



HWYL

WELSH NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

86TH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU



FOR MANY PEOPLE attending the North American Festival of Wales in Rochester, NY, the Gymanfa Ganu is the highlight of the festival. Coming as the last event, it is the time we come together to become as a choir to sing the wonderful hymns of Wales in beautiful four part harmony. This truly democratic event invites all to participate and share the joy of these traditional Welsh hymns, and everybody is expected to join in, singing soprano, alto, tenor, bass or simply making a joyful noise unto the Lord.

Dr. Hadyn James of London will serve as the conductor of this 86th National Gymanfa Ganu. (This represents a change from the previously announced conductor). David Enlow from New York will serve as accompanist. There will be two sessions, one at 2:30 pm and the other at 7 pm. Both sessions are at the Third Presbyterian Church. Each of



David Enlow

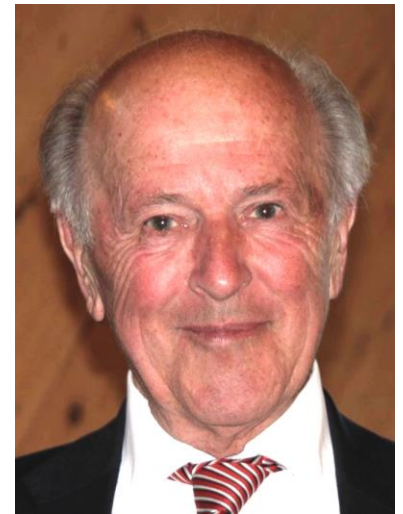
the hymns will be sung at the direction of our conductor and generally are sung partly in English and partly in Welsh to enable everyone to participate. If you don't own a Welsh hymnbook, there will be some available for sale. Copies of the hymns to be sung in each session will also be available.

Attending the Gymanfa Ganu is truly an uplifting experience. Those not attending the rest of the

festival can still attend the Gymanfa Ganu for a suggested donation of \$10.00 at the door. Bring your friends. We can guarantee you a wonderful experience.

CONDUCTOR HAYDN JAMES

WITH MORE THAN FORTY YEARS experience as a choral director, Dr. Haydn James is now in demand as guest conductor, musical advisor, arranger and adjudicator. He was Musical Director of the London Welsh Male Voice Choir for 30 years, during which time he performed in most of the UK's major concert venues, as well as in numerous countries throughout the world; he has directed nine massed choir Festivals at London's Royal Albert Hall (the '1000 Voices'), and at similar events in Cardiff's Millennium Centre, Sydney's Opera House and Carnegie Hall, in which concert some 400 singers shared the stage with soloist Bryn Terfel.



Haydn James

For the past seventeen years, Haydn has been Musical Director for the Welsh Rugby Union, and has directed the pre-match singing along with Military and Brass Bands in front of some 75,000 spectators at more than 120 rugby internationals in Cardiff, and at similar games in England, Scotland, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand. He conducted the National Anthems at ten games in the 2015 Rugby World Cup, and at the opening ceremony of the Rugby League World Cup; he has taken choirs on four successive British & Irish Lions tours to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, and has appeared as guest conductor with the renowned Treorchy Male Choir in twelve concerts over the past four years.

This will be Haydn's third appearance as National Gymanfa Ganu Conductor. He conducted the 72nd National Gymanfa Ganu at the first North American Festival of Wales in Richmond, BC, in 2003, and he conducted the 74th National Gymanfa Ganu in Orlando, FL, in 2005.

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MISSION

The Welsh North American Association strives to preserve, develop and promote our Welsh cultural heritage and traditions, including the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, and to do all things necessary and appropriate to accomplish these goals.

HWYL is published quarterly by the
 Welsh North American Association.

Editors: David Matthews and Richard Donohoe
 Direct comments or inquiries to editor@theWNAA.org

eHymnal**SOPRANO? ALTO? TENOR? BASS?**

*LEARN THE VOICE PARTS
 AND THE WELSH WORDS
 TO YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS.
 VISIT WWW.NAFOW.ORG.,
 SCROLL DOWN THE LEFT-HAND
 COLUMN.
 UNDER THE WNAA BOOKSTORE,
 DOWNLOAD eHYMNAL
 AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS.*

FYI from IHQ

By Megan Williams, Executive Secretary

WELL, SUMMER IS HERE and things are in full swing for Rochester.

Many thanks to all those who have already registered. A reminder that online registration will be open until the start of the festival but mail-in registrations **MUST** be received by August 1. Registrations can be refunded in full up until August 25. To guarantee a meal reservation, they must also be received by August 25.

The deadline for having memorial and honoring donations listed in the program booklet is August 1. Donations received after that date will appear in the Fall newsletter.

The Hyatt Regency (Headquarters hotel) is sold out over some nights. We have overflow accommodation available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights at the Radisson Riverside, less than 1 block away. Rates are \$139 + tax. Details for booking can be found on page 3.

If you have a hotel reservation and are unable to attend, please cancel your reservation so that it may be used by someone else. Up until August 10, you can do this directly with the hotel and the room will be returned into our discounted room block. If you need to cancel after August 10, please contact me so that I can save your reservation and allocate to someone else attending NAFOW.

It is really important to book the weekend shuttle ahead of time. We need to know how many buses to schedule for the shuttle service. A reminder, Hochstein School of Music, venue for the Grand Concert is a 10 min walk. Third Presbyterian Church, location for all Sunday activities, is 1 mile from the hotel. Parking is available at both locations.

This year we have a small local committee and volunteer help is much appreciated. If you are willing to spend a few hours in the tearoom, WNAA Marketplace table or registration, please let me know via email.

I am really excited to be traveling to Wales to take part in the North American stand at the Eisteddfod. Please note that I will be traveling August 2-10 and will still check email. I may have less frequent access to the internet and there could be a delay in my response.

I look forward to seeing you all in Rochester for a wonderful weekend together! As always, feel free to contact me with any questions: 607-279-7402 or IHQ@thewnaa.org.

DID YOU KNOW? Did you know that the National Eisteddfod has been held in England eight times?

It was held in Chester once, twice in both London and Birkenhead and three times in Liverpool!

PEOPLES COLLECTION WALES A 'TREASURE TROVE'

Preserving your piece of the Welsh Puzzle!

THE THURSDAY WORKSHOP, HELD FROM 10:30AM - 2:30PM, WILL INCLUDE LUNCH

GRUFFYDD E. JONES, PcD, AND BERIAN ELIAS, PcD, will offer this comprehensive workshop that will equip you with the skills needed to collect, digitize and publish your own part of the story. They will help you to create your own free account on the website and get involved with the archive.

Small parts of the Welsh history jigsaw are being discovered and shared through their website every day, and this year's NAFOW will give you an opportunity to add your own piece to the puzzle and help the People's Collection Wales to paint a vibrant and engaging picture of the story of Wales across the world.

GRUFFYDD, a 'valleys boy' at heart, has taken the charm and colour of Merthyr Tydfil throughout Wales with his work as a People's Collection Field Officer, enjoying each opportunity to work with a wide range of community groups and societies. The diversity of the work drives him to keep on chasing material about every aspect of Wales and her people.



BERIAN, born and raised in Ochra' Chwilog on the Llŷn Peninsula, has worked with the People's Collection for a number of years and relishes his Field Officer work within the community. Berian also makes the most of the work throughout Wales by pursuing his passion for analogue photography, film processing, shunting and so forth.



During the *Friday and Saturday seminars*, Gruffydd and Berian will be guiding you through the website's many features and throwing the spotlight on some of the best and most exciting collections they've seen published over the years. Maps, photographs, videos and stories will be highlighted and you'll discover how to carry on browsing at home.

NEWSFLASH FOR NAFOW PARTICIPANTS

OVERFLOW ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE!!

Some nights may be sold out at the Hyatt Regency Rochester.

Additional rooms are available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday night at the **Radisson**, less than 1 block away. Rates are \$139 for double/double or King. To make a reservation, please call the Radisson on (585) 546-6400 or (800) 3333333 for reservations, Group name: *North American Festival of Wales 2017.*

NAFOW Registration Information

Online registration at nafow.org will remain open until the start of the festival. Pay by Paypal or credit card.

Paper registration forms are available on our website: nafow.org To request forms, please contact Megan Williams: IHQ@thewnaa.org or 607-279-7402. The deadline for mailing in paper registration forms by August 1.

FINDING YOUR WAY FROM AIRPORT TO HYATT REGENCY

Complimentary Hotel Shuttle Service

Collect your luggage and go to the Courtesy Phone section on the Lower level or call the Hyatt directly at 585 546-1234. [Return airport shuttle must be pre-booked with the front desk and runs on the hour.]

Taxi Service The Hyatt Regency is about ten minutes from the Rochester airport. By taxi, the cost is around \$20.

MARKETPLACE

JENKINS' LOVESPOONS RETURNS TO MARKETPLACE

A LITTLE OVER ten years ago, Laura Jenkins Gorun learned about the Welsh Lovespoon tradition, and taught herself to carve. Since then, Laura has been speaking and demonstrating about Lovespoon carving, and lots of volunteering with Welsh Organizations, including the WNAA and the Welsh Society of Central Ohio, as well as dabbling in many artistic endeavors, especially carving lovespoons as much as she can. Laura's distinctly delicate, refined style of lovespoons has been recognized around the world, featured in several publications and art galleries, and you may have seen them in the NAFOW Marketplace several years past. In addition to her own creations, Laura has also worked on several collaborations with premier lovespoon carver, David Western, whom you may also recall from seminars and marketplaces at prior NAFOWs. Their last collaboration was donated and raffled at the 2015 NAFOW in Columbus, Ohio, with 100% benefitting the WNAA.

This year, stop by Laura's table in the NAFOW Marketplace, not only to check out the lovespoons and other wood and fiber arts creations Laura has been working on this year, but also to check out the most recent David Western-Laura Jenkins Gorun collaboration (and pick up a ticket – or a few!) See more about this special lovespoon raffle on the back page of this issue.

SILENT AUCTION

For the third year in a row, NAFOW will be holding the exciting Silent Auction. It is a fun addition to the weekend and a great way to support WNAA. If you have items you'd like to donate, please contact Susanna Adkins: legacy@thewnaa.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

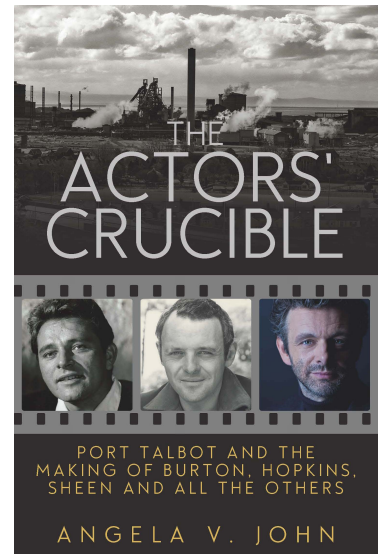
Volunteers are needed to help with Festival registration, taking meal tickets, ushering and the tearoom.

If you are willing to help, please email Megan Williams: IHQ@thewnaa.org subject line: *Volunteer*

AUTHOR – ANGELA V. JOHN

ANGELA V. JOHN will be at the Marketplace with paperback copies of two of her books. Both relate to this year's offerings at Rochester. *Turning the Tide; The Life of Lady Rhondda* throws further light on the remarkable woman who is the subject of the musical and theatrical entertainment by musician David Evan Thomas, writer/actor Holly Windle and the St. David's Society of Minnesota. Lady Rhondda (aka Margaret Mackworth) seems to be returning to the limelight: she will also be the subject of Welsh National Opera's cabaret-style opera called 'Rhondda Rips it Up!' which will tour Wales and England from June 2018.

The other book is *The Actors' Crucible. Port Talbot and the Making of Burton, Hopkins, Sheen and All the Others*. This is Angela's lively account of how and why Port Talbot on the South Wales coast became a town of stars as well as steel. She looks at the early lives of its most famous actors, and reveals a host of other famous faces from Port Talbot, from Ronald Lewis and Ivor Emmanuel to Di Botcher and Rob Brydon. She places centre stage the shifting fortunes of a community, its actors and, crucially, its enablers – the unsung heroes who helped to nurture talent.



NINNAU AT MARKETPLACE RECEPTION AT 4PM

NINNAU, THE NORTH AMERICAN Welsh newspaper, looks forward to greeting current subscribers and meeting new ones in the Marketplace in Rochester. Stop by our table and pick-up a copy of the September-October edition, submit an idea for a story or check to see if your subscription is up to date. Ninnau is in its 42nd year of continual publication. Meaning, 'US', it is the paper of the Welsh in North America and we want to include your news. Join us Saturday afternoon, September 2nd at 4pm, for a casual Ninnau reception, our chance to say thank you to our contributors, subscribers and friends.

GREAT PLAINS WELSH HERITAGE PROJECT

CELEBRATING our superb video, "Pobl y Paith / People of the Prairie: the Welsh in Nebraska." Come along and pick up a free DVD of our short documentary -- a great program for your Welsh society meeting or family reunion.



Gwenith Closs Colgrove, Berwyn Jones, and Martha Davies will be on hand to chat and share information about our Welsh translation service, genealogy searches, library and state-of-the-art Archive for Welsh America at our Welsh Heritage Centre in Wymore, Nebraska.

Browse through our books of Welsh American settlement histories - Minnesota, Ohio, New York, and Wisconsin - for family searches. Find your ancestors in the index of *Hanes Cymry America (1872) The History of the Welsh in America*.

Copies available for purchase:
P. O. Box 253, Wymore, Nebraska 68466
www.welshheritageproject.org
Facebook: Great Plains Welsh Heritage Centre

HIEBER CREATIVE ENDEAVORS

MICHAEL AND KATHERINE Hieber have been active participants at every NAFOW since Cincinnati in 2006, except for 2010 Portland when they instead attended the Eisteddfod in Ebbw Vale, South Wales. They first heard about this Welsh "thing" called a Gymanfa Ganu from a friend and the first time they sang was in Venedocia, Ohio on Labor Day 2000.

Their goal is to sing at and support every local Gymanfa Ganu listed in Ninnau at least once! Mike and Kathy are "still looking" for their Welsh roots. It must be somewhere between them, given their strong affinity to all things Welsh, including singing and the arts.

This is the main reason why Michael started making Welsh and Celtic themed art after he retired from 35 years of teaching Art at Miami University of Ohio. While teaching a variety of art courses for Miami, he also maintained an active pottery studio with several different styles evolving over the years. He has sold at galleries and street art fairs in the Midwest since 1975.

Michael's current work includes hand-made pottery thrown on the potter's wheel, hand-carved with Celtic designs, with some smoked in a pit to capture smoke & flame patterns. He has expanded his art to include designing Welsh notecards that are then printed by their



locally women-owned print shop. Some of the cards have Welsh phrases that have been directly inspired by their involvement with NAFOW. They also will be selling porcelain Celtic jewelry made by an artist's studio in Michigan that complements their work. He has recently expanded his offering to include handmade and carved Celtic tiles and hopes to have some special ones made specifically for NAFOW.

HONEY & SEA SALT

HALEN MÔN PURE WHITE SEA SALT

HALEN MÔN SEA SALT
Wales, UK

SENSORY PROFILE
Soft enough to crumble between your fingers yet structured enough to hold its shape on hot dishes, these dazzling white flakes are the perfect finish for all dishes.
No additives or non-caking agents are added the flakes are crunchy and crispy.

TRADITION
The Halen Môn story began with a bubbling pan of seawater on an aga in a family kitchen in North Wales, UK. The company has long since moved production out of the kitchen but salt is still harvested by hand from the sparkling seas around the Isle of Anglesey.
The Seawater Farm: this unique environment passes through two natural filters (a mussel bed and a sandbank) and then is charcoal filtered to obtain the purest product. The resulting salt is crunchy and crisp with a clean ocean taste.
It is ideal as a cooking ingredient and as the perfect finishing touch at the table.

Winner, British Great Taste Gold Award
Outstanding Product, Feria de Gastronomía
Awarded Protected Designation of Origin status by the EU

RETAIL SIZE 100g



AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE AT THE
WNAA MARKETPLACE
TABLE



WILD WALES TOURS & WALKABOUTS

WILD WALES TOURS & Walkabouts have been created to educate North Americans and others interested in experiencing Welsh history, culture and heritage from a Welsh perspective. We support the local economy and promote the Welsh language by working with businesses that promote all things Welsh.

The tours have been created for people who hate tours. The focus of our trips will be to visit Wales at a slower pace. You will not have large buses, name tags, large groups or hurried stops, but you will have rich and meaningful experiences. Along the way, guides and experts in Welsh culture will join us. During the day we will take in incredible sights, including Snowdonia National Park, castles, abbey ruins, Roman structures, rugged coastlines with crashing waves and sandy beaches. By night we will dine in pubs and inns, taking in the sounds of local choirs, traditional folk music and storytelling. With us you will not be another face in the crowd; you will have the opportunity to mingle with the locals.

Please come and visit us at the Marketplace this weekend!

Hywel Roberts

Director Wild Wales Tours & Walkabouts L.L.C.

CAN'T MAKE IT TO NAFOW but have a reservation at the Hyatt Regency?

Please cancel it at your earliest convenience to free up more rooms.

NOVELIST: BARRIE DOYLE

Novels: *The Excalibur Parchment* & *The Lucifer Scroll*

NOVELIST, BARRY DOYLE is a professional journalist and public relations counsel.

His suspense thriller novels *The Excalibur Parchment* (2014) and *The Lucifer Scroll* (2016) are the first two books of The Oak Grove Conspiracy trilogy. Wales—particularly the South Wales valleys—stars in the books.

Book One, *The Excalibur Parchment*, is a thrilling race across Wales in two different centuries—the 14th and the 21st—as well as the USA, Brittany and Venice. Acts of terror by zealous Druids determined to rejuvenate the “old faith”, clash with a modern journalist and an historian who are suddenly thrust into the role of protector of a hidden Excalibur. The sword is an icon, a symbol of power that the Druids will kill to obtain.



In *The Lucifer Scroll* an even more powerful and legendary symbol, The Spear of Destiny, is the prize.

Hitler, Charlemagne and other dictators lusted after it. From a discovery in Istanbul, through the Austrian Alps, southwestern USA and, of course, Wales, the hunt is on. In both books the hero struggles with belief in any faith—old or new—and the mantle that has been thrust upon him. Will someone—perhaps the historian, or his daughter—break through his self-imposed, work-induced armor? Who will get to the Spear first and control mankind's destiny?



Barrie was born in the valleys of Wales and has worked professionally across Canada and the United States but revisits Wales frequently (for both research and fun). He now lives in Ontario on the shores of beautiful Georgian Bay. Visit www.barriedoyle.com for more details.


 The logo for 'say something in Welsh' features the text 'say something in' in a red, lowercase sans-serif font, followed by 'Welsh' in a white, uppercase sans-serif font inside a green speech bubble. Below the speech bubble is a red dragon, the national symbol of Wales. The entire logo is enclosed in a red rectangular border.

SEVERAL OF US who've learned or are learning Welsh with *Say Something in Welsh* are looking forward to having a table in the Marketplace again this year at NAFOW.

SSIW is an all-audio course that teaches you to speak and understand everyday colloquial Welsh. You can download the lessons to your computer or smartphone, or listen online. No memorizing vocabulary or grammar rules; you'll pick these up in context and learn them by using them aloud in sentences, and expand your skills as each lesson builds on the next. The course comes in Southern and Northern versions.

A major reason that we're happy to promote SSIW is that promoting Welsh is a labor of love for SSIW's creators, who've made the introductory course of 25 half-hour lessons free, along with access to the friendly and lively worldwide discussion forum. The intermediate and advanced courses are available for a small monthly fee.

As in past years, we'll also be running a couple of "taster sessions" at NAFOW to demonstrate how learning with *Say Something in Welsh* works, and to share fellowship, tips, and mutual encouragement in learning Welsh. Drop by the table or the sessions!

EISTEDDFOD NEWS

IT'S TIME TO TAKE the stage! This year's Eisteddfod at the North American Festival of Wales will once again offer several competitions in singing and poetic recitation.

All relevant information, including the entry form, can be found at www.nafow.org (click on "Eisteddfod"); the deadline for receiving your form is August 21, 2017.

Are you moved by poetry from Wales? Then we invite you to try your hand at Welsh Language Recitation, Welsh Learners Recitation or English Language Recitation... there's something for everyone!

Or maybe, as someone who is Welsh (or Welsh at heart) we know you can carry a tune! Thus we offer again this year Solo Voice competitions for Youth (15 and younger) and Adults (16 and older), as well as a Hymn Singing competition.

Our signature competition, for singers with some professional training but whose income is derived only partially from performing, is the Solo Voice / Semi-

Professional Competition for the David Morris Memorial Award. The winner receives a \$3500 scholarship to travel to compete in next year's National Eisteddfod of Wales! Past winners have gone on to great success in Wales; most recently, this includes Rebecca Roy, who won the David Morris Award in Columbus (2015) and went on to place third at last year's National Eisteddfod in Monmouthshire.

In a HUGE change from previous years, and with the exception of Solo Voice/Semi-Professional, there will be NO fees to enter any of our competitions. Thus we urge you to visit www.nafow.org, check out the information sheet and entry form, and send your form in today!

Please email us at any time (eisteddfod@nafow.org) if you have any questions about our competitions. We'll see you on stage in Rochester!

NAFOW Eisteddfod Committee (Danny Proud, Chair)

The Legacy Society is Growing!

LAST YEAR OUR LEGACY society goal was to reach 30 members...and we did it!! What a joy and assurance to know that Welsh history, language and culture is being supported by their future gifts. Please join me in a grateful *Diolch yn fawr* to our most recent members: Huw & Rachel Christopher; Dale Richards; Kay Thomas; E. Jean Ward Greenway and Danny Evan Proud.

In this issue of HWYL we introduce you to new members, Dale Richards and Danny Proud.

Danny Evan Proud The future of the WNAA is important to me. I can't imagine not being able to go to the Festival each year! My way to help ensure that NAFOW is there, is to commit to financially supporting WNAA through The Legacy Society. It's easy to join and I like how members are encouraged to participate at a level that feels comfortable – with no arm twisting.

Dale Richards Being a longtime member of the WNAA and my local St. David's Society, I decided to remember my parents, brother and grandparents for their commitment to the Welsh culture and to help it stay as strong as it is today and into the future. If you are able and truly want to help preserve the culture for generations to come, it would be a good gesture to join the WNAA Legacy Society. CYMRU AM BYTH!

If you haven't joined Legacy yet, do consider this exciting opportunity. Just communicate your interest in an e/mail to legacy@thewnaa.org.

2017 NAFOW RAFFLES

THIS YEAR NAFOW is proud to have two beautiful donated items to excite attendees.

In the Spring Hwyl, readers would have seen a photo of Tracy Burr's 'Welsh Dragon Quilt'.

In this issue, Laura Jenkins Gorun and Dave Western are excited to offer another lovespoon.

THE LOVESPOON DONATED for the 2015 NAFOW raised over \$2000 for NAFOW programming and set a pretty high bar for us as carvers!

Dave's side of the spoon celebrates Wales and Canada with a vibrant cascade of maple leaves and a regal dragon, while Laura's side, a work in progress, celebrates Wales and the United States. We are glad we can do something to help support the NAFOW by donating our collaborative efforts. We very much hope that NAFOW attendees will support this year's fundraising lovespoon with the same enthusiasm as in 2015.

