



Draig Werdd

The Welsh Society in Ireland



Newsletter – Autumn 2007

With a new Welsh Assembly Government eventually established in Cardiff Bay after weeks of negotiation following the May elections (see news links on the next page), it remains to be seen whether the coalition formed by Labour and Plaid Cymru can provide effective government for Wales over the next 4 years, and to what extent they can deliver on providing increased powers for the Assembly, as advocated by the Richard Commission. Or will the opposition of those unionists among Welsh Labour MPs at Westminster be able to undermine the will of the Assembly, given that the Westminster Parliament still holds the ultimate legislative power? Whatever happens, we will keep you informed of political happenings in Wales and provide our usual commentary to try and make sense of the events.

In the meantime, we in Draig Werdd can turn our attention to the running of our own affairs, with our Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held in Scruffy Murphy's, off Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2 at 8pm on Thursday, October 4th. There are a number of issues to be discussed which are fundamental to the existence of the society – we will be circulating an email prior to the AGM outlining these issues and requesting feedback prior to the meeting. It's important that as many members as possible attend the meeting so that we can have a meaningful and valuable discussion on the nature of the society and of the way ahead for the future.

The AGM will be accompanied by a social evening which will provide a chance for members to socialise in a relaxed atmosphere, to the accompaniment of a selection of Welsh music and videos. If you've not been to any of our meetings before, this is a great opportunity to get to know other Welsh people living in the Dublin area and to establish contacts that can add to your enjoyment of life in Ireland. Send an email to info@draigwerdd.org if you'd like more information about the AGM or the social evening, or about any other activities of the society.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 4 October @ 8pm:

Draig Werdd - the Welsh Society in Ireland AGM & Social Evening in Scruffy Murphy's, off Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2. Buffet food supplied and bar available. Go to www.draigwerdd.org for more details and a map of the location.

Cylchlythyr – Hydref 2007

Gyda Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru o'r diwedd wedi ei sefydlu ym Mae Caerdydd, ar ôl wythnosau o drafodaeth wedi'r etholiad ym mis Mai (gweler y dolennau ar y dudalen nesaf), mae'n ddadleuol os bydd y glymblaid rhwng Plaid Cymru a'r blaid Lafur yn gallu darparu llywodraeth effeithiol a sefydlog dros y bedair blynedd nesaf, ac i ba raddau y byddant yn gallu llwyddo i gynyddu pŵerau'r Gynulliad, fel yr argymhellwyd gan y Comisiwn Richard. Neu a fydd gwrthwynebiad yr undebwyr ymhlith yr ASau Cymreig Llafur yn San Steffan yn gallu tanseilio ewyllys y Gynulliad, wrth gofio bod y Senedd yn San Steffan yn dal y nerth deddfwriaethol o hyd? Beth bynnag fydd yn digwydd, byddwn yn dal i'ch hysbysu am wethrediadau gwleidyddol yng Nghymru gyda'n sylwebaeth arferol i geisio esbonio'r digwyddiadau.

Yn y cyfamser, gallwn ninnau yng nghymdeithas Draig Werdd droi ein sylw tuag at ein materion ein hunain, gyda'n Cyfarfod Cyffredinol Blynnyddol (CCB) yn cael ei gynnal yn nhafarn Scruffy Murphy's, wrth Lower Mount Street, Dulyn 2 am 8yh ar nos Iau, 4 Hydref. Mae nifer o faterion sy'n hollbwysig i fodolaeth y gymdeithas i'w trafod – byddwn yn lledaenu neges ebost cyn y CCB i fraslunio'r materion hyn ac i ofyn am ymatebion cyn y cyfarfod. Mae'n bwysig gael cymaint o aelodau a phosib i ddod i'r cyfarfod er mwyn i ni gael trafodaeth ddilys a werthfawr ynglŷn â natur y gymdeithas ac am y ffordd ymlaen ar gyfer y dyfodol.

Bydd noson gymdeithasol yn dilyn y CCB, a fydd yn rhoi'r cyfle i aelodau i gymdeithasu mewn awyrgylch hollol anffurfiol, i gyfeiliant cerddoriaeth a fideos Cymreig. Os nad ydych chi wedi mynychu unrhyw o'n cyfarfodydd o'r blaen, mae hwn yn cyfle gwych i chi ddod i adnabod Cymry eraill sy'n byw yn Nulyn a'r ardal, ac i greu cysylltiadau sy'n gallu atodi i'ch mwynhad o fyw yn Iwerddon. Anfonwch ebost at info@draigwerdd.org pe basech yn hoffu dderbyn mwy o wybodaeth am y CCB neu'r noson gymdeithasol, neu am weithgareddau eraill y gymdeithas.

DYDDIADAU I'W NODI

Nos Iau 4 Hydref @ 8yh

Cyfarfod Blynnyddol a Noson Gymdeithasol Draig Werdd yn Scruffy Murphy's, wrth Lower Mount Street, Dulyn 2. Darperir bwyd bwffe a mae bar ar gael. Ewch i www.draigwerdd.org am fwy o fanylion ac am fap o'r lleoliad.

You may be interested in the following items of news from Wales and Ireland:

Mae'n bosib bydd yr eitemau dilynol o newyddion o Gymru ac Iwerddon o ddiddordeb i chi:

- **Historic Labour-Plaid deal agreed**
28/06/2007 Labour and Plaid Cymru have agreed in principle to form a historic coalition Welsh Assembly Government. Plaid AMs have supported plans to share power with First Minister Rhodri Morgan's administration, rather than ousting Labour from office.
- **Davies: Plaid's been stitched up by Labour**
29/06/2007 Former Welsh Secretary Ron Davies believes Plaid Cymru has been "stitched up" by Labour in agreeing to the One Wales coalition document.
- **Recruiter for Tesco tries to stop staff from speaking in Welsh**
29/06/2007 Tesco and a recruitment agency that supplies it with workers were yesterday accused of instructing people not to speak Welsh at work.
- **Gadael y nyth am Iwerddon**
29/06/2007 Cywion barcud o Gymru yn cael eu defnyddio i geisio adfer rhywogaeth yr aderyn prin yn Iwerddon.
- **Shirley Bassey boosted by Glastonbury**
02/07/2007 Shirley Bassey's new CD has shot to number six in the latest album charts in the week following her sensational Glastonbury Festival appearance.
- **Horseshoe Falls area named a world jewel**
09/07/2007 Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal have been named for consideration as a World Heritage Site. The proposed site is 11 miles/18 kms long and starts at the Horseshoe Falls near Llangollen and carries through to Chirk Bank.
- **Wales could be hit by Olympics, says MP**
11/07/2007 Plaid Cymru Parliamentary Leader Elfyn Llwyd MP today tabled Parliamentary Questions to determine the cost to Wales of holding the Olympic Games in London in 2012.
- **Swansea Metro comes closer**
18/07/2007 Swansea Metro public transport system comes a step closer next week when the next stage of the scheme begins.
- **Wales ambassador for arts**
19/07/2007 A Welsh woman who speaks six languages was today appointed arts ambassador for Wales. Eluned Haf is the new Director of Wales Arts International, a partnership between the Arts Council of Wales and British Council Wales.
- **Welsh red kites go to Ireland**
20/07/2007 Wales' successful red kite conservation programme is helping the birds fly again in Ireland.
- **Three Plaid ministers in cabinet**
20/07/2007 Plaid Cymru has three ministers in the new coalition cabinet, it has been announced. Rhodri Glyn Thomas and Elin Jones have joined party leader Ieuan Wyn Jones in the line-up of 10 ministers revealed by First Minister Rhodri Morgan.
- **Zulu actor Ivor Emmanuel dies**
21/07/2007 Ivor Emmanuel, renowned for his rendition of Welsh song Men of Harlech in the classic film Zulu, has died.
- **Y cywion a'r cyswllt Celtaidd**
22/07/2007 Mae barcudiaid coch yn hedfan yn Iwerddon am y tro cynta ers dwy ganrif oherwydd naturiaethwyr o Gymru. Cafodd 30 o gywion o Ganolfan Gigrin ger Rhaeadr Gwy ym Mhowys eu rhyddhau yn Swydd Wicklow.
- **Welsh 'back in fashion' in Patagonia**
26/07/2007 Welsh culture is "back in fashion" in Patagonia, 30 years after Argentina's military dictatorship made it illegal for parents to give their children Welsh names.
- **World Cup vetoes Welsh choir performance**
26/07/2007 A Welsh choir has been banned from singing before a Rugby World Cup game.
- **WLB backs out of debate on Welsh language**
01/08/2007 The Welsh Language Board has refused to defend bilingual policy in a Radio 4 debate to coincide with the National Eisteddfod.
- **Patagonia: Dwylo dros y môr**
02/08/2007 Mae tre ym Mhatagonia am gael ei hefeillio gydag Aberystwyth. Dywedodd Rafael Williams, maer Esquel, y byddai'r ddwy ardal yn elwa o gydweithio.
- **'Wales' strongest man' steps in to carry the sword for Gravel**
07/08/2007 Former Wales rugby star Ray Gravel enlisted the help of one of Wales' strongest men yesterday to carry the ceremonial Gorsedd sword.
- **Prifardd yn ennill coron gynta**
07/08/2007 Tudur Dylan Jones yn ennill Coron yr Eisteddfod am gasgliad o gerddi ar y testun Copaon.
- **Wigley in cash crisis warning**
08/08/2007 Former Plaid Cymru president Dafydd Wigley last night warned that the Assembly coalition programme agreed between his party and Labour was not affordable without extra cash from London.
- **Elis-Thomas calls for justice rethink**
08/08/2007 The justice system in Wales should be separated from the English one as soon as possible, Dafydd Elis-Thomas told an audience at the National Eisteddfod yesterday.
- **Welsh Learner of the Year named**
09/08/2007 A mother of two who learned Welsh to help her children becomes Learner of the Year at the National Eisteddfod.
- **"I'm more famous than Dylan Thomas"**
13/08/2007 American singer Bob Dylan has denied he took his name from the famous Swansea poet Dylan Thomas.
- **Princes of Gwynedd's lost palace restored**
14/08/2007 Craftsmen from America have helped restore an historic site which, it is claimed, was the lost palace of the Princes of Gwynedd.
- **Strade: Ail ymchwiliad?**
21/08/2007 Gallai Sgarlets Llanelli wynebu ail ymchwiliad cyhoeddus i'w cynllun i godi hyd at 450 o dai ar safle Parc y Strade. Mae trigolion lleol wedi gwneud cais i Gyngor Sir Caerfyrddin i ystyried y maes hyfforddi fel tir cymunedol.
- **When chips are down, Labour still relies on the unions' coffers**
22/08/2007 People power pumped up Plaid Cymru's coffers during May's Assembly elections, while the unions helped bankroll Welsh Labour, new figures reveal today.
- **Police uniform to bear Red Dragon**
24/08/2007 The uniform of one of Wales' four police forces is about to become the first to bear the Red Dragon.
- **Assembly worry over Wales-Ireland child trafficking route**
28/08/2007 Professionals working with children in Wales are to be issued with guidance on how to pick up on child trafficking. The Welsh Assembly Government says children are increasingly being brought into Wales by ferry from Ireland.
- **Separatists and devolutionists prepare for debate**
29/08/2007 A major political battle is looming in Wales between devolutionists and "separatists", according to a senior Labour backbencher at the National Assembly.
- **Three universities go independent**
01/09/2007 Three of Wales's university campuses, Swansea, Bangor and Aberystwyth, become independent institutions from 1st September.
- **Row over £1m cost of St David's Day holiday**
12/09/2007 A Welsh council which examined declaring St David's Day a public holiday claims the idea would cost £1m.
- **Dadorchuddio cerflun Glyndwr**
14/09/2007 Roedd o leia 100 yn bresennol wrth i gerflun newydd o Owain Glyndwr gael ei ddadorchuddio yng nghanol Corwen ddydd Iau

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