

Draig Werdd



Newsletter – March 2004

Cylchlythyr – Mawrth 2004

St. David's Day was celebrated once again in Dublin with our usual combination of Welsh food, chat and entertainment. This year it took place upstairs in Scruffy Murphy's, and a very enjoyable time in a convivial atmosphere was had by all who attended. You can see photographs of some of the participants by visiting our website on www.draigwerdd.org. However, it would be encouraging if more of the many Welsh people who live in Dublin were to come together to celebrate their Welshness, at what is after all the only public celebration of St. David's Day in the Irish Republic, as far as we are aware. Maybe we should take some lessons from our Irish neighbours in this regard before next year!

In the meantime, if you're looking for the chance to experience some Welsh culture in Ireland, why not visit the Cúirt International Festival of Literature in Galway in April, or the Wales-Ireland Symposium in Trinity College, Dublin in May – see "Dates for your Diary" below. More information about these events may be obtained by visiting www.draigwerdd.org.

In the longer term, a number of Draig Werdd members have discussed the possibility of organising a trip from Dublin to visit Patagonia in September 2005, taking in the sights and experiencing for ourselves a part of the world about which those of us brought up in Wales have heard much. If you think you may be interested in making up a trip, or you would like more information, email us on post@draigwerdd.org, or phone Jonathan Williams on 01-2803482.

Finally, if you're interested in the history of the Welsh in Dublin, visit www.draigwerdd.org to read Howell Evans's history of the Welsh chapel, now available on the website over 20 years after its original appearance

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

21/24 April 2004 – Two Welsh writers will be reading at this year's Cúirt International Festival of Literature in Galway. Trezza Azzopardi will read on Wednesday, 12 April at 2.30pm, and Jan Morris will speak and read on Saturday, 24 April, also at 2.30pm.

8 May 2004 – Wales-Ireland Symposium, to be held at The Institute for International Integration Studies (IIIS) in Trinity College Dublin, on May 8 2004. There will be a comprehensive discussion of Welsh and Irish culture ranging from film to literature, and will feature innovative thinkers with academic and creative backgrounds from both Wales and Ireland.

Dathlwyd Dydd Gŵyl Dewi yn Nulyn unwaith eto gyda'r cyfuniad arferol o fwyd Cymreig, sgwrsio ac adloniant. Cynhaliwyd ein dathliad eleni i fyny'r grisau yn Scruffy Murphy's, a chafwyd noson hwyliog. Gellwch weld ffotograffau o rai o fynychwyr y noson os ymwelwch â'n safle we: www.draigwerdd.org. Byddai'n wych o beth gweld mwy fyth o'r Cymry sy'n byw yn Nulyn yn dod at ei gilydd i ddathlu eu Cymreictod, gan mai dyma, hyd y gwyddom, yw'r unig ddathliad cyhoeddus o Ŵyl Dewi yng Ngweriniaeth Iwerddon. Efallai y dylem ddysgu gwers oddi wrth ein cymdogion Gwyddelig erbyn y flwyddyn nesaf!

Yn y cyfamser, os bydd arnoch awydd profi rhywfaint o ddiwylliant Cymru yn Iwerddon, beth am ymweld â Gŵyl Lenyddiaeth Ryngwladol Cúirt yn Galway yn Ebrill, neu Symposium Cymru-Iwerddon yng Ngholeg y Drindod ym mis Mai? Edrychwch ar 'Dyddiadau i'w Nodi' isod. Ceir rhagor o wybodaeth am y digwyddiadau hyn ar ein safle, www.draigwerdd.org.

Ac edrych ymhellach ymlaen, mae nifer o aelodau Draig Werdd wedi bod yn trafod y posibilrwydd o drefnu trip o Ddilyn i Batagonia ym mis Medi 2005, er mwyn gweld y golygfeydd a gweld drosom ein hunain ran o'r byd y mae'r rheini ohonom a fagwyd yng Nghymru wedi clywed cymaint amdano. Os oes gennych ddiddordeb yn y daith, neu os hoffech gael mwy o wybodaeth, gyrrwch e-bost atom ar post@draigwerdd.org, neu ffoniwch Jon Williams ar 01-2803482.

Ac i orffen, os oes diddordeb gennych mewn hanes y Cymry yn Nulyn, fe allwch chi ddarllen hanes Howell Evans o'r capel ar ein safle, www.draigwerdd.org, sydd i'w chael dros 20 mlynedd wedi'r cyhoeddiad cyntaf.

DYDDIADAU I'W NODI

21/24 Ebrill 2004 – Bydd dau lenor o Gymru yn darllen eu gwaith yn Ngŵyl Lenyddiaeth Ryngwladol Cúirt yn Galway ym mis Ebrill. Bydd Trezza Azzopardi yn darllen ar ddydd Mercher, 12 Ebrill am 2.30pm, a bydd Jan Morris yn siarad a darllen ar ddydd Sadwrn, 24 Ebrill, hefyd am 2.30pm.

8 Mai 2004 – Cynhelir Symposium Cymru-Iwerddon yn y Sefydliad Astudiaethau Cyfannu Rhyngwladol (yr 'Institute for International Integration Studies' (IIIS)) yng Ngholeg y Drindod, Dilyn, ar yr 8fed o Fai 2004. Bydd yno drafodaeth gynhwysfawr o ddiwylliant Cymru ac Iwerddon gan gynnwys pynciau megis ffilm a llenyddiaeth, a bydd yno feddylwyr gwreiddiol o gefndiroedd academiaidd a chreadigol o Gymru ac Iwerddon.

- [**Ysgol newydd yng Nghaerdydd**](#)
03/12/2003 Mae'r nawfed ysgol gynradd Gymraeg yng Nghaerdydd yn agor yn swyddogol ddydd Mercher. Mae 200 o ddisgyblion yn cael eu haddysg yn Ysgol Y Berllan Deg yn Llanedeyrn, yng ngogledd y ddinas.
- [**Universities at loggerheads after merger proposals fall through**](#)
18/12/2003 Attempts to establish a "super university" for Wales have been abandoned. Two rival Welsh institutes - the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (Uwic) and the University of Glamorgan have been in talks for the past year. But governors at Uwic said yesterday they had terminated plans for the merger.
- [**Cyhoeddi dathliadau Glyndwr**](#)
04/01/2004 Mae 'na ddathliadau yn cael eu trefnu ar gyfer yr haf i ddathlu 600 mlynedd ers i Owain Glyndwr orymdeithio i mewn i Fachynlleth a'i goroni yn Dywysog Cymru.
- [**Aber i gael Sgwâr Glyndwr**](#)
06/01/2004 Mae Ynadon Aberystwyth wedi cytuno i gais Cyngor Ceredigion i ail enwi Rhodfa'r Gogledd neu North Parade yn Sgwâr Owain Glyndwr. Mi fydd yr enw newydd yn cael ei ddefnyddio o 2005 ymlaen am yr ardal rhwng Siop y Pethe a banc yr HSBC.
- [**Hopkins keen on Wales passport**](#)
07/01/2004 Oscar-winning actor Sir Anthony Hopkins will welcome the gift of a Republic of Wales passport 'with open arms,' his agents in the United States said yesterday.
- [**Official: Now we can call ourselves Welsh**](#)
12/01/2004 The Government has accepted for the first time that the Welsh have a distinctive ethnic identity. In the past, only groups like Indians, Bangladeshis, Africans and Irish have been able to tick boxes on official forms designating their ethnic background. Now, there will be boxes on such forms allowing people to describe themselves as Welsh, Scottish or English. British will also be an option.
- [**Race watchdog to probe Welsh A-level row**](#)
21/01/2004 The Commission for Racial Equality today announced that it would be examining the way in which at least two universities in England were reported to have downgraded Welsh A level when choosing students for admission.
- [**Welsh author dies**](#)
23/01/2004 The Welsh language novelist Islwyn Ffowc Elis has died at the age of 79. A pioneer of Welsh language fiction his best known work Cysgod Y Cryman (Shadow of the Sickle) sold more than any other Welsh novel.
- [**Labour pressed over law-making**](#)
26/01/2004 The battle for the soul of Welsh Labour has moved into top gear with Assembly Cabinet Minister Carwyn Jones calling for full law-making powers at Cardiff Bay.
- [**Janet Street-Porter to star in Welsh Celebrity Big Brother**](#)
28/01/2004 Janet Street-Porter, famed for her outbursts against the Welsh, is to take part in a celebrity version of the hit Welsh language show cariad@iaith. The broadcaster and journalist will join actress Ruth Madoc and other stars at the remote Nant Gwrtheyrn National Language Centre in north Wales for a week of Welsh lessons.
- [**Menter iaith newydd ym Merthyr**](#)
30/01/2004 Bydd Canolfan a Menter Gymraeg Merthyr Tudful yn cael ei lansio'n swyddogol i hybu'r iaith yn y sir.
- [**Morgan backs law powers**](#)
04/02/2004 Rhodri Morgan says he is in favour of law-making powers for the assembly - but not the ability to raise taxes.
- [**Tory bid to block Assembly on fees**](#)
05/02/2004 Tories at Westminster have launched a bid to block the National Assembly from having its say on top-up fees following cross-party concerns they will "creep" into Wales after their introduction in England.
- [**WDA budget to be cut, says Plaid**](#)
09/02/2004 The credibility of Assembly Economic Development Minister Andrew Davies was put on the line last night, as it was alleged swingeing cuts in the Welsh Development Agency's business support budget are under consideration.
- [**'The English are beginning to realise that they can't patronise the Welsh'**](#)
09/02/2004 John Humphrys says Wales is no longer seen as being a backward nation by people in England.
- [**Group wants plaques to recall Patagonia exiles**](#)
12/02/2004 The brave journey of 150 Welsh people who left for a better life in South America should be commemorated on both sides of the Atlantic, according to historical campaigners.
- [**Disney display of Wales is not Welsh**](#)
17/02/2004 The National Assembly is being urged to do more for Wales' image after an AM's claim that the "Magic of Wales" display in Disney World, Florida had nothing directly Welsh in it.
- [**Owain Glyndwr's sword to be unveiled**](#)
18/02/2004 The Welsh sword of state being made to commemorate Owain Glyndwr's coronation will be unveiled on May 1. Organisers Embassy Glyndwr are also calling on Welsh bards to write poems or songs in the sword's honour.
- [**Davies joins Forward Wales**](#)
23/02/2004 Former Welsh Secretary Ron Davies is joining a political party set up by another former Labour politician, Wrexham AM John Marek. Mr Davies, who quit Labour a month ago after 40 years as a member saying devolution was in a mess, is joining the left-leaning Forward Wales.
- [**Whisky launch revives tradition**](#)
01/03/2004 The first Welsh whisky to be made in more than 100 years is launched on St David's Day. Small independent firm the Welsh Whisky Company, based in the Brecon Beacons, is launching Penderyn single malt into a multi-million pound market dominated by drinks from Scotland and Ireland.
- [**Gorymdaith i ddathlu Gwyl Ddewi**](#)
01/03/2004 Bydd gorymdaith Dydd Gwyl Dewi yn cael ei chynnal yng Nghaerdydd i ddathlu diwylliant, etifeddiaeth a hunaniaeth y Cymry. Dyma'r orymdaith cyntaf o'i math i gael ei chynnal ar Fawrth 1af, ar Ddydd Gŵyl Dewi.
- [**Eisteddfod: Alcohol ar y maes**](#)
01/03/2004 Mae Cyngor yr Eisteddfod wedi rhoi sêl bendith i newidiadau pell gyrhaeddol gan gynnwys gwerthu alcohol.
- [**Police reopen fire bombs case**](#)
09/03/2004 Detectives hope material from the cottage burning waged by the group Meibion Glyndwr as far back as 1979 will yield DNA evidence.

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