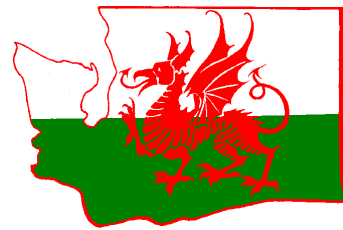


Y Ddolen



Linking the Puget Sound Welsh Community

Visit www.pugetsoundwelsh.org

Ebrill/Mai/Mehefin 2018
April/May/June

Y Ddolen/The Link is a quarterly newsletter for the Puget Sound Welsh Association

PHOTO GALLERY: DES MOINES GYMANFA GANU, SEATTLE ST. DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATION, & TACOMA NOSON LAWEN



BRYN SEION WELSH CHURCH 83RD GYMANFA GANU & YSGOL GAN

-Gerri Parry

Sunday, June 24th celebrating 134 years since Bryn Seion Welsh Church was built. Whether you have Welsh heritage or not, you are welcome to this annual cultural event or to any of our church services held each 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. This year's Welsh Singing Festival and Singing School includes a *traditional church service* at 11:00am, followed by the *First Session of the Gymanfa Ganu* at 2:00pm (Nerys Jones, Director; Geneva Cook, Organist). There are several nearby restaurants for lunch. A bountiful *Welsh Tea* for \$10.00/per person begins at 4:00pm. The *Second Session of the Gymanfa Ganu & Ysgol Gan* starts at 6:00pm and begins with an informal practice of singing parts to then bring them all together with renewed enthusiasm. Special music by guest, Annette Pritchard, Harpist.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello All,

It was so nice to see so many of you at the St. David's Day Concert. I would like to thank all the volunteers who made this possible. In no particular order: Laura Lovell, Kevin Gow, Susan McLain, Bill McJohn, Nerys Jones, Eric Bowen, Bronn and Katherine Journey, Rebecca Teeters, Susan McLain, Gerri Parry, Ellen Webber, Gwen, Evans Paschal, Malcolm and Karyn Davies, Joel Ware, Ron and Claudia Green. We met this year at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 111 NE 80th Street, in Seattle. The church and its staff were hospitable and helpful. A shout out of appreciation to them as well.

Bronn Journey was our MC and all the musicians and poets were local this year. Such fine talent we have! I have written an article found later in *Y Ddolen* on the program in case you were unable to attend.

We were delighted to celebrate the 90th birthday of the Seattle Welsh Women, a fellowship of women of Welsh heritage in the Seattle area. Organized in 1928 to further Welsh activities and first presenters of the Seattle St. David's Day Celebration, they continue to meet monthly for lunch to share their common interests and heritage. We wish them happy birthday as the thread that links us with the Welsh-American culture in Puget Sound. Contact Welsh Women's President, Carol Jones to join or for more information about this long-serving group: 425-429-6481.

We had a record field of limerick entries this year. Ellen Webber's article will give you some of the poetic tomfoolery that we all love.

Stay tuned: the calendar for the rest of the year will be coming your way shortly. I will be in Australia and New Zealand for March. I hope to meet with some Welsh societies there and bring home some stories.

Cheers,
Mary Lynne Evans

LACEY ETHNIC CELEBRATION

Diolch yn fawr to both Joel Ware and Vivian Cadwallader for representing PSWA at the City of Lacey's Ethnic Celebration held on March 10th at St. Martin's University. They met hundreds of people, passed out scores of Welsh Dragon coloring pages and Wales word search pages to kids, talked about all things Welsh, and collected over 30 new emails of people who were interested in keeping in touch with PSWA to learn about upcoming events!



ANNUAL WELSH DAY – BLACK DIAMOND, WA

Black Diamond Museum – 32627 Railroad Avenue

Museum opens at 12:00 noon and program begins at 1:00PM.
Our very own Alan Upshall will be presenting again this year.

PSWA supports this event hosted by the Black Diamond Museum as they celebrate the Welsh contributions to Black Diamond's rich history.

Donations much appreciated. Light tea after the program.

Several brunch/lunch locations within walking distance. Join us!



SEATTLE PSWA CELEBRATES ST. DAVID'S DAY WITH LOCAL TALENT

-by Mary Lynne Evans

We were fortunate to have Bronn Journey as Master of Ceremonies and the beautiful and talented Katherine Journey as Accompanist for all congregational singing. They both have been stalwart additions to our programs over the years.

Leading off, Bill McJohn explained the history of the Welsh triple harp and what it actually is. He then demonstrated how all three sets of strings can be manipulated to produce a charming, ornamented, even chromatic without pedals, Welsh air. Bill studied medieval music with Margaret Tindermans as well as medieval and baroque harps with Cheryl Ann Fulton and Maxine Eilander. He performs regularly with the Seattle Medieval Women's Choir.

Nerys Jones, with her accompanist Tim Barrick, sang us the Celtic folk songs she has long loved. Nerys was born and educated in Mid Wales, and studied at both the Royal Scottish Academy and the Guildhall Schools of music and drama. She has performed over 15 roles for the English National Opera and has sung with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, the Scottish early Music Consort and the National Youth Orchestra. Her classically trained voice filled the sanctuary. She will be making her Seattle Opera main stage debut in *Il Trovatore*, January 2019.

Rebecca Teeters told a story from the *Mabinogion*, then played guitar and sang her original composition about the story. She came in her traditional Welsh woman's outfit.

Eric Bowen delighted the audience with folk songs sung in Welsh, backed by his guitar. He read a poem in honor of his aunt and his mother, recently deceased, composed in the traditional Welsh form.

Dinas o Frain (City of Crows), made up of Kevin Gow, Laura Lovell, and harpist Susan McLain, played a set of Welsh jigs and reels. Toe tapping and uplifting, their addition to the program is always a hit.

Of course, congregational singing was a part of the entertainment, with favorites such as *Cwm Rhondda*, *Rachie*, *Calon Lan*, and *Sanctus* filling the hall! In closing, we sang *Llanfair*, *Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau*, and *The Star Spangled Banner*.

If you missed the Celebration, check out the videos on the Puget Sound Welsh Association **group page** dated March 4th and 7th. There are also photos in the "2018 St. David's Day Celebration" Album. Check out the link here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/pugetsoundwelsh/>

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Seattle Scottish Highland Games

(Enumclaw, WA): July 28-29, 2018 at the Enumclaw Expo Center.

Without solid commitments by June 1st for two to four people each day, including three for Friday's set up and Sunday's take-down, PSWA will not be participating in this year's Games. Failure to participate this year will remove us from a prime spot on the main boulevard for future participation. Pre-purchased



tickets receive a \$5 discount each. Prices after July 1st are \$20/adult for 1-day pass; \$15/senior for 1-day pass. Pre-purchase: <http://www.sshga.org/ticket-prices/>

Volunteers please contact events@pugetsoundwelsh.org or call 360.893.7256 by June 1st if possible. Thank you for your support!

2018 NORTH AMERICAN FESTIVAL OF WALES

-by Gerri Parry

Featuring the 87th National Gymanfa Ganu - Washington, D.C.
August 30–September 2, 2018

North American
Festival
of Wales



Gŵyl
Gymreig
Cogledd America

Plan Your Vacation around Washington, D.C. A free shuttle operates from the Hilton hotel to Pentagon City metro station and King Street station in Alexandria. Sponsored by the Welsh North American Association and hosted by the Washington DC Welsh Society, funded in part by the Women's Welsh Clubs of America, North America's Largest Gathering of the Welsh and Friends. Visit www.nafow.org for further details.

Headline performers include: Opening Concert with *TRIO* Emyr Wyn Gibson (tenor), Bedwyr Gwyn Parri (baritone), and Steffan Lloyd Owen (bass), a male vocal group from Snowdonia, North Wales.

Grand Concert with *Eschoir*, a Welsh male choir based in London; 87th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu ~ Literally a "song gathering" held Sunday afternoon and evening, congregational hymn singing in both Welsh and English, conducted by Welsh composer Eilir Owen-Griffiths, the youngest ever Musical Director of the Llangollen International Music Festival; Join *Moch Pryderi* at Pub Night, one of Virginia's oldest Pan-Celtic bands. They perform traditional Celtic reels, jigs, and ballads from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Brittany and Galicia, using harps, bouzouki, fiddle, crwth, bodhran, highland pipes, small pipes, pigorns and whistles.

Additional highlights include: Opening Ceremony; Marketplace & Tea Room; Seminars; Cinema Wales; Eisteddfod Winners Concert; Sunday Bilingual Church Service; Affiliated Welsh Organization Roundtable, an annual meeting with other Welsh society representatives; Informal Singing ~ finish every memorable evening singing Welsh hymns and old favorites; Eisteddfod Competitions in singing and recitation for all ages and skill levels. Entry forms available March 2018.

ANNUAL ST. DAVID'S DAY LIMERICK WINNERS ANNOUNCED

-Ellen Webber

Our annual Limerick contest was held on St. David's Day. This year we received 25 entries, many of which were quite clever. Alas, only the top four were eligible for audience voting at St. David's Day. I want to encourage everyone to enter next year. You can pick just one of the three starting lines, or write a limerick for each one. Enter as often as you wish. Humor, a clever rhyme scheme, and a little Welsh flavor are sure to impress our judge and audience. The new starting lines for the 2019 contest will appear in the fall issue of *Y Ddolen* and will be available on PSWA's website. Here are the 2018 winners:

First Place: Karyn Davies

A confused tourist in Wales,
Confident, being from Yale,
Studied Welsh grammar,
But all he could stammer
Was, "I'm better after ten ales!"

Second Place: Alan Upshall

A confused tourist from Wales
Saw road signs that made him go pale
'My god!' he exclaimed,
My throat has been maimed
And my mouth feels full of nails.

Third Place: Karyn Davies

There once was a barkeep named Jones
Lamenting his customer loans,
"Tom the Milk and Dai Coal,
have no self-control!
They're cut-off until one atones!"

Fourth Place: Brian Wood

A person who lives in Llanelli
Was told your weight's getting quite deathly.
When asked what to do
The doc said 'if I was you,
Change your diet, and you'll live much more health'ly!"

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please contact events@pugetsoundwelsh.org or check the PSWA website and Facebook pages for changes and updates to this calendar to ensure you have the latest information. Thank you.

April 29th 6:00PM South Sound Night Out of Hwyl – Elmer’s Restaurant 7427 S Hosmer St. Tacoma. RSVP to southsound@pugetsoundwelsh.org ****NO MAY MEET UP!****

Saturday, June 9th 12:00PM Black Diamond Welsh Day – Black Diamond Museum 32627 Railroad Ave, Black Diamond. (By Donation) Start time for Presentation is 1:00PM. Alan Upshall to present.

Saturday, June 16th 1:15-4PM South Sound Annual Matinee – 6300 Wildaire Rd SW, Lakewood at the Pierce County Library Meeting Room (located by the restrooms). Watch Facebook and email distribution for movie name still being decided.

June 23rd Welsh Society of Oregon Noson Lawen & Pub Sing – 6:30PM, location to be determined. For additional information see: www.portlandwelsh.org

June 24th 83rd Annual Gymanfa Ganu & Ysgol Gan - Bryn Seion Welsh Church 22132 S. Kamrath Rd, Beaver Creek, OR. Nerys Jones to conduct. For more information see: www.brynseionwelshchurch.org

Annual PSWA Picnic/AGM – Planning stages; location, date and time to be determined. PSWA is actively recruiting for Board Members-At-Large: contact President@pugetsoundwelsh.org

July 28-29th Seattle Scottish Highland Games– Enumclaw Expo Center. *Volunteers needed to set up, man, and take down the Welsh tent! Please contact events@pugetsoundwelsh.org by June 1st.

August TBD South Sound Night Out Group Annual Picnic – Veteran’s Park, Lakewood.

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE JANUARY 1ST.

PSWA is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization (501c(3)). Contributions may be tax-deductible. For memberships outside US/Canada, add \$5/1-year membership, \$50/life membership. *PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM AND YOUR PAYMENT TO PSWA, P.O. Box 27725, SEATTLE, WA 98165.*

**PUGET SOUND WELSH ASSOCIATION (PSWA)
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

MEMBERSHIPS

Amounts

- 1 year single (\$10) _____
- 1 year family (\$15) _____
- Printed Y Ddolen (\$5/annually) _____
- Life (\$100) _____
- Overseas Postage _____
- General Fund _____
- Memorial Scholarship _____
- T- Shirt Total _____
- Fund in memory of _____

- PSWA T-Shirts: \$15.00 +\$3.00 S&H per t-shirt
*indicate how many of each size & which color –
(◆Steel Green ★Dark Green)
____SM (★) ____Med (★) ____LG (◆/★)
____XL (◆/★) ____2XL (★) ____3XL (★)
- CD: Band Y Ddraig Goch, Traditional Welsh Folk music of Wales: \$12.00 +\$3.00 S&H

Y Ddolen
Puget Sound Welsh Association
P.O. Box 27725
Seattle, WA 98165

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE WA
PERMIT No. 1996

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

We frequently get requests to distribute to our membership Welsh-related advertisements and promotions. Although PSWA does not endorse any, many are listed on the PSWA website: www.pugetsoundwelsh.org

Please note that bulk mailings are not forwarded or held by USPS and will be returned to sender at a cost to PSWA.

We will make every attempt to redeliver with the correct address if possible.

If you missed an issue because of a vacation hold or address change, please let us know right away.

Y Ddolen [The Link] is published quarterly by the Puget Sound Welsh Association. Views expressed herein do not imply Puget Sound Welsh Association endorsement. Annual electronic subscription is included in the PSWA membership dues (additional \$5/annually for printed and USPS mailed copy). PSWA is dedicated to promoting and preserving the history and heritage of the Welsh in the Puget Sound region and surrounding environs. We welcome stories, articles and pictures of interest: newsletter@pugetsoundwelsh.org

PSWA Facebook Group & Page

Request to join the group page! Keep in touch with other members across the Puget Sound & beyond, keep up to date with future events and activities, and post relevant items of interest to the discussion forum:

www.facebook.com/groups/pugetsoundwelsh

PSWA FB Page: search @PugetSoundWelsh

PSWA T-Shirts &

Red Dragon Band CDs:

New Port & Company brand Dark Green comes in sizes S - 3XL. Original T-shirts are Gildan brand Steel Green in sizes from L -XL.

For a \$15.00 donation* (plus \$3.00 S&H) to the Puget Sound Welsh Association you will receive a PSWA t-shirt. **Does not include Membership.*

The Red Dragon Band, a CD of traditional Welsh tunes, has been reissued and is available for \$12.00 (plus \$3.00 S&H). Send check or money order to:

PSWA, P.O. Box 27725 Seattle, WA 98165

Include shipping cost, size, color, quantity, and your address for USPS delivery. To see both shirts in living color: www.pugetsoundwelsh.org