

Rhagfyr 1996

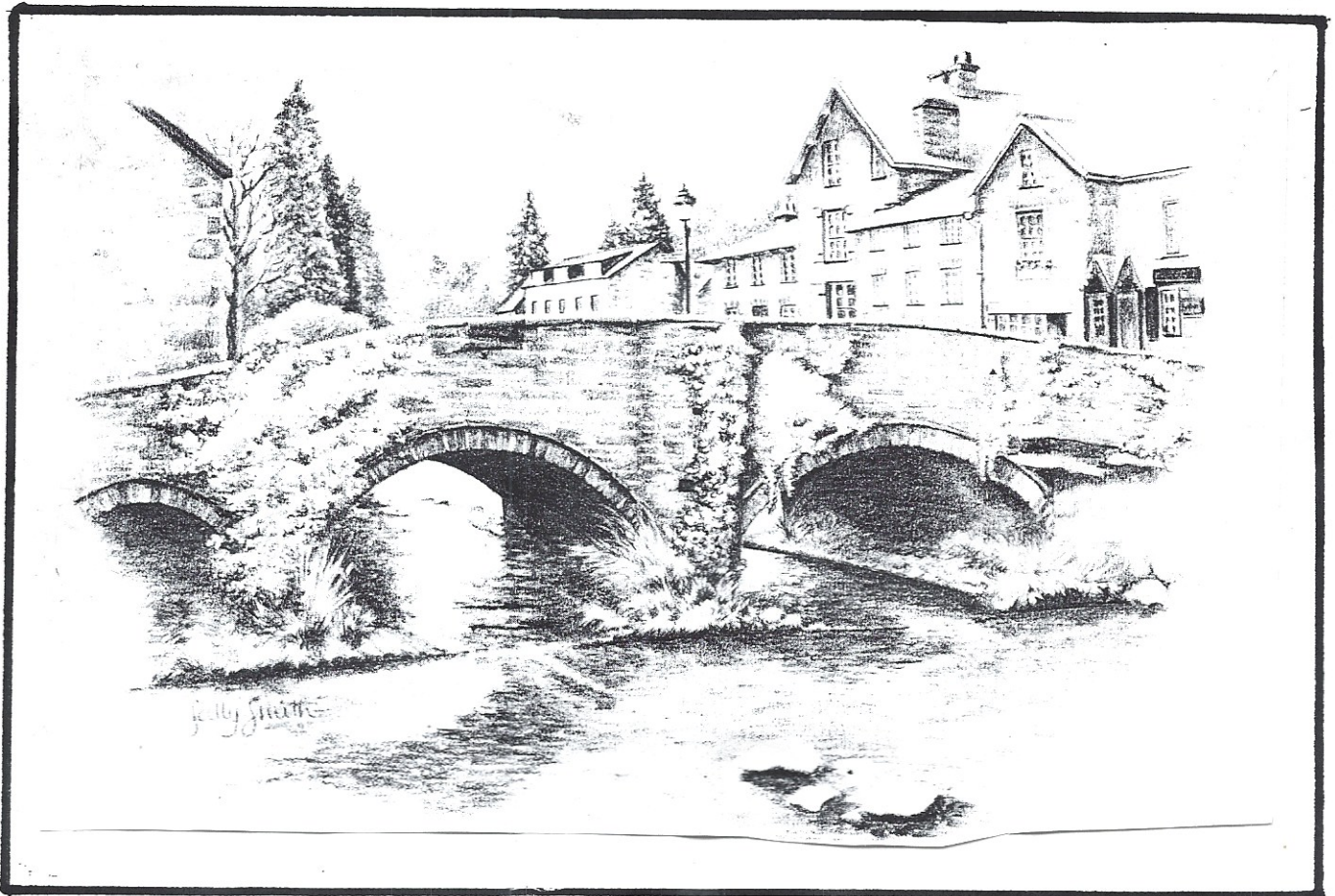


December 1996

Cymdeithas Gymraeg Vancouver

*Cambrian News*

Welsh Society Newsletter - Cylchgrawn Cymraeg



Beddgelert



## **1997 MAELGWN CHOIR VISIT**

The Maelgwn Male Voice Choir from North Wales is scheduled to tour Canada and the United States in May 1997 and on Sunday the 19th of that month they will hold a concert at the Tenth Avenue Alliance Church in Vancouver.

The choir itself comprises 53 members, but with their families and supporters the whole contingent will number 170 (at the last count).

They have made two appeals. Firstly, the Musical Director and his wife and two other members would like to be accommodated in private homes. Secondly, they have indicated that they would appreciate very much if the Welsh Society could provide them with four guides to accompany them in their buses upon their travels around the city and on the Whistler trip - i.e. Sunday, pre-concert and Monday respectively.

Members of the Welsh Society who wish to provide these services are asked to contact President Jeff Owen at 946-4956 or myself at 274-3794.

Dr. Gwilym Evans.

## **Notification**

Please be advised that with the Christmas holidays coming up, the Red Dragon Pub is open for the last time in 1996 on December 14th and will remain closed thereafter until January 11th, 1997.

All our members are wished Happy Holidays and a Bright and Cheerful New Year.

Cyfarchion Y Tymor!

## **Pacific North West Gymanfa Ganu 1997**

**Held in Salem, Oregon**

**April 18th, 19th & 20th**

Due to the high rate of exchange from Canadian funds into U.S. currency, the Ramada Inn, Salem, will give a \$5 discount on room rates to visitors from Canada.

Hotel address is:  
200 Commercial Street South East,  
Salem, ORE. 97301.

Phone: (503)363-4123 or 1-800-2-RAMADA

To Register for PNWGGA phone  
(503)625-5095.

## Membership Report

Welcome to new members:

Andrea Police from Surrey, B.C.  
Victor & Louise Price  
of Abbotsford, B.C.  
Brian Davies of Delta, B.C.

...and also to returning member  
Geoffrey David Jenkins.

The membership now stands at 192 and I  
remind you that 1997 memberships are  
due as of January 1st!

I must say I have had a wonderful year  
and I thank all of you for your  
co-operation and support.

Beverly Thomas, Membership Secretary.

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### **Please Note !**

Membership Fees for 1997 are the same as for  
1996.

Regular \$35, Family \$60, Seniors \$20  
Out of Town \$20.

## Announcing The Executive For 1997

*President:* Mr. Jeffrey Owen  
*Vice President:* Mrs. Anne G. Jones  
*Secretary:* Mrs. Mary Slaney  
*Treasurer:* Mr. John Morris  
*Membership Secretary:* Mrs. Beverly B. Thomas

### Trustees

Mrs. Margaret Monck  
Mrs. Elizabeth Murray  
Mr. Robin Barclay  
Dr. Gwilym Evans  
Mr. John Pritchard

*Auditor* ..... Boyd Booth  
*Immediate Past President* ..... Mrs. Ann Roberts

Congratulations to the newly elected officers.

Many thanks go to the Nominating Committee of Mrs. Ann Roberts  
and Captain Teuan Lampshire Jones.



## Noson Lawen - Gymanfa Ganu

1996: A Review by Elizabeth Murray.

Arddechog! Fantastic! Some of the words used to describe the Noson Lawen/Gymanfa Ganu weekend held in the Cambrian Hall in November.

Nigel Tucker was a masterful Master of Ceremonies with Heather McDougall and with his father, Alan. He closed the evening with that immortal Max Boyce balled, "Hymns and Arias".

It was a great pleasure to be entertained by the Cambrian Circle Singers. Nerys Haqq continues as the director and conductor and the accompanist is Lucy Sorenson. The choir were in costume which many members will recall were made for the National Gymanfa Ganu in Vancouver in 1980.

There was also a number by the Cambrian Circle Quartet: Phoebe Findlay on flute; Nerys Haqq and Muriel Watkins singers with Margaret Airey on piano. Muriel and Nerys also sang solos for us.

After the intermission there was a great comedy routine from Society President Jeff Owen showing his lighter side.

Next the Welsh Folk Dancers, Dawnsywyr Gwerin Vancouver, also in costume. They continue to add to their repertoire and to thrill us with their dancing.

Alan Jones read Dylan Thomas' "Fern Hill" keeping alive memories of the previous weekend's immersion in the poet's work.

Gwyn Evans and Veronica Gilder, having both performed with the dancers, each gave us a wonderful solo with Enid Lewis accompanying

on the piano.

What a multitude of talent we have here at the Welsh Society. Diolch yn Fawr to everyone who took part; to Tima Jones and Kathy Thomas for making the Cawl Cennin, to the ladies who served and cleared up afterwards; to all who worked on the bar without food and drink there is only half a Noson Lawen!

The Sunday saw a great turnout to the Gymanfa Ganu. Chariman Tecwyn Roberts introduced the conductor Reverend John Davies. It was the first time that Pastor John, a Welsh speaking Welshman had conducted a Gymanfa at the Welsh Society. We all so enjoyed his obvious love of the hymns and their meaning. Also his anecdotes, which certainly put the "joy" into making a joyful noise unto the Lord.

It was a pleasure to welcome back Alan Tucker, as the soloist and Enid Lewis, collaborative pianist. The programme described the accompanist at the Bryn Terfel recital with this term and I am sure that both Alan, Pastor John, Saturday night's soloists Veronica and Gwyn as well as all the members would agree that it describes perfectly Enid's ongoing contribution to the musical life of the Society.

John Pritchard gave the opening reading and prayer and closed with the Benediction.

Again, the Society's thanks goes to everyone involved, not forgetting all the behind the scenes workers who ensured that programmes were printed, chairs put out and put away; the collection collected; the flags flying; the hymn books distributed and more importantly returned; the visitors welcomed; the tea made hot and strong and the goodies tasty.

Unwaith eto, Diolch yn Fawr.



## Future Spring Sailing Perhaps?

The good folks that sail the "Arasheena" out of False Creek, are asking if members of the Society are interested in going to Bowen Island again in the late Spring.

If enough interest is generated, then the Social Committee might go ahead and book another trip, so PLEASE, if you would like to go, let a member of the Committee, or even the Executive know in plenty of time.

## Calling all writers

This is your chance to play a key role in the society while exercising your urge to write. The Executive is looking for someone in the membership to take over the newsletter for 1997.

As outgoing editors, we leave the newsletter an easily manageable and material rich resource. We would also like to assure any interested party that there are dedicated and generous members in the society who have been a great help to us over the past five years. We thank them once again.

If anyone out there is interested in doing this job, and we do urge you to seriously consider it, then please contact a member of the Executive.

Lynne and Rob Fox

## Welsh Lessons

### Gwers Gymraeg

We were pleased to welcome recently, two new members to our Monday Welsh lessons. Brett Davies has come all the way from Caerphilly to join us, and Andrea Police, who was born and raised in B.C. has felt the pull of her Welsh ancestry and is determined to learn The Language of Heaven. Croeso i chwi eich dau.

We missed Laurie when she went to Australia for a month, and we hope to see her along with Barbara and Georgina back with us soon.

We break for Christmas on December 9th and start fresh and eager on January 13th 1997.

Meanwhile, Nadolig Llawen to all.

Beverly Thomas

**Thank-you's**... this month go to Ivor Davies, who generously purchased the lovely red and green place mats used at the Christmas Dinner Dance recently. They looked so posh too!

**And** ...to the W.A. and Church Committee who also made generous donations towards the Children's Christmas Party.

*City and County of  
Swansea*



*Dinas a Sir  
Abertawe*

*Lord Mayor's Office,  
The Guildhall, Swansea, SA1 4PA  
Tel: (01792) 635150 Fax: (01792) 635157*

*Swyddfa yr Arglwydd Faer,  
Neuadd y Ddinas, Abertawe, SA1 4PA  
Ffôn: (01792) 635150 Ffacs: (01792) 635157*

17th October 1996

Mr Jeffrey Owen  
President  
Welsh Society of Vancouver  
CANADA

Dear Mr Owen

It gives me great pleasure to send you greetings and good wishes from the City and County of Swansea.

These sentiments are being brought to you by representatives of our own Dylan Thomas Society who are visiting your city to help with the establishment of the Dylan Thomas Circle of British Columbia.

As you are no doubt aware Swansea was the birthplace of Dylan Thomas and therefore it is of no surprise that we have an extremely active Society. However they do not confine their activities to Swansea alone and are highly respected throughout the United Kingdom and have gained an international reputation. Infact overseas visits by the Society have included Ontario and the USA.

I understand that during their visit they will be performing some of Dylan's works and I am sure that their renditions will be enjoyed by all who attend. I sincerely hope that the link that has been established between the two Societies will continue to flourish and it gives me great pleasure to present to your Society this plate depicting the official Coat of Arms of Swansea as a token of friendship.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Desmond W. Thomas".

Councillor Desmond Thomas JP  
LORD MAYOR



## **Influencing Canada's Future?**

We made a recent discovery in the Vancouver Sun's weekend edition, in that the Ottawa home of our Prime Ministers, was once called, "Gorffwysfa", a pretty Welsh word that means, "resting-place". Nobody is exactly sure why that name was given, but it's a lot more attractive than plain old "24 Sussex Drive". What a pity they didn't keep it! Probably a victim of budget cuts....

## **Piano Restoration Fund**

As it was well-used of late, the grand piano in the Red Dragon is certainly paying us back in dividends for the restoration it underwent a couple of years ago.

But alas, financial restitution is required as well as musical, so we are asking, very nicely, if friends and members of the Society, can donate to the Restoration Fund and help us recoup some of that cost.

Thank you.

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

This is a dedicated group of people deserving of a special mention. Their hard work, along with kind volunteers, turned the Red Dragon into a magical cavern for the Mulled Wine Evening and also the recent Christmas Dinner Dance, which was fabulous. We have to say many, many thanks to all of you for the wonderful nights we had to help celebrate Yule and also a Merry Christmas/Nadolig Llawen.

However, these folks do deserve a well earned break from time to time, and extra, willing hands to help out at the bar, in the kitchen and also doing various tasks around the Cambrian Hall or for the Society as a whole are most welcome - and it's hoped that more of you will volunteer your time and effort in 1997.

## **Dydd Gwyl Dewi**

**St. David's Day Banquet**

**Saturday, March 1st, 1997**

**Cambrian Hall**

# Rhagfyr

# 1996

# December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Exec Meeting	5	6	7 Christmas Dinner Dance
8	9 WELSH LESSONS FINISH FOR 196.	10	11 F. G. M (Election of Officers)	12	13	14 Red Dragon Pub Open
15 CARDOL SERVICE 11AM Children's Christmas Party	16	17	18	19	20	21 Red Dragon Closed
22	23	24 All Our Wished a Merry Christmas / Nadolig Llawn	25 Members	26 Are	27	28 Red Dragon Closed.
29	30	31				

# Ionawr

# 1997

# January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		HAPPY NEW YEAR BLWDDYNS NEWYDD DDA.	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Red Dragon Open
12 Church Service 11am	13 WELSH LESSONS RESTART ON MONDAYS	14	15 W. A. (NOON)	16	17	18 8:30 pm Onwards every
19	20 AT 7.30PM	21	22	23	24	25 Saturday Unless otherwise specified
26	27	28	29	30	31	