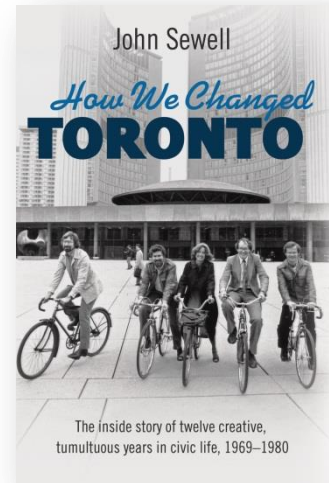
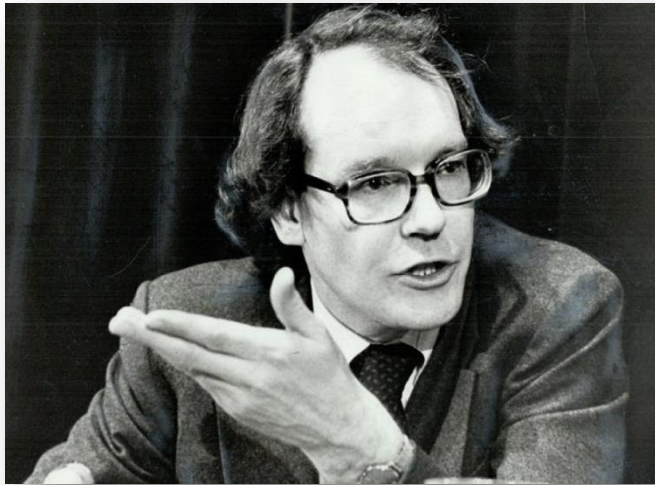


# SWANSEANews

SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 95 LAVINIA AVENUE, TORONTO, ON, M6S 3H9



**Wednesday, Nov 1, 2017, 7:30 pm**

**Rousseau Room - Swansea Town Hall**

**SPEAKER: John Sewell**

**How We Changed Toronto in the 1970s,  
and How it has Changed Since**

**Visitors Welcome! Light Refreshments!**

*The Swansea Historical Society thankfully acknowledges  
funding grants from the following provincial bodies:*



Follow us!



Twitter: [@swansea\\_history](https://twitter.com/swansea_history) Instagram: [@swansea\\_history](https://www.instagram.com/swansea_history) Website: [www.swanseatownhall.ca/sth/?p=384](http://www.swanseatownhall.ca/sth/?p=384)

**Please note: The speaker will start at 7:30 promptly. If there is a business meeting, it will start at 7:15.**



**President's Message:** by Bob Roden, President

At the October 4, 2017, Annual General Meeting, the following people were re-elected to serve for the next twelve months:

Robert Roden	President
Linda Symsyk	Vice-President, Archives Director, & THA Representative
<b>(vacant)</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
Wallace Boustead	Treasurer
Marilyn Boustead	Membership Coordinator
Richard Fogel	Newsletter Editor & Publicity
Lance Gleich	Special Projects
Marjorie Horeis	Archives Team
Andrea Jagla	Archives Team
Sarah Lowenberg	Social Media Coordinator
Margaret Lyons	Member at Large
Sydney Reimer	Representative to 95 Lavinia
Thelma Wheatley	Refreshments Coordinator
Eleanor Woods	Mailing Coordinator
Susan Zalepa	Archives Team & Representative to 93 Lavinia
<b>(vacant)</b>	<b>Publications Coordinator</b>
Maureen Shortt	Auditor
<b>(vacant)</b>	<b>Auditor</b>

As you can see, we have some vacancies that need to be filled. Please give some thought as to how you could get more involved and share your talents with us. Or, perhaps you know of someone you would like to recommend (with that person's permission) for a position on the Executive. In either case, we would like to hear from you. We can never have too much help, and fresh ideas are always welcome!

**Secretary:** After the 2015 AGM, Margaret Lyons stepped forward to take on the then-vacant position of Secretary. Margaret has done a superb job for the past two years, but earlier this year she advised us that she was not able to stand for re-election, and so the Secretary position is vacant once again. We thank Margaret for all her work on behalf of the Society, and we are pleased that she will be staying on the Executive as a member-at-large. The Secretary position

involves recording minutes from our members' meetings, Executive meetings, and AGM. We hope someone out there will be willing to take on this important role.

**Publications Coordinator:** We also need someone to manage the Society's inventory of publications for sale. This job was performed by Chuck Cameron for many years, and it mainly involves arranging for new supplies of our booklets, etc., to be printed when stocks run low.

**Auditor:** Our Constitution dictates that we should have two independent auditors to review the Society's financial records. It's a relatively small job that involves a few hours work, once a year. A background in accounting would be useful, but not essential.

We are blessed with a very capable and dedicated Executive. Through their hard work and dedication, all of the continuing Executive members have played important parts in keeping the Society functioning. I want to thank all of the Board members for their many contributions over the years, and I invite you, our readers, to join us.



### **Book Excellence Award**

We are pleased to report that SHS member Bianca Lakoseljac has been named a Book Excellence Award Winner by Literary Excellence Incorporated – “A Global Celebration of Literary Excellence”. Bianca's award-winning book “Stone Woman” will be the subject of her talk at the December 6 SHS monthly meeting. See “Future Events” for more details. Congratulations to Bianca!



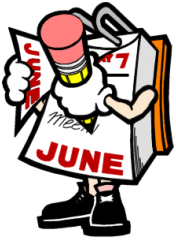
### **"Tamarind Sky", by Thelma Wheatley**

Welcome home and congratulations to our "Refreshments Girl", novelist Thelma Wheatley, whose latest novel "Tamarind Sky" was published in Sri Lanka on September 19, 2017, to great success. On her recent trip to the island nation, Thelma actually had the honour of meeting the president, Pallewatte Sirisena! Thelma had a number of interviews in the Sri Lankan newspapers, and a full book review by Tissa Devandra, a leading local reviewer. We are pleased to report that the book is selling well, and we look forward to Thelma's presentation (on another subject) at the September 2018 SHS meeting.



### **In Memoriam**

We were saddened to learn that long-time member Donald Dolson passed away at Mount Sinai Hospital in his 92nd year. Don and his wife Ruth have been faithful members of the Swansea Historical Society since the mid-1980s. Visitation was held at Turner & Porter on Wednesday, October 18, with the service in the chapel scheduled for Thursday, October 19. We extend our deepest sympathies to Ruth and the extended Dolson family.



## **2018 Swansea Community Calendars**

We are planning to have “hot-off-the-press” copies of the 2018 calendar available for sale at the November 1 meeting. The price is still \$8.00, as in past years. The calendars, with their historical photos and listings of community events, make great Christmas gifts!! Also, for those who enjoy looking at historic pictures, we still have a few 2017 calendars for sale at a reduced price, as well as bundles of calendars from previous years.



## **Swansea Historical Society on Social Media**

Executive member Sarah Lowenberg has continued to grow the Society's small (compared to some international celebrities), but devoted, following on social media, and we have received very positive reviews. As of the latest count, our Twitter account [@swansea\\_history](#) active since March 2016, now has 532 followers, and our Instagram account [@swansea\\_history](#), active since June 2016, has 222 followers. In connection with the August 5 event on the Humber, Sarah has created a second Twitter account [@historyonhumber](#). We invite you to visit these sites, and we encourage you to register as a follower so that you can be alerted to the latest postings.

Through our social media accounts, your Society now follows a total of almost 500 accounts, so that we can keep in touch with developments in other organizations. Also, if all goes according to plan, we expect to have the Society's own website launched in the coming months.



## **Swansea Historical Society Contact Information**

There are various ways you can contact your Society. Our mailing address is 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto ON M6S 3H9. You can send e-mails to [swanseahistoricalociety@gmail.com](mailto:swanseahistoricalociety@gmail.com), and the Society's cell number is 647-859-3901. Your comments and suggestions are always most welcome.

We expect to have our website [www.swanseahistoricalociety.ca](http://www.swanseahistoricalociety.ca) operational soon. Also, information related to the Swansea Historical Society, and other local organizations, is posted on the website of the Swansea Town Hall – [www.swanseatownhall.ca](http://www.swanseatownhall.ca). Also, we invite you to visit us on Twitter at [@Swansea\\_History](#) or [@historyonhumber](#) or on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/swansea\\_history](http://www.instagram.com/swansea_history).



## **Future Events**

**Thursday, October 19, 2017, North York Historical Society, 7:30 pm, North York Civic Centre (5100 Yonge St)** In collaboration with the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, the North Toronto Historical Society, and the City of Toronto's MomenTO Canada 150 program, presents a special lecture on the stormy life of William McDougall to explore the whirlpools and riptides of political life in Toronto and the Dominion of Canada 150 years ago, with Governor-General's Award-winning historian Christopher Moore. <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/william-mcdougall-dreams-and-disappointments-of-a-confederation-era-politician-tickets-37288718561>



**Thursday, October 26, 2017, Etobicoke Historical Society, 7:30 pm, Montgomery's Inn (4709 Dundas St W)** Barbara Dickson on “Bomb Girls...Trading Aprons for Ammo!” During WW2 over 21,000 patriotic men and women worked with high explosives filling munitions for the Allied Forces at a top-secret facility located in Scarborough. Over 170 buildings comprised the site, along with over 4 km of secret tunnels which remain as mysterious today as they were over seventy-five years ago. This presentation provides an in-depth narrative about the girls behind the guns and will appeal to every Canadian who honours those who fought for their freedom, both on the battlefield and at home. <http://www.etobicokehistorical.com/events.html>

**Wednesday November 1, 2017 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** Speaker: John Sewell – “How We Changed Toronto in the 1970s, and How it has Changed Since”. John Sewell was elected as a City Councilor in 1969 and served as the Mayor of the City of Toronto from 1978 to 1980. He will speak about how development pressures were dealt with during a time of rapid change in our City. His thoughts and perspective from the 1970s are particularly relevant today as we are faced with ever-growing development issues that threaten the very fabric of our neighbourhoods. Mayor Sewell will be available to sign copies of his book after the presentation.

**Thursday, November 2nd 7:30 pm Annette Library (145 Annette Street)** – West Toronto Junction Historical Society presents John Beram, who will discuss his recent visits to World War I battlefields. <https://wtjhs.ca/>

**Friday, November 3rd 6:00 pm Lambton House (4066 Old Dundas Street)** – Heritage York Pub Night. As always, doors open at 6 pm with roast beef sandwiches on sale, and music at 8:00 pm and no cover! [www.lambtonhouse.org](http://www.lambtonhouse.org)

**Sunday, November 5th 10:30 am-12:00 pm Grenadier Restaurant, High Park** -- “Geological Wonders and Origins of High Park,” a guided tour from Frank Remiz. [www.highpark.org/programs/high-park-walking-tours](http://www.highpark.org/programs/high-park-walking-tours)

**Thursday, November 9th 7:30 pm Lambton House (4066 Old Dundas Street)** – Heritage Talk @ Lambton House features “1917: The Pivotal Year of World War I” as presented by John Beram. [www.lambtonhouse.org](http://www.lambtonhouse.org)

**Thursday, November 23rd 7:30 pm Montgomery's Inn (4709 Dundas Street West)** – The Etobicoke Historical Society presents an artifact show and tell night. Society archivists will display and talk about some interesting items from our archives collections. EHS members will also be invited to bring interesting heritage items to show and tell. [www.etobicokehistorical.com/events.html](http://www.etobicokehistorical.com/events.html)

**Sunday, November 26th 2:00 pm Lambton House (4066 Old Dundas Street)** – Heritage York presents “Finn with an Oyster: The Story behind Toronto's New City Hall” by Michael Kainer and Karen Teeple, both in attendance. Refreshments. [www.lambtonhouse.org](http://www.lambtonhouse.org)

**Friday, December 1st 6:00 pm Lambton House (4066 Old Dundas Street)** – Heritage York Pub Night featuring John and Julie Dorsey. As always, doors open at 6 pm with roast beef sandwiches, and music at 8:00 pm and no cover! [www.lambtonhouse.org](http://www.lambtonhouse.org)

**Sunday December 3, 2017 High Park Walking Tour, 10:30 am to 12 noon** -- "High Park Through the Ages". A guided tour to be led by Dave Berndorff. Meet at 10:30 am at the benches across the road from the south side of the Grenadier Restaurant in the middle of High Park.

**Wednesday December 6, 2017 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** - Speaker: SHS member Bianca Lakoseljac. Bianca is a High Park resident and author, and she was the lead organizer of the highly acclaimed Sesquicentennial Authors' Symposium in High Park in August 2017. She will speak to us about her latest novel "Stone Woman", the story of a family of five women whose lives are bound by a Vietnam War draft dodger from the hippie "daze" of Toronto.

**Wednesday February 7, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** - Speaker: John Beram – "The Beginnings of the Canadian Auto Industry". John Beram, a local history enthusiast and story-teller, will return to Swansea to discuss the early days of the automobile industry in Canada, with special reference to the role of West Toronto in the development of the industry.

**Wednesday March 7, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** - Speaker: Kelly Mathews – "Eaton Hall: Pride of King Township". Shortly after the 1922 death of department-store heir John Craig Eaton, his widow Lady Flora Eaton had a palatial 72-room country estate built on the family's King City property. Rediscover an enchanting and bygone age with the life and history of Lady Eaton and her grand Eaton Hall, where she hosted many dignitaries including visiting British royalty.

**Wednesday April 4, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** - Speaker: Garfield Portch is a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada – Canada's national stamp club since 1887. He will speak to us about the intrigues and politics involved in the establishment and operation of the Post Office in the Town of York, and subsequently the City of Toronto, in the 1800s.

**Wednesday May 2, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** - Speaker: Gay Gooderham. The Gooderham and Worts families emigrated from England in the early 1830s to the Town of York, shortly before it became the City of Toronto. Over the following 75 years, these families created the largest distillery in the world, centred on the area we now know as Toronto's "Distillery District". Many significant landmarks associated with the Gooderhams survive in Toronto today. Gay Gooderham will share the fascinating story of her family, and also talk about her work in creating an online website [www.gooderham-worts.ca](http://www.gooderham-worts.ca) that includes a family tree with photos, documents, and stories.

**Wednesday October 3, 2018 SHS Annual General Meeting & Elections, 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** - Speaker: SHS Board Member and author Thelma Wheatley will return to the podium to talk about the subject of her latest book "Brown on White: Mixed-Race Marriage in Toronto in the 1960s".

**Wednesday December 5, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** - Speaker: Plum Johnson – "They Left Us Everything". Plum Johnson is a Canadian writer raised in Oakville, who won the RBC Taylor Prize in 2015 for her memoir *They Left Us Everything*. In it, she

describes discovering history in what parents leave behind, and about the importance of preserving it to make sense of the past.



**MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!!**

As of September 1, 2017, we are in a new membership year (the membership year now runs from September to August). The annual fees are still \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family. If you have not already paid your dues for 2017-2018, please complete the form below at your earliest convenience and submit the form with your payment. Dues can be paid at any of our meetings, or you can send payment to: 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto M6S 3H9. Your fees help to offset many of the costs incurred by the Society in its ongoing operations.



**SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



**2017/2018 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
(The membership year runs from Sep – Aug)**

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual..... \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Family ..... \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate ..... \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Individual.....\$250.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Family .....\$500.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Given Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment Number: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Business Telephone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Please use e-mail for my newsletters:  Yes  No, thanks

**Please send to: Swansea Historical Society Membership Secretary, 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto, Ontario M6S 3H9**