

Aledi i Hydref
2002



September to October
2002

Cymdeithas Gymraeg Vancouver

Cambrian News

Welsh Society Newsletter — Cylchgrawn Cymraeg



Parc Cottage, Tregarth

CAMBRIAN HALL, 215 East 17TH Ave, VANCOUVER BC V5V 1A6 Tel: (604) 876-2815

VANCOUVER
WELSH SOCIETY

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The Cambrian News

From The Editor:

The summer break in the Newsletter seems to have passed very quickly and this edition contains reports on two traditional events; the Golf Tournament and the Picnic, both of which were most enjoyable. I was hoping to obtain a report on the Welsh Colony Centennial in Bangor, Saskatchewan, but I am unaware of any attendees. The Society has ordered a copy of the "Bangor Book" which is being put together in association with this event.

Readers will note a number of events vying for their attendance! In particular the 2003 Festival of Wales needs your support and a meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, September 28th. Several members of the Society are already working hard and have made considerable progress. Future editions of the Newsletter will keep members informed. It is appropriate to recognize that Lynn Owens-Whalen has been recently elected President of the NWGGA, the organization historically responsible for the North American Gymanfa Ganu Festival, the former title of this event.

Our Anniversary Dinner takes place on October 5th, and those with energy remaining may wish to take the trip to Seattle on the Sunday for their Gymanfa Ganu. Our own takes place in November, so this will be good practice! Here are the **driving instructions** for those who wish to attend.

The church is conveniently located right off I-5 in North Seattle near Green Lake. If headed south on I-5, take the exit for 80th & 85th Streets (#172). Stay to the left for 80th and, after the 85th exit bears off, move to the right lane and turn right onto 80th street. The Church is immediately on your left. There is a small parking lot behind the church. Plenty of street parking should be available in the neighborhoods along 1st Avenue NE to the south of the church.

David Llewelyn Williams

Forthcoming Events

Anniversary Dinner

Saturday, October 5th, 2002

Hall Open 6:00

Dinner 7:00

Tickets \$25

Catering by Jordans

Tickets can be purchased or reserved for pick-up at the door by contacting: either Gaynor Evans at 604-271-3134 or Ann Roberts at 604-987-6996

73 years for the Cambrian Hall (1929)
98 years for the Welsh Society (1904)

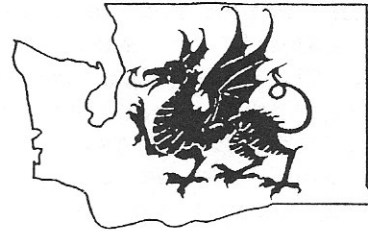
Advance Notice

Vancouver Welsh Society

Gymanfa Ganu

Sunday, November 3rd

Details in the next Newsletter



GYMANFA GANU

Presented by the Puget Sound Welsh Association

Featuring congregational singing of traditional Welsh hymns in both Welsh and English

Directed by Tom Gething
Special Music by Paul Kawabori, Tenor

Sunday, October 6, 2000
2:30 p.m.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church
111 NE 80th Street
Seattle, WA

Admission is free
Donations are welcome

For information please contact
Joel Ware (206) 783-4784
Ellen Wehber (206) 522-9853

Celebration

Golff - Mehefin 22/2002

After the church service on Sunday, September 8, a rather special cake was served. Nerys Haqq delivered it and en route she'd had to slam on the brakes for an emergency. The cake, therefore, arrived somewhat the worse for wear but the same cannot be said for its recipient. The occasion celebrated the 90th birthday (earlier in the summer) of Phyllis Owens, who looks not just none the worse for wear but, indeed, very much younger than her years. The cake was enjoyed to the sounds of "Happy Birthday".

Phyllis' parents were among the founding members, so she has been part of the Vancouver Welsh Society all her life. She has a wealth of information which she shares with generosity and seems to have passed on her enthusiasm to daughter Lynn, who we are pleased to note has just been elected President of the WNGGA. Phyllis was active in the W.A. for many years, is a regular at church, loves the Eisteddfodau, and has gone to all the Gymanfaoedd Ganu put on by the WNGGA and its predecessors.

So, our Heartiest Congratulations Phyllis, and diolch yn fawr for your many contributions to our Society.

Mer Montador

We enjoyed a very fine day at the Society's Annual Golf Tournament and the competition was as intense as ever! Our grateful thanks go to Gwilym Evans for having organized everything so well. Our thanks also go to John Pritchard for looking after the Cups and distributing the prizes on the Saturday evening in the Hall. Certainly everyone was very happy with the whole occasion.

Of course the evening was especially sweet for the North Wales team of Gwilym Evans, Tecwyn Roberts, Andrew Thomas and Tim Williams, who this year triumphed over their rivals from the South!

Here are the results after excusing Nigel Williams from the Low Gross in view of his professional status:

Men's Low Gross: Rob Barclay - 78
(Tim Williams - 79)

Men's Low Net: Tim Williams - 71
(Rob Barclay - 72
Nigel Williams - 72
Nicolas Williams - 72)

Ladies Low Gross: Deirdre Roberts - 89

Ladies Low Net: Deirdre Roberts - 72
(Llinos Pritchard - 74)

Low Putts: Rob Barclay - 27
Deirdre Roberts - 27
(Nigel Williams - 25)

KP Rob Barclay

Long Drive Men: Nicolas Williams

Long Drive Ladies: Deirdre Roberts

The Picnic

A big thank you again to Gaynor and Jeff Owen who hosted members and friends at the annual picnic at their lovely home and garden in Ladner in July. What a wonderful setting with flowers and the big weeping willow that hangs gracefully over the slough at the bottom of the garden.

Deputy British Consul, David Roberts, and his wife Kim arrived with their three girls whom Susan Owen took in the canoe for an adventure on the slough. John and Llinos Pritchard brought visitors from Wales. And it was lovely to see Marion and Ellis Griffiths and May Lievesley. We all sang 'Happy Birthday' to May and to Bernadette Howells. The men played darts, of course, while others chatted and enjoyed the sun. The late showers did not dampen our fun. Jeff's tarps did a good job sheltering us from the rain, except when the wind inverted one of the tarps and someone did get rather wet!

Jeff, as usual, had the barbecues hot and Gaynor prepared new potatoes and peas from the local fields to which everyone added salads and snacks. As befits a Welsh gathering the desserts were out of this world. Diolch yn fawr Gaynor and Jeff for your work and your hospitality. What a great day!

Liz Murray

Volunteers needed for the 2003 Festival of Wales

Planning for next year's North American Festival of Wales in Richmond-Vancouver is proceeding at a rapid pace. The planning committee has worked hard over the past year to draw up an interesting and varied program. Now there is a need for more volunteers to assist in carrying out the various activities associated with the Festival.

The main events of the program are almost complete. The featured choir will be the 2002 National Eisteddfod winners, the Dunvant Male Voice Choir. This choir has the distinction of being one of the oldest and largest male voice choirs in Wales, with more than one hundred years of unbroken history.

The return of the popular baritone, Jason Howard, will undoubtedly be welcomed by his many fans in the Pacific Northwest. Also featured will be Cor Ysgol Cerdd Ceredigion, reputed to be the best youth choir in Wales. An Eisteddfod competition for adult and youth solo vocalists is anticipated as well as a number of interesting seminars, including some on genealogy presented by staff from the National Library of Wales. Details of these and other planned events will appear in the Newsletter over the next few months.

The success of such a major undertaking depends to a large extent on the efforts and commitment of many volunteers. The planning committee would like to ensure that Richmond-Vancouver and the Pacific Northwest presents a world-class event for visitors expected from all over North America and from Wales. The Festival will require volunteers for a myriad of support activities such as hospitality, refreshment services, technical support, and many others. In the words of the Festival President, Alan Upshall: "You think of it and we will probably need it."

There will be an initial meeting for volunteers at 2.00 P.M. on Saturday, September 28, at the Richmond Inn, Richmond, B.C. The planning committee would like to see as many volunteers as possible at this first meeting. Anyone needing further information, or wishing to volunteer but unable to attend the meeting, should contact the planning committee secretary, Gaynor Evans, at 604-271-3134.

Melbourne Welsh Male Voice Choir

Every other summer, choirs from around the world meet in Powell River to share their music and love of singing in what has become known as the International Choral Kathaumixw. This is a project of the Powell River Academy of Music and is held in the first week of July. Following the festival, select choirs tour the Pacific Northwest. The captioned choir was in attendance this year and was also to give concerts in Whistler, North Vancouver and Port Moody.

Saturday evening July 13th was hot and humid and St. Andrew's Church in Port Moody was packed to the gunnels. But what a concert these chaps delivered! About fifty in number, their repertoire was pretty much the same as that of any good Welsh Male Voice Choir and included a healthy sprinkling of our favourite hymns - Blaenwern, Llanfair, Gwahoddiad, Cwm Rhondda and more and the whole concert was sung without books!

Sitting there, I almost thought that these blokes were from 'yr hen wlad' - but then they burst into what I suppose is their signature song, "I Still Call Australia Home" - and I realized that, like many of us, these chaps had carved out new lives.

Tec Roberts

Welsh Primate to lead Anglican World

The Most Reverend Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Wales and Bishop of Monmouth will succeed Dr. George Carey as the 104th Archbishop of Canterbury. He becomes the first Archbishop of Canterbury to be selected from outside the Church of England since the Reformation.

Rowan Williams was born in Swansea in 1950 in a Welsh-speaking family from the Swansea Valley. He was educated at Dynevor Secondary School, then at Christ's College, Cambridge, where he studied theology. After his doctoral research at Oxford on Russian Christianity, he spent two years at the College of the Resurrection, Mirfield, before returning to teach in Cambridge. He married Jane Paul in 1981 and they have two children, Rhiannon and Pip. He left Cambridge in 1986 to become Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity at Oxford. He has written a number of books on the history of theology, published collections of articles and sermons, and also, in 1994, a book of poems (as befits a true Welshman!). He has been involved in various commissions and he chaired the group that produced the report 'Wales: a Moral Society?' in 1996. He was within a few hundred yards of the World Trade Center visiting Trinity Church, Wall Street, when the terrorist attacks took place. His subsequent presidential address to the governing body of the Church in Wales expressed his views on the nature of power and helplessness and has been widely quoted.

He was elected Bishop of Monmouth on 5th December 1991 at St Woolos Cathedral, Newport and was consecrated in May 1992 by the Archbishop of Wales at St. Asaph Cathedral. He was himself elected Archbishop of Wales, in December 1999 and enthroned at St Woolos Cathedral in February 2000. His appointment to the See of Canterbury has been greeted with enthusiasm from around the world. He is seen to possess 'great depth of spirituality, an incisive mind and a pastoral heart' together with a 'track record for leadership on issues of our day'.

Genes show Welsh are the true Britons

(Filed: 01/07/2002)

From London Daily Telegraph

Scientists say they have discovered big genetic differences between the English and Welsh, reinforcing the idea that the "true" Britons were pushed to the fringes by a large-scale Anglo-Saxon invasion. Researchers at University College London found the genes of a sample of English men were almost identical to those of people in an area of the Netherlands where the Anglo-Saxons are thought to have originated. But there were clear differences between the genetic make-up of English and Welsh subjects studied. So the researchers concluded that the most likely explanation was a large-scale Anglo-Saxon invasion, which wiped out most of the indigenous population in England but did not reach Wales.

The team studied the Y-chromosome, which is usually inherited unchanged from father to son and looked for certain genetic markers. It chose seven market towns mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and studied the genes of 313 male volunteers whose paternal grandfather had also lived in the area. They then compared them with samples from Friesland, now a northern province of the Netherlands. The English and Frisians studied had almost identical genetic make-up but the English and Welsh were very different. It appeared that a "genetic barrier" existed along Offa's Dyke, a 150-mile long early medieval border between England and Wales.

Archaeologists after the Second World War rejected the traditionally-held view that an Anglo-Saxon invasion pushed the indigenous Celtic Britons to the fringes of Britain. Instead, they said the arrival of Anglo-Saxon culture could have come from trade or a small ruling elite. But the latest research "using genetics as a history book" supports the original view.

A Challenge

Neville Thomas received this intriguing puzzle from John Owen of Boise, Idaho.

It is a reading of an inscription from a tombstone in Ohio dated 1888. The original script has been made confusing by the weathering of the letters and whatever punctuation there might have been has been ablated with the years. Indeed the present reader may have misread letters and/or portions. So the challenge is to try to make something comprehensible of it. The descendants would be happy to know what is written on their ancestor's grave.

**CYMPO MYNGADON EDRYCH YMN AR
BY MEDD DAYS YSTYMA FEL YR WYT
TI Y BUM INAU FEL YR WUF FI Y BYDD
DIRHAN**

I suppose it's possible that the first word could be CYMRO; maybe the second line should be DY WEDD? Over to you!

The Black Chair of Birkenhead

Readers will remember the magnificent verse by R. Williams Parry heading Arthro Evans' article entitled "The Black Chair of Birkenhead". I had encouraged members to attempt a translation and Arthro has risen to the challenge with the following beautiful verse.

*The lone chair at bard's abode-its arms now
Extended out in quietude,
As if to listen and to yearn
In vain for one who can't return.*

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

September 2002

Mis Medi 2002

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Welsh Speaking Evening		8:00 p.m. Cambrian Circle Singers	Thursdays Welsh Folk Dancers		Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			Cambrian Circle Singers	Welsh Folk Dancers		2 p.m. Richmond Int'l Festival Wales Volunteers Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
29	30					

October 2002

Mis Hydref 2002

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

		1	2	3	4	5
			7:30 p.m. Exec. Mtg	Welsh Folk Dancers	Cambrian Circle Singers	Anniversary Dinner
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Seattle Gymanfa Gannu				Welsh Folk Dancers	Cambrian Circle Singers	Red Dragon Open 8:30 p.m.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
11:00 a.m. Church Service and te bach	Thanksgiving		16 W.A. (Noon) Mtg	Welsh Folk Dancers		7:30 pm Orpheu. St. Pat's RC Church Maple Ridge

Welsh Men's Choir Rehearsals Tuesdays at Cambrian Hall
 Orpheus Choir Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. @ John Oliver High School

Anniversary Dinner
 Tickets Please - in advance