

Hydref i Tachwedd
2003

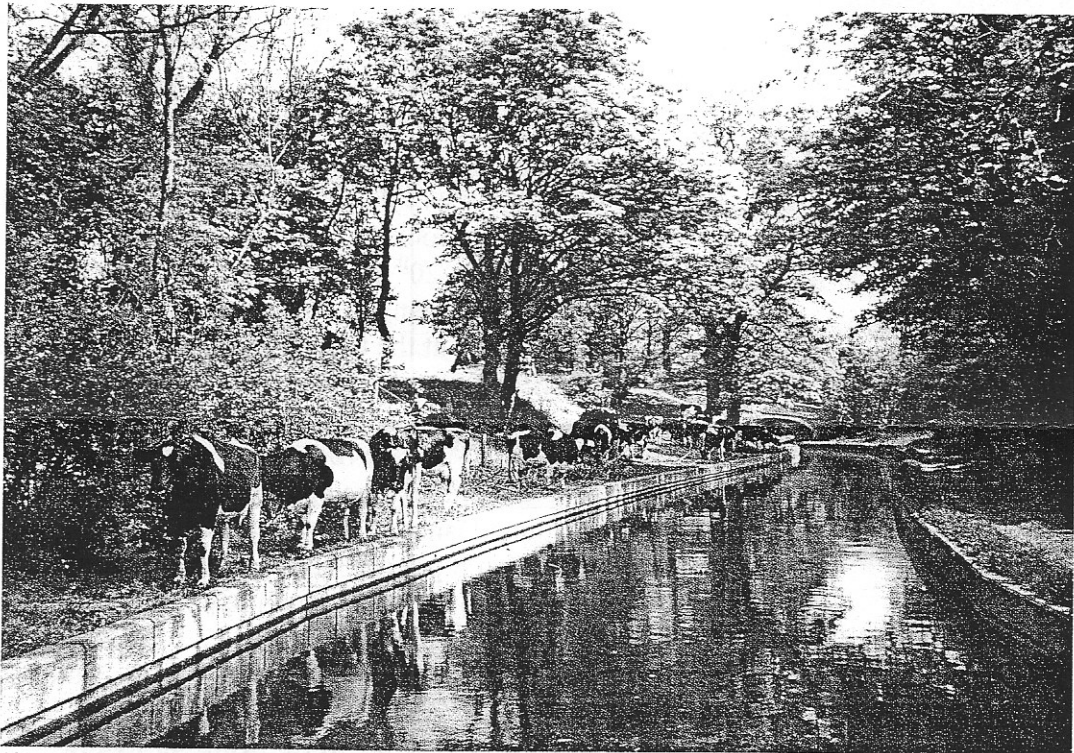


October to November
2003

Cymdeithas Gymkaeg Vancouver

Cambrian News

Welsh Society Newsletter — Cylchgrawn Cymraeg



Llangollen Canal

Photograph by Mrs. F. Crawford, Rhosddu W.I.

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VANCOUVER
WELSH SOCIETY

The Cambrian News

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From The Editor:

The Extraordinary General Meeting attracted a good attendance and all of the Special Resolutions involving changes in the Constitution received the required support. These will now need to be approved in Victoria before they become binding. The Officers of the Society who had been acting in a 'pro tem' capacity were confirmed in office. Your Editor assumed the role of Secretary for the two months remaining before the AGM in December.

Subsequent to the meeting a gathering was held to honour Marion and Ellis Griffith, complete with special cake(!) prior to their departure to New Zealand. Marion and Ellis have over the years welcomed many new Welsh families and helped them settle here and their caring support has been greatly appreciated.

Diligent readers will recall that last month's issue contained details of the 2004 E-steddfod promoted by the Museum of Welsh Life and the National Library of Wales. John Pritchard was notably successful last year so let us hope that our society will be similarly represented this time. The Welsh Society of Georgia has chosen to celebrate its 20th anniversary in a like manner so there are many opportunities for creativity. Two events at the Cambrian Hall which may be of interest to members are the First AGM of the Celtic Heritage Society at 7.30pm on Monday October 27th, to be followed by a social hour, (www.celticheritage.org) and the Samhain Costume Dance to celebrate the Celtic New Year starting at 8 pm on Saturday November 1st. Both are open to all and offer an opportunity to meet other Celts. The latter event is a fundraiser for *The Celtic Connection*. Call Catholine Butler at 604-434-3747 for tickets.

Finally remember to set aside Saturday, November 29th for the Annual Christmas Dinner Dance.

David Llewelyn Williams

In Memory of Gwenfyl Jones

It is with sadness that we learnt of the death of Gwenfyl Jones in Llanelli. She was a Life Member of the Society and remained keenly interested in our activities as recorded in the Newsletter. She served the Society in many capacities for over 30 years, including 5 years as President. Her influence on members was profound.

In 1980 she chaired the organizing committee of the North American Welsh Gymanfa Ganu which was held that year in Vancouver. Those who worked with Gwenfyl then remember her as an effective organizer who was largely responsible for the success of that event. Gwenfyl also became well known in the wider Welsh community. In the 1980's she became President of the North American Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association (a position currently held by Lynn Owens-Whelan who was greatly inspired by Gwenfyl). She was also an active member of Undeb Cymry ar Wasgar (Wales International). In recognition of her services to Wales, Gwenfyl was admitted to the Gorsedd of Bards of the National Eisteddfod of Wales, one of the highest honours Wales can bestow.

Gwenfyl Jones was a primary school teacher in Vancouver for many years, ending her career as a Head Teacher. Following her retirement from teaching, she returned to Wales to be near her family. Prior to her departure, as a token of their respect and appreciation, members of the Society "gathered to wish our best to Gwenfyl and bestowed her with a gift of silver spoons along with a card that is very West Coast Canada style and will hopefully remind her of her friends and her life here in Vancouver".

Her network of friends in Vancouver and throughout North America regret Gwenfyl's passing and will remember her fondly.



W. A. Report

After a beautiful summer, the WA got back to business with what else, a party! Because Marion and Ellis Griffiths finally found their way through unbelievable red tape and are on their way to a new life in New Zealand and because Mae Lievesley celebrated her 90th birthday on July 6th a luncheon was in order.

Gaynor Owen made a feed of Fagots and Peas and we all sat down to a delicious meat, gravy and peas followed by a lovely cake (also courtesy of Gaynor). We were joined by Marion's daughter, Elizabeth Davis, and also Liz Murray, who has had to take a break from the WA due to other commitments.

A former long-standing member of the WA Dorothy Walters celebrated her 100th birthday on May 24th this year. Dorothy retired from active membership in 1995.

We also were privileged to join in a celebration of the life of Jean Hinkley, which was held in the Cambrian Hall, June 29th, 2003. Jean was a very active WA member until 1986 when poor health forced her retirement. We are very sorry to learn of the recent death of life member Gwenfil Jones after a fall.

Our next meeting will be Oct. 15th when we will meet as usual at noon in the lower hall. Bring your own brown bag lunch - tea and coffee will be available. Guests and new members are welcome.

B. Thomas

Calling All Walkers!

The Walking Group is about to start, so please join us. Suggested walks are: Beaver Lake & Lost Lagoon, Jericho Beach & Sea Wall, Historic Sites Downtown, Queen Elizabeth Park, University Endowment Lands.

The best day so far is Wednesday, but we can change the day as it suits us all. Call me!

Mary Lewis 604-531-1523

Cambrian Singers

It has been some time since I wrote a report on the Singers. This has been due to the fact that my computer was pinched last March!

We had a very quiet Spring season this year since both Lucy Sorensen and Margaret Airey were coping with health problems. Lucy has successfully come through surgery in January followed by chemotherapy and radiation while Margaret went through preliminary surgery followed by radiation with the main surgery to come on September 16th. We are looking forward to the time Margaret will be able to rejoin us. During the Spring season we only sang at places that had booked us when we weren't able to accommodate them during the Christmas season. It did however enable us to increase our repertoire as we were able to practice regularly.

The choir was fortunate to have three valuable new members join us last January. Heather Foster (Port Coquitlam) and Le Lian Hong (North Vancouver), sopranos, and Debbie Myers (Vancouver) alto. None of them Welsh but all working successfully to handle the language. It was good to see Jackie Chapman back this summer after their car accident last Christmas. Husband Steve was badly hurt but appears to have made a good recovery. They received landed immigrant status in July, much to their delight.

The fall season is generally fairly light performance wise as the need to conquer the Christmas music requires more practice time. Our Christmas calendar is already full with a concert, singouts at seniors' homes and our annual appearance at Van Duesen Gardens. We will again this year be opening their light show on December 5th. With eighteen active members and three inactive, the choir continues to do well. However it is only as good as it is due to mainly non Welsh members making up the numbers.

Nerys Haqq



An Exceptional Event

Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera Concert

**at the Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17th Avenue
Sunday, October 26th at 4:00 pm (1600 hrs)**

Admission Free for this bilingual Concert

Ystalyfera is an all Welsh Secondary school in the Swansea Valley where all subjects are taught in Welsh. It is considered the best school in Wales as far as drama, music and dancing are concerned and they win numerous prizes at the National Festival of Wales every year. They visited Vancouver three years ago and, for those fortunate enough to see them, it was a dazzling, superb performance.

For the 'not to be missed' October 26th performance there will be a choir of 66 voices accompanied by a 17 piece orchestra (6 violins, I cello, 8 brass, I drum and I harp) and clog dancers.

The Ystalyfera group will arrive at the Cambrian Hall on the Sunday afternoon and will practice prior to their actual one hour, bilingual performance starting at 4:00 pm.

Our Welsh Society will be providing refreshments to the visitors. Assisting with this catering is usually good fun and your help would be much appreciated. Please call Gaynor Owen (604-946-4956) or Jane Byrne (604-732-5448) to offer your assistance.

A very busy program has been organized by *World Sports Travel* for the visitors from Ystalyfera during their October 17 – 27 visit. Much of it is centered around Shawnigan Lake School (Vancouver Island) and sports master, Rhod Samuel. The visiting choir contains the members of both a field hockey and a rugby team and several games have been arranged for them. On Sunday morning, Oct 26 there is a hockey game versus West Vancouver Secondary School at 9:30 am and a rugby game against St George's School at 11:00 am. After their performance with us at the Cambrian Hall on Sunday afternoon, they will head off to a Vancouver Canucks game at GM Place at 7:00 pm. A very busy day indeed !!

DYLAN THOMAS and CANADA

50th Anniversary Conference

October 14 to 18, 2003



Thomas in his room at the Hotel Vancouver during his 1950 visit

A celebration of Dylan's life and work and commemoration of his death in New York City in 1953. A recounting of his visits to Vancouver and Montreal and his influence on Canadian letters. A program featuring lively speakers, films, displays and performances.

Tuesday, October 14, 7 pm/SFU Harbour Centre, 515 West Hastings
Where Have the Old Words Got Me? Dylan Thomas' Life and Work. Ralph Maud

Wednesday, October 15, 7 pm/SFU Harbour Centre
Dylan in Vancouver and Montreal. Geoff Madoc-Jones.
Panel discussion with people who met Thomas in 1950 and 1952

Thursday, October 16, 12:30-1:30 pm/UBC Old Auditorium
A reenactment of Dylan Thomas' original 1950 noon reading. Russell Roberts

Thursday, October 16, 7 pm/SFU Harbour Centre
Reading Dylan Thomas from a Canadian Point of View. Kevin McNeilly
Dylan through the Drinking Glass. New play workshop. Gareth Hill

Friday, October 17, 7-9 pm/SFU Harbour Centre
Under Milk Wood and Return Journey. (CBC Films) Video Presentation.
Introduction and commentary by producer/director Paul Almond.

Saturday, October 18, 11am / Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17th, Vancouver
The Annual Dylan Thomas Lecture
Dylan and Swansea: A Personal Recollection. Charles Fisher

Students from John Oliver Secondary School will be giving readings of Dylan Thomas' work during the conference.

Presented by the Dylan Thomas Circle of Vancouver,
Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia.

The support of Grenville Thomas and Common Ground is gratefully acknowledged

Free Admission Seating is limited Call : 604-291-5100

www.sfu.ca/dylanthomas

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Newyddion
News

Press Release
Datganiad i'r Wasg

For Immediate Release:

The St. David's Welsh Society of Georgia (USA) to celebrate 20th Anniversary with an electronic Eisteddfod

Atlanta, GA.--The St. David's Welsh Society of GA. will celebrate its 20th Anniversary with an Eisteddfod, but done entirely via the Internet. The "e-Steddfod-GA" has its own website: www.e-steddfod-ga.org and participation is open to everyone. Entries will be accepted through December 15th of this year, with the winners being announced on St. David's Day 2004. The e-Steddfod-GA is a co-operative venture with the Society's Wales based ISP, Cymru 1.

"The e-steddfod is going to be fun! It will involve a large number of our members working together while we promote Welsh culture and history," commented Society President Ellen Furney at the web site launch.

The St. David's Society e-festival has a total of 18 competitions divided into four classes: Welsh Language, English Language Youth, English Language Adult and Special Competitions. The Special Competitions include both a youth and adult bilingual design category as well. Complete details along with the entry form can be found at www.e-steddfod-ga.org.

Nearly 50 different companies, organizations and individuals have contributed to the "e-steddfod-GA" reported Society Webmaster Karl Welsher. "They range from small home town Atlanta companies to large Welsh e-commerce firms."

The St. David's Welsh Society of Georgia was founded in January 1984 to bring together people of Welsh heritage in Georgia and to foster an interest in Welsh culture, language and history. The Society meets monthly from September to June. For more information on the Society please visit them on line at www.stdavidsga-cymru.org or telephone 678.319.0817.

Cymru 1 is a family owned and run business based in Porthmadog, Gwynedd (Wales). It was set up with two simple goals: (1) providing low cost Internet access, web site design and web site hosting for all, and (2) to increase the awareness of the latest Internet technology in Wales. Its company slogan, "*Getting Wales Connected*" stems from these goals. You can get more information by visiting their website at www.cymru1.net.

-END-

For your concert date, or later changes, notices for inclusion in this calendar display are the event requested by month-end, 4-6 weeks BEFORE

October 2003

mis Hydref 2003

Anniversary Dinner
Tickets Please - in advance

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Welsh Speaking Evening		8:00 p.m. Cambrian Circle Singers	Thursdays Welsh Folk Dancers	Welsh Men's Choir Vernon concert Trinity United Info:-604-878-1190	WWM Choir Kamloops United Church Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
26	27	28	29	30	31	
YSTALYFEERA CONCERT 4.00 pm.						

November 2003

mis Tachwedd 2003

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			7:30 pm Exec. Mtg		Cambrian Circle Singers	Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
11:00 am. Church Service and te bach		Remembrance Orpheus Choir Langley R.C Church twice wkl. @ 7:30 pm 30675 87Ave St Nich	7:30 pm Gen'l Mtg		Cambrian Circle Singers	Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
16	17	18	19			
	Welsh Speaking Evening		W.A. (Noon) Cambrian Circle Singers			

Cymdeithas Gymraeg Vancouver Welsh Society
Cambrian Hall, 215 E. 17th Ave, Vancouver, B.C.
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