



Dragon Speak


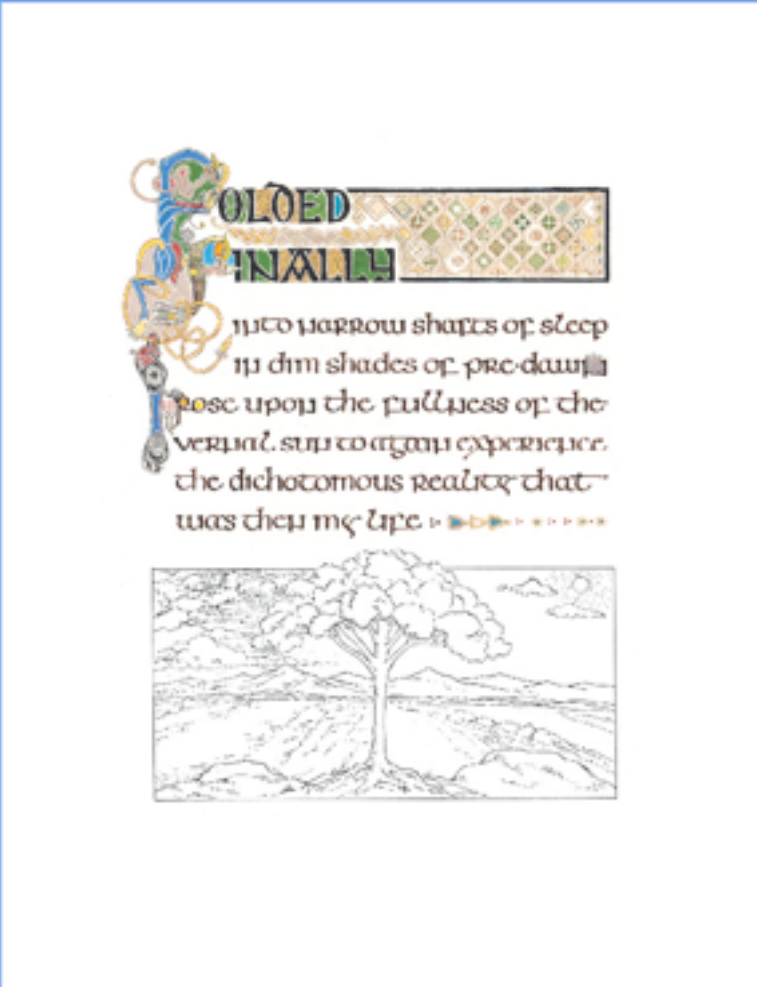
Dragon Speak

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the newsletter of the Welsh Society of Portland

Our mission: The Welsh Society of Portland 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.

Our St. David's Day Celebration with the Silent Auction was a great success! We had good fellowship, a wonderful meal, lovely poetry reading by Betty Pierce, and the auction earned more than \$600.!

April 6 Meeting program

Come see the beautiful Celtic-inspired illumination and calligraphy work of Linda Neufer (rhymes with two-fer)

Here she talks about her work:

“The Celtic letterform and manner of illumination is unique in its exuberant decorative expressions, geometric and representational, together with its use of vibrant color and lusty animal images. Though there are several excellent examples of the form, many consider the book of Kells to be the gold standard.

The book of Kells has been the inspiration for some of my visual artwork, recently leading to the development of a personal poem into a published book utilizing Celtic calligraphy and illumination supplemented with paintings and line drawings. Copies of the book will be on hand for view or purchase, in addition to prints, bookmarks and greeting cards utilizing Celtic illuminated capitals.”

Childrens Books about Dragons



THE LAST DRAGONSLAYER by Jasper Fforde

Welsh author Fforde is known for his fantasy books, and this is his first Young Adult work. The story is about 15-year-old Jennifer Strange, who runs an employment agency for magicians. It's hard to stay in business though, since now magic is fading - drain cleaner is cheaper than a spell, and magic carpets are used for pizza delivery. And then the visions start, predicting the death of the world's last dragon at the hands of an unnamed Dragonslayer. Everything will be changing for Jennifer in the days ahead...



WAKING DRAGONS BY Jane Yolen

From tumbling out of their humongous blankets to devouring a breakfast of catapulted waffles, these characters and their lovable antics fill the pages with luminous color (whimsical illustrations by Derek Anderson) and dragon-sized fun. Author Jane Yolen makes great rhyming --- even when the words don't rhyme, she throws in another syllable to make it quirky, and get young (and older) readers to smile at the whimsy: "Wipe their faces, runny noses, get into their outdoor clothes-es."



DRAGONS LOVE TACOS

by Adam Rubin

Dragons love tacos. They love chicken tacos, beef tacos, great big tacos, and teeny tiny tacos. So, if you want to lure a bunch of dragons to your party, you should definitely serve tacos. Buckets and buckets of tacos.

Unfortunately, where there are tacos, there is also salsa. And if a dragon accidentally eats spicy salsa ... oh boy. You're in red hot trouble!

FLIGHT OF THE LAST DRAGON by Robert Burleigh

A fanciful poem about the last of the dragons, Ultimon, who becomes the constellation Draco. In a modern-day city, Ultimon lives alone in the sewers, worn and sad, dreaming of his former glory. One night he emerges and begs the universe to take pity on him, and he hears a faint call from the sky. He gathers his strength for one final flight and takes his place among the stars. The expressive illustrations by Mary GrandPré move from the sadness of cool blues, purples, and greens to explosions of color as Ultimon takes his place in the sky.





Leeks of Interest ...

true tidbits about Wales and Welsh-America

Pendine Sands on Carmarthen Bay for a brief time in the 1920's Wales was at the center of world land speed records, and a Welshman was the fastest man alive. The 6-mile stretch of Pendine Sands was the setting for a series of gripping races between speed hero Sir Malcolm Campbell and a motor engineer from Wrexham, John Parry Thomas. At one point, Parry Thomas took to the sands in a huge 27,000 liter aero-engined monster he acquired from his friend, Count Zborowski. Count Z. had built his own cars, which became known as Chitty Chitty Bang Bangs, after the noise emitted from their exhaust pipes (inspiring Ian Fleming's book of the same name). During WWII, Pendine Sands was taken over by the Ministry of Defense - 100,000 men practiced storming ashore during rehearsals for the D Day Normandy landings. Winn, C. (2007) *I never knew that about Wales*. London: Ebury Press

The old feelings continue!

'No English' rule on sale of house

A GRADE II listed country home was sold at a knock-down price yesterday because the owners made a strict rule - no English. Brothers Owen and Prys Edwards' first language is Welsh and they insisted their family home Gwyndy in Llanuwchllyn, North Wales, go to a Welsh speaker. They accepted £160,000 from a solicitor who fitted the bill. The des res could have fetched £100,000 more, if sold without the clause.



Do you know about the Welsh American History Museum in Oak Hill Ohio?

In 1818 six hardy Welsh families from the Cilcennin area set sail from Aberaeron Wales. Arriving in the U.S. and after traveling 250 miles, to the region of Gallipolis, Ohio, they ran out of provisions and tied up for the night. In the morning, they found that their boats were set adrift. A Mrs. Evans decided that they would stay in the area, rather than push more into the interior. This led the pioneers to work nearby and then on to what is present day Oak Hill, OH. The museum focuses on preserving the Welsh traditions and culture characteristic of the area's early settlers. The museum's collection includes records, relics, and heirlooms to foster Welsh family ties throughout the world.

CHWARDDIADAU (Laughs)

Myfanwy went into a pet shop in Swansea and immediately spotted a large, beautiful parrot.

The sign on the cage said £30. "Why so cheap?" she asked the pet store owner. The owner looked at her and said, "Look here, I should tell you first that this bird used to live in a house of prostitution, and sometimes it says some pretty vulgar stuff."

Myfanwy thought about this, but decided to have the bird anyway. She took it home and hung the cage in her living room, waiting to see what it would say.

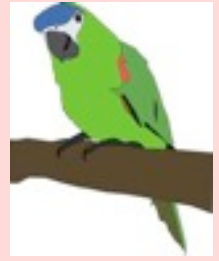
The bird looked around the room, then at her, and said, "New house, new madam." Myfanwy was a bit shocked at the implication, but then thought, "That's really not so bad..."

When Bronwen and Tamsyn, her two teenage daughters returned from school, the bird saw them and said, "New house, new madam, new girls." Myfanwy and the girls were a bit offended but then began to laugh about the situation, considering how and where the parrot had been raised.

Moments later, Myfanwy's husband, Rees came home from work.

The bird looked at him and said, "Hi Rees!"

adapted from *The Oregonian* 10/30/2012



Six retired Welshmen were playing poker at Caradoc Jenkins' house when Dai Bowen loses £700 on a single hand, clutches his chest, and drops dead at the table. Showing respect for their fallen brother,

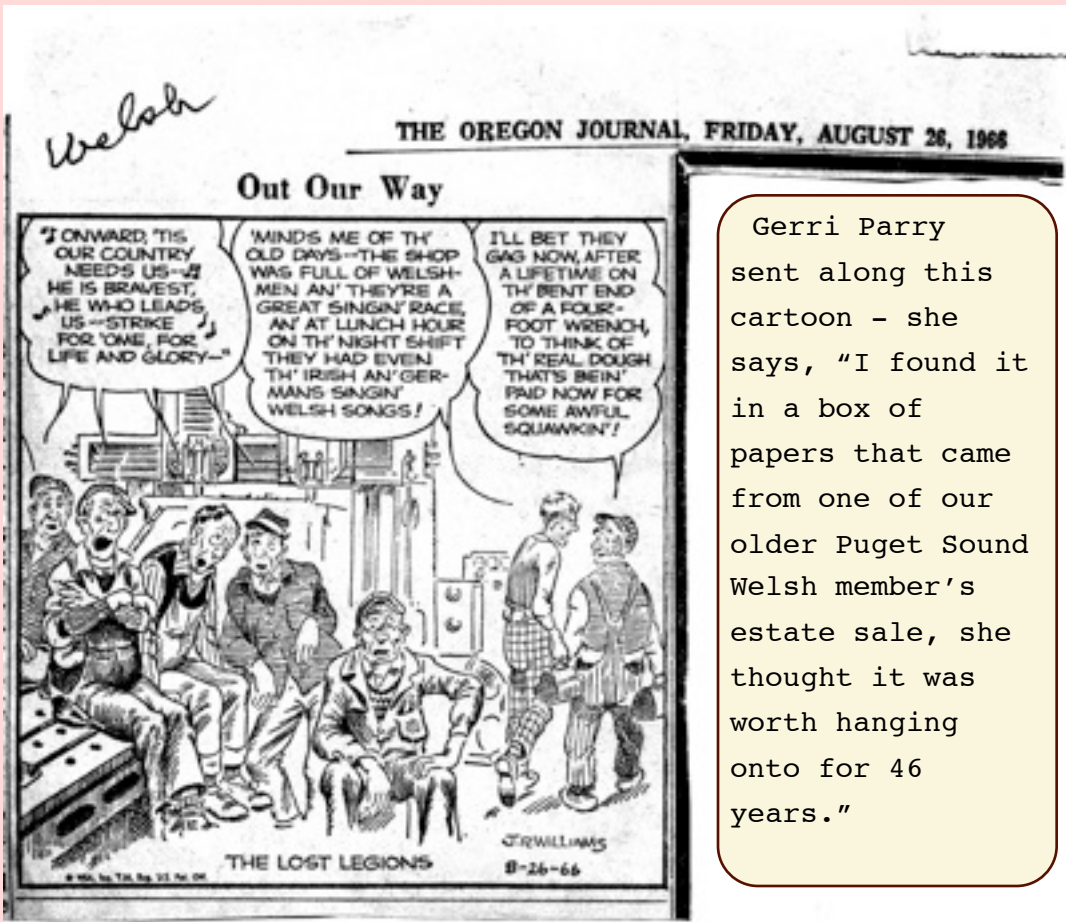
the other five continue playing standing up. Jenkins looks around and asks, 'Look here, boys, someone's got to tell Dai's wife. Who will it be?'

They draw straws. Siân Evans picks the short one. They tell him to be discrete and gentle and not to make a bad situation worse. 'Discrete? I'm the most discrete Welshman you'll ever meet. Discretion is my middle name. Leave it to me.'

He goes over to Bowen's house and knocks on the door. Mari Bowen answers and asks what he wants. Siân declares: 'Your husband just lost £700 and is afraid to come home.'

'Tell him to drop dead!' snarls Mari.

'I'll go tell him.' says Siân.



Gerri Parry sent along this cartoon - she says, "I found it in a box of papers that came from one of our older Puget Sound Welsh member's estate sale, she thought it was worth hanging onto for 46 years."

Happy Birthday to WSOP'ers born in APRIL !!

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

- Colbie Llywelyn April 2
- John Evans April 13
- Gerri Parry April 16
- Joyce Stewart April 16
- Gwen Baldock April 17
- Joseph Williams April 27



if we missed you, we may not have your birthday on the list. Please call email John Evans (see below)

Recipe from Janet Figini

Cole Slaw served for St. David's Day luncheon
Similar to Kentucky Fried Chicken Coleslaw

For 10 servings:

- 1 head green cabbage finely shredded or sliced and chopped. (1&1/2lbs)
- 1/4th C finely diced carrot
- 2T finely diced onion 1/2C granulated sugar (I use Splenda)
- 1t. salt 1/2C Miracle whip (I use Mayo and add a little more Splenda)
- 1/2 C sour cream 3T distilled white vinegar
- 2T salad oil (not olive oil)

In a large bowl, toss together cabbage, carrots, onion, sugar and salt. Set aside. In a small bowl, combine the Miracle Whip, sour cream, vinegar, and oil. Mix well. Toss the dressing with the cabbage mixture. Chill at least 1 hour before serving.

Information

- April 6 Celtic Calligraphy**
- May 4 Travelogue through Pembrokeshire, Wales**
- June 1 Annual Meeting**

- 12:30pm Business Meeting for all
- 1:00pm Refreshments
- 1:30pm Program

Unless noted, all meetings of WSOP are held at

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

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