



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.

JULY 13th is our Picnic !

The picnic will start at 1pm at Bryn Seion Welsh Church
(22132 S. Kamrath Road, Beaver Creek, OR 97004)

If your last name begins with A-L, bring sweets/dessert

If your last name begins with M-Z, main dish or salad

The Welsh Society will provide chicken main course & drinks.

PLEASE CALL JANET FIGINI (503-630-5317) IF YOU ARE COMING

- TO HELP US PLAN!!



Scavenger Hunt !!!

We will be having a scavenger hunt - on the grounds of Bryn Seion Church.

We will have two teams, and each team will have a list of things to find.

The winning team collects the items on the list and gets back to the start point first.

This should be a fun & non-strenuous 'diversion' (as Jane Austen would say it...)

in the outdoors for our picnic.

Please implore St. David to give us good weather on July 13th!



The flag of Wales

The Roman cavalry used a dragon emblem on their pennants and standards during the occupation of Britain. The Welsh kings of Aberffraw used the emblem to symbolize their authority in the early 5th century. The name Pendragon, or Pen Draig (dragon head) had its origins in these battle standards. Henry VIII used the red dragon on green and white as an emblem on Royal Navy Vessels. When the Scottish King James became James I of England, the Welsh influence waned, and the emblem did not return to the Royal Badge of Wales until 1807. In 1901, the dragon became the official symbol of Wales, and in Caernarfon in 1911, at the investiture of Edward, Prince of Wales, the flag appeared in its current form. In 1959, Queen Elizabeth II made the red dragon on a green and white background the official flag of Wales.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/history/sites/themes/society/flag_officialemblem.shtml



The flag of the United States of America

On June 14, 1777, the Marine Committee of the 2nd Continental Congress passed the Flag Resolution, which stated: "Resolved, the the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; the the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

The Flag Resolution did not specify any particular arrangement, number of points, or orientation of the stars. The story we all know is that Betsy Ross sewed the circular star flag, from a pencil drawing given her by George Washington. It is likely that Francis Hopkinson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, designed the 1777 flag with 13 stars in rows. He asked for a "quarter cask of the public wine" in payment; this was not paid since he was a salaried member of Congress. The star quadrant has grown to today's flag with 50 stars for the 50 states.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_of_the_United_States



"Oh! You are from Wales? Do you know a fella named Jonah? He used to live in whales for a while..."

Groucho Marx

Thanks!! to David Pritchard, who sent this follow-up to June's Chwarddiadau on the 'Wales & Whales' theme



'Dragon Speak' Newsletter will be on vacation for a month. Your next newsletter will arrive in late August.

WELSH AUTHORS COMING TO WORDSTOCK



Wordstock is a Portland literary festival featuring author readings, writing contests, workshops, exhibits, and a book fair; this year Wordstock will be Oct 3-6.

At our AUGUST 3rd MEETING, Ceri Shaw will speak to us on AmeriCymru and about Welsh writers coming to the upcoming 2013 Wordstock Festival.

AmeriCymru participates in the event to bring Welsh writers to Wordstock and to present Welsh writing and writers to Portland audiences, at Wordstock and at other events.

Ceri will have 'inside information' about the Welsh authors coming to Wordstock!

The Welsh Society of Portland Bylaws have been revised, and approved at the June meeting. During July, members who use email will receive an electronic copy, and members who receive hard copy mailings will have a copy sent by mail. If there are questions, please contact a WSOP officer or Director (see last page).

L In AUGUST, we are opening a lending library for
I members and friends of the Welsh Society of
B Portland. We hope to have books and other
R 'media' - focused on Wales and Welsh America.
A You will be able to borrow books for a period of
R 1 month (between meetings).
Y We now have 25 books, and we encourage
donations which would be of interest to
'Welshies' !!
Gwen Newborg is our librarian.





Leeks of Interest ...

true tidbits about Wales and Welsh-America

Romantic Message etched in Window Pane of Penrhyn Castle finally understood ...



A romantic message etched into the window pane of a castle 100 years ago has finally been deciphered. According to the Daily Mail, the message --- "essere amato amando" had mystified visitors to historic Penrhyn Castle for decades. Experts dismissed the message as jumbled Latin.

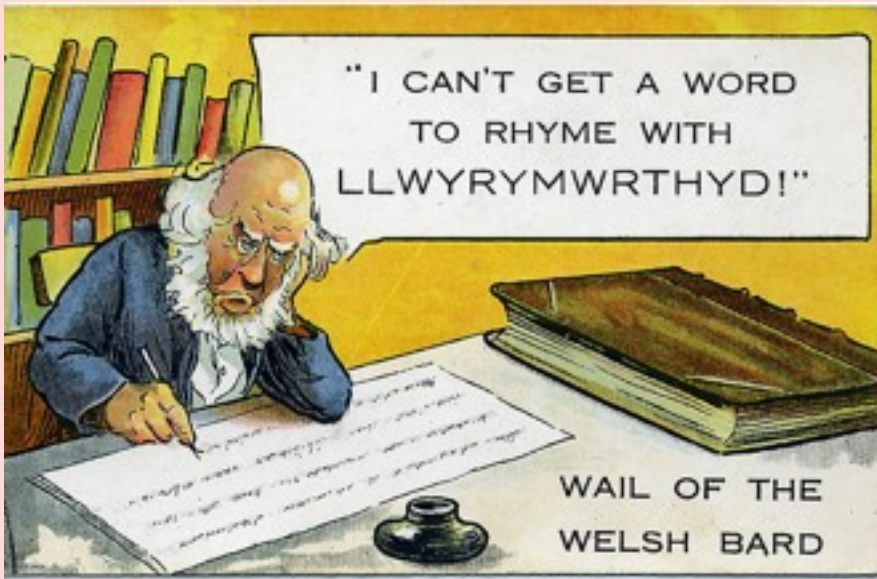
However... in October 2012, native Italian speaker Resi Tomat of the Castle staff translated the phrase to mean, "to be loved while loving." Turns out, more than 100 years ago, Lady Alice Douglas-Pennant - known as "Lady Alice" - had been banished to the castle tower when her father found out she had fallen in love with the gardener. "It was not just that the daughter of a lord should fraternize with an employee. It was a *Downton Abbey* situation where the two just don't mingle socially." According to the source, the note would have been etched when she was a teenager, about 1880. Eventually, she left the confines of the Castle and worked as an artist until her death at age 76. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/02/01/lady-alice-message_n_2594644.html

Literary Anthology - 'ETO' Launched

March 1st was the first publication of *Eto*, a new twice-yearly literary anthology. 'Eto' is a magazine designed for aspiring, new, and established Welsh writers. The focus will be mainly on short stories and may showcase some poetry. Writers who are Welsh, have Welsh roots, or are lovers of all things Welsh are encouraged to submit works for consideration. Submissions may be sent to priliprowlands@gmail.com or americymru@gmail.com

Highclere Castle, which serves as the location of PBS series *Downton Abbey*, is the real name of the home of the current Lord & Lady Carnarvon. The 5th Lord Carnarvon (1866-1923) was an Egyptologist, and led the expedition which opened the tomb of Tutankhamen. The Earl of Carnarvon name comes from the Welsh town, but the site of Highclere is Hampshire, England.

CHWARDDIADAU (Laughs)



At a funeral, Williams the Box, the town undertaker, spied Berwyn, a very old man from the next village.

"Tell me," Williams said, "how old are you?"

"I shall be eighty-nine at my next birthday," said Berwyn.

"Really," said Williams the Box, "it's hardly worth your going home, is it?"

<http://www.squidoo.com/welsh-jokes>

Dai, who had just turned 20, one day informed his father that he wanted to marry Mari, the girl next door.

"I'm sorry, boyo," said his father, "but you can't marry her, you see as it happens she's your sister."

Dai was downcast but within a week he came back to see his father again.

"Dad", he said, "I've made up my mind to marry Morfydd."

"Isn't that the girl behind the counter in Morgan's dairy?" asked his father . . . and it turned out she was his sister too.

Gradually one after another the girls of the village were excluded from matrimonial alliance with Dai on the grounds of consanguinity until none was left.

One evening after the last girl had fallen under his father's interdict Dai was sitting in the front room looking sadly at the grate.

"What's wrong with you, Dai?" asked his mother, "girl trouble is it?"

"Yes, Mam," Dai replied, "every time I want to marry a girl, father makes out she's my sister."

"Oh, don't listen to that old fool", said his mother, "he's no relation of yours anyway."

<http://welshjokes.com/jokes>

Although it was some time since her husband died, Lowri remained inconsolable. To the insurance rep who came round to settle her late husband's policy, she declared in tears, "You know I'd give half this money to have my Evan back again."

<http://www.welshjokes.com/jokes/lifeanddeath/2.shtml>

Happy Birthday to WSOP'ers born in July & August! !

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

Sue Wielessek	July 1	Maggie Rogers	Aug 4
David Pritchard	July 6	Griffith Owen	Aug 5
Betty Pierce	July 25	Mary Ann Spear	Aug 9
		Lisa Hinman	Aug 22
		Claudia Zahorcak	Aug 22
		Judith Ford	Aug 27



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

Information

- Jul 13 Picnic & Scavenger Hunt !!**
- Aug 3 Welsh authors coming to Wordstock CERI SHAW**
- Sep 7 Welsh Ponies farm !!**
- Oct 5 the Princes Llywelyn & the family Llywelyn**
- Nov 2 to be announced**

- 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

put
a little Wales
in your life!

Use a small memento of Wales - from a trip or something you've bought here - as a common item in your daily living. The editor uses this donation envelope as a bookmark.



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