



## Dysgwyr y Flwyddyn 2017: Ein Profiadau Ni

# Dysgwyr y Flwyddyn 2017: Ein Profiadau Ni / Our Experiences

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Mae cystadleuaeth Dysgwr y Flwyddyn yn wobr fawreddog, ble mae dysgwyr o gwmpas Cymru, ac yn aml o dramor, yn dod at ei gilydd i rannu eu profiad o ddysgu'r iaith, darganfod diwylliant Cymreig a gweld pa gyfraniadau maen nhw'n eu gwneud yn barod neu eisiau eu gwneud i fywyd Cymraeg. Mae hi wedi bodoli ers 1990 (gweler rhestr enillwyr). Mae'r enillydd yn cael y cyfle i siarad mewn digwyddiadau gwahanol, ac yn y flwyddyn ddilynol yn cael ei wahodd i fod yn aelod o'r Gorsedd y Beirdd.

The Learner of the Year competition is a prestigious award, in which learners from all over Wales, and often overseas, come together to share their experiences of learning the language, discovering Welsh culture and what contributions they are making or would like to make to Welsh life. It has existed since 1990 (see a full list of winners). The winner gets the opportunity to speak at all sorts of events, and the following year is inducted as a member of the Gorsedd of the Bards.

Mae cystadlu'n ffordd wych o ddangos i'ch hunan, eich teulu, ffrindiau, tiwtoriaid a chyd-ddisgyblion pa mor bell dych chi wedi dod. Mae ysbryd cyfeillgar iawn i'r gystadleuaeth, ac mae llawer o ffrindiau gydol oes wedi datblygu drwyddi. I annog i pobl i gymryd rhan, mae'r pedwar ymgeisydd a gyrhaeddodd y rownd derfynol wedi rhannu eu profiad ac wedi esbonio sut mae'r gystadleuaeth wedi'i strwythuro.

Competing is great way to show yourself, your family, friends, tutors and classmates how far along the journey you have come. It is a very friendly-spirited competition, and many life-long friends have been made through it. To encourage learners to take part, the four 2017 applicants who reached the final round have shared their experiences and explained how the competition is structured.

Gall y rhai sydd â diddordeb mewn cystadlu lawrlwytho ffurflen gais o wefan yr Eisteddfod. I'r rhai sydd ddim yn gyfforddus gyda siarad yn gyhoeddus eto, mae yna bob math o gystadlaethau eraill, gan gynnwys canu, corau, drama ac ysgrifennu!

Those interested in competing can download an entry form from the Eisteddfod website. For those not yet comfortable with speaking in public yet, there are all sorts of other competitions, including singing, choirs, drama and writing!

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**Y Noson Wobrwyd, mis Awst 2017, Ynys Môn / The Awards Evening, August 2017, Anglesey**

## **Emma Chappell - Ennillwr**

Mi ges i fy ngeni yng Nghaergrawnt a fy magu yn Royston, Hertfordshire, ond rŵan, dwi'n byw yn Neiniolen efo fy mhartner Arwel a Deion a Guto, ein bechgyn bach ni, maen nhw 8 a 4. Fel teulu rydan ni'n mwynhau teithio a cherdded, rydan ni'n hoffi darganfod llefydd newydd yn yr ardal ac fel arfer, rydan ni'n mynd i rywle gwahanol bron bob penwythnos.

I was born in Cambridge and brought up in Royston in Hertfordshire, but now I live in Deiniolen with my partner Arwel and our 2 boys, Deion and Guto who are 8 and 4. As a family we enjoy travelling and walking, we like to explore new places in the area and usually go somewhere different most weekends.



Dechreus i ddysgu Cymraeg mewn dosbarthiadau nos yn Warrington - ro'n i'n byw yno pan wnes i gyfarfod fy mhartner, Arwel. Ar ôl i mi symud i Gymru, wnes i ddechrau dysgu trwy Brifysgol Bangor. Dw i wedi bod yn lwcus iawn oherwydd mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r bobl yn Neiniolen lle dwi'n byw, yn siarad Cymraeg, Cymraeg ydy iaith y tî a dwi'n defnyddio Cymraeg bob dydd yn fy ngwaith.

Ro'n i'n stiwardio'r llynedd ym Maes D. Mi ges i lot o hwyl yn cyfarfod pobl oedd wedi dod i siarad, neu ffeindio allan sut i ddysgu Cymraeg. Mi wnes i siarad efo llawer o bobl wrth gerdded o gwmpas y maes hefyd ac roedd pawb mor gyfeillgar. Roedd y croeso ym Maes D mor gynnes ac roedd llawer o weithgareddau. Os rwyti ti'n gallu mynd, neu wirfoddoli fel stiward, cer amdano fo.

Roedd nifer o bobl isio rhoi fy enw ymlaen, penderfynes i neud o am yr hwyl a'r profiad. Dw i'n hoffi cyfarfod pobl newydd a siarad, a ble sy'n well i wneud hyn nag yn yr Eisteddfod? Dw i wedi gwneud llawer o ffrindiau dros y blynnyddoedd trwy ddysgu Cymraeg, mae'n ffordd dda i gyfarfod pobl a dod â phobl yn agosach.

Yn y rownd gyntaf mae beirniaid yn gofyn cwestiynau wrthot ti, mae'n holol anffurfiol, ac mae fel sgwrs efo ffrindiau newydd. Rwyti ti'n gwybod yr atebion achos maen nhw amdanat ti a beth sydd ar dy ffurflen gais. Ar ôl hynny, mae pedwar yn mynd i'r rownd derfynol ac fel rhan o'r broses, rwyti ti'n treulio diwrnod efo crïw fflim a hefyd neud cyfweliadau ar y radio. Roeddwn braidd yn nerfus, ond ti'n dod i arfer yn fuan iawn! Mae pobl yn cael gwybod y canlyniad ar y 'Noson Fawr'. Y llynedd, roedd e mewn gwesty 'posh' ar Ynys Môn.

O ran ennill - wel, ro'n i'n speechless, a dydw i ddim fel arfer! Wrth fynd trwy'r broses, ro'n i'n meddwl roedd rhywun arall yn mynd i ennill. Pan wnes i dderbyn y wobr, do'n i ddim yn gwybod bysa pawb yn disgwyl rhyw fath o arai, felly roedd yn rhaid i mi feddwl am rywbedd call i ddweud yn sydyn iawn!

Mae'n bwysig fel dysgwyr i gymryd rhan mewn cystadlaethau - mae'n dangos i bobl pa mor bell dan ni wedi dod, ac mae'n datgelu cynydd i dy hunan hefyd. Mae hyder yn ofnadwy o bwysig, os rwyti ti'n hoffi sgwennu pethau, er engraiiff straeon neu ganeuon, neu os wyt ti'n hoff iawn o siarad, fel fi, paid â phoeni am beth mae pobl arall yn meddwl - jest neud be'r wyt ti'n mwynhau a cher amdani!

Dw i'n gwneud camgymeriadau trwy'r amser, ac os dydw i ddim yn gwybod gair, neu dydy o ddim yn swnio'n iawn fel dw i'n deud o, dw i'n ail ddeud o, neu dw i'n gofyn. Mae rhai dysgwyr yn poeni am beth mae siaradwyr iaith gyntaf yn meddwl - ond paid â phoeni.

Os wyt ti isio datblygu dy sgiliau siarad, ffeindia rhywun i siarad efo yn aml a ffeindio gorsaf radio yn y Gymraeg wyt ti'n hoffi a gwrando arno fo yn y car, neu tra ti yn y tî. Coelio fi, wneith pethau bach fel yna neud dipyn o wahaniaeth i ti.

I started learning Welsh in classes in Warrington as I was living there when I met my partner, Arwel. After I moved to Wales, I started learning through Bangor University. I have been very fortunate as most people in Deiniolen where I live, speak Welsh, Welsh is the language we use at home and I also use Welsh every day in work.

I was a steward last year in Maes D (the learners tent). I had a lot of fun meeting people who came in just to talk or get more information and wanted to learn Welsh. I spoke with lots of people while walking around the maes too and everyone was really friendly. The welcome in the Maes D was so welcoming and there were lots of activities. If you can go, or volunteer to be a steward, go for it.

Several people wanted me to put my name forward, so I did it for the fun and the experience. I like meeting new people and talking and where better to do this than in the Eisteddfod? I have made lots of friends over the years through learning Welsh, it really does bring people together.

In the first round the judges ask you questions, it's really informal, just like having a chat with some new friends. You know the answers because they are about you and what you put on your application form. Four people are picked to go into the final and as part of the process you spend a day with a film crew and do some interviews on the radio. I was a bit nervous to start with but you soon get used to it!

People find out the result on the 'Big Night' (that doesn't translate very well!). Last year, it was in a posh hotel on Anglesey.

With regards to winning - I was speechless, and I'm not usually! Throughout the process I thought that someone else was going to win. When I received the award I didn't realise that everyone would expect a speech, so I had to think of something sensible to say off the top of my head!

It is important as learners to take part in competitions- it shows people how far we have come, and it reveals progress to yourself as well. Confidence is really important, if you like writing things, for example stories and songs, or if you like talking, like me, don't worry about what other people think, just do what you enjoy and go for it!

It doesn't matter if you make mistakes - what is important is that you are trying. I make mistakes all the time, and if I don't know a word, or if it doesn't sound right as I say it, I either say it again or I ask the person I'm talking to. Some learners are worried about what first language speakers think- but don't worry.

If you want to develop your speaking skills, find someone to talk to regularly and find a Welsh language radio station that you like and listen to it in the car or at home. It's the little things like that that will make a big difference, believe me.

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Mae'n bwysig fel dysgwyr i gymryd rhan mewn cystadlaethau - mae'n dangos i bobl pa mor bell dan ni wedi dod, ac mae'n datgelu i dy hunan hefyd.

**Yn ychwanegol, rhoddodd Emma gyfweliad ar ôl ennill y wobr / Additionally, Emma gave an interview after winning the award.**

# Dani Schlick - Ymgeisydd a Gyrhaeddodd y Rownd Derfynol

O'r Almaen ydw i yn wreiddol, Almaenes Gymraeg erbyn hyn. Symudais i i Gymru yn yr haf 2015 ar ôl syrthio mewn cariad â'r wlad ac â'r iaith. Rydw i'n bellach yn byw ym Mhorthaethwy yn Ynys Môn, lle rydw i'n mwynhau bod yn agos at y môr a'r mynyddoedd, lle rydw i'n cerdded cymaint ag y medra i.

I'm from Germany originally, but am a Welsh German now. I moved to Wales in summer 2015 after falling in love with the country and its language. Now I live in Porthaethwy on Anglesey, where I enjoy being close to the sea and the mountains, where I walk as much as I can.



Os dach chi'n dysgu Cymraeg a bellach yn siarad iaith y nefoedd yn rhugl, dyma gystadleuaeth i chi. Mi gaethon ni'n pedwar gystadleuaeth a hanner.

I gystadlu, anfonwch eich cais, neu eich enwebiad, at yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol. Wedyn mi fyddwch chi'n cael gwahoddiad i gael eich cyfweld gan y tri beirniad. Mi fydd y cyfweliad yn para am 10 munud. Yn ddo bydd y beirniaid yn gofyn cwstiya'n i chi ar sail eich cais. Ond hefyd, wrth gwrs, mae'r cyfweliad yn gyfle i chi siarad amdanoch chi hunan, pam dach chi'n dysgu Cymraeg, sut dach chi'n byw eich bywyd drwy'r Gymraeg ayyb. Dyna'r rownd gyntaf.

Yn y rownd derfynol mae 'na gyfweliad arall gyda'r beirniad. Dyma gyfle i chi siarad mwy amdanoch chi'ch hunan a beth dach chi'n ei wneud i hybu a chefnogi'r iaith Gymraeg. Ar ôl y cyfweliad bydd sesiwn sgwrsio efo'r cyhoedd yn Maes D. Bron yn amser ymlacio, achos bydd pawb yn awyddus iawn i siarad efo chi ac i gael sgyrsiau difyr iawn efo chi.

Bydd y cyfweliadau i gyd yn cael ei ffilmio ac mi fydd Nia Parry (dach chi'n nabod Nia o'r raglen "Dal Ati") yn eich cyfweld chi hefyd. Roedd y camerâu yn dipyn o sioc ar y dechrau, ond peidiwch â phoeni amdanyn nhw. Mae pawb mor glêñ, fyddwch chi ddim yn sylwi ar y camerâu o gwbl.

Ar ôl y rownd gynderfynol mae amser cyffrous yn dechrau i'r pedwar fydd yn y rownd derfynol. Cyfle i chi ddangos i'r byd pwy ydych chi. Sut? Dim ond clip bach amdanoch ac ychydig o ffilmio ar gyfer raglen "Dal Ati". Mae crïw Cwmni Boom Cymru sydd yn ffilmio'r clipiau yn annwyl ac yn gefnogol iawn. Maen nhw'n wych ac yn awyddus i ddangos y gorau ohonoch chi.

Wrth gwrs, bydd gan Radio Cymru ddiidordeb yn ddogfennu chi hefyd. Mae rhaglen Post Cyntaf yn darlledu cyfweliadau efo'r 4 ymgeisydd ac yn cyhoeddi clip bach amdanoch chi ar wefan BBC Cymru Fyw. Mi fyddwch chi wedi hen arfer â'r camerâu a'r meics erbyn hynny. Ac yn bwysicach fyfth, mi fyddwch chi wedi cyfarfod llwyth o bobl wych ac wedi gwneud pethau cyffrous iawn.

A dweud y gwir, yn y pen draw, y beirniad sydd yn gorfol gwneud y gwaith caled. Nhw sydd yn gorfol penderfynu pwy fydd yn cyrraedd y rownd derfynol a phwy fydd yn ennill y gystadleuaeth. Penderfyniadau anodd iawn, achos mi fydd pawb fydd yn cystadlu yn gwneud yn wych.

Beth wnaeth y gystadleuaeth i mi? Wel, ces i adborth anhygoel gan gymaint o bobl wahanol. Un o fy ffrindiau gorau wnaeth fy enwebu i a'r on i'n gwybod bod cefnogaeth fy ffrindiau i gyd gen i. Ond fedra i ddim disgrifio beth ddigwyddodd ar ôl i Radio Cymru gyhoeddi'r cyfweliad a'r clip bach ar wefan Cymru Fyw. Ro'n i'n yng nghanol ymarferion efo Côr yr Eisteddfod i baratoi am gyngerdd "A Oes Heddwch", cyngerdd agoriadol Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Ynys Môn, ac roedd ambell aelod o'r côr yn gwybod mod i yn rownd derfynol y gystadleuaeth.

Ond, O Mam Bach! Ar ôl gwnaethon nhw glywed y cyfweliad a gweld y clip ar-lein, aethon nhw jyst yn boncers. Roedd pawb yn dynuno pob lwc ac yn fy llonygarch ar gyrraedd mor bell yn y Gymraeg. Wrth gwrs, ro'n i, wel ydyw, mor falch o fod yn rhan o'r diwylliant Cymraeg ac o fod yng nghanol bwrlwm y Brifwyl. Yn ystod yr Eisteddfod, bob tro r'on i'n cerdded dros y Maes, roedd

If you are learning Welsh and not far from the speaking the language of the heavens fluently, this is the competition for you. The four of us had quite a competition.

To compete, send your application, or nomination form, to the National Eisteddfod. Then you will receive an invitation to an interview with three judges. The interview lasts around 10 minutes. In it the judge asks questions to you about your application. But of course, the interview is an opportunity to speak about yourself, why you are learning Welsh, how you live your life through the language and so on. That is the first round.

In the final round there is another interview with the judges. This is a chance for you to speak more about yourself and what you do to promote and support the Welsh language. After the interview there is a chatting session with the public in the Maes D. It's almost time to relax, because everyone will be keen to speak with you and to have entertaining conversations with you.

The competitions are filmed and Nia Parry (you know Nia Parry from the Dal Ati programme) interviews you as well. The cameras were a bit of a shock at the start, but don't worry about them. Everyone is kind, so you won't notice the cameras at all.

After the semi-finals, the excitement starts for the four who arrive in the final round. This is a chance for you to show to the world who you are. How? Well, only a small clip about you and a bit of filming...again...for the programme Dal Ati. The crew from Boom Cymru film the clips and are very supportive. They are great and keen to show the best side of you.

Of course, Radio Cymru will have an interest in you as well. The programme First Post broadcasts interviews with the 4 applicants and publishes short clips on the BBC Cymru Fyw website. You will be an old hand with cameras and mics by then. And even brighter, you will have met a lot of great people and you will have done exciting things.

Actually, in the end it's the judges who have to do the hard work. They have to decide who will arrive in the final round and who will win the competition. These are very difficult decisions, because everyone who competes does a great job.

What has the competition done for me? Well, I got an incredible feedback from so many different people. One of my friends nominated me and I knew that I had my friends' support. But I can't describe what happened after Radio Cymru broadcasted the interview and published the clip on the Cymru Fyw website. I was in choir rehearsals with the Eisteddfod Choir to prepare for the concert "A Oes Heddwch", the opening concert of the National Eisteddfod on Anglesey, and some choir members knew that I was in the final of the competition.

But, oh my God! After they'd heard the interview and seen the clip online, they just went bonkers. They all wished me good luck and already congratulated me for getting so far with the Welsh language. Of course, I was, I still am, so proud to be a part of the Welsh culture and to have been in the centre of all the excitement in the main festival of the year. During the Eisteddfod, whenever I

pobl, do'n i ddim yn nabod, yn dweud heilo a phob lwc wrtha i. Am brofiad gwych!

Mae fy mywyd wedi newid yn llwyr ers i mi symud i Gymru beth bynnag. Ers y gystadleuaeth, rydw i'n fwy ymwybodol fyf o'r effaith mae dysgu Cymraeg a bod yn rhugl yn y Gymraeg yn cael ar berthynas rhwng pobl a fi. Mae pobl yn dal i fy adnabod i. A phan dw i'n cael fy nghyflwyno, mae'n sicr bod rhywun yn dweud mai un o'r pedwar yn rownd derfynol Dysgwr y Flwyddyn ro'n i. Mae'n wych gweld, pa mor gefnogol a pha mor falch mae pawb.

Ers mis Hydref rydw i'n trefnu sesiynau sgwrsio ar gyfer dysgwyr mewn tafarn ym Mangor (Peint a Sgwrs ydy'r enw). A hyd yn hyn, mae criw da o bobl yn mynychu i'r sesiynau- dysgwyr a Chymry Cymraeg. Rydw i'n cael cymaint o gefnogaeth gan y tiwtoriaid yng Nghanolfan Cymraeg i Oedolion ym Mangor (mae ambell diwtor yn ymuno â'r sesiynau i fwynhau peint a sgwrs), gan Fenter Iaith Bangor ac aelodau Merched y Wawr Bangor. Mae'n sesiynau bellach yn y golofn "Digwyddiadau" yn "Goriad", papur bro Bangor.

Felly, cerwch armdani, mwynhewch y gystadleuaeth a'r profiad arbennig! Mae'n gyfle unigryw i bawb sydd wedi cystadlu ac i bawb fydd yn cystadlu - profiad dan ni ddim isio ei golli.

wandered across the Maes, people I didn't know said hello and wished me good luck. What a great experience!

My life has completely changed since I moved to Wales. Since the competition, I'm even more aware of the effect that learning Welsh and being fluent in the language has on the relation between other people and me. People still know me. And when I'm introduced, somebody certainly will mention, that I was one of the four in the final of Welsh Learner of the Year. It's great to see how supportive and how proud everybody is.

Since October I've been organising nights in a pub in Bangor (they are called a Pint and a Chat) for Welsh Learners to have a chance to speak Welsh. So far, a really nice crew of people are attending the sessions- learners and native speakers. And I get so much support from the tutors of the Welsh for Adults Centre in Bangor (some of the tutors join the sessions to enjoy a pint and a chat), from Menter Iaith Bangor and even members of Merched y Wawr Bangor. By now the session are in the events column of "Goriad", Bangor's local newspaper.

So, go for it, enjoy the competition and special experience! It's a unique opportunity for everyone who competes and who will compete- an experience one doesn't want to miss.

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## Hugh Brightwell - Ymgeisydd a Gyrhaeddodd y Rownd Derfynol

Hugh Brightwell ydw i a dw i'n byw dros y ffin yn Ellesmere Port, ger Caer. Ges i fy ngeni yng Nghaer a fy magu yn Ellesmere Port. Er bod fy Mam wedi'i geni yn y Rhos, ger Wrecsam, ges i fy magu yn hollo ddi-Gymraeg. Dechreais ddysgu ychydig dros wyth mlynedd yn ôl. Dw i wedi dysgu efo Popeth Cymraeg, Prifysgol Bangor ac yn fwy diweddar efo Coleg Cambria.

Ers plentyndod dw i wedi treulio llawer o amser yng Nghymru, felly ar ôl i mi ymddeol penderfynais y byddai'n syniad da i ddysgu rhywfaint o Gymraeg, o leiaf digon i fod yn gwrtais e.e. "Esgusodwch fi..., Ga i...os gwelwch yn dda..., Lle mae'r... " ayyb. Ges i fy ysbyrdoli â thyfodd fy niddordeb yn niwylliant a hanes Cymru (dydy'r ddau ddim yn cael eu dysgu yn Lloegr) a dyna ni.

I'm Hugh Brightwell and I live across the border in Ellesmere Port, near Chester. I was born in Chester and raised in Ellesmere Port. Even though my mother was born in the Rhos, (Rhosllannerchrugog), near Wrecsam, I was brought up completely without any Welsh. I started to learn a little more than eight years ago. I have learnt with Popeth Cymraeg, Bangor University and more recently with Coleg Cambria.



Since childhood I have spent a lot of time in Wales, therefore after I had retired I decided it would be a good idea to learn some Welsh, at least enough to be polite e.g. "Excuse me, Can I have... please, Where is the" etc. I became inspired and my interest in the culture and history of Wales (the two are not taught in England) grew and there we are.

Dw i'n falch iawn ein bod ni gyd yn cael cynnig i ysgrifennu am y gystadleuaeth. Dw i'n meddwl y bydd yn help mawr iawn i rai sy'n meddwl cystadlu i gael mwy o wybodaeth o flaen llaw. Felly, dwi'n croesawu'r cynnig i ni helpu ac annog pobl i gymryd rhan drwy rannu ein profiadau.

Nes i gystadlu yng nghystadleuaeth Dysgwr y Flwyddyn oherwydd roedd rhai eraill yn y dosbarth yn gwneud cais hefyd, felly roedd yn dipyn o hwyl, nes i feddwl dim am lwyddo. Ar ôl i mi gael fy enwi yn un o'r pedwar i fynd i'r rownd derfynol ges i gefnogaeth oddi wrth diwtoriaid, cydfyfyrwyr, ffrindiau Cymraeg a'r cyhoedd. Roedd

I am very pleased that we all have the chance to write about the competition. I think it will be very useful for those thinking of competing to have more information beforehand. So I welcome the opportunity for us to help and encourage people to take part by sharing our experiences.

I went into the Learner of the Year competition because some others in the class were also trying, so for a bit of fun without me having any expectation of succeeding. After I was named as one of four to go to the final round I received support and encouragement from tutors, fellow

yn anghredadwy i mi gymaint o bobl sydd â diddordeb yng nghystadleuaeth y dysgwyr. Roedd 'na adegau pan oedd yr holl brofiad yn afreal ond roedd popeth mor werthfawr. Wna i byth anghofio Haf 2017.

students, Welsh speaking friends and members of the public. It was unbelievable to me how many people there are with an interest in a learners competition. There were times when the whole experience felt unreal but everything was so worthwhile. I will never forget the summer of 2017.

Nid fi oedd wedi ennill y teitl- mae Emma Chappell yn enillydd teilwng, ond ges i'r anrhymedded i fod un o'r pedwar oedd yn mynd i'r rownd derfynol.

Ydw i'n teimlo y gwnes i fethu? Nac ydw, enillais ffrindiau newydd, ges i brofiadau gwych a chwrddais i lawer o bobl ddiddorol.

Dw i wedi bod yn brysur ers y cyfweliad cyntaf ac ar ôl seremoni'r cyhoeddiad. Dw i'n siŵr tasech chi'n dod yn un o'r grŵp 'na byddech chi'n brysur hefyd. I fod yn onest dw i wedi bod yn brysurach nag o ni wedi'i ddisgwyl.

Dw i wedi ysgrifennu erthyglau bach ar gyfer adrannau marchnata colegau ac wedi cael fy ngyfweld gan gwmniau radio â theledu. Roedd yn rhaid i mi ysgrifennu erthyglau ar gyfer papurau bro a hefyd ges i'r anrhymedded o gael fy newis i fod yn un o feirniad cystadleuaeth "Dysgwyr y Flwyddyn" yn yr Eisteddfod ym Mhatagonia. Mae'n erthygl ar y wefan 'ma am fy mhrofiadau wrth wneud hyn tasai gynnoch chi ddiddordeb.

Gobeithio ga i rannu gyda chi dipyn o beth ddysgais i ar hyd y daith.

Peidiwch â phoeni gormod am y teitl "Dysgwyr y Flwyddyn"- mae o'n eithaf camarweiniol. Dw i'n siŵr y bydd unrhyw un sy wedi ennill y teitl yn cytuno mai "Llysgennad y Dysgwyr" ydy gwir ystyr y teitl. Mae'r beirniaid yn chwilio am rywun i gynrychioli dysgwyr, rhywun sy'n medru siarad yn rhugl ac yn hyderus, sy wedi gwneud ymdrech i fod yn rhan o'r gymuned Gymraeg, a gobeithio, rhywun sy wedi gwneud ymdrechion i hybu'r iaith yn barod.

Ga i'ch cyfeirio chi at gyfweliad (yn Gymraeg yn unig) efo'r un o'r beirniaid: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSKt9AmF0G8>. Y brif neges dw i isio dweud wrthoch chi yw: "Peidiwch â phoeni".

Mae'n naturiol iawn i chi deimlo'n nerfus, gobeithio y galla i roi tipyn o gysur i chi. Pan ewch chi i'r rownd gynderfynol does 'na ddim angen bod yn ofnus? Mae'r beirniaid yn groesawgar, yn gyfeillgar ac yn amyneddgard, fyddan nhw ddim yn gofyn cwestiynau i'ch twyllo chi. Mae'r cyfweliadau efo'r beirniaid, yn y rownd gynderfynol a therfynol, yn breifat ar wahân i griw teledu sy yna hefyd ac yn bobl glênn. Fyddwch chi ddim yn cystadlu wyneb yn wyneb efo'ch cyd-gystadleuwyr. Mi fydd y beirniaid isio'ch bod chi'n dweud wrthyn nhw am eich profiadau yn dysgu Cymraeg, sut dach chi'n defnyddio'r iaith ſŵan a sut dach chi'n bwriadu datblygu'ch defnydd o'r iaith yn y dyfodol. Mi fydd y cwestiynau'n seiliedig ar eich cais, felly gwnewch yn siŵr ei fod wedi cael ei ysgrifennu yn gyflawn a'i fod yn wir.

Tasech chi'n ddigon ffodus i fynd i'r rownd derfynol bydd cwmniau teledu â radio isio gwneud cyfweliadau gyda chi- ar y dydd, ac yn hwyrach, gartref. Unwaith eto, peidiwch â phoeni, dydyn nhw ddim isio'ch bod chi'n cael eich siomi. Maen nhw i gyd isio dangos dysgwyr mewn ffordd dda a tasech chi'n ansicr neu'n nerfus o flaen y camera neu'r meic maen nhw'n amyneddgard iawn.

Yn ystod wythnos yr Eisteddfod bydd yn rhaid i chi roi cyflwyniad bach amdanoch chi'ch hun ym Maes D ac wedyn siarad efo grwpiau bach o'r gynulleidfa i ddangos eich bod chi'n hyderus i siarad yn gyhoeddus, tra bod y beirniaid yn gwyllo. Dach chi bron yna, dim ond ymlacio sy angen, bydd y gynulleidfa - tiwtoriaid, dysgwyr a Chymry Cymraeg yn falch eich bod chi wedi gwneud ymdrech i ddysgu'r iaith.

A dyna chi, mae'r gystadleuaeth wedi gorffen. Llongyfarchiadau, dach chi wedi goroesi- da iawn chi. Gyda'r nos bydd pryd o fywyd swmpus yn rhwle moethus yn agos at y Maes, wedyn dangosiad o'r ffilmiau mae Cwmni Boom TV wedi eu gwneud cyn y cyhoeddiad mawr. Wnewch chi ennill- pwy a wŷr? Gwnewch gais, wnewch chi ddim difaru.

No, it wasn't me that won the title- Emma Chappell is a worthy winner, but I had the honour to be one of the four that went through to the final round. Do I feel that I failed? No, I won new friends, had wonderful experiences and met a lot of interesting people.

I've been busy ever since the first interview and after the ceremony to announce the winner. I'm sure that if you become one of this group you will be busy as well. To be honest I have been busier than I was expecting.

I have written small articles for marketing departments of colleges and been interviewed by radio and television companies. I was asked to write articles for local Welsh language newspapers and I also had the honour to be chosen as co-judge for the Learner of the Year competition in the Eisteddfod in Patagonia. There is an article on this website about my experiences in doing this if you are interested.

Hopefully I can share with you a little of what I learnt on the journey.

Don't worry too much about the title Learner of the Year- it is a little misleading. I am sure that anyone who has won the title will agree that Ambassador for Learners is the true meaning of the title. The judges are looking for someone to represent all learners, someone who can speak fluently and confidently, someone who has made an effort to become part of the Welsh speaking community, and hopefully someone who has already made efforts to promote the language.

Can I refer you to an interview (in Welsh only) with one of the judges : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSKt9AmF0G8>. The main message I want to tell you is: "Don't worry".

It is very natural to feel nervous, hopefully I can give you some reassurance. When you go to the semi-final round there is no need to be frightened. The judges are welcoming, friendly and patient, they will not be asking trick questions. The interviews in the semi-final and in the final round are in private apart from the television crew who are also very nice people. You will not be competing face to face with your fellow competitors. The judges will want you to tell them about your experiences in learning Welsh, how you use the language now and how you intend to develop your use of the language in the future. The questions will be based on your application so make sure that it is complete and true.

If you are fortunate enough to go through, television and radio companies will want to interview you- on the day and later at home. Once again, don't worry, they don't want to disappoint you or show you up. They all want to show learners in a good way and if you are nervous in front of the camera or mike they are very patient.

During the week of the Eisteddfod you will have to give a small self-introduction in Maes D (the learners tent) and then proceed to talk there with small groups of the audience, to show that you are confident speaking in public, whilst the judges look on. You are almost there, you must relax, a lot of the audience will be tutors, learners or Welsh speaking Welsh people who are proud that you have made an effort to learn the language.

And there you are, the competition has finished. Congratulations, you have survived- well done you. In the evening there will be a sumptuous meal somewhere luxurious close to the Maes (Eisteddfod site) then a showing of the films made by the television company Boom TV before the big announcement. Will you win- who knows? Try for it, you won't regret it.

“

Enillais ffrindiau newydd, ges i brofiadau gwych a  
chwrddais i lawer o bobl ddiddorol.

## **Richard Furniss - Ymgeisydd a Gyrhaeddodd y Rownd Derfynol**

Yn wreiddiol o ardal Croesoswallt, bellach yn byw yn Llangefn, Ynys Môn, mi wnes i ddechrau dysgu Cymraeg yn 2005 (amser maith yn ôl!) pan roeddw i'n mynd i'r Prifysgol yn Bangor. I ddechrau, wnes i ddysgu i helpu ffindio gwaith, ond dw i wedi dysgu mwy am Gymru, ei phobl, ei diwylliant ac ei hanes tryw dysgu'r iaith. Hefyd, mi wnes i briodi Cymraes o Ynys Môn. Dw i'n hoff iawn o chwaraeon, yn enwedig rygbi, pêl-droed a rali. Yn ychwanegol, hoff iawn o deithio- neu jyst mynd ar wyliau!

Originally from the Oswestry area, now living in Llangefn, Anglesey, I started learning Welsh in 2005 (quite a while ago!) when I was going to university in Bangor. To start, I learnt to help find work, but I have learnt more about Wales, its people, its culture and its history through learning the language. Also, I married a Welsh woman from Anglesey. I'm very fond of sports, especially rugby, football and rallying. In addition, I'm very fond of travelling- or just going on holiday!



I fod yn onest, doeddwn i ddim yn gwybod lot am Ddysgwyr y Flwyddyn cyn i mi yrru'r ffurflen gais i mewn! Wrth gwrs dw i wedi gweld pethau ar S4C, ond dim ond y noson wybro - dim byd am y broses ei hun. Do'n i ddim yn gwybod beth i ddisgwl o gwbl.

Fi fy hun, dw i wedi bod yn dysgu Cymraeg ers 2005, ac rwy'n dod o'r Canolbarth, ond mi ges i fy magu yn Sir Amwythig. Dw i'n dod o deulu sy wedi colli'r Gymraeg dros y ganrif ddiwethaf. Doedd Mam a Dad ddim yn siarad Cymraeg o gwbl.

R'on i'n meddwl cystadlu yn 2015 ym Meifod, am fod Meifod llai na 10 milltir o ble mae'r teulu'n byw. Yn anffodus, wnes i ddim mynd yn bellach na meddwl; wnes i ddim edrych i mewn i'r peth. Felly, pan ddaeth yr Eisteddfod i Ynys Môn yn 2017 (lle dw i'n byw'r wän), roedd o'n gyfle arbennig o dda i wneud rhywbeth yn ystod yr Eisteddfod...es i amdani!

Ar ddiwrnod y rownd gynderfynol, fi oedd y person cyntaf i fynd i mewn i weld y beirniaid. Ro'n i braidd yn nerfus (fel dach chi'n gallu gweld yn y clip ar Dal Ati), ond wnes i drio ymlacio a siarad yn glir. Dw i ddim yn rhwun creadigol o gwbl, felly, dw i ddim yn gryf yn y maes ysgrifennu barddoniaeth, llenyddiaeth neu rywbeth fel 'na. Ond, dw i'n gallu siarad lot o Gymraeg ac yn malu awyr efo pobl am oriau. Ar ôl munud neu ddwy, wnes i ddechrau ymlacio, jyst mewn pryd i'r cyfweliad offren!

Yn y prynhawn, roedd y cyhoeddriad o'r pedwar sy'n mynd i'r rownd derfynol. Ges i sioc fawr pan gaeth fy enw ei ddarllen allan gan y beirniaid - do'n i ddim yn disgwyl mynd trwyddo, roedd y safon yn Oriel Môn mor uchel.

Trwy wneud yr holl broses, dw i wedi cael llwyth o hyder i ddefnyddio fy Nghymraeg. Hefyd, dw i wedi sylwi bod 'na lot mwy o bobl sy'n barod i siarad Gymraeg efo fi'r wän, lle wnaethon nhw ddim cyn y gystadleuaeth (neu ella doedden nhw ddim yn gwybod mod i'n gallu siarad Cymraeg). Mae pawb wedi bod mor gefnogol, mae'n ysbrydoliaeth fawr i gael pobl iaith gyntaf yn deud pethau mor gyfeillgar wrtha i.

Yr un peth sy'n aros yn y cof ar ôl yr holl beth ydy'r cyfweliad ar Radio Cymru. Ges i hwyl yn gwneud y cyfweliad efo nhw. Ond ar y diwrnod pan gafodd y darn ei ddarlledu, a'r ffraith bod y Cyflwynnydd mor bositif a chanmoliaethus ar ôl clywed y darn, ro'n i'n teimlo'n wrth fy modd bod pobl yn meddwl mod i'n swnio'n rhug! Mi wnai gofio'r teimlad yna am flynyddoedd.

Mae 'na ddau beth 'swn i'n eu hargymhell i unrhyw un sydd isio cystadlu:  
1) Trio gwneud pethau yn eich cymuned efo'r iaith. Mae'n bwysig iawn i gymryd rhan, ac mi wneith eich Cymraeg wella trwy ymarfer efo pobl arall. Mi fasai pobl yn falch iawn i'ch cefnogi chi!  
2) Mynd amdani. Does gynnoch chi ddim byd i'w golli trwy yrru'r ffurflen i mewn. Mi fyddwch chi'n cyfarfod pobl newydd yn ystod y broses.

Ers yr haf, dw i wedi bod yn ôl ar y Cwrs Meistroli ym Mangor, wedi bod yn defnyddio fy Nghymraeg mwy bob dydd a'r wän dw i'n trio hybu'r iaith yn y swyddfa ac yn cael pobl o'r gwaith i ddechrau ar y cwrs "Welsh in the Workplace" ar-lein. Doeddwn i erioed wedi meddwl bod fy Nghymraeg yn ddigon cryf i gyrraedd y rownd derfynol, ond mi wnes i! Felly, mynd amdani a mwynhau eich hun. Mi fydd pobl yn eich cefnogi chi ac mi gewch chi fwy o hyder efo'r Gymraeg!

To be honest, I didn't know much about Learner of the Year before I sent my application form in! Of course, I had seen things on S4C, but only the awards evening- nothing about the process itself. I didn't know what to expect at all.

I have been learning Welsh since 2005, and come from Mid-Wales, although I was brought up in Shropshire. I'm from a family that had lost its Welsh over the last century or so. My Mum and Dad don't speak Welsh at all.

I was thinking of competing in 2015 in Meifod (near Welshpool), with Meifod less than 10 miles from where my family live. Unfortunately, I didn't go further than thinking about it; I didn't look into it. So, when the Eisteddfod came to Anglesey in 2017 (where I live now), it was a special opportunity to do something during the Eisteddfod...I went for it!

On the day of the semi-final, I was the first person to go in to see the judges. I was rather nervous (as you can see on the Dal Ati clip), but I tried to relax and speak clearly. I'm not someone who is very creative at all, I'm not strong when it comes to writing poetry, literature or things like that. But, I can speak a lot of Welsh and talk and talk for hours with people. After a minute or two, I started relaxing, just in time for the interview to finish!

In the afternoon, there was the announcement of the four who had made to the final. It was a big shock when my name was read out by the judges - I wasn't expecting to go through, the standard at Oriel Môn was so high.

Through doing the whole process, I have gained lots of confidence in using my Welsh. Also, I have realised that there are a lot more people compared to before the competition (or maybe they didn't know that I could speak Welsh). Everyone has been so supportive, it has been inspiring for people who are Welsh first language to be so supportive and friendly.

The one thing that sticks in my mind after the whole thing is the interview on Radio Cymru. I had fun doing the interview with them. But on the day when the item was broadcast, the fact that the Presenter was so positive and complimentary, after hearing the piece, I was feeling delighted that people thought I sounded fluent! I will remember that feeling for years.

There are two things that I would recommend to anyone that wants to compete:  
1) Try to do things in your community with the language. It's very important to take part, and your Welsh will improve through practising with other people. People will be very pleased to support you!  
2) Go for it. You won't lose anything by sending the form in. You will meet new people through the process.

Since the summer, I have been back on the Cwrs Meistroli in Bangor, I've been using my Welsh more every day and now I'm trying to promote the language in my workplace and have people in work start the Welsh in the Workplace online course. I'd never thought that my Welsh was strong enough to reach the final round, but I did it! So, go for it and enjoy yourself! People will support you and you will have more confidence with Welsh!

## “

Trio gwneud pethau yn eich cymuned efo'r iaith.

Mae'n bwysig iawn i gymryd rhan, ac mi wneith eich Cymraeg wella trwy ymarfer efo pobl arall.



Seremoni i gyhoeddi'r enillydd 2017 / Ceremony to announce the 2017 winner

Mae mwy o wybodaeth am y Maes D ar Trydar @MaesD\_Steddfod ac ar Facebook  
More information on the Learners' Tent is on Twitter @Maes D and on Facebook.

**Eisteddfod**  
**2018**

**Caerdydd / Cardiff**  
**3–11 Awst / August**

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