



# DRAGON SPEAK

Welsh Society of Oregon Newsletter

[Image source: [en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org)]

## MEHEFIN (JUNE) 2017

### June 3 General Meeting

Come learn about Welsh explorers reaching America centuries before Columbus and their legacy



12:30 pm at Kenilworth Church  
(more details on page 5)

[Image source: <http://www.crossingtheoceansea.com/OceanSeaPages/OS-15-PrinceMadog.html>]



## Armchair Research: Wales Websites to Explore

Maps are essential for finding and understanding families.

They can answer questions such as:

Where did the family live?

Where did they work?

How far did your ancestor have to walk to meet his wife?

Which chapel/church was the easiest walk on Sunday?

What route did your ancestor take to get where they were going?

How did the countryside change over the decades?

Maps give a visual to the place names we find when seeking our heritage.

The best series of maps for Wales are found on the Library of Scotland website <http://maps.nls.uk/>. Select 'Ordnance Survey Maps' and then find 'Map Series—England, Wales and Great Britain'. Please note that the more rural areas of Wales will not be mapped on the earliest of these maps. After you select a series, you will see several options including zoomable overlay layers on modern maps. This is very helpful to see where the 'old' place is today. It may be under a motorway or shopping centre.

The Six-inch map series is a good one to start with. Clicking on it will take you to a page where you will need to select the map series again in box 2. Zoom in to find the area of interest. Click on the rectangle and the historic map links will appear on the right side, then click your choice and zoom in to see the details.

This is a section of the 1874-75 survey of the village where my grandmother was born in 1892. By the time of her birth it had grown into a coal mining town.



Maps are interesting and fun to explore.

Happy hunting,

Doris



## Happy Birthday to WSOP'ers born in June!

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

June 3: Carol Morgan  
June 6: Diane Root  
June 10: KarenAlice Jones  
June 13: Jeff Lewis  
June 13: Gwen Newborg  
June 25: Jonathan Nicholas



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

[Image source: [pixabay.com](http://pixabay.com)]

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## Some Articles on the Web about Wales

### 'The Lost City of Trellech'

"A history fan who spent his £32,000 life savings buying a field because he believed there were secrets hidden below the soil has been proved right after unearthing a lost medieval city."

"The city, which lies between Monmouth and Trelleck, is believed to date back to the 13th century and is thought to have been home to around 10,000 people, including Norman lords of the de Clare family who used it as a place to mass produce iron."

Read the full article for details about the excavation and what it has revealed about the medieval landscape in Wales: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4083716/History-fan-spends-32-000-life-savings-buying-field-digs-discover-lost-medieval-city.html>

### 'Welsh Farmer Accidentally Creates World's Hottest Chilli'

"The previous record-holder for hottest chili in the world, the ominous-sounding Carolina Reaper, has had to officially move aside to make way for the aptly monikered Dragon's Breath chili—a chili so hot no one has actually eaten it yet, for fear it could kill you. How? By literally burning your airways, as if you were breathing fire."

Read the full article to learn how the farmer's intent to make a more attractive chilli tree resulted in a plant both pretty and potentially deadly: <http://www.iflscience.com/plants-and-animals/welsh-farmer-accidentally-creates-worlds-hottest-chili/>



**NOSON LAWEN 2017**  
*An Evening of Welsh Fun*



**Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm**

Sing a rousing round of your favorite Welsh song, attend to a well-told tale, and laugh at a good joke - it's all part of this uniquely Welsh gathering of friends and family - our annual **Noson Lawen**.

This years hosts are **Three Pound Note** featuring our own **Andrea Wild** together with the **Welsh Society Chorus** led by our own **Jamie Webster**.

Have a song, poem, joke or pub trivia to share? Contributions are welcome!

Cost is \$15/person which includes gourmet pizza and salad.

**Lucky Labrador Public House in Multnomah Village**  
**7675 SW Capitol Hwy, Portland**



**82nd Annual Gymanfa Ganu**  
*(Welsh Singing Festival)*

*Nerys Jones, director*

**Bryn Seion Welsh Church**  
**Sunday, 25 June, 2017**

**22132 S. Kamrath Road,**  
**Beavercreek, Oregon 97004**

**11:00 am Traditional Church Service**

**2:00 pm: First Session** - with musical guests harpist Bronn

Journey & soprano Katherine Journey & The Pixton Family

**4:00 pm: Welsh Tea (\$10.00)**

**6:00 pm: Second Session**



**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.**

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## Membership

Membership in the Welsh Society of Oregon is open to all people interested in Wales.

To join, please contact our Treasurer:  
Claudia Sterling  
20600 SW Shoshone Dr  
Tualatin, OR 97062  
[claudia.sterling@comcast.net](mailto:claudia.sterling@comcast.net)

**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.

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

## The Board:

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## Our Meetings:

Schedule:

12:30 pm: Business Meeting  
(open to all)  
1:00 pm: Refreshments  
1:30 pm: Program (see below)

June 3

'Madog and the Welsh in  
America'  
talk by Dick Pugh

July 8

Picnic at Bryn Seion Welsh  
Church

August 5

Movie Night!

**Unless noted, all meetings are held at:**

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