

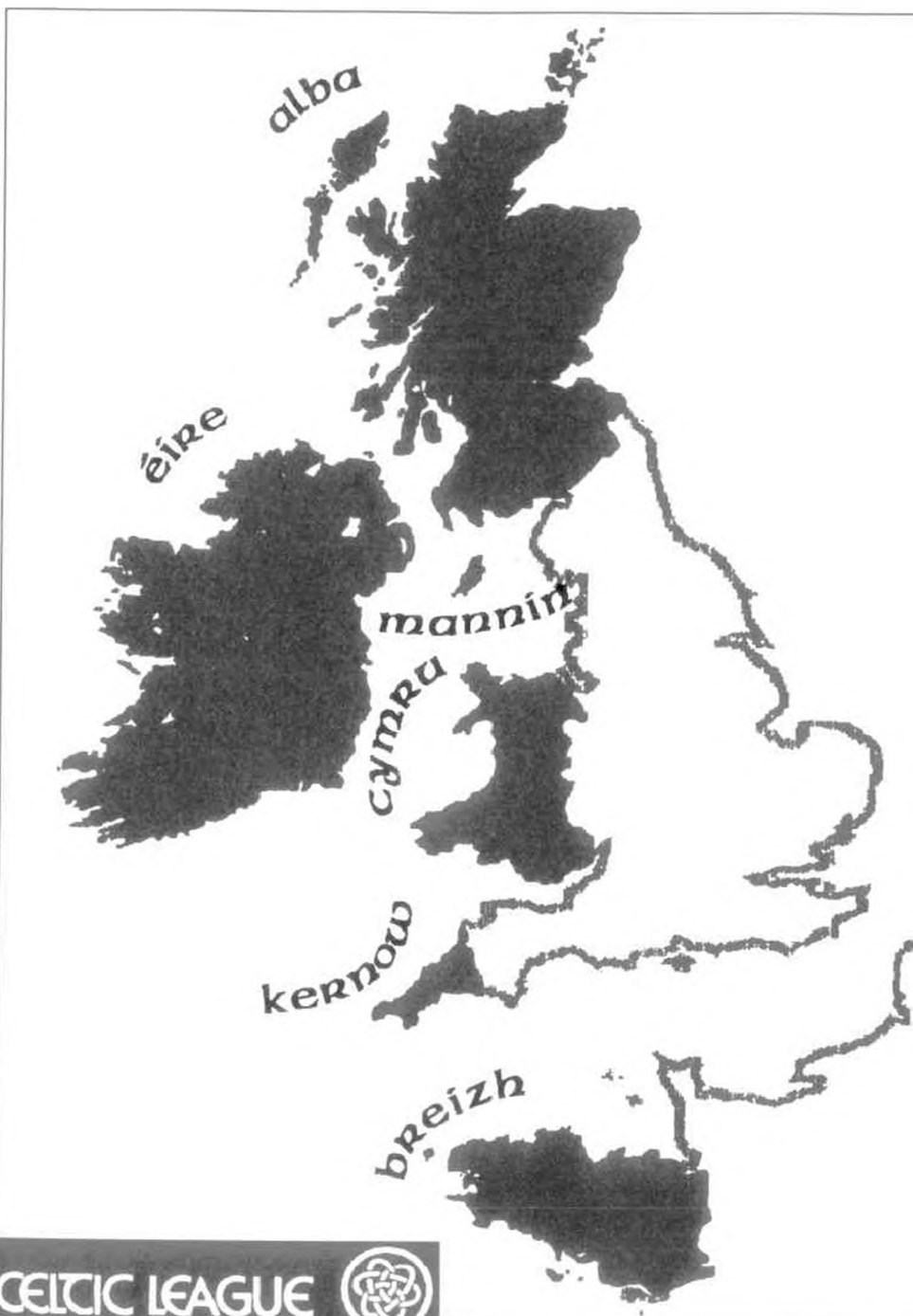
# celt

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 88

Winter 1994/95

£1.70



- People Mightier than a Lord?
- Repression of Breton-Basque Solidarity
- Cànanan Alba agus Ulaidh
- Cymdeithas Oppose the Quangos
- 21 Years of Growth in Irish Medium Schools
- Modern Cornish and Standardisation
- RAF Base on Mann for Sale
- Nightmare Sea Dumps

**ALBA:** COMUNN  
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COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE



# ALBA

## An Ceathramh Comhdhail Eadar-nàiseanta air Cànanan Alba agus Ulaidh

Chaidh an Ceathramh Comhdhail Eadar-nàiseanta air Cànanan Alba agus Ulaidh a chumail aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, an Colaisde Gaidhlig airson Ath-shoghlum san Eilean Sgitheanach, bho an 1mh. latha den Lùnasdal gus an 6mh. latha 1994. Chruinnich mu leth-cheud teachdaire bho iomadh dùthaich eadar-dhealaichte gu ionnsachadh troimh chòmhradh, sheòmraichean agus òraidean bho chòrr agus deich air fhichead fear-ealanta ann an caochladh mòr raointean sgoilearachd.

Cho maith ri Albais agus Gaidhlig Eireannach, bha iomad nì mu dheidhinn na cànan Albannach fhein (agus chan e Beurla Albannach anns nach eil ach caochladh de Bheurla nan Sassunach). Bha an dealbh cànanach air Alba agus Ulaidh air a dèanamh iomlan le òraid mu chànanan na cinnidheach beaga as ùr anns na dùthchannan sin, leithid Urdu agus Sincis.

Chaidh còmhradh a dhèanamh air sealladh de na cànanan bho shùil air eòlas-cànanach agus eòlas fuaim-fhaclan, agus cha do rinneadh dearmad air dualchas culturach na h-Alba agus Ulaidh le fiosrachadh mu innseadh sgeulachd, mith-òrain agus ceòl an latha an diugh.

Bha e air aontachadh sa comhdhail gum feumte daingneachd ri chèile a measg buill na cànanan beaga. Bha feum cuideachd air airgead anns a' chath gu cumail nan cànanan beò agus an cur air adhart ann an saoghal culturach a bha a' cleachdadh Beurla airson a' mhòr chuid. Tha seo nas fhasa an diugh a thaobh Bhreatainn a bhith 'n ball anns a' Chomuinn Eòrpach. Faodar a nis dhoil dìreach gu bun-airgid Eòrpach, a' gabhail aon taobh de bheurocrasaidh Bhreatainn a tha gu follaiseach a' cur maille ann an iartasan sam bith airson airgid. Tha iomadh cànan beag, eadar-dhealaichte sa Chomuinn Eòrpach agus tha seo a' ciallachadh gum faod guth làidir a bhith aca còmhla aig coinneamhan a' Chomuinn Eòrpach. Mar sin feumaidh riaghaltasan barrachd suim a ghabhail de na h-iartasan aca san am ri tighinn.

Ann an cùisean nas neo-chudromaiche bha taobh chaidreach na comhdhail cuideachd glè shoibheach. Air sgàth nan teachdairean a dùthchannan eile, bha an

t-side fàbharach agus mar sin fhuair iad cothrom air seallaidhean oirdhearc Eilean a' Cheò fhaicinn nuair a b' fhearr a bha iad a' coimhead ann an turas aon latha timchioll iomadh àite sònraichte. Na measg sin bha Caisteal Dhun Bheagain, Ionad Dualchais Arois an Port Rìghe agus fear bu phrìospalta dhuibh air fad (?). Taigh Staile Thalasgair. Bha na teachdairean cuideachd a' gabhail pàirt ann an ceilidh no dhà anns an do nochd tàlant a bha gun nochdadh roimhe sin. Agus an sluagh ionadail sin, na meanbh-chuileagan, fhuair iad an sàth de fhuil choigreach, agus a chuireadh an cuthach air an duine bu intinnleachdaiche!

Ròs Nic a' Ghobhainn

**Glossary:** *Raointean sgoilearachd* - Academic fields; *cinnidhean beaga as ùr* - new ethnic minority; *cur air adhart* - enhance the promotion; *bheurocrasaidh* - bureaucracy; *taobh chaidreach* - social side.

### Summary

*The Fourth International Conference on the Languages of Scotland and Ulster was held at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic Further Education College of the Isle of Skye, from 1st to 6th August 1994. Around fifty delegates from many different countries assembled to learn from discussion, workshops and lectures given by over thirty experts in a large variety of academic fields.*

*Many aspects of the languages in question were discussed, ranging from historical and geographical perspectives to socio-linguistic and phonological viewpoints. And the cultural heritage of Scotland and Ulster was not neglected, with valuable contributions in the fields of story-telling, folksong and modern music.*

*The importance of solidarity amongst minority language was stressed at this conference, and it was generally agreed that funding to enhance the promotion of these as part of their battle for survival in a predominantly English-speaking culture is more accessible nowadays because of Britain's membership of the EU.*

## Deasbad: Eadar Tòmas Teagmhach agus Cailean Cinnreach

**Cailean:** A bhalaich ort, Thòmais, nach tu a tha coimhead math, fallain.

**Tomàs:** Chan eil fhios a'm. Tha mo bhrù caran goirt agus chan eil mo dhruim cho dìreach 's a bha e.

**C:** Am faca tu na nithean math a tha Comunn Luchd-Ionnsachaidh a' cuir a-mach air sgath na feadhna a tha ag ionnsachadh cànan nàiseanta na h-Alba?

**T:** Tha Gàidhlig air a' Ghàidhealtachd ach dè mu dheighinn a' Ghalldachd?

**C:** B'abhaist Gàidhlig a bhi air a bruidhinn feadh Alba gu leir. Nach do lugh thu "Aiscirigh na Seann Chànain Albannaich" a rinn Alasdair Mac Mhaighstir Alasdair?

**T:** Nach biodh e na b'fheàrr do chloinn cànan "feumail" mar Frangais no Gearmailtis ionnsachadh?

**C:** Tha mi seachd sgith dhiotsa! A bheil thu 'nad nàmhaid do Ghàidhlig?

**T:** 'S e fear-tagraidh an diabhail a tha annam! Cha bhiodh do dheasbad cho tlachdmhor as m'aois!

**C:** Is diabhail thusa! Mar a seò!

**T:** Mar a thuirt mi, nach eil Frangais is Gearmailtis nas feumaile?

**C:** Dè mu dheighinn a' chànan choimheach eile, a' Bheurla? Feumaidh sinn gan teagaisg uile gu leir - tre na Gàidhlig! Ann an Alba leis mar a tha dualachas na h-Alba a' fas cho luath 's ann a tha a' Ghàidhlig nas fheumaile a thaobh obair fhaighinn na tha Frangais no Gearmailtis... Tha clann a chaidh oideachadh tre mheadhain na Gàidhlig dà-rìreabh dà-chànanach. Tha e nas fhasa dhaibh cànan eile ionnsachadh.

**T:** Glè mhath, ach a bheil foghlum tre na Gàidhlig a' cur bacadh air a' chloinn?

**C:** 'S ann a tha e air an dòigh eile. Tha rannsachadh a' nochdadh gu bheil clann a tha air an oideachadh tre'n mhion (*minority*) chànan a' dèanamh nas fheàrr anns a h-uile cuspair siù 's Beurla oir tha clann a tha air an oideachadh san dòigh seo a' coimhead an t-saoghail o dhà shealladh a thaobh cànan agus dualchais. Tha seo a' neartachadh an comas eanchainn agus sgilean sòisealta.

**T:** Nach eile 'a Ghàidhlig na bacadh do dh'innbich faighinn air adhart?

- C: Chan eil idir! Thusa agus do "bhacadh"! Tha a' Ghàidhlig an diugh na cuideachadh a thaobh obrach agus i feumail gu sòisealta agus gu culturach. Tha i cuideachd a' toirt fein-aithne do dh'Alba.
- T: Nach eile a' Ghàidhlig ro dhoirbh a h-ionnsachadh?
- C: Chan eil. Tha clann òg a' gabhail ri the gu nàdurra agus ga sùghadh a-steach ma tha iad san t-suidheachadh cheart. 'S ann mar sin a tha cròileagain agus sgoiltean tre mheadhan na Gàidhlig cho cudromach.
- T: Chuala sinn mu Alba ach dè an t'àite a tha aig Gàidhlig san Roinn Eorpa?
- C: 'S e iomadachd (*diversity*) nan dualachas neart na Roinn Eorpa an diugh. Tha is docha 40 millean (40,000,000) duine san Aonadh Eorpach a' bruidhinn mion-chànain.
- T: Glè mhath, ach carson a tha cuid de luchd na Gàidhlig teagmhach mu leasachadh Gàidhlig?
- C: Fad iomadach linn chaidh Gàidhlig a mhùchadh, a dh'aon ghnòthach, ann an cleachdaidhean na h-Alba ach a-mhàin anns na h-eaglaisean. Chan eil cho fada o bhiodh luchd na Gàidhlig air am peannasadh agus 'nan culaidh-mhagaidh san sgoil air son a bhi a' bruidhinn an cànain fhèin. Chaidh mo sheanair a bhualadh le crios a' mhàighstir-sgoile moch is dubh oir bha e a' bruidhinn na Gàidhlig! Gu sealbhach, tha luchd-foghlaim a-nis a' faicinn luach 'na Gàidhlig agus tha beachdan ag atharrachadh gu luath, gu h-àraidh a-measg nan ginealach as òige.
- T: Nach eile Gàidhlig a' faighinn cus airgid on riaghaltas?
- C: Chan eil taic na Gàidhlig idir cho pailt ri Beurla. Tha an riaghaltas a' cosg mu £13 millean (mu £200 an duine le Gàidhlig) air seirbhisean agus leasachadh tre na Gàidhlig. Tha seo an taca ri £250,000 millean (mu £4,500 an duine) air seirbhisean agus leasachadh tre na Beurla. Cuimhnich cuideachd gu bheil iomadh seirbheis Ghàidhlig mar sgoiltean, goircean luchd-ionnsachaidh, programan TV 7c air an cur gur feum le daoine gun Ghàidhlig.
- T: Meal an naidheachd! Chan eil ach aon cheist air fhàgail. Càite a bheil tuilleadh fiosrachadh air Gàidhlig ri fhaighinn?
- C: Glè mhath, ma bhios tu 'nad dhuine a tha ag ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig, sgrìobh gu Comunn Luchd-Ionnsachaidh. Tha iad aig 5 Caolshraid Mhicheil, Inbhir Nis, Alba IV2 3HQ no, sa Bheurla, C.L.I., 5 Mitchell's Lane, Inverness, Scotland IV2 3HQ.

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich  
(Gilleasbuig Lachlann 'Illeasbuig)

#### Summary

The above is a discussion on Gaelic. More information can be obtained on learning Scotland's oldest indigenous language by writing to the above Inverness address.

## The People Are Mightier Than A Lord?

A new focus on the abuses of Scottish land has been shed by the recent report of the group "Reforesting Scotland". They produced a Study in Land Use from Norway earlier this year which suggests how Scots could repopulate the countryside by throwing out British land law and the peculiar Scottish feudal system. An important series on BBC2 TV called "Whose land is it anyway?" cited the Norwegian example and Irish land resettlement as well as the Brandy Wine creek experiment in community land control in Pennsylvania, USA.

Also earlier this year Ross & Cromarty District Council drew together a wide cross-section of Highland experts who endorsed the Dingwall Agenda. It is based on the extension of thecrofting system to the whole of Scotland so that people can build a home and an economic base in many more country areas.

Also the SNP has announced that it will launch a Land Commission to research, take evidence and report to the nation on suggested ways forward for land tenure and land use under Scottish rule.

Amidst the intellectual sparring seeking to end land abuse and repair the

Early in October a group of Highland radicals announced that they were to seek planning permission to remove one of the greatest symbols of landlord abuse from its pedestal. The 33 metre high statue of the 1st Duke of Sutherland, erected in 1835 is their target. Widespread publicity for the launch and the group formed to campaign for this project sparked world-wide interest.

It also stirred up local opposition in Golspie, Sutherland. This is the community above which this stone monster has stared blindly out to sea for the past 150 years. A public demonstration planted the planning notices beside a locked gate on the path to the summit. At the gathering on 18 October, 1994 Peter Findlay, the proposer's agent made the following speech:

"Today's gathering on the summit of Ben Bhraggie starts a new phase in the history of this monument. Three weeks ago we lodged an Application for Outline Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent. We asked Highland Regional Council if they would agree to...

the demolition of the monument, improvement of the access road, and formation of a view-point.



From the statue of the Duke of Sutherland there is a clear view of the lands which saw his brutality and his greed.

damage of the Highland Clearances of the last 200 years, examples of land abuse by individuals such as the landlord of the small Hebridean isle of Eigg and the high-handed behaviour of organisation such as the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds have fuelled the debate.

We also sent a copy of this Application to the Factor of Sutherland Estates.

The Listed Building Regulations (1987) require us to display or post a Notice on the Application Site, and that is why you have climbed this bare hill on this cold morning. The Notice is in the name of

Highland Regional Council, and it tells the world that we have made an application and invites anyone and everyone to make Representations about this Application to the Divisional Planning Officer at The Meadows, Dornoch, or to Richard Cameron, Planning Dept., Highland Regional Council, Glenurguhart Rd., Inverness, Scotland.

We fully expect to be criticised by some people for daring to make this suggestion. We also know full well that there are many more people who would want to see this stone monster removed altogether.

I therefore invite you to **Put in Writing** what you think, all of you, whether you are for us or against us, please write a letter and send it to the Divisional Planning Officer at the Meadows, Dornoch, stating exactly what you think. In due course he will sort out all your letters and submit them to the Planning Committee when it meets in Dornoch; - possibly on the 19th December.

This matter is one of national and international importance. George Granville Leveson-Gower, Marquis of Stafford & Duke of Sutherland was not just "a local mannie". He was the richest man in England and his is the "largest statue to any man in Europe". He cleared thousands of people off his wife's lands. Like a great pagan ruler he made his authority felt. He was no servant of his people and his great graven image lords it over us to this day. As far as we are concerned he must be taken down.

The application was made in the name of Sandy Lindsay and others simply because there was not room on the Application Form for many more names. However we have been given a substantial loose-leaf binder (by a donor who wishes to remain anonymous) which can contain 12,000 names and addresses. The monument was built by the subscriptions of the tenants of this Estate, and one of our members has in his safe keeping the book containing the list of the names of the subscribers. He can also tell you how the subscriptions were obtained under duress. We invite you to pledge your support for this action, make a donation to the account "The Book of Ben Bhraggie" (details below) enter your name and address in the book.

Lastly I want to assure the people of Golspie that this action will be good for Golspie. Tourists will flock to see the statue before it is removed and will come in even greater numbers to visit the town when the new Memorial is completed."

*P.J. Findlay  
Agent for the Applicant*

Commentators from far and wide have entered the debate. Said Neal Ascherson in the Independent on Sunday (of London) "... there is something sinister about those villages in Russia where Lenin still glowers over the square simply because nobody gives a damn whether he is there or not. Indifference of that order is a sign not just of apathy but of masochism. It is good that

nobody is indifferent about the Duke of Sutherland". He concluded, "Heritage is not just a dry schedule of monuments. It is also a ceaseless rolling judgement by a people of its past".

Early in November a Canadian millionaire, Denis MacLeod was reported as being prepared to contribute £50,000 to start a fund for an even bigger monument to commemorate the clearances twenty miles away on a hill above a cleared glen called the Strath of Kildonan. The plot thickens. Carn readers will be kept posted with developments.

**Rob Gibson**

#### Appeal

*A Steering Group has been formed to open "The Book of Ben Bhraggie" into*

*which your name can be added as one of the many "others" who support Mr Lindsay's plan. Also a bank account has been opened in the name of "The Book of Ben Bhraggie" with the Clydesdale Bank, Main St., Golspie, Sutherland, through which subscribers can pledge their support for the planning development of the project.*

*It is hoped that by the time the National Mod reaches Golspie in October 1995 the project will be well on the way to fruition.*

*For further information contact: Sandy Lindsay, 3 Manse Rd., Kingussie, Inverness-shire. Tel 0540-661968; James T. MacDonald, 56 Bught Dr., Inverness. Tel 0463-239061; Peter Findlay, Lochuanagan, Fort Augustus, Inverness-shire. Tel 0320-366555.*

## The Aberdeen Two

In September last four men were charged with conspiracy to coerce the government in relation to the Scottish National Liberation Army's (SNLA's) continuing campaign. Of the four, one is as yet unapprehended, one has been released on bail, awaiting trial, and two (The Aberdeen Two) are held in remand in prison.

The two prisoners undertook a well-publicised, and successful, hunger-strike in order to obtain humane treatment for themselves and to end the harassment meted out to family, friends and supporters (i.e. arrests for questioning, surveillance, house-searching, etc.).

The trial, which alleges a conspiracy by SNLA members to coerce 'Her Majesty's' government by a campaign of bomb alerts, is scheduled to begin this December.

The two men, Terry Webber and

Darin Brown are denying all charges. Recent SNLA actions include the forest fires round Tarbert Argyll (targeting an area occupied mainly by English settlers), the uncovering of a substantial arms dump at Lamond Place, Aberdeen, in mid-April, and the burning of Stonehaven Sheriff court buildings in August.

Whether one agrees or not, this type of action has played a part in the struggle for independence in all the Celtic countries, to varying degrees. Perhaps the UK government, whilst moving to address its primary objective, i.e. an Irish settlement, should also be more responsive to the demands and interests of the other Celtic minorities within its current frontiers.

Messages of support, whether signed or unsigned, can be sent to Terry Webber and Darin Brown at Craiginches Jail, Aberdeen.

**L'Avenir de la Bretagne**, monthly 16pp, mainly in French. For Brittany's national sovereignty Subs. 180F/outside State 200F to BP 4103, 22041 St. Brieg-Cedex.

In its November issue, Yann Fouere examines the scandals which repeatedly affect the French body politic, attributes the decadence to the loss of moral values and civic sense, to the greed which drives people to seek power for the satisfaction of personal purposes. In his view it is related to the structure of the State: the more centralised the power, the easier it is for individuals and pressure groups to exploit it. The centres of decision in all fields of public life should be multiplied so as to prevent this. Cumulation of electoral mandates must be ruled out.

**AL LIAMM**, bimonthly magazine in Breton, 96pp. Subs. 150F, but outside State 160F-200F airmail, to Per ar Bihan, 16 r. des Fours à Chaux, 35200 Sant-Malo.

Its Sept.-Oct. issue we read poems from Per Denez and (in translation) Hugh Mac Diarmid, a story by Tugdual Kalvez, an appreciation of the work of Yan' Dargent, a 19th century painter inspired by the Breton folk lore, reflections from Annaig Renault about the writer Benead; 28 pages of miscellaneous notes and news of Breton activities, but of special interest is Reun ar C'Halan's critical assessment of the importance of Emgann Kergidu, a 19th century account of the events of the resistance opposed in Leon (NW Brittany) to the French revolutionaries. Emgann Kergidu was re-published by AL LIAMM in two volumes a few years ago.



# BREIZH

## Iwerzhoniz e Brezel al Ledenez

Gant Feur-Emglev Luimneach (*Limerick*), sinet e 1691, e voe sujet Iwerzhon da Vro-Saoz evit ouzhpenn ur c'hantved. Aotreet e oa d'ar re drec'het divroañ hag a-leizh a wazed a reas, ha merc'hed o vont ganto. Ar wazed a enrollas en armeoù nouspet bro, adalek Spagn betek Rusia, broudet hep mar gant o enebiezh ouzh ar Saozon met moarvat ivez en abeg ma n' o dije ket gallet gounit o buhez e nep doare all en harlu. A-hed an triwec'hvet kantved, pa rene gwaskerezh al Lezennoù-Kastiz en Iwerzhon e talc'has tud yaouank da zont da greskiñ niver an harluidi. Diwarno e voe savet brigadennoù iwerzhonat isurzhiat da luoù ar broioù o degemere. An hini vrudetañ anezho moarvat eo an hini a oa stag ouzh al lu gall: a-drugarez dezhi dreist-holl e c'hounezas hemañ emgann Fontenoy e 1745.

E 1709 e tivizas roue Spagn e vefe un dra vat evitañ ivez sevel ur vrigadenn gant an Iwerzhoniz a oa a-benn neuze niverus er vro. Lakaet e voe e gourc'hemenn Don Raynaldo Mac Donnell. Pemp rejimant a 500-600 den pep hini a oa anezhi hag an ofisourien a ouenn iwerzhonat an holl anezho.

Unan eus he renerien varrekañ a voe ar Marichal Alexander O'Reilly, ganet en Iwerzhon e 1722. Pignat a reas d'ur renk uhel en arme spagnat. E 1758 ec'h adstummas ar vrigadenn hervez doareoù Prusia. Act ganti da Amerika e lamas Louiziana digant ar C'Hallaoued.

Da vare Napoleon I ne oa mui er vrigadenn-se nemet tri rejimant: an Hibernia, an Irlanda hag an Ultonia.

E 1808 e voe aloubet Spagn ha Portugal gant an arme c'hall ha lakaet Jozef Bonaparte da roue e Madrid. Daoust d'an emsavadeg a grogas d'an 2 a via Mae ne voe ket Spagniz evit herzel ouzh ar reverzhi, hag ar Saozon deuet war o skoazell a voe darbet dezho bezañ bountet en-dro er mor. Ne voe cheñchet penn d'ar vazh nemet pa voe lakaet an hini a vije bremaik graet Dug Wellington anezhañ da rener war an holl nerzhioù enepgall.

Wellington, eus e wir anv Arthur (!) Wellesley, a oa ganet e Dulenn. Ur "maen-hir" hag a dle bezañ uheloc'h eget obeliskenn Louksor a voe savet en enor dezhañ e gourliorzhi Fionn Uisce (Phoenix Park). Da unan bennak a lavare e oa

Iwerzhonat e respontas – hervez ar vrud: Bezañ ganet en ur marchosi ne ra ket ac'hanoc'h ul loen-kezeg! Nouspet straed e Dulenn zo miret dezho anvioù tud a rae fae war Iwerzhoniz hag a oa bet o mac'homerien. Kemm an anvioù ne fell ket d'ar genwerzhourien ober, sañset.

War hent an alouberien e oa kêr Gerona, e Norzh Katalonia, ha kreñvlec'h Montjuich ouzh he difenn. Dalc'het e oa Montjuich gant 400 den eus an Ultonia hag a chome feal d'ar roue diskaret Ferdinand VII. O rener a oa ar c'horonal Anthony O'Kelly, a orin eus Ros Comáin. E-pad eizh miz e talc'hjont penn da 6000 Gall, o lakaat skoilh da bourvezerezh ha da gehenterezh ar re a oa aet donoc'h er vro. E-doug ar seziz-se e roas ar merc'hed koulz hag ar wazed ur skouer, par da hini Hengelied Numantia, eus o c'hadarnded. Lucy, gwreg ar c'habiten Patricio Fitzgerald, a c'houlennas hag a voe roet aotre dezhi da sevel ur gompagnunezh gant an Iwerzhonadezed evit degas dafar-tennañ ha boued d'ar gadourien koulz ha d'ober war-dro ar re c'hloazet hag ar re glañv. Dizaon e-kreiz an distruj e sevenjont gredus o c'hefridi. Taeret ar Marichal Augereau, e roas urzh d'ar penngadour Saint-Cyr da vont dezho gant 33000 den. Kemennet e voe dezho e rankent em zaskor pe ne vefe arboellet den. Gant asant kêriz e tistaolas O'Kelly an ultimatum. Hag ar c'hanolioù neuze da zisvantañ ganto kaouadoù ha kaouadoù obuzioù ha greunadennoù. Parfoeltret ar mogerioù, ne oa ket tu ken da virout ouzh an arsailherien a zont e-barzh hag e rejont evel m'o doa gourdrouzet. Se zo danevellet en un deizlevr. Un testi eus emzalc'h harozel kompagnunezh ar gommandantez Fitzgerald zo miret ivez e diellaoueg vras Simancas: ul lizher eo a voe skrivet ganti, he derivad diwezhañ, d'ar Penngarter Spagnat, daou zevezh a-raok an arsailh-se. Ne lavar netra diwar he fenn hec'h unan.

Banniell an Ultonia zo bremañ hini kêr Gerona.

Soudarded ar rejimant Hibernia a oa er penn a-raok en argad war ar 6vet arme c'hall, a voe argaset ganto eus Galisia. E 1811 e Badajoz e harzas o c'harrezadoù ouzh 6000 marc'heger gall. Eno siwazh e oa ivez a-enep dezho brigadenn iwerzhonat an arme c'hall.

Goude brezelioù Napoleon e voe divodet an holl vrigadennoù iwerzhonat el luoù europat.

Ne hañval ket e voe klasket ganto kaout un engouestl politikel bennak evit Iwerzhon digant ar gouarnamantoù o gopre. Gant Th. W. Tone hag an Directoire e voe disheñvel, met Napoleon ne rae forzh gant Iwerzhon: ne oa ket kreñv a-walc'h ar morlu gall evit ober un dilestradeg eno, forzh penaos.

A. Heusaff (diwar ur pennad gant an istorour Peter Berresford Ellis, en Irish Democrat, London).

### Summary

*After the Treaty of Limerick the Irish exiles – the Wild Geese – formed brigades as parts of the armies of several European countries in the 18th century. In Spain, the Irish brigade consisted originally of 5 and later 3 regiments commanded by officers of Irish origin. When Napoleon invaded the peninsula in 1808, the Ultonia regiment held Gerona for 8 months. There an auxiliary company of Irish women was formed by Lucy, wife of Capt. Fitzgerald, they distinguished themselves by their zeal and bravery during the siege.*

*(Based on art. by P. Berresford Ellis)*

### An iwerzhoneg er skol: petra 'soñj ar bobl?

Daou abeg a c'hall bezañ evit d'an dud harpañ kelennadur an iwerzhoneg: ez eo talvoudus evit diwall dibarded sevenadurel ar vro; pe e tleer ober anezhañ un elfenn eus ar vuhez foran hag e legadiñ d'ar remziadoù da zont. Padal an darn vrasañ ne strivont ket da implij ar yezh pa welont e chom didalvoud en darn vrasañ eus ar vuhez kevredigezhel. An darn vrasañ n'int ket toullerien-hent.

Abae 1973 n'eus ket ezhomm ken da dremen un amprouenn en iwerzhoneg en arnodennoù Stad, koulskoude ur muianiver bras zo atav a-du gant ar reoliadur a redi an holl d'e zeskiñ er skolioù harpet gant ar Stad. Ar pezh a vank eta eo luskabegoù kreñv d'e zeskiñ ervat – evit tapout ur vicher da skouer.

Warlene e voe kaset da benn ur sonteadur\* gant Ensavadur Yezhoniezh Iwerzhon evit gouzout petra 'soñj an dud a-zivout an iwerzhoneg er skol. Setu un alberz eus an disoc'h. Pa gomzomp eus iwerzhoneg n' eus ket ezhomm da adlavarout ar ger.

36% eus an dud a glemmfe kalz ha 40% o defe keuz ma vefe paouezet da gelenn ar yezh d'an darn vrasañ eus ar vugale. Ouzhpenn 70% a soñj ne vez ket desket mat a-walc'h gant ar vugale evit bout gouest d'ober ganti goude o skoliadur. 60% anezho a zispilj dezho ar c'hentelioù-se. War-dro 70% eus ar re aterset a gav pouezusoc'h e ve desket ur yezh estren, 25% hepken a soñj er c'hontrol e teu da gentañ an iwerzhoneg (ar saozneg ne reer ket anezhañ ur yezh estren...).

Evit 64% a tleer deskiñ komz ha deskiñ skrivañ ken mat ha ken mat, evit 26% eo pouezusoc'h gallout komz. En dek vloaz tremenet eo kresket dregantad ar re a gasfe o bugale d'ur skol holliverzhonek eus 24% da 30% evit ar c'hentañ derez, eus 19% da 23% evit an eil, ma vije unan tost d'o c'hêr. 70% a lavar a tlefe ar Stad digeriñ seurt skolioù e kement lec'h m'hen goulenn a-walc'h a dud.

76% zo a-du gant ar reoliadur a redi an holl en eil derez da studiañ ar yezh hep ma rankfent tremen un amprouenn enni evit kaout o bachelouriczh. Eus an 20% a-enep, 5% a garfe e vefe ret tremen an amprouenn-se, evel ma oa a-raok 1973.

\*\*\*\*\*

Evit echuiñ ar predad dregantadoù-se e karfen-me goulenn ouzhoc'h pet dre gant eus ar bolitikerien, d'ho soñj, a zalc'h kont eus youl 70% eus an dud pa ouzont o deus 70% eus an dregantad-se prederioù nouspet kant dre gant pouezusoc'h war o spered. Mechal petra ar gwellañ ober chalami pe ober chalantiz dezho?

A.H.

\*sonteadur: poll

## A film out of the ordinary

The association FILMOÛ was formed in 1992 with the aim of making films in Breton, good films in good Breton, both fiction and documentaries. The first one, just produced, is titled "Ur sulvezh ordinal... pe dost" - which means "a not-quite ordinary Sunday". Films have previously been made in Breton but this is a first in several respects.

The script was prepared directly in Breton by the novelist Mikael Madeg. It does not purport to be a work of literature from which a film could be made afterwards, it was written solely for the film.

It is surely the first time that a filming crew spoke only Breton in doing their work. From beginning to end, this is the language used... on both sides of the camera.

Great care has been taken to have none of the amazing faulty mish-mash one unfortunately hears too often. This is a film which can be used by those who are learning the language at home - or seeking to improve their knowledge of it. It will also be handy for use in small classes. It runs for twenty minutes.

Furthermore there is a companion booklet listing every word used in it with translation in French and notes to facilitate full understanding. The plot concerns a ten year old girl and what happens to her during an (almost) ordinary Sunday.

The film is the result of the cooperation of people as diverse as Jean-Luc Roudaut, Jean Simon, Fanch Tangi, Soazig Daniellou, Mari and Mikael Madeg. It is available as a video cassette VHS for 120FF. incl. postage - 100 F if purchased on the spot - Cheques to FILMOÛ, Keredol, 29800 Sant-Tonan, Brittany. Teachers could arrange for their schools to buy it.

FILMOÛ is indebted to the Breton Cultural Institute for its backing.

Further information from M. Madeg, 98 20 32 20.



Yannig ar Go, now attending the R. Hemon lycee, has the main role in the film. (Photo courtesy of *Bremen*)

## Attendance on the Increase

1237 pupils are this year attending the DIWAN schools: 585 of them in pre-primary, 493 in primary ones and 159 in the Roparz Hemon college which has just become a lycee, providing courses leading to the baccalaureat (Leaving Certificate). This represents an increase of 13.5% on last year. The largest attendances are in Brest, Lesneven, St. Brieg, Kemper (ranging from 101 to 78), followed by An Oriant and Nantes (66 each).

Diwan must clear its social insurance debt over the next three years. At a meeting at which the councils of Region-Brittany-4 and of the five Breton departments were represented, it was agreed 1.700.000 francs remains within the responsibility of the association. It is hoped that a further 1.530.000 Fr of arrears arising from non-payment of taxes on salaries and fines for non-payment of the social security contributions will be cancelled by the State. The regional council is prepared to intercede to that effect.

However, it is clear that Diwan will have to manage its budget very carefully during the 5 or 6 years to come, all the more so that the Region's subsidy is going to be a good deal smaller than expected. On account of these financial problems, no new school could be opened this year

although a queue exists. They are also the likely reason for a slight drop in attendance in four schools.

Voluntary contributions to the Diwan funds remain as necessary as ever. Address: Diwan, Z.A. Sant-Ernel, BP 156, 29411 Landerne.

### Bilingual Classes

The bilingual streams which exist now in about 15 schools under direct State administration face different difficulties. There also the demand well exceeds the offer. New streams were started in 5 schools (of which 3 in Mor-Bihan, and the total attendance increased this year by 17% to 892. But in Rennes a vacancy in an existing post was not filled, and a teacher has to look after an excessively large number of pre-primary children. Another post should have been created in Ploué where bilingual education is wanted for more than 100 pupils.

The State is willfully neglecting to train Breton teachers and to properly administer the bilingual schools. The question is asked: why are the young Bretons denied the same right to education in their own language as is enjoyed by the children in other European countries? It is plain of course that for the French, Breton is none of their business. So the question is rather: why do more Bretons not claim the rights, the means, the freedom to set up their own education system?

**Il Y A Deux-Cents Ans Dans Le Mor-Bihan** is a book of 230pp (with illustrations) by Erlannig, Bleiguen and Le Falher about the popular risings of 1791, 1792 and 1793 in the newly created "departement" of Mor-Bihan, particularly in the area between Gwened/Vannes and Redon. Available from IMBOURC'H, 9 Leurger ar Marchiz, 56230 Kistreberrzh - Price 90F.

## Support This Protest

Breton language T.V. broadcasts total only 1 hour 15 mn a week, a derisory amount compared to the 117hrs in Basque, 100 hrs in Catalan, 91 hrs in Galician, 35hrs in Welsh. The "main" program, Taol Lagad, is suppressed or drastically curtailed without warning or excuse during the Summer months and on occasions when big sporting events are taking place (e.g. on 13/2, 20/2, 4/6/94).

In spite of interventions by elected representatives and direct protests and appeals by viewers to the Directors of France 3 in Rennes and Paris, to ministers, to Mitterand etc..., no improvement has taken place. Last July, dozens of people

decided not to pay their TV license until their demands for an end to discrimination were heeded. One of them, Claude Delamarre, from Lorient, was notified that his furniture would be impounded on Aug. 10, a crowd of sympathisers gathered in front of his house, and nothing happened. But two others, J.Y. Le Soueff and Anne Beseg, from Brest, had 2000 F taken from their bank accounts in October. Any language that is in such a threatened situation as Breton needs a television service similar to those mentioned above in order to survive nowadays. The children who are learning Breton must be able to hear it and see it used outside the schools. Stourm ar Brezhoneg is concentrating efforts in this area, but so far, they have not mobilised sufficient popular support and, failing this, politicians and councillors confine themselves to lip service. Those who want the campaign to succeed, and this is necessary if the struggle to expand the teaching of the language is to bear fruit, must ensure that those who are going to be penalised for their stand receive maximum support, financially and otherwise.

## How Many Breton Speakers?

In its July-August issue *Bremon* reproduced the results of a survey just published in the bulletin of the Rennes office of the French Institute for Statistics and Economic Studies about the numbers of people who understand, speak, read Breton. The survey, carried out in 1992 – as a substitute for a census which the French State has never allowed – involved 2206 families, 1350 of whose members spoke Breton. The figures are therefore approximate. The report was signed by Loëiz Laurent, ex-director of the office.

According to his calculations, 689,000 persons living in the four departments of Region-Brittany understand the language and 518,000 can speak it. Of the 689,000, 268,000 had it as their first language. 381,000 were “immersed” in it from childhood, and 40,000 – young people – learned it from various courses. Of the native speakers, 202,000 are over 60 and 2,000 only under 30. Among the young (?) only 11,000 can speak it.

In Lower Brittany (the traditionally Breton speaking area covering about half of “Region Brittany”) 46% of the population and 90% of the farmers understand it.

In all 237,000 would be able to read it, 43% of them well (which is surprising enough, but they would have learned to read their catechism in Breton before the 2nd World War in rural areas). Laurent calculated that about 300,000 listen to or view radio/TV programs in Breton, a little more than half of them being native speakers.

The survey left out Loire-Atlantique and those who live outside Brittany. It leaves many questions unanswered. It shows how urgent it is that the young, all the young Bretons, be offered the opportunity to learn Breton, so that they may take over the task of transmitting it to future generations. There is a public for broadcasts in it which proper programming would increase. This is opposed by the French government, not because of the cost, but because of an unyielding policy of extermination of the minority languages under its control: minor concessions do not alter the fact.

## EMGANN A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting of EMGANN was held in Landelo (W. Central Brittany) on October 1-2. The question was debated as to whether Breton nationalism could exist for long and generate activities in all sectors of society without expressing itself politically, in other words whether it would be more purposeful to operate through social and cultural organisations with more specific objectives and to leave politics to... the French parties.

That option was rejected. Even if it were to remain as a minority group, it was indispensable that it should continue to be a distinct landmark of the Breton national aspirations and claims amidst the present day ideological confusion. EMGANN is not interested in a re-definition of French citizenship (which acknowledged the Breton nationality): “we are just Breton, not French and Breton”. It rejects the proposal of a West region of ten départements in which Loire-Atlantique would find itself together with the four other Breton ones: “our country is Brittany in its 1150 years limits”. It rejects a bilingualism which does not call into question the French linguistic domination: “Breton is the national language of Brittany”. It stands for independence, for an economic development based on solidarity and social justice as well as the need to preserve a healthy environment: it rejects the prevailing liberalistic free-for-all.

The party's efforts in the period ahead will be directed towards making the young Bretons more conscious of their national

identity, widening the distribution of its monthly COMBAT BRETON, ensuring that Gouel ar Brezhoneg, the national festival of the Breton language, will be even more successful than in 1994 (when it drew 5000 participants). It will support Stourm ar Brezhoneg in its campaign for a Breton TV channel. Internationally, it stands for stronger links with the other Celtic countries, for solidarity with other European peoples struggling for freedom and with the Berber resistance movements.

(The 1994 Minorities' Film Festival held in Douamenez from Aug. 21 to 28 was devoted to the Imazighen, which is the common name of an ethnic group scattered throughout Algeria, Morocco, Libya, Mali, Niger. It was a historic occasion as it provided the opportunity for representatives of 23 associations from those countries to come together for the first time. They issued a declaration addressed to the governments of the States concerned proclaiming their ethnic, cultural and linguistic rights. Interviews and reports about them were published in *Bremon* (September), *Peuple Breton* and *Combat Breton* (October), drawing attention in particular to the genocidal policy, including massacres, carried out against them in Mali and Niger. They are victims of the colonial system inherited by to-day's African States).

I would like to comment on another contribution to COMBAT BRETON's

October issue, that of P.V. Kerloc'h. He argues for “the imperious necessity to secularize Brittany's history”, questioning the nature of the role of the Church in various phases of its unfolding, particularly in the origins and in modern times. Traditionally, our historians have seen that role as prominent, so much so that many Breton minded people claimed over the past 100 years or more that “Feiz” (faith) and “Breizh” were indissociable. Kerloc'h does not agree with that view. It would have been interesting to investigate objectively how it fits the record or how the position adopted by the Church hierarchy related – favourably or adversely – to the Bretons' struggle to stay free. But the author's approach is a partisan one. C.B. is described as “Kazetenn Emgann”, i.e. EMGANN's organ. One may presume that, as a nationalist party, EMGANN is seeking to win a substantial proportion of the people to its aims. Considering that it makes no reference to religion in its policy, one might have expected C.B. to specify that the article represented only Kerloc'h's views. Taking on the French power structure which aims at destroying our nation and trying to wean the people away from the liberalism that ignores the collective needs of stateless ethnic communities is a formidable enough assignment without opening also an anticlerical front. To be fair to C.B., my impression is that it is generally neutral in matters relating to religion.

A. Heusaff

## Repression of Breton-Basque Solidarity

In the second week of September, eleven persons were arrested in the Lannuon and Pont-Ivi areas on suspicion of having helped Basque nationalists hiding in Brittany. It was only the latest of a series of waves of arrests which have occurred since 1991 and affected about a hundred people. Charges were as previously brought against several of those detained. Yet, no one has yet been brought to trial, no Basque has been arrested in Brittany nor have any arms or explosives been found which could justify an accusation of collusion with the ETA guerrillas. It is also pointed out that the Basques who have sought refuge on French territory were not necessarily involved in the ETA's armed struggle but feared imprisonment on false charges. But it seems that French judge L. Le Vert, in charge of anti-terrorist activities, is intent on proving there is a pro-ETA network in Brittany.

On Sept. 6 Gireg Konan and his wife Maivon, Gerhard Peresse, his wife Jacqueline and his mother Germaine (aged 78) were arrested at dawn in Perroz-Gireg and taken to the Lannuon police station. In the following days, Bernard Alexander from nearby Tregrom and Jañ-Mai Salomon from Louargad, Claude Taïbouet, Raymonde Le Gallic, her son Florent, and Yann Guicheteau, from Noal Pont-Ivi and Baod were in turn taken into custody. Three of these people teach Breton, Konan in the Diwan secondary school near Brest, Guicheteau in the Diwan school in Baod, Salomon in the Kawan bilingual school. On the evening of the 6th, over one hundred people gathered to the sound of a bagpipe in front of the Lannuon police station demanding the release of the five detained there, a demand supported by the major and the local MP. A group of 30 or 40 invaded the station's first-floor but were forced by tear gas to retreat. Germaine Peresse was released after twelve hours in the place, but the others were transferred to Rennes.

Support committees were immediately set up throughout Brittany and started a well coordinated campaign for the release of the nine who were being held for prolonged questioning. Signatures to a petition were collected in the Lannuon townhall. There were several well attended demonstrations in the streets of the town, others in Kawan, Gwengamp and Pont-Ivi, a vigil in Perroz-Gireg, an information meeting in Rennes, etc... Of the nine, six were charged after four days with "associating with wrongdoers and giving refuge to people involved in a terrorist enterprise". Four were then released on bail but G. Konan and R. Le Gallic were taken to prisons in the Paris area.

Meanwhile popular support was gathering strength, coming not only from



*Gerhard and Jacqueline Peresse after their release from jail (Courtesy of Bremañ)*

the specifically Breton organisations or from interested politicians but from "ordinary" people with no known connection with the "Breton Movement". It was fuelled by indignation at the methods used by the police, particularly at the way the Peresse's children aged 2 and 4, and the Gireg children aged 1, 9 and 14 were left on their own without allowing arrangements to be made early for their safeguard. More generally there was a disapproval of the denial of human rights to Basque refugees against whom no inculpation exists and whose cases are no different from those of other political refugees to whom France grants asylum. The French government however, makes common cause with the Spaniards in their opposition to Basque freedom and gets economic rewards for this. In Brittany, on the contrary, the plight of the Basques and their aspirations are well understood and a tradition of hospitality adds to the willingness to help people in need. Many of those in prominent positions expressed the view that the Madrid government should follow the examples given by the South African and the "U.K." ones in seeking solutions to similar problems in their jurisdictions. They were of course careful to dissociate themselves from any sympathy for ETA but for some of them, Madrid should offer to release all the Basque political prisoners in return for a renunciation of violence. The Breton independence party EMGANN took the view that it was not for outsiders to advise the Basque independentists on what policies they should adopt.

The support committees appealed for a mass demonstration in Lannuon on Sept. 17th. The response was unprecedented. They expected some 2000 participants as

happened in Kemper in 1992 but according to the daily Ouest France around 3000 came: its photos showed the streets filled with people, many of them carrying the Breton black and white flag.

In its October issue, the monthly BREMAÑ noted that the arrests were carried out by police from Paris, which suggested that the local police could not be fully trusted. More worrying was the fact that 3 teachers of Breton were among those detained. Not only did the operation disrupt their newly reopened classes but it fitted too well with the will of the authorities to discredit those who struggle daily to teach the children through the medium of our languages and who do not have the means (TV, etc.) to counteract the smear that they are associated with "terrorists". The numerous expressions of solidarity culminating in the massive and calm demonstration on the 17th gave a rebuff to what was seen as an attempt – not for the first time – to intimidate the Bretons. Thanks to them, Gireg Konan was released on Sept. 19th and Raymonde Le Gallic on the 24th. All those charged remain however, under judiciary control.

### Appeal

We would ask you to write to the judge who ordered these arrests, asking that all judicial control placed on the Bretons should be lifted immediately, also that political refugees should have the right to exile in Brittany.

Write to: Juge Le Vert, Section anti-terrorists, Palais de justice, 75014 Paris, France.

For further information contact: Ffran May, 11, Rue de Gasté, 29200 Brest, Breizh.



# CYMRU

## PA DDYFODOL I IWERDDON?

Sgrifennaf lai na phythawnos wedi i'r Teyrnagarwyr ddatgan bod eu hymgyrch arfog yn dod i ben. Adlewyrcha eu datganiad un tebyg gan Fyddin Werinlywodraethol Iwerddon (yr I.R.A.), ddiwedd Awst. Nid oedd neb yn yr ymgyrch arfog werinlywodraethol am amlygu ei hunan i'r awdurdodau Prydeinig. Fel hynny, arweinwyr Sinn Féin, sy'n gyfreithlon, a gyhoeddodd y neges ar ran Byddin Werinlywodraethol Iwerddon. Nid yw hynny'r un peth â dweud taw'r un corff yn nhw. Yn wir, ymddengys ford cryn dyndra rhwng Sinn Féin a Byddin Werinlywodraethol Iwerddon. Un arwydd o'r tyndra yw na fentra arweinwyr Sinn Féin ddatgan bod y cadoediad yn barhaol. Y mae Byddin Werinlywodraethol Iwerddon yn benderfynol i beidio ag ildio eu grym fel digollediant rhag methiant. Os metha'r trafodaethau gwleidyddol o'u safbwynt nhw ni fydd y Cenedlaetholwyr ar drugaredd y Teyrnagarwyr. Ni chaniateir ailadrodd y gorthrwn a ddiodeffodd Cenedlaetholwyr Gogledd Iwerddon hum mlynedd ar hugain yn ôl. Yr oedd y Cenedlaetholwyr yn ddi-amddiffyn lwyr y pryd hynny. Pe bydden nhw yn yr un sefyllfa nawr nid ildiai na'r Unoliaethwyr na'r Teyrnagarwyr ddim. Ar ben hynny byddai Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Gyfun gant y cant tu ôl i'r Unoliaethwyr. Nid enillai'r Cenedlaetholwyr ddim yn y trafodaethau gwleidyddol sydd i ddoe. Hynny yw pam yr oedd Llywodraeth John Major yn ceisio cael datganiad bod y cadoediad yn barhaol. Ni allai Sinn Féin gyhoeddu'r fath neges. Pe ddwedai Sinn Féin na fyddai ymgyrch arfog fyth mwy ar unrhyw amod byddai trais arfog drannoeth. Daeth Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Gyfun i ddeall taw nawr yw'r amser am drafodaethau gwleidyddol. Dyma'r cyfle gorau ers pun mlynedd ar hugain. Na rodded Llywodraeth San Steffan amodau ar Sinn Féin na allan nhw eu cyflawnu. Collid y cyfle.

Bu etholiad cyffredinol yn 1918 pan oedd Iwerddon yn unedig o hyd. Rhannwyd hi ym 1920. Yn yr etholiad hwnnw pleidleisiodd y Gwyddyl yn llethol dros hunanlywodraeth. Yr oedd tua thri chwarter yr aelodau seneddol yn genedlaetholwyr. Trechwyd y bleidlais honno mewn chwech sir o'r wlad unedig trwy ei rhannu. Crewyd Gogledd Iwerddon o'r chwech sir. Dyna'r anghyfiawnder sylfaenol yn marn Sinn Féin. Yr unig

ffordd yn eu tyb nhw yw cael gwared ar y rhaniad. Dywed John Hume, arweinnydd yr S.D.L.P., na Iwyddodd Gogledd Iwerddon fel uned wleidyddol. Anela ei blaidd ef hefyd at ailuno Iwerddon. Myn yr Unoliaethwyr fod rhaid cynnal pleidlais yn y Chwech Sir ar ddyfodol Gogledd Iwerddon. Cefnoga Llywodraeth San Steffan y safbwynt honno nad yw'n dderbyniol gan Sinn Féin. Nid oes rhyfedd. San Steffan a greodd Ogledd Iwerddon gan ildio i fwgwth grym arfau'r Unoliaethwyr. Mynegodd swyddogion uchel yn y Fyddin Brydeinig na wrthwyneben nhw wrthryfel yr Unoliaethwyr arfog. Ildiodd y Llywodraeth yn llwyr i wrthryfel y swyddogion uchel a gefnogodd yr Unoliaethwyr gwrthryfelgar. Dylanwadodd grym arfau'r Unoliaethwyr yn dyngedfennol ar hanes y Chwech Sir. Dysgodd rhai o'r Cenedlaetholwyr y wers bod grym mewn arfau. Mae'n rhaid cynnal y trafodaethau fel na themtir neb i ymddiried yng ngrwm arfau mwy.

Bydd pleidlais cyffredinol yn y Chwech Sir ar ddyfodol Gogledd Iwerddon. Cynhelir pleidlais yn y Chwech Sir ar Hugain yr un diwrnod ar dyfodol - beth? Iwerddon i gyd? A oes modd i gysoni'r bleidlais yng Ngogledd Iwerddon â honno a gynhelir yn Werinlywodraeth? Mae'n dibynnu ar yr hyn a gynigir i'r pleidleiswyr. Credaf fod modd i osgoi gwrthdaro rhwng y ddwy ran o Iwerddon. Bydd rhaid derbyn newidiadau sylfaenol yn adeiladwaith gyfansoddiadol Gogledd Iwerddon. Bydd rhaid derbyn newidiadau sylfaenol yn adeiladwaith gyfansoddiadol Gwerinlywodraeth Iwerddon hefyd. Newidiwyd cyfansoddiad Gogledd Iwerddon yn ddiurfawr yn barod. Collodd ei Senedd yn y saithdegau. Rheolir y Chwech Sir mwy neu lai fel trefedigaeth bellach, fel y rheolir Cymru. Er bod aelodau seneddol gan Ogledd Iwerddon yn San Steffan canran fach iawn yn nhw yno. Yn ni yng Nghymru yn gwybod p'un mor wan yw canran fach i amddiffyn ein buddiannau. Cosier Tryweryn. Byddai cynrychiolwyr Gogledd Iwerddon mewn lleiafrif yn Iwerddon Unedig hefyd. Dyna beth a ofna'r Unoliaethwyr a phaham y gwrthwyneben nhw ailuno Iwerddon. Mae hynny oherwydd bod eu teymgarwch at ran o Iwerddon yn hytrach nag at Iwerddon i gyd. Arfer cyffredin ymhlith yr Unoliaethwyr yw canmol Ulaidd (Ulster) a

mynegi eu cariad at y dalaith. Ond rhannwyd Ulaidd ym 1920, yr un pryd ag y rhannwyd Iwerddon i gyd. A oes modd i ailuno Ulaidd? Dyna uchelgais y Parchedig Martin Smith o Eglwys Iwerddon a phennaeth yr Urdd Felyngoch. Gall ei uchelgais ddangos ffordd ymlaen. Ond ni all Gwerinlywodraeth Iwerddon ddal ymlaen fel gwladwriaeth unedol. Sefydler senedd yn Ulaidd unedig ym meddu ar rymoedd eang. Darbwyller Gwerinlywodraeth Iwerddon i sefydlu bob o senedd gref ym Mumhain (*Munster*), Connacht a Laighin (*Leinster*). Bydded y taleithiau mewn cynghrair rhydd. Mae'n rhaid bod y taleithiau'n wleidyddol gryf i ddiddymu ofnau'r Unoliaethwyr rhag gwladwriaeth babyddol. Na fydded gan y Senedd ganolog awdurdod ar ddim nad yw o ddiadordeb cyffredin i drigolion Iwerddon.

Amlinellais sut y gall Ulaidd fod yn hunanlywodraethol. Nid oes gan y trigolion ddim awdurdod yn eu talaith ar hyn o bryd. Ni wela'r ddim achos yn erbyn rhoi ymreolaeth i daleithiau eraill Iwerddon na 'chwaith. Nid oes rhaid i'r grym gwleidyddol yn Iwerddon fod yn ganolog. Bu'r grym pennaf yn y taleithiau o'r blaen. Pam lai nawr?

Rhodder mynegiant gwleidyddol i'r cariad sydd gan y bobl sy'n perthyn i Ulaidd at eu talaith. Mae gan y Gwyddyl eraill yr un teyrngarwch at eu taleithiau nhwythau. Bydded yr un grym gwleidyddol, yn nes at y bobl, ynddyn nhw hefyd.

Dyma fodd i gael cytundeb, hwyrffrydig efallai, ond cytundeb rhwng y Cenedlaetholwyr a'r Unoliaethwyr. Dyma fframwaith y gallan nhw gydweithredu ynddo heb ymyrraeth o du fâs Iwerddon.

**Merfyn Phillips**

### Summary

*The problems of Northern Ireland are also the problems of the Republic and of Britain too. They can be solved but only by taking a completely fresh approach. It will mean both parts of the island accepting fundamental constitutional changes. The Unionists, although opposed to Irish unity would not object to the reunification of Ulster. If Ulster and the other Irish provinces had each a strong parliament that would solve the difficulties. There would no longer be any outside interference in the government of any part of Ireland. At last there would be a sound basis for free co-operation among all the people of Ireland.*



## Achos Siôn Aubrey Roberts

Yn Eisteddfod Nedd a'r Cyffiniau mis Awst eleni, bu Eilian Williams o'r Grwp 'Cymreigyddion Y Rhondda' o gwmpas pebyll y Maes yn gofyn i wahanol Gymdeithasau, Enwadau Eglwysig, a.y.b gefnogi eu galwad am i'r Ysgrifennydd Cartref gyhoeddi amnest i Siôn Aubrey Roberts. Dyma ddatganiad Cymdeithas Y Cymod Yng Nghymru a ymddangosodd yn ddiweddar yn 'Y Cymro' a'r 'Herald Cymraeg' (ac a ganmolwyd gan olygydd yr 'Herald Cymraeg'):-

"Y mac Cymdeithas y Cymod yng Nghymru yn ymwybodol iawn o'r teimladau cryf a chynyddol sy'n bodoli yng Nghymru ynglyn â'r ddeddfryd drom iawn o garchariad a ddioddefir gan y cenedlaetholwr ifanc, Siôn Aubrey Roberts, ac o'r perygl y gallai'r teimladau hynny, mewn rhai cylchoedd, esgor ar weithgarwch treisgar y byddai ei effeithiau yn dra niweidiol i'r drefn gyhoeddus yng Nghymru.

Yn unol â'i hegwyddorion sylfaenol, a'i hamcan i hyrwyddo cytgod trwy ddulliau heddychol a di-drais, ni all Gymdeithas y Cymod ond condemnio pob gweithred dreisgar o'r math y cafwyd Siôn Aubrey yn euog ohono gan y llys. Ar yr un pryd, ni allwn lai na themlo bod agweddau ar yr achos yn erbyn y diffinydd yn Llys y Goron yng Nghaernarfon sydd yn codi anesmwythyd dwfn ac yn peri bod llawer o bobl yng Nghymru, na allant gymeradwyo troseddau Siôn Aubrey mewn unrhyw fodd, yn teimlo'n gryf iawn ei fod wedi derbyn llai na'r cyfiawnder a ddisgwyllir dan gyfraith ein gwlad.

Yn wyneb y ffaith hon, a'r posibilrwydd cryf nad yw Siôn Aubrey Roberts, a'r drosedd y cafwyd ef yn euog ohoni, ond yn ddolen gymharol fechan yng nghadwyn gref gweithgarwch treisgar y cenedlaetholwyr eithafol a aflonyddodd gymaint ar y drefn gyhoeddus yng Nghymru dros ddegawd a mwy, y mac Cymdeithas y Cymod yn credu mai cam pwysig ac adeiladol ar ran yr Ysgrifennydd Cartref tuag at osgoi ychwaneg o weithgarwch treisgar o'r math a gondemniwn fyddai:-

(a) cyhoeddi amnest i Siôn Aubrey Roberts a'i ollwng yn rhydd o'r carchar rhag blaen

(b) ei osod dan ymrwymiad i beidio â throeddu am gyfnod cyfatebol i'r cyfnod y byddai wedi ei dreulio yn y carchar petai heb dderbyn amnest".

Ar ran pwyllgor gwaith 'ad hoc' ym mhabel y Gymdeithas.

Nia Rhosier,  
Cymdeithas Y Cymod Yng Nghymru

## The Welsh Not - A Comparative Analysis

Perhaps the most essential part of one's cultural heritage is the language one speaks. Therefore to deprive one of one's language is to rob one of one's true national and cultural identity. This was the purpose of the "Welsh Not", one of the cruelest instruments used in the classroom.

The "Welsh Not" was a small piece of wood on which was carved the initials "W.N.". The same device was called the "Welsh Stick", "Welsh Note", "Welsh Knot", "Last Not" and "Welsh Lump". This piece of wood was hung around the neck of a child caught speaking Welsh. Apart from the ridicule which the child would be subject to (as if wearing a dunce's cap), the punished child would also remain in class with the fear that at the end of the school day a thrashing would follow. A child thus punished would be nicknamed in certain regions of Wales "coryn" (see Morris 1910:80).

One commissioner reporting upon the Llandymog school in the Vale of Clwyd, 1847 observed:

"The Welsh Stick or Welsh Not ... is given to any pupil who is overheard speaking Welsh and may be transferred by him to any school-fellow whom he hears committing a similar offence. It is then passed from one to another until the close of the week, when the pupil in whose possession the Welsh Stick is found is punished by flogging ... This custom has been found to lead children to visit stealthily the house of their schoolfellows for the purpose of ... transferring to them the punishment due to themselves". (quoted by Nash, 1991:19)

Nash recounts that variations of this punishment were to make "the offending child stand on one leg in a corner with the "Welsh Stick" in his mouth" (ibid:19). Alternatively a teacher could be susceptible to bribes. For example, Dr Phillips schoolmaster of Neuaddlwyd, Dyfed would

collect fines through his monitors from those pupils caught speaking Welsh.

The tragic consequences of the evil "Welsh Not" far exceeded the initial derision and beating of the child. It also encouraged the un-Welsh behaviour of betraying one's schoolfellows as well as creating psychological problems and an unwarranted "inferiority complex" causing many Welsh people to stop speaking their language with their children. Even though the "Welsh Not" was gradually phased out by the system of "payment by result" after 1895 its dreadful legacy still remains with the Welsh language.

This same evil legacy is also shared by other linguistic minorities. In Ireland, for example, there is a close parallel. The Irish people who, due to religious/racial persecution had to found their own secretive "hedge schools" also had to endure the cruel "bata scóir" better known as the "tally-stick" or simply "tally". Parry-Jones describes this as the "Irish Not" (1964:150). The Irish word "scóir" literally means "score/notch/ tally" and in terms of jurisprudence it has connotations of "count" (see Ó Dónaill ed. 1981:643). The "bata scóir" was used to count the number of Irish words used during the day and the child would be punished accordingly.

Other Celtic nations suffered from this same punishment. Gaelic-speaking children had to endure the device of the "maide-crochaidh" (stick on a cord) which "was used to stigmatise and to punish children speaking Gaelic in the schools". (Thompson 1979:5-6). Ellis states that this "beating stick" was used even as late as the 1960's in parts of the Gàidhealtachd (1985:50).

Similarly in Brittany a few forms of parallel punishments were used such as the "sabot" or "clog". Rutherford recounts that:

"Older Bretons still recall the time when anyone caught speaking their native tongue at school was forced to wear a wooden "sabot" round his neck, a humiliating encumbrance which could be got rid of only by denouncing another Breton-speaker" (1992:73).

For the Manx and Cornish cousins the "Welsh Not" existed in more subtle, invisible guises such as an English-centred educational policy (which also helped to extinguish the Shetland Nom). Wesley's evangelical missions to Kernow and Mannin, whilst done with pure Christian motives also helped to destroy the Cornish and Manx tongues with Wesley's intransigent insistence on (potential) converts learning English.

Interestingly, apart from the Celtic nations, other minorities have also endured the "Welsh Not". In Malta, for instance, which for centuries was under foreign rule, attempts were made to suppress the

### Summary

*Cymdeithas y Cymod have issued a declaration calling for an amnesty for the young nationalist Siôn Aubrey Roberts who has been given a long prison sentence following a dubious conviction. The organisation acknowledge that there are increasing strong feelings in Wales about this conviction which could lead to violent activities in certain circles. In accordance with its fundamental principles and its aim to promote reconciliation through peaceful and non-violent means, Cymdeithas y Cymod in Wales condemn every act of violence. However they feel that aspects of the case brought against Siôn Roberts make people believe that he has received less than the justice one would expect.*

language with the "accipe", Aquilina describes this as:

"a punitive card ... given to children caught speaking Maltese; the last one to get the card received also the punishment due to the others who had it before him". (1987: Vol. 1:6)<sup>2</sup>.

In Euskal Herri or the Basque Country (literally "the country of the Basque language"), many Basque children had to suffer the "eraztun". This word means literally "ring" (see Aulestia 1989:175) yet it also referred to a ring which a child speaking Basque was made to wear. As with the "Welsh Not" the child would also pass it on to any fellow-pupil and the last child to wear it would receive the corporal punishment. The Basques also used the "txartela" or "card" which was passed from pupil to pupil in the same way.

Even though the "Welsh Not", and its parallel forms, belong to history books, a modern form of "Welsh Not" still exists. In a recent editorial Reeves used the expression "Dialect Not" to describe the way in which Anglo-Welsh literature in schools in being swamped by Standard English literature (1993:1). If this is true of Welsh-English then how much more it is true of the Welsh language itself? As long as English legislation restricts the Welsh language and its speakers, then the ghost of the Welsh Not will remain.

#### Notes

- 1 The term "Welsh lump" had a second (now obsolete) meaning and was also synonymous with the "stourbridge lump" which was a large type of fire-brick (see the 3 vol. Oxford Dictionary).
- 2 Aquilina is unsure whether this punishment (which originated in Sicily) was introduced by the Italians or the English.

Thornton B. Edwards

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# Cymdeithas Oppose the Quangos

Prior to their annual conference held in October, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (the Welsh Language Society) issued a Declaration against Government through Quangos. The Quangos (Quasi-autonomous non-governmental organizations) are the committees of people nominated by the English Conservative government to implement their policies in Wales. Because of the low level of support for the Tories in Wales, elected local authorities have proved unwilling to co-operate with the Tory government. The transfer of power from elected local councils to quangos nominated by the Secretary of State for Wales, himself an English MP appointed from Westminster (the Tories have only six MPs in Wales none of whom was considered adequate for the job) is the undemocratic means by which the Tories govern Wales at a local level.

The text of the declaration translates:

"Cymdeithas yr Iaith believe in the development of a strong decentralised democratic order in Wales. If the Welsh language to thrive it is necessary to control the Economy, Planning, Housing and Culture and have a political structure which answers to the people of Wales.

It is the aim of the Tory government to put the communities and language of Wales in the hands of the free market, where profits and financial targets control decisions.

The Tories use the system of governing Wales through Quangos to realise this aim and to undermine any democratic power which remains here. Since the Quango system buys people to promote Tory policies, it can only be a hindrance to the provision of full self-government for Wales. Support for the Quangos is support for the political system which exists, and those who are part of the system are defending and speaking on behalf of a system which is corrupt, undemocratic and totally unacceptable to the people of Wales. Since the Tories are their political masters, they are controlled by Tory dictates and not the needs of the communities of Wales and the Welsh language.

"The struggle for Wales and the Welsh language is the same as the struggle against the Quangos, especially the Language Quango, the Housing Quango, the Land Quango, the Schools Curriculum and Assessment Quango, the Further Education Quangos, the Youth Quango, without forgetting the king of the Quangos, the Welsh Office.

Cymdeithas yr Iaith are today calling people to a battle against the Quangos. The aim of the battle will be to win proper democracy for Wales and the existence of the campaign will itself be part of the development of a new democratic system in Wales".

The Quangos issue has been the source of a disagreement between Cymdeithas,

advocating full opposition to the Quango system, and some leading members of Plaid Cymru who have supported co-operation with Quangos such as the Welsh Language Board in order to gain maximum benefit from an imperfect system.

The process of Quangoization is further advanced in Wales than in Scotland, Cornwall and England where the Tories have a higher level of electoral support. Part of the blame for the ease with which the Tories are able to slowly eat away local democracy in Wales must lie with the failure of Wales's elected representatives, Labour and Plaid Cymru, to provide vigorous opposition. The only guaranteed way Wales can escape unelected English Tory government, however, is for us to have our own parliament.

Robat ap Tomos

## Historical Discovery

Archaeologists believe they have at last discovered the court of Llywelyn Fawr and Llywelyn II (ein llyw olaf), the last line of Welsh leaders (tywysogion) before the English conquest of 1282, in a field in Môn (Anglesey). So far a section of the court measuring 35 by 25 metres has been earthed at the site of Rhosyr near Niwbwrch and pieces of pottery and coins have been uncovered there.

It is believed that there used to be six royal courts in Môn which had been the seat of government of the parts of Wales which remained independent during the thirteenth century, but the location of this most important one had remained unknown up to now because following the conquest the Welsh royal lands had been distributed among friends of the English king, Edward I, and in private hands the significance of the various pieces of land had been lost. Archaeologists had been led to this site by the name of the field, Cae Llŷs (Court Field), which had preserved the memory of the location through the centuries.

As well as contributing to Welsh history and archaeology, this discovery will strengthen the public awareness of Wales's national existence, the site contrasting with the colonial English castles at Caernarfon, Conwy etc. The discovery also highlights the potential value of traditional farm and field names which, in these days of weakening of rural communities, particularly through English immigration, and joining of farms and fields, are being lost or replaced by English names.

Robat ap Tomos

# ÉIRE

## Tarrtháil nó Tubaiste ins na Hearadh

Tá taithe againn in Éirinn ar an gceinéal conspóide a eascraíonn as forbairt mí-oiriúnach a chuireann an timpeallacht i mbaol, go háirithe in áiteacha sa tír a bhfuil cáil ar leith orthu ó thaobh na háilleachta agus an dúlra de. Is leor mar shampla Mullach Mór i gceantar na Bóirne i gContae an Chláir a lua. Mullach Mór na hAlban b'fhéidir a thabharfá ar an conspóid atá éirithe maidir le forbairt chairéil i ndeisceart na Hearadh in Inse Gall, ceann d'oileáin Ghaidhealtachd na hAlban, daichead míle siar ó chósta na mórthíre.

Pobal beag a mhaireann ar iascaireacht agus ar thurasóireacht, obair shéasúrach sa dá chás, atá i sráidbhaile Lingerbay ar imeall na farraige agus ins na sráidbhaile beaga eile maguaird. In aice láithreach tá Sliabh Roineabhal, agus is ar shleasa an tsleibhe seo atá forbairt chairéil ollmhóir beartaithe ag comhlacht Redland ó Surrey Shasana. Sí cloch gheal Roineabhail ar a dtugtar 'anortasait' agus atá ar an gceinéal cloiche is ársa agus is crua dá bhfuil ar fáil sa taobh seo den domhan, an chúis le suim an chomhlacht san áit. Tá an chloch seo an fheiliúnach do thógáil bóithre, agus meastar go mbeadh margadh mór ar mhór-roinn na hEorpa agus do deimhin sa Bhreatain féin don tairge seo.

I bpáirt leis an gcomhlacht Sasanach tá beirt Albanach, fear gnó as Perth, Ian Wilson, an té a thionscain gnó na n-ollchairéal – tá ceann dá leithéid gar don Gharastún – agus an tiarna talún áitiúil, Donall MacDónaill, gur cuid den a ghabhaltas Lingerbay agus Roineabhal. Breathnaítear ar MhacDónaill mar shlánaitheoir nó mar creachadóir na dúiche. Cibé faoin dream eile dar le MacDónaill gur duine de mhuintir an Oileáin é fhéin agus go bhfuil leas an phobail ar a aire aige. Deir sé, mar a deir go leor eile, gurb é obair agus tionscal éicint is mó atá a teastáil ó phobal na Hearadh.

Leithchéad bliain ó shin bhí daonra de 4000 anseo; sa lá inniu tá an daonra tite go dtí 2000 agus níl aon mhaolú ar an titim sin, ach a mhalairt; anuraidh fuair 54 bás ar an oileán agus rugadh 12 leanbh. Dár ndóigh sí an óige is mó a théann ar imirce. Lasmuigh den iascaireacht agus an turasóireacht, ní raibh de thionscal ar na Hearadh ach tionscal an bhréidín, bréidín a thuill cáil domhanda – cé nár chuala iomrá ar Harris tweed? Níl fágtha den tionscal sin ar na Hearadh anois ach dornán beag

fiódóirí, ó bogadh an príomh déantús ó thuaidh go dtí Leodhais. Tá pobal na Hearadh scoilte go hiomlán ar cheist an ollchairéal. Cé nach bhfuil i gceist sa tionscnamh ach 20-25 post i dtús báire, agus geallúint go mbeidh cuid mhaith níos mó amach anseo nuair a bhéas an cairéal forbartha, feictear dóibh siúd atá ar a shon go mba athbheochan ar shaol an Oileáin a bheadh ann, agus go gcuirfeadh sé stop leis an meath atá le sonrú faoi láthair.

Ar an taobh eile den scéal, dóibh siúd atá i gcoinne na forbartha déanfar scrios ar dúiche álainn, iargúlta, suaimhneach nach bhfuil ach beagán dá leithéid fágtha san Eoraip; déanfaidh an cairéal ollmhór dochar as cuimse do slí beatha traidisiúnta na ndaoine, don turasóireacht agus don iascaireacht, go speisialta na feirmeacha éisc agus 'siad is mó a thugann fostaíocht sa cheantar faoi láthair. Ní amháin sin ach meastar nach mbeidh na buntáistí eacnamaíochta atá geallta ag Redland agus atá ag cur dallamullóg ar go leor den phobal, le fáil i ndáiríre. Tá forbairt ollchairéil ag brath ar uathoibriú, ar innealra mór agus ar oibríthe le scileanna speisialta nach bhfuil ag pobal na Hearadh. Is do dhaoine ón taobh amuigh a mbeidh furmhór na bpostanna seo ag dul.

An scéal céanna a bheidh ann maidir le hiompar na gelocha go dtí na margaidh thar lear. Ar bord loinge a déanfar é agus is cosúil go bhfuil Redland chun na longa seo a fháil ón Ioruaidh agus ní móide go bhfostófar mairmeálaigh na Hearadh ar na longa céanna. Agus maidir leis na jeabanna salacha bíonn foirne ó tíortha neamhfhorbartha an domhain le fáil ar pháigh íseal dóibh. Go deimhin tá an pobal i gcoitinne, go siú na daoine atá ag tacú leis an gcairéal, in amhras ar Redland. Duine díobh is ea an tUrramach Murdo Smith a d'cagraigh toscaireacht d'oileánaigh le dul ag plé le Redland d'fhonn cúiteamh airgid a fháil do chiste phobail, moladh íocaíocht i leith gach tonna Carraige a mbainfí amach. Níor iarr na hoileánaigh ach pingin amháin in aghaidh an tonna, suim nach mbeadh os cionn £120,000 sa bhliain. Tháinig Redland £5000 dóibh, ar ardú go dtí £25,000. Ba shuarach an tsuim seo ó chomhlacht a meastar go mbeidh teacht isteach de £100m sa bhliain aige ón shorbairt ar na Hearadh. Ceist achrannach eile a d'éirigh idir Redland agus an pobal áitiúil ab ea an obair

Dhomhnaigh. Tá coinneáil na Sabóide an láidir imeasc an phobail, agus b'ionann agus diamhasla obair i gcairéal ar an Domhnach. Ní raibh tuiscint dá laghad ag Redland do mheon an phobail ar an gceist seo. Ach b'éigean dó géilleadh nuair a chuir na hAlbanaigh atá i bpáirt leis, Wilson agus MacDónaill, ina luí ar Redland nach mbeadh aon glacadh leis; socraíodh nach ndéanfaí ar an Domhnach ach obair phráinneach nó obair cothbhála.

Tionóladh reifreann ar an Oileán anuraidh in ar bhótaíl 682 ar son, agus 417 i gcoinne an chairéil, cé go raibh na huimhreacha níos cothroime sa cheantar is gaire dó .i. 206 ar a shon agus 209 ina choinne. Tamall ina dhiaidh sin ghlac Comhairle na nOileán leis an bhforbairt le 24 bhóta in aghaidh 3, tar éis gur chuir oifigigh planála na Comhairle coinníollacha diana i bhfeidhm ar an gcomhlacht. Ach níorbh é sin an solas glas do Redland, mar gur shocraigh Ian Lang, Rúnaí na hAlban, go ndéanfaí fiosrúchán poblí ar an ollchairéal. Bhí an iomarca cumainn chaomhnaithe agus eagrais creidiúnacha eile ag diúltú dó.

Tá go leor de na heagrais seo tagtha le chéile d'fhonn cás láidir a dheanamh os comhair an fhiosrúcháin. Ina meas tá Scottish National Heritage, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Friends of the Earth agus araile. Thosaigh an fiosrúchán i mí Deireadh Fómhair agus meastar go leanfaidh sé isteach san athbhliain. Ach maireann an tamhras imeasc an phobail, agus b'fhearr le go leor de mhuintir na Hearadh nár chualadar trácht ariamh ar Redland.

Brid Heussaff

### Summary

*This piece examines the controversy surrounding the development of a superquarry on the southern tip of Harris in the Hebrides by an English company, Redland, in association with two Scottish partners. The controversy has divided the community between those who see a chance of jobs and renewed life in the dwindling population of Harris, and those opposing the development as a threat to the traditional way of life on the Island and also to the tourist and fishing industries which sustain the community at present. The development is also strongly opposed by environmental groups. Although approved by a vote of the Western Islands Council last year, the Scottish Secretary later ordered a public inquiry which is at present in session.*



This year sees Gaelscoileanna, the national Irish medium school movement, celebrate its twenty first birthday. It is perhaps fitting that this year an exceptional number of Irish language schools opened their doors to pupils. In all nine primary schools and one second level school commenced classes. The primary schools are in Bantry, Skibereen and Clonakilty (Co. Cork), Clonmel (Co. Tipperary), Wexford, Mullingar (Co. Westmeath), Oranmore (Co. Galway), Bray (Co. Wicklow) and Ardoyne (Belfast). In addition an Irish unit opened in Armagh. The second level school is in Derry.



Jacqueline Ni Fhearghusa,  
Organiser, Gaelscoileanna

Undoubtedly the increase this year is due in large measure to the work of two full time regional organisers, one based in Munster in the south and the other covering the West and Midlands. Their employment was made possible by a grant from the National Lottery, unfortunately however, there is no guarantee this grant will be continued next year.

In all there are now 90 primary level Gaelscoileanna 8 of these in the North and 25 second level Irish medium schools (or units) of which 2 are in the North. The movement began in response to the changes in the sixties when influenced by the gradual abandonment by the state of a commitment to Irish in education the number of schools teaching through Irish declined rapidly. Those who wished to have an Irish medium education for their children took it upon themselves to ensure it was provided by founding schools and engaging in the continuous round of support work and fundraising needed to bridge the gap between state funds and what it actually cost to maintain a school. Central to this activity in most cases was the desire to ensure the place of Irish in the community and the promotion of its use.

Initially Gaelscoileanna as an organisation had sparse resources and no full time staff. Since 1978 it has been grant aided through Bord na Gaeilge and despite difficulties from time to time has had the capacity to employ a full time organiser and in more recent years an office administrator in addition to funding its activities. It has active subcommittees working on planning, second level education and on providing courses and material for both teachers and school management boards. Its presence has grown in the educational field and in the political arena. Recent Education Ministers

## 21 Years of Growth

have been sympathetic if not exactly innovative. A welcome development has been the setting up of a patronage system under Gaelscoileanna auspices which is independent of the episcopal system. A number of school founded in recent years have opted for this system with two of them being interdenominational schools. To try to address long term major funding Gaelscoileanna founded the Foundation for Irish Medium Education which has undertaken with slim resources some large scale fundraising activities with some success. Growth always creates problems of course and not the least of the problems of many Gaelscoileanna are caused by poor and inadequate accommodation. This is a direct result of Dept. of Education policy of refusing capital expenditure on necessary school buildings. Over half of the primary Gaelscoileanna have no permanent premises. Furthermore, with generally falling school numbers, due to demographic changes, the Dept. has tried to pursue in one instance an amalgamation of a Gaelscoil with two English language schools, a move which is being resisted and which would be a dire precedent if not blocked.

The threat of the panel remains; a system whereby teaching positions cannot be filled by interview by a school if surplus teachers, most with no fluency or interest in the language, are available elsewhere. Little has changed over the years in some regards. The question of Irish language textbooks at second level is still a vexed one and the attitude of the Dept. of Education to long term planning, for what is a demonstrably sustained growth, still seems to be to secretly wished that all would disappear overnight. In the North particular problems are faced due to the lack of recognition given by the Dept. of Education there to schools in existence even for a number of years and to the

lack of trained teachers available. The Irish Language secondary school in West Belfast has been denied recognition and funding despite being in existence for four years and having expanded from nine to 100 pupils. This is a total denial of basic rights to Irish speakers and an indication of the anti-Irish language attitude of the British Government. In Newry, Co. Down the Gaelscoil, a multi-denominational one with 52 pupils and four teachers, is being run at a cost of £60,000 each year. The Internal Revenue have threatened to close the school by winding up the company as they are owed £5110 in PAYE and national insurance contributions! The school has complained of the discrimination they are suffering when compared to schools in Gaelic speaking areas of Scotland and in Wales with similar number of pupils.

Despite difficulties the Irish language school movement will undoubtedly continue to grow in all parts of Ireland. Let us hope that their efforts are aided by the Government in the Republic to a far greater extent and that a new era will dawn for Irish language schools in the North where provisions for Irish language education must be included in any settlement to be reached.

Number of All-Irish Primary Schools in each county in Ireland (outside the Gaeltacht) 1994

LÍON NA mBUNSCOILEANNA LÁN-GHAELIGE SA GHALLTACHT — EARRACH 1992



# Scotland Set for Independence!

Rob Gibson of the Scottish National Party addressed a meeting organised by the Irish Branch of Celtic League in Dublin in mid November on the topic "Scottish Independence in Europe". Rob is an SNP councillor for Ross and Cromarty, a member of the SNP National Executive and party Spokesperson on Land, Agriculture and Forestry.

In a wide ranging address Rob (a regular correspondent on Scottish politics for CARN) described the growth of support for the SNP and the Independence idea in Scotland. In the 1970s when the SNP gained its maximum number of MPs polls indicated only 15% of the electorate believed in Independence. Now with a solid 25% of votes the SNP has, due to the first past the post system, only three MPs but polls indicate 40% of the electorate believe in Independence. The challenge for the SNP is to close that gap. A steady advance has been made in local government. The SNP fielded more candidates than Labour in the last local elections and the stage is set for gains in Westminster.

The SNP sees Independence in Europe as a means to repatriate control of resources. 1994 is significantly the 25th anniversary of the discovery and exploitation of North Sea oil, the benefits of which have bank-rolled Thatcherism but left Scotland, which has always rejected the Tories, with all of the energy and none of the power.

Given the accession of the EU next January of small nations like Austria, Finland and Sweden, this swings the development of the European Communities away from the Golden Triangle. Additionally an independent Scotland would be a successor state after the break-up of the UK, so it would automatically take a seat at the top table.

In the broader context Rob stated that a discussion of our common European future must pose questions for the nations on the Atlantic periphery. Do we try to find ways of cooperating to sustain and develop common resources, such as the wealth and power of the ocean? If so then new lines of communication are needed between the nations along the Atlantic Arc from Norway, via the Celtic nations, Euskadi, Galicia to Portugal.

In the lively debate which followed Rob answered many questions on a range of issues from aspects of SNP policy, to lessons to be learnt from the Irish Experience, to the possibilities for greater interceltic cooperation. Significantly he reminded us that Coimeach Odhar, the Brahan (near Inverness) Seer (many of whose prophecies were seen as being fulfilled) had prophesied that Scotland would be free when one could walk dry footed from England to France! Now that

this is possible with the Chunnel (England-France Channel Tunnel) let us hope that Scottish Independence will not lag far behind!



Rob Gibson, showing the SNP leaflet 'Our Changing Scotland', issued to celebrate their 60th year.

The meeting arose out of the September AGM of the Celtic League when delegates from the six Celtic nations called for greater cooperation with the main stream National parties. A resolution calling for the Irish government to host a conference of the Celtic countries "to explore future political structures that would more adequately represent their national aspirations" was adopted.

Meanwhile in a related development, the General Secretary of the Celtic League has denounced remarks made by British Labour leader Tony Blair about SNP aspirations. Speaking in Scotland Blair averred that the SNP were advocating a "counsel of despair" by promoting independence. However Blair's alternative, a home rule parliament is, said the League Secretary, a "conversion born of desperation" made "more evident by the absence (from Labour policy) of any credible recognition of the desire for independence amongst the peoples of Scotland and Wales". The League went on to cite the bitter example of Ulster as epitomising the failures of devolved government within the United Kingdom framework.

The Celtic League sees this forum as being the first step on the road to provoking wider democratic debate on the role of the Celtic nations, and the Atlantic periphery generally, in the wider EU.

## NEW COALITION OR ELECTION?

The Fianna Fáil and Labour Coalition Government ran aground in mid-November on the rocks of 'collective responsibility' and 'public accountability'. Cracks had appeared in the facade before on issues like the Beef Tribunal, Passports for Sale and the Tax Amnesty but it was Fianna Fáil leader Albert Reynolds' persistence in pushing through the appointment of Attorney General Harry Whelehan as President of the High Court which eventually led to the break-up of the Coalition and Reynolds' resignation as Taoiseach and as Fianna Fáil leader. Labour and their leader Dick Spring had voiced reservations about Whelehan before but it looked as if these had been overcome until revelations were made that there had been a delay of seven months in the Attorney General's office in processing extradition warrants from the North for the paedophile priest Fr. Brendan Smyth (who surrendered afterwards in Belfast and was convicted). A report on the affair at a Cabinet meeting was rejected by Labour Ministers who walked out but the majority block of Fianna Fáil ministers proceeded with Whelehan's nomination in any case and within hours he was appointed by the President of Ireland. A new Attorney General Mr. Eoghan Fitzsimons was appointed. Spring stated the ethos of partnership had been abandoned and Reynolds promised to answer questions on the affair in the Dáil the following week. On the Tuesday of that week in a televised debate Reynolds defended Whelehan while offering his deep regret for the delay and said the Brendan Smyth case did not affect Whelehan's integrity. In the meantime Whelehan was sworn in as President of the High Court.

The drama moved onto its climax. Early on the Wednesday Labour were informed that 'new information' had come to light on the Smyth Case following an investigation by the new Attorney General. Mr Reynolds was now saying he was seriously misled by the report of Harry Whelehan as, despite his assertion, the Fr. Smyth case was not the first to be considered under the provisions of the 1987 Extradition Act and it did not require therefore a lengthy examination of the ramifications of that Act. At 10.22 a.m. that day Dick Spring signed an agreement to continue the coalition partnership. However at 11.00 he took the precaution of asking the new Attorney General when had Mr Reynolds been given that new information only to be informed that he had been told on the Monday. The implication was clear that Reynolds had misled the Dáil. The agreement was dead and the Coalition finished. Reynolds attempted to recover in a Dáil speech in the afternoon - going so far as to say he regretted the appointment of Harry Whelehan as President of the High Court.

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But it was too late as Spring replied he and his ministers would resign in the morning. In quick succession the Minister for Justice, Máire Geoghegan-Quinn resigned, Reynolds departed as Taoiseach and Fianna Fáil leader, and Whelehan resigned from the Presidency of the High Court. The Fianna Fáil party did not dally, electing Finance Minister, Bertie Ahern, as its new youngest ever leader and giving him a mandate to negotiate with Spring. Dick Spring, having initially toyed with other coalition possibilities of Progressive Democrats/Fine Gael/Democratic Left or any two as partners, opted to try another coalition with Fianna Fáil. All seemed to be going well when further revelations about who told what to whom and when and how many of the Fianna Fáil ministers knew brought negotiations to a grinding halt. At the time of writing it seems a 'rainbow' coalition or an election are the only possibilities.

Finally, how did Albert Reynolds make such a cardinal mistake which led to his eclipse as Taoiseach and Fianna Fáil leader after less than three years? And at a time when he was held in high regard for the success achieved in moving forward the peace process? Did Reynolds, as alleged by the Opposition benches, pursue Whelehan's appointment recklessly because of the Attorney General's intervention at the Beef Tribunal when he directed Senior Counsel that he was not permitted to inquire into the reasoning behind Mr Reynolds' decisions as Minister for Industry and Commerce which led the Tribunal to the condition of cabinet confidentiality? Even so how could he make such a basic error as to not divulge everything when informed by the new Attorney General? Perhaps it was all a little too much for one feted by U.S. President, Bill Clinton, and other leaders as a peacemaker to come back home and admit his errors in full.

### Delays on Irish TV Condemned

Conradh na Gaeilge has condemned the procrastination of the Dept. of Finance in providing the necessary monies, both capital and revenue, to start the long promised Irish TV station. Conradh General Secretary, Seán Mac Mathúna called for a release on expenditure to ensure that the Director and Council for Telefís na Gaeilge (TnaG) could continue with their plans to have the station operational by 1996.

Udaras na Gaeltachta meanwhile have commissioned from a grant of £400,000 thirty television programmes from independent producers. The fund was set up to allow young directors to gain practical experience and the results of their labours would be available for purchase by TnaG.

### Late News

*Government estimates for the new Coalition have CUT the proposed budget for 1995 for TnaG from £12m to £5m, so much for support for Irish!*

# Progress on the Peace Front

A major step was taken on the road to a lasting peace in the North when in mid-October the Loyalist Paramilitaries called a ceasefire. At a press conference chaired by veteran Loyalist Gusty Spence, it was stated:

"If we are to have any hope of establishing a lasting peace, we must recognise and respect the diversity of the two traditions in any future structures, finding peace through consensus".

"Today represents the first tentative step towards a new and better Northern Ireland, a land that is fit for its people".

A week later Westminster Prime Minister, Mr Major stated in Belfast: "I am now prepared to make a working assumption that the ceasefire is intended to be permanent. This means we can move carefully towards the beginning of dialogue between Sinn Féin and the government". He also announced that the Northern Secretary of State had rescinded all the remaining closure orders on Border crossings. At a meeting some days later between Major and Irish Taoiseach Albert Reynolds both men claimed steady progress was being made on talks between officials on the preparations of the framework document.

There were differences in emphasis however. Irish sources professed themselves content that London was not departing from the principle that nothing could be agreed until everything was agreed or making the quest for an internal settlement a priority while the British emphasised the question of disarmament while conveniently ignoring further initiatives they could take in that area themselves.

At the end of October the inaugural session of the Forum for Peace and Reconciliation was held in Dublin Castle. In addressing the Forum, Albert Reynolds stated: "The actual task of the forum was to begin wide-ranging discussions on the many steps needed to achieve peace, stability and reconciliation and to remove the barriers of distrust". The Forum has 39 full members (9 Fianna Fáil, 5 Labour, 6 Fine Gael, 5 SDLP, 3 each of Sinn Féin and the Alliance Party, 2 each of Democratic Left and Progressive Democrats, one each from the Green Party and the Workers Party, one Independent, and one individual member (Gordon

Wilson). It is chaired by Judge Catherine McGuinness.

The Forum terms of reference also include exploration of new approaches which can be developed to serve economic interests in both parts of Ireland. Invitations to the main Unionists Parties to participate were not taken up. There were no real surprises in the opening speeches. Mr. Gerry Adams, President of Sinn Féin stated: "The unionists have as much right to the island of Ireland as we have. I appeal to them to join us in the search for a settlement acceptable to all the Irish people, a settlement which will leave conflict behind us". In that context he welcomed the Alliance Party's participation, representing "one strand of unionism".

Sinn Féin, as an Irish republican party, believed that British rule in Ireland should end, he said. "Our primary objective is the creation of a national democracy on this island with a new national constitution with safe-guards for all our people".

This would be achieved by agreement, by dialogue, by addressing the need for fundamental constitutional and political change, "by seeking to overcome all our fears and suspicions and misconceptions. By making change our friend rather than our enemy".

The Forum is open to outside submissions and the Celtic League will be making a submission.

Towards the end of November various reports appeared on what might be contained in the awaited Framework Document. One such stated that it would suggest the formation of four cross-Border authorities, dealing with tourism, trade, agriculture and investment, and exercising executive functions only under the supervision of separate managements boards. It would be proposed that Ireland henceforth be treated as one unit for all practical (as opposed to political matters) purposes. Article 2 of the Irish Constitution, the territorial claim would remain unchanged. Article 3 which claims the right of jurisdiction would be dropped and Britain would amend the 1920 Government of Ireland Act to include the "consent" principle - that the status of Northern Ireland as part of the United Kingdom could be changed at some time in the future if a majority of the people of the North vote for such change.

It remained to be seen if these are the proposals or indeed if they are whether they would in fact guarantee a lasting peace. For that a long-term disengagement of the Westminster power from Ireland would seem to be a prerequisite.



# KERNOW

## Pewa An Kernowian Radn 4

Pa reeg an Sausen fetha nye en blethan an Arleth 936, hedna ve dallath an Kernowack vel tavas dibblans deberrez an Brethonack kemin thur neb theath en kettermen an Kembrean han Arvorack, rag nenna ve gwreze gen agon eskerens poll down treeth nye, Kembra ha Bretten Vean; whathe der neb vortt nye ve crefheze arta pa reeg an Normanow doaz hunz obma, rag parth ago luu o gwreze a Vretten, hagenzoll na reeg an fethars noweth gurra duath tha nearth an Sausen?

Thera edn dra mouy: rag seerthe go gavell en Bretten an Normanow a wheelaz prevy dro hebma lafull dreth disquethas dro an lidniath angye keverednack gen hedna an Vrittez; orlena gye a pretendiaz dro angye deskidniez an matearn After. Hebma reeg per thaa rag nye, rag nag ova gweer dro After onen a nye? An screffow Kembrack a lavarraz andella, ha creav o an tradicions notha en Kernow leb reeg teez maintaina dro an matearn whathe beaw, ha dre vengava doaz trea whrea ha delivera e bobel. En 1113 bagaz mench Frankaz geath tha Bosvena, ha pa riganz clowas an whiddelma gye reeg geaz notha; e suyz gustell.

Geoffrey Monmouth o tarthack bluth pa reeg skidnia hedna. En 1134 e a asderevaz e *Pederians Merlin*, ha en 1136 e a thowethaz e *Story an Matearneth a Vretten*. Dro tha 1150 e a thowethaz e *Bownas Merlin*. Dreth an levrowma gear daa Kernow ha e matearn nodgedgack o assurieze. En mene termen Reinol Yurl Kernow reeg dallath whele dro tha derevall e gastell tha Dintagell, settez en tellarma drevan e geveran gen story After.

Nag eze outham thene comeras marth dressa an Kernowian whathe sendga go honen avel teez dibblans, vos boaz kellez dothanz go frankath political han lidniath leall an matearneth angye. Go clowas vel pobell speciall ve crefheze pa reeg an matearn Jooan grauntia chartur than stennorian en 1201; dreth hebma, e ve reiz than stennorian gweeriow enwedgack pecarra cort go honen ha sertain gothefsiangow; dadn Hedda VIII rima ve crefheze der vaner a roze than gortma an gweer, mouy po le, a naha lahez gwreze en Loundres.

Nye a dale junia tha hebma dro creiez stennar keniffer dean reeg comeras parth en whele-ober an stean, ha hebma a formiaz radn per greav an bobell. En matters an la,

an stennar a dalveca gorriby tha Parliament an Stennorian kenz vel tha hedna en Pow an Sausen.

An whele stean a longiaz en enwedgack than keverangow leb o cowsez an tavas Kernuack, andella an tavasma o hedna an stennorian, parth mouya mene an bobell; andellma an tavas a juniaz doola gen rina reeg omsendgy kenzenna teez deharow. Matter an tavas ve crefheze arta en 1264 pa ve fundiez Colgy Glasnath; hebma a drailliaz tha creaz an leean Kernuack whrea, ha mar bell drellen nye judgia a droze an gwaryiow mear orren nye thur an 15vas cansblethan. Ethew seer dro an tavas elvan an brauza leas en clowas an Kernowian vel teez dibblans.

Settez pell than west, han vorrow droag, sketh thur creaz an governans an matearn, Kernow ve gerez tha gweel e bownas e honen. Nag era question dressa an Kernowian rebellia ha moaz tha ombla bedn an Sausen... rag an termen nag era Sausen! Na whathe, nag o daa gonganz dressa onen mellia gonz angye, ha pa reeg Pow an Sausen cuzalatha gen Frenk war edn turn an Kernowian a dowlaz tha thoan an bressell raage go honen! Nag o an mamars Kernuack parrez tha ry an gwella than *Porthow Cinque* nancil; hagenzoll nag o negegathian an matearn saw mor quessa angye doaz gen neb negis nago vaze, rag gye alga boaz en antall boaz trehez tha veaz an scovarnow angye po lacka. En 1473 ouga an Yurl a Resedgan tha voaz sesiez choy than Carrack Looez en Cooz, an Sheriff a Kernow a thescreaz dro Kernow "nevra an darras dellar a rebellians".

An gear daa ma va usez tha leas pa reeg an mayny a Hedda VII e brogath vel matearn tha Bosvena en kensa lea, ha arta Perkin Warbeck suppoga dre veea fortidniez en Kernow reeg teera tha Senan. Buz etho an Kernowian go honen reeg desquethas an gwella fatel o cumpas peth ve laverez gen an Sheriff, rag angye e erriaz bedn an toll gurtez gen Hedda VII vos e vressell bedn an Scottez, ha leadez gen Mehall Josef, edn gove thur Lanhevran, luu Kernuack a gerraz er e bedn en 1497.

En gweer, thea an termenma ha drez an nessa hanter cans blethan, mouy po lea, e ve edn sordians a neb sort, mear po nebas, pub eath blethan thur Kernow. Rag fra? An gwreanath cw dro mall gen an Kernowian

boaz gerez tha leadia bownaz go honen heb mellians thurt pewa benag. Whathe, tra ew mear tha leas, keniffer rebellians a thallathaz en parth leb o usez an tavas Kernuack!

Richard Gendall

### Summary

#### *Who Are the Cornish: Part 4*

*Following the Norman conquest, and for the next five centuries, the Cornish lived a life bordering upon independence. Their own tradition that one day King Arthur would return to liberate them was fortified by the steps taken by the Normans to establish that their own royal line was descended from him. Concessions made to the tinnars, ultimately giving them virtual immunity from English law, the continued use of the Cornish language, and the remoteness of the country from London all served to emphasize the Cornishmen's appearance of being a people apart. When the house of Tudor attempted to place a controlling hand upon them, they rose in revolt in 1497, following this with a disturbance, major or minor, every eight years or so until 1549. Every one of these arose in the Cornish-speaking area.*

### Rokk Y'n Yeth Kernewek

Yth esa songyst dyllys y'n mis Hedra hag a wra dhe Gemewegoryon kana.

An snod henwys ENEV AN GAN gans PENNLORWYDH, yw kuntellyans a bop, rokk, glasow, hag ilow hengovek, ha kenys yw y'n taves Kernewek. Bys a dhewettha, skant nys esa meur dhe woslowes orto rag studhyoryon Kernewek, ha herwydh Pennlorwydh, kana y'n kibell yw an gwella fordh dhe dhyski an yeth.

"Yma kanow dres aga nivera yn Sowsnek hag yw kenys, hwymys ha siys y'n bywnans arnowydh. Byttegyns, mar ny vynno kernewegor kewsel Sowsnek, kekeffrys ny vynno y gana! Pennlorwydh re brovias kanow rag kernewegoryon dhe gana y'n chi byghan, ha rag goslowes y'n karr".

Dyllys esa ENEV AN GAS hag a genhwer gans LOWENDER PERRAN dhe Borthperan y'n mis Hedra. Y hyllir y gavoës a dhiworth: Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek (Colin Ellis 0726 882500)

Brio Music Ltd (Bob Brimley 0736 787788)



# Nowodhow Da Rag Kernow

Dres mis Gwynngala, wor'tiwedh Kernow re glywas nebes nowodhow da.

Kynsa an bal Krofti Deghow re beu selwys diworth koll arghansek ma na vydh gwithys ober hag arghans y'n ranndir Kammbroonn - Rysrudh. Ow mires war-dhelergh, kales yw konvedhes prag na vynna an governans grontya an milvil beuns hag o res gwitha Krofti yn igor yn le gwaytya ranndaloryon gernerwek dhe omdhyskwedhes distowgh. Dhe'n lyha, rag an termyn an ober yw surhes ha war varghas an norvys yma olyow bos pris an sten owh ynkrasya a-nowydh.

Nessa an Dessedhek Rag Governans Leel re erviras gwitha Kernow yn tien, kyn rag yw hwath kler py nivel a gonselyow a vydh sevys. An Kaskergh rag Kernow a garsa hwath mos gans unn konsel rag Kernow yn le gwitha an studh a-lemmyn.

Govenegow a veu dannvenys dhe bub chi yn Kernow, may fedha chons dhe bub huni ri aga husul.

Nyns cus leis huni nag yw lowen gans ervirans an dessedhek ha'n re na yw tus a-dcnewen aga honan kepar hag Esel an Senedh rag Kernow Soth-Est Robert Hicks. Nyns yw es gul dhe Gernow kewsel gans unn lev ha res yw keslowenhe gans an Kaskergh rag Kernow, yndann Dr Philip Payton avel hembrenkyas, a dhri warbarth kemmys a levow ha bagasow dispar an treveth ma.

G. Sandercock



South Crofty Mine (Drawing courtesy 'An Gannas')

## Summary

Recently Kernow has had some good news. Firstly South Crofty Mine has been saved from bankruptcy keeping work and money in the Camborne-Redruth area.

Secondly the Commission for Local Government have decided to keep Kernow whole, yet it is not clear what number of councils will stand.

Questionnaires have been sent to every house in Kernow, allowing everyone to have their say.

It is not easy to get Kernow to speak with one voice, and so praise goes to the Campaign for Cornwall under the leadership of Dr Philip Payton, for bringing together a number of differing voices and groups.

## LETTERS

Dear Editor,

I write regarding the recent notice in *Carn* about Brenda Wootton, following her death earlier this year. I want to add an account of the part played by the Celtic League in the beginning of her career as a Celtic singer.

I was founder Secretary of Kernow Branch of the Celtic League from 1962 and became Chairman in 1971. At the end of that year, Alan Heussaff wrote to me to draw my attention to the Killarney Pan-Celtic Festival, just begun. I was then too busy but in February, 1972, I had to take some weeks off work.

It was clear that to afford, find, and send a group was beyond our power at that late stage before the annual event in May and, in consultation with Donald Rowe, I approached Brenda Wootton to go to sing as an individual and she agreed. I asked Richard Gendall, who had given me lessons in Cornish early in the '60's, to create a song in Cornish for her and he, also, agreed. I estimated about £100 for expenses but neither I nor Brenda had this money. It was raised by approaching local government councils, the Gorseth and Cornish bodies, and big-wigs such as Lord Boyd of Ince. Near the time I asked Kernow Branch, Celtic League, to adopt

the project, since it had already been worked on by members of the Branch, and this consent was, of course, obtained without discussion.

I was told much later by Con O'Connell, who thought of this Festival and led its organisation for many years, that his heart was in his mouth when this large woman went before the audience but that everything was changed when her voice was heard. We know she did not win but she came to the next meeting of Kernow Branch, at Mrs. Rule's in Illogan, and told us her eyes had been opened to her great Celtic heritage.

Yours sincerely,  
Royston Green

came to dispossess us. Longer still before the Saesneg came to take our ancestral lands.

We'll never know how many of us owe our lives, our very existence to our native ponies who carried the ancient Celts, and our ancestral genes in safety about the battle-grounds or through the countryside on lightning strikes against our enemies.

Remember also the tale of Rhiannon, patron goddess of the horse, and the other Celtic names for the horse goddess: Macha and Epona, from which the word pony comes of course. Let us vow never to raise a hand in anger against our true friend the horse, our trails go too far back for that.  
Diolch,

Barenwyn Davies

Dear Editor,

I note with disgust that "*Brunico*", a champion racehorse was beaten to death with what police believe was a pick-axe handle. This occurred near his stables at Little Newcastle, Dyfed. Apparently his monetary value was £30,000, but that's neither here nor there.

I trust and pray that it was not a Celt who was responsible for this terrible crime, for as Celts we should be aware of all that those in the "Horse clan" have shared with us. They have been with us as long as we can remember, long before the Romans

## EXCHANGING IDEAS

Young people from Wales, Ireland, Friesland, the Basque Country and Brittany gathered from 26th Sept. to Oct. 1st in Kommanna to exchange ideas and see how they could live their lives through the medium of their own languages. They reviewed the respective positions of the latter, met representatives of several Breton associations and finished with a first class concert of rock music staged by the Welsh Anrhefn and two equally well known Breton groups.



TEEREHATAVAZ

# MODERN CORNISH AND STANDARDISATION

There appears to be considerable misunderstanding over both what is meant by *Modern Cornish* as well as by the *standardisation* of its orthography.

*Modern Cornish*, just as is the case with *Modern English*, developed after the end of the mediaeval period; the Cornish of the 16th century was already *Modern Cornish*, as a study of its grammar will reveal, but the most typical *Modern Cornish* comes from the 17th and 18th centuries. This was referred to in English, and perfectly correctly, as *Modern Cornish* by writers of c. 1700. There is of course no proper term in the Cornish language itself for *Modern Cornish* because those who spoke the language simply regarded it as *Cornish*. *Kernuack*, *Curnoack*, or however one spells it, does not mean *Modern Cornish*, but simply *Cornish*.

The Cornish word for the Cornish language was not recorded before 1569, well into the modern period, where it occurs in records as *Cornowok*. The word was written in many different ways after that date, by various authors, and includes the variations *Carnoack*, *Cornoack*, *Curnoack*, *Kurnoack*, *Kornooack*, *Kernuak*, *Kernowak* and *Kernŭak*, the last example being Lhuyd's phonetic spelling. The version introduced by Nance, *Kernewek*, is nowhere to be seen, and his use of the combination *ew* has caused widespread mispronunciation ever since.

If we wish to use one of the authentic historical spellings, which should be chosen? This is what is meant by *standardisation*: the choice from a variety of found historical versions of one way of spelling each word. This does not entail any sort of invented spelling system, but where an example occurs only in Lhuyd's phonetic orthography, or, as in the case of words that survived only into dialect, in the spelling of compilers of dialect glossaries, some respelling is allowable. Users of *Modern Cornish* have spent some years now developing the best choice; it is not something that can be decided quickly, but

only through patient trial, and from time to time experience shows that a better choice of spelling for one word or another is advisable. The *Cornish Language Council* is currently engaged in 'fine tuning' the choice made over recent years, and has decided to recommend *Kernow* (in order to show willingness to conform with the version already best known to the public, despite the fact that *Curnow* is more typical of *Modern Cornish*) and *Kernuack* (in order to conform as closely as possible with *Kernow* while trying to avoid any misunderstanding over pronunciation of the middle syllable). Articles on this have already appeared, written in *Modern Cornish*; however, unless readers can fully understand *Modern Cornish* they are at risk of 'picking up fag-ends', and completely misunderstanding what has been written.

It is quite incorrect to term the revived forms of Cornish known as *Unified* and *Common* as *Modern Cornish*, for they are based upon *Mediaeval* (or *Middle*) *Cornish*, as their protagonists have been at pains to reiterate.

R.R.M. Gendall

President, the *Cornish Language Council*

## Turning Up The Heat

*MI 5 After the Cold War*, Larry O'Hara, Phoenix Press, Stg£5. This recently published book reviews the present activities of British Intelligence and provides a timely reminder of the old adage 'idle hands find mischief'.

The bizarre and unprecedented events of 1993/94 provide the introduction to the book, setting out the background to the "charm offensive" launched by MI 5 to revamp its obsolete and secretive image. The organisation's publication of the pamphlet *MI 5. The Security Service* and the naming of Director Stella Rimington and her subsequent presentation of the 1994 Dimpleby lecture provide the starting point from which the author sets out to 'deconstruct' their (MI 5s) ideology.

The book, in addition to covering the organisation's operations against British fringe political groups, also devotes sections to the Celtic Countries and provides a corroboration of concerns expressed by the Celtic League and other Celtic nationalist parties.

Whilst the pivotal point of MI 5 anti-Celtic operations, Ireland, is of course addressed, O'Hara resists the temptation to re-plough old ground and instead devotes more emphasis to activities in the other Celtic areas. In the section devoted to Wales (Welsh Nationalism - repeating the Irish scenario?) the attempts to infiltrate

Meibion Glyndwr are outlined and also the trial of the Caernarfon Three. The chapter quotes *Carn* (Issues 81-84) as a source point "the splendid and always highly informative journal of the Celtic League" and also quotes the General Secretary's warning about the illegality of developing MI 5 operations.

According to an acute observer from the Celtic League the "parallel with the North of Ireland is an almost perfect match. In the early 1970's MI 5 personnel were seconded into the province to deal with the alleged inadequacies of the 'native' police. Their remit to gather intelligence on paramilitary bodies gained a momentum which was to lead to allegations (many subsequently substantiated) of involvement between recruited criminals and MI 5 officers in an orgy of deceit, robbery and murder".

In the chapter on Scotland (Scottish Nationalism - the ghost at the banquet) the covert actions against the SNLA in the early eighties are addressed and also the more recent trial and imprisonment of Andy McIntosh on explosives related charges. Again references to *CARN* (issues 61,74,77,78,85 & 86) are prominent within material resourced. O'Hara is careful to balance his comments and indeed in respect of *CARN* the reference to issue 86 is only inserted to

relay an alternative view on comment on the McIntosh case "one of a long line of half-baked 'tartan terrorism' trials which the establishment delights in and has usually fomented when the SNP is on the rise". O'Hara describes this view as the "more traditional SNP line" on the case.

Overall the book is well researched and balanced. Although a comparatively slim 96 pages it ranges across the new "field of fire" of MI 5, highlighting the organisation's capacity to create disruption and instability in groups and communities regarded as suspect by the British State.

### The 16th International Celtic Film and Television Festival

The 16th International Celtic Film and Television Festival will take place in Fortwilliam, Scotland, on April 3-6, 1995. All entries had to be in by Dec. 9th. Of a total of 10 awards, there will be one in each of the six categories: short drama, feature length drama, documentary, entertainment, young people, current affairs. A "Spirit of the Festival" award will be presented to the best production wholly or substantially in a Celtic language. Further information: Festival Office, 7 Bowmont Gardens, Glasgow G12 9LR.

# MANNIN

## Yn Eddyr-Voggyl as ny Chengaghyn Celtiagh

Shimmey imraa mychione yn Eddyr-Voggyl (Internet) t'ayns na pabyryn-naight er y gherid. Er y fa dy vel y chooish shoh bentyn rish co-earroderyn as y lheid, nec ram sleih gra nagh mie lhieu clashtyn my e chione. Agh oddagh y lheid jannoo foays da chengaghyn beggery goll rish ny chengaghyn Celtiagh as bare dooin goaill ymmyd jeh.

Ghow yn Eddyr-Voggyl toshiaght red goll rish jeh bleaney as feed er dy henney tra va ny Americanee gearree co-earroderyn moarey y chiangley ry cheilley. Ec y traa v'ayn, cha nec agh co-earrooder moor ayns un voayl, geddyn ooilley ny eiyrtysyn (results) er tape ny pabyr, eisht cur lesh ooilley ny tapeyn as pabyr shen

ayns gleashtan ny etlan dys co-earrooder moor elley ayns boayl elley, as jannoo obbyr dy liooar nagh row ymmyrchagh. Cre mysh kiangley y daa cho-earrooder ry cheilley as gearree magh ram jeh'n obbyr? Eisht, veagh y daa cho-earrooder 'loayrt' eddyr oc hene, goaill ymmyd jeh linnaghyn-chellvane. Dy bcagh sheanscyryn (scientists) gobbraghey ayns California, abbyr, oddagh ad cur eiyrtysyn nyn obbyr stiagh ayns co-earrooder raad v'ad gobbraghey as eisht cur ny eiyrtysyn shen dys co-earrooder erbee va kianlt lesh y cho-earrooder ocsyn. Oddagh y nah cho-earrooder ve faggys da'n chield cho-earrooder, ny thousaneyn dy veelaghyn ersooyl. As oddagh co-earrooderyn dy liooar ve kianlt ry cheilley dy yannoo moggyl (network).

Ghow sleih toshiaght dy chur chaghteraghtyn hug sleih elley harrish ny linnaghyn eddyr ny co-earrooderyn. Va shen y toshiaght jeh post lectraneagh as y toshiaght jeh'n Eddyr-Voggyl myr ta shin toiggal eh nish. Va moggyl currit er bun son anaaseyn er-lheh (special interests). Eisht, va moggyl moor jeant jeh ny moggyl ooilley. Y moggyl moor, shen yn Eddyr-Voggyl.

Derrey tammylt beg er dy henney, v'eh doillee da peiagh ny lomarcan dy ghoaill ayns syn Eddyr-Voggyl. V'eh oris ymmyd

y ghoaill jeh co-earrooder moor va lesh reilys ny ollooscoill ennagh. Agh nish, foddec oo goaill ayns lesh co-earrooder persoonagh sy thie ayd hene, choud's ta jee-chummeyder (modem) ayd as t'ou surransagh dy liooar. Jee-chummeyder, shen greie ta lhiggey da co-earrooder ennagh 'loayrt' rish co-earrooder elley harrish linney cellvane.

T'ou geeck argid dy reiltagh da sheshaght-voggyl ennagh as t'ee shen cooney lhiat dy ghoaill ayns sy voggyl eck hene as syn Eddyr-Voggyl. Dy firrinagh, t'eh foast doillee as costal dy liooar dy ghoaill ayns, ga dy vod oo 'loayrt' rish sleih ayns Tokyo, abbyr, son y leagh jeh eam-chellvane ynnydagh (bwooise da'n argid reiltagh t'ou geeck da'n cheshaght-voggyl). Ta'n doillee ayns kyndagh rish cooid-vog (software) teaymagh as jee-chummeyderyn teaymagh. Ta colught Microsoft toiggal shoh, as t'adsyn er-chee creeck stoo 'vees dty warree abyl dy ymmydey gyn boirey'. Heemayd.

Ta moggyl co-earrooder ymmydoil dooin er y fa dy vodmayd cur stoo Celtiagh noon as noal feiy ny cruinney. Fodmayd cur stoo-ynsee (lesh jalloony as sheean) harrish ny linnaghyn. Dy jarroo, ta Marion Gunn voish Divlyn as e caaryn jannoo y lheid rish shiartanse dy vleantyn lesh y voggyl Gaelagh GAELIC-L. Agh foastagh, tra va shen currit er bun, v'ou eginit goll trooid co-earrooder moor - red nagh vod oo roshdyn dy aashagh ayns Mannin. Nish, ta reddyn er jeet dy ve ny sassey.

Son shickyrys, cha nodmayd jerkal rish mirrilyn dy heet magh ass co-earrooderyn. Ta niart boghtynid er ny screeu mychione Ard-Raad Moor y Fysseree (The Information Superhighway), raad vees co-earrooderyn, cellvaneyn as cellveish gobbraghey ry cheilley. Dy firrinagh, cha nec monney anaase ec y chooid smoo dy 'leih er y lheid ec y traa t'ayn. Rouyr blaatar, foddec. Agh red erbee ta lowal dooin skeayley magh fys er yn Ghaelg, she red feeu t'ayn, gyn ourys erbee. Erskyn ooilley, sheeu eh tra ta sleih shirrey y lheid orrinyn. As ec y traa cheddin, fodmayd gynsaghey voish stoo ta shin geddyn voish cheeraghyn elley, stoo ta cheet harrish ny moggyl.

Ta reilysyn toiggal dy vel niart ec y fysseree (information). Er aghdyn ennagh, ta ny Americanee ny smoo currit da

seyrsyns y phciagh na ny Oarpee. Shen y fa dy daink yn Eddyr-Voggyl rish ayns America. Agh eer ayns shid, ta sleih pooaral cheet dy ve imneagh mychione corvaal yn Eddyr-Voggyl. By vie lhieu eh y chur fo'n smaght oc as gagh red y reill dy jesh. Choud's shoh, ta lught yn Eddyr-Voggyl cagey dy jeean noi shen.

Surrys ennagh bee reilys Hostyn ny smoo graihagh er yn Eddyr-Voggyl lurg da fer brishey stiagh ayns co-earrooder Chellinsh Goaldagh as feddyn magh earrooy-chellvane folliit. Agh s'doillee da reilys Hostyn lhiggey er dy vel eh geddyn rey rish reillyn as prowal dy screeu reillyn noa ec y traa cheddin. Dy bishee niart yn Eddyr-Voggyl! As nagh mie dy smooinghtyn dy vel oo cur paart dy imnea er reilys ennagh as oo cur cooishyn Celtiagh er e hoshiaght ec y traa cheddin.

Orree Crennell

### Summary

*While some people may well be tired of hearing exaggerated claims for the Internet, it has significant potential to further the cause of the Celtic languages.*

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## Mec Vannin News



### P.T.A.

Mec Vannin has called on the Manx government to scrap the Island's Prevention of Terrorism Act.

The legislation was introduced on the Island in 1990 and replaced previous "Orders in Council"; extended to the Isle of Man by the United Kingdom government.

At the time of its introduction the legislation was presented as a better "domestic" alternative to UK imposed legislation. However, libertarians and nationalists, who opposed the legislation's introduction, complained that its provisions, which did not proscribe the "loyalist" terror gangs in Ulster, were selected and aimed only the Irish nationalist community.

With developments in Ireland and in particular the Hume/Adams peace initiative Mec Vannin believes the legislation is no longer required. Mec Vannin Chairman, Mark Kermode, in a letter to Chief Minister Miles Walker described the legislation as a "gangrenous appendage to our Statutes" and demanded its removal.

Ironically as Mec Vannin pointed out the legislation, and the previous Orders, netted no terrorists and in a scathing aside Mec Vannin PRO Bernard Moffatt bold the Manx press "on the only occasion when it could have been used against Loyalists para-militaries laundering 'racket' monies via the Islands off-shore finance facilities the Manx government were strangely reticent to use its powers".

Concluding their attack Mec Vannin said a failure to remove the legislation would reinforce the views of those who believe the Manx government exploited the Ulster tragedy to introduce draconian powers at its ports of entry.

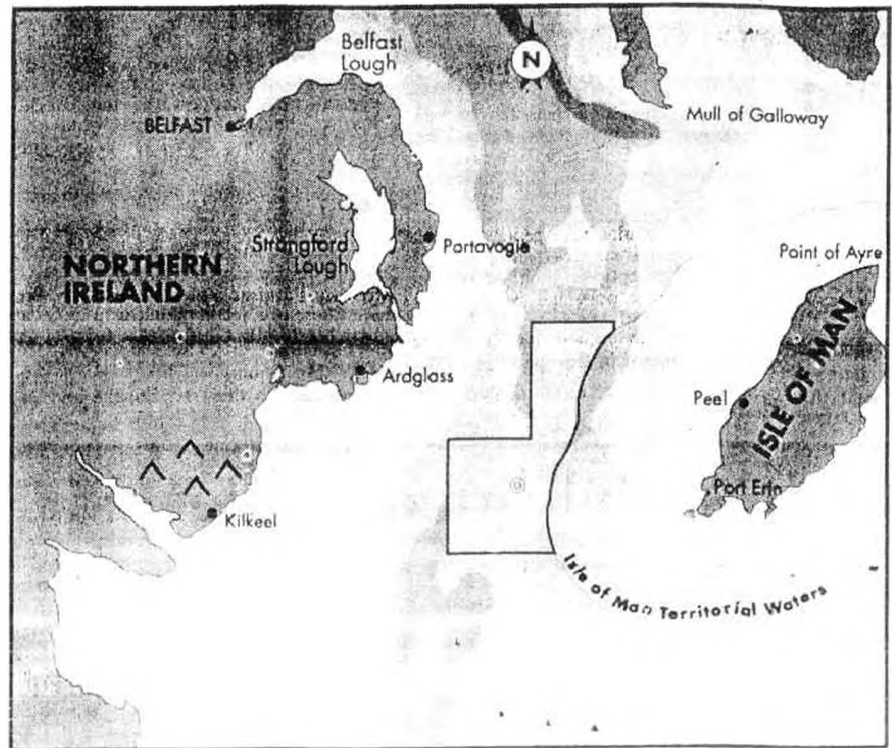
### New Territorial Sea Deal

In 1990 when Manx Government Officials announced the increased

### The Ordnance Survey

Recently, the concluding part of a new Ordnance Survey mapping of the Island was completed. This is the first complete survey since 1866.

In that first Ordnance Survey of the Island many glaring mistakes were made due to the lack of local knowledge and complete lack of Manks language, on the part of the compilers. One such is a little hamlet which rejoices in the name of Little London, originally Liantan Veg, a colloquial form of Gliontan - Little Glen. Luckily, through the researches of A.W. Moore, J.J. Kneen and William and



Map showing the hydrocarbons explored area, block 111/29 in the Peel Basin, with the location of the well being drilled by Elf 15 miles west of the Calf of Man.

territorial sea limits agreed with the United Kingdom the deal drew criticism rather than applause. Mec Vannin condemned the deal and re-stated the organisation's long standing demand that the Island's sea fishery and mineral extraction rights should extend to the median line.

The Manx branch of the Celtic League were even more scathing and savagely attacked Chief Minister Miles Walker speaking about "Fish in Our Time" - a reference to Neville Chamberlain's "Peace in our time" speech in 1938 and levelling accusations about Westminster's "Hitler style diplomacy".

Mec Vannin concerns may well have been dismissed at the time but, as in other instances, developments since lend them validity.

Recent embarrassing incursions into Manx sea fishery areas of the East coast by Ulster fishermen, ostensibly on the grounds

Constance Radcliffe; some of these mistakes have been corrected. Others, particularly for the Parish of Rushen, remain in manuscript through the work of Charles Roeder and professor Carl Marstrander. Hopefully, through the work of Dr. George Broderick, many more will be saved before they are forgotten forever.

With this in mind I approached O.S. with an extract of Roeder's manuscript for the Calf of Man. The reason I chose this area was simple. Apart from a number of errors such as Leodan for Yn Glion, this area could be altered without causing the postman to scratch his head in confusion, because apart from a new lighthouse, very little had changed over the last 130 years.

of conducting scientific research, indicate the contempt with which the UK regards the fishery deal.

Announcements in October, of oil and gas exploratory drilling just outside Mannin's "new limit", underscore nationalist concerns about British intentions.

Nationalists do not have to look far to assess the value of "deals" with the UK, for the past twenty years they have exploited North sea oil with reckless abandon. Much of those reserves are off the Scottish Mainland and yet little benefit has accrued to the Scottish people. Now having pillaged the North sea their sights are fixed off Mannin's shores.

Mec Vannin will be requesting that the Manx government, as a matter of urgency, seek a review of the limits to ensure that a more equitable agreement in relation to the Territorial sea area is conceded.

My talks with a Mr. Whittaker of the O.S. and Manx National Heritage were friendly enough. M.N.H.'s only reservation was that the Bird Warden would have to relearn the odd location for his Observatory Report.

Whether these suggestions will be taken into account remain to be seen. I await the publication of the new O.S. sheets with interest. It is to be hoped that sometime in the not too distant future, in this computer age, that all corrections, that can be inserted without causing too much confusion, will be put in. The Ordnance Survey owes it to us on Mann, to rectify the mistakes of its ancestors.

John Wright



## RAF Base For Sale

The Celtic League Manx Branch has reacted angrily to adverts placed in the Manx press announcing the sale of the last Ministry of Defence (MoD) installation on the Island at RAF Jurby Head.

The base, first used by the British and subsequently operated by NATO for over forty years, closed last year.

The installation along with the nearby British Army base, which closed in the mid-eighties, formed the focus of the local anti-military campaign by the League. The garrison's activities were subjected to constant scrutiny and frequent accusation of procedural incompetence were levelled. The "writing was on the wall" for the unit when in 1980, after several years of campaigning, aircraft overflights below 2000 ft. were banned over the Isle of Man. Aircraft subsequently had to operate well offshore with any overflight incursions monitored rigorously by the League.

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## LETTER

Dear Editor,

In the Winter issue of *Carn* 1992/93, I wrote an article which concerned itself with the 'New Conservatism' which attempted to sum up Manx traditional music as it existed then. Its main theme was that the conservative attitudes of the *status quo* of 'Manx music' in the 1970s and 80s were being displayed by some of the very same people who encountered and resisted them.

Having acquired a sort of status quo of their own, they have tried to prevent people such as myself (after twelve years of close involvement) from discussing 'Manx music' in its wider traditional context, and interpreting it accordingly. They have never made any cogent attempt at setting out any contrary argument. Instead, they have used phrases such as: *can't play [such and such] tune like that...*, *'shouldn't try to interfere with the new tradition [sic]...*, or *'mustn't draw conclusions about the nature of 'Manx' music based on historical references'* (ludicrous, but true).

Since the earlier article, such attitudes have manifested themselves in a much more sinister way. Several otherwise well respected 'stalwarts' of Manx culture, have opposed my views in very aggressive and dogmatic terms. These have included a former teacher, and a former Keys candidate (who has twice torn down and defaced posters belonging to the session players who meet regularly in Peel *whilst the sessions was in progress*).

All of these people have, when it has suited them, expressed themselves very logically and eloquently. So, what is the

reason for such bile? If my views (which are being published) have no merit, then surely the best course of action anyone having opposing views would be to expose my flaws by counter argument, or simply ignore my views (and me) as being unworthy of wasting any effort.

The very fact that this opposition has taken extreme and personal forms makes the answer to this very clear. Only fear produces such actions. In this case, fear of the truth and the exposition of inadequacy and mediocrity.

There is no excuse for violence and intimidation in a situation which is neither *violent*, nor *intimidating*. To paraphrase the close of my previous article: I hope that these attitudes do not inhibit those who want to develop their knowledge of what we (loosely) describe as being 'Manx music'.

What I find particularly disturbing is that those mentioned have actively sought positions of power and influence within the broad sphere of 'nationalism'. They (and others like them) seem all too well to fit Oscar Wilde's caustic remark: *'patriotism is the virtue of the vicious...'*

David Speers

### Corrections

The Request on page 9, *Carn* 87 should read: ... *she is a member ... and she would gladly give information* .

A line left out about AL LIAMM page 24, *Carn* 87: ... *St. Gal de Pons who died in April and who under the name Benead wrote poems in a classical form*

## Manks Music Career Launched



Emma Christian from Bride, who was named Young Musician of Mann 1989, has launched her career in Manks music this year with a ten day series of concerts at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and her debut album, 'Beneath the Twilight'. She recently reached the finals of the prestigious BBC Radio 2 Young Tradition Award 1994, presenting an all Manks programme of songs and tunes. Next January, Emma is to make her debut at the Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow, representing her country in Celtic Connections, a two week gathering of Celtic music and culture from around the world.

Following a degree in Celtic history at Newnham College, Cambridge, Emma is currently working for her doctorate on the history of the Medieval Church in the Isle of Man and the Western Isles of Scotland.

Her album is available in Island music shops or by writing to Manx/Celtic Productions, P.O. Box 4475, London SW1 95XD, enclosing a cheque for £6.99 (cassette), £10.99 (CD).

C.J.K.

*Carn* 21

# CELTICA

## Nightmare Sea Dumps *New Evidence*

Since the early 1980s the Celtic League has been investigating a series of chemical and explosives weapons' dumps in the north Channel and off the west coasts of Scotland and Ireland.

Considerable correspondence has taken place over the years with various United Kingdom civil and military agencies and although the dumping has been acknowledged the scope and extent of same has been impossible to ascertain.

The issue gained a new momentum when over the past four years increasing quantities of unidentified and highly toxic explosive devices started to come ashore in increasing numbers. Over the past two years alone approaching 1000 devices have been washed ashore on the coasts of N. Ireland, S.W. Scotland and the Isle of Man.

### Operation Sandcastle

#### Stage 1: 1945-1948

Ship	Cargo	Weight Tons	Date
1. Empire Peel	Defective Bombs	Unknown	2/7/45
2. Empire Simba	Unknown	8032	11/9/45
3. Empire Cormorant	"	8383	1/10/45
4. Wairuna	"	8432	30/10/45
5. Botlea	"	6152	30/12/45
6. Empire Peacock	"	Unknown	25/8/46
7. Empire Nutfield	"	Unknown	3/9/46
8. Kindersley	"	2074	1/10/46
9. Empire Woodlark	"	4348	2/11/46
10. Lanark	"	Unknown	11/11/46
11. Dora Oldendorf	"	2507	5/2/47
12. Empire Lark	"	7649	27/7/47
13. Leighton	"	Unknown	9/8/47
14. Thorpe Bay	"	1933	8/9/47
15. Margo	"	1259	3/11/47
16. Harm Fritzen	"	7834	1/3/48
17. Empire Success	"	9853	22/8/48
18. Miervelds	"	1880	22/9/48

#### Stage 2: 1949

19. Empire Conynrham	Unknown	Unknown	20/6/49
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#### Stage 3: 1955-1956

20. Empire Claire	Aircraft Bombs/Tabun Gas	3500	27/7/55
21. Vogiland	Aircraft Bombs/Tabun Gas	Unknown	20/5/56
22. Kotka	Aircraft Bombs/Tabun Gas	Unknown	23/7/56

#### Stage 4: 1956-1957

23. Unidentified	Artillery Shells/Mustard	2710	-/6/56
24. Unidentified	Gas Plus Phosgene Based Devices - Both Cargoes	3200	6/9/56

Cargoes were evenly allocated with for example 2,3,4,5,13,20,21,23,24 destined for the Donegal dump. Cargoes 6,7,8,10,11,12,14,15,16,17,18,19 going to the Biscay area. Cargo 23 or 24 may have been diverted to the Beaufort Dyke the munitions described match chemical weapons which have been washed up in increasing numbers in recent years in the North of Ireland and SW Scotland.

The threat posed caused the League to convene the 1993 Dublin conference **A DANGEROUS LEGACY IN OUR SEAS** at which, in concert with the Irish branch of Greenpeace, we outlined our joint concerns.

Now new and alarming evidence has been revealed which, for the first time, illustrates the magnitude of the problem and exposes Ministry of Defence (MoD) duplicity. Still classified information indicates that between 1946 and 1958 the United Kingdom MoD carried out the disposal of 100,000 tonnes of chemical weapons to dumps off the west of the British Isles.

The Operation code-named **SANDCASTLE** involved the collection of surplus World War 2 munitions and

captured German Chemical weapons to a disused airfield at Llandwrog, south of Caernarfon. The material was transported to a small port near Belan point (N. Wales) and shipped in obsolete Tank Landing Ships (LCTs) across the Irish sea to Cairnryan in S.W. Scotland. Cairnryan at that time was a collection point for the breaking and disposal of shipping. A number of Liberty ships (which had been used to carry transatlantic cargoes during the war period) at the port were earmarked for disposal. The LCTs transhipped the cargoes and the Liberty ships were towed into the Atlantic to be sunk at the designated sites, to the north of Donegal and the south west of Kerry. The new specific information confirms eye witness accounts from Manx and Scottish sources about the secret operation.

Even in the initial stage of the operation the Irish sea passage was hazardous and a number of the vessels are known to have foundered, their cargoes lie unrecovered in the north Irish sea.

Although the material, which includes phosphorous based explosives and large stocks of Tabun and Sarin gas, was destined for supposed secure deep water disposal it appears, from witness evidence, that on a number of occasions, due to bad weather in the Atlantic, to ensure the continuity of the operation cargoes were diverted to the Beaufort Dyke sea dump in the North Channel.

The new information blows open previous MoD denials about the dumping of surplus nerve gas and other toxic agents. It also calls into question British denials that material from the British Chemical death factory at Nancekuke in Cornwall was disposed of at sea.

The Celtic League will be pressing the British Ministry of Defence to publish full details of the material disposed of during the SANDCASTLE Operation and urging investigatory action to secure the dump sites.

J.B. Moffatt

### CELTIC HISTORY REVIEW

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# British Nationalism – An Outmoded Concept

The 1994 AGM of the Celtic League rejected the concept of British nationalism. How did this concept arise? What consequences does it have today?

Briefly, England conquered the other nations of the British Isles by a combination of force and bribery. England and these other nations were then combined into the United Kingdom under the English monarchy. The United Kingdom proceeded to grab the British Empire from the inhabitants.

The countries of the British Empire have gradually broken loose. Political, economic and military ties have generally gone. Linguistic and cultural ties with England often remain.

The existence of the British Empire enabled Britain, or rather, England, to be a force in the world. The dissolution of the British Empire has forced Britain to combine with other European countries on more or less equal terms in the European Union.

The existence of the British Empire gave the citizens of that Empire the right to migrate to the stepmother country, Britain, if they could raise the fare. The dissolution of the Empire means that that right no longer exists.

The existence of the British Empire meant that the Celtic nations of the British Isles, to some extent, benefited from the imperial loot. Through unequal trade terms, etc. they still do benefit from looting the Third World. However, they have no need to be associated with England in order to do so.

British nationalists would like to reverse this state of affairs. Unfortunately for them, history is against them. They are beginning to realise that, if they are to save what's left, they must pay some attention to Celtic causes such as the Welsh language.

A common English attitude to immigrants is "If they didn't want us out there, why should they expect to come here?" British nationalists reflect this attitude in their two demands (1) An end to immigration; (2) A government-financed programme of humane repatriation of Britain's ethnic minorities to their ancestral homelands (BNP leaflet).

Apart from humanitarian considerations, the cost of such a programme would be enormous. The "ancestral homelands" would be hopping mad and break off ancestral trade relations with Britain. Britain's ancestral standard of living would drop sharply.

Fascism is a realistic strategy adopted by ruling classes in times of difficulty. British nationalism is not realistic. It is racist, but is not fascist.

British nationalists in the Celtic nations need to be won over to Celtic nationalism which is the future, despite all of the

manoeuvres of the English government.

A defeat in Ireland would be a major blow to British nationalism. The English government has stated that it has no selfish interests in retaining Northern Ireland in the United Kingdom rather than in allowing it to join the Irish republic. However, it maintains that it must respect the wishes of the majority in Northern Ireland, presumably expressed in a referendum.

If the English government does really respect the wishes of the vast majority, regardless of politics or religion, it should hold such a referendum on a county by county basis and accept the result.

This is, of course, a demand which should be made on the British government. There can be no question of our respecting for ever frontiers which were originally obtained by force.

Ifor Kenna

## INTERCELTIC WATER FESTIVAL

Convinced that the practice of sports is one of the most auspicious factors in the development between people and regions, the county of Finistère is in the process of organising the first watersport festival. Other countries have already volunteered to organise future festivals. The event will be developed along 2 parallel themes:

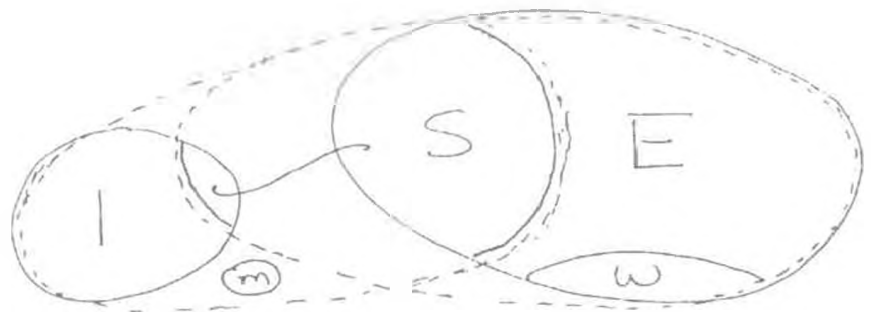
- watersport competition, the aim being to organise spectacular events with boats regularly used in Celtic countries.
- cultural events which aims to highlight Celtic and maritime culture by way of events, exhibitions, activities and craftsmanship... complementing nautical demonstrations.

Venue: The Presqu'île de Crozon region. Proposed dates: 28 August to 3rd September 1995.

For further information: Nautisme En Finistère, 11 rue Théodore Le Hars - BP 1334, 291103 Quimper Cedex.

## Nationalism & Unionism – A Celtic Solution

Diagram of the Gaelic and British Unions as Proposed  
Aontacht na nGael = ISM; United Kingdom = SEW



It has been asserted that Nationalism and Unionism in Ireland are mutually exclusive and simply irreconcilable. This is not necessarily so. With a slight change of emphasis in each position a reconciliation is possible, and in fact they can be seen to be complementary to each other.

If the Nationalists could see their true identity as being of the Gaelic Nation, comprised of Irish, Scots and Manx, and if Unionists could emphasise their link with Scotland as the closest within the United Kingdom, geographically, historically, ethnically, culturally, and denominationally, then a resolution of the two positions becomes possible.

Two overlapping Unions, as shown in the accompanying diagram, would then satisfy both Nationalism and Unionism. The Gaelic Union, Aontacht na nGael, would consist of the Republic of Ireland, the Kingdom of Scotland, including those parts of Ireland not wishing to be part of the Republic, and the crown colony of the Isle of Man.

This would overlap with the United Kingdom, consisting of England, Wales and Scotland, together with the neighbouring parts of Ireland wishing to be part of that kingdom. This extended kingdom of Scotland would be in both Unions. This solution has Dal Riada as an historical precedent.

Nationalist-Unionist tension would not be totally eliminated, of course, by this solution. Gaelic Nationalism in the new Gaelic Union might very well aspire to independence for that Union, thus creating a new Nationalist-Unionist tension, but on a different axis.

On the other hand, the broader Gaelic Nationalism envisaged might be more conscious of its Celtic links with the United Kingdom, and further afield within The European Union, and so might see their links with the UK and the EU as fulfilling to a certain degree a desire for unity among all Celtic peoples.

An tAth. Sean Ó Cuinn

## Blaz Keltieg

The basic idea behind this project is very simple: to give an audio impression of what all the Celtic languages sound like, that is the living speech. Although straightforward it nevertheless took ten years to complete, mostly due to the difficulty of getting together the various items that would not only convey the feeling of the real thing but also give a brief cross-section of the main varieties within the six languages.

"Blaz Keltieg" (taste of Celtic) is a one hour cassette, very clearly recorded, which is divided in two parts. Side one is devoted to British, "P" Celtic: Breton, Cornish and Welsh. Side two is Gaelic, from Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man. The four larger language groups are given an approximate twelve minutes, and Cornish and Manx six minutes each.

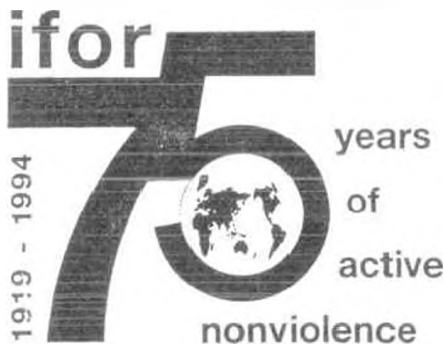
In each language section a variety, mostly regional based, of short pieces can be heard. This of course holds more true for the languages where dialects are still of major importance. About half of the recordings come from various official bodies (radios, sound archives of various types), the rest were recorded for the

project. Some of the speakers are long deceased but the majority are middle aged native speakers. The youngest, a symbol, is a Cornish speaker about ten years of age.

Along with the tape is an accompanying book of 168 pages (no extra cost) which contains a word for word transcription of all the items, in the original languages. In addition all texts are translated into three languages: Breton (the project was initiated in Brittany), English and French. So that one can follow the original and work through it as well. In all some 36 individuals are featured.

"Blaz Keltieg" is only one book and cassette in a whole collection, called **Marvailhou** ("conversations") which present Breton as it is spoken, as a first language. Each issue (13 so far) contains about an hour of Breton, transcribed in the accompanying booklet. The majority of these cost 70 French Francs each, roughly, and can be purchased by mail. Ask for our catalogue.

To get a copy, or more, of **Blaz Keltieg**, please send the sum of 90 FF + 18 FF (for mailing) to: **MESIDOU**, 40 bis rue de la République, 29200 BREST - (France).



## Visiting Northern Ireland

"Corrymeela (Hill of Harmony) is people of all ages and Christian traditions, who, individually, and together, are committed to the healing of social, religious, and political divisions that exist in Northern Ireland and throughout the worlds" - so says the plaque at the entrance of this peaceful place on the North-East Antrim coast, the place where 95 members of the four U.K. branches of the Fellowship of Reconciliation met over a weekend in September 1994 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the **International Fellowship of Reconciliation (I.F.O.R.)** and share insights, hopes and concerns.

What a privilege to be in Northern Ireland at this historic time! Excitement, a touch of euphoria, even, tinged our greetings as we met, and were welcomed by, our friends and fellow-reconcilers in the Irish branch. We were acutely aware that we were among people who had been working for peace and for many years, some, for all of the 25 years of 'the troubles'. All were agreed on the need to

show trust and to reach out to those attempting to find a political solution, but long years of disappointment over broken promises in the past also materialised.

We feel sure, however, that despite any misgivings, these brave people would continue their peacemaking efforts, using all their contacts with those in power and their own considerable resources of faith to restore normality and hope in the community, and walk together towards a brighter future.

Nia Rhosier, Cymdeithas Y Cymod Rhyngwladol

## THE CELTIC PEN

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## Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership fee (including *Carn*) and subscription rates are IRE9; Stg£9; 85FF or US\$20.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank). Europe Stg.£10 and airmail outside Europe Stg.£11.50

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