

Dewi Sant Welsh United Church

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Neges y Gweinidog Minister's Message.

Dear readers,

Greetings to all the Gadwyn readers from Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, and this includes people from all over the globe, those who read the newsletter in hard copy, through e.mail and internet. It is so encouraging to get positive feedback from far and wide to the content of this message and the reports within.

You would be astounded how difficult it is for an editor to produce such a newsletter on a regular basis. And so I say a big DIOLCH to you, Myfanwy. May I also take this opportunity to say Thank You to the ladies who give of their time and energy to produce and then prepare the newsletter to be sent out to you. It takes a great team, working in harmony, to bring to you the finished product.

Winter is upon us, and with it comes the viruses and ailments. This year the talk has all been about the H1N1 virus, its effect upon social gatherings and whether the 'flu shot is an option. Let me tell you now that if you come to Dewi Sant Church and want a personal welcome, then you are going to get it. I went to Lawrence Market in downtown Toronto the other day and there I saw people still touching and squeezing fruit and breads, smelling the herbs and spices and generally passing on any virus they may carry. We have taken precautions at the Communion Table and elsewhere at the Church, but believe me, it is still a case of 'Normal Service' for all here.

I got my 'flu jab (both H1N1 and regular) as one of the first priorities, because of my contact in home and hospital. The serum that is injected, apparently, contains the virus itself, and we become stronger and more able to resist through immunity. It is a difficult concept for many to comprehend fully. But it puts me in mind of the Faith. We are requested to love others based on the fact that we are first loved by God, who is Love Incarnate. God suffers with us when we hurt and we know this because God has suffered as we do – 'God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, so that those who believe are not lost, but rather gain life eternal.' Through the suffering we experience we are called to become stronger people in faith; we do not become immune to suffering but are able to better bare the pain in the knowledge that we do not suffer alone – God is with us to share those experiences. And we can better help others by truly showing sympathy and compassion, based on that which we have experienced.

This will be my final 'word' before Christmas, therefore may I take this opportunity to wish you every blessing over Advent and the Christmas Season, and to remind you that we cannot fully appreciate 'Christmas' without the inclusion of Christ.

Bendith dros yr Wyl, a phob amser,

Deian Evans, Gweinidog.

Can You Help???

The financial results for the church after the first ten months of the fiscal year (i.e. end of October) have now been completed and the results are far from encouraging. Our expenses have exceeded income by \$39,072, a deficit that is much higher than previously anticipated.

There are of course reasons for this result: an economic downturn that has made everyone cautious about spending; and many members and supporters who are on fixed income and are already giving to the maximum of their capacity. But the hard reality is that our expenses do not disappear despite the economic environment.

What can we do? We need to find ways to fill our coffers and to dig ourselves out of this financial quagmire. Yes special events in 2007 helped to give us a buffer against a deficit but a deficit of \$39000 a year will deplete our resources very quickly.

We need members and supporters of Dewi Sant to search within and decide if they can afford to give a little more to the church on a regular basis. It is of course realized that for some this is not a possibility. It is also much appreciated that many members give countless hours of service to the church which is worth 'more than gold'. But for those who can, increasing your givings between now and the end of 2009 will help to reduce this deficit. Of course any monies donated are tax- deductible; this is a nice bonus at income tax time next April! The challenge then becomes to carry this initiative into the New Year and beyond.

Can you help?? Will you help??
Submitted by **Ross Cullingworth (Treasurer)**

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U C W Merched Y Capel.

The Christmas Bazaar held on Saturday, November 21st drew impressive numbers throughout the morning with the weather in our favour. Our diligent workers and contributors generously gave of their time and talents in setting up the night before, arriving early to fine tune last minute preparations for the 10:00 opening.

There are too many to name individually who donated goods, baking and personal time to help, however I wish to give particular mention to Gaynor McConnell and her team who ran another very successful "bake table" not only with community contributions but with her personal kitchen time and commitment. I would also like to give a special thanks to Joy and Peter Bailey and Wendy Van der Voort who orchestrated the lunch which everyone so much enjoys, not only amongst the workers, but the guests who visit and take time to relax in the atmosphere of the bazaar with friends. Also thanks to Jeanette Roberts who spends several days "encouraging" local establishments to post our flyers.

Mena and Nia Jones gave a substantial donation of delightful china collectibles which helped raise a tidy sum for the Treasures Table. Thanks to both of you.

The UCW Gwasanaeth Cymun Yr Adfent, Advent Communion Service was held on Tuesday November 24th. A special thanks to readers Audrey Evans, Maureen Davies, Ashley Terry, Hefina Phillips, Stephanie Evans, Lillian Powell and Annette Evans. We were truly blessed with the offerings of the Merched Dewi Choir and solos by Meriel Simpson and Sheryl Clay. A special thanks to Reverend Deian Evans and Dr. Murray Black for their valued contribution.

THE LUNCH BUNCH

The October 27th luncheon focused on Autumn, Health and Longevity. Our speaker was Megan Ogilvie, the Health and Medical reporter from the Toronto Star who discussed the latest H1N1 information and answered questions about her job as a health journalist.

At the December 1st Christmas luncheon we were pleased to have guest speaker and published author, Frances D. Burton, Professor emeriti in the Department. of Anthropology, University of Toronto who presented an informative and fascinating history tracing the intellectual and fossil history of our forebears.

Both events were well attended and a special thanks to our ladies who help prepare the tea and soup, and set up tables, and to Rev. Deian Evans and Dr. Murray Black for their contribution to making both days a success.

President of the UCW, **Nina Morris.**

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Mission & Service BBQ September 13 2009.

The weather was great and we all had a lot of fun.....Once again this year, the M&S BBQ was a great success. About 35 people attended and the weather was warm and sunny, with a few pesky wasps!. Thanks to Joan Lloyd, who graciously opened her home again this year and to our new cooks, Colin Christie and Ed Newell, for their excellent cooking of the burgers. Betty Jones, who unfortunately could not come out, was again kind enough to provide the salads, which everyone enjoyed. Thanks also to Shirley Evans, Nêst Pritchard, all the faithful helpers and to everyone who brought desserts and gave a donation.

We missed some of our regulars this year but, as always, the BBQ was well attended and the committee is grateful to the faithful followers who come out each year for good food and fellowship.

Our final total after expenses was \$350.50. As always, a special thank you to Joan for giving us a place and to you for making it so successful.

Looking forward to 2010, the year Dewi Sant celebrates 50 years on Melrose Avenue.

Mission & Service Committee:- Joan Lloyd, Betty Jones, Nest Pritchard, Meriel Simpson

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The Ontario Welsh Festival

As Vice President of the Ontario Welsh Festival, I am writing to invite the support of each of your organizations (i.e. The Ottawa Welsh Society; The St. David's Society; and Dewi Sant Welsh United Church) in the structuring and implementation of what we hope will be an exciting new addition to the 50th anniversary celebration of the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association in 2011.

We are hoping to give special recognition (The Gold Award) to someone who has made an exceptional contribution to the work of the Welsh community in Ontario. It is anticipated that this will be the first presentation of what we would hope will become an annual award. There are some tentative plans in place to present this award at a special luncheon/banquet on the Saturday of the celebration weekend. This is intended to replace the evening banquet and give more time for the concert that evening.

If, as an organization, you are prepared to be involved in such an undertaking, we would ask each group to select one person to sit on an organizing committee. The person representing the Ottawa Welsh

group would be able to participate in this meeting by conference call if so desired. Although the time line of 2011 may seem rather distant at this juncture, it is important to have the framework of the award in place to be presented to the AGM at the 2010 Festival in Stratford.

Getting the members of the committee established by January 15th would be the desired target.

Thank you for bringing this request to the attention of your respective organizations

Betty Cullingworth.

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Now a smile. **Letter of Recommendation**

1. **Trevor Adams, my assistant programmer, can always be found**
2. **hard at work at his desk. Trevor works independently, without**
3. **Wasting company time talking to colleagues. Trevor never**
4. **Thinks twice about assisting fellow employees and he always**
5. **Finishes given assignments on time. Often he takes extended**
6. **Measures to complete his work, sometimes skipping coffee**
7. **Breaks. Trevor is an individual who has absolutely no**
8. **Vanity in spite of his high accomplishments and profound**
9. **Knowledge in his field. I firmly believe that Trevor can be**
10. **classed as a high calibre employee. the type that cannot be**
11. **dispensed with. Consequently, I truly recommend that Trevor be**
12. **promoted to executive management, and a proposal will be**
13. **executed as soon as possible.**

Addendum: The idiot was standing over my shoulder while I wrote this. Kindly read only the odd numbered lines.

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An evening with Lynette and Friends.

What a wonderful evening we enjoyed at St. James' Cathedral Church as we joined Lynette Jenkins and her talented friends who came together to raise money for the noble cause of Sleeping Children Around the World. This was the tenth time such an evening has been arranged, and each year the experience seems to have become more fulfilling and enjoyable.

As we entered the Church we were greeted with the smiling faces of Stephanie and Tegan, two Dewi Sant Sunday School members, in their Welsh costume. Later on they helped collect our pennies as we departed. Well done, both of you, for taking the Church tradition of Penny Collection to the community.

The concert opened with renditions from the Cosburn Middle School Concert Band (an annual input), and then some songs from the Tri-City Gospel Quartet. We were then enthralled by the singing of our own Merched Dewi, who sang 'Yr Arglwydd yw fy Mugail' and 'Atgof o'r Ser'. Then centre stage was given to the Toronto All-Starts Steel Orchestra. After the break the Cosburn Middle School Choir sang three lovely songs, followed by our Sheryl Clay, the Guest Soloist singing 'Piu Jesu' and 'You Raise Me Up'. Then Jeremy Smith entertained us with songs on his Euphonium and finally Vocal Horizons closed the concert with their tuneful renditions.

The concert was presented by Lynette herself, and as usual she did this with poise and a great deal of enthusiasm. Two hours passed like two minutes. We left wanting more.

Congratulations to all who took part as Lynette's 'Friends'. Some of the poor children around the world are a little better off as a result of the concert, and we who were there are the wealthier in spirit having attended such an uplifting event.

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A Story Of Success.

How wonderful to see that people associated with Dewi Sant Welsh United Church are celebrating joyful successes. One such example is our wonderful Caretaker, Maria, whose son, Prof. Mario Monteiro, has recently become internationally famous in the field of science. A special report on his breakthrough scientific research has appeared in a major Science Journal, 'Infection and Immunity', research that has resulted in the development of a sugar-based vaccine to prevent a major cause of world-wide bacterial diarrhea, an illness that affects as many as 50 in every 100,00 people.

Apparently the success of Mario's studies and trials is just the beginning of a 10 year study into this specialized area of medicinal science, and so it is likely that he will be kept busy for quite a while!

Naturally, Maria and her family are proud of the successes of her son, and we as a Church are proud of him, and wish him well as he takes further major steps in dealing with significant medical issues. Well done, Professor Mario.

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In Memoriam—Er Parchus Cof. **Betty Lloyd - Jones.**

Elizabeth (Betty) Lloyd –Jones passed away after three days in Sunnybrook Hospital on November 16th, 2009. She was very proud to have previously been in hospital only twice in her 85 years—to have her children!

Betty enjoyed a long, happy, healthy and adventurous life, starting in the beautiful vale of Llangollen. Although she left Wales as a teenager, being Welsh never left her. It remained a large part of Betty's identity to the end. She moved to Liverpool at 17 to attend secretarial college and begin her career in business. While serving as a church pianist and organist, a choir member introduced Betty to her stepson. She dated him for several months before meeting his younger brother, who had been away at sea, and promptly switched brothers! She married Tom, a Chief Engineer in the British Merchant Marines in 1951 and immigrated to Toronto in 1953, as there were more opportunities for a marine engineer to work on land in Canada.

While immigration eliminated the long absences inherent in having a sea-going husband, Betty was an only child who found it difficult to leave behind her parents in Wales. When her father died in 1958, Betty's mother joined the family in Toronto and lived with them for 20 years. In addition to raising two children (Peter and Megan), Betty enjoyed a career as an executive secretary for over forty years. Tom became the vice president of an international insurance company, and they travelled extensively for work and pleasure until his death in 1993.

Tom and Betty did not connect with Toronto's Welsh community for many years, as they felt they owed it to their adopted country to assimilate. They took their children to Britain twice, but many more holidays were spent exploring every province in Canada together. After many years of membership at Islington United Church, they found themselves drawn to Dewi Sant, which they began to attend with Betty's

mother. Peter joined the church in 2006 and his daughter, Ava, is the fourth generation of the Lloyd-Jones family to attend Dewi Sant. Although poor mobility made it difficult for Betty to attend church in recent years, she had fond memories of her friends at Dewi Sant. In a large city across the world, she found what she had started with—a small, warm, Welsh community.

Betty will be greatly missed by son Peter, daughter Meg and her husband, John Oyston, and her grandchildren, Grant and Kate Oyston and Ava Elizabeth Lloyd-Jones.

Our condolences to family and friends.

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Irene Evans.

Irene was a warm friendly outgoing and very independent woman. Her engaging personality made it a pleasure to be in her company.

Irene was first and foremost a Welsh woman, who was very proud of her heritage. She attended Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, on a regular basis she went to the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu annually and she went to as many Welsh concerts as she could manage within the GTA.

Irene often spoke affectionately about her family, her brothers in the UK, her sister in Australia and her children and grandchildren in eastern Canada. She would reflect with laughter the youthful antics of her sons and she would express pride in her grand daughters. Her granddaughter Olivia played the flute at Dewi Sant one Christmas Eve.

She was so proud of her performance she spoke about it for weeks. Irene's Nursing career was very important to her, She had a keen interest in anything medical and this enabled her to be an active participant in dealing with her health issues and those of Jack her husband. Her level of caring and her love of people always shone through as she spoke.

Irene loved her car. Her car was her mobility, her ticket to freedom, her independence. She was very possessive of it and very generous with it at the same time. Irene would gladly take her friends to events and on daily outings.

Another source of joy for Irene was her quilting. She lived for her quilting and she was very good at it. She had a great admiration for the masterpieces of others and she was always looking to improve her skills. The one thing she wanted to do was to teach a group of people to quilt. She made beautiful quilted jackets and she made a Celtic tapestry in memory of her husband Jack that hangs in Dewi Sant Welsh United Church. Irene was constantly looking at upgrade her sewing machines to enable her to create more sophisticated quilting project and in order to do this she also needed fabric. She had a keen eye for a bargain and amassed a roomful of materials once saw a sign in a quilting store - it read- "the one who dies with the most fabrics wins"

I think on all accounts Irene was a winner.

During the months leading up to “ Caravan” there would be a flurry of craft activities. I remember well, Irene, Lowri Taylor and Florence Sutton all coming to our house laden with fabrics, sewing machines, scissors’ etc. Then it would be snipping, cutting, sewing, laughing and gossiping! I would weasel out to make lunch and dinner since my talents did not extend to the craft activities. What’s more, we ladies made a profit by selling these crafts at the Cardiff Pavilion of Metro Toronto Caravan!! Those days were full of fun, comradeship and laughter. Myfanwy.

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Robert Donald Fitzgibbon.

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Robert Donald Fitzgibbon, husband of Ellen and father of John and Robert Charles and grandfather of Kayley and Tyler.

Bob passed away on Friday November 13th 2009. He had been married to Ellen for over 52 years. He was a hard, diligent worker and a good family man, with a deep Christian faith.

As a young man Bob had been in the air force ground crew, out in Western Canada. This was during World War Two. After the war Bob worked in the Department of Highways, in Toronto for over twenty five years.

He was a faithful member of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church. He had served the church well as a member of both Session and Stewards. With his wife Ellen, Bob was responsible for the Sunday morning refreshments. They did this faithfully for quite a few years.

During the last six years Bob was in poor health. He was not able to get out of the house very often. Yet whenever he answered a phone call, it was with a cheerful, "I'll get Nellie for you now Myf." (Nellie being his name for Ellen.) During his better days he always had a little joke to tell you.

Yes, this quiet,gentle man will be missed by his family, friends and Dewi Sant Church.
"Rest peacefully faithful friend."

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Information Needed!!

Are you a history buff? What do you know of the contribution made to Canada by the Welsh? Do you know of anyone who could provide information about Welsh pioneers? Do you know where such information could be found? Who are the current movers and shakers of Welsh heritage?

Why do we ask these questions? If you attended the North American Festival of Wales in Pittsburgh this past Labour Weekend you would have been extremely impressed by a historical display put together by Catrin Brace who represents the Welsh Assembly in the USA. Large panels showed photographs and histories of Welsh people who had contributed to the development of the United States, ranging from those who signed the Declaration of Independence through to present day VIPs of Welsh origin. It was a truly magnificent and important exhibit, and Catrin is to be congratulated on a superb achievement.

Now you will understand the questions in the opening paragraph! We would like our own historical record – but, of course, we need the information to achieve this goal. Who were these early pioneers who left Wales to find a new life in the New World? Who has contributed to the development of Canada? We all know of David Thompson (Dafydd apTomos), but there have to be so many more whose names are unknown to us- but hopefully, known to you.

Our aim is to produce this important piece of history by April 2011 when it will be displayed at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Ontario Welsh Festival (OGGA) in Niagara Falls (venue of the very first Ontario Gymanfa Ganu.) To achieve this, we need your help. If you have no such information, can you possibly think of someone who might?

Contact Betty Cullingworth at cullingwho@rogers.com or phone at 416-486-0432

Hefina Phillips.

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A Book Review.

Perhaps the Gadwyn readers have been following the media coverage for author Richard Dawkins. Richard Dawkins is a well-known author and out-spoken atheist who writes about evolution and attacks creationist theory in particular and religion in general. His last book was called *The God Delusion*. I had heard a couple of interviews with him over the past few months when one day I was listening to CBC radio and heard the announcer say that he was going to interview an author who was writing on the other side of the argument, that is to say, an author who was arguing in favour of religion. I turned up the volume and wondered to myself, who is going to argue against evolution? The announcer introduced Karen Armstrong, the author of a book entitled *The Case for God* and gave her this lead in: "We only have about 5 minutes before the news. Can you give us the case for God in 5 minutes?" I was appalled; I couldn't imagine anyone rising to that challenge. Amazingly, Karen Armstrong did speak for 5 minutes, so well, and so convincingly, that I asked my husband to buy me her book for my birthday. I'm only on chapter two and it's not an easy read, but it is very interesting and I would highly recommend it to anyone who, like me, sometimes wonders if religion is in fact a "delusion". It is twelve chapters long so if you want to borrow my copy, you might have to wait a while!!

Sheila Holyer.

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To Annette and Deian Evans

Deian, thank you for fitting Psalm 23 (Welsh version), to Colin Mawby's haunting melody. Annette, you are always there as our Welsh tutor, listening to our pronunciation and correcting a word wherever needed. NADOLIG LLAWEN A BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA.

Diolch yn fawr,

Jeanette Roberts.

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Little Johnny watched his mother as she smoothed on cold cream all over her face. "Why do you do that?" asked Johnny. "To make myself look beautiful," was the reply. When she began to wipe off the cream with a tissue, he looked a little puzzled then asked "what's the matter, giving up already?"

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May Hale

It was my good fortune to go for a visit to Elora a few weeks ago. While there I remembered that May Hale was in Fergus, a short distance away. So off we went in search of Wellington Terrace where we found "our" May in a beautiful new "home." She was in a wheel chair, but looked well and was delighted to see friends from Dewi Sant Church. Her wish was to know all the church news. May sends her love to all her friends.

May and Albert Hale gave their time and effort for many years to the church. We remember May, who had been a Major in the Salvation Army, speak to us many times from the pulpit. We were always given a good message. It was a joy to hear May and the late Anne Boswell combining their voices, soprano and alto in their duets.

Yes she would love to receive a few words from her friends at Dewi Sant. She will soon be getting a new phone. The details can be obtained from the church office.

Olwen Dunets.

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A Christmas Card. (Anonymous.)

There is a list of folks I know, all written in a book
 And every year at Christmas time I go and take a look...
 And that is when I realize that these names are a part,
 Not of the book they're written in, but of my very heart.
 For each name stands for someone who has walked my path sometime
 And in that meeting, you've become the "Rhythm of the Rhyme."
 And thought sometimes the list may change and not remain the same,
 I really feel that I'm composed of each beloved name.
 And while you may not be aware of any special link,
 Just knowing you have shaped my life much more than you can think.
 For when I send a Christmas card that is addressed to you,
 It's because you're on that list of folks that I'm indebted to.
 For, be you relative or friend or just folks that I have met,
 You happen to be one of those I prefer not to forget.
 And whether I have known you for many years or few,
 In some way you have had a part in shaping things I do.
 And every year when Christmas comes, I realize anew
 The biggest gift that life can give is knowing folks like you.
May the spirit of Christmas that eternally endures
Leave its richest blessing in the hearts of you and yours,
And as you read this message that I send at Christmas time,
Know that I send you ALL MY LOVE, while you are on my mind.

Betty and Gareth Evans.

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May the sentiments of this poem go out to all our Gadwyn friends this Christmas. We wish you the best ever... May your Hearts be as full as your tummy's? Let there be Christian charity that should surpass everything, to help those in need, lonely and suffering. As a church family let us do our part in making this a better world, in anyway that we can. Nadolig Llawn a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda, yn llawn hapusrwydd a iechyd da i bawb. Seasons greetings, health and happiness to you all
Thank you Wanda for printing and "supervising" Typos, and the ladies that fold, stamp and post.
Myfanwy.

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 905 737 4399.**

Deadline for Y Gadwyn. January 17th. Please , please send something to be included. M.

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Gadwyn Donors.

Patricia Thomas. Mary and Ray Batten. Megan Wynne McKee. John Jenkins. Mary and Bill Hall.
 Diolch yn fawr. Thank you very much.

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***** Christmas.*****

Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen.
 Author unknown, attributed to a 7 year old named **Bobby.**

