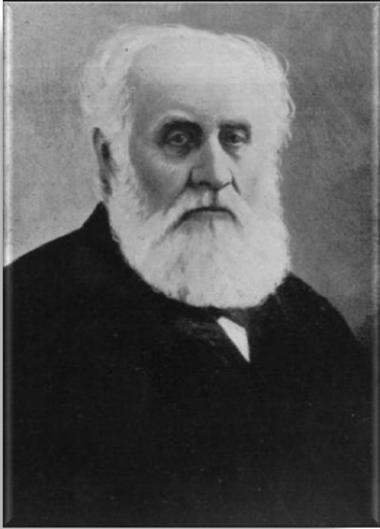


SWANSEA NEWS

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



Wednesday, May 2, 7:30 pm

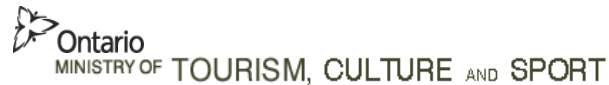
Rousseau Room - Swansea Town Hall

SPEAKER: Gay Gooderham

The Gooderham Family in Toronto

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: swanseahistoricalsociety.ca

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

Our May meeting will be the last formal meeting before the summer break. We are planning guided walking tours for the summer months, and our programme of monthly meetings with invited speakers will resume in October. Please refer to the “Future Events” section in this Newsletter for details. We also invite you to check out our new on-line “Events” page at <http://swanseahistoricalsociety.ca/events/>.

The October meeting will include the Society's Annual General Meeting and elections for the Executive to serve for 2018-2019. We are always more than happy to welcome new faces with fresh ideas onto the Executive. In particular, we need a Secretary to replace Margaret Lyons, who resigned last fall. We also have room for “Members-at-Large”, who may not have any ongoing responsibilities, but are willing to attend meetings and help out from time to time. Prior experience and knowledge of local history, although desirable, are not requirements. Please give some thought as to how you could contribute to the operation of your Society. If you are interested in getting involved, or you know someone you would like to nominate for a position on the executive (with that person's permission), please contact me or any of the current Executive members.

Finding the History of Your House



A number of requests have been made from local residents who would like to know more about the history of their house. While we are happy to try to help, we unfortunately don't have much information about individual homes in our archives. What we do have is limited to just a handful of historical houses in Swansea. That said, we can recommend an excellent resource to find the history of your home: The City of Toronto Archives. Our recommendation, before contacting us, would be to visit The City of Toronto Archives either online or in person. There you will find information that may include when your house was built, who owned your home before you, or what was on the land a century or more ago.

The City of Toronto Archives can help you find this information with sources such as:

- Fire insurance plans
- Assessment rolls
- City directories
- Building permits
- Aerial photographs
- Council proceedings
- Maps and atlases
- Historic photographs

You can go online to: <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/accountability-operations-customer-service/access-city-information-or-records/city-of-toronto-archives/using-the-archives/research-by-topic/find-the-history-of-your-house/>

Or you can visit in person to the City of Toronto Archives:

255 Spadina Rd., Toronto, ON M5R 2V3
Public Information: Telephone: 416-397-0778

Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Website Page of the Month

This month's page is Community Events: swanseahistoricalsociety.ca/events/community/

SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
The Swansea Historical Society preserves and promotes the history of the former Village of Swansea that was amalgamated by the City of Toronto in 1967.

HOME NEWS EVENTS SWANSEA HISTORY PUBLICATIONS ABOUT CONTACT

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Photo: William Rennie home, Elks Ave. E side, around Grosvenor Heights, showing garden-party. Approx 1900, via Toronto Library.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Thursday April 12, 2018 Heritage York History Night 7:30 pm Lambton House "The Anonymous Panel"
Speaker: Brian Mooney, Chair of the Etobicoke York Preservation Panel

Thursday April 26, 2018 Etobicoke Historical Society Meeting, 7:30 pm, Montgomery's Inn Speaker: Maureen Jennings on "Murdoch's Toronto." NOTE THAT THIS EVENT IS NOW MEMBERS AND GUESTS ONLY.

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 a website www.gooderham-worts.ca that includes a family tree with photos, documents, and stories.

Friday, May 4, 2018 Heritage York Presents Pub Night, Doors Open 6:00 pm, music at 8:00 pm Lambton House Musical Act Julie and John Dorsey



Historical Photo of the Month

This Maple Sugar operation was located in the Toronto valley where Ellis Park Rd is now located. Via Swansea Historical Society, date unknown.



Sugar Bush



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.



Volunteer Service Awards

Congratulations to Andrea Jagla, Linda Symczyk, Eleanor Woods, and Susan Zalepa on receiving 10-year Volunteer Service Awards from the Ontario Honours and Awards Secretariat of the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. Your contributions to the Swansea Historical Society over the past 10 years are very much appreciated, and we are pleased to see your volunteer work recognized in this way.



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.



In Memoriam

We were saddened to learn that long-time SHS member William (Bill) Weldon passed away on April 3 at the age of 78. He leaves his wife Connie, his children Lisa, Christina, and Michael, 7 grandchildren and his sister Rosemary. Bill attended Swansea Public School where he was a classmate of our SHS Treasurer, Wallace Boustead. After retiring from the Toronto District School Board, Bill continued as a piano teacher, accompanist, and church organist. We extend our deepest sympathies to Connie and the extended Weldon family.



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 swanseahistoricalsociety.ca/events .

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 a website www.gooderham-worts.ca that includes a family tree with photos, documents, and stories.

Saturday, May 5, 2018 Swansea Historical Society Jane’s Walk, starting at 10:00 am from the Alex Ling Fountain, northwest corner of Bloor Street West and Jane Street). Subject – “Literary Swansea”, featuring readings about western Toronto from historical and contemporary Toronto authors, stopping at locations around Swansea .

Sunday, May 6, 2018 Swansea Historical Society Jane's Walk, starting at 3:00 pm from the southeast corner of Bloor Street West and High Park Avenue. Author Bianca Lakoseljac presents the history of Sculpture Hill in High Park. The sculptures, which were created on-site as part of Canada's Centennial celebrations in 1967, feature prominently in Bianca's book "Stone Woman"

Thursday May 10, 2018 Heritage York Heritage Talk, 7:30 pm, Lambton House Art Historian Shirley Ann Brown on the stained glass at Toronto's Massey Hall.

Saturday June 2, 2018 SHS Annual Guided Walking Tour Location and time to be announced.

Saturday September 29, 2018 Governor Simcoe Reenactment Walking Tour Details to be announced. [Please note that the date for this guided walk has been moved from September 22 to September 29, to accommodate the Governor's busy schedule].

Wednesday October 3, 2018 SHS Annual General Meeting & Elections, 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speakers: Trevor Parkins-Sciberras and David Reigate – "*Tales of Toronto Transit*" Join local transit enthusiasts Trevor Parkins-Sciberras and David Reigate for an enjoyable and interesting presentation on the history of Toronto transit. In addition to an extensive collection of photographs of transit vehicles past and present, Trevor has also created an amazing display of scale models of TTC vehicles using Lego. *Please note that this is a change from the speaker originally announced for October 3.*

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 swanseahistoricalsociety@gmail.com, and the Society's mobile telephone number is 647-859-3901. Your comments and suggestions are always most welcome.

We are pleased to report that our website www.swanseahistoricalsociety.ca 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 – www.swanseatownhall.ca. And, we invite you to follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).



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, 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

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