

St. David's Day 2026

Dear Town Council

I'm reaching out to explore a potential collaboration around St David's Day 2026, in light of the Welsh Government's Pilot Support Fund, (see attached) which supports innovative and inclusive celebrations of Welsh identity.

As outlined in the guidance, this fund is not intended to support Local Authorities in the main, but rather local, regional and national organisations that can work alongside and in partnership with relevant authorities. With that in mind, we're keen to connect with community partners who share an interest in celebrating Welsh culture in ways that reflect both tradition and the diversity of modern-day Wales.

We're particularly interested in ideas that:

- Include wider community members, especially new arrivals, to promote a shared sense of Welsh identity. For example, you may wish to consider developing an event that reflects all local communities, such as a St David's Day street festival with music, food, and performances from local groups, choirs and dance troupes. Or maybe a community mural or art exhibition celebrating a shared Welsh identity, co-created by local artists and residents.
- Collaborate with Menter Iaith to showcase both traditional and contemporary Welsh culture.
- Involve schools and libraries to embed the celebration across generations. For example, you may wish to consider hosting storytelling sessions accessible to the wider public, sharing traditional Welsh stories alongside stories from newer communities who now call Wales home.
- Capture personal stories of Welsh identity and belonging through oral histories, bilingual interviews, and digital storytelling, such as a digital project or social media campaign that engages children and young people in exploring "What it means to be Welsh or live in Wales today?"
- Possibly create a "snapshot in time" time capsule of Blaenau Gwent, featuring voices from across the community.

If this sounds like something your organisation would be interested in exploring, we'd love to hear from you. Please get in touch by emailing cymraeg@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk at the earliest opportunity (note the closing date for applications Fri 14th November) to express your interest or arrange a conversation.

We look forward to the possibility of working together to create a meaningful and inclusive celebration for St David's Day 2026.

