



# HWYL

WELSH NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## NAFOW 2018: ALEXANDRIA, VA

The **NORTH AMERICAN FESTIVAL OF WALES** will be held in Alexandria August 30 through September 2. The headquarters hotel will be the **HILTON ALEXANDRIA MARK CENTER.**



Room rate: \$103+tax/night - single, double, triple, quad  
Suites (subject to availability): \$175  
Book online at [nafow.org](http://nafow.org), or call 1-800-HILTONS  
and mention group name  
**NORTH AMERICAN FESTIVAL OF WALES 2018.**  
Complimentary shuttle from DCA  
(Washington Reagan National Airport).  
Discounted parking for daily visitors \$10  
Overnight parking \$20/night

## OPENING CONCERT

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018

TRIO IS A MALE VOCAL GROUP from Snowdonia, North Wales, formed by renowned pianist/accompanist ANNETTE BRYN PARRI in 2012. The group gave its first public performance at GALERI, Caernarfon, in June 2013. The standing ovation led, not only to a number of concerts in 2013 and 2014, but also to the release of the group's first CD in August 2014. SAIN RECORDS provided them the opportunity to record twelve of their favorite songs, which are often heard on Radio Cymru programs. They made their TV debut at the National Eisteddfod of Wales in Denbigh

in 2013.

EMYR WYN GIBSON, tenor, is a professional actor, BEDWYR GWYN PARRI, baritone, works as a learning support assistant and STEFFAN LLOYD OWEN, bass, who won rave reviews for his performance at NAFOW 2017, currently studies at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

The group is coached by Annette Bryn Parri, pianist, who arranges TRIO's songs and produced their first CD.



In December 2014, TRIO released their Christmas single on iTunes and YouTube, and in August 2016, they released their second album, *Cân y Celt* (Sain Records).

.....

ANNETTE BRYN PARRI, accompanist, was born in the village of Deiniolen in Gwynedd, where she still resides. She studied piano at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, where she gained her degree. She was honored by the college as one of their "notable alumni." Afterward, she joined the staff of the Music Department at Bangor University, where she was piano tutor for students following various music courses.

Although recognized as a talented piano soloist, Annette has accompanied opera stars and Wales' most renowned *(continued on page 2)*

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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.

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*(continued from page 1)*

singers, on stages throughout the UK and abroad. She has performed at London's Royal Albert Hall on many occasions. Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, Sir George Solti, Prince Charles and the late Princess Diana have been among her private audiences. She has performed not only in Wales, but also in England, Scotland, Ireland, Australia, America, Nigeria, Switzerland, and Brittany.

Annette was Musical Director of Traeth Male Voice Choir from 2002 to 2011, and participated in concerts with male voice choirs at the Liverpool Empire, Palace Theatre Manchester and Grand Opera House, York.

She has performed at the Urdd National Eisteddfod and the National Eisteddfod of Wales on numerous occasions, and is an official accompanist at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod. She was one of the founders of the William Mathias Music Centre in Caernarfon, and has been associated with over 80 recordings, either as vocalist, performer or producer for Sain Records. Annette produced the popular Bryn Terfel and Rhys Meirion CD "Benedictus", which was nominated for an award at the

Classical Brit Awards in 2006.

She won the Grace Williams Medal for Composition at the Urdd National Eisteddfod in 1982, and won the coveted Blue Riband for Instrumentalists at the National Eisteddfod in Rhyl in 1985. Annette and harpist Dylan Cernyw formed a popular duo, "Piantel," in 2005, and they have released three CDs. She published her autobiography, "Bywyd ar Ddu a Gwyn" (Lolfa Press) in 2010.



In August 2013, she was honoured by the Gorsedd of Bards at the National Eisteddfod of Wales, held in Denbigh, being awarded the Honorary Druidic Order, the Green Robe, for her services to the Arts. Also in 2013, she established the male vocal trio, aptly called "TRIO."

**FYI from IHQ**

*By Megan Williams, Executive Secretary*

REGISTRATION for the North American Festival of Wales is OPEN! And we have a NEW website! Check out [nafow.org](http://nafow.org) for the festival schedule, program and details. I want to make sure you are aware of a few important things:

The tours are likely to sell out, so please book early.

We are using two venues in addition to the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. The Grand concert will take place at the Rachel Schlesinger Concert Hall at North Virginia Community College. It is one-half mile from the hotel. It is walkable, although in a built-up area. There is a lot of free on-site parking directly next to the concert hall. For those unable to drive, we will provide a shuttle that will run on a loop, no ticket required. There will be tiers of ticket-pricing for the Grand concert. General seating will apply within the tier. A seating map can be found by visiting our website.

The Gymanfa Ganu will be held at Falls Church Episcopal, five miles from the hotel. We will offer a motor coach shuttle service; a ticket will be required. It is imperative that you purchase the shuttle ticket ahead of time, as the distance is such that the coaches won't be able to operate more than one trip. Parking at the gymanfa is limited, but free parking is available at municipal lots in Falls Church. Parking information can be found on our website. I look forward to seeing you in August. As always, I am more than happy to help with any questions.

**BUS TO NAFOW?** If you are interested in taking a bus from the Southern Tier of NY and Northeast PA contact [wnaahq@gmail.com](mailto:wnaahq@gmail.com) or **607-279-7402** by April 1.

## GRAND CONCERT, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1: “ESCHOIR”



ESCHOIR, a Welsh male choir based in London, was formed in 2009 at the Borough Welsh Chapel near London Bridge with the aim of encouraging the male choir tradition among younger men, as well as creating a home-away-from-home in the busy city. The first public performance was at the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff, singing the anthems at the Wales v Italy Six Nations tournament. Since, they have been fortunate to sing for the British Prime Minister at 10 Downing St, at the British Embassy in Tbilisi, Georgia, and for the Archbishop of Canterbury’s retirement reception at Lambeth Palace.

Eschoir has appeared on popular UK TV programs as well as Welsh tourism advertisements. The choir supports the London Welsh community by singing at charity events, as well as weddings and funerals. Indeed, the choir sang at the funeral of the late actor Alan Rickman, whose mother was Welsh. On St David’s Day, they can be seen at Paddington Station, Borough Market, and the House of Commons, followed by a ‘noson lawen’ at a West London bar. 2017’s noson lawen was attended by David Beckham and Ed Sheeran, who popped into the bar for a quiet drink.

Eschoir is grateful and excited to be sharing a wonderful occasion with like-minded, fellow expats at the North American Festival of Wales.

CONDUCTOR MIKE WILLIAMS comes from Port Talbot and graduated from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Before moving to London, Mike was a conductor of three Cardiff choirs and an accompanist to the

Morrison Orpheus Choir. In 2008, Mike conducted the youthful Black Mountain Male Chorus of Wales on their U.S. tour, which included a performance at the Welsh Presbyterian Church of Los Angeles.\* The fun had on this tour inspired Mike to form a new, young male choir when he moved to London in 2009. Mike formed the choir with the support of Dr Haydn James, and also formed a Welsh ladies choir (Côr Merched Cymry Llundain) and mixed choir (Côr y Boro) which continue to gain success at Eisteddfodau.

*\*Editor’s note: Before closing its doors for good, the Welsh Presbyterian Church of Los Angeles held a final Gymanfa Ganu on December 16, 2012.*

Additional Festival details to be published  
in the Spring edition of HWYL!

It will contain details on:  
the NAWF Heritage Medallion recipient,  
the WNAA/NAWF Banquet performer,  
the Sunday service,  
the 87<sup>th</sup> National Gymanfa Ganu and  
the Falls Church Episcopal  
venue for the Gymanfa Ganu

# TOURS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30

## REFLECTIONS ON A MORE PERSONAL WASHINGTON, D.C.

JOIN US TO VISIT some of Washington's lesser known but exceptional sights. The first stop is the Washington National Cathedral. A docent guided tour will talk you through the history and architecture of this magnificent building. In the words of the Dean of the Cathedral, "Everything about this Cathedral invites us to reflect on something greater than ourselves: our story as a nation, our call to service, and our walk with our Creator."



National Cathedral

You will then depart for a short bus ride to Georgetown and visit Tudor Place. Since 1816, Tudor Place has overlooked Georgetown and the Potomac River, a grand

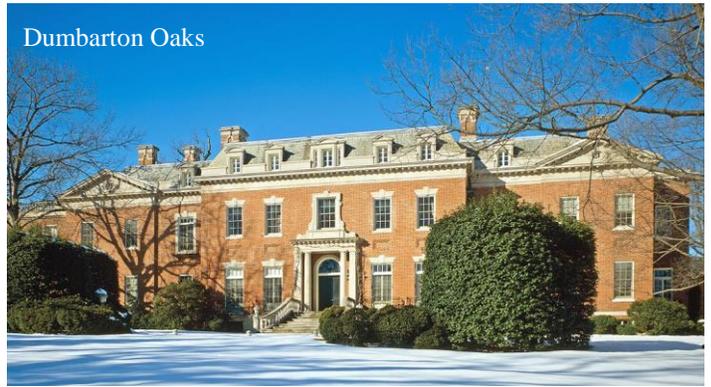


Tudor Place

residence whose design salutes the early American Republic. One of America's first National Historic Landmarks, it was built by a granddaughter of Martha Washington and a son of Robert Peter, a prominent Scottish-born merchant and landowner and Georgetown's first mayor. The house remains as the Peters lived in it, preserving spaces and belongings of many eras while adapting their home and landscape to contemporary fashion and functions. Following the tour, a private catered lunch will take place in Dower House, on the grounds of Tudor place and built in 1867.

After lunch, you will take a short (1 block) walk to Dumbarton Oaks. Founded by Mildred and Robert Woods Bliss, The Dumbarton Oaks Museum is known for its

Dumbarton Oaks



specialized collections of Byzantine and Pre-Columbian art. Mildred Bliss began to work with landscape gardener Beatrix Jones Farrand (1872–1959) to design the gardens at Dumbarton Oaks. The two women worked in close collaboration for almost thirty years to achieve their vision of terraced gardens and vistas, orchards and kitchen gardens, and a vast wilderness of meadows and wooded pathways. They also worked together on the design and choice of garden ornaments—benches, gates, finials, and sculptures. End the afternoon by exploring the museum and gardens at your leisure. (\$80 per person, limited to thirty-five people). Depart hotel: 9:15am- return 4:00pm (approx.)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30

## FREDERICKSBURG AND THE WELSH IN THE CIVIL WAR

JOIN HISTORIAN BOB ROSER on this full-day tour to historic Fredericksburg. The historic town is the site of Civil War battles at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. You will visit the James Monroe Museum. Monroe was the fifth U.S. president and was of Welsh descent. You will then visit Red Dragon Brewery, named for the red dragon on the national flag of Wales, which has symbolized this Celtic nation for more than a millennium. The brewery is inspired by the owners' ancestral roots in Ireland, Scotland, England, and in particular, Wales. It is with pride in this heritage that the Red Dragon Brewery is committed to producing the





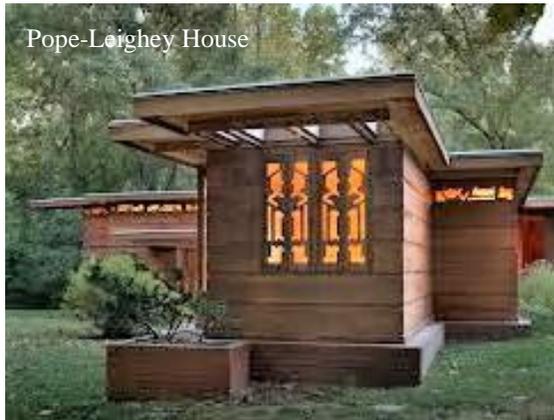
very finest of craft beers. Sample some of these beers while you enjoy a catered lunch.

After lunch, travel 7 miles west to the battle field at Chancellorsville. Then onto the site of Stonewall Jackson's attack. The commander of the picket lines warning of the Confederate attack was a Welsh American. Just one interesting fact, think how much you will learn in a day!

Cost: \$70 per person

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**

## **POPE-LEIGHEY HOUSE, WOODLAWN, MOUNT VERNON**



IN 1946 FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT designed a “usonian” house for Loren Pope in 1946. The Pope-Leighey house was moved to the grounds of what was once George Washington’s estate, beside the Potomac River. Visitors will enter through the house of Woodlawn Plantation built in 1805 and once owned by the Lewis family from Wales.

Washington hired William Thornton (architect of the U.S. Capitol building) to design Woodlawn as a wedding gift for his wife’s granddaughter.

Then on to neighboring Mount Vernon, the home of America’s founding President, George Washington, for lunch and an afternoon of visits. You will tour the mansion then make your own choice about what to see on the 8000-acre estate: the slave quarters, the grist mill, the distillery, the Pioneer farm, the gardens, the Washington family tombs or browse in what is arguably the finest gift shop in any museum. Mount Vernon was built by Washington’s father in 1735. The dilapidated house was later bought by a group of women and restored. The Mount Vernon Ladies Association succeeded in preserving the life and legacy of George Washington, “so that the example of character and



leadership will continue to inform and inspire generations.” Just after 4pm you will board a Potomac Riverboat ending the day with a cruise up the river to the Port of Alexandria, as the first President might have done.

Cost per person: \$100



### **Remembering Gareth Howell**

The board of the Welsh North American Association and the Washington, D.C. Welsh Society are saddened at the passing of proud Welshman Gareth Howell.

Gareth graduated with a law degree from the University of Aberystwyth and went on to have a long and distinguished career in International Relations. He never forgot his Welsh roots. He served as President of the Washington Welsh from 2009-2015 and as a Trustee for the Welsh North American Association from 2013-2016. Gareth’s leadership in both organizations will have long-lasting effects. He was a generous supporter of Welsh life in North America.

Gareth was enthusiastic about the North American Festival of Wales returning to the Washington, D.C. area. His presence will be very much felt as we work on plans for the upcoming festival. .

Gareth leaves behind his loving wife, Amy Titus and sons Rhys and Llewelyn.

Gareth’s full obituary is published in the March-April issue of Ninnau.

# SEMINARS

## MOCH PRYDERI RETURNS!

HOSTING PUB NIGHT will be Moch Pryderi, one of Virginia's oldest Pan-Celtic bands. Together for eighteen



years, the band performs the traditional Celtic reels, jigs and ballads from Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Brittany and Galicia, with occasional forays into traditional American Appalachian music. The band has extensive experience playing in Welsh festivals, Irish Pubs, St. Patrick's day events, Burns nights and Celtic festivals throughout the eastern U.S. The band's instrumentation consists of Celtic harps, including the rare Welsh triple harp, Irish bouzouki, fiddle, Welsh cwrth, bodran, small pipes, Welsh pibgorns and whistles. Moch Pryderi last performed at NAFOW in Cleveland in 2011.

Moch Pryderi will also present a seminar on the principle Welsh musical instruments beginning with the 10th C. laws of Hywel Dda that ruled what and how instruments should be played. We will examine the Pibgorn and its development from the last remaining examples in St. Fagan's Museum, to the very modern examples available today. The Crwth and its use in Welsh music will be discussed along with the evolution of today's modern violin/fiddle from the ancient Middle Eastern Rebec.

They will also explain and demonstrate the development of reeds from the very primitive Sipsi of Turkey, to the use of single or double reeds in Welsh Pipau Cwd (bagpipes) and Pibgyrn (horn pipes). We will look at the Welsh Triple Harp and its development from the Italian harp, and discuss the history of the triple harp, the reasons for its disappearance, and the revival of the tradition by the Romani players in Wales in the 19th C. All instruments will be demonstrated both as solo instruments and in ensemble with Welsh band Moch Pryderi.

## WALES SMITHSONIAN CYMRU *The Legacy of the 2009 Smithsonian Folklife Festival's "WALES SMITHSONIAN CYMRU"*

### Program

Betty J. Belanus

BETTY J. BELANUS holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in Folklore from Indiana University. She has served as Education Specialist and Curator at the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage since 1987. She has curated a wide variety of programs for the annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival, including the "Wales Smithsonian Cymru" program in 2009. Her work also includes educational programming and materials for teachers and students, as well as writing for the general public. She is the author of the novel, *Seasonal*, and numerous articles on folklore and culture.

The 2009 "Wales Smithsonian Cymru" program of the annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival brought over 100 culture practitioners from Wales and the Welsh diaspora in the U.S. and Patagonia, to the National Mall in Washington, D.C. for a ten-day showcase of Welsh culture. The program was the culmination of more than five years of research, partnership forging, collaboration and fund raising. The theme of "sustainability" highlighted the way traditional resources and skills are used in the modern world both to perpetuate these practices and to show their flexible, dynamic and responsive natures. Following ten glorious days of Welsh music, crafts, food demonstrations, occupational skills, sports and more, participants went home exhausted but happy. What has happened to the research and documentation materials gathered, the friendships and professional connections formed, and lessons learned since the program?

This seminar will explore the program legacies, which include publications, musical collaborations, apprenticeships, and the inclusion of several Welsh participants in a 2013 Festival program on endangered languages.

A brief recap of the Festival program will be followed by six case studies of "legacy projects" carried out by individuals or groups who met each other at the Festival and took ideas and projects forward.



## MENNA ELFYN, *poet, playwright*

MENNA ELFYN has published fourteen collections of poetry, children's novels, libretti for UK and US composers as well as plays for television and radio. *Merch Perygl* (Danger's Daughter), was published by Gomer Press in 2011, and her bilingual volume *Murmur*, Bloodaxe Books, in Autumn 2012 was selected as Poetry Book Society Recommended Translation, the first ever book in Welsh/English to be chosen.



Her work has been translated into eighteen languages for which she received an International Foreign Poetry Prize in 2009. In 2016, she published a biography, *Optimist Absoliwt*, of the Welsh woman poet Eluned Phillips, which was shortlisted for Wales' Book of the Year and the English translation will be launched at the Festival. In October 2017, she published a new bilingual collection of poetry, *Bondo*, by Bloodaxe Books, which contains a sequence of poems about the Aberfan tragedy. Her literary memoir in Welsh, *Cennad*, will be published by Barddas in March 2018.

She is Professor of Poetry at University of Wales, Trinity Saint David and President of Wales PEN Cymru. She has been a columnist with the national newspaper of Wales since 1994.

### MENNA'S SEMINAR: ELUNED PHILLIPS – *The Absolute Optimist*

How did the only woman to be crowned twice at the National Eisteddfod during the 20<sup>th</sup> century become the subject of mockery and scorn and not perceived as a heroine of the poetic tradition. Did her love of travel, of eastern religions, of making acquaintances with the likes of Edith Piaf, Picasso and Augustus John alienate her to the *Cymry Cymraeg* and the Welsh establishment?

Prepare to have your opinion of one of the most remarkable and colourful poets changed as you come to understand her life long belief in being an absolute optimist.

**AT THE NINNAU RECEPTION, Saturday at 4:30**, Menna will read from **BONDO**. *Bondo*, the Welsh word for eaves is the latest bilingual collection in Welsh and English with poems about getting close to language as a sanctuary. The collection also echoes the role of the Welsh bard as remembrancer with poems gleaned from diaries about the

Aberfan tragedy:

“All soul's night, a biting wind  
A bitter longing in the old poems.  
My country's history is a long keening  
The birthplace and the grave in Aberfan.”

It made a cold hard wind straight from the east,  
It made songbirds' beaks break on the blackthorn,  
It made all the sorrow that is in this world,  
It made crying while crows cackled.

(Lament- Bondo)

## MAL POPE

MAL POPE WAS BORN in Brynhyfryd, Swansea, Wales. Following a performance on a BBC Radio show the teenaged Pope signed to Elton John's Rocket Record Company and would go on to work with Elton John for the next 6 years.

Mal studied at Christ's College Cambridge where he graduated with a degree in Land Economy. He has written songs for Cliff Richard and The Hollies, duetted with Elton John and Bonnie Tyler, toured with Art Garfunkel and Belinda Carlisle and produced records for Aled Jones.

As a broadcaster, Mal has presented shows on all of the BBC Network stations and hosted the BAFTA award winning music program “The Mal Pope Show” for ITV Wales. His documentary about the roots of Black Gospel Music, “Heaven's Sound,” won a major prize at the New York Television Awards.

In 2005 his Musical *Amazing Grace* was featured in the Cardiff International Festival of Musical Theatre. Following a sellout tour, the musical returned in November 2006 to the Wales Millennium Centre. Mal's next musical, *Contender*, based on the life of boxer Tommy Farr, opened the Spring of 2007. In 2009 Mal set up the Grand Slam Theatre Company to produce his latest musical *Cappuccino Girls*. The show toured the UK before setting up a 24-week residency in the purpose-built South Wales Evening Post Theatre on Swansea's High Street, becoming the longest-running musical outside the West End.

In 2012 Mal set up YJB Films and his first Feature Documentary Film *Jack to a King* was premiered at the Empire Leicester Square, London in September 2014. The film is the highest box-office-grossing UK football documentary of all time, and in September 2015, it received three Bafta Cymru Awards.



Grand Slam Theatre has recently produced the sequel *Cappuccino Girls 2 – The Paradox of Choice*, which opened in October 2016.

Radio Wales, is currently working on a number of new projects, including a musical based on the life of Richard Burton. YJB Films now concentrates on producing TV content from its base at The Hyst on Swansea High Street. He has just taken up the role of Chair of the Swansea International Festival which next year celebrates it's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and in 2020 Mal will become High Sheriff of West Glamorgan.

## MAL'S SEMINAR 1:

### *The Highs and Lows of Welsh Football Today*

BAFTA Wales award-winning producer tells the story of the fall and rise of Swansea City football club, the American-owned sister club to Washington's own D.C. United. Plus reflections on Ryan Giggs and his new role as Wales National Team manager, following the success of Chris Coleman and his exciting journey through Euro 2016.

## MAL'S SEMINAR 2:

### *Driven by the Soul of Welsh Music*

SWANSEA-BORN MAL POPE, discovered by Elton John in 1973, has spent his whole life championing Welsh popular and traditional music, a mission that continues today in his role as early morning presenter for BBC Radio Wales. He was the first DJ to play Cerys Matthews, Catatonia, and David Gray, and he revived the career of Aled Jones. Mal discusses a life driven by Welsh music (accompanied by his trusted guitar), and the impact this music has had on Wales and beyond.

## JERRY HUNTER SEMINARS

### *Welsh Voices from Washington, Maryland and Virginia during the Civil War*

MANY WELSH-SPEAKING Americans found themselves in Washington, D.C., during the Civil War years of 1861-65. Most of them were serving as Union soldiers posted to protect the capital, but some were serving the U.S. government in other capacities. Additionally, some worked for charities and others were journalists looking for a good war-time story. Many more found themselves south of the Potomac on battlefields in Maryland and Virginia. There were also Welsh-speaking American civilians living in local communities on both sides of the North-South divide. Being

extremely literate and having a lively Welsh-language American press at their service, many of these war-time Welsh voices have been preserved in manuscript and print. This seminar will present English translations of material written and published in Welsh during the war; this selection of texts will provide examples of the range of experiences which the war brought to Welsh Americans as well as insight into the ways in which Welsh-speaking Americans interpreted the war and its causes. One central theme will be the ways in which Welsh Americans viewed the nation's capital and how the circumstances of war tempered or changed those views.

### *Dark Territory*

AN AMERICAN who writes in Welsh, Jerry Hunter has won the Welsh Arts Council's Book of the Year Award and the National Eisteddfod's

Prose Medal. When his novel *Y Fro Dywyll* was published in 2014, it was praised greatly by reviewers, including Jon Gower who called it "the work of a master . . . nothing less than a classic." It has now been translated into English by Patrick K. Ford, who until his retirement was head of the Department of Celtic Languages and Literatures at Harvard University. An



influential translator of both Welsh and Irish literature, Professor Ford's acclaimed translation of the *Mabinogi* has been in print for over forty years. *Dark Territory* was released in the U.S. this year. Set during the seventeenth century, the story moves from Wales to the battlefields of the 'English Civil Wars' and ends in America. While first and foremost a story of adventure, love and loss, the work is also a meditation on the dangers of religious extremism.

## HOW TWO U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICES OF WELSH DESCENT SAVED THE COURT AND THE CONSTITUTION IN 1937

### *Margaret West Seminar*

JUSTICES CHARLES EVANS HUGHES (1862-1948) and Owen Roberts (1875-1955) together played a critical role in preserving the power and prestige of the U.S. Supreme Court during the presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Charles Evans Hughes was born to a Welsh minister father at Glens Falls in upstate New York. Owen

Roberts was the grandson of a Welsh immigrant who established a gristmill in Pennsylvania.

Hughes and Roberts had joined the Court in 1930. Hughes was by then a towering national figure while Roberts, “The Fighting Welshman” was known for exposing corruption at the highest level in the Teapot Dome case. The two men served as Supreme Court Justices when “New Deal” laws were enacted in an effort to lessen the suffering of the Great Depression. When the Court began to invalidate some of these laws Roosevelt proposed a plan to appoint additional justices who would support his policies, thus threatening a constitutional crisis.

Hughes was a masterful politician but he could not have protected the Court without his friend Roberts. There were long discussions between them at Roberts’ farm, “Bryncoed.” Later Roberts switched sides, giving the court the majority it needed to support New Deal legislation, the famous “switch in time that saved nine.” Together they faced down a powerful president and in defeating him the Court not only preserved its own independence but reinforced it in the eyes of the public.

MARGARET WEST is a journalist based in Washington, D.C. She began her radio career as a producer and host of Washington’s local public radio program that became *The Diane Rehm Show*. West joined National Public Radio (NPR) to work on *All Things Considered*. She was founding producer of NPR’s call-in program, *Talk of the Nation*. She has served as a judge for the Robert Kennedy Awards (Radio). West grew up in Wales and is an honors law graduate of Aberystwyth University.



## THE BLOODHOUND PROJECT: Building a 1000 mph car

PROFESSOR KENNETH MORGAN will give a presentation that highlights his work and its application to the design of high speed vehicles, specifically his work with the Bloodhound project which aims to build a manned vehicle capable of traveling at 1,000 miles an hour.

SWANSEA UNIVERSITY Professor Kenneth Morgan has had a long career of research in aerospace engineering. He specializes in the computational modelling of the aero-

dynamics of high speed vehicles.

Born in Llanelli, Professor Morgan worked on the National Aerospace Plane (NASP) project at NASA, on HOTOL for British Aerospace and on the European space shuttle HERMES. He received a NASA Special Achievement Award for his work on the thermal protection system for the NASP. He is a Fellow of the UK Royal Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales.

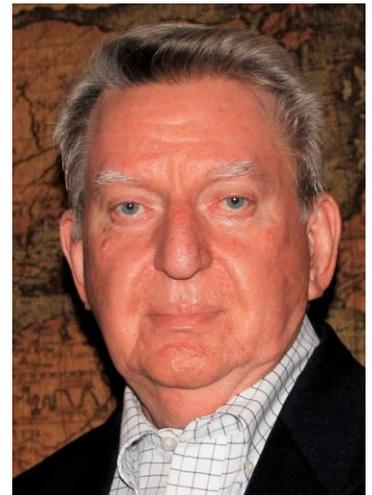


In the 1990s, he worked with colleagues at Swansea University on the famous Thrust Super Sonic Car, which was the first vehicle to take the World Land Speed Record beyond the speed of sound. More recently, he has been involved in the Bloodhound project.

## FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT *and the Usonian House*

BILL KEENE is a frequent lecturer on architecture, infrastructure and sustainability, often focusing on the architecture and legacy of Frank Lloyd Wright. He has presented seminars, lectures and tours for the Smithsonian, the National Building Museum and numerous private lectures and tours.

Throughout his long career, Wright strove to develop houses that embodied quality in design, materials, utility and craftsmanship yet were moderately priced and available to a broad audience. His most successful efforts were the Usonian houses and more than 100 were built. Yet the legacy of the Usonian concept is profound, extending well beyond the number built, influencing and shaping how Americans live and even think about how a house becomes a home.



Usonian houses varied greatly in size and cost but shared major elements. Their layouts were uncomplicated, with concrete floors sitting on a concrete slab with embedded radiant heating coils, natural wood or brick walls, brick masonry piers and fireplaces. Compact kitchens served as a focal point, of an open often “L” shaped floor plan. The concept was adaptable to various climates, family sizes and income levels. More than 100 Usonians were designed before Wright’s death in 1959. They became the cornerstone of his concept of dispersed, low-density settlement, to supplement and even replace congested, large urban centers. Wright’s Usonian concepts were important influences in the rise of the “ranch home” and the growth of suburbia.

## LIVES, LEGENDS, and LANDSCAPES: *Walking the Pilgrim’s Path in Wales*

THE ROOTS OF THE CHURCH in Wales were planted in the sacred soil of a community formed by inspiring landscapes, ancient legends, and dedicated people of faith. Beginning at the shores of Llyn Cerrig Bach and finishing with the soaring bells of St. David’s Cathedral, travel through two thousand years of history to visit the places and people that have shaped the Welsh branch of Celtic spirituality. Learn about enduring paths and holy wells that still attract modern pilgrims. Discover churches and cathedrals where communities have engaged in prayer and praise for centuries. As poetry and praise are the hallmarks of the Welsh tradition, poetry from Taliesin to the Thomases (Dylan and R.S.) will be our guide along the way. Join us as we explore this rich tradition with a virtual journey to some of the most famous pilgrimage sites in Wales and discover some hidden treasures along the way.

DR. TERRI LYNN SIMPSON is the founder of Anam Cara Retreats. Celtic spirituality is her path, writing is her practice, and inviting people into thin places where they may share their stories is her work.



Grounded in the three-fold practices of prayer, *pilgrimage*, and *poetry*, she weaves strands of these Celtic influences into the pilgrimages, retreats and workshops she leads for churches, healing ministries and faith based non-profit organizations in this country and in the UK.

## BUILDING ON TRADITION

### Cefyn Burgess

CEFYN BURGESS will present a seminar based on his



cultural experiences and influences on him as a Welshman that have formed the core of his work as an artist and textile designer. The focus of his talk will be two recent major projects, the “Perthyn” Project celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Welsh landing in

Patagonia and the commission to design and create the textiles for Liverpool cathedral.

### PATAGONIA + film and images

*Perthyn* is the Welsh word meaning “to be related,” people related to each other in two countries with shared roots, history and culture and in the land that they share with others, integrated and interwoven over the last hundred and fifty years. It is this perthyn of shared identities that makes Patagonia such a special place.

This body of work is made of images of special moments captured on his visits to Patagonia; the charm and loneliness of the chapels; the welcome of the Mapuche people to their weave workshops and the sweet smell of lanolin at the wool factory in Trelew; Tasting *mate* for the first time; visiting a family farm; a visit to the landing at Madryn, a long drive to Trevelin and the Andes; the poplars and the weeping willows in the fall on the horizon crossing the plains and by the waterways; tea and black cake and cooking curry for forty people at *Y Ty Te, Plas y Coed*; the lovely museum in the old station, and the carving on the Welsh slate grave stones in Gaiman: drawing and sewing a tapestry map of the valley and learning Spanish words in class with the children of *Ysgol yr Hendre Trelew*; all have created a quilt of memorable experiences and images.

### LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL + film

Three feature fabrics have been designed and woven for the cathedral to be an integral part of the building interior that would sit comfortably within its monumental walls in scale, texture and colour that reflects and enhances the life of the church within the cathedral but are also in harmony with the existing features of the building such as the woodwork, stained glass and the stonework, which would be sympathetic and add to the concept of the architect and not distract from it.

The narrative for the fabrics is taken from the Song of Solomon, the theme of love and equality and fruitfulness and its references to

the flora and fauna.

Cefyn was born in Bethesda, one of ten children, to a Welsh-speaking family in a traditional non-conformist, slate quarrying town in Gwynedd, North Wales. He was educated at Ysgol Dyffryn Ogwen, Bethesda, then at Manchester University for three years, graduating with an honors degree in textiles (woven textiles) followed by two years' masters study at the Royal College of Art, London. He worked as a freelance designer for various companies in London including before working at a silk mill and museum in Macclesfield.

He returned to Wales to design and work at Trefriw and Penmachno woolen mills, weaving bespoke furnishing fabrics and blankets for shops and independent clients. He currently has a design studio and shop at Ruthin Craft Center, Denbighshire.

His art work of Welsh chapels and life has been exhibited in solo exhibitions at numerous galleries in Wales, the UK and internationally. A selection of his work is held as part of the national collection at the National Library of Wales and by the National Museums of Wales. His current commission work includes the Patagonia Project for Wales Art International, the fabrics for Liverpool Cathedral and the tapestries and textiles for "Llys Rhosyr," the court of Llywelyn the Great, at Saint Ffagans, National Folk Museum of Wales

## THE RIGHT HONOURABLE *The Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, PC*

BORN IN CARMARTHEN, Roger John Laugharne



Thomas grew up in a Welsh-speaking family in Ystradgynlais. He read law at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and became a Commonwealth Fellow at the University of Chicago Law School.

He was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1969 and became a Bencher at the Inn in 1992. He practiced at the Commercial Bar in London from 1971 and became a Queen's Counsel in 1984.

Thomas was appointed a Judge of the High Court of England and Wales in 1996 and was assigned to the Queen's Bench Division and to the Commercial Court. From 1998-2001 he was one of the Presiding Judges of the Wales and Chester Circuit. He was Judge in Charge of the Commercial Court in London from April 2002 to July 2003, when he was appointed as a Lord Justice of Appeal.

He was the Senior Presiding Judge for England and Wales from 2003 to 2006, Vice-President of the Queen's Bench Division (2008-2011) and President of the Queen's

Bench Division (2011-2013). He has been Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales since 2013.

He was President of the European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (2008-2010) and is a founder member of the European Law Institute.

Lord Thomas is a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales, an Honorary Fellow of Trinity Hall, Cambridge and a Fellow of Aberystwyth University, Bangor University, Cardiff University and Swansea University and an Honorary Doctor of Law of Cardiff Metropolitan University, the University of South Wales, the University of Wales and the University of the West of England.

He is President of the Wales Public Law and Human Rights Association, Wales Commercial Law Association and the Welsh Legal History Society. Lord Thomas also serves as Chancellor of Aberystwyth University.

## JUSTICE IN WALES: *implementing global opportunities to meet the problems of the 21<sup>st</sup> century*

JUSTICE ACROSS THE WORLD faces many similar problems including the cost of legal advice and assistance; delay in the courts and tribunals; the ambit of constitutional safeguards on human rights; concerns about judicial activism and attacks on judicial independence by populist politicians and media; the effect of globalisation, particularly in trade, commerce, financial services and the use of data; migrant flows; conservation of natural resources; prison overcrowding.

There are many opportunities to improve the delivery of justice and reduce cost and delay through the digital/artificial intelligence revolution, to provide lawyers and judges with a proper understanding of scientific advance, to encourage judicial led reform, to modernise legal education and to achieve a better public understanding of the rule of law and the role of justice in society – the importance of judicial independence in the context of the interdependence of the three branches of government .

The opportunity to examine justice in Wales, a small nation with a long legal history and a well-developed legal system, provides the opportunity of seeing what will work best to safeguard the rule of law, delineate the proper role of the judiciary and provide real access to justice for citizens,

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## GARETH MORGAN SEMINAR

GARETH MORGAN heads the Welsh Government's team in North America. Based in DC, he leads a team that has a presence in New York, Atlanta, Chicago and San Francisco.

Before moving to the U.S. in 2015, Gareth worked for the Welsh Government in Cardiff, where he focused on constitutional change and devolution of new financial powers to Wales.

Gareth has degrees from the Universities of Bath, Bristol and Swansea. He is married with two children and a grownupson.

Gareth will talk about his own experiences being Welsh in North America, as well as his work raising the profile of Wales and Welsh Government overseas. Mainly focussing on trade and investment



Welsh was the only language spoken in her home in Cwmgiedd. She was educated at Cardiff University's Welsh Department and says she was fortunate to have studied under Saunders Lewis. She has taught at the annual *Cymdeithas Madog* Course since moving to North America as well as being responsible for starting Welsh language classes in the Toronto area. Hefina feels that to have been born Welsh is the utmost privilege and she does all she can to share her love of Wales and its beautiful language. She admits that her other passion is for her grandchildren.

*Sponsored by Cymdeithas Madog*

## ARAN JONES SEMINAR 1

### WILL WELSH WIN OR LOSE IN THE 21ST CENTURY?

IN THIS SEMINAR, Aran Jones looks at the victories won and defeats suffered by the Welsh language over the last twenty years, and presents the key issues for the next ten. He finishes with some safe predictions - and some risky ones! What shape will the language be in eighty-three years from now? Are we turning a corner, or are we running out of time?

## ARAN JONES SEMINAR 2 –

### WELSH AS A GLOBAL LANGUAGE

ARAN JONES looks at how the internet has created new opportunities to be involved with the language, and how shifts in self-organization and societal use have made the global Welsh community more relevant to Welsh speakers in Wales. He explains how a diverse and international language would have significant advantages in the struggle to keep Welsh alive as a community language.

ARAN JONES developed the SaySomethingin Method for language acquisition and co-founded the popular online Welsh course Say-SomethinginWelsh. After a nomadic early life in Wales, England, Germany, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Zimbabwe and Dubai, he learned Welsh and settled in Gwynedd in his thirties, where he now lives with his wife Catrin Lliar and their two children, Angharad and Beuno. He has an abiding interest in finding scope for improvement.



## HEFINA PHILLIPS SEMINARS

### WELSH LANGUAGE CLASSES

*presented by*

HEFINA PHILLIPS BRINGS HER PASSION and spirit to teaching you the "language of Heaven". She will teach two levels of the Welsh language-*Absolute Beginners* with an emphasis on speaking on Friday. *Next Steps in Welsh*, which is suitable for those with some knowledge of the language and want to practice and improve, is on Saturday.

**Welsh I** *Absolute Beginners*. Hefina will emphasize the structure of the spoken language of Welsh. This level is for anyone who needs a comfortable learning environment to begin learning Welsh.

**Welsh II** *Next Steps in Welsh* is suitable for those with some knowledge of the language and who want to practice and improve. Welsh II is on Saturday morning. This class will follow on from "Beginners" and you are encouraged to attend both, but it is not a requirement.

HEFINA PHILLIPS was born in the Swansea Valley and

