



## THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY 2017 / 2018



**President, BRIAN FARMER**



**Chartist Memorial and Bridge, Blackwood**

## Committee Members 2017 . 2018

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

## MONTHLY MEETINGS and EVENTS 2016 – 2017

SEPTEMBER 28 <sup>th</sup>	CROESO YN ÔL
OCTOBER 15 <sup>th</sup>	HARVEST SONGS OF PRAISE at St Michaels & All Angels Church, Roxwell.
OCTOBER 26 <sup>th</sup>	Dolkes of Hazard Ukulele Band
NOVEMBER 24 <sup>th</sup>	A talk on RS THOMAS by Ivor Moody
DECEMBER 14 <sup>th</sup>	PARTI NADOLIG with SORELA Christmas Celebration
JANUARY 25 <sup>th</sup>	NOSON LAWEN
FEBRUARY 22 <sup>nd</sup>	A talk by Medical Consultant MARSHA MORGAN
MARCH 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Friday 7pm)	ST. DAVID'S DAY DINNER at the County Hotel, Chelmsford
MARCH 4 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday 3.30pm)	ST. DAVID'S DAY SERVICE at Little Baddow URC
MARCH 22 <sup>nd</sup>	"A STYLE and COLOUR MATCHING DEMONSTRATION with Helen Boshier
APRIL 26 <sup>th</sup>	A MUSICAL EVENT with VICKI SWAN and Jonny Dyer featuring the Nickelharpa
MAY 13 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup>	Society visit to Blackwood
MAY 23 <sup>rd</sup>	In Concert with AFTERGLOW
JUNE 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Sunday 10.30am)	SUMMER SERVICE at Little Baddow URC with Rev Cally Hammond
JUNE 9 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday 7.30pm)	ANNUAL CONCERT with the ABER VALLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR at Chelmsford Cathedral
JUNE 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Wednesday)	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and QUIZ NIGHT with Gwil Williams
JUNE 30 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday 3.00pm)	SUMMER CELEBRATION at Radley Green Farm

### FUND RAISING / CHARITY EVENTS

OCTOBER 12 <sup>th</sup>	FUND RAISING COFFEE MORNING Hosted by <i>Brian &amp; Marion Farmer</i>
DECEMBER 10 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday) at 3pm	CHRISTMAS TEA Hosted by <i>Liz &amp; Jim Armishaw</i>
MARCH 16 <sup>th</sup>	MIKES MUSICAL MISCELLANY with <i>Mike Price</i> , hosted by <i>Shirley &amp; Don Moody</i>
APRIL 19 <sup>th</sup>	MORNING COFFEE with Sina Williams
JUNE 13 <sup>th</sup>	MORNING COFFEE IN THE COUNTRY Hosted by Carys & Arthur Williams

## JUNE NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MEHEFIN 2017

Annwyl Gyfeillion . Dear Friends,

This is the last newsletter of the society's year until our new programme starts in September. Our first meeting in September will be on Thursday **28<sup>th</sup> September 2017**, so please don't forget to put this date in your diaries. We will have another exciting and varied programme lined up for the year, so we look forward to seeing you at our monthly events.

We enjoyed an amazing evening at our May meeting, where **Mike Price** had cleverly presented a great variety of some of our members' chosen music. It was a fantastic and fun filled evening. We also celebrated **James Salmon's** birthday and enjoyed some wine and cake. A very special Thank you to **Mike Price** for arranging such a special evening for us all to enjoy.

Details of the next monthly meeting and other events are listed below:

### *ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING*

**Thursday, 22nd June 2017 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.**

In the first half of the meeting the President and Treasurer will deliver their report on the Society's year, and the election of officers will be confirmed. There will be some entertainment in the second half. **If you are interested in becoming a Committee member, where you can get involved with the running of the Society, then please get in touch.**

Refreshments- Catering Committee

Raffle prizes . **David Brown, Kay Bright, Buddug Rowland Frank and Jim Armishaw**

**WELSH CLASSES** – The next classes will be held on **Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at Radley Green Farm at 2.00pm.**

Please ask for more details if you are interested in joining the Welsh classes.

### *Annual Concert at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017*

This concert will feature the **North Wales Male Voice Choir** and soloists. **Tickets** priced at **£16** are available from **Arthur Williams** on **01621 778711** and **Eddie Alcock** on **01245 603448**. **THERE ARE TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THIS EVENT.** Please contact the ticket sellers if you would like any more information. Listen out for **Arthur Williams** who will be promoting this concert on **BBC Essex** this Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 1.15pm

**VISIT TO ANGLESEY SEPTEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017** . The full balance of the trip is due to be paid by the **end of June**. Please send your cheques to **Carys Williams**, 3 Englefields, Tillingham, Essex CM0 7AT. All cheques to be made to the **Chelmsford & District Welsh Society**. The balance of **£295** is to be paid for a **single room**, and **£265 each** for a **double room**.

**MORNING COFFEE IN THE COUNTRY** on **Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 10.30am** hosted by **Carys & Arthur Williams** at their home . 3 Englefields, South Street, Tillingham CM0 7AT. Telephone- 01621 778711. Raffle prizes will be most appreciated.

**AFTERNOON TEA** on **Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 3pm**. Please come and join us for a delightful Afternoon Tea. Tickets are £7.50 each and will be sold at the AGM, or can also be purchased on the day. If you would like to come to this event, please ring Carys Williams on 01621 778711, so we have an idea of how many to cater for. The address is Radley Green Farm, Radley Green, CM4 0LU. Please remember to bring your chairs along, and any raffle prizes will be greatly appreciated.

### **SOCIETY NEWS**

- We would like to say a special Thank you to **Arthur Williams**, for his excellent year as President. Thank you also to **Carys Williams** for her hard work and support during the year. We also appreciate the effort and hard work that they both put into the organising of our Annual Concert.
- Happy Birthday to **James Salmon**.
- Best wishes to all members who have been unwell recently.

**Cofion Cynnes,  
Gwenno Pope**



## MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT JUNE 2017

### AGM

The June meeting of the Chelmsford and District Welsh Society held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June was the last of the 2016/17 season and included the Annual General Meeting. The outgoing President Arthur Williams outlined the programme of events that had been staged during his time in office and thanked all the committee members that had served him so well in his time in office.

Also during the year several successful events took place to raise money for charity. These included a garden party, coffee mornings, a lunch and a musical evening. The money raised allowed the society to present a cheque for £2,000 to Theresa James representing the Essex Air Ambulance, the lead charity of Arthur's year. Another beneficiary was the Tillingham Hobbies Club that runs worthwhile activities for 6 to 17 year olds in Arthur's home village. The minutes of the 2016 AGM was read and approved. Arthur Williams gave his report on year's events and proceedings.

Treasurer Carys Williams gave her report showing that the society had made a small overall loss on the year, but in general, the society's finances were in a healthy position. It was decided to increase the annual subscription for the coming year to £20 to cover this shortfall. All agreed that this still reflected incredible value for money. She thanked the raffle ticket sellers and all those who hosted fund raising events. Retiring committee member Maureen Byatt was made an Honorary Vice-president of the Society in recognition of all the hard work she had done for the society over the years including a year as Society President.

Arthur then passed on the office of Presidency to Brian Farmer who in turn appointed Ivy Price as his Vice President for the coming season. Brian announced that his lead charity for his year in office was to be the Ys Hospice. The AGM was then formally closed and all those who attended were treated to a generous strawberry supper. After the drawing of the raffle new president Brian Farmer gave a short illustrated presentation on his time in the African state of Malawi. Brian included photos of the countryside and wildlife as well as the customs and dress of the local people who were most industrious and friendly. At that time the country was a one party state under the presidency of Hastings Banda and although still one of the world's poorest countries does now have a multiparty system of government.

On Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June the new president Brian Farmer held his first event, a fund raising afternoon tea, at the home of Shirley and Don Moody. £430 was raised at this very successful event which will go towards next season's charities. Our thanks go to Shirley and Don for the use of their barn and all the facilities. The Society will next meet after the summer break on Thursday September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m for the Groesol Yn Ôl+ (Welcome Back) meeting where the president will introduce his charity for the year and Mike Price will show extracts from this year's National Eisteddfod.



Presentation of cheque to  
Theresa James  
of Essex Air Ambulance



Retiring long standing Committee member Maureen  
Byatt is created an Honorary Vice President

## MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT JUNE 2016 (Continued)



President Arthur Williams



Secretary Mrs Gwenno Pope



Arthur Williams hands over Presidency to Brian Farmer



Strawberry Supper



Vice President Mrs Ivy Price



Afternoon Tea



Bessie



## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MEDI 2017

Annwyl Gyfeillion . Dear Friends,

I hope that you have all enjoyed the summer break and are ready for our new programme of exciting events for this coming year. Please find below a list of forthcoming society events.

### 'CROESO YN ÔL'

**Thursday, 28th September 2017 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7pm for 7.30pm**

Our Autumn programme commences with our usual Croeso yn Ôl (Welcome back meeting). It is a great opportunity to catch up on all the news with old and new friends, and hopefully we will be able to welcome new members to the society. Our new President, **Brian Farmer**, will be there to welcome you and to inform you of the events and visits that have been arranged for the year. There will be cheese and wine refreshments and the usual raffle. **Mike Price** will present the visual highlights from the National Eisteddfod. Please note that the **new annual subscription** price is **£20**. **Carys Williams** will be there to receive your money or cheques. However, you can send your subscription to Carys at 3 Engelfields, South Street, Tillingham, Essex, CM0 7AT, prior to the meeting if you so desire. Please enclose a s.a.e with your cheque, which should be payable to **Chelmsford & District Welsh Society**, and a programme card will be sent to you.

Refreshments- Catering Committee

Raffle prizes . **Carys Williams, Gwenno Pope, Brian Farmer and Jim Armishaw**

**WELSH CLASSES** – The next classes will be held on **Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017** at **Radley Green Farm** at **2.00pm**. Please ask for more details if you are interested in joining the Welsh classes.

**HARVEST SINGS OF PRAISE-CYMANFA GANU DIOLCHGARWCH** on **Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> October** at **3pm** at St Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell. Please put this date in your diaries and invite your family and friends to join you for this afternoon of song.

A booklet of the **history of the Society over the past five years** has just been published and will be **available to all members** at the September meeting. An online copy is also available on our website. **Thank you** to **Eddie Alcock** for producing this interesting booklet.

Since our last newsletter in June we have enjoyed various events including our spectacular **Annual concert** at Chelmsford Cathedral with the North Wales Male Voice Choir. It was a fantastic concert and we are now looking forward to next year's concert on **June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018** featuring the **Aber Valley Male Voice Choir**.

We also enjoyed the following **fundraising events**- a delightful **'Morning Coffee in the Country'** hosted by Carys & Arthur Williams, as well as an **'Afternoon Tea'** hosted by Don & Shirley Moody. **Thank you** to **Arthur & Carys Williams** and to **Don & Shirley Moody** for their hospitality.

The **North Wales Male Voice Choir** and soloists James Edwards and Robert Lewis will be performing at **The Welsh Church of Central London** on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2017** at 6pm. The Society will be **running a coach** to this event. Concert tickets are £15. The cost of the coach has not been finalised but will be a maximum of £20. Please contact **Arthur Williams on 01621 778711** if you would like to attend this concert.

### SOCIETY NEWS

- **Eddie Alcock** and **Maureen Byatt** have both resigned from the committee after many years. We would like to thank them both for all their work and contribution to the society over the years. Maureen received her Honorary Vice-President badge at the AGM in June.
- Congratulations to **Ron & Jean Jones** who celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary over the summer.
- Congratulations to **John & Enid Morris** who celebrated special birthdays recently.
- Congratulations to **Brother Gildas** who confirmed his vows at Our Lady Immaculate church, Chelmsford.
- Best wishes to all members who have been unwell recently.
- It is with great sadness that I inform you of the death of **David Henfrey**. Unfortunately David had been unwell for some time and had been unable to attend our monthly meeting in recent months. His funeral was held on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

**Cofion Cynnes,**  
*Gwenno Pope*

## MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT SEPTEMBER 2017

### "CROESO YN ÔL"

The President, Brian Farmer, welcomed the members to the first Monthly Meeting , Croeso yn Ol (welcome back), of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society at the Cathedral Chapter House on 28 September.

Brian's charity for his year of office is the J's Hospice, which is dedicated to improving the lives of young adults in Essex with life limiting and life threatening conditions. This is the fifth time the Society have supported the J's, and Liz Armishaw, an Ambassador for the charity, gave a moving presentation of the history and the future plans. Brian then outlined the many activities planned for the year, highlights of which will be the St David's Day Dinner on 4 March, and the Annual Concert at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday 9 June, given by Aber Valley Male Voice Choir. The meeting continued with a wonderful DVD presentation of two events, the new Eurovision Choral Competition held in Latvia and the National Eisteddfod of Wales held in Ynys Mon (Anglesey). In the Eurovision competition, Cor Merched Sir Gar were awarded the second prize, a superb achievement for the female youth choir only recently formed. The high standards at the National Eisteddfod, the pinnacle of the Welsh cultural calendar with over 150,000 visitors over 8 days, continue to amaze. The Society sponsors prizes in the 16 to 19 year old female and male singing competitions; the winners this year were Glesni Jones (for the 2nd time) and Dafydd Wyn Jones, who is related to Society member Gwil Williams. Dafydd has started his first year at the Royal College of Music. Two outstanding performances were the winners of a Brass Band competition, an Anglesey band with an average age of only 14, and Sir Fon Children's Choir, who were awarded Choir of the Festival. The winners of the male voice competition were the recently formed Machynlleth Male Choir. Comprising mainly young members it began as a young choir, before being joined by some older members. This could be a template for choirs in future, in a world where young members are few in most established male voice choirs. It is encouraging to see that established Welsh operatic stars are prepared to share a stage with new talent in evening concerts at the eisteddfod and elsewhere. This year it was the famous operatic tenor Gwyn Hughes Jones. Wine was provided by John and Enid Morris, in celebration of significant birthdays. Tea, cheese and biscuits were enjoyed during the interval. The Vice-president, Ivy Price, congratulated Mike for providing such an interesting evening's entertainment.



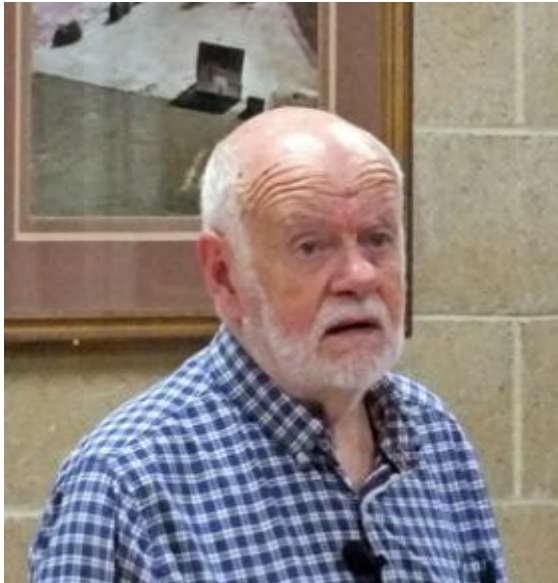
Brian Farmer, President



Liz Armishaw who is an ambassador for the J's Hospice details the work of this year's lead charity



## MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT SEPTEMBER 2016 (Continued)



Mike Price presented an audio and visual synopsis of this years National Eistedfordd, held in Anglesey



All hands to the sink when willing washer uppers Arthur Williams and Gwil Williams find the dish washer out of action!!



Sina Williams stands in for Brian Farmer calling the raffle whilst he concentrates on his President's duties



Ivy Price, Vice President, thanks husband Mike for the hard work involved in assembling the selection of the National Eistedfodd

## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS HYDREF 2017

Annwyl Gyfeillion . Dear Friends,

We enjoyed a great evening for our £Croeso Yn Olqmeeting. It was lovely to welcome some new faces and to catch up with old friends. Thank you to the **Catering committee** for organising the refreshments, and also Thank you to **John & Enid Morris** for providing the wine to help us celebrate their special birthdays. **President Brian Farmer** outlined the programme of events for the year, and **Liz Armishaw**, who is an ambassador for **The J's Hospice**, detailed the work of this year's chosen charity. **Mike Price** presented an audio and visual synopsis of this year's National Eisteddfod held in August. Thank you once again to **Mike Price** for an excellent evening.

### 'UKELELE BAND'

**Thursday, 26th October 2017 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7pm for 7.30pm**

Come and join us for a musical evening with **The Ukes of Hazard**. Please note that the parking around the Cathedral is becoming increasingly difficult, but there are car parks within walking distance to The Chapter House. The nearest car park is Waterloo Lane, off New Street and also Coval Lane.

Refreshments and Raffle . **Marion Farmer, Sue Bridger, Gwenno Pope**

**SUBSCRIPTIONS-** **Carys Williams**, our Treasurer, wishes to thank all members who have already paid their annual subscription. She will be collection the annual subscription at the next monthly meeting. In return, you will receive a copy of the 2017-18 programme. Should you be unable to attend, please send a cheque payable to **Chelmsford & District Welsh Society** to **Carys Williams, 3 Englefields, South Street, Tillingham, Essex CM0 7AT**. Please note that the new annual subscription is £20.

**WELSH CLASSES** – The next classes will be held on **Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017** at **Radley Green Farm** at **2.00pm**. Please ask for more details if you are interested in joining the Welsh classes for a fun afternoon of Welsh conversation and scrabble!

**CHARITY COFFEE MORNING** on **Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> October** at **10.30am** with **Brian & Marion Farmer**. Their address is **13 Jacaranda Close, Chelmsford CM1 6NN**. If you require directions please ring them on **01245 468178**. Donation of £5 per person and raffle prizes will be much appreciated. Limited road side parking, please car share if possible.

**SONGS OF PRAISE-CYMANFA GANU** on **Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> October** at **3pm** at St Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell. The congregations of the Roxwell group of Churches and The Chelmsford Welsh Society join in a joyful afternoon of congregational singing in both English and Welsh followed by refreshments. Please make every effort to attend. Any cake donation for the refreshments will be greatly appreciated.

A booklet of the **history of the Society over the past five years** has just been published and will be **available to all members** at the October meeting. An **online copy** is also available on our website. If you would like a copy please contact **Eddie Alcock** on **01245 603448**. A suggested donation of £3-5 to our charity is requested.

The **North Wales Male Voice Choir** and soloists James Edwards and Robert Lewis will be performing at **The Welsh Church of Central London** on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2017** at 6pm. The Society will be **running a coach** to this event **leaving at 2pm** from **Radley Green Farm**. Concert tickets are £15. The cost of the coach has not been finalised but will be a maximum of £20. Please contact **Arthur Williams** on **01621 778711** if you would like to attend this concert.

**VISIT TO BLACKWOOD MAY 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018-** Next year, our President is organising a visit to Blackwood in South Wales, and we shall be staying at the Bryn Meadows Hotel for 3 nights. If you would like to join us on this trip, please get in touch with **Brian Farmer** on **01245 468178**.

### SOCIETY NEWS

- Best wishes to **John Styles** following his recent stay in hospital, and also to all members who have been unwell recently.

**Cofion Cynnes,**  
*Gwenno Pope*

## MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT OCTOBER 2017



At its October meeting, held at the Cathedral Chapter House, the Society was roundly entertained by Ukes of Hazard, a ukulele band from Bishops Stortford. The description 'ukulele band' however is not itself adequate to describe the band, with guitars, drums, flute, tambourine, kazoo and penny whistle all making contributions to the backing music for the male and female vocalists.

The band, under the leadership of guitarist and vocalist Peter Crush, provided the audience with an eclectic two-part set comprising approximately 20 numbers. The set ranged seamlessly from Amazing Grace, written in the 1700s, through to Adele's 2008 hit 'Make You Feel my Love' via a selection of 1960s and 70s hits originally performed by artists such as The Beatles, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Johnny Miller, The Eagles, Status Quo, The Bonzo Dog Doo Dah Band and The Beach Boys. A smattering of traditional numbers completed the set including, at the audience's insistence, a George Formby number ('Leaning on the Lamppost' being the choice of solo singer and banjolele player Mike Mulpeter).

The audience, who joined in enthusiastically with many of the numbers, all agreed that the evening had been thoroughly entertaining and a repeat booking of the band can certainly not be ruled out for the future.

The Society's other activities for the month consisted of a coffee morning, in aid of the Society's 2017/18 charity J's Hospice, and the regular annual Songs of Praise, hosted by St Michael & All Angels Church, Roxwell.









## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS TACHWEDD 2017

Annwyl Gyfeillion . Dear Friends,

The society has enjoyed a busy few weeks of events. In September, quite a few of our members enjoyed a memorable trip to Beaumaris in North Wales, where the highlight of the trip was going to the summit of Snowdon. Thank you to **Arthur & Carys Williams** for organising such a successful trip. Photos of the trip can be seen on our website. The charity coffee morning hosted by **Marion & Brian Farmer** was well attended and we raised £300 for our charity fund. On Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> October, many members joined in the congregation of St Michael and All Angels Church in Roxwell, for Songs of Praise, followed by some delicious refreshments. The October monthly meeting proved to be most enjoyable with the Ukelele Band & The Ukes of Hazard entertaining us with some well known songs. Thank you to **Maureen & Keith Byatt** for providing the wine and delicious meringues to help us celebrate their Silver Wedding anniversary.

### **'TALK ON R.S. THOMAS by Ivor Moody'**

**Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.**

The Reverend Canon Ivor Moody, Vice Dean of Chelmsford Cathedral gives a talk on R.S.Thomas, recognized as one of the leading poets of modern Wales.

Refreshments and Raffle . **Diane Moul, Gaynor Birch & Liz Armishaw**

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**-**Carys Williams**, our Treasurer, wishes to thank all 79 members who have already paid their annual subscription. She will be collecting the annual subscription at the next monthly meeting. In return, you will receive a copy of the 2017-18 programme. Should you be unable to attend, please send a cheque payable to **'Chelmsford & District Welsh Society'** to **Carys Williams, 3 Englefields, South Street, Tillingham, Essex CM0 7AT**. Please note that the new annual subscription is £20.

**WELSH CLASSES**-The next class will be held on **Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at Radley Green Farm at 2.00pm**. Please ask for more details if you are interested in joining the Welsh classes for a fun afternoon of Welsh conversation and scrabble!

**CHRISTMAS TEA**-Liz and Jim Armishaw will be hosting this event on **Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 3.00pm** at their home-**38A Chignal Road, Chelmsford, CM1 2SB**. Please ring **Liz or Jim** on **01245 281162** if you require directions or further information. Donation of £5 per person and a wrapped gift for the raffle would be much appreciated.

**NOSON LAWEN**-Our homespun evening of Welsh entertainment will be held on **Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018**. We would like to encourage our members to take part and display their talents. **Please don't be shy!** You could entertain us with your songs, poetry, jokes, dance . or any particular skill that you would like to share with the members. If you would be interested in taking part in our **Noson Lawen** please give your name to **Brian Farmer** on **01245 468178**, as we need more volunteers for this evening of entertainment.

The **North Wales Male Voice Choir** and soloists James Edwards and Robert Lewis will be performing at **The Welsh Church of Central London** on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2017** at 6pm. The Society will be **running a coach** to this event **leaving at 2pm from Radley Green Farm**. Concert tickets are £15. The cost of the coach has not been finalised but will be a maximum of £20. Please contact **Arthur Williams** on **01621 778711** if you would like to attend this concert.

**VISIT TO BLACKWOOD MAY 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2018**-Next year, our President is organising a visit to Blackwood in South Wales, and we shall be staying at the Bryn Meadows Hotel for 3 nights. If you would like to join us on this trip, please get in touch with **Brian Farmer** on **01245 468178**.

### **SOCIETY NEWS**

- Best wishes to **Don Moody** following his recent operation.
- Congratulations to **Maureen & Keith Byatt** who celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary recently.
- Congratulations to **Don & Shirley Moody** who will be celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in November.
- All the best to **Mick & Hazel Hammond** who will be moving to Ireland to be near their family.

**Cofion Cynnes,**  
*Gwenno Pope*

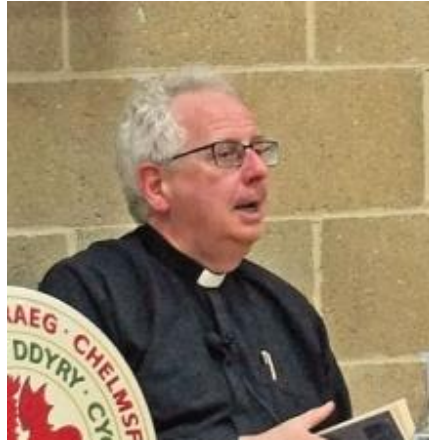
## MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT OCTOBER 2017

### THE POET R.S. THOMAS

presented by  
Canon Ivor Moody, Vice Dean of Chelmsford Cathedral



President, Brian Farmer



Canon Ivor Moody



Mick & Hazel Hammond

On the 23rd of November, Canon Ivor Moody, Vice Dean of Chelmsford Cathedral, gave an illustrated talk on Ronald Stuart Thomas, to the Chelmsford Welsh Society, at the Cathedral Chapter house. Forty three members listened to an interesting and enlightening presentation of the life and works of the poet.

Thomas was born in 1913 in Cardiff but spent his early years in Holyhead where his father worked as a seaman. He studied Latin in Bangor University and then trained to become a priest in the Church in Wales. He met his wife Mildred, who was a well-connected young lady, when he was a curate and they had one son. Thomas spent the rest of his life moving between remote and secluded parishes in rural North Wales, which suited his austere and spartan way of life. Electricity and running water in the home were regarded by him and his wife as luxuries. He was a deeply thoughtful and prolific poet who wrote about the hard life of the farmers, the beauty of the countryside, the constant struggle he had with his faith, and love. He never looked for fame, but is regarded by many in the literary world, as one of the best poets in the English language of the last century and he was nominated for a Nobel Prize in Literature in 1996. To some, he appeared abrupt and rude, to others he was a caring and attentive minister at times of trouble.

His last parish was that of Aberdaron at the end of the Llŷn Peninsula, appropriately near the bay Porth Neigwl or Hell's Mouth. Mildred died in 1991, Thomas married again and died in 2000.

The Society appreciated very much the clarity and fluency of Canon Ivor's presentation and as a token of our thanks Ivy Price, the vice-president of the Society, gave him a Welsh slate plaque, embellished with the Society's crest.

Long standing members Mick & Hazel Hammond attended their last meeting before moving to their new home in Northern Ireland. We thank them for providing wine and snacks during the evening. We send our best wishes to both of them for happiness in their new home.



Mick Hammond



Hazel Hammond



Canon Ivor Moody



Canon Ivor Moody



Vice President Ivy Price

## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS RHAGFYR 2017

**ANNWYL GYFEILLION** . Dear Friends, The society enjoyed another interesting evening in November where The Reverend Canon Ivor Moody gave us a talk on R.S. Thomas. Thank you to Mick & Hazel Hammond for providing the wine and snacks, and all the best to them in their new home in Northern Ireland. We also enjoyed a trip to London to see Cantorion Gogledd Cymru/The North Wales Male Voice Choir and soloists James Edwards and Robert Lewis. This was an excellent concert. Thank you to Arthur Williams for organising the trip.

### **'DATHLU NADOLIG/CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS with SORELA**

Thursday, 14th December 2017 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House  
at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. We are excited to welcome back Sorelaq Three Welsh sisters singing acapella folk songs and some seasonal songs, complete with Christmas themed supper.  
Refreshments and Raffle . **Catering committee**

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**- Carys Williams, our Treasurer, wishes to thank all 85 members who have already paid their annual subscription.

**CHRISTMAS TEA/TE NADOLIG**- on Sunday, 10th December at 3pm. Thank you to Shirley & Don Moody for offering to host this event at Radley Green Farm, Radley Green, CM4 0LU. Please ring Shirley on 01245 248178 if you are planning to attend this event. Donation of £5 per person and a wrapped gift for the raffle would be much appreciated.

**WELSH CLASSES**. The last class of 2017 will be held on Monday, 18th December 2017 at Radley Green Farm at 2.00pm.

**NOSON LAWEN**-Our homespun evening of Welsh entertainment will be held on Thursday, 25th January 2018. We would like to encourage our members to take part and display their talents. Please don't be shy! You could entertain us with your songs, poetry, jokes, dance . or any particular skill that you would like to share with the members. If you would be interested in taking part in our Noson Lawen please give your name to Brian Farmer on 01245 468178, as we need more volunteers for this evening of entertainment.

**ST DAVID'S DAY DINNER**, Friday, 2nd March 2018 at 7pm- Tickets are now on sale for our annual St David's Day dinner at The County Hotel, Chelmsford. Tickets are £37.50 each. Please ring Kay Bright on 01245 380543 if you wish to order your ticket, or email [chelmsfordwelsh.org.uk@outlook.com](mailto:chelmsfordwelsh.org.uk@outlook.com). There is a Vegetarian option available, so please let Kay know if you require this option.

**VISIT TO BLACKWOOD** MAY 13th. 16th, 2018-Next year, our President is organising a visit to Blackwood in South Wales, and we shall be staying at the Bryn Meadows Hotel for 3 nights. If you would like to join us on this trip, please get in touch with Brian Farmer on 01245 468178. The cost of the trip is £320 per person with a £30 single supplement. A deposit of £75 is required to be paid by end of January. All cheques to be paid to the Chelmsford & District Welsh Society, and to be sent to Carys Williams, 3 Englefields, South Street, Tillingham CM0 7AT.

### **SOCIETY NEWS**

- Best wishes to Liz Armishaw following her recent surgery. Hope you will be feeling better soon.
- Best wishes to Val Allen following her recent fall.
- All the best to Clive Bright following his recent operation.
- Best wishes to all members who have been unwell recently.

On behalf of the committee I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year  
Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

Cofion Cynnes,  
*Gwenno Pope*



**MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT DECEMBER 2017**  
**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS**  
**with SORELA**  
**and Festive Fare**



SORELA, the popular Welsh folk a cappella close harmony sister trio, the daughters of Linda Healy of the Welsh folk group Plethyn, provided the entertainment at Chelmsford and District Welsh Society's Christmas celebrations. They sang a bilingual , eclectic mix of traditional Welsh folk tunes, 90s pop hits, 50s classics and original works to the delight of the audience. A particular favourite was the traditional Plygain carol Ar Gyfer Heddiwq Bore. Plygain songs were traditionally sung in the Dorian mode, tonally different from English carols, in candle-lit chapels between 3 and 7 o'clock on Christmas morning, and include verses on the crucifixion and resurrection, as well as the nativity. At the conclusion, the Vice-president, Ivy Price, expressed the delight felt by everyone at the fabulous evening provided by the group, Lisa Angharad, Gwenno Elan and Mari Gwenllian. Mulled wine and mince pies were enjoyed at the beginning of the evening and a feast of sandwiches, nibbles and cakes during the interval.







Shirley Moody

## JANUARY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS IONAWR 2018

Annwyl Gyfeillion . Dear Friends,

### BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA/HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!

We enjoyed another great evening in our December meeting with the talented sistersq Sorelaq providing the entertainment. They sang a mixture of Welsh and English songs. Thanks to the Catering Committee for arranging the refreshments. Some of our members also enjoyed a lovely afternoon at our annual Christmas Tea and made it through the snow to Radley Green. Thanks to Shirley & Don Moody for hosting the event. We raised £191 for our charity fund. We look forward to a busy time for our society over the next few months. Here is what is coming up .

### ‘NOSON LAWEN’

**Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House  
at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.**

We start 2018 with an evening of homespun entertainment. We would like to encourage our members to take part and display their talents. Please don't be shy! If you are interested in taking part in our Noson Lawen please contact Brian Farmer on 01245 468178. **Refreshments and Raffle prizes- Pauline Lewins, Anja Welsh Smyth and Sue Almond.**

**WELSH CLASSES.** The next classes will be held on Monday 15th and 22nd January 2018 at Radley Green Farm at 2.00pm. Please ask for more details if you are interested in joining the Welsh classes.

**ST DAVID'S DAY DINNER, Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 at 7pm-** Tickets are now on sale for our annual St David's Day dinner at The County Hotel, Chelmsford. **Tickets are £37.50 each.** Please ring **Kay Bright** on **01245 380543** if you wish to order your ticket, or email [chelmsfordwelsh.org.uk@outlook.com](mailto:chelmsfordwelsh.org.uk@outlook.com). **Tickets will also be on sale at our January meeting, so please remember to bring your money/cheques with you.** There is a Vegetarian option available, so please let Kay know if you require this option.

**ST DAVID'S DAY SERVICE,** Sunday 4th March 2018 at Little Baddow URC at 3.30pm This service is a special event in our programme and it would be wonderful to see some new faces attending. Tea and biscuits will be provided after the service.

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

**FROM MAY ONWARDS OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH. THE APRIL MEETING WILL BE ON THURSDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, THEN THE MAY MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY. THE CHANGE HAD TO BE MADE TO FIT IN WITH THE AVAILABILITY AT THE CHAPTER HOUSE. I HOPE THAT MOST OF YOU WILL STILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS ON THE WEDNESDAYS.**

**VISIT TO BLACKWOOD MAY 13th–16th, 2018** Next year, our President is organising a visit to Blackwood in South Wales, and we shall be staying at the Bryn Meadows Hotel for 3 nights. If you would like to join us on this trip, please get in touch with Brian Farmer on 01245 468178. The cost of the trip is **£320 per person with a £30 single supplement.** A **deposit of £75** is required to be paid by end of January. All cheques to be paid to the Chelmsford & District Welsh Society, and to be sent to Carys Williams, 3 Englefields, South Street, Tillingham CM0 7AT. **Gwenno Pope will be collecting the deposits at the January meeting, so please don't forget to bring your cheque books.**

### SOCIETY NEWS

- Congratulations to Ivy & Mike Price who have recently celebrated their 55th Wedding anniversary.
- Best wishes to all members who have been unwell recently.

**Cofion Cynnes,**  
*Gwenno Pope*



**MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT JANUARY 2018**  
**NOSON LAWEN 2018**  
25<sup>th</sup> January



**THE BLACK SHEEP CHOIR**

Stuart Anderson, Simon Royce, Dave Almond, Clive Bright, Peter Freeman, Brian Farmer, Gareth Williams, Jim Armishaw, Derrick Thomas (leader)



**Welsh Language Learners Group**



**Sina Williams leads the Welsh Learners with their sketch "Waiting For Dai"**





Brian & Gwenno, Ukuleles



Jim Armishaw



Dai Reece

The 62 members and friends attending the traditional January Noson Lawen of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society were treated to a feast of entertainment. The concert began with the ukulele duo Brian Farmer and Gwenno Pope, playing *The Wild Rover* and *Let It Be*. Jim Armishaw read two poems he had entered in Eisteddfodau, *Aelwyd Nain* (Grannie's Hearth) in 1953 and *Llyn Tegid* (Lake Bala) in 1954. Keith Byatt played a delightful *Walking In The Air* on the piano, followed by Dai Reece who read an hilarious *Ode To Ex-Rugby Players*. Next to perform was Derrick Thomas's popular Black Sheep Choir, which was formed many years ago specially for the Noson Lawen; Stuart Anderson, Simon Royce, Dave Almond, Clive Bright, Peter Freeman, Brian Farmer, Gareth Williams, Jim Armishaw and Derrick sang the haunting *Fields of Athenry*, followed by *Working Man*, a song about a Canadian coal miner, with Gareth as soloist. The first half ended with Peter singing *All Through The Night*, appropriately in the style of Paul Robeson who was a great supporter of the south Wales miners during the early 20th century recession.

Following delicious refreshments of tea and cakes, the Welsh Language Learners sang two songs and performed an amusing short play, *Aros Am Dai* (Waiting For Dai), led by Sina Williams. Clive Bright then sang two songs by Robat Arwyn; the beautiful *Anfonaf Angel* (Guardian Angel) and jolly *Yfory* (Tomorrow). Diane Moul read two contrasting poems about old age, one by Padraig Colm, the other by Jenny Joseph. David Brown's Indefinite Strings, (John Diamond, mandolin; Jeremy Hoyland, mandola; David, electro/acoustic bass; and Hillary camp, guitar) played an international medley of Welsh, French, Spanish and English songs. Dave Almond then sang a song which he said he had last sung in a competition 58 years ago, where he was the only competitor, and was awarded Second Prize. His performance at the Noson Lawen was certainly worthy of two first prizes! No Noson Lawen would be complete without a harp, and Buddug Rowland Frank delighted by playing a Welsh medley; *Cader Idris*; *Llwyn On*; *Bugeilio Gwenith Gwyn*; *Nos Galan*; and *Codiad Yr Ehedydd*. She finished with an example of *Min-Y-Mor* in the *canu penillion* style, where the singer is accompanied by a harp playing a different tune. Finally, the Black Sheep sang again, this time a rousing *I Bob Yn Sydd Ffyddlon* to the tune *Rachie*, and Elvis Presley's gentle *I Can Help Falling In Love With You*.

The one sad piece of news during the evening was that Elizabeth Peters, a well-loved and loyal member, had died.



Keith Byatt



Gareth Williams



Peter Freeman



John Diamond, Jeremy Hoyland, David Brown, and Hilary Camp form the "INDEFINITE STRINGS" Copyright © Gwenno Pope



Buddug Rowland Frank



Dave Almond



Ivy Price





Clive Bright



Diane Moul



THE BLACK SHEEP CHOIR

## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS CHWEFROR 2018

Annwyl Gyfeillion . Dear Friends,

**Thank you** to all who volunteered to perform at our annual ~~Noson~~ Lawenqin January. The evening was a great success and was enjoyed by all present. It was lovely to welcome back **June and Gwyn Jones** again after their illnesses. Here is what is coming up over the next few weeks.

### **'A Talk by Medical Consultant Marsha Morgan'**

**Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House  
at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.**

Refreshments and Raffle prizes- Enid Morris and Mary Jones

**WELSH CLASSES**—The next classes will be held on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at Radley Green Farm at 2.00pm.**

**ST DAVID'S DAY DINNER, Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 at 7pm**- Tickets are now on sale for our annual St David's Day dinner at The County Hotel, Chelmsford. **Tickets are £37.50 each.** Please ring **Kay Bright** on **01245 380543** **asap** if you wish to order your ticket, or email [chelmsfordwelsh.org.uk@outlook.com](mailto:chelmsfordwelsh.org.uk@outlook.com). **The deadline to order tickets is the 9<sup>th</sup> February.** There is a Vegetarian option available, so please let Kay know if you require this option.

**ST DAVID'S DAY SERVICE, Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Little Baddow URC at 3.30pm**

This service is a special event in our programme and it will be taken by the **Revd Dr Cally Hammond**. All members and non-members are welcome. Tea and biscuits will be provided after the service.

**MIKE'S MUSICAL MISCELLANY- PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DATE IS FRIDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018 AT 7/7.30PM**

The evening will be held at Radley Green Farm. Tickets are £15 each to include a fish and chips supper. There are only 40 tickets available for this event, and **please note that attendance is by ticket only**. Please ring **Ivy Price** on **01277 210541** or **Eddie Alcock** on **01245 603448** to reserve your place.

### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

**FROM MAY ONWARDS OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH. THE APRIL MEETING WILL BE ON THURSDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, THEN THE MAY MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY. THE CHANGE HAD TO BE MADE TO FIT IN WITH THE AVAILABILITY AT THE CHAPTER HOUSE. I HOPE THAT MOST OF YOU WILL STILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS ON THE WEDNESDAYS.**

**VISIT TO BLACKWOOD MAY 13<sup>th</sup>–16<sup>th</sup>, 2018** Our President is organising a visit to Blackwood in South Wales, and we shall be staying at the Bryn Meadows Hotel for 3 nights. If you would like to join us on this trip, please get in touch with **Brian Farmer** on **01245 468178**. The cost of the trip is **£320 per person with a £30 single supplement**. A **deposit of £75** is required to be paid **asap**. All cheques to be paid to the Chelmsford & District Welsh Society, and to be sent to Carys Williams, 3 Englefields, South Street, Tillingham CM0 7AT.

**Our ANNUAL CONCERT** featuring the **Aber Valley Male Voice Choir** will be held at Chelmsford Cathedral on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2018**. Tickets are £16 and will be on sale from the 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Please bring your money/cheque to the next monthly meeting to purchase your tickets, or contact **Arthur Williams** on **01621 778711**.

### **SOCIETY NEWS**

- It is with great sadness that I inform you of the death of **Elizabeth Peters**. Unfortunately due to her ill health, Elizabeth had not been able to attend our monthly meetings for a while. Her funeral will be held on Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 at Chelmsford Crematorium at 3pm.
- On behalf of the committee we would like to send our best wishes to those who are unable to attend the monthly meetings.
- Best wishes to **Elsie Salmon** and **Doug Eklof** and all members who have been unwell recently.

**Cofion Cynnes,  
Gwenno Pope**



## MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT FEBRUARY 2018

### Medical Consultant Prof. Marsha Morgan



A presentation by Medical Consultant Prof. Marsha Morgan of University College London was the theme at the February meeting of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. She was born in south Wales and first met the Society President, Brian Farmer, at Cefn Fforest Junior School, where they shared a desk at the age of eight. They lost touch at Grammar School, and although they both went to Manchester University never met there either. Their link was their mothers, who attended the same church, and years later they met again when Brian and Marion were married. The President is responsible for arranging the monthly meetings of the Society, and confident that Marsha would be an excellent speaker, he invited her to be guest speaker at the February meeting. We were certainly not disappointed! The audience were not aware beforehand what the topic of her presentation would be, but came away aware that they had been privileged to hear an excellent and dedicated researcher talk about her research into the effects alcohol has on health. It appears that 80 per cent of adults in the UK drink alcoholic beverages, 1 in 3 males and 1 in 5 females, above the recommended limits. Intoxication, dependence and liver damage result. It is the 5th greatest cause of deaths. Whilst 40 per cent of heavy users become dependent, fewer than 20 per cent develop cirrhosis. Her research in conjunction with medics in several parts of the world was aimed at understanding the complex factors which govern alcoholic reactions. The factors considered included the pattern of drinking, the types of drink consumed, (particularly beers versus wines) diet, (British beer drinkers tend to have a lower fat intake and to drink more sugary drinks than continental wine drinkers) gender, (female bodies have a lower water content than males) body mass index, (a high BMI increases likelihood of death) and genetics (the less responsible members of the press have a poor record when reporting on genetics). Genes are important in determining overall risks, but the picture is highly complex. Eleven are related to cirrhosis, with three highly significant. Many inhabitants of South Asia have a gene which causes them to feel very unwell and turn bright red when tasting alcohol, with the result that they avoid it; this gene therefore indirectly guards against the development of cirrhosis. The picture is clearly highly complex and the use of gene therapy to guard against alcohol induced diseases not yet available. In answer to a member who enquired about the effects of coffee consumption, the professor said that coffee intake was fine . to the relief of many who were present. The writer hopes that this report does not contain errors! At the conclusion, Prof. Morgan received enthusiastic applause for her brilliant delivery.



## MARCH NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MAWRTH 2018

Annwyl Gyfeillion . Dear Friends,

Our Society members have enjoyed a busy few weeks. In our February meeting we enjoyed an interesting talk with plenty of fun and humour by Medical Consultant Marsha Morgan. We celebrated St David's Day with our annual dinner on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March. The dinner was held at The County Hotel, Chelmsford, but unfortunately due to the exceptional weather conditions a few members and friends were unable to attend. All who attended enjoyed a fine meal and great entertainment. The guest of Honour was Peter Davies, with musical entertainment provided by Rachel Bartels on the harp. A special **Thank you** to **Liz Armishaw, Kay Bright** and **David & Edith Brown** for organising such a successful event, and also **Thank you** to **Shirley Moody** for providing all the table decorations. **Thank you** also to **Gwil Williams**, who was our MC for the evening.

**Our St David's Day Service, on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March at Little Baddow URC has been CANCELLED due to the weather.**

Details of the next monthly meetings and other events are listed below:

**MIKE'S MUSICAL MISCELLANY- PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DATE IS FRIDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018 AT 7/7.30PM**

The evening will be held at Radley Green Farm, CM4 0LU. Tickets are £15 each to include a fish and chips supper. There are only 40 tickets available for this event, and **please note that attendance is by ticket only**. Please ring **Ivy Price** on **01277 210541** or **Eddie Alcock** on **01245 603448** to reserve your place.

### **‘A Style & Colour Matching Presentation’**

**Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House  
at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.**

Refreshments and Raffle prizes- **Rosina Jones, Heulwen Newman** and **Glenys Freeman**

**WELSH CLASSES**—The next classes will be held on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Radley Green Farm at 2.00pm**. Please ask for more details if you are interested in joining the Welsh classes for a fun afternoon of Welsh conversation and scrabble!

**CHARITY COFFEE MORNING** on **Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 10.30am** hosted by **Sina Williams**. The address is Chalk End House, Chalk End, Roxwell, CM1 4LG. If you require directions please ring Sina on 01245 231279. Donation of £5 per person and a raffle prize will be much appreciated.

### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

**FROM MAY ONWARDS OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH. THE APRIL MEETING WILL BE ON THURSDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, THEN THE MAY MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY. THE CHANGE HAD TO BE MADE TO FIT IN WITH THE AVAILABILITY AT THE CHAPTER HOUSE. I HOPE THAT MOST OF YOU WILL STILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS ON THE WEDNESDAYS.**

**VISIT TO BLACKWOOD MAY 13<sup>th</sup>–16<sup>th</sup>, 2018** If you are interested in joining us on the trip to South Wales, please get in touch with Carys Williams on 01621 778711.

### **ANNUAL CONCERT AT CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL ON SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018**

This concert will feature the **Aber Valley Male Voice Choir** with soloist **Emily Griffiths**. Tickets are £16 and are available from Arthur Williams on **01621 778711**, or from **Allegro Music**, 95 High Street, Chelmsford. We have 500 tickets to sell for this popular event. It will require a big effort by all our members to ensure that we have another full house.

### **SOCIETY NEWS**

- All the best to **John Styles** who has recently moved to Manor Lodge Care Home in Chelmsford.
- Best Wishes to **Clive Bright** following his recent operation.
- It was lovely to welcome back **John Armishaw** at our February meeting following his illness last year.
- Best wishes to all members who have been unwell recently and we hope to see you all soon.

**Cofion Cynnes,  
Gwenno Pope**



# St David's Day Celebration

March 2nd 2018 at the COUNTY HOTEL, CHELMSFORD



The Dining Room and "Top Table" guests



Rachel Bartels



March 1st is Dydd Gwyl Dewi, when Welsh people everywhere, and particularly so in the diaspora, celebrate the feast of Dewi Sant, (David, their patron saint). On Friday 2 March Chelmsford and District Welsh Society celebrated the event with the traditional grand dinner, held for the 55th consecutive year at the County Hotel. The room was beautifully presented, with tables dressed in white and green and decorated with daffodils, under the watchful gaze of the regal Ddraig Goch (the Red Dragon on the Welsh banner) as a backdrop to the top table. The rousing processional march, the Men of Harlech, played by the harpist Rachel Bartels, announced the entry of the Mayor of Chelmsford, Cllr. Duncan Lumley and the Mayoress, the Guest of Honour, the Rev. Peter Davies and Mrs Davies, escorted by the President Brian Farmer and his wife and by the Vice-president Ivy Price and her husband. Following the Grace, a fine traditional dinner of Cawl cennin a thatws (leek and potato soup), Cyw iar wedi rostio gyda lemnwn a theim (roast chicken with lemon and thyme) and Cacen siocled tryffl gyda hufen ia mwyr duon (chocolate truffle cake with black currant ice cream), followed by coffi/te a petit fours was enjoyed. The Loyal Toast to the Queen was proposed by the President, and the Vice-president proposed the toast to Dewi Sant. The President then introduced the Guest of Honour, who delivered an excellent speech. He had enjoyed a varied and interesting career. Raised in south Wales, he went to university in the north, after which he became a Social Worker, then a Probation Officer, before becoming a Baptist minister in churches all over Wales. He apologised for having an accent and dialect honed in all those regions and hoped he would be understood! He proposed a toast to The Society. In response, the President proposed a toast to Our Guests. Responding, the Mayor congratulated the Society for its contribution to the cultural life of Chelmsford by arranging the annual Male Voice Choir concert featuring choirs from all over Wales. The Society has also raised more than £40,000 for local charities over the past few years. The evening ended in the traditional manner with Rachel playing Welsh airs on her harp followed by some audience participation. The President thanked Liz Armishaw, Kay Bright and David Brown for organising such a successful evening, Shirley Moody for providing the flowers for the tables, Rachel Bartels the wonderful harpist and Gwil Williams for being an excellent MC. Finally the strains of the National Anthem, Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau resounded around the room.

Eighty two members and guests had been expected to attend, but for the first time ever, the severe weather conditions of the beast from the east+prevented many from venturing out. The Rev Peter Davies, the Guest Speaker, had driven from near Neath in South Wales in hazardous conditions the day before the dinner, and Rachel Bartels, the harpist, had arrived at 11 am, having driven from Loughton to be certain of attending the Dinner! Both are due grateful thanks. The annual St David's church service at Little Baddow URC was cancelled, for the first time ever, since it was feared that the road conditions and steep and narrow country lanes would prove to be too hazardous. During the service it is traditional to dedicate the last hymn, Seintiau Cymru, to the memory of Society Members who have died during the past year. This year, the dedication would have been to David Henfrey, Elizabeth Peters and Frank Hatch.



Gwil Williams - M.C.



Brian Farmer - President



Ivy Price - Vice President



Peter Davis - Guest of Honour



Peter Davies



Cllr. Duncan Lumley - Mayor of Chelmsford



Rachel Bartels

### **ST DAVID's DAY SERVICE at LITTLE BADDOW URC**

Due to the weather conditions we decided to cancel our service at Little Baddow this year



Little Baddow URC



## MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT MARCH 2017

Mike's Musical Miscellany, a feast of music from the concert halls of Europe, assembled by Mike Price and hosted by Shirley and Don Moody, attracted a full house on 16 March for this fund raising/charity event of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. Then at the monthly meeting on 22 March the guest speaker Helen Boshier gave a Style and Colour Matching Presentation aimed at making people more comfortable in their skin. She began with a relaxing technique. Helen runs workshops for women, designed to build their confidence, which involves an individual colour assessment. She invited a male volunteer to be the model. We Welshmen can be a timid lot, and so finally, she decided that her step father, Brian Farmer, the President of the Society, would be the volunteer; so he sat down, relaxed in a tight fitting white cap and white gown. We learnt all about colour assessment (using scarves), the colour family (warm, cool, seasonal), followed by the use of a colour wallet when shopping for a new outfit, and the need for ruthless wardrobe weeding afterwards. Helen's presentation was informative and fun, and after a break for refreshments she answered questions from the audience. The Vice-president, Ivy Price thanked and congratulated Helen on her presentation.

The 26 April monthly meeting, at 7 pm for a 7.30 pm start at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House, will be a Musical Event with Vicky Swan and Jerry Dyer. Tickets are now available for the annual concert at the Cathedral on Saturday, 9 June, featuring the Aber Valley Male Voice Choir from Senghennydd, near Caerphilly. Senghennydd was the scene of Britain's most devastating coal mining tragedy, when 439 men and boys were killed underground due to a build-up of methane on 14 October, 1913. For their negligence, the Mine Manager was fined £24 and the owner was fined £10. Choirs have been the mortar which cemented the tight knit mining and quarrying communities of Wales and the Society are looking forward to the Aber Valley MVC concert. Tickets are available from Arthur Williams on 01621 778711, Eddie Alcock on 01245 603448 and Allegro Music, 95 High Street, Chelmsford.



President Brian Farmer



Brian with Helen Boshier



Props



Ivy Price proposes thanks to Helen

All photos: Copyright © Gwenno Pope

## APRIL NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS EBRILL 2018

Annwyl Gyfeillion . Dear Friends,

Our Society members were treated to a feast of music at Radley Green Farm with Mike's Miscellany Evening on March 16th. Everyone enjoyed a chat over their fish and chip supper. Thank you to **Mike Price** for a wonderful evening, and to **Don & Shirley Moody** for hosting the event. In our March monthly meeting we enjoyed an informative and fun presentation by guest speaker **Helen Boshier** on Style and Colour matching. Thank you to our President **Brian Farmer** who volunteered to have his colours selected.

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

FROM MAY ONWARDS OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE 4<sup>th</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH. THE APRIL MEETING WILL BE ON THURSDAY, 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL, THEN THE MAY MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, 23<sup>rd</sup> MAY. THE CHANGE HAD TO BE MADE TO FIT IN WITH THE AVAILABILITY AT THE CHAPTER HOUSE. I HOPE THAT MOST OF YOU WILL STILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS ON THE WEDNESDAYS.

Details of the next monthly meeting and other events are listed below:

### 'A Musical Event with VICKI SWAN and JONNY DYER'

Playing a variety of instruments including the nyckelharpa.

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Refreshments and Raffle prizes- Ivy Price, Kay Bright and Buddug Rowland Frank

**WELSH CLASSES**—The next classes will be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 at Radley Green Farm at 2.00pm. Please ask for more details if you are interested in joining the Welsh classes for a fun afternoon of Welsh conversation and scrabble!

**CHARITY COFFEE MORNING** on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 10.30am hosted by Sina Williams. The address is Chalk End House, Chalk End, Roxwell, CM1 4LG. Look out for the Welsh flag at the end of the road. Number 59 bus goes past Sina's house, if you don't feel like driving. If you require directions please ring Sina on 01245 231279. Donation of £5 per person and a raffle prize will be much appreciated.

### ANNUAL CONCERT AT CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL ON SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018

This concert will feature the **Aber Valley Male Voice Choir** and **The Siren Sisters**. Tickets are £16 and are available from Arthur Williams on 01621 778711, or from **Allegro Music**, 95 High Street, Chelmsford. We have 500 tickets to sell for this popular event. It will require a big effort by all our members to ensure that we have another full house. There are flyers and posters available if you can help to promote the concert around where you live.

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

**MUSICAL EVENING WITH 'AFTERGLOW'** on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018 at the Chapter House.

**SUMMER SERVICE** on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10.30am at Little Baddow URC.

**MORNING COFFEE IN THE COUNTRY** on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 10.30am hosted by Arthur & Carys Williams.

**AGM & QUIZ NIGHT** on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at The Chapter House.

**SUMMER CELEBRATION** on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 3pm- Afternoon Tea held at Radley Green Farm.

### SOCIETY NEWS

- Happy Birthday to **Cynthia Styles** who celebrated a special birthday this month.
- Best Wishes to **Arthur Williams** following his recent operation.
- Best wishes to all members who have been unwell recently and we hope to see you all soon.

Cofion Cynnes,  
Gwenno Pope



## MEETING AND ACTIVITIES REPORT APRIL 2018

### VICKI SWAN & JONNY DYER



The Folk Duo, Vicky Swan and Jonny Dyer, delivered an excellent evening's entertainment at the April meeting of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. They played an exciting range of instruments, many of which were new to the audience, including the nyckelharpa, a bowed string Swedish instrument which dates back to 1350! Very few players remained in the 1950s but it later enjoyed a revival worldwide. They began their concert with The Wedding March, composed by Jonny who played an accordion and Vicky on the Scottish small pipes and followed with an amusing 16th century ballad, Will You Marry Me?, on a guitar and nyckelharpa. The audience particularly enjoyed a love song about two lovers in Caerfyrddin (Carmarthen) who never met but communicated across a wide river and sad when he finally crossed over to find that she had married another. Other instruments they played were an accordion, a fiddle, a cow horn (used for communication pre mobile phone days!), and Swedish bagpipes. A popular favourite was a Carnival In Venice played with an accordion, flute and whistle. Vicky and Jonny were rewarded with enthusiastic applause.

The fundraising/charity event hosted by Sina Williams raised £252.

Future monthly meetings at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House will be held on Wednesdays (instead of Thursdays as in the past). The meeting on 23 May will feature the guitar and vocal duo Afterglow. At 10.30am on Sunday 3 June members will join the congregation at Little Baddow URC for the annual service of celebration.

Aber Valley Male Voice Choir from Caerphilly in south Wales will feature at the Society's 51st annual concert at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday 9 June at 7.30pm. The soloists will be Serin, a classical trained trio of young ladies from the Rhymney Valley.







## MAY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MAI 2018

Annwyl Gyfeillion . Dear Friends,

Our Society members enjoyed a superb coffee morning at Sina Williams's house and garden on April 19<sup>th</sup>, which was the hottest day of the year so far. We managed to raise £252 for our charity fund.

**Thank you** to **Sina** for hosting this lovely morning. In our April monthly meeting we enjoyed a musical evening with Vicki Swan and Jonny Dyer. If you missed them or would like to see them again, they have a list of their concerts on their website [www.swan-dyer.co.uk](http://www.swan-dyer.co.uk). Details of the next monthly meeting and other events are listed below:

**SOCIETY TRIP TO BLACKWOOD**- For those attending the trip, please be aware that the **coach will be leaving Radley Green Farm on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 8.30am**. Please make sure that you **arrive there no later than 8am**. For any more details please call **Brian Farmer on 01245 468178**.

### ANNUAL CONCERT AT CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL ON SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018

This year's annual concert will be the Society's 51<sup>st</sup>. We **NEED** to make a profit of about £1000 to help finance the monthly events. Just to avoid a **LOSS** we need to sell 350 tickets! Anything less would be a **DISASTER**. To achieve a £1000 profit we **NEED TO SELL** about 410 tickets.

In the fairly recent past we used to sell 500 tickets, thanks mainly to several members who worked hard to encourage their friends, neighbours and acquaintances to attend. Sadly, many of these members are no longer active. Displaying posters is unlikely to sell very many tickets. Word of mouth and encouragement is the **ONLY** effective way to sell.

Please attend if you can, and do your best to sell 3 or 4 tickets even if you cannot attend yourself. (An average sale of around 4 tickets per member would avoid a loss!) **THANK YOU**.

This **concert** will feature the **Aber Valley Male Voice Choir** and the talented **Serin**. Please have a look/listen to their music on their website [www.serinmusic.com](http://www.serinmusic.com).

Tickets are **£16** and are available from Arthur Williams on **01621 778711**, or from **Allegro Music**, 95 High Street, Chelmsford.

### A Musical Evening with 'AFTERGLOW'- a guitar and vocal duo

Please note that the monthly meetings are now on Wednesdays

Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Refreshments and Raffle prizes- Ann Hunt, Yvonne Blackwood and Carys Williams

**WELSH CLASSES**-The next class will be held on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018 at Radley Green Farm at 2.00pm**.

**SUMMER SERVICE, Little Baddow URC** on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2018 at 10.30am**. The Revd Cally Hammond will be taking the service for the last time for our society. Please make every effort to attend to show our appreciation for her. Refreshments will be served after the service.

**MORNING COFFEE IN THE COUNTRY** on **Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 10.30am** hosted by **Arthur & Carys Williams**. The address is 3 Englefields, South Street, Tillingham, Essex CM0 7AT. If you require directions please ring them on **01621 778711**. Donation of £5 per person and a raffle prize will be much appreciated.

**SUMMER CELEBRATION** on **Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 3pm**- Please come and join us for a delightful Afternoon Tea held at Radley Green Farm. Tickets are £7.50 and will be sold at our next monthly event.

### SOCIETY NEWS

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the death of **Llywela Davies**, who passed away at the end of April. Llywela and Glyn have been members of the Society for a long time. The funeral will be held at Chelmsford Crematorium on Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm.

Cofion Cynnes,  
Gwenno Pope



## Meeting and Activities Report May 2018

### THE VISIT to BLACKWOOD, SOUTH EAST WALES



Vista across the valley from Bryn Meadows Hotel



A welcome drink in Caerleon



The Roman Legion Museum, Caerleon



Roman Amphitheatre , Caerleon



Lyndon Jones, entertainer  
on Sunday evening

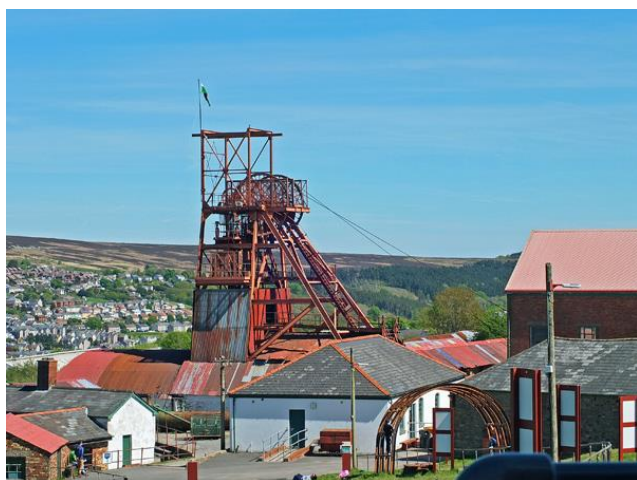




Aberbeeg memorial  
commemorating the loss of  
45 miners at the Six Bells  
colliery in the 1960 disaster



CDWS at the Guardian memorial at  
Aberbeeg.



The Big Pit



Going underground



Lorraine King, entertainer on Monday evening





Llancaiath Fawr, semi-fortified manor built in c1550



Kitchen at Llancaiath Fawr



Jim Armishaw as a marksman of 16<sup>th</sup> C at Llancaiath Fawr



Abergavenny Castle



Kitchen in Abergavenny Castle Museum



Aber Valley Male Choir entertain on Tuesday evening





Tredegar House



Room in Tredegar House



The Orangery, Tredegar House  
Gardens



The final resting place of Lord  
Tredegar's beloved horse, Sir Briggs.

## Meeting and Activities Report May 2018 (continued)

### IN CONCERT WITH AFTERGLOW



Brian Farmer, President



AFTERGLOW

May has been a busy month for Chelmsford and District Welsh Society. This year's 4 day annual pilgrimage to the Land of My Fathers was a great success. We stayed at Bryn Meadows golf complex and enjoyed live musical entertainment every evening. During the day we visited the impressive remains of the Roman fortress of Isca Augusta in Caerleon, a statue to the Chartist Movement, and the 20 metre high statue commemorating the 1960 Six Bells colliery mining disaster. An underground tour of Big Pit colliery, and visits to Blaenavon Ironworks, the fortified 16th century Llancaiach Fawr manor house, the market town of Abergavenny and finally the 17th century mansion Tredegar House completed a super trip. The 23 May meeting was An Evening with Afterglow guitar and vocal duo. Rhiannon Howys, a West End musical theatre actress and the daughter of a member of the Society, accompanied by talented guitarist Reece Smith, gave virtuoso performances, including, amongst others, songs by Simon and Garfunkel, Donovan, U2, Dolly and the Beatles. At the end they were rewarded by thunderous applause from the audience and enthusiastic praise from Vice-president Ivy Price.

Members were sad to hear of the death of Llywella Davies. She had been too unwell to attend Society events for a long time. The last meeting of Brian Farmer's successful year as President will be the AGM, followed by a Quiz Night, on Wednesday 27 June when Ivy Price will be installed as President for the 2018/19 season. The last event during Brian's Presidency will be the annual concert at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday 9 June, commencing at 7.30pm. The choir will be Brian's local choir, Aber Valley Male Voice Choir from Caerphilly, with supporting a cappella trio Serin from the Rhymney.



AFTERGLOW





Rhiannon



Reece



Millie



Millie and mum Rhiannon



Ivy Price thanks AFTERGLOW



## JUNE NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS MEHEFIN 2018

Annwyl Gyfeillion . Dear Friends,

This is the last newsletter of the society's year until our new programme starts in September. Our first meeting in September will be on **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018**, so please don't forget to put this date in your diaries. We will have another exciting and varied programme lined up for the year.

We have had a busy few weeks with various events. The **Society visit to Blackwood** was a superb trip, and enjoyed by all who attended. Thank you to our President **Brian Farmer** for organising such a great trip. Photos of the trip are available on the society's website. In our May meeting, we enjoyed listening to the talented duo **Afterglow** Rhiannon Howys and Reece Smith performed acoustic versions of some great songs. Our annual **Summer Service at Little Baddow** was a very pleasant service, which was well attended with some great singing. Revd Cally Hammond took the service for the last time on behalf of the Society. Our **Annual concert** at Chelmsford Cathedral was once again a huge success featuring The Aber Valley Male Voice Choir and supported by the talented trio Serin. This was a superb evening with a magical performance by Serin.

Details of the next monthly meeting and other events are listed below:

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & QUIZ NIGHT

**Please note that the monthly meetings are now on Wednesdays**

**Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.**

In the first half of the meeting the President and Treasurer will deliver their report on the Society's year, and the election of officers will be confirmed. If you are interested in becoming a committee member, where you can get involved with the running of the society, then please get in touch. There will be a quiz in the second half, with some special prizes for the winners! There will also be strawberries, cream and shortbread served by the catering committee

Raffle prizes- **David Brown, Sina Williams & Gwil Williams**

**WELSH CLASSES**—The next class will be held on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018** at **Radley Green Farm** at **2.00pm**.

**MORNING COFFEE IN THE COUNTRY** on **Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 10.30am** hosted by **Arthur & Carys Williams**. The address is 3 Englefields, South Street, Tillingham, Essex CM0 7AT. If you require directions please ring them on **01621 778711**. Donation of £5 per person and a raffle prize will be much appreciated.

**SUMMER CELEBRATION** on **Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 3pm**- Please come and join us for a delightful Afternoon Tea held at Radley Green Farm. Tickets are £7.50 and will be sold at our next monthly event. If you enjoy baking, **we would welcome any cake donations for this event**. If you are unable to attend, then please bring any cake donations to the AGM. Raffle prizes will also be much appreciated.

### SOCIETY NEWS

- We would like to say a special **Thank you** to Arthur Williams, for all his hard work and effort involved with the organisation of our Annual Concert.
- Thank you also to **Brian Farmer**, who has been President for this past year. We have had an enjoyable programme of events under his Presidency.
- Best wishes to all members who have been unwell recently.

**Cofion Cynnes,**  
*Gwenno Pope*

# Meeting and Activities Report June 2018

## 2018 Annual Choir Concert

### ABER VALLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR



The 51st annual concert of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society, held at Chelmsford Cathedral on 9 June, was a splendid affair. It was the first visit to Chelmsford of the Aber Valley Male Voice Choir from Caerphilly, Society President Brian Farmer's childhood home, and graced by the attendance of Cllr. Yvonne Spence, the Mayor of Chelmsford, a fellow Celt but from north of the border. The choir were smart in black evening dress and the national daffodil buttonhole during the first half and resplendent in black and red waistcoats during the second. They opened with Llanfair, the well-loved Welsh hymn, followed with Howard Goodall's The Lord Is My Shepherd, David John Evans's In The Beginning and finally Tydi a Roddaist (Thou Gavest), the music to which was composed by Arwel Hughes whilst waiting for a train to arrive. Serin, who began their musical lives as a trio of young schoolgirls and have developed into an outstanding a cappella trio of young ladies, then took to the stage. Their opening number, a haunting Cwsg Osian, (Sleep Osian) was greeted with long standing thunderous applause. They followed with Shirley Bassy's Big Spender then a splendid rendering of a folk song medley celebrating three Welsh birds and concluded with Bet Middledy's The Rose. The first half ended with the choir singing Mozart's O Isis and Osiris, Puccini's Nessun Dorma from Turandot, a lovely The Lord's Prayer by Albert Hay Malotte, and finally Gustav Holst's grand World in Union (in celebration of the Welsh Rugby's recent 6 Nations success?)

In her speech of Civic Welcome at the commencement of the second half, the Mayor congratulated the choir and Serin on their performance. The choir opened with Gwahoddiad (The Invitation), with its wonderful crescendo of Amens, followed with Pokarekare Ana, a Maori love song sung by Maori ladies during the great war, then Tell My Father, a song about the death of a slave during the American Civil War, and finally Alwyn Humphreys's An American Trilogy. Serin began with a compilation of folk songs from their home area, followed by Haleliwia, then a haunting Salm 121 (in Welsh). Their final number, the first they had ever sung together as 13 year old schoolgirls, the Andrews Sisters's Boogie Woogie nearly brought the house down! What a performance! The choir's last four numbers were Bring Him Home from Les Miserables, the Flying Pickets hit Only You, a song from Jekyll and Hyde, This is the Moment (good for weddings, apparently) and finally a nostalgic O Gymru. The well-earned enthusiastic applause spread around the Cathedral for several minutes. The talented Musical Director and excellent MD, Geraint Evans, the glorious Serin trio of Caitlin Hudson, Rhianna Davies and Joanne Griffiths, and the wonderful accompanist Auralia Jones were rewarded with gifts of appreciation for a superb concert. The President, Brian Farmer will be very proud of the choir and Serin from his youthful haunts. The concert, which began with God Save the Queen, ended with a joyous rendition of Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau. The Society are grateful to the people of Chelmsford and District who attend the annual concerts loyally throughout the years.



Musical Director and Conductor  
Geraint Evans



Aber Valley Male Voice Choir



A Capella Trio, **Serin**,  
Caitlin Hudson, Rhianna  
Davies and Joanne Griffiths



All change for the second half



The Mayor of Chelmsford,  
Councillor Yvonne Spence



SERIN





A Thank You gift from the Society  
to Geraint



A Thank You gift from the society to Serin



Geraint Evans and accompanist  
Aurelia Jones



Choir secretary Trevor Davies

## Meeting and Activities Report June 2018 (continued)



2017 - 2018 President Brian Farmer

The AGM of Chelmsford and District Welsh Society on 27 June was Brian Farmer's last monthly meeting as President. He recalled the many superb events during his year of office, in particular the annual concert and St David's day dinner. He paid tribute to the committee for their support, and in particular Ivy Price, the Vice-president, the Secretary Gwenno Pope, the Treasurer Carys Williams, the Dinner Organisers Liz Armishaw and Kay Bright, the Concert Organiser Arthur Williams, David Brown the Web site/Audio Organiser, Mike Price the Multi Media Organiser, Edith Brown and her Catering Team and Shirley Moody who organised the Church Services. Special thanks were due to Shirley and her husband Don for their generosity in hosting so many of the Society's events, and the members who hosted five Fund Raising/ Charity Events. The Society is very busy with at least 22 well attended events each year. The Treasurer then presented the accounts, which showed that the Society had a healthy balance towards funding the coming year. Brian then presented a cheque for £1500 to J's Hospice Ambassador, Liz Armishaw, Brian's lead charity. During the year a further £435 had been presented to seven charities/worthy causes. The President for the 2018/19 season, Ivy Price, then took over and welcomed Liz Armishaw as her Vice-President. The outgoing members of the committee were all returned to office together with Ann Simpson. Following an interval for strawberries and cream Gwil Williams ran an exciting Quiz, and presented each member of the winning team with six delicious cakes baked by his wife, Maureen. It was agreed that there should be a quiz every year! The last event of Brian's year, on 13 June, Morning Coffee in the Country, a Fund Raising/Charity event hosted by Carys and Arthur raised £352. Ivy's lead charity will be SNAP (details later). The first Fund Raising/ Charity Event of her year of office, on 30 June, Afternoon Tea at Radley Green Farm hosted by Shirley and Don raised £467. Members were sad to hear that Elsie Salmon, a popular and active member of the Society, had passed away.



Treasurer, Carys Williams,



Secretary, Gwenno Pope,



New President, Ivy Price



Brian Farmer hands over a cheque for  
£1,500 to Liz Armishaw, ambassador of the J's Hospice



President Ivy Price presents  
Liz Armishaw with her Vice President's  
badge of office



Shirley Moody reads a poem



Quizmaster Gwil Williams







Quiz teams decide on the ~~W~~ELSH PLACESground



The winning team



President, Ivy Price invites everyone to the next meeting on Wednesday September 26th

## JULY NEWSLETTER / CYLCHLYTHYR MIS GORFENNAF 2018

As we have had such a busy few weeks with so many events going on, and more planned for September, we have decided to send one last newsletter before the summer break.

We enjoyed a marvellous morning at Carys & Arthur Williams's home on the 13th June, and raised £352. All those who attended enjoyed their beautiful garden in the glorious sunshine. Thank you to Carys & Arthur Williams for their hospitality.

The Annual General Meeting and Quiz Night was a superb evening and was well attended with 48 of our members. Thank you to Gwil Williams for organising such a fun quiz, and also to Maureen, his wife, for baking the cakes for the winning team. The Catering committee provided us with a delicious strawberry supper. The Afternoon Tea at Radley Green Farm at the end of June was another lovely afternoon. Thanks to all who organised the delicious food and the steady flow of tea. Thanks again to Don & Shirley Moody for their hospitality. Details of the next events are listed below:

### CROESO YN ÔL

Please note that the monthly meetings are now on Wednesdays

**Wednesday, 26th September 2018 at Chelmsford Cathedral Chapter House at 7.30pm.**

Our autumn programme commences with our usual Croeso yn Ôl (Welcome back meeting). Our new President, Ivy Price, will be there to welcome you all, and to inform you of the events and visits that have been arranged for the year. Mike Price will present the visual highlights from the National Eisteddfod. There will also be cheese and wine, served by the Catering committee.

Raffle prizes- Enid Morris, Kay Bright and Brian Farmer

**WELSH CLASSES.** The next class will be held on Monday 10th and 24th September 2018 at Radley Green Farm at 2.00pm. COFFEE MORNING AT THE HOUSE ON THE HILL on Saturday, 29th September 2018 at 10.30am. Ann and Alan Simpson will be hosting this event at their home. The address is 10 Kingfisher Close, Hutton, Brentwood CM13 2NB. Tel: 01277 228927.

**HARVEST SONGS OF PRAISE- CYMANFA GANU DIOLCHGARWCH** on Sunday, 21st October at 3pm at St Michael and All Angels Church, Roxwell. Please put this date in your diaries and invite your friends and family to join you for this afternoon of song.

**CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE TRIP TO WALES-** Please note that the new date for the trip to Wales will be 23rd to 26th May 2019. Ivy Price will be able to give us more details in the September meeting.

### SOCIETY NEWS

Elsie Salmon's funeral will be held on Tuesday, July 10th at 11.30am at St Catherine's Church, Wickford, SS11 8BB. Please note that James and the family have requested that anyone attending the funeral to wear bright colours.

- Congratulations to Mair & Brian Thomas who will celebrate their Diamond Wedding anniversary over the summer.
- Best wishes to all members who have been unwell recently.

**Cofion Cynnes,**  
*Gwenno Pope*