

May 16, 2026

May Flower



The month of May has witnessed many significant events and turning points throughout history, from the end of **World War II** in Europe to **Nelson Mandela's** inauguration as South Africa's first black president. British nurse and public health activist **Florence Nightingale** was born in Florence, Italy in May. She volunteered to aid British troops in Turkey, where she

helped to significantly reduce the death rate for wounded and sick soldiers by improving hospital sanitary conditions.

Amnesty International was founded by London lawyer Peter Benenson. Benenson read about the arrest of a group of students in Portugal before launching a one-year campaign to free them, which he called an Appeal for Amnesty.

The coronation of **King Charles III** took place at Westminster Abbey on May 6th 2023. His wife, Queen Consort Camilla, was also crowned.

Many transformative historical events happened in May. It is fascinating to wonder how things could so easily have turned out differently.

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 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 **May** continues on Saturday, May 16 10 am, Friday, May 22 1:30pm, Saturday, May 30 10 am.



Discover **Riva Italian Restaurant** at 191 Carlow Rd. in beautiful Port Stanley, Ontario. Indulge in authentic Italian cuisine with stunning lake views.

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:

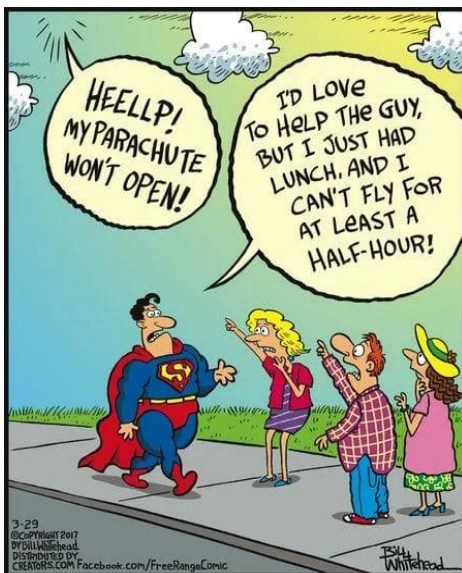
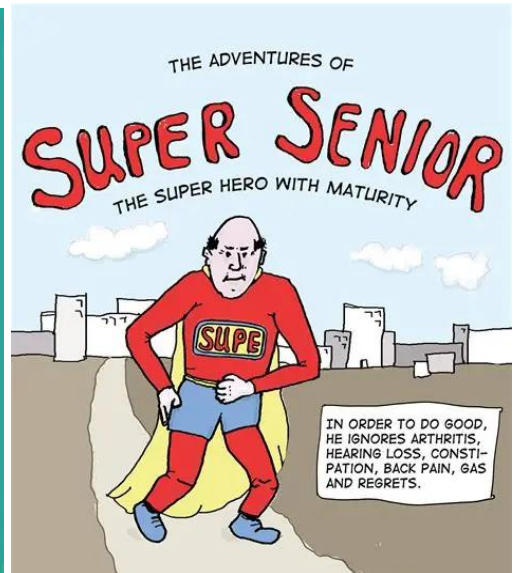
<https://slrlondon.com/product-category/social-events>

FALL 2026 PROGRAM PREVIEW & SOCIAL GATHERING

Friday, May 29 th 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. (Doors open at 1:00; Presentations begin 1:30 sharp) Siloam United Church, 1240 Fanshawe Park Road East
Registration opens at 5 p.m. ONLINE

Enjoy a lively and fun program with our course leaders describing their Fall courses along with entertainment by our Ukulele members. It's a great way to get a real sense of all our Fall offerings while socializing, singing, enjoying free refreshments and friendly conversation. Open to all – members and prospective members. Bring your friends!

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE



INFORMATION FOR SLR MEMBERS

RECESS TIME AT GROSVENOR. BLOWING BUBBLES FOR RECESS TIME

- *Thank you Burton moon*



In a world where bubbles soar, Whispers dance and dreams explore. Floating high on gentle breeze, each one holds a wish, if you please.

Thank You to all members- *Burton Moon*

Thank you to all the SLR members who participated in allowing a film production company to use Grosvenor Lodge for four days at the end of April. Thank you for your flexibility to enable this to happen. All classes were able to occur with minimal disruption. There were no cancellations. Two Sessions were moved to the Elsie Perrin Estate. All other sessions were able to take place in the Coach House on the Grosvenor Lodge property. Other than some parking delays on the first day of filming, SLR operations happened smoothly.

By our agreeing to this filming project, SLR is being paid over 4000 dollars. That is a big help for the finances of SLR. The London Heritage Foundation is the steward of Grosvenor Lodge also made some money to enable this to happen. The film production company had a win as they were able to proceed with a project which employed many local film crew and actors.

We first learned of the film company's wanting to complete their project using Grosvenor Lodge on the afternoon of Tuesday April 21st. The SLR board members were

surveyed and a majority agreed to enabling the filming to go ahead. Well done to all. There is much gratitude from the film production company and London Heritage Foundation, and the SLR operating budget for the current year.

COMPUTER CLINICS – will they continue next year after 10 years of operation? More than 10 years ago, Gina Barber organized the logistics for SLR to be able to offer Computer Clinics to our membership. Gina reached out to Western to form a partnership between SLR and a Western Club called S.I.T. (Seniors in Information Technology). The student members of this club volunteer to assist any member of SLR who registers for a session with any computer or device challenge. Over the course of this arrangement, 300 plus SLR members have received assistance.

Having this relationship has been one of the many benefits of an SLR membership. Unfortunately, the S.I.T. club was unable to maintain an adequate membership number of 30 (they had 25) to remain a ratified club of Western. Remaining ratified means that the club receives a budget from the Student Council and has access to multiple ways of promoting itself. Without the ratified designation, it becomes much more difficult to attract new membership and to conduct club business within the Western environment.

A possible pathway forward for keeping the Computer Clinics operational into the future may be by the current leadership of the S.I.T. being accepted by another Western Club. Western has a club that focuses upon the Elderly. The current S.I.T leadership is proposing to make a presentation to the “Western for the Elderly” Club that would allow them to operate within that club. If this happens, then we will be able to organize Computer Clinics in the 26-27 year. We will keep you posted.

OBITUARY

Patricia Meryl (née Ward) MACK



It is with sadness we inform you of the death of Patricia Meryl Mack (née Ward) of London, "Pat," passed away peacefully at University Hospital on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at the age of 86.

Pat was a former long- time member of SLR. Some of you may have attended courses with Pat and remember her for her smile and great sense of humor.

She will be forever remembered by family and friends

Visitation took place on Saturday, May 9, 2026. A private family interment followed

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Pat can be made to Mission Services of London. For online condolences, visit www.westviewfuneralchapel.com.

PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH

Questions? Ideas? Feedback?

Email us at SLR using one of the addresses below- we will respond as soon as possible

For general inquiries: slrlondonontario@gmail.com

For registration or course inquiries: slrregistrar@gmail.com

Of course you can always call the SLR office number **519-438-3525** (also found on the website).

Remember to check out our SLR Facebook pages: SLR London – Canada is our public page (<https://www.facebook.com/SLR-London-Canada-406005102938429>). You are also invited to join our SLR London Members Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/480744068747546> and clicking on the **join** icon.

For your information

Your new Board:

- Chair: Twyla Atchison
- President: Burton Moon
- Vice President: Terri Lyons
- Treasurer: Ed Jambor
- Secretary: Lydia Keras
- Directors-at-Large:
 - Susan Booth, Brian Glasspoole, Ron Monk, Lisa Darling, Don Efron and Lynn Huizer



Happy Birthday to all our members born in May. Babies born in May are under the astrological signs Taurus (May 1-20) and Gemini (May 21-31). Those born under Taurus are often described as smart, ambitious, and trustworthy. Gemini babies are known for being passionate, dynamic, and good conversationalists. May babies are also believed to be naturally optimistic, creative, and may have a strong sense of healing.

If you wish to post something in the SLR newsletter or if you want to comment, please use my email address

margaretcowan44@gmail.com

Stay safe

Margaret