

Ionawr i Chwefror

2005



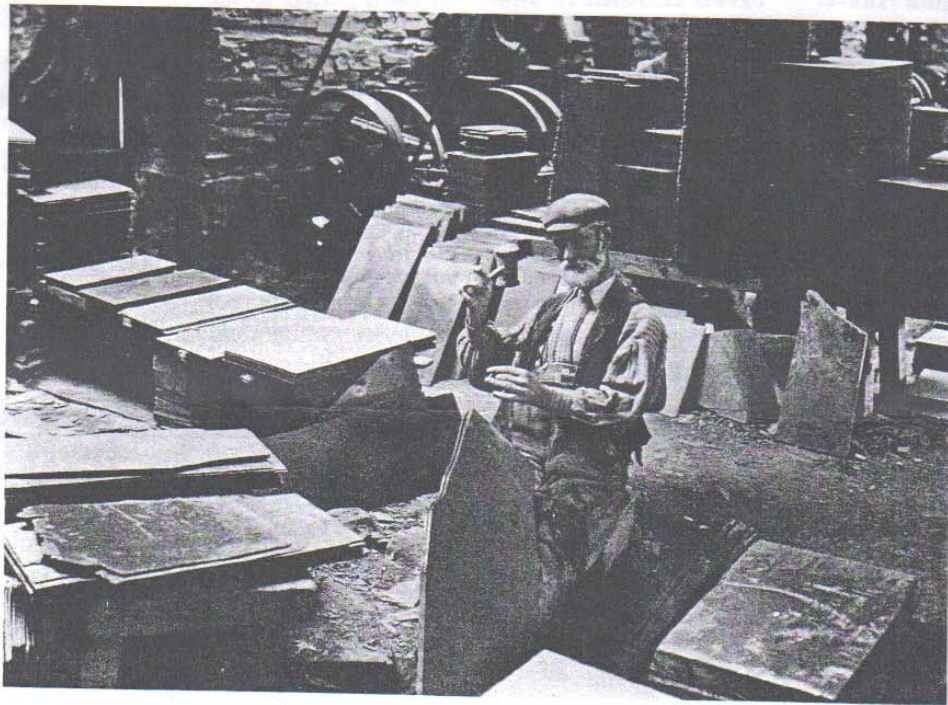
January to February

2005

Cymdeithas Gymkaeg Vancouver

Cambrian News

Welsh Society Newsletter — Cylchgrawn Cymraeg



A splitter at work in the mill—(Gloddfa Ganol)

CAMBRIAN HALL, 215 East 17TH Ave, VANCOUVER B C V5V 1A6 Tel: (604) 876-2815

WELSH SOCIETY
VANCOUVER

The Cambrian News

(January to February 2005)

Officers

President:

Jane Byrne (604) 732-5448

Vice-President:

Barrie Hancock 888-9541

Secretary:

Eifion Williams 469-4904

Treasurer:

Gaynor Evans 271-3134

Membership Secretary:

Heather Davies 734-5500

Immediate Past President:

Tecwyn Roberts 464-2760

Directors

Eric Davies

Allan Hunter

Mary Lewis

Lynn Owens-Whalen

David Llewelyn Williams

Contacts

Building Committee:

Eric Davies 583-3918

Cambrian Circle Singers:

Nerys Haqq 278-8978

Church Service:

Ann Roberts 987-6996

Rentals:

Abe Latif 434-3150

Social Events Committee:

Mary Lewis 331-1573

Welsh Folk Dancing:

Gaynor Evans 271-3134

Welsh-Speaking Evening:

Ann Roberts 987-6996

Women's Auxiliary:

Newsletter

Editor:

David Llewelyn Williams 737-0305
(williams@physics.ubc.ca)

From The Editor:

Since the last newsletter the Annual General Meeting of the Society has been held and the Officers and Directors elected for 2005. Our President, Jane Byrne, who has consented to serve another term, reported on the accomplishments of the Society in the past year and our Treasurer, Gaynor Evans, presented our financial position. Jane stressed the need for all to continue to work together to meet the challenges facing us. The roof fund is increasing steadily as a consequence of several successful events and the generosity of members. It was noted with gratitude that a donation of \$500US had been received from the Puget Sound Welsh Society. The funding obtained by Barrie Hancock's submission to the Gaming Funds has proved invaluable; a new application has been submitted for a matching grant for renovations and the roof repair.

At the last executive meeting, it was proposed that a **Social Events Committee** (distinct from the Bar Committee) be set up to plan for future fundraising and other society events. Mary Lewis has agreed to chair the committee and would welcome volunteers who wish to serve on the committee. She would also welcome suggestions as well as comments on previous events which might possibly be repeated. (The events not the comments!)

Readers of 'Ninnau' will find a fascinating article by Eifion Williams on 'The Welsh Gold Miners of Cariboo'. Well worth the subscription to 'Ninnau'.

Please note the e-mail address on your membership renewal form. Do include it especially if you would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail. It will arrive sooner and save the society some costs.

Finally, members will be glad to know that the **Red Dragon** will be open again as of Saturday, Jan 15th!

David Llewelyn Williams

Annual Membership Renewals

Name:.....Phone No.....
Address:.....
City:.....Postal Code:
e-mail.....

Membership Dues for 2005: Regular: \$35
Family (Member, Spouse & Children to 18): \$60
Seniors/Students: \$20
Out of Town (50 miles or more): \$20

Note that there has been no increase once again in the membership dues, but any donations to our Roof Fund will be gratefully received. Cheques or Money Orders should be made payable to **“THE WELSH SOCIETY OF VANCOUVER”**.

Send your renewals to: **Heather Davies, Membership Secretary, Cambrian Hall,
215 East 17th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., V5V 1A6**

Lion Rampant: Re-issue of famous novel

Lion Rampant, first published 32 years ago, sold out quickly and has been unobtainable. “Back-in-Print” Books Ltd. have stored the text electronically so that it can be printed off on demand, be it one copy or a thousand. It is the story of Princess Nest and Owain ap Cadwgan, Prince of Powys, in the years after the Norman invasion. Based on the *Chronicles of the Princes*, it is probably the most romantic, and yet tragic tale in the history of medieval Wales.

Nest was the daughter of Rhys ap Tewdwr, ruler of South Wales, and became known as the ‘Helen of Wales’, not only because of her beauty but also for the passions she aroused in so many men. When her father was slain by the Normans, she became ward and then mistress of Henry I, who gave her in marriage to Gerald of Windsor, castellan of Pembroke. At Christmas 1109, she was abducted, albeit willingly, from Cilgerran Castle by her cousin, the dashing and reckless Owain. This led to years of

unrest and warfare, both between the various Welsh factions and between them and the Normans, culminating in her husband’s revenge.

Nest had nine children by five different fathers including Owain and King Henry. These liaisons produced a remarkable progeny, including the Fitzgeralds, from whom JFK traced his ancestry. One was Bishop of St. David’s, another two conquerors of Ireland, whose father’s flag later became St. Patrick’s Cross. Her grandson was Giraldus Cambrensis, the famous priest and chronicler and her nephew was The Lord Rhys, instigator of the first Eisteddfod in 1176.

The author, Bernard Knight, is a retired forensic pathologist from Cardiff. The book (ISBN 1 903552 47 8) can be ordered through bookstores naming Baker & Taylor as suppliers. (US\$ 18)

Forthcoming Events

Members are reminded that our **St. David's Day Dinner** will take place on **Saturday March 5th**. Details will follow, but please reserve early by contacting Gaynor Evans at 604-271-3134. Tickets are limited.

A traditional gathering will also be held in the evening of St. David's Day, **Tuesday, March 1st**. Cawl Cenin and Welsh Cakes will be served. Members are encouraged to attempt one or more of the competitions listed in the E-steddfod. The winning entry will be declared the Crowned Bard for the evening.

Report on December Events

December 5th Bilingual Church Service & Te Bach:

This Christmas Service, arranged by Ann Roberts, consisted of the traditional Lessons and Carols. Hazel Williams presided, our soloist was Nerys Haqq and Margaret Airey our accompanist. A moment of quiet remembrance was observed for those members whom we had lost in the past year. Reverend Elwyn Hughes, who was visiting from Toronto, gave the benediction.

December 11th Christmas Dinner & Mulled Wine Evening.

This year we combined the two events to be able to accommodate both in the available date. The result was a most convivial event which owed its success to the hard work and enthusiastic support from many members of the society! The Hall had been decorated in a festive atmosphere by Jane Byrne, Gwyn and Gaynor Evans and Heather Davies. The Turkey Dinner, which was catered by Jordan's, was excellent, and the desserts (to die for!) contributed by Nerys Haqq, Jane Byrne, Sybil Jamieson, Gaynor Evans and Heather Davies put everyone in good spirits for the readings and the carol singing that followed, as of course also did the Mulled Wine. Allan Hunter and Eric Davies had ensured that adequate libations were available and Russell Roberts ran the bar with panache. The program had been innovatively arranged by Neville Thomas so that carols alternated with readings that reflected the ways in which different ethnic groups celebrated Christmas, starting with the Dylan Thomas classic, read this time by your editor in the unavoidable absence of Alan Jones. Nerys Haqq led the carol singing with the able accompaniment of Lucy Sorensen. The other readers were Kathy Thomas, Brian Granville, Russell Roberts, Gareth Prytherch and John Pritchard. Neville Thomas circulated a list he had compiled of Christmas Greetings in about 30 languages. Finally the raffle raised \$200 for the Roof Fund. Altogether a memorable evening, replete with good fellowship. We owe a great debt of gratitude to all who contributed, not forgetting those who cleaned up after the event, but especially to Gaynor Evans for all the work she put into this enjoyable evening. Ardderchog yn wir!

D.L.I.W.

Donations to the Vancouver Welsh Society Library:

Over time we have received a number of gifts which will be housed in our Library when it is appropriately refurbished to make its contents readily available. This list is included to make members aware of our holdings and to recognize the donors. More books will be added as I become aware of them.

Dr. Gethin Owen's parents, Enid and Edward Owen, presented the Society with a fine copy of "**Caneuon Ffydd**" (Songs of Faith), an anthology of hymns taken from the hymnals of all the religious denominations in Wales, published 2001. The inscription reads "Presented to the members of the Welsh Society of Vancouver. Thanks for your welcome and your friendship to us as a family."

The following books have been donated by Dr. Ellis Wyn Roberts:

Wales from the Air/Cymru o'r Awyr: 100 full page and 46 smaller full colour aerial photographs of Wales by Aerofilms with detailed captions in both Welsh and English.

Wales by W.A.Poucher: 100 colour photographs of the Welsh countryside.

These two books taken together provide a wonderful pictorial record of Wales.

Yn ol i'r Nant, a lecture by Richard Morris Jones, full of humorous memories of his youth, its influence on his career and the importance of maintaining one's heritage.

Welsh Place Names by John Jones: meanings and historical references.

Llyfr Emynau y Methodistiaid Calфинаidd a Wesleiaidd (1927)

Novels:

Gwen Tomos gan Daniel Owen (the author of Enoc Hughes and Rhys Lewis)

Madam Wen gan W.D.Owen

William Jones gan T.Rowland Hughes (his second novel after O Law i Law)

Dr Gwilym Evans has donated:

Byd o Gysgodion gan Jane Edwards (the first commissioned novel in Welsh)

Beginners' and Intermediates' Welsh courses in Cardiff, Summer 2005

Intensive courses for Welsh learners will be held in Cardiff between 18 July and 12 August on a residential or non-residential basis. The beginners' courses will follow the University's Wlpan course with an emphasis firmly based on oral communication. The intermediate or Pellach course is for those who have previously completed an Wlpan course or a course of a similar level. It will aim to further develop learners' oral, written and aural skills Those unsure of their level may contact the University directly in order to arrange a telephone or video-link interview. Both courses are very intensive in nature and are taught through the medium of Welsh. This is seen as the key to the success of the course. A number of interesting lectures and excursions have been arranged as an integral part of the course in order to extend learners' linguistic skills and appreciation of Welsh life and culture. Ifor Gruffydd (GruffyddI@Cardiff.ac.uk)
Cyfarwyddwr Rheoli y Ganolfan Dysgu
Cymraeg a Phennaeth Gwasanaethau
Cymraeg y Brifysgol Tel 029 2087 6554

Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir Silver Anniversary

On January 29th 1980 the VWMC met at the Cambrian Hall for their first rehearsal. The choir, of about 100, will be celebrating their 25th anniversary with a Silver Jubilee Concert on February 26th 2005 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 2881 Main Street, Vancouver (13th and Main with ample parking alongside the church). Admission is \$20 and is \$15 for seniors and students. Please contact Gwyn Evans for tickets at 604-271-3134 or any choir member.

Folk Dancing

After a break of a few months due to illness a few members of the dance group have shown an interest in starting a Thursday evening dance class again. Anyone interested in joining the group or current members wishing to continue with the class, please call Gaynor Evans at 604-271-3134. We need at least 9 members to keep the group dancing, so please let's try to keep this small piece of Welsh culture alive. It is also good exercise and lots of fun!

Turner in Wales 1799

**(National Museum & Gallery, Cardiff
2 Oct 2004 - 9 Jan 2005)**

In 1799 at the age of 24, Turner made his fifth and final tour of Wales, specifically to North Wales, where, armed with sketch-pads and large sheets of paper, he produced striking watercolours. The exhibition brings together 32 of the works that he bequeathed to the nation, from the Tate and demonstrates how the landscape and culture of North Wales influenced one of Britain's greatest artists.

Llanast Llanrwst

After Tecwyn Roberts left, Llanrwst became rather a haven of tranquility. To counter this in an attempt to re-energize the community with Welsh Spirit, Menter Iaith Conwy (The Conway Language Initiative) organized the first Llanast Llanrwst in November 2003 in order to raise the profile of Welsh in the town and to bring an economic benefit to its businesses. The Festival promised to create a pretty good 'llanast' (confusion and chaos) to warm the heart as the cold months of winter start to close in.

The second such event this past November 21-28 attracted over 2,500. It started with a soccer match between Llanrwst Stars and the Stars of S4C (the Welsh TV channel). Theatr Bara Caws (Bread and Cheese Theatre) filled Gwesty Eryrod (The Eagles Hotel) for their comedy performances of Owain Min Dwr, a less than reverent view of Owain Glyndwr. But the largest crowds attended the Bards versus Rappers pub talent competition, won this year by the Bards.

Then there was Sesiwn Llanrwst where over 30 guitar playing musicians and singers filled the cafes and pubs with contemporary compositions. Audience participation was encouraged with a song book and by eight o'clock every pub was bubbling with a great atmosphere. Singer Alun Tan Lan filled the town square on Thursday as did Cor y Cyrff performing songs by Y Cyrff, a highly acclaimed 80's and 90's band from Llanrwst.

In Pen-y-Bont Tavern a contest of words and rhymes took place on Saturday under Archdruid Llion Williams (the winners were Merched Drwg Llanrwst - hm!). After the Pub Eisteddfod (a forerunner for the National?), everyone rushed to the Llew Coch (Red Lion) to see the arm wrestling competition. Llanrwst may never be the same!

January to February 2005

Ionawr hyd Chwefror 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16	17 Walking Group 10 am Mondays	18	19	20 Welsh Folk Dancers	21 Cambrian Circle Singers	22 Red Dragon 8.30 pm
23	24	25	26	27 Welsh Folk Dancers	28 Cambrian Circle Singers	29 Red Dragon 8.30 pm
30	31	1	2 Executive Meeting 7.30 pm	3 Welsh Folk Dancers	4 Cambrian Circle Singers	5 Red Dragon 8.30 pm
6	7	8	9 General Meeting 7.30 pm	10 Welsh Folk Dancers	11 Cambrian Circle Singers	12 Red Dragon 8.30 pm
13 Church Service 11.00 Te Bach	14	15	16	17 Welsh Folk Dancers	18 Cambrian Circle Singers	19 Red Dragon 8.30 pm

Museum of Welsh Life, st. fagan's

E-Steddfod 2005

LIST OF COMPETITIONS

WELSH LANGUAGE COMPETITIONS

1. Cerdd Y Gadair: Heddwch neu Rhyfel
2. Englyn Ysgafn: Beirniad Eisteddfod
3. Englyn: I unrhyw un o Amgueddfeydd ac Oriolau Cenedlaethol Cymru.
4. Cerdd yn y Mesur Rhydd: Ymddiheuriad
5. Penill Beddargraff Doniol: Agored
6. Limerig: Wrth dringo I'r llwyfan ar frys....
7. Haiku: Ieuenctid
8. Tri chwpled, caeth neu rhydd I unrhyw dri adeilad gwahanol yn Amgueddfa Werin Cymru.
9. Brawddeg neu Frawddegau a phob gair yn dechreu a'r llythyren D, DD neu O.
10. Brawddeg o'r llythrennau yn y gair MABOLGAMPWR
11. Dychangerdd: Unrhyw destun cyfoes
12. Traethawd/Ysgrif: Atgofion am Drafnidiaeth y Gorffennol yn eich ardal. E.e. effaith trafndiaeth gyhoeddus; cerbydau masnachol; triplau ysgol sul; y garej leol.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETITIONS

13. Poem: Peace or War
14. Humorous Epitaph
15. Limerick: A Methodist preacher called Glyn....
16. Six couplets on the theme: Welsh Industry
17. Haiku: Youth
18. Short Poem (of no more than 20 lines): Apology
19. A Sentence or Sentences with each word beginning with the letter S.
20. 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.

All entries to be sent by post or e-mail by February 11th, 2005. Winners will be announced on the Web on March 1st, 2005 and prizes will be awarded to the first three in each category.

E-mail address: e-steddfod@aocc.ac.uk Tel.: 029 2057 3427

Postal Address: Meinwen Ruddock, Trefnydd yr E-steddfod, Amgueddfa Werin
Cymru, Sain Ffagan, CAERDYDD, CF5 6XB