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# Elizabeth Jane Corbett: 15 ohonom ni yn Melbourne yn helpu cyrraedd at filiwn o siaradwyr / 15 of us in Melbourne are helping to reach a million speakers

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Miloedd o bobl dros y byd sy'n dysgu Cymraeg, ac mae straeon diddorol a phrofiadau unigryw gyda llawer iawn ohonyn nhw. Yma, dyn ni'n cael cipolwg ar beth sy'n digwydd mewn cyrsiau Cymraeg yn Melbourne...

There are thousands of people across the world who are learning Welsh, and very many of them have interesting stories and unique experiences. Here, we get a glimpse of what is happening in Welsh courses in Melbourne...

Neithiwr, oedd y noson gyntaf y flwyddyn o ein dosbarthiadau Melbourne ni. Fel arfer oedd yn noson ysbrydoliaeth. Felly, o'n i'n moyn rhannu tipyn bach o ein hanes ni. Dechreuais i ddysgu Cymraeg tua deuddeg blynedd yn ôl. Faleiry oedd fy athrawes i, a daeth hi o Geredigion yn wreiddiol. Ar ôl priodi, symudodd hi i Awstralia gyda'i gŵr Awstralién. Doedd na ddim llawer o gyfleoedd i siarad Cymraeg yn y dyddiau yna. Hyd yn oed oedd ffonio adref yn ddrud iawn- nid fel y

Last night was the first night of our Melbourne classes for the year. As usual, it was an inspiring evening. Therefore, I would like to share a little of our story with you. I started learning Welsh about twelve years ago. My teacher was Faleiry, and she came from Ceredigion originally. After marrying, she moved to Australia with her Australian husband. There weren't many opportunities to speak Welsh in those days. Even phoning home was expensive- not like

dyddiau 'ma tra bod Skype wedi gwneud y holl bell yn haws. Oedd ei Chymraeg hi yn eithaf rhydlyd, dwedodd Faleiry, tan oedd hi'n gofyn i helpu gyda'r dosbarthiadau Cymraeg Melbourne. Wedyn daeth popeth yn ôl iddi hi, ac mae hi wedi bod yn diwtor Cymraeg dros ugain mlynedd nawr.

Ond, pam ydy pobl dysgu Cymraeg ym Melbourne? Cwestiwn da. Bob blwyddyn, ar y noson gyntaf y tymor, dyn ni'n eistedd mewn clych gyda'r aelodau hŷn a'r dechreuwyr ac yn cyflwyno ein hunan. Mae rhai pobl yn siarad am dyfu lan yng Nghymru a chlywed yr iaith Gymraeg pan o'n nhw'n ifanc, cyn symud i Awstralia. Mae rhai yn cofio ei Mam-gu yn siarad Cymraeg yn Awstralia. Mae rhai wedi priodi rhywun o Gymru. Mae rhai wedi gweithio yng Nghymru rhywbryd yn ystod eu bywydau. Dyw rhai pobl ddim yn gwybod pam maen nhw'n dysgu Cymraeg. Ond dyma ni, neithiwr, tua phymtheg ohonom ni, oedd wedi bod yn gyrru gan hiraeth a'r prydferthwch o'r hen iaith.

Pan ddechreuaus i ddysgu Cymraeg, roedd y grwpiau dysgwyr yn defnyddio'r cwrs BBC Catchphrase. Nawr, dyn ni'n defnyddio cymysglyd o gyrsiau. Ond, am sawl blwyddyn nawr, dw i wedi bod yn tiwtora'r dechreuwyr, felly, dyn ni wedi bod yn defnyddio y cwrs ar-lein [Say Something in Welsh](#). Pam? Achos mae'n gwrs gwych! Heb SSiW, alla i ddim siarad Cymraeg. Wir yr! Mae'r dysgwyr yn gyfrifol am wrando ar y podlediadau SSiW yn eu hamser eu hunan nhw. Wedyn, pob wythnos, gyda chardiau flach, a jig-sos, a'r geiriadur lliwgar, dw i'n rhoi iddyn nhw gyfleoedd i ymarfer y patrymau maen nhw wedi bod yn dysgu ar y podlediadau.

Does dim llawer o diwtoriaid gyda ni (dyn ni i gyd yn wirfoddolwyr), felly dyn ni ddim yn gallu cynnig mwy na tri lefel i ddysgwyr bod blwyddyn. Felly ar ôl un flwyddyn gyda fi a SSiW mae'r dysgwyr yn graddio at lefel Sylfaen. Dyn ni wedi dechrau defnyddio'r cwrs CBAC gyda'r grŵp yma. Daw'r tiwtor Rob o Lundain yn wreiddiol, a dysgodd e Gymraeg yn y Brifysgol yn Llanbedr Pont Steffan. Mae fe'n athro go iawn yn ei swydd ddiwrnodol, felly dyn ni'n lwcus iawn ei fod e'n fodlon i deithio milltiroedd ar y trēn bob wythnos jyst i helpu pobl dysgu Cymraeg.

Mae gyda ni dau diwtor arall, heb law Faleiry, Rob a fi. Mae e Aled o Twickenham, oedd tyfu lan yn Llundain gyda Chymraeg fel mamaith ac Anna o ar bwys Wrecsam oedd wedi priodi Awstraliad. Er mwyn helau ein gilydd mas, dyn ni'n gweithio fel tim tag – pan mae'r llall yn mynd bant i astudio, neu ymweld â Chymru, neu jyst tra bod eu bywyd nhw yn brysur.

Y flwyddyn yma, bydd Aled yn gweithio gyda dau ddysgwyr sy'n barod i loysi eu hiaith Cymraeg. Un dysgwr, Karla, yn symud i Gymru am ddwy flwyddyn ac mae hi'n gobeithio gweithio trwy'r cyfrwng Cymraeg. Y llall, Jason, wedi helpu mas fel tiwtor ar sawl adeg. Mae'r ddua ohonyн nhw wedi dysgu Cymraeg trwy SSiW. Mae'r ddua ohonyн nhw'n siaradwr hyderus.

Felly, os bydd y Llywodraeth Cymru yn ymdrechu creu miliwn siaradwr Cymraeg, paid â becso- dyn ni'n helpu mas, yma, yn Awstralia!

these days in which Skype has made the whole thing far easier. Her Welsh was quite rusty, Faleiry said, until she was asked to help out with the Melbourne Welsh classes. Then everything came back to her, and she has been a Welsh tutor for over twenty years now.

But why are people learning Welsh in Melbourne? A good question. Every year, on the first night of the term, we sit in a circle with the older class members and the beginners and introduce ourselves. Some people talk about growing up in Wales and hearing the Welsh language when they were young, before moving to Australia. Some recall their grandmother speaking Welsh in Australia. Some have married someone from Wales. Some have worked in Wales at some time during their lives. Some people don't know why they are learning Welsh. But there we were, last night, about fifteen of us, driven by hiraeth and the beauty of the old language.

When I started learning Welsh, the group were using the course BBC Catchphrase. Now, we use a mixture of courses. But, for several years now, I have been tutoring the beginners, therefore, we use the online course [Say Something in Welsh](#). Why? Because it is a wonderful course! Without SSiW, I wouldn't be able to speak Welsh. The truth! The learners are responsible for listening to the SSiW podcasts in their own time. Then, every week with flash cards, jigsaws, and the picture dictionary, I give them opportunities to practice the patterns they have been learning on the podcasts.

We don't have many tutors (we are all volunteers), therefore, we are not able to offer more than three levels each year. Therefore, after a year with me and SSiW, the learners graduate to foundation level. We have started using the WJEC course with this group. The tutor, Rob, comes from London originally, and he learned Welsh while at university in Lampeter. He is a real teacher in his day job, therefore we are very lucky that he is willing to travel for miles on the train each week just to help people learn Welsh.

We have two other tutors, apart from Faleiry, Rob and me. There is Aled, from Twickenham, who grew up in London with Welsh as his mother tongue, and Anna, from near Wrexham, who has married an Australian. To help each other out, we work like a tag team – when others go away to study, or visit Wales, or just because their lives are busy.

This year, Aled will be working with two learners who are ready to polish their Welsh language. One learner, Karla, is moving to Wales for two years and she is hoping to work through the medium of Welsh. The other, Jason, has helped out as a tutor on several occasions. The two of them have learned Welsh through SSiW and are confident speakers.

Therefore, if the Welsh government is struggling to create a million Welsh speakers, don't worry- we are helping out, here, in Australia!

Dosbarthiadau Cymraeg Melbourne yn cwrdd am 7 o'r gloch yn y rhandy'r Eglwys Gymreig Melbourne yn ystod tymhorau ysgol Fictoriaid. Ffeindiwch fanylion ar fy ngwefan: <http://elizabethjanecorbett.com/learn-welsh/>

Melbourne Welsh classes meet at seven o'clock in the annex to the Melbourne Welsh Church during Victorian school terms. You can find details on my website: <http://elizabethjanecorbett.com/learn-welsh/>

Mae Elizaeth yn blogio am ysgrifennu a'r Gymraeg yma: [elizabethjanecorbett.com](http://elizabethjanecorbett.com) ac ar gael ar [Trydar](#). Elizabeth blogs about writing and Welsh here: [elizabethjanecorbett.com](http://elizabethjanecorbett.com) and is available on [Twitter](#).



Mae'r nofel Elizabeth The Tides Between ar gael trwy siopau ar-lein dros y byd: [Hive UK](#), [Book Depository](#), [Amazon](#) & [Barnes and Noble](#). Hefyd gall e fod yn archebu trwy siop llyfr lleol; mae'r manylion ar ei wefan.

Elizabeth's novel The Tides Between is available online across the world: [Hive UK](#), [Book Depository](#), [Amazon](#) & [Barnes and Noble](#). Also it can be ordered through your local shop; the details are on her website.

Mae hi wedi ysgrifennu am y proses o greu'r llyfr i parallel.cymru / She has written about the process of creating the book for parallel.cymru:  
[parallel.cymru/?p=4282](http://parallel.cymru/?p=4282)

