

# THE EYE OF THE DRAGON



Rhifyn Haf  
Summer Issue  
2015

## Newsletter of the Gulf Coast St David's Welsh Society, Sarasota



*Summer-time - when the living is ea-sy ....*

Summer is generally a quiet time of year but this didn't stop our Society organising or attending many events over the past few months.

Many of you will have seen on National and International News the finding of the remains of King Richard III. We are fortunate to have in our Society a member, Geoffrey Pool, who is an expert on British history so, in **April**, he gave us a presentation on the life of King Richard III at the Red Lobster Restaurant in Sarasota.



Geoffrey Pool

The presentation was preceded by dinner and was attended by many people who were very impressed with Geoffrey's in-depth knowledge on the subject.

Also, Geoff's wife, Olwen Hughes Pool – an acclaimed artist both here and in the UK, was asked to document with stories and line drawings the events of Richard's reburial. This is just a small example of the wealth of talent we have in our Society.



Many of you are familiar with the 'Kiss' sculpture or, to give it its correct name, 'Unconditional Surrender'. Again, the expertise of Olwen Hughes Pool was called upon and, in **May**, she presented a copy of her line drawing to the County Commission as well as a drawing of the new Gulf Gate Library to the Director of Libraries and Historical Resources for Sarasota, Sarabeth Kalajian. These presentations were made at Historic Spanish Point.



Also in **May** our Society, represented by Kathy Champley, Meg Larrabee and Judy Sherpa, took part at the Memorial Day Service in Arcadia. This event occurs annually to commemorate the passing of the young trainee cadets in World War II, many of whom were British.



Kathy, Meg & Judy



Mary Margaret's Restaurant

After the ceremony, we enjoyed lunch at the quaint, Victorian-styled restaurant, Mary Margaret's Tea and Biscuits, in downtown Arcadia



### SUNDAY BRUNCHES

The last Sunday of the month during **June, July** and **August** we met for our ever popular Sunday Brunches, mainly at Turtles Restaurant on Siesta Key. We seem to grow in number every month and it is great opportunity for members and guests to meet and share news and vacation stories. It also gives a chance for people to express their views and suggestions as well as learn what's coming up in the Society.



Muriel & Emily enjoying their Mimosas

The venue for **September** is yet to be arranged so let us know your suggestions.



## SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The **2015 Scholarship** was awarded to four students:

Brandon Patram, (University of Cincinnati),  
Morganne Yewdall (University of Winnipeg)  
Abigail Sian Yeo (Aberystwyth University)  
Jessica Hogan (City University of New York)



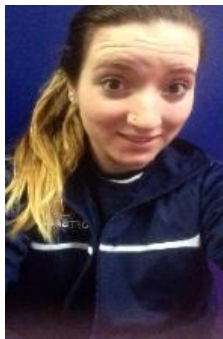
Brandon



Morganne



Abigail



Jessica

We congratulate these young students and wish them the very best for a fulfilling future in their chosen fields. Do *you* have a member of your family who is eligible to receive an award from our Scholarship Fund? If so, contact:

Justin Rees: [JRees@rwbaird.com](mailto:JRees@rwbaird.com)

Meryl Fell: [merylfell@hotmail.com](mailto:merylfell@hotmail.com)

Alternatively, e-mail [sarasotawelsh@yahoo.com](mailto:sarasotawelsh@yahoo.com) or check out our website [www.sarasotawelsh.com](http://www.sarasotawelsh.com) for up-to-date guidelines and an Application Form.

Awards are presented to qualifying recipients at the annual St David's Day Banquet on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Applications for 2016 should be received by the Scholarship Committee before December 31, 2015.**

***Applications received after this date cannot be considered until the following year***



## NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY

Summer may be coming to an end but there is still plenty to look forward to in the coming months.

If you're quick, you may still attend the **North American Festival of Wales** in Columbus, Ohio between Thursday, September 3 and Sunday, September 6, 2015.

This event is a wonderful showcase for Wales with a Grand Banquet, Gymanfa Ganu, competitions, classes, workshops and many gifts at the Market Place.

On-site registrations will be available from 5 pm on Wednesday September 2, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel but check out their website: [nafow.org](http://nafow.org) or their Facebook Page to establish firm details.



## ANNUAL PICNIC

**Sunday, October 25, 2015**

**1.30 pm – 3.30 pm**

Turtle Beach Pavilion, Midnight Pass Road  
Siesta Key, Sarasota

**FREE** for Dues-paying Members

**\$5** for all other Adults

**FREE** for Children – All Welcome



**Games:** Croquet, Bean Bag Throw, Polish Horseshoes, Skipping Ropes, Colouring for the little ones and more. Suggestions welcome.

Also, look out for our friendly Red Dragon who may put in an appearance!

We will provide the meats, rolls, place settings and condiments, but please bring along a dish of your choice to share.



## **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**

The Planning Committee is considering offering the Christmas Lights Trolley Ride around Sarasota. We are looking for a volunteer to coordinate the event so let a Board Member know if you might be interested. Also, during this festive season we hope to have a showing of a Welsh Christmas film. This will take place at the Gulf Gate Library on December 12, 2015.

Do you have a special film which you think others would enjoy? Again, let a Board Member know.



## **ST DAVID'S DAY BANQUET**

The Banquet will take place at Heritage Oaks Golf and Country Club, Sarasota on Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Social Hour at 6.00 pm followed by dinner and music program. Entertainment is under discussion. Check out [sarasotawelsh.com](http://sarasotawelsh.com) for full information.



## **ANNUAL MEETING**

The Annual Meeting will take place on Saturday, January 16, 2016 at Glen Ridge on Palmer Ranch, Sarasota. This will include a luncheon prior to the meeting. As our first ever Gymanfa Ganu was so successful we hope to repeat it in 2016. More details will be given when arrangements are finalised.



## **BOAT PARADE**



This photograph shows Don and Barbara alongside one of the boats at the Dragon Boat Festival, Sarasota, but ..... *contrary* to popular belief, they have not actually joined the crew!



## **CAN YOU HELP?**

Emma Thomas Mellinger's daughter needs help in Welsh pronunciation for a performance in Wales this coming winter. If you can help please contact Emma on: [Mellinger5@mac.com](mailto:Mellinger5@mac.com) Phone: 954-695-5166 You may read details of her request on [sarasotawelsh.com](http://sarasotawelsh.com)



## **OTHER NEWS IN BRIEF**

### **GET WELL WISHES:**

Bill Fell  
Don Hughes  
Muriel Patram  
Dorothy McDaniel  
Jo Bellett

### **BIRTHDAYS**

#### **AUGUST – DECEMBER:**

August:  
16<sup>th</sup> – Beverly Dunham  
23<sup>rd</sup> – Clara Edmunds  
27<sup>th</sup> – Bonny DiFiore

September:  
5<sup>th</sup> – Bill Fell  
28<sup>th</sup> – Muriel Patram

October:  
14<sup>th</sup> – Meg Larrabee  
31<sup>st</sup> – Geoff Pool

November:  
6<sup>th</sup> – MJ Swartley  
16<sup>th</sup> – Marilyn Parry

December:  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Moira Ravenscroft  
12<sup>th</sup> – Meryl Fell  
19<sup>th</sup> – Pat Hardy  
23<sup>rd</sup> – Dor Brown  
25<sup>th</sup> – Bernie Walker

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

#### **AUGUST – DECEMBER:**

September:  
9<sup>th</sup> – Meryl & Bill Fell

November:  
8<sup>th</sup> – Meredith & Justin Rees

December:  
27<sup>th</sup> – Amy & Robert (Bob) Ferrell

**MEMBERSHIP**

*What do I get for \$10?*

Your \$10 Annual Dues helps with your Welsh Society's expenses, entitles you to attend the Annual Picnic at no cost and receive a reduction on the March 1 St. David's Day celebration.

It also entitles you to vote at the Annual Meeting in January and serve as an officer of the Welsh Society if you so wish. Being a paid up member means that a college student in your family is eligible to apply for a Scholarship.

These are just a few of the benefits of becoming a member, but the sense of belonging to a wonderful Society, enabling us to make dear friends for years to come whilst being immersed in all things Welsh can only serve to promote our overall well-being.

**Join the Sarasota Welsh Society today and become part of our great Welsh family**

You may send your dues check to: Sarasota Welsh Society, P.O. Box 19343, Sarasota, FL 34276 or give it to Pam Edmunds at one of our Brunches, at the picnic or any Society event.



**Sign up now for 2016**

**SOME WELSH WORDS TO LEARN**

- Aderyn (ad-air-in) - Bird
- Bore Da (bo-reh-daa) – Good Morning
- Canu (ca-nee) – Sing
- Dydd (dee-th) – Day
- Eglwys (egg-loose) - Church



**CONTACT US**

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 Sarasota, FL 34276

**E-mail:**

[sarasotawelsh@yahoo.com](mailto:sarasotawelsh@yahoo.com)

**Facebook or Twitter:**

Sarasota Welsh Society



**Website:**

[www.sarasotawelsh.com](http://www.sarasotawelsh.com)

	<b>Board of 2015</b>	
President:	Amy Ferrell	941-349-6069
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	John Garrison	941-485-5348
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Ronnie Crain	941-922-4801
Treasurer:	Pam Edmunds	941-955-2858
Banquet Treasurer	Sandra Rees	941-951-6407
Corresponding Secretaries:	Muriel Patram & Meg Larrabee	941-925-8481
Recording Secretary:	David J Rees	813-633-7867
Trustees:	Sandra Rees	941-951-6407
	David Rees	941-914-3267
	Meryl Fell	941-922-0276
Lifetime Trustee	Don Hughes	941-374-1941
Choirmaster:	Don Hughes	941-374-1941
Chaplain:	Bob Griffiths	941-921-6812
Newsletter:	Meryl Fell	941-524-2914
Song Leaders:	Don Hughes & John Garrison	941-374-1941 724-840-2812
Website:	Meryl Fell	941-922-0276