





# The Leek and the Daffodil

THE leek and the daffodil, as national emblems, are also interesting. Henry V was proud of being Welsh and thus the reference to the leek in Shakespeare's Henry V is significant.

Even in the battle of Crecy the Welsh wore leeks as an honourable badge of service, and thus Fluellen (Llywelyn) felt deeply insulted when the leek was despised by Pistol on St. David's Day.

Why was the leek worn especially on St. David's Day?

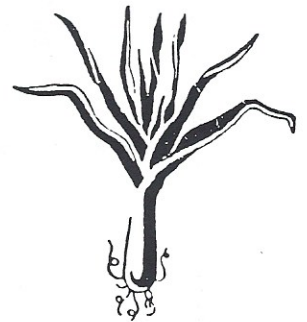
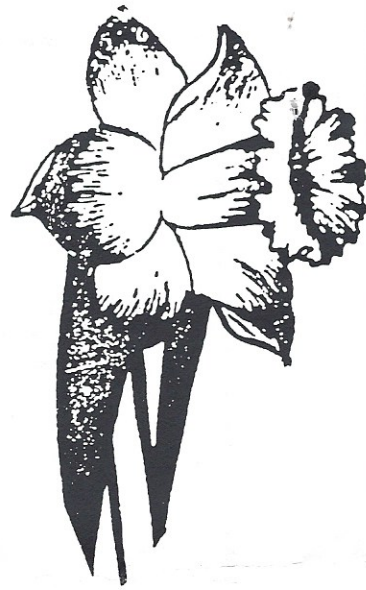
St. David is the patron saint of Wales, and the leek was associated with him. The poet Michael Drayton, who wrote during the same time as Shakespeare, and who was interested in Welsh tales, said:

*That reverend British saint, in zealous ages past  
To contemplation lived, and did so truly fast,  
As he did only drink what crystal Hodney yields  
And fed upon the leeks he gathered in the fields.  
In memory of whom, in each revolving year  
The Welshmen on his day that sacred herbe do wear.*

According to another tradition the Welsh wore the leek when fighting against the Saxons at the battle of Heathfield (A.D. 633).

The leek was very popular in Tudor times, and we learn from Princess Mary's Privy Purse Expenses that presents were given by her to the Yeomen of the Guard on St. David's Day, when she was presented with a leek. On this day, too, the King and members of the royal family gave money presents to Welsh harpists who sang at Court.

The Welsh name of the daffodil is *Cenhinen Pedr* (Peter's Leek) and *Cenhinen Fawrth* (March Leek). People were therefore led to believe that this flower was the national emblem. Evidence, however, definitely favours the adoption of the leek; but the beautiful daffodil has come to stay, and it will be henceforth accepted, along with the leek.



## DOLWYDDELAN CASTLE

Our cover photo for this month is of Dolwyddelan Castle - now, actually in the county of Gwynedd, although it states on the front that it is Caernarfonshire.

All that remains of the castle now is the rectangular keep, which dates from the twelfth century. What is evident is that the primary function of Dolwyddelan was as a fortress. The ruin stands on a ridge looking out towards Moel Siabod. It is also widely believed that the castle was the "seat" of the House of Gwynedd. Two of Wales' most famous figures are supposed to have been born here - Llywelyn the Great and Prince Madoc. This latter individual is more of a legend than the former - but nonetheless a Welsh one! He is credited - or not - depending on how you look at it! - with the discovery of America, in the year 1170. One could say, "Eat your heart out, Columbus!", but it really depends on how patriotic one is I suppose. Still, as March 1st approaches, we should all reflect upon our heritage and work to uphold it.

*Dynne Hughes Fox.*

(Photo on cover is the east view of Dolwyddelan and is courtesy of Richard Deacon's "Madoc and the Discovery of America".)

DID YOU KNOW!

\*\*\*\* Tennis as we know it, is barely over 100 years old.

A Welshman, Major Walter Clopton Wingfield devised the game as a diversion for his guests to play on his lawn, before the purpose of the get-together - a pheasant shoot. \*\*\*\*

So it states in David Feldman's book - "Why do clocks run clockwise? And other imponderables"



I'm once again surprised that I've actually been left room to include

this blurb. The computer process, I still find awkward as deal with one of the letters still looks awkward.

Many thanks to Eilis Griffiths for having the Society's typewriter repaired. It's a real workhorse.

I'd like to remind everyone that I'm trying to install a deadline for the newsletter to the 4th of every month -

A modern definition of Hydrophobia is fear of our next electricity bill! **ROB FOX**

MEMBERSHIP REMITTANCE FORM - 1992

Please print: Name:-----  
Address:-----  
City:-----  
Postal Code:----- Phone No.:-----

Type of Membership: REGULAR. FAMILY. SENIORS. OUT OF TOWN. (circle one)

Please make cheque or money order payable to: The Welsh Society of Vancouver, B. C.

Send completed form to: Joan Thomsen, Membership Secretary,  
Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17th Ave.,  
Vancouver, B. C., V5V 1A6.

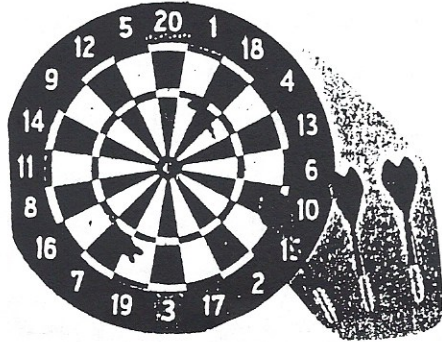
A reminder to all those who have not yet submitted their Membership Dues, that payment is due. These fees are a source of funds to allow the Executive Committee to plan this year's programmes. Please use the remittance form provided. The MEMBERSHIP DUES remain unchanged from 1991 - they are presented below.

REGULAR.....\$30.00. FAMILY.....\$50.00.  
SENIORS.....\$17.00. \*OUT OF TOWN.....\$15.00.  
\*(Living a minimum of 80 kilometres/50 miles outside the city of Vancouver.)



## DART PLAYERS WANTED !

Our cognoscenti of the "cork board", seen oft times in the Red Dragon, are looking for those who are interested in joining them in two upcoming darts tournaments.



The first one is the Irish Sporting Club Darts Tournament, to be held on February 21st, at 7.30 p.m. in the upper part of Cambrian Hall.

The second is against the Canadian Airlines Darts Team, with no date yet scheduled.

Beginners can be assured that coaching is available free of charge. Anyone who is interested, can contact Rob Barclay at 940-9112.

**JOIN US!**



## VANCOUVER WELSH MEN'S CHOIR

Box 2978. Main Post Office, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3X4

Saturday, February 22nd, "Pig and Whistle Fun Night"

Fire Fighters Hall, 6515 Bonsor Street, Burnaby

For tickets call Cyril Portman at 940 3318, or

contact any choir member. Admission is \$10.

Tickets are available at the door.

On Sunday, March 1st, the choir will be guests of the Pender Island Public Library Association, on Pender Island.

The Friends of the Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir will be staging a fashion show at the Cambrian Hall on Saturday, March 21st, at 1:30 in the afternoon. For any information on "Spring Follies", call Gaynor Evans at 271 3134.

## **NOTICE!**

A reminder that the church service for March has been post-poned to the third Sunday due to the St. David's Day Banquet.

## ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Welsh Society would like to offer their congratulations to Gwyn and Gaynor Evans, who quite recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. To both of you, Gaynor and Gwyn, "Llongyfarchiadau!"



## Welsh Society Folk Dancers

To all those who turned up for the Folk Dance display and reception, held on January 15th, 1992, the Vancouver Welsh Folk Dancers wish to thank you for lending your support and helping to make the evening a success.

Everyone enjoyed themselves and there was a generous supply of "goodies" at the reception. Mr. Derek Williams, who is president of the Auckland Welsh Society, presented a book on Welsh Country Dances, to our society president, Mr. Jeff Owen. In return, Mr. Williams received a colour photograph book on British Columbia to take back to Auckland. Mr. Williams together with his wife Louise and their two children, Siân and David, went home to New Zealand with some warm and lovely memories of their stay in Vancouver.

The Folk Dancers are currently practising for the P. N. W. Gymanfa Ganu, held this year in Penticton, B. C. We have a lot of fun and will welcome new members. Practice is on Thursdays at 7.30 p.m. For more information please contact Jack or Bertha Smith at 683 1335.

It was with great pleasure that the W. A. once again said "Croeso", to Mrs. Sally Jones, - Gaynor Owens' mother at our meeting. Several of our members were unable to attend due to ill-health; our thoughts are with them all.

Dorothy Walters was appointed liason to the parent body and Bertha Smith to do external publicity.

The W. A. Annual Spring Tea will be held in the lower hall on Saturday, April 4th from 2 - 4 p.m. This is our major fund-raiser of the year and we look forward to the help and support of all members of the Society.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, 19th February. Volunteers will meet at 10.30 a.m. to clean the trophy case in readiness for ST. DAVID'S DAY. Bring your own bag lunch for 12 noon; the business meeting commences as usual at 1 p.m.

New members are always welcome.

Elizabeth Murray, President.

## Thank you

May I take this opportunity to thank most sincerely all the members of the W. A. who worked so hard and supported me over the last three years.

I have treasured your friendship and wish for the continued success of the group.

My thanks are also due to the many people who have supported the activities of the W. A. at any time, without you, we could not continue our fund-raising efforts.

Anne G. Jones, Past President.

**Volunteer**— You won't get paid like a millionaire, but you'll sure feel like one.



# CAMBRIAN CIRCLE Singers

1991 was another busy year for the Singers. We performed approximately twice a month during our season, including three two hour concerts, which were very well received. We unfortunately lost some valued members - Jack Williams is much missed, as is Mary Jones who has moved to Victoria. Also Bill Evans who is ill and has temporarily gone to Britain, but hopes to be back with us soon. We are always looking for new members, especially if you sing alto, tenor or bass. We limit our singouts and rehearsals to once a week and some flexibility is offered by our rehearsing the 1st and 2nd Friday of the month, and 3rd, 4th and (5th) Wednesday of the month. (Singouts replace rehearsals.) Some of our members can only attend one day or the other. We are fortunate also, to have a flautist in our group. Our music is not difficult. We sing Welsh folksongs and hymns, plus a variety of Canadian folksongs. So if you have an evening to spare and can carry a tune, come and try us - as over the years we have given much pleasure to many people throughout the lower mainland and beyond. It is a very enjoyable way to do some volunteer service for others. If you require more information, contact Mrs Nerys Haqq at 278 8978.

## If you watch TV...

Society member, Paul Lievesley, has just completed editing a film for the Knowledge Network entitled "Spilsbury's Coast". It is the story of a 1930's radio pioneer, who lives on the British Columbia coast and who brought the first radio to his community. This fascinating documentary airs on the Knowledge Network on February 24th at 7.30 p.m.

## Happiness is.....

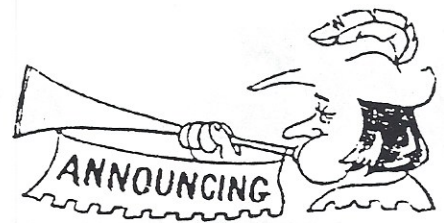
There are so many things in life that can bring gladness in your heart..... There's the joy of music that comes from playing or simply listening to an old familiar tune. Or those moments of exultation that comes as you watch a glorious sunset or brilliant rainbow. Perhaps it was your child's very first steps that made a moment special. As you look back upon those times of your life when you were surprised by joy, you realize how simple the circumstances often were that brought on those feelings of happiness. Let your joy have it's source in doing things for others. Use every opportunity to do a kind deed for someone. Give generously of yourself, and those moments of joy will multiply for you.

## HUG COUPON



Good for one **BIG HUG**  
redeemable from any participating Human Being  
*Try Hugs*

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## BANQUET

To let you know.....this year's St. Davids' Day Banquet, will be held at Cambrian Hall.... Tickets are available from any executive member at the Red Dragon Pub on Saturday nights..... remember, they are going like hot Welsh cakes!.....be sure to get yours now..... Cofio - CYMRU AM BYTH!! Please note that the Red Dragon Pub will not be open on Saturday, March 7th.

### ST. DAVIDS' DAY BANQUET

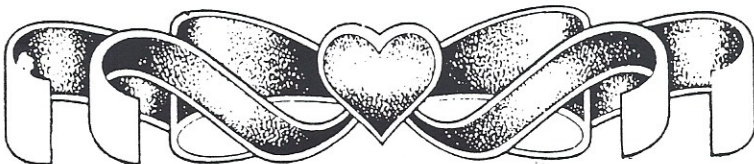
Held  
Saturday, March 7th, 1992  
At  
Cambrian Hall  
Tickets: Members \$25  
Guests \$28  
Cocktails at 6 p.m.  
Dinner at 7 p.m.

## ST. VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE




### ST. DAVIDS' DAY OPEN HOUSE

On Saturday, February 29th, the Red Dragon Pub will open it's doors at 7.30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come along and help celebrate the day of our illustrious saint, "Dewi"! As usual, we will have the Welsh speciality, Leek Soup/Cawl Cennin - can't miss that! The traditional "Eating of the Leek" ceremony will also take place. If anybody is interested in taking part, please contact either Gaynor or Jeff Owen - 946 4956





# CAWL



# CENNIN

## LEEK & POTATO SOUP

2 lbs leeks, 2 oz butter or margarine  
2 lbs potatoes, peeled and thickly sliced  
1/4 pint creamy milk, 1/4 pint single cream  
1/4 level teaspoon ground mace  
salt and pepper,  
3 pints of stock or water and 2 chicken stock cubes.

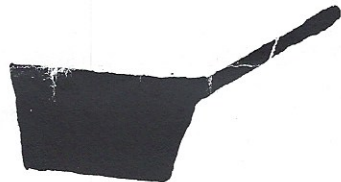
Trim and wash the leeks thoroughly, then cut into 1 inch chunks.

Heat the butter/margarine in a large pan. Add the leeks and cook gently for 5 minutes stirring occasionally.

Add the rest of the ingredients except the milk and cream. Cover pan with a lid and simmer for about one hour or until the potatoes have disintegrated. Put vegetables through a sieve, or liquidize in a blender.

Return to the pan, add the milk and reheat. Taste and adjust seasoning; pour into individual bowls. Stir a spoonful of cream into each bowl before serving.

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Recipe Serves 6-8.



## FOR SALE

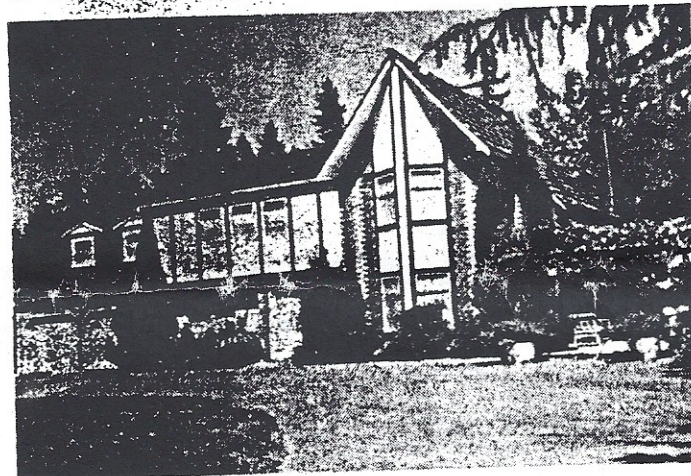
ONE COPY ONLY of the recently published book on "THE WELSH IMPERIAL SINGERS", by Alun Trevor. Cost \$10.95.

Proceeds from the sale of the books were for the NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD OF WALES, held in MOLD.

Call Ellis Griffiths regarding the above,

TEL: 579 1201.\* First come, first served\*

## "Devon House" Bed & Breakfast



### *Quiet Country Setting,*

*3 miles from downtown Courtenay,*

*Short Drive to:*

*Mt. Washington & Forbidden Plateau,  
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*excellent summer hiking trails,*

*Great fishing, golfing & shopping  
all within the area.*

*We are open all year round with room  
to park your boat and/or trailer.*

*We Look Forward to Meeting You!*

*Your Hosts: Greta and Peter Taylor.*

*4806 Gulwald Road*

*Mailing Address:*

*R.R. 4, Site 480, C-1.*

*Courtenay, B.C. V9A 7J3*

*Phone: (604) 338-5147*



# GYMANFA GANU

P.O. Box 632  
Penticton, B.C. Canada  
V2A 6P1

Dear Society Member(s)

The Gymanfa Ganu Association is an International organization. Penticton is a member of the Pacific Northwest Gymanfa Ganu Association. Alan Upshall, Seattle, is the 1990-91 president. Anne Roberts, Vancouver, B.C. 1st Vice President.

This is the first time that a Gymanfa Ganu has been held in the B.C. interior. Croeso, welcome to Penticton.

Friday, May 8th - Registration and Noson Lawen - an evening of camaraderie to celebrate our Welsh heritage. Entertainment - a reading of one of the poems by Dylan Thomas, community singing lead by E.F.G. Thomson, a skit, spontaneous participation, no host bar, the Cambrian Dancers and food. Registration commences at 4 p.m. Noson Lawen 7 to 10 p.m.

Saturday, May 9th - Folk concert 2 - 3:30 p.m. Welsh dancers, Penticton Welsh Men's trio, Red Dragon (Welsh) Band from Seattle and more.

Saturday, May 9th - GRAND concert. Harpist Gordon Ritchie of Edmonton, tenor Alan Tuck of Vancouver, The Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir and the Naramata Community Choir. (The Naramata Choir sang, by invitation, for the Queen on a visit to Canada and Vancouver, B.C. They were also invited, by the Canadian Government, to perform at the World Fair at Seville, Spain, 1992).

Sunday, May 10th - Gymanfa Ganu, 2 - 4 p.m. Bethel Tabernacle. Congregational singing of 14 or more hymns, sung in Welsh and English, conducted by Iorweth Carni of Red Deer, Alberta. An exciting and thrilling experience.

and, of course, a Te Bach to finish our Welsh weekend.

Sincerely,

*Lorraine Evans*

Lorraine Evans,

Secretary,

Penticton Gymanfa Ganu Assoc.



# HAPPY VALENTINES' DAY TO EVERYBODY!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 1992 s m t w t f s 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	March 1992 s m t w t f s 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		EXECUTIVE MEETING.	FOLK DANCE PRACTICE	CAMBRIAN CIRCLE SINGERS' PRACTICE.	RED DRAGON OPEN AT 8:30pm
2 CHURCH SERVICE AT CAMBRIAN HALL.	3	4	5	6 FOLK DANCE PRACTICE	7 C.C.S. PRACTICE	1 RED DRAGON OPEN AT 8:30pm
9 Ground-hog Day	10	11	12 CAMBRIAN CIRCLE SINGERS' PRACTICE	13 F.D. PRACTICE	14 St. Valentine's Day	8 ST. VALENTINES' DAY DANCE. CAMBRIAN HALL (DOWNSTAIRS)
16	17 Presidents' Day (U.S.)	18	19 C.C.S. PRACTICE	20 F.D. PRACTICE	21	RED DRAGON OPEN AT 8:30pm.
23	24	25	26	27	28	22 ST. DAVIDS' DAY OPEN HOUSE. 7:30pm at CAMBRIAN 29 HALL.