



Wednesday, Nov 4, 2015, 7:30 pm

Rousseau Room - Swansea Town Hall

SPEAKER: Terry Reardon

Winston Churchill & Mackenzie King

Visitors Welcome! Light Refreshments!

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





President's Message: by Bob Roden, President

We had a very active month of September, with a number of events celebrating the 400th anniversary of Étienne Brûlé's 1615 arrival in the Swansea area. I want to thank all those who were involved in the planning and successful execution of these events. It was a lot of work! I hope those of you who were able to attend had a good time. My wife, Susan, and I particularly enjoyed portraying Mrs. Elizabeth Simcoe and Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe, with costumes graciously provided by Spadina Museum and the Scadding Cabin.

I am pleased to report that we have an interesting lineup of speakers booked through into 2016. We hope to see you at our upcoming meetings. Starting with the November 2015 meeting, we plan to have a brand-new Swansea Community Calendar for 2016 on sale.

If you attended the October 7, 2015, Annual General Meeting, you will already know of recent developments concerning the Society's Executive. For those members who were not at the AGM, I wish to take this opportunity to bring you up to date.

At the AGM, Marilyn and Wallace Boustead, Richard Fogel, Lance Gleich, Marjorie Horeis, Andrea Jagla, Linda Symsyk, Thelma Wheatley, Eleanor Woods, Susan Zalepa, and I were re-elected to the Executive for the 2015-2016 term, and I am delighted to welcome two new Executive members, Judith Kidd and Sydney Reimer, who were elected for the first time. Also, Maureen Shortt and Evelyn Milligan were re-elected as auditors. Thank you to Jack Slaughter for chairing the elections on short notice.

I want to thank all these people who have agreed to serve the Society for the coming year, and I want to thank Charles Cameron who is leaving the Executive for personal reasons after 15 years of dedicated service, which was recognized this year by a Volunteer Service Award from the Ontario Government.

We have a very strong Executive team, and I am requesting that you continue to give them your whole-hearted support. At the same time, I need to bring to your attention the following issues which need to be addressed promptly in order to ensure the ongoing successful operations of the Society:

Secretary: Andrea Jagla has served faithfully for seven years as the Society's secretary. I am pleased that Andrea will be staying on as a member of the Archives Team, but she has submitted her resignation as Secretary, effective this month. As in many organizations, the position of Secretary is one of the key roles spelled out in the Society's Constitution and By-Laws. The principal duties of this position involve recording minutes of the monthly members' meetings, the monthly Executive meetings, and the AGM.

Refreshments Coordinator: For the past programme year, Thelma Wheatley and Marjorie Horeis have jointly managed the meeting refreshments. We are anticipating that both ladies will be able to continue to serve on the Executive, but Marjorie has had to resign from the Refreshments Coordinator job for personal reasons, and Thelma has given notice that she will be unable to continue in this role after December. Ideally, we would like to find a person who could

assist Thelma in November and December, and then take over the job in the New Year. Duties (many of which are normally delegated to helpers) involve arranging for the provision of food and supplies, setting up the refreshments table, making and pouring tea and coffee, cleaning up after the meetings, and managing donations and expenses.

President: I took on the position of President on an emergency basis in the spring of 2012, when my predecessor resigned very suddenly and unexpectedly. One of my first tasks involved building a new Executive, essentially from the ground up, and I am most grateful for the support I have received from my Executive team over the past 3½ years. At the October 2014 AGM (and again in 2015), I announced my intention to step down as soon as a suitable replacement can be found. I also made a commitment that I will be available to provide any coaching and support that my replacement may require. The President acts as the CEO of the organization, and he/she normally chairs the monthly members' meetings and Executive meetings. We have prepared a list of the President's principal duties, and we would be pleased to share that list with anyone who is interested in knowing more of what the job entails.

We are a volunteer organization, and we can always use more help and fresh ideas. In addition to filling the jobs listed above, we are also happy to welcome people on-board as “Executive members without portfolio”, who may be called upon to participate in specific initiatives from time to time. Attendance at monthly Executive meetings is desirable, but not mandatory. Please give some thought as to how you could contribute even a small amount of your time and talent to your Society, and let us know of any ideas you might have. You can speak to an Executive member, or you can leave a message at 647-859-3901 or swanseahistoricalociety@gmail.com.

Executive news:

Our Newsletter mailing coordinator, Eleanor Woods, underwent hip-replacement surgery on September 21. We wish her a speedy recovery, and we thank her for her assistance in getting this Newsletter out to you.



Pictured at the “Corn Roast and Heritage Fair” at Montgomery’s Inn, Sep 10 are Bob and Susan Roden, Lance Gleich and Susan Zalepa.



Future Events

October 4 to November 7, 2015, Fort York Visitor Centre: *Magna Carta: Law, Liberty & Legacy*: Centuries of history coming to Toronto!! This year marks the 800th anniversary of King John of England putting his royal seal on the Magna Carta (meaning "The Great Charter") in 1215. The Magna Carta and its companion document, the Charter of the Forest, set the groundwork for many concepts defining democratic life today in Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States and many other countries. As symbols of justice, they act as reminders that those who govern do so only by the consent of the people. Over centuries, the principles of Magna Carta influenced many other significant documents including the United States Bill of Rights (1791), the British North America Act (1867), the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), and Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms (1982). See these remarkable historical documents and a fascinating exhibition that explains their history and importance as well as an exhibit highlighting persons and events in Toronto who reflected the ideals of Magna Carta. Adult \$20, Senior \$15, Youth/Child \$10. The Fort York Visitor Centre is located at 250 Fort York Boulevard in Toronto, east of the CNE Grounds, near Lakeshore Blvd. and Strachan Ave. For more information on the exhibition and the tour visit: www.magnacartacanada.ca or toronto.ca/magnacarta .

Nov 4, 2015 Meeting Speaker: Terry Reardon – “Winston Churchill and Mackenzie King: So Similar, So Different”

Terry’s book “*Winston Churchill and Mackenzie King: So Similar, So Different*”, is published by Dundurn Press. The foreword is by former Prime Minister John Turner. The cover of the book, an excerpt, a condensed version, a ten minute interview on the morning show on Classical 96.3FM radio station and a fifty minute interview on the TVO, "Agenda with Steve Paikin" can be downloaded at <http://www.winstonchurchillcanada.ca/ac>AboutBookTR.php>

The Globe and Mail on January 5, 2013, included the book in the "Twelve Very Best Books on Winston Churchill."

His talk will especially cover the part played by Canada in WWII, including an extract from respected British historian Richard Holmes' "*Footsteps of Churchill*": "In 1940 -41 Britain would not have survived had it not been for the agricultural, industrial and financial aid received from Canada."

Thursday, November 5th 7:30 Annette Library – West Toronto Junction Historical Society Speaker's Night – Jean Miso speaks about her children's books, the Poppy, today's soldiers, and the doors opened by song, and probably including musical performance

Friday, November 6th 6:30 Lambton House – Heritage York Community Pub Night – A night of live music and dancing featuring Just Us at 8 pm

Wednesday, November 11th 10:45 Swansea Town Hall – Remembrance Day Ceremony

Thursday, November 12th 7:30 Lambton House – Heritage York History Night – John Beram on World War I, the events of 1915 and John McCrea's poem "In Flanders Fields"

Thursday, November 26th 7:30 Montgomery's Inn – Etobicoke Historical Society Monthly Meeting – Neil Ross as A.B. Rice presents on the “Humber Piggely”

December 2, 2015 Meeting: Speaker: Neil Brochu – City of Toronto Museums – Collections & Conservation



MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!!

We are now accepting membership fees for 2015-2016, and encourage members to renew early. The membership year runs from September to August. The annual fees are still \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family. Please complete the form below. 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 costs incurred by the society.**



SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



2015/2016 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