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Celebrating little known or forgotten stories of our history



World War I Statue of Sergeant Gander
awarded the Dickins Medal of Honor
Often labeled the "Victoria Cross" for animals

Newsletter from The Jeanie Johnston Educational Foundation

Sergeant Gander: age quod agis
The Irish Settlement at St Mary of Ely
Achill Cloud

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Note from the Chair



Leo Delaney

While we have left the World Wars, there are still stories that must be told and what more interesting than that from the animal kingdom. The story, of Pal a Newfoundland dog, became one of the most celebrated. Born in Gander Newfoundland named Pal, he became the Mascot of the Royal Rifles of Canada.

The GeoHistory Map method of teaching is launching its latest version June 1st 2019. For those of you who have studied the first version you are in for a surprise. The advances made in the system are extraordinary and so helpful to teachers and students, it is like a new day in education



Statue at WW1 Memorial, Gander, Nfld.
Gander's name is inscribed on the list of war dead

Sergeant Gander: *ag od agis*

By Sam Allison B.Sc.(LSE) M.A (McGill)

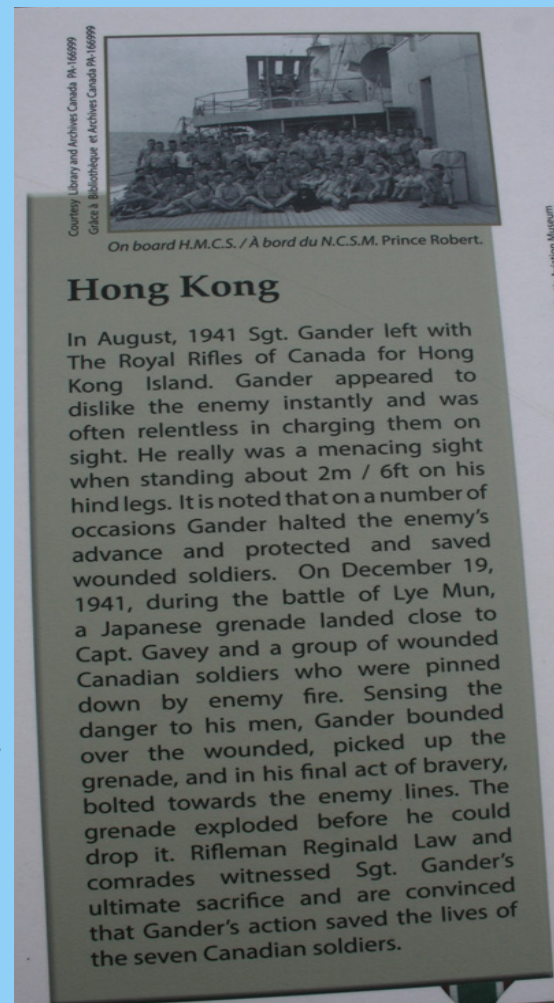
During World War II, Canada began manufacturing bombers in Montreal and flew them to Gander, Newfoundland (at that time a Crown Colony and not a province in Canada) for their final flight to Britain. Gander Airport became a major staging arena and sent over 10,000 bombers, including the legendary Lancaster, during the course of the War.

At the air base, a large Newfoundland dog, named Pal, used to pull sledges and carts to load the planes. His owner had a family and the dog accidentally scratched one of the children's faces. So, the dog was donated to The Royal Rifles of Canada, a regiment of the Canadian Army stationed at the airport. The dog was a great favourite of the troops and became the regimental mascot. He was nicknamed and promoted to become "Sergeant Gander" leading the regiment in parades and marches.

In October 1941, Sergeant Gander accompanied his regiment when it was transferred to Hong Kong to help bolster the Colony's defenses in case of Japanese aggression.

The Japanese began their assault of Hong Kong by air on December 8, the day after the attack on Pearl Harbor, and intensified their attacks by air and land until surrender was achieved on Christmas Day. Sergeant Gander took part in several of the battles against the Japanese on at least three separate occasions. Apparently, he terrified the enemy because of his formidable size and ability to use the undergrowth for cover. He stood 6 feet tall on his hind legs.

Excerpt from display at Gander Airport Museum, Nfld.

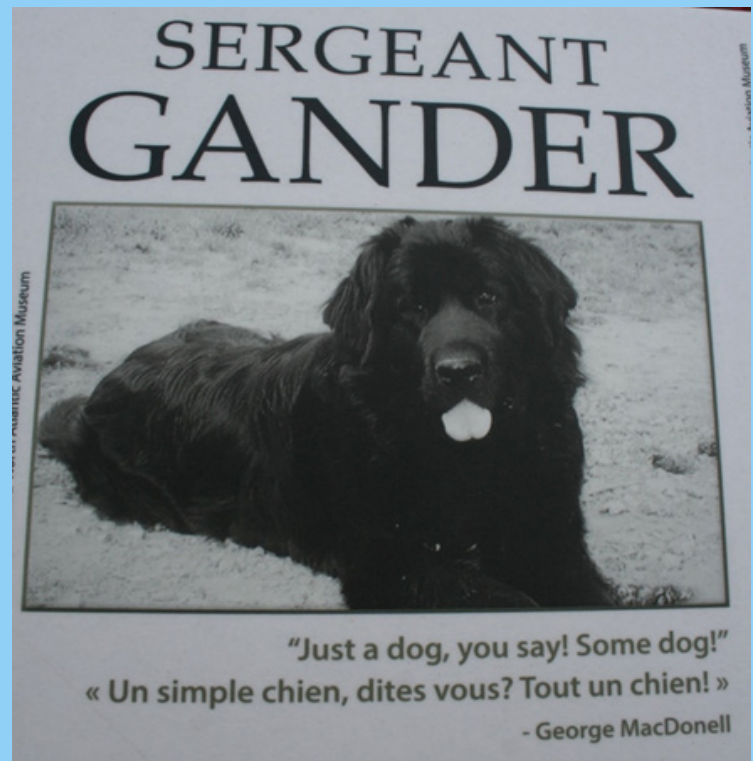


During his third and final skirmish, he picked up a hand grenade, thrown by a Japanese soldier, and rushed with it towards the enemy. Sadly, it exploded and he was killed, but he did save several Canadian soldiers by his action. Clearly, by his actions in his own way, Sergeant Pal epitomized the Latin motto of: "Do well whatever you do".

In recognition of his loyalty and respecting the wishes of those Canadian veterans, on October 27, 2000, Pal was awarded the Dickin Medal for bravery. This award is often labelled the "Victoria Cross" for animals.



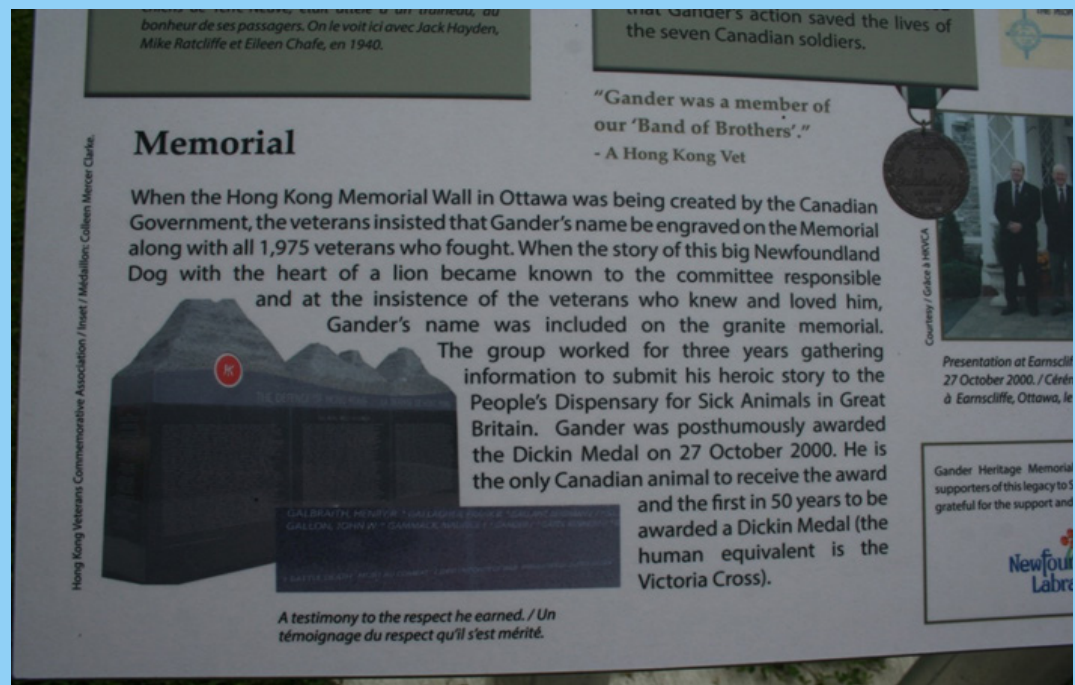
For all visitors to ponder and contemplate heroism and loyalty, Sergeant Gander's name is inscribed on the Hong Kong Veterans Memorial Wall in Ottawa along with all of his fallen comrades. Further, he is also commemorated by two statues in Gander Heritage Memorial Park and in St. John's Newfoundland.



Excerpt from display at Gander Airport Museum, Nfld.



Gander with the Royal Rifles of Canada



Excerpt from display at Gander Airport Museum, Nfld.

The Irish Settlement at St Mary of Ely (Maricourt), Quebec

By Glen Patrick Carlin - March 2019

North Ely Township is located in the Eastern Townships, 120 km east of Montreal and 16 km west of the St Francis River. The first settlers arrived to this township in 1832 from Glencullen, County Mayo, Ireland. Denis Carolan and his wife Catharine Malardy, along with their three sons Michael Carolan (Ellen Honorah Burns); Patrick Carolan (Bridget Gaughan); John Carolan and some 13 grandchildren and other relatives travelled 250 km from the west of Ireland to Dublin, the nearest seaport. They left aboard the infamous sailing ship the Carricks on April 14, 1832. After 51 days at sea, they reached the quarantine station at Grosse Isle in the St Lawrence River on June 3rd, 1832. All passengers were quarantined for 10 days; afterwards the Carricks was allowed to dock at the port of Quebec. Capt. Park of the Astrea sailing ship arrived yesterday, he spoke of the Carricks, [commandeered by Captain James Hudson, ship came from Dublin, at Grosse Ile, on Saturday. The Carricks lost 42 passengers, her carpenter and one boy, on the passage, from some unknown disease. The remainder of the passengers and crew are now in good health.”³



British garrison's 1832 cannon at Grosse Isle - enforcing ship stoppage at quarantine station

The notice below was published by the Quebec City Board of Health on June 8, 1832 in local newspapers as follows: “Dr. Motrin, the Commissioner of Health, and Mr. Young, the Secretary of the Board returned last night from the quarantine station. “Various reports having circulated that a vessel had arrived at Grosse Isle in which there were several persons ill of the Asiatic cholera, public notice is hereby given, that the Health Commissioner, having

proceeded to Grosse Isle by order of the Board, had reported that the brig Carricks, James Hudson, Master, from Dublin, arrived at the Quarantine station on the 3rd instant; that there were on board, at the time of her arrival, one hundred and thirty-three passengers, all of whom have been landed, and are in the Emigrant shed; that the vessel is undergoing the usual processes of disinfection; and that at the time of his departure on the evening of the 7th instant, there was not a case of Asiatic cholera on the island.” “By the order of the Board, T.A. Young, Secretary.”

The next day on June 9, six persons died of Cholera in Quebec City. The Cholera epidemic spread to Montreal and went on to claim 9000 lives in 1832.

Of the 133 passengers that were landed in the port of Quebec City on June 13, 20 % were of the Carolan family.



Cholera in Quebec 1832 by Joseph Légaré (National Gallery of Canada)

Mary (Carlin) who was treated at the Grosse Ile quarantine hospital, went on to marry James Johnson from Castlebar, County Mayo, Ireland. They settled in Castlebar, Quebec and were the godparents of Francis Johnson Sr.³ who fathered Francis Daniel Johnson, Premier of Quebec (June 1966 – September 1968).

Castlebar, QC is situated in Tingwick Township about 50 km east of St Mary of Ely, was founded by natives of Castlebar, County Mayo, Ireland.

¹ Website The Ships List – arrivals 1832 Port of Quebec harbourmaster's report

² St Patrick Parish records 1882.



The Carricks

In 1832 the Carricks had been consigned to the J. Leather & Co. that sent goods from Lower Canada to the British Isles and on the return trip, took on Irish immigrants from the port of Dublin, including the Carolan family, as ballast.

The Carricks had two masts and a single wooden deck supported by wooden beams (Lloyd's register of ships) and the hull was sheathed with copper.

Fifteen years later the Carricks renamed the Carricks of Whitehaven left the port of Sligo in 1847. In heavy seas she broke up and sank off the coast of Cap des Rosiers on the Gaspé Peninsula, killing 119 of its 187 passengers. A monument was erected in 1890 by Montreal's St Patrick's parish, honouring the deceased. An Irish flag flies at the monument site all year round. The bell from the ship washed ashore in 1966 and became part of the monument.



The peak of the immigrant wave in 1832 occurred during the week ending June 9 when 10,000 immigrants (mostly Irish) arrive in the month of June. The Carolans

were part of this peak wave and this was the week before cholera broke out. The population of Quebec City before the wave was only about 27,000 so a major problem of housing immigrants ensued and a tented camp for 500 persons was opened on the Plains of Abraham using tents lent by the army. The Quebec City Board of Health., opened the camp on June 15, 1832 (2 days after the Carolans were landed in Quebec City) and used it to house those named by the Quebec Emigrant Society³.



Celtic Cross – McMahon St., Quebec City - “a gift from Ireland to the people of Quebec in memory of their generosity and compassion during the period of the Great Irish Migration of the 19th century”⁴

These brave Irish families had very little but their great faith and courage to cut through dense forests to build their home and convert forest into farmland. The Carolans built their homestead along Ely Road (Range 3) in North Ely Township (Eastern Townships) and were probably granted crown land with ownership of the land conditional on developing and living on the property for no less than 3 years. The Carolans went on to occupy their allotted land for 166 years (1832 to 1998). Nephew John Carolan and his cousin James Jr. Coleman later settled in Castlebar, QC, prior to 1841.

Denis Carolan went on to found one of the pioneer families of Irish origin in the Eastern Townships of Quebec. The Carolans, like many other immigrants, were illiterate, making their integration into Lower Canada all the more difficult. The patriarch Denis Carolan changed the family name in 1841 to Carlin a simpler name and easier to remember.

³ First Epidemic of Asiatic cholera in Lower Canada: 1832 by Geoffrey Bilson: Medical History - 1977.

⁴ Irish Heritage Quebec website



Carolan homestead (1832-1998) on Ely Road (3rd Range) at St Mary of Ely, QC

A small village named "North Ely" eventually took root in North Ely Township, over time the hamlet took on the name of St Mary of Ely. A Catholic church, "St Mary of Ely", was consencrated in 1889 and the following Irish families signed the benediction registry; Carlin, Cleary, Dearden, Duddy, Hayes, Healy, Kelly, McAudy, Morrissey, Murphy, Reynolds, Riattigan, Ruddy, Shea, Sullivan. The village was renamed Maricourt, in 1961.

Glen Carlin is a Director of the Jeanie Johnston Foundation.

A member of St. Patrick's Society

Achill Cloud

By Breffeeney Harris, Ireland

*I look up
Colours changing have
Clouds with Pink and Blue
Shapes of Cheetahs
Dragons too
Then transform
I look up in awe*

*I try to capture this
Skyscape
and in its clouds
Where I escape
To paint a shade of
what I see
Transforming right
In front of me
I look up in awe*

*And then the day
Turns into night
Clouds reappear
Dance in the moonlight
And through the gaps
I see the stars
Venus Blue
Flickering Red Mars
And know that I
am part of them
I look up in awe*



MONTREAL - It is with great sadness that Wrestling Canada Lutte announces the passing of Daniel Robin.

Daniel, a resident of Montreal, was a long-standing contributor to WCL and was inducted into the Wrestling Canada Lutte Hall of Fame in 2007 in the builder category.

He coached Team Canada at the 1980 and 1984 Olympic Games, and the 1977, 1978, 1979, 1981, 1982, and 1983 World Championships. He also coached prominent Canadian wrestlers including Doug Yeats, Howard Stupp, Louis Santerre, Jeff Steubing and Garry Kallos.

Daniel is the only wrestler to earn two silver medals at the same Olympics after capturing silver, representing France, in both freestyle and Greco-

Roman wrestling in 1968. He moved to Montreal after working as an announcer at the 1976 Games.

Following his retirement, Daniel worked with FILA and United World Wrestling (UWW) as a technical delegate. He served in various capacities over the years representing UWW. In recent years, Daniel provided instrumental technical support at the 2012 & 2016 Olympic Games, 2015 Pan Am Games and most recently the 2018 Commonwealth Games. Daniel was also inducted into the United World Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2012, for his various achievements.

"Daniel was a kind, honest, and passionate man and an important part of the wrestling community, here in Canada and globally," said Don Ryan, P resident of WCL. "His contributions to the sport were significant and he will be greatly missed. We offer our deepest sympathies and condolences to his family and friends during this time.

Honorary Patrons

His Excellency Jim Kelly
Irish Ambassador to Canada

Hon. Jean Charest
Former Premier of Quebec

Hon. Daniel Johnson,
Former Premier of Quebec.

Hon. Pierre Marc Johnson
Former Premier of Quebec

Richard Pound, CC, OQ, QC, LLD
Chancellor Emeritus
McGill University

Chief, Christine Zachary-Deom
Mohawk Council, Kahnawake

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The Jeanie Johnston Educational Foundation

Please note that with all the revisions and changes we have made - updating our web sites on to new templates in 2018 introducing and endorsing the geohistorymap.com method of teaching, now also endorsed by Noel Burke Chair Lester B. Pearson School Board and The Montreal English Schools Board plus E Learn Networks of Canada and many others including French School Boards, as the system is bilingual.

We have associated ourselves with "The Gift of Knowledge" to streamline donations which we shall receive through the PayPal payment system. We welcome donations of any denomination from \$20 and up to contribute to our dedication towards improving the status of education for students. A Federal Tax Receipt is issued for all donations.

"May your giving hand never fail you."

<https://www.jeaniejohnstonfoundation.com/en/donatetojjefoundation/>

We have now commenced working with museums across Canada, both military and private, which will improve the traffic between students and museums.

We provide the museums with a free section of the GeoHistory Map system, which they can up-grade as they require.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



and the MacDonald Stewart Foundation