

Y Bwletin

Gwasg y Nant – Valley Press

Mis Mehefin 2002 - June 2002

Llywydd - President

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Cynnwys - Contents

Page 1 - Events, Officers, Picnic, "A Dylan Thomas Evening",
Local News, Proverbs, Book, Web TV, Participant's Viewpoint

Page 2 - President's Report

O.W.S. Events for 2002 - 2003

Annual Picnic Noon to 5 PM Sunday July 14

National GG - Harrisburg, PA August 29-Sept 1

Deadline for Y Bwletin Tuesday Sept 17

Exec Committee 7:30 pm Tuesday Sept 17

360 Radisson Aylmer PQ - Barbara Colton 771-0515

Cross Chaudiere Bridge, left on Upper Aylmer Road, then 2 Km.

Faggots & Peas - Noston Lawen Saturday Oct 19

Dylan Thomas Evening Saturday Nov 16

Children's Christmas party Saturday Dec ??

Christmas Carol Service Sunday Dec 15

St David's Day Banquet Saturday March 1

Ottawa Gymanfa Ganu Sunday March 2

Swyddogion - Officers 2002-3

The first meeting of the new Executive Committee was held on June 4, 2002 with 9 of the 12 committee members in attendance. In accordance with the Bylaws, the President was selected and the Treasurer and Secretary were confirmed.

President	Glenson T. Jones
Vice-President	Wendy Wynne-Jones
Treasurer	Dorothy Evans
Secretary	John S. Roberts
Membership	Barbara Colton
Social	Alison Lawson
Website	Rhian Evans

& Geraint Jones, Harry Corrin, Gail Philips, John Price, Rowly Jenkins.

Annual Picnic

Sunday July 14, 2002 - 12 noon to 5 pm

Andrew Haydon Park, Ottawa

Carling Avenue at Acres Road

Area C1 – Turn to the left after entering from Carling Avenue.

Same location as last year - LOOK FOR THE WELSH FLAG

Please contact Dorothy Evans by July 7 at 592-2427 to confirm your attendance and your choice of the following food.

Steaks \$ 8.00, Hamburgers \$ 2.00 or Hot Dogs \$ 1.00 . Potato salad and coleslaw will be provided. **All food has to be pre-ordered** so we can ensure that we have enough. Bring your own drinks, special food, lawn chairs, etc. Some soft drinks will be for sale.

BBQ will start shortly after 3:30 pm.

A Dylan Thomas Evening

Saturday Nov 16, 2002

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Dinner & Entertainment (\$ 25) featuring

Mary Muckle, harpist & the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society
Phone: John Griffiths 829-0106 or Shirley Stubbs 224-4537

Local News

Stan and Lyndell Hughes welcomed the arrival of their fourth grandchild, Rian Elsie, on October 30th! <An easy date to remember> Her Parents are Glenys Hughes and husband Chuck Dentelbeck.

Congratulations to Gwenda & Colin Raymond-Jones, grand parents of Evan David, a son for their daughter Kate and husband David.

Congratulations to Rowly Jenkins and Jayne Calvert who will be married at Bromley Road Baptist Church on July 13, 2002!

Llongyfarchiadau i (congratulations to) Derek Jeffreys who has been appointed Honorary President of Y Clwb Cymraeg.

Congratulations to Tiffany Kitzito who was the winner of the Ottawa Welsh Society Award in the Senior Vocal Competition of the Kiwanis Music Festival on May 17.

The harp's colour doesn't matter as long as the tune is good.

Growing up in Tonypany in the Rhondda

A book is available on early childhood memories of growing up in Tonypany before WW II. It is 84 pages including several photographs and a map and sells for £ 8 sterling + postage. If you are interested, call the President who will make a special order with the author, Dorothy O'Neil in Australia

WorldWideWales.tv are creating a unique audio-visual project for the Internet. Based in Ebbw Vale in the South Wales valleys, their aim is to educate and entertain audiences around the world about Wales, its history, culture, people and the scenic diversity of its beautiful land. Go to <http://www.worldwidewales.tv>

A Gymanfa Ganu from a Participant's Viewpoint

Laurie A. Jenkins

My very first recollection of an Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association Festival weekend is of our arrival late Friday afternoon to an image of Myfanwy Bajaj bustling around waving a piece of paper and attempting to organize a Noston Lawen. My two sisters, Pegi and Marilyn, were promptly roped into performing Webber's Pie Jesu

later in the evening. I remember seeing so many new faces, but all smiling and welcoming. Of course being under the wing of Myfanwy Davies certainly greased the rails - even the shyest person would be able to make one or two new contacts. She has been attending and, lately, organizing so many of these events that everyone knows her and responds to her.

My first Gymanfa was held in Niagara Falls in a hotel with a great view of the falls. On the Saturday morning, it was up and at it to attend the Annual General Meeting - many new faces again, many of them very concerned about the future of the organization. In the afternoon, we attended the Awr y Plant or Children's Hour which showcased the many talents of our offspring. This is an event that has been transformed over the years. In the evening we attended the banquet consisting of what we sometimes refer to as "rubber" chicken, that stuff that is often the result when a large group of people must be fed. (I understand the food has improved somewhat in recent years). Following the banquet was a concert filled with wonderful music and, if I'm not mistaken, led by Lyn Harry.

Each evening ended with a very informal community singing session around the piano - excellent practice for the Gymanfa sessions on Sunday.

Speaking of which, if you've never participated in much less attended a mass choral event, you will not understand the effect of the two hymn-singing sessions on the Sunday. It is a powerful experience, one that dredges up feelings from deep inside and sometimes deep in the past. There is a feeling of tremendous oneness that culminates always in the singing of "Till We Meet Again" while holding hands with friends new and old and knowing that next year, God willing, we will meet again.

President's Report for year May 2001 - May 2002

It is a delight to see you all here tonight.

Mae'n dda gen i eich gweld chi i gyd heno.

The purpose of our Society, according to our By-Laws, is four-fold:

- 1 to provide and promote means for social intercourse and fellowship among the members;
- 2 to maintain and strengthen the traditions and culture of the Welsh people;
- 3 to study and consider matters and questions of interest to Welsh people in Canada; and
- 4 to aid and counsel compatriots.

The purposes to aid & counsel compatriots is on an ad-hoc basis, as needs become apparent. To this end I will merely ask all of you to bring to our attention any way in which we might be able to assist.

For 3rd item of matters of interest to Welsh people in Canada, I have expanded our Newsletter to include items which you, the members, have submitted; items of fact & of fiction, items of history & of her-story. In addition to informing our members, the newsletter is sent by email to a number of Welsh institutions in Wales, Canada and the USA. With the assistance of Rhian Evans, we now have a Website. I know that at least 2 people joined our society this fall after seeing our Website.

As to the traditions and culture of the Welsh people, the Ottawa Welsh Society both sponsors and supports a number of Welsh cultural events and organizations. We have our own Faggots and

Peas night, Carol Service, St. David's day Dinner Dance and Gymanfa Ganu. We advertize and assist visiting choirs and, of course, our local Ottawa Welsh Choral Society. We were pleased to be able to assist the Haverfordwest Male Voice Choir who had concerts in Carp and Ottawa in early September.

As well, number of us are involved with Y Clwb Cymraeg which has a complementary four-fold purpose:

1. To bring Welsh learners and Welsh speakers together in a congenial atmosphere to practice speaking Welsh.
2. To provide information to learners about local courses in Welsh and courses in Wales and North America.
3. To give short practical lessons in Welsh for absolute beginners.
4. To hold talks of Welsh interest.

Following the lead of our fore-fathers, or at least, that of the previous Presidents, We have tried to organize activities to appeal to a wide spectrum of interest of our members. If there is any area you would like expanded or any new activity you think would be helpful to the Welsh Society, please let us know. I know that in the past there have been many different activities including Rugby games and car rallies. Is there any interest in such things at the moment? Well, its up to you to say.

We have had a good year. The executive had positive feedback relative to each of the functions which we organized. Attendance was low on the St. David's Day Dinner dance. This will be addressed at our next Executive meeting as we plan for the next year. Please get any suggestions to us as soon as possible.

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.

On your behalf, I would like to thank all of the members who served on the Executive Committee this past year. They contributed much to help the planning and implementation of our events.

In particular, I really have thank John Roberts and Dorothy Evans who participated in every event and at every level. Without their suggestions and help, the year would have been MUCH less interesting. I should also make special mention of the willing participation of Rev. Clifford Evans, Roy Morris, John Griffiths, Harry Corrin, and Marilyn Jenkins and the Choir, but there were at least 15 others who helped in various ways at our various functions. Thanks to each of you!

Our society is also lucky to have the talented voices of the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society at a number of our events and it is also a pleasure to hear them in their own concerts; the Christmas Concert & the Spring Festival. Thanks you so much.

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 chi i gyd.

Glenison Jones, President