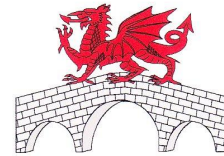
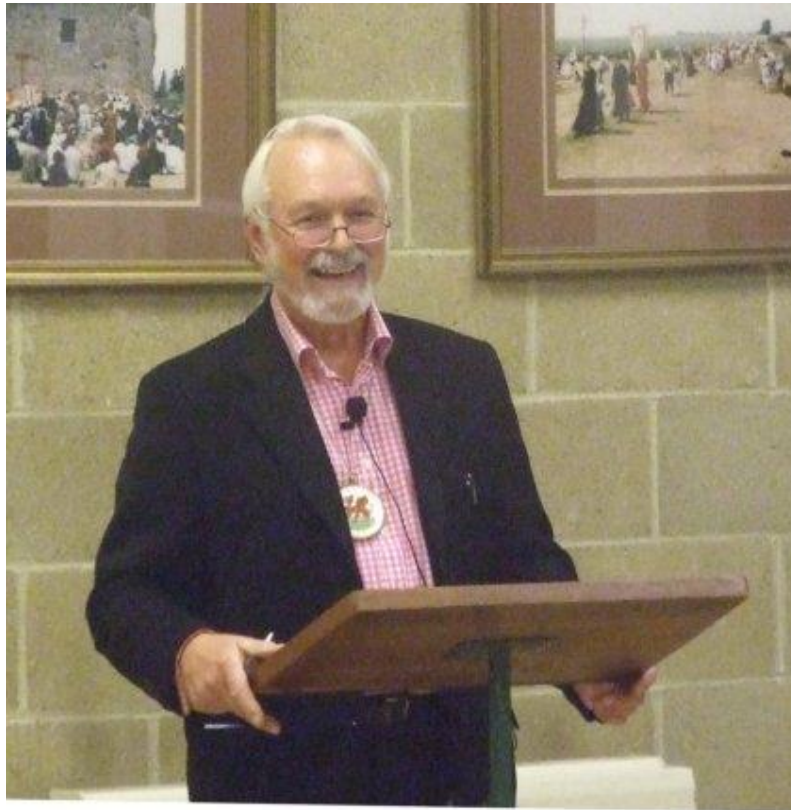


ChELMSFORD & DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY
Cymdeithas Gymraeg ChELMSFORD a'r Cylch

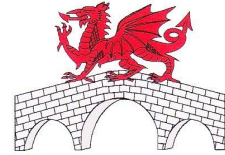


THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY 2010 / 2011



President Jim Armishaw

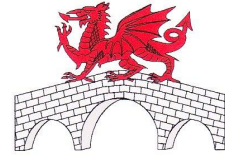




Committee Members 2010 . 2011

President / Llywdd	Jim Armishaw
Vice President / Is-lywydd	Carys Williams
Honorary Vice Presidents	Jean Davies Norma Maskell
Past President	Shirley Moody
Secretary / Yagrifennydd	Mair Thomas
Assistant Secretary	Brian Thomas
Membership Secretary	Carys Williams
Treasurer	Eddie Alcock
Concert Organiser	Arthur Williams (Co-opted)
St David's Day Dinner Organisers	Cynthia Styles & David Brown
Web-site Manager & Press Secretary	David Brown
Multimedia	Mike Price
Refreshments	Maureen Byatt Gwyneth Abbott Edith Brown Liz Armishaw Enid Morris Ivy Price
Raffles	Ron Jones Derrick Thomas
Outings	Derrick Thomas
Church Services	Betty Hammond
Cymanfa Ganu	Shirley Moody

CHELMSFORD & DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY
Cymerithas Gymraeg CHELMSFORD a'r Cylch



Diary 2010 . 2011

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 23rd

CROESO YN ÔL

OCTOBER

Friday 22nd

HARVEST SUPPER (7.30 p.m.) Hosted by Shirley & Don Moody (A Js event)

Thursday 28th

AN EVENING WITH TREBOR Trebor Edwards

NOVEMBER

Saturday 6th

CHARITY CONCERT in aid of the Js Hospice, given by **Chelmsford Male Voice Choir**, with soloist **David Wright**. Central Baptist Church, Chelmsford (A Js event)

Thursday 25th

DRAMATISED EXTRACTS of DYLAN THOMAS STORIES Phoenix Players

DECEMBER

Sunday 12th

CHRISTMAS TEA

Hosted by Mair & Brian Thomas (A Js event)

Thursday 16th

DATHLU NADOLIG (CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION)

JANUARY 2011

Thursday 27th

NOSWAITH O ADLONANT GYMRAEG

FEBRUARY

Saturday 5th

COFFEE MORNING (10.30 a.m.) Hosted by Liz & Jim (A Js event)

Thursday 17th

HEL ACHAU III With Elfed Owen

Friday 25th

ST DAVID'S DAY DINNER County Hotel Chelmsford

Sunday 27th

ST DAVID'S DAY SERVICE
Little Baddow URC

MARCH

Thursday 24th

PRESENTATION on ABERFAN With Gloria Davies (Pat Beddoe)

APRIL

Thursday 28th

GLYNDEBOURNE - PART 2 With Bob Theobald

MAY

Sunday 8th

CYMANFA SONGS of PRAISE St Michaels and All Angels, Roxwell

Wednesday 11th

COFFEE MORNING (10.30 a.m.) Hosted by Carys & Arthur Williams (A Js event)

Thursday 19th to
Sunday 22nd

VISIT to WEST WALES
Organised by Jim Armishaw (President)

Wednesday 25th

SIÔN A SIÂN Game Show hosted by Arthur Williams

JUNE

Saturday 4th

ANNUAL CONCERT

Given by the Trelawnyd Male Voice Choir. Chelmsford Cathedral . 7.30 p.m.

Sunday 19th

SUMMER SERVICE 10.30 a.m. at Little Baddow URC

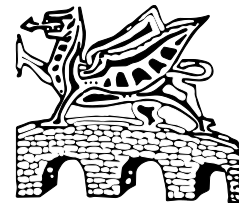
Wednesday 22nd

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 25th

GOLDEN ANIVERSARY CHARITY GARDEN PARTY Hosted by Shirley & Don at
Radley Green Farm

CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



Secretary: Mair Thomas 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD Tel: 01245-269845

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, 12th 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, 7th 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, 20th 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, 24th 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, 26th 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, 19th May 2011** leave Chelmsford in the morning to arrive in Carmarthen mid-afternoon; returning from Carmarthen on **Sunday** morning, the **22nd 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

Meeting and Activities Report June 2010

The first event of the new society year was a garden party held in aid of the Js Hospice on Saturday June 26th at the home of Shirley and Don Moody. The weather was perfect for this event and the 40 plus members and friends that attended raised £380 for the Js Hospice.



CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



Secretary: Mair Thomas 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD Tel: 01245-269845

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MEDI 2010

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the death of our oldest member- **Lilian Banks**, who was **96**. **Lilian** was born in **Tonypanyd** in 1914 and died on August 21st 2010. She was very proud of being a classmate of **George Thomas (Lord Tonypanyd)**. She often read out letters and showed cards that he had sent her at society meetings. On leaving school, she trained to be a florist. She married a **Tonypanyd** man . **Victor Banks** and they moved to Chelmsford in 1937. They had 3 children . 2 girls and a boy. **Victor** was an architect and worked for Chelmsford Council designing schools. **Lilian** worked for the Post Office, delivering mail with the aid of a horse and trap to many areas. In later life **Lilian** and **Victor** started building a bungalow in Alderney, Channel Islands, in preparation for their retirement. Sadly, **Victor** died in 1969 and **Lilian** remained in the Chelmsford area. **Lilian** was a very active person and she loved gardening in addition to keeping chickens and goats! She was heavily involved in the local community and was treasurer and president of a **Darby and Joan Club**. She also delivered meals on wheels. We were fortunate that she joined our society and she very much enjoyed attending our monthly meetings and events and she always donated in a most generous manner to society charities. **Lilian** adored her 3 children and her grandchildren. During the last few years of her life she lived with her beloved **Kathy** who brought her to our monthly meetings. We extend our very deepest sympathies to **Kathy** and all the family at the loss of a much loved mother, mother-in-law and grandmother. **Lilian** was a very special lady who will be remembered by all who had the good fortune to know her.

The summer holiday has quickly passed and we look forward to another busy and successful new society year. Details of a range of future events are listed below.

CROESO YN OL

Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, Thursday, 23rd September 2010 at 7.30pm for 8pm

Our new president, **Jim Armishaw**, is looking forward to welcoming you all to the first meeting of the society year - 2010-11. He will update you with information on forthcoming events and relevant news concerning the society. **Jim** will be supporting **J's** as his chosen charity for his year in office. A representative from **J's** will give a short presentation on the work of the charity and its future plans. **Cheese and Wine** refreshments will be organised by the committee and raffle prizes will be donated by **Maureen Byatt, Enid Morris, Mair Thomas** and **Brian Thomas**. Following refreshments, **Jim Armishaw** and **Mike Price** will give an illustrated presentation of the **2010 Llangollen International Eisteddfod**. The meeting will conclude with a further 'international flavour' when we will be entertained by **Margaret** and **Andrew Lloyd** – a singing duo from **Canada**.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS. Due to rising administrative costs, it has been necessary to increase our membership subscription to **£12** per member. **Carys Williams** will be collecting subscriptions at the September meeting. Please be sure to complete and bring the enclosed membership form with you (E-mail recipients can download the form). Alternatively you can send the pro-forma and a cheque payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, to **Carys Williams, 3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT**. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope so that **Carys** can send you a society programme card.

CHARITY GARDEN PARTY This was held at the home of **Shirley** and **Don Moody** on Saturday the 26th June 2010 and resulted in the of raising **£390** for **J's** - a splendid start to the charity year. Sincere thanks are extended to all those who supported this event and to **Shirley** and **Don** for hosting another successful Garden Party.

UPDATE ON VISIT TO WEST WALES May 19th - 22nd 2011. A pro-forma, for completion by those members who gave their names to **Jim Armishaw** in June 2010 is enclosed with this newsletter. E . mail recipients can download a copy for completion. Please complete this and return it to **Brian Thomas** with your deposit as indicated on the form.

CHARITY HARVEST SUPPER at **Radley Green Farm** on **Friday, 22nd October 2010 at 7.30pm**. Tickets. Priced at **£13** per person, will be on sale at the September meeting or ring **Shirley Moody** on **01245-248178** to book a place. Let us celebrate harvest time together, enjoy good food and perhaps a good sing-a-long. We are indebted once again to **Shirley** and **Don** for their willingness to host some of our charity events.

CHARITY CONCERT in aid of **J's**. – **Saturday, 6th November 2010 at the Central Baptist Church Chelmsford**. This concert will be given by the **Chelmsford Male Voice Choir** and guest soloist - **David Wright**. Tickets costing **£8** will available at the September meeting or they can be ordered from **Eddie Alcock 01245-603448** . Please make every effort to support this event and sell tickets to your family, friends and neighbours.

SOCIETY NEWS

- Congratulations to **Dilys** and **Ron Harding** who recently celebrated their **60th Wedding Anniversary**.
- Many members have been unwell during the summer break. We wish them all a speedy recovery. **Maggie Cranmer** and **Pam Gillespie** are currently receiving hospital treatment and are looking forward to joining us during the year.

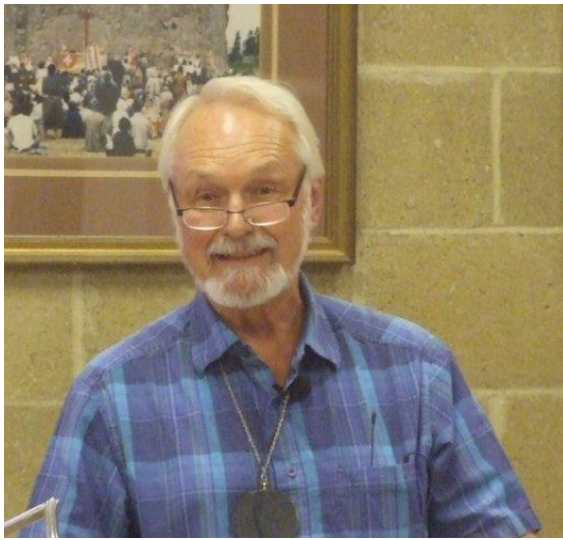
Cofion Cynnes.
Mair Thomas

Meeting and Activities Report September 2010

CROESO YN ÔL

At our 'Croeso Yn Ôl' (Welcome Back) meeting on September 23rd we celebrated the return from our summer break and the start of a new season of meetings and entertainment.

President Jim Armishaw opened the meeting of 65 members and guests with the singing of the nostalgic 'Unwaith eto'n Nghymru annwyl'. There was then a minute's silence for Mrs Lillian Banks and Mrs Molly Holly, two members that had died over the summer period. Jim then went on to outline the many activities that were arranged throughout the year. He stressed that the society support the charity concert to be given by Chelmsford Male Voice Choir on November 6th at Central Baptist Church and also the society's concert on June 6th 2011 featuring the Trelawnyd Male Voice Choir at Chelmsford Cathedral, urging members to sell as many tickets as possible. He then handed over to Denise Whiffin of Js Hospice, representative of our adopted charity this year. The Js was the society charity in 2006/7 and Denise updated us on the growth of the Charity. There is now a Nursing Director and their 'Care Quality Registration' has just been obtained. Two nurses and two health care assistants are due to start work at the end of September, providing a home care service across much of Essex. They are also actively engaged in looking for land on which to build their hospice. Our multimedia expert Mike Price then showed us film of some of the entrants to this year's International Eisteddfod at Llangollen, ably demonstrating that music crosses all political boundaries. Many entrants performed in national costume making it a highly colourful spectacle. Following a cheese and wine supper two relatives of member Derrick Thomas, Margaret and Andrew Lloyd from Canada sang accompanied by Andrew's guitar playing. For Canadian born Margaret it was her first visit to Chelmsford and for Chelmsford born husband, Andrew the first visit for 40 years. They sang among others 'Working Man' by Rita McNeil with audience participation, 'Will you still love me tomorrow' and then a song composed by Andrew with words from Derrick Thomas. Margaret and Andrew gave us a fine musical ending to our first meeting. The next meeting is 'An Evening with Trebor Edwards' on Thursday October 28th. One of Wales's favourite tenors, Trebor has won five gold discs and sold over 200,000 records.



CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



Secretary: **Mair Thomas** 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD Tel: 01245-269845

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS HYDREF 2010

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

It was most pleasing to have so many members at the first meeting of the 2010/11 society year. We give a big thank you to our President, **Jim Armishaw**, for providing the wine and to our hard working committee for organising and providing the delicious refreshments. We were all rewarded with a spectacular presentation on the Llangollen International Eisteddfod given by **Mike Price**. The evening concluded with entertainment given by visitors from Canada, **Margaret** and **Andrew Lloyd**, who are relatives of **Vera** and **Derrick Thomas**.

'AN EVENING WITH TREBOR'

Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, Thursday, 28th October 2010 at 7.30pm for 8pm

We are delighted to welcome **Trebor Edwards**, a popular tenor and farmer from Betws Gwerfil Goch, near Corwen, to our society. **Trebor** who was in school with our President, **Jim Armishaw**, is a singer who is in great demand for concerts and TV appearances throughout Wales and internationally. He has recorded numerous C.D.s which demonstrate his extensive repertoire of songs. **Trebor** had the honour of being a successful President of the Royal Welsh Show in 2008. The evening promises to provide high calibre musical entertainment and deserves to be well attended. Please make every effort to come and bring along your family and friends. Visitors will be most welcome. Refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Jean Jones**, **Rosina Jones** and **Mair Thomas**.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS. Thanks to all of you who have paid your subscriptions so promptly. **Carys Williams** will be collecting subscriptions of £12 per person at the October meeting. Alternatively your cheque, payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, can be sent to **Carys Williams, 3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT**. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope so that **Carys** can send you a society programme card. Regular visitors to our meetings are very welcome to become members.

CHARITY 'HARVEST SUPPER' at Radley Green Farm on Friday, 22nd October 2010 at 7.30pm (please note that this is on **Friday** and not Saturday as printed on the tickets). Tickets costing £13 per person can be reserved by telephoning **Shirley Moody** on **01245-248178**. This promises to be a most enjoyable event and is well worth supporting. In the event of illness or an emergency, please have the courtesy to ring **Shirley** to notify her. **PLEASE** bring your own cutlery, large plate and a glass.

CHARITY CONCERT in aid of J's – Saturday, 6th November 2010 at the Central Baptist Church Chelmsford at 7.30pm.. This concert will be given by the **Chelmsford Male Voice Choir** and guest soloist - **David Wright** (principal trumpet player in the Band of the Coldstream Guards). Tickets costing £8 will be available at the October meeting or they can be ordered from **Eddie Alcock 01245-603448**. **Please make every effort to support this prestigious event** which will be attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Chelmsford.

WELSH CLASS. The next Welsh class will be held at **Radley Green Farm** on **Monday, 1st November 2010 at 2pm**.

UPDATE ON VISIT TO WEST WALES May 19th - 22nd 2011. A pro-forma, for completion by those members who gave their names to **Jim Armishaw** in June 2010 was sent out with the September Newsletter. A high percentage of forms have already been returned, together with the requested deposit. Those of you who have not already done so, please complete and return to **Brian Thomas, 5 Milligans Chase, Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD** before the **30th October 2010**, or hand it to **Brian** at the October monthly meeting. If you have lost your form or have changed your mind, please phone **Brian** on **01245-269845**.

SOCIETY NEWS

- Many of our society members have been ill and hospitalised during the past few weeks. We wish them all well and look forward to seeing them in the near future. I should be grateful if I could be informed when members are patients in hospital.

Members will be very sad to hear of the death of **Molly Holley** at the beginning of September. She and her late husband **Bert** came to Chelmsford many years ago. **Molly** was 92 and she and **Bert** celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary shortly before he died. **Molly's** bridal bouquet was made by the late **Lilian Banks** who lived at the time near **Molly** and **Bert** in the **Rhondda Valley**. Several society members attended the funeral on the 22nd September. We extend to all the family our deepest sympathy at the loss of a much loved and respected mother, grandmother, great grandmother and great-great grandmother.

Cofion Cynnes.

Mair Thomas

Meeting and Activities Report October 2010

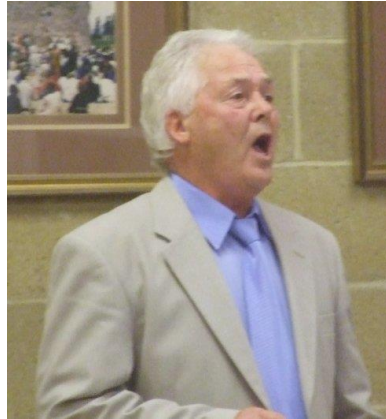
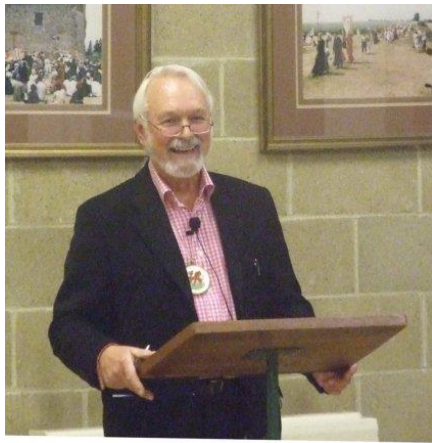
AN EVENING WITH TREBOR EDWARDS

After the notices, apologies and now traditional singing of *Unwaith eto'n Nghymru annwyl* the meeting greeted the guest of the evening Trebor Edwards. President, Jim Armishaw had been at school with Trebor in North Wales and a recent chance meeting resulted in Trebor's visit to Chelmsford. He has won gold discs for selling more than 100,000 copies of five of the nine CDs he has recorded. For many years he was the top-selling Welsh language-recording artist.

The piano accompanist for the evening was the highly talented Claire Lowe who is a local piano and music teacher and accompanist to the Chelmsford Male Voice Choir. Trebor was impressed at how she had mastered his songs in just one brief rehearsal. Trebor combines his duties as a successful farmer with his singing career. He is in demand by P&O as a cabaret entertainer and is often to be found singing for his supper on Mediterranean cruises.

Trebor sang many favourite songs during the evening including *Idi Walk Beside You*, *The Wedding (Ave Maria)*, and *Love Changes Everything*. The audience also joined in with much-loved Welsh songs and hymns, including, *Amazing Grace*, *Calon Lân* and *Dim Ond Iesu*.

During the intervals in singing, his wife Ann gave us a short history of their life together, from the early beginnings in farming when there was only one milk cow and a flock of chickens, through to today where they concentrate on beef and sheep production. She told of the anxiety the first time they left the children in charge of lambing whilst they were on a St David's Day singing engagement in Hong Kong. They have also been fortunate to have engagements in Johannesburg and Seattle. This year they celebrate their golden wedding. Both of their two sons and one of their two daughters have followed the family farming tradition. Trebor was highly honoured in 2008 to be asked to be President of the Royal Welsh Show, but was a bit apprehensive when he found that Princess Anne was to open the show! The Society wishes to thank Trebor and Ann for a most entertaining evening and both were presented with a society goblet. Claire Lowe was also presented with a goblet in gratitude for her accomplished piano playing.



CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



Secretary: Mair Thomas 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD Tel: 01245-269845

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS TACHWEDD 2010

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

The society has experienced an enjoyable period of music making in recent weeks.. We were delighted to welcome **Trebor Edwards** (tenor) to our last monthly meeting. **Trebor**, ably assisted by his wife **Ann**, provided a memorable evening for a large audience. The charity concert given by the **Chelmsford Male Voice Choir** and their guest soloist, **David Wright**, was a great success. The Central Baptist Church was full and the receptive audience appreciated the choir's programme of music and their performance. **David Wright** enthralled all present with the quality of his trumpet and cornet playing. In excess of **£1600** was raised for the Jc Charity. Diolch yn fawr to all those members who supported the event and many thanks to those who worked so hard behind the scenes.

CHARITY HARVEST SUPPER. On Friday, 22nd October 2010, **Shirley** and **Don Moody** kindly hosted a Charity Harvest Supper at their delightful home in Radley Green. Society members and members of the Choir on the Green enjoyed a great evening which included a delicious supper followed by musical entertainment provided by members and visitors, together with plenty of community singing. The grand total of **£440** was raised for the Jc Charity. Details of the next monthly meeting are detailed below:

'AN EVENING OF NOSTALGIA' Presented by the Phoenix Players

Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, Thursday, 25th November 2010 at 7.30pm for 8pm

We are delighted to welcome back to our midst the talented **Phoenix Players** from West Mersea. They visited us two years ago when they presented a dramatised version of **Under Milk Wood**. Their producer, **John Davies**, is Professor Emeritus at the Anglian University. On this occasion the group will present 5 short stories by **Dylan Thomas** and a story by **Rhys Davies**. The programme appears to be most interesting and includes 'A Child's Christmas in Wales' and 'The Outing'. Such stories will bring back so many happy memories for us all. On the last occasion the Players visited us, they were impressed by the quality and understanding of the audience. so let us turn out in droves for this most special event. Bring your friends for an evening of Welsh treasures Refreshments and the raffle will be organised by **Enid Morris, Mary Jones** and **Ivy Price**.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS. Most people have now paid their annual subscription and we thank you most sincerely for this. We would be pleased if those who have not as yet rejoined would do so as soon as possible. Please send cheques payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, to **Carys Williams, 3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT**. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope so that **Carys** can send you a society programme card. If subscriptions are unpaid by the **31st December 2010**, we will regrettably assume that you do not wish to renew your membership and we will cease to send you the monthly newsletter.

WELSH CLASS. The next Welsh class will be held at **Radley Green Farm** on **Monday, 15th November 2010 at 2pm**. **Shirley Moody** is delighted with the response for these classes. it is not too late to join. Remedial tuition will be provided if you require help!

UPDATE ON VISIT TO WEST WALES May 19th - 22nd 2011. All deposits have now been paid. thank you for your co-operation. Due to illness, there are still two places available for the trip. Anyone interested in this visit, please phone **Brian Thomas** on **01245-269845**.

FUTURE EVENT for YOUR DIARY - CHARITY CHRISTMAS TEA hosted by **Mair** and **Brian Thomas** on **Sunday, 12th December 2010 at 3pm**. All members are invited to this event and it will present an opportunity for those of you who have been unable to attend previous events to support the President's Charity. Good food and some carol singing - in the company of friends!

SOCIETY NEWS

- We still have many members who are unwell and we send them all our best wishes for a return to good health. We miss you all at our meetings.

Cofion Cynnes.
Mair Thomas

Meeting and Activities Report November 2010

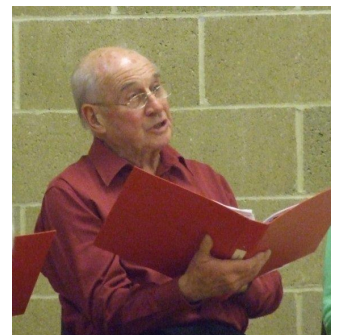
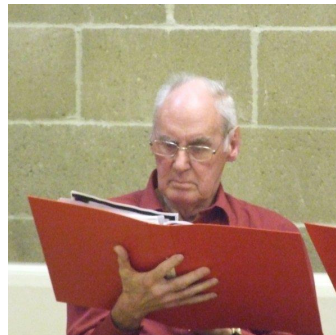
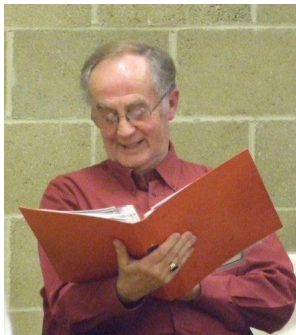
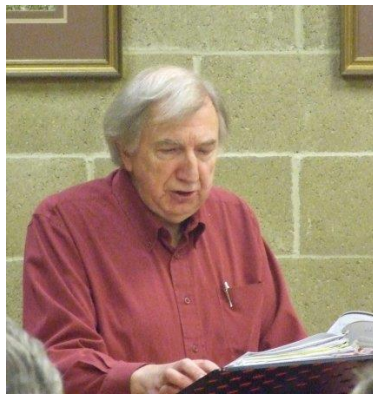
AN EVENING OF NOSTALGIA WITH THE PHOENIX PLAYERS

Following the formalities at the start of the meeting held on Thursday 25th November, members John & Margo Williams were presented with a bouquet of flowers to celebrate their Golden Wedding.

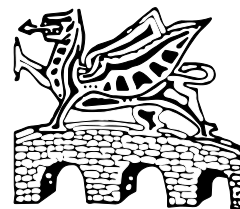
There then followed 'An Evening of Nostalgia' presented by the 10 strong Phoenix Players of West Mersea. Their producer, John Davies, is Professor Emeritus at the Anglian University. At their previous visit to the society they expertly performed the Dylan Thomas classic 'Under Milk Wood'. On this occasion they presented short stories from Dylan Thomas and his contemporaries. The evening started with 'Holiday Memory' written in 1946 when Thomas was 32, and brought back many memories of an August Bank Holiday and the seaside, which we now remember to be always sunny. 'If it could only be like this forever', Dylan muses. 'Return Journey' is set in a war torn, blitzed Swansea and turns out to be Thomas's reflection on his own life. 'Resurrection', written by contemporary Rhys Davies is a humorous look at the great Welsh institution, the funeral.

After a short break for refreshments and the raffle the theme continued with 'The Fight', a story written in 1935 about the up and coming musicians, poets, writers and artists that flourished in the artistic neighbourhood of Swansea at that time. Then followed 'The Outing', a story describing a pub-crawl from Carmarthen to Porthcawl on a charabanc trip. Dylan was still a minor but accompanied his uncle whose friend couldn't take advantage of the ticket. Dylan Thomas read this story in his first and only TV broadcast for the BBC in August 1953, only months before his death in the November. The evening finished topically with a reading of 'A Child's Christmas in Wales', written in 1945 describing the gatherings of aunts and uncles and the happenings of a bygone Swansea Christmas.

The Society wishes to thank the Phoenix Players for a nostalgic and most entertaining evening. Next month's meeting will be on Thursday 16th December for Christmas celebrations.



CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



Secretary: Mair Thomas 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD
Tel: 01245-269845

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS RHAGFYR 2010

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

NADOLIG LLAWEN I CHI GYD A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL

Winter has come very early this year and we are already in the grip of a cold and snowy spell. By the time you receive this newsletter I hope that the weather will have improved and thus enable you to complete all your Christmas shopping safely! The November monthly meeting was excellent and those present enjoyed the professional and entertaining delivery given by the Phoenix Players. It was a shame that our numbers were down on this occasion but all present spoke in glowing terms of the quality performance of the dramatisation of such exciting short stories. Listed below are a number of society events which I hope that you will be able to attend.

'CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION – DATHLU NADOLIG'

Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, Thursday, 16th December 2010 at 7.30pm for 8pm

PLEASE join us for our **Christmas Celebration Evening** when our guest entertainer is **Doreen Potter**. **Doreen** is the accompanist of the Essex Police Choir and is well known throughout Essex as a talented pianist. She also presents entertaining and amusing monologues à la Joyce Grenfell! The **committee** will be providing the usual Christmas nibbles and there will be the exciting bumper Xmas raffle overseen by **Ron and Derrick**. Sadly, **Siôn Corn** is unable to visit us this year as the £200 backstop means that he will be unable to make his usual detour to the Chapter House - not enough fuel for his reindeer! This means that you **won't** have to provide a wrapped Christmas present for his sack. Carol singing and seasonal readings will complete the evening. The option of making a charity donation in lieu of sending Christmas cards will be provided - so please write your message on the large card made by our President. **Jim Armishaw** is hoping for another full house this year.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS TEA hosted by **Mair and Brian Thomas** at **5 Milligans Chase, Galleywood, CM2 8QD (01245-269845)** on **Sunday, 12th December 2010 at 3pm**. This will be a great way to start your Christmas activities - plenty of food, pleasant company, the chance of some carol singing and the opportunity to support the President's Charity. A small Xmas wrapped raffle prize will be gratefully received. I hope to see you on this occasion.

WELSH CLASS. The next Welsh class will be held at **Radley Green Farm** on **Monday, 13th December 2010 (weather permitting) at 2pm**. Newcomers welcome!

UPDATE ON VISIT TO WEST WALES May 19th - 22nd 2011. The full payment for this visit should be made to **Brian Thomas** - 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood, Chelmsford CM2 8QD before the end of **February 2011** - cheques payable to the **Chelmsford and District Welsh Society**. The inclusive cost of coach travel, bed, breakfast and evening meal and gratuities is **£200** per person for those sharing a room; and **£230** for those in a single room. Don't forget that you have paid a **£50** per person deposit - hence the balance is **£150** and **£180** respectively.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING – 'Noswaith O Adloniant - an Evening of Welsh Entertainment'. This will be held on Thursday, 27th January 2011. **Jim Armishaw**, our President, is asking for volunteers to take part in this homespun evening. All items are to be related to, or associated with, **Wales**. This meeting needs a strong Welsh flavour. **Jim** will be sitting by his telephone (01245-281162) awaiting your call in order that he can finalise his programme. He has also introduced a literary competition for this first meeting of 2011. Members are invited to write a poem or piece of prose in Welsh or English on the title - **'The New Year'**. All entries are to be sent to Jim by Saturday, 22nd January 2011 - more details in the January Newsletter.

St. DAVID'S DAY DINNER. This event will be held in the County Hotel, Chelmsford on Friday, 25th February 2011 at 7.15pm. Tickets priced at **£28.50** can be obtained from **Cynthia Styles** on 01245-469713 or **David Brown** on 01245465052. Please place your order for tickets as soon as possible.

SOCIETY NEWS

- Congratulations to **Margo and John Williams** who recently celebrated their **Golden Wedding**.
- We send our congratulations and best wishes to **Cynthia and John Styles** on the occasion of their **Ruby Wedding** on the 22nd December 2010.

May your Christmas be happy, peaceful and enjoyable. I hope that all those members who have been ill will soon be restored to good health.

Cofion Cynnes.
Mair Thomas

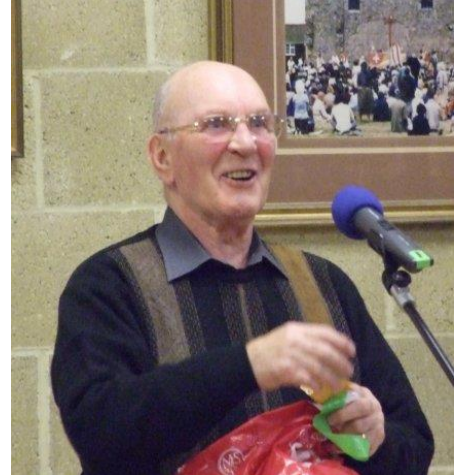
Meeting and Activities Report December 2010

DATHLU NADOLIG

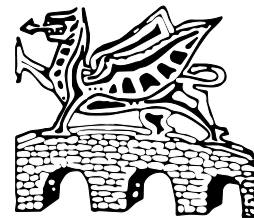
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The Christmas meeting was held on December 16th and was a well attended meeting even though snow and ice was forecast. Following the meeting formalities, President Jim Armishaw presented a bouquet of flowers, on behalf of the society to Cynthia and John Styles in celebration of their Ruby Wedding. Cynthia is a long standing member of the society and a valued committee member. She has been society president on three occasions, the first being in 1984/5. Cynthia and John also donated wine for the festive supper.

Doreen Potter provided the evening's entertainment. Doreen, a talented pianist, is the accompanist of the Essex Police Choir. She also has a great story telling talent. She told amusing stories of her new house and meetings with the neighbours, and her escapade in Chelmsford Cathedral on the installation of a lay reader friend. She gave a recital on the piano and also, in the vein of Joyce Grenfell, read some poetry. There was a grand Christmas raffle which was drawn during the festive refreshment break. Following the interval Doreen Potter accompanied the assembled members in %community+carol singing with members of the society giving appropriate readings in between. Three members Ken Lee, Gareth Williams, and Mike Price displayed their musical talents and sang the lead to %We Three Kings+. The society would like to thank Doreen Potter for her fun and enthusiasm, for Brian Thomas for his excellent but tricky table quiz and the ladies of the catering committee for an excellent supper.



CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



Secretary: Mair Thomas 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD Tel: 01245-269845

JANUARY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS IONAWR 2011

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA - HAPPY NEW YEAR

The President, **Jim Armishaw**, and members of the committee wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year and wish to thank you for your support during 2010. The Christmas Meeting held in December 2010 attracted a full house in spite of the bitterly cold weather. The evening proved to be most enjoyable with guest entertainer, **Doreen Potter**, providing amusing poems and stories. The catering sub-committee provided a tasty finger buffet. We thank **Cynthia** and **John Styles** for providing wine in celebration of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary. We look forward to a busy and successful 2011. Details of the January Monthly Meeting are listed below.

'NOSWAITH O ADLONIAINT GYMRAEG'

AN EVENING OF HOMESPUN ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, 27th January 2011 in the Cathedral Chapter House,
7.30pm for a prompt 8pm start.

Jim Armishaw is organising the evening and he will be at home awaiting your call to notify him that you are prepared to participate in this homespun evening of entertainment. Don't delay - ring him today on **01245-281162**. Please remember that your contribution should have a strong **Welsh flavour**. He already has some willing volunteers. **Jim** has introduced a competition for a poem or piece of prose on the theme 'The New Year'. Entries either in English or Welsh should be sent to **Jim** at **38A Chignal Rd, Chelmsford CM1 2JB** by the **22nd January 2011**. You should put a **nom-de-plume** on your entry **NOT** your name. This is to avoid any bobbling of the adjudicators!

The refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Vera Thomas, Agnes Evans, Renee Foster** and **Dot Curtis**. Thank you for your generosity in providing quality raffle prizes during 2010 and for purchasing raffle tickets.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. **Carys Williams** (membership secretary) thanks you all for paying your subscriptions so promptly. We are assuming that those who wish to be members have now paid. Therefore, in order to minimise expenditure, delivery of the monthly newsletter will cease as from **February 2011** for those who have sadly not rejoined.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS TEA held on Sunday, 12th December 2010. **Brian** and I are delighted to thank the **37** members and friends who attended this event and those who generously made donations. Our house was full to capacity. The grand sum of **£232** was raised for **JS Charity**. The event concluded with some splendid carol singing accompanied by **Ivy Price** on digital piano.

St. DAVID'S DAY DINNER - Friday 25th February 2011 in the County Hotel, Chelmsford at 7.15pm. Tickets for this prestigious event are now available from **Cynthia Styles** at a cost of **£28.50** 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 **Monday, 21st February 2010** in order for the table plan to be constructed. We will be joined by the **Mayor** and **Mayoress** of **Chelmsford**. 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, 27th February 2011. 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.

WEST WALES VISIT - 19th - 22nd May 2011. Those members making this visit are reminded that full payment should be made by cheque (payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society) to **Brian Thomas** before the end of February 2011. The **final payment** is **£150** per person in double or twin bedrooms and **£180** per person for single rooms. This excludes the deposit of **£50** which has already been paid.

WELSH CLASSES. The next Welsh class will be held at **Roxwell Green Farm** on **Monday, 10th January 2011** at 2pm. Further details from **Shirley Moody** on **01245-248178**

SOCIETY NEWS

- I am sad to inform you that **Betty Hammond** was taken ill on Christmas Eve at her daughter's home. She is now a patient at **Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge** and is in a critical condition. If you wish to enquire as to her progress you can ring **Hazel** and **Mick Hammond** on **01245-421870**.

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

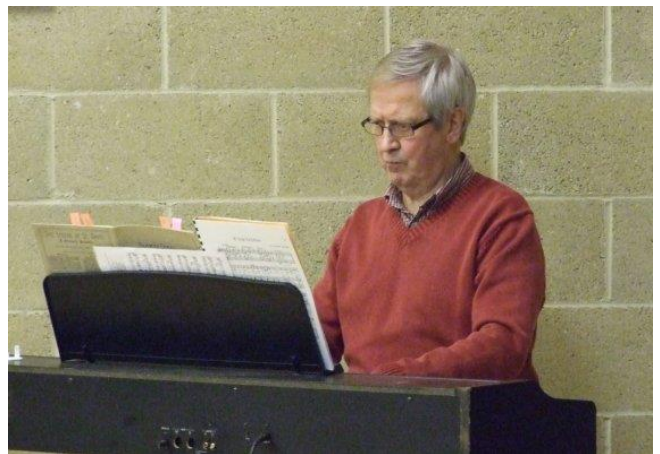
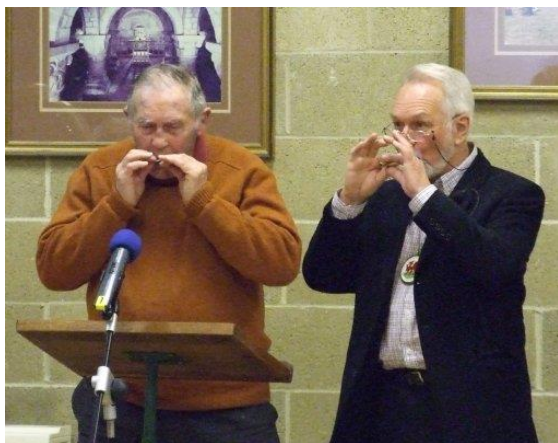
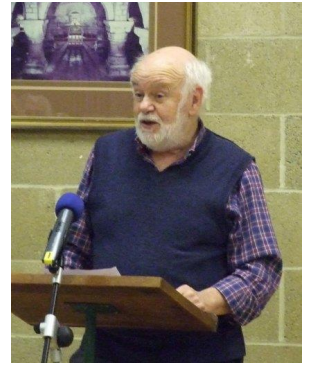
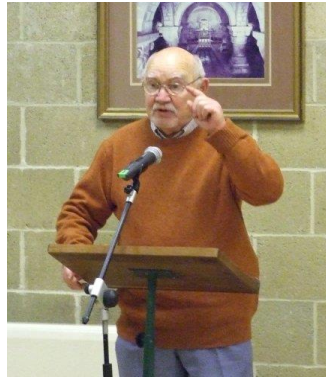
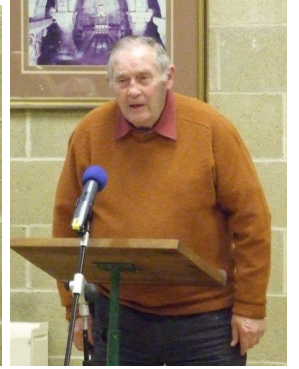
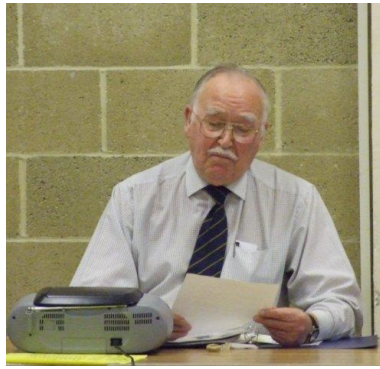
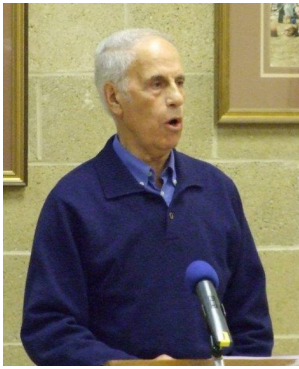
Cofion Cynnes.
Mair Thomas

Meeting and Activities Report January 2011

NOSWAITH O ADLONIANT GYMRAEG

On Thursday, 27th January 2011 the Chelmsford & District Welsh Society held its annual 'Noswaith O Adloniant Gymraeg' (an evening of Welsh Entertainment), a homespun evening where the entertaining talents of the society's membership are aired. Before starting the entertainment we observed a one minutes silence in memory of our dear friend and member Betty Hammond who had died after a short illness. She will be missed by the society in so many ways.

This year we were blessed with two harpists Buddug Frank and Meinir Wyn Davies, a first at one of these evenings. They both gave us medleys of traditional Welsh songs. Margaret Cox gave us a background to the home life of Dylan Thomas and the effect his lifestyle had on other family members. Jim Allen then sang, 'There's Me and 'Half a Moment' from the pen of Andrew Lloyd Webber. Mike Price and Derrick Thomas had the audience laughing with their jokes. Derrick also played tunes on his harmonica, dueting on one song with the president who played Kazoo. Ken Lee sang the old spiritual 'Swing Low Sweet Chariot' and told us of the hidden coded meaning of the song. After the refreshment break the poetry competition was judged. This was themed on the topic, 'The new year'. Winner of the English poem was Jim Allen and the Welsh, Medwyn from the valleys. Other original poems were from the treasurer Eddie Alcock with verse about the characters on the committee, and Arthur Williams whose poem featured Shirley Moody's dog. Arthur was then joined by his wife Carys for a song about a pig! Humour came from nearer to Chelmsford when David Brown read two Richard Digance poems, 'The Reliant Grand Prix' and 'The Pub'. Wynford James read some nostalgic prose and verse that originated in the South Wales valleys. The evening ended with a medley of Welsh tunes played by Keith Byatt on the piano and culminated in the singing of the Welsh National Anthem.



CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



Secretary: **Mair Thomas** 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD Tel: 01245-269845

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS CHWEFROR 2011

Annwyl Gyfeillion/ Dear Friends,

It is with great sorrow that I inform you that on Thursday, 20th January 2011 **Betty Hammond** died at the Addenbrookes Hospital Cambridge. Betty was born in Clarboston Road, Pembrokeshire and she was very proud of her Welsh roots. She trained as a nurse, met Ron and they were married in 1962. Betty was an active and loyal member of our society for many years. She served on the committee for 25 years, was President in two occasions and also served as treasurer. Over the past few years she has been responsible for organising our church services and acting as MC at the St. David's Day dinners. She will be greatly missed by everyone. Our meetings and events will not be the same without her presence. We extend to Ron, John, Angela, Cally and all the family our very deepest sympathy at the loss of a much loved wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and sister. Betty's funeral will be held on **Tuesday, 8th February 2011 at 2pm in St. Andrews Church, Heybridge, CM9 4NB** followed by the committal at **Chelmsford Crematorium at 3.30pm**. The family would be delighted to see society members at these services.

What a great evening the society had on Thursday, 27th January 2011 at the 'Noswaith O Adloniant'. Many members attended this entertaining evening. For the first time ever two harpists. **Meinir** and **Buddug** attended and enthralled the audience as they played their beautiful instruments. **Elfed Owen** recorded the entertainment and he will be selling DVD copies at the February meeting with the proceeds going to the President's charity. **Jim Armishaw** wishes to thank everyone who performed at this event and those who submitted poems. Details of the next monthly meeting are listed below:

'HEL ACHAU III'

Thursday, February 17th 2011 in the Cathedral Chapter House,
7.30pm for a prompt 8pm start
Please note that this meeting is one week earlier than usual.

We are pleased to welcome back **Elfed Owen** with the third part of his research work into his family history. This will be an illustrated talk and I feel sure that it will be as most professional and impressive as **Elfed's** previous presentations which were acclaimed as being of the highest quality. This is an evening not to miss! The refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Gwyneth Abbott, Cynthia Styles** and **Mair Thomas**.

CHARITY COFFEE MORNING in aid of J's hosted by **Liz and Jim Armishaw** at 38A Chignal Rd. Chelmsford on **Saturday, 5th February at 10.30am**. Please make every effort to attend this charity event. It would be most gratifying to see some new faces at this event. And of course the regulars! Do come along and support this worthy charity and enjoy the company of fellow members and friends. Raffle prizes most welcome.

St. DAVID'S DAY DINNER - Friday 25th February 2011 in the County Hotel, Chelmsford at 7.15pm for seating at 7.30pm.

Tickets for this prestigious event are still available from **Cynthia Styles** at a cost of **£28.50** 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** or obtain them at the February monthly meeting. A vegetarian option is available. Ticket orders are required before **Monday, 21st February 2011** in order for the table plan to be constructed. Musical entertainment will be provided prior to and after the meal.

St. DAVID'S DAY SERVICE, Sunday, 27th February 2011. This annual service will be held at **Little Baddow URC at 3.30pm**. The **Rev. Rowland Webb** will officiate in place of the **Rev. Dr. Cally Hammond**. I am sure that you will all understand how difficult it would be for **Cally** to lead the service at what is a most difficult and emotional time for her and all the family. We thank **Rowland** for agreeing to replace **Cally**. **diolch yn fawr Rowland**. 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.

WEST WALES VISIT - 19th - 22nd May 2011. Those members making this visit are reminded that full payment should be made by cheque (payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society) to **Brian Thomas** before the end of **February 2011**. The **final payment** is **£150** per person in double or twin bedrooms and **£180** per person for single rooms. This excludes the deposit of **£50** which has already been paid. Many thanks to all those who have already paid. There are still 4 places available - should anyone wish to join us please ring **Brian** on **01245-269845**.

WELSH CLASSES. The next Welsh class will be held at Roxwell Green Farm on Monday 14th February 2011 at 2pm. **Arthur Williams** is taking the classes which are much enjoyed by those attending. Further details from Shirley Moody on **01245-248178**
Cofion Cynnes.
Mair Thomas

Meeting and Activities Report February 2011

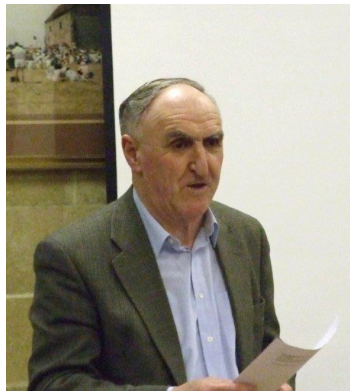
HEL ACHAU III

The February meeting of the Chelmsford & District Welsh Society featured two society members, both of whom were researching their family histories. Elfed Owen over the past five years has given two previous presentations on the progress of his research into his family tree. The first talk traced his ancestors back to the mid 18th century where he came up against a 'brick wall'. On a visit to North Wales he discovered a book, published at the turn of the last century, on the emigration of Welsh Quakers to Pennsylvania. He was then able to further his research back to 887 and the Welsh prince Hywel Dda. This was explained in his second fascinating presentation given two years later.

Since then he has furthered his research and at this month's meeting he outlined the amazing coincidences that had happened during his quest. Perhaps one of the most amazing was to find that he was related to Society member Derrick Thomas. Both of their forefathers were Quakers and had emigrated to Pennsylvania. Elfed then went on to outline the history of Thomas Allan Glenn, the author of the book that gave him the key to his American ancestors. Glenn was the great grandson of one of the early Welsh settlers and had a distinguished military career in both the American and British Army, but still found time to write many books on genealogy and archaeology.

After the break Derrick Thomas gave a short illustrated talk on his family history which had been carefully researched by his daughter Ceri Johnston and her friend Roma Chatt. His family tree was traced back to show that he was a descendant of Jestyn ap Gwyrant, the last prince of Glamorgan.

Elfed Owen then rounded off the evening with the fascinating illustrated story of the life of Wales's last true princess, Gwenllïan only child of Llewelyn the Last. Her mother had died in childbirth and her father was killed in a battle with forces of Edward I at Cilmeri, near Builth. Gwenllïan was taken from her cradle and subsequently placed in the care of the Prior and Prioress of St Mary's priory at Sempringham in Lincolnshire. She was held there under virtual 'house arrest' as a nun until her death fifty-four years later on June 7th 1337.



ST DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

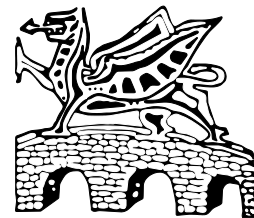
On 25th February over 80 members and friends, including the Mayor and Mayoress of Chelmsford, dined at the County Hotel Chelmsford to celebrate Saint David's Day. The Guest speaker was John Taylor, Musical Director of the Chelmsford Male Voice Choir and born in mid Wales. He talked of his early life in Wales and his service with the Metropolitan and Essex Police. Toasts were made to the Queen, St David, the Society and to the Guests. Entertainment was supplied by husband-and-wife duo Ken and Rachel Bartels on flute and harp respectively. The evening inevitably ended in communal singing of some favourite Welsh songs.

On Sunday 27th February, St David's day celebrations continued with a church service at Little Baddow URC, presided over by society member Father Rowland Webb.





CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



Secretary: Mair Thomas 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD Tel: 01245-269845

MARCH NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MAWRTH 2011

Annwyl Gyfeillion / Dear Friends,

The past week has been a busy one for our society. We celebrated the life of our patron saint . **David**, with a dinner and a church service. The dinner held at the County Hotel was attended by 84 people and they enjoyed a fine meal and excellent entertainment. We thank **Cynthia Styles** and **David Brown** for organising such a successful event; **Shirley Moody** for providing the beautiful floral arrangements; **Rachel** and **Ken Bartels** for their delightful musical input; our speakers and **Brian Thomas** for acting as MC. The **Mayor and Mayoress of Chelmsford** were in attendance and they were most impressed with what they described as a wonderful evening. The following is a short extract from their letter of thanks . The most memorable aspect of the evening was the whole ambience with its friendly conversation, humorous speeches and lovely music. We thank the **Rev. Rowland Webb** for officiating at our St. David's Day Service at Little Baddow URC. **Rowland** kindly replaced the **Rev. Dr. Cally Hammond** who felt too emotional to carry out her customary duties following the sad and unexpected death of her mother, **Betty**. However, it was good to see **Cally** and her dad **Ron**, at the service. The February monthly meeting was well attended and **Elfed Owen** gave us *Hel Achau* III. This was delivered in his usual highly professional manner and the evening was much enjoyed by all present. **Derrick Thomas** also gave a short talk on the history of his family which had been researched by his daughter **Ceri** and her friend. *Diolch yn fawr i'g ddau*.

Details of the next meeting are listed below.

Presentation on Aberfan'

given by Mrs Pat Beddoe

Thursday, 24th March 2011 7.30pm for an 8pm start

Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House.

Mrs. Pat Beddoe, who hails from Rhymney, is giving this presentation which takes the form of a film/DVD. She replaces **Gloria Davies** who is unable to come. We all remember that terrible day on Friday 21st October 1966 when **116 children** and **28 adults** lost their lives following the horrific coal tip landslide. The film is concerned with the women of Aberfan and how they dealt with the aftermath of this tragedy. I hope that you will be able to support this event.

Refreshments and raffle prizes will be provided by **Shirley Moody**, **June Jones** and **Pat Murray**.

CHARITY COFFEE MORNING. The charity coffee morning held on Saturday, 5th February and hosted by **Liz** and **Jim Armishaw** raised **£179** for **J's Charity**. We thank them both for their generous hospitality and all those members who supported the event.

ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT, Saturday 4th June 2011 at Chelmsford Cathedral at 7.30pm. The concert will be given by **Trelawnyd Male Voice Choir** with guest soloist **Andrew Rees** (tenor). Tickets costing £13 are now available for this prestigious event and can be obtained from either **Eddie Alcock** . 01245-603448 or send a s.a.e. to **Eddie** at **5 Elms Drive Chelmsford CM1 1RH**; or from **Arthur Williams** 01621-778711 . **3 Engelfields South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT**. Tickets will be available at the March monthly meeting. This early notification means that members will have an opportunity of priority booking. **Please book early** and support this concert which is always a wonderful musical experience. If concerts are to continue . **YOUR** support is needed!

CHARITY COFFEE MORNING hosted by **Carys** and **Arthur Williams** at their home . **3 Engelfields South St. Tillingham on Wednesday, 11th May 2011 at 10.30am**. You are all cordially invited to attend and hopefully a large contingent of members and friends will make the journey to **Tillingham** where you can be assured of a warm welcome. This is the last of our charity events . please make every effort to attend.

WEST WALES VISIT – 19th - 22nd May 2011. **Brian** wishes to thank everyone for paying so promptly and he will be advising those travelling of details nearer the departure date. One early piece of news is that we will all leave **Radley Green Farm** at **8am**. **Don** and **Shirley Moody** have kindly arranged for us to safely park our cars at the farm.

WELSH CLASSES. The next Welsh class will be held at **Radley Green Farm** on **Monday 7th 2011** at 2pm. **Arthur Williams** is taking the classes which are much enjoyed by those attending. Further details from **Shirley Moody** on **01245-248178**.

ADVANCE NOTICE – SONGS of PRAISE / CYMANFA GANU to be held at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell on Sunday 8th May 2011 at 2.30pm. The conductor will be the **Rev. Eddie Carden** and the organist is **Keith Byatt**. Tea will be served after the singing festival on the church lawn. The church congregation will be joining us for what promises to be a nostalgic afternoon where we can all sing some old favourites. Put the details in your diary and encourage family and friends to attend.

SOCIETY NEWS. Sadly we have many members who are unwell. **Elizabeth Peters** from Maldon has been a patient at Broomfield Hospital but is now at home. **Maggie Cranmer** has broken her femur and is also at home but is going to be immobile for quite a while. **Pam Gillespie** has completed her hospital treatment and is now making a good recovery at home. We wish them all well and look forward to seeing them at a meeting or event in the near future.

- On a happier note, congratulations to **Marie** and **Eddie Alcock** who have a new great grandson - **Thomas Edward Phillips**. Congratulations to **Kate** and **David**.

Cofion Cynnes.
Mair Thomas

Meeting and Activities Report March 2011

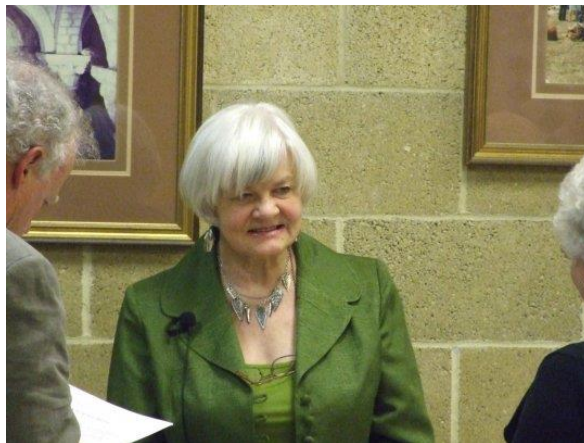
ABERFAN & the ABERFAN WIVES

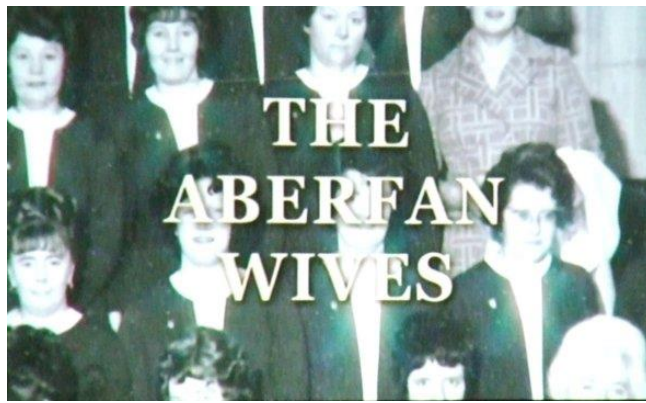
At the March meeting of the Chelmsford & District Welsh Society we welcomed Mrs Pat Beddoe, from Rhymney, who gave a presentation on the Aberfan disaster. She gave a brief résumé of the tragedy in 1966 when 116 children and 28 adults lost their lives following the horrific coal tip landslide. For 50 years, coal waste from the local mine had been dumped on the mountain side high above the village. Its structure weakened by underground streams and several days of heavy rain caused tip number seven to collapse engulfing part of the village including the primary school. The retelling of this disaster, well within living memory, proved a harrowing experience for all those present.

There followed two films about the aftermath centred on the women of the village. A concert, to be given by the children of the village, was to have been staged some while after the tragic event but it was thought to be not prudent to proceed under the circumstances. However several of the village's women thought that the event should go ahead, and slowly, many minds were focused on staging the concert. This successfully took place and led to the formation of a women's group known as the 'Aberfan Wives'. This group was able to give each other much needed 'therapy' in the days before post traumatic stress therapy was even thought a necessity. The group grew and met weekly, providing companionship, an opportunity to share their grief, and at the same time help to raise money for many good causes.

The second film was of a royal acknowledgement of the 'Aberfan Wives' on the 40th anniversary of the tragedy. After a letter to the Queen asking for the event to be recognized, an offer of tickets to visit Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle was made. Following a return phone call it was decided by the Palace that 26 members could be admitted to one of the Queen's garden parties. This was an unusual occurrence as it is normal for the Queen to invite only individuals or couples to these events. The film showed the group's journey to and from the palace and their experiences at the garden party where four members were selected to meet the Queen and a further four to meet Prince Charles.

Mrs Beddoe was given a society goblet in recognition of making the journey from Wales to give such a poignant presentation.





CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



Secretary: Mair Thomas 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD Tel: 01245-269845

APRIL / NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS EBRILL 2011

Annwyl Gyfeillion / Dear Friends,

I am sure that those of you who attended the last meeting reflected on sad memories of that disastrous day in 1966 when the Aberfan disaster occurred. However, our guest speaker, Pat Beddoe, made a most sensitive and dignified presentation of the events of that day and the aftermath. It was wonderful to hear of the fortitude and courage shown by the people of the valley, especially the wives and mothers. Details of the April meeting and other future events are listed below:

*Presentation - Glyndebourne Part II by Bob Theobald,
Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, Thursday, 28th April 2011 at 7.30pm for
8pm*

Bob Theobald is returning to continue his illustrated talk on the development and history of Opera at Glyndebourne. His first talk proved to be both interesting and fascinating and we are delighted that he is returning to continue his story. Those who attended his previous talk were well pleased with what they heard and requested more! Let us fill the Chapter House for this meeting. The refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Barbara James, Hazel Hammond, Margaret Shannahan and Carys Williams**.

Thank you all for offering extra raffle prizes at our monthly meetings.

A CHARITY COFFEE MORNING will be hosted by **Carys and Arthur Williams** at their home . **3 Engelfields South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT on Wednesday, 11th May 2011 at 10.30am**. You are all cordially invited to attend and hopefully a large contingent of members and friends will make the journey to **Tillingham** where you can be assured of a warm welcome. This is the last of our charity events for the society year . please make every effort to attend. If anyone needs a lift please phone me and I shall endeavour to arrange this for you. Give the hosts a ring if you require directions . **01621-778711**. Raffle prizes graciously received.

ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT, Saturday 4th June 2011 at Chelmsford Cathedral at 7.30pm. The concert will be given by **Trelawnyd Male Voice Choir** with guest soloist **Andrew Rees** (tenor). Tickets costing **£13** are now available for this prestigious event and can be obtained from either **Eddie Alcock . 01245-603448** or send a s.a.e. to **Eddie at 5 Elms Drive Chelmsford CM1 1RH**; or from **Arthur Williams 01621-778711 . 3 Engelfields South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT**. Tickets are now on sale to the general public . so get your order in as soon as possible. **Please book early** and support this concert which is always a wonderful musical experience. If concerts are to continue . **YOUR** support is needed! Our overheads for this event are in excess of **£5000!** We need to sell **500 tickets** to ensure a profit. If every member could sell just **3 tickets each**, we would be part of the way for a full house.

SOCIETY TREASURER Our long serving treasurer, **Eddie Alcock**, will be resigning at the June AGM. We thank **Eddie** for the tremendous work he has undertaken on behalf of the society. The society is now looking for a replacement. If you are interested and / or want to know more about the role, please ring **Eddie** on 01245 603448.

WEST WALES VISIT – 19th - 22nd May 2011. **Brian Thomas** has prepared an **information brochure** for this visit and he will distribute these at the April monthly meeting or if you are not at the meeting he will send it with the May Newsletter. **We leave Radley Green Farm at 8am** so please try to get to the farm by **7.45am** . thus ensuring a prompt departure. This will be the only pick-up point. Some of you have asked if it is possible for some of your relatives and friends to join us in the Ivy Bush Royal Hotel for an evening meal. The hotel can accommodate such requests as long as they are notified on the morning of the requested day.

WELSH CLASSES. The next Welsh class will be held at **Radley Green Farm** on **Monday, 11th April 2011 at 2pm.** **Arthur Williams** is taking the classes and he is well pleased with the progress of his dedicated pupils.. Further details from **Shirley Moody** on **01245-248178.**

SONGS of PRAISE / CYMANFA GANU to be held at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell on Sunday 8th May 2011 at 2.30pm. The conductor will be the **Rev. Eddie Carden** and the accompanist is **Keith Byatt.** Tea will be served after the singing festival on the church lawn (weather permitting). The church congregation will be joining us for what promises to be an afternoon where we can all sing some favourite Welsh and English hymns. Come in droves and bring your friends for a nostalgic journey down memory lane. Lifts can be arranged. Last year the church members outnumbered society members . let us ensure a grand turn out this year by our members and their friends.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT – please note that the May and June 2011 monthly meetings will be held on a WEDNESDAY not the usual Thursday. May 25th – Siôn and Siân; June 22nd – AGM.

Have a most enjoyable Easter.

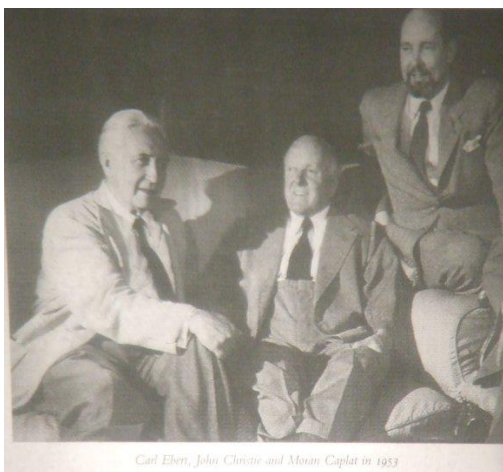
Cofion Cynnes.
Mair Thomas

Meeting and Activities Report April 2011

GLYNDEBOURNE Part Two, with Bob Theobald

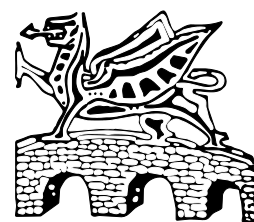
The April meeting of the Chelmsford & District Welsh Society was opened by the singing of Unwaith Eto'n Nghymru Annwyl. The president Jim Armishaw then urged members to make every effort to sell the remaining tickets for the Male Voice Choir concert to be held on June 4th. This would ensure the concert's future. He then introduced Mr Bob Theobald who gave the society part two of his illustrated presentation on the world famous Glyndebourne Festival in East Sussex. He also augmented his talk by playing various operatic recordings. Founder John Christie built an opera house next to his country house with a plan to stage opera of the very highest possible quality. To achieve this Christie employed, at some considerable expense, a permanent team. He hired Fritz Busch as his musical director, Carl Ebert as artistic director and Rudolf Bing as general manager, a man skilled in attracting big names to the opera. The first paying night at Glyndebourne saw 54 in the audience for Mozart's *Così fan Tutti*, but by the end of the fortnight it was being attended by a capacity audience. Although about £7,000 pounds out of pocket on the first season, Christie was soon making plans for the second. The festival was suspended during the War, but after 1945 it slowly began to build up again. In 1952, the Glyndebourne Festival Society was formed to take over the financial management of the event, which John Christie had previously financed out of his own pocket. Following John Christie's death in 1962 his son George (later Sir George) took over. In 1994 the new, current theatre, was opened with a capacity of 1200 seats. Bob must be congratulated on the careful research that must have been carried out to present such an interesting and absorbing presentation.





Carl Ebert, John Christie and Mosam Caplan in 1953

CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



Secretary: Mair Thomas 5 Milligans Chase Galleywood Chelmsford CM2 8QD Tel: 01245-269845

MAY / NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MAI 2011

Annwyl Gyfeillion /Dear Friends,

I should like to give a very big thank you to all those members who supported the April monthly meeting. Bob Theobald, was most pleased with the attendance for his second talk on 'The Development of Opera at Glyndebourne'. His presentation was both informative and interesting. Listed below are coming events which I hope you will be able to support.

'Siôn a Siân'

With Arthur Williams and Volunteers
Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House

Wednesday, 25th May 2011 at 7.30pm for 8pm - please note the change to
Wednesday

The game show **Siôn a Siân** will be organised by **Arthur Williams** together with volunteers from our membership. Please come and join us for an evening of what promises to be great fun and laughter.

The refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Gwyneth Abbott, Marlene Jeffrey** and **Edith Brown**.

ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT, Saturday 4th June 2011 at Chelmsford Cathedral at 7.30pm. The concert will be given by **Trelawnyd Male Voice Choir** with guest soloist **Andrew Rees** (tenor). Tickets costing **£13** are still available for this prestigious event and can be obtained from either **Eddie Alcock . 01245-603448** or send a s.a.e. to **Eddie at 5 Elms Drive Chelmsford CM1 1RH**; or from **Arthur Williams 01621-778711 . 3 Engelfields South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT**. Ticket sales are going well but we still have **100 tickets** to sell . so we hope that you will encourage all your family and friends to attend this annual event. If concerts are to continue . **YOUR support is needed!**

SONGS of PRAISE / CYMANFA GANU to be held at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell on Sunday 8th May 2011 at 2.30pm. The conductor will be the **Rev. Eddie Carden** and the accompanist is **Keith Byatt**. Tea will be served after the singing festival on the church lawn (weather permitting). The church congregation will be joining us for what promises to be an afternoon where we can all sing favourite Welsh and English hymns. Lifts can be arranged. Last year the church members outnumbered society members . let us ensure a grand turn out this year by our members and their friends. Hope you receive this newsletter before the event!

A CHARITY COFFEE MORNING in the COUNTRY which will be hosted by **Carys** and **Arthur Williams** at their home . **3 Engelfields South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT on Wednesday, 11th May 2011 at 10.30am.** You are all cordially invited to attend this event being held in the delightful Essex village of Tillingham. This is the last of our charity events for the society year . please make every effort to attend. If anyone needs a lift please phone me and I shall endeavour to arrange this for you. Give the hosts a ring if you require directions . **01621-778711**. Raffle prizes graciously received.

WEST WALES VISIT – 19th - 22nd May 2011. The coach is full, the hotel and excursions booked and an information brochure for the visit has been distributed. We leave **Radley Green Farm at 8am** so please try to get there by **7.45am**. Some of you have

asked if it is possible for some of your relatives and friends to join us in the Ivy Bush Royal Hotel for an evening meal. The hotel can accommodate such requests as long as they are notified on the morning of the requested day. If you have guests for the **Thursday** evening please let **Brian Thomas** know so that he can inform the hotel on the 18th May 2011.

WELSH CLASSES. The next Welsh class will be held at **Radley Green Farm** on **Monday, 23rd May 2011 at 2pm.** Further details can be obtained from **Shirley Moody** on **01245-248178.**

SUMMER SERVICE at **LITTLE BADDOW URC** on **Sunday, 19th June 2011 at 10.30am.** Please support this annual event . give me a ring if you require a lift. **The Rev. Michael Powell** will officiate.

ADVANCE INFORMATION The society will be celebrating its **Golden Jubilee** during the next society year 2011-12. Our president elect, **Carys Williams**, is hoping that it will be a year to remember. The first event will be a **Golden Jubilee Garden Party** on **Saturday, 25th June 2011 at 2.30pm at Radley Green Farm.** **Shirley** and **Don Moody** are once again allowing us the use of their beautiful garden. Please put this date in your diary **NOW!**

SOCIETY NEWS

- Congratulations to **Pat and Jim Allen** who have recently celebrated their **Diamond Wedding Anniversary** and to **Renee Foster** who will soon be celebrating her **90th birthday.**
- Many of our members have been unwell and we hope that they will all feel very much better very soon. **Elizabeth Peters, Renee Foster** and **Maggie Cranmer** have been unable to attend our monthly meetings for several months. I know that they miss the meetings - and that we all miss them.

Cofion Cynnes.

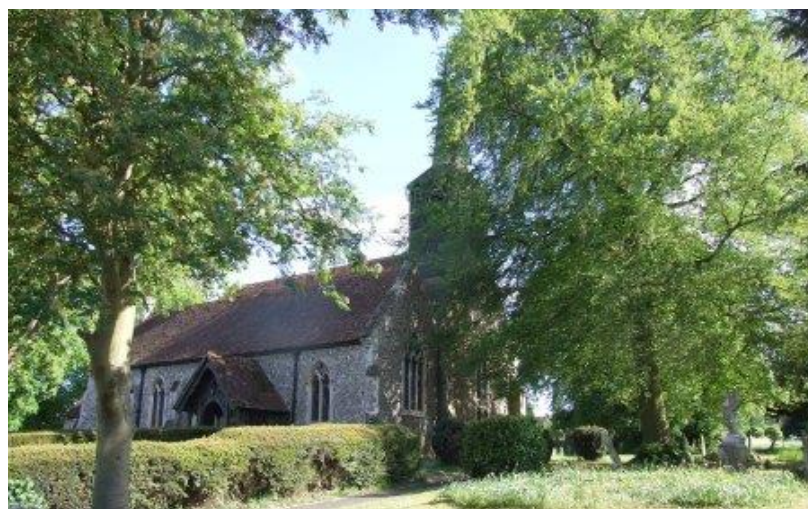
Mair Thomas

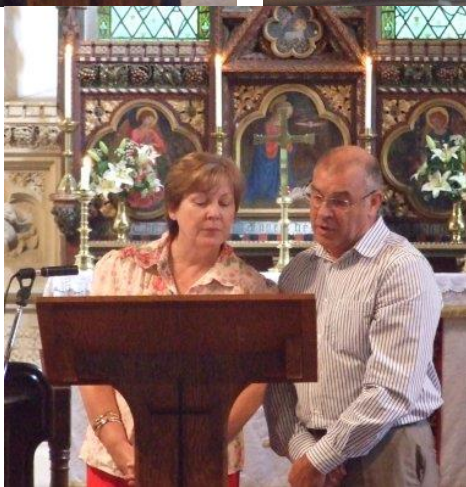
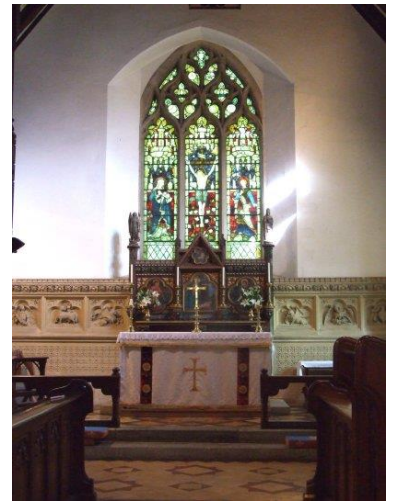
Meeting and Activities Report May 2011

CYMANFA GANU

On Sunday May 8th the society joined with members of St Michael and all Angels church in Roxwell for a Songs of Praise / Cymaifa Ganu. This was organised by Mrs Shirley Moody, parishioner, and society member.

The hymns were selected by members of the congregation and by members of the Welsh society. The Rev. Eddie Carden led the singing with accompanist Keith Byatt. This very enjoyable event concluded with tea and cakes on the church lawn. The society thanked all those responsible at the church for allowing its use and for their help to make the afternoon such a success with particular appreciation of the beautiful Welsh themed floral arrangements.







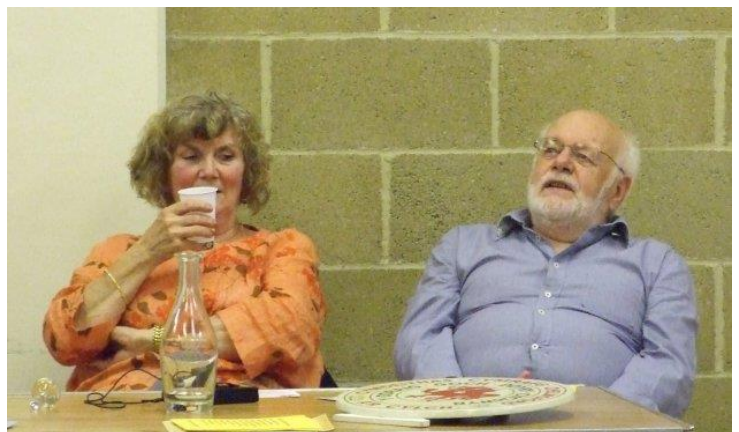
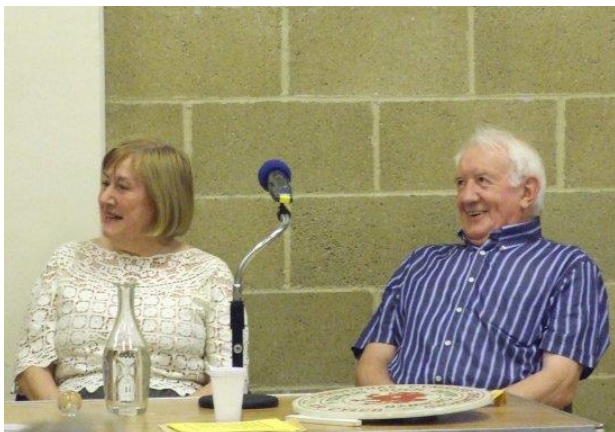
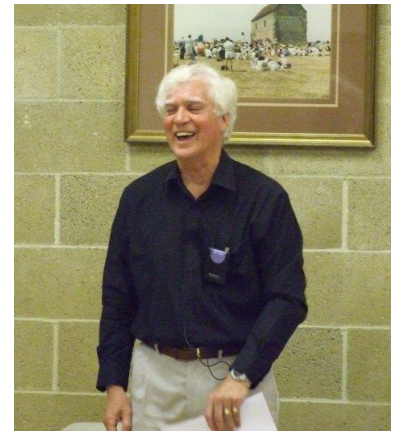
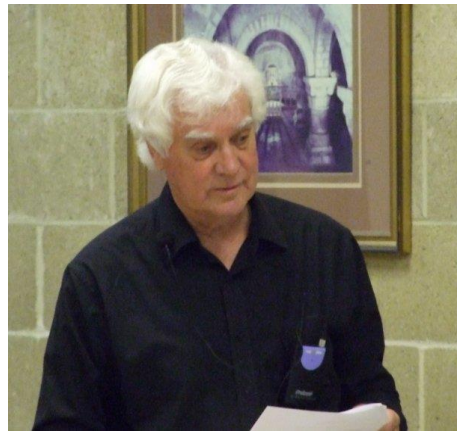
Meeting and Activities Report May 2011

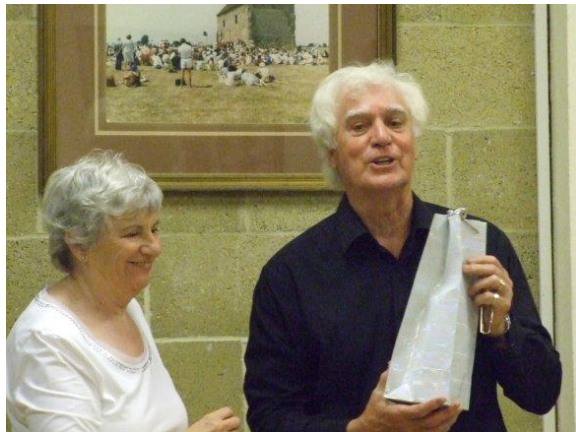
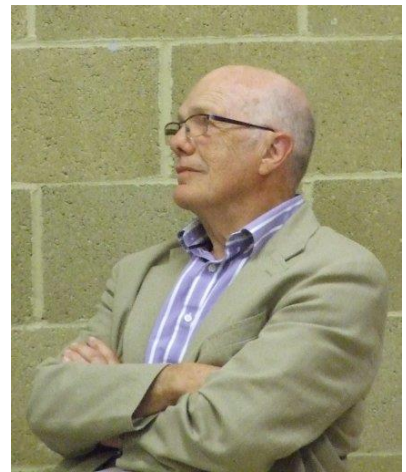
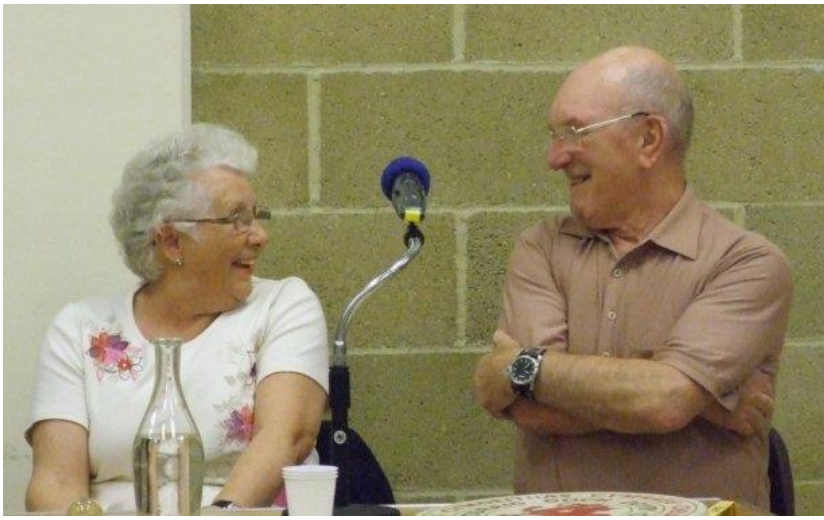
Coffee Morning, West Wales Trip to Carmarthen & Siôn A Siân

On Wednesday 11th May vice president Carys Williams and husband Arthur hosted a Coffee Morning in their home in the delightful village of Tillingham. This was one of the last events organised in aid of the Jc Hospice, the society's current charity, and added close to two hundred pounds to the fund. The Jc will be presented with a cheque for the total raised at the society's AGM.

On 19th to 22nd May fifty members, friends and guests made the journey to Carmarthen in south west Wales. Visits had been organised to Dylan Thomas's Boat House at Laugharne, the National Botanic Garden of Wales and the wonderfully restored Aberglasney House and Gardens, but probably the most popular was a visit to Britain's smallest city, St David's and a guided tour of the magnificent cathedral. The after dinner entertainment each evening included a tenor soloist, a harpist and some homespun amusement.

At the monthly meeting held on Wednesday 25th, members Pat and Jim Allen were presented with a bouquet of flowers to celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Members were pleased to learn that the Male Voice Choir concert at the Cathedral was to be to a capacity audience, with only a few tickets remaining. There then followed a highly amusing quiz game 'Siôn A Siân' organised and presented by Arthur Williams. A lot of information was gleaned on the personal life, habits and intimacies of quite a few society personalities as they competed in this version of the popular 'Mr & Mrs' game show.





Trip to Carmarthen

Thursday 19th May 2011

Our annual "outing" is a four day, three night visit to Carmarthen.

Trevor, by popular demand, is our driver.

We are staying at the Ivy Bush Royal Hotel



8.00a.m departure from Chelmsford



Carmarthen Guildhall Square



Carmarthen Nott Square



Gwyneth Abbott celebrates her 80th birthday



Gwyneth cuts the cake and is very pleased with her gift of a love spoon



With Gethin Hughes (MBE) at the piano.....



...the conductor of the Llanelli Male Voice Choir, Eifion Thomas (tenor) entertains



We were pleased that our member Hillary Tucker who now lives in Bristol was able to join us on our break away in Wales.

Friday 20th May 2011
Visit to Laugharne and Dylan Thomas's Boathouse and Britain's
smallest city, St David's



Off the bus at Laugharne



over the stone bridge



and round the castle



and climb the steps to Dylan Thomas's boathouse



Newgale Sands with Ramsey Island in the far distance



The Square at St Davids



St David's Cathedral

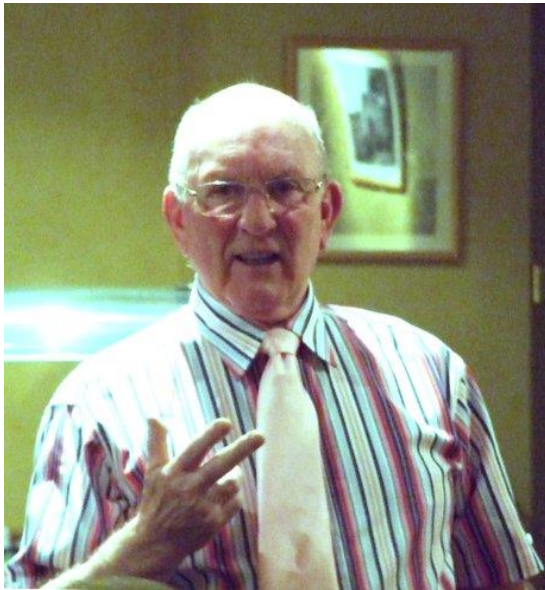
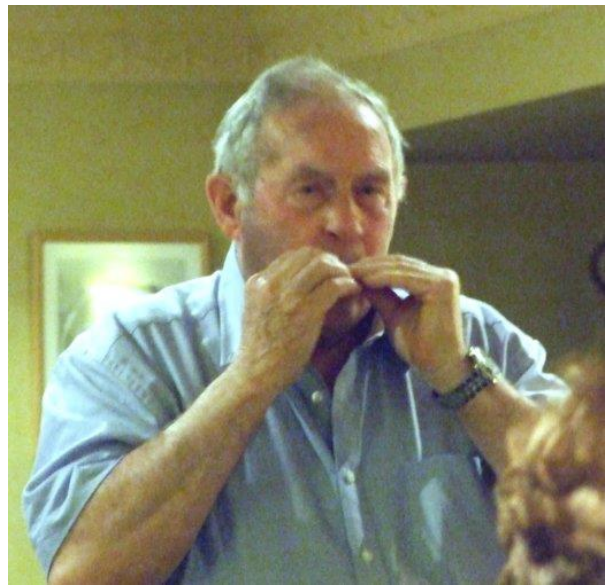


Our after dinner entertainment is provided by a very talented 17 year old harpist, Helen Haf.
Remember where you saw her first!!

Saturday 21st May 2011
Visit to the National Botanic Garden of Wales & Aberglasny House and Garden



Inside the "dome" at the National Botanic Gardens of Wales
Photos Chris Abbot



Society members and friends entertain us on the last evening



Strange things happen when Irish rugby fans join our last evening sing-song in the hotel bar

The Annual Concert

Trelawnyd Male Choir

supported by Andrew Rees (Tenor)

On 4th June 2011 the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society staged its ever-popular annual male choir concert.

This year the featured choir was the Trelawnyd Male Choir from the Rhyl area of North Wales. The doors of Chelmsford Cathedral opened at 6.45p.m with a queue that extended onto Tindal Square. All 500 seats were filled well before the 7.30 p.m. start. The choir's organ accompanist, John Hosking, provided an excellent pre-concert recital. He is assistant organist at St Asaph Cathedral and has travelled worldwide as a recitalist and accompanist.

The Society president Mr Jim Armishaw introduced the choir, under their musical director, Geraint Roberts. They sang their first song 'What Would I Do Without My Music+', which set the pattern for an evening of exceptionally fine singing. Their repertoire included Negro spirituals, songs from grand opera and popular musicals and one or two of the traditional Welsh hymns that have a crescendo of 'Amen's+almost raising the cathedral roof. Other pieces included 'Si Hi Lwli Mabi'+a Welsh lullaby and Mozart's 'O Isis and Osiris'+

The soloist Andrew Rees from Carmarthen in West Wales is a highly sought after tenor, having performed worldwide. He has performed in all London's major concert halls including the Royal Opera House. He soon won over the audience with his superb singing and easy personality. His programme included operatic arias, songs from Ivor Novello, and other favourite numbers including 'Bugeilio'r Gwenith Gwyn'+and 'My Little Welsh Home'+. He has been described as 'an exciting tenor with voice to burnish gold' which he certainly lived up to. Chelmsford's own pianist, Claire Lowe, accompanist to the Chelmsford Male Voice Choir, ably accompanied him. The choir was welcomed to Chelmsford by Cllr. Mike Harris, Deputy Mayor with a most entertaining speech. He was secretly pleased that the Mayor had chosen to visit Annonay, Chelmsford's twin town, giving him the opportunity to attend what he described as a most wonderful event in the town's cultural calendar.

