



Y GADWYN

(The Link)

News of the
Toronto Welsh Community

Volume 35 - Number 10

Rhagfyr / December, 2002

Rev. Dr. Larry Beech PhD

At the beginning of 2003, we look back at the past and we look forward to the future. The history of our past year at Dewi Sant has been challenging as we have faced dilemmas within the life of our congregation. During the autumn there has been a renewed vigour and solidarity in our desire to make effective decisions that will shape our future. Now we are on the threshold of a new year. There is a feeling of hope as we look forward to a new beginning in the ministry leadership at Dewi Sant.

What has been exciting for my wife Sandra and myself is the warm hospitality that you have extended to us. It continues to be a joy to be with you during this time between times. You have welcomed us with warmth and we have felt at home in the Dewi Sant community.

And the work behind the scenes continues. The Joint Search Committee is committed to recommending the best possible person as your next minister in this congregation. We have been impressed by the tireless efforts of so many people to continue the activities that are central to the heartbeat of the Welsh community in central Ontario. And it is hard work that demands dedication when so many members live miles distant from the Melrose church location.

The year 2003 promises to be a time of opportunity as we at Dewi Sant undertake to shape the future life of our congregation. May God be with us as we enter another era in our history.
A happy New Year. Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

Rev. Lawrence A. Beech Ph.D.
Minister

UPDATE: Pastoral Search Committee

Members: Myfanwy Bajaj; Dr. Murray Black; Betty Cullingworth (Chair); Cyril Evans; Mabel Hastings; Tom Jones; Lyn Jones; Nerys Phan; Hefina Phillips (Co-chair); Clarice Terry (secretary); Rev. Gordon Nodwell (Presbytery Representative).

While awaiting the United Church's response to the JNAC report and the official declaration of a vacancy at Dewi Sant, the committee began initial preparations in the search process for a new minister. Advertisements in both English and Welsh were developed, appropriate sites for advertising were researched and articles, again in both Welsh and English, for inclusion in various print publications were written. As of December 18, the vacancy at Dewi Sant was officially declared and the committee can now begin its work in earnest.

Much of the work of the committee must be kept confidential but whenever possible and appropriate, the committee will keep the congregation apprised of information. Members of the congregation are also welcome to submit names of persons whom they feel may be interested in the ministerial position at Dewi Sant. The committee will be glad to follow up on such suggestions but will not be able to share with the church member any information about the contact.

You, as members, can be an important part of the search process by making the vacancy in the pulpit at Dewi Sant known to friends and family here and especially in Wales. Word of mouth can often be the best form of advertising. We thank you for your support as we begin this vitally important task. The future of Dewi Sant may well depend on a successful conclusion to our search. In the meantime, keeping the church alive and vibrant is the best means that we have of attracting a leader that wants to share our vision and lead us confidently into the future...Diolch yn fawr.

Submitted by **Betty Cullingworth**

Dewi Sant United Church Women

The UCW is hosting a twelfth night Dinner on Saturday January 11th. Dinner will be served at 7pm. Followed by entertainment supplied by our multi-talented Church members. Tickets will go on sale after we have finished celebrating Christmas. Please help us prepare enough food for everyone by purchasing tickets ahead of time.

Do plan on attending and helping us ring in the New Year together as a Church Family

**Joy Bailey,
President**

The Stewards

We are delighted to acknowledge the many donations that have been received this past month to offset the cost of producing and mailing "Y Gadwyn". Your response should enable us to meet our annual budget for this category.

Producing our newsletter regularly really calls for submissions from more than the usual contributors. Everyone has memories, for example, that should be shared and would be most appreciated by so many others. Your contributions can be mailed - or even better - E-mailed to info@dewisant.com.

We must also most sincerely thank those students of the Welsh language classes who have made such generous donations to Dewi Sant.

On a more serious note; our operating deficit has been declining over the past quarter and we expect the customary December surge to bring us even closer to budget. Your next edition of the Gadwyn will have actual year-end details. 2003 will be an interesting and perhaps an exciting year for Dewi Sant as we begin the already underway search for a new "permanent" minister.

We thank you sincerely for your past support and know it will continue in the year ahead.

Vaughan Lewis,
Chair

If it's worth doing then it's worth asking someone to do it! Where there's a will there's a way

A Partridge and a Pear Tree

What in the world do leaping lords; French hens, swimming swans, and especially that partridge who won't come out of the pear tree have to do with Christmas?

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not allowed to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: The surface meaning, plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality, which the children could remember.

The partridge in a pear tree: Jesus Christ.

Two turtle doves: the Old and New Testaments.

Three French hens: Faith, Hope and Love.

The four calling birds: the four gospels of Mathew, Mark, Luke and John.

The five golden rings: recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.

The six geese a-laying: the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching,

Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.

The eight maids a milking: the eight beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-control.

The ten lords a-leaping: the Ten Commandments.

Eleven pipers piping: the eleven faithful disciples.

Twelve drummers drumming: the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

Submitted by Sybil Mather

Cymdeithas Madog presents Cwrs Cymraeg Y Llynnoedd Mawr The Great Lakes Welsh Course

Cwrs Cymraeg, which simply means “Welsh Course”, is going to be held at Carthage College in Kenosha Wisconsin, July 20 – 27, 2003. This weeklong, intensive residential course emphasizes the spoken language, and provides instruction/classes at seven levels ranging from the absolute beginner to those quite advanced in the language. The lead teacher for Cwrs 2003 is Marc Stonelake from Wales. Other familiar faces from prior courses include: Hefina Phillips, Meredith Roberts, Kara Lewis, Eleri Hughes and Kevin Rottet. New for the 2003 course will be Robin Campbell.

Registration will be limited. To reserve a place you may send a deposit check or money order for \$100 in U.S. funds. Please include your **e-mail address** along with your mailing address. Make the check payable to ***Cwrs Cymraeg 2003***. Mail to Dick Myers, Registrar, 549 West Manor Circle, Bayside, Wisconsin, 53217-1735, U.S.A. Deposits are fully refundable until April 30, 2003. Information on the *Cwrs Cymraeg* can be found on the *Cymdeithas Madog* website at: www.madog.org.

Barddoniaeth O'r Galon ----- Poetry From The Heart

A land of lofty mountains
A land of lovely vales
A land that we'll love forever
A land they named it Wales.

A land of sturdy people
With all this to command.
No wonder people marvel
At such a joyous band.

We have a Saint named David
For him we wear a leek
It's said he helped the poor,
The old, the sick and weak.

To him we send our praises
And to God Almighty high,
For giving us this country,
Its earth, its sea and sky.

With thanks we say these praises
For this a cherished land
The home of every Welshman
The home of Dewi Sant.

With apologies to the unknown author. (Written prior to 1948)
Recalled and submitted by Don Neilson

Memories of Childhood ----- Atgofion Mebyd

My first home after leaving Wales was situated within walking distance of Greenwich Park. We thought ourselves very fortunate to have this lovely park so near. We would often walk to the Observatory, built by Christopher Wren. The building is on top of a steep grassy slope that sweeps down to the Thames. There are gardens and playing fields on the top plateau, that's where we kids learned to play rounders. The grown-ups usually sat in deck chairs and admired the grand view. On the Greenwich side of the river was the old Tudor palace gardens and the Royal Naval College and Museum, across the Thames we could see the numerous docks. Sugar cane ships would unload near the Tate and Lyle refinery. Further a field the chimneys and [Welsh] slate rooftops of the boroughs of East London – here and there patches of green and church spires, many of the Wren churches looking like the tops of wedding cakes. Far to the west were the City and the dome of St Paul's.

One day in 1930 we went there to watch the unveiling of the General Wolfe statue. We were not a large crowd, mostly families and a few uniformed men standing around the draped statue. Then some Rolls Royces glided up, chauffeurs jumped out and helped their distinguished passengers alight. The men wore top hats, spats and morning dress, their ladies were colourful in flowing silks and voiles, cloche hats and parasols – my seven-year-old eyes had never seen such finery before. There were speeches and applause; the drapery fell away and there was General Wolfe, in bronze.

General Wolfe and his French adversary, General Montcalm were both killed in the Quebec Battle of Abraham Heights.

We walked homeward through the Park gates; outside a Hurdy Gurdy man was playing a cheerful melody. Often a wounded ex-serviceman was there selling pencils. His finery was a strip of Great War medals he wore on his shabby serge suit. The 30's decade was one of contrasts.

We visited the Park about 60 years later. Families were still taking pictures of each other standing on the 0 meridian line. The view had changed, thanks to time, the Luftwaffe and progress. Canary Wharf Tower blocks some of the view and the docks have been moved downriver to Tilbury. A Thames Flood Barrier has been built. The vessels “Cutty Sark” and “Gypsy Moth” are moored at Greenwich.

General James Wolfe is still looking north, the inscription reads: “This monument, a gift of the Canadian people, was unveiled by the Marquis de Montcalm”.

Oranges and Lemons, say the bells of St Clemmons
When will you pay me, say the bells of Old Bailey?
Pray when will that be, say the bells of Stepney?

You owe me five farthings; say the bells of St Martins
When I get rich, say the bells of Shoreditch.
I’m sure I don’t know; say the great bell of Bow.

Many of these bell towers could be seen from Observatory Hill.

Submitted by Francis H Silburn

*There is one God, and one mediator between God and man, the man Jesus Christ.
1 Timothy 2, verse 5*

Hen Ddydd Calan.

In the Gwaun Valley, Pembrokeshire, Old New Year’s Day was very well and truly celebrated. For a week surrounding the date everything came to a standstill. The only work that was done was the milking of the cows and cleaning out from under the animals. Children went out to sing carols for a penny or two, or in some cases a Welsh cake or a piece of Christmas cake. Every household made it’s own beer and each one had to be tasted and judged by all. It took many days to sober up and stand up straight. There was not much to be done anyway, since most inhabitants were farmers of smallholdings. Progress has even crept into this valley where the old tradition has died out! M.

The Oldest Welsh Book’s On Line

The Black Book of Carmarthen was written by a medieval monk probably in the Priory of St. John the Evangelist and St. Teulyddog in Carmarthen. That was probably in 1250. Some of the earliest Welsh literature is included on parchment between its black covers.

Poems about battles in the HEN OGLEDD or Old North are mentioned – present day Northern England and the Scottish Borders were once Welsh speaking. The drowning of CANTRE’R GWAELOD and references to King Arthur and Merlin (Myrddin) are included. Some poems and traditions on its parchment stretch back centuries earlier.

The book was bought in a collection of manuscripts for £5,500 in 1904 by Sir John Williams the founder of the National Library of Wales.

The transposing of the Black Book was a big undertaking by the six specialist members of staff. The words are now on screen and attract academics and tourists to Aberystwyth.

The National Library of Wales' website address is: www.llgc.org.uk

Submitted by Olwen Dunets

Many Thanks to This Month's Contributors

Mr. Edward Morgan (Wales). Mrs. Haulwen Edwards. Ann McConnell. Jean & Morris Roberts. Mary Williams. Frances & Lyndon James (Black Creek, B.C.). Elaine Kirkham. Joan Mathews. Pauline Goinhas. Louise & Harry Williams. Barbara & John Sharpe. Doreeta & Albert Lusk. Helen Taylor. Gaynor Low. Gerwyn & Sarah Jones. Elwyn & Violet Clay. Lyndon James. Ron & Dorothy Price. Albert & May Hale. Doreen Barber. Margaret Venus. Margaret Davies.

Four things never return: The spoken word; the sped arrow, Time past and opportunity.
The Caliph Omar 1, AD 582-644

Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau

Land Of My Fathers

The Green Goddess Fire Engine

The Green Goddess fire engine, or self-propelled emergency pump, to give it its proper name was introduced in the 1950s to replace the wartime pumps then available to the Auxiliary Fire Service. As part of the Government's response to the threat of nuclear war, the Civil Defence and Auxiliary Fire Service were had been reconstituted under the Home Office with the idea that both would be made up of civilian volunteers. The postwar AFS initially relied on wartime fire engines but a large fleet of purpose-built appliances was established in the mid-1950s, with the intention that some would be deployed in mobile fire columns of 144 vehicles to reinforce hard-pressed local services anywhere in the country. These vehicles were painted green to distinguish them from local authority fire brigade appliances.

So, why the name Green Goddess? The first part is obvious. They were originally completely green. The sexy, red, go-faster stripe was added later for safety reasons. They were meant to be life-saving machines, which is where the 'Goddess' part comes from.

Essentially it was designed and equipped as a machine for extinguishing fires on a wartime scale, not as a multi-purpose fire and rescue tender, but, in spite of its obvious limitations, even fifty years later it remains a capable fire engine. The emergency pump was built as an all-purpose fire engine, a go anywhere appliance, based on a standard British army transport truck, able to deal with anything likely to be required of it. On board was a 900-gallon per minute pump able either to produce several strong fire-fighting jets or to pump large quantities of water in relay. That is why it has proved invaluable in tackling the serious floods Britain has suffered from over the last few years. The first emergency pumps were issued in 1953 and within 5 years about 3,000 had been built, along with an assortment of ancillary and support appliances, such as control units, pipe carriers with 1,760ft of 6in plastic or alloy piping, hose layers, foam tenders, transportable water or 'Bikini' units, and mobile kitchens.

There were two versions of the emergency pump. The earlier type was built on the Bedford SHZ rear-wheel drive chassis powered by a Bedford 6-cylinder petrol engine developing 110bhp. This type had a 400-gallon water tank and two 180ft hose-reels, one on each side at the rear. The later type utilised the Bedford RLHZ 4-wheel-drive chassis and was fitted with a 300-gallon tank, the hose-reels being located amidships on each side. All those remaining in storage are of this later type.

The appliance seats a crew of six. As well as the main pump, a Coventry Climax 300gpm (1,364lpm) light portable pump was carried in a side locker fitted with a sliding ramp to facilitate withdrawal and replacement. 1,600ft of rubber-lined canvas delivery hose, and suction hose for lifting from open water, were carried together with fittings and what is known in fire-fighting circles as small gear. A 35ft extending aluminium ladder was carried on the roof. Towards the end of the AFS some units "backed up" the normal fire service appliances and attended "normal" fires. Because of this some had a single blue light to go with the bell on the roof.

In 1968, as the threat of war receded, the AFS and the Civil Defence Corps were seen as an unnecessary expense and they were disbanded. Some AFS pumps were sold off, some were mothballed in Home Office depots, and a relative few were bought by local authority brigades. About 1,000 Green Goddess pumps remain and in times of crisis they are sometimes crewed by military personnel, encouraging the misconception that they are military fire engines.

So to dispel the myth perpetuated by the Media, Green Goddesses were not, are not, and never have been Army fire engines.

Submitted by **Huw Jones**.

Announcement

Gaynor Jones and Maurice McConnell wish to announce that they were married on Friday December 6, 2002. Rev. Dr. Cerwyn Davies officiated at the ceremony, which was attended by a small family group. They ask for your good wishes on their union.

DO WE HAVE NEWS FOR YOU!!

We decided to share our future life with all its ups and downs. Accordingly, we were married on December 6, 2002. Your wishes to us for a loving life would be a wonderful boost.

Himself and Herself
(Maurice & Gaynor McConnell)

Shortbread - Bisged o ymenyn a siwgr

1 lb	butter (room temperature)
½ lb	fruit sugar (approximately 1 cup & 2 tablespoons)
2	cups rice flour
¾	cups flour (all purpose)

Method

1. Mix butter with beaters until very soft.
2. Beat in sugar a little at a time.
3. Beat in rice flour a little at a time.
4. Add the flour a little at a time, when the mixture is too heavy to mix, turn it out on to the work surface. Then work in the remainder of the flour.
5. Turn the dough into a buttered 9 x 13 pan (metal).
6. Tidy it up with a pallet knife then prick all over with a fork.
7. Bake for approximately 40 minutes / until a light brown colour.
8. When cool, cut into squares.

Submitted by **Lorna Hobbs**

No man has ever been shot while doing the dishes! The more steam you put behind your work, the louder you can whistle when it's done. Heb ei fai, heb ei eni. Be quick to take advantage of an advantage!

Thank you

A big thank you for all the get-well cards, telephone messages and good wishes for a speedy recovery during my stay at Sunnybrook Hospital. I deeply appreciated Myfanwy Bajaj taking the trouble to visit and spend an afternoon with me bearing flowers from the UCW and from herself. Thank you.

Submitted by **Elizabeth Stroud**.

From The Mailbag ...

I really enjoy receiving “Y Gadwyn” and am enclosing something to keep it going. All the best for Christmas and the New Year.

Ed Morgan

I look forward to receiving “Y Gadwyn” each month and always enjoy reading the articles submitted by members of the Welsh Community. I hope you will keep them coming. Best Wishes.

Doreen Barber

May and I would like to thank everyone for their comforting words, and for the cards we received expressing sympathy for the loss of May’s brother. God Bless you.

May & Albert Hale

We enjoy the paper even though many names in the news items are unfamiliar to us now after these many years. Thank you.

Gerwyn Jones

By reading “Y Gadwyn” my family feels that we are part of the congregation, and in some cases come across the names of people we have met through the years. We know that it must be very hard to maintain Dewi Sant, but know that it is what holds the Welsh Community of the Toronto area together.

Iris Rees. Weirton, WV, U.S.A.

We enjoy “Y Gadwyn” very much. Diolch yn fawr.

Ronald & Dorothy Price

My husband and I recently discovery “Y Gadwyn” and have found it very moving and beautiful – me because of my Welsh heritage and of how much it reminds me of my own grandparents and of their little community, and my husband because of his own heritage. We eagerly look forward to each new issue of “Y Gadwyn” as it comes out, reading every word. We would like to make some small contributions to this publication – and to Dewi Sant. Thank you for everything.

Susan & Jack Young (susany@insightbb.com)

With Apologies To Our Male Readers

Because I’m a man, when I lock my keys in the car I will fiddle with a wire hanger and ignore your suggestion that we call a road service—until long after hypothermia sets in.

Because I’m a man, you don’t have to ask me if I liked the movie. Chances are if you’re crying at the end, I didn’t.

Because I’m a man, I don’t think we’re all that lost, and **no**, I don’t think that we should stop and ask someone. Why would you listen to a complete stranger? I mean, how could he know where we’re going?

Because I’m a man, and this after all is 2003, I will share equally in the housework. You just do the laundry, the cooking, gardening and vacuuming, and the dishes. **I’ll do the rest.** (Only teasing-----We love you all dearly.)

Many thanks for your contributions. This helps Dewi Sant greatly. I am looking forward to many more written contributions during 2003. **Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i chi gyd.** A very Happy Healthy New Year to you all.

Diolch yn fawr iawn Myfanwy

Date of the next Gadwyn Deadline is January 19th. Please send all contributions to Dewi Sant Office or to myfanwybajaj@hotmail.com Phone # 905 737 4399.

Thanks to Tara Siân Bajaj- Freemantle for technical help.

Dewi Sant Calendar Of Events

The community of Dewi Sant Welsh United church will meet Sundays at 11 a.m. for worship. Sunday School is scheduled to take place every Sunday morning at the regular time.

Welsh Language Services are held at 7 p.m. on the first Sunday of every month.

Upcoming Events

St. David's Society Annual Banquet, March 1st. 2003.

Ontario Gymanfa Ganu –Stratford, Ontario, April 25-27, 2003.

North American Festival of Wales. Featuring the 72nd Annual Gymanfa Ganu. Richmond, (Vancouver) B.C. August 28-31 2003. This festival promises to be excellent. Side trips are being arranged to Whistler. Olde World Victoria on Vancouver Island, an Alaskan Luxury Cruise and a West Coast Adventure. Dunvent Male Voice choir, Jason Howard, Ysgol Gerdd Ceredigion are but a few of the Headliners. For details telephone 1-877-831-0563.

Joke

Dai asked Marged what she would like for her birthday. With a far away, dreamy look in her eyes, she said, "I'd love to be ten again." On the morning of her birthday Dai got her up bright and early, bundled her into the car and drove to Barry Island. When they got there he put her on every ride in the fun fair. The Death Slide, The Screaming Loop, The Wall of Fear. Although she protested feebly once or twice **Dai spared no expense**. She staggered out of the fun fair five hours later, her head reeling and her stomach upside down. Into McDonalds they went for a Double Big Mac with extra fries and a large strawberry shake. Then off to a movie theatre to watch the latest horror movie, where Dai plied her with a large bag of popcorn with double melted butter, more burgers, cola and sweets. At last she staggered home and collapsed into bed. Dai leaned over her and tenderly asked, "well Marged fach, what was it like to be ten again?" Opening one eye and with heaving stomach and clenched teeth, Marged groaned, "actually I meant **dress size.**" **M.**