

**GET REAL, GET RURAL**  
**The Canadian Theatre Blyth Festival**  
**August 11 - 16, 2010**

Each evening, we will post the location of following day's discussions and talks and confirm any additions or changes to itinerary. We are a small group and will cover the material included below but we may decide together to alter the order depending on other opportunities and how we feel.

Two meals are included each day. Alcoholic beverages are not included at meals. Janet invites participants to join her for those meals that are not included.

**Wednesday, August 11 Arrive Bayfield**

Participants will make their own travel plans to Bayfield. Please contact us for any assistance with your flights or transfer to and from Pearson International Airport in Toronto. In the late afternoon, Janet Amos will guide us on a ramble around the village to get our bearings. We will stop at a local pub for supper. In the evening, veteran playwright, favourite native son (and husband of Janet Amos), Ted Johns, will talk to us about the development of Canadian theatre and the specific role of the Blyth Festival.

*Overnight: The Little Inn, Bayfield*

*Meals: Dinner*

**Thursday, August 12 Bayfield**

After breakfast, we will discuss the script of *Innocence Lost*, the Blyth Festival hit about the 1959 wrongful conviction for rape and murder of a local 12-year old girl by her 14-year old classmate Scott Truscott. After lunch on our own, we will travel a stone's throw down the road to the scene of the crime that attracted international attention. We will continue on to the farm of Tony and Fran McQuail who till their organic crops with horse-drawn ploughs. We will return to The Little Inn for a sumptuous dinner.

*Overnight: The Little Inn, Bayfield*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

**Friday, August 13 Bayfield**

After breakfast, join local trail guide Ray Letheren for a hike through the beautiful backwoods, with its abundant birds and waterfowl, or explore the terrific Bayfield shops or take a leisurely beach walk. Then it's off to Blyth where we will have lunch at a local mom and pop restaurant before we take to the stage to try out a scene or two of *Innocence Lost*, under Janet's direction. Janet will then take us on a backstage tour and guide us through the shops where sets, props and costumes are constructed. We will have a chance to chat with local folks at a country supper. In the evening, we will attend a performance of *A Killing Snow*, where four travelers take refuge from a Huron County blizzard in the secluded farmhouse of Gerald Goldie, retired Latin teacher.

*Overnight: The Little Inn, Bayfield*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

**Saturday, August 14 Bayfield**

We will spend a full day at the Blyth Festival. In the morning we will meet with the Blyth Festival staff and production team to learn about their work. We will have a picnic lunch in the park and walk along the Greenway. We will attend a matinee performance of *Bordertown Cafe*. Premiered in Blyth in 1987, this play about cultural differences between the US and Canada, has now established itself as a Canadian classic. We will return to the theatre for an evening performance of *Pearl Gridley*, another play using local lore as its

inspiration. Set in the late 1960's, Pearl lives a quiet life with her sister, taking in boarders, but avoids contact with the outside world. And then a strangely evasive young man from the US shows up.

*Overnight: The Little Inn, Bayfield*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

### **Sunday, August 15 Bayfield**

After a leisurely breakfast, we will travel a short distance to Goderich for a guided historical walking tour with a local architect followed by lunch on our own at a waterfront restaurant. Our last play will be a matinee performance of *The Book of Esther*, a powerful and moving story of family, faith, and the ties that bind. A fancy farewell dinner back at The Little Inn.

*Overnight: The Little Inn, Bayfield*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### **Monday, August 16 Bayfield**

After breakfast, we bid one another good bye. Please contact us for any assistance with your flights or transfer to and from Pearson International Airport in Toronto.

*Meals: Breakfast*