

03.12.2020

Cathryn Ings  
Cyswllt Contact  
Ffôn Phone  
03305 880450

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**Erthygl i'r Wasg Press Release**

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## Selebs yn dathlu eu taith i ddysgu Cymraeg

Ar ddechrau'r flwyddyn ryfedd hon, bu pum seleb ar daith led led Cymru er mwyn dysgu Cymraeg.

Treuliodd y pum wyneb adnabyddus sef - Carol Vorderman, Colin Jackson, Ruth Jones, Adrian Chiles a Scott Quinnell gyfnod gyda phum mentor Cymraeg eu hiaith oedd hefyd yn wynebau adnabyddus.

Wrth iddynt fynd ar daith bersonol i ardaloedd yng Nghymru a oedd yn berthnasol iddyn nhw, roedd rhaid siarad Cymraeg gyda'u mentoriaid a chyflawni sawl her ieithyddol hefyd.

Roedd gan bob seleb reswm personol iawn dros siarad Cymraeg - roedd Ruth Jones eisiau gwella ei Chymraeg llafar a Carol Vorderman yn teimlo bod dysgu'r iaith yn rhan annatod o'i Chymreictod.

Mewn rhaglen arbennig **Iaith ar Daith 'Dolig** ar S4C ar 17 Rhagfyr - rhyw chwe mis ar ôl i'r gyfres darlledu - rydym yn dal i fyny gyda'r selebs a'u mentoriaid y cyflwynydd tywydd Owain Wyn Evans, y cyflwynydd radio Eleri Siôn, yr actores a chomedïwraig Gillian Elisa, y newyddiadurwr Radio One Steffan Powell a'r cyflwynydd chwaraeon Sarra Elgan.

Felly lle mae'r pump wedi cyrraedd ar eu taith i ddysgu Cymraeg? Ydyn nhw wedi cyrraedd y llinell derfyn neu ydy'r olwynion wedi cwympo oddi ar eu hymdrehchion i ddysgu iaith y nefoedd?

Teithiodd Ruth Jones, Gillian Elisa a Cariad y ci o Lanbed i Borthcawl. Dyma beth oedd gan Ruth i ddweud am ei hymdrehchion i ddefnyddio'r hyn yr oedd hi wedi dysgu yn y misoedd ar ôl ei thaith gyda Gillian:

"Dw i wedi cael lot o gyfleoedd i ymarfer fy Nghymraeg achos mae lot o ffrindiau 'da fi sy'n gallu siarad Cymraeg. O'n i'n gallu gadael negeseuon ar WhatsApp, ac ar y ffôn hefyd. Dw i'n ffeindio mae rhaid i fi gael hyder i jysd neidio mewn a dechrau siarad Cymraeg - defnyddio'r iaith a pheidio poeni am y camgymeriadau."

O Rydaman i'r Gwŷr aeth Adrian Chiles a'i fentor Steffan Powell. Roedd Adrian yn poeni ei fod e wedi anghofio popeth a ddysgodd e yn ystod y daith.

"Dw i wedi dysgu Cymraeg ond dw i wedi anghofio popeth – mae'n rhaid imi ddysgu eto! Ond dw i yn gwybod mwy rŵan. Dwi'n medru dweud brawddegau a dw i'n mwynhau siarad Cymraeg," meddai Adrian.

Prestatyn i Borthgain oedd taith Carol Vorderman a'i mentor Owain Wyn Evans - siwrnai llawn lliw a chwerthin. Ond ydy Carol wedi cael y cyfle i ddefnyddio'r hyn a ddysgodd hi yn ystod y daith?

"Na - daeth y *lockdown* a dw i wedi bod yn fisi yn dysgu mathemateg i hanner miliwn o blant. Ond dw i wedi dysgu cwpl o jôcs. Be' ti'n galw plismon o ogledd Cymru? Copa'r Wyddfa!"

Aberaeron oedd man cychwyn taith Colin Jackson ac Eleri Siôn a Chaerdydd oedd pen y daith i'r ddau. Ond lle mae Colin wedi cyrraedd yn ei daith i ddysgu Cymraeg?

"I fi mae e wedi bod yn strygl go iawn - diffyg hyder a diffyg cyfleoedd i ymarfer. Ond dyw fy nhaith dim ar ben. Dw i byth wedi camu yn ôl o sialens yn fy mywyd a dw i ddim yn mynd iadael hyn i drechu fi."

Teithiodd Scott Quinnell o Sir Gâr i Went gyda'i fentor Sarra Elgan. "Dw i yn siarad tipyn bach mwy o Gymraeg nawr a dw i moyn siarad mwy o Gymraeg yn y dyfodol," meddai Scott. "Dw i moyn dysgu a mynd mas 'na a siarad Cymraeg i bawb sy'n siarad â fi yn Gymraeg."

Yn ogystal â sôn am eu profiadau o ddysgu Cymraeg a'u gobeithion am y dyfodol mae un her olaf gyda phob seleb - gyda help y mentoriaid - i ymwneud â'r Nadolig. Ymunwch â'r hwyl trwy wyliau **Iaith ar Daith 'Dolig** ar nos Iau, 17 Rhagfyr ar S4C.

**Iaith ar Daith 'Dolig****Nos Iau 17 Rhagfyr 9.00, S4C****Isdeitlau Saesneg****Ar alw: S4C Clic, iPlayer a llwyfannau eraill****Cynhyrchiad Boom ar gyfer S4C**

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## Celebs celebrate their journey to learn Welsh

At the beginning of this difficult and challenging year, five celebrities went on a journey across Wales in order to learn Welsh.

The five famous faces – Carol Vorderman, Colin Jackson, Ruth Jones, Adrian Chiles and Scott Quinnell – teamed up with five well-known Welsh-speaking mentors.

As they went on a personal journey to areas of Wales that were significant to them, they had to speak Welsh with their mentors the whole time and complete some linguistic challenges.

Each celebrity had their own particular reasons for learning Welsh – Ruth Jones wanted to improve her spoken Welsh while Carol Vorderman felt that learning the language was an essential part of her Welshness.

In a special programme, **Iaith ar Daith 'Dolig** (Christmas Welsh Road Trip) on S4C on 17 December, some six months after the series was broadcast – we catch up with the celebs and their mentors – weather presenter Owain Wyn Evans, radio presenter Eleri Siôn, the actor and comedian Gillian Elisa, Radio One reporter Steffan Powell and sports presenter Sarra Elgan.

So, where have the five got to on their journey to learn Welsh? Have they reached the finishing line or have the wheels dropped off in their efforts to learn the language of heaven?

Ruth Jones, Gillian Elisa and Cariad the dog went on a journey from Lampeter to Porthcawl. Here's what Ruth had to say about her efforts to use what she had learned in the months after her journey with Gillian:

"I have had a lot of opportunities to practise my Welsh because I have a lot of friends who speak Welsh. I can leave messages on WhatsApp and the phone. I find that I just have to have the confidence to jump in and speak Welsh – using the language and not worrying about making mistakes."

Adrian Chiles and his mentor Steffan Powell went from Ammanford to Gower. Adrian was worried that he had forgotten everything that he had learned during the trip.

"I learned some Welsh, but I have forgotten it all – I will have to try again. But I do know more now. I can say sentences and I enjoy speaking Welsh," said Adrian.

Carol Vorderman and her mentor Owain Wyn Evans travelled from Prestatyn to Porthgain in Pembrokeshire – a journey full of fun and laughter. But has Carol had an opportunity to use the Welsh she learned on her trip?

"No! Lockdown came and I was busy teaching maths to half a million children. But I have learned a couple of jokes – what do you call a policeman from north Wales? Cop a'r Wyddfa!" (Snowdon's summit – copa pronounced as copper)!"

Aberaeron was the beginning of the journey for Colin Jackson and Eleri Siôn with Cardiff as the finishing point. But where has Colin reached in his journey to speak Welsh?

"It has been a real struggle for me – I have lacked the confidence and opportunities to practise. But my journey hasn't come to an end. I have never walked away from a challenge in my life and I'm not going to let this beat me!"

Scott Quinnell and his mentor Sarra Elgan travelled from Carmarthenshire to Gwent. "I do speak a little bit more Welsh now and I want to speak more Welsh in the future," said Scott. "I want to learn and get out there and speak Welsh to everybody who speaks to me in Welsh."

As well as talking about their experiences of learning Welsh and their hopes for the future, each celebrity has to face one more challenge with a Christmas theme – with the help of their mentors. Join in the fun by watching **Iaith ar Daith 'Dolig** on Thursday, 17 December on S4C.

**Iaith ar Daith 'Dolig**

**Thursday 17 December 9.00, S4C**

**English subtitles available**

**On demand: S4C Clic, iPlayer and other platforms**

**A Boom production for S4C**