

Deian Creunant, Chair of the Executive Committee for the 2010 Urdd Gobaith Cymru National Eisteddfod in Ceredigion

With preparations for the Urdd National Eisteddfod in Ceredigion gathering pace, Deian Creunant was elected last year to be Chair of the Executive Committee.

Deian is Ceredigion through and through having been born in Penparcau and attended Ysgol Gyfun Penweddig and the University of Wales Aberystwyth where he studied Drama. He then pursued an acting course at East 15 College in London. After a few years treading the boards he joined Radio Ceredigion at its outset before moving on to work for the Urdd as a Development Officer for Ceredigion and Director of the Urdd National Eisteddfod in 1997. He currently works for the Big Lottery Fund as Head of External Affairs.

As Chair of the Executive Committee Deian's main duties involve having an overview of all the activities that are being organised in preparation for the Eisteddfod in 2010 and lead the Executive Committee made up of the various competition subject and local appeal committees

"We are extremely fortunate in Ceredigion to have so many enthusiastic volunteers therefore the most difficult task of all is to ensure that I am aware of all the events that are being held across the County as there are so many of them!" says Deian

The fundraising work has been ongoing for many months and Deian believes that the fact that communities across the County have been working tirelessly to raise money, especially considering the present economic situation, is truly amazing.

"We have already reached 40% of the £300,000 target and it's really exciting to see so many activities happening throughout the County. I must also acknowledge the support of Ceredigion County Council which has ensured a strong funding foundation for the festival in 2010."

The Eisteddfod will be held on land owned by the National Trust in Llanerchaeron by Aberaeron between May 31 and 5 June 2010.

Deian is confident that the Eisteddfod week itself will be a big success, with visitors from all over Wales attending and a high standard of competition in the main pavilion.

"Everyone I talk to is really looking forward to the Eisteddfod. I do hope there will be a lasting legacy from the Eisteddfod for many years to come, and that the enthusiasm will ensure that the Urdd's work in Ceredigion will remain as strong as ever. I also hope for one more thing – a whole week of sunshine!"