

Cerdd y gweithdy	Our Workshop Poem
Y Flwyddyn Newydd	The New Year
Daw'r bys mawr at un deg dau:	The big hand arrives at twelve:
mae'r hen flwyddyn ar fin cau...	The old year comes to a close...
Off â ni 'de, un, dau, tri	So off we go, one, two, three
Amser i gael sbort a sbri.	Time for some high jinks.
Gyda'r Fari Lwyd â'i stŵr,	With the White Mare's cacophony,
croesi trothwy, cario dŵr;	Crossing the threshold, carrying water
hel calennig Chwech ar Hugain	Collecting new year's gifts in (twenty) Twenty Six
a goroesi'r cwbl ar ddamwain	Surviving it all accidentally
Ianws sydd yn gweld ein stori,	Janus sees our story,
beth oedd ddoe a beth fydd fory:	What was yesterday and what will be tomorrow:
ddoe'r mins peis a'r gwin yn lli,	Yesterday's mince pies and flowing wine,
fory'r gampfa. Ych-a-fil!	Tomorrow the gym. Yuck!
Ianws sydd yn clywed clychau,	Janus hears the bells,
clywed clician-clician clocliau;	Hears the tick-tock of the clocks;
clywed pawb yn addunedu	Hears everyone resolving
peidio 'dechrau cynganeddu;	Not to start writing complex poems;
clywed hefyd rai yn addo	Also hearing some promise
peidio 'addunedu eto;	To make no more resolutions;
peidio stopio bod yn ddrwg,	Not to stop being bad/naughty,
peidio stopio llyncu mwg	Not to stop swallowing smoke
Gwelwn ninnau olau'r wawr –	We see the light of dawn -
gobaith rhag y machlud mawr;	Hope against the great sunset;
gweld tu hwnt i gnwd yr ia,	We see beyond the crop of ice,
gweld yr eirlys newydd, da!	We see the new snowdrops, great!

“The Mari Lwyd (horse’s head) and Calennig are traditional parts of New Year Celebrations in Wales, bringing communities together to celebrate the end of the old year and the beginning of the new year with the promise of a new dawn.

Cynganeddu is an ancient form of strict-metre poetry – still very popular in Wales. Ceri Wyn Jones, the poet who ran our workshop, is a leading proponent of Cynganeddu both in the National Eisteddfod and on the Radio, and has previously taught Cynganeddu to some of the Welsh learners who came to our workshop. The humour is lost in translation!”

