

ST DAVIDS SOCIETY

President's 2021 March Newsletter



Celebrated our 40th Anniversary and our 40th St David's Day gathering for the first time on ZOOM A special thank you to overseas past members who joined us.

Thank you to all who joined us for our

40th Anniversary and St. David's Day Event

celebrated on Sunday 28th February.

We gathered online to congratulate ourselves on our 40th Anniversary - a truly impressive event for an organization which was founded on St David's day 1981.

While we had hoped for an Exhibition Reception at the FCCJ, due to the inevitable, we creatively planned a Zoom Celebration combining our annual St David's Day with our Anniversary.

We were thrilled that past members enthusiastically joined in the event creating a reunion atmosphere. We had invited Welsh VIPs to send us video messages and were honored to have wonderful messages from **Jane Hutt MS** Deputy Minister and Chief Whip, **Jim Jones** Managing Director of North Wales Tourism, **Keith Dunn** the Japanese Envoy to Wales, **Robin Walker** the Welsh Government representative in Japan, Welsh Personalities **Hannah Stone** the ex-Royal Welsh Harpist and her husband the famous Welsh Baritone **Bryn Terfel**, Welsh Promotor **Lord Mostyn**, Our founding President **Madoc Batcup** and past member, **Owain Saer**, Headmaster of the British School of Tokyo **Paul Tough**, Chairman of Club Hiraeth **Susumu Kaminaga** and a Japanese member **Cindy Matsuda**, all who sent in appreciative and inspiration messages.



Jane Hutt
Deputy Minister



How our event played out

I began with a PowerPoint I created beginning with BOYS OUT LOUD singing our anthem in scenic locations throughout Wales.



Robin Walker
Welsh Government
Representative

I shared screens and photographs I had collected, creating a memory lane showcasing our members and the around 106 major events we have held over the years, from 40 St. David's Day receptions and Christmas events, to Welsh Rugby pub gatherings, supporting the Celtic festival, organizing Welsh film events, hosting the Eye Mate Christmas Charity Concerts, co-hosting the Welsh Cheese and Beer reception, supporting various Welsh Government events, Teaching Welsh Culture music, song, dance, cooking, etc., holding pub quizzes and ensuring our members have opportunities to network while showcasing Welsh culture to Japan and generally having fun.

Catherine Nagashima said the prayer in Welsh and spoke about the life of St. David. Our Social Secretary Bethany Cummings organized Paul Williams, our resident Minstrel, to sing a selection of our beloved Welsh songs, which we all sang along to. Though, I must say...despite being Welsh, our society is not famous for its singing (as those who attended will agree!) Our treasurer Chris Barnet gave a report on the excellent standing of the societies financial standing.

All of this interspersed with video messages, concluding with Robic Walker, who after his comprehensive overview of the excellent job the Welsh Government office here is doing for Wales Japan development, proposed the final toast, followed with the usual signing of Happy Birthday to Yoko Kobori and some social chat time.

As Cindy said so beautifully in her film, we hope to meet in person on St David's day next year.



Madoc Batcup
Founding President



I believe we can celebrate
St. David's Day by
face to face next year!



Owain Saer
Overseas
member



A selection of just some of
the video messages received.



Jim Jones North Wales Tourism.



Lord Mostyn



Richard Powell Past President



Hannah Stone Ex Royal Welsh
Harpist and her husband Sir Bryn
Terfel Welsh Baritone

Special news

Use this link to Cardiff Cathedral Stations of the Cross in Welsh, read by members of Y Cylch Catholig. Even if you cannot understand Welsh, you can reflect on the pictures of the XIV stations.

Catharine Nagashima our member reads station VII.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2GTMkDBEhs>

From our Kansai Branch.

I hope you enjoyed our online event of "St. David's Week" which was live-streamed from 22nd Feb. to 1st Mar.

But if you missed and/or would like to watch again, here is the archive on Youtube in which the sessions have been uploaded.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNg1F91VwBoOCy5pouvuesQ/videos>

the videos English monolinguals can enjoy below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j31UgOBOFTI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PYxuQO7XVk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xbnJi7vofFM>

Anyone from Swansea.

Check out your new bridge.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-wales-56314670>

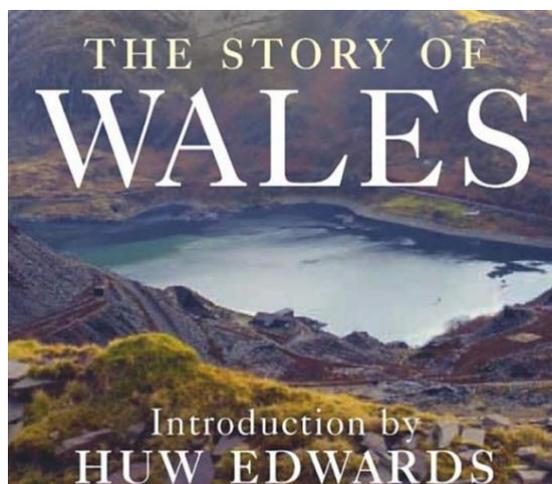
OFFER TO ALUN WYN JONES TO PLAY IN JAPAN!

captain-alun-wyn-jones-19983500?

[.https://www.walesonline.co.uk/sport/rugby/rugby-news/wales-](https://www.walesonline.co.uk/sport/rugby/rugby-news/wales-)

We Lost the Welsh France game...least said soonest mended!

As promised, we will begin our regular Monthly evening event starting with...



This Thursday 25th at 8pm

Meeting ID 956 254 6989

Passcode 9ZkPFP

URL:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8562546989?pwd=b2xtSFdha1BuVWR3aHk4MUVVLM3lEQT09>

Stay safe! Ursula, Bethany, Chris