

## **Dewi Sant Welsh United Church**

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### **Gair gan y Gweinidog      Message from the Minister.**

Winter has finally come near to its close once again. For me, and everyone else who finds the Canadian Winter a lengthy and tiring episode, this is certainly good news. The clock has already been taken forward one hour, the evenings are lengthening and the sun is higher in the sky and its rays are getting warmer by the day.

Lent is a time of trial, meditation and personal spiritual reckoning for people of the Faith, a period of time given to us to question ourselves and to prepare for the message of Good Friday and Easter Sunday. For others it seems to be a time to be reminded that there is such a thing as Christianity (just like Advent and Christmas), a time to seemingly take an opportunity to take a swipe at Christ. Almost every year at this time there seems to be someone who questions some aspect of our faith. This year the attack on Christian belief came from a group of archaeologists who claimed that they had discovered the grave of Jesus! Last year it was a sermon by a Bishop that claimed that the resurrection of Jesus was only a figment of the imagination. Before then came the so called 'revelation' that Da Vinci had a coded message 'proving' that Jesus had lived just as a man, had married, fathered children, died and not been resurrected!

Each and every time these theories about the authenticity of the Easter story is questioned or doubted, the doubters are proven either wrong or failing in proof positive. It is interesting, though, to note that when the doubters are proven wrong the media seems not to be around to report that the Faith has again 'won the day'.

Over the years I have learned to be patient when I have read the claims of dissenters, patiently waiting to hear that their claims are proven wrong, waiting patiently in the knowledge that the truth will always out, that Christianity will not be held ransom to the apparently foolish rantings of publicity seekers. Throughout the centuries people have tried to bring our faith into disrepute. And every time Christ has triumphed.

This is no surprise, of course, to those of us who know and love the Lord. After all, Christ conquered Death itself. How can Christ, therefore, fear the empty challenges of doubting people and their weak and groundless claims and allegations? Keep on making your claims, you doubters, because every time you are proven wrong, Christ is proven to be our Strength and Refuge, all the more certainly.

Happy Easter!      Pasg bendithiol i chwi oll.

**Deian Evans.**

## Report From UCW:

The UCW is looking forward to an exciting year in 2007. Here are some of our upcoming events:

April 6<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday Dinner: Join us for the dinner between the two services. Betty Jones is hard at work on this event already, with a supper of cold meats, salad, dessert and tea and coffee. All for \$12.00. Dinner starts at 5:00 pm. Please book your tickets in advance if possible, from Sheryl or Myfanwy so that we can plan accordingly.

Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm: Potluck dinner, meeting and penny auction. Jean Thompson is our auctioneer, please bring your treasures for auction and call Sheryl Clay to let her know if you can bring appetizer/salad, main course or dessert.

Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> – “Getting To Know You”: Following the meeting we will all participate in two activities. “Getting to know you” where we all bring something from home to speak about and “Guess the baby” (please bring your baby pictures). .

Coming soon in May, June, July, August: We are looking at a variety of other activities in the summer months. These include a spring bazaar, cookery demonstrations, Strawberry Supper and a few Saturday outings. Stay tuned.....

Finally, a special thank you to everyone who worked hard to get ready for The World Day of Prayer, especially to Nest Pritchard for organizing the worship side of the event and to Betty Jones for preparing the refreshments. Unfortunately we had to cancel this event due to weather at the last moment.

In the meantime, please start thinking about the Spring Bazaar for May, now is the time to start with knitting, sewing and baking and all the other fantastic things that you ladies manage to do so well. With all your efforts we will once again have a successful event at Dewi Sant.

UCW President. Sheryl Clay.

### FROM THE RENEWAL COMMITTEE.....DIOLCH YN FAWR IAWN

The Renewal Committee works as a team to coordinate the monthly events that are being held to commemorate this centenary year. However, sometimes the quarterbacks of specific events go above and beyond to ensure success. Such was the case during early March when so many special activities were held to honour Dewi Sant, both our church and our patron saint. **A special DIOLCH YN FAWR goes to:**

**Donna Morris** for initiating and coordinating the reception at the Ontario Legislature on February 28 and for arranging for, setting up and dismantling the booth at the British Show on the first weekend in March.

**Peter Williams** for sponsoring the event at the legislature.

**Bonnie Booth** for initiating and helping to implement the 2 hour CBC broadcast on March 1 and for helping to arrange the reception and flag raising ceremony at the Toronto City Hall on that same morning.

**Cliff Jenkins**, the Toronto councillor, for hosting the Welsh contingent on March 1 at City Hall.

**Myfanwy Bajaj**, the president of the St. David’s Society, for arranging the St. David’s Banquet at Fantasy Farm on March 3.

**Hefina Phillips and Annette Evans** for organizing the very successful eisteddfodd on March 10.

To all the others members of the team who worked in a supporting role to help ensure the success of these events, a very big thank you for making this month extra special.

Betty Cullingworth.

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**The Saint David’s day programme on CBC’s “Here’s To You,” celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, Toronto will be available on 2 CD’s soon. Please contact Bonnie Booth for details. [bjbooth@sympatico.ca](mailto:bjbooth@sympatico.ca) 416 443 9737 Here are the 2 websites for people to check out. [www.toronto.com](http://www.toronto.com) and [www.livewithculture.ca](http://www.livewithculture.ca) then type in Dewi Sant and search the Events .Bonnie Booth.**

## Eisteddfod Dewi Sant – Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup>

On Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup> there was another busy day at Dewi Sant Welsh United Church. A large crowd of people came to compete and to support the Renewal Eisteddfod. The adjudicators did a brave and wonderful job and our thanks go to you all.

### Results

**Recitation under 7** – Katie Quesnelle /Madison Freemantle .**Vocal Under 7** – Madison Freemantle

**Recitation Under 12** – Nia Contini. **Adrodd o dan 12** – Nia Contini. **Jam Sandwich** – Katie Quesnelle

**Instrumental** 1.Lillian Powell. **Instrumental duet** 1. John Otley and Deian Evans.

**Elocution** 1. Betty Cullingworth. **Adrodd Unigol** 1.Hefina Phillips. 2.Annette Evans Mairwen Thornley.

**Welsh Learners** – 1.Angela Vitale 2. Owen Thompson.

**Parti Cyd-adrodd** – 1.Parti'r Gogs [1] Parti'r Gogs [2.] Parti'r Hwntws.

**Parti Cyd-adrodd – Dysgwyr** – 1. Parti cyd-adrodd dysgwyr Dewi Sant.

**Folk song [ladies]** – Meriel Simpson. 2. Joan Humphreys. 3. Donna Morris.

**Folk song [Men]** – 1. Deian Evans. **Broadway Song** – 1. Meriel Simpson. **Trained voice** –1. Joan Humphreys.

**Vocal [men]** – 1. Deian Evans **Vocal [ seniors]** – 1. Sally Evans. **Duet** – 1.Mairwen Thornley & Gwen Jones.

2. Hefina Phillips & Sally Evans. 3. Meriel Simpson & Betty Cullingworth.

**Limerick** – 1. Deian Evans. 2. Leona Francis . 3. Hefina Phillips.

**Brawddeg yn cychwyn gyda C** – 1.Nancy Jones 2. Nancy Jones. 3. Annette Evans

**Sentence starting with S** – 1. Leona Francis. 2. Jeanette Robert. 3. Angela Vitale

**Barddoniaeth Gymraeg** – 1.Deian Evans 2. Annette Evans. **Rhyddiaeth Gymraeg** 1. Annette Evans. 2. Deian

Evans. **English Poetry** – 1.Vaughan Lewis. **Welsh Learners – [Dewi Sant]** 1.Ruth Madog Jones. 2. Christopher

Morgan 3. Leona Francis. **Welsh Learners – [University of Toronto]** –1. Bill Cameron. 2. Andrea Sammon.

3. Taigh Morris.

**Photography – People** – 1. Vaughan Lewis. **People and pets** 1. Jean Iona Thompson.

**Nature** – 1. Vanessa McMain. 2. Brenda Davies . 3. Brenda Davies. **Action** – 1. Gil Quesnelle Landscape –

1.Vaughan Lewis. 2. John Otley. 3. John Otley. **Vacation** – 1. Vaughan Lewis. **Overall winners** – 1.Gil Quesnelle

2. Vanessa McMain. 3.Jean Iona Thompson.

**Flower Arrangement – Easter** – 1. Annette Evans - **Toward Spring** – 1.Annette Evans.

**Rock Garden** – 1.Brenda Davies . **Spring Bouquet** – 1. Annette Evans.

**Sewing** 1. Nancy Jones 2. Brenda Davies. **Knitting** – 1. Nancy Jones. 2. Brenda Davies. 3. Nancy Jones

**Crochet** 1.Nancy Jones **Cooking. Quiche** – 1. Brenda Davies. 2. Audrey Evans. **Bara Brith** – 1.Audrey Evans

2. Lyn Jones. 3. Leona Francis. **Appetizers** – 1. Brenda Davies. **Art.** 1. Brenda Davies. 2. Jeanette Roberts.

3. Jeanette Roberts.

**Thanks to all who supported this 2007 Renewal Eisteddfod.**

**Annette Evans.**

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“*March is coming in like a fiery Red Dragon*” were the words we rejoiced to hear on St. David’s Day, celebrating Dewi Sant’s 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with “Here’s to You” as we listened to our many musical requests. We thank Alison Howard, the Producer, Shelley Solmes, the Host, and Special Guest, Deian Evans, for the gifts of their talents contributing to the momentous Centennial Occasion for us ALL on CBC Radio 2. Diolch yn fawr iawn.

“*The music in my heart I bore, Long after it was heard no more.*”

Many members of Dewi Sant watched with gratitude and great pride as Deian Evans, our Minister, raised "Y Ddraig Goch" for all of Toronto to see at City Hall, Nathan Phillip’s Square. “Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau” was then sung with stimulating gusto. Thank you to Cliff Jenkins, City Councillor, for recognizing Dewi Sant Welsh United Church with a morning Reception and the Welsh Flag Raising Ceremony as Deian led us in the continuing celebrations of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on St. David’s Day.

“*Language is the dress of thought.*”

The Welsh Flag, pictures of daffodils and Church pamphlets, were displayed in “Timothy’s Coffee of the World” Shop at the Metro Convention Centre courtesy of the proprietor, Athena Papaioannou. Thank you, Athena, for giving Dewi Sant Welsh United Church this week long publicity. ~

**Bonnie Booth.**

## **SPONSOR A YEAR, 1907-2007**

### **Record of Years Sponsored**

Thank you for checking over the record of years sponsored as shown in last month's Gadwyn. Unfortunately a few years were inadvertently omitted and I'd be grateful if you could check the list once again for any mistakes or omissions. For any correction (or additional sponsored years), please contact Hefina Phillips at 905 847 5474. These names will be affixed permanently to the plaques very shortly so there is some urgency around notification of changes needed.

**1907:** William Thomas Barker; **1908:** Bryn and Emma Evans **1909:** Horace Smith  
**1910:** Glyn and Marjorie Hilton **1911:** Katharine Jones  
**1912:** Olwen Hoffman, Anne Evans **1913:** Mervyn Williams  
**1914:** Nan Smith, Anne Boswell **1915:** Lisa Cullingworth **1916:** Muriel Mason  
**1917:** Ellis Vincent Davies, Emyr Jones and Catrin Waterworth  
**1918:** Griffith and Violet Hughes **1919:** Dr. Stephen Jones  
**1920:** John Stroud, Elizabeth Hodge **1921:** Betty Cullingworth **1922:** Joan Williams  
**1923:** Kevin Cullingworth **1924:** Joyce Sanderson **1925:** Gerwyn Wilcox  
**1926:** Geraint Herbert Jones, Urena Trodd  
**1927:** Ken Davies, Margaret E. Williams, Betty Stroud, Irfon and Mair Evans  
**1928:** Glenys Huws and Harry Oussoren  
**1929:** Mair Eluned Jones, Anne Boswell, Clemmy Wilcox, Art Otley  
**1930:** Nefina Copestake, Gerwyn Wilcox **1931:** Catherine Otley **1932:** Bernice Adler  
**1933:** Clarice Terry **1934:** Murray Black **1935:** Ram Bajaj, Gwenllian Elizabeth Jones  
**1936:** Myfanwy Bajaj **1937:** Deryck Evans **1938:** Harold Woodey **1939:** Emily Smith  
**1940:** Risti and Knud Jensen and Marjorie Tshipuras **1941:** Eirlys and Gordon Barker  
**1942:** Mairwen Thornley, Arturo Monteiro **1943:** Ken Sykes  
**1944:** Colin Christie, Kenneth Barker **1945:** Bill Phillips  
**1946:** Heddwyn and Iris Williams, Nina Morris, Albert and May Hale **1947:** Wendy Vander Voort  
**1948:** Megan and Vaughan Lewis, Michael Williams **1949:** Owen and Josie Jones  
**1950:** Olwen Dunets, Howard Williams **1951:** Thomas and Mary Osborne  
**1952:** Gareth Williams, Frances Silburn **1953:** Gareth and Betty Evans  
**1954:** Rev. Dr. Cerwyn and Nora Davies, Lorna and Peter Hobbs, Peter Edwards  
**1955:** Violet and Elwyn Clay, Aneurin and Eluned Jones  
**1956:** Emyr Wyn Davies, Peter and Joy Bailey  
**1957:** Sheryl Clay, Islwyn and Megan Morris, Geraint Wyn Davies, Iona Rees,  
Bob and Ellen Fitzgibbon, Shian Williams  
**1958:** Judith Williams, Catherine and Art Otley, Reginald Trodd  
**1959:** Howell Pritchard, Edward Stroud, Michael and Anne Bennett, Sybil and Ifor Pugh  
**1960:** John Otley **1961:** Joy David, Donna Morris, Myfanwy Davies and Rick Bellwood  
**1962:** Myfanwy Williams-Owen  
**1963:** Ann and Thomas Gifford, Cheryl Smith, St. David's Welsh Society, Edmonton  
**1964:** Dorothy Jones, Trevor and Eurwen Jones, Paul Otley, Robert Huw Jones  
**1965:** Arun Bajaj, Rev. Elwyn Hughes **1966:** Ross Cullingworth  
**1967:** Bethan Louise Jones, Louise Hughes **1968:** Anne Johnston **1969:** Peter and Trish Stevenson  
**1970:** Audrey and Cyril Evans, Tara Sian Bajaj-Freemantle  
**1971:** Nest Pritchard, Jack and Irene Evans **1972:** Amira Christie **1973:** Catherine Sequin  
**1974:** Janet Thomas **1975:** Brian and Joan Hughes  
**1976:** Peter Williams, Marie Hillier, Anne Croombs **1977:** Olwen Morgan, Curtis Christie  
**1978:** Hilary Rider, Ross and Lucille Harris  
**1979:** Rev. Dr. Cerwyn and Nora Davies, Rita Hoffman **1980:** Rhys Hastings, Caralyn Ross  
**1981:** Mary Taylor, Deian and Annette Evaons, Maude Hughes **1982:** Eaton and Barbara Davies  
**1983:** Merial Simpson, Candace Ross **1984:** St. David's Society, Georgia  
**1985:** Eluned Thomas **1986:** D. Genevieve Jones **1987:** David Boswell, Stephen Brian Jones  
**1988:** Clarice Terry **1989:** Jack and Bessie Roberts, David Morris, Hugh Hughes  
**1990:** Barbara Merle Fosler **1991:** Nerys Phan, Bryn and Joan Lloyd, Gwyn and Bonnie Roberts

**1992:** Ashley Terry, Sion Glyn and Cheryl Jones      **1993:** Betty Woodey  
**1994:** Rev. Gordon and Jessie Nodwell  
**1995:** Robert Bruce, Geoffrey, Barbara, Rhydian and Angharad Eynon  
**1996:** Gaynor McConnell, Gareth Owen, Rachel Edwards and David, Bronwen and Bryn Cox  
**1997:** Lillian Gwynyth Powell      **1998:** Sterling Stroud      **1999:** Elwyn Morris  
**2000:** David Pugh, Ken Sykes    **2001:** Rhys Jones and Morgan Rae Phillips  
**2002:** Hefina Phillips  
**2003:** Rev. Lord Roger Roberts, Madison Carys Freemantle, Marco Artur Monteiro  
**2004:** Leona and Bill Francis, G. Trudie Prouse, Charlotte Morgan  
**2005:** Tom and June Edwards, Midge Hopkins  
**2006:** Bonnie Booth, Islwyn Morris  
**2007:** Irene and Ken Hughes

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**DEWI SANT'S BOOK OF MEMORY**

Two years ago, the 2007 Committee decided that we should have a Book of Memory to add to our 2007 - 100th. birthday celebrations. I at that time, along with Arleigh Quesnelle and Trish Stevenson asked that everyone be part of this book by giving or loaning us pictures, programs, newspaper articles, tickets, etc. Anything pertaining to Dewi Sant that could be put in the book. Thank you those who have sent in items, which we will be using. We need many many more. We have quite a few items for the period 1960 and on, but are very short of items prior to that date, especially the earlier years of Dewi Sant. I would ask that you please pull out your scrap books, especially your Mom and Dad's books. Look in the closet and basement for those brimming shoe boxes and check that bottom drawer where all of your treasures are kept and of course your photo albums for anything we can use. If they cannot be removed from your books or you may think it may damage them by removing them, please call me and I will come to your home and copy them. You don't even have to make me a cup of tea! Newspaper articles would be very interesting, they tell us so much of Dewi Sant's history. As old newspapers turn a very dark brown and are usually brittle, I am finding if these articles are photocopied, they turn out white and much easier to read than the faded and brown originals. If you want to copy them yourself, do so and send them to me at the address below or call me and I will pick them up. Please help, this book will have to be ready for September. Guess how I'm going to be spending my Summer !!. Thank you very much.      **Betty Jones**  
 55 Trayborn Dr, Apt. 505, Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 4K6    905-508-4961

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**British Isles Show 2007**

On March 2nd to 4th, the St. David's Society of Toronto partnered with Dewi Sant Welsh United Church to participate in the British Isles Show held at Exhibition Place, C.N.E.. The weekend show presented an opportunity to profile the Society and the Church, to meet fellow "Cymraeg", make new friends, and, renew old acquaintances. We were delighted to see fellow members from Dewi Sant amongst the crowd and, in particular, to meet up with Ceinwen Flood and (newlywed) David Flood who introduced us to his wife, Robin. We also had the pleasure of meeting a delightful group of young ladies from Holyhead, Wales - Parti Dawns Lan Mor, who entertained everyone with traditional Welsh dances and Welsh songs. Fortunately, we were able to persuade the group to join us at Dewi Sant for our Sunday evening Welsh service where they, again, regaled us with their special talents.

The St. David's Society and Dewi Sant would like to thank everyone who volunteered to set-up and work the booth, as well as those who came out to support the event. A special note of thanks is extended to Miss Jade Thomas and Miss Meeko Thomas who delightfully graced our booth dressed in their national Welsh costume and achieved record sales! The event proved to be successful on many levels and, amidst all the fun, we managed to raise approximately \$700 for the church. We look forward to participating in the British Isles Show 2008!

Diolch yn fawr iawn i chi gyd.

**Donna Morris.**

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## **Dewi Sant Celebrates its 100th Anniversary at Queen's Park**

On the eve of St. David's Day, approximately 115 people gathered to celebrate Dewi Sant's 100th Anniversary at Queen's Park. The event was sponsored by the Honourable Michael Colle, Ontario Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, M.P.P. for Eglinton-Lawrence. The Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir kicked-off the event with a rousing rendition of Welsh favourites - Rachie, A Valley Called the Rhondda, Ar Hyd Y Nos, and, Men of Harlech. The ceremony continued with a wine and cheese reception which was generously supported by Mr. Peter Williams. During the reception, we had the pleasure of being entertained by a musical ensemble, f-zero - the house band of the Department of Linguistics at the University of Toronto, Merched Dewi, and, Ms. Sheryl Ann Clay who was ably accompanied by our "in-house" accompanist, Dr. Murray Black.

To be sure, the highlight of the event was the presentation of a custom-made slate plaque, ordered and carried over the Atlantic, less than 24 hours prior, by Ms. Hefina Phillips. On behalf of Dewi Sant, the Reverend Deian Evans proudly presented the plaque marking Dewi Sant's 100th Anniversary to the Government of Ontario. In response, Minister Colle kindly presented a certificate to Reverend Evans in recognition of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church's achievement and contribution to the Province of Ontario.

We were pleased to receive Mr. Cliff Jenkins, City of Toronto Councillor, and, Mr. Nicholas Armour, British Consul-General, and to receive congratulatory remarks from our long-time friend and supporter, Ms. Anne Johnston, former City of Toronto Councillor.

Of course, an event like this takes considerable planning and coordination and we are indebted to all of those who participated, and, to those who worked diligently behind the scenes to make it all happen. A special word of thanks goes to the members of the Renewal Committee who all pitched in to ensure every detail was covered, and, to the women of Dewi Sant who, as always, rose to the occasion by preparing the delicious bara brith and Welsh cakes served.

This event marked an historic occasion in the life of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, and, at the same time, was an historic event. We are both honoured and grateful to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration for extending an invitation to the congregation of Dewi Sant and for presenting us with an opportunity to showcase our beloved church - the only Welsh church in Canada.

Diolch yn fawr i chi y gyd.

**Donna Morris.**

*If all is not lost, where is it? It's easier to get old than wiser. If God meant me to touch my toes he would have put them on my knees. I wish the buck stopped here. I sure could use some. It's not hard to meet expenses, they're everywhere.*

**Phew! St. David's Day is over**, and I can guarantee that there were no greater celebrations anywhere in the world than amongst Toronto's Welsh Community.

Events began on February 28 when members of Dewi Sant Welsh Church were invited to attend a reception at the Ontario Legislature. Minister Michael Colle (minister of Citizenship and Immigration) congratulated us on our upcoming 100th birthday and was absolutely delighted to receive the plaque of Welsh slate presented to the Government of Ontario. The plaque, made of slate quarried in Blaenau Ffestiniog, had been especially commissioned in Wales.

The Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir gathered on the main staircase and there could never have been more resounding or better renditions of the Canadian and Welsh anthems. Then, under the baton of their new director, William Woloschuk, they treated us to four Welsh songs, - Rhyfelgyrch Gwyr Harlech, Rachie, Ar Hyd Y Nos and There's a Valley Called the Rhondda. It was the first time for me to hear them sing since the arrival of Mr Woloschuk and I was extremely impressed with their interpretation, nuance and sound. Later, during the reception, Merched Dewi, conducted by Betty Cullingworth, delighted the audience with a spirited rendition of "Caru Cymru".

On the morning of March 1st Y Ddraig Goch (the Welsh flag) was hoisted above City Hall in downtown Toronto. Guests were then invited to a reception given by Councillor Cliff Jenkins. In the meantime we were also trying to listen to a special, two hour programme of musical requests on CBC radio. For the first time ever CBC had agreed to dedicate two entire hours to St. David's Day and Dewi Sant Welsh Church. What a thrill to have the Rev. Deian Evans make all the announcements that morning - in Welsh!

Also on March 1st, NPR in Northern New York State gave a half hour slot to the history of St. David and the upcoming Ontario Welsh Festival/ Cymanfa Ganu in Kingston at the end of April.

Starting on Friday, March 2nd, Dewi Sant Welsh Church participated in the annual three- day British Show and was able to further promote our forthcoming centenary celebrations.

Saturday, March 3rd: That was the date of the St. David's Society of Toronto's Banquet and Dance. President of the Society, Myfanwy Bajaj, welcomed us to the annual event. The guest speaker, Idris Charles Williams from Wales, kept us all in gales of laughter. Idris is the son of the late Charles Williams, one of the best and most famous raconteurs in Wales, and he obviously has inherited his father's abilities.

No, that was not all. On Sunday we continued to commemorate St. David with the morning service at Dewi Sant - named, of course, after our patron saint. As our tradition demands, the service ended with "Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau". The monthly Welsh language service was held on Sunday evening and it's always an extra delight to have members of the Welsh classes participate. Half way through the service, the Rev. Deian Evans interrupted the proceedings to welcome Dawnsywyr Glan Y Mor - a party of young schoolgirls from Caergybi, Anglesey, who made a dramatic entrance in their colourful, identical Welsh costumes. The girls entranced us with two songs during the service, and later they performed several folk dances in the Fellowship Hall. The girls were in Toronto to participate in the weekend's British Show.

And the icing on the cake was that the entire 5 days of celebrations were recorded and filmed by a crew from Radio Cymru and S4C. Gwenfair Michael, who had attended Ryerson University in Toronto four years ago, returned to share in Dewi Sant's centenary celebrations. Whilst Gwenfair was busy interviewing and recording, her fiancé, Hywel, was unobtrusively filming. Hywel's comments? He'd never experienced so many celebratory events or so much feasting!!

Monday, March 4th? No! No more celebrations! Time to relax and recover from our marathon session. What would Dewi Sant have thought? I hope he would have been proud that his life and legacy are remembered with such intensity by Welsh people worldwide.

Hefina Phillips.

## The Ontario Welsh Festival / Gymanfa Ganu.

Now that all the St. David's Day celebrations are over, it's time to think about the upcoming Gymanfa in Kingston, April 27-29. This is our first visit to Kingston in a while, and we'll be situated right downtown, on the waterfront. What better venue for our festival!. Readers of Y Gadwyn are already familiar with the details of the weekend. We are booked into the Holiday Inn and are looking forward to Co'r Meibion Prysor from Trawsfynydd, North Wales. The grand Concert and the two Gymanfa sessions will take place at St. Paul's Church on the corner of Queen St. and Montreal St. The church is an easy walk from the hotel, but should you prefer to drive, there is plenty of parking.

All other events will be at the hotel - the Noson Lawen on Friday night, the AGM, Children's Hour, the Seminar, Poetry Reading, and Banquet on Saturday. Lunch can be ordered at the church, should you prefer not to return to the hotel or look for a restaurant downtown. **Have you booked your room at the Holiday Inn yet? If not, please do so as soon as possible**, because the rooms set aside (at a special rate) for our weekend will be released to the public at the end of March. Don't forget to ask for the rate for the Ontario Welsh Festival.

Do check our website for the latest updates: [www.ontariowelshfestival.ca](http://www.ontariowelshfestival.ca)

Hefina Phillips

*When I was young there was no respect for the young and now that I am old there is no respect for the old...I missed out coming and going. We don't drink and drive. Our kids always have the car! Be nice to your children, for they choose your rest home. The good news is that grandchildren keep you young. The bad news is that after spending time with them you feel your age. Children are a great comfort in your old age. They help you reach it faster!*

## In Memoriam ~~~~~Er Cof.

It is with regret that we report the death of **Mrs. Gwen Braun Davies**. Our sympathy is extended to her family. There will be a further report in the next Gadwyn.

On March 1<sup>st</sup>. we were very saddened by the passing away of one of our very active members in Dewi Sant, **Mrs Lorna Hobbs**. Lorna passed away after many months of great suffering. Our condolences go to her beloved family. She will be greatly missed. The memorial service for Lorna will take place at Dewi Sant on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Mrs. Sarah Ann Smith. (Nan).

Nan was born October 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1914 to Gwladys and George Tedstone. Her only sibling, a sister was born 14 months later.

Nan was a born leader and had quite a following of local children. She did well in school and was very athletic. She was forced to leave school at an early age with the separation of her parents and she ended up as a maid in Essex.

She first met her husband Horace when she was fifteen. He loved to tell the story of seeing her walk across a bridge whilst he was sitting on the river bank with one of his brothers. He turned to his brother and said, "one day I am going to marry her." When she was twenty they were married. Prior to the wedding she was hospitalized with a burst appendix, and the family was told that it would be a miracle if she survived.

Two weeks after they were married they were asked to take in a border until he could find somewhere to live. Charlie stayed for twenty one years! A year after their marriage they were blessed with their daughter Joy. Years went by, Horace was in the Home Guards and Nan worked in a munitions factory. Eventually they were blessed with their second daughter, Wendy Maria. Nan was always at home baking and cleaning and there was always a cup of tea for visitors. She started working as a home help and was closely involved helping all the elderly people out. She was the first one called upon to help neighbours and friends. In fact she delivered a number of babies before the midwife managed to arrive on the scene.

Nan was active with the Civil Defence group. Both Horace and her were also very active at the local cricket club. Whilst the girls were growing up Horace tended his garden and often helped Nan with her sewing. Most of the children's clothes were made by Nan. She even made Joy's bridesmaid's gowns and accessories. When Nan's mother passed away in 1996 they came to Canada to be with their daughters. They worked as a couple, Nan as cook-housekeeper and Horace as butler, chauffeur and gardener. They both loved gardening and their Church. They were in the Church choir and acted as librarians, looking after all the music.

Nan made thousands upon thousands of Welsh cakes (ably assisted by Horace) They were the ones responsible for starting a "cup of tea," after the church service on Sundays in Dewi Sant..

Nan also loved writing poetry. Nan supplied the Cardiff Pavilion of Metro Toronto Caravan with Welsh Cakes for many years until her health was failing..

When Horace was admitted into a home with Alzheimer's Nan stayed with him from morning to night, every day until he passed away.

Four years later Nan herself was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and had to be put in Bloomington Cove home for her own safety.

She was well loved by all the staff at the home. They were constantly amazed at the energy and love she exuded. They could not believe how old she really was.

Lately Joy and Wendy spent time with their mother singing her favourite songs, two of them being, "Jesus Loves Me" and "Pop goes the Weasel."

Nan was a devoted wife, loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She had five grand children and eleven great grandchildren.

Nan passed away peacefully at 9pm on March 9<sup>th</sup>. The Smith family have battled Alzheimer's for far too many years. Nan will be sadly missed and never forgotten.

Our condolences go to Joy, Wendy and all the family. Nan taught many of us how to make Welsh cakes, none of us will never forget her.

### **Gadwyn Donors.**

***Mrs. G "Trudie" Prouse, Leona Francis' cousin from Oxford, England. Patricia and Clive Mason. Mya Sangster. Mr and Mrs Geraint Roberts . Harold Rowland. Ellen Fitzgibbon. Margaret Frampton. Myra Cullimore. Alan T Gray. Joy David. George Jones. Thank you. Diolch yn fawr iawn. M.***

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\*\*\* On my meanderings on the web I came across your web site .I was interested to see there was a Blaengwynfi contingent in your church. The train from Blaengwynfi to Aberavon brought back memories. Would you ask them if they knew Emlyn Thomas [Capers and Betty Scotch? They were my parents. We left Blaengwynfi in 1952 as my parents divorced. I live in Glasgow now. Just say if you will to them that Myrddin Blackmore died a month ago. He had been ill for a while. He was seventy three. \*\*\*

Best Wishes

**Bob Thomas.**

### **A Word Of Thanks.**

Wendy and I would like to express our thanks for the wonderful service on Sunday March 18th when we celebrated the life of our mother Nan Smith.

Words cannot describe our true feelings. Deian, Cerwyn, Sheryl and Murray made the service so very special. Then the ladies of the UCW ably led by Myfanwy showed our guests what a wonderful caring team they are by treating every one to a fabulous tea. We have already had orders to visit the Nursing home that Mom was in and bring Welsh cakes!



It was very nice to see so many people attending the service. I realize that many could not return to the Church in the afternoon but I felt you all there in spirit.

Thank you all for the condolence cards and the kind words of condolence that we received, Dewi Sant Welsh United Church is a very special place with very special people and it is at times like this that we feel it the most.

God Bless

**Joy Bailey.**

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**North Toronto Historical Society.**

April 25th - History of the Church at the North Toronto Historical Society. Meriel Simpson will give a talk and presentation of The Welsh Church in Toronto.

ADMISSION IS FREE. Room 224 at Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Blvd. (1 block north of Yonge & Eglinton, running west from Yonge). 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. DOORS OPEN 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Refreshments available from 7:10 p.m. on. FULLY ACCESSIBLE. Close to Eglinton Subway Station. Parking lots nearby.

**Lillian Powell.**

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**Easter weekend at Dewi Sant.**

The Easter celebrations begin on **Good Friday** at 3:30 pm. There is a bilingual service conducted by the Reverend Elwyn Hughes, with Gaynor Jones Low as guest soloist. Merched Dewi will be singing and Dr. Murray Black will be the accompanist.

At 5:00 pm the UCW is serving a Buffet supper. Food will be plentiful so please make an effort to attend. The cost is \$12. At 7:00 pm the Gymanfa Ganu under the baton of Betty Cullingworth, soloist Jill Walker and accompanist Murray Black at the organ. There will be tea and Welsh cakes after the Gymanfa.

The menu for the Good Friday supper is baked ham, roast pork, chicken, a selection of salads, tasty dessert, tea and coffee. Please purchase tickets from Sheryl Clay or Myfanwy (905-737-4399) or just come downstairs from the Church service.

**Easter Sunday.** Holy Communion will be conducted by the Reverend Deian Evans at 9:00 am. Following this a breakfast will be served at 9:30 am. Tickets from Joan Lloyd and Mabel Hastings. The regular Sunday service will begin at 11 am. The Neyland Ladies Choir, Pembrokeshire, will be singing during the service. Tea to follow as usual.

**The deadline for the next Gadwyn is April 15<sup>th</sup>.**