

**Dewi Sant Welsh United Church**

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**Gair gan y Gweinidog**

**A word from the Minister**

As I write this message to you I am sitting at home in my Condo, looking out over the stretch of water between the Harbourfront and Toronto Island. Before me I see a vast expanse of ice, covered by a layer of fresh snow. It's almost certain that one could have walked (or skated) across to the island many times during the past few weeks (although I would not personally put that theory to the test!)

It is a beautiful sight, another aspect of this city that fascinates and attracts by means of its 'difference', its very uniqueness. People have warned me that winter in Toronto would be a testing time; in fact it has done nothing to me except make me feel more and more at home here, although by now the winter does seem to go on and on, and spring sometimes still seems a long way away.

Yes the lake is beautiful, but its beauty masks hidden dangers; danger in its unpredictability, and danger for those who have to use the waterway as part of their everyday lives, such as the ferry and the Police and Fire Services. And here lies a message for us all. We cannot fall into the trap of believing that all is well just because things 'seem O.K.' We must always be on our guard, or else we are sure to slip up or fall through. And we should consider others who, because of personal or environmental circumstances, have to work that little bit harder even just to get to first base.

Also, below the layer of ice that covers the waters, life thrives. What seems inhospitable and lifeless is in fact an environment that ensures the continuation of nature, of life. We cannot see it, but we know that it is happening, and this knowledge 'keeps us going' through the cold days of winter. We cannot 'see' many things in life, but the knowledge that life does go on, and that better times are sure to arrive gives us confidence and hope.

Before I write to you again Easter will have come upon us. May I wish every one of our readers a meaningful Easter, full of God's blessings.

**Bob bendith,**

Deian.

**These are bloopers made by children in the Catholic System in the States. You'll find them dotted throughout this edition of Y Gadwyn. ....**  
*In the first book of the Bible, Guinnessis, God got tired of creating the world so he took the Sabbath off.*  
*Lots wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.*

## **DESIDERATA II**

**IN WHATEVER RELIGION YOU HAVE BEEN TAUGHT, HOWEVER YOU HAVE BEEN BROUGHT UP, AND HOWEVER YOU HAVE UNDERSTOOD YOUR TEACHERS.....on these levels you will understand and grasp this message. It is not enough that this message be believed. It is a message to be lived.**

**The essence of Universal Religion is Peace and Truth, with Love for and Kindness to all the creatures of the earth. Now is the time to express this essence in your own life. And a beginning must be made, and the place to begin is with and in yourself. You would reform the world? Begin with your self, brother! The message of the unreformed reformer seldom inspires reformation. The heart of all Religion is love. And righteousness, which is love in action, is the fulfillment of Religion. Love not only family and friends! ----for love limited is love denied. Seek peace within yourself and seek, too, within yourself the Divine Breath of Life. Persist in these things! Do not let up for a single moment!**

**Through your faith and through your deeds you shape your life and help shape the lives of others, as well. What a responsibility! The Spirit finds in you its agent and also its partner, and to the degree that you are aware of this and act on it, your life is enriched. A revelation will occur to you.... A revelation higher than your most exalted dreams. The New Age is coming, and in it there will be a realization of the Oneness of all. Differences between the various Religions will disappear. The good, which is in each of them, will be fused and will become the common goal of all mankind. Know that you have the power to choose! Choose love, not hate; choose gentleness, not violence; choose holiness, not evil! Dare to believe that Reign of Love and Peace is coming soon! Ready yourself for it! Ready yourself for it with deeds of righteousness! Righteousness is the door-opener, and beyond the door is love. May power divine enter every aspect of your life endowing it with rewards of material accomplishments, the treasures of purposeful existence, and eternal light of spiritual achievement!**

**FOUND IN OLD SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH, BALTIMORE, DATED 1693**

*This has been included after the many calls asking about the one in last month's Gadwyn. This is easier than sending you all copies. Good sometimes comes as a result of mistakes like mine last month. Deian went on holiday thinking that his message was safe and sound in my computer...then I pressed one wrong button !! For that I again apologise. M*

## UCW Upcoming Events.

The ladies of the UCW executive have been planning a busy year. We ask you all for your support in our continuing effort for Dewi Sant.

During the last month we held an executive meeting and hosted the Presbytery meeting held at the church.

The candlesticks on the communion table were recently refinished, bringing them back to their shining glory. It is needs of this nature that the UCW works so hard to fund raise for.

### For your Calendar.

- April 26<sup>th</sup>. Penny Auction.  
May 26<sup>th</sup>. General meeting with a speaker. (Watch for the announcement in the next Gadwyn.)  
June 24<sup>th</sup>. Strawberry Tea.  
Sept 27<sup>th</sup>. General meeting.  
Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>. General meeting.  
Nov 5<sup>th</sup>. Bazaar (this first Saturday in November to hopefully be a permanent date)  
Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> Advent.

*We are hoping to establish the first Saturday of November every year as the day when Dewi Sant has its Christmas Bazaar. This will enable people to knit, sew, preserve etc. with a date in mind.*

*We are asking all those ladies who work so hard every year to start on their tasks, knowing their time line already. I hope that this will make it easier for all concerned.*

*Thank you UCW exec.*

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### Is it Winter, or is it Fall?

O my dear Myfanwy I must sing to you  
Just a little poem as you're feeling blue.  
Arm bound in a plaster feeling sad and low  
After slipping over in the ice and snow.  
I've heard the story many times from others in the past,  
How they were the victim of winter's icy blast.  
I just can't understand, now, how you think I am  
Going to believe you, dear wife of Ram.

Your neighbour came to see me with the truth, you see,  
You live there, at 34, she lives in 33  
The night before the 'incident' she was awoken by a din  
And saw a bottle fly by clearly labeled 'London Gin'.  
As you walked towards the car on the following morn,  
Your neighbour saw you clearly of this she has but sworn,  
Did your head seem dizzy? your knees were all aquake?  
And is that why, my dear, you fell on that frozen lake?

Your neighbour's tale seems crazy, I cannot dream or think  
That you would be affected by taking too much drink.  
And so I must believe you and wish you well, my Myf,  
A get well message comes to you from all you know and love. **Anon ....**

## **Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association**

April 29 - May 1st: Mark those dates in your calendar and make your way to Stratford, Ontario. That gorgeous city on the banks of the river Avon will be the venue of this year's Ontario Gymanfa Ganu.

The weekend will be unforgettable as we all unite, not only to praise God in song on Sunday, but to have a fun time, as only the Welsh can, on Friday evening and all day Saturday.

Prepare your party piece for the Noson Lawen on Friday evening. The young people are also invited to participate, as there will be no Awr y Plant this year. Let emcee Myfanwy Bajaj know if you would like to take part (myfanwy@rogers.com).

President David Pugh hopes that you will all make an effort to attend the Annual General Meeting on Saturday morning. We'll keep you as short a time as possible, for there is an hour set aside for children's activities at 11.30 AM.

After lunch there will be an opportunity to take a guided bus tour of the city. At 3 PM Myfanwy Bajaj will host an hour of poetry reading - your own work or that of another poet. All of that should give you just enough time to prepare for the Banquet at 6 PM, followed by the Grand Concert at 8 PM.

We are thrilled to announce that Cor Meibion Maelgwn (the Maelgwn Male Voice Choir) of Llandudno, under the leadership of Trystan Lewis, will delight us at the Concert. They will entertain us with a variety of Welsh hymns, Spirituals, opera and show music. This choir has presented concerts in Britain and eight other countries.

Trystan will be the conductor at Sunday's two Gymanfa sessions, and, of course, will be supported by the choir.

As if all of that isn't enough, the city itself beckons you. In addition to being the theatre center of Southern Ontario, the city boasts wonderful shops, restaurants and galleries. My favourite is Gallery Indigena, which has an incredible collection of Inuit art; the owner is extremely knowledgeable and helpful. A definite must!

You haven't reserved your room yet? Contact the Arden Park Hotel 877-788-8818 or Email ardenpk@orc.ca The alternative hotel is The Victoria Inn, 1-800-741-2135 Registration costs \$24.00 (Canadian) or \$20.00 (U.S.) Return the forms to Mrs. Mabel Hastings, 29 Heathview Ave., Willowdale, ON., Canada, M2K 2C2 or telephone 416-730-8658.

Hope to see you all in Stratford.

Hefina Phillips.

## Spring Tea & Silent Auction

### **A Dewi Sant Renewal 2007 Fund Raiser**

Don't miss the signature event of the season. Munch and mingle, browse the auction items, watch the live auction, win prizes and enjoy the entertainment. Get a complimentary gift just for coming. There will be something for everyone.

Auctioneer  
Soloist

Cerwyn Davies  
Sheryl Clay

Tickets are going quickly. Get your tickets by Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, as there will be **no tickets at the door.**

Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005  
12:30pm to 3:30pm  
at Rosedale Golf Club  
1901 Mt. Pleasant Rd.

Tickets now available:

Adults	\$25
Seniors (60+)	\$20
Children (<12)	\$20

Bring some friends and have a fun afternoon.

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### **Family Department Stores In Wales.**

Many of the well known department stores in Wales are closing their doors. The most well known of these is B J Jones of Lampeter. It has been in the same family for eighty years, having been founded by the father of the present owner, Mr. Bernard Jones. This store has built up a very strong reputation for quality merchandise. Shoppers drive miles to visit, from England and Wales. Shoppers are not only from the U K but Europe and further afield from Toronto and other parts of Canada. Many people from around the world are familiar with B J's. Their bi annual sales draw very large crowds and the merchandise is all sold in no time at all.

Other stores with historical backgrounds have close in the last few years. David Evans of Swansea closed after 140 years of trading. Cardiff City centre no longer has David Morgan, after celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup>,

anniversary it to closed down. In Llanelli Pugh brothers will shut after 112 years of service.

Kerfoot's in Porthmadog, founded in 1874 as a family business is now an independent store.

Retailing has changed in Wales. Cheaper prices now being more important than personal service. Also now people can shop on the internet.

These closures are altering the old familiar structure of many main shopping streets in the towns across Wales.

Olwen Dunets.

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Thank you Olwen - this will save many of us making a special trip to our favourite stores when we are in Wales. Lots of us look forward to buying "just one little dress or jacket" in places familiar to us in Wales.

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**Cornel Fach Y Gegin**

**Our Kitchen Corner**

*Frances Loaring writes that "Neath market" always had a reputation for the very best faggots and peas. Here is a recipe adapted for us in North America by Audrey Collins Author of "O Gornel y Gegin—From The Kitchen Corner"*

***Ingredients.***

*½ a loaf of stale bread. 1lb calf's liver. ½ lb of beef, ground chuck. 1 ½ lbs onions. 1 heaped teaspoon sage crushed. Salt and pepper to season.....*

***Method.***

*Convert bread into breadcrumbs in a blender. Pass the liver through a grinder (or the next best thing!), followed by the onions. If you wish, get your butcher to grind the liver for you. Mix all the ingredients together and form into balls about 2 inches in diameter. Flatten and place in a well greased oven proof dish or roasting pan. Cover with greased foil. Bake at 350 to 375 F or 180 to 190 C. Gas mark 4 or 5. Brown (Takes about an hour)*

*This tasty savoury treat is truly traditional, yet perfectly complements the modern lifestyle. Faggots are easily and quickly made, and once cooked, may be frozen for later use as work-place lunches warmed up in the microwave.*

*Audrey now lives back in her home town Dolgellau. Again thank you to Ken Thorne / Ninnau.*

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I am sure that there are enough good cooks and bakers out there that I don't have to depend on my own collection. Please send some recipes in to me. Thank you Myfanwy.

Last week I was walking through a grocery store in Thornhill, when the scent of a hyacinth stopped me in my tracks. At once I imagined myself surrounded by wild hyacinths, bluebells. Way back I remembered one evening when my new husband and I climbed Drymmau mountain, Skewen, near Neath to listen to the nightingales. It was a magical night.

## A WELSH LOVE SONG

A moonlit path beside the wood.  
Bare trees stark against the sky.  
The heavens clear and bright with stars.  
And all around the scent of bluebells.

Together we climb. The breeze warm and comforting  
It's early spring. Impatient trees are waiting.  
The chattering brook tumbles down the mountainside.  
A cricket chirps, a tiny scuffle in last year's heather.  
A sleepy lamb bleats, then nuzzles to its mother.  
Still we wait.

We watch the tree-tops curtsy in the moonlight.  
We watch the stars in their circling dance.  
It's past time to sleep. Our drooping eyelids long to rest.  
Now every tired bird is sleeping in his nest.  
Still we wait.

At last comes our reward, enchantment starts.  
Softly at first, a practice flourish  
Then music so sweet and joyous throbbing into the night  
Awake emotions deep and magical within us.

Again and again he sings with ever sweeter melody  
The woods respond in softer, gentler harmony  
If ever the earth had voice, if ever creation sings,  
Oh nightingale, was you who taught them how?  
Surely, love and life is bourne on your tiny wings.

But why at night with moonlight around?  
To whom do you call in voice so wistful?  
"I sing to woo my little brown hen.  
Like you, she finds me irresistible."

Agnes Davies.

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**Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of Ark. Noah built an ark and the animals came on in pears.**

## Letters to the editor

I live in the UK, but have been enjoying the Dewi Sant newsletter via the web for a year now. I am not connected to your church, but do have relatives in Wales who may visit Toronto sometime in the future, and I think would appreciate visiting a welsh speaking place of worship. My brother is married to a wonderful lady from Anglesey, and has settled in Deganwy where he teaches at a school called Ysgol John Bright. His children are being brought up bi-lingual for both Welsh and English, but my poor brother still only speaks the most rudimentary phrases!

One thing I love about your newsletters is the wonderful sense of humour that you all have,

Heather Taylor Nicholson.

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Please accept congratulations and thanks on behalf of one and all to all those that were connected in any way, with the production of "The Welsh In Canada" on Vision Television. This was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated. So much was given, so much shown, and the roof was truly raised with "Sanctus."

Please accept a donation to be shared between Y Gadwyn and The Easter UCW Flower fund in memory of my mother, Helen Harris MacEachern.

Here are a couple of quotes that I found whilst tidying up the other day. *Cats are intended to teach us that not everything in nature has a function! Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died!*

*Pob hwyl a bendith a Pasg hapus i bawb . Yn gywir.*

*Margaret Frampton.*

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### The Rugby Match !

**Wales won. What a day for Wales and the Welsh.**

**Major celebrations. Cardiff was electric. There was an amazing atmosphere. You could feel it everywhere. Flags were out as were most people, all wearing red rugby shirts. (Or our National Colours)**

**You would have thought it was VE night. Rugby lovers, or not this was a Major morale booster for Wales and of course one for the history books.**

**David Granville Watson. Cowbridge, South Wales.**

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### A Change of Address.

Reverend Aled and Pauline Jones, and girls. 26 World's View, Abelia street, Somerset West, 7130, South Africa.

Huw and Lilian Stephens Unit 8, 4275 Millcroft Park Drive, Burlington, Ont. L7M 4L9 (correction.)

Gadwyn Donors.

*Alan Gray; Patricia Thomas; David H Thomas; David Jones; Margaret Frampton; Irene and Ed field; Aldon Jones; Malcolm and Oriana Nicholson; Liliann & Steve Stephens; Dilys & Robert Stevens.*

*Thank you. We really appreciate your support.*

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Help Required Please

As you know we have a choir from Wales coming over for the Festival in Stratford April 29 - May 1, 2005. We are expecting quite a large crowd this year and require 300 dozen Welsh Cakes for the Welcoming Reception and the Te Bach.

If you are able to make Welsh Cakes, could you please contact Trisha Stevenson at 905-884-2603 (evenings) or 416-291-8158 (daytime). These will be required by April 27, 2005 and should be sent in Tupperware containers with your name clearly marked on the container. These may be frozen until required.

Thank you so much, your assistance would be greatly appreciated! Trisha.

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*Trish asked me to include a recipe for those not sure of how to make Welsh cakes. This is an old tried and true one that has been around Dewi Sant for years. The ONLY mistake that you can make is overcooking.*

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6 cups Robin Hood flour—all purpose; 2 cups sugar; 1½ cups raisins; 1 teaspoon nutmeg-grated; 3 teaspoons baking powder; 6 beaten eggs; 1 teaspoon milk; ¾ teaspoon salt ; 1 lb. butter—unsalted; 1 teaspoon grated onion rind.

Method

*Sift flour, baking powder and salt together. Rub in the fat until mixture looks like 3 fine breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar and fruit and the rest of the dry goods. Lightly beat the eggs and add the milk. Stir into the mixture.*

Roll out into ¼ inch (7½ cm.) rounds. Cook on a greased surface, ie hot griddle, frying pan or one of those electric breakfast trays that will make at least 2 dozen at a time. Bake until light brown then turn and bake the other side to a light brown. Put them on a wire rack to cool, sprinkling with castor sugar as you do so. Stack them on top of each other as they like to complete cooking in their own heat. Store in an airtight containers.

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*The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments.*

*. The Greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.*

*. David was a Hebrew king who was skilled at playing the liar. He fought the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in Biblical times.*

*When Mary heard she was the mother of Jesus, she sang the Magna Carta.*

*When the Three Wise Guys from the East Side arrived, they found Jesus in the manager.*

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**Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup> 7.30pm at Dewi Sant – Concert with the Côr Maelgwyn Male Voice Choir. Proceeds to the Renewal Fund 2007. Tickets \$20 per person from the Church Office.**

### **Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir**

The choir was founded in 1995 to kindle the tradition of four part Welsh male voice singing. Under the Leadership of Director David Low, Associate Director Lenard Whiting, and Accompanist Kathryn Tremills, the choir has grown to an ensemble of 60 men from many ethnic backgrounds, performing approximately 10 concerts a year. Membership requires an elemental audition, an ear for, and a love of, choral music. New members are always welcome. Repertoire includes; opera choruses, folk songs, show tunes, spirituals, and traditional Welsh music. Practices are held Wed. 7:15 – 10:00, Sept. – June at Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, (Yonge /Lawrence).

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New members are always welcomed to join the choir. If you are in need of "copy", we'd be pleased if you would like to publish this info about the choir.

Phil Jones (416-948-8941) TWMVC (Past Pres.)

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**The next Welsh Service will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm. Please mark your calendars.**

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Please remember to send your submissions to me by Friday April 15<sup>th</sup>.. What happened to the articles about Wales, memories of youth, cooking, travel, jokes etc. PLEASE HELP.

