
NEWYDDION CYMREIG
CAMBRIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY
MADISON, WISCONSIN
ST. DAVID'S DAY 2013 NEWSLETTER
VOL. 19 # 1



IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!
SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD 12:30PM
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

2013 Celebration of St. David's Day!

Please come join us in celebrating this most Welsh of holidays! Again we will be meeting at St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 2126 North Sherman Avenue, Madison beginning at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 3rd, parking and accessible entrance are in the rear of the church. Jeremy Lynch of Enos Farms, Spring Green is catering for the third year and is proud to offer Mikolayunas Lamb and Jordanal Farms chicken or a vegetarian tofu entree in addition to his locally sourced grain rolls and organic roasted broccoli. We will serve tea, lemonade and an array of desserts.

As in the years past - please remember to bring both your table setting (plate, silverware, bowl, napkin, cup) and a non-perishable item to donate to St. Paul's food pantry, since the church does not charge us to use their facilities. Please consider offering a ride to any members who may need one and bring a friend.

The annual Are You as Smart as a Welsh Pupil quiz has been created for us by pupils of Ysgol Gynradd Henllan. Under the direction of their headteacher, Mrs. Menai Baugh, the children, are devising together a quiz with questions from Welsh language, sport, history, and contemporary culture designed to challenge us and bring to our attention some interesting facts about Wales. There will be small prizes in addition to the satisfaction of being able to figure out at least some of the answers. All

those who do **not** answer every question correctly will be asked to sign the following statement: *'Dw i ddim mor deallgar â disgybl Cymreig.* (I am not as smart as a Welsh pupil.) It's not too late to begin studying now!

New

this year, after our St. David's Day luncheon, board member Robert Humphries will give a short presentation about the history of the Welsh in Iowa County, Wisconsin. Robert recently earned a Masters Degree in Celtic Studies from the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David, and his dissertation was titled, "Yn eu Hiaith eu Hunain/In their own Language: The Welsh in Iowa County, Wisconsin, 1840-1920." Although the Welsh settlements in eastern and central Wisconsin are better known, there was a sizeable Welsh community in the Lead Region where the Welsh came both to farm and mine lead. Robert will discuss the history of Welsh settlement in and around Dodgeville, Barneveld and Rewey, and will explain why the Welsh came, what they achieved and their eventual assimilation into American society. He will also share some of the original sources he used during his research, including poems, letters and articles he translated from Welsh. In addition, Robert will introduce to the audience some of the key figures in Iowa County's Welsh history, including the Reverend John Davies of Pecatonica, Jane P. Jones of Barneveld, William Arthur Jones of Mineral Point, Samuel Reese of Dodgeville and the Lloyd Jones family of Wyoming, to name just a few. Robert's research is ongoing, and he would eventually like to publish a book on the subject. He invites anyone with an interest in the history of the Welsh in Iowa County to attend and welcomes information from those with family connections to the area.

Top 10 Weird Things About St David (from BBC Wales)



There are many strange things about the life of St David, the patron saint of Wales. Here are just ten of them.

1. He was born during a thunderstorm, and the rock where his mother was lying was split in two at the moment of his birth.
2. St Patrick may have been born in the same spot.
3. He was from an aristocratic family, and King Arthur might have been his great-uncle on his mother's side.
4. He was over 100 years old when he died, on 1 March around AD 590. Life expectancy for men around that time was probably about 35.
5. He was baptised by St Elvis.
6. During his travels, he was preaching to a large crowd, many of whom complained that they couldn't see him. He spread a handkerchief on the ground and stood on it, and the ground beneath rose up to give him an instant podium. This happened at Llanddewi Brefi.
7. St David is supposed to have cured several people of blindness, including his teacher.
8. He was a vegetarian and teetotaler, and believed in hard physical work for himself and his monks. This made him so unpopular that there was a plot at one of the monasteries to feed him poisoned bread. When warned about this, St David blessed the bread and ate it - and lived to tell the tale.
9. More churches were dedicated to him than to any other Welsh saint, leading to him being adopted as Wales' patron saint.
10. His shrine in St David's Cathedral was considered very holy. If you were a pilgrim, four visits to his shrine were equal to two to Rome, or one to Jerusalem.

Here are a few ideas to help you spread the message of Welshness this St. David's Day!



- 1) Contact your local radio stations by late February and ask them to play Welsh music and relay 'Happy St. David's Day' messages to the Welsh in your area on March 1st. There is no shortage of music by Welsh artists that is already available on most radio stations playlists.
- 2) Hang a Welsh flag outside your house and put a Welsh flag bumper sticker on your car.
- 3) Attend the CHS St. David's Day luncheon and invite friends who have never been before.
- 4) Post 'Happy Saint David's Day/ Dydd Gwyl Dewi Hapus' messages on Facebook, Twitter, etc., and change your profile picture to the Welsh flag for the day. Include a Wikipedia, or other link, so the uninitiated can learn more about us. (Do the same for St. Dwynwen and Owain Glyndŵr.)
- 5) Wear a daffodil or leek, or a Welsh Rugby shirt on March 1st. Be prepared to answer questions.
- 6) If you have children or grandchildren in school, contact their teachers to see if they would be interested in doing a St. David's Day lesson in the days running up to March 1st. Some great St. David's Day projects for small hands can be found at the Crayola and Activity Village websites.
- 7) Contact your local library to ask if they can feature a display of Welsh books, CD's and DVD's.
- 6) Join a Welsh-oriented social network such as AmeriCymru (<http://americymru.net>) and buy a gift subscription to Ninnau & Y Drych (www.ninnau.com).



The 16th Annual

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Sunday, March 17, 2013

1:30 p.m.

Capitol Square, Madison, WI

Members of the Cambrian Heritage Society will meet to watch and support this Celtic tradition, on the corner of Mifflin Street and Pinckney Street, on the square across from the Children's Museum. Bring your Welsh flags!! Look for Trina Muich and her family!

Come One, Come All - Welsh Weekend for Everyone

May 3-5, 2013 Appleton

By: Mary Williams-Norton

The seventh Welsh Weekend for Everyone (*Seithfed Penwythnos Cymreig i Bawb*) will be held in Appleton, WI, May 3-5. Most of the activities will be held at Memorial Presbyterian Church at 803 College Avenue. The designated hotel for the weekend is the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel. The weekend fun will begin with a Friday night supper and pub night—sure to generate some singing—at the Paper Valley followed by an opportunity to explore Appleton and have lunch there Saturday morning. Beginning at 12:30 p.m. Memorial Presbyterian will host workshops, children's activities, displays, Welsh film, supper (created in part by one of the workshop groups), a lively Noson Lawen, and the ceremony of chairing the bard: winner of the Welsh Weekend Eisteddfod. The State Gymanfa Ganu directed by Mary Mergenthal of St. Paul, MN, will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, May 5, also at Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Welsh Weekend for Everyone invites people of all ages to come to discover many aspects of Welsh culture and heritage from hymns and genealogy to humor and favorite foods. Saturday registration fees are per family or friend group to encourage inclusion of everyone.

The informal Noson Lawen invites anyone with a recitation, song, or story to entertain the group. Past events have showcased dance, jokes, children singing songs they learned during the children's activities workshops, and instrumental performances.



Enter and Win the 2013 Eisteddfod Chair!

The Eisteddfod competition is open to everyone. To enter, create—in Welsh or English—an essay of 750 words or less or a poem of 50 lines or less on the theme “paper” (“*paper*”). The entry must be submitted under a *ffugenw* (false name or pen name) and handed in early on Saturday afternoon, May 4. Preference will be given to entries that include Welsh connections to the theme. During the Noson Lawen the adjudicators will talk about each entry, announce the winner, and declare her or him with traditional ceremony. The winner receives not only acclaim and applause but also, as in Wales, an actual chair. The 2013 chair is shown above. Last year’s Eisteddfod had six excellent entries. We encourage all of you to devise an entry focusing on any Welsh connection to paper that you can devise. The adjudicators look forward to reading and judging lots of superb poetry and prose!

Where’s the Society Website?

Mary Williams-Norton

For the past several years, Ripon College has hosted the Cambrian Heritage Society and Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin (WGGAW) websites as a service. Recently, however, the College’s website has been completely revamped in line with desired “branding” characteristics. Faculty members lost their personal websites and support of sites such as ours had to be ended as well. Until we set up an arrangement with a commercial host, please contact me at williamsnorton1858@centurytel.net and I’ll transmit to you information from the old site. The new URL will be announced as soon as it is established.

Passages

We would like to note that former Cambrian Heritage Society members, Harold Rasmussen and Joy Parfitt have passed on. We fondly remember their wonderful spirits as our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends.

Medieval Wales and Its Borderlands Tour with UW

Plans are underway for the 38th Medieval Study tour through the UW Continuing Education Department.. Next fall's (2013) seminar focuses on the rich historical landscape, art and architecture of Wales and its Borderlands. The tentative itinerary includes visits to Chepstow, Tintern, Cardiff, Caerphilly, Kidwelly, St. David's, Harlech, Caernarfon, Beaumaris, Conwy, St. Winifred's Well, Valle Crucis, Abergavenny, Tretower, Ludlow, Stokesay, Great Chalfield, Hereford, Worcester, Tewkesbury, Shrewsbury, Malmesbury, Berkeley, Lacock, Bradford-on-Avon, Ewelme, and Oxford.

Tour information available after February 1, 2013, but you can 'lock in' a space, with no money down, by contacting the Department. For more information please contact: Professor Jane T. Schulenburg: 608-262-8663; email:

jschulenburg@dcs.wisc.edu; 21 N. Park St., 7th floor, Madison, WI 53715.



Caerphilly Castle



Conway Castle

A Child's Christmas in Wales



CAPTION: Michael O'Rourke delighted the audience with his one-man performance of the family-friendly holiday tale.



CAPTION: The Reverend Richard Pritchard, a very young 99, gets ready to share his birthday cake with friends in Madison.

This past holiday season we were treated to a very special performance of Dylan Thomas' classic story, "A Child's Christmas in Wales," performed on Dec. 8, by awardwinning actor and filmmaker, Michael O'Rourke. He memorized the engaging lyrical work and executed it with the utmost of style and prose, worthy of the many accolades he has received in reviews. 2012 marked his 125th performance and his 30th year of "A Child's Christmas in Wales". Mr. O'Rourke transported the audience to Wales and they descended on Mrs. Prothero, the Fire Brigade, polar cats, Christmas hippos and snow shaken from whitewash buckets down from the sky. Cambrian Heritage Society members Jena and Robert Humphries provided the musical interludes and joined Mr. O'Rourke and some audience members in lifting their voices in some festive Christmas carols. Refreshments including hot cider, cranberry bread, nuts and birthday cake to honor our long time member, Rev. Richard Pritchard were enjoyed after the performance. The Society co-sponsored by this event with the Sequoya Public Library.

Children enjoyed holiday greetings

The librarians and children of Briceville, TN, want to thank members of the Cambrian Heritage Society for their warm response to the request for holiday cards for the Children's Christmas Card Program. Cards arrived from all over this year, including Canada and Wales.

Each year, the library collects cards and the children who visit the library are allowed to take one to keep. They especially enjoy the personal notes recounting the sender's connections to Wales.

Wales Provided Radio's First Song of 2013

How is this for some trivia? As 2013 dawned, the first band to be played on the radio anywhere on earth was by the Welsh band Howl Griff. A Samoan radio station played their single, *International Dateline*, at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Day 2013. Since the South Pacific island greets the New Year before anywhere else in the world, it made them the first band broadcast anywhere in 2013.

Calendar

- March 3, 2013: St. David's Day luncheon, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sherman Ave. Madison
- May 3, 4, 5th, 2013: 7th Wisconsin Welsh Weekend and State Gymanfa Ganu, Appleton, WI. Save the dates for this family-friendly, action-packed weekend.
- July 2013: Cwrs Cymraeg comes to the Chicago area. Get the latest info at www.madog.org.
- Labor Day Weekend, 2013: North American Festival of Wales, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Brush off your passport and read all the latest information at www.nafow.org, or contact Mona Everett, 334-5669, for info

Cambrian Heritage Society Board Members

Rev. Joe Corbin
Kim Corbin
Mary Williams-Norton

Robert Humphries
Mona Everett
Trina Muich

David Lloyd
Nancy Priegel

Cambrian Heritage Society Website:

<http://www.ripon.edu/academics/faculty/nortonm/cambrian.html>

Newsletter Editor and Treasurer:
Trina Muich

President:
Rev. Joe Corbin

Secretary:
Mary Williams-Norton

Cambrian Ride List: Willing Drivers

<u>Name</u>		<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>e-mail</u>
Art and Sue	Lloyd	1104A Mound St., Madison	256 -7250	aslloyd@mailbag.com
Shirley	Levine	220 Lakewood Blvd, Madison	241-1227	shirts26@sbcglobal.net
Dale and Becky Lincoln	Hughes Hartford	4503 Maple Lane, Windsor W5188 38th St., New Lisbon	846 7338 562-5840	linchart@jvl.net
Wynn & Loree	Davies	537 Caromar, Madison	238-1817	Lorwyn@chorus.net
Robert H.	Gwynne	1029 Spaight St., B-3, Madison	257-5761	bobgwynne@aol.com
Tim	Hughes	5714 Forsythia Place, Madison	238-1406	twlh17@yahoo.com
Danny	Proud	114 Glen Hwy, Madison	661-0776	prouds@tds.net mona_sydd_yma@yahoo.com
Mona	Everett	1314 Woodvale Dr., Madison 4929 Whitcomb Dr. Apt.	221-8683	@yahoo.com
Charline	Burgess	17, Madison	270-9315	
David and Mary	Griffin /Galneder	7472 Old Sauk Rd., Madison	831-3310	galneder@excite.com