



Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Sir Conwy
Conwy County National Eisteddfod
2-10 Awst / August 2019

The National Eisteddfod is a celebration of the culture and language in Wales, held annually in the first week of August, which travels from place to place alternating between north and south Wales, attracting around 150,000 visitors and over 250 trade stands and stalls. The modern history of the organisation dates back to 1861, with the Eisteddfod being held every year since, other than 1914 when the outbreak of the First World War saw it postponed for a year. Traditionally a competition-based festival, attracting over 6,000 competitors every year, the festival has developed and evolved over recent years, and whilst the competitions form the central focus for the week, the Maes (Site) itself has grown and developed into a vibrant festival with hundreds of events and activities for the whole family.

The National Eisteddfod is the natural showcase for music, dance, visual arts, literature, original performances and much more. Encompassing all aspects of the arts and culture in Wales, it is an inclusive and welcoming festival, attracting thousands of Welsh learners and those who do not speak the language, as well as Welsh speakers every year. Translation equipment services may be collected at the Reception Centre at the main entrance to the Maes. Bilingual information and a centre for Welsh learners can be found on the Maes itself.

The large Pavilion forms the focal point for the festival – where the competitions take place – from music and poetry to the spoken word and dancing. The competitive element is completed by 4:30pm each day to allow for the main ceremonies to take centre stage – the Crowning ceremony on Monday, Prose Medal on Wednesday and the Chairing of the Bard on the Friday. As part of the festival there are many evening concerts and fringe events, details may be viewed on the comprehensive Eisteddfod website eisteddfod.cymru/eisteddfod-2019 and follow the link.

The Eisteddfod is to be staged at the Plas Tirion and Cilcennus fields alongside the A470 between Llanrwst and Betws y Coed. A fundraising target of £5000 was set for Dolwyddelan and it is so pleasing to learn that this has been far exceeded thanks to generous donations from village organisations, individuals and others who have left the village.