Volume 41 | Issue 2

Gaeaf/Winter 2022

Newyddion o Gymdeithas Dewi Sant

St. David's Society News



VIRTUAL GET-TOGETHERS St. David's Day Celebration

When: Saturday, February 26, from

1:00-2:30pm Zoom Link:

http://z.umn.edu/stDavidsGatherings

Well-Read Dragons Book Group

When: Saturday, April 2, from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Zoom Link:

http://z.umn.edu/stDavidsGatherings

Sgwrs Cymraeg, Welsh Conversation

When: 2nd and 4th Saturdays, from 10:30am - 12:30pm. See description below.

UPCOMING EVENTS

St. David's Day Celebration: Revisiting Our Roots

To mark St. David's Day in 2022, we're planning a fun celebration of Wales and the Welsh! Our Zoom gathering will include storytelling, music and singing. We will take time to visit with each other and with guests from Wales.

If you're "old school", it's a perfect opportunity to make *pice ar y maen* (Welsh cakes) or *bara brith* (speckled fruit bread),



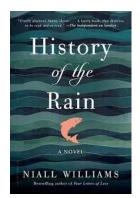
brew a pot of your favorite *te* (tea) and settle in for a long winter's *sgwrs* (chat)! If you fancy a modern twist, you might want to prepare some *Glamorgan sausages* (spiced Caerphilly cheese-leeks-breadcrumb rolls) or a cheese, fruit and biscuit plate and pour a glass of your favorite Welsh spirit. (*Penderyn*, anyone?)

More details will follow soon, so be sure to check our website

(www.stdavidsofmn.org) and your email inbox!

WELL-READ DRAGONS BOOK GROUP

Submitted by President, Janice Barbee



Meet the book group on Zoom to discuss *History of the Rain*, by Naill Williams, longlisted for the 2014 Man Booker Prize, on Saturday, December 4, from 11:30am – 1:00pm.

"Bedbound in her attic room beneath the falling rain, in the margin between this world and the next, Plain Ruth Swain is in search of her father. To find him, enfolded in the mystery of ancestors, Ruthie must first trace the jutting jaw lines, narrow faces and gleamy skin of the Swains from the restless Reverend Swain, her great-grandfather, to grandfather Abraham, to her father, Virgil - via pole-vaulting, leaping salmon, poetry and the three thousand, nine hundred and fifty eight books piled high beneath the two skylights in her room, beneath the rain."

- Goodreads

"We are our stories. We tell them to stay alive or keep alive those who only live now in the telling. That's how it seems to me, being alive for a little while, the teller and the told."

- Ruth Swain

You can find the list of books the group will read between February and August 2022, as well as a list of all the books the group has read since 2004, on the Book Group page of the <u>St. David's Society of Minnesota</u> website.

SGWRS CYMRAEG, WELSH CONVERSATION

Welsh conversation gatherings are open to learners and would-be learners of the Welsh language. Conversations are held monthly on Zoom, on 2nd and 4th Saturdays, from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. Contact conversation facilitator Laurel Bradshaw at llawryf@yahoo.com to obtain the Zoom link.

SEASONAL WELSH WORDS AND PHRASES			
Dydd Gwyl Dewi Hapus	Happy St David's Day	Eira	Snow
Cennin Pedr	Daffodils	Pluen Eira	Snowflake
Cennin	Leeks	Dyn Eira	Snowman
Dawnsio Gwerin	Folk Dancing	Storm Eira	Snowstorm
Hiraeth	Longing for Homeland	Lluwchwynt	Blizzard

REPORT ON PAST EVENTS

Welsh Speaker Event: Twm Elias

Submitted by President, Janice Barbee

On Saturday, January 22, we were delighted as Twm Elias told us the story of Lleu and Blodeuwedd from the <u>Mabinogion</u>, ancient tales collected and written following centuries of being shared orally by storytellers (*bards*) throughout Wales. Twm showed slides with photos of the places in Wales where the

stories took place, as well as pictures of place names, pubs and shops that reflect a connection to the characters and events in these tales. It was a wonderful talk, not only because Twm artfully told this strange story about shape-shifting magic, a woman made of flowers, and a husband betrayed, but also because he shared a contemporary conjecture of Mabinogion scholars that the first person to have written down this story may have been a woman! (Fancy that!)

Twm, often featured on BBC Wales radio and television, is a naturalist, academic, storyteller, historian, and author. He is also the recipient of the 2019 National

Eisteddfod Science and Technology Medal award. He possesses a wealth of knowledge of all things pertaining to his Welsh homeland. He has written books about Welsh flowers, drovers, and smugglers. We will be sure to invite him back to speak on one of these topics. For those who missed the event, here is a link to the program recording: <u>SDSMN - Twm Elias - Tales of the Mabinogi</u>.

UPDATE FROM THE BOARD

Since the last newsletter, the Board of the St. David's Society has met twice, on December 1 and January 19, on Zoom. We are happy to report that all of us are well and that we discussed the following items of business:

- ◆ Annual St. David's Day event: With COVID still rampant, we decided to hold our 2022 celebration on Zoom rather than in person. As this newsletter goes to print, we are still working on the program. Hywel Roberts has invited a couple of Welshmen to join us and sing *plygain* carols for us. (*Plygain* carols are long religious poems, sometimes described as "sermons in song". They are traditionally sung at Christmastime.) We will also present poetry, a few videos (some to sing along to), and invite people attending to relate stories from visits to Wales.
- Welsh Speakers: Hywel has arranged for someone from the Welsh National Library to speak to us about the library, it's history and collections. The date of this program has not been set, but will be scheduled in March or April.
- Our first St. David's Society Stories interview is complete and transcribed! Hywel Roberts interviewed long-time member and past president, Ellis Jones, on Zoom and Janice Barbee recorded the interview. You can read a transcript of the interview on the Society's website: https://stdavidsofmn.org/.
- ♦ The newly formed Idea Committee is exploring ways to welcome young people into the Society. When the committee last met, it was decided to look for a school in Wales and a school in the Twin Cities and connect students to each other. In the face of COVID disruptions, these plans may be delayed awhile, but the committee will keep working on the idea.

Update on The St. David's Society Foundation: Over the past several years, the Foundation has had three board members: Bob Minish, Ron Adams, and Ilene Alexander. Bob and Ilene have resigned from the board, leaving Ron as the sole member of the board. We seek at least two persons willing to serve on the board and/or willing to discuss what can and should be done to maintain the foundation's funds and operate the Foundation in accordance with its by-laws and Minnesota's non-profit foundation policies and regulations.

ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA MEMBER STORIES

The Society Board's Stories Project has begun! The first interview is complete (see Board update) and a second is planned for this month. The Society's goals for this project are:

- 1) For members to get to know each other better
- 2) For members to have an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate their talents, histories, Welshness and contributions to the Society,
- 3) To document the history of the Society through its members' stories.
- 4) To highlight the benefits of membership in the Society and attract new members.

Interested in joining in the fun? You can participate in one of two ways:

- You can write down your answers to the questions below and send them back to us. Choose which questions you want to answer we hope you'll answer some questions from each section below (including at least Question #1 in the second section).
- You can ask to be interviewed solo, or with another member on Zoom. You tell us which questions to ask you in the interview and we will allow you to edit the recording as you wish. The interview can last anywhere from 15 to 45 minutes.

You can choose what is done with your recording or written document – it can be shared on the Society website and/or sent to the MN Historical Society. You can also choose to have a transcript of the recording sent back to you.

Contact Janice at <u>janicegwb@yahoo.com</u> if you'd like to be interviewed, or send your request and/or answers to the Interview Questions of your choice to her at 3425 Wisconsin Ave. N., Crystal, MN 55427.

Possible Interview Questions:

Questions about you and/or your Welsh ancestors

- 1. Where in Wales did your family emigrate from and why?
- 2. Where did they immigrate to initially?
- 3. What do you know about the places from which they immigrated?
- 4. What places in Wales are special to you?
- 5. What Welsh traditions, connections, words, stories, etc. were part of your growing up?
- 6. What is important to you about being of Welsh heritage and/or having a connection to Wales?



Questions about your membership in the Society

- 1. How long have you been a member? Why did you join?
- 2. Have you taken on any roles in the Society or in other Welsh organizations and/or received any honors? If yes, please explain.
- 3. What stands out as a great memory or highlight from the years you have been a member?
- 4. As part of continuing to learn about Wales, what resources do you seek out? Which two or three would you recommend to other members? Include books, music, films, performers, websites, news sources, etc.
- 5. What opportunities do you see for the future of the Society?

Have ideas and suggestions?

Send your ideas and suggestions to Janice Barbee using the contact information provided above.

WALES WEEK—MORE THAN A WEEK

Wales Week is a global initiative focused on celebrating and promoting Wales, and all things Welsh in Wales and around the world. You ask, "How can everything that's great about Wales be fit into a single week?" It can't, of course. Officially, "Wales Week" is the two weeks surrounding St. David's Day. This year that's February 20 through March 6.

Wales Week offers an opportunity to gather together, under a global umbrella, events such as annual St. David's Day celebrations already being held by Welsh organizations around the world. It's also an avenue to showcase Welsh arts and products and introduce them to a wider audience. It's all about "making a lot of Welsh Noise," as the volunteers who head up the organizing of Wales Week are fond of saying.

In 2017 and 2018 Wales Week in London built momentum with events held throughout that metropolitan area. By 2019, Wales Week London had 107 events on their calendar, and Wales Week was being celebrated in Paris, Germany, Melbourne, Ohio, New England, Essex, Newcastle, and New York. The number of locations worldwide has now grown to over 20. One of the worldwide celebrations is **Wales Week Kansas**, a modest affair which I put together for 2020 after meeting one of the central organizers, Dan Langford, at NAFOW in Milwaukee in 2019. Dan's enthusiasm is contagious! Wales Week 2021 was, of course, impacted by COVID: Many events were moved online, but – as the old song says, we are still here, and events took place in spite of that circumstance.

If you want to check out this year's plan, visit the following: Wales Week Worldwide at https://walesweek.world, and Wales Week London at https://walesweek.london/news/wales-week-

<u>dates-announced-for-2022</u>. From there you can learn about events closest to you!

Wales Week has developed partnerships with government, non-profit, and business organizations. Twitter, Facebook, and/or web pages published by Welsh organizations are all being used for sharing what is going on worldwide. The Wales Week Worldwide web site has links to the various initiatives around the world: https://walesweek.world/ Check out what's being done in those locations, and if you are interested in developing a Wales Week project where



you are, you can contact Dan at dan.langford@walesweek.london He's a super-nice, helpful guy.

ST DAVID'S DAY 100 CHALLENGE

Submitted by member David Evan Thomas

Have you heard about WikiTree, the online, world family tree?

It's distinctly different than Ancestry.com: it's completely free, and aims to build one world family tree, unlike the thousands of separate trees on Ancestry. As of the date of this report, the world family tree has grown to include 25 million people.

Many serious genealogists are behind the project and can help you. There is even a Wales Project which you can find by going here: https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Project:Wales. You will learn about the project leaders and coordinators, project goals and teams, and information on how you can join a team if you are so inclined.

I now have a tree which is found here: https://www.wikitree.com/genealogy/Thomas-Family-Tree-14999

Even if you don't join and create a tree, you might enjoy browsing around.



The Wales Project Post Message: "St David's Day 100 Challenge - will you join us?":

Hello everyone

Do you have Welsh ancestry, live in Wales, or just love the anthem? We would love you to help us celebrate the Feast of Saint David, the patron saint of Wales. The Wales Project have decided to honour St David by each of us undertaking 100 actions to improve Welsh profiles and Space pages. Whether you are a Data Doctor, Sourcerer, Connector, Categorizer or an all-rounder you can help. Head over to our Challenge Space page St David's Day 100 Challenge and leave a message to let us know what you will commit to do on or before the 1st March, St David's Day.

If you're not sure what you could do here are some ideas;

- Categorize the Uncategorized. Find Welsh profiles, or those with Welsh surnames such as Jones, Williams, Lloyd, Griffiths and add categories for their birth, marriage and death location and any other sourced locations that you can see on their profile. <u>Wales Categories</u>
- Source the Unsourced Welsh Unsourced profiles
- Doctor poor profiles <u>Wales Suggestions</u>
- Connect the Unconnected <u>Unconnected Welsh Profiles</u> or <u>Wales, needs profiles created</u>

We have already had some people sign up but the more the merrier.

Become a Wales Project Member

If you are interested in joining the Wales Project head over to the <u>Wales Project Page</u> and click on the G2G welcome post link.

Jutta Beer

Wales Project Team

GOING BEYOND THE VISITOR PRESENTATIONS - VOLUME I

The Mabinogion

Submitted by Member and Board Member Hywel Roberts

The twelve rich, romantic tales that make up the collection known as the Mabinogion are the earliest prose literature written in Welsh. Although the earliest manuscripts to record these tales date from the thirteenth century, scholars agree that they contain material from an earlier period. These stories were the literature of the period, written in Middle Welsh and committed to vellum with pen and ink by Cistercian monks.

Four of the tales preserve a longer story and are known collectively as the four branches of the 'Mabinogi'

• "Pwyll Pendefig Dyfed" – Pwyll is the Prince of Dyfed (a Welsh county), and the story shares information about his parents and tales of his childhood and young adulthood.



- "Branwen ferch Llyr" Branwen, the daughter of Llyr, marries the King of Ireland.
- "Manawydan fab Llyr" Manawydan is the son of Llyr and brother to Branwen. Pryderi and Manawydan return home from Ireland and relate the misfortunes that befell them.
- "Math fab Mathonwy" Math is the son of Mathonwy, and this is the tale of his and Gwydion's conflict with Pryderi.

Another Mabinogion tale is about Macsen Wledig (Magnus Maximus), a Roman Emperor, and the ruler of Britain during the reign of Emperor Constantine I, 383-388 CE. He became the basis of a number of later Welsh legends. Whilst "The Dream of Macsen Wledig" is fictional, it is set in real locations, the main site being Caernarfon, and contains several historical allusions.

An order of the Benedictine Monks who presided in Gaul (France/Belgium) at the beginning of the twelfth century were seeking a stricter community that would be ascetic, self-sufficient, and living off the land. They formed the white-robed Cistercians, and they were invited to Britain by the Norman invaders. They built their first abbey at Waverley, Surrey in 1128 CE. The building of the abbey Ystrad y Fflur, (Strata Florida, the "Vale of the Flowers") began on the banks of the river Teifi in a secluded vale in mid-Wales, with support from Robert Fitz Stephen, an Anglo- Norman lord, in 1164 CE. A year later it was taken over by Lord Rhys ap Gruffydd, a Welsh prince with noble intentions, who hoped that the abbey would benefit Wales and the Welsh!

Lord Rhys envisioned this site as the cultural center of the nation of Wales. Lord Rhys ap Gruffydd initiated a festival of poetry and song nearby in Cardigan in 1176 CE that was the first Eisteddfod of Wales!

Sadly, Lord Rhys, one of the greatest princes of Wales, died unexpectedly on the 28th of April, 1197 CE. He was beloved by the monks of Strata Florida, who wanted their patron to be buried next to many generations of Welsh princes at the abbey. However, Lord Rhys had an argument with Bishop Peter de Leia, the Bishop of St David's, over some horses that Lord Rhys had stolen many years previously. He arranged for his body to be buried in St. David at the Cathedral of Wales, after it was lashed repeatedly, to rid him of his sins. His carved tomb in the chancel at the Cathedral dates from the 14th century, 200 years after his passing.

Pastoralism was a great method to fund the abbey, and reportedly, the white-robed monks raised sheep and goats, grew oats and barley, and made their honey, mead and wine. It was a thriving concern.

After their daily prayers and labor, the Cistercians would engage with the local Welsh community surrounding Strata Florida, learning their Welsh language, and carefully scribing their literature, tales and legends onto fine vellum (goat or calf skin), a material that the monks produced at the abbey. The abbey became a literary center for Wales during the Middle Ages. Dafydd ap Gwylim (1315-1370?), one of the leading poets of Europe, would often stop by, presenting his poetry about love and the world of nature. Later, in the fifteenth century, Guto'r Glyn (1435-1493), considered one of the finest Late Medieval poets of Wales, would visit and spend time with the order of friendly monks.

During the 1401 uprising of Owain Glyndwr, it was believed that the monks at Strata Florida were sympathetic to the Welsh prince, and he had been sheltering at the abbey. On October 1st, 1401, Henry IV amassed an army of 400-500 men at Worcester, and they marched to Strata Florida and looted the abbey, drank the wine and mead crafted by the monks, and stabled their horses at the altar.

With the coronation of Henry VIII and dissolution of all the Abbeys in Britain in 1536, Strata Florida was closed down in 1539. Henry VIII's Acts of Union in 1535 and 1542 changed the nation of Wales dramatically.

Today we must be thankful to the Cistercians for their diligent work, securing our history and ancient tales, and passing them on for future generations. Also, we thank William Owen Pugh (1795-1829) for publishing the first English translation of two of the tales and Charlotte Guest, who published the eleven Mabinogian tales in their entirety, during 1838-1845.



The "Llyfr Gwyn Rhydderch" (the "White Book of Rhydderch") is a prized possession at the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth. It records eleven tales of the Mabinogion. Digitized images of the book can be visited on the NLW website found at https://www.library.wales/, then searching for the "The White Book of Rhydderch".

The "Llyfr Coch Hergest" (the "Red Book of Hergest") is a slightly later version housed at the Bodleian Library at Oxford University, England and can be viewed by going to the Digital Bodleian website: https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/objects/9bf187bf-f862-4453-bc4f-851f6d3948af/.

The tales and prose of the Mabinogion are a rich national treasure, and need to be continually passed on to future generations to keep them alive. Mark your calendars and plan to join us in October, 2022 for the first annual "Sandbar Storytelling Festival", to be held in Winona, Minnesota on the banks of the Mississippi River, inclusive of all people and nations, and yes, we will be including the tales from Wales, the Mabinogi!

References

Davis, Sioned (2007). The Mabinogion. Oxford World's Classics. Loomis, Richard M. (2005). New House & Guto'r Glyn in 1492. Lupton, Hugh (2018). The Assembly of the Severed Head. Propolis.

Morden, Daniel, illustrated by Brett Breckon (2012). Tree Of Leaf and Flame. Gomer Press. Turvey, Roger (1997). The Lord Rhys, Prince of Deheubarth. Gomer Press.

Brut y Tywysogion (Chronicles of the Princes) is also one of the most important sources of Welsh History, and thought to have been written at Strata Florida. https://www.library.wales/

https://www.library.wales/discover/digital-gallery/manuscripts/the-middle-ages/chronicle-of-princes#?c=&m=&s=&cv=&xywh=-642%2C-1%2C3273%2C2784

[**Editor's Note**: No credit is claimed or taken for the photographs accompanying this piece. The Mabinogian map source information can be found at: https://prydain.fandom.com/wiki/Mabinogion?action=edit and The White Book of Rhydderch photograph of the Mabinogian manuscript is copyrighted by the National Library of Wales. Both are included for educational purposes only.]

NEWS FROM WALES

From Wales Online, 18 January, 2022 (as Updated 19 January, 2022)

'One part of Wales makes St David's Day a bank holiday'

The UK government refused to devolve power over bank holidays to Wales

By Ffion Lewis, Reporter

One Welsh council has made St David's Day a bank holiday for its workers.

Gwynedd council's cabinet met on Tuesday January 18 to agree [to] plans to make March 1 a bank holiday for council workers.

The meeting comes after the UK government refused to devolve power to allow Wales to create its own holidays, as in Scotland and Northern Ireland.



(Photo Image: Matthew Horwood)

St Andrew's Day is a bank holiday In Scotland and St Patrick's Day is a bank holiday in Northern Ireland.

In December the UK Government rejected calls for a St David's Day Bank Holiday after claiming too many people commute across the Welsh and English border to make the idea feasible.

The item before Gwynedd Council next week suggests that "St David's Day 2022 is designated as an additional holiday day for Council staff working on the terms of employment of local government employees, for celebrating our patron saint's day to be funded in accordance with paragraph 2.10 of the report b".

It also suggests that the council "10ecognize officers to investigate possible options to make such an arrangement permanent and to that end further discussions with the 10ecognized trade unions and continue to lobby for Westminster Government support for devolution to the Welsh Government empowered them to establish bank holidays for Wales".

The report notes that it "would cost around £200,000 every year to the Council (around £100,000 to execute the last option which is half a day of holiday and redesignating the other half day of holidays which are currently allowed)".

The report says that these costs are mainly to cover the need to employ part-time staff to ensure that the service continues in the absence of full-time staff.

In October of last year, Gwynedd Council sent a letter to ministers calling for an end to the "embarrassing" anomaly of the Scottish and Northern Irish Governments being able to designate their national days while no such powers are currently devolved to Cardiff Bay.

[**Editor's Note**: Branwen Jones, WalesOnline's Welsh Identity life writer, on February 4, 2022 that the Neath Port Talbot Council agreed to look into making St David's Day a holiday for council staff of the county, following the lead of the Gwynedd council. The article may be found at https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/neath-port-talbot-look-making-22970716.]

An excerpt from *The Guardian*, February 4, 2022

'IT'S 100% COOL CYMRU 2.0': PUMPING IT OUT ON WELSH LANGUAGE MUSIC DAY

Artists such as electronic duo Roughion emerge from Covid lockdowns to celebrate *Dydd Miwsig Cymru*

By Steven Morris, Reporter

Gwion Ap Iago, half of the duo <u>Roughion</u> – sometimes billed as Wales's answer to the Chemical Brothers – is in no doubt that this is "a moment" for Welsh language music.

"A lot of people are learning Welsh, a lot of people are really wanting to support the Welsh language music scene and they're realising what is pumping out there is really, really good," he said. "We had that thing in the 90s – cool Cymru, Catatonia and all that. We are 100% living in a cool Cymru 2.0."

Across the nation on Friday, venues, workplaces, schools were celebrating <u>Dydd Miwsig Cymru</u> (Welsh language music day), celebrating music from folk to rock, from indie to Roughion's speciality: electronica.

"We might automatically look at America, Germany and the Netherlands as countries producing the most recognised electronic music but the quality we have here shows that Wales is doing it too. Female artists like Gwenno and <u>Kelly Lee Owens</u> are leading the way." ...

The seventh iteration of Welsh language music day was being seen as a particularly special, important and joyful one, with the Covid lockdowns having been both a challenge and an opportunity for the scene.

Challenging because the Welsh government's cautious approach to re-opening has led to long breaks for clubs and music venues. But the hiatus has also given musicians a chance to refine and develop their sound – and provided the time for more people to begin to learn Welsh. ...

It is now commonplace to hear Welsh language music on mainstream UK stations including BBC Radio 1 and BBC Radio 6 Music.

The country's reopening and the buildup to festival season is causing excitement. "People have got a lot of great songs ready to go, club ready," said Ap Iago, who also runs a label, Afanc, named after a lake monster from Welsh mythology.

A string of free gigs from Newport in the south-east to Caernarfon in the north-west were [] held on Friday to mark *Dydd Miwsig Cymru*.

Elan Evans, Welsh music promoter at the renowned Cardiff venue <u>Clwb Ifor Bach</u>, said there was an air of excitement. She said she loved seeing new artists "taking ownership" of the language. "Not just for home and school but to socialise in, live in, you can do whatever you want with it. It's our language."

<u>Huw Stephens</u>, the BBC DJ and *Dydd Miwsig Cymru* ambassador, said: "There is a definite, carefree, creative moment in Welsh language music."

Stephens said following the lockdowns this spring and summer were going to be "critically important" for Welsh language music as people got out and about together.

"What's great is that it really is a year-round thing; it's a live culture, a real culture, not a manufactured culture, it's a very organic and natural scene."

Dydd Miwsig Cymru is part of the Welsh government's long-term vision <u>Cymraeg 2050</u> to see a million people speaking and using Welsh daily by the middle of the century.

The minister for Welsh language and education, <u>Jeremy Miles</u>, said: "*Mae'r iaith yn perthyn i ni gyd* – the language belongs to us all. Gwenno and Gruff Rhys have shown that music in Welsh can travel the world and you don't need to speak the language to enjoy <u>Ani Glass</u> and her electropop sound, or <u>Candelas</u>, who are formidable live. *Dydd Miwsig Cymru* celebrates all forms of Welsh language music, diverse scenes which are thriving and it's about welcoming more people to dive in and discover what we have."

More details about Welsh Language Music Day 2022 and specially curated Welsh Language Music Day playlists can be found at: https://gov.wales/welsh-language-music-day



Welsh Language Music Day Photo Credits, Left to Right: © Working Word and © Dydd Miwsig Cymru

A REQUEST TO MEMBERS

For close to 10 years, Mary Mergenthal produced a newsletter for Society members that has kept us all informed and connected to each other, to other organizations, and to Wales. We continue to thank Mary for all her dedication and hard work!

We are working to keep up the tradition with a new version that can easily be produced from our computers and could use some help. If you notice something interesting in the news about Wales, or want to write about something you think will interest other members, please send to me (stpaulsally@gmail.com) and we'll include it in an upcoming issue. *Diolch yn fawr iawn*! Thank you and thank you to everyone who contributed items for this edition!

Sally Evans, Editor





Welsh tea Cakes – BBC Radio 4

Painting by Heather Littlejohns: Facebook: Instagram

St. David's Society c/o Janice Barbee 3425 Wisconsin Ave. N. Crystal, MN 55427