

Look For Your



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Niagara this Week  
In Selected Areas

# Focus On LINCOLN

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## Lamplighter tour delights with historic, yet humorous tales

BY SCOTT ROSTS  
STAFF

Here comes the bride ... and a fugitive pig ... and a guide, with a lamp in hand.

Guests participating in this year's Rotary Club of Lincoln's Lamplighter Tour were invited to a wedding during the seventh annual production, which took place at Ball's Falls Conservation Area Nov. 18-21. This year's production once again offered a glimpse into the past, this time looking back at some Lincoln history, with a look at the area back in the days when it was known as Glen Elgin, and some of its pioneer families, like the Ball family.

This year's production, which supports the Rotary Shell at Charles Daley Park, started with a focus on the impending nuptials of Catherine Ball, part of the infamous Ball family, and Theo Ambridge, and ended with a party – even after the bride and groom have settled in for the night.

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In the opener *Something Old, Something New*, by Liz Benneian, it's just moments before the big day and Catherine (Sarah Bradshaw) is putting on the final touches as the beautiful bride – but not without some words of wisdom from Mrs. Ball (Katherine Cooke) and friends and family.

As friends and family provide Sarah with something old, something



**Bride-to-be Catherine Ball receives something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue – oh, and a sixpence for her shoe. Watching Mrs. Ball (Katherine Cooke) pin an opal brooch of Catherine (Sarah Bradshaw) are, from left, Elinor Crosby (Aly Kotwa), John Ball (Steve deBoer), Margaret Ball (Margaret Daley) and Eliza Ball (Sharon Fecik).**

new, something borrowed, something blue”, brother John Ball (Steve deBoer) goes one step further, with “a sixpence for your shoe.” Mrs. Ball tries to have a talk about the “duties” of a wife, but is interrupted by little Jacob Houser (Andrew Fecik), who has lost his pig. She’s “fussing about like a mother hen”, but is comforted when she learns Catherine’s sister, Eliza (Sharon Fecik), has given Catherine all the information she needs.

Also appearing are Margaret Ball (Margaret Daley), Elinor Crosby (Aly Kotwa), Charles Snofield (Matt McPhail), and Mary Cunningham (Leah Padfield), who earned laughs for her portrayal as a maid who kept trying to serve tea, but had no takers.

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Abraham Ball (Spencer Thomas) is avoiding a bath, and while out fishing hears an explosion from the quarry in the second play, The

Quarryman, by Sheila Laundry.

While there is a buzz throughout Glen Elgin for this special day, the work must go on, and the danger is proven when Dougall Fyfe (Rob Murre) ends up with a major leg wound after the explosion.

The perfect cure to soothe the pain of a wound? A little bit of liquor. “One spoonful and you’ll hear the sounds of the bagpipes,” said Murre, who always seems to be a crowd pleaser with his roles.

Also appearing in the brief play are Annie (Chelsea Stevenson), Simon Wills (Alex Somerville) and Daniel Moore (Steve Taylor).

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An explosion, early guests, and a visit from the town gossips stirs up some drama in the third play, *The Joys of a Wedding*, by Katherine Albers.

Sarah Jane Ball (Lindsay Cooke) and Barbara Ball (Samantha Cooke) are helping decorate the church, as the groom-to-be Theo Ambridge (Jerome Black) impatiently waits with his brother Thomas Ambridge (Mike Cipryk). Ambridge gets even more anxious when he learns the “gossip” around town is that the only reason he will take over the helm of the general store is because of his new father in law.

Some colourful guests arrive, and more drama ensues, with wedding guests Priscilla Buller (Jeanette Heil), Abigail Weston (Sheila Lake), Grace



**Hettie Cline (Jackie Stieve), a new employee at the woolen mill who is excited about getting a regular pay packet and living in a rooming house with seven other women, led the guests of Lamplighter Tour.**

Honsberger (Annette Hoare), Mr. and Mrs. Armbridge (Joan Edwards and John Murre) and evil aunt Barbara Hutchings (Jennifer Toews) stirring up some shenanigans prior to the bride's arrival. They learn Catherine Ball's mother's former lover, who was lost at sea, was related to Mrs. Armbridge. Lake offers a great performance as a practically deaf Mrs. Weston, offering colourful and witty responses when trying to clarify exactly what was said by the fellow guests.

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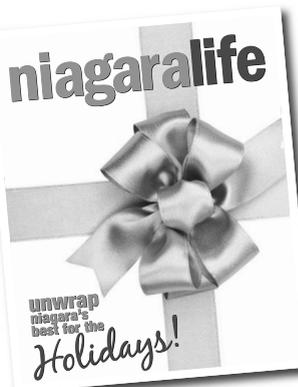
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