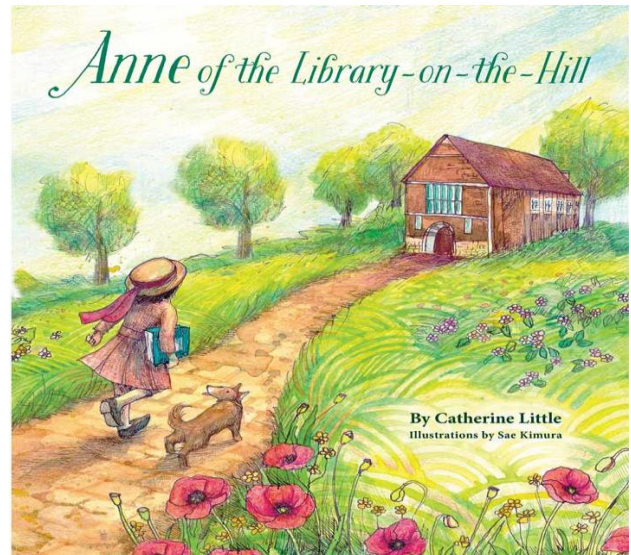


SWANSEANEWS

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



Wednesday, Oct 2, 2024, 7:30 pm

Rousseau Room - Swansea Town Hall

SPEAKER: Catherine Little

Lucy Maud Montgomery: Beyond Anne of Green Gables and PEI

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

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President's Message: by Bob Roden, President

Since October 2023, we have been holding “hybrid” monthly Swansea Historical Society meetings, using the “Zoom” on-line conferencing tool, which gives participants a choice of attending in-person at the Swansea Town Hall, or connecting on-line using Zoom. We believe this hybrid format should be good for everyone, including those who are comfortable now with in-person meetings and those who prefer to participate from a distance.

Please pass the information in this Newsletter on to anyone you think might be interested.



Future Events



Annual Governor Simcoe Walking Tour, 9:30 am and 1:00 pm, Sat. Sept. 28,

2024: As in past years, this FREE guided walking tour will retrace a portion of Simcoe's 1793 expedition up the Toronto Carrying Place portage route. As in past years, Part 1 of the tour will start at 9:30 am at the Rousseau plaque (8 South Kingsway, beside the Petro Canada station), heading north, mainly along Riverside Drive, and finishing near Bloor Street. After a break for lunch on Bloor Street, Part 2 will start at 1:00 pm at the Alex Ling Fountain (north-west corner of Bloor and Jane Streets), and then head farther north, mainly following residential streets a short distance east of the Humber River. Participants are free to join or leave the walk at any point along the route.

Please note: Registration for this walk is not required, but we are suggesting that those planning to participate register through Eventbrite, only if it's convenient, so that we can get an idea of how many people to expect. Registration can be completed through the following links:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/lieutenant-governor-simcoe-walk-2024-morning-session-tickets-1013305783877?aff=oddtcreator>

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/lieutenant-governor-simcoe-walk-2024-afternoon-session-tickets-1013303456917?aff=oddtcreator>



Monthly SHS meeting, Wed. Oct 2 2024, 7:30 pm: Speaker: Catherine Little – *Lucy Maud Montgomery: Beyond Anne of Green Gables and PEI*. Although best known for her children’s novels and her connection to Prince Edward Island, Lucy Maud Montgomery also wrote poetry, short stories, and two novels for adults. One of these, *The Blue Castle*, was inspired by her love for the Muskoka region. LMM spent much of her adult life in Ontario, and wrote half of her novels while living in Leaskdale. She often visited Toronto and made her final home in Swansea. This presentation will touch upon these aspects of this beloved author’s life and feature two books published by Plumleaf Press to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of LMM’s birth - a

reprint of *The Blue Castle* and also *Anne of the Library-on-the-Hill*, a beautiful picture book for all ages inspired by a visit LMM made to Toronto in 1921.

Catherine is an educator, consultant, and writer, with a love of children's picture books. She especially enjoys reading her stories to families and has shared her work at schools, libraries, and special venues such as the Ontario Science Centre, Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Royal Ontario Museum. She wrote *Anne of the Library-on-the-Hill* after learning that Lucy Maud Montgomery once stayed at a house in her neighbourhood. Copies of *Anne of the Library-on-the-Hill* (published in August 2024) will be available for purchase at the SHS meeting.

The October meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format so that participants can attend in-person at the Swansea Town Hall or connect on-line using the Zoom tool. Zoom links will be provided closer to the meeting date. The Zoom connection will be open by 7:15 pm on October 2, and the evening's programme will start at 7:30 pm with a brief Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Elections. We request that members be on time, so that we can achieve a quorum for the AGM. We will move on to Catherine Little's presentation about 8:00 pm.



Monthly SHS meeting, Wed. Oct 2 2024, 7:30 pm: Speaker: Ken Stark – “Grenadier Pond”. November's SHS meeting will feature a presentation covering Grenadier Pond's geological formation during the last ice age, through how the Pond has evolved with settlement and urban development. Once primarily a source of food, the Pond now provides visitors an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, including many recreational pursuits. As the jewel of High Park, Grenadier Pond supports a variety of flora and fauna, some of which is unique to the region. As with any body of water, there is an element of risk to its users. A summary of the unfortunate accidents and tragedies of the last 100+years will be discussed. Also to be shared are a few interesting stories from the past involving Grenadier Pond as a central character.

Our speaker, Ken Stark, is a long-time Swansea resident who lives close to Grenadier Pond. He regularly visits the pond, enjoying its beauty and as a place of respite in the middle of the city. From childhood memories as a visitor to Toronto in the 1960's through to the present, Ken has participated in various activities on and around the Pond. He is a member of the Swansea Historical Society Executive.

The November meeting will also be conducted in a hybrid format so that participants can attend in-person at the Swansea Town Hall or connect on-line using the Zoom tool. Zoom links will be provided closer to the meeting date. The Zoom connection will be open by 7:15 pm on November 6. If possible, we suggest that on-line participants start tuning in as soon as the link is open, so that we can be ready to kick off the meeting at 7:30 pm



HMCS Swansea “Cap Tallies”: The frigate HMCA Swansea, named after our former village and supported by Swansea residents, served in the Royal Canadian Navy during World War 2. It had the distinction of sinking more enemy submarines than any other Canadian warship. Long-time SHS member Steven Green has graciously donated a box of Cap Tallies from HMCS Swansea to our

Society. Cap Tallies are the silk ribbons, embossed with the ship's name, which sailors wore on their caps as a means of identification. As a fund-raiser for the Society, and while quantities last, we are offering these ribbons for sale for \$10.00 each. We expect these will appeal to collectors of Swansea memorabilia and military memorabilia.



Your SHS Executive: As noted above, our Annual General Meeting and Elections are scheduled for October 2. If your Society is to continue functioning, we need more volunteers. Please let us know (preferably before October 2) if you would like to explore ways that you could become more involved in the operation of your Society, or if you can think of someone we might approach. The future of our Society is in

your hands. We need to hear from you!!



Financial Notes: As we enter our 2024-2025 financial year, our Treasurer, Wendy Board, has reported that our finances are healthy, and our application for the annual Heritage Organizations Development Grant (HODG: historically \$1,545 per year) has been submitted to the Province of Ontario.

We are pleased to remind you that the Swansea Historical Society can now accept payments electronically. E-transfers directed to swanseahistoricalsociety@gmail.com will result in a direct deposit to the SHS bank account at Scotiabank. This e-transfer approach can be used to pay membership fees, purchase publications, make donations to the Society, etc. (As a registered charity, the Society can provide tax receipts for donations). We invite you to give it a try. To assist our Treasurer with her accounting, if you are sending money by e-transfer, please use the “message” area to identify the purpose of your payment.



Website Page of the Month

This month's page is Bloor West Village: swanseahistoricalsociety.ca/swansea-history/bloor-west-village



The Odeon Theatre on Bloor west of Jane was showing a Mickey Rooney movie in 1953. Via Swansea Historical Society



Historical Photo of the Month

The Runnymede theatre opened in 1927. Now a Shoppers Drug Mart, the theatre was built in the 1920s for both stage performances and movies.





Swansea Historical Society Contact Information

During the pandemic, we have been doing our best to respond to all requests, although our answers may be delayed somewhat because of renovation work at the Town Hall is now complicating access to our Archives. In the meantime, we invite you to continue following our activities through the Society's website www.swanseahistoricalsociety.ca and the website of the Swansea Town Hall www.swanseatownhall.ca . You can also follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Swansea_History or Instagram at www.instagram.com/swansea_history .

If you wish to contact us, the Society's mobile telephone number is 647-859-3901, and you can send e-mails to: swanseahistoricalsociety@gmail.com or swancnews@gmail.com or through the SHS website. Our mailing address is 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto ON M6S 3H9. However, for urgent items, we suggest that you use email or telephone where possible, since we have only occasional access to our mailbox at the Town Hall. Your comments and suggestions are always most welcome, and please let us know of any developments that may be of interest to the Society and its members.



2025 Swansea Community Calendars

Following on the success of the 2024 Swansea Community Calendar, we intend to start work soon on a 2025 calendar, which we expect will again be priced at \$10.00. At this point, we would be pleased to accept orders for 2025 calendars, and also indications of interest (not necessarily a commitment to purchase), so that we can decide how many to get printed.



Membership

As of September 1, 2024 we are in a new membership year which extends to August 31, 2025. Some of you have already paid your membership for 2024-2025, and we thank you. If you have not yet paid your membership fees for 2024-2025, we invite you to do so at your earliest convenience. Fees can be paid at any SHS events, or payments can be sent to: 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto, M6S 3H9, or fees can be paid electronically by means of e-transfer to: swanseahistoricalsociety@gmail.com . As requested above, in order to assist our Treasurer, please use the "message" area to indicate whether your e-transfer payment is for a single membership, family membership, and/or donation, etc.

For many years, the annual membership fees have been held at \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family. In view of rising costs, your Executive has been considering the option of increasing the fees and bringing them more in line with other organizations in the area. This could be brought before the membership for consideration at the October AGM. In the meantime, we encourage you to renew your membership now, while the current fee structure is still in place.

Your fees help to offset many of the costs incurred by the Society in its ongoing operations. If you are reading this and you are not already a member of the Swansea Historical Society, please join us so that you can be added to our mailing list and help support this worthy cause.



SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**2024/2025 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