

Newyddion o Gymdeithas Dewi Sant

St. David's Society News

Spring Gymanfa Ganu April 10 in Minnetonka

The Spring Gymanfa Ganu of the St. David's Society of Minnesota will be held Sun., April 10, 2 p.m., at St. David's Episcopal Church, 13000 St. David's Road near the intersection of Shady Oak Road and Minnetonka Blvd, just one mile east of the Minnetonka Blvd exit off 494. The church's zipcode to assist in your Mapquest search is 55305.

Four-part hymn singing

Gymanfa Ganu means "Singing Session" and always refers to sacred song. Singing will be led by Mary Morris Mergenthal of St. Paul and accompanied by David Mertesdorf of Minneapolis. Please bring a gymanfa hymnal if you have one, but do not let lack of a songbook keep you from attendance. Loaner music will be available.

Special guests

The Wayzata Women's Chorus will be special guests that afternoon. The chorus has been accepted to compete in the International Eisteddfod in Llangollen, Wales, this summer. This is truly a big honor and we are happy for the chance to hear them on April 10.

More than 150,000 visitors a year attend this international festival of music and the arts in tiny Llangollen. The festival is credited with helping inspire legendary tenor Luciano Pavarotti in 1955 to pursue a professional career.



The Wayzata Women's Chorus will perform at the April 10 Gymanfa Ganu. The group will also be singing at the International Eisteddfod in Llangollen, Wales, this summer.

MARCH 2011

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Founded in 1985, this award-winning chorus is composed of women of many ages who share a love of music and enjoy performing in a variety of venues. The chorus is well respected for the depth of its repertoire. The chorus attained the Bronze Level at the Salzburg, Austria, Choral Competition in 1995 and participated in the North Carolina Music Festival in 1997. In June 2006, they performed in the Southern New England Music Festival in Boston.

The 27-member Wayzata choir sent a CD of three songs to the festival judges in September in hopes of being selected to compete in the women's choir competition. Director Carole Birch, said she sank to her knees when she heard the news of the group's invitation.

"There are so many powerful choirs in Minnesota, and to think that we got in is amazing," Birch said. "Our chorus is made up of people who really love to sing and have really good voices."

The competition will span two weeks at the end of July and early August. The Wayzata choir will compete for two days.

"When you get into this competition, the festival will put you in homes with the Welsh people, and you live with them for two days," Birch said. "If we get first place, then we go into the world competition. That is what Pavarotti won."

Te Bach after singing

All in attendance will enjoy conversation over tea and goodies in the undercroft of the church following the singing. *Te Bach* means, literally, a small tea. However, we encourage members to bring sweet or savory treats in abundance so our guests and all in attendance can enjoy a *Te Mawr* [large tea] that day.

Rides

If you need a ride or could give a ride, please contact Pam Rose, (952) 854-4743 or pamresearch@hotmail.com.

Under Milk Wood a fit and charming introduction to St. David's activities

By Susan Hunter Weir

What better way to shake off the effects of a seemingly endless winter than by taking a vacation? And, what better place to go than a small Welsh fishing village in spring?

Nine actors, under the direction of Bill Kimes and accompanied by Jan Kimes, transported 100 people from the Plaza Ramada hotel in Minneapolis to Llareggub (read it backwards). On a moonless, spring night we got to listen in on the dreams of some 60 of the town's citizens, both living and

dead. Reverend Eli Jenkins, the town's prolific poet, dreamed of winning the Eisteddfod, while Mr. Pugh dreamed of ridding himself of his dreadful wife with a little help from a book titled "Lives of the Great Poisoners." Captain Cat dreamed of his lost love, Rosie Probert, while Myfanwy Price and Mog Edwards dreamt only of each other.

In the morning (otherwise known as Act Two), the town came to life and the villagers went about their business. Mr. Willy Nilly, the town's postman, with the help of his wife, steamed open



Photos by Judith Evans Warner

Shown at rehearsal, this is the cast and director of "Under Milk Wood: A Play for Voices" by Dylan Thomas. The Readers Theatre play was presented Friday, March 4, at the Ramada Plaza Hotel. Front: Holly Windle (Mrs. Pugh); Naomi Karstad (Mrs. Ogmores-Pritchard), John Dingley (Captain Cat); Director Bill Kimes; and Janice Kimes (Sound and Music). Seated in back: Audrey McClellan (Second Voice); Michelle Storm (Mrs. Dai Bread One); and David Merry (Mog Edwards). Standing in back: Alison Kimes (Myfanwy Price); Austin Evans (Reverend Eli Jenkins); and Richard Rames (First Voice).

and read everyone's mail, as was their custom. Polly Garter sang mournfully of her lost love, and Mary Ann Sailors reminded the town that she is 83 years, three months and one day old. It was a day like any other in Llareggub.

Dylan Thomas wrote "Under Milk Wood: A Play for Voices" for radio in 1953. His language is unrivaled for its beauty and its wit, and the cast more than did it justice. Bravo and brava to a superb cast: John Dingley, Austin Evans, Naomi Karstad, Alison Kimes, Audrey McClellan, David Merry, Richard Rames, Michelle Storm and Holly Windle. Special thanks to Bill Kimes for having had the inspiration and energy to make this all come together. What better way to celebrate the 100-year birthday of the St. David's Society?

Diolch!

“ It was all very exciting to participate with such a professional and talented group. My public performances have never included anything theatrical and I was worried that I would let the side down but their enthusiasm and talent was contagious. It was a long way from reciting Bible verses every Sunday morning in Chapel in front of the congregation when I was a child, which was the custom in Wales when I was growing up! ”

...Austin Evans



Don and Mae Anderson, Northeast Minneapolis, who have been active St. David's Society members for decades, were having an evening of fun on Fri., March 4. In the background, Ada Mae Lewis of Ames, Iowa. Dr. Lewis is the president of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Assoc.

St. David's Society Board member, Pam Rose, (right) was busy selling tickets to the play and sorting out reservation questions for the Saturday luncheon. In addition, she was the contact person for rides.



Lola Roberts Christianson, (left) Little Canada, and her guest Lili Beth Frenz had clearly enjoyed the first half of the play.



Movies at Merlins

April 11 & May 9

See page 6 for details.

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the St. David's Society of Minnesota

By Janice Barbee and Susan Hunter Weir

After the great success of last year's 100th anniversary celebration of the St. David's Day Banquet, there was some concern that we Minnesota Welsh Americans would never be able to top that event. The variety and depth of talent that our members displayed at this year's banquet on Saturday, March 5, has set a new bar for subsequent events. The previous night's performance of "Under Milkwood" set the stage, so to speak, for an encore of talent at the banquet in the form of singing, composing, story-telling, dancing, and even weeding!

St. David's Society members began arriving at 11:30 a.m. to view the displays of the St. David's Society archives, excerpts from the minutes of early meetings of the Society and the Welsh Church in Minneapolis. Also on display were the answers to the survey that was conducted last year to gather members' histories, Welsh favorites, and family stories. Members were invited to buy raffle tickets and "vote" for their favorite basket filled with such things as Welsh books, videos, a hand-knitted scarf, and a bottle of Welsh whiskey!

St. David's Society President Judith Evans Warner opened the celebration and introduced Ellis Jones as Master of Ceremonies. Many past presidents of the Society were present and were recognized. Mae Howells Anderson, our archivist, told the group that the Society was originally named "The Cambro-American Society." Women were not allowed as members until 1930, and that was after four defeated/ tabled motions to do so.



The Society presented its first Outstanding Service Award to Marveen Minish (left) and her husband, Robert.

Unfortunately, Bob was unable to attend due to health concerns.

Mary Mergenthal, right, is describing the lovely glass bowl inscribed by glass cutter, John Dingley.

Mae then led the Society in singing "Happy Birthday to Us" in Welsh or English. Past President Mary Morris Mergenthal presented the Society's first Outstanding Service Award to Robert and Marveen Minish for their long-standing dedication to the Society, from very much appreciated financial support to volunteer service in many capacities.

Martha Davies from Lincoln, Neb., presented to the Society a treasure of translated and indexed Y Drych articles where Society members might find pictures and stories about their ancestors. While they ate, members enjoyed a power point presentation of early Society leaders ably handled by Judith Herbert.

We've Got Talent!

After a delicious lunch featuring leek soup, cottage pie, Welsh pasties, and three kinds of Welsh cheese, the feast of talent began. We were first delighted by the video of a television news feature showing the sunny enthusiasm of member Ruth Jones for eradicating the invasive plants that crowd out our native plants.

Our audience was then treated to what no Welsh event is complete without—beautiful and heartfelt music! Steven Hughes and his son, Hayden Hughes, both on guitar, sang six Welsh folk songs.

Our very own David Evan Thomas, a noted composer as well as an excellent pianist, performed two Welsh folk songs with flutist Amy Morris. He had arranged them, one of which, "When Morning is Breaking," had been commissioned by Ruth Jones after last year's raffle.



Celebrants each received a piece of the tasty and lovely 100th birthday cake decorated with daffodils.

John Dingley told a hysterical story about the man who wanted to get the train to stop at Llanfair P.G., the little town in Gwynedd with the longest name in the world. Then Mary Morris Mergenthal, with assistance from sign holders, had all guests sing the name several times to the tune of the hymn Ebenezer.



Society members were then bowled over by a joke as long as the name of the Welsh town it featured frequently—Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogoch. John Dingley told it with great gusto and charm, as only a Welshman could.

Mary Morris Mergenthal then conducted the audience in several songs: Ring Out the Bells for St. David/ Cenwch y Clychau I Dewi, O Beautiful for Spacious Skies, and the Welsh National Anthem/Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau. Our entertainment finished with the Welsh Dancers, Traed y Ddraig/Feet of the Dragon, garbed in old country dress, who charmed the audience with three Welsh folk dances.

The afternoon's festivities concluded with the announcements of the lucky winners of the raffle and

everyone sang God Be with You till We Meet Again. No doubt the founding members of the Society would be proud to know that Minnesota Welsh are still keeping their heritage alive 100 years later with such rich and varied talent (and perhaps surprised at the prominence of women's leadership!).



Dean Willar and his son, Evan, were guests of Evan's grandmother, Betty Willar. All are from Oakdale. There should have been a prize for Evan, as he was the youngest attendee. Congrats, Evan. Llongyfarchiadau!



Audrey and Mike McClellan were two of the Traed Y Ddraig [Feet of the Dragon] dancers who closed the enjoyable program in fine style.

Photos by Judith Evans Warner.

Letters received

FROM NEBRASKA:

On behalf of Martha and myself, I would like to thank your Society for a most enjoyable weekend of Welsh *Hwyl* [spirit]. The Readers Theater "Under Milk Wood" was charming and very professionally done. We enjoyed every minute!

The banquet Saturday was impressively well done. All the little touches, such as the little sayings at each place, the lovely centerpieces, the thoughtful arrangement of place-cards at the reserved tables to put compatible people together—it was all very professionally and graciously done. Your choice of hotel provided excellent accommodations and very good food and service at table.

The talent pool of your membership absolutely stunned me. Singing, dancing, acting, composing, playing instruments—you astound me.

I think the most amazing thing to me about the banquet was, that someone told me it had been even larger last year!

Truly, no other Society in this region comes close to having the membership, the spirit, and the talent you showed us. We are proud to be members. Diolch o Galon! [Heartfelt thanks!]

Berwyn E Jones, Ph.D., President
Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project
6220 Andrew Ct
Lincoln, NE 68512
(402) 421-8192
www.WelshHeritage.org

FROM MICHIGAN:

I think the venue was perfectly suited to the event. I also liked the luncheon and program being held in the afternoon. I think that makes it easier for everyone in the event of bad weather.

It goes without saying that I loved seeing many old friends. It also warmed my heart to see many new members. *Cymru am bydd*. [Wales forever.]

The music and dancing was beautiful and *Under Milkwood* was so good I think you could take it on the road. All the players were excellent and John was outstanding.

The food was good. All in all I would give the weekend an A+. I tried to think of some critical comment, but I can't.

Barbara Leedy, former Minnesota Society president
Grand Rapids, Michigan

FROM MINNEAPOLIS:

Judith, et. al.,

You put on a wonderful event for the St. David's 100th last weekend.

"Under Milk Wood" was so well done with great presentation, dialect, timing, and gave us a memorable experience. The performance is one that I hope can be repeated or shown to others.

Our banquet had so many nice touches, a tribute to all who worked on it. The tables with their interesting brochures, the beautifully assembled printed program. The food was lovely: the imported tasty cheeses (horse-radish! mustard seeds!), the leek soup, pasties, roasted vegetables (I took some lessons from their chef), shepherd's pie, bottled water, lovely decorated cake, all well-planned and excellent.

I enjoyed the variety of the program, loved the piece commissioned by Ruth Jones, loved having both the folk tunes by Stephen Hughes and son and the flute and piano performances. Plus the comic relief of John Dingley and learning that train station name. He is some performer!

Wonderful displays and slide shows, raffle baskets and prizes.

Thanks to all the people who planned this so carefully. It was evident that many people used their deep creative skills and their love of things Welsh to put together our lovely spring event.

Thank you all!

Lois Willand

FROM COON RAPIDS:

Whoever was in charge of the program and luncheon, you are to be thanked for the tremendous job done on this year's 100th Anniversary Celebration.

I was sitting next to three guys, and we all loved the cheese from Wales.

The program was especially entertaining, and I can't believe how you come up with new things every year.

Keep up the good work and know you are appreciated!

Lavonne Hayes

Movies at Merlins

**April 11 — The Englishman Who Went Up
a Hill But Came Down a Mountain**
May 9 — Under Milkwood

Merlins Pub is at 3601 Lake St., Mpls.
Both movies begin at 6 p.m.

**Both events are free, though we
encourage attendees to eat supper
and have a drink to help Merlins.**

**Visit us on the web:
www.minnesotawelsh.org**

Twin Cities Welsh Society started 100 Years Ago

By Madogydd

From *Y Drych*, March 23, 1911

Translated by Martha A. Davies, Lincoln, Nebraska, January 2011

MINNEAPOLIS, MARCH 18

This year St. David's Day was celebrated by uniting the Welsh of the two cities, St. Paul and Minneapolis for a Banquet at Dayton's Tea Rooms. About two hundred people came to the feast. After an excellent meal there was a program of speeches and singing and the announcement that the main reason for meeting was to form a Welsh-American society. The loyal-hearted Welshman, Dr. David Owen Thomas, was the master of ceremonies and he did his work excellently. The Rev. H.P. Morgan gave a welcoming address and the Rev. Stanley B. Roberts D.D. spoke on "The Welsh as Indispensible Elements in the Development of the United States" which was pleasing to all. The main address was given by Lemuel F. Owen, a young attorney of St. Paul and a faithful member of the Welsh Church. His

subject was "The Benefit of Forming a Welsh-American Society in the Twin Cities." This friend is a fascinating and able speaker and we are proud of him as a warmhearted and patriotic Welshman. He treated his subject with all fairness and made a good impression on everyone. We also had some solos from Miss Emily E. Morris, daughter of the well-known Welshman, Harry Morris of Minneapolis. Miss Morris has a bright future as a singer. Other singers were Mrs. John A. Dill of Nebraska, Minn., D.M. Jones and O.T. Morris. They all were called upon for encores. Accompanists were Dr. W. Rhys Herbert and Miss Lizzie Morgans. After informal discussing of the address by L.F. Owen, it was decided that a Welsh-American society be formed. Arthur V. Jones was chosen as chairman. Because the time

was late, permission was given to A.V. Jones to select a committee of nine to draw up regulations, etc. before the next meeting. Owen Williams of St. Paul read a poem. It was obvious that everyone had enjoyed themselves beyond expectations and they met other people that they hadn't known before.

We are also glad to announce in *Y Drych* that the Welsh Church in Minneapolis has been a success. During the last year it has increased by 17 in number making a total of 206 with nine more members than that. We are very confident that we will finish our new chapel during the next summer. There is only the main floor to be finished and we will make every effort in this so we will have the privilege of opening one of the most beautiful Welsh chapels in the States.

The St. David's Society of Minnesota wishes to thank Martha Davies, of Lincoln, Nebraska, for the gift of two volumes of translated articles about Minneapolis and St. Paul from the North American Welsh Newspaper, Y Drych, 1870-1909 and 1910-1950. Martha presented this special gift at our Centennial Luncheon on March 5, 2011.

News of the Well-Read Dragons

By Bob Minish

Twenty Thousand Saints and a few Sinners on Bardsey Island

Wikipedia, an Internet encyclopedia, is a wonderful source of information. However, the authors occasionally paint with a very broad brush.

The February selection for the Well Read Dragons Book Club, *Twenty Thousand Saints*, is mentioned in the Wikipedia description of Bardsey Island. After noting that the author, Fflur Dafydd spent six weeks on the island under a Welsh literary residence grant, Wikipedia then states: "Her play, 'Hugo' was inspired by her stay, and she has produced two novels, *Atyniad* (English: Attraction), which won the prose medal at the 2006 Eisteddfod; and *Twenty Thousand Saints*, winner of the Oxfam Hay Prize, which tells how the women of the island, starved of men, turn to each other."

Our St. David's Book Club members were unanimous in their opinion that such a characterization hardly does justice to an imaginative and captivating tale.

Ms. Dafydd masterfully weaves much of Bardsey Island's uniqueness and history around a cast of very disparate characters. These include: four nuns who were on the island for an annual conference of hermits; two boys who grew up on the island and had now returned—one to conduct an archaeological dig—the other who had just been released from prison on a charge of murdering his friend's mother, whose body had never been found; and a documentary-maker intent on filming the island's inhabitants in other than saintly behavior.

True, with many more women than men on the island, there are some lesbian scenes, but there are heterosexual encounters as well. The women are expecting a man to arrive, a writer-in-residence who would be spending several weeks on the island. Instead, they get Mererid, a young female poet. "Another woman," groaned Greta. "That's all we need."

The novel proceeds with the unraveling of a mystery, interspersed with comical elements, and immerses the reader in the quirks of an historic island. Whether there ever were 20,000,000 saints on the island is shrouded in ancient history. Regardless, the saints are ever present, even yielding up some bones in the archaeological dig—or did they? Bardsey was an important site for pilgrimages in the Middle Ages. Dafydd provides a modern equivalent for her many characters.

The Bardsey Lighthouse has been guiding ships since 1821. With its height and bright light located in a major migratory route, it causes the death of many birds, despite the efforts of The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Dafydd's description of one dead bird would alarm any bird lover.



Leri, the filmmaker, "started rolling, focusing intently on the bird's dead face. It didn't look peaceful as she was half expecting it to look, but crazed, manic, still holding in its crystal gaze the horror of its last hour."

Wales and the Welsh identity and language feature prominently in the novel. Ms. Dafydd's first language is Welsh. Her parents were Welsh-speaking as was the community she grew up in and the majority of her education was through the medium of Welsh. This shows in the importance she places upon Wales achieving a measure of self government. One of the major characters, Vivian, left Wales for Bardsey when Wales' first attempt at devolution failed. "Twenty thousand saints have got to be better than a hundred thousand disbelievers."

At the end of the novel when Vivian and her son return to the mainland, he told her that "Wales isn't like it used to be. We're strong now. Stronger than ever. The language is strong, too. People don't have to live on the margins anymore." But, not all the characters are partisans of the Welsh language. According to Sister Mary Catherine, "A congregation of hermits only speaks two languages—English and silence—that's how God defines bilingualism."

Eventually the major characters return to the mainland to resume their lives. When Mererid is finally able to return to a favorite restaurant, the once familiar meal is something "she can live without. She craves those things that they could make last on Bardsey—jar of olives, a piece of goat cheese...She realizes that she'll have to rely on those things to bring Bardsey back, now, for in every sip of the too-rich orange drink, she's being sterilized once more to mainland life, in all its ordinariness."

For those of us who do not read Welsh, we now are able to appreciate the talents of this multi-faceted young woman. She achieved her Ph.D on the poetry of R.S.Thomas, won two Eisteddfod prizes—in 2006 she won the Prose Medal and in 2010 won the Daniel Owen Memorial Prize for a Welsh-language novel, *Y Llufrgell*. When not writing, she makes good music. She won the Female Artist of the Year award at the Radio Cymru Rock and Pop Awards 2010. Her album, "Byd Bach" reached number one in the Welsh charts.

Our April selection is *Stranger within the Gates*, a collection of short stories by Bertha Thomas.

Most of the stories appeared in the beginning of the 20th century. They are republished as part of the Honno Classics series, which brings writings in English by women authors from Wales that have been out-of-print to a new generation of readers. One of our Book Club's earlier selections, *A View Across the Valley: Short Stories by Women from Wales, c 1850-1950*, included a story by Thomas.

Please join us on April 2 at Urban Harvest, 2311 18th Ave. NE, Minneapolis, 55418-4819. Those who wish to eat lunch together arrive at noon. Book discussion begins at 12:30 p.m.

If you are interested in coming, you're welcome even if you haven't been able to read the book.



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11 Tachwedd / November 2010

2010/CASG/DERB/GTD/SEE

Judith A. Herbert
St. David's Society of MN Director & Webmaster
Beyond Solutions Consulting, LLC
SCANDIA
Minnesota 55073
USA

Annwyl Judith Herbert

Y mae'n bleser mawr gennyf gydnabod derbyn y rhodd a nodir isod a dymunaf ddiolch yn gynnes
ichwi am eich cefnogaeth i'r Llyfrgell Genedlaethol.

Dear Judith Herbert

*It gives me much pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the gift indicated below and I ask you to
accept my warm thanks for your support of the National Library.*

Yr eiddoch yn gywir/*Yours sincerely*

Llyfrgellvdd/Librarian

Newyddion o Gymdeithas Dewi Sant
St. David's Society news
November 2001 (v.23, issue 4) –March 2009 (v.26, issue 2)
Some issues are missing.

Scholarship Reminder

The St. David's Foundation committee will honor requests for scholarships received by April 1, 2011. There are funds available for eligible persons in the St. David's Society who wish to pursue studies in Welsh music, literature, language or dance. Several members have taken advantage of this opportunity over the past years and now enjoy personal satisfaction in the rewards of helping to promote and sustain their Welsh heritage.

Contact Don Anderson, (612) 789-8923, or Betty Kinsey (612) 871-7587 for information and application forms.

Dragon News

News of Society Members & Friends



SUNSHINE REPORT: Betty Kinsey, the Society Sunshine chairwoman, reports sending cards to:

Larry Moore — surgery

Ruth Jones — heart surgery

Robert Minish — Knee replacement

Kim Corbin — father died

Michael & Karen Wojohn — death in family

Helen Beggs — cheery greeting she was in the hospital

Russell Griffin — 85th birthday and also fell

Berwyn Jones — knee surgery

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



See **Richard Rames as a pirate!** He will participate again in the Gilbert & Sullivan Very Light Opera Company performance of *Pirates of Penzance* weekends March 18– April 10. All shows are at the Howard Conn Fine Arts Center at 1900 Nicollet Ave. S., Mpls, 55403. Tickets are nearly gone. See chart of what's still available at <http://gsvloc.org/tickets/ticket-availability/>



John Dingley will be celebrating his 65th birthday Wed., April 20, starting at 6 pm. in the poetry lounge at Kierans on Block E, Minneapolis, 6th street and 1st Ave. N.

Park under Block E or the old Dayton ramp on 7th St. No gifts please. He insists his gift will be your presence.



Messages from **Mae Howells Anderson:** "I want to say diolch yn fawr [many thanks] to all my Welsh friends for their prayers and cards during my recent back surgery and recovery."

On a different note: Mae lost a red-handled needle-nosed plier at the St. David's luncheon. If you happened to pick it up, please advise Mae at (612) 789-8923.



Another lost item:
The Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlantysiliogogoch sign went missing at the luncheon, too. If you know where it is, please contact Mary Mergenthal, (651) 644-1650.

Membership News

New Member: Martha H. Hatcher
3941 Brown Lane
Minnetonka, MN 55345
mhatcher11@gmail.com
(651) 253-5201

Address Changes/Additions:

Winifred Goode
18605 Excelsior Blvd #213
Minnetonka, MN 55345
(952) 934-3315

Name correction: **AdaMae Lewis**
E-mail correction: **adamaelewis@gmail.com**

Events of interest

British Isles Days, April 29–30, Twin Cities.

Hear David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGA, FIGRS, chief genealogical officer of FamilySearch.org at Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie.

On Fri., April 29, there will be an afternoon bus tour of Lakewood Cemetery. That evening, back at the college, Rencher will speak: "The Sun Never Sets on the Data Empire."

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

Kay Gavin will present a session on Welsh genealogy. The 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, 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, all events will take place at Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie.

4th Welsh Heritage Festival, October 7–10,

Wymore, Neb., at Great Plains Welsh Heritage Centre.

There are new exhibits; the popular cemetery crawl will be repeated; plus a Noson Lawen featuring a variety of talent from attendees...could be you! John Good from Phoenix, Ariz., who performed at our St. David's Day event in 2010, will be singing penillion with an Omaha harpist.

Check www.WelshHeritage.org or write Great Plains Welsh Heritage Centre, Box 253, Wymore, NE 68466.

10 Advance registration is required.

OFFICERS & REPRESENTATIVES

President Judith Evans Warner, (763) 522-1612, ('11)
Vice-President ROOM FOR YOU HERE!
Secretary ROOM FOR YOU HERE!
Treasurer Ron Adams, (952) 237-0506, ('12)

Directors

Janice Barbee, (763) 544-9396 ('12)
Karen Conradi-Jones, (651) 639-1688
Kay Gavin, (651) 484-1778, ('11)
Judy Herbert, (651) 433-4870
Bill Kimes, (763) 862-3130
Karen Kidwell, (952) 236-0955, ('10)
Pam Rose, (952) 854-4743,
Susan Hunter Weir, (612) 874-9233

Investments — Ron Adams
Archivist — Mae Howells Anderson
Cards & Remembrances — Betty Kinsey
Past-President — Mary Mergenthal
Membership Chairperson — Kay Gavin
Newsletter Editor — Mary Mergenthal
General Sales — Marveen Minish
T-shirt & Bag Sales — Karen Kidwell & Judith Warner
Web Master — Judy Herbert

Officers of St. David's Foundation —
Don Anderson (pres.), Mae Anderson, Betty Kinsey

**Open positions and replacements for
Board members whose terms are completed
must be filled at the June Annual Meeting.**

**Please contact Judith Evans Warner if you
have questions, interest in serving, or some-
one to suggest.**

Next Newsletter Deadline: May 1

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

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

**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 either
entity in your will.**

**For information on the St. David's Society,
please contact Ron Adams, (952) 237-0506.**

**For information on the St. David's
Foundation, please contact
Don Anderson, (612) 789-8923.**

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

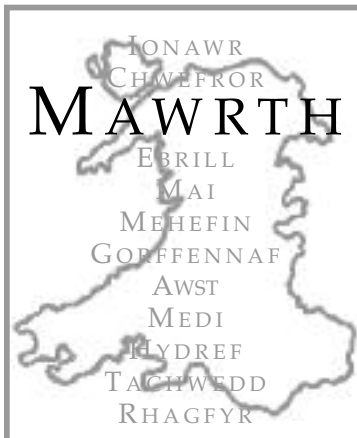
Membership year is July 1–June 30.
You may pay for multiple years in advance.

Diolch yn fawr.

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

Return Service Requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL



COMING UP:

SPRING GYMANFA GANU — Sunday, April 10, 2 p.m.

St. David's Episcopal Church, Minnetonka

**"The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill But
Came Down a Mountain" — Monday, April 11, 6 p.m.**

Merlins Rest, 3601 E. Lake St., Minneapolis

"Under Milk Wood" — Monday, April 11, 6 p.m.

Merlins Rest, 3601 E. Lake St., Minneapolis

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She will notify you when the next issue is available on the Society's web page.

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