

CENTRAL NEW BRUNSWICK WELSH SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 2016 BULLETIN

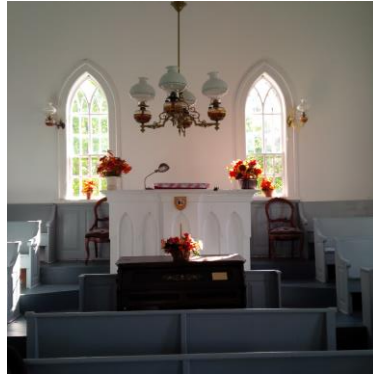
Thanksgiving Church Service

Sunday, October 2

3:30 p.m.

Welsh Chapel

2900 Cardigan Road, Route 620



POTLUCK Supper following the service. Bring your friends, neighbours and family!

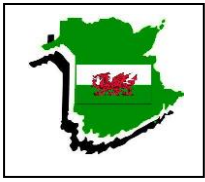
MINISTER FOR CELTIC AFFAIRS

In June, 2016 a new portfolio was created – the Minister for Celtic Affairs. The newly appointed Minister is Lisa Harris, MLA for Miramichi-Neguac and Minister of Seniors and Long Term Care. The appointment comes following a recommendation by the Irish, Scottish and Welsh societies to create a Celtic Affairs Branch aimed at coordinating funding for Celtic festivals and events as well as raising awareness about the contributions made by Irish, Scottish and Welsh New Brunswickers. The Central NB Welsh Society has been approached by staff at the Heritage Branch to gather information about our history, events and future plans. Staff has already offered to help us wade through all the rules associated with maintaining a historic property, and to discuss our upcoming 200th anniversary celebration of the landing of the Cardigan settlers. A meeting with the Minister will be held in the Fall, hopefully she will be able to attend our St. David's Day event in 2017! So, despite the public scorn about the appointment of a Celtic Affairs minister, it is nothing but good news for us!



WELSH WORDS

CWTCH - Pronounced 'Cutch', rhymes with 'Butch', there is no literal English translation. However, Welsh people use 'cwtch' to describe a small cupboard or cubbyhole OR to mean a hug or snuggle. But this isn't an ordinary hug or cuddle, it is something warm and caring. You know that feeling you get when someone you love holds you closely and suddenly you feel protected and loved? That's a cwtch.



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Driving in Wales



If you are an adrenaline junkie and addicted to hair-raising activities, you can satisfy your addiction by driving through rural south-west Wales! Thanks to the use of modern technology (GPS) we unintentionally travelled many of the ancient roads that crisscross the rural countryside between Cardigan and Carmarthen. These roads were meant for travel by foot or on horseback, not for cars and tractors. They are narrow, bounded by dry stone walls and 800+-year old hedgerows. Most are only wide enough for one vehicle, some are so narrow that the hedgerows brush the sides of your vehicle as you pass. As the car rental salesman said 'don't worry about scratches on the sides of the van, we are used to that'.

And none of these roads are straight. There are sharp corners with no visibility. Meeting another car means reversing to find a marginally wider spot where two vehicles may pass. Our hearts stopped as we rounded a turn to be confronted with a large farm tractor hauling a load of liquid manure! All of this plus a speed limit of 60 miles per hour while driving on the left-hand side of the road!

And yet, the hilly landscape is breathtaking. As you pass through farm yards you are treated to smiles and waves from the locals. Border collies expertly herd sheep across the roads. Small villages are nestled along splashing brooks crossed by timeworn one-lane stone bridges. Eventually the strain of driving is overtaken by the enjoyment of the peaceful and prosperous farmland.

Most of the Cardigan settlers came from this area. As we drove through the charming village of Trelech we realized how desperate their situation had to have been for them to leave this pleasant countryside.