

THE WELSH SOCIETY OF VANCOUVER

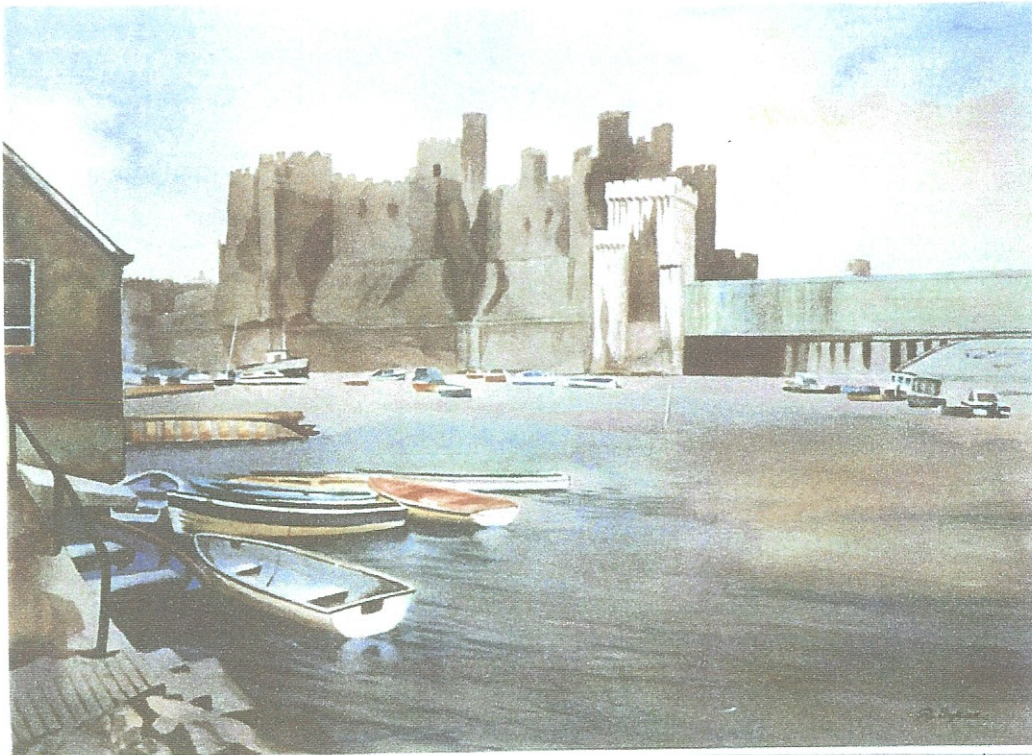
Hydref  
2005

October  
2005

*Cymdeithas Gymraeg Vancouver*

*Cambrian News*

*Welsh Society Newsletter – Cylchgrawn Cymraeg*



'CONWY.' —

*Rhod Sykes.*

CAMBRIAN HALL, 215 East 17<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vancouver B.C. V5V 1A6



**WELSH SOCIETY**  
**VANCOUVER**

**Officers**

**President:**

**Jane Byrne (604) 732-5448**

**Vice-President:**

**Barrie Hancock 888-9541**

**Secretary:**

**Eifion Williams 469-4904**

**Treasurer:**

**Gaynor Evans 271-3134**

**Membership Secretary:**

**Heather Davies 734-5500**

**Immediate Past President:**

**Tecwyn Roberts 464-2760**

**Directors**

**Eric Davies**

**Allan Hunter**

**Mary Lewis**

**Lynn Owens-Whalen**

**David Llewelyn Williams**

**Contacts**

**Building Committee:**

**Eric Davies 583-3918**

**Cambrian Circle Singers:**

**Nerys Haqq 278-8978**

**Church Service:**

**Ann Roberts 987-6996**

**Rentals:**

**Abe Latif 434-3150**

**Social Events Committee:**

**Mary Lewis 331-1573**

**Welsh Folk Dancing:**

**Gaynor Evans 271-3134**

**Welsh-Speaking Evening:**

**Ann Roberts 987-6996**

**Women's Auxiliary:**

**Newsletter**

**Editor:**

**David Llewelyn Williams 737-0305**  
**(williams@physics.ubc.ca)**

## *The Cambrian News*

From The Editor:

Several important Society events will be occurring soon. We hope you have been checking the Events page on our website to alert you to these ahead of time. The **Anniversary Dinner** is the first such event and we hope you will let Gaynor Evans know that you wish to attend. The weekend of November 4th-6th will be the occasion of another **Welsh Weekend**. Friday evening will feature an Open House, Saturday morning the **Annual General Meeting of the Dylan Thomas Society** will take place culminating in a Ploughman's Lunch after which members of Mythpoetica will tell Dylan Thomas stories. The highlight of the Weekend will be a benefit concert for the Society given by the **Vancouver Orpheus Male Choir in St. Patrick's Church, 2881 Main Street starting at 7.30 pm**. All members are urged to support this concert. Tickets are \$18 (\$15 for seniors and students). Sunday morning the monthly bilingual **Church Service** will start at 11 am and a **Gymanfa Ganu** will be held in the afternoon followed by a Te Bach. The Gymanfa will be conducted by Jonathan Quick with accompanist Ray Batten and feature soloist Lois Carter.

The front cover features a beautiful painting by Rhodwyn Sykes of Conwy Castle with the railway and road bridges as seen across the estuary. I am also grateful to Gwilym Evans for the article on Penmynydd and to Eirlys Ann Thomas for God's Voice Mail.

David Llewelyn Williams

**Free Welsh Lessons**

started on October 3<sup>rd</sup> on S4C

Register to participate at:

[www.learnons4c.co.uk](http://www.learnons4c.co.uk)

or at:

[www.dysguars4c.co.uk](http://www.dysguars4c.co.uk)

*Anniversary Dinner*

*Saturday October 15th*

*Celebrating 76 years at the Cambrian Hall  
1929 - 2005*

***MENU***

(Catering by Jordan's)

Assorted Bun Basket with Dairy Butter

Garden Salad  
Greek Salad

Hot Mixed Vegetables  
Potatoes au Gratin

BBQ Chicken Pieces  
Meatballs in Burgundy Mushroom Sauce  
Roast Beef

Anniversary Cake  
Assorted Tarts  
Fresh Fruit Tray

Tea and Coffee

*The Red Dragon will be open at 6pm for cocktails.*

*Dinner at 7pm prompt.*

*Tickets at \$27.00 each.*

*Please call Gaynor Evans at 604-271-3134 ASAP to reserve tickets.*

### Musical Notes

**Stephen Sondheim** was named a Patron of the International Festival of Musical Theatre in Cardiff on August 23 and organizers say he is planning to pen a musical based on the **Mabinogion**, the world famous group of ancient Welsh tales. The most mythological stories, replete with dreams and legends, are collectively titled The Four Branches of the Mabinogi and should provide a rich source of material for Sondheim. Perhaps it will take Sondheim to remind the Welsh of their heritage.

**Bryn Terfel** returns to the Metropolitan Opera to play the title role in Falstaff from September 23 to October 22. For those who may wish to take a shorter journey, **Jason Howard** is singing in the title role in Eugene Onegin with the Pacific Opera of Victoria between October 6 and October 15.

According to the Chicago Taffia, **Jem** is a Welsh Rock Star. I've checked her website and listened to some of her songs which are better described as pop songs. But what do I know! In any case she will be performing at Richard's on Richards on Sunday, October 16.

A more obviously Welsh group, the **Super Furry Animals** start their Global Tour in Japan and also perform at Richard's on Richards, on November 24, followed by Seattle on the 25<sup>th</sup> and Portland on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Considered the most creative of the contemporary Welsh bands, the various members all played in Welsh-language groups prior to coming together in 1993 in Cardiff. In 1995 they released *Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlantysiliogogochynygofod* (in space) and *Moog Droog* (work that one out!),

both in Welsh. Despite the fact that English fans could hardly sing along, the band quickly became a cult favourite in Britain and by 1996, when many of their lyrics were in English, their popularity continued to grow. Nevertheless in 2000 they released *Mwng* (Mane) which was sung entirely in Welsh and it became the biggest selling Welsh language album of all time (until Bryn Terfel's Christmas album later that year). Check the BBC website for more up to date details and bring a Welsh flag to Richard's on Richards in November!

Rwy'n ymchwilio bywyd y Cymro  
Richard Williams ac am gysylltu a  
theulu Cymreig yn BC o'r enw Cox. !  
Byswn i'n ddiolchgar iawn pe yrrech  
chi'n neges hon ymlaen at eraill allai  
helpu (a chysylltu a fi'n uniongyrchol os  
dych chi'n nabod y teulu.) Ganed Carys  
Cox (nee Williams) yn 1944 cyn mudo  
gyda'i gwr i Vancouver yn y saithdegau.  
Credaf fod ganddynt ddau o blant.  
Hanai rhieni Carys, Richard ac Eirlys o  
Gaernarfon a Dolgellau, cyn symud i  
fyw yn ardal Llandudno. Argraffodd ei  
thad, Richard arian Cymraeg o gwmpas  
adeg yr Arwisgo, ac roedd yn arloeswr  
mewn cyfrifiaduron ac yn gweithio fel  
ymgynghorwr dros y byd i gyd o'r  
pumdegau ymlaen. Cafodd Carys ei  
haddysg yn Ysgol Merched Cymreig  
Ashford, Swydd Gaint, cyn gweithio  
gyda'i thad yn ei swyddfa yn Enfield,  
Gogledd Llundain, yn cyhoeddi  
llawlyfrau ar gyfer cyfrifiaduron, cyn  
priodi Sais a mudo i Canada. Mae'n  
debyg bod mab Carys, Richard, yn  
gweithio ym myd ffilmiau, o bosibl fel  
animeiddiwr. Credaf fod merch ganddi  
hefyd.

Diolch o galon

Dewi Gregory [dewigregory@mac.com](mailto:dewigregory@mac.com)

## Penmynydd

Penmynydd is a quiet collection of houses in Anglesey along the road from Menai Bridge to Llangefni. However in the past it was the base of one of the most powerful families on the island. It also gave rise to the royal dynasty of the House of Tudor, which included King Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth I of England.

The family's rise to power began with Ednyfed Fychan, who in the 13th century was lord steward to Llywelyn the Great. As a result of his service he was granted large tracts of land across North Wales, including Penmynydd. The family later became loyal to the English king, Edward I, when he conquered Wales, thus retaining their power and influence. Ednyfed's great-great grandson, Tudur ap Goronwy had five sons. They supported their cousin, Owain Glyndwr, in his rebellion against English rule in the early 1400s. As a result they lost their land in Penmynydd..

However, the son of one brother, Maredudd, did go on to greater things in England. Owain Tudor (an Anglicization of his Welsh name Owain ap Maredudd ap Tudur) joined Henry V's army. He distinguished himself and eventually became involved in the King's court, possibly as Keeper of the Household for Henry's queen, Katherine de Valois. Henry died at the age of 35, leaving his wife a widow and their young son the

new king, Henry VI. Somehow Owain Tudor gained her favour and they were secretly married around 1429 and had three sons. This gave the Tudor dynasty a tenuous claim to the throne of England.

Their grandson, Henry Tudor, exercised this claim. The second half of the 15th century saw much turbulence during the Wars of the Roses between various claimants to the throne of England fought battles. Eventually Henry returned from exile in France, gathering an army along the way from his landing site in Wales. He defeated King Richard III at Bosworth Field, becoming the unchallenged King of England, Henry VII. Thus the Tudor dynasty, which originated in Penmynydd, began their period of rule that was to last over 100 years.

The church at Penmynydd dates from the 14th century. Its chapel contains a stained glass window with the symbols of the Tudor family. The Tudor Rose is present along with the English royal crown and other Regalia. The motto reads *UNDEB FEL RHOSYN YW AR LAN AFONYDD AC FEL TY DUR AR BEN Y MYNYDD*, which translates as "Unity is like a rose on the banks of rivers, and like a House of Steel on a mountain top". The phrase *Ty Dur* (House of Steel) refers to the name Tudur, and *Ben y Mynydd* is Penmynydd.

## Glyndwr flag flies over Cardiff Castle

The yellow and red "Four Lions Rampant" flag flew over the battlements of Cardiff Castle for a whole week to celebrate Owain Glyndwr Day. It is believed to be the first time the standard bearing his coat of arms has been hoisted above the castle for more than 600 years. Glyndwr established a Welsh parliament and was proclaimed Prince of Wales on 16 September 1400.

Glyndwr had ambitious plans for Wales including the establishment of two Welsh Universities to serve the North and South. He took Carmarthen and Cardiff in 1403 and Harlech and Aberystwyth in 1404 but the tide turned under the leadership of the future Henry V and by 1409 the revolt was broken and the many towns and castles Glyndwr had taken were lost.

## God's Voice Mail

Most of us have learnt to live with Voice Mail as a necessary part of our life, so we wondered what it would be like if God decided to install His Own Voice Mail. Imagine praying and hearing the following:

When calling Heaven, for Welsh press 1, for English press 2, for all other languages press 3.

Please select one of the following options: Press 1 for Request, 2 for Thanksgiving, 3 for Complaints, 4 for all other options including Passion.

I'm sorry but all our Angels and Saints are busy right now helping other sinners. However, your prayer is important to us and we will answer it in the order it was received, so please stay on the line.

If you would like to speak to God himself, press 1, Jesus, press 2, the Holy Spirit, press 3.

To find a loved one that has been assigned to Heaven, press 5, then enter his/her Social Security Number followed by the # sign. If you receive a negative response, please hang up and dial area code 666.

For reservations to Heaven please enter JOHN followed by the numbers 3 and 16. For answers to nagging questions about Dinosaurs, Life on other planets, please wait until you arrive in Heaven for specific answers.

Our computer shows that you have

already been prayed for today, so please hang up and call again tomorrow.

The office is about to close to observe a religious holiday. If you call after hours and need emergency assistance please contact your local Pastor.

Thank you and have a Heavenly day.

### **Cambrian Circle Singers**

**Friday October 7** Augustine House  
3820 Arthur Drive, Ladner 7.30 pm

**Fri. Oct 14** Crescent Gardens 7.00 pm  
1222 King George Hwy. White Rock

### **Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir**

**Saturday October 22**  
Benefit Concert for Ebenezer Home  
for Seniors in Abbotsford.  
Seven Oaks Alliance Church, 2575  
Gladwin Road, Abbotsford at 7.30  
pm.

**Sat. October 29** Annual Fall Concert,  
Ryerson United Church, Vancouver at  
8.00 pm

### **Vancouver Orpheus Male Choir**

**Friday October 21** Fundraiser for the  
White Rock Hospice Society  
White Rock Baptist Church, 1657 -  
140 Street, Surrey at 7.30 pm

**Saturday November 5**  
Fundraiser for the Welsh Society  
St. Patrick's Church, 2881 Main  
Street, Vancouver at 7.30 pm

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