About the Association for Welsh Writing in English: This is the twenty-fifth annual conference of the Association of Welsh Writing in English to be held at Gregynog Hall in Powys. From the outset, AWWE’s aims have been to stimulate interest in Welsh writing in English in universities, schools, colleges, among the people of Wales and beyond. The Association has been active in arranging for the republication of texts long out of print, encouraging students to discover and analyse this rich body of writing and promoting awareness of Wales’s literary heritage.

The annual AWWE conference is open to everyone and has a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. It offers an opportunity to meet and hear contemporary Welsh writers read their work and to listen to papers both by established scholars and postgraduate students at the forefront of research in the field. Readings and lectures are supplemented by fresh and lively discussions and debates. The conference has a different theme every year. This year’s theme has attracted great interest and has resulted in a diverse and stimulating programme of speakers.

AWWE welcomes you warmly to the annual conference.

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The conference bookshop is organized on behalf of the AWWE by Dr Lucy Thomas, Welsh Books Council and the AWWE is very grateful to the WBC for their continued support.

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Conference Organisers: Dr Kirsti Bohata or Dr Matthew Jarvis at k.bohata@swansea.ac.uk / m.jarvis@tsd.ac.uk
Friday, 22 March

2.00 – 5.00 Registration

2.30 – 4.00 AWWE AGM (Library) All Welcome

3.00 – 4.00 Postgraduate/Early Career Session (Seminar Room 1)
Chair: Peter Barry
Publishing your first book, with Angharad Watkins, Commissioning Editor, University of Wales Press

4.00 – 5.00 Tea/Coffee

5.00-6.00pm (Seminar Room 1)
R S Thomas Centenary Panel
Chair: Kirsti Bohata
M. Wynn Thomas & Tony Brown

6.00 – 7.00 (Common Room)
Book launch & wine reception

7.00 – 8.00 Dinner

8.15 – 9.30 Keynote & Tribute (Seminar Room 1)
Chair: Matthew Jarvis
A tribute to the late Tony Conran (1931–2013), with M. Wynn Thomas and Tony Brown, followed by:

Keynote Lecture 1:
Professor Damian Walford Davies, 'The Protagonists: Brenda Chamberlain’s Greek Agon'.

The bar will be open after the lecture.

Saturday 23 March

8.00 – 9.30 Breakfast

9.30 – 11.00 Parallel Session 1

1a) Transformations (Seminar Room 1)
Chair: Tony Brown
Anwen Jones & Rowan O’Neill, ‘New Maps of Wales’
Reuben Knutson, ‘Blasting History into the Present: Reinventing the Rural Imaginary in a 1970s Welsh Landscape’
Andy Webb, ‘Anglophone Welsh Responses to Reservoir Construction’

1b) Mapping the Nation (Seminar Room 2)
Chair: Jane Aaron
Mary-Anne Constantine, “Curt Fritter’d Fragments”: Thomas Pennant’s Heart of Darkness
Elizabeth Edwards, “Varying Visions”: Richard Llwyd’s Beaumaris Bay (1800)
B. M. Jenkins, ‘Lewis Morris: Mapping the Edge of Empire’

11.00 – 11.30 Tea/Coffee (Blaney Room)

11.30 – 1.00 Parallel Session 2

2a) Placing Literature (Seminar Room 1)
Chair: Daniel Williams
Jon Anderson & Sarah Morse: ‘Page & Place: Ongoing Compositions of Plot’ & ‘Plotting theory, mapping texts’
Bronwen Price, ‘Literary Tourism’
2b) Writing Places 1 (Seminar Room 2)
Chair: Andy Webb
Martin Locock, “At Ystrad Fflur”: the Strata Florida Landscape in the Poetic Imagination
Louise Chamberlain, “Thresholds of Environment in Zoë Skoulding’s Remains of a Future City and Patrick McGuinness’s Jilted City
Pippa Marland, “The stained bones underground feel our dancing measure”: an ecocritical exploration of the “relational choreographies” of Bardsey Island (Ynys Enlli) in the work of Brenda Chamberlain and Christine Evans’

1.00 – 2.00 Lunch

2.00 – 3.00 Keynote 2 (Seminar Room 1)
Chair: Kirsti Bohata
Robert Clark, ‘Critical Literary Geography’

3.00 – 4.00 Parallel Session 3

3a) Contemporary Poetry (Seminar Room 1)
Chair: Liz McAvoy
Neal Alexander, ‘Senses of place: Jo Shapcott’s border country’
Alice Entwistle, “Forms of Address”: reading/writing topos, topography and topology in some contemporary poetry

3b) Place in the Public Eye (Seminar Room 2)
Chair: M. Wynn Thomas
Malcolm Ballin, “Where are you from?” Place and origins in short fiction in Dock Leaves
Sally Roberts Jones, ‘A Sense of Place: Regional or Universal?’

4.00 – 4.30 Tea/Coffee and Cake (Blayney Room)

4.30 – 5.30 Parallel Session 4

4 a) Masculine Modernities (Seminar Room 1)
Chair: Andy Webb
Steve Hendon ‘The Landscape of Particular Men’: Representations of First World War Masculinities: David Jones and Llewelyn Wyn Griffith’
Tomos Owen, ‘Wales at Three Miles an Hour: W.H. Davies, Ernest Rhys and Walks through South Wales’

4b) Radio Drama (Seminar Room 2)
Chair: Alyce von Rothkirch
Liza Penn-Thomas, ‘Underground - a Dark and Dangerous Liminal Place’
Lucy Gough, ‘Shapeshifting and the Rhythm of Landscape in Audio Drama’

6.00 – 7.00 Research Posters (Seminar Room 1)
(with a wine reception)
Researchers present new research projects in the field, including: Devolved Voices, Mapping Writing, Disability and Industrial Society, Malaysian & Welsh Women’s Writing, Dylan Thomas.

7.00 – 8.00 Dinner

8.30 – 9.30 Creative Keynote (Seminar Room 1)
Chair: Mary-Ann Constantine
Tristan Hughes: “the pattern more complicated”: Crossing the Bridge and Writing Home’
Sunday, 24 March

8.00-9.30 Breakfast

9.30 – 11.00 Parallel Session 5

5a) Women’s Writing: 1920s to WWII (Seminar Room 1)
Chair: Alice Entwistle
Michelle Deininger, ““A Store-House of the Past”: Narratives of Community, Auto-Ethnography and the Short Story in Wales”
Diana Wallace, ‘Figures in a landscape: place, gender and history in the fiction of Hilda Vaughan’
Siriol McAvoy, ‘The re-enchantment of domestic space in the work of Lynette Roberts’

5b) Underworlds and Otherworlds (Seminar Room 2)
Chair: Tomos Owen
Katriona Mackay, ‘Underworlds Regained in Malcolm Pryce’s Aberystwyth and Torchwood’s Cardiff’
Paul Vigor, “... drums, drums in the deep”: A literary archaeology of a fantasy war

11.00 – 11.30 Tea/Coffee

11.30 – 1.00 Parallel Session 6

6a) Contemporary Writing (Seminar Room 1)
Chair Matthew Jarvis
Emma Schofield, ““The things I ought to have been”: Escaping Nostalgia and Seeking a New Place in 1990’s Anglophone Welsh Writing’
Lisa Sheppard, ‘Pulling Pints, Not Punches? The Pubs of Contemporary Welsh Fiction and Improving Linguistic, Cultural and Gender Relations’

Georgia Burdett, ‘Quests of psycho-physical recovery in the Welsh landscape: the novels of Lloyd Jones’

6b) Writing Places 2 (Seminar Room 2)
Chair: Lucy Thomas
Gwyneth Tyson Roberts, ““The fair sequester’d vale”: Jane Williams (Ysgafell)’s early poems of place’
Rita Singer, ‘Bicultural Geographies: Narrating Anglo-Welsh Identities in the Novels of Allen Raine’
Steven Lovatt, ‘Location and dislocation in the fictions of Dorothy Edwards’

1.00 – 2.00 Lunch and home