



Y GADWYN

(The Link)

News of the
Toronto Welsh Community

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Rev. Dr. Larry Beech PhD

Glory to God in the Highest and on Earth Peace and Goodwill to All People

The sights and sounds of the Christmas season are evident all around us – the cultural events that surround Christmas preparations can easily obscure the spiritual meaning at the heart of Advent and Christmas. Within Dewi Sant the sights and sounds of Christmas are centred around worship during Advent and Christmas. “And the angels sang ...” Dewi Sant is a singing church – one of the distinctive hallmarks of this Welsh congregation. Music and singing will be at the centre of our times of worship as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

The legends surrounding the birth of Jesus express how meaningful the Incarnation has been from the earliest times of the Christian church. God has become One with us – in the birth and life of Jesus Christ. Through the Incarnation our own humanity has been endowed with an extraordinary status. We too as persons who are followers of Christ express to the world around us the presence and love of God through who we are and what we do. And what a privilege and responsibility this is – to ourselves like Jesus to be the embodiment of God in the world in which we live.

Advent – a time of preparation for God’s coming into our world through the birth of Jesus – and a time of preparation for God coming into our very own lives. Christmas – a time to celebrate God’s presence in our lives through the birth and life of Jesus – and a time to celebrate the presence of the God of Jesus Christ embodied and expressed in the lives of human personhood. This is truly a sacred and wonderful time in our Christian year – a time in Dewi Sant for music and singing at its highest.

Glory to God in the Highest and on Earth Peace and Goodwill to All People. May this Advent and Christmas Season be a time of Hope and joy in all of your Lives.

Sandra and Larry Beech

Dewi Sant United Church Women

The ladies of Dewi Sant Welsh United are invited to a Christmas Party, Tuesday December 10th 2002. The executive has decided that the Church ladies deserve a treat after their hard work for the very successful Bazaar. We will meet at 7pm in the evening and enjoy a meal of Lasagna, Salad, Fruit Tray and various desserts. Followed by a sing-song ably directed by our own Jean Iona Thompson. We request that each lady bring a small toiletry gift to be distributed to those that are less fortunate than us. We look forward to seeing all our ladies.

Those that may have difficulty getting to the Church please let me know and I will attempt to see that they get a ride.

Joy Bailey, President

Watch out for upcoming events!

January 11th Twelfth Night Dinner.
February 25th A Valentine's Night Theme.
March 25th Eastern Delights. An evening of desserts and entertainment

Details to follow in the next Gadwyn

The Saint David's Society

There will be a Christmas dinner held in Dewi Sant on Friday December 6th. A roast turkey dinner will be served. Tickets are \$12 each. All are welcomed. Tickets available from Myfanwy and Marjorie Williams. There will be professional entertainment. "A visit with Mark Twain." M.

The Gift

Look at each day as a chance to invest life into life. A chance to share your experience and deposit it into someone else's conscience. Each day is a chance to work miracles in the lives of others.” ~ Jim Rohn

A young man was getting ready to graduate from college. For many months he had admired a beautiful sports car in a dealer's showroom, and knowing his father could well afford it, he told him that was all he wanted. As Graduation Day approached, the young man awaited signs that his father had purchased the car.

Finally, on the morning of his graduation his father called him into his private study. His father told him how proud he was to have such a fine son, and told him how much he loved him. He handed his son a beautifully wrapped gift box. Curious, but somewhat disappointed the young man opened the box and found a lovely, leather-bound Bible.

Angrily, he raised his voice at his father and said, "With all your money, you give me a Bible?" and stormed out of the house, leaving the holy book.

Many years passed and the young man was very successful in business. He had a beautiful home and wonderful family, but realized his father was very old, and thought perhaps he should go to him. He had not seen him since that graduation day. Before he could make arrangements, he received a telegram telling him his father had passed away, and willed all of his possessions to his son. He needed to come home immediately and take care of things.

When he arrived at his father's house, sudden sadness and regret filled his heart. He began to search his father's important papers and saw the still new Bible, just as he had left it years ago. With tears, he opened the Bible, and began to turn the pages. As he read those words, a car key dropped from an envelope taped behind the Bible. It had a tag with the dealer's name, the same dealer who had the sports car he had desired. On the tag was the date of his graduation, and the words ... **PAID IN FULL**.

How many times in our lives do we make similar mistakes because good things are not "packaged" as we expected?

Submitted by **Tara Siân Bajaj-Freemantle**

Memories of Childhood

Atgofion Mebyd

When my youngest Grand-daughter, Nia, was born in 1999 on October 24th. I knew I would have no trouble remembering the date. **October 24th** was fixed in my memory from early childhood as “**Diwrnod Ffair Borth**” (the day of the Fair) , it also happened to be Taid’s (my mother’s father’s) birthday. Y Borth short for Porthaethwy, (Menai Bridge) is the small town in Anglesey where I lived until I came over to Canada.

The history of Ffair Borth goes back to 1691. It was originally a market place for animals, and also a sort of ‘labour exchange’ for farm workers. It was later known for the sale of horses, and ponies – ‘Ffair geffylau’.

I remember watching as the Welsh mountain ponies were taken to the Ffair Borth market. They would often have their manes and forelocks braided and decorated with brightly coloured ribbons and pom-poms. The big strong Clydsedales, the working farm horses, brushed and shining were an impressive sight.

A special memory connected to Ffair Borth was “India Rock Number 8”! During the ‘40s (the time of ration books and sugar shortage, - and my early years!) this was the only day one could buy India Rock and even then there was a limited supply. Taid would get up at the crack of dawn on this his birthday, and queue up to buy India Rock from one of the stalls set up near The Square. He would come home triumphant, (especially if he had been able to buy the Rock made in Llanerchymedd) carrying the brown sticks of rock, which he shared with his grandchildren.

Stalls selling dishes (llestri), linens and pots and pans were the source of many a ‘bargain’ in the post-war years. I believe the number and variety of goods available at the Fair has increased dramatically since those days. Likewise the rides and games have changed no doubt – more modern versions of the swings, the roundabouts, and bumping cars are faster and noisier than those I remember! I wonder, do they still play “Roll a penny” and sell candyfloss??

Now I also celebrate October 24th as United Nations Day, a reminder that the UN Charter came into force on this day in 1945.

Submitted By Nêst Pritchard

In Memoriam

Deryck Evans

It was at a very moving ceremony at Christ Church in Mississauga on October 19, 2002, that we celebrated the life of Deryck Evans, who passed away on October 10. The Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir attended, along with family and friends, many from Dewi Sant Church.

Deryck was born in Swansea, Wales, on April 24, 1937, and grew up in the nearby village of Pontarddulais. He was educated at Gowerton Grammar School, and Leeds University, where he received a Bachelor Degree in Engineering. He married in 1964, and soon after, in March 1965 he emigrated to Montreal, to work for what was then Northern Electric, the company where he remained for 28 years. 3 children, Bryan, Rhiannon and Huw were born between 1967 and 1972, and in 1973 the Evans family moved to Ottawa (for 4 years) and then to Mississauga in 1977. Deryck was very proud of his Welsh heritage, and wherever he lived he became very active in the Welsh community. He loved to entertain at a Noson Lawen where he sang with his friends or his family. In Montreal he used to perform Tommy Trouble Sketches with some of his friends. For a time he was president of the St. David Society in Montreal, and he sang in the Welsh Male Voice Choir there, as well as later in the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir. He often sang in Church, sometimes in a duet with his son Huw. He also attended Welsh classes at Dewi Sant and the occasional Cwrs Cymraeg. He was Mayor of the Welsh Pavillion at Caravan in 1998. Deryck will be greatly missed, and will be fondly remembered for his gift of music, his sense of humour and his love of life, as well as his love for his family and friends.

Elisabeth Evans

Beryl Broad

Beryl was born in the little village of Llanilterne, just outside of Cardiff, in December 1934. She attended Caerphilly Grammar School for Girls and later the Cardiff College of Technology and Commerce in Cathays Park, Cardiff.

During her working career in the UK, she was employed in the Personnel Dept. of British Rail and also the Treasurer's Dept. of the County Hall, Cardiff.

Married at age 21, her three children were all born in Wales and the family came to Canada in 1968. They lived in Ontario and British Columbia before being transferred to Minnesota for four years. During their stay in the U.S. Beryl held the position of Executive Assistant to the Canadian Consul General in Minneapolis. In 1984 the family returned to Canada.

In latter years, Beryl was employed by Kuehne & Nagel in Brampton. she is a past President of the UCW, past President of the St. David's Society and has served as Deputy Clerk of Sessions, Dewi Sant Welsh United Church.

On her retirement in the year 2000, Beryl met Ray again after 46 years, and they married and found great happiness together, enjoying the golden years. Beryl was immensely proud of her three children, who had loved and cared for her at all times. She doted on her grandchildren who brought her much joy, and loved her in-law children.

Beryl was a valued and devoted member of Dewi Sant. She is sadly missed by all.

Jean Iona Thompson

The Reverend Ogwen Glyn-Jones

The Reverend Ogwen Glyn-Jones BA.BD, of Fonthill, Ontario passes away on Wednesday November 6th, at the age of 89. He was the last surviving brother of Katherine Jones of Hamilton and brother-in-law of the late Reverend J. Humphreys Jones, former minister of Dewi Sant Welsh Church, Toronto.

Ogwen was born in Rhyl, to a family prominent in the life of Clwyd Street Presbyterian Church. He was ordained into the Presbyterian Church of Wales in 1946 and became minister at Runcor, Cheshire until 1956 when he and the family emigrated to Saskatchewan, Canada for two years, before moving to Fonthill, Ontario.

For several years, he taught at two learning institutions, Welland High School and Niagara Community College. He was Minister Emeritus at Wesley United Church, Welland, where he had served three times as Interim Minister.

Our sympathy is extended to his dear wife Eva, daughter Janet Wilcox, son Ian Glyn-Jones and sister Katherine in their grief. The funeral took place on Friday, November 15, in Fonthill.

Geraint Herbert Jones

Alice Langdon

Alice Langdon passed away in Wales recently. Mrs. Langdon is the grandmother of Reverend Aled Jones. Mary, her daughter visited Dewi Sant several times when the Reverend Aled was with us. Our sympathy goes to the family.

Ken Davies

Our sympathy is extended to May and Albert Hale. May's brother passed away recently in Wales

M.

Thank you:

** My family and I would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who sent cards, made donations to the Alzheimer Society, attended the visitation or the Memorial Service or supported us in prayer during the time of Deryck's passing. The participation in the service by the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir was also very much appreciated. Diolch yn fawr. iawn.

Elisabeth Evans and Family

** The family of the late Beryl Broad wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to the many friends who offered their sympathy, love and support during this very difficult and sad time. Special thanks to Rev Glenn Jackson, Rev Cerwyn Davies and Islwyn and Megan Morris for their many visits to the hospital it was much appreciated. Also a big thank-you to the Ladies of the U.C.W. for a beautiful reception.

All The Family

** We thank each of you good hearted and caring folk who wrote and or telephoned us during and after Maruice's hospitalization. Maurice was pleasurablely surprised by the number of you who contacted him. As he recently said the Rev. Heddwyn Williams, "the congregation has a large capacity for friendship and caring."

Diolch yn fawr.

Maurice & Gaynor

There is a very large thank you from Ken Hughes and family. Many cards, letters and phone calls have been received during Ken's convalescence. Diolch yn fawr.

A Ghost Tour Of Wales

Ghost's Bones

One story from Glamorgan is different from the others because it has been supported by later excavations. It concerns the ancient University town of Llantwit Major, which is in The Vale of Glamorgan.

Many years ago a ghostly woman was said to "walk" near the old Roman Road; in the moonlight. Most local people thought that she was somehow connected with a woman who had mysteriously vanished in that area many years ago. It was common gossip that she had been "done away with".

Some time later, during the excavation for widening a nearby road the skeleton of a woman was found. She was promptly given a Christian burial after which, so 'twas said, she walked no more!

Submitted by Olwen Dunets

Many Thanks to This Month's Contributors

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hall. John & Kathleen Roberts. Margaret Reynolds. Mary & Ray Batten (Pt. Coquitlam, BC). Tom & June Edwards (Whitby). Don & Lillian Crawley. Aldon Jones. Margaret Frampton. Vincent & Margarethe Davies. Eirys & George Brobyn. Amy & Percy Jordan. John & Mary Morgans (Mt. Clemens, Michigan.) Megan Wynne-Jones McKee. Richard & Cynthia Jones. Morvenna Holdaway. Jack Morgan. Kate & Bruce Cherrett. Faye Griffiths. Selwyn & Sheila Jones (Whitby.) Mavis Gracey (Orillia.) Rev. Hedd-wyn & Iris Williams. Lois Lord. John & Lois Williams (Quebec). Rona Wilkie (Kingston). Marjorie & John Tsipuras. Mr. & Mrs. William P. Davies. Stephanie & Alex Dellow.

"To Dewi Sant Church, enclosed find a check to help out with stamps for Y Gadwyn. We miss the church and the members of the congregation very much. When we come & visit Toronto we will try to attend. Give our regards to the congregation & hope all is well."

Sincerely, Donald & Lillian Crawley, Barrie, Ontario

CHOIR RAISES THE ROOF IN LAND OF SONG

The Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir returned home triumphantly after a concert tour of Wales at the end of August.

After two years of planning and hard work, a group of eighty people set out from Toronto Pearson Airport for Wales, via Manchester, England. Their first stop was the University of North Wales, Bangor, where the group made their headquarters for the duration of their stay in the North. The University campus is situated between the dramatic mountains of Snowdonia National Park and the beautiful Island of Anglesey.

The choir's first concert was held at the quaint St. Mary's Church in Betws-y-coed on Sunday, August 11th, where they sang to a large, enthusiastic crowd. By all accounts it was an excellent concert and it was hoped that the choir would be able to return there at some future date.

On the following Tuesday the choir had a warm reception at the ancient Church of St. Padarn in the town of Llanberis, situated in the Snowdonia National Park. The media headlines read, "*Choir raises the roof in land of song*". It was an electrifying performance to a packed audience who gave the choir a standing ovation. The TWMVC is grateful to Cor Meibion Dyffryn Peris for their hospitality and hosting the concert.

During their time in the Snowdonia, several of the members and supporters enjoyed climbing Mount Snowdon; some took an alternative route by taking the train from Llanberis to the summit. Many of the group took advantage of visiting the Llechwedd Slate Caverns in Blaenau Ffestiniog, the former slate capital of the world, where they experienced the life of the quarryman at the turn of the century. Some wandered past the underground lake, used for two Hollywood films and through the Victorian Village where re-minted Victorian coins are used.

The following day the group visited the famous Caernarfon Castle, one of the most impressive castles in Wales. After lunch they travelled down the coast to Port Meirion to explore this interesting Italianate village built by Clough Williams Ellis (Architect), where the British series "The Prisoner" was filmed.

Thursday morning the choir boarded their coaches for the trip to Cardiff via Dinas Mawddwy, Llanidloes (mid-Wales) and the Brecon Beacons. After lunch in the market Town of Llanidloes, one of the coaches made its way to the Welsh Royal Crystal Factory in Rhayadr where they handcraft full lead crystal from molten glass. On arrival in Cardiff the choir and their supporters were shown to their accommodation at the Cardiff University Hall of Residence which stands in its own grounds two miles from city centre in one of Cardiff's most attractive suburbs.

Friday evening was the choir's first concert in the South, held at the Cardiff Welsh School of Medicine Auditorium. A capacity crowd of 500 showed their approval by giving the choir a standing ovation. This concert was hosted by the Cardiff Arms Male Voice Choir and The British Heart Foundation (Cardiff Branch). Proceeds from the concert were donated to the B.H.F.

On Sunday the choir travelled over the Severn Bridge to Bristol, England. The evening concert was performed at the ancient St. Albans Church at Redland/Westbury Park with Filton Male Voice Choir to another capacity crowd.

The last concert in the South was held at St. Margaret's Church in Mountain Ash. Once again the choir sang to a capacity audience, including a few familiar faces: Reverend Alwyn Evans and his wife Janet and Gerry and Lowrie Taylor. After the concert the choir were entertained to supper at the Bowls Club, including singing by the famous Cwm Bach Male Voice Choir, our host.

During their stay in Cardiff the choir members and their supporters visited the Museum of Welsh Life at St. Fagans, where they had the opportunity to explore the many reconstructed buildings from all over Wales. Some buildings dated back hundreds of years, right up to the 1950's. They also enjoyed an excursion through the Rhondda Valley with a stop at Rhondda Heritage Park at Trehafod where they saw how coalmines actually worked.

On Wednesday, August the 21st the choir boarded their coaches once again for the trip back to Bangor, North Wales via Shrewsbury and the A 5 route. The last concert was performed at The Town Hall, Llangollen, home of the International Eisteddfod, (sponsored by the famous Froncysyllte Male Voice Choir). The feedback from the audience was that *"it was an excellent concert, despite being under pressure after an extensive tour, the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir gave a first class performance"*.

The final day before the flight home was spent at Llandudno, where the members and supporters enjoyed last minute shopping in this beautiful Victorian seaside resort.

The consensus was it had been a wonderful trip enjoyed by all.

The Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir would like to thank two very talented young ladies, Bronwen Low and Kelly Campbell who accompanied the choir to Wales and who helped to make it a very memorable tour.

Submitted by Gwyn Roberts

- Anger is a condition in which the tongue works faster then the mind -

A Lesson In Practical Christianity

The Sunday school children made lamb ornaments, to aid the farmers out West during the recent drought. With the sale of the ornaments they raised enough money to purchase many bales of hay for the farmers to feed their animals with. This was done before the Government made a move to help!

We at Dewi Sant can be proud of the children and their leader, Pam Evans. Thank you.

Sybil Mather

Dear Madam Editor:

Tried, and liked, the pumpkin pie – Welsh version from last month’s Gadwyn. Here’s another idea for using the remains of Halloween’s Jack O’ Lantern *(or you could use canned pumpkin). This soup is rich and creamy, but only use milk. Parsley can be substituted for the cilantro

Gaynor Jones

(Recipe from a restaurant in Huntsville, Ontario named “3 Guys and a Stove”)

1 ½	tsp olive oil	1	tsp fresh chopped garlic
1	cup finely chopped red onion	2½	cups of chicken stock
1	large sweet potato, peeled and chopped	1	cup cooked mashed pumpkin
¾	tsp each: cumin and turmeric (or ½ tsp curry powder)	½	tsp chopped cilantro
½	tsp ground ginger	1	tbsp honey
		¾	cup 2% milk

1. In a non-stick saucepan, cook garlic and red onion in hot oil until softened, about 5 minutes.
2. Add stock, sweet potato, pumpkin, cumin and turmeric (or curry powder), cilantro, honey and ginger. Cover and simmer until potatoes are tender, about 40 minutes.
3. Combine in processor or blender until smooth (soup may be refrigerated and kept this way up to four days).
4. To serve, heat up soup slowly adding enough milk to achieve desired consistency (about ¾ cup). Serve hot in heated bowls, garnished with additional chopped cilantro. Yield 5.

Excerpt from *Memories of Christmas* by Dylan Thomas

“Bring out the tall tales now that we told by the fire as we roasted chestnuts and the gaslight bubbled low. Ghosts with their heads under their arms trailed their chains and said ‘whooh’ like owls in the long nights when I dared not look over my shoulder; wild beasts lurked in the cubby-hole under the stairs where the gas-meter ticked. ‘Once upon a time,’ Jim said, ‘there were three boys, just like us, who got lost in the dark snow, near Bethesda Chapel, and this is what happened to them ...’ It was the most dreadful happening I had ever heard.

And I remember that we went singing carols once, a night or two before Christmas Eve, when there wasn’t the shaving of a moon to light the secret, white-flying streets. At the end of a long road was a drive that led to a large house, and we stumbled up the darkness of the drive that night, each one of us afraid, each one holding a stone in his hand in case, and all of us too brave to say a word. The wind made through the drive-trees noises as of old and unpleasant and maybe web-footed men wheezing in caves. We reached the black bulk of the house.

‘What shall we give them?’ Dan whispered.

“‘Hark the Herald’?” “‘Christmas comes but Once a Year’?”

‘No,’ Jack said: ‘We’ll sing “Good King Wenceslas.” I’ll count three.

One, two three, and we began to sing, our voices high and seemingly distant in the snow-felted darkness round the house that was occupied by nobody we knew. We stood close together, near the dark door.

Good King Wencelas looked out
On the Feast of Stephen.

And then small, dry voice, like the voice of someone who has not spoken for a long time, suddenly joined our singing: a small, dry voice from the other side of the door: a small, dry voice through the keyhole. And when we stopped running we were outside *our* house; the front room was lovely and bright; the gramophone was playing; we saw the red and white balloons hanging from the gas-bracket; uncles and aunts sat by the fire; I thought I smelt our supper being fried in the kitchen. Everything was good again, and Christmas shone through all the familiar town.

‘Perhaps it was a ghost,’ Jim said.

‘Perhaps it was trolls,’ Dan said, who was always reading.

‘Let’s go in and see if there’s any jelly left,’ Jack said.

And we did that.

M.

- All people smile in the same language -

From The Mail Bag

Would you like to get in touch with friends of long ago year? There is an easy way of doing this. You go into **www.friendsreunited.co.uk**.

You enter your personal details including school, university, work place, teams, clubs (where applicable) and the dates that you left. The site then automatically shows you all those people who were there at the same time. You can access other years very easily, too. You can write a short paragraph about yourself that can be accessed by others. If you want to contact anyone who has registered, you have to pay a small fee (5 pounds) to the owners of the site to access the email addresses. You can also do a search for a name but this is only successful, of course, if the person you want has registered. The site has a service that will notify you when someone new registers from your school, university, etc. Hope this is of interest.

Janet Lewis

When you receive your **next** Gadwyn, Christmas will be over and the New Year just around the corner. Peace, joy, love and good health, now and during the coming year to all of you. Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda...Diolch Myfanwy. Please keep the contributions coming.

Date of the next Gadwyn Deadline is December 15th. Please send all contributions to Dewi Sant Office or to myfanwybajaj@hotmail.com Phone # 905 737 4399.

Thanks to Tara Siân Bajaj- Freemantle for technical help.
Thanks to Wanda Sweet for all your kind support.

Dewi Sant Calendar of Events - 2002 / 2003

Sunday morning Worship is at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday.

The Sunday School meets at its regular time every Sunday.

December 24th at 8:00 p.m. the annual Christmas Eve Service of Worship.

Welsh language Services are at 7:00 p.m. on the first Sunday of every month. The next Service is on December 1st conducted by Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies.



Upcoming Events:

St. David's Society Annual Banquet, March 1st 2003.

Ontario Gymanfa Ganu - Stratford, Ontario, April 25-27, 2003.

North American Festival of Wales. Featuring the 72nd Annual Gymanfa Ganu. Richmond, (Vancouver) B.C. August 28-31 2003. This festival promises to be excellent. Side trips are being arranged to Whistler, Olde World Victoria on Vancouver Island, an Alaskan Luxury Cruise and a West Coast Adventure. Dunvent Male Voice choir, Jason Howard and Ysgol Gerdd Ceredigion are but a few of the Headliners. -----Details : 1 877 831 7 0563.

- Patience is the ability to idle your motor when you feel like stripping your gears! -