

NOTTINGHAM WELSH SOCIETY

CYMDEITHAS CYMRY NOTTINGHAM

www.cymdeithas.org.uk/nottingham

2007-08 President / Llywydd: Dr. Siriol Colley

Ionawr 2008

January 2008

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Annwyl Ffrindiau/Dear Friends,

Dymuniadau gorau am y Nadolig a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda yn 2008. I am so grateful for the support you have given me over the last six months of my Presidency, particularly to those who have taken over my chairperson role during my absence. Those of you who have followed the publishing my two books on Uncle Gareth Jones will be interested to know that many of the original sources – including his Diaries - were presented for safekeeping to the National Library of Wales at a special meeting in September, which had international TV coverage. Subsequently I have had a busy schedule visiting the USA and London with several journeys to Wales. I wish in particular to record my thanks to those Speakers and organisers of all our Autumn events, which have been such a huge success. My President's Evening in the capable hands of our very own members, Dawn and Neil, made an outstanding musical evening, while Michael Jones and Olwen Thomas have given us both enjoyable and interesting insights into the lives and thinking of a career historian and a colonial officer's wife. Stephan, Lona and Beti put in a lot of input for the Christmas Party and Carol Service. Thank you all and also to you, the faithful attenders. In the New Year we look forward to some interesting evenings as outlined below, and particularly to the Annual Dinner with such a wonderful Chief Guest.

Siriol

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

7.15pm Wednesdays

Jan 23 Ion **Music in my Life** Mr Jerry Morris

Feb 13 Chwef **Kyffin Remembered**

SAT 1st March **St David's Day Dinner**
Dr Aled Lloyd Davies
6.30 for 7pm Masson Suite, Notts County Football Club

SAT 15th March **Area Cymanfa Ganu**
6.30pm Broadway Baptist Church, Derby

Undeb Cymru a'r Byd – Wales International 60th Anniversary Weekend

6, 7 & 8 June 2008 at Plas Tan Y Bwlch, Maentwrog
Cost £165 per person.
Tel 01564 205 149 to book your place.

GWASANAETHAU CYMRAEG

3pm Suliau / Sundays

Chwefror 13 February

Dr Gwynne Davies Bramcote

Mawrth 16 March

Mr Aled Williams Caerdydd
yn Eglwys y Bedyddwyr, Loughborough Rd., West Bridgford

Ebrill 20 April

Gwir Barchedig D Huw Jones Caerdydd

Mai 18 May

Mr Edward Morus Jones Sir Fôn

MEMBERS

Our sympathies go out to Eirian Bell on the death of her brother and to Mair Davies on the recent death of her sister. Various members have also been undergoing hospital treatment and we wish them all well.

2008 St David's Day Dinner

This year we have a new venue and a very distinguished Guest Speaker in Dr Aled Lloyd Davies a former headmaster. A native of Brithdir, near Dolgellau, Dr Davies is well known throughout Wales as an educationalist, choir conductor, adjudicator at eisteddfodau, soloist in penillion and folk singing, and broadcaster. He is deeply involved in all matters concerning the National Eisteddfod, is a member of the Gorsedd of Bards, and Fellow of the National Eisteddfod Court. He chaired the Executive Committee when the Eisteddfod was recently held in Mold. We are privileged that he has agreed to be our Gŵr Gwadd at the celebration of St David's day in 2008.

Thanks are due to Glyn Yeoman and his team for securing the venue and such a distinguished speaker. It is up to us to ensure that this truly great event is well publicised amongst our friends, to make the evening a great success. Please see full details enclosed and book as soon as possible, but no later than Wednesday 13th February to be sure of a place!

Editor's Note

I look forward to receiving contributions in both English and Welsh from others of you for future Newsletters, but I am very grateful to Beryl and Viv for offering these two pieces for publication in this Newsletter. Those of us who enjoy the monthly coffee morning *Popeth yn Gymraeg* (next one at Audrey's, 28 Dorset Gardens, West Bridgford, NG2 7UH on Friday 1st February) will have grown to know Beryl well and to learn something of her life history. She hails from Brynberian in the Preseli Hills of Pembrokeshire, and before training to become a school teacher was P.A. to Sir William Penny the eminent atomic scientist, after working at R.A.E. Aberporth. I was privileged to be introduced to her at the 2006 Swansea National Eisteddfod Gymanfa Ganu by her sister Doris who supplied milk to the villagers of Newport Pems. Doris and my mother were closely involved as Secretary and Organist respectively of the Organising Committee of the Cylch Carningli Gymanfa Ganu of four Baptist Churches scattered around the mountain. Beryl lives on High Road, Chilwell, near her daughter, Dr Sheila Gibson and son in law Alan.

Gwynne

PROFIAD CYNNAR

Beryl Gibson

Y dyddiad hir-ddisgwylidig wedi cyrraedd i mi gael mynd i'r ysgol am brynhawn, i gyfarwyddo ar gyfer y tymor newydd ym mis Medi 1929. Disgleiria i'r haul o awyr las perffaith a minnau'n barod yn fy mrat glân gorau a ruban newydd sbon yn fy ngwallt. Dawnsiais bob cam o'r filltir hir yn wên o glust i glust.

'Roedd y plant i gyd yn yr iard yn ein disgwyl, a gofynnodd bachgen mawr i mi "Beth yw dy enw?" – atebais yn hapus, "Belyl!". Un arall yn gofyn yr un cwestiwn, ac yna'r trydydd ac yntau'n gymydog oedd yn fy 'nabod yn dda, eto atebais "Belyl!". Eiliad o dawelwch, ac yna pawb yn chwerthin yn wawdlyd a galw "belly, belly" arnaf.

Disgynnodd cwmwl trist dros fy mynd i gyd, a throdd y wen yn wîg. Ni fedrais siarad a'r feistres na chymryd diddordeb yn un peth, ond mi glywais stori dda am wningen fechan. Llusgo wnaeth y traed ar y rhiw am adref.

Te arbennig yn ein disgwyl yn y gegin ac aroglau hyfryd yn dod o'r boncyff ar y tân, ond dim blas! Cododd Mam yn sydyn a dweud "Mae bron yn amser godro, dere i nol y da", a bant a ni llaw yn llaw.

Llifodd y dagrau o'r diwedd a thwmlodd y stori allan. Aeth Mam yn dawel iawn a gwasgodd fy llaw yn dyn, yna meddai, yn eithaf calonnog "Paid a becco dim, byddi'n bump oed cyn mis Medi a gelli ddweud pob gair yn glir cyn hynny". Gwnaeth yn siwr fy mod yn gwybod ble i roi'r tafod i lunio'r llythyren 'R'!

Rholiais fy 'R' gyda'r gorau cyn dechrau'r tymor, ond er i'r cwmwl godi mae'r boen ar gof o hyd!

CORNEL VIV GORFFENNAF 2007-08

Roedd sosban fawr dolciog ddu ar y tân. I read that somewhere, some time ago, and wedi gwneud nodyn bach made a little note oherwydd because it's a nice bit of descriptive writing isn't it? Yn bendifaddau Especially if, like me, caethoch chi eich magu you were brought up in the days when it was the norm to see a big black dented saucepan on the fire.

Y tri ansoddair the three adjectives have undergone treigliad meddal soft mutation wrth reswm of course. The famous Celtic language 'initial consonant mutations' are said by some to have been thought up to confuse y Saeson the English!

If we swap the sosban for a crochan pot or cauldron the sentence changes to, 'Roedd crochan mawr tolciog du ar y tân. Interestingly, most of the Cymry Cymraeg Welsh speaking Welsh would be unable to tell you why the first sentence was mutated but not the second one. They just instinctively know that that's the way it is. It would not sound right any other way.

Adult learners, ar y llaw arall on the other hand, learn the rules of mutation but I think it teg i ddweud fair to say, pretty soon find out that it is impossible to apply the rules to speak the iaith y nefoedd language of heaven!

The usual stumbling block is that, like in Ffrangeg French, there is no 'it'. Everything is either a boy or a girl! Felly So, sosban is benywaidd female and the rule is that the adjectives describing a feminine noun, big - dented - black in our sentence, will get soft mutation, if they are eligible for it.

Sut bynnag however, when we swapped the sosban for a crochan the big dented black thing ar y tân on the fire became gwrywaidd masculine and his adjectives do not get mutated diolch yn fawr iawn thank you very much!

Pawb yn hapus Everybody happy?

'Well', I hear the doubtful saying, 'It's easy if you are talking about a boy or a cow or a cockerel but what about say, a pillow? How do you know if that is a masculine or a feminine noun?'

'Oh it's quite easy really, there are two words for pillow gobennydd and clustog and you just remember that the first one is masculine and the second one is feminine so if you've got a big pillow you can either say gobennydd mawr or clustog fawr. Just take your pick, but remember that soft mutation is the other way round when it comes to possession so his pillow is ei obennydd but her pillow is ei gobennydd or you can use the other word of course, his pillow ei glustog her pillow ei chlustog'.

'Gan bwyll Hold on', I hear you cry, 'Why have you changed clustog to chlustog?'

'Oh well, that's because the feminine possession takes treigliad llaes aspirate were mutation you see'.

'Dim rhyfedd no wonder the Saeson dryslyd confused', I hear you mutter!

Ta-ra rŵan a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda,

Viv