

Tachwedd i Rhagfyr

1995



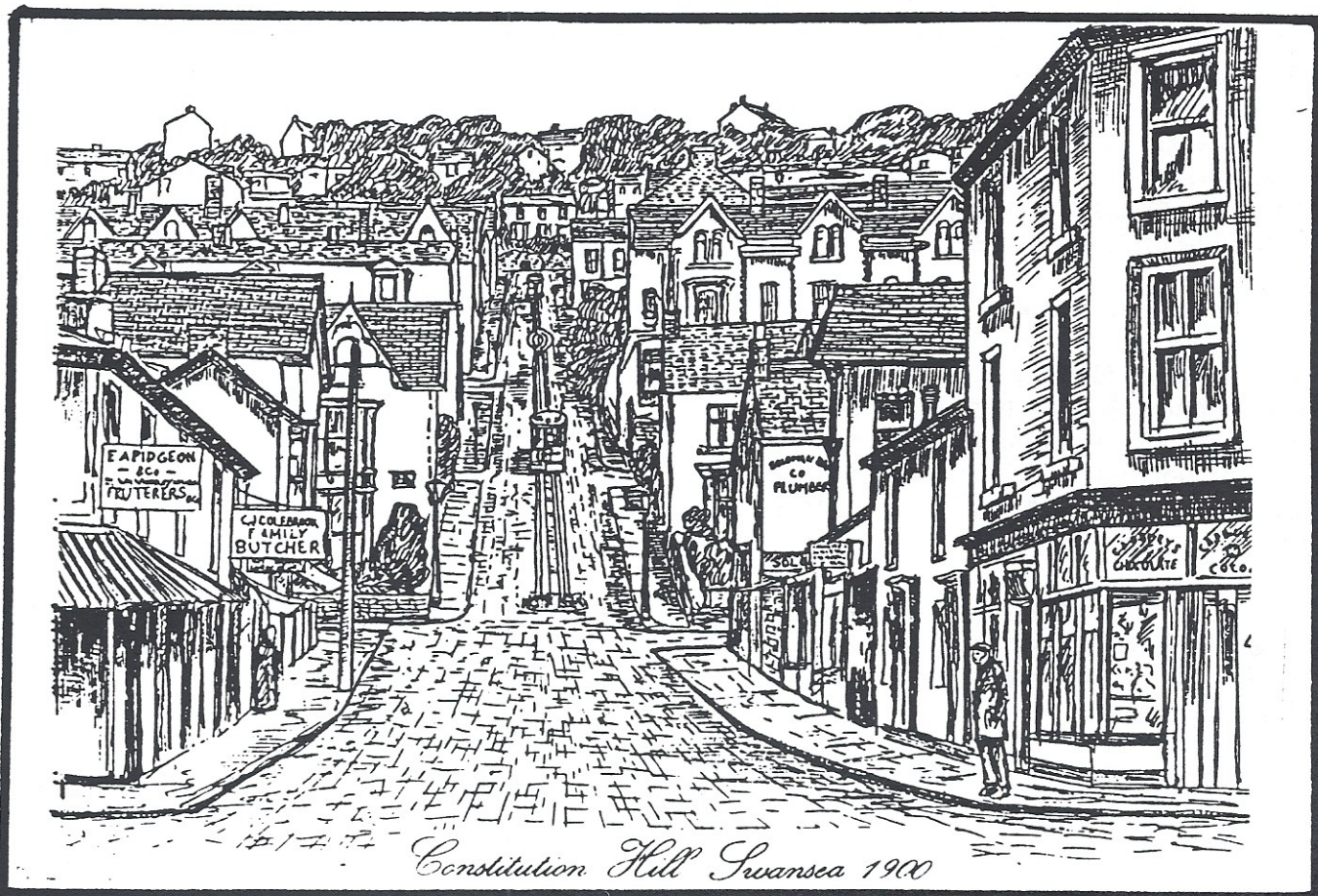
November to December

1995

Cymdeithas Gymkaeg Vancouver

Cambrian News

Welsh Society Newsletter - Cylchgrawn Cymraeg



Constitution Hill Swansea 1900

Folk Dancing News

By now, many of the Society members will have heard that Jack and Bertha Smith have left the Vancouver area to live in Nelson. We wish them well and envy them being surrounded by the delightful scenery of the Kootenays. The folk dancers will continue to carry on the legacy started by Jack and Bertha and hope that more people come out on Thursday nights to join us.

In an intimate get together after dance practice one week, we had some delicious nibbles brought in by group members and as a "thank you/adieu" gift, we gave J and B a book on Vancouver.

Our appearance at the Anniversary Dinner, October 7th was the first in many months. We had two week's practice beforehand to get back into the swing of things, but even so, it was obvious now and again that we were a little rusty! No matter, folk dancing is like riding a bicycle and we are already doing marvellously. Thanks again to Liz Murray for introducing us and giving background information on the dances.

At Don's request, some of the dance group gave an informal show at the Noson Lawen, November 4th. We also got audience members to participate, and they did exceptionally well - which proves that it is not hard AND the process of learning the steps and routines is a lot of fun.

We invite anyone to join us from now on - we are rather short on members! For information please call the Cambrian Hall at 876-2815.

Lynne Hughes Fox.

WELSH KITCHEN

Chicken and Leek Soup

Swp Cyw lar a Chenin

1 small chicken
2 chicken stock cubes
4 pints water
6 leeks
salt and pepper



Clean and joint the chicken, add to the stock cubes dissolved in the water in a large pan. Clean leeks and remove some of the green tops. Cut into 1/2 inch slices and add to stock. Season to taste and simmer for 3 hours until the meat is tender. Cool and skim off the chicken fat. Reheat for a further 30 minutes. To serve: remove the meat from the bones and place at the bottom of warmed soup bowls. Pour the hot soup over the chicken.

Submitted by Elaine Thoma.

Sincere thanks.....

.....To those who organised and worked hard to put on the Hallowe'en Fun Night.

It was a scream!



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, December 13th

7:30 PM in the Lower Hall

Election of 1996 Executive

Please Attend !

Input from our membership

counts for a lot.



Special Notice !

The Executive would like to emphasize the importance of attending this year's election at the Annual General Meeting. Six board members are in need of a break and the positions they are intending to vacate will have to be filled.

This could be your chance to play a key role within the Welsh Society of Vancouver !

Llongyfarchiadau

To Veronica and Dave Gilder, who became grandparents for the third time in mid-October when little granddaughter Rachel Elaine was born.

Congratulations to the entire family and a special, warm welcome to Rachel - from all your friends in The Vancouver Welsh Society.

**Perhaps You Knew
"Someone Else"?**

We were saddened to learn this week, of the death of one of our most valuable members, Someone Else. Someone's passing created a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else had been with us for many years and for every one of those years, Someone did far more than a normal person's share of work. Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results.

"Someone Else can work with that group".

Whenever there was a job to do or a meeting to attend, one name was on everyone's list - "Let Someone Else do it".

It was common knowledge that Someone Else was a wonderful person, sometimes appearing super-human, but a person can only do so much. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else.

Now, Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow? Who is going to do all the things that Someone Else did? So if you have a chance to participate in a group, join a committee or lend a hand, remember - we can't depend on Someone Else anymore.

There are those who wonder what happened, those who watch it happen, and those who make it happen.



The Cambrian Singers are having a very busy Autumn season. We have already sung at Amherst Hospital, U.B.C. Extended Care, Normandy House and Richmond Hospital Extended Care. We will be singing at Chalmers Lodge on Wednesday, November 22nd at 7:30 p.m.

Rehearsals now, are spent putting together our Christmas programme in preparation for our benefit concert at St. Edward's Church in Richmond. The programme will consist of our fashion show and music by the choir as well as solos, duets and flute. There will also be audience participation with the singing of children's Christmas songs and favourite carols.

St. Edward's is located at the south end of the Oak Street Bridge at the corner of St. Edward's Drive and Bird Road.

Date: Friday, December 8th, 1995
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Admission: Seniors and children \$3.00
Adult \$5.00

Te Bach (little tea) will follow concert - no charge

At this time, our Fall schedule ends with a Christmas singout at Buchanan Sunset Lodge in New Westminster on Wednesday, December 13th at 7:00 p.m.

Rehearsals to year end are as follows:

Fridays November 10, 17(?), 24 at 8:00 p.m.

December 1

Wednesday November 15(?), 29(?)

Spring rehearsals resume on Friday, January 5th 1996.

Nerys Haqq - 278-8978

The Sixth Annual Pacific Northwest Gymanfa Ganu

The Victoria Welsh Society will be hosting the 1996 P.N.W.G.G. from May 4 - 6.

There is a Noson Lawen on the Friday evening and we are hoping for an abundance of amateur talent for the entertainment. If you wish to participate in this then call the overseer of this event, Mr. David Lintern, at (604) 655-4556.

On Saturday evening, the Grand Concert will be held with the Vancouver Orpheus Choir as the main part of the entertainment. Also trumpet soloist and long-time member of the Victoria Welsh Society, Mr. Alan Jacob will featured.

The Gymanfa Ganu is held on the Sunday

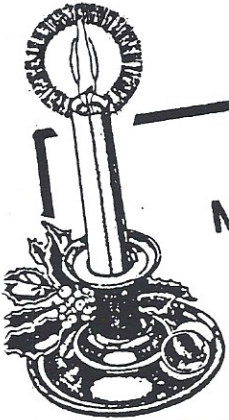
afternoon from 2 - 4 p.m. A Te Bach follows.

Both the concert and the Gymanfa take place at the Metropolitan Church on Pandora and Quadra streets. The Noson Lawen, marketplace and workshops will be held at the Harbour Towers Hotel.

As plans come together, we will be keeping you informed in future newsletters. Meanwhile, mark your diaries for the weekend of May 4 - 6 1996. -

- Maggie Nixon; Tel: (604) 727-6630.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Mulled Wine Evening

Saturday, December 2nd

Red Dragon Pub

Warmth; Carols; Refreshments;
Music; Good Friends and Cheer;
Decorating of the Christmas tree,
Reading of a "Child's Christmas in
Wales".



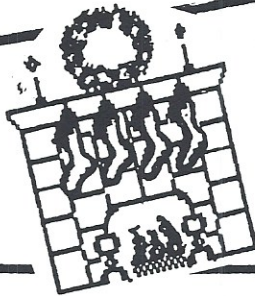
!! Children's Christmas Party !!

Sunday, December 17th at 2 p.m.

In the Lower Hall.

Games, treats and a visit with Santa for
a special gift!

Please let Mrs. Gaynor Owen - (946-
4956) - know if your child and/or
grandchild will be attending by November
25th at the latest, thank you.



* Christmas Dinner Dance 1995 *

Saturday, December 9th

Lower Hall

Catering by Jordan's

Music by "Hot Hit Productions"

Tickets \$27 each for guests - \$30 each
for guests

Call either Mrs. Gwen Tonack at 738-
3377 or Mrs. Gaynor Owen at 946-4956

Limited seating, please book your tickets
early. Deadline is November 25th.



Hollywood North (17th - Main)

In the last few weeks our Hall has hosted a number of films. We have had a few in the past (rent "It" from your local video store and watch the library scene,) but it's now getting busy. On September 6th, we had a commercial shot here. On September 20th, "The Annette Funicello Story" with Linda Lavin (Alice) was filmed. It was aired on T.V. October 22nd. We missed the Hall shots but watch out for reruns.

On October 27th you could have seen Richard Anderson of Six Million Dollar Man fame playing our grand piano and Kathleen Quinlan (Bodily Harm) playing darts between scenes; Richard Strauss (Rich Man Poor Man, Jericho Mile) beat up an inquisitive reporter in the alley east of the Hall, while Peter Boyle (One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest) watched. Filming also took place in the parking lot and upper hall. The film "In The Lake Of The Woods" will be aired soon on Fox.



On November 2nd, "The Commish" used the Red Dragon Pub. Airing time not yet set. We are also negotiating a date to shoot the X-Files. Hollywood North is here!

Our thanks to Derek and Anne Jones, Don Murray, Tina Jones, Jeff and Gaynor Owen who have all devoted time and energy to ensure many thousands of dollars to our much-needed funds.

Also thanks to Rental groups and society groups who were relocated. Our thanks go to Pioneer Plumbing for the parking lot, our caretaker who kept the Hall clean and our neighbours for their co-operation. If this continues, it would be great to have a video of film scenes made at the Cambrian Hall.

Anyone up to a challenge?!

Alan Jones, Rentalsman.



Meanwhile Back Home.....

.....Speaking of movies, why was the fishing town of Conwy turned into a Napoleonic French village at the end of September? Could it be that Hollywood goes Welsh?!!

"The Proposition" is a historical film that tells the story of a Napoleonic war widow who is forced to drive her cattle south to escape destitution. For Conwy residents, it was a wonderful opportunity to dress up in period costume and play extras on the set - in spite of a biting wind and mud strewn quay!

Irish actor Patrick Bergin, who is in the film with American actress Theresa Russell, praised the talents of the Conwy people and when asked what he thought of the area, told reporters, "It's beautiful here". It was his first time in the fishing/market town and he was enjoying it very much. The extras thought he was pretty special too, "There's nothing show-off about him. He's just one of the lads", said Mr. George Gordon and also added that Theresa Russell is "very, very sweet".

"The Proposition" is a co-production between S4C, Peak Viewing Productions and Unapix of Los Angeles. Strath Hamilton, director of the film said, "The extras have been terrific. They have wonderful faces. You can see they love life". There is a Welsh language version of the film, that stars Nicola Beddoe and Aneurin Hughes, for S4C.

While filming in Conwy has been completed, the entire film will not be finished until next March. Worldwide cinema release is planned for next Autumn.

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Meanwhile, Conwy's townsfolk consider playing host to two more film projects including another major Hollywood enterprise.

Susan Place, executive director of Tall Ships Haven, (based in Conwy,) is in discussion with two companies keen to use tall ships for filming. This could provide a huge boost to the local economy.

Condensed from "NORTH WALES WEEKLY NEWS", Thursday, September 28th 1995. Original copy by Dave Harding.

Diolch/thanks to Margaret Parry for bringing the newspaper all the way back from Wales!

Women's Auxiliary Report

The October W.A. Meeting was held on the 18th. Unfortunately, we had quite a few apologies for absence due to ill health. All of you are wished a speedy recovery.

The W.A. members Christmas Luncheon will be held on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH at noon. It will be catered for by our members Mesdames Veronica Gilder, Betty Morgan and Joan Wilkinson, so we know we will sit down to a delicious meal of turkey, trimmings and Christmas pudding.

Mrs. Enid Lewis has graciously agreed to be our pianist and Mr. Alan Tucker kindly agreed to sing for us and lead us in the singing of Christmas music. What better entertainment could we have to make our Christmas celebration complete?

The ladies who helped us at our Spring

fund raising event and who are not members of the W.A., have been invited as our guests in appreciation of their assistance - we look forward to having them join us.

It would be appreciated by our "catering crew" if everyone who anticipate attending the luncheon could give in their name to our treasurer at our next meeting, November 15th, or if unable to come to the meeting please telephone our secretary Mrs. Beverly Thomas at 738-0680 or myself at 263-2203 prior to the meeting date.

The very attractive illuminated Christmas picture, made and donated by our member Mrs. Tegwen Shirlaw was raffled and won by a delighted Mrs. Margaret Monck.

On behalf of us all in the W.A. I thank everyone who supported our fund raisers in any way during the past year - once again we are able to make a contribution to the Parent Body.

My sincere thanks go to all members of the W.A. who were so supportive and kind to me during what has been rather an unpleasant year for me personally. Your cards and telephone calls were much appreciated.

Diolch yn fawr,

Anne G. Jones, W.A. President.

Out and About

by Johanna Firbank of the North Wales Weekly News

September 28th, 1995

Ascending Snowdon the easy way, by train our views of the surrounding countryside were obscured by a thick blanket of mist at about 1,500 feet up. Even at the summit, there was nothing to be seen, save for the fog, thick enough to grab hold of, and so passengers rushed into the cafe. Lennie Casey, summit manager served drinks at the crowded bar. For half the year, May to October, he lives on top of Snowdon (3,560 feet) in probably the highest home in Britain.

"What's it like living in splendid isolation on Mount Parnassus?" I asked. "It's one of the busiest buildings in North Wales" said Lennie. "Some people see it as a refuge. They take socks off and hang clothes over radiators and pictures. It's unbelievable.

"It gets very tedious sometimes, especially when it's like this" he said waving at the fog outside. "With no natural sunlight it can be very depressing. Cabin fever sets in". Winds of 80 - 90 m.p.h. are common.

In peak season, 4,000 people a day may visit the cafe. Lennie shares accommodation with four staff, mostly students. On magical evenings, the fog will lift and the staff barbecue on the cafe roof.

"You get 60 degree panoramic views" explained Lennie, "You can see the Wicklow mountains in Ireland, the Isle of Man, St. David's Point in Pembroke and on one very rare occasion, the tip of the Outer Hebrides".

Lennie came to Snowdon via a career in adult education and outdoor pursuits. He lives on Anglesey. For seven years, he has spent half his year on Snowdon, where his wife and two young daughters visit for occasional weekends. Winters he works below, restocking the cafe and gift shop.

"Some people see the romantic side, but it's

damned hard work," Said Lennie. Over the years he has co-ordinated numerous mountain rescues and handled medical emergencies. Rail trippers blame the staff for the weather! "People ask, 'When do you get a view' or 'Where is the escalator to the summit?'".

A tame seagull called George is the cafe's first morning customer; another is a grey squirrel living in disused drains. "I've also found toads in the cafe," said Lennie, "How they get up here, I don't know."

A more contentious visitant is the Snowdon Spook. "It is a presence felt by all members of staff," said Lennie. "There are many situations that can't be explained." Switches are mysteriously tripped at dead of night. "We've tried taping them down, but they still get switched off."

Other apparitions, like the Brocken Spectre have a scientific pedigree. "We get very exceptional cloud formations," said Lennie, who is also auxiliary weather observer to the Met Office. "Two or three times a season, you see the Brocken Spectre, when your shadow is cast on to the cloud below at sunrise or sunset, elongated with a glory or halo round your head. It's pretty spectacular. And once I saw the Parhelia, know to laymen as the sun dog, when there appear to be three suns in parallel."

Such experiences redeem everything. As do the bonds between staff, close as on a desert island. An emotional farewell, with hugs and tears, took place when I visited as students left after the Snowdon season to return to university. One rushed after me to say, "Make sure Lennie gets an accolade. He's been doing this job for seven years and it's so hard."

"What do you miss most up here?" I asked Lennie. "Getting into my car and driving away," he answered.

(Re-edited by Lynne Hughes Fox.)



Society could not operate properly and we would have far too many complications arising without their steady leadership to help keep things on an even keel. However, we cannot expect the

same group to do this job year in and year out, so PLEASE, on December 13th, come to the A.G.M. and help support the Welsh Society in any way you can.

As we look forward to 1996 and a brand new year, we must tell you that the St. David's Day banquet will be held on Saturday, March 2nd at the Cambrian Hall. We hope that Friday, March 1st we'll have Open House as usual, but nothing definite has been decided yet. Watch this space!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank so many of our members and friends who have contributed to the newsletter this past year, either by donating articles worth printing - and sorry if we left any out, there isn't always room for everything! - or their time and energy in getting the newsletters sorted, folded, stuffed into envelopes, labelled, had extra stamps stuck on, and then carted off to the mailbox. It is a lot of work and those helping hands have been appreciated many times believe me!

The Red Dragon will be closed over the Christmas holidays, so that everyone can visit with family and friends. The last night the pub is open in 1995, is Saturday, December 16th and reopens again on Saturday, January 6th in 1996.

December is a busy time at the Hall and one of the most important events is the Annual General Meeting. Like regular General Meetings, it is held on the second Wednesday of the month, but has one major difference; the election of a new Executive for the following year. Many of the current Executive find that they have to step down from their lofty positions - in some cases after serving for many years - and are hoping that there are going to be some willing volunteers among the Membership to take over the helm. Without an Executive, the

To a Stranger

Hello Stranger! How are you today?
May we walk together as we go along the way?

Tell me of your culture and I'll tell you of mine.
The thing on which we differ, May form a vague fine line.

Now if that line is such, That it cause us to transcend
Then you and I have overcome and Gained
a brand new friend.

Now is it not a better path, That we have trod today,
Than to allow a prejudice to guide us the wrong way?

Author: George Sellers, Burnaby.

Submitted by Anne G. Jones.

Readers ! If you'd like one of your poems published in the newsletter, send it to the Cambrian News Editors at the Cambrian Hall address.

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| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--------|---------|--|----------|-----------------------------------|---|
| | | | EXECUTIVE MEETING | 2 | 3 | NASON LAWEN ⁴ |
| CHURCH SERVICE ⁵ GYMANFA/GANU | 6 | 7 | GENERAL MEETING ⁸ | 9 | CAMBRIAN CIRCLE SINGERS REHEARSAL | PUB IS 11 Remembrance Day (CAN.) Veterans Day (U.S.A.) |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | W.A. MEETING ¹⁵ CAMBRIAN CIRCLE SINGERS REHEARSAL(?) | 16 | | ALWAYS ¹⁸ OPEN ON SATURDAY NIGHT'S UNLESS ²⁵ OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | Thanksgiving Day (U.S.A.) | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | CAMBRIAN CIRCLE SINGERS REHEARSAL(?) ²⁹ | 30 | | |

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Rhagfyr

December

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| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|---|---|
| | | | | | CAMBRIAN SINGERS REHEARSAL ¹ | MULLED WINE EVENING (RED DRAGON) ² |
| 3 | 4 | W.A. CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON ⁵ | EXECUTIVE MEETING ⁸ | 7 | 8 | CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE (PUB ONLY FOR DANCE) |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 7:30 AM. | 14 | 15 | LAST NIGHT FOR RED DRAGON IN 1995 |
| CHURCH SERVICE CHILDREN'S XMAS PARTY | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | REDDRAGON CLOSED UNTIL JAN 6 TH 1996 |
| 24/31 | NADOLIES LLAWEN! Christmas Day | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | |
| | | Boxing Day | | | | |