

Newyddion o Gymdeithas Dewi Sant **St. David's Society News**

Under Milk Wood to be presented March 4

There will be one performance only of *Under Milk Wood* on Friday, March 4, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, 1330 Industrial Blvd. at 35W, in Minneapolis. The play is directed by William Kimes and features a cast of both Society members and actors from the community. *Under Milk Wood* is presented as part of the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of the St. David's Society of Minnesota.

Under Milk Wood—A Play for Voices, was written and performed in 1953 just months before the author's death at age 39. Intended to be done on radio or as a platform dramatic reading, it is a touching, funny and boisterous account of one day from dawn to night-fall in a fantastical Welsh village peopled by eccentrics with endearing traits and curious behavior.



Photo by Judith Evans Warner

St. David's Society member William Kimes of Blaine read a Welsh literature at the December Christmas event. Now he is busy directing Under Milk Wood for the Society's centennial celebration. He is the former drama director at Hamline University in St. Paul.

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Following the initial intent of Dylan Thomas, this production will be done as a reading. The scene, therefore, is not only created in the mind's eye but with the ear of the listener. The words of the poet weave a landscape of actions, dreams and memories of the living and the dead.

- **For tickets, please return the reservation form in this issue with a check payable to the St. David's Society. Mail the form and check to Pam Rose.**
- **Price is \$7.00 for members; others, \$10.00.** No Student or Senior priced tickets. General seating (no reserved locations).
- **Please arrive at 7:00 p.m., when the doors open.** Tickets will be available at the door at 6:30 p.m., if space is available.
- The play is not recommended for children younger than senior high school age.

The hotel has offered a special rate of \$85/night to Society members—particularly those from beyond the Twin Cities area—who may wish to consider securing lodging at the hotel for Friday night and attending the play that evening and the banquet on Saturday. Hotel reservations should be made directly to the Ramada Plaza: 1 (800) 992-4023 or (612) 331-1900 or online. There is a restaurant in the hotel.

St. David's Society is 100 years old this year. Come to the March 5 luncheon to celebrate!

Those lucky enough to attend the Society's 2010 luncheon will remember its centenary billing. No, this headline is not incorrect. The St. David's Society of Minnesota held its first St. David's Banquet the year before it was legally formed.

This year's event will be held at the same

location as last year's: Ramada Plaza Hotel, 1330 Industrial Blvd., at I-35W, in Minneapolis. It's easy to get to from all directions and there's plenty of free parking.

After an initial reception and time for casual visiting, we'll enjoy a tasty buffet meal and more visiting.

This year, in honor of our centennial, members of the Society will be featured in a variety of ways. Don't worry, you won't be called on, but we'll enjoy a variety of rhythmic gifts of a number of members. For example, at last year's Silent Auction, Ruth Jones won a composed-to-order arrangement of Welsh folk songs donated by David Evan Thomas. The flutist who will play it for us all to enjoy is Amy Morris! [*No relation, honest!*]

There will be much more. You'll want to be part of the fun. Use the yellow registration form TODAY!

There will be the first-ever presentation of the Golden Leek Award. We know one guest from Michigan is planning to attend. Be sure you're there, too.

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 25, PLEASE.

St. David's Luncheon info:

Location:

Ramada Plaza Hotel,
1330 Industrial Blvd., at I-35W
Minneapolis.

Schedule:

Check-In, Reception – 11:30

Buffet luncheon – 12:15

Program – 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Cost of luncheon – \$25.00

Children – \$12.50

How to order tickets:

Send check to Pam Rose,

8514 13th Ave. S.

Bloomington, MN 55425

Make checks payable to St. David's Society of Minnesota.

Use yellow form in this newsletter.

Ticket deadline: Fri., Feb. 25

Want to attend, but need a ride?

Contact Pam at (952) 854-4743 or
pamrosearch@hotmail.com.

PLEASE USE ORDER FORM IN THIS ISSUE.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE WELCOME.

A word about parking at the Ramada:

For Under Milk Wood Friday evening – Park in front and enter from the main door.

For the Saturday luncheon – Drive around to the back of the hotel, park there and enter from glass doors there.

This cuts down on the distance you need to walk inside the building.

Tapestry of Readings and Carols held in December

By Janice Barbee

The Annual Christmas Tea of the St. David's Society of Minnesota has a long tradition and this year's program brought a bright spark to the Christmas season. In the afternoon of Sunday, December 5, Society members gathered at the Good Samaritan United Methodist Church to listen to "A Tapestry of Readings and Carols." David Evan Thomas hosted the event and led the audience in the singing of several Christmas carols, including Nos Galan (based on the Welsh New Year carol) and Silent Night in Welsh. In true Welsh spirit, many of the audience members sang in four-part harmony.

The St. David's Society's Artistic Committee put together an inspiring collection of readings and music. William Kimes delivered dramatic readings of poetry and prose, including works of the Welsh poets R.S. Thomas and Rhydwen Williams, invoking the magic of the season and reminding us of the blessings of the year. Amanda Chen, with her clear soprano voice, enchanted us with "First Snow." Steve Hughes played a gentle version of Ar Hyd y Nos (All Through the Night) on the guitar, singing in English and Welsh. And throughout the program, Janice Kimes played the carols expertly and with great creativity.

Following the program, the Society members indulged in a delicious assortment of goodies brought by Society bakers. There were many opportunities for gift-buying at various tables, from music CDs to Welsh books and bags. The spacious church facilities provided the atmosphere for an afternoon of good cheer and heart-felt reminders of the spirit of Christmas.



Photos by Judith Evans Warner

Amanda Chen sang at the December event, accompanied by her grandmother, Jan Kimes.



Steve Hughes sang Ar Hyd y Nos in Welsh.

Janice and Don Barbee and Richard Rames enjoyed the time for treats and visiting.



Enjoy history and hospitality at Glenwood's Ann Bickle Heritage House



Elizabeth Feigh, St. Cloud, and Karen Kidwell, Apple Valley, were scheduled for a Nov. 13 visit but like others, got snowed out. They were able to attend the following week. When guests arrived, they were invited to go up to one of the bedrooms and choose a hat to wear during the tea.

Who was Ann Bickle?

By Wendy Worner

Wendy, from Stillwater, attended the special tea in the special home in Glenwood on Nov. 6, thus missing the Nov. 13 storm that kept two cars of hopeful attendees home.

Ann Jones Bickle was born in Aberystwyth, Wales, in 1886. As a young girl studied voice and once sang for King Edward VII and Queen Alexandria, when they were Prince and Princess of Wales. She sang with the Brenig Choir, which won first place in the Llandudno International Eisteddfod in 1886.

She emigrated when she was 18 and initially settled in Canada. She later moved to Minneapolis to study music.. She helped form the St. David's Society, and it was there that Frank Bickle came to search for a bride. He wanted someone with a similar background to his, as he was from England. At the age of 50, in 1935, Ann married Frank and moved to Glenwood. He was a Soo Line engineer.

Ann could have lived a very comfortable, privileged life, but became the ultimate volunteer. She started the local hospital auxiliary, and soon after, in 1946, almost single-handedly started the Minnesota

Hospital Auxiliary, and was its first president. Ann traveled around Minnesota and Canada helping other communities start their auxiliaries. During World War II, she was the chairman of the Citizen's Service Corps of Pope County. She received four citations for her work which represented 2,000 hours of volunteer work.

Ann died in 1984 at the age of 98. The house was to be auctioned off in 1988, but a group of local women intervened and were able to save the home and get it listed on the National Historic Register. The house was purchased by a nonprofit organization and had all of its original furniture and antiques included.

The house was built in 1913, and at the time, was one of the finest in town. It displays turn-of-the-century Craftsman styling, with two fireplaces, leaded glass windows and more.

One of the treasures in the home is a collection of Gaudy Welsh pottery, including the bowl used to hold water for Ann's baptism. The Gaudy Welsh was indicated in Ann's will as belonging to "The Minnesota Welsh Society." When the St. David's Society was contacted in the late 1980s, it was

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arranged for all of those pieces to remain in the Society's ownership, as Ann had requested, but to be kept on permanent loan to the Ann Bickle Heritage House.

Reclaiming the “Tea Party”

By Elizabeth Feigh and Karen Kidwell

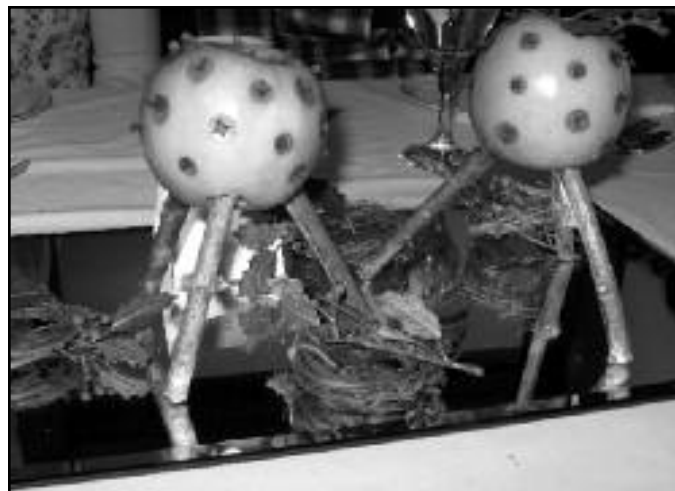
Ann Jones Bickle was born in Wales in 1886. Later, she settled and lived in Glenwood and contributed in many ways to that community and the state of Minnesota. After her death, an enterprising group of women bought her home and its contents when it was scheduled for public auction. To help maintain the home, an annual Christmas Tea fundraiser is held every November for a series of three Saturdays.

"Wales" was the theme for this year's tea and the committee researched to find authentic decorations and food for the occasion.

At the entrance was a Mari Llwyd (horseskull with streamers) and plowshares. There was also greenery with dried fruit, holly, and berries throughout the house. Calennigs, apples supported on twigs studded with cloves, were the table center pieces. Red dragons decorated one of the Christmas trees. There was live background music and after a short presentation, everyone present was invited to sing two carols; one being, "The Holly and the Ivy."

The food was delicious—poached pear, scones with jam and cream or lemon curd, finger sandwiches, cake, and of course, never ending refills of tea. We were all allowed to choose a fancy hat to dress for the tea.

Time was given to look around the beautiful home, so well preserved. Anne Bickle's trunk which she brought with her to Ellis Island was there, along with photos, paintings, her china and rugs. The Gaudy Welsh china on permanent loan from our



A calennig table decoration at the Christmas Tea at the Ann Bickle Heritage House in Glenwood in November.

society was prominently displayed. A prayer in Welsh hangs above her bed.

She used to hold community poetry readings and sing-a-longs in her home and some of her sheet music (with the title and words in Welsh) were on the piano along with a traditional Welsh hat. Sharon Larson and the women who cooked and served the food were warm and welcoming. One of the ladies had Pugh and Hughes relatives.

They were thrilled to have members from the St. David's Society in attendance. We were thrilled to be there. We really enjoyed ourselves and it was a great start to the 2010 Christmas season.

Wouldn't it be fun to see the Ann Bickle Heritage House for yourself?

If you're interested in helping select a date for a possible spring or summer drive to Glenwood (approx. 2 hours from the Twin Cities), please contact Pam Rose at (952) 854-4743 or pamrosearch@hotmail.com. The Ann Bickle Heritage Committee plans to have the house open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays in July when the Art Center is also open.

Prefer to receive the newsletter online?

Notify Kay Gavin at kaywgavin@hotmail.com.

**She will notify you when the next issue is available on the Society's web page.
Help the Society save printing & mailing costs.**

Welsh Movie Night at Merlins Rest

The St. David's Society is sponsoring a series of Welsh Movie Nights at Merlins Rest. Reservations are not needed and there is no charge.

Movies begin at 6 p.m. on designated Monday evenings. Dinner and beverages are available before and throughout the movie.

Monday, January 10, 6 p.m.

A cheerful group braved snowy streets and roads to enjoy **How Green Was My Valley**. Some even came from Stillwater and St. Cloud!

Monday, February 14, 6 p.m.

The Edge of Love: In the bohemian underground of World War II, an unconventional love story of Dylan Thomas and two extraordinary women who inspire him. A must-see for Dylan Thomas fans. CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY AT MERLINS!

Monday, March 14, 6 p.m.

This evening has been added to enjoy some funny items from Wales available on You-Tube, including "Extreme Welsh Shepherding" and more.

Monday, April 11, 6 p.m.

The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill But Came Down a Mountain: The title is a mouthful, but the movie is a lighthearted look at proud and crafty Welsh villagers. This romantic comedy is about a town that wouldn't give up, a man who couldn't get out and the mountain that brought them together.

Monday, May 9, 6 p.m.

Under Milk Wood: The phrase, "Bugger All," has been turned into a Welsh village of Llareggub and that's not all that will be topsy turvy in this movie of the play by Dylan Thomas.

Coming soon: Hedd Wynn; The Illuminator; Gavin and Stacy; and more.

Merlins Rest is at 3601 E. Lake St. in Minneapolis. This is on the south side of Lake St., near the Mississippi River (corner of 36th Ave. S. and Lake).

For menu and directions, go to:

www.merlinsrest.com.

No computer? Call Merlins at (612) 216-2419.

If you can, we recommend checking the Society website prior to coming. If date or movie changes have to be made, they will be posted there.

www.minnesotawelsh.org

Spring Gymanfa Ganu set for April 10

The St. David's Society's annual Gymanfa Ganu will be held Sunday afternoon, April 10, at 2 p.m., at St. David's Episcopal Church in Minnetonka. Mary Morris Mergenthal from St. Paul will direct.

A special feature of this year's event will be the presence of the Wayzata Women's Choir. It will be especially enjoyable to hear them, because they have been accepted into competition at the International Eisteddfod in Llangollen, Wales, this summer.

There will be another newsletter in March with more details but it's never too early to start making Welsh cakes to freeze and to bring along to feed our group and the singers.

News of the Well-Read Dragons

At the December meeting, the group enjoyed lunch at Kay Gavin's home and viewed the the DVD of the play *The Corn is Green* by Emlyn Williams.

The February selection is *Twenty Thousand Saints* by Fflur Dafydd, winner of the Prose Medal at the 2006 National Eisteddfod

of Wales. One reviewer said of the book: "The most compelling novel I've read in years: a love story, a thriller, and a profound meditation on language and identity."

Having first published at age 20, Ms. Dafydd is the author of two Welsh-language novels. This is her first novel in English. She is also a popular singer-song writer, has a Ph.D. on the poetry of R.S. Thomas and lectures in Creative Writing at Swansea University.

The group meets the first Saturday of alternate months at **Urban Harvest**, 2311 18th Ave., in Northeast Minneapolis.

The next meeting is **Sat., Feb. 8, at 12:30 p.m.** If you're planning to eat lunch with the group before the meeting, come at noon, please.

If you're interested in coming, you're welcome even if you haven't been able to read the book. Discussion is always interesting and it's a good opportunity to get to know some St. David's members and friends better. The group reads books by Welsh writers and books about Wales and Welsh people. But the books are all in English, not Welsh.

Looking ahead: The selection for April 2 is *Stranger Within the Gates* by Bertha Thomas.

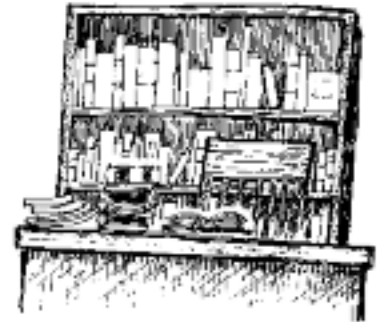




Illustration by Eleigh Johns.

British Isles Days

The Minnesota Genealogical Society and The Irish Genealogical Society International are presenting British Isles Days on April 29–30. Featured presenter will be David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGA, FIGRS, the chief genealogical officer of FamilySearch.org.

On Friday, April 29, there will be an afternoon bus tour of Lakewood Cemetery (*Editor's note: Did you know there's a Welsh section there?*). That evening Rencher will speak: "The Sun Never Sets on the Data Empire."

On Saturday, April 30, Irish, Scottish, English and Welsh genealogy will be highlighted and Rencher will present two plenary sessions., followed by 12 break-out sessions.

Kay Gavin will present a session on Welsh genealogy. St. David's Society of Minnesota will have a table to display information about our Society and will be able to sell a few items.

Anyone who is interested in attending this event can get more information at www.mnngs.org/britishislesday.pdf. If you are able to help out at our Welsh table, please contact Kay at 651-484-1778 or kaywgavin@hotmail.com.

There has never been a Welsh presence at these events so this will be a great opportunity to inform participants of the St. David's Society of Minnesota and to share our passion for our Welsh culture and heritage.

Apart from the Friday tour, events will take place at Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie. Early-bird registration begins in February.

"Wales: Land of Song" coming to Osseo February 24.

Monty and Marsha Brown, producers of the film "Wales: Land of Song," will show and comment on the film on Thurs., Feb. 24, at Osseo Senior High School, Enid Norsted Auditorium, 317 2nd Ave. NW, Osseo, MN 55369. Students and the Children's Chorus from District 279 will also perform at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

The film will be shown at both 3:30 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. preceded by the live entertainment noted above. The film got an excellent review in the recent issue of *Ninnau* and will be shown at many U.S. locations in coming months. Auditorium seating begins 30 minutes before the entertainment begins.

Between those two showings, a soup and sandwich meal will be served. Tickets are \$6.50 per person. Make checks payable to ISD 279. Mail your check to Travel and Adventure, 11200 93rd Ave. N., Maple Grove, MN 55369. Call (763) 391-7082 with questions or to use VISA or MasterCard.

Membership

Address Changes/Additions:

Laurel Bradshaw

New e-mail: llawryf@yahoo.com

Melvyn Jones and Esme Evans

New e-mail: melvyn.wj@gmail.com

Ruth Jones

New e-mail: ruthjones73@q.com

Michael and Karen Wojahn

New e-mail: karen.wojahn@gmail.com

**Please consider a tax-deductible
contribution to the
St. David's Society**

or

the St. David's Foundation.

**Gifts can remember
or honor a Welsh friend or relative.**

**You are also encouraged to remember the
St. David's Society or Foundation in your
will. For information, please contact
Don Anderson, (612) 789-8923, or
Ron Adams, (952) 237-0506.**

It's Lord Dafydd Wigley now!

Dafydd Wigley, former Plaid Cymru leader and long-time MP for Wales, received a peerage from Queen Elizabeth in the House of Lords. He will sit as a cross-bencher, because the political party needs four to five members to be considered a viable group. Presently only one other Plaid Cymru peer, Lord Ellis-Thomas, sits in the House.

Wigley, 67, plans to use his seat in the Lords "to speak up for the people of Wales." He added, "I will also continue to press the case of reform of the second chamber and look forward to the day when its members are democratically elected."

Now the honorary president of Plaid Cymru, Wigley served as an MP between 1974 and 2001 and was an assembly member in its first term from 1999.

[Ed. note: Members of the St. David's Society of Minnesota can be extra proud of the fact that Wigley spoke at our 2010 centenary banquet last March.]

At last! Can you believe it? Welsh is finally the official language in Wales!

The Welsh language became the official language of Wales, following a historic vote at the National Assembly in Cardiff on Dec. 7, 2010.

Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2010, is the longest and most complex piece of legislation the government has ever voted on. It was passed unanimously and included a clause confirming the official status of the Welsh language. It is the most important law passed in this area since the Welsh Language Act of 1993,

While the new legislation encourages the use of Welsh in daily life, it primarily impacts larger companies that provide public services, such as utility and telephone companies, who will be required to use the Welsh language in a "reasonable and proportionate way,"

Just before the final vote, Plaid Cymru AM Bethan Jenkins put forward an amendment that would have strengthened the measure. It read: "Everyone has the right to use the Welsh language in Wales as far as that is reasonable and proportionate in the circumstances." Her motion was rejected.

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg [the Welsh Language Society] noted that the Jenkins amendment would have made a noticeable impact in people's lives.

Go to http://www.assembly-wales.org/welsh_language_measure_as_passed-e.pdf for the complete text of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure passed in December.

The editor wishes to thank the monthly newspaper NINNAU & Y Drych for the information in this column.

A request from Iowa

I am writing in regard to the diaries of Joshua Williams who lived in Lime Springs, Iowa ; a Welsh community in northern Iowa. These diaries go back to the time of 1896 when he was approximately 18 years old. Part of his diaries include a good bit about the history of his family, however a major share is about daily happenings in history, both locally and nationally.

These diaries are held in the Iowa State Historical Library in Iowa City. They have offered to provide them to us if we should wish to microfilm them. The "us" is the Howard-Winneshiek Genealogy Society located in Cresco, Iowa, which has a microfilm reader/ printer to make them accessible to the general public in the area where he grew up.

In some of the material that I have read about the Welsh in Minnesota it said " So far as the Welsh population is contributing to the prosperity of the city, Minneapolis is indebted to a great extent to Lime Springs, Iowa, and vicinity." Then it goes on to tell about the people who went to Minneapolis from Lime Springs, Iowa.

The funding for this project is more than our society is able to provide and so we are looking for others who may consider this a valuable piece of history that needs to be preserved.

Would the St. David's Society of Minnesota, or individual members of it, consider it a worthwhile cause? The microfilming is going cost over \$10,000.00. We would be happy to give you more information about this gentleman if there is some interest in this project.

This was brought to our attention by one of your members and she felt that it would be a valuable genealogical tool as well as historical.

Sincerely,

Jody Dean, Secretary
Howard-Winneshiek Genealogy Society
1009 7th Ave. E.
Cresco, IA 52136
Phone: (563) 547-5996
Cell: (563) 203-0966



To be born in Wales

by Brian Harris



To be born in Wales,
Not with a silver spoon in your mouth.
But, with music in your blood
And with poetry in your soul,
Is a privilege indeed.

Your inheritance is a land of legend,
of love and contrast.
A land of beauty so bright it burns the eyes.
Of ugliness that scars the Spirit
As the earth.

Wales is an old land with wounds
That weep in hills.
They wept before in the bodies of men
And in the hearts of women
And time will never heal them.

The stigmata of sorrow,
Of pain and poverty,
Of lonely crucifixion in the dark,
Remain our lives to feed.

This Land of our Fathers was built on coal.
Its rivers mingled blood and sweat
Have forever darkened it,
Relieved only by death.

We are a sad people.
Our sadness being wrapped in harps and music
And praise to God, for the lovely, yearning light
That feeds the Spirit as well as the eyes.



Dragon News

News of Society Members & Friends



SUNSHINE REPORT: Betty Kinsey, the Society Sunshine chairwoman, reports sending a note of sympathy to Roberta Seefeldt, whose husband, Lyle, died.

Please let Betty know when you know of a member who is ill or has suffered a loss, or is rejoicing over a birth, marriage or something else. You can reach her at (612) 871-7587.



DAVID EVAN THOMAS: The Music in the Park Series in the St. Anthony Park area of St. Paul, featured a world premiere of a new cello sonata, "Pathways of Desire," by "our own" composer, David Evan Thomas. Writing for the program notes, Thomas said: "I allowed my fancy to wander without saying no to ideas or styles, so the piece takes the listener on a journey." The sonata was performed on that occasion by none other than cellist Zuill Bailey. The St. Paul Pioneer Press referred to Bailey as "America's most popular cellist whose name isn't Yo-Yo ma."

Sing Welsh hymns for St. David's Day, at Augsburg College

Augsburg College, a Lutheran College started by Scandinavians, will honor St. David on February 28. This is the day before St. David's Day, March 1, traditionally believed to be the day of St. David's birth.

Morning chapel on Monday, February 28, at 10:20-10:40 a.m., will be devoted to part-singing of several Welsh hymns under the direction of Mary Morris Mergenthal.

The college provides pasties afterwards for students to munch on way back to class and for visitors to enjoy in the pleasant sky-lit space outside the chapel.

The college is just west of downtown Minneapolis, across from Fairview Hospital, at 2211 Riverside Ave. S., 55454. Singing will be in Hoversten Chapel on Riverside at 22nd Ave. Arrive early; parking space is tricky to find.

Any Welsh DVDs at your house?

If you have any Welsh-related DVDs you'd be willing to loan to the Society for Movie Nights at Merlins Pub, please contact President Judith Evans Warner, (763) 522-1612 or judithewarner@aol.com.

Note we must have DVDs, not videos.

Diolch yn fawr — Thanks a lot.

An armchair tour of Wales

Your editor, Mary Morris Mergenthal, has a huge stack of Welsh travel brochures. They're taking up space; they're heavy; and as much as she hates the idea of it, they're going to have to go to recycling soon. Unless YOU request some. Mary will mail or deliver them to you.

If you're planning a trip to Wales soon, or someday, you'll find much of interest. If you wish you could go, but can't, perusing them is a good way to occupy yourself in dreary, winter days. If you have a grandchild who might enjoy them as a St. David's Day gift, they're yours.

Here's what is available (and there are many of each):

The Mini Rough Guide to Wales: For the hostel/bunkhouse travelers with lowdown on outdoor pursuits. Plus a list of off-the-beaten-track tours and more.

Welsh Male Voice Choirs/Corau Meibion Cymru: A detailed list of choirs, when/where they rehearse, and who to contact for details. Many rehearsals are open to visitors. *If you've been impressed by any Welsh Male Voice Choir in concert in a big hall, let me assure you that you have no idea how big their sound is in a small room at the village elementary school!*

Wales, Where to Stay 2008: OK, it's not the newest edition but you'll still get invaluable information about possible farms, B&Bs, guest houses, hotels and self-catering cottages, all graded for quality. You can contact them by mail, phone or e-mail and have your trip planned before you cross the Severn River, if you so choose.

Contact me at (651) 644-1650 or mary.mergenthal@comcast.net.

Tidbits

Diolch yn fawr, KSJN: Classical music radio, KSJN, played lovely Christmas music from many countries and traditions all of December. More than one version of the Welsh lullaby "Suogân" was played, along with a fair number of selections from Bryn Terfel's very new CD. It's called "Bryn Terfel: Carols & Christmas Songs," and includes a variety of popular Christmas songs sung in English, as well as a separate Welsh language CD.

Terfel's guest performers include popular harpist Catrin Finch [daughter-in-law of Lord Dafydd Wigley and harpist Elinor Bennett]; soprano Gwawr Edwards [daughter of Dafydd and Ann Edwards. Dafydd, a tenor, was the first Welsh performer to visit this area...back in the 1970s.]; and even the voice of Bing Crosby on "White Christmas"! Find out more at www.deutschegrammo-phon.com/terfel-christmas.

Join the WNGGA and help Ellis Jones win his challenge to Wisconsin

At the 2010 National Festival of Wales in Portland, Ore., Ellis Jones [a member of our Society who lives in St. Peter] challenged Mona Everett of Wisconsin to see which state can recruit the most new members for the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association [WNGGA] before the 2011 Festival of Wales in Cleveland, Ohio. The WNGGA sponsors that event.

Membership in the WNGGA helps give the organization a stable financial base for future planning.

Membership fees:

Individual annual — \$10.00;

Life (under 65) — \$150.00;

Life (over 65) — \$100.00;

Life (first of 3 payments) — \$50.00;

Life (second of 3 payments)—\$50.00;

Life (third of 3 payments) — \$50.00.

Mail membership payment to:

WNGGA International Headquarters
The Rev. Dr. Stacy Evans, Exec. Director
Box 410, Granville, OH 43023, OR

go to www.wngga.org to pay on-line.

Once you join you'll receive program and reservation details for the 2011 NAFOW at Crowne Plaza Cleveland City Centre to be held Sept. 1-4.

2011 is our Society's centennial year.

What better way to educate yourself
on our history than by purchasing
*A Brief History of the Welsh in
Minnesota, Second Edition*, at the
St. David's banquet on March 5.

Cost is just \$7.

Next Deadline: March 10

MAIL COPY TO: Mary Mergenthal
2393 Bourne Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55108-1618

OR E-MAIL TO: mary.mergenthal@comcast.net

If you would be willing to serve on the St. David's nominating (annual meeting is in June) or if you are interested in learning more about the open Board positions, please contact President Judith Evans Warner, (763) 522-1612, or judithewarner@aol.com.

St. David's Society of Minnesota MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

If family membership, include all names to be listed.

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____

Membership category: Single Annual (\$15) _____; Couple/Family Annual (\$22) _____

Supporting Annual (\$50) _____; Life (\$175) _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____ (Make check payable to St. David's Society of Minnesota, note "membership")

Mail to: Kay Gavin

2737 N. Aglen Ave.

Roseville, MN 55113

or contact Kay at: kaywgavin@hotmail.com

Membership year is July 1-June 30.

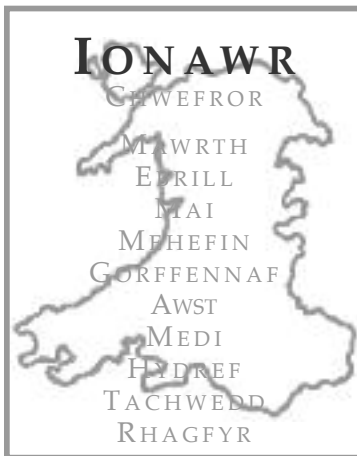
You may pay for multiple years in advance.

Diolch yn fawr.

St. David's Society of Minnesota
2737 N. Aglen Ave.
Roseville, MN 55113

Return Service Requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL



COMING SOON:

- February 14** — “The Edge of Love,” Merlins, 3601 E. Lake St. FREE.
- March 4** — “Under Milk Wood” — Live production at Ramada Plaza Hotel, 7:30 p.m., 1330 Industrial Blvd., at I-35W. MEMBERS’ PRICE \$7.00. USE YELLOW FORM INSIDE.
- March 5** — **St. David’s Luncheon** — Reception 11:30 a.m., Luncheon 12:15 p.m., Ramada Plaza Hotel, 1330 Industrial Blvd., at I-35W. \$25 adults/\$12⁵⁰ children 12 and under. USE YELLOW FORM INSIDE.
- March 14** — Welsh YouTube videos at Merlins, 3601 E. Lake St. FREE.
- April 10** — **Spring Gymanfa Ganu** — Welsh Hymn Sing, St. David’s Episcopal Church, Minnetonka. Mary Morris Mergenthal directing. Wayzata Women’s Choir. FREE WILL OFFERING.
- April 11** — “The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill But Came Down a Mountain,” Merlins, 3601 E. Lake St. FREE.

Visit us on the web:
www.minnesota-welsh.org

If you need a large-print version of the newsletter,
please call Mary Mergenthal, (651) 644-1650.