



National Eisteddfod Genedlaethol 2018

We've had a very busy few months over the summer with Storm this year. The National Eisteddfod was held in Cardiff Bay and we as Storm took full advantage of this to make some noise and spread the word about Wales Council, eye health and the Storm project. So for the week of the 4th till the 11th

of August we settled into our new home for the week on the Eisteddfod Maes. We had lots going on throughout the week with local societies and organizations joining us on a number of the days but it was the Thursday that was dedicated to the Storm Project and young people. Thanks to UCAN Productions for joining us on the day and of course a shout out to our volunteers on the day Angharad Butler-Rees and Enireth Powell-Davies for giving up their time.



The Computer Says No – EyeCare Conference 2018

Once again Mared and I were asked to create performances for the Annual Eye Care Conference. It was an exciting year as both WCB and the NHS were celebrating big birthdays and so we were given the themes of “Celebrating NHS 70th Birthday” and “The Future”.

When we first got these themes we had a few initial ideas but nothing we totally loved. We did some research into the history of the NHS and looked at what an average day in the NHS was like. Through this and lots of brainstorming we came up with the idea of making a song out of the statistics, we tasked the talented Ellie Wait with this. We then came up with the concept for the performance that Mared and I are the organizers and are late to the NHS 70 birthday party, all the guests (the delegates at the conference) have arrived and nothing's been set up. During the performance chaos ensues as Mared and Megan try to set up. There were arguments, caterpillar cakes and even a game of 'never have I ever...', the performance ending with an original song called "95 babies are born".

For the afternoon performance we were looking at the future so we decided to focus on how the patient experience might change due to advancements in technology and surgeries that could be available based on research that's currently being done. We based the sketch on a patient, who was Amy going for her annual check up, using the idea that the check up would be done through AI (artificial intelligence) and technology so no human would be needed. There are robots that complete manual tasks. The one played by Mared we called NurseBot Alaska. The message we were trying to give was that

no matter how advanced technology becomes we believe there is always a need for human interaction and the performance highlighted how valuable it is.

Despite it challenging us we were really pleased with what we managed to create, with the performance itself and, of course, we enjoyed being a part of the conference once again.

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