



The St. David's Welsh Society brings together the various people of the Welsh "village", of the greater Kansas City area and its environs, and their Cornish neighbors, to celebrate the Celtic heritage and spirit.

Membership Information

Annual Dues date - March
Individual - \$10 Family - \$15
Contributing - \$25

Send dues to SDWS
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Contact

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<http://www.kcwelsh.com>

SDWS Board

Evan Ash, *President*
Carolyn Adkins, *Vice President, Hospitality*
Bob Adkins, *Vice President, Program Support*
Larry Griffiths, *Treasurer*
Doug Wyatt, *Secretary, Bywyd Cymreig editor*
At-Large Board Members:
Judith Brougham, Ann McFerrin,
John Schaefer, Katherine Spencer, Sue Walston

Digwyddiadau i ddod - Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 8th at 2 p.m. St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 5325 Nieman Rd, Shawnee Mission, KS - SDWS/KC annual film event featuring the film, **Caught in the Act**, a hilarious, heart-warming 2008 comedy set in the beautiful Welsh valleys, tells of a corrupt parish council embezzling EU money to pay for their decadent lifestyles instead of funding the cultural development of their town. They soon find themselves having to perform the unimaginable task of producing one of the great Shakespearean plays for the most important festival in the EU cultural calendar. Additional commentary by Brad Furnish.

Y gegin Gymreig - The Welsh Kitchen

GLAMORGAN SAUSAGES

1 egg
A little very finely chopped onion
A pinch of mustard
Pepper and salt
5 ozs. bread crumbs
3 ozs. grated cheese

Divide egg yolk from white, mix all dry ingredients and bind with yolk of egg. Divide into small sausages and roll in flour. Dip each into white of egg, then roll in breadcrumbs and fry in pork fat. Serve with creamed potatoes or chips.

Glamorgan sausages are traditionally meatless and are not enclosed in a casing. The mixture is formed into a sausage shape, then pan-fried. Traditionally they were eaten as part of a hearty Welsh breakfast, but nowadays may also be served for lunch or a snack.

Courtesy of Sue Walston.



Cynlluniwch ymlaen! - Plan Ahead!

October – (1st or 2nd weekend) Planned trip to Arvon, KS to visit Historic Welsh Colony near Emporia, KS. Susan Evans Atchison will be tour guide. Ms. Atchison is also active in the preservation of the buildings and sites within this historic colony. Those who are interested in carpooling to Emporia, for this day trip, should contact Evan Ash (frevanash@gmail.com).

Saturday, November 3rd, Shawnee Civic Center, 13817 Johnson Drive, Shawnee, Kansas – Daughters of the British Empire - Brit Faire, **your ideas and help welcomed! Contact a SDWS board member with your offers and suggestions!**

April 5-7, 2019, Great Plains Welsh Heritage Centre, Wymore, Nebraska – “The Great Plains Welsh Gathering”, mark your calendars!



2018 North American Festival of Wales, Aug 30-Sept 2, 2018, Washington, D.C. at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center and Hotel. 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667) and mention group name *NORTH AMERICAN FESTIVAL OF WALES 2018*.

Complimentary shuttle from Reagan National Airport (DCA) Discounted parking for daily visitors \$10 Overnight parking \$20.

Extend your visit, to include the U. S. Capitol, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon, Smithsonian Museums, the National Cathedral and, nearby shops and restaurants of Alexandria Old Town.



Croeso i'n Cylchlythyr Cymreig

Welcome to our Welsh newsletter. The “circular” of the Kansas City Saint David’s Society. My name is Doug Wyatt and I will be assuming the editor duties of “*Bywyd Cymreig*”.

Evan Ash has done an excellent job, over the past few years, as editor of “*Bywyd Cymreig*”. His efforts have kept the Kansas City Saint David’s Society informed of internal and external news that is of interest to our Welsh society. I hope to carry on his great example.

I hope that you will enjoy this issue of “*Bywyd Cymreig*”. Please contact me at

TheWyattsInKC@gmail.com

should you have any comments regarding the content of or ideas for articles in “*Bywyd Cymreig*”.

Respectfully,

Douglas T. Wyatt



Ancient Artifacts Reappearing on The Landscape of Wales (Due to 2018 Drought)

Perhaps you have noticed the extraordinarily warm weather that we have been having this summer in Kansas and Missouri. Rest assured, we in the heartland of the United States are not the only people suffering from extreme heat. Our friends in Wales have actually experienced something of a drought this summer.

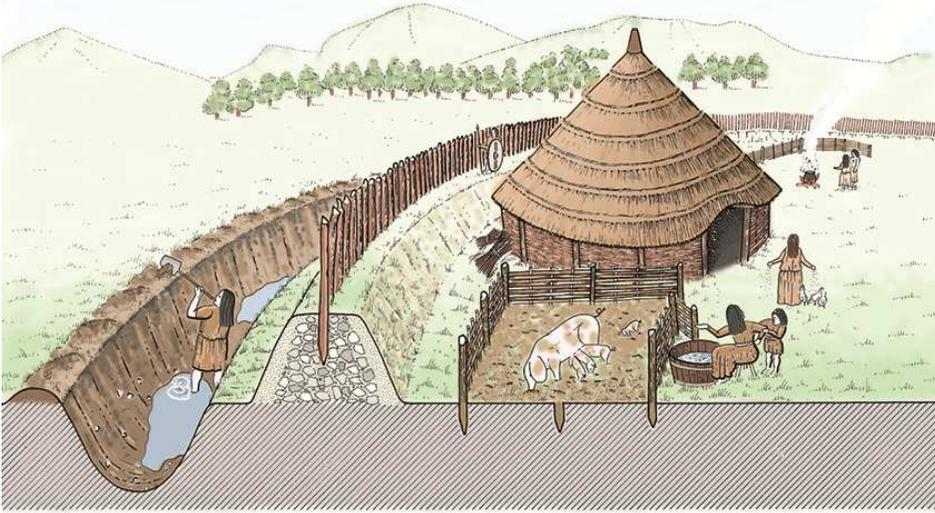
While most of you might find some emotional relief that even a country at higher latitude, than Kansas and Missouri, is having an extremely hot summer, please note that Wales is experiencing an “UP-side” to their 2018 drought.

A number of long-vanished archaeological sites (even some new ones) are becoming more visible on the landscape of Wales. Ancient history is actually ripening in crop fields and parched grassland. Dr Toby Driver, Senior Aerial Investigator, of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (RCAHM) of Wales states that until this summer, he has never witnessed such great archaeological conditions as this since taking over the aerial survey program at the RCAHM in 1997. Many of the archaeological finds are the outlines of ancient agricultural fields from the Bronze Age and earlier prehistoric times.

At Goginan, near Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, the drought has revealed with remarkable clarity a double-ditched early Bronze Age barrow. This circular mound was later used for medieval burials.

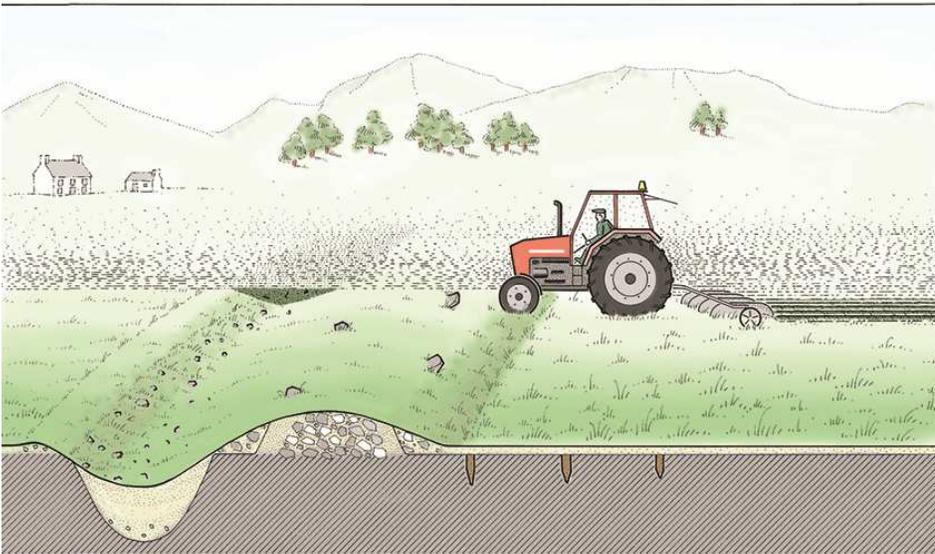


Bronze Age double ditched barrow (later cemetary) at Goginan Wales.

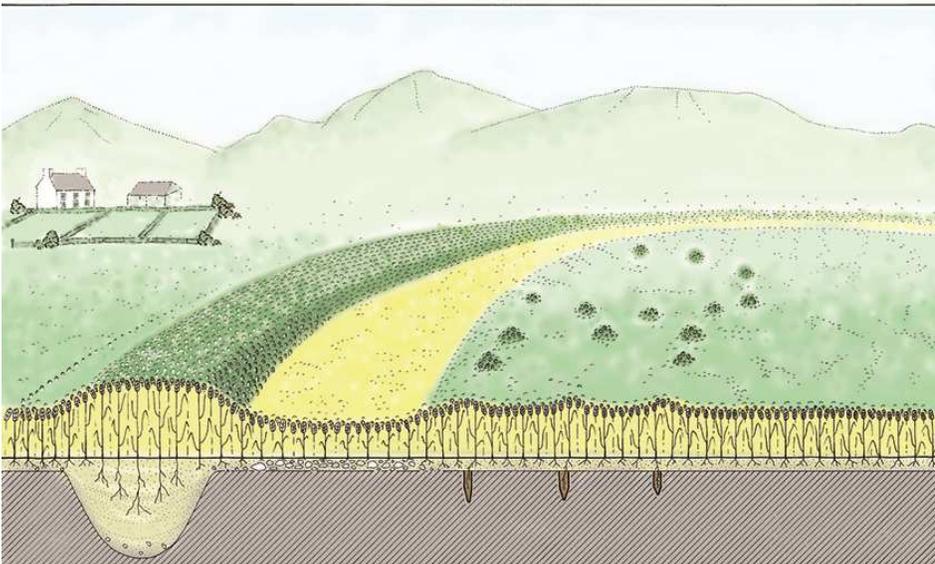


Imagine standing in a Welsh farmer's agricultural field. How would you know if you were standing on the site of an ancient castle or not? Most ancient buildings and structures in Wales and Britain have been completely demolished from the earth's surface a long time ago.

The answer to this dilemma is through the use of aerial photography. Each year the Royal Commission of Ancient and Historic Monuments employs a small fleet of aircraft equipped with special cameras to document the changing landscape of Wales from the air. Countless archaeological sites have been lost to agriculture, destruction and erosion in the centuries since they were first built.



From where you are standing, within that Welsh farmer's field, nothing at ground level remains to show you the position of a prehistoric farmstead or Roman villa. However, beneath the topsoil substantial remains may still survive of buried ditches, wall footings and other features.



Crop markings are a phenomena where the chemistry of buried archeological remains influence the growth and color of modern agricultural harvests which today's farmer has superimposed over them. Old ditches and postholes help crops to grow taller and greener over the more fertile, damp soil in these ancient holes. Walls and the floors of former castles provide a rocky soil formation which will cause modern crops to quickly ripen and

How Cropmarks form on the earth's surface in response to changing weather and planting seasons. Source: RCAHM website <https://rcahmw.gov.uk/>

turn yellow in response to shallow soil and a lack of nutrients. Crop markings can, pretty much, only be seen from the air. Aerial photography is really the only way to see many of the ancient ruins and landscape of ancient Wales.

While "well preserved" ancient ruins are very visible through crop markings, those that are "more quickly fading from the landscape of Wales" can still be observed in low lighting conditions. "Faint" earthworks are best photographed under low, raking sunlight to reveal their patterns in light and shadow. During the summer months late evening shadows can provide ideal conditions, but vegetation can obscure some detail. During winter, especially after the first fall of snow, grass and bracken are low and many upland earthworks can be photographed with breathtaking clarity. The outlines of very faint earthworks become much clearer from the air if photographed in sharp frost or under a light dusting of wind-blown snow.

Medieval Castle “Castell Llwyn Gwinau”



Within the market town of Tregaron in County Ceredigion (previously Cardignshire) are the remains of “Castell Llwyn Gwinau”. Archeologists believe that this fortress was once a “Timber Castle”¹ which would potentially date it to the 11th or 12th centuries. All that remains is a circular mound, some 33m in diameter and 1.6m high, set upon the summit of an isolated hill. Aerial photographs clearly show a ditch about the mound's circumference, this is

believed to be the remains of a medieval motte. A parched stony ring, 2.0m wide & some 18.5m across, about the summit of the mound is thought to represent the remains of a wall. Also, an earth-fast slab on the north-east slopes of the mound is thought to be a step leading to an entrance. As of today, a “bailey”² or inner courtyard cannot be identified amongst the remains. Finding this architectural piece would verify that the site was a medieval castle.

Roman Fortress “Canovium”



(2018 photograph of Canovium)

Since its' excavation in 1926 to 1929, Canovium” the Roman military settlement, has been known and studied by British Archeologists. The summer of 2018 however has brought into view some of the fainter details of this ancient fortification.

Canovium, was set at a strategically important point on a ridge overlooking the Conwy river. It was the last intermediate fort in a defensive chain that ran along the coastal road from Chester to Caernarfon. Roman legions occupied Canovium, with some breaks, from the time of

Agricola's³ campaign in AD 77/8 through to the fourth century. The present day village of Caerhun in Wales surrounds the ancient Roman fortress of “Canovium”.

Canovium centers on an auxiliary fort, a near square stone walled enclosure, 130-140m across. At the foot of the river cliff traces of the bathhouse explored in the early nineteenth century can be seen especially well this summer. The settlement is known to have extended along the ridge to the north, extensive remains being



Canovium with Conwy river in background 12/10/09

glimpsed from the air and in geophysical survey. It was fringed by cemeteries and a possible circular shrine or tomb has been identified on the north (also more visible this summer).

There is some, though not conclusive, evidence that the nearby dock is a Roman structure. Roads are known to have led from the settlement, including those to St Asaph and Tomen-y-Mur.

1. These are the earthwork and **timber castles** of the motte and bailey or ringwork form which were the vast majority of castles of the early conquest period, of the Marches in the 11th and 12th centuries and of the period during the reign of Stephen known as the Anarchy. They could be fairly short lived, although some such castles survived for centuries, with the timber buildings and defences being replaced on occasions sometimes in timber and sometimes in masonry ([Alderton Castle](#) in Northamptonshire was shown in a Time Team excavation to have been built about 1070 and to still have been having high status visitors in the C15-a fine piece of enamels horse harness being found in the gatehouse). Some of the smaller low mottes may have been adapted into moated manor houses, whilst others were abandoned and replaced by manor houses of a more comfortable and domestic nature. Timber castles varied greatly in size with some being massive constructions clearly deserving the term castle, whilst other were small mounds of minor knights and had a similar size, function and social status as the later pele towers. These small mottes are called 'castle' but this could be considered a rather obtuse use of the term. In practice some, possibly many, timber castles may have been revetted in dry stone or even have been revetted with timber walls plastered, limewashed and painted with mock masonry lines. (Source: <http://www.gatehouse-gazetteer.info/key.html>)
2. A **bailey** or **ward** in a fortification is a courtyard enclosed by a curtain wall. In particular, an early type of European castle was known as a Motte-and-bailey. Castles can have more than one bailey. Their layout depends both on the local topography and the level of fortification technology employed, ranging from simple enclosures to elaborate concentric defences. In addition to the gradual evolution of more complex castle plans, there are also significant differences in regional traditions of military architecture regarding the subdivision into baileys (Source: Wikipedia).



3. **Gnaeus Julius Agricola** was a Gallo-Roman general responsible for much of the Roman conquest of Britain. Written by his son-in-law Tacitus, the *De vita et moribus Julii Agricolae* is the primary source for most of what is known about him, along with detailed archaeological evidence from northern Britain. Agricola is known for serving a long term as governor of Britain. He was born on June 13, 40AD and died on August 23rd 93AD. (source: Wikipedia)