



Y Bwletin

Gwasg y Nant – Valley Press

Mis Awst 2008 – August 2008

Llywydd - President

Lezlie Wood Email: ldwood7@sympatico.ca
205-1465 Baseline Road Ottawa ON K2C 3L9 Phone: (613) 225-8845

Golygydd – Editor

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

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



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- Faggots & Peas/Noson Lawen Saturday Nov 15
- Phoenix Players Dec 4, 5 & 6
- Carol Service Sunday Dec 21
- St David's Banquet Feb 28
- Gymanfa Ganu March 1
- Shannon Mercer Concert March ?

President's Message

Croeso, welcome and greetings to all.

The North American Festival of Wales is in Chicago this year, on Labour Day Weekend (website www.wngga.org). Hope to see you there.

The Maesteg Choir is giving a concert on Thursday, September 4 at 7:30 PM at Bromley Road Baptist Church. We are hosting a social evening for them on Wednesday, September 3 at the Barrhaven Legion.

Our annual Faggots and Peas Dinner and Noson Lawen will be held on November 15 at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The Phoenix Players will be performing 2 plays on December 4, 5 and 6: Joe Carpenter and Son, An English Nativity by Graham Clarke; and A Child's Christmas in Wales, adapted by Jo-Ann McCabe.

Our annual Carol Service will be held on December 21 at 7:00 PM, also at Westminster.

We still need volunteers to serve on the Executive Committee for 2008-2009.

The more people we have on the Committee, the less work there will be for each person.

I hope you have had an opportunity to check out our reorganized website. We require someone to act as webmaster. Please let us know if you are interested.

Please see this newsletter for more information about the upcoming events.

Lezlie Wood, President

North American Festival of Wales

by Myfanwy Davies

This year the North American Festival of Wales is blowing into the Windy City. The four day festival of Welsh art and culture will be held from **August 28th to 31st** at the Doubletree Chicago-Oakbrook hotel. Although this facility is located on the western outskirts of the city, it is close to O'Hare Airport, and getting downtown is very easy. I would strongly recommend going a few days early to take in the Field Museum, the Shedd Aquarium, the Adler Planetarium, the view from the Sears Tower, an architectural boat tour, and some of the wonderful area shopping.

Once the Festival starts on Thursday, you will want to be in the Doubletree for all the activities. The opening concert will feature Fflur Dafydd, a prominent Welsh singer-songwriter. At the Banquet on Friday we will be entertained by Aled Wyn Davies, a well-known Welsh tenor and farmer, and a recent winner of the Blue Riband at the National Eisteddfod. On Saturday night we will be entertained by the Cor Aelwyd CF1, a mixed youth choir from Cardiff. They have also won many accolades including Choir of the Festival in 2005's National Eisteddfod.

Throughout the weekend there will also be a number of seminars given by experts in a variety of Welsh subjects from choirs and rugby, to art and architecture, to literature and poetry. There will also

be an opportunity to view Welsh films, learn to sing and dance in Welsh and to enjoy the Eisteddfod competition, as well as shop in the Marketplace and enjoy a Welsh cake and cuppa in the Tea Room.

The culmination of the weekend will be the 77th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, and this year the director will be Mari Morgan. Mari is a native of Llanelli and the director of the North American Welsh Choir. The organist will be our own Alan Thomas.

For further information see the website:

http://www.wngga.org/NAFOW/nafow_hm.html or talk to Roy Morris who is the President (phone 613-592-1222)

COME AND MEET THE MAESTEG GLEEMEN!

The Maesteg Gleemen Male Voice Choir will be arriving in Ottawa on Tuesday, September 2, to prepare for their **concert on Thursday, September 4**, at Bromley Road Baptist Church. To give them a warm Ottawa welcome, the Welsh community and friends are invited to come out and meet the choir members in a **"social evening,"** to be held on **Wednesday evening, September 3rd**, at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall in Barrhaven.

Wednesday Social September 3

The hall is located at 3023 Cedarview Road (See directions below) and the choir is expected to arrive there at about 7:30 PM. So please mark your calendars and plan to join the choir party for an evening of fellowship and good cheer.

[Editor's Note: this Choir took second place in the 2008 National Eisteddfod of Wales in Cardiff.]

Driving Directions to the Legion Hall
at 3023 Cedarview Road

From the intersection of Veterans Memorial Hwy 416 and the Queensway:

1. Go south on Hwy 416 to the Hunt Club Road exit.
2. Exit onto Hunt Club Road, turning left / east. Immediately, turn right / south onto Cedarview Road.
3. Go south on Cedarview Road, past Fallowfield Road.
4. At about 1.6 k past Fallowfield Road, end at 3023 Cedarview Road, near Kennevale Drive.

Thursday Concert September 4, 7:30 pm,
at Bromley Road Baptist Church
1900 Lauder Drive

For Information about the Welcoming Reception (Sept. 3) or the Concert (Sept. 4), contact:

John Griffiths: 613 829-0106 leegriff@rogers.com
or Bob Price: 613 521-1504 robertprice@magma.ca

Afterglow

Following the Maesteg Concert on September 4, we will have an afterglow in the church hall and are looking for contributions of nibbles. Please contact Myfanwy Davies (613) 526-3019 or miffy@eisa.com to volunteer

sandwiches, Welsh cakes or other goodies. Thank you.

CALLING ALL TALENT!!

If you have an act yourself, or a talented child please volunteer to perform at the Noson Lawen on Saturday November 15.

Call Alan Thomas at 613 733-6066, or email at alan.thomas@sympatico.ca

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

Faggots & Peas Noson Lawen Saturday November 15

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 Bob Price at 613 521-1504 / email: robertprice@magma.ca

Phoenix Players presents A SEASON OF PREMIERES!

December 4, 5, and 6:

Joe Carpenter and Son, An English Nativity
by Graham Clarke

and

A Child's Christmas in Wales
adapted by Jo-Ann McCabe

presented with **The Ottawa Welsh Choral Society**

Performances in The Chamber at Centreponte

Curtain Times: 2:00p.m. Saturday Matinees

7:30p.m. evenings

Tickets: \$15 for Adults, \$12 for Seniors and Students
(For the December Show ONLY
Children 12 and under are \$10)

For more information, please call: 613 820-3675

The cast requirements for the Christmas show are huge:

- 4 boys, age 10-12;
- 3 young men, ages 18-25;
- 7 men, ages 40-70+ (this includes 3 wisemen!),
- 1 young woman, age 18-22, and
- 4 or 5 women, 40++.

Plus additional individuals for the choir!!!!

Most of the roles in Joe Carpenter have a longish speech. The biggest roles go to the men who will play The Playmaster in Joe Carpenter and the senior Dylan Thomas in Wales. Sorry, Ladies! And there will be lots of singing involved, so it's a bonus if you can

carry a tune and enjoy singing Christmas carols!

Jo-Ann McCabe says:

"I will hold auditions Saturday Sept 6th at Nepean Creative Arts Centre. Please call (613 820-3675) or email alfred_mccabe_5@sympatico.ca if you would like to be a part of this wonderful Christmas package or if you have any questions regarding it! Have a great summer!"

Christmas Carol Service

Sunday December 21 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.)

Shannon Mercer Concert

A concert is being planned in Ottawa to officially celebrate the release by Shannon Mercer of a CD of Welsh songs. This will probably take place in **March**, but we are still in the preliminary stages of organization. For more information see: www.shannonmercer.com

THE WNGGA NEEDS YOU!

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association is looking for volunteers to serve on its board of trustees. If you have been a member for the past year, and if you want to help preserve, develop, and promote our Welsh religious and cultural heritage and traditions, then please consider serving on the WNGGA board. To have your name put forward, just contact Bob Price, Secretary, Ottawa Welsh Society, at 613 521-1504 / email: robertprice@magma.ca or contact any of the executive committee members of the Ottawa Welsh Society.

BLAINA RFC SETS UP WEBSITE

Tony Adams, vice-chairman of the Blaina RFC in Gwent, south Wales, wants all Welsh expats to know that Blaina has set up a website to keep us informed of the team's progress. The address is: www.blainarugbyclub.co.uk Our comments will be most welcome.

AGM Fruit Crumble

Contributed by Myfanwy Davies

1 can (300 ml) Regular or Low Fat Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk
1/4 cup (50 ml) orange juice (or other fruit juice)
1/2 tsp. (2.5 ml) each of ground cinnamon and nutmeg
4-5 cups (1,000 ml -1,250 ml) of fruit (I used 2 cups frozen gooseberries, 1 cup frozen blueberries and a large tin of peaches that were drained and diced)
{The original recipe called for 3 apples and 3 pears, peeled, cored and sliced; along with 1/2 cup of frozen cranberries, thawed}
1 cup (250 ml) all purpose flour (I used whole wheat)
1/2 cup (125 ml) each of rolled oats, brown sugar and butter

Method:

Whisk together Eagle Brand, juice and spices in large rectangular baking dish. Add fruit and toss until well coated. In a separate bowl, combine flour, oats and sugar. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs: sprinkle on top of fruit. Bake in pre-heated 375 F oven for 30-35 minutes or until fruit has softened. Serve with custard or ice cream. Serves 6.

Welsh Proverb

A elo yn hwch yn Rhydychen, yn hwch yn daw yn ôl
A sow that goes to Oxford will be a sow when she returns.

Humorous Epitaphs

By David Jones

- (1) Drunk and disorderly,
At odds with the law;
Brought down by a blow
From his mother-in-law.
- (2) You have a long journey
And I have a wee hunch
Were it me lyin here
I'd pack a large lunch.
- (3) Here lies Tommy, in the position he loved,
and doing what he did best.
- (4) Here lies a swine cast before pearly gates.

The Golden Telephone

submitted by Jennifer Davis

An American decided to write a book about famous churches around the world. For his first chapter he decided to write about famous English and Welsh cathedrals. So he bought a plane ticket and made the trip to London, thinking that he would work his way across the country.

On his first day he was inside a church taking photographs when he noticed a golden telephone mounted on the wall with a sign that read "10,000 Pounds per call". The American, intrigued, asked a priest who was strolling by, what the telephone was used for. The priest replied that it was a direct line to heaven and that for 10,000 Pounds you could talk to God. The American thanked the priest and went along his way.

Next stop was in Manchester. There, at a very large cathedral, he saw the same golden telephone with the same sign under it. He wondered if this was the same kind of telephone he had seen in London and he asked a nearby nun what it's purpose was. She told him that it was a direct line to heaven and that for 10,000 Pounds he could talk to God. "O.K., thank you", said the American.

He then travelled to Nottingham, Coventry and Bath and in every church he saw the same golden telephone with the same "10,000 Pounds per call"

sign under it.

With his first chapter going well, he left England and travelled to Wales, and, again, there was the same golden telephone, but this time the sign under it read "10p per call." The American was surprised so he asked the priest about the sign: "Father, I've travelled all over England, and I've seen this same golden telephone in many churches. I'm told that it is a direct line to heaven, but in all the cities in England the price per call was 10,000 Pounds per call. Why is it so cheap here?"

The priest smiled and answered, "You're in Wales now, son, it's a Local call".

If I Could Live it Over

by Nadine Stair, 85 years old

If I had to live my life over again, I'd dare to make more mistakes next time.

I'd relax.

I would limber up.

I would be sillier than I have been this trip.

I would take fewer things seriously.

I would take more chances.

I would take more trips. I would climb more mountains, swim more rivers.

I would eat more ice cream and less beans.

I would perhaps have more actual troubles, but I'd have fewer imaginary ones.

You see, I'm one of those people who live seriously and sanely, hour after hour, day after day.

Oh, I've had my moments. And if I had it to do over again, I'd have more of them.

In fact, I'd try to have nothing else, just moments, one after another, instead of living so many years ahead of each day.

I've been one of those persons who never goes anywhere without a thermometer, a hot water bottle, a raincoat and a parachute.

If I had it to do again, I would travel lighter than I have.

If I had to live my life over, I would start barefoot earlier in the spring and stay that way later in the fall.

I would go to more dances.

I would ride more merry-go-rounds.

I would pick more daisies.

You must be twins

A Welsh school-inspector visiting a small village primary school was struck by the great resemblance between two small girls sitting at the front of the class.

"You must be twins", he exclaimed.

"No we are not", replied the little girls firmly.

"Well then," said the inspector to the first girl, "how old are you?"

"Nine years and two months."

"And how old are you?" he asked the other girl.

"Nine years and two months."

"Then you definitely must be twins."

"No we aren't, we're all that's left of triplets."

**HUMOUR FOR LEXOPHILES
(LOVERS OF WORDS)**

1. I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.

2. Police were called to a daycare where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

3. Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.

4. To write with a broken pencil is pointless.

5. The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

Request

We have been contacted by Valerie Gamache who lives in Kemptville. She is studying music through the Royal Conservatory of Music and would like to perform a couple of lullabies that are in the repertoire.

She says: "My only problem is that I do not know Welsh but would love to attempt to try and phonetically learn the lyrics. Do you know of someone who would be willing to translate for me?"

You may contact me either by e-mail gamache@cogeco.ca or phone (613-258-3794) or cell: (613-794-7001). I would really appreciate any help you can offer."

LOCAL NEWS

Tim Billingsley, son of Society members Genny and John Billingsley, was selected by the Phoenix Coyotes at the recent NHL entry draft held in Ottawa.

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If you are not faint of heart, you may want to check out an Ottawa-made horror movie that opened recently. It is called Jack Brooks: Monster Slayer. It stars, and is co-produced by Trevor Matthews, the youngest son of Society members Terry and Anne Matthews.

>> Creative Opportunity <<

Remuneration: Satisfaction and new friends

Experience: Optional

Tasks such as: - Become a member of the executive,
- Assisting at a function,
or with occasional phone blitzes.

If you can assist, even in a small way, 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