

February 1986.

Dear Member,

I have thought for some time that the results of our Eisteddfod should be published, and since not one of the newspapers sent a reporter to cover the event, perhaps I can share my impressions of the afternoon with you.

For me it will always be the 'Eb' (E flat) Eisteddfod, since that was the key Selwyn announced he would sing in, and the one he offered to all other performers - whether they wanted it or not.

After the opening hymn, Ceri and Siân hedge entertained us with a delightful recorder duet, Siân playing the treble, and Ceri the descant. What a shame there was no one to take up their challenge - had news of their abilities frightened off the competition? Anyway, well done girls!

Congrats. to Llawa Lander, who beat Selwyn (Eb) Davies and Caradog Roberts, in the solo; and to Carrie Robertson and Eirlys Lewis who came first in the duet, in spite of a surprise challenge from the "home team" of George Gordon + Jim Graham, who gave us a spirited rendering of "Three crows sat upon a wai"; and not to mention a moving piece by Caradog + Selwyn in Eb.

Two 'choirs' vied for the party prize. We had George Gordon on Banjo; they had Selwyn in Eb. Eb carried the day. George got his own back in the instrumental section inspite of a virtuous performance on the comb and tassel by Caradog.

A note of thanks here to Iwan Parry whose adjudicating was a source of enlightenment and inspiration to us all.

Good things often come in threes, as did the entries for the recitation. Though Joyce Lugton and Llawa Lander won high praise, it was Maesy Davies' turn to shine, both in the solo and as a member of the verse speaking party.

The final performance was the reading of an un-punctuated passage, and quite a stormy passage it

praised, for those of us 'volunteered' by Selwyn to take part.

Congratulations to Jack Griffith for his sandwiches, Eirlys Lewis (savoury flan) Carrie (Welsh cakes) and Laura (decorated sandwich cake). They must have been good, by the time I reached the table they were all gone!

In the craft section the prize winners were:-

Cartoon of the festival - Kimberlie Welsher; Portrait photograph - Eirlys Lewis; Landscape - John Davies. Floral arrangement - Ann Roberts; Embroidery - Joan Griffith; Tapestry - Betty Alsop. Knitting - (under 12) - Kimberlie Welsher; (under 16) - Gillian Welsher; - (open) - me (but it was a close run thing).

And so we came to the final item, Caradog's adjudication of the competition for the chair. There were 27 entries, and we sat on the edges of our seats as he pointed out the strengths and the weaknesses of each. I was poised, pad and pencil in hand, ready to interview the new bard ... then suddenly it was me being robed and chaired, me the proud recipient of a beautiful Jim Graham Chair... so no interview, just sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the 1986 Eisteddfod, and the limerick...

There thrives a Society of Taffs
In Church Halls, Skittle Alleys and caffs
Keeping hiraeth at bay
As they sing, talk and pray
Or just get together for taffs.

Jennifer Welsher.