

St. David's Welsh Society of the Suncoast



October 2014



EVERYONE INVITED

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.)

CROESO



DUE\$\$\$ ARE 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.

TRIVIA QUESTION: Where is Britain's oldest royal tomb?

2014-2015 Calendar

Regular Meetings at 12:00 noon

October 21, 2014

(November)/December 10, 2014 (2nd Tues)

January 20, 2015

February 17, 2015

April 21, 2015

St. David's Day Banquet

March 8, 2015 (Sunday)

Banquet Masters

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 at 5:00 pm



NEWSLETTER

SPONSOR

This newsletter is sponsored by **Lindsey Preece** in appreciation for the years of enjoyment his American/Welsh friends have given him. We appreciate everyone who contributes to keeping this newsletter going.

BIRTHDAYS

September

5	Pamela Lewis
5	Bill Fell
6	Tim Dill-Peterson
12	Jean James
25	Wendy Kearns
28	Meryl Kindle



October

4	Pete Spalding
18	Lynne Hughes
29	Clark Parry
30	Rhiannon Merrion
31	J. Richard Owens

SUMMER LUNCHEONS A SUCCESS

While the groups were sometimes small the luncheons were delicious and the conversations scintillating. We met at Kally Ks in Dunedin, Olive Garden in Palm Harbor, Red Lobster in Clearwater and, for the final night out, at Alfanos in Largo. The calling committee worked hard to keep everyone informed of times and locations.

You are invited to the
GULF COAST ST. DAVID'S WELSH SOCIETY

September Brunch

1 p.m., Sunday, September 28, 2014

Turtles on Little Sarasota Bay

8875 Midnight Pass Rd. Siesta Key, Sarasota, FL 34242

941-346-2207

ANSWER TO TRIVIA QUESTION: Britain's oldest tomb lies in Llangadwaldr. It is the tomb of Cadfan ap Iago, king of Gwynedd from 616-625.

AROUND THE MEMBERSHIP

Following the footsteps of St. Paul, **Lynn and Roger Hughes** enjoyed a trip to Greece and Turkey,

Vera Ruben shared beautiful pictures of her grandchildren in Israel at one of the luncheons.

Pete Spaulding suffered a broken hip, but is getting around much better now.

Marion Thomas had two cataracts successfully removed.

Four weeks touring Europe. **Kelvyn and Jean James** had a great summer.

Sending greetings from Canada, **Wendy Kearns** reports she is looking forward to seeing all her American Welsh friends and walking the beach again after successful hip surgery. **Danny** is doing well after two cataract operations and a prostate procedure.

Nancy and Paul Mellican's grandson, Reilly (age 14) placed in the top ten in the nation on the Beta national honor society science test for middle schoolers.



Still suffering from the after effects of shingles, **Beth Smidt** is slowly recovering.

Rhianon Merrion sends her greetings. She has found an active Welsh Society in Georgia, but misses her kitchen duties (and friends) back here in Florida.

Although her eyesight continues to fade, **Louise Peck** enjoyed a visit with her daughter. They have not had an opportunity to get together for two years.

Todd Roberts has been in Ohio helping his brother who is ill.

BANQUET MASTERS MOVED

Banquet Masters, the traditional location of our St. David's Day Celebration has moved to 13355 49th Street North, Clearwater. Details to follow.

MEMENTO MAGIC

A new tradition was born at the April meeting when Pat and Rhiannon Hardy brought pictures and post-cards of Welsh women in traditional costumes to bring back memories of their time in Wales. You are invited to bring an object or picture to share with the group to stimulate more memories of the "old country". We would like to begin each meeting with a five minute session featuring your treasures and what they mean to you. Search your shelves and bring something for all to appreciate. If you have something special to share that brings back memories to you, please call Don Briggs. Everyone enjoys reminiscing.

PROGRAMS SET FOR YEAR

October — DVD featuring Welsh history

December — Tarpon Singers

January — Dr. Martin Lewis: Walking in Wales and an introduction to his latest book

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 programs!

WANTED (DESPERATELY):



A portable keyboard for our banquet. The new location does not have a piano.

A DVD projector so we can enjoy scenes of Wales at our regular meetings.



If you know where we can obtain the use of one of these, please call Don Briggs at 938-7561.

NEW COMPUTER = NEW LOOK

Over the summer the editor of this newsletter bought a new computer. Lots of new possibilities to learn and new options for communication. Also, lots of frustrations learning a whole new (but improved, they say) system! Hopefully, this will even allow us to post our newsletter on our website. Check it out at welshsocietyofthesuncoast.org. Another learning process for the editor. Stay tuned.



Did you know

Wales is one of the few countries in the world where sustainable development is a core responsibility of the government.

A THOUSAND COCKROACHES

A man walked into a pet shop in Merthyr and asked to buy a thousand cockroaches.

"A thousand cockroaches!" gasped Dai, the shopkeeper, "what on earth do you want with them?"

"Well", said the customer,

"I'm moving out of my old house today and the lease says I must leave the premises exactly as I found them."



Actor Michael Sheen's little-known past as a metal salvager has come to light through one of the more unusual items in an auction devoted to Dylan Thomas.

As a teenager the stage and screen star found the gate of the poet's boathouse home stuck in mud while walking with friends at Laugharne, Carmarthenshire.

Artist Charley Uzzell-Edwards - who helped recover the rusty relic in 1984 - said they got some puzzled looks.

The gate is expected to fetch up to £800 at auction next month in Cardiff. Events have been taking place throughout 2014 to mark the centenary of the birth of Thomas, who died in New York in 1953 at the age of 39

Sheen himself appeared in a new BBC Wales TV adaptation of the Swansea-born poet's "play for voices" *Under Milk Wood* in May.

'Mud larking'

Dylan Thomas spent his final years in Laugharne, a fixture on the tourist trail for fans from all over the world.

Mr Uzzell-Edwards told BBC Wales how he and his artist father John found the gate while visiting Laugharne with Sheen.

"We were walking down the hill on a jolly boys' day out to check out the boathouse when we saw this metal sticking out of the mud," he said.

"Me and Michael were wearing cords and chunky sweaters in the Brideshead Revisited style of the time - not really dressed for mud larking - but we managed to get it out.

"My dad had a photo of Dylan Thomas standing in front of the gate of the boathouse so we knew it was the actual one.

"Some American tourists passed us on our way back up the hill with the gate - they must have thought we were a funny looking bunch."

Mr Uzzell-Edwards, whose father died earlier this year, said the gate had been on show in the garden of the family's Carmarthenshire home and he wanted to sell it to raise some money for his mother.

"It would be nice if it went to a collector who would appreciate its history - in my dreams an American will see it and think it's just the thing he needs," he said.





Jan Briggs always adds a note of cheerfulness to our gatherings.



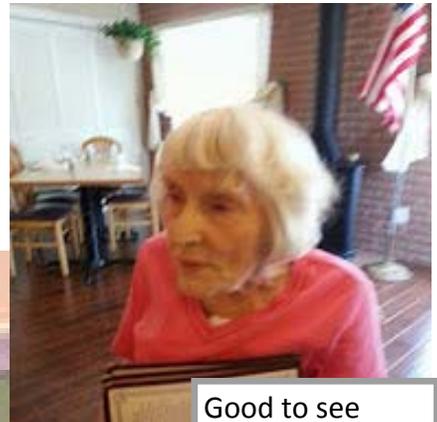
Kelfryn James had a good summer.



Happy to celebrate with her Welsh friends, Shirley Lewis keeps a smile on her face.



Dr. William Redwood and his wife Nancy place their order at the Olive Garden.



Good to see Margery Rubart able to be out and about again.



Vera Ruben always has something to contribute.



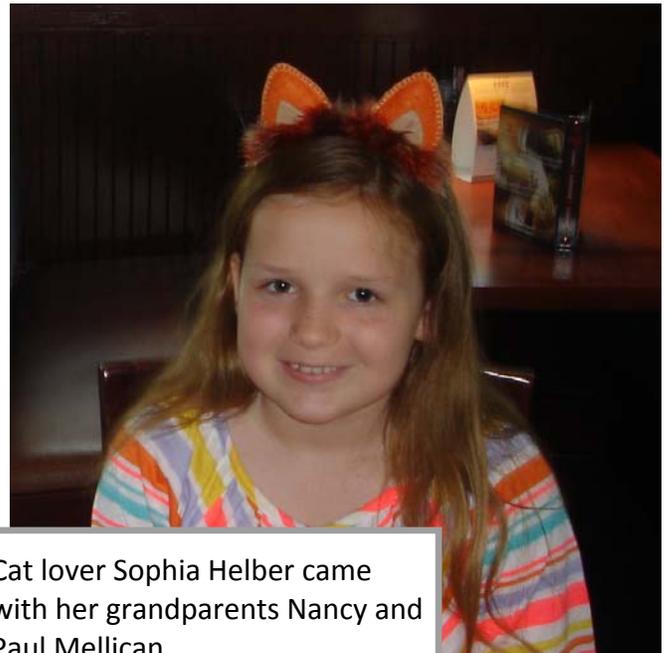
Welcome back to Wendy Whitaker



Emyr and Lisa Morris enjoyed the comradere and fine food at a summer luncheon.



Handsome Roger Hughes sports a new look for the summer.



Cat lover Sophia Helber came with her grandparents Nancy and Paul Mellican.



Smiling Pete Spaulding has recovered nicely from a fall earlier this year.



Connie Osmulski's son Andrew took time from his busy school schedule to come to one luncheon.



Mary Hughes poses with her daughter Connie and grandchildren, Nick, James and Jessica visiting from New York.



Two pretty ladies Heather and Mavis came with their mother Mavis Lamont.