



# Y GADWYN

(The Link)

*News of the Toronto Welsh Community*

September/ October/ Medi Hydref

2013

Neges o Gapel Dewi Sant

From the Dewi Sant Church Pulpit

It is a pleasure to write in anticipation of my arrival at Dewi Sant in November.

As I write this, it is early September and I am preparing to leave my current church. I have grown so fond of each member. We will shed some tears, exchange hugs, wondering if we will ever see each other again. The same thing will be taking place at your church where you will bid goodbye to Eilert who has served you for three years. Each of us is entering into a new, exciting chapter of life. Eilert is looking forward to retirement (again!) with all the attendant joys and activities. You are looking forward to addressing the future of the congregation. I am looking forward to learning more about the Welsh history, language, music and life of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church.

That is my prime goal for the first year: I want to take in as much as I can: of the people, atmosphere and practices, so I can be tuned into your ways of working and worshipping together. I intend to learn some Welsh and I am planning a visit to Wales in the future. It will be good to see some of the country. I hope to connect with Deian, whom I encountered briefly, at Emmanuel College.

When I begin it will be the start of November- the launch point into a meaningful time of our liturgical calendar. **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** is my first day with you and it will be a time of introductions. **November 10<sup>th</sup>** is the annual Remembrance Day service, a moving tribute to our veterans. Before we know it, the annual Bazaar and Advent will be upon us

New life is abounding in our church and in our lives: let us welcome it with enthusiasm and heart!

**Rev. Anne**



As you are now aware, on November 1 Rev. Anne Hepburn will commence her work as Minister and her first Sunday for her to lead worship in the morning will be **November 3. Please make an effort to attend on this very first Sunday of Rev Anne's ministry with us.**

**Rev. Anne's Covenanting Service will be held on Sunday November 24<sup>th</sup>, at 2 pm. We will provide sandwiches and tea and coffee after the 11 am service.**

Services for October will be under the leadership of Rev. Rob Metcalfe, with the exception of Thanksgiving Sunday, when Meriel Simpson will be leading the worship. and Myfanwy Bajaj will be leading the Thanksgiving service in Welsh.

In the interim period until Rev. Hepburn begins her work, if a Pastoral Emergency arises please contact Clarice Terry at 905-460-9526 or [clarice.terry@sympatico.ca](mailto:clarice.terry@sympatico.ca)

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GAO FAMILY**

Our organist Shalom and his wife joyfully announce the birth of their son Samuel in late August. What an exciting time for the family who earlier this year moved into their new home. We look forward to hearing more about the baby and the family in a future addition of the Gadwyn. God Bless you. Best wishes from all your friends at Dewi Sant.

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### **TEAM APPROACH**

If it takes a village to raise a child, then it is also true that it takes a strong team effort to stage an event such as the National Festival of Wales. The core of this team was the Board of Trustees of the Ontario Welsh Festival but it was augmented by other volunteers who were extremely hard working and competent. I have decided not to name specific names in this thank you because of the fear of inadvertently omitting someone but the volunteer group was large, effective, efficient and accommodating and was recognized as such by many attendees in their evaluations.

The Festival was successful on many levels so let me just recognize some of the groups that helped make it so: the children of Dewi Sant in the Opening Ceremony and the parents who brought them out; our local seminar presenters; Merched Dewi and Friends; the ladies who managed the kitchen and luncheon for the Friday tour; all those who manned the tearoom for the entire weekend and helped in some of the kiosks of the marketplace; ticket sellers and ticket takers; The list is endless as was the energy exhibited by all these willing contributors to the success of the weekend.

It has been 31 years since the NAFOW (then the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu) was last held in Toronto in 1982. However, it is the fourth time the festival as was held here in Toronto, the previous ones being in 1959, 1967 and 1973. Ironically the first one was also held at the Royal York Hotel, the same venue as this year's celebration. Let me break my intention to not mention specific names. Betty Jones mounted a display of programs and pictures from these previous events and they were available for viewing in front of the registration area. We are fortunate to have

Betty as our photography archivist and I am sure she would be glad to share with you whatever material you might need for special events that have a photographic linkage with Dewi Sant over the last 50+ years. Her collection is really a photographic treasure for our local Welsh community.

The incubation for this Festival was 31 years; let's hope that the period of time before the next one is not so protracted. Next year's NAFOW will be celebrated in Minneapolis on the Labour weekend. If you enjoyed this year's event, why not consider putting Minneapolis in your next year's travel plans .An added enticement?? The featured choir will be Only Men Aloud.

Even closer to home is the Ontario Welsh Festival being held on the last weekend in April, 2014 at the Marriott Hotel in Niagara Falls. Come and join us for a weekend of Welsh culture and music!

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**SPECIAL THANK YOU**

The Welsh North American Association (WNAA) deserves a very special vote of thanks for donating three quarters of the collection from the Sunday morning service during the NAFOW weekend to Dewi Sant Welsh United Church. The organization had originally generously offered to share the collection equally with the church but they decided on site on the Sunday morning to donate all the money that was in Canadian currency. That amounted to over \$1520. The church has sent a letter of thanks to the WNAA for their generosity.

Again a sincere diolch yn fawr iawn to the many volunteers and to all those who came out to support the festival and make it a resounding success....

Betty Cullingworth

**DEWI SANT CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
**SATURDAY DECEMBER 7, 2013**  
**5:45 PM FOR 6:30 DINNER**

Come and enjoy a delicious home-cooked turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

Entertainment afterwards arranged by Sheryl Clay.

**Tickets:** \$20. For adults, \$10. For children 12 and under.

**Contact** Elizabeth Stroud , 416 -465-1814. Or  
Arleigh Quesnelle, 416-483-6870 , e-mail [arleighquesnelle@sympatico.ca](mailto:arleighquesnelle@sympatico.ca)

**PLEASE NOTE THAT TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED PRIOR TO THE EVENT**

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## Cwrs Cymraeg Cymdeithas Madog

Readers of Y Gadwyn are probably familiar with Cymdeithas Madog, the Institute for Welsh Studies in North America. Since the late 1970s it has held week long immersion courses on various campuses in The United States and Canada. In 2014 it returns to Canada, this time to Brock University, St Catharine's –a stone's throw from Niagara Falls.

The staff is hand - picked. All the tutors-three from Wales, the others from North America- are specialists in teaching Welsh as a second language. The head tutor (prif diwtor) in 2014 will be Angharad Devonald from Cardiff. She has taught on three previous C.M. courses and we look forward to her energy and skills in Brock. The remainder of the team has yet to be announced, but you can bet that they will all be the best that Cymdeithas Madog can offer.

When is the Cwrs Cymraeg next year? July 20-27. This is a residential course and only if you live within a stone's throw of Brock U. would I recommend not staying on campus.

What do they do at the Cwrs? The main purpose of the Course is to learn to speak Welsh. We accommodate all levels, from absolute beginners to those that are by now fluent but attend in order to improve or practise the language. There are approximately 5 hours per day of classroom work, followed by a variety of workshops. The evenings are for "relaxing"- folk dancing, singing, having a beer or two, performing at the Noson Lawen, taking a trip around the vicinity (Niagara Falls, here we come!) watching a Welsh movie. Oh! Did I mention "singing"?? It is truly a wonderful week.

To defray the costs of attending, may I suggest that you read the website ([www.madog.org](http://www.madog.org)) to find out the details of available scholarships. The main source of scholarships is "matching". For example, if you succeed in getting a grant of \$250 from your local Welsh Society, C.M will match that amount. And travel costs will be minimal for us locals in 2014.

Make 2014 the year that you are going to learn Welsh or brush up on your "rusty" language skills. Whatever your level, you will be more than welcome at Cwrs Y Rhaeadrau (The Course near the Waterfalls) next July. For more information, contact me at [hefina@cogeco.ca](mailto:hefina@cogeco.ca)

Hefina Phillips

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### **A huge congratulations to Hefina Phillips.**

During the Grand Banquet for the National Festival of Wales at the Royal York; Hefina was honoured. The National Welsh- American Foundation awarded Hefina with the Heritage Medalion; for her distinguished service to the Welsh- American Community

Hefina was born and brought up in a home where only Welsh was spoken. She was educated at Cardiff University's Welsh department. She was very fortunate to study











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### **A note from the editor**

*It has been brought to my attention that there are many Gadwyn readers who never contribute towards it. Y Gadwyn has a place in our Welsh lives. It is primarily for Dewi Sant, but also covers as much Welsh news in the Greater Toronto area.*

*So many people have told me how much it is enjoyed and that copies are sent over seas etc. to relatives. It would be great if you made out a cheque marked Y Gadwyn and sent or delivered to the church, to help defray the costs. I thank you in advance.. I really do not want to cut down on publications. Please help.*

*If you can get all your literary contributions in to me by **Sunday 24th of November** it would be ideal. There will only ONE deadline from now on, and your first copy will be the one published.*

*We are going away to India etc. For a month to see how the other side of the world lives!!!*

**I will publish Y Gadwyn the week of the 24<sup>th</sup>**

At the Welsh Thanksgiving service we sang a new hymn. Merched Dewi had kindly Practiced it before hand. When we all finished singing everyone applauded. The words are so beautiful.

**M**

### **Eryn 106 yn Caneuon Ffydd.**

Pan dorro'r wawr dros ael y mynydd llwm,  
Pan euro'r haul erwau llawr y cwm,  
Pan byncia'r adar gan yn gynnar gor  
Mi gannaf innau fawl i'r Arglwydd Ior.

Pan welaf wen ar wedd blodeuyn hardd ,  
Pan welaf wyrth aeddfedrwydd ffrwythau'r ardd,  
Pan glywaf su aur donnau'r meysydd yd  
Mi gannaf innau fawl i Grewwr byd

Pan ddelo'r hwyr a'i gwrlid dros y bryd  
A'r lloer a'i llweyrch llon yn gwylio'i grud,  
Wrth fynd i gysgu, am gael bod yn fyw,  
Mi ganaf innau fawl i'r Arglwydd Dduw.,