

01.02.2006 - Bryan Adam Concert

Canadian rocker Bryan Adams is coming to South Wales this summer to star in a concert in Bridgend as part of his European tour.

The superstar singer, whose hits include Summer of '69, Run to You and Everything I Do (I Do it For You), today officially announced the South Wales gig to take place at the Brewery Field in the town, on Friday, June 2.

Tickets for the concert go on sale today, with the 18,000-capacity venue expected to sell out fast.

It is being staged by the new Celtic Crusaders Rugby League Club, the only professional club in Wales, who are based at the Brewery Field in Tondur Road.

The Bridgend show is one of only six UK dates planned by the superstar for his summer tour, and will include support acts to be announced later.

Crusaders chief executive Chris O'Callaghan said: 'This is a great coup for South Wales and particularly for the Bridgend area.

'We have worked hard to secure this concert and have beaten several other major venues to bring a world-class rock act to Bridgend, which can only help bring a lot of business to the area. We're looking forward to working closely with Bridgend County Borough Council to make this show an event to remember and for the town and its people to be proud of.'

Tickets are £30, £35, £40 and £45 (subject to booking fee), with hospitality packages from £90 per person.

Phone 0871 2088787 or book online at www.celtic-crusaders.com

04.02.2006 - Widnes Academy at The Brewery Field

On Sunday 5th March 12.30pm the Crusaders Academy takes on Widnes Vikings Academy before the Crusaders Home Opener against London Skolars, £10 entrance fee covers both games.

06.02.2006 - Crusaders take on the World

....or Great Britain at least. Crusaders are hoping to confirm a Junior Academy (U'18's) game v Great Britain Amateur on Sunday 19th March before the Crusaders v Hemel Hempstead game, £10 entrance fee covers both games.

13.02.2006 – Crusaders write History

Tony Duggan is now the first ever Crusaders player to score a try for the Welsh franchise, with Scott O'Kelly claiming to be the first Welsh try scorer. Jace Van Dijk is rewarded with the first Man of the Match award – useful for Sports Quiz questions in years to come.

15.02.2006 – Sky Sports admires Crusade

CEO Chris O'Callaghan featured in a telephone interview on Sky Sports very own Boots 'n' All, anyone who watched the interview will recognise that O'Callaghan spoke very well about the clubs ambitions to enter Super League, with a great determination for the Welsh players.

21.02.2006 - McCarthy appointed Crusaders' team manager

Former Cardiff City Football Club director Gerald McCarthy has been appointed Team Manager at Celtic Crusaders Rugby League Club.

McCarthy worked at Ninian Park between 1987 and 1989 alongside Tony and Lynda Clemo. He became infamous for being part of a consortium that attempted to buy the Bluebirds from the Clemos in 1989.

His new role at the Crusaders will to organise the smooth running of matchdays both home and away as well as drumming up publicity for the club in Bridgend and the surrounding areas. The first target he has set himself is to attract a crowd of 3,000 to the Brewery Field for the visit of Locomotiv Moscow in the Third Round of the Powergen Challenge Cup on March 12th.

"One of the most exciting parts of my role is the promotional work," said McCarthy. "To publicise this match and the club in general, we'll be visiting plenty of schools from Bridgend right up to the Rhondda and Merthyr. We'll also be visiting businesses and shopping centres such as McArthur Glen.

"We're already giving a lot back to schools in the area. We've organised a Six Nations forecast competition which has coupled as fundraising for the schools and the Crusaders. Very soon we'll have schools acting as ticketing agencies where they will be able to sell match tickets to the pupil base and their parents and they will keep a percentage of the value of the tickets.

"We'll also soon be launching a mascot which will be visiting schools and a junior supporters club which the Glamorgan Gazette will publicise in the same way that the Echo covers the Cardiff City and Blues junior clubs. Finally for now, we'll be launching summer rugby league training camps in future school holidays."

McCarthy owes a lot of his expertise to his two-year involvement with Cardiff City.

"It was great to work with Frank Burrows as it's now equally as good to work with John Dixon," adds McCarthy. "They are very similar and are two exceptional individuals. I know I've made the right choice in joining the Crusaders."

21.02.2006 - Local businessman links with Crusaders to help charity

A pre-school special needs centre in Bridgend will soon benefit from the generosity of a local businessman.

Wayne Griffiths of Nathaniel Car Sales Ltd on David Street in Bridgend has entered the Celtic Crusaders Rugby League Club 3000 lottery and should he be successful, he will donate all his winnings to Y Bont Centre in Ewenny Road, Bridgend. The centre, a registered charity, caters for pre-school age children who have disabilities, special needs or certain genetic medical conditions.

And the centre may benefit fairly soon from Mr Griffiths as the Crusaders' lottery has a daily £100 prize draw, the first being on March 1st. There is also an annual prize draw for £25,000, the biggest of its kind in Wales.

“Y Bont is a local charity, just down the road from me and one that I’ve supported before,” said Mr Griffiths, “So when I heard about the Crusaders’ lottery, I thought that this would be a good thing to do.”

Y Bont have applied to the Lord’s Taverners charity for a specially adapted minibus and Mr Griffiths has also agreed to guarantee half of the money needed to buy this. The normal waiting list for a bus is up to two years but because of this most generous guarantee, the bus has been approved in six weeks and they now await its imminent delivery.

Rhiannon John, the Y Bont Centre Manager said: “I’d like to thank Mr Griffiths for all the support that he’s given us both in the past and the present. He’s loaned us a minibus to go on centre outings in the past so it’s marvellous that he’s able to guarantee us money for a bus of our own. Obviously, I also hope he wins the Crusaders’ club lottery very soon. All his generosity helps us to continue our good work.”

For more details on the Celtic Crusaders rugby league club lottery, please call 01656 658535 or go to www.celtic-crusaders.com . To contact Nathaniel Cars, call 01656 662255.