

Donatwr i Chwefror  
1999

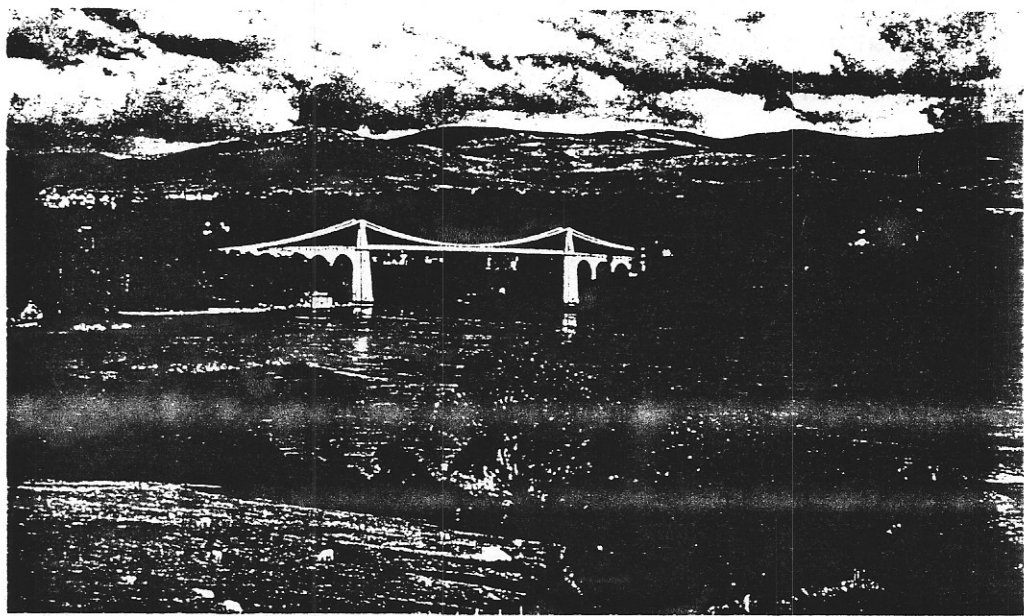


January to February  
1999

Cymdeithas Gymkaeg Vancouver

Cambrian News

Welsh Society Newsletter — Cylchgrawn Cymraeg



LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLLGOGERYCHWYRNDROBWLLLLANDYSILIOGOGOGOCH  
Church Mary Hollow White Hazel Near to the Swirling Whirlpool Church of Saint Tysilio Near the Red Cave.

Postcard: Courtesy of member Gareth Prytherch

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

Annual MEMBERSHIP Renewals

Name : .....  
Address : .....  
City : .....  
Postal Code : ..... Phone No. ( ) ..... - .....

Please :- Cheques or Money Order payable to :  
"THE WELSH SOCIETY OF VANCOUVER"

Membership :- Regular : \$35.00  
Family (Member, Spouse & Children to 18 ) : \$60.00  
Seniors : \$20.00  
Out-of- town (50 miles or more) : \$20.00

Send renewals to :- Membership Secretary,  
Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17th. Ave.,  
Date :- Vancouver, B. C. V5V 1A6  
Phone : (604) 876-2815

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St. David's Day Dinner

The Vancouver Welsh Society's Annual Dinner to celebrate our Patron Saint is scheduled for Saturday, February 27th next at the Cambrian Hall.

Catering by Jordan's.

Tickets are available from:

Gaynor Owen (946 - 4956) or,

Gwen Tonack (738 - 3377)

Ticket Prices :

MEMBERS : \$26.00

GUESTS : \$29.00

Cocktails at 6pm

Dinner at 7pm.

Please diarize the date : Saturday, February 27th.

### Happy Retirement

Congratulations and Best Wishes are extended to two of our members, Eric and Mary Davies on the occasion of their retirement. They emigrated from Wrexham, North Wales in 1956 when Eric took the post of manager of the meat department of a Safeway store in Winnipeg. After six months they relocated on the West Coast where for the next four years Eric managed the meat department of an IGA store.

In 1961, Eric bought the Queens Park Meat Market in New Westminster, and his venture prospered as his fame for selling high-class products and providing first-rate service grew.

Eric's customers came from far and wide, well outside the Lower Mainland, and included also some well-known personalities in various fields of endeavour. Now after 38 years, they have sold their business, and Eric and Mary are calling it quits.

They are planning a trip to North Wales this coming spring; in the meantime Eric will be puttering on his boat, and also putting on the golf greens as he sharpens up his golf game.

We hope that they will have many happy years of retirement, and that they will continue to maintain their close ties with our Association.

### Maritime Influences

In the course of ordinary conversation we often use idioms without thinking at all about their origins. A surprising number of them turn out to be nautical expressions—a rich legacy of our maritime history. Here are typical expressions in daily use:—

Being in low water, spinning yarns, getting spliced, kicking the bucket, give someone a wide berth, to bale out are all of naval origin.

The "bitter end" is the inboard portion of a rope. No "great shakes" and a "brace of shakes" comes from the shaking of sails in the wind. We talk about "the devil to pay" and "between the devil and the deep blue sea" without realizing that the "devil" is the outboard plank by the waterways of the ship. We have often said Fanny Adams without knowing that it refers to tinned mutton; and "gilt off the ginger-bread" referred to the elaborate carvings on the sterns of old sailing ships, which was called "gingerbread work". The ornate carvings were gilded over; "to take the gilt off" was therefore to damage this ornate appearance.

"Going on strike" derives from the Navy. Sailors who refused to go to sea, because of some grievance, would strike (that is, lower) the yards of the ship.

leuan Lampshire-Jones



**Congratulations !!**

**Congratulations** are extended to Isla-Jane Kail on attending the Welsh-speaking Night for the first time. Isla-Jane was a very faithful member of the Welsh lessons class for four years, and she is the only student to have ventured , so far, into this new sphere of learning. Well done , Isla-Jane!

Now, if only we could induce more people to emulate Isla-Jane.....!

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**NEWS FLASH**

Well-placed observers have found out that the South Wales golf team, still smarting from their two consecutive losses, have taken to the golf course to practise even when there is ice and snow on the ground!

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**Christmas Dinner Dance 1998**

With the Red Dragon looking particularly festive this year, the perfect atmosphere was created for the annual Christmas Dinner Dance, on Saturday, December 5th 1998.

Everyone who attended said it was a terrific evening with excellent fare prepared for us by Jordan's.

This year, a new menu was introduced and one that delighted D&D attendees. Luscious-looking salads, plump meatballs, tangy lemon chicken and juicy roasted

ham accompanied by vegetables all jostled for positions down the centre table.

Dancing followed our hearty repast and then a short break when the Christmas Draw took place and for us to get our breath! There were many marvellous prizes to be won - which some very happy people did!

Dancing resumed again and lasted well into the late hours. Our DeeJay for the evening played a wonderful selection of dance tunes and to his credit, hardly anyone stayed off the floor for long.

All in all, it was a wonderful time and we can't wait for next year's!

Llongyfarchiadau a Diolch to all of Santa's helpers who made this evening possible. It was beautiful.

Written by Lynne H. Fox

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**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Would the Treasurers of the various divisions of the Society please provide me with:-

A. Balance Sheet as at December 31, 1998, and

B. Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the year then ended.

I would like to be in a position to submit our Consolidated Statement to our auditor by this month-end.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Tecwyn Roberts  
Treasurer

W.A. REPORT

On Dec.16th fourteen W.A. members sat down for our annual Christmas luncheon held in our beautifully decorated Cambrian Hall.

A turkey dinner, with all the trimmings, was prepared by Veronica Gilder, Betty Morgan and Joan Wilkinson. It was a smashing success.

We were served most efficiently by five of our spouses—Ellis Griffiths, Milt Morgan, Don Murray, Gord Thomas and Tony Tonack. Our thanks to these kind gentlemen. We certainly put them through their paces, including clean-up. It was wonderful being waited on hand and foot!

After lunch we joined in a lovely caroling led by Joan and Veronica and accompanied by Enid Lewis. We particularly enjoyed the duets by Joan and Veronica.

There were "goody-bags" for each lady and a door prize, which was won by Mae Lievesley. Thanks to Vivian Sagar, Gaynor Owen and Maureen Grecht for the donations and presentation.

Our thanks also to the Social Committee for the wine and to Maureen for her special Sherry. Bev Thomas and Gwen Tonack set the tables and Tony did a bang-up job of turkey carving. All in all, it was a lovely way to end the fall session.

B. Thomas, Sec.

Nationalism is an infantile disease. It is the measles of mankind.

— ALBERT EINSTEIN

W. A. Raffle

The W.A. Raffle prizes were drawn for at the Children's Christmas Party, Jeff Owen doing the honors. The winner of the lovely vase, made by Marion Armstrong, was Joan Wilkinson, and she was very pleased. The second prize, a beautiful crocheted wrap, was won by Phyllis Owens.

Before the party we conducted a mini craft sale and I'm happy to report that the two events raised enough money to cover our Christmas donation to the Children's party and our annual contribution to the Battered Women's Support Services. Many thanks to all who participated.

B. Thomas, Sec.

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*A Canadian is someone who drinks Brazilian coffee from an English teacup, and munches French pastry whilst sitting on Danish furniture, having just come home from an Italian movie in his German car. He picks up his Japanese pen and writes to his MP to complain about the American takeover of the Canadian publishing business.*

— CAMPBELL HUGHES  
in Time

.....  
The history of liberty is a history of the limitation of government power.

— WOODROW WILSON

## Drover's Gold Revisited

Last month's article about TV Wales' series, Drover's Gold, aired in B.C., triggered some literary memories for **member David Davies, Kamloops**, and reminded him of a piece of family history.

David's great-great grandfather was a David Davies(1785 -1848) who was a farmer and live-stock dealer at Nantglyn, a village in the northern lee of the Denbighshire moors and 5 miles south of Denbigh in North Wales.

His eldest son, William Davies(1919 - 1904),deserted farm life and became a successful Liverpool draper. In 1890, William, then aged 70, sat down and wrote his 'Cofiant' (Memoirs) in a disused ledger in copperplate hand writing. He relates the following, which though it does not actually deal with droving, shows how herds were assembled, and can pobably be dated to about 1830 —31 :—

My father used to be a great deal away from home(whilst at Cefn Main). He used to deal largely in cattle, chiefly young stock and All Black if he could get them, and send them to Epping, Barnett, Harlow Bush and Smithfield Markets. At the latter place, he used to put up at the Ram Inn in old Smithfield — I have often seen the old inn before it was taken down.

My father used to go up to London by the mail coaches, the "Wonder" or the "Iron & Dell", which used to run from Holyhead, through Shrewsbury, etc. He used to meet the mail at Cerrig-y-Druidion 9 miles from Cefn Main farm, where I used to go with him on my pony and bring his horse back, or sometimes he would meet the mail at Wrexham when I would bring back his stock.

In the winter season my father used to devote his time in buying up all the fat pigs he could up and down the country ( but chiefly in Denbighshire ). There were certain days arranged for the farmers to bring these pigs to be weighed, sometimes at LLanrwst, Pentrefoelas, Cerrig-y-Druidion, Corwen, Tal-y-Cafn, LLansanna, and last but not least, Nantglyn, where they used to be brought from a considerable distance.

At Nantglyn they used to be weighed at Tan-y-Capel, the farm yard of the Black Inn, and after weighing process was over we used to adjourn to the 'Black' to settle up for the pigs. My father had his counting-house upstairs where there used to be a good roaring fire and I acted as his clerk ( as he used to call me ). My duties consisted in reckoning up how much the lot of pigs came to ; some of the people would only have one pig whilst others had from 5—12 or more. The prices ranged from 3-1/2d to 6d per lb.

After putting down the exact amount which each lot came to, my father always said to the seller, "Now, I shall leave it entirely to your honour to return what luck money that you please to the lad. I remember having to take home many a basin full of silver from the 'Black'. In particular, the returns the people made were from 1/- to 10/-, and even a sovereign, if the sale was very large.

These pigs were dispatched to Stretford, near Manchester , to Mr. Parker Raingill, a very large and successful pork butcher and dealer, who would buy all that my father could send him.

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The same author also mentions that he went to a boarding school at Wrexham in 1831, aged 13, and at that time cholera broke out in Denbigh when a great many died especially at Henllan Street. He goes on to say : "I remember hearing people speaking of it at school, and us boys being forbidden to eat apples or fruit of any kind. My brother and I left Wrexham in 1832, my father coming for us as usual on horseback and bringing us our ponies.....

The following was received by Gaynor Evans via the Internet.

I am a Lecturer in IT in a College in Llanelli and live near Carmarthen, both in South Wales.

I have to do IT Projects with the students and the idea of linking via the Internet and e-mail to create "Electronic Pen Pals" with whatever age is interested would be lovely. I thought it would be nice to :

- (1) Exchange information on our respective lives and locations.
  - (2) Link up with people or places here relevant to people over there.
  - (3) Tell you about the National Eisteddfod 2000 which is being held within half a mile of the College.
  - (4) Send digital pictures of the students here and receive the same from you, etc, etc.
- If this appeals to you - it would probably function from about Feb 1999 until June 1999 unless individuals felt they wanted to make it more permanent!!

Please contact me on any of the following;

Home e-mail : [gailgeorge@capeldewi.freemove.co.uk](mailto:gailgeorge@capeldewi.freemove.co.uk)

OR

Home Address : CYSGOD Y CURYLL (In the shadow of the Hawk)  
CAPEL DEWI RD.,  
CARMARTHEN, SA32 8AY,  
CARMARTHENSHIRE, SOUTH WALES, UK.

OR Home Telephone : 01267 290070

I do hope to hear from you.

I am a Welsh speaker as are all my family.

DIOLCH AM EICH AMSER. GOBEITHIO CLYWED WRTHOCH.  
NADOLIG LLAWEN A BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA.

Gail (George)

.....  
**ABERTHAU**

This well-known mansion, now a part of West Point Grey Community Centre, caused some controversy in our City very recently. It appears that the mansion's heritage plaque interprets the meaning as "a place filled with light". A Vancouver lady wrote to the Vancouver Courier and suggested that the correct meaning was "sacrifices". A male reader wrote in and suggested that Aberthau was a variation of Abertawe, and that a certain Col. Victor Spencer bought the mansion and renamed it Aberthau to commemorate the birthplace of his father, the village of St. Athan, some thirty miles from Abertawe (Swansea). The property remained as the home of the Spencer family until 1939 when it was expropriated by the Department of National Defence. It was eventually turned over to the City in 1972 for use as a community centre.

Another reader, a Dave Morriss of Vancouver, suggested that the name may well have been derived from Aberthaw, a small village two miles east of St. Athan. This is the site of a large hydro power station, which could have given credence to the misnomer "a place filled with light". Having regard to the history of the Spencer family, the latter theory appears the most plausible.



## VANCOUVER WELSH MEN'S CHOIR

Our recent series of Christmas concerts in the Surrey Arts Centre, St. Andrew's Wesley Church downtown, and in Abbotsford were very well received by the capacity audiences in each location. People at the concerts were particularly enthusiastic about the improved sound of the choir which our current Guest Conductor, John Trepp, has been working towards. As one audience member at the December 12 concert who was born and bred in Cardiff and has sung in choirs all his life remarked, "You sound so much more Welsh!"

Having taken a well-earned break for the Christmas and New Year festivities, our rehearsals recommenced at the Cambrian Hall on January 12. Our first concert in the New Year will be a benefit for the Arcus Foundation in St. George's Anglican Church, Maple Ridge on Saturday February 20 at 8 p.m.

*There was a vicar who told his congregation, "Next week I shall preach on lies and lying, so please read up Chapter 17 of St. Mark by then to prepare". The next Sunday he asked "How many of you read Chapter 17 of St. Mark?" A forrest of hands shot up. "Well", the vicar said, there are only 16 Chapters in St. Mark, so I will now preach on lies and lying".*

*Ieuan Lampshire-Jones.*

### YR HEN FLUYDDYN.

*Mae'r Fluyddyn wedi mynd  
Na ddaw hi byth yn ôl.  
Mae wedi mynd a llawer  
Ffrind yn dyner yn ei chôl  
'Na ddaw hi byth yn ôl,  
'Na ddaw hi byth yn ôl.  
Mae wedi mynd a llawer  
Ffrind yn dyner yn ei chôl.*

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*Ieuan Lampshire-Jones.*

To laugh is to risk appearing a fool,  
to cry is to risk appearing  
sentimental and soft,  
to reach out to another is to risk  
involvement,  
to show up and expose your feelings is to  
risk exposing your inherent self,  
to place your ideas, your dreams, your  
desires before people is to risk their loss,  
to love is to risk you might not be loved in  
return,  
to live is to risk dying,  
to show strength is to risk showing  
weakness,  
to do is to risk failure,  
the greatest hazard in life is to risk  
nothing,  
the person who risks nothing gets nothing,  
has nothing, is nothing,  
he may avoid suffering, pain, sorrow, but  
he does not learn, he does not grow, he  
does not live, he does not love, he has  
sold, forfeited freedom, integrity,  
he is a slave, chained by safety, locked  
away by fear, because, only a person who  
is willing to risk  
not knowing the result  
is free.

An optimist stays up till midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.

For your convenience notices for this calendar requested 6 weeks prior to the date, or changes to the calendar display are requested 6 weeks prior to the date.

# January 1999

## Mis Ionawr 1999

February 27, Saturday  
St. David's Day BANQUET

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
17	18	19	20 W.A. Noon Mtg Cambrian Circle Singers Rehearsal	21 Thursday Welsh Folk Dancing Welsh Speaking Evening	22	23 Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
24	25	26	27	28	29 Cambrian Circle 7:00 p.m. Singout New Vista Care 7550 Rosewood Bby	30 Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.

# February 1999

## Mis Chwefror 1999

Cymdeithas Gymraeg Vancouver Welsh Society  
Cambrian Hall, 215 E. 17th Ave, Vancouver, B.C.

7	8	9	10 <del>7:30 p.m.</del> General Mtg.	11	12 7:30 p.m. Richmond Singers Parish Church 2465 Crown Vancvt	13 Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
14 Valentine's 2:30 p.m. Richmond Singers Shaughnessy Heights Utd Church 1550 w 33 11:00 a.m. Church Service	15	16	17	18	19	20 7:30 p.m. Orpheus Choir Pig * Whistle Upstairs
1	2	3	4 7:30 p.m. Exec. Mtg.	5	6	7:30 p.m. Orpheus Choir Dunbar Hts U Ch 3525 W 24
				4 Thursdays Welsh Folk Dancing	5 Cambrian Circle Singers Rehearsal	6 Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.

For Richmond Singers Info: @ 271-3831

Welsh Men's Choir Rehearsals: Tuesdays at Cambrian Hall,  
Orpheus Choir: most Tues. Evenings at John Oliver High School  
530 East 41st Ave. Room 201. at 7:30 p.m.

Orpheus Tickets or info: 515-5686