

CREU CYMRU

Members Update

CHWEFROR / FEBRUARY 2025



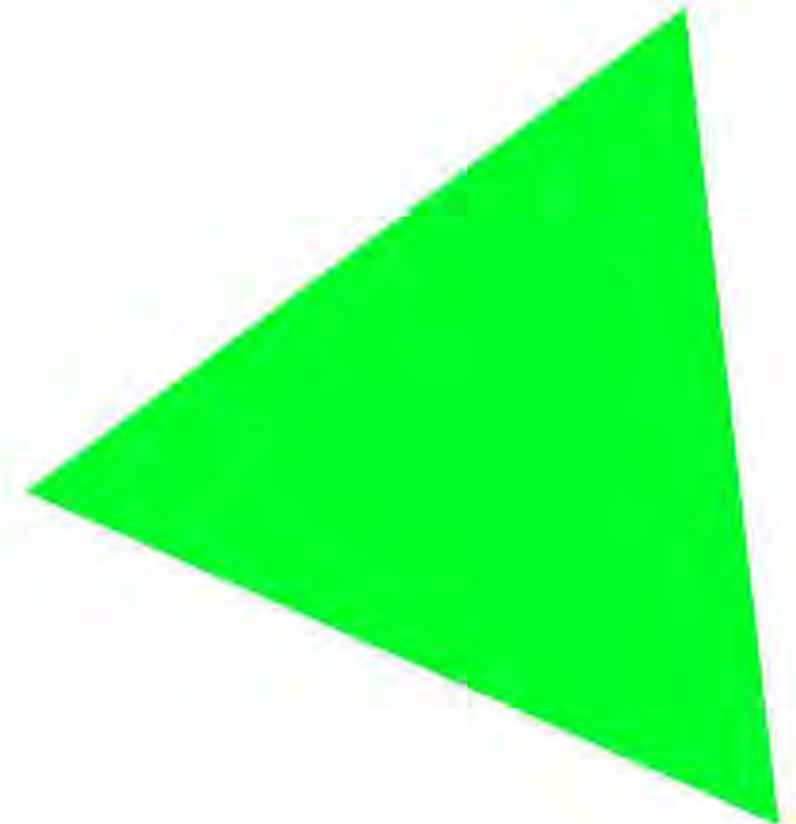
Update

We used the February members meeting to gather thoughts and input into proposed future Creu Cymru projects and initiatives. We also gave an update on priorities and plans.

This document outlines what we discussed. If you were unable to make the meeting please do have a read and let us know your thoughts on any of the projects.

Diolch!

Lou, Yvonne and Megan



Swits - Staff Exchange Programme

What is it?

The Swits (Switch) Programme offers all technical, administrative and artistic personnel from Member organisations the opportunity to exchange know-how and techniques at a Creu Cymru Member organisation from another part of Wales. The programme encourages the sharing of best practices and knowledge, peer learning, on-the-job training, and the development of personal, professional and skills and competence.

When is it?

Any time of the year that suits the host organisation, the member of staff and their employer. The Exchange takes place over 3-5 days.

The aim is to give staff in different scale organisations the experience of working in alternative environments. It also gives different types of roles the chance to look at other roles in the sector. For example, someone working as an administrator may want to work in programming but have limited opportunities in their own organisation. This programme would allow them to shadow a programming team / programmer in another member organisation.

How much does it cost?

Grants will include travel costs and subsistence costs. The accommodation is organised and paid for by the receiving organisation.



Cwestiynau Questions

Do you have staff that you think might be interested?

Would you be willing to host a visit?

Do you have any thoughts on the programme?

Any ways it could be improved?

Any other questions?



Curated Visits

What is it?

Creu Cymru's 'Go-and-See' events and Curated Visits are initiatives designed to support the development of Welsh theatres, producing companies, and performing arts professionals. These programmes aim to strengthen the capacity and resilience of the performing arts sector in Wales.

These are themed curated visits that focus on exposing individuals to work not commonly programmed in Wales.

The objectives include:

- Encouraging venues and individuals to broaden the range of performances they present.
- Creating opportunities to connect with underrepresented communities, including those with accessibility needs, black and global majority groups, and families.
- Bringing together venues, producers, and stakeholders to share experiences and best practices.
- Helping members expand their artistic offerings and respond strategically to challenges.

These visits are designed to:

- Allow members to quality-assure performances before booking them.
- Provide peer support for innovative programming decisions.
- Facilitate collaboration with producers, ensuring that programming meets the needs of venues while maintaining high artistic standards.

When is it?

Whenever a suitable visit / event / festival occurs. Some suggestions are on the next slide.

How much does it cost?

Bursaries of around £300 will go towards travel and accommodation costs. We also contribute to ticket costs on most visits.



Possible Events



Imagine, Edinburgh

24 May-1 June

The Imagine Festival is Scotland's international festival of performing arts for children and young people and runs across venues in Edinburgh. Every year the Festival presents the finest selection of shows from Scotland and across the world; each and every one adding their own wonderful character and zest to a programme of exciting and stimulating shows to suit children and adults of every age.

Brighton Festival

3-26 May

A celebration of music, theatre, dance, circus, art, film, literature, debate, outdoor and community events, Brighton Festival takes place in familiar and unusual locations across Brighton & Hove and further afield for three weeks every May.

Manchester International Festival Summer 25

Manchester International Festival has invited some of the greatest artists on the planet to delight and often challenge crowds in spaces of all shapes and sizes – from car parks to concert halls. They have crossed boundaries, leapt over them, broken through them.

Dublin Theatre Festival

25 Sept -12 Oct

At the heart of the festival is the city of Dublin – its people and its stories – and a commitment to contributing to the vibrant social and cultural life of our capital. Our mission is to present a programme of exceptional theatrical experiences that will appeal to the diverse communities and visitors that make up our city.

Cwestiynau Questions

Are you or your staff interested in Curated Visits?

Would you prefer a bursary approach to watch performances / attend Conferences as and when you wish?

Are there any particular events you are interested in?



Mix up and Pitch

What is it?

Mix up and Pitch will be an event made up of 5-minute theatre-maker pitches and 2-5-minute venue pitches aimed at sharing new ideas and encouraging the connections to make them happen. Pitches will come from theatre-makers, producers and venues in a spirit of openness and collaboration, ensuring it's a valuable event whether you're pitching or not.

Those wishing to take part will need to complete a simple application and go through a selection process.

When is it?

TBC. If in person it could be linked to our Conference or at a separate time of year. If online, anytime. Proposed once a year to start with.

We will encourage those applying to consider why they're pitching and what relationships they hope to gain.

The main idea participants could include in their pitch could be at ideas or R&D stage as well as full production ready to tour. By developing a mutual understand of the work, venue and audience needs, the hope is to create touring pieces that are responsive and accessible.

How much does it cost?

If in person we will contribute towards expenses for those presenting. There will be a low cost to attend (£5-£10) to cover catering.



Cwestiynau Questions

Would you be interested in pitching?

Would you be interested in attending?

Should it be online or in person?

Should it be part of our Annual Conference or separate?

Would you be willing to host an event?

Do you have any thoughts on the event?

Any ways it could be improved?

Any other questions?



Database Project

What is it?

We wish to scope the development of a new type of arts database.

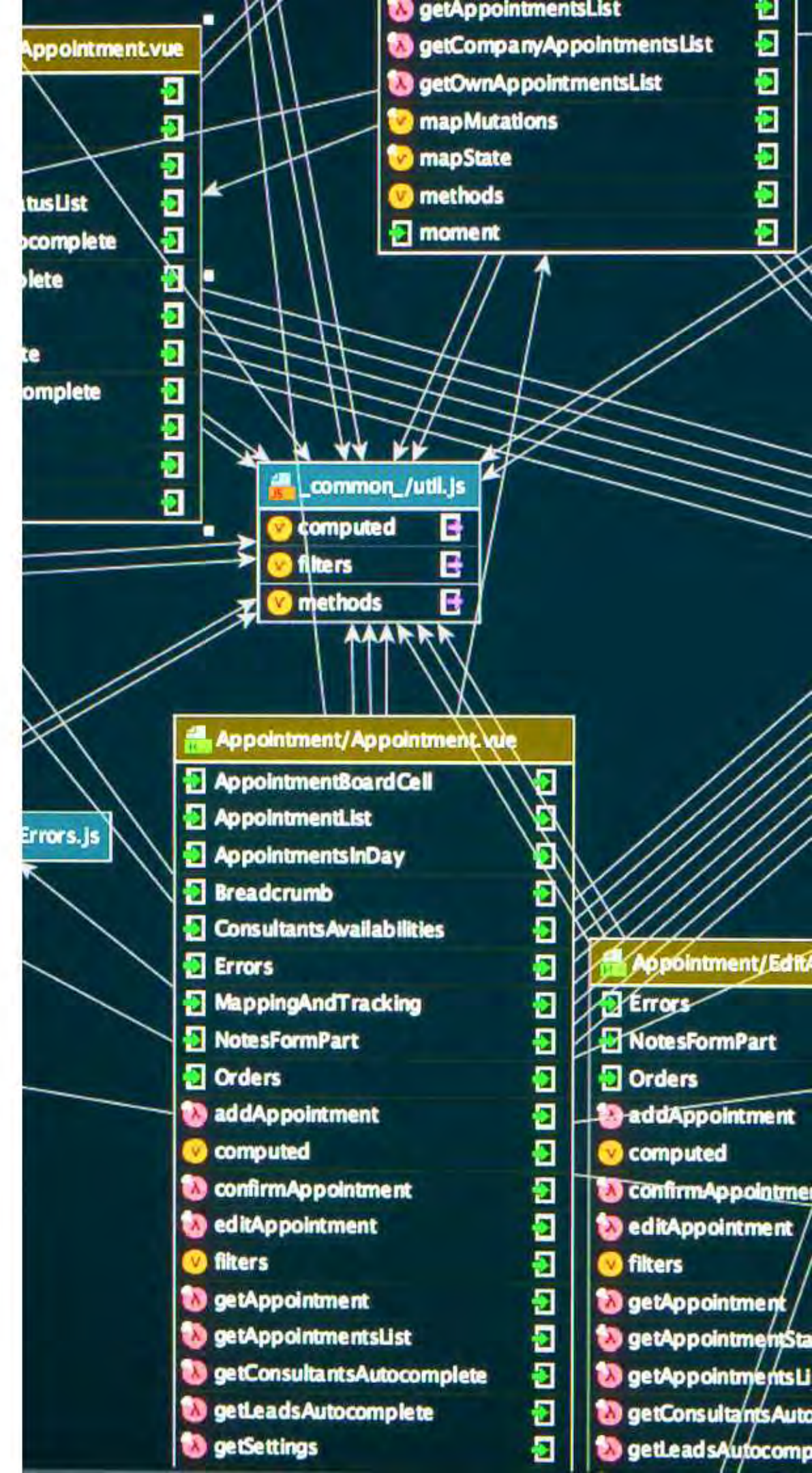
There are two options:

A freelancer's version of the Literature Wales project 'Writers of Wales Directory' or

A Wales-specific version of the Tourbook (created by The Touring Network) used in Scotland, Ireland and Northern Ireland.

How much does it cost?

TBC



Cwestiynau Questions

Would this type of database be useful?
What is more important - the touring one or
the freelance database?
Any other questions or thoughts?





Other projects / areas of focus

→ Advocacy

We will continue to advocate for the sector. This works includes press releases, interviews, meetings with WG officials, responding to WG inquiries, presenting at Senedd Committees etc.

→ CIISA

We are continuing to work with the CIISA team as they develop the CIISA Standards and help the adoption of those standards across Wales.

→ Training

We've confirmed some great courses so far this year including two EDI training sessions (one in Welsh and one in English), wellbeing related and hynt specific.

→ Theatre Green Book

We wish to expand the use of the Theatre Green Book in Wales and encourage sustainable practices across the cultural sector, particularly in theatres and producing companies.

Key Objectives:

- Promote awareness and understanding of the Theatre Green Book (TGB) in the cultural sector.
- Support theatres and producing companies in adopting sustainable practices as outlined in the TGB.
- Encourage collaboration and knowledge sharing
- Track and measure the impact of TGB adoption in the Welsh cultural sector.
- Having a designated Wales Theatre Green Book Champion that will play a crucial role in the success of our project by acting as a visible leader, advocate, and connector within the Welsh cultural sector.

Upcoming Events

Chwefror / February

PiPA Session 4 - 12th
online

Hynt Symposium Follow
Up Session - 18th online

Theatre Green Book event
- 19th Wales Millennium
Centre

Mawrth / March

PiPA Session 5 - 12th
online*

EDI Training (Welsh) /
Hyfforddiant EDI
(Cymraeg) - 25th online

Hynt 10th Anniversary
Celebration -In person

Ebrill / April

Annual Conference - 2nd
and 3rd - Wales
Millennium Centre

EDI Training (English) -
10th online

Mai / May

Members Networking
Meeting - 6th online

Curated Visit to Imagineate
(Edinburgh)

Mehefin / June

Resilience Boost
(wellbeing training) - 5th
online

Gorffennaf / July

Access Forum

Theatre Green Book
training event - online

Awst / August

Edinburgh Fringe flat
rental and get togethers
13th-25th

Medi / September

Members Networking
Meeting - 2nd online

Self Care Boost
(wellbeing training) - 10th
online