



# Y Bwletin

## Gwasg y Nant – Valley Press Mis Gorffennaf 2005 – July 2005

### Llywydd - President

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### Golygydd – Editor

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### Digwyddiadau - Events for 2005

- Blackwood Wales vs. Barrhaven, Rugby Saturday July 23  
Annual Picnic – Walter Baker Park Sunday August 7  
North American Festival of Wales September 1-4

#### Annual Picnic

**Sunday August 7, 2005 – from 3:00 pm**

#### Activities for all ages.

Races and Games for all ages

(Water park on site: bring towels and bathing suit or change of clothes)

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

Bring your own drinks & special food.  
Some soft drinks will be available.

Pot Luck Dessert – your specialty

#### Walter Baker Park, Kanata

About ¼ mile south of Queensway on Terry Fox Drive  
(2<sup>nd</sup> traffic light north of Hazeldean Rd on Terry Fox)  
(Esso Station across the street)

**Please contact Kim Power by July 26 at 592-5795** to confirm your attendance and your choice of food. All food has to be pre-ordered to ensure that we have enough.

BBQ will start about 5:00 pm.

#### Your New Executive

The Ottawa Welsh Society Annual General Meeting in May was a lot of fun. The Pot Luck Supper was sumptuous. The Silent Auction raised \$185. The only negative feature was that, for the first time in many years, we had NO nominations for new members of the Executive Committee of the Society.

Because of withdrawals we now have 6 openings on the Executive and therefore Volunteers will be needed to run the usual events.

At the Executive meeting in June, the following were elected.  
President - Kim Power Secretary - Dianne Evans  
Newsletter Editor - Glenson Jones Social - Lezlie Wood  
Treasurer – Alison Lawson is remaining until volunteer found  
Members-at-large: Rowly Jenkins and John Price

**Please contact the President, Kim Power, at 592-5795 with offers to help.**

#### U-18 Rugby in Ottawa

The Barrhaven Scottish 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 at 6 pm July 23, 2005 at the newest rugby facility in the City of Ottawa - South Nepean Park - in the community of Barrhaven at 700 Longfields Drive.

See <http://www.barrhavenscottish.com/>

#### North American Festival of Wales September 1-4

The 74<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:wngga@comcast.net) Roy Morris (592-1222) is the Vice-President.

#### Hen Wlad fy Nhadau (Welsh National Anthem)

It is believed that a weaver from Mid Glamorgan, Evan James, wrote the words one morning in January 1856 to a tune composed by his son James James. The date of the song's adoption as the national anthem is subject to debate, but it is known that the tune was given prominence in 1874, and since that date has been considered the song which expresses Welsh nationalism.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MAY 26, 2005

### Draft Minutes

Members Present: Judy Blackwell, Elisabeth Carioto, Barbara Colton, Myfanwy Davies, Jean Don, Christine Evans, Clifford Evans, Dianne Evans, Dorothy Evans, Rhian Evans, John Griffiths, Lee Griffiths, Jean Howard, Tony Howard, Lyndell Hughes, Stan Hughes, Bill Jeanes, Rowly Jenkins, Jayne Jenkins, Glenson Jones, Jill Jones, Alison Lawson, Robert Price, John Roberts, Aggie Simpson, Lezlie Wood.

- 1) Call to Order. Following a Pot Luck supper, President Glenson Jones called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.
- 2) Moment of Silence. President Glenson Jones asked for a minute of silence to honour the members we had lost in the past year.
- 3) Minutes of 2004 meeting. It was moved and seconded (Clifford Evans/John Roberts) that the minutes be approved. Carried.
- 4) Business Arising from minutes.
  - a) The President reported that our Web Page is now working again but that we need someone to be our Web Master.
  - b) Barbara Colton gave a summary of the events of OGGA meeting held in Stratford Ontario in April. The attendance was down but the choir was great.
  - c) The Cymdeithas Madog Welsh Course was held at the Carleton University in July 2004. It was attended by 70 people from all across the USA and Canada and three of the tutors were brought over from Wales. Five of the students were from the local Ottawa area. A nice letter was received from the CM President thanking our Society for the \$300 donation we made to fund the opening reception for the Course. The winner of the OWS scholarship prize of \$500 was Francisca Lanthier.
  - d) The President gave a short summary of his experiences at the Buffalo Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association in Buffalo, NY, Sept. 2-5, 2004.

5) Membership Report. Families – 51, Singles – 10, Seniors - 58

6) Treasurer's Report. Alison Lawson presented her report. Copy on file. The report consisted of 4 pages, Balance Sheet and Auditor's Report, Income and Expenses list, Income from Functions, and an Asset List. Overall, the Society lost about \$470 for the year. Alison moved acceptance of her report. Seconded by Jill Jones. Carried.

Alison then brought up the subject of insurance. Our premium had dropped from \$1,176.12 to \$810.00. Alison had gone to a broker who assured her the policies were identical, but on closer examination, she discovered that there was a difference in the amount of coverage we have for medical expenses to be paid without litigation. Previously we were covered for \$25,000 per

person, but the new policy only covers \$5,000 per person. It was too late to change this year, but the committee requested direction from the membership. After some discussion it was proposed and seconded (Rowly Jenkins/Jean Don) that we affirm the Society's decision to change companies. Carried.

Alison continued by mentioning Director's Insurance which was suggested by our broker. This protects the Society from malfeasance by any of the Directors. Alison had received two quotes for this coverage, and they were \$1,250 and \$1,300 plus taxes. The Committee had discussed this issue and suggested that the by-laws of the Society be reviewed, and that perhaps a waiver be signed by members absolving the Society of blame in this type of circumstance. It was moved and seconded (Alison Lawson/Elisabeth Carioto) that the new committee review the Society by-laws with the view to including a waiver of responsibility from members. Carried.

7) President's Report for year May 2004 - April 2005

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

The Ottawa Welsh Society has had another good year and I would like to thank the members of your Executive Committee for all they have done to make this success possible.

The 2004 Pot Luck Supper and AGM was attended by 24 members. The food was great and, as usual, we had a lot left over. At that meeting Dorothy Evans and Robert Lloyd declined to continue on the Executive and two new members, Dianne Evans and Lezlie Wood, were elected. All four were thanked for their interest in our Society.

Our family picnic in June attracted 40 people. Our warmest thanks go to Barbara and Jim Colton for sharing their home and pool, and for cooking the meat, to John Griffiths for arranging the food, and to Rhian Evans, Kim Power, Roy Morris and others who helped to make the event successful.

The Cymdeithas Madog Welsh Course was held at the Carleton University in July 2004. It was attended by 70 people from all across the USA and Canada and three of the tutors were brought over from Wales. Five of the students were from the local Ottawa area. The winner of the OWS scholarship prize of \$500 was Francisca Lanthier. Our most sincere thanks goes to Professor Paul Birt and his committee for this most successful event.

The Faggots, Peas and Noson Lawen evening in November was very successful and attracted 120 people. As usual, our master chief, John Griffiths, supplied and cooked the faggots and sausages. Catrin

and Nigel Morris prepared the potatoes and mushy peas. Pies, drinks and bar were organised by the committee who also did the table set-up and serving.

Following the delicious meal Wendy Wynne-Jones arranged the Noson Lawen which had 11 very interesting programs.

Our annual service of Carols and Lessons, had over 80 attendees. Alan Thomas, our organist, and the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society with their director, Marilyn Jenkins, did a splendid job of setting the atmosphere. The soloist was John Griffiths.

The Children's Christmas Party organized by Kim Power kept 10 excited children contained for several hours, relieved by a visit from Santa.

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 who chaired this event. Alan Thomas was our MC and David G. Jones, our guest speaker, gave us "A Little Bit of Magic" and rounded off HIS talk by getting US to sing. Another very lovely experience.

The Gymanfa Ganu was directed by Marilyn Jenkins this year. She led us and the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society in an inspiring afternoon of singing. Alan Thomas was in good form on the organ. Thanks also to Reverend Clifford Evans and to our soloist John Griffiths.

Our film nights have been hit and miss. A few have attracted an audience but others have been totally ignored. The problem is that we are ALL very busy and NO date or LOCATION will be convenient for everyone. I have now have a personal collection of about 150 DVDs; about half in Welsh and the other half in English but dealing with Wales or having Wales as a background. I think that rather than trying to make arrangements to host film nights, I will loan my DVDs to members who will be responsible for paying for any postage costs etc. Please get in touch with me if you are interested. As well, for anyone interested in learning the Welsh language, I also have a large collection of audio, video and printed materials at all levels of language proficiency. I could also loan these.

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. 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 detail arrangements. This worked exceptionally well and brought new energy to the events.

Our Society is also 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 the spring Concert in April. We are pleased to hear that Shannon Mercer was one of the finalists in the Jeunesses Musicales of Canada competition in Montreal earlier this month.

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 worked hard on planning and implementing our events.

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 bawb. Glenson Jones President

- 8) Election of Directors. Glenson Jones reported that there were 6 openings on the Committee. He announced that Barbara Colton, Harry Corrin, Rhian Evans, Gail Phillips and Wendy Wynne-Jones would be retiring and he thanked them for their services to our Society. Alison Lawson also wished to retire but agreed to remain until a replacement could be found.

There had been no written nominations received, so he asked for nominations from the floor. None were forthcoming, so Glenson announced that volunteers would be requested to assist at functions.

- 9) Other Business.
- a) Sale of computer. The meeting approved the proposal to place the societies computer for sale in the silent auction.
  - b) Bob Price brought greetings and thanks from the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society.
  - c) Notice of first Executive meeting – June 7th
  - d) Notice of Alan Thomas and Parkdale Orchestra's upcoming concert.
  - e) Rowly Jenkins moved a vote of thanks to Westminster Presbyterian Church and it's members for their hospitality in hosting our meeting.
- 1) Silent Auction – Glenson Jones announced the results of the Silent Auction which raised \$185 for the Society.

Glen congratulated the winners and thanked those who had donated goods for the Auction.

The Society – Computer system

Wendy Wynne-Jones – 6 books

Craig Hughes – 2 books

Glenson Jones – a Welsh Course of 2 cassettes plus book, 8 books and 35 audio cassettes of choirs.

- 11) Closure. President Glenson Jones moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

#### **Ottawa Welsh Society in the Press**

The March-April 2005 issue of Cambria magazine had a three page article on "The Welsh in Canada". Our Society was mentioned and they have an insert of our letterhead!

The article was on the Welsh who came to Canada, some of their reasons for coming and some of the legacy they created.

The same issue also had articles on St David, Cardiff, Aberglasney Gardens, poet Harri Webb, Welsh Carols in Peace and War, the impact of the new Europe on the Welsh language as well as a photo-feature on a Ceredigion valley.

For information on the Cambria magazine, call Glenson Jones at 592-8957 or see [www.cambriamagazine.com](http://www.cambriamagazine.com)

**TO THE OTTAWA WELSH SOCIETY**  
**June 16, 2005**

Dear Fellow Members:

Once again this September, the Welsh choir will be seeking new members, and particularly singers with a Welsh background.

As you may know, the choir is a child of the Ottawa Welsh Society: it was formed by some members back in 1968, and for many years thereafter it was OWS members who made up the enduring core of the choir.

When the choir was formed, it took as its objective to promote and maintain interest in Welsh music and culture in the context of the Canadian multicultural scene.

I believe it is fair to say that, over the years, the choir has made a valiant effort in pursuit of this objective, such that, if asked about Wales and things Welsh, members of the general public in the Ottawa area - at least those who are able to make any response - would think first of the Welsh choir.

Obviously it is easier to "promote and maintain interest in Welsh music and culture" when a substantial part of the choir membership is of Welsh background. In recent years, the number of such members has dwindled seriously. It is for this reason that I am asking any of my fellow members of the OWS who are singers to consider joining (or rejoining) the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society when it begins its 2005-2006 season on Wednesday, September 7, 2005. Your reward will be found not only the pleasure of singing, but also in the satisfaction of contributing to the promotion of Welsh music and culture in the Ottawa area.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,

Bob Price, Vice-President

Ottawa Welsh Choral Society

Ottawa Welsh Choral Society contacts:

Pres. Donna Bowen-Willer 721-1205  
bowen.willer@sympatico.ca

VP. Bob Price 521-1504 rprice@compmore.net

owcs2001@yahoo.ca <http://members.tripod.com/owcs2001>

**Scottie Press Community Newspaper**

Hello - For more than 4 years the Scottie Press Community Newspaper, published in the Scotland Road area of Liverpool 5, England, UK and the Scottie Press website [www.scottiepress.org](http://www.scottiepress.org) have both made efforts to have some formal recognition given to the Welsh History of the Vauxhall area of Liverpool known as 'Over The Bridge'. These efforts will hopefully result in some form of monument made from/with Welsh Slate being sited in the OTB area to recognise that former Welsh Slate Quarry workers settled in this area (1830 - 1870) and subsequently became house-builders. They left their existence in this area behind them in the street names - Snowdon, Barmouth, Menai, Newport, Cemeas etc. I would be very grateful for any help you can give this project by asking members of your society if they have any ancestors who lived at one time in the Vauxhall area of Liverpool and who may be able to trace the ancestry back to the 1830s Slate Quarry workers etc.

I would also be very grateful if you could spread the word of this project to any Welsh groups and societies that you have links with. The port of Liverpool was a very busy leaving point for people travelling to the new worlds of Canada, America etc in the late 1880s and as such I feel sure that many of these Welsh men and women may have become acquainted with or have known quite well the Scotland Road and Vauxhall areas of Liverpool. Many thanks for your time and attention. Best regards Ron Formby (Scottie Press Community Newspaper). [ronformby@scottiepress.org](mailto:ronformby@scottiepress.org)

**Loneliness of Emigrating**

My name is Mary Parry I come from a small coal mining village Llanharan in 1982 with my husband and 3 daughters. I now live in Oshawa Ontario.

It is a very hard thing to leave your family and friends behind. To go shopping at the malls and not know a soul to speak to. When you are so used to saying "how be" to people every couple of seconds on your walk to the shop at home. Or walk down the street and not know a familiar face.

My husband came three months before us with his job and bought a house. He was so lonely and missed us so much. When we finally arrived in Canada three months later I was shocked to see how much weight he had lost pining for his family and friends.

We met two neighbours Sharon and Douglas Johnston who remain our dear friends to this day. We got to know their friends. I will always remember I was walking down the busy street one day months later when a car sounded its horn, I didn't take any notice. The horn blasted again still didn't take any notice. Then a car pulled up along side me and one of Sharon and Doug's friends popped their heads out and said "Hi, what's wrong with you, don't know anyone when you're out."

I was so surprised and thrilled to have someone to say hello, I went home with wings on my feet. That day will always stick out in my mind as long as I live. Now when I go shopping I meet lots of people I know and it's just great.

Mary Parry.

**Welsh patriotism** is stronger than English national pride, according to a study. The survey found that that 67% of people in Wales - two in three - see themselves as being Welsh first and British second.

Across Offa's Dyke, (meaning- in England) fewer than one in three people, 31%, put their Englishness ahead of their Britishness.

The national identity research by the finance firm Morgan Stanley found barely a fifth of people living in Wales, 21%, would say they were primarily British. In England, the figure was 34%.

Wales is clearly a distinct society within the United Kingdom