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PRESS RELEASE

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MENTER BRO MORGANNWG WINS NATIONAL LOTTERY SUPPORT

www.menterbromorgannwg.cymru

Menter Bro Morgannwg has received £10,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for an exciting project, 'lolo ar Daith'; a project which will delve into the life and work of one of the Vale of Glamorgan's most extraordinary historical figures, Iolo Morganwg.

The project will enable people of all ages to learn more about Iolo Morganwg's contributions – to the Vale, Wales and beyond. We will work with the local drama company 'Mewn Cymeriad' (www.mewncymeriad.cymru) to create a family-friendly show to be performed in Gŵyl Fach y Fro 2017, scripting workshop with Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg pupils and a stand-up show for adults as part of the Gigs Bach y Fro programme. The project will also include a series of research groups, exhibitions and lectures.

Iolo was born in Llancarfan and lived for most of his life in Flemington, and although he spent periods of his life travelling Wales and South East England, his home village remained important to him. A memorial plaque has been placed outside the building where Iolo once ran a grocery store (which is now a Costa coffee shop in Cowbridge), and the local Welsh medium primary school has been named after him. As his bardic name suggests, he was very proud of his Glamorgan roots and this contributed greatly towards his work and vision. Iolo Morganwg was an influential and intriguing character, and his story has many facets to explore within this project.

Elements of the project depend on research by members of the community, and this research group led by Dr Dylan Foster Evans will work together to collate information for exhibition boards, flyers and the People's Collection Wales website.

Commenting on the award, Siân Lewis (Menter Bro Morgannwg Chief Executive) said, "We are thrilled to have received support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and are confident that this project will give adults, children and young people experiences and opportunities to take part in an exciting project, and to learn more about Iolo Morganwg's substantial contribution to Welsh culture and heritage in the Vale of Glamorgan and Wales."

If you would like to know more about the project and the various opportunities to take part, contact Ffion Rhisiart on 029 2068 9888 / ffion@menterbromorgannwg.cymru

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Notes

About Menter Bro Morgannwg

- Menter Bro Morgannwg's primary aim is to increase the use of the Welsh language in the Vale, and create opportunities for the county's people to use the language outside school and work hours.
- According to the 2011 Census, nearly 11% of the County's population are Welsh speaking (13,189).

About the Heritage Lottery Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. <http://www.hlf.org.uk>.

For more information, please contact Sian Lewis (Menter Bro Morgannwg Chief Executive): sian@menterbromorgannwg.cymru / 029 20689888