



# Y Bwletin

## Gwasg y Nant – Valley Press Mis Medi 2006 – September 2006

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## Digwyddiadau - Events for 2006-7

Cantorion Cerdd Dant	Sunday, September 24
Workshop on Welsh Music	Sunday, October 22
<b>Faggots and Peas / Noson Lawen</b>	<b>Saturday, November 4</b>
Ottawa Welsh Choral Society	Sunday, December 10
<b>Carol Service</b>	<b>Sunday, December 17</b>
St. David's Day Banquet & Dance	Saturday, February 24
Gymanfa Ganu	Sunday, February 25

### Cantorion Cerdd Dant & Mary Muckle

The Cantorion Cerdd Dant will be singing, accompanied by their harpist, Mary Muckle, during the service at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ottawa, **Sunday, September 24th**, at 10.30 a.m. The Unitarian Fellowship meet at Seraphim-Marion Public Elementary School, 2147 Loyola Ave. (off Shefford Road), Gloucester.

### Workshop on Welsh Music

**Sunday October 22nd** 2.00 - 5.00 pm at St Matthias Anglican Church, Parkdale Ave. Alan Thomas will give a workshop on Welsh Music, assisted by Mary Muckle, harpist, the Pennillion singers, and John Griffiths, tenor. We are hoping the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society will be able to join us as well. Refreshments will be served in the interval. The event is organized by Cammac.

Further Info from Barbara Riley at 613-230-1531.

All welcome. Come prepared to sing!

### CALLING ALL TALENT!!

If you have an act yourself, or a talented child  
(as I know many of you DO)

please volunteer to perform at the Noson Lawen on  
November 4th  
(don't worry, it is a Saturday!).

Call John Price at 724-3846, or email at  
[john.price@sympatico.ca](mailto:john.price@sympatico.ca)

Tell him what you can do, and let's build another great evening of entertainment together!

### Faggots & Peas Noson Lawen, Saturday November 4th

Westminster Presbyterian Church 470 Roosevelt Avenue.

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

Reserve meal by calling Alison at 725-2704, or email at [alisonlawson@sympatico.ca](mailto:alisonlawson@sympatico.ca)

### Ottawa Welsh Choral Society Christmas Concert Sunday December 10 2:00 p.m.

Bromley Rd Baptist Church, Ottawa  
1900 Lauder Drive

\$15 adults Children under 16 free  
(Tickets available at the door)

### Christmas Carol Service

Sunday December 17 at 7 pm  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
470 Roosevelt Avenue

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

### Advance Notice for Annual Banquet and Dance

Please put the date of Saturday February 24 in your calendar for the Annual Banquet and Dance in honour of our Patron Saint, David, or Dewi Sant, as he is known in Welsh. There will be further information and forms for ordering tickets in the January Bwletin.

### President's Message

Croeso, welcome and greetings to all.

Thank you to the past president and executive members for their hard work and successful events in the last year. Thank you to the people who put my name forward for president and who have helped me since I took office.

We have a number of events planned for this fall and next February and March.

We are holding our annual Faggots & Peas Dinner and Noson Lawen on November 4th at Westminster

Presbyterian Church. Our own John Griffiths will provide the faggots and sausages. We are looking for participants for the Noson Lawen.

Our Carol Service - Lessons and Carols - will be held on December 17th, in the evening, again at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Our St. David's Day Dinner/Dance will take place on February 24, 2007. Our MC will be Alan Thomas. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Deian Evans of Dewi Sant (St David's) United Church in Toronto.

We are holding our annual Gymanfa Ganu on February 25, 2007. We are looking forward to special music by John Griffiths and the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society. Marilyn Jenkins (of the OWCS) will conduct the Gymanfa.

Please share the information about these events with your friends and neighbours.

### **Cincinnati**

A number of us from Ottawa attended the 75th National Gymanfa Ganu over Labour Day Weekend in Cincinnati. There was a strong Ottawa connection: Ian Morris was the Chairman of the Gymanfa; Roy Morris conducted the two Gymanfa sessions on Sunday; and Alan Thomas was the accompanist for the Eisteddfod competition and played the organ for the Gymanfa sessions;. Congratulations to all of you for tasks extremely well done.

Charles and Sandra Bassett, who currently reside in Washington D.C. attended the Gymanfa and send greetings to their friends in Ottawa.

More upcoming events worth noting:

The Ontario Gymanfa Ganu will be held in Kingston, Ontario the last weekend in April, 2007.

The 76th National Gymanfa Ganu will be held in Washington D.C. over Labour Day weekend, 2007.

Lezlie Wood, President

### **North American Festival of Wales, Cincinnati 2006 by Ian Morris**

The 75th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu just held in Cincinnati Ohio was a wonderful success.

The performance of Penrhyn Male Choir at the concert was excellent and the singing at the Gymanfa Ganu conducted by our own Roy Morris and accompanied by our own Alan Thomas was breathtaking.

The Eisteddfod competition was a success. It was organized by Betty Cullingworth of Toronto and Ottawa's Alison Lawson. J. Robert O'Brien (from Incline Village Nevada) won in the Senior Hymn Singing and in the Semi-professional categories and hopes to enter the National Eisteddfod in Wales in the Hymn Singing category.

Our own Roy Morris has been elected president of the WNGGA for the next 2 years. Myfanwy Bajaj of Toronto is the new secretary, with David E Jones from Alexandria Virginia remaining as treasurer.

The event will be held in Alexandria Virginia (10 minutes from downtown Washington DC) for the next few years. Next year we will be featuring the Maelgwn Male Voice Choir and Shannon Mercer will be the soloist and performing at the grand banquet. The conductor of the Gymanfa Ganu will be Mr Trystan Lewis, the conductor of the choir.

### **North American Festival of Wales, Orlando 2005 by Alan Thomas**

I once uttered the fateful words: "I like to be kept busy" Consequently, during my five-day visit to Disney's Contemporary Resort I managed to escape for a 20-minute ride around the Magic Kingdom on the Monorail. The rest of the time I played the piano or organ for seven performances, as well as all the rehearsals.

But it was all immensely enjoyable. Fears of hurricanes kept attendance lower than usual, but nevertheless there was a great group of supporters from Ottawa, the Morris family well to the fore. Roy was an adjudicator at the Eisteddfod - superbly organized by Alison Lawson and Barbara Colton - as well as a considerable help to myself and others in all sorts of ways. Ian Morris has been appointed CEO of next year's festival in Cincinnati, Ohio, and will do a fine job, as usual. Dylan and Alison officiated at the Memorial part of the Sunday service, and Heather was indispensable as my page-turner for several performances. Also present were Kathy, Cathrin, Myfanwy Davies and Lezlie Wood. The Cymanfaoedd were ably conducted by Haydn James, with whom I have worked before.

As well as all the musical events there was a full program of seminars, films, market-places, lectures and language courses and so on, something for every taste and interest.

Next Labour Day weekend I am already engaged to play for various musical events in Cincinnati, when Roy Morris will conduct the Cymanfaoedd. The Penrhyn Male Voice Choir from Bethesda will be a major attraction, as well as the Hogia'r Bonc, and Sian James the harpist and singer as well as a Trio called Lyrica from the local area in Ohio.

Information can be found at [wngga@comcast.net](mailto:wngga@comcast.net) and at [www.NAFOW.org](http://www.NAFOW.org). Plans are already in hand for 2007! If you are able to go to next year's festival I think you will meet people of Welsh background from all over North America and have a thoroughly enjoyable few days.

### **The Wrong Son**

Richard Evans and Tamara Bernier are in town for 2 months working at the NAC. They are the son & daughter-in-law of Clifford & Christine Evans.

Tamara is playing the role of "Maggie" in the play THE WRONG SON. This is the first play of the English Theatre Series, directed by the new Artistic Director, Peter Hinton.

It is a Jazz thriller with book & music by Alan Cole. To quote from the brochure. "Inspired by the classic 'noir' novels of the 1940's & 50's THE WRONG SON combines a gripping 'who-dunn-it' narrative with a lush jazz score and dangerous psychological underpinnings" The Instrumentalists are from Toronto's internationally acclaimed Arraymusic Ensemble.

Richard is engaged as the vocal music Director. They have both worked in musical theatre in Mamma Mia in Toronto & New York, and other cast members are musical theatre performers from across the country.

Previews are on September 19th, 20th and 21st. Opening night September 22nd and the show runs daily, except Sundays & Mondays till October 7th.

**OTTAWA WELSH SOCIETY  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
MAY 16, 2006**

**Members Present:** Myfanwy Davies, Jean Don, Christine Evans, Clifford Evans, Dianne Evans, Jean Howard, Tony Howard, Bill Jeans, Joyce Jeans, Glenson Jones, Jill Jones, Alison Lawson, Ken Pepper, Bob Price, Kimberly Power, John Roberts, Lezlie Wood.

**1. Call to Order:** Following a Pot Luck supper attended by 14 members, President Kimberly Power called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**2. Moment of Silence:** A minute of silence was observed to honour those members who had passed away in the past year.

**3. Approval of the Agenda:** No further items were added to the agenda. It was moved by Myfanwy Davies and seconded by Lezlie Wood that agenda be approved. Carried.

**4. Approval of A.G.M. Minutes of May 26, 2005:** It was moved by John Roberts and seconded by Jean Howard that the minutes be approved as read. Carried.

**5. Business Arising From the Minutes:**

**a) Web Page.** Kimberly reported that the web site has now been reinstated.

www.ottawawelshsociety.com is the site. Robert Lloyd was very helpful in getting this up and running again.

**b) Director's Insurance:** After some debate on this issue the committee voted not to purchase this type of insurance, one of the reasons being the cost. The possibility of adding a Waiver of Responsibility to the membership application was not pursued. It was questionable how binding this would be.

**6. Membership Report:** Alison stated that it appeared that the membership was unchanged from last year which was 51 families, 10 singles, and 58 seniors.

**7. Treasurer's Report:** Alison distributed a multi-paged comprehensive report which consisted of a Balance Sheet, Auditor's report, Income and Expenses list, Income from functions and an Assets List. To summarize, the yearly loss was \$47.91. Alison wished to thank John Davies for reviewing the books for the Society again this year.

**Alison moved, seconded by Glenson** that the treasurer's report be accepted. Carried.

A question was raised about the insurance rate. Would the rate be lower if no alcohol was served at Society functions? The Faggots & Peas is the only event in the last few years

where alcohol has been served. No conclusions were reached.

A short discussion followed the suggestion that prices be raised at some of the other events to off set the cost of the dinner banquet; i.e. charge more for the food at the picnic. No decisions were reached.

**8. President's Report:** Dear Friends, Greetings to you all! The welcome return of the sunshine and warm weather brings new energy and your Committee is busy making plans for our annual spring and summer events. Let me first bring you up to date on our winter happenings and then tell you about the upcoming activities.

**St. David's Day Dinner and Dance**

Our banquet was held on February 25th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Seventy-seven guests attended, enjoying a lamb dinner, dancing and entertainment by Dai Bassett, the Singing Farmer, whose humorous songs were well-received. We look forward to seeing Dai and his wife, Sandy, at future Welsh Society events. Many thanks to our Master of Ceremonies, Alan Thomas, for ably guiding us through the evening's festivities. Those of us who tried the Dragon Cocktail, complete with dragon stir stick, found them to be innovative as well as refreshing and thank Myfanwy Davies for providing the recipe to the Crowne Plaza staff. Thank you to Alison Lawson for coordinating all of the many details involved in organizing this event.

**Gymanfa Ganu**

This year's Gymanfa Ganu, on February 26th, was directed by Roy Morris and accompanied by Alan Thomas. The Reverend Mr. Clifford Evans led the devotions. We enjoyed solos by the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society and by John Griffiths. About 100 people enjoyed the singing of favourite Welsh hymns and then a time of fellowship and refreshment in the church hall. It was a great time to see familiar friends, new faces and to greet visitors from abroad. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the leadership of the event.

**Summer Picnic**

Get out your flags and lawn chairs! The annual Welsh Picnic has been booked for Sunday, June 25th at Walter Baker Park in Kanata. This site, on Terry Fox Drive, features a covered shelter, shade trees, a large playground, paved walking paths and, best of all, a water park with any number of ways to soak your children and other willing companions. We have the site from 2:00 until 6:00 and will probably serve dinner between 4:30 and 5:00. Your barbeque options are as follows: hotdog \$1.00, hamburger \$3.00, steak \$8.00, including coleslaw and potato salad. Desserts are potluck and you should bring your own drinks. Place your barbeque order with Kim Power (592-5795) between June 1st and June 18th.

[Editor's Note: unfortunately, the Summer Picnic had to be cancelled in 2006 because of low response.]

Kimberly Power, President, OWS

**Kimberly moved, seconded by John Roberts** that the president's report be accepted. Carried.

**9. Election of Directors:** Kimberly announced that 5 people were leaving the committee and there are many openings. Alison and Glenson stated they phoned several people but were not successful. Glenson was, however, able to propose the name of Robert Price who was elected unanimously by a show of hands.

[Editor's Note: Those on the OWS Executive are: Lezlie Woods, Robert Price, John Price, Alison Lawson and Glenson Jones. **WE NEED HELP!**]

**10. New Business:**

**a. Consumer and Corporate Affairs:** The society has now been re-registered with the Ministry and all the forms have been signed.

**b. English Speaking Union (E.S.U.) :** This is an organization of a British flavour that holds events to raise money for scholarships. John Roberts has received a request for the society to be involved in a Welsh Theme event. This would probably take place next spring. It was decided to leave this for the attention of the next committee.

**c. St David's Day Celebrations:** The format of the St David's Day celebrations was discussed. The president asked the members present at the meeting if they still prefer the formal St David's Day dinner banquet or would a less costly, less formal function be more appropriate given the changing demographic of the society (many Seniors). The response was varied with some preferring the dinner dance. It was suggested that a different venue may be less expensive. Another suggestion was to have a luncheon with a guest speaker or some other sort of entertainment. Also maybe the Gymanfa Ganu could be held on an alternate weekend. These were all suggestions that future committees might consider.

**d. Dewi Sant Church:** This Welsh church in Toronto is celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer. They are in need of funds to refurbish the church.

**Moved by Myfanwy and seconded by Jean Don** that the society donate two hundred dollars ( \$200.00 ). Carried.

**e. W.N.G.G.A.:** After discussing the rates it was **moved by Glenson, seconded by Lezlie** that the society purchase a ¼ page ad in the North American Festival of Wales booklet. Carried. It was also pointed out that the ad should show our web site.

**f. Executive Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 6, 2006. It was noted that, due to a very small committee, **volunteers WILL be required** to keep the functions of the society going.

**g. Bob Price, president of the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society,** thanked the society for their support during the past year. He said that the numbers were low and that they are always looking for new members.

**h. Glenson thanked Kimberly** for all the work she had done over the past year as President.

**11. Closure:** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

**The Place's of my Boyhood**

by Idris Davies

In the places of my boyhood  
The pit-wheels turn no more  
nor any furnace lightens  
the midnight as of yore

The slopes of slog and cinder  
are sulking in the rain  
and in derelict valley's  
The hope of youth is slain

And yet I love to wander  
the early ways I went  
and watch from doors and bridges  
the hills and skies of Gwent.

Though blighted be the valley's  
where man meets man with pain  
the things my boyhood cherished  
stand firm and still remain

**Her**

Translation of poem "Hon" by T.H. Parry Williams

Why should I give a hang about Wales? It's by a mere Fluke  
of fate that I live in its patch. On a map it does not rate  
higher than a scrap of earth in a back corner, and a bit of  
bother to those who believe in order.

Here's Snowdon and its crew; here's the land, bleak and  
bare; Here's the lake and river and crag, and look! Over  
there!

The house where I was born. But see, between the earth  
and the heavens, all through the place there are voices and  
apparitions.

I begin to totter somewhat, and I confess, there comes over  
me, so it seems, a sort of faintness;

And I feel the claws of Wales tear at my heart. God help me;  
I can't get away from this spot.

**>> Help Wanted <<**

Remuneration: Satisfaction and new friends

Experience: Optional

Tasks: LARGE or small, such as

- Becoming a member of the executive
- Chairing or assisting at a function
- stuffing envelopes
- serving food at a function

We DO have a lot of fun but we are now down to half of our normal number of volunteers and some things are NOT going to be done if we don't get more assistance.

If you can assist please contact our President, Lezlie Wood, at (613) 225-8845 or by email to ldwood7@sympatico.ca or by mail to 205 - 1465 Baseline Road Ottawa ON K2C 3L9