

Eisteddfod Genedlaethol

Wrecsam a'r Fro / Wrexham and District 2011

National Eisteddfod

Latest News



Evening entertainment in Wrexham

There's something for everyone in the National Eisteddfod's evening concert programme this year, according to organisers, and with just over a month to go before the Eisteddfod starts, there's still time to buy your tickets for the Pink Pavilion's evening programme.

Join us for our memorable opening night on Friday 29 July, with Wales' very own Three Tenors - Rhys Meirion, Aled Hall and Alun Rhys-Jenkins - joined by rising star, Fflur Wyn, Ysgol Morgann Llwyd Choir, and local male voice choirs - what better way to start the week than with an evening of classical favourites and some well known Welsh songs? This concert is sponsored by Wind Power Wales.

Clwyd Theatr Cymru Theatre for Young People has assembled a team of renowned professional artists from Wales, under the direction of Clwyd Theatr Cymru's award-winning director, Tim Baker, to work with Wrexham's young people. The performance on Saturday night, Heno Heno, is inspired by the wonderful book, 'Where Children Sleep' by James Mollison, published by Chris Boot. This concert is supported by the Arts Council of Wales.

Sunday evening is a feast of congregational hymn singing, led by experienced conductor, Geraint Roberts, originally from Wrexham, with Robert Parry on the organ. The Cymania is supported by Radnor Walk Welsh Congregational Church, Chelsea, London.

On Monday evening, join some of Wales' top stars, including Caryl Parry Jones, Huw Chiswell, Elin Fflur, Tecwyn Ifan and Al Lewis Band, as they perform all-time pop classics, by a wide range of composers. Enjoy an evening to remember at the Eisteddfod Pavilion as we hear the best Welsh pop songs ever written. This evening is sponsored by the Post Office.

Wynne Evans, star of the popular Go Compare adverts, Shân Cothi and Llŷr Williams are the stars celebrating both the Eisteddfod's visit to the Wrexham area and the National Eisteddfod's 150th anniversary. Among Tuesday evening's repertoire is a number of Eisteddfod-related well known pieces, so join us for a special evening on the Pavilion stage, with Alwyn Humphreys conducting the Chamber Orchestra of Wales. This evening is sponsored by the Ivor and Aeres Evans Trust.

There's competing on the Pavilion stage on Wednesday and Friday evening, and on Thursday evening, it's time to celebrate that the modern day Eisteddfod is 150 years old this year. And who better to lead the celebrations than the talented members of Ysgol Glangaethwy, also celebrating a special birthday this year? Join us to celebrate their 21st and our 150th birthday! This evening's concert is sponsored by the William Park Jones Profit Trust.

The Eisteddfod Choir take part in a memorable concert to end the week on Saturday evening. Joining the Choir is world-renowned conductor, Owain Arwel Hughes, and soloists, Anne Williams-King, Ann Atkinson, Geraint Dodd and David Kempster, accompanied by the Wales Chamber Orchestra. The concert is sponsored by Kellogg.

Order tickets online - www.eisteddfod.org.uk - or ring the ticket office - 0845 4090 800. More information available in the Official Programme, available to buy online or in all good bookshops from the beginning of July onwards.

Events

23 June

1 D Hooson Show 'Cyfaill Plant Cymru' at the Stiwt Theatre, Rhosllannerchugog. Performances at 4.30 and 6.30pm. Tickets £2 available from the School

24 June

Quiz at the Sun Inn, Rhosllannerchugog organised by Rhos Appeal Committee. 8.00pm

25 June

Garden party at Glasfryn, Gresford by invitation of Lord Thomas and Baroness Walmsley. 3.00 to 6.00pm. Tickets (including light refreshments, glass of wine and live entertainment) £12.50 (Adults), £5.00 (Children) or £30 for Family Tickets available from Mary Griffiths (01978) 854010

1 July

Quiz night at the Hammer Arms. Tables for teams of six - prizes on the evening. Tickets £6 per person to include sausage and chips supper. Tickets available from Sue, Yew Tree Cottage, Horseman's Green (01948) 830885. Diana Penley (01948) 830595 or from the Vicarage (01948) 830468. Warm welcome to everyone

2 July

Dion Griffiths 'UK's No. 1 Roy Chubby Brown Tribute Act' followed by Andy's Disco, Llay Miners Welfare, Wrexham. 7.30pm till late. Tickets £7.50 available from Llay Miners Welfare (01978) 852286; Llay Park Resource Centre (01978) 859020 or Rob Walsh 07915 476820

7 July

Ysgol Morgann Llwyd Summer Fair, Wrexham. Between 2.00 & 7.00 pm

15 July

Serenic Singers at the Long Room Eaton Park, Eccleston (further details to follow)

23 July

Y Ffin Music Festival on Llwyn Isaf Wrexham with Al Lewis Band and Hufen Ia Poeth performing as well as local bands, music groups and various stalls. Between midday and 5.00pm. Further information available from Menter Iaith Maelor (01978) 363791

3 August

Eisteddfod Open Golf Competition, Clays Golf Centre. For further information please contact the Centre on (01978) 661406 or book your tee times online at www.claysgolf.co.uk

3 August

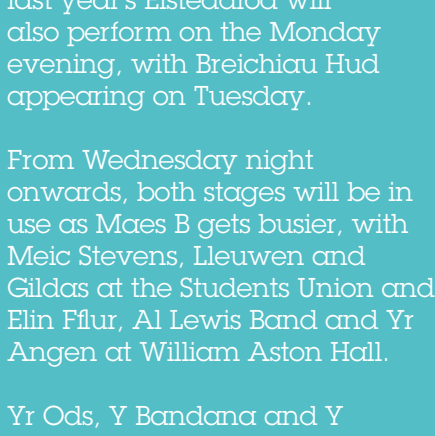
An evening of entertainment following the Eisteddfod Golf Competition with Dilwyn Morgann and the Tri Gog a Hwntw group, Clays Golf Centre, Wrexham. 8.30 onwards. Tickets £5 available from Mary Griffiths (01978) 854010

3 August

Ladies Golf Competition, Clays Golf Centre. For further information please contact the Centre on (01978) 661406 or book your tee times online at www.claysgolf.co.uk

5 August

An evening with Parti Cut Lloï & Siân James, Lager Club, Wrexham. 8.00 pm. Tickets £10



Maes B

Glyndwr University Campus is the location for this year's Maes B, with two stages offering a mix of music which will reinforce Maes B's important role in the Welsh language music calendar.

Y Niwl opens this year's festival on Saturday 30 July, managing to perform in Wrexham before rejoining Gruff Rhys on his international tour. Dau Cein, Yucatan and Land of Bingo will also perform in the Students Union.

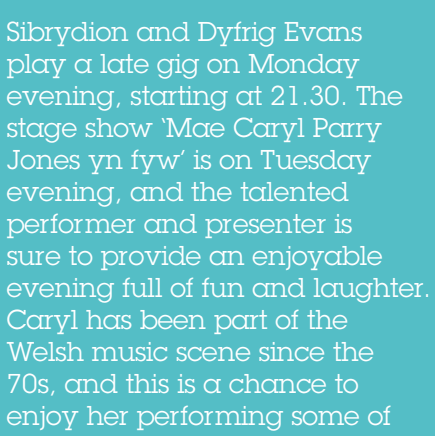
On Monday and Tuesday evenings, it's the Maes B Battle of the Bands competition, with a number of bands from all parts of Wales competing, with a slot on stage at Maes B on the final evening up for grabs. Y Cyfoes, who came third in the competition at last year's Eisteddfod will also perform on the Monday evening, with Breichiau Hud appearing on Tuesday.

From Wednesday night onwards, both stages will be in use as Maes B gets busier, with Meic Stevens, Llewelyn and Gildas at the Students Union and Elin Fflur, Al Lewis Band and Yr Angen at William Aston Hall.

Yr Ods, Y Bandana and Y Trydan will be in William Aston Hall on Thursday night, with Plant Dduw, Jen Jeniro and Sensegur at the Students Union.

The weekend begins with Acid Casuals' DJ set in the Union with Plyci, Crash Disco!, Cloud4Motions and DJs Electroneg 1000 on Friday night and Cowbois Rhos Botwnnog, Gai Toms and Catrin Herbert in William Aston Hall. Wrexham and District Eisteddfod's Maes B wraps up with Sibrýdion, Masters in France and Violas in William Aston Hall and Colorama, Huw M and Trwbador in the Students Union.

Tickets are available online - www.eisteddfod.org.uk or by calling the Ticket Line - 0845 4090 800.



Maes C

This year's Maes C is held at Ysgol Clywedog (the old Bryn Offa School), which is adjacent to the official caravan site on Lower Berse Farm, off Ruthin Road, Wrexham, next to the Maes itself.

The week starts on Saturday 30 July with Dafydd Iwan, Gwyneth Glyn and Aled Wyn's Disco - which is sure to appeal to a wide audience - and perfect for everyone embarking on a full week of Eisteddfod! Following last year's success, Sunday night is a family friendly event, with Bob Delyn a'r Ebillion, the evergreen songs of Cwm Rhyd y Rhosyn with Dafydd Iwan - which are so well-known to generations of children - and Twm Morys will also be performing Welsh nursery rhymes and lullabies.

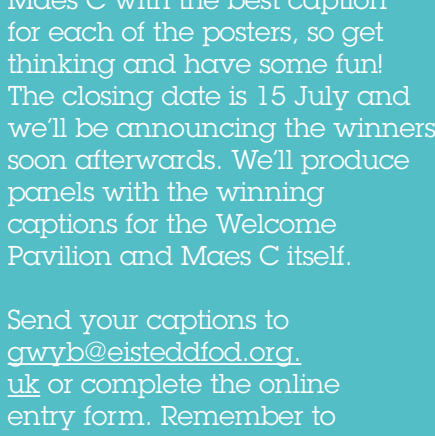
Sibrýdion and Dyring Evans play a late gig on Monday evening, starting at 21.30. The stage show 'Maes Caryl Parry Jones yn fyw' is on Tuesday evening, and the talented performer and presenter is sure to provide an enjoyable evening full of fun and laughter. Caryl has been part of the Welsh music scene since the 70s, and this is a chance to enjoy her performing some of her classics and sharing some funny stories about her songs.

Barddos and Literature Wales are responsible for Wednesday evening at Maes C. Dai dy Dafod with poets and performers Myrddin ap Dafydd, Ilor ap Glyn, Mei Mae, Twm Morys and Geraint Lovgreen, reliving the oppression and campaigns of the past through poetry and song, as we celebrate half a century since Saunders Lewis' iconic lecture, The Fate of the Language.

Thursday night is a real blast from the past, with Welsh seventies icon, Hywel Ffaiidd, performing a brand new show, especially commissioned for Maes C and written by Meic Povey. Make sure you order your tickets well in advance - they're sure to sell out!

Another evening which will undoubtedly sell out is Friday night - the Stomp, organised by Literature Wales - and the highlight of the week for many Eisteddfodwyr. Maffia Mr Huws bring the week to a close - the Welsh rock giants of the eighties - with Daniel Lloyd, Mr Pinc and DJ Aled Wyn. A great end to a packed week, offering something for people of all ages.

Maes C tickets are available online - www.eisteddfod.org.uk - or by ringing the Ticket Line on 0845 4090 800. Tickets for Dai dy Dafod and the Stomp can also be ordered from Literature Wales on 029 2047 2266. Maes C is jointly organised by the National Eisteddfod and Literature Wales. Literature Wales is the national organisation responsible for developing literature in Wales.



Captions competition

By now, Maes C materials are being distributed across Wales, to encourage Eisteddfodwyr and local people to book their tickets now. The materials are slightly different this year, using classic photos from the Eisteddfod archive, with captions, hoping these will put a smile on your face as you find out more about what's on offer.

We're also running a captions competition on our website and through the press and media. We've published four photos on our website (some of them are the same as the posters and promotional materials), and we want to see your captions! We've already had a win and now it's your turn!

Win a pair of tickets to the evening of your choice at Maes C with the best caption for each of the posters, so get thinking and have some fun! The closing date is 15 July and we'll be announcing the winners soon afterwards. We'll produce panels with the winning captions for the Welcome Pavilion and Maes C itself.

Send your captions to gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk or complete the online entry form. Remember to note the photo number with your entry. Good luck!

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

Stories from the Sole

Some of you may have heard of the Stories from the Sole campaign over recent weeks. It's an exciting initiative by the National Eisteddfod, Merched y Wawr and Save the Children. We've written to hundreds of well known women with Welsh links asking them to donate a pair of shoes. These will then be auctioned in the Literary Pavilion on the Eisteddfod Maes in Wrexham at 17.00 on Thursday 4 August, to raise money for the Save the Children charity.

We're also asking women across the whole of Wales to have a look at the back of their cupboards for a pair of shoes which are still in good condition - the pair you wore for that wedding, or those heels which were just too high - we've all got pairs of shoes we'll never wear again.

This year, Save the Children and Merched y Wawr will be running a shoe shop at the Eisteddfod, so if you've got a pair you'd like to donate, contact Merched y Wawr on 01970 611 661 or the Eisteddfod office - 0845 4090 400. All the money raised will go towards Save the Children, and given the response so far, it's likely to be a well-stocked and busy shop on the Maes from 30 July - 6 August this year.

Go bonkers for bunting

Go bonkers for bunting! The National Eisteddfod's simple message when promoting the latest campaign to launch this year's festival. The aim is to create a sea of colour across the Wrexham area, as we encourage everyone locally - businesses and local people - to go bonkers for bunting.

We're looking for your help in this campaign, so please join us and put a poster in your window, some bunting in your gardens, or have our literature on display in your shops, to help us to show the whole of Wales that there's a great welcome for the rest of Wales in Wrexham. It's very important that we show the welcome that exists for the Eisteddfod in the area which will soon be hosting this wonderful festival, and we always encourage people to give things their own local stamp.

Send us a photo of your shop or home - when decorated - and we'll organise a competition with prizes for the best decorated home in the area. The WI will be presenting a trophy to the business which has done most to promote the Eisteddfod visually locally, and we'll be putting some of our favourites on our website.

So please join us and get in touch to order your flags and posters - gwyb@eisteddfod.org.uk or you can use our online order form - and let's work together to go bonkers for bunting!

Be part of the Prize Draw

Have you bought a ticket for our prize draw yet? The local finance committee is holding a raffle with great prizes to help raise money and awareness regarding the Eisteddfod.

The first prize is a brand new Peugeot 107 car, with the 2011 spec, organised in conjunction with Dickens. The second prize is a £500 voucher for Silver Star Holidays. The third prize is £300, donated by Edgar and Jan Lewis, Wrexham. The draw will take place on the Eisteddfod Maes on Saturday 6 August. Thanks to everyone for their generosity.

If you'd like to buy or sell tickets to raise money for the local fund, contact the office in Mold or speak to the Chair of your local appeal committee, for a stock of tickets.

Special offer - two for the price of one

Remember, we've got a two tickets for the price of one scheme, which is aimed at local people living in the Wrexham area.

The scheme is a chance for local people to enjoy Wales' leading festival on their doorstep, on Lower Berse Farm, off Ruthin Road, Wrexham. This is the first time for the Eisteddfod to be held in Wrexham since 1977 and local residents have been busily preparing for the week for almost two years.

If you live within Wrexham County Borough, you can order your two for one tickets until 18 July. Call the Ticket Line on 0845 4090 800 or go to www.eisteddfod.org.uk and click on 'Tickets'. Over 15,000 leaflets and order forms will also be distributed throughout the area.

There are 10,000 two for one tickets available, so hurry to be part of this special offer. And if you order your tickets before 30 June, you'll save up to 12% on a Maes (field) ticket price.

We are grateful to the Welsh Government for its financial support towards this scheme.