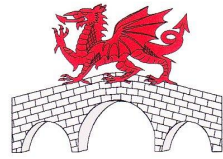


CHELMSFORD & DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY
Cymdeithas Gymraeg CHELMSFORD a'r Cylch



THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY 2013 / 2014



President Ivy Price



Committee Members 2013 . 2014

President / Llywdd	<i>Ivy Price</i>
Vice President / Is-lywydd	<i>Buddug Rowland Frank</i>
Honorary Vice Presidents	<i>Jean Davies, Norma Maskell, Janet Wash Eddie Alcock, Derrick Thomas</i>
Past President	<i>Liz Armishaw</i>
Secretary / Yagrifennydd	<i>Mair Thomas</i>
Assistant Secretary	<i>Brian Thomas</i>
Membership Secretary	<i>Carys Williams</i>
Treasurer	<i>Carys Williams</i>
Concert Organiser	<i>Arthur Williams (Co-opted)</i>
St David's Day Dinner Organisers	<i>Cynthia Styles & David Brown</i>
Webmaster & Audio	<i>David Brown</i>
Press Secretary	<i>Jim Armishaw</i>
Society Archivist	<i>Eddie Alcock</i>
Multimedia	<i>Mike Price</i>
Refreshments	<i>Maureen Byatt Liz Armishaw Edith Brown Enid Morris</i>
Raffles	<i>Ron Jones Brian Farmer John Lloyd Williams</i>
Church Services	<i>Shirley Moody</i>
Cymanfa Ganu	<i>Shirley Moody</i>
Welsh Classes	<i>Shirley Moody</i>

MONTHLY MEETINGS and EVENTS 2013 – 2014

SEPTEMBER 26 th	CROESO YN ÔL
OCTOBER 24 th	MANY A SLIP with ROGER PRICE
NOVEMBER 28 th	TALES FROM THE ROBIN ROOM with John Scannel
DECEMBER 12 th	PRAISE THE LORD WE ARE A MUSICAL NATION with Gwyn Parry Jones.
JANUARY 23 rd	NOSWAITH GYMRAEG
FEBRUARY 20 th	THE CHOICE IS YOURS / AR EICH CAIS with Mike Price
MARCH 1 st (Saturday 7pm)	ST. DAVID'S DAY DINNER at the County Hotel, Chelmsford
MARCH 2 nd (Sunday 3.30pm)	ST. DAVID'S DAY SERVICE at Little Baddow URC
MARCH 27 th	SALTY TALES with Lindsay Gordon
APRIL 24 th	A YOUNG ACTOR in WALES with Rheinalt Wyn Davies
MAY 11 th (Sunday 2.30pm)	SONGS OF PRAISE/CYMANFA GANU at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell
MAY 22 nd	MUSICAL EVENING with Helen Hooker
MAY 24 th	ANNUAL CONCERT Given by PONTARDDULAI MVC at Chelmsford Cathedral
June 5 th . 9 th (Thursday to Sunday)	SOCIETY VISIT TO SOUTH WALES Organised by Ivy Price (President).
JUNE 15 th (Sunday 10.30am)	SUMMER SERVICE at Little Baddow URC
JUNE 26 th	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
JUNE 29 th (Saturday 2.30pm)	CHARITY GARDEN PARTY at Radley Green Farm' Hosted by Shirley and Don Moody

OTHER FUND RAISING / CHARITY EVENTS

OCTOBER 12 th	FUND RAISING COFFEE MORNING	Hosted by Ivy & Mike Price
NOVEMBER 1 st	HALLOWEEN EVENING	Hosted by Shirley and Don Moody
DECEMBER 8 th (Sunday) at 3pm	CHRISTMAS TEA	Hosted by Mair and Brian Thomas
FEBRUARY 14 th	VALENTINES COFFEE MORNING	Hosted by Buddug and Ray Rowland Frank
MARCH 15 th	MIKES MUSICAL MISCELLANY	Hosted by Shirley & Don Moody
APRIL 11 th	SING FOR YOUR SUPPER	Hosted by Shirley & Don Moody

JUNE NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MEHEFIN 2013

Annwyl Gyfeillion / Dear Friends,

The summer holidays are fast approaching and we are nearly at the end of another successful society year. Let us hope that the sun will shine for us during the two month summer break. We certainly deserve some sunshine after the long winter that we have experienced. Our monthly meetings and other events have brightened up those long winter months. We extend our thanks and heartfelt congratulations to our retiring President, **Liz Armishaw**, for all her efforts in ensuring that the 2012-13 society year, has been most memorable. However, the year is not over yet and listed below are further events which deserve your support.

'ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING'

Thursday, 27th June 2013 in the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, 7.30pm for an 8pm start.

I hope that you will make a special effort to attend the **AGM** and in so doing you can show your appreciation to **Liz** and her hard working committee for ensuring that our society continues to thrive. It will also give you an opportunity to be present at the installation of our President elect, **Ivy Price**. The first part of the evening will include reports from the President, secretary and treasurer. This will be followed by the presentation of a cheque for just over **£4000** to a representative of **J&P Hospice**. I extend a very big thank you to all our members who have hosted and attended our fund raising events, together with those who have made generous donations. It is a reflection of your generosity that such an enormous amount of money has been raised for such a deserving cause. Following light refreshments there will be light entertainment provided by **Mike Price**.

Refreshments: **members of the committee**. Raffle: **Ron Jones, Eddie Alcock, Edith Brown and David Brown**

SUMMER SERVICE at Little Baddow URC on Sunday, 9th June 2013 at 10.30am. Please join us for our annual visit to this delightful church. The **Rev. Colin Hunt** will officiate and he will be assisted by a young trainee minister, **Branwen Rees** who comes from Porthcawl.. The society is invited to the church every summer and the event has a permanent place in our annual programme. It would be wonderful to see some new faces joining the faithful in the congregation - so please make an effort to attend. Tea will be served on the lawn following the service.

ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT- Saturday, 22nd June 2013 at 7.30pm at Chelmsford Cathedral. The concert will be given by the world famous - **Côr Godre'r Aran** and the guest soloist is **Aled Wyn Davies** (tenor). Tickets priced at **£13.50** are selling well but in order to fill the Chelmsford Cathedral to capacity we still need to sell a few more. Many thanks to all of you who have bought tickets and to those of you who have sold them to family and friends for this event. please make one last big effort to sell the remaining 50 tickets. Tickets can be obtained from **Arthur Williams 01621-778711 - 3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT** or from **Eddie Alcock 01245-603448 5 Elms Drive Chelmsford CM1 1RH**. **Please send a s.a.e when ordering by post.** Cheques are payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. If you have any unsold tickets please return them to **Arthur** as soon as possible. The doors open at 6.45pm so if you want a good seat get there early.

WELSH CLASS The next Welsh classes will be held at Radley Green Farm on **Monday, 10th June and Monday 24th June 2013** at 2.00pm. Ring **Shirley Moody** on 01245-248178 if you have any queries.

CHARITY GARDEN PARTY, Saturday, 29th June 2013 at 2.30pm. This event will be held once again at **Radley Green Farm**, thanks to the generosity of **Shirley** and **Don Moody**. Admission is £5 per person (children free) and this includes an appetising afternoon tea. Come along whatever the weather, as activities will be organised under cover in the event of rain. Bring your family, especially your children. grandchildren, nephews, nieces, as games etc. are organised especially for the young at heart. Don't forget to bring folding chairs and a folding table if you can. Raffle prizes will be gratefully accepted. Directions to **Radley Green Farm**. take the A414 (signposted Harlow, M11) road from Chelmsford. You will pass two garden nurseries and the Fox and Goose Pub - carry on until you see a large sign post for Radley Green, Roxwell, Willingale. turn right, there is a recent barn conversion on your left; and drive along this road. the Cuckoo Pub (now a restaurant) is on your left and just a little further up the road, also on your left, is the farm house. take the second entrance and follow instructions for parking. Look out for the Welsh flag!

SOCIETY NEWS:

It is with great sorrow that I inform you that on Friday, 31st May 2013, **Gwyneth Abbott (nee Roberts)** passed away peacefully at her home. **Gwyneth** was a loyal and a most active member of our society for many years. She was wholeheartedly committed to the society and worked extremely hard at organising the refreshments at all our meetings and events. **Gwyneth**, who hailed from Old Colwyn, will be greatly missed by everyone who had the good fortune to know her. Our meetings and event will not be the same without **Gwyneth's** presence. We extend our very deepest sympathies to **Chris, Lynne, Huw and all the family** at the loss of a very special and much loved wife, mother and grandmother. A **'Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Gwyneth'** will be held in **Trinity Methodist Church, Chelmsford on Monday, 17th June 2013 at 2pm**. I feel sure that the society will be well represented at the service. Light refreshments will be served in the Link adjoining the church, following the service.

I look forward to seeing you at the above events. If not, enjoy your summer vacation and our annual break. I send my best wishes to all members who have been unwell during the last few months and hope that you will be able to join us in September.

*Cofion Cynnes,
Mair Thomas*

Meeting and Activities Report June 2012

"AGM"

Including highlights of this year's Urdd Eisteddfod with Mike Price and supper



President Liz Armishaw reports on her year in office



Mair Thomas, Secretary reports on the Society's year

In her last meeting as President of the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, Liz Armishaw welcomed the 57 members to the AGM on 27 June. She said that it had been a great privilege to be President and hoped the members had enjoyed the year as much as she had. There were nine highly enjoyable monthly meetings, the highlights of which were: an evening of song with the popular Welsh tenor, Trebor Edwards; homespun entertainment at the Noson Lawen; and the inspirational talk by Tori James, the first Welsh woman to climb Everest and race to the north pole, which was greeted with a deserved standing ovation. Other outstanding events were: the St David's Day dinner, with fine speakers in Prof John Davies and Cllr Christopher Kingsley, the then Mayor of Chelmsford; a Cymanfa Ganu (songs of praise); the enjoyable cultural trip to Llangollen; and the wonderful concert at Chelmsford Cathedral given by Cor Godreig Aran and the tenor Aled Wyn Davies. Seven highly successful events were held to raise money for the President's Charity, the J&S Hospice, and she thanked: Shirley and Don Moody who hosted the garden Party and also a Supper and Sing-a-long; Edith and David Brown, Mair and Brian Thomas and Buddug and Ray Rowland Frank for hosting Coffee Mornings and Afternoon Teas. She and her husband Jim hosted a Musical Evening With Supper. Chelmsford Male Voice Choir with the talented soloist Emily Onsloe gave a fine concert. As a result she was able to present the J&S representative, Stephen Knight, with a cheque for £4100, which was gratefully received. Liz thanked all the members of the committee for their support, and in particular Cynthia Styles who organised the St David's Day Dinner, Arthur Williams the concert organiser and Jim. Special thanks were given to Mair Thomas, the Secretary, for her encouraging words of wisdom. Mair reported that there were 104 paid up members, who enjoyed outstanding value for their annual subscription of only £15, considering the costs of hiring the hall, the speakers' fees and the provision of refreshments, including supper on three occasions. She thanked Liz for accepting the office of President enthusiastically, and said that she considered that the quality of the programmes for the year had improved ever since the Presidents had chosen the agendas. She was pleased to serve with an excellent committee, and she thanked Brian for his support. Carys presented the accounts for the year, which were in a healthy state; the final profit from the annual concert will be presented after all the bills have been received. The time had come for Liz to pass over the mantle of President to Ivy Price, who said that she would do her best to ensure a successful year and thanked Liz. Buddug Rowland Frank was confirmed as Vice-president. Ivy's programme of events will be presented at a later date. She has chosen CHESS, the Chelmsford Churches Homeless Emergency Support Scheme, which provides temporary accommodation for homeless adults, as her President's Charity.

The election of officers confirmed Mair Thomas as Secretary, Carys Williams as Treasurer and Eddie Alcock as Auditor. Existing member of the committee, Liz and Jim Armishaw, Edith and David Brown, Maureen Byatt, Ron Jones, Shirley Moody, Enid Morris, Mike Price, Cynthia Styles, and Brian Thomas were re-elected, and new members Brian Farmer and John Lloyd Williams elected. Arthur Williams was co-opted again as Concert Organiser.

Following refreshments of scones with strawberries and cream, Mike Price gave a skilfully honed CD presentation of the recent Urdd Eisteddfod, an event where hundreds of young people compete in singing, reciting, dancing and playing musical instruments, both as individuals and in groups, and in composing poetry and prose, in a celebration of Welsh culture at its best. One of the most moving images was of a special-needs group of young children clearly enjoying enormously taking part in an action-song.

Ivy's year of office began on 29 June, with a Fundraising Garden Party in hot sunshine at Radley Green Farm realising a profit of £540. It was attended by 54 adults, and a large number of children of all ages who enjoyed the nine competitive games on offer and shamed the adults with their skills. Everybody enjoyed a truly wonderful spread of sandwiches and cakes.

Jim Armishaw



Treasurer Carys Williams reports on the financial health of the Society



Liz Armishaw presents a cheque to the J's Hospice



Liz Armishaw hands over the Presidency of the society to Ivy Price



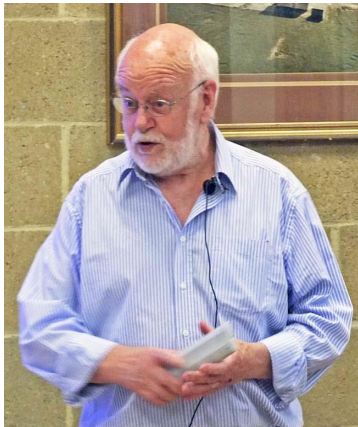
Ivy Price, President for the 2013 - 2014 season



Ivy Price bestows the weighty badge of the Vice president's office on Buddug Rowland Frank.



.....and presents the more manageable pin badge



Mike Price presents a video compilation of entrants to the Urdd Eisteddfod



Vice President Buddug Rowland Frank thanks Mike for his presentation

GARDEN PARTY 2014





SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MEDI 2013

Annwyl Gyfeillion / Dear Friends,

Where has the summer gone? It has certainly flown by so quickly and now it is time for society members to get together once again. The programme for 2013-14 has been finalised and membership cards have been printed and are ready for circulating to our members. Our new President, **Ivy Price**, and all the committee are ready to welcome you to our first meeting which is detailed below:

‘CROESO YN ÔL’

Thursday, 26th September 2013 in the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, 7.00pm for a prompt 7.30pm start.

Please note the earlier starting time.

Ivy Price will outline the programme for 2013-14 and will share information regarding the 2014 visit to South Wales.

A representative from the charity **CHES** will inform the meeting of the work of this local and well deserving charity. The catering committee will provide refreshments and you will all have an opportunity to have a chat with friends and share your holiday experiences. Following light refreshments, **Mike Price** will be presenting highlights from the National Eisteddfod of Wales 2013. His presentations are always so enjoyable and so carefully planned.

Raffle prizes will be donated by **Eddie Alcock, Maureen Byatt, Shirley Moody** and **Carys Williams**. Come along and give your support to **Ivy** at the first meeting of a new society year.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS **Carys Williams**, our treasurer, will be collecting the annual subscription of **£15** per member at the meeting. In return you will receive a copy of the 2013-14 programme. Should you be unable to attend, please send a cheque to Carys - 3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society and enclose a stamped addressed envelope so that you can be sent the programme. A form is enclosed for those members without an e-mail address. For those of you who receive the Newsletter electronically, David Brown has put a pro-forma on the society web-site. Click- **ABOUT US**; and then click the second **HERE** near the bottom of the page to get the form. It is important that you fill in the details correctly . a wrong e-mail address can cause a great deal of frustration and additional work!

FUND RAISING GARDEN PARTY, June 29th 2013. We are indebted to **Shirley** and **Don Moody** for hosting this event once again. I am delighted to inform you that it was very well attended, the refreshments were excellent and the sun shone! It really was a fun afternoon and much enjoyed by all present. I am pleased to report that as a result of the support of members and their friends and the work of committee members, the sum of **£540** was raised . a wonderful outcome.

ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT– Saturday, 22nd June 2013 at 7.30pm at Chelmsford Cathedral. This concert given by - **Côr Godre'r Aran** and the guest soloist **Aled Wyn Davies** (tenor) proved to be a tremendous success with a full Cathedral providing a most receptive and encouraging audience for our visitors. The **choir** and **Aled** were delighted with the reception they received. I extend many thanks to concert organiser **Arthur Williams**, the loyal band of helpers who provided such valuable assistance and all our members who supported and sold tickets for this prestigious event. Our annual concert is held in high esteem by Welsh choirs.

VISIT to SOUTH WALES 5th-8th June 2014. We will be staying at the Heronston Hotel, Ewenny, Nr. Bridgend. This will give us easy access to Cardiff, Swansea, the Gower and other places of interest. Please give your name/s to **Ivy Price** if you wish to join this trip. Deposits of **£50** per person are required by the end of October 2013 - to **Carys Williams** . cheques payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society.

FUND RAISING EVENTS for YOUR DIARY.

Saturday, 12th October 2013 ‘Coffee Morning’ at 10.30am hosted by **Ivy** and **Mike Price** at their home- 54 Waresot Rd. Brentwood CM15 9HE. Ring 01277 210541 for directions. Charge **£4** per person; raffle prizes would be most acceptable.

Friday, 1st November 2013 ‘Halloween Evening’ at 7.30pm hosted by **Shirley** and **Don Moody** at Radley Green Farm. Further information in the October Newsletter.

WELSH CLASSES These popular classes will recommence at Radley Green Farm on **Monday, 16th and 30th September 2013** at 2.00pm. Ring **Shirley Moody** on 01245-248178 if you have any queries.

RESULTS of the 2013 National Eisteddfod competitions sponsored by the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. The winner of the Girls solo 16-19 - **Ceri Haf Roberts** and the Boys solo 16-19 . **Siôn Elir Roberts**. The society is delighted to support these competitions and the winners all have bright musical careers ahead of them.

SOCIETY NEWS:

Congratulations to Barbara and Wynford James on the celebration of their **Diamond Wedding** on the 8th August 2013.

Pat Murray has been unwell and we wish her a speedy recovery to good health.

Gwenda Stephens, wife of the late **Haydn Stephens** died in July. **Gwenda** and **Haydn** were originally from Cwmtyrch and they spent much of their life in the USA. Many members attended her funeral which was held at All Saints Church, Creeksea, Burnham on Crouch on Wednesday 17th July 2013. We send our deepest sympathy to her son **Roy** and all the family.

Sadly, Ron Hammond MBE died on Sunday 23rd August 2013. He was the beloved husband of the late **Betty Hammond** and a loyal and faithful member of our society. He had a distinguished career and was the Seawolf Technical Manager at the Marconi Radar Systems. His funeral will be held on Thursday, 12th September 2013 at 2pm at St. Andrew's Parish Church, Heybridge, followed by the Committal at Chelmsford Crematorium at 3.30pm. Donations are invited payable to the J&S Hospice. We send our deepest sympathy to his children **Cally**,

Angela and **John**, his brother **Mike** and all the family.

I look forward to sharing another memorable society year with you.

*Cofion Cymnes,
Mair Thomas*

Meeting and Activities Report September 2013

"CROESO YN ÔL"

Including highlights of this year's National Eisteddfod
With Mike Price and supper



The 2013-2014 Season of the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society opened on 26 September with the traditional Croeso Yn Ôl (Welcome Back) Meeting. In her first Meeting as President, Ivy Price welcomed those attending, which included four new members, and outlined the programme for the year: 10 Monthly Meetings; St David's Day Dinner and Church Service; Songs of Praise; Society Visit to South Wales; the Annual Concert, given by Pontarddulais Male Choir; and 8 Fund Raising/Charity Events, hosted by various members, and including the annual Garden Party. Ivy has chosen CHESS, the Chelmsford charity catering for the homeless as the Society's Charity during her year of office, and introduced David Hodgson who gave a moving account of the charity's heroic work to alleviate the desperate needs of single, homeless adults: rough sleepers, with a life expectancy of 42; 90% male; 15 times more likely to be assaulted than those of us with homes; 33% of those under 26 attempting suicide; 70% developing mental health problems after 3 weeks of rough sleeping. The charity provides a night shelter, support services and temporary accommodation that helps them move on in their lives. Following an interval during which cheese and wine were served, Mike Price gave a wonderful CD presentation of the Denbigh 2013 National Eisteddfod of Wales. The Festival, the pinnacle of the Welsh cultural calendar, is an annual event which alternates between a north and south Wales venue, attracting 160,000 visitors over 8 days. It is the national stage for music, dance, the visual arts and original performances of all types of culture. Important and spectacular ceremonies are the Crowning and Charing of the winning bards and the awarding of the Medal for Literature by the Gorsedd of the Bards of the Isles of Britain. Each year the society donates two of the prizes. This year the first prize for the 16-19 girls solo was won by Ceri Haf Roberts a young lady with a marvellous voice who was also part of several winning groups, and the first prize in the 16-19 boys solo went to the talented Sion Eilir Roberts. These were shown in Mike's presentation, which also included a montage of singing, recitation, dancing and instrumental performances. Particularly impressive was the 24 year old tenor Joshua Owen Mills an opera student at the Guildhall School. Buddug R Frank, the Vice-president, congratulated Mike on a superb presentation. *Jim Armishaw*



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS HYDREF 2013

Annwyl Gyfeillion / Dear Friends,

We had a most successful ~~Croeso~~ evening last month with 62 members attending. Delicious refreshments were provided by the catering sub-committee and we thank **Shirley Moody** for providing the wine. The President's charity for the year is **CHESS** - a charity catering for the homeless in Chelmsford. A trustee of the charity, **David Hodgson**, gave an interesting account of the work of **CHESS** and spoke of the comfort, advice and practical support given to an increasing number of homeless people in Chelmsford and Essex. **Mike Price** gave an excellent visual and sound presentation of the winners of competitions at the Denbigh National Eisteddfod of Wales which highlighted the depth of talent in Wales. His presentation was greatly enjoyed by all present. Details of the next monthly meeting and other events are listed below:

'MANY A SLIP'

A presentation by ROGER PRICE

Thursday, 24th October 2013 in the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, 7.00pm for a prompt 7.30pm start.

Please note the earlier starting time.

Roger is the brother of our own **Mike Price**. He hails from the Rhondda and now lives in the Bridgend area. **Roger** worked for the Ogwr District Council as Entertainment Officer for many years. He has met a great number of talented Welsh performers as a consequence of his work. Do join us for what promises to be an interesting and amusing talk. Bring your friends along as visitors are always sure of a warm welcome.

The refreshments and the raffle will be arranged by **Jean Jones, Rosina Jones** and **Mair Thomas**.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS Thank you to the **74** members, including **4** new members, who have already paid their **£15** annual subscription. **Carys Williams**, our treasurer, will be pleased to receive further subscriptions either at the October monthly meeting or you can send a cheque to Carys - 3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society and enclose a stamped addressed envelope so that you can be sent the programme. We very much hope that you will re-join but should we not receive your subscription by December 1st 2013 at the latest, we will regrettably assume you no longer wish to continue your membership and we shall cease sending you our monthly Newsletter.

FUND RAISING COFFEE MORNING, Saturday 12th October 2013 hosted by **Ivy** and **Mike Price** at **54 Warescot, Brentwood CM15 9HE**. You can ring them on **01277210541** for directions. Come in droves - you can be assured of a warm Welsh welcome. Donations of **£4** gratefully received and a raffle prize will help to raise even more money.

HALLOWEEN EVENING on Friday, 1st November 2013 at **Radley 'Grrrrr eeeeeen' Farm** at **7.30pm**. Tickets are priced at **£15** to include supper and a glass of wine/soft drink. **Shirley** and **Don Moody** invite you to this 'spooktacular' fund raising evening - if you like a fright, excitement, a challenge, fun and music then this event is for you! Suitable fancy dress is encouraged, but not compulsory but please make an effort! Please give **Shirley** a ring on **01245 248178** to book your place in the scary cavern of mystery or see her at the October monthly meeting. You will have an opportunity to order your meal.

VISIT to SOUTH WALES 5th - 8th June 2014. We will be staying at the Heronston Hotel, Ewenny, Nr. Bridgend. This will give us easy access to Cardiff, Swansea, the Gower and other places of interest. Please give your name/s to **Ivy Price (01277 210541)** if you wish to join this trip, which will cost **£275** inclusive of coach, hotel, visits to a number of places of interest, evening entertainment and gratuities. There is an additional cost of **£10 per night** for single room accommodation (£30 in total). Deposits of **£50** per person are required by the end of **October 2013** - to **Carys Williams** - cheques payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. Our past visits have proved to be most successful and this visit promises to be no exception. So don't delay - book your place as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

WELSH CLASSES These popular classes will be held at **Radley Green Farm** on **Mondays October 14th and 28th 2013** at **2.00pm**. Ring **Shirley Moody** on **01245-248178** if you have any queries.

ST DAVID'S DAY DINNER 2014. Please note that this event will be held on **SATURDAY, 1st MARCH 2014** and not on Friday, 28th February 2014.

CULTURAL EVENT - Graham Davies, the Welsh poet, novelist, editor and literary critic is visiting Chelmsford on **Monday, 28th October 2013**. He is coming to talk about how the seasons can be doorways to literary inspiration. This free event, to include light refreshments, will be held in Anglia Ruskin University and further details can be obtained from **Rachel Moss** on **01245-684723**.

SOCIETY NEWS We send to all members who are unwell and are unable to attend meetings our best wishes and look forward to seeing them in the near future

*Cofion Cynnes,
Mair Thomas*

Meeting and Activities Report October 2013

"MANY a SLIP"

With Roger Price



There were several members missing through illness at the 24 October meeting of the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, but there was still a large audience to hear the guest speaker, Roger Price, deliver his humorous presentation, Many A Slip. Roger, a brother in law to the President, Ivy Price, was born in Treherbert in the Rhondda Valley, before moving to live in Bridgend some 40 years ago. He was the Entertainments Officer for Bridgend (formerly Ogwr) Borough Council, catering for a wide range of entertainment, from highbrow musical events to pantomimes and beauty competitions! He was also Secretary of the prestigious South Wales Miners' Eisteddfod, which continued with generous support from the Tower Colliery, the last surviving mine until it too was closed down, a sad case of a thriving vibrant community sinking into tragic unemployment. In these two roles, Robert commissioned a large number of respected and famous performers, including Wynford Vaughan Thomas the broadcaster, the fine tenor Stuart Burrows, the conductor Sir Adrian Boult and the entertainer Max Boyce. His talk was peppered with humorous tales relating to them and their audiences, one member of which thought Stuart Burrows was ~~too~~ expensive, as ~~the~~ the bloke in the pub plays the piano all night for £40+. Featured in many of the tales were the poems of the pacifist Waldo Williams, and Idris Davies the Rhymni poet who captured so vividly the differing attitudes towards those starving during the 1920s national strike. Roger recounted how the great African American singer, Paul Robeson, was moved when he heard the starving south Wales miners singing in London to beg for food, saying that it was ~~the~~ the first time he had seen white men treated like black men+. (Paul Robeson came from the deep south of the USA, of course). Brother, Mike Price explained how he came to re-master a recording of the 1954 Miners Eisteddfod which featured Paul Robeson over the recently laid transatlantic cable. Robert was given a well-deserved round of applause for his humorous and masterful delivery, and presented with a Society goblet by the Vice-president, Buddug Rowland Frank.

A well-attended fund raising/charity coffee morning hosted by Ivy and Mike Price on 12 October raised £360. *Jim Armishaw*



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS TACHWEDD 2013

Annwyl Gyfeillion / Dear Friends,

We have had an excellent start to the society year 2013-14. A fund raising coffee morning hosted by **Ivy** and **Mike Price** on October 12th 2013 raised **£360** – a magnificent outcome both financially and socially. The October monthly meeting proved to be most spectacular with Roger Price entertaining a spell-bound audience with his many stories. A number of the audience were able to associate with some of the people **Roger** made reference to in his fascinating talk. It was a night of fun and laughter much appreciated by all present. The *Halloween Party* hosted by **Shirley** and **Don Moody** proved to be most scary and spooktacular with some outstanding designer costumes being worn by members and friends. The event realised a profit of **£316**. We extend our many thanks to **Ivy, Mike, Shirley** and **Don** for hosting our fund raising events and to all of our members who were able to support these activities.

We now look forward to our November monthly meeting:

'Tales from the Robing Room' *A presentation by John Scannel*

Thursday, 28th November 2013 in the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, 7.00pm for a prompt 7.30pm start.

John Scannel hails from Port Talbot but he has spent his career as a barrister in London. He is a friend of **Mike Price** and has been Chairman of Industrial Tribunals. We look forward to another informative and interesting evening. Please make every effort to attend and bring your friends with you. The attendance at our monthly meetings has been excellent- let us keep it up!

The refreshments and the raffle will be arranged by **Enid Morris, Mary Jones and Liz Armishaw**.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS **Carys Williams**, our treasurer, wishes to thank the 94 members who have already paid their annual subscription of **£15**. She will be pleased to receive further subscriptions either at the November monthly meeting or you can send a cheque to **Carys** - 3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT payable to the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society and enclose a stamped addressed envelope so that you can be sent the programme card. If we do not receive your subscription by **December 1st 2013** at the latest, we will sadly assume you no longer wish to continue your membership.

WELSH CLASSES These popular classes will be held at Radley Green Farm on **November 11th and 26th 2013** at 2.00pm. Ring **Shirley Moody** on 01245-248178 if you have any queries. The Welsh classes are going from strength to strength with 13 people attending the last session.

VISIT to SOUTH WALES 5th- 8th June 2014. A polite reminder that a deposit of **£50** for the visit to South Wales in 2014 is now due, with cheques made payable to Chelmsford and District Welsh Society and sent/given to **Carys**. The cost of the visit is **£275** inclusive of coach, hotel, and visits to a number of places of interest, evening entertainment and gratuities. There is an additional cost of **£10 per night** for single room accommodation. (£30 in total). The outstanding balance is due by the end of **February 2014**.

FUTURE FUND RAISING EVENT With only 50 days to Christmas, I should like to remind you **Brian** and I are holding a **Christmas Celebration Tea on Sunday, 8th December 2013 at 3pm**. at 5 Milligans Chase, Galleywood CM2 8QD. Start off your Xmas celebrations among your friends. There will be a warm Welsh welcome awaiting you and I feel sure that the afternoon will conclude with the singing of traditional Christmas music.

SOCIETY NEWS

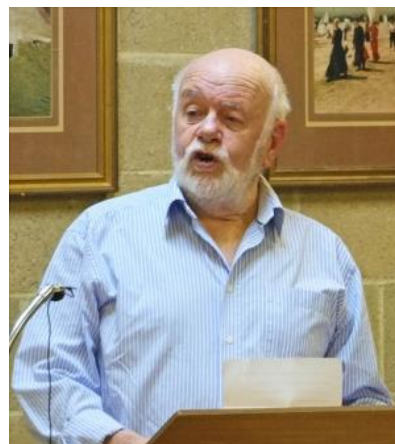
- We send our very best wishes to **Pat Murray** who is convalescing with her daughter **Caroline Siân** in Edinburgh. **Pat** has had a period of ill health but she is being well cared for by her daughter and her delightful grandson – **Harry**.
- **Ron Jones** has had a short stay in Basildon Hospital but is now at home in the capable care of **Jean** doing as he is told. It is rumoured that he sold raffle tickets to the operating theatre staff!
- **Renee Foster** has moved up North and we wish her well in her new home.
- Best wishes to all society members who have been unwell.
- We send our condolences to **Huw** and **Gaynor Edwards** in Trefin, Pemb., at the sad loss of **Huw's** mother, **Mary**, aged 95.
- On a happier note . congratulations to **Margaret Inggs** on the celebration of her **90th birthday!** This is a wonderful achievement. **Margaret** is currently staying with her son **Andrew**, in Heybridge. We hope to see her at a monthly meeting in the near future..

*Cofion Cynnes,
Mair Thomas*

Meeting Report November 2013

"TALES from the ROBIN ROOM"

With John Scannel



Members at the November Meeting of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society celebrated Agnes Evans's 90 birthday by singing Penblwydd Hapus i Chi. The President, Ivy Price, then welcomed the Guest Speaker, retired barrister John Scannel, whose theme was Tales From The Robin Room. The son of a Port Talbot steel smelter, he was educated at a local grammar school and read Law at Jesus College, Oxford. Port Talbot boasts many famous sons and daughters, including actors Richard Burton and Anthony Hopkins, song writer Ivor Emmanuel, opera singer Rebecca Evans, and Geoffrey Howe QC the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It was no great surprise, therefore, when John gave a masterful performance. Articled in Aberavon to the President of the Welsh Rugby Union, he then moved to London as a Solicitor and law lecturer, and finally practiced as a Barrister for some 30 years. He was also an Employment Tribunal Chairman. His fascinating talk was peppered with tales, many of them hilarious, drawn

on this experience. A small selection included: a man appealing to be excused as a juror as his wife was due to conceive+during a trial expected to last 8 weeks; a suspected liar, on being awarded a huge settlement after falling from scaffolding then intending to go on a pilgrimage to Lourdes, where he was confident of a cure; the Appeal Judge who overturned the death sentence on a dangerous dog, only to be bitten by him subsequently; the acquitted client who, it later transpired, had sent a £10 bribe in his opponent's name. John was in favour of courtroom robes as it depersonalises the process, gives a sense of drama and everybody behaves+. This was a wonderful performance indeed, and one felt that he could also have also been a great actor, in the Port Talbot tradition. The vote of thanks was given by the Vice-president, Buddug Rowland Frank.

Mair and Brian Thomas will host a Christmas Tea, a Fund Raising/Charity Event, on Sunday 8 December at 3 pm. Praise The Lord We Are A Musical Nation, presented by Gwyn Parry Jones, will be the theme at the 12 December Christmas festivities at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, 7 pm for a 7.30 start. New members will be warmly welcomed.

Jim Armishaw



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS RHAGFYR 2013

Nadolig Llawen i chi gyd Merry Christmas to you all



We had a wonderful November monthly meeting when **John Scannel**, a retired barrister, gave a most informative and entertaining talk. It is time for us to get together to celebrate the forthcoming Christmas festival once more. I hope that you will be able to attend some of our society events. Details of the next meeting and other forthcoming events are listed below:

'Praise the Lord We Are a Musical Nation' *a presentation by Gwyn Parry-Jones*

Thursday, 12th December 2013 at the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start.

Our President, **Ivy Price**, has invited **Gwyn Parry-Jones**, the brother of **David Parry-Jones**, the well-known Welsh sports commentator, to give a presentation entitled 'Praise the Lord We Are a Musical Nation'. **Gwyn** is world famous musician and lecturer. He has played with many of the country's top orchestras under the baton of some of the world's greatest conductor, including **Barbirolli** and **Simon Rattle**. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. Our catering committee will provide light seasonal refreshments. There will be the usual **Bumper Xmas Raffle** which will be organised by our Vice-President, **Buddug Rowland Frank**. You will have the opportunity of exchanging Christmas cards with your friends. Alternatively, if you would like to make a donation to our charity, in lieu of sending Christmas cards, this will be possible. The President will provide a large Xmas card so that you can record your Christmas message. This will be displayed in the Cathedral Chapter House. Come along for what promises to be an informative and entertaining evening.

Annual Subscriptions. Our treasurer, **Carys Williams**, thanks you all for paying your subscription so promptly. We now have **98** paid up members. Diolch yn fawr.

Fund raising Christmas Tea. **Brian** and I invite you to our home at **5 Milligans Chase, Galleywood CM2 8QD** on **Sunday, 8th December 2013 at 3pm**. A small wrapped Christmas gift for the raffle would be much appreciated. Please bring your voices as **Ivy Price** will lead the carol singing following refreshments. Please ring me on **01245-269845** if you want directions or assistance.

Welsh classes. The next meeting is on **Monday, 9th December 2013 at Radley Green Farm at 2pm**. We are indebted to **Shirley Moody** for hosting and organising these classes. The classes are proving to be most popular.

Future Meetings/Events:

- At our monthly meeting on **January 23rd 2014** we will be holding a **'Noswaith Gymraeg'- a Welsh Evening**. This meeting provides an opportunity for our members to display their range of talents. If you are prepared to contribute to this in-house evening of entertainment, please contact **Ivy Price** on **01277-210541**. This is a Welsh evening and items should have a Welsh focus.
- **February 14th 2014. – St. Valentine's Day** **Buddug** and **Ray Rowland Frank** will be hosting a fund raising coffee morning at their home in Upminster. More details in the next Newsletter.
- Monthly meeting, **February 20th 2014. – 'Ar Eich Cais' – 'The Choice is Yours'** . an evening to be organised by **Mike Price**.
- **St. David's Day Dinner.** This annual event will be held on **Saturday, 1st March 2014** at the **County Hotel, Chelmsford**. (Please note the change of date from **Friday, 28th February 2014**). Tickets can be ordered from **Cynthia Styles** on **01245-469713** and they will be available at the January monthly meeting. Do not leave it too late to book your tickets for this popular annual event.

Society News

- **Agnes Evans** celebrated her **90th birthday** at the beginning of November. We send her belated best wishes and congratulations on this very special birthday. **Agnes** has been unwell and I hope that she will soon regain sufficient strength to enable her to join us at our meetings and events.
- **Stuart Roberts** was admitted to Broomfield Hospital last week and has since been moved to the Queens Hospital, Romford. We send **Stuart** our best wishes and hope that he has a speedy recovery.
- Congratulations to **Hilary Tucker** who will be celebrating her **80th birthday** on **December 13th 2013**.
- **The Rev. Dr. Cally Hammond** will be preaching in **Chelmsford Cathedral** at **11.15am. on Sunday, 22nd December 2013**.

I should like to wish you and all your family a wonderful Christmas and hope that you all get all the presents on your Christmas list! Best wishes to anyone who is unwell and I trust that you will enjoy better health in 2014.

A Blessed Christmas and a Peaceful and Happy New Year to you all.

Cofion Cynnes iawn,
Mair

Meeting and Activities Report December 2013

A FUND RAISING CHRISTMAS TEA

&

"PRAISE THE LORD WE ARE

A MUSICAL NATION"

With Gwyn Parry Jones



Ivy Price, President of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, welcomed the guest speaker at the 12 December Meeting, the talented musician Gwyn Parry Jones, FRSA, whose topic was Thank The Lord We Are A Musical Nation. Gwyn was born in Cardiff, read Music at Manchester University and the Royal Northern College of Music and became Head of Music at Reading University. He has played in several major orchestras and has a considerable reputation as a composer and as a conductor of both choirs and orchestras. He gave a masterful presentation, which included excerpts of performances by world famous singers and composers, including: the operatic baritone Bryn Terfel singing The Vagabond by Vaughan Williams (whose father was a vicar in west Wales), and Ora Pro Nobis based on a poem by Eifion Wyn and composed by Meirion Williams; the baritone Jeremy Hughes singing Cysga Di; Grace Williams's Fantasia on Welsh Nursery Rhymes, which the audience were invited to identify; Karl Jenkins's moving Stabat Mater, a lament for the fate of children; Stuart Burrows, the fine tenor, singing Danny Boy; and a rousing Dashenka sung by Llanelli Male Voice Choir. A delicious buffet supper, prepared by Edith Brown and her team, was enjoyed during the interval. Afterwards, Christmas carols were sung in Welsh and English, conducted by Gwyn. He was congratulated by the Vice-president, Buddug Rowland Frank and given a rousing applause. Several of the members made donations to the President's Charity C.H.E.S.S. instead of distributing Christmas cards, raising £96. On 8 December Mair and Brian Thomas hosted a Christmas Tea, a popular musical Fund Raising/Charity Event which raised £323.

Jim Armishaw



Photos © Brian Thomas



JANUARY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS IONAWR 2014

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i Chi bob un A Happy New Year to you all.

2013 was an eventful and memorable year packed with memorable moments . both good and bad. **Andy Murray** won Wimbledon, Wales were 6 Nations Champions, The Lions beat Australia, **Prince George** was born and on the negative we had the horsemeat scandal and England losing the Ashes series to Australia. However, our Society can boast of another successful year with attendance high and our monthly meetings being of a high standard. So let us keep it up for 2014. **Brian** and I should like to thank those of you who attended the Christmas Tea at our home in December when **£323** was raised. Thanks also to those who kindly made donations and to those who brought a raffle prize. Details of the first monthly meeting of 2014, together with other events, are listed below:

'Noswaith Gymraeg'

Thursday, 23rd January 2014 at the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm prompt start.

In January, it has become a custom for our members to show off their particular talents. Entertainment for this meeting is provided by **YOU** . our members. If you would like to participate please ring our President, **Ivy Price**, on **01277-210541**. Please be aware that we expect items to have a strong Welsh flavour. Don't be shy . all performances will be well received and much appreciated by what I hope will be a full Chapter House.

Refreshments and raffle – **Hazel Hammond, Carys Williams and Mair Thomas**

Welsh classes. These will recommence on **Monday, 13th January**, followed by a session on **January 27th 2014** at **Radley Green Farm** at **2pm**. We extend a big thank you to **Shirley Moody** for hosting these classes at her home.

St. David's Day Dinner on Saturday, 1st March 2014 at 7pm in the County Hotel, Chelmsford. Please note that this annual event is being held this year on a Saturday and not on our usual Friday. This is because of a problem with the County Hotel. Tickets costing **£35** are now available from **Cynthia Styles** on **01245-469713** or **David Brown** 01245-465052. **Cynthia** will have tickets available at the January monthly meeting. Please book early to avoid disappointment. Cheques are payable to Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. There is a vegetarian option available if required, so please inform **Cynthia** if you require an alternative menu. Our dinner is one of the highlights of the year and I hope that you will make every effort to attend this event.

St. David's Day Service, Sunday, 2nd March 2014 at 3.30pm in Little Baddow URC. We are most honoured that **Revd. Dr. Cally Hamond**, who is Dean and the Director of Studies in Theology at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, is joining us once again to officiate at this very special service. **Cally** is the daughter of the late **Betty** and **Ron Hammond**. **Betty** was President of our Society on two occasions and **Cally** has offered to continue to take this service, as long as is necessary, in memory of her mother. If **Cally** can make this commitment surely we can expect many more of our members to also make an effort to swell the congregation. Tea will be served following the service. Lifts can be arranged . ring me on **01245-269845** if you require assistance. I look forward to seeing you all there.

St. Valentine's Day Fund Raising Coffee Morning on Friday, 14th February 2014 at 10.30am. **Buddug** and **Ray Rowland Frank** invite you to their home . **40 Ingrebourne Gardens, Upminster RM14 1BN; telephone 01708 222691.** Last year a coffee morning at this venue proved to be most popular and was well attended and much enjoyed by members and friends. I hope that you will make a special effort to attend on this special day. Raffle prizes will be most welcomed.

Visit to South Wales. We are looking forward to this visit in June 2014. Don't forget that payment is required by the end of **February 2014** and should be sent directly to **Carys Williams** at **3 Englefields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT** with cheques made payable to Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. Those booked in for this trip have already paid a deposit of **£50** per person , so the remaining balance is **£225** per person in double/twin rooms and for those in a single room the balance is **£255** (this includes an additional charge of **£10** per night for a single room). You could also pay **Carys** at a monthly meeting.

Society News

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the death of **Chris Abbott**, devoted husband of the late **Gwyneth Abbott**. **Chris** died just before Christmas and a Thanksgiving Service was held in Trinity Methodist Church on Wednesday, 8th January 2014. **Chris** was a loyal and supportive member of our Society. He will be sadly missed by all who had the good fortune to know him.

- **Stuart Roberts**, who has been in hospital for some time has been transferred to **Halstead Hospital**, 78 Hedingham Rd. Halstead CO9 2DL. Stuart will be receiving physiotherapy at Halstead and we send him our very best wishes.
- **Renee Foster**, who now resides in Mansfield, is recovering well after her hip operation.

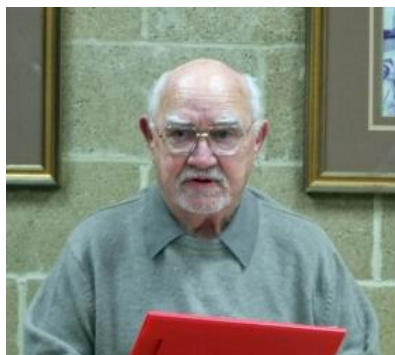
Cofion Cynnes,
Mair

Meeting and Activities Report January 2014

"NOSWAITH GYMRAEG"

Ivy Price, the President of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, welcomed the 80 members and guests at the January Noson Lawen (Happy Evening), a cultural event when members of the audience provide the entertainment. Due to the Welsh tradition where children compete in Eisteddfodau, singing, composing and reciting poetry and prose, playing musical instruments and dancing, there is never a problem finding volunteers. All the contributions had a Welsh/Celtic flavour. The concert began with Ivy and Mike Price, and their friends Geoff and Medwen Hewitt visiting from Wales, singing traditional airs. Wynford James read some poems by Idris Davies, the Rhymni Poet. John Lloyd-Williams recited the well-loved poem Cwm Penant, and followed with some interesting stories from Caernarfon's past. He was then joined by Mike to sing Bachgen Ifanc Ffol. Jean Davies read some humorous poems, several related to old age. Carys and Arthur Williams sang some traditional airs, accompanied by Arthur on a guitar; Arthur told a hilarious tale related to the journey of four friends into old age. Jim Allen, who writes delightful prose, strolled nostalgically along Linnet Lane, from Celtic times through Roman and Saxon East Anglia. Buddug Rowland Frank thrilled on the harp, playing Nos Calan, Captain Morgan's March (which accompanies the Chaining of the Bard at the National Eisteddfod) and Eli Jenkins's Prayer. Following an interval for refreshments, Derrick Thomas played his mouth organ; followed by an all-round sigh of relief since it is so small that he might have swallowed it! A highlight of the evening was the Black Sheep Choir, composed of members Derrick, Arthur, Gareth Williams and Jim Armishaw, together with their friends John Taylor, Stuart Anderson, Clive Bright, Peter Freeman and Graham Davies, who sang Working Man, a song about coal miners, the sad Fields of Athenry about the Irish potato famine, and finished with the rousing call to battle I Bob Un Sy'n Ffyddlon. Brian Farmer then recited poems from his schooldays with wife Marion providing the translation. The Society's comedian Ron Jones, who never fails to amaze and amuse, told some hilarious and often daring tales! He was followed by Janet Walsh and Margot Williams reading A Welsh Incident, a dialogue by Robert Graves. Finally, Ivy, Mike, Geoff and Medwen again sang some songs, with the audience joining in. Buddug, the Vice-president, thanked everybody for contributing to a wonderful evening.

Jim Armishaw







FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS CHWEFROR 2014

Annwyl Gyfeillion/Dear Friends,

The first meeting of 2014 certainly lifted our spirits. What a great evening it proved to be with such a high attendance. It was an evening much enjoyed by all present with so many positive comments being made with regard the quality and variety of the in-house entertainment. I should like to extend a very big thank you to members and friends who shared their talents with us. We are most fortunate as a society that we have so many accomplished people who are willing to perform at such events. We have a range of meetings and activities coming up in the next few weeks and these are listed below:

'AR EICH CAIS' 'The Choice is Yours'

Thursday, 20th February 2014 at the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm prompt start.

This evening is being organised by our own **Mike Price**. He will be introducing well known members of the society to you. They in turn, will choose a favourite piece of music or poetry, and they will explain to those present the reason for their choice. I am sure that it will prove to be an interesting and enjoyable evening

Refreshments and raffle – **Shirley Moody, Nilda Evans and Mair Thomas**

St. David's Day Dinner on Saturday, 1st March 2014 at 7pm in the County Hotel, Chelmsford. If you haven't already booked your tickets for this annual event please ring **Cynthia Styles** on **01245-469713** or **David Brown** on **01245-465052** as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Tickets are priced at **£35** and cheques should be made payable to Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. The closing date for the sale of tickets is **Monday, 24th February 2014** as table plans have to be finalised by this date. Should you have any dietary requirements please ring **Cynthia** as soon as possible.

St. David's Day Service, Sunday, 2nd March 2014 at 3.30pm in Little Baddow URC. Please join us at this delightful church to commemorate our Patron Saint, David. The **Rev. Dr. Cally Hamond**, will be officiating at this special service once more. We are grateful to **Cally** for finding time in her busy schedule to travel from Cambridge to be with us. Our President, **Ivy Price**, looks forward to welcoming you all to a service that gives us an opportunity to acknowledge our Welshness and sing some favourite Welsh hymns. Tea will be served following the service. Lifts can be arranged. ring me on **01245-269845** if you require assistance. I look forward to seeing you all there.

St. Valentine's Day Fund Raising Coffee Morning on Friday, 14th February 2014 at 10.30am. **Buddug** and **Ray Rowland Frank** are hosting this event at their delightful home. **40 Ingrebourne Gardens, Upminster RM14 1BN;** telephone **01708 222691**. Raffle prizes will be most welcomed. Treat your loved one on this special day of romance!

Visit to South Wales June 5th to the 8th 2014. This visit is fast approaching and the final payment is required by the end of **February 2014** and should be sent directly to **Carys Williams** at **3 Englefields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT** with cheques made payable to Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. Those booked in for this trip have already paid a deposit of **£50** per person, so the remaining balance is **£225** per person in double/twin rooms and for those in a single room the balance is **£255** (this includes an additional charge of **£10** per night for a single room). You could also pay **Carys** at the February monthly meeting.

Welsh classes. The next class will be held on **Mondays, February 10th and 24th 2014** at **Radley Green Farm** at 2pm.

Saturday, 15th March 2014 at 7.30pm 'Mike's Musical Miscellany'. This fund raising event is being hosted by **Shirley** and **Don Moody** at Radley Green Farm. Tickets priced **£15** (inclusive of refreshments) will be available at the February Monthly Meeting or you can ring **Shirley** on **01245-248178** to place an order. All events organised by **Mike Price** are always informative, entertaining and enjoyable. Tickets are selling well. and there is limited space! So, don't delay. book today.

ADVANCE Society News: Tickets for the annual concert which is being held in Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, 24th May 2014 are now available from **Arthur Williams**. **Arthur** will have tickets (**£15**) at the February monthly meeting and at the St. David's Day Dinner. The concert will be given by **Pontarddulais Male Choir** with guest artist **Rhian Lois** (soprano).

SOCIETY NEWS

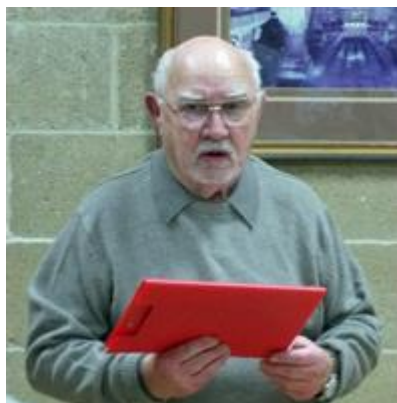
- **Stuart Roberts** has been transferred to the Spinal Unit at The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, Middlesex, where he is receiving specialist treatment. We send our very best wishes to **Stuart**.
- **Pat Murray** has returned home after recuperating in Scotland.
- We wish **Phil Lowe** well as she receives further treatment.

Cofion Cynnes,
Mair

Meeting and Activities Report February 2014

"AR EICH CAIS / THE CHOICE IS YOURS"

With Mike Price



An audience of 58 attended the 20 February Meeting of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. Ar Eich Cais (Your Choice) was the theme; members of the Society had been invited to choose music, poetry or prose which was important to them, with Mike Price and David Brown providing the recordings and videos. Wynford James chose Julia McGuinness Watson singing "Habanera" from the opera Carmen and Doug Ekloff chose Bryn Terfel singing "My Little Welsh Home". Margaret Cox read some of R S Thomas's wonderful poems. Gwenno Llwyd's choice had an Anglesey flavour, including a poem Croesi'r Traeth, a painting and a song about a lighthouse keeper. Ray Rowland-Frank chose the incomparable voice of Richard Burton reading from "Musical Version of the War Of The Worlds". The Cambridge Singers version of John Rutter's "For the Beauty of the Earth" was Val Allen's choice. Gwyn Jones chose Philip Maddock reading from the hilarious "The Annual Outing" by Dylan Thomas. A recording of Barry Manilow from his 1985 tour of the UK was Gareth Williams's choice. Hazel Hammond presented a recording of "Take Me Back To the Green Green Pastures", made at the Camborne Centenary Wesleyan Church in 1982. Carita Matilla singing "Ballero" from Songs Of The Auvergne, to a backdrop of wonderful rural scenes, was Janet Walsh's contribution. David Brown chose Jussi Bjorling and Robert Merrill's 1951 recording of Bizet's Pearl Fishers. Pat Murray's choice was the "Gettysburg Address", and she reminded the audience that almost half the signatories to the American Declaration of Independence were of Welsh descent. Brian Farmer's choice was a full blooded performance by the truly amazing Russian Black Sea Fleet Choir; and finally, in complete contrast, Rowland Webb's choice, "Benedictus" from the very moving The Armed Man by Karl Jenkins. The professional way in which everyone had introduced their choice was very much appreciated, and Mair Thomas thanked them for contributing to a marvellous evening's entertainment, especially Mike Price the impresario! The fund raising/charity coffee morning hosted by Buddug and Ray Rowland-Frank raised £290. The speaker at the meeting on 27 March, Salty Tales, will be Lindsay Gordon.

Jim Armishaw



ST DAVID'S DAY 2014

Chelmsford and District Welsh Society celebrated the Feast of their Patron Saint, Dewi, in the traditional way, with a splendid dinner at The County Hotel on 1 March followed by a Church Service at Little Baddow United Reform Church on 2 March. The tables were dressed in white and green, decorated with daffodils, and 103 members and guests dined splendidly, under the regal eye of a magnificent Welsh Dragon and graced by the presence of the Mayor of Chelmsford Cllr. Trevor Miller and his wife. The menu comprised cawl cennin a thatws; brest cyw iar, saws Profencale; tatws a llysiau tymhorol; tarten lemon, bisgeden sinsir a sorbet oren; coffi/te a petit fours. Grace was said by the President, Ivy Price, who also proposed the toast to The Queen. The Vice-president, Buddug Rowland Frank, recalled how important the feast day was in Welsh schools and proposed the toast to Dewi Sant. Ivy introduced the Guest of Honour, Gruffudd Glyn, a talented young RADA trained actor who has played several roles at the Royal Shakespeare Company. In his speech he traced a brilliant journey beginning in his school days, passing through his time as a student and arriving at his present state of an established actor. He proposed a toast to The Society. The President thanked her grandchildren Sophie and Nathan who had presented everybody with a daffodil, Cynthia Styles for masterminding the dinner in such a splendid fashion, David Brown who had assisted her, Shirley Moody for providing the daffodil centre pieces, and Brian Thomas for being such a class act as MC. She concluded by proposing a toast to Our Guests. In response the Mayor thanked the Society, and reminisced that as a young man he had cycled from Essex to Anglesey and back, a truly Herculean task! The evening ended with a wonderful musical interlude given by Rachel and Ken Bartels on the harp and flute, joined for a while by their young daughter Katie playing the flute and by Charlotte Rowland Frank on a harp.

Following a tradition of several years, the preacher at the church service, attended by 45 members and friends, was the Rev. Dr. Cally Hammond, Dean of Gonville and Caius College Cambridge who delivered a thought provoking sermon, as always. Keith Byatt played the organ. The last hymn, Seintiau Cymru, was dedicated to the four members of the Society who had died during the year, Gwyneth and Chris Abbott, Ron Hammond and Gwenda Stephens.





MARCH NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MAWRTH 2014

Annwyl Gyfeillion/Dear Friends,

Listed below are details of future events and a summary of recent events for what has been a busy period for our active society. The first item contains details of our next monthly meeting:

'SALT'Y TALES'

A Presentation by Lindsay Gordon

Thursday, 27th March 2014 at the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm prompt start.

This month we are going to be entertained by another friend of **Mike Price** which bodes well for another enjoyable evening. I believe that **Mike** has set up an entertainment agency- such is the talent that he has brought to the society meetings. Come along for what promises to be another evening of fun and laughter.

The refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Margaret Cox, June Jones and Elsie Salmon.**

LOOKING BACK AT RECENT EVENTS

The end of February and the first week in March was a very busy, lively and rewarding time for our society. The **FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING - 'AR EICH CAIS'** proved to be an evening of outstanding entertainment. The participants had all prepared most thoroughly and presented their choices in a professional manner. I should like to extend a big thank you to all of you. Many thanks once again to **Mike Price** and **David Brown** for organising the audio/visual presentations. We are so fortunate to have such skilled men in our society.

St. Valentine's Day Fund Raising Coffee Morning. A big thank you to **Buddug and Ray Rowland Frank** are hosting this successful event which raised **£290.**

St. David's Day Dinner on held on Saturday, 1st March 2014. 103 members and friends attended this annual event. We were pleased to welcome the **Mayor and Mayoress of Chelmsford** and the guest speaker, **Gruffudd Glyn**, to our celebratory dinner. The event was organised in an exemplary manner by **Cynthia Styles**, ably assisted by **David Brown**. We are most grateful to both of them for all their efforts. Thanks are also extended to **Shirley Moody** for providing the floral arrangements, **Brian Thomas** for acting as MC and the **Bartel family**. **Rachel, Ken and Katie**, together with **Charlotte Rowland Frank**, for providing quality musical entertainment. I have received many favourable comments from members and guests with regard this dinner.

St. David's Day Service. The **Revd. Dr. Cally Hamond** officiated at this splendid service which was held once again at Little Baddow URC. We thank **Cally** for continuing to support this annual event, the officers of the church for the use of the premises, **Keith Byatt** for playing the organ and to all those members who attended. Diolch yn fawr.

LOOKING FORWARD

Mike's Musical Miscellany on Saturday, 15th March 2014 at 7.30pm. This fund raising/charity event will be held at **Radley Green Farm**, courtesy of **Shirley and Don Moody**. Tickets costing £15 can be obtained from **Eddie Alcock** on **01245 603448**. Light refreshments and a glass of wine /soft drinks will be provided. All events organised by **Mike Price** are always informative, entertaining and enjoyable. Tickets are selling well . and there is limited space! So, don't delay . book today.

Welsh classes. The next class will be held on **Mondays, March..... 2014** at **Radley Green Farm** at **2pm.**

Sing-a-Long and Supper, Friday 11th April 2014 at 7.30pm. - hosted by **Shirley and Don Moody** with our President, **Ivy Price** on the piano. More information next month - but put the date in your diary!

ANNUAL CONCERT on SATURDAY, 24th MAY 2014 in CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL at 7.30pm. - featuring the **PONTARDDULAI MALE CHOIR** and guest soloist **Rhian Lois**. **Rhian** is currently starring with the English National Opera Company. You will have noticed that the concert is being held on an earlier date than usual. This means that we must all make every effort to sell tickets as soon as possible. To date, ticket sales have been good and members are advised to get their tickets **now** in order to avoid disappointment. The costs associated with the running of this concert are increasing and we **MUST** ensure that the cathedral is full to capacity. Tickets priced at **£15** can be ordered from the concert secretary, **Arthur Williams** on 01621-778711 or by sending a s.a.e. to **Arthur** at 3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT or from **Eddie Alcock** - 01245-603448 -5 Elms Drive, Chelmsford CM1 1RH. Please send cheques payable to Chelmsford and District Welsh Society.

Visit to South Wales June 5th to the 8th 2014. The final payment for this visit should have been made by the end of **February 2014**. If you have not paid, please send a cheque directly to **Carys Williams** at **3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT** with cheques made payable to Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. **£225** per person in double/twin rooms and for those in a single room the balance is **£255** (this includes an additional charge of **£10** per night for a single room). Full arrangements will be given in the April Newsletter.

SOCIETY NEWS

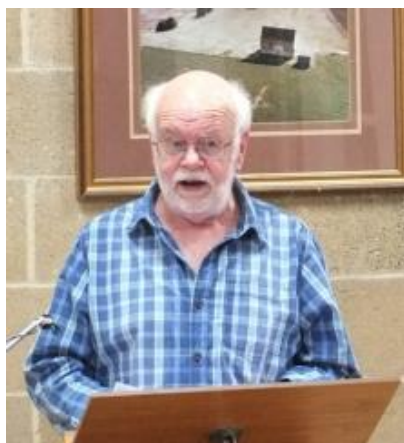
- **Stuart Roberts** is in Clinical Area 36, The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, Middlesex, where he continues to receive specialist treatment. We send our very best wishes to **Stuart**. If you would like to telephone him, his mobile number is **07936 109304**.
- **John Williams** has been unable to attend some of our recent meetings and events due to ill-health. We hope to see you again in the near future **John** - we miss you.
- There are a number of other members who have been unwell. We wish you all - improved health - and look forward to seeing you soon.

Cofion Cynnes,
Mair

Meeting and Activities Report March 2014

"SALTY TALES"

With Lyndsay Gordon



There were 67 at the March meeting of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. The evening commenced as usual with news of the membership where society member Beth Schluter told us of the release of her book, a Sci-Fi novel called ~~ROBOT~~ ~~ARMY~~ the first of a trilogy.

Salty Tales was the topic, and Lindsay Gordon, the speaker, had certainly enjoyed an exiting life. His grandparents were Welsh, Scottish, Irish and English, and his wife is German. His early education was somewhat of a problem, since he lived in 42 homes, due to his father's profession. Eventually he obtained an apprenticeship as a marine engineer. Whilst training at Harland and Wolf shipyard in Belfast, he enrolled to study music at Queens University . until his father found out! He joined the Merchant navy as an 8th Engineer, and his first 4 years were spent east of Singapore. It was a rough life with many involved in gambling, smuggling, and heavy drinking. He then emigrated to Australia to work in mining and had the distinction of being the first to be breathalysed in West Australia! Then back to sea before joining Lloyds Register of Shipping in Bristol as a surveyor. After a year in hospital following an accident he went back to sea, initially on American tugs in the Ivory Coast, for which he was never paid, and then on tankers for a Dublin firm which traded with Colonel Gadhafi. Finally, 30 years as an expert witness on maritime disputes. His experience of working in other legal jurisdictions was interesting: the USA, %npleasant, aggressive, personal+; Greece, %haotic+; Sweden and Holland, %linical, fair+; South Africa and Dublin %interesting+. Buddug Rowland-Frank, the Vice-president, congratulated him for his humorous presentation. Mike's Musical Miscellany fund raising/charity evening, hosted by Shirley and Don Moody, raised £600.

Jim Armishaw

APRIL NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS EBRILL 2014

Annwyl Gyfeillion/Dear Friends,

'Mike's Musical Miscellany' held on Saturday, 15th March 2014 was a huge success. The hall at Radley Green Farm was full to capacity and the event was much enjoyed by all who attended. A big thank you to **Mike, David and Edith Brown** and **Shirley and Don Moody** for organising such a successful evening. Details of coming meetings and events are listed below:

A YOUNG ACTOR in WALES'

'A Presentation by Rheinalt Wyn Davies.

Thursday, 24th April 2014 at the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House
at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm prompt start.

Rheinalt is a young actor who is currently appearing in the popular Rownd a Rownd soap on S4C, which is set in North Wales. He was recommended by Betty Williams, the ex-MP, who was a guest speaker during our 50th Year celebrations. This bodes well for another informative and enjoyable monthly meeting. Come along and ensure that we have a full house for this young actor. He deserves our support!

The refreshments and raffle will be organised by June Jones, Elsie Salmon and Edith Brown.

WELSH CLASSES - The next class will be held on **Mondays, April 14th 2014 at Radley Green Farm at 2pm.**

FUND RAISING/CHARITY SING-A-LONG and SUPPER Friday 11th April 2014 at 7.30pm. - hosted by **Shirley and Don Moody** with our President, **Ivy Price** on the piano. Come along and enjoy a hot meal, pudding, a glass of wine or two, coffee/tea - and some rousing singing at Radley Green Farm. Tickets for this event costing **£15** inclusive can be obtained from **Eddie Alcock** on **01245 603448**. Our last event was a sell-out - so to avoid disappointment . book your tickets early.

CYMANFA GANU/SONGS OF PRAISE at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell on Sunday, 11th MAY 2014 at 2.30pm. This annual event is being held in Roxwell once again. We usually have a congregation of around 100 . so let us see if we can improve on this in 2014. Please support this event and bring along your friends for an enjoyable afternoon when favourite hymns will be sung by society and church members. **Meinir Wyn Davies** will conduct the singing and **Keith Byatt** will play the organ. Light refreshments will be served at the end of the singing festival. Donations of small cakes towards the post - Gymanfa tea will be gratefully accepted.

ANNUAL CONCERT on SATURDAY, 24th MAY 2014 in CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL at 7.30pm. - featuring the **PONTARDDULAIS MALE CHOIR** and guest soloist **Rhian Lois**. **Rhian** is currently starring with the English National Opera Company. **Pontarddulais** are a large choir and they always enjoy their visit to Chelmsford. They have been impressed by the wonderful reception and hospitality that they are given. You will have noticed that the concert is being held on an earlier date than usual. This means that we must all make every effort to sell tickets as soon as possible. To date, ticket sales have been good and members are advised to get their tickets **now** in order to avoid disappointment. The costs associated with the running of this concert are increasing and we **MUST** ensure that the cathedral is full to capacity. Tickets priced at **£15** can be ordered from the concert secretary, **Arthur Williams** on 01621-778711 or by sending a s.a.e. to **Arthur** at 3 Engelfields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT or from **Eddie Alcock** - 01245-603448 -5 Elms Drive, Chelmsford CM1 1RH. Please send cheques payable to Chelmsford and District Welsh Society.

VISIT TO SOUTH WALES - June 5th to the 8th 2014. All the arrangements for this visit have been finalised and full details will be given in the May Newsletter. A reminder that we will be leaving Radley Green Farm promptly at **8.30am** and your cars can be safely parked at the farm . courtesy of **Shirley and Don Moody**.

SOCIETY NEWS

Congratulations to society member **Beth Schluter** on the publication of her Sci-Fi novel called **'ROBOT ARMY'**. It is the first of a trilogy and the second book . **'THE VOYAGE OF THE ROBOT ARMY'** will be released later this year. The book is available from Waterstones, Amazon and Google at a recommended price of £8.99.

Stuart Roberts sends his best wishes to all members. He hopes to be moved from the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore to Madelayne Court , Chelmsford in the near future.

It is with great sadness that I have to inform you of the death of **Renée Foster**, who had been a loyal member of our society for many years. **Renée**, who was a close friend of **Agnes Evans and Dot Curtis**, had recently moved to Mansfield to be near her niece. We send our deepest sympathy to her family at the loss of a much loved person.

Alun Thomas another loyal and faithful member died in Glanwili Hospital, Carmarthen on Saturday 29th March 2014. **Alun** had been attending the funeral of a family friend when he had a severe stroke. His funeral will take place on Friday, 11th April at 12pm at Pembrey Church, Burry Port SA16 0AJ followed by a private cremation at Llanelli Crematorium. We extend our deepest sympathy to his daughter **Siân** and all the family, together with close friends, at the loss of a much loved man. He will be sadly missed by all who had the good fortune to know him.

Cofion Cynnes,
Mair

Meeting and Activities Report April 2014

"A YOUNG ACTOR IN WALES"

With Rheinalt Wyn Davies (Callum in S4C's Rownd a Rownd)



"Young Actor in Wales" was the subject of the talk at the 24 April Meeting of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. The President, Ivy Price, introduced the speaker, Rheinalt Wyn Davies, a 21 year experienced young actor from north Wales who for many years has played the part of Callum in the popular soap opera Rownd A Rownd on the Welsh TV Channel S4C. He has also appeared in several adverts, including one for the Welsh Government, featured in voice-overs and appeared in several other television shows. The script for one of these was used to show how the progression from script to screen occurs. He described his life as an actor as %brilliant+but also quite stressful at times. His annual contract still leaves quiet periods, and while he was at school the show employed tutors for the young actors. For 14 years from 1998 he was a member of the famous and hugely successful Glanaethwy Drama School, which comprises three sections: a Junior Section for those under 9 years of age, a 9 to 14 Section and a Senior Section. The School choirs competed in the prestigious and keenly competitive 2010 World Choir Games in China, achieving two gold and one silver award in the Gospel, Pop and Classical sections. He was a member of the senior choir placed second (to the Welsh choir Only Men Aloud) in the Last Choir Standing TV competition in 2008. After an interval for refreshments, Rheinalt answered many questions from the audience. Buddug Rowland Frank, the Vice president, congratulated him on his well prepared and interesting talk and presented him with a Society goblet.

The Sing-A-Long and Supper, hosted by Shirley and Don Moody, raised about £500. May events include: a Cymanfa Ganu (Songs of Praise) with the congregation of St. Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell at 2.30 pm on Sunday 11th; a Musical Recital given by the respected musician Helen Hooker at the Monthly Meeting on 22nd; and the highlight of the Society's year, the Annual Concert at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday 24th, featuring the famous Pontarddulais Male Voice Choir and the celebrated soprano Rhian Lois.

Jim Armishaw



MAY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MAI 2014

Annwyl Gyfeillion/Dear Friends,

What a successful evening our **'Sing-a-Long and Supper'** proved to be. The catering committee excelled themselves and served all present with a delicious supper of cottage pie and vegetables, followed by a chocolate ice cream . all downed with a glass of wine. We all sung to our hearts content and I extend our thanks to **Ivy Price** for accompanying the 36 songs sung during the evening; **Don Moody** for his brilliant solo spot; **Brian Thomas** for acting as MC and **David Brown** for compiling and projecting all the songs. **David** has constructed a **CDWS Digital Song Book** which will serve us well at future gatherings. We are grateful to **Shirley** and **Don Moody** for hosting yet another enjoyable evening which raised approximately £500 for our fund raising/charity account. Please note a change to our planned May Monthly Meeting. **Sue Handscombe** has had to cancel the booking because of ill health. However, **Sue** has found a replacement who will provide a similar programme . details are listed below.

'A Musical Evening with Helen'

Thursday, 22ND May 2014 at the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm prompt start.

I am delighted that **Helen Hooker** has kindly agreed to entertain us at our monthly meeting. **Helen** is a graduate of Trinity College , London where she obtained a first class honours degree. She is a talented recorder player of international repute. **Helen** has a full diary of concert engagements and has produced CDs of recorder music. She will be taking a weekend course on recorder playing in Llanerchindda, near Llandovery in June of this year. She loves that part of Wales and is a regular visitor. We are most fortunate that she has recently moved to Essex. Please give your full support to this musical evening which promises to be another evening to remember.

The refreshments and raffle will be organised by **Maureen Byatt, Pauline Lewins and Gaynor Burch.**

CYMANFA GANU/SONGS OF PRAISE at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell on Sunday, 11th MAY 2014 at 2.30pm. We are pleased to announce that society member, **Meinir Wyn Davies**, will conduct the singing. **Meinir** hails from Aberystwyth and she is an accomplished pianist, a talented music teacher and an experienced music director. The ever dependable **Keith Byatt** will play the organ once again. This annual event is being held in Roxwell and I hope that you will make a special effort to attend this special festival.. A professionally printed programme will assist us in the singing of some of your favourite hymns. Bring your family and friends to this popular event, thus ensuring that society members and friends attend in greater numbers than the locals! Light refreshments will be served at the end of the singing festival. If you could bring a plate of small cakes etc . this would be greatly appreciated.

WELSH CLASS - The next class will be held on **Monday, May 12th 2014 at Radley Green Farm at 2pm.**

ANNUAL CONCERT on SATURDAY, 24th MAY 2014 in CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL at 7.30pm.

– featuring the **PONTARDDULAI MALE CHOIR** who will be returning to Chelmsford for the 8th time and guest soloist **Rhian Lois**. **Rhian** is currently starring with the English National Opera Company and she has a wonderful voice. **ALL TICKETS FOR THIS CONCERT HAVE BEEN SOLD! However, if you should, by chance, be holding any unsold tickets please return them to Arthur immediately at 3 Engelfields South St. Tillingham CM9 7AT. Phone Arthur in advance as it is likely that he will have a waiting list for tickets – 01621-778711. All issued tickets must be paid for.** **Arthur** wishes to thank all those people who have purchased tickets and especially those members who have done a remarkable job in selling tickets to friends and acquaintances.

VISIT TO SOUTH WALES - June 5th to the 8th 2014. A reminder that we will be leaving Radley Green Farm promptly at 8.30am on **Thursday, June 5th 2014** and your cars can be safely parked at the farm . courtesy of **Shirley** and **Don Moody**. **Day 1** - will be spent travelling to the **Heronstown Hotel and Leisure Club, Ewenny, Nr. Bridgend CF35 5AW (Tel. 01656668811)** and time and weather permitting it may be possible to have a quick trip to Porthcawl. After dinner, a programme of quality entertainment has been arranged. **Day 2** . we will travel to Merthyr by a mountain route and we should arrive at Cyfartha Castle by mid-morning. We leave Merthyr for a trip on the extended Brecon Mountain Railway . a journey that should last about 90 minutes. We return to our hotel for an evening meal followed by more quality entertainment. **Day 3** . we travel to Swansea where one can visit the Dylan Thomas Centre, the Waterfront Museum and Swansea Market. We leave Swansea for the Gower Heritage Centre where we will have some ~~æawlq~~and crusty bread. We then board the coach for a guided tour of the Gower Peninsula before returning to our hotel for dinner and more excellent entertainment. **Day 4** sees us leave the hotel after breakfast as we commence our homeward journey. We will break our journey to visit Llancaiach Manor House and then continue our journey back to Chelmsford. We thank **Ivy** and **Mike Price** for arranging such a splendid itinerary and for obtaining the services of quality entertainers. The hotel has an indoor swimming pool, sauna, spa pool and gym. I can't wait to go!

FUTURE EVENTS

- **Wednesday, June 11th 2014- 'Morning Coffee in the Country'** – hosted by **Carys** and **Arthur Williams** in Tillingham.
- **Sunday, June 15th 2014- Summer Service at Little Baddow URC.**
- **Thursday, June 26th 2014 – Annual General Meeting.**
- **Saturday, June 28th 2014 – Summer Garden Party at Radley Green Farm** – the first event for our President elect – **Buddug Rowland Frank.**

SOCIETY NEWS

- Best wishes to **Norma Maskell** who has recently been a patient at Basildon Hospital. **Norma** is now recovering at home in the capable care of her husband **Ron.**
- **Stuart Roberts** has been transferred to Madelayne Court, School Lane Chelmsford CM1 7DR. He has settled in his new home and would welcome visitors.
- Congratulations to **Jean Jones** on the celebration of her **80th birthday.**

Cofion Cynnes, *Mair*

Meeting and Activities Report May 2014

"CYMANFA GANU / SONGS OF PRAISE"

&

"A MUSICAL EVENING with HELEN HOOKER"

(one of the leading UK exponents of the recorder)

&

CHOIR CONCERT

Featuring The Pontarddulais Male Choir
and soloist Rhian Lois (soprano)

CYMANFA GANU

Chelmsford and District Welsh Society



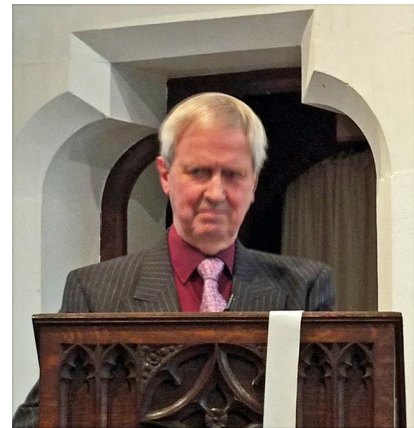
*Songs of Praise 2014
'Cymanfa Ganu'*

*With members of
St. Michael and All Angels Church,
Roxwell
Sunday, 11th May at 2.30pm*

Conductor: Meinir Wyn Davies

Organist: Keith Byatt







May Meeting with HELEN HOOKER

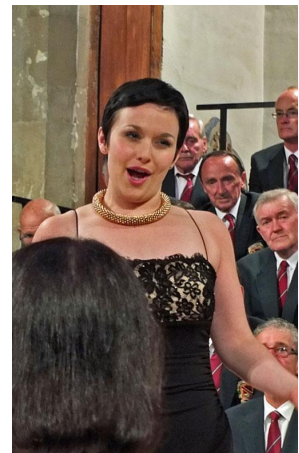


May was a busy month for Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. They were joined by members of St Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell for the annual Cymanfa Ganu (Songs of Praise). At the Monthly meeting, the Musical Recital given by Helen Hooker, the renowned recorder player, teacher and conductor thrilled and amazed. She played music ranging from the 14th Century to the present day, on nine recorders, including a World Premier of A Welsh Fantasy by Steve Marshall. Chelmsford Cathedral was the venue for the Annual Concert, given by the famous Cor Meibion Pontarddulais Male Choir under the direction of their inspirational conductor Clive Phillips, and the celebrated soprano Rhian Lois, both accompanied on the piano by David Last. The capacity audience were treated to a veritable feast of music. The choir sang a varied programme, including traditional and recent Welsh songs, classical compositions, spirituals and songs from the shows. They opened the first half with a rousing Llanfair, included Verdi's Speed Your Journey and concluded with Waldo Williams's poignant poem Y Tangnefeddwyr with music by Eric Jones. Their second half included: Anthem from Chess; the spiritual Roll, Jordan Roll; Dylan Thomas's Eli Jenkins's Prayer and closed with the most beautiful of love songs, Myfanwy, to thunderous applause. Rhian is clearly a star performer, with a beautiful voice and a wonderful stage presence. She captivated the audience with her O Mio Babbino Cara and nostalgic Mae Hiraeth Yn Y Mor, thrilled them with The Laughing Song from Faust and captivated them with Musetta's Song from La Boheme. She was joined by the choir to sing Clive's arrangement of the nostalgic Unwaith Eto'n Nghymru Annwyl. The Civic Welcome was given by the Deputy Mayor of Chelmsford, Cllr Sandra Pontin. Congratulations and presentations to Rhian, Clive and David were made by the President, Ivy Price. Finally, the choir and audience raised the roof in a joyous rendition of the Welsh National Anthem, Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau, in celebration of one of the best concerts in the history of the Society.

Jim Armishaw

The Choir Concert

With the Pontarddulais Male Choir and Rhian Lois





JUNE NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MEHEFIN 2014

Annwyl Gyfeillion/Dear Friends,

What a wonderful evening we experienced on Saturday, 24th May 2014 at the Chelmsford Cathedral. The **Pontarddulais Male Voice Choir** did us proud and they excelled themselves. **Rhian Lois** - the beautiful and talented soprano enthralled us with her magnificent singing. She has a wonderful career ahead of her. The audience was appreciative and responsive to the performers and they commented on the warmth and enthusiasm of their reception. The event was a sell-out! If you missed this concert - you missed a treat! We owe a big thank you to **Arthur Williams**, so ably assisted by **Carys**, for organising such a successful evening. We have received many favourable comments about the concert with people already looking forward to the 2015 event. **Arthur** wishes to thank all those people who assisted him in so many ways - ticket sellers, stage erectors, ushers, stewards, programme sellers and refreshment servers. Some of us had a further treat when the choir continued with their magnificent singing into the early hours of Sunday morning at the Miami Hotel.

'ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING'

Thursday, 26th June 2014 at the Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm prompt start.

This is the last meeting of the society ~~year~~so please come along in large numbers to support our retiring President, **Ivy Price** and welcome her successor, **Buddug Rowland Frank**. New officers and committee will be elected, and they, with your support, will look forward to the 2014-15 ~~year~~with great enthusiasm. I extend a very big thank you to all members who have supported our fund raising/charity events throughout the year. A representative from **CHES** will be presented with a cheque to the value of **£2520**. It is most satisfying to think that we have had considerable enjoyment at a range of events and at the same time we have been supporting a local charity and ensuring the future development of our thriving society. Refreshments will be organised by the Catering Committee and raffle prizes will be donated by **Ron Jones, Enid Morris, David Brown and John Lloyd Williams**. Following the formal part of the evening and the refreshments, some topical entertainment will be provided.

CYMANFA GANU/SONG of PRAISE held at St. Michael's Church Roxwell on Sunday 11th May. A pleasant afternoon was enjoyed by all who attended this annual gathering. Our sincere thanks go to **Meinir Wyn Davies**, who conducted the singing, and to the organist, **Keith Byatt**. Thanks also to the ladies who provided the refreshments.

VISIT TO SOUTH WALES - June 5th to the 8th 2014. D-DAY is upon us! Those travelling should be at Radley Green Farm by 8am to ensure a prompt departure by 8.30am.

CHARITY/FUND RAISING COFFEE MORNING in the ESSEX COUNTRYSIDE, Wednesday, 11th June 2014 at 10.30am. **Carys** and **Arthur Williams** are looking forward to seeing you in their home at 3 Englefields, South St. Tillingham CM0 7AT telephone: 01621-778711. The sun usually shines for this event so please come and join us. Transport can be arranged if necessary. Raffle prizes welcomed as usual!

WELSH CLASS - The next classes will be held on **Monday, 9th and 23rd June 2014 at Radley Green Farm at 2pm**. We extend our thanks to **Shirley Moody** for organising and hosting these classes throughout the year.

SUMMER SERVICE at LITTLE BADDOW URC on Sunday, 15th June at 10.30am. We look forward once again to our annual visit to this delightful church situated in the Essex countryside. The church members are most welcoming and this year the trainee minister will take the service with **Ivy Price** and **Buddug Rowland Frank** reading the lessons. Tea/coffee will be served at the conclusion of the service. Please make an effort to attend this service and thus ensure that our long tradition of joining up with the church congregation continues. If you haven't attended previously why not join us this year?

FUND RAISING/CHARITY GARDEN PARTY, Saturday, 28th June 2014 at 2.30pm at Radley Green Farm. **Shirley** and **Don Moody** look forward to welcoming you once again to their delightful home. This will be the first event of the society ~~year~~for our newly elected President, **Buddug Rowland Frank's**. Family and friends are asked to join us as the more we have the merrier we will be! Admission is **£5** to include refreshments; **children free**. We are always delighted to see children at this function as they add so much to the occasion. Games and activities will be organised as usual providing you with the opportunity to win some fabulous prizes! Please bring folding chairs and table with you if possible - raffle prizes are most acceptable. Directions to **Radley Green Farm** - take the A414 (signposted Harlow, M11) road from Chelmsford. You will pass two garden nurseries and the Fox and Goose Pub - carry on until you see a large sign post for Radley Green, Roxwell, Willingale - turn right, there is a recent barn conversion on your left; and drive along this road - the Cuckoo Pub (now a restaurant) is on your left and just a little further up the road, also on your left, is the farm house - take the second entrance.

SOCIETY NEWS

- **Jean Davies** and **Agnes Evans** have both been in hospital but they have returned to their respective homes. We wish them a return to better health.
- **Stuart Roberts** remains in Madelayne Court, School Lane Chelmsford CM1 7DR. He has settled in his new home and would welcome visitors.
- **Wynford James** and a number of other members have been unwell during the year and I send them all our very best wishes and hope that the summer months will enable them to improve and recover their health.
- **Congratulations to John Williams** who recently celebrated his **87th birthday**.
- **Congratulations to Vera and Derrick Thomas** on the celebration of their **diamond wedding anniversary** - 60 years and still going strong!

Happy holiday to everyone.

Cofion Cynnes,

Mair

VISIT TO SOUTH WALES

JUNE 2014

The following photos were taken during the visit to the Swansea area of South Wales between Thursday 5th June and Sunday 8th June 2014.







