



The Welsh Society of Western New England

Cymdeithas Cymreig Lloegr Newydd Gorllewino

Website: WelshWNE.org / Email: WelshWNE@gmail.com / FaceBook: [WSWNE](https://www.facebook.com/WSWNE)



Owain Glyndwr, last Welsh-born Prince of Wales

OWAIN GLYNDWR CELEBRATION

...to celebrate Owain Glyndwr, we will host a:

WINE & WELSH CHEESE TASTING

Saturday, September 15, 2018

4:00PM - 7:00PM

at 22 Windwood Dr, Glastonbury, CT

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wed., Sept 12 - Trivia Night

Sat., Sept 15 - Owain Glyndwr & Wine & Welsh Cheese Tasting

Wed., Sept 26 - Genealogy Workshop

Wed., Oct 10 - Trivia Night

Sat., Oct 20 - Genealogy Workshop

Following a presentation on Owain Glyndwr, the last Welsh-born Prince of Wales, we will sample a selection of Welsh cheeses such as Colliers, Caerphilly, Little Black Bomber and Red Dragon paired with chutneys, fruit, toasts and crackers together with red and white wine, poured by the owner of a local Wine Shoppe. Traditional harp music will be provided by Kasha Breau, who will sing and play music and folk songs from around the world on modern reconstructions of medieval and renaissance harps as well as the modern concert harp. One of her harps is



Kasha Breau

double-strung, and can produce the lovely cascading waterfall effect of the Welsh triple-harp (Telyn deires). Kasha is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music, and has been playing the music of Wales for over 35 years. She has taught harp, voice, piano, and organ, and performs throughout the United States in various bands and musical groups.

Amber Mist Welsh Cheese, a mature cheddar with whisky.

Tickets in advance only:

**Members \$18, guests \$20.
Reserve by September 5:
email WelshWNE@gmail.com or
call Susan on 860.987.7097.**



PUB TRIVIA NIGHT with the RED DRAGONS TEAM

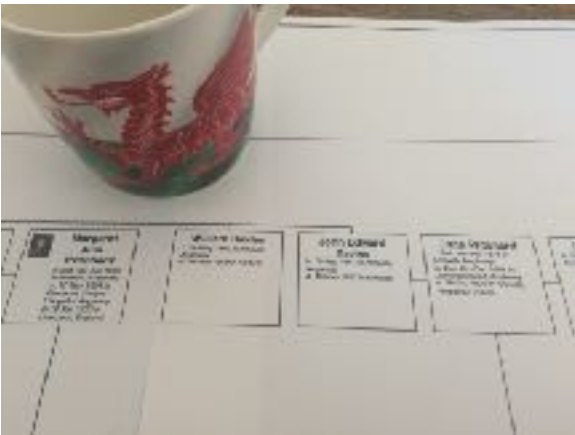
Wednesday, Sept 12, Wednesday, October 10, and Wednesday, November 14 at the Yarde Tavern, 1658 King Street, Enfield, CT (Close to the MA state line)

We look forward to another Red Dragon Team Trivia Night. 6PM for dinner, Trivia starts at 7PM & if you can, wear red! Please join us as part of the team! RSVP please to WelshWNE@gmail.com.



GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS

Our Genealogy Workshop meets monthly to learn how to research Welsh roots. Meets at 10:15am - 5:00pm. Come for the whole day or part thereof. Bring your Welsh family tree information and a lunch dish to share. For info and to RSVP, email WelshWNE@gmail.com. Members \$5; Guests \$10.



- Wed, September 26
- Sat, October 20 includes a talk by Dave Robison, WMGS, on Researching Your MA Ancestors.
- Sat, November 17
- Sat, December 15

OWAIN GLYNDWR

No name is so frequently invoked on Wales as that of Owain Glyndwr (c. 1349-1416), a potent figurehead of Welsh nationalism ever since he rose up against the occupying English in the first few years of the fifteenth century. Little is known about the man described in Shakespeare's *Henry IV, Part I* as "not in the roll of common men." There seems little doubt that the charismatic Owain fulfilled many of the mystical medieval prophecies about the rising up of the red dragon. He was of aristocratic stock and had a conventional upbringing, part of it in England of all places. His blue blood furthered his claim as Prince of Wales, being directly descended from the princes of Powys and Cyfeiliog, and as a result of his status, he learned English, studied in London, and became a loyal and distinguished soldier of the English king before returning to Wales and marrying.



The flag of Owain Glyndwr

Glyndwr was a member of the dynasty of northern Powys and, on his mother's side, descended from that of Deheubarth in the south. The family had fought for Llywelyn ap Gruffydd in the last war and regained their lands in north-east Wales only through a calculated association with the powerful Marcher lords.

He was one of the living representatives of the old royal houses of Wales, an heir to Cadwaladr, in a Wales strewn with the rubble of such dynasties. Wales in the late 14th century was a turbulent place. The brutal savaging of Llywelyn the Last and Edward I's stringent policies of subordinating Wales had left a discontented, cowed nation where any signs of rebellion were sure to attract support. In 1399-1400 Glyn Dwr ran up against his powerful neighbor, Reginald de Grey, Lord of Ruthin, an intimate of the new king, Henry IV. The quarrel was over common land which Grey had stolen. Glyndwr could get no justice from the king or parliament. This proud man, over forty and grey-haired, was visited with insult and malice. There are indications that Glyndwr made an effort to contact other disaffected Welshmen, and when he raised his standard outside Ruthin on 16 September 1400, his followers from the very beginning proclaimed him Prince of Wales.

The response was startling and may have even startled Glyndwr himself. Supported by the Hammers, other Norman-Welsh Marchers and the Dean of St Asaph, he attacked Ruthin with several hundred men and went on to savage every town on north-east Wales. There was an immediate response from Oxford, where Welsh scholars at once dropped their books and flocked home. The English Parliament at once rushed ferociously anti-Welsh legislation on to the books. Henry IV marched a big army right across north Wales, burning and looting without mercy. Whole populations scrambled to make their peace. Over the Winter, Glyndwr, with only seven men, took to the hills.



But in the spring of 1401 as the Tudors snatched Conwy Castle by a trick, Owain's little band moved into the centre and the south. Once more, popular insurrection broke around them, and hundreds ran to join the rebellion. It was during 1401 that Glyndwr became aware of the growing power of the rebellion as men of higher rank began to defect to the cause. In his letters to south Wales

he declared himself the liberator appointed by God to deliver the Welsh race from their oppressors. The English king, Henry IV, despatched troops and rapidly drew up a range of severely punitive laws against the Welsh, even outlawing Welsh-language bards and singers. Battles continued to rage, with Glyndwr capturing Edmund Mortimer, the earl of March, in Pilleth in June 1402. By the end of 1403, Glyndwr controlled most of Wales.

The twelve-year war which ensued was, for the English, largely a matter of relieving their isolated castles. Henry IV, beset by Welsh, Scots, French and rebellious barons, sent in army after army, some of them huge, all of them futile; he never really got to grips with it and the revolt largely wore itself out, in a small country blasted, burned and exhausted beyond the limit of endurance. For the Welsh, it was a Marcher rebellion and a peasant's revolt which grew into a national guerrilla war. The sheer tenacity of the rebellion is startling. Few revolts in contemporary Europe lasted more than some months;

no previous Welsh war had lasted much longer. This one raged in undiminished fury for ten years and did not really end for fifteen.

In 1404, Glyndwr assembled a parliament of four men from every commot in Wales at Machynlleth, drawing up mutual recognition treaties with France and Spain. At Machynlleth, he was also crowned king of a free Wales. A second parliament in Harlech took place a year later, with Glyndwr making plans to carve up England and Wales into three, as part of an alliance against the English king: Mortimer would take the south and west of England, Thomas Percy, earl of Northumberland, would have the midlands and the north, and himself Wales and the Marches of England. The English army, however, concentrated with increased vigor on destroying the Welsh uprising, and the Tripart Indenture was never realized.



Harlech Castle

Disaster struck in 1408 when the castles of Aberystwyth and Harlech fell to the forces of the king, and Glyndwr's own family was taken prisoner. The Welsh nation that had existed for four years took once more to the woods with its prince once more an outlaw.

Owain, with his son Meredudd, and a handful of his best captains,

together with some Scots and Frenchmen, was at large throughout 1409, devastating wherever he went. No one knows what happened to Glyndwr, but, like Arthur, he could not die; he would come again. Henry V, the new king, twice offered the rebel leader a pardon, but the old man was apparently too proud to accept.

Glyndwr's men put an end to payments to the lords and the crown; they could raise enough money to carry on from the parliaments they called, attended by delegates from all over Wales - the first and last Welsh parliaments in Welsh history. Owain Glyndwr was one Welsh prince who was never betrayed by his own people, not even in the darkest days when many of them could have saved their skins by doing so. There is no parallel in the history of the Welsh. The draconian anti-Welsh laws stayed in place until the accession to the English throne of Henry VII, a Welshman, in 1485. Wales became subsumed

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into English custom law, and Glyndwr's uprising became an increasingly powerful symbol of frustrated Welsh independence.

Gwyn A. Williams, "When Was Wales," Penguin Books, London, 1985.

Wales - The Rough Guide, Mike Parker and Paul Whitfield, Rough Guides Ltd, London, 1994.

AROUND OUR WELSH AMERICAN WORLD



To keep up with news, both from Wales and around North America, please subscribe to NINNAU: the North American Welsh newspaper. 6 issues per year at \$30 per year or \$20 for digital issues at: NINNAU.com.

WHAT HAS WSWNE BEEN UP TO?

WALES v SOUTH AFRICA RUGBY GAME in DC

Four members of WSWNE flew down to DC to have a weekend of Welsh Rugby. We joined the Washington DC Welsh, the New York Welsh, and Welsh people from all over the world at the Lucky Bar to sing and share stories. The Burlington, Ottawa Welsh Voice Choir, who were to sing the anthems the next day, were in full voice, and a film crew captured moments for the team to show them



Janet Taylor, Mark Taylor and Susan Davies Sit in DC, photo by Don Sit.

our support. One Welshman, a pilot based in Dubai, got himself scheduled to fly into DC that weekend so he could attend the game. Three young men from Wales traveled to DC for the first time to go to the game before vacationing in Florida. These young men had no idea that Wales has such a strong army of supporters and Welsh Societies over here.

Game day was rainy but warm, the anthem was sung loud and clear, and the game began rather slowly. It warmed up in the second half with new young players doing great things alongside seasoned capped players such as George North. Our boys got a victory 22-20 in an exciting second half.

Back to the Lucky Bar it was (the owner is from South Wales) but there were so many red shirts we couldn't get inside. Instead we ate an Indian pastie from the restaurant next door, surrounded by red shirts and the Welsh language!

by Susan Davies Sit

NEWS FROM WALES

NEW DRAMA FILMED IN NORTH WALES

The BBC crime series "Hidden" will be aired shortly. From an ill-fated Emmerdale actress to a Game of Thrones star, BBC One's anticipated new drama Hidden has a few familiar faces.

The eight-part drama, from the makers of Hinterland, tells the story from the perspective of Dylan Harris, alongside that of DS Cadi John, who returns to North Wales to care for her sick



Craith stars DI Cadi John (Siân Reese-Williams) and DS Owen Vaughan (Siôn Alun Davies) (Image: publicity pic)

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father. As Cadi she works on an investigation into the discovery of the body of a young girl in a disused quarry, where it becomes clear that someone has been kidnapping girls and keeping them captive.

The series, which was filmed at various locations in North Wales, was set to air from June 6 in the UK. Fingers crossed it will be on Netflix or PBS.

(Diolch to the Fredericksburg Welsh Society Newsletter)

New £83m convention centre for Wales attracting global interest

A groundbreaking ceremony marking the formal start of construction work on ICC Wales, which is being delivered via a joint venture company between the Celtic Manor Resort and the Welsh Government, was staged in June 2017.

Located on land at the existing Celtic Manor Resort in Newport, it will be the biggest convention centre ever built in Wales and the west of England, and will open in July 2019. It will, in part, provide:

- A 1,500 seat auditorium.
- Accommodate 5,000 conference delegates.
- A separate exhibition hall providing the largest pillar-free ballroom in Europe, capable of hosting a gala dinner for 2,400 people.
- Breakouts at all levels to outdoor networking spaces.
- State-of-the-art technology with fully integrated audio visual facilities.



Sir Terry Matthews at the ICC Wales groundbreaking ceremony (Image: Walesonline)

Sir Terry Matthews said: "The long list of interested parties from the Meetings Show is very, very encouraging. We were surprised by

the extent of interest. And it has come from senior executives all over the world, including Northern America.

"Many have visited the Celtic Manor and have brought their kids here too. And their children love coming here because we have castles and dungeons nearby and the Roman remains at Caerleon... and you don't get any castles in Seattle or New York.

On the encouraging interest he added: "It's also because we are in a great, well connected location [motorway links to London and the Midlands] and we have 2,000 acres of land and four great golf courses."

Sir Terry said the existing Celtic Manor, with its 650 bedrooms, had reached the saturation point with an average occupancy rate of 95% through the week and 100% at weekends.

He said with ICC Wales expected to attract hundreds of thousands of delegate goers each year, it would provide a huge opportunity, not just for other hotels across south Wales, but for the wider regional economy.

Sir Terry added: "ICC Wales will be a magnet for new jobs not just in Newport, but across south Wales. And you have to remember that conferences and exhibitions are labour intensive."

First Minister Carwyn Jones said the project was another positive example of public and private sector collaboration, which he said was also working well in the creative industries sector.

He added: "ICC Wales is vital to fulfilling our ambition of making Wales a leading international destination for business. In order to compete in a highly competitive international market, Wales needs a convention centre of this quality and size."

WSWNE NEWS

Y Gegin Gymreig - The Welsh Kitchen



We are planning a Welsh Cookbook and welcome recipes from members, especially ones from your Welsh ancestors. Please contact Magdalen at magdalandowden@sbcglobal.net with your recipe, source, and a short bio of the cook (email subject line should be UPPERCASE "WELSH RECIPES").

CROESO/Welcome to new member

- Susan Pritchett Post of Virginia, now of Bloomfield, CT, joined because of her interest in her Welsh genealogy.
- Straford Wild, of Saratoga Springs, NY, born in Pwllheli, Gwynedd is a musician and a Welsh language learner.

RECIPES FROM WALES

HALEN MÔN, the Sea Salt company in Anglesey (Sir Môn) published some cool recipes, here's one of them:

A SIMPLE SMOKED RISOTTO, with a deep savory flavor

- 1 medium leek, thinly sliced
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 25g unsalted butter
- 2 cloves of garlic, thinly sliced
- 200g Arborio rice
- 175ml dry white wine
- 750ml vegetable or chicken stock (you may not need it all)
- 100g frozen peas
- 1 teaspoon wholegrain mustard
- a small bunch of mint, leaves picked
- 75g cubed pancetta (optional)
- 1 lemon, zested and juiced
- 2 tablespoons Smoked Water (vegetarians could leave out the pancetta and add 3 tablespoons of Smoked Water instead of 2 here)
- 30g parmesan, plus more for grating over



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Warm a large saucepan over a medium heat. Add the sliced leeks and a pinch of Halen Môn Pure White Sea Salt. Stir continuously for 3-4 minutes, until the leeks have softened and started to turn translucent. Next, add the olive oil and butter to the pan. When butter is melted and bubbling, add the garlic and rice and stir to coat. Continue stirring for 3 minutes, gently toasting the rice without letting it catch on the bottom of the pan. Turn the heat down and pour in the wine and continue to stir until it's all been absorbed.

Add the stock, a ladle at a time, and continue, add, stir, and let the rice absorb the liquid for 20 minutes, until the rice has increased in size, but still has a 'bite'. Stir in the peas and mustard and take the pan off the heat and leave to sit for 5 minutes to rest.

Heat a frying pan over a high heat and when it's hot, add the pancetta and fry, stirring regularly for 5 minutes, until the pancetta is crispy and golden. Line a plate with kitchen paper and remove the pancetta with a slotted spoon onto the plate to crisp up.

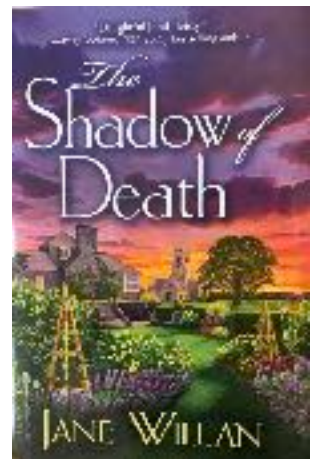
Remove the lid from the saucepan and stir in the mustard, smoked water, parmesan and mint. Add half the lemon juice and taste. Add more salt and lemon if you like. Serve in bowls with more parmesan for grating over and the lemon zest over the top.

RECIPE: Anna Shepherd

IMAGE: Jess Lea-Wilson

WELL-READ DRAGONS

Jane Willan is a published mystery author, whose novels are set in North Wales; they are rich in Welsh tradition and language. She has traveled extensively throughout Wales and has fallen in love with the beauty of the country. She lives in Paxton, MA, and her website is www.janewillan.com where you can get to know more about Jane and her books. Her publisher is Crooked Lane Books and she has been reviewed in *Publisher's Weekly*. Her new book is titled *The Shadow of Death*.



PRECURSOR OF WSWNE - ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY OF CT

For your information and record: Binders and files of papers relating to the St. David's Society of CT have been sent to the Greater Plains Welsh Heritage Project for archiving and preservation.

ARMED FORCES DAY IN WALES

More than a quarter of a million people descended on Llandudno for Armed Forces Day in June 2018.

The coastal resort played host to the main national celebration of the UK's servicemen and women on Saturday, June 30.

Conwy also planned a week of events, from June 25 - July 1, to mark the occasion, and it was estimated that it pumped £4 million into the local economy.

The Princess Royal, Princess Anne, attended the event, and there were flypasts from the Red Arrows and the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight team which includes a Lancaster bomber, Spitfire, and a Hurricane.

One of the highlights of the week was a parade through Llandudno on Armed Forces Day itself, where around 1,000 serving personnel, veterans, cadets and marching bands set off from the Llandudno War Memorial.

Following the parade, visitors had the chance to interact with

exhibitions and activities along Llandudno Promenade and Bodafon Fields, including static aircraft, armored vehicles and a diving tank. (Adapted from an article by Fredericksburg Welsh, thank you)

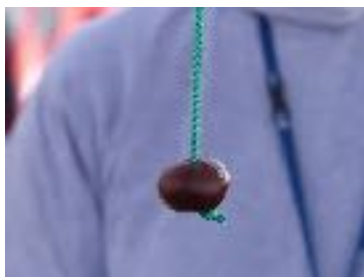


Photo of the Red Arrows flying over of the bay in Llandudno by Erika Dawson Davies, June 2018

FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT WALES:

In a new segment, we'll hear about members' favorite things about Wales. Please submit yours to WelshWNE@gmail.com. Diolch!

From **Magdalen Dowden, Board member**, who grew up in Wales:
Welsh Male Voice Choirs; Yearly trips by charabanc to Barry Island; Sea, sand, donkeys, Ferris wheels, sticks of peppermint rock; Rugby matches; Hopscotch in the street; Horse riding lessons - taking the bus and then the train to get there, by myself at age 11; Ration coupons for clothes and sweeties at the corner shop on Saturday mornings; Playing 'conkers'; Playing Jackstones (with stones).



Playing Conkers

...and from **Ed and Beth Roberts Brown, Board Members**, who have made a couple of trips to Wales to walk in ancestors' footsteps:

Cwm Dyli first seen from the A498 auto pull-off; lunch of local bread and cheese on a rock along Miners' Track; the variety of fences and styles along public walking paths; wind gusting round Dolwyddelan Castle to remove my snug cap for me; classic Welsh weather on one afternoon walk from Capel Curig to Betws y Coed (torrential rain to sunny blue sky to angry clouds and large hail to lovely evening sunset hues); my hand on the stone slab of 4,000 year old Capel Garmon burial chamber imagining what its builders saw from there; swaying across the swaying bridge at Betws y Coed, ancient yews, sheep on every hillside.



Dolwyddelan Castle

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2018-2019):

President & Genealogy Group Coordinator:

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

Vice President: VACANT - pls step up if you'd like to be part of this great team

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

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

MEMBERS AT LARGE (2018-2019):

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

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

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Susan Jenkins 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 and Email Manager: Mark Spencer (MA)

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):

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

Today's date: _____ NEW MEMBER: ___ RENEWAL: _____

Names (list household members):

Address _____

Home phone # _____

Cell phone # _____

Email address (PLEASE PRINT)

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



Llangollen Town by Susan Davies Sit, 2016