

Another great week

During August, when the Eisteddfod Field and Office are considerably quieter than the month before, Eisteddfod Chief Executive Mervyn Cousins frequently bumped into people in the town and area who said to him: “Another great week, well done everyone”, and why not; the 2008 festival was certainly another stunning combination of supreme effort, wonderful artistic moments and, most importantly, the world together in harmony.



So first things first: my own personal thanks to all who made it so, whether volunteers, competitors, staff, professional artists, etc.

This year I had, proverbially speaking, a new pair of spectacles through which to look at ‘The Week’ (as well as at the whole year-round operation), because of my new role; and it is very pleasing for me to be able to report in this issue of Limelight some clear successes this year.

Friends’ Bursary Fund

We hosted more competitors than in each of the last three Eisteddfodau, and this, combined with the positive moves forward with regard to visas, is in no small way due to the Friends Bursary Fund and the difference it is now making (see *article pp 6 & 7*). An

immediate “thank you”, then, to all of you for your support of the Eisteddfod itself, and in that regard in particular.

Very Unusual

The list of countries included many regulars of course, but also some ‘firsts’ and some ‘very unusuals’; including Algeria, Canary Islands, Armenia, and the ex-pat Argentineans living in Tokyo. The Parade was fabulously colourful, and the standard of the competitions – and actually of all the groups from selection onwards – was extraordinarily high. In a number of classes it was the highest I have seen in my five years at Llangollen.

Of these the Mixed Choirs, Folk Song Choirs, Vocal Solos and Junior Instrumentalists (Classical and Celtic) perhaps shone most obviously. The

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.....Photo Parade



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