

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc.

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DEUWCH, CANWN I'R ARGLWYDD

(Come, Sing to the Lord)



Y DDRAIG GOCH
DDRY CYCHWYN

NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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The St. David's Welsh Society of Greater Kansas City
The Heart of America Welsh Societies Association, Inc.
invite you to attend
THE 61st WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU
September 3-6, 1992

February, 1992

Dear Friend of the 1992 Welsh National:

Welcome to Kansas City and the 61st Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu!

As you will see from the enclosed brochure, our committee has planned a very active and varied schedule of activities. Highlights include the acclaimed Ardwyn Singers (Cantorian Ardwyn) from Cardiff, the popular Welsh folk music group Hin Deg from South Wales, Gymanfa director Hywel Thomas, Noson Lawen conductor Geraint Wilkes, the Friday morning Welsh Roundtable Breakfast (a social gathering for representatives of North American Welsh groups), seminars, workshops and tours.

Some new items this year include a Friday Welsh Folk Music Evening, following the traditional banquet, where songs from the WNGGA's new *Welsh Folk Song Book* will be introduced; Friday and Saturday Welsh Fun for Kids Classes for children ages 4 to 12 (parents and grandparents are encouraged to bring children to Kansas City); and a Saturday noon Laura Ashley, Ltd. Fashion Show at the WAY (Welsh Affiliated Youth) luncheon; and a Saturday evening pool party for members of WAY. All events will be held in the air conditioned Hyatt, so you won't have to leave the hotel unless you chose to do so.

The Hyatt Regency Hotel at Crown Center, Kansas City's largest, has offered us a super convention rate of \$69 per room (single or double) plus applicable taxes. March will not be too early to mail in your reservation card to guarantee the room you desire. Our block of rooms are likely to fill up fast at these prices.

If this will be your first Welsh National, plan on an enjoyable weekend of music and Welsh culture. It is something of "a family reunion" (literally and figuratively). Plan to see your friends and relatives from across Canada and the USA at this Kansas City National. Let them know you will meet them "at the Hyatt."

It has been a busy year preparing for this 1992 Welsh National. The idea of a Kansas City venue was first proposed by the late Ann Davies Thomas. In 1989, Ann went over details of how to organize a Welsh National. Needless to say, she convinced us! Here we are — six months from your arrival in our city.

To encourage early registration for activities, the first 500 individuals who mail in their 1992 Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Registration Form to our local venue committee will receive a free souvenir tea/coffee mug with appropriate 1992 Welsh National artwork — a real keepsake of the occasion.

Keep reading *Y Drych*, *Ninnau* and *HWYL* for additional news about the 1992 Welsh National. We still have a few pleasant surprises to announce.

Sincerely,

JACK NESBITT
1992 Chairperson

ANN McFERRIN
Co-Chairperson



Correspondence: KANSAS CITY 1992 WNGG
Jack Nesbitt, Chairperson
Ann McFerrin, Co-Chairperson
Kansas City, MO 64133 USA
1992-308-7273 (Home)

leg of their homeward journey to Cardiff. Come out and show them how much you appreciate their participation in the 61st Annual Welsh National!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Headquarters Hotel and Room Reservations:

The Hyatt Regency at Crown Center
2345 McGee Street
Kansas City, MO 64108, USA
Telephone: 1-800-233-1234
(816) 421-1234

Welsh National Room Rates:

\$69 US, single or double
Plus applicable tax

Register early to guarantee the room you desire.

Welsh National Pre-Registration (must be received by August 31):

All costs are payable in US dollars. You are encouraged to pre-register for Welsh National activities in advance of your arrival. Some activities will fill up early due to space limitations or calendar deadlines. Pre-reservations received by August 10 will be acknowledged by mail. Send your WNGG forms as soon as possible to:

1992 WNGG Registrar
P
KS 66201, USA

Questions about the dance workshops should be directed to:

Ann McFerrin
69th Street
y, MO 64113, USA

Questions about WAY activities should be directed to:

John Lloyd
#3
2135, USA

For General Information, contact:

Jack Nesbitt, Chairperson
WNGG Venue Committee
Kansas City, MO 64133, USA
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PLEASE NOTE: A SOUVENIR 1992 WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU TEA/COFFEE MUG WILL BE GIVEN TO THE FIRST 500 INDIVIDUALS WHO PRE-REGISTER FOR WELSH NATIONAL ACTIVITIES! Send your 1992 WNGG registration form to our Registrar now!!

The Sixty-first WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU *Music Festival*

September 3-6, 1992

“DEWCH I DDINAS
KANSAS I GANU!”

“Come to Kansas City
and Sing!”



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Hyatt Regency Hotel
at Crown Center
Kansas City, Missouri

ON-SITE WNGG REGISTRATION

| | |
|----------|----------------------|
| Thursday | 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. |
| Friday | 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. |
| Saturday | 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. |
| Sunday | 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. |

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

11:45 a.m. Kansas City Club Downtown Rotary Club Luncheon (Welsh Program featured) Visiting Rotarians invited. Pay at Door.

Tour (2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

#1 Kansas City Highlights

Enjoy a look at Kansas City, beginning with the River Market area, the first settlement in 1826. Continue into Downtown, pass the point where Lewis and Clark camped in 1804, and see Crown Center. Pass through historic Westport, now one of the city's hottest night spots, and drive along lovely Ward Parkway with its impressive homes. No tour would be complete without a trip through the famous Country Club Plaza with its 150 elegant shops and boutiques. Cost: \$16

7:00 p.m. Ballroom
Opening Ceremonies, Noson Lawen and Te Bach
A truly "merry evening" of Welsh *hwyl* with *Arweinydd Geraint Wilkes* of Milwaukee. Cost: \$6

Informal Hymn Singing (following)

9:30 p.m.
WAY Mixer

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

8:00 a.m.
Welsh Roundtable Breakfast
Annual social gathering of representatives of the Welsh Societies and organizations throughout Canada and the United States. **Fran Wheat**, organizer of the Treorchy Male Voice Choir's 1991 tour of the American Midwest, will share some of her experiences in that successful endeavor. All are welcome. Cost: \$12

Tours

8:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

#2 Historic Weston

Step back into time with a visit to Weston, Missouri — a town officially on the National register of Historic Places. Founded in 1837, Weston grew to prominence in the 1850's and then settled back into a quiet existence when the Missouri River changed courses. You will visit the museum, McCormick Distillery, two of the 100 antebellum homes, quaint shops and cafes, and the only tobacco auction barn west of the Mississippi River. Cost: \$21

9:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

#3 Kansas City Highlights
(See Thursday's Tour #1 for details). Cost: \$16

1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

#4 Independence and Truman Library and Gravesite

Drive by the home of President Harry S. Truman. Visit Truman Library and grave, see exhibits on the American Presidency and the Truman Era, and get a "feel" for the historic town where an American President grew up. Cost: \$18

2:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

#5 Kansas City Highlights
(See Thursday's Tour #1 for details). Cost: \$16

Seminars/Workshops/Children's Activities

Cost: \$3

9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m. (choose one)

A. **Famous Welshmen, Eminent Welshmen, Notable Welshmen: Whatever Became of Welsh Women?** **Connie Holt's** seminar will feature stories of Welsh women in Wales and America whose contributions have been overlooked by history.

B. **The Mabinogi.** Poet and writer **Beth Phillips Brown** will assist participants in creating their own answers to the burning question: how does a modern Welsh-American find meaning and relevance in the classic cycle of Welsh stories in *The Mabinogi*?

C. **Welsh Folk Singing.** **Jan Jones Hartford** and **Lincoln Jones Hartford** will present songs of the Welsh folk, ancient and modern, performed in solo, duet and group singing with reference to recorded music. A booklet of folk songs will be provided.

10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. (choose one)

D. **American Welsh Labor Leaders.** Having grown up in Lucas, Iowa, the birthplace of John L. Lewis, **Dr. Ron Roberts** acquired an interest in this labor leader, the result of which is an interesting presentation on Lewis, William Green, and other important "movers and shakers" of the American labor movement.

E. **Traditional Welsh Cooking.** How much oatmeal do you put in when great-grandmother's recipe calls for 3 basinfuls? What would one serve at a real Welsh tea? **Audrey Collins**, the "O Gornel y Gegin" columnist in *Y Drych* will share her basinful of helpful cooking hints and recipes. An actual cooking demonstration will take place.

F. **The Where and Why of Welsh Emigration, 1795-1850.** Certain places in Wales experienced heavy emigration before 1850, while other areas were virtually untouched by "American Fever." Using maps and photographs to illustrate, **Anne Knowles** will explore the geographical and historical reasons behind the uneven pattern, with special focus on the contrasting

stories of emigration from rural Mid-Wales and the industrial valleys of South Wales.

9:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

G-1. Welsh Fun For Kids Class. A new feature of the Welsh National this year. Children ages 4 to 12 are invited to participate. **Gail Baker**, a native Welsh speaker who formerly taught in a Welsh School in Gwent, will direct musical activities (songs, dances and action poems), arts and crafts and action games.

1:15 p.m.-2:15 p.m. (choose one)

H. Welsh Family History. How does one go about finding those ancestors we did not want to know about when Nain was alive to tell us? The person to clue you in is **Donelle Meyer**, who has been teaching genealogy classes for ten years as well as researching her Welsh relatives at the Welsh Family Historical Society level.

I. Vacations in Wales. Always a popular seminar, a visit to our homeland comes to life with ideas and suggestions given by **Jonathan Jones**, Marketing Director of the Wales Tourist Board in Cardiff.

2:00 p.m.

WNGGA Trustees Meeting

Seminars/Workshops

Cost: \$3

2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. (choose one)

J. Part Singing — Sopranos and Altos. A little practice never hurt anyone and we all want to sound our best at the Gymanfa on Sunday. **Ruth Thomas**, wife of Gymanfa Conductor Hywel Thomas and a qualified musician in her own right, will sharpen our pronunciation and help us tune up for the Sunday afternoon hymns.

K. Part Singing — Tenors and Basses. Not to be outdone by the ladies, part singing practice for the men will be led by Gymanfa Conductor **Hywel Thomas**. The men will also work on the Sunday afternoon hymns.

3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

L-1. Clog Dancing Workshop. Beginning instruction in Welsh Clog Dancing by **Jane Ridout**, a member of the Welsh folk group **Hin Deg**.

4:15 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

M-1. Advanced Welsh Folk Dancing Workshop. Brush up your Welsh folk dancing skills. **Hywel Thomas** will give "pointers" on technique and skills. Individuals as well as organized folk dancing groups are encouraged to attend.

5:00 p.m.

Social Hour/Cash Bar

Gather early and visit with your old friends and make new acquaintances.

6:00 p.m.

Annual Banquet

Enjoy a feast with delicious food, elegantly presented,

and a warm evening of fellowship around the dinner table. Entertainment. Cost: \$25

Informal Hymn Singing (following)

9:00 p.m.-Midnight

Ballroom

Welsh Folk Music Evening

A new feature of the Welsh National this year. Selected songs from the *Welsh Folk Songbook*, being produced by the WNGGA, will be introduced. The Welsh folk group **Hin Deg** will be present to perform, lead in group singing, and play for those who care to try a little Welsh folk dancing. Seating will be at tables, cabaret style. So gather your friends and enjoy. Truly a funfilled informal evening for all ages!

Cost: \$6

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

9:00 a.m.

WNGGA Annual Meeting. WNGGA members and voting representatives of WNGGA associated organizations are urged to sign in beginning at 8:30 a.m. (Parents and Grandparents — note that another of **Gail Baker's** classes for children will be available from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. — see Class G-2 listed below).

12 Noon

WAY Luncheon and Laura Ashley, Ltd. Fashion Show. A new approach to the traditional Saturday luncheon event. Enjoy lunch while viewing the newest apparel made by Laura Ashley, Ltd. in Wales. WNGGA and WAY members will serve as models. Open to all — not just WAY members and those who wear Laura Ashley fashions.

Cost: \$15

Tours

11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

#6 Powell Gardens

A 835 acre botanical garden, with 12 acre lake, dedicated to the promotion of horticulture and the preservation of our environment. Forty-five minutes east of Kansas City. Each season brings exciting, new displays of seasonal beauties. Guided tour includes the formal gardens, home idea and international vegetable gardens, rock gardens and various flower beds. Guests will then be free for a nature walk and/or visit to the unusual gift shop.

Cost: \$18

2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

#7 Independence and Truman Library and Gravesite (See Friday's Tour #4 for details).

Cost: \$18

Seminars/Workshops

Cost: \$3 each

9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

G-2. Welsh Fun for Kids Class. A continuation of **Gail Baker's** activities for children ages 4 to 12. See Friday morning's class G-1 for description.

11:00 a.m.-12:00 a.m. (choose one)

N. The Where and Why of Welsh Emigration, 1795-1850. See Friday's Seminar F for a description.

O. Vacations in Wales. See Friday's Seminar I for a description.

P. The Mabinogi. See Friday's Seminar B for a description.

12:10 p.m.-1:10 p.m. (choose one)

Q. Welsh Family History. See Friday's Seminar H for a description.

R. Welsh Folk Singing. See Friday's Seminar C for a description.

1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

G-3. Welsh Fun for Kids Class: More of Gail Baker's activities for children ages 4 to 12. See Friday's description of class G-1.

1:20 p.m.-2:20 p.m. (choose one)

S. American Welsh Labor Leaders. See Friday's Seminar D for a description.

T. Traditional Welsh Cooking. See Friday's Seminar E for a description.

U. Famous Welshmen, Eminent Welshmen, Notable Welshmen: Whatever Became of Welsh Women? See Friday's Seminar A for a description.

2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. (choose one)

V. Part Singing — Sopranos and Altos. Same as Friday's Seminar J, except the hymns to be practiced are those chosen for Sunday's evening session.

W. Part Singing — Tenors and Basses. Same as Friday's Seminar K, except the hymns to be practiced are those chosen for Sunday's evening session.

3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Awr Y Plant (Children's Hour)

Our children will perform for you. Watch the future Welsh National talent in action. *Come out and support them with your attention and applause.* (Parents or grandparents should contact the Awr Y Plant Director in advance. Write Gail Baker, 13616 Polk Street, Omaha NE 68137, USA, with descriptions of proposed acts or performance material.) Free admission.

3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

L-2. Clog Dancing Workshop. More of Friday's Workshop L-1.

4:00 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

M-2. Advanced Welsh Folk Dance Workshop. More of Friday's Workshop M-2.

7:30 p.m.

Ballroom

Gala Concert

The Ardwyn Singers (Cantorion Ardwyn) from Cardiff in Concert! Under the direction of **Helena Braithwaite**, this acclaimed Welsh mixed voice choir

will present an outstanding evening of music with a strong emphasis on modern and classical Welsh music. This is an exceptional choir and an exceptional director. The Ardwyn Singers and the South Glamorgan Youth Choir, both directed by Ms. Braithwaite, are the only Welsh choirs in the last thirty years to have won both the Chief Choral and Youth Choir competitions in the Llangollen International Eisteddfod. Their accompanist is **Janice Ball** from the School of Music Education in the University of Wales College of Cardiff.

Cost: \$15

Informal Hymn Singing (following)

10:00 p.m.

WAY Pool Party

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

7:30 a.m.

WNGGA Trustees Meeting

10:00 a.m.

Noddfa Chapel (Ballroom)

Welsh/English Chapel Service. Begin the final day of the Welsh National by attending an authentic bilingual chapel service. Join us at "Noddfa Chapel" for congregational singing, special music, and a "strong" sermon in the Welsh tradition.

2:00 p.m.

Ballroom

Gymanfa Ganu — Afternoon Session

The Gymanfa Ganu will be conducted by **Hywel Thomas** of Fort Worth, Texas (formerly of the Swansea Valley in South Wales). The **Ardwyn Singers** will participate. Registration fee entitles you to admittance.

Buffet Supper

A buffet supper will be served immediately following the afternoon session. Admission by ticket.

Cost: \$15

6:30 p.m.

Ballroom

Gymanfa Ganu — Evening Session

Conductor **Hywel Thomas** leads our closing hymn singing session. The **Ardwyn Singers** again will participate. Registration fee entitles you to admittance.

Farewell Te Bach

Follows the evening singing session. Enjoy that last cup of tea and a Welshcake before parting.

Informal Hymn Singing (following)

Meet new conductors along with the old favorites. We have invited some "new" faces to display their conducting skills at this final gathering of the 1992 Welsh National.

11:00 p.m. (approx.)

Hyatt Lobby

Ardwyn Singers Send-off

The choir boards a chartered sleeper coach for the first