

# Y Ddolen

Linking the Puget Sound Welsh Community

Ebrill, Mai, Mehefin 2024

Volume 42, Issue 2

April, May, June 2024



Features special guests Mal Pope, Mared, Urdd Singers, Duvant & Brecon Choirs, a Wednesday evening production of “Call Mr. Robeson”, seminars, eisteddfod, Cinema Wales, and more...

The North American Festival of Wales  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



The Westin Pittsburgh  
August 28 - September 1, 2024

see full details and preregister at  
[www.NAFOW.org](http://www.NAFOW.org)

## Help Wanted

PSWA Members interested in learning about becoming a Board Member

Contact: [President@PugetSoundWelsh.org](mailto:President@PugetSoundWelsh.org)

## PSWA Board Members & Elected Officers

- Mary Lynne Evans, President  
[President@PugetSoundWelsh.org](mailto:President@PugetSoundWelsh.org) | 206-525-5864
- Joel Ware IV, Vice President  
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- Bob Matthews, Secretary  
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- Gwen Weinert, Member at Large/Co-Editor  
[Board@PugetSoundWelsh.org](mailto:Board@PugetSoundWelsh.org)
- Alan Upshall, Archivist  
[Archives@PugetSoundWelsh.org](mailto:Archives@PugetSoundWelsh.org)

*We welcome your contribution of relevant articles, news, announcements, events, and photos.*

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT SUBMISSION: June 20<sup>th</sup> 2024.**

Email to: [newsletter@PugetSoundWelsh.org](mailto:newsletter@PugetSoundWelsh.org)

## PSWA Membership Dues Requested

Membership runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> unless you are a Lifetime Member.

<http://pugetsoundwelsh.org/membership.html>

Pay by PayPal or credit card or print the membership form and mail with check/money order to:

PSWA  
P.O. Box 27725  
Seattle, WA 98165

## Letter from the President – Spring, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Greetings for Easter: The Gifts of Pasq Hapus.

Sunshine and Easter egg hunts are occurring everywhere. Chocolate bunnies and jelly bean eggs hide under bushes with the real brown bunnies everywhere in my neighborhood. So many gifts of the season!

Our Saint David's Day on March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024, was great fun with 66 people enjoying the Sunset Hills Community Hall in Ballard. It was our first time there. There was lots of music and conversation, and Nerys Jones gave us an inside look at her life as a Welsh professional opera singer. Next, we heard our own talented audience sing, play instruments, tell jokes, and recite poetry. Old and new friends got together over an excellent tea. The actual tea water was not hot enough, but we already have the fix for that when we return to Sunset Hill Community Hall next year!

Thanks to all who worked so hard on this event. We would love to welcome new people and ideas to our planning group for the next Saint David's Day, so let us know if you want to help!

**Picnics and Parties** Your board has set the date for this year's Christmas party as Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at the home of Laura Lovell.

We are trying an earlier date this year to hopefully avoid the usual hectic Christmas rush of concerts, celebrations, and parties. Save the date on your calendars and watch for more information. The summer picnic is still being worked on, as are several Zoom meetings under discussion. Details will be coming your way soon.

**Finances** I would like to talk a little about our finances. The organization, which operates solely on your generosity and payment of dues, is doing well, generally. Most of our get-togethers do not require the organization to provide a cash outlay. However, we have two activities that do take money, and they are the newsletter including its mailing costs, and Saint David's Day. We get good feedback on both these items. The Welsh Women's Organization, which disbanded several years ago, gifted us their remaining treasury, to be used for Saint David's Day celebrations. We are very grateful for this.

However, every newsletter costs money which dues only partially cover, and Saint David's Day is an outlay from our funds which door receipts again do not cover entirely. Without replenishment, our treasury could dwindle dangerously. You can help in several ways:

1. Consider a cash donation which you may earmark for Saint David's Day. Thanks to those who donated during our last Saint David's Day. *[Editor: Check with your company to see if they will match your donation! Many will match your volunteer hours or personal donation to a 501(c)(3).]*
2. Pay your dues. Consider a lifetime membership for \$100. It is truly convenient and a real bargain.
3. Bring us gently used items from Wales and other places, which have resale value for our Marketplace table. We are delighted to receive knick-knacks, books, music, rugby or soccer paraphernalia, art work, love spoons, etcetera. We hope to have a new supply of fresh t-shirts. (We are not able to accept used clothing.)
4. Consider leaving a legacy to the organization, through your will or estate planning. These funds may be left in the name of a loved one. We have several members with expertise in financial planning, who can provide information and assistance.

Please contact me if you would like to talk more about any of our financial considerations.

Our heritage enriches each of us, and it enriches the larger community. Perpetuation of this organization is the Welsh gift to Seattle for over 100 years.

As always, we welcome your ideas, suggestions, donations of time and money, and especially your Welsh Hŵyl (spirit.)

Mary Lynne Evans, President

# St. David's Day

By Gwen Weinert

Puget Sound Welsh Association had the best gathering we have seen in years, with a great turnout, a beautiful new location, and a lively program that made Saint David's Day 2024 so much fun! We enjoyed being with friends old and new, great and unique musical presentations, and a hearty tea to wrap the afternoon up.



Gwen Weinert

The Sunset Hill Community Hall was built in the 1920s and is spacious with great acoustics. It is the perfect venue for an organization of Welsh descendants and their friends who like to sing and recite poems and stories. It has many large windows and the original wood floors, and it is a pleasure to visit. The welcoming staff went to great lengths to make our event a success.



Laura Lovell & Eric Bowen



Nerys Jones & Mary Lynne Evans

The board and friends of PSWA set up the room with help from Sunset Hill staff. It was good to see the Welsh flags and daffodils decorating our festive occasion. Lively music played as we entered the hall. Margie Hunt gave us a retelling of the life of Saint David, and Mary Lynne Evans interviewed our honored member and guest, Nerys Jones, about her life as an opera singer. Nerys sang some favorite songs, accompanied by Kay Jones Vea on the piano.

After a short intermission, Ellen Webber read the finalists' limericks, asked us to choose our favorites, and presented prizes to the winners.



Raffle Announcer Huw

Now it was time for tea, and a change from our usual format. This year, we enjoyed a Nosen Lawen (a merry evening,) presented with talent and variety. Our members and guests played the bagpipes, sang Welsh songs, and recited poetry. We sang hymns together, *Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau* and *God Be With You*. Thanks to Laura Lovell for a great program. The afternoon was ending, but people did not seem to want to leave. They lingered on, enjoying the company of old and new friends. Our guests and members were of all ages, from a toddler to our esteemed pianist who is well into her nineties. They celebrated our feast of Saint David with joy. Thanks to all who made our party a success!



Kay Jones Vea at piano



Aaron Wells

## PSWA Limerick Competition 2024

By Ellen Webber

We did not have a lot of entries this year. I know there are plenty of witty and creative minds in PSWA and I would love to see lots of entries for next year's contest. Dethrone our regulars and take home the top prize! Our esteemed judge selects the top three based on rhyming, the right meter for a limerick, storytelling, and humor. Hearty congratulations to everybody who submitted an entry.

1<sup>st</sup> Place - Donna Schultz

St. David picked up a leek  
It was long, it was green, it was sleek  
He cooked it for dinner  
Declared it a winner  
His breath, however, did reek!

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Sandra Johnson

A clever young Corgi named Gwen  
Wandered one day to a glen  
She met up with a guru  
Spouting verse in a tutu  
And since then has been very Zen.

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Alan Upshall

St David picked up a leek  
While pondering a future - bleak  
He mulled over his cause  
And decided he was  
Without a paddle and up a creek.



Don Scoby



## Welsh Heritage Day – Black Diamond, WA

-Karyn Davies

**Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> 11AM - 3PM**

<https://www.blackdiamondmuseum.org/events/welsh-heritage-day/>

This annual Welsh Heritage Day is held the first Saturday in June at the Black Diamond Museum,

**32627 Railroad Avenue, Black Diamond, WA.**

Entry is by donation – thank you for your generosity which allows the Museum to honor the town's Welsh heritage each year.

Presentation by the Puget Sound Welsh Association begins at 1PM.

Arrive early for brunch/lunch, stroll through the antique shop, shop the bakery or smokehouse, and tour the museum.

## Grace Williams' *Fairest of Stars* – Seattle Philharmonic

My name is Adam Stern, and I am the Music Director of the Seattle Philharmonic. I am writing to let you know of an upcoming performance of music by one of the most important composers from Wales, Grace Williams.

On Saturday, June 1, the Seattle Philharmonic, soprano Stacey Mastrian, and I will present the U. S. premiere of Williams' *Fairest of Stars*. Written in 1973, this extraordinary piece is Williams' last major work written before her death in 1977. The text is drawn from Milton's *Paradise Lost*; it is beautiful and romantic, and a showpiece for both singer and orchestra.

<https://seattlephil.org/concerts-and-tickets/concert/my-best-work-tchaikovskys-second/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grace\\_Williams](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grace_Williams)

# South Sound Night Out of Hwyl

By Chris Mooreddrall

Please RSVP by the morning of the date to [SouthSound@PugetSoundWelsh.org](mailto:SouthSound@PugetSoundWelsh.org) so we know how many seats and tables to reserve!

**Sunday 21 April 2:00pm**

Manic Meatballs

14815 Union Ave SW, Lakewood 98498 (This Meatballs place offers vegan and gluten-free options)

**Sunday 19 May 2:00pm**

Bastard Pies

4242 Capitol Blvd SE, Tumwater, WA 98501 (This Pizza place also offers options for vegans, vegetarians, gluten-free)

**NO NIGHTS OUT JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST (unless there is a volunteer to host hint hint!).**

**LOOK IN NEXT Y DDOLEN FOR SOUTH SOUND ANNUAL PICNIC DATE TBA!**

## Farthing

By JoAnne Matsumura

Please find attached for submission a scan of a special invitation of an unknown date that I had purchased prior to 2014 to obtain a Farthing “wrapped in each loaf of Sweetheart Bread.”

In 2014 I queried Martha Davies regarding it and she thought it ‘quaint’ and emailed me that the farthing shown was minted in 1856 and ceased to be legal tender in 1960.

“The story of Money” with fine print the copywrite symbol – “Waggaman Litho, Mfg. Co., Wash, D.C.” is found on the document.

My search on-line about ‘Farthings’ was quite interesting; however, I have been unable to learn anything more about this particular folder that one could obtain 56 of such folders and coins by purchasing loaves of Sweetheart Bread.

It begs to wonder how many loaves of bread it took to find the various offerings and have a full collection.

It certainly was an invitation for children to collect them, learn, share, exchange, and dream of one day traveling to far-away places.



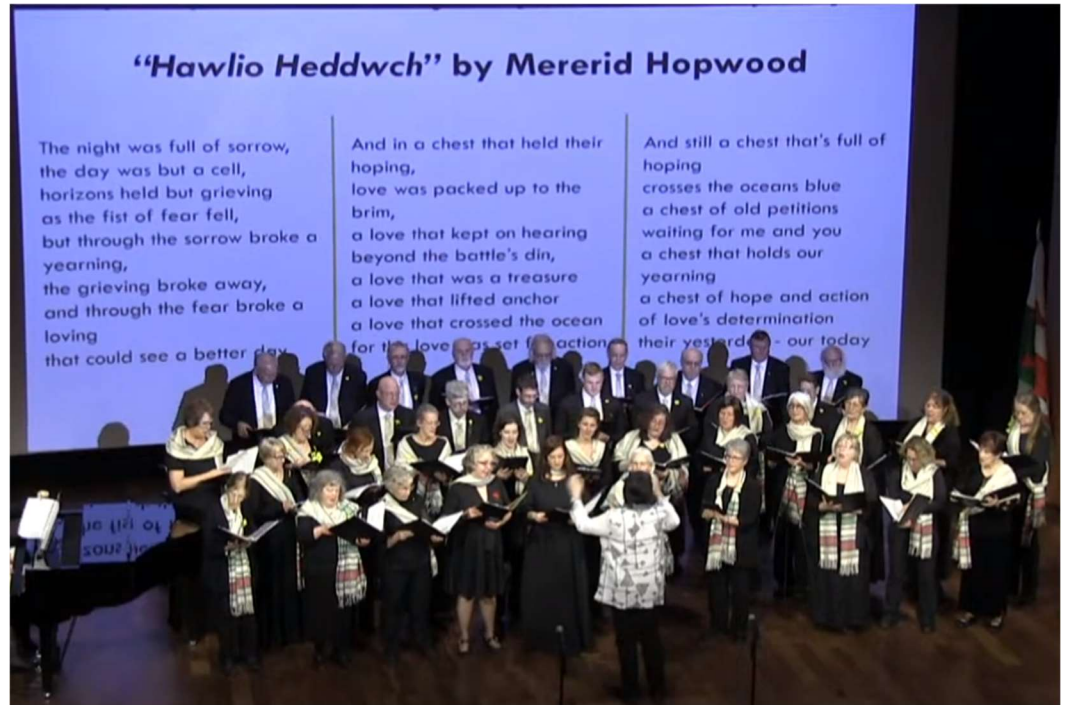
## Côr Cymru Sings In Kansas City

By Joel Ware IV

Côr Cymry Choristers, led by Mari Morgan, came from all over to sing in Kansas City, Missouri, March 9-10, 2024. We sang at the National World War I Museum and Memorial, both to honor those who fought, and to commemorate the Welsh Women's Peace Petition of 1923-1924. Singers traveled from seventeen states and one Canadian province. The Pacific Northwest was represented by Rebecca Perkins, Andrea Wild, Mary Lynne Evans, Shari Smith-Mead, Joel Ware IV, and Ellen Webber.

### A BUSY CHOIR WEEKEND

Côr Cymry was busy with rehearsals all day Saturday, and then sang a full concert that afternoon at the Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral nearby, followed by Te Bach. The full program included more than a dozen choral numbers, plus solos by Seattle Opera soprano Nerys Jones, and Mezzo Allison La Pointe. A fine warm welcome was provided by our concert sponsor, The St. David's Welsh Society of Kansas City, Missouri.



### A MOVING MEMORIAL ON A GLASS BRIDGE OVER THE POPPIES

Early on Sunday, the 42 Côr Cymry singers formed a memorial circle on the "Glass Bridge" over the field of 9,000 poppies in the entrance hall of the Museum. The names of singers' relatives who served in World War I were read out, and the choir sang "What Does the Lord Require of You?" Many there were very moved by the ceremony. Here is a link to view the choir:

Côr Cymry singing "What Does the Lord Require of You?" from the Glass Bridge:  
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/949644106744360>

### A PROGRAM TO COMMEMORATE THE PETITION

Later on Sunday, the Museum hosted a full commemorative program on the Petition, and Côr Cymry sang. The panel discussion, shown on the Welsh Mothers' Day, included women from both Wales and the United States, in an internet conversation.

This segment of the weekend is available for viewing on YouTube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g16X0hGiw70>

The choir introduced this ceremony by singing "Hawlio Heddwch" which honors the Peace Petition, with lyrics by poet and Professor of Celtic Studies Dr. Mererid Hopwood, who also appeared as a member of the online panel. This work was commissioned for Côr Cymry's 2023 Welsh Tour.

## How The Welshman Lost Twenty Pounds – by D.E. Griffith

(This article appeared in “The United Mine Workers Journal” April 28, 1910 on Page 2)

Transcribed verbatim by JoAnne Matsumura

In Merthyr Tydvil, a mining town in Glonmorgan, South Wales, lived Mordecai Evans, a man of deep religious feeling and a strong pillar in the church. Still he was not a prohibitionist, for he liked his pint of beer. By his shrewdness and intelligence he made many an extra pound by taking contracts.

His wife, a frugal, saving woman, was grasping in her ways and eager to save money, and betimes Mordecai schemed in various ways to keep a few pennies unknown to his wife, not wanting to tell the wife of the extra 20 pounds he had made. Wending his way homeward with his pay he stopped at a wayside inn. He called for a pint of beer. Being in good company he lingered longer than common. Highly exhilarated he started for home.

He arrived some time in the night with the 20 pounds safe in his pocket. He opened the gate to his front yard. Groping in the darkness he thought of his little garden where had placed some cabbage plants. There he hid the money, wrapped up in some paper. After safely sequestering his treasures, he entered the house to find his wife patiently awaiting his return.

His pay, with a receipt not in full, he gave to his wife. Being somewhat in a comatose state he retired. After reposing in the arms of Morpheus, he arose early. After feeling in his pocket, in a perplexity of mind he pondered what he had done with his money. To cast aside suspicion he calmly made preparation to go to church---with a doubt on his mind and a problem he could not solve.

Week after week he meditated over the money he thought lost. Finally, he came to the conclusion that he had lost the 20 pounds---quite a sum of money for a man in those days. Summer came with its blossoms, every tree garbed in verdant hue, birds singing their matinee, that mingled with Mordecai’s thought; bees humming and gathering honey from choicest flowers, butterflies of every color, as it were keeping watch over those plants that ere long would turn cabbage.

One Sunday morning when the cabbage had matured, Betsy, his wife, went out and brought in three heads of likely looking cabbage to prepare for the Sunday dinner. Mordecai put on his best clothes and was almost ready to go to church. His wife brought in a crock of fresh water and had started to cut the cabbage, when lo to Mordecai’s surprise, he heard something hard hit the crock. The thought struck him about the lost coin. He made a dash for the kitchen, and both scrambled to gain possession of the wealth, but the wife was too quick for him.

Anyhow, in the melee Betsy received a black eye. People on the outside going to church were surprised to think that Mordecai should whip his wife on Sunday, and he a deacon in the church. Minister and communicants rushed in to see what was the trouble, awed to think that Mordecai should turn such a brute. The real truth at that moment remained a secret. There was no battle, but a scramble for the money that grew, or, rather was brought to light after being hidden in the heart of the cabbage.



Menhir on the Moor:

Milenia hirion ar waun - hen maen hir  
Pwy oedd ef, 'roes o'r blaen  
Yn brwydro codi clogfaen  
Yn gorffwys 'nghefn, pryd ymlaen?

Long millennia on the moor -- old long stone;  
Who was he, in time long gone,  
Heaving boulder with muscle and bone  
To rest my back, in time further on?

-- Eric Bowen

### Back Page Wales Trivia Answers:

- |                                                                     |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Yr Wyddfa                                                        | 2. Daffodil     |
| 3. “Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau”                                             | 4. Rugby Union  |
| 5. The River Severn                                                 | 6. Jones        |
| 7. Henry Tudor a.k.a<br>King Henry VII –<br>born in Pembroke Castle |                 |
| 8. Llandudno                                                        | 9. 29           |
| 10. Cardiff                                                         | 11. 870 miles   |
| 12. Owain Glyndŵr                                                   | 13. Aberystwyth |



## Meet Your PSWA Board (2)

-Gwen Weinert

Karyn is our leading light in designing and publishing this quarterly newsletter, *Y Ddolen*. She also manages our Facebook pages. She puts in countless hours

formatting the newsletter and finding interesting things to share on social media for the Puget Sound Welsh Association. Until recently, Malcolm and Karyn headed up our gift shop and the social life of South Sound Night Out of Hwyl. When the board heard that the Davies' were planning to move to Idaho, we were quite dismayed. No worries! She will continue to manage the Facebook pages and head up *Y Ddolen*, so all is well.

Karyn hails from a rural community in Southern Oregon. She has no Welsh ancestry, but married a Welshman, Malcolm Davies. She remembers her childhood in Oregon as ideal and felt that everything was safe and idyllic, a quality that she hated as a teenager. So boring! She left after high school to attend university in East Texas to study Aviation Maintenance and Flight, but ended up instead with a degree in Design Technology which she continues to use in her current work.

She met Malcolm in Southern California and they married in November, 1999. Now, they both look forward to enjoying life in North Idaho on their ranch, raising calves, chickens, and maybe a few sheep.

Karyn credits their involvement with the Puget Sound Welsh Association due to noticing a PSWA bumper sticker on a car in Tukwila. Then she learned about a concert to be given by the Treorchy Male Voice Choir. In 2000, Karyn and Malcolm rented booth space at Seattle Scottish Clan Gatherings in Enumclaw and contacted PSWA (Gerri Parry) to ask if there was interest to participate in a Welsh informational booth. And so, their participation began!

Out of Highland Games booths contacts, PSWA had an information table at a Celtic Christmas Faire in Lacey and a booth at the City of Lacey Ethnic Fair. After a few years of absence due to lack of volunteers, Joel Ware, PSWA's Vice President, helped to revive PSWA's participation these last few years. During this time, Karyn created educational materials for the table including bookmarks and posters depicting trivia, famous Welsh people, the Welsh alphabet, and surnames.

From the email contacts acquired at the Highland Games (and later the Lacey Ethnic Fair) the South Sound Night Out of Hwyl group was established. This made things easier for the Welsh descendants who live in Tacoma, Shelton, Olympia, Chehalis, Kent, and Eatonville to meet during those monthly Nights Out.

South Sound got even more programs from the Davies. Until Covid shut them down, Annual Saturday Matinee at the Lakewood Library was a time to watch movies about Wales mythology or history, Welsh movies with English subtitles, or movies set in or about Wales. South Sound has its own annual Summer Picnic and annual Christmas Party and gift exchange to ensure those unable to attend the PSWA events in Seattle feel involved and part of PSWA. Chris Mooreddrall has generously taken on hosting the monthly meets at various area restaurants and continuing the traditions of the annual picnic and Christmas party.

What will the Davies do in Idaho, so far away from us? Well of course, Karyn is dreaming up ideas and looking for a Welsh group in Idaho, where the third largest group of Welsh descendants in the United States live. In June, there is the Malad Valley Welsh Festival in Malad, Idaho to visit and find some North Idaho Welsh!

We wish Karyn and Malcolm all the best in their new home, and thank them for continuing with the Facebook pages and *Y Ddolen*. Thank Heaven for the Internet! And thanks, both of you, for your years of hard work for PSWA.



# PSWA Membership/Renewal, Donations, T-Shirts, & Red Dragon Band CD

**Annual memberships renew each January.** Your contributions entitle you to a subscription to *Y Ddolen*, our wonderful quarterly newsletter, and provide vital support for our St. David's Day celebration and other activities through the year. In addition to our sponsored events, the Puget Sound Welsh Association acts as a valuable resource for anyone interested in Welsh culture, language, and music. Questions? Contact Ellen Webber.

## Annual Memberships/Fees

- Individual (\$10) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Family/Couple (\$15) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Y Ddolen mailed to you (\$5) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Life (\$100) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Overseas Annual Postage (\$50) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Overseas Life (\$150) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Membership is annual  
from Jan 1 through Dec 31*

## Donations

- General Fund Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Memorial Scholarship \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Memorial Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of (Name): \_\_\_\_\_

## Retail Products - \*prices include shipping/postage (\$15 if picked up at events)

- PSWA T-Shirts** Total number of shirts \_\_\_\_ x \$19.95 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$19.95\* each. Indicate how many of each size and color:  
Steel Green: \_\_\_\_ LG \_\_\_\_ XL \*Limited quantities; Email for availability: [membership@pugetsoundwelsh.org](mailto:membership@pugetsoundwelsh.org)  
Dark Green: \_\_\_\_ SM \_\_\_\_ MED \_\_\_\_ XL \*Limited quantities of XL; Email for availability.
- Welsh Music CD** Total number of CDs \_\_\_\_ x \$15 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*Y Ddraig Goch*, Traditional Welsh Folk music of Wales: \$15\* each

## Make check payable to PSWA

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership Information (please print):

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



PSWA is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization 501(c)(3). Contributions may be tax-deductible.  
Please mail this form with payment to: **PSWA, PO Box 98131, Lakewood, WA 98496**



Y Ddolen | Puget Sound Welsh Association  
PO Box 98131  
Lakewood, WA 98496  
[www.pugetsoundwelsh.org](http://www.pugetsoundwelsh.org)

US POSTAGE

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



### Join the PSWA Facebook Group! ❖ “Like” the PSWA Facebook Page!

Stay in touch with other members across the Puget Sound and Washington state, keep up to date with events and activities, and post relevant events/information to the discussion forum. Read interesting news and historical posts. Share what you find.

[www.facebook.com/groups/pugetsoundwelsh](http://www.facebook.com/groups/pugetsoundwelsh)

[www.facebook.com/PugetSoundWelsh/](http://www.facebook.com/PugetSoundWelsh/)

### Wales Trivia (answers page 7)

1. What is the highest mountain in Wales?
2. What is the national flower of Wales?
3. What is the name of the Welsh national anthem?
4. Which sport is considered the national sport of Wales?
5. What is the longest river in Wales?
6. What is the most common surname in Wales?
7. Who was the only Welshman to be crowned as King of England? (Bonus point if you can name where he was born.)
8. Which Welsh town was invaded by mountain goats during the pandemic?
9. How many letters are in the Welsh alphabet?
10. Where was Roald Dahl born?
11. To the nearest 100, how long is the Wales Coast Path which stretches around the entire coastline of Wales?
12. Who led a rebellion against English rule in the early 15th century?
13. Where was the first university in Wales?