

MENTER BRO MORGANNWG ANNUAL REPORT 2016









FOREWORD

Welcome to Menter laith Bro Morgannwg's Annual Report 2016. Menter's main aim is to increase the opportunities for children and adults to meet, learn and socialise through the medium of Welsh in the Vale, as well as raising the profile of the language across the County, and it has been another busy and productive year.

From swimming lessons, gymnastic clubs and storytime sessions for children, to gigs and Welsh learner groups for adults, Menter has provided a vast range of activities. Gŵyl Fach y Fro proved to be a great success in June of this year, bringing Welsh entertainment to Barry Island for all to enjoy, as well as performances and contributions from all of the Vale's Welsh medium schools.

But we will not rest on our laurels and Menter Bro Morgannwg are consistently looking to develop

Gwenllian Grigg Chair, Menter Bro Morgannwg new opportunities to promote the language. One important development to be welcomed during 2016 was to secure a new Framework Agreement with the Vale of Glamorgan Council to develop new services to strengthen the Welsh language across communities in the Vale. This was a formal recognition of the partnership work which was already happening and a commitment to continue with that work. I would like to thank the Council's Officers and Councillors for their co-operation during the year.

Thank you also to every member of the Management Board for their presence and input, to Welsh Government, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Big Lottery Fund and the Arts Council of Wales for funding projects, and above all to Ffion Rhisiart, Siân Lewis and all Menter staff for their tireless efforts. Onwards to 2017!



BACKGROUND

Menter Bro Morgannwg was established in January 2014, with the aim of promoting and extending the use of the Welsh language across the Vale of Glamorgan. It is a comparatively new organisation with one full time member of staff and 4 members of staff helping with the work in association with their work for Menter Caerdydd. The main aim of the Menter is to provide opportunities in Welsh ensuring valuable experiences which develop opportunities for children, young people and adults to use the Welsh language outside school and work hours. We also aim to work in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan County Council and with all Welsh speaking and non Welsh speaking organisations in the area in order to raise the status of the language within the County.

There has been an increase in the number of Welsh speakers in the Vale of Glamorgan between 2001 and 2011 with 11% of the County's population speaking Welsh by now (13,189). There has been a huger growth in Welsh medium education in the area over the last twenty years, and there are now 7 Welsh medium primary schools and one Welsh medium secondary school in the County.

The existing service of Menter reflect the needs of our customers; families, children, adults, learners and those who do not speak Welsh. We interact regularly with our customers to ensure that the voice of the customer is key to the planning of our services for the future. We are committed to ensuring that our work continues to reflect the needs of the Welsh communities and learners in the Vale and we have established a series of key performance indicators which will enable us to measure and control our performance accurately.

We established and have Chaired the Vale of Glamorgan's Welsh Language Forum since 2013, to



bring together organisations and associations operating through the Welsh language in the Vale of Glamorgan; to report back on their field of work, to share ideas about good practice and explore opportunities for collaboration. The Vale of Glamorgan's Welsh Language Forum includes representatives from the Welsh medium Schools, Urdd Gobaith Cymru, Cymraeg i Blant / Welsh for Kids, Cymraeg i Oedolion / Welsh for Adults, Merched y Wawr, Cardiff and the Vale College, Mudiad Meithrin and representatives from Societies in the Vale.

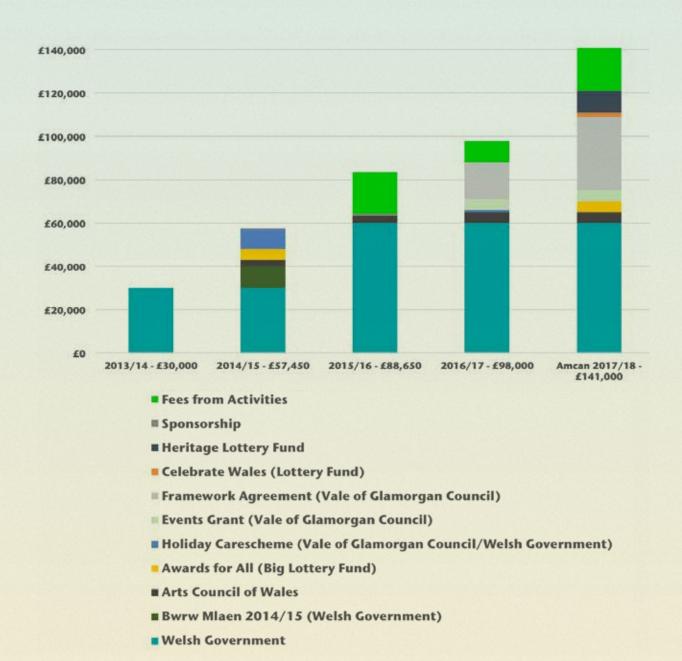
Our Management Board includes 15 members, 10 of which are Company Directors, and the Board meets 6 times a year to discuss Menter Bro Morgannwg's latest developments. Our Management Board will continue to scrutinise our work and provide a strong governing model to ensure that Menter Bro Morgannwg will create services which are fit for purpose, and that we continue to be in a strong position to maintain our services successfully.

Promoting and expanding the use of the Welsh language on a community level in the Vale of Glamorgan, ensuring that the language becomes a central part of life in the Vale and that every citizen shares the responsibility for its future and success.

INCOME

We have seen an increase of 227% in Menter's income between 2013/14 and 2016/17, and it is expected to rise again in the next financial year. In 2015/16, we received a grant of £60,000 from Welsh Government, and the remaining income comes from activity fees and applications for external funding. These grants are to develop and co-ordinate projects such as Gŵyl Fach y Fro, Leisure Courses, Activities for Families and School Holiday Provision.

MENTER BRO MORGANNWG'S INCOME



OFFICERS

Siân Lewis Chief Executive

Ffion Rhisiart Development Officer

Leah Dafydd Carescheme and Family Officer

Llinos Williams Tafwyl Officer

Nia Donnelly Finance Officer

A number of Menter Bro Morgannwg staff are Menter Caerdydd's core staff sharing their time to create services in the Vale.

A NEW AGREEMENT BETWEEN MENTER BRO MORGANNWG AND THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

One of Menter Bro Morgannwg's main partners is the Vale of Glamorgan Council, and Menter's aim is to continue to develop the partnership with the Council to ensure that it operates its statutory responsibilities in terms of ensuring fair opportunities for the people of the Vale through the medium of Welsh.

Following 18 months of regular discussions and meetings, it was confirmed in October 2016 that the Vale of Glamorgan Council will be offering Menter Bro Morgannwg matchfunding of £34,000 on a 3 year contract. This Framework Agreement has been created to develop new services to strengthen the Welsh language within communities in the Vale, and is the first time the Vale Council has invested in a long-term strategic plan to support and promote the social use of Welsh. The service areas within this new Framework includes:

- Adult and Community Learning
- Childcare and School Holiday Provision
- Sports and Play

We have already started researching, consulting and planning, and the new activities will start at the beginning of 2017. More details of specific targets and our plans for the 2017 programme are listed under the individual titles below.

"This agreement will strengthen the partnership between the Council and Menter Bro Morgannwg. As a public organisation in Wales the Council fully understands its role in developing use of the language and its responsibility to provide residents with a variety of community activities through the medium of Welsh. I look forward to building on this partnership and progressing our aim as a Council to build strong communities with a bright future."

Rob Thomas, Managing Director of the Vale of Glamorgan Council

GŴYL FACH Y FRO

Gŵyl Fach y Fro is an annual Welsh arts festival held on Barry Island, and one of the highlights of Menter's developments in 2016.

Gŵyl Fach y Fro was established in 2015 (with financial support from the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the Arts Council of Wales) and the aim was to celebrate the Welsh language in the Vale, to provide a unique opportunity for the Vale's citizens to hear and experience the best of contemporary Welsh music locally, and raise awareness amongst the wider community of Welsh as a thriving and living language in the Vale. This was a very exciting development, and the first time for Welsh elements to be included in the Barry Island Weekenders programme. Over 1,700 attended the festival in its first year, and enjoyed and afternoon of musical entertainment by pupils of the local Welsh Medium schools as well as some of the most prominent artists in the Welsh music scene such as Al Lewis, Kizzy Crawford and Kookamunga.

By 2016 we were keen to grow and develop the festival further, and increase the number of activities and attractions within the event. There was a significant increase in the number of visitors to Gŵyl Fach v Fro in its second year, with over 3,200 people coming along to enjoy this free festival on Saturday June 18th 2016.

Amongst the new developments were food stalls by Ffwrnes Pizza and Slow Pig, a bar selling a range of drinks including local Tomos & Lilford ales, Dr Zigs bubble artists, and workshops for children by NoFit State and the Urdd Sport Department. The large huts along the beachfront housed a range of stalls by local artists and partners — including Buddug, Draenog, GuestWho Photobooth, Oes Gafr Eto, Mudiad Meithrin and the Vale of Glamorgan's Welsh for Adults Department. We worked in partnership with Cardiff Arts Collective to get in touch with 3 local artists — Kevin Mee, Michael Goode a Sera Wyn Walker — who provided a variety of art workshops throughout the afternoon, and there were especially popular.

The event was once again well-supported by the Vale's Welsh medium schools, with all of the 8 schools taking part. Also on the line-up in 2016 were Sŵnami, Meic Stevens, Sorela, Wonderbrass and two local artists — Hanna Morgan and Lost in Chemistry (winners of C2/Maes B Battle of the Bands 2015).

"Great festival! I don't speak Welsh but enjoyed the lovely warm atmosphere of Gŵyl Fach y Fro — will be back next year!"



"Congratulations and THANK YOU for bringing the festival to Barry Island. Can't wait for next year!"





"Thank you for organising a lovely weekend — it was a great opportunity to catch up with friends, and for the children to play together on the beach, all within a Welsh atmosphere."

An inclusive event such as Gŵyl Fach y Fro is a brilliant showcase of Welsh music, arts and culture, which has a long-term effect on children, young people and adults' impression of the Welsh language on a community level. In an evaluation survey following Gŵyl Fach y Fro 2016, 100% of respondents felt that the festival has a positive effect on the Welsh language in the Vale.

Gŵyl Fach y Fro is now considered an important part of the Council's Events Calendar. We continue to work closely with the Events Officer, and are already in discussions with the Council and other key partners regarding next year's festival. A date for your diary — Saturday June 17th 2017!

Evaluation is a crucial part of developing and moving the festival forward, and it was great to hear such positive feedback and comments from those who attended this year;

"The variety within the event was great — lots of different attractions and interesting items on the main stage."

GIGS BACH Y FRO

The National Eisteddfod was held in the Vale of Glamorgan in 2012, and a considerable interest was shown and expressed amongst the Welsh community following the Eisteddfod week for regular social events in the Vale. Gigs Bach y Fro was established in October 2014 to meet this demand (with support from the Arts Council of Wales), with the aim of providing performing opportunities within the Vale for prominent Welsh bands and artists, and to organise local events for citizens to enjoy the best of the current Welsh music scene within their communities.

Gigs Bach Y Fro now continues with the support of the Night Out Scheme (run by the Arts Council of Wales), and we aim to organise 4 gigs throughout the year, with Gŵyl Fach y Fro as the pinnacle to our calendar of music events in the Vale. Over the last year we have enjoyed performances by Huw Chiswell, Caryl Parry-Jones, Elin Fflur and Iwan Huws, as well as provide a stage for local young artists such as Hanna Morgan.



Over the last 18 months, Gigs Bach Y Fro has resided at the Park Hotel, Barry, which is a great location for evenings of this kind. The intention is to continue with the original aim of organising different events in key areas across the Vale, with gigs held over the next year in Llantwit Major and Penarth.





ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

Providing a variety of activities for families is an important part of Menter Bro Morgannwg's service and one of the main targets set out in Welsh Government's Welsh Language Strategy.

Two Amser Stori (Welsh Storytime) sessions were established in September 2015, in Barry and Llantwit Major Libraries, and a third session started in Cowbridge Library in June 2016. These free storytime sessions are held weekly during the school term, and we now have over 60 parents and children attending every week.

We received funding from the Lottery's Awards For All fund in 2015/16 to trial a range of activities for babies and children aged 0-4 years, which included Nofio i Ddechreuwyr (swimming), Plantos Heini (gymnastics), Rygbi Bach (rugby), Gymnasteg Bach and Baby Yoga. Many of our Leisure Services are organised and held in partnership between Menter Bro Morgannwa and the Urdd Sport Department. These courses were very popular, and we are pleased that the new Framework enables us to continue with these services as well as develop new provision for families. All of these activities are primarily run through the medium of Welsh in terms of communication with the children, though many adults attending are new to the language as Welsh learners or non Welsh speakers, therefore it's a great way of introducing some key vocabulary to the children as well as parents and guardians.

As part of the new Framework, we intend to develop the following provision for children aged 0-4 and their families:

- A fourth Amser Stori session in Penarth Library
- A weekly Art Club
- Regular Welly Walk sessions
- Weekly courses such as Plantos Heini (gymnastics), Nofio i Ddechreuwyr (swimming) and Baby Massage

CYNLLUN GOFAL GWYLIAU

We received a grant of £9,000 by the Vale of Glamorgan Council in 2014/15 which enabled us to establish and run the Holiday Carescheme from February half term 2015 onwards. The provision is now fully registered with CSSIW (Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales). The Holiday Carescheme is available to every child receving Welsh medium primary education in the Vale, and is held in Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg during every school holidays, excluding Christmas.

We have continued to see an increase in the number of children attending, and 665 children have attended our Holiday Carescheme provision during 2016.

This is the only full day care provision available through the medium of Welsh in the Vale (8.30am-5.30pm), and provides an important service which allows parents to continue to work during school holiday periods and for the children to continue to speak Welsh outside the school term.

We have employed 12 members of staff throughout the year, and provide regular training opportunities for the staff which includes Induction Courses, Child Protection, Food Hygiene and Paediatric First Aid.

"It is important for children to continue to be able to socialise through the medium of Welsh during school holidays. Care of this quality isn't easy to come by."



"It helps working parents to know that their children are in a safe structured environment and it is through the medium of Welsh."



"All of the staff are lovely, the children adore every one of them. It is very well organised and the activities offered are so varied."

We evaluate the service annually through face to face conversations with children and parents as well as a more formal online survey for parents and staff, and here is a selection of comments and feedback received after the 2016 Summer holidays;

- From the 26 parents who responded, 77% noted that their child/children attend this Holiday Carescheme because of their own work commitments
- 100% of parents choose our Holiday Carescheme because it's a Welsh medium provision
- 73% of children attending come from non Welsh speaking homes
- 100% of parents believe that Menter Bro Morgannwg provides a good and professional service

As part of the new Framework, we intend to develop the range of Welsh medium provision available during school holidays by:

- Trialling open access playscheme, across 5 different locations during the Summer holidays
- Look into the possibility of establishing a second Holiday Carescheme in Penarth

"Jess is an only child and we speak mostly English at home, so I feel it is very important for Jess to be able to speak Welsh through the holidays and play with other children too. I am so impressed with the care scheme the staff are so friendly and approachable and Jess is always excited to go back."

RECREATIONAL COURSES FOR ADULTS

Following discussions with the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Adult Community Learning Department regarding the lack of social Welsh-medium provision for adults in the Vale, it was agreed that Menter Bro Morgannwg, in partnership with the Council, would trial a selection of one-day courses. Our main focus during this pilot was to offer a variety of activities and courses to be held in different areas of the Vale, in order to determine what kind of courses and locations prove more popular.

We held 4 courses between November 2015-January 2016 which were a Ukulele Workshop in the Park Hotel, Barry; Christmas Crafts in the Old Hall, Cowbridge; Yoga in Capel Bethel, Penarth; and a Lecture on the History of the Welsh Language, also held in the Old Hall, Cowbridge. The response and feedback received following each of these session were very positive, and showed that there is a clear demand for Welsh-medium recreational courses for adults.

As part of the new Framework, we intend to provide the following recreational courses:

- Yoga
- Pilates
- Ukulele for Beginners
- A series of one-day craft courses



WELSH LEARNERS

There are currently a total of 39 Welsh for Adults lessons held weekly, which attracts over 300 learners across the Vale. Since August 2016, these have been provided by the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Welsh for Adults Department, which is a part of the newly established National Centre for Learning Welsh. Developing a programme of extra-curricular activities is crucial, in order to support the formal learning process, and Menter Bro Morgannwg focuses on providing social opportunities for learners to practise and use their Welsh outside the classroom environment.

A monthly coffee morning was established in Foxy's Deli, Penarth, in June 2015, and the group is

well established by now with 15 Welsh learners of different levels attending regularly.

In December 2016, as part of our research and planning for the new Framework, we visited many of the Welsh for Adults classes across the Vale. These visits were a great way for us to raise awareness amongst Welsh learners of Menter Bro Morgannwg and our services, to establish new contacts, and consult directly with Welsh learners to find out what kind of activities they would like to see being offered to encourage social use of Welsh outside the classroom.

As part of the new Framework, we will be developing the following social provision for Welsh learners:

- 'Dysgu a Diod' an evening conversation session in the Old White Hart, Llantwit Major
- A new Coffee Morning in Barry
- A monthly Pub Quiz in the Park Hotel, Barry



GLAMORGAN GEM

We had two very successful years working in partnership with the Glamorgan GEM to co-ordinate and publish monthly Welsh pages in the paper. We received great feedback and it has certainly been a very effective way of raising awareness of the Welsh language to a wider audience across the Vale.

Our original two-year agreement came to an end in December 2016, and although we will be continuing with the partnership, the content will be slightly different from now on and a means for us to promote and report back on Menter's activities. From now on, two bilingual pages will be published at the beginning of every school term, with a special edition following Gŵyl Fach y Fro in June.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of the volunteers who have contributed such a variety of interesting items over the past couple of years. Some examples of the work can be seen here, and don't forget that all of the previous Welsh editions are available to be read on Menter's website.

STRATEGIC WORK

One of Menter Bro Morgannwg's main partners is the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the Menter's aim is to continue to develop the partnership with the Council to ensure that it operates its statutory responsibilities in terms of ensuring fair opportunities for the people of the Vale through the medium of Welsh.

Over the past year we have contributed towards the process of drafting numerous strategic documents including the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Corporate Plan 2016-19, Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-20 and Welsh Language Promotion Strategy.

We will continue to work and meet regularly with Councillors and Senior Officers to consider further opportunities to develop new Welsh services in the Vale, in accordance with Welsh Government's laith fyw: iaith byw Strategy.









LLANTWIT MAJOR LOCAL COMMITTEE

One of the main objectives in Menter's Corporate Plan 2016-19 was to establish Local Committees across the Vale of Glamorgan. We are aware that there has been an increase in recent years in the number of Welsh speakers in Llantwit Major, an increase in the number of Welsh for Adults lessons in the area, and the establishment of Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant in 2011 means that more families are choosing to raise their children bilingually. Llantwit Major and its surrounding area has a great need to develop more Welsh medium social activities, and it was decided by Menter Bro Morgannwg's Officers and Board Members that this area would be the focus for the first Local Committee.

The establishment of Local Committees plays an important part in the work of the Mentrau laith across Wales, with Menter laith Conwy for example leading 7 groups across their region. The idea behind these Local Committees is to lead the Welsh community to contribute directly towards the developments of services and supporting the language in their communities, with the support of Menter staff, and we felt that this structure would work well in the Vale as it is such an expansive County with needs so varied within each community.

A Public Meeting was held at Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant in order for us to measure the demand and start discussions, to which we had a great response with over 20 local citizens attending. A second meeting was held on the 28th of November to discuss more specific ideas and form a draft programme of events for 2017. We will continue to meet on a quarterly basis to confirm and formalise arrangements.

Following a consultation with over 200 citizens in the Vale, some of Menter's core work within the new Framework will also be established in Llantwit Major, including weekly sports, leisure and arts clubs for primary aged children, 'Dysgu a Diod' (a new evening conversational session for Welsh learners) and Gigs Bach y Fro events.





MENTER BRO MORGANNWG'S WELSH LANGUAGE PROFILE

The Vale of Glamorgan has 13,189 Welsh speakers, which is 10.8% of the population

During the year, Menter Bro Morgannwg commissioned Nico (iaith) Cyf to create a new Welsh Language Profile for the Vale of Glamorgan. The profile examines the position of the Welsh language in the County and how Welsh speakers in the area use the Welsh language in their communities.

The aim was to look at the context of the Welsh language today and recommend ways of increasing opportunities for Welsh speakers to use the language in the future. The report will assist Menter Bro Morgannwg to plan strategically and operate as an influential partner as organisations are faced with meeting the statutory requirements in relation to the Welsh language in their areas.

This profile is based on the 2011 Census statistics; the Welsh Government's 2013-15 Language Use Survey; the Welsh Government Pupil Level Annual School Census 2015; Use of the Welsh Language in the Community Research Study, Bangor University 2015; with reference also to the results of a survey held in Mentrau areas in south east Wales during February and March 2016, with 733 responses.

The conclusion that this profile has brought together includes;

- Key statistics of Welsh speakers in the area
- The main statutory requirements relevant to the Menter's key partners
- A number of research findings on Welsh language patterns of use by Welsh speakers in the area
- The results of the survey held as part of this work that highlight the experiences of Welsh speakers and learners in the area

"Even though Welsh medium education provision is in itself an allimportant part of the effort to promote and increase Welsh language use, it is considered that Welsh language use in the workplace is essential in order to move towards a bilingual society"

"According to the Language Use Survey, almost three quarters of workers in the public sector thought their employer was supportive towards using Welsh, compared to 41% in the private sector"

"Menter Bro
Morgannwg has
identified the
need to ensure a
visible presence
for the language in
technology in order
to facilitate the
use of Welsh in all
aspects of life"

The key messages that emerge from the experiences of Welsh speakers, together with the formal data, highlight a number of areas that need to be addressed, for instance:

- The need for more opportunities for young people to use their Welsh outside school and after leaving school (from leisure to the workplace)
- The need for more experiences to increase the confidence an duse of the language amongst learners and those Welsh speakers with little or no confidence to use their Welsh in new situations
- The need for employers to recognise the value of the language for their workplaces, ensuring support for Welsh speakers
- The need to ensure that the language is more prominent in the community in order to promote wider use – both the spoken word and visually

Although in its early years as a new Menter, the work of Menter Bro Morgannwg is based on a sound understanding of its communities and the needs of its communities, and the Menter is able to address those needs in a creative and flexible way. The ability of Menter Bro Morgannwg to respond innovatively to local needs through projects with partners, is reflected clearly in the Gŵyl Fach y Fro festival for example.

Another aspect that becomes apparent in the work of the Menter is that it is not just responding to targets set by the Welsh Government. The activities and services provided by Menter Bro Morgannwg also act to strengthen and enrich what is taking place on a local statutory level to promote the Welsh language and establish rights for Welsh speakers.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION - SUMMARY

Year ended 31 March 2016

The following figures are taken from the full financial statements of Menter Bro Morgannwg for the year ended 31 March 2016, prepared by the auditors Watts Gregory LLP. The full report is available from Menter Bro Morgannwg on request.

INCOME	UNRESTRICED Funds	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL 2015/16	TOTAL 2014/15
Grants and sponsorship Fees from activities	30,000 19,502	36,843	66,843 19,502	5,548 1,121
TOTAL INCOME	49,502	36,843	86,345	6,669
EXPENDITURE				
Less: Expenditure on salaries, overheads and project administration	49,608	36,843	86,451	6,146
Net income / (expenditure)	(106)	0	(106)	523
Tax on surplus Surplus (deficit) for the financial year Brought forward Reserves	- (106) 418 312	- 0 -	- (106) 418 312	(105) 418 - 418





