



DRAGON SPEAK

Welsh Society of Oregon Newsletter



[Image source: en.wikipedia.org]

MEDI (SEPTEMBER) 2017

September 9th Meeting - Garden Party!

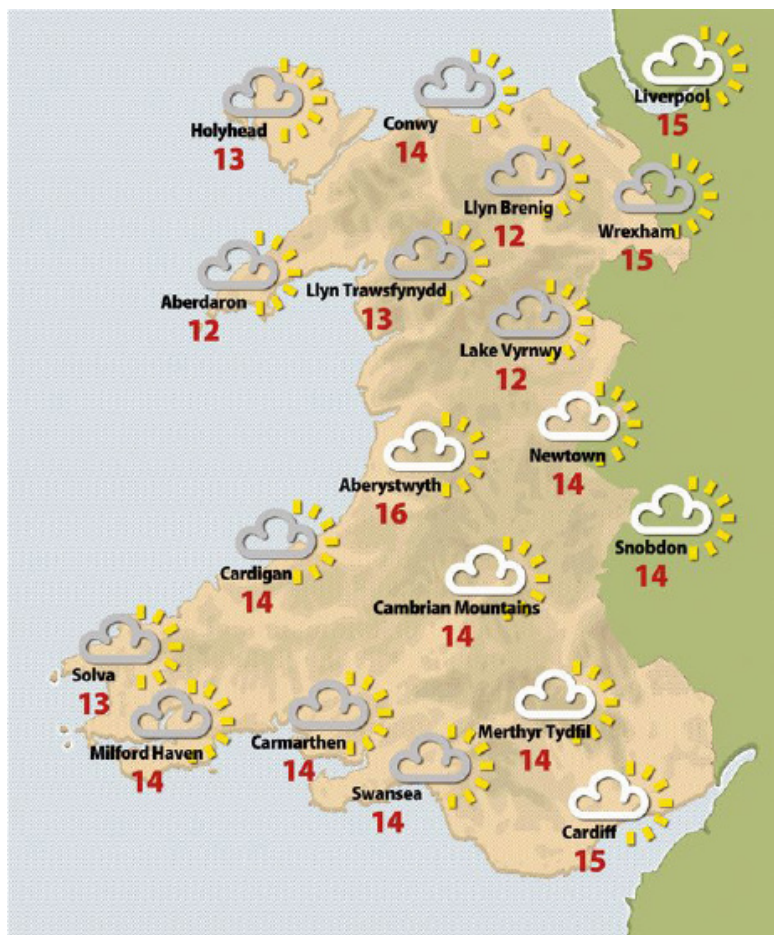
WSOR PRESENTS:

Y Dosbarth Cymraeg/The Welsh Classroom—an occasional series

Episode 1:

‘Y Tywydd yn y Gymraeg’ or

‘Learn how to talk about the weather in Welsh’



Presented by your tiwtors
Jeff Lewis & Andrea Wild
with special guest **Ann Ffodus**

**Our Sep 9th meeting will be held
in Andrea Wild’s garden at
1424 SE 58th Ave, Portland 97215
(just walk up the driveway)**

**Potluck starts at 12:30
Presentation at 1:00**



Margaret Pritchard—Obituary (1929-2017)

Margaret Pritchard was born on September 18, 1929 right before the stock market crash. She had rheumatic fever and polio when she was young, and suffered from the complications of polio until her death on July 29, 2017. She lived in Milwaukie, Oregon all her life, whenever she wasn't traveling.

Her career was in consulting engineering, which was unusual for a woman at that time. She specialized in applying industry specific technologies to other industries to engineer a solution. If she ran into a problem she needed additional expertise on, she had many friends to call on for help. Her international consulting engineering firm specialized in energy, food, and wastewater. She worked in Canada, Italy, Bermuda, England, and in each of the 50 states, which resulted in her being a member of the first ever "frequent flyer" program. She was an active member of the Society of Women Engineers, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and the American Society of Engineering Management, as well as several food industry societies. And, of course, she was a member of the Welsh Society in Portland.

The blood line on her father's side (the Pritchards) goes clear back to the 15th century in Wales. The family house at the time, Llancaiach Fawr Manor, is still run as a National Trust in Wales. The manor has a theatre featuring a 2-hour play about the family, as well as a blacksmith shop, a bakery, and a scullery. The whole thing is run as if it were the year 1643.

She brought a photograph of her great grandfather with her when she was traveling in Wales. The proprietor of the bed and breakfast she stayed in said, "I've got a friend named Pritchard who lives down the way. Let me call her and we can go for tea." So she went to the Pritchard house for tea and met the Pritchard lady's husband. The lady's husband, however, was skeptical, and said, "This Yank over here thinks she's part of my wife's family." Then he got up from the tea table and excused himself. When he came back he had an 8 ½ x 11 photograph which he put on the table face down. "Now, if you belong to this family," he said, "You can tell me some characteristics of this man." Margaret didn't know who it was, but she said, "Well, if he's family, he's got a cleft chin. He's got a dimple on his left cheek. He has flying eyebrows and a widow's peak, and he's supernumerary." Then the husband turned the picture over. Margaret's great grandfather and the man in the picture, who was the Pritchard lady's grandfather, could have been twins. Everything that she had said was there: the cleft chin, the left dimple, and the extra fingers.

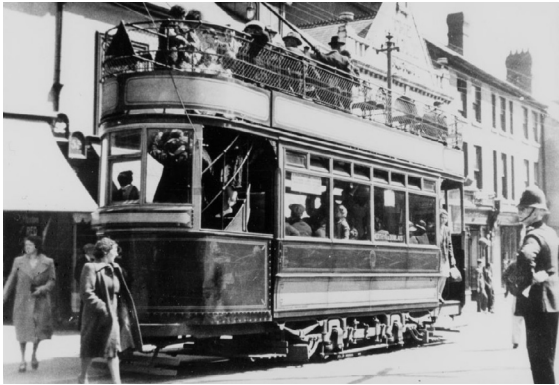
Now, in Wales there is a saying, which goes, "Put all your troubles in a box and sit on the lid and laugh and sing." And of course she did all those.

A celebration of her life will be held on Sunday, August 27th at 2 pm at Rose Villa Senior Living, 13505 S.E. River Road, Portland, OR.



Armchair Research: Wales Websites to Explore

Just Picture it--Wales: <http://www.venitap.com/Photolinks/photolinks.html>



Left: Tramcar at Brecon Road

Although this site has not been updated since 2013, the links that still work are fun to explore. Just Picture It--Wales is an attempt to gather in one place links to multiple websites with photos of places in Wales. The photos range from over 100 years old to modern photos of old places.

The links are arranged in alphabetical order by the site name rather than the place name, so look at the whole list to find what interests you.

Of the 47 sites listed, 13 links don't work or take you to a different website.

Cardiffians leads to the dreaded 404 error, but just click on "home" and you'll find the photos.

For Dyfed Archaeological Trust, click on "Projects" to get to some photos of the area. The website is more information than photos, but interesting information.

The Old UK Photos link has a link to Wales on its home page that will lead to more detailed options for photos.

Percy Benzie Aberly was a photographer in Wales, and this link takes you to the National Library of Wales and some digitized photos. We'll explore more of NLW in another issue.

Several of the sites include extensive historical text in addition to the photos.

It's a shame this website has not been kept up as it has such great potential for seeing places we may never be able to travel to see. The historic photos are always interesting, and even if we could travel, we'd need a time machine.

Happy exploring,
Doris



Happy Birthday to WSOR'ers born in September!

Penblwydd Hapus i chi! May your day be full of good friends, family, and good cheer!

September 6: Anna Russell
September 7: Tom Price
September 20: Chris Darr
September 29: Penny Moody
September 29: Dick Pilz
September 30: Robert Llywellyn



[Image source: pixabay.com]

If we missed you, we may not have your birthday on the list. Please call or email Jeff Lewis (see below). Also note: we are including only 2016 & 2017 paid members

Around the Internet:

‘Wales on Rails: fine foods and great views on the Holyhead to Cardiff’
an article from the Guardian

“The Gerald of Wales, which runs the length of the country, is a rarity: a train with an onboard chef serving three-course meals and proper morning fry-ups.”

This article from the Guardian describes the rail service that runs from Holyhead on Anglesey, across the northern part of Wales, then south along the border with England to finish at Cardiff. Follow the link to see the full article describing the unique features of this particular service:

<https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2017/aug/10/gerald-of-wales-train-arriva-restaurant-dining-car-holyhead-to-cardiff>

“Running from Holyhead, on to Bangor and then down to Cardiff every weekday morning, and back again in the evening, it is one of only two trains in the UK that still has an onboard chef cooking full breakfasts and three-course dinners. (The only other train route where freshly-cooked daytime and evening meals are served is on a small selection of the London to Devon and Cornwall trains run by First Great Western).”

“It would be difficult to think of a cosier place to be on a misty morning than in these immense grey seats, sipping freshly brewed coffee as the train passes slate-roofed villages and crumbling dry stone walls before trundling alongside the vanilla sands of the seaside towns of Colwyn Bay, Llandudno and Rhyl.”



We welcome all contributions to this newsletter. Please send your news, stories, anecdotes, poems, jokes, or anything else that you would like to share with the Welsh Society.

Contact: Jeff Lewis
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Membership

Membership in the Welsh Society of Oregon is open to all people interested in Wales.

To join, please contact our Treasurer:
Claudia Sterling
20600 SW Shoshone Dr
Tualatin, OR 97062
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Our mission: The Welsh Society of Oregon develops, and perpetuates Welsh heritage, culture, and music in Oregon. We strive to sustain: pride in being Welsh, support for learning about Wales, the Welsh language, and exploration of Welsh-American issues by our members and for others in the community.

The Welsh Society of Oregon is an IRS-approved 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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www.oregonwelsh.org

Our Meetings:

September 9
‘Y Tywydd yn y Gymraeg’
‘How to Talk About the Weather in Welsh’
presentation by Jeff Lewis and Andrea Wild

October 7
Welsh Stick Chairs
presentation by Mattie Sears

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at:

Kenilworth Presbyterian Church
4028 SE 34th Ave. at Gladstone St.
Portland, OR 97202

Schedule:
12:30 pm: Business Meeting
(open to all)
1:00 pm: Refreshments
1:30 pm: Program (see above)