

Draig Werdd



Newsletter – December 2003

Cylchlythyr – Rhagfyr 2003

Season's greetings from Draig Werdd and best wishes for 2004, with the hope that the new year brings you closer to achieving your aims in life.

Our own aims in Draig Werdd for the new year centre around furthering our objectives through increased participation in events of Welsh interest in Ireland and conveying an increased awareness of Wales in Ireland and in the world at large. Don't forget, it's up to each one of us as individuals to represent Wales – there's no-one else out there doing it for us!

To help us to achieve these aims, we need to:

- Increase our membership. We'd like to double our contact list by the end of 2004. The more contacts we have, the better we can fulfil our objectives. All it requires is for everyone to send us one new contact name, and we'll have met our target. So if you know of any Welsh person living in Ireland, or anyone here who's interested in Welsh affairs, send us an email address or phone number. You can contact Draig Werdd via email (post@draigwerdd.org), or by phoning Geraint Waters on 01-2822386.
- Increase the level of feedback from members. This includes information about events of Welsh interest in Ireland, political or economic developments which would be of interest to other members, or issues which you feel need a co-ordinated response from Draig Werdd. Please contact us via email or telephone if you have any information of this kind.

To help us achieve our aims, we are inviting you to become a "Friend of Draig Werdd" for 2004. As you know, Draig Werdd has no membership subscription, but a voluntary contribution of 10 Euro from each member would help us meet our running costs, implement improvements on the website etc. and help to increase the number of social functions organised during the year. Just fill in the attached form and send it back to us.

In the meantime, best wishes once again for 2004 and we hope to see you at one of our functions during the course of the year.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Dec 12/19: Dublin Welsh choir will be out on the streets singing Christmas carols once again this year. They will be at the spire in O'Connell Street from 6-7pm on Friday, Dec 12th, and in Grafton Street from 6:30-8pm on Friday, Dec 19th. Why not go along and hear them sing, or even better, sing along with them?

Cyfarchion y tymor i chi oddi wrth Draig Werdd a phob dymuniad da ar gyfer 2004, gan obeithio y daw'r flwyddyn newydd â chi'n nes at gyflawni eich hamcanion mewn bywyd.

Yn ystod y flwyddyn newydd byddwn ni yn Draig Werdd yn ceisio hyrwyddo ein hamcanion drwy gael mwy o bobl i gymryd rhan mewn digwyddiadau Cymreig yn Iwerddon a thrwy gyfleu gwell ymwybyddiaeth o Gymru yn Iwerddon a'r byd tu hwnt. Cofiwch fod gofyn i ni oll gynrychioli Cymru fel unigolyn - does neb arall am wneud hynny drosom!

I'n cynorthwyo i gyflawni'r amcanion hyn, mae gofyn:

- *Cynyddu ein haelodaeth. Hoffem ddyblu ein rhestr gysylltiadau erbyn diwedd 2004. Po fwyaf o enwau sydd gennym, gorau oll y medrwn gyflawni ein hamcanion. Y cwbl sydd ei angen yw i bawb yrru un enw newydd atom, a byddwn wedi cyraedd y nod. Felly, os gwyddoch am unrhyw Gymro neu Gymraes sy'n byw yn Iwerddon, neu unrhyw un sy'n byw yma ac yn ymddiddori mewn materion Cymreig, gyrrwch y cyfeiriad e-bost neu'r rhif ffôn atom. Gallwch gysylltu â Draig Werdd drwy'r e-bost (post@draigwerdd.org), neu trwy ffônio Geraint Waters ar 01-2822386.*
- *Cynyddu'r ymateb gan aelodau. Mae hyn yn cynnwys gwybodaeth am ddigwyddiadau Cymreig yn Iwerddon, datblygiadau gwleidyddol neu economaidd a fyddai o ddiddordeb i aelodau eraill, neu faterion y credwch y dylai Draig Werdd roi ymateb cyfun iddynt. Cysylltwch â ni drwy'r e-bost neu'r ffôn os bydd gennych unrhyw wybodaeth o'r fath.*

I'n cynorthwyo i gyflawni ein hamcanion, fe'ch gwahodddwn i ddod yn "Gyfaill Draig Werdd" yn ystod 2004. Fel y gwyddoch nid oes yw Draig Werdd yn codi tâl aelodaeth, ond byddai cyfraniad gwirfoddol o 10 Ewro gan bob aelod yn ein cynorthwyo i dalu'n treuliau gweinyddol, gwneud gwelliannau ar y safle we ac ati, a helpu i gynyddu nifer y digwyddiadau cymdeithasol y gallwn eu trefnu bob blwyddyn. Nid oes raid ond llenwi'r ffurflen amgaeedig a'i yrru'n ôl atom ni.

Yn y cyfamser, y dymuniadau gorau unwaith eto i chi yn 2004, a gobeithio y gwelwn chi yn un o'n digwyddiadau yn ystod y flwyddyn.

DYDDIADAU I'W NODI

Rhag 12/19: Bydd Côr Meibion Cymry Dulyn allan unwaith eto eleni, yn canu carolau ar y strydoedd. Bydden nhw yn O'Connell Street o 6-7pm ar nos Wener, Rhagfyr 12ed, ac yn Grafton Street o 6:30-8pm ar nos Wener, Rhagfyr 19eg. Ewch i'w clywed ar y noson, neu yn well byth, cenwch gyda nhw!

- **Botanic Gardens face closure**
30/09/2003 The National Botanic Garden of Wales could face closure after being refused crucial funding from the Welsh Assembly Government – unless a last-minute rescue package is agreed upon.
- **Terfel stars at new opera home**
30/09/2003 Welsh star Bryn Terfel is to feature in new productions planned by the Welsh National Opera when it moves to its new home at the Wales Millennium Centre.
- **Wales to lobby EU over feared demise of Objective One funding**
03/10/2003 The poorest areas of Wales will lobby European politicians over fears that emergency funding could soon dry up.
- **67% o blaidd yr Aeleg**
06/10/2003 Yn ôl arolwg sydd newydd ei gyhoeddi, mae dros ddwy ran o dair o Albanwyr yn ystyried bod yr Aeleg yn rhan bwysig o fywyd y wlad.
- **Chicago Tafia beats Welsh groups' decline**
06/10/2003 Welsh-American societies are in danger of becoming dinosaurs, according to a new report.
- **Trafod tai lleol i bobol leol**
08/10/2003 Mae Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Arfordir Penfro'n cyfarfod i drafod y polisi o dai lleol i bobol leol.
- **Pressure to mark Glyndwr triumph**
10/10/2003 Admirers of Owain Glyndwr have called on First Minister Rhodri Morgan to officially recognise the 600th anniversary next year of his founding of the first Welsh parliament at Machynlleth.
- **Deddf i warchod yr Aeleg**
10/10/2003 Mae disgwyl i Brif Weinidog yr Alban, Jack McConnell, gyhoeddi manylion deddf i warchod yr iaith Aeleg.
- **Tory calls for new vote on devolution**
27/10/2003 Conservative AM David Melding will tonight throw down the gauntlet to his party, warning that unless they back plans for a full Welsh Parliament they will lose all chance of having an influential role in Welsh politics.
- **Cystadlu yn Eisteddfod Y Wladfa**
28/10/2003 Cafodd Eisteddfod arbennig yn cael ei chynnal y penwythnos hwn a hynny 8,000 o filltiroedd i ffwrdd ym Mhatagonia. Cafodd Eisteddfod y Wladfa ei chynnal yn y Clwb Hwyllo yn Nhrelew
- **A train North to South 'every two hours'**
07/11/2003 Travel between North and South Wales is to be radically improved with a direct train every two hours.
- **Party attitude to Welsh questioned**
07/11/2003 Former Welsh Secretary Ron Davies has attacked his party's attitudes to the Welsh language as he prepares for his first major speech since leaving the assembly.

Disclaimer: Draig Werdd cannot guarantee the accuracy of any information or news item contained in this newsletter.

- **And for your specialist subject ...**
14/11/2003 New Shadow Welsh Secretary Bill Wiggin came to Wales yesterday for the first time since taking up his new post earlier this week.
- **Councils back Cymdeithas call to help home-buyers**
14/11/2003 More than 130 community councils across Wales have supported a call from the Welsh Language Society for greater help to be given to local people who can't afford to buy homes of their own.
- **'Annibyniaeth yn ddurud i Gymru'**
14/11/2003 Gallai annibyniaeth i Gymru olygu fod y wlad yn dlotach yn y tymor byr. Dyna ddywed economegydd amlwg ar raglen BBC Cymru, Dragon's Eye, nos Iau.
- **'Cymunedau yn y fantol'**
15/11/2003 Fe fu Cymdeithas yr Iaith yn cynnal rali Dyfodol Ein Cymunedau yng Nghaerdydd ddydd Sadwrn.
- **£347,000 i 'dafarn y dysgwyr'**
20/11/2003 Bydd canolfan gymunedol cael ei chodi y tu ôl i dafarn ger Nant Gwrtheyrn oherwydd £347,000 o arian Amcan Un Ewrop.
- **Future of devolution examined**
22/11/2003 The First Minister says Welsh Labour should respond to a report on the future of devolution with an 'open mind'.
- **'Weak' assembly harming Wales**
24/11/2003 A think-tank says a "weak" devolution settlement means Wales is poorly-equipped to deal with economic trouble.
- **Entertaining guide to Welsh grammar**
24/11/2003 Heini Gruffudd, the author of best-selling language tutors such as Welsh is Fun and Welcome to Welsh has just completed the first ever Welsh language grammar in English with exercises for learners. Welsh Rules - A Welsh Grammar will be published on Thursday the 27th of November.
- **Assembly powers over top-up fees**
26/11/2003 Plans to allow the Welsh assembly new powers over whether to impose university fees have been outlined. The Queen's Speech at the state opening of parliament on Wednesday has given the assembly decision-making authority over top-up fees for the first time.
- **'Ask Wales' before raising taxes**
29/11/2003 A leading campaigner for devolution has warned that there must be another referendum before the Welsh assembly is given the power to raise taxes. Rhondda AM Leighton Andrews - one of the founder of the Yes for Wales devolution campaign in 1997 - said Labour should not "foist" tax-raising on Wales without voter approval
- **Trafod dyfodol Eisteddfod**
29/11/2003 Bydd Cyngor yr Eisteddfod yn cael gweld am y tro cyntaf adroddiad ar ddyfodol y Brifwyl dros y penwythnos. Mae cwmni o ymgynghorwyr annibynnol wedi bod yn paratoui adroddiad ar ddyfodol y Brifwyl a bydd yn cael ei gyflwyno i'r aelodau am y tro cyntaf yng nghyfarfod Cyngor yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol.