



Y Bwletin

Gwasg y Nant – Valley Press Mis Ebrill 2005 – April 2005

Llywydd - President

Glenson T. Jones Email: ottawawelshsociety@rogers.com
51 McIntosh Place Kanata ON K2L 2N7 (613) 592-8957 Fax: (613) 592-8635

Ysgrifennydd - Secretary

Kimberly Power Email: jkrd.power@sympatico.ca
17 Trotting Way Kanata ON K2M 1B3 Phone: (613) 592-5795

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

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Digwyddiadau - Events for 2005

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| 2005 Ontario Welsh Festival | April 29 - May 1 |
| Pot Luck Supper & AGM | Thursday May 26 |
| Blackwood Wales vs. Barrhaven, Rugby | Saturday July 23 |
| North American Festival of Wales | September 1-4 |

Donations for Silent Auction

The Ottawa Welsh Society is looking for donations of items of Welsh interest for the Silent Auction to be held in conjunction with the Pot Luck Dinner and AGM.

If you have any books, tapes, CDs, videos about Wales or in Welsh or any collectables from Wales and would be interested in donating them to the Society, please call Rowly Jenkins at 825-5288 or email jenkins13@rogers.com

Pot Luck Dinner & AGM

Pot Luck Dinner 6 pm for 6:30 pm **Thursday May 26**

Annual General Meeting 7:30 pm

Westminster Presbyterian Church

470 Roosevelt Ave.

Bring an appetizer, main course, salad or desert

There will be a **silent auction** of items of Welsh interest.

(Please note: the church does not allow wine or alcohol.)

2005 Ontario Welsh Festival April 29 – May 1

The Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association is holding its annual Welsh Festival in Stratford this year. It will be held at the Arden Park Hotel on 552 Ontario Street, Stratford.

Friday will have a Welcome tea and a Noson Lawen. The OGGA AGM, Banquet and Concert along with poetry readings. The

Gymanfa Ganu will be Sunday. The Concert will feature the Maelgwn Male Voice Choir with conductor Trystan Lewis. A number of Ottawa members attend every year.

For information, please contact: Mabel Hastings, 29 Heathview Avenue, Willowdale ON M2K 2C2 or phone 416 730-8658

North American Festival of Wales September 1-4

The 74th North American Festival of Wales will be held in Orlando Florida in 2005 from September 1-4. It will be held at the Contemporary Resort within walking distance of the Disney Magic Kingdom.

It will feature four days of concerts, lectures, musical and singing demonstrations in an intergenerational celebration of Welsh culture and heritage.

Contact: WNGGA Headquarters, PO Box 215 Hartland MI 48353 USA or phone 810 632-7850 or email wngga@comcast.net. Roy Morris (592-1222) is the Vice-President.

Recent Events

St David's Day Banquet & Dance

Ninety people sat down to a lovely meal of leek and potato soup and roast leg of lamb on February 26 in honour of St David. Much thanks must go to Barbara Colton and her crew as well as to the phone committee members.

We were pleased to have Alan Thomas as our Master of Ceremonies again. For several years, Alan has been the organist for our Christmas Carol and our Gymanfa Ganu Services. He is organist and Choir Director of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Ottawa. His career has included posts as Director of Music in England and Canada, most recently at Ashbury College, Ottawa.

Alan did a great job filling the quiet places in our program and read several of the many letters of greeting received from sister Societies and friends of our Society.

Our Guest speaker this year was David G. Jones, a member of our own society, who has been very successful in this and previous years' E-Steddfods; (see last page). David worked hard to obtain

all advertisements which were necessary to pay for the brochure for the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu in Ottawa in 2000.

David and his wife are both from Nova Scotia. His working life includes a period as a steel worker and shop steward with the United Steel Workers of America. Today he is Director of Knowledge with the RCMP and a visiting professor at Royal Roads University. He is also an accomplished writer.

He was named an honorary fellow of the University of King's College (his alma mater) in 1998 and awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee medal in 2002 by the RCMP Commissioner.

David's talk was entitled, "A Little Bit of Magic". He led us from the words of John Ceiriog Hughes through questions of cultural history and Japanese Zen gardening; onward through his family home town of Tredegar and, with the aid of the Ottawa Public Library, he has located the actual site of Camelot. The Camelot of King Arthur and the knights of the round table!

Where, you might ask, was it that? The answer will have to wait as it can only be communicated in a special ceremony as first created by Rex Harrison. Enough mystery? Well, watch this space. We may let you in on the secret in a later Bwletin.

Following the talk our DJ kept the dance floor full for hours.

Ottawa Gymanfa Ganu

The Ottawa Welsh Society Gymanfa Ganu was held on Sunday February 27 at the Westminster Presbyterian Church and was also well attended. It was directed this year by Marilyn Jenkins, who is also the director of the Ottawa Welsh Society. Thanks to Wendy Wynne-Jones and her crew for organizing the event.

Our organist was Alan Thomas who was in his usual fine form despite all his work as our Master of Ceremonies the night before. It was especially nice to have the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society performing for us. Their anthem this year was "Felly y Carodd Duw y Byd" by J.R. Wallis-James. The soloist was John Griffiths who sang "How Great Thou Art" in Welsh.

Our continuing thanks must go to Reverend Clifford Evans for leading the service. We had Refreshments after the service.

Greg and Lisa May

Lisa contacted us in February to say that she and Greg were well and that Cerys is now two and doing well in nursery, and Elin is 6 months and is a very happy smiling baby.

Honours For Local Principal – Ottawa Sun Feb 2, 2005

A local elementary school principal has been named one of 28 outstanding principals across Canada, for her dedication and professionalism toward her job and her school's community.

Barbara Lloyd joined the former Ottawa Board of Education in September 1989 and later moved on to become a vice-principal.

In the fall of 1999, she took her first post as principal, at Charles H. Hulse School and moved on to Fielding Drive Public School in Sept. 2003, where she's now principal.

Lloyd was yesterday honoured at the school for being named a top principal in the country.

A national executive advisory panel made up of education and community leaders selected winners from a slate of nominees.

The Learning Partnership and the Canadian Association of Principals and its affiliate organizations collaborated in the new joint endeavour to recognize the contributions principals make to the community and the role they play in ensuring quality public education

Lloyd will take part in a leadership development forum later this month at the University of Toronto.

[Editors note: Barbara & Geoff Lloyd are members of the OWS.]

Welsh Costume for Sale

Bought at Neath Market for £ 29.99. For Age 9 – 11 years.

Contact Barbara Colton 771-0515 or barbara.colton@hotmail.com

Paris Welsh Society

Phillip Ostiguy was in contact with Nest Pierry of the Paris Welsh Society. She offered the best wishes of her society to ours and mentioned that she had enjoyed being with us in Ottawa at the WNGGA festival we hosted in 2000.

Linda F. Jones ?

I have a letter of inquiry from Gina Chen See, a Trust Analyst of the Ontario Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee.

She is looking for Linda F. Jones, who previously lived at R.R. #1 Frazerville Ontario K0L 1V0, and who is now the beneficiary of some money.

If anyone could assist us in locating LINDA F. JONES, please contact Gina Chen See at (416) 314-4326 or toll free at 1-800-366-0335 Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Cymdeithas Madog Welsh Course

Cymdeithas Madog announces that its annual week-long Welsh language course will this year be held at the University of Rio Grande Ohio July 17-24. 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, as well as invited speakers for the early afternoon sessions.

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 Samuel Little, Registrar - Cwrs Cymraeg 2005, 5021 SE Cora Street, Portland, OR 97206-3903, USA email registrar@madog.org

National Poet for Wales

Wales is to have its own national poet after the Arts Council Wales gave a £5,000 lottery grant for the role.

The poet will act as a cultural ambassador for the nation, creating new works which promote the image of Wales.

Both England and Scotland already have their own national bards.

The appointed poet would hold the role for one year and their works would be read at ceremonial and official occasions. The language will alternate between Welsh and English.

Iestyn Davies, head of communications at the Arts Council of Wales, said: "As a country renowned for its literary heritage it is fitting that Wales should have its own national poet, creating new works that celebrate our successes, comment on our failures and raise the profile of Wales through literature."

'Cultural nationhood'

The announcement comes as the arts body Academi hosts its annual conference, Songs of Freedom, which looks at the question of politics, propaganda and freedom of speech.

Chief executive Peter Finch, who has previously called for the post's creation, welcomed the news.

"Wales is as much the land of poets as it is the land of song - the appointment of our first National Poet will bear this out," he said.

"England was first with its Poet Laureate, then Scotland with its Maker and now Wales - ample evidence of our growing cultural nationhood."

Some of the duties of the poet will include encouraging young people to take part in literary activities.

The Girl from Cefn Ydfa

One of the most famous stories of Wales concerns the romance of Ann Thomas and her humble lover, Wil Hopcyn.

Ann Thomas lived in Llangynwyd, in a large house called 'Cefn Ydfa'. One day, a young man called Wil Hopcyn came to Cefn Ydfa. Wil was a poor worker and he re-thatched the roof of the house. He sang beautifully whilst working.

Ann heard the singing. She looked out of the window and saw Wil on the roof. Wil turned and saw Ann, and the two fell in love straight away.

But, Ann's mother didn't like Wil; he was only a poor worker, and Ann was a rich girl. And anyway, Ann was going to marry another man - a very rich man - called Anthony Maddocks.

But Wil and Ann were in love. They met in the forest at nightfall. Ann wrote letters to Wil, and sent a maid to hide the letters in an empty tree; then Wil crept out to get the letters.

Then, someone told Ann's mother. The mother then kept Ann in the house, and she hid the paper and the ink. But she could not stop Ann and Wil. Ann wrote a letter on a sycamore leaf with her own blood.

Eventually, the mother sent the maid away. Now, there was no one to carry Ann's letters to the tree. It was all over, and Ann had to marry Anthony Maddocks. At the wedding, she was quiet and pale. Before long, she became very ill. Maddocks paid for a good doctor but nothing could make Ann better; she became weaker and weaker. She couldn't live without Wil Hopcyn.

On her death bed, Ann called for Wil. He came, and Ann died - in the arms of Wil Hopcyn.

Press Release to Welsh Organizations

The St. David's Society of Pittsburgh, PA., is spearheading an international drive to establish a Welsh Nationality Classroom at the University of Pittsburgh where there are twenty-six rooms devoted to nationalities ranging from Austria to Yugoslavia. Ireland, England, and Scotland are represented, but Wales is not. During the recent holiday season, The St. David's Society joined with representatives of other Nationality Classrooms in sponsoring an Open House at the University.

Hundreds of visitors attended the event; we served Welsh cakes and other refreshments in our hospitality room, sold Welsh love spoons and distributed information on our plans to preserve and honour our Welsh heritage by means of the Welsh Nationality Classroom. Bob Evans, founder of the famed Bob Evans Restaurant chains, is serving as Honorary Chairman and endorsements have been received from a number of Welsh organizations.

The Welsh Nationality Classroom will be an accurate representation of an 18th Century Welsh Chapel and attached Longhouse, and will be a beautiful and austere setting where the history, language, literature, music and artefacts of the Welsh people are on permanent display.

In terms of the design, the concept will be based on the Pen-Rhiw Chapel and the Cilewent Farmhouse, both of which are on exhibit at the St. Fagans Museum of Welsh Life outside Cardiff, Wales.

Plans are currently underway for an international fund-drive to raise a total of \$450,000. To date, over \$180,000 has been pledged by Board members of the St. David's Society and a few close supporters. There is significant interest in the project in our homeland, as evidenced by an article from Cambria magazine, and an Advisory Committee has been formed in Wales. We hope that this committee will include members of the Welsh Assembly.

Most recently Dr. Meredydd Evans, noted Welsh musician, expressed thanks for our Society's "determination to see Wales so dramatically represented in the Cathedral of Learning." He also said "It is good to draw attention to the contribution of the Welsh people. . . . Your choice of the Chapel as the central theme is so appropriate."

The St. David's Society concluded the year with an enthusiastic Gymanfa Ganu and we look forward to a post-holiday luncheon and St. David's Day observances in 2005. We continue to have a Welsh display at area libraries.

Contact Jack Owen c/o Polito & Smock, P.C., Suite 400 Four Gateway Center, Pittsburgh PA 15222-1237 or phone 412 394-3343 or email jowen@politolaw.com .

Request to host U-18 Rugby Players

The Barrhaven Barbarians Rugby Football Club in South Ottawa will be hosting the U-18 junior men's team from the Blackwood R.F.C. in Wales for a match on Saturday July 23, 2005.

They are asking if any of our Welsh Society members would be willing to host any of the players for the period of July 22, 23, 24.

Please call Jim Brooks at 489-3453 or jamesbrooks9@hotmail.com

Jim goes on to say "Wales, the home of international rugby, has just won the Six Nations Tournament. This tournament is played annually between Wales, England, Scotland, Ireland, France and Italy. It is quite a feat to win and provides enormous bragging rights for the next year!!"

David G. Jones Wins Again - E-Steddfod 2005

The Museum of Welsh Life 4th E-Steddfod has concluded. It included wide-ranging competitions by email, in English and in Welsh. The winners have been announced. See: "<http://www.nmgw.ac.uk/www.php/312/>"

Under the English Language Competitions, our own David G. Jones has again won several awards.

Poem: Peace or War - 1st David G. Jones **See below.**

Humorous Epitaph - 1st David G. Jones

Six couplets on the theme: Welsh Industry 2nd David G. Jones
Short Poem (of no more than 20 lines): Apology
2nd David G. Jones

Essay/Article: Memories of Transport in the past in your home area. E.g. the impact of transport on everyday life; public transport, commercial vehicles, Sunday School trips, the local garage.

Joint 3rd David G. Jones

Congratulations again David. This is three years in a row that you've pulled it off. We're proud of you.

Peace and War

by David G. Jones

One time, people were driven by their own needs
and they would do, what they had to do
so they would need no more.

Then people learned that if they lived with other people
that work could be shared, and they could be protected
from those who were driven by need.

But people who live with other people need rules -
and groups of people who relate to other groups of people need
rules -
so that the well being of the whole does not suffer from those in
need.

And in these more settled times, it was found that there are people
who will from time to time break the rules;
and there are also people who never follow any rules,
because they place their needs above all else.

Both the learned and the unlearned, wrestled to find a way
that people can live without the breaking of rules.....
so that a better world might be founded,
where there was no need for rules.

But no means was found
for people to live with people, without the braking of rules. And
we have war.

And now we need, all of us, to find a way that we can create a
world without fear,
a world without fighting.

These needs are not only of Northerners. Or those of the West. Or
of the farmer, or the fisherman
These needs are not only of dark-hued nomads of Asia, or black
herders of Africa
These needs are not just that of bankers of Egypt or brokers of the
Steppes.
These needs are shared among all of us.

But despite the will. Despite the work. Despite the suffering and
agony....
wars are waged. Battles are fought. Friends fight. Families break
up.
Why should that be?

Could it be that in our hopes and aspirations
we have been unwilling to do what must be done?
Perhaps we do not even know what that might be. Is it possible....
that the solution to our malaise lives within us?
If that can be, then we must look to ourselves
we must look within ourselves,
and follow the course that we may find there.....
We shall have to learn where to look.

In the new times to come, if they are to come,
there must be denial.
And there must be giving up, instead of taking away.
And the denial must be deep, and meaningful.
What is given up, must be of that which is most sacred and
valued.

When the other sees the highly valued offered
that the gift is made without condition;
when the other sees that nothing is asked in return,
a beginning will have been made.

And what of Peace?

Well, Peace is more than an agreement not to wage war.
and it is more than a time between wars.
and it is more than forcing peace through the threat of war,
and more than forcing an end to war through the threat of even
more war.

There is Peace when it is understood that there is everything to
gain from Peace,
and there is nothing to gain from war.

And we shall not see Peace
until we are willing to offer up that which we hold most dear.

(This competition called for a poem on war OR peace. I decided to do it on war AND peace.)

I regret to have to inform you of the death of Albert Dennis "Al" DENYER a former active member of the Ottawa Welsh Society

Veteran W.W.II Princess Louise Dragoon Guards At Riverpark Place, with his family by his side, on Sunday, March 20, 2005 in his 87th year.

Predeceased by his wife Katie and his daughter Susan. Loving father of Dilys (Brian Toole), Janis (Robert Lacroix), David (Barbara), Mavis (David Haws) and Jennifer (Michael Yeo). Proud grandfather of 9 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Survived by his sisters Marjorie, Betty, Pat, and Joan.

I regret to inform you that Wendy Wynne-Jones' dear mother, Sheila Wynne-Jones, died on Sunday Feb 27th in the afternoon, after a short illness, and a long and happy life. Wendy's brother Philip was at her side.

A Memorial Service was on Friday the 11th at 11 am in St. James Anglican Church, Perth, Ontario.