



CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

ST. DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATION

When: 5:30 p.m. to socialize
6:00 p.m. for dinner
Friday, March 1st, 2019

Where: Nashwaaksis United Church
46 Main Street, Fredericton
\$20/person



RSVP to your caller or 474-0812 or
bwheal@nb.sympatico.ca

Join us as the Red Dragon is raised at
10:00 a.m. at the Legislature and at
11:00 a.m. at City Hall on March 1st.

REPAIRS TO THE WELSH CHAPEL

You should have recently received a letter from the New Brunswick Welsh Heritage Trust asking for a donation to help fund the replacement of the siding on the Welsh Chapel in Cardigan as well as for the completion of repairs to both the exterior and interior of the Chapel. The intent is to complete this work in 2019 prior to the Cardigan 200 celebration in August. The cost of the siding replacement alone is approximately \$33,000. The total cost of completing all the work is nearly \$45,000. We have applied for financial assistance from the Government of New Brunswick, but of course, there is no guarantee that we will receive funding. Nor will this funding cover the entire costs. So please give generously. And please send our request on to other members of your family who may be willing to make a donation. All donations of \$10 or more will be sent a receipt for tax purposes when name and address are supplied. Cheques made out to the **New Brunswick Welsh Heritage Trust** can be mailed c/o Janet Thomas, 100 Epworth Circle, Fredericton, NB E3A 2M6. Many thanks to those who have already contributed!!



Many of the Welsh couples were not young. They arrived with their teenaged or twenty-something children in hope of giving them a better future. David and Elizabeth Saunders were 49 and 52 years old, respectively, when they arrived with their 6 children, the oldest of whom was 25-year old Martha. William and Margaret Davis and Jonathan George and his wife were all in the late 40's when they emigrated with their children, ranging in age from 2 to 33 years old. William John was 64 years old when he and Rachel began clearing their land in Cardigan. Luckily, he had teenaged sons to help him!



CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

THE ALBION PASSENGERS

Over the past several months we have been trying to identify the passengers of the *Albion*. Using multiple sources, we have identified more than 30 families/single persons, comprising 138 of the total 180 passengers. In July 1819, 150 persons moved to Fredericton. Although 30 passengers remained in Saint John initially, we know that some eventually moved upriver to live in the Fredericton area or to join their families in Cardigan. Records show that several of the young, single adults lived in Lincoln parish before marrying – why?

The list below is our best guess as to the passenger list.

Family

Daniel and Ann Davis and 7 children
Daniel and Hannah Davis
David and Elizabeth Davis and 3 children
William and Margaret Davis and 7 children
William and Margaret Davis and 8 children
John Davis and wife
John and Mariah Davis
William Edwards with his wife and 2 children
James and Rachel Evans
James Evans, bachelor
John and Magret Evans
John Evans, bachelor
Jonathan George with his wife and 5 children
David and Rachel Griffiths and 3 children
William Griffiths, bachelor
John and Martha Griffiths
John H. and Martha Griffiths and 6 children
John Harris

Family

Betty Henton and her husband
James James, bachelor
John James, bachelor
William and Nany Jenkin
Griffiths and Mary Jenkins
William and Rachel John and 6 children
Edward Jones, bachelor
Jonathan and Elizabeth Jones and 5 children
Rees Jones, bachelor
David and Sarah Lewis and 3 children
Richard Lewis, bachelor
Enoch Morgan with his wife and 3 children
William and Margaret Richards and 6 children
John Roberts with his wife and 2 children
David and Elizabeth Saunders and 6 children
William Thomas and 1 child
John Williams and 3 children

Some information has been compiled on these families with respect to their ages, the names of the children and their land ownership. Continued research will undoubtedly uncover more information and may result in revisions. If your family records can add to our collection of data, please send it along to us at bwheal@nb.sympatico.ca. We will be available for sharing family information at the Cardigan 200 celebration in August.



One Welsh trader to another: "I'm not calling you a liar. I'm merely saying that if you and I were in business together, we'd tell more lies than any two people ever before, and I'd be silent."



CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

EARLY FAMILIES

The *Albion* families must have sent encouraging letters to their families and friends in Wales because over the next few years they were joined by more than a dozen Welsh families. These new arrivals settled on land adjacent to the Cardigan settlement.

In 1820, John Edwards and David Thomas arrived with their families. They had disembarked in Halifax in early June and petitioned for land in the province. For some reason they abandoned that idea, arriving in Fredericton in November where they received tickets-of-location for lots in Cardigan. The following year saw the arrival of John and Esther Thomas who also received land in the settlement.

1822 saw an influx of new families, primarily due to the visit of Reverend Dafydd Phillips. Rev. Phillips was accompanied by the families of Evan George (son of Jonathan who had sailed on the *Albion*), David Owens, Thomas Richards, Titus Richards, William Richards, and William Sansom. John and Enos Owens, who had been with the settlers headed for Shelburne, NS in 1818, arrived to join their brother David. They were accompanied by William Morgan who had also been part of the Shelburne group. David, William and Benjamin Phillips also arrived in 1822 with their families, perhaps with Rev. Phillips.

In 1829 David Morgan joined his brother William. He married one of the Davis girls and settled on land nearby. A year later, Thomas Davis moved his family to Hamtown. His father William either travelled with him or joined him the next year.

By the early 1830's, most of the land from below the McFarlane Road to Tay Creek was occupied by Welsh emigrants and their children.



CARDIGAN 200 OUR STORIES

2019 marks the 200th anniversary of the immigration of 180 Welsh men, women and children to New Brunswick and the establishment of the Welsh settlement of Cardigan, located 25 km north of Fredericton. The Central New Brunswick Welsh Society and the New Brunswick Welsh Heritage Trust will be sponsoring numerous activities throughout 2019 to celebrate the bicentenary, one of which is the publication of short narratives which help us understand the stories of the Welsh settlers. The narratives are based on research gleaned from a multitude of sources, including Dr. Peter Thomas' landmark book *Strangers from a Secret Land*, census data, vital statistics, newspaper accounts, land registry documents and many other collections that have been indexed and shared online. We have done our best to accurately portray the life and times of the Welsh settlers but realize that because this is a work in progress, there may be errors and omissions. All contributions of new information will be gladly received! We hope you enjoy the narratives as we share them from time to time during the upcoming year on our email group and our *Facebook* page. To be added to our email group, send us a note at bwheal@nb.sympatico.ca To find us on *Facebook* search 'Central New Brunswick Welsh Society' and 'LIKE' our page.



CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

CARDIGAN 200

Saturday, August 10th 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
At the Welsh Chapel Heritage Site
2900 Route 620 (Royal Road)

Sunday, August 11th 10:30 a.m.
At the Brunswick Street Baptist Church
161 York Street, Fredericton

CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF WELSH HERITAGE

Featuring:

- Genealogy
- Music
- Crafts
- Knitting
- Welsh Language
- Welsh Cakes
- Refreshments
- Worship

ADMISSION IS FREE
BYOLC: bring your own lawn chair
More information at www.nbwelsh.ca or on
Facebook at Central New Brunswick Welsh Society



2019 Dues: \$25 per family, \$15 per individual. Send your dues c/o Janet Thomas, 100 Epworth Circle, Fredericton, NB E3A 2M6 or pay them at the St. David's Day celebration. 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 27 – Fredericton North Heritage Fair
- May 14 – Annual General Meeting
- June 9 – Founder's Day Service, Welsh Chapel
- August 10 – 11 – Cardigan 200 Celebration, Welsh Chapel
- October 6 – Thanksgiving Service, Welsh Chapel