

St. David's Welsh Society of the Suncoast



APRIL 2015

welshsocietyofthesuncoast.org



EVERYONE INVITED

CROESO

Regular meetings of the St. David's Welsh Society of the Suncoast are held at noon on the **third Tuesday of the month**. From October to April at the **Lake Seminole Presbyterian Church**, 8600 113th Street N, Seminole Florida (right on the corner).

A potluck luncheon and program entertain all persons with an interest in celebrating Welsh heritage. We have great fun so bring a friend to socialize. (They do not even have to be Welsh to be welcome.)

2015 Calendar

Regular Meetings at 12:00 noon
April 21, 2015

Summer Luncheons (*various locations*)

May 19

June 16

July 21

August 18

Summer Early Bird Dinner

September 15, 2015

5:00 pm



APRIL meeting

Be sure to join us on Tuesday April 21 for the last regular **buffet potluck of this year**.

Bring your best Welsh voices and join in as pianist Kathy Robert leads us in group singing. Summer luncheons will begin in May. The calling committee will notify everyone of the locations.



TRIVIA QUESTION: Who created the first mail order business in the world?

NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

This newsletter is sponsored by Kristy Alderson and Mark Taber in loving memory of **Gweny Parry Alderson and John Alderson** and by **Leslie Jones**. We appreciate everyone who contributes to keeping this newsletter going.



My dad is the bravest.

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

April	1	Gwen Giffin Carter
	2	Gwen Krause
	4	Sue Owens
	6	Rhianon Hardy
	11	Jack Jacobs
	14	Mary Hughes
	23	Janet Briggs
	28	Meg Zeigler
	28	Gareth Williams
	31	Mavis Lamont



ANNIVERSARIES

May 28 Emyr & Lisa Morris

NEWSLETTER NOW ONLINE

Our newsletter is now online. You can read it anytime at welshsocietyofthesuncoast.org.

Many thanks to a tech savvy non-Welsh friend who loads it every month for us. If this will suffice for you and you want to be removed from the mailing list, please let the editor know.



ANSWER TO TRIVIA QUESTION: Welshman Pryce Jones from Newtown Montgomeryshire created the first successful mail order business in the world. By 1880 he had built up an impressive list of customers - among them Florence Nightingale as well as Queen Victoria, the Princess of Wales and royal households across Europe. He also began selling Welsh flannel from Newtown to America and even Australia. By 1800 he had 100,000 customers. He was formally recognized by Queen Victoria in 1889.

AROUND THE MEMBERSHIP

Sadly, we report that **Barbara Pardun** has passed away. Barbara was a loyal member of the Welsh society, serving as treasurer and for several years as a member of the hospitality committee.

Beth Smidt has a new address: 3460 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga Grove Room 10, Downers Grove, IL 60515. She misses getting to see everyone at the St. David's Day banquet, but her Florida friend fell and was unable to host Beth this year.

Timothy Dill-Peterson has moved back to Wales. We will miss his splendid kilt attire at the banquets.



CLARK and CINDY WELSH PERSONS of YEAR

In recognition of their years of service to this society, President Don Briggs presented a plaque to Clark Parry and Cindy Durkee, naming them Welsh persons of 2015. Among their many contributions to the Suncoast St. David's Welsh Society: Clark served several terms as president. Cindy has been secretary and accompanist and together they have organized the Welsh participation in Celtic Day at the State Fair. A multi-talented couple, they have presented several programs over the years on the history of Welsh hymns and how to play the dulcimer. Oh, and by the way, Cindy has organized the silent auction at the St. David's Day banquet for several years, All this was done while commuting all the way from Holiday! Congratulations Clark and Cindy!

Welsh Singer Marina Diamandis

Opens Up on 'Froot'

By Taylor Dunn via Good Morning America

She sees the world through a different lens. One that is vibrantly colorful, ever growing and constantly evolving. Her latest album entitled Froot is a true testament to this unique vision and it is unlike anything else she's done before.

Welsh singer-songwriter Marina Diamandis better known as her stage name, Marina and the Diamonds, has never followed the crowd and by nature, has seemed to steer clear of convention. Even her inspiration to become a musician was a bit different than most, almost a little backwards. "The reason I wanted to become a singer had nothing to do with music or even voice... it was more that I saw it as an interesting way to...express bigger ideas about society, things that were troubling me and inspiring me at the same time." Playfully adding "luckily I could sing in tune so I became a singer!" she said.

To Diamandis it was always about the expression and self-discovery. Before she taught herself the keyboard or knew how to play an instrument she saw her words in music, her poetic lyrics as songs. "When I started to learn keyboard I started to put stuff to music and it is genuinely the only thing I've ever done in my life where it felt completely natural like it was kind of second nature to me and I haven't found anything else that I feel the same about."

When it came to her newest album Froot, in true Marina and the Diamonds style, she forwent tradition and did something different. In order to escape the commercial pressure that oftentimes accompanies an artist when choosing which singles to release. Diamandis did something completely new. She explained, "I came up with a strategy called Froot of the month, which basically proposed...a new Froot each month and with that Froot you would get a whole visual world that accompanies it." The Froots are her songs and these "visual elements" include everything from digital videos to scratch and sniff vinyl when you purchase the album.

"It's completely geared around fan involvement and it's not a cheesy record label type of thing--it actually has been really enjoyable and I think it has been a really unique experience for me," Diamandis said.



This latest album not only reflects her innovation as an artist but it highlights her growth as an individual. Her lyrics weave us through a story, we meet someone who has overcome and who has learned from her experiences yet remained unhindered by judgments and is finally able to live her own truths. One of her biggest realizations? "I feel like people, myself in the past, feel like happiness is something that comes to you and it isn't really, it's something that you choose. The only thing you can do is be honest with yourself and that's how you can progress."

ST. DAVID'S DAY BANQUET

This year's St. David's Day banquet found a new home. The spacious new facility was beautifully lit with crystal chandeliers, the tables were decorated with daffodils and Welsh flags, and the food was delicious.

Thanks to all the wonderful donations and the spirited bidding, the silent auction raised \$120.00 for the treasury.

Recounting his solo treks through Wales, Martin Lewis took us along via a stunning slide show which highlighted the beautiful Welsh countryside.

Of course, there was hymn singing directed by Jack Jacobs.

FAGGOTS

By Meg Zeiger

1 1/2 lbs. pork liver

(available in Oriental food markets)

1 large onion

1 1/4 tsp sage

1 tsp thyme

1/4 tsp salt

1/2 tsp pepper

Mince raw liver and onion. Add seasoning and mix well. Add bread crumbs. Form into balls and place in buttered baking dish. Cover with foil and bake at 350 for 30 min. Uncover then add boiling water to make gravy. Cook 10 min. more.

OR

Put mix in buttered mini muffin pan and bake at 350 for 15 min. Pop "muffins" out into baking dish. Add water or brown gravy and return to oven for 10 min.

Llandudno named third best destination by TripAdvisor

Llandudno has been named the only Welsh tourist town in a list of top 10 UK destinations based on ratings from travelers on website TripAdvisor. London came out on top with Edinburgh second but Torquay and Llandudno were the only seaside resorts to make the list, finishing third and eighth.

Llandudno's appeal as a "traditional seaside destination" is attributed to its success.

While the summit of the Great Orme is selected as one highlight of a visit to Llandudno, there is a nod to the changeable weather. "Just take a jacket. It can be chilly up there," it says.

Llandudno hotelier Carol-Lynn Roberts says she has seen an increase in guest from the south of England and overseas visitors, especially from The US, who want to see a traditional UK resort. "It's still got a Victorian feel, a seaside feel without being commercialized," she said.

History shows guidebooks from the Victorian period describing the resort as the "Naples of the North" and its popularity began to grow with the arrival of the first trains and newly opened hotels in the mid 1850s.

The resort was developed by landowners, the Mostyn family, whose estate business continues to keep a guiding hand on the resort's development.

Also in the top ten, are Liverpool, Belfast, Bristol, Leeds and Birmingham.



Llandudno's original wooden pier was replaced by a cast iron version in 1877.



True welsh

**We talk about our origins
For some they are unknown
We talk about our grandfathers
And the places they had grown.
We ask about our Welshness
This is right close to our heart
But we need to go back centuries
To make a truthful start.
So many of our ancestors
Did travel many miles
Some came from Ireland, Scotland ,England
And across the waters miles.
They came with hope inside them
To get their families better wealth
But many had employment
This ruined their health.
So as long as you were born in Wales
Keep it closed inside your heart
For you possess the passion many want
From the day that your life starts.
It don't matter where you came from
Or where you're going to
Like Porthcawl rock you're stamped for life
And you're Welsh , through and through.**

**Written by David Boyce
05 July 2008**



Traditionally clad bears greet banqueters as they entered the hall.



Vicky Anderson checked diners and pointed them to their assigned tables.



Banquet Masters wait staff made sure the appetizers were ready.

Lynne Hughes serves herself some savory cheese and fruit appetizers.



Roger Hughes ably chaired the festivities.



By far the youngest at the banquet, charming Bryce Owens enjoys her chicken fingers dinner. She captured several prizes from the silent auction.

The silent auction table proved to be a popular spot as Leslie Jones checked on his bids.



PICTURE PAGES



The prize for the best smiles go to Ray Denman, Leslie Jones, and Richard Owens. They always enjoy getting together with their Welsh friends.



Tammie Hughes visits from China where she teaches school. Her mother is Mary Hughes.



Tammie's Danish friend, Casper, also from China, listens intently. There was a truly international flavor to this meeting.



Barbara Giraldi joins the singing.



Gareth Williams recounts his recent visit to north Wales to attend the Powys Eisteddfed and to visit the area where he grew up.



Donna Williams admires the valentine decorations provided by the ladies of the church.