



Dickens's Who



VW 23

Frýdek-Místek, 17 August 2009

There have been two meetings since the last newsletter. The first took place in Katka's garden, which sits in the shadow of a former steel mill, now a rusting hulk that could provide an excellent backdrop for a future play. If the film *Karamazovi* comes to mind, rest assured that whatever we come up with won't be even vaguely similar to that horseshit. The meeting was dominated by the barbecue, or rather the inability of the charcoal to light despite the intervention of the best minds available. It could be that the steel mill had used up most of the local oxygen, and the initial lackluster reading of *Sally Carter* seems to support this assumption. Eventually a glow appeared under the grill and in no time we were ripping into sizzling animal hide in place of spitting out watermelon seeds. Fortified by food and wine, the reading took off and was noted especially by James's superb rendition of Sergeant Carter. But wait a minute, ain't he the preacher? The director, who's supposed to play Carter, seems to think so. The last item of business was establishing the time and location of the next meeting and Karin cheerfully stepped forward to offer her backyard in Krasné Pole. Only the venue guy excused himself from attending on the rather dubious grounds that he would be on holiday during that time. He agreed to bring back pictures to remove any doubts.

Thus the meeting was set for Beautiful Field and it's clear from the group photo here that those who didn't show up really missed out. Karin laid out an incredibly delicious spread of fresh baguettes, vegetables, fruit salad and blueberry crumb cake while her partner Marek commanded the grill. Geoff brought something called cheese nuts that were more nutty than cheesy and Ivana a "light" white wine which, strangely enough, made recalling her lines pretty heavy going. The only person in the photo with an actual script in hand is the new Katka, a friend of Karin's who came to observe but agreed to read Sally for us and did such a great job at it that she was invited on the spot to join our group. Since she will soon be neighbors with Karin, we now have two reasons to go to Krasné Pole for future meetings. We have to wait for the venue guy to get back before we set the next location but count on meeting weekly in September and October for outdoor rehearsals. And get hot on memorizing those lines, with or without the aid of light beverages and crumb cakes.

