



Draig Werdd

The Welsh Society in Ireland



Newsletter – Spring 2010

The new year has brought with it a number of activities within the society and also interesting news from both Wales and Ireland.

If you're living in Dublin, maybe you've taken the opportunity to meet up with other members over the last couple of months at one of our regular rugby meetings. In particular, the society held a well-attended St. David's party in Scruffy Murphy's on the night of the Wales-France rugby match at the end of February, with up to 80 people in attendance. It was a great opportunity for the Welsh community and its friends in Dublin to get together for a very successful evening, apart from the result of the rugby – unfortunately Draig Werdd has no influence over that! If you'd like to see some photos of the occasion go to <http://www.draigwerdd.org/Photo%20gallery.htm>. If you were unable to attend, we're hoping to hold a similar event later in the year.

We're also including with the newsletter a range of news stories from Wales and Ireland, as usual. Of particular interest is the news that the Welsh Assembly has voted to request a referendum to allow the people of Wales to decide on allocating legislative powers to the Assembly, something already possessed by the partner institutions in Edinburgh and Belfast. Support for this was virtually unanimous among the Assembly members, with all parties supporting the change, a somewhat different situation from that which was the case prior to the devolution referendum in 1997 which set up the Assembly in the first place. Will this be enough to maintain the clear majority in the opinion polls that currently favours the change, or will the anti-devolutionists come back on to the streets and sway the electorate, as they almost did in 1997? No date has been set for the referendum but it will most likely take place in the coming autumn. We will keep you informed of events.

In the meantime, we will be planning other activities over the coming months, include another hill walk in Wicklow, and will inform you of these via email as usual. If you know of anyone else living in Ireland (Welsh or otherwise) who would like to be on our email list, send the details via email to info@draigwerdd.org. In addition to information about the society and its activities, we also receive messages from Wales and the rest of the world which we forward to the membership if they are of general interest. So it's possible via the wonders of modern communication not only to keep in touch with activities amongst the Welsh community in Ireland, but also within the Welsh community worldwide. What would St. David have made of that??

Cylchlythyr – Gwanwyn 2010

Mae'r flwyddyn newydd wedi dod yn ei phlith â nifer o weithgareddau y tu fewn i'r gymdeithas a hefyd newyddion diddorol o Gymru ac Iwerddon.

Os ydych chi'n byw yn Nulyn, efallai eich bod chi wedi cymryd y cyfle i gwrdd ac aelodau eraill dros y misoedd diweddar, mewn un o'n cyfarfodydd rheolaidd gwyllo'r rygbi. Yn enwedig, cynhaliwyd parti Gwyl Dewi llwyddianus iawn gan y gymdeithas ar noson y gêm rygbi rhwng Cymru a Ffrainc ar ddiwedd mis Chwefror, gyda lan i 80 bobl yn bresennol. 'Roedd hwn yn cyfle gwych i'r gymuned Gymreig yn Nulyn a'i chyfeillion i ddod at eu gilydd am noson lwyddianus iawn, heb law canlyniad y rygbi – yn anffodus 'does gan Ddraig Werdd ddim dylanwad ar bethau felly! Os hoffech chi weld nifer o luniau o'r achlysur, ewch i <http://www.draigwerdd.org/Lluniau.htm>. Os nad oeddech yn gallu bod yn bresennol, 'rydyn ni'n gobeithio cynnal noson debyg hwyrach yn y flwyddyn.

'Rydyn ni hefyd yn cynnwys gyda'r cylchlythyr amrywiaeth o storïau'r newyddion o Gymru ac Iwerddon, fel arfer. O ddiddordeb arbennig yw'r newyddion bod y Gynulliad Gymreig wedi pleidleisio i ofyn am refferendwm i ganiatau i bobl Cymru ddewis pwerau deddfu i'r Gynulliad, rhywbeth sydd ar gael gan y sefydliadau tebyg yng Nghaeredin a Belffast. 'Roedd y cefnogaeth amdano braidd yn unfarn ymhlith aelodau'r Gynulliad, gyda phob parti yn cefnogi'r newidiad, sefyllfa hollol wahanol i'r hon oedd yn bodoli cyn y refferendwm dataganoli yn 1997, a sefydlodd y Gynulliad yn y lle cyntaf. Tybed a fydd hwn yn ddigon i barhau'r mwyafrif clir yn y polau piniwn sydd ar hyn o bryd o blaid y newidiad, neu fydd y gwrth ddatganolwyr yn dod allan ar y strydoedd unwaith eto i ddylanwadu ar yr etholwyr, fel y wnaethant bron yn 1997? 'Does dim dyddiad wedi ei ddewis i'r refferendwm ond mae'n debyg byddai'n cymryd lle yn yr hydref. Byddwn yn eich cadw yn ynwybodol o'r datblygiadau.

Yn y cyfamser, 'rydyn ni'n cynllunio gweithgareddau eraill dros y misoedd i ddod, gan gynnwys taith gerdded arall yn Wicklow, a byddwn yn eich hysbysu amdany'n nhw trwy e-bost fel arfer. Os ydych chi'n gwybod am unrhyw un arall sydd yn byw yn Iwerddon (Cymro/Cymraes neu beidio) a hoffai fod ar ein rhestr ebost, ebosti'wch y manylion i info@draigwerdd.org. Yn ogystal â derbyn gwybodaeth am y gymdeithas a'n gweithgareddau, 'rydyn ni hefyd yn derbyn negeseuon o Gymru a gweddill y byd, ac yn eu anfon nhw ymlaen i'r aelodaeth os ydynt o ddiddordeb cyffredinol. Felly mae'n bosib trwy ryfeddodau'r gyfathreb fodern i gadw mewn cyswllt â gweithgareddau nid yn unig o'r gymuned Gymreig yn Iwerddon, ond hefyd o'r gymuned Gymreig byd eang. Beth fyddai Dewi Sant wedi meddwl am hwnna, tybed??

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 ddi-ddordeb i chwi:

- **[Assembly's bid for powers 'won't be discarded' before election](#)**
04/01/2010 Bids for more powers from the Assembly will not automatically be discarded when a general election is called, Welsh Secretary Peter Hain has said.
- **[Hywel Teifi Edwards wedi marw](#)**
05/01/2010 Un o hoelion wyth y byd Cymraeg, Yr Athro Hywel Teifi Edwards, wedi marw yn 75 oed wedi cyfnod byr o dostrwydd.
- **[UK Ministers do not trust Wales with their secrets](#)**
12/01/2010 Ministers in London have kept their Welsh counterparts in the dark about major announcements because they do not trust them with sensitive information, the former head of the Welsh Civil Service has claimed
- **['Glaciers on Snowdon' warning by climate expert](#)**
12/01/2010 This winter's prolonged cold spell could be a taste of things to come for Wales – with glaciers a possibility within 40 years.
- **[Cyngor sir o blaid trwydded alcohol i'r Eisteddfod](#)**
19/01/2010 Cadarnhaodd Cyngor Ceredigion eu bod wedi caniatáu trwydded alcohol i safle Eisteddfod Yr Urdd 2010 fydd yn cael ei chynnal yn Llanerchaeron.
- **[Report says Welsh NHS falling behind England](#)**
20/01/2010 "Troubling" and striking differences between the performance of the NHS in Wales and England are today highlighted in a report
- **['Top five' aim for tourism plan](#)**
22/01/2010 A new tourism plan aims to put north Wales in the UK's top five visitor destinations and increase income to £2bn a year.
- **[7 Million People Direct Descendants Of Single Smooth-Talking Welshman](#)**
25/01/2010 Geneticists at the Johns Hopkins University have announced that an estimated seven million people worldwide carry a distinctive genetic marker linking them to a highly virile ninth-century Welsh nobleman known as Gwilym of Many Conquests.
- **[Pressure grows for a vote on referendum or else Plaid could quit WAG coalition](#)**
27/01/2010 Pressure was mounting on Welsh Labour last night to confirm it will let AMs vote for a referendum on more powers for the National Assembly.
- **[Labour and Plaid 'agree' formula for law-making poll](#)**
29/01/2010 Welsh Labour and Plaid Cymru seem on course to agreeing a formula that would allow an autumn referendum on more powers for the National Assembly to go ahead
- **[Gwaith yn dechrau ar ffordd osgoi Porthmadog](#)**
29/01/2010 Fe fydd y gwaith yn dechrau ar ffordd osgoi Porthmadog yng Ngwynedd. Y nod yw lleihau tagfeydd a hwyluso amseroedd teithio ar yr A487 - sy'n ffordd gyswllt pwysig rhwng y gogledd orllewin a de Cymru.
- **[Cadarnhau Archdderwydd newydd](#)**
30/01/2010 Mae'r Prifardd T James Jones, Jim Parc Nest, wedi ei gadarnhau'n Archdderwydd etholedig yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol mewn cyfarfod yn Aberystwyth.
- **[Ferry prepares for Irish Sea link](#)**
02/02/2010 The new Swansea to Cork ferry has arrived in Wales for refitting work before it carries its first passengers on the reinstated service on 1 March.
- **[Is rugby going through an image crisis?](#)**
03/02/2010 This year's Six Nations Championship comes on the back of a series of damaging revelations that have rocked rugby to the core.
- **[Wales 'must fight to keep European funding'](#)**
05/02/2010 Wales has been warned it must fight to stop the European funding tap being turned off as an enlarged EU wrestles with a squeezed budget.
- **[Whitehall saw devolution as 'an experiment' says Carwyn](#)**
05/02/2010 Some Whitehall departments regarded Welsh devolution as "an experiment" in its early days, First Minister Carwyn Jones said yesterday.
- **[Hopkins: Hero Burton challenged my 'Welshness'](#)**
08/02/2010 Hollywood actor Anthony Hopkins has revealed how his "Welshness" was challenged by his childhood hero Richard Burton.
- **[AMs call on Welsh Secretary to take plans for law-making vote forward](#)**
10/02/2010 Welsh Secretary Peter Hain was yesterday challenged to take forward the next step in devolution when a unanimous National Assembly voted to request a referendum on further law-making powers
- **[Power at last to legislate on our 1,500-year-old language](#)**
12/02/2010 As the National Assembly gains the right to make laws relating to the Welsh language, Alun Ffred Jones traces the trials and tribulations in the history of our national tongue.
- **[Cymry'n dathlu gwyl eu nawddsant](#)**
01/03/2010 Mae gweithgareddau yn cael eu cynnal led led Cymru i ddathlu Dydd Gŵyl Dewi. Bydd gorymdaith yn cael ei chynnal yng Nghaerdydd tra bod Cadw yn cynnig mynediad i gestyll ac adeiladau hanesyddol eraill.
- **['Yes' campaign given poll boost](#)**
01/03/2010 Support for a Yes vote in favour of full lawmaking powers for the National Assembly has reached an all-time high of 56% in a Wales-wide opinion poll.
- **[A fitting tribute to political icon is unveiled](#)**
01/03/2010 Nationalist icon Gwynfor Evans returned to his hometown yesterday as a bronze bust of the first Plaid Cymru MP was unveiled in Barry.
- **[Swansea-Cork ferry launch delayed](#)**
01/03/2010 The inaugural sailing of the reopened Swansea-Cork ferry on St David's Day, has been cancelled. Operator Fastnet said "certification by the regulatory authorities" of certain "necessary works" was needed.
- **[Cyhoeddi mesur iaith newydd](#)**
04/03/2010 Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn cyhoeddi mesur newydd ar yr iaith Gymraeg ar ôl dwy flynedd o drafod a dadlau.
- **[Diddordeb mewn 'diwrnod am ddim'](#)**
09/03/2010 2,000 o geisiadau wedi eu derbyn am docynnau am ddim i'r Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, 85% ohonynt gan bobl ddi-Gymraeg.
- **[Bilingual juries plan is rejected](#)**
10/30/2010 Proposals for bilingual juries in Wales have been rejected on the basis the idea conflicts with the principle of random selection.
- **[Reopened ferry service sets sail](#)**
11/03/2010 A reinstated ferry service between Swansea and Cork has made its first sailing.
- **['New approach' to Welsh economy](#)**
19/03/2010 A new approach to stimulate the Welsh economy and support businesses is being outlined by the deputy first minister.
- **['Teuan Air' link crashes out of business](#)**
26/03/2010 The controversial subsidised air-link between North and South Wales was grounded yesterday as operator Highland Airways went into administration.
- **[Island chosen for nuclear plant](#)**
30/03/2010 Two of the UK's biggest energy providers announce plans for a new nuclear power station on Anglesey.
- **[S4C i lansio sianel newydd](#)**
30/03/2010 Mae disgwyl i S4C lansio sianel newydd o Ebrill 30 a fydd yn dangos ei rhaglenni mewn manylder uwch.

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