

Hydref i Tachwedd  
1998



October to November  
1998

Cymdeithas Gymraeg Vancouver

Cambrian News

Welsh Society Newsletter — Cylchgrawn Cymraeg

NINNAU

June 1, 1998



*Laugharne, Dyfed, a view that inspired Dyland Thomas's "Under Milk Wood". Photo: British Tourist Authority.*

## CELTIC VOICES

This new radio show is broadcasting on 96.1 FM from Vancouver on Saturday mornings at 8.00 a.m.

Host Dave Abbott and co-host Nessa Doyle are interested in all things Celtic, and their goals are to provide 60% Celtic music with the rest of the time being devoted to chats, news bulletins and interviews with singers and stars that are coming to town. Celts of all denominations are invited to participate in this new venture, and all Celtic societies are being contacted for their input.

Advertisement slots are offered on their programme, and the charge is \$40 for 30sec. Further information can be obtained by phoning Nessa at:  
432-7351

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'Hysbys y dengys y dyn  
O ba raddy bo'i wreiddyn.'  
Tudur Aled (1465-1530)

Submitted by Ieuan Lampshire-Jones

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Bad news goes about in clogs,  
good news in stockinged feet.

- Welsh proverb

## W. A. REPORT

The WA opened the fall season with a lively meeting even though half our members were out of town.

Marion Griffiths had just returned from Wales, Veronica Gilder was checking out Mexico, May Lievesly was vacationing in Point Roberts, Gaynor Owen was cruising to Hawaii and Maureen Grecht was in Austria. What a travelling group are we!

However, those of us who were present quickly got down to business discussing such things as the Christmas luncheon, our yearly raffle, raising money to support the Children's Christmas Party, and our annual donation to the Battered Women's Support Group. We also planned some outings such as a tour of the library.

We will be raffling off a lovely vase donated by Marion Armstrong. She has become quite a crafts person. Tickets will be 50 cents each (3 for a dollar). We are grateful to Marion for her donation.

We will also be having some mini craft sales and baking and home made jams and jellies. It has been suggested that we have another Welsh Cake Bee and we are wondering how many of you would be interested in buying a dozen or two, if we go ahead. Just let any member of the WA know if you are, and we will go from there.

Our next meeting will be October 21st, at 12:00 noon. We welcome potential members. Bring a brown bag lunch. We provide tea or coffee.

B. Thomas, Secty

## A Trip to Ohio

In the Spring of '98 Llinos and I decided to attend the North American Gymanfa Ganu in Columbus, Ohio. They had a web-page on the internet—a good one—and all the necessary information and registration materials were available on it.

We had seats booked on Air Canada to leave on Sept. 3rd. Alas, Air Canada pilots went on strike early on Sept. 2nd!! By sheer good luck we made contact with a most helpful United Airline representative. In double quick time she arranged seats for us on United. It was only later that we realized how lucky we had been. We flew from Vancouver to Denver and then changed planes for Columbus. Imagine our surprise when we met Rhiannon Acree on the second plane. Most of you will remember her as the conductor in the Gymanfa Ganu in May.

The event was held in Columbus' huge Convention Centre — which incorporated two large hotels. Everything was connected by sky-walks, and given that it was a hot and humid week-end(93°F) , we were happy not to have to walk out of doors.

I was amazed at the number of events scheduled for the four days. The main ones were the Noson Lawen, The Welsh Family Supper, The Grand Concert, The Worship Service and the two Gymanfa Ganu sessions. There were innumerable lectures, seminars, trips and presentations given each day— and there was a busy central market place filled with a variety of stalls. I felt that organizing the event was a gargantuan task, and the good people of Ohio were to be commended for their efforts in providing us with a memorable event.

LLinos was excited about meeting three cousins from the Mid-West, and I was happy to re-unite with my cousin from LLanfairfechan. Four members from the Rhosllanerchgrugog Choir were fellow students of mine at Bangor in the early fifties. Another visitor from Dolwyddelan was also with us in Bangor ( and incidentally was a great friend of Tecwyn Roberts in LLanrwst Grammar School ). So the six of us had a great time reminiscing and posing for cameras.

With Phyllis Owens, her daughter Lynne Whalen-Owens, and Helen Steinle, Joyce and Brynmor Jones of Victoria, we represented BC in Ohio.

The highlights for me personally were the performances of "Cwlwm," a delightful quintet of young ladies from Cardiganshire( who performed in Victoria in 1990); the Rhos choir singing " Diolch i'r Ior" and " Myfanwy" ( As students we used to sing it in the stairwell of the hostel every Sunday night as we retired to bed); and the trio of tenors — Dafydd Edwards, Aberaeron; Geraint Dodd of Rhos ( who will be singing with the San Francisco Opera for four weeks in Nov-Dec) ; and Geraint Wilkes of Milwaukee(formerly of Aberystwyth).

I also enjoyed the two Gymanfa sessions— where I found myself in the middle of a group of good bass singers, who (unlike Gareth Prytherch) kept me on track!! The participants numbered about 1,400.

LLinos and I stayed in the hotel for an extra day to recuperate—for with all the singing and talking our throats were pretty raw. After the hustle and bustle of the week-end we found ourselves pretty sad on the last day. However, on the next morning we picked up a rented car and started touring Ohio. We visited Amish

country and were intrigued by the horse and buggies tied to the parking meters in some towns. We also saw a farmer harrowing his field with four horses. Obviously these good people want to retain the way of life as it was a hundred years ago.

In South-east Ohio we visited two Welsh Chapels and a cemetery—Ty'n Rhos and Oak Hill. The history of Welsh settlement in the area, and the various Welsh chapels were well documented in the chapel-turned-museum in Oak Hill. We were lucky to be shown around by Beti Davies, a local resident who was originally from Aberaeron.

For one day we forgot all things Welsh and visited the U.S. Air Force Museum in Dayton. It is a huge edifice with literally hundreds of aeroplanes depicting the original Wright Brothers plane, and the latest space age capsules. One would take several days to examine every corner thoroughly.

The following week-end we met up again with the touring group from Wales and attended a barbecue, a concert and a Sunday morning service at Salem chapel in Venedocia. This was an old Welsh chapel again, and the concert was given by Dafydd Edwards and his daughters. Up to 1921, the minutes of the trustee meetings were kept in Welsh. The last Welsh service was held in 1938. The stories of how the area was settled by Welsh people was most interesting. There is an interesting web-site available for internet users :

[www.geocities.com/Heartland/Hills/2761](http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Hills/2761)

On the last day of our journey, from Denver to Vancouver, we had a bit of excitement. The Boeing 737 tore along the runway towards take-off, but at 130m.p.h. a warning light appeared in the cockpit and the pilot jammed on the brakes. We lurched and slithered to a stop off the runway. Three tyres burst and a bearing burnt out. Repairs were made, and two hours later we took off safely. We were very glad to see the customs officers at Vancouver!!

This holiday was the nearest thing to being in Wales, and we enjoyed ourselves thoroughly.

Contributed by John Pritchard



Officers and Directors For 1998

- President : Jeff Owen (604) 946 — 4956
- V. Pres. : Ann Roberts (604) 925 — 4662
- Secretary : Ann Roberts
- Treasurer : Tecwyn Roberts (604) 464 — 2760
- Mem. Sec.: Margaret Monck (604) 733 — 9787
- News. Ed. : Gwilym Evans (604) 274 — 3794

- Directors : Rob Barclay
- Jane Byrne
- Victor Griffiths
- Ieuan Lampshire-Jones
- John Pritchard

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

### Chepstow Races

Come and place your bets on November 7th., 50cents a bet. The first race will start at 9.15 pm. Our trusted bookies, Milt Morgan and Ivor Davies will be ready and willing to take your bets. So come along to the Red Dragon and have some fun.

Mulled Wine evening is on November 28th., and we will be open at 7.30pm. We look forward to seeing you, and hope the wonderful evening planned will start you off for the Christmas Season.

Christmas Dinner Dance and Draw is on December 5th. The tickets will be on sale Oct. 17th. Please call Gaynor Owen at 946—4956 or Gwen Tonack at 738—3377 for more information.

Children's Christmas Party will be held on December 13th. at 2pm. Please call Gaynor Owen at 946—4956 with your childrens' names and ages before November 15th., so Santa can get organized.

Gaynor Owen

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### VANCOUVER WELSH MEN'S CHOIR

The choir got off to a brisk start at the first fall rehearsal which traditionally is scheduled for the day after Labour Day. An all-day retreat at West Point Grey United on October 3 gave us an opportunity to become more familiar with Guest Conductor John Trepp, who will be handling the musical direction of the choir for the majority of this performance season. Eighty-four members attended the retreat, and the same total number of people were present at the massive pot-luck supper organized by the Friends of the Choir that evening. Our first concert this year will be a benefit for the Abbotsford Hospice Society in the Central Heights Mennonite Church on McCallum Road in Abbotsford on Saturday, October 17 at 8 p.m. Three weeks later we will also be performing in the Seaforth Armouries on Saturday and Sunday November 7 and 8, at the 1998 "Canadians Remembered" commemoration of Remembrance Day.

Contributed by Des Harris

*The Dylan Thomas Circle 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gathering*  
presents

**Professor Walford Davies**  
(University of Wales)  
and  
**DYLAN THOMAS REVISITED**

FRIDAY, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1998

**OPEN HOUSE** 7:30pm at the Cambrian Hall and the Red Dragon Pub.... **Entrance Free**  
- Everyone welcome, program to include:-  
    '*An Evening with Dylan*' performed by Russell Roberts  
    Introduction of Professor Walford and Dr Hazel Davies.  
    Some Dylan readings  
    A Welsh Society presentation  
    Most importantly - socialize and meet our guests from Wales.

SATURDAY, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 1998

**SEMINAR** ..... 10:30 - 4:00pm.                      **cost \$25**  
10:30am - A Dylan poem chosen and interpreted by Alan Jones. Further analysis and  
            comments by Walford Davies and Ralph Maud.  
12:00 - Ploughman's Lunch  
1:00pm - Annual General Meeting. (open to all Circle members)  
1:45 to 4:00 - Prof. Walford Davies address '*Revisiting Fern Hill*', followed by discussion

**ANNUAL DINNER**..... 7:00pm.                      **cost \$35**  
6:30pm - Red Dragon pub open for pre-dinner drinks  
7:00 - assemble in Upstairs Hall for Annual Dinner. Caterers are Jordans  
- after Dinner address by Prof Walford Davies  
- Dinner ticket holders will receive a free calligraphy print ( value\$25+) of  
    '*Dylan's Walk*', kind courtesy of Barrie Parslow of Bristol who has mailed  
    them to us with the request that they be distributed to those in attendance.  
- late evening socializing and singing at the Red Dragon pub.

**COMBINATION** (full day) Seminar and Annual Dinner .... **cost \$55.**  
Contains all the above. Ticket buyer saves \$5

All events at The Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17<sup>th</sup> Ave., Vancouver, B.C.  
For tickets or information, please call:-  
Alan Jones.. Hm(604) 437-0304 ( Pager 686-3178) Fax (604) 437-9119  
Neville Thomas ..Tel/fax (604) 294-4332

## Welsh Culture and History :The North American Dream

DATE Sunday, October 25, 1998  
TIME: 2.00 pm  
RE: Dr Hazel Davies  
University of Wales ( Aberystwyth)  
TOPIC: Welsh Culture and History  
The North American Dream  
VENUE: Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17th Ave, Vancouver

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As a society we are pleased to invite you to come and listen to Dr Hazel Davies of Aberystwyth when she addresses the Welsh Community about **Welsh Culture and History : The North American Dream.**

Through her topic Welsh Culture and History : The North American Dream. she will investigate the experiences of Wales as seen through the lens of their drama ,literature and history. We will hear of a new confident Post Devolution Wales. Hazel Davies' vision is of an exciting and vibrant Wales that is so attractive to us here in the Pacific North West.

Dr. Davies was born in Camarthernshire and educated at the University of Wales and Oxford. She is at present Senior Lecturer in Theatre Studies at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. She is a member of the Editorial Board of the New Welsh Review, a member of the Executive of the University of Wales Association of Welsh Writing in English and is the United Kingdom Chair of the North American Association for the Study of Welsh Culture and History.

We encourage you to attend this event and a warm welcome awaits you at the Cambrian Hall on October 25.

If you wish further information please call Ann Roberts at (604) 925 - 4662.

THE ANNIVERSARY DINNER

The Cambrian Hall had its official opening on September 1st. , 1929. (Dorothy Walters and Phyllis Owens were there !!)

It has been a tradition for many years to celebrate this event by having an anniversary dinner. This year , 1998 , was no exception and Saturday, October 3rd was the big day. ( Just imagine, next year will be the seventieth anniversary ! )

As for many years past, the evening was organized by our "G"-girls— Gwen (Tonack) , Gaynor (Owen) and Gaynor (Evans). To you and your helpers we give thanks.

Lorraine and Jim Jordan were our caterers again this year. They provided us with a delicious dinner of excellent quality served in a warm friendly manner.

There were quite a few "regulars" away this year, but we still had fifty participants. We welcomed as guests, our friend Megan James, from Pasadena, and also relatives of Gwen Tonack's from Anglesey — Nell and O.G. Owen.

After the meal we all sat down comfortably to watch a Welsh Tourist Board video provided by Jeff Owen. It was nostalgic as the camera moved from one part of Wales to the other. Thank you Jeff. It was, indeed, a most convivial evening, with a warm and friendly ambience.

It was appropriate to think of, and thank our Welsh predecessors , who built the Cambrian Hall , and kept it as a focus of Welsh life over the years.

Thanks, once more, to the three "G"s together with Tony and Jeff — a most pleasureable evening.

Contributed by John Pritchard



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday November 1st is the date of our next Gymanfa Ganu.

Time : 2pm

Place : Cambrian Hall  
215 East 17th Ave., VANCOUVER

"Cenwch yn llafar i'r Arglwydd".  
"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord".

TE BACH to follow (culinary donations appreciated)

Contributed by John Pritchard

CHAIRMAN IESUAN LAMPSONIAE-JONES



## SEPTEMBER.

There are twelve months throughout the year,

From January to December—  
And the primest month of all the twelve  
Is the merry month of September!  
Then apples so red  
Hang overhead,  
And nuts ripe-brown  
Come showering down  
In the bountiful days of September!

There are flowers enough in the summer-time,  
More flowers than I can remember—

But none with the purple, gold, and red  
That dyes the flowers of September!  
The gorgeous flowers of September!  
And the sun looks through  
A clearer blue,  
And the moon at night  
Sheds a clearer light  
On the beautiful flowers of September!



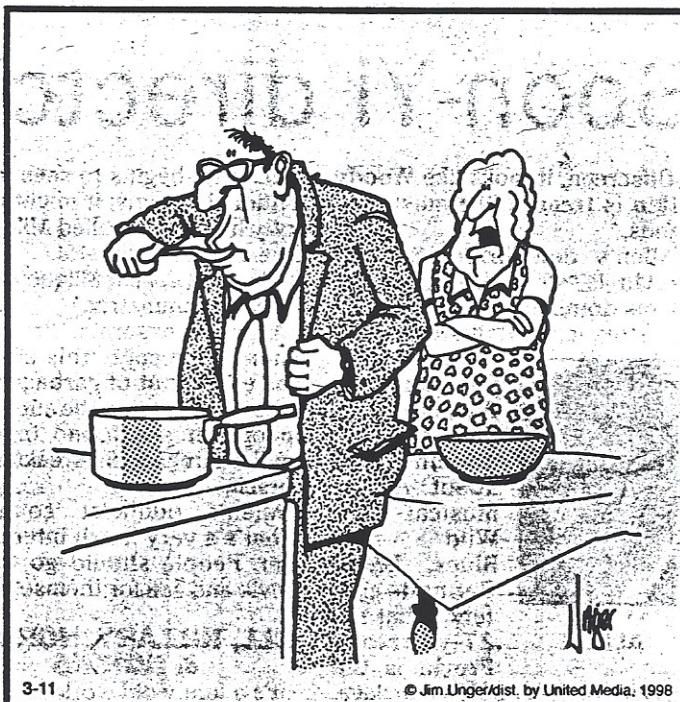
Go gleanng in rich September.

The poor too often go scant and bare,  
But it glads my soul to remember  
That 'tis harvest time throughout the land  
In the bountiful month of September!

Oh! the good kind month of September!  
It giveth the poor  
The growth of the moor;  
And young and old  
'Mong sheaves of gold  
Go gleanng in rich September.

MARY HOWITT.

Submitted by I. Lampshire-Jones



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"I hope it tastes good. It's for the cat."

Democracy means that if the doorbell rings in the early hours, it is likely to be the milkman.

— Winston Churchill

Our political institutions work remarkably well. They are designed to clang against each other. The noise is democracy at work.

— Michael Novak

Democracy is the recurrent suspicion that more than half of the people are right more than half of the time.

— E.B. White  
(in the New Yorker)

# October 1998

## Mis Hydref 1998

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
			W.A. (Noon) Meeting Cambrian Circle Singers	Welsh Folk Dancing Welsh Speaking Night	Dylan Thomas "The Dream" "Celts in the New World"	Dylan Thomas 8 p.m. Dinner Red Dragon Open 8:30 pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
A Dylan Afternoon with The Welsh Soc. 1:30 Toeni/Richmond Singers Orpheus Choir, Broadmoor			Cambrian Circle Singers			Red Dragon Open 8:30 pm

# November 1998

## Mis Tachwedd 1998

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11:00 a.m. Church Services and te bach. Gymanfa Gannu			7:30 p.m. Exec. Mtg	Folk Dancing 7 p.m. Cambrian Circle Singour White Cliff Res. 15501 16th Ave White Rock		Chipsiwrws Rhuiss Red Dragon Open 8:30 pm
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			11:2 p.m. Colebrook U12 Orpheus Choir Concert South Surrey 7:30 p.m. General Mtg		8:00 p.m. Cambrian Circle	Van Welsh Men's Choir Powell River @ 8 Acadamy Music Red Dragon Open 8:30 pm
15	16	17	18			
Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir 2 p.m. Sackelt Raptors Cry Theatre			W.A. (Noon) Meeting Cambrian Circle Singers			

Gymdeithas Cymraeg Vancouver Welsh Society  
 Cambrian Hall, 215 E. 17th Ave, Vancouver, B.C.  
 V5V 1A6 Telephone:- (604) 876-2815