



Y GADWYN

(The Link)

News of the
Toronto Welsh Community

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Rev. Dr. Larry Beech PhD

The icy grip of winter is upon us, and the warmth of springtime feels far away. The gradual lengthening of daylight hours will soon be noticeable, pointing to the promise of the bursting forth of new life once again.

Some members of our Dewi Sant family are basking in the balmy breezes of more southerly climes. But the activity level around our church continues a-pace with special dinners, rehearsals of all our choirs and the energetic working of committees together with the regular Sunday worship life of our congregation. Dewi Sant is alive because of the dedicated effort of so many of you and the heritage, language and culture of your Welsh origins.

Sunday February 23 will be the date of our annual congregational meeting. Once again we will be looking back and looking ahead as we move another year closer to the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Welsh congregation on Clinton Street in Toronto. This church has a great deal for which to be grateful and an outstanding history in which to take pride. This is a time to remember and to dream. The future direction of Dewi Sant as a Welsh speaking congregation is truly in our hands as together we prepare for the future.

While we remain in the grip of winter, the hospitality, warmth and enthusiasm of the people of Dewi Sant continue to be evident to us as your minister and wife. We appreciate the privilege of our time among you as you search diligently for the one who is to come to serve you.

May the God of Jesus Christ continue to journey with us throughout the year 2003.

Dewi Sant United Church Women

I would like to thank everyone that participated in preparing the Twelfth Night Dinner and the cleaning up afterwards. Especially Lorna Hobbs who took on the responsibility of organizing the dinner, and cooking that delicious Beef Bourguignon, and the men that helped so willingly.

It is a big job putting on a dinner like that, but when you see the obvious success it makes it all worth while. As for Jean Iona Thompson. What can we say! Jean you always come through for us with such great entertainment. What better to follow a good dinner! Thanks also to the entertainers. My only regret is that I only caught small glimpses of their talent as did all the clean up crew.

Finally thanks go to all that bought tickets for the dinner. Without you all that work would be wasted. I have not got a final count on our finances for the evening. But I can say we made quite a lot. Which will ultimately benefit us all at Dewi Sant.

Thank you all so very much.

Submitted by **Joy Bailey, President.**

Twelfth Night

The fellowship hall was filled with delicious cooking smells and decorated in festive colours ---making it warm and welcoming to the 12th nighters for an evening of good food and fellowship! As usual, the ladies made a lovely meal and the waiters and waitresses served it professionally. There was a great line up of vocalists and presenters. The limerick by, Daisy Duck, was a winner.

We learnt a wassail song and interesting trivia about the meaning of 12th. Night. Mustn't forget that hardy group, ----“ the clean up crew.”

Our thanks to everyone that participated; and to those who didn't make it---- put it on your, “not to be missed calendar next year.”

Submitted By **Joan Lloyd**

In Memoriam

Our condolences to Maureen & Ceiri Jones in the death of Maureen's mother on December 10/02 in England.

Joan Lloyd

Mrs. Katie Muriel Jones

Our sympathy is extended to the Reverend Aled and Pauline Jones. Mrs. Jones passed away on the 28th of December 2002 at the age of 85. She had been suffering from indifferent health for many years and was in a nursing home.

M

Mr. William Fitzgibbon

Sympathies are extended to the Fitzgibbon family. Bob's twin brother passed away suddenly the day after his 77th birthday at his home in Niagara Falls.

M.

Our sympathy goes to Ross and Lucille Harris on the death of Mrs. Harris, Ross' mother. Our thoughts are with you at this time.

M.

Professor Glyn Davies

On January 6th, 2003 Wales lost another of its distinguished scholars in the death of Professor Glyn Davies. He leaves his wife, three sons and a daughter, the financial thriller writer Linda Davies.

Glyn Davies was born on May 22 1919 at Aberbeeg, Monmouthshire. His parents spoke Welsh at home, and Glyn did not learn English until he went to school. One day, while playing he dislodged some strange coins lying in the ground and took them to his teacher. They turned out to be Roman, and sparked what became his consuming interest in monetary history.

Glyn's father, Price Davies, was a former coal miner who had started work underground in 1892 at the age of 11. The employment of children in mines had long since been made illegal, but exceptions were made where a child was the family's main breadwinner.

By the time Glyn, the third of three brothers, was born, his father's lungs had been affected by dust, and, in the fierce competition for jobs following the First World War, he was no longer able to find work as a miner. He was thus constantly on the move about South Wales in search of work, and undertook temporary jobs ranging from street gas lamp lighter to agricultural labourer. Glyn attended 16 different schools, with considerable disruption to his education, and at one stage a school nurse diagnosed him as suffering from malnutrition.

Nevertheless, his first-hand experience of the effects of the Depression in the 1930's stimulated Glyn Davies's interest in economics, which was also encouraged by an enthusiastic teacher at Llandrindod Wells. Before leaving school, he entered the nationwide examinations of the Royal Society of Arts in economics in 1938, gaining First Place and Medal, then went to Cardiff University College. On the outbreak of the Second World War, he immediately enlisted in the Army.

Davies served in the Desert Rats, spending three years in North Africa. In Sicily, he was fortunate to escape after a direct hit to his armoured car, the shell passing straight through the body of the driver sitting next to him. He took part in the invasion of Italy and then fought at the Normandy invasion. While in Denmark, he met his future wife, Anna Margrethe, who he married in 1947. He returned to Cardiff, and began teaching Economics and French at Canton. As an external student he took honours and masters degrees at the University of London.

After spending time in Glasgow lecturing and as senior lecturer at the new University of Strathclyde, in 1968, he became the Senior Economic Adviser to George Thomas, the Secretary of State for Wales. Then. From 1970 until 1985 he was Sir Julian Hodge Professor of Banking and Finance at the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology.

He was recognized as a leading expert in finance and economics and the author of "A History of Money". This book is a definitive, readable and brimming with illuminating detail exposition, tracing the origins of money through the ages.

Glyn Davies's interests were never narrowly academic. He was the chairman of the cross-party campaign for a Welsh Assembly. He was bitterly disappointed when the referendum was defeated in 1979, but was delighted when a couple of decades later, devolution became a fact. He loved the Brecon Beacons, and regularly walked up Pen y Fan, the highest mountain in South Wales. He had a passion for Rugby and rarely missed an international at the Arms Park or the new Millenium Stadium.

Submitted by Reverend Elwyn Hughes.

DEDICATION OF REVEREND HEDD-WYN WILLIAMS HALL

On Sunday, January 5, 2002, friends and the family of Hedd-Wyn joined the congregation of Wanstead United Church, Scarborough to worship and to dedicate the church hall in his name

Whereas he is a man of great faith and true humility,
Whereas he has been both our pastor and friend for 15 years;
The congregation of Wanstead United Church,
In the spirit of thanksgiving and gratitude, does hereby name this hall-

"THE REVEREND HEDD-WYN WILLIAMS HALL"

This was a tribute to a long and fruitful ministry at Wanstead Church and to the Oakridge community, Scarborough. Hedd-Wyn has been honoured by the congregation of Wanstead in 1997 when they conferred the Minister Emeritus upon him. These years brought great joy in the sharing of the work of God's Kingdom come upon earth as it is in heaven.

A Worthy Celebration

On Sunday January 3rd Wanstead United Church was comfortably full to pay tribute to our friend, Rev. Heddwyn Williams. The church had decided to mark his service to the church by dedicating their Church Hall, which had been newly furnished, and naming it "The Rev. Heddwyn Williams Hall"

A number of friends from Dewi Sant were in attendance as were other guests and a lovely service of dedication was conducted by Rev. King, the present minister.

Heddwyn Williams had been their minister and friend for twenty years and many people in the congregation had been married and baptized by him.

A communion service was jointly conducted by Rev. King and Rev. Williams and afterwards a time of fellowship was enjoyed by all followed by a beautiful lunch. Mrs Iris Williams was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers for (as was said) behind every successful man there is a hard working woman.

All of the Williams children were present and it was a joy to renew acquaintance with them. Cheryl and Sian and Wyn were equally proud of their father and glad to share in his honour.

Long may Heddwyn and Iris continue in God's service.

Elwyn Hughes.

A Little Child's Prayer

Dear God, please take care of my daddy and my mommy and my sister and my brother and me. Oh, please take care of yourself, God. If anything happens to you, we're gonna be in a big mess. Siân

Dear God, did you really mean, "Do Unto Others As They Do Unto You?" If you did, then I am gonna get even with my little brother. Dean

Dear God, if you watch in church on Sunday, I will show you my new shoes! Donna

Dear God, what does it mean you are a "Jealous God"? I always thought that you had everything you wanted! Tim

Memories of Childhood ----- Atgofion Mebyd

Music at Milking Time

When I was about five years old, my greatest joy was to go to a nearby farm named Nant Gwynau. The members of the Thomas family were my best friends. Milking time was the high point of my visit. In the cowshed the cats waited expectantly, cows chewed quietly and I sat on a pile of sacks as the milk went swish, swish into the pails.

Mr. Thomas sang bass, Emrys sang tenor, Alice was a soprano and Mattie was alto. Calon Lân and Y Delyn Aur and Myfanwy and O Na Byddai'n Haf O Hyd had their turn. The cows were contented and I rejoiced in the swirl of sound. I have heard since that music at milking time promotes milk production but our milking time was for the love of singing.

Back in the house I would be taken to the parlour where a magical machine with a large red horn poured out the songs of one Harry Lauder. I spoke no English other than yes or no but I liked the sound of roaming in the gloaming on the Bonnie Banks of Clyde. Where was Clyde? I only knew Cothi.

The patient Alice cranked up the gramophone many times and I picked up a very odd phrase, which I used whenever a small car with a “dickie” passed the top of our lane. “Hi, stop the band, a lady has lost her suspenders”. I would yell at the occupants. They always waved back.

A year later I went to school in Carmarthen where serious instruction in the “thin language” befell the Welsh only child.

Submitted by **Olwen Dunets.**

What's in a name?

The great explorers of the past 500 years had an unwritten right to name those lands they discovered. They often did what was politically correct and remembered their sponsors - usually a member of a royal family. The English Capt. Cook, however, in 1770 when he first sailed north along the eastern coast of what is now called Australia chose to name it New South Wales.

Bill Bryson in his book " In a Sunburned Country" wonders if Cook meant to signify that this would be a new Wales of the South or merely a new version of the existing South Wales. If the latter, why just South Wales and not the whole of it. No one knows. What is certain is that Cook had no known connection to Wales, southerly or otherwise. He did, however, attribute the name to all the island continent that lay to the west although he was never to see what lay there.

Other Welsh geographical references that intrigue me are found in early maps of Canada. A 1793 map shows the south-west shores of Hudson's Bay as New South Wales. It still shows on an 1848 map but the coastal lands to the west of the Bay are shown as New North Wales -- hardly flattering but perhaps an acknowledgement to the explorer David Thompson.

Does any reader know the circumstances of the naming of these areas and why and when they were eliminated ? I've wondered for too long.

Submitted by **Vaughan Lewis**

Many Thanks to This Month's Contributors

John and Debbie Baxter. Dr. John Jenkins (California). Rev. Alwyn & Janet Evans (Wales). Gerry & Lowri Taylor (Wales). Gwen Williams. Mr. & Mrs. Tom Braund. Joyce Sanderson. LaVerne & Jim Horner. Joyce Little & Alun Hughes. Elizabeth Blunn. Richard T. Jones. Bill Phillips. Ed & Irene Field. Jack & Susan Young (Kentucky). Joan Lloyd. Gwen Wild.

Sir Harry Secombe's family think it's high time Swansea honoured its most famous son. They are supporting a growing campaign aimed at getting a permanent statue put up in memory of the funnyman who was born in the city in 1921.

His brother, the Rev Fred Secombe, said it was ridiculous that there were memorials to him elsewhere in the country but none in his home town.

"There is a dance hall in Surrey called the Sir Harry Secombe Hall. If they can dedicate halls in Surrey to him then they can do something in Swansea," he said.

A blue plaque has just been unveiled to Sir Harry at Manchester's Opera House where he often performed. There is nothing to honour him in his home town, although Swansea Civic Society is pushing to get a plaque erected outside his old family home in St. Leger Crescent, St. Thomas.

Now there are moves to put up a life-size statue of him near the Patti Pavilion as part of its 1.5 million revamp. Sir Harry's daughter Jenny Giannini is also supporting the campaign. "I am sure he would be greatly honoured by anything that Swansea wanted to do for him," she said. "He never forgot where he was from".

Sir Harry was born in a council house in St. Thomas and met his wife Myra at Mumbles Pier Dance Hall in 1946. His daughter said he would find the idea of a statue faintly ridiculous but would be thrilled if it was something that people genuinely wanted. "He would be as pleased as punch and very proud but would also have a good laugh – I could imagine him posing with it or putting his glasses on it".

"You get pigeons pooing on statues and he would find that very fitting. He was a very modest man and he would never have expected anything". She said the family received literally thousands of letters after Sir Harry's death from people who felt their lives had been touched by her father – many of them from Wales.

"I'm sure there would be a lot of feeling for him in his home town but it's important that the statue is something the public is behind, it would be terrible if it was imposed on them".

Myfanwy

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time she would take her eyes off the book and reach his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own and then his again. Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?" "Yes sweetheart, God made me a long time ago." "Oh," she paused, "Grandpa, did God make me too?" "Yes honey God made you only just a little while ago." Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"

A True Christmas Story

T'was the day before Christmas and I felt so smug
as I lounged in my armchair at home, nice and snug.
The presents were packaged, the holly was hung,
so I savoured a brandy, which tingled my tongue.

But then as I lay there all mellow and blissed,
my eye chanced upon an old hand-written list.
"To do before Christmas" --the writing was mine--
and each finished job was erased with a line,
except for the first, which had been overlooked!
How could I have done this? My goose was now cooked!

I jumped to my feet all panicked and jerky.
Christmas was ruined -- I'd forgotten the turkey!
I knew that the shops would be sold out for sure;
In a panic I called up my mother-in-law.

"You don't have to worry, I just saw a man
who is selling fresh turkeys from out of his van!
I was just going to get one for me - they look nice,
so I'll get one for you -- and they're all at half price!"

Then Christmas arrived, it was time to start cooking,
but when I unwrapped it, the bird was strange-looking.
My head became faint, my eyesight turned murky,
what I'd bought from my in-law was just half a turkey!
As I fainted, a call from my mum-in-law came
to tell me her bird was exactly the same!
"I have an idea, I'll be right there" she said,
and duly arrived with a needle and thread.

In no time at all she stitched them up tight
(Hers was the left side, while I'd bought the right).
I completed my "to-do" s, there were no more hitches,
just one final item: remove all the stitches!

Submitted by **Vaughan Lewis**
with acknowledgement to an unknown Doctor Poet

Announcements

Congratulations to the Reverend Aled, Pauline and Mererid Jones on the birth of a daughter and sister, on Christmas day. Heledd Eleanor arrived strong and healthy.

During the same week, Aled received the news that he had obtained an MA for an essay titled, "Christian Moral Understandings of Human Sexuality and the Transmission of HIV/Aids in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Congratulations Aled

KITCHEN CORNER

CORNEL Y GEGIN

Deliciously simple Beef Bourguignon

4 pounds beef stewing meat (well trimmed)	1 pint of beef stock (I used 2 cans consommé)
1 cup of V8 juice ½ cup brown sugar	1 cup of onion soup
½ teasp. garlic powder 1 teasp. Oregano	½ teasp. celery salt 3 bay leaves

Method:

Combine everything in a large pot. Bring to a simmer, and turn heat down. Continue to simmer for 3 hours. Stirring occasionally. Remove Bay leaves. Mix 4 tabbsp. Cornstarch with ½ cup cold water in a small basin. Stir some of the hot sauce into cornstarch mixture. Stir into stew until thickened. Best made in advance. Refrigerate up to 3 days. This recipe can be doubled, just cut back on the brown sugar a little and spices. Enjoy.

Submitted by Lorna Hobbs

Rebuttal

After reading last months Gadwyn. With apologies regarding, "because I am a man". To our Female readers, or a guide to men's conversation.

DANGEROUS: What's for dinner?

SAFER: Can I help you with dinner?

SAFEST: Where would you like to go for dinner?

DANGEROUS: Are you wearing THAT?

SAFER: Gee, you look good in brown.

SAFEST: Wow! Look at you!

DANGEROUS: What are you so worked up about?

SAFER: Could we be overreacting?

SAFEST: Here's fifty dollars.

DANGEROUS: Should you be eating that?

SAFER: You know, I've got lots of apples left.

SAFEST: Can I get you a glass of wine with that?

DANGEROUS: What did you DO all day?
SAFER: I hope you didn't overdo today.
SAFEST: I've always loved you in that robe.

Submitted by **Huw Jones.**

The Stewards

Dewi Sant Welsh United Church Income Statement for the period ended December 31, 2002

	<u>Dec'02</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Members	8,295	73,099
Friends & Associates	1,834	8,732
Loose Collection	795	3,152
Gadwyn	733	3,955
Estate Bequests	0	5,000
Manse Rent	1,205	14,045
Facility Rent	150	9,116
Interest	294	2,167
UCW, TWMVC, St.David's Society	3,580	10,732
Sundry	0	974
	=====	=====
Total Income	16,886	130,972
<u>Expenses</u>		
Office & General	1,076	6,062
Postage	0	2,121
Taxes - Manse	33	605
Other (Bk Chgs, Int Exp,Observer)	30	375
Presbytery Dues	348	4,177
Insurance	301	3,328
Accounting	500	500
Repairs & Maintenance (Church)	3,851	6,154
Repairs & Maintenance (Manse)	145	145
Session Expenses	1,430	4,804
Payroll - Minister	2,601	57,150
Minister's Travel	0	884
Payroll - Secretary	2,009	17,919
Organist	870	10,443
Caretaker	568	6,666
Utilities (Gas/Hydro/Water/Phones)	256	10,231
Technology (computers/internet)	378	1,920
	=====	=====
Total Expenses	14,396	133,484
Surplus (Deficit)	2,490	-2,512

Vaughan Lewis, Chair.

Thank you

In appreciation. I was very touched by all the cards, calls and flowers from so many following my Mt. Sinai visit. I think I have thanked everyone but want all to know that those of Dewi Sant really are our second family.

Megan Lewis.

Thank you for Y Gadwyn that I receive and enjoy very much. My mum was Welsh. I am able to come to your service once or twice a year but it is quite a distance from where I live. I would rather listen to your voices rather than sing myself. I wish you all of the best for the New Year. I am a member of Islington United Church.

Sincerely Joyce Sanderson (Mrs.)

Y Gadwyn keeps me grounded and still connected to my old church family. My husband John sat on the search committee for our church. Good luck in your endeavour to find a minister. We know full well the work it entails. We wish you all a happy healthy New Year...

Debbie and John Baxter. Please feel free to contact us. Dibaxter@shaw.ca 604 924 2038

Dear Friends, I really enjoy reading Y Gadwyn. It helps me to keep in touch with Dewi Sant and the Toronto Welsh Community in general. My late wife and I were married by the late Rev. J Humphries Jones and our three children were christened at Dewi Sant Church. I served from 1951—1957 as president of the Saint Davids Society of Toronto and have happy memories of the warm hospitable evenings we enjoyed in the company of our Welsh (and Welsh by marriage) compatriots. Warm wishes

Sincerely John Jenkins

From The Editor Wrth Y Golygydd

Thank you for your contributions. I'd be delighted to get some interesting stories etc. Y Gadwyn is only as good as **you the readers** make it. As you see, I have two or three regular contributors. They would also like to see more folks sending in articles.

Date of the next Gadwyn Deadline is February 16. Please send all contributions to Dewi Sant Office or to myfanwybajaj@hotmail.com Phone # 905 737 4399. I am slowly trying to wean off hotmail and go into a new e-mail address which is, myfanwy@rogers.com and both work at present.

Thanks to Tara Siân Bajaj- Freemantle for technical help.

Dewi Sant Calendar of Events - 2003

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. Tickets are now for sale. Contact Myfanwy. Or Marjorie Williams

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.