

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

## **St. David's Luncheon set for Sat., Feb. 28, at the Ramada Plaza Hotel again**

Plan to join members and friends of the St. David's Society of Minnesota at our annual remembrance of the death of St. David, the patron saint of Wales, who is said to have died on March 1, 569.

The headline tells you we're celebrating at a luncheon the Saturday before his actual Saint Day. We'll be at the same hotel as in the past few years: the Ramada Plaza Hotel, 1330 Industrial Blvd., NE Mpls, 55413, just south of Hwy. 35W. This year we'll return to the room we've previously used, the Itasca Ballroom, with access from the parking lot on the Industrial Blvd. side of the hotel, or the main lobby.

Come at 11:30 a.m. to register, pick up your name tag, greet old friends and visit with new ones. Seating will be self-chosen.

**If you need a ride to this event**, please contact Mary Morris Mergenthal by Mon., Feb. 23.

**If you'd be able to provide a ride** to someone in your area, please also contact Mary by Mon., Feb. 23.

**To register for the meal and event, use the form inserted in this newsletter** (*people reading the issue online, please be sure to note the separate registration doc.*).

As we commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sinking of the Lusitania at the St. David's Day Banquet, we also want to remember the many kinds of ships that brought our ancestors to America. We invite you to bring the names and dates of the ship(s) that carried your ancestors, if you have this information. If you have copies of passenger lists with your ancestors' names or pictures of the ships, please bring those as well. Who knows, maybe you'll meet someone whose ancestors sailed on the same ship as yours did! (You still have time to do some research on-line! Ancestry.com is free at Hennepin County and Ramsey County libraries.)

Contact Board member Janice Barbee with questions.  
janicegwb@yahoo.com or  
leave message at (763) 544-9396

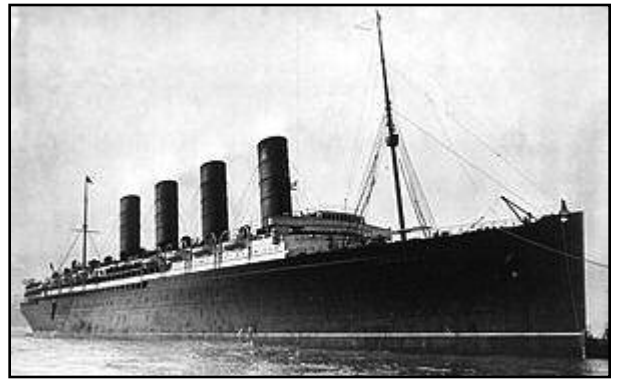
If possible, get the report of your ancestor's travel to Janice beforehand. If not possible, still bring it Feb. 28.

JANUARY 2015

Volume 37, Issue 1



## **Remember the Lusitania!**



*RMS Lusitania, briefly the largest world's largest passenger ship, was torpedoed by a German U-boat on May 7, 1915, and took just 18 minutes to sink. 1,153 passengers and crew drowned. 128 of them were Americans.*

A commemoration in word and song of the 1915 sinking of the Cunard liner, which led to US involvement in World War I, with special attention to the dozens of Welsh passengers and crew aboard, buoyed by period popular songs and a performance in Welsh of Joseph Parry's 23rd Psalm, courtesy of Margaret Williams Carr.

Any who would like to join a group of singers to perform the composition above, should contact David Evan Thomas at [det@davidevanthomas.com](mailto:det@davidevanthomas.com).

Calling amateur or professional historians! Any who would enjoy helping David determine which facts to highlight should also contact him at email above.

Right now, go to the middle insert, please, indicate meal choices and write a check for the number of people in your party. Please make your check payable to the St. David's Society of Minnesota.

Please mail form and payment to Pam Rose,  
8514 13th Ave. S,  
Bloomington, MN  
55425.

**DEADLINE IS MON., FEB. 23!**

**Go to next page for news of two January events.**

# COMING EVENTS

## Sgwrsio Cymraeg

*By Melvyn Jones*

Several of us Welsh-language learners (and Welsh-language-learner wannabes) have decided to get together (monthly, we hope, but at least every other month) to practice speaking the language. We hope the practice will gradually polish the rust off of our previous learning and help us learn more.

We welcome anyone who would like to participate—at any level. Our first meeting will be on January 25, beginning at 2:00 p.m. We'll meet at the home of Melvyn Jones and Esmé Evans. We will converse, possibly engage in other language exercises, and plan future meetings.

Then we will adjourn to Merlins Rest at Lake St. and 36<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Minneapolis, where we will speak more Welsh, if we can, during the St. David's Society's pub evening.

**Melvyn & Esmé live at 1439 Grantham St., St. Paul 55108. You'll see Y Ddraig Goch above their front door.**

**Their phone number is 651-645-1245.**

**Melvyn's cell phone number is 651-808-3120.**

**Grantham St. is less than a mile east of Hwy. 280. Coming from Hwy. 280, take Como to Hendon (first regular street turning left). Continue 4 blocks to Grantham, turn right.**

## NAFOW in Columbus September 3–6

The 2015 North American Festival of Wales will be held in Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 3–6. Among its many features will be the 84<sup>th</sup> Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu.

The event is sponsored by the Welsh North American Association (WNAA) and hosted by the Welsh Society of Central Ohio.

### Festival highlights:

- Thursday evening opening concert by **Calan**, a vibrant traditional folk group straight from Wales;
- Saturday evening Grand Concert by **Côr y Penrhyn Bethesda**. This group was formed in 1893, based in the old quarrying village of Bethesda in the Ogwen Valley, one of the strongholds of the Welsh language.
- Featured with the choir will be Welsh soprano, **Gwawr Edwards**. Longtime members of our Society may recall Dafydd Edwards, Welsh tenor who sang here a couple of times decades ago. Gwawr is the daughter of Dafydd and Ann Edwards.

Tours, seminars, a marketplace and informal late-night singing will delight, as usual.

For further details about NAFOW, visit [www.nafow.org](http://www.nafow.org). You can purchase tickets and print forms for all events at this site. Tickets will be available by March 15.

If you are a member of the national organization, you will be given a choice to receive printed registration material in a couple of months.

Continue to #1439, across street from Murray Jr. High.

Coming from St. Paul on Como, you can go same way or turn right earlier on Luther Place (next to St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church). Continue one block; turn left on Grantham. #1439 is not too far along the first long block.

## St. Dwynwen's Day pub gathering

January 25 is traditionally the day to honor St. Dwynwen, the Welsh patron saint of lovers.

She is no longer recognised by the Vatican as being an official saint, but Dwynwen—whose names translates to “she who leads a blessed life”—enjoys great popularity throughout Wales, especially in her home county of Anglesey.

Here in Minnesota, we'll celebrate St. Dwynwen at Merlins Cafe on Lake Ave. and 36<sup>th</sup> Ave., near the Mississippi River. Come at 4 p.m., or later if you must, for conversation, food and a pint or two.

All are welcome! All are invited to join the fun. Bring a friend or two, as well.

**The Hyatt Regency Columbus**, 350 N. High St., Columbus, OH 43215, is the headquarters hotel. Festival rates are as follows: Sept. 2–6, single, double, triple & quad rooms: \$119 + tax. Reserve Festival rooms in this block online at [www.nafow.org](http://www.nafow.org) (click “NAFOW accommodations”) or call toll free **1-888-421-1442** and provide NAFOW reservation code: “North American Festival of Wales 2015.”

Extend your stay and take advantage of Festival room rates from Aug. 28–Sept. 12. Early booking recommended as extended stay rooms are subject to room availability

The tradition for this annual event began in 1929 when over 4,000 people gathered at Niagara Fall for the First National Gymanfa Ganu. In 2014, of course, Minnesota Welsh had the pleasure of hosting this event.

If you are not currently a member of the Welsh North American Association, why not join now? WNAA members receive a quarterly newsletter, discounted Festival Passes, and help support and preserve Welsh heritage in North America.

### For further assistance contact:

**The Welsh North American Association  
International Headquarters**

Box 1054, Trumansburg, NY 14886

Phone: 607-279-7402

Fax: 877-448-6633

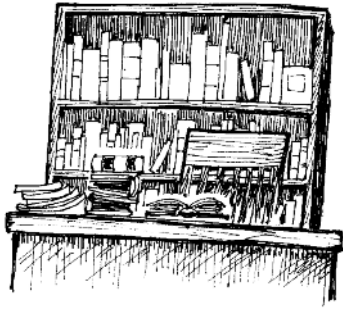
E-mail: [IHQ@theWNAA.org](mailto:IHQ@theWNAA.org)

[www.theWNAA.org](http://www.theWNAA.org)

# The Well-Read Dragons travel to *Y Wladfa*, the Welsh colony in Patagonia

By Bob Minish

The traveling at the December meeting was vicariously through the descriptive travel narrative, *Beyond the Pampas, In Search of Patagonia*, by German born author, Imogen Rhia Herrad.



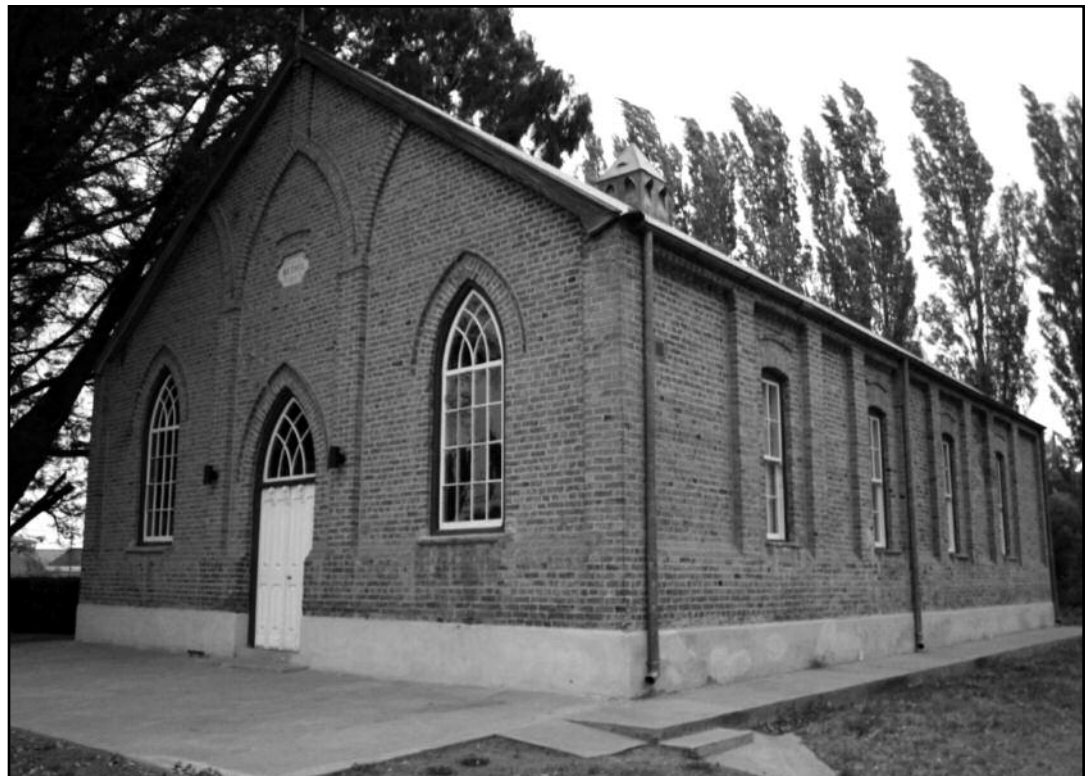
Art by Dan Proud.

A Celtic Studies course while a university student led her to teaching German in schools in Aberystwyth and then to an intensive course in the Welsh language. When Imogen went to Patagonia unable to speak Spanish, she was able to converse in Welsh. The book reflects her impressions of the country, the culture, the people and the history of Welsh settlement, which began in 1865. Being a foreigner who writes about traveling in place where Welsh was still spoken regularly reminded me of George Borrow's *Wild Wales*, a travel narrative written by an Englishman in Wales in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century who was fluent in Welsh.

As a traveler writing about Patagonia, Imogen is in illustrious company. Charles Darwin studied fossils he found in Patagonia and wrote about his travels in *The Voyage of the Beagle*. Her opening sentence depicts the bleak countryside that greeted the Welsh colonists: "IT REVEALS ITSELF SLOWLY. At first there is just the land, flat as a plate under the huge blue sky. The earth is a bare, dusty brown. Not much grows here except for scrubby greygreen bushes." The book is much more than a travelogue and reveals much more than the land. She focuses on the people she meets and gets them to tell their stories. The reader follows her visits to remote farms and settlements through long bus rides and many long walks through the countryside. She reveals much of the history of the Colony and the plight of the natives for whom the land given to the Welsh had been their homeland for generations.

The suffering of the Mapuche and the Tehuelche people at the hands of the settlers and the Argentine governments echos that of our Native Americans. The Desert Campaign to exterminate the "Indigenas" brings to mind the Sand Creek Massacre in Colorado in 1864.

***Bethel Chapel in Gaiman, Patagonia.***



Imogen's personal growth through her interaction with the people and the land is reflected in her acceptance of an invitation to see how people lived in the the remote area of the "meseta," the high plateau country. At a community center gathering in a remote village, Esquel, where many Mapuche live, Imogen meets Juana Luz, a woman who extends an invitation: "You should come and see how we live," and tells Imogen, "Come to my house, I live outside Esquel, a few hours by coach, and a couple of hours' walking after that." A couple of years after that Imogen accepts the invitation and makes the journey, including the lengthy walk to witness a Mapuche religious ceremony, a *ngillatun*. After the ceremony and the long walk back to the road, her friend, Catalina, says, "You'll come back," As one reads the conclusion to Imogen's narrative, the opening words, "It reveals itself slowly," find an appropriate counterpoint:

"We speed towards the mountains of Esquel, the car incredibly fast on the bumpy gravel road after a couple of days of moving at walking pace only.

It's the end of one journey.  
The beginning of another."

***Our next discussion will be of David Jones in the Great War by Thomas Dilworth on Sat., Feb. 7, 11:30 a.m. at Davanni's in Arden Hills.***

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

# Society leadership needs mid-year 2015

At the Society's Annual Meeting near the end of this fiscal year (June 30, 2015), we will be electing a new President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, as well as two or more Directors.

Please read about those positions below and consider your skills, interests and time.

Might you be the next active leader of the St. David's Society of Minnesota?

## President

The President of the St. David's Society oversees the work of other officers, the Board of Directors, and of the Society as a whole. That does not mean that she/he must attend to every detail of the same, but the president will keep an eye ahead to see what events/celebrations/ needs are coming up; as well as an eye backward to be sure that good records were kept of past events and that financial matters were directed to the treasurer in a timely manner.

Given that the Society normally hosts only a few large events per year (St. David's luncheon, Spring Gymanfa Ganu, Christmas Tea) and other more relaxed events (pub nights, movie festivals, etc.), the president's task is mainly one of delegating responsibility to other members.

The president's term is two years, renewable once.

Mary's term is complete as of June 30, 2015. She has chosen not to renew.

## Vice-President

The Vice-President of the Society performs the duties of president in the president's absence and other such duties as the Board of Directors determines. The vice-president should be willing to at least consider moving into the presidency when that term is expired, or when the president must give the position up.

The vice-president's term is two years, renewable once.

Judith Evans Warner is currently serving in this way, on a *pro tem* basis.

## Secretary

The secretary's term is two years, renewable once.

The secretary keeps minutes of all meetings of the board of directors and the annual meeting and sees that those minutes are filed with the Archive Committee. Pam Rose has served in this position for two years.

If you have questions about any of the positions above or might consider being nominated for one of them, please contact Mary Mergenthal, 651-644-1650; 612-670-8510 cell; or [mary.mergenthal@gmail.com](mailto:mary.mergenthal@gmail.com).

## Treasurer

Duties of the treasurer: Track finances of the society, including providing monthly reports on the financial status to the board; deal with the bank and reconcile figures with the bank account monthly; make deposits and payments and track deposits and payments reported by others; forward Life Membership receipts to the mutual fund; file IRS form 990-N every year for the Society and the Foundation and notify the relevant president that this is done; file the Nonprofit Corporation Annual Renewal for the state every year for the Society and the Foundation and notify the relevant president that this is done; and maintain records in such a manner that the required audit of the books when the next treasurer is elected can be done in an efficient manner.

This is not as tough as it may sound; in particular the annual filings are mainly a matter of making sure that each filing gets done in a timely manner.

**Ron Adams' term as treasurer is complete as of June 30, 2014. We need a new treasurer!**

The society cannot operate without a treasurer, and Ron cannot continue if we are to be in accordance with our bylaws. A term as treasurer is for two years, and the term can be renewed for an additional two years if the treasurer wants to stay in the position.

If someone wants to step forward between now and June 30, Ron can work with you to ease you into the position. If that person wants to continue to use the same software that the Society is currently using, Ron will assist in loading it onto that computer, show him/her how it works and will continue to be available to respond to future questions.

The position does not include the management of our investment portfolio, but it does require some accounting of the portfolio. This accounting is not a problem, as the fund management provides everything needed to keep up and stay in balance.

If you have questions about the position of treasurer above or investment manager on the following page; or if you might consider being nominated for one of them, please contact Ron Adams, 952-237-0506; or [cymraeg@comcast.net](mailto:cymraeg@comcast.net).

## Copies of the By-Laws of the Society

If you'd be interested in a copy of the By-Laws, corrected as of June 2014, please notify Mary Mergenthal, current president. Please indicate if you wish an electronic or print copy.

## Investment Manager

The society is in need of someone to step forward to be a backup person for Ron Adams in managing the Society's investment portfolio.

Ron is willing to work with someone to train him or her in investing. This training can be of considerable value in planning your personal retirement plan, as Ron has considerable training, experience and success in avoiding the pitfalls and handling the ups and downs of the market.

Our portfolio is a simple one, two mutual funds which we keep an eye on but plan to stay in for the long haul.

This is not an elected position, but one for which Board approval would be required.

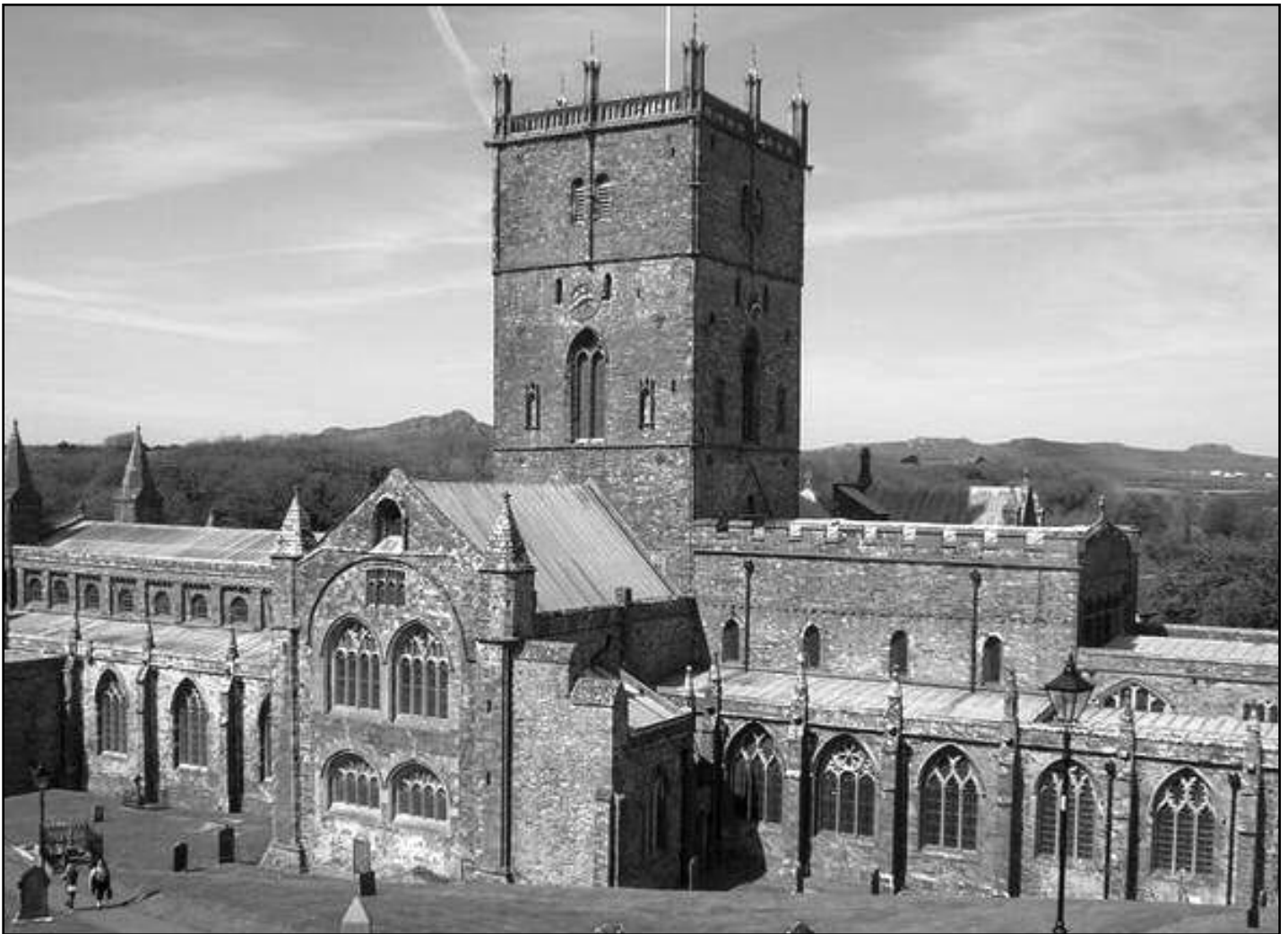
This person would work with Ron to coordinate with the treasurer about new payments into and withdrawals from investments; track investments including dividends and long-term and short-term gains and quarter-end prices; report detailed quarterly results to the treasurer and summarized results to the board; keep up with developments at the mutual fund to make sure we want to continue to keep our investments where they are.

Note: Russ and Tom at On-Trac Financial are available to talk to as our advisors in dealing with the mutual funds.

**Prefer to receive the newsletter online?**

**Notify Kay Gavin at [kaywgavin@hotmail.com](mailto: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.**



*St. David's Cathedral in Pembrokeshire. Since the 6<sup>th</sup> century there has been a church on this site. For the past 1,500 years prayer and worship has been offered to God on a daily basis. That continues to this day.*

# Those at Christmas Tea enjoyed a happy afternoon

About 40 members and friends enjoyed the Prynawn Llawen [Happy Afternoon] on Sat., Dec. 13, at University Lutheran Church of Christ.

Thanks to all who participated in the program (besides those shown in photos here, they included Trilby Busch reading her own poetry and Shannon Pearl King reading a mixture of winter and Christmas poetry.

The program ended with a Christmas carol sing-along and the singing of Dymunwn Nadolig Llawen [We Wish You a Merry Christmas].

After that everyone moved to the Lounge, where Judith Evans Warner, Ilene Alexander, Pam Rose and Wendy Warner had laid out an attractive table using treats attendees had contributed.

*Pam Rose of Bloomington was one of many who enjoyed the happy afternoon.*



*St. David's Minstrels included David Evan Thomas, Richard Rames, Do*





*Suzanne Ackermann of White Bear Township was another happy guest at the Christmas tea.*



*Meredith Leary Johnson played string bass and her son, Jack Johnson, accompanied her on a couple of delightful numbers.*



*Jan Barbee, Esme Evans, Jan Barbee, Maria Bartholdi, and Trilby Busch.*

# Harps for Patagonia

The year 2015 will be the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “Y Wladfa,” the Welsh colony which was established in Patagonia, southern Argentina, in 1865. It was an act of faith by many poor people who were seeking a better life on the other side of the world. Against all the odds, the colony was established successfully, and the Welsh language and culture are miraculously still alive in Chubut today. One of the founders of “Y Wladfa,” Michael D. Jones, took a Triple Harp from Wales to Patagonia. The harp is kept at the Welsh Museum in Gaiman, Patagonia, and symbolises the importance of the harp to the early settlers.

Funds are being raised to send two Celtic harps from Wales to Patagonia as a practical way of helping to keep the music traditions alive there.

Harpist Elinor Bennett is the organiser, supported by Canolfan Gerdd William Mathias. She appeals to every person who received harp lessons anytime in the past, to contribute a small sum of £10 or £15 towards the project. Large sums of £150 to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary would help significantly to reach the target of raising £10,000 by January 1st, 2015.

The French harp manufacturers, Les Harpes Camac, have generously promised matching sponsorship by donating a harp for half its price if the appeal can secure the remainder.

Elinor Bennett says: “It would be wonderful if we as harpists and harp-lovers could buy new harps to give the children of Patagonia the means of sustaining Welsh musical traditions. For several years, I have dreamt of helping young people in Patagonia to have access to good-quality modern harps. The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary seems to be the right time to turn this dream into reality. Two teachers give harp lessons there, but finding suitable instruments for their pupils is a huge problem.

“My hope is to raise funds to buy two Celtic harps—one for the Welsh community in Dyffryn Camwy, the other for the community in Cwm Hyfryd in the Andes. The success of the plan depends entirely on people donating small sums. I appeal to every person who has ever received harp lessons to help achieve this objective.

“Over the last quarter of a century thousands of children have had harp lessons throughout Wales. I hope that most

of these would be glad to contribute a small sum to promote Welsh culture in Argentina. ‘Harpists’ includes everyone who ever had a harp lesson, their parents and lovers of the harp in Wales and further afield.

“This will be a both a symbolic and practical act to support the amazing work that many people do in Patagonia to keep the Welsh culture alive.”

TOGETHER, WE CAN!!

**The appeal was launched November 8, 2014, and is administered at Canolfan Gerdd William Mathias(CGWM). Donations can be sent via**

- **Mydonate.bt.com**
- **by check ( “Harp to Patagonia/ CGWM “) or**
- **in cash delivered to CGWM, Galeri, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1SQ**

Notes:

- Elinor Bennett will travel to Patagonia for St David’s Day 2015 and hopes to give a performance on the new harp(s).
- The geography of the Chubut Valley is such that there are, in reality, two Welsh communities—in the Andes and around Trelew in the Chubut Valley, separated by several hundred miles of unpopulated terrain. Elinor therefore hopes that enough support will be given to the project to secure two harps.
- A list of donors will be kept in the Welsh centres in Patagonia.

## JUST IN:

From a recent note from Elinor Bennett:

**“We have already succeeded in raising enough money to buy one instrument from Camac Harps and now hope to secure another harp from the Welsh harp makers, Telynau Teifi, a company based in Llandysul, Ceredigion. The next test will be to make sure that it gets through the Argentinian customs without too much trouble!**

*After conversation about this harp appeal and discussion of the book (see p. 3), Shannon King, member of the Well-Read Dragons, composed the poem on the following page and read it at the book club’s December meeting. Members requested that we present it here as well, which Shannon has kindly given us permission to do.*



## Who Plays the Harp in Patagonia?

*By Shannon King*

Who plays the harp in Patagonia?  
I would like to know.

Is it Eirlis Griffith or Merridith,  
in the teashop in Trelew?  
Is it Morgan le Fay?  
Who stowed away  
and brought her music, too?

Who sings to the harp in Patagonia?

Do Owain, Blodwen and Lewis  
sing in the chapel  
where Clara leads the choir?  
Do they sing songs of Y Wladfa  
remembering folks in Aberdare?

And when Rachel Jenkins long ago  
led the men to dig,  
Did they sing Cwm Rhondda or Crugybar?  
And dance a little jig?

Who listens to the harp in Patagonia?

Do the jackass penguins bray?  
When the good folk of Gaiman kneel  
in their pews to pray?

Who listened to the harp in Patagonia in  
those times so far away?  
I would like to think

it was the Patagones, Tehuelche and  
Mapuche,  
who riding along one day  
heard beauteous sounds  
never heard before,  
and said "Oh! Let these people stay!"

## Hanes Cymry Minnesota (1895)

### A History of the Welsh in Minnesota

#### From the recent newsletter of the Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project

We're making good progress in preparing our new book about the Welsh in Minnesota. Translation of the Welsh language section, 132 pages, has been completed and revised. We have located an experienced editor who will prepare the manuscript and hundreds of photographs for the printer.

Many wonderful stories are seeing the light of day in English for the first time. Here's a lively tale about an eisteddfod (Welsh poetry competition) in the area around Horeb chapel in Blue Earth County, Minnesota.

"The first eisteddfod we remember was on the 4th of July some 23 years ago [about 1871]. As it happened we had much more fun preparing for the event than at the actual eisteddfod itself. The locale was a low-lying spot behind the house of John Shields. We cut tiers of seats into a natural bank of land and covered the seats with hay. These were the first seats with cushions ever seen in Minnesota and everyone praised them. We built a platform in front of the seats. There was a tree or two for shade and a clear stream ran in front of the platform. All of us felt that our fine preparations would ensure the success of the program.

"On the morning of the 4<sup>th</sup> everyone was ready long before the Minnesota sun appeared. In a little while there were clouds of dust were being stirred up on the roads by large wagons coming in from every direction. The immense prairie was dotted with wagons drawn by horses, mules and even horned oxen. Long before starting time, all the seats were full.

It wasn't long before we were aware of an uncomfortable fact. Our comfortable seats had been taken over by fleas, so many fleas that, if lumped together, they would weigh as much as a large hare. There would be no way to get rid of the fleas without everyone leaving the area so we kept on and, all things considered, we had a good and successful eisteddfod.

In those days the land seemed to produce fleas. It made no difference where a person was, working in the fields or sitting in chapel, the itch of the flea soon became the most important thing.

They say a hailstorm destroyed all the fleas in Minnesota. That hailstorm was the subject of a *pryddest* [long Welsh poem in free meter] at the Mankato eisteddfod. Fortunately the fine people who came to this state later on did not have to deal with those long-legged creatures, the fleas, or the people would not have remained here long enough to tell the story."

# Dragon News

## News of Society members & friends



**SUNSHINE REPORT:** Betty Kinsey, the Society Sunshine chairwoman, reports sending get well cards to: David Evan Thomas, bicycle accident; Carolyn Anderson, colon cancer surgery; and Pam Rose, hip replacement. She also sent a sympathy card to Judith Evans Warner at the death of her aunt Eleanor Giving, formerly a Society member.

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.



**HOLLY WINDLE**, Minneapolis, is spreading new thespian wings with her Theatre in the Round debut in *Anne of Green Gables*, the beloved story set on Prince Edward Island. Those familiar with the story will be able to imagine Holly making a convincing Rachel Lynde, the nosy neighbor.

The play runs March 20–April 12. More info at <http://www.theatreintheround.org/on-stage/63rd-6.html>



**KRISTIN JOHNSON**, Minneapolis, is the honored recipient of another Minnesota State Arts Board Writing Grant for 2015. Llongfarchiadau, Kristin!



**AdaMae LEWIS**, of Ames, Iowa, will receive the 2015 National Welsh American Foundation Heritage Medallion at NAFOW in Columbus, Ohio, on Sept. 4. Readers can learn more about the award and about AdaMae in the Jan.–Feb. issue of NINNAU, the North American Welsh Newspaper. A long and excellent article there gives tribute to AdaMae's many contributions to state, regional and national Welsh groups.

Other St. David's Society members who have received this prestigious award are Dr. Ellis Jones (2004), and Mary Morris Mergenthal (2014).



**NINNAU:** Another reason to read the Jan./Feb. issue of NINNAU is that it contains an extensive and interesting interview with members of **Ellis J. Jones' family** written by Dr. Megan Williams, new associate editor of that publication. Her curiosity had been whetted when she realized that four generations of that family were in attendance at NAFOW 2014 in Minneapolis.

# Membership News

## New Address:

**Keith & Judy Roberts**  
3724 47th Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55406  
(612) 367-4616  
robertsk@hanover.edu

**New e-mail: Trilby Busch** gichi100gami@gmail.com

**Correct zip code: Pam Rose** 55425

**New cell number: Mary Mergenthal** (612) 670-8510

## IN MEMORIAM: Ann Hughes-Johnson

Ann Hughes-Johnson, mother of member Steve Hughes, died January 5, 2015, in Waukegan, Ill., after falling on Dec. 7, 2014. She fractured her hip and suffered a stroke the next day.

Ann Hughes-Johnson, 89, was born in Charleston, W.V., on July 23, 1925. She graduated from Seminole High School in Sanford, Fla., in 1943. She received her B.S. degree in chemistry from Stetson Univ. in 1949, majoring in both math and chemistry, her Masters of Education Cum Laude from National College of Education in 1964, and 62 hours towards her PhD in Math at Northwestern University. While at Stetson she was elected to the honorary Gamma Sigma Epsilon Chemistry Fraternity and while at Northwestern elected to the honorary education fraternity, Pi Lambda Theta.

Ann retired in 1985 from an education career that spanned over 25 years. She also was a chemist for one year before going into teaching.

Ann is survived by her husband of 18 years, Ralph Vincent Johnson of Waukegan; sons, Michael (Connie) Hughes, Lake Helen, Fla.; David (Marilyn) Hughes, Grayslake, Ill.; Steven (Mary) Hughes, Excelsior; and daughter, Patricia Hughes of Waukegan; three stepchildren; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Liz Stine.

Ann was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, Judge John L. Hughes; and brother, Al Stine, Anderson, S.C.

Ann was very involved in the First Presbyterian Church of Waukegan, being an elder, deacon, singing in the Westminster Choir, and a Sunday school teacher and then subsequently very involved in the Trinity Lutheran Church of Waukegan, singing in the choir, serving on their Church Council and Women's Circle.

A celebration service of her life was held Jan. 10 at Trinity United Lutheran Church in Waukegan.

## OFFICERS & REPRESENTATIVES

**President** Mary Mergenthal, 651.644.1650, '15  
cell: 612.670-8510  
mary.mergenthal@gmail.com

**Vice-President** Judith Evans Warner, 763.522.1612, '16  
*pro tem* judithewarner@aol.com

**Secretary** Pam Rose, 952.854.4743, '15  
pamrosearch@hotmail.com

**Treasurer** Ron Adams, 952.237.0506, '15  
cymraeg@comcast.net

### Directors

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Past-President — Pam Rose

Membership Chairperson — Kay Gavin, 651.484.1778

Newsletter Editor — Mary Mergenthal

Officers of St. David's Foundation —

Don Anderson (pres.), 612.789.8923;

Mae Anderson, Betty Kinsey

**Please check your mailing label.  
Memberships were due July 1, 2014.**

## Next Deadline: March 4

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

OR E-MAIL TO: mary.mergenthal@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.**

Please...when attending St. David's Society  
events, eschew cologne, aftershave, etc., to be  
respectful of members with fragrance allergies  
and to allow their attendance/enjoyment.

**PLEASE HELP US MAKE ALL SOCIETY  
EVENTS FRAGRANCE-FREE.**

Diolch yn fawr.

## 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 Aglen St.  
Roseville, MN 55113-2046

or contact Kay at: [kaywgavin@hotmail.com](mailto: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 Aglen St.  
Roseville, MN 55113-2046

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## Calendar



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JANUARY

*Calendar design by Dan Proud.*

## COMING EVENTS

**Welsh language conversation** — Sun., Jan. 25, 2 p.m., home of Melvyn Jones and Esmé Evans, 1439 Grantham St., St. Paul, 55108. After conversation there, continue on to Merlins, if you can.

**St. Dwynwen's Day (Welsh "Valentine's Day")** — Sunday, Jan. 25, 4 p.m., Merlins Rest, 3601 Lake St. E. (about 1 mile west of Mississippi River). On-street parking & lot across 36<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**Well-Read Dragons** — Sat., Feb. 7, 11:30 a.m., Davanni's in Arden Hills. *David Jones in the Great War* by Thomas Dilworth.

**St. David's Day luncheon** — Sat., Feb. 28, 11:30 a.m., Ramada Plaza Hotel, 1330 Industrial Blvd., NE Mpls, 55413, just south of 35W.

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