

IWA Newsletter

Events this autumn

This autumn could prove one of the busiest ever for IWA events with no fewer than eight conferences or guest speakers already confirmed and several more ideas under discussion. For your information this is what is currently planned at the start of September but we hope to give you further details soon of another Conversation in Swansea at which Peter Stead will talk to one of the city's best-known sportsmen and on a seminar on Binge Drinking also in Swansea – highly topical in view of the change in the law allowing longer drinking hours due to come into force later in the year. Details of these extra events will be posted on our website and we will also be sending out information by post and e-mail to members in West Wales. If you wish to book please call 029 2066 6606 or visit our website.

Thursday 29 September 2005 Conference 9.30- 4.30 Coleg Gwent, Usk
The Hidden Economy of Rural Wales £30 to include lunch

Friday 30 September 2005 Lunch 12.00 for 12.30 Park House Club, Park Place, Cardiff
Social Innovation and Change Geoff Mulgan, director of the Michael Young Foundation
£30 (£27.50 IWA members) £250 table for ten

Wednesday 5 October 2005 Conference Thistle Hotel Cardiff
Wales on the Web £70 to include lunch and publication

Friday 7 October 2005 Dinner 7.30 for 8 Halliwell Centre, Trinity College Carmarthen
West Wales after Objective One Adam Price, MP £20 (£17.50 IWA members) £175 table for ten

Thursday 20 October 2005 Lunch 12.00 for 12.30 Park House Club Park Place Cardiff
The WAO Factor Jeremy Colman, Auditor General for Wales. £30.00 (£27.50 IWA members)
£250 Table for 10

Thursday 27 October 2005 Launch Event 7.00 Theatre Brycheiniog, Brecon
Future of Upland Wales Free

Friday 18 November 2005 Conference 10.00 – 5.00 Memorial Institute, Newbridge
Restoring our Past for the Future Griff Rhys Jones actor and heritage enthusiast
Conference and Lunch £30

Wednesday 23 November 2005 Conference 9.30 – 4.30 Thistle Hotel, Cardiff
Financing Large Scale Public Sector Projects
Conference and lunch £90 (£75 IWA members).

Friday 2 December 2005 Conference 9.30 – 4.30 Celtic Royal, Caernarfon
Future Governance of North Wales Conference 9.30 - 4.30
Conference and lunch £35.

Monitoring Reports

From this autumn our regular monitoring reports on the National Assembly will be coming out in a slightly different format. Our previous agreement to produce these reports in association with the constitution Unit at University College, London has now come to an end and we will in future be working closely with public affairs consultancy Grayling to continue the service. In future, however, we will be producing the reports three times a year to co-incide with Assembly terms rather than quarterly. The reports are sent to all corporate members as part of their subscription

and can be obtained at half price (£5) by individual members on application to the IWA offices (029 2066 6606). They really are the best way of obtaining a review of all that has happened in the Assembly and also contain much other valuable information on relations with Whitehall and Westminster, local authorities, and Europe, on legislative proposals, constitutional issues, and the political parties. We also hope to be incorporating a number of improvements that will make the reports even more relevant over coming months. If you would like a copy of the next issue due out shortly please give us a call.

Eisteddfod 2005

For those of you who braved the elements at the beginning of the week to attend the National Eisteddfod at Y Faenol you may have noticed a significantly larger IWA presence than usual. This was of course due to Creu Cyfle-Cultural Explosion, the IWA-led European-funded project which aims to increase awareness in Wales of the ten new member states of the EU through cultural events.

The week was packed full of events, most of which took place at the shared IWA/Creu Cyfle stand with all the partners involved in the project hosting their own event. From the workshop held by international harpist Catrin Finch on the first Saturday to the WDA Food Directorate-sponsored reception of Tastes From the New EU Member States on the Friday evening all events were hugely successful.

The showpiece event as far as the IWA was concerned was the Institute's annual lecture, given this year by Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas, Presiding Officer of the National Assembly for Wales. Appropriately enough the topic of the lecture was on Creating a New Europe – Enlarging our Borders and was followed by a lively debate on some of the issues raised by the talk. Copies of the lecture will be sent shortly to all members. Thanks again to S4C for sponsoring the lecture.

As well as the partners involved in the Creu Cyfle-Cultural Explosion – Academi, Canolfan Gerdd William Mathias, Dawns i Bawb, S4C and Gwynedd Council – continuing with their own individual assignments as part of the project we are already preparing to host a European Conference on the Cultural Industries in February next year. European funding post 2007 will pose new challenges for all concerned; the conference will provide funding information and professional development advice on how to access such funding. Further details will follow but if you require more information on the conference please get in touch with us.

Wales in London

The following events have been organized for the autumn by our affiliated organization, Wales in London. IWA members who would like to book for any of these should contact Sandra Wright, 020 7877 0472 sandra.wright@wda.co.uk

Wednesday September 21st Professor Dylan Jones-Evans Co-Director, national Entrepreneurship Observatory for Wales

Wednesday October 26th Gareth Hall, Chief Executive, Welsh Development Agency

Wednesday November 23rd Roger Lewis managing director ITV Wales

Planet

Planet magazine which has been offering its distinctive commentary on Welsh and international affairs for nearly 40 years is seeking new subscribers. If you are not already a subscriber and would like to receive a free inspection copy together with information about the magazine call its offices on 01970 611255.