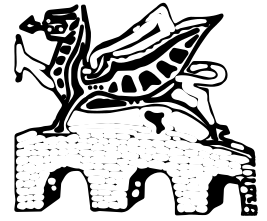


CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



JANUARY NEWSLETTER/ CYLCHLYTHYR MIS IONAWR 2021

President Chatter January

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i chi gyd, Happy New year to you all.

Once again my instructions from Gwenno was "just one paragraph for this News Letter". I am so delighted that in spite of this pandemic our Society is very much alive. We will see this horrible thing through, and I am confident that come next September we will be meeting again in the Chapter House.

One thing I ought to mention is that our furry friends, the squirrels, were eventually caught and moved to pastures new in September.

**Cofion cynnes
Arthur**

Meinir Wyn Davies would like to thank everyone for the lovely flowers and card following her recent operation at Southend Hospital. We are glad that Meinir has made a good recovery.

A new addition to our family

Teddy, our cocker spaniel joined us just before Christmas and he has settled in very well. He is 12 weeks old now and is keeping us all busy and has plenty of energy to run around the garden. He also enjoys his cwtches, especially with Anna. We are looking forward to being able to take him for walks this week.

Aelod newydd o'r teulu

Mi wnaeth Teddy ymuno efo ni cyn y Nadolig ac mae o yn gi bach del ac yn llawn egni. Mae o yn 12 wythnos oed ac yn ein cadw ni yn brysur ac yn mwynhau cael cwtches, yn enwedig efo Anna. Mi rydym yn edrych ymlaen i gael mynd a fo allan am dro yr wythnos yma.

**Cofion
Gwenno, Chris ac Anna**



Shirley and Ann would like to wish all members in the Welsh Society

"Blwyddyn Newydd Dda 2021"

Looking Back on 2020

It has been an unforgettable year 2020 for everyone-not only in our country but world-wide.

March 1st 2020, however, was a particularly memorable day -**St. David's Day** at the United Reform Church at Little Baddow proved to be the last society meeting of the year.

Shirley and Don were conspicuous by their absence having to attend a very important meeting held at the Wickford Dogs Trust to collect their chosen dog-Bella. She has been the perfect "asset" during "lockdown".

Whilst in "lock-up" I have enjoyed using the ' gair Cymraeg am prison '-**Shirley Carchar** - Prison **Carcharor** – prisoner. It has a certain prison ring about it^{♪♪}

The next three months will, I'm sure, prove to be a trial - cold, dark, dreary days, and already these days are getting longer minute by minute every day. I think our Patron Saint would agree with that. His words of "Always do the small things" means just that - by checking the small items everything else falls into place.

Spring will follow Winter and we will All be released from this viral **Carchar** and we will all meet again soon. So let us lift our glasses or cups and toast the wise words of our Patron Saint David.

Reflections on 2020 by Enid Sian Hughes

As we look back at the year gone by
I wonder what thoughts fill our minds?
The year when the world seemed ever so small,
When Covid-19 disrupted our lives.

When parents became teachers and shops were all shut
When the hours and days seemed so long
When we could not see the ones we loved
And our Valley was silent of song

But let us recall the walks in the sun
The mountains and the roar of the sea,
Baking cakes and learning new hobbies and crafts
Meeting friends in the garden for tea

Standing and clapping for the N.H.S
The friendship we shared with our neighbours
Captain Tom and others who gave of their time
I'm sure they will always be remembered

So as we look to the year ahead
We pray it will be much better
But the lessons we've learned -the love and kindness
Will remain in our hearts forever.

Famous Quotes for the New Year

- "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples"- Mother Theresa
- "The greatest glory in living, lies not in never falling, but rising every time we fall"- Nelson Mandela
- "It does not matter how slowly you go, as long as you do not stop"-Confucius
- "A new Heart for a New Year Always "-Charles Dickens
- "Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365 page book-Write a good one"- Brad Paisley
- "Be always at war with your vices, At peace with your neighbours And let each New Year find you a better man"--Benjamin Franklin
- "The bad news is TIME FLIES. The GOOD NEWS is you are the Pilot " - Walt Disney
- "The purpose of our lives is to be happy" - Dalai Lamar
- "The beginning is the most important part of any work" - Plato
- "Tomorrow to fresh woods And pastures new " - Milton

FLYING by Brian Farmer

When I was at Infants school I was asked by a visiting inspector 'What do you want to do when you grow up?' 'Fly a Spitfire', was my reply – to much merriment. It is still an unfulfilled ambition – one day. I also literally dreamt about flying over my village of Cefn Fforest, a dream fulfilled and as thrilling as imagined. Comics such as the Eagle inspired me when I was growing up, but my ambition was turned towards engineering by my cousin Tony Davies who worked for De Havilland and went on to Long Beach, California for a career with McDonald Douglas.

I went on to get a BSc in Aero Eng at Manchester University in 1969 after which I decided that flying a drawing board wasn't for me and I was commissioned into the Royal and Mechanical Engineers, where I spent some years around helicopters.

Time went on and I went through several changes of career, spent mainly around aircraft, until I retired from the RAF in 1994. On my post military resettlement I met Robert Millar a retired RAF flying instructor who prompted me to obtain a private flying licence, at Wickenby airfield north of Lincoln. After 40 hours flying training in 2 seat Cessna 152s, ground exams and lots of money (about £100/hour) I became a licenced private pilot in 1995. Flying solo for the first time is very special, you have to remember that take off is optional, landing is mandatory - once you are up there you have to get it down safely.

Over the years I have also flown in the USA (pre 9/11) and Australia, without bending my aeroplane or me. After 4 years flying from Andrews Field I hung my goggles up in July 2011 - 292 hours not out. Pilots like golfers have many tales to tell, here's a couple:

In 1997 I flew, with neighbour Chris Carlyle from Gamston, Notts to Cardiff to visit my parents. The trip took over 2 hours on a pleasant day with good visibility, tracking down through the Welsh Marches. As we approached Cardiff airport we passed over Barry Island and were given permission from the tower to land on the mile long runway. As I turned to line up with the runway I heard an Aerlingus aircraft say that it was 17 miles out on finals? I was doing 60 mph he would be doing about 140 mph! Anyway we landed and were trundling along to a taxiway when the tower, sounding a bit anxious, told me to depart the runway.

Since I didn't want to drive off into rough grass I told him was doing my best to get to the taxiway. Sounding even more desperate he told me to depart runway NOW! Chris then tapped me on the shoulder and said 'look at that!!' I looked over my shoulder to see the wheels and undercarriage of a large aircraft bearing down on us. At the same time I heard the Aerlingus pilot say 'Going Around', as the shadow of the aircraft passed over. The controller gave me a good rollicking, but I said that I'd been obeying his orders as best I could. We taxied to the tower and parked without another word – if I'd been in the wrong they would have nailed me. A couple of years later after I'd gained a licence to fly on instruments in cloud, I decided to visit my parents who weren't well, in October. After taking off I soon disappeared into cloud, but I'd done my sums allowing for wind speed and direction, so I was (foolishly) confident that I could track out of reach of the Welsh mountains. My confidence was boosted when I saw Hereford through a gap in the clouds, on track and on time! I soon disappeared again into the gloom. After a while when I thought that I should be over Monmouth I started descending, hoping to follow the A 40 to Newport. The descent went on and on, still in cloud, when suddenly I saw a hillside with sheep on the left and then a hillside with sheep on the right!! I had broken cloud between the Sugar Loaf and Skirrid Fawr and below was Abergavenny, I was about 30 degrees off track! I turned left and followed the Usk to Newport and on to Cardiff. I decided to become a fair weather flier after that.



A special 'Thank You' to all who have contributed to the monthly newsletters over the last year. If you have any news, special birthday or celebration coming up, please get in touch.

Diolch yn fawr