

MAY, 1992



MAY, 1992

Cymdeithas Gymraeg Vancouver

*Cambrian News*

Welsh Society Newsletter - Cylchgrawn Cymraeg



The Palace at Aber



PACIFIC NORTH WEST GYMANFA GANU 1992

It really was a remarkable weekend - May 8th through 10th. Despite the chilliness of the weather the spirit of the occasion refused to dissipate. Penticton was brimming with Welshness! For those who were unable to attend this year's Gymanfa, here is an account of what took place. The Noson Lawen on Friday evening, May 8th, began with a welcoming introduction from the emcee for the night, Mr. Rob Mackenzie, (who despite his name, is actually from Cardiff!) The Red Dragon Band, from Seattle played some traditional tunes for us and they were very melodic and Celtic sounding - they had even taken the time and trouble to learn a few of the famous Max Boyce songs! While they had a short break, the Vancouver Welsh Country Dancers came on, and did five of their routines, which went off successfully, even though the dancers were very nervous! The audience loved them, and it is to their credit that there were many compliments given afterwards.

The following day, Saturday, May 9th, everyone assembled at the Penticton High School for the Folk Concert. The Dancers went on first this time and performed in succession 6 of their routine. Again, they were well received and have been invited to dance at other venues in the future. In the evening there was a grand Concert given by the Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir, the Naramata Choir from the Penticton area, soloist Mr. David Tuck, (Tenor) and harpist Mr. Gordon Ritchie. All performed superbly and the audience were thrilled with them. I must mention here that Mr. Ritchie played and sang a piece that is very special to me, "Tra Bod Dau". It was the piece of music I walked down the aisle to, 41/2 years ago and it is a really pretty Welsh tune. The Naramata Choir have a beautiful harmony and it was a treat to listen to them sing. Likewise the Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir who were in fine form. Mr. David Tuck was mesmerizing in his presentation and it was easy to be swept away on a tide of emotions, but then, this is Welsh singing and music, what else can you expect? The evening was finished off with the audience joining in the singing of Cwm Rhondda and the Welsh national anthem. It was glorious. Sunday, May 10th, was the day the Gymanfa proper was held. By all accounts it was a tremendous service. The conductors were Tim Dyck and Iorwerth Carni, the pair conducted the singing very well. So all in all, the Gymanfa of 1992 went off very successfully, and we hope that our culture continues to flourish in this fashion for many years to come.

Lynne H. Fox.

---

NEWS EXTRA: There are a few things we'd like to bring to your attention regarding Society matters.

Firstly, the Celtic Connection is now free to members of the Welsh Society. If you wish to have one, they are obtainable in the lower part of Cambrian Hall, once a month.

Secondly, we have recently acquired a lovely carved wooden sign, bearing the longest name in the British Isles and the second longest in the world. It has been placed above the trophy cabinet, in the lower part of Cambrian Hall. The generous donor of this piece is Mr. Cliff Jones, who has recently moved to Alberta. We thank him for the handsome gift. Diolch yn fawr.

Thirdly - it was decided at the last Executive Meeting, that the Newsletter would be sent out on the first part of each month, instead of in the middle. However, this requires us to have all the information necessary by the 20th of the preceding month. This will ensure that the Newsletter is put together and ready for distribution by the earliest part of the next month. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

---

We'd like to remind you that the church service, held on the second Sunday in June, will be the last before September.

---

Editor: Rob Fox  
Ass't Editor: Lynne H. Fox.

Distribution: Gaynor & Gwyn Ewan



COVER STORY

How many of us can claim that we have discovered evidence of historic importance in our backyards? Not a lot of us, I expect. So, quite naturally, we are interested and curious when we hear about someone who has.

Lucky for history buffs then, that Mrs. Kathryn Pritchard Gibson has decided to share with them her findings. On her property in Aber, North Wales, she has found a great deal of evidence to support the theory that Llewellyn Fawr had his palace there.

Aber lies between Bangor and Llanfairfechan, just off the A55 along the north coast. Nowadays, it is better known for its local attraction - a magnificent waterfall. In ancient times, the court of Llewellyn Fawr would have been the magnet, for he was a popular ruler.

Mrs. Gibson has unearthed a great deal of tangible evidence, including a barn, which turned out to be a gatehouse from the year 1265. They also found the remains of a court chapel in a small cottage. There have also been numerous other findings, all lending support to this case.

To Mrs. Gibson's chagrin, there is little or no documented facts to back her claim - at least not in Britain, but in the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris and the Vatican Archives in Rome, she found the historical support she needed to validate the presence of a palace at Aber.

Thankfully, the land has been turned over to the Aber Welsh Heritage Trust - the house remains mortgaged to the Gibson family. The object of the Trust is to restore the gatehouse/courthall as a study centre, to combine history, archaeology and tradition in teaching Welsh heritage, to provide a setting for plays, poetry and music and to carry out the archaeological excavations on the Palace site.

For Welsh people, this is an important step in discovering our history. It's true that it's not taught in Welsh schools as it should be, which is very sad. Our history and culture is a very important part of Britain and Europe - not to mention the possibility that we discovered America before Columbus. Therefore we should continue to strive to keep our culture and our history with it, alive. We owe a lot to Mrs. Kathryn Pritchard Gibson and those, who like her, are genuinely interested in maintaining times past.

---Cover photo taken from the May 1992 issue of Ninnau. It depicts the grounds and house at Aber, Gwynedd. Source of material also the Ninnau.--- Asst. Editor.

MEMBERSHIP REMITTANCE FORM - 1992

Please print: Name:-----

Address:-----

City:-----

Postal Code:----- Phone No.:-----

Type of Membership: Regular. Family. Seniors. Out of Town. (circle one)

Please make cheque of money order payable to: The Welsh Society of Vancouver, B. C.  
Send completed form to: Joan Thomsen, Membership Secretary,  
Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17th Ave.,  
Vancouver, B. C., V5V 1A6.

Regular.....\$30.00      Family.....\$50.00  
Seniors.....\$17.00      \*Out of Town.....\$15.00

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



# WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.

# CAMBRIAN CIRCLE Singers

The W. A. met as usual on the 3rd Wednesday of April. We do hope that those members who were absent were not suffering from overwork at the Spring Tea!

It was agreed that the W. A. would purchase an awning to cover the side entry steps, and they will compliment those being installed over the front and rear doorways. Pat and John Morris have again very generously invited the W. A. to their "Sheep Farm" out in Surrey. We will be deciding on a date for this at the May meeting, when we look forward to seeing all our members and any new ones. Please bring your own lunch.

Elizabeth Murray, President.

The singers will be holding their rehearsals on the 20th and 27th of May; and in June they will be on the 5th and the 12th. These are the last rehearsals until September, when they'll resume again.

.....So Long and Come Again!.....

George and Marian Preuss, friends of Gwen and Tony Tonack, recently spent an enjoyable 17 day holiday out here in British Columbia. The Preusses, who are from Llangefni, saw a great deal of the Province and when they weren't touring, they could be found relaxing in the congenial atmosphere of the Red Dragon! They were great fun and we are sorry to see them go, so all we can say to George and Marian is, 'Hurry up and come again!'

## Little and large

THE longest name for a station will not only be seen in Anglesey after the beginning of next month. The sign Llanfairpwllgwyngyll — in full, naturally — will be at one of the little stations at the Ebbw Vale Garden Festival until September.

Gwynedd and Eryri National Park will be represented there in a tent jointly used by the Welsh Tourist Board and the Board for the Development of Rural Wales. Coun John L Williams has been a keen supporter of the festival. "It's an all-Wales festival," he said.



Coun Selwyn Jones and John L Williams at the sign with Tourist Board officials Barbara Sadler and Ann Hambury





oooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

### SUMMER BOAT TRIP

Once again, the boat trip is proving to be a popular day out for members of the Society. It is almost fully booked! If you still wish to be included in this trip, there are just two seats left - so hurry before they are gone too! Contact Gwen Tonack at 738 3377, or Gaynor Owen at 946 4956.

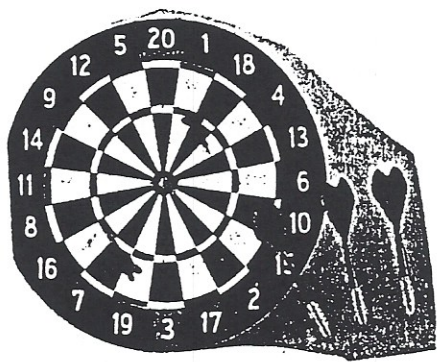
oooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

## COMING EVENTS

Arthur ! Arthur !

Oops. I believe that I owe an apology. In last month's letter, I had mistakenly stated that our favourite pianist was playing on the 18th of May. It was too late before I had

realised that it should have read April the 18th. My sincere apologies. With that, I can now say with the utmost certainty that Arthur will be entertaining the Saturday night crowd on the 23rd of May. I just hope that this will be out before then !



### DARTS TOURNAMENT

Just to remind everyone that there's a darts' tournament on June 6th, 7.30 p.m. at Cambrian Hall. A few more people are needed to make up the teams, so if you're interested call Milt Morgan at 298 6085 and sign up. Food is being provided and there are prizes as well. Even if you don't play darts, you should come along to cheer the players. Hope to see you there.

Huh? Paying his bill at a store, Dave Williams saw the young clerk glance at his name on the charge card and smile. "It's a nice name," she said, "the same as my boyfriends'" "Thanks," Williams replied, "I was named for St. David, the patron saint of Wales." The clerk's brow furrowed. "Gee," she said earnestly, "I knew they were intelligent, but I didn't think they had their own religion."

**Recycling is Smart.**  
**Do Your Part!** 

# Don't forget



.....SUMMER PICNIC.....

Once again Gaynor and Jeff Owen have kindly donated their garden for a summer picnic on July 19th - a Sunday as last years' was. A barbecue is provided if you wish to cook up your own hamburgers or steaks etc. Please bring your own food and drinks, and the party starts at 11 a.m. Promises to be good fun, there are no guarantees on the weather however!





You may've  
already noticed  
the double calendar  
on the back page.

For the past few months, I've  
been dealing with the problem of  
having the letter go out in the  
middle of the month, leaving half  
of what's written on the calendar  
as old news. This will be worked  
out soon. Thanks for your patience  
- Rob

Siarad Cymraeg ?

Well then come and join us at the last  
Welsh Night before the summer break. It  
will be at the Cambrian Hall, June 14th.

\*\*\* EXECUTIVE HIGHLIGHTS \*\*\*

- A new schedule has been drawn up by Bertha Smith to organize the host/hostess duties of the General Meetings.
- Society member Gordon Thomas has compiled the 1992 membership list. The last one was completed in 1989.

Saturday, May 2nd, Cambrian Hall hosted the first of it's twice yearly Noson Lawen. Rose Murphy once again did us proud with her excellent Cawl Cennin/ Leek Soup - many thanks Rose, it was delicious. Veronica Gilder's beautiful singing voice led the rest of us and it was lovely to hear - we are grateful to Veronica for her super effort last Saturday, as she was also one of the Folk Dance group! An honourable mention for the Dancers here too, as they performed admirably well for the visitors, showing some of the routines they're dancing in Penticton.

All in all it was an enjoyable evening.

The following Sunday, May 3rd, as the Gymanfa Ganu took place, beautiful singing could be heard once again in Cambrian Hall. Although there wasn't a large crowd of people attending, it was more than made up for in the quality of the singing. A delicious tea was provided afterwards and we'd like to thank all the volunteers who made it possible.

- WITH SPECIAL THANKS.....

A very special mention goes out to Mrs Dorothy Walters, who led the singing in the Gymanfa Ganu, Sunday May 3rd. All who attended agrees that she did an excellent job. Thank you, Mrs. Walters, Diolch Yn Fawr.

Welsh Society Folk Dancers

When you consider the fact that they've only been together for 8 months - some less than that - the Folk Dancers can truly say their first appearance at a P.N.W. Gymanfa Ganu was a triumph. The audience was so delighted by their performances that they requested an encore. A notable achievement for a group that didn't even get to rehearse on the stage beforehand! Several people have invited us to dance at other functions in the future - so fellow dancers, all our hard work has really paid off! Many thanks to Jack and Bertha too for their excellent tutelage. If you'd like to become a member of our group - and we're always ready to accept new members - please contact Jack and Bertha Smith at 683-1335.

NB - The Dancers will be appearing at the Metrotown Mall at the end of June to perform for the Canada 125 celebrations.



# Recipes

## BELSIG MORCANNING.

### GLAMORGAN SAUSAGES

4 oz. grated cheese, (pref. Cheddar.)  
1/2 small onion, finely chopped  
6 oz. breadcrumbs  
Pepper and 1/2 level teasp. salt  
1/2 level teasp. dried mixed herbs,  
such as Rosemary, Thyme, Basil etc.  
1/2 level teasp. mustard powder  
1 large egg and 1 egg yolk, beaten

#### COATING:

1 egg white, beaten  
1 - 2 oz. breadcrumbs  
oil for frying

---

Mix all the ingredients together and then divide the mixture into 8 - 10 pieces. Press and mould each piece into a chubby sausage shape, about 2 inches long and 1 1/2 inches wide. Dip each sausage first in the beaten egg white and then in the breadcrumbs. Fry in the oil for 8 - 10 minutes, turning frequently until golden brown all over. Serve immediately.  
Approximately 3 to 4 servings.

---

#### *You will Never be Sorry*

For thinking before acting,  
For hearing before judging,  
For forgiving your enemies,  
For helping a fallen brother,  
For being honest in business,  
For standing by your principles,  
For stopping your ears to gossip,  
For bridling a slanderous tongue,  
For harbouring only pure thoughts,  
For sympathizing with the afflicted,  
For being courteous to all.

## *"Devon House"* *Bed & Breakfast*



### *Quiet Country Setting,*

*3 miles from downtown Courtenay,*

*Short Drive to:*

*Mt. Washington & Forbidden Plateau,  
Ski Resorts with*

*excellent summer hiking trails,  
Great fishing, golfing & shopping  
all within the area.*

*We are open all year round with room  
to park your boat and/or trailer.*

*We Look Forward to Meeting You!*

---

*Your Hosts Greta and Peter Taylor.*

*4806 Gutwald Road*

*Mailing Address:*

*R.R. 4, Site 480, C-1.*

*Courtenay, B.C. V2A 7J3*

*Phone: (604) 338-5147*

*Mehetin*

1992

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						DAKES TEURNAMENT 8PM CAMBRIAN HALL
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY	11	12	13
					BOAT TRIP	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 1992							July 1992								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
					1	2						1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31			
31															

*June*

1992

*MAI*

1992

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 1992 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	June 1992 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					
CHURCH SERVICE & GYMANFA GANU (CAMBRIAN HALL)				FOLK DANCE PRACTICE	MAY DAY	NOSON LAWEN (CAMBRIAN HALL)
3	4	5	6	7	8	2
PENTICTON GYMANFA GANU AT BETHEL TABERNACLE - 2-4 PM				FOLK DANCE PRACTICE	PENTICTON NOSON LAWEN 7-10 P.M.	PENTICTON FOLK CONCERT 2-3:30 P.M. & GRAND CONCERT
10	11	12	13	14	15	RED DRAGON IS OPEN AT 8:30 AM
Mother's Day			CAMBRIAN CIRCLE SINGERS PRACTICE	FOLK DANCE PRACTICE		RED DRAGON IS OPEN AT 8:30 P.M.
17	18	19	20	21	22	16
	Victoria Day (Canada)		CAMBRIAN CIRCLE SINGERS PRACTICE	FOLK DANCE PRACTICE		LAST R.S.V.P DAY FOR THE BOAT CRUISE.
24				WELSH NIGHT		RED DRAGON IS OPEN AT 8:30 P.M.
						ARTHUR & PIANO
31	25	26	27	28	29	23
	Memorial Day (US)					RED DRAGON
						30

*May*

1992