



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS NEWS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!

MAY 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2025-26 EXECUTIVE

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Spring is finally here! While it was, technically, a very mild winter I know. I'm not the only one who's happy that the warmer weather is here. Next up, complaining about the heat!

Our final play of the season, *Acting Can Be Murder*, opens on May 20th and from my attendance at one rehearsal, I can tell you that it's going to be a hilarious hit. Get your tickets now!

As we look back on our season, and forward to our AGM in July, we can report a stellar year: growing audiences, great

feedback, new faces on stage and in the crews, updated sound and lighting, and a healthy bank account.

With this wonderful growth also comes growth in our need for people who can shoulder some of the burden. As I'm sure you know, we are blessed with a core of supremely dedicated folks who take on all the non-acting, tasks necessary to keep an active community theatre running. But we need help. This is especially true of our Board; we really need a few new people willing to take on some of the vital tasks that running a theatre company requires. Join the Board as a Member at Large to get familiar with the nuts and bolts of our operation and be willing to take

on a task or two. Of especial need is someone with accounting knowledge to, eventually, take on the role of Treasurer from our Treasurer Extraordinaire, Mike Chadwick. We promise to be gentle! And we have many people, both on the Board and off, who are very willing to share their St. Luke's Players experience and help you get to know the ropes. Sorry, no money involved! But I promise you will meet some of the very nicest people!

If you would like to get involved please contact Jim Rabb at rjabb@me.com. Jim is leading our Nominating Committee for the election of the new Board at the July AGM.

~ Many thanks, Malcolm Harvey

What have we been up to?

There's been a lot of theatre action this spring. We have our own hilarious production of *Acting Can Be Murder*. Many of our members have sought out other opportunities to produce, act and sing. We can be found on Langham Court Theatre's stage, Reader's Theatre, and rehearsing for *Oliver* with Theatre Al Dente.

Linda Troke (singer & Co-Producer), John Sease, Vincent Scholefield, Steve Hansen Smythe and Beverly van Druten Blais performed in May with Victoria Gilbert & Sullivan Society in *The Gondoliers*, with Susan Nicholl as Stage Manager.



VICTORIA GILBERT & SULLIVAN SOCIETY • THE CAST • MAY 8, 2026 • DAVE DUNNETT THEATRE



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS
COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948



AGM ELECTIONS and Barbeque

**We'll be meeting and having
elections at 3:00pm**

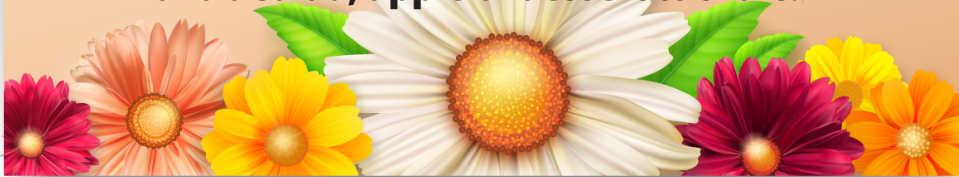
Sunday, July 26

3104 Austin Avenue

Hosts: Wendy & Dave Cornock

Please ensure that your membership is up to date.
Otherwise come a little early
to register (\$5.00) and vote.

The Annual General Meeting will be followed by a
Barbeque Dinner (supplied).
Please bring your own chair & beverage
and a **salad, appie or dessert** to share.



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS
COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948



AGM ELECTIONS and Barbeque



Sunday, July 26 • 3pm
3104 Austin Avenue
Hosts: Wendy & Dave Cornock



WAITING IN THE WINGS



The cast had loads of fun performing in this wonderful play.



AUDITION NOTICE – VICTORIA FRINGE FESTIVAL

My name is Olivia Etey. I am the playwright of a show called *Woman Against Gravity* with a 4 person cast of actors aged 74+. The show will premiere at the Victoria FRINGE Festival and I am seeking actors between 70-150 (surprise me!). Especially men!

Play Title: *Woman Against Gravity* **Playwright:** Olivia Etey

Director & Dramaturg: Tamara McCarthy

Show Dates: 5 Shows between Aug 26th - Sept 6th, 2026
in the Victoria FRINGE Festival.

Rehearsal Location: Victoria, BC.

Rehearsal Dates: First and third week of August, with a week break in between.

About The Show:

Armed with her motto: "Suck life dry!" and her late husband's words: "You have energy and only one life—so use it!" Tessa launches herself into the world of seniors' online dating, championed by her best friend Patty. This is the story of one woman's fierce battle against Gravity, as she seeks to master the art of living in the moment. Can Tessa find someone to savour "the present" with her?

Woman Against Gravity was shortlisted for the Lee Playwriting Award and has received professional development through the rEvolver Festival (2025), Western Gold Theatre's *Have a Senior's Moment* Festival (2024), TheatreOne's Emerging Voices Program (2024), the Stage One Festival of New Canadian Works at Lunchbox Theatre (2021), and the Arts Club's LEAP Program (2019).

We are casting for the following characters:

TESSA

75 years old. She has no filters when she speaks. A teenager at heart.

PATTY

74 years old. Tessa's best friend. The "brains" of the operation.

BIG BILL

76 years old. Avid motorcyclist. Owns a general store which he acquired out of a divorce settlement. Generous spirit. Always wears leathers.

OLD LADY

80+ years old.

Audition Date: May 26th, 2026 5–8pm at the Other Guise Theatre, 718 Johnson Street, Victoria.

Actors will receive an Honorarium.

If you would like to audition for the show, please send your headshot and resume to oletey@gmail.com. You will be emailed sides to prepare for the audition. Thank you!

YOU ARE NEEDED!

We are always pleased to welcome new people to our troupe.

Whatever you already have to offer, or whatever you'd like to learn, we would be happy to find a place for you on the stage or behind the scenes. Just give us a shout, we'd love to hear from you!

FOH/Concession Volunteers for "Acting Can Be Murder":

We are still looking for Front of House (FoH) and Concession volunteers on the following dates:

Evening performances:

May 21, 22, 23 evening, 28 (2), 30 & 31 matinee. Volunteers to be at the hall at 6:30 pm for a 7:30 pm show.

Matinee performances: May 31. Volunteers to be at the hall at 1 pm for a 2 pm show time.

New volunteers will be welcomed and will be paired with someone with experience. You can read the job description for FoH Helper and Concession Helper on the website at <https://www.stlukesplayers.org/volunteering.html> and a printout of the instructions will be available in the kitchen.

Bronwyn Taylor is the FoH/Concession Manager for this show. If you want to volunteer, please send her an email at taylorbronwyn@icloud.com so she can add you to the schedule.

Robinson Crusoe the Panto, showing December 12-31 is in planning stages and we're looking for people to help out or take the lead in these Production Team departments: **Costume Designer & Assistants, Properties Manager & creatives** to make props, **Set Painting Lead & painters, Choreographer, Make-up Artist** to teach actors and do make-up for leads if necessary. email us at stlukesplayers1948@gmail.com



Jack and the Beanstalk Panto 2025

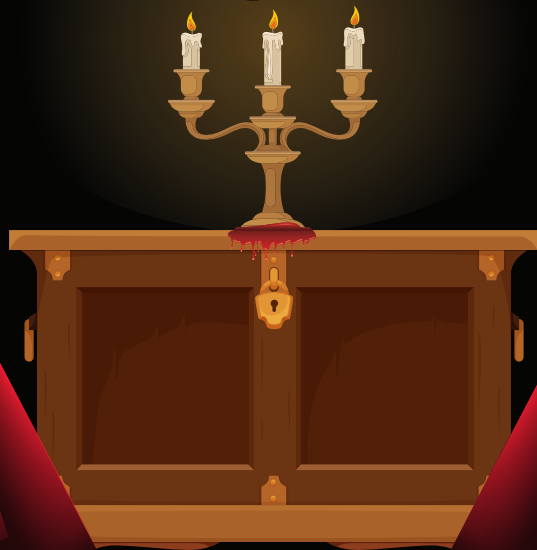
Help with the Nominating Committee or be a Board Member:

Jim Rabb is the chair of the Nominating Committee. He needs a couple of volunteers to encourage members to run for executive positions and to explain the various jobs and their time commitment. If you want to help Jim or, even better, run for a position on the board, please contact him at rjabb@me.com.

The board positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 5 Members at Large.

A PUZZLING & HILARIOUS MYSTERY

ACTING CAN BE MURDER



Written by Eddie McPherson

Directed by Peter Gatt

Evenings 7:30

May 20–23 & 27–30

Matinees 2:00

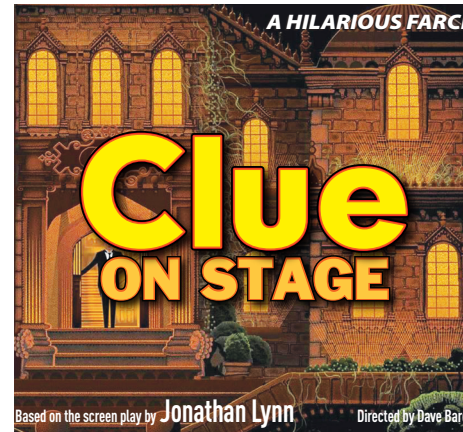
May 23, 24, 30, 31



Dolores Gordon has always dreamed of stardom. But the only role she ever seems to land is that of the lowly understudy. So she decides to murder the lead actress. She hides the body in a large wooden trunk, a centerpiece of the production's murder-mystery set. With a chill, she begins to observe strange things going on among the production's suspicious and dysfunctional cast.

Acting Can Be Murder is presented by arrangement with Heuer Publishing LLC of Cedar Rapids, Iowa

We're thrilled to announce our new 2026/27 Season



Based on the screen play by Jonathan Lynn Directed by Dave Baron

Additional Material by Hunter Foster, Eric Price & Sandy Rustin

At an unusual dinner party the butler offers the guests aliases and a variety of weapons. The host is, well, dead. So whodunit? Join the iconic oddballs: Scarlet, Plum, White, Green, Peacock and Mustard as they race to find the murderer in Boddy Manor. Based on the cult classic film and the popular board game, Clue is a madcap comedy that will keep you guessing 'til the final twist.

Evenings 7:30 • Oct 7–10 & 14–17

Matinees 2:00 • Oct 10, 11, 17, 18



Written by John Morley Directed by Heather Lee

Join our hero in an exciting adventure-packed voyage to find a hidden treasure that Blackpatch, the Pirate, and Jack Boot's band of bloodthirsty Pirates will attempt to steal. You'll meet Demon Oylslick, whose threat to pollute the High Seas is repelled by Fairy Detergent. There's also Man Friday and Queen Wotta Woppa, who leads some hungry Cannibals. Experience some marvelous comedy moments and a lot of joyous audience participation.

Eves 7:00 • Dec 17, 18, 21, 22

Mats 2:00 • Dec 12, 13, 19, 20, 26–31



Written by Leslie Sands Directed by Francis Matheu

This most ingenious thriller concerns an author whose wife, his publisher, accidentally runs over his mistress and kills her. They agree to dispose of the body and eventually the true relationship between husband and wife is revealed. Meanwhile, a net around the couple is being very neatly tightened by a most convincing and refreshingly new type of detective, who attempts to untangle the twisted web of lies to bring the real murderer to justice.

Evenings 7:30 • Mar 10–13 & 17–20

Matinees 2:00 • Mar 13, 14, 20, 21



Written by Matthew Barber Directed by Misty Cozac

Feeling lost in the shadows of marriage and forgotten in the rush of 1920s post-war society, two London housewives pool their savings to rent a villa in Italy for a ladies-only holiday away, reluctantly recruiting a pair of difficult upper-class women to share the cost and the experience. Together under the Mediterranean sun, the four women clash—and then begin to bond and bloom—until men once again upset the balance.

Evenings 7:30 • May 26–29 & June 2–5

Matinees 2:00 • May 29, 30 & June 5, 6

Here are a couple of exciting possibilities for some fine entertainment that involves several members of our troupe.

THE LANDLORD'S GAME
 JUNE 3, 2026 - 7PM | BELFRY THEATRE
 PART OF THE VICTORIA ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL
TICKETS ON SALE MAY 1 AT [HTTPS://TIX.BELFRY.BC.CA/EVENTS](https://tix.belfry.bc.ca/events)

The Landlord's Game is a sharp, witty one-act play about Lizzie Magie, the real inventor of the game that became Monopoly. Set in 1904 Washington, D.C., it follows Lizzie as she playtests her creation, fights off a pair of slippery publishers, protests for women's rights, and ultimately sells her life's work for \$500 while men get the credit and the billions.

The play asks why we keep choosing to crush each other when a fairer game was always on the table, and whether peace is something we actually want or just something we say we want.

The Landlord's Game is the origin story Monopoly never told you.

Tickets on sale May 1 at <https://tix.belfry.bc.ca/events>

Oliver!

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Lionel Bart

Don't miss the beloved, high-spirited musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist, filled with memorable songs, lively ensemble numbers, and a story that has captivated audiences for generations.

About the Show

Young orphan Oliver Twist escapes a bleak life in a Victorian workhouse and finds himself on the bustling streets of London.

Taken in by a group of pickpockets led by the cunning Fagin, Oliver encounters a world of danger, humour, and unexpected kindness.

As he searches for family and belonging, Oliver crosses paths with unforgettable characters including the mischievous Artful Dodger, the menacing Bill Sikes, and the warm-hearted Nancy. Ultimately, Oliver's journey reveals that compassion and hope can triumph even in the harshest of circumstances.

THEATRE **al dente** PRESENTS

LIONEL BART'S

OLIVER!

JUNE 19-28

TICKETS AND INFO:
[BIT.LY/OLIVER-MUSICAL](https://bit.ly/oliver-musical)

Performance Dates & Times

- Friday, June 19 at 7:00 PM
- Saturday, June 20 at 2:00 PM
- Sunday, June 21 at 2:00 PM
- Friday, June 26 at 7:00 PM
- Saturday, June 27 at 2:00 PM
- Sunday, June 28 at 2:00 PM

Venue

Belmont Secondary School, Langford (Greater Victoria, BC)

Tickets:

<https://www.theatrealdente.com/book-online?category=e45508cf-e711-45a4-9bf5-0352b281ab46>