

Eisteddfod Genedlaethol

Wrecsam a'r Fro / Wrexham and District 2011

National Eisteddfod

Latest News



Welcome to the latest edition of the Wrexham and District National Eisteddfod newsletter, and at last – after all the waiting – 2011 has arrived and the Eisteddfod is fast approaching,

Some closing dates have already passed, and the closing date for the Science and Technology Medal and the Sir T H Parry Williams Memorial Medal is at the end of the month.

The Science and Technology Medal is an opportunity to honour individuals who have contributed extensively in the area of Science and Technology through

the medium of Welsh. The nomination form is available to download from the Eisteddfod website – www.eisteddfod.org.uk – or you can contact the office for a copy. All completed forms must reach the Organiser by 31 January 2011.

31 January is also the closing date for nominations for the Sir T H Parry Williams Memorial Medal, presented annually to an individual who has worked tirelessly to help young people in their local community for many years, making a real difference to their lives. The Medal is presented in memory of Sir T H Parry Williams, a great supporter of the Eisteddfod for many years. If you wish to nominate someone for the Medal, please contact Eisteddfod Chief Executive, Elfed Roberts, on 0845 44090 300, or email gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk.

The two Medals will be presented at special ceremonies on the Eisteddfod Pavilion stage, held on land at Lower Berse Farm, off Ruthin Road, Wrexham, from 30 July – 6 August this year.

Events

14 January

An evening of song and laughs with the 3 Gog a Hwntw Group. Gresford Colliery Club. From 8.00pm onwards. Tickets £5 available from Mary Griffiths (01978) 854010 or Arfon Jones (01978) 755048

29 January

4 Choir Concert. Stiwt Theatre, Rhos. 7.00pm. Tickets £10 & £8 available from the Stiwt on (01978) 841300 or www.stiwt.co.uk

11 February

An evening of fun with Tudur Owen at Brymbo Cricket Club. 7.30pm. Tickets £7.50 available from Lindsey Jones on 07732 561460

18 February

M&S Fashion Show at the Holt Lodge

19 February

Concert with Godre'r Aran Male Voice Choir, Oliver Jones Hall, Dolywern. 7.30pm. Tickets £10 available from Janet Warren (01691) 718772

25 February

Wrexham Welsh Society St. Davids Day Dinner with Hogia'r Wyddia at Wrexham Golf Club. Tickets sold out

4 March

Dance with the Melomanics Ceilidh Band. Llay British Legion. 7.30pm. Tickets £7.50 available from Sheila Birkhead (01978) 351336

5 March

Grand Concert with Froncysyllte Male Voice Choir and special guests Rhys Meirion & Lucy Kelly. William Aston Hall, Glyndŵr University. 7.30pm



Appeal for caravans

During the National Eisteddfod it is estimated that 150,000 – 160,000 people will visit the Festival site. Although we hope that many local people will attend thousands will come from further afield and will be looking for accommodation in the area – in hotels, guest houses, bed and breakfast and also in private accommodation. Every year hundreds of caravanners will also set up home on the Eisteddfod's caravan site, which will be situated next to the Eisteddfod Festival site at Lower Berse Farm on the outskirts of Wrexham. Some will bring their own caravans while others will be looking for caravans to rent for the week.

We have already received numerous requests for caravans from people wishing to stay on the caravan site but do not have their own caravans to bring. Do you have a touring caravan you could rent to these Eisteddfod visitors for the week? Could you help the Eisteddfod in this way and make some money at the same time? If so please contact the Eisteddfod Office : 845 4090 400; mari@eisteddfod.org.uk.



Renting Stands

The forms for renting space on the Maes will be available on the Eisteddfod website from 1 February onwards. Information on costs for 2011 has already been published on the 2011 website under the heading 'Stallholders'. The information published in February will also include all the relevant information and terms and conditions to ensure that you and your organisation make the most of your presence at the National Eisteddfod.

Contact aira@eisteddfod.org.uk to express an interest and receive a reminder, or to discuss the costs of renting a building rather than a stand.



Welsh Learner of the Year

The entry form for this year's Welsh Learner of the Year competition has now been published and is available to download from the Maes D page on the 2011 Eisteddfod website.

If you've learnt Welsh, why not enter this popular competition, which attracted the highest number of entrants ever at the 2010 Blaenau Gwent and Heads of the Valleys Eisteddfod earlier this year, and was won by Julia Hawkins from Crickhowell.

Closing date for the competition is 31 March and the judges are Dafydd W Griffiths, Helen Prosser and Dyfed Thomas. The semi finals take place in the Wrexham area during the spring and the final will take place on Wednesday 3 August at Wrexham Memorial Hall. For more details on the competition and our work with Welsh learners email enfys@eisteddfod.org.uk or go to www.eisteddfod.org.uk.

Performance Stages

The timetable for the 2011 Performance Stages is filling up fast, so if you'd like to apply for a slot on one of the two stages, get in touch as soon as you can by emailing sioned@eisteddfod.org.uk. The stages are available for performances of all kinds – from choirs to clowns and from comedians to clog dancers! We are looking in particular for performers from the Wrexham area, so if you live or perform locally, and are keen to show your skills on the Eisteddfod Maes, let us know – and who knows – maybe you'll have a chance to entertain the crowds at the beginning of August this year.

Drama Competitions

All compositions in the Drama competitions must be received by the Organiser by 31 January. The adjudicators will then assess the winning compositions and choose the winner of this year's Drama Medal. The 2011 Medal is presented in memory of Urien Wiliam, by his wife, Eiryth, and the children, Hywel, Sioned and Steffan. For more information and details on how to enter, visit the 2011 Eisteddfod website.

Keep in touch

There's plenty of ways to keep in touch with the National Eisteddfod. You can call us on 0845 4 090 400 if you've got any questions about the festival itself, or send us an email – gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk. You can also keep in touch with us by following the Eisteddfod on Twitter – www.twitter.com/eisteddfod – and we'll be 'Tweeting' more regularly as the Eisteddfod approaches.

www.facebook.com/eisteddfod is the address if you want to keep in touch through facebook – and remember about the 2011 Eisteddfod supporters group and the group for those interested in Y Lle Celf. So remember, keep in touch with us throughout the year.

If you've received this newsletter through someone else or online, and you'd like to be included on our database, go to our website and register. Alternatively, you can send us an email – gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk

Love on the Maes

The two feast days of lovers are almost upon us, with St Dwynwen's Day on 25 January and the more traditional St Valentine's Day on 14 February. The National Eisteddfod would like to hear any love stories you may have relating to Wales' leading festival, as part of the Celebrate 150 campaign.

Did you meet your partner at a Maes B gig? Were you both competing for the same prize on

the Pavilion stage? Did you write a winning poem proclaiming your undying love for your sweetheart? Did you share your first romantic meal under the stars – at one of the Eisteddfod's own food patios? Whatever your Eisteddfod love story – we'd love to hear from you.

Did the Eisteddfod change your love life? Have you been together for years and years since meeting on the Maes? Share your love stories with us, help to put a smile on the

nation's face – and be in with a chance of winning a romantic meal for two at the restaurant on the Maes at this year's Eisteddfod in Wrexham.

You can complete our online memory form by going to www.eisteddfod.org.uk, or you can email us – gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk – or by contacting us through our page on facebook – www.facebook.com/eisteddfod. You can also add your memories to the People's Collection website – www.peoplescollectionwales.co.uk.