



Y GADWYN

(The Link)

News of the
Toronto Welsh Community

Volume 38; Number 1

Medi/September, 2003

'To everything there is a season...'

My appointment as retired supply minister at Dewi Sant will come to an end on September 30 marking 13 months ministry with you. And Rev. Roger Roberts who is only two months older than myself will commence his ministry as retired supply at the beginning of October while arrangements are completed for a new full time Welsh speaking ordained minister to arrive from Wales to begin his ministry among you.

During this past year your hospitality to my wife Sandra and myself has been most gracious. This has been a time during which the Dewi Sant congregation has worked diligently and sensitively to overcome the painful experiences of the preceding few months. I congratulate you on your determination to heal a number of the wounds from the past, and to move forward with a renewed vision of possibilities for a future filled with promise. My wife Sandra and I wish you God's blessing as you undertake to redefine your future. Rev. Roger Roberts who was with us on Sunday June 1 is an excellent choice as a Welsh speaking retired minister with rich experience who will journey with you during the coming months.

There is still much needed work to be accomplished. Undercurrents of frustration, disillusionment and hostility remain. And struggles are evident as you as a congregation strive to give birth to your dreams for Dewi Sant.

We deeply appreciate the privilege we feel in sharing the past 13 months with you at Dewi Sant.

May God be with you as you continue to unfold your future as God's Welsh speaking people in Toronto and central Ontario.

'To everything there is a season...'

Rev. Dr. Larry and Sandra Beech

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU TO REV. LARRY BEECH FROM THE BOARD OF SESSION

For the past year we have been fortunate in experiencing the ministry of Dr. Beech. He has supported and guided us and encouraged us to look deep inside ourselves to get the strength to move forward as a congregation. Although he does not have the ability to see our faces, he certainly has got to know our strengths and our weaknesses and he has made use of the strengths and helped us overcome difficulties. We will miss him and also Sandra, who is his greatest support. It is hoped that as we both move on to new pastures we will not lose contact with each other. Everyone who comes to minister at Dewi Sant, whether for a short or long time brings us a different dimension and they always leave their mark on us as a congregation. Rev. Larry's contribution has been one of calm and serenity, which we badly needed at the time and it will help us to now move into the future with a greater identity of who we all are.

Thank you Larry and we wish you well in your future endeavors.

A Message from The Reverend Roger Roberts

It was a real pleasure to take the Sunday services at Dewi Sant that first weekend in June. Thank you so much for your wonderful welcome. Diolch o galon am eich croeso hyfryd.

Again, I met with a number of people from Dewi Sant at the North American Festival of Wales in Vancouver. I greatly appreciated their friendship at the Festival and had time to try to remember names (I'm not always good at that !) and to get to know them a little better.

It's been quite a quick decision on everyone's part to be invited to and to accept the invitation to spend some months as your Minister. For me, I must admit, it is a great and attractive opportunity. I'd semi-retired after 33 years in the same town, Llandudno in North Wales. Then the decision to emerge from so-called retirement (!) and cross the Atlantic to Canada. You are very brave people in Dewi Sant !

I look forward to my time with you - not long (but remember, I was invited to Llandudno for the Methodist term of five years and stayed 33 !)- but a time when, together, we can continue the notable witness of the Welsh Church in Toronto. We share our hopes and prayers for the months ahead. Thank you again for the invitation. Also every good wish to my predecessor and many thanks for all he has done during his time with you.

Diolch o galon am eich gwahoddiad. Edrychaf ymlaen at yr amser fydd gennym efo'n gilydd a gweddio ar i Dduw ein bendithio yn ein hymdrechion.

Yn gywir iawn - every blessing,

Roger Roberts.

The Reverend Roger Roberts

Hefina Phillips (on behalf of the Search Committee)

It is with great excitement that we await the arrival of the Reverend Roger Roberts on October 3rd. He will be our minister here at Dewi Sant for at least the next six months.

Roger, who lives in Llandudno, is an energetic and enthusiastic person with more than forty years' experience in the ministry in Wales. He is also very well-known for his religious radio broadcasts on Radio Cymru. He will undoubtedly be a tremendous asset to us here in Dewi Sant. Please make him welcome and please support him in his endeavors to help us grow as a church and in our faith.

The Board of Session will hold an informal reception on Saturday, October 4th, 7.30 – 9 P.M.. Please drop by so that you can meet Roger and welcome him personally.

Reverend Roberts will hold his first services on Sunday, October 5th. There will an English service in the morning and the monthly Welsh service that evening. We look forward to seeing you there.

Visitors from Wales

Reverend Deian Evans and his wife Annette visited us from Criccieth, North Wales. Deian shared the morning service with Dr. Larry Beech and gave an inspiring sermon. The date of the monthly Welsh service was changed to the 14th so that we could benefit from the Reverend Evans' visit. And benefit we did, as we listened to him pray and preach so powerfully.

In between the services, Deian and Annette attended the M&S barbecue with their hosts, Betty and Ross Cullingworth. This gave them an opportunity to meet informally with many members of our congregation. The previous day (Saturday) they had met with the Search Committee, had lunch with us all, been whisked around the city on a whirlwind tour and taken out to dinner!! Will Criccieth ever be the same???

Hefina Phillips (on behalf of the Search Committee)

United Church Women

Our up coming programmes are as follows:

October 18th. a bus trip to Bala, organized by Donna Morris.

November 25th the Advent service, organized by Jean Thompson.

November 29th. organized by Wend van der Voort.

December will be a general meeting.

January a 12th. night dinner organized by Lorna Hobbs.

A Message from The UCW President

Here we are once again in the midst of changes at Dewi Sant with Reverend Larry leaving us and Reverend Roger Roberts arriving. But some things never change. The UCW Christmas Bazaar being one of them. We are always wanting to tap into the multi talents of our congregation and have a very successful Bazaar once again. When we are able to have a successful event the Church as a whole benefits, because the money we take in is mainly donated to Dewi Sant.

So please think of us when you are perhaps preserving and/or pickling , or perhaps your talents lean toward knitting, sewing or crocheting. Also of course we will be having a bake sale that day and this year we are adding a separate savoury stall.

When you get a call from Lorna (Baked goods) or from Gaynor (Savoury's) remember the work you are doing is for Dewi Sant our Welsh United Church.

Thank you, Joy Bailey

Dewi Sant Reunion in Vancouver

Although there are thousands of kilometres between Toronto and Vancouver, it seemed like “home from home” at that magnificent West Coast city over the Labour Day weekend. Thirteen members of the Dewi Sant congregation traveled to the Festival of Wales’ celebration at Richmond, a suburb of Vancouver. Although these annual Cymanfaoedd Canu are always an opportunity to meet up with old friends, this year it was just like a family reunion for members of Dewi Sant.

Amongst old Dewi Sant friends that we met were Alan and Carolyn Lewis, Debbie and John Baxter, Glenys Hughes and her husband, Harry (who is minister at Shaughnessy Heights United Church, Vancouver), Ray and Mary Batten - all now resident in the Vancouver area – and Bill Phillips from Atlanta, GA. Visiting from Wales was our new interim minister, the Reverend Roger Roberts. Never having experienced a North American family reunion, I was certain that this is what it must be like! Quite wonderful.

It was an extremely full weekend with seminars, planned excursions, an eisteddfod and, of course, meetings! Dewi Sant is well represented on the Board of Trustees of the WNGGA. Special thanks go to Ed Field, who this year retired after several years of hard work and dedication. Joining long-term Board member Geraint Jones, is Betty Cullingworth who was elected to the Board at this year’s AGM. Thank you all for your commitment to the WNGGA and for giving Dewi Sant such a high profile.

Most of us, however, were there to enjoy ourselves and had arrived several days prior to the start of the celebrations. We therefore took advantage of some free time in order to see the sights and visit galleries and museums.

Thursday evening saw the opening concert with an excellent folk band from Wales – “Mabon”. On Friday evening there was a grand banquet and on Saturday evening we all went into the city to hear Cor Meibion Dynfant. Many members of Dewi Sant will remember this choir when it came to the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu in the eighties. For me, personally, the highlight of that particular visit was their nineteen year old bass-baritone soloist – Bryn Terfel. Everyone who heard him knew they were in the presence of greatness.

Bryn did not accompany Dynfant this year. The soloist, however, was another wonderful bass baritone – Jason Howard, winner of the Pavarotti Trophy. In addition to being an exquisite singer, he is also a delightful person. The good news for us is that he lives just down the road at Lawrence and Young.

Vancouver, it seemed like Dynfant has a new, highly energetic and talented young conductor, Timothy Rhys-Evans. The accompanist, Jeff Howard (no relation to Jason) was truly brilliant. He was highly visible the entire weekend, being the official accompanist of the Festival and the Gymanfa, in addition to accompanying the choir and the soloist. He is a superb musician.

The festival of Wales was not the only celebration that weekend. On Sunday Ram Myfanwy Bajaj celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary surrounded by their Dewi Sant family. More than twenty members, past and present, gathered for dinner at a nearby hotel and wished Myfanwy and Ram another forty years of wedded bliss!

The pinnacle of the weekend was the service on Sunday morning and the two Cymanfa sessions. The bilingual morning service was led by the Reverend Ben Rees of Liverpool. Dr. Haydn James was the inspiring and enthusiastic conductor of both hymn singing sessions. Haydn seemed to enjoy himself as much as we did, and produced a magnificent sound and hwyl from us- in spite of the less than perfect venue. It is one of the best cymanfaoedd that I have attended. By the end of the evening session with the singing of the traditional “God be with you till we meet again”, it was impossible to remain dry-eyed. A huge, successful, inspirational family reunion.

Hefina Phillips

News About Dewi Sant's Children

The children of Dewi Sant have travelled all over the world and in some instances settling far from the church of their youth. What better way to keep in touch than through Y Gadwyn. The editor will only be too pleased to include a message informing us about our church family.

Family and friends of **Bronwen Low** were treated to a beautiful concert last week, which was held in Barrie's “Theatre by the Bay.” Bronwen and her singing partner Kelly Campbell, The Vevila Ensemble” sang a lovely selection of songs. All the Celtic countries were represented, especially Wales. We are all very proud of Bron and Kelly, especially father “David” whose jacket buttons seemed to be popping off. Bronwen and Kelly as you may know, accompanied the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir on their tour of Wales last year. They have a CD available for sale and would be a pleasing addition to your music collection. Please contact David or Gaynor at 905-522-2638.

New Babies

The Jones-Low family wish to share their good news with you. **Colin Stuart Shearer** was born to **Rebecca and Doug Shearer** on August 10, 2003 and weighed in at 9lbs. 3.5oz. Rebecca and Doug, who have spent the last few years in Australia are now living in Tiverton, Devon, England. Doug is a veterinarian there for awhile.

Our congratulations go to Colin's grandparents, Gaynor and David Low—and of course a big congratulations to Katherine Jones-**Hen Nain**. Rebecca and Doug live at 17 The Priory, Tiverton, Devon. EX166TQ.

Celebrating the birth of a grandchild are The Bajaj family. On Sunday the 21st of September **Tara Sian Bajaj Freemantle** gave birth to **Madison Carys**, weighing in at 6lbs 12 oz. Proud father **Mark**, phoned Mamgu and Tadcu at 2.30 a.m. to let them know that the long wait was over. "She is gorgeous, exactly like Tara Sian," he informed the equally exhausted grandparents !!

Another exciting event for the family is the announcement of their daughter **Amira's** engagement to **Jason Christie**. We wish the couple many happy, healthy years. The wedding is being planned for June 2004. Congratulations Amira.

Betty and Tom Jones

"All In One"

If I could put all the sermons I ever preached, (which I estimate to be around 3,000) and put them all into a pot, then boil them all into one, what sermon look or sound like?!!!

When Nora and I visited, in July, the beautiful wilderness of Northern Ontario where our son, Wyn, his wife, same and daughter Sandi live during the summer months, he told me this story about an old Ojibwa teaching his grandson about life.

"A fight is going on inside me" he told the boy. "It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is evil---he is full of anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, false pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority and ego.

The other is good---he is full of joy, peace, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith.

The same fight is going on inside you and every other person too.

The young grandson pondered for about a minute, and then he asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win, grandfather?"

The wise Ojibwa, looked at the young boy and answered simply. "The one you feed my boy, the one you feed!!"

If, having boiled all my sermons, into one, I conveyed that message, then my preaching indeed was not in vain!!

And to think that we, the so called 'white man' used to call our aboriginal forefathers, Savages.!!!!

Cerwyn Davies

In Memoriam

Maureen Fox, PhD.

It is with great regret that we announce the death of Maureen a week before her 66th birthday. This brilliant, unassuming lady, passed away in the early hours of Thursday September 4th 2003. After experiencing breathing problems, Maureen called an ambulance. The crew tried in vain to resuscitate her.

Maureen graduated with a BA in English from U of T . During her undergraduate years she acted at Hart House Theatre, and did Summer Stock acting in cottage country during her summers.

Upon graduation she went up to Northern Ontario to teach High school English in Thessalon and then Espanola .

She returned to Toronto, and received a Canada Council Grant to completed her MA and then her PhD from the Medieval Drama Department of U of T. She received this degree in June 1975 and took a position teaching practical drama at the University of Western Ontario.

In the early 80's Maureen left Western to do some professional acting and performed at Theatre Aquarius and also did some directing. She returned to teaching at Sheridan Collage until the early 90's when ill health curtailed her career.

A funeral service was held at the Humphries Funeral Home, Bayview on Monday, September 8th. The service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Cerwyn Davies. There were eulogies given by Maureen's only sister Joanne Parisi, and Myfanwy Bajaj, who also read "Do not go gentle into that good night," by Dylan Thomas.

Maureen leaves behind a sister, brother in law, and two nieces. The Parisi family wish to thank Dr. Davies for his kindness, and also extend to the people at the church their sincere appreciation for the support and concern.

David John Freebury

Shortly after his 40th birthday my son David John Freebury was diagnosed with stomach cancer. A year later he was told that he had a recurrence and that he only had months to live. I had just joined the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir, something David, proud of his Welsh roots, approved of. David died in February of this year leaving his wife Shari, a son Dylan aged 10 a daughter Dayna, aged 5, three grieving siblings and their spouses, six nieces and nephews and devastated parents. My contact with the choir and the support of the members, many with accents reminding me of home have been a saving grace for me and my wife has benefited from my being able to support her.

During the latter stages of his illness, my son wrote some moving poetry and I wanted to share a particular piece with you and your readers. The following poem written in hospital, speaks for itself.

Time seldom moves more slowly

Windows joyous with mirth and hope by morn
Hang soggy in neglectful silence by night
A cheery face, too early past the curtain
The clatter, the clutter, the clamour to rise
The fog too dense within, the din yet more insistent

I forsake the sweet desire for that blissful state
To join the struggle that is today
Each new increment goes unmeasured
Uncounted yet desperately noticed
Spent in the company of those you love
Time seldom moves more quickly.

Dave Freebury, 2002

Copyright Shari Freebury. For those who are interested some of David's other poems can be found on a website dedicated by a colleague to David's memory - www.davefreebury.com

Yours sincerely, D. Ray Freebury

A Tribute To William Daniel McMullen

William Daniel Mc Mullen, the beloved husband of Joyce (nee Williams), members of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church. The loving father of Anne (husband Gordon Chubb) and Janey (husband Joseph Pennachetti), drifted peacefully away on July 9th 2003, at Sunnybrook Hospital.

A memorial service was held at F.H. Thompson Chapel, Aurora on Saturday, July 12. Family members, friends and supportive members of Dewi Sant attended. The service was conducted by Rev. Hedd-Wyn Williams, Honourary Minister of Dewi Sant and minister Emeritus of Wanstead United church, Scarborough.

William was born on March 26th. 1920 in Northampton, England, the son of Edmund and Alice Catherwise McMillan. After he graduated from The Duke of York School, he joined the British Army, where he served throughout the Second World war. As a keen musician he joined the Military band as a trombone player, and later was active in playing with various renowned dance bands.

During the Second World war he met Joyce Williams, a high school teacher, in Oxford, England and on August 10th 1942 they were married. They were blessed with two daughters - Anne born in 1944, and Janey born in 1950.

In 1957 the McMullen's decided to emigrate to Canada and William was fortunate to be employed by The Children's Aid Society in Brantford, Ontario. He decided to further his education as a part time student and successfully graduated in 1961 at McMaster University Hamilton, with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He proceeded with his part time studies in the field of Humanities and graduated with Master of social Work at the University of Toronto.

He and Joyce were proud grandparents of Alistair, Jeremy, and Thomas Chubb; and of Talia and Morgan Panachetti.

One can truly state that William was highly respected by his fellow officers in the Social Services field. Beauty and calm dwelt in his loving soul as the long evening shadows of life fell upon him. He bore a prolonged illness valiantly. Joyce and family were constantly at his side, "angels who administered to him." We thank God for his self giving Faithful service to the broken, the needy and lonely in life.

"Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord." We present Joyce and her family to God's care and keeping. In their loneliness and grief may they be assured that they are held within the abiding presence and comfort of the Father's peace and eternal grace.

Rev. Hedd-Wyn Williams

Florence Elizabeth Price (Florrie or Nanny)

1906 - 2003, Daughter of John and Elizabeth Price, loving sister of Annie and Ivor, both deceased. Beloved Aunt of Donald (Vancouver), Helene, Barbara and Patricia. Grand Aunt of Mary Catherine, Susan, Donald and Jamie. Grand Aunt of Matthew and Jennifer. Florrie was born in Mountain Ash, Wales and never forgot her heritage, for years she could sing with the best of them. She was a loved Nanny to many, many babies from the late 20's to the late 80's. She will be missed by the Dawson girls, Patricia, Martha and Sandra. She came to Canada with her sister Annie in the 20's. Her mom and dad and brother Ivor came not long after. All have been members of Dewi Sant.

Helene Maxwell

John Savage - An Honest Politician

John Savage, Canada's first Welsh-born provincial Premier died last May 13, aged 70. Born in Newport, Mon. he was the son of an Irish doctor and his Welsh Baptist wife, and followed his father by obtaining his M.D. at Queens Univ., Belfast. He earned his Blue as a second row forward and became the first Catholic president of the Students Union. Everyone assumed that as a Welshman he had to be a Protestant.

He returned to his home county but eventually became disenchanted with the National Health Service and emigrated to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia when in his early thirties with his wife and six young children. He became a School. Trustee and then Mayor of his adopted city. He was later asked to run for the leadership of the provincial Liberals. He narrowly won in a telephone ballot against four candidates. A year later he was swept into power. He had sworn to end the system of patronage that had been the rule in Nova Scotia. To the dismay of the party faithful he did so. No one really believed he intended to keep his word! He was soon being denounced as inexperienced, stubborn and arrogant; charges he never denied. With the polls indicating the government could not be re-elected under his leadership, he was forced to resign as Premier. He scoffed at the suggestion that he become the Ambassador to Chile but could not return to medicine as he had passed a law preventing any doctor taking up practise after ceasing to operate in the field for a certain period. He threw himself into foreign aid work and was made an Officer of the Order of Canada. He died of cancer on his birthday, six weeks after the death of his wife Mary.

On The Move

(Molly) Morfydd Cambridge, Arthur Meaghan Manor, 135 Millwood Road, Toronto, M4S 1T6.

Shirley Evans, Unit 6, 78 Upper Canada Drive, Toronto, M2P 2A3. 416-225-9172

Rev. Glenn Jackson & wife Barb, 1329 Wildlark Dr., Peterborough, K9K 2J5 705-740-0527. (Rev. Glenn is beginning his new ministry at Trinity United Church in Cobourg)

Sarah Langdon, 136 Bothwell Cres., Newmarket, L3X 2K5. 905-898-8430

Albert & Doreeta Lusk, 2 Kozlov St., Apt. 905, Barrie L4N 5A1

Marion Pitts, 275 Main Street East, Suite 212, Grimsby, L3M 5N8

Gadwyn Donors

Dr. Ray Freebury, Harold Rowland, Mavis Gracey and daughter Dale Rockall, Eluned Macmillan, Marion Pitts, Edward Morgan, David Jones

Mission & Service Fund

We are pleased to announce that during the period January to August we have received contributions amounting to \$3,780 towards the Mission & Service Fund. Thank you to all who give so generously to this fund.

I'm Drinking from My Saucer

I've never made a fortune, and it's probably too late now. But I don't worry about that much, I'm happy anyhow.

And as I go along life's way, I'm reaping better than I sowed.

I'm drinking from my saucer, 'cause my cup has overflowed.

Haven't got a lot of riches, and sometimes the going's tough.

But I've got loving ones all around me, and that makes me rich enough.

I thank God for his blessings, and the mercies He's bestowed.

I'm drinking from my saucer, 'cause my cup has overflowed.

I remember times when things went wrong, My faith wore somewhat thin.

But all at once the dark clouds broke, and the sun peeped through again.

So Lord, help me not to gripe, about the tough rows I have hoed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'cause my cup has overflowed.
If God gives me strength and courage, when the way grows steep and rough.
I'll not ask for other blessings, I'm already blessed enough.
And may I never be too busy, to help others bear their loads.
Then I'll keep drinking from my saucer, 'cause my cup has overflowed.

Dewi Sant Welsh United Church

The community of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church meets at 11 am each Sunday morning for worship. The Sunday school runs from September to June under the very able leadership of Pam Evans.

There are monthly evening services conducted in Welsh. These are on the first Sunday of every month at seven p.m. For information about Welsh language classes contact John Otley Tel #416 782 7169

Men

Women are born with something men will never have---A CLUE!!!!

Men don't try to drive women crazy. It comes naturally!

The Evolution of man---1)Tadpole. 2)Frog. 3)Prince Charming. 4)A Royal Pain.

Women

Telephone Skills: How to hang up---Role playing.

Water retention: Fact or Fat.

Communication skills: Getting what you want without nagging: Think before speaking: Tears, the last resort, not the First.

A Complete Meal in a Bowl

This is a quick nutritious salad. Thanks to Megan and Vaughan Lewis for serving it once when we were there for dinner.

Quantities are dependent on the number of people being served.

Romaine lettuce, torn into small pieces: sliced raw mushrooms: canned Mandarin oranges: crushed walnuts: tomatoes: cucumber (and raddish if you wish.) Crumble Blue cheese and toss the mixture.

In a separate container put up to half a cup of olive oil and crushed garlic. Shake well and leave in the fridge for at least half an hour. Shake well again and pour over salad, mixing well just before serving.

Enjoy

Myfanwy

From The Editor / Wrth Y Golygydd

Welcome back after the summer. I hope that you had a good one and are now back full of great ideas for Y Gadwyn. As you may notice I am trying to get the issues out a week earlier than I have been doing. Thank you again for all your support financially and verbally. For my family it has been a very hectic summer. As you may have guessed my co pilot was far too busy to help with Y Gadwyn this last week, but I am sure that by the next issue she will once again be ready to help if need be.

Date of the next Gadwyn deadline will be 12th of October. Please e mail your contributions to myfanwy@rogers.com or leave an envelope in the office at Dewi Sant. Tiny pieces of paper get lost very easily!! My telephone # is 905 737 4399. Diolch i bawb. Myfanwy.