



# Y GADWYN

(The Link)

*News of the Toronto Welsh Community*

Volume 43; Number 4

CHWEFROR/FEBRUARY 2012 .

**Dewi Sant Welsh United Church**  
33 Melrose Avenue, Toronto, Ontario. M5M 1Y6



## **Lent and Easter 2012 at Dewi Sant Welsh United Church**

**Sunday, March 4, Lent II** at 11:00 am; St. David's Sunday, the Celebration of Holy Communion  
**Theme:** "Get Behind Me Satan"

**Sunday March 11, Lent III** at 11:00 am  
**Theme:** "Cleaning the Temple"

**Sunday, March 18, Lent IV** at 11:00  
**Theme:** "Light Has Come Into the World"

**Sunday, March 25, Lent V** at 11:00 am  
**Theme:** "Sir, We Wish to See Jesus"

**Sunday, April 1, Palm Sunday**  
**Theme:** "Hosanna in The Highest"  
Holy Communion

**Thursday, April 5, Maundy Thursday** at 7:00 pm: Foot Washing and Holy Communion

**Friday, April 6, Good Friday** at 11am:  
Lunch for those attending the Service; \$12.00 for adults; \$6.00 for children  
2:30 pm: **Gymanfa Ganu**

**Sunday, April 8th, Easter Sunday**  
9:00 am: Holy Communion followed by the Easter Breakfast  
11:00 am: The Easter Service presentation by the Sunday School

**\*Please note the new times for Good Friday and please tell your friends.**

Neges y Gweinidog From the Minister's Desk:

I write this message in the afternoon of Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday when the Church throughout the world begins her Lenten journey, accompanying her Lord to the inevitable conclusion of his life in the betrayal and violence of Jerusalem. Shrove Tuesday is aptly named, because “shrove” is simply the past tense of an old English verb “to shrive,” meaning to hear confession, assign penance and receive absolution from sin. Today, thus, is a reminder that we are about to enter a season of confession and penance which historically was marked by fasting and special giving of alms. The French “Mardi Gras” or “Fat Tuesday” is a similar reminder of the Lenten fast that is to come, because it is the last time that people used fat or lard in food preparation.

Ash Wednesday itself is the formal beginning of the forty days of Lent, a day when our foreheads are marked with ashes: a sign of repentance and forgiveness a sign that “we are dust and to dust we shall return,” a sign of our fundamental “earthiness.” We are all invited to observe Lent, less, perhaps, these days with fasting but still with a profound sense of generosity and care for the earth of which we are a part and for one another, especially for one another.

Historically, Lent was a time of preparation, not just for Good Friday and the death of our Lord, but also for those who were to be baptized at Easter; and so Lent is inextricably linked our baptism and the new life we receive in baptism, the new life of Easter. So this season offers us an opportunity for some very deep reflection about why we were baptized and what that baptism means in our daily lives.

The Christian story tells us that when Jesus was baptized he saw the heavens torn apart and heard a great voice proclaiming, “You are my Son, the Beloved: with you I am well-pleased (*Mark 1: 10-11*).” That is still what we affirm every time we baptize someone, whether as a child or as an adult person: you are God’s beloved child and God is well-pleased with you. What a great gift this affirmation is!

I suspect that as we grow older we believe it less and less. It remains true, however we lead our lives. Lent is a reminder of the deep love affair God has with God’s children whom God will not abandon to their own devices. As Jesus journeys from Galilee to Jerusalem, into conflict and violence, into pain and death, so he journeys with us into our conflicts, our pains and, ultimately, our own deaths. In him we find support, companionship and comfort. As the New Creed of The United Church of Canada (1968) puts it, “We are not alone. We live in God’s world.”

That profound assertion of our life in community with God and with one another sustains us not just during the Lenten journey, but all our lives. Lent leads from life to death to new life at Easter.

I want to invite all our readers to come on that journey to new life with us. That is why you are so cordially invited to join us for our Lenten and Easter services and celebrations.

Eilert Frerichs,  
Intentional Interim Minister.

## *PeopleOf Cwmamman*

### *Hedd-Wyn Williams*



The above image shows Hedd-Wyn Williams with some of his eisteddfod prizes which consisted of cups, medals and rose bowls. He was born on the 20th of September, 1917 in a house named "Bryn Heddwyn" on Jones Terrace, Glanamman. His participation in eisteddfodau and the drama club in the village helped to groom him for his occupation as a Minister.

At the young age of 3, Hedd-Wyn won a first prize for Welsh recital and he later became a regular competitor in the many eisteddfodau throughout the district. The 6th of August, 1925 edition of the Amman Valley Chronicle referred to him as "the brilliant Glanamman child elocutionist" after he won four first prizes in the children's categories in eisteddfodau held at Llanybri, Burry Port and Carmarthen. This he accomplished in the course of one weekend, aged approximately 7 years and 10 months. An article in the 13th of August 1936 edition of the Amman Valley Chronicle congratulated Hedd-Wyn on winning the first prize for elocution at the Fishguard National Eisteddfod. It was reported that by that time, he had won 58 cups, 14 chairs and numerous medals and estimated that at his age (a little under 19 years old), he must hold the record number of cups in the Amman Valley. Hedd-Wyn's original ambition was to become an actor but the call of the Ministry was stronger. He entered the University of Aberystwyth on a full scholarship and obtained his B.A. and M. Div there. He married a young nurse, Iris Lloyd from the Post Office in Wolfscastle, Pembrokeshire. After his ordination, he and his young wife emigrated to Toronto, Canada, to be the Minister at Dewi Sant Welsh United Church. Rev. Hedd-Wyn Williams attended the University of Toronto to further his studies and obtained his Master of Religious Education (M.R.E.) He then took the pulpit at St. Paul's United Church in Toronto where the Sunday School alone had over 150 children. After 16 years he felt the need for a change and he became the Head of

Counselling at Centennial College in Toronto while at the same time filling the pulpit for a smaller congregation at Wanstead United church. Hedd-Wyn was honoured as Minister Emeritus for both Dewi Sant and Wanstead United churches. Like many clergymen, Hedd-Wyn never really retired in that he still performed weddings, funerals and was the guest preacher in many different pulpits right up until a month before his death, which occurred on the 14th of August 2004 at the age of 86. Hedd-Wyn and his wife Iris enjoyed good health and independence until just before the end, residing in their own home and driving their own cars. Iris predeceased Hedd-Wyn by exactly two months. Hedd-Wyn was clearly proud of his Welsh heritage; he loved Wales and returned to his homeland often. He said that "A Welshman could sing his troubles away and the common labourer was king when it came to culture and the arts." From some of Hedd-Wyn's own written memories, we learn that his own great-grandfather was a tenant farmer named David Williams who would have farmed Penlan Farm, Llandeilo in the mid 1800's. Giving us an interesting glimpse into the life of a tenant farmer.

Hedd-Wyn wrote: *"My great grandfather, David Williams was a tenant farmer on the estate of Lord Dynevor, Llandeilo in Carmarthenshire, South Wales. The farm belonged to Lord Dynevor and David had to serve so many days on the estate e.g. ploughing, hay making, trimming the hedges, shearing the sheep etc. He was not allowed to hunt on his farm e.g. rabbit, grouse, or pheasant, nor could he fish for salmon, trout or eel in the river or stream as they all belonged to the Lord of the Manor as it were. Every New Year's Day, he would be ever so thankful to the Lord for presenting him and his wife with a carthen - a warm wool blanket woven from the sheep's wool."* David Williams' son (Hedd-Wyn's grandfather) was named Moses Williams and he was born on Penlan Farm in the parish of Llandybie. When he married a girl named Hannah Jenkins, they lived with Moses' parents at Penlan. Moses and Hannah's son, David Jenkin Williams (Hedd-Wyn's father) was also born on Penlyn Farm. The three later moved to Abernant Farm, Glanamman, on the Northern side of Cwmamman. Hedd-Wyn's own written words give an account of his family history as follows: *"My father, David Jenkin Williams was born at Penlan on December 5th, 1888. Later, my Grandfather moved to Abernant farm, Glanamman and lived in a two story thatched cottage. In time, he built a very fine house that stands to this day; it overlooks the Amman valley. This home belonged to my grandfather but it was still on Lord Dynevor's estate. The family grew and Aaron John, Mary, Glyn, Gladys, Gilbert and Glory all lived on the farm.*

*My father married Sarah Hannah Evans and bought a house on Jones Terrace, Glanamman, in the valley. He worked in the coal mine. Aaron John emigrated to Saskatchewan, Canada where he opened a hardware store. Glyn became a butcher and he had a butcher store in Ammanford.*

*Mary married Owen Evans, a miner, and lived in Ammanford.*

*Gladys had measles as a very young child and lost her hearing. She stayed on the farm most of her life. Gilbert finally inherited the farm. Glory married a miner and lived in the old thatched cottage.*

*My father nearly lost his sight working underground with a small miner's oil lamp so he had to give up his coal mining. After regaining his eyesight he became a milkman or dairyman, selling the milk from his father's farm to the residents of the valley. This was the time of the great depression and the tinworks and the mines all closed down but father still carried on selling milk that the families could not afford to pay, so father had to give up selling milk! Fortunately, he applied for the position of Rating Officer for the Llandeilo District Council and was the successful candidate. I was born towards the end of the First World War, on September 20th, 1917, the only child. At the age of three I won a first prize for reciting in Welsh (the language of the whole valley). I can still remember it.*

*"Boed eich Nadolig yn gan i gyd (I wish your Christmas to be all music)*

*Eira neu beidio, gwyn fo eich byd (White be your world with or without snow)*

*A byddwch yn blant i'r hen Ddraig Goch (And be children of the old Red Dragon)*

*Yn Gymry pur ble y boch Pure Welsh people wherever you'll go."*

***Patriotism!*** *Up to my teenage years I recited in halls, marquees, and churches all over Wales, mostly successfully: Over 60 silver cups, 12 arm chairs and many gold and silver medals. I was three times a winner in elocution in The National Eisteddfod."* Hedd-Wyn was related to the Moses Williams of Gelly Fawnen farm

(Glanamman) who ran an Iron works in the 1800's. The sons of this Moses - Arthur and William (whom Hedd-Wyn called "Uncle", although that is not how they were related) started the Defiance Cycle works. Another of Hedd-Wyn's relatives was Dr. Ifor John Thomas, the two being cousins. Hedd-Wyn was very proud of him because he was a brilliant Doctor even without his sight. Ivor John Thomas, as a lad, was also a renowned elocutionist at eisteddfodau, winning many prizes. When Hedd-Wyn won first prize at the 1936 Fishguard National Eisteddfod, Ivor John Thomas came second! The two were also members of Glanamman Drama Club. **Many thanks to Cheryl Davies for her contribution to this website. It is a privilege to include this in a Gadwyn. Your father was greatly respected and loved in the Welsh community.** M

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### **Merched Y Capel.**

### **Ladies of the Church.**

Thank you to the ladies for supplying the reception after the Memorial service for **Howell Pritchard**. Everyone is so generous with their time, baked goods, sandwiches etc. I have only to make a few phone calls and the reception is set. Thank you to Gaynor McConnell for manning (or should I say womaning the kitchen!) for me. There will be an obituary in the next Gadwyn when everyone has had time to get somewhat over the events.

Our sympathy from Dewi Sant go out to **Sian, Genrys** and family.

We also extend our sympathies to **Vincent and Gretl Davies** and family on the passing of their son, **Kim Davies**.

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We are always looking for friends who will make the repast on Sunday mornings. This is such an important part of the Sunday fellowship at Dewi Sant.

### **Now it's time to eat!**

This is low fat, meaning that less than 20% of the calories are derived from fat. Most foods we eat have 25% - 35% (or more) calories derived from fat. So if you cut it into 12 slices you have a low fat snack with 5 grams of fat (as long as you don't eat most of the slices at once). If you can cut thinner slices you will have a virtually fat free snack!

**Ingredients** 1 cup granulated sugar: ¼ butter: 1 large egg:

2 tbsp. plain non-fat or low fat yogurt: ½ cup skim or 1 % milk

1 ½ cups all-purpose flour: 1 tsp. baking powder; Grated rind of 1 lemon.

**Glaze:** ¼ cup granulated sugar; Juice of 1 lemon.

### **Method.**

1. Preheat oven to 350°. 2. Line 8" x 4" (1.5 L) loaf pan with parchment paper or foil, grease lightly.
3. Cream butter and sugar – add yogurt and beat some more, it will help sugar to dissolve and make it look smoother. This is only a loaf not a fancy cake so don't get too concerned about this part.
4. Beat in egg and lemon rind. 5. Sift flour and baking powder into another bowl.



concert. They will also participate in our annual Friday evening Noson Lawen where you too can be part of the evening's entertainment. The second annual Gold Award will be presented at the banquet and your presence will help to make that event extra special. Last year's Awr y Plant was an outstanding success and another exceptional performance is expected this year as Hefina Phillips is back in harness leading the session. On Sunday there will be two glorious hymn singing sessions led by Marilyn Lewis, with Alan Thomas of Ottawa accompanying on the organ.

We would be very happy if you could join us.

**Alison Lawson** . For more information, please visit [www.ontariowelshfestival.ca](http://www.ontariowelshfestival.ca) or e-mail us at [info@ontariowelshfestival.ca](mailto:info@ontariowelshfestival.ca) or phone Alison Lawson at 613-725-2704.

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(Some MORE information!!! **The Ontario Welsh Festival**

Côr Cwmni Da from Pembrokeshire is the guest choir at this year's Ontario Welsh Festival. They come highly recommended. Their director, Marilyn Lewis, is well known for her youth choirs which have won all kinds of awards and prizes in Wales. As these choristers have matured they, in addition to their parents, approached Marilyn with the request to form a mixed "adult" choir. And, hey presto, Côr Cwmni Da was formed. Marilyn promises us a varied and "different" repertoire and in addition to performing at the concert on the Saturday night, several members will delight us at the Noson Lawen. Definitely not to be missed.

As reported in the previous Gadwyn, the Board is working extremely hard to ensure a successful weekend yet again at the Marriott Gateway on the Falls. (Have you reserved your room yet??) Catrin Brace has agreed to lend us the much admired Historical Display again. The children will participate in another tableau entitled Cewri'r Cymry, so please come and support them and encourage your children and grandchildren to take part. Contact [hefina@cogeco.ca](mailto:hefina@cogeco.ca) for details.

Are you artistic? Would you be interested in having a table to display and sell your wares? Contact us if so. Are you a splendid baker of Welsh cakes/bara brith? Would you be willing to donate your baking samples to the festival? If so, contact Joan Hughes at [bjhughes@cogeco.ca](mailto:bjhughes@cogeco.ca) or Trish Stevenson at [the.stevensons@rogers.com](mailto:the.stevensons@rogers.com)

What about placing an ad in this year's booklet? A quarter page costs \$75 and a half page \$150. Contact David Pugh if you would be willing to do that. His address is [daval633@hotmail.com](mailto:daval633@hotmail.com)

You are all invited to the Pub Night at Dewi Sant on March 24<sup>th</sup>. This is an important fundraiser for the Festival. See the article included in Y Gadwyn for details. And don't forget to contact Donna Morris ([donnamorris2010@hotmail.com](mailto:donnamorris2010@hotmail.com)) if you have something that you would like to donate to the Auction. Bring your friends and form a table to participate in the Welsh Trivia Quiz. There will prizes for the winning group! April will soon be here. We need your help in making it a memorable weekend.

Hefina Phillips

**Now the Ontario Welsh Festival is well and truly represented. Now that you have all the information, book quickly.**

**M.**

**Gadwyn Donors**

Mary and Ray Batten, David Jones.

*Thank you for the donation. We would respectfully remind the folks who get Y Gadwyn that paper ink etc. come out of the church coffers. Please make a donation if you have not ever done so. Diolch M.*

**Welsh Pub Night and Auction. March 24<sup>th</sup>.**

This promises to be a really good night with comfort food, pie and mash, fun and an auction. **There will be a Pub quiz!** This is a fundraiser for the Ontario Welsh Festival. It takes quite a lot of money to put this weekend on, with something to please everyone. Donna Morris is very kindly donating her time to arrange this pub night.

If you have anything that you can donate to the auction, whether it is your “time,” baking, goodie baskets etc, etc. The choices are limitless—let Donna know please. Last year we received an impressive array of goods and services to auction. Please consider donating your time, talents, goods, services, again this year.

Date: Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Time: 6:00 p.m. Dewi Sant Fellowship Hall  
Tickets: \$15/Adult; \$10/Children.

To order tickets and/or to donate items for auction, please contact Donna Morris at (416) 756-1249 or [donnamorris2010@hotmail.com](mailto:donnamorris2010@hotmail.com)

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**Er Parchus Gof In Memoriam.**

At Dewi Sant Church we feel the loss of a **friend**, the loss of a **smile**. Catherine was born in Walkerville Canada on January 18th 1931, after her parents had recently emigrated from Scotland. The family of four, her parents and younger brother James all moved to Toronto when she was around the age of 4 or 5. Catherine married Art Otley in 1958 and had two sons, John who still lives here in Toronto and Paul who now lives out in B.C. Art himself has two brothers, Gordon and Don Davies. Art was from a Welsh family hailing from the Wreccsam area. Catherine embraced the Welsh as if she had been born in Wales. There was no one more loyal than her.

When Catherine first went to school she met Jean Iona Thompson. They subsequently lost touch with each other. Many years Catherine and Art joined Dewi Sant Welsh United Church. What a surprise it was to find Jean already there. They joined her choir and the rest is history. Jean was the conductor of the Dewi Singers and had gained two new members!

Many years later Catherine and Jean formed a group named “The Lunch Bunch,” and ran it very successfully until three years ago when Catherine's health started to deteriorate. This is still being continued with Rita Hoffman at the helm. It is a very pleasant morning with speakers, fun games etc. Everyone joins in. Home made soup is dished out to be eaten with a packed lunch.

She was an avid church goer and also volunteered at Carefree Lodge where her Mother was a resident. Catherine took over delivering food to the Food Bank and donations to The Women's Abused Center (from Dewi Sant). All of which ended up with her receiving the **Volunteer of The Year Award** a few years ago. But she may be best known as The Greeter at the front door of The Church. Greeting everyone who came with that huge, big, special smile of hers that we all remember her for. Catherine always made sure that the double doors of the sanctuary were open, every Sunday before the minister came out.

As for me (Rita) we really connected the Christmas of 1979 when I was unable to see to my son Mark due to a back injury. She came and got Mark for the day and that was the start of us spending every Christmas day with the Otley family for which we will always be grateful. We never looked back, our friendship has lasted through the years.

I shall never, ever forget Catherine. She was my “sister and best friend” and she shall be missed by all.

**Rita Hoffman.**

Thank you Rita. We all at Dewi Sant send our love and condolences to the family and friends. Like Saint David advised us, Catherine “ did many little things,” that were not noticed until she had been there. She worked quietly and methodically without searching for accolades and praise. Catherine, you certainly have ours here in Dewi Sant. You are truly missed. (To many of us she was known as Catherine the Great.)

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**Of Interest**

The Cardiff University Welsh for Adults Centre has been teaching the Welsh language, one of Europe’s oldest written languages, for over 30 years. Interest in the Welsh language is on the increase, with more and more





peace to fill the coming NEW Year.

**Ram Bajaj.**

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**The Gold Award Winner Announced.**

The Board of the Ontario Welsh Festival is delighted to announce that the winner of the Gold Award for 2012 is Myfanwy Bajaj. Anyone and everyone who is in any way connected with Welsh matters in North America is familiar with Myfanwy. Since her arrival in Canada in the 70's Myfanwy has been involved in a myriad of Welsh activities.

To us she is best known for being a Board Member of the Ontario Welsh Festival, a member of the St David's Society of Toronto (president for the past 13 years), a Board member of the North American Festival of Wales, and a very active member of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, Toronto. One of my indelible images is of Myfanwy in Welsh costume presenting their mascot "David" to the Welch Fusiliers at Fort Henry in Kingston. (David is a very pretty white goat!)

We have Myfanwy to thank for the monthly appearance of Y Gadwyn, a publication that is based in Dewi Sant but which is read by Welsh people world wide.

She has been the tireless editor of Y Gadwyn for many years, chasing contributors for articles to ensure that the next edition makes for interesting and informative reading. This is a thankless, and sometimes frustrating, task and I am extremely grateful to her for all her hard work.

Proud though she may be of all that she has achieved over the years, I would hazard a guess that the two facts of which she is proudest is that she is known as "mam-gu" to her two delightful grandchildren and that she has been made a member of Gorsedd Beirdd Ynys Prydain, representing the Welsh from Overseas at the National Eisteddfod.

Llongyfarchiadau, Myfanwy.

**Hefina Phillips.**

*Diolch yn fawr Hefina. M*

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**The next GADWYN Deadline is Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup> - [myfanwy@rogers.com](mailto:myfanwy@rogers.com) 905 -737 -4399- 34 Carrington Drive Richmond Hill Ont. L4C 8A2.**

**Diolch. Myfanwy**