



Wythnos Treftadaeth Cymru

July 25 – Aug 9, 2009

University of Wales

Cardiff,
Wales



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! It is two weeks when we are in Wales.

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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Welsh Heritage Week begins in Cardiff!

July 25th, Saturday afternoon: Picked up at Heathrow Airport (**please schedule your flight so that you land in Heathrow NO LATER than 11:00 a.m.**) for transfer to Cardiff via Chepstow, Wye Valley, Tintern Abbey. Dinner at the University (UWIC) (www.uwic.ac.uk) and welcome.

July 26th, Sunday: Church in the morning for those interested. Afternoon bus trip through the Rhodda Valley. Free evening.

July 27th-July 31st, Monday-Friday: Daily classes in language, music, dancing, and more; evening activities include a twmpath dawn(dance), pub night (@Mochyn Ddu), staff concert and more. Dinner at Cardiff Castle (www.cardiffcastle.com) (see registration form) and side trip to Museum of Welsh Life at St. Fagens (www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/stfagens/).

August 1st, Saturday: Depart Cardiff, travel to West Wales to visit Dylan Thomas Centre and National Botanic Garden of Wales. Late afternoon arrival at Ivy Bush Royal Hotel. (www.ivybushroyal.co.uk) After dinner we will have our Eisteddfod at hotel.

August 2nd, Sunday: Attend Matin Service at St. David's Cathedral (www.stdavidscathedral.org.uk) our Gymanfa held at Mynachlog-ddu in a typical Welsh chapel.

August 3rd, Monday: Travel to North Wales with a stop in Aberystwyth for a private tour of the National Library of Wales. Continuing on through Dolgellau, the quarrying town of Blaenau Ffestiniog and the Conwy Valley to the Victorian resort of Llandudno where we will be staying at The Imperial Hotel (www.theimperial.co.uk) for 6 nights. Free Evening.

August 4th, Tuesday: A leisurely day in Llandudno and Conwy. The morning will give you time to walk to promenade or shop and in the afternoon there will be a guided walking tour of the medieval walled town of Conwy (www.conwy.com)

August 5th, Wednesday: Depart Llandudno after breakfast to visit Bodnant Gardens (www.bodnantgarden.co.uk). Continue to Bala where the 2009 National Eisteddfod is being staged. Enjoy the afternoon competitions and participate in the Welcome ceremony for Welsh exiles before returning to Llandudno.

August 6th, Thursday: A day tour of Snowdonia (www.geocities.com/rainforest/1098/Eryri.html) and Ynys Mon, to include the mountain railway to the summit of Mount Snowdon (weather permitting). We will also take a trip on the Ffestiniog Narrow Gauge Railway to the harbor town of Porthmadog (www.porthmadog.com) returning to Llandudno through Caernarfon.

August 7th, Friday: We return to the National Eisteddfod in Bala to witness the spectacular Charing Ceremony of the winning Bard. En route to Bala we visit Ewephoria to witness sheepdogs in action.



August 8th, Saturday: A free day in Llandudno with an opportunity to relax on the prom, do some last minute shopping and get packed. Farewell dinner at the hotel.

August 9th, Sunday: Early departure from Llandudno to Manchester Airport to check-in for return flight home. **Please schedule your departure for AFTER 11:00 a.m.**



Classes

A variety of classes are offered at Welsh Heritage Week. You choose the ones you want to take—lots of fun; no pressure. Classes 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.



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.



John Albert Evans, Professor Emeritus

John Albert was Lead Teacher at WHW from 1988 until 2005, at which time he became Professor Emeritus. He retired after 20 years as Welsh Language Organizer for Mid-Glamorgan. He now spends his time serving as Welsh language officer for Rhondda Cynon Taf County Council; teaching politicians Welsh; and playing with his grandchildren. Since WHW will be in "John's backyard", we have convinced him to join the staff again this year. Welcome back, John.



Robin Huw Bowen, Harp

We are very happy to welcome Robin back to our staff this year. Robin is the foremost player of the uniquely Welsh triple harp, as well as a campaigner for its revival and manager of his own record company and press. He is well-known for his performances in the US, both as a soloist and as a member of the band Crasdant. He was awarded the prestigious BAFTA Wales award for his work on the s4c film, 'Eldra'.



Euros Rhys Efans, Singing

Since 1988, Euros has been a freelance musician, specializing in composing, producing and directing for television and radio. In 1996, he was awarded the prestigious BAFTA Wales award for his film score for a BBC Wales film, 'Streic'. At present, he is Senior Lecturer in Music at the University in Trinity, Carmarthen. For the past 15 years, he has accompanied the famous singers, Tecwyn Ifan and Dafydd Iwan. This is Euros's first year at WHW and we are very happy to welcome him to the staff.



Andy McLaughlin, Session

Andy is a member of the band Crasdant and has played a prominent part in the musical life of North Wales for many years, playing a variety of instruments, including the pibgorn (come to WHW and find out what that is) in folk groups and dance bands. He, along with Robin Huw Bowen, is a founding member of the Traditional Welsh Instrument Association. Andy's "day job" is a research scientist at the Biocomposites Centre where he is currently researching non-food crops for industry. It is a pleasure to welcome Andy to our staff.

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.

Saturday: Opening Reception

Welcome to Wales. A chance to meet new friends and catch up with some old friends.

Tuesday: Nos Dafarn (Pub Night)

An informal evening of Welsh music, singing, and dancing in an authentic Welsh pub.

Public invited; no admission charge

Thursday: 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

Sunday: Cymanfa Ganu

Traditional Welsh congregational singing directed by Euros Rhys Efans. Held in Welsh chapel. Hymns selected from the National Gymanfa Ganu hymnal.

Public invited; free-will offering

Monday: Dinner & Entertainment at Cardiff Castle

Join former Staff members, Mags & Phyl Harries for a fun evening at Cardiff Castle. **Check the box on the registration form.**

Wednesday: Staff Concert

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

Saturday: Yr Eisteddfod

Participate in Wales' oldest, most venerated tradition, culminating in the chairing and crowning of the bards.

But remember, our eisteddfod is just for fun!

Course participants only

Monday/2nd week: Society Annual Meeting

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

Fees and Registration

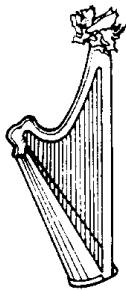
Fees

See the Registration Form for 2009 fees.

Scholarships

Scholarships are available. To apply, please go to our web page, www.welshheritageweek.org, and click on [2009 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 March 31, 2009.**

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



Payment

Registration form and **first payment** (see schedule on registration form) are due by **March 31, 2009**. Final payment of all fees is due no later than **June 30, 2009**.

Refund Policy

Cancellation before April 30, 2009: full refund;

Cancellation between May 1 and June 30, 2009: refund one-half of fee;

Cancellation between June 30 and July 9, 2009: refund one-fourth of fee;

Cancellation after July 9, 2009: no refund

(Trip insurance is strongly recommended. Consult AAA or your insurance company or insuremytrip.com 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.