

CHWEFROR I
MAWRTH, 1993



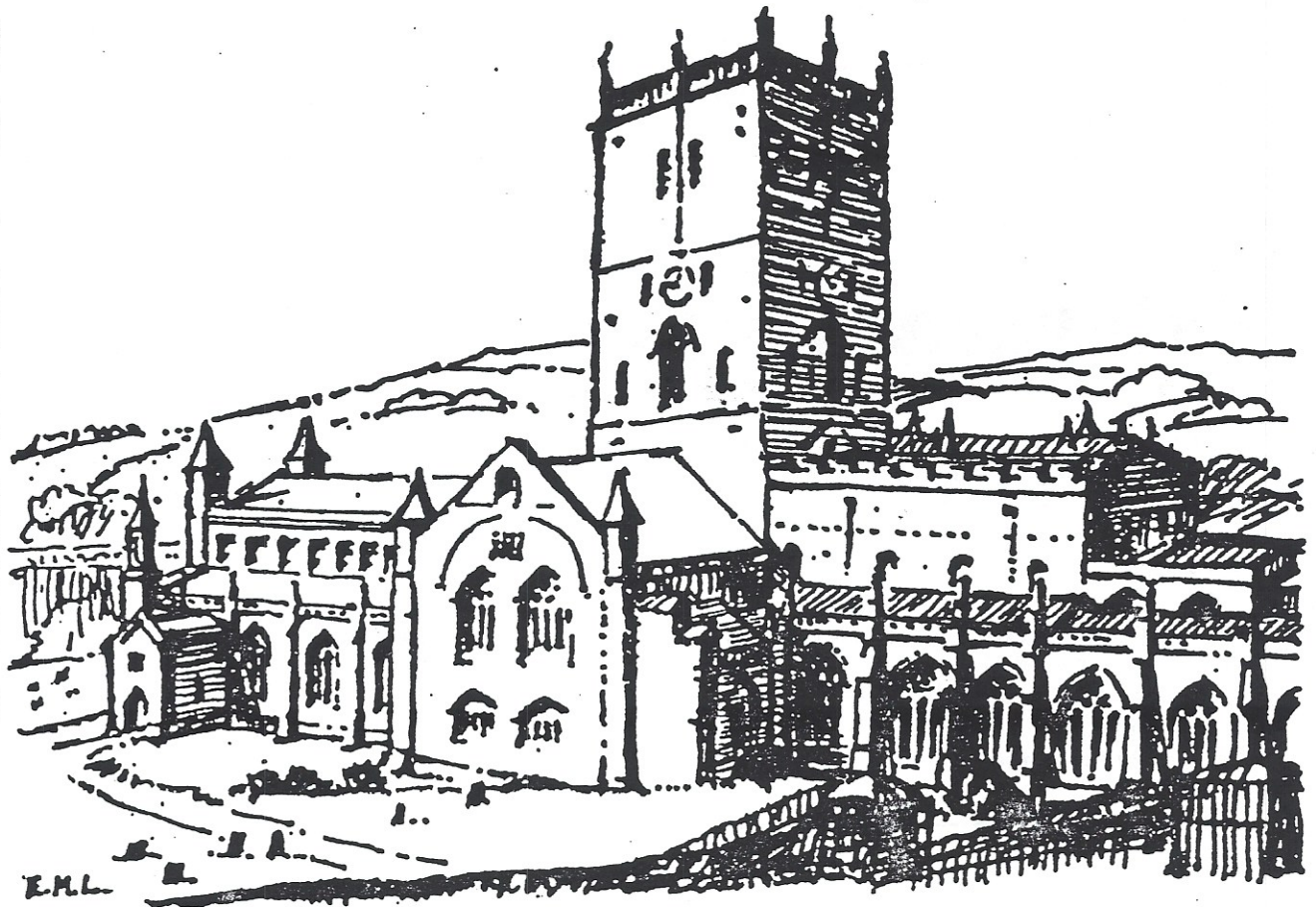
FEBRUARY TO
MARCH, 1993

Cymdeithas Gymraeg Vancouver

Cambrian News

Welsh Society Newsletter - Cylchgrawn Cymraeg

ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL



CAMERIAN HALL, 215, EAST 17th AVE, VANCOUVER, B.C. V5V 1A6. Telephone (604) 876-2815.....

something special

BLODWEN JONES GAUTHIER PIANO RESTORATION FUND

A new fund has been established, thanks to the generous donation from the estate of the late Mrs. Blodwen Jones Gauthier. The amount of \$500.00 was presented to us, in order that we might use it to help preserve the Welsh culture in Vancouver. It was decided at the last General Meeting, that the money be used as a basis for the Piano Restoration Fund and in Mrs. Jones Gauthier's name, as the large piano in the downstairs part of the Hall is in need of some work. If anyone else wishes to make a donation to this worthy cause, would they please make cheques or money orders payable to 'The Welsh Society of Vancouver' and please stipulate what the money is for - thank you.

Anniversary

Sincere, if belated Wedding Anniversary Congratulations go out from us all in the Welsh Society to Phyllis and Ken Owens.

The Owens' celebrated their Golden Wedding last December - and we are delighted for them. May you have many more years together, and with us. Llongyfarchiadau.

WITH THANKS.....

Thanks to the generosity of one of the Red Dragon regulars, we now have two new dart boards for the "Saturday Nighter's" to have a good game of "Arrows"! Ivor Davies is the benefactor in question, and we all thank him for the kind gift(s).

Eirlys Anne Thomas wishes to convey her thanks to all the people who have donated photos for the album collection. To date they are, Elizabeth Murray, Gaynor Owen, Betty Morgan, Gwen and Tony Tonack. Anyone else who wishes to make a contribution can get in touch with Eirlys Anne at 731-0204.

..... : OPEN HOUSE :

We should all be thinking about getting out and buying our supply of leeks to make Cawl and daffodils to wear in our lapels soon! March 1st approaches. Are you feeling patriotic yet? Well the Social Committee have ensured that a good night will be had on St. David's Day down at the Red Dragon. The traditional "Eating of the Leeks" ceremony will take place, as always Rose Murphy will make her wonderful Cawl Cennin/Leek Soup - can't miss that! - and we have a surprise pianist for you - a lady who has been away for a while, but who wishes to return to the Society and do her bit. Be sure to give her a warm welcome back. It all promises to be an excellent March 1st, so don't disappoint the hard workers and not show up - come along and help celebrate in the memory of our most revered saint - Dewi.

EXTRA!

EXTRA!



VANCOUVER ORPHEUS MALE VOICE CHOIR

**"CROESO I MOCHYN A CHWIBAN -
WELCOME TO OUR PIG 'N WHISTLE"**

AT THE CAMBRIAN HALL

ON

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1993 AT 8.00P.M.

TICKETS : \$8.00

**CALL SOON TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS -
DON'T LEAVE IT LATE AND GET DISAPPOINTED !!!**

FOR TICKETS PLEASE PHONE:

MILT MORGAN: 298-6085

JIMMY MURPHY: 526 - 2960

BRIAN GRANVILLE: 941-2869

BANQUET

We are looking forward to seeing many old and new members at the annual St. David's Day Banquet. A lot of planning has been done to ensure that this will be a most memorable event, please make certain that you have bought your ticket in plenty of time ! Anne Roberts has graciously agreed to make the "Toast to Wales" speech and Alan Jones will be Chairperson. Mr. David Tuck is the guest soloist and Gwyn Evans will lead us in the "Community Singing".

As always, those who attend will see the little details that make these events so enjoyable, such as the tablecloths, which have been kindly loaned to us by St. Michael's Church, through Anne G. Jones. Flowers will adorn the top table and the rest of the Hall will be beautifully decorated with Welsh mementoes - which of course includes daffodils ! Perhaps this year, as last, we shall have some of the lovely yellow blooms in front of Cambrian Hall ?!!! I certainly hope so and I also hope that we will see a many of you there. Dydd Gwyl Dewi.



*The Welsh Society of Vancouver
St. David's Day Banquet*

*Cambrian Hall
215 East 17th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
Saturday, March 6th, 1993*

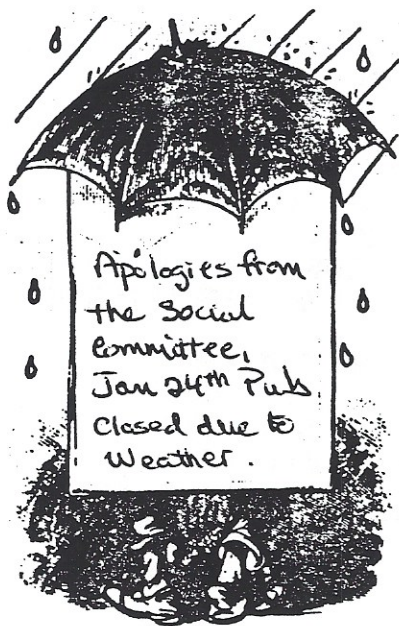
Members: \$25

Guest: \$28

Cocktails: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 7:00 pm

Just a Note:



Oh my!



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday
March 10th

Join In !

Be a part of
what goes on.

Membership

Name : _____
 Address : _____
 City : _____
 Postal Code: _____ Phone No.: (____) _____

Please make your cheques or money orders payable to:
 "The Welsh Society of Vancouver".

Send your membership renewals to:

Joan Thomsen	Regular: \$30.00	} <u>Circle One</u>
Membership Secretary	Family : \$50.00	
Cambrian Hall, 215 17th Ave. (East)	Seniors: \$17.00	
Vancouver B.C., V5V 1A6.	Out-of-Town: \$15.00	

The Welsh Society would greatly appreciate any further donations towards the general upkeep of Cambrian Hall. If any such contributions are sent, please make them out to The Welsh Society of Vancouver and state what they are meant for - thank you.

We extend a warm Welsh welcome to Lucy Law, our newest member. Lucy used to belong to the Toronto Welsh Society and is very keen to learn more about our language and culture. "Croeso i'r Cymdeithas Cymraeg Vancouver" - "Welcome to the Vancouver Welsh Society".

WELCOME!
NEW
MEMBERS

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

At the Annual General Meeting of the Welsh Society, it was decided to confer upon Dorothy Walters, Sally Highet and Phyllis Owens, Honorary Life Memberships in recognition of their long service and dedication to the Society and to its aims of preserving and promoting the Welsh culture and language in the Vancouver area.

As all three were together at the W. A. Christmas Lunch, Anne Jones, Vice President, took the opportunity of publicly announcing that the honour was to be bestowed on them by the Society. She thanked them on behalf of all the members for their invaluable contributions to the life of the Society and to the preservation of the Cambrian Hall.

In their gracious acknowledgement speeches, each spoke of her own enjoyment of having been able to be part of our community for so many years; of friendships that had been forged; of working together and of how much she had received from her involvement.

They spoke of the building of the Cambrian Hall, how money had been loaned by Mr. Joseph Jones, Mr. Thomas Edwards and others whose names appear on the stone plaque on the wall and how the loans were re-paid by each member paying a quarter at the monthly meetings, which Mr. Jones would then put into a little drawstring bag.

Dorothy Walters recalled the first St. David's Day Dinner held in the Hall and how she would park her sleeping baby on a bench, barricaded by chairs in the lower hall while she took part in Gymanfaeodd Ganu.

During the dirty thirties, the women raised enough money to pay the taxes with bake sales, rummage sales and bazaars. They felt they were accepting this honour, not only for themselves but for all the members of the Society, (many of them no longer with us,) whose names are not inscribed in stone but on their hearts.

All of them remained active in the Society in 1992, we wish them more years with us so that we can continue to be inspired by their example.

By Elizabeth Murray on behalf of the President, Executive and Members, Cymdeithas Cymraeg Vancouver.



VANCOUVER WELSH MEN'S CHOIR

Box 2978, Main Post Office, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3X4

The V.W.M.C. will be performing at the Fig n' Whistle being held at Firemen's Hall in Burnaby on the 27th of this month. For tickets call Gwyn Evans at 271-3134.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.

The date of the SPRING TEA is Saturday, April 3rd, from 2 - 4 p.m. Tickets will be available soon from any W. A. member at \$3.50 or \$1.75 for children under 12. Raffle tickets are also going on sale with the usual grocery hamper as a first prize, handcrafted silver jewellery donated by Frank Chappell, as a second prize and a mystery third prize - try your luck and buy lots !

We will be soliciting all members of the Society for help and contributions in this our major annual fundraiser. If you have small used items suitable for the White Elephant stall or books or small handcrafted items you would like to donate, any member of the W. A. will be pleased to accept them - now is the time to Spring Clean and see what you can come up with !

We will also be looking for home-baking to sell on the day of the Tea. Look on this as a Bring and Buy Sale - just like back in Wales !

Instead of our usual brown bag and business meeting in February, Sally Hight had kindly invited all W. A. members to a lunch with her to celebrate her 90th birthday. It will be at Pat's Restaurant, West Vancouver on Wednesday, 17th February at 1.00 p.m.

There will be two work parties coming up on Thursday, 25th February at 10.30 p.m. to clean the silver in the display case in preparation for St. David's Day and on Wednesday 31st March at 10.00 to make Welsh Cakes for

the Spring Tea and for various upcoming Society functions and receptions. Bring lunch, we'll make tea and these will be social as well as work occasions.

We were pleased to welcome Eirlys Anne Thomas as a visitor to our last meeting and hope she will join us regularly now she has retired and has nothing to do !!

There will be a normal business meeting in March, as it falls on the 17th - St. Patrick's Day - try and wear something green in honour of our fellow Celts.

DYDD GWYL DEWI HAPUS I CHWI OLL - HAPPY ST. DAVID'S DAY TO ALL

Elizabeth Murray, President.

CAMBRIAN CIRCLE Singers

The Cambrian Circle Singers will be performing at Haro Park Centre on the 23rd of February and at Whitecliff in White Rock on March 3rd.

The next rehearsal will be on the 12th of March.

New members are always welcomed into the group - if you wish to join them, please contact Mrs. Nerys Haqq at 278-8978.

CHURCH SERVICE

The Church Services are held on the second Sunday of every month, unless otherwise specified. The next Sunday Service will take place on the 14th of March followed, as always, by a light lunch.

The April Church Service will be an Easter Celebration.

The Welsh story

ALTHOUGH NOVA SCOTIA has many residents who are able to trace their family trees to roots in Wales, it is only recently that the Welsh presence in this province has been asserting itself.

If organizers of Shelburne County's first Welsh Days expected only a modest response they must have been more than pleased when the three-day event attracted several hundred people, some of them from as far distant as British Columbia. There can be no doubt that the Welsh ethnic theme has a place in Nova Scotia.

Unlike the French, the Scots, the Yorkshiremen of Cumberland County, the Rhinelanders of the South Shore, and other clearly designated immigrations, the Welsh came inconspicuously to the province. This year's observation in Shelburne County developed around the stories of five Welsh families who settled there in 1818 and 1819. Until this current emphasis, sight of them largely has been lost amid the attention given the Loyalists and New Englanders who were the most visible colonizers of the area.

The Welsh story in New Brunswick has been much the same. One small community near the Maine border was peopled by settlers from Wales. In a special-

The Halifax Herald

ized ministry to them, one religious denomination in the Maritime Provinces subsidized a worker among them who was able to address them in their own language.

The story of the Welsh in this part of the country consists of a great many bits and pieces awaiting the assimilation that will make of them the impressive story which is there.

A feature of Shelburne County's Welsh Days was a harpist whose music was a delight to those who heard the performances. It was an appropriate addition to the program, after all and in popular perceptions at least, the harp is as closely associated with Wales as are bagpipes in the Scottish tradition.

Even now, promoters are thinking of next year's Welsh Days. The proposal has been made that a Welsh choir be featured. That certainly would be a drawing card, the fame of the choirs of Wales having spread far.

It is pleasing both to learn and to have the opportunity to know more of yet another part of the provincial heritage, that which is the gift of the Welsh people to all of us.

GYMANFA GANU

The Pacific North-Western Gymanfa Ganu Association is holding this year's G.G. in Corvallis, Oregon. It is scheduled for the weekend of May 14th, 15th and 16th.

The general schedule planned is as follows:

Friday Evening : Noson Llawen
Saturday Evening: Concert
Sunday Morning : General Meeting
Sunday Afternoon: Gymanfa Ganu

For any further details, you can contact Anne Roberts at 321-4418.



DRAMA NEWS



WANTED

Welsh language to be granted full legal status

By Paul Stokes

THE Government declared its official recognition yesterday of the Welsh language, one of the oldest tongues in Europe, in a move to give it the same legal status already afforded to English in Wales.

Sir Wyn Roberts, Minister of State for Wales, delivered a statement in Welsh which means people can choose to pay their bills and run their lives in either language.

Despite claims by activists that the new Welsh Language Bill is "feeble and inadequate", Sir Wyn described it as an historic day for Wales. For the first time, the Bill will enshrine in law that English and Welsh will have equal standing in public business and justice in Wales.

A 15-member Welsh Language Board is to be established with powers to secure use of Welsh in the public sector. Every public body in Wales will be expected to prepare a scheme setting out the services to be provided in Welsh.

Sir Wyn said: "The Bill provides a challenge to the Welsh-speaking community and I'm confident this can, and will, be met. The Government can only do so much and ultimately whether the Bill succeeds will depend on the extent to which speakers choose to take advantage of the facilities it provides."

Privatised industries such as water, electricity and gas will not be affected because the Government does not want to place them at a disadvantage to rival firms elsewhere. But Sir Wyn said they would be expected to do everything they

could to fall in line with the plan to give the Welsh language a say in Wales which has a population of nearly 2.8 million.

Yesterday's announcement came as a census showed that the number of children speaking Welsh had increased from 18 per cent of the population in 1981 to 24 per cent last year. The census also showed the fall from 19 per cent to 18.7 per cent of the overall population speaking Welsh in the last 10 years was the slowest decline on record.

Yesterday's announcement came after long-running campaigns, including civil disobedience, to secure a Welsh Language Act.

The debate dates back 120 years to a time when the Government made English compulsory in Welsh schools.

A device called The Welsh Not was introduced which was fitted around the neck of the first child in any class to speak Welsh and was then passed on to the next youngster who stopped using English.

After the announcement yesterday, the Welsh Language Society (Gymdeithas Yr Iaith Gymraeg) said the Bill did not go far enough.

Mr Dafydd Lewis, the society's spokesman, said its campaign, which includes civil disobedience such as occupying government buildings or daubing their walls with slogans, would continue.

He said: "Under these proposals cultural discrimination against the Welsh language will continue and will lead to a further quarter of a century of social unrest in Wales."

Last November we had asked for actors and backstage volunteers for the theatrical production "See How They Run" presently in the works. Unfortunately, the response has not been encouraging. So, once again, for all you budding Brandos and Bardos, this is your chance.

Call Rob Barclay at 940-9112. He'll be pleased to hear from you.

With Thanks...

Regretfully, we could not include the following in our last edition. This happens at times as format dictates. Our sincere apologies to Anne G. Jones for the omission. Anne wishes to thank all members of the society who bought tickets from her for the St. Michael's Sandwich Fund Raffle. The Fund Drive was quite a success and Mrs. Margaret Howells won the cake prize.

"FROM 'DAILY TELEGRAPH', 19/12/92".

WELSH SOCIETY FOLK DANCERS

We have been invited to dance at the "Fig and Whistle Fun Night", by the Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir, on the 27th of February. Apparently, a comment was made last year, that the Welsh culture was not very well represented, so this time we will endeavour to do our best and put on a good show. We can't let our side down! For the next eight weeks, we shall be instructing ourselves in the dance routines, as Jack and Bertha are away to New Zealand for a holiday. It would be nice if the whole dance group could go, but not this year - I think! Anyway, we hope that J and B have a marvellous time down there and bring back some of their wonderful memories for us - as well as the additional info. on Folk Dancing that Margaret Daniels will no doubt be giving them! As well, a photograph of we Vancouver Welsh Dancers will be presented to the Auckland Welsh Group by Jack and Bertha - I sincerely hope that they are impressed! There will be more to tell about this in future editions of the Newsletter - watch out for them.

It is quite possible that we will make an appearance at the next P. N. W. Gymanfa Ganu, May 14th, 15th and 16th in Corvallis, Oregon. It seems though, that the only time we'll be dancing is at the Noson Lawen on the Friday - so we shall see. I'll keep you all informed.

Meanwhile if anyone wishes to join our merry little troupe, please contact me, Lynne Fox at 944-6940, for the next eight weeks. I shall be more than happy to give you more details about the dancers. We would certainly like to see some more new faces, male ones in particular and please don't think you'll look foolish, no-one in our group does.

Until next month's issue, Lynne H. Fox.



Arthur Williams will again be tinkling the ivories on Saturday, 20th February in the Red Dragon. Come along and join us for a jolly old sing-song, we always have a good time and the company is great.



1993

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February (Chwefror)

March (Mawrth)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

1 St. David's Day
 2 Open House - Red Dragon 7:30 p.m.
 3 Executive Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
 7 Church Service 11:00 a.m.
 8 Valentines Day
 9
 10 General Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
 11
 12
 13
 14 Church Service 11:00 a.m.
 15
 16
 17 W.A. go to Paris Restaurant. N. Val.
 18
 19
 20 After plays at Red Dragon
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27 Pig and Whistle "at Night" Festival, Hall, Llanymynydd

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

1 St. David's Day
 2
 3 Executive Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
 4
 7
 8
 9
 10 General Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
 11
 12 Cambrian Circle Singers Release CD
 13
 14 Church Service 11:00 a.m.
 15
 16
 17 W.A. Meeting at 12 N. Val.
 18 St. Patrick's Day
 19
 20
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27 Pig and Whistle "at Night" at Cambrian Hall for Van Ordoon M. U. Choir