



Y Bwletin

Gwasg y Nant – Valley Press Mis Awst 2007 – August 2007

Llywydd - President

Lezlie Wood Email: ldwood7@sympatico.ca
205-1465 Baseline Road Ottawa ONK2C 3L9 Phone: (613) 225-8845

Golygydd – Editor

Glenson T. Jones Email: ottawawelshsociety@rogers.com
51 McIntosh Place Kanata ON K2L 2N7 Phone: (613) 592-8957

Website: <http://www.ottawawelshsociety.com/>

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Digwyddiadau - Events for 2007

Film Night	Friday Sept 14
Faggots & Peas Dinner + Noson Lawen	Saturday Nov 3
Carol Service	Sunday Dec 16
OW Choral Society Spring Concert	Friday Feb 29
St. David's Day Dinner/Dance	Saturday Mar 1
Gymanfa Ganu	Sunday Mar 2

OWS Executive

The OWS Executive for 2007-8 will be

Lezlie Wood – President	Robert Price - Secretary
Alison Lawson – Treasurer	John Price – Director
Robin Williams – Membership	Dale Jones – Director
Glenson Jones – Editor	

Film Night 7:30 pm Friday Sept 14

The Land of Your Fathers - 53 minutes

Dylan Thomas Welsh Wordscapes - 62 minutes

These two films will be shown at Alison's house but because of limited space you'll have to reserve a seat by calling Glen at 613 592-8957 or emailing to ottawawelshsociety@rogers.com

"The Land of Your Fathers" is a pictorial journey through Wales starting from the Severn Bridges, Tintern Abbey & the Wye valley in the South-East through Cardiff, the Rhondda valley and the Brecon Beacons. From there to Strata Florida and Lake Fyrnwy and then to the Menai Straits, past the mountains of Snowdonia, Caernafon and Porthmadog to Machynlleth & Aberystwyth. Onward south past Cardigan Bay to Pembrokeshire & St. David's then to Laugharne and finally to Swansea.

In "Dylan Thomas Welsh Wordscapes" we have eight of Dylan Thomas' poems being read by Peter Read against a backdrop of 300 images of Dylan Thomas' Wales. The poems include "An ugly, lovely town", "The Bombastic

Youth", "First Love and the Artist", "Love and marriage in Wales", "War and a sort of peace", "The far end of Wales", "Over Sir John's Hill" and "Prologue to Death".

President's Message

Croeso, welcome and greetings to all.

We have several events planned for the fall and winter.

There will be a Film Night on Friday, September 14, at the home of Alison Lawson.

Our Annual Faggots & Peas Dinner and Nosen Lawen will be held on Saturday, November 3 at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The Carol Service will be held on Sunday, December 16, again at Westminster.

St. David's Day Dinner/Dance will take place on March 1, 2008.

We are holding our annual Gymanfa Ganu on March 2, 2008 at Westminster.

For further details, see later in the Newsletter. Please share these events with your friends and neighbours.

Lezlie Wood, President

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CALLING ALL TALENT!!

If you have an act yourself, or a talented child (as I know many of you DO)

please volunteer to perform at the Noson Lawen on Saturday November 3rd

Call Wendy Wynne-Jones at 613 733-6066, or email at W.Wynne-jones@sympatico.ca

Tell her what you can do, and let's build another great evening of entertainment together!

CALLING ALL LOVERS OF 'CYD ADRODD' OR GROUP RECITATION

We are hoping to form a group to recite at the Noson Lawen being held as part of the Faggots and Peas evening in November. We will be reciting one Welsh and one English

poem. We will rehearse on Monday, October 1st., 15th and 22nd. at 449 Mansfield Avenue and at the church on Saturday morning, Nov 3rd.

If you are interested in joining this group, please contact
Alison Lawson, 613-725-2704 or e-mail at
alisonlawson@sympatico.ca

Faggots & Peas Noson Lawen, Saturday November 3rd

Westminster Presbyterian Church 470 Roosevelt Avenue.

Doors open at 6:30 pm with dinner at 7:00 pm. Cost is \$12.00 per adult and \$5.00 for children. Cash bar available.

Reserve meal by calling John at 613 724-3846, or email at
john.price@sympatico.ca

Christmas Carol Service

Sunday December 16 at 7 pm
Westminster Presbyterian Church
470 Roosevelt Avenue

(Everyone is invited to bring something to share with their tea or coffee after the service.)

Advance Notice for Annual Banquet and Dance

Please put the date of Saturday March 1 in your calendar for the Annual Banquet and Dance in honour of our Patron Saint, David, or Dewi Sant, as he is known in Welsh. There will be further information and forms for ordering tickets in the January Bwletin.

News News News

Is your news here?

Have you had any successes of which other members might be interested?

Have you had any new grandchildren?

Do you want to contribute any information, rumour or joke to Y Bwletin?

If so, PLEASE send it to the Editor, Glenison Jones.

WELSH CHOIR INVITES SUGGESTIONS

This September the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society will enter its fortieth season, and plans are underway for a spring concert to be given on Friday, February 29, 2008. To help design the concert program, we are inviting the members of the Ottawa Welsh Society to suggest song titles that they would like to hear the choir perform. While all suggestions are most welcome, our focus will be on songs of Welsh composition or tradition, to be sung in Welsh or English. Selections made will depend on factors like availability, arrangements, etc. Please put on your thinking caps and help make our 40th anniversary concert a special one!

Send your suggestions as soon as possible to any member of the choir, or to the choir president:

Jackie Huston, 297 Duncairn Avenue, Ottawa, ON
K1Z 7H1 Tel:613 722-8261
Email: jmhuston@rogers.com

President's Report for year May 2006 - April 2007

Croeso cynnes iawn i chi gyd. A very warm welcome to you all.

The Ottawa Welsh Society has had another good year and I would like to thank the members of your Executive Committee for all they have done to make this success possible. Diolch yn fawr – thank you very much to all those not on the Executive who gave of here time and talent to help make this past year successful.

The 2006 Pot Luck Supper/AGM was attended by members. The food was great and, as usual, we had a lot left over.

Our family picnic this year was cancelled because of lack of interest.

The Faggots, Peas and Noson Lawen evening in November was very successful and attracted 103 people. As usual, our master chief, John Griffiths, supplied and cooked the faggots and sausages. Catrin and Nigel Morris prepared the potatoes and mushy peas. The pies, drinks and bar were organized by members of the committee who also did the table setup and serving.

Following the delicious meal Wendy Wynne-Jones coordinated the Noson Lawen which had many very interesting participants.

Our annual service of Lessons and Carols had over 80 attendees. Alan Thomas, our organist and the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society with their director, Marilyn Jenkins did a splendid job of setting the atmosphere. The soloist was John Griffiths.

The Children's Christmas Party was not held this year.

Our annual St David's Day Banquet was well attended. The Early Bird Special for tickets meant more people bought their tickets earlier than usual. Our guest speaker was Rev. Deian Evans from Dewi Sant (St. David's) United Church in Toronto

The Gymanfa Ganu was directed by Marilyn Jenkins. She led us and the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society in an inspiring afternoon of singing. Alan Thomas was in good form on the organ. Thanks also to Reverend Clifford Evans and to our soloist John Griffiths.

Generally speaking, we have been trying to tailor events to the ages and interests of our members. We have also tried to streamline the administration of the events to reduce the load on individuals. We appointed a different person to chair each event. The goals and major features of each event were decided by the whole executive but the designated chair person then made the detailed arrangements. This worked exceptionally well & brought new energy to the events.

Our Society is also lucky to have the talented voices of the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society at a number of our events and it was also a pleasure to hear them in their own concerts; the Christmas Concert and the spring Concert in April.

These events did not happen by themselves, nor can I take the credit. Most of the work was done by members of your executive and other interested members who willingly participated. And, if there are others of you who'd like to contribute, either in a small or a large way (e.g., stuffing envelopes about every two months), please let me know.

On your behalf, I would like to thank all of the members who served on the Executive Committee this past year. They worked hard with the planning & implementation of our events.

Finally, I would like to thank each of you who have come here this evening. Without your interest and participation we wouldn't HAVE a Society.

Diolch yn fawr iawn i bawb.

Lezlie Wood President – Presented to the A.G.M.

Welsh Rugby

If you are a fan of Welsh Rugby, you might want to note the following dates.

Wales vs Canada Sept 9 in Cardiff

Wales vs Australia Sept 15 in Cardiff

Wales vs Japan Sept 20 in Cardiff

Wales vs Fiji Sept 29 in Nantes

These can be seen on the Setanta Sports Channel.

See also the website of the Eastern Ontario Rugby Union at www.eorruugby.com.

Welsh Websites

<http://prints-of-wales.com/> Paintings - Mumbles & Gower coast

<http://www.ontrackdistribution.co.uk/> Welsh gifts & souvenirs

<http://www.cadwyngifts.com> Cadwyn: Welsh Love Spoons

<http://www.popethyngymraeg.com> Welsh products and gifts

<http://www.llwyngwrl-gallery.co.uk/>

www.encyclopaediaofwales.com Encyclopaedia of Wales

<http://www.ninnau.com/> Ninnau North American Newspaper (English)

www.cambriamagazine.com Cambria Magazine

Books from Wales

There are many books written (in both English and Welsh) in Wales and about Wales and you can order these through the Internet. See

Welsh Books Council at www.gwales.com and

Y Lloffa at www.ylloffa.com

(to see the most recent in English, click on the Alcemi symbol at the top of the page.)

An example is "Salvage" by Gee Williams

A short break in a shoreline cottage is an ideal place to struggle with your demons. For Elly and Martin it is the chance to forget their hasty exit from Paradise following scandal. But Elly makes a life-changing find on the tide-line. It is a huge pink diamond ring, finger bones still attached. Scroll back a few months and at Martin's place of work - a Chester hospital - we meet new nurse Hayley. Twenty-five; gorgeous (even by her own admission); she is a player, and totally turned off by the ward surgeon, Richard Congreve.

Until, that is, she catches a whiff of something expensive in his Jag and is ensnared by a gift so desirable it may prove fatal. As we begin to question who the ring and its finger belong to, the cottage collects the secrets of those friends and strangers who have stayed there. Why has Elly such power over them all? Ranging between Wales, the north of England and Goa, this is a novel about possession, betrayal, violence - and just how much we can afford to lose. ISBN: 9780955527203

Library of English and Welsh Language Books

Glenson Jones has now indexed his extensive library of Welsh interest books. He has over 300 in English and over 750 in the Welsh language.

These can be borrowed on a limited basis by members in the Ottawa area. These include a number of childrens' and learner level books but most are written for fluent readers.

He also has a large number of English and Welsh language videos and audio CDs, many downloaded from the Welsh language BBC and S4C websites.

For further information, call Glenson Jones at 613 592-8957 or email ottawawelshsociety@rogers.com

Local Welsh Interest Courses

The University of Ottawa is offering several courses which might be of interest to members of our Society.

This fall there is CLT 2130 early Celtic Literature (half of which concerns the Mabinogion).

In the January to April term, there will be usual the CLT1120 Welsh language and culture course. A new course will also be taught at that time CLT2150 Celtic Christianity.

For further information contact Dr. Paul W. Birt, Chaire d'Études celtiques, Université d'Ottawa, 70, rue aurier, (131) Ottawa, K1N 6N5 Ontario Tél. (613)562-5800(3767)

Internet breathes life into dying languages

Tue Jun 12, 2007 9:32AM EDT

By Amie Ferris-Rotman

HOLYHEAD, Wales, June 12 (Reuters Life!) - Endangered languages like Welsh, Navajo and Breton have regained speakers and popularity in their communities and are now even "cool" for kids -- thanks to the Internet.

Welsh language expert David Crystal said the Internet could forestall the dismal fate of about half of the world's 6,500 languages, which are doomed to extinction by the end of the 21st century at a rate of about two language deaths a month.

"The Internet offers endangered languages a chance to have a public voice in a way that would not have been possible before," said Crystal, who has written over 50 books on language including "The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language".

Languages at risk of extinction are appearing on blogs, instant messaging, chat rooms, video site www.youtube.com and social networking site www.myspace.com, and their presence in the virtual world carries favor with youngsters who speak them.

"It doesn't matter how much activism you engage in on behalf of a language if you don't attract the teenagers, the parents of the next generation of children," Crystal, who was raised speaking English and Welsh, told Reuters.

"And what turns teenagers on more than the Internet these days? If you can get a language out there, the youngsters are much more likely to think it's cool."

Online free Encyclopedia www.wikipedia.org, written and built by volunteers, has entries in dozens of endangered languages, from native American Cherokee to the Austronesian language Tetum, spoken by less than a million people in East Timor, to the Maori language of New Zealand.

Tens of Welsh chat rooms exist for its 600,000 speakers -- just over 20 percent of Wales -- where young people look for the best pubs in town, or hunt for potential dates.

Crystal said there are 50-60 languages in the world which have one last speaker, and around 2,000 have never been written.

"If these languages die, they are gone forever. This is a huge intellectual loss to humanity. The Internet is very important in this respect," he said.

Money is usually required to go virtual however, and this is problematic for African and indigenous South American languages, where resources are low and governments favor dominant languages Spanish, French and English.

Native American languages, especially Navajo, are fortunate to have many virtual communities on the Internet as most are funded by the lucrative casinos the Navajos run, Crystal said.

"To put it into perspective only two to four percent of the world's botanical and zoological species are in serious danger, whereas it's 50 percent of languages. The language crisis hasn't attracted the same degree of public awareness".

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Local News

Jill & Glen Jones are proud to announce the birth of their 12th grandchild. Kailisha Rose Paradine was born on June 27, 2007. The grandparents have been out to Victoria to visit (of course) and report that she is doing well although the parents complain that they are not getting enough sleep! (Why do we smile when we hear that!)

Translation of a portion of a **Poem by Gerallt Lloyd Owen**
(As quoted in "Pam Fi ETO, Dyw?" gan John Owen)

We were given a country to keep
A piece of land as evidence that we were determined to live.
And we were given a language
Although we didn't want her,
Because the thrill of her was in the earth already
And her uneasy power on the mountains.

Benefits of Retirement

And they ask why I like retirement....

Question: How many days in a week?

Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?

Answer: Three hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?

Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Question: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?

Answer: There is not enough time to get everything done.

Question: Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?

Answer: The term comes with a 15% percent discount

Question: Among retirees what is considered formal attire?

Answer: Tied shoes.

Question: Why do retirees count pennies?

Answer: They are the only ones who have the time.

Question: What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire? **Answer:** NUTS!

Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?

Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?

Answer: Normal.

Question: What is the best way to describe retirement?

Answer: The never ending Coffee Break.

Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?

Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.

Question: Why does a retiree often say he doesn't miss work, but misses the people he used to work with?

Answer: He is too polite to tell the whole truth.

>> Creative Opportunity <<

Remuneration: Satisfaction and new friends

Experience: Optional

Tasks such as: - Become a member of the executive, or
- Chair or assist at a function, or
- Stuff envelopes.

If you can assist, even in a small way, please contact our President, Lezlie Wood, at (613) 225-8845 or by email to ldwood7@sympatico.ca or by mail to 205 - 1465 Baseline Road Ottawa ON K2C 3L9