

---

Chwefror 2010 February

# Auckland Welsh Club Newsletter

**President's Page**

**Memberships**

**Dai Vinci**

**From the Nest**

**Red Dragons**

**Future Events**



JOIN US AT  
ROCKY NOOK TO CELEBRATE  
ST. DAVID'S DAY

**Please note the clubs contact details have changed to the below, If your details have changed please email the club.**

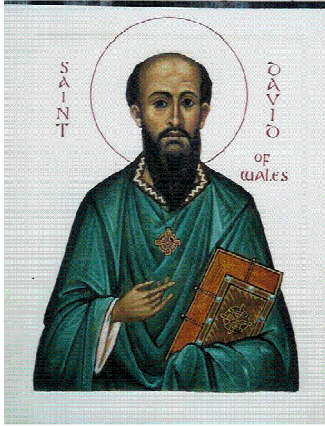
<http://www.aucklandwelshclub.com>

Email: [aucklandwelshclub@gmail.com](mailto:aucklandwelshclub@gmail.com)

PO Box 19555, Avondale, Auckland

(09) 524 7767

---



## Saint David

462-589

Saint David (Dewi Sant) is the patron Saint of Wales, although much is known about the life of Dewi, there is conjecture with regards to the year of his birth. The dates of which range from 462 to 512. However the legend of Dewi extends prenatally with his father and St. Patrick both being told of the one to come. In the case of St. Patrick, he was wishing to make his home in Wales, before he was informed that he was to go to Ireland to make room for Dewi who would be born in 30 years.

A theme that runs through much of the life of Dewi was the restoring of sight to the blind. Firstly healing the sight of his Godfather when the water from his baptism splashed into his eyes. The second restoration was of his tutor St. Paulinus whilst the third was of the King of Erging, Peibio. Following his study under St. Paulinus Dewi founded (or restored) twelve monasteries throughout the land, including Glastonbury, Bath and Leominster. It was whilst he was at Bath that Dewi performed a further miracle. For it was he who depoisoned and warmed the waters here. Dewi also made pilgrimages to Rome and Jerusalem.

Dewi eventually settled and established a monastery in Glyn Rhosyn, where St. David's stands today. He has become well-known for his vegetarianism and throughout his entire life drank only water, giving him the sobriquet of Dewi Ddyfrwr (David the Water Drinker). He prescribed that all monks under him had to plough themselves without the use of animals, and like Dewi himself were to eat only bread with salt and herbs. He did not believe in personal possessions and as such declarations of personal ownership were a punishable offence.

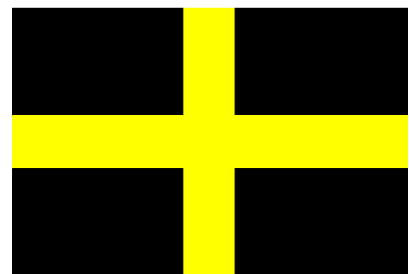
The best known of Dewi's miracles occurred during the Synod of Brefi (Llanddewi Brefi). On his way to the Synod, Dewi raised a widows son from the dead, this boy then gave Dewi a handkerchief. At the Synod which was attended by as many as 160,000 people, no man could hear the person next to him. Until Dewi stood on the ground and as he spoke the ground rose to create a hilltop where he was heard by all. Not only heard but an "audible song of expression, like a bell in fair Llandudoch" As he was speaking Doves were sitting on his shoulders and it is this image that is displayed in much of the iconography. It is said that Dewi's last words were "Be joyful, and keep your faith and your creed. Do the little things that you have seen me do and heard about. I will walk the path that our fathers have trod before us."

After his death, Dewi enabled many souls to enter heaven, it was said that two pilgrimages to St. David's was enough to equate with a pilgrimage to Rome, whilst three would be the equal of one to Jerusalem.

Dewi was canonised in 1123 by Pope Calixtus II.

***To find out more about St. David please read *Buchedd Dewi* by Rhygyfarch***

*The Flag of St. David, a yellow cross with black background.*



## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I hope everyone had a great holiday period and is now back raring to go for the rest of the year. Next up on the Club front is our annual St. David's Day celebrations. This year we are again holding them at Rocky Nook Bowls Club, the home of the Auckland Irish Society in Western Springs. It is a family friendly event and we encourage everyone to bring their families along for a day of celebrations in honour of our National Day. The festivities will run from 3pm and finish at 9pm, there will be Lawn Bowls, Pool, Darts, a BBQ and some childrens activities being run. Please see the advertisement later in this newsletter for more details. The Club Committee has been busy trying to make this a fantastic day for you all. If you want to attend please contact one of your committee for a ticket. We will also be holding a major raffle with some outstanding prizes on offer, please contact one of your committee if you are interested in buying a ticket for that as well.



The Club has already held one succesful event this year in our Mystery Wine Trail and thanks must go to Barrie Partridge for organising it, and Ami Taylor in providing him invaluable aid with the wineries. Val the bus driver again was excellent and a fantastic day was had by all who attended.

With March now on it's way the Club's Football side, the Red Dragons, have started training for the season which begins on 11<sup>th</sup> April, with several friendly fixtures before then, now would be a great time for everyone to get out and support our boys and maybe even join in and play this season. If you are interested in playing for the Red Dragons, please contact the Club and we can provide you all the information you need. Alternatively you can use the forum on [www.aucklandwelshclub.com](http://www.aucklandwelshclub.com) which is now the first port of call for all information about the Club. Details of trainings and games will be posted there first. We encourage all club members to register on the forum and post information and hopefully start some lively debate about a variety of issues.

We would also like to use this forum to network your businesses. If you are a club member and provide a service that could be of use to other club members post on the forum and hopefully some of our members will be able to utilise your service.

In conjunction with this if you are in need of any services, or aid, please do no hesitate to contact someone at the club and we will endeavour to help you through your difficulties.

I take this opportunity to remind everyone that Club Subscriptions are now overdue and if you have not paid please do so immediately. Failure to do so could result in your membership becoming unfinancial and you may lose the opportunity to partake in some of the exciting events which we as a committee have planned for the next twelve months.

I hope to see you all, your friends and family on the 28<sup>th</sup> February at Rocky Nook Bowls Club.

Barrie-John Partridge  
President of the Auckland Welsh Club

## THE DAI VINCI COLUMN

February 17th 2010

I am still recovering from the extraordinary events of last weekend.

We had one of the most dramatic ever finishes to a rugby international, a drunk player arrested the next morning for driving a golf buggy along a motorway, a Scotsman displaying live on TV exactly what he wore under his kilt and another Welsh star offered one million pounds to strip naked for the centrefold of Playboy magazine.



Let us start with the rugby. With Wales trailing Scotland by 24 – 14 with just 4 minutes to play a minor miracle was required to win. As we all know now it happened. In just 5 minutes and 20 seconds Wales scored 17 points to win the game 31 – 24. The massive cheers from the crowd were a mixture of excitement and sheer disbelief at what they had seen. This added extra spice to the after match celebrations in what is always a great weekend with our Scottish rugby visitors.

With no game for 2 weeks the Welsh players joined in the nights celebrations in the city including forward Andy Powell. Upon returning to the team headquarters in the Vale of Glamorgan country hotel in the early hours Andy was disappointed to find no breakfast was being served. With a mate (not one of the Welsh squad) he decided to satisfy his hunger by ‘borrowing’ a golf buggy. He drove it through the darkness of the country lanes and onto the hard shoulder of the M4 motorway for 2 miles arriving at the all night restaurant of the Motorway service centre. His breakfast was interrupted by a policeman who did not share Andy’s sense of humour. The subsequent arrest and charge of drunken driving means Andy is now banned from the Welsh squad.

The media expressed their disgust at the incident but most rugby types will see the humour in this for many years to come.

On the Friday night the BBC Wales news team took the brave decision to broadcast live from Glynneath Rugby club where Scottish rugby team Hawick were being hosted for the weekend. Just before being interviewed live, a visiting Hawick player decided to answer the inevitable question by showing exactly what he wore under his kilt – absolutely nothing. The stone faced lady newsreader managed an apology to the viewers and should be congratulated for not raising a smile. The player concerned has now become a legend on the U-tube website. The president of Glynneath rugby club is none other than local resident Max Boyce who will no doubt have something to say about this in the future.

So who was the Welsh star offered a million pounds to strip naked for Playboy magazine? Our gorgeous mezzo-soprano singer Kathryn Jenkins from Neath, now a world wide star. Sorry boys, Kathryn turned the offer down as she thought her mother would not like it. The power of the Welsh Mam has no boundaries.

Back to the Wales v Scotland game. The dramatic finish should not hide the disappointment of some of the Welsh play. Scotland controlled 60 minutes of the game regularly feeding off our defensive mistakes. The contact area was controlled by the trio called the killer B’s, that is the Scottish back row of Brown, Beattie and Barclay. With the French game next, Wales seriously need much more physical presence in the back and second row especially now that Alun Wyn is out injured.

Some of Garland’s selections are baffling most people particularly Gareth Cooper and Andy Powell. Gareth Cooper has played poorly all season, is second choice for his region but still gets selected. Off form Andy Powell would probably have been dropped

Critics have also questioned Garland's commitment to Wales. Following Wales's humiliating defeat to Australia at the end of November and 9 weeks before the start of the Six-Nations championship, Gatland decided to take a month's holiday in New Zealand. He missed important European Cup games and all the key Welsh derby games over the Christmas and New Year holidays. This was his second long holiday in 6 months.

Following the retirement of our boxing great Joe Calzaghe, another Welsh boxing star is emerging. Nathan Cleverly is the boxer. Cleverly by name, clever by educational standards. Unusually, this boy is a university student who will be getting his degree in mathematics from Cardiff University in May. Nathan from Cefn Forest and trained in Bargoed, has just won the European light heavyweight title adding to his British and Commonwealth titles.

Cymru am byth  
Dai Vinci

The followers of Penny Bont will no doubt be missing her monthly column, she has been rather busy the last three months went home to Welsh Wales had to dig her way into the valley covered with 10ft of snow had her 23rd birthday raised hell with the Welsh Team at the Wellington sevens, moved house then actually had a conversation with Tom Jones. Very Busy lady. But she will be back next month, with all the gossip.



Barrie P.

\*\*\*\*\*



Wales Tour of NZ 2010

June 19th Dunedin

June 26th Hamilton



The club will be organizing buses and hotels for these games for the weekend and in Hamilton also a bus for the day. We will probably be able to arrange the Match tickets also. It will be first in gets first choice and even though **FOUR** months away you would be wise to book your place **NOW**.

There will be a limited amount of tickets available, contact the club by email or phone to book your interest **TODAY**.

## VIEW FROM THE NEST



Where does the time go, two months of the 2010 have gone in the Blink of an Eye there as been some memorable sporting events in that time but none as great as on the 14th of February in Cardiff. I was sitting watching the Wales v Scotland game in the early hours of the morning. Hundreds were streaming from the ground disappointed by the game and settling for a draw. Then a diminutive Giant gave a new hope to a team which had up to that point performed badly, the team which for some unknown reason to the supporters have lost their fighting spirit which had maintained them for the last couple of years, the answer must lie with the management and they have take a serious look at themselves why this has happened.

Shane had tremendous influence over the game as a whole, made a try saving “mark” against what appeared to me two eight foot Scottish forwards. He then gave a perfectly timed pass to Lee Bryne to score a try. Eighty minutes were up then there was 2-5 minutes of sublime rugby football , not a pass dropped or knocked on by a single Welsh player. The move then finished off by the rugby genius Shane Williams . Their victory snatched out of the ashes of defeat and the humiliation of a bad forward display throughout the game. It reminded me very much of the Scott Gibb try against England that defeated England in 1999 at Wembley.

Our next game is Friday against France should we beat them we have another opportunity to be Six Nations Champions ,I live in Hope.

The Super 14 this year has been reduced to a cross between basketball and Touch Rugby And it is very difficult for the rugby purist to enjoy this kind of rugby , Eighteen tries in one game more like schoolboy rugby in my opinion. Defenses are now totally negated by the new interpretation of the tackle ball rule by the referees . This style of play suits the Southern Hemisphere but not the North with their months of bad weather. I cannot see the crowds flooding back to watch.

The Blues– have shown much promise in the first half of their games so far only to disintegrate into their old ways and seem to be unable to catch the ball, they probably destined to have another mid table finish to look forward too.

The arrangements with Teachers-Eastern are going smoothly for the Rugby World Cup. Keep an Eye on the newsletter for huge events which are going to happen over the next two years . The Welsh Club in connection with this and our association with teams in Wales and Choral groups will be a hotbed of activity.

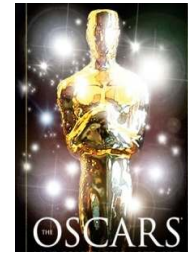
**Catch you later : Barrie P.**

## Welsh at the Oscars.

Considering that the Welsh are well known for their verbal flair and way with the written word it is perhaps not surprising to find that at the annual Oscar words there has been some strong representation.



The first major Oscar Winner with a Welsh background was Ray Milland, who won the Best Actor Oscar for his role in the outstanding Billy Wilder film "The Lost Weekend" in 1945. In this film Milland played an alcoholic writer suffering from Writers Block, this performance is considered one of the finest portrayals of a self destructive alcoholic and holds up well today, filled with the acerbic dialogue that Wilder became renowned for, Milland dominates the screen and takes you on a riveting journey into the dark recesses of his soul. Sadly Milland never ever recaptured this level of performance but remained an actor of note throughout the remainder of his career in Hollywood, an interesting film in his oeuvre is the B-Movie "X-The Man With the X-ray Eyes" one of the more successful productions from the Roger Corman film factory.



From a stunning cinematic depiction of alcoholism to perhaps one of its more tragic real life practitioners. Richard Burton was the perpetual Bridesmaid at the Oscars. Nominated for seven awards over a period of twenty five years for some of the finest acting in silver screen history, Burton left every award ceremony without a statuette of his own. Many of his notable performances occurred during the 1960's, of particular worth are his performances in "Becket", "The Spy Who Came in From the Cold" and "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?". Each of these performances displays a different technical aspect of Burton's range, each within a distinct genre and together demonstrate a man in complete control of his craft. With very few of the winning performances in the years he was nominated being even comparable to Burton, it leads one to conclude that maybe his status as a celebrity overshadowed his obvious acting gifts in the eyes of the Academy. In this author's eyes at least he was along with Peter O'Toole the finest actor of either gender in the 1960's.



Anthony Hopkins during the 1990's began to be a regular on the Oscar telecast with multiple nominations in a range of roles. From his Oscar Winning role in 1991's "The Silence of the Lambs" where he was the very embodiment of the charming serial killer Hannibal Lector through to his genuinely remarkable Stevens in "The Remains of the Day" in 1993, Hopkin's roles ran the gamut, much like Burton's in the 1960's. Every performance oozed class, he could break your heart as with his Stevens or C. S Lewis ("Shadowlands") or make you sympathies with a modern day Monster as he did in his nominated portrayal of the title character in Oliver Stone's "Nixon". Unfortunately it now seems as though Hopkins has decided to work more for the paycheque than for the craft as his performances in recent years have displayed a disturbing diminishment in quality, very few of his recent films have any merit.

No discussion of the Welsh and the Oscars can be complete without mentioning "How Green Was My Valley". Although not filmed in Wales, nor starring any Welshmen in any major role, The film nevertheless manages to recreate the popular Richard Llewellyn book and create a truly heartwarming cinematic experience. One of the most controversial Oscar selections of all time – not so much for the quality of the film itself, as it remains one of the finest films ever made, but because of it's victory of the much more vaunted critically "Citizen Kane". "How Green Was My Valley" won six Oscars including Best Picture and Best Director for John Ford. The film is still remarkable today for it's exquisite cinematography and the touching performance of it's young lead Roddy McDowall as Huw.

Welsh people have been involved in making movies since the founding of Hollywood, this will be a regular article in newsletter.



Barrie-John Partridge  
Barrister BCOM/LLB LLM (Hons.)

Available for instruction in:

- \* Employment Law.
- \* Immigration.
- \* Work Licences.

AVAILABLE  
24/7

Call us today and see  
how we can help.

Phone: +6493779434  
Mobile: +64212941078  
email: bjartridge@pl.net

**FIXTURES**  
 Feb 28th  
 1:30 kick off .  
 Los Halcones Locos  
 Riversdale Rd. Avondale  
 March 7th  
 T.B.A.  
 March 14th  
 3:00 Greenhithe Park  
 Greenhithe Liquor  
 ( Saturday)  
 March 20th  
 Western Villa  
 2:00  
 March 27th  
 The Wanderer's  
 2:00



*The Only Welsh Bar in the  
Southern Hemisphere!*  
**(04) 385-6566**  
*Sponsor of the Red Dragons*  
*Middle of Cambridge Tce and Kent Tce, Wellington*



Flora McLeod  
Customer Service - Production  
floram@scoresportswear.co.nz  
+649 828 7430

*Sponsor of the Red Dragons*



The squad as been strengthened this year with the introduction of new blood and the ever working regulars of last years team, and there is a great spirit looking forward to the new season. Which starts officially after Easter on April 10th we have friendlies till then and all new players will be welcome. If you know anyone who is interested please go to our website [www.aucklandwelshclub.com](http://www.aucklandwelshclub.com) and register on the forum under Red Dragons and I will contact you.



RED DRAGONS 2009

# St. David's Day

28th of February 2010

Tickets \$15

Limited Availability

3pm—9pm

Phone: (09) 524 7767

## Rocky Nook Bowls Club, Fowlds Park, Western Springs

Join the Auckland Welsh Club in celebrating  
St. David's Day—  
The National Day of Wales.

A day of Family Fun, including  
Live Celtic Entertainment,

Lawn bowls, Pool, Darts,

Childrens activities. BBQ  
Ticket price includes food.

### HOW TO GET THERE:

<http://www.zoomin.co.nz/map/nz/auckland/-rocky+nook+bowling+club/>

### **MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT OF AUCKLAND WELSH CLUB NOW DUE .**

The fees this year will remain the same as last, because we are very aware of the economy today.

Single \$25, Family \$35 all new members will pay this amount. If you paid after June 2009 you are paid up.

This year for a short period there will be discount for prompt payment for existing members \$20 Single, Family \$30. Please send your cheque to our P.O.Box or if you wish pay direct into bank account:

ASB 123039– 0725387– 00 ref no **YOUR Name**

## FUTURE EVENTS

**FEB: 28TH** ST. DAVID'S CELEBRATION  
FULL DETAILS PAGE NINE.

**APRIL** START OF RED DRAGONS SUNDAY  
LEAGUE DETAILS PAGE EIGHT WE ARE AL-  
WAYS LOOKING FOR NEW PLAYERS.

**MAY** : DATE AND TIME TO BE ARRANGED  
TRIVIA PURSUIT NIGHT AT TEACHERS /  
EASTERN RUGBY CLUB FULL DETAILS NEXT  
MONTH.

**FEES ARE NOW DUE SEE  
PAGE NINE FOR DETAILS  
OF PAYMENT.**

### Committee Contact Details

*(all correspondence to be directed to Secretary)*

Pres.	B-J Partridge	021 2941078
V-P	Barrie Partridge	021 1086937
Treas	Melanie Peet	09-4835500
Sec	Ami Taylor	021 02905731

### Committee

Rob Addy	021 2118272
George Parry	09 420 2177
Meredydd Barrar	836 6389
Adam Taylor	021 646864
Jamie Bartlett	021 2176125
Nick Hale	021 0565090
Frankie Roberts	021 1272078

Next Committee Meeting: 7:00pm 7th  
December 2009, Galbraiths Alehouse,

**Please Note: The Clubs new contact details are  
as follows.**

**Postal:** PO Box 19555, Avondale, Auckland  
**Email:** aucklandwelshclub@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.aucklandwelshclub.com

Thanks to the contributors to this newsletter who included: Barrie Partridge, B-J Partridge, John Dowden Sharon  
marsh. If you wish to have an article or opinion to place in the next newsletter please forward it to the club email  
address:

aucklandwelshclub@gmail.com

### Wales Rugby Tour 2010

19th June (Dunedin)

26th June (Hamilton)

AWC will be organizing bus trips and events  
surrounding the two test match dates. Tick-  
ets will be extremely limited for these events,  
so be advised to register your interest .

Phone: 524-7764

### Barrie-John Partridge

Barrister BCOM/LLB LLM (Hons.)

Available for instruction in:

- \* Employment Law.
- \* Immigration.
- \* Work Licences.

AVAILABLE  
24/7

Call us today and see  
how we can help.

Phone: +6493779434  
Mobile: +64212941078  
email: bjpartridge@pl.net

**The Gentry**  
**Barbers**  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY



Ask about our  
Welsh Club  
Member Discount

Opening Hours  
M-F: 6AM - 6PM  
Sat: 6AM - 2PM  
MOB: 021 071 1191

39 Point Chevalier Road  
(Next to "Domino's Pizza")  
Point Chevalier

**If you are in need of assistance at any  
time, or know of any member who may  
need a bit of help or support, can you  
please contact a committee member.  
We cannot help you if we don't know  
where help is needed**

### Sponsors of the Red Dragon's

B-J Partridge - Barrister	377 9434
Barrie Partridge	
Auckland Welsh Club	524 7767
ScoreSportswear Flora	828 7430