



Wednesday, Mar 7, 7:30 pm

Rousseau Room - Swansea Town Hall

**SPEAKER:** *Kelly Matthews* 

**Eaton Hall: Pride of King Township** 

**Visitors Welcome! Light Refreshments!** 

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





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



As most of our readers are probably already aware, we have been taking steps to move the Swansea Historical Society into the 21st Century through the use of the internet and social media.

I am pleased to report that we have been receiving very positive feedback from various quarters regarding our newly-minted website: <a href="www.swanseahistoricalsociety.ca">www.swanseahistoricalsociety.ca</a>. If you haven't visited our website yet, I strongly encourage you to check it out and let us know what you think. You can also continue to enjoy following us on Twitter and Instagram. (See the "SHS Contact Information" section below for details).

# 10 May 10

#### Website Page of the Month

In particular, we invite you to check out our new "Events" page at <a href="mailto:swanseahistoricalsociety.ca/events">swanseahistoricalsociety.ca/events</a>. There, you will find an up-to-date list of Swansea Historical Society events, community events, our past speakers, and a list of our past guided historical walks. And do follow us on Twitter and Instagram at @Swansea History for historical Swansea photos and other updates.



## Historical Photo of the Month

This month's photo is taken from:

https://twitter.com/Swansea History/status/963459169914441734

The 1959 photo was donated to the Swansea Historical Society by SHS Vice-President Linda Symsyk. It shows Linda's brother Richard shovelling the driveway of the family home

at 170 Windermere Avenue. Richard was a 1968 graduate of Victoria College at the University of Toronto and he represented Canada in rowing at the 1968 Summer Olympics.



#### Resource Centre / Archives Visits

In order to make the best use of our volunteers' time, we ask that anyone wanting to view items in the Society's "Resource Centre / Archives" request an appointment by telephoning 647-859-3901. We ask that you try to give us at least a few days' notice, as the SHS telephone is not continuously monitored. Also, if you can give us an indication of what you are looking for, we can let you know whether a visit is likely to be productive. The preferred times for opening the Archives are on Wednesday afternoons between 3:30 pm and 7:30 pm. However, appointments can also be arranged for other times, if Wednesday afternoons are not convenient.

## 2018 Swansea Community Calendars

The 2018 calendar is now available for purchase at monthly meetings and over the counter at the Town Hall. The price is still \$8.00, as in past years. Also, for those who enjoy looking at historic pictures, we still have some 2017 calendars for sale at a reduced price, as well as individual calendars and bundles of calendars from previous years.

#### **Future Events**

In addition to the following list, please note that our new "Events" webpage contains an up-to-date list of Swansea Historical Society events and community events. See <a href="http://swanseahistoricalsociety.ca/events/">http://swanseahistoricalsociety.ca/events/</a>.

Thursday February 22, 2018 Etobicoke Historical Society Meeting, 7:00 for 7:30 pm, Montgomery's Inn, 4709 Dundas St. W. at Islington Ave. Speaker: Jennifer Bazar – "The Mimico Asylum". The Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital opened in 1890 and it boasts a fascinating and storied history. Most of the Asylum's buildings, including the Assembly Hall and many of the "cottages", were built by the patients. The first such institution in Canada to employ the cottage system, the design attempted to create a "village-like" setting on the 52-hectare (130-acre) site at the foot of Kipling Avenue. Jennifer Bazar, who is currently serving as Secretary for the EHS, will present an intriguing journey into the past of this unique piece of Etobicoke history.

Thursday March 1, 2018 West Toronto Junction Historical Society Meeting, 6:30 for 7:00 pm, Annette Street Library, 145 Annette Street Speakers: Join local transit enthusiasts Trevor Parkins-Sciberras and David Reigate for an enjoyable and interesting presentation on the history of Toronto Transit, with a focus on public transportation in the Junction neighbourhood. There will also be a display of wonderful Lego replicas of TTC vehicles.

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. The estate now forms part of the King Campus of Seneca College, where our speaker, Kelly Mathews, is a member of the staff.

Copies of Kelly's books will be available for purchase at the meeting, and Kelly will be happy to sign them for you.

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 <a href="http://www.gooderham-worts.ca">http://www.gooderham-worts.ca</a> that includes a family tree with photos, documents, and stories.

Saturday June 2, 2018 SHS Walking Tour Details to be announced.

Saturday September 29, 2018 Governor Simcoe Reenactment Walking Tour Details to be announced.

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 November 7, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker: Barbara Dickson – "Bomb Girls: Trading Aprons for Ammo". Author and speaker Barbara Dickson has lived in Scarborough for more than 50 years. Imagine her surprise when she learned there were over four km of abandoned tunnels under the city, less than a kilometre from where she lived. Her presentation offers a unique glimpse into the lives and hearts of the courageous and dedicated Canadian women who worked in a top-secret World War Two munitions factory.

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.



#### 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 <a href="mailto:swanseahistoricalsociety@gmail.com">swanseahistoricalsociety@gmail.com</a>, and the Society's mobile telephone

number is 647-859-3901. Your comments and suggestions are always most welcome.

As noted above, we are pleased to report that our website <a href="https://www.swanseahistoricalsociety.ca">www.swanseahistoricalsociety.ca</a> is now operational. Information related to the Swansea Historical Society and other local organizations is also posted on the website of the Swansea Town Hall — <a href="https://www.swanseatownhall.ca">www.swanseatownhall.ca</a>. And, we invite you to follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Swansea\_History or twitter.com/historyonhumber or on Instagram at <a href="https://www.instagram.com/swansea\_history">www.instagram.com/swansea\_history</a>.

# **MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!!**

As of September 1 2017, we are now 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, Box102, 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	oriral so	<u>LIFE MEMBERSHIP</u>	
Individual	\$15.00	Individual	\$250.00
Family	\$20.00	Family	\$500.00
Corporate	\$25.00		
Family Name:	Given Name(s):	Member	ship Number:
Street Address:		Apartme	nt Number:
City:	Province:	Postal co	de:
Home Telephone: ()		Business Telephone: ()	
F-Mail:		Please use e-mail for my newsletters: O Yes O No, thanks	