



St. David's Society of Utica

Newsletter - September 2026



St. David's Society

UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL GYMANFA GANU

**Sunday, October 11
3:00 PM**

New Hartford Presbyterian
Church
45 Genesee Street
New Hartford

Conductor— *Jay Williams*
Organist— *Irina G. Popov*

A 'te bach' (tea and Welsh
cakes) will follow the hymn sing.
Everyone is encouraged to invite
friends who enjoy singing!

REMSSEN BARN FEST

**Saturday, Sept. 26th, 10-6
Sunday, Sept. 27th, 10-5**

To volunteer at our booth
or contribute Welsh cakes,
please call Stew Williams
315-725-3391

ANNUAL GYMANFA GANU
(Welsh Hymn Sing)
2.30 pm, Sun. Sept. 27th
The Stone Meeting House
(Capel Cerrig)
Prospect St, Remsen

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Three students of Welsh heritage have received scholarships of \$700 from the St. David's Society. These students have strong ties to active members of our society and are honored for their appreciation of their Welsh heritage.



Kate Williams

Kate will be a freshman this year majoring in biology at Rochester Institute of Technology.

Kate was a member of the orchestra for nine years and chorus for five years at Whitesboro. She was also a member of the National Honor Society and achieved a seal of biliteracy in American Sign Language.



Emma Ruganis

Emma is the daughter of Lorraine and Scott Ruganis and spent her summer as a research assistant at the University of Rochester as well as volunteering at the Strong Memorial Hospital.

In addition to starting her senior year at the school, Emma will be working with the University of Rochester's Admissions Office.



Grace Ruganis

Grace will be a sophomore at Otterbein University and spent her summer as an intern in the Marketing Department for Broadway Utica, also assisting with choreography for their youth production of 'Grease' as well as performing onstage for Rome Capital Theatre in 'Hello Dolly' as Minnie Fay.

She plans to perform in her college's production of 'Curtains' this fall in the choral and dance ensemble.

DONATIONS

As our fall events begin with the Remsen Barn Festival and Gymanfa Ganu, we would encourage you to consider a donation to the society to help with our expenses.

Donations can be made: (1) "In Memory of" (2) "In Honor of", or (3) to the Scholarship Trust Fund (see form on page 4). Your donation will be mentioned in our Gymanfa Ganu bulletin. Please mail the form to our Treasurer, Cindy Gilbert, 3 Woodstock Ct., New Hartford, NY 13413.

Thank you from the St. David's Society Executive Committee.

WELSH HERITAGE WEEK

Utica was the site of the Welsh National Heritage Week, held July 19 -26th and attended by Welsh people from various parts of the USA as well as from Wales itself.

In addition to seminars regarding Welsh music, dance, language, poetry and harp, there were also events open to the public including a Pub night (full of music and song), a staff concert, a Noson Lawen and Gymanfa Ganu. It was a great time with talented people entertaining everyone and provided an opportunity to meet with Welsh Americans and Welsh nationals as well.



St. David's Society cheers on Boilermaker Runners

The 15K Boilermaker Road Race in Utica is the largest 15K in the United States with well over 10,000 runners participating on July 12.

This year, local members Ken Williams and Dylan Ruganis ran the full 15K race cheered on by members Scott Ruganis and scholarship

recipients Grace Ruganis and Kate Williams and also Rachel Williams who graduated in May with a Masters Degree in Environmental Management from Duke University.

The Boilermaker winds through three of the four



main sections of Utica ending at FX Matt Brewery where cold beer or root beer await all who finish.



REMSEN BARN FESTIVAL—2026

Everyone is invited to attend the Remsen Barn Festival which has grown to more than 250 craft and food booths over its 53-year history. There are many musical groups appearing and a Gymanfa Ganu will be held on Sunday at Capel Cerrig (The Stone Meeting House).

Remember to stop by our St David's Society booth which we share with the Remsen Steuben Historical Society. We'll have Welsh tea cakes and a variety of Welsh Items as well as an interesting display of Welsh history, personalities and even Welsh dogs. Check: remsenbarnfota@gmail.com or call 315-831-4257





Game Watch Party at FX Matt Brewery



We held our annual game watch party at the FX Matt Brewery where a crowd of more than 60 enjoyed watching the Welsh soccer team of Wrexham beat their English opponents Sheffield United, 2-1, in an exciting come-from-behind victory.

St David's Board member Tom Wynne is Tour Manager at the brewery and his staff provided sliders, tater tots, pretzel rods and drinks.

Our thanks to Ken and Teresa Williams who helped organize the event and donated Welsh items as door prizes and gifts. We are looking at a possible fall function at the Brewery celebrating Welsh poet Dylan Thomas



Events Coordinator Stewart Williams with Welsh flag cake

Fun Afternoon at Family Picnic

On June 27 we sponsored a Family Picnic at the Remsen Railroad Depot with about 50 people enjoying hamburgers, hot dogs, covered dishes and a Welsh flag cake .

Featured attractions were Welsh ponies and cobs owned by Dr. Laurence Roberts and Chrissy Southwick of Fferm Gwenffrwd Welsh Ponies and Cobs. Dr. Roberts, a retired professor from Utica University, gave a very informative talk on Welsh ponies.

Perfect weather helped and we enjoyed seeing many new faces, both young and old. Trivia games, cornhole and a visit from the Adirondack Scenic Railroad made for a fun afternoon.

Thanks to Phil and Marcia Williams for their help and to Al Heywood who showed some of the rail cars at the depot.



Dr. Laurence Roberts and corgis



DONATIONS (for the Gymanfa Ganu program)

In ☐ Memory or ☐ Honor of _____
(Check one)

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

