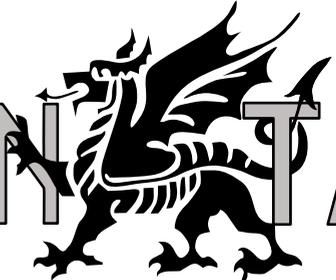


# DRAGON TALES LITE



December 2020–March 2021

The Welsh Society of Central Ohio—Cymdethas Gymreig Canolbarth Ohio  
Promoting a Strong and Vibrant Welsh Community in Central Ohio

## HISTORY LESSON: A WELSH WILLIAM TELL

By Kyle Wright

On 18th November 1307, William Tell shot an arrow through an apple on his son's head and launched the struggle for Swiss independence. However in Wales, there is a similar legend that pre-dates this famous tale by perhaps a hundred years.

### What we know of Madog ap Gruffydd Maelor's Life

It is uncertain when exactly Madog ap Gruffydd Maelor was born, but in 1191, he succeeded his father as Prince of Powys jointly with his brother Owain and adopted a neutral position between Gwynedd and England.

Six years later, after his brother's death, he consolidated power and

became the sole ruler of Powys north of the Afon Rhaeadr and the Afon Tana. This area was named after him, Powys Fadog, a mutation on his name.

Madog's alliance with his cousin Llywelyn ap Iorwerth (Llywelyn the Great), deteriorated, and by 1212 he had allied himself with King John of England. The alliance with Llywelyn was re-established by 1215, however.

He died in 1236 and was succeeded by his oldest son Gruffydd Maelor II.

### What we know of William de Braose's Life

William de Braose was a favourite of King John and at the peak of his power in Wales, was Lord of Gower, Abergavenny, Brecknock, Builth,

Radnor, Kington and Glamorgan.

His wife Maud supported his military ambitions and put her in charge of Hay Castle and is often referred to as the Lady of Hay.

In 1175, William de Braose carried out the Abergavenny Massacre, luring three Welsh princes and other Welsh leaders to their deaths at a Christmas feast at Abergavenny Castle.

This resulted in great hostility against him among the Welsh, who named him the "Ogre of Abergavenny".

In 1198, Maud, his wife, defended Painscastle against a massive Welsh attack led by Gwenwynwyn, Prince of Powys Wenwynwen, until English

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## St. David's Day Luncheon Annual Meeting Info

The 2021 St. David's Day Luncheon at Worthington Hills Country Club has been canceled due to the Department of Health's Revised order from November 2020 prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people. The order lasts until March 2021, but is expected to be extended.

However, the 2021 annual meeting will still take place via telephone through a service called free conference call. Simply dial the phone number below, and enter the access code when prompted.

- **Telephone Number:** (701) 802-5298
- **Access Code:** 468992#
- **Time:** 11:00 am
- **Date:** 27 February 2021

## Recent Donations To WSCO

### Tom Matthews

In September 2020, Mr. Tom Matthews of Newark, Ohio wished to donate a box of Welsh hymnals to our organization.

The donation was made on behalf of the Cambrian Society of Granville, OH, which has disbanded. The donation is composed of fifty-three copies of *Favorite Welsh and English Hymns and Melodies* printed by The National

Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada.

WSCO thanks the Cambrian Society for providing this donation.

### Donna Boyce

Donna Boyce donated her personal WSCO papers, Dragon Tales, and Corresponding Secretary documentation.

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## Fond Farewells

### Ruth Ann Bull

Ruth Ann (Maneely), 87, of Upper Arlington, passed away Tuesday, December 1, 2020, from a stroke. Services were private for the family at Schoedinger Northwest Chapel on Friday, December 4. Burial to follow on Monday, December 7 at Greenlawn Cemetery.

Ruth Ann was born August 22, 1933 in Zanesville and raised in Bexley. She graduated in 1951 from Bexley High School and in Hospital Dietetics at The Ohio State University in 1955. Member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority. She interned at Christ Hospital in Cincinnati and then worked at Mount Carmel West Hospital in Columbus. In March of 1957, she married Dick Bull at Bexley Methodist Church. She was active in Central Ohio Diabetes Association, COSI Women's Group, Buckeye Ranch, Poors Pupils Investment Club, Welsh Society of Central Ohio, and active in tennis in her younger years. She also enjoyed playing bridge in several clubs.

She is predeceased by her parents and eldest son, Joe. She is survived by her husband, Richard and three sons: Rick (Carol), Kaitlyn and Evan of Delaware, Ohio; Tim (Laura), Jaclyn and Wesley of Boca Raton, Florida; and Dave (Maggie), Audrey and Ian of Upper Arlington. She is also survived by sister Nancy Haines (Mel) of Kettering, Ohio.

### WSCO Board Meetings

Board meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month, except for July, August and December, from 7pm to 9pm and usually take place by phone conference.

Meetings are open to all adult WSCO members. Anyone wishing to put an item on the agenda or speak before the Board should contact the President at least one week in advance of the meeting

### Current WSCO Board Members

Cathy Beacom, Ken Evans, Shawn Hitchings, Eve Goodwyn, Jeanne Jones Jindra, Becky Jones, Tegwyn Lantz, Bob Penry, Charlotte Prior, Mike Schroeder, Anne Powell Riley, Laura Thomas, Dianne Williams, Homer Williams, Kelsey Wright, Kyle Wright.

### WSCO Officers

*President* – Mike Schroeder

*Vice-President* – Eve Goodwyn

*Treasurer* – Tegwyn Lantz

*Recording Secretary* – Laura Thomas

## DONATE

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These items are currently being sorted and documented to become important materials in the WSCO history and archives collection.

Donna was a long standing WSCO board member who, amongst the many things she did, was the Dragon Tales Editor and Executive Secretary. Donna, who passed away in 2020 from a long illness, is still missed to this day.

## The National Library of Wales

*From National Library of Wales / Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru*

Annwyl Gyfaill, We hope you will consider signing the petition to safeguard jobs and services at the the National Library of Wales, and also share with your contacts. We call for fair funding by the Welsh Government to the National Library of Wales, one of the world's great libraries, a repository of the historic, artistic and intellectual treasures of Wales.

Click this link to see the petition to save jobs at the National Library of Wales and start sharing it.

- **Website:** <https://petitions.senedd.wales/petitions/244641>

### WSCO Contact Information

PO Box 16851

Columbus, OH 43216-9532

*Phone:* 614-500-7998

*Email:* [info@welshsocietyofcentralohio.org](mailto:info@welshsocietyofcentralohio.org)

*Web:* <http://www.welshsocietyofcentralohio.org>

*Facebook:* Welsh Society of Central Ohio

### Dragon Tales

The newsletter of the Welsh Society of Central Ohio is published three times a year, about 3-4 weeks before each of our annual events.

*Editors* – Kelsey Wright and Kyle Wright

### Submissions

Submissions for Dragon Tales can be made to: [newsletter@welshsocietyofcentralohio.org](mailto:newsletter@welshsocietyofcentralohio.org).

Please include your name, phone number, and email address; or leave a message at 614-500-7998 and include your name and phone number.

Submissions must be received by Board Meetings in January, June, and September to appear in the next issue.

## HISTORY

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reinforcements arrived. Over three thousand Welsh were killed.

In 1208, William de Braose quarrelled with King John, making indiscreet comments regarding the murder of the king's nephew Arthur of Brittany. The King seized all of de Braose's castles and William and Maud fled the country to Ireland.

De Braose returned to Wales in 1210, and it is speculated that he allied himself with Llywelyn ap Iorwerth, Madog ap Gruffydd Maelor's cousin, in his

rebellion against King John. Maud and her son were apprehended and imprisoned at Corfe Castle in Dorset, where they both starved to death.

In 1211, William de Braose died in France after fleeing from Wales the previous year, disguised as a beggar.

### The Legend

Sometime between 1191 and 1208 while the hostilities between the two princes of the region raged, Madog ap Gruffydd Maelor, Prince of Powys Fadog, who had been dispossessed of his lands in Breconshire by William de Braose, shot an apple from the head of his youngest son, also called Madog, on the orders of de Braose's wife Maud.

*Adapted from The History of Wales Facebook Page*

## Contemporary Welsh Drama Streaming In America

*By Susan Davies Sit, President Welsh Society of Western New England*

*West* is the brand-new play from the award-winning writer of *Grav* and *The Wood*. Starring Gareth John Bale and Gwenllian Higginson, the play explores the lives of two Welsh people who fall in love and decide to leave Wales in order to build a new life in the New World. It details the hardships and adventures they faced, focusing primarily on the theme of

immigration. The play is written in a lyrical, poetic style and presented using minimal set and a physicalised performance style.

It is directed by Gareth John Bale, the Welsh actor and director whose credits include *Grav* and *Nye and Jennie* and Gwenllian Higginson, best known to Welsh theatre audiences for *Miss Julie*, *Exodus* and *Merched Caerdydd*.

'West' was commissioned by the North American Festival of Wales

and received its first public performance in the Ballroom of the Hilton Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin on Friday 30th August 2019. The first American performances received standing ovations from an enthusiastic American audience.

'West' will be streamed live from Wales on Sunday, February 14, 2021 at 3pm - 4:30pm. Ticket (\$10).

• **Website:** <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/garethbale/478071>

## St. David's Day Flag-raising

February 26, 2021 Ohio Statehouse, West Plaza (High St.); Capital Square, southeast corner Broad and High Streets; downtown Columbus, Ohio. If the weather is bad, we will meet just inside the South doors of the Statehouse and proceed to the West Plaza; otherwise join us at the West Plaza just before noon.

Along with the raising of the Welsh flag over downtown Columbus is a short ceremony which includes the singing the Welsh and U.S. national anthems.

Take advantage of already being at the Statehouse and enjoy a tour. Regular tours are given every hour 10am to 3pm weekdays. Meet in the Map Room near the Third St. entrance. More information can be obtained by calling 614-728-2695 or visiting [www.statehouse.state.oh.us](http://www.statehouse.state.oh.us)

Interested in touring the Supreme Court of Ohio? Call 614-387-9223 to schedule a tour. It is located at 65 South Front St. Call 614.387.9223 for more information regarding their tours.

## POETRY CORNER

### A Winter's Tale

*By Dylan Thomas, July 1945*

It is a winter's tale  
That the snow blind twilight ferries over the lakes  
And floating fields from the farm in the cup of the vales,  
Gliding windless through the hand folded flakes,  
The pale breath of cattle at the stealthy sail,

And the stars falling cold,  
And the smell of hay in the snow, and the far owl  
Warning among the folds, and the frozen hold  
Flocked with the sheep white smoke of the farm house cowl  
In the river wended vales where the tale was told.

*From Poetry, A Magazine of Verse Vol. LXVI No. IV*

# Membership Matters

## Basic WSCO Membership Information

Membership Benefits include:

- Subscription to WSCO's newsletter Dragon Tales
- A vote at the Annual Meeting (except children under 16)
- Advance notice of WSCO Events
- Membership roster
- Great new friends!

WSCO General members are also welcome to silently observe WSCO Board Meetings.

*Note - to present an item for discussion at a Board meeting, arrangements must be made in advance with the current President.*

## Annual Memberships (membership period Jan 1-Dec 31)

\$25 for an Individual or Family Unit (parental unit and dependent children), due by January 1st of each year.

Annual memberships begin the day they are received by WSCO (if received between January 1st and September 20th), or those received September 21st through December 31st will be applied to the next membership year and will begin on January 1st of that next year.

*Please note - memberships not current as of January 31st may not be included in the annual member roster, and membership must be current to vote during the Annual Meeting.*

## Lifetime Memberships (begin on date received)

\$175 for an Individual or a Family Unit or three annual installments of \$75 each.

Or, \$30 one time for each individual over 80 years old.

## Membership Application

Current WSCO Membership Application and other information is available on the Membership page on WSCO's website, and questions can be emailed to [info@WelshSocietyOfCentralOhio.org](mailto:info@WelshSocietyOfCentralOhio.org), or call (614)500-7998.

*Membership Chair* – Shawn Hitchings

### Welcome to New Members

**WSCO sends a big Croeso! (Welcome!) to all our new members!**

Members can find the WSCO Constitution on the website at:  
[www.WelshSocietyOfCentralOhio.org](http://www.WelshSocietyOfCentralOhio.org).

Members without access to Internet can request to have a copy mailed by leaving a message at WSCO's Information Line: (614)500-7998