

April 1 2026



Origins of April Fools Day

The origins of April Fools' Day are not definitively known, but several theories have been proposed:

Geoffrey Chaucer: His work "The Canterbury Tales" mentions a prank involving a rooster and

fox on or around April 1, which some scholars believe could be a precursor to the modern custom.

French Poet Eloy d'Amerval: In 1508, he referred to "poisson d'avril" (April fish), possibly the first reference to the celebration in France.

Medieval England: Some historians suggest that the custom may have originated in medieval England, with the first British reference to the celebration being in 1686.

Vernal Equinox: The timing of April Fools' Day is also linked to the vernal equinox, a time when Mother Nature plays tricks on us with unpredictable weather.

These theories highlight the long-standing tradition of April Fools' Day and its various cultural connections. While the exact origin remains a mystery, the holiday has been celebrated for centuries, and its playful nature continues to be a beloved part of many people's lives.

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO ON SLR'S CALENDAR



COFFEE CHAT Connect with other members of SLR from the comfort of your own home. Although our format is fairly unstructured, there is an assigned host who helps keep things moving. Each week you will receive an **email with a link to Zoom** to connect

online. The schedule for **the month of April** includes Saturday April 4 10:00 am, Friday April 10 1:30 pm, Saturday April 18 10:00 am, Friday April 24 1:30.

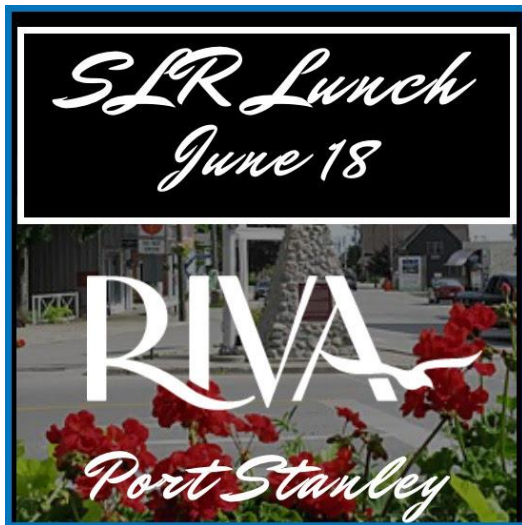


Our Spring **Open House** will be held on **Tuesday on April 7th**, from 10 to noon, at Grosvenor Lodge. Mark your Calendars now and set an intention to learn something new this Spring!



SLR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Thursday, April 9, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Siloam United Church, 1240 Fanshawe Park Road East

Join us at our annual meeting where you will be able to enjoy coffee and cookies as you chat with fellow SLR members, receive updates about the current operation of and future hopes for SLR, and elect the new Board of Directors. There will be ample opportunity to ask your questions and share your thoughts.



Discover Riva Italian Restaurant in beautiful Port Stanley, Ontario. Indulge in authentic Italian cuisine with stunning lake views.

191 Carlow Road
Port Stanley ON

When: Thursday, June 18, 2026, Time: Noon
Members will be responsible for the cost of their meals.

30 seats available

Register using the following link:

<https://slrlondon.com/product-category/social-events>

****Last day for registration is June 11, 2026****

BEHIND THE SCENES

Join Festival artists and creatives for a series of behind-the-scenes talks about the work involved in creating the productions on our stages.

Step behind the scenes with design coordinator Lindsay Forde and members of our wardrobe team to celebrate the artistry of costume-making. Discover how skilled hands, creative vision and extraordinary craftsmanship transform fabric and imagination into the stunning costumes that light up our stages. This event offers a rare glimpse into the remarkable talent of our artisans.

Where: Stratford Festival Theatre, Lazaridis Hall,
Tom Patterson Theatre

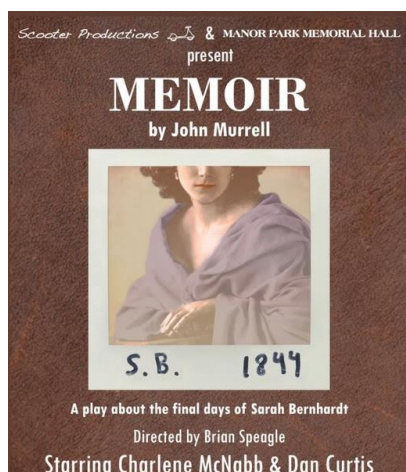
When: Saturday, July 11, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

Cost: \$30 (only 25 tickets available – members only)

Buy your tickets using the following link.

<https://slrlondon.com/product-category/social-events>

Tickets will be distributed at the venue on the day of the performance.



It is the summer of 1922, Sarah Bernhardt's last at her beloved island estate off the coast of Brittany. With her erstwhile secretary, butler, and general dogsbody Pitou, she attempts to write volume two of her memoir. Sarah enters a world of memories, spanning her entire life and theatre career. Many of her reminiscences are of her many accomplishments, but there are also memories of pain and trauma. But, she is The Divine Sarah, and she triumphantly rises above them and overcomes! John Murrell has created a moving and complex script that has touched theatregoers around

the world.

Where: Manor Park Memorial Hall, 11 Briscoe St, London

When: Saturday, May 2, 2026, 2 p.m.
Cost: \$30 (20 tickets available)
Registration closes April 17, 2026
Buy your tickets using the following link.

<https://slrlondon.com/product-category/social-events>

Tickets will be distributed up at the venue
on the day of the performance.

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

Law of Physical Surfaces

- The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

Law of Logical Argument

- Anything is possible IF you don't know what you are talking about.

Law of Physical Appearance

- If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

Law of Public Speaking

-- A CLOSED MOUTH gathers no feet!

Doctors' Law

- If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there, you'll feel better. But don't make an appointment and you'll stay sick.

Thank you Lyn Hill

William Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.



A Blessing to all our members who are celebrating their Birthday in April. As April blooms, it brings a sense of renewal and hope. This month is the perfect time to reflect on your journey and embrace the possibilities ahead.

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