

Hydref i Tachwedd
2001

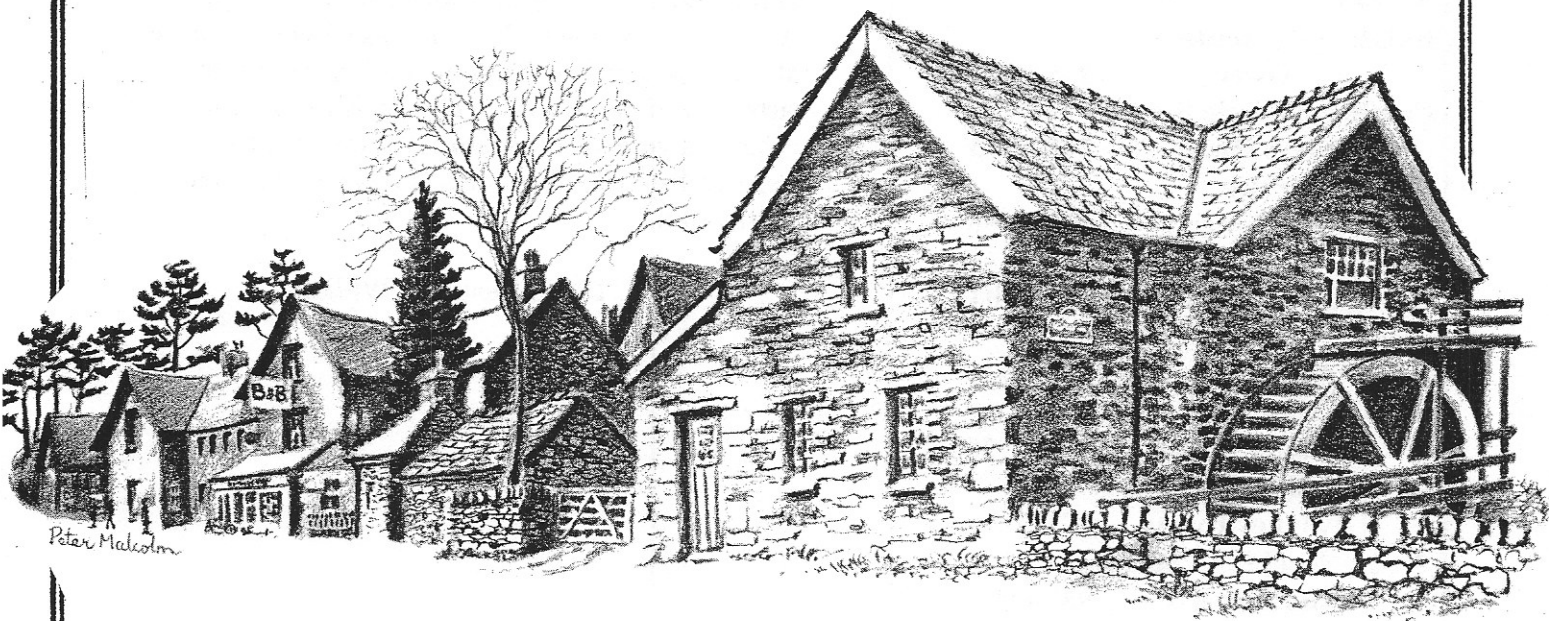


October to November
2001

Cymdeithas Gymkaeg Vancouver

Cambrian News

Welsh Society Newsletter — Cylchgrawn Cymraeg



Pentrefoelas

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Cambrian News

From the (new) editor:

I have been prevailed upon to take on this responsibility and I can only hope that, in time, I will be able to maintain the high standard set by previous editors. This issue is rather rushed, since already some events are in progress, and others are imminent.

The most important recent development for the Society has been the successful repair and renovation of the Hall. A report will appear in due course, but a debt of thanks is due especially to our President and Past President.

The first event in the repaired Hall was a well received performance by the Llanddulas Male Voice Choir on September 9th. This was followed by a highly successful 'Remember Harry Evening' on September 28th, organized by Neville Thomas. More detailed recognition of these events will appear in the next issue.

At this time, half of the performances of 'Under Milk Wood' by the Dylan Thomas Circle will have taken place, but four will remain. Soon after, in early November, the three day Welsh Weekend welcomes your participation. A press release prepared by Eifion Williams is included for your information.

David Llewelyn Williams

A WELSH WEEKEND OF CELEBRATION

The Vancouver Welsh Society is sponsoring a Welsh Weekend of Celebration on November 2-4, 2001. The various events and activities are expected to attract a large number of people of Welsh heritage from throughout the Pacific Northwest and will also appeal to all those who appreciate the musical and literary traditions of Wales.

The highlight of the weekend will be two Gala Concerts on Saturday, November 3 (2:00 pm and 8:00 pm) featuring choral singing by the **Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir** under the direction of **John Trepp**, with guest conductor **Dr. Haydn James**, Wales' leading conductor. The concerts will be held at the Magee Auditorium, 1975 West 49th Avenue, Vancouver.

Dr. Haydn James has a Doctorate in Physics and also studied conducting at the Guildhall School of Music. He has been Musical Director of the London Welsh Male Voice Choir since 1979 and, more recently, of the widely-acclaimed South Wales Men's Choir. Dr. James has an exceptional talent for conducting mass choirs and is much in demand at Welsh events throughout the UK and overseas.

Rugby enthusiasts will know Dr. James as conductor of the singing at Welsh international games and this year conducted the singing at British Lions games in Australia. He has also recorded with Max Boyce, Michael Ball and Charlotte Church.

The Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir has received international acclaim. In recent years the choir has toured Australia, New Zealand, England, Wales, Holland, Germany and the USA. A measure of the choir's popularity was an invitation to sing at the Royal Albert Hall in London, England last fall.

Conductor John Trepp has had a distinguished career as musical director for such international events as Expo 86 in Vancouver, Expo 88 in Brisbane, the Calgary Olympic Winter Games, and as director of the British Columbia Youth Choir. He is a Life Member of the American Choral Directors Association.

The guest soloists at the Concerts will be **Jason Howard** and **Gail Suderman**. Jason studied music at the Trinity College of Music and the Royal College of Music. He has won a number of prestigious international awards and has become established as one of the UK's major operatic performers. He has performed leading roles in major opera houses, including Covent Garden and the Paris Opera.

Gail Suderman is a highly-acclaimed Vancouver mezzo-soprano who has performed regularly with Pacific Opera Victoria, Edmonton Opera, the Victoria Symphony in Opera Gala and Oratorio Concerts, and has been a regular guest soloist for the University of Victoria Orchestra and Chorus Oratorio Concerts. Ms. Suderman was most recently

A WELSH WEEKEND OF CELEBRATION

guest soloist in the Vancouver Bach Choir's "Sing-along" Messiah.

Other attractions during the weekend will include a *Noson Lawen* at the Welsh Society's Cambrian Hall on Friday night, November 2 (7:30 pm), a traditional Welsh evening of entertainment to include amateur performers from the Pacific Northwest, followed by an 'afterglow' in the Red Dragon lounge, located in the Cambrian Hall's lower hall.

On Sunday, November 4, there will be a morning bilingual chapel service in the Cambrian Hall followed by a *te bach* (light lunch) and socializing. In the afternoon, to conclude the weekend's events on a rousing note, there will be a *Gymanfa Ganu*, a festival of traditional hymn singing, under the baton of visiting conductor Dr. Haydn James. This will be held at the Tenth Avenue Alliance Church, 11 West Tenth Avenue, Vancouver. The hymns will be sung in both English and Welsh and everyone is welcome to participate.

The organist for this event will be **David Millard**, musical director and resident organist at St. Martin's Anglican Church in North Vancouver. Mr. Millard is also artistic director and principal conductor of the Vivaldi Chamber Choir and conductor of the Vancouver Jewish Choir.

The guest soloist will be well-known local mezzo-soprano **Sandra Stringer**, winner of the 1999 Brian Law Opera Scholarship and currently a Doctorate student in the Musical Arts Programme at UBC. Ms. Stringer was previously an Associate Artist with Opera Lyra Ottawa, appearing in *Aida*, *Die Fledermaus* and *Madama Butterfly*. She has also portrayed the roles of Cherubino in Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* and Hansel in Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*.

An added attraction during the weekend will be the sixth annual gathering of the Vancouver **Dylan Thomas Circle**, with readings, performances, discussions and video recordings of the works of the famous Welsh poet. This will be held on Saturday from 10:30 to 4:00 at the Cambrian Hall. The \$10 admission will include a ploughman's lunch.

For more information on all these events contact the Welsh Weekend, Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17th Avenue, Vancouver, BC. V5V 1A6. Or phone (604) 294-4332 or (604) 469-4904. E-mail: nkthomas@home.com or joshwill@direct.ca

The Weekend of Celebration has a website at members.home.net/welshweekend. The information is also available on wapnw.org/novceleb.htm

Arrangements for hotel accommodation have been made with the Vancouver Centre Holiday Inn, with a special nightly rate of \$79 Canadian or \$50 US. Please call (604) 879-0511, fax (604) 872-7520, E-mail: info@holidayinnvancouver.com for reservations. Please quote "Welsh Society of Vancouver" when booking.

VANCOUVER WELSH MEN'S CHOIR

Our season opened with a most enjoyable joint concert on Saturday October 6 in Burnaby South United Church with the Filton MVC (from near Bristol). Because of their proximity to Wales they included several Welsh pieces in their repertoire, and their soprano soloist, Gillian Davies, came from the village of Tonna, near Neath. The concert concluded with the joint choirs singing *American Trilogy*, *Gwahoddiad* and *Morte Criste*, although Ms Davies initially felt a little intimidated singing the third verse of the last piece solo with 125 men behind her! We will next be performing at the end of the month, with a full concert in the Victoria Conservatory of Music on Oct 27 and a joint concert with Victoria's Arion MVC in the U Vic Auditorium on the afternoon of Oct 28.

Much of our attention at the moment is, of course, focussed on the Welsh Weekend of Celebration's two gala concerts scheduled for Saturday Nov 3 in the Magee High School Auditorium. The two soloists will be mezzo-soprano (and our Assistant Director) Gail Suderman, who sang with us in our 20th anniversary concert at the Chan Centre last year, and internationally-recognized baritone Jason Howard from Merthyr Tydfil, who was the baritone soloist in the London Welsh MVC's 1000-voice Millennium Concert in the Royal Albert Hall in which we participated last October 28. Dr. Haydn James, Musical Director of the London Welsh MVC and conductor of the above-mentioned Millennium Concert, will conduct the three final pieces in the November 3 concerts.

Goon But Not Forgotten

by Neville Thomas

It was most gratifying to hear of the great pleasure and enjoyment that the audience had at our recent **Remember Harry Evening** on September 28th. Paul Lievesley and I had a most enjoyable time putting the whole show together. Paul proved an ideal person to work with. We look forward now to **November 23rd** for the sequel to Remember Harry entitled **Goon But Not Forgotten** to be held at the Red Dragon.

There are those who remember the Goon Show and upon its mention they careen off into imitations of Eccles, Major Bloodnok, Neddy, Bluebottle, Minnie or other zany creations that so dominated the humour of our lives in the 1950's. It is remarkable that below a certain age line there is scant recognition of this momentous absurdity - mention the Goon show and there is a glazed look upon their faces !. Poor, deprived souls, little do they know of our zany world where modern humour was born.

You should either be a Goon Show addict or a most tolerant, willing initiate if you are attending the November 23rd gathering. A team of indescribable 'Neddies and Jeems' are cobbling together the contents of the evening which in true Goon fashion will probably cascade into chaos.

Great fun for all true believers. **See you at 8 pm on November 23rd at the Red Dragon.** Phone 604-294-4332 if you wish more details

Wee Woosie Wins World's

Welsh golf fans everywhere take great pride in Ian Woosnam's recent victory in this year's World Match Play Championship. Standing tall at 5 ft. 4 inches, Woosnam beat Retief Goosen, Colin Montgomery, Lee Westwood, and finally Pdraig Harrington, to win the title for the third time in his illustrious career. There is no truth to the rumour that the South Wales side is recruiting him for the annual Welsh Society North-South match.

Social Committee Report.

The Christmas Season is quickly approaching so please mark your calendar with these dates.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 30th

Mulled Wine Evening.

Please come and join us at **8.00pm** for this very special evening of carols and Christmas cheer. Please note the change of date and **DAY**, yes this year the mulled wine evening is a **FRIDAY**. We look forward to seeing you for one of the most favorite evening of the year.

If you would like to contribute to the evening we would be very grateful for some Christmas goodies to add to our plates for every one to share. Also there will also be a box by the entrance if any one would like to donate a none perishable item for the food bank. Look forward to seeing you **Friday night November 30th at 8.00pm.**

CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE.

DECEMBER 8TH 2001. Cocktails: 6:30pm Dinner:7:30pm

For tickets please call Gaynor Owen at 604 946 4956.

Or **Gwen Tonack** at 604 738 3377.

Please call to reserve your tickets before November 30th
The tickets usually go very quickly so please do not hesitate.

The price of the tickets are \$27.00 members \$30.00 guests.

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER 16th at 2.00pm.

Please call Gaynor Owen at 604 9464956 with your child's name before November 20th so Santa can get ready. If possible please bring an item for the food bank. The response was so wonderful last year we hope you could help out again this year.

THE DYLAN THOMAS CIRCLE in its ongoing
presentation of the works of **DYLAN THOMAS**
proudly presents....

Under Milk Wood

Directed by Trevor Fount
Lighting Design by Jonathan Ryder
Sound Design by Bill Moysey

At The Cambrian Hall
215 East 17th Avenue (at Main)
October 18th - 21st and 25th - 28th
All shows at 8pm

For tickets and information call
Box Office (604) 257-0366

Sponsored by: Grenville Thomas and The British Consulate General, Ottawa

Original art for poster by Peter John Voorneij

Oct. 13
Amici's Dinner

October 2001

Mis Hydref 2001

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
14 11:00 a.m. Church Service and te bach	15	16	17 WA (Noon) Mtg Cambrian Circle Singers	18 Welsh Folk Dancers	19 Dylan Thomas Circle Presents "UNDER MILK WOOD"	20 Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
21 "Under Milk Wood"	22	23	24 Cambrian Circle Singers	25 Dylan Thomas Circle Presents "UNDER MILK WOOD"	26	27 Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
28 "Under Milk Wood"	29	30	31	<p>Cymdeithas Cymraeg Vancouver Welsh Society Cambrian Hall, 215 E. 17th Ave, Vancouver, B.C. V5V 1A6 Telephone:- 604 876-2815</p>		

Dylan Circle Mtg
VWM Choir Concerts
2:00 & 8:00 @ Magee

November 2001
Mis Tachwedd 2001

11 a.m.	1	2	3
4 Church Service 2:00 p.m. Gymnfa Ganu @ 10th Ave Alliance Ch.	1 Welsh Folk Dancers	2 WELSH WEEKEND Noson Lawen	3 VWM Choir Concerts 2:00 & 8:00 @ Magee
5	8	9	10
11 Remembrance Day	15 7:30 p.m. Exec. Mtg	16 Cambrian Circle Singers	17 Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
12	14 7:30 p.m. Gen'l Mtg	15	16 Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.