

## **Draig Werdd AGM November 7<sup>th</sup> 2019**

### **Doheny and Nesbitt Pub Dublin 2**

#### **Secretary's Report**

Since the last AGM of November 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 Draig Werdd events began in February 2019.

#### **February 21<sup>st</sup> 2019**

The Welsh Government hosted an evening St. David's Day reception in the Rotunda of The National Museum of Ireland in Dublin to officially launch the partnership between The National Museum of Ireland and The National Museum of Wales, and as part of the UNESCO International Year of Indigenous Languages. This was hosted by the Welsh Deputy Minister for Culture Lord Dafydd Elis Thomas AM, and attended by the Directors of both Museums. Also in attendance were Sean Kline ( Irish Government Chief Whip and Minister for State for the Irish Language), and the British Ambassador for Ireland, Robin Barnett. Entertainment was provided by Gwyneth Glyn and Twm Morys from Wales. The event was organised by Kathryn Hallett ( Welsh Government Office in Dublin ), who kindly invited all the Draig Werdd Committee to attend.

Richard Morgan, Geraint Waters, Anne Buttimore, Gareth Llwyd Jones and Andrew Thomas attended this most enjoyable event. Geraint Waters recorded the event on the Draig Werdd website, and put some photos of the evening taken by Gareth Llwyd Jones, up on the Gallery.

#### **March 1st 2019**

#### **Parti Dydd Gwyl Dewi/ St David's Day Party**

A most successful celebration of St. David's Day was held at The Dropping Well Pub in Dublin 6. We were delighted that the British Ambassador Robin Barnett was able to join us for the evening in an informal capacity. We had spot prizes and readings, and some members of the Dublin Welsh Male Voice choir led the singing. The pub provided platters of food, and the committee members brought along Welsh Cakes, Welsh crisps, Bara Brith and Daffodils. This again was recorded on the web site, with a link to the photo gallery of the evening's photos by Geraint Waters.

#### **March 17<sup>th</sup> 2019**

On St Patrick's Day 2019. A 'Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol' programme was broadcast about Ireland on the Welsh TV station S4C ( Sianel Pedwar Cymru). This was recorded earlier in March in Dublin. Geraint Waters was interviewed about 'Bethel' The Welsh Chapel on Talbot Street, Dublin1.

Sadly we have to report on the death of two former committee members of Draig Werdd this Summer.

Eifion Williams was a valued committee member, and his funeral was held in Mount Jerome. Some members of the Draig Werdd Committee, and The Dublin Welsh Male Voice choir attended the funeral.

Mike Hayes was the first Treasurer of Draig Werdd, and a founder member of the Dublin Welsh Male Voice choir, and supported everything Welsh. Again members of the DW committee and The Dublin Welsh choir attended the funeral.

### Dublin Welsh Male Voice Choir

This year 'The Dublin Welsh Male voice choir' have sung at Powerscourt Golf Course in County Wicklow, and in Longford. On the 7<sup>th</sup> of December they will sing at St Patrick's Cathedral in aid of the Peter Mc Verry Trust.

Following on from last year's AGM we need to follow up on a suggestion that came up about having a Book Club to read books in Welsh and / or books about Wales. We need to find out if there is an interest, and if so what format it should take.

GW ran the idea with the Committee of adding another organisation ( The Goethe Choir) to our website, as the software could support five societies. This would halve our expenses. The Committee fully approved of this.

A Draig Werdd walk has yet to be decided upon and organised.

Say Yes to Wales had its first 'meet up' on October 9<sup>th</sup> 2019 at Arthur's pub in Thomas street. Dublin 8. [yescymruire@gmail.com](mailto:yescymruire@gmail.com) is the link.

### The Global Welsh Initiative ( Global Welsh.com)

This has been created to build a global community for Welsh people and friends of Wales around the world. A couple of meetings, one in August and another in September have been held in Dublin. Evan Aitken from GWI informed Draig Werdd about this and this was advertised by email and Facebook to members of the Draig Werdd society.

### October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019

Andrew Thomas and Greg Owen from DW, attended an enjoyable informal Rugby World Cup event held at the British Embassy.

### October 14<sup>th</sup> 2019

Dan Langford from the Wales week Initiative worldwide came over to Dublin, and invited a member of the DW committee to join him Kathryn Hallett and officials from the Welsh

Government Office in Dublin, and also people from the Global Welsh Initiative. Andrew Thomas from the DW committee attended, and found the discussions about all linking up both interesting and informative.

Anne Buttimore ( Secretary / Ysgrifennyddes )

November 7<sup>th</sup> 2019