

THE WELSH SOCIETY OF VANCOUVER
Cymdeithas Gymraeg Vancouver

Cambrian News

**Tachwedd
2016**

**November
2016**

Society Newsletter - Cylchgrawn y Gymdeithas



*The Vancouver contingent at the North American
Festival of Wales held in Calgary from 1 - 4 September*

CAMBRIAN HALL, 215 East 17th Ave, Vancouver B.C. V5V 1A6

VANCOUVER WELSH SOCIETY

Officers:

President:

David Llewelyn Williams

Vice-President:

Antone Minard

Secretary:

Eiffion Wiliams

Treasurer:

Gaynor Evans

Membership Secretary:

Jackie Chapman

Immediate Past President:

Jane Byrne

Directors:

Ruth Baldwin

Tim Darvell

Gwyn Evans

Patricia Morris

Alcwyn Rogers

Contacts:

Building Committee:

Patricia Morris

Cambrian Circle Singers:

Nerys Haqq

Church Service:

Various

Welsh Speaking Group:

Roy Beavon

Rentals:

Richard Williams 604-340-8545

Social Events Committee:

Gillian Rogers

Gillian.Rogers@shaw.ca

Webmaster:

Alcwyn Rogers

www.welshsociety.com

Newsletter Editor:

Ruth Baldwin

youcanreachruth@hotmail.com

Cambrian Hall

604-876-2815

The Cambrian News



Editors “old” and “new”

From The Editor:

David Llewellyn Williams, who has produced wonderful newsletters for the society for many years, has decided to take a break. I've taken over for now and am looking forward to sending you news and photographs of the activities of the society and items and articles of interest to all for whom Welsh life, language and culture are close to the heart.

21 October marked the 50th anniversary of the collapse in 1966 of a slag heap in the Welsh village of Aberfan, which killed 116 children and 28 adults.

David Llewelyn Williams will be giving a talk on the commemoration in Wales of the tragedy on Saturday 5 November in the Red Dragon at 2:00 p.m. to which all are invited. This presentation will include the memorial concert of *Cantata Memoria*, composed by Sir Karl Jenkins.

Ruth Baldwin

Forthcoming Events

Welsh Weekend

Friday 4 November: Noson Lawen, a Social Evening of entertainment at the Red Dragon, 7 for 7:30 p.m. If possible, please bring along a plate of finger food to share.

Saturday 5 November: Remembering Aberfan at 2:00 p.m. As this is the 50th Anniversary, we will be remembering the disaster.

Sunday 6 November: Bilingual Church Service at 11:00 a.m., followed by têt bach (light refreshments).

Sunday 6 November: Gymanfa Ganu (Hymn Singing Festival) at 2:00 p.m. Our traditional Gymanfa Ganu with Jonathan Quick as conductor and Ray Batten as accompanist. Sarah Henderson is our guest soloist and she will be accompanied by Juan Wang. This will be followed by têt bach (light refreshments).

Plans for Christmas

Saturday 3 December: Mulled Wine Evening at 7 for 7:30 p.m. Join us for a jolly evening to begin the Christmas festivities. There will be cranberry punch if this is your preference. We'll have readings and we'll join together to sing carols.

Friday 9 December: 7:30 p.m. A Child's Christmas in Wales. Experience this well-loved magical evening with live music and your favourite carols. *See announcement in box below.*

Saturday 10 December: 7:30 p.m. Another opportunity to experience this well-loved magical evening. *See box below.*

Sunday 11 December: Bilingual Christmas Carol Service at 11:00 a.m. followed by têt bach (light refreshments).

Christmas Plans cont.

Sunday 11 December: Children's Party at 2:00 p.m., for members' children or grandchildren, 12 years old or younger. Please contact Gaynor at fgevans@telus.net or 604-271-3134 with child/children's names and ages as soon as possible. Older children are welcome to join the fun, but will not get to sit on Santa's knee.

Saturday 17 December: Christmas Dinner, 6 for 7:00 p.m. Catered by Jordan's International Food Designs. We'll enjoy a traditional turkey and ham dinner with all the trimmings! Tickets at \$40 per person from Gaynor Evans at fgevans@telus.net or 604-271-3134

The Welsh Society of Vancouver
proudly presents Dylan Thomas's

A Child's Christmas in Wales

on Friday,
December 9 and Saturday,
December 10
at the Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17th
Avenue, Vancouver.

*The Roberts family - Russell, Colleen
and their son, Gower -
join with Brian Tate
in a magnificent performance of the
Dylan Thomas classic.*

Tickets (19+) are each \$ 20

Contact: 604 294 4332

nkthomas@shaw.ca

or 604 271 3134

Regular Events

Welsh Lessons

At present, these are held on Thursday evening, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the Red Dragon. Please see the Society website for the autumn term schedule.

Executive Meetings

Monday 7 November: at 7:30 p.m.

Monday 5 December: 7:30 p.m.

Cambrian Bookworms

Wednesday 9 November: 12 noon.

The book this month is The Boys in the Boat, by Daniel James Brown.

Wednesday 14 December: at 12:00 noon. The book this month is The Road to Little Dribbling, by Bill Bryson.

General Meeting

Monday 14 November: at 7:30 p.m.

Genealogy Group

Tuesday 15 November: at 12 noon.

Tuesday 20 December: at 12 noon.

Welsh Speaking

Monday 21 November: 10:30 a.m.

Monday 9 December: 10:30 a.m.

Siarad cymraeg y bore ‘ma

“Deck the Hall” Day

Monday 28 November: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. On this Work Party Day we will be decorating the Red Dragon ready for our Christmas Activities. A delicious lunch will be provided and we’ll be playing Christmas music. Looking forward to seeing you there. Come and join the fun.

Annual General Meeting

Monday 12 December: at 7:30 p.m.

These are held on the second Monday of December. This meeting is of great importance to the future of the society, so please attend, offer your services and vote for next year’s executive! We’re hoping for a really good turn out!

CSANA 2017 Conference

The Vancouver Welsh Society will be joining the Celtic Studies Association of North America to host the next CSANA conference, from 27-30 April 2017. Papers are invited on any aspect of language, literature, history, folklore and/or culture of the Celtic peoples from any period. For more details, visit the CSANA website:

<https://csana2017.wordpress.com/call-for-papers/>

Recent Society Events

Cymdeithas Madog (Welsh Studies Institute in North America)

17 – 24 July

This annual event, a week of “residential discovery dedicated to helping North Americans use and enjoy the Welsh language,” was held in Alabama in the Rocket City of Huntsville this year. None of our members was able to attend as learners, but our Welsh instructor **Antone Minard** attended to teach for Cwrs Madog for the second time and will be teaching a course again next year. Antone enjoyed the event, despite the oppressively hot and muggy weather. The heat and humidity were “beyond belief!” he says. “Most of the Welsh

took place indoors, with the usual mix of intensive grammar and vocabulary memorization punctuated by bursts of singing, food, occasional dancing, and more singing. By the end of the week I was exhausted!" he says. "One day involved 12 straight hours of one kind of Welsh or another, which is a lot - even for me!"

Next year's Cymdeithas Madog will be held in Albany, New York, from 16 to 23 July.

The Annual Garden Party Saturday 20 July

With fine weather, good food and great conversation, this year's garden party was a huge success, to which the photographs below attest! Once again, Wylf and Lynn Owens-Whalen generously offered their lovely garden for the event.



Colwyn Bay Male Choir (Côr Meibion Colwyn) Reception Friday 26 August

Society members gathered in the Red Dragon for a social evening to welcome the Colwyn Bay Male Choir the day after the songsters and family members arrived in Vancouver. The social committee provided a delicious supper and Jackie and Heather were kept very busy manning (personing!) the bar. The choir sang some beautiful pieces from its new CD entitled *Calon Lân*, including the title hymn. It's a Welsh hymn usually sung to a tune by John Hughes, but it had been arranged by MD **Tudur Eames** to the tune "The Rose," sung by Bette Midler. During the evening, society president David Llewelyn

Williams accepted a gift to the society of a plaque and Welsh flag.



Colwyn Male Choir Concert
Sunday 28 August

As part of their 2015 tour of Wales, the Vancouver Orpheus Male Choir performed with one of Wales' most famous choirs, Côr Meibion Colwyn (Colwyn Male Choir), at a joint concert in Llandudno, North Wales. On Sunday 28 August, a large Vancouver audience enjoyed a reciprocal visit by Côr Meibion Colwyn at another joint concert with the Orpheus Choir in Ryerson United Church, Kerrisdale. Once again, the two choirs wowed the audience with their singing and the obvious camaraderie among the members. Both choirs sang a variety of musical items. Among the highlights were a medley of Beatles songs by the Colwyn Choir and a beautiful rendition of Paul

Simon's *Bridge over Troubled Water* by the Orpheus.

In an impressive finale, the combined choirs brought the audience to its feet with rousing renditions of Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah* and the popular Welsh hymn *Gwahoddiad*.

Following the concert, the Orpheus hosted the Colwyn singers at an 'after-glow' session at the Cambrian Hall.

Commenting on the joint concert, Norman Thomson, president of the Orpheus Male Choir, said:

"Fond memories of our trip to Wales have been rekindled. The packed audience was testimonial to the close-knit Welsh community's appreciation of the nation's singing talent."

On August 29, Côr Meibion Colwyn travelled to Salmon Arm for a performance in the town's First United Church. Then they went on to be the featured attraction at the North American Festival of Wales, held this year in Calgary on September 1-4. *Abridged from an article in The Celtic Connection (Sep/Oct, p.11) by Society member Eifion Williams and reproduced here with his kind permission.*

Colwyn Bay Male Choir Concert in Salmon Arm
(29 August)

On its way to the North American Festival of Wales in Calgary, the Colwyn Male Choir stopped off in Salmon Arm to give a concert organized by Shuswap Welsh Club. I happened to be on a family holiday only an hour away, and thought seriously about driving into Salmon Arm to attend the concert. It was a good thing I decided not to – the 300 concert tickets were sold out three weeks in advance and there were 20 people on the waiting list!

According to Leah Blain of the *Lakeshore News*, the concert was hugely successful, despite the choir's being held up on the road by an accident and having to rush to the venue. The programme was varied, with songs ranging from hymns to Beatles songs and lullabies. Apparently, choir members confided that they already loved Canada, even though they'd been here only a few days, but they were "finding our Canadian menus a little foreign"¹

**A Snapshot of the 2016 North American Festival of Wales,
by Patricia Morris**

This great celebration of Welsh culture is held annually on the Labour Day Weekend in cities across the USA and Canada. This year, the festival was held in Calgary, Alberta, from 1-4 September. About a dozen of our Welsh Society members attended, enjoying a packed four days of seminars, workshops, performance and entertainment. The festival got underway on Thursday 1 September, with a memorable opening ceremony featuring a children's choir and an amazing First Nations performer named Alex Wells, who held us spellbound with his hoop dance. Iona, a North American pan-Celtic band, entertained us at Thursday's opening concert and also at the Ceili's Irish pub night, presenting a varied programme of instrumental music, singing and dance. Their repertoire included many pieces from Celtic cultures around the world as well as the Appalachian, Cape Breton and Cajun cultures of North America. The Schedule of both Friday 2 and Saturday 3 September offered a rich

mixture of activities for every taste, including tours of the local area by bus and on foot, workshops and seminars on a range of topics (all of which both informed and entertained), the Eisteddfod competitions, shopping at the Marketplace, Welsh cinema, folk dance performance, Welsh language lessons, the banquet, the grand concert and the Sunday worship service with its special Rose Ceremony of Remembrance, and gymnas in the afternoon and evening, both of which were held in the nearby Knox United Church.

Of course, since this was a Welsh festival, the sound of hymn singing rang out at the end of each day – from the lobby of the Westin Hotel until midnight, at least!

Behind the scenes, the trustees, representing all areas of the USA and Canada, held committee meetings to report on the planning and organization of this year's festival and the planning of next year's celebration. Our president, **David Llewelyn Williams**, has completed his term of three years and will be stepping down, so there is a vacancy for the position of trustee for Western Canada.

On Friday 2 September, in the morning, I attended a meeting of the Affiliated Welsh Organisations. This provides an annual forum to link groups across North America. We discussed our local achievements, goals and challenges and resolved to keep in touch by email and Facebook, sharing newsletters and ideas of interest with our members.

One workshop I found particularly interesting was entitled, "Raining in Aberfan," which marked the fiftieth anniversary of the mining disaster in which 116 children were killed. The causes, the attitudes, the changes in coal-mining management and procedures

¹ From Leah Blain's article in the *Lakeshore News*

since the event, were presented by the outstanding speaker, **Dr. David Gwyn**, an historian, industrial archeologist and heritage consultant. **Merlyn and Joyce Williams** gave their own eyewitness accounts of the event, together with photographs and news cuttings. At another seminar, Dr. Gwyn reported on Gwynedd Council's successful bid to have the slate quarrying landscapes of North Wales declared a "UNESCO cultural and natural heritage of outstanding value to humanity." The NWAFA Gala Awards banquet this year was of particular interest to our Vancouver Welsh Society members as long-time member **Dr. Grenville Thomas** was presented with the 2016 National Welsh American Foundation Heritage Medallion for his contributions as a loyal, passionate and generous Welsh Canadian, prospector, discoverer and entrepreneur. During the festival, Dr. Thomas gave two presentations on his early (and little known) life and career, "From Coal to Diamonds," which were very well received. We voiced the hope that Gren and his family will soon be able to attend some of the seasonal events at the Cambrian Hall. At the banquet we were also privileged to hear the remarkable talent of tenor **Robert Lewis**, youngest winner of the prestigious Osborne Roberts Blue Riband at the National Eisteddfod, Meifod, 2015. It was a great performance. The Welsh recitation at the Eisteddfod this year, chaired by **David Llewellyn Williams**, was innovative, encouraging six late-entry participants to read three verses from "Ymadawiad Arthur." At the Eisteddfod's David Morris Semi-Professional Voice Competition, recently joined Vancouver Welsh Society member **Sarah Henderson** won

second prize. Congratulations on an excellent performance! On the evening of Saturday 3 September, the Grand Concert was held in the Knox United Church, within four blocks of the festival hotel. We had already experienced the great quality of the Colwyn Bay Male Choir when it performed in Vancouver on Sunday 28 August with the Vancouver Orpheus Choir and at the informal reception our Society hosted. The choir did not disappoint at the Calgary concert. With Director **Tudur Eames**, soloist **Edith Pritchard** and accompanists **Mary Darling** and **Richard Hibbs**, this internationally renowned Welsh choir performed a variety of traditional and popular music, both Welsh and English, including Chwarelwr, composed by Rita MacNeil, and Calon Lân, unusually set to the music of "The Rose" by composer Amanda McBroom. The choir sounded rich and powerful and the packed church gave a rousing reception. Maybe the climax of the Festival was the two-session Gymanfa Ganu, also at the Knox United Church. These followed a Sunday morning worship service during which, in a ceremony of remembrance, the names of members who had passed on during the year were read out and a rose for each was placed in a vase. At the Gymanfa Ganu, Cor Meibion Colwyn was present and the choir swelled the sound of the hundreds of voices singing the mostly familiar hymns. Tudur Eames conducted and **Steve Jensen** was the organist. There was special music by Robert Lewis. It was a wonderful conclusion to the Calgary Festival. On Monday 5 September, Labour Day, some of us went on to tour nearby Lake Louise and Banff – a very worthwhile trip – before flying home. Others took

the Rocky Mountaineer train to Vancouver. Both options enabled us to experience the beauty of the Rockies with fine weather every day.



Lynn, Wylf and Gaynor at the WAG table in the marketplace at Calgary NAFOW



Deuair, a Welsh Folk Duo, comprising Elsa Davies (fiddle) and Ceri Owen-Jones (harp), performed with two singers to give a comprehensive presentation entitled, "History of the Harp in Wales."

Below: Côr Meibion Colwyn perform at the Grand Concert at NAFOW in Calgary; CMC with soloist Edith Pritchard; Grenville Thomas, who was presented with the 2016 National Welsh American Foundation Heritage Medallion.



Dawnsyr Gwerin Yr Afon Goch (The Red River Welsh Folk Dancers) They were supported by Alan Owen and the outstanding musicians, "Yr Enaid Gymraig."





anniversary dinner, held at The Red Dragon, was very well attended. Once again, Jordan's International Food Designs provided a wonderful buffet, with delicious roast beef, roast chicken, roast vegetables, creamed potatoes and salad, with all the "trimmings," followed by an array of yummy dessert squares and tropical fruit salad.

In a short address, our president, David Llewelyn Williams gave an interesting biographical overview of the contribution to Canadian life made by those whose names appear on the cornerstone of our heritage building, the Cambrian Hall (*See photograph below*):



"Motley Crew!"

Anniversary Dinner
 Saturday 15 October

Despite the threat of a serious storm that was heading toward the city, the

After the delicious dinner and convivialities, Sharon McIntee Birrell, accompanied by Ruben Federizon on the piano, led us all in a rousing sing-along. Using the society's comprehensive song book, guests sang many of the old English favourites and then Jackie Jones Chapman abandoned her post behind the bar to lead the singing of Calon Lân. At this point, member Graham Baldwin surprised everyone by coming forward to sing, unaccompanied, a miners' song to the tune of Calon Lân. Graham explained that The song "Miner's Lifeguard" has its origins in the 1898 Welsh coal strike, an industrial dispute involving colliers from South Wales and Monmouthshire.

The strike began as an attempt by the colliers to remove the sliding scale (referred to in the song) that determined their wage based on the price of coal. The original words to “Miner’s Lifeguard” were written (by no-one really knows who) as a rallying song for the strikers, and the adopted tune was that of the Welsh hymn Calon Lân. The strike quickly turned into a disastrous lockout which would last for six months and result in a failure for the colliers as the sliding scale stayed in place. The strike is seen as an important landmark in Welsh history as it saw the true adoption of trade unionism in the southern coalfield which had been slow to take hold before then. Probably as a result of the strike and its failure to eliminate the sliding scale, thousands of Welsh coal miners emigrated to the coal mines of Pennsylvania in the USA. The miners took with them organizational skills (exemplified in the development of the United Mine Workers labor union) together with their workers’ songs, such as “Miner’s Lifeguard.” Pennsylvania still has the largest number of Welsh-Americans (approximately 200,000), concentrated primarily in the Western and Northeastern regions (the coal regions) of the state. “Miner’s Lifeguard” subsequently spread throughout the USA as a workers’ anthem, significantly overtaking its original popularity amongst the miners of South Wales. Alternate words were written in support of different workers struggles, and the tune evolved somewhat from the original Calon Lân hymn. (This is probably a good example of the "folk process" in action.) These evolved versions remain popular in the USA to this day.

An evolved version of “Miner’s Lifeguard,” based on one of the versions sung in the USA, was re-introduced to the UK in support of the 1984-85 miner’s strike, an industrial action by the National Union of Mineworkers to prevent colliery closures. Despite the UK miners’ failure to achieve their goals, “Miner’s Lifeguard” remains a very popular workers’ anthem in the UK to this day.

The lyrics, as I sing them, he says, (and there are many versions), are as follows:

Miner's life is like a sailor's
 Board a ship to cross the waves
 Every day his life's in danger
 Still he ventures being brave
 Watch the rocks, they're falling daily
 Careless miners always fail
 Keep your hand upon your wages
 And your eye upon the scale.

Chorus:
 Union miners stand together
 Do not heed the owner’s tale
 Keep your hand upon your wages
 And your eye upon the scale.

You've been docked and docked again,
 boys
 You've been loading two to one
 What have you to show for working
 Since your mining days begun?
 Worn out boots and worn out miners
 Lungs of stone and children pale
 Keep your hand upon your wages
 And your eye upon the scale.

Chorus
 Let no union man be weakened
 By the owner's' false retorts
 Be like sailors on the ocean
 Trusting in your own reports
 Let the union be your lifeguard

Those who trust it never fail
Keep your hand upon your wages
And your eye upon the scale.

Chorus

Soon this trouble will be over
Union men will have their rights
After many years of danger
Digging days and digging nights
It's by honest work we labour
Careless miners always fail
Keep your hand upon your wages
And your eye upon the scale.

Chorus

In conclusion, bear in memory,
Keep the password in your mind:
God provides for every worker
When in union they combine.
So stand like men and linked together
Victory for you will prevail
Keep your hand upon your wages
And your eye upon the scale.

Chorus

“The Bluenose Ballad”

At the end of the evening, Chris Stanbury's brother Bruce, who is visiting from Australia, drew Gillian Roger's attention to the society songbook, which includes “Ballad of the Bluenose.” Bruce told a fascinated Gillian that the song had been written by his brother Michael Stanbury on the occasion of the launching of the Bluenose II in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, in 1963. The Bluenose II was commissioned by the brothers' grandfather, S.C. Oland of the Oland Brewery. The brewery was looking for a spectacle to promote the launch of its new beer – Schooner. The Bluenose II was restored and relaunched

in 2012 and one can still book a sailing cruise aboard the ship between 1 June and 30 September.



Chris, Bruce and Gillian and the “Ballad of the Bluenose”

Below: Members enjoy the annual dinner





The Langemark Memorial – A Tribute to honour the Welsh war dead in Flanders²

In an article published in the *Celtic Connection*, Eifion Williams wrote about the creation of a monument to the Welsh soldiers who fell in Flanders during WWI. Eifion recounted:

“Peter Carter Jones, a retired Welsh police officer, came across a restaurant near Langemark dedicated to Welsh war dead.

The restaurant is situated on the Pilkem Ridge, where thousands of Welsh soldiers, including the poet Hedd Wyn, died in a fierce battle on what was the first day of the battle of Passchendaele.

Peter was introduced to Erwin Ureel, a member of the Passchendaele Society, a local group, who told him that there were individual monuments in the area dedicated to the fallen soldiers of Scotland, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and Canada – but not Wales. The people of Langemark and the surrounding area have never forgotten the sacrifice of the Welsh troops who passed through their town.

On his return home to Wales, Peter decided to campaign for a memorial to the fallen Welsh soldiers and, finally, a memorial was erected that was dedicated on 14 August 2014, with addresses by Welsh First Minister Carwyn Jones and the Minister President of the Flemish Government, Geert Bourgeois.

In June, Eifion met Ivan Beatty, one of the working members of the campaign started by Peter, when he visited Vancouver with his wife. On behalf of the Vancouver Welsh Society, Eifion



² from an article by Eifion Williams published in *The Celtic Connection* (Sept/Oct 2016, p.24) and used here with his kind permission.

accepted from Ivan a copy of the official Langemark Memorial photograph. Efiion had the photograph framed and officially presented it to the Society at the September executive meeting. See photo below:



**The Welsh Society Fund-raising
Ceilidh/Twmpath/Barn Dance**
Friday 28 October

Member Graham Baldwin brought the idea for a Twmpath/Ceilidh dance to the social committee: “We have a great band and you have a lovely hall,” he said, “so why don’t we get together and have a fund-raising dance?” The committee liked the idea, so plans were set in motion. The dance would be called by the popular Vancouver Island caller J.D. Erskine, and the well-known local Rattlebone Band would play. Wine, beer, pop and goodies would be offered for sale and a jolly good time would be had by all.

Everyone involved hoped that the event would be well-supported – and it was – but no one anticipated the “spectacular” event it would turn out to be. The hall

hummed with music, laughter and conversation as 90 people, most of whom hadn’t known each other an hour before, danced and socialized together. On the feedback forms left on tables, most participants remarked on the wonderful feeling of community engendered by the event, and how great it was to participate in a social occasion that included children as well as adults. The dancers’ ages ranged from 6 to 80! Not everyone danced; several people just watched the dancing and enjoyed the wonderful atmosphere.

During the interval, while participants caught their breath and enjoyed delicious treats, such as bara brith, Welsh cakes, cookies and squares, Little Mountain Step and Clog gave a delightful demonstration of a Welsh broom dance – “Ysgubau Cymreig Newydd,” danced to the tune “Pwt ar y Bys.”

Look out for the next Welsh Society fund-raising Ceilidh/Twmpath/Barn Dance, which will hopefully take place in the New Year. Get your tickets early, as this event is likely to sell-out!

Here are some of the photographs taken at the event:





Caller J.D. Erskine and the Rattlebone Band

Above: Little Mountain Step and Clog perform a Welsh broom dance



And now for a little lighthearted fun!

Society member **Liz Murray** has shared a link to a Website that poses a series of questions that allow you to find out just how Welsh you are! Here's the link – try it for yourself:

https://www.buzzfeed.com/jamiejones/what-per-cent-welsh-are-you?utm_term=.kkAgw5RKrz&bftwquiz=#.mqnPj0qm1L



"Pwllheli Vice."

Dai is at the car boot sale when an American tourist comes by. Pointing to a skull on display in Dai's car, he says:

"Whose skull is that?"

"That," says Dai profoundly, "is the skull of Owain Glyndwr. It's yours for £10."

"Incredible," says the American. "I'll take it."

Some weeks later, Dai is at the car boot sale when the same American walks past and notices a much smaller skull for sale.

"Whose skull it that?" asks the American.

"That," says Dai in a practised voice, "is the skull of Owain Glyndwr."

"Hang on," says the American. "You sold me the skull of Owain Glyndwr a few weeks ago."

"Aye," says Dai. "This is when he was a boy."



REVEALED: WHY THE ROMANS WIPED OUT THE DRUIDS

The next newsletter will

hopefully go out early in the new year. Please send your photographs of Welsh Society events – not forgetting to name the people in them! – to the editor, Ruth Baldwin, at

youcanreachruth@hotmail.com

Articles on events and issues of interest to the Welsh community for inclusion in the society newsletter are also very welcome.

Enjoy all the wonderful events that are planned for the coming months. Don't forget to buy your tickets for A Child's Christmas in Wales, which always sells out very quickly. And please, please come out to the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. Your views and participation are so important for a thriving Welsh Society in Vancouver!

