

CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

ST. DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATION

When: 5:00 p.m. to socialize
5:30 p.m. for dinner
Thursday, March 1st, 2018

Where: Ramada Hotel
580 Riverside Drive
Lower St. Mary's, Fredericton
\$28/person

We have had to increase the cost of dinner slightly in response to increasing costs and decreasing revenues.



Join us as the Red Dragon is raised at the Legislature and City Hall on the morning of March 1st. Ask your caller for details.



2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

CENTRAL NB WELSH SOCIETY

Bank Balance December 31, 2017 - \$1,478.82

NB WELSH HERITAGE TRUST

Bank Balance December 31, 2017

Operating Account - \$5,203.96

Savings Account - \$892.77

Investments - \$51,436.55

DONATIONS TO THE NB WELSH HERITAGE TRUST

2017 - \$4,209.94

2016 - \$4,206.45

2015 - \$4,191.89

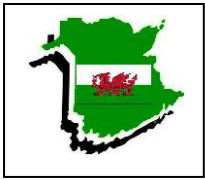
2014 - \$4,306.34

2013 - \$6,448.24

2012 - \$4,018.13

 YOUR
DONATION IS
GREATLY
APPRECIATED

Donations are used to maintain the Welsh Chapel and the graveyard, and to grow the investment portfolio to a level where the interest earned each year will be sufficient to meet the maintenance needs of the chapel and cemetery. In 2018, we are hoping to raise additional dollars to replace the siding on the Chapel. You may receive a tax receipt for all donations of \$10 or more if you provide your name and mailing address. Cheques made out to the **New Brunswick Welsh Heritage Trust** can be mailed c/o Janet Thomas, 100 Epworth Circle, Fredericton, NB E3A 2M6



CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

THE LEAVETAKING

In January and February of 1819 the Davies family of Cardigan posted an advertisement in towns and villages in Southwest Wales informing the populace of their intent to carry passengers to North America. Those interested were to send their inquiries to John Davies, a merchant in Cardigan, before February 28th. A similar advertisement was placed in the Carmarthen Journal for three consecutive weeks, beginning February 26th.

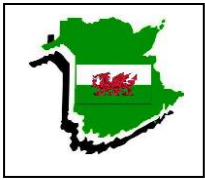
The Davies family were well-known Cardigan merchant mariners who had already completed successful runs to North America. They had no difficulty in filling the *Albion*, in fact, it was over-subscribed requiring some families to follow on a second Davies ship, the *Active*, which arrived in Saint John on June 30th.

The *Albion* was scheduled to leave Cardigan on Friday, April 9th, carrying slate for ballast and 180 passengers. Passengers began to arrive on April 5th. They came primarily from the parishes of Trelech, Newcastle Emlyn, Llangoedmor, Clydau, Cilrhedyn, Llanrhystud, St. Dogmaels, Newport Pembro and Cardigan. Some families lived within walking distance of the port but others had to cart their belongings many miles to get there. We know that some families also came from greater distances – William Thomas came from Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire and David and Rachel Griffiths came from Pembroke, Pembrokeshire, both villages approximately 40 miles from Cardigan.

The crowd to see the *Albion* passengers depart was swelled by those who had arrived to attend the Cardigan market on the following day, and by others who had come to hear two of the most well-known Welsh preachers address the travelers before the ship launched.



The emigrants and their families gathered on the beach at St. Dogmaels, a mile down the opposite side of the Teifi river from Cardigan. The two prominent preachers, Ebenezer Morris, a Methodist preacher from Twr Gwn, and Morgan Jones, a Congregationalist preacher from Graig, Trelech, blessed the ship and led a stirring service of prayer and song. Although there were no Baptist preachers at the launch, there was a large group of Baptist emigrants from St. Dogmael's who eventually formed the foundation for the Baptist congregation in Cardigan, New Brunswick. Then the emigrants and other sightseers walked the mile and a half down the



CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

river to the Poppit beach to await the arrival of the *Albion*. The *Albion* had lifted anchor and sailed with the tide to Pwll Cam, the safe anchorage just inside the Cardigan bar at Poppit. It was there that the passengers boarded the ship where they were examined by a doctor to be sure they were healthy enough to travel. Customs officers also boarded the ship to count the passengers and inspect the holds to ensure there was sufficient food and water for 3 months. Eventually all was determined to be ready so the passengers bedded down for the night in preparation for an early morning sailing.

But the travelers were in for a disappointment. The next morning the wind was blowing hard from the south-west, preventing Captain Davies from sailing down the Teifi River. Many of the passengers returned to St. Dogmaels and Cardigan for morning services, and a prayer service was held in the afternoon on board the ship. The following morning the tide was favourable so the ship sailed down the river and at 9:00 a.m. on April 11th, the *Albion* crossed the Cardigan bar, heading down the coast to Fishguard. The voyage had begun!



FLAG OF ST. DAVID

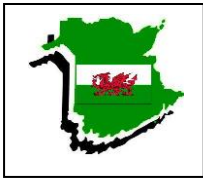
There is little known about the origin of the flag of St. David. It is based on the coat of arms of the Diocese of St. David. Black and gold are colours long associated with St. David and, in fact, were the colours adopted in 1888 by the University of Wales Trinity St. David.



The 38th Welsh Infantry Division used a version of the flag as their shoulder badge in World War II.



The flag of St. David, or a version featuring a black cross on a yellow background, began being flown on what were formerly Anglican churches in the early 20th century when the Church in Wales was established as an entity independent of the Church of England. However, the flag was not commonly flown throughout Wales until the mid-1990's when the Welsh Tartan Company began to produce and promote it as a complement to the Red Dragon. Today it features prominently in St. David's Day parades and has become the symbol of Welsh nationalism.



CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER



North American Festival of Wales
Gŵyl Cymru Gogledd America

Washington, D.C.
August 30-September 2, 2018

Featuring the 87th
National Gymanfa Ganu
Sponsored by the
Welsh North American Association
Hosted by the
Washington DC Welsh Society
Funded in part by the
Women's Welsh Clubs of America
North America's Largest Gathering
of the Welsh and Friends
www.nafow.org

Reported in *The Headquarters*, March 10, 1847:

CAUTION
WHEREAS my wife Elisabeth (formerly the widow Saunderson,) has left my bed and board without any just cause or provocation, this is to forbid any person harbouring or trusting her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting
CHARLES BAILEY, Jun.
Simmonds, Carleton County,
15th February, 1847.—(31p.)

Hmmm, was Mr. Bailey more upset about his wife leaving his bed or his board?

May you have warm words
on a cold evening,
A full moon on a dark night
And the road downhill
All the way to your door

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL *Annual Dues*

2018 Dues: \$25 per family, \$15 per individual. **Your dues are needed to cover the costs for photocopying and mailing our newsletters, and for holding our events.** Send your dues c/o Janet Thomas, 100 Epworth Circle, Fredericton, NB E3A 2M6 or pay them at the St. David's

Day celebration. **NOTE THE CHANGE OF ADDRESS.** Cheques must be made out to the Central NB Welsh Society. Thank you to those who have already paid their dues.



March 1 – St. David's Day Celebration
April 21 – Fredericton North Heritage Fair
May 14 – Annual General Meeting, 7:00 St. John's Anglican Church Hall, Main Street -please plan to attend. Last year we did not have a quorum!
June 10 – Founder's Day Service, Welsh Chapel
September 30 – Thanksgiving Service, Welsh Chapel