



CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY

AUGUST NEWSLETTER CYLCHLYTHYR MIS AWST 2020

August President Chatter

Annwyl Gyfeillion

On Thursday 28th of July Carys, myself, Jim, Liz and Cynthia attended Ron Jones's funeral. Ron was so proud of being Welsh, and the service reflected this. Jean and the family "did him proud", with Welsh music and poetry read by his two grandsons, Gareth and Huw. The poem read by Huw, sent to Jean from Brian Thomas, describes beautifully what Ron would have wanted. It is called 'Afterglow'

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun;
Of happy memories that we leave when life is done.

Ron was a much loved and respected member of our Society and will be sorely missed.

We still do our shopping late on in the evening, and whilst driving to the supermarket the other evening, we saw the most magnificent rainbow. A complete semi-circle we both agreed it was the best we had seen for a long, long time.

Here is how to remember the colours in the correct sequence:-

Richard of York Gave Battle in Vain

We did not go to find the end of the rainbow, as I reminded Carys of Murphy's Law:-

If you travel to the end of the rainbow,
As dame fortune did intend,
Murphy would be there to tell you,
That the pot of gold is at the other end.

We had some very unwelcomed visitors the other week; we had a family of squirrels, father, mother and baby, who decided to make a nest in our loft. They had eaten their way through the plastic soffit to get in. We had one in the loft, about three years ago, and that sounded as if it was wearing hop nailed boots, so we called in the pest controller. He promptly confirmed that they were there, and had made a nest by removing some of the lagging off the water pipes. He set a trap and caught two of them. As he was taking the second one away, he said that it was getting stressed in the trap, I told him that it was not half as stressed as I was having to pay to get rid of them. He came back and fixed a wire mesh to close the hole, the third one is still on the loose and we now have a couple of traps in the trees in the garden, watch this space!.

Cofion cynnes, cadwch yn ddiogel

Arthur

An update from Anja Welsh Smyth

I have been giving my neglected garden a good going over, but having a few well-earned siestas when it gets too hot. I have laid out a rather large herbaceous border, digging, weeding, bark spreading, loose brick edging, swearing (privately, natch, no point in frightening my pious and kind neighbours!), and cutting down a yew that had grown ten feet. Doing that bit by bit as lots of branches but halfway there. Has taken me a good few months. Stops my being bored senseless. Husband thinks I'm daft, he thinks garden is fine - he is probably right.

Br Gildas will take his Solemn Vows privately in the Priory Chapel New London Rd on 21st August at 11 a.m. This is because of the Covid regulations but it will be live streamed on www.facebook.com/norbertines or youtube.com/Norbertines. He will be ordained Deacon on Sept 8th. but more details of that later. Let's hope restrictions will be lifted.

Many congratulations to Jim and Liz. 56 years, hard to believe and both looking so marvellous. You must have been barely out of nappies when you tied the knot. Ad multos annos!

Cofion
Anja x

Book review-by Kay Bright

No doubt lots of you have been reading avidly during lockdown, perhaps some old favourites, classics or new books. I had seen this book I am reviewing below featured in several newspaper and magazine articles and really wanted to read it. Not being a great online shopper, I waited for non-essential shops to re-open and got the last copy of this book at the wonderful new-ish bookshop in Maldon, just near All Saints Church (support your local businesses!). Hope you enjoy the review and, any books you have read and want to recommend to our members, why not review them so that we can make this a regular slot in our monthly newsletters?

The Salt Path by Raynor Winn

This story starts in Wales. Raynor Winn and her husband, Moth, lived on a large farm, had run a successful business for many years, including the farm and a holiday business. After a poor investment in a friend's business and a long and protracted legal case, the couple lost the farm, their business, their livelihood and their home. The week that the bailiffs came was also the week that Moth was diagnosed with a degenerative and terminal illness, causing him severe pain and limiting mobility. Despite all of this, the couple decided to walk the South West Coast Path, all 630 miles of it! The book tells the true story, in descriptive detail, of their long walk, their struggles, both financial and emotional, and their inspirational achievements. Along the way, they meet a variety of characters, camp in many wild places and eke out a living on £48 a week.

The author, Raynor Winn, has never written before but the style and description of her writing, along with the support of her husband, her love of nature and the realisation of what homelessness means are strong elements of her first book. I felt I could have read the book in one sitting but, on the other hand, didn't want it to end! It was emotional, uplifting and heartening. A sequel is due out in September, continuing the story of these two inspiring people. I, for one, will be in the queue waiting to read it.

Happy reading from Kay Bright.

Message from Sue Bridger regarding the Alzheimer's society

I'm collecting old unwanted jewellery to raise money for the Alzheimer Society.

"Recycling jewellery is a great way to raise money for the **Alzheimer's Society**. Old jewellery, broken or unwanted are accepted by the society. If you have any old or unwanted items you could donate you would be raising vital funds to support people affected with dementia.

So why not have a clear out during these challenging times. I'm happy to collect the items and will send them to the Alzheimer's Society - they provide me with pre-paid Jiffy bags to do this. I've already sent two large bags of unwanted jewellery which my friends have kindly denoted.

The society has already raised £1.5 million from jewellery donations made by the public!

My contact details are bridgersue@yahoo.co.uk

01245 - 269162

07841573112

Regards Sue Bridger

Piano and singing tuition with Voice Academy

Are you interested in having **piano or singing lessons**? Or know someone who is?

Debs Allen-Morgan is a **qualified and experienced music teacher** who offers online piano and singing lessons for children and adults of all ages. From the comfort of their own home. For more details please contact Debs on **07967712348**.

Thank you to Kay Bright for organising the Ditloids quiz in the **July newsletter**. Here are the **answers**:

1. 12 Months in a Year
2. 7 Colours in a Rainbow
3. 2 Gentlemen of Verona by William Shakespeare
4. 366 Days in a Leap Year
5. Goldilocks and the 3 Bears
6. 6 A Cricket Pitch is 22 Yards Long
7. 4 Stars on the Flag of New Zealand
8. The Freezing Point of Water is 32 Degrees Fahrenheit
9. Longest Tennis Match in History: 11 Hours, 5 Minutes
10. The Shard is 310 Metres Tall.

Thank you to everyone who have contributed to August's newsletter. **We are looking for members to contribute to next month's newsletter**. Do you have any news or would you like to write about your own personal experience during lockdown? This could be happy, sad, funny or anything that you might be interested in sharing with the rest of our members. You could write in English or Welsh. Please feel free to contact me on gwenno.gllwyd@gmail.com **before the 5th September**. Diolch yn fawr.

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