



Y Bwletin

Gwasg y Nant – Valley Press Mis Medi 2003 – September 2003

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Digwyddiadau - Events for 2003-4

U of Ottawa – Welsh Film	Friday Oct 3
Highlights of National Eisteddfod 2000 - film	Tuesday Oct 21
Dylan Thomas Return Journey - Toronto	Thursday Oct 30
Faggots & Peas - Noson Lawen	Saturday Nov 15
Ottawa Welsh Choral Society Christmas Concert	Saturday Nov 29
Children's Christmas party	Saturday Dec 13
Christmas Carol Service	Sunday Dec 21
E-STEDDFOD 2004 Contest closes	February 15
St David's Day Banquet	Saturday TBA
Ottawa Gymanfa Ganu	Sunday TBA

NOTICE

The OWS is looking for donations of Welsh Hymn Books and Welsh Carol Books. If you have one or more copies you no longer need, we would be pleased to put them to use at our Gymanfa Ganu and other occasions.

Please bring them to our Noson Lawen on Nov 15 or contact Glenson Jones or Kim Power and we'll arrange to pick them up.

OWS Picnic

42 adults and 5 children enjoyed a beautiful afternoon at the home of Jayne and Rowly Jenkins in June. The swimming pool was well appreciated by young and old. John Griffiths brought the food and the desserts were donated by Dorothy Evans, Lee Griffiths, Christine Evans and Jayne Jenkins. The children enjoyed the treasure hunt organized by Dorothy Evans. John Griffiths and Roy Morris were our cooks. Thanks to all.

Local News

The Society offers all their support and best wishes for a speedy recovery to Don Mills. Don, a Past President, is home after spending some time in hospital.

Congratulations to Christine & Rev. Clifford Evans on their 50th Wedding Anniversary, which they celebrated with family and friends on August 24.

Congratulations to Colette Déry and Stuart Raymond-Jones, who were married on July 5, 2003.

Earlier in the year we received a note from Ethel Clark, now living in Cornwall. She stated that she had been ill and also that she had been quarantined because her building had been closed down after an outbreak of gastroenteritis. She said that she enjoyed the "Nant y Mynydd" poem (Jan 2003 Bwletin) and she offers her best wishes to the society.

Sheila & Ken Pepper reported that they had visited former members Roger Olwen and Philip Oswestry in May. Roger & Philip were looking forward to seeing other Society members at the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu in Richmond BC this past August.

Our condolences are offered to the family and friends of Dilys Thomas, a long time member of our Society, who died on Sept 18. Her funeral was attended by a number of members of the Society.

An umbrella was left at the Society picnic. Was it yours?

Cinema International – University of Ottawa

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures invites all the students and the general public to view a series of foreign films, presented in original version with English subtitles.

The films are presented every Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Lamoureux Hall, 145 Jean-Jacques Lussier, Room 122. Free admission.

Friday October 3 - Solomon and Gaynor (Solomon a Gaenor)

Film - Highlights of National Eisteddfod 2000 – Tuesday Oct 21

As another of our Cheap Day at the Movies activities, we will be screening "Eisteddfod Genedlathol Cymru – Uchafbwyntiau Llanelli a'r Cylch 2000". Glenson & Jill Jones were at this Eisteddfod.

The film captures the winning contestants in each category. It is wholly in Welsh BUT as most acts are song or dance, it should be enjoyable by those who do not speak Welsh. The film is 1 hour and 40 minutes but we may skip some of those acts which have extended Welsh oratory.

There will be no charge for the movie but a donation of \$2 will be asked to cover refreshments. Because of the limited seating, the locations of the events will not be announced. The first fifteen people who call will be told the location.

Please call Alison Lawson to reserve a space. 725-2704

Dylan Thomas Return Journey - Toronto Thursday Oct 30

Straight from the Edinburgh Festival, there will be a one day performance of "Dylan Thomas Return Journey" from the Poetry &

Prose of Dylan Thomas starring Bob Kingdom. This is the 50th anniversary of the death of Dylan Thomas.

Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre, Toronto at 8 pm on Thursday Oct 30. Tickets \$30 – box office (416) 366-7723 or 1 800 708-6754. Further information from Martyn Williams 011-44-29 2075 3890 or email martynwms@aol.com

Faggots & Peas Noson Lawen, Saturday November 15th

We are looking for entertainers!!

For the Faggots & Peas, November 15th, and the Noson Lawen that follows: we would like readers, singers, musicians, whatever you would like to perform for the assembled masses, whom we are sure will attend!

I am trying to put together a varied and balanced program. Let me hear from you as soon as possible and before November 14th.

Thanks so much

Wendy Wynne-Jones

Home -733-6066, Work-520-2600, extension 3614 or Email WendyWynneJones@pigeon.carleton.ca

Westminster Presbyterian Church 470 Roosevelt Avenue.

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

Reserve meal by calling Dorothy at 592-2427 or Glen at 592-8957 or e-mail president@ottawawelshsociety.com

Ottawa Welsh Choral Society Christmas Concert

Saturday, **November 29** at 7:30 at Bromley Rd Baptist Church, Tickets available at the door, \$15.

Children's Christmas Party - Saturday Dec. 13, 2003

The Children's Christmas Party will be separated into two different activities; both will start at 2 pm.

Younger Children will be entertained at the Glen Cairn United Church on Abbeyhill Drive, Kanata while the **older children** will be taken to the Merivale Bowling Lanes 1916 Merivale Rd., 4 blocks south of Hunt Club.

Contact Kim at 592-5795 or email jkrd.power@sympatico.ca for further information and to arrange for your children to attend.

Christmas Carol Service 7 pm Sunday Dec 21

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 470 Roosevelt Ave. Ottawa. We will be having our annual service of 9 lessons and carols. Alan Thomas will play the organ and the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society will sing for us. Always a pleasant evening. Everyone is invited to bring something to nibble with their tea or coffee after the service.

Arrangements are almost complete for the **St David's Day Banquet** and **Ottawa Gymanfa Ganu**. Details later.

Impressions of Wales (1927-1959)

By Clifford Evans

The small boy at the railway station saying his farewell to aunt, uncle, and cousins who were on their way from Abertillery to Sydney Australia, could not have known that they were the vanguard of many who were to leave Wales in the 1930's for greener pastures in the colonies.

The Depression of the 'thirties translated into queues outside pawn shops, soup kitchens, and labour exchanges, only to be replaced at the outbreak of war by the rationing of essentials and full

employment, which meant the exodus of women from the kitchen to the factory floor with long-term post-war consequences.

Apart from shortages, the war did not leave Wales untouched. It became a refuge for children from the more vulnerable parts of the sceptred isle and its ports and industries became targets for nocturnal bombers. All however, was not gloom and doom. Vera Lynn the Forces Sweetheart put a song into many a lonely heart, while Tommy Handley in ITMA, and Arthur Askey and George Robson, drew many a laugh. A spontaneous sense of community and a willingness to share during a common adversity emerged. Churches and Community Halls opened their doors to special events and prayer services.

The turning point of the war for many Cardiffians came on the night of January 2nd 1941 when we and others were bombed out during an air raid on the port and city of Cardiff. Llandaff Cathedral was badly damaged during this raid as Coventry Cathedral had been during a previous one. The house in which I was born, built at the turn of the century, was left uninhabitable at that time, and we left for Blaina where an aunt of mine lived.

For the next four years we and others in Wales were caught up in a round of ration cards, food queues, blacked-out windows, and air raid warnings. In April 1945 when victory in Europe came, there was an outpouring of relief and joy. In front of the magnificent City Hall, to the accompaniment of ships hooters from the docks and sirens from the city, with fireworks and coloured streamers, a vast crowd of people gathered, singing and dancing and drinking. It was a day to remember! As an interesting aftermath, our son Richard and his wife Tamara during their honeymoon in Wales in 2003, caught a glimpse of the old house, which was inhabited and newly painted.

The late forties and the fifties saw the gradual lifting of rationing; a measure of economic prosperity as reconstruction went ahead; and the return of thousands of men into civilian life. The coal mining industry was receding into the past and the mines were being closed as other means of heating and locomotion were being used.

The Treforest Trading Estate employed some of the laid-off miners. It had been built between the two world wars to bring employment and, along with the steel works at Ebbw Vale, it brought some relief at a time of crushing unemployment.

This was the time when the "baby boomer" generation was being born. Cardiff Castle was ceded to the City by the Marquis of Bute. It was a period when in the House of Commons, Aneurin Bevan and Winston Churchill would cross swords on social issues and great debates ensued. It was a time of social change. The women, who had left home and hearth to work in factories, would not be delegated once more to serve as domestics, but would prove their worth as equal partners in society.

In the midst of all this change we left the United Kingdom in 1959 to seek a new beginning in Canada.

John C. Jones, Poet of the Peace Tower

Ottawa Journal, Nov. 11, 1948, Page 4

Contributed to The Journal by Professor John Hughes, Macdonald Professor of Education and Chairman of the Department of Education of McGill University.

A recent inquiry by "W.N." answered by Miss Louella D. Everett, of Boston Mass., in the New York Times Book Review of October 17,

1948, draws attention anew to a poet who deserves to be better known.

Nothing of his work, so far as I am aware, appears in any Canadian Anthology up to the present. By a strange irony, however, he is assured of a more lasting fame than most of the poets of the anthologies. His lines –

“All’s well, for over there among his peers
A happy warrior sleeps”,

are engraved over the inside of the archway in the Memorial Chamber of the Peace Tower in Canada’s Capital city. They also appear on page 922 of the current (twelfth) edition of Bartlett’s “Familiar Quotations”.

Major J.F. Cummins of the Historical Section, Department of National Defence, Ottawa, referred to the poem and the poet in an article in the Legionary, March 1939, reprinted from The Journal. This appeared later in the Boston Transcript’s Notes and Queries Department, September 9, 1939, according to information which recently reached me from Miss Louella D. Everett. She wrote to the Prime Minister of Canada in 1946 concerning the authorship of the inscription and in the reply from the office of the Prime Minister (dated September 17, 1946) the following information appears:

“The records available in the Parliamentary Library indicate that John Ceredigion Jones (born March 1, 1883), a Montrealer of Welsh descent, wrote the poem from which the lines are taken, at Calgary, Alberta, in 1919 or 1920. The lines are the concluding couplet of the poem entitled ‘The Returning Man’.”

* * *

Major Cummings testifies that it was Mr. John Pearson, the architect, who was “responsible for the adoption of this well-nigh perfect valediction, but by the time that inquiries were set on foot he was unable to recall how he had chanced upon the lines; all he could say was that the words had come to his notice about the time he was drawing up the plans for the Chamber, and being struck by their appropriateness he had made a note of them.” ... “Curiosity was early aroused as to the authorship of the felicitous adaptation of Wordsworth’s ‘Happy Warrior’ in a new setting ... the inscription ... for its felicity and lovely thought is by way of becoming a classic, so widespread is the attention it has attracted ... the magic touch of the ‘Happy Warrior’ lines.”

John Ceredigion Jones was born in Wales, on the day which is annually honoured by Welshmen the world over as the birthday of their patron saint, Dewi Sant (St. David). His native county, Ceredigion (pronounced Kerr-red-dig-yon, with the accent on the penult “dig”) takes its name from the Welsh prince Ceredig, whose daughter Non was the mother of Saint David. The word “Ceredigion” has been Anglicized to Cardigan, a name found in Wales and also in Canada (Prince Edward Island).

He was a member of a well-known and gifted family of poets. The present Archdruid of Wales (Wil Ifan) painted a delightful pen-portrait of the family in a Welsh literary periodical some years ago. Like Mr. Trygve Lie, the poet of the Peace Tower was a blacksmith’s son. Jeremiah Jones the blacksmith was himself a lover and practitioner of verse. A poem which he wrote during the Transvaal war is still quoted in the Welsh smithy-senates. He left the anvil to take over a large farm in mid-Ceredigion, and the farm became the home of a fine family of stalwart sons and bonnie daughters. Two of the sons went to the university and are now ministers of the gospel. Those who remained on the land also delight

in verse, not merely as appreciators but also as creators. In a letter to the poet of the peace tower, his sister Esther once penned as dainty and humorous a character-sketch as one could wish to read. Her son, Captain John Alun Jones of the British Merchant Navy, did not stop writing poetic stanzas even during the perilous voyages of the war years. Every member of the family is blessed with a rich sense of humour.

* * *

John came to Canada as a lad in his teens and travelled widely in the States and the Dominion. His memories of his days in the Yukon were vivid. He was president of the St. David’s Society of Toronto when a young man, and he was in business with the late Colonel Pryce Jones in the Prairie Provinces.

I knew him during the last dozen years of his life (1935 – 1945). We met often, and poetry was the main theme of the conversation. He was proud when some of his work appeared in an old-country anthology in 1939. He was even more delighted when his brothers, in a BBC broadcast some years ago, quoted some of his best verses.

He was, like his brothers, a man of stalwart and powerful build and handsome appearance. He was an omnivorous reader of Welsh and English literature. Robert Burns was a special favourite of his. Letters over his signature appeared from time to time in the Montreal daily and weekly newspapers.

He died suddenly, from heart failure at Chapleau, Ont., on August 19 1947, and was buried there.

Parody written by David Bohn. Organist/composer

Tune: St. Denio Immortal Invisible

Immortal, Impossible God only knows,
How Tenors and Basses, Sopranos, Altos
At service on Sundays are rarely the same,
As those who on Thursdays to choir practice came.

Unready, unable, to sight read the notes,
Not counting, nor blending, then tighten their throats,
The descant so piercing, is soaring above
A melody only a Mother could love.

They have a director, but one wonders why:
No-one in the choir deigns to turn him an eye.
It’s clear by his flailing he wants them to look,
But each singer slouches with nose in the book.

Despite the offences, the music rings out,
The folks in the pews are enraptured no doubt.
Their faces are blissful, their thoughts appear deep,
But it is no wonder for they are asleep.

Amen.

Calendars of Wales

T/A Freespirit Images of Cardiff produce calendars of Wales. The 2004 calendars include picture series of South Wales, Gower, Brecon Beacons or Cardiff. You can see them on
://www.freespiritimages.com"www.freespiritimages.com or write to

T/A Freespirit Images, 43, Parc y Coed, Creigiau, Cardiff CF15 9LY
They will also undertake photographic commissions of
‘somewhere back home’.

**E-STEDDFOD 2004
LIST OF COMPETITIONS**

**CYSTADLAETHAU YN Y GYMRAEG
WELSH LANGUAGE COMPETITIONS**

1. Cerdd y Gadair: Y Crefftwr
2. Cywydd: Tro Trwstan
3. Cerdd yn y Mesur Rhydd: Hysbyseb am Lanhawraig
4. Englyn Ysgafn i Gymeriad mewn Opera Sebon
5. Englyn: Yr Iaith Gymraeg
6. Pennill Beddargraff Doniol: Agored
7. Limerig: Ar faes yr Eisteddfod eleni ...
8. Haiku: Gwanwyn
9. Cwpled Caeth neu Rydd: Dihareb Gyfoes
10. Brawddeg neu Frawddegau a phob gair yn dechrau â'r llythyren C, Ch, G neu Ng
11. Ysgrif (Dysgwyr): Bod yn Gymro yn yr Unfed Ganrif ar Hugain
12. Traethawd/Ysgrif: Atgofion am Effaith Trydan ar Fywyd Cartref

**CYSTADLAETHAU YN Y SAESNEG
ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETITIONS**

13. Poem: The Craftsman
 14. Humorous Epitaph
 15. Limerick: A beer-loving farmer called Wil ...
 16. A Collection of Eight Modern Proverbs
 17. Haiku: Spring
 18. Short Poem (of no more than twenty lines): A Mother's Advice to a Bride
 19. A Sentence or Sentences with each word beginning with the letter A
 20. Essay/Article: Memories of the Impact of Electricity on Home Life
- Datgenir enwau'r enillwyr ar y We ar y cyntaf o Fawrth 2004 a rhoddir gwobr i'r tri chyntaf ym mhob cystadleuaeth
Winners will be announced on the Web on March 1st, 2004 and prizes will be awarded to the first three in each category

Dylid danfon pob ymgais drwy'r post neu drwy E-bost erbyn
Chwefror y 15ed, 2004

All entries to be sent by post or E-mail by **February 15th, 2004**

Cyfeiriad E-bost / E-mail address: e-steddfod@aocc.ac.uk

Ffôn / Tel.: 029 2057 3427

Cyfeiriad Post / Postal Address: Meinwen Ruddock, Trefnydd yr E-steddfod, Amgueddfa Werin Cymru, Sain Ffagan, CAERDYDD, CF5 6XB

Gellir gweld canlyniadau E-steddfod 2003 ar:
E-steddfod 2003 results can be seen at:
www.aocc.ac.uk/awc/2003/e-steddfod/results/index.cy.shtml

Ceir arddangosfa yn seiliedig ar gasgliadau eisteddfodol Amgueddfa Werin Cymru ar y We:

A virtual exhibition of eisteddfod artefacts from the collections of the Museum of Welsh Life can be seen at:

www.aocc.ac.uk/awc/2002/eisteddfod

Beirniaid / Judges

Aled Gwyn & Mared Wyn Sutherland (Cyst. / Comp. 12 & 20)

You will remember that this contest was first held in February 2003 and that our own David G. Jones entered two categories and WON in one of them for his essay on children's games which we published in the April Bwletin.

Don't feel that you can't do it. Of course you can! Let's have several contestants from Ottawa this year.

"Welsh Films" submitted by Geraint Lewis

In light of the fact that Catherine Zeta-Jones-Douglas has truly become part of Hollywood, the Welsh film industry has decided to step up production. They plan to remake many well known films but with a Welsh flavour to them.

The following are planned for release next year...

- 9 1/2 Leeks
- Trefforest Gump
- Cwmando
- The Lost Boyos
- An American in Powys
- Huw Dares Gwyneth
- Dai Hard
- The Wizard of Oswestry
- Cool Hand Look-you
- Sheepless in Seattle
- The Eagle has Llandudno
- The Magnificent Severn
- Haverfordwest Was Won
- Austin Powys
- The Magic Rhonddabout

And finally...

- The
Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch That
Time Forgot

We'll keep you informed of possible release dates!

Ni wyr dyn nid èl o'i dy
-A man who does not leave home will learn nothing.

Some sheep farmers in mid-Wales have formed a society of teetotalers. There is a clause in the rules that permits the use of alcohol at sheep-dipping time. One member keeps a sheep at home which he dips every day.