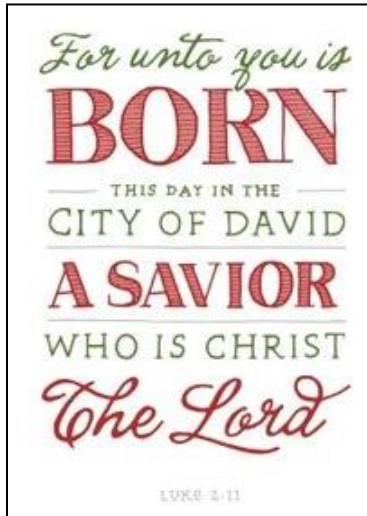




CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2016



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

When: 4:30 p.m. to socialize
5:00 p.m. for dinner
Saturday, November 19, 2016

Entertainment: River Rhythm

Where: Ramada Hotel
580 Riverside Drive
Lower St. Mary's, Fredericton
\$24/person

Please let your caller know if you have a special dietary



OH LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM....

Bethlehem, Wales is a small farming village located in the Tywi Valley in Carmarthenshire. The land around Bethlehem has been inhabited for thousands of years, as evidenced by Garn Goch, a nearby hill topped by two Iron Age hill forts and a Bronze Age burial ground.

Bethlehem was named after its Baptist Chapel that was established in the early 1800's and continues to be active today. The family names of the fewer than 200 villagers are typically Welsh – Thomas, Morgan, Williams, Davies. This is sheep country, so like its namesake in the Holy Land, shepherds are still found on the surrounding hillsides. Unlike its namesake, however, Christmas in this Bethlehem may be snowy. Each year, thousands of people travel there from all over Great Britain to hand deliver their Christmas cards for mailing so they can be postmarked 'Bethlehem'.



NADOLIG LLAWEN



Merry Christmas from the NB Welsh Heritage Trust and the Central New Brunswick Welsh Society.

*May the God of peace
bring peace to your house.
May the Son of peace
bring peace to your house.
May the Spirit of peace
bring peace to your house,
this night and all nights*



CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2016

Cardigan, Wales 2016



It was a typical July day in Wales – cloudy, rainy and sunny, all within a few hours. Cardigan was bustling with tourists from across Great Britain, and indeed, across Europe by the sound of the many languages spoken. But I believe that we were the only Canadians strolling the wet



streets of Cardigan that day. It was a curiously emotional visit for me, especially as I gazed down the harbour to where the Albion had been anchored on May 9th, 1819, waiting to sail for New Brunswick with my Saunders, Thomas and Jones great, great, great grandparents.



Cardigan is located on the River Teifi (pronounced Tivy). The settlement was built around the Norman castle that was constructed in the late 11th century and then rebuilt in 1244. The castle changed ownership between the Norman English and the Welsh lords many times between 1136 and 1244 when it finally rested in the hands of the Earl of Pembroke. In the 1900s the castle was bought by the daughter of a wealthy shipping magnate. She lived in the castle for 60 years, allowing it to fall into disrepair. In 2004 the county council bought the castle and began restoring it for use by the public.

Cardigan is the English word for Ceredigion and the Welsh name for Cardigan, Aberteifi, means ‘mouth of the Teifi’. In the 1500’s, Cardigan was a small walled town whose main industry was fishing. By the time our families emigrated, Cardigan was the most important port in South Wales, with a thriving import and export business along with shipbuilding, brickworks, a foundry, ropemakers and sailmakers. The first Eisteddfod, a festival of Welsh literature, music and performance, was held at Cardigan Castle in 1176.

In 2016, Cardigan is a primarily Welsh speaking community with nearly 70% of its 4,200 inhabitants being Welsh speakers. It was a bit surprising, therefore to see the Cardigan Islamic Cultural Centre next door to Abdul’s Tandoori restaurant!





CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2016

This lovely stained glass Welsh Dragon was made by a craftswoman from the Gagetown area. The Central NB Welsh Society has purchased it with the idea to raffle it as a fund raiser for the Cardigan 200 celebration. In March 2017 we will begin selling tickets at our events – 1 ticket for \$2.00 , 3 tickets for \$5.00 or 6 tickets for \$10.00.



DID YOU KNOW?

that Hillary Rodham Clinton's paternal grandmother was Hannah Jones, daughter of Welsh immigrants? Hannah was born in 1882, daughter of John Jones and Mary Griffiths who had arrived in the United States in 1879 with their family. John Jones was born in Neath while his wife Mary Griffiths, was born in Merthyr Tydfil. John was a coal miner in Wales, continuing his profession in Scranton, Pennsylvania where he raised his family. Hannah Jones married Hugh Rodham, a fellow worker at a local lace factory, in 1902. Hillary's father, Hugh Jr, was born in 1911. From immigrant coal miners to the White House in four generations!



In the December 21, 1844 edition of the *Newbrunswick Reporter*, the best wishes for Christmas were very understated!

☞ In view of the great annual Festival of our common Faith, which will arrive previous to our next publication, we offer our patrons and readers our best wishes for their present and eternal happiness.



CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2016

Save The Date

March 1, 2017 – St. David's Day celebration, Ramada Inn

June 11, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Founder's Day Church Service, Welsh Chapel, Cardigan followed by a shared lunch



In Memoriam

The plaques in the Welsh Chapel are inscribed with the names of members of the NB Welsh Society who have passed on. To have your loved one added, please contact Helen Jones hjones@nbnet.nb.ca (450-3985) with the following information: Name, Place of Birth or Residence (your choice), Year of Birth, Year of Death.



Join or Renew Membership

2017 Dues: \$25 per family, \$15 per individual. Your dues cover the costs for photocopying and mailing our bulletins and newsletters, and for our post office box. Send your dues to: P. O. Box 421, Station A, Fredericton, NB E3B 4Z9.



BLWYDDWYN NEWYDD DDA

