



# DRYCH Y DYFFRYN

Cwrs Dyffryn Shenandoah ~ 17-24 Gorffennaf, 2011 ~ Shenandoah University, Winchester, VA

## WHO'S HERE THIS YEAR?

*gan Maryann O'Brien*

We have many people coming to Cwrs Cymraeg for the first time this summer. Here's a little bit about our new friends.

**Jorie Stump** is our opera singer from Lexington, Kentucky. We are lucky she came along to help us in the choir, but we almost lost her to her energetic Welsh dancing. Her next appearance (apart from the Saturday night concert) is in John Carlo Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief*. Jorie is interested in Welsh art songs, which is one reason she joined the course this year. She especially likes the variety of workshops offered.

**Maria Bartholdi** has been studying Welsh on her own for about four years. She's a TV producer for PBS in Austin, Minnesota. She produces documentaries about arts and culture, so learning about the culture and the language of Wales is a natural for her. Maria visited Wales when she was twelve years home and felt at once "This is for me!" She has been trying to make it to the course for several years, but this is her first opportunity. She loves poetry and flying squirrels, or maybe reading poetry to

flying squirrels. See if you can spot her Welsh tattoo!

**Dorothy Brown** is a retired Episcopal priest from Toccoa, Georgia. She's been studying on her own for about a year and like many others, took advantage of the proximity of her home to Winchester to attend the course. Though Dorothy retired recently, she still works as a supply priest and makes quilts and Russian lace shawls. Her favorite part about the course is learning with a teacher so she has to think fast without referring to a book.



**Carol Eppes** from Fredericksburg, VA, studied Welsh a few years ago in classes at the Welsh Heritage Week and her local Welsh Society. The Welsh classes were more low key with an emphasis on culture rather than language, but they whetted her appetite for more. Carol also attended this summer because it was close to home and she couldn't pass up the chance to dig down into the language. Her favorite part is working hard in class, and she is especially looking forward to more singing.

**Margaret West** was born in Wales, in Rhayader in Powys, where speaking Welsh was frowned on at that time. She graduated from the University of Wales with a law degree, but all her classes were taught in English, except for Welsh Legal History. Margaret worked in London for several years before marrying an American and coming to the States. She lives in Washington, D.C. and worked for National Public Radio for many years but now freelances. Her interest in all things Welsh was rekindled with the New Welsh History Legal Society in Wales. She was asked to write a paper for their organization that will be published next year.

**Gretchen Xu** lives in St. Louis, Missouri and has studied Welsh with the BBC online courses for about seven months. She decided to come to Cwrs Cymraeg for speaking practice with other learners. She has a degree in library science and works in St. Louis as a librarian. Her favorite part of the course so far is the singing.

**Ceri Eagling** grew up in Wales speaking Welsh, but never learning to read or write the language. She has lived in the States since 1981, with a five year stint in France from 1989 to 1994. She now lives in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Ceri took Welsh classes in Cambridge, MA last fall and came here this summer to keep practicing. She says she is "having a blast!" Her favorite part is learning the grammar of Welsh (!) to use the language more correctly and make her feel more confident.

**Carol Payne** is another librarian on the Cwrs Cymraeg this summer. She works in the Health Sciences Library at UNC at Chapel Hill. She started learning Welsh last November online with the BBC Big Welsh Challenge. Next year she says she may be willing to go a little farther

with her Welsh learning, since she is enjoying the class so much. Carol's great-grandparents were coal miners who emigrated from Wales to work in the coal mines in Pennsylvania. She loves being around people who understand and love the Welsh culture as much as she does.

My name is **Maryann O'Brien** (the interviewer). I live in Denver, Colorado and cannot get used to this humidity! I have friends who learned folk dancing with the Colorado Welsh Society. When they told me that there were free Welsh lessons if I joined the Society, I signed up the next day. I wanted to come to this course for some high-powered, intensive practice, and boy am I getting it! I've heard more Welsh in the past three days than I've heard in the past two years. The people here are great, the teachers are very patient, the workshops are fascinating (I'm planning to take the history of Welsh twice) and I just love singing in the choir. We hope you can all come out to Colorado in a couple of years for Cwrs Cymraeg in the Rockies.

And finally, someone who is definitely not a new student, but who still deserves recognition, is **John Otley**, celebrating his 25th consecutive year coming to Cwrs Cymraeg. John started attending in the mid 1980s. Twenty-five years! He must know every mutation by now! John's family is from NE Wales. His grandmother spoke a little Welsh at home, but not enough for John to learn the language as a child. He lives in Toronto where his family attended a Welsh church, Dewi Sant, which still offers church services in Welsh. This church was an important cultural establishment for the many Welsh immigrants in Toronto, and still offers Welsh lessons to students from the universities. John has taught Welsh with the Ethnic Ministries for seventeen years. As they say in another program, John, "Keep coming back. It's working!"



# Gwibdaith i Harpers Ferry

gan Mark Stonelake

Ro'n i'n breuddwydio am seidr oer a hufen iâ pan stopiodd y bws a dihunais i weld ein bod wedi cyrraedd y dre fach hanesyddol ar \*'brynhawngwaith teg o haf hirfelyn tesog'. Yn wahanol i'r 'Bardd Cwsg', doedd dim \* 'spienddrych' gyda fi 'i helpu fy ngolwg egwan, i weled pell yn agos, a phetheu bychain yn fawr'. Diawch, roedd hi'n dwym! Dwedodd rhywun ei bod yn 94 gradd. Felly, ni \*'chymerais hynt i ben un o fynyddoedd' yr ardal ac arhosais yn y dref gyda fy sbectol haul.

Cawson ni ein tywys o gwmpas y dref gan ddau ddyn gwybodus, wedi'u gwisgo mewn dillad y 19eg ganrif gan gynnwys drylliau'r cyfnod. Clywon ni am ba mor bwysig oedd safle strategol y dref yn ei datblygiad, ar aber dwy afon – y Shenandoah a'r Potomac, rhwng tair talaith – Virginia, West Virginia a Maryland ac ar gamlas Chesapeake ac Ohio heb sôn am reilfordd Baltimore ac Ohio a Winchester a Potomac a'r arfdy a godwyd yn 1790. Dim syndod bod John Brown wedi ceisio dechrau ei wrthryfel yn erbyn caethwasiaeth yma drwy ymosod ar yr arfdy i ddwyn ei gynnwys yn 1859, a bod y lle wedi newid dwylo wyth gwaith rhwng 1861 a 1865 yn ystod y Rhyfel Cartref. Mae Llwybr Appalachia yn mynd trwy'r dref a thwristiaeth, nid diwydiant sy'n cadw'r blaidd o'r drws erbyn hyn.

Wedi dysgu llwyth o bethau am y lle a'i hanes, aethon ni am dro o gwmpas y dref gan alw heibio i'r siop lyfrau. Diolch byth am yr aerdymheru, meddwn i. Cyrhaeddodd pawb y bws mewn da bryd a dechreuon ni ein taith yn ôl i'r brifysgol. Roedd pawb yn rhy flinedig i ganu, felly setlais yn ôl yn fy sedd...

\*'ac wedi â 'm *Meddwl* daeth blinder,  
ac ynghyscod Blinder daeth fy Meistr  
*Cwsg* yn lledradaidd i 'm rhwymo; ac â 'i  
goriadeu plwm fe gloes ffenestri fy Llygaid  
a 'm holl Synhwyrre eraill yn dynn ddiogel.'

Mewn geiriau eraill, ro'n i wedi blino'n lân ac es i i gysgu. Rwy'n gwybod nad yw hwnnw mor bert a geiriau Ellis Wynne, ond beth dych chi'n ei ddisgwyl, nid y 'Bardd Cwsg' mohanof.



John Brown

## Geirfa

hanesyddol	<i>historical</i>	talaith	<i>state</i>
spienddrych	<i>spyglass</i>	camlas	<i>canal</i>
tywys	<i>to lead/guide</i>	gwrthryfel	<i>revolt</i>
gwybodus	<i>knowledgeable</i>	caethwasiaeth	<i>slavery</i>
dryll	<i>gun</i>	rhyfel cartref	<i>civil war</i>
safle	<i>site</i>	aerdymheru	<i>air conditioning</i>

\*Gweledigaethau'r Bardd Cwsg gan Ellis Wynne

## SAVE THE DATE

Join us next summer for Cwrs Cymraeg 2012!

July 22 – 29, 2012 at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City

# **Do you know how many Welsh-Americans signed the Declaration of Independence?**

*gan Bill Roberts*

In researching this post, I have discovered a bewildering array of sources, some more accurate than others. But here are the signers with undoubted Welsh roots (and probable, as indicated). Perhaps by next year I can add to this list. According to some accounts, as many as half of the signers had Welsh ancestry.

## **John Adams**

“His father, also named John (1691–1761), was a fifth-generation descendant of Henry Adams, who emigrated from Braintree, England to Massachusetts Bay Colony in about 1638. He is descended from a Welsh male line called Ap Adam” [which means son of Adam].

## **George Clymer**

In Welsh, a clymwr is someone who ties or makes knots, so mark him as probably of Welsh heritage. I'll try to be a clymwr myself and see whether I can find a more definitive tie-in.

## **William Floyd**

“His great-grandfather Richard Floyd was born in Brecknockshire, Wales in about 1620 and settled in the Province of New York.”

## **Button Gwinnett**

“Gwinnett was born in 1732 in the parish of Down Hatherley in England, to Welsh parents, the Reverend Samuel and Anne (née Button) Gwinnett.”

## **Thomas Jefferson**

from his Autobiography, January 6, 1821:  
“The tradition in my father's family was that their ancestor came to this country from Wales, and from near the mountain of Snowdon, the highest in Gr. Br. I noted once a case from Wales in the law reports where a person of our name was either pl. or def. and one of the same name was Secretary to the Virginia company. These are the only instances in which I have met with the name in that country.”

## **Francis Lewis**

“Born in Llandaff, Cardiff, Wales, he was the only child of Reverend Francis Lewis, but was orphaned at an early age. He went to live with his aunt and uncle soon after. He was educated in Scotland and attended Westminster in England.”

## **Lewis Morris**

Both his Christian and surname are Welsh; another indicator is that the official UK in the USA website attests to his ancestry!

## **Robert Morris**

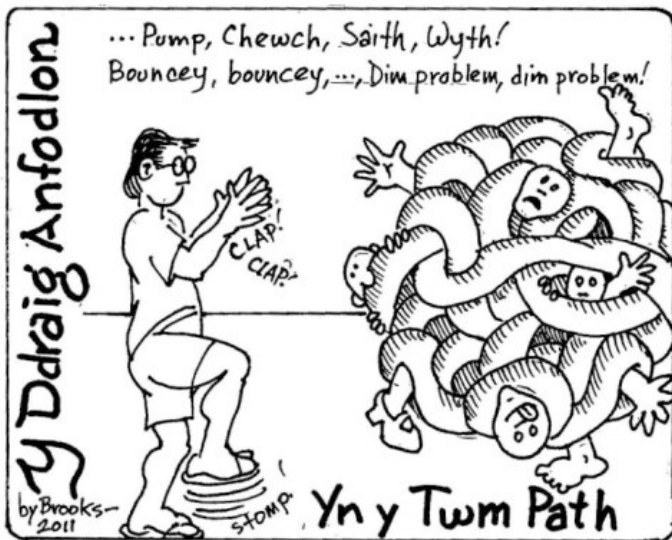
The Idaho Welsh Society's website cites this speech by the Honorable Thomas M. Rees [a good Welsh name!] to the House of Representatives on Wednesday, February 17, 1971:

“The man who financed the War of Independence was Robert Morris, Pennsylvania was founded by William Penn, and Rhode Island by Roger Williams, all were Welsh. It is strange indeed that such a small country-- as Wales, so many people are hardly aware of its existence-- has contributed so much more in proportion to its size than any other nation, and stranger still so little has been written of it. Oh, yes, the next time you are in the Capitol and feel like climbing the Washington Monument stairway, about halfway up there is a stone inscribed:

“FY IAITH, FY NGWLAD, FY NGHENEDL CYMRU - CYMRU AM BYTH!” [“My language, my land, my nation of Wales - Wales for ever!”]”

## **William Williams**

As with George Clymer and Lewis Morris, the name is the (at this point) primary identifier. Williams is the second most common name in Wales, after Jones [which originally was Johnson], and before Roberts.



gan Brooks Jones

## Corneli y Cartwnau



## Amser i Ymlacio



Un, dau, tri, pedwar!



Monday night twmpath dawns and Wednesday field trip to Harper's Ferry

Lluniau gan Cyn Parsons & Sarah Stevenson



## North American Festival of Wales



Mark your calendars for September 1 - 4, 2011, to be in Cleveland, Ohio, for the North American Festival of Wales, featuring the 80th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu.

Key features include a concert with Hogia'r Ddwylan, a male voice choir from North Wales; a folk concert; seminars; marketplace; Welsh Cinema; tours; Welsh language lessons (by a Cymdeithas Madog teacher); singing school (to learn Welsh hymns); open mic; pub nights; and much more.

Information is all on our website: [www.nafow.org](http://www.nafow.org). Day passes available if you can't come for the entire weekend.

### The Little-Known Welsh Roots of Barack Ab Ama

Dyn ni i gyd wedi gweld neu glywed am daith Arlywydd Barack Obama ac ei wreiddiau yn Moneygall, pentref Gwyddelig bach. Er hynny, tra ro'n i yng Nghymu yn ystod fy Sabothol, ymwelais i â'r Llyfrgell Genedlaethol. Roedd arddangosfa yna am wreiddiau pobl enwog, gan gynnwys Arlywydd Obama. Gwelais i siart achau sy'n profi bod ei hen hen hen daid yn enedigol o Ynys Môn.

We have all seen or heard about President Barack Obama's trip and his roots in Moneygall, a small Irish village. Nevertheless, while I was in Wales during my Sabbatical, I visited the National Library. There was an exhibition there about the roots of famous people, including President Obama. I saw a family tree which showed that his great great great grandfather was a native of Anglesey.

--Bill Roberts

## DYSGU CYMRAEG: IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR

*gan Maryann O'Brien*

This year at Cwrs Cymraeg 2011, we've had the opportunity to meet several families who attended together. If you weren't interviewed this year, don't worry. Next year, just bring your spouse or your grandpa and we'll make sure you get a feature story!

**Brooks and Faye Jones** also decided to attend Cwrs Cymraeg this year because it's close to Pasadena, Maryland, where they live. But not for very much longer. They're retired now and planning to sell their house and move to the

panhandle of Florida. They have twin sons and a daughter, and Brooks and Faye both worked with the military overseas for many years - 14 of them in Germany. Brooks says his German is interfering with his Welsh, so he's trying to forget all the German he knows. Faye just retired from teaching English to military journalists. Jaque Lyman happens to be in Brooks and Faye's Tai Chi class, which is how they heard about Cwrs Cymraeg. Brooks wanted to attend right away and managed to talk Faye into coming along too.

Like many of our students, Brooks has Welsh roots. His great grandfather, Thomas T. Jones, migrated from Wales with a group of families from their region in mid-Wales. He started a foundry that refined iron used to make a cannon now at Harper's Ferry and an iron clad ship, the USS *Monitor*, that saw service in the Civil War.

Another family group this summer consists of **Nicole Evans** and her grandfather, **Howard**. They are from Billings, Montana. Their roots are also Welsh. Howard's father was born in Wales and was given land to farm when he emigrated to the States. Unfortunately, they were miners, not farmers.

Nicole and her family have been to Wales to visit. They have a deep interest in the culture, the language, and the music. Howard loves the feeling of community here at the course and the sense of a shared heritage. Nicole, as the youngest member of Cwrs Cymraeg this year, is having a good time but wishes there were more people of her age here. Maybe the new scholarship will yield at least one more young person!

Our last family group this year is John Andrew



*Lluniau gan Cyn Parsons*

Owen Jones and John Ceri Owen Jones, also known as **Andrew and Ceri Jones**, father and son. Ceri has been the president of Cymdeithas Madog for two years. This is his seventh Cwrs Cymraeg. He now lives in Aberystwyth, where he has been playing trombone and recording Welsh folk music. (You can hear a bit if you check out [cerigwalior.bandcamp.com](http://cerigwalior.bandcamp.com)) Ceri volunteers his musical talents directing the choir every evening after supper, which we heard for ourselves at Saturday night's concert. He says he loves the language first, and then having fun with all the people here.

Andrew was born in Wales and grew up speaking Welsh. He immigrated to British Columbia in 1967 and prospected for copper there. Instead of copper, he and his coworkers found a diamond mine. Andrew then spent many years as a teacher, often working in jails (but not as an inmate, he assures us). He now lives in Stettler, Alberta. He and his family traveled back to Wales often over the years, but coming to Cwrs Cymraeg is about the only place Andrew can speak Welsh now. This is his third course.



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From the Desk of Intrepid Reporter Vivien Bosley:

Justin Cronin, in a review of a book *The Last Werewolf* by Glen Duncan in the *New York Times Book Review* of July 17th, gives as examples of the author's 'succulent verbal morsels:' 'the topography of Wales is a stack of vowel-starved hills: Bwlch Mawr; Gyrn Ddu; Yr Eifl.'

Just thought you'd like to know!

## **Tom Reilly Memorial Scholarship**

*gan Mona Everett*

Congratulations to Trisha Thomas, the first annual recipient of the Tom Reilly Memorial Scholarship.



The scholarship, set up in memory of long-time Cwrs attendee Tom Reilly, friend to all who met him, will be awarded each year to a young person, 25 years of age or under, at the end of the Cwrs week. The scholarship is for attendance at the following year's Cwrs Cymraeg, and includes full tuition and double room and board. The recipient must be at the current course and also have attended at least one other course in the prior three years. Prior scholarship recipients are eligible for consideration. The CM Board will select the awardee who best exemplifies the mission of the scholarship, which is to encourage lifelong enjoyment of Welsh language learning.

Tom passed away in April 2011, at age 85. He had attended about 30 consecutive Cwrs.

Persons wishing to contribute to the scholarship fund in Tom's name, may do so via PayPal, or by sending a check or money order made payable to Cymdeithas Madog, to Karen Alice Jones, 2670 Glen Eagle Rd., Oswego, OR 97034 USA. Donations may be tax deductible.

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## **The Welsh General from Winchester**

*gan Vivien Bosley*



General Daniel Morgan (1736-1802), who gave his name to Morgan County in what is now West Virginia and several other states, was the son of Welsh immigrants and the great-great-great nephew of the famous Welsh pirate Henry Morgan (of rum fame!). Who could ask for more illustrious ancestry! He was a hero of the Revolutionary War and accomplished legendary feats. Some of the characteristics noted by Wikipedia may have a familiar ring in the Cwrs. He is described as 'a large man, poorly educated, who enjoyed drinking and gambling'. He wasn't so reckless a gambler as to neglect his own interests, however, and managed to save enough money from work in a sawmill and as a teamster to buy his own team, which was how he came to serve in the French and Indian War. When he served in the British army, he managed to survive 499 lashes for punching a superior officer in the face.

His subsequent extraordinary military exploits were fueled, no doubt, by this memory. He was chosen to lead one of the two companies Virginia sent to support the Siege of Boston in 1775. They became known as Morgan's Riflemen. The vicissitudes of war took him to Quebec with Benedict Arnold, where he was made prisoner of war until 1777. Despite his refusal to take part in politics, and therefore being denied promotion, he was made Brigadier General and displayed brilliant tactical mastery at the battle of Cowpens in 1780. After the Revolutionary War, he was elected to the House of Representatives where he served from 1797-1799. He eventually retired to his farm, where he remained until he died in 1802. That home, together with his grave in the cemetery



can be seen in Winchester. If only we had time!!

## FUTURE VENUES

The Cymdeithas Madog Board would like to encourage people, groups or societies to consider sponsoring future Cwrs Cymraeg. Sponsoring a Cwrs can be a very rewarding experience as each location brings its own individual flavor whether is in the U.S.A, Canada or Wales.

The Board will provide potential sponsors with a handbook that outlines on how to submit a proposal. Information concerning the duties and responsibilities of both the Board and the sponsor is included in this booklet.

Ideally, the Board has a list of future potential venues for 3 to 5 years ahead. If you are considering bringing Cwrs Cymraeg to a venue in your area, please contact Maggie Dower, the Venues Chairperson.

## WELSH IN THE WEST

*gan Vivien Bosley*

Apart for the big national Welsh festivals, there were two smaller ones that I know of in the West last month; One was in Wales, Utah, which I didn't go to, and the other in Malad, Idaho, which I did. The one time I did go to Wales, we were travelling with some friends from Wales, one of whom was Welsh speaking, so we were hoping to hear an interesting exchange of experience. The little town looked as if it had been transported directly from the Valleys, but unfortunately the last surviving Welsh speaker hadn't survived, and had died a few months before. When coal was found in Utah, Brigham Young sent to Wales for experienced miners, hence that pocket of population.

Malad, Idaho, on the other hand, is a farming community, and the area seemed ideal for sheep, which is how the Welsh ended up there. It advertises itself as having the largest percentage of people of Welsh ancestry of any community on the continent (mind you, we're not talking big numbers here). The Festival had been held for about six years, and I've been to several of them. Booths are set up in a field; a big tent hosts musicians of various kinds, and there are other cultural activities laid on. This year I heard two excellent talks, one given by Lucie Thomas Washburne, who gave a lovely and lively presentation about eisteddfodau, ably and aptly illustrated with images on a screen. Some of the excitement that holds the big tent in thrall in Wales at the naming of the bard was actually communicated to the audience in Malad.



The other talk we heard was given by a well-known retired professor from Brigham Young University who has encyclopedic knowledge of Mormon missionaries in Wales during the nineteenth century. He is also an expert on Welsh genealogy, and as there are a great number of people of Welsh descent in Utah, he constitutes in himself a resource almost as comprehensive as the church genealogical library. A bonus for me at the festival was that I heard and talked to John Good, who taught at the Cwrs Madog in Stockton, CA, and who gave me a wonderful opportunity to jam with him at the evening of dance. Dressed in his Welsh kilt (!!) he played some of the many instruments he possesses and sang with a small group. The Festival runs over three days; there are Welsh cakes and various Welsh souvenirs for sale and ALWAYS a quilt show.

## Diolch o Galon!

Many thanks to the local organizers of Cwrs Cymraeg 2011- Cwrs Dyffryn Shenandoah, the Shenandoah Valley Course! Jaque Lyman went above and beyond the call of duty in putting together a wonderful Welsh week for us. Thanks also to Cheryl Mitchell for her handy welcome packs, which, of course, included a map to help Cwrs students reach the pub. We are also grateful to the hardworking staff of Shenandoah University, including Pam Smulovitz, Amanda Stokes, and the tireless conference assistants.

Thanks as well to the Cymdeithas Madog Board of Directors: Ceri Jones, KarenAlice Jones, Sarah Stevenson, Melvyn Jones, Rebecca Redmile, Maegan Langer, Rob Davis, Maggie Dower, and Margaret Scharf.

And, wrth gwrs, diolch yn fawr to the tutors: Geraint Wilson Price (Prif Tiwtor), Marta Diaz, Chris Reynolds, Mark Stonelake, Angharad Devonald, and Kevin Rottet.

## Diarhebion Cymraeg Eraill/ Other Welsh Proverbs

*Chwynnwch eich gardd eich hun yn gyntaf.*

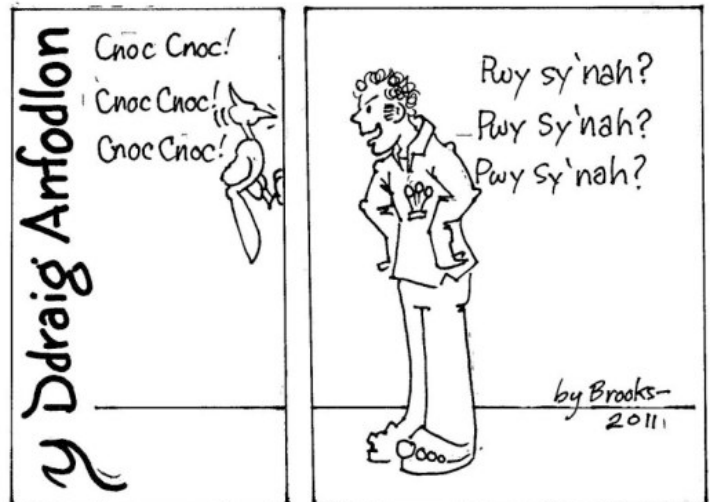
Weed your own garden first.

*Cwsg gwir ar ddrain, ni chwsg anwir ar blu.*

Truth will sleep on thorns, lies will not sleep on feathers.

*A heuo ddrain, na fid droednoeth.*

The one who sows thorns should not go barefoot.



## Llongyfarchiadau to Our Scholarship Winners!

Each year the Board of Directors of Cymdeithas Madog awards several scholarships to deserving applicants who need a bit of financial assistance to attend Cwrs Cymraeg. This year we had a full nine attendees who were honored with scholarships: Howard Evans, Nicole Evans, Ceri Jones, Maegan Langer, Maryann O'Brien, Bill Roberts, Sarah Stevenson, Jorie Stump, and Trisha Thomas.

Several of our scholarship recipients are new to the Cwrs. Howard and Nicole Evans are a wonderful example of family members studying the language together, to strengthen their knowledge of Welsh culture and their Welsh heritage. Maryann O'Brien has been studying *yr hen iaith* with one of her Welsh tutors in the Colorado Welsh Society, Elis Owens. Jorie Stump has come to a love of the Welsh language through its rock music. She wrote a fascinating account of her journey in her scholarship application, and was awarded the Naomi Mergenthal Memorial Scholarship.

Other awardees are familiar faces at Cwrs Cymraeg. Ceri Jones, Maegan Langer, and Sarah Stevenson have all been attending the Cwrs for several years and are members of the Cymdeithas Madog Board of Directors. Bill Roberts, an Episcopal reverend, is also a longtime Cwrs-goer and a former member of the Board. Trisha Thomas, who received a matching scholarship, has now attended for a few years, and has demonstrated both tenacity and a continuing enthusiasm for the language.

Llongyfarchiadau to all of our awardees!

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## Noson Gwis



*Lluniau gan Chris Reynolds*



# Tudalen Ffotos



*Lluniau gan  
Chris Reynolds*



Gwelwn ni chi y flwyddyn nesaf!