

Welsh Society of Western New England



Cymdeithas Cymreig Lloegr Newydd Gorllewin

Website: WelshWNE.org

Email:

WelshWNE@gmail.com

FaceBook: [WSWNE](#)

Cell: 860.987.7097

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wed, April 18 - Genealogy
Workshop

Wed., May 9 - Pub Trivia
Night

Sat., May 12 - Genealogy
Workshop

Sunday, May 20 - Noson
Lawen - Dylan Day

Sat., June 9 - Digital Day at
Genealogy Workshop

Wed., June 13 - Pub Trivia
Night

Wed., July 11 - Pub Trivia
Night

Sat., July 14 - Genealogy
Workshop

Aug 30 - Sept 2 - North
American Festival of
Wales, Washington DC

1st ANNUAL **NOSON LAWEN** for
DYLAN THOMAS DAY

**Sunday, May 20, 2018 at Bertucci's, 847
Riverdale Rd., West Springfield, MA**

NOSON LAWEN, literal translation "Happy Evening", has roots in rural Wales when families would gather together in a home for entertainment. We'll share Welsh fables, stories, poetry, readings, singing and music, in both the Welsh & English language, while having a meal and drinks together (on your own from the menu).

Everyone is welcome to contribute to the evening, sign up by emailing WelshWNE@gmail.com, advising what you will sing, play, read (so far, we have Welsh poetry in English and Welsh, songs, music and literature)... or just join us to listen and enjoy.



TRIVIA NIGHT with "THE RED DRAGONS" TEAM

Wednesday, May 9th, June 13th and July 11th at the Yarde Tavern,
1658 King Street, Enfield, CT (Close to the MA state line)

Several WSNWE members join up at the Yarde Tavern in Enfield, CT as the team "The Red Dragons" for a Pub Trivia night... We enjoy each other's company while sharing a meal together and beating to pulp all the other teams...well not quite, but we actually came in 2nd (twice) and once we were equal 1st! We look forward to another Red Dragon Team Trivia Night....**at 6PM for dinner, Trivia starts at 7PM.... & if you can, wear red!**

Please join us as part of the team! RSVP to WelshWNE@gmail.com.

GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS:

April 18 (Wednesday) , May 12 (Sat.), June 9 (Sat), July 14 (Sat), 2018

Our Genealogy Workshops meet monthly to learn how to research Welsh roots. June Workshop will feature the digitalizing of photos and documents. Bring your old photos and documents and you'll learn how to save them digitally. Workshop meets 10:15am-5:00pm: come for the day or part thereof. Bring your family tree and a lunch dish to share. Members, \$5. Non-members - first Workshop complimentary, further workshops \$10 per session. Info & location: email WelshWNE@gmail.com.

DYLAN DAY - May 14th each year

(Wales ONLINE Website)

The Scots have Burns Night and Wales has "Dylan Day".

The Welsh Government and Literature Wales announced in 2014 that from now on, May 14 in Wales will be known as "Dylan Day".

Dylan Thomas' granddaughter Hannah Ellis broke the news in 2014 at an event at the [National Library of Wales](#) in Aberystwyth to mark the conclusion of the successful year-long [Dylan Thomas 100 Festival](#) celebrating the centenary of the writer's birth in Uplands, Swansea. The Welsh Government says Dylan Day is aimed at building on the legacy of the Dylan Thomas 100 Festival and comes in response to requests to establish a public day to remember Thomas' life and works. The May 14 date reflects the date [Under Milk Wood](#) was first read on stage at The Poetry Centre in New York in 1953.

NORTH AMERICAN FESTIVAL OF WALES (NAFOW)

The North American Festival of Wales (NAFOW), sponsored by the Welsh North American Association, the largest Welsh cultural organization in North America, will be held in Washington DC on Aug 30 - Sept 2, 2018 . See www.NAFOW.org for more details. including a list of seminars and performers. We have booked a total of 4 rooms, need one? Email WelshWNE@gmail.com for questions and reservations.

If you've never been, this is your chance, because as in 2017, it's drivable! Email WelshWNE@gmail.com to carpool with us. Cost per person for gas, and mini-van rental, will be about \$85. We will need additional drivers too! Please sign up at WelshWNE@gmail.com.

One member found a flight to DC from Bradley for \$143, with free shuttle to the hotel. Check out www.cheapoair.com.



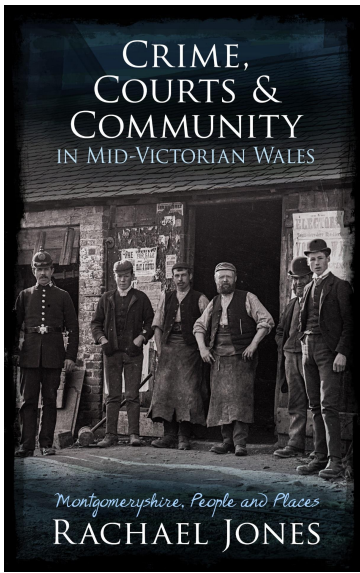
Moch Pryderi

Highlights are: ESCHOIR, a Welsh Male Choir based in London, opening concert by TRIO, a male vocal group from Snowdonia, and the pan-celtic band Moch Pryderi, plus seminars, music, song, dancing and Welsh language classes.

Event hotel is the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center in Alexandria. To make your own reservations, mention "North American Festival of Wales 2018" to receive the discounted rate of \$103 / night plus taxes for a king, double, triple or quad room.

WELL-READ DRAGONS

A new book of local history is to be published in spring 2018. *Crime, Courts and Community in Mid-Victorian Wales: Montgomeryshire, People and Places* by Dr Rachael Jones is a detailed look at life during the 1870s as seen through a study of the criminal justice system. Fascinating details such as the chief constable's campaign against brothels in Newtown, a raid on the Wagon and Horses public house and the pursuit of thieves along the Kerry



A new book of Local History to be published in Spring 2018.

Available for advanced order on Amazon or the
University of Wales Press website

Ridgeway provide a vivid picture of life. Dr Jones looks at the whole community, and discusses how people's lives, townscapes and countryside were interlinked. There are particular focuses on women's experience, social relations and how people used the law to stand up for themselves. The voices of individuals are read in extracts from their testimonies, and local speech including *thee* and *thou* is heard. The book is available for advanced purchase from Amazon or the University of Wales Press website. Rachael Jones



NINNAU needs your support!



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NINNAU.com.

THE WELSH KITCHEN - A COOKBOOK

We are planning to put together a Welsh recipe cookbook, with recipes handed down from our Welsh ancestors or from our own kitchens. Please email magdalendowden@sbcglobal.net if you'd like to participate. We'd love to have the recipe, history of the recipe with ancestor information or your own bio. Diolch!

BUMPERSTICKER

Surprise! All renewing and new memberships will receive a brand new bumpersticker to help promote our Welsh Society. If you have renewed or just joined and haven't received your

bumpersticker yet, please email WelshWNE@gmail.com and we'll

get one in the mail to you. We also have extras for other family members if you'd like more than one (to cover our cost, they're \$3 each), so please just ask and we'll send more out to you ASAP. Thank you for displaying our Welsh Society wherever you go!



LEARNING WELSH

Haven't been learning Welsh but interested in starting? We recommend the free downloadable audio course Say Something in Welsh and its free, very active, discussion forum. To reach the free SSIW lessons and forum:

<https://www.saysomethingin.com/welsh/course1>

There's also a free, very good iPhone app available through Apple.

YEAR OF THE SEA - walesthebrand.com

In 2018 we're celebrating Wales' outstanding coastline, and inviting visitors to discover new epic experiences all around our shores, with special events and attractions throughout the year.

This is our Year of the Sea. The 870-mile Wales Coast Path runs the whole length of our coastline, passing seascapes of breath-taking variety, from fens to towering cliffs, featuring hundreds of harbours, coves, inlets and islands, and 230 beaches. Every cove and clifftop comes with legends of pirates and smugglers, wreckers and saints. There are classic harbour towns, modern marinas, ancient castles and elegant Victorian and Edwardian resorts.

There are 50 magical islands, set in seas that are home to seals, porpoises and Britain's largest population of bottlenose dolphins.

Marloes peninsula, Pembrokeshire



There are dozens of activities to try: sailing, scuba diving, kayaking, kitesurfing, coasteering, paddle-boarding, rib-rides and surfing. Or follow the rivers upstream to the inland shores of our lakes and reservoirs.

Wherever you are in Wales, you're never more than just over an hour from the sea. So wherever you stay - rural cottage or boutique hotel - there'll be an epic shore nearby. With a language and culture that's the oldest in Britain, a warm Welsh welcome, and food and drink made with skill by passionate people... this is

the greatest coastal experience of 2018.

WELSH OPERA IN MONTANA

In May of 2019, NOVA Center for the Performing Arts, in a co-production with Rimrock Opera Foundation in Billings, Montana, USA, will perform Joseph Parry's Blodwen (the first Welsh opera) - yn Gymraeg! [in Welsh], with English supertitles. Tickets will go on sale in September 2018 - seating is limited so the early bird ... <http://www.novabillings.org>

This will be the first complete stage production of Blodwen in America and will use Dulais Rhys's 2015 chamber version of the orchestration. For more information: <http://dulaisrhysmusicservices.com/blodwen.htm>

WSWNE NEWS is published by the Welsh Society of Western New England, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2017-2018):

President & Genealogy Group Coordinator:

Susan Davies Sit (CT) (860) 987-7097 WelshWNE@gmail.com

Vice President

VACANT - are you interesting in being part of this team?

Treasurer: Mary Jones Pallos (CT) (860) 781-2302 Mary.Pallos@Singulus.com

Secretary: Mark Taylor (CT) (860) 303-1625 Salemzoo@snet.net

MEMBERS AT LARGE (2017-2018):

Welsh Language Group:

Beth Roberts Brown (MA) (413) 454-9476 supernain4@gmail.com

Carpool Coordinator:

Sherry Williams (CT) (860) 872-0949 Booksandbeads@comcast.net

and

Ed Brown (MA) (413) 454-9477 edbethui@gmail.com

Shirley Gilmartin (CT) (860) 887-1794 dsgilm@comcast.net

Magdalen Dowden (MA) (860) 653-7668 magdalendowden@sbcglobal.net

Glyn Dowden (MA) (860) 653-7668 glyndowden@sbcglobal.net

Susan Meers (CT) (860) 334-5119 Susanjmeers@aol.com

Chaplain: Rev. Hugh James (CT)

Past President: Dr. Tom Bernard (MA)

Founder: John Dixon (MA)

Membership List, Email Manager, Newsletter Production: Mark Spencer (MA)

Web Site: Trey McCain (Honorary Member) (MS & WALES)

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WSWNE Membership Form



PLEASE MAIL to Mary Pallos, WSWNE Treasurer, 1542 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033 (check made out to WSWNE, membership year begins March 1st, per family):

___\$100 (Red Dragon), ___\$50 (Daffodil), ___\$25 (Miner's Lantern), ___\$10 (Student)

Today's date: _____

Names (list household members):

Address _____

Home phone # _____

Cell phone # _____

Email address (PLEASE PRINT)

Newsletter Spring, 2018: For Treasurer's use only: Date received: _____