

## Dolwyddelan Rolls Out the Sunshine on Boxing Day

If you needed proof that Dolwyddelan can turn absolutely anything into a world-class sporting event (with a straight face and a big laugh), Boxing Day delivered it in barrels.

Under a rare, suspiciously perfect winter sun, the village gathered for the annual Boxing Day barrel rolling competition, an event that sits proudly in the great Welsh tradition of “we’re not entirely sure how this started, but we’re definitely not stopping now.”

Organised by the team @ Y Gwydyr Pub, this year’s competition had everything: a proper crowd, excellent noise levels, and a roll-line of competitors ranging from seasoned locals to a team bolstered by international visitors from Australia - who arrived as tourists and left as honorary Dolwyddelan residents, presumably after learning the key rules of the day:

1. Grip tight.
2. Run faster than your dignity.
3. If it wobbles, commit.

And wobble it did.



The barrel, an object best described as “determined to do its own thing”, took on multiple personalities throughout the course. At times it rolled like a disciplined athlete. At other times it behaved like it had just remembered a different appointment elsewhere in the village.

Still, the competition was fierce in the way only a Dolwyddelan contest can be: half sporting ambition, half comedy theatre, all heart. Spectators