



Dragon Speak
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Dragon Speak
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.

Come to the
Welsh-American Pub Quiz
(trivia quiz)
at the January 5 meeting !!



we will have teams
we will have pretty easy to pretty hard questions
we will have fun
we will have chocolate for the prizes



Our member, Anna Russell, tells us that she discovered a tea house in Redmond, OR, **AK's Tea Room**, "whose owner is a Welshman and his wife is from England. She (Karen) is the cook, and baker, making the scones, various sweets, lemon curd, etc. fresh each day, while husband Tony is the host, greeter, server, chatter, etc."



AK's Tea Room
Authentic British Tea Room

Located in the
Historic Redmond Hotel
525 SW 6th Street
Redmond, Oregon 97756
541-526-5522

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm Sunday 11am-3pm



Anna gives the Tea Room a great rating, and looks forward to visiting them again. Let's have Cambrians passing through Redmond trying AK's Tea Room !!



Alert! Alert! Alert! Alert! Alert! Alert!
for your calendar - on March 2, when we celebrate St. David's Day, we are planning a small **SILENT AUCTION** in addition to the program.
Watch for more information in the February and March Newsletters !!

Pear Custard Squares
From Janet Figini's kitchen

This recipe is for an 8" sq. pan.
Recipe can be doubled for a 9"X13" pan
Bake at 375 for 15 minutes; 350 for 30-45 minutes
Bake crust at 350 for about 10 minutes until set but still soft.
Crust:
6T butter, 3T granulated sugar, 1/4t salt, 1C sifted flour.

Mix flour, sugar and salt in a med. Bowl. Cut in butter until blended. Pat mixture out into a 8" sq. pan. Bake until slightly puffy and very lightly browned. 350 degrees for about 10 minutes

Pear custard topping:

Peel and slice 3-4 med. Pears about 1/2" thick. Place over the crust in a single layer. Pour over the pears a mixture of: 1/4 C butter, melted; 1C sugar (I used 1/2 Splenda); and 1/4 C flour blended together with 1t vanilla and 2 beaten eggs.

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GWEN JOHN “Sister of one flamboyant genius and lover of another, Gwen John was herself a recluse who created in artistic isolation.” Gwendolyn Mary John was born on June 22, 1876 in **Haverfordwest, Wales**, and the second of four children of Edwin John, a solicitor. “The four young Johns looked rather alike: all had dark hair, dark almond-shaped eyes and oval faces with full cheeks and pouting mouths.” Her mother died in 1884, and within



Self portrait

months, her grieving father moved the family to Tenby on the coast. From her earliest years, Gwen painted and drew; she and brother Augustus took their sketch books everywhere. She followed her talented brother to study at the Slade School of Fine Art in London in 1895. Her first mentor was James McNeil Whistler, and she quickly identified her need to have a separate artistic identity from Augustus. Once, her brother commented to Whistler that Gwen’s work ‘showed a feeling for character.’ ‘Character,’ replied Whistler, ‘Character? What’s that? It’s tone that matters. Your sister has a fine sense of tone.’

Gwen John moved to France in 1898, where she built her career and life. She began in Paris - studying, painting, and supporting her meagre life by posing as an artist’s model. During the early 1900’s, the center of her life was her relationship with August Rodin. She posed for him, became his lover, and was obsessed with him. She was difficult, demanding, and he eventually had to end the connection. Her work was influenced by Picasso, but she said that his work was, ‘although fine, lacked charm’ for her. A great patron of hers between 1910-1924 was John Quinn, and American collector, who bought many paintings and drawings, and gave her a stipend. Her natural disposition to live and work alone grew in her later years. She did present shows of her work periodically. Gwen John died in France in 1939. Although her brother’s name is recognized more readily, in recent years, she has been regarded critically as the superior artist.



The Student 1903



Girl with a Blue Scarf 1915-1920

23 unsigned watercolors by G. John of nuns and parishioners of the church in Meudon, France were discovered stored at Princeton University in early 2012.

Ninnau Mar-Apr 2012

“ ‘Reticent,’ ‘quiet,’ ‘subtle,’ ‘private’ are words used again and again to characterize Gwen John’s art. She herself said: ‘As to whether I have anything worth expressing ... I may never have anything to express except this desire for a more interior life.’ The viewer is drawn into Gwen John’s private world, her ‘interior life.’ So intimate and intense is that communion that it is difficult for one to remember how widely known and appreciated - how public - that art has become. Her letters, papers, and pictures are held by the National Museum of Wales (more than 1000 pictures at Cardiff).”

Sources & quotations: Cecily Langdale, *Gwen John with a catalogue raisonné of the paintings and a selection of the drawings*. 1987 New Haven: Yale University Press

Ffrindiau da (good friends) !! Become a member, or renew your membership !!



Membership & Information Form

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone (home) _____ Phone (cell) _____

e-mail _____

Birthday (month and day only) _____

Connection to Wales (family, interests--use back for more) _____

NEW RENEWAL

Membership category: (new memberships prorated by quarter based on January renewal)

- Life (member for 5 years who attains 80th birthday before July 1) NO CHARGE
- General \$25.00 Daffodil (contributing sponsor) \$50.00 (or more)
- Family \$35.00 Honorary NO CHARGE

Newsletter for non-members:

- e-mail NO CHARGE
- mailed to you \$10.00

NOTE: Special needs for membership and newsletter will be considered

Please make out check to: Welsh Society of Portland

Send form and check to:
Janet Figini
P.O. Box 771
Estacada OR 97023



I can contribute to a meeting program

CHWARDDIADAU (Laughs)



in honor of St. Dwynwen's Day - January 25

(the Welsh Valentine's Day)

Blodwen, an elderly Welsh lady, was invited to an old friend's home for dinner one evening.

She was impressed by the way her lady friend preceded every request to her husband with endearing terms such as: 'Love,' 'Cariad,' 'Darling,' etc.

The couple had been married almost 70 years and, clearly, they were still very much in love.

While the husband was in the living room, Blodwen leaned over to her hostess to say, "I think it's wonderful that, after all these years, you still call your husband all those loving names".

The elderly lady hung her head. "I have to tell you the truth," she said, "his name slipped my mind about 10 years ago, and I'm scared to death to ask the dear old brick what his name is."

Hwyl, who was working abroad wrote to his wife "Dear sweetheart, I can't send my salary this month, so I am sending 100 kisses. You are my sweetheart! Your husband, Hwyl"

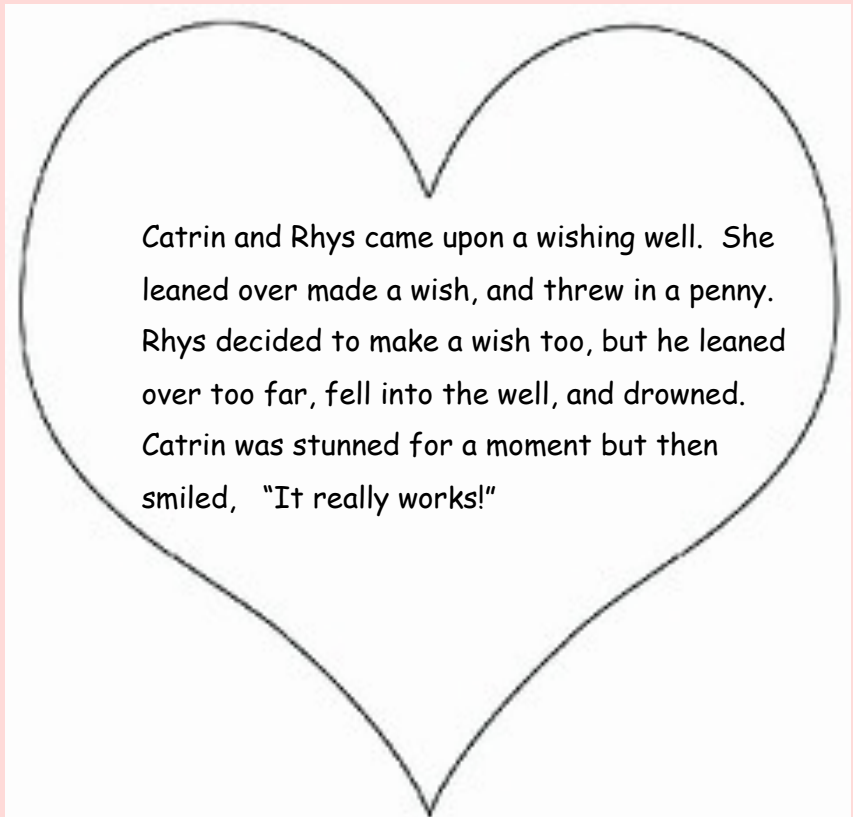
Gwen his wife replied, "Sweetheart dearest, thanks for the 100 kisses. Below is a list of expenses:

"Milkman agreed on 2 kisses for 1 month's milk. Electricity man agreed only after 7 kisses. The landlord comes every day to take 2 or 3 kisses instead of the rent. Supermarket owner does not accept kisses only, so I gave him other items..... Other expenses 40 kisses. Please don't worry about me, I have the remaining balance of 35 kisses and I hope I can complete the month using the balance.

Shall I plan the same for next month?"

Your loving wife, Gwen

<http://www.onlinenigeria.com/jokes/ad/1-1629>



Happy Birthday to WSOP'ers born in January! !

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

- Laura Saddler Jan 2
- Sharon Owen Jan 19
- Carol Evans Jan 22
- Jane Ohling Jan 25



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

WALES

- Germanic root *Walk*
- Brythonic word *Combrogî*
- In Welsh *Cymru*
- Latinized form *Cambria*
- Backwards Selaw



Anagrams

- Swale a low area (especially a marshy area between ridges)
- Weals raised marks on the skin found in many allergic reactions

Information

- Jan 5 Welsh-American Pub Quiz**
- Feb 2 Heraldry & Wales**
- Mar 2 St. David's Day Celebration**
- Apr 6 Under development**

- 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**

Our website - www.portlandwelsh.org

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