



## Jo Knell- Cyflwyno'r Siop Cant A Mil Vintage, Caerdydd / Introducing the Cant a Mil Vintage shop, Cardiff

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Mae'r siop Gymreig Cant a Mil Vintage wedi'i sefydlu ers peth amser yng Nghaerdydd ac yn adnabyddus am ei hystod eang o lyfrau Cymraeg a Chymreig. Pam sefydlwyd y siop, o ble daeth yr enw, a beth mae'n ei chynnig?

The Cant a Mil Vintage Welsh shop is well established in Cardiff for its wide range of Welsh language and Welsh-themed books. Why did she establish it, where did the name come from, and what does it offer?

Shwmae, Jo Knell dw i a fi yw perchennog siop Cant a Mil Vintage yng Nghaerdydd. Agorais i'r siop fis Mehefin 2014 achos ro'n i eisiau darparu gwasanaethau Cymraeg yn Nwyrain Caerdydd.

Daeth yr enw Cant a Mil Vintage oherwydd cyfeiriad y siop yw 100 Whitchurch Road a dyn ni'n gwerthu pob math o bethau gwahanol! Mae ein logo ni'n dangos 'cant a mil' mewn clych sydd, yn fwriadol, ddim yn berffaith i adlewyrchu'r cymysgedd a'r amrywiaeth yn y siop!

Yn y siop dyn ni'n gwerthu llyfrau, cardiau ac anrhegion Cymraeg a hefyd pob math o nwyddau vintage fel dillad, celfi a llestri. Mae amrywiaeth mawr o bethau mewn siop fach! Dyn ni ar agor pum niwrnod yr wythnos o ddydd Mawrth i ddydd Sadwrn, 9:30 i 5:30.

Mae stoc eang iawn gyda ni o lyfrau Cymraeg gyda dros 150 o deitlau ddysgwyr, dros 1000 i blant, ac i oedolion mae dros 500 o deitlau ffuglen a 400 o deitlau ffleithiol. Os nad yw llyfr dych chi eisiau mewn stoc gyda ni dyn ni fel arfer yn gallu ei archebu i mewn o fewn un neu ddau ddiwrnod. Yn anarferol hefyd mae stoc da gyda ni o lyfrau Cymraeg ail-law.

Shwmae, my name is Jo Knell and I am the owner of Cant a Mil Vintage in Cardiff. I opened the shop in June 2014 because I wanted to provide Welsh language services on the East side of the city.

The name Cant a Mil (hundreds and thousands) came from the shop being at number 100 on Whitchurch Road and because we sell all kinds of different things. Our logo reflects this with multi-coloured dots in a deliberately not perfect circle!

In the shop we sell Welsh language books, cards and gifts and also all kinds of vintage items such as clothing, furniture and china. There is a big variety in a small shop! We are open five days a week, from Tuesday to Saturday, 9:30 to 5:30.

We have a very wide range of Welsh language books with over 150 titles for Welsh learners, over 1000 for children, and for adults we have over 500 fiction titles and 400 non-fiction. If we do not have a book you want in stock we can usually order it in within one or two days. Unusually we also have a good stock of second-hand Welsh books.

Rwy'n gobeithio ein bod ni'n cyfrannu at normaleiddio'r Gymraeg yng Nghaerdydd ac felly mae'n bwysig iawn i fi fod y siop yn naturiol Gymraeg. Yn aml mae cwsmeriaid yn dod i mewn i'r siop achos ei bod hi'n edrych yn ddiddorol, maen nhw'n hoffi'r siop a'r pethau dyn ni'n gwerthu. Wedyn efallai eu bod nhw'n prynu carden ben-blwydd oherwydd ei bod hi'n garden neis, nid dim ond am ei bod hi'n garden Gymraeg.

Dyn ni'n cynnal grŵp Paned a Sgwrs bob dydd Mercher o 1:00 tan 2:30 yn y siop ac mae croeso i unrhyw un sydd eisiau cwrdd â phobl eraill i ddod i gael sgwrs yn Gymraeg. Mae wedi bod yn braf iawn gweld pobl yn magu hyder yn y Gymraeg wrth ddod i sgwrsio'n rheolaidd. Mae un o'n ffyddloniaid, Ann Cahalane, wedi ennill gwobr eleni am ddysgu Cymraeg gan yr NHS lle mae hi'n gweithio felly dyn ni'n falch dros ben ohoni hi!

Dros y tair blynedd a hanner ers i ni agor y siop mae mwy a mwy o bobl wedi'n feindio ni ac, rwy'n falch iawn o ddweud, yn darganfod eu bod nhw'n gallu defnyddio eu Cymraeg yma. Mae'n braf iawn gweld faint o bobl sydd yn gallu cynnal sgwrs yn Gymraeg er eu bod nhw heb ddefnyddio'r iaith ers nifer o flynyddoedd. Yn bendant mae balchder cynyddol yn y gallu i siarad Cymraeg ymysg pobl Caerdydd.

Dyn ni'n ffodus iawn yn ein staff sy'n helpu yn y siop. Mae Anna yn mwynhau helpu cwsmeriaid wrth iddyn nhw ddewis llyfrau, yn enwedig blant, ac mae llygad arbennig o dda gyda hi am ddillad vintage! Eleni mae Laura wedi dechrau gweithio yn y siop yn helpu rhoi cynyrch ar ein gwefan. Mae hi wedi dysgu Cymraeg yn ddiweddar ac yn mwynhau'r cyfle i ddefnyddio'r iaith yn ei gwaith. Mae fy merch i'n gweithio fel tiwtor Cymraeg i edolion ac yn aml iawn mae hi'n galw i mewn i helpu am awr neu ddwy ar ei ffordd rhwng dosbarthiadau!

Mae **gwefan** gyda ni hefyd lle dyn ni'n gwerthu rhai o nwyddau'r siop, yn enwedig llyfrau, CDs a chardiau. Yn 2018 dyn ni'n gobeithio datblygu'r wefan ymhellach felly ewch ar-lein i'w gweld!

Eleni mae'r **Eisteddfod Genedlaethol** yn dod i Gaerdydd ac fe fydd stondin llyfrau gyda ni ym Maes D yn adeilad y Pierhead ym Mae Caerdydd. Dyn ni wedi trio helpu gyda'r ymdrechion i godi arian i'r Eisteddfod trwy werthu cardiau Nadolig, posteri a lleiniau arbennig a thrwy hysbysebu digwyddiadau.

Cyn agor y siop bues i'n gweithio fel athrawes Cymraeg ail iaith mewn ysgolion uwchradd. Dw i wastad wedi mwynhau dysgu a nawr dw i'n dysgu Cymraeg i oedolion mewn dosbarthiadau ond hefyd yn y siop! Mae'n braf iawn gallu helpu pobl sy'n rhy brysur neu'n rhy nerfus i fynd ddosborth Cymraeg.

Dw i hefyd wedi ysgrifennu pedwar llyfr Cymraeg i helpu pobl sy'n dysgu Cymraeg. Cyhoeddwyd fy llyfr diweddaraf ym mis Medi 2017 sef llyfr gwaith ac adolygu i ddisgyblion ysgol sy'n astudio ar gyfer TGAU Cymraeg ail iaith. Yn y llyfr mae penodau ar iaith a gramadeg ond hefyd ar sut i ddatblygu technegau arholiad. Hefyd mae llawer iawn o ymarferion i helpu myfyrwyr i baratoi at eu arholiadau.

I hope that we make some contribution to normalising Welsh in Cardiff- it is very important to me that the shop is naturally Welsh. Often customers come into the shop because it looks interesting, they like the shop and the things we sell. Then maybe they buy a birthday card, just because it's a nice card, not only because it's a Welsh language card.

Every Wednesday we hold a Welsh conversation group in the shop from 1:00 to 2:30. Anyone who wants to meet to have a chat in Welsh is very welcome! It has been great to see people gaining in confidence in their Welsh by coming along to the sessions regularly. We are extremely proud of one of our most loyal supporters, Ann Cahalane, who this year won a prize for learning Welsh from her employer, NHS Wales.

Over the last three and a half years since we opened the shop more and more people have discovered us and, I am very glad to say, have found that they can use their Welsh here. It's great to see how many people can hold a conversation in Welsh even though they maybe haven't used their Welsh for a number of years. There is definitely a growing pride amongst Cardiffians in being able to speak Welsh!

We are very fortunate in our staff who help in the shop. Anna enjoys helping customers to choose books, particularly for children, and she also has an excellent eye for vintage clothing! This year Laura has starting working in the shop helping to put our products onto our website. She has learned Welsh recently and enjoys the opportunity to use Welsh in her work. My daughter works as a Welsh for Adults tutor and she very often calls into the shop to help for an hour or two on her way between classes!

As well as the shop we also have a [website](#) where we sell some goods from the shop, particularly books, CDs and cards. We are hoping to develop the website further in 2018 so do go online to have a look!

This year the **National Eisteddfod** is coming to Cardiff and we will have a book stall in Maes D in the Pierhead building in Cardiff Bay. We have helped out with the fundraising efforts for the Eisteddfod by selling Christmas cards, t-towels and posters and by advertising events.

Before I opened the shop I worked as a Welsh second language teacher in secondary schools. I have always enjoyed teaching and now I teach Welsh to adults in classes but also in the shop! It's lovely being able to help people who are too busy or too nervous to go to a class.

I have also written four Welsh books for people who are learning Welsh. My latest book was published in September 2017 and is a work and revision book for school students studying GCSE Welsh second language. In the book there are chapters on language and grammar but also on developing exam technique. There are also lots of practice exercises to help students prepare for their exams.