

Y Ddolen

Linking the Puget Sound Welsh Community

Ebrill, Mai, Mehefin 2021

Volume 39, Issue 2

April, May, June 2021

Introducing: PSWA's Virtual WELSH PUB

We are planning a series of educational and informal virtual events to take place over the next few months. We have set up a new "Welsh Pub" section on the PSWA website which will hold links to a variety of presentations and information on a topic of interest - changing each month.

>>>See President's Letter inside!!<<<

On the first Sunday of each month PSWA will host an informal live Zoom/phone meeting for interested members to gather for discussion and conversation on that topic or just to chat and share.

Our current schedule of topics and dates are:

Wales, Welsh Language & Six Nations Rugby

Zoom meeting Sunday, May 2 at 4pm

Music of Wales, Old and New

Zoom meeting Sunday, June 6 at 4pm

The proposed topics for July and August are
Mabinogion and Welsh Genealogy.

PSWA's website:

<http://pugetsoundwelsh.org/welsh-pub.html>

Watch for more information in the newsletter
and in future emails.



PSWA Board Members & Elected Officers

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We welcome your contribution of relevant articles, news,
announcements, events, and photos.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT SUBMISSION: June 20th 2021.

Call To Action!

>Former Board Members interested in
contributing to PSWA as the Association's
Treasurer. Contact

President@PugetSoundWelsh.org

>Y Ddolen Co-Editor for one or two issues
each year. Contact

newsletter@PugetSoundWelsh.org

10 o'Clock Curfew For Welsh Dances Enforced

YSTRADGYNIALS, Wales, Saturday, Feb. 20.—(AP)—In an attempt to lift South Wales from "iniquity," magistrates who consider ordinary dancing as "dangerous excitement" and "barbaric" have forbidden this "indiscreet" pastime late at night. The dancing curfew is old in theory but new in practice.

Many sections of the community have waged a long campaign against dancing. This is their first success. The restrictions vary in different towns but none is so lenient as to allow the 2,718,945 young people in South Wales to dance after 10 o'clock.

Seattle Daily Times – February 20, 1926

Didn't know that dancing was so wicked in South Wales.

—JoAnne Matsumura

Virtual Pub Name Contest

By Mary Lynne Evans

PSWA is opening a Zoom "virtual pub!" [See President's Letter.] We will meet once a month on Zoom. A prearranged topic with related web sites will be sent out one week in advance--where did the name of Wales come from? What is the allure of rugby? How do you find your ancestors? Then the members will meet in the Zoom pub on Sunday afternoon to discuss, chat, offer toasts, sing a few songs-- just like a real Welsh pub. As an extra thrill, we hope to connect with a real live pub in Wales and ask them to be our Pub Mate. We are working on this.

We need a proper name for the Pub. Get creative and send in your nomination to President@Pugetsoundwelsh.org by April 23rd.

Members will vote on the name at our opening Pub Meet on May 2nd. If your pub name is chosen, you will be the Pub Druid.



St. David's Day Celebration Filled With Music & Poetry

-By Gwen Weinert

The Christmas Noson Lawen on Zoom was such a success that the Puget Sound Welsh Association Board decided to do a concert for Saint David's Day. There was not much time to prepare, but enthusiasm and hard work won the day. Premier artists were contacted and agreed to be part of the event. Mary Lynne Evans made numerous calls and e-mails to develop the program. The Board put together the elements of technology and their knowledge of Welsh culture to produce an exciting and professional presentation.

Ifor Ap Glyn, National Poet of Wales, gave us six poems that reflected modern times and deep issues that are pertinent to both British and American citizens. His work reflected his upbringing in London, knowledge of television program production, and deep love for and expertise in the Welsh language. Some of his poems were accompanied by videos of London and North Wales, which was an added treat.



Glain Dafydd is a harpist who presented a short but informative video about the Welsh harp, followed by a selection of Welsh folk songs on that instrument. She is an accomplished artist, and her work is superior.

Rhiannon Owen, soprano, and her father who accompanied her on the piano, gave us a happy and varied program of songs that would cheer the gloomiest soul after this hard Covid year. She finished with a rousing rendition of the Welsh

national anthem, "Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau."

The PSWA audience also enjoyed the annual limerick competition which they were able to vote on. As usual, the limericks were most amusing.

This afternoon concert was expertly presented by the artists and our technically adept Board. It was an interesting mix of solemn content and convivial sharing of the Welsh culture. It made me proud to be a member of PSWA, and gave me a deep longing to return to Wales as soon as possible!



Letter from the President --- WE ARE OPENING A WELSH PUB!!!!

Greetings! We have been having a good time! You will find in this newsletter a summary of our St. David's Day live Zoom program, held February 28th, that included global entertainment. Ifor ap Glyn, National Poet of Wales, read several of his poems, accompanied by videos. Even though it was 11:00PM in Wales, Ifor presented live. It was an honor and a thrill to have him with us. Our second performer Glain Dafydd, also performed live from Wales on the harp. Glain was magical. Our final performer was the charming and talented Rhiannon Owen from Baltimore, Maryland, also live. Members of PSWA then stayed on the Zoom call and chatted after the concert. We had over 100 attendees from several states, Wales, and Canada. Zoom is a wonderful outcome of our year of isolation.

THE FUTURE – A PUB? We are assuming that gatherings will be restricted this year until probably Fall at the latest. But the Board decided they don't want to wait that long to get together with you. SO, here's the plan: once a month the Board will host a live Pub gathering online via Zoom (or phone call if you cannot attend on a smartphone, computer, or laptop).

HOW WILL THIS WORK? The Board will post links to the PSWA website <http://pugetsoundwelsh.org/welsh-pub.html> on the Sunday before the Pub meets. These will be online videos, presentations, website links, and musical selections you can access at your leisure during the week. They won't be onerous or boring - we promise! Zoom invite will be emailed on the Sunday meeting date. We will gather together on a live Zoom video or join by phone call to discuss the material and to chat – and maybe sing. Of course you don't have to have looked at the web offerings to join us. It is, of course, family friendly. BYODrinks.

WHAT'S ON THE PROGRAM? The Board will put together the first four Zoom Pub Gatherings and then will open the agenda to the membership to suggest the rest of the year.

*(*Please check website and Facebook for any schedule changes as each topic date is subject to change)*

Sunday May 2,	4-6PM	Wales, Welsh Language, & Rugby Update - Six Nations
Sunday June 6,	4-6 PM	Music of Wales Old & New
Sunday July 11,	4-6 PM	The Mabinogion
Sunday August 1,	4-6 PM.	Welsh Genealogy

Note: These are usually the first Sunday of the month, except for July - for family Independence Day celebrations.



As you know, Wales is a fascinating country, with great history, scenery, mythology, poetry, music, food, and politics. We found, as we began thinking about this idea, that there is enough material to keep us busy for YEARS.

We really hope you will like this Pub idea, and will join us for not only the links, but also the chat and fellowship. It will be so good to see you, even if by computer. Three cheers to PSWA Members Chris and Val Ensor who suggested and developed this brilliant idea!

We will be asking you, the membership, for other topics that you would like to include. For Example:

Famous Welsh Writers	Poetry of Wales	Famous Actors and Singers
The Talyllyn Railway	The Patagonia Connection	Castles of Wales
Mining in Wales	24 Things Not to Miss in Wales	St.David
What is St. Fagans?	The Three Welsh Tenors	Welsh Independence Movement

BE THINKING ABOUT THIS! Any questions? Get in touch! President@PugetSoundWelsh.org

Iechyd da! (Cheers!) Mary Lynne Evans, President

Welsh Poetry

<https://theconversation.com/how-the-welsh-developed-their-own-form-of-poetry-73299>

Rhea Seren Phillips, PhD Researcher from Swansea University wrote an article in 2017 entitled “How the Welsh developed their own form of poetry” for Creative Commons, an online independent news organization. She noted, “unlike most English language forms, these focus on the sounds produced within a line and echoes left after, rather just on the words themselves.” Englyn Milwr was a short form used by WWI soldiers to send messages home and likened to a haiku. Englyn is one of 24 Welsh poetic forms. There are also four meters (in poetry, this is rhythm, stress, rhyme and alliteration) Welsh poets use what is known as “cynganedd” which means “harmony.” If you’re interested in poetry, check out the link posted above to read this short article and click on the links within the story to further chase ancient and modern poetry unique to the Welsh language and culture.

Ifor Ap Glyn Book Interest?

Following the terrific St. Davids Day presentation by Welsh National Poet Ifor ap Glyn, several people inquired about books of his poetry. He does have one bilingual book called Cuddle Call? (ISBN: 9781845276782) which is available in the UK (paperback, 10.00 GBP + S/H).

<https://carreg-gwalch.cymru/cuddle-call-2143-p.asp>

“Since becoming National Poet of Wales, Ifor ap Glyn has sought to connect with a wider audience in Wales and further afield. This is the first time that a representative selection of his work has appeared in a parallel text with English translation. Cuddle Call? includes some of the poet’s famous performance pieces as well as the more sophisticated collections which won him the Eisteddfod Crown in 1999 and 2013. His poems explore Wales and the wider world, celebrating the richness of the Welsh language in all its trials and tribulations.”

If we have enough interest we may see if we can do a bulk order.

Please let us know if you would be interested in purchasing a copy: Membership@PugetSoundWelsh.org

Larry Jones

By Amy Jones Perkins

We are sorry to announce the February passing of long time PSWA member Larry Jones. He was the first of the four Jones siblings to be interested in their family genealogy and Welsh connections, and passed those interests on to the rest of the family. Larry's interest drew his sister, Amy, and niece, Rebecca, to join the Seattle Welsh Choir. Larry cultivated his Welsh identity and made six trips to Wales. Along with Brian Parry and others, Larry studied Welsh for a number of years in night classes taught by David Morgan and Dic Jones. He wrote a family heritage book which he titled "Saints, Sinners, and Welshmen."

For twenty-five years Larry and his wife Sue hosted St. David's Day celebrations in their home for family and friends. With the Welsh flag flying, maps and posters hanging, food was served with a Welsh flavor, always including Welsh cakes. Larry loved singing Welsh hymns and the gatherings always included singing with musical instruments, poetry, and readings of Dylan Thomas by his brother. His family misses him greatly.



Recollections of Welsh Learners in Seattle

-Brian Parry

When I first got involved with the Welsh language class (Dosbarth Cymraeg) in about 1985, it was held in the Northminster Presbyterian Church, in the Loyal Heights area of northwest Seattle. The weekly meeting was held on a Friday night, but the heat was not turned on until Saturday night. After a few weeks of that, I suggested having the meetings at my house which was both more central and warmer.

Larry Jones had been attending these meetings here prior to me joining but was not attending when I started. At that time, the teacher was David Morgan, who, after retiring from the UW, had opened an Australian/Welsh shop in Bothell.

Not long after the meetings moved to my house, Larry became a regular attendee (depending on work commitments). During that time, we on many occasions had two teachers, David Morgan who at times was assisted by native speaker Dic Jones. This duo introduced many of us to the differences between North versus South Walian.

Early in 1991, the Pacific Northwest Gymanfa Ganu Association was formed by most of the Welsh societies in the Pacific Northwest from Corvallis and all stops up to Vancouver and Penticton BC. Their first Gymanfa was held in Bothell in April of that year. Larry and I did the Dosbarth presentation as part of the Saturday Afternoon Folk Concert. I focused on the Welsh history and geography while Larry focused on the language. His presentation was not aimed at trying to learn the language in 15 minutes but included how Welsh had developed and its relationship to other Celtic languages, following the Celtic migration westward.

The language group continued for the next ten years or so with varying degrees of participation. I remember somebody pointing out that Larry and I had studied Welsh for ten years, until we had to correct them that we had studied first year Welsh ten times.

Participation in many ethnic groups had been declining when it was decided to make a renewed attempt to attract a new membership base. In 2003, as a PSWA initiative, Larry and I gave a multi-media presentation on how to get more people interested in PSWA membership. The presentation was given at North Channel Kilts, which was located upstairs in Ballard Library. We somewhat followed the same format that we had used before, but now included music, singing, Welsh cakes and Bara Brith.

Larry had a keen interest in genealogy and eventually got me to have my DNA tested. During some of the summer months, the language class would meet on the back patio of The Cardiff Arms, which was a pub located in the Greenwood area. When just Larry and I showed up, we would just chat (and drink beer) about all things Welsh and how to promote Wales in North America.

Guinness Six Nations 2021 - Rugby

The 2021 Guinness Six Nations Rugby Tournament was exciting from the very start: Scotland beat England. 11-6. At Twickenham! Posting its first win there since 1983.

With Wales winning all but one match, and securing the Triple Crown (beating England/Ireland/Scotland), it came down to the final match between France and Scotland to determine who would be cup holder at the end of the Guinness Six Nations Tournament.

France needed to beat Scotland by a margin of 21 points or more in a bonus-point win and could not secure the trophy without the bonus point (for scoring four tries) even if they beat Scotland. A shared title would result from France scoring 5 tries and beating Scotland by only 20 points. A Scotland victory with bonus-point would give them second place.

Final score: France 23-27 Scotland. Congrats to Wales!

GUINNESS SIX NATIONS TABLE						
POS	TEAM	PL	W	D	L	PTS
1	 WALES	5	4	0	1	20
2	 FRANCE	5	3	0	2	16
3	 IRELAND	5	3	0	2	15
4	 SCOTLAND	5	3	0	2	15
5	 ENGLAND	5	2	0	3	10
6	 ITALY	5	0	0	5	0

Volunteers Needed! Reposted Due to Importance

-Mary Lynne Evans/Karyn Davies

Puget Sound Welsh Association is still on the hunt to fill some much needed position – one appointed and one an elected Officer of the Board.

1. PSWA needs a new Treasurer as soon as possible. The position entails basic bookkeeping, monitoring the PO Box, receiving and entering the dues, and paying some bills mostly associated with event expenses. It is not a hard job, but is ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL for PSWA to be in legal compliance and not have to dissolve our organization – a real possibility! Current treasurer to mentor.

Past Board Members requested to apply as soon as possible!! President@PugetSoundWelsh.org

2. Co-Editor of *Y Ddolen* quarterly newsletter. PSWA publishes a quarterly newsletter to keep the membership updated on upcoming events, highlight past events, and provide news of interest, recipes, feature articles, historical data, and the like. As Co-Editor, you'll take charge of a couple of the four newsletters. Assistance available! If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact: Newsletter@PugetSoundWelsh.org. Diolch yn fawr!!

Family Recipe Finds

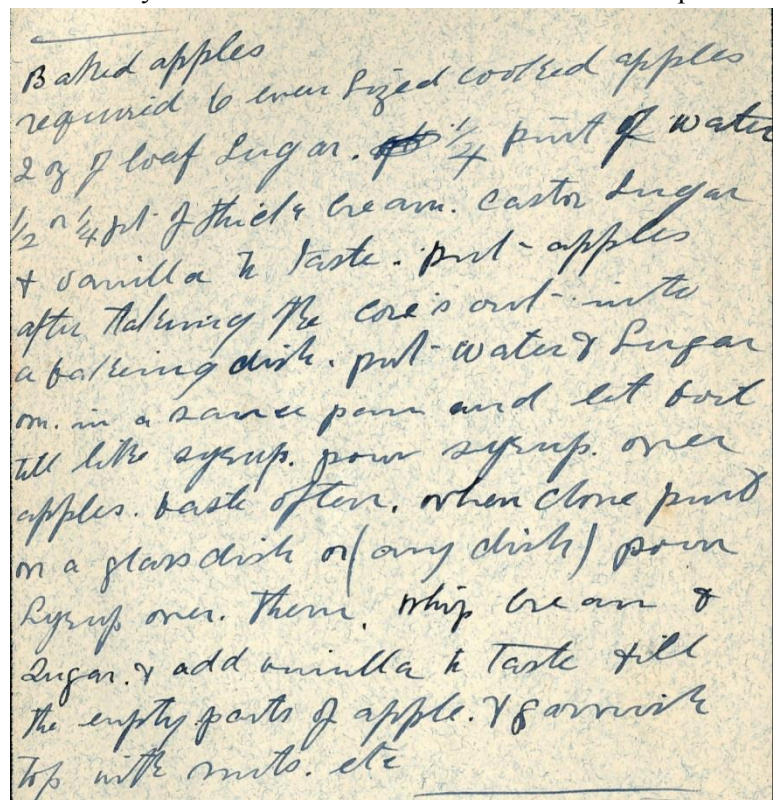
- by Chris Mooreddrall

I am always investigating my family history. Sometimes I come across many fascinating items and some are just run of the mill. I am lucky in that some of my family like to hold on to these items- to which I have become somewhat of a curator. Recently a cousin had sent a box of items full of history: photos, letters, and other items that are downright neat.

One of the items I came across was several handwritten pages of recipes from my great grandmother Margaret- a little over 100 years old. It's merely a guess- but it is an educated one as I was comparing the papers the recipes were written on to stationary used in some of the old letters found with it. She would have been living in Wales at this time.

Now my family never really had much in the way of recipes passed down through the generations- at least not that I have seen, but now I am inspired to try to make them. If you didn't already know I'm an avid cook. I did have to look up what some things even were though. Timbales of Mutton? A timbale is a deep dish filling completely enclosed in a crust which can be pastry bread or even vegetables. I had never even heard of such a thing. And apparently no store or butcher anywhere sells mutton anymore. So I will have to resort to using lamb.

Other recipes include Macaroni and Cheese (pre-Kraft), Baked Apples, Cheese-straws (similar to how Glamorgan sausages were originally made), Hunters Cutlets (the recipe is a British version of schnitzel), egg sauce (it's not even what you think it is), and Potato Croquettes. Of course I was disappointed there weren't any Welsh-specific recipes (I've had to curate my own to pass on, though the cheese), but finding things like this and making an attempt at it certainly makes me feel a bit closer to my own family and to their history. It is also a big reminder that just because we think we know what our ancestors ate, doesn't mean they ate only traditional food. Wish me luck!



FIND THE WORD IN THE PUZZLE

Words can go in any direction.

Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

LAMB	PASG
EBRILL	MAI
GWANWYN	HIRAETH
HAUL	MEHEFIN
BLODYN	RUGBY
GRANDSLAM	HYMNS
ARIAS	IAITH



Kilvert's Diary

By Rob Morgan. October 2020 © – used with permission; do not copy or distribute in entirety or in portion without express consent from the author.

A chance quote in ‘The Western Mail’ led me to pick up a book I bought, oh, forty years ago. “*Kilvert’s Diary*”, the remnants of the diary of the Reverend Francis Kilvert, a clergyman who lived in the mid-Victorian era, at Clyro, up on the border in Radnorshire.

Kilvert was one of those fascinating, rare, people who ‘observed’ and recorded everything he saw and encountered in the lives of Welsh people. The diary runs from 1870 to 1879, when he married and died soon after. Only a little of his work survives, and much of his world disappeared when the motor car took over the roads from the horse.

The long stretch of border country where he lived is a place I still visit frequently. Clyro a tiny Welsh village, with only a small hotel, ‘The Baskerville Arms’, a few houses, school, and the church of course. The name was taken by Conan Doyle for the famous Sherlock Holmes ‘Hound’ story.

Hay-on-Wye its neighbour a mile across the wide river is famous as one of the handful of towns in Europe which thrive on selling books- probably Wales’ most famous small town these days. There are over thirty bookshops, lots of small cafes and restaurants. There’s a Literary Festival every Whitsun for a week, and ‘great and good’ names who write or think they can, converge on the place and show off. I read a short story there in 2008, as part of the University’s publication of an anthology...of course the poets were lauded, and being Wales, are always much better treated than serious writers....but no-one ever made a penny from being a poet.

With a population of under two thousand, Hay seems the busiest small town in Wales, the streets filled with people buying, selling, and reading, books. Kilvert would love the place now! Above Hay, the surrounding hills and mountains of Mid Wales show lovely light and shade as the day passes; often you can watch a rain shower drifting across the valley, deluging a farm, leaving the roof golden, glistening, and then passing slowly onwards.

So far, I’ve read about eighty five pages of his diary, not that I’m a slow, contemplative reader, I’m collecting his phrases, wonderful names and mentions of folk tales and remarkable (often unbelievable) customs and practices of the old people of Wales. The diary, still in print, is a rich source of culture and custom for us today.

A short while ago, I began this intending to write along another pathway, instead of which I find myself having written almost ‘In the footsteps of Francis Kilvert’, but.... ah well, never mind.

2021 Annual Limerick Contest Winners

By Ellen Webber

Our annual Welsh Limerick contest was held during our very successful virtual St. David's Day celebration. This year's entries included some very clever verses, and I didn't envy the task of our judge in selecting the top three for the final voting. Try entering next year! You can pick just one of the 3 starting lines, or write a limerick for each one. Humor, a clever rhyme scheme, and a little Welsh flavor definitely win points with both our judge and audience. The new starting lines for the 2021 contest will appear in the January issue of *Y Ddolen* and will also be available on PSWA's website.

1st Place: Gretta Upshall

A harpist who so loved to play
Was housebound most of the day
With Covid about
She couldn't go out
Streaming on Zoom was the way



2nd Place: Heidi Hiatt

Huw and his pot of cawl cennin
Leaned on a faulty mortise & tenon
The table gave out
The soup splashed all about
And he primal screamed like John Lennon



3rd Place: Karyn Davies

A harpist who so loved to play
liked to busk in a New York subway.
Receiving only loose change,
there was no way to arrange
a vacation to Paris by May.



Headlines From Wales

- Burrowing Bunnies in Wales Unearth Trove of Prehistoric Artifacts: Rabbits on Skokholm Island discovered Stone Age tools and fragments of a Bronze Age cremation urn <https://tinyurl.com/5r65yyx4>
- Dramatic discovery links Stonehenge to its original site – in Wales: Find backs theory that bluestones first stood at Waun Mawn before being dragged 140 miles to Wiltshire <https://tinyurl.com/3xuvdfks>
- Llangollen railway: Plea to save stricken heritage line <https://tinyurl.com/3xuvdfks>

PSWA Membership/Renewal, Donations, T-Shirts, & Red Dragon Band CD

Annual memberships renew each January. Your contributions entitle you to a subscription to *Y Ddolen*, our wonderful quarterly newsletter, and provide vital support for our St. David's Day celebration and other activities through the year. In addition to our sponsored events, the Puget Sound Welsh Association acts as a valuable resource for anyone interested in Welsh culture, language, and music. Questions? Contact Ellen Webber.

Annual 2021 Memberships/Fees

- ☐ Individual (\$10) \$ _____
- ☐ Family/Couple (\$15) \$ _____
- ☐ Y Ddolen mailed to you (\$5) \$ _____
- ☐ Life (\$100) \$ _____
- ☐ Overseas Annual Postage (\$50) \$ _____
- ☐ Overseas Life (\$150) \$ _____

*Membership is annual
from Jan 1 through Dec 31*

Donations

- ☐ General Fund Donation \$ _____
- ☐ Memorial Scholarship \$ _____
- ☐ Memorial Fund \$ _____ In Memory of (Name): _____

Retail Products – *prices include shipping/postage (\$15 if picked up at events)

- ☐ **PSWA T-Shirts** Total number of shirts ____ x \$19.95 \$ _____
\$19.95* each. Indicate how many of each size and color:
Steel Green: ____ LG ____ XL *Limited quantities; Email for availability: membership@pugetsoundwelsh.org
Dark Green: ____ SM ____ MED ____ XL *Limited quantities of XL; Email for availability.
- ☐ **Welsh Music CD** Total number of CDs ____ x \$15 \$ _____
Y Ddraig Goch, Traditional Welsh Folk music of Wales: \$15* each

Make check payable to PSWA

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Membership Information (please print):

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____



PSWA is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization 501(c)(3). Contributions may be tax-deductible.

Please mail this form with payment to: **PSWA, PO Box 27725, Seattle, WA 98165**



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Stay in touch with other members across the Puget Sound and Washington state, keep up to date with events and activities, and post relevant events/information to the discussion forum. Read interesting news and historical posts. Share what you find.

www.facebook.com/groups/pugetsoundwelsh

www.facebook.com/PugetSoundWelsh/

Welsh Words of the Quarter: **Gwanwyn** (goo-an win) – Spring (as in the season). **Blodyn** (blod-in) – Flower. **Wyau** (oo-ee-eye) – Eggs. **Dafad** (dav-add) – Sheep. **Cymylog** (kum-uh-log) – Cloudy. **Oen** (oh-en) – Lamb. **Iaith** (y’eye th) ‘th’ as in ‘think’ – Language. **Pasg** (pask) – Easter. **Haul** (hile *rhymes with pile) – Sun.

**Suggestions welcome for next quarter’s words! Please submit to Newsletter@PugetSoundWelsh.org*



Cymru am byth!