



Cymdeithas
Cyfieithwyr
Cymru

Annual Report 2021-22

Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru
Intec
Parc Menai
Bangor
Gwynedd
LL57 4FG

01248 371839

swyddfa@cyfieithwyr.cymru

www.cyfieithwyr.cymru



@cyfieithwyr

Registered in Wales: 4741023

Content

Content	1
Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru	2
Chair's message	3
A word from the Chief Executive	4
Governance and management	6
The report on activities in 2021–22	
1. Foreword	7
2. Maintaining and increasing membership: membership of the Association	8
3. Maintaining and increasing membership: the examination system	11
4. Promoting professional development	13
5. Maintaining and developing key contacts	15
6. Profile raising and promoting professional values	18



Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru

Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru – the association of Welsh translators and interpreters (hereafter the Association) – is the national association which leads, develops and promotes professional English<>Welsh translation and interpreting. As the only dedicated professional association for English<>Welsh translators and interpreters, it plays a key role in creating a community of professional translators and interpreters throughout Wales.

The Association has three levels of membership: Full and Basic membership for translators and an Interpreting membership.

The Association represents all aspects of English<>Welsh translation and interpreting: its members work in the public and third sectors, the private sector, and as freelancers.

Since its inception in 1976 the Association has:

- maintained, developed, and promoted the highest professional standards in English<>Welsh translation and interpreting by setting those professional standards, and has improved, increased and broadened the knowledge and skills base of translators and interpreters.
- ensured that the translation and interpreting profession/industry develops effectively as part of the process of promoting and facilitating the use of the Welsh language and is able to respond proactively to the needs of a bilingual Wales.

To achieve these goals, the Association aims to represent the majority of English<>Welsh translators and interpreters, reduce the number of instances whereby anyone can claim to be a translator or an interpreter, and improve the understanding and knowledge of those seeking to obtain translation and interpreting services and provide them with an assurance that they can expect to receive work of a high professional standard.

By providing the Association with grant funding since 1997 – both directly since 2016 and, in previous years, via the Welsh Language Commissioner (2012–16) and the Welsh Language Board – the Welsh Government has invested a total of over £1.9m in the Association's work of developing, promoting and strengthening the English<>Welsh translation and interpreting profession/industry. This constitutes the 'consistent ... support' recognised in the Welsh Government's strategy document 'Cymraeg 2050', and is key to realising its role and mission.

Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru was part-funded by the Welsh Government in 2021–22.



Manon Cadwaladr: the Chair's message

It is a privilege to present Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru's 2021–22 Annual Report on behalf of my fellow directors. I was appointed Chair following this period, so the thanks for the year's work covered in this report go entirely to my predecessors, to the Directors and, of course, to Geraint and Nia.

Whilst this Annual Report looks back, I want to take this opportunity to look forward and talk briefly about my vision for the Association.

I have been a translator and interpreter for over twenty years and I still love the work. Although I enjoy the work, I fully understand how **difficult** translating is at times. As such, ensuring that the Association provides a comprehensive programme of training, development and support for you the members is very high on my agenda.

I also realise the **importance** of the work of translators and interpreters and am aware that it is not always fully appreciated. I know that everyone's workload is getting heavier and heavier and that the time we get to do the work often gets less and less. We as an Association need to improve the general understanding of the profession and raise the status of the profession and we definitely need to recruit more translators and interpreters.

It has been a difficult couple of years for translators and especially for interpreters. Interpreters have succeeded in coping and adapting as they mastered new technologies, adjusted their work habits and ensured that bilingual meetings were able to continue.

There is a period of **adaptation** ahead of us again as we think about things like translation memories, machine translation and sharing resources. On the interpreting new software and hardware are being developed and hybrid meetings offer challenges that are yet to be resolved. I am very keen for the Association to be there for translators and interpreters, so that we can all help each other through these changes. Basically, I would like to see us being a slightly more social Association! Accordingly, we would like to hear from you the members. What would help you in your work? Let us know and let's start the conversation. I look forward to the discussion and collaboration.

As I introduce myself, I also have to say goodbye to Geraint who has been the Association's Chief Executive for over fifteen years. His work has been detailed and careful and he has led the Association successfully. I am sure that all of us as members thank him very much for all his meticulous work over the years. We wish you a long and happy retirement, Geraint.



A word from the Chief Executive, Geraint Wyn Parry

Once again, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to Nia for her hard work and commitment to the Association. She is, of course, responsible for the Association's core and most important work of organising and administering the examinations system as well as dealing with financial matters on a day-to-day basis, which she does with reassuring efficiency. She certainly makes life easier for the Chief Executive!

At the start of 2022 Huw Tegid Roberts resigned as Chair following three years in that role. I would like to thank him sincerely for his constant support, wise counsel and leadership. Can I also thank David Bullock and Claire Richards who stepped in as interim joint Chairs until Manon Cadwaladr was elected Chair at the beginning of April 2022. In welcoming her to the role, may I thank her for the enthusiasm she displayed when offered the opportunity. Everyone can be confident in her assured and effective leadership as the Association moves into a new era.

May I also thank the Board of Directors for their sound judgement in carrying out their duties and for their regular attendance at Board meetings.

Fiona Gannon, our Chief Examiner, plays a key part in the Association's work. I would like to thank her for her strong leadership in guiding the Association's single most important activity. Lindsey Jones and Catrin Beard gave notice that they will stand down from their roles as Deputies at the end of 2022, and as such, I would like to thank them both for their effective and exemplary work over a number of years.

A number of members, and others, serve the Association in other ways. I am extremely grateful to all those who contribute to the work of the Association as examiners, markers and invigilators, workshop tutors and those so willing to help when I ask for their assistance with particular tasks. The friendly co-operation between staff and members is one of the Association's primary strengths, and long may it continue.

And finally, a word of thanks to our members, for their support and loyalty to the Association, but also for their professionalism and pride in their work.

The Association is part-funded by the Welsh Government. I would like to place on record my thanks for this support which has provided the Association with a strong base to be able to continue its important mission of maintaining professional standards in English <> Welsh translation and interpreting.

This is also my last Annual Report following more than fifteen years as the Association's Chief Executive, a job which has given me much satisfaction. There have been many highlights as the Association's structures and systems have been strengthened and as a number of exciting developments have been realised which have benefited the translating and interpreting profession/industry.

Translating and interpreting and the Association have seen major changes since 2007.

A number of significant changes have made life easier for translators, especially technological changes, and the Welsh Government are to be praised for funding projects aimed specifically at the Welsh language. These developments, and others, will continue to transform the way in which translators and interpreters go about providing the important service they offer in promoting bilingualism and the use of the Welsh language.



The Association has also developed and grown during this time. Today, it has about 400 members, a growth of over 30% since 2007. It can continue to increase its membership, and I would urge translators and interpreters who are not yet members to join and take pride in belonging to a professional community, which in turn will surely raise the profile and status of the profession.

Diolch yn fawr, thank you to you all. It's been a privilege and a pleasure.



Governance and management

Management of the Association

Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru Cyf. is a company limited by guarantee. It was incorporated in 2003 under this sole name. Its registration number is 4741023. The registered address is Intec, Parc Menai, Bangor, LL57 4FG. The Association's Chief Executive, Geraint Wyn Parry, is the Company Secretary. The Association is managed by a Board of Directors elected by and from the membership. The following served during 2021–22: David Bullock, Bethan M. Evans, Fiona Gannon, Steffan Gealy, Hywel G. Hughes, Catherine Jones, Mary Jones, Hywel Pennar, Ifan Prys, Claire Richards, Huw Tegid Roberts.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors on 1 February 2022, Huw Tegid Roberts resigned as Chair after a period of three years in the role and David Bullock and Claire Richards were elected as interim co-Chairs. The Board of Directors decided unanimously at its meeting on 22 March 2022 to elect Manon Cadwaladr, Cymen, to the Chair. She was elected as a Director on 1 April 2022. The Board of Directors met four times during the year, on 8 July 2021, 4 November 2021, 1 February 2022, 18 February 2022 (specifically to discuss the chairmanship) and on 22 March 2022, each time remotely.

The Annual General Meeting was held virtually on 23 September 2022. It was attended by 16 members. The 2020–21 Annual Report and accounts were presented. The election of Directors was confirmed, with no changes.

The Association has four other Boards/Committees.

The two Boards are concerned with the operation of the examination system: the Text Examination Board (comprising a core of the Chief Examiner and two deputies assisted by the markers of that particular round of examinations); and the Interpreting Board (comprising a core of the Chief Examiner and two deputies assisted by the assessors of that particular Interpreting Test). Fiona Gannon as the Association's Chief Examiner is responsible for both the Text Membership Examinations and the Interpreting Tests.

The other two committees are the Interpreting Matters Committee (which met once during the year) and the Membership and Professional Standards Committee.

The financial situation

The Association received a grant of £50,000 from the Welsh Government towards staffing and office costs. A condition of the grant was the need to reach targets agreed in advance. The letter offering the grant noted that its aim was to 'allow you to continue to maintain and develop professional translation and interpreting standards, developing activities [...] specifically associated with the assessment process, training and professional development, and ensuring professional standards'. The letter also noted that the Association's work 'contributed to a number of the aims in the Cymraeg 2050 strategy, including promoting the use of Welsh in the workplace and in the community'.

The Association's other main source of income was membership fees of £45,195.

The accounts show that the Association had reserves of £179,291 at year end.

The (unaudited) Financial Report was prepared by Emyr Mortimer Cyf, Caernarfon, (who bought Owain Bebb a'i Gwmni in March 2022), in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 which is relevant to small companies and FRS 102, Section 1A.



The report on activities in 2021–22

1. Foreword

The report on the activities of the Association in 2021–22 which follows has been prepared in the light of the objectives in the Strategic Plan. The following chapters report on progress in achieving the Association's four strategic objectives of:

- maintaining and increasing membership;
- promoting professional development;
- maintaining and developing key contacts;
- raising our profile and promoting professional values.

The Strategic Plan promotes the Association's aims and objectives by building on the solid foundations laid down in recent years, thus allowing the Association to continue its mission of further developing the English<->Welsh translation and interpreting profession/industry and its important role in advocating on behalf of its members.

This basic principle was central to the programme of work set out for 2021–22 and the targets of the Welsh Government grant, a programme which was affected to some extent by the Covid-19 pandemic. The Association's aims for the year were to:

- increase the number of translators and interpreters it represents;
- hold membership examinations for translators and interpreters;
- promote the professional development of translators and interpreters through a varied programme of workshops, and encourage and promote CPD;
- maintain relationships with Higher Education institutions, especially the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, and relevant academic courses;
- maintain and develop links with other organisations both inside and outside the profession;
- promote the Association's professional values, raise the profile of professional translation and interpreting and market the services provided by its members.

Despite the restrictions imposed as a result of Covid-19, the Association continued to represent the interests of its members, maintain and develop professional translation and interpreting standards and improve, increase and develop the skills and knowledge of translators and interpreters.

Readers of this report are strongly recommended to visit the Association's website – <https://www.cyfieithwyr.cymru/en/> – for further information about the Association and the activities described in this report.

Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru was part-funded by the Welsh Government in 2021–22.



2. Maintaining and increasing membership: membership of the Association

Strategic objective 1 aims to ensure that the Association represents an increasing number of translators and interpreters, and that it widens its influence and impact by maintaining and developing professional standards in translation and interpreting.

Note that this chapter deals with matters related to managing and administering membership. The examination system is dealt with in the next chapter.

Membership of the Association can only be achieved by passing its Text Membership Examinations or its Interpreting Test. There are two levels of membership for translators, Full and Basic, and candidates can qualify in either or both directions (English<->Welsh). There is only one level of membership for interpreters, and once again it is possible to gain the qualification in either or both directions. Membership of the Association is on an individual basis only.

2.1 Membership of the Association

As of 31 March 2022, the Association had 405 members, as follows:

Full Members: 207

Basic Members: 178

Interpreting Members: 81*

* Of the 81 Interpreting Members, 20 were Interpreting Members only. The remainder were also either Full Members (48) or Basic Members (13). All are Interpreting Members into English while 18 were Interpreting Members into Welsh.

One new member was admitted during the year, who qualified for membership in 2019.

It was extremely encouraging and a matter of pride that membership of the Association increased slightly during the year, from 399 to 405, despite not being able to hold examinations as planned. Covid-19 had no adverse effect on the loyalty of members to the Association.

The Association represents all aspects of the English<->Welsh translation and interpreting profession. Thirty nine per cent of members worked in the public and third sectors. Of the members working in the private sector, 42% were freelancers while 19% worked in translation/interpreting companies.

The Association's membership year runs from 1 April. A fair and robust annual renewals process is operated in April and May. As a result, as of 1 June only members who have paid their annual membership fee for the year are listed in the Find a translator/interpreter service and the A-Z of members on the Association's website (unless they had indicated they do not wish to appear).

The annual membership campaign was carried out in April and May as usual. In this campaign 2020-21 members were targeted, as well as former members and successful candidates in the examinations who had not joined following their success and who were eligible to be members under the Association's rule for membership. At the end of this campaign, 393 had paid their membership fee (the highest number ever in the history of the Association to renew their membership following the annual campaign, and one more than the record set last year!).

This number included six who rejoined and one new member. Two indicated that they did not want to continue their membership due to retirement.

As a reflection of the times, it was resolved to give a 25% discount on the full membership fee in



2021–22, i.e. a reduction from £150 to £112.50; and for Basic Members in their first three years of membership, £105 rather than £140.

Each member received a Membership Certificate on payment of the annual membership fee.

Each member received a Membership Handbook that sought to answer most, if not all, questions about membership of the Association.

Full Members and Interpreting Members, as well as Recognised Companies, were allowed to display specially designed logos.

Members enjoyed a number of benefits and services.

All members have a Membership Record, including a Profile, on the Association's website. They are encouraged to ensure that the information in the Membership Record is both current and correct and to put this valuable resource to good use.

Relevant and useful information was disseminated in the regular News Bulletin. Other benefits included information about translation/interpreting work and jobs and reduced rates for the Association's workshops and events (although the annual Members' Day did not take place, nor any other events).

2.2 Professional conduct

When paying their annual membership fee, members are informed of the expectation that they will act in accordance with the Association's Professional Code of Conduct, which includes a complaints procedure. We are pleased to report that no complaints were received against members of the Association during the year. The Association also offers a fee-based Translation Quality Assessment Service.

2.3 Recognising Areas of Professional Expertise

For a number of years, the Area of Professional Expertise system has been a means of recognising Full Members and Interpreting Members. There were three Areas of Professional Expertise: Court and Tribunal Interpreting, Legislative Translation and Communications Translation. It was resolved to set aside the idea of the Areas of Professional Expertise, but not abolish it, from 1 April 2022.

This will not include Court and Tribunal Interpreting (developed in consultation with officers from HM Courts and Tribunals Service) which has been renamed as Welsh Court and Tribunal Interpreters because of its strategic importance to the use of the Welsh language in courts and tribunals. Twenty-three Interpreting Members belong to the group. The expectation was that only these Interpreting Members would be called to provide interpreting services in court and at tribunal hearings.

2.4 Recognition of others

The Association recognises translation and interpreting companies via the **Recognised Company** system. Nine companies were awarded this status. At the start of the year, it was resolved to continue acknowledging Recognised Companies on the basis of their membership lists at the start of 2020–21 as Text Membership Examinations had not been held since October 2019 and as such, translators from these companies had not been given the opportunity to upgrade their membership.



Public and third sector organisations who meet the necessary criteria are recognised as **Recognised or Associate Organisations**. There were 11 Recognised Organisations and 4 Associate Organisations. It was resolved to freeze this recognition for public organisations from 1 April 2022, but that existing recognised organisations should retain it.

Recognition as a **Student Associate** is available to students intending to pursue a career in translation/interpreting and serves to encourage and support students in realising their ambitions. Six new Student Associates were registered during the year, bringing the total to 19.

The **Retired Members** category is for former members who wish to maintain their links with the Association when their formal membership ceases on retirement. Two former members were registered during the year, bringing the total to 32.

None of the above categories equates to membership of the Association; they are merely a means of recognition by the Association.



3. Strategic objective 1: Maintaining and increasing membership: the examination system

Strategic objective 1 aims to ensure that the Association represents an increasing number of translators and interpreters, and that it widens its influence and impact by maintaining and developing professional standards in translation and interpreting.

This chapter deals with the Association's Text Membership Examinations and the Interpreting Test.

3.1 Text Membership Examinations

Although a date was set in April 2021 for the Text Membership Examinations, unfortunately, because of the restrictions and uncertainty that existed at the time due to Covid-19, it was decided not to hold the examinations.

In the case of the October 2021 Text Membership Examinations, again due to the uncertainty that existed, it was decided to hold the examinations at the Full level only.

These examinations were held on 9 October 2021 at Coleg Ceredigion, Aberystwyth; the Julian Hodge Building at Cardiff University; and Coleg Glynllifon, near Caernarfon.

An examinations handbook was published, containing all the information regarding the examinations.

There were 11 candidates, a similar number to the last time examinations were held at this level in 2019, 9 into Welsh and 5 into English (3 sat both papers). Two succeeded into Welsh and 2 into English. All 3 candidates were already members of the Association.

The Text Examination Board was held virtually on 9 and 10 November 2021 (the one into Welsh and the other into English).

When evaluating these examinations, it is pleasing to say that there were examples of effective and polished translations in the work of each of the candidates. Unfortunately, difficulty in maintaining the standard of their best work across the three pieces prevented the unsuccessful candidates from succeeding, although without a doubt they were all capable of it.

It must be emphasized that Full Membership endorses translators as those who can deliver accurate and polished work without the need for revision by another person. As such, the meaning must be conveyed completely correctly every time, with no careless errors slipping through the net. As well as being able to translate a piece to a very high standard, successful candidates at this level must be able to proofread it thoroughly, so that any minor errors can be corrected before final submission of the work.

A 'homework' piece is now part of the examination at this level. This piece is an opportunity for the candidates to demonstrate their talents, away from the pressure of examination conditions. It was, therefore, a disappointment to see one candidate presenting polished examination pieces but failing to maintain that standard in the 'homework' piece. As several examples of this have arisen in different examinations, it is worth emphasising once again that the examiners have high expectations of the 'homework' piece, since it is not subject to time pressures or examination conditions. No candidate should attempt to translate the 'homework' piece hastily or without careful consideration of the content, as the extra time and freedom allowed means that they are expected to do any necessary research and to find the most appropriate word every time.



Five Full Members accepted invitations to join the **Register of Examination Markers**.

3.2 The Interpreting Test

Although a date was set in March 2021 for the Interpreting Test Day, consisting of the Interpreting Test into English and the Interpreting Test into Welsh, it was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. When it was rescheduled, it was decided to hold the Interpreting Test into English only on 15 June 2021, and not to hold the Interpreting Test into Welsh. The Interpreting Test into English was held remotely via Zoom with CTV Sound Studios in Cardiff recording each candidate's test. In conducting it in this way, some new arrangements were adopted to reflect this method of conducting the Interpreting Test, including ensuring that each candidate met a number of technical requirements; asking the supervisor to note any technical problems; and providing the assessors with a technical report.

There were 7 candidates for this Interpreting Test. Three succeeded, all of whom were already members of the Association.

The Interpreting Test Board was held virtually on 16 June 2021.

Although each of the candidates showed promise and the strongest interpreted clearly and fluently in natural and idiomatic English, the standard was uneven. Each candidate demonstrated examples of effective interpreting, but several failed to maintain momentum as the pace of speech accelerated. This might have been due to a lack of stamina.

It was felt that the candidates, overall, had pleasant voices and some managed to convince with accurate interpretations and solid technique. But, all too often, the interpretation did not flow naturally or smoothly, and there were few attempts to distinguish between speakers. There was a tendency, at times, for the interpreting to be jerky and uneven, and there was evidence of filler words and exclamations by the candidates as well as uncertainty and nervousness – understandable under test conditions – hindering expression.

All candidates had their merits, and the unsuccessful candidates are encouraged to take advantage of every opportunity to practice and gain experience and confidence before attempting the Interpreting Test again.

As no one registered for either of the Interpreting Tests, the Interpreting Test Day scheduled for 8 February 2022 did not take place.



4. Promoting professional development

Strategic objective 2 aims to ensure that opportunities are provided for translators and interpreters to assist them in improving, increasing and developing their skills and knowledge, thus promoting the professional skills and employability of members.

4.1 Professional development and training activities

Despite having to reduce these activities due to Covid-19, that did not mean that the Association did not continue to recognise the importance of the need for its members and other translators to pay due attention to their professional development. On-line workshops were organised in the last quarter of the year; the short e-translation workshop was held three times at different times of the year; and bespoke training was organised; as well as increasing the number of Translation Exercises (Basic level) on the website.

Three **workshops**, all remote, were organised, as follows:

- 'Stronger together: sharing translation resources in Wales', a workshop held jointly with Bangor University's Language Technologies Unit and led by Stefano Ghazzali. The aim of this workshop was to present the first Welsh Open Translation Memories project and to encourage public bodies to support this innovative project by sharing their translation memories. Fifteen took part in the workshop.
- 'Preparing for the Basic Examination, translating into Welsh' led by Lindsey Jones and Eirlys Williams. Fifteen took part in the workshop.
- 'Translating from Welsh into English' led by Sylvia Prys Jones. Sixteen took part in the workshop.

The **short translation e-workshop** was again offered as this format had its merits. In this e-workshop learners were given a week to translate one text only. In June 2021, the short translation e-workshop was offered at both Full and Basic levels, and in both directions (into English and into Welsh); and at the Full level there were 16 registrations (14 into English and 4 into Welsh), and at the Basic level there were 14 registrations (14 into English and 3 into Welsh). In October and November 2021, the short translation e-workshop was offered at the Basic level only, and in both directions; and there were 24 registrations (24 into English and 4 into Welsh). The short translation e-workshop was only offered at the Full level, and in both directions in March 2022; and there were 9 registrations (7 into English and 4 into Welsh).

Those taking advantage of these workshops worked in the public sector, in private translation companies or as self-employed translators, as well as individuals considering a career as a translator.

The Association responded to applications from organisations for **bespoke training**. Two bespoke training programmes were organised for translators from NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership and for translators from of Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

Texts set in the short translation e-workshop formed the basis for the **Translation Exercises (Basic level)** which can be found on the Association's website. Two new exercises, both into Welsh, were added. There are 24 Translation Exercises on the website, 17 into Welsh and 7 into English.

The **Interpreting Practice Session** was offered on two occasions in October and November 2022, remotely and with CTV Sound Studios in Cardiff recording each attempt. Six registered, all into English and one into Welsh.



4.2 'Balchder Crefft: Datblygu Proffesiynol Parhaus, ei fanteision'

'Balchder Crefft: Datblygu Proffesiynol Parhaus, ei fanteision' is the title of the Association's Continuous Professional Development (CPD) plan. The document aims to offer a handy guide to help and encourage members to consider the importance of CPD and to formulate their own CPD plan. It also provides guidance to members on the type and level of CPD activities best suited and most relevant to their needs. All members can log their CPD activity in their Membership Record on the Association's website, which is only accessible to the individual members themselves and Association staff.

4.3 The 'Sbarduno' Fund

As the Association had decided to make a change and to award a scholarship at the start of the academic year rather than an end of year prize in the case of the Professional Translation Studies scheme at Aberystwyth University, both a prize and a scholarship were awarded in 2021. The 2020–21 prize was awarded to Debbie Williams, Nefyn. She was inspired to change career from being a primary school teacher and follow the scheme by her eldest daughter, Gwen, who gained an MA on the scheme in 2018.

The 2021–22 scholarship was awarded to Elan Grug Carter of Wrexham who studied full-time for the MA.

Because the Text Membership Examinations were not held, there was no opportunity to award prizes to the most promising candidates in the Basic level examinations: the Wil Petherbridge Memorial Prize (established in 2007 for the most promising candidate in the Basic level examination into Welsh) and the Berwyn Prize (established in 2017 for the most promising candidate in the Basic level examination into English), both awarded on condition that a worthy recipient is identified.



5. Maintaining and developing key contacts

Strategic objective 3 aims to ensure that the Association maintains and promotes its relationships with different organisations and institutions and develops key partnerships. These would be organisations and institutions operating inside and outside translation and interpreting in Wales and elsewhere. This enables us to advocate on behalf of the Association and the English<->Welsh translation and interpreting profession/industry in spheres of influence, as well as heightening awareness among institutions and organisations of the value and advantages of using the Welsh language.

5.1 Within translation and interpreting

Although there were no opportunities to hold face-to-face meetings with heads of translation companies and translation units within public bodies, the Association maintained contact with these in other ways.

The Association continued to maintain links and relationships with other translation and interpreting associations and organisations, including the Institute of Translators and Interpreters (and the ITI Cymru/Wales group), the Chartered Institute of Linguists and the National Register of Public Service Interpreters. The Association comes into direct contact with these and other organisations through its membership of Professional Interpreters for Justice (PI4J), an umbrella group which aims to represent the interests of public service interpreters, including those in the justice sector. The Chief Executive is a member of the Steering Group.

The Association is a member of the Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs / International Federation of Translators, or FIT, which represents the interests of professional translation and interpreting associations worldwide. The Association was involved with FIT on both a global and European level.

5.2 Higher Education Institutions

The Association is a member of the Translation Studies Consortium of the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol. The aim of the Consortium is to maintain a strategic overview of the academic provision of the Professional Translation Studies scheme at Aberystwyth University and the Postgraduate Certificate in Interpreting at University of Wales Trinity Saint David. The Consortium offers guidance and advice to ensure that the academic provision reflects the training needs of the translation and interpreting profession/industry, as well as the necessary standard and range of skills required of professional translators or interpreters at the start of their career. The Association is represented by the Chief Executive.

The Association contributed a teaching session to the Aberystwyth University Professional Translation Studies scheme.

5.3 Organisations and institutions in Wales

Grŵp Hyrwyddo'r Gymraeg (Welsh Language Promotion Group)

The Association is a member of this Group which consists of organisations working to promote the Welsh language. The Group is co-ordinated and administered by the Welsh Government's Welsh Language Unit. The Association is represented by the Chief Executive.

Welsh Language Commissioner

The Association continued to work closely with the Welsh Language Commissioner's office on matters relating to translation and interpreting.



HM Courts & Tribunals Service (HMCTS)

The partnership between the Association, HMCTS Welsh Language Unit and the judiciary in Wales is of vital importance in ensuring a professional system and standards in the provision of an English<->Welsh interpreting service in courts and tribunals. The Association's Chief Executive and Hywel Hughes of HMCTS Welsh Language Unit, are in regular contact regarding matters concerning interpreting in courts.

The Interpreting in Courts and Tribunals Working Group met for the first time during the year. A joint partnership between HMCTS, the judiciary in Wales and the Association, its Chair is the Welsh Language Liaison Judge and it is answerable to the Lord Chancellor's Standing Committee. The aim of the Working Group is to review all arrangements for interpreting in courts and tribunals to ensure that the service maintains the highest standards. The Association is represented by 5 Interpreting Members as well as the Chief Executive. Two meetings of the Working Group were held.

Following Lord Wolfson's statement in the House of Lords in early 2022 regarding a review of some aspects of interpreting in the Ministry of Justice's languages contract, a letter was sent to him drawing attention to the arrangements for Welsh language interpreting in the courts in Wales, the desire to safeguard those arrangements, and the trust which exists for those arrangements. In his reply he confirmed that the Welsh language would not form part of the review.

The Association received an invitation to join the Language Services External Stakeholder Forum established by the Ministry of Justice/HMCTS in May 2021. Its aim is 'to facilitate a regular and constructive engagement between HMCTS and organisations representing the interpreter community'. The Association is represented by the Chief Executive.

Her Gyfieithu / Translation Challenge

The Association continued to be a partner of Her Gyfieithu, the Translation Challenge into Welsh. Once again, the Association sponsored the Her Gyfieithu Staff created by Elis Gwyn of Llanystumdwy and awarded to the winner of the 2021 competition, Robin Farrar. The competition was jointly organised by Wales PEN Cymru, Wales Literature Exchange and Literature Across Frontiers, with the support of Swansea University, the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, *O'r Pedwar Gwynt*, and the Association.

The Urdd Eisteddfod

In collaboration with the Urdd (Wales' largest national youth organisation), the Association organised the translation competition for 19–25 year-olds at the 2020 Urdd Eisteddfod. Despite having to postpone the Eisteddfod for a second time in 2021, the winner was announced as part of Eisteddfod T. The winner was Daniel O'Callaghan, *Aelwyd y Waun Ddyfal*, Cardiff. The necessary arrangements were made to hold the competition at the 2022 Eisteddfod. The partnership between Eisteddfod yr Urdd and the Association to hold this competition will continue until 2024.

University of Wales Press

The Association was delighted to make a financial contribution to the publication of *Sylfeini Cyfieithu Testun* by Ben Screen, published by University of Wales Press in December 2021. This was the first introduction of its sort to professional translation in Welsh. A joint virtual launch was held in the spring. Members of the Association and Student Associates were given the opportunity to buy the book for a reduced price.

Other links

The Association is a member of the following organisations: Dathlu'r Gymraeg, Dyfodol i'r Iaith, WCVA, and Mantell Gwynedd.



5.4 Responses to consultations etc

Responses were made to two Welsh Government consultations:

The recommendations of the consultation document '**National policy for the linguistic infrastructure of the Welsh language**' were approved. In our response, we expressed a desire to see the plans in it realised as soon as possible and emphasised our desire as an Association to contribute to this work and to collaborate with the Welsh Government in the long term as the proposed new unit is set up and as it develops and establishes itself as a resource that will protect the Welsh language and strengthen its use in all aspects of our lives. As well as responding formally to the consultation and drawing members' attention to it in the News Bulletin, a focus group was organised from amongst the Association's freelance translators at the Government's request.

The Association's response to the '**Welsh Language Communities Housing Plan**' consultation focused on the question relating to place names. In doing so, it was noted that this aspect of the plan should be considered in the context of other Welsh language policies, specifically the National policy for the linguistic infrastructure of the Welsh language (2021) and the Welsh language technology implementation plan (2018). This was done because there are references to protecting place names in both; it was suggested that the appropriateness of funding postgraduate academic research projects in the field be considered; there was agreement with the need to carry out research into changing the names of properties; and it was noted that the proposed Cultural Ambassadors could have a crucial and important role in protecting place names.

At the request of the Welsh Government, who led on this issue, the Association continued to lobby **Microsoft** to add an interpreting function to Teams, including encouraging FIT, ITI and CIOL to express their support.



6. Profile raising and promoting professional values

Strategic objective 4 aims to raise the profile of the Association, promote our professional values and the professional services provided by our members and market the Association's activities and services.

In promoting the Association's aim and objectives, our marketing and communication activities sought to create positive relationships with the various groups with whom the Association wishes to engage, i.e., our members, prospective members, other translators and interpreters, organisations and institutions, commissioners of translation and interpreting, and other contacts beyond translation including politicians. These activities were also a means of highlighting the Association's role as the professional body for English<>Welsh translators and interpreters and ensuring that all aspects of the Association's work enjoy a high profile.

The individuals and organisations on the Association's general mailing list were provided with relevant information about the Association's activities as needed.

As the sole global source of information about the Welsh translation and interpreting profession, the Association's website – <https://www.cyfieithwyr.cymru/en/> – is central to our marketing and communication activity. A redesigned website went live on 1 March 2022. It has a fresh and different look and feel, and some features are more easily accessible, e.g. finding a translator/interpreter and information about membership. All the website's content is available under the Open Government License (OGL) v 3.0.

For those seeking a translator or interpreter, the website provides a free, convenient and user-friendly search facility. This service also includes the Membership Record of each member who has consented to their information appearing on the website. The Profile is an important aspect of the Membership Record and affords an opportunity for each member to provide information about themselves.

The website also includes essential information and resources for translators, interpreters and those wishing to join the Association, including information about workshops, past examination papers, Chief Examiner reports, Translation Exercises (Basic level) and a wide variety of useful resources such as dictionaries and glossaries. It also features a News page and an English <> Welsh translation and interpreting jobs page.

Extensive use was made of the Association's Twitter account – [@cyfieithwyr](https://twitter.com/cyfieithwyr) – and of press advertisements to publicise the Association's activities.

