

Welsh the easy way

TWENTY years ago the then mayor of Denbigh, Councillor David Jones, called for a specialist language centre dedicated to teaching Welsh to adults to be set up.

Councillor Jones, himself a Welsh learner, felt such a centre would help the growing number of adults in North East Wales who wanted to learn Welsh. His suggestion was greatly supported by the general public and official bodies alike, and, within three years, Canolfan Iaith Clwyd/Clwyd Welsh Language Centre, Denbigh opened its doors.

Over the last 20 years Councillor Jones' original concept has evolved and expanded, culminating in the creation of Popeth Cymraeg, a charitable business which runs Welsh classes across the counties of Flintshire, Denbighshire and Conwy.

This September Popeth Cymraeg is running over 70 courses in community venues throughout North East Wales. Most courses are for two hours a week and geared towards helping people communicate naturally in everyday situations. The company is also offering free block courses in different venues to help students learn Welsh as quickly as possible.

Students can follow the two hours a week courses as usual and can also make a great leap



Keri Evans (centre), a former learner and now fluent speaker of Welsh, joined Popeth Cymraeg's board of directors last year. She is pictured with (left to right) Christine Ryder, Penny Nash, Keri Evans, Jackie Jennings and Dennis Stephens, learners on the Unlimited Learning Welsh course in Denbigh

forward by having an intensive 25 hours of tuition - the equivalent of six months classes - in one week.

Learning naturally occurs in both gradual progression and sudden spurts and this combination of two hours a week throughout the year and shorter, more intensive courses, is the ideal way to learn for most people.

Popeth Cymraeg intends to expand its block courses provision and has recently appointed a new officer to develop such courses.

If you want to learn Welsh quickly, another option is to attend one of the company's Unlimited Learning Welsh courses. For a number of years Popeth Cymraeg has pioneered a fast track Welsh course using the De-Suggestopedia teaching method. Created by Bulgarian

psychologist Dr Georgi Lozanov, the method is particularly successful in teaching languages.

Students on these courses have succeeded in achieving GCSE standard Welsh in just one year (190 hours of tuition) - half the time it takes with other methods.

Currently held in Denbigh and Llanrwst, these fast track courses are held for seven hours a week (two mornings a week from 9.30am to 1.00pm) and have been so successful that Popeth Cymraeg aims to offer more of them in different venues in the future.

● For more details of Popeth Cymraeg's block courses, or to receive a copy of the Unlimited Learning information pack, contact Pegi Talfryn on 01745 812 287.

BEGINNERS (Enry Level)

Enrolment Date

Location	Address	Time	Date
BUCKLEY	Elfed High School	Wed 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	17.9.08
COLWYN BAY	Town Hall	Thurs 9.30 - 11.30 a.m.	18.9.08
COLWYN BAY	Ysgol Bod Alaw	Mon 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	15.9.08
DENBIGH	Canolfan Iaith Clwyd	Wed 9.30 - 11.30 a.m.	17.9.08
DENBIGH	Canolfan Iaith Clwyd	Mon 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	15.9.08
HAWARDEN	High School	Wed 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	17.9.08
LLANDUDNO	Library	Thurs 1.15 - 3.15 p.m.	18.9.08
LLANDUDNO	St. John's Church Hall	Thurs 1.00 - 3.00 p.m.	18.9.08
LLANDUDNO	St. John's Church Hall	Thurs 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	18.9.08
LLANDUDNO JCT	Ysgol Maelgwn	Thurs 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	18.9.08
LLANFAIRFECHAN	Ysgol Pant-y-Rhedyn	Wed 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	17.9.08
LLANRWST	Menter Iaith Conwy	Wed 1.15 - 3.15 p.m.	17.9.08
LLANRWST	Menter Iaith Conwy	Wed 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	17.9.08
MOLD	Capel Bethel	Thurs 9.30 - 11.30 a.m.	18.9.08
MOLD	Alun School	Tues 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	16.9.08
PRESTATYN	North Wales Bowls Centre	Thurs 9.15 - 11.15 a.m.	18.9.08
PRESTATYN	High School	Wed 6.30 - 8.30 p.m.	24.9.08

Beginners Continuation, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6, Year 7

at the following locations :

Abergele, Buckley, Colwyn Bay, Denbigh, Hawarden, Llandudno, Llandudno Jct., Llanfairfechan, Llanrwst, Mold, Prestatyn, Prion, Rhyl

All courses run for 23 weeks

Course Fee: £50.00 (Concessionary Fee: £25.00)

FOR MORE DETAILS PHONE:

01745 812287

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.popethcymraeg.com



CYMRAEG I OEDOLION
WELSH FOR ADULTS
Canolfan Gogledd Cymru
North Wales Centre

Jackie shows why it's good to talk

JACKY Fray from Denbigh passed the GCSE equivalent exam after completing a fast track course with Popeth Cymraeg earlier this year.

Jacky, who was born in the Lake District and has lived in Wales for 30 years, found the fast-track courses particularly useful.

She explained: "Whilst I knew bits and pieces I hadn't formally done any Welsh before."

"I did a few summer school classes with Popeth Cymraeg but was particularly interested in the accelerated learning aspect of the De-Suggestopedia courses. These classes are completely different to any other teaching method - you're immersed in the language straight away so that you learn as a child does."

Popeth Cymraeg's dedicated Welsh language tutors, many of whom are ex-learners themselves, aim to make lessons enjoyable and useful to everyday life.

Jacky said: "Ioan was the teacher in my first class. He's a superb actor and when we walked

in, he introduced himself as a famous film director and showed us posters from films we knew like Indiana Jones and Snow White so we laughed from the time we started!"

"The tutors look at teaching you how people learn rather than how they wish to teach. They illustrate what they're showing you and never put anyone on the spot. They encourage interaction with other members of the class and you sing and move around as well as a learning through repetition - so that you learn in a style that suits you."

Having moved to a village where Welsh is widely spoken, Jacky plans to continue learning the language in September. She enthused: "I'm a bit of a Welsh convert - I love the culture and the way children are brought up to value music, dance, singing, acting and drama, so they grow up with a responsibility towards the people who helped them and take pride in their culture. I really want to be involved with that."

DAVID HOULSTON

Office Cleaning Contractors

Tel: **01745 583642**
(24 hours)

Wishing Popeth Cymraeg continued success, and all the best for 2008/9

JONES & GRAHAM

Cyfrifwyr ac Archwilwyr Cofrestredig
Accountants & Registered Auditors

45 VALE STREET
DENBIGH
Tel: 01745 816321

Dymunwn Pob llwyddiant i'r cyrsiau a gynhelir gan popeth cymraeg cyf

We wish every success to the courses held by Popeth Cymraeg Ltd

Prifysgol Bangor, Cyrsiau Cymraeg trwy ogledd Cymru
Bangor University, Welsh courses across north Wales

CYRSIAU CYMRAEG WELSH COURSES

WLPAN The acclaimed conversational course for beginners at a centre near you!

Daytime @ Bangor (8.15, 10.15*, 12.30 & 4.15 starts), Bodedern, Buckley, Capel Curig, Colwyn Bay, Conwy, Cricieth, Llanbedrog, Llanfairfechan, Llanfair P.G.*, Llangefni, Llangernyw, Mold, Picton*, Rhosybol, Ruthin, Talysarn, Tremadog, Treuddyn, Waunfawr

Evenings @ Bangor, Benllech, Betws-y-Coed, Caernarfon, Llandudno, Mold, Porthmadog, Valley

*crèche facilities available

SUPERWLPAN the intensive 5 days-a-week course @ Bangor

Ddim yn ddechreuw? Mae dewis eang o gyrsiau ar bob lefel ar gael ledled yr ardal.

Be' am drio'r **SUPERUWCH** ym Mangor? 3 diwrnod yr wythnos am dymor.

Not a complete beginner? There is an extensive range of courses on all levels on offer throughout the area.



THE FAST TRACK

