

DEWI SANT CHURCH NEWS

MOMENTS FROM THE SERVICES OF SEPTEMBER



DEWI SANT 110TH ANNIVERSARY

Well, we did it! This past weekend was the culmination of over a year's worth of planning to celebrate the 110th anniversary of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church - and what a celebration it was.

On the Saturday - a record-breaking temperature of 31.7 degrees C (40 with the Humidex factor) - had us scurrying around and setting up fans to cool the church and we provided water to the guests at the concert. To say we were "the hottest show in town" was the actual truth. And what a concert... The gentlemen of the TWMVC were originally going to wear tuxes, but with the news that it was going to be "hot" they looked so smart in their slacks and official polo shirts instead. Greg - their perfect M.C. with his impeccable timing of throw-away lines and sense of humour; the soloists, and musicians; Matthew Coons their amazing accompanist; and William Woloschuk their inspiring conductor, gave us a concert of variety, quality and passionate singing. Merched Dewi, led by our conductor Betty Cullingworth and again, Matthew as our organ/piano accompanist plus Stephanie Miletic our most gifted violinist accompanist, were in fine voice and provided a lilting contrast to the resonant male voices. Cheryl Clay-Newell was our guest soloist for "Y Nefoedd". The climax of the concert was when the two choirs united for the rousing finale of "Cwm Rhonda". Singing that piece reminded me of the quote: "Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away". That was MY highlight and the moment that took MY breath away!



Sunday - yet another record-breaking-temperature day - brought Rev. Dr. Cerwyn Davies, Dr. Glenys Hughes and Rev. Meriel Simpson together to lead us in a service of praise and celebration.



Cerwyn's rousing sermon of us all being flames that need to be nurtured in order for the fire of Dewi Sant to continue was so appropriate and necessary. As you all know by now, our church has been struggling to keep alive and Cerwyn gave us a rallying cry that will help us work together to keep the ONLY Welsh church in Canada surviving.



Stirring hymn singing with again Merched Dewi singing “Mae Yn Fyw” accompanied by Olwen Dunets and Nora Davies - 2 of the founding members of the ladies choir - was wonderful.



We were also fortunate to have Cheryl Clay-Newell sing a solo of “Home is a Special Kind Of Feeling”. Matthew’s playing of the Prelude was a personal request of mine of Haygood Hardy’s “The Homecoming”. A most beautiful and apt piece for today’s service.

And what is the good of a Welsh gathering if not to celebrate with great food? Gaynor McConnell,



Risti Jensen, Rita Hoffmann, Julie Wentz and Liz Good worked hard in the HOT kitchen to serve a delicious buffet reception with a strawberry shortcake anniversary cake as the finishing touch. Many people assisted with serving and clearing up afterwards - it was so helpful - thank you.



A HUGE thank you to ALL the members of Dewi Sant who worked so hard to put this whole weekend together. It was such a superb example of team-work at its best and everyone deserves to feel so proud of all that was accomplished. Huge thanks must also go to all our families and friends who made this weekend the success that it was. For, what is the good of a concert or church service if no one comes? We had all sorts

of guests from Toronto, surrounding areas, Burlington and even an out-of-province guest, and everyone was so enthusiastic and congratulatory about the weekend.

The 110th Committee of Betty Cullingworth, Anna Dunets, Risti Jensen, Gaynor McConnell, Clarice Terry, Ken Mitchell and myself hope you all enjoyed yourselves and had a wonderful time at the celebration. Even if you were not able to attend because of distance or illness I would like to thank ALL of YOU who helped celebrate our "Welshness" with your financial support and words of "comfort and joy". We hope you were able to "hear" the concert and church service in your hearts, even if you were not able to be there in person.



And finally to Fiona, our Church Secretary - your unending patience and expertise in helping us work through the minefields of designing, producing and printing our mugs, notelets, order-of-service pamphlets, pins, programs, stamps, and tickets has left us in awe of your talents. We could not have done any of these things without you.

It has been such an honour chairing the 110th Committee and I was quite overcome when Risti presented me with a beautiful bouquet of flowers as a "thank you" from the church.

Diolch yn fawr iawn and LONG may our Welsh dragon continue to fly over Dewi Sant!

Lynette Jenkins
Chair, 110th Anniversary Committee

COLLECTING PHOTOS OF THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY HOMECOMING WEEKEND

While we have included some pictures here there are probably many more. We would like to post these on our church website and Facebook page. They do not have to be formal – the more informal the better – it is just good to have a record of all of the faces and events. Please try to identify the people if there are only a few in the photo. Send to adunetswills@gmail.com. Thanks!

The Editor

AND OTHER MOMENTS FROM SEPTEMBER

Homecoming Service

The service was started by the Merched Dewi performing an excerpt from the Hallelujah chorus, just to make sure you knew that you were attending a special event. In the service, the scriptures reminded us of the flame that we are to keep burning for our faith. In the sermon the Rev. Dr. Cerwyn Davies referred to the two Welshmen who got together in Toronto in 1907, John Roberts from Anglesey and William Thomas from Denbighshire to worship in their own language, thus starting Dewi Sant. He also reminded us of three other special anniversaries this year. These are the 500th anniversary of the Reformation started by Martin Luther, the 300th anniversary of William Williams Pantycelyn's birth and the centenary of Hedd Wyn's death. William Williams was Wales's most famous hymn writer. As a writer of poetry and prose, he is also considered one of the great literary figures of Wales. He was one of the leaders, along with Howell Harris and Daniel Rowland, of the 18th-century Welsh Methodist revival. Hedd Wyn was the bardic name of 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 year's 2017 National Eisteddfod.

The Story of Moses

Rev. Dr. Bell started in September with a series of sermons on the life and times of Moses, and what we can learn from these stories. The Sept. 17th sermon was linked to the Homecoming service in that it recalled the time when Moses was confronted God telling him through the burning bush (one of the readings in the Homecoming service) that he had to lead his people out of slavery and Moses asking "Please send someone else". Through a review of the lives of people like Maya Angelou, Alvin Dixon, and Anatoly Sharansky, Rev. Bell showed how each of these learnt that they could do anything they were asked to do in faith, since they believed that God was always with them.

"JUST A MINUTE WITH DEWI SANT"

Clive Mason (as read in church by Nia Davies)

This is a remembrance of my presentation of a goat, "David 2", in the 1967 celebration at Fort Henry Kingston Ontario Barracks when I was President of the St. David's Society. In this centennial year, my wife Pat and I were very fortunate when I was appointed President, and we participated in a year of celebrations of many kinds, including many with the Royal Societies. We were also fortunate to see Princess Alexandra.

The presentation of the goat to the cadets and soldiers at Fort Henry Barracks was a great event on a very hot, humid day with the Society and Wales well-represented by Daisy Heaton and Betty Jones in traditional costume.



Left to Right: Clive Mason, David Langford, David 2 (the Goat), Daisy Heaton and Betty Jones

David Langford, the Past President at the time helped me with historical data for the 10 minute speech referencing the time when the Royal Welsh Fusiliers were stationed at Kingston and where, historically, a goat was their mascot. There was a large crowd of tourists for this occasion.

It was a momentous occasion, one of many during the very busy celebration year when Canada was recognized for its 100th anniversary. A wonderful memory!

Graham Parker (President Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir, as read in church by Lynette Jenkins)
The Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir was founded twenty two years ago and has its roots firmly implanted in Dewi Sant United Church. From inception, our weekly rehearsals have been held in the Church and many of the original members formed part of the congregation with one whose father served as the minister.

Over the years we have performed at Dewi Sant for a variety of occasions, some happy and joyous such as the surprise appearance of our most famous patron, Bryn Terfel, with others having a more somber overtone such as the memorable final salute to our dear friend Harold Woodey.

We participated in the "100 Voices" celebration for the centenary concert and are honoured to have been invited to actively participate in the 110 year memorial concert. The Choir sincerely hopes that our association with Dewi Sant continues for many years to come.
Diolch yn fawr, iawn.

WELSH SERVICE / Y GWASANAETH CYMRAEG

The next Welsh language service will be held at 10 a.m. on Sunday November 5th to be followed by a bilingual service at 11 a.m. (Guy Fawkes Day, also when Summer time ends!). This will include a tribute to William Williams Pantycelyn. The Welsh Service Committee is looking for input with regard to the change in time for the Welsh service to 10:00 a.m.. The results of the questionnaire were not conclusive.....and attendance to date is not significantly different. Please send to the church or to *Nêst* at pritchard38@gmail.com

Bydd gwasanaeth Cymraeg yn Eglwys Dewi Sant am 10 o'r gloch ar Sul Tachwedd 5^{ed}.
Gwasanaeth byr – a gwasanaeth ddwyieithog i ddilyn am 11 o'r gloch.
Nêst Pritchard

MINISTRY ARTICULATION PROFILE (MAP)

Subsequent to the preparation of the MAP, a Congregational Meeting was held on Sept. 17 after the service. The reason for the meeting was to discuss ad vote on the requirement for either a part Minister or Full Time Minister. The result of the vote was overwhelmingly in favour of a Full time Minister.

Board of Session

In view of the work that will need to be done by all members in the next year it is worth looking at this poem submitted in 1999 by a previous editor of Y Gadwyn, Olwen Dunets:

BONES

It has been said that the membership of any organization is made up of four sets of bones:

There are the WISHBONES who spend all their time wishing someone else would do the work. Then there are the JAWBONES, who do all the talking about the work, and little else. Another group is the KNUCKLEBONES, who knock everything that anyone else tries to do. But the most valuable are the BACKBONES, who get under the load and actually do the work.

Resubmitted by Glenys Huws (Oussoren)

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

Betty Jones

Betty is currently in hospital awaiting surgery. No visits or calls at this time please but cards are welcome. Please send them to Betty Jones, c/o Sion Jones, 7436 Simcoe Road 56, Utopia, ON, L0M 1T0.

Joan Lloyd

Our long time member Joan Lloyd passed away on Wednesday, September 13th. A memorial service was held on September 20th. The Rev. Dr. Don Bell presided with a meditation on The Journey. Trevor, her son, spoke at length about his mother and her impact on him, Carysann (daughter) and her many friends, about his late father, Bryn Lloyd who played an important part in the development of Dewi Sant church, and they life together as a family. We sang two hymns selected by Joan – “Be still my soul” and “Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?”. Please keep Trevor, Carysann and family in your prayers. Rev. Deian sent his memories of Joan and they are reprinted here.



loved the ad and it has become one of my catch phrases. Anytime I really, really like something I will add the sentence "It's worth the drive to Acton".

Over Labour weekend it was certainly worth the drive if not to Acton, definitely to Rochester if just to hear this year's guest choir - the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir. They were absolutely splendid. Under the leadership of William Woloschuk and accompanied by Matthew Coons, they delighted us with their choice of repertoire and their presentations. There was an excellent mix of traditional, classical and folk music, both in English and Welsh. (As an aside, I congratulate



William on his complete knowledge of the Welsh lyrics.) One of their "fun" songs was Matthew Coons' arrangement of Sospan Fach. Matthew is a totally brilliant accompanist. We also loved seeing Gwyn Roberts (founder member of the choir) dressed as a drunken sailor during their rendition of "Fogarty's Cove".

Which were my favourite items? The choir immediately put me in a good mood by opening with Dafydd Iwan's "Yma o hyd". But one of my all-time favourites is Y Tangnefeddwyr and the choir did it justice. Diolch, fechgyn. The choir shared the stage with Broadway actor and singer John Owen-Jones, best known for his role as Jean Valjean in Les Miserables and as the Phantom.

The Choir's brilliant emcee, Greg Brown, kept the evening running smoothly and the audience in gales of laughter with his witticisms. As we waited and waited for John Owen-Jones to appear on stage to start the evening, wondering what on earth was holding him up, Greg finally introduced him as "the late John Owen-Jones"! From then on Greg had us eating out of his hand. Quite a splendid evening and the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir did us proud.

Hefina Phillips

NIAGARA CELTIC FESTIVAL

Until recently I had no idea that a huge two day Celtic Festival is held annually in the attractive lakeside town of Olcott, N.Y. Well, to be honest, I'd never heard of Olcott either. When asked if I

would give a Welsh language workshop during the Festival as they had never had any previous Welsh representation, of course I answered "Yes!"

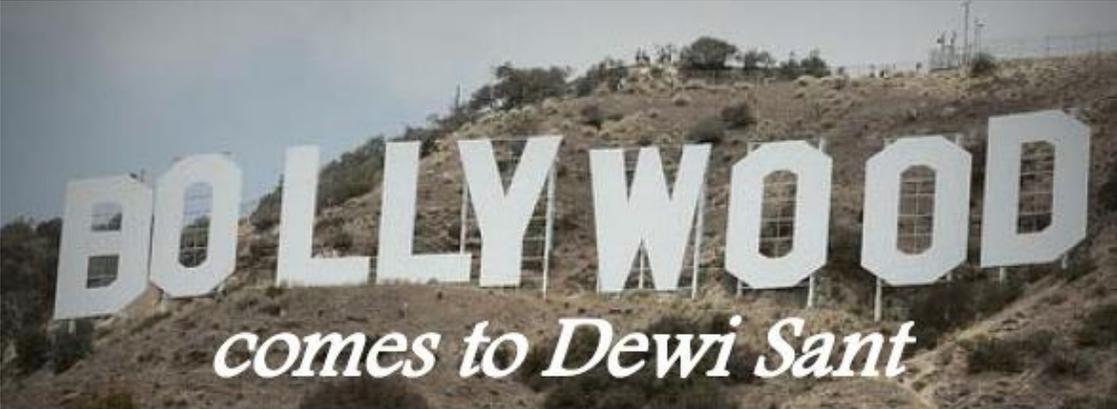
When I finally arrived at the Festival site I was overwhelmed by the enormous numbers of attendees. And everyone, but everyone was either in costume or wearing a T shirt that indicated their affiliation -either to Scotland or to Ireland. (There was just the one person on site wearing a "Welsh" T shirt. Even the smallest babies were dressed up). It was truly a family affair. There were booths galore, pipe bands, and mini Highland Games (including tossing the caber) food stalls selling items such as Scotch Eggs. There was one "Welsh Cookies" booth, and he had sold out on the first day. Therefore as far as Welsh representation went, it was the Cookie Man and me!

What were my thoughts at the end of the day? Total envy! How come the Scots and Irish can produce such a successful Celtic Festival in this tiny town in Upper New York State? What is their secret? And it didn't help my little green monster when I learned that, possibly due to the glorious weather, they had taken in \$10,000 more on the Saturday than the entire weekend last year.

If you have the answer to the above question, please let me know. It's not that I begrudge the Scots and Irish, it's just that I'd like to acquire some of those skills for the Welsh!!
Hefina Phillips

UPCOMING EVENTS

ST.DAVID'S SOCIETY



Traditional Indian Buffet
Entertainment by Shaymala Dance Academy

Saturday, 14 October, 2017
Drinks: 5.30 pm, Dinner: 6.00 pm
Dewi Sant Welsh United Church
33 Melrose Avenue, Toronto

Tickets:
\$18.00/member
\$20.00/non-member
\$10.00/child

The St. David's Society of Toronto
Julie – 416.500.8970 – juliewenz@yahoo.com
Trish – 647.308.6463 – tistevenson@icloud.com

BAZAAR, RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2017
9:30 am – 1:00 pm

IT TAKES A TEAM. Please consider how you might contribute to this important fundraiser for Dewi Sant.

BAZAAR DONATIONS. Please put bazaar donations in the cloakroom under the coat hangers.

JEWELLERY
BAKED GOODS
WOMENS ACCESSORIES
GENTLY USED GOODS
WHITE ELEPHANT

TEA ROOM
WELSH KEEPSAKES
SILENT AUCTION
CHILDREN'S GOODS
TREASURES

GENTLY USED ITEMS ONLY. NO JUNK. NO CLOTHING ~ OTHER THAN WOMEN'S ACCESSORIES. NO BOOKS.

DESPERATELY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS to work on the Friday before the bazaar (November 17th) any time after 10:00 a.m. for setup. The work is overwhelming for those of us that are retired and are able to attend. Perhaps there are those in the workforce who would be able to take the Friday afternoon off. It would be greatly appreciated. We are also looking for some good sales people to work on the stalls on Saturday.

Please contact Arleigh @ arleighquesnelle@sympatico.ca. Thank you.
Arleigh Quesnelle

Looking towards our Annual Sale, please would you consider checking out your jewelry boxes? When I made this request last year - the response was absolutely amazing and everyone's donations helped us to achieve our greatest amount EVER taken at our Annual Sale. As we celebrate our 110th Anniversary - will you help us again to top last year's achievement? To this end - please will you go through your jewelry boxes and see if you have any costume jewelry you could donate. We have been overwhelmed with jewelry gift boxes so thank you, but no more boxes are needed. If you need any clarification of what to send - please call me at 416 281 8758 or email me at lynettej@scaw.org

Many Thanks
Lynette Jenkins

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) 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

Hefina Phillips

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! Thank you to Iona Rees, Mary Williams, Myfanwy Davies, Percy Jordan, Shirley Evans, Dorothy Wilson for their subscription donations.

CONTACT US AND SUBMISSIONS

Anna Dunets, Editor. Email: adunetswills@gmail.com or 416-485-4074.

Please send in your contributions by October 28 which is the cut-off date for submissions to the next issue.

