

Introduction to Welsh Polytheism

What is Welsh Polytheism? A modern religion attempting to bring ancient beliefs and to an extent culture of the Brythonic speaking peoples into a modern context. Various terms for Welsh Polytheism.

Amldduwiaeth

Paganiaeth

Who are the Brythons (Britons)?

An ancient Insular Celtic people that spoke the Brittonic language. They lived in the territory known as Britannia during the Iron Age and after the Roman Occupation.

Who are the Welsh?

Either speak or have ancestors who spoke a variation of ancient Welsh. Live in the modern country known as Wales, which is a part of the United Kingdom and Great Britain. Participate in a cultural continuum with the Ancient Welsh peoples.

Worldview

The three worlds

Awyr, Wybren, Nen, or Albbu: Names for the Upperworld or Sky (until something better comes to describe it)

Byd: Our world as we dwell on it

Anwnn: The Otherworld, the world of youth or the Underworld

Bilios: World tree that links the three worlds (No Welsh name for it yet)

Virtues and Ethics

- **Wyneb:** Honor or literally face (think saving face or reputation)
- **Dilys:** Loyalty or literally 'authentic'. (Refers to consistency and permanence)
- **Dewrder:** Courage
- **Atebolrwydd:** Responsibility/Accountability
- **Cyfiawnder:** Justice
- **Nerth:** Strength
- **Buddugoliaeth:** Victory
- **Wyneb:** Honor

Gods and Spirits

Duw - God

Duwiau - Gods

Duwies - Goddess

Duwiau and Duwies

UPG will be noted.

Arawn – At one time sole king of Annwn, hunting god, psychopomp (UPG), shapechanger, associated with the Wild Hunt and the Cŵn Annwn

Beli Mawr – Great ancestor, like Dis Pater or possibly Belatonos, death god, possible consort of Rhiannon at one time (UPG)

Belyn – Modern Welsh name of Belenos, the skinning one, often taken as a solar deity

Bran – The blessed one, war god, possible sun god, cauldron god, giant, music

Cernwn – Modern Welsh name of Cernunnos, a god of liminality, opener or traveler of worlds, wildlife god

Ffraed – Modern Welsh name for Brigantia, the high one, possibly a solar goddess

Gwyn (ap Nudd) – Son of Nudd, winter king, psychopomp, possible king of Annwn, associated with the Wild Hunt

Modron – a mother goddess, possible mother of Mabon

Rhiannon – horse goddess, possible name of Epona/Rigantona, goddess of sovereignty

Taran – Modern name for Taranis, thunder god, wielder of the wheel, sky god

Spirits and other beings

Ysbrydion Y Tir – literally spirits of the land (KangarooJesus thank you again for these!)

Ysbrydion Y Tŷ – literally spirits of the house

Teidiau – Ancestors

Hynafiaid Gwaed – Blood ancestors, those of your genetic lineage

Cerrig Hynafiaid – Stone ancestors, those who shared the land and culture with your blood ancestors, but were not genetically related to you

Hynafiaid Ysbryd – Spirit ancestors, those who share tenuous cultural heritage but whose presence in the landscape continues to inspire us in some way

Plant Annwn – Children of Annwn

Tylwyth Teg – Umbrella term for faeries, Middle Welsh for 'Fair Family', UPG* I believe they are a continuation of andedion, rather than the traditionally thought of faeries. Another couple of names for them that I use would be Ellyllon and Gwyllion.

Adar Llwhch Gwin - giant birds that understand human languages

Afanc - a lake monster

Ceffyl Dŵr - a water horse similar to the Kelpie

Cewri - Giants such as Ysbaddaden Bencawr from Culhwch and Olwen, and Bendigeidfran from the Four Branches of the Mabinogi.

Coblynau - little people and mine spirits (like the Knocker (folklore))

Coraniaid - a mysterious race of beings who plagued the Island of Britain

Cŵn Annwn - hunting dogs of the Otherworld

Cyhyraeth - death spirit

Gwiddonod -Witches, old women who could cast spells over people and animals, ride broomsticks through the air, tell fortunes, and use charms to heal and cause diseases. They could take the form of a hare, and could only be killed with a silver bullet. Only Y Dyn Hysbys (The Wise Man) could undo the harm the cause.

Dreigiau - Dragons, the most famous being Y Ddraig Goch.

Y Dyn Hysbys - The Wise Man, or wizard. These could be clerics, men who learned about medicine and black magic from books, and those who claimed to inherit power from their families and thus could foresee the future, particularly on an Ysbrydnos, and give charms to ward off evil.

Gwyllgi - a large black dog that haunts lonely roads.

Llamhigyn y Dŵr - a frog-bat-lizard hybrid

Morgens - water spirits

Plentyn Newid - the Welsh take on the Changeling creature.

Pwca - shapeshifting animal spirit

Ysbrydion - spirits, which are more likely to come in contact with humans on an Ysbrydnos or "spirit night" (see Calan Gaeaf, Calan Mai)

Work in Progress

Holy Places

Nyfed – Holy place

Holidays

Calan Gaeaf, Ysbrydnos

Gŵyl Rhiannon, Midwinter, Eponalia (possibly Mari Lwyd)

Gŵyl Braidd

Gŵyl Gwanwyn

Gŵyl Belyn, or Calan Haf

Gŵyl Mabon

Gŵyl Llew Law Gyffes

Calan Hydref

Ritual

Credit someone named **Dormarth** made this I fixed a few things but yeah I have been trying to find this person. This still has a lot to go this seems to be somewhat of a foundation for one to build on.