

PAPUR CWRS Y RHAEDRAU ST CATHARINE'S 2014



New Faces at the Front of the Cwrs Cymraeg Classroom gan

Sarah J. Stevenson

No, we won't have to throw them over Niagara Falls in a barrel...Read on to learn more about the wonderful tutors new to Cwrs Cymraeg this year.

Over the years, students at Cwrs Cymraeg have gotten to know a plethora of fantastic Welsh tutors who manage to bring the perfect combination of teaching ability and *hwyl* to the classroom, and this year's additions are no exception. Cymdeithas Madog is thrilled to host

two new tutors from Wales on the teaching staff of Cwrs y Rhaeadrau, as well as a first-time lead teacher, **Angharad Devonald**, whom many of us know from recent cyrsiau.

"It's a little bit scary being a lead tutor," says Angharad—especially facing all of our bleary but expectant faces in the morning plenary sessions. But, she says, the best part is the fact that she's got such a nice team of tutors this year. I asked if she had any gossip to share about this year's staff, but evidently they're squeaky clean. "No dirt. I can make stuff up, though..." she said.

It's no surprise there's no gossip to pass around. Angharad had her pick of terrific tutors for Cwrs y Rhaeadrau—lots of tutors in Wales were interested in teaching at Cwrs Cymraeg. "I had a waiting list," she says. Yes, an actual list! Still, some people were incredulous when she told them where she was going on her summer "vacation." "Lots of people say, 'You're going *where?*' To teach Welsh, you say?" But here she is, and she's

faithfully rocking the *bwrdd du* at the front of the auditorium each morning.

The advanced students in Lefel 6 this year are having their abilities stretched to new heights by **Owen Saer**, a native of Cardiff who has a wealth of experience and expertise teaching Welsh to adults. Though it's his first time teaching at Cwrs Cymraeg, he has taught Americans Welsh before in Lampeter. It's only his second time actually *visiting* North America, though.

"Americans are very enthusiastic, very willing to participate and give their opinions. I like that," Owen says. Apparently we're less likely to lapse into bemused silence in the middle of class!

Before this week, he had worried a bit about the expectations of repeat Cwrs-goers. He wondered if people would want the experience to be more social or more educational? "I want people to enjoy themselves," Owen says, but he points out that he is also here to teach Welsh. For him, Cwrs Cymraeg gives people a comfortable environment to be "plunged into the language" and get excited about learning more and getting to a higher level.

I asked if there was anything he was less fond of so far this week. Contrary to what many of us may have thought on Tuesday night, he said: "Not the quiz!" It turns out the teacher is not fond of being quizzed himself, although he really enjoyed having the chance to get to know people and chat with them.

Meleri Davies, who is originally from Wreccsam but is now working in Cardiff, also has glowing praise for this week's Cwrs. "I've been teaching summer courses in Wales for eight years and this is the best yet," she says. "I love it." Though she had a few Cwrs Cymraeg students join her class in Cardiff during Cwrs Cymru Deg in 2010, this is her first time in North America. It's different, she says, being on campus and with the group of attendees all day long, but her 5-person class in Lefel 5 is making excellent progress.

Not only is Meleri impressed by the dedication of her students here in North America, she is also amazed by how friendly we all are. (*We are* a friendly bunch, aren't we?!) "It's nice to see people's enthusiasm living so far from Wales." She added, "The accents are wonderful—you all speak Welsh with American accents."

Of course I had to ask Meleri about the quiz night, after Owen's candid evaluation of the experience. "Good quiz last night," she said. "We won." *Wrth gwrs!!*



CWRS TRIVIA: Gan gynnwys eleni, sawl gwaith mae'r Cwrs Cymraeg wedi bod yng Nghanada? Including this year how many times has Cwrs Cymraeg been in Canada?

Mrs Elizabeth Gwilym Simcoe

gan Hefina Phillips

Pwy oedd Mrs Elizabeth
Gwilym
Simcoe?
Cymraes
oedd hi.
Gwraig Is-
gapten
Llywiawdwr
cynta Upper
Canada.



Upper Canada oedd yr enw
gwreiddiol ar Ontario. Enw ei
gŵr oedd Sir John Graves
Simcoe.
Yn ystod eu hamser yn Upper
Canada roedd brwydrau
rhwng y Prydeinwyr a'r

Geirfa

Yn ystod – during
Brwydr(au) – battle(s)
Prydeinwyr – Britons
Milwr – soldier
Llwyddo – succeed
Gerllaw – nearby

Americaniaid. Milwr proffesiynol oedd Sir John. Mae un stori
amdano mewn brwydr lle roedd tri milwr o America yn ceisio ffoi.
Anelodd un o filwyr Sir John atynt gan saethu at yr Americanaid.
Ond rhoddodd Sir John stop ar saethu'r Americanaid yn eu cefn. Un
o'r Americanwyr oedd George Washington.

Roedd Elizabeth Gwilym yn ffrindiau mawr gyda'r Brodorion, yn
enwedig Pennaeth y llwyth lled yn ardal Fort York (Toronto
heddiw). Roedd chwech o blant gyda hi, pump merch ac un
bachgen, Francis. Doedd Francis ddim yn ymddwyn yn dda bob

amser – dim ond pan roedd y Pennaeth yn
ymweld â'r teulu!

Yn amser y teulu Simcoe doedd dim prif
ddinas yn Upper Canada ac roedd y fyddin
yn symud o Fort Henry (Kingston) i Fort
York (Toronto) ac yna i Fort George (Niagara
on the Lake) er mwyn gwneud yn siwr bod
yr Americanaid ddim yn llwyddo
gorchfygu.

Mae stori am Mrs Simcoe a'r plant yn hwylio o Fort York i Fort
George. Roedd y plant eisiau bwyd a stopiodd y teulu ar y traeth yn
Oakville (lle dw i'n byw) i brynu eog wrth y brodorion oedd yn
pysgota gerllaw. Cawson nhw farbeciw ar y traeth a mynd ar eu
ffordd i Niagara on the Lake.

Dw i'n awgrymu eich bod chi'n ceisio darllen y llyfr *Mrs Simcoe's
Diaries*. Mae e'n ardderchog.

Ffoi – flee

Anelu – aim

Saethu – shoot

Brodorion – natives

Yn enwedig – especially

Is-Gaptan Llywiawdwr -

Lieutenant Governor

Pennaeth – chief

Llwyth – tribe

Ymddwyn – behave

Ymweld â - visit

Byddin – army

Awgrymu - suggest

Alphie's Trough – a piece of history

Brock University gan Anne Hepburn

Alphie's Trough is the faculty and grad student club at Brock University on the edge of the Niagara Escarpment. It is reputedly named after General Sir Isaac Brock's trusted horse Alfred, whose picture is mounted high on a wall. This was the site of the first campus pub and student union; a 3 storey chalet overlooking the escarpment designed and built by a modernist architectural firm in 1970. It became so successful that it could no longer handle the increasing volume of students enrolled at Brock. In 1992 Alphie's closed on a Wed Night and Isaac's another larger pub opened on campus the next night. The original building now houses Alphie's Bistro, and is home to Youth University. Accessible by stairs in a doorway barely large enough to alert the unknowing stranger to a place, it is three storeys cascading down the hill.



at

Once
in
the
open
space
the

site perfection and architecture are apparent. The main room contains a bar and plentiful standing and sitting space. It is built of sierra sawn redwood siding on the exterior with natural finish spruce siding on the inside and lots of windows which look out into the forest. The windows make it special: catching the view of paths in a hill of green leaves on a summer's night. Surrounded by trees and shade, the interior of the building is connected to nature in a most immediate sense. The view would be spectacular in any season: I hope to visit again

Braw Rhys

Gan Diana Gehman, Lefel 5



Draganfyddwyd neidr yn nhoiled y teulu Owens.
Darganfyddwyd y neidr gan y mab ifancaf, Rhys,

pan gododd e'r caead. Basai e wedi sgrechian
tasai e fod wedi gallu. Doedd dim llais 'da fe.
Dylai e fod wedi rhedeg ond allai e ddim rhedeg.
Roedd ei draed e fel cerrig. Torrwyd yr hud pan
yn sydyn cnithiodd tafod y neidr. Rhedodd Rhys i
lawr i'r neuadd at ei fam gan sgrechian.

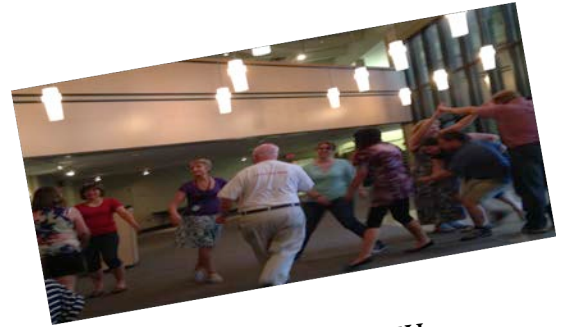
Y CWRS MEWN LLUNIAU



Y RHAEADRAU



Y DAWNSIWR GORAU



TWMPATH



NIAGARA ON THE LAKE



SGILIAU



AR Y BWS



BAROD I DDYSGU



Newcomer's Perspective of Cwrs Cymraeg gan Anne Hepburn

Shw mae! This was my first experience at Cwrs Cymraeg and I have not only survived: I can highly recommend it!

A year ago I knew nothing of the course. I had not yet started working at Dewi Sant, the only Welsh church in North America. But things were about to change...

In Nov 2013, I started taking lessons with John Otley, Welsh tutor in Toronto at Eglwys Unedig Dewi Sant. I was preparing to get some phrases under my tongue for my first weeks which were busy as new jobs can be (even in a church).



As the months went on I gathered phrases for Christmas and Easter and I began to understand *some* of what people were saying to me. I started to put some key Welsh words in the monthly web site message. Diolch, Da Iawn, Bore Da, Nos Da.

I knew it was starting to make sense when I was able to reply to people with a phrase or two when they greeted me in Welsh.

New experiences are exciting and I wanted to learn more. So, I packed, planned, paid and arrived at the beautiful Brock Campus on Sunday July 20th, ready to dive in!

Each day offered something new to do.

Each weekday, our schedule included small groups in which to learn and improve our Welsh, workshops, and special events each evening: mostly in Welsh, of course! The workshops included opportunities to practise pronunciation & reading, learn about the Breton language, and prepare for the annual newsletter and

Eisteddfod! The special events included: an

afternoon at Niagara Falls and Niagara on the Lake, practising songs for the Noson Llawn; Welsh Folk Dancing; a quiz night; a film evening and an Eisteddfod. All in all, time well spent! I suspect many of us will gather again next year to improve our Welsh

language skills and continue our friendships.

Diolch yn Fawr to all the Tutors, organizers and board members of Cwrs Cymraeg!!

DIOLCH YN FAWR I AELODAU BWRDD CYMDEITHAS MADOG:



Llywydd: Maegan Langer

KarenAlice Jones, Maggie Dower, Karen Miller, Tracy Birr, Wayne Morrissey, Robert Davis, Maria Bartholdi, Paul Batty, Robert Jones, Jacque Lyman, Vivien Bosley, Cynthia Parsons, Mona Everett.

Anti Dil's Welsh Cakes

gan Lesley Lewis, Calgary, AB



Anti Dil's Welsh cake recipe was the closest of closely guarded secrets. It took over ten years of close observation, and experimentation on my part to get Anti Dil's recipe just right, but I did it! And these really are the best Welsh cakes you will ever taste.

Ingredients:

3 cups flour

½ cup sugar

A pinch of salt (about ¼ to ½ tsp)

2 teaspoons of baking powder

½ pound of Lard or 1 cup (do not even try butter or margarine)

1 cup of currants

2 eggs (beaten with a little milk)

Method:

The above mixture was lovingly gooched and mixed together with the right hand (yes, your left hand will

work). When the above mixture is forming a nice ball, flatten part of the ball onto a floured surface. A floured rolling pin is perfect for this. Use a round cookie cutter or glass from the cupboard (especially a glass that has been kept for just this purpose) then cut out the cakes. They should be about ½ inch thick. Place them on an “ungreased” electric frying pan at 250-275 degrees. They need to fry slowly, and flipped only once. Occasionally peek and see if the one side is browning then gently flip the cake over. Sprinkle with sugar while in the pan. When the second side is done, serve warm or cold.

CWRS CYMRAEG 2015

We are delighted to announce that the **Cwrs Cymraeg 2015** will be held at **Lewis & Clark College, Portland, Oregon**, from **July 19th to July 26th**.

Look out for more announcements on the website www.madog.org or keep up to date on our facebook page.



Please note that class list contact detail sheets will be mailed or mailed out to attendees.

The Falls gan Maggie Dower

The majority of the students went on the field trip this year and the bus was pretty full. Joyce Little and Hefina Phillips complete with horn gave us an overall view of the important historical aspects of the area. This included information about the war of 1812 between Canada and America, with each country claiming to be the victor, to this day.

At the beginning of the journey we went through the Welland Tunnel, which runs under the canal that links Lake Erie to Lake Ontario.

The route to Niagara on the Lake was lined with many large and beautiful homes, interspersed with the vineyards for which this part of Ontario is famous. We had a brief stop at the homestead of Laura Secord the Canadian heroine of the



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1812 war. American troops were billeted in her home, and when she overheard their battle plans, she walked about 20 miles to warn the Canadians.

Just after this we saw an old house that had been used as a hospital during the same war. The bus drove past another splendid monument commemorating General Brock, the Canadian hero, who was successful in turning the tide of the War in Canada's favour. Unfortunately he didn't survive.

Just outside Niagara on the Lake we changed from the coach to a shuttle bus to take us into the town. Niagara on the Lake is a quaint tourist trap with streets lined with expensive shops, cafes and theatres. It has a slightly unreal feeling about

it. It seemed like a film set. The most pleasant aspect of this town was its beautiful display of flowers.

The final part of the trip was Niagara Falls. As the bus passed along first we saw the dam, which controls the flow of water over The Falls, which is used to generate electricity for this area. The American Falls appeared first and they were impressive. Then after the Rainbow Bridge the incredibly breath-taking Canadian Horseshoe Falls came into view. They are truly magnificent. The Horseshoe Falls forms a mist and you can even feel a gentle spray as you walk on the promenade.

After a wonderful dinner with a view of The Falls we re-joined our coach for the return journey. As the bus turned away from The Falls and up a street with tacky neon lights, it could be called the Las Vegas of the north.

While at Niagara on the Lake we nearly lost one of our party. A search was deployed. Fortunately this person managed to find her own way back to the bus and all was well.

Many thanks to Hefina Phillips and Joyce Little for organising the trip and acting as guides. Also thanks to Angela, our ever-obliging driver



EISTEDDFOD Y CWRS

Llongyfarchiadau gwresog i Ceri Eagling am ennill y gadair am yr eildro yn olynol. Llongyfarchiadau hefyd i' renillwyr eraill ac i bawb a gystadlodd. Roedd y safon yn uchel iawn.

Our warmest congratulations to Ceri Eagling who won Y Gadair for the second time in a row.

Congratulations also to all other winners, and to everyone who took part. The standard this year was very high.

