



# Bulletin May 2009

*Creating social transformation through entertainment*

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Welcome to the *first edition* of the Victoria Target Theatre Society Bulletin. This bulletin is meant to provide Target members with updates and information on the work of the organization and provide a method of staying in touch. It will be published online three times a year: May, October and January. Please forward any feedback or information to be included in future editions to Target's Business Manager, Lucy Bashford – contact information above.

## Whats New!!

### **Age on Wheels – Target's NEWEST Play!!**

Target endeavors to develop one new play every one to two years. For their 2008-09 project, the Target actors and artistic director have chosen the subject of older drivers, their physical and emotional challenges and options for staying safe while preserving mobility (independence) and quality of life. The play building and production process involves intensive group research into community issues and artistic collaboration with professional director/writers and seniors in the community.

*Age on Wheels* deals with issues facing older drivers from the perspective of older drivers themselves. The play advocates for the interests of older drivers (mobility, independence, and understanding), explores myths and facts about senior drivers, and at the same time raises questions about their physical and emotional capacities that could affect their driving ability. It moves from a look at the role of cars as a means of independence and freedom in youth and the impact of driving on quality of life for seniors, through acknowledgement of physical and emotional changes in later life and concerns about these changes among friends and family, to presentation of safe driving tips and alternatives to driving. Using song and dance and dramatic scenes, the play mixes humour, drama, and practical guidance in ways that are informative, entertaining, and emotionally engaging. Submitted by - Judith McDowell

**Age on Wheels – Public Performance  
Wednesday, June 10, 2009 2-4 pm  
James Bay New Horizons, 234 Menzies St.**

### **A Change of Place**

As of November last year, the Target Theatre Players group has moved its Wednesday morning class from the Church of Truth to the Langham Court Theatre's comfortable and acoustically excellent rehearsal room. Thanks to the Church of Truth and Rental's Chair, Patricia Hewitt, for their hospitality during the previous past year. Thanks also to Langham's Board and Theatre Manager Craig Mracek for making the new space available.

## Member News

### **Kenneth Urquhart's new book is published!!**

The Fourth Wall, by Kenneth Urquhart, is a book of short stories and a novella. Those who have read, and enjoyed the stories, vary in age from young to senior adults. These engrossing tales are not constrained by similar topics or patterns, as each one is unique in characters and in plot development, often with unexpected repercussions. Photographs provided or adapted by Ken add to the absorption into the tales. A banquet to savour.

The book is available at the University of Victoria Student Book Store. Further information about The Fourth Wall can be found at [www.oak-blaze-publishing.com](http://www.oak-blaze-publishing.com) and the author can be contacted at [oakblaze@oak-blaze-publishing.com](mailto:oakblaze@oak-blaze-publishing.com). Submitted by - Maja Svensson

## Member Profile

### June Boston



At 80 years of age, June Boston is the longest serving Target Player – but not the oldest! June has been a Target Player for 23 years, since its inception in 1986. Originally from London, UK, she lived in Quebec and Ontario before moving to Victoria.

June acted with the Lakeland Players Community Theatre, in Westport Ontario with whom she won Best Actress and Best use of Voice at the Eastern Ontario Drama Festival in 1982. In 1985, June joined Sylvia Gambles `Hamming It Up` an improvisational group for seniors in Victoria. This group evolved into Target Theatre, which won the gold medal for drama at the Senior Games held in Trail, B.C. that year.

June says, “Target has been my life for so long. My husband supported me and Target whole heartedly. Before we had a computer, he endlessly typed scripts for us.” On Target’s 20th Anniversary the Players presented June and the late Rosalie Frampton with an award for 20 years of Acting Excellence. June also taught drama and directed plays in the community. As a member of the Union of B.C. Performers, June still works in the movie business. “Movie making is fun and financially profitable” she says, “although time consuming. One meets interesting people.” Meeting a gracious Sissy Spacek is a favourite movie moment for June. June says that “I am determined to keep going as long as possible”. All Target Theatre members hope that is for a long time!!

## I'm Still Here

The initial Victoria Target Theatre Society performance of “I’m Still Here” was November 2, 2007. Since then the Society players have performed this wonderful drama that explores the experience of living with dementia 18 times. I have had the opportunity to watch five of those performances. As a Registered Nurse who works with people with dementia and their families I have found the play realistic, funny, heart warming and profound.

As a dementia care educator I have watched as audiences smile, laugh, cry and frequently nod their heads in agreement as they are absorbed in the stories woven throughout the play. The play challenges long held beliefs about dementia and dementia care and forces audiences to reflect on how they think about people with dementia and how they may ‘treat’ them.

I applaud Victoria Target Theatre for their work in ensuring the messages in “I’m Still Here” are being heard throughout the province of British Columbia and I believe the accomplished players make the words of the people with dementia literally “come alive”. Submitted by - Janice Robinson, Chair Communications Committee

## Volunteers Needed

Currently the Board is in need of a Director to act in the role of Secretary. There are also two other Director positions available. We hope you will consider this!! If you are interested please contact our Business manager, Lucy Bashford, at either (250) 477-6054 or [target@islandnet.com](mailto:target@islandnet.com) and she will put you in touch with Target’s president, Jane Kreiger.

### Target Board of Directors 2008-2009

Jane Kreiger, President  
Sheri Bird, Treasurer  
Yolanda Olivatto, Vice President and Chair,  
Fundraising Committee

Judith McDowell, Artistic Director  
Madeleine Mills, Players representative  
Janice Robinson, Chair, Communications  
Committee