

Why do they speak Welsh in South America?

'Because we feel Welsh'

Huw Edwards: It's remarkable how the Welsh adapted to life on this wild frontier – and the clearest symbol of that is the asado, an outdoor roast where whole animal carcasses are cooked on an open fire.

The Green family invited me to taste the experience for myself at their home near Trevelin in Cwm Hyfryd.

Mrs Green (in Welsh): Have you tasted lamb before?

Huw Edwards (in Welsh): Never as good as that! Welsh lamb is good but that's excellent. Really very good.

(Huw and guests chat in Welsh.)

Huw Edwards: The asado is a ritual that's enjoyed all over Argentina. The perfect occasion to get together with family and friends. But here there's one striking difference. As the conversation flows the guests slip easily between Spanish and Welsh.

(The guests chat in Spanish and Welsh then one guest starts to play the accordion and sing in Welsh)

Huw Edwards: The familiar and exotic are combined in a magical way by Vincente Evans – a Welsh folk song about a lovelorn maiden on the banks of the river Dee performed half a world away in the shadow of the Andes.

Huw Edwards (in Welsh): Very good! Great stuff!

Huw Edwards to Charlie and Margarita Green (in English): I think some viewers will wonder why do you persist with this effort to speak Welsh? You can speak Spanish. Why do you make the effort?

Mr Green: It's because we feel... we feel Welsh and... something... I don't know.

Huw Edwards: It's important?

Mr Green: Yeah.

Huw Edwards: What about you, Margarita?

Mrs Green: I caru... I love the Welsh language. I love Cymru.

Huw Edwards to Mr Green: I can see that it's a very emotional thing. Yes? It's a very emotional thing?

Mr Green: Our grandparents came from Wales. The singing of Wales, traditional things from Wales, the flag... everything...

Huw Edwards: It's part of you?

Mr Green: Yes.