

St. David's Welsh Society of the Suncoast



JANUARY 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.)

Take-Note

IMPORTANT CHANGES

To accommodate our guest speaker, Mr. John Wilson, the date of the annual St. David's Day Banquet has been changed to **March 1** this year. Please make a note on your calendar now. Mr. Wilson, recently retired local news broadcaster, will share his research into his Welsh family ancestry. Now is the time to invite your friends along to hear our local celebrity relate his adventures finding his roots. He should be a crowd pleaser. Also, please note the Banquet Masters has changed locations, See accompanying map.



NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

This newsletter is sponsored by **Gwen Krause, Leslie Jones, and Beth Smidt**. We appreciate everyone who contributes to keeping this newsletter going.

2015 Calendar

Regular Meetings at 12:00 noon

January 20, 2015

February 17, 2015

April 21, 2015

St. David's Day Banquet

Banquet Masters

March 1, 2015 (Sunday)

Social Hour 4:00 pm

Dinner 5:00 pm

Summer Luncheons (*various locations*)

May 19

June 16

July 21

August 18

Summer Early Bird Dinner

September 15, 2015

5:00 pm



In January we look forward to welcoming Dr. Martin Lewis who will recount his walking tour of Wales and then give us an introduction to his latest book. Should be interesting, as always.

TRIVIA QUESTION: For whom is Mount Everest named?



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Rosella Neckerauer
- 5 Nancy Mellican
- 21 Marjorie Rubart
- 25 Vickie Anderson
- 30 Roger Hughes

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 26 Emyr Morris



SOME DUE\$\$\$ ARE STILL DUE

The treasury needs replenishing. Your dues are still only \$10.00 per person per year. In exchange you will receive a monthly newsletter and an updated directory listing all your Florida/Welsh friends. What a bargain! If you cannot attend the next meeting, you can send your dues to

Nancy Mellican
6 Fernery Lane
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

Your support is appreciated. Forty loyal members have paid so far. Our total membership is sadly diminishing.

IN MEMORIUM

Fred Roberts, past president of this society, passed away on December 20, 2014. He is survived by his daughter Mary Lynn and sons Fred, David, and Thomas. Internment will be at a later date by the family. His cheerful countenance will be sorely missed.

ANSWER TO TRIVIA QUESTION: Mount Everest is named after Welshman and surveyor Sir George Everest from Gwernvale, Breconshire.



ST. DAVID'S DAY BANQUET IS MARCH 1 THIS YEAR AT A NEW LOCATION.

AROUND THE MEMBERSHIP

Wendy and Danny Kearns are back in Florida for the winter and busily redecorating their condo and enjoying the beach. Danny's eyes are improving following corrective surgery to fix problems with previous cataract surgery.

Still recovering from jet lag, **Paul and Nancy Mellican** recently returned from a three week fascinating sojourn in India.

Unable to make the December meeting because of a fall, **Vera Ruben** sends greetings.

Also temporarily incapacitated, **Meryl Kindle** has been ordered by her doctor to avoid crowds and their germs.

Don Briggs has been battling a persistent bladder infection.

It was good to have our Canadian members back for the winter—**Tom and June Edwards and Danny and Wendy Kearns**. Also, **Cynthia Roberts** has been missing for awhile. Welcome back!

Dave and Marian Thomas are on an extended cruise around the world.



BANQUET MASTERS MOVED

Banquet Masters, the traditional location of our St. David's Day Celebration has moved to 13355 49th Street North, Clearwater. It is now located on the corner of Ulmerton and 49th Street. A map will accompany reservation forms for the St. David's Day banquet. All who have been in the new facility say it is truly very elegant.

MEMORABLE MEMENTOS

In December Nancy Mellican brought a miniature miner's lantern and a piece of coal from the Deep Dyfryn mine—that was located in Mountain Ash. Nancy's great grandfather, Marshall Watkin Cresswell Smith, helped sink the original shaft—an engineering wonder of the time. Sadly, he was killed in the mine when an elevator shaft fell on him. A month after he died his youngest son Will was born and his oldest daughter Jane promised to stay with her mother until all of her seven younger siblings were raised. As a result, she refused to marry until she accomplished her promise, forcing her fiancé Morgan Davies, who had immigrated to America, to cross the ocean five times before she would agree to come with him. (How romantic!)

You are encouraged to bring a memento and a story to the next meeting.

PROGRAMS FOR COMING YEAR

February — Gareth and Donna Williams: Report on 2014 Eisteddfed and Danube River tour from Budapest to Prague

March — John Wilson and his Welsh connections

April — Kathy Roberts, pianist will lead group singing

Thanks to the hard work of Jan and Don Briggs for securing these program

BEST WAY THERE



A well spoken English gentleman sauntered into a pub in Llandrindod Wells and drawled, 'What's the quickest way to get to Brecon from here?'

Rhodri Owen, the landlord answered, 'Are you walking or going by car?'

The Englishman answered, 'By car, of course, my man.'

'Well, that's the quickest way,' retorted the landlord smartly.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NAMED

The following nominating committee has been named to select officers for next year.

Wendy Whitaker

Kelfryn James

Roger Hughes

If you are available to serve as an officer please make their job easier and contact one of them.



SILENT AUCTION ITEMS WANTED

Always a lot of fun, with much spirited bidding, the annual silent auction committee needs your help. If you have any items that will add to the competition, please bring them to the next meeting—or even the night of the banquet. The money raised helps augment our treasury.

WANTED (STILL) :

A portable keyboard for our banquet. The new location does not have a piano. If you know where we can obtain the use of one of these, please call Don Briggs at 938-7561.



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St. David's Day Banquet reservations now being taken. Be the first to invite your friends to attend. New date and new place. John Wilson to be our speaker.

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. It may take a couple of months to refine everything, but it seems to be working for now.

2015 ST. DAVID'S DAY BANQUET

SUNDAY MARCH 1

Banquet Masters

13355 49th Street North

Clearwater



4:00 Social Hour

5:00 Dinner



Program to follow

MENU

Prime Rib (\$30.00)

Vegetarian (\$30.00)

Chicken Cordon Bleu (\$30.00)

Chicken Fingers (15.00)

Salmon Almandine (\$30.00)

RESERVATIONS

Name(s)

Dinner Choice

Your phone number

Request others (not listed above) at your table of 8

Mail Reservations to: Roger Hughes

(with check)

1001 Starkey Road Lot 501

Largo, FL 33771

RESERVATION DEADLINE: Tuesday, February 24

PICTURE PAGES



Janet Mulligan does her usual bang-up job seeing that the food is all set out on the beautifully prepared tables.



Connie Osmulski arranges food on the holiday decorated buffet table.



Back from Canada June Edwards pins on her name tag.



Ready for the call to the buffet, Tom Edwards and Pastor Bob look forward to enjoying the delicious offerings from all the talented Welsh cooks.



Resplendent in holiday red, Todd Roberts and Cynthia Roberts are back for the holiday meeting.





Judging by their smiles, Roger Hughes and Kelfryn James are in a holiday mood.



Danny Kearns shares the details of his trip to Florida this year just ahead of the first snowstorm of the season with Dave and Marian Thomas.



Matt Hall and Jack Jacobs saved the day by getting the delicious ham to the banquet hall when the Briggs were unable to make it.



Mary Hughes enjoys the music.



All dressed up for the holidays, the Tarpon Singers gave their usual entertaining performance, singing with much toe tapping enthusiasm—even inviting the audience to join in on occasion.



Banquet Masters Map

