

Y Bwletin

Gwasg y Nant - Valley Press

Gaeaf 2018 - Winter 2018



www.ottawawelsh.com

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Reservation and Membership forms

Editor's comment: many thanks to all the contributors to this edition of Y Bwletin. If you have news or contributions to make to the next newsletter, please contact:

marilyn.e.jenkins@sympatico.ca

Y Gymdeithas ar y We / The Society on the Net:

www.ottawawelsh.com



Ottawa Welsh Society/Cymdeithas Cymry Ottawa

Check out our web site and our Facebook page!

President's Message

Annwyl gyfeillion,

Mae'r blwyddyn newydd wedi cyrraedd gyda'i oerni a rhew anhygoel, ac rwy'n siwr fydd llawer ohonom yn meddwl am fywyd arall yn Florida.

Cawsom ni, yn ein teulu bach Lewis, Nadolig llawen drosben oherwydd nifer o resymau. Mae gennym wyr a wyres newydd, Evan Thomas Hamilton, a Beatrice Letellier a daeth i aros gyda ni. Hefyd yr oedd ein mab David yn ol yn y wlad yma o'r Iseldiroedd. Teulu a thwrci - beth allai fod yn well? Tawelwch efallai!

Hoffwn dymuno Blwyddyn Newydd dda lewyrchus, llawn o heddwch, a iechyd da i chwi oll yn ein cymundeb Cymry Ottawa.

- Geraint Lewis



Dear Friends

The New Year has arrived with its cold and frosts, and I'm sure some of us are maybe thinking of another life in Florida. We in the Lewis family had a very happy Christmas for several reasons. We now have a new grandson Evan Thomas Hamilton, and a new granddaughter Beatrice Letellier who came to stay with us. Also our son David was visiting from his other home in the Netherlands. Family and turkey - what could be better? Well maybe some peace and quiet!

I'd like to wish you all in our Ottawa Welsh community a happy healthy peaceful and prosperous new year.

Geraint W Lewis

Editor's Message

You will have noticed by now that we are making a big effort to include Welsh language in the Bwletin. In my role as Secretary of the OWS, I am trying to include Welsh language in my emails and notices. Our newest initiative, after months of consideration and discussion, will be launching on Monday, January 15 at the home of Alison and John Lawson. The Awr Sgwrsio I Ddysgwyr is beginning, with some trepidation on the part of the learners and the enablers, but we are determined to give it a try! There are about ten people registered to start and others have expressed interest. This brings me to another topic: the surveys.

We want to thank all those who took the time to complete either the electronic or hard copy version of the first survey questions, about Welsh learning. It is very helpful to the Executive to know what the membership wants and these short surveys will go a long way to helping us plan the future for the OWS.

Our next survey question will be about the fall event. We have tried some different types of get-togethers, with varying degrees of success (see p. 3). Your views will be welcome and helpful as we go forward. Look for the next survey question by the end of January.

Meanwhile, from my household to yours Blwyddyn Newydd dda.

- Marilyn Jenkins

Upcoming Events

February 24	St. David's Day Luncheon*
February 25	St. David's Day Gymanfa Ganu*
March 1	St. David's Day Reception (TBA)
April 27-29	Ontario Welsh Festival* (Kingston)
May ???	AGM 2018 (TBA)

*See articles in Bwletin.



November Evening

We, The Welsh in Ottawa and Canada

It was a miserable night – meteorologically that is! The weather forecast of freezing rain frightened several people into staying home. For those souls brave enough to venture forth it became a wonderful evening of story telling.

The evening started with a brief overview of Welsh emigration across the generations and across the globe that had been prepared by Dr. Pawl Birt and delivered by Society President Geraint Lewis. Of specific interest was the story of Hughesovska – latter day Donetsk – founded by a Welshman at the behest of a Russian Tsar.

The list of folk willing to tell their or their families' stories was gratifying; Chris Smart, Mary Muckle, Bob Price, David Jeanes, Alison Lawson, John Williams and Marilyn Jenkins.

The stories were heartwarming, heartbreaking, fascinating, and historically interesting. Old photos added another layer of nostalgia and stirring of memories.

Following the presentations Alan Thomas accompanied the group in the singing of Unwaith eto'n Nghymru Annwyl, Sospan Fach, Hen Wlad fy Nhadau and O Canada.

The evening would not have been complete without the presence of bice ar y maen, bara brith, a selection of Welsh cheeses and the complementing wine and beer. Leslie Wood graciously supplied tea and coffee to accompany the goodies.

By the end of the evening, the winter storm had passed and all were able to wend their way home in safety.

Thanks go to all those who worked so hard to bring this evening to fruition. Diolch o gallon I chwi oll.

- Geraint Lewis

The Executive is hoping to publish as many of the stories as possible over the next several months. Stay tuned !

Gwledd Dydd Gwyl Dewi / St. David's Day Banquet

Please join us to honour our patron saint at our Dydd Gwyl Dewi Sant/St David's Day luncheon on Saturday, February 24th. It will be held at the gracious Royal Ottawa Golf Club. The easy access, excellent parking, welcoming staff and comfortable reception rooms make this an ideal venue for our event. You are sure to enjoy good food and good fellowship!

Time: Reception 11:30 am - 12:20 pm

Lunch Banquet 12:30 pm

Venue: The Royal Ottawa Golf Club

1405 Aylmer Road, Gatineau, Quebec, J9H 7L2

Menu: This year we are offering a choice of chicken or vegetarian meal.

Cost: Early bird tickets \$55 each, deadline February 10, \$60 each thereafter. Final deadline: February 22, 2018

Dress code: Business casual - no jeans or cargo pants.



Please complete the reservation form found at the end of this Bwletin and return to Marilyn Jenkins before February 10, 2018, to benefit from the early bird price and preferred seating.

Note: membership fees for 2018 may be paid at this time. Membership form is also at the end of the Bwletin.

After lunch, we will have the pleasure of an address by our very own David Jeanes, OWS member at large on the Executive. He is sure to offer us some very pertinent and interesting comments. For more information about David, please go to

<http://www.magma.ca/~djeanes/David%20Jeanes.htm>



Dr. David Jeanes

Following the talk, we will be entertained by the very talented baritone, Ryan Hofman, who will sing a selection of classical and Welsh songs. Ryan originally trained at UBC, specialising in opera. He has performed roles with UBC Opera, Opera NUOVA (Edmonton), European Music Academy, Czech Republic and Pelligrini Opera, Ottawa. He was a finalist in 2015 and 2017 in the Brian Law Opera Competition, and a finalist in the Vancouver Kiwanis Festival Gala in 2016.

To enjoy a preview of Ryan's singing, please use the following YouTube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BbMXuZBpxc>

- Alison Lawson



Ryan Hofman, baritone,
Opera NUOVA

Ontario Welsh Festival in Kingston April 27 - 29, 2018

Do you remember what a great time we all had when the Ontario Welsh Festival was held in Ottawa two years ago?

Good news! We will have an opportunity to be part of this great festival again this year. It is being held in Kingston, a mere two hours down the road. So if you don't have the time or money to spend the whole weekend in Kingston, there is nothing stopping you from popping down for a day or overnight on Saturday. We can even try to set up a car pool, if driving is an issue. The Festival headquarters will be the **HOLIDAY INN WATERFRONT**, at the bottom end of Princess Street.

As usual, there is a superb programme lined up for the weekend. There will be the usual favourites – the Welcome Tea, featuring Mary Muckle on harp, in the afternoon, and the evening Noson Lawen on Friday – followed by informal singing. Hefina Philips' seminar on "Say it in Welsh" was so popular last year in Stratford that she will once again host a similar seminar in Kingston. What a wonderful opportunity to practice and learn new conversational words and let's not forget the Marketplace – always a hit. A tour of the Royal Military College (RMC) is also planned - further details will become available with your registration package and on the website.

Saturday evening the Banquet will once again feature the presentation of the Gold Award, followed by the Grand concert featuring CÔR Y GLEISION from Cardiff, Wales – listen to them on Youtube - and of course the afterglow of informal singing. The concert and the Sunday Gymanfa sessions will be held in the **Sydenham Street United Church**, now also known as **The Spire**. Alan Thomas will again be the organist for the Sunday sessions, and will no doubt be accompanying a number of us at the Noson lawen.

The registration brochures will be coming out later this month. If you have attended in the past, you will automatically receive one in the mail. Otherwise you will be able to download one from the festival site at the end of the month or please Alison Lawson.

Of course, it is never too early to book your hotel accommodation. The festival hotel is the newly renovated, **Holiday Inn Kingston Waterfront**, beautifully situated right downtown on the waterfront. The rate offered for the festival is: \$139.99 for traditional room, \$149.99 for King Rooms. Call to secure your room 1-800-315-2621 or (613)549-8400 direct.

We do hope you will join us for this wonderful event: a time to enjoy Welsh music, culture and language, to renew friendships and to just have a grand time!

- Alison Lawson and Mairwen Thornley

If you need any further information or would like to join in a car pool, please contact Alison Lawson at alisonlawson@rogers.com or phone at 613-725-2705.

The Choir

Côr y Gleision is based in Cardiff and their name means "The Blues Choir". "Gleision" is the plural form of the adjective "Glas". *Who are the Blues?* could well be your next question. That is the nickname of the Cardiff Rugby team who wear, yes, blue shirts. There is, therefore, a strong affiliation between this choir and the Cardiff Rugby team.

The Choir was established in 2006 in response to the S4C programme Codi Canu. The aim was to bring back traditional Welsh singing to the terraces during rugby games. The choir continued to grow and develop even though Codi Canu is no longer in existence.

They have a varied calendar of events and, in addition to singing at regional and international rugby matches, they perform at regional and national choral festivals.

In 2016 they won the First Prize at the Open Choir Competition, Eisteddfod y Cymoedd, beating out more established choirs.

Although their director, Richard Vaughan, usually composes classical choral works, he is delighted to have reached the final round of "Cân i Gymru" (A Song for Wales), an annual song-writing contest televised on S4C.

The choir has toured in Spain, Scotland and Belgium and, of course, they are really looking forward to their visit to Ontario. Check out their website www.corygleision.co.uk and have a listen to them on YouTube. You may see faces in the choir that look familiar, as some choristers also belong to CF1.

- Hefina Phillips

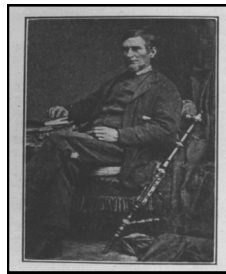
Rev Peter Jones

1802-1856



This huge banner of the Rev. Peter Jones hangs in the main foyer of the National Gallery. He also went by the name of Sacred Waving Feathers, “Kahkewaquonaby” in Ojibwe, his mother’s language; and “Desagondensta” in Mohawk which translates to “He stands people on their feet”.

Peter’s father was Augustus Jones (1757-1836), whose grandfather had immigrated to the U.S. from Wales. Augustus was trained as a Surveyor in New York City and moved to Upper Canada in 1787 as a Loyalist after the War of Independence.



Augustus was well-connected and brought a letter of introduction from Cadwallader Colden, a former Lieutenant-Governor of New York. In the Niagara area he combined surveying and land development, becoming a significant land owner in Niagara, York and Grand River. Included in his survey work were Lake Ontario to Detroit (Dundas Street) and Lake Ontario to Simcoe (Yonge Street). His reputation was mixed: he had two families but he became a significant and wealthy land surveyor.

“An ‘American’ surveyor in open adultery had children by several squaws”.

“No other surveyor in Upper Canada surveyed and subdivided so much important land”.

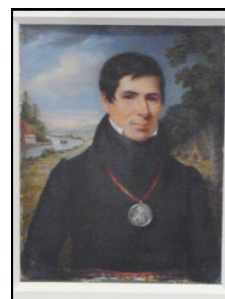
His two families were Mohawk: Sarah Tekarihogen (8 children) and Missisagan: Sarah Henry Tuhbenahneequay, (two sons John and Peter).

Peter was born in a teepee, named Kahkewaquonaby and raised by his Ojibwe mother until he was 15. He then learned English and became Peter Jones. At 21 he was converted and became a Methodist. By 24, he had converted half the band to



Christianity and, at 27 became a chief of the Mississaugas. His brother John was the schoolmaster.

Peter was involved in the early translation of the Bible to Ojibwe and he became a missionary touring the North-East U.S. (1829) and Britain (1831), raising 1000 pounds. He had a private audience with King William IV and was awarded a medal. He met and married Eliza Fields and brought her to Canada. There were two further missions to Britain, in 1838, when he had an audience with the young Queen Victoria, and in 1845. Between 1841 and 1849 he ran the Muncey Mission, using his knowledge of the Ojibwa, Munsee Delaware and Oneida languages to communicate. He continued his missionary work in the Upper Great Lakes (1852), New York City (1853), Syracuse N.Y. (1854). He died 29 June 1856 and left Echo Villa and 1000 Pounds Canada Life policy to his wife Eliza. His was the largest funeral procession ever witnessed in Brantford – “80 carriages, great number of white people and Indians on foot”.



Artist: Matilda Jones, Oil on ivory
National Gallery, A 102, Canadian Collection



Peter’s coat that he is wearing in the early photograph is on display the National Gallery, along with his feathered hat and the Matilda Jones portrait..

- John Williams

Member News and In Memoriam

Member News

Arts Night at Unitarian Church

Member Mary Muckle, harpist, will be a featured artist at the Arts Night on January 26, 2018 at the Unitarian Church on Cleary Avenue. This is a monthly event which features guest artists from the literary, visual and musical arts. Each artist will speak & demonstrate, or perform for about 20 minutes. There is also time for audience participation, discussion and socializing. Soprano Marilyn Jenkins will be assisting, performing Mary's own work: Four Songs for Voice and Harp, poetry by W. B. Yeats.

Welsh Language Books - Free

I have a large number of welsh language learner books and a few Welsh dictionaries which are available for free to anyone who wants them.

I also have a large number of advanced and adult novels also for free.

Anyone who is interested should get in touch with me.

Thanks

Glenison Jones g.t.jones@rogers.com

Model Railway Anyone?

Attention model railway enthusiasts: do you know about Ottawa Valley HOTRAK? David Jeanes, member of the OWS Executive committee, is also a member of this group, which sets up about 400 linear feet of HO-scale model railway for a weekend every month. Each month's layout is completely different and thanks to David's friend Colin Churcher, there are several "Welsh modules": Rosebush, Crundale, Cynderwen and Maenclochog. Colin was Area Manager for British Railways at Haverfordwest for a time and he attended the same school as Bill Jeanes, David's father. Colin is now located in Ottawa. For more information on the club contact David Jeanes or go to the website to see photos of the modules.

<http://www.hotrak.ca/>

Hywel Glyn Jenkins - 1927 – 2017



Glyn was born in the town of Bedwas, near Caerphilly, in the South Wales Coalfield.

He was one of two brothers and upon leaving school did what many young boys of his generation did he went to work down the pit. After his older brother emigrated to Canada in the early 50's, Glyn soon followed and moved to the St. Catharines/ Niagara Falls region. Whilst there he met Susie, who was from a Dutch family, and soon they married. They had four children - Richard, George, Linda and Marika. After much hard work bringing up a young family, with Glyn studying at night school to become a Chartered Accountant, the family eventually moved to Ottawa.

Glyn was a proud Welshman, a keen sportsman and an avid singer. He and Susie were both heavily involved in The Ottawa Welsh Society and the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society in the early years. He was well-known in the Cricket Community, where Glyn played and Susie scored. He also sang in a variety of different Choirs throughout the city including the German Choir. Glyn also played some decent rugby and represented Ontario at Prop Forward, a position that calls for strength and power.

Glyn dearly loved Susie, his wife for over 60 years, and was very proud of his children and grandchildren. He was a great friend to many and will be sadly missed by all those who knew him.

Rest in peace, Glyn.

- Randall Jones, friend

Member News and In Memoriam

Eirwen Thomson

December 28, 1936 - November 28, 2017



Eirwen was born in Blaengwynfi, South Wales to Richard and Hannah Davis. She moved to England to complete a teaching certificate, where she met Bobby Thomson, whom she married in 1960.

After some time in Glasgow they moved to the Ottawa Valley and bought a small farm in Pontiac, Quebec. They later moved to a house in the Glebe neighborhood to raise their family, but "the farm" remained a fixture, especially in the summer months. Eirwen was a prolific gardener with a particular weakness for sunflowers and carnations. Every summer the Pontiac farmhouse and all nearby outbuildings were surrounded by blooms from the flower beds that were her pride and her joy. She took a keen interest in birds of all kinds, but the smallest ones like chickadees and hummingbirds were her special delight. Eirwen loved a good conversation; her good humour and her genuine interest in other people and their stories quickly turned many strangers into close confidants. She and Bobby travelled extensively after their children left home, and she found new friends in countries all over the world. She was famous within the family for her prodigious memory, and would routinely remember details about someone who had visited the house - perhaps only once - more than a decade earlier.

Eirwen loved teaching elementary school but gave it up to look after her young family. Eventually she did return to occasional supply-teaching for the Ottawa School Board, particularly at Mutchmor Public School where her no-nonsense classroom style earned her the nickname "Mrs. T". While travelling as a volunteer for Canadian Executive Services Overseas (CESO) she taught in elementary classrooms in Peru, India and Columbia.

She had a lifelong passion for choral music, and sang with the Ottawa Choral Society from the 1970s well into the new

millennium. In later years she was part of a Welsh singing group that performed in the Ottawa area as well as Toronto, Calgary, and even, on one occasion, at a Welsh festival in Patagonia.

Eirwen was an active member of the Ottawa Welsh Society, participating in events and singing with the ladies' penillion group, known as Cerdd Dant.

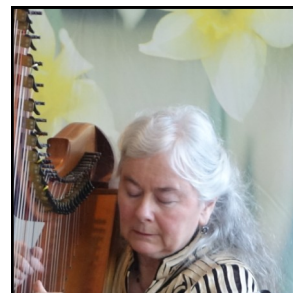
Eirwen was predeceased by her parents and her younger brother, John. She is survived by her beloved and devoted husband Bobby, her four children (Gareth, Eira, David and Catherine), and her eight grandchildren (Alistair, Cameron, Amadeu, Keigan, Hannah, Eric, Sarah, and Jay).

Eirwen will be greatly missed by her friends in the OWS.

Member News

Harp concert

Mary Muckle would like to invite all members to her concert at St. Luke's Anglican Church on April 22. Also featured in the concert are the Ottawa Youth Harp Ensemble, Douglas Brierley, violinist, Virginia Dunsby, flutist, Julie Leduc, harpist, and Marilyn Jenkins, soprano. The theme is "the hidden folk (faerie lore)" and once again, the flavour will be Celtic and Gaelic. Further details will be available as the date draws near. Admission is a freewill donation at the door.



Mary Muckle and her lever harp
at the Welcome Tea OWF 2015

St. David's Day Luncheon Reservation Form 2018

February 24, 2018 at the Royal Ottawa Golf Club, Aylmer, Qc

Note: Early bird deadline is (**received by**) February 10, 2018 with each meal costing \$55.

Every effort will be made to seat you with your friends **if your reservation is received by February 10, 2018.**

After the deadline, the meal cost will be \$60. All reservations must be received by February 22.

There are two choices for the meal: chicken and vegetarian.

Please complete a section for **each participant**, indicating choice of meal.

Name _____

☐ Chicken

☐ Vegetarian

Please list any special needs:

Please indicate any food allergies or sensitivities:

Name _____

☐ Chicken

☐ Vegetarian

Please list any special needs:

Please indicate any food allergies or sensitivities:

Summary:

_____ chicken meals @ \$55 (early bird) _____ or \$60 (received) after February 10, 2018

_____ vegetarian meals @ \$55 (early bird) _____ or \$60 (received) after February 10, 2018

Total enclosed: _____

Friends with whom we would like to share a table:

Please send a cheque made out to the Ottawa Welsh Society

Completed forms may be mailed to:

Marilyn Jenkins, 267 McClellan Road, Nepean, ON K2H 8N7

Questions may be emailed to: marilyn.e.jenkins@sympatico.ca or phoned to 613-820-6687

Note: You may also take this opportunity to pay your \$10 individual or \$20 family membership.

OTTAWA WELSH SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP 2018

Note: Membership year is March 1, 2018 to February 28, 2019

Please complete all areas to ensure our information is up-to-date and send the form with your membership fee, as indicated below.

Name _____

Spouse/Partner _____

Children/other family members _____

Address _____

Street _____

City _____ Prov. _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone (____)-____-____ Alternate phone (____)-____-____

Email address(es) _____

Would you like to receive Y BWLETIN and notice of events by email? Yes ____ No ____

Please note that special events notices are sent electronically only and not via Canada Post.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP _____ @ \$20.00.....\$ _____

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP _____ @ \$10.00 EA.....\$ _____

If you are not attending the St. David's Day luncheon, please send your remittance directly to the membership secretary:

Sian Wynn Jones

39 Hereford Place

Ottawa, Ontario

K1Y 3S6