



Y Bwletin

Gwasg y Nant – Valley Press Mis Mehefin 2004 – June 2004

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Digwyddiadau - Events for 2004-2005

Welsh Course – 1 week – Carleton U	July 18-25
Annual Picnic	Saturday July 31
North American Festival of Wales – Buffalo	Sept 2, 3, 4, 5
Noson Lawen / Faggots & Peas	Sat. Nov. 13
Children's Christmas Party	Dec.
Christmas Carol Service	Sun. Dec 19
St. David's Day Banquet & Dance	Sat. Feb 26
Gymanfa Ganu	Sun. Feb. 27

Annual Picnic

Saturday July 31, 2004 – from 2:30 pm

Activities for all ages.

- Swimming (enclosed pool)
- Races and Games for all ages

Steaks \$ 8.00, Hamburgers \$ 3.00 or Hot Dogs \$ 1.00 .
Potato salad and coleslaw will be provided.

Bring your own drinks & special food.

Tea, coffee and some soft drinks will be available.

Pot Luck Dessert – your specialty

At the home & pool of Barbara & Jim Colton

360 rue Honfleur, Aylmer

(from Champlain Bridge, go West on the Upper Aylmer Road and then turn right at the 4th road past the Champlain Golf Course [about 2 km from bridge])

Please contact Rhian Evans by July 26 at 828-4579 to confirm your attendance and your choice. All food has to be pre-ordered so we can ensure that we have enough.

BBQ will start shortly after 5:00 pm.

Rain Date: Sunday August 1

Special Welsh Course Coming to Ottawa

Cymdeithas Madog announces that its annual Welsh language and culture course will this year be held at Carleton University July 18-25. This course which attracts some 65 students each year is taught mainly by Welsh teachers brought over from Wales.

It is not just a language course, but also gives students (of all ages) an opportunity to enjoy Welsh culture of all kinds. The many activities and workshops include a film night which showcases a brand new Welsh language movie (English subtitles), as well as invited speakers for the early afternoon sessions.

The course is proud to present Mark Abley from Montreal, whose highly readable book about languages including Welsh has been published internationally. The course is very friendly and there are no exams! Much more information can be found from the course website at <http://www.madog.org> or from Paul Birt at 819 684-1560.

Bridge, anyone? Three senior members of our Society are seeking a fourth person to join them for afternoon bridge games. The group currently meets every week or two with the players taking turns hosting at their homes. If you are interested, John Watkins, Beth Roff and Rolf Latte would be pleased to welcome you to their group.

Please, contact the OWS Secretary, Kim Power, at 592-5795 and leave your name and phone number.

Appeal for Suggestions

The Ottawa Welsh Society is looking for ideas for activities which would appeal to you.

We have presented several film nights, and will do so again, but what other ideas could we explore?

Contact the President with your suggestions.

2004 North American Festival of Wales Buffalo, New York – Sept 2-5, 2004

Extract from Festival Registration Guide

We invite you to join us at the North American Festival of Wales, celebrating the 75th anniversary of the first Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu. One of the featured events will be the laying of a plaque commemorating the first national

Gymanfa Ganu, held on Goat Island, Niagara Falls in 1929. Since then we have gathered 73 times to celebrate our Welsh heritage and cross border friendship. On Friday afternoon, all festival-goers will be transported by bus to Goat Island for the ceremony. The hymn "Niagara," written for the 15th anniversary celebration by Olwen Morgan Welk and Ann Davies Thomas, will be sung again. The cost of transportation to Goat Island is included in the registration fee for the Festival and everyone is urged to participate.

We have selected top talent from North America and Wales to entertain and enlighten you, and we have scheduled some new and exciting events. A novel, and perhaps unique, event will be the all-day Thursday TWRIO antiques and collectables TV show seen on channel S4C, Wales! Bring your heirlooms and other collectables to show-and-tell for the TV audience. Also, be sure to check out the list of fascinating seminars that have been arranged. Another special feature of the weekend will be our extensive children's program. While we understand the conflict with their schooling, we feel that it is important for children to be aware and proud of their heritage. Our planned events should be both entertaining and educational for them. For your musical enjoyment, we have lined up the very popular traditional folk music ensemble, Crasdant, featuring triple harpist Robin Huw Bowen. The Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir will perform at the Grand Concert with soloists, and during the Gymanfa Ganu on Sunday. This year, for the first time, the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and the National Welsh American Foundation will join together in celebration and friendship by combining their annual banquets. Following the dinner, the NWAFF will present their Annual Heritage Medallion to the very dear Dr. Ellis Jones. Through the support of the Wales Tourist Board, Glyn Hughes Jones, Wales' newest opera star will entertain us and complete this wonderful evening. All events (except the tours and the Goat Island Ceremony) will be held at the host hotel, the Adam's Mark, so there will be no long walks to any events. A large percentage of our membership lives within a day's drive of Buffalo, so we are hoping to see many familiar faces at this year's Festival.

Lynn Owens-Whalen, President WNGGA
Myfanwy Davies, Festival Chairperson

For details see <http://www.nafow.org>
or phone Alison Lawson at 725-2704.

OTTAWA WELSH SOCIETY MINUTES OF THE 2004 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

18 MAY 2004, TIME: 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: Westminster Presbyterian Church,
Roosevelt Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario

PRESENT:

Paul Birt	John Griffiths	Rowly Jenkins
John Roberts	Barbara Colton	Lee Griffiths
Glenison Jones	Vivian Roberts	Jean Don
Jean Howard	Jill Jones	Lezlie Wood
Myfanwy Davies	Tony Howard	Alison Lawson
Dianne Evans	Lyndell Hughes	Daphne McCree
Dorothy Evans	Stan Hughes	Sheila Pepper
Rhian Evans	Jayne Jenkins	Kimberly Power

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The president and chairman, Glenison T. Jones, called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. and welcomed the other 22 members to the meeting. He thanked everyone for the food that was enjoyed at the Potluck dinner and for the pleasure of breaking bread together before the business meeting. The order of business as set out in the draft agenda was approved.

2. MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed in memory and honour of those eight members of the Society who had passed away in the past year.

3. MINUTES OF THE 2003 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On a motion by John Roberts and seconded by Barbara Colton, the minutes to the meeting of 20 May 2003 were taken as read and adopted.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Cwrs Cymraeg: In 2003, Paul Birt proposed that a bid be made to host this annual course in Ottawa and the Society agreed to support this endeavour. Cymdeithas Madog, the organizers of the course, subsequently approved Ottawa as the host city for 2004, with the course to be held July 18 to 25 at Carleton University. The OWS Executive Committee voted on 20 October 2003 to provide a scholarship in the amount of \$500 CDN to support a Canadian student attending the course. An additional amount of \$300 CDN was allotted to contribute to a reception for the arriving students on the first evening of the course. Drivers will be needed to bring students from the airport to the university campus and to return them to the airport at the end of the week. Myfanwy Davies reported that the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society has been engaged to entertain at the reception.

On a motion by Rowly Jenkins, seconded by Myfanwy Davies, it was agreed that the Society will support the Cwrs Cymraeg by offering the \$500 scholarship and \$300 for the reception.

b) Hymnbooks: It was agreed at the 2003 AGM that the society would purchase fifty copies of the WNGGA hymnbook on the larger format for use at society functions, particularly the Gymanfa Ganu held annually in March. Glenison Jones reported that 13 books were purchased from Myfanwy Davies, another 30 were purchased from the WNGGA in the U.S.A. and another 2 used books were donated by Society members.

At present, 45 hymnbooks are listed as assets of the society. This collection was employed with success at the Gymanfa Ganu in March 2004, using a supervised sign-out and collection system at the entrance to the sanctuary.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Dorothy Evans distributed a 4-page document including a Balance Sheet dated 30 April 2004, an Income and Expense Statement comparing the year 2003-2004 with 2002-2003, a Statement of Income from Functions held between 1 May 2003 and 30 April 2004, and a List of Assets which have

been expensed to zero. Starting with the Income from Functions, Dorothy commented that most functions had done well this year with the only exception being a small loss on the St. David's Day Dinner. As a non-profit organization, it is not generally the Society's goal to raise money at its functions; however, revenue generated by the Faggots and Peas Dinner is important because it is used to finance other events. Dorothy thanked John Griffiths for always supporting this event by offering food at the best possible prices. With a small loss of \$75.25 at the St. David's Day dinner, the income from Functions was \$2022.16, which was carried over to the Revenue section of the Income and Expense a statement. The Total Revenue of \$3587.14 was higher than the year 2002-03 due to the increases in the income from functions and the interest generated by our GIC's. Total Expenses of \$3940.83 were also higher this year due to increased expenses for postage, copying, insurance, the children's Christmas party, miscellaneous and the purchase of the hymnbooks. Miscellaneous purchases included bunting/decorations, flowers, cards new table cloths, a new journal book and other items. The Net Loss for the year was \$353.69, with a total assets figure of \$24305.17 recorded. On the Assets page, new items included the 45 hymnbooks, 5 red table cloths and 6 garlands of bunting. Two amendments to be made included removing the language tapes from the list as they were reduced to zero value in 2003 and changing the location of the computer which is now in the care of Wendy Wynne-Jones. On a motion by Myfanwy Davies and seconded by Rhian Evans, it was agreed that the Treasurer's Report be accepted with amendments as mentioned above.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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

It's been a bitter-sweet year for the Ottawa Welsh Society. Sadly, eight of our members passed away. It was particularly poignant when I had to announce seven names in the same Newsletter. Dr. Don Mills had been one of our most active members for over 30 years.

On the positive side, every function has been a resounding success! Attendance has increased at every event. We almost doubled the attendance at the Faggots and Peas Noson Lawen. The attendance at the Banquet and Dance was one hundred and eight which was a record within my memory.

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. This past year 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 and brought new energy to the events.

John Price chaired the Faggots and Peas with Wendy Wynne Jones arranging the Noson Lawen, which followed. The Childrens' Christmas Party was organized by Kim Power

with a mystery guest as Santa Claus. I co-ordinated the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Barbara Colton arranged the wonderful Banquet and Dance & Wendy Wynne Jones was in charge of the Gymanfa Ganu.

Last year's Pot Luck Supper and AGM was attended by 25 members. The food was great and, as usual, we had a lot left over. At that meeting Geraint Jones and John Roberts declined to continue on the Executive and two new members, Kimberly Power and Robert Lloyd, were elected. All four were thanked for their interest in our Society.

At last summer's picnic, forty-two adults and five children enjoyed a wonderful day at the home and pool of Rowly and Jayne Jenkins. I'd like to thank all of the Committee who worked so hard; but especially our chefs; John Griffiths and Roy Morris, & those who donated desserts.

Ninety-four adults and five children sat down for Faggots & Peas in November. It was a lot of fun. Our Master Chefs, John Griffiths and Alison Lawson, were aided by numerous servers. Wendy Wynne Jones organized the Noson Lawen which was even better than the previous year.

Twelve children enjoyed a Christmas Party this last year. Three of the older children were taken bowling.

The Christmas Carol Service was very well received. This was made possible with the assistance of our stalwarts, Rev. Clifford Evans, Alan Thomas, Marilyn Jenkins and the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society.

Our attendance at the St. David's Day Dinner dance has been going from strength to strength. You may remember that last year was more than double than the previous year. Well, we exceeded last years attendance. This was certainly due to the tremendous efforts put forth by the members of the Committee who promoted the event individually and through the various media. The speaker, Julian Evans, Deputy High Commissioner for Great Britain, was very well received.

The Gymanfa Ganu was ably lead by Roy Morris and it was lovely to have the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society in attendance as usual. As approved last year, we purchased forty-three Hymn books and we had a couple of others donated. We used these rather than photocopying pages for the Gymanfa Ganu. And... we got all the hymn books back!

Our Welsh Steam Train Movie night in March at my house was very popular. Twelve people enjoyed the video and then enjoyed Welsh Cakes, Irish cheese and a good natter.

Our Society is 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 their joint concert with the Tonna Male Voice Choir in April. Alison Lawson and Barbara Colton had major roles to play in promoting and providing refreshments for this last concert.

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 contributed much to help the planning and implementation of our events.

In particular, I really have to thank Dorothy Evans, Alison Lawson, Kim Power, Wendy Wynn-Jones and Barbara Colton, 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 and Marilyn Jenkins and the Choir, but there were a dozen others who helped in various ways at our various functions. Thanks to each of you!

Thank 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 gyd.
Glenson Jones, President

8. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE

The President reported that all twelve members of the Executive Committee had been contacted to ascertain their wishes for the following year. Eight members were able and willing to continue to serve, while two vacancies were declared. Dorothy Evans announced her retirement from the position of Treasurer, a role in which she has served for many years, to our good fortune. Robert Lloyd, who served as Webmaster in 2003-2004, preferred to take leave of the committee at this time although he may still be able to be of service as webmaster. Rob's web-server was no longer in service and he was actively trying to find a host server for the Society's website. Two new candidates were nominated and seconded: Dianne Evans and Lezlie Wood. As there were no further nominations, nominations were closed on a motion by Myfanwy Davies and seconded by Barbara Colton. Dianne Evans and Lezlie Wood were duly elected to the Committee. The membership of the Committee for the year 2004-2005 thus stands as follows:

Barbara Colton Harry Corrin John Price
Rhian Evans Rowly Jenkins Glenson T. Jones
Alison Lawson Dianne Evans Lezlie Wood
Kimberly Power Gail Phillips Wendy Wynne-Jones

9. OTHER BUSINESS

a) Web Page: The President proposed that we contact Robert Lloyd to determine the status of his search for a host server. Myfanwy Davies suggested that the president also contact John Parsons, who manages the choir's web-page, to see if both web-pages could be hosted by the same server and thus be linked more closely. With a motion by

John Roberts, seconded by Myfanwy Davies, approval was given for the President to engage a server for the Society's website.

b) Society News: Sheila Pepper reported that she had just returned from the U.K. where she had the pleasure of speaking with Shirley and Tal Griffiths. Tal currently awaits an operation. Both he and Shirley asked that Sheila pass on their best regards to the Society. Myfanwy Davies reported that she had been in contact with Lisa and Greg May, who said that all were well but busy, as little Cerys is now "on the move". Happily, Lisa is expecting a baby in August. They asked to be remembered to their friends in Ottawa.

c) WNGGA: Myfanwy Davies spoke of the upcoming WNGGA, of which she is the chairperson. The 2004 festival will be held in Buffalo, New York, on the Labour Day weekend and commemorative events are scheduled to celebrate the organization's 75th anniversary. The OWS is especially well represented among the organizers this year as Alison Lawson, Sheila Pepper, Roy and Ian Morris, Allan Thomas, Paul Birt, and Sandra Stringer have all committed their time and talents to the event. Volunteers are still needed for ushering, registration and the tea room. Those who cannot attend in person may make a donation to the WNGGA. Myfanwy distributed information packages to those who asked for them.

d) OGGA: Myfanwy, as past president of the Association, introduced and congratulated Glenson Jones as the newest member of the board of Trustees for the OGGA. Glenson was elected in Peterborough in April. The 2005 OGGA will be held in Stratford at the Arden Park Hotel. Negotiations have started to engage a choir from Llandudno for the concert and their conductor for the Gymanfa Ganu.

10. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:40 p.m.

Hwyl – Fun

Onid rhyfedd, rhyfedd eilwaith,
Ydyw gweled gwyr y Gyfraith?
Maent yn ennill aur yn dyrrau
Gyda gweddol edyn gwyddau.

I shall never cease to wonder
At the way the lawyers plunder;
Just a goose's quill – it's funny
How this makes them piles of money!

From "A People's Poetry", translation by Glyn Jones

It's very fine to dance and dine
And laugh 'til you're in stitches,
But for pleasures rare, what can compare
With scratching where it itches?

President Glen Jones has a copy of the first Harry Potter book, "Harri Potter a Maen yr Athronydd", totally in Welsh. If any of our local members would like to borrow it, please contact him. PS, he has read it, once!