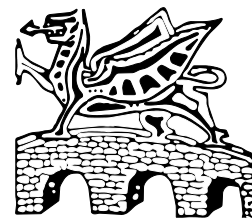


CHELMSFORD and DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY



JULY NEWSLETTER/ CYLCHLYTHYR MIS GORFFENAF 2021

Ex-President Chatter July

Annwyl Gyfeillion

When I handed over the Presidency to **Gwil Williams** it reminded me of a notice I saw above a fireplace in a pub we visited when we anchored our boat on the river Fal, and walked to Pilleigh, that said "**AT THIS VERY SPOT IN 1853 NOTHING HAPPENED**" which just about reflected my year as President.

Sir Malcome Sargent is reported as saying :- " THE DREAM OF EVERY WELSH TENOR WAS EVENTUALLY TO GO THROUGH THE PEARLY GATES AND JOIN THE HEAVENLY MALE VOICE CHOIR, WHICH HE WOULD FIND ON ARRIVAL CONSISTED OF A THOUSAND BASES AND ONE TENOR-HIMSELF. AT THE FIRST REHEARSAL, ST PETER WOULD START THEM OFF, THEN STOP THE CHOIR, TURN TO THE NEWLY ARRIVED TENOR AND SAY 'MR JONES A LITTLE LESS VOICE IF YOU PLEASE"

Not so long ago I posed the question - **What is the longest place name in Wales**, and it was not Llanfairpwll. I only got one response and that was from **Derrick Thomas**, who changed the question to suit his answer. What else would you expect from an ex- policeman from Gowerton?

The answer is:-**GORSAFAWDDACHA'IDRAIGODANHEDDOGLEOLLONPENRHYNAREURDRAETHCEREDIGION**. It's a small railway Holt, called Golf Halt, on the Fairbourne Railway in Gwynedd.

The station master thought that the station could become as famous as Llanfairpwll. His Geography however left a lot to be desired as the station was in what was then Caernarfonshire, while the name refers to EURDRAETH CEREDIGION i.e. the Golden beach of Ceredigion. Possibly because of this, the name has not much if any official recognition. The station reverted to its original name of Golf Halt in 2007, although on the new sign underneath Golf HALT the long name is displayed in small letters.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and I hope to see you all in September.

Cofion Arthur



Arthur Williams handing over to Gwil Williams



The Society's President, Gwil Williams and the Vice President Sue Almond.

A special 'Thank you' to Arthur and Carys for all their hard work on behalf of the society. Thank you also to all committee members for their continued support.

"A big THANK YOU from Shirley for making the Friday Picnic a big success"

The sun shone and everyone sat outside in what was a lovely warm afternoon- after a dismal morning!!! There was a great deal of joy with all the Members to see their friends again after such a long time. Everyone chatted and exchanged news and it was good to see the interaction between all the "Bubbles". The Hostess with the Mostest gave an interesting talk about several antique dolls including Myfanwy that she is denoting to a Museum.

Sina and Brian did the first Raffle of the Season and many thanks to Ivy and Carys for organising the teas and coffees.

Bella was the centre of attraction because she insisted on investigating the boot of everyone's car as they were unloading their picnic baskets and continually went around all the deck chairs sniffing for tit bits!!!!

Again Shirley would like to thank all the Members of the Welsh Society for making Friday 25th such a happy day full of joyful memories.

Diolch yn fawr iawn i aelodau y Gymdeithas Gymraeg am ddiwrnod bendigedig yn llawn atgofion da.



SEPTEMBER UPDATE- NOTE FOR THE DIARY

The committee members are pleased to announce that we have been busy planning our programme for 2021/2022. Our first event is **'Croeso yn Oi'** on **Wednesday 22nd September at 7.30pm at The Chapter House**. We look forward to welcome you all back and also to meet any new members that wish to join our society.

Good news about the parking- we will be able to use the Cathedral's car park during the evenings of our monthly meetings. The code needed to exit the car park will be announced during each meeting. More information to follow in the September newsletter.

The arrangements for **Edith Brown's "Celebration of Life" service** are as follows:

The service will be at **2.00p.m. on Saturday, 7th August at Central Baptist Church, Chelmsford**. This is almost opposite the multi-storey car park in Victoria Road South towards the railway station.

It would be helpful if people wishing to attend could **let David know by email** on bravedown3@gmail.com or by **phone on 07885363617**. This is to enable us to have sufficient refreshments and to ensure everyone can have a cup of tea and a cake afterwards. Please note that the phone number was incorrect in the June newsletter.

WELSH CLASSES

If anyone would be interested in attending regular Welsh classes, or would like some more information, please can you get in touch with **Ivy Price on 01277 210541** or **Sina Williams on 01245 231279**.

The Peacocks of Brentwood

Mae Mike a finnau wedi cael boddhad mawr yn ystod y pythefnos diwethaf. Codi un bore i weld paun prydfferth iawn yn ein gardd ni yn symud yn reit hamddenol o amgylch ac yn agor plu ei gynf0f01on i ni ei edmygu.

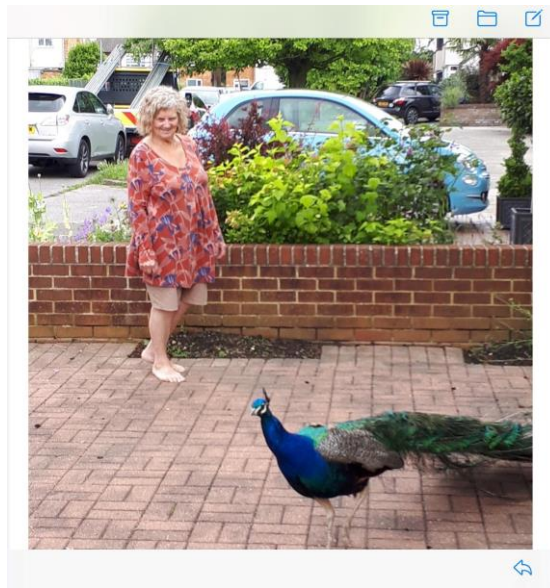
Mae'r paun yn mynd i ffwrdd am rai dyddiau ond yn dychwelyd yn reit ffyddlon i ddweud helo wrthym. Rydym yn gweld y paun bron pob dydd nawr ac yn wir mae e' yn reit gyfforddus yn torsythu o stryd i stryd ac o ardd i ardd. Dwi yn pryderu braidd am ei fywyd. Mae gyda'r paun ddau elyn, y traffic a'r cadno!! Hyd yn hyn mae yn dal i fod. Paun lwcus iawn yn mwynhau'r rhyddid a'r sylw i grwydro strydoedd Brentwood.

One morning about two weeks ago we awoke to find a splendid peacock in our garden. He wandered about quite leisurely opening his beautiful tail feathers for us to admire.

He visits us quite regularly but indeed he is quite happy strutting from street to street and from garden to garden. We are a bit anxious about him as he has at least two enemies, the traffic and the fox!! He has been lucky so far, enjoying the freedom and the attention he gets from people as he wanders the streets of Brentwood.

You can find out more if you Google The Peacocks of Brentwood.

**Cymerwch ofal. Take care,
Ivy and Mike**



Thank you to Clive Bright for the following article about The Peculiar People

Readers of the **June Newsletter** might have seen a reference by **Keith Byatt** to a religious sect called the **Peculiar People**. I recall my mother speaking of her grandparents who were members of the Crossing chapel of The Peculiar People. She particularly remembered that, as a child on Sundays, she was forbidden by her grandmother from reading anything other than the Bible or Pilgrim's Progress. Photography was also frowned upon, with the most devout members not allowing their photographs to be taken – as a result I only have one picture of my great-grandmother (taken surreptitiously while she was out walking)! Although not being a member of the chapel in her adulthood or subscribing to all of their beliefs my mother could often be heard to say “I wish I had their faith”.

At the height of the Peculiar's popularity there were 43 chapels across Essex, Kent and East London, all giving emphasis to strict Bible teaching, personal testimonies and divine healing without medical intervention and by 1852 a constitution was established with bishops, elders and other helps. The name 'The Peculiar People' from 1 Peter 2:9 was decided upon.

As you've seen, amongst the sect's beliefs was divine healing. This led to the deaths of several children who might probably have been cured by medical means and this resulted in a schism within the Peculiar People. In Crossing the break resulted in there being two chapels existing at the same time; one for the Original Peculiar People and one for the “New Lights”, the latter (still existing) being more liberal in their views.

In 1956 the name was changed from 'The Peculiar People' to the 'Union of Evangelical Churches', as the denomination is now known. Divine healing does not now have such prominence but strict and literal interpretation of the Bible still forms the main basis of church teaching. Today, fifteen churches remain open within the UEC.

In 1979 a book entitled “The Peculiar People”, to which my mother was pleased to contribute, was published. If anyone wants more information on this subject please feel free to contact me.

FALKLANDS FOREY- by Brian Farmer

In early 1988 I was serving in RAF Conningsby and at the end of my 3 year tour I was posted for 4 months to RAF Mount Pleasant in the Falkland Islands. The airfield had been completed in 1986 well to the west of Port Stanley. The RN, Army and RAF shared a common mess, called the Death Star, with its main corridor half a mile long. My job was OC Armament Engineering Flight and, since there were still a large number of minefields and lots of ordinance about the islands I was kept busy.

One day there was a report from a number of REs who had been on an R&R camping trip on the West Island, that they'd discovered a missile in the peat not far from a settlement. I gathered a couple of my lads and the kit that we'd probably need and set out to be picked up by, what was known as an Eric. Eric Bristow's helicopters had a number of helicopters chartered to the forces, in this case it was a civilian version of the Sea King, a big aircraft which could hold a dozen or so at a push. It took us over the unrelieved moorland (it's not the end of the world, but you can see it from there) and the channel between the islands to more moorland and dropped us in sight of the settlement. They said they'd be back in about 3 hours. The other clue we were given was that it was near a fence line, so we found the fence spread out and started walking towards the settlement.

After about 30 minutes one of the lads almost fell over a long green thing in the peat. I had a look, it was an expended Rapier, ground to air missile, well used in the 1982 conflict. I could see that the rocket motor had been burnt out and the warhead had blown, so it was quite safe. I carried it back to our pick-up point, and just before it was a deep gully. We had plenty of time to kill so I decided to cut the thing in half, using explosives, to make it more manageable on the helicopter. I got out the Plastic Explosive (PE), fuse and safety fuse that I would need and the lads carried the rest of the kit up to the rendezvous. I placed the PE over the body of the missile, inserted the safety fuse in to the fuse and placed that into the body of the PE. It is standard practice to have enough safety fuse to give 2 minutes before ignition (can seem a long time). After I'd set everything up and lit the safety fuse, I joined my companions.

I checked my watch as the seconds ticked by. After about a minute I heard a noise, rather like a bee, couldn't be, they weren't due for more than an hour. The bee resolved itself into the shape of an Eric heading straight for us. I checked my watch again, 30 seconds to go, they'd seen us. It flashed through my mind that I could run down and pull out the fuse - not today! We tried to signal to the Eric to go over to one side by waving arms, jumping up and down and even yelling, but they thought we were just pleased to see them. I could see the crew quite clearly as they ploughed on directly over the bomb - disaster, multi-million £ helicopter destroyed, crew killed, court martial etc. Then BOOM and a column of black smoke and peat shot up in front of the Eric which took a sharp left turn and came to land behind us. I told the lads to get the kit onto the Eric while I ran into the gully to check that there was no explosive left and recover the remains of the missile.

When we got back to Mount Pleasant I went up to the front of the helicopter to speak to the captain, who was an attractive young woman. Before I could apologise she said 'Don't worry we were early!'



Gwenno Pope 134 Stock Road, Billericay, Essex CM12 0RT Tel: 07724144432

Website address: www.chelmsfordwelsh.org.uk/home

Email: chelmsfordwelsh.org.uk@outlook.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/chelmsfordwelsh Twitter: [@chelmsfordwelsh](https://twitter.com/chelmsfordwelsh)

