



FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE - CARIBOO GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 19 ISSUE 2

NAM SING CATTLE DRIVE

Fall/Winter 2019



“PRESERVE, PROTECT, PROMOTE”

**“THESE OLD BUILDINGS DO NOT BELONG TO US ONLY; THAT
THEY HAVE BELONGED TO OUR FOREFATHERS, AND THEY
WILL BELONG TO OUR DESCENDANTS,”**

William Morris



FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE-CARIBOO GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

PRESIDENT: Hildur Sinclair

VICE PRESIDENT: Grant Johannesen

SECRETARY: Doug Perdue

TREASURER: Tony McDonald

OTHER DIRECTORS:

Robin Grady

Lana Fox

Richard Wright

Cameron Graham

DIRECTORS MEETINGS:

Directors meetings are dinner meetings and usually held the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm at Ulysses Restaurant unless otherwise noted. We do hold two of the meetings June and September at Barkerville in the new school house building on site. Members and or the Public can attend these meetings if they like but, cannot vote unless it is at the AGM meeting itself. You can however express your input of suggestions or ideas which is welcomed.

NEWSLETTER CREDITS:

The contributor is the editor unless otherwise noted. All persons with submission of articles and photos will be given full credit. Please feel free to send in your items of interest which further helps the newsletter to continue.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Friends of Barkerville – Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society mailing address is P.O. Box 4152, Quesnel, BC, V2J 3J2. Our email address is: friendsofbarkerville@barkerville.ca and website is www.friendsofbarkerville.ca

Watch for notifications posted for newsletters, and upcoming announcements of hikes and work bees or special events happening at Barkerville. They can always use an extra few hands during these times. We are always in need of volunteers. Any help is very much appreciated!



POSITIONS: are good for a one year term at which time there will be another election of officers at the AGM meeting in October.

COMMITTEE POSITIONS: membership, special projects, trails, cemetery projects, newsletter, website.

MEMBERSHIP is from May 1st and ends April 30th of the following year. A season's pass is included with the membership and entitles the bearer to visit Barkerville as often as they wish.

WHO WE ARE: We are a registered non-profit organization comprised of dedicated volunteers. Our main focus is to enhance preservation, protection and promotion as it applies to Barkerville and the Historic Cariboo Goldfields area.

***MEMBERSHIP Contact:** Lana Fox

***NEWSLETTER ITEMS:** Direct submission of articles to Lana Fox, email address as shown below.

The photo on the front cover was taken along Reduction Road of the NAM SING CATTLE DRIVE, that was held September 8th 2019. This re-enactment honoured the contribution of Nam Sing who came to British Columbia from China in 1858. He ran a pack train between Quesnel and Barkerville. The wagon train accompanied by many riders on horseback arrived at Barkerville after the noon hour and paraded down main street.

- Photo by Lana Fox

Photo Courtesy of BC Archives, G-03059



Nam Sing and three of his children, two daughters and a son, ca. 1895,
possibly at Quesnel or Barkerville

Nam Sing a Chinese miner, reached Quesnel around 1859 according to Louis Lebourdais. After the peak of the Cariboo Gold Rush in 1865, he turned to vegetable gardening and ranching for a living. In 1880 he married Sue Cook who came from China by boat and travelled to Quesnel by stagecoach. They raised thirteen children.

By 1885 his farm had produced large volumes of oats, barley and potatoes. He raised cattle and pigs on his ranch. From there he operated freight teams hauling his own produce to Barkerville where he had stores. When the children were old enough, they helped to transport produce to Barkerville and other areas. Two of their sons, Kong and Him, were excellent horsemen and ranked with the best freighters on the Cariboo Road.

Nam Sing died in 1910 without a will. According to the document kept in Quesnel Archives his estate was finally settled in July 1938.

Source: *Sojourners in the North* by Lily Chow, published 1996.

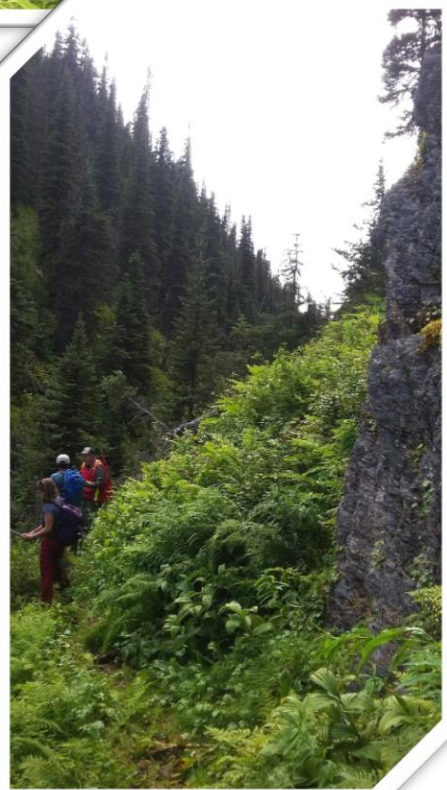
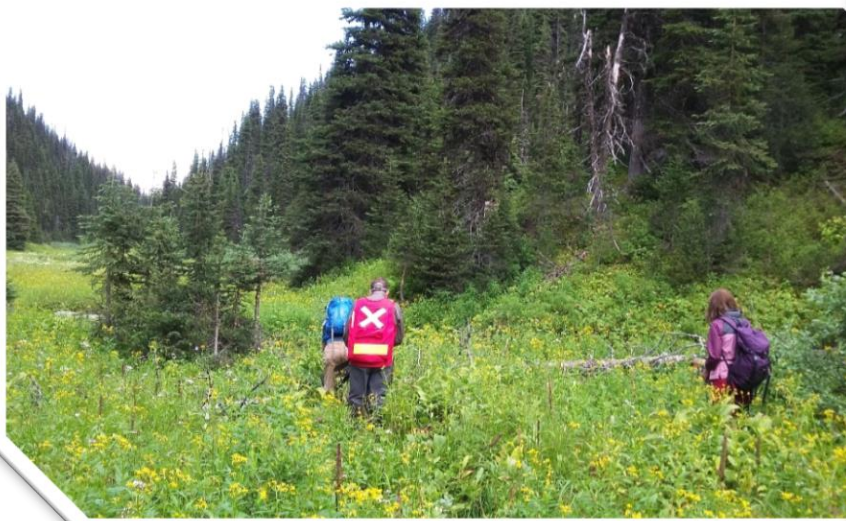
THE CLEARING OF THE GROUSE CREEK TRAIL, July, Aug., 2019



Pictured from left to right are Grant Johannesen, Robin Grady and Andrew Glitherow

Don't remember the day but must have been one of those rare ones that wasn't raining. Four of us, Robin Grady, Tony McDonald, Grant Johannesen. and Andrew Glitherow, armed with power saw, machete, axe and clippers drove to Rhubarb Cabin to start the work. We cut several blow down along the ditch and left some larger ones to tackle on the way home not

knowing we would leave the saw at the half way site so we would not need to carry it when we returned to do the other half. The blow down was not too large for the smaller saw except for some in the creek area which took a little more cutting but were all cut and removed. The team worked good as the power sawyer only needs to cut the down trees and move on, two hand crew members removed the cut material and machete man limbed branches that were



near the trail. We returned several weeks later as we waited for a nice day which we finally got. The same crew except for Hildur Sinclair and her dog "Bernie" replaced Andrew. We drove through from Barkerville on the old Cariboo Hudson road to Grouse Creek. From the end of drivable road, we clipped and macheted the trail to the point where the saw was cached and after a lunch, we sawed our way back to the vehicles. The trail should be very

easy to follow except where it is in a couple of meadows where the grass and flowers are knee deep.



Hildur, Robin, Tony
and "Bernie" the
dog.

All photo credits to Grant
Johannesen



Centre photo
is Tony



Left photo is
Robin &
Hildur

The Grouse Creek trail is recommended for those who are travelling from South to North and encounter poor weather heading to Bald Mtn. This route is close to the same distance to Barkerville from Racetrack Flats (12km) and has much less elevation to overcome. Care must be taken on the Cariboo Hudson road as there has been several logging roads which now cross.

This trail was in use in the 1860s when the Gold Rush left Antler Creek and the miners moved northwards in search of Gold, the ones that went this way founded Grouse City and nearby Grouse Town. Horse races at Racetrack Flats would pull miners from all the Gold Rush towns in the area which helped to ensure these trails were well used and still visible today.

-submitted by Robin Grady



If you love the outdoors and love the rich history in our area, you will enjoy hiking some of our trails. However, upkeep of these trails requires constant maintenance to keep them free of blowdown and brush. If you think you would be interested in helping, we would love to hear from you. The more the merrier!

FLORENCE WILSON

1823 – 1902

London, Barkerville & California

A NIECE VISITS BARKERVILLE IN
SEPTEMBER OF 2019 TO SEE FOR HERSELF
THE TOWN WHERE HER 4TH GREAT AUNT
SPENT A PART OF HER LIFE BACK IN THE
1860's.



This is a close-up of Florence Wilson who was identified from an early photo of the Cariboo Amateur Dramatic Association outside the Theatre Royal at Barkerville. ca. 1871 or 72



The following article is written by Judith Booth coming from Australia and who was guest speaker at the premier of *Enigma: The Florence Wilson Story*. <https://vimeo.com/362438320>



Fig. 8. Cariboo Amateur Dramatic Association Outside the Theatre Royal. Dated 1872, but it may have been taken in 1871, during the Dominion Day celebrations. Only a few figures have been identified: J. S. Thompson (3rd from left), John Bowron (5th from left), J. Z. Hough (5th from right), Frank Perrett (3rd from right), Gomar Johns (right). Seated: Mrs. S. P. Parker (left) and Florence Wilson (right). Provincial Archives Photo.

BC Archives Photo, C-09558

Guest Speaker

Theatre Royal, Barkerville, Autumn 11/9/19 7pm

I'm Judith Booth from Sydney, Australia and Florence is my 4 times great Aunt. Her mother Margaret Harries is my 5 times great grandmother. It is quite a thrill for me to be standing here this evening in the theatre that my Aunt co-founded. It is also a great honour to be invited to be the guest speaker for the premiere of the documentary about Florence:

Enigma: The Florence Wilson Story. Four years ago, I did not really know of Florence's

existence, let alone Barkeville's. I was working on a book about her illegitimate half brother, a convict architect, transported to Australia who had a harrowing story.



I felt impelled to drop everything and started the more joyful task of putting together Florence's chronology working collaboratively with a team of people including Richard Wright & Amy Newman, Danette Boucher, Lana Fox, Konstantin Vasilyev, Marie Elliott, Peter Johnson and more recently, Lewis Davenport. It is quite amazing to me to see how much information has come to light since then. I have just spent 4 years on it. Richard & Amy on the other hand have been researching her backstory for more than 20 years. It seems Florence left an indelible imprint on Barkerville which is not surprising given that a saloon, a theatre and a blacksmith (Florence married the local blacksmith) appear to form the backbone of a gold rush community.

From the time I saw a photo that Richard sent me of my great Aunt sitting outside the Theatre Royal with her acting troupe, I have felt a strong pull towards Barkerville. My first reaction was "wow, wow WOW!" They just looked like they were having a great time despite the dusty surrounds, rubble and permafrost. Again, when I saw a map of the town (***The Traveller's Site Guide to Barkerville Historic Town***) sent to me by Mandy, I just loved the orderly row of log cabins on stilts.

You are probably familiar with the tv series called *Who do you think you are?* There is an Australian version, a British version, an American version and I believe, a Canadian version. In Australia, at least a couple of the celebrities have mentioned a sense of familiarity when they are taken back to ancestral towns and homes. It is possible that memory is also in the DNA. We are only still in the very early stages of understanding epigenetics which includes memory of trauma, stress, food choices etc. so why not memory of landscape?

How did Richard and I connect? Our paths intersected when my mother from her nursing home bed, instructed me to go and find out about Florence Wilson. The only thing she knew at that time was that she had gone to the US. It was quite a surprise to find out she had gone to Canada but then later, we found out she did end up in the US after all, after the gold ran out.

I quickly discovered that there are thousands of Florence Wilsons out there. 'Florence' was a particularly common name in Victorian times meaning abundance as was 'Wilson' which is almost as common as 'Smith'. After a few weeks' searching, digging deeper and deeper into Google, I found Richard's blog titled "***In search of Florence Wilson***". It didn't seem possible that it could be the same Florence Wilson but the clincher was that her mother Margaret Harries was my 5 times great grandmother and Richard had taken some beautiful photos of her grave scattered under a tree in St Pancras, London, artfully arranged by none other than

Thomas Hardy, the novelist who was an architect at the time. That was the first major synchronicity.

Another synchronicity includes the affinity I have with her on so many levels – an interest in literature/drama/writing. My first degree is in literature. I have been a drama teacher and my first job was as a Librarian and I too worked as a governess for a Duke in Florence, Italy mirroring Florence's experience of being a governess for the imperial family in Russia? The last bit is still under investigation.

As soon as I turned 18, I was off like a shot travelling the world without any money. I felt validated knowing that an ancestor of mine had done something similar. I don't feel so harebrained. I got here by small plane whereas Florence got here on a week long stage coach journey from Victoria. I didn't have to travel across the sea in an unseaworthy vessel where there were 3 mutinies and passengers like Whympers, an early Canadian artist had to take over the manual work on the ship. I followed well worn tracks. Florence, by comparison, jumped off a cliff.

Until I saw the photo of Florence & her acting troupe, I had imagined her to be just another pioneer, nothing much out of the ordinary. Every step of the way, I have been finding out she was anything but ordinary. Each new discovery has been met with that feeling again of "Wow, wow WOW!" Like the shipwreck off Sweden and writing for Dickens and her mother being a playwright and her brother also being a Theatre Director.

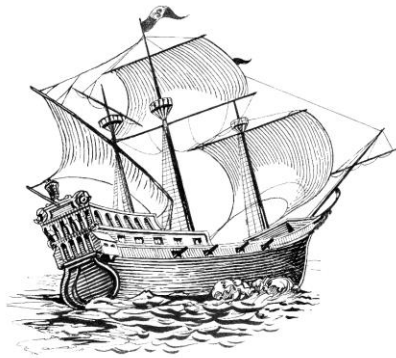
Our starting point was what happened to Florence after she dropped out of sight after 1875 after the gold ran out. Together Richard and I and many others have since filled out more missing bits of her life before she came to British Columbia and just this year, we had multiple breakthroughs and finally found out what happened to her. There are still a few details tantalizingly out of reach.

With Richard & Amy there has been a great deal of easy cooperation and sharing of information. In all, I am in awe of their dedication and perseverance in making this documentary. It's a great gift to me in particular and Mum and Florence upstairs as well. Although I hasten to add I don't think this is just a family story. This story is a bigger story than our family story and has resonances I am sure for other people as well, not just in Barkerville in particular her stoicism in the face of great adversity. As stated in a reference from an employer in London before she came to British Columbia:

I have known Miss Florence Wilson ever since she was a child and can give unqualified testimony not only to her respectability but to the patience and fortitude with which she has borne misfortunes which fall to the lot of few persons and to the industry and perseverance with which she has endeavoured to overcome them.

Industry and perseverance of course were qualities she shared with other miners. There were many Victorian women who travelled and who were entrepreneurs and made a name for themselves in the goldfields but their stories remain largely untold. Florence's extraordinary backstory story which has now come to light is worthy of being told to a wider audience.

When Whympers set off an expedition to help map the unexplored interior of Vancouver Island, he found himself among some of the most highly educated, versatile and well-travelled young men of the Empire (Johnson 2018 p62). What of their female counterparts who were considerably fewer in number? They rarely get a mention.



Peter Johnson in *Voyages of Hope: the saga of the bride-ships* (2002) writes:

Her [Florence's] legacy is one of a self-made woman who was warm, capable and energetic, and who broke the barriers of her class, the expectations of her forefathers and the wishes of those who wanted to place her in compliant domesticity as she stepped off the boat.

This is someone I can very much relate to but thankfully I never had to undergo her ordeals. Never in my wildest dreams would I have imagined that I would end up here today after Mum told me to go and find out about Florence Wilson. Nor could I have ever imagined my search for Florence Wilson would result in a documentary. It has been a transformative journey for me personally. I was able to pass on many of our discoveries to my mother before she passed two years ago. Thank you to Richard and Amy and thank you to *Friends of Barkerville - Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society* and all those involved for making this unique tribute to Florence possible. It touches my heart deeply; it's healing and I feel very privileged to be part of this project.

Dr. Judith Booth

FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE held their AGM at the Quesnel Library, November 6, 2019. All election of officers was voted in by acclamation, (see inside cover). The number of directors in total is eight. We always have room for one or two more!

Membership for 2019 is 702. This is down slightly from last years total of 726. Thank you for your continued support!



2019 Barkerville Heritage Trust Report

- by Grant Johannesen, Vice President, FOB-CGHS



Another busy and productive year in Barkerville goes into the history books. The Barkerville Heritage Trust (BHT) meets face to face quarterly and the Executive conducts conference calls every 2 weeks. The January 19-20 meeting was held in Prince George at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, the April 27-28 meeting was in 100 Mile House at the Conference Centre, the AGM and Theatre Royal Gala Event was held in Barkerville June 15-16, and the Sept.21-22 meeting was held in Barkerville. Local dignitaries and guests were invited to luncheons in Prince George and 100 Mile House where Ed Coleman conducted power point presentations, speaking about active operations, plans for the future, ongoing and proposed projects.

The Theatre Royal's spring Phoenix tour was promoted as a fund raiser for Cariboo and northern communities impacted by wildfires over the last 2 years. The Deputy Consul General attended the June AGM, Theatre Royal Gala event and dim sum along with MLA, Coralee Oakes, Mayors, Councillors, and CRD representatives from Cariboo and northern communities. Positive words of encouragement and support for Barkerville town and park were appreciated and applauded. BHT Chair, Kirsten Clausen welcomed everyone to Barkerville, the AGM and Theatre Royal Gala event. She gave recognition to four BHT Directors that stepped down. Rhonda Hunter from Victoria, was replaced by Roger Solly of Williams Lake, Williams Lake Mayor, Walt Cobb, replaced by Craig Smith of Williams Lake, Gary Champagne of Wells, replaced by Wells Mayor, Gabe Fourchalk and Jacqueline Holler from UNBC, is replaced by Glenn Thielmann of SD #57 Prince George.

The BHT executive consists of Kirsten Clausen - Chair, Miriam Schilling - Vice Chair, Chris Hyde - Treasurer, Grant Johannesen - Secretary. The remaining Board members are Les Waldie, John Massier, Rob Rummel, Chris Lodder, Richard Liu, and Kirk Gable. Iona Campagnolo is the Honourary Patron.

Ongoing maintenance of the heritage buildings includes painting of buildings, roof repairs, floor repair and replacement and electrical upgrades. The Chee Kung Tong - Chinese Masonic Building display was ready for the summer season this year. The first phase of the Wild Fire Fuel Treatment project has been completed with trees felled, branches pruned, and understory brush removed and chipped, with a road cleared as a fire break, to be used as an Indigenous interpretive trail. The Atco trailer camp adjacent to Forest Rose campsite provided much needed accommodation for Barkerville staff, Merchant's staff and Interpreters. 26 people in total. Through winter and shoulder seasons West Fraser Mills Ltd may rent the trailers for contractors. The Indigenous Cultural Centre has architectural plans in place, designed by Alfred Wah. This project continues with a referral and consultation process with local First Nations Bands. The Winthrop Adit, interpretive mine project, has

identified a tunnel to be used, located between Barkerville and Richfield, investigated and approved for use by mining adit experts.

The recently approved branding and advertising has resulted in standardized advertising and labelling. New billboards have gone up along Hwy 97. Winter – Gold Rush Meets Adrenaline Rush, Summer – You’ll Need A Few Days to Explore. We’ve Needed Over 160 Years, and Year-Round – A Prospector’s Life Was No Holiday Until Now. The multimedia project has been finalized and is being released for online use by the public and educational institutions.

Bill Kelly, a third generation Barkervillian donated the Kelly Transport Truck, now on display in front of Eldorado store, he donated \$20,000.00 towards the playground to be built in front of the cottages, and he donated money for the lease of an 8 seat shuttle van to be used to transport people to and from campsites and Barkerville. There is no smoking or vaping permitted on site. The use of marijuana is allowed in the campsites but not near washrooms or playgrounds.

Cottonwood House was closed this year as it undergoes changes/upgrades to Infrastructure. The Contractor for the site remained until October. Cottonwood House will be open to the public in 2020 with Barkerville staff running the site with help from summer student hires. The Barkerville admission rates at the gate for individuals, couples, and families increased slightly, but Friends of Barkerville – Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society (FOB-CGHS) memberships remained the same.

At the September BHT meeting in Barkerville, an awards event for staff and BBQ was held for local area residents from Wells, Bowron, Troll, and Cottonwood. Activities season is contributing to making Barkerville a year-round destination. There are events and activities planned year-round, including a Halloween weekend (giving new meaning to Ghost town), Victorian Christmas, Easter egg hunt, quilting workshops, murder mystery games, Dominion Day, Victoria Day and many others. Check the website www.barkerville.ca for upcoming events in Barkerville.

The big news is that Ed Coleman, CEO of Barkerville, has announced his plan to retire June 21, 2020. His position has been posted and his replacement is expected to be named sometime early in the new year. He will mentor the successful person from approximately April until June 21, 2020. Dawn Leroy, General Manager of Barkerville, has given her notice of resignation for March 1st, 2020. There will be other staff shuffling in 2020.

The solid Management team of Jillian Merrick and Carrie Chard along with Leads and dedicated Barkerville employees continues to move Barkerville town and park forward in a positive direction.

Improved and increased accommodations in Barkerville and work on acquiring more in Wells is beneficial to staff, Merchants, and Contracted interpreters.

Attendance this year was 58,916. This was good but a wet summer and downturn in the Forest Industry may have affected the overall seasonal attendance.

I continue to represent the FOB-CGHS as a BHT director, as the BHT secretary, and take this role seriously and appreciate the privilege of the position. I look forward to an interesting and exciting new year as we undergo significant change.

NEWS RELEASES FROM BARKERVILLE HISTORIC TOWN

October 8, 2019, Barkerville CEO Ed Coleman set to retire June 21, 2020.

The Barkerville Heritage Trust announced today that Ed Coleman, Chief Executive Officer of Barkerville Historic Town & Park and Cottonwood House Historic Site, will retire from his position on June 21, 2020. Mr. Coleman will continue to manage all functions at Barkerville and Cottonwood House until that time. "We have been extremely fortunate to have had Ed Coleman as our CEO," said Kirstin Clausen, Chair of the Barkerville Heritage Trust. "Under his leadership Barkerville Historic Town & Park has grown in attendance... and new initiatives, such as the winter activity season, have improved our sustainability." "Ed's focus on both the heritage presentation and preservation of Barkerville and Cottonwood, coupled with his savvy business acumen has resulted in a tremendous legacy of partnerships that our team is excited to continue working with," she added. The Barkerville Heritage Trust will immediately begin a robust search for a new CEO. The successful candidate will join the BHT's management team ahead of Mr. Coleman's departure, to ensure a smooth and successful transition of duties. All inquiries into the Barkerville Heritage Trust's search for a new Chief Executive Officer should be directed to current CEO Ed Coleman, at ed.coleman@barkerville.ca, or 1-888-994-3332, ext. 23.



Above Photo - Barkerville Historic Town & Park

Left Photo by Lana Fox



November 5, 2019, Barkerville Historic Town & Park's Theatre Royal Transitioning to New Operators.

Newman & Wright Theatre Company, the partnership of Richard Wright and Amy Newman, announced today that they are concluding their sixteen-year run as the principle operators of the Theatre Royal in Barkerville Historic Town & Park, effective November 2, 2019. The Theatre Royal will continue to provide professional historical theatre entertainment in Barkerville in the 2020 season under a new principle operator. "The legacy of the Newman & Wright Theatre Company is unique and treasured," said Barkerville CEO, Ed Coleman.

“Richard and Amy have made immense contributions to the history and development of Barkerville as an historical site and a World-class tourism and entertainment destination.”

“We are leaving Barkerville with optimism for the future, to pursue our lifelong goals and to allow the Theatre Royal to move forward with a new vision and fresh enthusiasm,” said Richard Wright.

Far from retirement, Richard and Amy will continue their creative pursuits through historical theatre workshops, a touring jazz trio (Satin & Swing) and their ongoing historical film series, ***The Bonepicker Project***. They have also begun a three-year partnership with New Pathways to Gold Society to locate, remediate and build trails and interpretive signs along the Cariboo Waggon Road from Yale to Barkerville. This holiday season, you can catch Amy in the Lower Mainland with her cappella caroling quartet, The Christmas Revelers. The Barkerville Heritage Trust is currently conducting an internal selection process to establish a new principle operator for the Theatre Royal in Barkerville and is committed to providing the same high level of professional theatre presentation to Barkerville’s visitors in 2020. The result of the selection process will be announced upon its conclusion. All inquiries into the Barkerville Heritage Trust’s search for a new Theatre Royal operator should be directed to CEO Ed Coleman, at ed.coleman@barkerville.ca, or 1-888-994-3332, ext. 23. All inquiries into the future plans of Newman & Wright Theatre Company should be directed to Richard Wright, at rtwright@goldrushbc.com or 250-851-8540.

November 21, 2019, Barkerville’s archives help bridge shared Chinese and Canadian histories.

Unique Chinese and Canadian histories are being shared across the world thanks to a recent project partnership between Guangxi Normal University Press in China, and Barkerville Historic Town & Park’s archives in British Columbia. Thousands of Barkerville’s gold rush-era Chinese language archival materials will soon be published by the Chinese national publication house in a series of volumes entitled the “Barkerville Archives Collection,” for both Chinese and



English language audiences. Dr. Mark Yan Wong and Anna Kelly – two researchers, freelance editors living in China, received approval from Guangxi Normal University Press to undertake the project, starting in the summer of 2019.

Since then, they have worked with Barkerville's curator, Mandy Kilsby, and Chief Executive Officer, Ed Coleman, to administer the project, which is well underway. This is the first exchange of its kind between Barkerville Historic Town & Park and a Chinese academic publication house. The project hopes to bring an oft-forgotten piece of history to a Chinese audience eager to reclaim knowledge of its past - especially China's many international migrations and cross-cultural histories - and specifically the history of Chinese/Canadian relations. Every effort is being taken to ensure the project's success, and to raise awareness of the significant contributions British Columbia's early Chinese settlers made to the formation of local histories, and to the development of Canada itself. Pictured left to right Ed Coleman, Mandy Kilsby, Anna Kelly and Dr. Mark Yan Wong.

photo by Barkerville Historic Town & Park

FROM THE PRESIDENT.....Hildur Sinclair



For 2019 the Friends of Barkerville - Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society were able to complete the Stanley Cemetery project, and work was done on some of the historic trails around Barkerville.

Our application for charitable status has been completed and we are just waiting government approval. The Friends play an integral role in helping Barkerville maintain the history of the local area, it's trails and its cemeteries. It's an honour to be part of this society.



**WISHING EVERYONE ALL THE BEST IN
THE COMING NEW YEAR AND
SEE YOU IN 2020!
LOOKING FOR A GREAT STOCKING
STUFFER, BUY YOUR 2020
MEMBERSHIP / SEASON'S PASS
DURING VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS.**