

Eisteddfod Feast!

Fundraising is well underway for the Urdd Gobaith Cymru National Eisteddfod in Ceredigion in 2010. Thirty-three appeal committees from all over the county are working hard to reach the local target of £300,000 needed to stage the spectacular event at the National Trust site at Llanerchaeron during Whitsun week next year.

And one popular means of fundraising is dining! Many local committees have held dinners to raise money, one of the latest being a Santes Dwynwen extravaganza with the popular singer Tecwyn Ifan at Borth Golf Club. Llandre, Borth and Dolybont Appeal Committee organised an evening to chase away January blues and to celebrate the Welsh patron saint of lovers day and raised over £500.

Lampeter's Appeal Committee is supporting local eateries, and members of their 'Clwb Stwffio' meet up to enjoy a meal every ten to twelve weeks. They have already visited The Shapla Tandoori and the Chinese restaurant Ling di Long, and many more evenings are on the cards. Dorian Jones is the Committee's Chair:

"Clwb Stwffio is an enjoyable and novel way of raising money for the appeal. £5 a head for each meal goes towards our target, and it's a great way to socialise. We have around 50 members so far and we've already raised over £400. The next Clwb Stwffio will be held on Friday, 6 March at the University of Wales, Lampeter – to celebrate St David's Day... new members are welcome!"

Tickets, priced £17 for a three course meal, are available at J.H. Roberts a'i Feibion, 7 Stryd Fawr, Lampeter and at PJE Accountants, 23 Stryd y Coleg, Lampeter; or Dorian Jones on 01570 422678, 07814 440581.

The Eisteddfod's Publicity Committee is also organising a St David's Day meal at the Feathers Hotel in Aberaeron at 12.30 on 1 March. Nia Wyn Davies is one of the organisers:

"Dai Jones, MBE has kindly agreed to be our guest of honour. There will be an auction after the meal, with auctioneer Dylan Davies, from Morgan and Davies. The highlight of the auction will be a chance to buy sets number 1 and 10 of the jugs commissioned especially for the Eisteddfod from local ceramic designer, Lowri Davies. The 10cm tall jugs have been decorated with water-colour pictures of six different areas of Ceredigion - Aberystwyth, Aberteifi, Llandysul, Tregaron, Llangrannog and Llanerchaeron."

Tickets for the event are £20 each (half price for children under 12 years old) and are available on 01570 480015 / 07968 223653.

Some local committees have already reached their target, amongst them the Llanwennog and Llanwnnen appeal. Nia added:

“Local people have been incredibly supportive . A Cymanfa Ganu in March 2008 and an auction last October, along with donations from the Parish Council and Clonc, and support from the £ for £ Barclay’s Bank scheme helped us reach our target of £7,000.”

Other up and coming Eisteddfod fundraising events include a Talwrn y Beirdd at the Marine Hotel, Aberystwyth at 7.30 on Friday 6 February, organised by the Literature Committee. The adjudicator will be Tudur Dylan Jones, and after the contest between teams from Cwps, Glêr, Talybont, Crannog and Tanygroes, various items donated by the poets will be auctioned.