



# The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin, Inc.

Welsh News from Wisconsin

<https://wggaw.org>

Spring 2026

## Greetings from our President

Annwyl ffrindiau,  
Dear friends,

Greetings to all at the start of this 250th Anniversary year celebrating our country's independence. Many states, cities and towns have already posted their plans for this historic year of celebrations.

The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin is no different! We have many events planned for 2026. I know that you'll want to get them entered into your calendars to save the dates, so check out our newsletter for the listing of Welsh events taking place in our state and in others.

Our state Gymanfa weekend is at the First Presbyterian Church, 1225 Fourth Street, Fond du Lac, WI 54935 on May 2 & 3. Saturday activities will feature Dan Rowbotham from the University of Rio Grande, Rio Grande, OH. Dan will lead some events and share some of his funny experiences as a Welshman living in the US. On Saturday evening we are invited to attend the Spring Concert of the South Shore Chorale in Fond du Lac. They will sing a concert of American music from 1776 to the present.

Kathy Crusi from Philadelphia is our conductor for the Gymanfa Ganu starting at 2:30 p.m., and Steve Jensen from Milwaukee is the organist. Kathy is an accomplished vocalist and has appeared at many Philadelphia Welsh Society functions, as well as many other venues in the area. After being encouraged at a North American Festival of Wales, she began her conducting endeavors. You will enjoy her musicality and sensitivity to our Welsh hymnody.

Our organist for the day is Steve Jensen from the Milwaukee area. Steve is a very accomplished organist and is one of two organists chosen to play for the North American Festival of Wales each year. He has played for most of our State-sponsored cymanfaoedd and also at the Cambria Gymanfa Ganu held in Cambria WI. I believe that he has been playing Welsh hymns for over 50 years!

You are also requested to submit possible locations for future venues for the Christmas and State cymanfaoedd in the years to come. We are also looking for more members for our board. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact the president, Rev. Joe Corbin : [joegcorbin50@gmail.com](mailto:joegcorbin50@gmail.com), or Vice president, Dan Proud : [derrproud@att.com](mailto:derrproud@att.com). The board typically meets twice a year in Spring and Fall to plan and review various Welsh programs and Cymanfaoedd in Wisconsin.

Dewch, canwch i'r Arglwydd! - Come , sing to the Lord!

Rev. Joseph Corbin, President

## 92nd State Gymanfa Ganu

As part of our Wisconsin Welsh Weekend for All, the 92nd Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu (Welsh hymn sing) will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2026, at 2:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 1225 Fourth Street, Fond du Lac WI.

Our director is Kathy Crusi from Philadelphia PA and Steve Jensen will accompany us.



## About the WGGAW

The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin (WGGAW) sponsors and conducts the State and Christmas cymanfaoedd which take place at various churches around the state. It also supports and promotes other Welsh events held in Wisconsin.

If you are interested in hosting a gymanfa ganu at your church or joining the WGGAW Board, contact Rev. Joe Corbin, President of WGGAW, at [joegcorbin50@gmail.com](mailto:joegcorbin50@gmail.com) or 608-434-8307.

## Board of Trustees

President	Rev. Joe Corbin
Vice President	Danny Proud
Treasurer	Dick Myers
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Board: Jan Jones Batty, Kim Corbin, Joshua Giese, Christopher Guy, Sue Evans Hady, Dale Hughes, Steve Jensen, Ann E. Lemmenes, Devin Scherck, Marilyn Schröder, Bron Wentzel, Rev. Tom White, Tom Williams; Honorary Life Board Member: Mary Davis

## Welsh Weekend for All—Saturday, May 2, 2026

- 1:00 First Presbyterian Church, 1225 Fourth Street, Fond du Lac WI  
This church is fully accessible. Park on the east side of the building and enter through the east door. Dan Rowbotham, Director, Madog Center for Welsh Studies, University of Rio Grande, Ohio will provide the afternoon activities. Dan is originally from Llangeitho in west central Wales.
- 2:30 Eisteddfod, chairing of the bard and other awards.

Dinner is on your own. Suggestions in Fond du Lac: Cellar District, 40 E. Division Street; The Red Cabin at Green Acres, W2701 Fourth Street Road; Schmitt's Bar & Grill, N7044 Winnebago Drive.

- 7:00 "An American Journey" South Shore Chorale concert  
Fond du Lac High School Performing Arts Center, 801 Campus Drive, Fond du Lac;  
Many members of our Welsh community sing in this chorale. This concert sells out fast so it is strongly suggested that you purchase tickets ahead of time online at [hometowntickets.com/ssc](http://hometowntickets.com/ssc).  
See [southshorechorale.org](http://southshorechorale.org) for details about the chorale.

## Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu—Sunday, May 3, 2026

- 2:30 First Presbyterian Church, 1225 Fourth Street, Fond du Lac WI  
92nd Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu, Te bach to follow; Church is fully accessible.  
Director: Kathy Crusi, Philadelphia PA; Organist: Steve Jensen, Bayside WI

### Hotel Suggestions

**Hotel Retlaw**, 1 N. Main Street, Fond du Lac WI; Make room reservations by April 10 to get the \$209+tax per night rate; call 920-204-0400, press 0 and tell the Front Desk Team Member you are with the "Welsh Group."

**Country Inn & Suites by Radisson**, 121 Merwin Way, Fond du Lac WI; 920-581-8200

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites**, 55 Holiday Lane, Fond du Lac WI; 920-322-1460

**Fairfield by Marriott Inn & Suites**, 935 S. Rolling Meadows Drive, Fond du Lac WI; 920-204-0252

**Hampton Inn**, 77 N. Pioneer Road, Fond du Lac WI; 920-933-6767

### State Gymanfa Ganu Musicians



#### Kathy Crusi

The WGGAW board is pleased to announce the selection of Kathy Crusi as director of its 91st state gymanfa ganu.

At the North American Festival of Wales in Philadelphia in 2022, Kathy was a featured soloist at the opening concert and the gymanfa ganu sessions, and she also directed the late-

night hymn singing.

Katherine Crusi is a graduate of The University of Akron with a Master of Music in Vocal Performance. She has appeared frequently at events for The Welsh Society of Philadelphia. In 2018 she won the David Morris Award at the North American Festival of Wales eisteddfod competition which gave her the privilege of competing in the Welsh National Eisteddfod in Llanrwst, Wales in 2019. For the past 24 years Kathy has taught private voice lessons and was the recipient of "One of the Top 12 Best Voice Teachers in Philadelphia" for the last eight years in a row.

She recently wrote and recorded a Christmas song, "Silently She Waited," which can be enjoyed on YouTube. It has beautiful videography and was sung in three voices; probably all sung by her through the magic of technology. Her

wonderful recordings of "Breath of Heaven" and "Ave Maria" are also available.

Nine years ago, Kathy didn't even know what a gymanfa ganu was. Since then, she has jumped into the Welsh world with both feet, discovering her Welsh heritage on her father's side. Her great-great grandfather was a coal miner who came to Pottsville, Pennsylvania. Now she's learning to sing in Welsh and has a repertoire of Welsh solos.



**Steve Jensen** began playing the piano and organ at the age of nine. He had his first regular church job at the age of thirteen. During grades 9-12 he studied at Lawrence Conservatory of Music in Appleton, Wisconsin. He continued his organ study during college at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

His first Gymanfa Ganu was in 1977 in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. The conductor was Lyn Harry of Canada. Mr. Harry requested that Mr. Jensen play the following year at the National Gymanfa Ganu in Minneapolis in 1978. Since then Steve has played for many local, state and national Cymanfaoedd.

Mr. Jensen is retired and serves as Organist at Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

# 2026 Eisteddfod

We welcome your entries for this year's Eisteddfod! The theme for this year is "Myfyrdod" or "Reflection." You may submit entries in any of the categories of competition: Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Recitation, and Music. (See **General Rules for Submissions** and **Deadlines for Submissions** below for details.)

- The **Literary Arts** category includes original poems (50 lines or less) and essays (750 words or less).
- The **Visual Arts** category includes, but is not limited to: original paintings, photography, ceramics, textiles, and sculpture.
- The **Recitation** category consists of recitation of a poem selected by the Eisteddfod Committee and delivered in English or in Welsh, and may be read or memorized. Text will be sent when you register for the eisteddfod.
- The **Music** category may include voice and/or instrumental on one piece, limited to a maximum of six minutes.

## Prizes

All entries are judged on the criteria of how well they capture the theme of "Myfyrdod" or "Reflection," the extent to which they incorporate Welsh components, and the quality of the work. Winners are determined by adjudication, except for the Visual Arts category, in which the winner receives the most votes cast by attendees at the weekend.

- The **Literary Arts** winner receives the Bardic Chair, the highest honor.
- The **Visual Arts** winner receives the Crown prize.
- The **Recitation** winner receives the Love Spoon prize.
- The **Music** winner receives the Baton prize.

Winners must be present at the Eisteddfod ceremony on Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church in Fond du Lac WI to receive their prizes. The Eisteddfod Committee acknowledges the significant thought, effort, and time that goes into the creation and performance of the submissions, and all entrants will be recognized and thanked for their efforts.

## General Rules for Submissions

Competitions will take place late Saturday afternoon at the First Presbyterian Church in Fond du Lac WI. See **Deadlines for Submissions** below.

- In **Literary Arts** you must submit your entry using a pseudonym (*ffugenw*) rather than your actual name. Entries must be original, created specifically for the Eisteddfod. Poems must be 50 lines or less, in English or Welsh. Essays must be 750 words or less, in English or Welsh.
- **Visual Arts** submissions must be created specifically for this competition, with the theme "Myfyrdod" or "Reflection." Media can be paintings, drawings, photography, ceramics, textile items (quilts, fiber crafts, knitting, weavings, etc.), or sculpture. Submit a brief description of how the piece was created and how it is connected to the "Myfyrdod" or "Reflection" theme. (See **Deadlines for Submissions** below.)
- **Recitation** performers will deliver the poem in English or Welsh, from memory or by reading. Text will be sent to you after you send in your eisteddfod registration (see **Deadlines for Submissions** below). Recitations will be Saturday afternoon at the church.
- In the **Music** category soloists or groups may sing and/or play instruments. Please send in music in advance if an accompanist is needed (see **Deadlines for Submissions**). Performances will take place during the Eisteddfod on Saturday afternoon.

NOTE: Please drop off your Visual Arts entry at the church no later than 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Literary Arts and Visual Arts entries will be displayed on Saturday afternoon and Sunday at the First Presbyterian Church. Winners will be announced during the Eisteddfod Ceremony on Saturday afternoon at the church.

## Deadlines for Submissions

Submit Literary Arts entries, Music selections, and Visual Arts descriptions no later than midnight, April 28, 2026 to Bron Wentzel ([crawfishcats@netwurx.net](mailto:crawfishcats@netwurx.net)). For more information, call Bron (920-988-8090) or Danny Proud (608-212-3793). Recitation competitors are urged to notify Bron of your intention to compete so that copies of the text can reach you beforehand.

## 2026 Peniel Events

All events take place at: Peniel Chapel, W9644 Zoar Road, Oshkosh WI  
6 miles north of Rosendale and 1/2 mile west of Route 26 on County FF

In 2025 the Peniel Welsh Chapel was placed on the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places. The chapel, built in 1856, is beautiful today as the result of many renovations and updates in the last few years.

Volunteers are a big part of our activities and we invite anyone who would like to be a part of our program of music and activities to contact Tom White, president of the group, at [tjwhite65@charter.com](mailto:tjwhite65@charter.com).

Direct donations to Lynette Booth, treasurer, 893 Harmel Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54902, call her at 719-427-9239 or email her at [boothlynette@hotmail.com](mailto:boothlynette@hotmail.com).



### Saturday Events

**May 9** – “The New Generation Singers” at Peniel Welsh Chapel—6:00 p.m. with refreshments to follow

**June 27** – “Country Traditions Day” at Peniel Welsh Chapel—1:00 p.m. - Tractor and farm machinery display, quilt display and animals on the chapel grounds; petting zoo/animal interaction; food available for purchase during the afternoon

Polka Service at 5:00 p.m. by Larry Albright Praise Band with ice cream social to follow

**July 25** – “Winnebagoland Barbership Chorus” at Peniel Welsh Chapel—6:00 p.m. with refreshments to follow

**September 19** – “Leggerio Wind Quintet” at Peniel Welsh Chapel—6:00 p.m. with refreshments to follow

Come and be a part of the fun and fellowship.

### Peniel Chapel Welsh Weekend

#### August 22, 2026 (Saturday)

Check the Peniel page at [wggaw.org](http://wggaw.org) for further details

Current plans: Kate Bissen will share her historical society presentation and discoveries about Peniel Welsh Chapel; Unveiling and dedication of the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places sign; 170th Birthday Bash to follow

#### August 23, 2026 (Sunday)

2:30 p.m. 104th Annual Gymanfa Ganu at Peniel Welsh Chapel  
Team of Directors; Reed Organist: Rev. Tom White; Pianist: Sarah Conrad

### Other Welsh Events

**August 8 (Saturday)** 11:00 a.m. Welsh Picnic – all are invited; Burgers, brats and hot dogs provided. Bring a dish to share. Home of Jan Batty, W68N361 Palmetto Avenue, Cedarburg, WI 53012; RSVP to Jan Batty at [rbatty@wi.rr.com](mailto:rbatty@wi.rr.com) or text 414-861-2202

**July 19-26** Cwrs Cymraeg Welsh Language Immersion course. University of Rio Grande, OH; [www.madog.org](http://www.madog.org) or [speakwelsh.org](http://speakwelsh.org); Contact: [secretary@madog.org](mailto:secretary@madog.org)

**September 2-6** North American Festival of Wales, sponsored by the Welsh North American Association; Springfield MA; For information and registration: [www.nafow.org](http://www.nafow.org)

**September 4-6** Wisconsin Highland Games, Waukesha Expo Center, 1000 Northview Road, Waukesha, WI; Welsh booth sponsored by The Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area; entrance fee; Contact Joe and Alice Whitmore to volunteer: [cariad72@hotmail.com](mailto:cariad72@hotmail.com)

**November 20-22, 2026** Holiday Folk Fair International, Wisconsin State Fair Park, 640 S 84th Street, West Allis, WI; Welsh booth sponsored by The Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area; entrance fee; Contact Joe and Alice Whitmore to volunteer: [cariad72@hotmail.com](mailto:cariad72@hotmail.com); To obtain discounted tickets, contact Jan Batty [rbatty@wi.rr.com](mailto:rbatty@wi.rr.com)

## 2026 Wisconsin Gymanfa Ganu Schedule

Te Bach to follow each Gymanfa Ganu

### Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu

May 3, 2026, 2:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 1225 Fourth Street, Fond du Lac WI; Director: Kathy Crusi, Philadelphia PA; Organist: Steve Jensen

### Rewey Gymanfa Ganu

June 14, 2026, 2:30 p.m. Carmel Peniel Presbyterian Church near Rewey WI, 1449 Peniel Road, Mineral Point, WI 53565; Director: Chris Guy; Pianist: Barbara Brown; Contact: Dale Hughes  
dalehugheslaw@gmail.com

### Wild Rose Gymanfa Ganu

July 26, 2026, 2:00 p.m. (note time) Wild Rose Presbyterian Church, 501 Jackson Street, Wild Rose, WI 54984; Director: Ann Lemmenes; Reed Organist: Rev. Tom White

### 104th Annual Peniel/Town of Eldorado Gymanfa Ganu

August 23, 2026, 2:30 p.m. Peniel Welsh Chapel, W9644 Zoar Road, Oshkosh, WI 54904; Team of Directors; Reed Organist: Rev. Tom White; Pianist: Sarah Conrad

### 7th Mineral Point Gymanfa Ganu

September 27, 2026, 2:30 p.m. Trinity Episcopal Church, 403 High Street, Mineral Point, WI 53565; Cornish tea to follow

Director: Devin Scherck; Accompanist: Steve Jensen  
Held in conjunction with the Mineral Point Cornish/Celtic Festival, September 25-27, 2026

Website: [www.cornishfest.org](http://www.cornishfest.org)

### 81st Cambria Gymanfa Ganu

October 11, 2026, 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Supper served between sessions (\$); Cambria First Presbyterian Church, 121 West Florence Street, Cambria, WI 53923; Director: John Owen III, Baltimore MD; Organist: Steve Jensen; Contact: Tom Williams  
tomrenawilliams@gmail.com, 608-432-1404

### Christmas Gymanfa Ganu

November 8, 2026, 2:30 p.m.; WE Community Church, 2644 State Road 116, Waukau WI; Director: Dale Hughes; Accompanist: Steve Jensen

## 2025 Welsh Weekend Eisteddfod

By Danny Evan Proud, excerpts from article originally published in the July/August 2025 issue of Ninnau.

“Come Home Again to Wales” was the theme of the 2025 Wisconsin Eisteddfod.



In the Literary Arts, original poems or essays reflecting the theme, the winner, “Gwen Fach”, turned out to be a man, Danny Proud (Madison). Runners up were Lincoln Jones Hartford and Bron Wentzel. Robert Humphries and son Rhys presided

over the Chairing of the Bard. The chair was a rocker with cushions of reversible designs with Welsh themes made by Bron Wentzel.

In Visual Arts, the sole contestant was Kit Reynolds. Her

creation was an original collage. Her prize was the Crown, a woolen cap of Welsh dragon design, hand-woven by Mary Wentzel.

In the Recitation area, participants chose to recite a poem in Welsh, “Gwreiddiau” (Roots), or a poem in English, “Poem from Llanybri.” Bob Gwynne (Madison) took first, and Ann Lemmenes and Kit Reynolds were runners up. The prize was a handsome shadow-boxed lovespoon, made and purchased in Wales.

The Music competition featured a solo by Jenafer Lloyd-Humphries (Ann Lemmenes accompanying on piano); Joe Corbin singing English and Welsh verses of a hymn, accompanied by his guitar; and Lincoln Jones Hartford singing a hymn. The first-place prize was awarded to Jenafer who took home a bejeweled baton in the clutches of a cute plastic doll-sized red dragon that arguably sounded like a dog when squeezed.

Congratulations to organizers Bron Wentzel and Danny Proud, to the participants, to Robert and Rhys for the sword-and-chair ceremony, and to the adjudicators: Robert, Danny, Dale Hughes, and Marilyn Schröder. Llongyfarchiadau i bawb!

## In Memory of ...

We are sad to report the passing of the following members of the Welsh community since May 2025. Please remember them fondly; they all treasured and promoted their Welsh heritage. Please email Jan Jones Batty with additional names to include in the Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu bulletin: [rbatty@wi.rr.com](mailto:rbatty@wi.rr.com)

Helen J. Pugh, Waukesha WI

Virginia B. Reardon (Howells), Wauconda IL

Sue Ellen Stealey, Downers Grove IL

John Hugh Williams, Crystal Lake IL and San Diego CA

## 2025 Welsh Weekend

By Jan Jones Batty, originally published in the July/August 2025 issue of Ninnau.

Wisconsin weather was in our favor for the annual Wisconsin Welsh Weekend for All on May 3 and 4.



We kicked off the weekend on Saturday afternoon with a walk of Jerusalem Cemetery in Wales, Wisconsin. Robert Humphries led a historical tour

of the Jerusalem and Salem cemeteries. He shared the story of the first Welsh settlers to arrive in the early 1840s, including Richard "King" Jones, a native of Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion, who organized a party of settlers and whose farm, Bronyberllan, served as a temporary home for many new arrivals in what was then known as the Prairieville Welsh community. It was also the location of the first Welsh church services. Jerusalem Cemetery is the site of the Capel Log, the first Welsh church established west of the Great Lakes, and the predecessor to the Jerusalem church. Across the street in Salem Cemetery are buried Hugh Elias, whose farm became the center of the village of Wales after it was



founded in 1882, and Griffith Rice, a young Welshman who died while serving in the Civil War. While leading the tour, Robert shared brief biographies as well as poetry written in Welsh

by and about several of those laid to rest in the two cemeteries.

Mid-afternoon, we reconvened at Jerusalem Presbyterian Church and snacked on Savory Welsh Cakes and dip, brownies and lemonade.



This year we decided to have an art project, "Coloring a Dragon." Jan Jones Batty found images of dragons (and dinosaurs) and printed them on fabric squares. Creativity ensued, and we ended up with some colorful dragons. A few especially talented folks even drew dragons free hand. Jan will make a quilt (maybe two!) and donate it to charity.

Danny Proud and Bron Wentzel chaired the Eisteddfod, and Danny has reported the results in a separate article [see page 5 of this newsletter].

After a meal at Revere's Pub in Delafield, Joe Corbin and Danny Proud led us in singing our favorite Welsh folk songs.



On Sunday afternoon, the 91st Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu was led by the sister-brother team of Marilyn Lemmenes Schröder, Milwaukee; Ann E. Lemmenes, Waupun; and Roy Lemmenes, Waupun, and accompanied by the incomparable Steve Jensen. Ann wrote a separate article on the gymanfa ganu.

### North American Welsh Newspaper

Read Ninnau to learn what is going on with the Welsh in North America, along with articles about Welsh culture, sports, government, music, poetry, book reviews, genealogy, language, eisteddfod, history and more!

\$20 per year for email version / \$30 per year for printed version / \$35 per year for both

Order Ninnau at: **Box 712, Trumansburg, New York 14886**    [ninnaupublications@gmail.com](mailto:ninnaupublications@gmail.com)

### Estate Planning

Consider including The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin in your annual charitable giving or estate plans. We charge no dues, and operate solely on donations and volunteer efforts. Send donations to our treasurer and contact him to arrange estate planning bequests. We are a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

## 2025 State Gymanfa Ganu

By Ann Lemmenes, excerpts from an article originally published in the July/August 2025 issue of Ninnau.

With some creative thinking Rev. Joe Corbin, the President of The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin asked Marilyn Schrader to direct the gymanfa ganu. She said only if they would ask her brother Roy Lemmenes and sister Ann to join her. The Corbins made a few more phone calls. Roy said YES! And so did I. So it was billed as 'All in the Family' or 'The Family Feud.'



Roy, who is in the farming business, showed up with keyboard suspenders his wife bought him and won the prize for the

best outfit. Then near the end he proclaimed that his sisters went on to college to study music. "I had choir in ninth grade." Pause. "Some of us learn fast!" Guess he won the prize for the best joke too!

Rev. Corbin welcomed us to the 91st State Cymanfa Ganu. Jerusalem Presbyterian's Rev. Andy Holmes gave a welcome and a history of the church.

Marilyn, the first born, directed the first set of hymns.

I introduced our first special music for the day. Last year at NAFOW Robert Humphries gave me a CD "Lullabies For Your Inner Child" that his wife Jenafer recorded. When I listened to it I was blown away by the original music and wanted her to sing for our cymanfa, but the music was never written down. The composer, Sharon Roeder, was the keyboardist, violinist, harpist and sang on some songs, but only wrote the lyrics down. Sharon was unavailable to accompany Jenafer, so I volunteered to write the music out and accompany her. It took longer than I expected, but was so much fun. So she sang for us "More Than My Heart Can Hold" and a

gospel-style song "Could It Be You?"

The second set of hymns was directed by the second born, that would be me.

We were treated to a performance of Rachmaninoff's



"Prelude in G Minor" by Aidan Williams-Brusubardis of Milwaukee who recently received the music scholarship from The Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area. He is finishing his freshman year at the UW-Madison and started studying piano at the age of nine from his

grandfather, Ernie Brusubardis. In addition to his studies, he is the primary organist at the Milwaukee Latvian Lutheran Church.

The third set was directed by the third born, our brother Roy.

After the offering we witnessed a premier performance of Aidan's spectacular "Variations on Sosban Fach" starting with a mournful presentation of the theme and moving on to many different musical styles. Search for Jerusalem Presbyterian Church website on YouTube live stream and scroll down to 91st Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu.

Marilyn directed the Memorial Hymn.

Special thanks to Steve Jensen for expertly accompanying us. As I always say, "A director is only as good as the accompanist!"

Friday, May 2nd Shirley Ann Roberts Conway's Celebration of Life was held at the church. The family left the decorations and a large tray of fantastic elegant sweets. Add 64 China tea cups and saucers, teapots and cozies on the tables and our Te Bach was over the top!

It was a great time for fellowship over a cup of tea with Welsh cakes made by Jan Batty and all the treats brought by board members. Thanks to Carole Hausmann and Becky Hughes for making the tea after a quick tutorial from me. It was perfect!

### Important Mailing Information

<p><b>Got Email?</b></p>	<p>Our newsletter is quite an expense to mail – we'd love to send it to you via email. Send your email address to Jan Batty at rbatty@wi.rr.com and include your name, home address and phone number and request to get off our snail mail list! Diolch yn fawr!</p> <p>If you get our annual newsletter in the U.S. mail and would like to get updates on Welsh events throughout the year, please send Jan Batty your email address. You will continue to receive the annual newsletter in the U.S. mail but will get periodic email updates on upcoming events.</p>
<p><b>Don't Want Our Newsletter?</b></p>	<p>Do you want to stop receiving our newsletter altogether? Call Jan Batty at 414-861-2202 or email your request to rbatty@wi.rr.com.</p>

## 2025 Christmas Gymanfa Ganu

By Ann Lemmenes—excerpts from article originally published in the January/February 2026 issue of Ninnau



The Christmas Cymanfa Ganu was held in Portage, Wisconsin on November 9, 2025 at the Portage Presbyterian Church. Director Jenafer Lloyd-Jones Humphries had her directing debut. She has a degree in Vocal

Performance from the College Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati and treated us to a performance of “O Holy Night” with Steve Jensen accompanying at the organ.

Jenafer’s husband Robert Humphries and their son Rhys stole the show when they teamed up to read the Christmas story, Luke 2:1-7. Robert read from an old Welsh Morgan Bible which he explained would be what our Welsh settlers heard in the 1800s. Then Rhys read it in English.

The church’s 'Worship Jam' group who were led by their minister, Rev. David Hankins on guitar sang “Light The Fire In My Soul.” Then they asked us to join them by clapping our hands for the next song, an a cappella African “Hallelujah.”

Flutist, Mary Heinze played “Let There Be Peace On Earth” during the offertory.

Robert Humphries charmed us by reading a passage from Dylan Thomas’ s A Child’s Christmas In Wales. The passage was about the neighbor and the fire and cats! :)

After adjusting my location for better lighting, I heard a soprano, bass and tenor behind me to the right: Lori & LaMont Page and Rev. Tom White! So I slid over to stand in front of them and add alto to the quartet. I really enjoy being part of a quartet during a cymanfa ganu. It just heightens the experience.

Originally I had a conflict but at the last minute I was able to come and quickly packed my bone china tea cups and saucers, sugar and creamers, tea pots and cozies, Britta filter pitchers, two electric tea kettles and last but not least Morgan tea & PG Tips Decaf tea into my sleigh. We had beautiful tasty tea to go along with the special abundant treats and fellowship, along with much help from church members.



### “Deuwch, Canwn I’r Arglwydd”

### “Come, Let Us Sing To The Lord”

- If you are interested in supporting the work and programs of The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin, Inc.
- If you would like to honor or memorialize someone and would like recognition in the May Gymanfa Ganu bulletin

**Please complete the following form and check made out to WGGAW by April 28, 2025**

**The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization.**

**SEND TO: Dick Myers, Treasurer—7702 N. Port Washington Road, #309, Fox Point WI 50217**

Donation levels:     \_\_\_ Bardd/Bard \$100.00+  
                           \_\_\_ Noddwr/Patron \$25.00 to \$100.00  
                           \_\_\_ Cyfaill/Friend \$5.00 to \$25.00

Recognition:           Please indicate if you would prefer to remain anonymous (circle one).   **Yes**   **No**

**In Memory of or In Honor of:** (circle one): \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_