

CAPE CAMBRIAN SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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JULY 2009

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

The Society AGM was again held at the Goodwood Sports Club this year. What a turnout – so many members present, that it was not necessary to light a fire due to the generated heat!!

We haven't worked it out whether it was the free Faggots & Peas or such a wonderful Society that so many braved the miserable weather to attend – next year we might have to book the new 2010 Stadium!!

Seriously, it went very well. The official aspect of offices and Committee voted in quickly with a new Constitutional injection of “Any President only being able to serve for a maximum of 5 years”. Then the vote for President was awarded to none other than**IAN JONES** – hotly contested and narrowly won so ‘I accepted’!!!

Committee was voted in again with the welcome addition of Jackie Jones, Jean Wattling and Carl Williams and later Sarah Stephens agreed to join us.

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Cape Welsh Choir & Touring Melody Music Choir

The Welsh attendance at the City Hall held by the Cape Welsh Choir was fantastic – the audience very representative of the four home counties. The Cambrians commanded two boxes and adorned them magnificently – big thank you to Sian (with the help of Morgan & Aeddan!!). The visiting Choir (70 strong) were great and sang with gusto.

Our own resident Cape Welsh Choir was given many accolades both from the audience (900+) and the Melody Music Lions Choir.

It was a grand evening – like the days of old at the City Hall. PS. The Choir is always on the look-out for new members – anyone who can hold a note??

*Cofion Cynnes Iawn
Ian Jones – President.*

Welsh Sport Corner:

Rugby:

The tour of the British & Irish Lions has been a focal point for the last month. Once again a serious loss was achieved by the Lions. However all three Tests could have been won. The non-participation of the Boks outside of the Tests was a major factor, as it did not give the Lions any satisfactory opposition to “hone” their game. The IRB should take note that all the ground were nowhere near as full as previous tours.

Mike Phillips and Stephen Jones were the pick of the players with Mike Phillips perhaps being the Man of the series. The President and myself entertained 51 Lions supporters from Deri (Glam). It was very pleasant to be among so many Welsh voices supporting the Lions and showing the locals how to lose gracefully and also have a good time.

Cricket:

It is pleasing to note that England have just played their first Test Match outside of England in Cardiff. They have only played OD.I games there before. Pity they did not win, but they had a full house every day!!

Dave

Y Gonglen Cymraeg – The Welsh Corner

The Welsh for a lion – or even a Lion – is llew. Make sure no-one is standing too close if you're practicing your ‘ll’ sounds!!! It's easy if you speak isiXhosa – just think of judge Hlope! But please, not ‘thl’ if you can help it. It is formed by pronouncing l ‘silently’ but with a slight escape of air around the sides of the tongue. One suggestion for getting it right is to try saying *whistle* with a lisp, as *whithle*! The full name for the British and Irish Lions is Y Llewod Prydeinig a Gwyddelig. It is quite easy to see how Prydein is equivalent of Britain – both derived from the name used by Roman explorers. The older, Greek, name was Albion, from which derived the Scottish Gaelic name for Scotland,

Alba, and its Welsh equivalent, Yr Alban. The other nations from which the Lions are drawn are Cymru, ourselves; Iwerddon, Ireland; and Lloegr, England (more spitting!). No one quite knows the origin of the word Lloegr, though it is almost certainly older than the latinised equivalent of Logres or Loegria used in the legends of King Arthur. However, the Welsh name for an Englishman is Sais, plural Saison, which is very clearly derived from Saxon. Llewelyn means a lion-like leader – pretty much the same as Lionheart.

And finally, on the subject of lions, Wrexham Parish Church has a splendid pre-Reformation brass lectern, presented in 1524, when most of the rebuilding of the main body of the church as it now is, was close to completion. It cost a princely £6. As is tradition, it has a very splendid eagle, whose back and spread wings provide the stand for the Bible. (The eagle was thought to be able to look unflinchingly into the heart of the sun – in the same way the words of the Bible are an unflinching revelation of God.) However, the lectern has as its feet, three crouching lions – and it is very evident that the craftsman who made it had never seen anything even closely resembling a lion!

Father Sarah

MEMBER NEWS:

Sadly we have to announce the passing of Olive Bullock, beloved wife of Ted, Cambrian members since 1983.

A lovely story of Olive and Ted published in the Argus over thirty years ago :

“Turning to the past pointed way to the future for Olive.

Research on her family led to wedding bells for a city woman.

The Argus Foreign Service

LONDON. – a search into her family’s past has led a Cape Town woman to a new future.

Two years after she began work on her family tree, Olive Eden married the registrar of births, marriages and deaths in Swansea.

And shortly after their third wedding anniversary next month, Olive and husband Ted Bullock both in their 60s, will leave Wales to settle in Cape Town.

Olive’s family research uncovered the fact that her great-grandfather, Frederick Augustus Boon, left Cape Town for Swansea in 1858. But two years later Frederick died and his widow Aletta and their children returned to Cape Town.

Olive Eden, a widow, decided she would visit her great-grandfather’s house on her next visit to Britain and, hoping the address would appear on his death certificate, wrote to Swansea’s superintendent registrar of births, marriages and deaths for a copy.

Inexplicably, the letter was delayed in the post for six months, and when it finally arrived, Ted Bullock decided to give it his personal attention.

He found the address Olive was looking for and wrote back. So began a warm correspondence.

Then, abruptly, Ted’s letters stopped. Three months later the explanation came. His wife had died suddenly, he wrote. The correspondence resumed.

One March morning in 1982 Olive switched on her radio to hear the SABC wish Welsh listeners a happy St. David’s Day. She rang Ted and he invited her to visit Wales the next time she was in Britain.

Several months later a nervous Olive arrived in Swansea station, and Ted was there to meet her. He said he recognised her from a photograph as soon as the train drew alongside the platform.

After a month together spent visiting the house of Olive’s relatives, Welsh beauty spots and listening to massed Welsh choirs, Olive and Ted realized how fond they were of each other.

Olive returned to Cape Town and found she missed Ted badly. An equally lonely Ted wrote to Olive and proposed marriage.

Daughter:

But before Olive received the letter her daughter Marion urged her to ring Ted and tell him of her feelings. Olive did and a delighted Ted told her about the letter.

Some frantic packing followed and Olive secured the very last seat on a flight to London in time for Christmas.

“I waited all night for Olive at Heathrow,” said Ted. “Then she appeared, walking through Arrivals with some fellow chatting her up.

Barrier:

“So I whisked through the barrier, went up behind her and asked if I could push her trolley – at which point the chap tipped his hat and disappeared”.

Olive and Ted were married early in 1983. Ted retires next month and then the couple will leave Swansea to settle in Cape Town, leaving behind Ted’s daughter Janet and son Geoffrey.

But to welcome them in South Africa will be Olive’s daughter Marion and son Neville – and Cape Town’s flourishing Welsh Society.”

Sadly Olive passed away on 29 May. Shortly after Olive’s funeral Ted suffered a fall and after a sojourn at Hospital has gone to stay with close friends Linda & Bob Davies. Ted has now decided to return to UK on 3rd August to be with his daughter and grand children.

We will be sorry to say goodbye to such a lovely gentleman and wish Ted all the best on his return to Wales.

Also John Pugh, aged 86, who passed away on 3 June at Silver Mine Retirement Home. He was born in Tredegar and educated at the University of Wales, Cardiff.

He enlisted in the Air-force during the war in Bomber Command. Then later sent to SA to teach bombers how to bomb properly, which is where he met his wife Enid (who passed away 2 yrs ago). After the war he returned to Wales and completed his Masters Degree in History. He then returned to Cape Town and taught at Pinelands Red School,

then became Headmaster at Pinelands High School, later moving to Fishhoek. He was Head master at Norman Henshelwood School in Claremont where he stayed +/- 20 yrs. Moving to Silvermine Retirement Village in 1995 where he passed away. He wrote the History of the Society, quite a large publication. Anyone interested in reading it can contact Pat Stephens for more info.

Congratulations!!

Taken from Archbishop Thabo Makgoba's Monthly Newsletter :

"Congratulations to my researcher, the Revd Sarah Rowland Jones, for compiling the Inter Anglican Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations' report of nine years work, in 'The Vision Before Us'. I commend this as a comprehensive handbook on the Anglican response to Jesus' prayer that his followers 'might all be one, so that the world may believe'. (As some of you know, it was through IASCEC that Sarah met the late Bishop Justus Marcus – who mentored a lot of us – moving to South Africa when they married, and taking up the post of Archbishop's researcher on his death. She is one of the important staff members at Bishops Court, who are invaluable in making an Archbishop's life possible – do please keep them in your prayers.)"

We are also very proud of our Father Sarah – Ed.

Welsh Humour

Councillor Jones

After Dai Jones got elected to the Council, he insisted on everyone calling him Councillor Jones.

Coming back late from the pub after celebrating his election he made a great noise trying to get into his house.

"Is that you Dai?" shouted his wife down the stairs.

"Certainly not", he replied drunkenly, "it's Councillor Jones."

"Well, come on up quick then, we've only got a few minutes before Dai comes back from the Pub.

Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwl-Llantysilio-gogogoch

It is now many years since the last train stopped at the railway station with the longest name in Britain Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwl-Llantysilio-gogogoch in Anglesey.

When a train stopped at the station the porter would cry out "Anybody in there for here?"

On the train to Bridgend

Two Welshmen travelling at night from Blackpool to Bridgend got into an empty compartment at the end of the train and went to sleep.

Later the train stopped suddenly at a station and woke them up. "Dai, have a look out of the window and see where we are," said Will.

Dai looked out. "Oh, we're in Cheltenham", he said.

"That's all right", said Will, "we don't have to change until Cardiff."

An hour later the train stopped again, and again Will asked Dai to look out for the name of the station.

Dai again said it was Cheltenham. "Funny", said Will, "I didn't know there were two Cheltenhams."

A third time the train stopped. "Cheltenham again," said Dai.

"Come off it, there can't be three Cheltenhams", said Will, "let's have a look" . . .

"Get away mun, that's not 'Cheltenham', it's 'Gentlemen'."

Ta - Jacky

Future Events:

25 July: South Africa vs New Zealand, Tri-Nations Rugby Match.

Several of the Committee will be meeting at Melkbos Country Club to watch it.

Anybody interested – all welcome – come and join us.

The Barnyard, Willowbridge are advertising a Tour from Cape Town to Bloemfontein for R3,860 which includes:

- Transport by luxury Bus
- All Meals (except Sunday)
- Braai & Drinks at Rugby
- 3 nights Accommodation
- Game Drive and Spitbraai
- Rugby Ticket

For more info visit: www.barnyardtheatres.co.za . Receive 2 Free Barnyard Willowbridge Show tickets if you respond to this offer by contacting: Barnyard Bookings Tel: 021 914 8898 / willowbridge@barnyardtheatres.co.za.

25 Sep: Interkindred Evening – organized by Caledonians is being arranged at the Catholic Church in Pinelands – please let us know if anyone is interested. We are looking forward to supplying some Welsh support and contribution to this fun evening.

20 Dec: Carol's by Candlelight Children's Xmas Party.

Choir Corner:

23 July: Concert at Wynburg Boy's High School.

31 Oct: Cape Welsh Choir Festival of Song.

The Choir also lost two members and attended the Memorial Service of Bill Wallace and Herman Von Gunter.

Yorkshire Terrier Puppies for Sale:

Jilly again a proud Mother!! She has two males left. If anyone is interested please call her on 082 822 6610

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Any submissions/suggestions for future Newsletters are welcome.