

Sample original release. (to Nebraska press)

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## PRESS RELEASE

The 61st Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu (Music Festival) will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri, September 3-6, 1992. About 3,000 Americans and Canadians of Welsh ancestry are expected to participate, including several hundred from Nebraska.

There will be seminars, workshops, folk dancing lessons and tours. During the Labor Day Weekend there will be two concerts.

On Friday, September 4, Hin Deg, a folk music group from South Wales, will perform.

The Ardwyn Singers, an award winning mixed voice choir from Cardiff, Wales, will perform on Saturday, September 5.

A bilingual (Welsh and English) chapel service will be held on Sunday, September 6. Retired Presbyterian minister Dr. William T. Jones, a native of North Wales, will preach the sermon. Mrs. Fran Wheat, Grand Island NE, will be the organist for the service.

Sunday afternoon and evening will feature the traditional Welsh cymanfa ganu or hymn singing sessions involving 3,000 voices. Hywel Thomas, Worship Leader at the Lake Country Baptist Church of Fort Worth TX and a native of South Wales, will be music director for both sessions.

Nebraskans assisting with the festival include Dr. and Mrs. Orvid Owens, Lincoln; Mr. and Mrs. Morgan J. Bevan, Lincoln; Gloria Rees Dunbar, Lincoln; Rev. and Mrs. George Wheat, Grand Island; and Miss Bonnie Owens, Grand Island, who is also the President of the St. David's Welsh Society of Nebraska.

All events are open to the public. For more information, a detailed schedule of events, or a registration form, write or telephone 1992 Welsh National, 6904 Wildwood Drive, Raytown MO 64133, (816) 356-7272.

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For additional information, contact:

Dr. Orvid Owens (402) 327-  
Executive  
LINCOLN NE 68505

Jack Nesbitt (816) 356-7272  
Raytown MO 64133

Wales

1/9/92

HIN DEG, THE WELSH FOLK MUSIC GROUP

Hin Deg, the popular Welsh Folk Music Group, has accepted an invitation to appear at the 1992 Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu. They will sing at the Welsh Folk Music Event, an innovation at this year's Welsh National, which will follow the traditional Friday evening banquet.

The annual four-day weekend of Welsh music and culture will be at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in the Crown Center area of Kansas City, Missouri, September 3-6, 1992.

In addition to the Friday performance, Welsh National participants will have other opportunities to hear Hin Den. The Hyatt has engaged the band to play Thursday and Saturday evening engagements in their pub, appropriately re-named "The Red Dragon" for its Welsh visitors.

Ann McFerrin, Co-chairperson of the 1992 Welsh National, describes the members of Hin Deg as "excellent musicians who will delight and entertain our Kansas City visitors." She worked with the band during its participation in the 1991 Welsh Heritage Week held in Kansas City. "All three of them are very nice people," she added.

The Friday evening Welsh Folk Music Event will be multi-faceted. It will highlight the introduction of the new Welsh Folk Song Book which has been developed by the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association. Hin Deg will accompany the sing-along fans as well as entertain those who simply prefer to sit and listen. They will also play for the Welsh folk dancing enthusiasts. A small dance floor will be available.

The three-person Hin Deg (Fair Weather) was formed in 1985 and specialize in performing traditional and modern Welsh folk songs and instrumental pieces. Heather Jones is the singing member of the group. She also plays the guitar. Mike Lease and Jane Ridout perform on a variety of old and contemporary instruments.

Their painstaking research has unearthed a substantial body of neglected, unpublished and attractive material which they present for contemporary audiences.

The band has made numerous appearances on TV and radio. They have also appeared at major festivals in Wales and the UK, including Pontardawe international Music Festival, Gwyl Werin y Cnapan and the Royal Festival Hall in London. They have also performed in Germany, France, Belgium, Ireland and the United States.

In 1992, Hin Deg will be performing at the Royal National Eisteddfod as well as at festivals at Criccieth and Machynlleth.

Their growing reputation has recently been enhanced with the release of their cassette album, Lisa Lan, which has received critical acclaim.

(Please add in any of the material on individual performers -- Heather Jones, Jane Ridout or Mike Lease -- which appears in Hin Deg's own press release.)