournier gave us permission in the summer to start the process. We look forward to hearing more about this as the year progresses.

One of the exciting things about a group like St. Luke's Players is the sense of community. When a group of people come together for a common purpose, many things happen. In our case, a play is chosen, and this community is born.

A director is chosen to interpret the play and cast actors. Stage managers and assistant stage managers, designers, set builders, painters, back stage crew, lighting and sound techs, costumers, front of house and the many concession volunteers are all equally important to this community. This is how a community is created and we bring in new people whenever we can. We teach them and encourage them. They become part of our family.

We can always use more volunteers for every part of the SLP community. Many times we fall short of volunteers. We are lucky to have a



MEMBERS ACTING UP AROUND TOWN

Jean De Cartier, Pearl Arden and **Ann Harris** are all working on Langham's production of *Over the River and Through the Woods*, doing Props, costumes and set dressing respectively.

Michael Rodgers was in the BEMA Fringe production of *A Little Bit Crazy*.

Merry Hallsor is directing Reader's Theatre at Langham Court on Oct. 26th. The play that will be read is *SHATTER* by Trina Davies. *Shatter* takes place during the 1917 Halifax Explosion, and is the story of a mother and daughter coming to terms with the disaster. If you have questions, or would like more information, please contact Merry Hallsor by email at merryhallsor@gmail.com. ALL READERS ARE WELCOME!

Beverly van Druten-Blais will be performing in Langham Court Theatre's *Rope* in November and hopefully in *HMS Pinafore* with the Victoria Gilbert and Sullivan Society in March 2020.



PLEASE NOTE:
No smoking
on the church grounds.

President's Message continued...

city with so many opportunities to be involved in the arts but we compete for volunteers with many other theatre communities in Victoria and that competition is fierce! So, I ask all of you receiving this newsletter, if you are an active member of our community reach out and encourage family, friends or even strangers try out some time volunteering with us. Maybe it just two shifts in the concession. Set building, painting, front of house, back stage crew, actors, directors... There is always something for someone of any skill level. If you are an inactive member, consider volunteering for a couple shifts in the concession or helping as an usher.

I tell you all, many community theatre groups have been my family

throughout my life. A director for St. Luke's Players once reached out to me to audition for a play that had been hard to cast. I was cast and thoroughly enjoyed the SLP experience. So here I am 6 years later—I have acted and directed and somehow ended up as president. This is a special group. Seventy seasons of great theatre says a lot. I thank all of you for your friendship and for being my theatre community. I also encourage everyone to get the word out about us. Spread the word and tell them about the hard work, the fun and all the friends you've made. Finally, make any newcomer as welcome as you all made me.

Thank you all for the work you do.

~ Michael King

WE'RE ALL LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR SEASON OPENER!



St. Luke's Players first show of its 71st season is the cure to all that is going on in the news. It starts with laughter and ends the same way!

The Dunbar Dramatic Society has the opportunity wipe out its debts by presenting a play written by one of their members, Phyllis Montague (Elizabeth Whitmarsh,) who has graciously allowed her play to be presented without having to pay royalties. The only problem is, she hasn't

Evenings 7:30 • Oct 9–12 & 16–19
Matinees 2:00 • Oct 12, 13, 19, 20

PLAY ON! LET THE LAUGHTER BEGIN *from Michael King*

perfected her “baby” and keeps changing the plot!

Director Geraldine “Gerry” Dunbar has the Herculean task of directing an assortment characters and keeping the playwright from interfering in the process. The rest of our cast has the double task of managing two roles, their *Play On!* characters and the roles they have been cast in Phyllis’ play *Murder Most Foul*.



Rehearsing for Play On! Below left – Joy Farrell, Elizabeth Whitmarsh and Linda Troke. Top right – Ron Skelton, Deb Taylor, Andrew Shepherd and Chilko Tivy

Our Prima Dona is Violet/Diana Lassiter played by newcomer to SLP Chilko Tivy. Her competition (sort of) is Polly/Lady Margaret played by Deb Taylor. Polly’s hen-pecked Husband Henry/ Lord Dudley is played by Ron Skelton. Our bad guy/villain, Saul/Dr. Rex Forbes, is evilly played by Jonathan Stoppi. Our hero and love interest of Violet/Diana is Billy/ Stephen Sellers bravely played by Andrew Shepherd. Smitty/Doris/ Marla is the Dudley’s maid and the only character with 3 names and played by Anabel Gibson. The cast is completed with our stage hands Heckle and Jekyll, I mean Aggie and Louise—De Roger and Linda Troke. This play within a play is a hilarious look at the inside of community theatre. I guarantee you are going to laugh the night away and forget all your cares! ~ Michael

ORDINARY DAYS
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OCTOBER 11 & 12 Fri & Sat 7:00 pm **13** Sun at 2:00 pm

Sunset Labs, 400 Herald St, on the water beside Canoe Brewpub

OCTOBER 18 & 19 Fri & Sat 7:00 pm **20** Sun at 2:00 pm

Paul Phillips Hall, 1923 Fernwood Rd, across from the Belfry Theatre

A DYNAMIC DUO...

Mitch and Jo Barnes are competing in the Vancouver Island Juried One Act Play Festival held at the Village Theatre in Qualicum Beach from Nov 4 –10. They will be performing Nov 9th *Don't Touch the Clouds* written by Jo and Mitch Barnes and directed by Terry Rowsell



A bit of info about the play:

"Change is not easy at the best of times, and when you feel like what is changing is part of who you are, it is that much harder. Meet Bobbi and Phil, a couple who suddenly find themselves dealing with the fact that their kids have moved out and now they not only have to figure out what they want to do, but also who they are."

Also they had a performance in the Fringe Festival 2019: *Dressing for Cancer* Written and directed by Mitch Barnes. Jo Barnes and Steve Eastman acted in the play.

YOU ARE NEEDED!

The worker bees are busy buzzing around and getting all of our plays organized and staffed up with our fantabulous volunteers.



We still need Front of House and Concession assistance for our season opener in October.

Working in FOH and Concession is fun and easy. If you volunteer for at least two shows, you can watch the show on the preview night and one volunteer each shift may watch the performance on one of the days they volunteer. If neither of those times work, we will give you a voucher to exchange at the door for another performance.

Don't worry if you have never worked in FOH or Concession before. There will always be someone available to answer questions and step-by-step instructions are available.

Elaine Lewis and Bronwyn Taylor are managing FOH for *Play On!* and Susan Nicholl is managing the Concession and scheduling. Please reply to this email address (stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca)

Wanna be a part of the infamous Christmas Panto?

Here's a great opportunity to get involved! We need a lighting operator, a sound operator and 3 follow-spot operators. We'll teach you everything you need to know.

Contact co-producer:
Vinnie Chadwick
vinniechad@hotmail.com

HMS PINAFORE

AUDITIONS

Wed Oct 2 6:30 – 9:00

Sun Oct 13 3:00 – 6:00

Callbacks Sun Nov 3 3:00 – 6:00

James Bay New Horizons
234 Menzies St

SHOW DATES

March 20, 21, 22

Dave Dunnet

March 27, 28, 29

Mary Winspear

Music Director: Tom Mitchell

Stage Director: Elizabeth Sly

Rehearsals: 7–10 Sun, Mon, Wed starting Dec 1st

Book your audition by calling 250-893-4744

or email: ingeillman@gmail.com



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Tickets \$45

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
"THE OAKS"
SEATING IS LIMITED



Congratulations!

The winners of the vouchers to Langham Court Theatre's upcoming productions:

September 2019 – *Over the River and Through the Woods*: Andrew Shepherd, Anne Drummond and Gail Straughan.

November 2019 – *Rope*: Kimberly Ferko, Lorraine Coulden and Madeleine Lefebvre

SOUND/LIGHT BOOTH



We are continuing to work closely with St Luke's Church to design a new sound/light booth at the back of the hall. The prospect of an enclosed booth is most exciting. Preliminary drawings have been drawn by Nigel Banks and he continues to work closely with us. Thank-you to Nigel and Simon Skey. Previous project work by long term members of St Luke's Players Neville Owen and Dave Hitchcock is also hugely appreciated.

I Never Sang for My Father

Written by
Robert Anderson

Directed by: **Janine Longy**
and **Geli Bartlett**



AUDITIONS!

Friday October 25 • 7pm
Saturday October 26 • 2pm
Sunday October 27 • 2pm

Callbacks (TBD)

Play runs March 11–22

Rehearsals are on Mondays, Wednesdays
and Fridays 7 pm – 10 pm

*No monologues required. Please come dressed comfortably
and prepared to read from the script.*

Scripts available at Oak Bay Flower Shop
102 - 2187 Oak Bay Ave