

# **The Welsh Connection (*Y Cysylltiad Cymreig*),**

*by Janice B. Edwards*

Poultney, Vermont, May 27, 2013

## **In remembrance of Cyril Lloyd:**

### **Cyril Lloyd, (3 March, 1925 – 16 December, 2012)**

CYRIL LLOYD, born in Rhostryfan, Gwynedd, North Wales, the son of John and Mary Lloyd, was well known to Welsh audiences in the United Kingdom at the age of 12 as a member of the Lloyd Family Broadcasting Group. After serving with the Royal Air Force during World War II, he studied with the distinguished British tenor Heddle Nash at the Royal Manchester College of Music. He has performed many leading roles in opera, oratorios, concerts and lieder as well as under such conductors as Sir Thomas Beecham and Sir Malcolm Sargent, and he conducted *Gymanfa Ganu* in the United States. On an early visit to America to New York City during a performance tour, he met Jani Roberts of New York City, who became his bride.

Mr. Lloyd was known to many throughout his lifetime for his love and knowledge of the music of Wales, which he heart fully shared in performances as tenor soloist, in duets, with choral groups, as conductor of *gymanfa ganu* events, and with Welsh language teaching sessions for students of all ages.

Mr. Lloyd retired from the World Bank and following many years of residency in McLean, Virginia, he and Jani relocated in 1988 and settled in Granville, New York not far from Jani's family homestead in South Poultney, Vermont. He and his wife Jani were members of the St. David's Society of Washington, D.C. and of the Poultney Area St. David's Society. In retirement, they were active members of the community; in Peniel Presbyterian Church; in the Area Chorus with the late Dr. Ruth Douglass, in many special events with accompanists Ruth Czar and the late Chester Jones, and with the Slate Valley Museum. And, Mr. Lloyd was often a teacher to vocal students encouraging and aiding their understanding and appreciation of Welsh music and the language.

Mr. Lloyd is survived in the United Kingdom by his sister, Agnes and brother Merion Lloyd and several nieces and nephews in the UK and Canada. He was predeceased in 2005 by his wife, Jani and in 2009, by their only child, son John Robert Lloyd. He was also predeceased by his parents as well as sisters Megan and Betty and brother Bryn Lloyd.

A service In Celebration of the Life of Cyril Lloyd was held May 8<sup>th</sup> at Peniel Presbyterian Church officiated by the Reverend Jerry McKinney, and attended by family from the United Kingdom and by many Slate Valley friends. Committal service was held

in Elmwood Cemetery, Middle Granville, New York, where Mr. Lloyd is interred with his wife and son.

The family suggests memorial contributions may be given in the United States to the Haynes House of Hope, 7187 New York Route 149, Granville, NY 12832 USA. The family suggests memorial contributions may be given in the United Kingdom to the music studies program at Rhostryfan Primary School, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL54 7LR UK.

A favorite hymn of Mr. Lloyd's which he often performed in the Welsh language for audiences in the Vermont / New York Slate Valley was, *Pwy Fydd Yma (When A Hundred Years Have Gone)*, written by Ernest Llwyd Williams (1906-1960), minister, poet and writer and first published in 1943; translated to English by Dafydd Owen.

#### When A Hundred Years Have Gone

Who will then be here rejoicing  
When a hundred years have flown?  
Who will then present the music  
Which your soul may call its own?  
Who will then interpret beauty  
Which no poet can command?  
Who will then add all the luster  
Of the muse in every land?

Who will read the sacred lesson  
When the Sabbath is begun?  
Who will then announce salvation  
In the name of Mary's Son?  
Who will be the congregation  
When a hundred years are past?  
Who will pray that peace from heaven  
Might possess the world at last?

In the sweet communion hour,  
Who will share the bread and wine?  
Who will cry in anguish "Savior",  
Let me ever more be Thine?  
When we are all gone forever,  
When a hundred years have flown,  
There will still be friends of Jesus,  
And His love will still be known.

Welsh words by E. Llwyd Williams  
translated by Dafydd Owen

It is now approaching one hundred seventy-five years since Welsh immigrant families began emigrating from North Wales to the Vermont / New York Slate Valley area because of the slate quarries, bringing with them their language and traditions. Mr. Lloyd's presence amongst us in the Slate Valley these past twenty-five years has enabled the region to continue to celebrate and enjoy our Welsh heritage when, more than a hundred years has flown. Rest in peace, Cyril Lloyd.

This remembrance tribute of Mr. Lloyd was written in 2013, by Janice B. Edwards, Poultney, Vermont, a former vocal student of Mr. Lloyd and a Vermont Slate Valley Welsh heritage descendant.

Photograph of Cyril Lloyd is below – permission for use of it with this remembrance tribute is granted by the family of Cyril Lloyd.



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*by Janice B. Edwards* is a column by her that has been published in the Vermont / New York Slate Valley for more than 20 years.