



2025-2026

A Fabulous Season to Remember!

Annual Meeting

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

Report to the Members

Report to the Members

For the 2025-2026 Season

We are back – meetings, auditions, director hiring, play reading, Out Louds, Improv Fridays at the unit, rehearsals, set building, costumes, props, crews, publicity, designers, move-ins, move-outs, closing parties, all times 4, and so much more. Scarborough Players continues to honour – Good Stories. Well Told.

Our 2025-2026 Productions

Lunenburg by Norm Foster September 2025

The season began in September 2025 with a trip down east to the beautiful town of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. Iris Oulette (Alma Sinan) travels with her best friend Natalie Whitaker (Victoria Badham) all the way from Maine to view the home Iris inherited due to the sudden death of her husband, Robert. She had no idea this house existed. Providing some information about Robert's – well Bobby's life in Lunenburg is next door neighbour Charlie Butler (Derek Barber). Iris and Natalie are in for some surprises along with good neighbour Charlie. Iris must deal with the fact her husband was a bigamist and learn to love Lunenburg. Natalie finds confidence in her art and romance with Charlie. Reading this description, one might assume this is a drama but once again, Norm Foster finds the way to charm, care and laugh.

We welcomed back director, Mark Nathanielsz after an absence of 14 years. We also welcomed Emma Wakelin back into the booth as Stage Manager. Greg Nowlan's set captured the exterior of the home on Lunenburg's Shore Road reflecting the real estate values of a home in an UNESCO protected site. Jennifer Bakker designed the lights. Katherine Turner added costumes and props. Mercedes Davy added her expertise as an Intimacy Director helping Charlie and Natalie for find romance -a surprising amount of kissing! Evan Macdonald as the Assistant Stage Manager managed the backstage and created white wine. Several years ago, a patron informed us that she had just seen *Lunenburg* at the Foster Festival and they laughed and laughed. She was right, audiences enjoyed the show – they laughed and laughed.

A Christmas Story adapted by Philip Grecian from Jean Shepherd December 2025

Celebrating the holidays was a given with our production of Jean Shepherd's classic tale, *A Christmas Story*! It was a joy to join 9-year-old Ralphie Parker and his quest for the perfect Christmas gift: a Red Ryder BB gun! Tongues on frozen lampposts, a department store Santa and an iconic leg lamp are all a part of the adventure.

Based on Jean Shepherd's memoir of growing up in the Midwest in the 1930s, *A Christmas Story* is filled with nostalgia, humour and heart, and is perfect for families wanting to immerse themselves in the holiday spirit!

Award winning director, Sheila Gatensby felt her most important responsibility was to be the caretaker of this beloved Christmas story that enchants with its nostalgia for a simpler time but also reflects the reality that some things don't change. Shepherd's adult Ralph conveys a world view that embraces the foibles of his family and acknowledges them lovingly. Childhood is a time for rich imagination, but it's harsh – there are bullies, and consequences.

We were delighted that our talented cast included veterans and newcomers. Returning to our stage were Victoria Badham as Mother, last seen as Natalie in *Lunenburg*, Neil Kulin as the Old Man, last seen as the Ghost of Christmas Present in *A Christmas Carol*, and Valerie Courville as Miss Shields, most memorable as Annette in *Steel Magnolias*. Welcome to Fred Kuhr who becomes the narrator as the adult Ralph Parker, and welcome to our extraordinary young cast – William Baker as Ralphie, Finn Taylor as Randy, Adam Xie as Flick, Elijah Grote as Schwartz, Trent Murray as Scut Farkas, Sofia Flores as Esther Jane and Avery Gouge as Helen Weathers.

Director, Sheila Gatensby returned to Scarborough Players taking a turn to comedy after her award-winning production of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* in January 2025. A talented team supports this work – Mary Nowlan, producer, Ian Handscomb, master carpenter, Bodene and Dave Corbitt, sound designers, Jennifer Bakker, lighting designer, Mercedes Davy, fight director, Taylor Markwell and Mary Nowlan as costumers, Eileen Dalton, props coordinator/creator and with Jamie Obregon creating the hair and make-up stylings from 1939. All this is held together by the watchful eye of stage manager, Luisa Hoffman, with help from her assistant stage managers, Evan MacDonald and Aiden Oak. *A Christmas Story* was adjudicated for the Act-Co Festival.

Good People by David Lindsay-Abaire March 2026

It's been a rough road for Margie, a single mother living in South Boston. Having just been fired from her job at The Dollar Store, Margie scrambles to find a way for her and her daughter to survive. She decides to contact Mike, an old fling from her high school days, who has become a successful doctor, in the hopes that he (or someone he knows) might have a job for her. As they reconnect, secrets and sacrifices are revealed.

Pulitzer Prize winning playwright, David Lindsay-Abaire, created a "masterpiece of contemporary theatre" that explores the themes of class, morality and resilience. In our world, where the rift between the haves and have-nots grows ever wider, *Good People* is bound to resonate with today's audiences.

New to Scarborough Players was director Katherine Bignell who brings years of experience to our stage.

Katherine shares, "It is such a blessing to be directing *Good People* for Scarborough Players. The script is so well written, the cast and crew are brilliant, and I humbly get to relish the joy of leading the creative process of bringing our Southie story to life. The set design is more than just functional; it is a work of art. ..."

We were delighted that our talented cast included veterans and newcomers. Returning to our stage were Meg Gibson as Margie, last seen as Mary Hayes in *Screwball Comedy*, Will van der Zyl as Mike, last seen as Mr. Collins in *Pride and Prejudice*, and Barbara Horsburgh as Dottie, most memorable as Gay Wellington in *You Can't Take It with You*. Welcome back to life member, Laura Wilde who was last seen in SMT's *Sound of Music*, and a warm welcome to Amia Ogieva as Kate and Nic Sajonas as Stevie.

A talented team supported Katherine Bignell and this work – Katherine Turner, producer, Greg Nowlan, set designer and master carpenter, Larry Westlake, sound designer, Beau Morrish, lighting designer, Katherine Turner was also sourcing costumes and props with creative help from rabbit maker, Vivian Lockton. All this was held together by the watchful eye of stage manager, Chanel Sheridan, with help from her assistant stage manager, Bodene Corbitt and her crew Daegan Lunsford and Valerie Courville. This production was also entered in the Act-Co Festival for adjudication.

Arcadia by Tom Stoppard June 2026

A single room, containing almost two centuries of secrets, is the centre of action as the story moves between 1809 and 1993. The play begins in the Regency as Thomasina challenges her tutor Septimus with questions about science and mathematics, the nature of love and desire, as well as the romantic intrigues involving the guests at the estate (one of whom happens to be the infamous Lord Byron). Then 180 years later, academics, with the support of the descendants of the aristocratic family that lives at the estate, endeavour to determine what actually happened there so many years ago.

Returning to Scarborough Players after 10 years away was director Michael Jones who last directed for Players *Enchanted April* and *Amadeus*.

We were delighted that our talented cast includes veterans and newcomers. Returning to our stage were Casey McMahon as Thomasina (Cecile in *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*), Nicolas Sajonas as Septimus (Stevie in *Good People*), Monica Horsburgh as Lady Croom, (Alice Sycamore in *You Can't Take It with You*), Ted Powers as Bernard Nightingale (*Calendar Girls*), Riley Anne as Hannah Jarvis (Jane in *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*), Rod Cook as Ezra Chater (Freddie in *Pygmalion*), John Pirker as Captain Brice (Marley in *A Christmas Carol*), and Josh Maclean as Valentine (Christopher in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*) A very warm welcome to Yael Sher as Chloe, Michael Ferens as Richard Noakes, Nathan McFadden as Augustus/Gus and Mayuresh Trivedi as Jellaby.

A talented team brought Michael's vision to life – Katherine Turner, producer, Bill Corcoran, set designer, George Evans, sound designer, Paul Harris and Karen Brown, lighting designers (Welcome Back from Stratford!), Heather Hyslop, props coordinator, and Mary Nowlan and Katherine Turner creating and sourcing costumes with a vision from Andrew Cleveland. All this is held together by the watchful eye of stage manager and associate director, Mike Scott.

We would like to take this space to thank our sister companies- Scarborough Theatre Guild, Scarborough Music Theatre and other community theatre companies – Stage Centre, Bloor West Village Players, and The Toronto Irish Players for their continuing friendship and generosity in sharing resources.

Lunenburg by Norm Foster
September 2025

Cast and Crew and Set Photos by Brian Whitmore



A Christmas Story adapted by Philip Grecian from Jean Shepherd

Cast and Team and Set Photos by Brian Whitmore



Good People by David Lindsay-Abaire
Cast and Crew and Set Photos by Brian Whitmore



Arcadia by Tom Stoppard

Cast and Crew and Set Photos by Brian Whitmore



Play Reading Committee 2026 AGM Report

Members: John Pirker (chair), Danelle Abbott, David Eden, Magda Nusink, Lynn Oldershaw, Alma Sinan, Katherine Turner
The committee first convened on January 28, 2026, and began reading and researching plays. Meetings were scheduled thereafter on February 25, May 6 and June 29. Up until the Annual Meeting there have been seven Out Louds (not counting cancelled readings). The list of Out Louds is included below.

The Out Louds were held on Zoom. The plays were well received and were enjoyed by the participants. One Out Loud was cancelled due to poor attendance (but may be rescheduled for later in the year) while another reading in May was rescheduled for July. More Out Louds are expected to continue in September with a short list of recommended plays to be presented to the board after that.

Scarborough Players 2026 Out Louds:

1. April 15 There Goes the Bride by John Chapman and Ray Cooney
2. April 22 The Last Wife by Kate Hennig
3. April 29 Glorious! The True Story of Florence Foster Jenkins The Worst Singer in the World by Peter Quiller
4. May 13 The Lion in Winter by James Goldman
5. May 20 Enron by Lucy Prebble – Cancelled
6. May 27 The Welkin by Lucy Kirkwood – Rescheduled to July
7. July 6 The Welkin by Lucy Kirkwood
8. July 20 Little Women By Louise May Alcott, Adapted by Anne-Marie Casey
9. July 27 Georgina and Kitty: Christmas at Pemberley by Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melson

Plays Sent Out, Still Under Consideration:

The Games Afoot by Ken Ludwig
Kimberly Akimbo by David Lindsey-Abaire
Love and Anger by George F. Walker
Superior Donuts by Tracy Letts
Enron by Lucy Prebble – cancelled Out Loud
The Penelopiad by Margaret Atwood
Three Bags Full by Jerome Chodorov
Northanger Abbey by Jane Austen Adapted by Tim Lucsombe
John le Carre's The Spy Who Came in from the Cold adapted from the novel by David Eldridge
Dropped Plays: (read by committee members and dropped from consideration)
The Gift of the Magi and Other Festive Stories to Warm the Heart by Alan Kinsella and Robert Tsonos
That Summer by David Finch
Seasons Greetings by Alan Ayckbourn
Wit by Margaret Edson
Wonder of the World by David Lindsey-Abaire
The Servant of Two Masters by Carlo Goldoni A New Version by Tom Come
The Comedy About Spies by Henry Lewis and Henry Shields
Blue Stockings by Jessica Swale
The Hound of the Baskervilles by Steven Canny and John Nicholson
The Time Machine by Steven Canny and John Nicholson
Bachelorette by Leslye Headland
Bleak Expectations by Mark Evans
The Desk Set by William Marchant
I'll Leave it to You by Noel Coward
The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley by Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon
Filumena by Eduardo de Filippo, translated by Timberlake Wertenbaker

Plays in the Bullpen –new in consideration and on hold

The Cottage
Things I Know to be True
Harper Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird adapted by Aaron Sorkin
Hamnet
Marion Bridge
Jitters and Hilda's Yard

Director Hiring Committee

The committee to select directors for the 2026-2027 season, was chaired by Carolyn Williamson with Brian Whitmore, Wendy Miller, Mary Nowlan, Bil Antoniou, Tony Jones and Greg Nowlan. The committee represented a range of theatre experience – actors, stage managers, designers, and producers. They interviewed several directors for each show and brought their recommendations to the Board. After questions, discussion and deliberations, the following directors were determined – Sheila Gatensby -*Frankenstein* (October 2026), Katherine Turner – *New Magic Valley Fun Town* (January 2027), Misha Harding – *The Constant Wife* (April 2027), Katherine Bignell – *The Book of Will* (June/July 2027). We thank the committee for all their thoughtful work on this most important task.

The Marketeers

The team includes Carolyn Williamson, Alma Sinan – stories for patrons' news, Vicki Badham – social media guru, Larry Westlake – Mailchimp news to patrons, archives, videos and interviews, Chip Thompson – editor in chief, Greg Nowlan – images and artwork, Katherine Turner – press releases and contact with the papers, Brian Whitmore – photographer extraordinaire! We love getting the word out. We can see true joy and playfulness coming out in the work. We look forward to their continuing creative work for the 2026-2027 season. Please let us know if you would like to contribute to the team.

The Remarkable Musketeers!

Almost every Saturday starting at 10 a.m. – they begin to arrive at the unit. Their goal to get the sets built while conversing, having a coffee/tea break and enjoying the good company. Head Carpenter, Greg Nowlan makes sure there is work to be done from clean-up, to building, to painting and learning how to use new tools like our brand-new Track Saw. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the remarkable sets of the 2025-2026 season: Tony Jones, Tom Bakker, Kevin McDonnell, Ken Gray, Gary Lennox, Mary Nowlan, Vivian Lockton, Bill Simpson, Ian Handscomb, Ted Niles, Greg Tangyuk, Larry Westlake, Jasmina Brar, Daegan Lunsford, Rob Horsburgh, Mike Wilde, Emily Kang, John Pirker, Bill Corcoran, Elizabeth van Wyck, Mike Scott, . . . For the upcoming season, we have purchased wonderful wheels! You, too can join the Saturday fun.

The Lumineers

Once again, we would like to thank Jennifer Bakker, Beau Morrish, Karen Brown and Paul Harris, who completed the lighting design for all Players shows this season.

Putting the Unit Back together!

Our neighbours at Eagle Beaver Sports had a wee fire on January 4th, 2026, which sent water pouring into our unit.

It rushed down the shared walls with water in the rehearsal hall, soaking carpets in the lobby, prop and costume room and about 2 feet of dry wall near the floors.

Landlords and insurance companies move slowly. Thankfully, Tony and Greg arranged for a remediation company to come in right away to clean-up the water and dry the place out. This allowed the *Good People* team to return to the unit for rehearsals. It was not until after *Arcadia* moved out on May 24 that the actual repairs could get underway.

To do this, we had to pack up all the loose props in the prop room and move costumes away from the floor.

Thanks to our round one volunteers- Sheila Gatensby, Erin Mackie, Vicki Badham, Chip Thompson, Catherine Lenihan, Val Lusted, Evan Macdonald, Teresa Bakker, Greg Nowlan and Katherine Turner.

However, once all the work was completed – new flooring, new paint, repaired walls, we needed to get the prop and costume rooms put right as *Frankenstein* was soon to get underway. Over 3 days and 4 shifts, we have restored our spaces. Thanks to Sheila Gatensby, Larry Westlake, Chip Thompson, Eileen Dalton, Catherine Lenihan, Bodene Corbitt, John Pirker, Tom Bakker, Mary Nowlan, Katherine Turner and Greg Nowlan. Special thanks to Eileen and Bodene who filled their cars with boxes for the Value Village. We have purged the prop room!

Huge round of applause for Greg Nowlan who supervised the contractors for over the 3 weeks and put the lobby back to together on his own.

See the bright new walls and the new floor!



Scarborough Players – Members of Act-Co

This was a busy year for Act-Co - the Association of Community Theatre-Central Ontario. This was the 2nd year of the Festival since the pandemic. Once again, the Committee had to advertise, interview and hire adjudicators who each would be available to prepare for and view 13 musicals or 18 comedies or 11 dramas. The adjudicators were Andrew Lamb for Comedy, Carey Nicholson for Drama and Andrew Lamb for Musicals. A special round of applause for Anne Currie O'Brien for once more taking on the task of Festival Chair ensuring that each adjudicated show was supported by Act-Co. Our Greg Nowlan managed the feedback from the adjudications (those cards handed out to cast and crew) so Act-Co could assess the success of the festival and the adjudicators.

Scarborough Players at Act-Co Thea Awards May 23, 2026

The ✨ #Actco #Theas ✨ took place on May 23, 2026 - an event to celebrate theatre and recognize the hard work that makes the magic happen! A big thanks to the Act-Co team for all they do to make the festival and awards night successful. We're thrilled to share the nominations and awards for Scarborough Players! Congratulations to all!



Award - Jamie Obregon (A Christmas Story)

Best hair and wigs in a comedy



Award - Meg Gibson (Good People)

Best performance by an individual in a leading female role (drama)



Award - Katherine Bignell (Good People)

Best direction of a drama



Nomination - Fred Kuhr (A Christmas Story)

Best performance by an individual in a male supporting role (comedy)



Nomination - Barbara Horsburgh (Good People)

Best performance by an individual in a female supporting role (drama)



Nomination - Mary Nowlan (A Christmas Story)

Best costume design of a comedy



Nomination - Bodene Corbitt (A Christmas Story)

Best sound design of a comedy



Nomination - Eileen Dalton (A Christmas Story)

Best prop coordination/design



Nomination - Katherine Turner (Good People)

Best prop coordination /design



Nomination - Will van der Zyl (Good People)

Best performance by an individual in a leading male role (drama)



Nomination - William Baker (A Christmas Story)

Best newcomer or youth under 25 in a comedy



Nomination - Chanel Sheridan (Good People)

Best stage management of a drama



Nomination - Katherine Turner (Good People)

Best production of a drama

Congratulations to all our nominees and winners!

Congratulations to our friends at [Scarborough Music Theatre](#) and [Scarborough Theatre Guild](#) for all their nominees and winners!

Great theatre in Scarborough all year long!



Trent Murray, Valerie Courville, William Baker and Adam Xie – Teacher and Classmates from *A Christmas Story*

What's happening at Theatre Scarborough

Our partnerships in Theatre Scarborough are strong. The Board works to ensure that the theatre is well looked after, the Box Office, Theatre Refreshments and all shared needs are supported. It has been a pleasure being part of the board and thanks to presidents, Olivia Jon of SMT and Kevin Shaver of STG for their spirit of collaboration. Thanks to TS president, Dot Routledge for her dedication to getting the job done along with past-president Ian Fox and treasurer, Lynette Fairweather for their ongoing communication with the "City".

Special thanks to Wendy Miller, Mark Parent and all the Box Office volunteers for looking after all our patrons. Special thanks to June Bedford, Rhoda Brachman and all the Theatre Refreshment volunteers for offering treats and drinks. Thanks to all the Front of House Coordinators – Catherine Lenihan, Jon Anderson and Susan and Bob Sanders and all the FOH volunteers for looking after our audiences.

Thanks to Vivian Lockton and Ian Fox for managing the theatre cleaning.

Shout-out to Dot Routledge for managing the new website and training others to update the group pages.

Susan and Bob Sanders have now stepped away from service to the TS Board. We thank them for their years spent looking after FOH for STG and the Hearing Assist for Theatre Scarborough.

On behalf of Scarborough Players, many thanks to **Scarborough Theatre Guild** and **Scarborough Music Theatre** for opening their units when ours was out of order due to our neighbour's fire allowing our intrepid *Good People* team to rehearse!

Community Outreach with Theatre Scarborough

Together, we are helping to spread the word about the joys of Community Theatre!

Nov 16, 2025-Beaches Santa Claus Parade-

It was a pleasure to participate in the Beaches Santa Claus Parade this year. I really liked that we had the vintage cars to draw attention to us, along with the posters attached to them. A big thank-you to Val for organizing everything — I'm sure it was anything but easy. I'm not sure how many flyers we started with, but I believe we handed out the entire box.

Outreach volunteers for this one included: Val Lusted (Coordinator), Lorin Beiko, Jessica McQueen-Bird, Evan MacDonald, Rick MacDonald, Erin Jones, Andra Bradish & Serena Cui

Report and photo from Lorin Beiko



October and December 2025

During the run of *The Full Monty* (STG), *A Christmas Story* (SP) and the *Christmas Cabaret* (SMT), food and cash donations were collected for our neighbour, Christ Church Scarborough Village – Deacon's Pantry Food Bank. The Food Bank serves over 200 families and 600 people. More than 150 bags of food, over \$1000 in cash donations along with an additional \$2000 from the *A Christmas Story* 50/50 were donated in time for the Holidays and for the harder times in January.

January 19, 2026 -Meeting New Families at the SVRC

Valerie Lusted, Dot Routledge and Kevin Shaver provided new families to the Scarborough Village neighbourhood, a tour of the theatre, an opportunity to talk about opportunities and to have some fun. As a follow-up, the same families have been invited to see the theatre in action with the Panto - *Little Red Riding Hood* in July 2026.

April 23, 2026- Seniors Resource Fair at the SVRC

Katherine Turner and Val Lusted volunteered to be present for Theatre Scarborough. Flyers, Brochures etc. were available at our table. Participants circled around the Multipurpose Room (Intermission Room) collecting information about services etc. available in Scarborough. We spoke with current patrons who love the theatre, a few who sadly no longer attended as they were alone as friends had passed and several expressed concerns about evenings. We reminded them we had 3 matinees for each production. Thanks always to Val Lusted for connecting with Naomi to make sure TS was present.



Photo by Val Lusted

June 6, 2026 - Guildwood Day and Parade at Wilfrid Laurier Collegiate

Well...the Weather gods were (sort of) with us Saturday June 6 when we came out in a hodge podge of costumes which made the parade fun and the booth interactive! I don't know about you, but I was relieved it did not rain (yay!) but I was channelling "Aunty Em! Aunty Em!" as the unpredictable gusts of wind blew through our booth and threatened to take away all of our promotional materials and flyers!

Many, many thanks to all of you: our 3 Vintage Car Drivers--Rick, Evan & Angus plus our parade marchers and booth volunteers--Alma, Darlene, Maureen, David, Erin, Louise, June, Andra, Kim & Irene

Report from Valerie Lusted – Guildwood Day Organizer



July 4 & 5, 2026 SMT for Theatre Scarborough at Taste of Lawrence

This year's Taste of Lawrence was a tremendous success. SMT performed on the family stage Saturday July 4 (12:30-1pm) and Sunday July 5 (12:15-12:45pm). We were unfortunately battling the rain a bit on Saturday, but it did not deter from our performance. Sadly, we had our program cut short on Saturday due to FIFA, but the

audience responded with enthusiasm. On Sunday, we were thrilled to have Mayor Olivia Chow step on stage during our set and promote our season. She held our season brochure and announced the importance of community and arts in Scarborough. We gave out over two hundred season brochures, along with flyers for *Streetcar Named Desire* and *Little Red Riding Hood*.

Many thanks to those who gave their talents and skills and volunteered for the event. John Anderson, Jan Harvey, Sandy Robb, Jhelisa Carroll, Ethan Eastwood, Olivia Jon, Julian Lam, Quinn Leneeuw, Twaine Ward, Kurtis Whittle, Wren Wylder and of course, Antony Discenza and David Loach (our musical director and accompanist respectively). A great start to our summer!

Report from Olivia Jon



Mayor Olivia Chow with SMT at the Taste of Lawrence

Guild Alive with Culture July 26 and 27, 2026

It was great to be back at the Theatre Scarborough booth for this important event. Thanks to all the volunteers who set-up and staffed the booth over the 2 days letting everyone know there is great theatre at the corner of Markham Road and Kingston Road. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to talk about theatre.

Thanks to the volunteers – Greg Nowlan, John Pirker, Danelle Abbott, Andra Bradish, Darlene Thomas, Sheila Gatensby, Heather Hyslop, Alison Overington, June Watkins, Erin Mackie, Teresa Bakker, Jennifer Bakker, Malorie Mandolidis, Jasmina Brar, Sidnei Auler, Derek Barber, Valerie Lusted, Maureen Lukie and Katherine Turner. Photos by Darlene Thomas. Derek “Barbear” with Teresa Bakker and Katherine Turner in the booth



SMT at the Guild Alive report by Olivia Jon

In collaboration with the Guild Festival, SMT and Theatre Scarborough were once again participants at the Guild Alive with Culture festival this year on July 25 and 26. SMT performed on the mainstage for a 45 minute set from 1:15pm-2pm. We were delighted to have a band (with David Loach on keyboard, Jakob Robertson on drums and Zah Smith on bass) and music directed by Antony Discenza. Some highlights were Time Warp from "Rocky Horror" and the Mamma Mia medley, which was performed in front of an enthusiastic audience.

Thanks to the singers: Olivia Jon, Jhelisa Carroll, Julian Lam, Ethan Eastwood, Amy Mullin, Kurtis Whittle, Twaine Ward and Christian Baes. Theatre Scarborough also had our usual information booth at the festival. As always, a huge thanks to Katherine Turner and Greg Nowlan for their tireless work arranging the set and strike of the booth and organizing the volunteers who handed out brochures and talked to hundreds of festival goers. It was a busy and fantastic two days.

A Very Special Event – Volunteer Training Event – De-escalation, Sunday, July 26, 2026

On of the issues identified at our Theatre Scarborough meetings was how we could better serve our dedicated volunteers. We asked what kind of training would be helpful. One of the answers was how to support volunteers when dealing with difficult situations whether a health emergency or a difficult patron. With that in mind, SMT president, Olivia Jon offered to organize a workshop on FOH safety and de-escalation bringing in a specialist who knew our theatre – SMT member, Justin Lord.

Justin was open, welcoming and personable. He offered his real-life experience in security to highlight the key points in the very detailed handout.

Thanks to all the volunteers who came out for this important workshop and to Olivia and Justin for their commitment to train and support Theatre Scarborough.

General Note: As you can see from this report, there are many opportunities throughout the year to make a difference in our community and to get the word out. However, you may also note that it is often the same people organizing or coming out to help. Looking ahead to the 2026-2027 season, please consider making a commitment to volunteer beyond being on the stage and be part of the fun. We often turn down participating in events as we do not have anyone interested to help. Let's try to add 1 to 2 more events because you say, "YES, I will be there!"

Reports from your Board of Directors

Katherine Turner – President

It has been a very busy season with much work being done by many hands to produce Good Stories. Well Told. We have completed an exciting and well attended season. As always, it is a pleasure to serve Scarborough Players

- Served as President of the Board – created and sent agendas and pertinent documents, chaired board meetings – The Board traditionally meets on the 2nd Monday of the month – we try to follow the Saturday's TS meeting.
- Sent out Newsletters and New Blasts to Membership - they were not pretty but were informative!
- Wrote Press Releases for each production this season. The release goes to local papers and others.
- Carefully reviewed permit requests – schedules to the Scarborough Village Recreation Centre. Thanks to TS President, Dot Routledge for managing this important task.
- Served on the Play Reading Committee – ex-officio
- Audition coordinator for four shows this season
- Served on the Theatre Scarborough Board as Players' President and attended all meetings
- Theatre Scarborough Liaisons for Community Out Reach
- Coordinated volunteers for The Guild Alive with Culture
- Produced *Lunenburg*, *Good People* and *Arcadia*
- Costume and prop coordinator for *Lunenburg*, *Good People* and costumes with Mary Nowlan for *Arcadia*
- Managed to do the 50 50 for most of the shows and was so happy to do the Top of Show for *Good People* and *Arcadia*. It is wonderful what can be accomplished when you can put weight on your right leg.

The 2025 – 2026 season has been a difficult year for me, and I would like to thank the wonderful theatre community for all the care and support. Theatre is magic, and collaboration is a key. Special thanks to Greg Nowlan and sister-in-law, Mary Nowlan for always being there.

Greg Nowlan – Vice President

As Vice-President, I served on the Scarborough Players Board and made decisions around the running of our group with the rest of the board.

Other things that I did in support of Scarborough Players:

Designed posters and flyers and programmes
Made magnet mementos for all shows
Head carpenter for 3 shows

Kept the workshop in good order
Designed 3 sets
Drove the truck for many load-ins and load-outs
Served on the TS board as the liaison with the theatre coordinator and maintained supplies
Coordinated repairs at our unit after flooding (as a result of the fire) from next door
Helped with prop room clean-up and reorganization
Managed the change to sustainable food service with reusable dishes and tablecloths
Other small chores along the way

Teresa Bakker – Secretary for the Board

During this past year I have had the honour of serving as secretary on the Scarborough Players Board. Also volunteered for the Guild Alive with Culture and assisted with packing up the prop room.

This past season I stage managed *The Full Monty*, *Witness for the Prosecution* and *Streetcar Named Desire* for Scarborough Theatre Guild.

I've also helped in the box office on several occasions as well as on the Front of House for Scarborough Theatre Guild and Scarborough Music Theatre.

Anthony (Tony) Jones – Treasurer

The main activities of the treasurer involve the timely paying of all expenses and depositing of all revenue. Records are kept of all bank transactions, and these are reconciled monthly with each bank statement to ensure accuracy. The treasurer is also responsible for a report at each Board Meeting and a final report at the Annual General Meeting. Also, major financial decisions are discussed with the treasurer and put before the board for action.

Tony also assists in the creation of special props and along with his wife Pat Wilson, often cater our move-in lunches and Q2Q dinners.

Please note: Tony will be providing a complete financial report as a separate agenda item.

Carolyn Williamson – Membership Coordinator

This was my eleventh year on the board, and my first as Membership Coordinator.

In addition to my board duties this year, I continued teaching a monthly drop-in improv workshop. After ten years, I am so pleased to report that we are still attracting new participants nearly every month, while retaining a loyal group of longtime players. If you haven't tried it yet and are curious, please drop me a line at scarboroughplayersimprov.yesand@gmail.com.

This year I also chaired the Director Hiring Committee, and I had the pleasure of serving alongside a truly exceptional panel of colleagues. Over the course of several weeks we interviewed candidates, discussed, debated, and made our recommendations to the board. As a committee chair, I'm very proud of what we accomplished and as a theatre fan, I cannot wait to see the shows in this upcoming season – it's going to be incredible.

In addition to these, I acted as the assistant to the photographer for publicity and production photos, operated lights for some performances of *Lunenburg* and *A Christmas Story*, attended Out Louds, assisted with top of show announcements and 50/50 draws, and staffed the season brochure table. I attended all board meetings and participated in discussions and decisions around the selection of plays and directors for our upcoming season, and the updated by-laws, and I attended an October 2025 meeting with members of the Players, the Guild, and SMT to discuss opportunities for community outreach.

It has been my pleasure to serve the members of the Scarborough Players this season, and it would be an honour to continue to do so.

Catherine Lenihan – Front of House Coordinator

I would like to continue as front of house coordinator. No unusual problems with front of house. We had smaller houses with several shows, so this increased our flexibility when patrons requested special consideration. We did have one situation where a patron fell and it was handled admirably by the manager for that night. Further to that I attended a zoom meeting with Dot and my counterpart on Scarborough Music. She wanted to streamline such procedures as how to deal with a patron who has an accident at a show. How to deal with difficult patrons etc. More to come from Dot on that. That's it! Thank you. Catherine
Catherine also assisted with the Prop Room Reorganization.

Larry Westlake – Marketing and Publicity Coordinator

Another year! Although some of my work is not as visible as others, I have enjoyed being a part of the 2025-2026 Board as one of the Marketeers and throwing in my availability, knowledge and interest when needed.

I have kept up with THE ARCHIVES both online and at the unit. Scanning has been done to 99% of the items in the file cabinet and posted to our website. (Each envelope has a small mark in the upper right corner to show that what's in there has been scanned and posted.) We still have a few shows with no info, but now that the majority is done, I plan to spend this coming year tracking down the missing items. I have received a few goodies from people by contacting someone I recognize in the photo and asking to search their files. Besides getting a few pictures, it has also put me back in touch with old friends.

I have tried to be creative with the FOH DISPLAYS. Some have worked, others not. I do think the video is working though, as, when there, I see a lot of people standing around watching and commenting on it. I also try to make sure the videos are slightly different each time.

I was SOUND DESIGNER for *Good People* and SOUND OPERATOR for *Arcadia*.

SP still has two YOUTUBE channels, and I am still trying to merge the two (the one with the red logo is the one we need to get rid of). I have also created, over the years, various videos for the channel. Currently I am working on a series which will highlight each of our four directors for the coming season. The first one, with Sheila, is now available on You Tube. –

Working with an amazing group of people and friends and creating the MARKETEERS has been another highlight. I have worked on the MailChimp News Blasts (at least three per show) with the help of every one of them - from informative articles from Alma to Chip's proofreading to Brian's amazing photos and Victoria's Instagram/ Social Media knowledge.

It has been a joy and honor to be a part of the 2025-2026 Board with a group that I have always considered 'friends' as well as 'fellow workers', and to steal from Alma's report. I look forward to continuing to contribute to the success and growth of the organization in the coming year! Then to add - Good stories. Well told, are a lot more than four simple words.

Alma Sinan - Member-at-Large

Over the past year, I have been pleased to contribute to Scarborough Players in a variety of artistic, promotional, communication and outreach capacities.

Artistic Development

- Served on the Play Reading Committee by reading and evaluating scripts and participating in Out Louds.
- Attended SP Board meetings and assisted in choosing the plays for the 2026/2027 season

Marketing & Communications

- Assisted with editing press releases.
- Wrote play descriptions for the **2026–2027 Scarborough Players Season Brochure**.
- Authored promotional newsletter articles (approximately two articles per production) for:
 - *Lunenburg*
 - *A Christmas Story*
 - *Good People*
 - *Arcadia*

Community Outreach

- Staffed the Scarborough Players information table on opening night of *Arcadia*, welcoming patrons and promoting the upcoming season
- Represented Scarborough Players by participating in the Guildwood Day Parade, helping to raise the theatre's visibility within the community.

Artistic Contribution

- Performed the role of **Iris** in *Lunenburg* (September 2026).

It has been a pleasure to support Scarborough Players through performance, marketing, artistic evaluation, and community engagement. I look forward to continuing to contribute to the success and growth of the organization in the coming year.

Brian Whitmore – Member at Large

2025–2026 was my first year serving on the Board as Member at Large. It has been an honour and privilege to continue supporting Scarborough Players (the “Players”) in this capacity. Over the past year, I contributed my specialized skills and experience to key deliverables for the Players, both as a Board member and continuing volunteer.

Board of Director Responsibilities: I attended every Board meeting and actively participated in discussions and votes, including those related to play and director selection for the 2026–2027 season and the revised *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010* (ONCA)-compliant by-laws described below. In carrying out my duties as a director, I acted honestly, in good faith, and with reasonable care and diligence.

ONCA compliant by-laws for Scarborough Players: The Board delegated to me the task of revising the Players’ by-laws to comply with ONCA. The by-laws had not been updated since 2013 and had been out of compliance since the province’s October 2024 deadline. I revised and updated them, reviewed each change line by line with the Board over several meetings, and obtained Board approval. I also developed presentation materials and briefed the Players’ membership at two online town halls in June 2026, in advance of seeking member confirmation of the Board-approved by-laws at the August 2026 Annual Meeting.

Director Hiring Committee: I rejoined the Players’ Director Hiring Committee after a one-year break. I assisted the Chair with committee organization and project management, helped develop interview questions, and participated in interviews with director candidates for the 2026–2027 season. I also contributed to presenting the Committee’s recommendations to the Board and participated in the subsequent Board discussions and decision-making in my Board director role.

Community Engagement: I co-represented the Players at an October 2025 meeting with Scarborough Theatre Guild (STG) and Scarborough Music Theatre (SMT) to discuss joint community engagement opportunities and ways to increase local awareness of productions at Scarborough Village Theatre.

Production Photographer: I continued as the Players’ production photographer for the 2025–2026 season’s plays: *Lunenburg*, *A Christmas Story*, *Good People*, and *Arcadia*. My work included cast and crew headshots, publicity photos, production photos, set photos, team photos, and other photography needs. *Arcadia* marked my 18th production as photographer since taking on the role in October 2021. I also photographed STG’s production of *Witness for the Prosecution* when their regular photographer was performing in the show, further supporting cooperation among the Theatre Scarborough companies.

Serving on the Board as a member at large this past year has been a rewarding experience, and I hope to continue making meaningful contributions in the year ahead.

Chip Thompson – Member at Large

During my seventh year on the Scarborough Players Board, I attended board meetings, took part in the process of selecting the roster of plays for next season, and volunteered to work on the information table, promoting the subscription series for the 2026 – 2027 season. As a member of the Marketeers, I edited press releases and promotional materials. I purchased food and drinks for all four Opening Night receptions and assisted in the set up and take down of those events. I took part in several Out Louds and very much enjoyed reading a variety of roles. Finally, I served as Audition Greeter for several shows.

Sheila Gatensby – Member at Large

This was my first year as a board member of Scarborough Players; I enjoy the work very much and I am proud to support the wonderful work that’s being done for community theatre. In 2025-2026, I was involved in the following activities:

- Directed *A Christmas Story*
- Attended board meetings, and participated in the review of SP By Laws
- Helped with the props room reorganization at the SP Unit
- Ironed Costumes during the run of *You Can’t Take it With You* and prepared food for the adjudication
- Assisted with editing copy for the Brochure
- Contributed scripts to the play reading committee and attended Out Louds
- Staffed the SP information table and distributed brochures for the 2026-2027 season
- Staffed the SP marketing table at Guild Alive with Culture
- Presented the Land Acknowledgement & 50/50 Draw for two performances of *Lunenburg*
- Was trained by Dot Routledge on Website management and posted production photos for *Arcadia* on the SP Website

Victoria Badham - Member-at-Large (Marketeer)

Over the past year, I have continued to support Scarborough Players through both performance and behind-the-scenes contributions.

I had the opportunity to perform as an actor in two productions: *Lunenburg* and *A Christmas Story*. Being part of these productions allowed me to contribute to the creative work of the company while collaborating with fellow cast and crew members.

In addition to performing, I supported Scarborough Players' social media and promotional efforts by taking photos and videos, creating content, and organizing posts for Facebook and Instagram. I contributed coverage and promotional materials for *Lunenburg*, *A Christmas Story*, *Good People*, and *Arcadia*, helping to showcase our productions and engage with our audience online.

I have also assisted as a Front of House volunteer, helping to support the audience experience and the smooth operation of our performances.

I contributed to the ongoing work of the organization by helping pack up the rehearsal unit in preparation for its renovation, supporting the transition and improvements to our working spaces.

Throughout the year, I attended board meetings as a Member-at-Large and remained engaged with the discussions, planning, and activities that support the continued success of Scarborough Players.

I look forward to continuing to contribute to the organization and supporting future productions, initiatives, and the continued growth of Scarborough Players.

End of Board Member reports.

LOOKING AHEAD

2026-2027 – OUR 68th SEASON!

Frankenstein, New Magic Valley Fun Town, The Constant Wife and The Book of Will

We do wonderful work - play a part, join the action – You are a Player!

Just wondering...

How do we motivate more actors – members - to volunteer for Outreach Community Events or Front of House or other non-acting help?

Just wondering...

Do you work for a company that champions community involvement and/or social events, that would support Scarborough Players?

A great night out and a worthy investment!

Remember, we are registered charity.

Just wondering...

Do you know of a community organization that might appreciate the opportunity to attend a final dress rehearsal for free along with members?

Just wondering...

Would you be interested in serving on or chairing a social committee to assist with catering for Scarborough Players?

Just wondering...

Would you appreciate a workshop on auditioning?

A workshop on directing?

A workshop on stage managing?

Just wondering...

Do you have suggestions for the playreading committee?

Would you like to serve on the playreading committee?

Just wondering...

Why is being a part of Scarborough Players important to You?

What is a favourite memory?

Please reply to sp@theatrescarborough.com