

Dewi Sant Welsh United Church

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Neges y Gweinidog.

Message from the Mimister.

One of the highlights of the past month for me was the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Weekend at Kingston. Not only because of the high standard of those taking part in the Noson Lawen, the Concert and the two sessions of Gymanfa Ganu, but also because of the opportunity I got to meet up with dear friends from Ontario, the States and from Wales. Being a minister does have its advantages, (too many to note), but also its disadvantages. One of these is my being in a kind of 'cocoon of reverence', expected to act in certain ways befitting my calling. But on such a weekend as that in Kingston I am able to 'lighten up' just that little bit more than usual with members of my congregation. (But only just a little bit, mind you!!) The centenary events at the Church are still in full flow. By the time you will have read this issue of the Gadwyn members of Dewi Sant Church will have presented a musical extravaganza in honour of its history. And the next big event is already upon us, the Service and Picnic on Toronto Island. I hope the weather will be clement and that the Church on the Island as well as the picnic site beside the Church will be overflowing with people having a wonderful time. Then there will hardly be time to draw breath before the special service on June 10th when the Sunday School Graduation takes place, followed by the Service of Dedication to the 100 year wall on June 17th. Then there will be other major events taking us into the Summer. It's a really exciting time to be a part of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, and the good news is that everyone who wants can be a part of it can join in the fun and excitement, can feel the power of His Spirit moving through the Church through the members, giving us a 'feelgood factor' that can only be experienced, not described. Yes, YOU can be a part on the celebrations. All it takes is for you to WANT to be a part of it, to join in. And the more you partake, the better you will feel, and the more appreciative you will become of the One who is inviting us to celebrate with Him as part of His family, in the comfort of His home. Just as he has done here in Toronto amongst the Welsh folk for the last hundred years.

My prayers go out to those who would love to be part of the celebrations, but cannot because of illness or disability. We should never forget those in need, even when the festivities are at their most distracting. And we should be grateful for the ability we have to partake in the Church events.

Bob bendith,

Deian.

Report From UCW:

April Meeting: Penny Auction and Potluck:

We all had a wonderful time at our April meeting. Not only was the food wonderful (potluck is always the best) but we also enjoyed the Penny Auction (hosted by our auctioneer – Jean Thompson). Thank you to everyone for coming out and participating!

Saturday, June 9th – Spring Bazaar (10:30 am – 2:00 pm) The Spring Bazaar committee has been meeting regularly to organize this important community and fundraising event. Please contact Nina Morris, our co-coordinator, if you would like to volunteer. We are looking for volunteers not only to help on the day of the bazaar but also to help with setup on the Thursday night and clean up on Saturday afternoon. A particular plea to the gentlemen again to assist with the assembly of tables. Also, we would appreciate your donations: knitting, sewing, crafts, baking, and treasures. For the spring bazaar only, we are also planning a section for gently used clothing. Please contact Nina for more information at (416) 497-5578 or elwyninamorris@rogers.com.

Tuesday, June 26th 7:00 – Strawberry Tea

We are looking at a variety of other activities in the summer months. These include Strawberry Tea and a Saturday outing. Stay tuned....

Finally, a plea for the tea list! We all enjoy a cup of tea after the service, please put your name on this list to volunteer and if you aren't certain what to do, let me know, I'll find someone to help.

Looking forward to seeing you all at these activities.

Sheryl Clay, President, UCW

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## GOOD FRIDAY SUPPER

I am told the Good Friday Supper was a success !

If you attended, thank you so much for supporting Dewi Sant's United Church Women. Good Friday is a busy day for us all, but worth every bit of work needed to make it a success.

We were treated to a wonderful sermon at the afternoon service, given by Rev. Elwyn Hughes, who came down to the Fellowship Hall along with his wife Louise to try out the U.C.W.'s "Buffet Supper".

Our Minister, Rev. Deian Evans and Annette hosted the cheery group who sat at the "top table" for supper. Our thanks to Elwyn & Louise and Cerwyn and Nora Davies for always being a part of this Dewi Sant special day. Elwyn and Louise also brought along friends, and we hope they enjoyed the day and will return again next year. I would like to thank Audrey Evans for setting the tables, Cy Evans for wielding his carving knife once more and carving the hams for us. Thank you to Arleigh Quesnelle and Ashley Terry for all of the work they did for me in the kitchen, along with Cheryl Jones who moved back and forth from kitchen to waiting on tables in the Fellowship Hall. Cheryl joined "Uncle Cerwyn's kids" waiting on tables in the same aprons they wore back in the 1980's for Dewi's Dinners and Easter Breakfasts. It was so good to see Lisa Cullingworth and Sheila Holyer back in our Fellowship Hall, clearing tables and pouring tea for the nearly 100 people who attended. The job no one ever wants to do, that of washing the dishes and cleaning up the kitchen was done by Arun Bajaj and Sion Glyn Jones. Their system

worked well and I think they enjoyed being in the kitchen left to themselves where sports and the news of the day were discussed until their job was done. I hope I haven't forgotten anyone, if I have, thank you so much for helping us. I hope you all come again next year and support Dewi Sant's "United Church Women". The day would not be complete without you.

Thank you all for a successful "Supper".

Betty Jones.

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STRAWBERRY TEA

Here we are, nearly at the end of a very busy "Dewi Sant" season, which means, the U.C.W. of Dewi Sant will be organizing their annual "STRAWBERRY TEA" which will be held on TUESDAY, JUNE 26th. at 7:00 P.M. Enjoy your dinner at home and come along by 7:00 p.m. and have your dessert with all of your friends in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your friends and neighbours along and maybe you could pick up someone who no longer drives a car and has no other way of traveling to Dewi Sant. We do have those who miss our social activities because they do not have a way of traveling to Dewi Sant and I know they would love to be able to be with you all on June 26th.

Strawberry Shortcake is on the Menu along with Tea, Coffee and Lemonade for the children. Those who cannot eat Strawberries will be able to have mixed fruit instead - as usual.

Tickets are \$5.00, half price for children and can be purchased from Betty Jones. Please call **905-508-4961** and order your tickets. Leave a message on the answering machine. We would like to have an idea of how many will be coming so we can order the Strawberries. Let's hope Mother Nature makes sure our Ontario Strawberries will be ripe in time for June 26th. So far she has never let us down. Please come along everyone and help finish off June with another successful "United Church Women" event.

Betty Jones

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## **Congratulations to Meeko Thomas.**

As part of our Centenary Celebrations the children of the Sunday School participated in a competition. They were asked to design a stamp to commemorate our 100th birthday. The proud winner is Meeko Thomas. Her delightful drawing depicts a woman in Welsh costume in the foreground and Dewi Sant Church in the background. These stamps, which are legitimate Canada Post postage, will be on sale in the near future. Just think of the effect of having our very own Dewi Sant Stamps on our letters and cards.

Well done, Meeko. We are very proud of you.

Hefina Phillips.

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Dedication of the Commemorative Plaque.

The Sponsor a Year project has come to a successful end, and I'm delighted to report that the grand total of \$16,500 was reached. As promised, all sponsors' names will be shown on a special plaque. Mark Sunday, June 17 on your calendars, because that is the date of the unveiling and blessing of that plaque.

Cantorion Ottawa will grace us with their lovely voices during the morning service. They will be accompanied by their harpist.

Lunch will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Croeso i bawb. Everyone is welcome.

Thank you for making this project such a resounding success.

Hefina Phillips.

The Ontario Welsh Festival.

The Ontario Welsh Festival/OGGA is over for another year, and such was the success of the weekend that it took me a week to recover!

It was the first time for the Festival to be held in Kingston for several years and we were welcomed with open arms. Thanks to excellent publicity, the numbers of attendees was higher than usual, and St. Paul's Anglican Church was packed on both Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

The guest choir, Cor Meibion **Prysor**, under the leadership of Iwan Morgan, thrilled us with their wonderful voices, and their repertoire- to our delight- consisted mainly of songs sung in Welsh. They are best known in Wales for their skill in Cerdd Dant, and we were treated to two examples of the traditional "Penillion" singing. (I would have welcomed several more, as I am particularly fond of this genre!)

The choir's soloist, Sioned Mair, won first prize at last year's National Eisteddfod in Swansea, and won the hearts of her audience in Kingston.

What were the highlights of the weekend? There were many! We got off to a resounding start with Friday evening's Noson Lawen. The excitement of Saturday morning was Awr y Plant (Children's Hour)-the first for many a year. Proud parents and even prouder grandparents beamed with delight as they cheered on the youngsters, several of whom were from Kingston.

On Saturday afternoon, Dr. Brian Osborne, Professor Emeritus from Queen's University, Kingston, delivered a fascinating lecture about Wales-its past, present and future. There were so many attendees that it was standing room only. No-one wanted the seminar to

end as they had so many questions to ask Brian. But he had to rush home - to get changed in time for the evening's Banquet!

Dr. Malcolm Williams of Kingston was the guest speaker at the Banquet and had been of invaluable help to the Board as we prepared for the weekend.

The raison d'etre of the weekend is the Gymanfa, and as usual, there were two sessions of hymn singing. Iwan Morgan is well accustomed to conducting cymanfaoedd in Wales, and, backed by his choir, he made sure that we sang with gusto. Even the Heavenly Hosts would have been hard pressed to produce more joyous songs of praise.

The Reverend David Ward, vicar of St. Paul's, was a charming host. He was so thrilled by the singing that he and his wife presented Iwan, Sioned and the accompanist, Iona Mair, with flowers, a photograph of the church and a copy of a programme recently discovered at the church during renovations. It dated back to 1928 when a visiting choir from Wales sang at St. Paul's.

The end of a Gymanfa weekend is always emotional. The traditional singing of "God be with you" leaves so many in tears, and we hug and kiss, and say our goodbyes, knowing that it will be another year before many of us meet again.

Yes! A great weekend, and a special thanks to everyone who made it possible.

Hefina Phillips.

Afon Prysor River

A river in South Gwynedd with its source between Ffestiniog and Bala and flowing into the river Dwyryd. The Cwm Prysor Valley is an area of true beauty. The river finally ends at Trawsfynydd Lake. The cold waters of this river helped to cool the nuclear reactor at the power plant in Trawsfynydd.

“Dim ond lleuad borffor
Ar fin y mynydd llwm
A swm hen afon Prysor
Yn canu yn y cwm”.

Olwen Dunets.

Of Interest.

Dewi Sant Church is celebrating its hundredth anniversary this year. The National Library of Wales is also celebrating its hundred years of service to the public. This imposing building is on a hill overlooking Aberystwyth. It will be taking a nostalgic trip down memory lane as it mounts the biggest exhibition that it has ever staged. There will be a look back at Wales from the twentieth century—from the first World War and also from the emigration to Patagonia, to the miners' strike.

An exhibition of Treasures from the vaults, giving a glimpse of 800,000 photographs that are in its collection will be on display from May 19th. To July 7th. This library will be looking forward to a digital future.

The National Library of Wales was founded on March 19th. 1907.

Olwen Dunets.

Vimy Ridge.

On Monday, April 9, 1917, the battle for Vimy Ridge was launched after a full week of the largest artillery barrage in military history.

This battle was significant for two reasons, 1) it was the first time that the four divisions of the Canadian army fought as one combined unit under Canadian commanders; and 2) the battle was a success after previous attacks had failed.

To commemorate the battle, a huge memorial was unveiled in 1937 and dedicated by King Edward VII (just prior to his abdication).

Unfortunately, the memorial began to deteriorate over the years but a restoration project was started in 2004. The memorial was completed in time for a ceremony to re-dedicate the memorial on Monday, April 9, 2007 90 years to the day after the battle was launched.

The memorial was re-dedicated by Queen Elizabeth II and I was honoured to be among the 3,500 students from all parts of Canada to witness this historic ceremony.

To see the actual monument was breath-taking because of its sheer size and beauty. It is the largest of all Canadian war memorials. I was also impressed by the friendliness of the French people when they realized we were Canadians. The memorial at Vimy Ridge is officially Canadian land and the memorial is maintained by Veteran's Affairs. This is because the French people, in their gratitude to the Canadians, gave the land upon which the memorial stands, to Canada forever.

This was the reason for Prime Minister Stephen Harper acting as the official host at the re-dedication ceremony because everyone else was actually visiting Canada even though we were in the middle of France!

Also, I was moved at the surrounding areas because even though it had been 90 years ago, you could still see where the trenches were and where the battle took place. One cannot really appreciate the Great War properly until they see all of the monuments throughout Europe and see all of the cemeteries of the Great War.

I would one day like to go back to Europe and show my Mom and Dad and sister all of the things that I have seen and hope that everyone begins to appreciate the sacrifices made by all soldiers who fought for our freedom.

Jennifer Evans.

May we wish Annette Evans a very Happy 50th Birthday on June 2nd.

A few months ago an eisteddfod was held at Dewi Sant. Amongst the winning entries was a poem about "Celebrating." There was a non de plume so no one was aware of the poet's identity until the first prize was declared and Medwyn was asked to come forward to claim the prize. Medwyn turned out to be The Reverend Deian Evans.

Dathlu.

Wrth fedyddfan saif rhieni
Gyda'r bychan mewn gŵn gwyn,
Dathlu bywyd newydd sanctaidd
Llawenhawn pan gofiwn hyn.

Wrth yr allor saif y plentyn
Sydd ar ddod yn aelod llawn,
Addo bywyd o wasanaeth
Trwy ei ddysg a thrwy ei ddawn.

Law yn llaw gerbron offeiriad
Daw y ddau ynghyd fel un
Modrwy ar y bys, a dathlu
Byw'r dyfodol yn gytun

Wrth yr elor gorwedd cyfaill
Llawn cymwynas trwy ei oes,
Ceisiwn nerth trwy weddi ddistaw
Ddathlu ffydd trwy rym y Groes.

Nid oes rhaid, wrth ddilyn Iesu
Fod yn brudd a lleddf ein llef.
Dathlu wnawn bob carreg filltir
Ar daith bywyd, gydag Ef.

Ffugenw : Medwyn

Y Parchedig Deian Evans.

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**It's not easy to become an angel! First, you die. Then you go to heaven, and then there's still the flight training to go through. And then you got to agree to wear those angel clothes. Matthew, 9**

**When an angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts to ten. And when he lets out his breath, somewhere there's a tornado. Reagan, 10**

**Angels have a lot to do and they keep very busy. If you lose a tooth, an angel comes in through your window and leaves money under your pillow. Then when it gets cold, angels go north for the winter. Sara, 6**

**Birthday Congratulations.**

On Sunday, June 24th. Anne Croombs will turn "90". We hope you will all come along after the Church Service that day and help her celebrate this very happy occasion in our Fellowship Hall. Come and have that usual cup of tea or coffee and have a piece of Birthday Cake with Anne. Let's make it a very "special day" for a very "special lady." I know she will be so pleased to spend this day with her "Dewi Sant Family". If you would like to send her a Birthday Card, her address is:

Mrs. Anne Croombs,  
4 Teddington Park, #504,  
Toronto, Ontario. M4N 2C3

Betty Jones.



**Celebrating the 100 years ~ Dathlu Canmlwyddiant .**

We'd like to let you know of our upcoming Celebrations. If you know of anyone who would like to receive an Invitation and/or Information regarding our Anniversary Weekend Events, please fill in the form below and mail it to Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, 33 Melrose Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5M 1Y6 or phone 416-485-7583 or send an e-mail to info@dewisant.com. Diolch yn fawr iawn. ~ Bonnie Booth

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his son, who's a very good carpenter. Jared, 8**  
**All angels are girls because they gotta wear dresses and boys didn't go for it. Antonio, 9**  
**My angel is my grandma who died last year. She got a big head start on helping me while she was still down here on earth. Katelynn, 9**  
**Some of the angels are in charge of helping heal sick animals and pets. And if they don't make the animals get better, they help the child get over it. Vicki, 8**  
**What I don't get about angels is why, when someone is in love, they shoot arrows at them. Sarah 7**

**Gadwyn Donors.**

David Jones: Brenda & Ian Thomson: Maureen & Ceiri Jones: Janet & Cliff Davies:  
June & Tom Edwards:





## Letters to the Editor.

*Ian and I really enjoy reading all the news from "Y Gadwyn" and your jokes are passed on at the Kiwanis and are included in our parish news letter.*

*Congratulations on reaching 100 wonderful, happy years at Dewi Sant. We wish that we were nearer so that we could drop in once in a while.*

*God Bless. Brenda Thomson ( Regina,Sask.)*

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We are living in Essex, but are currently re decorating the house with a view of moving to North Wales later this year.

Give our love to everyone at the church, especially Cerwyn and family, Betty Jones, Geraint and his wife and Francis Silburn.

We will probably visit Toronto sometime this year and will come to the church to see everyone. Tell Deian that we still visit "Caffi Cwrt" in Cricieth for a cup of tea.

Love to all Maureen and Ceiri Jones.

"In Our Father's Footsteps - The Welsh Immigrant Story in Toronto"

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This unique tour offers an opportunity to trace the footsteps of Welsh immigrants who have lived, worked, and worshiped in Toronto. We will visit many sites and landmark buildings and hear the stories of the Welsh people behind them. We will also explore their influence on this great city and the legacy they have bestowed on us. Afterwards, we will enjoy a deluxe lunch buffet at The Old Mill Inn.

Date: Monday July 16th, 2007. Time: 9:00 a.m. start from Dewi Sant Welsh United Church

Cost: T.B.A. (approximately \$50 depending on participation)

If interested in joining us on this outing, please contact Donna Morris at (416) 756-1249 or e-mail, [morrisdo@mpac.ca](mailto:morrisdo@mpac.ca). for further details.

**Donna Morris.**

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Please look at the back of page 9 for all the upcoming events. That way you will not miss anything that is going on.

Thank you to all who contributed this month with articles and donations.

The next deadline will be Sunday June 17th.

This will be the last one until we start up again in September. Thank you. Myfanwy. myfanwy@rogers.com 905 737 4399.

Maya Angelou said this;;;;;"I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow. I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.. I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life. I've learned that making a living is not the same thing as "making a life." I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance. I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw some things back. I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision. I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one. I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. People love a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back. I've learned that I still have a lot to learn. I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Meriel Simpson.