



St. David's Society of Utica

Newsletter - January 2024



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendar and join us !

Rugby Watch Party

Saturday, Feb. 10th,

(Check our website for time closer to date)

Celtic Harp, Utica

Wales vs England

(Six Nations Championship)

Annual Meeting and Banquet

Sunday, March 10th

Harts Hill Inn, 135 Clinton St.,
Whitesboro

Social time : 3 p.m.

Buffet Meal: 4 p.m.

Cost is \$32.50 per person (covering buffet, tax, gratuity and entertainment). For reservations mail check (payable to the St. David's Society) to

Cindy Gilbert, Treasurer, 3 Woodstock Ct., New Hartford, NY13413.

Reservation with payment deadline is March 3, 2024.

Flag Raising

Friday, March 1st, 10 a.m.

Utica City Hall

Remsen Barn Fest

Sept. 28—29

Sat. 10 a.m.—6 p.m.

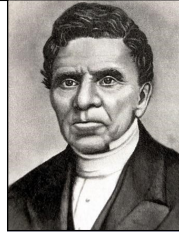
Sun. 10 a.m.—5 p.m.

North American Festival of Wales

Aug. 28—Sept. 1

Pittsburg, PA

For more information about future events go to www.saintdavidssociety.org



Rev. Everett Inducted into Local Hall of Fame



St David's Society President Brian Hughes receives Everett's certificate of induction from Rebecca McLain, Oneida County History Center Executive Director

The induction ceremony of the Rev. Robert Everett (1797—1875) into the Oneida County History Hall of Fame on October 19th, 2023 was well attended by society members.

Everett was a Welsh immigrant, minister and abolitionist who lived in Utica and Oneida County after arriving here in 1823.

Everett is also a member of the National Abolition Hall of Fame thanks to the efforts of our own Ted Engle who worked tirelessly to ensure Everett will always be remembered. Thanks Ted!

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS



Scholarships were awarded to six students of Welsh heritage in the Utica area in 2023.

(Details on page 3).

Deadline for new applications in 2024 is June 1.

The application form is on our website:

www.saintdavidssociety.org



Society's Fall Gymanfa Ganu 2023, commemorates Bob Jones

Our fall Gymanfa Ganu, held at the New Hartford Presbyterian Church on October 8, 2023 was dedicated to Bob Jones, who passed away on May 15, 2023, three days after his 99th birthday.

Bob gave many years of devoted service to the St David's Society both locally and nationally. A member of the New Hartford Church, Bob sang in their choir for 60 years, and was especially interested in choral singing. He had a beautiful tenor voice, often conducted our Gymanfa Ganu's and was the founder of the local St David's Welsh Choir— Cor Dewi Sant - so the dedication was especially appropriate.

The Gymanfa was very well attended and included members of Bob's family. His daughter, Karen May, spoke in appreciation of the society on behalf of the family.

Many thanks to all those who helped make the event a success, and especially to Jay Williams (conductor), Susan Bartholomew (piano and organ), David Kolb (soloist) and Peggy Spencer Behrendt (harpist).



St David's Booth attracts interest at 2023 Remsen Barn Fest



The St. David's Society had a booth at the Remsen Barn Festival held on September 23rd and 24th, 2023.

There was strong interest in the items we had for sale, as well as repeated requests for those manning the booth to pronounce the famous town name in Anglesey, North Wales: "Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwl lantysiliogogoch" from a sign prominently displayed in our booth. (see left). We did our best!

The name, incidentally, means "St Mary's Church in the hollow of the white hazel near the rapid whirlpool of Llandysilio of the red cave." It is purported to be the longest place name in Europe and the second longest one-word place name in the world.

Funds raised at the festival will go to the General Fund of the St. David's Society to offset expenses.



Members enjoy lunch at last year's rugby watch party

Six Nations Rugby Championship 2024

The St. David's Society will once again host an afternoon of fun, camaraderie and sport on February 10 at the Celtic Harp to watch Wales compete during 'Pencampwriaeth Y Chwe Gwlad yn Rygbi' (the Six Nations Championship in rugby - also known as the Guinness Six Nations for Sponsorship reasons).

The tournament teams are England, France, Ireland, Italy, Scotland and Wales. Current champions are Ireland who won the 2023 tournament. The series is being held throughout February and into March.

2023 Scholarship Recipients



Calvin Rhodes

Calvin is the son of Laura and Bill Rhoades and grandson of Cindy and Jon Gilbert. He graduated with highest honors from New Hartford Central School in 2023. He was a member of the New Hartford Central School Marching Spartans Band for six years and a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. He is a freshman at SUNY Geneseo, majoring in biology.



Kylie Clearly

Kylie, a graduate of Whitesboro Central School, is the daughter of Wayne and Karen Rounds-Clearly and granddaughter of Janet Washburn. She is currently in her first year of Physician Assistant School at LeMoyne College. She finished her undergraduate studies there in three years obtaining her Degree in Biology. She was an RA for freshman during her undergraduate years and was on the Dean's List all three years.



David Wynne

David is the son of Douglas and Jill Wynne of Holland Patent and is a 2020 graduate of Holland Patent Central School. He is currently a senior at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, majoring in economics with a minor in math and entrepreneurship and will graduate this spring. Following an internship at the Hartford Insurance Company David was offered, and has accepted, a job with the company following his graduation.



Colin Stanton

Colin is the son of Kristen Stanton and nephew of Katherine Lewis of Cicero and formerly of New Hartford. Colin is a 2023 graduate of Cicero North Syracuse High School. He is a freshman at Binghamton University, majoring in biochemistry.



Emma Ruganis

Emma is the daughter of Lorraine and Scott Ruganis and granddaughter of Stew and Esther Williams. She graduated with highest honors from New Hartford Central School in 2023. She is now a freshman at the University of Rochester, majoring in chemistry.



Rachael Williams

Rachael is the daughter of Ken and Teresa Williams and granddaughter of Stew and Esther Williams. She is a senior at SUNY Geneseo with a dual major of biology and sustainability. She will graduate this spring and is currently applying to graduate schools to pursue an advanced degree in Environmental Science.

WALES or CYMRU?

A name change is in the works



A petition calling for Wales to be known only by its Welsh name "Cymru" has recently been launched in Wales and now garnered more than 10,000 signatures, making it an eligible topic for debate in the Senedd (Welsh Parliament).

The petition, on the Senedd's website, says: "Wales is a name imposed on Cymru and essentially not a Welsh word at all, deriving from an Anglo-Saxon word meaning 'foreigner' -(explained by the fact Britian's original inhabitants retreated west from invaders from the east around 500 BC).

In 2022, the Welsh Football Association said it was considering changing the official name of the team from 'Wales' to 'Cymru' after the World Cup in Qatar, and already uses 'Cymru' at its headquarters and in communications and documents. (BTW, 'Cymru' is pronounced "Come - ree").

DONATIONS

(for the Gymanfa Ganu program)

In Memory or Honor of _____

From : _____ Amount: _____

SCHOLARSHIP DONATION

Awarding scholarships has been a tradition of our St. David's Society for many years and will continue to happen with your help, so please consider donating this year. Contributions go into a Trust Fund which is used to provide assistance to students for this coming school year and in the future.

From _____ Amount \$ _____

Clip form and send with donation to: **Cindy Gilbert, 3 Woodstock Ct, New Hartford, NY 13413**

Thank you for your generosity. We appreciate your support!

St. David's Society of Utica
c/o Mary Lou Rosecrants
2888 Austin Rd.,
Clinton, NY 13323