

English v Welsh: Which language is balderdash?

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The art of communicating through language is what makes us unique.

Just as we have developed as humans, language has also evolved with us.

One thing that almost all languages around the world have in common is that they tend to borrow words from different languages.

In English there are Latin influences in the language like solar, maternal or regal, as well as loanwords like sauna from Finnish, robot from Czech and jubilee from Hebrew.

And Welsh is no exception.

It features several words borrowed from English, for example *pwrs*, *fferm* and *siop* from purse, farm and shop.

But a lesser known fact is that English has borrowed some words from Welsh.

Take balderdash for example. Some experts believe it comes from the Welsh word *baldorddus*, which describes someone who chatters or babbles.

It's hardly surprising that something would have rubbed off though. Welsh and English have existed side by side for over a thousand years.

So if you've always thought you're hopeless at languages – what balderdash!

You might know more Welsh – or several other languages for that matter – than you ever realised!