



Dragon Speak Dragon Speak 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 our St. David's Day Celebration !

Saturday, March 1st 1:00pm
Kenilworth Presbyterian Church
4028 SE 34th Av. at Gladstone St.



THE PROGRAM

Poem & readings on St. David
St. David trivia quiz
the **WELSH Table** will be open for sales!
Special meal...

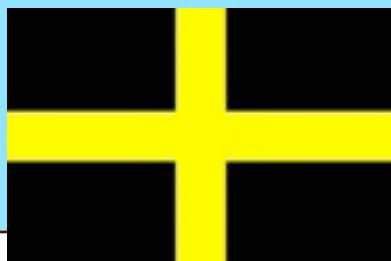
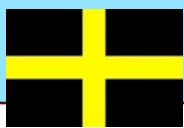
We will be serving:
cawl cennin a tatws
quiche
brechdanau bach
pwdinau blasus
te poeth

leek & potato soup
quiche
small sandwiches
delicious desserts
hot tea

cost to cover special meal \$10.00 members
\$12.00 non-members

Please RSVP if you plan to
come:

Janet Figini 503-630-5317
or jpfigini@cascadeaccess.com





Town of Note

LLANDUDNO

Llandudno is a seaside resort, town and community in Conwy County Borough, Wales.

The town developed from Stone Age, Bronze Age, and Iron Age settlements on a headland known to seafarers as The Great Orme.

For many years, cavers, archeologists and geologists have been burrowing deeper and deeper into an old copper mining system beneath the Orme. In 1991, the Bronze Age Mine was opened to the public, allowing underground visits, and observing archeologists at work.

Modern Llandudno takes its name from the ancient parish of St. Tudno but encompasses several neighboring townships.

The Victorians and Edwardians loved Llandudno. It wasn't long before local businessmen latched onto the idea of a cable tramway reaching to the top of the Great Orme. The town's elegant seaside architecture contributed to the town being called 'The Queen of the Welsh Resorts.'

In 1862, the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board built an enormous lighthouse on the rocky slopes of the headland. This magnificent castle-like structure still stands above the wave-lashed cliffs, but the great lantern no longer illuminates the jagged rocks below - it is now a bed-and-breakfast!

The Visitor Centre is designed to promote environmental awareness. The excellent displays and photographs provide information about the wildlife and history of the ancient headland.

The magnificent Conwy Castle is 5 miles from Llandudno. The castle, considered one of the finest medieval fortifications, was built on high cliffs by Edward I between 1283 and 1289.

<http://www.llandudno.com>



Who is this appealing young Welsh girl?

see last page



Llandudno seafront

HOW TO STUDY WELSH

many of us with Welsh heritage have considered studying the Welsh language, which is the heart and soul of the Welsh people. Here are just some options:

Rosetta Stone is a program on CD's in which the learner learns Welsh through pictures and hears pronunciation, in increasing complexity. Although the Welsh program is no longer available from Rosetta Stone, it can be found online, or by obtaining the CD's from a friend.

Colloquial Welsh: the complete course for beginners by Gareth King this is both book & CD's providing a step-by-step course in Welsh as it is written and spoken today.

Welsh Grammar You Really Need to Know by Christine Jones *pub. 2014* Instant help with common problems, tests in the book to keep track of progress.

Online

Say Something in Welsh <http://www.saysomethingin.com/welsh>) courses and blog

Easy Online Welsh Class <http://americymru.net> online course taught by John Good

A great website:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/learning/learnwelsh/>

Live learning

Cymdeitas Madog, <http://www.madog.org> a non-profit dedicated to helping North Americans learn, use, and enjoy the Welsh language. The annual Welsh course is held once every summer, and has multiple levels of instruction.

Find a local class! Several of our members are part of an ongoing Welsh class. See Megs Lloyd-Patton or KarenAlice Jones.

Books We've Read



TALKING TO THE DEAD

by Harry Bingham

Delacorte Press 2012

Newly-hired Detective Constable Fiona Griffiths is no ordinary cop. Cambridge-educated, she's earned a reputation at police headquarters in Cardiff, Wales, for being odd, not picking up on social cues,

for being a little over-intense. Despite her quirks, Fiona is a very effective investigator, quick and intuitive.

A young woman, Janice, with heroin in her blood is found dead in an abandoned house. With her is found the body of her 6-yr-old daughter, April, and a Visa platinum debit card belonging to Brendan Rattigan, a scrap metal tycoon, who supposedly died in a small plane crash 9 months before.

Fiona is only peripherally assigned to the case, but is pulled into the investigation through her identifying with the dead mother and child. She solves the case, which takes on aspects of a thriller at the conclusion.

If you know a bit about towns of Wales, if you are tuned in to the anti-English feelings of many Welsh folks, if you like an intelligent and complicated central character, you will enjoy this mystery.

Talking to the Dead has been made into a British TV movie. Author Harry Bingham will be releasing *The Coldest Place to Die*, a second Fiona Griffiths mystery, in 2014.

review by John Evans



CHWARDDIADAU (Laughs)

Funny shop signs in Wales



**Paul C. Rook
optometrist**

<http://javacasa.com/humor/church> retrieved 10/1/11

Happy Birthday to WSOP'ers born in MARCH! !

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

- Dick Pugh March 8
- Janet Figini March 9
- Maryanne Dehner March 11
- Nancy Root Parker March 21
- Doris Cruickshank March 26



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

also note: we are including only 2013 & 2014 paid members

Information

Mar 2 St. David's Day Celebration

April 6 Village Life in Mid-Wales - early memories Idris Evans

May 4 How do they say that? some easy Welsh pronunciation information

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

Our Portland Weather !!



Welsh saying :

'Gwlawio hên wragedd a ffyn!
Raining old women and walking sticks!

mysterious girl quiz - MAUREEN LEE !!

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