

Limelight

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Newsletter of the Friends of the Llangollen
International Musical Eisteddfod

Llythyr Newyddion Cyfeillion Eisteddfod
Gerddorol Ryngwladol Llangollen



Gwyn L Williams launched this year's Eisteddfod in St David's Hall, Cardiff on Monday January 14th, just two weeks before leaving to take up his new post.

In the recently published review of arts organisations by Sir Brian McMaster, three crucial qualities were highlighted: Innovation, Risk-taking and Excellence. Gwyn told the audience that over the past few years.. "we in Llangollen have **taken risks**, we have **been innovative** and above all we have **promoted excellence**."

Gwyn highlighted the development of the **Eisteddfod's Community Days** as one of the important innovations

of the last few years. One of these, **International Children's Day**, last year brought together children from "ethnic minority communities on our door-step in North Wales" to deliver the **Peace Message** along with the children from Llangollen and district.

Diversity

Diversity is another theme of the Eisteddfod, talked about by both Gwyn and Mervyn Cousins. This diversity is not only found in the

wide variety of cultures and styles of the competitions, but also in the audiences which represent many aspects of British life, from schools to minority and faith groups as well as the core Eisteddfod audience.

Essence of Llangollen

Mervyn Cousins, who will now act as the Eisteddfod's artistic director, went on to describe the 'Essence of Llangollen' as a unique spirit of peace

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Elin Manahan Thomas with All Angels at the Launch event