



MVDS, P.O. Box 124, Muizenberg, 7950

MVDS Newsletter June 2011

In my search for “interesting stuff” to amuse you this month, I came across a short list of some of the more unusual, and unusually named, employment positions available. Ok, no prizes for guessing what an Armpit Sniffer does – yeah, you guessed it – checks how well deodorants work! And a chicken sexer? Of course – determines the sex of newly hatched chicks! Read on for more!

Birthdays

Let's firstly congratulate our July babies

- 09.07. James Pape ... when, in 1934 Donald Duck made his debut in *The Wise Little Hen*
- 11.07. Di Thom
Nick Lee ... the day in 1970 when Anna Mae Hays and Elizabeth P. Hoisington officially received their ranks as the first female U.S. Army Generals
- 14.07. Su Cunningham ... the day on which, in 1789, whiskey distilled from maize was first produced by American clergyman Rev. Elijah Craig – aptly named Bourbon as he lived in Bourbon County, Kentucky
- 18.07. Tom Byrne ... a more solemn date in that that was the day in 1981 that a disease cluster, which would later be known as AIDS, was recognized by medical professionals in San Francisco
- 21.07. Fiona Carling
Lieske Bester ... when Pluto's newly discovered moons were officially named Nix and Hydra in 2006
- 25.07. Leah Appolis ... the day which also saw the release in theatres of *Long-Haired Hare*, starring Bugs Bunny in 1949
- 26.07. Kim Leih ... on the day on which, in 1927, the Cyclone roller coaster opened on Coney Island
- 29.07. **Lee de Andrade** turns the **big 50** (drum roll please!)
Welcome to the club, Lee,
and here's to the next 50 years!



A “Lag Screwer” does WHAT?!?!
Inserts the bolts in table legs.



Welcome

A big “Hi” to our newest members **Shirley Chipps, Tara Lee Essack and Tayla van Blerck!**

Getting to know you!

It is high time that someone besides me blabs on in this newsletter, and we thought it would be fun if our members shared a few facts about themselves! So, who wants to start the ball rolling? Maybe *you* have a really unusual job or an exciting hobby (other than amdram of course!), or you may want to share some of your acting experiences with us. C'mon, don't wait until our intrepid reporter comes knocking on your door – drop me a line for the next edition!

Calendar

- 01–08.07. *Romantic Fools*, written by Rich Orloff, to be performed at the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown, presented by On the Shoulders of Giants, a duo comprising MVDS' members Raymond Rudolph and Kelly Kowalski, and specially adapted by the former for South Africa. Nine two-character comedies examining love, lust, dating and romance: from a date with a caveman to the joys of dull sex and a hilariously lecherous wedding planner. With influences of Monty Python, the Marx Brothers and classic vaudeville comedy these sketches vary, but all celebrate the inherent comedy of male-female relationships. Bookings through Computicket or at the Festival, or contact Raymond on 021–794 5229 or raymrud@netactive.co.za
- 01–09.07. *Macbeth* written (of course!) by William Shakespeare, directed by Clifford Graham (with co-direction by Brenda Gray), presented by Claremont Dramatic Society at the Masque Theatre. A tale of lies, manipulation and treachery. This production is set to a rousing soundscape and rich lighting and is a feast of poetry and prose.
- 04–09.07. *River of Life* – Umlambo Wobomi presented by The Jungle Theatre Company at the Masque Theatre at 11:00 daily. An African fairytale about a rural tribe of villagers and a special princess. Suited for five- to ten-years old, but great for the whole family. Cost: R30 per ticket.
- 19–30.07. *Driving Miss Daisy* to be presented by the Hottentots Holland Dramatic Society at the Playhouse Theatre in Somerset West. Book through Computicket.
- 22-30.07. *The Haunted through Lounge and recessed Dining Nook at Farndale Castle* by David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin Jnr, directed by Miranda Lewis and presented by Muizenberg Dramatic Society at the Masque Theatre. In this hilarious comedy, the audience become spectators at the annual production by

the Farnedale Avenue Townswomen's Guild, a small but industrious local guild of community-minded women. Their presentation of a play about a mysterious

castle is beset with all the challenges facing every amateur dramatic society, from props and costumes to the lack of men to play the male roles. This delightful comedy will warm your winter evenings and leave you chuckling for days afterwards.

25.07. to 07.08. *Forever Plaid* by Stuart Ross, presented by Pinelands Players Candlelight Theatre at the Pinelands Town Hall. Tickets for this "harmonised fun from the 50s" production, directed by June Wells with musical direction by Victor Tichart, cost R100 which includes an American Diner-style meal. For bookings contact 072 923 1035 or bgough@telkomsa.net

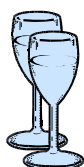
Please note days, times and prices for Masque Theatre productions (unless otherwise stated) are Thursdays and Fridays at 20:00, Saturday matinées at 14:30, Saturday evenings at 18:30.

Thu. eve. and Sat. matinées R50 (Theatre Club members R40), other nights R60 (R50). Bookings on 021-788 1898 (office hours only).

A "Carroter" does WHAT?!?!
Conditions fur for use in hat manufacture.

MASQUE WINE TASTING

We unfortunately missed this Masque Theatre fundraising event which was held in the foyer of the Masque on Sunday, 12 June. Chairperson Andrew Blake attended and had this to say.



Superbly organised by Sue Hallinan, the evening took the unusual form of a "Truth or Lies" wine tasting. In this fun type of tasting, hosts Fred and Dennis (both specialists in the wine environment) each took a turn to explain what the wine in your glass was, using the characteristics of colour, nose, cultivar and vintage. The trick was, however, that one was telling the truth and one was lying. And you had to try and pick! The packed foyer enjoyed seven different wines with the accompanying banter. Afterwards, "blotting paper" in the form of lovely sandwiches and snacks was served. Special thanks to Sue, Jabu and Thandi for the arrangements and to Fred and Dennis for the fun evening.

A "Snailer" does WHAT?!?!
Operates a machine which polishes and inscribes clocks and watches.

Members' Evenings

Congratulations to those few hardies who braved the shocking weather on Wednesday, 15 June, to attend the quiz evening at the Upper Crust Restaurant and Bar in Marina Da Gama! We had never been to this venue and were truly impressed – *really* reasonable

prices, *superb* pizzas, *warm(ish)* smoking area, *great* ambience. Thanks to Jonathan Duguid and Isabel Byers for organising a wonderful Africa-based quiz – although there were only four teams competing I'm sure all who were there agree that this was an evening that should become a regular event – minus the rain however!

As previously advised, Richard Higgs will be directing an adaptation of Federico Garcia Lorca's unfinished one-act play *Play without a Title* at our next members' evening on 17 August. But be warned – the script includes some blasphemy. Richard is looking for people to play the following characters – some roles are a great chance for novices to get their feet wet!

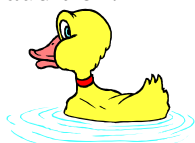
The Director	Male, any age. Authoritative and confident. Large role.
Male Spectator	Male, middle-aged. Aggressive, domineering. Medium-sized role.
The Actress	Female, any age. "Old-school repertory"-type actress, histrionic and overbearing – plays Titania and Lady Macbeth. Medium role.
1st Female Spectator	Wife of Male Spectator. Downtrodden and submissive. Smallish role.
Waitron	Male or female, preferably very young (teenager). Small role.
A Youth	Male, student type. Small role.
Nick Bottom	Male, any age. Feels quite sorry for himself/put upon. Smallish role.
2nd Female Spectator	Female 25 to 45. Whiny, neurotic mother. Smallish role.
Stage Manager	Male or female, any age, but should be a convincing stage manager-type. Medium-sized role.
Man in Black	Male, any age. Small role.

Richard is also looking for a production assistant (who could be a cast member). A get-together to cast the roles and discuss the play will be held at the Madhouse on Thursday, 30 June at 18:30. For further information you can contact Richard on 083 611 1419 or 021-650 4441.

A "Gambreler" does WHAT?!?!
Hangs animal carcasses on hooks before the butchering process.

Audition

Pinelands Players are holding auditions on Sat. 25 June, Sun. 26 June, Sat. 02 July, Sun. 03 July and Sun. 17 July at the Pinelands Players clubhouse, The Crossing Road, Pinelands for *Honk – The Ugly Duckling Musical*, based on the story by Hans Christian Andersen, with Kyla Thorburn as director and Justin Wardle as musical director. The production will run from 07 to 17 December 2011 at the Little Theatre in Cape Town, with a possible short February 2012 run at the Masque. The production requires a large cast with very varying ages and role sizes. Please contact Tina Gough at Bgough@telkomsa.net or on 082 771 9644 to ascertain specific audition times and what you need to prepare for the audition.



A “Getterer” does WHAT?!?!
Applies solution to wires in lamp manufacture.

Help!

Rick Magnin has very competently run the bar at the Masque Theatre for some years, but pressure of work means that he is unable to continue doing so. A replacement is desperately needed. It involves allocating duties to our team of volunteer bartenders, checking and ordering supplies and keeping track of monies taken. Best suited to someone who lives close to the theatre and has some spare time to utilise. Please contact Rick on 021–715 5288 or richard.magnin@telkomsa.net for further information.

A “Nut Steamer” does WHAT?!?!
Immerses almonds, pecans and other nuts in hot water in order to soften their shells.

MORE HELP!

birga Thomas is looking for an Eric Clapton LP record which features the song “Lay down, Sally” for her upcoming production. She would only need to borrow it for a short while to record that (and perhaps a second) song and scan the album cover.

If you can assist contact birga on birgatom@iafrica.com or 021–788 5272.



In closing, my personal favourite in the occupation titles is a “**Wrinkle Chaser**”!
Removes the defects from new shoes!

Stay warm and well,

Eve

Our 2011 committee

Name	Portfolio	Tel. 021–...	Cellphone	e-mail
BLAKE, Andrew	Chairperson	781 0114	082 493 3330	ablake@mweb.co.za
CARR, Eve	Newsletter, publicity	797 7286	082 789 2281	everon@absamail.co.za
CARR, Ron	Bar, backstage	788 4984	072 784 7236	aliduf@phs.co.za
DUFF, Alastair	Vice-chairperson	701 9680	084 531 2457	jduguid@africamail.com
DUGUID, Jonathan	Youth development, electronic media	715 0694	076 570 6686	home@morling.co.za
MORLING, Wendy	Members' evenings	794 5229	083 462 8242	raymrud@netactive.co.za
RUDOLPH, Raymond	Treasurer	788 5272	082 312 2737	birgatom@iafrica.com
THOMAS, birga	Secretary	788 7911	083 358 8415	celiamusikanth@mweb.co.za
MUSIKANTH, Celia	President/Masque trustee	782 2743	—	—
McCONNELL, John	Vice-president			