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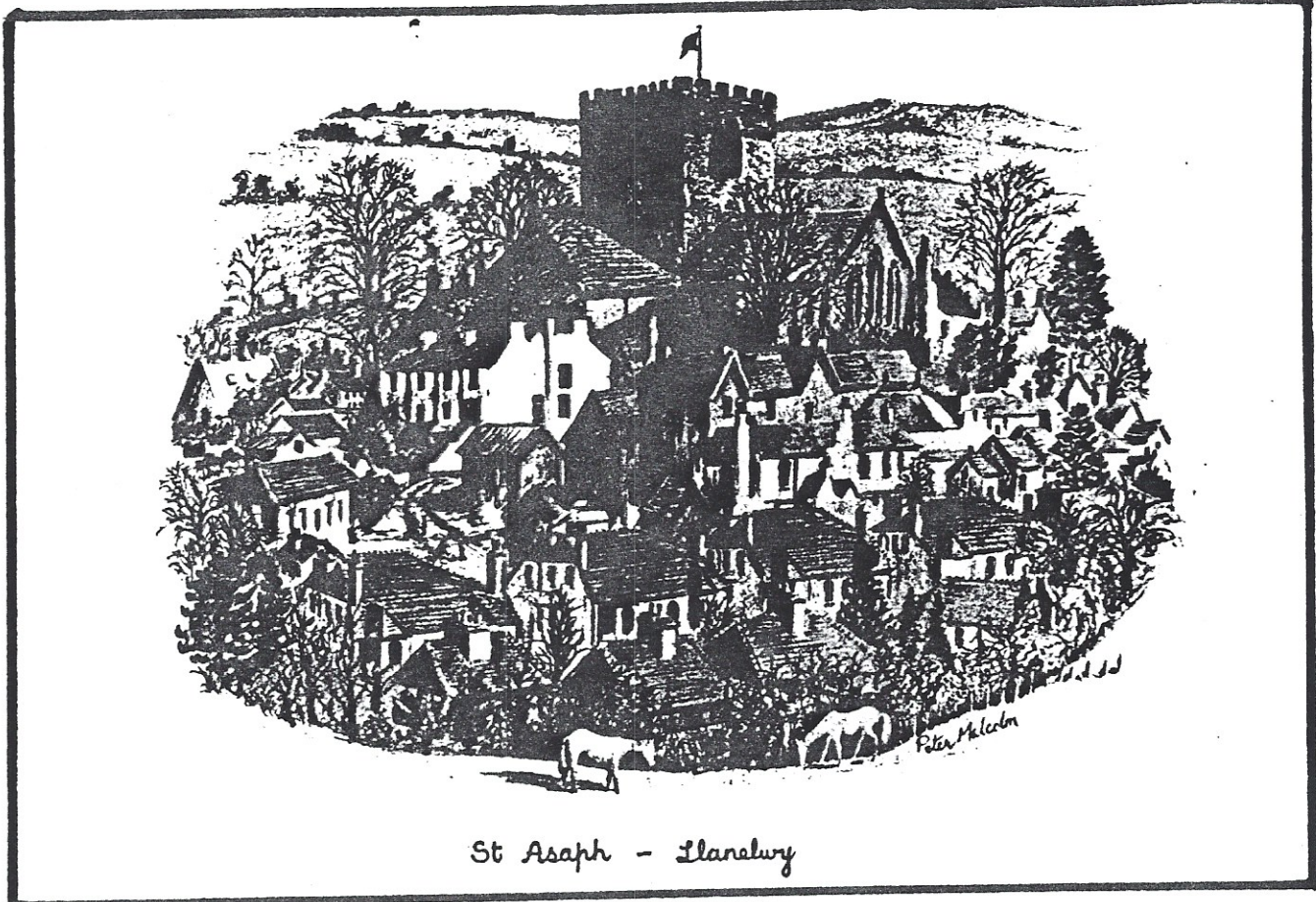
MAWRTH I EBRILL
1994

MARCH TO APRIL
1994

Cymdeithas Gymraeg Vancouver

Cambrian News

Welsh Society Newsletter - Cylchgrawn Cymraeg



St Asaph - Llanelwyr

Membership Renewal

Name : _____

Address : _____

City : _____

Postal Code : _____ Phone No.: (____) _____

Please make your cheques or money orders payable to: "The Welsh Society of Vancouver".
(Fees on new memberships are pro-rated from July onwards)

Send your membership renewals to:

Beverly Thomas
Membership Secretary
Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17th Ave.
Vancouver B.C., V5V 1A6.

Type of Membership (Circle one)

Regular: \$35.00 Family: \$60.00

Seniors: \$20.00 *Out-of-Town: \$20.00

*Living a minimum of 80 kilometres/50 miles outside the city of Vancouver.

"Hot" Property

Most of you may have heard by now that our microwave oven has been stolen, along with a Welsh Men's Choir member's personal item.

It is a very sad state of affairs, but with crime on the increase, it is not wholly surprising that sooner or later it would happen to us.

As a reminder to all then, please be more careful and vigilant when inside the Hall and keep the back door closed and locked - unless there are people downstairs.

This time it was a couple of replaceable items that were taken, but for future reference, let's make sure we are safer than sorrier.

FOOTNOTE: Thanks to Gaynor Owen keeping an eye out for a bargain, a new microwave has been purchased for the kitchen. It's a really nice one too, complete with turntable, which the old one did not have. Every cloud has a silver lining, as they say!

An effort not to be "duplicated" for awhile.

Thanks go to Don Murray, for valiantly trying to get us a free photocopier from Benndorf-Verster, who were recently giving away the aforementioned to non-profit organisations such as ourselves.

Well, we didn't get the photocopier, (too many others ahead in the line-up) but Don's tenacity paid off and instead we are getting 500 free photocopies for the remainder of the year. This will come in very handy for the newsletter. Thanks once again Don.

From the Editor

As the newsletter moves into '94, events have already moved to affect the way these few modest pages eventually arrive at your doorstep.

For over ten years one of the societies members, Martin Gregg, had provided the society with an invaluable service of producing the newsletter copies free of charge.

Unfortunately, last month Martin had informed us that he will no longer be

able help out with what had become a monthly routine.

Well "all good things..." and all that, starting this month we'll be pounding the streets in search of the best deal in town for photocopying.

So for the last time, the society wishes to extend it's gratitude and thanks to Martin for all the time he has put into the making of this publication.

- Rob



VANCOUVER WELSH MEN'S CHOIR

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

The Choir will be giving concerts as follows:

Saturday, March 12th, Pender Island Community Centre, Pender Island at 1.30 p.m.

*Friday, March 25th, a joint concert with the Harvard Glee Club at St. Andrew's Wesley Church, Vancouver at 8.00 p.m. Jameson Marvin is conductor for the Harvard Glee Club.

Saturday, April 16th, University of Victoria Theatre at 11.00 a.m.

Sunday, April 17th, Shawinigan School at 2.30 p.m.

*The joint concert with the visiting Harvard Glee Club promises to be a very good one. If you would like to go, tickets prices are listed below and they are available from Ticketmaster at 280-4444.

Adult \$16.00, Student/Senior \$13.00, Under 15 years \$11.00.

Regulation Reminders

We'd like to take this opportunity to point out some of the Society rules, which are there for everyone's benefit - and to help keep things running more smoothly.

#1. Non-members and guests MUST BE SIGNED IN BY A MEMBER. This is part of the condition for our "A" License to serve alcohol. Therefore it is the LAW.

#2. In order to participate in certain events in the Society, you have to be a PAID-UP MEMBER. These rules will be strictly observed from now on.

#3. Finally, if you buy tickets to an important Society event, they will be NON-REFUNDABLE, except in the most extreme cases.

"Stirred But Not Shaken As Earth Moves At Dawn"

By David Greenwood and Emyr Williams.

(Exerpts taken from Daily Post, Friday, February 11th, 1994.)

Yesterday, people all over north-west Gwynedd, including Anglesey, compared the early morning tremor to an explosion.

The British Geological Survey in Edinburgh has already initiated a study and will be placing questionnaires in local newspapers.

Historically North Wales has had a rather high level of seismic activity, but minimal compared with other earthquake areas throughout the world.

It was 10 years ago, just before 8 a.m. on July 19th, 1984, that the North Wales area experienced an earthquake of 5.4 on the Richter scale which caused minor damage to property.

The epicentre was identified as being on the Lleyn Peninsula.

According to the British Geological Survey, the 1984 earthquake rannked with the largest experienced in Britain over the previous 200 years.

Worldwide, such earthquakes are common, with approximately 1,000 events each year.

Information gleaned from more than 7,000 questionnaires received following the incident revealed that many people then had had to hold on to furniture to steady themselves, pictures and mirrors knocked against walls, ornaments fell over, heavy furniture moved and water splashed out of fish tanks.

The most recent earthquake, in July 1992, registering 3.2 on the Richter scale, shook thousands of homes across Gwynedd.

There are several major geological faults passing through the Gwynedd area. These include the Berw, Dinorwic and Bala faults and the Lleyn Thrust.

The largest earthquakes felt in the Gwynedd epicentral area since 1800 were on July 27, 1852 (north west of Anglesey), July 19th, 1903 (Caernarfon) and December 12th 1940 (off shore

Lleyn Peninsula), which registered 4.7 on the Richter scale.

Article donated by Gwen Tonack.

Welsh Windmills

Did you know that Wales produces more power through wind-driven turbines than any other country except Denmark?

Eight of Britain's 19 wind farms are in Wales, but environmental groups, which have supported wind power in the past, are now concerned about the number of windmills that are necessary to produce even a relatively small amount of power. It is estimated that 38,000 windmills on 4,000 square kilometres of land are necessary to produce 10% of Britain's electricity requirements.

Recently, strong objections by residents of areas in which wind farm developments applications have been filed have successfully prevented erection of more turbines on the grounds that they destroy archaeological remains and sites of interest, would intrude on highly exposed hillsides, be noisy and dangerous.

In addition, consumers subsidise these wind farms by a 10% levy on their electricity bills. Wind-generated power costs 11 pence per kilowatt hour, compared to 1.9 pence for coal, 3 pence for gas and 8.5 pence for nuclear generated power.

Each turbine is a massive 120 feet tall with 3 blades each 60 feet long.

Reproduced from the February 1994, Welsh Society/Cymdeithas Gymraeg Victoria Newsletter.

Of Interest...

(Taken from "Wales Today", Daily Post, January 1994.)

Clwb Hogiau Paradwys, a charity club in Anglesey, will on Friday present a cheque for 10,000 to the haematology unit at Ysbyty Gwynedd, Bangor - money raised in a sponsored Beaujolais run from France to Llangristiolus by eight members. The club has raised more than 50,000 for charity since it was set up in 1982.

Article donated by Gwen Tonack.

Social Committee News

We are still looking for volunteers to help out every once in a while, with organising events and serving at the bar on a Saturday night.

It only means giving up some of your spare time to help us in our endeavours of keeping the Cambrian Hall and Welsh Society going - I consider them to be worthwhile causes, don't you?

So what are you waiting for? Give a Social Committee member a call and be a pal!

Jeff and Gaynor Owen.....946-4956.
Tony and Gwen Tonack.....738-3377.
Robert Fox.....944-6940.

LET US KNOW IN PLENTY OF TIME....if there is a birthday, anniversary, or any other important announcement you would like to have mentioned in the Newsletter.

Write to: The Editor, Cambrian News, Cambrian Hall,

215 East 17th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., V5V 1A6 -
or leave in the mail box at the Hall.

Welsh Society Darts Tournament 1994

Saturday, March 19th is the date, the venue is the Red Dragon. Competition is open to both men and women, but Society Members only.

Bar opens at 7.00 p.m. Darts competition begins promptly at 8.00 p.m.

Food will be served and there are prizes. There is still time to sign up, so if you are interested, please call either Tony Tonack at 738-3377, or Milt Morgan at 298-6085. You can also sign up at the bar, but please give the organisers plenty of notice.

Welsh Society Golf And Barbecue '94

Held on Saturday, June 25th the golfing will take place at the Delta Golf Course.

In the evening, it's a barbecue supper at the Red Dragon, same as last year, please bring your own steaks, burgers or whatever you wish to cook. Potatoes, salads and condiments are provided, however! and I do stress this point, volunteers are badly needed in helping to set up and clear away. The Social Committee are short staffed this year and could use some extra pairs of hands. Please be considerate.

For those interested in taking part, more information is available from Bob Marsh at 946-3612.

From the Membership Secretary

The Membership Secretary would like to remind those members who have not yet paid their 1994 Memberships that according to the Constitution, Article B, Item 8, they are due and payable January 1st 1994.

Thanks go to those members who have already paid and you are all encouraged to come out to your Society functions, some of them listed below:

Saturday Night Social Evenings;
Monthly Sunday Morning Services;
Monthly General Meetings;
Women's Auxiliary;
Noson Lawen and Gymanfaoedd;
Welsh Night;
Dance Practices;
Cambrian Circle Singers Practices;
Darts/Golf Games and all the many things that a few hard working members arrange for you.

Beverly Thomas, Membership Secretary.

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Women's Auxiliary

At our February meeting, some of members arrived early at the hall to polish the trophies and clean out the trophy case, whilst others were busy making leek emblems to be sold and worn on St. David's Day. Proceeds of sales to be added to our Spring Tea fund raiser. Our member, Miss Eirlys Anne Thomas, had made a number of "Leeks" at home, as she was busy sewing a cover for our new and expensive piano.

After the lunch/social hour, arrangements were made to sell Raffle and Tea tickets at our St. David's Day Open House.

All of us who use the Hall for any events, benefit from the many improvements to the building - although all labour involved is given free, everything else has to be bought and paid for. Not all of us, for various reasons, can give our labour for these projects but would wish to make a contribution.

Any donation in money or in kind to the W.A. Spring Tea will be put to good use at the Cambrian Hall and we would, of course, be delighted to welcome you to join us for tea on April 16th at 2 - 4 p.m. A delicious tea is always served and there will be many bargains on our various stalls.

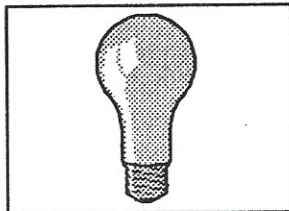
We would also be pleased to have new lady members come and join us on the third Wednesday each month at 12 noon - we have a lot of fun as well as trying to make our contribution to the parent body.

The W.A. send greetings and wish for return to health to all our members and also Welsh Society members who are indisposed at this time.

Hope to see as many as possible April 16th.

Anne G. Jones, W. A. President.

Building Committee and Maintenance Crew



Jack Smith is away for approximately one month, but work will be continuing on the Hall once he's back from vacation.

Eirlys Anne Thomas has very successfully managed to make a cover for the new upright piano upstairs. Not an easy thing to do, so I think she's earned a sincere pat on the back for her work and a big thank you as well. This

lady has done so much for the Society of late, (There is a large notice board downstairs - {Red Dragon} - with information and points of interest on it, that she has recently made.) that I feel some recognition is deserved. Thank you Eirlys Anne, from the Welsh Society Members.

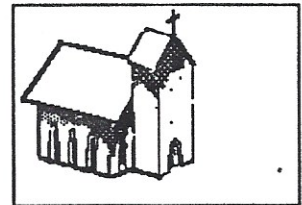
Welsh Lessons/Gwers Gymraeg

Those who are taking lessons in Welsh, have remarked that the class is excellent and they are making good progress.

Dr. Gwilym Evans is an excellent teacher who has made learning an interesting task.

At the moment the class is full, but if all goes well, there may be classes starting up in September. So don't give up hope!

Church Service



Held every second Sunday in the month, unless otherwise specified. A light luncheon is served afterward and a small contribution to the table would be appreciated.

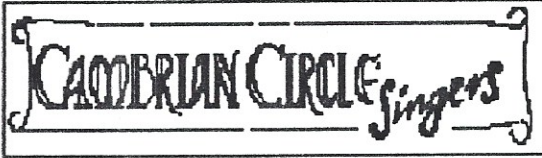
Lots of work goes into making these services possible, and thanks are due to the people who give so freely of their time and effort.

Pacific North-West Gymanfa Ganu

Nanaimo, 1994

May 13th, 14th, and 15th

Registration forms are now available at the Red Dragon or call Jeff Owen 946-4956, or Gaynor Evans at 271-3134.



Spring 1994 is becoming a very busy time for the Singers, as their engagement calendar is slowly, but surely filling up.

Singouts on the following dates:

Saturday, 26th February, St. Vincent's, 6650 Arbutus Street, (at 49th Avenue) at 1.30 p.m.

Wednesday, 2nd March, Windermere, 900 West 12th Avenue at 7.30 p.m.

Friday, 9th March, Buchanan Sunset Lodge, 77 Jamison Court, New Westminster at 8.00 p.m.

Friday, April 22nd, Crofton Manor, 2803 W. 41st Avenue at 7.00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 27th, Whitecliff, 15501 - 16th Avenue, White Rock at 7.30 p.m.

Rehearsals are listed below.

Wednesdays, March 16th, 23rd and 30th at 8.00 p.m.

Fridays, April 8th, 15th and May 6th at 8.00 p.m.

Anyone who enjoys singing and would like to become a member of the group, please call Nerys Haqq at 278-8978.

Welsh Society Folk Dancers

Progress is steady and we are doing excellently, which is good news considering how quickly May is approaching.

Many thanks to Eirlys Anne Thomas from the whole group, for making the gentlemen dancers' waistcoats. They really do look like country-Welsh folk now!

A sandwich-board sign has been purchased for the dancers to take with them, when they are giving performances outside the Society. It is very similar in design, to the sign over the front door and the bumper stickers.

As well as the Pig 'N Whistle Fun Night on the 19th February - which was a success by all accounts - we danced some of our old routines and one of our newest ones, on March 1st at the Open House. Despite nervousness, the ladies performed their dance perfectly.

It seems that the Harrow Ladies' Bowling Club could not

visit us after all, due to another engagement.

If you want to be part of all the excitement, then please give Jack and Bertha Smith a call at 683-1335. (For the next month, J and B will be away. Any person(s) interested in joining us for a practice or to watch us, can call me at 944-6940.)

We practice on Thursday evenings from 7.30 p.m. at Cambrian Hall.

Lynne Hughes-Fox.

"Our Volunteers"

There are various meanings of the word "volunteer" in the dictionary - but the one best suited seems to be - "To volunteer is to offer oneself freely for a task or service without legal obligation or promise of reward".

I think most of us are inclined to forget the many hours and days that volunteers commit to The Welsh Society of Vancouver, OUR SOCIETY. In doing so, they give up a lot of their private lives for the enjoyment of us, the members.

How many of us take our volunteers for granted and never show our appreciation? It takes many hours of work and enthusiasm to ensure the success of an event, yet many times support is poor and disappointing.

Perhaps we should all resolve not to leave everything to THE REGULARS who attend all monthly meetings and organised events at the Cambrian Hall. I am sure we will be rewarded by Good fellowship and good entertainment and we will show our appreciation of our volunteers without whom OUR SOCIETY would not survive for the future.

Anne G. Jones, Vice President.

Welsh Night

An evening for Welsh speakers and those who wish to become immersed in the language, is held every third Thursday of the month, at the Red Dragon.

Tea and coffee served.

Golden Wedding Surprise a Great Success

All the subterfuge and diligence paid off on Saturday, February 5th, Ellis and Marion Griffiths' Golden Wedding Anniversary. These two people hadn't a clue, as to what had been going on behind the scenes and thought it was Mrs. Olive David's birthday party they would be attending!. (It should be pointed out here, that Mrs. David had no idea what was going on either!) To see the expressions on their faces when they arrived at the Red Dragon on their special day, and all of their friends there to shout "SURPRISE!", was simply marvellous.

As well, the Griffiths' daughter, Elizabeth had arrived a couple of days before all the way from Auckland, New Zealand. This too was kept quiet, until the last possible minute when Ellis and Marion went to the airport to pick up "a large, fragile parcel".

The party itself went off beautifully, thanks to the effort of a small group of people. The Red Dragon was prettily decorated, and on the buffet table there were gorgeous candles and flowers set out.

The happy couple looked liked radiant newlyweds, waltzing around the floor, with Enid Lewis playing piano for them.

Champagne was poured, there were toasts and speeches made to Ellis and Marion, everyone laughing and some tears shed. Many reminiscences were brought to life, and new ones recorded on camera.

Indeed it was a happy, emotional day, and one that will be fondly remembered for a very long time to come - especially by Ellis and Marion. Llongyfarchiadau.

Many thanks are due to the people who helped put this event together and for their creativity. The food served was superb, as always and the Red Dragon looked lovely.

Diolch yn fawr.

Open House, March 1st 1994.

Even though the weather was really awful, a lot of you managed to show up and lend your support for the evening - which as it turns out, was really good fun.

The folk dancers got things started by giving a showing of three of their favourite routines. After this, they were given time to recuperate and then the "Eating of the Leeks" ceremony began.

This year, it was "Sons of the Fathers", who were invited to make their pledge to Dewi Sant. We'd like to say thanks to the following, Chad Lievesley, Julian Murray, Richard Murray and Richard Roberts, who made the pledge - and ate some very strong spring onions! Thanks also go to Rob Barclay, for giving a brief history on the leek eating and introducing the event; Ivor Davies, who played the drum - and very well I might add!; Allan Jones and Neville Thomas, "Bards Extraordinaire" and Jeff Owen, who was the best dressed leek and beer server ever seen!

Afterwards, we got the biggest treat of the evening, Rose Murphy's simply wonderful leek soup. Bless you Rose, you do an astounding job and we are most grateful to you.

We were all thrilled with Veronica Gilder's solo; that she managed to sing after dancing, was quite remarkable. Enid Lewis once again lent her most important service of playing piano. We are much obliged to you ladies.

As usual, it is the people behind the scenes who make these events so worthwhile, and we have to acknowledge their very hard work and say thank you to all of them.

See you all next March 1st - if not sooner!

Vancouver Orpheus Male Voice Choir

The Vancouver Orpheus Choir sincerely wish to thank the Vancouver Welsh Society, for the help its members gave us in so many different ways, to make our Pig 'N Whistle such a resounding success both socially and financially.