

Y Bwletin



Gwasg y Nant - Valley Press

Yr Haf 2026 - Summer 2026

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If you would like to have an item included in
Y Bwletin, please contact the editor at
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Y Bwletin on our web site:

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

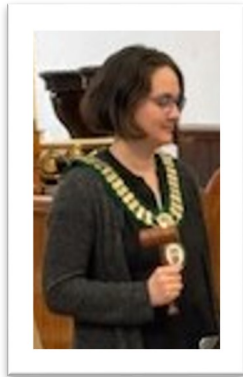
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Ottawa Welsh Society/Cymdeithas Cymry Ottawa

Check out our web site and our Facebook page!

Neges Llywydd/President's Message



Annwyl gyfeillion,

Summer is here—and, boy, did it start with a bang! I hope you are all keeping safe, and cool during these seemingly constant heatwaves and episodes of poor air quality.

Thanks to those of you who came out to the Ottawa Welsh Society AGM at the Clocktower Pub in Westboro on May 21. We came awfully close to not reaching quorum, and breathed a sigh of relief when we did so five minutes after the official start time. We hope we can convince more of you to join us next year: The AGM is both an important opportunity to discuss the Ottawa Welsh Society's accomplishments and priorities, and an enjoyable evening of socializing with fellow members.

As usual, we are planning a quiet summer. The Awr Sgwrsio is meeting at IKEA in July, but not in August. Our Family Picnic will take place on Saturday, August 15 from 4-8pm. It is always a fun event, and a chance to introduce Welsh-curious friends to the Society.

The OWS committee is already hard at work preparing the programme for the coming year. I am proud of what we achieved in 2025-2026, and we will be building on that for 2026-2027. I dare say you can expect more films, talks, and music... Perhaps even a rugby win or two!

Cofion cynnes,
Anastasia Llewellyn

Secretary/Editor's Comments

Annwyl gyfeillion,

We are well and truly into summer now and we have two opportunities to gather. On July 14 (Tuesday) a young rugby team from Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun in Penywaun will be playing against U16 Boys Barrhaven Scottish Rugby Football Club. It is likely that some members of the Society will brave the heat to watch the match. (*)

The second is the Family Picnic, as mentioned by Anastasia (see details on page 6). This is always a pleasant, relaxing event and we are grateful to Chris and Gina for inviting us back to their garden.

We are already planning the usual events in the fall, winter and spring seasons and we look forward to seeing many of you out. If you think there are opportunities for other types of events, or you wish we would do something in particular, please contact one or all of the Executive Committee members. All contact information is given on the front page of this newsletter.

I will also once again give a shout out to our web-master, David Speck who makes sure the website is up-to-date with information about upcoming events. If you are ever in need of information, make that your first stop. I am always happy to hear from you as well. If you don't have email, please feel free to call me at 613-820-6687.

Take care, have a great summer and stay cool!

Bendithion,
Marilyn

(*By the time this newsletter is published, the event will be in the past. If anyone gets some photos, please send them along.)

Upcoming OWS Events 2026-26

Please look for details in this newsletter.

Summer	Annual Family Picnic (see page 6)
November	A Taste of Wales
December	Lessons and Carols
Winter	Films and Talks?
	St. David's Day celebrations

Colofn y Dysgwyr

For this issue, we will practice the future tense through two dialogues about summer holidays.

First, a review of the future tense of **bod**

Adolygu yr amser dyfodol		
Assertive	Negative	Interrogative
Bydda i	Fyddda i ddim	Fyddda i?
Byddi di	Fydddi di ddim	Fydddi di?
Bydd hi/e/o	Fydd hi/e/o ddim	Fydd hi/e/o?
Byddwn ni	Fyddwn ni ddim	Fyddwn ni?
Byddwch chi	Fyddwch chi ddim	Fyddwch chi?
Byddan nhw	Fyddan nhw ddim	Fyddan nhw?

Geiriau:

Y traeth = the beach
 Teithio = to travel
 Taith = trip y daith = tour
 Y llyn = the lake
 Ar lan y môr = at the seaside
 Y mynyddoedd = the mountains
 parc genedlaethol = a national park
 y ffordd (ffyrdd) = the road/roads
 y briffordd = the highway
 daith diwylliant – cultural tour
 gwersylla = camping
 wir! = really
 Bendigedig/ardderchog = wonderful
 dyfalu = guess

Deialog 1: Translate the dialogue into English and practice the Welsh with a partner. (Cyfieithiad ar dudalen 8.)

Mae Aled a Sioned yn cwrdd yn y farchnad.

- A: S'mae, Sioned. Sut wyt ti?
 S: Shwmae, Aled. Dw i wedi blino.
 A: O diar. Pam?
 S: Dw i newydd orffen pacio ar gyfer ein taith.
 A: O! Wyt ti'n mynd ar wyliau?
 S: Ydw.
 A: Byddi di'n mynd i dy fwthyn wrth y llyn?
 S: Na fydda. Bydd fy nheulu yn mynd ar daith diwylliant.
 Byddwn ni'n mynd i dair drama yn Stratford ac wedyn i dair drama yng Ngŵyl Shaw yn Niagara-on-the-Lake.
 A: Ardderchog! Cewch taith hyfryd. Hwyl, Sioned.
 S: Hwyl, Aled.

Deialog 2: (Cyfieithiad ar dudalen 8.)

Translate the dialogue into Welsh and practice with a partner.

Mae Delyth a Celyn yn cwrdd i baned o goffi.

Delyth: Good morning, Celyn. How are you?

Celyn: Very well thanks, Delyth. How are you?

D: So-so. I need a holiday.

C: I will be going on holiday soon. Guess where I will be going.

D: Hmmm. Bwthyn yn y mynyddoedd?

C: No.

D: Camping in a national park?

C: No. Guess (dyfala) again.

D: I cannot (allwn i ddim) guess again. I hate guessing games.

C: To the seaside! I will be swimming in the ocean once again!

D: Wonderful! Stay safe on the roads.

Rydyn ni gwahodd y dysgwyr i greu eu deialog eu hunain i'w rannu yn y colofn y dysgwyr.

Learners are invited to submit their own dialogs to share.

Send to marilyn.e.jenkins@sympatico.ca

Anyone who is interested in joining the learners' group, Awr Sgwrsio i Dysgwyr, may contact Alison Lawson or John Williams:

alisonlawson@rogers.com

john.williams2@gmail.com

The dosbarth Cymraeg continues to meet under the tutelage of John Williams once a month for instruction and story reading, and later in the month for conversation. The group now includes some new learners.

Y Gorffennol/The Past

Ontario Welsh Festival

The Ontario Welsh Festival has come and gone for another year. Much planning, communicating and carting of supplies resulted in an enjoyable cultural weekend for all who attended. The Welcome Tea was handled ably by Laurie Jenkins and her assistants. Entertainment was provided by Mary Muckle and some of her young students and colleagues. They also performed in the Noson Lawen, on harp and other traditional instruments.

Trying something new, the association decided to have the Gold Award Banquet on the Friday night, followed by the Noson Lawen. Complaints have been made in the past about having to rush from the banquet to the Grand Concert. At the banquet, our own Alan Thomas was presented with the annual Gold Award. Alan was unable to attend in person; instead, a video interview conducted by Myfanwy Davies was presented.

The Noson Lawen featured, in addition to the harps, the usual suspects: a small group of women from Ottawa with a light-hearted song "up with the Cymru and down with the rest", Merched Dewi with two inspiring songs, Anastasia with her ukulele and, of course the visiting choir, which presented a mini-concert, giving us all a taste of what was to come at the Grand Concert.

At the AGM on Saturday morning, many were pleasantly surprised when Anastasia Llewellyn let her name stand as a candidate for president and was duly elected. Included with the usual reports was a proposed amendment to the criteria for the Gold Award, allowing for groups (as well as individuals) to be nominated for their contribution to Welsh culture in Ontario. It was agreed that the main supporting groups, including OWS, would have to vote separately to accept the amendment before it could be adopted.

The seminars included a new talk by Anastasia Llewellyn, featuring her adventures in Wales over the years. It was very well-received and attendees look forward to future such trips down memory lane. The history of the Welsh Women's Peace Petition was presented through a pre-recorded talk featuring two women who have been involved in the movement. A third seminar was entitled *Welsh Traditional Music: A Beginner's Guide*, a film created and narrated by Welsh fiddler, vocalist and composer Rhodri McDonagh.

Sinema Wales presented two films, *Gwlad Bardd* with Rhys Iwerth discussing Welsh poetry with many of the prominent contemporary Welsh poets, a truly inspiring presentation, and *The Story of Slate*, including a visit to the National Slate

Museum in Llanberis.

As always, the Grand Concert was a highlight of the weekend. The visiting choir, Cantorion Gogledd Cymru was in fine voice and the audience responded enthusiastically to the singing. One complaint was heard: the announcements were hard to hear, and should be miked. If there are jokes to be heard, and there were, let everyone hear them.

Sunday morning brought reprises of *The Story of Slate*, *Welsh Traditional Music* and *The Welsh Women's Peace Appeal*. And finally, the Gymanfa itself. As usual, the conducting assignment went to the director of the visiting choir, Aled Wyn Edwards, who approached the task with enthusiasm and much encouragement for the participants.

The Presidential Chain of Office and gavel were handed over to Anastasia, the farewell hymn was sung and we were all off home in the warm glow of good memories.

- Marilyn Jenkins



Laurie Jenkins presiding in costume over the Welcome Tea, with assistance from newly elected secretary, Michael Thomas.



Mary Muckle and friends at the Welcome Tea.



Cantorion Gogledd Cymru



Anastasia receives chain of office and gavel from outgoing president, Julie Wenz.

OWS AGM

We were on the edge of our seats wondering if we would have a quorum. Just in time, we were saved from being unable to conduct business. Reports were presented and motions were made and for most of the attendees, food was enjoyed. Of particular interest was the motion to widen the field of eligible recipients of the Gold Award as presented by the OGGA at their annual meeting. (See page 4). The motion passed with no real discussion and we were on our way just after 8:00. Thanks was expressed to retiring Executive member Sian Jones for her service. All other members remain on the Committee. The Minutes are available for review if you wish to contact the Secretary at marilyn.e.jenkins@sympatico.ca or call 613-297-6687.

Y Presennol/The Present

Rugby Anyone?

We received news that a visiting rugby team from the middle school Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun in Wales will be playing a match against the U16 Boys Barrhaven Scottish Rugby Football Club on July 14 at 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. The game will be played at Ken Ross Park with a joint training session to be held the day before from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. This group is touring the area and will participate in local activities as part of a cultural exchange. They will be billeted with the Barrhaven players.

Family Picnic

The Annual OWS Family Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 15 (Rain date, Sunday, August 16) at the home of Chris and Gina Smart. We look forward to this outdoor family event.

Alan Turns 90

Congratulations to Alan Thomas who celebrated his 90th birthday on June 14th, with a very small group of friends, at the home of Bruce and Ginny Thomson, members of Westminster Presbyterian Church.



Alan with a former student who traveled from the Maritimes to celebrate Alan's 90th.



Annual Family Picnic

Date & Time: Saturday, August 15, 2026 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Rain date: August 16)

Location: The home of Chris and Gina Smart at 75 Kenilworth St, in the area of the Civic Hospital, parking on the area streets.

What to bring:

Your own dishes and cutlery

Something to barbecue, if you wish; something to share, if you wish

Chair*

Coffee, tea and lemonade will be provided.

R.S.V.P. to marilyn.e.jenkins@sympatico.ca

Please note that Chris and Gina will make their barbecue available for your use.



Chris and Gina chat with Patricia Pepper at the 2024 Family Picnic

*Optional, there are some chairs available.

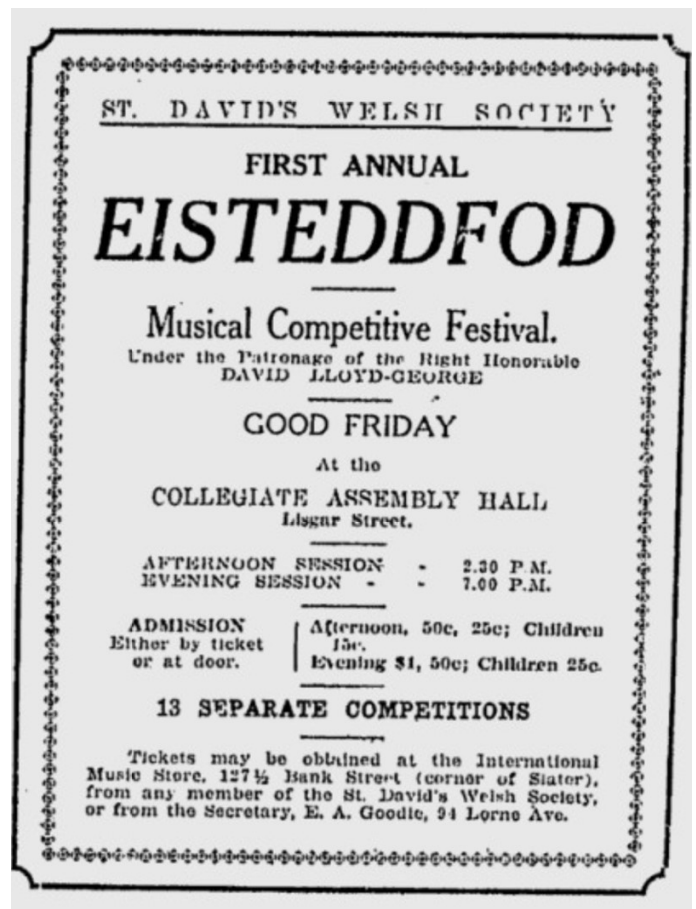
Hanes yr Cymdeithas/OWS History: The Ottawa Eisteddfod

The Ottawa St. David's Welsh Society, founded in March 1919, organized an Eisteddfod only a year later, on 3 April 1920. It was optimistically advertised as the first annual event and held for the first three years in Lisgar Collegiate's auditorium. Built in 1907 to the design of Welsh-born architect, Edgar Lewis Horwood, the auditorium had about 925 wooden seats. The seats were replaced in 1964, but otherwise the auditorium is largely unchanged.

In 1922 and 1925, the competition adjudicator was Dr Healy Willan of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. Prizes awarded in many categories included challenge shields which were donated by Ottawa lumber barons J.R. Booth and W.C. Edwards, and by the Southam family, publishers of the Ottawa Citizen newspaper.

Ambitiously, the Society moved the 4th Eisteddfod in 1923 to the 1,870-seat Russell Theatre on Queen St., just north of the present National Arts Centre. However, after four more years, the 7th Eisteddfod was the last to be held at the Russell on 18-19 May 1926, 100 years ago. The adjoining Russell House, once Ottawa's premier hotel, had closed in 1925, due to competition from the Chateau Laurier. It was expropriated and demolished to create Confederation Park. The theatre was also expropriated but was destroyed by fire in 1928, before demolition could commence.

There was no Eisteddfod in 1927 but the 8th and last was held on 15-17 May 1928, in the Coliseum at Lansdowne Park. Ticket prices were low, to attract families and children, but, as a consequence, income was far less than costs. The Welsh Society was forced to give it up. It did, however, survive as the Ottawa Music Festival, in which a number of Society members took part, and currently as the Kiwanis Music Festival. The Ottawa Welsh Society has supported it over the years and still gives an annual scholarship, for the winner of the Senior Vocal Folk Singer under 21 class.



Poster reprinted from The Ottawa Citizen March 30, 1920.

Y Dyfodol/The Future

Fall Event

At the suggestion of member Myfanwy Davies, the Committee is hoping to provide *A Taste of Wales OWS Style*. Those of you who attended NAFOW in Ottawa last summer will recognize the title of the event. We cannot promise clog-dancing, but we will definitely be looking at food and cultural activities to provide an enjoyable experience for everyone. Myfanwy and Glenys Hughes are taking the lead in planning this event, which is tentatively scheduled for November.

Films

Alison Lawson and her team of film watchers are hopeful that we might provide a film night sometime during the coming year. They would welcome suggestions from the membership. We have heard that there are a number of films "in the works" and we eagerly await their release.

Talks

Several good suggestions have come up and members of the Executive will be following up with their friends, family and acquaintances to provide some online entertainment and enlightenment.

Again, suggestions are always welcome and will be given due consideration. You will find contact information for the members of the Executive on the front page of this newsletter.

Atebion i Ymarfer o dudalen 3. Translation Dialogue 1:

- A: Hello, Sioned. How are you?
 S: Hello, Aled. I'm tired.
 A: Oh dear. Why?
 S: I have just finished packing for our trip.
 A: Oh, are you going on holidays?
 S: Yes.
 A: Will you be going to the cottage at the lake?
 S: No. My family will be going on a cultural tour. We will be going to three plays in Stratford and the to three plays in Niagara-on-the-Lake.
 A: Wonderful! Have a lovely trip. Bye.
 S: Bye.

Translation Dialogue 2:

- D: Bore da, Celyn. Sut wyt ti?
 C: Da iawn, Delyth. Sut wyt ti?
 D: Go lew. Dw i angen gwyliau.
 C: Bydda i'n mynd ar wyliau cyn bo hir. Dyfala ble bydda i'n mynd.
 D: Hmmm. Bwthyn yn y mynyddoedd?
 C: Na fydda.
 D: Gwersylla mewn parc genedlaethol?
 C: Na fydda. Dyfala eto.
 D: Allwn i ddim dyfalu eto. Dw i'n casáu gemau dyfalu.
 C: Ar lan y môr! Bydda i'n nofio yn y môr unwaith eto!
 D: Bendigedig! Cadw'n ddiogel ar y ffyrdd.