

Ras YR IAITH

Run for the Welsh language!



A Relay Race for the Welsh language
from Machynlleth to Cardigan

2013





Ras yr Iaith

A Relay race for the Welsh language

Starting from the Glyndwr Parliament in Machynlleth on the 13th of September and finishing in Cardigan Castle on Sunday the 15th of September.

Individuals, families, local business or clubs, organisations and schools sponsoring and running 1 kilometre carrying a symbolic baton. All the pupils of a school or all the members of the village football team can run the kilometre. Our intention is to see thousands of people running and celebrating the Welsh language.

A baton will be carved especially for the race and will be passed from person to person as runners show their support for the language. This is not a race for athletes but a race **for the Welsh language by the people of Wales**. The purpose is to celebrate, raise awareness of the language, raise funds for Welsh projects, show the world that there is support for the Welsh language in our communities and bring people together – Welsh speakers, non-Welsh speakers and learners; country and town and every class, ability and race.

The Race is based on the **Korrika** that started in the Basque country in 1980 and currently attracts around 600,000 runners and organisers. There is also a similar race in Brittany (an Redadeg) and in Ireland (an Rith). Wales will be the next with mid Wales leading the way.

There will be an opportunity for everyone to be part of the race, either by running, sponsoring, or supporting – there is no excuse for not being part of **this fantastic celebration of the language**.

The celebratory launch event for the Race will be held in Machynlleth on Friday afternoon, the 13th of September before the first runners start Ras yr Iaith 2013 that will finish in Cardigan Castle on Sunday the 15th of September. The route of the race will visit numerous villages and towns along the way where local celebrations and support will inspire the race onwards.

Machynlleth to Aberystwyth.


Friday 13th of September 2013—The first day will begin in Machynlleth reaching Aberystwyth before nightfall. There will be an opportunity to support the runners and celebrate the Welsh language as the race rumbles through Dderwenlas, Eglwys Fach, Ffwrnais, Tre'r Ddol, Taliesin, Tal-y-bont, Llandre and Bow Street before reaching Aberystwyth for the evening celebrations.

Aberystwyth to Aberaeron

Saturday 14th of September 2013 – The race will restart in Aberystwyth on Saturday morning promising a day full of running and celebrating. The race will make its way from Aberystwyth to Aberaeron calling at Llanfarian, Llanilar, Lledrod, Bronnant, Tregaron, Llanddewi, Llanfair, Cellan, Cwmann, Llanbedr Pont Steffan and Felin-fach. The evening celebrations in Aberaeron will be a fitting finale to a successful day of running.

Aberaeron to Cardigan

Sunday 15th of September 2013—The last day of running will begin from Aberaeron reaching Cardigan before the end of the day. On the way the race will visit Llanarth, New quay, Synod Inn, Ffostrasol, Llandysul, Pentref Cwrt, Drefach Felindre, Newcastle Emlyn, Llechryd, and Chilgerran. The local support and celebrations along the way will inspire the runners to reach the end of the journey in Cardigan Castle in time for the glorious evening celebrations in the town.



Our turn!

Ras yr Iaith is following in the footsteps of a number of other successful language races in Europe. Our race, like the others, will be held every other year.

1980: Basque Country – Korrika

1997: Catalwnia – Correllengua

2000: Galisia – Correlingua

2008: Brittany – Ar Redadeg

2010: Ireland – An Rith

Korrika (Basque Country): www.korrika.org

Established in 1980, it is administered by AEK, the organisation responsible for teaching Basque to Adults. It is run non-stop, 24 hours across the Basque Country over 10 days. Around 600,000 participate including television and football stars.

Redadeg (Brittany): www.ar-redadeg.org

Established in 2008 and originally organised by Diwan, but now has a governing body, Has increased each time from 800km in 2008 to 1,200km in 2012.

An Rith (Iwerddon): www.rith.ie

Established in 2010 and organised by a body that includes the main organisations of the Irish language. It is held during 'Irish weeks' that leads up to St Patrick's Day. The An Rith has increased in kilometre from the first race.



Taking part and Supporting

Running – There will be an opportunity for individuals, families, businesses, clubs, organisations and schools to sponsor to **run 1 kilometre** carrying a baton that holds a special message inside. All the pupils of a school or village football club can run the 1 kilometre. Everyone is welcome to continue and run more than one kilometre and join in with other sponsors.

Celebrating – Local events will be held along the route where there will be an opportunity to celebrate the language and our Welsh communities in addition to showing your support for the runners.

Organising – The success of the race depends entirely on local communities and volunteers coming together to organise the route, the celebrations, and spread the message about the importance of Ras yr Iaith 2013. You can join your local committee who will be co-ordinating these things.

Individuals – Individuals can support the race by running, sponsoring runners, contributing towards a celebratory event, attending the celebrations, volunteering to help with the organising, spreading the word.

Groups – A group or an organisation can support the race by running, sponsoring runners, organising a celebratory event, organising a stand in a celebratory event, attending the celebrations and spreading the word.

Business – A business can support the race by running, sponsoring runners, sponsoring the race (acknowledgement will be given by displaying the logo or name of the business) organising a celebratory event, organising a stand in a celebratory event, attending the celebrations and spreading the word. It will be an excellent way to show positive support for the Welsh language and the local community.



The Route



Ras yr Laith 2013
Y Llwybr

- Dydd Gwener 13 Medi
- Dydd Sadwrn 14 Medi
- Dydd Sul 15 Medi



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Ni chanzair i chi gopïo, is-dwyboda, adroddio neu werthu unrhyw rai o'r data hwn ar unrhyw ffurf i ddydd y parh.

Why?

Promote the Welsh language: Bringing Welsh speakers, non—Welsh speakers and learners together.

Promoting Welsh organisations: An opportunity to strengthen Welsh organisations and clubs by raising the profile, and raising funds, in events along the route.

Uniting Wales and the Welsh language: The race will link Welsh speaking areas, and areas where the language is not strong, town and country, privileged and underprivileged, highlighting the variety of Welsh speakers.

Raise the profile of the Welsh language: It will attract attention in the Welsh press on a national and local level and increase the use of Welsh on the internet. The race will be a visual way to show that the Welsh language has thousands of supporters.

Raise the profile of communities: Bring attention to community groups and organisations and the strength of our communities along the route.

Promote Physical Health: It will promote physical health through the medium of the Welsh language. It will bring the language into athletic and sports clubs that participate.

Raise funds: Any profit from the race will be invested in organisations to promote the Welsh language. The funds raised will be administered by Rheddeg Cyf – a not for profit company established specifically to support the race.

Further Details

www.rasyriaith.org

The race is coordinated by Cered, the Ceredigion Welsh Language Initiative and Rhedadeg Cyf. With the support of Menter Maldwyn, Menter Iaith Sir Benfro, Menter Iaith Gorllewin Sir Gar, organisations, businesses and volunteers.

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