

COMANN

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

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- SNP Election Campaign
- 'Property Fever' on Breizh
- The Declaration of the Bro Gymraeg
- Istor ar C'herneveg
- Irish Language News
- Strategy for Cornish
- Police Bug Scandal in Mann
- EU Constitution - Vote No!

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KELTEK • CYMRU: UNDEB
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KERNOW: KESUNYANS
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COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE



TEACASG TRE NA GÀIDHLIG

Abair gun robh sinn toilichte cluinntinn gun bidh faclan Gàidhlig ar na ceadan-siubhail no passports again nuair a thig ... ceann na bliadhna seo no a dh' aithgheor 2000. Direach *mar* a tha sinn a' dol thairis air Caulas na Frainge le bàta no le trèan taing don tuneil eadar Sasunn is an Fhraing chì sinn a h-uile cail sa chànain dùthchasach Fraingeis agus tha iad a' bruidhin na Fraingeis agus sa Phòlainn sa phòlais no Portagaileis ann an Portagail agus mar sin air adhart. Chan eil riochachd feadh Roinn Corpa far a bheil daoine a Leagasy tre na Beurla idir.

Ach is docha gum bi ar cànain againn fhìn, a' Ghàidhlig cho làidir ri cànain Eorpach sam bith fhathast. Sa chiad dol a-mach tha Pàrlamaid Albannach again a-ris an deidh faisg air tri ceud bliadhna agus tha Bile Gàidhlig d'am b'ainm "Gaelic Language (Scotland) Bill" a dol troimhe.

Sa chiad dol n-mach, tha am Bile seo ag amass air buidheann a stèidheachadh d'am b'ainm ... Bòrd na Gàidhlig www.bord-na-gaidhlig.org.uk agus bithidh am Bòrd seo a' cur na Gàidhlig air adhart, ga comhairleachadh agus ga brosnachadh. Mar eisimpleir, bidh am Bòrd a' cur taic ris a h-uile buidheann Ghàidhlig le taic a dh'ionnsaigh deich mìle not. ma bhios iarrtasan a' tighinn a-steach don Bhòrd ro 28 den Ghearran 2005. Taobh a-staigh na bliadhna feumaidh am Bòrd innleachd no plana a dhealbhadh agus ga chur gus no Ministearan Albannach (se sin ri ràdh ar Rìaghaltas Albannach).

Tha sia mìosan aca airson freagairt fhaighinn bhuapa. Ach, mur eil ughdarras ionadail toilichte le iarrtas a Bhòrd chan eil ach 28 làithean aca airson ath-agairt no appeal.

Ach de tha sin a'ciallachadh? Cothrum na Fèinne air son na Gàidhlig? 'S docha gum bidh chan eil fois againn fhathast. Ach tha dà rud feumail a bhi teagasg a h-uile cuspair tre na Gàidhlig feadh Alba uile gu leir ... agus cluich sa Gàidhlig ro aois dol don sgoil.

Nuair a thig sinn a-staigh don t-saoghal seo; chan eil facal sam bith again. Uima sin tha a faumail gum bheil gach leanabh a' cluich sa Gàidhlig roimh dol don sgoil. Taing do Chomhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich (CNSA) 53 sraid na h-eaglais,

Inbhirnis/Inverness B IV1 1DR... fon 01463-225 469 e-mail derek@cnaa.org.uk tha cobhair is fiosrachadh ri fhaighinn a thaobh cluich sa Gàidhlig ro aois dol do sgoil, Bithidh an t-ughdar is ionadail no CNSA Loilichte fiosrachadh a thoirt mo dheidhinn sgoiltean far a bheil teagasg tre no Gàidhlig, mar' eisimpleir bun-sgoil Toll-cross ann an DunÉidean no bunsgoil is ard sgoil Gàidhlig ann an Glaschu agus bun sgoil Gàidhlig ann an Inbhirnis.



*Bòrd na Gàidhlig –
Working for the language.*

Fad iomadach ginealachan tha an cànan Sasunnach, a' Bheurla, a' bagairt ar cànain Albannach again fhìn a' Ghàidhlig. Ach ro briseadh a-mach a' Chogaidh Ceud Bliadhna eadar Sasunn is an Fhraing sa bliadhna 1337, bha an, Fhraingis a' bagairt na Beurla Shasunnach *mar* a tha Beurla a'maoidh a' chànan Albannach againn fhìn an diugh. Mar eisimpleir, sa bhliadhna 1332 dh'òrdaich Achd Phàrlamaid gum biodh an Fhraingis air a' teagasg gu gach leanabh feadh Sasunn. Tri bliadhna an deidh sin sa bhliadhna 1335 thàinig an t-òrdugh a-mac ann an Oxford nach robh comhradh ceadaichte mur eil e sa Laideann no san Fhraingis. An sin, cò thàinig "thairis air an Tomar a-steach do Shasunn" ach Iain Trevisa, à Cracadun, St Mellion, a' Chòm a' dh'ionnsachadh ann an oilthigh Oxford. Sna làithean seo bhathar teagasg a' Bheurla Shasunnach air a teagasg tre na Beurla, fada nos fhèarr na tre an Fhraingis.

Ghabh cairdean na Beurla ris a sin agus bha a' chànan aca buadh-mhor. Dhearbh e gun robh e feumail Lheagasg tre na Beurla ma bhios tu air son a Beurla a shàbhaladh. Uime sin, feumaidh sinn croileagan stèidheach feadh Alba gu leir fo smachd. Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich far a bhiodh gagh loanabh feadh Alba a' cluich

tre na Gàidhlig gus an robh e no I a' dol don sgoil.. An sin bhiodh a' huile teagasg tre na Gàidhlig air son gach pàiste ann an Alba- Mur eil sinn fhaighinn sin bidh am Bile Gàidhlig gun fheum.

Thuig Iain Trevisa gun robh e feumail sin a dhèanamh. Seo mar a sgrìobh e sa bhliadhna 1365, "...dh'atharraich Iain à Còrn, maighstir gramair, ionnsachadh is tuigsinn gramair sna sgoiltean o'n Fhraingis gu Beurla agus dh'ionnsaich Richard Pencrych an aon scòrsa theagasg agus feadhainn eile à Pencrych; leis a sin, sa bhliadhna don Thjghearna Againn" 1385, an naodhamh bliadhna do'n Rìgh Richard an dèidh a'Cheannsachaidh anns a h-uile sgoil gràmair feadh Sasunn, tha na leanaban a trèigainn na Fraingis agus a'cleachdadh gràmair agus ag iannsachadh na Beurla Shaasunnach."

Chan eil riochachd san Roinn Eorpa far a bheil teagasg tre Beurla ach tre a' chànan dùthchasac mar Daineis anns an Danmarc, no Fineis ann am Fionlainn no Pòileis ann am Pòlainn agus mas sin air adhart.

Tha fios againn gum bheil Gàidhlig air TV is radio, sna paipearan is leabhraichean is club nan Gàidheal is soidhnean agus soidhnean-rathaid (mar air an *Eilean Sgitheanach*), Ach chan eil iad deata-mach no feumail. Tha fios againn gum bheil cluich sa Ghàidhlig ro sgoil agus teagasg tre na Gàidhlig anns gach sgoil, feumail air son aiseirigh na cànan Albannach againn fhìn.

SUMMARY

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Bill has been a long time dragging itself through the Scottish Parliament. Now its contents are available one is left wondering how it will set patterns for the future. It begins with setting up Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the main duties are to advise and promote the language. The Bòrd then has to make a language plan which the Scottish Ministers (that is the Scottish Executive) have six months to consider. Local authorities, on the other hand, have 28 days to appeal against demands to which they cannot agree. Though the bill, on the face of it; may only be setting out the rights and the duties of Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Scottish Ministers (i.e. the Scottish Executive) and the local authorities as time goes on we may find it the best legislative structure to allow the revival of our language so that it can be used throughout Scotland in the same way that other languages throughout Europe, as is Polish to Poland or as Dutch to the Netherlands.

**Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich
Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig.**

The Sky is Falling on our Heads –

A Journey to the Bottom of the Celtic Fringe

By Rob Penn

Published by Sceptre / Hodder & Stoughton. 2004, £14.99. ISBN 0-340827521.

It has to be said, this is one of the strangest books you will ever read about the *Celtic scene*. The title refers to the only thing the ancient Celts were supposed to be afraid of. It will by turn infuriate, educate, then have you in stitches.

Rob Penn achieves what many of us would love to do – that is, spend the greater part of the year visiting and fully participating in Pan – Celtic music and festivals.

His method of achieving this rather expensive feat is by using journalistic experience to make the whole undertaking *research* for the book he would write.

Make no mistake though; our Rob is no ordinary journalist. He was no more spectator, but took his task so seriously that he risked liver damage and collisions with walls, kerbs and flying fists by over indulging in the alcoholic beverages as much as the most enthusiastic festival goers.

It is all the more remarkable when he informs us that his year of festival going meant long absences from his pregnant partner! I must try that *researching a book* line sometime.

Rob's journey is a search for his identity and leads him and us to question the whole notion of being Celts and what exactly are our similarities and differences. His observations at times makes uncomfortable as he reveals aspects of our six nations characteristics that many would prefer to keep hidden.

Examples of this would be drinking to excess, punch-ups and boorish, insulting behaviour to people with English accents.

He is fair though and mentions the many positive aspects of Celtic society such as the friendliness, helpfulness of people, the great music and poetry etc.

Rob's method of being accepted into the Celtic festival scene is by using his alter ego – Ned Clague.

After a vision when climbing Cadair Idris in mid Cymru he decided he would become a poet under his assumed Manks name. Rob's search for his Celtic roots was due to him being half english, half Manks, but being unaware of his Celtic side having lived mainly in England.

Ned's many adventures at several festivals in all six Celtic countries see him gaining confidence to stand up before audiences to deliver his self penned Manks / English poems. To his own surprise, and the reader, this proves fairly successful, but there are some hilarious situations



where his cover could be blown at any time.

His year of festivals starts at the Beltane, May Day, festivities in Edinburgh and wind up back there at Samhain.

He first explores the Scottish Ghaidhealtachd of the Outer Hebrides and after finding out that *nothing* in the island's capitol of Storeornabhagh on the Sabbath, he surprisingly declines the invitation to a party in the wee small hours of Sunday morning!

In mid-summer he makes the long trip down to the Golowan Festival in Penzance, Kernow and soon realises that many of the people there are proud to be Celts and not English.

The history of each country is well researched and Ned describes the effect that sites such as Holy Walls and Standing Stones have on him.

From being sceptical about Pan-Celticism he becomes drawn in and even defends the notion forcefully to a non-Celtic Irish lass at a fleadh in Listowel! This book has to be read to be believed.

Les Mac an Ultaigh.

*Interested in Gaelic?
Make it part of your
future too...*

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The MacRae Inquiry

Background

Twenty years ago on the 6 April the Glasgow lawyer Willie MacRae was found unconscious in his car by the side of Loch Loyne in the Scottish Highlands. At first seemingly the unfortunate victim of a car crash it later transpired that MacRae had in fact been killed by a gunshot wound to the head. Just one of a series of strange events that set the backdrop to MacRae's last fateful journey.

Willie MacRae had been an active campaigner for Scottish independence since the 1940s and a 'thorn in the flesh' of the British State. At the time of his death, and for some years beforehand, MacRae had been heavily involved in various campaigns to prevent nuclear dumping in Scotland, including defeating Thatcher's plans for nuclear dumping at Mullwharchar.



The authorities have consistently refused to release any information about the case. Furthermore the results of the post-mortem investigation, and an alleged second internal police inquiry, have never been released. Had this 'accident' happened in England it would have been subject to a Fatal Accident Inquiry. However the Scottish establishment has simply brushed aside all such requests. For many this only raises more questions as to what they could possibly be trying to cover up.

The MacRae Inquiry

The MacRae Inquiry has been formed to resurrect the campaign for an independent Public Inquiry into the circumstances surrounding MacRae's death. Twenty years is far too long to wait to get to truth.

Our plans for the immediate future include:

- * A Public launch at Holyrood with a cross-party group of MSPs,
- * Motions been laid down in Parliament concerning this matter
- * Launch of an e-petition to the Parliament.

More information can be obtained from our website at <http://ceartas.port5.com/>



Breizh



Adsavidigezh ar C'herneveureg - 100 vloaz



Henry and Katharine Lee Jenner in 1881

Kant vloaz a zo, e voe embannet al levr *A handbook of the Cornish language*. Skrivet eo bet al levr gant Henry Jenner, un den brudet kenañ e sevenadur Kerne-Veur. Da lidañ al levr hag an den, eo bet embannet nevez zo: *Henry and Katharine Jenner: a celebration of Cornwall's culture, language and identity*, graet gant Derek R. Williams. Diskouez a ra al levr-mañ buhez Henry

Jenner hag e wreg, hag ivez an aergelc'h sevenadurel e Kerne-Veur har er broioù keltiek all d'an ampoent. Kavet e vez skeudennoù kozh a-walc'h, da skouer: ar C'hendalc'h Etrekeltiek e kêrbenn Bro-Skos e 1907, hag unan all kemeret e Breizh, marteze e Lezvenen e 1903.

Petra eo levezon ar yezh en deiz a hiziv? Da gentañ eo ret lavarout n'eo ket marv ar

yezh, evel ma klever alies. Bev eo, hag implijet muioc'h-muiañ er vuhez foran. Kentelioù noz a vez graet e pevar korn ar vro. Aozet e vez dibennoù-sizhun e-lec'h ma'z eo posubl, da skouer, klevout *rock* e kerneveureg. Ar gouarnamant breizh-veurat en deus sinet ar chartr europat oc'h anavezout ar yezh. Bremañ e ranker soñjal ouzh ur raktres evit amzer da zont ar yezh. Kudennoù a zo koulskoude: kudenn ar skritur (c'hwec'h doare-skrivañ disheñvel a vez kavet); kudenn politikerezh (perak ne vez ket roet da Gerne-Veur un tamm emrenerezh evel e Bro-Gembre hag e Bro-Skoz?) En amzer da zont, spi a zo da gaout un ofiser evit ar yezh, paeet gant ar gouarnamant.

Muioc'h-muiañ e weler kerne-veureg e anvioù tiez, bigi, staliou, straedoù, kelaouennoù, filmoù; met nebeut tre er skingomz hag er skinwel. Hevlene eo bet embannet an Testamant Nevez e kerneveureg, troet war-eeun eus ar gresianeg. Meur a levrioù all a zo deuet er-maez. E miz-du, e Aberfal (Falmouth), en diskouezadeg filmoù, e vo gwelet un nebeut er yezh ar vro.

War-raok eo aet ar yezh er c'hant vloaz paseet. Spi a zo e vo kreñvoc'h c'hoazh abenn kant vloaz all.

Summary

This new book presents a number of essays by present day Cornish writers on Henry and Katherine Jenner, who were important figures in the revival of the Cornish language in the 20th century. See Kernow Section for further details.

UDB in elections in 2004

Regional elections were held took place March on the 21st and 28th of March 2004. For the first time they were really regional elections, with a regional constituency, in place of four departmental constituencies, though the seats were shared at the end on the basis of the *départements*. Of course, the regional constituency did not correspond to the historical Brittany, because the Liger-Atlantel/Loire-Atlantique *département*, around Naoned/Nantes, the former capital, was not included, being now in another region, a very artificial one.

The elections were based on lists. The UDB (Unvaniezh Demokratel Breizh, the Breton Democratic Union) were in alliance with the Green Party. Among the candidates there were 23 candidates presented by the UDB, 52 presented by the Greens, 11 were not members of any party, and six were members of smaller Breton or leftist groups in Brest area.

In the first vote, on the 21st of March, no list took an absolute majority of votes. The Greens-UDB list came fourth out of seven, with 9.7% of the votes. It was necessary,

according to the new law, to receive 10% of the votes to take part in the second ballot, and with more than 5% it was possible to join with another list. So a new alliance was established (the plan had been prepared in advance) with the list led by the Socialist Party (with candidates also of the Communist Party and of the Left Radicals, a smaller centre-left party), which had taken 34.48% of the votes at the first ballot. In the second ballot, the new alliance list took 58.66% of the votes and 57 seats.

The UDB won three seats. It is the first time that members of this Breton party were elected onto the Regional Council. Even if this Council have few powers and means, it is a historic step. A group has been created in the Regional Council by the three UDB councillors and by another one of the "Alternative Left". One of the UDB councillors, Christian Guyonvarc'h, spokesperson of the UDB, is now one of the vice-presidents of the Council, in charge of European and international affairs.

During the election campaign, the main ideas presented by the Greens-UDB list were

sustainable development, respecting the environment and mankind, and the respect of biological diversity, as well as cultural diversity and the opening of Brittany to the world.

The UDB was again in alliance with the Green Party in the European election campaign. These too were list elections. France was divided into eight big constituencies (one of them for the French overseas territories). Brittany was joined to two other regions in one very artificial constituency. In this 'West' constituency there were 10 seats out of the 78 seats for the French state. There were two UDB candidates on the list, though they had no chance of being elected. Only one of the Greens was elected. The UDB campaigned for a Europe of diversity, for a Europe of solidarity and justice, for a Europe of life, and for a Europe of democracy and peace, as are the aims of the European Free Alliance, of which the UDB is a member.

Y. Jardin

First Parti Breton Summer School

The first Parti Breton Summer School took place in Gwidel, near An Oriant, on the 18th-19th September. One hundred people came to listen and exchange ideas with a dozen guest speakers.

During the two days various speakers underlined the necessity for Brittany to be quickly given devolved institutions with a tax system in order to play a role in Europe. The Parti Breton sees its own priorities as reinforcing the party itself, working on the local level, and building a programme for the future. The party's strategy is to build a Breton way of political thinking, opening Breton minds to Europe-wide action in the economic, social, and cultural fields.

Joan Vallvé, a former minister in Catalonia, spoke first. He said that the stateless nation of Catalunya is as large as



Joan Vallvé



Yannick Le Bourdonnec

Belgium and smaller than Brittany. In Spain, the Basques and Galicians do have devolved powers in various fields like education, health, and roads. They teach the native language in schools. In Catalonia they are able to cope with Catalan and Spanish. He said 98% understand Catalan. A long way to go for our political leaders in Brittany.

The journalist Yannick Le Bourdonnec addressed the audience on Sunday afternoon. In his last book *Que veulent donc les bretons?* (What are the Breton people asking for?) he gave a good sum up of the economical, social, and political situation in Brittany. In my opinion it's a good mix of 'la Bretagne dans 20 ans' (Breizh in 20 years) from the sociologist Ronan Le Coadic, and books and figures coming out of Rennes university with Jean Ollivro.

At the end of the day, the Parti Breton can

look back positively on this very interesting weekend and first Summer School. This new party, born in 2003, might change politics in Brittany if they can keep going forward with young politicians involved in the economic, social and cultural fields.

Gi Keltik.

Call for more Breton Language Teachers

AGM 2004

Motion 2: "This AGM calls on the French government to employ more Breton language teachers because there is more and more demand."

Background

In 2002, the higher state court made it clear that French was the 'state language', therefore Diwan's schools could not be included in the state school system (Education Nationale). This made most parents and Breton people understand what a Jacobin republican state was about. Since 2002, the EN had told the parents that they were ready to train students in Breton courses in order to respond to the growing number of children in the bilingual schools, but they have not kept to their promise. In so far as they work for the state, it's not easy for Breton teachers to go on strike for Breton courses.

In secondary schools (lycées) teachers are not allowed any more to teach Breton if they are not enough children (at least six) in their classroom. Instead, the academy of Brittany bought a video conference display in order to teach Breton in five different schools. The socialist leaders of the Council of Brittany are refusing to give a single euro to this bad deal. At the end of the day, pupils are missing Breton lessons, and the education establishment make it clear that French alone is the language of this Jacobin state.

It looks as if the game is not over ...who's next?

Gi Keltik.



Kampagn skoazell Diwan evit dazont ar skolioù

LET'S KEEP BRETON ALIVE

In the five Breton administrative departments the Breton language is a strong cultural asset, which is an integral part of our identity. However if we don't do something - now - all together our language risks extinction.

The state rejection prevents and obstructs public recognition but in no way undermines our will to carry on the educational innovation and expansion of this cultural initiative.

Today we appeal to you to help us in our hour of need.

HEP BREZHONEG BREIZH EBET, SANS LANGUE BRETONNE PAS DE BRETAGNE

THERE'S NO BRITTANY WITHOUT BRETON

10,000 contributions of 50 Euro will allow 2,800 Diwan pupils to continue their education in Breton and the growth of the Diwan network.

However little, all contributions are welcome.

Cheque to be sent to: **DIWAN BP 147 29411 LANDERNE BRITTANY**
<http://www.diwanbreizh.org/>

Datganiad y Fro Gymraeg

a gyhoeddwyd y 23ain Hydref 2004

Rhagymadrodd:

Yn gymaint â bod pob bod dynol yn gydradd a chyfwerth;

Yn gymaint â bod amrywiaeth fawr a chyfoethog o fewn y ddynoliaeth o ran iaith, diwylliant a chenedligrwydd; a bod pob iaith, diwylliant a chenedl yn y byd yn gydradd a chyfwerth;

Yn gymaint â bod gan bob cenedl, boed fach neu fawr, yr hawl i fodoli yn ei phriod gymunedau a thiriogaethau, heb orfod dioddef gwladychu; ac nad oes gan yr un genedl hawl i wladychu cymunedau na thir cenedl arall;

Yn gymaint â bod hiliaeth (sef gorthrwm ar sail hil, hynny yw nodweddion corfforol, yn hytrach nag neu'n ogystal ag ar sail cenedl, iaith neu ddiwylliant) yn gyfangwbl wrthun;

Yn gymaint â bod gwladychu (sef yr hyn a geir pan fo ymfudwyr yn gwrthod integreiddio i wlad newydd, ond yn hytrach yn gorfodi eu hiaith, eu diwylliant a'u hunaniaeth eu hunain ar y wlad y maent yn ymfudo iddi, gan gymathu'r brodorion a/neu gael ymadael â nhw) yn ffurf ar ladrac ac felly yn drosedd, ac yn ffurf ar hiliaeth (sef hiliaeth wladychol) am fod gwladychiaeth a hiliaeth yn annatod ynghlwm wrth ei gilydd, yn hanesyddol ac o hyd heddiw;

Yn gymaint â bod llawer o ieithoedd, diwyllianau a chenedloedd cynhenid y byd mewn perygl o gael eu dileu ('cenedl-laddiad') ac eraill eisoes wedi'u dileu, a hynny yn bennaf oherwydd gwladychu a hiliaeth wladychol;

Yn gymaint â bod y broses hon yn fygythiad i etifeddiaeth gyffredin y ddynoliaeth gyfan yn ogystal â chenedloedd unigol, ac felly yn drosedd yn erbyn y ddynoliaeth;

Yn gymaint â bod y Gymraeg a'i rhiant, y Frythoneg, yn ieithoedd cynhenid Cymru ers oddeutu 2,500 o flynyddoedd, ond mai yn y Fro Gymraeg yn unig y mae'r Gymraeg yn parhau'n iaith gymunedol bellach;

Yn gymaint â bod y Fro Gymraeg, ei chymunedau, ei hiaith a'i diwylliant bellach yn wynebu difodiant a chenedl-laddiad oherwydd gwladychu ac oherwydd colli llawer o'i phoblogaeth gynhenid, yn yr un modd â llawer o bobloedd cynhenid eraill y

byd; Yn gymaint â bod datganiadau'r Cenedloedd Unedig a Chyngor Ewrop yn cyndabod hawl pobloedd cynhenid i beidio â dioddef cenedl-laddiad, i gadw eu tiroedd traddodiadol a'u hunaniaeth, ac i gael eu hamddiffyn gan eu llywodraethau; a bod yr hawliau hynny yn rhan annatod o'r drefn ryngwladol er diogelu hawliau dynol; Yn awr, gan hynny, Yr ydym yn ddwys ac yn ddifrifol yn cyhoeddi'r datganiad a ganlyn:

Erthygl 1 - Y mae'r Fro Gymraeg yn bodoli fel rhanbarth ac ardaloedd neilltuol o Gymru, sef y rhannau o diriogaeth draddodiadol cenedl y Cymry lle y mae mwyafrif y boblogaeth gynhenid a thraean neu fwy o'r boblogaeth gyfan yn medru siarad a deall Cymraeg.

Erthygl 2 - Yr ydym yn llwyr gefnogol i bob ymdrech i adfer a phoblogeiddio'r Gymraeg yn rhanbarthoedd eraill Cymru (ac hefyd yn gefnogol i ddiwylliant Cymreig y rhanbarthoedd hynny a fynegir trwy gyfrwng y Saesneg neu ieithoedd eraill) ond yn credu bod parhad y Fro Gymraeg yn anhepgor er mwyn sicrhau parhad a datblygiad y Gymraeg yng ngweddill Cymru ac fel iaith genedlaethol, ynghyd â pharhad Cymru fel cenedl.

Erthygl 3 - Y mae gan bobl y Fro Gymraeg hawl i'w chadw fel rhanbarth ac ardaloedd lle y mae'r Gymraeg yn briod iaith, lle y bydd y Gymraeg yn iaith swyddogol, yn iaith naturiol y gymuned, yn brif iaith gweinyddiaeth a masnach a phob agwedd arall ar fywyd, ac yn iaith gyffredin ymhlith mewnfudwyr a rhwng mewnfudwyr a brodorion; ac y mae ganddynt hawl i beidio â dioddef gwladychu na cholli'r boblogaeth gynhenid.

Erthygl 4 - Y mae gan bobl y Fro Gymraeg (yn cynnwys y bobl gynhenid hynny sy'n ddi-Gymraeg) hawl i gyfiawnder cymdeithasol, gan gynnwys cartrefi, gwaith a chynhaliaeth, ynghyd ag addysg a gwasanaethau eraill trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, a hynny mewn cymunedau Cymraeg eu hiaith.

Erthygl 5 - Y mae 'Mewnfudo Normal' (sef yr hyn a geir pan fo ymfudwyr o unrhyw darddiad, tras neu hil yn parchu iaith, diwylliant a hunaniaeth y Fro Gymraeg, yn dysgu ac yn defnyddio'r Gymraeg ac yn integreiddio i'r gymdeithas ar y sail honno) yn gwbl dderbynol yn y Fro Gymraeg, ac yn gallu cyfoethogi ymhellach ein cymdeithas Gymraeg aml-hiliol a chynhwysol.

Erthygl 6 - Nid oes gan neb hawl i wladychu'r Fro Gymraeg, ai o fwriad ai'n anfwriadol. Y mae'r fath wladychu yn weithred wladychol-hiliol ac yn drosedd, ac felly hefyd anogaeth neu gefnogaeth i wladychu. Y mae gwadu, gwrthwynebu neu danseilio bodolaeth y Fro Gymraeg a'i chymunedau hefyd yn weithredoedd gwladychol-hiliol.

Erthygl 7 - Y mae gan drigolion y Fro Gymraeg hawl moesol i wrthwynebu gwladychu a cholli ei phoblogaeth gynhenid, ac i wrthwynebu polisïau a gweithredoedd sy'n hybu'r pethau hyn. Y mae'r gwrthwynebiad hwn yn gyd-gefnogol â phobloedd cynhenid eraill drwy'r byd sydd yn dioddef oherwydd hiliaeth wladychol. Nid gwrthdrawiad rhwng cenedloedd mo hyn, ond yn hytrach rhwng dwy ideoleg, sef gwladychiaeth hiliol ar y naill law a gwrth-wladychiaeth/gwrth-hiliaeth ar y llaw arall.

Erthygl 8 - Yr ydym yn gwrthwynebu'n llwyr bob ffurf ar hiliaeth; yn datgan bod pob bod dynol yn gydradd ac yn gyfwerth, beth bynnag fo'i hil a'i nodweddion corfforol; ac yn datgan bod y Fro Gymraeg yn rhanbarth ac ardaloedd aml-hiliol a chynhwysol, a'r Gymraeg yn briod iaith iddi.

Erthygl 9 - Yr ydym yn datgan ei bod yn gyfrifoldeb ar bawb yng Nghymru i wneud yr hyn sydd o fewn ei g/allu i sicrhau parhad y Fro Gymraeg a'i chymunedau.

Erthygl 10 - Yr ydym yn mynnu y dylai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Gyfunol, yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, a phob corff perthnasol arall gefnogi'r datganiad hwn, cydnabod bodolaeth y Fro Gymraeg a'i hawl i barhau, derbyn eu cyfrifoldeb moesol i'w diogelu, a gweithedu'n briodol er mwyn cyflawni'r cyfrifoldeb hwnnw.

Summary:

The above is the text of the Declaration of the Rights of the Bro Gymraeg as read on the 23rd October at a ceremony in Machynlleth held by Cymuned. (See article 'Cymuned Launch a Declaration')

Campaign for a New Language Act is renewed

On the night of the 17th October members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith covered the windows of numerous large private companies (chain shops, banks) in Cardiff with stickers and posters demanding "Ble mae'r Gymraeg?" (Where's the Welsh?). The action took place in Heol Albany/Albany Road, Yr Eglwys Newydd/Whitchurch, and Treganna/Canton districts and the companies targeted included the Royal Bank of Scotland, Somerfield, Lloyds the chemists, Iceland, Boots, and Tesco, all of which make at most minimal use of Welsh. These are all large organisations with chains of branches, and they could easily afford to introduce extensive Welsh-language policies. Cymdeithas draw a distinction between these and small local businesses in Anglicised areas who could find difficulty in operating such policies.

This action was to draw attention to the fact that the present Welsh Language Act

does not cover the private sector and thus private businesses are free to provide services only in English if they wish, and most do. The protest followed similar action in Flint, Caernarfon, and Aberystwyth in the preceding weeks, and was part of Cymdeithas's campaign for a New Language Act. Spokesman Rhys Llwyd said "Time after time we see companies and institutions still refusing to provide most of their services in Welsh and trampling on the rights of Welsh-speakers. This will not change until we have a New Language Act. It is over ten years since the present Act was passed, and so it is a suitable time to consider revising and strengthening the legislation. Indeed, considering the way privatisation and technology have transformed the way services are provided, this is a matter of urgency." Society vice-chairman Hedd Gwynfor added "Through this action... we proclaim that the era of the old Language Act

has come to an end. Wales has transformed since the passing of the old Act in 1993, and a New Language Act is back as a serious item on the political agenda."

Cymdeithas said that further action like this would take place in towns throughout Wales in the run-up to Christmas.

Indeed, the following Sunday night similar action took place in Bangor. Dozens of shops and offices were covered with the same stickers, including Kwik Save, Halifax, JJB Sports, Topshop, Burtens, Phones4U, and Debenhams. The message "Ble mae'r Gymraeg" was to be seen all over the city.

As a climax to this phase of the campaign, Cymdeithas will be holding a national forum on a New Language Act in the Old College, Aberystwyth, on Saturday March 12th 2005, where they will present their proposal for a new act. The aim will be to persuade the language quango to recommend that the Assembly demand a new language law from Westminster. Hywel Williams MP (Plaid, Caernarfon), who is in the process of drawing up a draft language bill to be put before Westminster, has agreed to address the forum and Meirion Prys Jones, the Welsh Language Board's Chief Executive, has agreed to respond. In the period up to the forum Cymdeithas are calling for a national debate on the possible contents of any new act. Their document *Carif Newydd - Deddf Iaith Newydd* has been sent to numerous organisations and there is to be more internal debate within Cymdeithas too.

R. ap Tomos



Plaid Cymru call for official EU status for Welsh

Plaid Cymru have launched a campaign to establish Welsh as an official language of the European Union following approval of the policy at Plaid Cymru's Annual Conference in Llandudno. The campaign will be led by the party's Deputy Leader Jill Evans MEP.

The party wants the proposed European Constitution translated into Welsh before it will consider supporting any referendum and is also calling for Welsh to become one of the EU's working languages. This would mean that Welsh speakers could write to the European institutions and expect a reply in their language and that Welsh speaking politicians could use the language in discussions on a European level.

The issue is back on the European agenda following Ireland's request for Irish to become an official language; the Spanish government is also making the same demands for Catalan,

Basque, and Galician.

Plaid Cymru Deputy Leader Jill Evans MEP will lead a campaign to put pressure on the London Government to negotiate the necessary changes. Conference delegates received campaign packs from the Euro MP. Jill Evans MEP said:

"It is a matter of principle for us that Welsh should be treated equally with the languages of other European countries. The European Union is funded through public money and should be there to serve all of the people - it should have a duty to provide services to Welsh speakers in their language of choice.

"We are calling for Welsh to be given the status of one of the EU's official working languages. This would mean that people could write to the European institutions and get a reply in Welsh. It would also mean that Welsh speaking politicians could use the Welsh

language in European negotiations with simultaneous translation provided into other languages.

"We're now seeing similar moves for Irish, Catalan and Basque to get this status. If it's good enough for them then why not Welsh? And let's not forget that Maltese already has this status even though fewer people speak the language than speak Welsh.

"Not only is giving Welsh official EU status right in principle, it would also be good news for the Welsh economy and for tourism, raising our profile on the international stage.

"It now needs the London Government to argue the case at the European level. We'll be doing all we can to make this happen and I personally look forward to the day when I can address the European Parliament in the language of the country I am privileged to represent."

CYMUNED LAUNCH A DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE BRO GYMRAEG



Cymuned, the movement founded to resist colonization by English-speakers in Welsh-speaking Wales, held a ceremony on the 23rd of October at Craig Rhyddid, Machynlleth, to make their public declaration of the Rights of the Bro Gymraeg (Welsh Gaeltacht). The Declaration, read at the ceremony by Gwynedd councillor Seimon Glyn, is based on the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

Tim Webb, a member of Cymuned's executive who took a leading part in formulating the Declaration, said 'The United Nations have recognised the right of minorities to exist in their own territories, but the Labour government are not taking the necessary steps to allow Welsh-speaking communities to exist in the Bro Gymraeg and it is time for us to start demanding recognition of our existence.'

Cymuned have defined the Bro Gymraeg as areas where at least 50% of the resident population native to Wales can speak Welsh, and at least 33% of the whole population, according to figures from the latest Census. This amounts to a swathe of western Wales running from Ynys Môn through most of Gwynedd and Ceredigion to Carmarthenshire, with parts of Conwy, Clwyd, and Powys and smaller parts of Pembrokeshire and

Glamorgan. Within this area Cymuned are defining areas requiring special attention such as those where the percentage is still high enough for them to be natural Welsh-speaking communities. Maps are also being prepared.

Aran Jones, the Chief Executive of Cymuned, said 'Experts in minorized languages like Joshua Fishman are agreed that to thrive a language community needs a geographic area where the language is the community language. In Wales we are fortunate to have the Bro Gymraeg, but it has been harmed by the denial of its existence. It is essential we now recognise the nature of the Bro Gymraeg and its value to our nation.'

Welsh as a community language has declined drastically in recent years as thousands of non-Welsh speakers - the overwhelming majority of whom are English but it does not make any difference where they come from - have moved to live in the Bro Gymraeg but have not been prepared to learn Welsh. Since they are imposing their own culture on another's territory they can be described as colonists. The struggle to keep the Bro Gymraeg over the next few years could well be the final battle to save Welsh, or indeed any Celtic tongue, as a fully living language.

A federal Welsh-medium college in action - a foretaste of what could be!

For decades Cymdeithas yr Iaith and other language bodies have been calling for a federal Welsh-medium college in the University of Wales, but for one week in September such a college, on a small scale, became a reality. Cymdeithas organised six courses in locations through Wales including a college lecture theatre, a village school, a chapel vestry, a social club, and a theatre.

Fred Ffransis, Cymdeithas's education spokesman, said "This variety shows how a Welsh-medium federal college can work to strengthen our local communities by organising relevant courses and offering practical education. It is not necessary to use a straight translation of English courses. This is our example for the University of Wales who work twice over against the interests of Welsh communities by offering education almost entirely through English and through deracinating young Welsh people by separating education from their communities"

In each session there was an open forum to discuss the need for a Federal Welsh-medium college, and afterwards a Welsh-medium course relevant to the needs of the local community. For a week the dream of a federal Welsh college was realised.

CYMUNED LEAD THE BATTLE AGAINST 6500 NEW HOUSES IN CEREDIGION

Cymuned have declared that they will continue with the struggle against Ceredigion council's plan to build 6500 new houses in the county, doing further damage to the language, despite the defeat of the campaign for an elected mayor and the Brits' victory in the subsequent council elections earlier in the year. Cymuned have registered 150 objections with the ongoing enquiry, more than any other body. Simon Brooks, Cymuned's spokesman in Ceredigion, said that they had been given legal advice that the council's plans ran contrary to the Assembly's planning guidelines. Even though Cymuned had entered more objections than anyone else, it was their quality and not their number that would count and Cymuned would be working night and day over the coming months to show that the council's plans were based on false information.

Assembly fails on housing aid

On the 24th of October the slogan 'Cymorth Prynu - £5 miliwn' ('Aid to Buy - £5m') was painted by members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith on the walls of the Assembly offices in Aberystwyth.

This action was to draw attention to the fact that the (Cardiff) government's draft budget does not contain any strategy for the next three years to help young Welsh people buy houses in their own communities. Cymdeithas said that their campaign would continue up to the publication of the final version of the budget in order to draw attention to the seriousness of the housing crisis facing Welsh-speaking communities.

Since the last election Cymdeithas have called on the Assembly to take two simple steps, which are within its present powers, to alleviate the housing crisis:-

1. increase the money allocated for the Aid to Buy scheme to at least £5 million a year, with a program of increasing the funding to a level that will make a real difference to families who can afford to buy houses.
2. Set up a 'Right to Rent' fund, recognising that house prices have risen so much in many Welsh-speaking communities that it is impossible for many young Welsh people to buy a house even with help.

A Cymdeithas spokesman said "The proposals for housing in the draft budget do not contain any provisions for a substantial increase in funding the Aid to Buy scheme and there is no mention of a Right to Rent fund. indeed, it's worth noting that the finance for the social housing grant is lower than it was in the days of the Welsh Office, and that despite the enormous growth in house prices over recent years. As a result, Cymdeithas will continue to take action in order to stress the need for additional money."

R ap T

ANTI-WELSH RADIO CHANNEL IS WARNED

Radio Carmarthenshire on 'Yellow card'

The complaints by Cymdeithas yr Iaith and other language activists about a new local radio station's hostility to Welsh culture have been endorsed by the government quango Ofcom. Radio Carmarthenshire was given a licence to broadcast in Carmarthenshire, a county where 50% of the population still speak Welsh despite recent immigration, and which has the highest absolute number of Welsh-speakers in Wales. The licence stipulated a minimum number of hours to be broadcast in Welsh. Since they started broadcasting in June 2004 they have been criticised for their lack of Welsh language material and Welsh culture generally. Their nightly Welsh language programme broadcast from 7 to 9 every evening only plays English music with Welsh used to introduce each record. The only other Welsh heard on the station comprises bilingual trailers, twenty seconds of daily news bulletin and a patronising 'Welsh Word of the Day'. Cymdeithas are also unhappy that there are no live Welsh language programmes and therefore there is no opportunity for Welsh speakers to take part in programmes

Cymdeithas have campaigned against the station using pickets and occupation of the studio.

The response to the campaign from the radio station has been unequivocal, with MD Keri Jones saying:

"It may be that 50% of the people of Carmarthenshire speak Welsh, but 100%

speak English"

* "We do not play Welsh music and we never will"

* "We will not support local bands unless they have an agreement with Sony or a similar company and have reached the British charts".

Jones even threatened to shorten the evening 'Welsh' program if Cymdeithas continued complaining.

A rally was held by Cymdeithas and local language group Menter Taf Myrddin on October 23rd outside the studio in Narberth, Pembrokeshire, which was addressed by Adam Price, Plaid MP for Carmarthen East & Dinefwr, and the bard Mererid Hopwood. It was followed by performances from two local bands, Mattoidz and Garej Dolwen - the type of music Radio Carmarthenshire ignores. Before the rally Catrin Howells of Menter Taf Myrddin said:

"While an alien broadcast will be going on inside the building, the alternative station will be heard from outside the building. The county's wealth of culture and talents, ignored now by Radio Carmarthenshire, will be heard in the language of over half the population of this county."

Speaking about the rally Radio Carmarthenshire's MD said "There is nothing for me to say that I haven't said before."

Following the rally Ofcom, the government regulator for the communications industries, with responsibilities across television, radio,

telecommunications and wireless communications services, announced the results of an investigation they held following Cymdeithas's complaints. Ofcom's director in Wales said "Our monitoring suggested that the amount of Welsh broadcast by the station per day is less than that agreed. However, we are more concerned about the total absence of Welsh music ... It appears to be breaking the agreement clearly. Ofcom have the power to place statutory sanctions on licence holders including fines and shortening or revoking their licence to broadcast. We are today giving the station a yellow card and asking that they address these problems quickly and effectively".

In response to this Hedd Gwynfor of Cymdeithas yr Iaith said "Radio Carmarthenshire and their Chief Executive Keri Jones have shown total contempt for the Welsh language by not even broadcasting enough to meet the requirements of their license. Cymdeithas are calling for their licence to be revoked altogether and given to those with a real interest in reflecting and supporting the communities and culture of Carmarthenshire." He said that it was not a matter of the number of hours broadcast but of dealing with arrogance and prejudice towards the Welsh language and culture, and it is not a yellow card but only a red card that can deal with this.

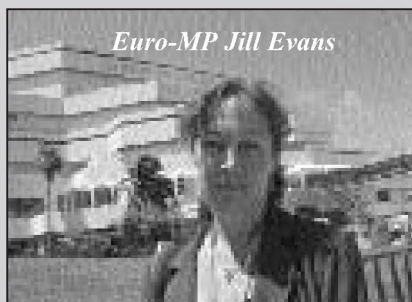
Robot ap Tomos

Evidence before admission, says Welsh MEP:

Ahead of the report on Turkish EU membership, Plaid Cymru Euro-MP Jill Evans expressed dismay at reports that the European Commission was set to open the door for Turkey without first demanding hard evidence of progress on the country's human rights record, and in particular its treatment of the Kurdish people.

She explained that whilst Plaid Cymru and the European Free Alliance take the view that eventual Turkish membership of the EU would be good for Turkey and for Europe, there must be strict conditions attached, particularly in relation to human rights and the Turkish regime's treatment of the Kurdish minority:

"This is the reason for our dismay about the possibility of the Commission opening the door for Turkish membership with this report. Though our Group welcomes, up to a point, reports of a mechanism for slowing up or even halting the negotiations if Turkey fails to make progress on human rights, this falls well short of what we would have hoped for." Jill Evans, Deputy Leader of Plaid Cymru, continued:



Euro-MP Jill Evans

"Throughout this process we've voiced our concerns that not enough progress is being made in improving the human rights situation in Turkey, in particular the treatment of the Kurdish people.

"It remains the case that the linguistic, political and cultural rights of the Kurdish people do not get the recognition they deserve from the Turkish regime. Indeed it's reported that around 40% of the Kurdish population in Turkey cannot read or write - the legacy of an education system that doesn't recognise the Kurdish language. Can we really start accession negotiations against this backdrop?"



Impeach Blair Campaign



Plaid MP Adam Price, shown here, is leading a campaign for the impeachment of Blair. Plaid members believe that an apology is no longer acceptable. Tony Blair must face the full consequences of his actions and his failure to resign has led to a call for impeachment.

Iraq Survey Group report reinforces case for Blair's impeachment

Plaid Cymru's parliamentary leader, Elfyn Llwyd MP, has restated the case for the Prime Minister's impeachment following news that the Iraq Survey Group has concluded that Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction. He said:



Elfyn Llwyd MP

"The Iraq Survey Group confirm what many of us have believed for a very long time, that is, Saddam Hussein didn't have weapons of mass destruction. This was the main reason Tony Blair gave to Parliament and the public for invading Iraq, even though the evidence he had at the time was, as Lord Butler stated, thin. Had Tony Blair and George Bush allowed Hans Blix and his team of UN weapons inspectors to continue their work, thousands of innocent civilians in Iraq would not have been killed and Iraq would not be experiencing the bloodshed and chaos which we witness daily on our television screens.

"When ordinary people in ordinary jobs are found to have made serious mistakes, and even worse, when they are found to have misled or lied, they are forced to face the consequences. Tony Blair believes he is above this kind of accountability. It is now up to Parliament to show that he can no longer get away with such misconduct and impeachment is the only way to achieve this."

Howard vindicates case to impeach Blair:

Plaid Cymru's parliamentary leader, Elfyn Llwyd MP welcomed news that Michael Howard, the leader of the English Conservative party who generally supports the Bush/Blair war, has accused Tony Blair of lying in order to take Britain to war in Iraq. According to Mr Llwyd, this vindicates the case made by a number of MPs that the Prime Minister should face impeachment

proceedings for his misconduct in relation to the Iraq war.

Speaking from his constituency today, Elfyn Llwyd MP said:

"No longer can the Prime Minister hide behind claims that he acted in good faith when new evidence keeps coming to light which contradicts this. Michael Howard has seen through Tony Blair's lies and the public will do the same at the General Election.

"As more and more people have the opportunity to read our report, A Case to Answer, more people will understand the extent to which this Prime Minister lied, misled, exaggerated and deceived both Parliament and the public.

"A half hearted apology simply won't do. Tony Blair must face the full consequences of his actions and in light of his failure to resign, impeachment is the only way that this can happen."

Plaid MP Adam Price is leading a campaign for the impeachment of Blair.

Labour boycott Richard Commission debate:

Ieuan Wyn Jones AC expressed his disappointment that only 16 of the 30 Labour members of the National Assembly turned up to discuss the Richard Commission proposals. The Plaid Cymru AC said:

"It is typical of Labour members that they are not prepared to listen to debate on the future of our nation. They wish to live somewhere in the 1950s where there is no opposition to their policies. New Labour Assembly Members are not prepared to defend Rhodri Morgan's fudge. Rhodri Morgan cut a lonely figure on the cabinet benches. Plaid Cymru are ready to debate the issues so we can deliver the quality public services that the people of Wales deserve."

Another Labour fudge:

Leader of the Opposition Ieuan Wyn Jones AM speaking ahead of the debate in the National Assembly blasted Labour's fudge over the Richard Commission recommendations. The Plaid Cymru AC for Ynys Môn said:

"The Richard Commission's proposals set out a practical timetable to ensure that Wales gets a law-making Parliament by 2011. We had hoped, as he originally promised that the First Minister would lead the debate on the issue.

However, what we have is a fudge; Rhodri Morgan has abandoned his support for a Parliament in the face of opposition by self-serving Welsh Labour MPs in London.

So instead of Rhodri Morgan walking the length and breadth of Wales leading the debate on extra powers, he cobbles up some half baked scheme which he calls 13.2 plus. This is a classic Labour fudge. We will be calling on the Assembly to back the Richard recommendations in full."

Llangollen disappointment but MEP urges further nomination

Plaid Cymru Deputy Leader and Foreign Affairs Spokesperson Jill Evans MEP has expressed her disappointment that the Llangollen International Eisteddfod has missed out on this year's Nobel Peace Prize. Now the Euro MP is calling for the festival to be nominated again next year, with the widest possible backing from Welsh civil society.

But Jill Evans congratulated this year's winner, Kenyan environmentalist and human rights campaigner Wangari Maathai who is the first African woman to be awarded the prize.

Jill Evans MEP said:

"Like many people in Wales I'm disappointed that Llangollen hasn't won this prestigious prize. The festival has done so much to promote reconciliation and mutual understanding between peoples. The way in which it brings together diverse cultures in a spirit of peace and understanding is an inspiration. The whole of Wales is tremendously proud of the Llangollen Eisteddfod and the wonderful work that it does. I'm sure that we're all grateful to Terry Waite, himself a great symbol of hope in the face of adversity, for nominating the Eisteddfod for the prize.

"I do hope that this won't be the end of the story. Let's hope that this provides the impetus for Welsh civil society to pull together and campaign for the Llangollen Eisteddfod to be nominated again next year. I am sure it would help to demonstrate the widest possible base of support - and Llangollen has certainly made friends all over the world."

Commenting on the Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Jill Evans MEP added:

"Wangari Maathai is a long standing environmental campaigner and it's heartening to see this recognition of the importance of the environment in terms of promoting peace in the world. Mrs Maathai is the first African woman to win this award and only the twelfth woman, she is a symbol of hope for many African women and is a fine example of the work women do to raise awareness of environmental problems in developing countries. I'm sure that we could learn a great deal from her example - perhaps she could be invited to speak at next year's Llangollen International Eisteddfod."



Éire



tochailt beartaíthe le haghaidh shuíomh chiaráin naofa

Tá carthanas sa Chorn ag obair go dian chun tionscadal a chur le chéile d'fhonn tochailt a dhéanamh faoi fhothracha Theampall Chiaráin Naofa (Piran sa Chornais) an bhliain seo chugainn. Teampall meánaoiseach atá i gceist. De réir an bhéaloidis sa Chorn, tháinig Ciarán Naofa as Éirinn i mbád cloiche (cloch mhíle a ceanglaíodh air nuair a caitheadh le haill é) agus tháinig i dtír san áit atá ainmnithe air ó shin – Perranporth (Port Chiaráin). Gach bliain, déantar teacht an naoimh a cheiliúradh ar an 5 Márta. Dar ndóigh, is é Cros Chiaráin bratach náisiúnta na gCornach.

Cuireadh tús leis an tionscadal mar *Thionscadal Chiaráin Naofa* sa bhliain 2000 ach tá an bhuíon atá páirteach ann tar éis stádas carthanais a bhaint amach anois mar *Iontaobhas Chiaráin Naofa*. Is é cuspóir na buíne ná na hiarsmaí seandálaíochta a bhaineann le Ciarán Naofa i bPerranzabuloe (An Paróiste – “Ciarán sa Ghaineamh”) i gceantar Perranporth, an séipéal paróiste a tógadh ina dhiaidh sin san áireamh, a chaomhnú agus a fhorghaisiú.

Tá dhá mhórshuíomh reiligiúnda sna dumhcha ó thuaidh ó Perranporth: Aireagal Chiaráin Naofa ó luath-thréimhse na meánaoiseanna agus Teampall Chiaráin Naofa a tógadh ina dhiaidh sin. Is séadchomharthaí sceidealta iad an dá shuíomh agus tá cosaint dlí acu.

- Cill a tógadh go luath i ré na Críostaíochta is ea Aireagal Chiaráin Naofa ar tháinig clú uirthi san 19ú haois mar an foirgneamh Críostaíochta ba shine sa Bhreatain. Tá ardstádas aige toisc an bhaint atá aige le Ciarán Naofa, naomh náisiúnta an Choirn. De dheasca fadhbanna leanúnacha le loitiméireacht agus tuille, cuireadh faoi ghaineamh arís í sa bhliain 1980 agus anois tá dumhach shaintógtha os a cionn.
- Tógadh Teampall Chiaráin Naofa timpeall na bliana 1150, tar éis don phobal éirí as Aireagal Chiaráin Naofa a úsáid, agus tá seans gur ar shuíomh réamhstaire a tógadh é.

Tochailt faoin Teampall

Tháinig an teampall slán, Cros Cheilteach in aice leis agus dumhcha Thrá Penhale timpeall air. Cruinníonn na mílte timpeall ar an gCros agus ar an Teampall gach bliain mar chuid de cheiliúradh Lá Chiaráin Naofa.



One of three Celtic crosses of its type in Cornwall, this cross stands next to the sand covered church of St Piran.

Níor tugadh mórán aird ar an suíomh féin le fada. Tá codanna d'fhallaí an Teampaill le feiceáil cé go bhfuil an taobh istigh fós lán de smionagar agus de ghaineamh na farraige. Teastaíonn ó Iontaobhas Chiaráin Naofa tionscadal pobail a eagrú chun an smionagar a bhaint as an Teampall agus cabhrú cuid den chuma a bhí air a fháil ar ais.

I dteannta radharc níos fearr ar an Teampall a chur ar fáil, beidh obair chaomhnóireachta ar siúl ar na fallaí atá fágtha agus ar ghnéithe eile a nochtadh. Chomh maith leis sin, eagrófar taispeántas áitiúil de na nithe a aimseofar ar an suíomh tar éis na tochailte, cuirfear leis na háiseanna léirmhíniúcháin sa cheantar agus déanfar plean bainistíochta seandálaíochta le

haghaidh an cheantair a cheapadh. Beidh Seirbhís Timpeallachta Stairiúla Chomhairle Contae an Choirn ag tabhairt lámh chúnta don Iontaobhas san obair seo go léir.

Arsa Eileen Carter, urlabhraí de chuid an Iontaobhais:

“Cuid thábhachtach de thairpéis stairiúil Chiaráin Naofa, Perranporth agus an Choirn is ea Teampall Chiaráin. Is dóigh linne go gcuideoidh an tochailt faoin Teampall chun a bhfuil fágtha a thabhairt chun beatha athuair, rud a chuirfidh ar chumas daoine tuiscint a fháil ar an stair iomlán a bhain leis.

Ina theannta sin, tabharfaidh an tochailt an deis do mhuintir na háite páirt a ghlacadh san obair chun a dteampall a aisghabháil as an gaineamh.”

Suirbhéireacht Gheofisiciúil

Cuireadh suirbhéireacht gheofisiciúil ar bun, Márta 2004, chun léargas a fháil ar na hiarsmaí atá fágtha faoin talamh timpeall ar Theampall Chiaráin Naofa. Chuir “Oidhreacht Shasana” an maoiniú ar fáil ar iarratas ó Sheirbhís Timpeallachta Stairiúla Chomhairle Contae an Choirn, agus gnólacht as Devon, Substrata Ltd., is ea a dhein an tsuirbhéireacht féin.

I dteannta taifeadadh a dhéanamh ar an mbábhún, deineadh taifeadadh ar fhianaise thábhachtach faoi sheanBhaile an Teampaill. San áireamh ansin, bhí roinnt páirceanna beaga siar ón mbábhún agus fianaise ar rian an chéachta agus ar shaothrú talún a bheith ar siúl. Thángthas, ina theannta sin, ar thrí cinn d'aimhrialtachtaí maignéadacha a d'fhéadfadh a bheith bainteach le hurtheach na reilige, tigín nó foirgneamh dá leithéid.

Dar le Dick Cole as Comhairle Contae an Choirn go bhfuil torthaí na suirbhéireachta go hiontach. Ar seisean:

“Leis an suirbhéireacht seo, táthar tar éis líon mór gnéithe seandálaíochta a aithint timpeall ar Theampall Chiaráin Naofa, gnéithe ar léir baint a bheith acu le lonnaithe stairiúil Bhaile an Teampaill, lonnaithe atá anois faoin talamh. Abhar sceitimíní is ea eolas a fháil faoi mhéid agus cineál na n-iarsmaí seo, nithe atá anois faoi ghaineamh a séideadh anuas orthu leis na céadta bliain.

Beidh torthaí na suirbhéireachta an-úsáideach maidir le cabhrú oibreacha timpeall ar Theampall Chiaráin Naofa amach anseo a bheartú.”

Tuilleadh faisnéise: Dick Cole (Comhairle Contae an Choirn) 00441872 322056 / ricole@cornwall.gov.uk

Summary

This article describes the work being undertaken to restore St Piran's church, now covered under sand dunes near Perranporth in Cornwall.

Vivian Uíbh Eachach.

Irish Language News

● Irish Government moves on Stádas

The Irish Government finally put the formal case (through Ireland's permanent representative to the EU, Ms Anne Anderson), at a meeting of EU Ambassadors at the end of November, to have Irish made an official and working language of the EU. They were told that the Irish Government wanted to end the anomaly whereby Irish is the only 'treaty language' which is not also an official and working language. Their proposal would grant that status to Irish but would not require translation of all legislative proposals into Irish. There would be a transitional period of four years where only legislation adopted jointly by the Council of Ministers and the Parliament would be translated into Irish. After four years a review would consider if other documents, such as regulations, directives and decisions adopted by the Council and judgements of the European Court, should also be translated. The proposal was stated to have received a 'cautiously positive response', with Spain said to want any change in the EU's language regime linked to improvement in the status of Catalan and Basque.

● Housing Developments Threaten Gaeltachtaí

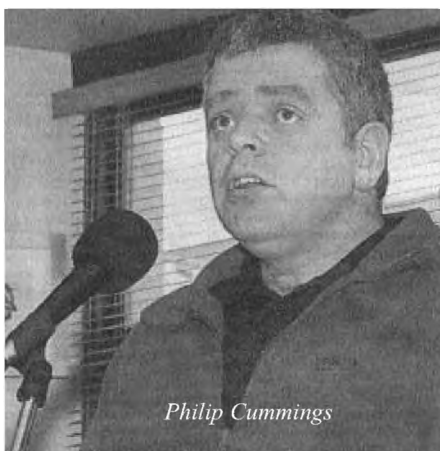
The issues of the detrimental effect of housing estates on the language in Gaeltacht areas which were discussed at the Celtic League seminar in An Spidéal over a year ago came to the fore again in recent months in relation to housing developments near An Spidéal and also in the Kerry Gaeltacht. In the case of An Spidéal a 17 house development in the centre of the village was given planning permission and Galway County Council signed a legal agreement with the developer that 62% of the units must be sold to those with fluent Irish. The permission was appealed by a local community group who, rightly, felt that it should be 100%.

The objectors put forward evidence that language usage in a community could only be sustained if at least 70% of the community spoke it daily. The influence of outsiders in changing the language practice of the local GAA club already was quoted. The appeal was held in Nov. and a decision is expected at the end of January. Galway County Council themselves have plans for an affordable housing scheme in the heart of the Gaeltacht, for which as a council scheme of their own no planning is required, and they apparently have no intention of having any language condition applicable

to purchasers! In Kerry no language condition was appended for a housing estate in the middle of the Gaeltacht in a complete abrogation of their responsibilities by the County Council. The decision has been appealed by language activist Donncha Ó hEallaithe from Conamara – what were local community groups doing or do they care? In Cork the Council attitude is the same. The situation obviously calls for a radical review and the transfer of planning powers for Gaeltacht areas from the County Councils to bodies charged with responsibility for the language. A demand made 30 years ago by the then Gaeltacht Civil Rights movement. Ironically however bodies one would have expected to be proactive on these issues e.g. Údarás na Gaeltachta, have ignored them!

● LÁ cutbacks

Irish language daily LÁ has had to cut back publication from 5 days a week to four and let one staff member go (with another likely to follow) after expected grants from the Intereg fund and Foras na Gaeilge were blocked. LÁ ran a vigorous campaign to prevent this after Lord Laird of the Ulster Scots Agency said Ulster Scots funding should not be restricted at the expense of funding for Irish. He apparently clarified that this was not directed specifically at LÁ however the result was the same. This action has wide ranging implications for funding for all Irish organisations. Sign LÁ petition at address below, 1330 signatures already listed
www.PetitionsOnline.com/32130966/petition/html.



Philip Cummings

LÁ started in 1984 and had only a few weeks previously celebrated the launch of a book "Ár Nuachtán Laethúil", a collection of articles published in the newspaper, edited by its arts editor Philip Cummings.

Irish Poets' Visit

The Irish poets who visited Alba in late Autumn 2004 on the long running inter Celtic exchange (started in 1970) were Daithí Ó hÓgáin and Dolores Stewart and they were accompanied by Colm Dubh Ó Méalóid, a brilliant box player, from the Rath Carn Gaeltacht and Seán Garvey a great sean nós singer from Kerry. Their first port of call was Sabhal Mór Ostaig on Skye where a great poetry court and session was held, with a student (from England) at the College, Charles Quinnell, reading his Gaelic poetry also. Other venues were the north of Lewis, North Uist and then Glasgow. Another very successful series of events in the exchange which has done so much to cement relations between the Gaels of Alba and Éire.

Republicans Reject 'Sackcloth and Ashes'

After months of negotiations between the British and Irish governments and (separately) Sinn Féin and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) of Ian Paisley it had been reported that a deal involving decommissioning and the restoration of the Local Northern Assembly was close. Republicans were stated to have been prepared to decommission all remaining weapons, disband the IRA and engage on policing. The Local Assembly was to be reconstituted with guarantees as to its continuance. Then the Rev. Ian Paisley stated in his heartland of Ballymena that not only should the IRA decommission but they must be seen to wear 'sackcloth and ashes' and the DUP demanded photographic evidence, a call which Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams characterised as a demand for public humiliation. The two governments supported this (despite having been told a month previously by Gerry Adams that the IRA would not tolerate it) but admitted events were stalemated again and stated they would publish details of what had actually been agreed.

While the DUP had, it seems, committed to sharing power with Sinn Féin the final outcome certainly raises questions about whether this was genuine and that their tactics in fact were to demand what even they knew was not acceptable. The attitude of the two governments in supporting his demand was termed totally naïve by one political commentator. On local administrations which they control the DUP has adamantly refused to share power with nationalists. Undoubtedly Paisley would love to be the North's First Minister but he certainly does not want Martin McGuinness of Sinn Féin as Deputy First Minister. He is now calling for the Northern Assembly to be reconstituted with Sinn Féin excluded (which is unlikely to happen) but either way he and the DUP stand to gain from this with Unionism in the forthcoming Westminster elections.

JOHN REDMOND'S FOLLY

In an address given by former Taoiseach John Bruton, to a conference held by the 'Reform Movement', last September, He questioned the need for the 1916 Rising, and suggested that Irish independence could have been achieved without a shot being fired. This erroneous view is, unfortunately, shared by many, especially those of the 'revisionist' school. What is not widely known is that on the eve of the Great War, John Redmond, the Irish Party leader agreed to Partition, limiting Home Rule to a 26 county Southern Ireland. This was John Redmond's Folly!

After the disaster of the Parnell split, Redmond had re-united the Irish Party. In the 1911 election, they held the balance of power at Westminster. Redmond's price for supporting Herbert Asquith's Liberals to form a government was a new Irish Home Rule Bill, which would be put before parliament in 1912. Edward Carson's Unionists and their Tory allies were appalled. Even allowing for the possibility of a small number of Liberal defectors, the

numbers just wouldn't add up. Once the Bill passed its final reading, it would become law. With the formation of an Ulster Volunteer Force, extra parliamentary methods came to the fore.

On April 25th 1914 a massive arms importation took place at Larne. Faced with an armed insurrection, should Home Rule be enforced on Ulster, Prime Minister Asquith's nerve failed. He met with Tory leader, Bonar Law, who suggested excluding at least four of the six North Eastern counties, unless a majority there voted to accept Home Rule. John Redmond reiterated his view that Irish nationalists could never assent to the mutilation of the Irish nation. In early February, Asquith had given Redmond a number of reassurances that both he and his Cabinet were opposed to even the temporary exclusion of any part of Ulster. Now, faced with an armed Unionist militia contemplating a coup d'état, Asquith came up with a new proposal; any Irish county where a majority of its voters so decided, could opt out of Home Rule for

a six year period. After six years, unless Westminster had made a new provision, these counties would then automatically come under Home Rule.



John Redmond

Gaelscoileanna Progress – new attitude from a new Minister?



Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin, reviewing the Irish language software package 'An Cat Dubh' with pupils from Gaelscoil Osraí in Kilkenny following her launch of it after her address to the Gaelscoileanna Education and Annual Conference.

The new Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin, was a guest speaker at this year's very successful Education and Annual Conference of Gaelscoileanna in Kilkenny in November. She at least, while showing the influence of the Department of Education mandarins in some parts of her speech, did, unlike her predecessor Noel Dempsey, indicate a willingness to accept a delegation from the organisation to discuss a range of issues affecting the position of many Gaelscoileanna and the broad range of difficulties facing Irish Medium Education. A series of very informative

workshops were held over the weekend ranging from curriculum oriented ones to those directed at planning second level schools (see also p.3). Amongst matters of concern shown in the reports of the executive and in motions discussed were the attitude of the Department to immersion education in the infant years in particular, the pressing need for development of second level schools and rejection of the policy evidenced by the Dept. earlier in the year with their refusal to sanction two new primary schools in Mullingar and Dublin. (See Carn 126).

After consulting with Ulster nationalist Joe Devlin, who had most to lose, given his position as an Ulster MP, Redmond suggested a temporary arrangement to allow Antrim, Armagh, Derry and Down to remain outside the Home Rule area for three years. Redmond then presented this watered-down opt out clause to Asquith. After more long hours of fruitless negotiations, Redmond finally agreed to the four-county, six-year opt out clause, but only as his very last concession. What John Redmond didn't know was that neither the Tories nor Edward Carson knew anything about these new proposals. When the new offer was put to Carson some days later, he rejected it contemptuously, stating,

"We do not want a sentence of death with a stay of execution for either three or six years"

As the Home Rule Bill got its second reading in the House of Commons, Carson took his members out of the House and returned to Belfast. The rumour was he was going there to stage a Unionist coup. The Liberal government watched and waited as Carson's now well-armed Ulster Volunteer Force prepared to flex its muscles. While the Irish Volunteers were organising their own small-scale arms importation at Howth, King George V invited all parties to a conference at Buckingham Palace in an attempt to find a way past the deadlock. The conference which took place from the 21st to 24th of July was amicable enough,

though it kept breaking down over the area of North East Ulster to be excluded from Home Rule. The even more contentious length of time for exclusion was never even discussed! As the conference broke up word filtered through about the arms shipment at Howth. But no sooner had that news reached London than it was followed by the horrific account of the Bachelor's Walk incident, when members of a detachment of the Kings Own Scots Borderers, fired on a Dublin crowd, leaving 4 dead and 38 injured. Dreams of a peaceful transition to Home Rule lay amidst the dead and wounded on Bachelor's Walk.

As the Great European Powers drifted towards war, Bonar Law through intermediaries, indicated to Redmond, a possible Home Rule plan which a number of prominent Tories believed Carson just might find acceptable. Under these terms, a geographical area of the north-east of Ireland, which approximated to Antrim, Down, Derry, Tyrone, North & Mid-Armagh and North Fermanagh would be excluded from Home Rule. For this purpose, the Tories would introduce an amendment to the Bill, once it was presented to the Commons. On Thursday July 30th, as Asquith was preparing the speech he would give that afternoon in the Commons, he received a telephone call from Bonar Law, suggesting an emergency meeting with Carson at Law's house in Kensington. Law's chauffeur was already on his way to Asquith's home. At Law's house, the final hand was played upon an unsuspecting Herbert Asquith. To maintain unity on the eve of the coming war in Europe, it was proposed that any Home Rule amendments be postponed until a later date. The Home Rule Bill would be put before parliament as it stood, but a simultaneous Suspensory Act would prevent it becoming law until the War's end, when new amendments could then be introduced. Asquith's cabinet accepted this in principle, and Redmond wearily agreed to accept a future county opt-out clause, without any six-year time limit!

On September 18th 1914, the ill-fated Irish Home Rule Act was placed on the Statute book, but suspended for the duration of the Great War, a war so many thought would be over by Christmas. By Christmas 1915, Home Rule began to look very distant. The enthusiasm that greeted Redmond's apparent success had evaporated. Soon, younger, more energetic visionaries would replace John Redmond's outdated Irish Party. Strangely, the only part of the Home Rule Act that ever came into force was another legislative amendment, establishing a Home Rule parliament for Northern Ireland at Stormont!

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Mary Kelly, anti-war activist, sentenced.

The 52-year-old anti-war activist, Mary Kelly, has been given a two-year suspended jail sentence for causing criminal damage to a US military plane at Shannon Airport on January 29, 2003

The mother of four took an axe to a US navy plane causing €1.1 million worth of damage. Kelly, who freely admits taking an axe to the aircraft a few weeks before the US/UK invasion of Iraq—was forced to defend herself, without lawyers, in the trial. Back in June, she fell out with her lawyers over legal strategy just as the trial was set to begin.

Nonetheless, the Irish nurse conducted her defence meticulously, comprehensively establishing to the satisfaction of everyone except Judge Carroll Moran that she was entitled in law to try to show the jury that she has reasonable cause for her action based on the threat to the people of Iraq and her intention to prevent crimes there.

Judge Carroll Moran, who presided over Kelly's first, hung-jury trial last year, was determined to insist that "all evidence relating to the war in Iraq and the US use of Shannon Airport is irrelevant".

The jury heard next-to-nothing from an array of assembled witnesses. In his charge to the jury, Judge Moran said he had acted to prevent the case degenerating into a political debate. He said the defence of lawful excuse did not apply as there was no connection in space or time between the act carried out by Kelly and the person or property she was claiming to protect. Judge Moran appeared to know little shame. After two trials and a number of adjournments, Kelly finally faced sentencing on the 1st December last.

Counsel for Ms Kelly, Patrick Gageby, said his client's action at Shannon Airport brought no personal gain for her. He said it was an act of protest against what she believed was wrong. Ms Kelly has said she



caused the damage to save lives in Iraq and that her conscience was clear.

Judge Carroll Moran said Ms Kelly had committed more than civil disobedience. He said her action constituted criminal damage. The judge said society at large would expect him to prevent the sort of social anarchy which inevitably follows when people take the law into their own hands as Ms Kelly had done.

Judge Moran suspended the sentence for four years from today on condition that there is no repetition of criminal damage by Ms Kelly, and that she does not come within a one-mile radius of Shannon Airport.

Ms Kelly emerged from the court to cheers and applause from her supporters.

IRISH DEMOCRAT

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GWIASVA RAG BAGASOW BYGHAN EUROPEK.

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Yma baner dhe'n OME ynwedh. An baner a dhiskwa unyans yntra tus Europa ha liester poblow Europa. Baner an OME yw sevyas war vaneryow Konsel Europa ha'n Unyans Europek. An sterennow yn kylgh a dhiskwa an liester, an vri ha'n golowder gonisogethek an bagasow byghan.

Gwrys veu an wasva ma yn 1999 yn



Michel Bolloré-Pellé

Kemper (Breten Vyghan) gans **Michel Bolloré-Pellé**. Breton yw an den yowynk ma. Privedh yw an kowethas ma ha nyns yw kevrennys gans an Unyans Europek. Pur boesek yw lavur an OME ha'n wasva yw hembrenkys ha gwithys dhe dhydh pup-prys. Gwrys yw an lavur ma gans an gesskriforyon hag ordenys gans **Michel Bolloré-Pellé**. Gweresys yw **Michel Bolloré-Pellé** (Ordenor hag alhwedhor) gans **Darko GAVROVSKI** (skrifennyas), **Perdu**

PERRA (kynsa islywydh) ha **Johannes HOFMEISTER** (nessa islywydh). Ygerys yw an OME dhe bub bolonjedh da. Heb kost yw bos esel an OME. Ty a yll dos ha bos esel an OME ow pos kesskrifer. Rag bos kesskrifer res yw ri derivadow kewar ha heptu heb godrosow aghel. Pub kesskrifer a yll skrifa y erthygel yn yeth y dhewis. Nyns yw treyls an wasva ma dhe Gernewek hwath ha da via kavoes kesskrifer kerneweger parys dhe dreylya an wasva ha dhe ri derivadow yn-kever Kernow ha'n Kernewek !

Pella derivadow orth: **Eurominority**, Michel **BOLLORÉ-PELLÉ**, 86, kae Stêr an Oded, **29000 Kemper, Breizh / Bretagne** (Dre Bow Frynk) **Tél. +33 (0)2 98 52 96 46** www.eurominority.org

Summary:

www.eurominority.org is a website created in 1999 by a young Breton called Michel Bolloré-Pellé. The aims of the website are research, investigation and promotion of the minorities of Europe. Michel Bolloré-Pellé is helped in his task by Darko Gavrovski, Perdu Perra, Johannes Hofmeister and also by 90 correspondents all over Europe. Membership is free and this website is open to every good will. Everybody can become a correspondent. Articles written by the correspondents have to be objective, neutral and non-racists. Cornish correspondents are needed as the website has still not been translated into Cornish.

José CALVETE

Henry and Katharine Jenner

A Celebration of Cornwall's Culture, Language and Identity

Edited by Derek R. Williams



Henry and Katherine Jenner

A Celebrations of Cornwall's Culture, Language and Identity

ISBN 1 903427 19 3 Price £12.50

This collection of essays is published to mark the centenary of the publication of Henry Jenner's Handbook of the Cornish Language in 1904, a landmark in the revival of Cornwall's ancient tongue, and to celebrate the contribution to Cornwall's culture of Jenner and his wife, Kitty Lee. Having helped Cornwall gain acceptance as a Celtic nation by the Pan-Celtic Congress, the Jenners went on to found the Old Cornwall Societies and Henry was to become Cornwall's first Grand Bard. Kitty Lee was a talented painter, poet and novelist, whose work until now has received little recognition. The book includes essays by Henry Jenner and poems by Jenner and Kitty Lee, with contributions by, David Everett, Alan M. Kent, Donald Rawe, Tim Saunders, Brian Coombes and Derek R. Williams, who explore the Jenners' writings, their achievements and their Anglo-Catholic and Royalist beliefs.

This book is produced in association with Gorseth Kernow.

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THE CORNISH IN LATIN AMERICA

Some of you will be aware that I have written several articles in this magazine about Celtic culture and activities in South America over the past two years. Maybe some of you already know that I have a strong interest in Argentina and Uruguay with most of my relatives living beyond the seas and strong connections with the Irish community in Argentina. Today I would like to **recommend a fantastic website** related to the Cornish migration to Latin America: www.ex.ac.uk/cornishlatin/.

For several years Sharron Schwartz has been researching and writing about nineteenth and early twentieth century Cornish migration to South and Central America and the Spanish Caribbean. Her interest was stimulated after she had discovered that she had several Cornish ancestors who migrated there as Mine Agents in the late nineteenth century.

The theme of Cornish migration overseas has largely concentrated on migration to the English-speaking world. Except for A. C. Todd's book on Cornish miners in Mexico, there is no definitive work that might explain the migration of many thousands of Cornish, who like her ancestors, went to Latin America. Intrigued and challenged, she set about addressing this lack of research that culminated in the award of PhD in the summer of 2003 at the Institute of Cornish Studies, University of Exeter. Of course, the interest and significance of Cornish migration to Latin America lay not in numbers: far fewer people migrated there than to the USA, South Australia, England and Wales or South Africa, but in the fact that the mines of Latin America were among the first to attract significant Cornish labour outside the British Isles and continued to recruit Cornish labour right into the 1930s. Cornish migration to Latin America began in the 1820s after the collapse of Spanish and Portuguese powers in Latin America. The 1820s marked also the beginnings of significant British capital investment in Latin American mining and led to the migration of thousands of Cornishmen and their families. Many of the defining features of overseas Cornish migration during what has been dubbed the 'Great Migration' (c1815-1920) have their roots in Latin America. These include the system of home pay (remittances) that were to become so important to the Cornish economy in the late nineteenth century, the rise of transnational communities, and more importantly the emergence of the reputation of Cornish miners, also known as 'Cousin Jacks', as the world's finest hard rock miners. The Cornish who migrated to Latin America were mainly engaged in metalliferous mining. This occupational specificity resulted in clusters of Cornish immigrants close to mines in

many areas across Latin America. Yet little research has focused on this important part of Cornish history. Sharron has amassed a great deal of information during the course of her studies and decided to make this accessible to those people, who like her, have an interest in this subject. In order to disseminate this information she has created a wonderful website at the following address: www.ex.ac.uk/cornishlatin/

She hopes that this website will begin to address this lack of scholarship and that this site will also further the considerable work being undertaken on migration to Latin America from other parts of the British Isles. Her website contains an historical overview that seeks to answer several fundamental questions such as: who were the migrants, why and when did they leave Cornwall, where did they migrate from and where did they settle? Additionally, a balanced evaluation of the Cornish presence in Latin America is presented and the transnational aspect of life arising from migration which shaped the way people lived in communities on both sides of the Atlantic is not ignored. As she tells us: *'the data that I have presented here is merely the tip of the iceberg. But maybe you can help to augment this? Do you have information about your Cornish ancestors' migration there that you would be willing to submit, or any letters, diaries, photographs of people, places mines or headstones that you would be willing to share? I am currently engaged in negotiations with a university press to publish my thesis into a book, so any additional information and data would be most useful.'*

Sharron wants and hopes that this website will stimulate further interest in the historic transnational Cornish connections with many parts of Latin America. I hope that in the future we will see Cornish-Brazilian, Chilean, and Mexican associations similar to those in other parts of the Cornish world and maybe even Cornish towns twinned with their counterparts in South and Central America and the Caribbean. It is time that the Cornish in Latin America are recognised as a vital part of the Cornish diaspora.

Enquiries and general comments about this website can be directed to: S.Schwartz@ex.ac.uk

Sharron P. Schwartz completed her BA (Hons) degree in European History at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London. Sharron has worked for several years as a history tutor for the Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Exeter, and launched the Cornish Global Migration Programme under the aegis of the Institute of Cornish Studies at

Murdoch House in 1999 and was the documentary researcher for the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site Bid, Historic Environment Section, Cornwall County Council. She has recently completed a doctorate in Cornish Studies at the University of Exeter entitled 'Cornish Migration to Latin America: A Global and Transnational Perspective'. She is currently research assistant to the Cornish Communities Programme at the Institute of Cornish Studies.

Sharron is the author of prize-winning *Lanner: A Cornish Mining Parish* (1998), and has published numerous articles on Cornish migration, mining and gender.



Headstone carved 'In Love Memory' to Cornish-Mexican Salvador Skewes Mendoza at the Panteón de los Ingleses Real del Monte. He was born in 1910 and died in 1984. This rustically hewn stone is touchingly inscribed with the things that were dear to the heart of the deceased, including typically Cornish things like music and mining. A good example of how the Cornish mixed with the native population!

I would like to thank Sharron for allowing me to use some material from her excellent website for this article. Meur ras dhis Sharron...

José CALVETE



Mannin



Yn Impiroilaghys Reeshtagh

Lurg y Nah Chaggey Mooar, shimmei peiagh va smooinghyn dy row eash noa vaynrey cheet rish. Va ny Natseyn currit mow, va ny h-Ashoonyn Unnaneyssit currit er bun, as feiy ny cruinney va sleih streeu son seyrnsys as cairys. Ayns cheeraghyn Oarpagh dy liooar, v'eh coontit dy ve yn red kiart dy chroo shirveishyn-slaynt as shirveishyn-ynsee son dy chooilley pheiaigh, boght ny berchagh. Ec y traa cheddin, va ny shenn impiraghtyn Oarpagh goll sheese y liargagh dy tappee. Ny veggan as ny veggan, va ny meeryn slaait jiarg ec Sostnee niartal er caslys-cheerey yn teihll geddyn sorch dy heyrnsys. Va'n red cheddin taghyrt bentyn rish ny h-impiraghtyn Frangagh as Belgagh as impiraghtyn elley. Ga dy daik y Caggey Feayr rish as va sleih goaill aggle roish caggey cheshveanagh, hannee meeryn mooarey dy yerkallys.

Tra huitt yn Unnaney Soveidjagh veih cheilley, va tooilley jerkallys ayn. Dy firrinagh, she yn Impiraght Rooshagh huitt veih my cheilley. Lhig ny Soveidjee er dy row ooilley yn poble syn Unnaney oc corrym, agh, ginsh yn irriney, va laue yn eaghtyr ec ny Rooshee.

Agh cha row yn jerkallys shen cooilleenit. Vrish cagaghyn magh ayns cheeraghyn dy liooar, yn Yugoslaavey ny mast'oc. Fo'n ennym foalsey jeh Cējeianaghey¹ (Cēmodernising¹), ta pooaraghyn lajer er vooadaghey yn vaarney eddyr sleih boght as lught yn argid. Ta'n Cēdellal seyr¹ stroie ny beaghyn jeh sleih feiy ny cruinney.

Gyn ourys, shione dhyt ooilley yn stoo shoh hannah. Agh, myr Celtiee, erskyn ooilley, shegin dooin cur geill da'n impiroilaghys noa. Neayr's lhing ny Romanee ny shlee na daa veilley blein er dy henney, ta ny Celtiee er hurranse kyndagh rish yn impiroilaghys. Shoh yn polasee ta dellal rish sleih as cheeraghyn ta currit fo chosh myr greieyn-obbyr ta currit er y teihll cour cosney argid son ny mainshtyryn oc. Foastagh, ta ny h-aghtyn-smooinghyn ec ymmodee Celtiee soilshaghey dy vel yn impiroilaghys jannoo orroo ec y traa t'ayn.

Va kuse jin bolvaneagh dy liooar dy chredjal ny skeealyn dy row yn impiroilaghys goll ersooyl son dy braght lurg y Nah Chaggey Mooar. Cha row shen kiart - t'eh cheet erash dy lajer nishtagh, goll er

leeideil ec deiney goll rish George W. Bush as Putin sy Roosh.

Neayr's hoie ny h-Arabee shen er America lesh etlany, ta leshtal cooie er ve ec Bush as Putin as fir-toshee elley dy lhiggey er dy vel sheshaght agglagh dy h-ymaggleyderyn gobbraghey ry cheilley feiy ny cruinney, dy jeean as dy fondagh. As ny jean jarrood y dooinney treih shen, Tony Blair. Agh hoar yn FBI as yn CIA nagh vel lheid y cheshaght agglagh shen ayn. Son shickyrys, ta possany dy gheiney debejagh ayn ayns ymmodee cheeraghyn ta arryltagh dy varroo sleih elley as jannoo reddyn scammyltagh elley. Agh t'eh er ve myr shen rish ram bleeantyn.

Ta reiltyssyn ennagh goaill ymyd jeh skeealyn ard-yindyssagh mychione Al Qa'ida (Yn Undinys) dy cheau ersooyl cairyn sleih. Cooinee er yn chennaghys. Shimmei leigh hranlaasagh va bree currit jee ec fir-toshee Hostyn harrish ny bleeantyn kyndagh rish yn eab dy chur Nerin fo chosh. Ta ny leighyn shoh er chur stiagh er sleih cadjin ayns Sostyn, Bretyn, Nalbin, Mannin as y Chorn chammah as orroosyn ayns Nerin hene. As nish, kyndagh rish CēY Caggey noi'n Atchim¹ t'ad croo leighyn smessey foast ayns America, Sostyn as cheeraghyn elley. As ta Putin er naavioghey yn impiroilaghys Rooshagh liorish y chaggey scammyltagh ayns Chechnya.

Agh ta'n sampleyr share jeh'n impiroilaghys noa ry gheddyn syn Earack nish. Rish ymmodee bleeantyn, ta Rumsfeld as e charjyn er naarlaghey dy hoie er y cheer shen. Nish t'eh jeant oc - as cre'n brock fuilltagh t'ayn. Jarrood y blaatar mychione Wappiny Cour Ard-Chragh. As jarrood y boghtynid mychione seyrey poble - t'eh jeeaghyn nagh row ad laccal agh geddyn greim er yn ooill, s'cummei vel meeillaghyn dy leih oney marrooit.

Ayns Sostyn, ta'n impiroilaghys noa ny akin ayns ny clareyn Cēshennaghys¹ ta goll er creeley er y chellveeish. Jeeagh er y strane dy chlaareyn jeant ec y fer shen David Starkey son Ammyr Kiare. Ta Starkey er ngoll erash dys ny shenn laghyn as eshyn livrey goo Yee mychione cre cho yindyssagh as va reaghyn as mraane-rein Hostyn. Choud's ta fys aym, cha row ny Celtee imraait echey agh un cheayrt - myr poble neu-feu va scughit ersooyl ec Anglo-

Hostnee va jeeaghyn da'n teihll yn agh dy chroo ashoon veagh reill harrish y chruinney. Ta Starkey gra dy vel Crooin Hostyn er nyannoo reddyn mooarey son Cēyn ashoon¹. Shione dou cre'n ashoon t'eh loayrt mychione. Ny sodjey, ta Starkey corree Cēdy vel shin er chur sthap er ynsaghey shennaghys as cultoor yn ashoon ain dy kiart¹. Gyn ourys, t'eh smooinghyn dy bare dooin jarrood y theay ayns shennaghys. Share y lught-recoil my t'ou cur yn impiroilaghys er e hoshiaght. Ta Starkey ny charrey mooar da'n Phrinse Chalse, ren gra CēTa shin er choayl yn agh dy hoiggal yn eiraght ashoonagh ain. T'eh ooilley kyndagh rish ny bleeantyn tree feed.¹ Cre'n jeeyl va jeant ec ny bleeantyn shen. As ta shin toiggal c'ired ta'n prinse oasle cheet er tra t'eh loayrt mychione Cēyn eiraght ashoonagh ain¹ as Cēshin¹. Shione dhyt dy vel reddyn beggan ersooyl cam tra ta Starkey gra CēShe yn rheam recoil yn agh dooghysagh dy reill. Gagh sorch elley dy reilty, she red aggaragh t'ayn¹.

Fer -shennaghys elley, shen dooinney enmyssit Ferguson. Ta eshyn lane shickyry dy row (as dy vel) impiraghtyn foaysagh. Vel shen yn oyr hoar eh obbyr yindyssagh myr olloo niartal ayns ollooscoill Americaanagh myr Yale ny Harvard? Son shickyrys, ta ny Cēneocons¹ Americaanagh goll rish Rumsfeld slane ayns foayr jeh'n impiroilaghys. Shimmei neocon as shimmei sidoor Americaanagh ta lhaih dy jeean mychione yn Impiraght Ghoaldagh nish. Foddee ad jeeaghyn da ny h-Arabee treih yn agh dy chosney yn deynlaght.

Foddee nagh vodmayd, ny Celtee, jannoo monney mychione ny cooishyn shoh. Agh er y chooid sloo fodmayd gaccan mychione clareyn chellveeish nagh vel agh ashoonaghys Sostnagh. As ta currym er l'eh ain dy ve caggey noi'n impiroilaghys. Son shickyrys, ren ram jeh ny shennayraghyn ain cooney dy jeean lesh yn impiroilaghys - jeeagh er ny captany-marrey Manninagh va dellal ayns sleabyn. Agh er y laue elley, va shennayraghyn ain va mastey yn chieid sleih va currit fo chosh ec yn impiroilaghys syn Oarpey. T'eh fassanagh ec y traa t'ayn dy hannaghtyn dty host. Lhig dooin gyllagh magh.

Summary

A new and dangerous imperialism is appearing, led by the unholy alliance of the Bush clique, Blair and Putin. Celts may appear powerless in the face of all this, but the insular Celts should at least protest about the stream of imperialist propaganda masquerading as history which is appearing on British television.

Brian Stowell

PILLARS OF MANX LANGUAGE DIE

Leslie Quirk

29.9.1914 - 20.10.2004

A fluent Manx speaker and member of Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh (Manx Gaelic Society), Lesley Quirk will be remembered as part of the team which worked with the Irish Folklore Commission to ensure that the last native speakers of Manx were recorded. He was, therefore, part of a movement and group that ensured that the language was not quietly extinguished but remained alive. His involvement and commitment spanned decades and he carried on his work for the language with enthusiasm and courtesy until he died.

Throughout his life, Leslie loved the Isle of Man, the language, and other languages and cultures. He had learned a lot of Manx from Caesar Cashen, a noted Manx speaker in Peel. He also learned a lot of Welsh when he had to leave Mannin and was working for a forestry board in Wales, near Machynlleth.

Leslie had spent some time in Ireland and met some interesting characters. His Irish was good; good enough, in fact, to be asked to go to Ireland to work for the language there. Thankfully for the Manx, family matters prevented this. When at University College Dublin earlier this year for the launch of the remastered native speaker recordings, interviewers naturally wanted to hear Manx. Leslie was very polite, however, and spoke a lot of Irish with the result that

some people thought that Manx was a lot more like Irish than it actually is.

He was a kind, humorous, pleasant man, with no sense of glory-seeking - but there was a great solidity deep inside him. He believed in the Manx nation and he understood that you can't do much without politics.

He was one of the people who took the momentous step in the early 1960s to formally establish a Manx Nationalist Party, thereby ensuring that some of the constitutional freedoms that have since accrued were realised. On Saturday 11th January 1964, he became a part of what was termed 'the temporary management committee' of Mec Vannin (then called the Manx Nationalist Organisation) at its formative meeting. He served in Mec Vannin for several years, together with his brother Walter, and was one of those who stuck with the organisation as it experienced 'growing pains'. His patience, good manners and diplomacy were vital in some of the early meetings of the Party.

In his later years, he became Warden for Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh headquarters for several years and was honoured with the Reih Bleeaney Vannannin award in the 1990s. Only last year, he spent hours upon hours typing a Manx religious work written



in a slightly different orthography onto computer. He was reading stories to the children at the Manx-medium school and was studying Breton through the medium of Welsh.

Although the true Manx nature of the Island has become less strong, Leslie was delighted that children can now learn Manx in the schools and that there is a Manx-medium school, with young children speaking Manx confidently and with enjoyment. Fifty years ago, who would have thought that such things would happen?

Brian Stowell, who knew Lesley for 51 years from the time Lesley taught him his first Manx in 1954 and met him frequently up until his death, read a remembrance of his life at the funeral service at St Patrick's chapel, Peel, where Leslie had been an active member of the congregation. After the service, he was buried at Braddan cemetery, along with his wife, Ailsh.

Let us pay our respects to a Manninagh dooie, a true Manxman.

Mr Richard (Dick) Radcliffe

Dick died peacefully on the morning of Thursday 14th October 2004 in his 84th year and our hearts go out in sorrow and sympathy to his widow and children who have suffered a great loss.

He was buried at Malew cemetery after a funeral service at Arbory Street Methodist Church, Castletown, attended by many relatives, friends and neighbours.

Although Dick wasn't born on the Island (his parents were living in Whitehaven at the time), he was a true Manxman indeed and he loved the Island and its language.

His family returned to the Island when he was three or four and they settled in Ramsey, where he spent his youth like many boys, playing football, gathering birds' eggs and walking the hills, a place he loved.

He was a sailor in the English Royal Navy, sailing the high seas in destroyers as a gunner. He took his Manx bible with him and it was there, while not on watch, that he began reading and learning Manx, a lifelong love to him

At the end of the war, he came back to the Island to his old job in a bank.

In the sixties, Dick gained promotion and had to move to Castletown - a new house but more than that, a bigger garden!

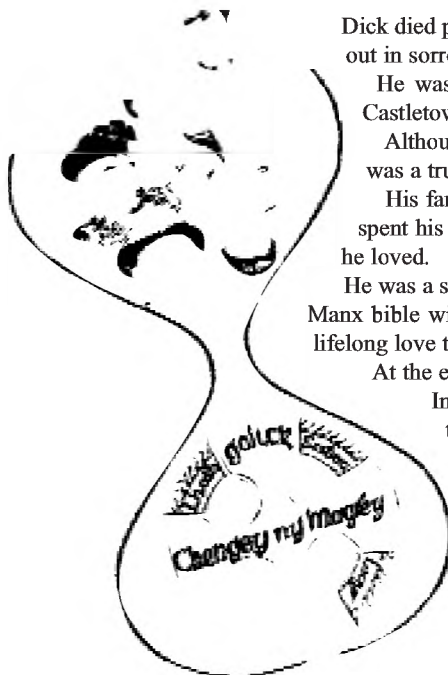
He was a terrific gardener and he enjoyed growing and exhibiting chrysanthemums, and he won many awards for his beautiful flowers.

Above all, he was well known for his sincerity, kindness and hospitality. His door was always open to anyone who wanted help, advice or a chat.

We who love the language will keep him in tender memory, for the kindness and charity he gave to us in helping us to speak our mother tongue and, for my own part, for the pleasant hours spent in his home.

Sleep peacefully good friend, and God's peace be with you.

Mark Kermode





Celtica



AGM 2004

This year's AGM took place on the 16th October 2004 in Perranporth, Cornwall. The following resolutions were adopted for progress by the branches.

Alba

This AGM proposes that we liaise with the Unrepresented Nations of People Organisation (UNPO) with a view to membership of the Celtic League.

This AGM requests that the International Olympic Committee hereby recognises the legitimate right of the ancient Celtic nations (Alba / Scotland, Breizh / Brittany, Cymru / Wales, Kernow / Cornwall, Mannin / Isle of Man) and in doing so proscribe the false, non-nations of Britain and France from participation.

Breizh

This AGM calls on the French government for the reunification of a Brittany of 5 departments as it was before World War II without any opposition to connections with other Atlantic regions.

This AGM calls on the French government to employ more Breton language teachers because there is more and more demand.

Cymru

The AGM notes the decision of Cymuned to adopt a strategy of trying to win recognition of the Bro Gymraeg as an entity in order to preserve Welsh as a naturally spoken community language. The AGM endorses this direction.

Eire

This AGM calls on the new Minister of Education, Mary Hanifin, TD, to reverse Dept. of Education and Science policies which are curbing the expansion of Gaelscoileanna in the Republic. In particular we call for an end to the ridiculous policy of stating that demand for new schools must be accommodated in existing Gaelscoileanna, when they are in fact full and have little room for recreation let alone any totally disruptive expansion. We also call for a change to the date requirement for application for new Gaelscoileanna from September to December.

This AGM calls on the Irish and British governments to ensure that the Good Friday agreement in the North is maintained and implemented. The Assembly must be



*Sua Bowen,
Secretary, Kernow Branch*

restored and cross border bodies fully implemented.

This AGM congratulates Stádas on its successful campaign to get the Irish government to ask for full EU working language status for Irish. We call on the EU Council of Ministers and the EU Commission to grant the request of the Irish government for full EU working language status for Irish and to expedite its implementation.

This AGM demands that the Irish Government stop its collusion with the US in the Iraq war in its illegal granting of the use of Shannon Airport for transfer of US military personnel and material. We call for the proper maintenance of Ireland's neutrality.

The Celtic League deplures what has happened in the recent past in the six counties of the North of Ireland in regard to collusion between Westminster State security forces and loyalist paramilitaries. This AGM calls for an immediate independent international inquiry into the London Government's collusion in murders committed there in the past.

Kernow

1.1 That the Church of England in Cornwall should be disestablished to create a new province of the Church of England - a Church of Cornwall.

1.2 That the Archbishop of Canterbury should acknowledge on behalf of the Church of England its part in provoking and suppressing the 1549 Prayer Book Uprising.

1.3 That the Archbishop should make a statement of regret on behalf of the Church of England for all it has done since 1549 and continues to do to suppress Cornwall's national identity, political freedom, language and culture.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN TO BECOME SUBJECT OF RACIAL EQUALITY COMPLAINT

A Perthshire man is promising to make a complaint to the Commission for Racial Equality the next time he hears God Save the Queen played.

Mark Hirst, 35, of Abernethy, a public relations executive, said he had already contacted the commission for advice and intended to report a racist incident next time he hears the anthem.

Mr Hirst, who is not a member of any political party, said: "I have long been bewildered that God Save the Queen, with its openly racist and anti-Scottish lyrics, has not led to prosecution by the authorities.

"While Flower of Scotland simply asks the English to have a wee think to themselves, God Save the Queen wallows in the 'crushing' of our rebellious ancestors."

He said the commission advised him to make an official complaint the next time he heard the song played.

Mr Hirst does not intend to scour events schedules and TV listings in the hope of finding some place where he will hear it soon, but insists he will report an incident the next time he chances upon the anthem.

He added: "As for my preference to the Scottish national anthem, I think Flower of Scotland is a fine tune with inspiring lyrics, and long before the chattering middle classes started organising focus groups and petitioning the parliament, it was accepted and embraced by the people as our rightful anthem.

"Had it not been for the preference of Scots to sing Flower of Scotland as their anthem these last few decades, we might still be droning along to the tune which celebrates our defeat and humiliation at the hands of our English conqueror."

Mr Hirst also described it as ironic that the British anthem's lyrics were written to celebrate the defeat of the Jacobites.

He said the tune was an old Jacobite one, with the lyrics changed to suit the political agenda of the day.

*The third verse in full
Lord grant that Marshal Wade
May by thy mighty aid
Victory bring.
May he sedition hush,
And like a torrent rush,
Rebellious Scots to crush.
God save the King/Queen!*

The O' Keeffe Chalice Campaign

In the Spring issue of *Carr* I wrote about the efforts of certain members of the Clann O Caoimh (O'Keeffe) to have an Ecclesiastical chalice of ours returned from its present abode, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, to a similar facility (such as the Cork Public Museum) in the Irish Republic. The chalice in question – now known as the 'Mount Keeffe Chalice' – dates from 1590, making it one of the oldest Irish Ecclesiastical chalices. During the period of the Penal Laws the chalice was stolen from the O'Keeffe's by members of the English Army who also murdered two priests in their efforts to secure it.

A year ago, after consulting with other O'Keeffes, I wrote to the V & A, informed them of the chalice's history, and requested that they voluntarily return the chalice to a suitable museum in Ireland. The response I received was, as one might expect, dismissive of any claim to ownership on our part, but – surprisingly! – they did not contest the allegations of the theft (in fact they freely admitted being acquainted with the details). I subsequently sought a legal opinion from two internationally acknowledged experts – one of whom is British – whose work is primarily claims of restitution, usually of art works stolen by the Nazis. English Law is quite clear on the matter of stolen property: anyone buying or selling property without the permission of the original legal owner is liable to the original owner for the **tort of conversion**. This is a tort of strict liability, i.e.:

the knowledge or belief of the purchaser is irrelevant. Purchasers, including those who purchase in good faith from a legitimate dealer may be sued in English Law. In addition, the principle of *Caveat Emptor*, cautions the buyer that there can be no title from a thief; the thief does not have the right to pass on title of stolen goods. Therefore one who purchases goods from a thief has no greater title to those goods than did the thief, and *cannot legitimately pass title to any future purchaser*. Now although this seems straightforward to the layperson, it seems that it is not so simple, ... especially when it comes to the recovery of pieces now 'owned' by British museums. In fact, the British have enacted a number of laws whose sole purpose is to provide a 'shield' for museums to protect them from just such claims.

The news is now all bad, however, as there are a number of other options available:

First and foremost, counsel advises that **the British are terrified of such claims at the moment** – they **do not** want precedents reported in the newspapers! Thus, a representative – and this can be done by an individual parliamentarian – of the Irish government could contact either the Director or Board of trustees of the V & A to present the arguments for the return of the chalice. This would likely receive considerable attention.

A second course would be to address a British Working Group on the matter of Sacred Objects. Permission to give evidence

to this group can be requested by either governmental bodies or individuals.

Mediation: this method has been used in many of the Holocaust situations where it avoids legal problems, concentrating instead on moral/ethical issues and aspects. The "Report on the Spoilation Advisory Panel in Respect of a Painting Now in the Possession of the Tate Gallery" illustrates the work of that body – it can be found on the web site of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (U.K.)

The Irish Government can make an application to the **Intergovernmental Committee for the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin, or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation** situated in UNESCO. This however is more of a last resort as it is painting the British Government into a corner. It is preferable to first negotiate and, if necessary, mediate. To sum, even though a museum may – according to the laws of their nation – have 'good title' to an artefact, they will want to return it both because of the adverse publicity and the circumstances in which it was taken.

While seeking opinion from counsel, I also received a bit of fascinating news from the Office of Mr. John O'Donoghue, T.D., Minister of Arts, Sport and Tourism whom I had contacted requesting assistance. Mr. O'Donoghue's office informed me that they had broached the matter with the National Museum of Ireland (who reportedly enjoys positive relations with the V & A); the National Museum subsequently attempted to raise the issue of the chalice with the Victoria and Albert Museum on a number of occasions, but the V & A *failed to respond to their enquiries* (!)? This suggests that the V & A are beginning to worry about the matter, but that they remain entrenched – ostrich fashion – in their tenuous claim to title.

I have since written to Mr. O'Donoghue, to Stella Cherry of the Cork Public Museum, to Mr. Michael O'Keeffe of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society, and to Mr. Patrick Wallace of the National Museum of Ireland advising them of our position and the advice of counsel. It remains to be seen how committed the Irish Government is to protecting and conserving our Gaelic Heritage and culturally sacred objects, but it can only help to have interested parties write and express their support of having the chalice returned! Mr. O'Donoghue can be reached at: Department of Art, Sport, and Tourism, 23 Kildare St. Dublin 2 and Frederick Buildings, South Frederick St. Dublin 2. The reference # is 035716. It would also be helpful to contact the Archbishop of Ireland, Sean Brady c/o Ara Coeli, Armagh, BT61 7QY.

Those interested in further details may also contact me directly via e-mail at: pobalokeeffe@yahoo.com

THE CAT IS OUT OF THE BAG!

The Economist has recently undertaken a broad based research on the best countries to live in examining a range of factors including security, sense of community, and general happiness. The Irish Republic came out as the best place to live in the world. The UK came on the bottom of the European league along with the other big states of France and Germany.

Not long ago when the 26 Irish counties that now form the Republic were part of the UK they were among the most impoverished areas of Europe. It is a sad fact that those Celtic nations still under the grip of the UK still remain so far left behind locked into stifling bureaucracy and poverty (in Wales 1/3 of children live in poverty, 10,000 and growing homeless people).

The UK elite say Wales can't afford to 'go alone'. The result of this research has now exposed this monstrous lie. The

fact is, Wales can't afford to stay dependent on decaying and morally bankrupt leftovers of the British Empire. And as for those fanatics that have declared that an 'independent' Wales must remain locked into the EU come what may, they may want to take note that the second and third best countries to live in are little Switzerland and little Norway, the only two Western European countries NOT in the Union.

The message is clear. Small republics fare much better than big centralised states. This confirms the principle that the further removed government is from the people, the more the people will suffer. Small is not just beautiful. Small is strong. Gweriniaeth Cymru am byth!

**Simon Gruffydd Foster
Cadeirydd, Cymru Rydd/
The Welsh Republican Party**

**Tadhg Caoimhin O Caoimh/ Timothy
Kevin O' Keeffe**



The Chough - an Avian Link between the Celtic Nations

The Celtic League journal *Carn* is subtitled *A link between the Celtic Nations*, because the word “Carn” occurs in all of the 6 Celtic languages. As a Manxman who has watched choughs for almost all of his life, I would like to suggest that this bird is also a link between the Celtic nations, as it occurs in all of the Celtic countries.

For those who are not familiar with the chough, either in the wild or on the Cornish coat-of-arms, it is a crow with glossy black plumage and striking red legs and bill. It is about the same size as the much more numerous and widespread jackdaw. Unlike other species of crow, such as the magpie and raven, the diet of the chough consists mostly of insects and other invertebrates. It is particularly spectacular when flying, both when soaring with wing feathers spread out like fingers and when swooping down with closed wings to its nesting and feeding sites. A sociable bird, it seems to do best in areas where there are lots of other choughs around to join in flocks for flying, feeding and roosting. Its name in the Gaelic languages is onomatopoeic. Thus, in Manx it is called *caaig*. The English name is not onomatopoeic, but a Cornishman once told me that he had heard the name “chough” pronounced like “chaw.”

The Celtic League’s definition of a Celtic nation is one which has a living Celtic language. How can I claim the chough as a Celtic bird? Although the species is fairly widespread in mountains in southern Europe, especially Spain, as far as north western Europe is concerned it only breeds in the 6 Celtic countries. There is no other species of bird which has a range like that. As examples, the two birds flanking the Manx Government heraldic shield are the raven and the peregrine falcon. The raven nests in the 6 Celtic countries, but also in all the other countries of north western Europe except Luxembourg. The peregrine falcon is, I believe, extinct in Breizh. It breeds in the other 5 Celtic countries, but also in parts of England and Scandinavia.

Even within some of the individual Celtic countries, the chough is concentrated in what might be regarded as being some of the most traditionally Celtic areas. Thus, although choughs are found almost all round the rocky coasts of Mannin, they are especially concentrated in the far south west, where more than 40% of the breeding population occupies less than 3% of the Island’s area. It was

in this part of Mannin where some of the last of the old generation of Native Speakers of our language lived in the twentieth century, including Ned Maddrell himself. Coincidentally, in the same way that the census of the human population in 2001 found a higher number than for many years of people who professed an understanding of the Manx language, a census of the chough population in 2002 found 426 birds (including 150 breeding pairs) in Mannin, likely to be the largest population since at least the mid 19th century.

In Alba, the chough is now restricted to just two of the Inner Hebrides, Islay and Colonsay, except for one pair that nests in Galloway. It is thought that the Galloway choughs went there from Mannin, thereby providing a link between the two countries. Single pairs also nested on Jura and Mull until recently. The population of choughs in Alba is now about 80 pairs. Choughs are more widespread in Cymru, with at least 200 pairs, but most breed in the west. Likewise, although there were more than 900 pairs in Eire in 1992, they were found mostly in the west, especially in Cork, Kerry and Donegal. I do not have an up-to-date figure for Breizh, but there were fewer than 40 pairs in 1988, and most of those were in the far west, except for some on Belle Ile.

As a Manx enthusiast for the chough, I like to point out that the species occurs in a higher population density in Mannin than in any other country in Europe (except for Andorra). However, I am happy to concede that the strongest historical and traditional link with the species is with Kernow. That said, when I wrote about the chough in *Dhooraght* a few years ago, I lamented the fact that it was extinct in that country. On a visit to Kernow in 1982, I bought a fine little book by T.O. Darke called *The Cornish Chough*, published by D. Bradford Barton Ltd. of Truro. In it, Mr Darke described the history of the chough in the country, the disappearance from the south coast in the 19th century, the eventual extinction in the north, reasons for the decline and prospects for a return of the species to Kernow, which he regretted were nil. However, even at the time of my trip to Kernow, Paradise Park in Hayle had been working for several years towards releasing choughs that they had bred in aviaries. This scheme was not supported by the ornithological establishment, including the Royal

Society for the Protection of Birds, not least because they felt that the reasons for the chough’s extinction were not fully known and, it was claimed, had not been corrected.

As a Celt, the extinction of the chough in Kernow concerned me for many years. I have always been very interested in wildlife, and one of the animal books that I had as a young boy contained a photograph of 2 young choughs on a cliff in Kernow, but the last Cornish chough died in 1973, when I was 15. Much of the research on the ecology of the species during the last 30 years or so has concerned the effects of changes of agriculture. Grazing by livestock and rabbits is very important, but so is some arable farming, like grass and grain growing. Stubble and newly mown grass fields often attract large flocks of choughs in areas where there is a sizeable population. The importance of mixed agriculture is probably best illustrated in the far S.W. of Mannin by the two farms of Cregneash (Church Farm) and Shennvalley (Sound Farm). With all due respect to Manx National Heritage, Shennvalley has almost always attracted the largest numbers of choughs of any farm in Mannin, including the best ever spring count, 86 on 22nd May this year. This was not just an isolated event; the area is consistently good for choughs.

Another factor that contributed to the decline and eventual extinction of the Cornish chough was persecution by man. The concentration on agricultural changes seems to have underestimated the effects of the collection of eggs and chicks, and the killing of adult birds. In Mannin, a decrease in the chough population in the mid 19th century was preceded by the likes of the visit by one Sir William Jardine in 1827, who wrote of acquiring “nearly thirty specimens in a forenoon.” Reading *The Cornish Chough*, it is clear that egg collectors from England must take some of the blame for the extinction of the Cornish chough, offering Cornishmen what must have seemed like large sums of money to risk their lives taking clutches of eggs from the caves, fissures and mines where the nests were placed. Fortunately, humanity’s attitude towards our fellow creatures has improved greatly since the days of Sir William Jardine and his like, but some persecution of choughs still taken place. With the increased numbers of choughs in Mannin, some are nesting in places that are much more accessible to people, resulting in an increased risk of accidental disturbance. However, some pairs of choughs are very resilient to quite high levels of human activity near their nests, with the females sitting tight on the eggs, for example.

I visited in Kernow in 1982, and stayed in Tregowris, near St Keverne. One day, I went for a very long walk, south to

Carrick Luz, then along the coast to Cadgwith, the Lizard and Predannack, with a long trek across Goonhilly Downs and back to Tregowris. Subsequently, I commented that the coast between the Lizard and Predannack looked suitable for choughs, but a reply that I received from friends with connections in Kernow was that the area was too busy with people. This view was also held by organisations who were concerned with choughs repopulating Kernow, including English Nature (sic) and the R.S.P.B.; the Lizard area was not suitable.

Operation Chough, based at Paradise Park in Hayle, planned to release some choughs into the wild in Kernow in 2001, but this was postponed because of access restrictions aimed at reducing the risk of the spread of Foot and Mouth Disease in farm animals. However, in spring 2001, 5 choughs turned up out of the blue in Kernow, and stayed. A pair has since bred successfully in the Lizard area, in 2002, 2003 and 2004. With the breeding population consisting of just one pair, and little prospect of other birds arriving from outside Kernow, *Operation Chough* took the controversial decision of releasing a group of 6 choughs in the west of Kernow in August 2003. Unfortunately, 3 of them have since died. However, I look forward to the day when the future of the chough in Kernow is secure.

Although we now have choughs back in Kernow and, therefore, all 6 Celtic countries, the species has long been extinct in some other countries. Thus, during the 19th and early 20th centuries choughs became extinct in England, the Channel Islands, Austria and Tunisia. There are now probably fewer choughs in Portugal than in Mannin; indeed, Rushen parish has more choughs than Albania or Switzerland. Because of population decreases and extinctions in many European countries, there have been a lot of research and initiatives into conserving choughs in the Celtic countries and, also, Spain and Italy. Without trying to be too controversial, work by the Scottish Chough Study Group and the Manx Chough Project lead the way in N.W. Europe!

During the time that it has taken me to write this, another Inter-Celtic connection involving choughs has occurred. I was on the Calf of Man on 14th August and saw two choughs that had been ringed in Cymru. Two others were seen there in early September. All 4 had been ringed as chicks this spring in Anglesey. There has only ever been one proven record of a Welsh ringed chough that crossed the sea to Mannin, and that was found dead on a beach. We could say that these 4 choughs have made the crossing from Ynys Môn to "Mona's Isle."

Allen S. Moore-Co-ordinator of the Manx Chough Project

FAREWELL TO AN UNREPENTANT FENIAN

By Margaret Sexton-McGrath

A few years ago, I attended the Michael Flannery Dinner/Dance in New York City. When I went to the dinner I was pleased to see a lot of people who I had read about in the Irish papers. Appropriately it was held in the Killishendra Room. Murals abounded in the room of the Irish Revolutionaries, in particular Michael Flannery. I was introduced to George Harrison and engaged him in conversation about so many topics. During the evening I heard from other guests about George and was amazed at not only the people I was meeting but the stories I was hearing. I felt extremely lucky to be there that evening with living Irish history and to have met him again over the years. He passed away at his home in Brooklyn, New York on October 6, 2004. The upcoming 2005 Michael Flannery Awards will pay tribute to George and his life crusade for those oppressed both Celtic and non-Celtic. Here are some other reminiscences of the people I met:

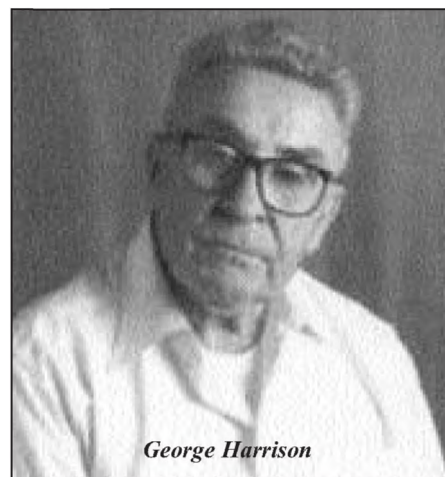
Bernadette Devlin McAliskey

I met George the very first time I went to America, in 1969 'straight from the 'Bogside front-line.' I met a lot of people then, and thereafter, but there remains a small core of stalwarts, who have been my friends and compatriots ever since that momentous trip; foremost amongst these, were my two great mentors Paul O'Dwyer and George Harrison, both gone from us now.

You will each, today, be paying tribute and sharing memories of George's unique contribution to all our lives, his political commitment and principle, his personal generosity, and his lifelong involvement in the struggle for a better world for human beings to live in. Loyalty, reliability and discretion were the hallmarks of this old soldier.

George Harrison was above all other things a modest, quiet man. Even in the prime of his youth, a stranger passing him in the street, would have no hint, no signal, no reason to suspect that this was an uncompromising radical, a committed internationalist and socialist, a militant, an activist, a man whose every waking hour was devoted to struggle armed or unarmed, to bring about revolutionary change in the world into which he was born.

Only a fool like George Bush and a braggart like Tony Blair could delude themselves that the George Harrison's of this world can be defeated by their military intelligence, satellite surveillance, warmongering, human rights denial, and pathetic attempts to seal their borders. George Harrison, Mayo man, Irish Republican, Socialist, Internationalist Humanitarian and Labour Organiser led them all a merry dance for 70 years of adult life and lived and died on his own terms. We shall miss him.



Ruairi Ó Brádaigh RSF President

"George Harrison who has died in New York was Patron of Republican Sinn Fein since 1994. A native of Shammer, Kilkelly, Co Mayo, he was a veteran of the East Mayo Battalion IRA.

He emigrated to the USA in 1938 and from then on he was a life – long Irish American activist and an active supporter of international liberation struggles.

In 1982 along with the late Michael Flannery and three others he was acquitted in an American court on a charge of supplying arms to the IRA.

George was in his ninetieth year and his passing leaves a huge gap in the ranks of Irish American supporters of the Republican Movement in Ireland.

Leaba I measc na bhFiníní go raibh aige." *Brian Mór Ó Baoighill, Cumann Na Saoirse Náisiúnta*

The National Irish Freedom Committee – (Cumann na Saoirse Náisiúnta) joins with all true Republicans in Ireland, Scotland, England and throughout the world to mourn the passing of a lifelong Irish Republican and Eternal Fenian, George Harrison of Brooklyn, New York, New Hampshire and the County Mayo.

We empathize with his family and innumerable friends during this time of their profound loss and grief at the passing of this modern Irish hero. He shall be remembered forever. And as we remember this dedicated man, we rejoice in his long consecrated and meaningful life. A life that was dedicated to the unification of Ireland by any and all means possible.

To this end, George and a committed cadre of his fellow physical force Republicans organized a weapons procurement programme which had three decades of success in supplying the Freedom Fighters of the Irish Republican Army with the wear with all to sustain their campaigns.

Unfortunately, the fruits of George's and his friends' labour is now being bartered as the price of admission for revisionist former

Britonia: camiños novos

SIMON YOUNG

List Price: €8.50

Paperback 167 pages (March 2002), (140x215 mm)

Language: Galician. ISBN: 84-95622-58-0

Republicans to participate in British direct rule of the six occupied counties in the north of Ireland. Adams and his purloined posse are swapping semtex for summer homes, guns for governmental positions, and they are cementing over arms dumps to secure their status as second class citizens in their Loyalist controlled state – not what George and his compatriots had in mind when they set about their clandestine weapons quest.

We would be remiss if we didn't mention George's support of freedom movements worldwide. Of George it was said, "Never met a revolution he didn't like.", and to paraphrase the old ballad, "God grant you glory, old George, and open heavens to all your men, the cause that called you may call tomorrow in another cause for the Green again."

Thomas McGrath,

Celtic League American Branch

George Harrison was not in the street sense a Centrist. He was not an Irish language scholar such as his fellow Irish republican Martin O'Caer. Nonetheless, his life should serve as an example to those of us who seek to establish an ethnic or cultural identity that extends beyond the borders of one particular country.

Although born in the small west of Ireland village of Shammer, County Mayo. George viewed the Irish people's struggle for national and cultural identity in a global setting. He saw parallels to the cause of Africans oppressed by the apartheid regime in South Africa. This affinity was most clearly evidenced when David Ndaba of the African National Congress testified as a character witness at his trial.

George took great pride in detailing the role of the IRA in the fight against fascism in Spain. He time and again expressed his solidarity with the Basque people in their efforts.

George was truly as he was described by Ruairi Ó Brádaigh in a message to the Michael Flannery dinner in his honour "A rebel without a pause" but never without a purpose and a goal.

Those of us who wish to attain Pan-Celtic unity would do well to follow the transnational vision of one of the sincerest and courageous men it has been our privilege to know.

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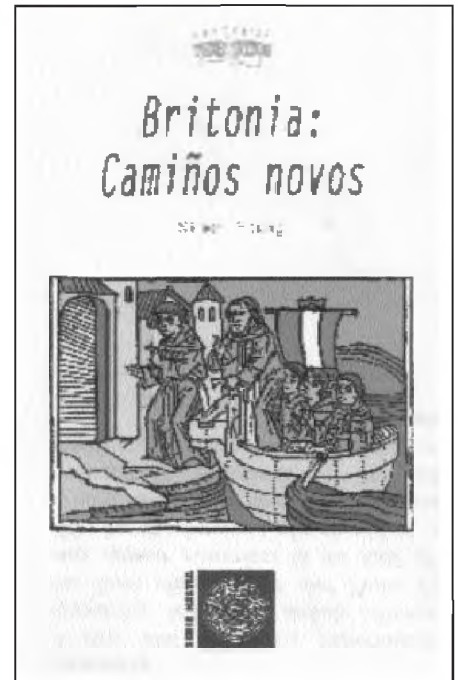
When phoning from abroad, omit the 0 in the prefix.

Publisher: Editorial Toxosoutos, Serie Keltia. **TOXOSOUTOS**, is a recently established Galician publishing company covering medieval Galician history and language and also Celtic studies and Galician literature. The Keltia series has very interesting titles dealing with the Celts in Galicia as well as with the Celts in general. Visit their website at www.toxosoutos.com

About the Author: Simon Young is 31 years old. This young English author is now living in Italy. He became interested in the early Middle Ages (400-1000) and especially the British Celts in this period at university, ten years ago. Since then he has written 3 books and many articles both academic and freelance on the theme and, at the moment, he is in the middle of a doctorate at Florence University where he is cataloguing «*The Insular Peregrini*» (Columbanus and others). This April 2005, **Wedensfield and Nicholson** will be publishing his latest book «*AD 500*», which is a kind of travelogue describing a trip around Britain and Ireland. His interest in Britonia (the British Celtic colony in Spain) began many years ago when an undergraduate at Cambridge. As a freelance journalist he has written on European minorities and the right of self determination. In 2001, he received the «*Premio Historia Medieval de Galicia*» (Galicia Medieval History Prize) for his book «*Britonia: camiños novos*».

Book Description:

This book covers a subject seldom covered by Celtic scholars and little known among British Celts. Galicia has always claimed a Celtic past. But this Celtic past is not only pre-Roman as most people think. Like Brittany, though on a smaller scale, Galicia received British Celtic immigrants during the Dark Ages, fleeing the «*Saxon fury*» as Gildas told us in his «*De Excidio Britanniae*». These colonies of Britons on the shores of the north-western corner of the Iberian Peninsula, in what is now Galicia and Asturias are much less well known than those in Brittany. Few scholars have dealt with this subject as few scholars have had enough competence in Celtic studies and also in Galician medieval history. **Simon Young**, using the works of **Pierre David** and **Antonio García y García** was determined to put down the basic foundations for future researchers, something that was totally lacking in studies up to that time, studies that



tended to be woolly or full of folklore considerations. The book is divided into three parts. Part one looks at the traditional sources on the settlements. Part two shows us new sources of study. And part three is a provocative interpretation of parts one and two of the book. It also contains a very useful and interesting appendix dealing with place and personal names linked to these British settlements. The history of these British Celtic settlers in Galicia and Asturias is fascinating. The first mention of these British Celtic colonies is found in 572 in the acts of the second Council of Braga, stating that «*Mahiloc Britonorum ecclesiae episcopus hic gestis subscribitur*» which means «*I, Maeloc, bishop of the Church of the Britons signed this act*». Some 10 place-names directly connected with the British Celtic colonies of the Dark Ages are still to be found in Galicia and Asturias, among them the famous «*Bretona*» near Mondoñedo. I would like to recommend very warmly this excellent and very interesting book which would merit an English translation in order to make it accessible to English-speaking readers. It would be also worth reading by British Celts and Celts in general...

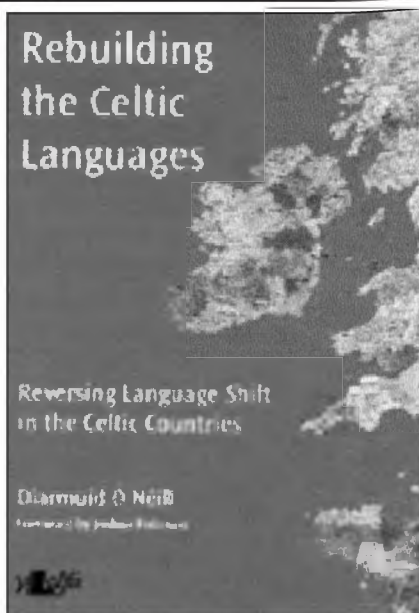
Simon Young also hopes to publish in English a series of articles expanding chapters of this book. In fact, the first of these has now come out and appeared in **Cambrian Medieval Celtic Studies in 2003** »*The Bishops of Britonia*«.

Rebuilding the Celtic Languages / Diarmuid Ó Neill

First comprehensive attempt to apply the Fishman GIDS scale to the Celtic languages. The aim is not only to explore the strengthening of existing Celtic language communities and Celtic-speaking networks in the six Celtic countries but also to explore how the Celtic languages can be re-established on a much wider scale than is presently the case.

Edited by Canadian Diarmuid Ó Neill and includes contributions by prominent Celtic sociolinguists including Colin Williams, Marcel Texier, Pawl Birt, Kenneth MacKinnon and Brian Stowell. Foreword by Joshua Fishman.

This book will be available for sale in the Celtic countries in new year, in the meantime it can be purchased from Y Lolfa's Online Shop for £19.95 at <http://www.ylolfa.com>



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: Stg£12; €20; US\$30.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank). Europe: Stg.£15 (airmail); Outside Europe: Stg.£18.00 (airmail).

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Articles for *Carn* should be sent on disk preferably in Microsoft Word or e-mailed to the Editor

Material for the next issue of *Carn* should reach the Editor no later than 1st February 2005. Articles sent for publication in *Carn* must relate to our aims. All materials copyright © *Carn* unless otherwise stated. The views expressed in *Carn* are not necessarily those of the editor or of the Celtic League.

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A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 130

Summer 2005

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- SNP Election Gains
- KEAV – Breton Interceltic Summer School
- Welsh Language Act from Wales!
- Etholiad 2005
- Irish an Official EU language
- Bad News at Carlyon Bay
- Manx Government Acts Illegally
- EU Constitution Crisis ... What Is To Be Done?

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CELTIC LEAGUE





Alba



TEAGAISG TRE GÁIDHLIG...

Sa bhliana 1872 thàinig Achd an Fhoghlaim a-mach on Phàrlamaid Shasunnach aig Westminster agus leis a sin rinn iad geurleanmhainn air ar cànan 's ar ceòl. Mhair e fad corr is ceud bliadhna. Dhùin iad gach sgoil a' teagasg tre na Gàidhlig. Cuideachd, chuir iad ùnlagh no fine trom air na parantan nach robh a' cur a' chlànn aca don sgoiltean seo far a bha teagasg tre na Beurla Shasunnach!

Taing don Ni Math, thuir sinn ar Parlamaid Albannach aig deireadh an fhicheadamh linn agus rinn i Achd air sgàth na Gàidhlig. Chi sinn gum bheil an darna Achd feumail a bhi cinnteach gum bi teagasg tre na Gàidhlig.

Seo agaibh nithean feumail anns an darna Achd Gàidhlig....

Sgìrean far a bheil a' mhòrchuid at bruidhinn na Gàidhlig gu itheanta, mar sna h-Eileanan an Iar. An t-Eilean Sgitheanach Ile, sgìrean air an Tìr-mòr agus mar sin. Feumaidh a h-uile leanaban sgoil fhaighinn teagasg tre na Gàidhlig agus croileagan gu leoir. Thairis air fichead bliadhna bhiodh gach fear-comhairle, am poileas agus luchd nan cuirtean-lagha fìleanta sa Gàidhlig. Ann an àite sam bith feadh Alba bhiodh tuilleadh airgead agus luchd-teagasg Gàidhlig ri fhaighinn gus an robh a h-uile leanabh is mu dheireadh thall gach inbheach/adult fìleanta.

Ma bhios sinn air lorg cosg a' cnuasachadh /considering na bhiodh feumail ...a-measg prìomh neach-àiteachaidh ann an Astràilia agus Ameireagaidh mu Thuath, na Maoris, Quebec, Catalonia, na Faoes, Gwyneth sa Chuimrigh agus Israel.

Chan eil e cho neonach gum bi croileagan anns gach àite agus teagasg tre na Gàidhlig a-mhàin bhon a tha iad a' teagasg tre Pòilis a-mhàin feadh A' Phòlainn is Ungairis feadh Ungaraidh agus mar sin air adhart.

De mu dheighin ainm na cànan againn nuair a bhiodh sinn a' bruidhinn canain eile? Gu meadhan an t-siathamh linn deug agus neach a' bruidhinn sa Beurla Shasunnach no Ghallda bhiodh sinn ag ràdh 'Scottish' mar, "Do you speak Scottish?" Chi sinn naimhdeas aig an am sin eadar Dunbar agus an Gaidheal, Kennedy, sa bhàrdachò Ghallda d'am b'ainm... 'The flyting of Dunbar and Kennedy'.

Nuair a tha duine a' bruidhinn Ungairis, de' facal aca air son a' chanain aca, ach

Magyar, agus a dhùthaich aca, Magyarorszàg. Le sin nuair a tha sinn a' bruidhinn mu dheighinn sa Bheurla feumaidh sinn ag ràdh 'Scottish' agus a' bruidhinn san Fhraingis 'Ecosais'.

Gun teagamh bhiodh sinn a' teagasg na Beurla (Shasunnach no Ghallda) ach tre na Gàidhlig agus a h-uile cuspaig eile tre na Gàidhlig; Na di-chuimhnich, chan eil dùthaich feadh na Roinn Eorpa uile gu léir far a bheil iad a' teagasg tre na Beurla. Bhon nach eil sinn nar Sasunnach, cha bu choir dhuinn teagasg no ionnsachadh tre na Beurla.

De mu dheighinn a Bheurla Shasunnach i fhéin? An deidh an Ceannsachadh 1066 bha an Fhraingis ag ithe a' Bheurla Shasunnach mar a tha a Bheurla ag ithe ar cànan Gàidhlig againn fhéin.

Sa bhliadhna 1332 bha / Achd na Parlamaid Shasunnach ag ràdh feumaidh gach leanabh ag sgoil a bhi ag ionnsachadh na Fhraingis. Ach, a dh'aithghearr thàinig atharrachadh ro mhór. Còig bliadhnaich ean as deidh sin, sa bhliadhna 1337, thòisich an Cogaidh Ceud Bliadhna eadar Sassun is An Fhraing. Leis a sin, dh'fhas fuath ro mhór an aghaidh gach rud Frangach, gu h-àraidh an cànan Frangach.

An sin bha teagasg sna sgoiltean o chean gu ceann sa Chòrn tre Còrnis agus chaidh Iain Traversa à Crodadon, St Mellion, A Chòrn thairis air an Tamar a steach do Shasunn a' dol don Oilthigh Oxford. San àite sin nochd e na Sasunnach gum b'fheadar dhaibh teagasg tre na Beurla Shasunnach no bhiodh an cànan cho marbh ri sgadain. Trevisa agus Richard Pencyrch agus feadhainn eile às A' Chòrn, bha iad a' teagasg oileanaich a bha ag ionnsachadh teagasg sa Bheurla. Leis a sin sa bhliadhna 1385 bha a h-uile sgoil gramair feadh sasunn a' diùltadh na Fraingis agus at teagasg tre 'n Bheurla. 'Air an aobhar sin, bha a' Bheurla buadhach.

Tuigidh gach Seiceach/Czech agus Pòlach nam biodh Gearmailt cànan teagasg sna dùthchannan aca bhiodh at dol a dholaidh mar a tha ar cànan far a bheil teagasg tre na Beurla.

SUMMARY

The most important as far as our language is that Gaelic be the only language through which all teaching is conducted and this be for every child in Scotland. When we speak

of our language in another tongue it. Should be referred to as 'Scottish' as it was till the middle of the sixteenth century, so, 'Bheil Gàidhlig agad?' should be 'Do you speak Scottish?' English itself only survived when French was dropped as the language of teaching in favour of teaching through English in every school in English.

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich
Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig

New Conversational Gaelic Courses

CNSA, The Gaelic Pre-school Council are wishing to set up an entirely new Gaelic language learning course in the Edinburgh area; this will be the first venture of this type and should prove to be a most interesting and stimulating experience for all those involved.

The unique aspect of this course is that it will bring a complete beginner in the language, to a conversational level in 200 hours or less, rather than the 2000 plus hours it presently takes to reach a similar level of fluency.

The Gaelic language learning course is centred round the home and the activities found within this environment. Furthermore, the course is activity and action based, therefore, there will be absolutely no reading, writing, grammar or translation undertaken by students. Freedom from these tasks, guarantees to boost confidence in one's own language learning ability: be a remarkably stress free experience, while at the same time, allowing a student to make speedy progress in acquiring a Gaelic fluency. Hence the significantly shortened learning period of the course.

There is however; one condition that all potential students have to meet - they must attend a Student Information Meeting, prior to joining a course. This is an essential step, inasmuch as it outlines exactly what will occur while explaining what both a tutor and student can expect on the course.

If you are interested in becoming a student or if you have a Gaelic fluency already, why not consider becoming a tutor. Either way please contact Stuart on +0131-667-4924 or CNSA on 01463-225469.

Finlay Macleoid

Naidheachdan Gàidhlig

Gaelic Language Bill:

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Bill was passed unanimously by the Scottish Parliament on 21 April thus making Gaelic an official language of Scotland. The preamble of the bill reads as follows:

"An Act of the Scottish Parliament to establish a body having functions exercisable with a view to securing the status of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language, including the functions of preparing a national Gaelic language plan, of requiring certain public authorities to prepare and publish Gaelic language plans in connection with the exercise of their functions and to maintain and implement such plans, and of issuing guidance in relation to Gaelic education."

In other words, the bill recognises Gaelic as an official language with equal respect to English and establishes the Gaelic development agency Bòrd na Gàidhlig in law. It also obliges the Bòrd to draw up a national Gaelic language plan and gives them the power to require public bodies in Scotland to draw up Gaelic language plans and to issue guidance to local authorities about Gaelic education.

The text of the bill is available at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/bills/billsInProgress/gaelicLanguage.htm>

The text of the debate on the bill is available at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-05/sor0421-02.htm#Col16317>

New research

The position of Scottish Gaelic is weakening significantly in both rural and urban strongholds according to two newly released research papers which investigated the position of the language in the Western Isles and Edinburgh. Both studies found evidence of declining use in the family and community and very low levels of intergenerational transmission.

Western Isles study:

www.planacanain.org.uk/english.htm

Edinburgh study:

www.arts.ed.ac.uk/celtic/poileasaidh

Gaelic education

Gaelic medium education continues to grow according to newly released figures. There were 2953 children in Gaelic medium education at nursery, primary and secondary level in 2004/05. This represents an increase of 64 pupils over the previous academic year. As can be seen from the figures, however, the pace of growth is very slow. For example, only 9 more children entered Gaelic nursery and only 14 more joined primary one in 2004/5 than in the previous year. Studies have shown that there is a net loss of around 750 Gaelic speakers each year and it is clear that a significant expansion of Gaelic medium education will be needed if it is to plug this gap. One of the key factors currently holding back the development of GME is a severe teacher shortage. The Scottish Executive has responded to this with a task force which is to report back on ways of increase teacher supply.

Churches support Gaelic

In their annual general assemblies, the Church of Scotland and Free Church of Scotland have both discussed Gaelic issues. The Church of Scotland passed a resolution welcoming the Gaelic Act, encouraging an expansion of Gaelic broadcasting and committing the church to exploring ways to increase its use of Gaelic. The Free Church general assembly reported that it was working alongside Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (the local authority serving the Western Isles) in order to produce Gaelic religious and moral education materials for schools. It has also been announced that the Warner Brothers' *Jesus* film has been translated into Gaelic. Since released in 1979, this film has been translated into nearly 900 languages.

Gaelic punk

The first ever punk CD in Gaelic has been released by Mill a h-Uile Rud, a Skye based band composed of fluent Gaelic learners from the US. The band have recently completed a European tour along with veteran Edinburgh punk band Oi Polloi who have also begun performing some material in Gaelic. Apart from pop-rock band Runrig, these are the only two bands currently performing contemporary music through the medium of Gaelic.

Uilleam MacCaluim

Mill a h-Uile Rud

Signage

A new report commissioned by the Scottish Executive, "Review of First Impressions of Scotland: Report to Ministers" recommends that bilingual welcome signs should be erected at main points of entry to the country such as major ports, airports and railway stations where appropriate. According to the study, bilingual signage would show tourists and other travelers that they are entering a unique country with a strong heritage. The Executive have agreed that they will encourage the development of such signs. It is unclear at this stage, however, how many bilingual signs erected, where and what format they will take.

Highland Council have also produced a new Gaelic language scheme which encourages bilingual road signs, street signs and signs on council buildings and schools throughout the council area. While the overall signage policy has been strengthened, however, any of the 8 local area committees of the council may opt-out of Gaelic signage if they feel that the cultural history of the area has "less of a Gaelic base". To date, Caithness and Sutherland have voted against Gaelic signs and the Inverness Area Committee have made it clear that they only wish to see Gaelic signs in the city centre. There are also signs that the Nairn area may opt out of Gaelic signage. These decisions and the absence of an overarching strategy have left a very uneven situation with regards to Gaelic signage in the Highlands. This has been compounded by the Scottish Executive's continued refusal to allow the erection of Gaelic signs on the A9, the main trunk road in the Highlands. www.millahuilerud.com

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SNG Gains in Westminster Election

Shortly after the final results were declared for the May General Election, SNP Leader Alex Salmond hailed the resounding success of the party's election campaign. Mr Salmond also congratulated his fellow SNP parliamentarians for their success in the polls, and looked forward to the 2007 Scottish election. The SNP met its target of 6 seats in the election, taking new seats from Labour in Scotland in a General Election for the first time since 1974.

Mr Salmond said: "After tonight's tremendous results, the SNP has made real progress in this election. We now have 'Scotland's Super Six' representing Scotland at Westminster, a team which has taken seats from the Labour Party in Scotland at a General Election for the first time since 1974.

"In the vast majority of seats across the country we've seen a clear swing in the vote from Labour to the SNP, which sets a firm foundation for the Scottish election in 2007. With this kind of progress tonight the SNP are in great shape to take over from the failing Labour and Liberal Executive in Holyrood in two years time.

"We also have a team of MPs who can make Scotland matter in Westminster, who can build on the success of the last Parliament and argue the case for a better future for this country and its people. We can now look forward with confidence to the prospect of an SNP victory in 2007 when both Labour and the Liberal Democrats will be saddled with all the misdeeds of their failed coalition."



Newcomer, Angus MacNeil, one of the six, regained the Western Isles seat from Labour for the SNP.

Angus MacNeil MP for Na h-Eileanan an Iar

Angus is a native Gaelic speaker from Barra. He was in School in Barra and the Nicholson Institute in Stornoway. He studied Civil Engineering at Strathclyde University and then worked as a reporter at the BBC in Inverness for 2 years before becoming a Primary Teacher. Angus worked for 2 years in Salen in Mull where he started the Gaelic Unit before moving to Fort William when he got married. In the 2001 general election Angus was the SNP candidate for Inverness East Nairn and Lochaber. Last year Angus returned to Barra to teach and now works in Eoligarry School at the north end of the island.

ELECTION 2005 – SNP Westminster MPs

Constituency	Candidate	% Votes	SNP Majority
Banff & Buchan	Alex Salmond	51.17%	11,837
Moray	Angus Robertson	36.59%	5,676
Perth & Perthshire North	Peter Wishart	33.68%	1,521
Angus	Mike Weir	33.65%	1,590
Na H-Eileanan an Iar	Angus MacNeil	44.90%	1,141
Dundee East	Stewart Hosie	37.20	383

The SNP contested 9 seats – above are the successful candidate's results

Publicity and Hard Cash

Soon after the British General Election held on May 5th, I met my great grandson who was pleased to tell me that the Scottish National Party had lost ground. I pointed out to him that previously we had 4 MPs from a total of 71, now we have 6 MPs from a total of 59 at Westminster. Hardly lost ground! Of course this does not reflect support for the independence movement over all of Scotland, as many SNP candidates came second in the poll, but in the 'first past the post' system, votes for them do not result in representation. As to MPs we had 2.84%. Now we have 3.54%

My great nephew went on to argue that Scotland could not stand on its own! Of course we hear this often. The Scottish Parliament cost too much. That was a project of the Labour government, but we get the blame for it. Under the 'Barnett Formula' Scotland is subsidised much more than our population justifies. There is a catch in that argument when the contributions from Scotland by means of taxes, whisky duty and

North Sea Oil are taken into account. The Dundee Courier on May 24th, in arguing against Dennis Canavan's, MSP, bill to make St. Andrew's Day a public holiday gave the argument a new slant – "Campaigners were told by the (Scottish) Executive it would cost 40 million pounds a year in lost production and economic turnover, and there are no plans to add November 30th to the list of Scottish bank holidays".

What price patriotism? Maybe I am too pessimistic, but I am thinking that for the independence movement to make real progress, before the 300th anniversary of the Union of Parliaments in 2007, we need to find some effective reply when our modest gains are reported as losses, and especially when the only criteria for assessing moves to independence are economic or financial. I wonder if anyone any more accepts that this nation with its own strong traditions, institutions and separate languages has a right to be independent regardless of cost. Recent Irish history suggests that when

patriotism is the chief motive in what we do, economic affairs will also come right.

Larne to Stranraer

In 1953, during an exceptionally bad winter which brought floods in Holland and the East of England, the Larne to Stranraer ferry went down with considerable loss of life. In January this year the P. & O ferry "European Highlander" was blown on a sand bank by winds of hurricane force as she tried to berth in Loch Ryan, and passengers had to spend 30 hours on board whilst a life boat stood by. At one time there was a regular ferry from Glasgow (Broomielaw) to Belfast, which had much safer berths at either end. Have any lessons been learnt or urgent safety measures been adopted since the loss in 1953, to make this link between Scotland and Ireland safer? It does not seem so.

Ronald S. Matheson
Ragnall Stiubhart MacMathain



Breizh



Sant Peran, tad santel Kerne-veur

ARD-FHEIS CHONRADH NA GAELIGE

E Corcaigh e voe dalc'het emvod (Ard-Fheis) bloaziek ar C'hevre Gouezelek (Conradh na Gaelige) d'ar 16 a viz Mae. Dibabet e voe Corcaigh en abeg an darvoudoù e darempred gant programm Kêr Europat ar Sevenadur. Arvestiñ a rejont dileuridi eus Iwerzhon a-bezh hag eus skorenn an estrenvro ivez. Anavezet mat-tre an emsav-man savet e 1893 evit difenn ha skignañ ar yezh gouezelek. Gwerinel eo an emsav-man peogwir ar prezidant (Uachtaran) e-unan a zo dilennet. Pal an Ard-Fheis a zo adwelet labour ar bloavezh tremenet ha kinnig mennadoù nevez evit an dazont.

Digoret e voe an Ard-Fheis gant **Seán Ó Sé**, kaner brudet eus Corcaigh. Dilennet en deus bet avel Prezidant **Oireachtas na Gaelige** ar bloaz mañ. Emvod broadel ha sevenadurel iwerzhonat eo Oireachtas na Gaelige ha krouet e voe ivez gant **Conradh na Gaelige** e 1898. Dalc'het e vo e Corcaigh ivez an Oireachtas ar bloaz-mañ e miz Here evit kemer perzh e anaoudegezh-vat herezh gouezelek ker ha kontelezh Corcaigh.

Bez' e voe ar bloaz-mañ hervez **Nollaig Ó Gadhra**, Uachtaran Conradh na Gaelige o komz e Gouezeleg, araokaat dreistordinal, marteze, istorel evit ar Gouezeleg dreist pep tra gant diviz ar gouarnamant iwerzhonat da glask an anaoudegezh-vat hag ur statud ofisiel evit ar yezh e Unvaniezh Europa. Degemeret mat e voe embann diwezhañ skrid kevatalder ar yezh (avel e Kanada) met siwazh avel evit statud ofisiel ar yezh e Unvaniezh Europa e kemer re amzer !

Ret eo echuiñ ur Skrid Kevatalder ar Yezh bremañ ! Da skouer, nebeut implijet e voe ar yezh gant abeg marv ar Pab gant Prezidant Iwerzhon, dileuridi vroadel ha skeul-renk an iliz katolik (nebeutoc'h eget ar Pab e-unan e-pad e veaj da Iwerzhon e 1979), adskediñ emzalc'hioù anglo-amerikan e-keñver divyezhegezh, krenvaet gant mediaou iwerzhonat ! Setu prouenn gorread eus tro-spered unyezhek ar vro.

Ret eo da g/Conradh na Gaelige kemer perzh el leur bolitikel, met politikerezh ar yezh ha neket er strolladoù politikel.

En ur degemerout mat al labour mat evit ar yezh graet gant ar ministr **Eamon Ó**

Cuív, sklaer eo bez'ez eus un ezhomm mallus da adwelet politikerezh ar yezh.

Nollaig Ó Gadhra a roas ar paliou evit diorren ar yezh en 21^{vet} kantved. Setu ar paliou :

Derc'hel ha diorren implij ar yezh el lec'hioù ma vez komzet c'hoazh ha difenn ha kreskiñ ar c'humuniezhou-se gant intrudu ijinnus.

Diogeliñ da bep skoliad e Iwerzhon an dro da zeskiñ ar yezh gouezelek, istor, douaroniezh Iwerzhon hag herezh boutin ar vro.

Reiñ da gentañ holl diorren da sevenadur ha lennegezh iwerzhonat er yezh gouezelek gant tud empleget gant deskadurezh, arzoù, medioù hag all...

Ne c'hell ket Iwerzhon ankounac'haat 2000 bloaz a sevenadur, istor, arz, herezh ha yezh, he yezh dezhi hec'h-unan. Rann ar bed eo sevenadur Iwerzhon gouezelek ha teñsor e-mesk ar priziusan Europa eo hengoun hep elhan ar yezh gouezelek.

Sevel ur stad lorc'hus hec'h amzerdremenet, oberiant bremañ ha gant spi en he dazont, setu pal **Conradh na Gaelige**, sevel ur c'hevredigezh digor d'ar bed arveze met en em vevañ diwar he hengounioù hag he danvez, e berr-gomzout kendalc'h kempoell hec'h amzerdremenet

Summary:

The annual Ard-Fheis of Conradh na Gaelige, was held in Cork this year as part of that city's ongoing series of events in connection with the European City of Culture programme. The ArdFheis was opened by Seán Ó Sé, the well known Cork singer who has been nominated Uachtaran/President of this year's Oireachtas na Gaelige, the Irish national cultural festival, initiated by Conradh na Gaelige in 1898, and which will be held this year, also in Cork in October as part of the on going efforts of Conradh to contribute to the recognition of the Gaelic heritage of that city and county.

Conradh na Gaelige 6 Sraid Fhearchair
Baile Atha Cliath 2, Éire
r-phost: eolas@cnag.ie / www.cnag.ie

Jose CALVETE

Deuet eo Peran da Gerne-veur diouzh Iwerzhon er 5^{ved} kantved, pezh a laka tud da soñjal e oa an hevelep den ha S. Kieran: ar skiantourien a lavar ne oa ket evelato. Anavezet eo Peran e bro Gembre, hag e meur a lec'h e Breizh. E parrez Trezilide ez eus un delwenn dioutañ e-kichen an hent bras.

E Kerne-veur e kaver war-dro ugent lec'h gant Peran en e anv. Al lec'h brasañ a zo Perranporth, hag aze ez eo en em gavet er vro. Bez' ez eus tevennoù a-hed an aod hanternoz amañ, hag en o zouez e voe krouet gant Peran ur chapel. En 11^{ved} kantved ar chapel-mañ a oa dilezet, ha dre an amzer e oa goloet gant traezh, kuzhet, ha kollet. Un iliz nevez evit ar barrez (Perranzabuloe, eus ar latin *Perran in sabulo* 'Peran en traezh') a voe savet war zouar kaletoc'h. E-barzh an iliz-se, er Grenn-Amzer, e veze dalc'het bazh ha kloc'h ar sant, hag e glopenn, zoken.

En 18^{ved} kantved an iliz ivez a oa dindan c'houdrod bezañ beuzet dre draezh. Fiñvet e voe neuze e 1805 d'ar lec'h m'emañ bremañ, war zouar ughel pell diouzh ar tevennoù. War-dro ar memes poent e voe dizoloet ar chapel adarre (sellit ouzh ar skeudenn), ha korfoù eskern kavet en he c'hichen. E 1910 e voe krouet ur savadur divalav e bili-raz tro-dro hag a-us ar chapel, sañset evit miret dour da zont e-barzh cenni. E 1980 tud a grede dezho e oa kollet ar stourm a-enep d'an dour, hag o deus goloet an holl savadur gant traezh. Pebezh mezh, a soñje un nebeut broadelourien, da gaout chapel ar sant brudet-se kuzhet da vat. Neuze e voe savet ur strollad prest da zizoloiñ ar chapel ha derc'hel anezhañ en ur stad mat; *St Piran Trust* eo anv ar strollad-se. Evit ar mare emaint oc'h imboure'hin live an dour e-pad ur vloavezh, evit gouzout an doare gwellañ da saveteiñ ar chapel.

Devezh gouel Sant Peran, ar 5 a viz meurzh, a zo deuet da vezañ devezh vroadel Kerne-veur. Gwechall e veze un devezh gouel evit ar vengleuzherien: bremañ e weler muioc'h-mui manifestadegoù e Truru, hag un tammig beplec'h. War an tevennoù e vez aozet ur pezh-c'hoari o tiskouez buhez ar sant, hag a vez heuliet gant mil a dud. Gwelout a reer aze nouspet banniel gvenn ha du, ur groaz wenn war ur foñs du; setu banniel Sant Peran, hag a ziskouez er memes poent ar sten o splannañ er reier, ha gouloù an Aviel o splannañ war fallagriez ar bed.

Ken George

KEAV

Breton Interceltic Summer School

Amongst the many Breton training courses that of K.E.A.V., "Kamp Etrekeltiek Ar Vrezhonegerien" (Breton Interceltic Summer School), has always been a great success. After having been organised for a long time over 2 weeks it is now extending to 3, with the possibility of opting for 1, 2, or 3 weeks according to the choice of future course participants, and of course the availability of places. It has taken place year after year in the month of July at Skaer, a small town situated near the centre of a triangle between Kemper/Gourin/An Oriant and 14 km from Rosporden railway station. There is a coach link between Rosporden and Skaer. It is, therefore, not far from the Black Mountains at the heart of Breton-speaking Brittany that the KEAV course gathers, and each week there are around 90 adults of all ages, many of them young people, 20 to 30 children and around 25 teachers or organisers.

The only enrolment condition is that of having regularly followed a course in Breton for at least 2 years, or one year of an intensive course. There are many correspondence courses such as Skol Ober. Breton is the sole language of the summer school outside of workshops in Welsh, or possibly in Irish. In the first days you may perhaps be allowed to have several words whispered in your ear in your own language, or in English, but that will be the only concession in order to help you settle in. There are, in any case, courses for absolute beginners arranged by other organisations during the summer and the rest of the year.

For the year 2005 the cost per week of the course is 230 and 180 for students and the unemployed. Please note that there is a camp site in Skaer about 2km away and for any other information or accommodation you need to contact KEAV directly.

The Activities

In spite of what has just been said about the exclusive use of Breton, the summer school is great fun and is not short of activities outside of the 6 hours per day of the course. In addition to exhibitions you will find there are work-shops in various subjects in which you can initiate yourselves like dancing and Breton singing and put them into practice in evening sessions or even fest-noz (festival nights).

You will also find games there and even an acting workshop, the better to assimilate the language, sporting activities, discovery trails, visits to farms, artisans' workshops, castles and exhibitions etc.. A theatre troupe is sometimes invited for an opening spectacle. The summer school also devotes a half-day to Breton publications and



Gwennael Huon (centre) his father Ronan Huon and his mother Loëza Er Miliner (on right).

organises the venue for writers, poets and artists, with a book-signing at a book fair.

Each year 5 to 10 course members come from across the channel, and others from France, Germany, Hungary, the USA and sometimes Japan, so why not you?

Short History of the summer school

It was in 1948: at Kleder near Rosko (Roscoff), that the first KEAV summer camp took place. It came about from a splitting from the International Camp of the B.A.S (Bodadeg Ar Sonerion/ Meeting of the Pipers) where Breton was only a side issue to that of music and traditional dance. Three young writers in the Breton language, Mr Ronan Huon (1922-2003), Mrs Vefa de Bellaing (1909-1998), artist and writer Mr Zavier Langleiz (1906-1975) decided to organize a summer school where Breton would be the sole medium, thus creating the first immersion summer school in Breton. Its origins and its participation from the start of Welsh and Irish explained its being called "Interceltic". In 1948 there were 18 of them out of 57 course members. KEAV would like today like to rediscover such a bonding on their part and why not with the Cornish, Manx and Scottish!

The creators of the summer camp were in their turn its directors, Zavier Langleiz from 1948 to 1954, the time of the true "camp" under tents, Ronan Huon succeeded him

from 1955 to 1973 then Vefa de Bellaing took the lead until 1976 with the help of Paol Kalvez and Father Yann Talbod. 1977 saw the new generation take the reins with Gwennael Huon, son of Ronan Huon and Anna Ar Beg.

Some dates which mark the evolution of the camp

1957 saw young couples coming with their families for the first time and also the first adolescents whose parents were not among the Emsav (or Emzao, the Breton Movement, come together). These were more and more numerous after 1973 thanks to the renaissance of the Breton culture after the dark hours of the war and the post-war difficulties. The author-composers, singers and musicians such as Glenmor, Alan Stivell, Gilles Servat and others pushing the young Bretons to take back ownership of the culture and language of their parents or grandparents. These young people came with a different view to the first generations. There was the generation from before 1968 and those who came afterwards. Those before were practising Catholics and the rest more or less influenced by pre-war nationalism, and those who later wanted to change the society judged by them as too conservative. Two ways of living and understanding the world confronted each other.

In 1974 a provisional balance was found in



Anna Ar Beg, her brother Herve, and Lena Louarn, chairwoman of Ofis ar Brezhoneg. (Left to right).

co-organising the camp with the young progressive and militant association, Skol An Emsav, the number of course participants reached 200! However, the experience would not be renewed because of other problems which arise.

Finally in 1977 the management of the new generation arrived and as a good response, the necessary balance and neutrality. The same year the KEAV summer-school was settled in Skaer, after having been itinerant, changing places each year. Initially established in the private school of St Alan the premises proved too small. In fact the 80 participants in 1980 passed a hundred in 1988 then more than 140 in 1995; it was necessary to find rooms with the local residents and making tents available as in the first years. Having problems with catering too and security the authorities in Skaer recommended the KEAV organisers use the public school Jolio-Curie and the college asked them to limit the numbers to 90 a week, so the 3 week school was born.

To conclude it is good to recall that the camp was sometimes the occasion of fruitful meetings and the crucible for other activities, thus in the setting of the camp in Lagoned in 1963 was formed a workshop to develop a vocabulary compatible with a modern scientific culture. This group was called SADED (Skourr An Deskadurezh Eil Derezh/Secondary Educational Branch). In 1968 separated amicably from KEAV to follow its own direction. Sometimes criticised for being elitist and abusive use of neologisms SADED has the honour of being the precursor of secondary education.

Jaket Derouet

(Thanks to Yann Gag for assistance in bringing me his text prepared for the jubilee of KEAV in 1998).

EU Constitution

The Regionalist Parties Urged a Yes vote

The political situation in the state of France cannot be compared to that in the British Isles. Here the Republicans / Jacobins are totally opposed to the any form of devolution for the regions and allow no recognition of lesser used languages.

Therefore the two main regionalist parties UDB and Parti Breton voted Yes in the Constitutional Referendum held at the end of May, along with the Greens, Socialists, Democrats and Gaullists and most of the Trade Unions.

On the day, the people of France rejected the treaty.

Parti Breton's Stance on EU Treaty Referendum

To advance a stronger Brittany in a democratic Europe, the Breton Party encouraged all the Bretons to vote YES in the Constitution Treaty on May 29th of this year. Below is a press statement issued by the party.

The referendum on the European constitutional Treaty of May 29th is an historic change which puts up new stakes for Brittany. It warrants looking at from a specific Breton context.

Today the fate of Brittany is decided in Paris, capital of a State, without exception - numerous considerations: excessive centralization of the decisions; disregard of the separation of the powers; shocking territorial disparities; refusal to recognize its various peoples and the will to remove them. This dependence means that Brittany is subjected to interests which do not take into account the needs of its development, driving inevitably, at the same time as France, towards a deepening crisis. The current state of affairs offers us sad examples every day.

Everywhere in Europe, States were reformed, progressing at the level of the business and social laws and of the recognition of the rights of the individuals and the peoples. So today Europe can operate with the most advanced economic, social and political standards of the planet.

Everywhere, except in France, the exceptional nature of which bursts in broad daylight, to the surprise of our European friends. We, Bretons, have known for a long time what this French exception means: the French cock raised on its spurs to refuse any really democratic headway which would lead it to question its model.

To the Breton Party, the question of the referendum was clearly envisaged in these terms: will the values which are current in 24 European States allow better consideration of our interests? In other words, will more integration of the European States allow Brittany to answer better the challenges, its time and does it engage a process favourable to more political autonomy? And does the European Constitution contain headways susceptible to facilitate the emergence of an authentic Breton political power?

In this double question we answer YES. The Breton Party says YES to the European constitutional Treaty, in the name of our national interests. The Breton Party chooses

the History - that of Brittany integrated in Europe, sharing the same values of progress and freedom in the unity. To advance a strong Brittany in democratic Europe, therefore the Breton Party encourages all Bretons to vote YES on the May 29th.

Jakez Arnol-Stéphan
Executive chairman, Parti Breton.

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UDB...Yes, without hesitation!



UDB (Union Democratique Bretonne) held a convention in LORIENT (an Oriant) in March, to decide their strategy in the referendum on the EU Constitution Treaty. At the end of the convention, different options were up for discussion and the vote cast showed that 72% were in favour of a YES vote; 21% for a NO-vote and 7% without opinion. Therefore UDB appealed for a YES vote in the referendum. Below Ronan Divard, PRO for the UDB, outlines their argument for pressing for a Yes vote.

'YES...without hesitation! Everybody accepts the fact that Europe, with 25 states does not work well. The existing laws do not allow it. That's why the new treaty for an European constitution came about. This new treaty allows real progress in terms of democracy, transparency and efficiency in terms of decisions. Nothing in this treaty

continued on page 8

reinforces the liberal orientations already underlined in the union. At the opposite end it covers humanist values and social rights (the right to go on strike, equality between men and women, equal working conditions, protection for young workers)

The text of the treaty also embraces respect of cultural and linguistic diversity. It is important for us, the Breton people, because our fundamental rights are not respected within the french state.

The treaty reaffirms also that Europe will keep going on solidarity actions, in order to reduce the gap between regions. Breizh took profit from Europe. About 2.4 billion euro has been invested in Breizh since 1975. This process will keep going through different programs. Otherwise the treaty allows also a higher level of environmental protections.

The UDB works for a social, pacific and federal Europe which recognizes "people without state".

At this level the treaty is not perfect. It is the result of a long and complex negotiation, in which each lobby had to make concessions. Of course, no need to tell you that it's neither federalism nor the right for "people without state" that the french state fights for...

Thinking that a french-NO vote will help to put the text on the table and help to push through one of those ideas is unrealistic. Europe is not France, so it's arrogant and chauvinistic to imagine that the different states must conform to the french model. Who can seriously think that a french-NO vote will help social euro-forces to stop 50 years of common history.

Saying NO to the constitution means to agree with the most liberal part of the text (3rd part). Therefore we will not take advantage of the political progress of the 1st and 2nd part. As a matter of fact the 3rd part, which is the most contested on the left wing, is the result of the Rome and Nice treaties. They are already applied and will keep going on. Telling the opposite is just demagoguery and illusion...

Women and men from the left wing must know that in terms of social progress nothing is for ever. This treaty is more a question of political power than a constitution. If, this political power is not in favour of the workers it does not allow us to stop the European process. A stop will be good news for those, like the USA, who like to see the EU as a free trade zone, but not at all as a political power. Otherwise a NO-vote will weaken our continent in front of the emergence countries like China, India or Brazil...

A strong unified Europe will be able to exist today in this world as well as tomorrow as a peaceful zone with stability, democracy and respect for Human Rights...

Europe is a positive projection in the future. It is something vital for the future of Breizh and the Breton people...Don't push Europe to the side...

Ronan Divard, UDB.

Douarnenez Film Festival

This year, the 28th Festival will be held from the 20th to the 27th of August. It is dedicated to the frontier-line between the United States and Mexico and named "On the Other Line".

This frontier-line is about 3200 km long (about 2000 miles). It is strictly warded by federal guards, but also by a recently created civilian volunteers units. A wall was built for a short length in Tijuana and in El Paso, and a wire fence erected along 28 miles.

This frontier-line is separating a rich country (USA) from the poor countries in the South, however, despite all this supervision along the frontier it does not prevent the immigrants from entering the United States, sometimes at the risk of their life: every year "wet backs" are drowned when trying to swim across the Rio Grande or people die of thirst when passing through the desert. The illegal immigration is, for a part, in the hands of gangs; bad things are happening, like the murders and *disappearings* of many women in Ciudad Juarez.

In spite of the controls, about 800,000 to 2,000,000 illegal immigrants succeed to get into the United States every year, coming from Mexico but also from other countries of Central or South America. About 40 or 50 millions of Hispano-Americans are now living in the United States, half of them at least coming from Mexico. They are generally employed in low-paid jobs. Even if some of them succeed to riches, half of them are remain poor, held in contempt by the American people who call them "Chicanos". They still speak Spanish but many of them are mixing English and Spanish, with the birth of a new language, the Spanglish.

They form a large part of the population of some States: more than 40 % in New Mexico, more than a third in California or in Texas, more than the fourth part in Arizona. In some cities, near the border, they form more than nine tenths of the population and in some places the Spanish language is now the first language, but not often officially recognized. The unemployed young people, the "Pachucos" do not speak English and have also lost the Mexican culture and thus have difficulties to find a place in the United States.

Nevertheless, the poor people coming from the South, enduring hardship, have been fighting for decades to defend their rights and to preserve their dignity.

All these questions will be examined for the most part through films of different kinds, by many directors from Mexico (Alejo Galindo, Alfonso Arau, Enrique Arroyo, Alex Rivera, Luis Valdes, Lourdes Portillo, Patricia Cardoso, Yolanda Cruz), from the United States (Anthony Mann, Sam Peckinpah, Orson Welles) and from other countries (Chantal Akerman, Ken Loach). They will also be considered through debates and meetings with directors, reporters and academics.

A part of the festival will be dedicated to the new films from Brittany and another part, named the "Big Tribe", will show films about peoples which were in the past the subject of the Festival. A last part, called "The other side of the wall", will tackle the life in prison seen from the inside and from the outside.

Yves Jardin

Information: Douarnenez Film Festival, Phone: 00.33.2.98.82.09.21, Website: www.kerys.com/festival



Kampagn skoazell Diwan evit dazont ar skolioù

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Cymru



Etholiad 2005 – Enillion yn Éire ac Alba!

Siomedig oedd Etholiad 2005 i ni yng Nghymru - rhyw ohaith y byddai'r Plaid yn gorffen hefo pum sedd, a dim ond tair a gafwyd. Mae'n amlwg mai pleidleisiau mewnfudwyr yng Ngheredigion a wnaeth i Blaid Cymru gollu'r sedd honno i'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol - gallai'r mwyafrif bach o 200 a gafodd fod o ganlyniad i'r mewnfudwyr sydd wedi symud i mewn ers yr etholiad diwethaf yn unig. Eironi felly ar ôl amharodwydd y Plaid yng Ngheredigion i gefnogi ymgyrch Cymuned am faer etholedig i Geredigion y llynedd, a allasai fod wedi arwain at gamau pendant yn erbyn y Mewnlifiad.

Pur wahanol oedd hi i genedlaetholwyr y Chwe Sir, ond mor dawel oedd y cyfryngau yn ei chylch prin y huasech yn gwybod. Mae PUM sedd gan Sinn Féin rwan, un yn fwy na'r tro diwethaf. 'Does ryfedd bod y Sefydliad yn cadw'n dawel. Enillasant sedd An tIúr ac Aid Mhacha (Newry & Armagh) oddi wrth genedlaetholwyr gwan yr SDLP - Conor Murphy ydyw'r aelod newydd. Yn ogystal, cadwodd SF y pedwar aelod oedd ganddynt yn barod - Gerry Adams yng Ngorllewin Beal Feirste, Martin McGuinness yng Nghanol Uladh (Mid Ulster), Pat Doherty yng Ngorllewin Tír Eoghain, a Michelle Gildernew yn Fear Manach a de Tír Eoghain. Enillodd yr SDLP sedd oddi wrth yr Uniolaethwyr drwy gipio De Beal Feirste - felly mae tair yn dal gan yr SDLP. Erbyn hyn mae seddau'r genedlaetholwyr (os galwn yr SDLP felly) yn gorchuddio dros hanner tirwedd y 6 sir a chymerodd y genedlaetholwyr tua 44% o'r pleidleisiau ymysg y prif bleidiau. Mae hyn yn galonogol, os nad ydyw'r rhagolygon am Gytundeb Gwener y Groglith a'r broses heddwch yn rhy dda.

Nid oedd pethau i fod yn rhy dda i Blaid Genedlaethol yr Alban, yn ôl y cyfryngau cyn yr etholiad. Mae'r nifer o seddau am senedd San Steffan yn yr Alban wedi cael ei ostwng o 72 i 59 oherwydd bod ei senedd ei hun gan yr Alban. (Nid yw hyn wedi digwydd yng Nghymru eto.) Dilewyd rhai etholaethau a chyfunwyd neu estynwyd ffiniau llawer o rai eraill. Pum sedd allan o 72 oedd gan yr SNP - dan yr hen batrwm - Banbh (Banff) a Buchan (sedd Alex Salmond), Moireabh (Moray) (Angus Robertson), Gogledd Taobh Tatha (Tayside North) (Peter Wishart), Aonghas (Angus) (Mike Weir), a Peairt (Perth) (sedd Annabelle Ewing). Buasai ennill pedair o'r

seddau diwygiedig, allan o 59, yn cyfateb i'r un cyfartaledd, ond chwech o seddau a enillwyd o dan batrwm etholaethol llai ffafriol - y canlyniad gorau i'r Plaid Genedlaethol mewn etholiad San Steffan ers 1974. Ail-etholwyd llywydd y Plaid, Alex Salmond, yn sedd estynedig Banbh a Buchan gyda dros 50% o'r pleidleisiau. Ail-etholwyd Angus Robertson yn y fersiwn newydd o Moireabh gyda mwy o fwyaf. Cadwodd Mike Weir yr Aonghas estynedig er gwaethaf ymgyrch rymus gan y Toriaid i'w chipio a symud un o ardaloedd mwyafrif efnogol i'r etholaeth gymdogol. Enillodd Peter Wishart, sy'n chwarae yn y grwp Runrig, sedd newydd Peairt a gogledd Swydd Peairt, ond Annabelle Ewing ydyw'r unig un o'r ASau blaenorol na fydd yn ôl gan iddi gollu sedd newydd Ochail a de Swydd Peairt o 688 pleidlais i Lafur - o leiaf dyna darged amlwg am y tro nesaf. Ond ar ben y llywyddiannau hyn eipiwyd dwy sedd arall oddi wrth Lafur. Enillwyd Dwyrain Dùn Deagh (Dundee) gan Stewart Hosie - dyma'r sedd a ddaliodd cyn-lywydd yr SNP Gordon Wilson cyn ei cholli yn 1987. Ac, yn fwyaf diddorol i ddarlennwyr Carn efallai, ail-enillwyd sedd Na h-Eileanan an Iar neu Ynysydd y Gorrlewin oddi ar Lafur. (Defnyddir yr enw Gaelleg ar gyfer y sedd hon yn Saesneg erbyn hyn, cynharer Ynys Môn.) Dyma'r sedd a gynrychioliodd gan y cyn-lywydd Domhnall Stiubhart o 1970 tan 1987. Angus MacNeil ydyw'r AS newydd.

Safodd Mebyon Kernow yn mheda'r o bum sedd Cernyw, ond mynd i lawr ryw ychydig wnaeth eu pleidlais. Curasant ymgeiswyr adain dde Veritas bob tro o leiaf. O bwmpas, ni safodd MK yn sedd Porthia/St Ives. He mae'r Democrat Rhyddfrydol Andrew George, siaradwr Cernyweg a lled-genedlaetholwr, yn AS. Yn wir, enillodd y Lib. Dems bob un o seddau Cernyw, dan gipio'r un sedd, Aberfal a Chambron, oedd gan Lafur. Deallwn fod Dan Rogerson, AS newydd Gogledd Cernyw, yn medru Cernyweg hefyd.

Robat ap Tomos

Summary:

The 2005 election saw advances in Alba and Éire. The SNP are now up to six seats. Sinn Féin are up to five, with nationalist seats in the Six Counties covering over half the land area.

Gwynfor Evans 1912-2005



Gwynfor Evans, former Plaid Cymru president and MP, died on April 21st aged 92. A native of Barri, Glamorgan, he learnt Welsh as a university student and spent most of his life in Llangadog, Carmarthenshire. Gwynfor was a life-long Christian and pacifist. He was associated with Plaid Cymru from its earliest days and became party president in 1945, a post he held for 36 years. He was a leading campaigner in the unsuccessful attempt to stop the drowning of the Tryweryn valley in Meirionnydd to make a reservoir for Liverpool in the 1960s, but in the same decade he permanently changed Welsh politics when he won the Carmarthen by-election in 1966 to become the first ever Plaid MP. The seat was lost to Labour in 1970 but regained from 1974 until 1979, along with two others that have remained Plaid ever since. In 1980, when the government in 1980 said they were not going to keep their promise to establish a Welsh language television service, Gwynfor's willingness to fast to the end was the most prominent part of the national campaign to restore the policy of providing the Welsh service and it was probably decisive in the success of the campaign for S4C. This success in turn marked the start of the national recovery after the defeats of 1979 - the devolution referendum and the election by the English of the right-wing Thatcher government. Over 2000 attended the funeral in Aberystwyth including past and present leaders of Plaid, Winnie Ewing of the SNP, and representatives of other parts of the national movement.

Gwynfor was the President of the Celtic League for the first ten years of its existence and his work helped secure the League's recognition.

A campaign has started, supported by Plaid MPs, for the new politics building under construction at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, to be named the 'Gwynfor' Building.

Election 2005 – Colons taking over

Plaid Cymru entered the May 2005 Westminster election holding four seats and hoping to win a record fifth. They ended up with only three seats, having failed narrowly to win Ynys Môn from Labour and narrowly losing Ceredigion to the Liberal Democrats. They held Caernarfon, Meirionnydd Nant Conwy, and Carmarthen East & Dinefwr – a distribution of seats resembling the situation from 1974 to 1979.

Plaid have traditionally taken the bulk of their support from the Welsh-speaking community and all the seats they have ever held at Westminster (that is the five seats mentioned above, give or take boundary changes) have been those entirely or mainly in the Bro Gymraeg, Welsh-speaking Wales, with a Welsh-speaking majority. This is hardly a coincidence since Welsh national identity is language-based and national aspirations are dependent on a national identity being felt in the first place. Anglicised Wales is anglicised in more than just language. Since the 1980s at least Plaid have been the most supported party in the Welsh community in the Bro Gymraeg, but as this community is being depleted through economic emigration and diluted through colonization, so the nationalist power base is undermined, though very few people are mentioning this.

The Ynys Môn (Anglesey) seat had been gained by Labour from Plaid in the previous (2001) election with a majority of just 800, the votes of colons being decisive. Despite a strong campaign to win the seat back this time, with former MEP Eurig Wyn as candidate, the Labour majority increased to over 1200. In view of the number of English who have settled on the island in the intervening years this follows, though the decisive factor in defeating Plaid this time was ironically the presence of a colon independent candidate who, having received an unusual amount of media coverage, seems to have succeeded in attracting a proportion of the farming vote.

Ceredigion had been gained by Cynog Dafis of Plaid from the Liberal Democrats in 1992, with Simon Thomas being the MP from 2000 on. The heavy colonization in progress in Ceredigion, with the connivance of the county council, had received more attention than in most of the Bro Gymraeg with the divisive referendum campaign for a mayor for Ceredigion putting Cymuned and Plaid locally on opposite sides. The seat was lost to the Liberal Democrats this time with a small majority of 219. This is the first time ever that Ceredigion has had a non-Welsh speaking MP. With such a small majority all the influencing factors would have been individually decisive. These were:-

- Further colonisation and Anglicisation since 2001 – some 25% of the electoral list had not been there last time.
- The votes of the hundreds of English university students in Aberystwyth and Lampeter, included in the aforementioned 25%.



Welsh Speaker, David Davies new Plaid Cymru MP for Mynwy/Monmouth.

- There remained an amount of dissatisfaction, in nationalist circles, with Plaid locally on the colonization issue in the wake of the referendum.
- The general swing, on the unionist side, from Labour to Lib. Dem.
- The decision of the British Green party to field a candidate who took 800+ votes. They had previously co-operated with Plaid, but even there it seems recent colons are taking over.

Ynys Môn and Ceredigion, both held by Plaid in the Assembly, will form two obvious targets in the next Westminster election, but neither may be particularly easy to win back because the very community whose identity is expressed by supporting them is in decline and both constituencies now have unionist MPs with a vested interest in encouraging colonization.

Plaid held Caernarfon and Meirionnydd Nant Conwy, with Hywel Williams and Elfyn Llwyd respectively increasing their majorities despite ongoing colonization in these areas. The general swing away from Labour, the second party here, would have been a factor. Plaid has held these two seats constantly since 1974.

Plaid's best result came in Carmarthen East & Dinefwr where radical MP Adam Price tripled his majority over Labour in the seat he gained in 2001, this despite a strong Labour campaign to win the seat back. Adam Price has won much support through leading a campaign to impeach Prime Minister Tony Blair for the illegal war waged against Iraq.

In the rest of Wales, the 35 constituencies with a definite English-speaking majority, the Plaid vote remained at a similar level to 2001, going up a bit in some and down in others. Progress in English-speaking Wales does not look imminent. Among the unionist parties, there was a swing away from Labour, as in England. The Tories gained the three Labour seats of Monmouth, Preseli Pembrokeshire, and Clwyd West – all in territory the Tories held during the Thatcher years. The new MP for Mynwy / Monmouth is the Welsh-speaking Assembly Member David Davies who we hope will be a positive influence on language issues. Labour lost their safest seat in Wales, Blaenau Gwent, to unaffected former Labour AC, Peter Law. The new make up of MPs in Wales is Labour 29, Liberal Democrats 4, Plaid 3, Conservative 3, and Independent 1.

Robot ap Tomos

Europe – Jill Evans says 'Time for a rethink on the way ahead':

Commenting on the French people's rejection by referendum of the EU Constitution, Plaid Cymru Deputy Leader Jill Evans MEP, called on EU leaders to respect the verdict of the French people and to rethink the way ahead for any EU Constitution.

Ms Evans said:

"The French people have spoken loud and clear and in great numbers – their verdict must be respected. This result is a wake up call for European leaders and a clear signal of popular unease with what's being proposed.

Plaid Cymru is a pro-European party and we agree that better arrangements are needed to run an EU of twenty five states, but we are seeing that this draft constitution is not standing up to popular scrutiny.

Europe's decision-making has to get right down there to the local communities to ensure that people do have a voice in shaping this new Europe. The Convention which drew up this Constitution was supposed to reflect the views of the people of Europe, but the French and the Dutch "No" votes show that they weren't listening enough to what real people had to say.

The plan before us in this Constitution is not our vision of what Europe should be or how it should develop. It could be a small step forward, but basically leaves power in the hands of the member states and unelected Brussels bureaucrats. It makes only passing reference to other levels of government such as our own National Assembly and this is a regrettable missed opportunity to spread real democracy at all levels throughout the EU."

No more Language Legislation from Westminster, Says Plaid AC

Speaking before the Cymdeithas yr Iaith meeting on the Urdd eisteddfod field, Elin Jones, AC for Ceredigion, called for all new legislation on the Welsh language to be made by the National Assembly and not the Westminster Parliament. She called on all organisations interested in the status and promotion of the language to unite in a call to both Westminster and Assembly governments to use the impending White Paper and Devolution Bill to place all powers on the Welsh language with the National Assembly and to enable the Assembly to legislate on all matters related to the Welsh Language.

Elin Jones said.

"We now need to drop the call for a new Welsh Language Act from Westminster and take the opportunity presented by the White Paper to devolve all powers on the Welsh Language to the Assembly. We know that there needs to be new legislation on the Welsh language in the near future in order to create the Dyfarnydd or Regulatory Office as a result of the abolition of the Welsh Language Board. Currently the Assembly has no power to set up such an Office on a statutory basis. Alun Pugh AC, Culture Minister, recently stated in a Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Committee that such legislation was unlikely to be a standalone piece of Westminster legislation and would possibly be included as part of the forthcoming White Paper.

"Now is the opportunity therefore to ensure that whatever increased powers are given to the National Assembly as a result of the White Paper, that they should include full powers to act on all matters related to the Welsh Language. Obviously, if the National Assembly receives full primary legislative



Elin Jones

powers in the next few years then I assume this will automatically include legislative powers on the Welsh language. This is most definitely my preferred option.

"However, recent press comments by the new Wales Office Minister, Nick Ainger, have strongly hinted that Labour are likely to drop the Richard Commission proposals for primary legislation and go for a second rate solution of fast-tracking legislation. This is far from ideal and wholly betrays the notion of vesting law-making powers with the people of Wales. However, even under this proposal it could be possible for all legislation on the Welsh language to be made by the National Assembly. This could only require that an Order in Council is passed by both Houses of Parliament to give the National Assembly the right to legislate on all matters relating to the Welsh Language. From then on, the National Assembly could be free to create legislation on, for example, the status of the language, the role of the private sector in relation to the language, the role of the Welsh language in planning matters etc.

"We need to create a powerful lobby of all Welsh language supporters to devolve all legislative powers on the Welsh Language to

the National Assembly. The Labour governments must be persuaded that all matters relating to the Welsh language should be devolved to Wales and that this should not be confined to specific areas such as the creation of a Regulatory Office. Such narrowly-defined legislation should be rejected. The Government of Wales Act 1998 recognised in Section 32 that the National Assembly "may do anything it considers appropriate to support the Welsh language". However, this did not confer the right to legislate. Now is the opportunity to finally rest with the people of Wales the right to create laws that relate to its own language. It never made sense for Scottish and English MPs to be voting on legislation affecting the Welsh language. At long last, it could soon be up to ACs in Wales to decide on the fate of the Welsh Language."

Rap T

Language Act Campaign continues

As a continuation of their campaign for a new Welsh Language Act, members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith have targeted more chain stores and other private businesses that do not come under the 1993 language act, using stickers calling for a

"Deddf Iaith Newydd/New Language Act". During the spring action was taken in Aberystwyth, Y Trallwng/Welshpool, and Aberteifi/Cardigan. The companies targeted included Woolworths, Barclays, the Abbey, Burtons, Subway, and Dorothy Perkins.

The action was a prelude to the public meeting Cymdeithas organised in June on the field of the Urdd national eisteddfod, this year in Bae Caerdydd/Cardiff Bay, entitled "A Language Act - Now is the chance". The coming abolition of the Welsh Language Quango, the basis of the outdated 1993 act, necessitates the introduction of some sort of new legislation. A Cymdeithas spokesman said "The action in Aberteifi, Y Trallwng, and Aberystwyth was a sign of the determination of Cymdeithas to use direct action for a New Language Act, in advance of the Cardiff Bay meeting. Chain shops were targeted because we want to see any new legislation cover the private sector".

Safeguarding Eisteddfod language rule

The new constitution of the National Eisteddfod includes a clause stating that "Welsh is the language of the Eisteddfod and that rule cannot be changed under any circumstances". The constitution states that a new committee for the operation of the language policy is to be set up. The pressure group Cylch yr Iaith, following last year's anglicised event in Casnewydd/Newport, have submitted a list of recommendations to the Eisteddfod including:

- All employed and voluntary workers should be able to speak Welsh, including stewards and programme-sellers;
- Every worker on a stand on the Maes who comes into contact with the public should be able to speak Welsh;

- Signs on the Maes should be in Welsh only;
- Translation equipment and bilingual literature for visitors without Welsh should be available from a specific location;

"Unfortunately, the language rule has not been put into complete effect", a Cylch spokesman has said. "In recent years there have been a number of complaints about the Anglicisation of the Maes and there is a danger that the Welsh-speaking atmosphere will be lost."

The Eisteddfod have said that some of the points are 'impractical', but acknowledge that others are feasible.



Éire



Lá maith ag an SNP ach níor thosaigh an cluiche mór fós

Cé nár éirigh chomh maith sin le Plaid Cymru i dtoghchán Westminster i rith an tsamhraidh, bhí scéal níos dearfaí le tuairiscí ag Páirtí Náisiúnach na hAlban. Faoi atheannaireacht Alex Salmond, d'éirigh leo líon a gcuid suíochán a ardú go dtí sé cinn. D'fós suntais is ea gur éirigh leo na hOileáin Thiar agus Dún Daoi Thoir a bhaint de Pháirtí Lucht Oibre Shasana.

Bhí Salmond féin an-sásta, ní nach ionadh, leis an dul chun cinn suntasach a dhéan an Páirtí ina gcéad toghchán Westminster ó toghadh eisean ina cheannaire athuair. "Tá an cluiche as baile imeartha anois agus buaite againn", ar seisean. "Beidh an chéad chluiche eile againn sa bhaile - Toghchán Hollywood 2007!" Tá cúis mhaith ag Salmond a bheith muiníneach. Fuair sé féin os cionn 51% de na vótaí in Banff agus Buchan agus, tar éis lag trá a lean ar aghaidh roinnt blianta agus a bhain an t-aer as seolta páirtí a mheas go raibh an easadh einniúnach ar tí teacht am ar bith, tá an SNP thar n-ais ar chonair na bua agus fonn eitha orthu arís.

Dar le Salmond go sáraíonn torthaí an toghchán seo go comhréireach torthaí an SNP. Feabhra 1974, agus go bhfuil siad beagnach chomh maith le torthaí an Pháirtí. Deirleadh Fómhair na bliana sin. Ní hé amháin sin ach d'éirigh leo suíochán a bhaint de Pháirtí an Lucht Oibre den chéad uair le breis is tríocha bliain anuas. Ina theannta sin, ba dhóibair dóibh an seachtu suíochán a bhaint amach in Oehil agus Peart Thuaidh, áit nach raibh ach 688 vóta ag Páirtí an Lucht Oibre sa bhreis orthu.

Bhain an SNP taitneamh ar leith as a mbua sna hOileáin Thiar, áit ar éirigh le hAonghus Mac Néill 45% den vóta a fháil agus Páirtí an Lucht Oibre a fhágaint 10% laistiar díobh. Feisire óg fuinniúil is ea Mac Néill agus tá a pháirtí dóchasach go n-éireoidh leis greim a choimeád ar an suíochán amach sa todhchaí.

Dar le Salmond go bhfuil an tonn leis an bPáirtí Náisiúnach anois. Cinnte, dealraíonn sé go bhfuil bua an Olltoghchán tar éis cur le híomhá intofa an pháirtí athuair agus tá scata fothoghechán áitiúil buaite acu ó shin. I gComar na nAlt i Lanarkshire North, bhain iarrthóir an Pháirtí, Tom Johnson, 60% den vóta, agus sna Deaschríocha, fágann bua Bill Herd gur féidir leis an bPáirtí a bheith dóchasach faoi Thoghchán Hollywood toise nach raibh ach tromlach 270 vóta ag na

Daonlathaigh Liobrálacha ansin an uair dheiridh.

Ach níl gach duine aontaithe go bhfuil cuma chomh dearfach ar an todhchaí agus a mhaíonn Alex Salmond. Deir an t-iarFheisire, Jim Sillars, cé gur éirigh leis an SNP dul chun cinn áirithe a dhéanamh i dtoghchán Westminster, go bhfuil titim shuntasach, ó thaobh líon vótaí, ar thorthaí an Pháirtí ón mbliain 1992. Dar leis siúd, má scarann na Daonlathaigh Liobrálacha lena geomhghleacaithe ceannais i bParlaimint na hAlban, Páirtí an Lucht Oibre, go mbeidh siad ábalta tairbhe a bhaint as míshásamh an phobail. Ina theannta sin, is dóigh le Sillars má cheapann Páirtí an Lucht Oibre Gordon Browne mar cheannaire go bhféadfadh tairbhe a bheith ann dóibh in Albain.

Tá daoine eile buartha faoin mbéim éagsúil a leag an SNP ar an neamhspleáchas i dtoghcheantair éagsúla. In áiteanna a bhfuil an Páirtí thar a bheith láidir, luadh an neamhspleáchas mar sprioc dhlísteanaigh na hAlban. In áiteanna eile, Oehil agus Peart Thuaidh, mar shampla, deir an lucht cáinte nár úsáideadh an focal, níu amháin, i geáipéisíocht toghchán an SNP. Deir siad go bhfuil an baol ann, i gcás go n-éireodh leis an bPáirtí móramh a fháil ar son an neamhspleáchais i geodanna d'Albain, go mbeadh codanna eile den tír ag iarraidh fanacht le Sasana agus críochdheighilt a dhéanamh, mar a deineadh in Éirinn.

Bíodh dealramh leis na hargóintí sin nó nach mbíodh, níl aon dabht ná gur toghchán tábhachtach a bheidh i dtoghchán Hollywood i gceann dhá bhliain. Má éiríonn leis an SNP céatadán mór de mhuintir na hAlban a thabhairt leo thairseach shíceolaíoch an neamhspleáchais sa toghchán sin, beidh an cluiche ar siúl i gceart agus níl aon dabht ná gur imreoir den scoth é Alex Salmond. Ná bíodh aon amhras ar aoine faoi rud eile, áfach - níl sé i gceist ag na Sasanaigh an cluiche sin a chailliúint agus is iadsan a chumann na rialacha.

Caoimhín Mac Raghnaill,

Summary

This article outlines the good results achieved by the SNP in the Westminster election and summarises the thoughts of party leader Alex Salmond and others on whether the SNP now.

Concerto Chaitlín Maude

On the 21st May (the day before her birthday) TG4 screened an excellent hour long documentary tribute *Concerto Chaitlín Maude* on the life and artistic legacy of the Conamara poet, singer and actress, Caitlín Maude. Caitlín was from Rosmuc in the Conamara Gaeltacht, where she was born in 1941. She gained acclaim for her poetry in the sixties and seventies and was recognised as a fine sean nós (traditional style) singer. She co-authored one play and her acting ability was widely praised. She was a life long activist for the Gaeltacht and the Irish language - sometimes at a cost to herself. She was also a long time Celtic League member and wrote regularly for *Cam*. Caitlín died of



Caitlín Maude

cancer in 1982 and left one son, Caomhán.

The programme was the inspiration of Aoife Nic Cormaic, who directed it. It was formulated in the movements of a concerto focussing on the different phases of Caitlín's life with newly composed music by Aoife which made it a work of art in itself. A considerable amount of old film footage and TV footage was sourced by Aoife including a film of Caitlín's wedding in Rosmuc to Cathal Ó Luain. Coupled with memories of friends and family this made for a very powerful piece of cinema where Caitlín's own voice came through loud and strong.

Caitlín's poems and prose had been published in two separate posthumous collections but had been out of print for some years. *Coiscéim* brought poems, prose and play together in a new edition of her works which was launched at the preview by TG4 of *Concerto Chaitlín Maude* in Club an Conradh.

STÁDAS!

Irish Language made an Official EU Working Language



Daithí Mac Cárthaigh, Aoife Ní Scolaí, Proinnsias Ó Maolchallain and Pádraig Ó Laighin celebrate their victory.

In mid June at a meeting of the EU Foreign Ministers in Luxembourg the unanimous decision was made to give Irish the status of a working language in the EU. The decision will be effective from January 2007 to allow time for implementation measures. The campaign to achieve working language status for Irish began with the formation of STADAS, a group operating under the aegis of Conradh na Gaeilge and Comhdhail Náisiúnta na Gaeilge. The group lobbied strongly, collected over 80,000 signatures on the internet and organised demonstrations of support culminating in a major national demonstration in Dublin. It may be mentioned that if the Government of Taoiseach Jack Lynch, at the time of EU entry in 1973, had not reneged on its responsibility none of this would have been necessary. The status of working language was available to Irish on entry to the EEC at the time but they misguidedly decided that Irish should be a treaty language only.

The well run and organised STADAS campaign led to the acceptance by the Irish Government last November that official working language status would be sought for Irish. STADAS spokesman and chief organiser of the campaign, Pádraig Ó Laighin, welcomed the decision wholeheartedly declaring it a victory for the Irish people, the Irish language community and the Irish Government. The status of Irish as an EU working language means:

- Laws of the EU will be published in Irish. Irish legislation must be published in Irish and English. 75% of legislation comes from the EU and this will now come in Irish and English
- EU positions require two (or more) working languages of the EU. Irish now becomes an employment advantage in the EU.
- Irish can now be spoken in the European Parliament.
- The EU will now employ additional translators for Irish.

Irish will have the same status as the EU's

other official working languages but the Irish government agreed a slimmed-down regime which will not require all documents to be translated into Irish initially. From 2007, all primary legislation approved by the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament will be translated into Irish and ministers and MEPs will be able to use Irish on request during council meetings and European Parliament plenary sessions.

Irish Officials said that the decision would create between 20 and 30 jobs for Irish translators and interpreters in the European institutions. The European Commission estimates that making Irish an official language will cost the EU 3.5 million a year, compared to an average of 46 million for each of the other official languages.

The Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern welcomed the decision which he described as a very important step forward for the Irish language. 'It ensures that the status accorded to Irish in the Union reflects its domestic status. It is further evidence of the Government's determination to ensure that every opportunity is used to promote and facilitate the use of Irish, including in our activities as a member of the EU, he said.' The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Dermot Ahern, praised Ireland's Permanent Representative to the EU, Anne Anderson, who conducted most of the negotiations, as 'absolutely magnificent'.

Minister for Gaeltacht Affairs, Eamon Ó Cuív, said the decision presented a challenge to the Irish-speaking community to make use of the new status achieved for Irish. He said it presented a challenge to Irish organisations and educational institutions to ensure there were enough qualified translators to meet the demands for the services.

In a separate move the foreign ministers agreed to offer semi-official status to minority languages which have a constitutional status within a member-state. This will open the way for enhanced status for such languages as Catalan and Basque and for Luxembourgish. Member states requesting enhanced status for such languages will, however, pay the cost of translation and interpretation themselves.



A section of the large Stádas demonstration in Dublin last year

GAELTACHT HOUSING – Irish Language need confirmed but...!

An Bord Pleanála's (the Planning Appeals Board) policy on protecting the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht, as required by the new Planning Act, is clarified in two rulings issued in April in relation to permission for new housing developments in the Conamara and Kerry Gaeltachtaí. However, the policy won't apply to single houses. The two cases where linguistic conditions must be imposed by legal agreement involve a development in Baile an Fheirtéaraigh (Ballyferriter), Co Kerry, and in Na Forbacha (8 miles west of Galway city), Co Galway. The planning permission received from Kerry County Council by a Dingle company, Southbound Properties, for the development in Ballyferriter carried a number of conditions, including the use of Irish names for the development. However, the linguistic aspect wasn't considered to be specific enough by Donncha Ó hEallaithe, an Irish-language activist based at Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology. He lodged an appeal on behalf of a group of local residents.

An Bord Pleanála has ruled that 75 per cent of the dwellings actually constructed must be lived in by Irish-speakers. This percentage is based on census figures for Irish-language use in this Kerry Gaeltacht area and must be secured in a legal agreement between the developer and the local authority. The appeals board has also ruled that 60 per cent of the residential development with retail and office space in Furbo, Co Galway, will have to be occupied by Irish speakers - a percentage also based on census figures for daily Irish use in that area. Fluency will be determined under existing standards set for Gaeltacht housing, relating to the head of the household, rather than by any specific new rules.

In a third ruling however an appeal by residents of the Gaeltacht village of An Spideál (Spiddal), Co Galway, against a scheme of 17 new houses on lands formerly owned by Lord Killanin at Bothúna, near An Spideál, was rejected because the initial outline planning approval was awarded under the old Galway County development plan which did not allow for language protection.

In both the Furbo and Ballyferriter cases, the language conditions apply for the next 5 years and residential units let for less than three months a year for holiday purposes will be exempt. The board also emphasised that while they will be guided by census figures for daily use of Irish in determining how many dwellings should be occupied by Irish speaker the census figures will be used as a guide, but not an "absolute" one. "In some instances, the board may choose to increase the percentage of residential units to be occupied by Irish-speakers".

Meanwhile the requirements of the

Planning Act seem to have been ignored by Donegal County Council. The council granted permission last April to a local couple, with an English address, to build 27 two-storey houses in Falcarragh. The planning was subject to 24 conditions, none of which made any reference to the Gaeltacht or the Irish language.

While it was reported that Údaras na Gaeltachta has appealed the decision a spokesman for an Údaras said they had made a "submission" and not an appeal to An Bord Pleanála to express concern about social and language issues. If this is the case it may not have legal status as an appeal. This is the second time that Údaras has expressed concern about building in the Donegal Gaeltacht. Last November a development of eight houses and 12 apartments in nearby Gortahork was refused planning permission after appeals by local people and the Gaeltacht Authority.

An Údaras spokesperson stated 'We cannot grant or refuse planning permission in the Gaeltacht but we have a statutory advisory role to the council under the Planning Act 2000. A development with 27 houses is a very large development for this area and we made the submission to safeguard the language and other social issues in the Falcarragh area. This development could bring in 100 mainly young people to Falcarragh which has a population of 852 according to the 2002 census. And this could have a significant impact on the Irish language in the area.'

The spokesman stressed that Údaras understand the need for housing but the authorities should be "very careful" when granting planning permission in Gaeltacht areas. He also questioned whether there was a proper economic and social infrastructure in Falcarragh to cope with the influx of young people.



an Daingean!

As the Placenames (Ceantair Gaeltachta) Order 2004 takes effect all place names and village names in Gaeltacht areas must be in Irish only and English and bilingual signage has been replaced. While Irish only signage has been used in Gaeltacht areas since the early seventies Irish names must also now be used for all official purposes such as planning applications. A recent instance relating to the replacement of Dingle with *An Daingean*, in County Kerry, led to a mini hoo-ha in the English language media when one Kerry County councillor called for retention of Dingle on grounds of 'international branding'. We were told that most people wanted this. However when the Irish daily LA investigated the matter in the town it

reported that the majority of *An Daingean* residents were more than happy with the Irish language only version. This episode led the usual anti Irish elements in the English language media (such as the papers in the Irish Independent stable particularly) to launch a round of questioning on the cost of the implementation of provisions for services in Irish of the Official Languages Act. Minister for Gaeltacht Affairs, Eamon Ó Cuív, stood his ground, pointing out that the extensive debate on the Official Languages Act as it passed through its various drafts had been largely ignored by those now raising these issues and that the legislation was rights based giving legislative effect to the status of the Irish language in the Irish Constitution.

Perilous State of Gaeltacht Education

A report commissioned by An Comhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscoilrochtta (Education Council for Gaeltacht and Irish language medium schools, established by the Government in 2002 after a long campaign by Gaelscoileanna) paints an alarming picture of the state of the language in Gaeltacht schools.

The report which was published in early June found that education in Gaeltacht schools was encouraging the use of English amongst native Irish speakers more than it was nourishing Irish. The report states that the position is so bad that some Gaeltacht schools have turned almost completely to English while in others the language position is in the balance. English is the language of instruction in almost 50% of class sessions in primary and second level schools and it is dominant as the language of instruction in 25% of primary schools and 33% of second level schools. Unless the circumstances under which the schools operate change and the necessary support services are provided the report states that few Gaeltacht schools will be teaching through Irish in twenty years time.

The provision of educational aids in Irish is not satisfactory and the shortage of teachers with Irish has meant that teachers without Irish have been employed. Twenty five per cent of pupils leave primary school with only middling Irish and ten per cent with little or no Irish. For second level the figures are eighteen per cent and ten per cent. Even in the stronger Gaeltacht areas fourteen per cent of those in sixth class do not have fluent Irish or have no Irish. English is the normal communication medium in most Gaeltacht schools and is in use in the school environs

even in half of the schools in the strongest Gaeltachta.

Most Gaeltacht schools do not have a language policy nor is there a system to give direction or advice in the development of such. Although Irish is the normal means of communication of the vast majority of teachers the report notes the significance of English being dominant in 18% of the second level schools. Irish is not dominant in any second level school in the smaller Gaeltachtaí in Mayo, Waterford or Cork.

The Report calls for greater efforts to be made to encourage teachers to improve their competency and to encourage those who are competent in the language. It also recommends:

- A new definition of Gaeltacht schools to include Gaelscoileanna which may lie outside the Gaeltacht areas.
- Gaeltacht schools should be administered as a separate educational sector with appropriate support and advisory services.
- Priority should be given to educational resources.
- There should be an immediate review of facilities and investment for training primary and post primary teachers.
- The work of the Gaeltacht schools and Gaelscoileanna should be viewed as part of a broader language planning strategy
- Provision should be made for a comprehensive youth service to be established in the Gaeltacht.

According to Breandán MacCormaic, chairman of the council, the future of the Gaeltacht is threatened. He warned, 'If the perilous current state of Gaeltacht education is not resolved, the future of the Gaeltacht itself is threatened'.

New Policy from Gaeltacht Authority

In March the new Chief Executive of Udaras na Gaeltachta (the Gaeltacht Development Authority), Pádraig Ó hAoláin, launched a new action plan for 2005-2010. It heralded a new approach in so far as it addresses language issues also. The Udaras has often been accused by Irish language activists of placing too much emphasis on industrial development and not concerning itself with language matters or the effects of industrial development on the language.



*Pádraig Ó hAoláin,
Chief Executive of Udaras na Gaeltachta*

In recognition of the decline in the Irish language community in the Gaeltacht the Udaras will set up a consultative committee on language planning, develop thirty units for language maintenance and learning across all Gaeltacht areas and strengthen their language planning department and support services for youth in the Gaeltacht. They will support communities to strengthen and extend social networks which sustain and promote the language as a community language. The Udaras hopes to create 800 new jobs each year and will operate to help and expand co-operatives. Consultation will take place between now and year end with Gaeltacht communities to agree action plans to strengthen the language in strong areas and revise it in weak areas.

The North - gains for Sinn Féin and DUP

In the elections of early May for the Westminster parliament the results in the North reflected those of the Local Assembly elections. Despite the attempts to link republicans with the robbery of £38m from the Northern Bank in Belfast in December (and indeed statements from Hugh Orde, Chief of the PSNI, that it was carried out by the IRA - but with no charges being made, or evidence produced) and the casting out of polite political circles of Sinn Féin (including exclusion from the St Patrick's Day celebrations in the US) in the wake of the outfall of the Robert McCartney murder, Sinn Féin increased its vote by 3%, gaining 24.3% of the total vote. The party increased its number of MPs from 5 to 6 while the SDLP retained their three seats.

The other main result was the consolidation of the Rev. Ian Paisley's DUP at the expense of their unionist rivals, the UUP. The DUP increased its vote by 11%, and gained three seats giving them a total of 9 while the UUP was eclipsed, losing four of their five seats. Following talks with British Prime Blair Ian

Paisley declared the Good Friday agreement dead and seemed to close the door on power sharing. His view not shared by Blair or Irish Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern and was dismissed by Sinn Féin's President Gerry Adams, (who in April had called on the IRA to end its 'armed struggle' and fully embrace politics - a call for which a response is still awaited). He stated that the Belfast Agreement remained the template for political development. Ian Paisley later called for total IRA disbandment while the Irish government position is that of calling for 'a clear and unambiguous end of all paramilitary and criminal activity and to see the end of decommissioning'. Whether Paisley will ever share power in the changed political landscape remains to be seen - it seems likely no matter how far the IRA goes it will never be enough for him. Obviously there is quite a long way to go before any chance of getting close to the position of early last December where agreement on revival of the Executive seemed possible but equally the status quo or direct rule seem unacceptable.

THE EU CONSTITUTION CRISIS

... WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

First, all democrats should rejoice at the defeat of the conspiracy of the EU's governors against the governed which was the proposed EU Constitution.

Let us enjoy the dismay of the Eurocrats, the Eurofanatics and the Eurobullies. The politicians who get more personal power for themselves at the expense of National Parliaments and citizens, as ever more functions of government are shifted from the national to the EU level. The bureaucrats in Brussels and the Member States who are freed thereby from democratic control over their decisions. The journalists who have prostituted the values of objective reporting to become missionaries for the integration project. The paid ideologues of the European Movement and the Jean Monnet Professorships. In Ireland the Iveagh House acolytes of Dr Garret FitzGerald and Mr Noel Dorr, who have misguidedly spent their lifetimes working towards making their fellow-countrymen citizens of an EU State run by people whom they do not elect and cannot control...

As democrats let us rejoice to see Jean Monnet's Euro-federalist project now headed for the rocks of history as the Europe of that great political realist Charles de Gaulle reasserts itself again, the statesman who once said: "Europe is a Europe of the Nations and the States or it is nothing."

The peoples of France and Holland have dealt a mighty blow to supranationalism and Euro-federalism. What is now to be done?

1. BUILD STRONGER CROSS-NATIONAL LINKS: The most important thing for democrats and EU-critics across our continent to do now is to strengthen the links forged in cross-national campaigns against the EU Constitution and keep in touch with and support one another in the time ahead as the Eurofederalists regroup. Democrats on the Left and on the Right have a common interest in defending the Nation State and national democracy. They should continue to cooperate or work in parallel, excluding any truck with racist or neo-fascist movements, through such networks as TEAM (The European Alliance of EU-critical Movements), the European No Campaign etc.

2. PEOPLE WANT COOPERATION NOT CONTROL IN EUROPE: Cherry-picking the EU Constitution and seeking to implement it in bits and pieces despite the French and Dutch No votes would be a blatant affront to democracy. All attempts by EU Governments to do this should be vigorously opposed. The EU does not need a Constitution. The Treaty of Nice proclaimed itself as the EU's enlargement treaty. We need a Europe of free trade between its developed economies. We need cooperation

between States on common problems, not supranational control from above by the non-elected EU Commission, the power-hungry EU Court of Justice and the oligarchy of the EU Council of Ministers.



*Anthony Coughlan, National Platform
and Senior Lecturer Emeritus
- Social Policy, Trinity College, Dublin*

3. REPATRIATE POWERS FROM BRUSSELS TO THE MEMBER STATES: Democrats should now insist on a proper debate on Europe's future and on what the peoples of Europe, not the EU elite, desire. This should take place in the 25 National Parliaments and among the citizens of the EU countries. Not one of the National Parliaments discussed THE PRINCIPLE of whether they wanted an EU Constitution prior to the Eurofederalists deciding that they would try to foist one on them. We do not need 100,000 pages of EU laws that seek to harmonise everything. The corrupt and inefficient Brussels apparatus must be dismantled. Powers should be repatriated from the EU to the Nation States: foreign and security policy, crime and justice policy, immigration policy, monetary policy, health policy, fisheries policy, much of the reactionary Common Agricultural Policy, which exploits the world's poor countries while making our own food more expensive. The possibility of doing this was mooted in the Laeken Declaration which set out the terms of reference of the Convention on the Future of Europe that drew up the EU Constitution. Yet the Constitution did not propose devolving a single power from

Brussels back to the States. It provided instead that Brussels should be given many more powers. The EU Budget should be drastically cut. EU national offices should be closed down. The Commission's vast propaganda budget should be abolished.

4. RESTORE EUROPE'S NATIONAL CURRENCIES:

The currency markets and the Euro's own internal contradictions will ensure that the euro will now never become the currency of all 25 EU States. The split over the EU Constitution between France and Germany on the one hand and the UK, Sweden, Denmark and the Central and East European States on the other, corresponds to the fault-line between those inside and outside the eurozone. The Constitution was meant to provide a Federal State political superstructure for the euro; but now that will never be. What we have is one currency and 12 States, with no one State responsible for maintaining the euro's value. The French want "social France" and a 35-hour working week. The British want liberalism, free-marketry and a 48-hour week. Both are entitled to what their people want, but they are not entitled to try to impose it on everyone else through the EU in the name of "social Europe" – or "liberal Europe" for that matter. Each country can decide its own policy on such issues if they have their own national currencies, so that movements in the exchange rate would take the strain of different policies. That cannot happen in an EU Monetary Union. The euro may last some years yet, but its days are numbered. As Otmar Issing, Governor of the European Central Bank, has said: "There is no example in history of a lasting monetary union that was not part of one State."

5. AN ALTERNATIVE EU OF DEMOCRACIES:

The outline of an alternative EU that was produced by dissident members of Giscard's Convention, including Denmark's Jens-Peter Bonde MEP, the Czech Republic's Jan Zahradil MP, Britain's David Heathcoat-Amory MP, Ireland's John Gormley TD and others, provides a sensible interim programme of reforms for a more slimmed-down, more democratic and more decentralised EU for those who want that. Its details can be found at www.bonde.com, www.euabc.com, and in the Convention's own Report. People should copy it from there and disseminate it widely as one practical scheme for an EU that is closer to what the peoples of the EU want than the EU that currently exists.

*Anthony Coughlan,
Secretary, The National Platform
EU Research and Information Centre*



Kernow



DYDHWYETH AN YETH BRETONEK

Synsys veu dhe'n 5 a vis metheven « **Devezh ar Brezhoneg** » (Dydhweyth an Yeth Bretonek) rag an weyth nessa yn Karaez (Carhuix yn Frynkek) arta. Synsys veu an jydh ma gans kowethas « **Dazont ar yezh** » (Termyn a dheu an Yeth). Pur lowen o tus an kowethas gans sewena an darvos ! Res yw dhyn perthi kov bos skoedhys an jydh na gans « **Ofis ar Brezhoneg** » ! Yntra 3.000 ha 5.000 den a dheu dhe'n darvos an vlydhen eus passys !

Ervirys veu an vlydhen eus passys wosa an darvos dhe witha kynsa Sul an mis Metheven avel dydhweyth an yeth bretonek pub blydhen. Tus kowethas « **Dazont ar Yezh** » a vynn gul kuntellyans kewar rag **Dydhweyth an Yeth Bretonek** yn termyn kewar yn spyrys an dus. An keth amkan gans an keth spyrys, dell lavar **Anne-Lise Deleon**, Hembrenkyas kowethas « **Dazont ar yezh** » yw an vyrgh ma.

Kowethasow an « Emsav » (an Omsav bretonek) a allas keschanjya derivadow,

perthyans, hag all... dres oll kowethasow o ri dyskansow bretonek rag tevesigyon...

Gwerys veu kowethas « **Dazont ar yezh** » gans **Ofis ar Brezhoneg** ha **Kuzul Sevenadurel Breizh**.

Dadhelva yn-kever gwynnel rag an yeth a veu profys gans **Anne-Lise Deleon**. An vlydhen ma yth esa dadhelva yn Frynkek henwys « **Prag dyski Bretonek y'n 21st kansvlydhen?** ». Tus kowethas « **Dazont ar yezh** » a vynnsa profya dihaual testennow ha dadhelvaow pub blydhen rag dydhweyth an yeth bretonek. I a vynnsa displegya gwrians yn ha der an Bretonek. Herwydh **Anne-Lise Deleon** « pur boesek yw gorra an dus dhe sevel, dhe wruthyl traow rag an jydh na ».

Profys veu an vlydhen ma oferenn, ilow, sportow hengovek, gwariow, kanow ha dadhelvaow yn Bretonek. Res yw dhyn perthi kov bos heb kost an darvos...

Pella derivadow orth www.devezh.com po orth devezharbrezhoneg@voila.fr



Summary:

The « **Day of the Breton language** » took place this year for the second time on the 5th June. This event was organized once again by « **Dazont ar Yezh** » (Future of the Language) led by a young woman called **Anne-Lise Deleon**. It had been decided that the event would be held annually every first Sunday of June. It was a good occasion for those involved in the struggle for the language to exchange information, experiences, etc. A debate in French called « **Why learning Breton in the 21st century?** » was also organized. More information at: www.devezh.com or devezharbrezhoneg@voila.fr

José CALVETE

SOLEMPNYANS A'N YETH KERNEWEK/ A CELEBRATION OF THE CORNISH LANGUAGE

The Cornish language organisation Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek launched its new design and image for the twenty-first century on June 1st. Promoted as Solempnyans a'n yeth Kernewek (a celebration of the Cornish language), the Cornish Language Fellowship event intended 'to mark the progress of the language and to promote a fresh and dynamic approach to its use today'. By re-branding, Kowethas, which was founded in 1979, intends to bring Kernewek closer to the general public by encouraging more and more people to use the language in their everyday lives. Dr Loveday Jenkin, Chair person of Kowethas, said at the launch, held at the Hall for Cornwall in Truru, that, 'Kowethas isn't just for those fluent in Cornish... Kowethas is for everyone, whether they know a few words or only one ... we must get them to use the Cornish language as much as possible and show them that Cornish is fun'.

Martin Sanders of Sanders Design was responsible for the re-branding of the organisation. Having attended a Cornish language pre-school in the early 1980's, Martin has grown up with the Cornish language. 'I wanted the logo to reflect a wave and the feeling of being drawn in. Just as the sea is a tremendous natural force, the Cornish language, like the sea, has the power to draw people in too - why else have so many people learnt a language over a hundred year period that holds no economic gain for them, except for the knowledge that it is the language of their culture; the language of Cornwall.'



Martin Sanders (Designer) presenting his new logo for Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek

In addition Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek had a stall on Lemon Quay on Saturday 4th June, where they sold Cornish language materials, including books and films and further promoted the work of the organisation and the language to a wider public.

Borough Council give their approval to Beach development

Restormel Borough Council gave their approval on 1st June, to a controversial development to redesign the sea wall at Carlyon Bay. St Austell in preparation to build 511 luxury holiday apartments and a leisure complex. The Council's approval of the plans is a slap in the face for Carlyon Bay Watch (CBW), the campaign group set up to oppose the commercial development by the Ampersand Group Ltd.

The Council meeting was attended by over 100 members of the general public, many of whom were members of CBW. Restormel could only give their approval to the plans, as the final decision resides with John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister. CBW is now hoping that Prescott will call a public inquiry into the development.

An Scoren Kernewek The Cornish Branch are opposed to the development for a number of reasons. In addition to the environmental and social impact of building such a large scale, unsustainable commercial development on the edge of a small village and on a beach, is the belief that Restormel Council's approval will send the message to the owners of the large number of privately owned beaches in Cornwall, that they could also 'cash in' on potential future developments.

All those who oppose this and similar developments are asked to write immediately to the Assistant Planning Manager at the address below, calling for a full public inquiry into the decision by Restormel Borough Council at St. Austell on 1st June Ref 05/00028.

Mrs Michelle Peart,
Assistant Planning Manager,
Government Office of the South West,
Mast House, 24 Sutton Road,
Plymouth, PL4 0HJ.

R Tal-e-bot

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT KERNOW

Since the May 5th General Election all of Cornwall's five Parliamentary Constituencies now hold a Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament. Previously, the Falmouth and Camborne constituency held a Labour Party MP, but in May this marginal seat was won by 26 year old Julia Goldsworthy.

Mebyon Kernow – the Party for Cornwall stood in four out of the five constituencies, having made an agreement with the Green Party not to stand against their only candidate in the St Ives constituency.

French Navy play down Submarine Involvement in Fishing Tragedy

French naval authorities have tried to play down the possible involvement of a French or NATO submarine in the mysterious sinking of the Breton trawler, *Bugaed Breizh* which sank, mysteriously, off the coast of the Lizard in January 2004 with the loss of 5 of its crew.

French Naval Chief, Admiral Jean Louis Battet, told the media that whilst the authorities understood the pain of the families who had lost loved ones on the trawler the finger of blame should not be pointed at naval authorities.

Admiral Battet cited an example some years ago in which a US submarine sank a Japanese ship and said the submariners involved surfaced and tried to assist rescue operations.

In August 1984 Scottish trawler MFV *Huntress* snagged and towed. The incident was later acknowledged by United Kingdom – the submarine never surfaced.

In May 1985 pair trawlers MFV *Willing Lad* and MFV *Family Friend* were towed astern for five minutes before fishing gear parted. The submarine never surfaced.

In February 1987 the MFV *Summer Morn* was snagged and towed in an incident that covered over 10 miles and a duration of 3 hours. Eventually the Skipper cut his gear. A device picked up in the area identified the submarine as American and subsequently compensation was paid.

In 1989 the Irish MFV *Contestor* was snagged by a submarine. Subsequent debris recovered included a Submarine sonar buoy



The Bugaed Breizh was raised and returned to France

However Admiral Battet has a somewhat selective memory when it comes to incidents involving submarines and motor fishing vessels (MFVs) and we have written to him drawing his attention to some incidents in European waters which cast the submarine services of various navies in a less positive light.

We set out below some examples.

In 1982 the British submarine HMS *Porpoise* snagged the Irish trawler MFV *Sheralga* dragging it under in seconds. The trawler did not surface and the *Sheralga* crew were abandoned in the water. Fortunately a nearby fishing vessel rescued them.

In February 1984 the Breton trawler MFV *Jean de Lorraine* was snagged and towed astern for several miles and subsequently cut fishing gear cable to break free. An unidentified submarine spotted soon after 4-5 miles away.

In August 1984 the English trawler MFV *Joanna C* snagged and towed astern and was ordered by navy to cut gear – submarine never surfaced.

– the British submarine did not surface.

Meanwhile in new information from the Royal Navy sent to the League it is confirmed that designated Fishing Vessel Safety Ships (FVSSs) tasked to the exercise which commenced just after the *Bugaed Breizh* sank did not commence operations until the exercise was underway on the 16th January 2004.

To put this in context the detail of the exercise was notified to mariners via the Maritime and Coastguard Agency issuing a SUBFACTS notice at one minute past midnight on the 15th of January (the notice was subsequently re-broadcast at four hour intervals). The Fishing Vessel Safety Ships however did not take up station until the exercise commenced on the 16th January.

We will be querying with the MoD why, given that traffic including submarines on passage to the exercise area was deployed, why SUBFACTS and FVSSs were not deployed simultaneously.

J. B. Moffatt



Mannin



Y Mee-unnaneyys Oarpagh

Ayns Carn carroo 129, va art lajer guce er sleih dy voyal (my va lheid y vote oc) noi'n vunraght va sleih pooaral ennagh kiaraal cur bree da son yn Unnaneyys Oarpagh. Mastey reddyn elley, va'n art gra dy row yn vunraght treealit shen ayns loayr jeh impiroilaghys, laissez-faire, preevaadjaghey shirveishyn theayagh, meanaghey yn Unnaneyys ny smoo, goaill pooaraghyn elley veih ard-whaiyllyn ashoonagh. lowal da ard-pholitickeyryn caghlaa yn vunraght myr bailliu, as jannoo neunhee jeh cheeraghyn beggery yn Unnaneyys. Red slane deynlagh, dy jarroo.

Neayr's va'n art shen currit magh, ta sleih ayns y Cheer Injil as ayns y Rank er votal dy lajer noi'n vunraght. Ayns ny cheeraghyn shen, ga dy row yn sleih niartal as bunnys ooilley ny pabyryn-naight as ny stashoonyn radio as chellveeish guce er y theay dy votal son y vunraght, ren y theay votal noi eck lesh tromlagh mooar ayns y daa heer. Va'n chooid smoo jeh ny fir-toshee sy Cheer Injil as y Rank gra dy beagh eh goll rish jerrey yn teihll dy jinnagh sleih votal noi'n vunraght ayns ny refraneyn. Cha ren ny padjeryn jeh ny lughtyn-reill caghlaa aignaghyn erbee. Ayns daa heer hug y Covargey er hun, ren ny lughtyn-reill coayl. Gyn ourys, shimmeey oyr ren ad coayl. Ayns y daa heer, va ny voteyryn skee jeh ny reiltyssyn oc. T'eh jeeaghyn dy vel voteyryn sy Cheer Injil smooinghyn dy vel ad cur rouyr argid da'n Unnaneyys. Va ny Frangee laccal freayll yn argid ry hoi pohlldal eirynys Frangagh, as cha row ad laccal shirveishyn theayagh dy ghoill er preevaadjaghey. Ayns gagh cheer, va drogh ourys ec sleih mychione tooilley sleih cheet dy chummal ayns ny cheeraghyn oc. Tra va ny refraneyn caillt, v'eh anaasagh dy eblashtyn ny dooyrt fir veih y lughtyn-reill sy daa heer. V'ad soilshaghey nagh row ad toiggal deynlaght ro vie: 'Ta'n pobble er nyannoo marran - reaghmayd refraneyn elley as inshmayd daue dy votal dy kiart y keayrt shoh..'

Bentyn rish ny Celtiee, cre hig ass ny taghyrtyn shoh? She Mannin yn ynrican cheer Cheltiagh nagh vel syn Unnaneyys Oarpagh. Agh ta Mannin fo ordaag ny

Sostyneec son cooishyn eddyrashoonagh, as dy firrinagh cha nel Mannin cheu-mooie ny cheu-sihie jeh'n Unnaneyys Oarpagh (stayd feer Vanninagh). Ga dy vel eh jeeaghyn dy vel paart dy pholitickeyryn Manninagh geddyn ny barelyn oc veih Daily Mail Hostyn, ta heggan dy voirey ayns Mannin dy row yn vunraght ceaut magh (t'eh jeeaghyn) er y fa dy beagh staydys Vannin er ve reaghit reesht sy vunraght shen. Vel reddyn heose syn aer nish bentyn rish staydys Vannin? S'doillee gra cre haghryys nish bentyn rish cooish erbee ta'n Unnaneyys Oarpagh dellal rish.

Bee sleih dy liooar ayns Nerin feer wooiagh dy vel eh jeeaghyn dy vel y vunraght marroo. Hannah, cha bee Nerin geddyn cho wheesh d'argid veih'n Unnaneyys lurg da cheeraghyn elley cheet stiagh ayn. Agh nish, ta stayd noa ayn, er yn oyr nagh vel eh liklee dy bee ram cheeraghyn noa cheet dy ve nyn olteynyn jeh'n Unnaneyys. As kyndagh ish ny votyn jiooldagh, ta'n troddan son ard-steat Oarpagh jeant smoo faase. Myr shen, son y traa t'ayn, cha bee treealtys son armee Oarpagh as y lheid geddyn monney geill - shimmeey Yernagh nagh vel gecarree cooney lesh impiroilaghys kyndagh rish shennaghys Nerin.

Gyn ourys erbee, hug Tony Blair booise da Jee tra vote ny Frangee noi'n vunraght. Er aght ennagh, va laue yn eaghtyr echey er Chirac, yn eaghtyrane Frangagh. Lurg ram arganys tamnylt er dy henney, choard Blair dy beagh refrane sy Reeriaght Unnaneyssit mychione y vunraght Oarpagh. Eisht dooyrt Chirac dy beagh refrane sy Rank. Bee eh trimshagh ass towse dy dooyrt eh shen. Foddee dy noddagh eh er chur er yn ard-whaiyl Rangagh dy votal son y refrane fegooish refrane erbee, goll rish ny Germaane. Veih'n toshiaght, ta ourys mooar er ve er ny Sostnee mychione y chalee Oarpagh - joarreeyn aitt loayrt eddyr oc hene mychione cooishyn bolvaneagh ayns 'Europe' - car y traa ta ny Sostnee (as sleih elley) smooinghyn nagh vel ny h-ellanyn shoh ayns yn Oarpey. Dy dooghyssagh, t'ad booiagh dy liooar dy gbra 'Y Vretyn' ny 'Y

Vretyn Vooar' as eer 'Sostyn' rish ny h-ellanyn shoh myr unnid, agh cha nel ad goaill rish y feerid dy vel shin ooilley ayns yn Oarpey. Y boirey t'ayn, shen dy vel 'Yn Oarpey' er jeet dy ve ny ennym politickagh syn ynnyd jeh ennym ayns cheeroaylleaght.

Rish keeadyn dy vleecantyn, t'eh er ve myr polasee ec fir-reill Hostyn dy hickyraghey dy row ny h-Albinee, Bretnee, Cornee, Manninee as Yernee fo'n smaght oc as scarrit rish sleih gaueagh ayns y cheer vooar Oarpagh. Phrow ny Spaainee as ny Frangee dy chooney lesh ny h-Albinee as ny Yernee, as foddee dy row eer ny Manninee arrymagh ro arryltagh dy chionnaghey stoo veih ny Frangee sy hoghtoo eash jeig. Ta tradishoon liauyr ec ny Sostnee as drogh ourys oc er joarreeyn agglagh ayns y cheer vooar Oarpagh - as shimmeey Celtiagh ellanagh ta smooinghyn er yn aght cheddin. Myr shen, tra va ny refraneyn shen caillt, cha row monney Sostnee keayney.

Ta'n gaue smoo nish dy jean Tony Blair cleayneey sleih ayns cheeraghyn y cheer vooar d'eiyr er 'y trass aght' echey. She cloider croutagh y fer shen oddys jannoo cluie er sleih lesh gialdynys foalsey as goan brynnagh. Va'n schlei echey ry akin ayns ard-whaiyl yn Oarpey tra loayrt eh ayns shen gerrid lurg ny refraneyn shen. Kionfenish, va ymmodee politickeyryn voish cheeraghyn anchasley va slane noi Blair. By vie lesh kuse jeh eh y varroo. Cre haghry? Loayr eh er aght glick as shliawin. Deaisht ad rish dy h-arrymagh son y chooid smoo as woaill ad ny bassyn oc. Ram jeh ny politickeyryn shen, bee ad toiggal dy vel 'y trass aght' yn un red as preevaadjaghey dy chooilley red, son y chooid smoo. Ec y traa t'ayn ayns Sostyn, ta scammylt lurg scammylt cheet rish, bentyn rish preevaadjaghey reddyn, goaill stiagh scoillyn as thieyn-lheihys as traenyn. Oddagh oo gra dy vel delleyderyn geid millioonyn dy phunt veih ny h-eeckeyderyn-keesh Goaldagh gagh shiaghtin. Ta lught Blair gymmydey yn focle 'jeianaghey' ('modernisation') dy mennick. Shen y coad oc son preevaadjaghey.

Shimmeey art t'ayn pabyryn-naight Hostyn ta guce mollaaght er ny 'Frangee litcheragh'. T'ad coontit dy ve litcheragh er y fa nagh vel ad laccal dy chooilley nhee dy ve jeant preevaadjagh, coardail rish saraghyn veih America as lught-dellal. Fodmayd guce mollaaght er Staillin son cur drogh ghoo da soshiallys. Neayr:s v'eh grait dy row soshiallys marroo ta sorch dy Staillinys burgaishagh er jeet rish: shegin dooin lhiggey er dy vel dy chooilley nhee ny cholught dellal. Ayns Sostyn nish t'ad loayrt mychione thieyn-lheihys theayagh as ad 'coayl argid'. Feiy ny cruinneey nish, ta lught yn argid (as sleih elley) gra nagh vodmayd fordrail y steat-lhiasee (welfare state). Agh shen yn Oarpey ren croo yn steat-lhiasee as cha nhegin dooin ceau ersooyl eh myr red brisht. She red onnoroil t'ayn. As t'eh anaasagh nagh Blair as e phossan goaill

NEW MANX LANGUAGE OFFICER

Rosemary Derbyshire has been appointed to the position of Manx Language Officer following the retirement of Phil Kelly in February last.

As a child Mrs Derbyshire, née Gelling, was introduced to Manx by her grandfather, JW Gelling, who was head teacher at Braddan Primary school. She attended Manx events led by the late Dougie Fargher and Adrian Pilgrim, but left the Island in the 1970s to attend University in England. She returned to the Island in 1987 but it wasn't until 1991 that she turned to pursue her interest in Manx, attending classes with Joan Caine and the late Dick Radcliffe. In 1999 Mrs Derbyshire joined the Manx Language Units' team of peripatetic teachers.

In an interview with the national newspaper, The Manx Examiner, Mrs Derbyshire said: "The tide has definitely turned as far as the teaching of Manx in schools is concerned. Since the programme was introduced in 1992 it has gone from strength to strength. There are now 850 children having weekly Manx lessons ... Now every child from the age of eight has a chance to learn Manx and they can carry it on to A level if they desire.



Rosemary Derbyshire

"What I would like to see in the not too distant future is perhaps children at key stage three, which is years seven to nine, being able to choose Manx as a timetabled lesson in school. At the moment they have to do it before or after school if it could become a

timetabled subject like French or German that would be a big step forward. Then we would get more children opting to do it at GCSE and possibly A level." Mrs Derbyshire added: "Any" kind of language study is good for the brain and the more languages you learn the easier it becomes to learn a language. In the Isle of Man more and more jobs are being created where people use Manx".

ACHIEVERS IN MANX MATTERS AWARDED

The North American Manx Association launched a programme for outstanding achievement by young people for the millennium of Tynwald in 1979. The awards – silver medals – are presented annually to the winners.

There are five categories in the competition which includes Manx music, arts and crafts, Manx language, outstanding contribution to Manx culture and outstanding contribution to the community or overcoming disability.

Y Mee-unnaneys Oarpagh

(continued)

ymmyd jeh'n ockle 'soshialtys' – red voish Eash ny Claghyn, gyn ourys.

Ta sleih dy liooar er ve noi'n eie jeh'n Oarpey myr ard-steat unnaneyssit, Nish, bee tooilley sleih myr shen ayn. Cha beagh ard-steat foaysagh da ny Celtice noadyr – veagh lheid y steat goll er stiurey dy bollagh ec ny cheeraghyn mooarey. As ga dy vel sleih ennagh sy Vrusstyl er ve goaill cowag mychione 'subsidiarity' (teur tooilley poar da sleih ynydagh), cha nel shin e chlashtyn monney mychione shen re y gherrid. T'eh jeeaghyn nagh vod oo caghlau yn steat-ashoon monney. Myr shen, t'eh jeeaghyn dy nhegin da ny Celtice jannoo lesh ny steatyn-ashoon son y traa t'ayn. Kyndagh rish arganeyn syn Unnaneys Oarpagh er y gherrid, ta'n ashoonaghys er jeet dy ve ny stroshey. Oyr elley dy bee ny steatyn-ashoon tannaghtyn as nagh bee 'Oarpey ny h-Ardjyn' cheet rish.

Summary

The current bitter disputes in the European Union after the apparent demise of the ill-fated constitution make it likely that the institution of the nation-state will be strengthened, making the emergence of a 'Europe of the Regions' very unlikely. Celts will welcome the setbacks for those who want a European superstate. Europeans should be wary of siren words from Tony Blair about 'modernisation'.

Brian Stowell

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Manx Government Sanctions Illegal Activity

The scandal ridden government in the Isle of Man has buried its collective head even deeper into the sand and effectively sanctioned illegal activity with a recent announcement by the Chief Minister, Donald Gelling.

In 1992, a proposal to link the Island to the UK via a cable link was rejected by Mee Vannin as, amongst other things, it would not benefit the Island and its people economically – just the opposite, in fact.

[See: <http://www.manxman.co.im/meevan/archive/generate.html>]

At the same time, recommendations to have a "T" connector put into a natural gas pipeline being laid through the Island's seabed territory were ignored.

Nonetheless, when Mr. Mike Proffit took over the management of the government owned Manx Electricity Authority in 2000, he pressed ahead with a cable link to England and had the gas pipe "tapped into". Unbelievably, despite the enormous costs of these exercises, he also dropped electricity charges. The economics didn't add up, but there was no way to challenge them from outside government.

Late last year, a crisis meeting of the Island's Council of Ministers was told that an audit required under law revealed a massive unauthorised borrowing of £120



million, acquired via a company that Mr. Proffit had established as a sub-junct of the MEA. This was in addition to an authorised borrowing of £180 million.

The borrowing was arranged through Barclays Offshore Bank Ltd, a banking operation registered in the Isle of Man with Mr. Proffit being a director. Mr. Proffit announced that he was not seeking a renewal of his contract with the MEA, which expired in January of this year.

When these details emerged, Mr. Gelling, then a member of the Treasury and now Chief Minister, relayed the MEA excuses verbatim to the Island's Tynwald assembly: It was claimed that the borrowing was legal.

Now, the report by auditors KPMG has been finally published in full and reveals that the borrowing was, indeed, illegal. Despite this, Mr Gelling announced on the 22nd June, that no action will be taken. Apparently, to prosecute criminal activity in the tax-haven may, "impact on the Island's international reputation and have possible economic implications." Nothing new there, then.

Meanwhile, the Island's populace, who are definitely not all wealthy tax-dodgers, are facing a possible doubling of electricity bills.

Mark Kermodé

US LAW AGENCIES SCRUTINISE TAX HAVEN

Manx government jubilation about the increase of monies deposited in the offshore tax haven will be tempered somewhat by the news that the Island is at the centre of a high profile US investigation.

In early June the Manx Treasury announced that deposits with banking institutions on the Island had increased by almost 8% from £2.38 billion to over £33 billion.

However, the positive image portrayed by this news has been tempered somewhat by the revelation that the Manhattan District Attorney, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS) are jointly probing a tax-shelter plan run out of the Isle of Man.

The revelations also contain a link to the US President in that the scheme being probed was devised by one of America's biggest banks and used by two billionaire donors to George Bush's election campaign among others. The probe is sent to inquire into possible breaches of securities and anti-money-laundering rules.

At the beginning of June the Isle of Man's dubious attractiveness to those seeking to avoid paying tax was been highlighted when a multi-millionaire businessman, who became a Labour minister, admitted holding part of his personal fortune offshore in a scheme that experts say could have helped him avoid £3m in tax.

The junior minister in question, established offshore trusts and companies in the Isle of Man that handled £30m he raised from the sale of his business. Experts say such arrangements are normally set up to avoid tax.

The Manx authorities are always crowing about the fact that the financial services sector on the Island has been given a clean bill of health and they have pointed in the past to full cooperation with outside agencies including those from the United States.

It looks as if they will be getting more opportunities to 'cooperate fully' in the months ahead.

J. B. Moffatt

Time UK Paid up for Munitions Mess

Events on the North West coast of the Isle of Man in May last once again highlighted the dangers posed by discarded munitions left over from exercise usage in the area which spanned half a century. Both on shore and in the sea to the North West of the Ayres large quantities of potentially dangerous munitions have been abandoned. Periodically, incidents such as the recent event cause a sweep to be made and a small number of devices are recovered and disposed of. However, despite assurances, the Manx government has done nothing to pursue the British government to carry out a thorough clean up of the area.

Only six months ago the Celtic League wrote to the (then) Isle of Man Chief Minister, Richard Corkill MHK, expressing our concern at apparent double standards by the British Ministry of Defence which is engaged in a major clean up of exercise areas in the UK and has paid substantial compensation over areas it has contaminated overseas. Despite an exchange of correspondence (both written and oral) with the Chief Ministers Office no progress on the issue can be reported.

The Isle of Man provided ranges and facilities for decades to assist the UK and the defence of Western Europe. It received no payment or benefit for these facilities and indeed paid a substantial levy for defence from the UK. It is past time the UK honoured the debts it owes the Manx people and started to repay them!

J. B. Moffatt

CELTIC LEAGUE AMERICAN PUBLICATION

There is a range of articles, reviews and a calendar of upcoming Celtic events in the current issue of SIX NATIONS ONE SOUL, the newsletter of the Celtic League American Branch.

SIX NATIONS is a regular publication (together with the Celtic Calendar) of the New York based Celtic League operation and the branch also operate their own web site with a variety of cultural and historical features on each Celtic country.

Anyone interested in reading more about the work of the Celtic League in North America should contact:

Alexei Kondratiev
35-12 161st Street, Flushing,
New York, 11358, USA



Celtica



Celtibérico



Carlos JORDÁN CÓLERA

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(169 x 239)

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Monografías de Filología Griega N° 16

Language: Spanish

ISBN : 84-96214-9

About the Author:

Carlos Jordán Cólera is a 41 year old scholar. He is a Doctor in Classical Philology at the prestigious Spanish University of Salamanca. While he was working on his doctoral thesis "*Relaciones dialectales entre el latín y el griego*", he was also working on several projects linked to the Pre-Roman languages and cultures of the Iberian Peninsula (now Spain and Portugal) under the direction of scholars such as **F. Villar** (University of Salamanca), **F. Marco** and **F. Beltrán** (University of Zaragoza). The Celtiberian language and culture and the study of Pre-Roman place-names were his main focus of interest. He has published several academic articles in Spanish reviews such as "*Emerita*", "*Fontes Linguae Vasconum*" and "*Veleia*", and also in several famous international reviews such as "*The Journal of Indoeuropean Studies*", "*Zeitschrift für Romanische Philologie*", "*Beiträge zur Namenforschung*" and "*Études Celtiques*". In 1998, he published "*Introducción al Celtibérico*". In 2001, he was responsible for the linguistic section of the edition of the fourth Bronze of *Contrebia Belaisca: El IV Bronce de Botorrita (Contrebia Belaisca): Arqueología y Lingüística*. Salamanca. (**F. Villar** - **M^a A. Díaz** - **M. M^a Medrano** - **C. Jordán**). He is also the founder and the

secretary of the Spanish magazine called "*Palaeohispanica*", a magazine dedicated to the languages and cultures of Pre-Roman Spain.

Book Description:

The book first appeared in 1998. It had then 259 pages and was a corner-stone in the study of the Celtiberian language. Indeed, it was the first book only dedicated to the Celtiberian language to be published. It was then called "*Introducción al Celtibérico*". The title revealed that we were at the beginning of the study of that mysterious and sometimes disconcerting Celtic language using an odd semi-syllabic Iberian alphabet. Now some 7 years later, knowledge of the language has grown so that the book is now thicker. It now has 476 pages and the title has been changed from "*Introducción al Celtibérico*" to simply "*Celtibérico*". More evidence of the language has been found which has enabled **Carlos Jordán Cólera** and his staff to explain more words and to give us a better understanding of the language in general. The book contains valuable maps and figures showing a lot of objects with Celtiberian inscriptions. We also find one chapter dedicated to phonetics and phonology of the Celtiberian language and another one dedicated to the morphology and lexicon of the language which have been greatly enlarged in comparison with the previous edition. The translation of the inscriptions or the meanings given to the different recognized words are given with great precaution as **Carlos Jordán Cólera** considers that the corpus of the language is still very thin and for some points of discussion the decisive proof has still not been found.

I highly recommend this book to all those interested by this strange Celtic Language called Celtiberian and to those who would like to discover it. **Carlos Jordán Cólera** offers us an excellent study with up-to-date knowledge of it. Once again, his book is the corner-stone in the study and knowledge of the Celtiberian language. It deserves to be known and read by Celtic scholars and people in Ireland and Great Britain...

José CALVETE.

Amnesty Urges Boycott of Restricted Finnucane Inquiry

Michael Finnucane, son of Belfast solicitor Pat Finnucane murdered by loyalists, has welcomed the Amnesty International internet campaign to persuade senior British figures not to work with the planned inquiry into the murder of his father.



Pat Finnucane

The inquiry is to be set up under new legislation that will grant the British government new controls over what is heard in public.

Amnesty's UK director Kate

Allen said: 'The (British government) will be able to control what the public finds out, and what it doesn't.' A number of other organisations and individuals have also expressed their concerns about the new legal framework for the proposed inquiry.

The Finnucane family and Mr Justice Peter Cory, the retired Canadian supreme court judge, who recommended the inquiry, have also rejected its terms. They believe that the new measures would hinder the inquiry's independence, effectiveness and openness. Judge Cory also called for inquiries into other contentious murders in which collusion between security forces and paramilitaries is alleged. However, these inquiries are to be held under existing legislation which is not contested by the families or human rights observers.

Preliminary hearings have already been held in advance of full investigations into the loyalist killings of human rights lawyer Rosemary Nelson and catholic Robert Hamill. The British government has also given the go-ahead for an inquiry into the murder of loyalist paramilitary leader, Billy Wright.

Geraldine Finnucane, widow of the murdered solicitor, has written to senior British judges calling on them not to work with any inquiry operating under the new legal framework. Michael Finnucane said, 'One of things that the European Court has determined is there should be a right-to-life inquiry in this case. There has been a violation of rights and there should be an investigation which is independent. But how can it be independent under the new Inquiry's Act? He said his family and human rights observers viewed the Inquiry's Act, 2005, as 'neither Western Park compliant nor Cory compliant'.

Nuclear Dump Site List Made Public

A highly confidential list of locations for the potential disposal of nuclear waste drawn up by NIREX has been made public after being kept secret by the British government for over 15 years.

The information confirms what many have suspected for some time – that several sites in the Celtic countries are listed as potential areas for disposal. In addition to seven sites in England locations on remote Island sites off the coast of Scotland have been short-listed.

Also two sites close to the Sellafield nuclear works are potential candidates. Most controversially disposal under the sea off Scotland between the Inner Hebrides and Ireland is mooted and this is sure to anger politicians and environmental groups in Ireland and Scotland. Although no decision has as yet been reached about a long-term purpose-built repository for nuclear material the issue is very much a live one.

These new revelations will fuel opposition in Scotland and the Celtic countries generally against these areas being used as a dump for Britain's nuclear mess.

A complete list of the potential sites assessed by NIREX as being geologically suitable for a deep underground repository is set out below;

- Adjacent to Bradwell nuclear power station in Essex
- Ministry of Defence land on Potton Island, 8 km from Southend on Sea, Essex
- Under the North Sea, accessed from the port at Redcar, Yorkshire
- Under the sea between the Inner Hebrides and Northern Ireland, accessed from the port at Hunterston in North Ayrshire
- Killingholme, South Humberside
- Ministry of Defence training area, Stanford, Norfolk
- Adjacent to Dounreay nuclear plant in Caithness
- Two sites near the Sellafield nuclear plant in Cumbria
- Altnabreac in Caithness 18 km south of Dounreay
- Fuday, small, uninhabited island north of Barra in the Western Isles
- Sandray, small, uninhabited island south of Barra in the Western Isles

J. B. Moffatt

REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN EXPLAINS VIEW ON EU CONSTITUTION

During a visit to Brittany as a guest of the Breton Independence movement EMGANN, the Vice President of Republican Sinn Féin, Des Dalton spoke at a Press Conference in Rennes on May 25, a public meeting also in Rennes on May 26 and a meeting in Guingamp on May 27 outlining Republican Sinn Féin's views on the proposed EU Constitution and neutrality. Their opposition to the Stormont Agreement and determination to end British rule in Ireland was also explained.

"The entire EU political and economic project is fundamentally undemocratic. It is about the centralisation of power and decision making, taking it away from the various national parliament and placing it in the hands of unelected bureaucrats. The European Parliament is nothing but an over subsidised talking shop, with real power wielded by the commission and the council of ministers. "For small nations like Ireland and Brittany the EU merely represents another form of imperialism. Instead of having power centred in London or Paris it will instead be administered from Brussels. This will not change the reality of either British or French rule; it is merely replacing one form of imperialism with another.

"Ireland's relationship with Brittany has always been special, our shared Celtic heritage coupled with our shared experience of colonialism and foreign occupation are the reasons for this. "Like EMGANN we believe in the "right of absolute equality between nations". This is the only foundation upon which true peace and stability can be created internationally.

The Breton people can only experience true democracy, when they have governmental structures which they have created, which involve them and which are accountable to them. Their right like that of all nations to elect a parliament and government which will legislate and govern in their best interests as well as representing them on the international stage is absolute. "The EU cannot provide the vehicle for this kind of revolutionary change. As a body it denies the existence of the stateless nations of Europe, the philosophy, culture and history upon which it is based is imperialist. For this reason we view the campaign against the EU Constitution as yet another front in the ongoing struggle for Irish Independence, for Breton independence and the independence and freedom of all stateless peoples.

Demonstration Reminds Bretons of Freedom Struggle

A demonstration and commemoration were held in Gwengamp, Brittany in June to remember some of those who have died in the Breton freedom struggle over the years and also to remind Bretons of the ongoing court case and repression of Breton nationalists today.

The meeting was co-operatively organised by CARB (the Breton prisoners' solidarity group) and Nationalist Organisation, Emgann-MGI.

As is generally the case with such events the demonstration was attended by the media and also attracted the usual intimidatory scrutiny of the French Police.

However the demonstrators were not deterred and a wreath to commemorate fallen Breton comrades such as Kristian ar Bihan, Yann-Kel Kernalleguen and Jean Groix was laid. The wreath laying was followed by a patriotic rendering of "Kan Bale An ARB"

Bretons were urged to continue to give practical financial support to the Breton prisoners group, Skoazell Vreizh.

Those outside Brittany in the other Celtic countries who are sympathetic to the plight of the Breton prisoners can also contribute messages of solidarity and financial support. Details of how to contact Skoazell Vreizh are on their web-site: www.skoazellvreizh.org

£12m Grant for Irish Language Broadcasting in North

One commitment in the Belfast Agreement on the North was to "seek more effective ways to encourage and provide financial support for Irish language film and television production in Northern Ireland." The Joint Declaration in April 2003 stated that the British government would establish an Irish language film and television production fund. The fund's objective is to promote the Irish language in the North through the production and broadcasting of television programmes and films.

In June the European Commission authorised a British government grant of £12m to the Northern Irish Language Broadcast Fund to support the production of films and television programmes. Competition commissioner, Neelie Kroes said that the subsidy was compatible with EU state aid rules because the fund will promote culture. "The fund fosters broadcasts for Irish language speakers and I am happy to approve state aid which promoted cultural and regional identity."

To qualify for funding, a minimum of 60% of the spoken word within a production must be Irish and every production must be subtitled in English. The production must be of artistic quality and should reach a substantial audience in the North. Independent production companies will be eligible for assistance from the fund but grants can also be made to broadcasters in exceptional circumstances.

Rebuilding the Celtic Languages / Diarmuid Ó Neill

First comprehensive attempt to apply the Fishman GIDS scale to the Celtic languages. The aim is not only to explore the strengthening of existing Celtic language communities and Celtic-speaking networks in the six Celtic countries but also to explore how the Celtic languages can be re-established on a much wider scale than is presently the case.

Edited by Canadian Diarmuid Ó Neill and includes contributions by prominent Celtic sociolinguists including Colin Williams, Marcel Texier, Pawl Birt, Kenneth MacKinnon and Brian Stowell. Foreword by Joshua Fishman.

This book should now be available for sale in the Celtic countries. It can also be purchased from **Y Lolfa's Online Shop** for **£19.95** at <http://www.ylolfa.com>

Rebuilding the Celtic Languages

Reversing Language Shift
in the Celtic Countries

Diarmuid Ó Neill

Foreword by Joshua Fishman



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celtic League press releases

Those who would like Celtic League press releases via Electronic Mail can subscribe (free of charge) to the mailing list at:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league

Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership/ subscription rates (including *Carn*) are: Stg£12; €20; US\$30 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank).

Europe: Stg. £15 (airmail);

Outside Europe: Stg. £18 (airmail).

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Articles for *Carn* should be sent on disk preferably in Microsoft Word or e-mailed to the Editor. Appropriate photographs should be sent with them.

Material for the next issue of *Carn* should reach the Editor no later than 1st August 2005. Articles sent for publication in *Carn* must relate to our aims. All materials copyright © *Carn* unless otherwise stated. The views expressed in *Carn* are not necessarily those of the editor or of the Celtic League.

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A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 131

Autumn 2005

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- Gaelic – Present Day Developments
- Status for Breton Language?
- Action on signs in Wales
- Féile na nOiléan
- IRA Decommissions
- Call for Cornish Standard
- Rebranding Mannin
- Celtic Calendar 2006
- Celtic League AGM



ALBA: AN COMANN CEILTEACH
BREIZH: AR KEVRE KELTIEK
CYMRU: YR UNDEB CELTAIDD
ÉIRE: AN CONRADH CEILTEACH
KERNOW: AN KESUNYANS KELTEK
MANNIN: YN COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE 



Alba



TEAGASG TRE'N CÀNAIN CEART

Iomadh bliadhna-seo chaidh bha aon leisgeul air gach lip feadh Westminster ag r'adh:-

“Chan eil ach beagan Albannaich ag iarraidh fèin-riaghladh idir ...

Ach cò bha ag àicheadh an leisgeul seo ach Iain MacCarraig. Shealladh e gun robh e ceart agus bha a' mhor chuid den Albannaich a' lorg saorsa na h-Alba.

Chuir Iain MacCarraig, a bha na fhear-lagha, an Cùmhnant air bho'g agus chuir còrr is d'à mhillean Albannaich ainm ris. Mu dheireadh thall fhuair sinn Pàrlamaid Albannach ged nach eil i uile-chumbhachdach fhathast!

Latha de na làithean chuir MacCarraig an aithne no introduced fear d'am b'ainm Sgadigart dhomh. Bha e na fhear-lagha eile ach ann an Copenhagen.

Bha Sgadigart còrr is dà fhichead bliadhna dh'aois agus bha deise dhubh air. Bha e daonnan a' smaoinair ciamar a bhiodh e tuilleadh luchd-dèilig no clients fhaighinn.

Latha airchoireigin bha Sgadigart a' tilleadh o na cuirtean-lagha ann an Copenhagen a' dol don oifis - lagha aige agus dé chunnaic e ach ainm partaidh poileataiceach fialaidh.

“Théid mi a-steach agus gabhaidh mi ballrachd a' phartaidh. Leis a sin lorgaidh mi tuilleadh luchd-deiligidh no clients.

Bha boireannach mu deich bliadhna air fhichead a dh'aois aig an deasg nuair a thàinig e a-stigh agus nochd e a' chairt-seollaidh aige.

“Ah,” arsa ise, “fear-lagha. Nuair a thàinig sibh cho trath cuideachd. uair a thide ... bithidh Rùnaire a' Phàrtaidh fìor thoilicht gur faicinn. Tha an oifig aige suas an staidhre.”

Bha i ceart gu leoir, fhuair Sgadigart fàilte ro mhór on Rùnaire a bha na bhodach mu trì fichead bliadhna a dh'aois' le sgall. Cha robh ròineag air a cheann.

“Nach mi a tha toilichte gur faicinn agus sibhse nur fear-lagha agus sibhse uair a thide ro thrath! Taghaidh mi sibhse mar an aon a bhi am fear-iarraidh air sgath a' Phàrtaidh anns a' fhìrth-fhaghadh no by-election. Na bithibh egal oirbh. Seo agaibh suidheachan sabhallte. Seo agaibh ar leabhar leis a h-uile ceist is freagartge de'n phoileasaidh againn. Meal an naidheachd. Leis an leabhar seo bithidh sibh nur Buill Pàrlamaid gun teagarnh sam bith.

Iongantach ri ràdh, dh'fhàs e na bhall phàrlamaid Dhanmairceach i-fhéin, ann an Copenhagen.

Ach bha e anabarrach aonaranach! Cha do thachair ris riamh ball-pàrlamaid eile de'n phàrtaidh aige.

Gu fortanach, bha Ceann-suidhe na Pàrlamaid na dhuine coibhneil. Bha snodha-gàire ullamh air 'aodann a bha lan de rocan no wrinkles. Chunnaic an ùine gheàrr gun robh Sgadigart cho aonaranach agus chuidich e am fear-lagha an còmhnaidh.

Sa chiad dol a-mach, fhuair Sgadigart gun robh a' Phàrlamaid dìreach miorbaileach, dìreach miorbhaileach. Ach mean air mhean dh'fhàs e sgith leis a h-uile cail.

Bha Ceann-suidhe na Pàrlamaid daonnan cho cuideachail, gu h-àraidh a thaobh Sgadigart bhon a bha am fear-lagha seachd sgith de na deasbadaan sa Phàrlamaid gu h-àraidh an fheadhainn mu dheighinn às-malairtean no exports. Mar eisimpleir, an cuir sinn sgillinn air phris kilo ìm? Agus bha deasbadaan mar sin gu ìre bhig'fad an latha, gu bhi a h-uile lathe.

“Chan eil e feumail, Mgr Sgadigart, a bhi sa Phàrlamaid, ach a-màin nuair a tha bhòt no vote ann. “Arsa an Ceann-suidhe Bha Sgadigart a-nisd cho toilichte ag obair sna cuirtean-lagha no san oifig lagha aige, a cho-pairtiche -lagha a' faighinn an obair. teannachadh nuair a bha. Sgadigart sa Phàrlamaid. Bhiodh an t-àm ri teachd fada nas fheàrr bhon a bhiodh sa Phàrlamaid ach gu tearc.

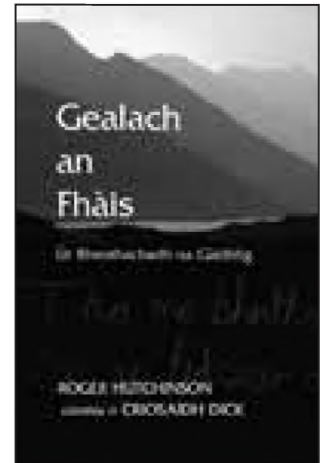
An sin, thàinig na saor-làithean samhradh agus chaidh Sgadigart agus a bhean gu Slesvig-Holstein, dùthach san àirde deas a bha cuid de'n Dhanmairg gus an do ghoid Bismark I air son a' Ghearmailt o chionn fhada.

Bha iad le chèile a' fuirich comhla ris a' cho-ogha aig Sgadigart d'am b'ainm Hans Sgadigart air an tuathanas no farm aig Hans. Bha Hans na dhuine làidir, le stais agus a nis bha e muladach. Bha ceist aige.. Mhinich Hans gu brònach do Sgadigart agus a bhean. “A nisd, tha a' chlànn againn a' bruidhinn, a leughad is a' sgrìobhadh anns a' Ghearmailtis a-mhàin gun fhacail Danmairceach idir.

“Sgadigart, a charaid, 's e duine cumhachdach a tha sibh nur Ball Pàrlamaid ann an Copenhagen. Bha sinn teaghlach at

bruidhinn ar cànan Danmhairceach iomadh bliadhna a chionn do rugadh Bismark. Ach tha ar teaghlach a' bruidhinn a' Gearmailtis a-màin bhon a tha iad at teagasg tre'n Gearmailis. Cuidich sinn bhon a tha sibh nur duine cumhachdach ann an Copenhagen!”

“Duilich ri ràdh, chan eil sin an fhìrinn, chan eil mi. cumhachdach idir. ‘Se ‘back-bencher’ a tha annam gu bhrigh. Ach, nì mi mo dhicheall.” arsa Sgadigart.



Air ais ann an Copenhagen, nuair a dh'fhosgail a' Phàrlamaid as t-Fhoghar, dh'innis Sgadigart do Cheann-suidhe na Pàrlamaid na thuir a cho-ogha Hans mu dheighinn an teaghlach aige tre Ghearmailis san sgoil ionadail.

“Glé mhath,” arsa , an Ceann-suidhe, “innis don Phàrlamaid na thuir Hans; air Di-h-Aoine feasgar seo, nuair nach eil i cho trang.”

Rinn Sgadigart dìreach dìreach sin. Cha robh móran sa Phàrlamaid agus leis a sin dh'fhàs, e eu-dòchasach. An ath sheachdain dé thuir an Ceann-suidhe ach, “Chord am Ministear Cèin ris a h-uile facal agaibhse.”

“Cha robh e ann an seo,” arsa Skadigart.

“Ach leugh e na thuir sibh ann an hansard. Òrdaichidh e ar tosgaire no ambassador, ann an Bonn agus innsidh e a h-uile cail ri riaghladair a' Ghearmailt an Iar,” mar a bha e sna làithean sin

“Seadh,” arsa Ardenaar, “ghoid Bismark Slesvig-Holstein à Danmhairg Chan eil sinn comasach cail a dhèanamh air ball, ach faigh sinn luchd-teagaisg tre'n Danmhairgis as t-Fhoghar.”

Dh'innis Sgadigart riumsa, “Mar a tha fios agad, Ghilleasbuig, dé anam na h-Albainn ach ar cànan Albanach (a' Ghàidhlig) nach i?

Bliadhna an deidh sin, thagh a' Phàrlamaid Danmhairgeach ar caraid, Sgadigart a dhol timcheall air an Roinn Eorpa, air son an EEC mar a' Ghàidhlig. Sin mar a thachair sinn ris, nuair a bha e ann an Alba air sgath an cànan againn fhin.

THE POSITION OF GAELIC – Present Day Gaelic Developments

At the introductory lecture to the Celtic League AGM 2005 in Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (SMO), Isle of Skye J. N. MacLeod delivered an address on the scope of work of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig and coupled it with information on the state of the Gàidhlig language. The information below on the present day status of Gàidhlig is extracted from information he supplied.

The 1991 census had showed a considerable drop in numbers and though the 2001 census provided evidence that the rate of decline of Gaelic speakers has slowed there are not many other hopeful signs of a long-awaited revival of the language. Today, Gaelic is being eroded even in the traditional 'heartland' areas of the Western Isles. However, it could also be argued that the more even distribution of speakers between traditional Highland and Lowland areas

(2001 Census) supports the argument for Gaelic to be more nationally recognised. Analysis of both the 1991 and 2001 census figures show that figures for children between 3 and 15 demonstrate the success of recent Gaelic-medium education initiatives. However, figures also show that intergenerational transmission of the language is weak;- the 1991 census showed that only 72.6% of those children living with two Gaelic-speaking parents spoke Gaelic, 37.6% of those living with a lone Gaelic-speaking parent, and a mere 14.3% of those living with two parents, only one of whom spoke Gaelic. (Mackinnon 1995).

GAELIC IN PUBLIC LIFE

In recent years Gaelic in Scotland has benefited from an unprecedented programme of promotion and development, transmitted through a wide range of initiatives across a number of fields, notably education, the media and the arts. These initiatives have enhanced the public profile of Gaelic, even if the socio-linguistic situation of the language remains weak.

Total financial support for Gaelic now exceeds £13 million annually, and local authorities also make a significant monetary contribution to the language.

EDUCATION

The growth in Gaelic-medium education in recent years is a reflection on the increased interest in the language throughout Scotland.

From 1982 Comhairle nan nSgoiltean Araich (CNSA) was responsible for the creation of Gaelic-medium playgroups. Currently, there are around 150 groups and 2,600 children attending throughout Scotland.

Influenced by the success of the playgroups, the first Gaelic-medium primary units were established in Inverness, Portree, Glasgow and Breasclete (Isle of Lewis) in 1985. The growth has been remarkable and almost 20 years on almost 2000 children in 60 Gaelic units or schools are now being educated through Gaelic. Nevertheless, it has been calculated that the numbers enrolled would need to grow five or six fold simply to maintain the existing Gaelic-speaking population and even in the Western Isles, less than one-third of children receive their primary education through the medium of Gaelic. (MacKinnon 2000 & McLeod 2001). The first dedicated Gaelic primary school was opened in Glasgow in 2000, with a current proposal for a further school to be situated in Inverness. There are also plans to build a new Gaelic Secondary School in Glasgow.

The progress in relation to the development of Gaelic-medium secondary education has been disappointing with a Scottish Office Education Department report in 1994 claiming that expansion was "neither desirable nor feasible in the foreseeable future." Ten years on, the numbers have receded and only 284 pupils received even part of their education through Gaelic in 2003/04.

Teagasg continued from page 2

SUMMARY

Mr Sgadigart was a member of the Danish Parliament and put forward the case for teaching through Danish in Slesvig-Holstein that had been part of Denmark till Bismark stole it for Germany. Ardenaar, then ruler of West Germany, granted this teaching through Danish.

As a result, Sgadigart got the job of seeking out the minority languages of Europe for the EEC. That was how we met Sgadigart in the days of John MacCormick's Covenant for Scottish home rule which got over two million signatories which eased the way, years later, to the present Scottish Parliament. Sgadigart won recognition for Gàidhlig as a European minority language which could have helped ease the way for the recent Gàidhlig Language Act of the Scottish Parliament, after a century of persecution by the Westminster Parliament.

Three new books, (entirely in Scottish) have just been published. Their respective publishers and post-codes are given. "Ri Linn nan Linntean" by Richard A V Cox and Còlm Ó Baoill (Clann Tuirc FK17 8HT) a collection of Gàidhlig prose, "Gealach an Fhàis" by Roger Hutchison with Chrissy Dick (Mainstream Publishing EH1 3UG) on the revival of Gàidhlig and "An tobht' aig Anndra" by Màiri Rhind (Acair Earranta HSL 2QN) a spanking good novel.

**Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich
Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Ileasbuig**

KEY EVENTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF GAELIC

Year	Event
1982	Publication of Cor na Gàidhlig - looked at health of the language
1982	CNSA - Foundation of Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich (Council of Nursery Schools)
1983	Full-time Gaelic-medium Tertiary Education at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig
1984	Establishment of Comunn na Gàidhlig - CNAG (Gaelic umbrella group)
1984	CLI - Comunn Luchd-Ionnsachaidh set up (Gaelic Learners Organisation)
1985	First Gaelic-medium primary units established
1985	Radio nan Gàidheal established (Gaelic Radio station - covering Gaelic areas)
1990	Broadcasting Act - Gaelic Television fund (approx £9m)
1991	Census - shows apparent considerable drop in numbers of Gaelic speakers
1997	CNAG Report - promoting Secure Status for Gaelic
2000	First dedicated Gaelic primary school opened in Glasgow
2000	MacPherson Report - Revitalising Gaelic: A National Asset
2002	Ministerial Advisory Group on Gaelic - A Fresh Start for Gaelic - Meek Report
2003	Bord na Gàidhlig established (Language Board)

As in other minority-language developments, the perennial obstacle has been the shortage of trained teachers for both primary and secondary levels.

BROADCASTING

The Broadcasting Act 1990 established the Gaelic Television Fund administered by a committee of the Independent Television Commission to grant-aid Gaelic television production. The Broadcasting Act of 1996 extended the scope of the Gaelic Television Fund to cover radio and in April 1997 the committee was re-constituted as Comataidh Craolaidh Gàidhlig (Gaelic Broadcasting Committee). Despite the wider remit, the budget for Gaelic broadcasting was reduced from £9.05m 1997-98 to £8.5m in 1998-99 in order to finance priorities in Gaelic education.

From 1985 onwards, Radio nan Gàidheal, the BBC Gaelic radio service, has steadily increased its broadcast hours and broadened its geographic range. There are now around 40 hours a week, available to a great majority of the Scottish population. The news service and a number of other programmes can now be accessed on the world-wide web. Gaelic television has also expanded rapidly with some 350 hours of programmes broadcast annually. An official government task force recently recommended (Milne Report) that a Gaelic Broadcasting Authority be set up and a separate, digital Gaelic television channel be established with resources amounting to £44 million a year, secured under a funding formula. The report recommendations have not as yet been adopted and a new commissioning body, the Gaelic Media Service - was established in January 2004. In Scotland, legislation for all broadcasting, is a reserved power and within the province of Westminster. However, the Scotland Act 1998, made the Scottish Parliament responsible for funding Gaelic broadcasting. This anomaly is harmful to securing a coherent and cohesive Gaelic broadcasting service.

THE GAELIC ARTS

The Gaelic arts have flourished in the past few years, with recognition that there are added economic benefits to the cultural ones, with the Gaelic arts contributing over £10M annually to the Scottish economy (Sproull 1996) and are widely appreciated and supported throughout Scotland and overseas. In Scotland, Feisean nan Gàidheal is the umbrella organisation for the locally based Feisean, the first of which was held on the Isle of Barra in 1981. Proiseact nan Ealan, the Gaelic Arts Agency was set up in 1987 to promote, co-ordinate and develop Gaelic Arts Initiatives. Links with Gaelic-speaking Ireland have been a feature of recent initiatives with Leabhar Mòr na Gàidhlig (The Big Book of Gaelic) winning particular acclaim in the past year or two.

THE LEGAL STATUS OF GAELIC

At present Gaelic is effectively excluded from public administration and enjoys no meaningful protection in the law.

Since 1997, when CNAG first submitted a report to the Scottish Office recommending measures to secure the status of Gaelic, progress has been slow.

GAELIC AND THE 'NEW SCOTLAND'

Though a recent survey indicated that there were around a million people interested in learning the language, Gaelic is still peripheral to many in Scotland and the most basic fact about the place of Gaelic in Scottish political life is its extreme marginality and perceived lack of importance.

GAELIC LANGUAGE ACT - 2004/05

In April 2005, the Scottish Parliament passed the Gaelic Language Act, with the new legislation designed to promote the use of Gaelic and the secure status of the language. Under the Act -

- Bord na Gàidhlig was recognised as a corporate body.
- Secure status given to Gaelic as an official language of Scotland, commanding equal respect to the English language. (UK already signed the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages in 2001).

- Bord na Gàidhlig are to prepare and submit to the Scottish Ministers. A National Gaelic Language Plan
- Public Bodies required to produce Gaelic Language Plans
- Bard na Gàidhlig may prepare and submit to the Scottish Ministers-guidance in relation to provision and development of Gaelic education.

Weaknesses:

- Demands for Equal Status between Gaelic and English ignored.
- How government will regulate compliance of Public Bodies with the proposed legislation is not clear?
- Language Plans to 'be developed within 2 year period - Public Bodies will leave matters to the last - resulting in heavy workload for the Board.
- Need for clearer strategy in relation to Gaelic Education
- Funding of Gaelic broadcasting not being addressed
- No provision in relation to certain Courts allowing Gaelic for civil proceedings
- Bord na Gàidhlig - the Government can abdicate responsibility for the continued promotion and support of Gaelic. Ultimate responsibility must lie at ministerial level!



(L - R) Alba delegate Les Mac an Ultaigh, Rob Gibson SNP. MSP, Guest Speaker J. N. MacLeod, Head of Studies at SMO and Alba Branch Secretary, Iain Ramsay .

INDEPENDENCE FIRST

The Celtic League AGM 2005 passed unanimously a resolution to support the aims and objectives of Independence First, the campaign for a referendum on Scottish independence. (See pg. 21)

The campaign is both non-party, and transparty, and has received supportive messages from Scottish Green Party, Scottish Socialist Party and Scottish National Party MSPs and from the Free Scotland Party and the Scottish Independence Party.

Neil Caple, honorary convenor said:

"Recent polls suggest that a majority of the Scottish public support independence. Independence First wants to give the people the opportunity to express that support in a referendum."

Former leader of the SSP, Tommy Sheridan, sent the following message of support to Independence First: "As a socialist I believe passionately in genuine democracy and the right of nations to self-determination."

"My party's vision is of an independent socialist Scotland but we absolutely endorse and promote the right of citizens in Scotland to democratically decide now via a

referendum if they wish an independent country."

"I see the British imperial union as a reactionary barrier to social progress and want that British union dismantled to encourage progressive and democratic ideas to flourish in the individual entities of Scotland, England and Wales. The campaign for an independence referendum deserves support from all socialists and democrats alike."

Sandra White SNP MSP said "I'm happy to get behind anything that advances the cause of Scottish independence. I definitely support this grassroots movement, Independence 1st, in their demand for a Scottish referendum on independence. Please keep me informed of any further developments."

Stewart Maxwell SNP MSP said "I support the holding of a referendum on Independence as the Scottish people have never had the opportunity to express their opinion on this option."

The Campaign has also had official support from the Scottish Green Party. MSP Shiona Baird, said: "This is a cause that the Scottish Green Party has long supported, and



Neil Caple, honorary convenor of Independence First campaign.

one of the reasons for our friendly separation from the English and Welsh Green Party was to campaign for a Scottish Parliament. Our vision is for independence for Scotland, when the people of Scotland choose it"

Mr Middleton, Press officer for IF commented "We are basically trying to achieve as broad a consensus as possible for independence. Under our plans secondary issues like republicanism or EU membership would be left up to the people of Scotland after the initial objective of breaking up the UK through a straightforward 'yes or no' referendum."

Website: www.Independence1st.com

MI5 watched MacDiarmid

Recently declassified MI5 files, reveal debate amongst the British authorities over whether to arrest Hugh MacDiarmid as a subversive or even a Soviet spy. The files, which cover the years 1932 to 1943, tell how MacDiarmid, was monitored by the British secret police because of his strong Scottish nationalism and his brief membership of the Communist Party.

"This man is a menace," wrote one army major, while an informer wrote of



Hugh MacDiarmid, 1892-1978, Scottish poet and critic.

MacDiarmid and his second wife, Valda Trevlyn, a Cornish woman: "This man and his wife are dangerous to the state."

An informer then attended a meeting of the National Party of Scotland, where MacDiarmid was quoted as saying: "It is time that we in Scotland put England in its proper place. We should lean and turn to Europe, for it is there that our future prosperity lies."

MacDiarmid, his wife and young son, Michael, moved from London to the island of Whalsay, Shetland. In 1940 MacDiarmid organised a meeting to try and interest the local men in the workers' struggle. News of the meeting reached a Sergeant R Stuart Bruce, who wrote to the home secretary: "This man and his wife are dangerous to the state, and should be prevented from tampering with the loyalty of young men called to the colours."

MacDiarmid (1892-1978), whose real name was C.M. Grieve, is often considered to be the greatest Scottish writer of the 20th century; he proposed a "Celtic League" decades before one was set up, was noted for his revival of Lallans and also produced some acclaimed translations of Gaidhlig poetry. Valda Trevlyn was also a strong character in her own right, and a great Cornish patriot.

Labour Lord Resigns in Disgrace

Mike Watson, the Labour peer, has been forced to resign after he was filmed setting fire to curtains in a posh hotel in Edinburgh. Watson, initially denied the allegations, but was caught on CCTV in the act. Staff at Prestonfield House Hotel said that Watson had been abusive and demanded drink. After this it appears he went on a rampage of arson and vandalism.

Watson attracted controversy and protest when he was invited to open the Mod in Largs, a few years ago. At the time he was minister with responsibility for the language, but was felt to have done little or nothing for it. It was only after he left that job significant progress was made.

Despite his resignation, he is still entitled to £190 expenses per day in the House of Lords.



Website:
www.scotsindependent.org



Breizh



An treuzkas e Bro-Gembre

An treuzkas (devolution) n'eo ket an emrenerezh (Home Rule). Galloudoù pe gwirioù a vez treuzkaset eus un eil den d'egile, eus un eil strollenn d'eben. Goude un nebeut skouerioù a dreuzkas, ez eus bet kroget e 1997 gant un treuzkas hollek da Vro-Gembre.

War wel e teu Bro-Gembre er seizhvet kantved pa vez dispartiet diouzh rouantelezhioù Bretoned an Hanternoz hag ar Mervent gant ar Soazon oc'h aloubiñ Breizh Veur. Gounezet e vez Bro-Gembre gant Edouarzh ar Iañ, roue Bro-Saoz e 1282. Gant statud Rhuddlan e vez staget ar briñselezh ouzh rouantelezh Bro-Saoz e 1284. Da get e ya an holl stummoù a zizalc'hidigezh. E 1536 hag e 1543 e vez embannet ar Skridoù a Unaniezh gant Herri an VIIIvet, eil roue ar riez Tudor, kembread hec'h orin. Dont a ra ar c'hembraeg avat da vezañ lec'h-gwriziañ idantelezh Bro-Gembre gant troidigezh ar Bibl en e bezh gant William Morgan e 1588, gant diorren ar skolioù kembraek hag ar gredenn vetodist e-kerzh an trivec'hvet kantved. E-pad an naontekvet kantved e ya an troc'h war ledanaat etre ar "rummadoù uhel" saoznekaet hag anglikan hag ar beisanteg hag ar vicherourien, digenilizourien anezho,, o sevel a-eneb an direizhdedioù. Dont a ra Bro-Gembre da vezañ bro ar Frankizourien, leviet gant David Lloyd George. Goude bezañ dilennet da gannad frankizour e 1890, e klask hemañ e 1893 krouiñ ur strollad kembreat hag e kinnig e 1895 un danvez-lezenn emrenerezh evit Bro-Gembre. War raok e ya an emsav kembreat gant krouidigezh an Eisteddfod broadel e 1860 ha "Cymru Fydd" (Kembre Yaouank) e 1886. Un nebeut gwirioù a vez roet: krouet e vez Skol-Veur Bro-Gembre e 1893; troc'het e vez an Iliz diouzh Iliz anglikan Bro-Saoz e 1914.

Goude ar Brezel-Bed kentañ e vez dilezet menoz an emrenerezh gant ar Strollad frankizour ha gant Lloyd George, deut da vezañ e penn ar gouarnamant. Gant tu al Labour e vez adkemeret azgoulenn an emrenerezh. Met an danvez-lezennoù a-du gant-se ne vezont ket votet e Kambr ar C'humunioù. E 1925 e vez krouet koulskoude Strollad (Broadel betek 1990) Bro-Gembre, ar Blaid (Gendelaethol) Cymru gant tri fal: ur Parlamant evit Bro-Gembre, dileuridi da Gevredigezh Ar Broadoù (SDN), ar c'hembraeg da yezh vroadel. E-barzh ur vro taget gant an enkadenn ekonomikel e

chom dister niver ar mouezhioù dastumet da vare ar votadegoù. Met krog eo dija amzer nevez ar c'hembraeg: digoret e vez ur skol gembraek e 1939; gant ul lezenn votet e 1942 e vez aotreet ober gant ar c'hembraeg dirak al lezioù-barn. E 1945, a-raok dilennadeg ar gannaded a viz Ebrel, ec'h embann Strollad al Labour ur manifest ez eus meneg ennañ eus ur vroad gembreat hag eus ur gouarnamant emren, met goude bezañ bet trec'h er votadegoù e vez dilezet o fromesaoù gant tud. al Labour.

War-raok e ya koulskoude ar vroadelourien. Gwirioù nevez a vez roet: e 1964 e vez krouet ur Sekretouriezh-Stad evit aferioù Bro-Gembre. E miz Gouere 1966 e vez dilennet Gwynfor Evans da gannad da vare votadegoù a-zarn. E 1970 e vez danveziou-kannad ar Blaid Cymru war ar renk en holl bastelloù-votiñ; dastum a reont 11,4 % eus ar mouezhioù, met hini ebet ne vez dilennet. Da vare votadegoù miz C'hwevrer ha miz Here 1974 e vez dilennet 2, ha da c'houde 3 c'hannad. E 1978 e kinnig gouarnamant tu al Labour e vefe treuzkaset galloudoù 'zo da Vro-Gembre, gant ur vodadenn zilennet evit 4 bloavezh, 80 kannad enni, o tizvout penaos lakaat al lezennoù votet e Westminster da vezañ sevenet. Da vare referendum ar Iañ a viz Meurzh 1979 e vez distaolet ar c'hemm-se (80 % eus ar voterien a vot a-eneb). Da choude e teu ar Virourien e penn ar gouarnamant. Echu eo da vat gant ar raktresoù treuzkas. E miz Gouere 1967 eo bet votet lezenn ar c'hembraeg, a zeu da vezañ par d'ar saozneg; e 1981 e vez krouet ur chadenn skinwel gembraek, S4C; E 1993 e vez votet ul lezenn nevez evit ar c'hembraeg, lakaet da yezh ofisiel ha krouet e vez Ofis ar C'hembraeg. E 1997 e teu Strollad al Labour, leviet gant Tony Blair, e penn ar galloud endro. Adlañset e vo neuze raktres an treuzkas.

Summary

Devolution is different to Home-Rule. In 1997, devolution gave some rights, as a whole to Wales. Wales appeared during the 16th Century with the "union act". Therefore, Henri VIII (Tudor) make decisions which expressed the welsh identity. Elisabeth 1st asked for the translation of the bible by William Morgan (1588). After the creation of the Eisteddfod (1860), the liberal MP David Lloyd George proposed devolution for Wales. In, 1925 Plaid Cymru had 3goals:

A Parliament for Wales and recognition for the Welsh Language .In 1939, the 1st Welsh school was opened. In 1942, Welsh was allowed in the courts of Law. In 1978, the Labour Party promised devolution for Wales. Then in 1997 devolution became a reality for Wales with Tony Blair's government granting some real powers....

Yves Jardin

Breizhiz ar Bed: 1st DATABASE on the WEB

Breizhiz ar Bed... that's to say "Bretons du monde", also known as O.B.E. (Organisation des Bretons Expatriés), had their summer school, in Kleder north Breizh in August. The good news came from a new database for their members and relations all over the world, on: www.bretonsdumonde.org

The web changes the way people contact each other and stay in touch. After two years they produced 800 addresses. A lot less than before, but at least with up-to-date information of all kinds. About 500 persons are in the organisation outside of France, mainly in North America; the second main group is in Europe and the third in Asia. That's the case for the OBE's President, P-Y. Conan who lives in Shanghai, China. The second advantage of the WEB for the OBE is to be in touch with different Breton lobbies, like "an tour tan" or "Lokarn - Institute". The third one came from the fact that it is not confined to the business field or the musical one; they're open to all kinds of exchanges.

'A lot of Breton people feel homesick abroad and need to show their Celtic roots and flag ...the Gwenn ha du...' said Xavier Bellanger, secretary of Breizhiz ar Bed.

Gi Keltik

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Summer School e-Breizh for E.F.A.

The regionalists parties, members of "Regions & Peoples Solidarites" (R&PS) had their summer-school in Brittany (LEON-N.) in 2005. R&PS are green allies in the EU parliament. They have five MEPs, including Nelly MAES (Flanders) the president of European Free Alliance (EFA/ALE). She is really convinced that the future of our Regions & People will come from Europe. Therefore the federation of R&PS restate their commitment to more federalism in EU whatever happens to the treaty under ratification right now...

Well, like UDB or Frankiz Breizh, the 31 members of EFA/ALE are progressives, moderates and modern parties. On Human Rights goals they are next to the left wing. In order to develop the strong identity of our Regions, they believe the future requires strong political action and not violence. Gustave Alliol, from Catalonia, the president of R&PS firmly condemns violence and thinks that in south Europe like in Ireland the Peace Process will go on and on and like Sinn Fein will change slowly but

surely. Francois Alfonsi from the Corsican National Party agrees.

On the challenge of Devolution in the French state as well as in our Euro-community the answers were not as clear. The diversity of situations makes it more difficult to get a single answer. Therefore, they were not ready to say publicly that four million people from Brittany should have €18 - €20 billion budget, in order to be at the same level of money per inhabitant as the others regions or lander in Europe. Remember that the Breizh-Budget is under one billion euro...

On the one hand EFA held the summer school in Breizh where culture and identity are strong, where (3+1) members of UDB succeeded to be elected as MEPs for the Breizh-Council, in 2004, on the other hand they invited Janet Davies, a Welsh MP, in order to show the way towards Devolution (with a budget 24 times bigger than ours). For the moment the main goals are to develop the political conditions through federalism in Europe. Nelly Maes developed

the idea of "loyalty" at all political levels. That is to say village, county, region/lander, state & EU community. In her native Flanders, more and more parties pick up their ideas on Devolution, at all levels. In the Latin state of France democracy does not mean the same for our Jacobin-republicans (UMP) on the right and the communists (PC & MCC +) on the left. "The Republique" is a religious concept - that's, why, even if the Breizh Council voted unanimously in favour of a Breton the language policy, they have no real chance of achieving this goal. The state school system (E.N.) and the communist trade unions are very conservative and opposed to any kind of devolution.

Democracy and Loyalty to the people does not mean the same thing all over Europe. The French state asked to the ten new accession countries to the E.U to sign and respect the Charter for Lesser -Used Languages, but France refused to sign it themselves. Breton people remember that Alain Juppe's best friend (J.C) refused to recognise these Human Rights a few years ago. To move forward, Nelly Maes thinks that we need a strong minority who have a good knowledge of devolution.

Gi Keltik

Status for the Breton Language?

At the time of the press conference held on the 12th August in Lorient, the representatives of the association Askoll denounced the lack of status for the Breton language and the place which it is given in the summer festivals.

Jean-Pierre Pichard, the charismatic director of the Interceltic Festival of Lorient often says that Brittany is thus (with Britannic or insular Cornwall) the sole Celtic nation represented in Lorient, which is neither independent nor autonomous. One might add that it is the only one whose language does not have a legal status.

It is to denounce this situation, and at the same time demand a more important place for Breton in the assembly of festivals of Brittany, that the representatives of Askoll (Association of Breton Representatives for Democracy) had come to organise a press conference at the Mercury Hotel, on the 12th August last.

At a time when the collection of languages of the people who make up the European mosaic is receiving recognition and being considered as part of the rich heritage, after several months of acceptance of Irish Gaelic as the 21st official language of the EU, and the entry of Basque, Catalan and Galician as working languages in these same institutions, the situation with the Breton language throws up for discussion the fact of its extremely precarious situation.

The Example of Democratic States

Breton, spoken in 1905 by 1,332,000 has today only around 300,000 speakers, according to the most optimistic calculations. Furthermore, it is spoken only by the older members of the population. Quite the reverse of countries like Wales or Galicia where the youth are largely reclaiming the language of their ancestors. "A good example," highlights Yann Jestin, "is that in the Basque country an opinion research institute has recently established that 85% of the population are setting themselves to learning

the language and enrolling their children into Basque-language schools." In Brittany it is far from the case, in spite of the signed wishes of 96% of the local authorities for the obtaining of a status for the language. "The only thing", concludes Yan Jestin, "is to know if the democrats of Brittany and around Brittany want to stand there with their arms folded in the face of the disappearance of the richness of Humanity. We have the rights, we must take them, for the Breton language is not only the concern of the Regional Council, but all Bretons. We need to know how to mobilise ourselves to attain this essential objective: the survival of the Breton language.

Thierry Jigourrel
(Translator Arthur Taylor)



Yann Jestin with Jean-Claude Rivallain.

Lorient Intercelctic Festival: The Triumph!

The 35th session of the Lorient festival, created in 1971 by Polig Monjarret and Pierre Guerdiac, attracted more than 600,000 people this year.

It started in the Seventies - A period when Brittany was reawakening and looking to throw off its chains. A period also, according to Jean -Pierre Pichard, where "one wouldn't bet a kopek on Breton culture!" A period when the town of Brest discretely got rid of the International Festival of Bagpipes, which was enlivened by BAS since 1953 (*Bodadeg Ar Sonerion: organisation of Breton bagpipe players*). A time when it was necessary to persuade the general public that the culture of the present had a value to pass on to the future equal to that of the past; that rural music could, in the wake of Alan Stivell, urbanise, electrify and mix all the sounds of the Celtic galaxy, it needed oratory talents to persuade the Gaels of Ireland and their cousins in the Highlands to play the bagpipes, side by side, in a stadium, in front of thousands of Bretons.

35 years and some barrels of stout later the gamble is won! Brittany is exporting itself! Brittany triumphs! From Paris, in the grand Stadium of France, where the band of Pichard sets the Parisian night on fire each St Patrick's Day Festival to Glasgow, where, thanks to the enterprise of Colin Hynd, the great Celtic tribute is recreated.

The great Celtic tribute, (proud and spruce) strikes up on the first Sunday of the Lorient festival, going down majestically for three hours, the cause of the Bôve and the black Chazelles of the world, going on to receive a



Susana Seivane performing at the festival.



A musical group of young Palestinian refugees called Ghirab (meaning bag pipes in Arabic) was the toast of this year's festival.

standing ovation in the Stadium of Moustoir.

One has seen in the same place after the final of the 56th National Championship of Bagpipe players of the first class the levels of which never cease to increase over the years, of the *Bagad of Auray*, directed by the master's hand of Fabrice Lothodé after the great Roland Becker. One has seen the beauty of five Magical Nights and the great Interceltic Night when there is a son et lumière festival ending with a fireworks display worthy of 14th July, pipe bands and violins uniting their talents to keep the public under their charm for 2 ½ hours. At the fishing port where 10,000 chests have swelled with one voice to the songs of *Soldats Louis* in which ideas of independence flirt lightly with the aroma of fish and young girls in flowers.

A place of fertility, creativity, a window on Celticism at ease in its clogs and open to the world, Lorient is all that, with its ultramarine dreams in its heavy concrete head. All the more after the financial deficit, caused by the movement of its on-off spectacle, the festival has found a financial balance and is busily filling in the gap. All the better for us! With a paying audience growing by 20% we believe it has got out of the financial mess over recent years. That too is always a challenge, to function as 75% self financing and with public aid reduced to an acceptable level! But it is still the strength and pride of an authentic and popular culture regenerating itself without the intervention of a State more ready to put its hand in its pockets for export festivals, keys in the hands of Paris towards the "Province" which maintains "regional" institutions.

Some people regretted that the year of Ireland has not materialised in the coming of legendary groups like the *Wolfe Tones* seen

on the way to Guincamp. But it is a matter of appreciation

Between the Alléede la Perrière and the Palais de Congress, in the great Atlantic port musical, literary, plastic or cinemagraphic Celticism is decidedly on the move! It is a sacred challenge to the bad winds of history.

Thierry Jigourrel

[Translation: Arthur Taylor]



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Plaid Cymru yn dathlu 80 mlynedd

Dathlodd Plaid Cymru ei phenblwydd yn 80 oed ym mis Awst ac er mwyn nodi'r achlysur hwn cynhaliodd y Blaid barti ar ei stondin ar faes yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol ar y dydd Gwener (5 Awst). Yn ystod y dathliad soniodd Llywydd Plaid Cymru, Dafydd Iwan, am lwyddiannau'r Blaid a'i chyfraniad i wleidyddiaeth. Pwysleisiodd y Llywydd hefyd ran allweddol Plaid Cymru wrth adeiladu Cymru newydd. Dywedodd:

"Mae Plaid Cymru wedi bod wrth galon y newidiadau ar lwyfan gwleidyddiaeth Cymru dros yr hanner canrif diwethaf a mwy. Heb fodolaeth Plaid Cymru, ni fyddai datblygiad Cymru fel endid gwleidyddol erioed wedi digwydd.

"Mae'r datblygiad hwn wedi bod yn allweddol i barhad hunaniaeth cenedlaethol Cymru, ond hefyd wrth gwrs, wedi gwella llywodraethu yng Nghymru er budd y bobl ac er budd cymunedau. Er yr holl rethreg, ni fyddai'r pleidiau Prydeinig wedi rhoi blaenoriaeth i Gymru oni bai am bresenoldeb a pholisïau Plaid Cymru.

"Yn dilyn datganoli, 'rydym wedi gweld y pleidiau eraill yn symud yn raddol tuag at y syniad o wleidyddiaeth Gymreig. Ni fyddai hyn wedi digwydd oni bai am Blaid

Cymru, yr unig blaid sydd â'i bodolaeth yn deillio o fodolaeth Cymru fel cenedl.

"Yr hyn sydd angen ar Gymru ar fyrder ydyw cwblhau'r broses o greu Senedd go iawn gyda phwerau go iawn, a llywodraeth sydd â gweledigaeth glir ar gyfer y dyfodol. Plaid Cymru yw'r unig blaid all ddarparu gweledigaeth o'r fath a sicrhau hunanlywodraeth i'n cenedl, er mwyn galluogi Cymru i chwarae ei rhan mewn creu byd mwy diogel a heddychlon."

Summary

The 80th anniversary of the founding of Plaid Cymru was marked at a ceremony during the National Eisteddfod in August.

Ysgoloriaeth i'w sefydlu er cof am Gwynfor

Cynhaliwyd cinio yng Nghaerfyrddon er cof am gyn-Lywydd Plaid Cymru, y diweddar Dr Gwynfor Evans, lle cafodd Cronfa Goffa Gwynfor ei lansio. Un o brif amcanion y gronfa fydd sefydlu ysgoloriaeth yn enw Gwynfor Evans.

Dywedodd Llywydd Plaid Cymru, Dafydd Iwan:

"Un o brif amcanion y Gronfa fydd sefydlu ysgoloriaeth i Brifysgol Cymru ond



Former Plaid Cymru leader Gwynfor Evans who died in April.

mae nifer o gynlluniau eraill ar y gweill gan gynnwys gosod carreg goffa ar y man y gwasgarwyd ei lwch ger Llangadog.

Unwaith i'r manylion pellach gael eu cytuno gyda theulu Gwynfor byddwn yn gwneud cyhoeddiad pellach.

Pan fu farw Gwynfor ym mis Ebrill, soniais am ei gyfraniad unigryw ac amhrisiadwy wrth ddatblygu Plaid Cymru i'r blaid y mae heddiw. Rhaid i ni nawr sicrhau ein bod yn adeiladu ar lwyddiant Plaid Cymru er mwyn creu Cymru deg, cyfiawn a ffyniannus."

Summary

A scholarship at the University of Wales is to be founded in memory of former Plaid Cymru leader Gwynfor Evans who died in April.

Ymateb i Ganlyniadau'r TGAU a'r Fagloriaeth

Mae Gweinidog yr Wrthblaid dros Addysg, Janet Ryder AC o Blaid Cymru, wedi llongyfarch myfyrwyr yng Nghymru am eu cyraeddiadau TGAU, ond wedi rhybuddio bod angen arolwg o'r gostyngiad yng ngraddau pasio TGAU a'r tueddiadau negyddol yn y Fagloriaeth Gymreig.

Dywedodd AC rhestr Plaid dros y Gogledd, Ms Ryder:

"Er bod y gyfartaledd o'r myfyrwyr sy'n derbyn graddau A* i C wedi codi rhyw fymryn, a bod hyn i'w groesawu, y mae'n destun pryder i weld bod graddau pasio Cymru yn is eleni na chyfartaledd Prydain. Bydd rhaid i ni edrych ar y gostyngiad yn y graddau pasio hyn mewn yn fwy manwl er mwyn gwybod beth yw'r rhesymau.

Mae canlyniadau Diploma Canolradd y Fagloriaeth Gymreig yn codi cwestiynau.

Dim ond hanner y myfyrwyr a gwblhaodd y rhaglen a dderbyniodd y diploma canolradd llawn, ac y mae'r canlyniadau hyn a chanlyniadau wythnos diwethaf y Fagloriaeth Uwch yn dangos arwyddion o dueddiadau negyddol. Pan grëwyd y Fagloriaeth Gymreig, dewisodd Llywodraeth Lafur y Cynulliad beidio ag edrych ar y Fagloriaeth Ryngwladol a'i haddasu yn ôl gofynion Cymru, ond yn lle hynny dewiswyd i greu cymhwyster newydd. Y mae'n ddyletswydd arnynt yn awr i arolygu'r cymhwyster a'r sefyllfa."

Summary

Plaid express concern that worrying tendencies in exam results in Wales may be due to Labour policies.

Trafodaeth gyda Mwslemaid: Plaid yn galw am Gronfa Ddiogelwch

Wrth i garfan o ferched Mwslemaidd ymweld â'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol i fynegi pryder am eu diogelwch, galwodd yr AC Plaid Cymru Helen Mary Jones ar Lywodraeth y Cynulliad i sefydlu 'cronfa ddiogelwch' er mwyn cynorthwyo sefydliadau addoli i gymryd y camau angenrheidiol i'w hamddiffyn eu hunain rhag troseddau casineb.

Mae Ms Jones wedi ysgrifennu at Lywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gofyn iddynt "sicrhau bod gan synagogau, mosgau, eglwysi, a phob man addoli arall ar hyd a lled Cymru y cyllid angenrheidiol i wella eu diogelwch fel bo'r angen." Daw'r alwad wedi cynnydd mewn ymosodiadau hiliol yng Nghymru ac ymosodiad ar fosc yng Nghaerdydd.

Yn sgil 9/11, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth yr Alban y byddai'n sicrhau £1 miliwn ar gyfer gwella diogelwch lleoedd addoli ethnig yn yr Alban. Mae Ms Jones yn awr yn galw am ysgogiad tebyg i ddiogelwch lleoedd addoli yng Nghymru.

Dywedodd Ms Jones, AC rhestr Plaid Cymru dros y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin:

"Rwyf heddiw yn annog Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i sefydlu cronfa ddiogelwch a rhoi'r cyfle i leoedd addoli ddefnyddio'r arian i wella diogelwch.

Wrth ystyried y digwyddiadau diweddar yn Llundain, yr ymosodiad ar y mosg yng Nghaerdydd, a chynnydd yn y nifer o fygythiadau yn erbyn grwpiau lleiafrifol yng Nghymru, mae'n amser i ni weithredu.

Ni fydd Llywodraeth y Cynulliad yn llwyddo i amddiffyn dinasyddion Cymru os na fydd yn gadael i leoedd addoli gael gafael yn y fath gyllid."

Summary

Helen Mary Jones AC of Plaid called for a fund to be set up in Wales for places of worship to protect themselves from violence, as has been done in Scotland, following an increase in anti-ethnic violence.

CYMUNED annual conference condemns Gwynedd council about marina extension

Cymuned, the anti-colonization movement for Welsh-speaking Wales, held their annual conference in Porthmadog on June 11th. A motion was passed condemning Plaid Cymru controlled Gwynedd council for passing a proposal to extend the marina (parking place for yachts) at Pwllheli. The motion praised those councillors who were opposing the development, including council leader Richard Parry Hughes.

'The decision of the Council committee is a very bad one and we support the councillors who are calling for the decision to be referred to the full Council', Cymuned's chief executive, Aran Jones, stated beforehand. 'Report after report has shown that not many jobs will be created by this plan, and most of the few jobs that will come will have a wage insufficient to obtain a mortgage in Pwllheli. Work of quality is needed in Llyn, not attending a boat car-park for rich people.'

(Subsequently, the proposal to enlarge the marina was rejected by a meeting of the full council, largely because of local pressure led by Cymuned. While it may seem surprising that protests were needed to persuade a nationalist-controlled council to reject a plan that would have resulted in increased colonization, the success of the campaign

against goes down as one of Cymuned's most prominent victories so far.)

The conference was addressed by Emyr Llywelyn, a leading member of the former organization Adfer who were active in the 1970s and 80s and promoted the idea of recognition of a Bro Gymraeg in Wales, distinguishing between the areas where Welsh was still a community language and the rest of Wales. This idea was rejected at the time by the rest of the national movement, notably Plaid Cymru and Cymdeithas yr Iaith, but there is now a growing realization among those concerned with Welsh having a future as a natural community language that the whole of Wales is now too big to be controlled by the Welsh-speakers and that recognition of and the development of politics within the Bro Gymraeg is essential for its survival.

The first draft of Cymuned's map of the Bro Gymraeg was distributed at the conference. It marks the Bro Gymraeg as areas where at least 50% of the population born in Wales can speak Welsh, and at least 33% of the total population, according to census figures. The area concerned still runs continuously from the north to the south coast on the west side of Wales, and in one area extends east to the English border.



*Plaid Cymru council leader
Richard Parry Hughes.*

Other motions passed at the conference included a decision, given that there were present those interested, to set up a limited company aiming to build affordable houses. Another motion called for language organizations to come together to discuss the possibility of employing a full-time lobbyist for the language at the Assembly, while both the National Assembly and Westminster were called on to recognize the existence of the Bro Gymraeg.

R ap Tomos

Cardiff Council asks Cymdeithas to stop defacing their signs!

The Council for the City and County of Cardiff have sent a letter to Cymdeithas yr Iaith chairman, Steffan Cravos, who is based in the capital, asking Cymdeithas to stop campaigning against English-only road signs in the city! The letter, in the name of a Councillor E. Morgan, accuses Cymdeithas of 'defacing' road signs and other signs with stickers saying 'Ble Mae'r Gymraeg?' ('Where is the Welsh?'). The letter continues (translation):

"this vandalism (sic) is costing the Council thousands of pounds to repair every year... so I am asking you to stop producing these stickers and to ask your members to stop vandalizing public property... in places like Cardiff with a large non Welsh-speaking population it is difficult enough to persuade people to accept bilingualism in the first place."

Of course, the 1993 Welsh Language Act, limited though it is, obliges councils to comply with their own Welsh Language Plans



and so they do not have to 'persuade' non Welsh-speakers to accept bilingualism.

In response Cymdeithas chairman Steffan Cravos said:

"The battle for bilingual road signs was won in the

60s by Cymdeithas yr Iaith but Cardiff Council are still erecting English-only signs across the capital and thus breaking the law.

"Cymdeithas are completely unapologetic about these stickers. It is the responsibility of the council that serves the capital of Wales to keep to its Language Plan that says 'All new public signs for which the council is responsible, as well as those that are being replaced, will be bilingual'.

"We are willing to discuss the matter further with the council but really the only thing they need to do is to keep to their word and put up bilingual signs."



Capel Celyn was lost 40 years ago – now it's the rest of our Welsh-speaking communities!



*Protesters in 1960
Cofia Dryweryn - Remember Tryweryn.*

In a rally held on June 11, on the shore of Llyn Tryweryn near Bala, where the Tryweryn valley and the village of Capel Celyn were drowned to make a reservoir for Liverpool in the 1960s, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (The Welsh Language Society) warned that we now face the last real chance to sustain viable Welsh-speaking communities. Cymdeithas yr Iaith believe that if the present mewnlfriad or immigration continues, no natural Welsh-speaking community will be left by the year 2020. The rally called on people to join Cymdeithas yr Iaith in their campaign to reverse this serious threat. Considering such a message, the rally was held in a particularly apt location. After all, the history of drowning Capel Celyn is possibly the most poignant example of a Welsh-speaking community losing the right to control its own future.

In particular, the rally called on people to support the demand for a Property Act for Wales. This measure offers solutions to the housing crisis that is undermining so many Welsh-speaking communities. Huw Lewis said on behalf of Cymdeithas:

“This is our final practical chance to secure a viable future for our local Welsh-speaking communities. This is a task of importance for everyone in Wales wherever they live. If present trends continue, no natural Welsh-speaking community will be left by the year 2020. At the moment, many of our communities are on the brink. Over the coming years, they are in danger of losing their most important resources – their local shops, their schools, and, of course, their houses – leaving them in a totally unsustainable situation. We have little time and urgent political action is needed.

“In order to secure a future for our communities, it is vital that we deal with the present housing crisis. Cymdeithas yr Iaith’s answer is a Property Act for Wales – a measure that deals with every part of the crisis – be that unreasonable house prices, large-scale housing developments and the lack of rented accommodation.”

The rally was the climax of a week of campaigning for a Property Act. During the week, members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith took the campaign on tour, visiting many towns across Wales and collecting signatures on a petition calling for a Property Act. In addition, members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith spent the night ‘sleeping rough’ on the streets of these towns, in order to highlight the seriousness of the housing crisis.

Robot ap Tomas

Brits say No to EU status for Welsh:

SNP MP Angus MacNeil (Na h-Eileanan an Iar), having asked whether the English government had any plans to request for Welsh (and other indigenous languages) the status in the EU that the Spanish government has obtained for Catalan, was told by Douglas Alexander (Minister of State (Europe), Foreign & Commonwealth Office) that there was no intention of seeking status for any language other than English. An illustration of the hard unionism of New Labour.

Robust New Language Act imperative for parity between Welsh and English

During the National Eisteddfod, Plaid Cymru called for a new, robust Welsh Language Act, with the National Assembly becoming the responsible legislative body. The party believes also that there should be parity with Irish at European Union level and Welsh should become an official language.

Alun Ffred Jones AC (Caernarfon) said:

“There is more to a bilingual Wales than forms and documents in two languages. We wish to see an increase the use of Welsh in all walks of life, and especially in securing continuity of Welsh-medium education from Nursery level to Universities. All citizens must have the right and opportunity to use either English or Welsh.

“At a time when there is deep concern about the European Union being remote, I am proud that it is Plaid Cymru MEP Jill Evans who is leading the campaign to enable people to communicate in their own language with European institutions – something which can only help to remedy that.”

Plaid Cymru President Dafydd Iwan said:

“The present act is weak and ineffective in ensuring equal status for Welsh and English, stating that the Welsh and English languages are equal under certain circumstances only.

“The recent failure by the DCMS to prepare documents in bilingual form under the New Licensing Act is a blatant example of the weakness of the present Language Act, and of the cavalier attitude of government.

“We also need to involve the private sector in a meaningful way, and I believe the private sector would welcome robust and clear guidance in the use of the Welsh language”.

Caernarfon MP Hywel Williams said:

“Our aim is to make Wales a model of functioning and sustainable bilingualism and make it possible to live every aspect of life naturally in the language of your choice. This aim permeates every one of our policies, be that in education, in securing affordable homes or care for the elderly.”

Robot ap Tomos

CYMRU IN BRIEF

'Boring Boring' says Morgan, but NOW is the opportunity:

First Minister Rhodri Morgan, while once again dismissing the calls for a new Welsh Language Act, described the debate about the language as 'Boring Boring'. He went on to describe Cymdeithas yr Iaith as 'a handful of bullies' in response to their protest when he appeared on the National Eisteddfod field in August. Cymdeithas, however, reiterated that now, with the coming abolition of the Welsh Language Quango, is the opportunity for introducing a proper language act to meet the needs of the new century. This autumn Cymdeithas's campaign will involve putting a series of prominent notices in the Welsh press listing those who support the campaign, and there is to be a national rally outside the Wales Office in Cardiff.

Action on signs in Clwyd:

In July members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg plastered 'Give Way' signs in western Clwyd with an equivalent translation in Welsh -

'Ildiwch'. They are protesting as part of a large-scale campaign to highlight the need for a new Welsh language act, an act that is relevant to Wales in the 21st Century.

"Signs such as 'Give Way' signs should be bilingual under the current Language Act 1993 and we aim to prove that the Act is no longer effective or relevant to this day and age. The authorities have an obligation to provide bilingual road signs. We will be continuing to target this type of sign while the situation remains the same", said Dewi Snelson, Cymdeithas's officer in the North.

The campaigners will continue to target road signs in the area to raise awareness of the need for legislative powers over the Welsh language in the Assembly.

Eisteddfod language status:

The National Eisteddfod was held in the Bro Gymraeg this year, between Bangor and Caernarfon, and a great improvement was noticed in the status of the language on the field in comparison with last year's Anglicised event in Newport, both in visible signs and as the medium of activities. It was expressed to Cymdeithas that last year's Eisteddfod, with its excessive emphasis on 'catering' for non Welsh-speakers, did not have the same effect on local people (in increasing awareness, encouraging people to



Protesters gather around R. Morgan's car when he appeared on the National Eisteddfod field in August.

learn Welsh etc.) as did the previous Newport National Eisteddfod in 1988.

Cardiff Council asks Cymdeithas to stop defacing their signs!

The Council for the City and County of Cardiff have sent a letter to Cymdeithas yr Iaith chairman, Steffan Cravos, who is based in the capital, asking Cymdeithas to stop campaigning against English-only road signs in the city! The letter, in the name of a Councillor E. Morgan, accuses Cymdeithas of 'defacing' road signs and other signs with stickers saying 'Ble Mae'r Gymraeg?' ('Where is the Welsh?'). The letter continues (translation):

"this vandalism (sic) is costing the Council thousands of pounds to repair every year... so I am asking you to stop producing these stickers and to ask your members to stop vandalizing public property... in places like Cardiff with a large non Welsh-speaking population it is difficult enough to persuade people to accept bilingualism in the first place."

Of course, the 1993 Welsh Language Act, limited though it is, obliges councils to comply with their own Welsh Language Plans and so they do not have to 'persuade' non Welsh-speakers to accept bilingualism.

In response Cymdeithas chairman Steffan Cravos said:

"The battle for bilingual road signs was won in the 60s by Cymdeithas yr Iaith but Cardiff Council are still erecting English-only signs across the capital and thus breaking the law.

"Cymdeithas are completely unapologetic about these stickers. It is the responsibility of the council that serves the capital of Wales to keep to its Language Plan that says 'All new public signs for which the council is responsible, as well as those that are being replaced, will be bilingual'.

"We are willing to discuss the matter fur-

ther with the council but really the only thing they need to do is to keep to their word and put up bilingual signs."

Proper parliament the only way forward – Plaid Cymru

Plaid Cymru leaders launched a campaign for a real parliament for Wales at the National Eisteddfod on the Faenol estate near Bangor in August.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, Ieuan Wyn Jones AC, along with Parliamentary Leader Elfyn Llwyd MP launched a petition to secure a real parliament for the people of Wales. This coincided with the submission on the same day of the party's detailed paper in response to the Government's White Paper 'Better Governance for Wales'.

Ieuan Wyn Jones AC said:

"Today we launch a petition calling on the Government to establish a proper Parliament for Wales, rather than the second rate fudge which New Labour proposes in its White Paper. We are calling for a full law-making Parliament and we make this clear in our response to the White Paper consultation, which we are publishing today.

If we want a better health service, or an education system based on the needs of Wales, then we need the tools to do the job. The current Assembly's powers are too weak and confusing and the plan to use 'Orders in Council' as proposed by New Labour retains many of the deficiencies of the current settlement."

Plaid Cymru's Parliamentary leader Elfyn Llwyd MP commented:

"We call for a referendum at the earliest opportunity, so that the people of Wales can vote on the need for a proper Parliament. We are confident of a yes vote given that public support for a Parliament is at an all-time high."

Robot ap Tomos



Éire



Féile na nOileán / I Measc na nOileánach

Tháinig cultúr na hÉireann agus pobal na Briotáine le chéile ar dhá mhórcáid an samhradh seo. Go luath i mí Lúnasa, d'fhreastail na céadta mílte cuairteoirí ar imeachtaí ceoil is damhsa ag an bhFéile Idircheilteach i Lorient, a thug túsáite i mbliana d'aoianna na hÉireann. Agus ag deireadh na míosa, rinne míle nó breis cuairteoirí a slí go hoileán beag ar chósta thiar na Briotáine, chun freastal ar fhéile leabhar is litríochta a mhair ceithre lá agus a d'fháiltigh i mbliana roimh dream scríbhneoirí de chuid na hÉireann.

'Salon Levriou an Inizi' as Briotáinis, nó 'Salon du Livre Insulaire' as Fraincis, atá mar theideal ar an bhféile, a bhí ar siúl don seachtú huair. Blianta eile, bhí airid an tionóil ar litríocht de chuid oileáin atá nó a bhíodh faoi smacht na Fraince, leithéidí Háiti, Guadeloupe agus an Chorsaic. Bhí an spot-solas ar thraidisiúin liteartha na hÉireann an babhta seo, agus léachtaí, seimínéir is go leor eile ar siúl, mar aon le mórhaispeántais leabhar.

Tá saothar ilghnéitheach le maíomh ag na scríbhneoirí a bhí i láthair. Ar na scríbhneoirí Gaeilge, bhí Micheál Ó Conghaile, gearrscéalaí, úrscéalaí, drámadóir agus foilsitheoir; Dara Ó Conaola, Árannach a bhfuil filíocht, gearrscéalta agus tuilleadh lena ainm; agus Diarmuid Johnson, a bhfuil Briotáinis is Breatnais araon ar a thoil aige, agus ar foilsíodh a chéad chnuasach filíochta, 'Súil Saoir', anuraidh. Ar na scríbhneoirí Béarla, bhí Jennifer Johnston, a bhfuil mórchlú ar a cuid úrscéalta; Dermot Healy, úrscéalaí agus drámadóir aitheanta atá lonnaithe i Sligeach; agus Desmond Egan, file a bhfuil iliomad duaiseanna idirnáisiúnta buaite aige.

Maidir liom féin, seans nárbh é m'úrscéal mistéire aonair ('Bás Tobann', a foilsíodh anuraidh) amháin a mheall spéis an lucht eagraithe. Ouessant atá mar ainm Fraincise ar an oileán a d'fháiltigh romhainn; ach an bunainm Briotáinise ná Enez Eusa (nó Eussa), a chiallaíonn 'Inis Uachtair', agus is cosúil go raibh mo shinsear Briotánach in uachtar ann mar thaoisigh sna meánaoiseanna! San 18ú céad atá an taifead deiridh ar mhuintir Heussaff san áit, agus faoin am sin, ní raibh fágtha againn ach dealbhghobail na huaisleachta. Mar sin féin, tá mana nó rosc Briotáinise na sinsear úd fós mar mhana ag an oileán féin, agus é péinteáilte ar fhalla an stáisiúin tarrthála mara: 'Mar kouezh en em sav' atá air, ionann is 'má thitimid, éirimid

arís'. Arsa an fear áitiúil a thaispeáin é dom féin is do mo dheirfiúr Kintilla: "Fáilte romhaibh chun bhur n-oileáin féin!"

Bhí an-bhéim le linn na féile ar chaidreamh idir cuairteoirí, aoianna agus pobal an oileáin, ar ghlac go leor acu páirt ghníomhach san fhéile. Tá Enez Eusa féin méid áirithe níos mó ná Inis Meáin, Árann, agus thart ar 900 duine ina gcónaí ann i rith na bliana. Is beag feirmeoireacht a déantar ann inniu, agus tá raithneach is driseacha le feiceáil go forleathan, chomh maith le fraoch is aiteann. Tá sé lom, sceirdiúil, agus tithe solais ollmhóra ar a chóstaí creagacha. Is léir go bhfuil an t-oileán ag brath cuid mhaith ar na mílte turasoír a théann ann ar thoir suaimhnis is cúrsaí spóirt farraige. Níl Briotáinis á labhairt ach ag corrdhuine aonair, agus bhí an Fhraincis in uachtar le linn an Salon Levriou.

Mar aon le hÉireannaigh, bhí Briotánaigh is Francaigh i mbun léachtaí lena linn: ina measc, an t-údar Briotánach, Hervé Jaouen, a bhfuil iliomad scríofa aige faoi Éirinn; Roger Faligot, a labhair ar an litríocht do pháistí in Éirinn; Jennifer Heurley, staraí agus tíreolaí óg ó Pháras, a thug cur síos ar theorainní polaitiúla is intinne araon in Éirinn; agus Jacqueline Jeunet, acadúlaí mórcháilithe, a

phléigh filíocht agus drámaíocht Yeats. Lean ceisteanna is comhphlé bhriomhar gach seisiún acu, agus idir shaineolas is a mhalairt le cloisint ón lucht éisteachta.

Bhí drámaíocht, scannáin, ealaíon fise is go leor eile mar chuid den fhéile freisin. 'Le Pleure-misère' an teideal ar sheó aonair sármhaith a bunaíodh ar 'An Béal Bocht', le Myles na gCopaleen. Déanadh comparáid idir dhá sheanscannán, 'Finis Terrae' agus 'Man of Aran'. Bhí taispeántais ghrianghrafanna ar siúl, chomh maith le comórtais do pháistí agus seisiúin cheoil; agus le linn na féile, bhí halla mór an phobail lán go doras le daoine ag féachaint ar na seastáin leabhar ó chian is ó chónagar, ó fhilíocht Háiti is ó sheandálaíocht na Corsaic go haistriúcháin Fraincise ar shaothar Mhaeve Binchy agus Pháraic Uí Chonaire.

Ceiliúradh idirchultúrtha, más ea, agus é spreagúil agus siorspéisiúil dá réir. Fuair na cuairteoirí spléachadh ar an litríocht sa dá theanga in Éirinn, ach fuair muide, Éireannaigh, léargas éigin ar conas mar a léitear ár gcuid leabhar i gcéin. Tuiscint chultúrtha eile a fuairamar ag am béilí: chuir foireann dheonach béilí breátha trí chúrsa romhainn faoi dhó gach lá, agus gan aon rian le feiceáil den rubarshicín leamh a bhíonn ar fáil ró-mhinic do lucht féilte in Éirinn!

Anna Heussaff, whose first novel was published in Irish last year, took part in a major book fair and festival on the Breton island of Eusa (or Ouessant in French), where her father's ancestors had ruled the roost several centuries ago. Ireland's literature, both in Irish and in English, was the focus of this year's 'Salon du Livre Insulaire'.

Anna Heussaff



*Anna Heussaff,
author of 'Bás Tobann'.*

ÓGRAS WELSH LINKS



There is an ongoing project now between Ógras (The Irish Language Youth Organisation) and Urdd Gobaith Cymru (The Welsh Language Youth Organisation). The name of the project is 'Bendigeidfran' and it will last three years. Bendigeidfran was a character from the Mabinogi who formed a bridge between Wales and Ireland. The project is funded by Interreg IIIA. There will be 5 courses in each country making a maximum of 10 courses in which the two groups from each country will be taking part learning about their respective Celtic cultures. The project was launched on Saturday 30th July at the Eisteddfod in Bangor, Wales. A group from Ógras went over to Wales during the August Bank Holiday weekend. As well as the launch the first of the courses was run. This course was on the Welsh language. The young people learned a few words of Welsh over there. Indeed I myself learned a few words. It is great to hear the Welsh language being spoken. The language is a community language over there and not just in the Welsh speaking regions. Compared to Ógras, I have to admit the Urdd have much better facilities.

When we were over there we travelled all over the country. We started out in Llanchrannog, which is in the south of the country. There Urdd had a hostel in which they had an Astro Turf pitch. I have to say when I arrived there the place reminded me of the Dingle Peninsula in Kerry. It had a lovely view out to the sea. At the Astro Turf we showed the Welsh how to play Gaelic Football. The Urdd members must be good at Rugby because they used their skills to beat us in the Gaelic Football Match, amazingly. We won't let that happen again. After the match the young people had built up a hunger and we had a Barbeque. The next day we headed to Machynlleth in which Owain Glyndwr's Parliament is situated. We learned a lot about how the Welsh defended themselves against the English for a period. After lunch we headed to the Sain Recording Studios, which Catatonia used when she was starting out. It was interesting finding out how an album is made. Later that evening we headed to Bangor in the North of the Country.

The next day we went to the National Eisteddfod to launch the project. Urdd had its own tent at the event. There we had speeches

by the Regional Director of Urdd and the Chairman of Ógras on their respective organisations. There were speeches also by the project coordinators of the different organisations explaining what the project entailed. We had a dance display by members of Urdd and Ógras. It was very enjoyable.

When the launch was over we had a Welsh Language course. In it we learned about the history of the Welsh language and its status today. As well as that we learned about the differences and similarities between the Irish and Welsh language. Our teacher was teaching in Welsh, but we had a translator to translate to Irish. We had a chance to look around the Eisteddfod. It was similar to the races. There were marquees everywhere in which different organisations were situated. These organisations weren't limited to Welsh language organisations – a sign that the language is strong. There were organisations like Urdd Gobaith Cymru, S4C, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, Cymuned and Plaid Cymru. But you had a science centre (with an ongoing science show which was very interesting), Oxfam and a lot of different shops as well which showed the wide range of organisations participating. Of course the Eisteddfod wouldn't be complete without the choral competition. All in all a very interesting and enjoyable experience from which I think the Irish could learn a few things.

The next day we went to the Welsh Language and Heritage Centre in Pwllheli in the Welsh hills. I have to say the scenery was breathtaking. There we learned a few words of Welsh and we learned about the surrounding area. It was a mining area. The way we learned about this area was through a treasure hunt. After we finished the language course we went to Caernarfon Castle. It is an impressive sight. This was the place where Prince Charles of Wales was inaugurated. It was a huge complex. It is a tourist site at present. There was even a military museum in there in which there was memorabilia from the troubles like An Phoblacht to make me feel at home! I never thought I would see Irish Republican items in a British Military Museum. Being at the castle reminded me how the English managed to keep a hold of Wales. Wales has a maximum of 400 castles in its country.

The next day we went to the Marquees of Anglesey's Column. We were able to see the whole of Anglesey from the top of it. It is another sign of English dominance. It was built in 1817 to commemorate the Battle of Waterloo. On our way to the boat back to Ireland we stopped in – hold on, this will take a while – LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLLGOGER YCHWYRNDROBWLLELLANTYSILIOG



Bendigeidfran – a bridge between Wales and Ireland.

OGOGOCH. There was a train station in there. It is a tourist venue basically for its name.

This was my first time in Wales and I enjoyed it thoroughly as did the rest of the group. It really opened my eyes to the state of the Welsh language and what the Irish language can aspire to. The next course will be in Ireland at the Scléip na hÓige at the Oireachtas in Cork from the 2nd to the 5th of November. Ógras hopes to make the Welsh as welcome as they made us in Wales. We will give them a good taste of Irish culture. Our course will consist of teaching them about Irish sports like Hurling, Gaelic Football and Handball. Caoimhín Ó Cadhla is the project coordinator for Ógras and Nia Meleri Roberts is the project coordinator for Urdd Gobaith Cymru. If you wish to know more about this project you contact either project coordinator at the details below.

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A Tribute to the Late Frank Harte

by Pat Burke

"Those in power write the history, those who suffer write the songs, given our history, we have an awful lot of songs". Frank Harte.

Frank Harte was born in Dublin on May 14th 1933. He grew up in Chapelizod, where his father owned 'The Tap' public house. A Traveller singing the 'Valley of Knockanure', on a fair day in Boyle, Co. Roscommon was what first sparked his interest in Irish traditional singing. It was an interest that became lifelong. By the end of last year, his database of Irish songs had reached over 15,000. An architect by profession, he managed to find time to record a number of albums. 'Down Dublin Streets' first appeared on Topic Records in 1967, followed by 'Through Dublin City'. His songbook, 'Songs of Dublin' appeared in 1978.

His first collaboration with Dónal Lunny was on the album, 'And Listen To My Song' and following this, on 'Daybreak and a Candle-End', which was released in 1987. In 1998, the 200th anniversary of the 1798 Rebellion saw a number of books and CDs launched to commemorate the Rising. '1798-the first year of Liberty' was Frank Harte's major contribution. This excellently produced album on Hummingbird Records is distinctive in having copious sleeve-notes



Frank Harte, R.I.P.

and includes many of the forgotten songs of '98. In 2001, he launched a CD of songs of the Napoleonic period, 'My Name is Napoleon Bonaparte'. This highly acclaimed double album has a total of 26 songs, as well as a 56 page booklet of sleeve notes.

Over many years, Frank Harte travelled

widely promoting Irish traditional singing. He was a much sought after guest at folk clubs, seminars and festivals. He sang, taught and lectured at workshops throughout Ireland, Britain, Europe and North America. His talks though, were never boring or academic, but rather in the mould of a fireside storyteller. One such story was of an Appalachian fiddle player, who played a lively march in Frank's company. Frank enquired as to the name of the march only to be told it was known as 'Napoleon crossing the Rockies'. When Frank said that he was unaware that Napoleon had ever set foot in North America, the old fiddler looked at him quizzically, before replying at length....."Scholars differ!"

Frank's contribution to Irish traditional song was such that his life and times featured in an hour long programme on the 'Sé mo Laoch' series on TG4 in 2002. In 2003, he received the Gradam TG4 traditional singing award. At 71 years of age, and despite ill health, he continued to record. The Hungry Voice, an album of songs of the Great Famine was launched last year, and just prior to his death he had completed recording a CD of Irish labouring songs; 'There's Gangs of Them Digging'.

Frank Harte is survived by his wife Stella, his sons Darragh and Cian, and his daughters, Sinéad and Orla.

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Irish Language for Entry to Gárda Abolished

Michael McDowell, Irish Minister for Justice, has effectively abolished the entry requirement of basic Irish for the Garda Síochána. He announced this move along with plans to recruit new immigrants into the Gardaí. Commenting on the move **Conradh na Gaeilge** and **iMeasc** (the organisation of Irish speaking immigrants) commended the Department of Justice's initiative to recruit Gardaí from the ethnic communities in order that the force may be representative of all the people of Ireland, and stated that this approach showed a linguistic and cultural awareness which will augment policing in general.

The statement went on to say "NUI Maynooth has developed **Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge**, a curriculum and an assessment system linked to the Common European Framework of Reference which is most appropriate to upskill and assess garda recruits realistically and scientifically as part of their training. This approach can be used for recruits who attended school here as well as abroad. (www.nuim.ie/language/irishexams.html)

It is manifest that not every garda need be an "authority" on Irish, however, in the

legal and constitutional context, it is essential that every garda have a working communicative command thereof in order to deal effectively with the public through Irish: to give and receive directions, to take names and addresses, to take a sample of a person's breath, to give a caution, etc., and to converse freely on duty related topics.

This level of proficiency is B1 on the Common European Scale, and easily achieved over the 2 year training period. Higher levels of competence may be required for postings through Irish or in the Gaeltacht.

If every Garda cannot communicate with the public in Irish, the language will be marginalised. For example, a person who speaks Irish could be ordered to speak English on pain of arrest.

This new recruiting initiative presents a great opportunity to carry into effect on a practical and realistic basis Government and Garda policy on the Irish language. Irish presents us with an opportunity to promote an Irish identity beyond creed or skin colour. Recruits should not be shut out from Irish because of their ethnic background."

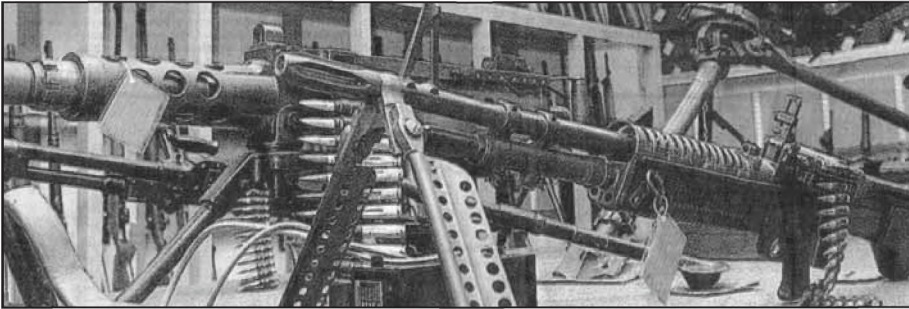
Tuilleadh eolais/Further Information:

Dáithí Mac Carthaigh,
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087-2368364

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IRA Stands down and decommissions



On the 28th July in a move which had been hinted at for some time the leadership of the Irish Republican Army issued a statement indicating that it was formally ending its armed struggle. The statement read "The leadership of Óglaigh na hÉireann has formally ordered an end to the armed campaign. This will take effect from 4pm this afternoon. All IRA units have been ordered to dump arms. All Volunteers have been instructed to assist the development of purely political and democratic programmes through exclusively peaceful means. Volunteers must not engage in any other activities whatsoever.

The IRA leadership has also authorised our representative to engage with the IICD to complete the process to verifiably put its arms beyond use in a way which will further enhance public confidence and to conclude this as quickly as possible. We have invited two independent witnesses, from the

Protestant and Catholic churches, to testify to this."

At end of September the pledge made in regard to decommissioning and the IICD (Independent International Commissioning on Decommissioning) was fulfilled when the Chairman of the IICD, Canadian General John de Chastelain, announced on Sept. 26th that the IRA's arsenal had been put beyond use. Over the preceding weeks the IICD in the presence of two independent witnesses, Fr. Alex Reid of the Clonard monastery (who had been at the centre of the peace process for years) and Protestant clergyman Rev. Harold Good, witnessed the decommissioning of machine guns, rocket propelled grenades, ground to air missiles, mortars, grenades, rifles, pistols a wide range of ammunition and Semtex high explosive. The General confirmed that the inventory closely matched estimates from the British and Irish government's estimates of the IRA's stockpiles.

There was a general welcome to this highly significant event from the British and Irish governments and politicians in the north and in the Republic. However the Rev. Ian Paisley of the majority Unionist party the DUP expressed scepticism, questioned the integrity of the independent churchmen and re-iterated the DUP would not share power with Sinn Féin. Meanwhile the DUP makes no attempt to influence loyalist paramilitaries to disarm and the Catholic population endures a high level of continuing sectarian attacks. Both governments have now to increase pressure on the recalcitrant DUP. It is ironic that having persistently made IRA decommissioning their major demand the DUP cannot now come to grasp with it and find themselves wrong footed. While meetings of the two governments are to take place to review the activation of the Local Assembly some observers feel that the DUP have no intention of sharing power until after the next Assembly elections when they would hope for a different outcome.



Independent witnesses, Fr. Alex Reid and Rev. Harold Good.

Trial by Jury and the Presumption of Innocence threatened by EU Court judgement

Readers of CARN may care to note that one implication of the EU Court of Justice's rejection of the Irish and other EU Governments' positions in the Luxembourg court judgement of early Sept., is that it could threaten trial by jury and the presumption of innocence until proven guilty in EU criminal cases at some time in the future.

This EU Court judgement not only opens a legal way for the establishment of an EU criminal code and common criminal sanctions for serious breaches of EU law IN ANY AREA OF EU POLICY, but it also opens the way for HARMONISING CRIMINAL PROCEDURE AT SUPRANATIONAL LEVEL ACROSS

THE EU. Such harmonisation was actually mooted in the proposed EU Constitution which French and Dutch voters rejected this summer, BUT UNDER THE EU CONSTITUTION IT WOULD HAVE REQUIRED UNANIMITY amongst all 25 EU States.

This recent judgement however opens the way for crimes against EU law to be established BY MAJORITY VOTE OF THE EU MEMBER GOVERNMENTS, together with harmonised penalties and criminal court procedures. In other words, they could be imposed on Irish citizens at EU level even though the Irish Government and people were quite against them, as long as the Brussels Commission proposes them and a qualified majority of other EU States agree. Trial by jury and the presumption of innocence until an accused person is proven guilty are features of Anglo-Saxon legal systems and do not exist in most continental EU States.

Most EU States permit detention without trial and preventive arrest, have inquisitorial magistrates and place the burden of proof on the accused rather than the accuser. The way to a supranational EU criminal law system

that has been opened by last Tuesday's hugely important EU Court judgement would undoubtedly be based on continental practice rather than on court practice in English-influenced countries such as Ireland, Britain, the USA, Canada, Australia, India etc.

Thus for example it was the ECJ that laid down the principle in various judgements in the 1960s that European law should override national law; for this principle has never been stated in any EC/EU Treaty. It was the ECJ that decided in other important cases that European laws had direct and immediate effect once they were adopted, which made National Governments liable to legal action for retrospective damages if they failed to implement supranational EU laws in time. Now the ECJ has given the EU the power to establish a supranational criminal code and harmonised penalties and legal procedures by majority vote, even if individual governments and countries and their peoples may be quite against that.

I trust readers of CARN will agree that this is a major blow to what is left of Irish democracy and national independence in face of the EU.

Anthony Coughlan



Kernow



Devedhys an prys dhe woslowes

Devedhys yw an termyn pur wir dhe wul diwedh a'n governans yn dann Toni Blair.

Dhe voy ha moy efan yth yw kemmys dell wra skonya bodh an bobel. War nivel an bys bras, yma hwath ow klena orth lystenn Bush, prest yn unn hwilas heb mar neb fordh dhe dhiank Irak. Pur sertan ny allas y wasonieth uvel ha lel treylya dhe les, naneyl dhodho-ev na dhyn-ni. Y hyll bos Katrina dhe gavoës gwell sowyna orth y warnya bos gwir peryl toemmehans an norvys.

Sowedhny wrug Kernow namenowgh sevel yn y vrys: gesys yw 'ranndiryow' dhe Jowan Prescott. Henna yw ervyrys (praga? ny yllyn marnas desmygi) dhe wul ranndir an Soth West, an brassa yn ystennans tir yn 'Pow Sows. Na nyns eus y'n governans ranndiryel-na tyller vydh dhe levow poblans

an tiredh: pubtra yw desedhys yn kessedhek pynag hag ogas di yn kevrin. Marth o genen klywes yn kever unn 'kwango' a'n par-na, neb a biw restrichio w le kostek dhe bobel le-el, (ha meur edhomm yw henna), dell wrug gorra a denewenn peswar milvil a beunsowrag prena kampvaow dhe'n 'dremenysi'. Yth hevell dhe nebes ahanan bos an sommenn na pur hel pan vo hevellys orth an myns y'n bojet.

Hwath, awos oll Prescott dhe dhasleverel na yll nevra hwarvos, an movyans a bes ow pysi agan ranndir agan honan.

An yeth, a'y wosa, a wel termyn owrek dhe vos! unnnweyth mar kylllyn ni, gernewegoryon dos ha bos unys y'gan gorholeth ha towlennow. Yma lemmyn war an voes £200,000 pub blydhen (rag pub a'n

nessa teyr dhe'n liha. Gwren ni hedhi ha kana 'Gwynn agan bys!'

We wonder if Katrina will have more success bending Bush's ear to the reality of global warming than Blair's devotion and faithful obeisance.

This Government has to go; more and more it shows itself completely unwilling to listen to the people. Locally John Prescott and his minions absolutely refuse to consider Cornwall's case for a regional assembly. They are fixated on creating, with no democratic consultation, this fictional and unwanted South-West region. There is no democratic input into this regional se-up; everything is decreed by quangos, working pretty much in secret. One example: it came as a surprise that £4 million of funding for local needs housing had been diverted to provide camp-sites for 'travellers'.

The campaign continues for a Cornish Assembly. Maybe we should be encouraged by the language movement's success in achieving, for the next few years at least, £200,000 per year – if, a big 'if', only we can settle our internal differences.

J. Holmes

Critics call for a single Cornish standard

Critics of the way the Cornish language has developed, with several different spelling systems appearing over the years, has led to calls by some to agree on a standard orthographic (spelling) system. At a public meeting in Truro, to debate the recently published Cornish language strategy, many people aired their anger and frustration at the apparent reluctance of some Cornish linguists to decide on a single written form of Cornish.

Professor Keith Atkinson, provost of the University of Exeter in Cornwall and Chair of the meeting, agreed with the critics. Prof. Atkinson argued that a unified Cornish language was needed and that this could not be achieved internally.

'If you get the right people, you have a chance. Otherwise you are still going to be here in 20 years time arguing the toss.'

It has been two years since the Council of Europe Charter for Regional and Minority Languages placed an obligation on the Westminster Government to take 'resolute action' to protect and promote the Cornish language.

However, only a few thousand pounds has so far been spent on the Cornish language and language promotion and protection is still heavily reliant on volunteers.

George Ansell, one such volunteer and Chair of the Steering Group behind the Cornish Language Strategy, commented that, 'At the moment we have a lot of hearsay, incomplete information and very

little hard fact on the current number of Cornish teachers and classes.'

'The ownership of the language lies with the people of Cornwall. People using words like 'corrupt' and 'pure' is not helpful. We should value all versions at this stage.'

John Angarrack, spokesperson for the Cornwall 2000 Civil Liberties/Civil Rights Group, said after the meeting, that the panel 'were not dealing with the 'elephant in the room' that is orthographic factionalism.'

Recently a number of criticisms have been levied at the Cornish language, most notably from James Staughton of St Austell's Brewery and one of Cornwall's leading businessmen who complained that he 'didn't think this is a good way of spending public money.'

'We have got to appear modern, forward looking, innovative and be looking at the world in 20 years time rather than 20 years backward.'

Mr Staughton's words came in the wake of Kerrier District Council's decision to adopt a bi-lingual Cornish/English language policy for use with public signs

The Cornish Branch of the Celtic League are currently writing to all the Town and Parish Councils in Cornwall encouraging them to promote the Cornish language on public signs and to support the Cornish language where ever possible. Rhisiart Tal-e-bot, Chair of the Branch, said, 'on the whole the responses that we have received have been very positive and our campaign have



George Ansell, Chair of the Steering Group.

promoted many Cornish Councils to debate the issue, with the majority promising to do all they can. Only a handful of councils have written back to us so far saying that they will not do anything until a standard orthography has been decided upon.'

A Cornish Church for a Cornish People

Is there a gap opening up between Cornwall and its Church? While Cornish identity strengthens, is that of our Church in decline?

The Archbishop of Canterbury once harshly said of his church that it was like an old woman mumbling away to herself in a corner in some strange language. The Church of England (and the Methodist Church too for that matter) does seem to be totally preoccupied with eternal, internal squabbles and structural reorganisation. As a result, the Church can appear inward looking and self-obsessed. It is certainly difficult getting its attention if you are "out there" and not on some internal committee.

As a campaign group calling for the disestablishment of the Church of England here to form a Church of Cornwall, Fry an Spyrys has to engage with it. As we would like to see Cornwall's Methodist District in full control of its own affairs, finances and chapels, we need to gain its interest as well. When the church roof is falling off or chapel bills are mounting up, our campaign must seem just another annoying problem rather than a solution. Maddeningly, when the ship has sprung a dangerous leak, the crew have little time for lifeboat salesmen.

For it seems to me that the Church of England and Methodist Church here are having an identity crisis, the Church of

England as it is starting to be seen as an alien usurper undermining our identity and aspirations, the Methodist Church because of de-industrialisation and social fragmentation. They are becoming ever more distant from us as all their outward attention is increasingly demanded by centralising authorities based in London and Manchester.



The campaign for self-government for the churches of Cornwall.

We each need an identity which has to be rooted in a place and community - hence the current Cornish Revival. But if the identity of a church is not rooted in that of the community it serves, it risks becoming an inward looking and unloved holy club, even a sect. Our aim is to encourage the Church in Cornwall to deepen its roots in our soil and not let others rip them up. We want it to feel

more in tune with us as our identity strengthens, as our history, culture and language are reclaimed.

But the great difficulty is, when you want to talk to the Church, you have to speak to it in its own language, a language called "Theological." You must present your case using the Bible, references to Church teachings and appeals to historical precedent. There is no point just shouting at it "You shouldn't be flying the Flag of St George from our church towers," as it just can't understand what you are saying.

That is why Fry an Spyrys has drawn up the first ever Theology of Place for Cornwall to present our case to the Church in "Theological." We are years behind Wales in all this, but academics there are enthusiastically supportive and delighted we are now in the game.

Places such as Cornwall are important - they can give our lives meaning and a sense of belonging and purpose, all things held in common with a faith or church. Places can and do spiritually sustain people and the spiritual is a fundamental part of our identity. A people, their spirituality and their place of belonging are inseparably linked and mutually supporting. In short, a place, its people and their Church need each other.

The Church may be too self-preoccupied to listen, but at least we are talking the same language now.

Andy Phillips is the author of "Lan-Kernow: A Theology of Place for Cornwall." A copy can be obtained by sending a large SAE to Fry an Spyrys, 6

Rhisiart Tal-e-bot

Campaign for Inclusion of Cornish on all Public Signage

In May 2005, An Scoren Kernewek/The Cornish Branch of the Celtic League began a Cornish language campaign, the first step of which has involved writing to all the town and parish councils in Cornwall, including Truro City Council. Our aim was to raise awareness of Kernewek (the Cornish language) among local councillors and to assess the position of each council regarding the inclusion of Kernewek on signs.

In addition, we listed a series of 5 questions that we asked each of the Councils to address in a debate on the language. These were:

1. Have you debated any aspect of the Cornish language at a full council meeting since 2003?
2. Do you have a policy on the use of the Cornish language on public signage and if so when and where from was the content compiled?
3. What provision have you made for the Cornish language within your council since 2003?

4. Did you know that town and parish Councils have the right to debate and decide whether to include the Cornish language on place name signs within their area?

5. What other factors would help to facilitate and/or encourage your Council to include the Cornish language on public signage?

From this information and assessing the response of the Councils, it is our intention to develop the campaign further. We will do this by firstly addressing each of the concerns that the Councils raise and by chasing up the Councils that have not replied to our letters. It will then be possible to draw a map of Cornwall where we will be able to assess which Councils are for, against and/or unsure about the use of kernewek on public signage.

This knowledge will then be used to campaign more effectively to try to persuade those Councils who are unsympathetic

and/or unsure to the inclusion of Kernewek on public signs within their boundaries. In addition, we will try to build measures of support between those Councils who are fully sympathetic to the aims of our campaign and those bodies that are able to help them further.

An Scoren Kernewek have so far received responses from about half of all the Parish Councils written to and about three quarters of the Town Councils that we have contacted. We have also received a response from Truro City Council, Cornwall's only such council. On the whole the responses have been fairly positive and all the Councils who have written back have assured us that they debated the issues as a consequence of our letter.

A resolution at this year's AGM was adopted (see Celtica section) in support of this campaign, which also sees An Scoren Kernewek extending its campaign to liaise with the Breton Branch for Breton road signs to be used throughout Breizh.

R. Tal-e-bot

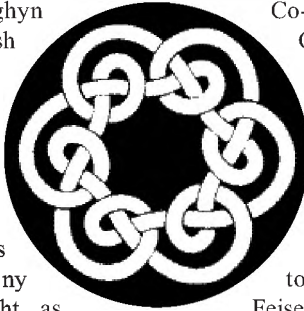


Mannin



Aavioghey Chengaghyn Liorish Ellyn

She aavioghey chengaghyn liorish ellyn va'n ard-chooish ec y Chohaglym Celtiagh syn Oban ayns Nalbin ayns Jerrey Souree. Loayr chaghteryn veih ny shey cheeraghyn Celtiagh mychione y chooish shoh. Ny chaghteryn veih Mannin as Nalbin, loayr adsyn mychione ny h-aghtyn oddys kiaulleaght as arraneyn cooney lesh chengaghyn t'ayns stayd faase. Loayr chaghteryn veih cheeraghyn elley mychione ellyn reayrtagh, thieyn-cloie son feallagh aegey, as lettyraght.



Loayr Anne Kissack ass lieh Vannin as ish cur magh fys mychione goaill arrane ayns Gaelg er y gherrid. Erskyn ooilley, v'ee loayrt mychione ny sheshaghtyn-arraneys Caarjyn Cooijdagh as Cliogaree Twoaie, as possanyn-kiaullee myr Mactullagh Vannin, y Mollag Band, King Chiaullee as Moot. Chamah as shen, hug ee magh sampleyryn jeh ny daanyn Gaelgagh yindyssagh ta goll er croo ec paitchyn aegey sy Ghaelscoil ec Balley Keeill Eoin. Agh ooilley cooidjagh, ren Anne goaill rish dy vel Mannin foast beggan moal bentyn rish y Ghaelg as ny h-ellynyn, tra ta Mannin goll er cosoylaghey rish ny cheeraghyn Celtiagh elley. Agh ta'n Ghaelg cheet neese voish stayd injil as nee reddyn sharaghey son shickyrys. Va chaghteryn veih ny cheeraghyn elley goaill tastej dy vel sleih cadjin gobbraghey son y Ghaelg ayns Mannin - she cooish y theay t'ayn son y chooid smoo. Arthur Cormack, ren loayrt son Nalbin, t'eh ny arraneagh veih'n Ellan Skianagh as ny stiureyder jeh Feisean nan Gàidheal. Shoh sheshaght t'er ve feer speideilagh as ad greinnaghey feallagh aegey dy ghoaill arrane ayns Gàidhlig as dy chloie kiaulleaght Albinagh. Hie Arthur dys scoill ayns Purtree tra va'n coarys-ynsee noi'n Ghaelg Albinagh - begin da reih eddyr Frangish as Gàidhlig! T'eh slane bwooisal nish dy reih eh yn chengey ghooghysagh, ga dy row e phaarantyn noi shen. Cha row Gàidhlig ayr Arthur feer vie, agh haink ee dy ve mie erbaghtal er y fa dy row eh eginit loayrt ee rish custymeyryn ayns Gaelg Albinagh ayns buill fadaneagh syn Ellan Skianagh as eh gimman mygeayrt gobbraghey son y

Co-Op. Hurr Arthur er e yishag Gàidhlig y loayrt rish as haink Arthur dy ve flaaolil. Va ny possanyn-kiaullee Runrig as Capercaillie niartal as ad cur er Arthur dy ve smoo graihagh foast er y chengey. Hug eh shapp-chiaullee er bun ayns Purtree as ghow eh toshiaght d'obbraghey son Feisean nan Gàidheal. Ec y traa t'ayn, ta mysh queig meeilley dy leih aegey goaill aym ayns feaillaghyn ta goll er reaghey ec y cheshaght shoh. As ta mysh hoght meeilley dy leih aegey elley er chemmalyn y cheshaght. Ta Arthur



Arthur Cormack, who represented Alba at the Congress as guest speaker and singer.

Cormack lane shickyry dy vel shoh cooney lesh aavioghey yn chengey.

Coardail rish towse-barel va jeant feiy Nalbin er y gherrid, ta 71% dy leih smooingaghyn dy lhisagh caa ve currit da gagh Albinagh Gàidhlig 'ynsaghey. Shoh caghlaa mooar. Va reddyn grait ec Arthur nagh geayll mee rieau roie, ga dy vel mee er chredjal ad rish bleantyn. Dooyrt eh dy nhegin da'n Ghàidhlig croghey er sleih t'er nynsaghey'n chengey sy traa ry heet. As veagh blass y chengey goll er caghlaa. As, ny sodjey, t'eh ro anmagh berchys y chengey y hauail. Adsyn va geaishtagh rish Arthur Cormack, foddee dy row kuse jeu nyn gadley, agh cha ren peiagh erbee

gaccan mychione ny reddyn shen va grait ehey. Er lhiam pene dy vod oo sheeyney ny dooyrt eh gys Yernish as Britaanish - as eer gys Bretnish, foddee. Agh cha nel mee ro hickyry dy vel berchys ny chengaghyn caillt son dy bragh. Foddee dy jig sorchyn noa dy verchys rish.

Son Bretyn, va Jeremy Turner credjal dy lajer dy vel ellyn ny aght niartal ry hoi aavioghey chengey. T'eh gobbraghey marish y ven ehey lesh dramaghyn as cloieyn ayns Bretnish son sleih aegey fud ny cheerey. Shegin cochiangley tradishoon lesh reddyn noa, as shegin jeeaghyn er reddyn ta goll er ayns ymmodee cheeraghyn. Jeih bleaney as feed er dy henney, va thieyn-cloie ayns Bretyn geiyrt dy chionn er thieyn-cloie ayns Sostyn. Agh nish ta daanys dy liooar ec Bretnee (erskyn ooilley ec Bretnisheyryn) dy ghoill gys cheeraghyn elley dy ynsaghey reddyn noa oddys ny Bretnee goaill ymyyd jeh. Cosoylit rish ny cheeraghyn Celtiagh elley, ta Bretyn foddee ny stroshey ayns cooishyn ny thieyn-cloie sy chengey ghooghysagh. Va'n loayrtys voish Nerin slane anchasley. V'eh er ve reaght dy beagh peiagh ennagh voish Thie-cloie yn Abban ayns Divlyn, dy beagh eshyn loayrt son Nerin. Agh cha dod eh cheet gys yn Oban kyndagh rish boirey ayns cooishyn-reirey yn thie-cloie. Myr shen, loayr leaghteyr ollooscoil, Daithi O hOgain, syn ynyd jeh. Vrie eshyn y feysht 'C' red ta ellyn?' S'doillee freggyrt y chur. Gyn ourys erbee, va Daithi er chur yn olk er politickeyryn, sharvaantyn theayagh as ellyneyn ayns Nerin as eshyn briaght jeu 'C' red ta ellyn?' roish my row ny politickeyryn stowal toyrtysyn er ny hellyneyn. Cha dod eh rieau ansoor kiart y gheddyn - cha nyrrys noadyr. Ta Daithi O hOgain smooingaghyn dy vod ellyn ve gaueagh my she impiroilaghys cultooril t'ayn. Foddee cruinneydaght (globalisation) cur sorchyn ennagh dy h-ellyn er sleih er egin. Cha nel Daithi coontey monney jeh 'far-ellyn' - Britart as y lheid, raad nagh vel yn ellyneyr agh cur magh hene-hoilshagh (self-expression). Ta far-ellyn vrisht myr shoh mie dy liooar son cultoor mooar lesh chengey lajer, agh cha nel ee cooie da mynchultooryn lesh chengaghyn ta fo vaggryt. Coardail rish Daithi O hOgain, sleih ta gearree aavioghey chengaghyn, she sleih quaaq t'ayn er y fa dy vel ad ayns stayd quaaq. Y red smoo, t'eh gra, shen dy livrey yn poble veih cruinneydaght. Ta ny chengaghyn hene nyn ellynyn, as cha nel eiraght as crootaght scarrit veih my cheilley. Dy ve ynydagh, shen dy ve cochadhin (universal). Shegin jeeaghyn y berchys jeh cultoor tradishoonagh da feallagh aegey. Shegin cultoor elley y lhisaghey. As she shynyn ta gra quoi shynyn, cha nee sleih elley. Erskyn ooilley, sleih ta gearree aavioghey chengaghyn, shegin prinsabyllyn baghtal ve oc.

Va'n Cornagh Paul Hodge loayrt mychione y scansh jeh lettyraght. Cha nel eshyn ayns coardailys roosyn ta gra nagh dooar Cornish baase. T'eh credjal dy row ee marroo as dy vel ee goll er aavioghey nish. Haink cragh er y Chorn kyndagh rish yn Aachummey-credjue. Sy cheyoo eash jeig, va'n Lioar-phadjer Vaarlagh currit da ny Cornee er egin. Dirree ad magh as ayns 1549 va'n jehoo aynr jeh pobble y Chorn marrooit. Va'n Baarle currit stiagh ayns kialteenyn y Chorn, ny kianglaghyn eddyr y Chorn as e co-heer, y Vritaán, v'ad giarrit, as va Colleish Glasney currit mow (she sy cholleish shen hie ny Cloieyn Mirril Cornagh er screeu). Coardail rish Paul Hodge, va'n sharmane s'jerree ayns Cornish er ny phreachail ayns 1670, y Cornagh s'jerree nagh row Baarle echey, hooar eh baase ayns 1676, y screeuyn persoonagh s'jerree ayns Cornish, v'eh scrut ayns 1776, as hooar ny loayrtee dooghysagh s'jerree baase mysh 1800.

Va'n aavioghey currit fo raad ayns 1904 ec Henry Jenner, y fer ren crearey jeh Gaelg loayrit ayns 1874. Eisht, chroo Robert Morton Nance Cornish Unnaneysit lesh aght-screeuje jeianagh as haink yn aavioghey dy ve ny smoo niartal. Ta Paul Hodge credjal dy vod y Chomish goll er aavioghey dy kiart liorish daanyn, skeealyn, thieyn-cloie, kiaulleeaght as filmyn. Loayr eh ram mychione fir-screeuje as possanyn-kiaullee. As yeeagh eh sambil jeh filmyn Cornish da chaghteryn. Ta ny Cornee er yannoo dy mie mirrilagh as ad jannoo filmyn sy chengey oc hene - t'ad cur nearey er ny Manninee. She Fanch An Hennaf hug y loayrtys ass lieh yn Vritaán. T'eh ny ellyneyr graafagh as studio echey ayns Locronan. Yeeagh eh posteyryn va jeant echey hene da ny chaghteryn, posteyryn as Britaanish orroo. Smooinght va ry gheddyn ayns gagh nane jeh ny shey loayrtyssyn: shegin da'n ellyn ve mie erbaghtal as shegin jee ve yn chield red - cha nhegin da'n ellyn ve ny red taghyrtagh ta ny s'inshley na'n chengey.

Summary

Delegates at the recent Celtic Congress at Oban listened to lectures from the six Celtic countries on language revival through the arts - singing, music, theatre, literature and the visual arts. A common theme was that the art has to be very good indeed and not just some incidental thing involved with language revival. One speaker emphasised the risk to threatened languages and cultures from forms of art imposed by globalisation - art as cultural imperialism.

Brian Stowell

The Parish Walk

I have been intending to write something about this unique event, in general terms, for some time. I have been stimulated by the publication, recently, of a book giving the history of it, with a comprehensive account of the event from 1852 and statistics from the time of its revival to the present day. Now I can do it in greater detail.

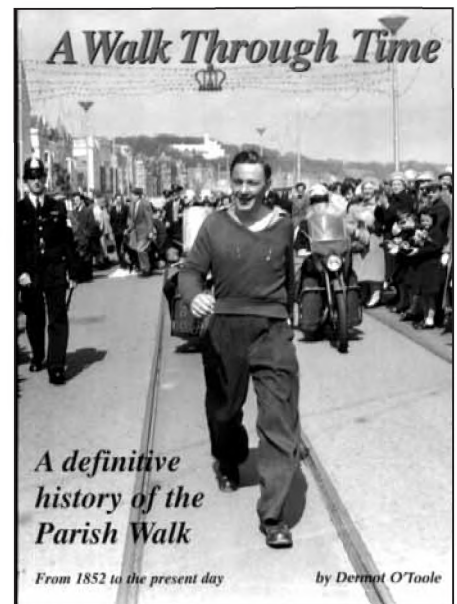
The notion that it was possible must have had a long history. In a book published in the late 19th century, there is a short legendary tale about Alswith the Swift in the time of the Viking period on the Island, who attempted to visit each of the parish churches in one day. He failed, but that, basically, is the challenge as it now exists. On an 85 mile route, the participant must visit 17 churches within 24 hours. Even on the flat this would be daunting, but the Island is hilly, to say the least and that adds a further dimension.

At first, it was individual people who made the attempt. However, in 1913, "The Parish Walking Match" took place. Twelve entrants started and three of them completed the task in less than 24 hours. It was not until 1960 that the Parish Walk was revived on a formal basis in its present form. With only one two year break, it has taken place each year since. To start with, it would be attempted by fewer than 100 entrants. Today, the brave participants number more than 1500 and the numbers continue to grow each year: A truly national event.

The actual number of people involved must be a lot larger. The really serious contenders have mobile supporters supplying drinks and snacks for those whilst still on the move. However, many people on the route cheer the



The modern pack, two miles from the start.



Front cover showing Stanley Cleator winning the revived event in 1960.

walkers on and set up tables with food and drinks for those with no organised support. Even the supporters in cars find it taxing: My wife and I have sometimes acted in support of our daughter and her husband, and it is surprisingly hard to keep up with their needs.

The race for ladies, juniors and veterans stops at Peel, a distance of 32.5 miles. To be in contention for winning at that distance, one must complete it, up hill and down dale, in something like six hours. The full course (85 miles) has to be completed in 24 hours and anybody with no chance of completing is taken off by marshals. To win, one has to be looking at a time of 17 hours or less. Some of the women continue after Peel. Just to be a finisher is enough of an achievement and some entrants have finished more than a dozen times with no object in mind of winning.

The fastest time so far was by Derek Harrison at 15h 20m 51s, in 1979. The first winner in 1960 was a postman, Stanley Cleator, with a time of 19h 50m 30s. He was wearing everyday clothes and shoes, as all did in those days. His round as a postman was 16 miles daily, so he was well prepared compared with others. Indeed, postmen generally have been prominent amongst the winners. That said, this event is supported by a broad spectrum of the population and is closely followed by many who have never completed.

The book is: "A Walk Through Time" by Dermot O'Toole, printed by Mannin Media Group Ltd., Media House, Cronkbourne, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM4 4SB, Price £19.99. It is a stunning piece of research with many photographs. The Parish Walk takes place on the Saturday / Sunday nearest to the summer solstice.

Colin Jerry

Manx Government looks for Full Control over fishing rights

The Isle of Man's Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) is currently consulting on taking full control over fishing rights out to a 12 nautical mile limit. Currently, the Island is allowed by the UK to legislate and enforce fishing laws up to a ludicrous three nautical mile limit.

Although DAFF has long expressed a desire to acquire greater control, the UK has abused its constitutional position to prosecute its own traditionally aggressive fishing policy by operating a sanction upon the region from 3 nautical miles to 12 nautical miles from the Island's coastline. This limit, itself, was established by the UK "over the heads" of the Manx in a 1964 agreement with several western and north-western European states. The only reason that the UK is now willing to revisit the issue is because it is withdrawing from the EU's Common Fisheries Policy. When this is enacted (scheduled for January 2006) the existing UK legislation over Manx waters will be obsolete and renegotiations with new

"regional" authorities are necessary (Scotland, Wales, England and Northern Ireland).

The UK has shown its hand early on this matter and is pushing for a transferable licence system so that UK fishing operations can acquire and retain fishing rights to the detriment of the Manx industry.

The Isle of Man is not part of the UK or the EU. The EU's Common Fisheries Policy has taken full advantage of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to establish a 200 NM fishing limit. Russia has had a unilaterally declared 200 NM limit made in the 1990s internationally recognised. Iceland's own unilaterally declared 200 NM limit has been recognised (even, eventually, by the UK) since 1973. The UK has extended its fishing rights, in certain instances, to 200 NM around the Falkland / Malvinas islands. These are just a few examples of how the world's oceans are getting carved up.

On top of European agreement, the UK, Denmark and the Faeroe Islands have, after

long dispute, drawn up agreement, so how has the Isle of Man been so badly abused? Quite simply, because it has allowed itself to be. Unless the government in the Isle of Man asserts our rights, and lodges them with the UN, the UK will ride rough-shod over our rights for its own benefit. The UK has already been found guilty of breaking EEC / EU law after unilaterally redefining its fishing limits in 1987. Even now, despite the facts, DAFF is talking in terms of "how should we manage a 12 NM limit?" rather than, "We want our rights under international law: Control to the median line."

Mec Vannin, the Manx Nationalist Party has always advocated median line territorial waters (since a 200 NM limit would go beyond the median line) and will be making that view clear in its submission. This should not simply be to allow its exploitation, but to manage them and maintain them in line with the Kyoto Agreement. If the Island's fisheries department does not take this opportunity to assert our rights, the only national interest it will be serving is England's.

Mark Kermode

Rebranding Mannin

Two years ago, some unidentified person or persons working for the only newspaper in the Isle of Man started pushing something called re-branding. Very quickly, the government had been sucked into this and the off-island consultants had their wages for the next few years guaranteed.

The very term, "re-branding" rankles with many Manx people as it smacks of the same "new-speak" mentality as another buzz-phrase, "IoM plc", a far-right vision of an island as a simple economic entity where economic under-performers are weeded out and expelled, where "good for business is good for the Isle of Man," where justice and law is made and dispensed with economic expediency as the primary consideration and the term "Manx" has negative connotations.

I know some people have advocated "climbing on-board" to get some recognition for the rapidly dwindling Manx people and Manx elements within the Island. Such participation can only serve to implicitly endorse the project and will quickly be used to undermine the position of those of us who want it exposed for what it is: A private enterprise project launched with the sole intention of making a certain group of people richer at the expense of Manx people.

The movers behind the project found it

easy to sell to the government. The populace is proving a harder task, however, and in an attempt to get support, a fully equipped and funded mobile display and staff team have been going around the various summer fairs and shows that occur around the Island. This has included a questionnaire entitled, "Why do you think the Isle of Man needs branding/promoting?"

The result has just been published (September 2005) and a brief breakdown follows:

There was total of 43 responses.

10 of these were from visitors.

Most of the comments followed the line of "We need more advertising / public image" or, "too much emphasis on TT / car rally / finance (delete as appropriate). The government in the Isle of Man has been paying long thousands of pounds to English PR and marketing firms over the past two decades to address the very concerns of most of the respondents. The question, therefore, is not what to do but to identify who has been taking a lot of money to do nothing.

Of course, if all the comments are followed, it means that we increase our advertising of our total nothingness.

The most telling single comment came

from a person describing themselves as a Manufacturing Consultant from Port St. Mary: "I do not see anything which singles out the IOM from elsewhere - no image!"

I think that the writer has revealed themselves in that line, since it is implicit that they mean "elsewhere in England".

At the end of the day, an image forms itself and disproportionate efforts to shake off a particular image can quickly become damaging, stereotypical distortions in themselves. The Island has earned its TT motorcycle image. It has earned its tax-haven image. It has earned its shoddy, seen better times, Victorian sea-side resort image.

None of this matters to those behind the re-branding project, of course: The longer people run around and subscribe to this nonsense is the longer they can sit back and let the money roll in to their own accounts.

Mark Kermode

Sign the Petition

6 Moore Street, Dublin, was the final HQ of the Army of the Irish Republic in 1916. Plans are afoot to convert it into a supermarket.

There is an online petition at:

<http://www.PetitionOnline.com/1916loz/petition.html>

Celtica



Celtic League AGM 2005

This year's AGM, hosted by the Alba Branch, was held in the Gaelic College, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, on the Isle of Skye.

The following Resolutions were adopted.

ALBA

1. This AGM:

- Proposes that the Celtic League generally supports the aims and objectives of Independence First, the Scottish campaign for a referendum on national independence, and notes that the organisation is both non-party and trans-party.
- Recognises that the UK has never given the people of Alba or Cymru the opportunity to vote in such referenda, contrary to UN self-determination guidelines.
- Reaffirms its support for Scottish independence and opposes British moves to hinder its coming about.

2. This AGM:

- Condemns the Scottish Football Association for refusing to put the old name of the country, "Alba" on the national strip.
- Recognises that David Taylor, chief executive of the SFA, has publicly voiced his opposition, but that his attitudes are symptomatic of more widespread, deep-set prejudices against the language.
- Calls on politicians to intervene in this situation, and encourages all sympathetic parties, wherever they may be, to lobby the SFA on this matter.
- Recognises that placing "Alba" on the shirt is a very minor change, with no great financial cost, but also a massive gesture from a bastion of popular Scottish culture.

3. This AGM:

- Congratulates the Scottish parliament on passing the first Scottish Gaelic Act.
- Expresses regret at past inaction by Westminster and Holyrood, but also hopes that the language be further

consolidated into law and protected from discrimination and neglect.

4. This AGM:

- Demands that Berwick upon Tweed be reintegrated into Scotland.
- Notes that Britain itself recognised the town's unique position up until 1885 when it was illegally incorporated into Northumberland, that Berwickshire is considered part of Scotland, the football team plays in the Scottish league and that the River Tweed falls under Scottish law from end to end.
- Considers Berwick upon Tweed to lie entirely to the north of the Tweed and not to incorporate the neighbouring towns to the south such as Spittal.

BREIZH

1. This AGM calls on the French government to:

- Sign the Charter for Lesser used Languages (Karta Europa) and recognise the Breton language as a working language in the EU, like Basque, Catalan etc.

- Allow tvbreizh to be on the TNT (Télé Numerique Terrestre) in BZH5 (4 million subscribers).

Background

TV Breizh is a private TV, like Sky News or ITV. It has the will to develop news and films in Breton as much as they can financially. It is possible to look at it on Canalsat or TPS; as well as on the net. Unfortunately, Breton people behaved like French people and considered that TV is for "FREE". Therefore, the Breton people did not buy the right to watch TV Breizh and the audience went down for the Breton programmes... Before being 'Beljinised' Rozenn Milin, the former manager, worked hard to promote those Breton programmes.

In 2005, there are less and less programmes in Breton. In 2004, TV Breizh worked hard to gain the right to be chosen by the TV Broadcasting state body (C.S.A.), in order to be on the TNT (TV Numerique Terrestre). That is to say a high quality system using masts, on the land, all over the French state. At the end of the day the Breton people must buy a satellite dish to get TV Breizh as well as one hundred channels instead of 24 on TNT. Today most of the Breton people think that TV Breizh should be on TNT, in their minds TNT means 'for free'. That's wrong. It's the advertisements who pay the programmes on TF1 and on the other private channels, on TNT. In fact, it does not make much difference... you have to buy a dish!

ÉIRE

1. This AGM congratulates Stádas and the Irish Government on their successful campaign in achieving full EU working language status for Irish.
2. This AGM calls on the British Government to grant political status immediately to the republican prisoners being held in prisons in the North of Ireland.



Rob Gibson, SNP MSP, who gave the introductory speech at the AGM..

KERNOW

1. This AGM of the Celtic League supports the current campaign for Cornish and English signs to be used throughout Kernow and for Breton road signs to be used throughout Breizh.
2. This AGM of the Celtic League supports the aim of establishing a Celtic Environment Council that aims to campaign, on behalf and in association with the Celtic League, in matters that affect the environment in and around all the Celtic countries.

Background

The sudden death of forty-four year old Paul Smales in 1990 meant that the recently formed Celtic Environment Council (CEC) that Smales was instrumental in forming went into haemorrhage and quickly died. The CEC was established to consolidate the League's long term ecological involvement in the environmental well being of the Celtic countries.

It is the opinion of An Scoren Kernewek that a regeneration of the Celtic Environment Council takes place and that it works closely in association with the Celtic League in forwarding its specific environmental aims and concerns.

For organisational purposes, research into the how the CRE will now develop will take place over the coming months. All those members and readers who are interested in getting involved and carrying the development forward, in these crucial first steps are asked to contact the Cornish Branch on celticleaguekernowbranch@hotmail.com

MANNIN

1. This AGM

Mindful of the more open attitudes to the release of official information by the introduction of a freedom of information Act in the United Kingdom, urges the Manx government to seize the opportunity that this presents to obtain greater information about incidents / events that have occurred at British nuclear installations around the Irish Sea in the past five decades.

2. This AGM calls upon the public authorities in all the Celtic countries to:
 - recognise their duty to protect and promote their national languages through the use of them in signage
 - reject the reactionary and discredited argument that signage is in any way confusing
 - resist the insidious translation and renaming into English and French of place names

3. This AGM calls on the UK government to force the BBC to implement its obligations under the European Language Charter and broadcast in the native languages of all the countries it takes fees from.
4. This AGM believes that the acceptance of British Imperial Titles is, by definition, incompatible with the notion of furthering the culture, history, independence and government within the Celtic countries

ENGLAND

Governments throughout the Celtic countries have a duty to provide cheap rented social accommodation to local people in their locality.

GENERAL SECRETARY

1. This AGM
 - expresses its concern at the imprisonment of five landowners from County Mayo because of their opposition on environmental and safety grounds to the construction of a gas pipeline across their land.
 - pledges support to the community of North Mayo to ensure that any development associated with off-shore gas deposits is safely exploited and is of benefit to the local economy.
2. This AGM expresses concern at the failure of the Manx Government to provide detention facilities at police stations and prisons that comply with international standards.
3. This AGM support calls from political leaders and community groups to extend all Irish TV broadcasting to the substantial Irish expatriate community in Britain.
4. This AGM
 - calls upon the British Government (NIO and MoD) to publish the results of any land quality assessments undertaken at military facilities (both operational and disused) in the north of Ireland.
 - urges the British Government to carry out full environmental assessments and remedial work at sites which it is decommissioning to restore them to their former condition.

Celtic Art Christmas Cards



Celtic Art Christmas cards are now ready. All designs are individually designed in the Celtic Art style, full colour and totally unique. All greeting are in Irish and English. This community arts project, specialising in Celtic art and design, has been publishing for over 25 years .

10 for £7.00 post free uk., from

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Abington
Northampton NN3 2BY

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THE CELTIC CALENDAR LOOKS BACK

CELTIC CALENDAR 2006



Hrana Janto (1987)

AN HISTORICAL AND MYTHOLOGICAL CALENDAR REPRESENTING THE CELTIC YEAR: NOVEMBER 1, 2005 TO OCTOBER 31, 2006

Marking over 25 years of publication, the 2006 Celtic Calendar is a special retrospective edition, featuring thirteen favourite and classic illustrations by eleven contemporary Celtic artists, reaching back through the entire history of the Calendar. Depicting themes from Celtic mythology, each illustration comes with an explanatory caption.

Keeping with its traditional format, the Celtic Calendar follows the course of the Celtic year, beginning with the feast of Samhain on November 1st, and continuing on to the old Celtic New Year's Eve on October 31st. The names of the months and the days of the week are each rendered in one of the six Celtic languages, along with an authentic Celtic proverb. In addition the Calendar commemorates over 1000 anniversaries of people and events from the histories of Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Brittany, Cornwall and the Isle of Man. Bonus pages include information about the Celtic feast days and other information, making the Calendar a virtual *almanac of Celtic history and culture*.

The Celtic Calendar may be found in gift shops and bookstores or directly from the Celtic League for \$10 postpaid per copy: Celtic League Calendar, c/o Tom Cullinan, 14 Whistler Road, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Additional information about the Celtic League and the Celtic Calendar may be found by logging on to www.celticleague.org.

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celtic league press releases

Those who would like Celtic League press releases via Electronic Mail can subscribe (free of charge) to the mailing list at:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league

Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership/subscription rates (including *Carn*) are: €23.00, Sterling £13.50, Europe (airmail) £17.00, Outside Europe £20.00. US\$30.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank).

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Articles for *Carn* should be e-mailed to the Editor. Appropriate photographs should be sent with them.

Material for the next issue of *Carn* should reach the Editor no later than 1st November 2005. Articles sent for publication in *Carn* must relate to our aims. All materials copyright © *Carn* unless otherwise stated. The views expressed in *Carn* are not necessarily those of the editor or of the Celtic League.

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A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 132

Winter 2005

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- Why Support Gàidhlig?
- YA! First Breton Weekly
- An treuzkas e Bro-Gembre
- Cymdeithas Chairman Not Guilty!
- Lessons of Irish Ferries Dispute
- Cornwall 2020 – Regenerated or Ruined?
- Illiam Dhone Remembered
- Conference of Stateless Nations of Europe 2005
- Anthony Lewis R.I.P



ALBA: AN COMANN CEILTEACH
BREIZH: AR KEVRE KELTIEK
CYMRU: YR UNDEB CELTAIDD
ÉIRE: AN CONRADH CEILTEACH
KERNOW: AN KESUNYANS KELTEK
MANNIN: YN COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE





COTHROM NA FEINNE

Tha ar cànan Gàidhlig sa Gàidhlig. Gaelic sa Bheurla Gaelic ach bu choir l a bhì 'Scottish' mar a bha i.

Mata, bha cànanean eile ann an Alba sna làithean a dh'aom, ach tha iad a-nis cho marbh ri sgadain ...air diochuidhe. Thàinig ar cànan gu h-Alba corr is dhà mìle gu leth air ais. Tha feadhain ag ràdh gum d'fhàinig i a Eirinn a-mhàin. Ach bha sgoillear, José, ann am Portugail ag innse dhuinn gum d'fhàinig i a Portugail!

Bha Portugail pairt de Ghàidheal uair, a' ciallachadh, "Tìr nan Gàidheal" air an taobh tuath an iar na Spainne. Thàinig na Ceiltich ann, na Gàidheil agus na Breatannaich. Dh'fhadaich na Breatannaich ar daoine thall thairis. Tha làraichean aca ri fhaicinn san taobh de Portugail gus an latha an diugh. D'am b'ainm ...Citânia de Briteiros.

Theich na Gàidheil sna bataichean aca anns an t-sruth a tha a' ruith air fhad Phortugail gus a tha iad a' ruigsinn Eirinn is Alba an iar, (sa Bheurla, Lusitanian passage no current)

"Mata," arsa sinn, "a-reir Brosnachadh Obair-brothaig 1320, thàinig sinn as an Spainne agus tha na h-Eirinneach ag ràdh gum d'fhàinig na Milesians on Spainne gu h-Eirinn! Chan eil fhios againn ach sa bhliadhna 843 AD rinneadh Coinneach Mapailpin na rìgh thairis air na h-Albannaich agus-mar sin steidhich e rìoghachd na h-Alba.

"Hud, hud," arsa José, an sgoillear Portugalach, "rinn na Romanaich, Alba, nuair a thog iad Balla Hadrian san taobh tuath de Shasuinn."

"Co dhuibh no co dheth," arsa sinn, "sa bhliadhna 1018 bho'n a bha iad na Gàidheil, na h-Albannaich, buadhach aig Cath Carham, ràinig iad na crìochan a tha cadar Alba is Sasunn gus an latha an diugh.

Uime sin tha ionad d'am b'ainm "Ord" san taobh deas Bearraig Tuath no Berwich-on-Tweed agus "Ord" eile san taobh tuath de h-Alba ann an Cataibh.

Sa bhliadhna 1058 no rudeigin mar sin, rinneadh Calum Ceann-mór, Ard-rìgh na h-Alba agus bliadhnaich an deidh sin, phòs e Mairead a bha a-reir sinne "Mairead nam Mallachd" ach a-reir luchd na Beurla, "Saint" Mairead.

Cha do chòrd ar cànan ri Calum is Mairead. B'fhearr lea luchd na Beurla agus sna h-eaglaisen Ladaìn. Gus a sin san Eaglais Cheilteach againn bha a' chànain againn, a' Ghàidhlig. Uime sin, thug iad ùghdarras ha

h-Eaglais do Laidean an aite na Gàidhlig.

Cuideachd, thug Calum is Mairead a h-uile dreuchd do luchd na Beurla a bha na fogarraich on Ceannsachadh Normanach a rinn Uilleam Ceannsachaiche thairis air Sasunn sa bhliadhna 1066.

Sa bhliadhna 1496 thàinig Achd an Fhoghlaim a-mach. Bha an t-Achd sea ag ràdh gum feumadh am mac a bu sine aig gach ceann-cinnidh aig aois ochd no naoi gu sgoil Ghallda far am biodh teagasg tre na Beurla. Bha leisgeul aig luchd na Beurla bum biodh na gillean inbheach fada nas fhearr deagh cheartas a thoirt sna cuirtean-lagha aca!

Gus an d'fhàinig am bàrd Gallda, Gavin Dubhghlas (1525) bha "Scots" no "Scottish" ag ciallachadh "Gàidhlig" sa Bheurla. Tha fios againn mar a bhrath Seumas VI Alba nuair a f'fhàs e Rìgh na Sasuinn. cuideachd, sa bhliadhna 1603. Thug e Achd an Fhoghlaim 1616 a-mach, dh'fheumadh daoine a bha gu math dheth, na paisden aca a chur do sgoiltean far a bhiodh iad ag ionnsachadh a h-uile càil tre na Beurla.

An deidh Bliadhna Thearlaich (1745-6) tàinig Achd on Parlamaid Westminster a-mach, a' toirt am fearan uile gu leir gus a' cheann-chinnidh. Gus a seo cha robh aige ach an tuathanach no farm aige.

Bha cinn-cinnidhean ann a bha santach agus chur iad am-meud mal nan cruitearan cus no cadhòn chur iad a seilbh air sgath nan caoraich. Leis a sin thàinig "Fuadach nan Gàidheal". Bha Diuc Cataibh as miosa a-reir aithris.

Ach cha do sguir na Fuadachan sin, gus a' bhliadhna 1886, leis a' chiad Achd nan Croitear.

Ach annp a' bhliadhna 1872 Achd an Fhoghlaim air bhonn. Dh'fheumadh a h-uile leanabh a dhol don sgoil, ach b'e Beurla a-mhàin cànan an fhoghlaim. Cha robh àite no inbhe aig a' Ghàidhlig...a h-uile càil tre na Beurla. Bha sgoiltean Ghàidhlig ann ach leis an t-Achd seo bha iad dùinte no bha gach facal ceadichte bha Beurla. Fhuair seanair an sgiobhaiche slaiseadh leis a bheilt, fàisg air a h-uile latha a bha e aig an sgoil bhon a bha e a bruidhinn na Gàidhlig! Mhair an t-Achd 1872 fad corr is ceud bliadhna. Ach tha dòchas ann a-nis bhon a tha Parlamaid againn a-ris an deidh trì ceud bliadhna. Chi an leughadair ann an CARN mu dheireadh (Am Foghar 2005) staid na Gàidhlig an latha an diugh fad a nas fhearr.

Ach tha obair mhór, mhór againn ri dhèanamh gusa bheil gach leanabh feadh Alba uile gu leir ag ionnsachadh a h-uile cuspair tre na Gàidhlig, a' Chanain Albannach, a' chanain againn fhìn!

Summary

The history of the Scottish language over the last thousand years has been one largely of suppression. But now there is some degree of hope with a sympathetic Parliament, after 309 years. Also it has the power to implement our aim of having every child and young person taught through Scottish which was and is the proper name of our language. The Hungarian language is not called in English or French or German etc. "Magyar" In other tongues it is known as Hungarian! As Dr Samuel Johnson put it ... "Schools are erected in which English is taught... There is no tracing ancient nations but by language and therefore I'm always sorry when language is lost, because languages are the pedigree of nations."

**Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich no
Mac al phearsain
Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illesbuig**

Why support Gàidhlig?

Many Scots laugh at Gàidhlig, because of centuries of brainwashing and snobbery. One of the best weapons in any imperialist's arsenal is mockery; as soon as the subject feels inferior, and embarrassed about their own native culture, then he has won. Ignorant of our own history and literature, we can't really know what happened, except from the conquerors' point of view. Strangely enough, folk don't feel so shy about being anglicised, or Americanised. It's incredible that in the 20th c. Highland children were still being taught in a language they didn't know, and in one case in Lewis, a human skull was hung around the neck of those who dared to use their native language. Many weren't even taught to read it I need not explain the Clearances, or Culloden. English was introduced by law, education and force, 'choice' came after.

Yet Gàidhlig and the Left haven't always been best friends. Most fair people realise that the value of something isn't its price tag. Saving our language won't stop poverty or homelessness etc, but it does create jobs, and it costs far less than the monarchy or dropping bombs on Arabs! Which would you have? It's an anchor in the storm of bland, corporate 'globalism'.

Urdu more important? It is important, but the dirty lie that Gàidhlig only belongs to whites, or worse still only white Highlanders,

is one of the most racist out there. But consider that Chinese, Urdu and Hindi have the biggest film industries in the world, and at least four state governments behind them. Gàidhlig has none of this. Not all supporters and speakers are/have been white or Scottish born. In the last few months alone, an anti-Gàidhlig letter was ripped to shreds by a Mr Wang in one of the major papers, and the late Karachi born radio presenter Ali Abassi was an enthusiastic supporter of the language. I've met Polish, German, Russian and Greek learners amongst others. In Lewis there has been a family of Asian speakers for decades. Whoever sees it as chauvinist, wants it to be chauvinist! Many immigrants to Scotland also come from countries exploited by England, as we are, and some have had their languages destroyed in the same way.

A Mafia? This is a general problem. Scotland is full of Mafias, look around. Most of them use English, but is anyone complaining about that? It's just one more gravy train, and the Establishment isn't that pro-Gàidhlig. The former head of Highland Enterprise said it should 'die by the fireside'. The Western Isles council had a policy of 'benevolent neutrality'. Benevolent neutrality never did anything anywhere! The only reason Thatcher did anything is because she feared a repeat of Welsh incidents. (See we can help each other!). We must deal with all nepotism! Lanarkshire Mafia and all...

Not relevant? Have a look at a phone book

or map from Scotland or Scots dictionary, all are full of words & names from Gàidhlig, and not all from the Highlands. We use Gàidhlig words every day without realising it, like trousers, bog, slapper, grotty, slogan & braw to Iain, Alistair & Donald from Banff, Kilmarnock & Dumfries. There's thousands of examples. Scots grammar is influenced by it too, which makes it easier for us to learn. Everywhere south of the Orkneys has spoken some Gàidhlig, and many urban Scots come from Highland & Irish origins. It even seems to have got south of the border. A Northumbrian king was a noted Gàidhlig poet, and Lindisfarne was a mere offshoot of Iona. Geordie has Gàidhlig words in it! Even up 'til after the Union, the majority of Scots could speak it, including in the SouthWest and even Fife & Stirlingshire. We have eyewitness accounts to back this up. Robert Louis Stevenson, a West Lothian native includes a Fife Gàidhlig speaker in *Catrina* ('Tam Anster' Ch. XVI). It is still spoken in parts of Perthshire, and survived in Arran, Aberdeenshire & Angus until the late 20th c. The earliest known book in it comes from Deer in Buchan, and is kept in a Cambridge library's vaults. It is the link between Highlands and Lowlands. But when people pronounce Leuchars as "look ass" and Nessie lives in a 'lock' (in the canal?), things are far gone.

Is it really insular? As a modern European language no. As a Celtic language, it's a

reminder of our solidarity with our comrades in Ireland, Wales etc. It's a very positive link with Ireland, beyond sectarian bigotry and religion. A Gàidhlig speaker can read Irish and Manx with only a little difficulty, although talking is another matter. Some even argue the three to be one language. It should be remembered too that the Ulster Protestants have a Gàidhlig background, and that most native speakers have Protestant backgrounds. It is a potential bridge between the communities, and lets us see them beyond a Brit mindset.

Two centuries ago there were nine languages in these islands. Now there are just five, and four are in danger. How can we preach multiculturalism and then allow cultural genocide right here? It's hypocrisy... Hundreds of languages were sent to the brink in North America and Australia by British imperialists. That any survive at all is anti-colonial defiance. Every new speaker of Gàidhlig is a smack in the Unionist pus and the aristocracy that's tried to wipe it out for centuries. That's why our children who have to know it... 'Young learning is beautiful learning' according to a proverb in the language. When they know it better than we ever will, and pass it on, we have won.

Tir gun teanga, tir gun anam.

Ray Bell

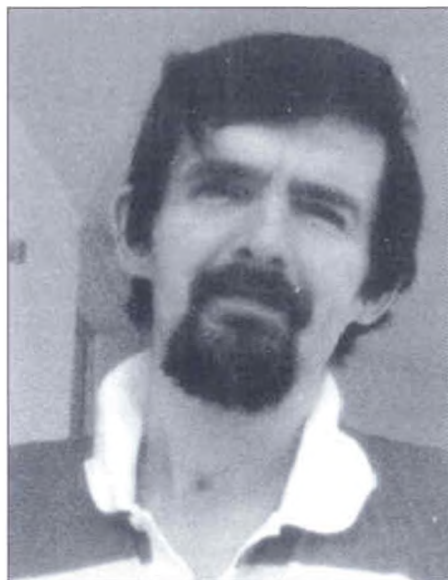
Uilleam MacCaluim / Bill McCallum 1947-2005

Celtic League member Bill McCallum passed away on 2 September 2005. Bill was interested in home rule for Scotland and for all other fourth world nations from a very young age. He traced much of his interest to an article which appeared in the Daily Express in the 1950s about a fluent Cornish speaking couple who married through the medium of the language.

Bill studied law at Glasgow University and worked at Glasgow Corporation (and later Glasgow District Council) in the Town Clerk's Conveyancing Department and later Glasgow District Council from 1967 until taking early retirement in 1996.

Bill had many different interests. He was interested in history, politics and world affairs. He loved books and had an extensive library. He was passionately interested in languages and particularly in minority languages. He especially loved Esperanto which he spoke fluently and Gaelic which he learned to read and write fluently. He was interested in all the Celtic languages and had a particular soft spot for Cornish. He was strongly opposed to linguistic imperialism and to the worldwide spread of the English language.

Since he retired he had been working on an



extensive Gaelic dictionary which his son Alasdair is going to complete. Just before his death, he had been learning Chinese, Latin and Ancient Greek.

Bill was a member of the SNP and of the Celtic League since he was a boy. He frequently wrote articles for *Carn* on Gaelic

related issues and said that the happiest day of his life was 11 September 1997 when Scotland voted decisively for Home Rule. He also believed firmly in the rights of all stateless nations worldwide and supported the autonomy movements and language movements for all small and endangered nations worldwide whether close to home such as Wales, Cornwall or the Isle of Man or further afield such as the Baltic States and Kosovo. Bill was also committed to a range of other progressive causes related to the environment and social justice.

Bill suffered from a neurological condition which affected his mobility from the late 1980s onwards and for which he had major surgery in 1988. This meant that his daily activities were restricted and that he was unable to undertake all the things he would have liked. However, he contented himself at home with his books and his computers. Unfortunately, over the last year, his general health deteriorated, culminating in his admission to the Royal Infirmary at the end of August. He is survived by his wife Maureen and children Alasdair and Mairead.

Alasdair MacCaluim

GAELIC NEWS

Scottish Executive takes action on Gaelic teacher supply

The Scottish Executive has accepted the findings of a report commissioned to address the national shortage of Gaelic teachers. The Gaelic Medium Teachers' Action Group recommends the appointment of a Gaelic teacher recruitment officer, the expansion of part time and distance learning options for teacher training, the abolition of course fees for part-time Gaelic teacher training students and the provision of support to enable Gaelic speaking teachers to transfer to Gaelic medium education.

One method of increasing the number of Gaelic medium teachers is notable for its absence from the report, however. This is the option of using immersion courses to enable existing teachers to learn Gaelic. Activists have criticised this decision and argue that no large scale expansion in Gaelic medium education will be possible unless this measure is adopted.

Gaelic Television Channel by 2007?

The Scottish Executive has agreed to raise its contribution to Gaelic broadcasting from £8.5M to 11.5M per annum in order to break the deadlock over a Gaelic television channel.

Moves towards a Gaelic channel have been difficult and protracted due to a longstanding funding dispute between the UK Government and the Scottish Executive as to who should foot the bill. While broadcasting is the responsibility of the UK Parliament, the funding of Gaelic broadcasting is devolved to the Scottish Parliament.

In April the UK Government's Department of Culture, Media and Sport announced a one-off payment of £250,000 as their contribution to the establishment of a channel. This was followed by an announcement from the UK broadcasting regulator Ofcom that the commercial broadcasters Scottish and Grampian Television were to be freed from most of their obligations to show Gaelic programming in peak time in return for making a contribution of £1.2M to the proposed channel over 3 years.

The small amounts contributed by the UK Government and the commercial broadcasters have been widely criticised by the Gaelic community and meant that available funding was insufficient to establish even a basic service. The Scottish Executive's announcement that it is to fill the funding gap should now enable the creation of a Gaelic channel broadcasting around 90 minutes per day by 2007.

Western Isles Pilots Opt-out system for Gaelic education

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, the local authority serving the Outer Hebrides, has agreed to pilot a new enrolment system for Gaelic medium education (GME) in five areas in the Western Isles. All children in these areas will be automatically enrolled in GME and parents will have to opt out should they wish their children to be educated through English. In these areas GME will be available in all local schools whereas English medium education will only be available in one school in each locality.

The schools included in the pilot are Staoinbrig in South Uist, Bréascleit on the west side of Lewis and Paibeil, Loch nam Madadh and Càirinis in North Uist.

At present GME is only available in some schools in the Western Isles and parents must choose to specifically opt in if they wish their children to be educated through the language. The result of this system is that less than 1/3 of children in the Western Isles are currently educated through the medium of Gaelic.

This pilot has been introduced as part of the council's Gaelic policy which states that it will aspire to provide GME as the principal means of tuition in the first two years of primary school. If the pilot is successful then it is anticipated that it will be extended to cover the remainder of the Western Isles and to continue all the way to primary seven.

Dedicated Gaelic School for Skye?

Highland council is currently holding a consultation on the proposal that Sleat primary school in the south of the Isle of Skye should become a Gaelic only school. In recent years the number of pupils in the Gaelic medium stream in the school have outnumbered those in the English stream.

Sleat is a particularly important area for Gaelic as it is home to Gaelic college Sabhal Mòr Ostaig and has experienced a local renaissance of the language with many Gaelic speakers and learners from other parts of Scotland moving to the area. Activists see a Gaelic only school as an essential step to develop the language locally. This move has not won universal approval however, and some local parents have formed a group to oppose the designation of Sleat Primary as a Gaelic school.

Although there are many Gaelic medium units within English medium schools in Scotland, there is at present only one Gaelic school, Glasgow Gaelic School. This is shortly to be joined by another school in Inverness and, as indicated above, by several schools in the Western Isles.

New Gaelic Orthographic Conventions Launched

An updated set of Gaelic Orthographic Conventions were launched by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) in December 2005.

While the spelling of Scottish Gaelic, unlike that of many other minority languages, has historically been largely standardized, there have been some uncertainties and areas of variation. The first set of Gaelic Orthographic Conventions were launched in 1981 and have been almost universally adopted for Gaelic writing and publishing. With the increasing use of Gaelic for official documents, however, it became clear that there were many gaps in the conventions where clarification was necessary. The new document seeks to clarify grey areas and to fill gaps not identified in the original document.

While GOC 2005 has been widely welcomed for its contribution to Gaelic spelling, it does not consider issues of grammar. Increasing use of high register Gaelic in official documents has led to growing calls for a standard official Gaelic grammar similar to the Irish *Caighdeán Oifigiúil* (official standard) in order to tackle grammatical grey areas at a high level.

Mairtainn MacLeòid

**IT'S TIME FOR
SCOTLAND TO
LEAVE THIS
POTENTIAL UK
POLICE STATE**

The British State is a threat to the liberties of ordinary Scots. The UK and US have both shown contempt for international law by pursuing an illegal war in Iraq and thereby stirring up huge resentment in the Arab World.

Scottish soldiers are dying as part of a British force in Iraq to prop up the US's access to middle eastern oil supplies. Yet Scotland is awash with oil (though the profits from it have been stolen by the UK Government) and we have no interest in invading other countries.

All these actions are supposedly about defeating terrorism. In fact by ignoring international law the UK and US are making international terrorism much more likely and at the same time they are using the threat of terrorism as an excuse to undermine our basic rights.

When the House of Lords declared that detaining foreign suspects without trial was

illegal the British Government decided there was a simple solution and they have now successfully removed the right to trial for all terrorist suspects whether they are British citizens or not.

Moves to remove basic rights from terrorist suspects are not new though the latest proposals are the most extreme. Since 1974 ever more draconian "anti-terror" legislation has been passed, and with every amendment more 'special powers' are handed to the Government with progressively less regard for the rule of the law.

Over 97 per cent of those (mostly Irish) people arrested under the original Prevention of Terrorism Act, were never charged. The Guildford Four and Birmingham Six are the most obvious examples of miscarriages of justice for innocent people who happen to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

This latest bill will allow Terrorist suspects to be detained indefinitely without trial and without any evidence produced in justification. The basic principle of 'innocent until proven guilty' has been removed.

Furthermore, a draconian system of effective house arrest can now be introduced on the orders of a Judge based on the suspicions of MI5. Let's not forget that this is the paranoid and unaccountable secret organisation who has bugged numerous serving Government ministers and who according to ex Spy Peter Wright "burgled their way across London" on a daily basis.

The most worrying fact however is that these powers could potentially be used against anyone who opposes the Government. Already the BNP and Animal Rights Activists have been identified as possible targets.

"Speaking after the Home Secretary Charles Clarke, announced new laws to control the movements of terrorist suspects, Mr Clarke's adviser, Stephen McCabe, told The Scotsman he saw this extending to other groups suspected of using violence to further their ends. The Labour MP said: "We can envisage this applying to animal rights extremists and the far-Right, for example."

"These people are locked up because we believe they are a genuine danger based on what we think is pretty reliable evidence, even if it cannot be divulged in a court of law." (1)

In truth, this could affect any political activist who the Government disagrees with. I can't stand the BNP but they are a registered political party. The Tories are actively playing the race card at the moment, so really there is only a difference in degrees between the right and far right of the political spectrum.

Who decides who is a threat and who isn't? Who watches the watchers?

The rules on 'national security' are purposefully vague and cover anyone who is "a threat to the economic interests of the UK".

MI5 have long considered trade unionists to be a legitimate target because they perceive unions to be an economic threat to the UK. In reality they may be a threat to employers but they are an enormous benefit to ordinary workers!

The Scottish Parliament has rejected ID cards outright and its democratic decision should be respected. Unfortunately, the Government is prepared to tell fairly obvious lies over their proposals. In a letter to myself dated 12/08/2003, Beverley Hughes, the former Home Office Minister said: "The Government has made clear that it does not consider that an entitlement card scheme would have a significant effect in combating terrorism in the United Kingdom."

In the same letter she also said that the Government would not be consulting on a compulsory scheme. In fact the Governments proposed ID card scheme would have been compulsory by 2013!

Tony Blair, Charles Clarke and David Blunkett have all subsequently made an explicit link between ID Cards and Terrorism despite the home office's own official advice.

The Government has also deliberately overestimated the amounts of terrorist suspects in an attempt to scare people into supporting their plans.

"There are several hundred in this country who we believe are engaged in plotting or trying to commit terrorist acts," Mr Blair told Radio 4's Woman's Hour. (2) A similar claim was made by the ex head of Scotland Yard to the 'News of The World'.

However a 'senior security source' quoted in The London Times newspaper said that these figures were based on numbers of people who travelled to training camps in Afghanistan and Pakistan, prior to September 11.

Of those only 25 or 30 who are known to be in Britain, with some of those in prison in Belmarsh. The source said the Prime Minister's estimates of the scale of the terrorist threat was sloppy. "It is irresponsible and likely to scare people unnecessarily," the source said. (3)

A further major problem of ID cards is that they are likely to increase the police harassment already suffered by ethnic minorities.

Writing in the Scottish Left Review Aamer Annwar pointed out the full extent of the current discrimination against "Muslims and people of middle eastern appearance."

"Home Office figures revealed that stop and searches of Asians under new anti-terror laws soared 302 per cent in a year. The total number of stop and searches under counter-terrorist legislation more than doubled from 8,550 to 21,577. Anti-terror searches of blacks rose 230 per cent, from 529 to 1,745, and of whites 118 per cent, from 6,629 to 14,429.

Some 8,000 people have been stopped under the new anti-terrorism powers. Yet only 170 people have been charged as a

result. Just two of those have been convicted. Both were for possession of a small amount of cannabis, which hardly amounts to a 'terrorist threat'." (4)

Anti Terrorist experts doubt that the newest bill will even make any improvement in the Government's ability to fight terrorism. Professor Paul Wilkinson, chairman of the Advisory Board of the Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence at St Andrews University, strongly attacked the proposals recently in an article entitled "Wrong weapon in the battle against terrorists".

He said the proposals were being "rushed through with inadequate time for proper consideration of their implications for civil liberties and their potential efficacy in preventing terrorism."

He added "not only [would the proposals] once again involve the UK in derogating from Article 5 of the European Convention on Human Rights and would hence be ruled unlawful by the judges, it would also be dangerously counterproductive."

He ends his article by writing "I do not believe we should be passing legislation which undermines a basic civil liberty and which, in any event, is unlikely to make any useful contribution to the prevention of terrorism." (5)

Labour have now been forced (through a lack of parliamentary time available before the election) to drop their proposals, however given that these plans have been raised, dropped and then resuscitated on a number of occasions it is a virtual certainty that they will be brought back soon after the election.

If the unlikely happened and the Conservatives did get in then it is almost certain that very similar proposals would be introduced. The Tories originally considered the idea during the Thatcher Government but decided at the time that it would be too expensive. Given his past actions as Home Secretary we cannot expect a Howard Government to be any improvement in terms of civil liberties to the current Government.

Detention without trial, house arrest and compulsory ID cards are not the actions of a democracy. There is only one sure way of escaping from this potential UK police state and that is by voting for Scottish independence as soon as possible.

Sources:

- (1) 'BNP and animal rights activists face house arrest'
(The Scotsman 27th January 2005).
- (2) and (3) Times (London) –
1st March 2005
- (4) A permanent state of terror?
by Aamer Anwar SLR Issue 23.
- (5) Wrong weapon in the battle against terrorists by Paul Wilkinson The Scotsman 10th March 2005



Breizh



An treuzkas e Bro-Gembre

E 1997, ur wech deut en-dro Strollad al Labour e penn ar galloud e vez kinniget gantañ e vefe savet ur vodadenn zilennet evit Bro-Skos ha Bro-Gembre. Gant ar Frankizourien-Demokrated e vez kinniget treuzkas an holl galloudoù d'an div vro, dre an « Home Rule ».

D'ar 24 a viz Gouere e vez kinniget an rak-tresoù treuzkas evit an div vro. Mouzhiet e vez d'an 18 a viz Gwengolo gant ur goulell hepken e Bro-Gembre a-zivout krouiñ ur Vodadenn Vroadel Gembre. N'eus an hanter hepken eus an dud enskrivet a ya da votiñ, hag en o zouez n'eus 50.3 % hepken eus ar voterien o votiñ evit ar « Ya ». D'an 31 a viz Here 1998 e vez embannet al lezenn a-zivout gouarnamant Bro-Gembre.

Ur Vodadenn Vroadel (ha n'eo ket ur Parlamant) a vez savet e Bro-Gembre. Dilennet eo evit pevar bloaz, 60 kannad enni (40 kannad dilennet er 40 pastell-votiñ a vez dilennet enno kannaded Parlamant Breizh Veur, hag 20 kannad all dilennet war listennoù er 5 pastell-votiñ a vez dilennet enno kannaded Parlamant Europa). D'ar 6 a viz Mae 1999 e vez dalc'het an dilennadeg gantañ, gant 47 % eus an dud enskrivet a ya da votiñ : 28 sez a ya gant Strollad al Labour, 17 gant ar Blaid Cymru, 9 gant ar Virourien ha 6 gant ar Frankizourien.

N'he deus Bodadenn Vroadel Gembre galloudoù lezennel a renk kentañ ebet. Ne c'hell ket sevel tailhoù, na cheñch ar mod sevel an tailhoù. Galloud he deus koulskoude e-keñver al lezennoù treuzlatet gant Parlamant Breizh Veur. Ne c'hell hepken votiñ lezennoù-sevenñ (galloud lezennel a cil renk) hag embann reolennoù war dachenn ar galloudoù miret eviti. Barregezhioù a oa bet treuzkaset da Vro-Gembre war an diorren ekonomikel, al labour-douar, ar bevañs, ar peskerezh, ar c'hoadoù, ar galloudoù lec'hel, ar yec'hed hag ar selvioù sokial, al lojamant, an endro, ar steuñviñ, an dezougen hag an hentoù, an arzoù, ar sevenadur hag ar yezh, ar glad, ar sportoù hag an diduamant. Ne c'hell ket kemm framm ar strollegezhioù lec'hel war he zerouer : n'he deus barregezh ebet war ar justis na war surentezh an dud. E karg emañ eus ar selvioù foran hag ar politikerezh a denne a-raok d'ar Sekretourva-Stad karget eus aferioù Bro-Gembre (*Welsh Office*). Deut eo ar *Welsh Office* da vezañ ar *Wales Office*, renet gant ur Sekretour-Stad, hag a ra

war-dro ar barregezhioù n'int ket bet treuzlatet d'ar Vodadenn Vroadel. Renet e vez ar Vodadenn hag he gouarnamant gant ur Ministr Kentañ (bet ar Sekretour Kentañ a-raok miz Here 2000), e penn ur C'habinad eizh ministr (bet sekretourien). Rankout a ra ivez Sekretourva Bro-Gembre degas d'ar Vodadenn gembreat ar peadra ret, votet e-barzh boujedenn Breizh Veur. Degaset e oa d'ar Vodadenn ur voujedenn a 8 miliard a Lurioù e 1999, a 12 miliard e 2005-2006 (= 16 miliard a Euroioù, da lavarout eo 24 gwech boujedenn Rannvro Vreizh evit ur boblañs damheñvel hag un terouer bihanoc'h) : 13,5 miliard a vo e 2007-2008.

Mont a ra war gresk boujedenn Bodadenn Vroadel Gembre, e-giz ma ya war ledanaat he barregezhioù. Dre-se e vez savet kudenn astenn holl galloudoù Bro-Gembre. E miz Gouere 2002 e oa bet savet gant Gouarnamant ar Vodadenn ur bodad-labour dizalc'h, kadoriet gant Lord Ivor Richard, bet penn Kambr al Lored, diwar-benn ar galloudoù ha reolennoù ar mouezhiañ, gant ar pal bezañ asur e c'hell ober he seizh gwellañ evit interestoù pobl Vro-Gembre. Rentet en deus e skrid-danevell e miz Meurzh 2004. Aliet en deus he defe ar Vodadenn ar galloud lezenniñ war tachennoù a zo, ar re all o chom gant Parlamant Westminster; aliet en deus ivez e vefe cheñchet ar mod mouezhiañ a-benn dilemm hervez ar c'henfeur. E-barzh al levr gwenn, « Ren gwelloc'h Bro-Gembre », embannet d'ar 15 a viz Mezheven tremenet, en deus gouarnamant Breizh Veur nac'het e vefe cheñchet ar mod mouezhiañ. Kinniget en deus memestra un hent hanterek etre stad an traoù a-vremañ hag ur Vodadenn Vroadel gant an holl galloudoù lezenniñ e-giz Parlamant Bro-Skos.

Adal embann al Levr gwenn he deus ar Blaid Cymru, tu eneb er Vodadenn, rebarbet krak-ha-krenn. D'an 2 a viz Eost o doa renerien Strollad Bro-Gembre, da vare an Eisteddfod vroadel, lañset ur c'hampagn hag ur skrid-goulenñ evit ur gwir Parlamant.

Summary

In the last issue, (Carn 131 pg.6) the writer gave an historical background towards devolved government for Wales. This article, discusses progress after 1997 when devolved government became a reality.

Yves Jardin

PAYS BIGOUDEN



BRO VIGOUDENN

Jakez Derouet wins Design Competition

Celtic League Breizh Secretary, Jakez Derouet, won an award with his design in the Vro Vigoudenn competition for a new logo for the region. The logo, incorporating an impression of dance, impressed the jury who awarded Jakez the 1000 prize. He stated he was delighted to have won as his grandfather came from the fishing port of Enez-Tudi and went to work in the fishing industry in Naoned and his mother worked in the canning industry. In the course of his professional life as a graphic designer His design incorporated the warm colours of the region and the feature of a forward looking woman made a particular impact with the jury which was restricted to eminent people from the cultural, economic and political fields across the region. It will be used by 75 firms, 26 clubs and a large number of cities in the Vro to promote a new image of their region to their different partners, customers and tourists. Congratulations to Jakez and best wishes in his retirement for lots of fun and painting!

Gi Keltik



Kampagn skoazell Diwan evit dazont ar skolioù

Appeal for the Breton language.
All contributions welcome,
however little.

HEP BREZHONEG BREIZH EBET,
SANS LANGUE BRETONNE PAS
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THERE'S NO BRITTANY
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<http://www.diwanbreizh.org/>

Ar Vro Bagan... 40th Anniversary!

The Ar Vro Bagan (AVB) cultural centre is already well-known for its many theatre productions. It's their most important activity « e-Breizh ». However, AVB also promotes the Breton language in other ways. First of all it is involved in teaching theatre in the bilingual schools and secondly it presents a renowned play for theatre each year. Its third activity is the production of Breton texts which are included in the summer (outdoors) shows for tourists & people of the Vro Leon & Breizh. After more than thirty years of theatre AVB reached half a million spectators including many Breton speakers. This incredible feat was possible because Goulc'han Kervella, Manager of the AVB, is very prolific and very well organized with an enthusiastic team of 5 professionals, 33 Breton speakers and 100 comedians. In order to thank all of the people involved as well as the spectators AVB organized a programme over three weekends in October 2005. They started with a walk between Plouneour and Plougerne, on the 2nd October, on the 15th the activities centred on the history and political challenges of AVB and at the end of October a film showed most of the plays of the troupe, as well as a Fest-Noz...

In order to understand the success story of AVB we must have a look at its history...

In the sixties the church was in control of the society. This arrangement was very strong in the villages of Brignogan and Kerlouan, in the Vro Leon area. Also, one must remember, to understand this period, that the french state was coming out of a colonialist civil war in Algeria (1962). At the time the church used to help poor people all over the world. A lot of the priests came from the Vro Leon known as « the priests' land ». On his return from Peru one of the priests, Youenn Troal, started the cultural centre, like most of the clergy he was opposed to communism during the cold war...

In the club-house, the teenagers and the students learnt about their own culture language, Breton folk dances, folk songs, as well as the economic and social challenges in farming, tourism & so on. After 1968, the period was very exciting especially in the farming industry in which the J.A.C. movement (Jeunesse Agricole Chretienne) started a strong and dynamic opposition to the communist trade-unions (CGT+CGT-FO+...). At the same time AVB reorganized its cultural centre. They also produced a



Goulc'han Kervella, leader of AVB, with the cast at the end of last summers show: 'Pecheurs de goemons... Gwerz ar Vezhinerien'

newspaper named: »an Avel« ... (the wind). When the Breton paramilitary (FLB) blew up a french TV-pole in central Brittany, in 1984 a few leaders of AVB were arrested. Back home they met with strong opposition in their families and villages... A lot of them left at that time. Fortunately a dozen of the Christian leaders stayed and were strong enough to explain their pacific goals to the population. They expressed strong opposition to the paramilitary who stood for Paris & against Breizh, as usual...cf: Roc-Tredudon, Roazhon, Kevert, etc...).

AVB survived this upheaval because they worked hard on theatre activities, with their new manager Goulc'han Kervella from Plougerne. There was a steady increase in public support in Vro Leon as more and more people attended its shows every year. Slowly but surely they gained the spirit of their land of Leon. The psychiatrist, manager & writer of the plays successfully brought together the mood of the period with the Christian philosophy of the people. Outdoors shows were held in summer when the weather was fine, like « La Passion Celtique », Liberta », Tristan & Iscalt » with an average of one hundred comedians on stage helped the many spectators (700 to 1400) to learn more about their Celtic culture. These shows paved the way for the successful indoor staging of the more complicated plays like « the stars & the plough », « Ar mestr » or « Amoko-2 ». The success story of the last thirty years is also due to the real will to keep our language and roots alive in the modern world.

In order to survive financially during the winter, (between shows) the professional team teaches theatre activities to children in

bilingual or french classes. Despite AVB's success as Breton theatre troupe it's still difficult to for them to play on national french stages. That's to say in the large cities of Brittany where the french Jacobin-Republican (J.R.) lobbies are still in control of the situation. They are still very opposed to any kind of minority group within the European community. The state of France has not signed the Charter for lesser used languages. AVB has to work hard to keep control over its own productions and to remain free from any outside control. Indeed this struggle must continue if we are to save our language; Brittany needs the help of AVB for the foreseeable future. The next challenge for AVB is to find young professionals to make sure that the troupe will keep going on & on...

Gi Keltik

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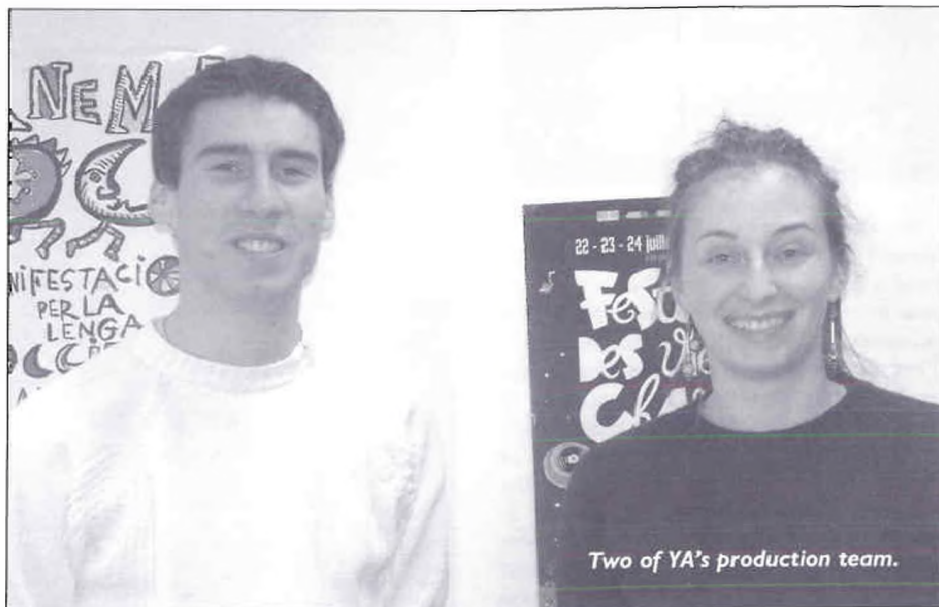
When phoning from abroad,
omit the 0 in the prefix.

YA! The First Breton Weekly – 100%... e-brezhoneg

Twenty five years after the monthly newspaper, bremañ (cf: Cam129) appeared, the weekly: Ya! was born in the spring of 2005. The new hope began with the arrival of the left wing at the Council of Breizh in 2004. When bremañ started it was very militant because it began at the time of the nuclear fight of Plogov. Ya! is less aggressive on economic and social issues...

The project started in 2004, when Yann-Fanch Jack, the active president of KeltVimpBev, began to gather subscriptions. They needed at least 300 subscribers in order to have a full-time journalist and a model-maker (=maquetist) to work along with a team of five workers who would produce cartoons (Rouzig, Louarnig & Meurlad) as well as books and videos in Breton for children and teenagers. Today the number of subscribers has exceeded 900. YA!... Is doing well.

Issue No. 21 started the Celtic new year r with extra pages for the Karaez (Goul al levriou e-breizh) Book Exhibition. Gwenaël Dage, the young journalist and producer printed the first 12 page edition, with 'la Setmana' from Okaña which prints YA! An eight page weekly is already a challenge. Fortunately a few people help every week. The priest, Job an Irien and the president of Ti ar Vro Leon Harve Lossec do a lot...hopefully, they will keep going, in order to give time for the journalist to travel and make contacts throughout Breizh. One of the challenges is to create a newspaper for



Two of YA's production team.

Breizh. Uhel (EAST) as well as Breizh-Izel (WEST) where 300.000 people still speak Breton.

The name YA! appears in a green square on the top left of the cover. Inside the name is in black and white...of course. A title of the main article with photos appears on the front cover along with the title of a regular feature which looks at different challenges faced by Brittany today.

There are a number of other regular features including Berr ha Berr (news in brief) . a

cartoon by the famous caricaturist 'NoNo'. Political, social, religious matters are also covered with reports from the sporting world, travel, TV etc. On the whole YA! is visually attractive with many photos and cartoons (Boullig ha Billig).

So YA! is yet another positive development and give us hope for the future of the Breton language.

Gi Keltik

Three new bilingual dictionaries

Published by the breton editions "Yoran Embanner".

These 3 mini-dictionaries are: Breton/Portuguese, Breton/Welsh, and Cornish/English. This last one "Kernewek/Sowsnek and English/Cornish" was compiled by the well known author Dr Ken George under the auspices of the Cornish Language Board/Kesva an Taves Kernewek. Although this dictionary contains a surprising number of words for its size, they have necessarily been selected from a larger corpus. To a large extent the choice of words is reflected in the sister dictionary containing Breton and English.

For the 2 other new mini-dictionaries Yoran Embanner was helped by Ofis Ar Brezhoneg. Rhisiart Hincks and Fulup Travers compiled the Welsh and Portuguese dictionaries respectively.

Yoran Embanner is now planning on publishing 2 more dictionaries for the end of 2006: a Scottish Gaelic/English and a Scottish Gaelic/German. Price of the published dictionaries 6 Euro.

Contact for sale: Coop Breizh, Kerangwenn, F- 29540 Spezet/Speied

E-mail: coopbreizh@wanadoo.fr





Parchu'r anthem genedlaethol

Yn dilyn arolwg negeseuon testun gan ITV Cymru, lle'r oedd 99% o'r negeseuon o blaid dysgu'r anthem genedlaethol i blant ysgol, cyflwynodd Gweinidog yr Wrthblaid dros Ddiwylliant, Owen John Thomas AC, Ddatganiad Barn yn y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol ym mis Tachwedd oedd yn dweud y dylai pob plentyn yng Nghymru ddysgu 'Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau' yn yr ysgol.

Dywedodd yr AC Plaid Cymru o Gaerdydd:

"Byddai hyn yn bwysig iawn unrhyw adeg, wrth gwrs. Fodd bynnag, mae'n arbennig o bwysig ar hyn o bryd gan y byddwn, y flwyddyn nesaf, yn dathlu 150 mlynedd ers i Evan James a James James gyfansoddi'r anthem ym Mhontypridd. Mae'n un o anthemau enwocaf y byd, sy'n anfon ias i lawr eich asgwrn cefn. Ni ddylai unrhyw blentyn adael yr ysgol heb gael y cyfle i ddysgu'r anthem hynod hon. Dyna'r deyrnged fwyaf y gallwn roi i'r cyfansoddwyr, Evan James a James James."

Hefyd, mae Owen John Thomas wedi ysgrifennu at y Post Brenhinol i ofyn iddynt ystyried comisiynu stamp arbennig i ddathlu 150 mlynedd ers cyfansoddi Anthem Genedlaethol Cymru. Cyfansoddwyd Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau gan Evan a James James tra'r oeddent yn cerdded ar hyd glan yr afon ym Mhontypridd ym mis Ionawr 1856 ac fe'i perfformiwyd am y tro cyntaf yng Nghapel Tabor, Maesteg yn yr un flwyddyn. Dywedodd Mr Thomas, "Rwy'n teimlo'n gryf y dylai hyn gael ei ddathlu ledled Cymru ac y byddai stamp arbennig yn deyrnged briodol iawn i gyfansoddwyr ein Hanthem Genedlaethol."

Cysylltodd Mr Thomas â'r Post Brenhinol ychydig flynyddoedd yn ôl mewn ymgais i gael stamp i goffáu chwe chan mlwyddiant sefydlu Senedd Owain Glyndwr yn 2004. Comisiynwyd stampiau ond pan gawsant eu cyhoeddi, 'roeddent yn dangos golygfeydd yng Nghymru, ond dim golwg o Owain Glyndwr.

Dywedodd Mr Thomas, "Yn ystod fy ymgais i sicrhau stampiau arbennig ar gyfer Owain Glyndwr, dywedodd y Post Brenhinol wrthyf fod y



Owen John Thomas

broes ddewis yn un hir iawn, gyda sawl cam. Fodd bynnag, ers yr ohebiaeth honno, 'rwyf wedi sylwi bod y Post Brenhinol wedi comisiynu stampiau arbennig ar fyr rybudd ar gyfer priodas frenhinol, buddugoliaeth Lloegr yng Nghyffres y Lludw, a buddugoliaeth Lloegr yng Nghwpan Rygbi'r Byd. Mae'n hen bryd, felly, i hanes Cymru a diwylliant Cymru dderbyn yr un gydnabyddiaeth."

Summary:

The Shadow Culture Minister in the Welsh National Assembly, Plaid's Owen John Thomas from Cardiff, called in November for all school children in Wales to have to learn the National Anthem, Hen Wlad fy Nhadau, and for the Post Office to produce a stamp next year to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the composing of the anthem by Evan and James James from Pontypridd.

Cymuned have launched a new English-language website to help spread the anti-colonisation message throughout the English-speaking world. www.NotEnglish.com complements the Welsh-language website www.YnVro.com that Cymuned had set up earlier. A launching event was held in Cardiff in November last year when Cymuned received an unprecedented expression of support from the non-Welsh-speaking public. Many of the ideas of Cymuned, especially those concerned with jobs and housing, are just as relevant to English-speaking communities outside the Bro Gymraeg as they are to the Welsh-speaking communities of the Bro. The intention is to increase support for the Bro Gymraeg among non-Welsh-speakers by offering ideas and support for them in their own communities.



The website NotEnglish.com also makes the important point that recognition and conservation of the Bro Gymraeg is vital for strengthening the language nationally, and it does not mean ignoring areas outside the Bro Gymraeg. The existence of a thriving Bro Gymraeg area will encourage the language in the rest of Wales by giving possible learners and school-leavers somewhere they know they can go to use Welsh.

A sticker campaign has been started to publish NotEnglish.com. The site is well worth a visit.

Robot ap Tomos

Assembly officials prepare to face direct action

Officials at the National Assembly sent an e-mail to Assembly staff in October warning of possible action by 'Welsh language protesters', meaning Cymdeithas yr Iaith.

The e-mail said "We have received information from South Wales Police instructing the Welsh Assembly Government of a substantial threat from Welsh language protesters.

"They have already daubed graffiti at Cathays Park.

"They have issued a statement of intent to enter Welsh Assembly Government buildings and daub paint once inside.

"You need to make staff aware of this and the need for vigilance is paramount. If you suspect anyone is about to behave in this manner, lock the entrance and inform the police on 999."

This official concern is clearly connected with the unwillingness of the government to acknowledge the need for a new Language Act.

A Cymdeithas spokesman said in response, "Not only have they sent this 'warning' out to Assembly employees, but older members of our society tell me that there was more police surveillance during the rally we held in Cardiff last week than has been witnessed since the investiture of Prince Charles in the Sixties.

"Video cameras were widely used, and the police had images of most of the Cymdeithas leaders on file. This shows a total lack of understanding of Cymdeithas yr Iaith's long tradition of non-violent direct action."

League AGM delegate taken to court twice for not filling in English forms

One of the Cymru branch delegates at the 2005 Celtic League AGM, Mair Stuart from Sain Tathan in Bro Morgannwg/the Vale of Glamorgan, was summonsed to appear in court by two different authorities for



not filling in English forms that should legally have been available in Welsh.

Mair was summonsed to appear in court in November by Bro Morgannwg council for not paying the council tax. Mair had been requesting a Welsh form from the council for 3 years but the council had said that such were not ready in Welsh even though the council's Welsh language plan obliges them to provide them. The magistrates refused the council costs, accepting that there wouldn't have been a court case if the council had fulfilled its duties by providing a Welsh form.

Mair said, "When I started writing to the council they answered in English only. By now, I have had some Welsh correspondence from them, but once again, I am facing a court case because important forms are not available from the council in Welsh. It is high time for a stronger Language Act so that difficulties like this do not keep occurring."

On the 31st of October, Mair was arrested, for painting a slogan on the Assembly government building in Caerdydd/Cardiff as part of Cymdeithas's campaign for a New Language Act. At the police station, Mair was told that the police were willing to release her with an official caution. She was given an English form to fill in to acknowledge the caution, and was told that they did not have a copy of the Welsh version of the form. As a result of declining to fill the English form, Mair was summonsed to appear in court instead of being given the caution. The Crown Prosecution Service later dropped the case.

Mair said after being summonsed, "The behaviour of the police in this case is disgraceful. I would not have had to go to court at all if South Wales Police had had bilingual forms. This all shows how ineffective the 1993 Language Act is, and how a new one is needed. I have to face a court case because that is easier for the police than finding a Welsh form for me to sign. This all shows how worthless their Language Plan is too."

Robat ap Tomos

The case for a New Welsh Language Act

The case for a New Welsh Language Act

The need for a new Welsh language act was once again in the summer shown by the chain stores in Bangor city centre. While the language quango were congratulating themselves on persuading Marks & Spencer to put bilingual signs in their new branch in the city, round the corner Woolworths were refurbishing their branch and replacing bilingual signs with English-only signs. A little further away the supermarket Morrisons, who have taken over Safeways, were replacing bilingual signs with English-only signs in the Bangor branch. Without legislation, it is impossible to be guaranteed respect for the language from big business.

Cymdeithas yr Iaith chairman Steffan Cravos appeared in court after painting a slogan on the walls of Morrisons Bangor. He said, starting with a quote from the now-First Minister Rhodri Morgan:

"We shall be abstaining tonight because we hope to have the opportunity before long to do the job properly. That will be done when we revisit the question of a Welsh language measure when we are in Government." So said Rhodri Morgan MP on the eve of the Westminster vote on the Welsh Language Act 1993. Twelve years on, the Assembly Government intends to scrap the Welsh Language Board giving First Minister Rhodri Morgan a real opportunity to honour his words.

"Support is now gathering for new and radical legislation on the Welsh language. Alongside the rallies and direct action, John Elfed Jones, former Chairman of the very first Welsh Language Board, has stated that the time has come for a new Welsh Language Act. Professor Colin Williams, a leading world expert on minorized languages and language planning, has recently set out forward-thinking statutory measures that include a Commissioner for the Welsh Language. The Labour peer Gwilym Prys Davies, along with over a hundred other prominent figures in Wales, has put his name to an advertisement which calls for official status for the language, unequivocal rights to receive services, goods, and information in Welsh, and a right to Welsh medium education for all children and young people in Wales. Hywel Williams MP is soon to publish a draft Welsh Language Bill.

In this context, it makes little sense for Alun Pugh, Minister for Culture, the Welsh Language, and Sports, to allege that those who call for new legislation are "blinkerered" and that he "can not believe there is widespread support for it".

One of Alun Pugh's main arguments is that establishing basic statutory rights for people to use Welsh would create a "litigious future for the language" and we would be "in

danger of damaging the positive perception of Welsh". Unfortunately for him, the Assembly Government's own official documents include the Welsh language as an integral part of the equal rights agenda. In all other areas of equality - race, gender, sexuality, disability - the Government recognizes that relying on people's goodwill doesn't work. The tough regulations issued recently by the Westminster Government for the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Employment Equality (Sexual Orientation) Act 2003, show that Labour view legislation as a key component in empowering people to be treated fairly and without prejudice.

At the heart of Cymdeithas yr Iaith's campaign is the recognition that current legislation is outdated and needs reforming. The Welsh Language Act 1993 is exclusive to public bodies. Increasingly, the private and voluntary sectors have taken on former public sector roles. The growth of technology and the effects of increasing globalization also need to be addressed - current legislation has nothing to say about the way internet services are provided; banks, for instance, may well have some bilingual forms but internet banking is in English only.

What we want is a legal requirement on all who operate in Wales to do so bilingually. Such a requirement should be regulated rigorously and be accompanied by comprehensive Government support and guidance with a phased introduction. The response received from the mobile phone company Orange is typical: "There is no obligation on us to provide services in Welsh". Yet Alun Pugh naively makes this judgement: "Major companies like Tesco and Ikea are happy to work on extending bilingual provision without the stick of legislation". The tokenistic exceptions of sporadic and piecemeal developments to which he refers prove the rule: unless private companies are required by law to operate bilingually, they mostly choose not to do so.

Using Welsh in all aspects of life across Wales needs to be normalised. Most children in Wales are taught Welsh at school and increasing numbers wish to access Welsh medium education. If future generations are to use Welsh outside the school environment, there is an obvious need for fresh and strong initiatives made possible by a new legislative framework. To take an example from the world of work, public bodies are required to publicize job opportunities bilingually. However, in reality the language of work in most local authorities is mainly English.

Official status for the Welsh language would boost people's confidence and clarify their expectations when documents written in Welsh are refused or when health and social

Cymdeithas is non-violent – Cravos is not guilty

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg chairman Steffan Cravos appeared in court in Hwlfordd/Haverfordwest on the 17th of November as a result of a Cymdeithas protest against Radio Carmarthenshire over a year earlier. He denied the charge of causing bodily harm, and was duly declared not guilty by the court.

Following the verdict Steffan Cravos issued the following statement:

"I'm extremely pleased that the Court found me not guilty. I'm a member of Cymdeithas yr Iaith which is a non-violent organisation and the protest held at the Radio Carmarthenshire studios back in 2004 was a non-violent protest. We were protesting then because of the lack of Welsh-language provision on Radio Carmarthenshire and because the station was showing complete and utter disregard to the linguistic nature of Carmarthenshire. Radio Carmarthenshire still stand accused and the campaign against Radio Carmarthenshire will continue."

Sioned Elin, the Cymdeithas regional chairman for Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, added:

"Cymdeithas yr Iaith is a non-violent organisation and the protest that was held in Radio Carmarthenshire's studios back in 2004 was a non-violent one. We were protesting then about Radio Carmarthenshire broadcasting almost entirely in English,

The Case for a New Welsh Language Act *continued from page 10*

care services are not available in Welsh. Such a provision coupled with establishing a Commissioner for the Welsh language would mean that all people in Wales would have access to a champion for the language.

Crucially, the spirit of any new legislation must be inclusive and enshrine the principle that the Welsh language belongs to all people in Wales and its future is of concern to the whole nation. Alun Pugh condescendingly suggests that a new Welsh Language Act would "alienate the 80% of people in this country who have not been fortunate enough to learn both our national languages". There is no evidence to support this view and it is surely scandalous for Alun Pugh to be so divisive. It is our belief that everyone in Wales should be able to learn and use Welsh not as a matter of privilege or luck but as a fundamental right.

All the opposition parties in the Assembly have now voted to block the scrapping of the Welsh Language Board because Alun Pugh has failed to convince them that he has the vision to fill this statutory void. The Fforwm he has set up is no more than a talking shop. Stop patronizing us, Mr Pugh. It's time for you to start listening!"

Robat ap Tomas



Steffan Cravos

showing a total lack of respect of the (Welsh-speaking) nature of the county.

"Cymdeithas yr Iaith have sympathy for Ms Amy Bowen who was injured either accidentally or as a result of our activists being pushed out of the studio by radio station

workers. Ms Bowen and the prosecution accepted that there was no intention to cause injury, but Cymdeithas accept that the injury would not have happened were it not for our protest.

"Though we have sympathy with Ms Bowen, Cymdeithas condemn the arrogance of Keri Jones (the Manager of Radio Carmarthenshire) that was shown once more in the court. It became obvious in his evidence that he had refused to allow the defence lawyer into the studio to see the place of the incident. In the same way he had refused a request from Rhodri Glyn Thomas AC (Assembly Member for Carmarthen East & Dinefwr) for a meeting to discuss the use of Welsh on Radio Carmarthenshire. Since Jones had refused to discuss the station's unwillingness to use Welsh, direct action became necessary."

'CARDIFF 4' NOT GUILTY



Demonstration outside the Courthouse in Cardiff

Four members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith were found not guilty of criminal damage at Cardiff magistrates' court on the 23rd of November even though they acknowledged that they had painted 'Deddf Iaith Newydd - Dyma'r Cyfle!' (A New Language Act – Now's the opportunity!) on the walls of the government building in Cathays Park.

The 4 were Lowri Larsen of Caernarfon, Menna Machreth of Llanddarog, Carmarthenshire, Lois Barrar from Ffos y Gerddinen/Nelson, Glamorgan, and Gwenno Teifi of Llanfihangel ar Arth, Carmarthen. The case was thrown out because the prosecution had not prepared their papers in time. Hedd Gwynfor, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Vice-Chairman, said: "The slogan 'Deddf Iaith Newydd - Dyma'r Cyfle!' has been painted on the walls of the government building in

Cardiff week after week to stress that now is a golden opportunity to introduce a New Language Act because legislation has to be brought before Westminster to dissolve the language quango.

"The authorities have been rushing to get these cases through the courts in order to stop the direct action. In this first case, they have failed and it's 1-0 to Cymdeithas. Our action will continue to impress the seriousness of the situation on those in power in the Assembly and also to increase the awareness of the people of Wales.

"We are especially grateful to Owen John Thomas AC for coming to the court to testify that the Assembly government are hindering democratic debate on the need for a new Language Act."

Éire

An Saol Ó Dheas Uainn

Fuaireamar cóip den iris *Táin: The Australian Irish Network* a fhoilsítear sé uair in aghaidh na bliana ó **P O Box 2618, Fitzroy 3065, Victoria** ar \$5.50 an t-eagrán. Tá suíomh idirlinn acu fosta www.tain.net.au.

An t-eagrán atá againn tugann sé suntas don dealbh atá tógtha le gairid i Rockingham (gar do Freemantle) an áit as ar sheol an *Catalpa* lena lasta de príosúnaigh Finineacha sa bhliain 1876. Ormond Waters a scríobh an t-alt. B'é ba mhó is léir a bhí taobh thiar den iarracht. Dealbhadóirí Éireannacha lonnaithe san Astráil, Joan agus Christie Smith, a rinne an píosa taithneamhach eallta ag dul san aer 'na Géanna Fiáine'.

In eagarthocal faoi taobh den dealbh 'Stopping the Deliberate Forgetting' (arbh fhíú dúinn féin sa bhaile suntas a thabhairt dó fosta!) deir said 'The proud memory of such history enables those who are today more prosperous to understand the continuing need for workers organisations

of mutual support' Is follas nach ag diriú ar an tréimhse thart atá *Táin*.

Ach ní ar chúrsaí na hÉireann amháin atá an iris dírithe ná ar na hÉireannaigh san Astráil amháin. Ar leathanach 3 mar shampla tá nóta fa dtaobh den dialannai Albannach Georgina McGrae ar leanbh gréine de chúigiú Iarla Gordon i; ar leathanach 4 tá fógra do shuíomh idirlinn www.australiaceheltictiger.com.au 'an on line directory identifying the resources of the Australian Celtic Community' á eagrú ag Kevin McCarthy agus fógra eile do shaotharlann 'Remembering Lives' san Celtic Club i Melbourne; ar leathanach 5 tá fógra d'imeacht eile eagraithe san Celtic Club céanna agus leathanach iomlán de fhógraí d'imeachtaí san Celtic Club céanna atá i leathanach 9.

I measc ma scimear fógraíthe in Ollscoil Melbourne bhí 'Sinn Féin Bretons - Breton Militants and Ireland from 1916' á stiúradh ag Dan Leach ar 18ú Deireadh Fómhair agus ceann eile ag an Dr. Val Noone ar an 8ú

Samhain' *Sunburst Gaelic: Hobby, Dream or Cultural Lifeline?* Ar leathanach 11 tá fógra do ranganna Breathnaisé san Caulfield South Community House agus san Celtic Club (cá heile!). Tá fógra do Celtic Clothing and Gifts ag www.totallyceltic.com ar leathanach 18 agus ceann ar leathanach 19 do 'Seventh Annual Lake School of of Celtic Music, Song and Dance' i Koroit ag tús mhí Eanáir seo chugainn.

Dírítear ar Ghaidhlig atá leathanach 22 agus a leath de leathanach 23 le hahtanna ar Scots Gaelic i Canberra CD, fadhanna chroí i nGaeltacht nah Alban: 'O mo dhuth aici, O my Country where do you stay?' le Rob McCoy. Fógraítear Celtic Folk Show chuile Luain ar radio éigin agus oicheannta Breathnaisé chuile Mháirt san Celtic Club.

Agus mar bhuaic bhí 'Festival Divers na Celtic Nations' ann i mí Lúnasa. Bhí 'Cornish Singers' ann, 'Manx Music', an 'Victoria Welsh Choir', 'Breton Music' agus oirfidí eile ón Iodáil agus ón Spáin. Tharla san uilig san MooneeValley Racing Club i Moonee Ponds.

Summary

This article outlines the contents of an issue of Táin: The Australian Irish Network which deals not only with Irish and Irish-Australian matters but also provides information on the other Celts.

Pádraig Ó Snodaigh

Amhránaí Tradaisiúnta Cónaitheach

Ceapadh Pádraigin Ní Uallacháin i bhFómhair 2005 ina hEalaíontóir Cónaithe in Ionad Filíochta Séamus Heaney Ollscoil na Banríona, Béal Feirste. Is í an chéad Amhránaí Tradaisiúnta Cónaitheach ar an ollscoil í. Tá an post a mhaoiniú ag an ollscoil agus ag Foras na Gaeilge go Méan Fómhair 2006

Tá Pádraigin Ní Uallacháin ar dhuine de na ceoltóirí traidisiúnta is bisiúla agus is cruthaithe i Éirinn. Bíonn sí le cloisteáil ag canadh ar an tsean-nós ach is ionduil go mbíonn sí ar an ardán le tionlacan ón sárcheoltóir agus giotaraí Steve Cooney. D'oibrigh sí agus thaitil sí leis na blianta leis an gcumadóir agus cheoltóir snagcheoil iomráiteach Palle Mikkelborg. Chuir sí go suntasach le gach gné cruthaitheach de thraidisiún na hamhránaíochta i Éirinn. Is seoid í a céad albam. A *Stór* is a *Stóirín* a tháinig amach ar lipéad Gael Linn i 1994 (dlúthdhiosca dúbalta a atheisíodh le déanaí ag Gael Linn). Ar na halbaim eile aici ar lipéad Gael Linn tá: *An Dara Craiceann*, (1995) *When I Was Young*, (1997) agus *An Dealg Óir*, (2002).

Is í Pádraigin a scríobh an duaisleabhar *A Hidden Ulster* (Four Courts Press 2004), saothar scoláireachta a chuireann síos ar phobal, ar amhráin agus ar thraidisiúin a ceantar dúchais Oiriaila (oirdeisceart chúige Uladh).

Cé gur amhránaí traidisiúnta í fógraítear ré nua beoga don amhránaíocht i nGaeilge. leis an dlúthdhiosca nua *ÁILLEACHT* (CEFCD 187 Gael Linn 2005). Bailiúchán dá cuid cumadóireachta comhaimseartha féin atá ar an albam seo agus is í an chéad bhean in Éirinn i chun a leithéid a eisiúint.

Pádraigin Ní Uallacháin was appointed last autumn as the Traditional Singer in Residence in the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry, School of English QU Belfast 2005-6. The role will be to provide a focus for a series of explorations and lines of communication between Irish traditional singing and wider cultural concerns on campus, in the Belfast community, including links between Ireland and Scotland. She will be conducting a series of events and presentations for students and staff at Queen's University during the academic year. Links will be formed with other



Pádraigin Ní Uallacháin

*departments including the School of Music and the Department of Irish and Celtic Studies at Queen's. She will be available for presentations in the wider community on an outreach basis. This residency is funded by Foras na Gaeilge in association with the School of English, Queen's University Belfast. Pádraigin Ní Uallacháin recently released a CD *Áilleacht* (Beauty), of her own newly composed songs. Her first album in 1994, *A Stór* is *A Stóirín* (a double CD recently reissued by Gael Linn) is regarded as a jewel and classic in Irish song recordings. She is the author of the award-winning book *A Hidden Ulster* (Four Courts Press 2003) a scholarly work on the people, songs and traditions of her native Oriel. Her other albums on the Gael Linn music label include *An Dara Craiceann*, (1995) *When I Was Young* (1997) and *An Dealg Óir* (2002).*

Proposal to Sideline Irish in Second Level Education

In November the Fine Gael leader, Enda Kenny, announced a proposal at the party's annual conference that the Irish language be no longer a necessary subject for second level studies leading to the Leaving Certificate but be made optional. This announcement was made it seems without any consultation. The president of Conradh na Gaeilge, Dáithí Mac Cárthaigh, stated that he was surprised and sorry to hear about this policy which went against Fine Gael traditions and that such a policy would do damage to the Irish language (it may be mentioned however this reference to FG tradition is not totally true as while the party's predecessor introduced measures to promote Irish in the early days of the State Fine Gael was the party which did away with the requirement for Irish for entry to the State service in the seventies). If Enda Kenny's proposals are adopted Conradh na Gaeilge said, "Irish will go the way of Latin in our Education system for the reasons set out below. Our system needs reforming in order to teach Irish and other languages effectively and pleasurably" The following reasons were listed:

student will be left with no choice but to choose the other subject, thereby denying such students the choice of studying Irish.

4. Many schools would discontinue teaching Irish for the Leaving Certificate.

This policy, if it were to be implemented, would be a retrograde step not only regarding the teaching of Irish but also to teaching of other languages, which goes against the policy of The Council of Europe and the European Union: that all citizens have proficiency in three languages. Conradh na Gaeilge fully endorses this European ideal.

We understand that there is a need for change and the following are Conradh na Gaeilge's policies regarding this question.

1. All language teachers at both primary and post-primary level to have attended a year long immersion course in that language's heartland as part of their training. 2. One subject along with Irish to be taught through Irish to all pupils/students. 3. One subject to be taught through a third language to every second level student.

• The realisation of an Irish language syllabus (1) for native speakers and (2) for learners. • The realisation of intense 'catch



Members of 'Na Gaeil Óga' assembling outside TCD prior to their protest march to Fine Gael offices.

1. There have been problems in the teaching of mathematics in recent years. A new syllabus is being designed to combat this problem. Would this approach in the case of Irish not be a preferred solution?

2. Irish like any other language is a skill to acquire by practice. You cannot cram a language. Students would be under tremendous pressure in the context of the points system, to choose a subject that can be crammed. Irish is not a cramming subject.

3. If students are forced to choose between Irish and other subjects required for their chosen careers (for example biology or chemistry in the case of medicine) the

up" courses in Irish for pupils who attended school overseas. • The realisation of State examinations in the major languages of the immigrant communities."

An Conradh called for supporters and the public to write to Enda Kenny T.D.(Dáil Éireann, Baile Átha Cliath 2) in support of the Conradh's position.

The debate on this proposal is only heating up now and there seems to a flow of articles in the print media since from bodies who have little regard for the Irish language but are only too happy to exploit the failures of the educational system to reduce its status — quite ironic in view of the granting of

Official Status to Irish in the EU.! One group which took immediate action was the relatively new organisation 'Na Gaeil Óga' who organised a march to and protest at the Fine Gael offices.

In a debate with the Fine Gael leader, Enda Kenny, in January, the Minister for Gaeltacht Affairs, Eamon Ó Cúv, said there would be no change in Government policy in relation to Irish on the Leaving Certificate.

"Irish reflects a unique heritage and a world heritage which we hold in trust," he said. "It is only right that every child being educated in Ireland should have the right to be taught both languages in the first and second level systems."

There had been monumental mistakes in relation to Irish tuition, but it was not the abysmal failure that had been portrayed. Some one million people said they knew Irish, and 100,000 said they spoke it daily, according to Census figures, and the growth in Irish medium schools showed that there was a continued demand for Irish language tuition. However the Minister acknowledged that a radical review of Irish Language teaching in Irish schools is necessary.

Na Gaeil Óga: Youth Conference

"Ní neart go cur le chéile" or 'Strength in Coming Together' was the theme of the Youth Conference "Young People and the Irish Language" organised by Na Gaeil Óga, in Trinity College in Dublin at the end of January.

The aim of the conference was to inspire young people to use Irish by informing them of their rights with regard to the Irish Language, the role of the Irish language in the Irish education systems, and the importance of promoting the language amongst the growing immigrant communities in Ireland. Youth organisations, Irish language student societies, Na Gaeil Óga members, young people and members of the Irish language community will be attending the Conference.

Ciarán Mac Fhearghusa, Na Gaeil Óga Chairperson, says that "Irish is increasingly becoming sexier, more interesting and more enjoyable mainly as a result of the current boom in the social calendar of the Irish language community. We must build from this by making young people aware of their rights in relation to Irish and aware of an ever-growing and vibrant Irish language youth movement if we are to secure the future of the language for the next generations."

Na Gaeil Óga is an politically independent youth movement, that aims to develop social and activism based links between youth organisations and individuals interested in Irish.

The North – Assembly back in 2006??

It is now eight years almost since the Good Friday agreement on the North was signed. There have been many twists and turns in the implementation or indeed non-implementation of the Agreement since, many of them related to the reluctance of the Unionists to accept the ramifications of the Agreement and their attempts at 'claw back'. In that eight year period the political landscape in the North changed with the emergence of Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) as the main force in Unionism, Sinn Féin's success in becoming the party on the nationalist/ republican side with the biggest representation and the standing down of the IRA with a final act of decommissioning of its arsenal. While some developments were predictable one sure thing about the working out of the process is that it has never ceased to contain hidden surprises.

In October 2002, in the so-called 'Stormontgate' affair raids took place on the Sinn Féin offices at Stormont and elsewhere (see Cam 129). The British government and the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) accused Sinn Féin of operating a spy ring, masses of documents and computers were seized. The affair led to the fall of the Local (Northern) Assembly and its power sharing Executive. Three people were charged, one of them being Denis Donaldson, head of Sinn Féin's office at Stormont, and it was stated that all would be prosecuted. Then in early Dec. 2005, at a court hearing, all charges against the men were dropped!

Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams called for an end to 'political policing' and stated there never was a spy ring and that the allegations were spread by police elements hostile to the peace process. He said there were those within the Special Branch (old RUC Special Branch), some still active in the PSNI, who continue to be at war with Irish republicans and who opposed Sinn Féin and the peace process. Unionists demanded the Public Prosecutions Service (PPS) justify its decision. The only explanation offered was that 'prosecutions of the offences in relation to the accused were no longer in the public interest'. Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern said 'after hundreds of troops descending on Stormont for what was stated to be irrefutable evidence, I do not quite understand it'. As this came after a meeting with British Premier Tony Blair he did obviously did not get any enlightenment there and said that Blair claimed to know nothing about it.

Hardly had the dust settled on this when, within a few weeks, Denis Donaldson confessed (to Sinn Féin initially before they went public) to having been a paid British spy for twenty years! He was apparently informed by his Special Branch handlers that he was about to be 'outed' as an informant in a Sunday newspaper and that his life would be

under threat. He expressed regret for his actions and said he had been recruited by British intelligence after having 'comprised himself' at a vulnerable period in his life' in the 1980s. He adamantly maintained that there was never any Sinn Féin 'spy ring' in Stormont.

The real effect of these events is difficult to interpret. One interpretation of the matter is that the dropping of the Stormontgate charges was to protect Donaldson's role. The PPS had applied for a public immunity order, a gagging order', which would have allowed them to withhold certain evidence while pressing the charges. When this was refused the risk was too high. Then it was decided that Donaldson had outlived his usefulness. When told he was to be 'outed' he was apparently offered protection. The implication here of course was that if he disappeared into a protection scheme the inference would be that his life was at risk from a still active IRA.



Rev. Ian Paisley

The International Monitoring Commission (IMC - not part of the Good Friday Agreement but set up later by the two governments to report on IRA and loyalist paramilitary activity and dependant on security and police reports) was then due to report early in the New Year. If this report confirmed no activity on the IRA side fresh impetus could be given to efforts to get the Local Assembly and Executive back in operation. If however the IMC reported that a senior Sinn Féin ex-member was being and had to be protected it would be taken that the IRA was still active. However Donaldson chose to go to Sinn Féin and confess rather than into any protection scheme and that put paid to that. Nevertheless rumours and speculation continued to abound with claims of more spies to come and more dirty tricks from British Intelligence.

The report of the IMC was published in early Feb. It claimed that while the IRA had been acting largely in accordance with its stand down statement of July last (and the IMC accepted that that was its strategic intent) it was still engaged in intelligence gathering, involved in criminality and - a key issue - that it had reports that the IRA had not handed over all its arms last September. This set it up in direct conflict with Gen. John de Chastelain's Independent International Commission on Decommissioning (IICD) who in their report, published about the same time, contradicted the IMC. In fact Gen. de Chastelain stated that aware of such suggestions the IICD had

assessed matters with senior Gardai and again with the IRA. The IICD concluded 'in the absence of evidence to the contrary the Sept 26th. assessment regarding IRA arms remains correct'. Sinn Féin dismissed the IMC report and accused its authors of political bias. Martin McGuinness said the report 'was the work of an anti republican body which is little more than a proxy for securocrats and political detectives'.

As might be expected the DUP and Ian Paisley sized on the IMC report as vindication of their stance. At the party's conference Paisley said the DUP wanted complete IRA disbandment, standing down was not sufficient. He also took the opportunity to insult Irish President Mary McAleese saying she was dishonest and 'hated Northern Ireland'.

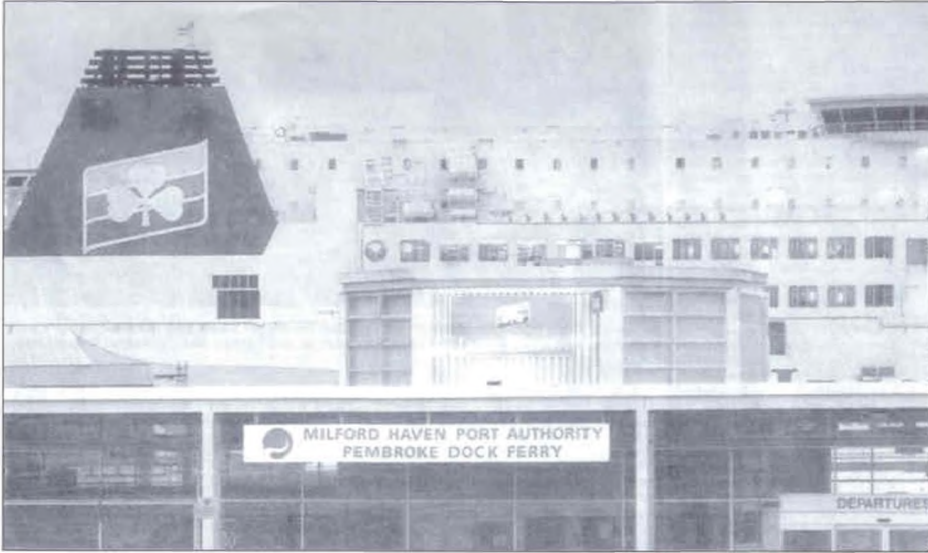
Talks initiated by the Irish and British governments between themselves and the parties on an individual basis - which were supposed to lay out a strategy to get the institutions functioning again - began in early Feb. Sinn Féin's Gerry Adams had called on the governments to 'make it clear' to Ian Paisley that the object of the forthcoming talks is to fully restore all the institutions of the Belfast Agreement'. After the first round of talks, at which the Irish Foreign Minister, Dermot Ahern, is said to have rebuked Paisley for his comments on the President, any early recall of the Northern Assembly was ruled out. In light of progress to date, the IMC report and Paisley's attitude future movement is likely to be just as torturous as past. Even seasoned commentators are expecting no outcome before autumn. So can we expect an Executive and Assembly in 2006? Don't hold your breath!

Decision to refuse 89-room Aparthotel in Connemara upheld

Bord Pleanála has upheld a decision to refuse planning permission for an 89-room aparthotel in the Connemara Gaeltacht village of Spiddal due to the adverse impact on the Irish language. The board also believes the scheme would result in an 'over - intensive and inappropriate' form of development in a small village, and would introduce an 'incongruous and discordant element' to the location.

The original proposal was refused permission by Galway County Council on five grounds, including adverse impact on linguistic and cultural heritage and inappropriate density. Galway's county development plan includes grounds for refusing any development which will have a significant negative impact on the Irish language in the Gaeltacht. Recent residential schemes planned for the Connemara Gaeltacht have included conditions that a percentage of homes must be sold to competent Irish speakers.

Lessons of the Irish Ferry Dispute



The Isle of Inishmore which was tied up by officers action at Pembroke Dock

The bitter Irish Ferries dispute, which was finally resolved in the run up to Christmas, tells much about the attitude of some Irish employers, their intent to exploit cheap labour and their attitude to reasonable pay and conditions achieved over successive wage agreements by their workers. Although the company which owns Irish Ferries, Irish Continental, is very profitable they wanted to make even more profit and decided to go about this by bringing in low cost East European labour with the displacement of their unionised Irish work force of over five hundred on the Irish Sea routes between Ireland and Britain. It may be mentioned that company had already implemented such a scheme on its route to France.

In September last, the staff on the Irish Sea routes had been given two weeks to accept a redundancy offer of eight weeks pay per year of service. Alternatively, they could keep their jobs but on reduced pay and altered conditions. Two of the eight weeks of redundancy payments were described by the company as 'goodwill' payments, conditional on staff co-operating with the change over to agency crews.

Ships officers, who are members of Siptu, refused to sail the vessels since November 24th, when security personnel, disguised as passengers, boarded two ships to begin implementation of the company's outsourcing plan. They were followed on board the two ships, The Isle of Innismore and the Ulysses, by agency workers who were due to replace existing staff. In the Isle of Inishmore, in Pembroke Docks, the ship's officers barricaded themselves into the control room.

This action by Irish Ferries prompted the following from Taoiseach Bertie Ahern, concerned about the impact of the dispute on

industrial relations generally at a time when new national talks were scheduled to begin 'I can understand why companies want to restructure and there are case studies for decades about how you do these things, but if you were to go out and try to invent in the year 20005 a ham-fisted way of upsetting everybody, this is a very good case study.'

With the stand off continuing Siptu members in Rosslare took support action at the end of November and the Irish Ferries ferry MV *Normandy* coming from France, was not allowed to dock. Irish Ferries retaliated by threatening to take one of the ships, the Jonathan Swift fast ferry sailing from Dublin to Holyhead, out of service for all but the summer months and to make 'immediate lay-offs' as a result.

The Seaman's Union of Ireland (SUI) representing the ratings (deckhands) called for management and Siptu to move towards resolution of the dispute. SUI general secretary Robert Carrick said he was consulting members about the latest development. The vast majority of SUI member had applied for redundancy, but Mr Carrick said that many did so only because 'a gun was put to their head'.

The Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) organised a day of protests in support of the Irish Ferries workers and to highlight wider concerns about exploitation of migrant workers and the displacement of jobs. It was held on Friday Dec. 9th and the depth of public feeling on the issue was demonstrated by the high turnout at the protest marches in nine cities and towns across the State. In Dublin, tens of thousands took part in the biggest trade union demonstration since the tax marches in 1979. Estimates of the turnout varied but ICTU put it at between 80,000 and 100,000.

As the march moved through the city to

Dáil Éireann (where it was addressed by Trade Union leaders) it was applauded. In the other cities and towns crowds of up to fifteen thousand turned out. Speakers at the rallies said that the issue which triggered the Irish Ferries dispute, displacement by cheaper migrant workers, was already widespread. Hundreds of thousands of others were affected – the hotel and catering industries, the bar industry and construction industries were riddled with it.

Meanwhile, under pressure, Irish Ferries had finally agreed to go to the Labour Relations Commission after an invitation was issued by its Chief Executive. After several weeks of intensive efforts a deal was brokered. The main points were:

- ♦ Irish Ferries can proceed with its plan to outsource crew on its Irish Sea vessels BUT its new seafarers must be paid at least the Irish minimum wage (those in senior positions will receive more) – **this is about twice what had been proposed.**
- ♦ Crews will also have significantly more time off than originally planned.
- ♦ Pay and conditions of seafarers will be underpinned by a binding agreement grounded in Irish law.
- ♦ Existing ships officers and ratings who wish to remain with the company will have pay and conditions protected.
- ♦ The new company will 'reflag' its vessels to another state. (There had been fears that if this happened a legal agreement would be unenforceable but having taken legal advice Siptu was assured that this could be grounded in Irish law).
- ♦ Industrial peace is guaranteed for at least three years, with any issues in dispute going to binding arbitration.
- ♦ The firm will achieve savings of €11.5 million a year, rather than the €15 million expected under the outsourcing plan.
- ♦ All personnel, on returning to work, to be treated 'as if the dispute had never happened.

The lessons are clear for the Irish work force affected by changing circumstances. Existing pay and conditions can be maintained if a firm stance is taken and backed by the broader trade union movement now that they have woken up to their responsibilities. It is equally important that immigrant workers are assured of at least the same minimum pay and conditions as Irish workers. These issues have to be dealt with and copper fastened in any new national wage deals.

Some of those who choose to ignore the effect of open access into Ireland from the Eastern European accession states on the wages and standards of Irish workers seem to have got a wake up call. Labour party leader, Pat Rabbitte, called for a green card system to be examined. The level of debate on these issues may be seen by the fact that this modest proposal was promptly deemed racist (!) by the Government parties.

In an open letter to RTE's interviewer, Aine Lawlor, Antony Coughlan of National Platform commented on the events and attitudes as follows:

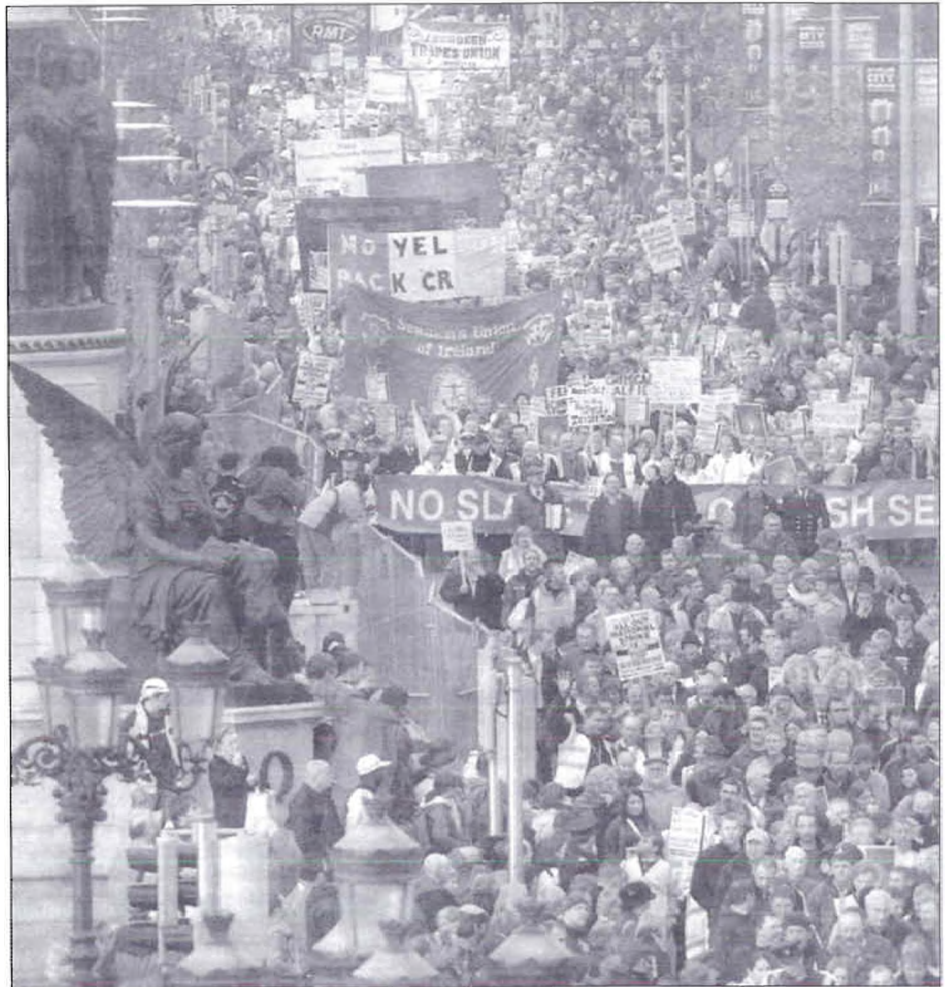
I was amused to hear you interview ICTU's David Begg on "Morning Ireland" today re the Irish Ferries dispute and to hear him expatiating on what he termed the problems that arise from merging an Irish labour force of 2 million with an East European labour force of 70 million. The thought crossed my mind that maybe you would suggest that David Begg was encouraging "racism" and "racist" sentiment by drawing attention to such problems.

I remember well your putting this suggestion to me when I tried to draw attention to exactly this situation in an interview with you on the same programme at the time of the second Nice Treaty referendum in 2002. I sought to point out on that occasion that merging a labour market of 2 million with one of 70 million would lead to significant immigration to Ireland from the poorer countries of Eastern Europe, that this would inevitably have a downward effect on Irish workers' wage-rates and working conditions, and would make it difficult to maintain even the minimum wage rate for many people working here. During the Nice referendum

I also remember David Begg implying that it was encouraging "racism" to suggest that it would be difficult to maintain high-quality wage and working conditions in face of significant immigration, when he and I spoke together at the Magill Summer School in Donegal. Mr Begg and such other Yes-side worthies as Proinsias de Rossa and Minister for Europe Dick Roche produced ludicrously low estimates at that time of how many workers would come to this country if we were one of only a handful of EU States to operate an "open door" policy from Day One of EU enlargement. See some of their estimates below. They threw insults about "racism" and "racist" at anyone who questioned their dogmatic assurance that no serious problems could arise.

The problems arising from Gama, Irish Ferries, the widespread violation of our minimum wage laws in the construction and some service trades etc., are occurring in a context where Ireland has an economic boom and there are plenty of jobs available. Can you imagine how hard it would be to maintain Irish workers' wages and standards in the event of an economic downturn? Being unable to prevent downward pressure on Irish workers' wages and working conditions due to their uncritical embrace of uncontrolled EU immigration.

David Begg and others will now fall back on seeking to maintain the Irish minimum wage level, even though many immigrants are willing to work for less than that. Trying to maintain different national minimum wage-levels in a 25-Member EU in which there is total free movement of labour is a bit



A section of the large ICTU Irish Ferries workers support march in Dublin.

like trying to enforce one minimum wage rate in Kerry, but a different one in Limerick next door, and a different one again in Tipperary and the other Irish counties. One can attempt it with an army of Labour Inspectors, but widespread evasion is inevitable.

I can imagine the day will come when some attractive Czech and Polish radio presenters, as articulate as your good self but willing to work for less money, will appear on RTE's current affairs programmes as a result of the station being affected by "the bracing winds of competition" in the labour market which David Begg and others have helped let Irish workers in for.

In late 2002 I was present at the National Forum in Europe in Dublin Castle when David Begg told those present that he supported the proposed EU Constitution. This was before that Constitution had even been signed and when its final provisions were not yet publicly known. Mr Begg's commitment of support was given without any policy discussion on the matter in ICTU's affiliated trade unions. If the French had voted Yes to the EU Constitution last summer and we had had the referendum on it that was planned for here in October, one can be confident that Mr Begg would have been urging Irish workers to vote for it, with much fatuous talk about the "European social model", only for them to regret

bitterly doing that later when it was too late. The establishment economic wisdom is that the wave of Eastern European immigrants (Polish, Latvian, Lithuanian) has helped maintain Irish economic progress (and never mind the social cost in their countries of origin, as outlined in recent TV reports, for example, of whole villages denuded of their youth in Latvia, reminiscent of Ireland decades ago).

A more long term view has recently emerged however in the report of the National Economic and Social Forum (NESF) published in early February. It said that Ireland has to wean itself off its dependency on immigrant workers and focus on retraining large numbers of unskilled and unemployed workers.

The report stated that the cost of future immigration will be increasingly shouldered by the government, and not private companies, as the cost of housing, educating and integrating workers from abroad escalates.

The average age of future immigrant workers is likely to rise above 30 years, the level at which it now stands and the cost to the public services will rise accordingly. It also seems that the €1 billion the state spends on returning Irish people to the workforce could be much more effectively used.



Studh trist

Awos oll aswonnvos agan yeth, yma Kernow ow sedhi downna a-dhann gwel. Travyth a vo gwrys y'n temas erfysieth ny vir orth studh anfeusik genesigyon an vro. Ny yllir dismygi aberveth yn soedhyaow towlenna marnas an linenn usyes a dhyskir, henn yw kavoes sita ha delinya kylgh adro dhodho. Pub tra arall a omsyw. Leow ober ha daffar edhommek a bub sort a vydh desedhys y'n sita ha'n pow efan a vydh kudhys a dreven koskti.

Dar, ny dhosedh henna dhe was a'n hen batron keskar keltek? Ny'gan deur mann! Rag provia arveith ny yllir gweles pella es tournyaseth. Agan diwysyansow hengovek a vydh gesys dhe goll onan hag onan heb travyth y'ga le saw gorvarghasow hag oberow pes isel yn park karavan.

An gwiryonedh yw, heb y vos statys yn tyller vyth, bos mynnas an governans lenwel Kernow a dus dhiworth ken rannow a Bow Sows rag esya aga hudennow. Nyns eus preder gwir adro dhe wellhe savon bywa kernowyon agan honan.

Y feu govynys orth an mynystrans yeghes prag yw le an gront dhe glavjiow hag erell yn Kernow es dell yw yn rannow kehal yn Pow Sows? An gorthyb o: drefenn bos kost bywa isella omma. Styrians henna yw: drefenn agan oberoryon dhe wonis rag arvethow isel. Yndella rychys Breten Veur a vydh renys yn dann vaystri 'Lavour Nowydh'.

Marth yw gweles milvilyow dedhewys orth hwel sten, marow hedhyw yn jydh, rag y efanhe dhe voy tornysi: nyns o kwestyon, hedra ve yn ober, a ri gront an par-na a alla marteseny witha yn fyw!

Nowodhow da a'y wosa: Kernow a veu breusys boghosek lowr arta dhe dhendil mona 'amkan onan' dhiworth Brussels. Piw a woer? A allsa pobel Gernow dervynn desedhans gwel?

Summary

Despite the belated recognition of one distinctive feature of Kernow, (the language), the economic and social concerns of Cornwall, a dispersed population on the ancient Celtic model, do not receive much attention. The economy is forced to conform to the standard city-based pattern this centralises facilities in city centres, which, in the case of East Cornwall, means outside Cornwall altogether. The countryside is reserved for dormitory estates or second homes ridiculously over-priced for an area designated once again as so poor on a European scale as to be allocated Objective One funds.

It is to be hoped that the Cornish will demand a more sensible and more just distribution of these funds, which have not been used to support existing industries but almost exclusively on tourist developments. Just how much the welfare of locals is taken into account can be judged from this question and answer: A Cornish politician: Why are Cornish healthcare facilities granted less money per head than similar English ones? Ministry of Health: Because costs are lower in Cornwall, i.e. you have very low wages. That is how Great Britain's riches are shared out under 'New Labour'. The wealthy receive more and the poor, less!

Julyan Holmes

The recent fiasco involving the Cornish Flag and planning law shows just how out-of-touch central government is when it comes to Cornwall.

Questioned as to whether a Cornish Flag could be flown without planning permission, Government Minister Keith Hill referred to 'legislation' which states that the flying of 'national' flags was exempt from planning controls. This legislation covered the flags of foreign countries - from Albania and Afghanistan to Zambia and Zimbabwe - and not just those within the British state.

Like most Labour Ministers, he dodged the enquiry about the Cornish Flag. For some strange reason he stated that the Cross of St George was a 'national' flag and therefore exempt from planning rules. He added "individual saint's flags, which are not also national flags, require prior consent from the local planning authority before they can be shown."

Hill's monumental misjudgement led to uproar in Cornwall, while the sale of Cornish flags increased greatly.

During Christmas week, the Minister, obviously stunned by the backlash in Cornwall, partially backed down which was greeted as a 'victory' by local newspapers. 'Victory in flag battle' declared the Western Morning News.

In fact Mr Hill has stated that district councils should 'turn a blind eye' to the regulations, adding: "Local planning authorities have day-to-day responsibility for the operation of the advertisement control system. It is therefore entirely a matter for the relevant local planning authority to determine whether St Piran's Flag should be permitted or whether they consider it is necessary to take enforcement action."

MK commented:

'It is unacceptable that local councils should be advised by central government to turn 'a blind eye' in the case of these planning regulations.

Planning law is clear: 'National' flags may be flown without planning permission and St Piran's Flag is our national banner. And just as there are no restrictions on the flying of the Welsh Dragon or the Scottish Saltire, we should be free to fly the Cornish Flag.

Our challenge to Mr Hill is clear: He must confirm unambiguously that his government considers our flag is a national flag and thereby fully covered by the regulations. (Editor: MK)

John Bolitho (Jowan an Cleth) R.I.P.



John Bolitho (Jowan an Cleth) R.I.P

Well-known Cornishman, John Bolitho, past Grand Bard, died on Monday 5th December 2005.

As Grand Bard he visited Cornish bards in Australia and was made patron of the Cornish Association of Victoria.

It is due to his enthusiasm and support that a website was created for Gorseth Kernow.

Estimates of the number of mourners vary from 600 to 1,000. The service at the Methodist Chapel included a personal tribute from Grand Bard Rod Lyon/Tewennow in Cornish and English. A

procession, led by the Gorseth Piper, of several hundred people, representing the many organizations John supported, followed the coffin. The reception in a Hotel included the Cornish music of which John was so much a part.

Cornwall 2020 - Regenerated or Ruined?

I expect you remember the publicity given to the news that Cornwall had been awarded Objective One status back in 1999. The pictures of happy, smiling faces celebrating with bottles of champagne outside County Hall? It seemed as if Cornwall's future was secure, that a golden future for all of us lay just over the horizon, that Cornwall would no longer be the poor relation of the UK.

Yet only last month the Western Morning News published a gloomy front-page article entitled "Cornwall Falls Further Behind". The chairman of the Devon and Cornwall Business Council was quoted as saying "There is a danger of kidding ourselves about how successful we are, with great headlines about the Eden project, Rick Stein and the tourist boom". The paper pointed out that progress made in upgrading tourist facilities and attracting more visitors has hardly dented the deep-rooted poverty caused by the loss of real wealth creating activity (mining being given as the principle example) and the persistent problems experienced by the farming and fishing industries. Sobering thoughts indeed.

However, I don't wish to dwell on the success or otherwise of the Objective One Programme, nor, indeed, of any other specific regeneration programme. Instead, I want to look at the broader picture of what is happening to Cornwall and what sort of future is evolving for Cornwall. Because the sad truth is that, at the moment, Cornwall is being devoured before our very eyes and at an ever-increasing rate.

In 2003 the Countryside Agency published something they called "The State of the Countryside 2020" which suggested that a more long-term view of the future of the English countryside might be necessary if a deteriorating social, economic and, particularly, environmental scenarios were to be avoided. It argued for a variety of more sustainable policies and solutions to the problems of the 21st Century. How much influence it had I don't know - in some ways it was a rather bland document, focussing on generalisations and theoretical models, while highlighting a few examples of current practice which were suggested as ideas which could be replicated elsewhere. But it lacked any real sense of urgency.

I think it is time we took a long, hard look at Cornwall's future. What will Cornwall look like in 2020 if current trends and policies continue? What have we seen happening over the last 20 years or so and where is this taking us?

Rapid in-migration led population growth has beset us hand-in-hand with more traffic, more roads, escalating house prices, shoddy developments tacked onto the edge of old villages without any regard for the local

vernacular whatsoever, executive housing that no local people can afford, the second homes scandal - and tourism promoted like some kind of religion where merely questioning its benefits is viewed as blasphemy. And amongst all this we see the increasing marginalisation of the people of Cornwall from the decision making processes, which are, inevitably, located outside of Cornwall hand-in-hand with all the better paid jobs. Much is made of "Cornish distinctiveness" in all the glossy structure plans, development plans and regeneration strategies, but precious little seems to reflect this.

All these changes are happening at an ever-increasing rate and one gets the impression that we are running to stand still. To accommodate it all means a Cornwall that is not really Cornwall - or, at least, is devoid of most of the characteristics that people associate with and value as being Cornish.

There unfolds a dilemma - how can Cornish distinctiveness and the Cornish environment not be lost to the excesses of population growth and "development"?

Amidst all this road building, urbanisation, sub-urbanisation, land-take and perpetual inequality, sometimes linked to it and sometimes independent of it, is Cornwall's "regeneration". What regeneration actually means is a somewhat puzzling question. Bodies such as the Regional Development Agency and the Objective One delivery machine seem to view it as purely economic and tend to focus mainly on large-scale initiatives using criteria and application processes that exclude or deter so many small-scale businesses and projects. Then we have talk of "capacity building" and training and skills development. But when are we going to co-ordinate training and the development of new industries so that the one leads naturally into the other? Occasionally, the odd village hall project might get a look in, but by and large, the social and recreational side of community life is ignored.

Be that as it may - the fact is that new regeneration initiatives seem to be parachuted into Cornwall almost on a daily basis, often with scant regard for each other and what may already be happening. Not surprisingly, amongst such a variety of programmes there are some that are more beneficial than others - and some have made measurable differences that are positive. Yet too many suffer from inflexible or inappropriate criteria and excessive bureaucracy. Driven by prescriptive output targets, they often operate outside a Cornish context, despite all the fuss about Cornish "distinctiveness".

A further complication is that the initiatives are of limited duration, a consequence of which is the tendency for staff to flit about from one job to another, creating a lack of continuity and projects that suffer from erratic and inconsistent support. And what happens when these initiatives finish?

There's something else that puzzles me as well - the tendency for posts to be filled by non-residents and the use of outside consultants. This seems to conflict with the idea of helping Cornwall regain confidence and self-determination. I would argue that it is time to use more home-grown talent. What happened to the idea of Cornwall being a "can-do" region?

While I'm on the subject of positive discrimination - for that is something I am advocating - what about the housing market? Everybody agrees that the current housing situation in relation to local people and local wages is a crisis. I would go further and say it's a scandal - and while the growth of holiday homes and executive housing developments proliferate it will remain so.

You might think that schemes that use the criteria of "local connection" as a means of prioritising affordable housing applicants are a good idea, but when you hear that to qualify as having a "local connection" in Penzance or Hayle, one has merely to have been resident in the district for a minimum of only six months, then one's sense of reality starts to slip.

Elsewhere at this conference the argument for a Cornish Assembly has been put forward persuasively and, while it is an argument that I support, it is not something I wish to discuss here today other than "Cornish solutions for Cornish problems" will not be achieved by bodies operating on a huge South-West regional basis.

Cornwall and tourism seem to have gone hand-in-hand for a long time now but I challenge the idea that tourism is - and can only be - the cornerstone of the Cornish economy; an idea that still dominates the economic agenda. The idea of "quality tourism" with a stable and sustainable high-spending visitor level, the proceeds of which remain in and benefit Cornwall, seem just that - an idea.

Much of this sort of thing is often called progress by those that preside over it. But it is not. It is simply change - and frequently not for the better. I happily concede that success stories are taking place in Cornwall but they are not enough to hide the fact that some things have gone horribly wrong and are continuing to do so.

I don't have solutions to all these problems although you will have heard some suggestions at the various sessions that have

taken place at this conference. What I have come here today with is a warning that will encourage people to seriously consider what kind of a future is being created for us, to actually be able to visualise what Cornwall may look like in 2020 and, as a result, to question what is being shoved down our throats and press for change. One of the great dishonesties of our time is the misuse of the phrase "sustainable development", often worked in to the same old weary strategies and policies in an attempt to give them some sort of legitimacy. I believe that we are still in a position to create a 21st Century Cornwall that is a model of sustainable practice, that is a blueprint of a green economy for other undeveloped areas to aspire to, but that opportunity will soon be lost to us if we go on as we are.

Sustainability needs to be addressed seriously and, in order to do so: some hard and potentially unpopular decisions need to be made. We need to move away from this obsession with tourism and the low-paid, seasonal jobs that go with it. We need to think less in terms of economic growth and more in terms of real sustainability and look to quality jobs. We need to look at the long-term impact of development and where precedents are being set that encourage the undesirable. We need to devise a set of priorities and be honest about where these conflict with each other - and we need the courage to challenge humbug, to challenge things that are not in Cornwall's interests, even when this is difficult to do. Why, for example, is Cornwall considered a region when it comes to accessing Objective One funding but lumped in with a wider South-West region for other purposes? How many public enquiries and consultations are, frankly, stitch-ups with no real democratic legitimacy?

It is certainly true that more people are beginning to question the wisdom of current policies and the powers that be as shown in the increasing number of critical letters in the Cornish newspapers. These are, however, still minority groups and are often no more than a thorn in the side of those bulldozing their own self-interested or ill-thought-out agendas through the Cornish Countryside.

As I said earlier, it is not my purpose to provide answers to all the ills that I have highlighted today - that is something for all of us to do. But I do hope that this may be viewed as a wake-up call so that a genuinely better future for Cornwall can be delivered - and before we all feel like the author of a recent letter in the "Cornishman", complaining that the dreary and unimaginative developments proposed for Penzance were "enough to make you want to move to England".

Peter Burton

NUCLEAR THREAT?

Why is the Westminster Government making a U-turn over its nuclear power policy? Okay, such U-turns are not unknown and could even be said to be quite a common occurrence among Government and its Ministers, but why now and in such a short space of time?

For those of you who are not aware of the situation, the Government reported in its White Paper on energy in 2003 that nuclear power was 'an unattractive option'. Then again in 2004, Tony Blair himself stated to a committee of Westminster MP's that 'Unless you deal with the costs and concerns that the public have, I think it is difficult to see the future for [nuclear power]'. However, at this year's Labour Party conference at the end of September, the same Tony Blair made the comment in his conference speech that 'an assessment of all options' was needed when it came to deciding on Britain's future energy needs and this 'include[d] civil nuclear power'.

What does this mean for the Celtic nations? The answer to this question lies in the fact that there are 12 power stations still operating on these islands out of 19. Nuclear accidents are not a common occurrence, but there has been a steady stream of accidents and blunders over the past few decades. In 1957 the world's first civilian nuclear accident took place in what is today Sellafield, when a reactor caught fire. Then in 1979 a partial 'meltdown' took place in Three Mile Island nuclear power station in Pennsylvania and who can forget the catastrophe of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster. Three big civilian nuclear accidents in almost 50 years may not sound such a big deal, but as all of us know nuclear power has the potential for much greater destructive consequences, as the atom bombs that killed 100,000 people in Japan in 1945 make us only too aware. When nuclear power reactors go wrong, they can have potentially devastating consequences and this will include the Celtic countries.

As Keith Parker, chief executive of the Nuclear Industry Association says "Past performance of the nuclear industry shouldn't be seen as necessarily an indication of future performance". It shouldn't perhaps, but for most people it is. Nuclear waste is a fact of life. The nuclear waste products of Hinkley A power station in Somerset, which generated electricity for only about a third



Mr Burns, the mean and ruthless nuclear power station owner, from *The Simpsons*

of its existence, will take a million years to be regarded as safe. But where will this nuclear waste be deposited and how will it arrive at its final destination. It will no doubt be buried deep underground at some secret site, but where: the tin mines of Kernow or the Highlands of Alba? Will we ever know? I doubt it.

But now apparently nuclear power is once again on Westminster's agenda, as one of the options for energy production that has not been ruled out. This is made even more incredulous by Westminster's massive financial bailout of British Energy in 2003, in addition to the £50 billion that had been set aside for radioactive waste clean up. Even up until a few months ago, it would have seemed unlikely that any more nuclear power stations would be built. There have been no electricity shortages, there has been no obvious public change of heart over the use of nuclear power and the cost of wind power is decreasing while steadily producing more megawatts.

The answers to my initial questions are not clear and for the time being only amount to speculation. The sceptics say that nothing has changed, but Westminster's spiel certainly has. Others from the nuclear lobby comment that nuclear power is the only means by which Westminster can mean its global targets on climate change, while still producing enough electricity to avoid power shortages. It is possible though that now that the British Energy financial screw-up is fading from public memory, the powerful support that nuclear power is reputed to receive at Westminster is making its voice heard once more.

Added to this are the real associations between Westminster's military and its civilian nuclear programme. Plans need to be made fairly soon about whether some of the Royal Navy fleet of nuclear submarines should be decommissioned or not over the coming years. But again in the words of those Westminster Minister's, this is unlikely to happen, because in his opinion Britain is still under some nuclear threat. This maybe the case (after all we are not living under an 'open democracy'), but it's more likely that those powerful pro-nuclear lobbyists in Westminster are hedging their bets that now the time is right to launch their attack.

Rhisiart Tal-e-bot

Mannin

Aghtyn noa ry hoi gynsaghey chengaghyn

Feiy ny cruinney, by vie lesh sleih feddyn aghtyn aashagh ry hoi gynsaghey chengaghyn as stoo elley. Son y chooid smoo, cha nel y lheid ayn as shegin dhyt gobbraghey creoi dy liooar. Agh my t'ou laccal loayrt chengey elley, cha nel eh feen dy ve boirit ec grammeydys trome car y traa, grammeydys nagh vel goll er livrey hood sy chengey t'ou laccal loayrt. My t'ou shenn dy liooar, foddee dy vel cooinaghtyn ayd er gynsaghey Frangish sy scoill rish bleaantyn. Lurg shen, cha dod oo gra agh focle ny jees ayns Frangish, agh foddee dy row grammeydys dy liooar ayd. As ta'n lheid foast taghyrt. As er agh ennagh, sy choarys-ynsee Sostnagh, foddee dy vel reddyn ny smessey. Ta trimmid currit da'n chengey loayrit kiart dy liooar as s'mie shen, agh dy mennick cha nel studeyrn geddyn greim er grammeydys ny strughtoor erbee jeh'n chengey t'ad prowal d'ynsaghey. Ayns ny cheeraghyn Celtiagh, ta'n chooish shoh feer scanshoil. Ta shin geeearree cummal seose as aavioghey ny chengaghyn ain, agh t'eh doillee dy ghreinnaghey sleih ny chengaghyn shen y loayrt. Surrys enn ny brastyllyn shen (erskyn ooilley lesh sleih shinney) raad ta sleih ro faitagh dy ghra monney ayns y chengey t'ad gynsaghey, ga dy vel fys dy liooar oc er y chengey shen. Myr ta ny Yernee gra, (Ebea chengey y loayrt, beaynid ee y screeu. Share lhiam bea, er lhiam. Yn agh share d'ynsaghey chengey (dy loayrt, screeu as lhaih), shen gynsaghey trooid y chengey hene, as ta reddyn mic goll er jannoo nish bentyn rish shen ayns ny cheeraghyn Celtiagh.. Agh ta ram paitechyn ayn nagh vod goll gys scoillyn raad t'ad gynsaghey trooid chengey Cheltiagh. As cre mysh ny paarantyn jeh ny paitechyn ta goll gys scoillyn raad t'ad gynsagahey trooid chengey Cheltiagh? Dy mennick, cha nel y chengey shen ec ny paarantyn. Cre mysh y sleih aasit ta geeearree geddyn greim er chengey Cheltiagh? Mennick dy liooar, cha nod ad goll gys brastyllyn-oie, er nonney bare lhieu gynsaghey er agh elley. Cha nodmayd gra dy chelleeragh dy by vie lesh gagh peiagh goll gys brastyl-oie. As, atreih, nagh mennick ta lheid ny brastyllyn shen goll er stiurey ec ynseyderyn ta currit da'n chengey, agh cha nel ad ro vie myr ynseyderyn. Red elley, bee fys dy liooar ec sleih er brastyllyn-oie ta gobbraghey myr clubbyn-sheshoil. Cha nel shen ny red olk, agh dy firrinagh cha nel eh croo loayrtee flaaail feer vennick, as she loayrtee flaaail ta

shin laccal erskyn ooilley. C' red oddys mayd jannoo, myr shen? Ta reddyn dy liooar jeant hannah, agh cha nel monney geill currit da. Bare lesh y chooid smoo dy leih goll er, jannoo reddyn myr v'ad ayns ny shenn laghyn. As ta mish hene myr shen neesht. Cha nel mee gra dy lhiasagh shin ceau shenn aghtyn ersooyl ny keayrtn, t'ad ny share na aghtyn noa. T'eh scanshoil dy hoiggal dy by vie lesh gagh peiagh gynsaghey chengey elley er yn agh share leshyn ny lheeish. Foddee sleih ennagh troggal seose loar-grammeydys as gynsaghey chengey elley dy tappee. Paart dy leih, foddee ad gynsaghey loayrt dy mic er yn agh shoh. Agh er lhiam nagh vel monney sleih ayn ta goll rish shen. T'eh jeeaghyn dy vel y chooid smoo dy leih shirrey raaghyn ymydoil sy chengey noa, as t'eh mie dy liooar dauesyn y grammeydys ynsaghey liorish ny raaghyn shen. T'eh grait dy vel saase-ynsee enmyssit (Eynsagh siyrit' speeideilagh lesh ynseydee dy liooar. Hoshiaght, ta ynseydee goaill fea ayns caairyn souyr ayns boayl taitnyssagh lesh blaaghyn as jallooyn aalin. Ta ny h-ynseydee cheet dy ve lhaggit liorish tayrn ennal dy dowin. Eisht, t'ad geaishtagh rish meer jeh skecal ta goll er lhaih magh sy chengey noa as kiaull classicagh meein goll er cloie (Echeu-heear' jeh'n lhaihys. T'ad geaishtagh rish y veer jeh'n skecal kuse dy cheayrtn marish kiaull meein, ny keayrtn marish y chield chengey oc. Shegin da ny studeyrn ve ayns staid lhaggit dy gheddyn foays ass shoh. T'eh grait dy vel studeyrn gynsaghey dy tappee er yn agh shoh. T'eh credjit dy vel y kiaull feer foaysagh ry hoi gynsaghey.

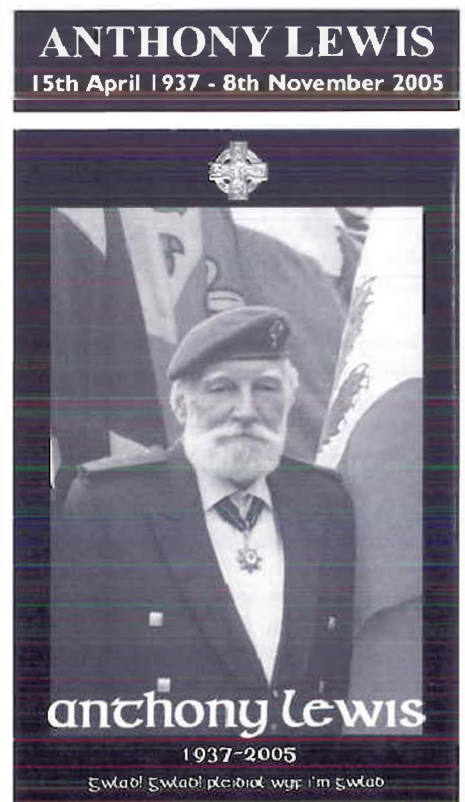
Ec yn un cheayrt, ta ram reddyn bentyn rish ny saaseyn-ynsee (Enoa' veagh peiagh erbee jannoo as keeall ennagh echey ny eek. Myr sampleyr, ny bee kinjagh kiartaghey studeyrn ta jannoo marranyn. Shegin kiartaghey marranyn er aghtyn feer veen er aggle dy jean studeyrn coayl cree. Jean giense taitnyssagh ass y vrastyl my ta taitnys ayn, nee sleih gynsaghey. My ta baggyrt ayn, cha jean ad gynsaghey. As gow ymmyd jeh'n chengey ta goll er ynsaghey. Agh cha nel shoh cooney lhieusyn nagh vod goll gys brastyllyn. T'eh jeeaghyn dy vel ad goaill ymmyd jeh saaseyn noa ayns Nalbin cour gynsaghey Gaelg Albinagh, saaseyn vees cooie dauesyn ta gynsaghey ec y thie. Myr sampleyr, ynseyder gynsaghey yn chengey da tree studeyrn as ta'n kiare jeu ooilley ayns ny thieyn oc hene. T'ad jannoo shoh

lesh y chellvane, goaill ymmyd jeh coorse er lheid va jeant son y chellvane. Saase elley, shen d'ymmydey co-earrooderyn lesh cullee ta cur yn ablid dhyt d'akin as d'caishtagh rish yn ynseyder. Blein ny ghaa er dy henney, va'n chullee costyllagh dy liooar, agh nish t'ee costal foddey ny sloo. Ta'n chullee shoh ry gheddyn myr red ta bunnys cadjin ayns co-earrooderyn ta goll er creck ish da'n theay. Er lhimmey jeh'n Ghaelg Albinagh, ta ny hAlbinee gymmydey lheid y chullee shoh d'ynsaghey cooishyn dy liooar da ynseydee ta cummal ayns ny h-ellanyn as buill elley raad nagh vel ynseyderyn cooie ry gheddyn. Shegin da Celtiee elley goaill yn obbyr shoh ayns laue.

Summary

There's a pressing need for Celts to take advantage of new developments in language teaching and overcome the natural tendency to stick entirely too old methods, good though some of these are. The greatest need is felt by those, young and old, who cannot (or don't want to) attend conventional classes, or where no such classes exist. Good examples are being set in Scotland with the use of telephone classes and video-conferencing.

Brian Stowell



This is not a political story, but it is the story of a political man. Politics is, in essence, an interest in human affairs; an active participation in society, a belief that action will make the world, or at least part of it, a better place. To be political means courting controversy. Idealism always brings

opposition, and so it was with Tony. But this is about the private person - a man who was charismatic, intelligent, witty and charming.

Brought up in a working class family in Usk, he suffered sporadic ill health even in his early years and attended school irregularly. Sport was not his forte: he was a musical and artistic child, who enjoyed playing his violin in competitions in Eistedfoddau. He had a deep and abiding passion for, and knowledge of, Welsh history, identifying with past heroes who fought for Welsh independence from England. Owain Glyndwr became his alter ego, in a world based on the stuff of legend.

While he never spoke Welsh fluently, as Usk is an English dominated area of the country, in an era before Welsh became an option in schools, he learned the language as an adult, acquiring a wide vocabulary, and could read and write it.

When he first started work it was in a nursery, where he began to learn his vast array of plant lore. Gardens remained an abiding interest, and he could transform the most dismal weed-choked patch of ground into a colourful, fragrant, flower filled water garden, a pleasure to the senses.

His National Service in the RAF took him to Germany, near the border with Holland. He learned German and Dutch and spoke both well, still reading his German books most nights right up to his death. His reading matter was not always politically correct by today's mores, but conformity was not one of Tony's characteristics. He may well have stayed in Germany, but instead came back to Wales, now fully realising his Welsh identity, having been the target of 'Taffy' jokes in the air force.

From his early employment as a bus driver, he turned to more creative pursuits, becoming a self-taught silver and gold smith and setting up a jewellery business, a profession he developed from a love of early Celtic art, with its swirling and flowing interlace, to the later Celtic influence of Archibald Knox, the Manx Art Nouveau designer for Liberty's, whose work he saw and admired when he came to live in the Isle of Man.

His political activism with the Free Wales Army and its offshoots in the 60s and 70s led to his arrest and imprisonment, along with his co-fighters for the cause of an independent Wales. His experiences of solitary confinement in 1969 reinforced his desire for freedom in the political, physical and emotional senses, and the friendships formed during these years remained with him for the rest of his life.

Tony first came to the Isle of Man to sell his jewellery, as he had heard of Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic Festival, where he set out his stall and then decided to stay on. Naturally gregarious, he talked with and made friendships with many Manx people, both native and 'comeovers', and opened his shop 'Celtic Gold' in Peel. Such an

interesting newcomer, with a history of nationalist activity, recounted in his inimitable style, was bound to make an immediate impact in a small Island community, whose Manx identity was also under threat at the time.

He indulged in his many interests - on his catamaran 'Ashlish Cheltiagh', which he kept in Peel harbour, he went on frequent sallies round the Island or to Ireland. Music remained a source of great joy, whether classical or Celtic - he enjoyed combining the two, often playing at breakneck speed, much to the exasperation of his fellow musicians in a pub session. He became quite frustrated when playing his guitar - he always had to read the music, in contrast to the ease of learning new tunes by ear on his fiddle, but he never stopped playing - clarinet, harp, guitar, and any other interesting instrument which came to hand.

Holidays, mainly to Europe, provided him with chances to visit historic places which he had read about or seen on TV, which he then recorded on his video camera. Photographic recording was always important to him and was an example of where he loved technology for what he could achieve with it. He loaded his hand - built model gliders with tiny cameras and took aerial shots of the Isle of Man from his favourite locations. Flying a glider gave him the freedom to soar through the skies as did the eagles of his imagination.

Ill-health led to his decision to return to the land of his birth, but he always regretted leaving his adopted home and returned to the Isle of Man for frequent visits. His vision of a Celtic future was partly achieved with the advent of devolution for Wales and Scotland, but he was never a figure of compromise in nationalist politics, and remained convinced that full independence was the only true destiny of Wales.

He was a caring and thoughtful man, in spite of his reputation for militancy. The Free Wales Army used propaganda to brilliant effect, but Tony despised gratuitous violence. He had a natural inclination to showmanship, with a passion for pageantry, fine materials and design in all he did. His Eistedfodd crowns are all individual works of art: his stitched and hand painted banners are testimonials to his knowledge of the symbolism of heraldry and to his quest for perfection in his crafts, as are all his uniforms and medals. Beauty and order attracted him, while he was repelled by the ugly facets of society. He disliked the mundane, and every day found something new, amusing and interesting, living life to the full.

The word unique is heavily overused, but it is the only word for him. 'When will we see your like again?'

Oie vic, charrey ennoil my chree. Nos da.

Fiona Ben Vic Ardle

Illiam Dhone Remembered



This new sculpture of Iliam Dhone also known as William Christian is displayed in Malew Church. The sculpture was designed by local artist Bryan Kneale - the plaque underneath the sculpture states; here lies Illiam Dhone - William Christian of Ronaldsway shot to death at Hango Hill, 2nd January 1663.

The annual ceremony to remember the execution of Manx martyr, Illiam Dhone, in 1663, took place at Hango Hill the site of his execution on 2nd January. Before the ceremony a commemorative plaque will be unveiled at Malew Church where a service is held each year following the ceremony. But why the Church? Undoubtedly it is the place at which Dhone's remains were laid to rest. However, many years ago the call was made for a more significant commemorative monument to be placed at the hill (the site currently has a simple concrete stone with an information plaque). The decision to unveil this monument on the day of his execution begs the question why not a monument at the site where the evil of his execution was carried out?

The event is co-organised by Mec Vannin and the Manx branch of the Celtic League. Phillip Gawne MHK, current minister for agriculture in the Island, gave the Manx oration and former agriculture minister Bill Henderson MHK gave the English oration. The speeches are available in the Mec Vannin newssheet "Yn Pabry Seyr" available on-line at: <http://www.manxman.co.im/mecvan/pabry/yps36.pdf>



Celtica



Pioneering Scots find way of slowing global warming

The Celtic League for the Environment Campaign

Stocks of north Atlantic deepwater sharks have fallen to around 20% of original level, says a report by a group of Irish, Norwegian and British scientists, published last September.

The deepwater shark recognised to be among the most vulnerable fish species known in the north Atlantic is being fished by the gill net fishery for deep water shark, to the point where it represents a serious threat to future stocks.

The report states that the 'current level of effort seems far in excess of what could be considered sustainable.' Dominic Rihan of the Irish Fisheries Board said that 'It is quite frightening what they are doing. Each boat is probably landing about 100 tonnes of shark a trip. They are also discarding vast amounts. This is big business. Something needs to be done urgently.'

According to the Irish Fisheries Board, the gill nets are dropped overboard for between 3 and 10 days at a time and then retrieved weeks or even months later. Up to 18 miles of net is thought to be discarded during each trip. In one recent survey an Irish Fisheries Board vessel hauled up 24 miles of abandoned net and claimed that a further 180 miles of abandoned net had been found. Consequently a death trap is created by these

discarded nets on the sea bed, which continue to kill fish and sharks.

Leafscale gulper shark and Portuguese dogfish have also been seriously affected, numbers of which have fallen by 80% in 10 years. The world conservation union have classified these animals on the Red List as endangered.

The fishing boats, registered in the UK, are owned by mainly Spanish companies who fish the waters near St. Kilda, the islet of Rockall and the area west of the Hebrides in Scotland.

Mr Rihan points out that 'the only regulations that apply are on mesh size and quotas. There is no regulation on the amount of fishing gear they can use. There is serious un-reporting of catches. It is madness.'

The authors of the report state that 'There seems to be deep reluctance to talk about this fishery, in fact almost an unwritten law of silence seems to exist.'

The Celtic League for the Environment (CLE) urges all Celtic League branches to write to their respective fisheries ministers and MP's demanding that an effective way of tackling these issues is found immediately.

Rhisiart Tal-e-bot

A team of Scottish scientists in Aberdeen have developed a way of substantially reducing the methane gas emissions produced by cattle, a major contributor to global warming.

The scientists at the Rowett Research Institute claim that by changing the diet of cows they are able to cut emissions by up to 70%.

Although carbon dioxide gas is no doubt the biggest contributor to climate change, researchers claim that cattle worldwide produce up to 14% of all global methane gas emissions, which has 23 times the global warming potential of Carbon Dioxide. With over 1.4 billion cows in the world and each cow producing up to 500 litres of methane every day, that's a lot of gas!

The researchers have developed a bacterium at the Institute that is based on fumaric acid, a naturally occurring chemical essential to respiration of animal and vegetable tissues. By introducing this into the cow's diet, along with a food additive and a mixture of organic sugars the treatment would have a significant impact on cutting green house gas emissions.

Scotland has a greater concentration of agriculture than in other counties and cows are responsible for producing 46% of all methane emissions. In addition, the problem of flatulence from cows is an expensive one for farmers as between 9% and 12% of the energy that a cow consumes is converted into methane depending on certain conditions. This means that traditionally 10% of cattle feed is wasted in producing methane, instead of milk or beef.

Rhisiart tal-e-bot

INJUNCTION! A NEW BOOK

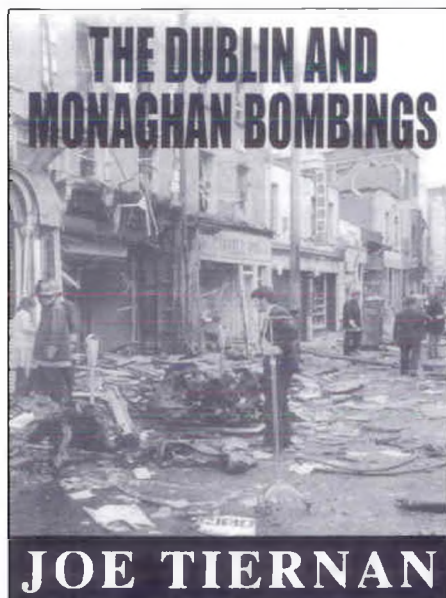
THE DUBLIN AND MONAGHAN BOMBINGS

By journalist Joe Tiernan

In 1993 former RTE journalist, Joe Tiernan researched a documentary for Yorkshire Television on the Dublin and Monaghan bombings. Granada TV (who own Yorkshire) attempted to prevent the publication of this startling new book and publishers Mercier Press have pulled out of publication.

Includes full details of the Dundalk bombing of 1975 and Castleblayney bombing of 1976.

The book is now published by the author:
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Conference of Stateless Nations of Europe 2005

Mark Kermode, Celtic League Assistant General Secretary, attended the VI Assembly of the Conference of Stateless Nations of Europe (CONSEU), held in Barcelona, 3rd of October 2005. After examining and discussing the topic "New immigration and stateless nations in Europe: challenges and solutions" the following considerations were drawn up:

a) Even though migration flows constitute a traditional phenomenon in the European continent, the causes that provoke them are new. Nowadays, the number of immigrants arriving to Europe is increasing considerably due to three major reasons. Firstly because the differences between the North and the South have never been so deep. Secondly, because of the frantic exploitation of the resources carried out by the Northern countries in the areas where immigrants come from. And in the third place due to the globalisation of communications and information.

b) This situation is not being counterbalanced by effective European cooperation policies with appropriate means and resources and able to foster a sustainable economical and social development in the immigrant's countries of origin. Moreover, when arriving to Europe, the immigrants' conditions worsen because they face accommodation difficulties and need to regularize their working status even though the working market is actually demanding more labour hand.

3) In this context, those who ultimately suffer the causes and consequences of emigration are members of excluded and persecuted peoples in their native territories for their belonging to linguistic and cultural minoritised communities. In general terms, these people are not received in the new countries as members of downtrodden peoples deserving special attention but as merely citizens of the states that keep them oppressed and, in the best of cases, as victims of restrictive immigration laws instead of full citizens with full rights.

Consequently, the participants of the VI Assembly of the CONSEU:

a) Demand, in accordance with articles 15-18 of the Universal Declaration of the Collective Rights of Peoples (which constitutes the basic doctrine of the CONSEU), respect for the rights of peoples and individuals, specially those excluded both for their poverty and for the lack of recognition of their rights as a distinctive people.

b) Commit ourselves to collaborate in projects aiming at improving the socio-economic conditions of the migrant's countries.

c) Denounce the stateless nations' lack of political power to implement policies regarding the migration phenomenon or to manage immigration itself, given the fact that the States keep for themselves full power to legislate, regardless of the guidelines drawn by the European institutions.



In order to face the challenges of migration, which are also affecting us, the participants of the CONSEU, being as we are citizens of stateless nations, have concluded that:

a) If, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the right to a nationality and no one can be denied the right to change it, this principle should also be applied to immigrants. Their individual rights must be combined with their right and duty to become members of the new community. It is not about imposing integration or assimilation upon immigrants: it is about inviting them to participate in a project of collective life. It must be reminded, though, that this participation will be a fact if the receiving members of the society and the newcomers respect each other for what they are, regardless of whether they are recognised at a state level or not. The recognition of the immigrant for what he/she is constitutes the fundamental basis for the newcomer to acknowledge the receiving society for what it is.

b) The immigrant must have the right to contribute to the enrichment and configuration of the collective life through their countries' cultural knowledge. They must also have the right to vote in the elections that might affect him directly, a previous step to fully participate in the new society's political life.

c) The reciprocal respect between newcomers and receivers must be favoured by the civil society, which should provide itself with appropriate organisations to approach the immigrants and help them to get documents of residence and work papers, healthcare, accommodation, etc. Good living-standards would make their adaptation

faster and easier and would open the door to a real cultural exchange, and at the same time would prevent the formation of ghettos.

d) Stateless nations, being as they are receivers of new immigration, should have the political power to implement policies through their public institutions. Immigrants, then, could be received as members of distinctive peoples rather than simply members of a determinate state.

e) Language plays a very important role in the life of the community and is one of the key elements to foster the relationship between receivers and newcomers. In the context of the stateless nations:

f) The language of the nation must be a socialisation tool, a link amongst speakers of different languages and the common language of those who share a territory and want to build a community based on respect. Therefore, it must also be the language of education, institutional communications and new technologies.

g) Immigrants should be informed about the "real" country they have migrated to, what is the language and the culture of the territory. This is particularly important in stateless nations with languages minoritised by state policies. They should also be informed about the real causes of language fragmentation, impoverishment and minorisation.

h) Information programmes should be launched in order to make the newcomers see the need to contribute to the nation-building process through language. To do so, the members of the stateless nation must set a good example using the common language everywhere and without shifting to the most powerful.

i) Promoting the teaching and usage of the language is crucial. In this process, national institutions if they exist, social movements and civil society must play a very important role in making the endangered language more prestigious and counterbalance the power of the state language—which could be official or co-official in the national territory.

j) European institutions should distinguish between language policies to be implemented in minoritised communities and those addressed to groups of immigrants with different languages. This should be so because the indigenous languages are the result of individual and collective rights of people living in a territorial community, whereas the languages of the immigrants must be placed in the field of individual rights since the speakers are not living in the territory where the collective rights should be applied.

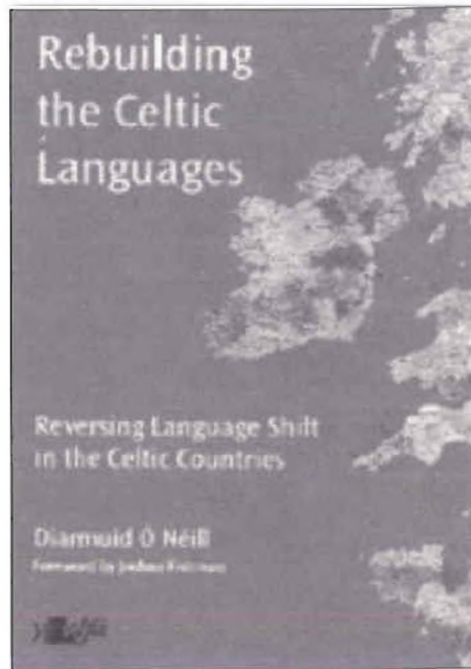
Finally, the participants of the VI Assembly agreed that the theme for the VII Assembly in 2006 would be "Proposals by stateless nations on the reform of the international organisations (UN and others)".

Rebuilding the Celtic Languages / Diarmuid Ó Neill

First comprehensive attempt to apply the Fishman GIDS scale to the Celtic languages. The aim is not only to explore the strengthening of existing Celtic language communities and Celtic-speaking networks in the six Celtic countries but also to explore how the Celtic languages can be re-established on a much wider scale than is presently the case.

Edited by Canadian Diarmuid Ó Neill and includes contributions by prominent Celtic sociolinguists including Colin Williams, Marcel Texier, Pawl Birt, Kenneth MacKinnon and Brian Stowell. Foreword by Joshua Fishman.

This book will be available for sale in the Celtic countries in new year, in the meantime it can be purchased from Y Lolfa's Online Shop for £19.95 at <http://www.yolfa.com>



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