




Welsh Heritage Week

Wythnos Treftadaeth Cymru

July 20 - 27, 2008

Villa Julie College, Baltimore, Maryland

Where it's fun to be Welsh!



What is it? Welsh Heritage Week is an annual one-week residential course in Welsh language, traditional hymn singing, folk music, folk dance, and good fun!

Who comes? People of all ages who want to have a good time learning about Welsh culture. It's a great family vacation for getting in touch with your heritage.

What do they do? We have variety of classes daily, plus special evening programs. Participation is entirely up to you—do as much or as little as you please.

QUESTIONS?

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Course photos courtesy of Don Prytherch, Pocono Perspectives Photography, prytherc@ptd.net

Classes

A variety of classes are offered at Welsh Heritage Week. You choose the ones you want to take—lots of fun; no pressure. Most classes last approximately an hour and meet Monday – Friday.

Welsh Language and Literature

Dysgu Cymraeg (Learning Welsh): All levels. Regardless of whether you're a complete beginner, fluent speaker, or somewhere in between, our Welsh language classes are especially designed to be fun and supportive, never overwhelming.



Mwy o Gymraeg (More Welsh): Have a wonderful time building your vocabulary. Learn lots of new words and idioms, play word games, and stretch your memory in this relaxed session.

Welsh Literature & Recitation: Learn more about Welsh and Anglo-Welsh writers. Enhance your knowledge and perception of Wales' ancient literary heritage and bardic legacy, as well as the contemporary side of this on-going tradition.

Music

Ysgol Gân (Singing School): Learn to pronounce and sing traditional Welsh hymns in four-part harmony under the direction of an experienced conductor. Hymns learned during the week will be sung at Sunday's cymanfa ganu. Hymns are selected from the official WNGGA hymnal. No experience necessary.



Welsh Folk Song Session: Learn some of the folk and popular songs of Wales in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. You just need to enjoy singing.



Music Session: All instruments welcome. Learn to play traditional Welsh melodies and dance tunes, then play for the dance on Friday night. You need some sight-reading and/or "playing by ear" skills.

Beginning Harp: No previous experience necessary. Learn basic harp technique by playing simple Welsh melodies.

Intermediate/Advanced Harp: Expand your Welsh repertoire with new tunes and explore different areas of Welsh harp technique.



Folk Dance



Beginning Folk Dance: Little or no experience necessary. Learn basic traveling steps and several simple-to-intermediate folk dances in different styles and formations.

Intermediate/Advanced Folk Dance: For experienced folk dancers. Learn several complex Welsh dances while emphasizing Welsh style and technique.

Clogging: Learn the basic steps in Welsh clogging, and practice both group and individual clog dances.

Staff

This year's staff is made up of experienced Welsh Heritage Week tutors. All are native Welsh speakers who teach in our language classes, as well as teaching their specialties.



Rhodri Jones, Lead Teacher

Lead teacher Rhodri Jones is a long-time member of the WHW staff. Rhod, a native Welsh speaker from Cardiff, is well qualified by both his experience as an educator and his great sense of humor. We welcome him as Lead Teacher this year.

Edward Morus Jones, Singing

Edward returns to Welsh Heritage Week after a short break of twenty years!! He is a retired teacher and school principal. Over the years he has written and recorded scores of songs and albums for children, and written shows, plays, and musicals. He sings with the renowned Côr Godre'r Aran Male Choir in the Bala area. In addition, Edward teaches hymn-singing and has conducted many Cymanfaoedd Canu.



Chris Jones, Folk Dance

Chris Jones and her husband Rhod are directors of the award-winning folk dance group, Cwmni Dawns Werin Caerdydd, as well as being leaders in the Welsh Folk Dance Society. They are both educators and native Welsh speakers. We are very happy they will be back with us this year.

Margaret Harries, Harp

At the age of 13, Margaret was the youngest person ever to be admitted to the Gorsedd of Bards. She is one of a long line of harpists of the Welsh school. She was given a classical training at University College, Cardiff. She has been an adjudicator, accompanist and conductor at many Eisteddfodau.

Phyl Harries, Session

Phyl Harries will be leading the session band. Among his musical activities, Phyl is a member of the popular Welsh language band Merched Becca, playing flute, saxophone, and harmonica.



Evening Activities

Each year special evening activities are planned for course participants. Some of these events are also open to the public (see note for each event), and the local Welsh group is encouraged to attend.

Sunday: Opening Reception

Buffet supper, orientation, introduction of staff, and sing-along.

Course participants and local Welsh

Tuesday: Nos Dafarn (Pub Night)

An informal evening of Welsh music, singing, and dancing in a local British Isles-style pub.

Public invited; no admission charge

Thursday: Staff Concert

Staff show their talents as they play, sing, recite, or dance. It's always a wonderful concert!

Free to course participants; charge to public

Saturday: Yr Eisteddfod

Participate in Wales' oldest, most venerated tradition, culminating in the charring and crowning of the bards. But remember, our eisteddfod is just for fun!

Course participants only

Monday: Society Annual Meeting

Annual business meeting of the Welsh Harp & Heritage Society of North America, Inc. (sponsor of WHW). All society members please attend.

Society members only

Wednesday: Nos Ddraig (Dragon Night)

Traditional Welsh Noson Lawen (merry evening) where course participants get a chance to show off their special talents. Course participants only

Friday: Twmpath Dawns (Ceilidh)

The Welsh equivalent of a ceilidh or community dance with live band. Dances are taught on the spot, and everyone can participate.

Public invited; \$5 admission

Sunday: Cymanfa Ganu

Traditional Welsh congregational singing directed by well-known Welsh choral conductor, Edward Morus Jones. Hymns selected from the National Gymanfa Ganu hymnal.

Public invited; free-will offering

Pre-Course Sightseeing Trip

Each year, Welsh Heritage Week offers a sightseeing trip on the Saturday before the course begins. This year's trip will be Saturday, July 19, 2008, and will be a bus trip to Gettysburg and to Delta, Pennsylvania.



These are both important locations in Pennsylvania and US history, and are just north of the Pennsylvania/Maryland line.

Gettysburg was, of course, the site of the three day battle which resulted in a Union victory and Lee's defeat and retreat to Virginia, the major turning point in the American Civil War. A tour guide will lead our group and explain and point out details of this historic place and event.

Rehoboth Chapel (Capel Cymraeg Rehoboth) is in Delta, Pennsylvania, and there is also a museum of Welsh life in this early Welsh settlement.

The cost of the one-day trip is \$120, which includes bus, guide at Gettysburg, and extra lodging at the college. It does not include meals; however, there are restaurants and fast food places of every sort and cuisine in the college area.



What an exciting way to begin Welsh Heritage Week!

Fees and Registration

Fees

See the Registration Form for 2008 fees.

Scholarships

Scholarships are available. To apply, please go to our web page, www.welshheritageweek.org, and click on [2008 Scholarship Application](#). Please complete the application form and send it to Beth Landmesser, Director, at the address on the form. **All applications must be submitted by April 25, 2008.**

Note: In addition, you can contact your local Welsh society. Some offer scholarships for this type of cultural activity.

Payment

Registration form and **\$100 per person deposit** are due by **May 15, 2008**. Final payment of all fees is due no later than **June 30, 2008**.

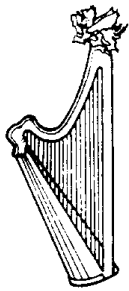
Refund Policy

Cancellation before May 23, 2008: full refund;
Cancellation between May 23 and June 23, 2008: refund one-half of fee;

Cancellation between June 23 and July 9, 2008: refund one-fourth of fee;

Cancellation after July 9, 2008: no refund

(Trip insurance is recommended. Consult AAA or your insurance company for options.)



The Welsh Harp & Heritage Society of North America, Inc.

The Welsh Harp & Heritage Society was established to promote Welsh culture through Wales' national instrument, the harp, and its associated traditions. The tradition of the harp in Wales directly relates to many other Welsh traditions including singing, folk dancing, poetry, and, ultimately, the language itself. The society sponsors Welsh Heritage Week.

Membership in the Welsh Harp & Heritage Society is for anyone with an interest in Welsh culture and heritage. Annual society dues are \$20 for Individual, \$30 for Family, \$50 for Sponsor or \$100 for Patron.

The Welsh Harp & Heritage Society is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization, so donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated. Donations may be sent to Danny Proud, Treasurer, 114 Glen Hwy, Madison, WI 53705.
