



**SHAW**  
FESTIVAL **Guild**

**MAY 2016**

Save the Date!	1
President's Message	2
Garden Tour	3
Annual Shaw versus Stratford Cricket Match	3
Executive Nominees	4
Alice Backstage Tour	4
First Impressions...	5
Presidents' Luncheon and Show & Tell	6-7
Mad Hatter's Tea Party	8
Contacts	8

# Save the Date!

## EVENTS 2016

<b>Garden Tour</b>	Saturday, June 4
<b>Summer Celebration</b>	Monday, July 25, 4:30 - 7 pm
<b>Set Changeover Sweeney (2 pm) to Alice (8 pm)</b>	Wednesday, September 7
<b>Cricket</b>	<b>NEW DATE:</b> Monday, September 12
<b>Members' Day</b>	Monday, October 24
<b>Annual General Meeting</b>	Sunday, November 20

**REMINDER:**  
**Guild events**  
**are for**  
**MEMBERS ONLY**  
 Badges are not  
 transferable

For more information, check out our events page:  
[www.shawguild.ca/events](http://www.shawguild.ca/events)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# At long last Spring!

In Niagara-on-the-Lake that means one thing - opening nights at the Shaw! The second week of May saw the opening of the first four productions of the 2016 season.

- ***Our Town***, directed by Molly Smith, is a picture perfect production with moving performances by many of our favourite company members.
- The new adaptation of ***Uncle Vanya*** highlights the brilliance of our outgoing artistic director, Jackie Maxwell, and her fine cast of Shaw veterans.
- ***Mrs. Warren's Profession*** is a stylish staging of a Shaw classic by director Eda Holmes.
- ***Alice in Wonderland*** is a stunning and beautiful collaboration of artists under Peter Hinton's direction.

Opening weekend also saw the unveiling of the new patio garden at the Royal George. With support from Executive Director Tim Jennings, a plan to turn this unused space into a gathering place for patrons at the Royal George has been realized.

The Docents have been piloting a new tour for *Alice*, and have been very busy with school groups since previews. This year three of our long time Docents have decided to retire from the team. Peggy and Ken Bell and Nancy Mouget have put in many hours as Docents over the years. On behalf of the Guild I would like to thank them for their service to the Shaw Festival.

Now that the 2016 season is under way, many of you will be out at the theatres Hosting and Greeting. Remember that we are the ambassadors for the Shaw and our primary objective is to help welcome and create a great day at the theatre for our patrons.

I am ever hopeful that the warm weather is here to stay, especially for our volunteers who work outside - Gardeners and Greeters! Enjoy the gardens on the annual **Garden Tour on June 4th** and our own beautiful Shaw gardens. Most of all, enjoy the 2016 season!

WE HAVE A NEW EMAIL!  
[info@shawguild.ca](mailto:info@shawguild.ca)

Update your address  
book or contact list to  
make sure you continue  
to receive our emails.

**ARLENE CARSON, PRESIDENT**

# Garden Tour

Saturday, June 4th

This is to remind you all that our 2016 Garden Tour is taking place on Saturday, June 4th, 2016. This eagerly anticipated event is the Guild's major fundraising activity and it has allowed us to donate significant funds to the Shaw - including a large contribution to this year's production of "Alice".

A number of your Guild colleagues are participating in the tour as front line volunteers, and together with Master Gardeners who are present in each of our 8 gardens they ensure that our patrons have a truly enjoyable experience.

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I encourage you and your family and friends to attend the tour. Tickets are priced at \$25 and are available through the Shaw Festival Box Office at 1-800-511-7429 / 905-468-2172, or [www.shawfest.com/gardentour](http://www.shawfest.com/gardentour).

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Finally, as we commence planning for the 2017 Garden Tour (which begins immediately upon conclusion of this year's Tour) our prime focus is on viewing gardens as they will look at this time next year. At time of writing, I am happy to report that we do have a number of Garden "prospects", and this is my ask of you all to provide us with details on prospective garden candidates for the 2017 tour. Obviously, it would be helpful if you have a direct connection with the owner(s) and can provide us with an introduction - we will do the rest!

Thank you for your support - see you June 4th.

**Alan Walker, Fundraising Chair**

## NOTICE:

### Annual Shaw versus Stratford Cricket Match

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Mr. Reginald Hargreaves, husband of THE "Alice In Wonderland" and renowned all England X1 Cricketer, invites you to join him and the Shaw Team at the Annual Shaw versus Stratford Cricket Match to be held on Monday, September 12. The match will start at Noon in the Memorial Park, Niagara-on-the-Lake.

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Please bring your folding chairs or rugs and enjoy a glass or two of Pimm's before your delicious boxed lunch accompanied by a choice of red and white wine.

Following the lunch please cheer on our team as they battle their opposition and then join the teams for the iconic "Cricket High Tea" in the Festival Theatre Lobby. Delicious sandwiches, scones with jam and cream and an array of other goodies are served by members of the Shaw Festival.

During the High tea we will be holding a 50/50 Draw to raise funds for the Shaw cricket team to help them buy more cricket equipment.

After the tea we return to the cricket pitch to further cheer on our team to Victory!

**Tickets are \$25.00 and can be ordered by calling Keith Mills at 905-468-8421**

## EXECUTIVE NOMINEES

### The Shaw Guild Executive Committee Nomination Process

For the information of newer members, and as a refresher for the rest of us, I thought it might be timely to explain the process that the Guild uses to select new members to the various positions on the Executive that might be vacant each year.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by the Past President, consists of members of the Executive and other Guild members who are not on Executive but are considered to be knowledgeable about some or all of the workings of the Guild and its membership.

We are required to be in place by June 1st (and we are) and to present a proposed slate to the full Executive for approval by the first of September, and from there to our AGM. Typically the slate consists of some members, who are entering the second year of their two year term and are not up for election, Executive members who have decided that they wish to stand for a second term and members who wish to join the Executive in some capacity. To join the Executive the candidate must have been a Guild member for a year, although in certain rare circumstances a lesser term has been approved.

**For more information on the process, positions available, to express an interest in running and with any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact Past President Peter Gill at 905-468-5190 or [pastpresident@shawguild.ca](mailto:pastpresident@shawguild.ca)**



## Alice Backstage Tour

Have you ever experienced a backstage tour where guests followed a white rabbit down a rabbit hole?

That's exactly what's planned for families this summer who sign up for a special Alice Backstage Tour. Docents Arlene Carson and Elaine Evans developed the tour that provides an interactive experience for children to explore the magic of theatre, with specific focus on this year's production of Alice in Wonderland.

Docents have been busy preparing and practicing for the Alice tours scheduled for Thursday and Friday mornings in July and August. The feedback from the first pilot tour in May indicates both children and adults loved their backstage experience. The children discovered more about the theatre process and made a deeper connection when they saw the production.

**If you know of families who would like to participate in one of these special tours, encourage them to book their tickets early. Attendance is capped at 75 for each tour to ensure a fun experience for the whole family.**

# First Impressions...



**We are truly blessed. When was the last time you paused to absorb the glory of Niagara that we sometimes take for granted?**

First impressions are so important, and just the initial drive down Queen Street in full bloom welcomes many visitors annually. Our team of Guild Gardeners has been entrusted with the task of presenting The Shaw “first impression”, and this is not a responsibility we take lightly. As we plant, weed, prune, sweep, mulch, screen, (eat cookies and laugh a lot), our goal is simply to say “welcome to the Shaw Festival”. This year has seen the addition of two new improved gathering places.

The Secret Garden on the Festival east lawn was sorely in need of revamping to make it more inviting. Thanks to a generous donor, it has been totally rebuilt to include a fully accessible terrace. Care was given to preserve the original



pond and waterfall, and the fresh new hedge promises to rebuild this lovely ‘secret’ space.

The Royal George has also received a peaceful gathering space, with lush plantings, benches, hardscape accessible walkway, and direct access to the theatre through the house-right doors. This forward-thinking project not only eliminates the sidewalk blocking interval crush at the main entrance, but offers a shaded space in the heat of the summer.

Two additional positive first impressions in season 2016, and two additional areas of responsibility for the Guild Gardeners to say “welcome to the Shaw Festival”.

**Paddy Parr, Shaw Theatre Gardens Chair**



# Presidents' Luncheon and Show & Tell

The day may have been wet and dreary but that didn't dampen the excitement as the Guild formally launched its 2016 season on April 11 with the Presidents' Luncheon and Show & Tell.

Members enjoyed lunch in the Festival Theatre Lobby, heard words of welcome from Tim Carroll, Artistic Director Designate, and Tim Jennings, Executive Director, and then moved to Rehearsal Hall 1 for a fascinating presentation by William Schmuck, Design Director, on sets and costumes for this year's productions.

As you told us in the post-event survey:

**"Delicious food, orderly buffet, warm companionship, time to socialize ... and a fabulous presentation full of interesting and inside information."**

Thank you to the many people who contributed to the event: to Janet Hanna, Angela Cremer and Julianna Wintemute; to members of the Activities Team and the volunteers who helped make the event run smoothly; and to the Guild members who took the time to complete the post-event survey. Your comments will help us make next year's event even better.

**Laurie Harley, Activities Chair**



ABOVE: William Schmuck shares some behind-the-scenes secrets

SAVE THE DATE!



# Mad Hatters' Tea Party

**Shaw Guild Summer Celebration**

Monday, July 25, 4:30 - 7 pm

Watch for more information in June!

Featuring:

- Croquet on the lawn
- Contest for the "Maddest Hat"
- Playbill Mystery Game
- 50/50 Draw
- Cash bar
- Tea sandwiches, fruit & veggie platters, iced tea, dessert (\$20)

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