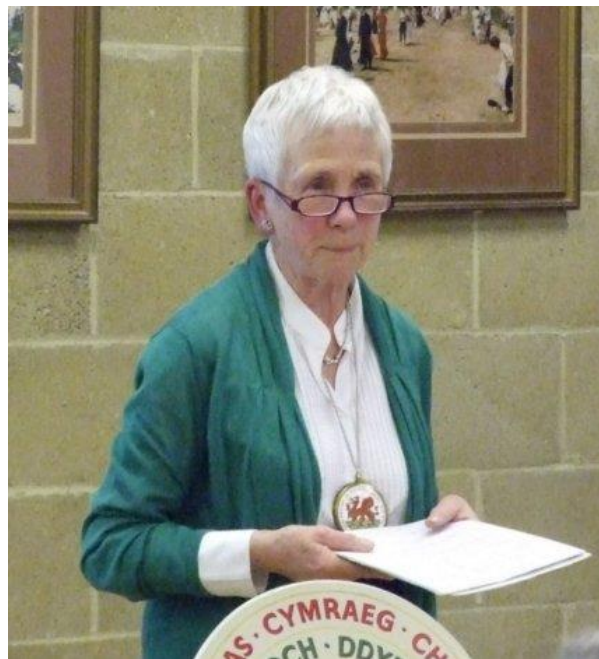


# **Chelmsford and District Welsh Society**

Cymdeithas Gymraeg  
Chelmsford A'r Cylch

**Diary of Activities 2009 / 2010**



**President, Mrs Shirley Moody**

## Diary of Events in the 2009 / 2010 Season

### September

Thursday 24th

Croeso Yn Ôl

### October

Thursday 22nd

**A JOURNEY FROM AMSTERDAM TO CHELMSFORD VIA TEREZIN & CWMBRAN** Presented by Steven Frank

Friday 23rd

**LUNCH at Radley Green Farm**, hosted by Shirley & Don Moody 1 p.m.

### November

Saturday 14th

**"SONGS OLD & NEW" A CHARITY CONCERT by "THE PEOPLE OF THE GREEN"**

at St Michael & all Angels Church Roxwell - £8 including mulled wine.

Thursday 26th

**QUIZ EVENING** with John Howells

### December

Sunday 13th

**CHRISTMAS TEA** hosted by Brian & Mair Thomas at 3 p.m.

Thursday 17th

**DATHLU NADOLIG CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

## 2010

### January

Thursday 28th

**NOSWAITH O ADLONIAN T GYMRAEG** *An Evening Of Welsh Entertainment*

### February

Saturday 13th

**COFFEE MORNING** Hosted by Jim & Liz Armishaw 10.30 a.m.

Thursday 18th

**THE SECRET LIVES OF GARDEN BIRDS** with Mike Logan Wood

Friday 26th

**ST DAVID'S DAY DINNER** County Hotel, Chelmsford at 7.15 p.m.

Saturday 28th

**ST DAVID'S DAY SERVICE** - Little Baddow URC at 3.30 p.m.

### March

Monday 1st

**Visit to the HOUSE OF LORDS** courtesy Lord Llandudno

Thursday 25th

**THE OWAIN GLYNDWR WALK** Presented by Ailsa Wilding

### April

Sunday 18th

**CYMANFA GANU SONGS OF PRAISE**

2.30 p.m. at St Michaels & all Angels Church Roxwell

Thursday 22nd

**SLAVERY & FREEDOM** Presented by the Rev. David St Clair Tudor

### May

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>

**VISIT TO THE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM**

Saturday 8th

**COFFEE MORNING** Hosted by John & Cynthia Styles at 10.30 a.m.

Saturday 15th

**ANNUAL OUTING** to **Chartwell & Royal Tunbridge Wells**

Thursday 27th

**WELSH TV GOLD Mirth, music & memories from the Welsh TV archives.**  
Presented by Mike Price

### June

Saturday 12th

**ANNUAL MVC CONCERT** given by Cor Godre'r Aran at Chelmsford Cathedral

Sunday 20th

**SUMMER SERVICE** at Little Baddow URC at 10.30 am

Thursday 24th

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Saturday 26th

**CHARITY GARDEN PARTY** hosted by Don & Shirley Moody

### July

**Summer Break**

### August

**Summer Break**

## **Past Meetings and Activities Reports**

**JUNE 2009**

### **"ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING"**

On Sunday 21 June members of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society joined the congregation of Little Baddow United Reformed Church for their Morning Service. The first lesson was read in English by the President Maureen Byatt and the second in Welsh by Vice-president Shirley Moody; the hymns were sung in both languages. The AGM on 25 June was Maureen's last as President. There were 22 events during her year in office, six of which - the Garden Party, Caprice Concert, Musical Soiree and Supper, and three coffee mornings - raised £2951 for the charity Action For Children, which was presented to Ruth Sorbie, a fund raiser for the charity. Other outstanding events were; the St David's Day Dinner, with Lord Roberts of Llandudno as guest speaker; the concert given by Cor Meibion Maelgwn and Elin Mai; and the weekend visit to north Wales. Maureen thanked her husband and the members for their support saying she was proud to have been their President. She thanked all the committee for their wholehearted support - especially Mair Thomas the Secretary, Shirley Moody the Vice-president - and Arthur Williams co-opted as Concert Organiser. Mair Thomas, Secretary for 10 wonderful years, echoed Maureen's sentiments. Following a strawberry supper, Shirley took on the mantle of President for the 2009/10 season, with Jim Armishaw confirmed as Vice-president. All the retiring members of the committee were re-elected to serve another term and Arthur again co-opted as Concert Organiser. Shirley said it was a great privilege to be President. Her choice of charity was a research programme for Myeloproliferative Disorders, (a blood disorder). The evening concluded with communal hymn singing in the Welsh tradition, with Shirley's friends Gwilym on the piano and Phil on the guitar, and the Welsh National Anthem Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau. The first event of Shirley's year was a Garden Party in the lovely grounds of her home at Radley Green Farm, attended by 46 members and friends and 8 children, raising £493 for the charity.

*Jim Armishaw*

## June 2009 Meeting AGM





## June 2009 Garden Party



## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MEDI 2009

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

It only seems like yesterday that I was wishing you all a happy holiday but here we are preparing for our autumn activities once again.

Details of the first monthly meeting of our new year are listed below:

### **CROESO YN ÔL** **Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2009 7.30pm for an 8pm start** **Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House**

The evening will give us all an opportunity to meet up after the summer break and catch up on all our family and holiday news. Our new president, **Shirley Moody**, has organised an interesting meeting which I am sure that you will all enjoy. During the evening her son-in-law, **Tom Ellis**, will introduce **Dr. Claire Harrison** from St. Thomas Hospital, who will give us a short presentation on **Myeloproliferative Disorders**. **MPD Support** is the charity we are supporting this year. This is a charitable foundation under the auspices of Guy's and St. Thomas hospitals. We can all learn a little more about this disorder and be made aware of how the money we raise will be used. **Carys Williams** will give a report on her visit to the **National Eisteddfod** held in **Bala**. Following an interlude for 'Cheese and Wine', **Brian Thomas** will give a short talk on a famous Welshman. The **committee** will be responsible for the refreshments and raffle prizes will be provided by **Maureen Byatt, Mair Thomas, Enid Morris** and **David Brown**. We hope to see a full Chapter House for this meeting!

**SUBSCRIPTIONS.** **Carys Williams**, our membership secretary, will be collecting the annual subscription of **£10** at the September meeting. In return for your payment you will receive a copy of the 2009 -10 programme. Should you be unable to attend, please complete the attached pro forma and send a cheque to **Carys**, made payable to the **Chelmsford and District Welsh Society**, together with a stamped addressed envelope. **Carys** will then send you a programme card. Her address is 3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT

The pro forma is also attached to this Newsletter for e-mail recipients. Should you be one of the few who failed to rejoin last year but still received Newsletters, please pay your subscription prior to November 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 and we will continue to send you this publication. Otherwise, we will accept that you no longer wish to continue your membership and we will cease to send you any society information.

**CHARITY GARDEN PARTY June 27<sup>th</sup> 2009.** 46 members and 8 children attended this most successful event. We are indebted to **Shirley** and **Don Moody** for the warmth of their hospitality and for allowing us to use their delightful garden. The sum of **£493.22** was raised at this function and this was a brilliant start to raising funds for the President's Charity which is **MPD Support**. Sincere thanks are offered to all those who supported this event.

**PRESIDENT'S CHARITY LUNCH.** **Shirley Moody** is hosting this event at her home, **Radley Green Farm** on **Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009** at **1pm**. The cost of the lunch is **£10**. If you are interested in attending please give your name to **Shirley** at the September meeting or phone her on **01245-248178**. **Steven Frank**, the speaker at the October meeting, will be at the lunch.

**PRESIDENT'S CHARITY CONCERT.** The concert will be held at **St. Michael and All Saints Church, Roxwell**, on **Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2009** at **7.30pm**. 'The People of the Green and Friends' are performing. They are a well known local choir and orchestra. The Mayor and Mayoress of Chelmsford will be attending this event. Refreshments of mulled wine will be served during the interval. Tickets costing **£8** are now available from **Eddie Alcock** and they will be on sale at the September meeting or you can send a cheque to **Eddie** at **5 Elms Drive, Chelmsford CM1 1RH**. We are appealing to our members to make an effort to support this event as attendance at last year's charity concert was disappointing. The President looks forward to welcoming you and your family and friends to what promises to be a most enjoyable musical event.

### **SOCIETY NEWS**

- **Pam Gillespie** and **Maggie Cranmer**, who have both been receiving hospital treatment during the summer break, are making good progress and looking forward to joining us at the September Croeso Yn Ôl meeting.
- Please send me any news of sickness or happier events in order that I can include details in future publications.

**Cofion Cynnes,**  
*Mair Thomas*

## Past Meetings and Activities Reports

### SEPTEMBER 2009

#### "Croeso Yn Ôl", (Welcome Back)

The President, Shirley Moody, welcomed the 70 members and friends at the meeting of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, "Croeso Yn Ôl", (Welcome Back) on 24 September. Shirley has nominated Myeloproliferative Disorders Support (MPD) as the Society's charity for her year of office. The leading experts in the UK on the condition, with about 100,000 sufferers, are Dr Claire Harrison of Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospital and Prof. Tony Green of Addenbrooks.

Dr Harrison, who described herself as "a Welsh girl", addressed the meeting. Tim, a patient volunteer, who suffers from the condition, introduced her. The bone marrow of a person with an MPD produces too many blood cells. There are three types of MPD, and many patients have no obvious symptoms. The most serious issue, causing complications, is increased "blood stickiness". Recent discoveries show that a genetic mutation is often involved, and research is aimed at developing drugs to block the mutant and halt the disease. For more information visit the web site [www.mpd-support.co.uk](http://www.mpd-support.co.uk) The Vice-president, Jim Armishaw, thanked Dr Harrison for her excellent introduction to the aims of the charity.

Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru, (the National Eisteddfod of Wales) held in Bala in August, was attended by several members of the Society. Carys Williams gave an interesting account of the proceedings. The Eisteddfod is a massive celebration of Welsh culture in all its forms, over 9 days of keen but friendly competition: music, instrumental and voice; dance; poetry, recitation and composing; and crafts. Among the winners were several who have entertained in Chelmsford at the annual June concert, including: the male choir winners Maelgwn; solo Blue Riband winner Trebor Lloyd Evans; Elin Mai who gained sponsorship as the most promising young soprano.

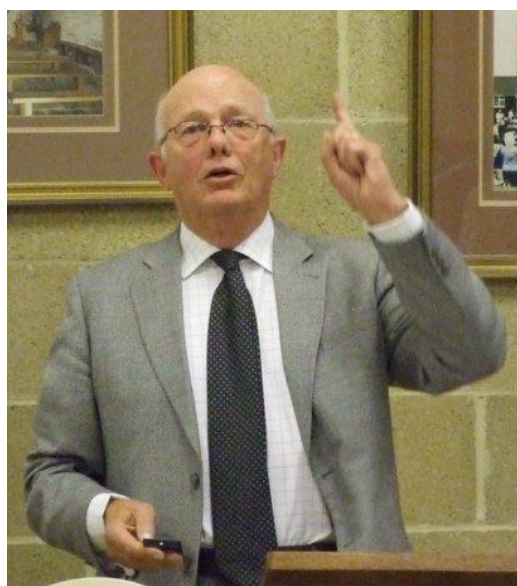
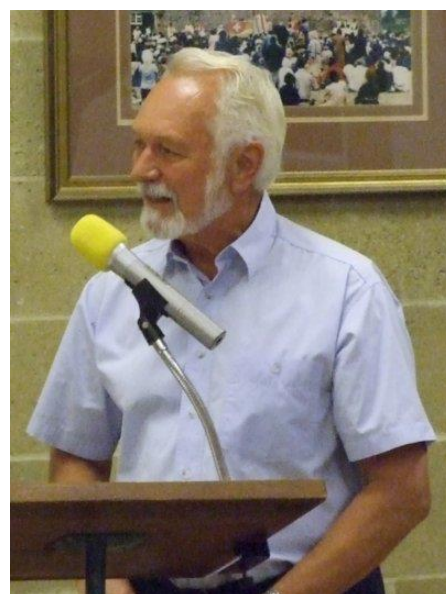
Brian Thomas, whose wit and scholarship never fails to entertain, chose as his topic a famous Welshman, the composer Dr Joseph Parry. Born in Merthyr Tydfil, he worked in the pits and iron works as a child and emigrated to Pennsylvania at the age of 13. He became interested in music and was sponsored by Welsh Americans to study in London at the Royal College of Music. He was awarded a MusB by Cambridge University. He is best known for the hymn tune Aberystwyth and the haunting Welsh love song Myfanwy. He composed six operas, including the popular Blodwen.

Jim thanked Carys and Brian for their contributions, the committee for providing the supper and Shirley and her husband Don for the wine.

*Jim Armishaw*



September 2009  
**Croeso Meeting**





## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS HYDREF 2009

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

The first meeting of the society year was a great success. More than 70 members and visitors attended and they all experienced an informative and enlightening talk on Myeloproliferative Disorders (MPD) given by **Dr. Claire Harris**. The society will be fund raising for MPD throughout the coming society year. **Carys Williams** shared her first experience of attending the Welsh National Eisteddfod held in Bala and **Brian Thomas** talked about the life and music of Dr. Joseph Parry. During the interval members enjoyed a glass of wine provided by **Shirley Moody**, our president, and various cheese delicacies donated by our generous committee. Details of the next monthly meeting are listed below:

### **A JOURNEY from AMSTERDAM via TEREZIN, CWMBRAN to CHELMSFORD**

**A talk given by Steven Frank**

**Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 7.30pm for an 8pm start**

**Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House**

I am sure that this presentation will be both an interesting and emotional experience for members who remember the Second World War. **Steven** is a close friend of our President and he was born in Amsterdam before the start of WW2. His father was a distinguished Dutch lawyer and his mother was born in England and went to Holland to study. In 1943, **Steven**, his two brothers and his mother were sent to a concentration camp in Czechoslovakia. They all survived and were liberated by the Russian Army. However, his father who was a member of the Dutch Resistance Movement., was betrayed, imprisoned and finally murdered in Auschwitz. Come along and listen to this fascinating story . it should be a most special presentation.

Refreshments and raffle - **Mair Thomas, Barbara James** and **Liz Armishaw**.

**PRESIDENT'S CHARITY LUNCH.** **Shirley Moody** is hosting this event at her home, **Radley Green Farm** on **Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009** at **1pm**. The cost of the lunch is **£10**. We have already reached our maximum number. However, phone **Shirley** on **01245-248178** prior to the date to see if there are any cancellations. **Steven Frank**, the speaker at the October meeting, will be at the lunch and he will be delighted to meet members and to answer your questions. Raffle prizes most welcome.

**PRESIDENT'S CHARITY CONCERT.** The concert will be held at **St. Michael and All Saints Church, Roxwell**, on **Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2009** at **7.30pm**. **The People of the Green and Friends'** are performing **Songs Old and New'** . they are a well known local choir and orchestra. They provided us with excellent entertainment some two years ago. **Shirley Moody** invites you to join her at this event being held in a delightful Essex church. Refreshments of mulled wine will be served during the interval. Tickets costing **£8** are now available from **Eddie Alcock** on **01245-603448** and they will be on sale at the October meeting or you can send a cheque to **Eddie** at **5 Elms Drive, Chelmsford CM1 1RH**. We are appealing to our members to make an effort to support this event as attendance at last year's charity concert was disappointing. Lifts can be arranged for those without transport. Come along and support this deserving charity. There is plenty of parking space available on the road in front of the church.

**REMINDER of SUBSCRIPTIONS.** **Carys Williams**, our membership secretary, thanks all members who have paid their subscriptions so promptly . 85 already! She will be collecting the annual subscription of **£10** at the October meeting. In return for your payment you will receive a copy of the 2009 -10 programme. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please send cheques to **Carys**, made payable to the **Chelmsford and District Welsh Society**, together with a stamped addressed envelope. **Carys** will then send you a programme card. Her address is **3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT**. It will help **Carys** to complete her membership list if you pay early . many thanks.

**RAFFLE PRIZES** **Diolch yn fawr iawn** – thank you all so much for your many donations for the raffle during the past year and your generous purchasing of raffle tickets. **Ron** and **Derrick** do a great job and enjoy taking your money! You are no doubt aware that the revenue we receive from the raffle contributes to covering our increasing expenses for speakers, hiring the Chapter House and refreshments. Without this income our subscriptions would have to increase considerably. So please continue to support the monthly raffle- your generosity is much appreciated. If you bring a raffle prize please give it to **Jim Armishaw** (vice-president) so that he can oversee the allocation of raffle prizes at the monthly meetings.

**CHANGE of PROGRAMME for NOVEMBER.** Due to unforeseen circumstances, **Mike Price** is unable to give his talk on **November 26<sup>th</sup>**. However, **John Howells** (**Cyril's** son) has agreed to organise a quiz on this evening instead of the original May date. We are most grateful to **John** for being so flexible and accommodating. More details in the next newsletter but I thought I should give you time to do some swotting!

**Cofion Cynnes,**  
*Mair Thomas*

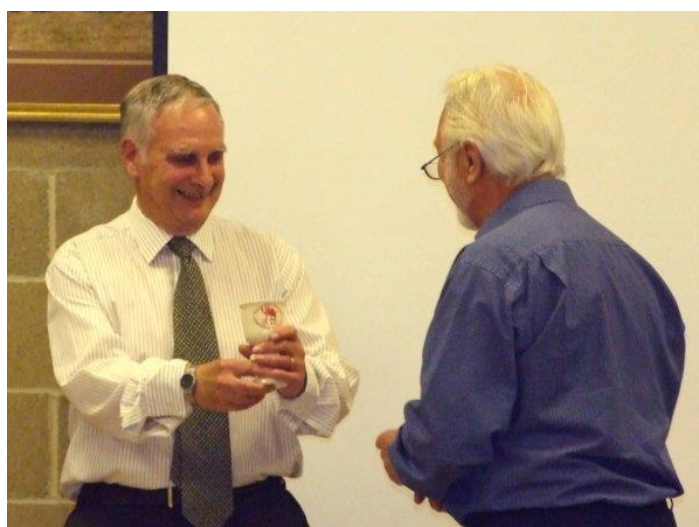
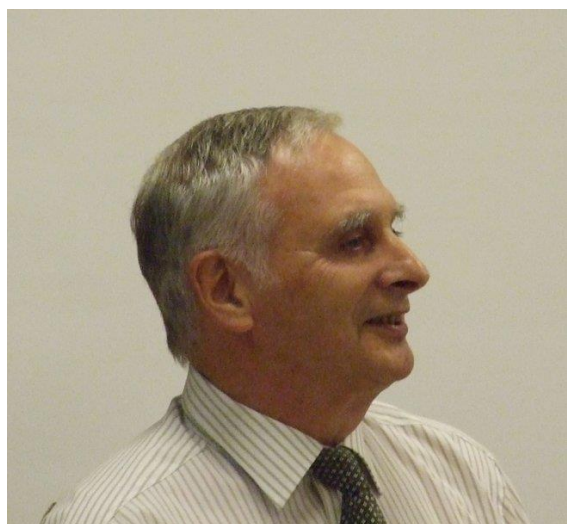
## OCTOBER 2009

### A JOURNEY FROM AMSTERDAM VIA TEREZIN, CWMBRAN TO CHELMSFORD

At the 22 October meeting of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society the subject was a talk, A Journey From Amsterdam Via Terezin, Cwmbran to Chelmsford, given by holocaust survivor Steven Frank, a friend of the President, Shirley Moody. Steven was born into a secular Jewish family in Amsterdam, where his grandfather was an eminent surgeon and his father a lawyer. His British mother's parents were musicians - his father composed Happy Birthday. She was sent to finishing school in Holland, where she met his father. Steven gave a harrowing account of life and death in Nazi occupied Holland: in 1940, the Nuremberg Laws determined the degree of Jewishness (mixed religion marriages were common) and job dismissal; the confiscation of radios and telephones, and the prohibition on playing in the park, in 1941; the wearing of the yellow Jewish Star by everybody over the age of 5, to identify a Jew. His father was tortured and murdered in Auschwitz at the age of 39. Steven, his two brothers and mother were incarcerated in 1943. They suffered the hell of Terezin, a holding camp for Auschwitz, and were among the few who survived until liberation by a Mongolian regiment of the Russian Army - wielding WW1 vintage armaments!; then the Red Cross - fumigation, and the gradual introduction of food to avoid complications. Thanks to the tenacity of his mother, and against all odds, they were flown to Croydon, and had a surreal tour of London with returning interred Britons. There followed a long period of recuperation in Gt. Ormond St. hospital where although he was 10 years old he was placed in a cot for a 3 year old, so emaciated was his body. Finally a trip to Porthcawl see his grandfather, and to play on a beached tank at low tide! The talk took place in stunned silence. Steven was thanked by Jim Armishaw, the Vice-president, and presented with a Society goblet. The following day he was guest of honour at a Society Charity Lunch, hosted by Shirley and Don Moody.

*Jim Armishaw*

October 2009  
**A Journey From Amsterdam to Chelmsford  
Via Terezin, & Cwmbran**



## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS TACHWEDD 2009

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

At the October 2009 meeting, members found **Steven Frank's** talk on his experiences during the Second World War very moving. Most of those present had their own memories of that time but none of these memories were as disturbing as those encountered by **Steven** and his family. Those who attended the Charity Lunch organised by our President, **Shirley Moody**, on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009, had a most enjoyable time . with fine food served, using an old Welsh recipe handed down over the ages! The setting was delightful on what turned out to be a glorious autumn day. Thanks to **Shirley** and **Don** for their generosity - over **£400** was raised for **MPD** . a wonderful effort! **Shirley** wishes to thank members for their tremendous support.

### PRESIDENT'S CHARITY CONCERT.

The concert will be held at **St. Michael and All Saints Church, Roxwell**, on **Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2009** at **7.30pm**. **The People of the Green and Friends'** are performing **Songs Old and New'** . they are a well known local choir and will be accompanied by a local orchestra. Refreshments of mulled wine will be served during the interval. Tickets costing **£8** are now available from **Eddie Alcock** on **01245-603448** **Please make an effort to support this event**. Lifts can be arranged for those without transport. There is plenty of parking -space available on the road in front of the church. Let us fill this delightful Essex church.

Details of our next monthly meeting, which has changed from the original programme, are listed below:

### GRAND QUIZ

Organised by that 'master' of QUIZZES- **John Howells**  
**Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2009 7.30pm for an 8pm start**  
**Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House**

Come in droves for this most popular event. Please sit at tables of **8** if possible. This will avoid having different brain power numbers on each of our tables. Magnificent prizes for the winning team. **John Howells** has organised a quiz for us on a number of occasions and once again he has promised not to make the questions too difficult. He has trialled the questions with 7 year olds in his school. The pupils got **100%** correct!

Refreshments and raffle - **Enid Morris, Mary Jones** and **Myrtle Collopy**.

**REMINDER of SUBSCRIPTIONS.** If you haven't paid your subscriptions to **Carys Williams**, it would be helpful if you could do this as soon as possible. Please send cheques to **Carys**, made payable to the **Chelmsford and District Welsh Society**, together with a stamped addressed envelope. **Carys** will then send you a programme card. Her address is **3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT**. We have 93 paid up members . down by 20 from last year!

### SOCIETY NEWS

- **Shirley Moody** and **Mair** and **Brian Thomas** recently visited **Lilian Banks** at her home in Barnston. **Lilian** has been a member of our society since the 1960s and has been most loyal, charitable and supportive of society events. In August of this year she celebrated her **95<sup>th</sup>** birthday! She was delighted to receive a basket of flowers and a goblet from the society. **Lilian** looks very well but is finding walking any distance quite difficult. The three visitors were captivated by her tales of yesteryear, a tribute to her wonderful memory. She sends her very best wishes to all our members and she hopes to be able to attend one of our meetings in the near future.
- During the last month several members have been unwell. We send them all our best wishes. Special mention to **Maggie Cranmer**, who has recently undergone another knee replacement and **Pam Gillespie** and **Anita Williams** who have been ill for some time. We send our kindest regards to **Professor Meredydd Hughes** who now resides at Ayletts House, Broomfield Rd. Chelmsford.
- **David Brown** wishes to inform all internet users that the society web-site has been changed to **chelmsfordwelsh.org**. This is a wonderful web-site, full of detailed information - and well worth a visit. You can keep up to date with all the news and look at some excellent photographs.

**Cofion Cynnes,**  
*Mair Thomas*



## **November 2009**

### **CHARITY CONCERT and GRAND QUIZ**

The Chelmsford and District Welsh Society organised a most successful concert at St Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell on Saturday, 14th November 2009. Society president, Shirley Moody introduced the People of the Green Choir and gave a brief resume of her chosen charity MPD (Myeloproliferative Disorders). MPD is a charitable foundation under the auspices of Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals. The choir enthralled a capacity audience, which included the Mayor and Mayoress of Chelmsford (Tony and Lorraine Sach), with their quality singing of a varied and carefully selected programme of music. Music director, Stefan Nichols, is to be congratulated on his ability to bring out the very best from the mixed choir. Accompanists, Steve Randal and Gwilym Morris, provided excellent support. Paul Meyer served mulled wine and soft drinks in the interval.

Shirley Moody presented Stefan with a Welsh Society Goblet in appreciation of the choir's support. The evening raised £1600 for MPD . a most rewarding outcome.

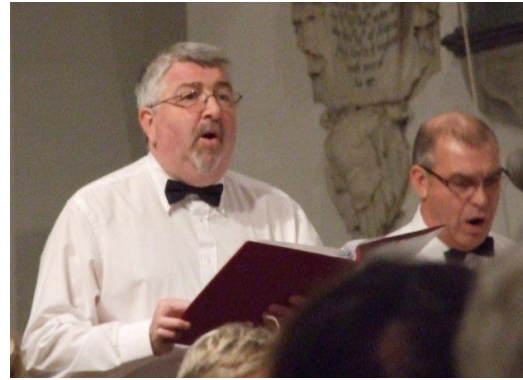
*Brian Thomas*

Seven teams competed in the Quiz Evening of the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society on 26 November at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House. The evening commenced with the singing of the patriotic Unwaith Eto'n Nghymru Annwyl. The President, Shirley Moody, then welcomed those attending, and introduced the Quiz Master, John Howells. John, a head teacher, had set a suitably challenging set of questions to test the considerable talents of the competitors. John's sister, Rosemary, checked and entered the scores, which remained close throughout. At the end very few marks separated the winners, who were rewarded with tubes of smarties, from the wooden spooners! Thanking John and Rosemary for a most enjoyable evening, the Vice President, Jim Armishaw, presented them with bottles guaranteed to promote a Christmas spirit. The evening ended with a spirited rendition of Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau.

On Sunday 13 December, at 3pm, Mair and Brian Thomas will host a Charity Christmas Tea, and on 17 December the Society will Celebrate Christmas as part of the monthly meeting.

*Jim Armishaw*

# November 2009 CHARITY CONCERT and GRAND QUIZ



|   | General | Recent | Jobs | Wales | Jobs | London | General | W        |
|---|---------|--------|------|-------|------|--------|---------|----------|
|   | Knew    | Knew   | New  | New   | New  | New    | New     |          |
| A | 7       | 15     | 19   | 26    | 34   | 37     | 46      | 59 (2nd) |
| C | 5       | 14     | 18   | 23    | 29   | 34     | 41      | 54 (6th) |
| E | 7       | 15     | 19   | 26    | 32   | 39     | 43      | 56 (5th) |
| F | 8       | 16     | 21   | 27    | 33   | 40     | 42      | 61 (1st) |
| G | 6       | 14     | 18   | 25    | 31   | 36     | 42      | 45 (7th) |
| H | 9       | 17     | 23   | 28    | 34   | 40     | 45      | 58 (4th) |
| I | 4       | 12     | 18   | 24    | 31   | 39     | 46      | 59 (2nd) |



## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS RHAGFYR 2009

### NADOLIG LLAWEN MERRY CHRISTMAS

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

Perhaps it is after a year of uncertainty and change that we really do want to celebrate the season of goodwill. I feel that this festive time needs to be extra special for our Welsh Society and it is up to us to make the Christmas celebration for 2009 an occasion to remember. Please come and join us as we meet to celebrate another festive occasion in the company of friends.

**‘DATHLU Y NADOLIG’  
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION  
Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009 in the Cathedral Chapter House,  
7.30pm for a prompt 8pm start.**

**June** and **Gwyn Jones** are celebrating their **Golden Wedding** on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2009 and they invite us all to join them in their celebration by providing us with wine at this special Christmas meeting. It will be our pleasure to toast the happy couple. **Llongyfarchiadau** . congratulations to them both.

The president, **Shirley Moody**, and the committee, invite you all to come for a jolly evening together. Sing your favourite carols, listen to Christmas flavoured poems and readings and relax and enjoy yourselves. There will be light Xmas refreshments and nibbles served during the evening. **Siôn Corn** has promised to join us and to give you all a present. As usual we ask for small, wrapped unisex gifts for his sack, to the value of around **£3**. Please take care in your choice of present because I am getting very frustrated when every year I have to ask you to check the sell by date on your gift. Please don't pack something you want to get rid of! Every year I get complaints - **SO** please make 2009 a complaint free occasion . it will make my year! You only take a present if you have put one in! If you are bringing a friend please ensure that you bring a present for them. We will have our usual bumper Christmas raffle. There will be an opportunity for you to make an acknowledged donation to charity in lieu of sending Christmas cards.

**CHARITY CHRISTMAS TEA.** On Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2009. **Mair** and **Brian Thomas** invite you to join them for tea at their home - **5 Milligans Chase, Galleywood** at **3pm**. Donations of **£3** for the **MPD Charity** are requested. Small, **wrapped** raffle prizes would be gratefully accepted.

**CHARITY CONCERT** held at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2009. This concert given by **‘The People of the Green’** was a great success and the church was filled to capacity. The charity fund benefited by **£1692** - a wonderful achievement. Diolch yn fawr - for your support.

**SOCIETY VISITS for 2010** I hope that you will all be able to support these visits so put the dates in your new diary!  
**Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 – Lord Llandudno** has invited us to the **House of Lords** where he will arrange a guided tour of the building. We are asked to arrive before 10.15am. Following the tour we hope to attend a St. David's Day Service in London. It is hoped to book a coach and Shirley Moody will collect names at the Christmas meeting. The price will depend on the number of members travelling.

**Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010 - to Chartwell.** This is our official summer outing and **Derrick Thomas** will be collecting names for this event in the New Year. More details to follow.

**Holocaust Museum, Newark.** A group of members intend making this visit at a date to be decided in April 2010. If you are interested please give your names to **Shirley Moody**.

**NOSWAITH O ADLONIAINT GYMRAEG – An Evening of Welsh Entertainment.** This will be held on **January 28<sup>th</sup>** as our first monthly meeting of 2010. It is an evening where members can show off their varied talents. However, our president, **Shirley Moody**, requests that all acts have a strong Welsh flavour. Songs, stories, poems, jokes etc either in Welsh or English - but with a link to **Wales**. I feel sure that you will all co-operate to make this another night to remember. Please give your names and details of your act to **Shirley** or ring her in the New Year on **01245-248178**.

**St DAVID'S DAY DINNER.** This will be held on **Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at 7.15pm** in the **County Hotel, Chelmsford**. Tickets priced at **£28** are now available from **Cynthia Styles**. She will have a supply of tickets at the Christmas meeting or you can order tickets by telephoning her on **01245-469713**. More details will be made available in the New Year.

#### SOCIETY NEWS

- We send our very best wishes to all members who have been ill recently and we hope that they will all soon be restored to good health. Whatever your Christmas hopes and dreams are, **Shirley Moody** and all the **committee** wish you a very special and happy celebration.

**Nadolig Llawen,**  
*Mair Thomas*

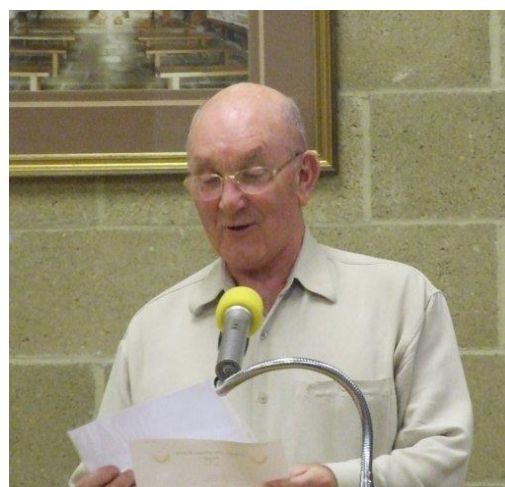
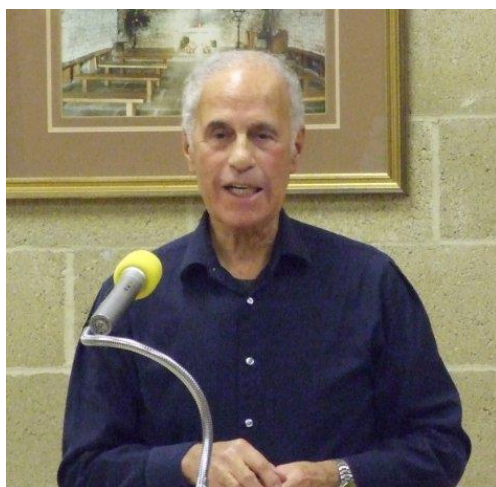
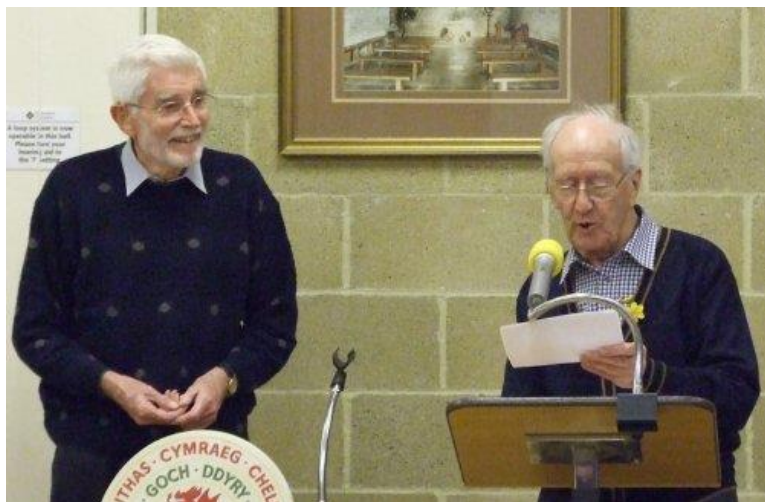
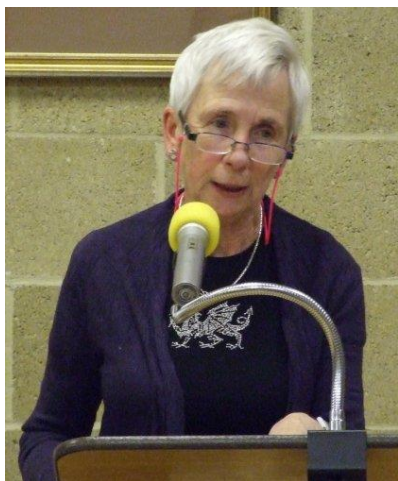
**December 2009**  
**DATHLU NADOLIG**  
**(Christmas Celebrations)**

At the outset of the 17 December meeting of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, the President, Shirley Moody, proposed a toast to June and Gwyn Jones who were celebrating their Golden Wedding, with wine, which they had kindly provided. Later they were presented with flowers. Dathlu y Nadolig (Celebrating Christmas) was the theme of the evening, with carols, accompanied by Keith Byatt, songs and readings with a Christmas flavour. Shirley opened with a welcome poem. Then a carol, and poems by the celebrated working class poet, miner and later teacher, Idris Davies, a drinking partner of Dylan Thomas, read by Betty Hammond, Gwyneth Abbott and Edith Brown. After another carol, Cynthia Styles, Betty and Mair Thomas read more poems, including one by Mair's father, a winner many times of Eisteddfod Bardic Chairs. Ivy Price, Enid Morris, Cynthia and Mair sang the beautiful Iesu Faban, followed with readings by David Brown, Maureen Byatt in Joyce Grenfell mode, and a restrained Ron Jones. Brian Thomas, Jim Armishaw and Derrick Thomas were the Three Kings of Orient. After enjoying the refreshments and the expectation of the raffle, the entertainment continued, with readings by Enid and Eddie Alcock. Ken Lee sang a touching Mary's Boy Child and Brian Thomas gave the final reading, a hilarious The Messiah Story. Sion Corn (Father Christmas), alias Derrick, distributed "give-one-get-one-free" gifts. He was rather concerned for his position next Christmas when an all-singing-all-dancing life-size robotic Sion Corn suddenly appeared! A Welsh-flavoured action-packed Twelve Days of Christmas, arranged and conducted by Liz Armishaw followed. Finally, Chris Abbott and Cyril Howells were each given a bottle of wine to celebrate their 83rd birthday. Cyril responded by reading a poem composed by Chris! The Vice -president, Jim Armishaw, thanked those who took part and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

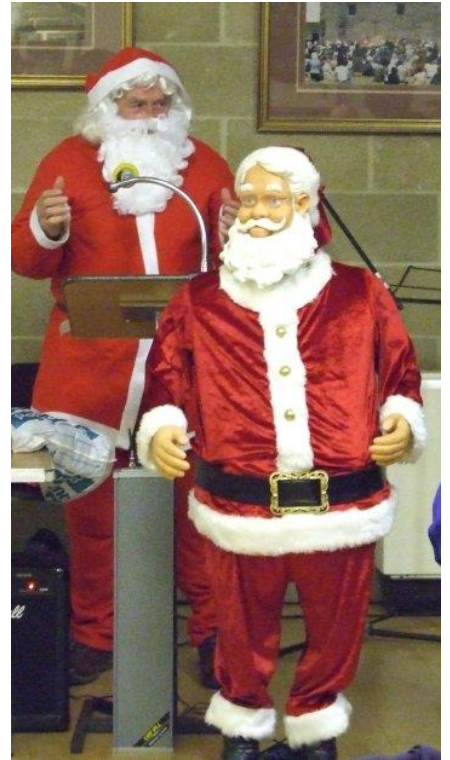
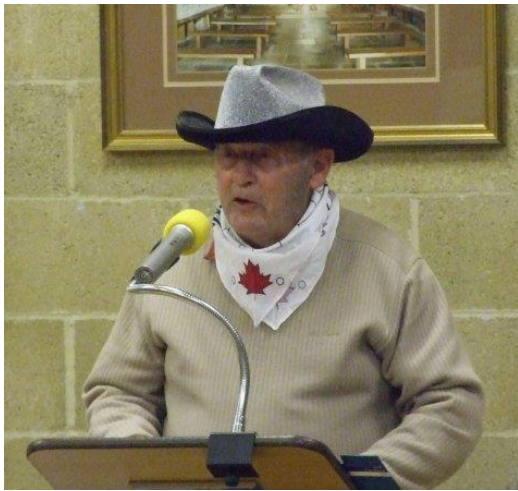
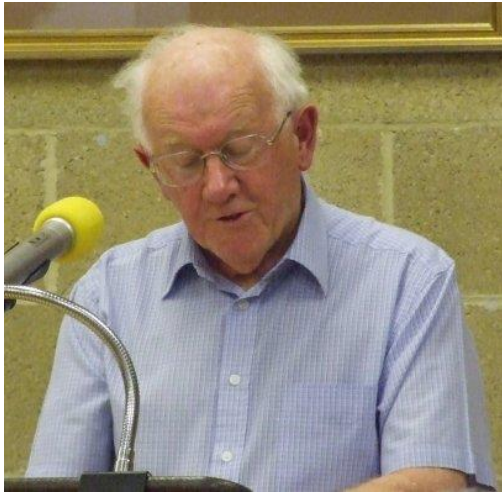
*Jim Armishaw*



# DATHLU NADOLIG (Christmas Celebrations)







## JANUARY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS IONAWR 2010

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

### BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA I CHI GYD

**A very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year to you all from a snowy Galleywood.**

2009 has been quite a year of change and uncertainty and I doubt that any of you believe that things are over yet. However, we can all hope that there will be an improvement eventually. I trust that wherever you spent your Christmas it was a happy and joyful occasion. Our Christmas Celebration in the Chapter House was certainly joyful and merry. However, we were all unprepared for the wintry conditions that awaited us as we made our way through a blizzard to our respective homes. I think that everyone made it home . eventually! A big thank you is given to all those members who contributed to the President's Charity in lieu of sending Christmas cards. The sum of **£74** was collected. The society looks forward with great excitement to an eventful 2010, commencing with the January monthly meeting as described below.

### 'NOSWAITH O ADLONANT GYMRAEG'

#### AN EVENING OF WELSH ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010 in the Cathedral Chapter House, 7.30pm for a prompt 8pm start. This popular event will give the New Year a resounding start. Our President, **Shirley Moody**, is organising the programme and our talented members are all set to entertain you. Please ring **Shirley** on **01245-248178** if you are prepared to take part. She requests that all acts have a strong Welsh flavour . songs, poems, jokes etc in Welsh or English but with a distinct link to Wales. Our members have shown over the years their ability to entertain and this year should be no exception. Don't be shy - have a go - as **Wilfred Pickles** used to say! All present will be encouraged to take part in making the evening successful. You will have time to practice if you are snowed in! The refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Vera Thomas, Agnes Evans, Renee Foster** and **Dot Curtis**. I can already taste the Welsh cakes!

**CHARITY CHRISTMAS TEA held on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2009.** Brian and I are delighted to thank all those members and friends who attended this event and those who generously made donations. The grand sum of **£190** was raised for the MPD Charity.

**'TE GYDA SHIRLEY' – on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 2.15pm at Radley Green Farm.** This is an opportunity for members to learn some basic Welsh phrases in the company of fluent Welsh speakers - over a cup of tea! This should prove to be both an interesting and challenging event. You are never too old to learn!

**St. DAVID'S DAY DINNER , Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in the County Hotel, Chelmsford.** Tickets for this prestigious event are now available from **Cynthia Styles** at a cost of £28 per person. Please ring **Cynthia** to book your tickets on **01245-469713** or send a s.a.e. to her at **2 Littell Tweed, Chelmsford CM2 6SH**. Please state if you require a vegetarian option. Ticket orders are required before the **22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010** in order for the table plan to be constructed. Entertainment of a high quality will be provided by **Rachel** and **Ken Bartels** . harp and flute. The attendance at recent dinners has been exceptionally high . so let us keep it up this year!

**St. DAVID'S DAY SERVICE, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2010.** This annual service will be held at **Little Baddow URC** at **3.30pm**. The **Rev. Dr. Cally Hammond** will be officiating as usual. It would be most gratifying if members who do not usually attend this very special service could join us this year. Tea will be served in the vestry following the service. Please support this event and bring your friends and family. Lifts can be arranged for those who don't have their own transport. Ring me on **01245-269845** if you require assistance.

**VISIT TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS - Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010.** The response for this event has been most positive and if you haven't booked a place ring **Shirley** on **01245-248178** as soon as possible. There will be an early start as we are the first group to be taken around the House of Lords on that day . we have to be there by **9am!** .**Lord Llandudno** has informed me that the tour will last around 90 minutes. A coffee break will follow and then we are invited to a St. David's Day Service in the Parliament Chapel at 12 noon. We need to get there early to ensure a seat. Departure times will be advised in the February newsletter.

**VISIT TO THE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM** If you are interested in visiting this museum in April 2010 please can you notify **Shirley Moody** as soon as possible so that we can finalise arrangements.

**VISIT TO CHARTWELL on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010.** **Derrick Thomas** is organising this event and he will be taking bookings at the January meeting or you can phone him on **01245-474558**. Arrangements and cost have yet to be finalised.

**CHANGE of DATE.** It has been necessary to change the date of the **charity coffee morning** to be hosted by **Liz** and **Jim Armishaw** from Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2010 to **Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at 10.30am**.

I trust that all those members who have been unwell and hospitalised are feeling much better and are now on the road to recovery.

**Cofion Cynnes,**  
*Mair Thomas*



**January 2010**

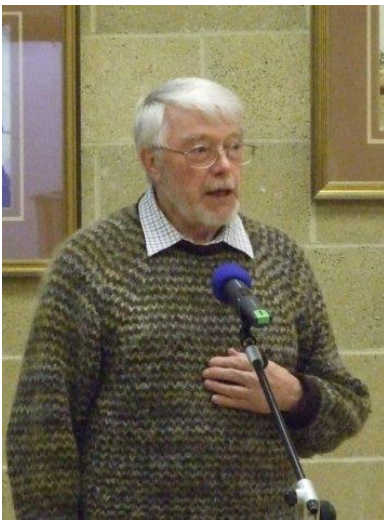
**NOSWAITH O ADLONIAANT GYMRAEG**  
**An Evening of Welsh Entertainment**

The members attending the 28 January meeting of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society were saddened to hear that Cyril Howells had died. The President, Shirley Moody, paid tribute to Cyril, who had served two terms as President and 26 years as Secretary of the Society. Noswaith O Adloniant Gymraeg (an Evening of Welsh Entertainment) was the theme of the meeting, and Cyril was to have been one of the performers. He was witty and a great scholar, with a love of all things Welsh and of the British Working Class. His carefully researched contribution to these meetings was always a highlight. Society member Father Rowland Webb, who was to officiate at Cyril's funeral, gave a brief run down of the order of service.

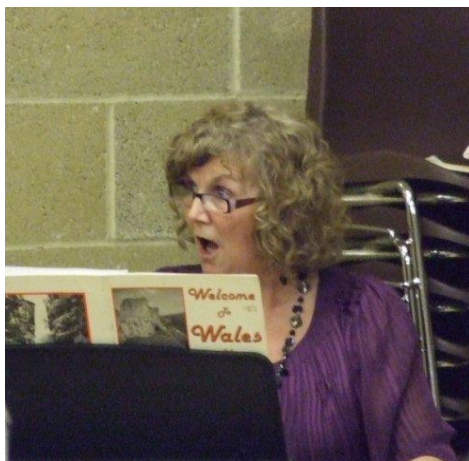
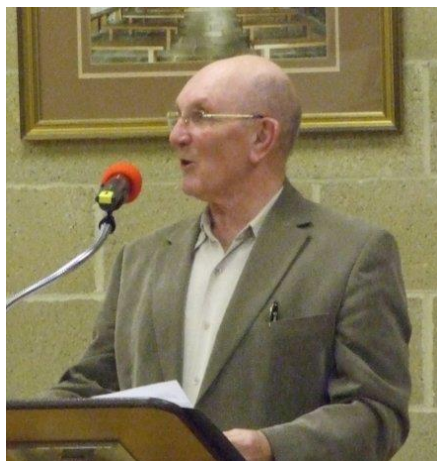
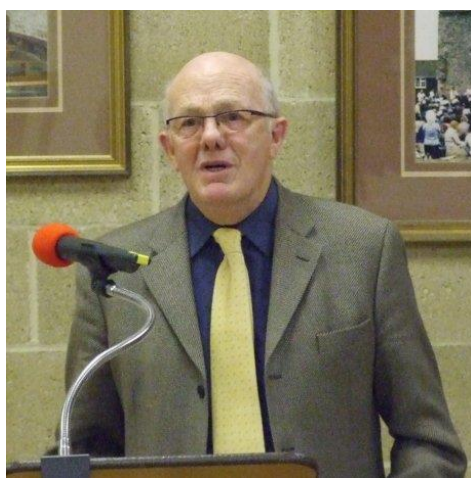
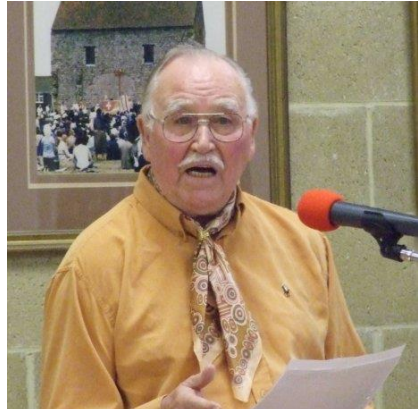
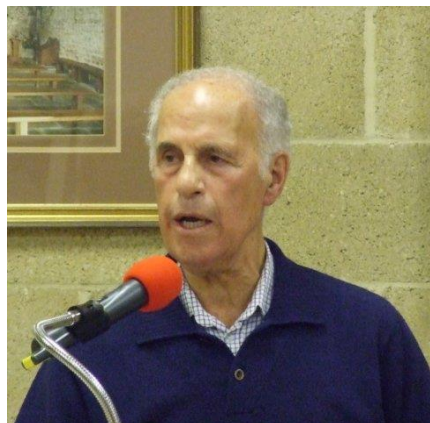
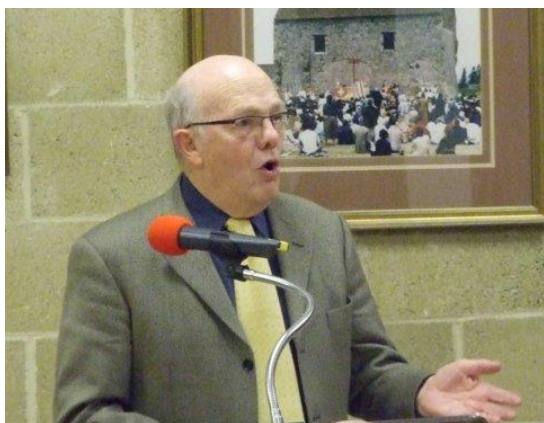
The meeting began with the song "Calon Lan", which Cyril loved. Jaycynth Cowmeadow then sang another of Cyril's favourites, "Going Home". Brian Thomas told the history of the song "Sosban Fach", well known to rugby followers worldwide. Mair Thomas talked about how Wenglish became the language of much of the south Wales valleys when workers from all over England and from Spain flooded in during the Industrial Revolution. Ken Lee sang "We'll Keep A Welcome In The Hillside", followed by Winford James' account of how David Thomson, a Welsh boy from the workhouse and the ragged school, opened up the Canadian trails for the Hudson Bay Company. Jean Davies recounted a rather different story, her scary train journey as a 16 year old. The entertainment continued, after a break for delicious refreshments. Jim Allen read a poem about Barry in south Wales and sang a song. Mouth organs originated in China 2000 years ago, and the modern version was developed in Germany in 1929, according to Derrick Thomas. Derrick played two versions, the smallest being only three centimetres long (a feat achieved without swallowing it!). Ken then sang "Dafydd Y Garreg Wen"; Ron Jones told some hilarious jokes, raising a few blushes; and Brian recited the Ballad of Don the Moon (the Americans were not the first visitors). Jim Armishaw, the Vice-president closed the meeting by thanking everybody for taking part. Cyril would have enjoyed it.

*Jim Armishaw*

**NOSWAITH O ADLONIAANT GYMRAEG**  
**An Evening of Welsh Entertainment**







## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS CHWEFROR 2010

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

### Cyril Howells 1926 -2010

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the sudden death of Cyril Howells on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Cyril was born in Ferndale in 1926. He trained as a teacher in Sheffield and then took up a teaching appointment in Essex. It was here that he met Florence and they married in 1951. Florence and Cyril became members of the society in 1963 and Cyril was secretary for 26 years; president on two occasions and a committee member until 2004. Cyril's commitment to our society was of the highest order. He will be irreplaceable. What he gave the society is immeasurable. When people think of the Chelmsford Welsh Society they think of Cyril Howells. It was Cyril who coined the phrase 'There is no such thing as a stranger in our midst; only friends we have not yet met'. He was a pillar of the society and responsible, with others, for the warm and friendly atmosphere that now permeates our meetings and events. Cyril's funeral was held on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 at Pitsea Crematorium and it was well attended by his family, society members and his many friends from all walks of life. We extend to Rosemary, John, Myfanwy, Leslie and the family our very deepest sympathies at the loss of a devoted father, father-in-law and grandfather.

### 'THE SECRET LIVES OF GARDEN BIRDS'

**A presentation by Mike Logan Wood**

Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in the Cathedral Chapter House

7.30pm for a prompt 8pm start.

**Mike Logan Wood** is an accomplished presenter and comes to us with glowing references. The lives of garden birds are an appropriate topic at this time of the year. What should we give them to eat when the ground is covered with snow or frozen? You can get the answer to this and many other questions at this meeting. We had an excellent turn out for our last meeting so let us maintain this good attendance. The refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Carys Williams, Jean Jones and Maureen Davies**.

**A CHARITY COFFEE MORNING will be held on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at 10.30am** - hosted by **Liz and Jim Armishaw** at their home **38A Chignal Rd, Chelmsford**. Our hosts will be delighted to see you and the requested donation is £3. Give **Liz** or **Jim** a ring if you want directions to their home. **01245-281162**. Raffle prizes gratefully accepted.

**'TE GYDA LIZ a JIM' – on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at 2pm at 38A Chignal Rd, Chelmsford.** This is a further opportunity for members to learn some basic Welsh phrases in the company of fluent Welsh speakers - over a cup of tea!

**St. DAVID'S DAY DINNER, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in the County Hotel, Chelmsford.** Tickets for this prestigious event are still available from **Cynthia Styles** at a cost of £28 per person. Please ring **Cynthia** immediately to book your tickets on **01245-469713** or send a s.a.e. to her at **2 Littell Tweed, Chelmsford CM2 6SH**. Please state if you require a vegetarian option. Ticket orders are required before the **22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010** in order for the table plan to be constructed. Entertainment of a high quality will be provided by **Rachel and Ken Bartels**. harp and flute. **Don't delay – book today!**

**St. DAVID'S DAY SERVICE, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2010.** This annual service will be held at **Little Baddow URC** at **3.30pm**. The **Rev. Dr. Cally Hammond** will be officiating once again. Please attend this event and help with the singing of some old favourites. bring your family and friends. Tea will be served in the vestry following the service. Lifts can be arranged for those who don't have their own transport. Ring me on **01245-269845** if you require assistance.

**VISIT TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS - Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010.** The response for this event has been most positive and if you haven't booked a place ring **Shirley** on **01245-248178** as soon as possible. The coach will be leaving **Radley Green Farm** at **6.30am prompt** as we are the first group to be taken around the **House of Lords** on that day. we have to be there by **9am!** **Lord Llandudno** has informed me that the tour will last around 90 minutes. A coffee break will follow and then we are invited to a **St. David's Day Service** in the Parliament Chapel at 12 noon. We need to get there early to ensure a seat. You can make your own arrangements for lunch. The coach will leave London for Chelmsford at **3.30pm**. Cars can be safely parked at Radley Green Farm and we thank **Shirley** and **Don** for this service. The cost of the coach is **£12** per head. Please pay **Derrick Thomas** by cheque - made payable to the Chelmsford Welsh Society.

**VISIT TO THE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM.** A small group of members are going to make this visit on **Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010** If you are interested in visiting this museum please contact **Shirley Moody (01245-248178)** as soon as possible so that we can finalise arrangements.

**VISIT TO CHARTWELL on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010.** **Derrick Thomas** is organising this event and he will be taking bookings at the February meeting or you can phone him on **01245-474558**. The cost of the coach is **£14** per person. Names to **Derrick**; payment to **Eddie Alcock** with cheques made out to Chelmsford Welsh Society. Further details in the next newsletter.

**SOCIETY NEWS.**

- **Maggie Cranmer** has had to go back into hospital. We wish you a speedy return home **Maggie**.
- Our president, **Shirley Moody**, would like to thank all those who performed at the January ~~N~~oswaith O Adloniant Gymraegq Diolch yn fawr.

It is with deep regret that I inform you of the death of **Philip Evans of Roxwell**. **Philip** enjoyed attending our meetings and events and spoke highly of the quality of these occasions. We extend to **Nilda and family** our deepest condolences at the loss of a loved one. **Philip's** funeral will take place at Chelmsford Crematorium on **Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2010** at **12.30pm**. (Subject to possible change).

**Cofion Cynnes.**  
*Mair Thomas*



**February 2010**

**THE SECRET LIVES OF GARDEN BIRDS**

**with Mike Logan Wood**

**&**

**ST DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATIONS**

Another busy month for Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. The speaker at the monthly meeting, Mike Logan Wood, was introduced by the President, Shirley Moody. His subject was a spellbinding journey into The Secret Lives of Garden Birds. We learnt, for instance, that: male blackbirds from the near continent overwinter in Britain, the females prefer the south of France; 300000 year old fossils of song thrushes have been found on West Mersea, whilst its third cousin the robin, the English National Bird, has been with humans for 2000 years; surprisingly, the most common bird in the UK is the wren, worshiped for 2000 years - the female builds up to 10 nests, the work-shy male chooses one, before finding another mate; the female dunnock has several mates then lays her eggs, whilst the male is equally promiscuous! The Vice-president, Jim Armishaw, presented Mike with a Society goblet and thanked him for a fascinating talk. On March 1st, Dydd Gwyl Dewi, Welsh people world-wide honour their Patron Saint, David, (the only one in the British Isles born in the country which honours him). The Society celebrated with a Dinner, graced by the presence of the Mayor of Chelmsford, Cllr. Tony Sach, and his wife the Mayoress. On arrival young Ceri, in national dress, and William, gave each guests a daffodil, one of the two national emblems. Grace was said in Welsh by Jim Armishaw and in English by Rev. Dr Paul Beasley-Murray.

The bwydlen (menu) comprised; cawl cennin a thatws; stecen mewn gwin coch, madrach, cig moch, winionen, tatws rhost a llysiau tymhorol; teisen lemwn a llusi duon bach.

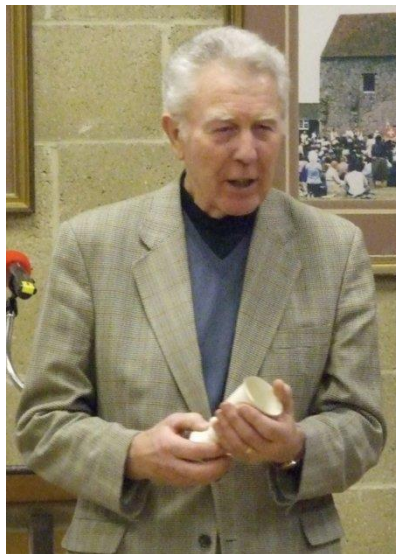
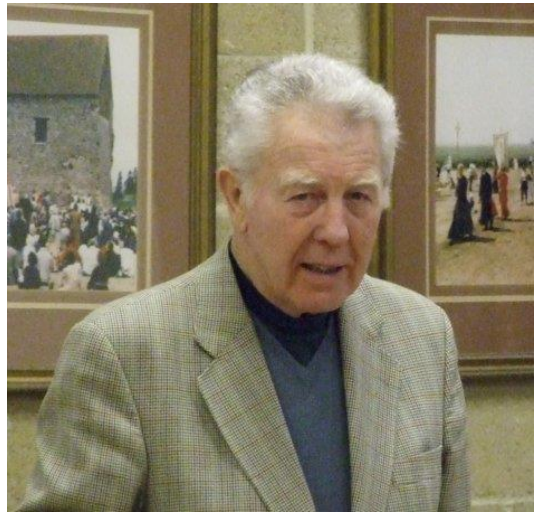
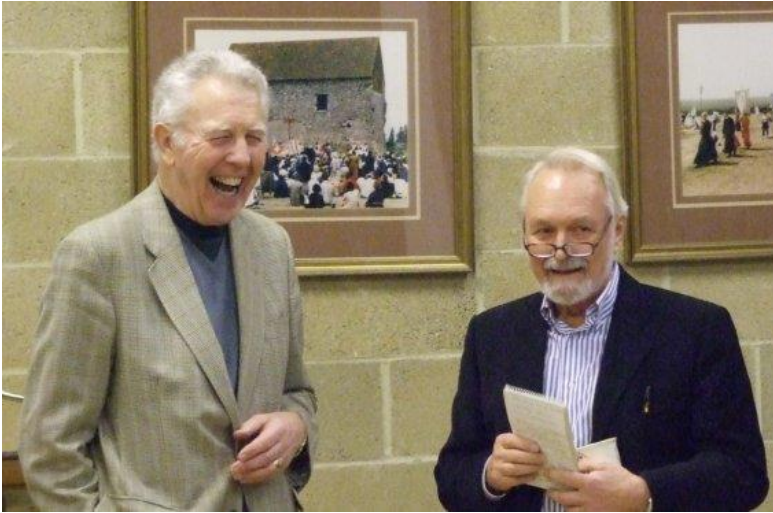
The President proposed the toast to The Queen. Proposing the toast to Dewi Sant, the Vice-president affirmed that he was the beacon for a proud nation, y Cymry, in good times and in bad. The Guest of Honour, the County Coroner Caroline Beasley-Murray, proposed the toast to The Society. Originally from north Wales, Caroline is a passionate supporter of Wales at the Six Nations rugby tournament, getting tickets through a "coroner grapevine!" The President's response was a witty speech with the serious message of how, up to a third of a century ago, the Welsh strove to ensure that their children had an excellent education in order to avoid the harsh labours of the coal mines and slate quarries; she proposed the toast to Our Guests. Responding, the Mayor, whose wife has Welsh roots and whose son won a gold medal in fencing for Wales in the Commonwealth Games, said that he was encouraged by the charitable work done by the Society and many others in Essex. The Society awards The Order Of The Leek to members for their loyal service over the years; this year the honour was bestowed on Gwyneth and Chris Abbott. The very talented Rachel and Ken Bartels provided musical entertainment on the harp and flute.

A Celebratory Service was held in Little Baddow URC. The preacher was the Rev. Dr Cally Hammond. Keith Byatt was the organist. Following a long tradition, the last hymn Seintiau Cymru (the Saints of Wales) was dedicated to the memory of the members who had died during the current season. Brian Thomas led the dedication to the loyal members Margaret Dutton, Cyril Howells and Phillip Evans.

*Jim Armishaw*



## THE SECRET LIVES OF GARDEN BIRDS



## ST DAVID'S DAY DINNER











## ST DAVID'S DAY SERVICE

*Little Baddow URC*



## MARCH NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MAWRTH 2010

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

This year we celebrated St. David's Day in great style by holding three events. The **St. David's Day Dinner** was well attended and provided good food, splendid speeches and excellent entertainment. Thanks to **Cynthia Styles** and **Edith** and **David Brown** for organising this event. Our visit to Little Baddow URC for our **St. David's Day Service** was most successful and well organised by **Betty Hammond**, ably assisted by her daughter **Cally** and **Keith Byatt**. On March 1<sup>st</sup>, a coach load of members were up very early for the visit to the **House of Lords**, arranged by our good friend, **Lord Roberts of Llandudno**. Following an excellent tour of the Lords and Commons, members attended another memorable St. David's Day Service in the Chapel of St. Mary Undercroft, Palace of Westminster. Thanks to our president, **Shirley Moody**, for arranging the day and for providing car parking facilities and to **Derrick Thomas** for organising the coach. Sincere thanks to all those members who were able to support these events. Details of our next monthly meeting are listed below:

### 'THE OWAIN GLYNDWR WALK'

#### A PRESENTATION BY AILSA WILDIG

**Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010 in the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, 7.30pm for an 8pm start.**

Glyndwr's Way was granted National Trail status in millennium year 2000. Its enigmatic name derives from the early fifteenth century folk hero Owain Glyndwr, who won significant battles close to the route and who held a Welsh Parliament in Machynlleth. Our presenter, **Ailsa Wildig**, grew up in South West Scotland and it was there that she developed a love of walking in the hills which she enjoyed during a two year spell working in Aberystwyth on livestock marketing. She is a keen amateur garden historian and walks regularly with our President. Refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Cynthia Styles**, **June Jones** and **Hazel Hammond**. The society thanks those members who kindly bring a raffle prize on a regular basis.

**'TE GYDA MAIR and BRIAN' – on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at 2pm at 5 Milligans Chase, Galleywood.** This is a further opportunity for members to learn some basic Welsh phrases in the company of fluent Welsh speakers - over a cup of tea!

**VISIT TO CHARTWELL on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010.** **Derrick Thomas** is organising this event and he will be taking bookings at the March meeting or you can phone him on **01245-474558**. The cost of the coach is **£14** per person. Names to **Derrick**; payment to **Eddie Alcock** with cheques made out to **Chelmsford and District Welsh Society**. The coach will leave Chelmsford at 9am and on the return journey will call in **Tunbridge Wells** for a short stop. Pick up points will be decided once the list of travellers is finalised.

**SONGS OF PRAISE, Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 2.30pm in St. Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell.**

Conducting the singing will be **John Taylor** (music director - Chelmsford Male Voice Choir) and **Keith Byatt** will be the organist. Please join us for the singing of some old favourites in this delightful church. The singing will be followed by light refreshments.

**TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR OUR ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT in Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 7.30pm** at a cost of **£13**. The visiting choir is **CÔR GODRE'R ARAN**, with guest soloist, **ALED WYN DAVIES** (tenor). The choir is regarded as one of the best in Wales and **Aled** is a Blue Riband winner at the National Eisteddfod of Wales. Reserve your tickets as soon as possible by telephoning either **Eddie Alcock** on **01245-603448** or **Arthur Williams** on **01621-778711**. Cheques are payable to **Chelmsford and District Welsh Society** and a stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed with your order which should be sent to **Eddie Alcock 5 Elms Drive Chelmsford CM1 1RH** or **Arthur Williams 3 Engelfields South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT**. Tickets will also be available at our next monthly meeting. Society members are the first to know about the details of this concert and this enables them to be sure of obtaining the required number of tickets before they are released for general sale. **If this annual event is to continue the society needs the support of ALL members.** If every member could sell **4 tickets** we would cover our costs! You can bring friends and family to an event which will present Welsh music of the highest standard.

### SOCIETY NEWS

- We send our best wishes to those members who have been unwell in recent months. **Maggie Cranmer** is now at home after a long stay in hospital. **Pam Gillespie**, who has had a long illness, is now in a stable condition. **Menna Hubbard** is making slow but steady progress after a fall. **John Williams** continues to suffer from a severe chest infection which is giving him breathing problems.
- I am pleased to announce the safe arrival of **Cyril's** great grandson last month. **Dylan Morgan** arrived earlier than expected. We extend our congratulations to the proud parents, **Sarah** and **Gavin** and the grandparents, **Rosemary** and **Leslie**.

**Cofion Cynnes.**  
*Mair Thomas*



**March 2010**

**A visit to the HOUSES of PARLIAMENT  
&  
WALKING WITH DRAGONS  
The Owain Glyndwr Walk with Ailsa Wildig**

On 1 March, members of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society enjoyed a tour of the Lords and Commons as Guests of Lord Roberts of Llandudno, and attended the St David's Day service in the Chapel of St Mary Undercroft in the Palace of Westminster. The service was largely in Welsh, with the talented children of the London Welsh School, in national dress, and a wonderful young male voice choir, Eschoir, taking part.

The audience of 66 at the 25 March monthly meeting were saddened by the news of the death of Prof. Meredith Hughes. Ron Hammond celebrated his 80th birthday recently and invited everyone to join him in a glass of wine and a piece of cake in the interval. The President, Shirley Moody, welcomed the guest speaker Ailsa Wildig, a keen gardener and walker to give a talk entitled Walking with Dragons. Bhutan and Wales are the only countries with a dragon in their national flags, and Ailsa gave fascinating accounts, illustrated with slides, of a walk in each country. The Owain Glyndwr Way goes from Tref y Clawdd (Knighton) on the English border, across the isolated splendour of mid Wales to Machynlleth, where Glyndwr was crowned Prince of Wales in 1404 and where he held his first parliament, and back to the border at Y Trallwng (Welshpool). Ailsa's walk in Bhutan, a Buddhist country whose measure of success is Gross National Happiness and not our GNP, was with the Alpine Garden Society, in the rarefied atmosphere of the spectacular Himalayas. It appears that the people of Wales and Bhutan share a love of spiritual singing and dancing. In appreciation for a fascinating talk, Jim Armishaw the Vice-president presented Ailsa with a Society goblet, which features a dragon.

*Jim Armishaw*

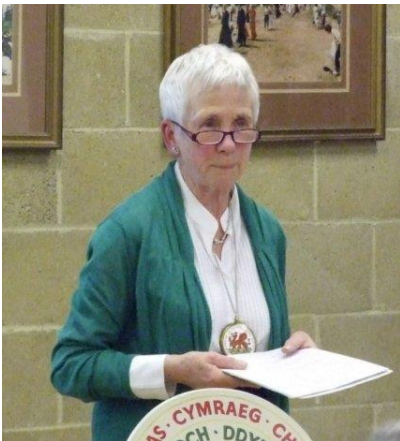
**A visit to the Houses of Parliament**



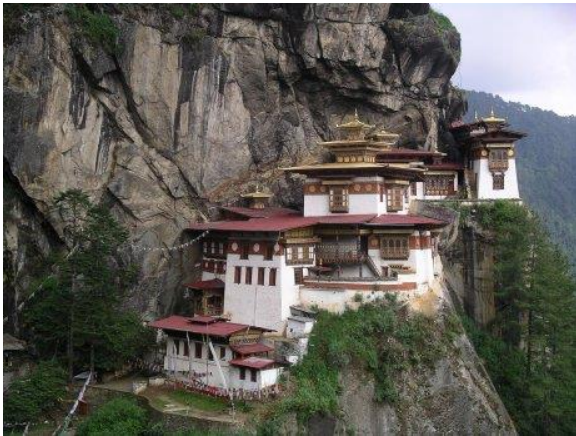




## WALKING WITH DRAGONS - The Owain Glyndwr Walk







## APRIL NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS EBRILL 2010

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

Spring has arrived at last! Daffodils are in full bloom and have brightened up all our gardens. We all look forward to a dry and sunny summer. Details of the April monthly meeting are listed below:

### **'SLAVERY AND FREEDOM'**

**A PRESENTATION BY**

**THE REV. DAVID ST. CLAIR TUDOR**

**Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2010 in the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House,  
7.30pm for an 8pm start.**

**The Rev. David St. Clair Tudor** is an Anglican priest and rector of Canvey Island and Dean of Hadleigh in the Diocese of Chelmsford. He was born in Barbados of a Barbadian father and an English mother. He has researched his family tree since he was a teenager and has long been fascinated by the period of slavery in the West Indies and the subsequent history of the people of the many islands. He is a most eloquent and interesting speaker and his presentation is not to be missed. I hope that we will have a full house in the Cathedral Chapter House on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April. Refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Norma Maskell, Mair Powell** and **Margaret Shanahan**.

### **ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT – Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010 in the Chelmsford Cathedral at 7.30pm.**

The famous **Côr Godre'r Aran** is making their third visit to Chelmsford and **Aled Wyn Davies** (tenor) is joining them as our guest soloist. Both the choir and soloist are in great demand both nationally and internationally and the society is honoured that they have agreed to entertain us once again. Tickets priced at **£13** are available from **Eddie Alcock** on 01245-603448 or **Arthur Williams** on 01621-778711. Cheques are payable to **Chelmsford and District Welsh Society** and a stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed with your order which should be sent to **Eddie Alcock 5 Elms Drive Chelmsford CM1 1RH** or **Arthur Williams 3 Engelfields South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT**. Tickets will also be available at the April monthly meeting. **PLEASE** make an effort to sell tickets to your friends and family. ***The future of this very special annual event depends on your support. The Cathedral can accommodate 500 people for the concert and we would like a 'full house'.***

### **SONGS OF PRAISE, Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 2.30pm in St. Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell.**

Come along and join us at this festival of hymn singing at this delightful Essex church. Conducting the singing will be **John Taylor** (music director . Chelmsford Male Voice Choir) and **Keith Byatt** will be the organist. You will have the opportunity to sing some well known Welsh and English hymn tunes which will be introduced by society members. This promises to be another memorable occasion but it needs your support. Tea and cakes will be served following the singing.

**VISIT TO THE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM- Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010.** This trip is fully subscribed and the mini bus will leave **Radwell Green Farm** at 8am.

**CHARITY COFFEE MORNING – Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 10.30am.** **Cynthia** and **John Styles** extend a warm welcome to members and friends to a coffee morning to be held at their home . **2 Littell Tweed, Chelmer Village**. Donations of **£3** in aid of the **MPD Charity**. You can be assured of a warm welcome so please support this event. If you require **directions** please phone **Cynthia** on **01245-469713**. Raffle prizes will be welcomed.

**VISIT TO CHARTWELL on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010.** The coach will be leaving Chelmsford at 9am. **Derrick Thomas** is organising this event and he has still has a few spare seats on the coach. You can book a place at the April meeting or you can phone him on **01245-474558**. **Book now for another enjoyable day out with friends.** The cost of the coach is **£14** per person and members are to pay their own entrance fee for Chartwell House. The party will visit **Tunbridge Wells** on the return journey. Names to **Derrick**; payment to **Eddie Alcock** with cheques made out to **Chelmsford Welsh Society**. Details of pick up points and times will be included in the May Newsletter.

### **SOCIETY NEWS**

Those members on the internet have already been informed of the death, last month, of **Professor Meredydd Hughes**. A Service of Thanksgiving for his life was held in Trinity Methodist Church on Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. Many society members attended this service. **Meredydd** was a very talented and gifted man with a distinguished national and international record in the field of education. He will be sadly missed by his family and all those who had the good fortune to know him.

**Cofion Cynnes.**

*Mair Thomas*



**April 2010**

**CYMANFA GANU  
and  
SLAVERY & FREEDOM  
with Rev. David St Clair Tudor**

Members of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, their friends and parishioners of St Michael and All Angels, Roxwell, came together on 18 April for a joyous Cymanfa Ganu (Songs of Praise Festival). The hymns had been chosen by members, and were introduced by them. The conductor was John Taylor, Music Director of Chelmsford Male Voice Choir to which many of the members belong. Afterwards, tea and cakes, provided by members were enjoyed on the church lawn in warm sunshine. Jim Armishaw, the Vice-president, thanked: the vicar and officers of the church for their hospitality; John for achieving some lovely harmonies, with humour; the organist, Keith Byatt; and the ladies of the church for serving the tea.

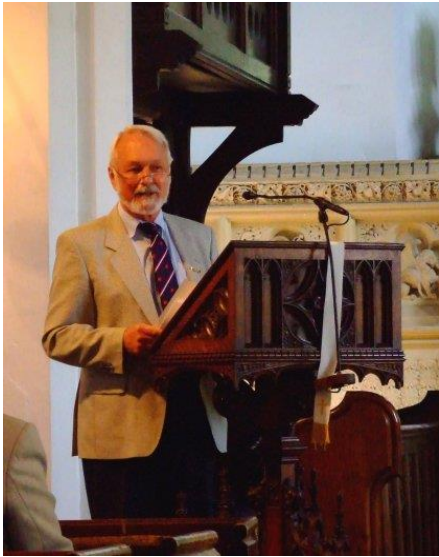
The speaker at the 22 April monthly meeting was the Rev. David St Clair Tudor, (a Welsh surname) originally from Barbados, an island the same size as the Isle of Wight and the fourth most densely populated in the world. His topic was Slavery and Freedom. The island was taken for the crown by John Powell (another Welsh surname!) in 1627, and initially the landed gentry employed British indentured labour to grow tobacco, sugar cane and cotton. They suffered the ravages of malaria, dysentery and yellow fever and African slaves were introduced; the plantation owners retired to live grandly in the UK. The slaves lived wretched lives, which continued for some time after they were freed in 1834. They adopted their owners' surnames and intermarriage became the norm. Today Barbados is a peaceful mixed race society, with a literacy rate of 97 per cent and 147 Christian denominations! Before independence many came to the UK, believing they were going to the Mother Country, to work in the National Health Service, BR and London Underground; the welcome was cold, even in the churches. The island's economy was built on the export of cane sugar, until they were cruelly cast adrift when Edward Heath took the country into the common market and European sugar beet was substituted. David's delivery was spellbinding, a masterful amalgam of humour and pathos, and by common assent a truly great performance.

*Jim Armishaw*

**April 2010  
CYMANFA GANU**







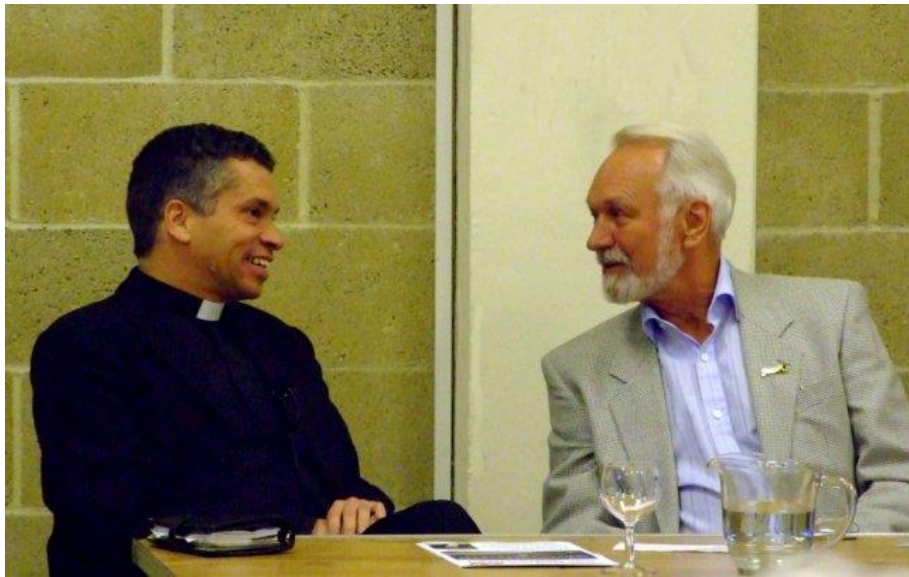






# SLAVERY & FREEDOM

with Rev. David St Clair Tudor



## MAY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MAI 2010

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

The last monthly meeting proved to be an outstanding event. The Rev. David St. Clair Tudor enthralled a captive audience with his dynamic presentation. We look forward to another successful meeting in May.

### 'WELSH TV GOLD'

#### **Mirth, Music and Memories from the Archives of Welsh TV a presentation by Mike Price**

**Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 7.30pm for 8pm**

Society member, **Mike Price**, who hails from Treherbert, is organising this evening for us. Our in-house meetings are of a high standard and **Mike** has done a great deal of research in preparation for what promises to be another memorable occasion. He will be presenting a selection from a wide range of programmes seen recently, and not so recently, on Welsh television. It will be a night of humour and great enjoyment so please come along and bring your friends in order to fill the Chapter House. There will be a charity stall organised by **Liz Armishaw**, **Enid Morris** and **Keith Byatt** at this meeting. Please bring along CDs, DVDs and videos that you no longer require in order to boost the charity fund. Refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Gwyneth Abbott**, **Marlene Jeffrey** and **Edith Brown**.

**SONGS of PRAISE/CYMANFA GANU** held on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> April at St. Michael and All Angels Church Roxwell. This event was a huge success. The members of the church came in droves to support this service. The sun shone, tea and cakes were served on the lawn and the singing was excellent. Sadly, the attendance by our members was most disappointing and we were outnumbered by the locals! Unfortunately, our President, **Shirley Moody**, was delayed in Portugal because of the volcanic ash crisis. Our Vice-President, **Jim Armishaw**, who should have been in China, proved to be a most capable deputy. The society thanks all those who attended the event and the conductor **John Taylor** and the organist **Keith Byatt**.

**VISIT TO THE HOLOCAUST CENTRE - Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010.** This proved to be a memorable trip and brought home to all those who made the long journey the dreadful acts committed in the past. The sadness of yesteryear was tempered by the fun and laughter engendered by the happy band of travellers. Our thanks go to **Shirley Moody** for arranging this very special visit. Diolch yn fawr.

**ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT – Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010 in the Chelmsford Cathedral at 7.30pm.** Tickets for this prestigious event have sold well and we are nearing a capacity audience. If anyone is holding unsold tickets would you please notify **Eddie Alcock** on 01245-603448 or **Arthur Williams** on 01621-778711 **immediately** so that these tickets can be returned and put on sale to the general public. We need to sell **ALL** the printed tickets and this means **NO** refunds. **HELP** is needed from male members to **erect** the staging and even more importantly to **dismantle** it at the end of the concert. **Many hands make light work!**

**VISIT TO CHARTWELL on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010.** Arrangements for this visit are as follows - the coach will be leaving Trinity Methodist Church, Chelmsford at **9am**. (free car parking available opposite the church); **9.10am** . bus stop near the Eagle Pub, Galleywood; **9.20am** . bus stop Brentwood Rd. Billericay; **9.35am** High St, Brentwood . near the old post office. **Derrick Thomas** is organising this event and he has still has a few spare seats on the coach. You can book a place by phoning him on **01245-474558**. The cost of the coach is **£14** per person and members are to pay their own entrance fee for Chartwell House. The party will visit **Tunbridge Wells** on the return journey. Names to **Derrick**; payment to **Eddie Alcock** with cheques made out to **Chelmsford Welsh Society**. In case of emergency Derrick's mobile number is **07941329971**.

**ADVANCE NOTICE – Summer Service at Little Baddow URC on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am.**

### **SOCIETY NEWS**

- Several members have been unwell during the past months. **Pam Gillespie** has had treatment in hospital but is now at home recovering. **Maggie Cranmer** is due to be re-admitted to Broomfield Hospital for another operation on her knee. **Menna Hubbard** is still recovering from her recent fall. We send them all our very best wishes.
- **Mair Knox**, daughter of the late **Professor Meredydd Hughes**, wishes to convey the gratitude of the family to all those who attended the funeral of her father and for the sympathy and support given by the Society at such a difficult time.

We extend our deepest sympathy to **Meinir Wyn Davies** on the sad death of her father **Bill Davies of Llanilar**. **Meinir** had been looking after her father at her home for some time and he had also been a patient in Basildon Hospital.

**Cofion Cynnes.**  
*Mair Thomas*

# May 2010

## Outing to the HOLOCAUST CENTRE, CHARTWELL and "WELSH TV GOLD" with MIKE PRICE

May was a very busy month for Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. On the 4th members visiting the harrowing Holocaust Centre were left wondering at man's inhumanity; then on the 8th, a charity coffee morning hosted by Cynthia and John Styles restored one's faith in human nature; a visit to Chartwell followed on the 15th. The monthly meeting on the 27th attracted an audience of about 50 for Mike Price's presentation Welsh TV 'Gold' - Mirth music and memories from the archives of Welsh TV. Mike had put together clips from a fascinating range of recent and not so recent programmes, beginning with Cor Ieuenctid Rhondda (children's choir) competing recently for the first time ever at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod, and gaining 2nd prize! Then St David's Day in the mid 50s by Granada TV - "Sheep, Shotguns and Harps", with seven harpists and instructions on how to make a shotgun! How the world has changed. More music, with Ivor Emmanuel, and a duet by Stuart Burrows and Sir Geraint Evans, who were born in the same district. A close-up of the 2008 All Blacks haka was very scary, but four tries scored against them by Gerald Davies in the 70's lifted the spirits! Bala has indeed an interesting history: the marvellous plumbing in railway tycoon Sir Henry Robertson's magnificent Pale Hall, where Queen Victoria stayed in 1889, and the mountain stream which still provides all its electricity; the aborted plan to build a reservoir which would have drowned Bala to provide water for London; the first ever sheep dog trials, in 1873; Henry Richardson's 1950 tubular lifeboat, the basis of today's inshore lifeboats; Betsy Cadwalladr who nursed in Balaclava, reorganising the wards and kitchens; Frongoch prison camp where 100's of Irish prisoners were held, and became known as the "University of Rebellion"; and Abraham Lincoln's great grandfather several times removed, the Quaker Cadwalladr Evans who emigrated to America in 1809 to avoid persecution. The final clips featured the upper Neath valley: the wonders of the Brecon Beacons; the Mormon Thomas Jones who emigrated in 1927; the iron master Francis Crawshaw who learnt to speak Welsh and commissioned fine paintings of his workers, and visited them during a cholera outbreak whilst other industrialists fled to London; Arthur Jenkins, whose release from prison was obtained by his boss during the 1926 general strike and became an MP, and who was Roy Jenkins's father. The final scenes were of Cambridge Chord barbershop choir winning the Pavarotti Choir Of The World trophy at Llangollen in 2004. At the conclusion the Vice-president, Jim Armishaw, congratulated Mike for providing an evening of humour and great enjoyment.

*Jim Armishaw*

## Visit to Chartwell

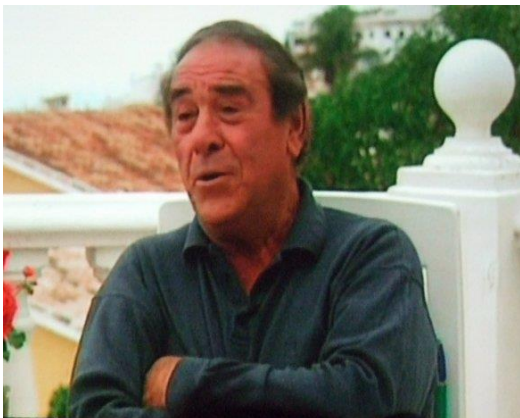
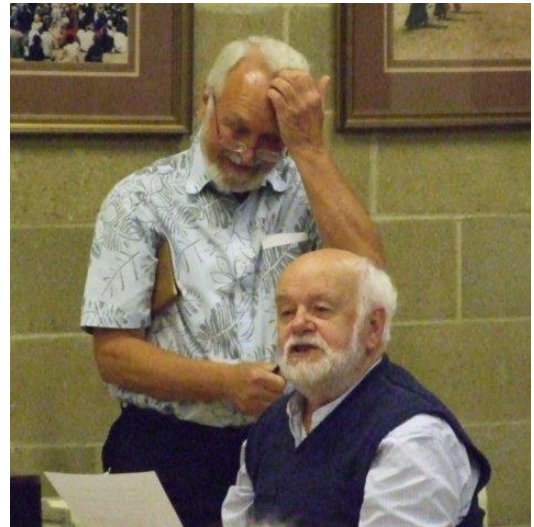
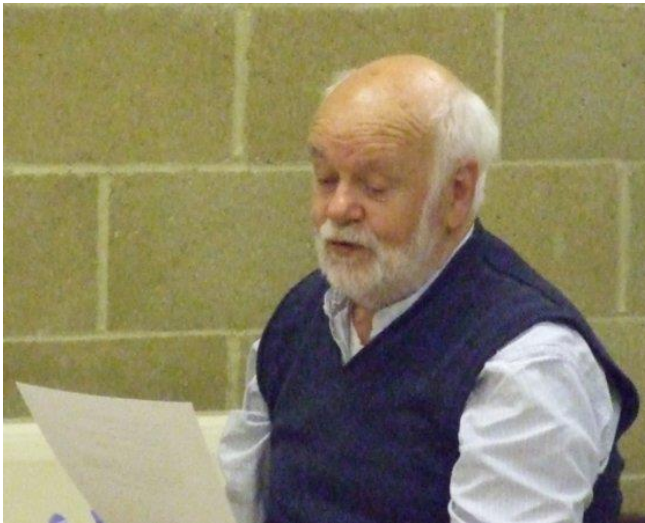
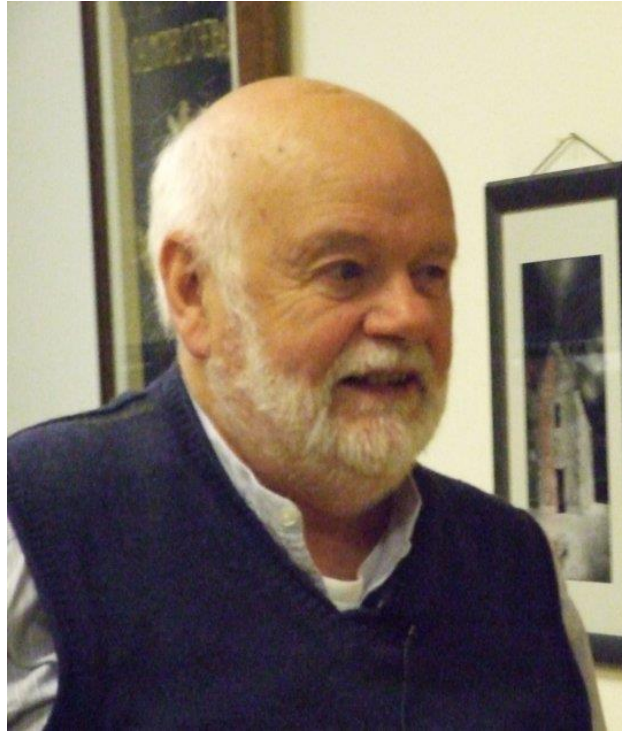








## "WELSH TV GOLD" with MIKE PRICE



## JUNE NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MEHEFIN 2010

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

The summer holidays are fast approaching and we are nearly at the end of a most successful society year. However, we have several meetings and events organised before we break up for the summer vacation. We extend to **Mike Price** our sincere thanks for his excellent presentation at the May monthly meeting.

**ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT – Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010 in the Chelmsford Cathedral at 7.30pm.** I am pleased to inform you that **ALL** tickets have been sold. However, we have a waiting list for returns. If anyone has any unsold tickets please ring **Eddie Alcock** on **01245-603448** or **Arthur Williams** on **0162- 778711** as soon as possible in order that they can reissue the tickets. There will be no refund on unsold tickets returned after **Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010** unless they can be resold. We have sufficient volunteers to erect the stage but still require help to **dismantle** it at the end of the concert.

**SUMMER SERVICE at Little Baddow URC on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 10.30am.** Society members are joining the members of the URC for our annual summer visit. Please join us if you can. We can arrange transport if it is needed. Please give me a call if you want a lift. Coffee/tea will be served on the church lawn following the service. I look forward to seeing you at the church.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2010 7.30pm for an 8pm start Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House

This will be **Shirley Moody's** last meeting as President. The meeting will take the usual format for an AGM and **Shirley** will present a substantial cheque to a representative of **MPD** . her chosen charity. I extend a big thank you on behalf of the society to all members who have given so generously during the year - **diolch yn fawr iawn**. **Jim Armishaw** will be installed as our President for 2010 -11 and a new Vice-president, officers and committee will be elected. Refreshments will be served following the formal part of the evening and **Jim** will be organising the second half of the evening. Please make every effort to attend this meeting as it will give you an opportunity of being able to say a very big thank you to **Shirley** for all she has done during the past society year and of giving a warm welcome to **Jim** as he takes over the Presidency. Refreshments will be organised by the committee and raffle prizes will be donated by **Jim Armishaw, Ron Jones, Derrick Thomas** and **Brian Thomas**. A big thank you to all those members who have contributed to the raffle table and bought raffle tickets. The society is indebted to you for your generosity.

**CHARITY GARDEN PARTY in aid of J's – Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at Radley Green Farm** – donations of **£4** per person with **children free**. This Garden Party will be the first event of **Jim Armishaw's** year in office and it will be hosted once again by **Shirley** and **Don Moody** in their delightful garden. Please come in droves and bring your friends, grandchildren, nephews and nieces. It is wonderful to see children at this event. There are two deep ponds in the grounds so be vigilant at all times. For security reasons the house is out of bounds but there are outside toilets available. A delicious tea will be served and fun and games will be organised for your enjoyment. Please bring your own folding chairs. The event will be held in a large barn should the weather prove to be inclement. **Directions** to Radley Green Farm . take the A414 (signposted M11) road from Chelmsford. You will pass two garden centres and the Fox and Goose Pub on the left hand side of the road . carry on until you see a large sign post for **Radley Green**, Roxwell and Willingale . turn right and drive along this road and you will come to the farm on your left hand side . look out for some Welsh Dragons. Parking areas will be clearly signposted. Hope you can make it and that you don't get lost!

**Possible 3 night visit to Carmarthen in May 2011.** Our President elect, **Jim Armishaw**, is eager to organise a visit to West Wales during his year of office. He presented an outline of the proposed visit at the May Monthly meeting. Tentative arrangements are as follows: **Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011** leave Chelmsford in the morning to arrive in Carmarthen mid-afternoon; returning from Carmarthen on **Sunday** morning, the **22<sup>nd</sup> May**. The **Ivy Bush Royal Hotel, Carmarthen**, has offered a discounted rate for a large group which will provide accommodation in twin/double rooms with en-suite for **£44** per night per person inclusive of bed and breakfast and evening meal. There is a supplement of **£10** per night for those wanting a single room. Fords of Althorne will provide a coach for the return journey and the coach will also be available for trips out of Carmarthen on the Friday and the Saturday. Possible places to visit include the National Botanic Garden of Wales, Aberglasney, Laugharne and St. Davids. The approximate inclusive cost of hotel and coach is **£200** per person plus a single supplement of **£30** for those wanting this option. The final cost will be dependent on the number travelling. If you are interested in this visit please let **Jim Armishaw** (tel. 01245-281162) know as soon as possible in order that accommodation requirements can be confirmed.

### SOCIETY NEWS

- **Gwenda Stephens** has fallen and broken her arm and **Glenys Freeman** has broken her collar bone. We wish them both speedy recoveries.

May I wish you all an enjoyable summer holiday period. Let us hope that the sun will shine on you wherever you are. I send our best wishes to all those members who have been unwell and hope that they will recover swiftly. See you at the above events and at the September 2010 Croeso Yn Ôl meeting.

Cofion Cynnes.  
*Mair Thomas*



## Past Meetings and Activities Reports

June 2010

### The Annual Male Voice Choir Concert

#### Côr Godreŷ Aran

All 500 tickets for the annual concert of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society at the Cathedral on 12 June were sold four weeks before the event; such is the fame of the choir Cor Godre'r Aran, based in the small village of Llanuwchllyn on Bala Lake in mid Wales. The President, Shirley Moody, a native of the nearby town Dolgellau, welcomed the choir, their Conductor and Musical Director, Eirian Owen and the renowned tenor soloist, Blue Riband winner Aled Wyn Davies. The atmosphere in the Cathedral was electric, the choir giving a marvellous performance in the wonderful acoustic. Eirian's virtuosity, conducting the choir and accompanying them on the piano at the same time was a wonder to behold! In his speech of Civic Welcome after the interval, the Mayor of Chelmsford, Cllr. Alan Arnot, said that he had been deeply moved by the opening number, Nkosi Sikelel'i Africa, which together with Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau he considered to be the most rousing of all National Anthems. The choir's varied programme included: Eric Jones and Waldo Williams's beautiful and intensely moving *Y Tangnefeddwyr (the Peacemakers)*; *The Rose*; Mozart's *Gloria*; *I'm Gonna Walk*; *Salm 23*; an action packed *Funiculi, Funicula*; and a great favourite, the Hymn *Gwahoddiad (The Invitation)*. The audience warmed to Aled's personality and superb voice. His programme included operatic arias, songs from the shows, and other favourite numbers including the nostalgic *Cartref* and *I'll Walk with God*. He also sang a duet with choir member and fellow Blue Riband winner, the bass Tom Evans. At the conclusion of the programme the audience rose as one to give the choir and Alan a thunderous standing ovation and a plea for an encore. A powerful *American Trilogy* was the reward. By popular agreement, this was surely the Society's best annual concert ever.

*Jim Armishaw*

# Choir Concert Côr Godre'r Aran

