



DRAGON SPEAK

the newsletter of the Welsh Society of Oregon

image 1: en.wikipedia.org

MAI (MAY) 2017



image 2: pixabay.com

Join us at 12:30pm at Kenilworth Church

mouth-watering pot luck spread!

a social time together !

Come
to
our
May
6th
Meeting
!



DRAGONSPEAK Editor :

contact: Karenalice Jones
503.616.8678

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

Membership

Membership in the Welsh Society of Oregon is open to all people interested in Wales. To join, please contact our Treasurer: Claudia Sterling
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PLEASE NOTE: This is the last Newsletter by editor John Evans (Evans-the-Pen). He and his wife Mary are moving to Cleveland, Ohio



Blodyn chwyn gorau (best weed flower)

bright yellow dandies!
your yard, my yard -
what other is so plucky, huh?

by *Evans-the-Pen*
Welsh-American haiku poet

image 3: John Evans

from the North Wales Police Blotter —

BURGLAR RACKED UP £44,500. (\$55,071.) BILL ON A MOBILE PHONE GIVEN TO HIM BY POLICE SO THEY COULD 'KEEP AN EYE ON HIM'

The North Wales police have a program - 'The Integrated Offender Management' process - in which inexpensive cell phones are given to released offenders they are working with in order to "help them integrate back into the community."

In an administrative blunder, the thief - out on bail - was given a contract phone instead of a pay-as-you go phone.

He handed it over to two of his pals when he returned to jail.

Between them, they racked up a staggering bill of around £250.(\$309.) a day for six months before the mix-up was realized.

The pair were arrested on suspicion of theft, but because the burglar hadn't been made to sign a contract on how it should be used, the two friends had to be let go without charge.

An internal police investigation ensued ... While some policy changes were made, no officer or civilian member of the workforce had any action taken against them over the blunder. source: mirror.co.uk

thanks to Dick Pugh for alerting us to the story!



Roald Dahl

Roald Dahl - a spy, an ace fighter pilot, a chocolate historian, a medical inventor.

Dahl said, "If you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely."

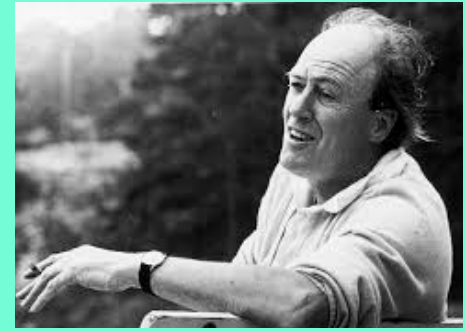


image 4: [flickr.com](https://www.flickr.com/photos/roald-dahl/)

Born in Llandaff, Wales on September of 1916 to Norwegian parents, and he spoke Norwegian at home with his family.

Dahl first attended Cathedral School, Llandaff. At the age of eight, he and four of his friends were caned by the headmaster for putting a dead mouse in a jar of gobstoppers (jawbreakers) in the local sweet shop. While at Repton School, he and schoolmates were recruited to test new Cadbury chocolate prototypes.

After his school days, Dahl's list for travel took I'm first to Canada, then to East Africa, where he worked for an oil company until the outbreak of World War II. He enlisted in the Royal Air Force. In September 1940, Dahl received severe injuries to his head, nose, and back the his Gladiator crash-landed in the Western Desert. en.wikipedia.org

After a six-month recovery, and then taking part in the Battle of Athens, he was posted to Washington, where he supplied intelligence information to MI6.

In 1953 Dahl married the America actress Patrician Neal, with whom he had five children. In 1960, he helped invent the Wade-Dahl-Till valve, prompted by the need to alleviate the head injuries endured by his son after an accident in New York.

There followed a burst of literary energy: in 1961 *James and the Giant Peach* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* were published. He then wrote screen plays for then James Bond hit *You Only Live Twice*, and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. The rest of the decade saw the publication of many other classics, including *Danny the Champion of the World*, *The Enormous Crocodile*, and *My Uncle Oswald*.

In the early 1980's he published *The Twits*, *Revolting Rhymes*, *The BFG*, and *The Witches*. There followed two autobiographical books: *Boy*, in 1984, and *Going Solo* in 1986.

Roald Dahl died in November 1990, aged 74. He was buried in Great Missenden - the Birmingham village where the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre, which "continue his mission to amaze, thrill and inspire generations of children and their parents."

roalddahl.com

The BFG

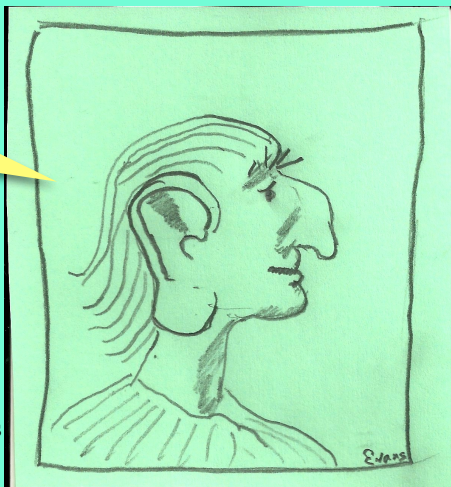


image 5: John Evans

In Roald Dahl's *The BFG* (stands for Big Friendly Giant) the BFG is explaining how other giants eat people - although he doesn't.

The Giant describes that the 'human bean' comes in many flavors. He tells young Sophie that people of Wales taste very fishy.

Sophie corrects him, saying that the BFG probably meant whales, and that Wales is a different thing.

He tells her not to quibble about words - 'Wales is whales.'



Our Welsh-American Family Names

HOWELL

JONES M
o Williams
r
g
a P
n a J
r r E
r r N
y y S

JENKINS

DAVIES

Lloyd

Roberts

Thomas

Llewellyn

Hughes

OWEN

Lewis

Pritchard

REES

Price

EVANS

Griffiths

Powell

Whilst researching my Welsh ancestors, one of the documents found was the marriage of Howell Williams to Elizabeth George in 1848. The fathers of the participants are listed on the marriage registration along with their occupations. Howell's father was William Howell, butcher. From this I concluded that patronymics were alive and well in the early 1820s when Howell Williams was born. That Howell forename carried down to one of the children of my great-grandfather William Williams. How I wish they had kept the Howell surname for the family as that would make my family research in Wales a little easier. Howell is the anglicized form of the forename Hywel. It is a name of the south Wales coastal area where from 1813-1837 it was more than 1% of the population with the highest percentage, 2.65% in Carmarthenshire. The name is virtually non-existent in north Wales in that time period.

Hywel was pronounced 'Hew-el' in some areas and led to the absorption of the forename Hugh which arrived from the Continent. These names came to be considered equivalents. Thus Howells and Hughes have a history in common.

The first record of the name was a Welsh Prince Howel who was recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086. The Welsh were early settlers in America with Owen Howel settling in Virginia in 1635.

The 1841 census, a time my William Howell was alive, lists 8889 individuals with the Howell surname with only 2821 living in Wales. Most of these were in Glamorgan, the county of my family, with most of the rest in nearby counties. By 1881, a census year, the Howell surname had spread to Mid-Wales and into England including areas of northwest London. Counted were 12,608 individuals with that surname. This gave Howell the rank order of 341 in Great Britain, far down the list.

A surname survey done for England, Wales and Scotland in 1998 shows a wider distribution of the Howell surname with the highest concentrations still in South Wales but also in the English counties along the Bristol Channel.

Adding 's' to make Howells changes the 1881 population density in south and Mid-Wales with most located in the southwest part of the country. By 1998 distribution of the Howells surname included all of Wales plus the English counties close to Wales. The highest concentration was still in South Wales and there were virtually none in London.

We currently have no members of WSOR with the Howell/Howells surname-- time to find one!

written by Doris Cruickshank



CHWARDDIADAU (Laughs)

Preacher Maggie Lloyd was spell-binding in her passionate sermon folks were sitting with their mouths open! She leaned over the edge of the lectern and called out, "Who wants to go to heaven? Raise your hands!"

Many did raise their hands, and Rev. Lloyd looked out pleased.

Jim Williams and some of the boys sat in the back of the chapel and murmured among themselves.

The Reverend was a little put out because they didn't raise their hands.

She called out, "Jimmy, don't you boys want to go to heaven some day?"

"Ooooh, Reverend, we thought you meant we had to go right now!"

thanks to Rev. David Jewel of Kenilworth Presbyterian

Preacher Howell stopped in the middle of his powerful sermon to ask, "Who is God, anyway?"

From the back of the church, a little boy said, "God is a chauffeur."

'Why do you say that?' asked Mr. Howell.

"Because," said the boy,

"He drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden!"

Tom Tudor and a few others had split off from their chapel because they could no longer accept the doctrines of their denomination.

Some months later the pastor asked Mr. Tudor whether he and the others worshipped together.

Tudor: "No, I found that they accepted certain points to which I could not subscribe, so I withdrew from Communion with them."

Pastor: "So I suppose you and your wife carry on your devotions together at home."

Tudor: "Well, not exactly. I found that our views on certain doctrines are not in harmony so there has been a division between us. Now she worships in the North-East corner of the room and I take the South-West." adapted from <http://www.welshjokes.com/jokes/religion/14.shtml>



Happy Birthday to WSOP'ers born in May! !

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

May 2 Mags Lloyd-Patton
May 8 Leah Dehner



if we missed you, we may not have your birthday on the list. Please call or email John Evans (see below). **also note: we are including only 2016 & 2017 paid members**

image 6: pixabay.com



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

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.

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Our Meetings

- May 6 Social Afternoon**
- June 3 Madog and the Welsh in America - a talk by Dick Pugh**
- July 8 Picnic at Bryn Seion Welsh Church**
- Aug 5 To Be Arranged**

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

Unless noted, all meetings of WSOR are held at

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