

Langham Court Theatre resides on the territories of the *łəkʷəŋən* people, also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nation. We live and create on this land with humility and gratitude.

JANUARY 2025

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Langham Court News is published 11 times a year. **Deadline for submissions is the 22nd day of the month preceding the month of publication.** Send submissions to Andrew Law at newseditor@langhamtheatre.ca

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Membership

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Prop Rentals and Donations

props@langhamtheatre.ca

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January 29 to February 16

Now and Then

Written by Sean Grennan

Directed by Francis Matheu

Submitted by Gord More (Producer)

The actors are hitting their marks. The set is built and the paint is drying. Props are arriving. Before the lights come up be sure you reserve your favourite seats to what's going to be a great performance. This is a story about making those

important life decisions. It's a story about love. It's funny, it's thoughtful, it's romantic. We don't want to say much more, so just get your tickets and let us surprise you.



Milt Papageorge and Tammy Johnson



Liz Carey and Orion Marciano



Director Francis Matheu giving notes to the cast of *Now and Then*.

Photo Credits: Terry Stitt and Gord More

Special thanks to **Katrina Grace Abaca** for all of her fanatastic work over the last year publishing our newsletter! Please welcome Andrew Law as our new editor of Langham's newsletter.

Follow-up: *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley*

Submitted by Holly McGimpsey

The Wickhams faced challenges after the December newsletter went to press!

After struggling through her second week of performances as Lizzie Darcy, Helena Kantowicz was sidelined by pneumonia prior to the second Sunday matinee. That show was canceled and, thanks to Dick Newson, patrons were quickly notified.



With another week of sold out houses ahead, this was a major problem. Georgia Tooke, who played Gillian Ravenscroft in our last production and worked as a lighting board operator for *The Wickhams*, was asked if she could fill in.

With two days to prepare and one blocking run with the cast, Georgia took the stage as Lizzie Darcy on Wednesday night and barely peeked at her script! Thanks to the willingness of all the cast and crew, an extra Saturday matinee was added which was almost sold out. After two performances, Georgia completed the run off script!

We are so grateful to two very brave, beautiful and talented Lizzies. Helena and Georgia were both troopers in true theatre tradition and proved that the show really does go on!

Thanks to everyone who stepped up to make *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley* a huge success.



Progress with Props

If you have been in the prop room at Langham recently you may have noticed it has had some care and attention. Two volunteers Leslie Simpson and Jean de Cartier have spent over forty hours this fall reorganizing and tidying the extensive collection of items gathered over decades. The work will continue after the Christmas break when the volunteers will take on the task of cleaning the whole room.



Helena Kantowicz with
Brandon Hutchison



Georgia Tooke

Langham Court Theatre Society is a community theatre powered by volunteers and all actors and crew are unpaid. The Society has ZERO TOLERANCE for bullying, racism, harassment, and other behaviours that cause harm to members of our community. Everyone will be required to adhere to our [Code of Conduct](#)

Message from the President

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2025! I hope you all had a festive and peaceful holiday season.

As we head into a new year, we on the Board are looking at the many things that make Langham a successful community theatre. We are finding ways to remain financially viable, increase our profile within the community, grow our membership, and look at how to maintain and care for a building with an aging infrastructure.



We are also making plans for the 100th Anniversary year long celebration. To do all this work we need your input (and blood, sweat, and tears 😊).

Please consider joining a committee. If you have any experience or interest in marketing, fundraising, volunteer management, strategic planning, or event planning please let us know by sending a message to gm@langhamtheatre.ca. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Holiday Party. Thank you to Ian Bidgood, Gloria De loia, Jean

DeCartier, and Tony Cain for your decorating skills, and to Kevin Stinson and Gloria Snider for organizing the entertainment.

Wishing you a new year full of friendship, fun, and possibilities.

Cheers

Caroline

Langham Sign Fundraising (and more) Campaign!

Submitted by Caroline Herbert

You may have noticed that the theatre is missing its sign. After the summer renovation with the fabulous new paint job, we realized that it was time for an upgrade. We also discovered that lit signs that are easy to see are rather expensive, and along with the other projects in the works, we will need a 2025 fundraising campaign.

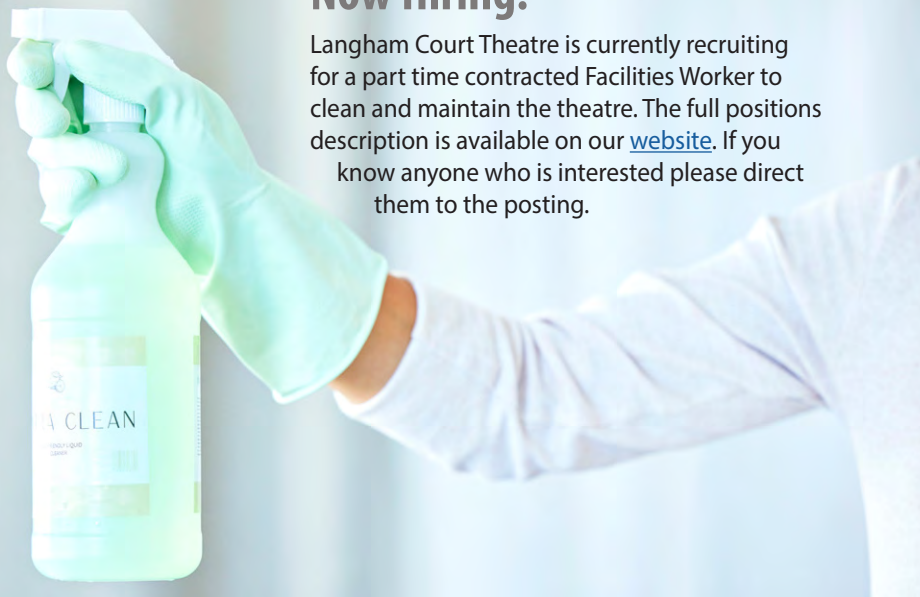
This campaign has been kicked off with a generous donation of \$2,000 by Gloria Di lola and Ian Bidgood!

Thank you once again for your generosity! If you would like to donate, please email gm@langhamtheatre.ca



Now Hiring!

Langham Court Theatre is currently recruiting for a part time contracted Facilities Worker to clean and maintain the theatre. The full positions description is available on our [website](#). If you know anyone who is interested please direct them to the posting.



Langham's Holiday Party Festivities



Decorating the lounge for the holiday party.



MC Kevin Stinson.



Kevin Stinson and Gloria Snider entertaining the crowd.



Jean Topham reading a fun "The Night Before the Night Before Christmas" tale.



Kathy Macovichuk getting her pirate on with a telling of the story "A Pirate's Night Before Christmas."



Everyone enjoying the festivities

Open Auditions for *An Inspector Calls*

The story takes place in 1912 in Brumley, North Midlands. The Birling family is celebrating the engagement of their daughter Sheila to Gerald Croft. Both families are of a privileged, prosperous, and wealthy elite with little regard for the lower classes. The arrival of Inspector Goole interrupts the party with the news of a grizzly suicide. He informs those present that they could be complicit.



Priestley weaves the styles of a crime thriller and a morality play that invites the audience to judge the characters and reflect on their values of social responsibility, age, gender, and class. Priestley wrote the play in 1945 to warn the people of falling back to a past when there was growing inequality amid social change, establishing the power, influence, and wealth of the ruling elite. Sound familiar?

Langham Court Theatre Society is an inclusive environment, and we encourage everyone to come out and audition.

Audition Location: Langham Court Theatre is located at 805 Langham Court. Please enter by the stage door located on the south side of the building at the parking lot level. Auditions will be in the Rehearsal Room.

Audition Dates and times:

Friday, January 10, 7-10 p.m.

Saturday, January 11, 1-4 p.m.

Callbacks (by invitation only) Sunday, January 12, 1-4 p.m.

Performance Dates: March 26 to April 13, 2025

Rehearsals start Saturday, January 18 and will run Tuesdays and Thursdays (6:30-9:30 p.m.) and Saturdays (1-4 p.m.)

The open auditions will be held with cold readings from the script.

CHARACTER REQUIREMENTS (An English accent is not essential):

Inspector Goole (50+ – A person of authority. Steadfast socialist. An imposing presence. A force for good.

Arthur Birling (50+ – Successful and prosperous. Arrogant, pompous, and a hardline businessman. Angry temperament when challenged. Lacks sophistication.

Sybil Birling (45+ – Haughty, patronizing, and cold-hearted. Has a lineage of wealth and privilege. Tends to dominate members of the household.

Sheila Birling (20-25 – Giddy and naive. Transitions through the play to a person with a more mature outlook. Sincere, compassionate, and remorseful for her past deeds.

Eric Birling (20+ – Self-esteem issues. Drinks too much. Resents his oppressive upbringing. He later develops the courage to challenge and condemn his parents' values.

Gerald Croft (25+ – A charming young man. Born into a life of privilege, wealth, and social prominence. A sincere, compassionate, and kind person.

Edna (20+ – Diligent, hard-working, and loyal maid.

If you have any questions about the auditions, please contact Producer Holly McGimpsey at hollymcg@hotmail.ca

Other Theatre Happenings

Mark Your Calendars

January 10-12

Open Auditions for *An Inspector Calls*

January 29 - February 16

Langham's production of *Now and Then*

February 19 - March 8

Theatre Inconnu's production of *Queene Maeve*

February 28 - March 3

St Luke's Players' Auditions for *Drinking Habits*

March 12 - 23

St. Luke's Players' production of *Out of Sight out of Murder*

March 26 - April 13

Langham's production of *An Inspector Calls*



Volunteer Victoria Membership

Need some new skilled volunteers? We are pleased to once again be a member of Volunteer Victoria. If you are looking for volunteers with a particular skill set, let us know at gm@langhamcourt.ca. We can post for any position at any time.

We need the job title, a brief description, time frame and any training offered.

Volunteer Victoria offers many other opportunities for non-profits in the greater Victoria area including event promotion, a grant database, and ads in local publications.

Check them out at volunteervictoria.bc.ca

All Animals are Equal

Lawyers on Stage Theatre Society (LOST) extends its deep gratitude to Langham Court Theatre whose collaboration with LOST contributed so much to the success of our December 2024 fundraiser: George Orwell's masterpiece, *Animal Farm*.

Adapted for stage by Ian Wooldridge, and beautifully directed by Francis Matheu and Sara Ramshaw. You can view the full program and show pictures at www.lawyersonstage.com

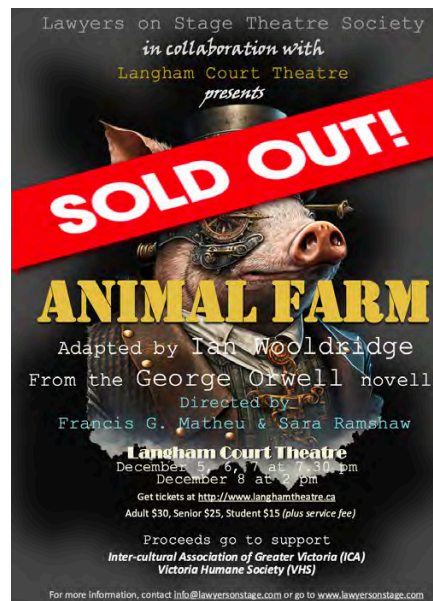
The artistic and financial successes of the show would not have been possible without Langham's support.

From Mike Kuss' build crew rapidly transforming *The Wickhams* set into a farm, to Dick Newson's wonderful Box Office assistance, to Marilyn Kuss' ushers expert handling of four sold out shows, to Misty Buxton's assistance in costuming a whole lot of animals from the Langham Costume Loft (18 actors tread the boards in *Animal Farm*), to the Langham Board of Directors' support and encouragement.

LOST is extremely grateful for all the Langham love. Thank you!

Proceeds from this generosity go to The Victoria Humane Society, saving animal lives, and the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria, also saving lives by integrating newcomer immigrants and refugees into our community.

Animal Farm was LOST's seventh show at Langham Court Theatre. We are already looking forward to the 2025 show, with a show announcement coming in the Spring of 2025!



Costume Loft Update

Hoping everyone a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year! The Costume Loft is looking forward to making some changes in the upcoming year; both big and small. For now the only change is a small tweak to our business hours so that we may accommodate those who work later in the day.

Our new business hours are as follows:

Wed 1-6 p.m. / Thurs 1-5 p.m.

Fri 1-5 p.m. / Sat 11-4 p.m.

Donations

November 2024

Gayle Hinkley - Uniforms on Douglas

Diana Sharp

Alex Nichol

Forest Mckeating

Jan Streader

December 2024

Jutta Kaffank

Tim Pilon

Tim Lomas for Nancy Brown

Sylvia Lindstrom



AUDITIONS!



Written by Tom Smith

Directed by Peter Gatt

Scripts to borrow near audition dates and return to: Oak Bay Flower Shop, 102 - 2187 Oak Bay Avenue

Fri Feb 28 • 7-9pm

Sun Mar 2 • 2-4pm

Callbacks Mon Mar 3 • 7pm

Auditions are open to enthusiastic adults of all ages and experience.

Play runs June 11-22, 2025

Rehearsals start on March 26, and are held Mon, Wed and Fri evenings following a fun Meet & Greet

Please see our website for more details.

Questions:

Peter Gatt pgatt73@gmail.com