

# The County's history through its buildings

by Joan MacInnes

Since Baddeck began to grow and expand into what would become a bustling lakeside village, it has always had and maintained numerous churches throughout the past one hundred and sixty years.

The first church to be erected was a Presbyterian church which was located on Baddeck Bay Road and was known as Knox and also referred to as the "Auld Kirk". It was built in 1841 with a second church erected on the same site in 1857. The next church to be established in Baddeck was St. Michael's Catholic church which was built on the main street of the Village (Chebucto Street) in 1858. The original building was destroyed by the "big fire" of 1926, however, within a couple of years, a new St. Michael's was constructed on the same spot.

At the time of Ambrose F. Church's map of 1886 (circa), there were five churches located within the boundary of the village limits. The following churches were identified on the insert map of Baddeck: Union Church, located on Campbell Street, St. Peter's Anglican Church on the Shore Road, Greenwood



Former Methodist Church - Baddeck

Presbyterian Church on Twining Street, the Congregational Church on Chebucto Street, and St. Michael's Catholic Church also situated on Chebucto Street.

The church shown in the picture was a Methodist church. It was located on the southern side of the street which is now called Old Margaree Road opposite the

former Judge Barclay Tremaine dwelling. Following the church union vote of 1925, the Methodist congregation would have become part of the newly formed United Church of Canada and therefore this building would no longer be used as a place of worship.

There are unknown questions as to the establishment of this church, for instance, when was it built and also, what eventually became of the structure? Was it torn down, or was it moved to another site for another purpose? Following preliminary research, I am unable to come up with the answers. I now appeal to the readers to offer their assistance. If anyone has any information on the former Methodist church it would be greatly appreciated.

Architecturally, the church was built in the Neo-Classical style. It was one storey with a very steep gable roof. There was a square tower on the eastern side of the structure with a slender spire. This tower housed the church bell along with the main doorway to the sanctuary. The windows were pointed arch and were multi-paned. The church had been built on a mortared stone foundation.

## The Book Nook - April is Poetry Month

by Kate Oland

April is Poetry Month, which means that I am experiencing my annual bout of "poetry fever". It is a fairly rare disease (most people are quite resistant to it), but I was infected by poetry as a young kid and it obviously weakened my defenses.

The symptoms of poetry fever include speaking in short bursts of rhyme for no apparent reason, trying to describe things like your cat or the sunrise in original ways, and repeating juicy lines of poetry to spouses or friends who don't know what the heck you're talking about.

The only way to cope with poetry fever is to feed it (you know - "starve a cold, feed a fever"). So in April, Baddeck Library will be offering help for those with poetry fever by hosting four Saturdays of rhyme, silliness, drama, puppets, song, games and crafts for children 5-12 and their families. We'll be playing with poems, chewing on choice words, experimenting with expression, and generally having fun.

The first session, on April 2, will have happened by the time Book Nook is in print. In case you missed it, it was called "April Foolishness", and it featured poems about sneezles and smirching, puddle muddles and grundiboobs, and other utter silliness.

On Saturday, April 9 at 10 a.m., it's "Poems Make Me Hungry" - a feast which includes a king's breakfast, some icky pizza, an "eggs rated" rhyme, dog food, garbage delight, and other delicious drollery.

On Saturday, April 16 at 10 a.m., we'll have some "Pettrifying Poetry". We'll meet werewolves, enter a deserted house, encounter a deadly eye, get eaten by a boa

constrictor, & find out about the Wendigo.

On Saturday, April 30 at 10 a.m., it's "Dreams and Delights" - poems about lazy mornings, the sweetness of spring, the sound of silence, swings, and solitude.

All four sessions are designed for maximum exposure to poetry (the only cure for poetry fever), and will be entertaining and interactive.

There will be absolutely no poetry analysis, dissection, or critique (for any of you who might be poetry-phobic) - just fun. If you'd like to participate, please call the library at 295-2055. Sessions are free, and you can register for any or all of the Saturdays.

If you are a Facebook user, you can stay up-to-date with library programs and

services by "Liking" the Cape Breton Regional Library's Facebook page. It's a great way to find out about free events for people of all ages. Happy Poetry Month, everyone!

Kate Oland, Baddeck Branch/Victoria County Bookmobile - 295-2055

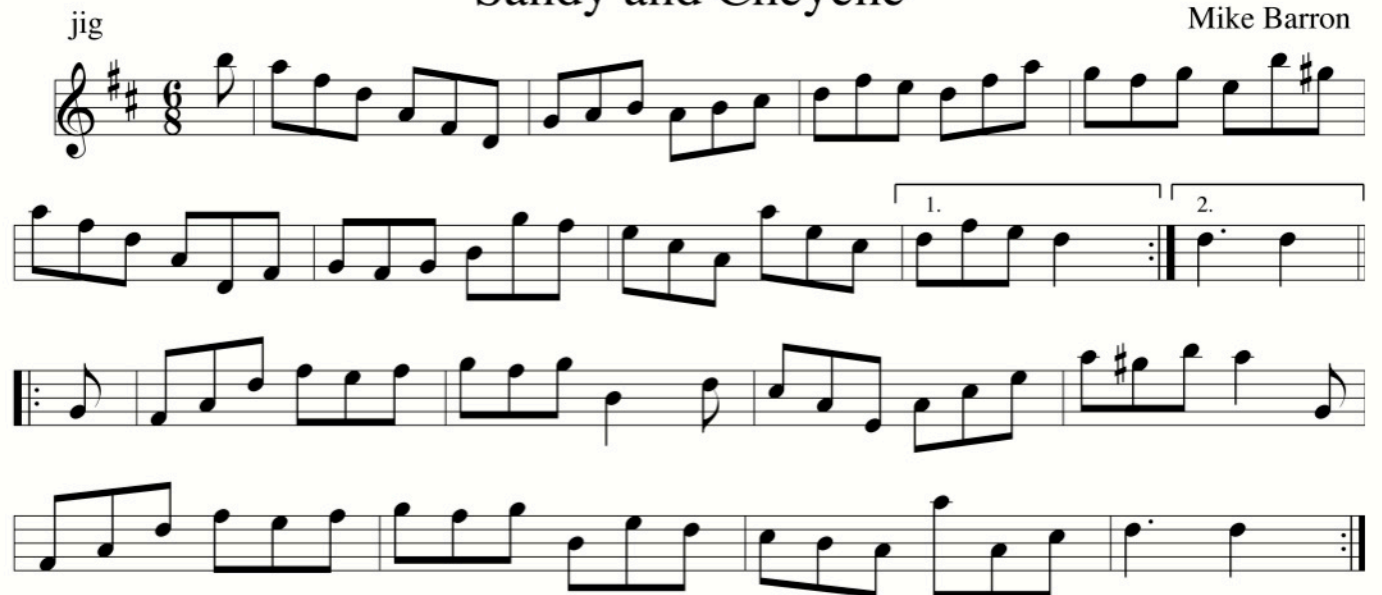
Leona Stockley, Victoria North Regional Branch (Ingonish) - 285-2544

### FIDDLER'S CORNER by Paul S. Cranford.

If you have a tune you would like to share with other Cape Breton fiddlers or a musical event that could be promoted in this column contact The Victoria Standard or Cranford Publications ([www.cranfordpub.com](http://www.cranfordpub.com)). Email [psc@cranfordpub.com](mailto:psc@cranfordpub.com)

#### Sandy and Cheyene

Mike Barron



Last week marked the eleventh anniversary of the Rollie's Wharf Thursday night traditional music sessions in North Sydney. One of the regular participants is fiddler **Mike Barron**. Last year Mike, his wife Beth, and their two dogs, Sandy and Cheyenne, moved to Sydney from Port Morien. Mike works an irregular schedule on a North Sea Oil rig. When he's home, he tries to practice regularly with Sydney pianist **Adam Young** - an exercise he hopes will lead to a recording.

## Victoria County's Residential Curbside Organics Collection



Residents can now put organic material such as vegetable peelings, table scraps, meat, fish, poultry, dairy, bones and soiled paper in transparent green bags to be collected weekly along with recyclables and garbage. Special transparent green bags for compost are now available in grocery & hardware stores in Victoria County.

For more information on Recycling or Composting Programs, call Cape Breton's **Recycling Hotline at 1-877-567-1337** or see "Recycling" in the Aliant Yellow Pages

