



# Y Bwletin

## Gwasg y Nant – Valley Press Mis Tachwedd 2004 – November 2004

### Llywydd - President

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### Ysgrifennydd - Secretary

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Website: <http://www.ottawawelshsociety.com/> - **BACK IN SERVICE AGAIN!**

### Cynnwys - Contents

- Page 1 – Upcoming Events
- Page 2 – Events, CM, Tutor Wanted, Faggots & Peas
- Page 3 – “A” word Contest, Dolgellau Remembered
- Page 4 – Kiwanis Festival, Pit Ponies, Corgis, glow worms

### Digwyddiadau - Events for 2004-2005

Ottawa Welsh Choral Society	Sat. Nov 27
Children's Christmas Party – Register with Kim	Sun. Dec 19
Christmas Carol Service	Sun. Dec 19
English Film Night	Tues. Jan 11
St. David's Day Banquet & Dance	Sat. Feb 26
Gymanfa Ganu	Sun. Feb. 27
Pot Luck & Annual meeting	April or May

### Ottawa Welsh Choral Society Christmas Concert

November 27, 2004 7:30 pm  
Bromley Rd Baptist Church, Ottawa  
1900 Lauder Drive

\$15 adults Children under 14 free  
(Tickets available at the door)

### Children's Christmas Party

Sunday December 19  
2:30 to 4:00 pm

Glen Cairn United Church  
140 Abbeyhill Dr. Kanata

Registration Deadline - Friday December 10  
Phone Kim 592-5795

### Christmas Carol Service

Sunday December 19  
7 pm

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
470 Roosevelt Avenue

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

### Film Night – English

Tuesday January 11 - 7:30 pm

“The **Welsh** Great Escape”  
(on a 5 foot wide screen)

1465 Baseline Road (west of Clyde Avenue)

Down the elevator to the Party Room  
Phone Leslie 820-0874 for entry code

### The Welsh Great Escape - 60 minutes

In the dead of night in March 1945, almost seventy desperate young German prisoners of war tunneled from a camp in Bridgend in Wales and escaped over the sand dunes. The film follows the fate of the POWs, many of them committed Nazis, as they were tracked by armed soldiers, the Home Guard, dogs, local children and Girl Guides as one of the largest manhunts of the whole war got underway. Dramatic, serious and comic in turn, dramatic reconstruction is inter-cut with commentary and personal testimony. Two of the German POWs return to the site for the first time in more than 60 years to see the very hut from which they escaped. In addition, we follow the production team as they make the extraordinary and exciting discovery that the 60' long tunnel, sealed up and forgotten for so long, is incredibly still intact - despite being shored up using timber from the prisoners' bunk-beds.

"A fascinating, all but forgotten story from World War II"  
(Daily Mail)

"Escapees, a jailer's daughter and local children (now grown-up) recount an extraordinary story of cows, girl guides and the 'natural friendliness of the Welsh'... [with] a rather tongue-in-cheek feel." (Sunday Telegraph)

"We've all heard of The Great Escape, the 1963 movie based on the true story of the most ambitious attempt to abscond from a German prisoner of war camp by Allied servicemen during the second world war. This documentary is a little different, but the story is just as compelling." (Daily Telegraph)

# ST DAVID'S DAY DINNER AND DANCE

(traditional Welsh food: leek soup, roast lamb)

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>**

PANORAMA ROOM  
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL  
101 LYON STREET

TICKETS -- \$46 per person

CONTACT: Kim Power, 592-5795

**(Deadline for receiving payment – Feb 21)**

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## ST DAVID'S DAY GYMANFA GANU

(Hymn Singing Festival)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

**3 p.m.**

(If you have a WNGGA Welsh Hymnbook, please bring it)

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
470 Roosevelt Ave.

Everyone is invited to bring something to nibble with their tea or coffee after the service.

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### Translation of Letter from Jenny Hubbard Young, President of the Cymdeithas Madog.

Dear Glenson,

It is a pleasure for me to write a letter on behalf of the Board of the Cymdeithas Madog as well as on my own behalf. I would like to send every good wish and heart-felt thanks to you and the Ottawa Welsh Society for the OWS Scholarship which you gave this year to Course Cymraeg. We value special help like that.

Also I must say to you how thankful we are for the lovely reception we enjoyed on Sunday evening this year, once again thanks to the generosity of the OWS. Please give the members of the Society our most warm thanks.

I think you know how successful and effective the Cymdeithas Madog has been over the years in boosting the old language among the friends of Madog. The Cymdeithas Madog is still doing its best for Welsh and we are now going from strength to strength. Each one of us should be proud of that fact. But, of course, it would be almost impossible without good friends like the OWS, who work so hard and give so willingly.

Heart-felt thanks and every good wish,

Jenny Hubbard Young, President, Cymdeithas Madog

### Wanted-Welsh tutor

From Dale Jones

We have recently moved from Wales to Ottawa with our two girls, Taylor 7yrs and Madison 5yrs. Both are Welsh speakers, having been to Welsh school from day one. We

are keen to keep up their Welsh and are seeking out anyone who is willing, for payment if needed, to engage them in conversations and writing for at least an hour or two a week. As a parent, I am encouraging them to speak Welsh at home so that they don't lose what they have but not being a Welsh speaker myself, I find it challenging to say the least, but I try. So, if there is anyone out there that can help, please get in touch...the sooner the better.

We can be reached on e-mail at flashpoint@rogers.com or on the phone 613 260-1165.

### Faggots and Peas / Nosen Lawen

By Rhian Evans

The Faggots and Peas/Nosen Lawen event was a great success. About 120 members enjoyed an evening with friends new and old at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

As always the faggots and sausages made by John Griffiths were fabulous, there was a line up for seconds. Catrin and Nigel Morris helped to round out the meal by preparing mashed potatoes, mushy peas and gravy. Apple pie and ice cream was enjoyed by all, thanks to John Price for being responsible for getting the pies to the church and to Dianne Evans for cutting and plating all those pieces of pie!!!!

Ten lucky winners of the raffle went home with packages of either faggots or sausages. We hope that those of you that won enjoyed your prizes and for those of us that didn't win there is always next year. We have so many talented members of the society which made the Nosen Lawen organized by Wendy Wynne-Jones such a success.

### NOSON LAWEN

By Wendy Wynne-Jones

My sincere thanks to all the performers who volunteered and who were volunteered by others!

As always, extra special thanks to Alan Thomas for his music, his willingness and good humour!

Thanks to Pegi Domitrovitz for providing the sound equipment – made it all look and sound quite professional!

The programme included:

<b>Alan Thomas</b>	Piano medley: Cymru Fach,
	Unwaith eto, Nghymru Annwyl
<b>Kathryn Palmer</b>	Vocal Suo Gan (with Alan)
<b>David G Jones</b>	Poetry from the e-steddfod
	St. Stephen's Suspense
	(all words beginning with letter S)
	Haiku: Wales in My Hands
	Limerick: A Methodist Named Glyn
	Funny Epitaph: Here Lies John Jones

**Heather Morris** piano Medley of 3 Welsh folk songs

Fantasia in D Minor by Mozart

**Wendy Wynne-Jones** poetry Bridge of Memories

by Tom Jones, Winner of NGGA poetry contest:

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**Cantorion Cerdd Dant** <sup>vocal</sup>  
Hwyr y Haf, Cwmyglo, and Rhieingerdd

**Maureen Carpenter and Janet Martin** <sup>vocal</sup>  
"Let us Wander", Purcell

**Joe & Pegi Domitrovitz and Josh McDonald**  
<sup>vocal and Instrumental</sup>  
Wherever you go (Joe and Josh)  
You Raise me up (all three)  
dance Just Fly Away

**Dylan Morris**

**John Griffiths and Alison Lawson**  
<sup>vocal</sup> Y Bothyn ar y Bryn  
<sup>vocal</sup> Mentra Gwen

**John Griffiths**  
Annie's Song

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### Welsh e-stedd fod – "A" word Contest

By David G. Jones

Arrival at Anglesey, or "All About Anchovies"

Anne, arriving at Amlwch and addressing Arlene, asked, "Are anchovies acceptable as an aliment?"

Arlene, aghast at Anne's annoying arrogance, answered angrily: "Anecdotally, anchovies are an Andalusian antipasto augmentation. Ask anyone. Around Anglesey, anchovy addicts are arrant."

Abhorring acrimony, Anne advised apologetically, "Arlene, April's Appétit Americane argued anchovies are an agreeable appurtenance, apropos abrogating atrophy." Arlene answered animatedly (and absurdly), "Ah! Americans. An aberration, admiring all arthropods."

Abruptly, all argument abated. An agitated Aberporth alumnus attracted attention, altercating Arlene's asinine assurances.

"Assumption," attested Aberporth's Aidan, "augments ambiguity and adversity. Astute analysis augurs advantage. And anchovies are awesome alimentation! All Aberporthians agree."

Assuaged, Anne ate an anchovy.

1 -Arachnids are arthropods. Anchovies are an approximation

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### Dolgellau Remembered...The Fire Brigade.

By Craig Hughes

Little boys will remain little boys, even after they are grown up and are my age.. Some things are cast in concrete....like throwing stones better than little girls. Our taunts and war chants circled the globe....."Our dog can fight your dog....Dolgellau can beat Barmouth....our car is faster than your car...our Dad can beat your Dad"...parochial assertions which confirmed our conceits. As debatable as a public house argument. Usually without damage.

There was however, one activity where Dolgellau was indisputably superior.....viz. and to wit...The Fire Brigade. Other towns might be dedicated arsonists but we were the

people who could, quick as a wink, snuff out chimney fires, the town dump, Christmas trees and other incendiary excitements.

At the risk of an understatement, let me say, The Dolgellau Fire Brigade was the best in Wales, the best in Britain, the best in the world...and especially better than Barmouth. The Great Fire of London would never have happened if Capten Jones y Dwr, that is to say, Jones the Water, had been there with our engine and our men.

And the proof ? Look at the buildings in the town ...hundreds of years old...tight as a sporan...dry as a Sunday. And the trees all round ....everything waiting to go POOF if we ever had a fine day. Our boys were ready.

We felt quite sorry for Barmouth....three quarters of the town was drowning in Cardigan Bay twice a day...no chance for a decent fire there. It was just as well because, every time there was a whiff of smoke from the Cambrian Railway someone had to go running up Panorama Walk behind the Church to lassoe the horses. Their Council was too mingy to buy a real fire-engine, although they were always running after the visitors with collecting boxes. So it was poor Dobbin who had to go galloping to places as far away as Cutiau Kennels while Dolgellau dowsed every conflagration this side of Hell.

We had a gas-works with steam ready for the fire siren. Barmouth had an old man on a three-wheel bicycle and carbide lamp to go knocking the houses for volunteers. Sometimes they would fire a rocket and explode a maroon but then everybody would rush to the slip-way to watch the life-boat getting launched by mistake. And with the noise of the rocket and all the shouting the horses had to be fetched down from the mountain again.

Think I'm inventing ? Do you remember the fire at St. David's in Harlech ? ....Famous it was. The Dolgellau boys drove twenty miles....right through Barmouth, who couldn't find their horses, ....RIGHT THROUGH and TEN MILES BEYOND ..... Do you remember the two fires at Brunton's factory ....nobody from Barmouth came to help....not that we needed them.....and how about the thirteen fires with the wet hay at Cymer Abbey farm....? Nobody from Barmouth. Not even when Y Popty Lawnt a.k.a. the Bakehouse caught fire. What a lovely smell of fresh bread.....and sparks as high as Cader Idris.

And the medals in the window of Richard Jones, New Shop. Trophies like you wouldn't imagine.

Only missed one fire....the Buckley Mansion in Llanymawddwy ....the operator in Machynlleth wouldn't reverse the charges.....Pity....everyone said it was a lovely fire. You can still see the lodge gates.

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### **Kiwanis Music Festival 2004**

Every year, the Ottawa Welsh Society donates \$ 300 to the Kiwanis Music Festival to be awarded as one of the prizes in the Senior Open Vocal Competition in recognition of the importance of those skills to our Welsh heritage.

This year's prize was awarded to Wallis Giunta. He sent us a note to say that he will apply it towards his second year studies in music at the University of Ottawa.

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### **The Pit Pony Sanctuary**

We have had the following request from "The Pit Pony Sanctuary" in Penyrcoedcae, Pontypridd, Wales.

"Friends, we are a small group in Wales who help all the Needy Horses & Ponies we can with our meagre resources. We established the Centre here in Penyrcoedcae in 1988 and went on to Register as a Charity in 1991.

"Over the last few years our work to retire the Pit Ponies from the small private mines in Wales has brought 10 here for their well earned retirement. However, we have the names of 70+ more who worked in the small private mines since 1980 that dotted the Welsh coalfields and we confidently expect many more to retire here.

"Their time spent underground in the pits has caused then serious health problems in later life. Like the men, the coal dust in their lungs won't go away. Our current Farm is now far to small and we need to buy a larger Farm or expand and repair this one to secure their future.

"We are very busy caring for the needy ponies we find. However, fundraising here is difficult as our part of Wales is one of the poorest in Europe.

"Would the Welsh people there help us to help them?"

See [www.pitponies.co.uk](http://www.pitponies.co.uk) & [www.sponsorpony.co.uk](http://www.sponsorpony.co.uk)

Further information from [info@pitponies.co.uk](mailto:info@pitponies.co.uk) or (011-44) 0 871 8724106 or write to The Pit Pony Sanctuary, Penyrcoedcae, Pontypridd, Wales CF37 1PS UK

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### **Corgis**

By Craig Hughes

Corgis come from two Welsh shires.  
They're bred to work in fields and byres.  
The Pembroke dogs have shortened tails  
While Cardi's weigh more on the scales.

The Doberman is black and tan,  
Not guaranteed a friend to man.  
Inclined to be hysterical,  
Choleric and chimerical.

The Mastiff and his distaff side  
Are very tall and very wide.  
Though oft at running they're outclassed  
The coats they wear are colour-fast.

The Daschund has a sensitive nature;  
A victim of rude nomenclature.  
His sense of humour is an asset.  
He's not as solemn as a Basset.

### **Y Clwb Cymraeg**

If you have an interest in the Welsh language, whether fluent or just beginning, Y Clwb Cymraeg may interest you. We meet to watch films, on or about the Welsh language (usually with English subtitles), and also to celebrate Welsh culture.

For information: contact

- Paul Birt, President, at (819) 684-1560 or
  - Glen Jones 592-8957
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### **Jôc**

A gloomy looking minister was traveling on a slow train across Wales with only one other passenger in the compartment. Suddenly he turned to his fellow passenger and demanded "Have you ever reflected that at any moment we may be launched into eternity?"

"Yes", said the stranger, "many times."

"And do you ever meditate on the great uncertainty of life?"

"Yes, indeed, I think of this many times a day" replied the other.

"Indeed!" said the minister, "can it be that I am talking to a fellow minister?"

"No," said the stranger, firmly, "you are not. I am a traveling agent for the London and Cardiff Life Assurance association. As it happens I have here a prospectus setting out the tables of mortality for clergymen and giving details of our special terms for ministers. And now, good-day to you sir, I must get off at the next station."

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LONDON (Reuters) - Britain's most unusual war heroes -- including glow worms, elephants and monkeys -- will be honoured Wednesday for their devotion to duty under fire.

Princess Anne will unveil a war memorial in London's Park Lane dedicated to all the animals and insects that endured hardship with the nation's armed services.

"Britain's Animals in War memorial is a nation's long-awaited and very welcome tribute to the millions of animals that have served and suffered for their country," said Marilyn Rydstrom, head of the PDSA animal charity.

Among those honoured will be glow worms whose light was used by soldiers to read maps during the trench warfare of World War One.

The stone memorial bears the profiles of creatures from bears to monkeys -- kept by soldiers as mascots -- and will be the most prominent tribute to animal bravery in Britain, a nation often mocked for loving its pets more than its children.

In 1943 the founder of the PDSA created the Dickin Medal to honour acts of outstanding animal bravery. The medal, dubbed "the animals' Victoria Cross" -- Britain's highest award for human bravery -- has been granted to 60 animals.

One distinguished holder of the medal was Rob, the "para dog" who made over 20 parachute drops while serving on top secret missions behind enemy lines in World War II.

Another brave canine was Ricky, who continued to work clearing mines in Holland despite severe head injuries.