

DEWI SANT CHURCH NEWS

MOMENTS FROM THE SERVICES OF AUGUST

In the month of August, our guest minister the Rev. Dr. Don Bell gave several homilies on the Psalms. The first examined how the Psalms show us the playfulness of God starting with the wonderful Psalm 104 (from verse 24). If whales are meant to play in the sea, so much more are we to do the same in our world.

Lord, you have made so many things!
How wisely you made them all!
The earth is filled with your creatures.
There is the ocean, large and wide,
where countless creatures live,
large and small alike.
The ships sail on it, and in it plays Leviathan,
that sea monster which you made.

In the service of August 13, Rev. Bell examined how the church has used music thorough history, and reflected on the Psalms as great songs of worship. He quoted two verses from the poem "In Passing" written in 1967 by Brian Harris (the poem was also made into a song by Bryn Terfel):

To be born in Wales,
Not with a silver spoon in your mouth,
But, with music in your blood
And with poetry in your soul,
Is a privilege indeed.

We are a sad people.
Our sadness being wrapped in harps and music
And praise to God,
For the lovely, yearning light
That feeds the Spirit as well as the eyes.

In the last of this series Rev. Bell discussed the "psalm of Psalms", number 23, *God is my shepherd, I'll not want*, likely written by David. We also sang this as a hymn, but to the tune of *Brother James Air*, different from the one commonly used.

In the service on August 27 we were fortunate to have a wonderful musical performance by the Magee Brothers. The brothers are from Holy Island off the Isle of Ynys Mon/Anglesey, north Wales. The proximity to Ireland accounts for the Irish last name, but the boys are fluent Welsh speakers. They include Paul 20, Mathew 18, James 12, Sean 9 and Daniel 6. They were singing at the National Eisteddfod at the Welsh Churches pavilion, and were heard by the incoming president of NAFOW, Wil Fanning. Wil discovered that they would be in the Niagara region in August visiting family (in celebration of the parents' 25th wedding anniversary), let Betty Cullingworth know and like magic (plus the rental of a few instruments) they appeared in the church service.

They sang four songs, the first and third of which are original songs written by Paul:

- Yr Wladdfa (the colony) about the Welsh in Patagonia
- Suo Gân, the well-known lullaby
- Hedd Wyn about the poet Ellis Humphrey Evans who was killed on the first day of the Battle of Passchendaele during World War I and posthumously awarded the bard's chair at the 1917 National Eisteddfod and who was celebrated at this years' 2017 National Eisteddfod
- Calon Lân, sung to a different tune

You can see some of the songs being performed on their Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/TheMageeBrothers

We presented the Magee Brothers with the Dewi Sant 110th Anniversary pin and they were thanked by Hefina and Lynette in Welsh and English.



The Editor

**WELSH SERVICE / Y GWASANAETH CYMRAEG
 SPECIAL REMINDER**

*****COFIWCH YR AMSER NEWYDD*****

The next Welsh language service will be held at 10 a.m. on Sunday Sept. 10th to be followed by a bilingual service at 11 a.m.

Bydd gwasanaeth Cymraeg yn Eglwys Dewi Sant am 10 o'r gloch ar Sul Medi 10ed.
 Gwasanaeth byr – efo pregeth gan Y Parch Huw John Hughes o Borthaethwy, a gwasanaeth ddwyieithog i ddilyn am 11 o'r gloch.

Nêst Pritchard

MINISTRY ARTICULATION PROFILE (MAP)

The MAP has been completed. Thanks to all who participated. As reported in the previous Gadwyn, the consensus for the areas of concern of the Dewi Sant congregation and thus the qualities which we need to look for in a new minister are:

1. Leadership
2. Worship
3. Pastoral/Spiritual Care
4. Welcome/Wellness
5. Growing in faith
6. Stewardship
7. Wider Relationships in the community
8. Justice and Outreach

The final step in this process is to write the actual job description for the minister, which includes whether the position is full time or part time. For this a Congregational meeting is required and this will now be held on Sept. 17 after the service. Please attend since this is an important decision for the future of the church.

Board of Session



DEWI SANT 110TH ANNIVERSARY

Time is flying and with the thought that summer is coming to a close (the Ex is that signal for me) it is time to think about September and our 110th Anniversary Home Coming Weekend.

The Committee spent last Bank Holiday Monday stuffing envelopes and mailing them to you with news about our Home Coming events - so we hope you have marked your calendars and will be attending Dewi Sant to meet up with your friends and to connect with your Welsh roots during the Sunday Service on September 24th. Of course music will be a huge part of the celebrations, and we are delighted that the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir will be our guest of honour at the concert on the 23rd. They will be joined by Merched Dewi (the church's ladies choir) and Stephanie Miletic, violinist. Our accompanist for both choirs will be the amazing Matthew Coons.

Tickets for the concert on the 23rd are available online from www.eventbrite.ca – search for *Homecoming Concert Dewi Sant Church tickets*. Or contact the church and Merched Dewi members for hard copy tickets. If you receive this by email then attached separately to this Gadwyn is a poster which you can email to your friends or print out for distribution.

As part of the church's ongoing outreach initiative, we are asking that you would consider bringing, either to the concert or the church service, a donation to the Lansing Church Foodbank. Thank you.

We also gratefully thank those of you who have made donations to the 110th fund-raising initiative and bought our commemorative memorabilia. These items will be on sale over the weekend (stamps, pins, mugs and notelets).

We are so excited about looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible. We are the **ONLY** Welsh church in Canada. Let us celebrate in style and long may our red dragon fly over Dewi Sant!



Some of the 110th Committee (without the Chair, Lynette) filling envelopes

*Lynette Jenkins
Chair, 110th Anniversary Committee*

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

The Rev. Gordon Nodwell, who frequently preached in Dewi Sant, passed away on August 13th in his 90th year. The funeral was held at Eglinton St. George's United Church, Toronto on Saturday August 26th.

The Editor

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## **WELSH COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD OF WALES / EISTEDDFOD GENEDLAETHOL CYMRU 2017**

The following is a note from Nêst Pritchard who attended the event. If others also attended please send in your impressions/highlights for the next edition.

The Eisteddfod this year was held in Bodedern, Anglesey – so having been born in Anglesey (Sir Fôn) and grown up there, before moving to Canada, **I had to attend.**

This Eisteddfod was memorable in that it was 100 years since the famous occasion when the chair was won by Hedd Wyn and the Birkenhead Eisteddfod has since been known as 'Eisteddfod y cadair ddu'. A moving presentation to commemorate this event was held at the Eisteddfod. There was intense tension as we awaited the adjudication of this year's competition for the Chair, which was won by Osian Rhys Jones. It was said that the standard of the competition for the Chair, and others, was very high.

I also met Rev. Aled Jones a past minister of Dewi Sant, in the Cytun (Churches Together in Wales) pavilion where he was launching a new book.

Another memorable aspect of this year's Eisteddfod was the rain and resulting MUD. The Gymanfa on Sunday night was accompanied by torrential rain! The Eisteddfod Choir and Beaumaris Brass Band as well as the whole congregation were conducted by the talented Anglesey native - Mari Pritchard. However the rain was so heavy it could often be heard on the roof of the pavilion!

*Nest Pritchard*

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **2018 ONTARIO WELSH FESTIVAL KINGSTON THE ANNUAL GOLD AWARD, 2018**

Those of us who frequent the annual Ontario Welsh festival will be aware that since 2011 (our 50th anniversary) that a special Award is given to a person deemed to have contributed "over and beyond" to the Welsh community in Ontario. The first question you may ask yourselves is "How come so-and-so has not been honoured?" Could it possibly be that you did not put forward his/her name?? You may be aware of someone worthy of being recognized. What can you do about it? Make sure that the Board of the Festival knows. No, you don't have to be a regular attendee. Your voice is just as important as everyone else's.

If you check the website ([ontariowelshfestival.ca](http://ontariowelshfestival.ca)) you will see a section devoted to the Gold Award- with a list of previous winners and directions how to contact the subcommittee. "Oh", you may say, "I have already suggested so-and-so but he/she didn't win". Don't despair. Persevere and re-nominate your favourite. This could well be his/her lucky year. We rely on you - readers of Y Gadwyn, attendees of the Ontario Festival, members of the Welsh community.

It is not too early to think about the 2018 winner. If you have any brilliant ideas and want to share them immediately get in touch with President Julie Wenz at [juliewenz@yahoo.ca](mailto:juliewenz@yahoo.ca)

*Hefina Phillips*

### **BAZAAR – DATE CHANGE**

The date for the Bazaar is now **Nov. 18**. This gives you an **additional week** to find household items and gifts, bake cakes, cookies, pies, jams, welsh cakes, and clean out the jewellery box to find great pieces to donate.

## DONATIONS TO Y GADWYN OR HOW ABOUT EMAIL?

Please contact the Editor if you wish to receive Y Gadwyn by email. If you want to keep using paper we are also looking for donations to cover the postage. Fiona Vipond who prints off the paper version in the church office has analysed the costs for Y Gadwyn. Each month printing and postage costs about \$100. Each mailed Gadwyn costs \$1.13 each issue and the Gadwyn picked up at church costs about \$0.20 each. This gives you an idea of how much you could contribute for your yearly subscription!

## CONTACT US AND SUBMISSIONS

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[Please send in your contributions by September 28 which is the](#) cut-off date for submissions to the next issue.

