

Chiltern District Welsh Society

Spring Newsletter 2008.



The society has continued to grow and promote a number of activities. Reports on these follow:

Chairman's Report.

Another year has flown by and we seem to be racing through this year's events.

The New Year began with a Quiz Evening at the Coleshill Village Hall. Our thanks to Gay and Neil for hosting the quiz. The questions were challenging and the evening successful.

We returned to the Gerrards Cross Golf Club for the St. David's Day dinner. We were entertained by the London Welsh Camerata, enjoyed a traditional Welsh menu and finished with coffee and Welsh cakes. A wonderful evening culminating with members and guests gathering around the piano singing traditional Welsh songs.

The Society continues to look for ideas to entertain members. If you have any suggestions please contact any of the committee with your ideas.

We look forward to visiting Highgrove in May, meeting together at the Summer Lunch, golfing at Oaklands and visiting the Albert Hall in October.

My thanks to the Committee and to all members who help in the activities of the Society

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM on Friday the 9th May.

Bob Ford.

Christmas Drinks at the Tuft, 9th December 2007.

The year 2007 was rounded off with the traditional drinks party hosted by our President at the 'Tuft'. It lived up to our usual expectations.

Over fifty members attended. It was a relaxed social occasion that gave new

members a chance to meet others in the Society.



The time flew by, the proceedings were brought to a close with the impromptu singing of carols. A fitting end to the year's programme of activities.



Many thanks to Ann Evans for being the perfect hostess.

Maldwyn Pugh

Quiz Evening - 15th February.

On one of the coldest nights of the year 8 teams arrived to warm up for the quiz night at Coleshill Village Hall. The first challenge of the evening for the teams was the choice of name for each, a fine selection of resounding Welsh names ensued with references to the national Rugby Team prominent among them.



Quiz masters Gay and Neil De Marco called everyone to order, an expectant buzz filled the air and we were off! Geography, history and general knowledge rounds followed in quick succession. The most devilish challenge involved naming which national flags represented which country-outlandish suggestions were whispered around tables some deliberately stage-managed to mislead adjoining tables. Fast and furious the questions came, the noise levels rising with each round (alcohol was loosening lips and confusing minds).

Supper at half-time was a welcome respite, never has fish and chips in polythene containers tasted so good. Back to the fray-who would win? Oh, no! It was those dastardly Ospreys, newcomers to the CDWS, who swooped down at the last minute to claim the prize. Hisses and boos all round? - on the contrary, the handing over of the six bottles of extremely good wine to Helen & Bob Hall, Anne & David Browne and Elan & Robin Preston-Whyte was greeted with very generous applause.



Many thanks are due to the organisers of the evening and the quiz masters for a very enjoyable event.

Elan Preston -Whyte

St. David's Day Dinner on the 1st March



Eighty-five members and guests met on March 1st to celebrate our patron saint's day. A welcome glass of wine greeted us while we had our pre-dinner chat. As a nation we are not known for lacking in this area and with the wonderful Welsh win over Italy the previous week, rugby made up in large part the conversation with hopes for a triple crown, or even the championship. Who knows!!

When we were seated we were welcomed by our Chairman, Bob Ford, who took the opportunity to once again thank all those who had been involved in the organisation of the evening; one of the Society's key events. A lot of work well done and much appreciated by everyone. He also told us about arrangements for our future visit to Highgrove and promised that those disappointed this time, because of restrictions on numbers, would be given another chance if a further visit can be arranged.

On our behalf he added our good wishes to Eilwen who was celebrating her birthday that day.

Once again the catering staff at Gerrards Cross Golf Club had done a superb job and

we all enjoyed an excellent meal. Many in the company had their first taste of laver bread, which with the salmon, made an unusual and tasty starter. The meal was finished off with coffee and welsh cakes; thanks to Anne Thomas. A copy of your recipe in a future newsletter would be good Anne.



After dinner we were entertained by The London Welsh Camerata who gave us a programme, which varied from traditional Welsh songs to an Elvis Presley hit. We were invited to join with them in the singing and needless to say did so with gusto, especially when it came to old favourites like Calon Lan and Bread of Heaven. Our Welsh roots certainly come to the fore when we are given the opportunity to sing. The formal part of a wonderful evening was finished with an enthusiastic Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau.



Many members stayed on afterwards to gather together and sing accompanied by John Breese on the piano. Thank you John for a memorable conclusion to a happy evening.

Margaret Payne

Forthcoming events

AGM

Friday 9 May 2008
Coleshill Village Hall

This is our next annual event and we look forward to welcoming as many members as possible. The evening is a **free** event with the following format:

7.30pm Formal AGM

8.00pm Buffet Supper

9.00pm ADRIAN THORNTON will entertain us with an illustrated talk on the National Parks of Wales

Please try to make this date; it is an informal and light-hearted evening. It provides a good opportunity for new members to become better acquainted with the society.

In order to plan the catering numbers please let Maldwyn Pugh know if you will be attending. contacts:

Email: pugh792@btinternet.com

Tel. 01494 763461

The village hall is in the centre of the village in Manor Way opposite the church and parking is in the school playground nearby.

Summer Lunch

Sunday 6 July 2008



Eryl Morris has very kindly agreed to host the Summer Lunch in his garden at:
Broad Oak, Devonshire Avenue
Amersham.

We are hoping to be blessed with fine weather again

This is always a popular event with good food provided. In order to meet individual tastes drinks are on a bring your own basis.

Last year we had record numbers, so do not miss out. Booking form with further details will be circulated later.

Annual Golf Day Friday 19 September



This year's event is being held at:
Oaklands Park Golf Club, Chalfont St Peter

This is a fun day for golfers with mixed fours of all abilities. It has grown in popularity over the past four years and we hope for a good turn out on the day.

When everyone has completed the course lunch will be served and non golfers are very welcome to join the party.

London Welsh Festival of Male Choirs 18 October 2008 Royal Festival Hall



We have made an early request for 50 stall tickets hoping for a good allocation.

A coach will be provided with pick up points at Amersham, Gerrards Cross and Denham. The total cost, tickets plus coach is £47 and will be sold on a first come first

served basis. Application forms have already been sent out. This is a biennial event and the last Concert in 2006 had an excellent programme and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



London Welsh Festival Of Male Choirs
Albert Hall