

celtic

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

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CELTIC LEAGUE 

Alba

Deasbad air Oran Nàiseanta do dh'Alba

Tha feum air deasbad air dè an t-òran nàiseanta oifigeil a bu choir a bhith aig Alba a rèir a' Phrìomh Mhinistear, Seac MacConnail BPA.

Nochd am beachd seo anns a' Mhàirt nuair a bha Geamaichean a' Cho-fhlaitheis a' dol air adhart ann an Astràilia. Ged a thathar a' cleachdadh *Flùr na h-Alba* mar òran nàiseanta aig geamaichean rugbaidh is ball-coise is tachartasan spòrs eile mar as àbhaist, thathar a' cleachdadh *Scotland the Brave* mar òran nàiseanta aig geamaichean a' Cho-fhlaitheis. Nochd seo gu soilleir nach eil aonta ann air dè an laoidh nàiseanta a th' aig Alba. Agus a bharrachd air an dà òran seo, tha mòran den bheachd gur e *Scots Wha Hae* leis a' bhàrd nàiseanta Raibeart Burns laoidh na h-Alba. Tha cuid eile ag ràdh gur e òran Burns eile a th' ann: *A Man's a Man for A' That*.

Anns an t-suidheachadh seo, tha e doirbh a bhith cinnteach de an t-òran a bhios ann nuair a chluinneas sinn gu bheil "an laoidh nàiseanta" gu bhith air a ghabhail aig tachartas spòrs no tachartas cudromach eile. Air an adhbhar seo, tha Seac MacConnail a' moladh gun tèid deasbad nàiseanta a chumail air dè an laoidh nàiseanta a bu choir a bhith ann. Tha Pàrtaidh Nàiseanta na h-Alba ag aontachadh le seo agus iad cuideachd den bheachd gum bu choir do Phàrlamaid na h-Alba laoidh nàiseanta a chomharrachadh gu h-oifigeil.

Dè an laoidh nàiseanta oifigeil a bhios ann ma-thà? Ged is e *Flùr na h-Alba*, a chaidh a sgrìobhadh leis na Corries, an t-òran a tha air a chleachdadh as trice mar laoidh nàiseanta, tha cuid den bheachd nach eil e freagarrach a chionn 's gu bheil e a' coimhead air ais ris na meadhan aoisean seach a bhith a' coimhead air adhart. Tha cuid de luchd an aonaidh den bheachd gu bheil an t-òran ro nàiseantach. Chan eil a h-uile nàiseantach dèidheil air an òran nas motha is iad den bheachd gum biodh rudeigin co-cheangailte ris an latha an-diugh agus rudeigin na b' eadar-nàiseantach leithid *Freedom Come All Ye* le Hamish Henderson fada na b' fheàrr.

Dh' aontaichadh tòrr dhaoine air an taobh chli agus an taobh deis, nàiseantaich is luchd an aonaidh, air aon rud, ge-tà. Is e sin nach bu choir *Scotland the Brave* a bhith againn air chor sam bith. Cò a bhiodh ag iarraidh òran le faclan mar *Scotland my Heiland home*? Tha an t-òran stèidhichte air iomhaigh seann fhasanta romansach den dùthaich: Alba nan scotty dog is nam



Scotland's First Minister
Jack McConnell

bogsachean shortbread tartain is nan Seumasach. Chan eil sgeul air Alba an latha an-diugh ann.

Ged nach eile e idir coltach gun tèid a thaghadh, tha beagan luchd-èisteachd ceòl roc fiù's a' cur air adhart *Anthem* leis a' chòmhlan ainmeil à Glaschu *the Sensational Alex Harvey Band* mar laoidh nàiseanta. Tha cuid den bheachd cuideachd gum biodh an t-òran Gàidhlig *Alba* le Runrig freagarrach. Bhiodh an t-òran seo feumach air ùrachadh ge-tà a chionn 's gu bheil an rann mu dheireadh mu dheidhinn "taigh falamh an Dùn Èideann gun chumhachd gun ghuth", suidheachadh a tha air atharrachadh bho dh'fhosgail Pàrlamaid na h-Alba ann an 1999.

Tha am Prìomh Mhinistear den bheachd gur docha nach bi gin de na h-òrain a th' ann mar-thà freagarrach agus e a' moladh gum bu choir beachdachadh air òran ùr a thaghadh. Dh'fheumadh an laoidh nàiseanta a bhith freagarrach airson spòrs, lùth-chleasachd, tachartasan poiliteigeach is eile agus dh'fheumadh e a bhith math an dà chuid airson a chluich mar fhonn leis fhèin no airson a sheinn.

Gu ruige seo cha deach iomradh a thoirt air ceist na cànan anns an deasbad mu laoidh nàiseanta. Tha luchd-iomairt na Gàidhlig den bheachd gum biodh òran anns a' Ghàidhlig iomchaidh ma tha òran ùr gu bhith ann, no aig a' char as lugha, gum bu choir deagh eadar-theangachadh Gàidhlig a bhith ann dheth.

Màrtainn MacLeòid

Summary

Scotland's First Minister Jack McConnell has called for a debate on establishing an official national anthem for Scotland. This opinion was put forward during the Commonwealth Games which uses the cringe worthy *Scotland the Brave* as Scotland's anthem as opposed to *Flower of Scotland* which is used at football and rugby matches and is more widely recognised as the national anthem. In addition to these options, several other songs have been suggested as possibilities. Alternatively a brand new anthem might be chosen.

Gaelic Spellchecker Launched

A Gaelic spellchecker has been produced by the European Language Initiative, the same team which created Faclair na Pàrlamaid, the official Gaelic-English dictionary for the Scottish Parliament. The spellchecker *An Dearbhair* contains over 525,000 words and is fully compliant with the updated Gaelic orthographic conventions. The spellchecker is available for free downloading from the Learning and Teaching Scotland website at:

www.ltscotland.org.uk/gaidhlig/spellpre ss.asp

The £105,500 funding for the project came from Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the Scottish Executive, Comunn na Gàidhlig and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

Sleat school problems

Plans to turn Sleat Primary, in the south of Skye into a wholly Gàidhlig Medium Unit (GMU) have run up against problems. Nuisance phone calls to one of its chief proponents called him a "Fascist" and an "incomer" (he is a native speaker from Lewis). Meanwhile, plans to turn several Outer Hebrides schools into GMUs are running much more smoothly.

In the current set up, it is unusual to have any exposure to Gàidhlig at any level in Scottish schools, even in the Highlands. When it is available, it is mostly as an option, and the pupil must choose between Gàidhlig and a continental language (usually French or German), which makes for an unfair choice. There also needs to be more visibility of the language, to bring it up to an even tokenistic position. From experience I know that many Scots would not put their children into GMUs, even if native speakers, but that they would not be hostile towards it in an English school. Although this is a half-way house, it may be the one way that we can raise the language's profile, and also pave the way for a wider range of people to send their children to GMUs.

Na Gàidheil Oga

A new group, Na Gàidheil Òga has been set up in the last few months for Gaels between 16-30. There has been a great need for such a group for a number of years, and it is to be hoped that they will emulate groups such as Cymuned and Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg in Wales, rather than kow-towing to the Labour party etc. This new organisation has been established as a direct result of a Gaelic youth conference of the same name which was held by Gaelic development agency Comunn na Gàidhlig in Aviemore in September 2005. It is an independent body.

Steven Greumach, president of na Gàidheil Òga said: "Our main wish is to give young Gaels one voice and an opportunity to come together to ensure that their options are raised in a stronger manner. We also hope to raise the profile of the Gaelic language amongst the younger generations as a positive language that is still advantageous to them."

They have also produced a report with a series of recommendations for the development of the language. Amongst these are that the option to learn Gaelic at secondary school should be available throughout Scotland, that there should be a



daily Gaelic newspaper and that the recent language act be strengthened, things that the Celtic League have campaigned on for many years.

It is wonderful that such a group has emerged, and with luck it will haul Gaeldom firmly into the 21st Century, and reflect the views of younger people. Unfortunately, one of the members, who shall remain anonymous has been making various xenophobic comments on the Internet, including about the Welsh and Irish... it is to be hoped that he is isolated in these views.

They can be contacted at - lorna1979@hotmail.co.uk

Super Casino Threat

Plans for a massive casino in Scotland are being put forward, with the most likely venues including Ibrox, home of Glasgow Rangers, the SECC in Glasgow, and Murrayfield, the national rugby stadium. Blair's government plans seven other super casinos, scattered across the UK.

From examples in other parts of the world, we can see that such super casinos always have negative effects on local populations, with the possible exception of the native-run casinos in the USA. Australia, for one, seems particularly obsessed with this sort of gambling, with politicians frequently extolling the casinos' *economic benefits*. But what benefits? The casino in Darwin, for example, does not "bring money in", as most of the gamblers are locals, and the profits are swept offshore. Darwin may be a tourist town, but the tourists tend to be young backpackers! Even worse, in Canberra, there are reports of Yakuza involvement in local gambling, once more demonstrating the age old link between organised crime and betting. Wage levels are also low.

American corporations have been trying to promote high level gambling in Europe for years. The current onslaught is online poker, with the added *benefit* that the mug concerned pays by credit card.

Gambling is already a problem in Scotland, and not amongst those who come from affluent backgrounds: it is the poorer people who lose. Don't expect the casinos to help the victims of gambling addiction, a psychiatric condition similar in nature to alcoholism. By dressing up gambling as *gaming*, placing it in the same league as film going, concerts or sport, the betting industry is being intellectually dishonest. Super casinos will bring debt and misery, not prosperity.

Canavan to strengthen Celtic links

Research is being carried out to see how to improve links between Scotland and Ireland. The current study is being sponsored by the independent (former Labour) MSP, Dennis Canavan. Mr Canavan, like many Scots, has recent family links to Ireland, as is implied by his surname. The aim is to encourage links between Scotland and Ireland, and almost inevitably, the north is treated as a separate entity. Mr Canavan said:

"Through the centuries, migration has been going on between Scotland and Ireland, on both sides, creating strong links between the two countries, which are close to one another, and have much in common...I'm of the opinion that many projects of co-operation could be put forward in matters like cultural exchanges, tourism, sport, education and government, with many economic and social benefits to Scotland and Ireland, both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland."

Canavan's study comes in the wake of similar projects, such as the Columba Project, formerly known as the Columba Initiative. The Nordic countries have a long history of such projects in all walks of life, both amongst themselves, and with neighbouring regions, e.g. the Baltic countries. The Celtic League wishes Mr Canavan's work well, but hopes that it may encourage co-operation in previously untouched areas, and that the money shan't just go to Establishment bodies. Also, there is a strong need for strong

links between Scotland and Wales, if only to understand the devolved set-up better. Links between Scotland and its closest neighbour (other than England), the Isle of Man are even more paltry.

Western Isles ditch Gaelic Education Pilot

Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, the local authority serving the Outer Hebrides, has decided not to implement most of the pilot scheme reported in the last issue of *Carn* which would have made Gaelic the normal language of education in five schools. This in turn places serious question marks over the council's overall Gaelic policy which aimed to roll out such a system throughout the islands.

Following a consultation on the proposal that Gaelic should become the normal medium of education in North Uist, the Brèascleit area of Lewis and the Staoinibrig area of South Uist, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar's Education and Culture Committee decided on Wednesday that the scheme should only proceed in one school.

Only Staoinibrig will now become an all-Gaelic school. In practice, this designation will not constitute a major change as all children in the school are already being educated through the medium of Gaelic. In

view of local division over the plans in North Uist and Brèascleit, plans for Brèascleit have been dropped outright and consultation is to be conducted on the issue of designating just one of North Uist's three schools as an all-Gaelic school from August 2007.

At present, fewer than a quarter of children in the Western Isles are educated through the medium of Gaelic as Gaelic-medium education (GME) is only available in some schools and parents must choose to specifically opt-in if they wish their children to be educated through the language. The Western Isles is the only council area where Gaelic speakers are a majority. Gaelic organisations and language planning experts warn that Gaelic speakers will form a minority of island residents within 10 years unless Gaelic-medium education becomes compulsory following the model of the Irish Gaeltacht and strongly Welsh speaking areas of Wales.

Màrtainn MacLeòid

KERSAINT ON SCOTLAND

Armand Kersaint, the Breton republican, to French National Assembly, reported in *Le Moniteur*, January, 3, 1790.

"The English people, like all conquerors, have long oppressed Scotland and Ireland; but it should be noted that these two nations, always restive, and secretly in revolt against the injustices of the dominating race, have acquired at different epochs concessions, which have engendered the hope of ultimately regaining their entire independence... since the Union, Scotland has been represented in Parliament, but out of such proportion to its wealth, its extent and its population, that it scarcely conceals the fact that it is nothing but a dependent colony of the English government. Yet the Scots know their rights and their strength; the principles developed by the French nation have found zealous defenders who have been the first to merit the honour of being persecuted by the British government; but these persecutions have made proselytes, and nowhere is more joy caused by your victories than in Scotland, the principle towns of which have been illuminated to honour them." First language? – L. Morton (Dundee)

I would like to argue that Gàidhlig be made a first language in Scotland above the status of English. Its popularity outside its heartlands is growing and the ability to read

and write the language is also increasing. The uptake for Gàidhlig Medium Education (GME) is high so willingness to keep it alive and well exists.

If we were to make Gàidhlig a first language in Scotland, all road signs, signposting and documentation would have to be like the Republic of Ireland, i.e. bilingual. Many argue that the Lowland Scots language to be given more support and I think it should. Lowland Scots is a language that needs to be encouraged while Gàidhlig was the majority language once spoken by all Scots in times past and thus needs a different approach. For instance, if you make Lowland Scots an official first language alongside Gàidhlig what about road signs? A bilingual road sign in Gàidhlig and English would suffice but that does not mean Lowland Scots should not be taught as part of the curriculum alongside Scots history in our Schools.

Language is tied up with identity and nationhood and speaking in "oor ain mither" tongue in modern Lowland Scots is part of what makes us quite simply "Scots". In Ireland, some people outside the Gaeltachtaí, including in Dublin, complain about the Irish language or how it was forced on them at school. But is this a minority? Dig deeper and you will detect national pride in the language even amongst non-fluent speakers



Armand Kersaint

or those in the towns and cities. Amongst the moaners, Scotland is the same; the attitude to A' Ghàidhlig is more positive when you go beyond scratching the surface of self-identity and national pride.

If the number of Chinese speakers continues to grow, English may well be a dead language in years to come. Now there's an irony! Let us now encourage Gàidhlig in both GME and Adult education and make it an official first language in Scotland instead of the Scottish Executive moving at a snail's pace and making token gestures.

THE AULD ALLIANCE

To many Scots, particularly on the sports field, it is England which is the "Auld [i.e. Old] Enemy", in contrast to France with whom we had "the Auld Alliance". Many a bemused Frenchman in Scotland has been reminded of this treaty, which I doubt most remember any more than England remembers its "Old Alliance" with Portugal.

We have a curious mentality in Scotland, where many people have "Ecosse" bumper stickers, instead of "Alba", and French names are used to "scottify" various businesses from racing teams to kilt manufacturers! This results partly from the fact that most Scots never learnt Gàidhlig at school, but were taught French. I think I have only ever seen one "Pays des Galles" sticker in Wales – they're nearly all "Cymru".

Since 1066, the English themselves laboured under French speaking overlords who nearly killed off their language; to this day, a large section of higher register English is of Norman French origin. The French language was also transported with varying success to Wales and Ireland, as evidenced

by such names as Beaumaris (Biwmaris) in Anglesey. To confuse matters even more, some of these "Normans" were in fact Bretons and Flemings.

As early as 1212, Walter of Coventry wrote: "the most recent kings of Scotland profess to be Frenchmen, both in race, manners, language and culture, and after reducing the Scots to utter servitude, they admit only Frenchmen to their friendship and service."

It is in 1200s that the Auld Alliance originated. France suffered English invasion during this period, as did Brittany. During Agincourt, later on, both Scots and Welsh fought on the French and English sides. Yvain de Galles (Owain of Wales) was the best known fighter for the French, who was himself betrayed by a Scotsman called Lamb. The Scottish kings copied their English counterparts, by introducing Norman feudalism into Scotland. It can be said that the "Frenchmen" of Scotland played no small part in the removal of the Gàidhlig language from the towns, and eastern parts of

Scotland, a process which continues to this day. The direct result was that the peasantry of Scotland became more and more oppressed, and the aristocracy under the wing of the Anglo-French, and the French themselves. It was only with the Wars of Independence that the balance was slightly redressed, and it took Robert de Bruce, a man of dual Norman and Gàidhlig heritage to weld the two traditions together.

Iain C. Uallas

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Breizh



Freddie Cowle eus Manav zo aet d'an anaoñ da 58 vloaz!

Freddie Cowle manaveger ampart ha kelenner, zo aet d'an anaoñ da 58 vloaz. An den-se oa anavezet mat e kêr Ramsey.

Freddie oa gwelet e-giz ur gwir vanaveger eus e oad, evit doñder e wrizhioù hag e anaoudegezh ha e garantez evit ar yezh. Freddie en deus ur plas ispisial en istor e yezh peogwir he deus e familh dalc'het gant ar maneveg a-viskoazh.

Walter Clarke unañ eus e gelenner kentañ a lavar »Freddie a zo un den dreist-ordinal Ar yezh a teue dezhañ en un doare naturel. C'hoant en doa d'ober gant ar manaveg.

Freddie zo ganet er bloavezh 1947, e-barzh ur familh hag he deus kemeret perzh en istor Manav. Plijout ar rae dezhañ bezañ war ar memez tro eus lignez Iliam Dhone & Iliam MacCowle. Da lavaret eo an hini kentañ o vezañ lazhet egile.

Gwezenn Familh Freddie a ziskouez lezañvioù eus Enez Vanav e-giz: Caley, Christian, Corkish, Kennaugh & Quayle. e vammgoz kuñv, kuñv,kuñv oa moereb da Arthur Caley, 'the Sulby Giant'.

Pad e yaouankiz, Freddie oa bet soubet er bed sevenadurel manavek. Boemet e voe gant ar yezh & ar sevenadur. Un dra diorret gantañ e pad e vugaleaj, dre ar mojennoù hag an hengoun e oa e kêr Ramsey gwechall gozh. Goude vije aet e vamm d'an anaon, Freddie & e vreur zo bet savet gant o moereb Hag o zonton er straed Waterloo, e kêr Ramsey.

Ar re gozh o deus kinniget da Freddie ul liamm dreist ordinal gant ar vanavere-gerien a vihanig & ar sevenadur o doa bevet a-viskoazh. Daoust ma oa laouen da welet tud livañ an amzer-se e-giz an daolenn garantez romatek.

Freddie zo bet a-viskoazh dedennet gant mojennoù kontet gant e zad-kuñv, Thomas Christian « the Carter ». Christian zo bet an aotrou eskop a gomze manaveg ha saozneg, setu perak e oa goulennet da dreñ evit an dud ne ouie ket ar saozneg. Christian oa gwelet mat-tre gant ar c'helenner brudet war ar yezh, anvet Carl Marstrander. An den-se eus Norway o doa desket manaveg gantañ.

Freddie en deus implijet e yaouankiz da zeskiñ manaveg gant tud barrek ha soubet mat en hengoun, dreist-holl Bill Radcliffe, Walter Clarke & Doug Fargher. Loc'het en deus da gelenn ha da ober bruderezh evit ar manaveg en ur mare ne oa ket ar bobl prest da vont war an hent-se. e garantez evit ar yezh oa a-walc'h...

Diorret en deus plas ar yezh war Enez Vanav. Bet ez eus bet tud a-enep met aet eo war ar raok memestra. Dastumet en deus arc'hant evit lakaat panelloù divyezheg war ar straedoù ha plasoù. Er bloavezh 1973 eo deuet da vezañ dilennet er strollad «Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh». Bet eo bet Prezidant (=caairliagh) zoken. Sikouret en deus da greñvaat diorren ar yezh d'ar mare o deus savet 'Banglane Twoaie' Ur boc'hat tud vefe laouen da adwelet kentelloù manaveg er pub Prince of Wales o redek don en noz.

Freddie en deus sikouret evit treiñ ur rummad film anvet «The Foillan». Ar film kentañ troet e manaveg. N'ez eus ket pell zo o deus savet abadennoù e añv tud o deus graet o seizh gwellañ evit saveteiñ ar yezh. Da lavaret eo: Sophia Morrison, J. J.Kneen, bishop Hildesley & the Reverend Philip Moore. Savet en deus plakennoù a-enor evit barzhed ha klaskerien e-giz William Kennish & Bill Radcliffe.

Abaoe un nebeud mizioù' zo, Freddie oa o labourat war ul levr eñvorennoù a vo embannet diwezhatoc'h.

War dachenn al labour Freddie en doa labourer e-giz kalvez. Er penn kentañ, er bloavezhioù 90, en deus kemeret ur stal sevel bigi ha kalvez, er straed Dale, e kêr Ramsey. Renevezet en doa ar savadur hag adsavet al labour kalvez evit produiñ archedoù. Ar vicher-se oa evitañ un doare da liammañ e garantez evit e gêr & he fopl.

Freddie a oa un den gentil ha karadek. Graet en deus kalz evit an dud. En oa an hini nemetañ gouest da lakaat manaveg pad an obidoù pa oa goulennet dezhañ gant ar familhoù.

Freddie en deus profet e skiant-prenet gant plijadur. E vignon, ar c'haner Emma Christian a lavar «Freddie oa un den mat. An hini gwellañ eus an dud war Enez Vanav. Eñ en doa gantañ yezh an hengoun. Pa gomze ar yezh e oa e-giz ur ganaouenn» Aet eo d'an anaon kalz re abred.

Adrian Pilgrim, an troer evit ar gouarnamant en deus lavaret: «Un den gwelloc'h e vefe diaes da gaout, memes ma oa un den re vodest/izelegezh. Gouest e oa da gaozeal ar yezh mat tre gant ul live yezh pinvidik kenañ & gwir pouez mouezh hanternoz ar vro.

Freddie en doa ar gwir da fougasiñ evit e varregezh. Biskoazh n'en deus graet kement-se. Abaoe bloavezhioù bremañ, den ebet zo deuet tost eus e live yezh ha sevenadur. Eñ oa

an hini gwellañ, setu perak o neus kollet kalz».

Freddie oa ivez an den e karg eus ar sevenadur evit ar strollad politikel Mec Vannin. Siwazh e gleñved en deus digresket e live labour. Prezidant Mark Kermode, a ell dioutañ e-giz ur gwir vanaveger. 'Eñ oa un den gwir, da lavaret eo: Eñ oa ar pezh o doa ar re all ar c'hoant da vezañ'...

Echu...

Summary

A tribute to Manx speaker Jamys (Freddie) y Cowle who died recently. See also the Mannin section in this issue where tributes in Manx and English appear.

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ArMen celebrates 20 years

ArMen has always had the will to participate in Brittany's destiny, to feed Bretons with new ideas and new solutions to their problems, by looking at what is genuine and rooted in the civilization of Brittany other Celtic countries. Unlike most magazines, which have a very soft, tourism-minded, approach to Brittany, from the outset ArMen's aim has been to "give priority to people, facts, analyses and pictures, and to become a reference publication". Open and modern in its content and appearance with hundreds of full colour illustrations, ArMen has always kept its independent spirit. It has never received direct funding from public bodies or media businesses. Launched symbolically in Naoned, in the historical capital of Brittany, in 1986, ArMen attracted 10,000 subscribers and sold 4000 copies through outlets after four years in existence. In short, ArMen's philosophy has always been to look back at the past, describe the present, and forge a better future in a wide range of fields: oral literature, music, politics, archaeology, linguistics, architecture, traditional sports and popular arts, costumes, museums, etc.

Unlike most publications, articles in ArMen average eight pages with illustrations, which requires many weeks of research and interviews. In 20 years about 800-900 in depth articles have been published including 70 about other Celtic countries (languages, economy, sports, political history, etc.). Hundreds of interviews have been carried and about 40,000 photographs have been published.

To give but one example of ArMen's spirit of independence, it was the first mainstream periodical to publish in depth reports about the Seiz Breur artistic movement in the '20s and '30s, a group of artists with a political message. The same could be said about the scandalous amputation of the Loire-Atlantique area (Naoned) from the Breton administrative region, which ArMen has always refuted. In its very first issue, ArMen carried an article on the internationally well-known Breton wine, Muscadet, produced in the vicinity of Brittany's capital city since the Middle Ages. ArMen has also on many occasions criticized the lack of attention and support given to the Breton language, media, and institutions. In contrast to other publications, ArMen has always attempted to support its criticisms and opinions by providing examples to follow from other Celtic countries and European national minorities; hence long articles on the Irish and Welsh TV channels, devolution in Scotland and Wales, economy in the Basque country, etc.

Based in Douarnenez, a fishing harbour on the west coast, in Kerne-Izel, ArMen changed ownership three years ago after the publishing company Le Chasse-Marée went bankrupt. Three years on, ArMen is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a

special issue and a series of articles on the successes and failures in Brittany over the last twenty years, including the fields of language, media, politics, music, environment, and economy. In a detailed article about Breton politics, Michel Nicolas, lecturer in political science at the Rennes II University, describes the main trends in the last twenty years. While stressing major differences with the rest of the state, outlining, for example, the lack of success of the far-right ideas of the French *Front National* in Brittany, or the persistence of a strong pro-European feeling, he argues that Brittany is slowly converging towards France's political mould, but he also describes a new trend, the slow diffusion of regionalist and autonomist ideas onto the wider political scene. This is happening mainly through an alliance between the Socialists, the Greens, and the Breton UDB, which gave regionalists a few seats in the current regional assemblies. However, reading Michel Nicolas's article, that of Stefan Moal about the Breton language, and Yvon Rochard's on media, one has to admit that the gap between Brittany and other Celtic countries is wider in terms of the political, financial and cultural means to develop its own model and fulfil the ambitions of the 70% or so of Bretons who favour more autonomous powers. In this special issue, we learn that music and arts are probably the two fields where Brittany has achieved the most in that period, acquiring an international status through large festivals and ambitious productions



Twenty years on, ArMen is a much-respected publication that has wide support among the Breton public. Many agree that ArMen has strongly contributed to doing away with the Breton "farmer's complex" by presenting its culture and society in a very positive, objective, and respectful way. Its impact has also been felt on the development of publishing, museums, media, and public interest about Brittany.

ArMen, which means "the stone" in Breton and is also the name of a famous lighthouse, off the island of Enez-Sun /Sein, will continue to shed its light on Breton affairs, with a free voice and an eye on its Celtic neighbours, to support Brittany's ambitions.

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<http://www.armen.net>



Yann Rivallain, Editor of ArMen, second from the left, back row...

DIWAN - PARTNERS OF BREIZH COUNCIL

At the beginning of the year, Jean-Yves le Drian, President of the Breizh Council, went to Landerne in order to sign a deal of half a million euros with Diwan-Breizh. The President of Breizh told the leaders 'Diwan has a major role in the fight we have to carry on for our language and identity. The language gives Brittany a basis for its identity.' He reminded the audience that since the vote of December 2004 (100% in favour), Brezhoneg is also an official language in Breizh.

Padrig Herve, President of the school council, welcomed the Breizh Council representatives, J-Y le Drian (SP), President, J-B Thomin (SP), with responsibility for the language (see Carn 127), and the mayor of Landerne, and Naïg Ar Gars (UDB). President le Drian expressed his own emotions in signing this agreement in front of the teachers and governors of the Diwan school. The lack of official status for the Diwan Breton-medium schools means their continued existence is a constant struggle. In order to understand the difficulties faced by Brittany, one must realise that our general budget is about €800 million for four million people, while, for example Cymru's general budget is €26 million for under three million people.

President le Drian asked the Breton leaders to take into account the UNESCO text of 2005 about bio-diversity and cultural diversity. He considered that, like the Kyoto Protocol, this agreement was a way to change people's attitudes. J-Y le Drian did not forget that an agreement of 'public status' signed with the state body Education Nationale was thrown out in 2002 under pressure from the old Republican-Jacobin lobby (CNAL). In the President's view, a lot of problems must be overcome in order to save our language and identity. J-Y le Drian stressed that Breizh did not obtain powers relating to the language in the devolution programme in which a few experimentations



(L - R) J Y Le Drian, Patrick Herve and J P Thomin
(in charge of the language on BZH Council) Courtesy Ya!

are being allowed by the central Jacobin power.

The Diwan-Breizh and Breizh Council agreement is a checklist of various activities. President le Drian mentioned a few of them. There are night courses, walking-trips, and Kastel Kerampuilh in Karaez. This building will be the centre for the Erer-Kozh, the Naoned-Brest channel, as well as a lot of activities organized by Diwan-Breizh. Altogether it will mean a budget of half a million euros for 2006.

In addition, J-B Thomin, who has responsibility for the Breton language on the Council, declared that an important programme would be held in the spring for all pupils of Diwan schools. As reported in Carn 127, the goal of the left-wing coalition on the Council is still 20,000 bilingual children by 2010. Even if this target seems hard to reach, the leaders of the Council are

ready to go forward with a campaign for the registration of new children into the Diwan system in September.

During his welcoming speech Padrig Herve, Diwan's President, said that they were aiming for the creation of new posts, with the aid of the Breizh Council, in order to reach the target of 20,000 pupils as soon as possible. The number of schools has to be increased as well as the number of children in the schools. The main problem during 2005 was a lack of buildings available in Bro-Dreger and in the suburbs of Roazhon. It is in confronting this sort of problem that this agreement will be of value, as it provides a framework for Diwan to work with the Breizh Council. It is a step forward, allowing more optimism for the future of our language and identity, which is something important to President le Drian.

Gi Keltik

28th Douarnenez Film Festival *Nothing new under the Breton heaven*

It took place last August. As usual, the Breton films produced during the year were presented - 26 films in comparison with 37 in 2004, 18 of them taking part in the competition. They were chosen from the 75 films produced in the year that were entered in the pre-selection (105 in 2004). This decrease of the number of films was obviously disappointing. Were fewer Breton films produced? And if so, why? Or are there fewer filmmakers or producers entering their works in the pre-selection? Again, if so, why?

We noticed that there were only four films more than an hour long and 12 were shorter than half an hour. There was a large majority of documentary films (20), and few

fiction films (4), only one of them being longer than half an hour, and two animation films. About twenty films were produced or, more often, co-produced by TV channels, 16 of them being produced by the State channel *France 3*, which is taking a prominent part in producing and in broadcasting the Breton productions.

The co-productions were between the TV channels and independent Breton companies. About ten of them were mentioned in the catalogue, some of them many times, being already mentioned in previous years (*JPL Films*, *Mille et une films*, *ParisBrestProductions*, *Kalanna*). It is a positive fact, even if this Breton film industry needs to be improved.

Among the 26 films, only 5 of them were in Breton, with French subtitles, all being produced or co-produced by *France 3*, which appears to take a very prominent part, even if some people are not pleased about that.

There was also, in addition to these 26 films, a special show with a showing of the seven minutes long prototype of a serial fiction film in Breton with subtitles, and with a showing also of a detective fiction, in Breton without subtitles, half an hour long, shot by the pupils of the *Diwan* secondary school in Karaez. And finally, there were two animation films, one by the French director J. F. Laguionie, the other by the English director Graham Ralph; both were shown in Breton without subtitles, after being dubbed by *Dizale*, a society bringing together professionals specializing in the Breton language dubbing of any kind of audio-visual production.

CPE IN FRANCE: WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Anyone trying to figure out what has been going on in France recently might wonder how three letters could get three million people onto the streets of France in the early part of the year. CPE stands for "Contrat première embauche" ('First hiring contract'), which is part of a broader new law voted by the French parliament as the government's answer to the riots that took place in the suburbs last autumn. It is entitled "Law for the equality of opportunities".

Its main aspect (although lowering the permitted age for working at night to 15, and other regulations, were criticized too) was the creation of a new work contract,



For three consecutive weeks french people demonstrated against the government's decision. In Brest more than 20,000 took to the streets on April 4th.

28th Douarnenez Film Festival (continued)

For someone wishing to see the emergence of a true Breton cinema (or of a *cinéma* in Breton) there are reasons to be disappointed. I have to say at first that in the Breton cultural movement this will be referred to only as 'audio-visual' or 'media'; the word 'cinéma', as an art or as an industry, appears only rarely. I do not think that there were many Breton activists rushing to watch the Breton films of the year, maybe because of technical reasons – the theatres of the town were being used to project films in 35mm, the main subject of the Festival, the Breton films being projected in an outlying hall outside the main part of the Festival (which was dedicated to the border between Mexico and the United States).

We do not see on the part of the Breton activists a true enthusiasm for a cinematographic creation. They are enthusiastic enough for the dubbing work done by *Dizale* whose work is doubtlessly linguistically creative, but not in any way work of imagination or of cinematographic creation. One would think that the Breton activists had never seen a film in Welsh or in Catalan or in Basque. Maybe that would put ideas in their heads. I know quite well that Wales, the Basque Country, and Catalonia, to take some examples, have much more powers and means than Brittany and that they have TV channels in their own languages. Here in Breizh, the Regional Council and the professionals have a scheme to help the cinematographic and audio-visual creation in Breton. But we must not look to the institutions for everything. The Breton people themselves have to put their hand to the plough to create a Breton cinema, and a cinema in Breton worthy of the name.

Yves Jardin.

This year the 29th Douarnenez Film Festival will take place from the 19th to the 26th of August. The main theme will be the Balkan nations.

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especially designed for people under 26. Arguing that the existing arrangements didn't give employers the flexibility they needed to hire more people, Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin's law created a two year test period during which employers could terminate the contract of employment, i.e. dismiss the employee, without any reason. That was unacceptable for most of the young. Some of them started to blockade their universities to make their strike visible. But it also brought out older workers, backed by the unions and the left-wing parties to demonstrate against this law. According to the main worker's union, the CGT, for two weeks in a row there were three million French in the streets demanding the government withdrew the act. There were


between 100,000 and 200,000 in the big cities of Brittany. Some demonstrations ended in riot scenes with violent minorities clashing with the police. The government announced in March that they were abandoning the CPE and looking for an alternative, but the protests continued on a smaller scale.

Like the "Non" the French gave to the European Constitution in the May 2005 referendum, these huge demonstrations seem to show that a part of society is asking the following question, to itself and to its rulers: Why do the people have to adapt to fit the needs of global capitalism, and not the other way around?

Mathieu Herri



CELTIC LEAGUE AGM 2006



LANDERNEAU, BREIZH (BRITTANY) 5TH & 6TH AUGUST

Venue for the AGM is STUMDI COLLEGE in the centre of Landerneau, close to the Railway (SNCF) station. Landerneau is just north east of BREST, not far from Brest Airport. Best routes for flights to Brest are via Birmingham with Flybe or Luton (London) with Ryanair, see Brest Airport website or enter Landerneau on web search.

Accommodation would be available in:
IBIS Hotel (€61 per twin room per night)
Ph +33 29821 8500 or www.ibishotel.com

B&B Clos du Pontic (€51 single, Twin €67)
Ph +33 298215091 or clos.pontic@wanadoo.fr

For AGM times and agenda contact your National Secretaries or Gi Keltik Ph. +33 29804 5550 or keltikpress@yahoo.com

Cymru

TY'R CYMRY YN 70 OED

TY'R CYMRY, 11 HEOL GORDON, Y RHATH, CAERDYDD, CF24 3AJ

Noswyl Gwyl Ddewi 2006 y cynhaliwyd dathliad 70fed penblwydd Ty'r Cymry, sefydliad unigryw yng Nghaerdydd, yn festri Eglwys Minny Street. Yn dilyn cinio rhagorol, 'roedd deg siaradwr yn cyfarch y Ty.

Rhodri i Gymry Cymraeg Caerdydd oedd Ty'r Cymry gan y gwron Lewis Williams o'r Barri ym 1936. Ei fwriad oedd darparu cyfle i Gymry Cymraeg ymgynnull, i fudiadau Cymreig gyfarfod i hyrwyddo'r Gymraeg a'i diwylliant, ac i weithio tuag at 'statws dominiwn Cymraeg' i Gymru.

Rhodri yma naws anerchiadau'r dathlu i geisio dehongli beth wnaeth y Ty i wireddu breuddwyd Lewis Williams. Beth fu cyfraniad y sefydliad unigryw hwn i Gymreictod Caerdydd a buddiannau Cymru?

Yn Nhy'r Cymry y gwelwyd y cynnig cyntaf un i sefydlu ysgol Gymraeg ei chyfrwng yn yr ardaloedd Seisnigedig. Ym 1937-8 'roedd Gwyn M. Daniel ac eraill o griw Ty'r Cymry ar fin sefydlu'r ysgol yn y Ty. 'Roedden nhw wedi derbyn addewidion ariannol gan amryw o Gymry blaenllaw'r sir - Cassie Davies AEM, y Dr Iorwerth Peate, Elen Evans - a sicrhau celfi ac offer pwrpasol. Ni sefydlwyd mohoni ar y pryd oherwydd bod y rhyfel yn nesáu ac i Arglwydd Faer Caerdydd fynnu mai busnes pwyllgor addysg y ddinas oedd sefydlu'r ysgol.

Cofiai un o dair merch Gwyn Daniel, Nia, am Dy'r Cymry fel ail gartre ei thad. Ac eithrio'r Ysgol Sul, yn Nhy'r Cymry y cawsai'r ychydig addysg Gymraeg a gafodd. Yno hefyd 'roedd ei dwy chwaer yn cynnal Uwch Adran yr Urdd bob nos Wener - adran a ddechreuwyd gan eu tad yn y '30au cynnar. Diolchodd Nia i Bwyllgor y Ty am enwi'r ystafell fawr, lle treuliodd eu tad oriau meithion, yn Ystafell Gwyn Daniel.

'Roedd y Ty wedi datblygu'n ganolfan i ddegau o athrawon, nifer ohonyn nhw'n athrawon y Gymraeg fel ail iaith, hyd yn oed cyn diwedd y tri degau. Nid rhyfedd, efallai, mai yn Nhy'r Cymry y sefydlwyd UCAC ym 1940. 'Roedd Gruff Hughes, ysgrifennydd cyffredinol presennol UCAC, yno i gydnabod na fyddai ef yn ei swydd ac na fyddai UCAC oni bai am Dy'r Cymry. Gan amlinellu ystod gwaith yr undeb erbyn hyn, mynnai ef fod y Ty wedi gwneud cymwynas amhrisiadwy â Chymru wrth ddarparu'r cyfle i sefydlu UCAC a'i gynnal drwy ei bencadlys yn y Ty am ddeugain mlynedd.

Heb argoel am ysgol Gymraeg a'r drefn o wasgaru plant Caerdydd maes o'r ddinas i'r cymoedd yn parhau, penderfynodd criw Ty'r Cymry sefydlu Ysgol Gymraeg Fore Sadwm yn y Ty. Bu'n symbyliad i sefydlu ysgolion bach tebyg mewn mannau fel Rhymni a Phort Talbot ac 'roedd nifer o blant Ysgol Ty'r Cymry yn blant cyntaf Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Caerdydd ym 1949.

Derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau oddi wrth dri arall o blant Ysgol Ty'r Cymry - Rhodri Morgan y Prif Weinidog, Alun Guy, ac Iolo Ll. Walters.

Mudiad arall a fu bellach yn y Ty am dros 20 mlynedd ydyw Cymdeithas yr Iaith. Gareth Kiff a gynrychiolai'r Gymdeithas achos ef fu'n llafurio o'u swyddfa ar lawr uchaf'r Ty am ddegawd llawn. 'Doedd yna ddim terfynnau nac oriau i lafur Gareth dros hawliau'r Gymraeg ac yntau'n gadeirydd cell Caerdydd o'r Gymdeithas, ac wedyn yn gadeirydd cenedlaethol. Am flynyddoedd 'roedd welydd Ty'r Cymry wedi eu papuro â chatiau o bapurau newydd yn olrhain gweithgarwch aelodau'r Gell.

Wrth ddiolch i Bwyllgor y Ty am ei gefnogaeth i'r Gell, iawn oedd i Gareth ein hatgoffa am y dosbarthiadau dysgwyr fyrrd a drefnai'r Gell yn y Ty ddiwedd yr '80au ac yn y '90au. Cynhelid chwe dosbarth yr wythnos ar gyfer gwahanol lefelau o ddysgwyr ac ugeiniau yn cofrestru bob dechrau tymor. Yn ddi-dâl y gweithiai'r holl diwtoriaid. Aelodau'r Gell hefyd a ddechreuodd Fenter Iaith Caerdydd, fudiad arall a ddefnyddiodd y Ty.

Cadwyd Owen John Thomas AC hyd yr olaf, er ei fod ef yn gysylltiedig â'r Ty dros ddegawdau. At ei ofal mawr dros fuddiannau Plaid Cymru, gweithiai'n ddiplino dros gynifer o weddau ar y Gymraeg yng Nghaerdydd a hynny am 40 mlynedd. Ac ef â'i swyddfa etholaeth yn y Ty, ef yw prif noddwr Ty'r Cymry ers chwe blynedd. Mae ef hefyd yn un o ymddiriedolwyr hynaf y Ty. Yn ei sylwadau hanesyddol ar Gymreictod Caerdydd, cyfiawnhaodd eto ei gyflwyniad fel gwleidydd gwir ddiwylliedig ein Senedd.

Iorwerth Morgan

SUMMARY

Ty'r Cymry 70 years old

It is 70 years since the house at 11 Gordon Road, Roath, Cardiff, was left by Lewis Williams, an early member of Plaid, to be a

centre for organizations in Cardiff working for self-government for Wales and the language. Since 1936 it has been the venue for a wide range of pro-Welsh activities in the capital and to this day is used by Cymdeithas yr Iaith, Plaid, the Celtic League, UCAC (the Welsh teachers' union), and houses a Welsh-medium nursery school. A supper to mark the 70th anniversary of the establishment was held on the eve of St David's Day and was attended by a wide variety of activists from organizations that have used Ty'r Cymry.

GAOL FOR THE LANGUAGE - STILL

A 19-year old member of Cymdeithas yr Iaith, Gwenno Teifi from Llanfihangel-ar-Arth in Carmarthenshire, was sent to prison for 5 days in early February. Gwenno is a first-year student at university in Aberystwyth. She was sentenced in Carmarthen Magistrates Court which overlooks the square where 40 years ago this year her grandfather, the late Gwynfor Evans, was declared the first ever Plaid Cymru MP following a by-election. It is the first time for 11 years that a member of Cymdeithas has gone to prison, but the old tradition is still alive.



Gwenno Teifi

In April 2005 Gwenno had been found guilty of causing damage to the property of Carmarthenshire Radio in Narberth a was ordered to pay costs of £200 but she refused to pay compensation to the radio station which was under investigation by Ofcom last year because of the little use it made of the Welsh language. In her declaration to the court Gwenno said:

"This radio station bears the name of the county in which I grew up, and their non-use of Welsh is disgraceful. If Welsh is to live it must be central to all developments that are relevant to young people, like local radio. The old Language Act belongs to the past. We need a new Language Act that will ensure a place for Welsh in the media and technological developments of the new century."

It was noted with dismay that the welcoming ceremony Cymdeithas held later in the month on the occasion of Gwenno's release was totally ignored by the BBC, though the imprisoning had been covered by the two Welsh national daily newspapers.

Cymdeithas billboard calls for New Language Act

Just before the National Assembly celebrated the opening of the new Senedd building on the 1st March, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, the Welsh Language Society, unveiled a billboard opposite the new building in Cardiff Bay calling for a New Welsh Language Act. The Cymdeithas members at the launching of the billboard on February 27th were addressed by local Plaid Assembly members Owen John Thomas and Leanne Wood.

The billboard is located near the car park opposite the Scott Harbour building, very close to the new Senedd.

The billboard shows a picture of First Minister Rhodri Morgan and a quotation from what he said as a Westminster MP in 1993 when the 1993 Language Act was being debated. The wording of the billboard is:

"People in Wales want rights... That is why it is important to confer these rights on the Welsh language, the speakers of the Welsh language, and those who may not be Welsh-speaking themselves, but want their children to be educated in Welsh as a matter of right."

"We want... a genuine Welsh Language Bill... That will be done when we revisit the question of a Welsh language measure when we are in government."

"CADWA DY AIR RHODRI – KEEP YOUR PROMISE RHODRI"

Cymdeithas believed that this was an appropriate way to celebrate St David's Day and the opening of the new Senedd. It is also an effective way of reminding First Minister Morgan of the promise he gave in 1993 to introduce a powerful Language Act.

Plaid Cymru (or, in line with their new branding, 'Plaid') issued a statement in support on the day of the launch, saying:

"In 1993, when the act in its current form was published, Rhodri Morgan said that the act was not sufficient, and that his party would revise and strengthen the act when they came to power. It is now nine years since they came to power in Westminster and seven years in Cardiff Bay, yet nothing has been done to improve the act. Indeed, Rhodri Morgan has described any kind of discussion of the matter as 'boring'."

Speaking at the launch, Plaid's Shadow Social Justice Minister Leanne Wood AC, said:

"This billboard is spot on. It will serve as a reminder to the people of Wales of Rhodri Morgan's broken promises. Hopefully, it will also persuade him to act on his words of ten years ago. Everyone in Wales owns the Welsh language. Legislation that supports Welsh is not just for Welsh-speakers - it is for everyone that wants to see the language survive."

"Rhodri Morgan has shown a complete contempt for the electorate by pretending he supports fairer Welsh language laws and now telling us he doesn't. New Labour need to take their heads out of the sand and realise that without legislation to strengthen



Plaid and Cymdeithas members at the launch of the billboard in Cardiff Bay.

the status of Welsh, there is no viable future for the language. Goodwill alone is not enough."

Shadow Culture, Welsh Language, and Sport Minister, Owen John Thomas AC, said:

"The First Minister, Rhodri Morgan, promised, when he was not in power, that he

would give Wales 'a genuine Welsh Language Act'. He has been First Minister for 6 years now and when reminded of his promise on the language, he dismissively said 'that was a long time ago.' Whether it's the Welsh language or Free Care for the disabled, it seems you can't trust Rhodri Morgan."

THE WELSH CILT

I am writing on the subject on promoting the wearing of ciltis by Welsh people. Ciltis are originally from the Highlands of Scotland although there is evidence of other Celtic nations wearing ciltis or something similar.

There were many different variations of clothing in Celtic history, and although most Celtic nations may not have worn what we today might call a cilt, they have been proved by drawings to have worn something similar which could have been the origin of what we today call a cilt. Lowlanders in Scotland are not 'entitled' to wear a cilt (cilt). However, in the 1800s when the ban on ciltis, previously imposed after the battle of Culloden, was lifted, Scottish nationalists pushed for Scottish recognition and even the government encouraged all Scots to wear kilts. One letter sent to a mill in Edinburgh said 'Find me a kilt with the Ross tartan, and if there isn't one, find a tartan and call that the Ross tartan'. This proves that many of the existing tartans for 'traditional' Scottish kilts were made up.

Although this was over a hundred years ago, why can't the Welsh, and indeed other Celtic nations, do the same thing a hundred years later? It could be argued that some of the Scottish tartans were lost after the Battle of Culloden, when the ban on kilts was imposed. However, this is likely to be very few, and none that would have originated from Lowland Scotland.

The Powys and the St David's tartans go back to the turn of the 20th century, and the family tartans of Wales were created in the last ten years. What has been adopted from history and is unique to the Welsh cilt outfit is the ysgrepan. This is worn in place of the sporran found on kilts from the other Celtic countries. The ysgrepan is a leather wallet decorated by Welsh goat skin and Welsh cob hair. Generally the Welsh outfits contain tartan flashes on different parts of the jacket, again, unique to the Welsh cilt outfit.

So, why not let us Welsh, Cornish, Irish, Manx, and Bretons share this aspect of Celtic history, which is largely very uncertain anyway. The Scots invented many of them for family pride over a hundred years ago. Why not the rest of us? Splash out and show your family pride. It should bring Celts together as a Celtic dress, which it is, and build family pride and origins in what you wear. All ciltis are different per Celtic region, but all ciltis show our pride for our Celtic heritage and Celtic unity.

Ross Clarke

(Ross Clarke is a Welsh-speaker from Caernarfon of English/Welsh/Irish descent who believes in the promotion of Celtic heritage and culture).

NEW ASSEMBLY BUILDING OPENED IN CARDIFF

The new permanent home for the National Assembly of Wales is now open. The new building from which Wales will be governed, within the constraints imposed by England, is to be known by the Welsh name of the 'Senedd'. The construction of the new Senedd cost £67 million. It takes over from the neighbouring building that looks more like an office block than a parliament, from which the Assembly has operated since its beginning in 1999.

The Queen of England attended the opening ceremony on March 1st, St David's Day, and members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith joined the large crowd of nationalists and republicans protesting at her presence. The crowd of protesters outside the parliament was noticeably bigger, possibly twice the size, than the group of royalist supporters present, and the booing and shouts of protest could be heard clearly on the radio broadcast of the event, drowning out any cheering, as the monarch arrived at the ceremony.

A Cymdeithas statement issued for the ceremony stated:

"The Welsh language should be the first subject to be legislated upon when more powers are transferred to the Assembly in 2007. The Labour Party is continuing to ignore the fact that Rhodri Morgan said in 1993 that he was in favour of further legislation on the Welsh language. With the opening of the new transparent Senedd, where the people of Wales can see straight through the windows, now is the time for accountability for our citizens."

"Today is an important day for everybody in Wales. It's a day to celebrate our nationhood and a significant day in our political history. Welsh is an integral part of these celebrations. On such a day of national importance, it's imperative to stress that the Welsh language belongs to us all. To anyone who chooses to make their home in Wales. Every citizen of Wales should be able to feel ownership of the Welsh language."

The protest in Cardiff Bay came just two days after Cymdeithas unveiled a billboard outside the Assembly buildings, aimed at reminding Rhodri Morgan and his government of their promises in relation to the language.

An opinion poll carried out by BBC Wales on the same day suggested that a majority in Wales want Wales to have a full law-making and tax-varying parliament. BBC polls tend to overstate unionist standpoints. At any rate, in this case the poll said that 16% favour independence, 39% want a parliament with full law-making and tax-varying powers, 21% prefer the status quo, and 20% want to abolish the Assembly. In the devolution referendum of 1997 nearly 50% of voters were against an assembly.

The poll also suggested that 60% wanted the Assembly Government in Cardiff to have the most influence over Wales. Only 21% wanted the English government in London to have the most influence, though 40% thought it currently did have most.

R ap Tomos

NEW IMAGE FOR PLAID



Plaid Cymru, the national party, voted for the most radical image overhaul in its history at its spring conference in Caerfyrddin/Carmarthen.

The party is dropping the use of its traditional badge, the well-known three-peaked 'Triban', and is adopting a new badge based on the Welsh Poppy (Pabi Cymru), *Meconopsis cambrica*. While the Triban was usually green, the new logo, like the flower it represents, will be yellow.

In justifying the change of logo, Adam Price MP (Carmarthen East & Dinefwr), the Director of Elections who has led the rebranding process, said "Plaid was one of the first political parties to design a logo. The Triban has been with us for 80 years. However, nothing can last for ever, and the party needs a new image which will embody the next stage of its development."

"The old logo was a confident image of Welsh identity based on landscape and history – but on the downside it was viewed by some voters as monolithic and aggressive. Our new identity is a positive and bold statement, both visually and politically. An identity based on organic growth that will enable us to broaden our appeal."

"The new logo itself of course is only the visual support for a much wider process the party is undertaking to revitalise itself. You will already be aware of the innovative What Wales Wants programme the party has announced and the formation of the National Campaigns Unit. The new logo provides the background for these developments."

The party will be known on its branding as just 'Plaid' rather than 'Plaid Cymru'. This is to be welcomed if it means a reduction in the use of the English epithet 'Party of Wales' increasingly used in recent years.

Plaid have also launched a sonic or audio logo – a sequence of notes to be played as a sign of the party in party political broadcasts etc. It may be found on the Internet.

Ieuan Wyn Jones AC, Assembly Member for Ynys Môn and Plaid leader in the Assembly, was voted overall leader of the party at the conference, though Gwynedd councillor Dafydd Iwan will remain party president.

Robat ap Tomos

Hospitals - Where's the Welsh?

Shadow Health Minister Helen Mary Jones AC, Plaid, has challenged the Deputy Health Minister, John Griffiths AC, to accept that a person has a right to access health and social services through the medium of Welsh and that the current system is not working and went on to say that this example only serves to enforce the idea that a new Welsh language act is required to establish the rights of Welsh speakers to access services through their preferred language.

Llanelli based Ms Jones said "The right to speak Welsh when accessing health services must be established. Research by the Welsh Consumer Council has shown that health outcomes are enhanced if services are provided through the patients' own language, particularly if they were elderly or very young patients."

"While I acknowledge there may not be much need for this in some areas of Wales, in other areas where Welsh is used, it is

extremely important that people have the choice.

"I was pleased that the Deputy Minister accepted there should be a rights-based approach but just by accepting the moral rights of a person is not enough. These rights should be enshrined in law to ensure they are respected."

"In a Carmarthenshire hospital a few years ago I took my daughter to A&E and for her it would have been easy to explain how she felt in Welsh. However she was seen to by a nurse who could not speak the language when there were Welsh speaking nurses on duty at the time."

"The Government must respond to these concerns, when the Welsh Language Board is brought into the Assembly who is going to implement checks? The current system is obviously not working. Welsh speakers must have the right to access their National Health Service through their own language."

Éire

nascanna idir aos óg na hÉireann agus na Breataine BÍge

Tá na nascanna idir aos óg na hÉireann agus na Breataine BÍge ag neartú i gcónaí. Thuaireascíos tamall ó shin ar Charn go raibh tionscadail ar siúl idir Ógras (Ógeagraíocht Ghaeilge) agus Urdd Gobaith Cymru (Ógeagraíocht Bhreathnais) chun nascanna a chothú eatarthu. Luaigh mé freisin go ndeachaigh buíon de chuid Ógras sall go dtí an Bhreatain Bheag an samhradh seo caite i rith an Eisteddfod.

Tháinig na Breathnaigh anall chugainn mí na Samhna seo caite agus ghlacadar páirt i Scléip na hÓige (sin í an fhéile óige a bhíonn ar siúl i rith an Oireachtais) i gcathair Chorcaí. Bhí imeachtaí go leor ar siúl ag an Scléip – comórtais spóirt agus ceardlanna éagsúla, mar shampla. Bhí seó puipéad ar siúl darbh ainm *Fíbin* agus bhí roinnt aisteoirí ó Ros na Rún páirteach ann. Seó anghreannmhar a bhí ann. Bhí ceolchoirm ar siúl freisin leis an Máimín Cajun Band, buíon a chasann ceol Gaelach de réir na stíle *Cajun*. Chuir a gceol briomhar sinn go léir ag damhsa. Ina theannta sin, chuamar ar turas go dtí Caisleán Bhlairne. Dar ndóigh, phógamar an chloch. Táim ag caint gan stad ná staonadh ó shin! Bhaineamar an-sult as an turas ansin. Bhí turas eile againn timpeall ar Dhún Uí Choileáin, an dún míleata i gcathair Chorcaí. Tá iarsmalann ansin faoin arm agus istigh ann chomh maith tá rudaí pearsanta a bhain le Micheál Ó Coileáin. Tríd is tríd, bhain na daoine óga an-taitneamh as an gcúrsa.

Eagraíodh cúrsa eile in Éirinn freisin. Ba i Rath Cairn a bhí sé sin agus ba é an téama ná *Ceol agus Rince na hÉireann*. Bhí sé ar siúl ón 23ú Márta go dtí an 26ú Márta. Caithfidh mé a rá go raibh an cúrsa seo ar cheann de na cúrsaí ceoil ab fhearr a gheofa aon áit in Éirinn. Bhí daoine cáiliúla ag múineadh sna ceardlanna a bhí ar siúl – Rónán Ó Snodaigh ó Kíla, mar shampla, a bhí ag teagasc an bhodhráin. Ina theannta sin, bhí Éamonn Ó Donnchadha (a bhuaigh comórtas an tsean-nóis san Oireachtas i mbliana) ag teagasc na feadóige stáin. D'fhoghlaim na daoine óga rince ar an sean-nós agus rince céilí freisin. Bhí deis acu cúpla cluiche rugbaí agus peile Gaelaí a imirt, chomh maith. Bhí cúpla turas ann, freisin, ceann amháin timpeall ar Chaisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath agus ceann eile thart ar Bhrú na Bóinne. Chuamar go dtí an Chultúrlann, Ceanncheathrú Chomhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann i mBaile na Manach, áit ar fhoghlaimiomar faoi cheol agus rince na hÉireann. Ach an phríomhócáid a bhí ar siúl ná ceolchoirm i Halla an Phobail i Rath Cairn

ina raibh Kíla ag seinnt. Bhí an oíche sin ar fheabhas.

An chéad chúrsa eile a bheidh ar siúl ná ceann faoi Riarachán na Breataine BÍge. Beimid ag dul sall go dtí Brú Óige an *Urdd* i Llanchrannog, áit a mbeifear ag marcaíocht ar chapail, ag sciáil, ag dreapadóireacht agus ag góchairteáil. Tá mé ag tnúth go mór leis na himeachtaí sin. Beimid ag dul go Caerdydd freisin, go dtí Tionól na Breataine BÍge, chun eolas a fháil faoi Riarachán na Breataine BÍge. Tá feachtas ar bun i láthair na huair, dar ndóigh, chun parlaimint seachas tionól a fháil don Bhreatain Bheag agus cur le neamhspleáchas na tíre. Ba chóir

Gaeilgeoirí ar an mBéarla. Ach má tharlaíonn an rud céanna leis na Breathnaigh, leanann siad ar aghaidh ag labhairt i mBreathnais, seachas nuair atá siad ag diriú ar an mBéarlóir. Sin an cur chuige ceart mar gurb i an Bhreathnais an teanga atá sa mhóramh sa suíomh sin.

Tá súil againn nuair a chríochnaíonn an tionscadal seo go mbeimid in ann an nasc a choimeád idir an dá eagraíocht.

Má theastaíonn eolas breise uaihb faoin gceangal seo, is féidir dul i dteagmháil le hÓgras ar 01 4751487.

Caoimhín Ó Cadhla

Summary

The programme of co-operation and exchanges between Ogras and Urdd Gobaith Gymru continued over last winter and spring of this year. A group from Urdd attended Scléip na hÓige, a youth oriented event of the Oireachtas held in Cork in Nov. Another group from Urdd came in April to the Rath Cairn Gaeltacht, with the theme being 'Irish Music and Dance'. Leading Irish performers gave music and song workshops. The highlight of the visit was a concert in Rath Carn by Kíla. An Ógras group will visit Wales at the end of April, the emphasis in this visit being 'Administration in Wales' and it will include a visit to the Welsh Assembly.



The Ogras group visiting the Owain Glyndwr Parliament House last year

go mbeadh an turas sin suimiúil. Beidh an cúrsa ar siúl ón Déardaoine, an 20ú Aibreán, go dtí an Domhnach, an 23ú Aibreán.

Mar a fheiceann sibh, tá na cúrsaí seo ag dul ó neart go neart. Bímid i gcónaí ag foghlaim óna chéile. Caithfidh mé a rá go bhfuil *Urdd Gobaith Cymru* ina eiseamláir dúinn ar cé chomh maith agus is féidir le hógeagraíocht a bheith. Tá brúna óige acu, rud ba chóir a bheith againne. Ach, ar an taobh eile den scéal, tá 50,000 ball acu siúd. Tá an Bhreathnais i bhfad níos láidre ná mar atá an Ghaeilge. Tá misneach ag na Breathnaigh ba chóir a bheith ag na hÉireannaigh. Ní bhíonn eagla orthu dul in aghaidh an dli chun an teanga a chothú agus a chosaint. Nuair a thagann Béarlóir isteach i measc grúpa Gaeilgeoirí, iompaíonn na

Poor Irish Language Question on Census

The question on Irish is "Can you speak Irish?" There are no questions on the ability to read or write or to define (albeit subjectively) the level of perceived fluency – surely an opportunity lost. This phraseology could lead many whose Irish is rusty or dormant to answer NO. A question is asked on frequency of use – daily within the educational system; daily outside the educational system; weekly; not very frequently; not at all.

In 2002 339,541 people responded that they used the language daily but 260,716 of these were between 5 and 19 years old.

Irish Language News

Irish Language Act for North Proposed

The umbrella Irish language body in the North, Pobal, launched a draft version of a proposed Irish Language Act for the North in February. The Act calls for rights to be confirmed in law in the areas of education, communications, employment and the courts. It also calls for the establishment of a Language Commissioner. The document was launched by Senator Maurice Hayes a former head of the North's Civil Service, who has the reputation of being favourable to the language and who is credited with having used his influence to ensure that state agencies in the North introduced schemes to provide replies in Irish to those who wrote to them in Irish.



Senator Maurice Hayes
who launched the proposed Act.

European Charter in North

The Irish language group POBAL, based in Belfast, has called on the British Government to clarify its obligations under the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages and to issue directives to state departments to implement it effectively. While the Strategy Co-ordinator of POBAL, Marcas Mac Ruairí, stated that a lot had been extracted from the British government nevertheless there was much to be done. This was particularly so in regard to the implementation as a matter of urgency of Part 3 of the Charter.

Part 3 lays out exactly what any government who signs the Charter will do. These are 68 clauses altogether in this section where a government promises various measures which it will take to strengthen the situation of a language and its use in public and private life. The British adopted 36 clauses in relation to Irish in the

North, 38 in relation to Gaidhlig in Scotland and 52 in relation to Welsh.

In the case of the North they promised for example, correspondence rights with state bodies in Irish, provision of Irish in education for adults and recognition of Irish place names.

Irish Language Planning Condition Upheld

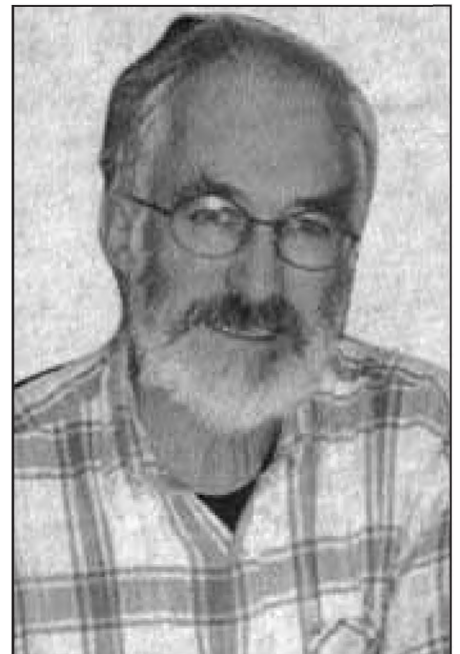
An Bord Pleanála (Planning Appeals Board) upheld the decision of Galway County Council to refuse permission to a developer for change of use which would have waived the Irish language requirement of the Galway County Council planning permission. The developer, a Walter King, had received planning permission for a housing and apartment development in the Gaeltacht village of Claregalway north of Galway city. He had agreed with the Council that 12 of the homes be sold to fluent Irish speakers but then applied for change of use. The Council's decision to refuse was on the grounds that such a move would adversely affect the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht and would set a precedent. An Bord Pleanála has consistently supported Council decisions in this area. Unfortunately they have based the proportion on census figures of the existing proportion of Irish speakers in an area rather than adopting a compensatory approach to counteract the severe decline in these figures in some areas in recent years, decline often accentuated by unregulated developments, but at least a line has been drawn.

Call for All-Ireland Irish medium body by SDLP

In Belfast at the launch of its new document *Comhoibriú Thuaidh/Theas – Tá Ciall Leis (North/South Co-operation – It Makes Sense)* SDLP leader Mark Durkin called for the establishment of an All Ireland Trust for Irish Language Medium Education. The SDLP has stated that it seems that British government funding support for Irish medium education in the North, such a Trust could compensate for this. There was also a need for a North/South Forum on Irish Language Medium Education. This could be an information source, promote best practice and co-operation, assess and exchange teaching and learning aids and facilitate communication at local, national and international levels. The party expressed concern at the standard and provision of Irish textbooks in the North and the poor service for learners in English medium second level schools.

Donegal Co. Council's Plan Provisions will not protect Irish

At the Éigse Uladh seminar *Pleanáil agus Forbairt sa Ghaeltacht* (Planning and Development in the Gaeltacht) in mid March language activist Donncha Ó hEallaithe said that the figures from the census and from Scéim Labhairt na Gaeilge ([Grant] Scheme for Spoken Irish) showed that there were only about 6,000 people living in the real Gaeltacht area in north west Donegal. He stated that the language had declined in the area in the last ten years. Ten years ago 83% of families with school children in the area received the full grant under the scheme. This had fallen to 73% last year. He accused Donegal County Council of having insufficient protection for Irish in their new Draft Development Plan and said it should be amended to ensure the Council were fulfilling their statutory obligation to protect Irish as a community language. The Planning Act calls for the protection of Irish and its promotion as a community language to be an aim of the Development Plan and that aim is missing.



Donncha Ó hEallaithe,
Irish Language activist

The Galway County Council Development Plan states clearly that planning permission will be refused to any development which would damage the status of Irish as a community language in the Gaeltacht and it also contains another clause which states that planning proposals from fluent Irish speakers in the Gaeltacht will be favourably considered. The Donegal Plan has no such provisions and should contain them. He called on community organisations in the Donegal Gaeltacht to avail of the opportunity to submit proposals to amend the plan to give the same protection in the Donegal Gaeltacht as is given in the Galway Gaeltacht.

The North (and 1916)

In a joint statement at a press conference in the Navan Centre in Armagh in early April Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and British Premier Tony Blair indicated that if Northern politicians do not set up a power sharing Executive by Nov. 28th (Plan A) the two governments will take over their responsibilities and implement the Belfast Agreement to the fullest extent possible (Plan B). The procedures laid out in the statement were:

- *The Assembly will therefore be recalled on May 15th. Recognising that it has not sat for nearly four years, it seems sensible to give the Assembly a short period in which to prepare for government as envisioned by paragraph 35 of Strand One of the Good Friday agreement. The Assembly's primary responsibility would be to elect a first and deputy first minister as soon as possible, to allocate ministerial posts under the d'Hont formula and to make other preparations for government within Northern Ireland and in the North-South and east-west fields.*

- *While it is reasonable to give the Assembly a little more time, there must be a clear limit. We said in January that a power-sharing Executive must be formed this year. If by November 24th the Assembly has failed to achieve this, we do not believe that any purpose would be served by a further election at that point or a few months later in May 2007. We do not think that the people of Northern Ireland should be asked to participate in elections to a deadlocked Assembly. There would be no choice but to cancel salaries and allowances for MLAs and to defer restoration of the Assembly and Executive until there is clear political willingness to exercise devolved power. The governments would, of course, stand ready to facilitate full restoration when all parties indicate such willingness.*

- *We are beginning detailed work on British-Irish partnership arrangements that will be necessary in these circumstances (Ed. i.e. non restoration) to ensure that the Good Friday agreement, which is the indispensable framework for relations on*

and between these islands, is actively developed across its structures and functions. This work will be shaped by the commitment of both governments to a step-change in advancing North-South co-operation and action for the benefit of all.

The Sinn Féin reaction appeared to be somewhat positive, interpreting it as a final effort to make the DUP share power but indicating they favoured Plan A. The DUP leader Rev. Ian Paisley dismissed the idea of a deadline for the Executive but said his party would enter the Assembly. The scenario might seem straightforward however, as always with the North, this might not be the case. If the Good Friday Agreement is the 'framework for relations on and between these islands' then the alternative Plan B of more active extension of North-South co-operation in the absence of a Northern Executive might undermine it. Wait until year end, even it matters have not become clearer they may have moved on!

Meanwhile the Irish governments decision to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the 1916 Rising (which they had ignored for over 30 years, indeed 'ignored' is hardly the appropriate word – organisers of the 'Reclaim the Spirit of 1916' commemoration on the 75th anniversary in 1991, such as artist Robert Ballagh, were harassed and intimidated by the Special Branch) was implemented with a full military parade and fly past (some 2,500 services personnel from army, navy and air force took part) and it was watched by 100,000-120,000 people. It might be said that at least the whole lead up gave a generation of young people (unlike previous ones) the opportunity to appreciate the historical importance of the 1916 Rising as the necessary foundation stone of Irish independence. Of course that was not the intent, it was widely appreciated that Bertie's reclaiming of 1916 is related very firmly to Sinn Féin's electoral rise in the Republic (which is expected to be consolidated in the elections of 2007) and his determination to counter this in anyway possible.

GÀIDHLIG- GÀEILGE PROSE TRANSLATIONS.

The visit of the Gàidhlig poets (Feargus Mac Fhionnlaigh and Rody Gorman) and musicians (singer Beathag Moieasdan and piper Griogair Labhruidh) to Ireland this year provided the opportunity for Gàidhlig prose to get a look in. When the exchange began in 1971 there were few Gàidhlig writers ploughing the prose field. Since 2003 however, encouraged by the scheme *Ur-sgeul* of the Gàidhlig Books Council, about a dozen high quality prose works have been published. At the poetry court in Café Ùna in Dublin two Gàidhlig prose writers Mártainn Mac an t-Saoir and Donncha MacGiolliosa were present for the launch of the book *Malaírt Scéil* (Cois Life, €15) of translations into Irish, by Antain Mac Lochlainn, of their short shorties.

CÚIRT AN MHEÁN OÍCHE – BERLIN.

Brian Merriman's famous epic poem in Irish from the late middle ages, *Cúirt an Mheán Oíche* (The Midnight Court), has many English translations but not many know perhaps that it was translated into German in 1905 by Ludwig Stern. The occasion was commemorated when 60 Irish people travelled to Berlin earlier this year and availed off the opportunity also to learn more about Stern and other German academics who promoted Celtic Studies. Launching a series of lectures in Humboldt University, Berlin the Irish Ambassador, Seán Ó hUiginn, said he hoped the €102,790 the Irish Committee of the Department of Community Affairs and the Gaeltacht are to give to six German universities to promote Irish would reawaken the academic links between Germany and Ireland.

Stern learned Irish from dictionaries it seems but provided an accurate translation although he omitted some sexually explicit parts of the Rabelaisian poem of which another full translation into German was made by Hans Kirsch in 1986. However Dr. Joachim Fischer of the University of Limerick would be of the opinion that Merriman still awaits a studied German translator. The present critical state of Celtic Studies in Germany was highlighted by Professor Hildegard Tristram of Freiburg, with only two institutions, Bonn and Marburg, left offering courses in Celtic Studies. The Dept of Celtic Studies in Berlin and in her own university were closed in 1996. She was hopeful that the module system being introduced into the German Universities would help to awaken interest in the teaching of the Celtic Languages.



Poet Ifor ap Glynys who launched the Welsh Circle

Welsh Language Circle in Dublin

A Welsh language conversational circle was launched in Dublin early in the year by Welsh poet Ifor ap Glynys (see Carn). It will operate in the Irish language centre www.gaelchultur.com in the Filmbase Building, Circular St., Temple Bar, Dublin 2.

Learners as well as Welsh are welcome. The circle will meet the Friday of each month (5th May, 9th June, and 7th July at 7 p.m. No cost, no reservation needed, just drop along.



Newodhow

Kemmyniethow

Yma onan a'gan nowytha eseli dhe Westminster, Julia Goldsworthy, ow kemmyna Galow y'n Senedh a-barth 'Kemmyniedhow a gvy dhedha aga honan' (Sustainable Communities Bill). Julya yw kernowes yowynk, dewisyys rag an [Lib-dems](#).

Heb mar yma hy holonn y'n Galow-ma aban aswonn hi yn ta an gwirvosow-ma: Pris chi yn Kernow yw ughella ages yn tyller-vyth arall yn Breten Veur, a ves dhe Loundres. Yn kettermyn gobrow yn Kernow yw an isella oll. Gorrewgh an dhiw dra warbarth hag ena keworra dell vydh kevys yn agan treveglosyow an ughella kansrann a 'nessa chiow'.

Fatell yndellma a yll pobel enesik yowynk dos dhe gavoës trygva? Sur lowr, menowgh ny yllons. Yma skoedhyans amboesys rag an Galow gans ogas hanter a eseli an Senedh, yntredha re dhiwoth pub parti oll. An towl yw dhe dhaskorr nerth dhe'n bobel drigys yn kemmynieth yn le ervirans a-bell dre soedhogyon an stat. Kusul dha, heb mar, ha dhedhi dasson a worhoeth Mebyon Kernow nans yw hirneth lemmyn. Byttegyns yma skeus dhymm na vo re dhemokratiethek an towl; dhe'n lyha hedra vo Toni Blair yn Niver Deg!

Sustainable Communities Bill

This is a Lib-dem conceived plan to solve the housing problem. Cornwall's properties market is buoyant with houses increasing in price by £22.00 a day. Sadly this does not reflect a flourishing local economy but to demand from incomers..

Cornish wages are the lowest in the whole of Britain but house prices come a close second to Greater London.

Obviously it is next to impossible for young locals to embark on the housing ladder.

This Bill, sponsored by Falmouth-Camborne MP and local maid, Julia Goldsworthy, seeks to empower local communities to have some control of the housing stock, returning power to the people, out of the hands of remote and unelected bureaucrats. This is precisely what Mebyon Kernow has been demanding for many years.

The measure has the promised support of nearly half the total of Members, including some from every Party. The problem is that is far too democratic an idea to appeal to Tony Blair.

Gonis Yeghes

Nebonan a wovynnas orth Asrann Yeghes prag y fedha le arghans kevrennys dhe bub tryger yn Kernow es dell vedha dhe drygoryon ranndiryow erell yn Breten Veur? An gorthyb o: drefenn bos kost lavur yn Kernow le ker. Yn ken lavarow, dhe voy boghosek a vo den, dhe le pygans a vydh res dhodho!

Nyns yw pubonan sur bos rewloryon an Fydhians Yeghes Kernow ow kul an gwella a allons gans an mona eus: Keskusulyans poblek a vydh synys skon dre neb bagas gelwys Bagas Parledh an Mer. Yma own dhe'n dus-na na vo re a arghans spenys war varghogyon-dhesk yn le teknigyon medhygek.

Health Service

The less you have, the less you get!

when someone asked why the Health Service in Cornwall receives a lower budget per head than elsewhere in Britain, he was informed that the formula for allocating funding takes into account the lower wage rates in Cornwall.

Not everyone is satisfied that the funds received are spent wisely. Comparison with other Health Trusts seems to suggest that too much is being diverted to employ managers instead of medical technicians. A public campaign has been started by a group calling itself the Mayor's Parlour Group.

Niverans an bobel

Warlergh aswonnvos soedhogel agan yeth, y hwaytyer bos an prov na a'n diblanseth a Gernow lowr dhe wul dhe'n Governans gul vri a niverow a Gernowyon ha niver an Gernewegoryon.

Yndella, mall o genen gweles derivadow an diwetha Niverans an bobel. Ottomma devinnow kessrifa Pawl Dunbar, kerneweger, hag arloedhes yn Soedhva an Niverans.

Dunbar a skrifas:

Ny allav vy kavoes ger vyth adro dhe'n Gernowyon y'gas gwiasva - pan entrav 'Cornish' ny vynn an jynn kavoes tra-vyth, naneyl adro dhe'n bobel nag adro dhe'n yeth kernewek. Yth o kodenn res dhe'n Gernowyon.... ytho prag nag eus kedhlow dhe weles?

An lyther-ma, oll yn tien yn kernewek a gavas gorthyb dhiworth Customer Services@gsi.gov.uk. Piw a wrug treylia an kernewek, ny won.

Yth esa yn gwir, an dro-ma, kist may hyller skrifa 'Kernow' saw nyns esa govynn yn kever an taves. An venen a dherivas fatell o possybyl, gans kaletter, kavoes an gorthybow a vern y'n wiasva.

Dell hwarva, yn 'Pow Sows ha Kembra'. 37,491 a dus a skrifas 'Kernow' y'n kyst. Nyns yw henna niver re druethrek rag, dell skrifas Pawl:

An niver a wra semlant fug an savla. Yth esa an keth tra yn Kembra. An niverans a fyllys ytho a dhri yn mes kedhlow gwir.

Furv an govynnek yn rann ethygieth o an gudenn: yth lies kyst-tykk rag 'Afrikanek' hag erell mes rag merkya 'Kernewek' po Kembrek', yth o res hwilas yn tiwysek an tyller ewn. Res yw leverel, mar pe hwans dhe nebonan a dhesinya govynnek a wrella lyhe an gorthybow kernewek po kembrek, ny via edhomm miras na fella.

Y fydh kyst-tykk rag an gembroyon, nessa tra, ha res porres yw kavoes dhyn an keth gwirenn. Martesen Soedhva an Niverans a dalvia omgusulya gans den di-du mar pe an Niverans gwrys herwydh an Chartour Ewropek a Wiryow Denses.

The Census

After the recognition of kernewek, the Cornish Language, some of us expected some useful information to be revealed by the latest Census results. As it has turned out, there is but it is limited to the number of people who persevered with the form to identify themselves as Cornish. Actually the number given by the census report (if you know where to find it!) was 37,491 for 'England and Wales', by no means an insignificant figure, given that it was not a simple matter of marking a tick-box. Pawl Dunbar, Cornish-speaker and activist wrote to the census office in Cornish. Amazingly, someone was found to interpret the letter and a reply reached Pawl explaining where to find the information on the Census web-site. Use of the language itself was not recorded.

As a matter of fact this is definitely not the first use of Cornish in the census; information has returned in kernewek and, apparently accepted without any problem. Pawl remarked that, had anyone wanted to find a method of minimising the numbers of 'Cornish' or indeed 'Welsh's, they had succeeded!

Hearing that 'Welsh' will have a tick-box next time, Pawl is appealing for Cornish people to demand the same. Meanwhile, he is seeking opinions on whether by omitting 'Cornish', the Census department may have breached the European Charter of Human Rights....

Julyan Holmes

STANNARY SUBMIT APPEAL TO EUROPE

At the beginning of February the Stannary Parliament made a submission to the Council of Europe which asked the Council to urgently reassert its commitment to independence, impartiality and the principle of equality before the law in relation to the right of the Cornish to exist as a national minority. The text of the submission sent to M. Bruno Haller, Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly is printed in full below.

Dear Sir,

An appeal to the Council of Europe regarding alleged infringements by the United Kingdom of Articles 6 and 17 of the European Convention of Human Rights.

It is contended that; the current absence of an enforceable guarantee of "equality before the law" in English law, indicates that the system places reliance on "the rule of law" alone. This rule allows the decision making process to adopt policies of arbitrary discretion and the granting of favours. "The rule of law" established by a national majority can lead to laws which promote racial superiority. "The rule of law" in isolation can also give rise to selective legislation leading to the inequality of unjustifiable privileges, exemptions, not being bound by certain Acts of Parliament and not being criminally liable. "Equality before the law", then, is generally recognised in Europe as: "a principle which requires that similar situations shall not be treated differently unless differentiation is objectively justified".

Of pressing concern to the Cornish national minority are the statutory and prerogative privileges agreed between the legislature and the Crown in order to provide a state guaranteed income, including that derived from intestate estates and bona vacantia, and from inalienable land, foreshore, rivers and mineral assets, claimed in Cornwall for the Duke of Cornwall. This medieval provision is still in place to avoid, as originally intended, imposing taxation on the English national majority to secure an income for the heir to the throne. Against this background, the government of the United Kingdom is refusing, without "objective justification", to include the Cornish within the provisions of the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Cornwall is currently the recipient of European Objective One funding on account of its low GDP and Celtic heritage and is the only area of the United Kingdom excluded from the provisions of the Crown Estate Act 1961 which includes the provision of affordable housing.

Official indifference to legal certainty and administrative integrity has facilitated an exemption from the Human Rights Act 1998 for persons acting in an official capacity by



the exclusion from the Act of Article 13 of the European Convention of Human Rights, which provides: "an effective remedy for violations by persons acting in an official capacity". There are more exemptions. In February 2005, the Secretary to the Duchy of Cornwall refused to divulge a list of Duchy properties to the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee. The failure of the Committee to enforce compliance with its request arouses the suspicion that the public is being deprived of information that could expose human rights violations in the acquisition and resale of property by the Duchy of Cornwall in Cornwall.

European Union Directive 2000/ 43/EC, incorporated into domestic law by Statutory Instrument 2003 No.1626, covering the "burden of proof", has been omitted from the Cornwall County Council's Race Equality Scheme.

State aid in support of the Duchy of Cornwall extends to its exemption from costs in respect of its administration of bankrupt estates in Cornwall under section 120 of the Supreme Court Act 1981. The stationery of the Treasury Solicitors proclaims: "law at the heart of government" with no commitment to equality before the law.

In a letter of 22nd December 2005, the Constitution Director of the Department for Constitutional Affairs stated: - "I have noted the concerns that you raise about the Duchy of Cornwall and about being denied equality before the law. However, this is not an area of policy in which the Constitution Directorate can intervene". In its letter of 16th January 2006, the Commission for Racial Equality responded in respect of a request for information regarding; "The areas in which equality before the law is a legal requirement in the decision making process of the Commission?" Answer: - "Refer to the Department for Constitutional Affairs".

Also, in his speech to the Australian House of Representatives on 14th October 2002, Lord Irvine of Lairg, The Lord Chancellor and Head of the Department for Constitutional Affairs, while making references to the rule of law and to Professor Sir Hersch Lauterpacht, he omitted any reference to Professor Lauterpacht's well known

assertion that: - "The claim to equality before the law is in a substantial sense the most fundamental of the rights of man".

The many deliberate exemptions from equality before the law in the Human Rights Act and other modern Acts listed below, centre upon maintaining the secrecy surrounding the centuries of unpublished state aided provisions put at the disposal of the heir to the throne beginning with the royal fortune acquired from Cornish mining assets. The maintenance of the abuse of power as a state secret of "national" importance is intended to avoid the problem of modernising by introducing the principle of shared responsibility through a "national" contribution in the form of general taxation, as stated above.

The perpetuation of the feudal system, supported as an act of loyalty to the Crown, has clearly taken administrative precedence over Cornish rights as a national minority without being "objectively justified". Consequently, the suspicion of deeply ingrained institutionalised racial bias on the part of the representatives of English national majority is aroused in respect of the decision making process relating to Cornwall.

In circumstances where legislation provides: "nothing authorises the authorities to interfere with any land or any rights of whatsoever description belonging to the Duchy of Cornwall", (Tamar Bridge Act 1998 s.41), the conclusion can be safely drawn that that it is, in effect, a proclamation issued by central command instructing all government agencies and the Cornwall County Council to give priority to the welfare and profits of the Duchy of Cornwall and to treat it as if it were a very special private estate qualifying for exemption from the Freedom of Information Act. However, legal clarity in the decision making process is compromised by the government's assurance to the Westminster Parliament on 9th July 2002 that: "The Assets of the Duchy do not belong to the Duke" which, clearly reveals Duchy property as property currently under the control of the state.

Confronted with an unwritten and unequal constitution and a Duchy of Cornwall exercising an unrestricted official role in Cornwall for private gain, any reasonable and independent person would be obliged to recognise the futility of any attempt to secure within the English legal, administrative and education systems a guarantee of cultural equality for the indigenous Cornish as a Celtic national minority.

The facts, it is contended, reveal beyond reasonable doubt, that, "an independent and impartial tribunal", under the supervision of the Department for

SORRY CAN BE THE HARDEST WORD...

There has been something of a debate over the last few years about the modern phenomenon of apologising for the past. Tony Blair has apologised to the Irish for the Potato Famine and the suppression of Ireland and the Queen has to the Maoris for the breaking of treaties that Britain made with them. The questions that this all poses are, why make apologies for things that took place long ago and how far back does one need to go?

This is all now particularly relevant for the Church of England which, after a General Synod debate, has recently made an official statement of regret for its involvement in the slave trade, the Archbishop of Canterbury saying he felt it right to share "the shame and sinfulness of our predecessors". Now this precedent

has been set, what else should the Church of England apologise for?

In November 2004, the Archbishop visited Truro Cathedral for a service billed as a celebration of Cornwall's Celtic heritage and history. One piece of our history which was conveniently forgotten was the Western Rising of 1549. This was provoked by the crassly-insensitive imposition on Cornwall of an English language Prayer Book and the abrupt termination of the Mass in Latin and Cornish as well as traditional religious practices by the Archbishop's predecessor, Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, most people in Cornwall not being able to speak English at that time.

This rising in defence of our religious, cultural and political freedom was put down with the greatest brutality. The King's forces, egged on by Cranmer, made no attempt to parley and slaughtered all 900 of the prisoners they had captured before descending on Cornwall to massacre at least 10% of our population. The chaplain to these forces, Miles Coverdale, was then made Bishop of Exeter as a reward for his loyalty and service. Thomas Cranmer mocked those killed and never showed a twinge of remorse; he has since been honoured by his own 'saints' day in the liturgical calendar and the naming of a theological college after him. Archbishop George Carey even made Cranmer his 'Man of the Millennium' on Desert Island Discs, people in Cornwall saying at the time that he might just have well have chosen Pol Pot or Adolf Hitler.

Hoping that a Welshman and fellow Celt would show more understanding in such matters, the International Celtic League wrote to the Archbishop just before his visit to Cornwall asking that he publicly admit the Church of England's involvement in the suppression of Cornwall in 1549 and that of our identity since then. He did not, and there was great sadness at yet another lost opportunity to heal the past.

Some may say this all happened long ago and so is irrelevant and should be forgotten, but it is seen as all too relevant in Cornwall today. Cornwall, after all, is now the poorest part of the UK has unemployment of twice the national average and, as a result of the UK's economic imbalances, such a low average wage that many here will never own a home. The Cornish, like blacks and Asians, are the victims of demeaning humour, historical bias and economic discrimination, our popular appeal for our own regional assembly continues to be ignored and our language receives a



Archbishop Thomas Cranmer

Constitutional Affairs or the Supreme Court, is, in any proceedings to secure recognition of the fundamental civil rights of the Cornish minority, not available in the United Kingdom as required under Article 6, and therefore, constitutes: "an act aimed at the destruction of those rights and freedoms" contrary to Article 17 of the European Convention of Human Rights.

Consequently, we urgently appeal to the Council of Europe itself to reassert its commitment to independence, impartiality and the principle of equality before the law in relation to the right of the Cornish to exist as a national minority, by ruling that this submission fulfils the precondition of exhausting all internal procedures before reference to the Court can be made.

As a tribute to Professor Sir Hersch Lauterpacht, would the Council please consider it appropriate to declare that membership and continued membership of the Council of Europe is dependent upon a constitutional or statutory provision of equality before the law as guaranteed in Article 9 of Chapter 1 of the Swedish Constitution, which reads:- "Courts, public authorities and others performing functions within the public administration shall observe in their work the equality of all persons before the law and shall maintain objectivity and impartiality?"

Yours faithfully,
E.R. Nute,

Keeper of the Seal, for and on behalf of The Cornish Stannary Parliament.

Note: - The Stannary were advised on 15th February 2006 that this submission had been passed to The Registry of the European Court of Human Rights.

derisory amount of government funding. To cap it all, the Speaker of the House of Commons refuses to permit questions on the distinct constitutional status of Cornwall in case it embarrasses the Prince of Wales.

Such injustices and a shared history bind peoples together. The Cornish have now been recognised as an ethnic minority by the Council for Racial Equality and we can well empathise with black and Asian communities in their struggle for equality and justice.

Different peoples have different perceptions of history and those of historically-suppressed minorities are at last being recognised and accepted. It is now becoming apparent that some aspects of our common history require healing and forgiveness, forgiveness needing that little word 'sorry', such a small word but so hard for some to say, particularly those raised in a dominant imperial culture such as England's.

Much as some might want them to, the sins of our fathers don't always conveniently fade away. They can end up like an increasingly-smelly skeleton in the cupboard for nations, races or institutions until they are brought out and dealt with.

Perhaps someone will raise a General Synod motion to start the process of healing and reconciliation between Cornwall and the Anglican Church. It will inevitably remain on hold until then.

Andy Phillips
Cornish Anglican priest
androwfelyps@yahoo.co.uk

The tacky face of tourism

Here in Kernow we have a folk song that goes something like this:

*Cornish boys are fishermen,
and Cornish boys are miners too,
but when the fish and tin are gone,
What are the Cornish lads to do?*

Painted quite prominently on the wall of the late lamented Tin mine at South Crofty when it shut down in 1998 was the following:

*Mining's gone. Fishing's scat.
Farming's dead.
Oh well boys, its back to piracy.*

The unwanted and imposed upon us, South West of ENGLAND quango based in England which controls our European funding intended for our Country, excels in forcing tourism upon us with glowing propaganda and buzz words such as: 'World Class Tourism', 'Excellence in Tourism', 'Farm based Tourism' and such other pithy verbiage intended to justify their positions, and jobs-for-the-selected-few. What they do not advertise is that Tourism is the arrow head of colonisation. Today's tourist is tomorrow's settler, who, being generally retired and looking for something to occupy themselves, get into local politics and end up making decisions for a community they know nothing about.

Tourism I suspect is not a philosophy of alternative job opportunities as advertised by various official and unofficial organisations. It is the spearhead of a well designed plan of suppression. Paranoid am I?

Ever since the Germanic Saxons invaded in strength during the middle of the first millennium AD, they have used deceit and skulduggery to gain profit and/or territory, Celts are all well aware of these incidents without my having to list them, however, despite the propaganda, they never managed to subdue the Celtic nations, we are still here and still defiant at any attempt to supplant our heritage with their foreign culture and language.

These days with global media and world opinion to contend with, they can no longer send tanks across the Tamar, or put us to the point of a sword as they did in Kernow in 1549 when, following the imposition of an English Prayer book upon a Catholic population, many of whom could neither speak nor understand English, they killed 900 unarmed prisoners of war in the space of ten minutes, and then despatched Sir Anthony Kingston into Kernow to slaughter

10% of the remaining population; men, women, and children, in a holocaust that the current church of England still refuses to apologise for, despite apologies having been given to the Irish for the potato famine which, conveniently for the colonisers, resulted in thousands of native Irish leaving Eire.

No, they need much subtler tactics now in the light of world opinion and the spotlight of European observation.

London based institutions, be they governments or monarchies have a long history of colonisation based upon the simple concept that if you replace, disperse, or kill by warfare, the population of a nation, you effectively destroy that nation and can impose your own Anglo centric culture and claim sovereignty. Since London lost its empire they have increasingly looked inwards, and like Edward the first (Longshanks) before them, have tried to finally get rid of those annoyingly vociferous and pesky Celts.

From their point of view Cornwall looked ripe for the plucking, and their assessment was spot on. Despite having legal and constitutional rights to self government still enshrined in English law, years of propaganda via the media, coupled with ridicule of Cornish dialect and language had convinced many Cornish people that they were a part of England, and these days many of them proudly support an England football team to the extent of waving a foreign English flag which represents not only a nation that has slaughtered their ancestors in enormous numbers, but has effectively enslaved them. To a large extent this has been possible on the back of state encouraged tourism. But How?

In common with all the other Celtic countries they used their imposed central government to legislate asset stripping. Siphoned off our natural industries. Stripped out our coal, steel, tin, fishing, and farming. Sold off our manufacturing bases, closed down our local transport, buses and trains then built super highways into our countries to facilitate tourism. Make Pensans as easy to get to from London as a four hour drive. Make Gwynedd and Snowdonia as easy as a couple of hours from Birmingham or Manchester. Meanwhile the now impoverished locals are forced to cater to the incomers to earn a crust.

Aah! But here comes the best bit. Buy up their property with your superior buying power, and soon you can not only hire out your bought-up holiday homes to even more incomers, you can even supplant their population so they are forced into England to earn a living wage.

This is the real face of tourism. It is not a natural state of affairs led purely by economics, but a subtle tool of colonisation and the subjugation of an awkward population of unwanted Celts claiming their own nations for themselves.

They may decry my assessments as the ranting of the lunatic fringe. All I ask is that the reader open his or her eyes and look at the facts. Cornwall as a tourist destination is not that appealing. Apart from its seascape it has not got a lot to offer. Sure that seascape is very beautiful but it would soon become tiring in the absence of anything different. The hinterland of Kernow cannot compare to the grandeur of Cymru or Alba. We may have a beautiful coastal shop window but enter the shop and there is nothing to buy. Ahh! but the tourism bosses have that covered. 'Cornwall is different, distinct, and with a unique heritage' they loudly proclaim, but they dare not tell their punters what that difference is.

The legal and ancient Stannary Parliament, and Kernow's legal status are kept well hidden, even to the use of obscure legal instruments such as 'certificates of public immunity' being produced when a case is forced upon the English dominated law courts in Kernow.

Tintagel and other Celtic points of interest are loudly proclaimed as "English Heritage". Dual language signage is non-existent. 'For God's sake don't tell the tourists that there is an alien (*to the English*), Celtic language in Kernow', and if you do, don't emphasis it but make it appear a dead thing of no consequence.

Come on people! Would you go on holiday to Alba and not expect to see a piper? Would you go to Cymru and not expect to hear, or see evidence of a Celtic language? Yet in Kernow these things are carefully airbrushed out of the public eye, even by people proclaiming their Cornish ethnicity, in my eyes traitors to their own heritage and to their personal honour.

No longer is Cornwall wanted so much as a holiday destination, but as an alternative area for the city dwellers to escape from their own environment into a cosy anglicised environment they can feel at home in. That is the true face of tourism. Cornwall is well colonised now, as is Cymru and Mannin. But! As long as one person can greet another with "Dydh da! Fatal a gennis", and proudly lift 'An banner perren sans' to the war cry 'Kernow Rydh' or 'Kernow Bys Vikken' they have not won.

No nation subjugating another against its will can claim to have conquered. It is merely awaiting its own defeat.

S. Bowen



Mannin



Y KAART OARPAGH

Hug Coonceil yn Oarpey bree da'n Chaart Oarpagh cour Chengaghyn Ardjynagh ny Myn-chengaghyn y chield laa Mee Vayrnt 1998. V'ad kiarail coadey lheid ny chengaghyn shen ayns cheer-aghyn eigsoylagh ayns cooishyn-ynsee, y leigh, reirey, yn ym-ysseraght, cultoor, bea tarmaynyssagh as sheshoil, as cooishyn goll harrish joaraghyn-steat. Agh mannagh beagh reiltyssyn-steat arryltagh bree y chur da'n Chaart shoh, veagh eh fardailagh. Myr sampleyr, lurg resoonaght vooar, va'n Rank er-chee goaill rish y Chaart. Agh eisht, hug leighderyn briwnys nagh dod y Rank cur bree da'n Chaart: veagh eh noi bunraght y cheer!

Ta daa horch dy choadey ry gheddyn liorish y Chaart. Sy toshiaght, ta prinsabylyn as deanyn cadjin ayns Ayrn II jeh'n Chaart - Steat ta cur bree da'n Chaart, shegin da cur arrym da ny prinsabylyn as deanyn shoh bentyn rish chengaghyn ard-jynagh as mynchengaghyn sy cheer ta fo smaght y Steat shen. Lurg shen, ta Ayrn III jeh'n Chaart caghlaa ny prinsabylyn as deanyn shoh gys curymyn fondagh. Agh ta'n Steat abyl dy reih ny chengaghyn hed er coadey tra t'eh shickyraghey (ratifies) yn Kaart.

Shoh paart jeh ny prinsabylyn as deanyn ta screet sheese ayns Ayrn II. Shegin goaill rish dy nee 'berchys cultooroil' ny chengaghyn ardjynagh as ny mynchengaghyn. Ta feme er 'jantys shassooagh' ('resolute action') ny chengaghyn y chur er nyn doshiaght ry hoi ad y choadey. Greinnaghey (er nonney, cur er dy ve ny sassey) ymmyd ny chengaghyn, screet as loayrit, ayns bea theayagh as preevaadjagh. Cummal seose as cur er bun kianglaghyn lesh possanyn ayns steatyn elley as chengey chosoylagh oc. Cur magh aghtyn d'ynsaghey as dy yannoo studeyrns er ny chengaghyn. Cur er e hoshiaght ron-saghey as studeyrns er ny chengaghyn ayns ollooscoillyn as nyn lheid.

Steatyn ta cur bree da Ayrn II, t'eh orroo geddyn rey rish lhiettrimys erbee er mynchengaghyn as chengaghyn ardjynagh. Ta reiltyssyn greinnit dy chur er bun possanyn vees cur coyrle daue mychione lheid ny chengaghyn shen.

Ayrn III jeh'n Chaart, ta shen reddyn lhisagh Steat jannoo dy chur er e hoshi-

aght ymmyd ny chengaghyn ayns bea theayagh. Myr t'eh screet heose, ta shoh bentyn rish cooishyn-ynsee, y leigh, reirey, yn ym-ysseraght, cultoor, bea tarmaynyssagh as sheshoil, as cooishyn goll harrish joaraghyn-steat. Agh foddee Steat goaill ayns laue dy yannoo red feer veg ny red feer vooar! Myr sampleyr, ayns cooishyn-ynsee, foddee yn Steat gra dy jean eh reaghey d'ynsaghey trooid mynchengaghyn dy bollagh ayns scoillyn. Agh, er y laue elley, foddee yn Steat gra dy bee brastyl-scoill ny ghaa abyl y chengey 'ynsaghey. As, bentyn rish yn ym-ysseraght, foddee Steat gra dy jean eh cur stashoonyn radio ny chellveish er bun as ad creeley dy bollagh trooid mynchengey. Er nonney, foddee yn Steat gra dy jean eh cooney lesh stashoon-radio dy ghoail ymmyd jeh paart d'ocklyn jeh'n chengey. Er y chooid sloo, Steat ta shickyraghey yn Kaart, shegin da cur bree da 35 paragraffyn jeh. Ta shen jeeaghyn goll rish red mooar, agh oddagh reiltyssyn dy liooar goaill rish y Chaart gyn jannoo monney. Agh, ny yei shen as oilley, t'eh feer scanshoil dy vel y Kaart ayn: t'eh cur coraa eddyrashoonagh da mynchengaghyn.

Hickyree yn Reeriaght Unnaneyssit y Kaart Oarpagh 27 Mee Vayrnt 2001 as va bree currit da 1 Jerrey Souree 2001. Tra hickyree reilts y Reeriaght Unnaneyssit yn Kaart, dooyrt ad dy nee chengaghyn Ayrn III va Bretnish, Gaelg Albinagh as Yernish. She chengaghyn Ayrn II va Albinish (Scots) as Ulleeish (Ulster-Scots). Lurg shen, dooyrt reilts y Reeriaght Unnaneyssit dy nee chengaghyn Ayrn II va Cornish as y Ghaelg. Choud's ta mee toiggal shoh, hug reilts Vannin coyrle da reilts y Reeriaght Unnaneyssit, as hickyree adsyn y Kaart (Ayrn II) as lieh Vannin - ta ny Sostnee gra dy vel ad loayrt son Mannin bentyn rish 'cooishyn joarree'. Choud as shoh, ta ny Manninee ro arrymagh dy chaghlaa reddyn.

Dy firrinagh, oddagh reilts Vannin cur bree da Ayrn III jeh'n Chaart Oarpagh. Bentyn rish cooishyn-ynsee, ta'n Ghaelg ry gheddyn myr cooish reihysaghey ayns scoillyn Vannin, as ta'n Vunscoill ayn - bun-scoill raad t'ad gynsaghey trooid Gaelg. Ta brastyl Gaelgagh ry gheddyn ayns Colleish Ellan Vannin, as, ga nagh vel monney goll er bentyn rish y chengey ec Laare

Studeyrts Manninagh ec y traa t'ayn, ta dy liooar ayn dy chooilleeney yn Kaart. Fy yerrey hoal, t'ad goaill toshiaght dy chur stoo Manninagh sy churriglym-scoill.

Bentyn rish cooishyn-leigh, oddagh reilts Vannin cur bree da ny conaantyn sloo niartal sy Chaart - oddagh ad lowal da pabyryn ayns Gaelg dy ghoill er ymmydey ayns quaiylyn. Bentyn rish shirveishyn theayagh, oddagh reilts Vannin lowal da Gaelgeyrn dy chur docamadyn ayns Gaelg da sharvaantyn theayagh. As veagh eh aashagh dy liooar dy ghoail ymmyd jeh enmyen-buill ayns Gaelg chammah as adsyn ayns Baarle. Cheet gys yn ym-ysseraght, ta reilts Vannin cooilleeney conaantyn dy liooar hannah. Creid eh ny dyn, oddagh reilts Vannin cooilleeney conaantyn dy liooar bentyn rish 'taghyrtyn cultooroil as seyraaidyn (facilities)'.

Ayns 'bea tarmaynyssagh as sheshoil', ta reilts Vannin abyl dy ghra nagh vel eh cur lhiettrimys er ymmyd y Ghaelg (!). As mastey reddyn elley, ta Lught-reill Ushtey Ellan Vannin cur magh e huarastyl bleinoil ayns Gaelg chammah as Baarle.

Ga dy vel paart jeh ny reddyn shoh beggan moal, oddagh reilts Vannin ve foddey ny smoo daaney as cur bree da Ayrn III. Agh er lhiam dy vel foast aggle vooar er sharvaantyn theayagh ayns Mannin dy bee ad eginit dy chur magh gagh ferrym oikoil ayns Gaelg as Baarle - dy chooilleey veer dy phabyr, dy jarroo. Shimmey keayrt ta mee er chlashtyn ad gra 'Cha nel shin laccal Mannin dy ve goll rish Bretyn'. T'eh soil-shaghey dooin cre cho speedeilagh as va Cymdeithas yr Iaith.

Shegin da reiltyssyn cur tuarastyl gys Strasbourg veih traa dy hraa mychione yn agh ta reddyn goll. Son Mannin, ta'n fysseree currit marish y stoo veih'n Reeriaght Unnaneyssit. Son y chooid smoo, va'n stoo haink veih Mannin er y gherid mie dy liooar er lhimmej jeh red ny ghaa. Myr sampleyr, cha row sleih ayns reilts Vannin er hirrey fys as barelyn cheu-mooie jeh'n reilts. As cha row reilts Vannin er phrowal dy kiart fys y chur da theay Vannin dy vel y Kaart ayn. Va red aggairagh sy tuarastyl va gra dy vel Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin nane jeh ny possanyn ta stiurey polasee-chengey. Sambyl elley jeh troggal impiraghtyn beggey? As cha row obbyr vooar Undinys Eiraght Vannin soilshit magh dy liooar sy tuarastyl voish Mannin.

Summary

Governments of states who have ratified the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages can get away without doing an awful lot, it seems. But nevertheless the Charter is beneficial because (among other things) it gives minority languages an international platform. The Isle of Man Government could already ratify Part III of the Charter, but is holding back.

Brian Stowell

JAMYS Y COWLE

19-12-47 gys 05-02-06

(15/02/06) Ta'n Ghailck ayns Mannin foddey ny s'boghtey nish ta Jamys (Freddie) y Cowle maroo. Gyn dooyt, v'eh yn loayrtagh share jeh'n cheeloghe shoh ain.

Rugg eh ayns Rhumsaa, Mannin as v'eh er ny hroggal ny mast' ocsyn va co-chianglit rish yn chenn heeloghe Manninagh. Ghow eh moyrn jeh'n nhee dy row Mannin ny cheer er l'eh, lesh shennaghys jee hene as shenn ghlaare ec, yn Ghailck. Slug eh stiagh skeeplyn as nheeghyn dy dooghyssagh va bentyn rish theay Rhumsaa, yn bailey hene as yn chengey.

Va'n shenn haner echey, Thomaase y Christeen (v'er ny ruggyr 1850), ny loayrtagh Gailckagh mie er baghtal as tra reih Jamys yn Ghailck y ynsaghey 'sy tree-feedyn, v'eh g'earree yn Ghailck ghlen shen y loayrt. Car ny bleeantyn chaie, d'obbree Jamys dy chreoe son y Ghailck. Va'n Ghailck 'sy chree echey as, myr shen, cha row eh son lhiggey e hraa orroosyn ta dellal ree myr cooish cheau tra.

Cha by vie lesh ve fo lhiastynys erbee as d'obbree eh da hene myr seyir roish haink dy ve fer ny merriu ard-ghooagh er twoaie vooar Vannin. Daa vlein er dy henney, reagh eh yn chooish-obbree echey y chreck dy noddagh eh ceau tra marish e ven-sheshaght, Julia as nyn inneen, Margaid. D'earree eh obbyr Ghailckagh y yannoo neesht agh, atreih, haink chingys er as cha row caa echey shen y yannoo dy kiart. Ny yei shen as ooilley, ren eh paart jeh'n obbyr as by vie lesh e ven-treoghe ee dy ve er ny cur magh 'sy tra ry-heet.



Dooyrt carrey mie da as dooinney ard-ynsit 'sy Ghailck, Adrian Pilgrim, "Er lhiam dy vel loght mooar orrin ooilley 'sy theay Gailckagh nagh row shin jannoo recooyrtysyn kiart jeh'n fys v'echey."

Hie shirveish ny merriu er cummal moghrey Jelune, trass laa jeig Toshiaght Arree, as v'eh er ny oanluckey ayns shenn rullick Skeeilley Vaghal ny lurg.

Mark Kermode wrote the above tribute in memory of Freddie Cowle a truly great Manxman who died recently.

DEATH OF OUTSTANDING MANX SPEAKER- JAMYS (Freddie) Y COWLE (19/12/47 - 05/02/06)

Leading Manx speaker and scholar, James Frederick "Freddie" Cowle, died recently aged 58. An unassuming but greatly respected figure in Ramsey, in the north of the Isle of Man, Freddie had been ill for some time. His loss will be deeply felt.

The Manx is far poorer now that Freddie's dead. Without doubt, he was the best speaker of our generation.

Jamys (Freddie) Y Cowle was widely considered to be the outstanding Manx speaker of his generation. Manx language expert, long standing friend and official translator for the Isle of Man government, Adrian Pilgrim, said, "He was able to speak Manx with complete fluency and yet almost faultlessly, with a rich vocabulary and a true Northern Manx accent. For many years now, to my knowledge, no one has ever come anywhere near his level of achievement in this. He was the best. We are much the poorer for losing him".

Manx speaker Walter Clarke, who assisted the Irish Folklore Commission in recording some of the last native Manx speakers in 1948, said: "Freddie was exceptional. The Manx just came naturally to him". "Va eshyn joogh son y Ghailck (He was hungry for the Manx)

Born in the fishing and commercial port of

Ramsey in 1947, into a family steeped in Manx history, Freddie developed a fascination for the Manx language and culture inspired by his childhood experiences of the characters, tales and traditions of old Ramsey.

Freddie was especially inspired by tales of his great-grandfather, Thomas Christian, who was born in 1850. Christian spoke Manx and English, and was often called upon to translate on behalf of those without English (Yn Vaarle). Christian was held in high regard by renowned Norwegian linguist, Professor Carl Marstrand, who learnt Manx from him during his studies of the Celtic languages in the 1920s.

Freddie dedicated his youth to learning Manx from those with direct links to the native tongue. He went on to teach and promote Manx, at a time when there was little popular encouragement or, indeed, incentive to do so; his love of the language was reward enough.

The Manx was in his heart so he wasn't for wasting his time on those that treat it as some sort of hobby.

He successfully campaigned and fund-raised for the introduction of bilingual public signage. In 1973, he was elected to the committee of Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh

(The Manx Society), including a period as Caairliagh (Chairman). He went on to co-found Banglane Twoaie ny Sheshaght Ghailckagh (The Northern Branch of the Manx Language Society). Freddie helped to produce several of the "Foillan Films" series, the first ever in the Manx language. More recently, he organised memorials to some of those who strove to save the language before it was lost altogether. In the past months, he was working on a book of reminiscences, which will be published posthumously.

Professionally, Freddie was a joiner until, in the early 1990s, he established an undertaking business. His natural kindness and empathy resulted in a much-valued service. He was also the only Fer ny Merriu (undertaker) who could put Manx into the service for the many families who asked him to do so.

Freddie gave generously of his expertise to those with genuine interest and the internationally recognised operetta and Manx singer Emma Christian, was coached by him in the singing of Manx songs. Emma said of him, "When he spoke, the language sang. He has been taken from us far too soon."

He wanted to do more work for the Manx but, alas, illness came upon him and he had no chance to do that properly.

Freddie leaves a beloved wife, Julia and their daughter Margaid, the light of his life.

M.K.

APATHY ABOUND ON MANX GENERAL ELECTIONS

2006 sees the five yearly general elections in Mannin. With a central government that has been rocked by crisis after crisis, you would expect the time to be ripe for a major change. So far, however, there has been little sign of activity. The elections will take place in November and Tynwald goes into recess in July. As with previous years, many will openly declare utter dissatisfaction with the government but past experience has shown that on the day, voters in the Isle of Man prefer "the devil they know". Unfortunately, that doesn't help those of us who recognise these incompetent poodles of vested business interest for what they are and would vote for a piece of wood as a preferable alternative.

The Manx population, apparently more broken than ever, will just accept its collective fate as a new and very aggressive campaign is mounted by the government to further pump up the population with rich tax-dodgers. Rather than talk in the social environment being increasingly of the chance to replace a government that has divorced itself from the electorate, the topic in the coming months is more likely to be the football World Cup. Ably assisted by media in the Isle of Man, focus in this respect will be centred firmly on the performance of England.

Here is a brief run-down on some of the issues that have been left almost unchanged in the past 5 years:

In 2002, a public inquiry into alleged corruption of government confirmed, not only that the allegations were true, but that former Tourism Minister Alan Bell MHK had misled the House of Keys during question time.

Result: No action. Bitter exchanges were made between the Chairman of the Public Inquiry and various members of Tynwald after the report, as they adopted the now familiar "total denial" tactic.

In 2004, then Chief Minister Richard Corkill MHK, was accused of fraudulently obtaining a tourist grant for £90,000 under a scheme that he had set up himself while Treasury Minister. Despite mounting concern, he refused to step down until arrested.

Result: Charges against him personally were dropped and his wife is now charged with several counts of fraud, false accounting and deception. Mr. Corkill has returned to government as a department member

under replacement Chief Minister, Donald Gelling, with whom he served previously. Mrs. Corkill totally denies the charges.

In October 2004, it was revealed that the Manx Electricity Authority had run up an unauthorised debt of £120,000,000. The auditors, KPMG, identified this as illegal borrowing. The borrowing had been secured by a company set up under the MEA by Chief executive Mike Profit who was also a director of the bank that provided the loans.

Mr Gelling, weeks before being made Chief Minister and acting as a member of Treasury, the department of which he was minister when he was so badly criticised by the Mount Murray Report, relayed Mr. Profit's excuses to Tynwald without question. The treasury then sent in accountants PKF with the remit of finding that the loans were legal and initially totally denied that there was any wrong doing.

Unfortunately for government, KPMG weren't going to have their professional credibility undermined and stirred a fuss. This has placed the government in a quandary since, if it doesn't act, it will be internationally witnessed to turning a blind eye to criminal activity within its own bodies and, if it does act, the many shortcomings of the politicians and civil servants involved will be exposed. Since summer last year, there has been no public statement on the issue.

When Mr. Corkill finally relinquished office in December 2004, it was impossible to find a candidate to replace him and Manx law permits no deputy role. In desperation, retired former Chief Minister Donald Gelling, who was severely criticised in the Mount Murray Inquiry, was asked to stand again. He had been shunted into the Legislative Council (regarded increasingly as a political retirement home) and had already announced his full retirement from politics. Despite having absolutely no mandate from the people (he hasn't actually faced public election since 1991), Tynwald him elected him as Chief Minister complete with sole "hire and fire" powers of cabinet.

When incompetence and corruption is endemic, the uncontaminated may feel safer by staying away. I do not foresee any election fever this year.

Mark Kermode

FISHING RIGHTS

In the summer of 2005, the Isle of Man's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries launched a consultation. This was under former minister Bill Henderson MHK, who had already passed by laws to solidify the Island's territorial rights.

Within a month, Mr Henderson was sacked to make way for Mr Phil Gawne MHK. Mec Vannin had made extensive input to the consultation pointing out that the Island can, under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, claim fishing rights up to 200 nautical miles or the median line with other jurisdictions, whichever is closer. (See Carn 131, Autumn 2005.). The UK were only offering an opportunity to take full control for bye-laws up to 12 NM and were also pushing a transferable licence so that UK fishermen could acquire Manx licences, thus driving Manx boats out of the water.



Mr Phil Gawne MHK

The Mec Vannin submission contained the line,

"If the government in the Isle of Man continues to accept the legitimacy of the UK's claims, then it stands to commit an enduring disservice to the Manx nation and make, by precedent, our rightful acquisition of our territorial seas (i.e. to the median line) all the more difficult."

In an informal conversation between Mr Gawne and me, he expressed the belief that he would achieve more through being very nice and non-assertive with the English authorities. He actually had more meetings with the English than had originally been offered to Mr Henderson i.e. no change.

The UK has locally administered bye laws up to SIX nautical miles since 1993. The Isle of Man is the only place being forced by the UK to keep the unilateral authority to three.

The future for Manx fishing is anything but bright.

Celtica

A.D. 500: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE DARK ISLES OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND

SIMON YOUNG

List Price: £14.99, Hardcover 288 pages (April 14, 2005), **Publisher:** Weidenfeld & Nicolson, **ISBN:** 0297848054

About the Author

Simon Young is 31 years old. He was awarded a starred First in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic from Cambridge University, as well as the Chadwick Prize for Celtic studies. 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 lived in Spain, Ireland and Italy, where he is now completing a doctorate at the University of Florence where he is cataloguing '*The Insular Peregrini*' (Columbanus and others). The author of many academic articles, he has also written about the Dark Ages for *History Today*, *The Spectator*, and *The Guardian*. He combines a commitment to serious history, especially that of the medieval Celts, with a desire to communicate Dark Age history to the general public. He has written 3 books and many articles both academic and freelance on the theme. 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 : caminos novos*'. This young English author is now living in Florence with his Italian wife.

Book Description

This amazing book is a window on the mysterious world of the Dark Ages by a brilliant young historian. **Weidenfeld and Nicholson** has published this book *AD 500*, which is a kind of travelogue describing a trip around Britain and Ireland. Indeed it is written as a practical survival guide for the use of civilised visitors to the barbaric islands of Britain and Ireland. It describes the journey of a Greek embassy which begins in Cornwall and continues through Wales and Ireland, then across to Scotland and eventually down to London and southern Britain. The Romans have left, and the islands are now fought over by Irish, British Celts, Picts and Saxons. It is a dangerous world, full of tribal war. The British Celts are enthusiastic head-hunters, while the



Saxon gods require regular blood sacrifices, animal and sometimes human. There are social pitfalls too (Do not make fun of the Celts' beliefs about Arthur'...The traveller must not fall asleep while a saga poem is being recited'...'Don't refuse a place in a Welsh collective bed') Cheviot bandits, bizarre forms of Christianity, boat burials, peculiar haircuts, human sacrifice, poetry competitions, slave markets, the legend of King Arthur - these are the realities of life in the sixth century AD.

This is a remarkable book, it is written like a travelogue or a novel in a really entertaining way but all the facts in it are based on historical sources. The reader will find a lot of interesting and amazing facts about Dark Ages Britain and Ireland.

I highly recommend this really excellent and fascinating book. It will entertain you whereas you will learn a lot about daily life in Dark Ages Britain and Ireland.

José CALVETE

THE GREAT DECEPTION: CAN THE EUROPEAN UNION SURVIVE?

Christopher Booker and Richard North; revised paperback edition, 2005; Continuum Publishers, London and New York; ISBN 0-8264-8014-4; Euros 14.60 or £10 sterling Web-site: www.continuumbooks.com; E-Mail: info@continuumbooks.com

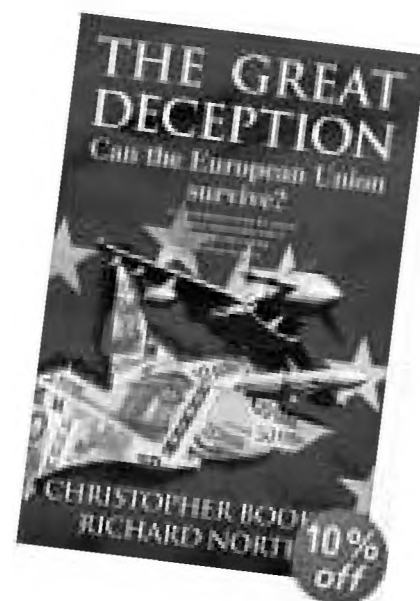
Reviewed by **Anthony Coughlan**

This is the most important book ever to be written on the European Union. It is a detailed 600-page account of the European integration project from the first mootings of the idea in the 1920s to the rejection of the proposed EU Constitution by the voters of France and the Netherlands in summer 2005. This paperback edition contains substantial revisions of the widely acclaimed hardback, which sold 10,000 copies when it was first published three years ago, as well as much new material on the EU Constitution debate.

Europhiles as well as EU-critics will find the book illuminating. Its production by leading British political analyst Christopher Booker and economist Richard North is likely to be seen in time as itself a significant event in the history of the integration project, for no one who reads it will ever be able to look in the same way at the European Union again. The book is relevant to the people of every European country.

Meticulously researched and packed with revealing quotations, "The Great Deception" not only gives new insights into EC/EU history, but it analyses the EU's administrative structures and such key policies as the monetary union, the farm and fisheries policy and the EU's foreign and military ambitions. It gives fact and instance on the corruption and scams of Brussels.

The authors show that it was the US Government's insistence on German



rearmament in 1950 to meet the needs of the Cold War that precipitated the European Coal and Steel Community, the foundation of European integration. The pooling of coal

and steel under a supranational High Authority, the precursor of the Brussels Commission, was crucial in overcoming French hostility to this step. Jean Monnet, America's man in the affair, saw it as a way of pursuing the project for a supranational Europe that he had been nurturing since the aftermath of World War 1.

There followed the scheme for a European Army and Defence Community in 1952. At the time Monnet and Belgian Foreign Minister Paul-Henri Spaak wanted the Coal and Steel Community and the proposed European Defence Community to be over-arched by a European Political Community and a European Constitution. The rejection of the Defence Community scheme by France's National Assembly in 1954 forced Monnet and the European Movement, still well funded by CIA money, to change their tactics. Thereafter they dropped their open espousal of federalism and an EU Government and concentrated on economic integration by a series of gradual steps over the following decades. Now that that has been achieved, the European Constitution has been produced again as the political dome to top the economic edifice.

The "Great Deception" of the book's title has been the pretence to the citizens of the European countries concerned that successive treaties embodying economic integration were needed to give more jobs and economic growth, when the real agenda throughout has remained political integration, the construction of a Federal European Superstate under the joint hegemony of France and Germany. The promised extra jobs and higher economic growth have proved a chimera also for the larger EU countries.

The book shows that the fundamental reason why France's President De Gaulle kept Britain out of the EEC during the 1960s was his concern to have the financial arrangement for the Common Agricultural Policy established first, whereby the EEC as

a whole underwrote high subsidies for French farmers, who in 1961 still accounted for a quarter of France's employment as against only four percent in Britain. Britain would never have agreed to the CAP if she were already an EEC member. Once the CAP funding was settled, British membership of the EEC became a matter of French interest, and De Gaulle's veto was abandoned. As a condition of her membership Britain cut her imports of cheap food from around the world and replaced them with more expensive French and continental products. At the same time the levies she paid on what foodstuffs she imported from outside the EEC were automatically transferred to Brussels to subsidise French and other EEC farmers. The recent agreement on the EU budget to 2013 shows that continued subsidies by other countries for her farmers remain central to France's EU policy.

Britain took on this burden in the hope of preventing France and Germany dominating the EC/EU together, or hopeful that they would co-opt Britain to run it as a triumvirate. The book shows how these hopes turned to ashes. The authors describe sardonically how successive British governments and the supposedly "Rolls Royce minds" of Britain's Foreign Office continually deceived the British people, in the process often deceiving themselves, as to what the EU was really all about.

This reviewer would have liked the book to give more coverage of the role of the European Round-table of Industrialists and UNICE, the EU Employers Confederation, in being the first advocates of all new EU treaties since 1986; but even 600 pages cannot cover all aspects of this long and complex story. Hugo Young's book, "This Blessed Plot", has been the best-known general history of the EU/EC up to now. Booker and North expose some significant historical errors in that book, which their own work undoubtedly supersedes.

The authors write: "Behind the lofty ideals of supranationalism in short, evoking an image of Commissioners sitting like Plato's Guardians, guiding the affairs of Europe on some rarefied plane far above the petty egotisms and rivalries of mere nation states, the project Monnet had set on its way was a vast, ramshackle, self-deluding monster: partly suffocating in its own bureaucracy; partly a corrupt racket, providing endless opportunities for individuals and collectives to outwit and exploit their fellow men; partly a mighty engine for promoting the national interests of those countries who knew how to "work the system", among whom the Irish and the Spanish had done better than most, but of whom France was the unrivalled master. The one thing above all the project could never be, because by definition it had never been intended to be, was in the remotest sense democratic."

The authors see the EU's fatal lack of democracy as the reason why the project is historically doomed and why it must in time, they write, "leave a terrible devastation behind it, a wasteland from which it would take many years for the peoples of Europe to emerge."

If ever there was an organisation that is trapped in its own history, it is the EU. In order to understand it and criticise it one must know its origins and development. "The Great Deception" enables one to do this.

This is a powerful new weapon in the struggle of peoples all across Europe to reestablish their national democracy and independence. Everyone who cherishes these democratic values and who is opposed to the institutional monster that has grown up in Brussels should spread news about this book, ask for it in their bookshops, write to editors suggesting they review it, and try to get it translated into their own languages if these are other than English.



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REBUILDING THE CELTIC LANGUAGES

Diarmuid O'Neill

Review

In *Rebuilding the Celtic Languages*, Canadian writer and editor Diarmuid O'Neill explores the perilous situation of the six remaining Celtic languages, both in Europe and in the Americas, and asks what can be done to restore these languages to everyday use.

Following the method of Joshua Fishman, O'Neill and other contributors explore in depth the current situation and use of Welsh, Breton and Cornish, Irish, Scots Gaelic and Manx Gaelic, in their homelands; Welsh in Patagonia; and Scots Gaelic in Nova Scotia.

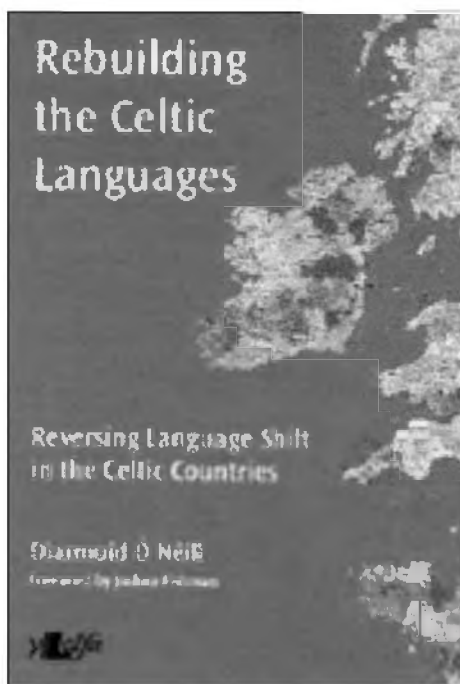
Noteworthy is that most of these languages are in peril for two reasons: past perception of lower social and economic status, and government interference through the use of state-language schools. In Wales, for instance, many students were once punished in school for speaking Welsh even in the playgrounds.

Nowadays we accept that the more languages we know, the better. We know that knowledge of one language does not ever detract from ability in another. The profound ignorance on these two matters in past years has condemned our six Celtic languages—and many other world tongues—to near oblivion.

To turn the situation around, it is necessary to provide economic opportunities for speakers of these languages—and to build communities where these languages are truly fully functional in every sphere: work, home, school and leisure.

These languages are to various degrees threatened with extinction or reduced use, some more than others. Healthiest is the situation of Welsh, which in North and West Wales is still a community language used by more than half of the population, including many young people, and growing in the rest of the country. The Welsh colony in Argentina has also succeeded in avoiding being smothered by Spanish.

At the other hand of the spectrum is Cornish, the close cousin of Welsh, which officially "died" 300 years ago, but lives on and is being learned in most communities in Cornwall today, albeit by a small group.



Breton has been smothered by France since the 1960s with the result that most of the speakers are now past childbearing age; an ominous sign. In Ireland the Republic is at least neutral to Irish but the language has continued to tread water since the 1840s, when it almost perished in a generation. Manx survives—a tiny group on a tiny island; Scots Gaelic barely holds on in the Western Isles and in Nova Scotia, despite high status, only 500 speakers remain.

Can the situation be reversed? Certainly, Hebrew has been revived in Israel and it was once in the state Cornish is in now. Basque and Catalan are moving forward within Spain. Why not the six Celtic tongues?

This somewhat academic account is full of interesting facts, stats, maps and lessons for language activists. It's a great reference for Celts of all nations and others interested in restoring their language to full community use. Contributors include prominent Celtic sociolinguists such as Colin Williams, Pawl Birt, Kenneth MacKinnon, Brian Stowell and Marcel Texier.

by David Cox
Rambles.NET
21 January 2006

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 31st May 2006. 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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cairn

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 134

Summer 2006

€4.00 Stg£3.00

- SNP Bye-Election Triumph!
- Oranaiche, Croileagan is Catalog
- Breizh, Demonstration for Devolution
- Welsh Language Act Must Change
- Conradh Campaign to Protect Irish
- Kernow - The Silly Season
- Manx Government Sell-Out Slammed
- EU Battle Groups - Regiments of the EU Empire!



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

ORANAICHE, CROILEAGAN IS CATALOG

A reir an t-Ollamh Iain MacAonghais, sgoilear Gàidhlig ainmeil, gun robh an leabhar "Songs of Gaelic/ Gàidhlig Scotland" a' gabhail sealladh anabarrach farsaing de saoghal aig òrain Gàidhlig.

Chan fhaca duine riamh eil sa Gàidhlig cho math ris a seo... se euchd barrachta a tha ann... agus a' deanamh leabhrair air leth.

Agus seo agaibh an dearbh fhìrinn. Gun teagamh sam bith tha ionnhasan orain leadh an t-saoghal cho teare teare ris ar n-orain Ghàidhealach Albannach.

Thrus Anna Lathurna NicGilleleòsa òrain Gàidhlig as gach eam bho laithean nam bard nan ceuda bliadhna air ais gus an latha an diugh. Corr is ceithir fhichead òrain!

A' tionndadh nan duilleag chi thusa eòlach oirnn, mar sa chiad caibideil (Muir is Mánran)... Mhic Iarla nam bratach bana... Cumha, Iain Gairbh Mhic Gille Chaluim Ratharsair... Guma slàn do na gilleen... Fear a' bhàta... Cearcail a' chuain... agus faisg air dà fhichead eile.

San darna caibideal (Cinneadh is Comhrag)... bho 'Phìobaireachd Dhòmhnaill Duibh gu Horò 'illean... is corr is fhichead òrain eile.

Anns an treas caibideal tha òrain againn a "Cànan nan Gàidhealig gu 'Chaidh moill air mo leirsinn agus a risd, corr is fhichead òrain eile euideachd. Anns an Ceathramh caibideal (Gaul is Gràdh) tha corr is dà fhichead òran an deidh "Am bròn binn" gu "Breisleach" mar an ceudna. Thoisich an caibideal mu dheireadh (Spors is Suirghe) le 'Maighdeannan na h-àirigh agus dusan òrain eile gu "Bàs an eich".

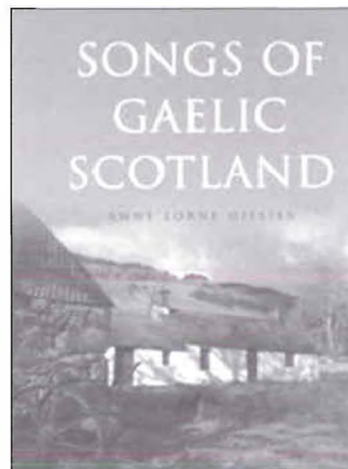
Rinn Anna chòir an ceòl agus na facail sa Ghàidhlig 's Bheurla air son gach òran agus mineachadh barraichte an deidh sin mar eisimpleir... Mhic Iarla nam Biatach bana... duilleagan 6 gu 7... 'In its present form this song probably dates back at least, to the seventeenth century, while containing echoes from praise poetry of an even earlier period. We can only guess who the earl's son was (whether of Scots, Norse or Irish origin) but the description of the ship is typical of the hyperbole commonly found in Gaelic/Gàidhlig songs of this genre... the power of the nobility was measured in terms of the capacity of their fleets of birlinn or galleys.

Seo agaibh sàr rosg taitneach, sgoilearach, agtus fùrasda a leughadh. Chan fhaca duine òranaiche cho clùiteach ris a sin, foillsichte

le Birlinn, Dùn Èideann EH9 1QS www.birlinn.co.uk

Chi sinn leis an òranaiche seo mar a tha uiread de culture air eumail air leth a mhòr chuid de phoball na h-Alba bhon a tha na sgoiltean a' teagasg troimh'n Bheurla. Ach thig an latha nuair a bhios a h-uile sgoil ann an Alba a' teagasg troimh'n cànan Albannach... se sin ri ràdh troimh'n a' Gàidhlig! Tha sinn faighinn air adhart mata.

Seo agaibh cuspair eile, mu Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich (www.gaelicworld.co.uk) 53 Sràid na h-Eaglaise, Inbhir Nis IV1 1DR. Ma bhios tu deònach a bhì nad oileanach no fear bean teagaisg air aon de na trì cursachan a tha aca, An sin, fòn Caitriona air 0141 226 5222.



Tha a' chiad cùrsa air son bruidhinn ri leanaban eadar a' bhreith aca agus naoi mìosan a dh'aois d'am b'ainm ALTRUM: an darna fear eadar naoi mìosan is ochd mìosan deug... agus an fear mu dheireadh ochd mìosan deug gu trì bliadhna a dh'aois. Aig trì bliadhna bhiodh an leanabh a' dol don chròileagan.

Agus san cuspair mu dheireadh, Comhairle nan Leabhraichean, 2? Sràid Achadh a' Mhansa, Glaschu G11 5QP... fòn 0141 337 6211, facs 0141 341 0515 agus p-dealain fios@gaelicbooks.net no sales@gaelicbooks.net. Dh'fhoillsich iad catalog d'am b'ainm 'Leabhraichean Gàidhlig' sa bhliadhna 2002. Ged a tha cosgais a' catalog seo trì nota bithidh e an asgaidh nuair a cheannachas duine leabhar. Ach an deidh 2002 bithidh leabhraichean ùra ri fhaotain air www.gaelicbooks.net

Summary

In Songs of Gaelic Scotland by Anne Lorne Gillies, published by Birlinn of Edinburgh we have arguably the finest anthology of Gàidhlig songs of all time. This is a considerable feat, considering that Gàidhlig Scotland is one of the world's great treasure houses of song.

The musical notation is given for its songs along with the words in the original along with a translation followed by the song's history and commentary. This is followed by the news that CNSA (Gàidhlig playgroups) have devised the level most appropriate for children under; nine months, then that for those from nine to eighteen months and finally for those of eighteen months to three years when they enter the playgroup.

Lastly, the Gàidhlig Books Council, as shown in the text has a catalogue "Leabhraichean Gàidhlig" 2002 for three pounds but free on ordering a book. After 2002 one has to search www.gaelicbooks.net to see what's in stock and to buy- sales@gaelicbooks.net

It may be of some interest to note that prior to the mid sixteenth century the name of Gàidhlig when speaking another language - in English 'Scottish' in French 'Ecosais' etc. One could say this is a usage worth reviving, after all, the language of Poland is 'Polish' not Polish Slavonic!

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich no Mac a' phearsain

Gaelic School Progress

Work commenced in April on the building of Inverness Gaelic primary school with a ceremonial cutting of the first turf by Highland education director Bruce Robertson, education committee chairman Andy Anderson and Mata MacIomhair, chairman of Bòrd na Gàidhlig. The school will open in August 2007.

Parents in the city have been campaigning for a stand-alone Gaelic school for many years arguing that such a development would increase pupils' fluency and confidence in the language. To date, as is typical of the national situation, Gaelic-medium education in the Highland capital has been supplied in a unit within an English medium school.

Inverness Gaelic Primary School will be Scotland's third all-Gaelic school, joining Glasgow's Gaelic primary school, opened in 1999, and the tiny Staoinebrig primary school in South Uist which is to be officially designated an all-Gaelic school. This August will see a further advance for Gaelic education when Glasgow Gaelic Primary School closes and a stand-alone Glasgow Gaelic campus opens providing nursery, primary and secondary education for Scotland's largest city.

First Gaelic Rock Album Released

Gaelic music has been dragged kicking and screaming into the twenty first century by the first ever full-length Gaelic rock album. *Ar Cànan, Ar Ceòl, Ar-a-mach* ('Our language, our music, [our] revolution') by veteran Edinburgh band Oi Polloi blends heavy anarcho-punk music with highly politicised lyrics. Topics covered in the album feature anti-capitalism, anti-fascism and the destruction of the British state.

This follows the first ever all-Gaelic EP which was released by Skye based punks *Mill a h-Uile Rud* in 2004.

While traditional Gaelic music is very popular, there is no contemporary Gaelic music scene. So linked have Gaelic and traditional music become in the public mind that some



traditional music fans feel contemporary music to be intrinsically "un-Gaelic". Similarly, many contemporary music fans

feel that English is the only appropriate medium for modern music due to the perceived old-fashioned and unfashionable image lent to Gaelic by traditional music.

Until recently, the only band performing contemporary music through the medium of Gaelic were pop-rockers Runrig. While Runrig are a very popular and influential band, they have now been together for over 30 years and have been making less and less use of Gaelic in their recordings in recent years. Their style is also considered too 'middle of the road' by many younger Gaelic speakers.

Links:

Oi Polloi: www.myspace.com/oipolloialba

Mill a h-Uile Rud: www.millahuilerud.com

GAELIC ACT

A feature of the reaction to the Gaelic Act passed by the Scottish Parliament has been the sour carping and what could best be summed up as an attitude of begrudgery in some of the comments in Carn and to some extent elsewhere.

This Act goes along way to bring Gaelic near the position in Ireland and Wales and perhaps even a little more distantly to Catalonia. Peter Peacock, the minister responsible for introducing the Act, has made it plain that he will not tolerate tokenism on the part of local authorities and other public bodies he has stated that he is prepared to take executive action if there is any foot dragging on their part. It is being asked what the sanctions for these bodies are if they shirk their responsibilities about presenting Gaelic Plans or meeting other obligations under the Act. Foremost they can have their grants withheld, which is a very palpable sanction.

The table of key events in Gaelic in Carn 132 follows too short a time frame for the arc of improvement for Gaelic. This should start in the late sixties with the establishment of the Gaelic Books Council and through the seventies with the foundation of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig and the other elements that have made for the evolution of a coherent system of Education in Gaelic.

To hear some of the things said about the Gaelic Act you would think that it was the 1918 Scottish Education Act with its weak permissive (unlike the strong mandatory ones of the 2006 Gaelic Act) provisions which seemed to be framed to facilitate evasion. By all means be critical but be generous and celebrate the very real breakthrough that has been achieved for Gaelic.

It is also worth noting that life-time campaigners for Gaelic, like John M. Bannerman, would have been overjoyed had they lived to see the passage of such a measure.

Seamus Filbin

Gaelic Broadcasting Progress

The establishment of a digital Gaelic television channel as part of an integrated broadcasting service is one step closer following an agreement between BBC Scotland and *Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig* (Gaelic Media Service).

Following months of discussion, the organisations have formed a partnership which will work together to create a new digital service for the Gaelic community. This will enable planning to commence on the establishment of a digital television, radio and internet service which it is hoped will begin broadcasting next year. It is understood that a budget of around £16.8M per year will be available.

Despite progress, however, concerns remain amongst the Gaelic community. The funding currently available is only likely to be sufficient to allow the screening of around 1.5 hours of new Gaelic television per day. It is also unlikely to be enough to allow the channel to be broadcast on both digital terrestrial television (Freeview) and on digital satellite. Unless the service is available on both platforms, a large number of Gaelic speakers will miss out.

The controversial issue of where the headquarters of the new service should be based will also have to be addressed. At present, the centres of Gaelic broadcasting are Glasgow, Inverness and Stornoway.

Màrtainn MacLeòid

SNP BYE-ELECTION TRIUMPH

The SNP scored an outstanding triumph in winning the Scottish Parliamentary bye election in the Moray constituency, brought about by the death of the much loved and respected incumbent, Margaret Ewing.

The winning candidate Richard Lochhead increased the SNP majority by more than a thousand and increased the Party's share of the vote, which was in fact bigger than the vote for the Tory who came second. Labour was humiliated, gaining fourth place in a line up of five candidates.

The Labour result was particularly ironic in that their candidate was a local councillor, of which he made a great deal, to the extent of resorting to the silly gimmick of sending Richard Lochhead a map of the area. The idea being that the latter was some sort of a blow in.

This splendid result was achieved in the face of a bigger expenditure of both money and dirty tricks by the Unionist parties. There has



been a tendency recently in the face of some disappointing electoral results for these Parties to write off the SNP. However, the SNP is now back in contention for a good result in next year's Scottish parliamentary Election.

Seamus Filbin

THE RIBBENTROP CONNECTION

Europe in the late 20th century was a mess born of war and imperialism. Blame for this was generally projected onto the Axis regimes, but in actual fact, the seeds of fascism were already sown in most of Europe before the conflict. They probably could have taken root almost anywhere. Sympathisers in the allied countries generally 'got off the hook', while in Germany, proposed 'denazification' was little more than Americanisation in the west and Russification in the east. Austria, Hitler's homeland, was left untouched, and hence it is now home to Haider. The guilt of other countries in the affair has been much underplayed, including Baltic and Ukrainian SS members. France's 'Vichy Republic' was really born before the invasion, according to some figures. Even Jersey & Guernsey had their fair share of collaborators under occupation. Britain was hardly innocent, being described by one US commentator as "The most race conscious [country] in Western Europe until the Nazis came to power in 1933" (1). 1920s London clubs had 'colour bars', and of course Britain invented the Concentration camps for Boers. (2)

Fascism's success in Europe was partly on the back of extreme anti-Communism, and a latent racism, not to mention a divided left. The Brits like to think they had no part in it, but of course they too did. It found a voice in the so-called Anglo-German Fellowship of the 1930s. The members had little interest in most German culture of course, but forming Aryan bonds. An English aristocrat described one of the chief members as a "delicious real live Nazi". Many British aristocrats saw fit to cavort with this man until the war came; a major figure in the Nuremberg trials, he was to be hanged by the neck for his crimes. Joachim von Ribbentrop was not a true street thug like many Nazis, but a climbing aristocrat. As the German ambassador he was to delight British nobility, frequently dining with them, and even spending time on Lord Brockett's Knoydart estate (3) Brockett's grandson is the 'charming toff' who recently appeared on I'm a Celebrity, get me out of here. Even Blair himself admitted in '97, "The first Lord Brockett bought the title from Lloyd George, the second was one of Britain's leading Nazi sympathisers and the third Lord Brockett is serving five years for fraud." The second Lord Brockett did more than just sympathize, he attended Hitler's 50th birthday party, and doubtless gave some of the rent from his crofting tenants to "worthy causes". The ones he didn't clear off of course.

Lord Oswald 'Tom' Mosley is one of the best-known examples of the phenomenon; a former government member, ex-Tory & ex-



Labour, he came of the old English nobility. Fortunately, he was a notorious womaniser, and made the mistake was of importing Italian Fascism wholesale. Orwell had said that if Fascism were to rise in England that it would do so under the Lion and Unicorn, rather than swastikas and fasces. He also alienated the aristocracy by continually changing his politics. A more successful Anglo-Fascism may have been more like Japan's; a puppet monarchy heading the state religion, and a corporate government below. Everything would have been dealt with genteelly and not discussed in front of the children, no doubt.

Another big question has to be asked. Why did Hess fly to Scotland rather than Southern England? Ribbentrop's friends in Scotland might have been a factor. Did he think they'd prefer total war on the eastern front? Some think Hess believed the aristocracy here was more powerful than it actually was. He landed a mere 15 miles from the Duke of Hamilton's home at Dungavel, near an airstrip and hangar, suggesting a return trip. His words on capture are said to have been "My name is Alfred Horn. Please tell the Duke of Hamilton I have arrived." The Duke wasn't at home. According to the slightly unreliable Double Standards: The Rudolf Hess Cover up "a leading group of young Conservatives' most of whom were Scottish" (4) supported some kind of peace pact with Nazi Germany, allegedly including Alec Douglas-Home, Kenneth Lindsay MP and Malcolm Douglas-Hamilton. Perhaps the Scottish aristocracy were more pliable, they had become 'Anglo-Saxons' with ease after all, and would have perhaps started to imitate the Germans and exchanged London for Berlin.

Recent programmes on C5 and BBC 2 such as Reputations have tended to play down these connections, notably those of the

English Royal Family, but the ugly stories and rumours continue to emerge. One FBI file released recently supposedly claims that Wallis Simpson had dated Ribbentrop and had sex with him seventeen times. Papers released by the Public Record Office in 2003 show the Foreign Office verdict that Hitler was distressed by the abdication "since he had looked upon the ... King as a man after his own heart and one who understood the Fuehrerprinzip and was ready to introduce it into this country". (5) The "Brit" media is not clean. On 27 January 2003, a Jewish Socialist group held a protest at the offices of the Daily Mail. The Daily Mail may no longer voice support for Mosley, Hitler and Mussolini or against Jewish refugees, but it still whips up xenophobic fervour in many of its articles against asylum seekers and continentals - not to mention Scots (you won't find these in the "Scottish" edition of course!). In the words of the late Joe Strummer, "If Adolf Hitler were here today, they'd send a limousine anyway."

The British elite has never taken responsibility for the Nazi sympathisers in their midst. Generally in the build up to war, many changed sides and were forgotten about. But it is important that we don't forget, or let them forget. I'll end with a quote from the poet, Murchadh MacPhàrlain: it could be about Brockett himself,

"Hitler gheall e Lebensraum
Dha shluagh na gheibh e bhuaidh;
Cha b'ionnan sin 's na Hitleran
A bhris spiorad mo shluaigh;
Na Hitleran breun Breatannach
A mhurt mo thir mu thuath
Gu lebensraum do chaoraich
Is na daoine sgiurs' thar chuan"

(translation)

Hitler promised Lebensraum
To the people if he won
It wasn't the same with the Hitlers
Who broke my people's spirit;
The foul British Hitlers
Who murdered my northern land
to lebensraum for sheep
& the men driven over the ocean

Notes

- 1) Socialist Appeal (NY) 25/08/39 - CLR James
- 2) An estimated 20-70K Boers died in these from disease and starvation.
- 3) See "Knoydart: A Desolation created by two centuries of Capitalist failure" - Iain Robertson (SWR, '00). The von- prefix is equivalent to the double-barrel here.
- 4) Double Standards also say a Hess look-alike took the stand at Nuremberg, so its reliability must be questioned!
- 5) Sunday Times 12/01/03

Ray Bell

Breizh

UR GUMUNIEZH EVIT AR C'HEMBRAEG: CYMUNED

E-pad an hañv 2001 eo e voe savet ar gevredigezh "Cymuned" ("Kumuniezh" e kembraeg) evit stourm evit ar c'hembraeg. E orin ar grouidigezh-se e voe disleriadurioù Seimon GLYN, kuzulier-kontelezh Gwynedd a-berzh *Plaid Cymru*, a-enep ar saoznekaat e Kembre. Diskuliet e voe pergen enbroerezh ar Saozon e kornvroioù eus Kembre a oa chomet ar c'hembraeg kreñv a-walc'h e hoazh, hag a laka en arvar stad ar c'hembraeg eno. Liammet gant an enbroerezh e voe ivez diskuliet kresk prizioù an tiez evit Kembreiz. Ersavioù taer a savas neuze, a-berzh ar Strollad Labour da gentañ, a damallas Seimon GLYN bezañ gouen-

Riezoù-Unanet e Genève diwar-benn ar bihanniveroù, e anv *Cymuned*, Jerry HUNTER, lenner e Skol-Veur Kembre, ha n'eo ket Kembre a-hend-all, genidik eus Cincinatty (Stadoù-Unanet) ma 'z eo, hag a geñverias ar c'humuniezhioù yezhel bihan gant an trevvaù bresk gourdrouzet. Tamm-ha-tamm avat eo deuet *Cymuned* da vazañ taeroc'h, pa chome bouzar ar pen-nadurezhioù ouzh he goulennoù habaskañ. Renet eo bremañ an emsav-se, bodet bep bloaz en un Dael vloaziek abaoe 2002 peurluviañ e-kerzh miz Gouere (e Harlech e 2003, e Porthmadog e 2004...), gant Aran JONES.



A message for all incomers in Welsh speaking Wales – applicable to all Celtic language speaking areas!

nelour, a-berzh strollad Seimon GLYN ivez, *Plaid Cymru*, aon gant rak ersavioù he dilennourion saozneger. Neuze e voe savet *Cymuned* gantañ hag gant un nebeud stourmerion all, evel Seimon BROOKS, rener ar gelaouenn *Barn*. Daoust d'an tamaloù-se e voe sellet da gentañ ouzh *Cymuned* evel un emsav gant doareoù "sioulloc'h" eget *Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg*, dre ma sache tud koshoc'h ha "furoc'h". E Mae 2003 e konizas, en ur gendael aozet gant Aozadur ar

Stourmadoù bras o deus merket obererezhioù *Cymuned*, evel an hini a-enep *Unitary Development Plan* (UDP, "Steuñv Diorren Unvan") kinniget gant Kuzul Kontelezh Ceredigion hag e gadoriad frankizour-demokrat Dai Lloyd EVANS, e sell da sevel 6 500 ti nevez, a oa da grediñ e c'hellfe al lodenn vrasañ anezho bezañ prenet gant saoznegerion. Evit enebiañ ouzh Dai Lloyd EVANS e teuas *Cymuned* a-benn da lakaat d'aozañ e miz Mae 2004 ur poblaters er

gontelezh evit divizout krouidigezh ur stael maer Ceredigion, en defe gellet reiñ lamm da z/Dai Lloyd EVANS hag e steuñv daonet. Ur wezh ouzhpenn e voe gwelet an dizemglev a oa etre *Cymuned* ha *Plaid Cymru*. Dre m'en doa ar strollad-se galvet da vouezhiañ a-enep krouidigezh ar stael maer e voe ar poblaters ur c'hwitadenn. En dilennadeg evit ar c'huzul-kontelezh, er Miz Mezheven da c'houde, e teuas Frankizourion-Demokrated Dai Lloyd EVANS a-benn da virout ar gal-loud a-drugarez da skoazell ar gannaded dizalc'h, daoust da b/*Plaid Cymru* bezañ ar strollad niverusañ, hep kaout ar muianiver dreistel avat, emichañs abalamour da eneberezh stourmerion 'zo droug enno.

Kinniget en deus ivez *Cymuned* steuñvoù yaus evit ar c'hembraeg. Evel-se e kinnigas, da geñver ul tid e Machynlleth dalc'het d'an 23 Here 2004, un "Diskleriadur gwirioù Bro Gembraeg", o tennañ anezhi evel an takadoù dezho ar boblañs a c'hell komz kembraeg amparet da vihanañ gant an hanterenn eus ar boblañs c'henidik eus Kembre, hag an drederenn eus ar boblañs a-bezh.

Stourm *Cymuned* ne blij ket d'an holl, hep mar. D'ar Meurzh 4 Ebrel 2006 da noz, un nebeud deizioù a-raok Dael vloaziek *Cymuned* e Pennrhyndeudraeth ar Sadorn 8, e voe lakaet tan da garavanenn *Cymuned*, warni al lagan "Deskit hor yezh", a oa e Caernarfon...

Rafael URIEN



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
DE BRETAGNE**

**THERE'S NO BRITTANY
WITHOUT BRETON**

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

Roazhon: 5000 demonstrators for more devolution

Ar Kuzul Sevenadurel Breizh (KSB) had called at its AGM in the first weekend of May, held in the symbolic city of Karac'h, for a huge demonstration on the 3rd of June. 5000 demonstrators involved in cultural and political lobbies answered the call and joined KSB, in Roazhon. In so far as the right wing did not take part in the demonstration it was mainly the leaders of the left wing as well as the cultural leaders, who were in the front line, behind the slogan *Live & decide our culture e-Breizh*.

At KSB's AGM in Karac'h, Yann-Berr Thomin (PS) representing Jean-Yves LEDRIAN (PS), Breizh-Council President had shown the strong will of the Breton president to improve the situation and underlined the fact that the letters sent to the president J. Chirac about Kartia-Europa for lesser spoken languages or Breizh reunification had not yet elicited a single answer. At the end of the AGM feelings were running high among the leaders of the KSB against the state powers. Patrick Malrieu, KSB's president stressed in his speech, in Roazhon, the necessity to transfer powers and money to Brittany, particularly in areas where Breton demands are continually made such as the Breton language, education and social life.

The French dogma is that of a single culture, a single language and the negation of other identities than the unique French one. This dogma is organised by a centralised system, totally deaf to the population and their local elected representatives. Having dealt with the language, the media, cultural life and the reunification of Breizh Patrick Malrieu spoke about the fact that the French state denies democracy and urged the state to ratify fully the



Conventions on Human Rights as well as Human Rights for children and E.U.'s conventions on respect for minorities. KSB demands more devolution, and will organise meetings towards these goals aiming towards the next presidential and legislative elections, in 2007.

In the language field different organizations from the south of the French state (Occitan, Basque,...) showed their solidarity with the Breton people.

The demonstration began behind a well-known slogan: *Live and decide our culture e-Breizh*. Side by side with KSB you had a lot of organizations like Diwan, Dihun, Divyezh, CUAB, now called Breizh-United. Yann-Berr

Thomin and his socialist friends as well as UDB and the Green party, all in charge of the Breizh-Council.

The Breton Party was also present, as well as political parties from Occitania. We had the pleasure to notice a few flags from the Celtic nations. At the end of the day KSB won this first challenge before the 2007 elections. The game is not over because as no one mentions a devolution budget with a budget of 20 billions euros, like in most of the European regions. In 2006, Breizh-Council has a regional budget which is under 1 billion euros...so it is a long way to go.

Gi Keltik.

Breton-medium Catholic schools: Yannig Baron ends his hunger strike

On the 10th of May, after 22 days of hunger strike, Yannig Baron, the president of Dihun-Breizh, fully satisfied with the promises made by the Catholic schools general directors of Breizh-four-départements, decided to bring his hunger strike to an end. Dihun-Breizh started in the nineties and now have more than 3800 pupils in the various levels from primary schools to the Bac (= A-level). The yearly increase has been regular, but last year the Catholic schools general directors, as well as the schools directors on the ground, were opposed to opening new classes or new schools. They argued that they was no demand from parents, or that it was impossible to change the teachers' organizations in schools. This year (2006/2007) the situation was going to be worse. Therefore Yannig Baron sent documents to those general directors to explain Dihun's parents' point of view. The traditional Catholic leaders in charge of the



Yannig Baron, President of Dihun-Breizh (right) with colleagues. (Courtesy Dihun-Breizh).

situation do not care about the Breton language in the schools. They don't care about human rights like the rights of the Breton population. They still believe that French is the best for the kids. They do not care that in the days of the Internet every single European needs to speak American fluently. They do not care about Breton roots. In 1996, when the Pope John Paul II came to Breizh, to St Anna/Alre, they were opposed to the Pope recognising the Breton people as a nation in their own right with their own Celtic culture.

Last year, Yannig Baron wrote a book about *Yann-Paol II e Breizh* (1996) in which he explained the bishops' views. During more than one year of organizing before the event, they refused to use the word 'Breizh' and tried to promote the concept of 'West' in order to hide the separate national identity of the Breton people and their traditions. In his book Yannig Baron creates the new concept of 'Westiti', that is to say people from the West. It's also very close to the word *ouistiti* ('marmosets'), which are a type of monkey. Feelings were running high, last year in the Catholic world.

Anyway, time is moving on and more and more families want to see their kids being multilingual, in order to be connected to the real world in this 21st century. After ending his hunger strike Yannig Baron said that "the progress looks significant enough for us to go back to work. We have got 80% of what we were looking for." The general directors of the Catholic schools agreed to open six out of the seven schools demanded all over Breizh. One of them is already in trouble, in the city of Pornizh (Pornic). In Liger-Atlantel *département*, the Catholic schools' leaders did a u-turn against the wishes of the parents. Everywhere else the demand for bilingual schools from parents has been much stronger than expected by Dihun-Breizh. CAEC (the *Comité Académique de l'Enseignement Catholique*) has decided to organize a charter for increasing the number of bilingual schools over the next five years. This agreement will be signed by CAEC-Breizh, Dihun-Breizh, and Breizh Council. Yannig Baron's aim is for the opening of 45 new schools up to 2010, that's to say 100 bilingual schools in the Catholic school system. Breizh Council's goal is 20.000 pupils in 2010 (cf. Carn 133). More good news is that the general directors will be sending a letter asking the local schools directors to welcome all the parents asking for a bilingual education for their children.

At the end of the day, Yannig Baron, achieved a lot with this sixth hunger strike. The success was all the greater because the media, and therefore the population, considered the Catholic bishops and schools general directors to be under heavy pressure. Yannig Baron gave special thanks to the leaders of the Celtic League for the pressure they put on various embassies. The game is not over, so every one must keep in contact in order to achieve further progress for the future of the people of Brittany and of the Celtic nations

Gi Keltik

EFA is 25 years old

Members of the European Free Alliance, EFA, met on the 11th of May in Brussels, in the plenary room of the European Parliament, to hold their annual General Assembly in the morning, and then, in the afternoon, to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the creation of the Alliance, with more than 500 delegates representing 33 political parties involved in the promotion of self-government or independence for their nations.

EFA General Assembly

After accepting the minutes of the previous General Assembly organised in Roazhon/Rennes, Brittany, by the Breton Democratic Union, some former observer members became full EFA members: Alands Framtid, who represent the Swedish speaking population of the Aland Islands in Finland, Etnota Lista, who represent the Slovenian minority in Austria, and Moravané, who represent the Moravian population in the Czech Republic. Omo Linden Pirin, who represent the Macedonians in Bulgaria, became an observer member.

Some changes were made regarding the central organisation of the group, and the budget for 2007 and the programme of activities were also agreed. It was decided that the next General Assembly would take place in the Basque Country, at the invitation of Eusko Alkartasuna. Several resolutions were adopted. One about European social issues was presented by Nelly Maes, EFA Chairwoman and a member of SPIRIT, a Flemish progressive party. A second one about human trafficking was presented by Jill Evans, Plaid Cymru MEP. A third one about the future of EFA was presented by Bernat Joan, Catalan MEP, representative of Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya, and Vice-chairman of EFA. A last one about subsidiarity was presented by Neil MacCormick, former SNP MEP. During this General Assembly, Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, spoke in favour of a wider Europe and the little nations. Begoña Lasagabaster, Eusko Alkartasuna politician and EFA Secretary, reminded the delegates that EFA have often supported the rights of Basques to self-government. The Assembly gave its support to the current peace process in the Basque country.

The celebration of the 25th anniversary

For the anniversary ceremony the plenary room was filled by delegations of EFA member parties from 14 countries. Some delegations (Plaid Cymru, South Tyrol Union, SPIRIT) were quite numerous with many young delegates.

EFA was created in 1981 as a co-operative association of nine political parties defending the rights of the regions and nations. In 1994 EFA became a federation of parties. In



Nelly Maes, EFA leader
with Yves Jardin at the celebration.

October 2004 it was officially recognized as a European political party in the European parliament. It includes 33 parties speaking 25 languages, among them the Breton Democratic Union (UDB), Mebyon Kernow, Plaid Cymru, and the Scottish National Party. EFA is defending the project of a Europe of free and sovereign peoples, based on the principle of subsidiarity.

The celebration was opened by Ian Hudghton, SNP MEP, and leader of the EFA group in the European Parliament, and Nelly Maes. Then, the author Mathieu Van Haelewyn presented the book "The European Free Alliance: Voice of the peoples of Europe. The first 25 years (1981-2006)".

A panel discussion about the history of EFA took place with the participation of Max Simeoni, former MEP from Corsica, Camilo Nogueira, former Bloque Nacionalista Galego MEP, Eva Klotz from South Tyrol, and Jaak Vandemeulebroucke, former Volksunie MEP and former EFA chairman. Then another panel discussion took place about the future of EFA with speeches delivered by Geert Lambert, SPIRIT Chairman, Bernat Joan, Tatiana Zdanoka MEP of the ForHRUL party (*For Human Rights in a United Latvia* - a party representing the Russian speakers of Latvia), and the EFA Youth Chairman.

The celebration was concluded by Begoña Lasagabaster and Nelly Maes mentioning that self-government is also a concern of other peoples outside the EU like the Kurds and Sahrawis. The sessions were followed by a reception with an EFA film presented to the public.

Yves Jardin

Cymru

Cyfieithu'r Beibl i'r Gernyweg

Cyhoeddwyd y Testament Newydd yn Gernyweg yn 2002, yn y ffurf o'r iaith a elwir yn Gernyweg Unedig Adolygedig neu UCR, wedi'i gyfieithu gan N. Williams, a chyhoeddwyd cyfieithiad arall yn 2004 yn *Kernewek Kemmyn*, a chynhaliwyd seremoni arbennig i nodi'r achlysur. Mae'r Testament Newydd Gernyweg wedi cael ei ddefnyddio yn fynych ers hynny, gyda chymeradwyaeth yr Eglwys, mewn oedfaon cyhoeddus. Ond mae nifer o lyfrau'r Testament Newydd ar gael yn Gernyweg Unedig hefyd, ac wrth gwrs, rhannau bach yn Gernyweg Diweddar yn dyddio o'r adeg pan oedd y Gernyweg yn iaith fyw gymunedol.

Mae'r gwaith o gyfieithu'r Hen Destament yn parhau. Erbyn mae 10 llyfr wedi'u cyhoeddi, a rhyw 12 arall yn agos i fod yn barod. (Kernewek Kemmyn ydyw'r ffurf o'r iaith sydd yn cael ei defnyddio - nid dyna hoff orgraff pawb.) Ecclesiasticus ydyw'r llyfr diwethaf i ymddangos, wedi'i gyfieithu gan Yowan Parker, ac mae ar gael oddi wrth Kesva an Taves Kernewek. Mae'r wefan www.bibelkernewek.com yn rhoi hanes a chefnid cyfieithu'r Beibl i'r iaith agosaf i'r Gymraeg. Mae'r Beibl yn Gernyweg yn rhannol ddealladwy i Gymro - mae'n werth edrych arno.

(The translation of the Bible into Cornish is progressing.)

Buddugoliaeth ym Moireibh

Enillodd Plaid Genedlaethol yr Alban yr is-etholiad am sedd Moireibh (Moray) yn senedd Caeredin ym mis Mai. Achoswyd yr is-etholiad gan farwolaeth cyn-amserol Margaret Ewing ASA a oedd wedi bod yn aelod seneddol Moireibh dros yr SNP ers sefydlu'r senedd ym 1999, a chyn hynny yn aelod yn San Steffan dros yr etholaeth ers 1987. Richard Lochhead ydyw'r aelod seneddol newydd, ac aeth mwyafrif yr SNP dros y Torfaid, yr ail blaid, i fyny o ryw bum mil i dros chwe mil, sydd yn deyrnged i boblogrwydd Margaret Ewing. 'Roedd Richard Lochhead yn aelod yn y Senedd o'r blaen - yn aelod rhanbarthol yn rhanbarth y Gogledd Ddwyrain, ond bu raid iddo ymddiswyddo o'i sedd rhanbarthol er mwyn sefyll yn yr is-



Margaret Ewing, RIP.

etholiad. Gwnaeth ymgeisydd y Torfaid, Mary Scanlon, yr un peth, ond gan nad enillodd yr is-etholiad mae hi allan o'r senedd. Cymerwyd lle Richard Lochhead fel aelod rhanbarthol gan Maureen Watt o'r SNP, felly hi yn anuniongyrchol ydyw'r aelod newydd sydd yn cymryd lle Margaret Ewing. Pan gymerodd ei llw o deymgarweh wrth ddechrau, Maureen Watt oedd yr aelod seneddol cyntaf i wneud hynny yn yr iaith Sgoteg, mamiath rhan helaeth o ogledd ddwyrain yr Alban, er bod amryw wedi cymryd y llw yn yr Aeleg o'r blaen.

(The SNP retained the Moray seat in the Scottish parliament in the bye-election following the death of Margaret Ewing MSP)

English-only forms for government scheme:

Every child born since September 2002 receives a £250 voucher for the opening of a Child Trust Fund account (to be kept until the child turns 18). A special investment account has to be opened for paying in the voucher, and none of the limited number of financial institutions that offer these accounts provides a Welsh version of the application form so it is not possible even for those who wish to benefit from this government scheme to do so in Welsh. Another clear example of the need for a New Language Act to extend language rights into the private sector.

Welsh Language Board response gives further confirmation of the need for a new Welsh language Act

The Welsh Language Board announced on the 24th May their response to the Consultation Paper regarding the union of the Language Board with the National Assembly. Their response emphasises that the Dyfarnydd that will take the Board's place is a body of insufficient status and power.

Catrin Dafydd of Cymdeithas yr Iaith's Welsh Language Act Group said subsequently:

"This proves once more the need for a new Welsh language act, in order to avoid the confusion and ambiguity which will follow the creation of the 'Remnant Body' in the interim period which will be put in place for years after the dissolution of the Welsh Language Board. The expert government body on the Welsh language has criticised the government's intentions regarding this dissolution. It is the government's duty to pay attention to their response.

"Significantly, the Welsh Language Board has stated in their response today the need for an 'independent regulator' to oversee Language Schemes. It is only through a new Welsh Language Act that it will be possible to appoint a Commissioner such as the Board is calling for.

"The present consensus is undeniable. The government stand alone in terms of their refusal to accept the need for a new Welsh language act. A language act which would ensure a series of language rights for the people of Wales. An act which would give the Welsh language official status and would create a role of Commissioner to regulate effectively."

This response came two weeks before Cymdeithas yr Iaith's New Welsh Language Act Festival in Aberystwyth on the 10th of June, where famous Welsh men and women stated their support for further legislation for the language. In the Festival, there were statements by Assembly opposition leader Ieuan Wyn Jones AC (Plaid), Eleanor Burnham AC (Lib. Dem.), Lisa Francis AC (Conservative), and representatives of national organizations, alongside bards, bands and rappers, all of whom supported the call for a new Welsh language act.

Robat ap Tomos

Language Act must be changed to give Welsh and English speakers equal rights - Plaid

Hywel Williams, Plaid MP for Caernarfon, called on the 23rd of May for the full emancipation of the Welsh language and the full emancipation of the individuals and communities that speak it.

Mr Williams had secured a debate on the Operation of the Welsh Language Act in the Commons, and whereas Parliamentary restrictions do not allow members to call for new legislation, he said that the current act must be changed in order to assure the equality of both languages. Mr Williams declared:

"The 1993 Act is concerned with Welsh and English being treated on the basis of equality. But that equality is qualified in the Act itself by being subject to being reasonably practicable and appropriate in the circumstances. Now, I have a basic difficulty with qualified equality as a concept anyway - we are equal or we are not - but the current Act seems to echo Orwell; as he put it: 'All animals are equal, but some are more equal than others.'

"It is by now abundantly clear that Welsh and English are not even being treated on this qualified 'basis of equality', let alone being treated equally. My argument today is to the contrary - Welsh and English are equal. Welsh and English speakers should have equal rights to use either or indeed both languages as they choose. I call for nothing less than the full emancipation of the Welsh language, and the full emancipation of the individuals and communities that speak it."

Earlier in May Mr Williams spoke about the news that British Gas was cutting its Welsh language services to business customers. British Gas is a former public utility now in the private sector, and they are not subject to language planning at all. According to the 1993 Act, where the private sector is excluded, unless private sector utilities enter into a voluntary agreement with the Welsh Language Board, there is no requirement on them to offer services through the medium of Welsh. In their correspondence with Mr Williams, British Gas Business said: "...it may be the case that further legislation compelling energy suppliers to provide a fully bilingual service to business customers is necessary to reverse this decision."

Mr Williams added:

"Let us be clear, they will only provide a Welsh service if the law compels them to do so and this is the stance for this self proclaimed 'number one supplier of energy to the commercial sector in Britain'. Their attitude is perfectly explicable given the current Act. The Welsh language may count for something as far as their private

customers are concerned, but it has no place in the real world of business - as per the Act.

"I have no doubt at all that were British Gas as a responsible employer faced with a case of discrimination on the basis of gender, disability, race, or perhaps even age, they would act, but the language rights of Welsh-speakers and Welsh-speaking communities are somehow seen to be different, and this is traceable back to the deficiency in the Act.

"The message is clear. The 1993 Act must be changed, and that change must be based on full emancipation, on full equality and on equal rights for Welsh and English speakers alike."

At the end of May, Hywel Williams said that he was disappointed with the reluctance of the trade union UNISON to respond to Welsh language correspondence. In their letter to Mr Williams, UNISON Cymru / Wales had written:

"For your information, UNISON is not a bilingual organisation and is unable to correspond in the Welsh language."

Mr Williams said:

"Yesterday I was speaking in the House of Commons about the shortfalls in the Welsh Language Act of 1993, and here is another example. UNISON is Wales's largest trade



Hywel Williams, Plaid MP

union, and advertises itself as 'fighting for equality, social justice and democracy in our communities'. It brings me back to the point raised in the debate - that the Welsh language must have full emancipation across the sectors, so that Welsh speakers and Welsh speaking communities can have equal rights to access services and communicate with organizations in their preferred language.

"I am obviously disappointed with UNISON's stance on the Welsh language, but I believe this is a problem that needs to be tackled centrally, rather than one organization at a time."

R ap Tomos

MEP backs institute for promotion of Welsh for adults

Plaid Cymru MEP, Jill Evans addressed a conference in Aberystwyth on May 22nd in order to discuss the future of teaching Welsh to adults and to compare the situation in Wales with other countries in Europe.

Mrs Evans - who is Deputy President of Plaid Cymru - will share her experiences in the field as a member of the European Parliament and discuss the situations in countries such as Catalonia, Latvia, Galicia, and Brittany. She will also be supporting the call to establish a body to promote the teaching of Welsh to adults.

According to Jill Evans:

"Language policies vary widely from place to place but this does not mean that we cannot learn interesting and useful lessons from other countries' experiences.

"What is vital is that there is a commitment on the part of the government, good will from the people and the necessary resources made available in order to initiate the changes that must be made. Here in Wales, I see no sign of any commitment from this present government and that is currently the most damaging factor.

"We need to establish a specialist body in order to promote the teaching of Welsh to Adults - an institution that would be able to target resources according to need and co-ordinate provision. Without such an institution

I fear that there will be no national focus on efforts to teach Welsh to adults and therefore no way of promoting growth in this key sector."

WELSH SKELETONS WELCOME BANK HOLIDAY VISITORS:

Large signs bearing the web address www.Wales4Sale.com were placed on or near the 'Croeso i Gymru / Welcome to Wales' signs where the main roads the A55, the A5, the A44, and the M4 cross the border from England into Wales, by Welsh 'skeletons' in an attempt to draw the attention of visitors to Wales to the damage done when non-Welsh speakers move to live in Welsh-speaking areas. The website, which belongs to the anti-colonisation movement Cymuned, welcomes visitors while at the same time asking them to consider choosing not to move to live in Welsh-speaking areas without learning and using the Welsh language. Pictures of the 'skeletons' placing the signs are available at www.cymuned.net/sgerbydau.html.

The Welsh Football Association – Last Bastion of the Welsh-Not

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (the Welsh Language Society) have strongly criticised the Secretary General of the Football Association of Wales (FAW), David Collins, and the FAW Council, for their anti-Welsh English-only language policy, another prime example of the need for a New Welsh Language Act.

John Pritchard, Secretary of the Caernarfon and District League, recently replied to a letter from the FAW in Welsh, and to his great surprise, received the following response from David Collins:

"I can inform you that the Football Association of Wales conducts its business in English... it will remain the policy of the FAW that all communications are conducted in English."

John Pritchard was also refused permission to speak in Welsh in two separate hearings with the FAW, and they refused to pay for any translating facilities, forcing John Pritchard to speak in English. John Pritchard said:

"During this time I requested several times, that the FAW, which represents football throughout the whole of Wales, communicate through the medium of Welsh. My request was turned down more than once. The replies suggest that the decision to refuse was made by the Secretary General, who despite having an important sounding job title, is still an employee of the Association and I doubt, has the power to rule on such a significant issue."

John Pritchard strongly believes that he was discriminated against by the Football Association on account of not being allowed to communicate in any form with them in Welsh.

He requested a guarantee from the FAW that they were willing to discuss adopting a full bilingual policy, but received no further reply from the FAW. He has therefore sent a complaint to the Legal Department at FIFA. He believes that the FAW have broken FIFA Statutes 3 which states:

"Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person, or groups of people, on account of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, politics, or any other reason, is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion."

And Statutes 8.2 which states:

"It is the responsibility of each member



John Pritchard

association to translate into the language of their own country"

As well as gaining the support of Cymdeithas yr Iaith, John Pritchard has also the support of the MP for Caernarfon Hywel Williams and local Assembly Member Alun Ffred Jones (both Plaid), who will be writing to FIFA on his behalf. Catrin Dafydd, chairman of Cymdeithas yr Iaith's New Welsh language Act campaign said:

"This is a perfect example of the need for a new Welsh Language Act. An act that would make the Welsh language an official language in Wales. An act that would create a Commissioner to regulate such matters. An act that would give all Welsh people Welsh language rights."

Cymdeithas yr Iaith have also received many complaints from its members regarding the FAW's English-only policy, and their English-only website, and are fully supporting John Pritchard and urging their members to complain to the FAW and FIFA regarding the matter.

Robat ap Tomos

Chain Protest

On the 4th May nine members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith were arrested after chaining themselves to the main door of the Wales Office building in Cathays Park, Cardiff. They had acted to draw attention to the need for a New Welsh Language Act.

Cymuned Information Stands

Cymuned are setting up a series of information stalls throughout the Bro Gymraeg (Welsh-speaking areas) that will spread the message against colonization of the Bro. They operate in public places like high streets on a temporary basis, such as the first at Nefyn show in April, or be semi-permanent stalls of which the first is in Caernarfon.

R ap Tomos

LEARNING THE LESSONS OF CATALONIA

Cymdeithas yr Iaith, holding their Annual General Meeting on March 25th in Aberystwyth, were given evidence from overseas that underlines the importance of language legislation in the task of revitalizing a minorized language. The AGM's guest speaker was Alexia Bos Solé from the Ciemen Institute in Barcelona, who led a session entitled 'Language Legislation Making a Difference - The Catalan Experience'. Ciemen is an international institute that has been working in the field of linguistic minorities, across Europe and beyond, since the early 1970s. It was the body responsible for developing and promoting the Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights presented to UNESCO in 1996. During this presentation Alexia Bos Solé stressed the importance of such concepts as official status and language rights, concepts that have proved a basis for language policy and legislation in Catalonia for over two decades. In addition she said that securing strong status and rights are essential in order to facilitate wider use of a minorized language. Such arguments provide further support for Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg's ongoing and growing campaign for a Welsh Language Act. The 2006 Annual General Meeting, as well as discussing matters related to the need for a New Welsh Language Act, also heard from Cymdeithas's other campaigns in fields such as education, housing, and planning. Various motions were discussed reflecting the Society's wide-ranging campaigning activity over the past twelve months.

**DY IAITH
DY HAWL!**

*"Deddf iaith yn Gwneud Gwahaniaeth:
Profiad Catalonia"*

**Siaradwraig Wâdd: Alexia Bos Solé,
Ciemen, Barcelona**

Dydd Sadwrn Mawrth 25ain, 2.00pm
Canolfan y Morian, Aberystwyth

**Deddf iaith
DYMA'R CYFLE!**

Éire

Fórsaí an Mhargaidh an Namhaid Comónta

Aithnítear le fada gur bunchuspóir é ó thaobh teanga a chaomhnú agus a athbheochan tacú leis na pobail atá ag labhairt na teanga sin cheana féin. Uaireanta, bíonn teannas idir riachtanais na bpobail sin agus an mórchuspóir athbheochana ach d'ainneoin sin dirítear ar an gcuspóir sin mar thosaíocht.

Sa Bhreatain Bhig, le blianta fada anuas, agus anois in Éirinn freisin, áfach, tá fadhbanna ar leith ag teacht ar aghaidh a chothaíonn deacrachtaí móra ó thaobh an bhunchuspóra sin de. Tráth den saol, ba é a tuigeadh le tacú leis na ceantair Ghaeltachta in Éirinn ná fostaíocht a chur ar fáil iontu chun go bhféadfadh muintir na háite fanacht ina gceantar féin agus nach dtitfeadh na pobail Ghaeilge sin as a chéile. Tá a fhios againn anois, áfach, cé go mb'fhéidir gur éirigh leis an geur chuige sin roinnt de na pobail sin a neartú ó thaobh na fostaíochta de, nach léir gur imir na monarchana a bunaíodh aon mhór-ról ó thaobh an teanga féin a chaomhnú agus go mb'fhéidir gur chuitreadar dlús leis an meath ar shlí eile.

Dar ndóigh, tá roinnt de na pobail sin i bhfad níos láidre anois ó thaobh geilleagair de ach i bhfad níos laige ó thaobh na teanga de. Ní hionann sin is a rá go raibh an chéad straitéis tacaíochta sin lochtaigh, níl ann ach gur léir nár leor in aon chor i chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na dúshláin iomadúla a bhaineann le beartú forbartha teanga. Ar shlí, is sampla maith é den straitéis bhacach leathchoise a bhí ag an stát Éireannach riamh ó thaobh na Gaeilge de – gníomh a dhéanamh agus ansin an cúram a fhágaint.

Tá an cur chuige ceannann céanna le feiscint ó thaobh chur cinn na Gaeilge lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht. Fágadh obair iomlán na hathbheochana faoin gcóras oideachais agus ansin teitheadh! Anois agus an Roinn Oideachais go hiomlán galldaithe agus an Ghaeilge á díribt de réir a chéile as gcóras oideachais féin (céim mhór eile sa treo sin a bheadh sa bhfeallbheart atá beartaithe ag Fine Gael), tá na gael scoileanna (lena gcuid fadhbanna iomadúla féin) agus roinnt múinteoirí dílse anseo is ansiúd fágtha ina n-aonar ag seasamh an fhóid dúchais. Pé scéal é, chríochnaigh iarrachtaí an stáit ag geataí na scoile riamh. An mhaitheas a deineadh laistigh den scoil ar feadh blianta scoile an dalta, caitear san aer é ansin cheal polasáí

athbheochana a bheith ag an stát lasmuigh de na geataí sin.

Tá na fadhbanna céanna, a bheag nó a mhór, le fáil sa Bhreatain Bhig freisin. Tá an brú láidir gan stad atá curtha ar na pobail leanúnachais Breathnaise ag creimeadh na bpobail sin agus ag tabhairt dúshlán mór do ghluaiseacht na Breathnaise. Dar le *Cymuned*, an cagraíocht tacaíochta pobal, gur riachtanas doshéanta anois é tacú leis na pobail sin go hiomlán nó gurb é an bás atá i ndán dóibh. Ba mhaith leosan go n-aithneofaí *Y Fro Gymraeg* mar cheantair ar gá idirghabháil iomlán a dhéanamh iontu chun teanga an phobail a chosaint. San áireamh ansin, tá idirghabháil a dhéanamh i margadh na maoine (bó naofa thacadóirí an mhargaidh ar fud an domhain 'fhorbartha') – praghsanna tithe a smachtú, tosaíocht a thabhairt do mhuintir na háite ó thaobh seilbh a fháil ar thithe, teorainn a chur le tithe saoire, srl. Peaca marfach é seo in aigne lucht rachmais agus, cheal cumhachta, ní léir conas a bhaintear an



Cymuned/Plaid – Tuairmi éagsúla!

cuspóir seo amach, cé go maíonn *Cymuned* go bhfuil an chumhacht ag na húdaráis áitiúla chun an chuid is mó de na bearta riachtanacha tarthála a chur i bhfeidhm.

Dar le *Plaid Cymru*, is i mbaint amach sochaí dhátheangach do mhuintir na Breataine Bige go léir atá an slánú le fáil. Áitíonn Colin Williams agus roinnt taighdeoirí aitheanta eile go bhfuil contúirt mhór ag baint le dóchas na Breathnaise a cheangal le pobail atá faoi bhrú agus leosan amháin. Dar leosan go bhfuil an brú atá ar na pobail tuaithe sin chomh hollmhór sin ó gach treo go bhfuil an baol ann go n-imeoidh siad de dhroim an tsaoil.

Cinnté, ag féachaint ar luas na n-athruithe atá ag titim amach sna pobail ársa tuaithe sa dá thír, is deacair a fheiscint go dtiocfaidh siad slán sa riocht ina rabhadar leis na cianta cairbreacha. Tá an t-athrú

cultúir suntasach cheana féin. Tráth den saol, bhí an Béarla sa bhaile mór, na mílte soir ón tigin ceann tuí. Anois tá sé i ngach seomra sa teach ceithre sheomra leapa – ar an teilifís, ar an raidió, ar an idirlíon, ar na fístéipeanna, ar na cluichí ríomhaire, sna leabhair agus sna hirisi a léann gach duine sa teaghlach, agus míle áit eile, gan trácht ar roinnt mhaith de na comharsana nach bhfuil Gaeilge Breathnaise ar bith acu agus ar cuma leo fúithi.

Is cuma cá leagtar an tosaíocht i bhfeachtas caomhnaithe nó athbheochana na Gaeilge nó na Breathnaise, beidh na naimhde céanna le treascáir – fuarchúis an phobail i gcoitinne, cur i gceill polaiteoirí agus fórsaí an mhargaidh. Is léir ar iompar náireach na bpolaiteoirí áitiúla sna Gaeiltachtaí le déanaí nach ón gcóras oifigiúil a thiofáidh an slánú, rud nach bhfuil na Breathnaigh dall air ach an oiread.

D'ainneoin obair iontach *Menter a Busnes* fórsaí an mhargaidh a oiriúnú go háitiúil agus feachtas misniúil *Cymdeithas Yr Iaith* na fórsaí sin a smachtú le gníomhaíocht dhireach, tá teorainn lenár féidir a bhaint amach sa réimse sin. I ré seo an Aontais Eorpaigh, tá ceannas iomlán ag lucht an mhargaidh ar fhorbairt na sochaí agus tá beagnach gach gníomh de chuid na rialtas in Éirinn agus sa Bhreatain faofa ag na fórsaí sin.

Is insan chath le fórsaí an mhargaidh a chinnteofar eís na dteangacha Ceilteacha don todheall. Ní léir gur féidir na fórsaí sin a chloí ach is féidir dul i ngleic leo. Ach, ina theannta sin, b'fhéidir gur muidh *dul san iomaíocht leo*. Ar chóir comharchumainn tithíochta a bhunú sna ceantair leanúnachais teanga, mar shampla, a thacódh le cainteoirí Gaeilge/Breathnaise a dtithe féin a thógaint nó a thógfadh lárionaid tithe agus árasán lena ligean le cainteoirí na teanga dúchais? Ar a laghad, bheifí ag cinntiú coiríochta ina gceantar féin do phobal na háite agus ag buaú na dteangacha dúchais ina gceantair féin. Maidir le stad a chur le forbairtí oscailte sna ceantair sin, mura féidir le stát 'neamhspleách' a theanga féin a chosaint in aghaidh fhórsaí an mhargaidh, cén seans atá ag na Breathnaigh?

Caoimhín Mac Raghnaill

Summary: *This article discusses the effect of market forces on Celtic language communities in Ireland and Wales and the different strategies proposed by Welsh groups, some, like Cymuned, linking language with community while others, like Plaid, emphasise a national bilingual policy. The author suggests the development of housing cooperatives in the Celtic speaking areas to counteract market forces.*

Conradh Leads Opposition to Fine Gael Irish Policy

At the Fine Gael (main opposition party in Republic) annual conference in June the party adopted the controversial policy floated earlier in the year by their leader, Enda Kenny, in relation to the status and teaching of Irish in second level education. This policy would make Irish a subject of choice for the final examination, the Leaving Certificate, instead of a necessary subject. This would have a serious effect on the standing of the language and is likely to lead to reduced numbers taking Irish when it is timetabled with other subjects of choice which must be taken to follow certain professions for example. Fine Gael intends to promote this policy in the context of the forthcoming general election of 2007. The Labour Party (Fine Gael's partner of choice for an alternative coalition to the existing Fianna Fail /PD coalition) leader, Pat Rabbitte, has stated in a letter to a constituent that such a policy will do damage to Irish. Whether this attitude will have any bearing on coalition is yet to be seen but clarification sought on this led only to the statement that the Labour were reviewing their policy on Irish and it w

could emerge sometime during the summer.

On 22nd May at a press occasion outside Dáil Éireann, Dáithí Mac Carthaigh, president of Conradh na Gaeilge expressed An Conradh's disappointment at the Fine Gael decision.

He said this decision was against the values of the party, was anti - Irish, anti academic and anti-European. He said that An Conradh would be ensuring that thousands of voters at the next election would give their votes to those who supported Irish being retained as a subject which all second level students should take. These votes could make a big difference, particularly in constituencies where Fine Gael hoped to win a seat.

He said that An Conradh had taken up the invitation of Fine Gael to debate the position of Irish at second level but was surprised and disappointed that no cognisance had been taken of the opinions of An Conradh, teachers and students and language experts. One only had to look at the experience in England with the severe decline in those taking languages since they became optional subjects at Key Level 4. If the Fine Gael proposals are implemented the same will occur here with regard to Irish. Certainly the teaching of Irish in the educational system has to be reviewed but there is no sense in the Fine Gael policy.

An Conradh demands that the following proposals be put into effect:



**Dáithí Mac Carthaigh,
Uachtarán Conradh na Gaeilge**

- That every primary school teacher should spend a year of their academic course on immersion education in an all-Irish college learning about immersion education through immersion.
- That a subject other than Irish be thought through the medium of Irish to all primary school pupils. Dr. John Harris, Trinity College, has confirmed that about 30,000 pupils receive Irish medium education now and that a further 116,000 are taught an additional subject through Irish. Dr. Harris proposed that this system of partial immersion was effective in English language schools in a system which by and large was failing to give fluency to pupils.
- That two syllabi be developed at second level; *Irish Language* and *Irish Literature*. The competence of students in speech, comprehension, reading and writing, based on the common European Framework, would be examined in *Irish Language* and every student could take that exam. *Irish Literature* would be taught in the Irish medium second level colleges and as an 'extra subject' to students in other schools who had a special interest in or aptitude in Irish much as applied maths is taught now to students who have a special interest in or aptitude in maths.

An Conradh's plan to make Fine Gael's Irish policy a political issue in the next election has been questioned by the Irish language Ezine BEO, although they agree on the extreme adverse effects it would have. They question as to whether it is being handled in a strategic enough fashion and see a risk in the event of Fine Gael being part of the next government. If they do achieve government it is unlikely to be on account of their Irish policy but they will be able to say it was on their programme for government and it is certain that they will implement their marginalisation of Irish. It might be better to

focus on other parties who might share power with them.

An Conradh's approach would seem to mirror that of Máirtín Ó Cadhain, the Irish language activist, author and republican, who wrote a pamphlet in the 1960s, *Irish above Politics*, in which he espoused the need for Irish speakers to put their allegiance to Irish above that to a particular political party and to target particular constituencies in an attempt to sway parties to adopt policies to promote Irish. In the event it seems this policy was ignored by most Irish speakers and supporters at that time. If An Conradh is to make an impact they must be able to demonstrate that and to ensure that they will. It will probably be a case of whether An Conradh can or has the will to organise effectively in marginal constituencies and whether it can actually muster the considerable person power and financial resources needed to engage in effective canvassing of voter opinion, especially Irish speaking voters and sympathisers.

Sinn Féin to Gaelicise Party



**Aengus Ó Snodaigh,
Sinn Féin spokesperson on Irish.**

The Sinn Féin executive has ratified a new policy which will seek to make Irish the first working language of the party by 2016. The motion came from the Culture Department whose head is Séanna Breathnach. There will be a 7-10 year plan to bring Irish into use in every realm of the party's work by 2016, modelled on that of the Basque party Batasuna. Between 1992 and 2000 Batasuna turned their party from a Spanish speaking one in favour of Basque to one where all the work of the party is done through Basque.

The plan was developed after a visit to Euskadi by a delegation from Sinn Féin's Dept. of Culture and a series of meetings around the country. Party leaders will be targeted first with the aim of giving them fluency in the language and a proportion of candidates for election should have fluent Irish. The plan foresees the issuing of bilingual statements and the use of bilingual or Irish election material. Irish will be brought into the party's major publicity events and campaigns.

Proposal a Betrayal of Gaeltacht

In mid June An Bord Pleanála (Planning Appeals Board) refused planning permission for a large housing development just beside the Gaeltacht village of An Spidéal, in the Conamara Gaeltacht. The granting of permission by Galway County Council had been appealed by Airdeall, the Irish Language protection group operating under the auspices of Comhhdáil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge, and Coiste Ghlóir na nGael, An Spidéal. The development was one of the largest yet proposed in the area and would have consisted of 24 semi-detached houses, 3 detached houses and 24 town houses on a site north of the village. Upholding the appeals An Bord said the scale of the development was excessive given the infrastructural deficiencies in the village. It also found that the scale, form and layout of the proposed development would be suburban, piecemeal and disorderly in form, inconsistent with the established pattern of development and would militate against the environmental amenities of the village.

More importantly An Bord also found that the development would be contrary to the protection of the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht as provided for in the Galway County Development Plan 2003-2009. This case is an unfortunate sign that despite a number of rulings by An Bord which support the language provisions adopted by the Council greedy developers who do not give a damn about the effect of their proposals on the linguistic integrity of the Gaeltacht will continue to make such inappropriate applications.

Earlier in the month another ruling of An Bord upheld concerns raised by Airdeall that no percentage of Irish language usage was set for a housing development in Na Forbúcha (the Furbo area, between An Spidéal and the edge of the still westward growing Galway City). They ruled that outline permission for nine houses, three apartments with retail development and parking should include a condition that Irish language usage be set at 66%.

Airdeall has urged Galway County Council (CCG) to apply 'clear language conditions when granting planning permission for developments in the Gaeltacht'. Unfortunately even where it has been enforced on appeal it seems the conditions are not being abided by. A development in the same area for nine houses, six apartments and offices had been appealed by a local man, Páid Ó Donnchú, on the grounds that the Co. Council did not apply language conditions. An Bord ruled that 60% of the houses should be allocated to Irish speakers. The land was sold on to a construction company, Cordil Construction, who began construction without making a legal

agreement with the County Council in regard to the language percentage condition laid down. Representations made to GCC elicited the response that the matter would be investigated!

Airdeall also stated 'It is even now more important than ever that Gaeltacht County Councillors take a stand for the future of the Gaeltacht. It called on them to resist pressure to make changes to the Galway Development Plan that could be detrimental to the Gaeltacht as an Irish speaking district.

Unfortunately it seems that this call is being ignored as Gaeltacht County Councillors met and proposed significant changes to the Irish languages conditions. The 4 Fianna Fail, 1 Fine Gael, 1 PD councillors and surprisingly, the one independent Seosamh Ó Cuaig, have apparently agreed to seek changes which would do away effectively with the language condition in the strongest central parts of the Gaeltacht while retaining it in only in the coastal strip from an Tulach (some 12km west of An Spidéal) to Galway. One can only suppose that this is the usual alliance of business and political interests which dominates local politics in Ireland which has led to this betrayal though some of those councillors deny this. Their proposals would mean that anyone with a connection to an area (even if they are not fluent Irish speakers) could buy houses without any language condition and in the few remaining places where the condition would apply the rule the house could not be sold on for 10 years would be reduced to 7.



**Independent Conamara Galway
County Councillor, Seosamh Ó Cuaig.**

Pádraig Ó Ceithearnaigh of Comhhdáil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge and Airdeall said that the death of the Gaeltacht would be the result of attempts to weaken the Irish language conditions. He continued 'this is being called development when in fact it is destruction. If this proposal is accepted there will be no

Gaeltacht. Developers will target areas in the heart of the Gaeltacht, such as An Ceathrú Rua, where no language condition would apply under these proposals'.

To date the Development Plan of Galway County was the strongest in protecting the Irish language in the Gaeltacht, other counties such as Kerry, Donegal and Cork were being called on to emulate Galway. Now any positive movement in those counties is likely to be forgotten about if these proposals are accepted. Another nail in the coffin of the Gaeltacht.

The latest at time of writing is that a Planning Forum has been proposed by Minister Éamonn Ó Cuív to discuss the language condition. Pádraig Ó Ceithearnaigh said that Airdeall were agreeable to a forum that would bring developers, Udarás na Gaeltachta, County Councillors and community groups together with the aim of ensuring proper protection for the language in the Galway County Development. In the meantime he said the Conamara Councillors should withdraw their ill considered proposal.

EU Constitution Charade

A year after the French and Dutch people in fair, free and democratic referenda voted to reject the EU Constitution the EU political and media elite refuses to accept their decisions even though, according to law, all EU states must vote yes before a treaty is adopted.

In June the EU's heads of state and governments disagreed on the wording of a draft communiqué on the constitution attempting to set a 2009 deadline for agreement.

Ignoring the law States remain split on whether the constitution can be introduced in full or whether it should be amended following its rejection by the French and Dutch in referendums last year. Instead of concentrating on the constitution EU leaders decided on a softly softly twin-track approach to focus on concrete projects claimed to bring value to citizens and create the right conditions for a future institutional agreement.

However, the proposal to place a deadline for the ratification and implementation of the EU constitution was opposed by several states, including Ireland. Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dermot Ahern, said there was no agreement that this period was finite. "But I think people understand that European elections in 2009 is the outer limit." This was not a deadline, he said, "but things have to be dealt with by then if possible." Denmark and Britain have decided not to hold referenda until a new way forward is decided by the EU states.

Fianna Fáil goes North (Again?)

With the withdrawal of the charismatic leader, John Hume, and their increasingly cantankerous deputy leader, Seamus Mallon and the failure of the replacement earnest energetic successor, Mark Durkin to achieve that most effervescent of statures – acceptability as leader in the eyes of the population – the SDLP have become increasingly rud-derless.

What do they stand for (except anti Sinn Féin nationalism)? No one is sure. They are accepted fraternal delegates at Labour Party conferences in England and in the Republic though their initial organising and financial impetus came mostly from Fine Gael activists in Dublin 4. John Hume would have tried to project them as post-nationalist members of the west European family of Christian Democrats; Seamus Mallon as an old Irish Home Rule Party with muscle; Mark Durkin more to the 'L' root which finds it harder to embed itself in the 6 counties because it lack organisation at ground-level. There is increasing frustration at the delays and / or failure to get political institutions in operation, an anxiety taking expression in more and more disgruntled and ex-members of the SDLP asking that they switch modes and affiliate with Fianna Fáil or ask Fianna Fáil to extend its organisation through out Ireland.

Fianna Fáil has successfully projected itself as the natural party of government losing power occasionally through inertia, inefficacy or antagonising significant interest groups (as they did the first time they lost power in the forties, when they foolishly took on the teachers' unions) or the attraction of a credible alternative.

Fianna Fáil was born in the twenties, splitting from Sinn Féin, which remained a 32 county organisation, while Fianna Fáil has been steadily, even steadfastly, a 26 county party ever since. Fine Gael was born in the thirties from an amalgam of Cumann na nGaedheal which was the victor side in the civil war (and party of Government until replaced by Fianna Fáil in the early thirties) and the Blue Shirts under General Eoin O'Duffy (our home-grown fascists); the Centre Party which was the remains of the old Redmonite Home Rule Party (effectively side lined in the 1918 election sweep by Sinn Féin) and a few 'Southern Unionists' abandoned by Carson and Co. at Stormont and opting in to the political life of the 26 county state. And Fine Gael never looked over the border as an organisation.

Labour has a better track record but no significant numbers to render them important in the play for power in the 26 counties.

The idea of Fianna Fáil – a populist party,

as the late Dick Roche described and analysed it in his book, *Géarchéim in Éirinn*, – has been tempted to put toe in water before. Though it was said that the 'cóiriú' or constitution of the party precluded it from organisation in another jurisdiction branches have been formed and lasted however fleetingly in Scotland and in Cambridge University. With these as precedent and affiliation application forms from some groups across the border some party activists tried repeatedly when Jack Lynch was president of the Party, to have the party committed to extending itself formally into the 6 counties. By procedural fudge and time wasting (so that significant time didn't remain at successive and sheascanna to debate motions of such significance) Jack Lynch (to mix sporting metaphors) successfully kicked the topic into touch, into the indefinite future of another Ard Fheis some time in the future.

The difference now is that while most of the players then were from the 6 counties they were resident in the 26 and party activists there. The present other appeals are from non-party people within the 6 counties.

Lynch had no feeling for the Six Counties and was not well informed or well advised. Berie Ahern is probably wiser in his generation and a better stroke player on uneven ground and could surprise many by taking up the disappointed SDLPers' invitation.

P Ó Snodaigh

Social Partnership or Social Inequality?

The benefits of the partnership deal concluded for 2006-16 have been challenged by Kieran Allen, head of the School of Sociology in University College, Dublin and the author of the book *Celtic Tiger: the Myth of Social Partnership*. He has called for the deal to be rejected and a better one negotiated which reflects the contribution workers have made to the Celtic Tiger.

His has been one of the few voices raised in criticism of the agreement but two of the three teachers unions have already voted against, however one of the much larger unions Impact has voted in favour and it seems likely to be ratified by the Irish Congress of Trade Unions.

K. Allen said that, despite the hype, workers will not be receiving a 5 per cent rise for each of the coming years. In the public sector there will be a pay freeze until December; phased increases then will only amount to 4.03% per annum which barely covers the official rate of inflation. Nor does that official rate of inflation adequately cover rising house prices. Workers are now being asked to give extra productivity just to keep up with price increases. If there is not compliance with a host of new measures they will be denied a pay rise.



Kieran Allen, School of Sociology, UCD.

Workers are asked to accept widespread forms of outsourcing, which can be pursued if management claims it is necessary to 'avoid delays in delivery of services'. Trade Unionists are also asked for agreement to the idea of 'shared services'. This would mean that public sector bodies would expand public-private partnerships and have work shifted to many non-union firms.

The basis of this philosophy is that the

private sector is the thriving dynamic section of the economy; however this mythology conveniently ignores how the public sector subsidises it with an educated healthy workforce and how it benefits from an enormous level of 'corporate welfare' as the state taxes it at rates that are significantly lower than those the average worker pays.

The agreement disparages the idea of a nine to five job and weekends of work, under the guise of 'modernisation'; instead it demands that public sector workers either voluntarily agree to work evenings and weekends - with no extra overtime - or allow management to recruit those who will do so.

Pensions are also an key issue. Pension coverage is falling and nearly half of all defined benefit schemes have been closed to new applicants yet the proposals do not compel employers to pay into a pension schemes. They do not even stop extremely profitable companies like the Bank of Ireland throwing new employees out of its defined benefit scheme.

K. Allen sees the proposals as resting on a fundamental imbalance between two partners claiming to be equals. Workers cannot claim extra ability to pay from companies making huge profits while employers can claim inability to pay wage increases if they can point to 'loss of competitiveness'.

Irish Language Rights Charter

The country's first ever Irish Language Rights Charter was launched at the end of June to coincide with the visit of representatives of the Oireachtas joint committee concerned with Irish language issues to the Office of An Coimisinéir Teanga in An Spidéal, Co Galway. An Coimisinéir Teanga, Seán Ó Cuirreáin, had heralded the launch of the Charter during his opening address to a major international linguistic conference held in Galway in mid June. "It is my hope that in finding space for the display of this charter in their public spaces, state organisations will create a place and space for the Irish language in their own endeavors." An Coimisinéir Teanga, Seán Ó Cuirreáin, told delegates at the 10th biennial conference the International Academy of Linguistic Law in NUIG.

The launch was timed to be in advance of the 14th of July when all the provisions of the Official Languages Act will come into force. Many of the provisions have already been introduced on a gradual basis over the past three years but a specific clause within the Act ensures that any measure not already introduced by ministerial order will come into effect automatically on the third anniversary of its signing into law by the President.

The bilingual charter in poster form outlines clearly the rights of Irish speakers in their dealings with state bodies and the services that they are entitled to receive through the medium of Irish. The Charter will be distributed to all state organisations, schools, libraries and other public buildings.

Mr Ó Cuirreáin told the conference of the International Academy of Linguistic Law that much of the criticism of the Official Languages Act in elements of the media is based on a misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the Act. The Act places obligations on 650 different state organisations and agencies and An Coimisinéir Teanga told the conference that it should be perceived as a shield not a sword as it protects Irish language rights without taking away from English language rights.

Describing the Official Languages Act as a practical and pragmatic piece of legislation, An Coimisinéir Teanga told the conference that it does not require or compel any individual citizen, or any individual public servant or civil servant, to do anything in relation to the Irish language: "It does however challenge the management of state organisations to put systems in place to provide certain basic levels of services through Irish for anyone who wishes to



**An Coimisinéir Teanga,
Seán Ó Cuirreáin.**

conduct their business through Irish with the State." He said that the real objective of the Official Languages Act was to create a space for Irish in the public life of this country and would require "change management" on the part of the state organisations.

This is the first time that this major linguistic conference has been held in Ireland (previous conferences have been held in Beijing, Havana, Pretoria, Puerto Rico, Montreal and Hong Kong) and up to 100 experts from 25 countries (including USA, China, India, Russia, Turkey, Finland, Canada, Ireland, etc) presented papers in English, Irish or French on aspects of the theme "Language law and language rights – the challenges of enactment and implementation."

BEO! Five Years Old

The Irish language Ezine is now in its fifth year. Their aim is to provide material in Irish to a worldwide audience. The magazine has regular articles on current affairs, on arts, on historical matters, Irish language issues, an interview of the month and contributions from overseas contributors. Editor Éamonn Ó Dónaill said that **BEO!** attracts 4,000 visits each week and between 15,000 to 20,000 every month. On average visitors read four articles. Most readers come from Ireland, Britain, the USA, Canada and Australia. There is, it seems, no shortage of writers submitting material. The layout is attractive with hyperlinks to articles which generally contain a list of translations of key phrases or words. The magazine is produced with a grant of €70,000 a year from Foras na Gaeilge.

EU seeks Irish Translators

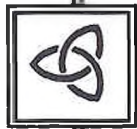
The European Commission is advertising for 30 Irish translators to work at EU Institutions when Irish becomes an official language on Jan 1st. next. They are undertaking a recruitment competition which will involve each candidate taking an admission test and interview. Candidates must have a perfect knowledge of Irish and one other official EU language. They must also have a third level qualification in any course of at least three years' duration. Interpreters for the EU must usually have a third level qualification of interpretation in a particular language but no such qualification exists in Ireland. However University College Galway has introduced such a course in Irish this year.

BRITISH COLLUSION WITH LOYALISTS PROVEN

Papers uncovered by the Derry-based Pat Finucane Centre and the Justice for the Forgotten group show that the British government, as far back as the 1970s, was informed of the highest level of widespread collusion between the Ulster Defence Regiment and loyalist paramilitaries. This was revealed in an article published in the Belfast based Irish News in mid June. The article was written by one of its senior journalists, Steven McCaffrey.

A 1973 document entitled "Subversion in the UDR" reported: "It seems likely that a significant proportion (perhaps 5 per cent – in some cases as high as 15 per cent) of UDR soldiers will also be members of the UDA, Vanguard service corps, Orange Volunteer or UVF." Documents uncovered from the archives also disclosed that in 1975 the then British prime minister, Harold Wilson, and the then Northern secretary, Merlyn Rees, briefed the then Conservative leader, Margaret Thatcher, about the concerns of collusion involving the UDR and RUC with the paramilitaries. British military intelligence in the early 1970s reported that the "best single source of weapons, and the only significant source of modern weapons, for Protestant extremist groups was the UDR."

It expressed fears that the UDR was loyal to 'Ulster' rather than 'Her Majesty's Government' and had information that UDR weapons were being used in the murder of Catholics. Some of the papers also revealed how there was serious suspicion that some UDR soldiers were assisting loyalists to conduct raids of UDR armouries, particularly as many, many more weapons went missing from the UDR than from the regular British army arsenals. SDLP justice spokesman, Alban Maginness said the British government must now answer serious questions about the statements in the 1973 document. The British army and Northern Ireland Office would make no comment on the disclosures.



Kernow



Nowodhow Dhiworth Alban

ESEL NOWYDHD A WRUG LIA YN ALBANEK A-DHERAG SENEDH ALBAN



Maureen Watt, esel nowydh Senedh Alban, a wrug lia dhe'n 19ves a vis Ebryl 2006 dhe Senedh Alban. An kynsa MSP dhe lia yn yeth Albanek yw hi ! Hi a dheu dhiworth rannvro Aberdeen hag Albanek yw hy yeth genesik. Hi a vynn avonsya an yeth albanek. Esel ha kannas an SNP rag Alban an Vorlewen yw hi.

Res yw dhyn perthi kov bos res yw dhe'n MSP lia kyns kemmeres aga esedh y'n Senedh. Res yw dhedha lia yn Sowsnek wostalleth mes y hyllons lia yn Gwydhelek Alban. Albanek po yeth arall wosa henna ! Lies esel re dhewisas lia yn Gwydhelek Albanek avel yeth nessa hag onan yn Katalanek ! Maureen Watt yw an gynsa dhe lia yn Albanek !

Hag Alban re waynyas skoedhyer a'n yeth Albanek gansi mes soweth dherag re gollas ynwedh skoedhyer pur boesek an yethow Alban gans memans a-dhiwedhes Margaret Ewing, esel geryes da an SNP...

Summary: Maureen Watt, member of the SNP, sworn in the 19th April as a Member of the Scottish Parliament. She is the first to take the parliamentary oath in the Scots language. She intends to promote the language as she is a native speaker. We must remind that the oath must be taken first in English but may then be repeated in Gaelic, Scots or any other language. While Scotland has gained a new supporter of its native languages, Scotland has lost another very important one with the death of Margaret Ewing, the famous member of the SNP.

SKOEDH RAG SKOL YN GWYDHELEK ALBAN

Kerens re ordenas petyshyon war linenn rag ri spas dhe skoedhyoryon an Gwydhelek Alban ha yethow nebes kewsys dhe skoedhya kaskyrgh rag profya skol Sleat war ynys Skye dhe dhos ha bos oll Gwydhelek.

Kres pur boesek rag gonisogeth gwydhelek yw Sleat. Res yw dhyn perthi kov yma yn Sleat kollji gwydhelek kenedhlek a Alban



henwys Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. Rann vrassa studhyoryon an kollji a dhyks dre Wydhelek. Kerens a vynsa gweles Sleat profys avel skol oll-gwydhelek rag skoedhya godhvos ha kyfyans yn Gwydhelek ha rag krevhe an yeth y'n gemmynieth.

Pur boesek vydh diwedh an kusulyans ma rag an yeth ha rag displegyans adhyskans dre Wydhelek yn Alban. Henn a via sel rag settya gwir dhe vos adhyskys yn Gwydhelek yn rannvro yow gwydhelek a Alban avel yn rannvro yow gwydhelek Iwerdhon po rannvro yow kembrek a Gembra !

Soweth yma tus yn enebieth gans towlenn an gerens rag profya kollji Sleat avel kollji oll-gwydhelek, ytho res yw dhyn skoedhya an gerens ma ha sina an petyshyon war linenn dhe'n drygva ma : www.petitiononline.com/slcite/petition.html po pella derivadow war wiasva Comann nam

Pàrant Shleite : www.cnampshleite.org.uk

Summary: Parents calling for the designation of Sleat primary school on the Isle of Skye as an all-Gaelic school have launched an online petition to give supporters of Gaelic the opportunity to back the campaign. This would support pupils' ability and confidence in Gaelic and strengthen the language in the community. It would bring Scotland in line with the Irish Gaeltacht and strongly Welsh speaking areas of Wales. Alas campaigners face a difficult task as a vocal pressure group has been established to oppose the plans... So they need our help !

José CALVETE

BYWNANS KE

Dhe wertha lemmyn yma dyllans an gwari henwys Bywnans Ke. Skrifys veu adro dhe gres an hwetegves kansblydhen, mes kellys heb oel erna veu kevys yn 1999 yn mysk paperow an penn dyskader Caerwyn Williams warlergh y vernans, yn Kerdydh.. Kembra. Denvyth ny woer fatla nag a by le y teuth dhe vos ganso.

Gwari diwedhes yw hag, yn rannow, fest arnowydh y semlant, awos oll y hen destennow . Kynsa rann yw istor bywnans Sen Ke ha'y brevi der an tebel vyghthem Tewdhar, selys war vywnans-skrifow bretonek. Hogen y wriansow yw stegys fast orth rannvro y blu, Lannsege, dre golmennow orth henwyn ha hwedhlow teythek.

An nessa gwari (po rann) a dheriv istor Arthur (*Arthur Gernow*), Gwynnnuwer ha Modres. Yma bresel meur yntra Arthor ha'n emperour Romanek . Lusi. Kales yw dhymm krysi nag o an kasow a 1497 ha 1549, orth myghternyow Tudor, yn brys an skrifur (Soweth ny wodhon y hanow).

Darvos reydhel

A-der an breselyow ha galarow an sans, yma, dhe'n kynsa prys y'gan gwariow-mir, dew 'dharvos reydhel', hag yn mysk lies ger nowydh-aswonys yn kemewek yma onan 'dogluthi' a hevel styrya an ger 'f' mar veurgerys gans an sowson.

Res o studhya dour ha hir an mammskrif drefenn bos meur a galletter, yn kynsa le, unnweyth y redya .

Dasskrif yw ha lies namm ynno, neb a omdhiskwedh kemmys yn linennow sowsnek, frynkek ha Latin, hag y'n kemewek.

Dr Ken George a geskusulyas gans lies huni may fo an dyllans ma mar dha dell allo bos, ha dyllys yw yn tri versyon, skrifa an mammskrif sywyes dre dreuslytherennans yn kemewek kemmyn ha trelyans yn sowsnek.

Ny vynn ev leverel y vos an 'diwetha ger' , mes, wosa hwegh blydhen, pub den-oll a yll redya an pyth yw heb mar keworrans a vri dhe'n dresorva a gemewek.

Bywnans Ke... The Life of Saint Ke

It is with delight that an edition has been printed of a long-lost Tudor Cornish play. Readers may now find the original text plus a rendering in 'kemmyn', the most widely used orthography today, accompanied by an English translation. The manuscript is in places defective and there is a large body of vocabulary unique to this play. However, the bulk of the play is firmly established and very entertaining.



Dr. Ken George

'Discovered' in Cardiff in 1999, amongst the papers left by Professor Caerwyn after his death, we have been awaiting a printed edition of this play, Bywnans Ke. It is a difficult manuscript, in places obviously mis-copied, and missing a few pages. Still, it is very hard to forgive a scholar who 'sat on' such an important addition to the Cornish literary heritage. Not only did he never mention its existence but left no information on its provenance.

The A4 publication contains the text in its original spelling, a version in Kernewek Kemmyn, a translation to English, scholarly notes on the text and copious other notes and appendices.

Bywnans Ke, Ed. Dr K George, Pub. Kesva an Taves Kernewek, Price £11 + post & packing.

Available from: Gwynn ha Du, 4 The Arcade, Lyskerwys/ Liskeard, Kernow/ Cornwall pawla@gwynnhadu.fsnet.co.uk
Tel. 01579 347373

For God and St George...

*Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.*

So goes the last verse of Jerusalem, the 'English National Anthem', written by William Blake and put to music by Hubert Parry in time to raise flagging spirits in the Great War. It was intended to help make sense out of the senseless carnage of the trenches, to say that fighting the war had some purpose, some meaning, because it was all part of England's national purpose.

Blake was saying that the people of England should strive to create a nation to act as an example to the world just like God's chosen people, the Jews. Coming at the apex of empire, England's national identity had been based on the belief that it had a divine mission to spread civilisation in the world by conquering and subjugating other peoples. However, the same year that Jerusalem was first sung, the Irish decided, after centuries of war, repression, massacres and starvation, that they had had enough of being 'civilised' and rose in the 1916 Easter Rising exactly 90 years ago last Easter.

The subjugation of Ireland was a direct result of a national identity based on a belief in possessing a divine mission to conquer and dominate others. It might be said that the First World War was too, Germany resorting to military confrontation with Britain and France as it was being humiliated in its own efforts to establish an empire.

Imperialistic national identities, therefore, are extremely dangerous and, worryingly, a number of nations still have them. Some nations, such as Germany and Japan, have been compelled by military defeats to shed theirs completely, but England has not. William Hague once remarked: "English nationalism is the most dangerous of all forms of nationalism"; small wonder there are growing concerns that government efforts to strengthen English identity is helping the rise of the far-right BNP (whose official anthem, funny-old-thing, is Jerusalem) and that the World Cup will be marred by English soccer hooliganism.

But what about an identity for Cornwall whose history has been defined, like Ireland's, by a defensive struggle for freedom? What is our role in this troublesome world?

It is not easy being considered a 'country bumpkin' just because of your accent, surviving on the national minimum wage or the dole, never owning your home while so



Andy Phillips is a Cornish Anglican priest and secretary of Fry an Spyrys, the campaign for a Church of Cornwall.

many houses stand empty, living in expensive and uncertain rented accommodation, your kids suffering the indignity of being denied their history, ethnicity and identity at school, the call for the return of historic freedoms ignored. Ian Bradley wrote in his ground-breaking book, *The Celtic Way*:

"It has been said there are two kinds of people in history – those who do things to others and those who have things done to them. The Celts as a race indisputably belong to the second category. Their story is one of oppression, suffering and progressive marginalisation – the way that was trodden by Jesus in his time on earth."

The pacifistic docility of small nations like Sweden, Switzerland and the Republic of Ireland acts as an example to those who believe that might is always right, that their nation has a God-given duty to subjugate others by economic power or military muscle.

Surely this is a role for Celts in this divided world, to know the way to the cross trodden by Jesus that first Good Friday and to challenge those who make us and others walk it. It would mean being a Ghandi or Martin Luther King, not a Che Guevara or Nick Griffin; not responding to subjugation with hatred, but with pity; yes, it would mean seeking justice with firmness, but without malice. It would mean seeking reconciliation and embrace, not vengeance and exclusion.

It may not seem a very attractive identity in a world of power-politics, but it is the correct and only Christian response to this ever-more crazy and unjust world. And it is one we could be truly proud of.

Andy Phillips

Contact: www.freethespirit.org.uk

THE SILLY SEASON

Dydd da, ha gwella gorhemmnaddow rak oll poble Keltek.

(Good day and best wishes to all Celtic peoples)

Once more the English try to win a world cup, once more the fanatics ride through our country waving their blood bespattered butcher apron from the windows of their cars, unconcerned that we were not all born Anglo Saxon, unconcerned at the offence this mindless act of misplaced loyalty to a largely invented nation, causes to a large section of indigenous Cornish people. An act even endorsed by the Prime Minister of the so-called *United Kingdom of Greater Britain* that includes the Scots, the Welsh, some of the Irish, and Manx as well as ourselves, many of whom, like us, have a rather strong desire to see their football team defeated as soon as possible.

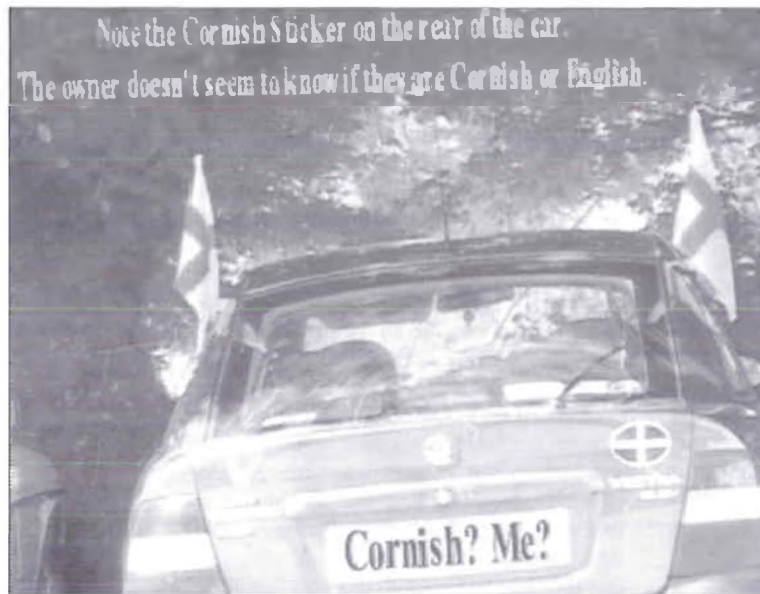
I say a large section because as the accompanying photo shows, many of our own people are duped into supporting them, but why? The English nation has come into our country on more than one occasion and slaughtered our ancestors in enormous numbers. How can any self-respecting Cornish person wave their flag for them?

The answer lies in their propaganda machine manifested in the Central state education system, Central Broadcasting system, and the England football supporters club who promote their team by hawking England football memorabilia in all our local shops, with the emotive excuse of "We must support the lads", no one ever asks why, and the supermarkets and other largely English owned businesses comply, whilst local businesses and people feel somehow unpatriotic if they don't. Such is the subtlety of this anglo state that Cornish school children are denied access to their own culture and the truth of Anglo historical aggression in Kernow. Of course, our children have no idea of the ongoing battle by the few to bring Cornish human rights problems before central government or the EU.

Historically it took centuries for education of the common man to gain a measure of acceptance by central government who were rather busy building themselves an empire with the use of an army that was very heavily composed of Celts, and a Navy that I estimate was composed of about 60% of

Cornish people not to mention Celts of the other nations. Look at the names on historical navy lists.

However, suddenly they became aware of the propaganda benefits of inculcating innocent school children with English cultural values. I may be wrong but I believe that the Benedictine order used to say: "Give



us a child for its first seven years and we will return a dedicated Catholic for life". They were astute long before the anglo empire cottoned onto the value of such a system. *(NB I myself was brought up a Catholic, no disrespect implied to the Benedictines).*

It must be remembered that to an innocent child, the teacher is some sort of demi-god with knowledge they can never hope to equal, moreover, teacher is always right. If teacher asserts that Cornwall is nothing more than an English county, then that is a fact the child will bear forevermore. Few indeed are the children who question this anglo teaching, and when they do they are castigated and punished for it. I personally know the family of one young girl who was kept in detention for insisting that Cornwall was a separate country. And if required I can produce the evidence. I am also led to believe that she was not the only one either. What hope do a minority Celtic people have in the face of this usurpation of historical fact by the proponents and applicators of a state governed education authority run by the Central government?

What hope do they have when the media, even the local media, push England and its culture at us at every opportunity? Ask the average English teenager to give the name of an English hero and the answer you are likely to get is Wayne Rooney. As a Scottish child and you'll likely get Wallace, The Bruce, or

one of the many Scots who resisted English domination. Ask a child of the Welsh Bro the same question and you'll hear of Llywelyn ap Gruffedd, or Owain Gyndwr. Ask one of the decreasingly few, aware Cornish children, and you'll get An Gof, or Humphrey Arudel. A marked contrast to the almost monarchical position accorded by the English to their football heroes. I think one is entitled to ask...What has the England football team ever done for the nation? They are over paid, over-subsidised, and as English as Sven Yoren Eriksen. Such is the

ability of the Anglo State and its sports minister and council, to engender a mass national fanaticism over what after all, is supposed to be a game not another world war. This is cultural domination being pushed upon many who don't want it.

I could go on and on and on, quoting incidents and occasions when central authority through both outright misinformation, and political underhandedness, has and is doing its best to inculcate the children and adults of the Celtic nations, into a false anglo culture.

They seem to reliably forget, and certainly do not tell our children that this Island was once peopled by Brythonic speaking ancestors from the

Shetlands to Cornwall. They conveniently forget, that their Celtic Christian ancestors were driven out by a horde of uncivilised, illiterate, berry eating barbarians from the hogs of Bavaria. Those same barbarians now presented to our children as peaceful peasant farmers.

Nothing could be further from the truth, read their own (Saxon Chronicles) accounts of the invasion. Why, when they obviously met with Celtic resistance did they feel no need to fortify their conquered lands in the south East against the Celts? They'd driven them out to the North and West, that's why. This same convenient forgetfulness is applied to the teaching of Cornish school children when the state education curriculum board instruct that our children learn of: Romans, Anglo Saxons, and Vikings.

Anglo Saxon didn't begin occupy our country until after William-the-conqueror. The Romans left around 410AD, what happened to the almost 600 years of history in between? Half a millennium of Cornish history, of enlightened education, literacy, and language, monastic colleges, illuminated Christian manuscripts, conveniently forgotten in the name of conformation to an anglo state.

As for me the sooner England are defeated in the world cup, the better, I'll be cheering on any nation against whom they play.

Sue Bowen

Mannin

Yn Impiroilaghys Reesht

Foastagh, t'eh ynsit da dy chooilley pheiaagh, bunnys, dy row yn Impiraght Romanagh ny red yindyssagh ass towse. Ren ee cur lesh, t'eh grait, shee, oardrailys as ardveenid. As ren ee geddyn rey rish corvaal barbaragh. Rish keeadyn dy vleecantyn, va'n Raue reill harrish yn impiraght eek ayns shee as ardveenid myr soilshey gial y teihll. Agh eisht, ny veggan as ny veggan, hooar ny Barbarce niart as ren ad stroie as spoilley yn Raue hene. Huitt yn Impiraght Romanagh veih myr cheilley, va'n ardveenid caillt as haink ny Eashyn Dorragey rish. Va'n Oarpey cummal ayns barbaraght gys jerrey ny Eashyn Dorragey, tra haink y Renaissance, yn Aavioghey, rish, as hooar ny Iddaalce ynsagh as ardveenid y teihll classicagh ass y noa.

Nish ta possan dy scoillaryn as sleih elley gra dy vel shoh oolley boghtynid. Ta daa loar, myr sampleyr, gra shoh. Y chieid loar, shen 'The Decline and Fall of Roman Britain' liorish Neil Faulkner (Tempus Publishing Limited, 2004). Y nah loar, shen 'Barbarians' liorish Terry Jones as Alan Pereira (BBC Books, 2006). Va'n nah loar currit magh marish strane-chellveeish er BBC2.

Ta Neil Faulkner gra dy nee 'roosteyrys lesh raghlid' va'n Impiraght Romanagh. She ny Shenn Ghreegee va gymmydey'n fockley 'barbaragh' hoshiaght, t'eh jeeaghyn. Peiaagh erbee nagh row Greagish eehey ny eek, she 'barbaragh' v'ayn. Cha row cheengey chiart oc - v'ad goll nygeayrt gra 'bar-bar-bar' car y traasyn ynyd jeh loayrt ayns Greagish. Myr shen, she 'barbaragh' gagh peiaagh nagh row ny Greagagh, dooyrt ny Shenn Ghreegee sonnaasagh. Va ny Shenn Ghreegee er mullagh y teihll tra nagh row ny Romancee agh jeh beggan scansh. Agh sy jerrey, haink ny Romancee dy ve ny smoo niartal as ny smoo scanshoil na ny Greagee. Nish, she ny Romancee va gra 'barbaragh' rish persoon erbee nagh row ny Romanagh ny gaghtey as loayrt goll rish Romanagh.

Ayns loar Neil Faulkner, t'eh soilshaghey yn agh va'n impir Romanagh Claudius bunnys eginit soie er y Vretyn ayns 43 AD. Kyndagh rish sorch dy lhag-haghyrt va Claudius ny impir, as begin da gagh impir Romanagh noa cosney gloyr as pooar liorish soie er cheer nagh row syn Impiraght foast, marroo ram jeh ny cummaltee as geid bee as argid voue son y Raue. Casley rish sooder-folley agglagh, va'n Raue eginit cur tooilley

cheeraghyn fo chosh. Er yn oyr shen, hoie Claudius er y Vretyn. Sy toshiaght, haink eh lesh ny Romancee. Lhiant ad rish nyn bolasee cadjin: Romanaghey ny fir-toshee ynydaght, eisht cur orroosyn gurneil y cheer son y Raue - polasee feer speeideilagh son y chooid smoo. Agh sy jerrey hooar ny Romancee magh nagh row eh er ve feer cheeallagh dy heet gys y Vretyn. Son shickyrys, v'ad speeideilagh dy liooar sy jiass. Agh sy twoaie va caggey-guerilla boirey er ny Romancee ny smoo as ny smoo. Myr ta Faulkner gra, 'Hooar ny Barbarce Twoaie yn varriaght.' Dy firrinagh, cha dod ny Romancee cur y Vretyn fo chosh as cha daag ad monney ny lurg oc tra v'ad eginit immeecaght magh ass d'endeil nyn jeeraghyn sy Cheer Voar.

Cha row ny Romancee cur lesh ardveenid as resoon. Son y chooid smoo, v'ad cur lesh tranlaase, roosteyrys, dunverys as torchagh. Feer vennick, va ny smoo ardveenid ee ny 'Barbaree' na v'ee ny Romancee. Er agh ennagh, va ny Romancee goll rish colught-dellal y laa t'ayn jiu. Mannagh dod ad cosney argid, jarrood eh. Dy firrinagh, sy jerrey cha dod ad cosney argid sy Vretyn as va'n Vretyn nane jeh ny buill s'jerree phrow yn Raue dy chur fo chosh. Ghow yn Impiraght Romanagh toshiaght dy ghoill sheese y liargagh lurg shen.

Sy loar 'Barbarians' ta cabdil ny ghaa mychione ny Shenn Cheltice sy Vretyn as ayns Gaul. Ta ughtiaryn y loar soilshaghey nagh row ny Celtice (as 'Barbaree' elley) 'barbaragh' er chor erbee. Hrog ad raaidyn roish my row shen jeant ee ny Romancee, va cooinaghyn oc as yeeagh ad da ny Romancee yn agh dy gheddyn aih ass y thalloo. Chroo ny Celtice Feaillere Coligny, feaillere va foddey ny share na red erbee va ricau ee ny Romancee. Dynsee ny Celtice da ny Romancee yn agh carriadsyn as faince mic y yannoo. As va baljyn stoamey ee y sleih ayns Gaul roish my varr ny Romancee millioon ny ghaa jeh ny Gaulee. Cha nel scoillaryn as sheanseyrn er n'eddyn magh paart jeh'n stoo derrey blein ny ghaa er dy henney. Ny smoo as ny smoo, ta shin toiggal dy dinsh ny Romancee breagyn moorey ta sleih er chredjal rish keeadyn dy vleecantyn. Boayl erbee va currit fo chosh ee ny Romancee, red ad nyn gooid share dy gheddyn rey rish y chultoor ynydaght dy bollagh. Cha dod ad jannoo rish red erbee nagh row Romanagh. Ren shen goaill stiagh yn agh va ny Shenn Cheltice dellal rish mraane. Va cairyn ee mraane Celtiagh: cha row cairyn erbee ee

mraane Romanagh. Agh heill ny Romancee dy row ny Celtice ny smoo 'barbaragh' foast er y fa dy dod ben Cheltiagh scarrey rish dooinney va bwoalley ish, myr sampleyr.



Ken Loach

Ta impiroilee foast gymmydey 'gloyr y Raue' dy chur nyn impiroilaghys hene er e hoshiaght. Sy nuyoo cash jeig, va impiroilee Sostnagh kinjagh cur yindys er yn Impiraght Romanagh as gra dy row ad geiyrt er ny Romancee as ad cur ardveenid da ny 'lesser breed' liorish yn 'Pax Britannica'. Ta sambyl jeh shoh ry gheddyn ayns Niall Fergusson, y fer-shennaghys Goaldagh t'er n'eddyn startey mic ayns Ollooscoill Harvard ayns America. Nagh abbyr dy bragh dy dooar eh yn startey shen er yn oyr dy row eh ayns foayr jeh Impiraght Americaanagh. Va strane-chellveeish ee Fergusson ayns Sostyn as eh moylley impiraghtyn. Agh t'eh mollit ee ny Americaance - t'ad er vailleil: cha nel ad er ve lajer dy liooar dy ve nyn impiroilee kiart.

Va'n impiroilaghys ry akin reesht tra hooar Ken Loach yn Palme d'Or ayns Cannes son y fillym eehey 'The Wind That Shakes the Barley.' Shoh fillym mychione caggey ny Yernee son seyrshys as y caggey eddyr lught y Steat Seyr as ny Pobblaghtee mysh kiare feed blein er dy henney. Ta Thoreeyn Sostnagh corree erskyn towse er y fa dy chossyn Ken Loache yn aundyr shoh. She 'fillym scammyltagh' t'ayn ta 'noi-Hostnagh' as myr shen foast. T'eh jeeaghyn nagh vel ny bonkanyon shoh er nynsaghey veg. Cha nod ad jannoo lesh yn irriney. Sleih nagh vel Pobblaghtagh noadyr, t'ad gra dy nee fillym mic as cairagh t'ayn. Agh t'eh foast orrin myr Celtice dy ve noi'n impiroilaghys boayl erbee t'eh ry gheddyn.

Summary

There's growing realisation that the Roman Empire was not the Good Thing generally presented to us. But for a long time, imperialists have held up the Roman Empire as a shining example to be imitated. Imperialism is still alive and well, as seen in the recent reaction in England to Ken Loach's prize-winning film 'The Wind That Shakes the Barley'

Brian Stowell

Mec Vannin slams Manx Government Sell out

Mec Vannin, the Manx Nationalist Party, held its AGM in May. The following officials were elected for the coming year: President: Bernard Mollatt, Chairman / PRO: Mark Kermode, Secretary: Verity Gorry, Treasurer: Cristl Jerry, Editor: Alan Comish

The meeting paid tribute to the memory of Freddie Cowle / Jamys y Cowle, the Party's Cultural Officer and leading Manx speaker who died earlier this year.

The meeting approved the following position statement:

Mec Vannin is the only enduring political party in the Isle of Man to offer consistent policies, a viable alternative vision and opposition to an ongoing policy of selling-out the Manx people in the guise of bringing economic prosperity. For over forty years, our predictions of failure have been vindicated, our warnings of marginalisation materialised and, on the few occasions where some crumbs of our policies have been half-heartedly used, the feasibility of our alternatives proven. During that same time, a host of single issue groupings, reactionaries and self-interest groupings have come and invariably gone.

A central crutch for ongoing government policies is the myth of deprivation counterbalanced with a simplistic and distorted representation of pure economic success. One hundred years ago, Mannin's poor were no poorer than the poor of England. The same applies two hundred years ago. Indeed, the first whole-sale flood of economic immigration from the mid-19th century on also coincided with the highest rate of Manx emigration, proving that trickle-down economics is a lie peddled by those who gain from it. It is proven to be a lie from the economic figures that demonstrate that as the wealthy get relatively wealthier, the poor become relatively poorer.

Despite viciously prosecuting the sell-out over the past 20 years, the government still faces overspending leading to cut-backs to prevent bankruptcy. This is against a backdrop of sustained world-wide economic success that has known no parallel in the past 100 years. It is impossible to think of anywhere in the world that has not improved economically, except in the face of military conflict and natural disaster. The government in the Isle of Man cannot claim successful policies in this environment; far from it.

Pensions and health care are being steered away from the state system and towards private enterprise. Other services will undoubtedly follow.

Despite being repeatedly warned about

over-reliance upon the finance industry, those who have claimed to represent the Manx people over the past decades have allowed the finance sector to become not simply economically over-dominant but dangerously politically powerful too. The several former civil servants who have migrated seamlessly into consultative roles in the finance sector lends credibility to the belief that private enterprise has a dangerously strong "handle" on elements of a civil service that seems to dictate policy to politicians rather than the other way about. Imagine if the same effort had been applied to the likes of agriculture, an industry that is racing headlong towards oblivion. We should all remember that we can't eat money.

Some of the cultural nationalists seem to have become so blinded by the cynically tokenist gestures of support from the government that they have lost any sight they may ever have had of the bigger picture. Mec Vannin has a broader remit.

Increasingly, MHKs are electing to fulfil an administrative rather than political role: simply going through the motions of heading government. Is this because too many are now graduates of a Local Authority system that knows no more than administrative functions, or is it because the politicians are too weak to make and implement policy? No matter which, the result is the same: the government in the Isle of Man consistently acts as nothing more than a glorified Local Authority. There seems to be an entrenched inability to appreciate national economics; that it can never be cheaper to pay to import something that can be sourced from within.

With this policy of importation comes the policy of immigration. In 1962, the arbitrary figure of 75,000 people was declared the "viable" population figure. With that figure left far behind us, the government wants more. It will never be satisfied because the immigration policy is fundamentally flawed and will never deliver the economic goods. Mec Vannin said this 40 years ago and we were right. We say this now and we are right.

Protocol Three and the Custom and Excise Agreement were short term solutions of political expedience and become increasingly damaging to our ability to manage our own affairs. Mec Vannin said it at the time. We say it now. We will say it in the future.

The Manx people are now so marginalised that the government believes that their views can be ignored. Irrespective of whether Mec Vannin seeks representation or not, we have an absolute right to challenge government policy. We know that this government is incapable of dealing with any criticism and relishes in a newspaper monopoly that asks few questions. Indeed, there is an acceptance



of monopolies without regulation that, yet again, casts doubt over the political integrity of government in the Isle of Man.

Mec Vannin recognises the need for human rights legislation, as does the civilised world. The government in the Isle of Man was pressured into passing such legislation only to find an excuse to leave this legislation unimplemented: Actions speak louder than words. Conversely, if some arm of the international finance industry contrives an argument that claims "rights", the government bends over backwards to avoid confrontation. The Isle of Man gives companies more rights than its people, thus revealing the true motives of the policy makers.

Mec Vannin does not tinker with its fundamental policies. It does not flip-flop or prostitute itself in the pursuance of popularity. It does not water its policies down to become palatable to the people who would act against our objectives. Mec Vannin is not disingenuous. We do not forget that the government in the Isle of Man is a British government, bound by oath and constitution to the British Crown and subservient to the UK government. We do not forget that the many failings of the government in the Isle of Man, including incompetence, corruption and disingenuousness are equally failings of the UK government that has sat idly by and watched.

A degree of despondency amongst our population is understandable, as the Manx people dwindle, as the government continues its high-handed, anti-social policies, as all the positive aspects of our quality of life are trampled to keep the government in pocket and in the pockets of vested interest, but Mec Vannin is every bit as relevant now as forty years ago and will continue to be relevant in the future, whether we participate directly in a government proven to be corrupt and unconstitutional, or whether we are on the outside, ungagged and unfettered by a system that cannot tolerate even the tiniest dissent from within. That is our right.

Mark Kermode
Chairman / Publicity Officer
Mec Vannin

Secondary Education through Manx?

In July 2007 the first small group of children who have been receiving their education through Manx at Bunscoill, will be leaving to begin secondary school the following September.

It is hoped that they will be able to take some subjects through Manx, but there is uncertainty as to whether or not the feeder secondary school is willing to make the necessary provision. Historically, some secondary schools have been less than helpful in timetabling Manx for students who opt to take it as an extra curricular subject.

Parents of children at Bunscoill have shown a great deal of commitment and I know in some cases did much soul searching before sending their children to a Manx medium school in the English speaking world that surrounds them. I'm sure that they would all agree that they made the right decision and any doubts they had were soon dispelled. From my observations and feedback, education for them has been a positive and happy experience. There are now 45 pupils at Bunscoill age range 5 to 10.

These children represent real hope for the future restoration of Manx as a community language. Their rights must not be denied.

C.J.K

"Cáirde le Chéile!"



"Cáirde le Chéile! The stunning progress made on the Isle of Man was celebrated recently when 40 Irish speakers visited. Christy Evans of Coláiste na nGael said ' We visited Tynwald and found out about the growth of Manx medium education. The three day gathering mixed lectures, scenic walks and good food. Skeaal, the acclaimed Manx group performed and the Irish speakers left the Isle of Man with a clear sense of the progress that can be achieved. Photo: Christy Evans with teacher, Paul Rogers, and pupils of Bunscoill Ghaelgagh (The Manx Language Primary School).

The Voice of Scotland in Europe

The Leader of the Scottish Nationalist Party, Alex Salmond, visited the European Parliament in May to speak in front of a gathering of over 500 delegates from regionalist and nationalist parties from across Europe.

The assembly was in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the European Free Alliance (EFA), the parliamentary group and organisation of nationalist and regionalist political party members from throughout

Europe, including nationalist parties from Alba, Breizh, Cymru and Kernow

In his speech, Mr Salmond said that Scotland was an old nation waiting to be part of a new Europe and that the SNP was looking for equality of status for Scotland within the EU. Since the 2004 enlargement a total of 14 EU states are smaller than Scotland and are more influential at a European level.

Additionally Montenegro, with a population of fewer than 700,000, became the latest

European state to emerge from an outdated and old European order (to which it could be argued the United Kingdom and France still belong), when its population voted for independence from Serbia in a referendum on May 22nd 2006. Milo Djukanovic, the Prime Minister of Montenegro, argued that his country was in a stronger position in terms of its economy and the possibilities it had of joining the EU sooner, than if it stayed connected to the Serbian state.

In his speech to the EFA Assembly Alex Salmond strongly echoed the sentiments of Mr Djukanovic, when he said:

"If anyone suggested that Ireland's interests in Europe would be better served by being represented by London and the UK, they would be laughed out the room. And yet, remarkably, in the current Scottish Executive, they still believe that Scotland should stay silent while British ministers take the lead...

The SNP has a proud history of engagement with Europe led by Madame Ecosse herself, Winnie Ewing. It is my determination to build on this tradition, so Scotland not only wins friends across the European Union, but begins to enjoy the full benefits offered by this great partnership of nations."

Rhisiart Tal-e-bot



Alex Salmond addressing delegates at the European Parliament.



Celtica



FÉILE FIDELMA 2006!

Sister Fidelma's World at Cashel

Ireland's international best selling fictional detective celebrated in a weekend convention by her 'hometown'

September 8, 9 and 10, 2006

Cashel Palace Hotel, Cashel, Co Tipperary, Ireland

'We defy anyone picking up a Sister Fidelma mystery not to be hooked on these superbly written historical thrillers.' - **RTE (Book Programme)**

'The detail of the books is fascinating, giving us a vivid picture of everyday life at this time... the most detailed and vivid recreation of ancient Ireland.' - **Irish Examiner**

'Tremayne has created a great character in Fidelma and brilliantly conjures up the world she inhabits... This is masterly storytelling from an author who breathes fascinating life into the world he is writing about.' - **Belfast Telegraph**



Sister Fidelma, fictional sister to King Colgu of Cashel, is not only a religieuse but a qualified advocate of the Brehon Laws in 7th Century Ireland. She made her first appearance in short stories in 1993 written by Peter Tremayne, the fiction-writing pseudonym of a Celtic scholar. *Absolution By Murder*, the first novel featuring this remarkable crime-solving sleuth and her partner Brother Eadulf, an Irish-trained Saxon monk, was published in 1994. With 16 titles now published in the series, she appears in ten different languages from seventeen publishers throughout the world. The stories have been read on Irish and Canadian radio, appeared in dramatised form on German radio and have now been bought for developing as a television series.



Peter Tremayne the creator and author of the Sister Fidelma series is, of course, no stranger to the Celtic League. Under his own name, Peter Beresford Ellis, is the well-known for his works of non-fiction about the Celts and aspects of Irish history. Peter is a long-standing member of the Celtic League and was once chairman of the League. In 2003 he was made an Hon. Life Member of the Irish Literary Society (founded in 1891 by Nobel Literary Laureate W.B. Yeats) whose current president is the Nobel Literary Laureate Seamus Heaney.

Cashel Arts Fest has organised the three day symposium for the devotees of the books. It is hoped that it will be one of the most important literary events in the Cashel calendar. A talk on 'Fidelma's World' given by Peter Tremayne will open the 3 day programme. Other speakers, all prominent in their fields of study, will cover topics which will broaden participant's knowledge of the historical setting of the novels. Dr Seaggs will evaluate the impact of Sister Fidelma in Irish Crime fiction and Hans van den Bloom will cover aspects of translating the Fidelma novels. The weekend promises to be informative and entertaining with a good social calendar.

Details of the event and how to book can be found on both <http://www.sisterfidelma.com> and <http://www.cashelartsfest.com>
Email: Emily Kirwin on info@cashelartsfest.com or write to: Emily Kirwin, Cashel Arts Fest, Cashel Heritage Centre, Old Town Hall, Main Street, Cashel, Ireland.

THE IRISH LANGUAGE: An Overview and Guide

Author: Dáire Ní Chatháin
(2002). New York: Avena Press., 146 pp.
ISBN 0-9670778-2-6

For those of us who have not grown up in an Irish-speaking environment but who work hard at the dream of becoming Irish speakers, this little gem of a book is both informative and encouraging. It is a relatively small tome filled with a great deal of information and would likely be a wealth of information for the Irish speaker as well.

The early chapters provide a history of the Irish language - Archaic Irish (4-5th centuries, A.D.), Old Irish (700-950 A.D.), Middle Irish (950-1350 A.D.), Early Modern Irish (1350-1650 A.D.) and Late Modern Irish (1650-present). The author walks us through the different areas where Irish made its mark during the language's rise, decline and renaissance. These areas include the early poetry, place names, mythological writings, biography of the saints and the annals of the fourteenth through seventeenth centuries. The author also comments on the Viking and Anglo-Norman invasions and what that meant for the Irish language.

Another chapter explains the political processes that caused the decline of the Irish language, and how English became the language of the powerful. In some cases the only two formally educated persons in a town or village were the priest and school teacher and it was not unusual for neither to have a knowledge of Irish. Nonetheless, the Irish people went to amazing lengths to preserve their language and culture. Ní Chatháin also shares a striking fact about Irish speakers, "...in 1824 more than two million people commonly used the Irish language, three quarters of whom spoke no English." It is also noted that in the New York of 1851 over fifty percent of Irish immigrants spoke Irish. For this reader, these numbers really challenge the stereotype of Irish as a frail and weak medium even as early as the 19th century. A major blow to the language was the potato blight because by far it was the poorer, Irish-speaking population who were the victims.

As early as the last decades of the nineteenth century, a linguistic consciousness was growing as demonstrated by a grammar and an Irish language periodical that were in print. With the turn of the century, publications in Irish increased including novels, plays and a new Irish-English dictionary. The author points out the numerous battles that the Gaelic League fought to establish the Irish

continued on page 23

language. One battle was against the National Bank that would not process checks written in Irish; another was against the National Railways that opposed the posting of train station signs in Irish. There is also some discussion about the place of Irish in, or separate from, the political struggles going on in Ireland. Perhaps the author could have focused more on this controversial aspect of the language. Ni Chartúir also provides descriptions of the best of Irish literature through the decades of the twentieth century. Unfortunately, she does not give translations of the book titles that are discussed. She also cites several examples of linguistic cross over, with works translated from Spanish to Irish, Irish to Hebrew, as well as a connection closer to home with a multilingual publication of poetry in Scots Gaelic, Irish and English. This particular chapter leaves the reader with a clear idea about the rich and varied availability of novels, poems, plays, books for children and literary criticism available in the Irish language. The student of Irish is given another reason to learn Irish: clearly there is a great deal of interesting and modern written material for the reader of Irish.

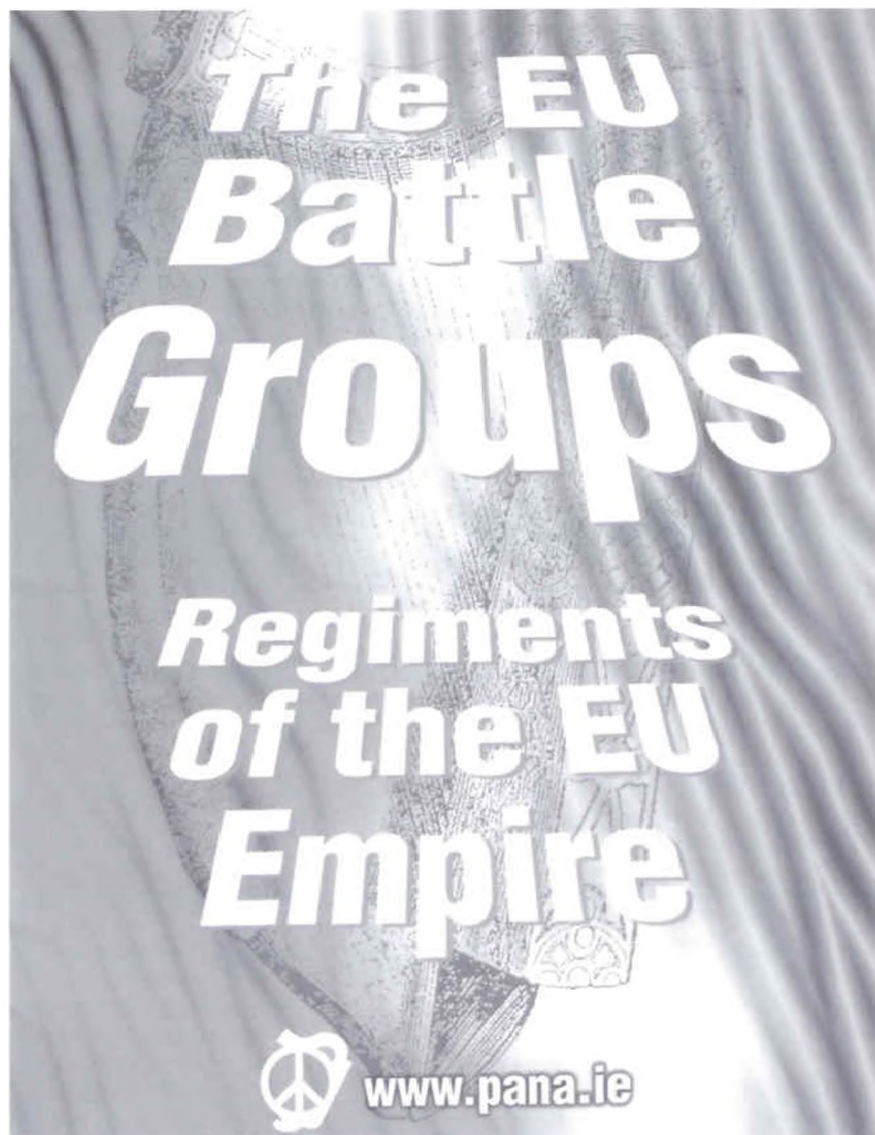
From here the author sets the Irish language in a physical context speaking about where it is spoken and how it varies by dialect, how it has been standardized and its use beyond the shores of Ireland. There is also interesting information about personal, family and place names. The author discusses gathering places where one can interact in Irish outside of the Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking region). There is also a wealth of information about newspapers, radio, television festivals and theatres that use the Irish language. There is also a number of websites that are provided.

Chapter 5 provides a description of the language that is quite helpful for the student. It informs us about different parts of speech and some of the unique features of this language. This chapter also provides an annotated bibliography of learning materials for the student of Irish. Just a few years ago, it would have been hard to study Irish just anywhere but with the rich variety of resources provided, certainly it is good news for anyone interested in learning more about the Irish language, regardless of where they reside.

The book finishes with testimonials of Irish language students who have taken the plunge of studying in the west of Ireland during the summer. Their observations are stirring and their experiences in several different Irish-speaking communities made a big difference in their gaining further mastery of this lovely language.

In summary, this book takes an informative as well as an inspiring approach to the Irish language. It leaves the reader feeling that there are numerous resources at hand, many that were not available a few years ago, and that learning Irish is certainly possible with all the books, tapes, CDs and websites that are now available for the task.

Terence P. Hannigan



"We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies to be sovereign and indefeasible." - 1916 Proclamation

"Are we all clear that we want to build something that can aspire to be a world power?" - EU Commission President, Romano Prodi, 13/2/01

In 1916 the Irish people were given a choice: support the Irish Volunteers of the Irish Republic or the Regiments of the British Union and Empire, a choice between Irish Independence or Imperialism. In 2006, as the Irish Defence Forces are about to be integrated into the EU Battle Groups, the Regiments of the European Union and Empire, the Irish people are again being offered a choice between Imperialism and Irish Independence. The decision of the Government to have 200 Irish soldiers join the EU Battle Groups is just another step in the process in the destruction of Irish Independence, Irish Democracy and Irish Neutrality. The integration of Ireland into an Imperial, militarized neo-liberal European superstate allied to the US will ensure the full and active participation of all of Ireland in the resource wars of the 21st century. The defeat of the EU/US axis is the only inevitable outcome of these wars.

The Peace & Neutrality Alliance advocates another choice - a United Independent Irish Republic - as part of a democratic Europe, a partnership of Independent, democratic states, legal equals without a military dimension. We believe a reformed United Nations is the institution through which Ireland should pursue its foreign policy and security concerns. The choice for the Irish people is clear, and it is the same as it has been for generation after generation. The choice is either the Republic or Imperialism.

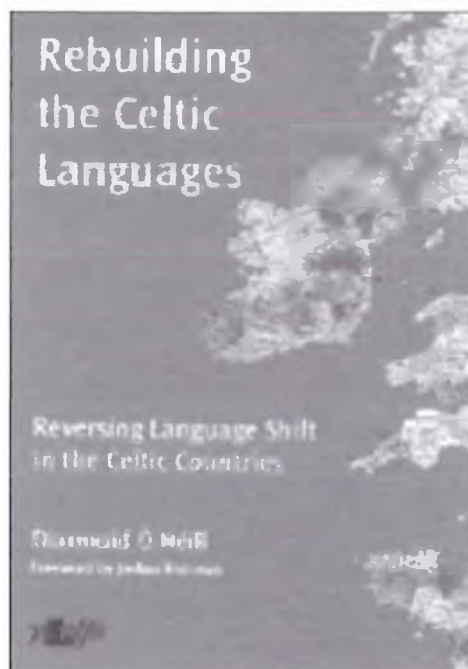
Roger Cole, Chair of PANA

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 £14.95 at <http://www.yloffa.com>



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 August 2006. 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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CARN

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 135

Autumn 2006

€4.00 Stg£3.00

- Independence First gathers support in Alba
- A Path to the Future for Brittany
- Disappointment with Welsh Language Board's Strategy
- Evaluating the 1916 Rising and the struggle for Irish independence
- One Man and the Flag of Cornwall
- Yn Ellyn as y Pholiticaght
- Immigration in Mann
- CARN and Communication
- Celtic Water Games in Aberfal, Kernow



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 TRON GHÀIDHLIG

Taing don Achd Cànan Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005 earrann 3(4)(a) thàinig Plana Nàiseanta Gàidhlig air son ar cànan bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig. Gun teagamh tha e buntainneach do na còig cànanan Ceilteach cuideachd.

Sa chiad dol a-mach, tha am Plana a' dèanamh sgrùdadh air eachdraidh na Gàidhlig agus mar a chaidh i sìos, leis an geur-leanmhainn thairis air na bliadhnan. A nìd chan eil ach mu 60,000 Albannaich a' bruidhinn ar cànan Albannach (a' Gàidhlig) ach ceud bliadhna air ais bha 250,000 ga bruidhinn. Taing don Achd bithidh na h-ughdarrasan ionadail a' dèanamh suas na planaichean aca gus am bi ar cànan co-ionnan ris a' Bheurla Shasannaich.

Ma bhios am Plana seo soirbheachail bithidh gach Albannach a' bruidhinn ar cànan Gàidhlig on chreathail don uaigh.

Dè cànan aca ann am Pòlainn an-diugh ach Poileis, ged a bha Ruiseanais agus Gearmailtis riaghladh pàrtean den Phòlainn uair. Bha Gearmailtis smachdail air feadh na Poblachd Czech-ach, agus mar sin air adhart.

Chan eil am Plana Nàiseanta seo a' dèiligeadh ris na sgoiltean far a bheil a h-uile teagaisg tron Ghàidhlig ach a h-uile taobh beatha far a bheil cànan feumail mar nar dachaigh, nar coimhearsnachd, nar n-àitean-obrach agus mar sin air adhart, far a bhiodh ar canain ...agus ga cuideachadh.

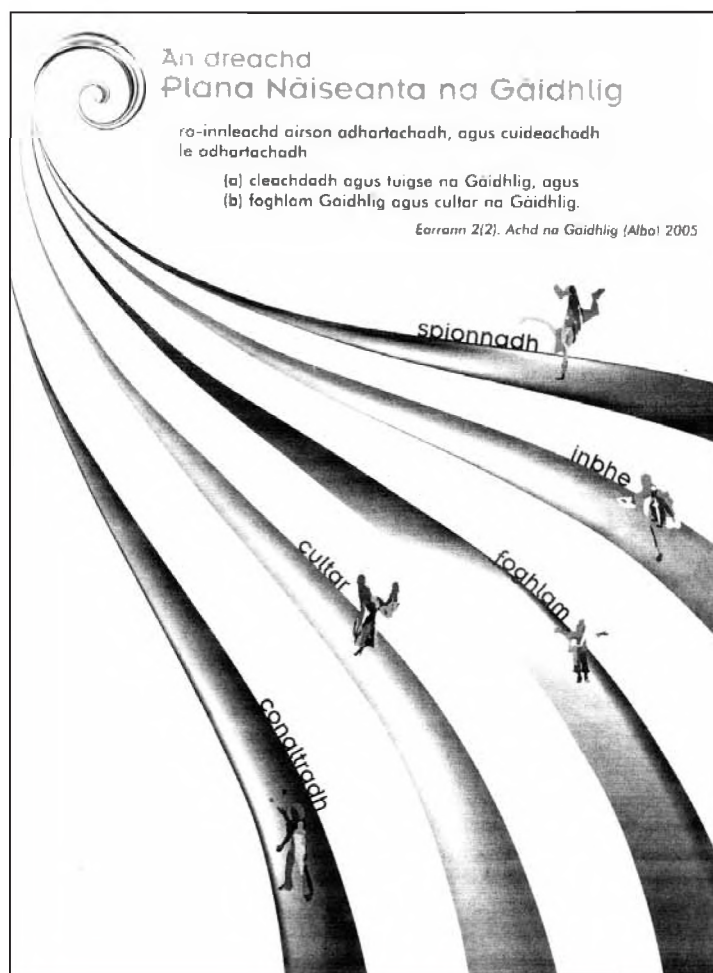
Tha am Plana Nàiseanta seo feumail do dh'Alba agus do gach cànan Cheilteach eile. Tha e ri fhaotainn bho Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Darach, Stoneyfield, Inverness IV2 7PA, sa Ghàidhlig agus sa Bheurla. Ma bhios beachdan agaibh cuiribh iad gu Peadar Morgan, stiùiriche Planadh Cànan aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig roimh 5 feasgar air 10mh an t-Samhain 2006 no bidh sibh ro anmoch.

Sin agaibh tron phost-d: plana@bord-na-gaidhlig.org.uk, www.bord-na-gaidhlig.org.uk

Tha am Plana Nàiseanta seo ro

chudthromach bhon a tha Aiseirigh a' dol ann air feadh Alba gu lèir a nìd an dèidh bas na h-Ìmpireachd. Bha geur-leanmhainn na Gàidhlig ro mhòr. Leis an Achd Foghlam (Alba) 1872, thoir misg e teagasg na Gàidhlig no tron Ghàidhlig uile gu lèir air feadh Alba. Taing don Achd bha sgoiltean Ghàidhlig dùinte no a' teagasg tron Bheurla a-mhàin.

Nuair a nach robh an sgrìobhadair ach òg, bha e na shuidhe air glùn a sheanair gu tric



agus chuala e mar a bha am bodach aig an sgoil, mar a fhuair e sgailcean ro phiantach gach latha bhon a bha e a' bruidhinn sa Ghàidhlig ri sgoilear eile ann an raon-cluiche. Bha ar cànan toirmisgte gu tur san sgoil ged a bha gach sgoilear an sin fileanta sa Ghàidhlig! Seo agaibh geur-leanmhainn dha-riribh!

Ach tha a' chuibhle a' dol mun cuairt! Dh'fhosgail Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu o

chionn ghoirid, far am bi teagasg uile gu lèir tron Ghàidhlig air son sgoilearan eadar trì bliadhna a dh'aois agus ochd bliadhna deug a dh'aois.

A rèir Dòmhnall Màrtainn, ceannard Comunn na Gàidhlig, "seo agaibh eisimpleir do choimhearsnachdan eile na h-Alba, mar eisimpleir, Inbhir Nis far a bheil croileagan agus far a bheil iad a' togail bun-sgoil", agus is docha gum bi àrd-sgoil Ghàidhlig ann cuideachd ann an ùine ghoirid.

Seo agaibh an fhìrinn! Feumaidh sinn stri gus a bheil a h-uile sgoil is colaiste air feadh Alba a' teagasg tron Ghàidhlig a-mhàin mar a tha dùthchannan eile al teagasg tron al chànan aca fhin san Roinn Eòrpa, mar eisimpleir Portagailis feadh Portugal no Ungairis air feadh Ungairidh.

Na diochuimhnichibh, tha a' chumhachd ann sin a dhèanamh, taing don Achd a steidhich ar Pàrlamaid, thairis air an Fhoghlam. Ma bhios sibh dealasach croileagan no sgoil Ghàidhlig steidhicheadh bhiodh ùidh aig Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Àraich, 53 Sràid na h-Eaglaise, Inbhir Nis IV1 1DR

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SUMMARY

The National Plan for Gaelic is not just a document of interest for Scotland and her language but also for all with any degree of support and enthusiasm for Irish, Cornish, Manx, Welsh and Breton and which of those is one's language. It has been compiled and published in implementation of the demand for such a Plan in the Gaelic Language Act (Scotland) 2005 section 3 (4)(a); passed by the Scottish Parliament.

It is a National Plan, not restricted to any area of Scotland but concerns itself with the language and teaching through Gaelic, like the Glasgow Gaelic school which only teaches through Gaelic and that from the age of 3 to that of 18. It is said that Inverness may be the next place for its Gaelic medium school to cater for such ages.

Tollcross Gaelic medium school, Edinburgh might be the next to cover the age range like that of Glasgow.

This National Plan for Gaelic is obtainable from Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Darach, Stoneyfield, Inverness IV2 7PA, www.bord-na-gaidhlig.org.uk, Tel: 01463 225454

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich no Mac a' phearsain

"Alba" in League Win

Initial reports from certain Scottish newspapers are saying that the new Scotland football strip, to be released at the end of August 2006, is to include the word "Alba". This follows a ten year campaign initiated by the Celtic League, and followed up by politicians, the "Tartan Army" (Scotland's fan club) and others. In 2005, the AGM in Skye passed a motion supporting this campaign and condemning SFA Executive, David Taylor's opposition to the move.

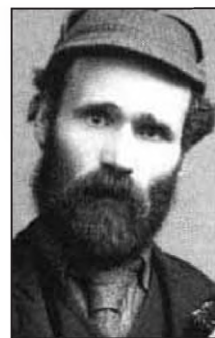
Raymond Bell who started the campaign in 1996 said,

"With luck, this proves that persistence can pay off. Such campaigns can often turn into

a game of 'patience', and there were no reasonable grounds for the SFA's refusal, as the request was neither expensive nor offensive. The importance of this move cannot be underestimated, if the reports are true. It acknowledges that Gaidhlig is a national language, not just some regional patois, and it also brings the language to a large section of the Scottish populace who would normally have no exposure to the language in the form of close family connections, ceilidhs/folk music or even Gaidhlig television. This has a far bigger significance than most people immediately realise."

But it should not be forgotten that the campaign was inspired by 'Cymru' on the Welsh rugby top, and that the SRU is yet to be 'tackled' on the Alba matter. Sports teams in the other Celtic countries need to be lobbied on similar matters.

Scottish Pamphlets



The Scottish branch has produced two new booklets.

◆ The first, "James Keir Hardie" features several (English) articles, written for the Celtic League by Gwynfor Evans. The article on Keir Hardie is particularly interesting, his betrayals by the Labour party is relevant to their appalling behaviour regarding Iraq and Afghanistan etc right now. The book has been published to commemorate the life of Gwynfor, and contains a tribute from the Scottish Branch

◆ The second, "A History and a Future" is a fascinating look at the Scottish political scene between WWII and the 1980s, by CL founder member Seamas Filbin. It discusses lessons from the past and how they can be applied to the present day, as well as the story of the Celtic League's foundation in 1961.

Both are available for £1.50 (including P&P) from Ray Bell at 33, Gogarloch Haugh, Edinburgh, EH12 9JG. Euro/bulk orders on request. Discount for Celtic League branches.

Independence First

Further messages of support

Independence First, the referendum campaign has announced that the Scottish Enterprise Party is the latest organisation to provide a message of support.

Press Officer Joe Middleton commented "While the SEP is a small party, their support means that we now have a full set of pro-independence organisations supporting our campaign.

Alan McCombes, Tommy Sheridan MSP and Carolyn Leckie MSP, Lloyd Quinan and Kevin Williamson from the Scottish Socialist party have all given strong individual messages of support for our campaign.

The SNP's Sandra Whyte MSP, Mike Russell, Bill Wilson and Stewart Maxwell MSP have also indicated their support.

The Scottish Green Party has expressed official support for the campaign, as have the Scottish Enterprise Party, the Free Scotland Party the Communist Party of Scotland, the Celtic League (in 2005) and the Scottish Republican Socialist Movement. Messages of support have been received from across the political spectrum.

The Scottish Independence Convention, whose meetings IF representatives attend, is also officially backing our pro-democracy march and rally on the 30th of September."

He added, "In short then every single Scottish independence supporting party and pro-independence political organisation have backed our strategy of pushing for a democratic referendum by the people, here in Scotland. The Scottish independence movement as a whole is united around our campaign and we hope to show this at our march at the end of next month."

www.independence1st.com

Sovereignty lies with Scottish people?

Not according to UK government.

Independence First, the referendum campaign recently wrote to both the UK Government and the Scottish Parliament demanding a democratic referendum for the people of Scotland on independence.

The Scottish Parliament replied: "The Scotland Act 1998 sets out the statutory framework for the Scottish devolution settlement. Schedule 5 to the Act defines matters which are reserved to the United Kingdom Parliament."

"The devolution settlement and constitutional matters generally are reserved matters under the Act. The Government of the United Kingdom is responsible therefore for considering any fundamental changes to the existing devolution framework in Scotland."

The Scottish Office in London replied "It is worth noting that in the UK political system the UK parliament is sovereign and it is for Parliament to decide whether or not to hold a referendum on any particular issue - and what the terms of any referendum should be."

Mr Middleton, IF press officer commented, "This is simply not accurate; in England, parliament is sovereign, but in Scotland the people are sovereign. These answers are not acceptable. Obviously both the UK Government and Scottish Parliament are deliberately ignoring Scotland's rights to democracy under international law."

Ray Bell



**Independent Scots read the
'Scots Independent'**

Contact

**51 Cowane Street, Stirling FK8 1JW
Alba/Scotland**

Telephone

Stirling 01259 730099

Website

www.scotsindependent.org

OBITUARY – DAVID LEADBETTER

David Leadbetter, born 19/11/34, South Battersea, London passed away in Edinburgh's Western Hospital on 15/03/06 after a long illness. Although born in London with a South East English accent, Dave was more than an adopted Scot. He embraced the whole culture enthusiastically when attending Stirling University between 1969 and 1972.

After taking law at Newcastle University Dave became politically active in the Scottish Republican demonstrations at "Red Stirling", against the Queen's visit there. From student political activities he joined the International Marxist group and the John MacLean Society. Dave wished to concentrate more on the Scottish Republican side of MacLean and was a founder member of the cross party offshoot, the 'Scottish Republican Socialist Clubs', with MacLean's daughter, Nan Milton, as well as Hugh MacDiarmid, Morris Blytheman (radical poet and songwriter, better known as Thurso Berwick) and others. The Republican Clubs became the Scottish Republican Socialist Party in 1982 and reverted to a cross party Scottish Republican Socialist Movement to join the newly formed SSP in 1998. The SRSRM did not believe it ethically correct to have a party within a party, hence the change of name. Dave, along with others, refused to join the SSP, not trusting their commitment to Scottish Independence. He did not believe it possible to go forward as a "pluralist/dualist" party, allowing overt and covert Unionist platforms in the same political organisation.

Dave was a passionate believer in every stage towards his final goal and supported the campaign for a Scottish Convention from the early 70's. As a Marxist he had no difficulty chairing meetings with diverse opinions such as Churchmen, Trade Unions, Business organisations, as well as political parties, as long as they had agreed to work together for an agreed achievable aim. He also supported the SNP as a logic step toward his goal of a "Scottish Workers Republic", believing its ramifications would proceed beyond our own borders.

As a former employee of Ken Livingstone's human rights "Inquest" office he became an expert on constitutionalism. He used his experience on designing constitutions to hone the constitution of each stage of the Republican Movement in Scotland. As a founder member of the Willie MacRae



Society he put these skills to good use by recruiting diverse figures as an English Barrister plus the editor of the 'Morning Star' and a retired Cornish scene of the cries officer. John Farquhar Munro, Gaelic speaker and Liberal MSP, was a member of the Society and put his contacts as Highland Councillor to use in erecting the cairn, between Invergarry and Kyle of Lochalsh, to use. Dave was corresponding with the MSP recently regarding his assistance and position on the Parliament's petitioning committee.

Dave will be missed for his debating and writing skills, as well as his vast knowledge of all things Scottish. He will be missed by his personal friends, not least because of gourmet knowledge of the "Scottish grape".

His ashes were scattered at Arbroath, where he spoke at the Declaration of Arbroath commemoration annually, and at Glencoe. Dave lived in the glen and ran a local radical genuine campaigning paper, the 'Lochaber Free Press', which successfully opposed nuclear dumping in Glen Etive.

by Donald Anderson

Glasgow Gaelic Campus Opens

A new stand-alone Gaelic education campus opened in Glasgow in August which will provide nursery, primary and secondary education, enabling pupils to study through the medium of Gaelic from the ages of three to 18.

As is typical of the national situation, Gaelic-medium secondary provision had previously been provided within a unit in an English-medium school where very few subjects were available in Gaelic. The new school campus will enable the full curriculum to be taught through Gaelic.

Small parties see rise and fall

The two small pro-independence parties in Scotland, the Greens and the Socialists have had an interesting time of late.

In the spring, Mark Ballard MSP of the SGP successfully won the position of Rector at Edinburgh University, receiving enough votes to drive Tory pretender and clown, Boris Johnson into third place. Johnson was scuppered when a "humorous" poem of his from "the Spectator" describing the Scots as a "venomous" race was read out in hustings to loud heckling. As party leader, Robin Harper is due to retire soon, Ballard, along with Eleanor Smith and Patrick Harvie is one of the main contenders to take his job.

The SSP on the other hand have had an interesting time, since party leader, and their first MSP, Tommy Sheridan successfully sued "The News of the World" for £200K. It was alleged that Sheridan had attended "swingers" clubs in Manchester and visited prostitutes. Sheridan has won, but it looks as if his party is in disarray, after allegations of backstabbing, lies and general philandering have been made. The SSP looks like to divide into two, possibly three, due to the ruckus of this case, one of the most interesting (and vicious) in Scottish legal history, with SSP figures on both sides of the case.

Ray Bell

National Plan for Gaelic Launched

The first ever National Plan for Gaelic was launched by the statutory Gaelic language agency Bòrd na Gàidhlig in August for a period of public consultation. The draft plan which has come about as a result of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 proposes strategic measures to normalize Gaelic and to promote its development. The final version of the plan will be launched in early 2007 and will form the basis of Gaelic development for the next five years.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig is also carrying out a consultation exercise on a draft statutory guidance document on Gaelic language plans. Public bodies required by Bòrd na Gàidhlig to draw up Gaelic language plans under the terms of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act must have regard to the final version of this guidance.

The documents can be read at www.bord-na-gaidhlig.org.uk.

Màrtainn MacLeòid



Breizh



Bywnans Ke: ur pezh-c'hoari e kerne-veureg krenn nevez dizoloet

Sant Ke a zo unan e touesk meur a sent a vez anavezet e Breizh, e Kerne-veur hag e Kembre, hervez an anvioù-lec'h. Evel ar re all e oa kustum beajiñ etre an teir bro, er c'h-wec'hvet kantved; hag evel ar re all e voe skrivet istor e vuhez, e penn-kentañ e latin. Siwazh, ar buhez-mañ a zo kollet, met e 1637 e voe adskrivet e galleg, gant Albert le Grand. Kavet e vez bremañ, gant un troidigezh e brezhoneg, er levr *S. Ke: vie et culte*, embannet gant Minihi Levenez. Ennañ e lennomp petra rae Sant Ke e Kerne-veur, ha penaos e varvas e Kleder e bro Leon.

Er bloavezh 1999 e voe kavet, e touesk paperioù skiantel lezet gant ar Prof. Caerwyn Williams e bro Gembre, daou-ugent pajenn skrivet dre zorn er c'hwezegvet kantved, e kerne-veureg. Sklaer e oa, goude un tamm studi, e oa rann vras ur pezh-c'hoari dianav, diwar-benn Sant Ke. Sur e vezen e vefe kavet un devezh bennak un oberenn bouezus e kerne-veureg, met ne ouien ket mar vefe e-pad va buhez.

An dornskrid a voe graet en eil hanter ar c'hwezekvet kantved, met ar pezh e unan a zo koshoc'h; krouet e oa etre 1500 ha 1530, marteze. N'eo ket klok; meur a bajenn a vank. Memestra, hon eus 3300 linenn nevez a gerne-veureg krenn da studiañ. Evel *Bywnans Meriasek*, e oa aozet ar pezh-mañ da vezañ c'hoariet dre zaou zevezh. An danvez a vez disheñvel en div rann. Er kentañ devezh, Sant Ke a zeu da Gerne-veur, d'ar barrez anvet Kea war ar kartennoù (e-kichen Truru). Tabutal a ra gant ur roue droug, hag a daol anezhañ er prizon. Deuet er-maez, e sav ur feunteun santel, hag implijout he dour da bareañ ul lovr, hennezh a ro da Ge pevar devezh-arad a zouar. Diwezhatoc'h e pak Ke muioc'h a zouar digant ar roue pa vez ar roue stanket e-barzh ur gibell. An eil devezh a zo dedennus, o vezañ rann istor anavezet ar roue Arzhur.

Ar skrid kavet e bro Gembre a zo un adskrid; n'eo ket ar skrid-mamm. Neuze ez eus fazioù e-barzh, pezh a laka diaes e gomprenn. Tamm ha tamm eo bet diskoulmet ster ar gerioù, met e chom meur a linenn c'hoazh dister. Tost sur omp e voe skrivet ar pezh er skolaj Glasnedh, evel ar pezhioù-c'hoari all. Uhel eo live ar yezh, gant meur a glotenn e div silabenn e-lec'h unan. Bez' ez eus muioc'h a linennoù er yezhoù estren eget er pezhioù-c'hoari all: e latin, e saozneg hag e galleg. Anat eo e oa ar skrivagner un

den desket mat, met n'ouzomp ket piv e oa.

Ur blijadur vraz gant studiañ *Bywnans Ke* a zo bet dizoleadenn gerioù nevez, da lavarout eo, gerioù na vezont ket kavet er skridoù all. Un toullad mat eus ar re nevez, avat, a voe empennet gant R. Morton Nance en e c'heriadur kerne-veureg-saozneg a 1938: e touesk ar re-mañ emañ *funeth* 'fumez', *lanow* 'lanv', *reyth* 'reizh' ha *sergh* 'serc'h'. Met evit brezhonegerien, ar re dedennusañ a zo ar gwrizioù nevez henvel ouzh ar brezhoneg: da skouer; *naska* 'naskañ', *ken-tel* ha *kedhlow* 'keloù'. Gant dizoloadenn ar pezh-c'hoari-mañ, ar ment a gerne-veureg krenn a zo bet brasaet dre 10%.

Embannet eo bet ar pezh hag un droidigezh e saozneg ha notennoù skiantel, gant *Kesva an Taves Kernewek* (The Cornish Language Board). E bremañ a c'heller digant Jori Ansell, 65 Churchtown, Gwinear, Hayle, Cornwall, G.B., evit £11 hag ar mizioù-kas.

Ken George

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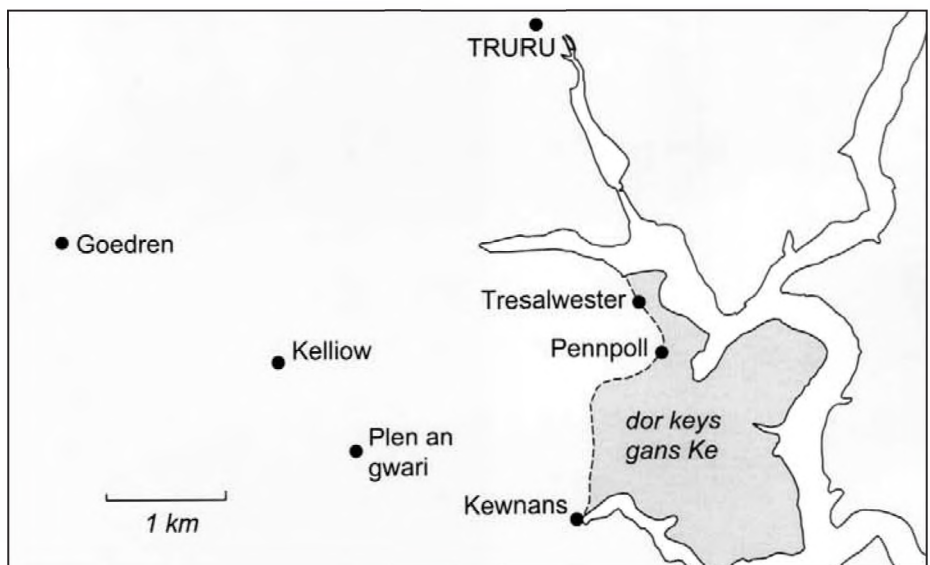
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www.breman.org - breman@wanadoo.fr



Summary

Following the article in Cornish in the Summer 2006 edition of *Carn*, a similar one is here presented in Breton. The recent discovery of the play *Bywnans Ke* has increased the amount of extant literature in Middle Cornish by 10%, providing us with some 250 new words and (in the second day's action) an addition to the Arthurian canon.

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A Path to the Future for Brittany

Jean-Yves Le Drian addresses the Lokarn Institute.

The board of the Lokarn Institute (LI, an association for businesses in Brittany) invited Jean-Yves Le Drian, the President of Kuzul-Breizh (the Council of Brittany), to address its meeting in June. The main goal was to agree on a hundred projects for the 2007 elections for the President of the State and parliament.

The atmosphere at the meeting between the new President of Kuzul-Breizh, Jean-Yves Le Drian, and the representatives of the Breizh business community (the agrifood industry), was friendly and positive, all the more so because the President had already been working together with the President of the LI on various economic programmes over the previous few months.

The conference started with the LI's project known as 'Breizh and its Future'. The LI invited businessmen to 'dream and try...because we will have a future'. President Alain Glon began his talk with the situation in Breizh, saying, 'It's not possible to go on with less hours of work and more taxes. We must all look this century to the criterion of happiness or fulfilment. In the European community we need to look at fulfilment from a regional perspective, because it's impossible to change Paris. We must work here through e-Breizh with the people who are in charge of our region. That's why the LI propose that our businessmen work on a regional chapter with a Celtic background, for the future of Breizh.'

President Glon went on to outline out his view of the pyramidal organization of French power, so much loved by Napoleon himself. He argued that because the 'Republican Contract' no longer works we need to know who are we and who we want to be in the future.

The Vice-President, Milig Kaer, gave a summary of a survey done by the LI two years ago when they canvassed businessmen for their views on the 'Future of Breizh'. This survey gave much better answers than previous surveys which had been conducted through polling companies.

The top three values to emerge were firstly, to have a good quality of life and to respect our Celtic culture, that's to say to welcome visitors like tourists, to respect Nature - rivers and seas, and the security of the people - human rights. The second value was to ensure a good business base, that's to say to keep the agrifood business at the top level, in terms of jobs and production. The third value referred to the history of Brittany (all 5 *départements*), that's to say the right to work in family, group, clan, co-operative etc., always mindful of the important role women play in Breton society.

Joz Bihan, a business teacher in Europe and

North America, underlined the main goals for the future of Breizh. He said 'Breizh must emulate Ireland and Finland and employ the best students. To succeed we must also avoid too much administration and take into account the fact that energy will cost much more this century. Therefore Breizh must work much more with the WEB. Because our businesses are quite small, we must develop links between them if we want to keep up with our competitors on the global market. In the future we really need to offer new products made in Breizh. On the other hand, we must cope with the population problem. The trend is not good even if the elderly people and the English incomers have stopped the decrease this century. The game is not over. We must be very careful that Breizh will not become like Cornwall where the English incomers are very numerous. Therefore it's very difficult to develop our Celtic culture and feel good at home. Last goal, but not least - we must understand that business will be more and more important within the European Community.'

Jean-Yves Le Drian, President of the Council of Breizh, joined the conference in the afternoon. He started his speech with a few words about the 10th anniversary of the Lokarn Institute in 2004. Those present were delighted to hear of these memories. Then the President took time to explain what he means by a Breizh identity. J.-Y. Le Drian underlined the fact that the Breton workers like to work together because it's a Celtic way to behave and the Celtic culture takes into account the land, the sea, and an open mind on the world. Social life here is quite strong. The lower and middle income groups are indeed quite close in terms of real revenues. Education is still very important. We are top level for the Bac. So Bretons are a positive and well-behaved people. All these different things are part of the Breizh identity, that's to say a 'corpus bretonicus'.

Labour's policies are on track, slowly but surely, said Le Drian. Let's start with the B15 (5 *départements* +10 cities which meet together five times each year). The results are good. We try to go forward even if it's not always easy. We asked the state for the right to take charge of the water programme, under the new laws of decentralisation. Unfortunately the state rejected our demand. As a result, the council of Breizh refused to be part of the programme 'Breizh neat water'. With regard to the Breton language, J.-Y. Le Drian tried to implement the new legislation, but on this sensitive subject the government in Paris did not answer, despite the huge demonstration (5000 people) organized in Roazhon in May. As everyone can understand, here in Breizh, it will be difficult



Photo: Courtesy ABP

to achieve the sort of devolution where the devolved authority receives a budget of £ 21 billion, as in Cymru.

Globalisation was the third subject. In so far as we are at one end of Europe, far from the markets of the new members of our community and from the world markets, we must take globalisation into account. To keep in touch with the EU market, businessmen and politicians from Breizh must work hand in hand with the organization of transport. 'Listen, I have a scoop for you, the Council of Breizh will be soon in charge of the ports in Brittany. Therefore, we must work together in order to define a policy. The Council will apply this policy as soon as possible', said J-Y Le Drian. 'Regarding the railways, it looks as if high-speed trains will be in Roazhon and Naoned by 2012, which is supposed to be good news for business. Wait and see. I do remember that the TGV Paris-Lyon-Marseille took most of the headquarters of the big businesses of Lyon up to Paris within ten years. Therefore the Celtic culture will be very important to fight this process on the Atlantic coast of Europe.'

Regarding the ARDE (Agency for Regional Development) J-Y Le Drian underlined four goals, that is to say International, Research and Development on the economic and social fronts. President Le Drian was very happy with the Marconi Award for the Turbo-Code created in Brest University. This kind of award is very positive for the young students of e-Breizh. It's high time to develop a strong and distinct economic image for Breizh, especially for the international markets. Globalisation is an opportunity for Breizh. He believed that, like Ireland and the Celtic Tiger, Breizh is a country where everything is possible.

Gi Keltik.

CELTIC CONGRESS 2006

The Celtic Congress was held in Karaez in central Brittany from July 31st to August 4th, 2006. The subject of the congress was Celtic Influence in Visual Arts. The speakers from each country described brilliantly this Celtic influence in their country. The list of speakers included:

Kernow: Alison Bevan, director Penlee House Museum, Penzance;

Mannin: Dorcas Costain-Blann, artist;

Breizh: Armel Ar Sec'h and Johanna MacKenzie Farmer, "Poellgor an Tarv" Academy of Brittany;

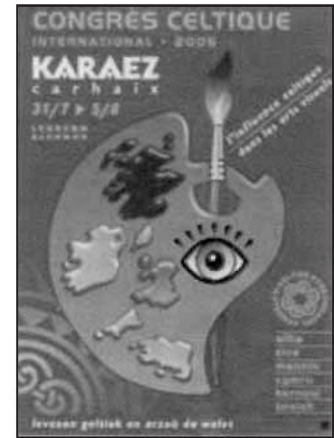
Cymru: David Petersen, sculptor;

Alba: Donald Murray, artist;

Éire: Clodna Cussen, sculptor;



Display of plates designed by René-Yves Creston



Congress Celtique cover design by Jakez Derouet secretary of the Breizh Branch.

An exhibition of table-top arts was held in the Noz Vad hotel in Karaez. A parade of modern fashion, inspired by the traditional embroidery of Brittany, showed this Celtic influence in the field of clothing. It is unusual to have a fashion parade in the Celtic congress, and this novelty entertained the participants.

Musical events took place every evening, including a remarkable display of very modern Breton dances, and the traditional fest noz. This congress was a success thanks to all the organization team led by Yann Guillamot.

Celtic Water Games in Aberfal, Kernow

The town of Aberfal (Falmouth) in Cornwall hosted the Celtic Water Games (CWG) this summer. The teams represented Celtic countries and regions of Europe associated with Celtic culture. They could be divided into three groups. The first group comprised teams from the six Celtic coun-

tries. The second group was from nations which have Celtic-influenced music or dance like Galicia and northern Portugal. The third group was composed of other nations or regions like Euskadi, Catalunya, and the Manche region of France.

Once again the winners were the Euskadi team. Not surprising perhaps; some competitors from Euskadi compete at European competition level or even higher. Twelve years ago, the Celtic Water Games started in Breizh in order to promote the Celtic nations at an international level. The languages were pushed forward at the very beginning but quickly the sports goals took over the cultural ones. Nevertheless, the Celtic dimension is still there and the games are a good way to promote business, culture, and the sports.

This year, the Breizh team did quite well in sailing. Nikolas Château (Optimist) and Peter Arbellot (Lazer) achieved top level results. It was not enough to beat Kernow. They did better in rowing, surfing and diving. At the end of the day, Kernow were first of the Celtic nations, ahead of Breizh, Alba, Éire, and Mannin.

Montroulez-Breizh in 2007:

In order to be the winners next year at home in Breizh, the Breton competitors must work hard to improve their rowing and diving skills. Obviously it will be hard to beat the Cornish and the Basques, because they are successful at top level sports events already. Surprisingly, the Irish team did not win a single competition. So, we hope they work hard to achieve some successes next year.

Hopefully, the Welsh team will be able to find a budget to come over to compete in Breizh. We need the best Celtic teams in Breizh to start the third round of the Celtic Water Games, in July 2007.

Gi Keltik





Cymru



Llydaweg ar y rheilffyrdd

Yn 2005 gwnaeth yr SNCF, cwmni rheilffyrdd Ffrainc, elw o 1.4 miliwn ewro. Maen nhw'n bwriadu gwario 350 miliwn ewro dros y 4 blynedd nesaf yn adnewyddu tu mewn eu TGVs (trenau cyflym) yn foethus gyda help y dylunydd ffasiwn Christian Lacroix o Baris. Ond maen nhw wedi gwrthod defnyddio'r Llydaweg ar arwyddion, amserlenni ayb. yn Llydaw oherwydd cost honedig dwyieithrwydd. Maen nhw wedi gwrthod ceisiadau i ddefnyddio Catalaneg a Basgeg yn y rhannau o Gatalwnia ac Ewsgadi sydd o dan Ffrainc hefyd am yr un rheswm. Mae'n anodd gan y mudiadau iaith goelio onestrwydd hyn - mae'n swinio fel esgus i guddio amharoddrwydd gwleidyddol i roi statws i ieithoedd difreintiedig y wladwriaeth, er eu bod yn ddigon parod i ddefnyddio peth o ddwyieithrwydd Ffrangeg/Saesneg pan fyddant yn gweld eisiau.

Felly, er bod arwyddion ffordd dwyieithog yn ddigon cyffredin yng ngorllewin Llydaw erbyn hyn, dal yn uniaith Ffrangeg mae pob dim ar y rheilffyrdd heb bron dim un consesiwn i'r Llydaweg i'w weld. Mae hyn yn adlewyrchu'r sefyllfa yng Nghymru ddiwedd y saith degau pan oedd arwyddion ffordd dwyieithog yn dechrau amlhau, ond 'roedd y Rheilffyrdd Prydeinig (fel yr oedd ar y pryd) yn gyndyn i roi lle i'r Gymraeg. (Erbyn hyn mae polisi iaith Trenau Arriva Cymru yn cymharu'n weddol gyda pholisiau cyrff cyhoeddus eraill).

Mae mudiadau'r Llydaweg yn gweld yn glir nad gormod fyddai cost cyhoeddiadau llafar drwy'r cynn siarad yn Llydaweg, na chost arwyddion, amserlenni, a hysbysiadau dwyieithog, wrth edrych ar lefel elw'r SNCF. Felly, yn wyneb y fath siniciaeth, mae'r mudiad iaith Ai'tal wedi dechrau ymgyrch o weithredu uniongyrchol yn erbyn yr SNCF yn rhanbarth Bro-Dreger yng ngogledd Llydaw.

Yn gynharach eleni aeth tua phymtheg o aelodau Ai'tal i orsaf reilffordd Gwengamp a chodi eu harwyddion Llydaweg, oedd yn ddigon proffesiynol eu golwg - sticeri mawr melyn a du, wrth ochr yr arwyddion Ffrangeg. Ar ôl gorffen dwyieithio cyntedd yr orsaf cynhaliwyd 'seremoni' i ail-agor yr orsaf fel gorsaf ddwyieithog. Gadawodd swyddogion y rheilffordd i hyn i gyd ddigwydd ond nid oedden nhw'n edrych yn hapus iawn!



Y mis canlynol bu digwyddiad tebyg yng nghyntedd gorsaf Lannuon, a nodwyd ar y pryd bod rhai o'r arwyddion Llydaweg a godasid yng ngorsaf Gwengamp yn dal yno. Wedyn cynhaliwyd digwyddiad ychydig yn wahanol - "die-in" yng ngorsaf Montroulez. Gorweddodd tua deg o aelodau Ai'tal ar lawr fel protest i ddangos bod polisi'r SNCF o gadw'r Llydaweg allan o fywyd cyhoeddus yn cyfrannu at dranc yr iaith.

A thema gêm bêl-droed oedd i'r protest nesaf yng ngorsaf Plouared.

Mae Ai'tal yn bwriadu ehangu'r protestiadau o Fro-Dreger i orsafoedd yng ngweddill Llydaw. Mae deiseb ar-lein ar eu gwefan (dwyieithog) yn rhan o'r ymgyrch hefyd. Ymweler ag www.ai-ta.org.

R. ap Tomos

Summary

While bilingual road signs are becoming increasingly common in Brittany, the railway company, the SNCF,



is refusing to make concessions to the Breton language in their stations and trains. The movement Ai'tal has started a campaign of direct action against the SNCF in the Bro-Dreger region, putting up their own Breton signs alongside the French. Details on www.ai-ta.org.

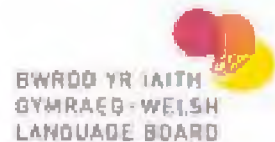
Language Act campaign on the move

Over the fortnight following the National Eisteddfod in August, members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith went on a walk through Wales collecting names on another petition for a New Welsh Language Act. The walkers stopped in town centres to gather names and thousands of signatures were picked up in Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, Pontypridd, Rhydaman, Aberystwyth, Dolgellau, Pwllheli, Caernarfon, and Llangefni, with the journey ending in Aberteifi (Cardigan) on August 26th. The journey had started with a public meeting on the Eisteddfod field that was addressed by representatives of Wales's three main opposition parties - Adam Price MP of Plaid Cymru, Eleanor Burnham AC of the Liberal Democrats, and Lisa Francis AC of the Conservatives. The campaign has been strengthened by the now regular support of these three parties, making the Labour Party increasingly isolated in their opposition.

Welsh National Opera - ?

The Welsh National Opera, based in the Millennium Centre, Cardiff Bay, receive thousands of pounds of public funding but their website is in English only and they send out English-only publicity. Cymdeithas yr Iaith is looking into the reasons for their disregard of the language.

Disappointment with Welsh language quango's Strategy



Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (the Welsh Language Society) have strongly criticised the government's Welsh Language Board's *Strategy* document which is supposed to extend the use of Welsh in the private sector, and have called the document a 'great disappointment'. The much anticipated *Strategaeth Sector Preifat /Private Sector Strategy* was launched at the Royal Welsh Agricultural Show (an annual event at Llanellwedd, Powys) on the 26th of July. The strategy outlines



Quango 'chair' Meri Huws

the plans of the quango to try to make more private companies provide services through Welsh, by persuasion only. Meri Huws, 'Chair' of the quango, said at the launch "Persuasion rather than enforcement has been and will continue to be the Board's approach with the Private Sector. The desire and intention to work with the Sector itself is central to its purpose and critical to its success. In fact the strategy has been drawn up in collaboration with businesses and representative business organisations". One of the Strategy's main aims is to work with market leaders to advise them in a practical way on increasing their use of Welsh and the

advantages of doing so. It supposes that other companies will follow the good practice and initiative shown by the big companies.

The quango reject the idea that legislation is the way forward for language rights in the private sector, thus opposing the line Cymdeithas has been taking for the last decade and longer. The campaigning and discussion Cymdeithas have had with the mobile phone company Orange typify how ineffective the 'persuasion' of the Language Board is. In a hopeful statement in 2000 the quango said "The mobile phone company Orange have today confirmed that Welsh is at the top of the list of languages they consider important for the company's program of developing multilingual communication in Britain". Four years later Cymdeithas were still campaigning about Orange's lack of Welsh, and an Orange spokesman told them "There is no obligation on Orange or any company operating in Wales to provide bilingual services".

Orange are still refusing to provide services in Welsh, and the situation is the same with Coca Cola and the Welsh Rugby Union, two other cases that have been used by the language board in the past as examples of their 'persuasion'. In the words of Catrin Dafydd, leader of Cymdeithas's New Language Act campaign:

"This is a great disappointment, and it shows the unwillingness and inability of the Language Board to face the situation as it is. Their failures in the past with wealthy multinational companies like Orange and Coca Cola show that persuasion alone is not enough to ensure

that these companies provide goods and services through Welsh. The only way to ensure services in Welsh for Welsh people is through firm legislation that will put an obligation on these bodies. The companies say time after time that they will not provide Welsh services because they are not legally obliged to. Only a strong wide-ranging Language Act will put in place this obligation. It is really incredible that the Board are in favour of extending legislation to commodities like water and electricity, but are against doing this for shops like Tesco who in practice have the same sort of monopoly as the water companies.



Catrin Dafydd

"It is clear the situation is unfair for Welsh-speakers at present. A survey was carried out by Cymdeithas on the willingness of electricity companies to provide a service in Welsh. Two companies out of fourteen are willing or able to do that. Two companies answered by advising us to communicate with them in English.

"Why should customers have less of a choice of companies because they want service in Welsh? Until there is a New Language Act to force companies to provide services in Welsh the rights of Welsh-speakers will be denied. It is disgraceful that the Board ignore the lessons of history in this area."

Catrin Dafydd



Embassy Glyndŵr website back

Embassy Glyndŵr, the organization promoting the Welsh state founded by Owain Glyndŵr in 1400, have re-opened their website which can now be seen at <http://www.embassy-glyndŵr.co.uk>. Among recent editions was noted a list of the individuals who stood with Owain at Glyndyfrdwy when he was proclaimed Prince of Wales on September 16th 1400. The list contains the names: Tudur ap Gruffydd Fychan (Owain's brother), Gruffydd ab Owain (Owain's son), Robert Puleston, Gruffydd Hanmer, Phillip Hanmer, Hywel ap Madog Kyffin (Dean of St Asaph), Ieuan Fychan of Moeliwrch, Gruffydd ab Ieuan, Madog ab Ieuan ap Madog of Eyton, John Astwick, Ieuan ap Hywel Pickhill of Bromfield, Crach Ffynnant.

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



gwyl gymraeg gyntaf caerdydd cardiff's first welsh festival

This year, for the first time, Menter Caerdydd (Cardiff's Welsh language initiative group), together with a number of partners and Welsh societies within the city, arranged a week of Welsh medium activities under the title 'Tafwyl - Cardiff's First Welsh Language Festival'. (The name 'Tafwyl' comes from Taf, Cardiff's main river, + Gwyl ('festival')). The festival began on 17th June and ran until 25th June. The activities on offer during the week included a comedy night, a literary evening, activities for the family, a fête, gigs, a cymanfa ganu, and sports taster sessions for children, activities for nursery children, sports contests for adults, Welsh trips, and activities for Welsh learners. The aim of the week was to raise awareness of the Welsh language, and to have fun!

For more information about Tafwyl visit:
www.Tafwyl.org



CYMUNED CONGRATULATE THE SUN

Cymuned, the main pressure-group opposing the colonization of the Bro Gymraeg, has congratulated the *Sun* newspaper on doing more to strengthen the profile of the Welsh language than many newspapers in Wales. Cymuned also believe that the creative use of the Welsh language in *Big Brother* (a popular reality TV program) from England's TV Channel 4 leaves BBC Wales looking bland and unsuccessful in promoting the Welsh language.

'It looks as though the English are riding to the rescue,' said Aran Jones, Cymuned's Chief Executive, in August, 'with *The Sun* leading the way - their use of a number of banner Welsh headlines last week will have done wonders for awareness of the language amongst our summertime visitors.'



Glyn
Wise

Cymuned feel that the *Sun* has helped make a great number of people aware of the kinds of issues that are promoted in two of the movement's websites, www.English-in-Wales.com and www.Tourists-in-Wales.com.

'With *The Sun* taking such a positive and creative attitude', said Aran Jones, 'there is a real likelihood that visitors to Wales will be much more open to what we've been trying to say about the need to keep the language alive. Who knows - maybe in 20 years we'll be looking back and saying thank you to *The Sun* for helping to save the day.'

However, Cymuned strongly condemned First Minister Rhodri Morgan and the Welsh Labour Party for their blatant attempt to turn Glyn Wise, one of the Welsh-speaking contestants on *Big Brother*, into a political tool. 'Glyn said he would like to ban holiday homes and that people who move into Wales should learn Welsh', said Aran Jones. 'When Gwynedd councillor Seimon Glyn said the same thing in 2001, the Labour party called him racist - but now it's being said on Channel 4 they're falling over themselves to get in on the act. Their hypocrisy is breath-taking - they've still done nothing to improve the future of our Welsh-speaking communities'.

Many websites – one message:

Cymuned are spreading their message against colonization in the Bro Gymraeg (the migration into Welsh-speaking areas of large numbers of non-Welsh speakers who do not learn Welsh) by means of a series of simple websites, in Welsh and English, and the publicising of these websites by posters and stickers put in appropriate places. The series of websites includes: www.welshnotbritish.com, www.carucymru.com, www.DeadWelsh.com, www.NotEnglish.com, www.English-in-Wales.com, and www.Tourists-in-wales.com in English; www.DalDyDir.com, www.Ynyfro.com, www.safwch.com, and www.carucymru.com in Welsh.

*American Branch
Internet Site*
www.celticleague.org

Plaid call on political parties to conduct clean campaign in 2007

Plaid Cymru politicians called in August on Wales' political parties to agree a 'Clean Campaign' pledge to ensure proper financing and conduct in next year's election for the Welsh National Assembly.

In a letter to party leaders in Wales, Plaid's Deputy Assembly Leader Rhodri Glyn Thomas AC outlined a series of proposals to ensure a clean campaign. The proposals include:-

1. An agreement that all parties contesting the election will fund their campaigns from money that is raised by/donated specifically to them and not accept cash transfers from their London head offices
2. New rules on campaign literature to ensure that the party distributing it is clearly and legibly identified
3. Agreement on the use of endorsement quotes and party polling information to prevent fabrication

Rhodri Glyn Thomas, the AC for Carmarthen East & Dinefwr, has written to party leaders to agree to a meeting of the political groups in the National Assembly ahead of the election next year. Mr Thomas



Rhodri Glyn Thomas AC

commented "The issue of trust is now paramount in Welsh politics, and we as politicians have a duty to demonstrate the type of new politics that the Welsh people

voted for with the advent of the National Assembly. Welsh parties should agree a code of conduct for the 2007 election that is fair, open and transparent. People want a new beginning after the alleged cash for peerages scandal. Rhodri Morgan must make it clear that he won't be using his London's HQ money while implying there is 'red water' between him and Tony Blair."

Plaid Cymru AC for Caernarfon Alun Ffred Jones added "The recent council by-election victory for Plaid in Llandrillo yn Rhos showed that the people saw through the big money London parties. We must have a level playing field for all at the next 2007 elections. We should be able to say that the 2007 Welsh General Election will be the start of a campaign to wipe away cynicism about politics. Voters across Wales want a real debate on how to take our communities forward."

Culture Minister is Misusing his Office – Owen John Thomas AC

Plaid Cymru's Shadow Culture Minister, Owen John Thomas, has accused Alun Pugh, the Culture Minister, of misusing his office in a crude attempt to influence the political deliberations of Wales' national newspaper, the Western Mail.

Commenting, the Plaid AC said, "Mr Pugh's threat to reduce the WAG's (Welsh Assembly Government's) £3 million advertising revenue, paid to the Western Mail and the Daily Post, highlights the Minister's inability to see the big picture. It is in the public interest that we should have a national newspaper providing daily news and information from a Welsh perspective. In January, members of the Culture Committee were embarrassed when the Labour Minister described the Western Mail as, 'a bit of a joke'. Clearly, Mr Pugh is not happy with the way the press are portraying his party and feels it is apt to threaten them with the loss of substantial WAG advertising."

Mr Thomas added, "Mr Pugh frequently uses his ministerial authority in an autocratic and impetuous manner, as witnessed in the field of public appointments, also in his



Owen John Thomas AC

decision to take over the funding of the 'big six arts companies' and his mishandling of the proposal to take over the Welsh Language Board. He seems to relish undermining basic principles such as the arms length funding of the arts and the freedom of the press. With the National Assembly Elections on the horizon, his colleagues must be anxious as to when his next *faux pas* will be."

Keeping English garbage out of Wales

A vigorous campaign that has taken on a nationalist dimension (comparisons with Tryweryn) has grown against the dumping of rubbish from the Liverpool area in England into a disused quarry in Wales. In August a private company working for a group of five councils in Lancashire and Cheshire started dumping waste into the disused Hafod quarry at Johnstown near Wrexham, which they had commandeered as a landfill site. Direct action by local campaigners stopped the first lorries. The opponents of the rubbish tip, the Hafod Action Group, have attempted to stop the development by legal means, but the company are taking advantage of old planning permission.



Éire

An corn ina dhomhan

Is iontach an méid mothúcháin a spreagann an téarma “Ceilteach”. Téarma teangeolaíochta é go bunúsach. Maireann sé cinn de theangacha Ceilteacha. D’eascair sé náisiún stairiúil as pobal a labhartha. Tá sé cuí mar sin muintir na náisiún sin a áireamh mar Cheiltigh. Ní hionann é sin agus a rá gur sliocht na gCeilteach anallód iad ó thaobh bitheolaíochta de. Déanta na firinne is cuma. Is tábhachtaí amach is amach an cultúr ná na géinte. Ní fios go cinnte an raibh ionradh Ceilteach ann sa réamhstair ar dhúichí Ceilteacha an lae inniu nó an é go ndeamadh comhshamhlú cultúrtha ar na pobail a bhí ann sa tráth sin. Pé rud a tharla tá giniúint na dteangacha Ceilteacha ina fianaise ar olltarlúint mhór chultúrtha. Tá go leor ceisteanna fós le freagairt faoi stair, sheandálaíocht, theangeolaíocht stairiúil agus agus dhaoon-grafaíocht na bpobal Ceilteacha. Go n-éirí leis na saineolaithe na ceisteanna sin a réiteach!

Scéal eile ar fad é an lucht bolscaireachta a chaitheann anuas ar gach gné den oidhreacht Cheilteach. Seáivineachas Sasanach cuid mhór a bhíonn taobh thiar den tseafóid fhrith-Cheilteach seo. Rud amháin é athscríobh na staire. Rud níos measa fós é múchadh na staire. Bíonn an Corn go háirithe thíos leis an múchadh seo. Tugtar le fios nach raibh sa Chorn riamh ach cuid de Shasana agus nach raibh ina muintir riamh ach Sasanaigh.

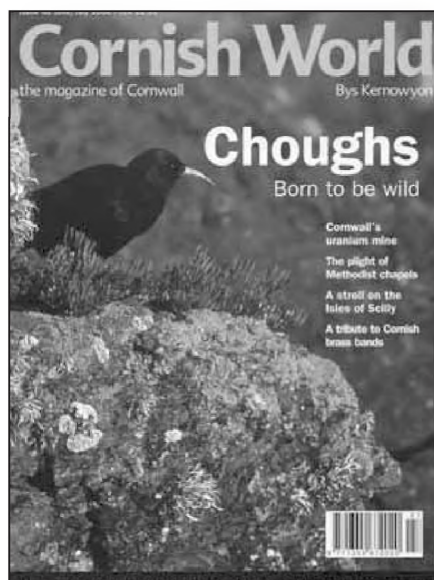
Pléann Craig Weatherhill an cheist seo in alt, “Do the Celts exist?” in eagrán Shamhradh 2006 de Cornish World, ráitheachán a fhoilsítear in Pensans. Luann sé mar shampla den tseafóid atá i réim go bhfuil sé ráite i leabhar a foilsíodh le déanaí go raibh Béarla le cloisteáil ag Iúil Céasar ina sciúrd ar an mBreatain san aois dheireanach RCh.

Pléitear go leor ceisteanna eile in Cornish World. Mar shampla, is costúil go bhfuil fadhb leanúnach sa Chorn maidir le céard is ceart a tabhairt ar an tír (sa dara tagairt, mar a déarfadh fo-eagarthóir). Is é an nós atá ag an iris féin “diúcacht” nó duchy a thabhairt ar an áit. Aisteach go leor tacaíonn an-chuid náisiúnaithe leis an nós seo. Is costúil go gceapann siad go dtugann an teideal “diúcacht” stádas níos airde don Chorn ná an teideal “contae.” Ní ritheann sé leo gurb ionann é sin agus glacadh leis go bhfuil dlísteacht ag baint leis an bhforas Sasanach úd, Diúcacht an Chóirn, córas le rídhámhna Shasana a shaibhriú.

Dealraíonn sé go mbíonn alt Cornaise in

Cornish World i gcónaí. Cúrsaí iascaireachta atá faoi chaibidil ag Rod Lyons san eagrán seo. Tá alt ann freisin ag Randle Hurley i gcanúint Bhéarla an Chóirn ach feictear don léitheoir seo nach bhfuil ansin ach Béarla scríofa mar a labharaítear é le blas (álainn) Cornach.

Cuirfidh lucht spoirt spéis san alt le Peter Sheldon faoin iomrascáil Chornach nó wrasslin. Tá an spórt seo á chleachtadh sa Chorn leis an céadta agus bunaíodh an Cornish Wrestling Association sa bhliain 1923. Tá sé ann i gcónaí agus bíonn babhtáí ann in éadan iomrascálaithe Briotanacha ó thráth go chéile.



Tagraítear in alt eile don chaoi ar scríosadh ógra fireann an Chóirn sa chogadh impiriúil 1914-1918. Ba é Harry Patch an duine deireanach díobh san a tháinig slán. Ar feadh na mblianta níor theastaigh uaidh labhairt faoi na huafáis a chonaic sé. Ach é in aois a 107 thug sé chun cuimhne scéal scanraitheach ó na trinsí: “I came across a Cornishman, he was ripped from his shoulder to his waist – shrapnel. He lay there in a pool of blood. As we got to him he said, ‘Shoot me!’ He was beyond all human aid. Before we could pull out the revolver he went from this life to beyond. When that fellow died he just said one word: ‘Mother!’” Tá sé thar am do na Cornaigh iad féin a fhuascailt ón gcóras míleata agus polaitiúil a chruthaigh a leithéid d’uafás.

Is iontach an éagsúlacht ábhair atá in Cornish World agus tá an dearadh agus an

caighdeán griangrafadóireachta ar fheabhas ar fad.

Summary

(Cornish World is an excellent well-produced superbly illustrated magazine with articles on every aspect of Cornish life. It is published by Cornish World Media at PO Box 71, Penzance, Cornwall TR 18 2ZR. Website: www.cornishworldmagazine.co.uk

C L AGM 2006 Resolution

In CARN 134 a report was given on the Fine Gael (main opposition party) proposal to remove Irish as a necessary subject for the Leaving Certificate and the damage this would cause. The following motion was passed at the League AGM.

This AGM deplores the Fine Gael decision to downgrade the status of Irish in second level education by eliminating Irish as a necessary subject for study and examination for the Leaving Certificate and supports the Conradh na Gaeilge campaign against this.

Victory for 1916 Campaign

At its Sept. meeting Dublin City Council finally decided to list 14, 15, 16 & 17 Moore Street as protected structures. These buildings were the last command post of the leaders of the 1916 Rising as they retreated from their blazing HQ in the nearby GPO

Sinn Féin's Dublin Environment Spokesperson & Representative for Dublin South East, Councillor Daithí Doolan, in welcoming the decision said:

“I am delighted at tonight's decision. This is a clear victory for all those who campaigned over the last 12 months to preserve these historical significant buildings. We owe a debt of thanks to the **Save 16 Moore Street Campaign** who worked so hard for tonight's victory.”

Cllr. Doolan explained, ‘in an age where we suffer from rampant development it is very important to recognise that we must never bury our history. The events that took place during Easter week 1916 continue to shape the politics of this island and indeed the relationship between Ireland and Britain. The GPO, Moore Street & Moore Lane all played a very significant part in 1916 and I hope that following tonight's decision we can now proceed and develop a 1916 historic quarter in our city. In this way we can ensure the events of 1916 will never be forgotten.’ He called on, ‘the Minister for the Environment, Heritage & Local Government Reform, Dick Roche to designate these building as a site of National Historic Significance and to make funds available to restore these buildings.’

ÓGRAS – VISIT FROM ALBA

Readers of CARN will have learned of the exchange programme initiated by Irish language youth organisation, Ógras, with Urdd Gobaith Cymru the Welsh language youth organisation. Now the organisation has expanded its work to include Alba. A group of 16 teenagers from Comunn na Gaidhlig in the Scottish Gaeltacht visited Gaoth Dobhair in the Donegal Gaeltacht this summer. They partook in a wide variety of activities including a familiarisation course with Irish. The event was supported by Iomairt Cholmáille.



The group from Alba in the Gaoth Dobhair Hall.

The case of Máire Nic an Bhaird, the Irish Language and the PSNI

The events that led to the court appearances of Máire Nic an Bhaird, most recently for the third time on 18th Sept had been summed up by the National Chairperson of Na Gaeil Óga, Seán Ó hAdhmaill, as follows.

“Even with the Good Friday Agreement and the Patten Commission it seems that the PSNI’s respect for Human rights remains the same, that being if you are a Irish language speaker you have none. Take for example the case of Máire Nic an Bhaird.

This young lady from Belfast was on a street in Belfast, chatting in Irish with some of her teacher friends when a member of the

PSNI exploded from his jeep screaming foul abuse and insults at her before demanding that she stop speaking that ‘leprechaun language’ and speak the ‘Queens English in her country’. When she refused to do so and answered him in her own language, he became enraged, assaulted, arrested and charged her for obstruction and disorderly behaviour. Máire stood up for herself and the Irish language speaking community and should have the full backing of all right-thinking people. Language rights are human rights.

Máire Nic Bhaird, a member of Na Gaeil

Óga and a secondary school teacher in an Irish-medium school was arrested for, in her words, speaking to a member of the PSNI in her native language, Irish. “In fact Máire was detained overnight in prison

At her first court appearance on a charge of disorderly behaviour a protest was mounted by Na Gaeil Óga and others. The case was seen as a test case by some in the Irish language community as the defense had requested that the Irish language be used in the court proceedings. Solicitor Michael Crawford said Ms Nic an Bhaird was a native Irish speaker and her whole environment was Irish.

Member of the European Parliament Bairbre de Brun called for the right to have court cases in the British administered north of Ireland conducted in Irish. Ms de Brun said: “Considering the European Charter, the Good Friday Agreement and the Criminal Justice Review, she should now be able to get her papers from the Prosecution Service in the Irish language”.

“This young woman has spoken Irish all her life and has gone through her entire schooling through the medium of Irish. While I would obviously prefer that she didn’t find herself before the courts, a main concern for the Irish language community is that all the proceedings should now be in Irish [...] in particular, it is imperative that the Prosecution Service provide the relevant papers in Irish and she herself is able to address the court in Irish”, she said.

At her first court appearance her lawyer made it clear he would be talking in Irish to his client and made a submission that she should have the right to defend her case wholly in Irish.. If successful in this there would undoubtedly be more cases in Irish in the future in the North. At her last court appearance the case was again adjourned – are the prosecutors getting cold feet?



Máire Nic an Bhaird (right) and Sinn Féin MEP, Bairbre de Brun, at the first court appearance.

Evaluating the 1916 Rising and the struggle for Irish independence –

Desmond Greaves Summer School 2006

The 18th Desmond Greaves Summer School was held on 25-7 August in the premises of the Irish Labour History Society, Dublin. Five panels addressed aspects of the 1916 Rising, regarded by many in Ireland as a key moment in the country's tortuous route to nationhood. The organizers hoped to make a contribution towards the increasingly intense political and historical discussion taking place in the advent of the centenary commemorations. The looming presence of 2016 certainly provided a backdrop to the papers and commentary, as did the highly informed debate from the floor. It was acknowledged that Ken Loach's new film, 'The wind that shakes the barley', has re-energized arguments surrounding Ireland's quest for self-determination within an undemocratic United Kingdom. Thankfully, the forced retreat of 'revisionism', a pseudo intellectual and facile anti-republican front, has encouraged a far more public, cogent and honest dialogue than hitherto experienced. Diversity, albeit with a pronounced slant towards the left, was clearly in evidence in Dublin. Members of the Connolly Association, Sinn Féin, Communist Party of Ireland, Republican Sinn Féin, Aubane Historical Society and Ireland Institute participated to varying degrees.

The School began with an illustrated lecture by Dr. Sheila Breathnach-Lynch of the National Gallery of Ireland. Her address on 'Representations of 1916' was both original in scope and intriguing in analysis. The session was chaired by Robert Ballagh, one of Ireland's leading artists and a progressive activist of note. His personal reflections on state harassment during the 75th anniversary of the Rising served to remind just how contentious matters then were for artists, cultural commentators and non-Establishment historians. Ballagh and Breathnach-Lynch both remarked on the irony of the Irish government resurrecting a military parade at Easter 2006 after decades in which those in favour of some form of official recognition for the event had insisted that commemoration required no such triumphal fanfare.

Professor Luke Gibbons of Notre Dame, Indiana, gave an eclectic presentation on the republican author and polymath Dorothy McArdle. Gibbons made a compelling case for the rehabilitation of an Irishwoman who had been consigned to obscurity by those who disliked her uncompromising stance on the divergence of the Twenty-Six county state from the ideals of the 1916 proclamation. Professor Mary Cullen, one of the key figures in recognizing the role of women in Irish society, endorsed the case advanced by Gibbons. Dr. Ruan O'Donnell of the University of Limerick followed Gibbons with a detailed examination of the 1916 Proclamation with particular reference to its republican ideological content. O'Donnell argued that while the proclamation had an overt

revolutionary function in Easter 1916, it was also positioned in a wider Irish and democratic tradition in order to confer legitimacy on the actions of its authors.

Dr. Angus Mitchell, also of UL, made a series of strong points on the complicated and nuanced relationship of the historian to the archives of state. Given Mitchell's long term research interest in Roger Casement, the sub-themes of secrecy, imperialism and information were expertly explored. Finbar Cullen of the Ireland Institute, a recent history graduate of Trinity College Dublin, complimented this important line of enquiry with comments on the failed attempt by revisionists to disguise the international context of the Rising and subsequent Irish Revolution, 1919-23.

The final session presented two well known speakers, historian Brian Murphy OSB, and Manus O'Riordan, Head of Research at SIPTU.



Robert Ballagh, who chaired the session 'Representations of 1916'.

Murphy produced new evidence on the role of the Defence of the Realm Act in shaping the political climate in Ireland during the Revolutionary period. His work on this sinister piece of legislation, and the Empire loyalists who promoted its application, cast doubt on standard assumptions that the Home Rule movement could have secured its modest objectives of devolved 'independence' within the United Kingdom. O'Riordan caused some disquiet by averring that James Connolly, far from eschewing the allegiance of either 'King' or 'Kaiser', favoured a German victory on the Western Front. This session, in keeping with general spirit of lively interaction, elicited a strong audience response. Many of the contributions will appear in a forthcoming book on 1916 edited by O'Donnell. The Greaves School will revisit the important theme of 'small nations' and Empire at a future date.

James Kirwan

TG4 to be Independent but Funding Concerns

Severe doubts were expressed about the decision to have TG4 fully independent of RTE by April 07 without any guarantee of adequate funding.

Michael D O'Higgins (Labour), who was Minister for the Gaeltacht when TG4 was founded as Telefís na Gaeilge, said independence was not enough without commitments to sufficient funding and resources. He was not alone in this opinion. TG4 at present broadcasts no more than 6 hrs in Irish daily (if that) and it has long been stated by the station that substantial funding increases would be necessary to improve that situation.

The Framing of Michael McKevitt

A publicity release issued with this short pamphlet states:

"Michael McKevitt is a political hostage framed by MI5 with the assistance of the

FBI and senior members of the Irish Gardai.

Michael was sentenced to 20 years and has been incarcerated in Portlaoise Prison for almost six years now. The purpose of 'The Framing of

Michael McKevitt' booklet and the Website and is to highlight the injustice done to Michael and his family and to launch a campaign on Michael's behalf.

The Framing of Michael McKevitt written by Marcella Sands, sister-in-law of Michael, and sister of Bobby Sands, outlines the gratuitous suffering imposed on the McKevitt family culminating in the framing of Michael. It also raises serious questions about the activities of MI5 in Ireland, senior Garda collusion and a judiciary swayed by political rather than legal argument."

More information from <http://www.michaelmckevitt.com> and politicalhostage@eircom.net

International Branch Internet Site

<http://homepages.enterprise.net/mlockerby>

Email: International Branch Secretary

mlockerby@enterprise.net



Kernow



Nowodhow a Gernow

PALAS STEN

Newodhow bryntin yw devedhys a dTruru may ros Konsel Kernow keumyas dhe'n kowethas as vynn dasigeri agan diwetha bal sten., Krofti Dyghow. Kevin Williams a Baseresult a ynni warnan bos mall gansa daskorr arta an sten du (mun) maga skon dell allons. Ynmedh Konsler Neil Plummer: Newodhow meur rag Kernow! Mes nyns yw pub huni sur y fydh pygans lowr dhe'n kowethas kowlwul an dowlenn.

Onan an re-ma yw Mark Kaczmarek, (Kernow pur awos oll y hanow Polek). Ev o onan a'n levow ughella owth omladh erbynn dhegea an bal.

Martesen yma own dhodho rag an towl gwrys gans kowethas hwoer a Baseresult dhe dhrehevel 400 chi yn hy herghynn. Hwath, mars a yn rag par dell veu dedhewys y fydh ober dhe beswar kans den erbynn benn dyw vlydhen. Kales yw gweles yn kler drefenn bos palas sten maga sakrys yn Kernow ha'edhenn wlasek, an balores.

CHLOW RAG PIW?

Ow prederi adro dhe'n chiow, hag yma edhommed anedha rag agan tus yowynk, marth yw gans nebes pobel deythiek piw a vo trigys ynna? Y leverir bos moy es 5000 oberor devedhys dhe'n ranndir a Dir Pol ha powyow erell a Ewrop Est, ha moy dres Kernow gowl!

PRI GWYNN

Lies kans a veu 'gesys dhe vos' gans Imerys, an kowethas pri gwynn, vn kres Kernow. Trueth meur vw drefenn bos diwisogneth koth mav'ma hwath kem-mynieth krev a gernowvon hengovek. An kaletter, pupprys vw bos pri gwynn dhe vos kevys le ker. an torn-ma yn Brasil.

YEGHES

Moy es 27000 a bobel a gerdhas yn Heyl, Kernow West erbynn dowlennow erbysy arghans y'n klavjiow dre dreghi down y'n gonis.

GWERTH LEEL

Otta lavar an ivdh hedhyw. Res vw dhyn bos war pan wlllyn askorr gelwys 'kernekek': tus vn mes a Gernow a aswonn talvosogeth an lybel 'Kernow'. My a gavas 'amanenn kernewek' . da dhe'm spvrys o. erma redis an fardellik: dienn kernewek. vn sur lowr. mes an amanenn v honan a vvdh gwrys gans Dairy Crest vn krestir Pow Sows.

AN BANER

Meur a dhathel adro dhe geummys sevel baner Sen Pyran: Eus keummys po nag eus herwvdh lagha towlenna 'pow ha trevow'. Dhe'm brvs vv an lagha. na veu medrys orth agan baner. a vvdh ankevys kvns hir dermyn. Hag yntra neb ha newodhow konter. ker-nowvon a wra pesya orth v worra dhe sevel pv le ha pana brvs v fvnnon.

Julyan Holmes

SUMMARY

The above give information on developments in Kernow on the possible reopening of the South Crofty mine, china clay job losses, housing and hospitals and gives a caution to check food labelling carefully to make sure you are in fact buying local.



More than 27,000 people marched through the west Cornish town of Hayle, protesting against the proposed closure of St Michael's Hospital and against cut backs in other hospitals in West Cornwall.

MEBYON KERNOW (THE PARTY FOR CORNWALL) – BODMIN RALLY

In a new look July edition of 'Cornish Nation', Mebyon Kernow's own magazine, a political rally is announced for 2PM on Saturday 9th December, 2006 in the Bodmin, Cornwall Shire House Suite. This is to be held to mark the fifth anniversary of the 50,000 Declarations for a Cornish Assembly being delivered to 10, Downing Street. The notice informs that there will be a range of high profile speakers to demand greater self-government for Cornwall. To date, the current Westminster Government has steadfastly refused to recognise Cornish calls for such an Assembly and an active campaigning organisation exists in this respect, the Cornish Constitutional Convention (Senedh Kernow) drawing on public and Council demands for such a body. Indeed, the Cornish Liberal Democrat Party who currently hold all five Westminster seats in the Duchy have also come out in support of the Convention's aims. Several Celtic League Branch members are involved with the Constitutional Convention and it is hoped that the rally will be well attended.

ONE MAN AND HIS FLAG

Celtic League Cornish Branch Secretary Mike Chappell is making a stand for the flag of St. Piran of the Tinnars of Cornwall. This striking black flag with its white cross has come to be recognised not only in the Duchy but across the globe as the flag of Cornwall and its links with a Celtic past so often denied by those in Government.

In a recent article in the local newspaper, the 'Western Morning News', readers were informed that planning permission would be required in order to fly the St. Piran's flag. This information came just after the announcement of the loss of 700 jobs in the St. Austell Clay Works, 300 jobs in the National Health Service locally together with the threat of hospital closures, 120 jobs at the Furniss Cornish Biscuit Factory and some 60 jobs in a local chicken processing works. Frustrated at this complete lack of sensitivity in respect of Cornish issues, Mike telephoned his local District Planning Office at Carrick Council in order to establish the facts. A very pleasant Senior Planning Officer was called to the telephone and informed that under current legislation, consent was required to display the flag as under the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 and subsequent Town & Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 1992 it was classed as an advertisement. However, Mike was also told that he would need no such permission to fly the Union Flag, the St. George Flag, any other national Flag including those from any recognised Country around the world, the European Union Flag or the Flag of the United Nations. The Officer went on to inform that Yvette Cooper, Westminster Member of Parliament and the Planning Minister was the politician responsible for this decision. Two days later, Mike received a set of application forms in order to apply for consent to display an advertisement together with a £75 bill for the privilege. He returned a very polite letter to Carrick Council informing that he could not possibly treat the National Flag of Cornwall as an advertisement particularly as another official publication, notably the Government endorsed report submitting Cornwall's Mining Heritage for recognition by the United Nations for World Heritage status, makes reference to the Flag of St. Piran. To quote from that now successful submission, 'perhaps the most visible sign of this development (referring to a Cornish identity) is the flag of St. Piran, the patron saint of Cornish Tinnars, which is in widespread use. The flag - a white cross on a black background - symbolises the tin metal set in a black background of charcoal ashes and represents Cornish pride in a sense of identity and inheritance.' The submission



'We utterly refuse this new english' (1549)

We utterly refust to be called english (2006)

*Kernow agan bro geltek.
Kernewek agan yeth.*

goes on to note that the flag may be seen at events in North America and South Australia and even in Pachuca in Mexico where many Cornish miners found work during the great emigrations. There has been general outrage at this latest news particularly from a Westminster politician such as Yvette Cooper who on 4th July, 2006 was quoted as saying that second homes represent no problem as 'in most parts of the country they are not a significant factor in housing affordability.' An active letter writing campaign has ensued in respect of the Cornish flag drawing in such unlikely figures as Lord Tyler, a Liberal Democrat peer who has joined in the campaign to have the matter reviewed and for the Government to legislate in favour of the flag. Many have written to the Minister at her House of Commons London SW1A 0AA address and Mike has received emails of support from around the globe as well as being interviewed by a local radio station. Many have now joined him in illegally flying the flag in passive resistance and a recent delegation from the Cornish Stannary Parliament to the neighbouring Kerrier District Council offices resulted in an official informing the Stannators that they would not be taking action against those patriots who fly the flag within their area of responsibility as it was flown widely from Council offices across the Duchy.

The Cornish Branch of the Celtic League was pleased to receive full support from other member countries of the League at its recent AGM as well as from the International Celtic Congress, both organisations having passed resolutions requesting that the flag be officially recognised. Mike has noted with some amusement that during the recent slavish following of a rather less than successful England Football Team, people were encouraged by the Westminster

Government lead by the Prime Minister to fly the flag of St. George despite the obvious insult caused in the Celtic Countries and to other minorities.

CL AGM

Resolution 2006

The International Celtic League calls upon the Westminster government of the United Kingdom to legislate to permit the people of the Celtic Nation of Kernow/Cornwall to fly the flag of St. Piran in perpetuity without fear of prosecution or persecution.

PROTEST REGARDING ST. GEORGE FLAG GARDEN DISPLAY IN PENZANCE

Several members of the public have brought to the attention of the Cornish Branch of the International Celtic League the fact that one of Penzance's public gardens had a large flower display showing St. George's Flag planted at public expense.

In view of the history of this flag in Cornwall, several letters were sent by the public to the Chief Executive of Penwith District Council including one from the Celtic League drawing to his attention the possible insult caused paid for by the taxpayer. To date, the Chief Executive's office has failed to even acknowledge the letter sent by the League yet alone reply to the points raised in it.

Michael John Chappell

EDEN – A TROJAN HORSE

Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom, is the latest high profile figure to be recruited into the pantheon of media 'celebrity recruits' dragooned by Tim Smit and his London club of cronies for vicarious endorsement of the hugely extravagant but transparently environmentally harmful greenhouses at Bodelva Pit, hubristically branded by its originators as the 'Eden project'.

In her apparent naivety in ecological matters the palatially endowed, much transported and poorly advised Queen Elizabeth II, probably, of all women, the one with the most enormous carbon footprint on the planet accepted an invitation to come all the way from England to Cornwall (or rather an invitation was touted for by palace flunkies) to open, on June 1st 2006, an idiosyncratic, whimsical and ugly building at the overblown Bodelva Pit bubble wrap polytunnel greenhouses. (The Queen's cavalcade safely skirted the calamity of under-invested chaotic disarray that is the snail's pace SWRDA mismanaged 'regeneration' of St Austell town centre).

The building in question is, as usual, given a flamboyant spinmeistered name – The Core. Its fabricators claim a contrived connection between its architecture and the mathematical Fibonacci sequence which, in turn, it is claimed, reflects geometric patterns in some plant life. So around £15M of public moneys in one form or another have been blown on this single small building which can be readily seen simply as ugly, pretentious and irrelevant to Cornwall's and, indeed, our planet's wider needs and mankind's place within them.

This £15M is additional to over £100M squandered on the greenhouses themselves. Compare that to around £40M proposed spending on the 'regeneration' of St Austell town centre which has got virtually nowhere other than a state of increasing dereliction in the last 5 years.

In Cornwall itself, Cornwall 'County' Council recently announced a swathe of cuts across public services throughout Cornwall in the areas of education, health and social care and the library service. In this context the bizarre misdirection of public moneys to the Bodelva Pit greenhouses is nothing short of scandalous.

In the first months of 2006, the administrators of the fossil - fuelled and misleadingly self-styled 'Eden' 'project' demanded and received an interest payment suspension, due to repayment difficulties, on an outstanding start-up loan of £1.8M from Cornwall 'County' Council along with an additional non-returnable grant of £360,000

Short on the heels of that £360,000 grant, library services throughout Cornwall



suffered a budget cut of £350,000.

In the meantime, the fossil - fuelled misleadingly self-misnamed 'Eden project' continues to sidetrack Cornwall's economic thrust away from sustainable real year round job creation and stability and up the disenfranchising and socially and environmentally disruptive and destructive garden path cul de sac of tourism dependency. The fossil-fuelled misleadingly self-misnamed 'Eden' 'project' has been described as 'a trojan horse hive out of which has swarmed a plague of anglo - colonist

opportunists and flybys intent on the annexation of Cornwall for weekend pleasures and fair-weather profits regardless of laying waste to her environment, communities and culture. *True 'Eden' – more Thorn than Rose?:*

Mike Chappell

Call for Directly elected Cornish Assembly

At the meeting of the full council of North Cornwall District in July, councillors supported a motion calling for a Cornish Assembly with full regional and strategic powers.

Additionally the councillors have called for the establishment of a Cornish Development Agency to give direction to the regeneration of the local economy. Councillors said: "We call on central government to recognise the high level of support in Cornwall for a Cornish Assembly, to put democracy first and to organise a referendum for setting up of such a body."

Chair of the Council, Collin Brewer, said: "This is a different issue to the current debate about the structure of local government in Cornwall. We were reassured by recent statements of Ruth Kelly MP, Secretary of State for the Department of Local Government and Communities on behalf of Government saying that it would not force a unitary structure on local government in two-tier counties such as Cornwall.

"This reinforces the view previously expressed by our members at a recent policy day where the consensus was that NCDC should actively support and explore increased opportunities for joint working and improving value for money in service delivery, rather than any wholesale structural change to local government in Cornwall.

CORNISH BRANCH OF THE CELTIC LEAGUE TOLD 'NO' BY GORSETH KERNOW

Realising that the annual procession of the Cornish Gorsedd (Gorseith Kernow) was to occur in his home town of Redruth, Cornwall on Saturday 2nd September, 2006, the Celtic League Cornwall Branch Secretary, Mike Chappell wrote to the Gorsedd requesting permission to carry the Branch's 'six nations' banner during the event. This matter was considered by the Council Members of Gorseith Kernow at a recent quarterly meeting. A subsequent letter sent by the Gorseith Secretary informed that the Council was sorry to disappoint the League, 'but the answer has to be "no" as several members pointed out that the Celtic League is a political association, whilst the Gorseith is cultural in concept.' The letter continued 'that the Celtic Congress - Cornish Branch has been permitted to join the parade is due to its non-political background and mutual connections with Henry Jenner, similarly the Federation of Old Cornwall Societies Banner. Needless to say, Mike Chappell and several other members of the League in Cornwall are also members of the Celtic Congress and Old Cornwall Societies.

Cornish Job Losses – Open South Crofty!

Over the last few months Kernow has faced the prospect of a dramatic loss of jobs and as one of Europe's poorest regions, people are beginning to wonder what the future holds for its young people.

The China Clay company Imerys, announced that by the end of 2007 it is to cut 700 jobs in Kernow. In addition, Treliske Hospital in Truro has also been earmarked for over 300 job losses, with the closure of St Michael's Hospital in Hayle and reduced services at West Cornwall Hospital in Penzance. The bleak picture continues with Cornish firm Furniss, who have been making biscuits for 120 years in Pool, one of Cornwall's poorest areas, closing in July with the loss of over 100 jobs.

Kernow is in receipt of European Objective One money, which is meant to be used for regeneration purposes, but many question whether this money, which is being administered from outside of Kernow, has been managed correctly. Some of this money has been used to set up the Camborne Pool Redruth Regeneration Company (CPR), a company that says is "facilitating a wide range of projects involving the public and private sectors, and community and voluntary groups."

Pool is home to Kernow's last working tin mine and since it closed in 1998 has been the subject of a great deal of controversy. On the wall outside the mine in graffiti, someone has written in words that have become locally famous: "**Cornish lads are fishermen and Cornish lads are miners too. But when the fish and tin are gone, what are the Cornish boys to do?**"

As Kernow's last fully operating tin mine an immense amount of anger and publicity followed its closure, especially because many people, including the mine's management and the miners themselves, claimed that there was enough tin left in the mine for profits to be made. This was later confirmed by the acquisition of the mine by Baseresult Holdings Ltd., a Welsh owned mining company, who promised to make the mine operational again. It has however proved difficult for Baseresult to reopen the mine.

Members of the Kernow Branch of the Celtic League visited South Crofty tin mine, Pool on the 13th July on what Branch Chair, Mike Chappel called a 'fact finding' mission. A delegation of 16 people representing members and friends of the Branch visited the site after making an application to the

mine's management for a tour. Speaking after the event, Mike told Kernow Branch members that:

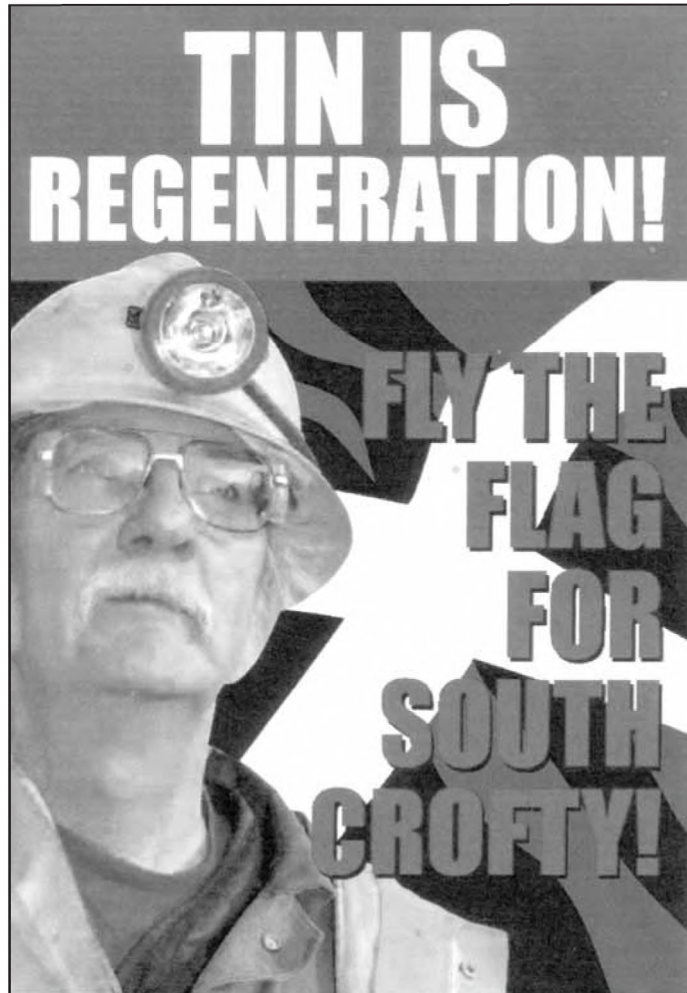
'This past week has seen the announcement of 700 job losses in the Clay Country at St.

Camborne, Pool and Redruth areas by Baseresult claiming that their objective of reopening the mine has been continually frustrated by what a spokesman for the firm describes as "local bureaucrats". The

Baseresult leaflet carried the heading "Tin is Regeneration – Fly the flag for South Crofty!" and urged the local community to show the local authorities that people supported what Baseresult was trying to do.

It is estimated that with at least 80 years of extractable tin and the price of tin being at a current high, South Crofty could, when fully operational, create 400 mine related jobs in the area. Mining in Kernow was, and in many ways still is, an important part of the lives of Cornish people. In July 2006, the tin mining landscape of Kernow became a world heritage site, adding to the prominence of tin mining in the nation.

Jobs are hard enough to come by in Kernow as it is, so if Baseresult Holdings Ltd is sure that it can create hundreds of jobs in a economically deprived area of Kernow, then why isn't everything being done by the CPR Regeneration company to ensure that the mine becomes fully operational again? The people of Kernow are left wondering, while young people are being forced to leave through lack of work.



Austell, 300 job losses in the NHS and 120 job losses at the Furniss Cornish Biscuit Company. Tourist jobs are low paid and short lived. What Kernow needs is skilled and sustainable jobs and mining is in the Cornish psyche.'

However, Baseresult blame the CPS Regeneration company for holding up its reopening procedures. A Spokesperson for Baseresult said: "Why does the Camborne Pool Redruth Regeneration Company choose to utter empty threats about compulsory purchase orders (which they have no authority to issue anyway) on live television – on the very day that we are proudly showing off the equipment, worth hundreds of thousands of pounds that has just been bought from Wheal Jane mine? Surely they should have been applauding this very visible sign of progress. Unless of course they don't want a working mine in Pool at all..."

On the 22nd and the 23rd June, nearly 17,000 leaflets were distributed throughout the

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Mannin



Yn Ellyn as y Pholiticaght

Hie yn Cohaglym Celtiagh Eddyrashoonagh bleinoil er cummal ayns Karaez sy Vritaan ayns Jerrey Souree. Myr dy cliaghtagh, deaisht chaghteryn veih ny shey cheeraghyn Celtiagh rish leaghtyn, as va turrysyn as cuirraghyn-kiaullee as gien-seyn-kiaullee ayn. Hannee yn chooid smoo jeh ny chaghteryn ayns scoill-ard ec Diwan, y ghleashaght ta croo as stiurey scoillyn raad t'ad gynsaghey trooid Britaanish da feallagh aegey sy Vritaan. Kyndagh rish bunraght y Rank, t'eh grait, cha vod y reiltys Frangagh cur argid da lheid ny scoillyn Diwan, er lhimmey jeh geeck faillyn ny ynseyderyn. Myr shen, shegin da lught Diwan feddyn troggalyn daue hene as feddyn yn argid son ymmodee reddyn elley. Cha nel ad geddyn monney cooney veih sleih ta kinjagh preacheil 'Seyrsnys, Cormid, Braaraghys'. Fy yerrey, ta lught Diwan er hroggal argid cour jannoo troggalyn scoill-ard Karaez ass y noa. Agh, dy firrinagh, cha dod peiagh erbee gaccan mychione stayd ny troggalyn shen myr t'ad nish. Ny yei shen as ooilley, she scammyltagh yn agh ta lught Diwan eginit gleck son gagh ping.

Liorish cliass, va'n Commeeys Celtiagh cummal e haglym cadjin bleinoil faggys da Karaez dy jeeragh lurg y Chohaglym Celtiagh. Ta sleih ennagh ayns Mannin (as ayns cheeraghyn elley, foddee) goaill aggle roish y Chommeys Celtiagh kyndagh rish e pholiticaght – ta'n Commeeys 'politicaght' as ta'n Cohaglym 'cultooroil'. Ta mish hene credjal dy vel dy chooilley nhee politickagh, bunnys. Ansherbee, ayns y Vritaan, she yn pholiticaght t'ayn cho leah as t'ou currit da'n chengey ashoonagh. As shen myr t'eh ayns gagh cheer, dy firrinagh.

Gagh blein, she chenglane yn cheer ta cummal y Cohaglym Celtiagh Eddyrashoonagh ta reih bun-chooish ny leaghtyn. Ta chaghter veih gagh cheer cur leaght y pheesh. Mleeaney, va'n vun-chooish Yn Chummaght (Influence) Cheltiagh er ny Ellynyn Reartyagh, bun-chooish v'er ny reih ec ny Britaanee. Oddagh y vun-chooish shoh er ve feer arganeagh, er yn oyr dy vel sleih dy liooar ayn yiarragh nagh vod oo fakinn cummaght erbee myr shen ayns ellyn erbee – cha nel yn ellyn Cheltiagh ayn, cha nel yn ellyn Hostnagh ayn, cha nel yn ellyn Rooshagh ayn, as myr shen foastagh. Cha nel agh yn ellyn ayn. Agh ayns Karaez, cha row arganeys ayn mychione y lheid. Ren ny shey loayrtee dellal rish y vun-chooish er daa agh: y Celtiaghys cheet veih ny shenn

chummaghyn, er nonney, y Celtiaghys cheet veih'n cheer hene – y thalloo, ny crink, y keayn as y pobble. Shen myr va'n loayrtagh son y Chorn, Alison Bevan, dellal rish y chooish, as ee loayrt mychione ny ellyneyryn va cheet gys y Chorn rish ymmodee bleean-tyn. Va ny ellyneyryn shoh currit da'n cheer as da'n phobble Cornagh. Agh tra va'n loayrtagh gimraa 'daahghyn Celtiagh', va mee ouryssagh. V'ee cheet er glass, gorrym as lheeah. Agh foddee dy ve keeall ennagh ayn ny yei shen as ooilley. Ta 'glass' 'gorrym' ayns Bretnish. As ayns Gaelg, cre'n daah ta 'glass' coardail rish fockley Cregeen? Dy jarroo – pale, gray, pale blue ... applied to vegetation, green.'



Brian Stowell and his wife Julie enjoying a fest noz.

Myr veagh oo jerkal, va'n leaght veih'n Vritaan feer pholiticaght. Dy firrinagh, hug tree persoanyn leaght y pheesh. Loayr Armel Ar Sec'h feer niartal as eshyn gaccan nagh vel ny ellyneyryn kiart geddyn yn argid. Ayns y leaght son Bretyn, va David Petersen gra yn red cheddin, bunnys. As loayr eshyn mychione y scansh jeh ellyneyryn. Ta tranlaasee toiggal y scansh shen. Ny tranlaasee Hitler as Stalin, ren ad shickyraghey dy row smaght oc er eyllyneyryn. Cha nel reiltyssyn Hostyn as y Rank cliaghtey marroo sleih myr va Hitler as Stalin cliaghtey jannoo, agh ta ny reiltyssyn shen jannoo nyn gooid share dy hickyraghey nagh vow ellyneyryn 'boiragh' monney argid.

Loayr Clíodna Cussen son Nerin as Dorcas Costain-Blann son Mannin. Son y daa ven shoh, haink y Celtiaghys veih cummaghtyn ta feer henn – veih ny shenn chlaghyn as ny shenn lioaryn crauee. Dooyrt Clíodna dy vel cummaght ny shenn lhoobyn gyn jerrey ry akin foast syn ellyn Yernagh. As loayr Dorcas mychione ny cummaghtyn er ny

shenn chlaghyn Celtiagh-Loghlynnagh ayns Mannin.

She Donald Murray loayr son Nalbin. She penneyr eshyn as v'eh nane jeh jeih penneyryn haink ry cheilleil An Leabhar Mór y yannoo, marish keead ellyneyr as lieh-cheead bard. Va ooilley'n sleih shoh voish Nalbin as Nerin. Ta daanyn cummit ec ny bard ayns Gaelg Albinagh as Yernish sy Lioar Moorar shoh. She obbyr yindyssagh ta jeant oc, as ny daanyn screeut magh ec ny penneyryn. Reeshtagh, s'treih nagh row cuirrey currit da Manninee dy ghoaill aym ayn. Ta'n Lioar Moorar er jeet magh kyndagh rish Shalee Cholum Keeilleil, ren cheet magh ass Coardail Jeheiney Caisht. S'cosoylagh nagh row monney sleih ec Karaez va toiggal cre cho politickagh as va ny reddyn ren croo An Leabhar Mór.

Hug chaghteryn veih'n Chohaglym Celtiagh shilleil er ymyd shennndaaleeagh faggys da Karaez. Paart dy hraa roish shen, v'ad er n'eddyn magh dy row slane balley Goalagh fo halloo ayns shen. Cha row fys erbee ec peiagh erbee dy row yn lheid ayn as t'eh yindyssagh dy vel eh feddynit. Veih ymyd-eggey oikoil Karaez, veagh oo smooingaghtyn dy row yn balley currit er bun hoshiaght ec ny Romanee. Nish, ta fys ain nagh vel shen kiart. Ny smoo as ny smoo, ta fysseree cheet rish dy row ram stoo aggairagh screeut ec ny Romanee as mychione oc neesht. Stoo goll rish 'Cha row ny Celtiee cummal ayns baljyn'. Nish, ta fys ain dy row baljyn dy liooar ayns Goal roish my daink ny Romanee as dy row kuse jeh ny baljyn shen feer vooar.

Myrgeeddin, hug chaghteryn shilleil er Coop Breizh, colught ta cur magh as creck lioaryn ayns Britaanish, chammah as creck lioaryn ayns ny chengaghyn Celtiagh elley. T'eh feer vie dy dooar Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh y chenn scoill ec Balley Noo Yude – ta Thie ny Gaelgey er ve ayn rish feed blein nish. Agh dy firrinagh ta shin ayns feme jeh thie stoyragh ta ny smoo na Thie ny Gaelgey nish. Ec y traa t'ayn, cha nodmayd agh dreamal mychione boayl casley rish Coop Breizh, raad ta keeadyn dy lioaryn goll er stoyral.

Hug shin shilleil er thie-imbyl ayns Karaez neesht, raad t'ad jannoo lhune fegooish stooghyn neughoghysaght. Va dy liooar jeh'n lhune shoh goll er iu ec y fest noz (feailley-oie) yn oie s'jerree jeh'n Chohaglym. Ooilley cooidjagh, daag chaghteryn Karaez lesh y smooingaght dy vel spytryd bioyr ry gheddyn sy Vritaan, ga dy vel boiraghyn dy liooar jannoo orroo. Son shickyrys, va gagh peiagh coontey ram jeh'n agh va dellal y Chohaglym jeant trooid Britaanish, Frangish as Baarle.

Summary

The theme of the 2006 Celtic Congress held at Carhaix in Brittany was the Celtic influence in the visual arts. Some of the six speakers on this theme discussed the politics of the funding of artists favoured by officialdom.

Brian Stowell

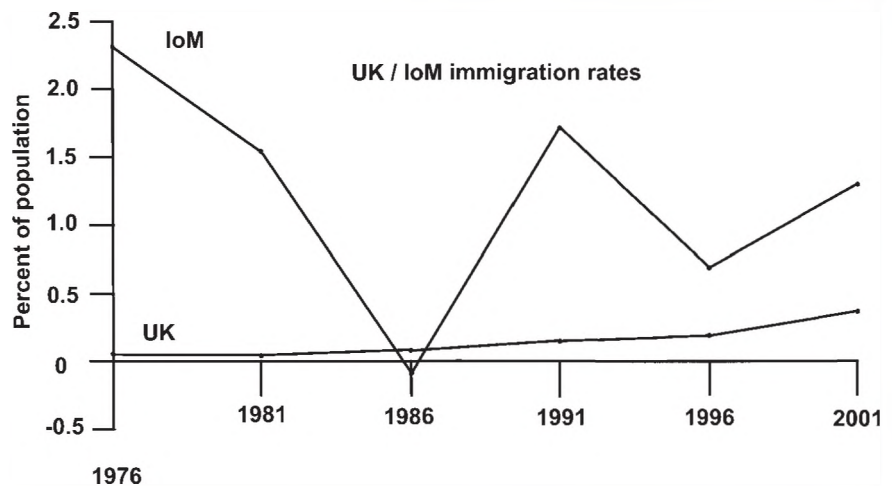
Immigration in Mann

Immigration is now a hot topic in the United Kingdom and all parties seem to want to make an issue of it. In Mannin, the nationalists have been advocating controls for decades, in the face of massive immigration that has left the Manx nation broken and marginalised. They have suffered the predictable empty taunts of racism but now that the UK government is talking openly of tighter controls, it is deemed to be safe for Manx politicians and would-be politicians to do the same.

Mec Vannin's "Yn Pabyr Seyr" of July 2005 compared immigration figures for the UK and the Isle of Man over the twenty five year period 1976 - 2001. They revealed a frightening disparity, the UK only just reaching around 0.4% per annum in 2001 whereas Mannin's has been over 2.0% and continues at well over 1.0%.

The Republic of Ireland has the greatest immigration rate of any EU country – ahead of Germany which itself has a greater rate than the UK. Nonetheless, the RoI's rate is well below Mannin's yet the Manx people are supposed to just quietly accept this. Unfortunately, the new found will to talk about the issue by those seeking election or re-election is not aimed at population control, but rides on the back of racist sentiment towards non-whites and Eastern Europeans – no one is, as yet, talking seriously about stopping the flood of English. Indeed, many of those who most openly favour "immigration controls" to the Island are English immigrants themselves and are only interested in stopping non-English arrivals to the Island!

Such is the strength of "Little England" sentiment amongst elements of the population now that the extreme-right English party BNP felt safe to attempt a recruiting drive on the Island. Thankfully, they were roundly condemned from all quarters but that doesn't mean that they don't have some sympathy and, if the policies that encourage English people to "escape" to the Isle of Man continue, we can expect to see them back.



Liberal Vannin – new party

Former member of the Manx Labour Party and Member of the House of Keys for Onchan, Peter Karran, has formed a new political party, Liberal Vannin. The name is hardly inspired or inspiring but it is policies that must ultimately count.

Predictably, given Mr. Karran's background, these centre on accountable and open government, freedom of information, reformation of the Island's anachronistic but powerful unelected body, the Legislative Council and left-of-centre social policies.

Several new names to politics have already aligned themselves with Mr. Karran's new party and it hopes to field several candidates at the forthcoming election.

Another grouping, the Progressive Alliance Group (PAG) has declared similar core objectives of transparency and political reform but lack an actual political policy or direction. The group is trying to encourage potential candidates to subscribe or endorse the core objectives.

Meanwhile, Mec Vannin has still not formally declared any candidates but says a couple of members have expressed an interest. Several leading members regard the government in the Island to now be so corrupted that a lack of political and moral integrity is a prerequisite for participation. Hence, they are not likely to stand though other erstwhile nationalists seem to be "bedding in" nicely.

Population Increase and Voting

Although no figures have yet been released from the Isle of Man's 2006 census, other statistics indicate that population will now officially exceed 80,000. Of these, using previous census data, some 64,000 should be eligible to vote, as opposed to around 59,000 at the previous 2001 census. This figure has been increased by both the rising population and by legislation that dropped the voting age to 16, passed earlier this year.

In fact, of the approximately 59,000 people eligible to vote in 2001, only some 47,000 were registered for the 2001 General Election and, of those, only 27,000 (57%) turned out on the day, giving a true result of 46% when viewed in terms of total potential voters.

Successful candidates only represent 39% of the registered voters which further falls to

31% when total number of potential voters are accounted for.

Many have openly dismissed the lowering of the voting age as a desperate ploy to increase the voting figures and the lack of uptake by the 16-18 age group indicates an embarrassing failure.

Indeed, recent figures reveal a drop in the number of people registered to vote despite the population increase, the lowering of the voting age and a campaign in schools encouraging pupils to enroll on the electoral register.

This apathy was predicted in Carn 133 pp21, but perhaps antipathy would be a better description. Non-participation is a powerful condemnation of a governmental system that has lost any credibility with the people it is supposed to represent.



EDITORIAL – CARN AND COMMUNICATION

Living in Spain and at some distance from Kernow, I have to rely heavily on the internet if I want to maintain some political awareness about what is happening in this small Celtic nation. There are several different websites I visit on a daily basis and even though I don't take part in any daily forums, I regularly visit them in an attempt to glean something about how people are feeling at a ground roots level. Of course I also keep contact, via emails, with people in Kernow who are either politically active/aware and through a small number of publications like Cornish World, Cornish Nation and An Gannas. Often though I become so desperate for news that I even resort to viewing the pages of the limited and trashy media outlets like the West Briton, Cornish Guardian and The Cornishman.



Rhisiart Tal-e-bot, CL General Secretary

However, I am a Welshman and even though I was never as politically active in Cymru as I have been and am in Kernow, I still yearn for news of a nationalist political nature from my Welsh home too. My family, who are not really very interested in politics, try to pass on bits and pieces of news to me that they think I may be interested in. But on the whole I rely again on emails from friends and finding extra time, in an already busy day and evening, to visit some Welsh political websites, like Plaid Cymru, Cymru Annibynnol, the National Assembly Senedd site and to read though any edition of Cambria that I can get my hands on.

Of course in my situation I look forward to receiving my copy of Carn every quarter. I wait for Carn with trepidation, because even though I am particularly interested in what's happening in Kernow and Cymru, I would also describe myself as a Celtic nationalist;

in other words I want and aim to work for independent Celtic nations.

And Carn is the only reliable publication that covers news and articles of a political nature, from all of the Celtic countries, in any sort of depth. My only wish sometimes is that it came out more frequently and that I could read it on the internet in the form of a magazine.

For Carn to have an internet presence like this, would not only mean that it is more readily available for people like myself, but it would also be more 'glossy' in terms of colour. Practically too it would be easier and cheaper to produce. In addition, I feel that an internet edition of Carn may appeal to an internet ready generation of young people who will have increasing access to the internet through various forms of communication, from pocket PC's, televisions to mobile phones. I am aware that the League has its own Celtic news site, which I access daily. However, sometimes I don't only want to read news items in a dry format, but want to read something more in depth and be stimulated by its design at the same time.

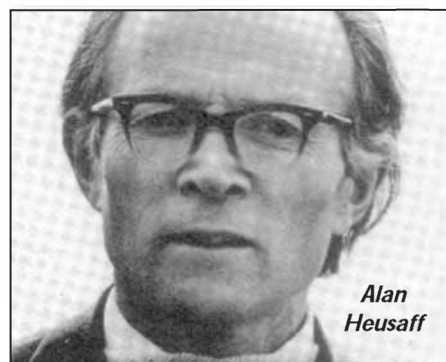
So there we go. My editorial comments may not be the usual run of the mill, but I hope they have at least provided League members with something to think about for the future. Or maybe my comments will prompt someone, with the means of doing so, to produce a similar internet magazine for Kernow or Cymru, but I know what I would prefer at the moment.

Rhisiart Tal-e-bot

AGM Resolution on CARN

This AGM confirms the continuance of the subcommittee to examine the direction of the League, its organisation, finances, Carn and publications and viability for the future and calls on it to submit a final report by the end of February 2007. All branches should consult their members and send the responses to the Committee.

For 2007, 3 issues of Carn will be produced and a desk-top publishing production method will be introduced as soon as possible for layout.



**Alan
Heusaff**

On the occasion of this first CL AGM in Breizh since his death this AGM acknowledges the contribution of Alan Heusaff (its first General Secretary) to the work of Celtic League, intercultural cooperation and for the language, culture and freedom of Breizh.

- In light of the fact that the first group of children to be taken through their primary education in the Manx language at the Bunscoill Ghaelgagh will be leaving the school in July 2007, this AGM seeks assurances from the Isle of Man's Department of Education that their linguistic rights and needs will be met in the secondary school environment.
- This AGM calls upon the UK television and radio companies to ensure that Cornwall is not erroneously referred to as an English county, but rather recognise its distinct status and Celtic identity.
- This AGM concerned at proposals which may lead to the construction of a new generation of nuclear plants reiterates its opposition to the French and British civil and military nuclear programmes.
- This AGM, recalling the deaths over many years of 47 members of the Irish contingent of the United Nations Force in Lebanon, unreservedly condemns the Israeli government and Defence Forces for the most recent deaths of UNIFIL personnel manning the UNIFIL post at Khayam in South Lebanon.
(Note: Ireland contributed peacekeepers to the UNIFIL Force for twenty three (1978-2001) in that time 257 of the overall contingent were killed the vast majority due to the actions of the Israeli Defence Force of their proxy South Lebanon Army – on July 25th four U.N. observers from Austria, Finland, Canada and China were killed when their post was targeted by an Israeli aircraft)

Continued on page 22

Release Kristian Georgeault

At the Landernev/Landerneau 2006 Celtic League AGM the following resolution was passed unanimously:

This AGM calls for the immediate release of Kristian Georgeault, given the fact that he has been tried twice for the same crime (on March 26th 2004 and June 29th 2005) and taking into consideration the time already served.



at a MacDonald's restaurant, killing a young woman in Pornizh/Pornic, Breizh. The French seemed to use the bombing as an excuse to round up as many Breton cultural and political activists as possible and detain them.

Some of those originally detained were kept for up to four years without being put on trial. Due to huge political pressure a special court was set up in Paris to trial the prisoners and on March 26th 2004, some of the remaining prisoners who had not yet been released were charged with different offences, including belonging to the Breton Revolutionary Army (ARB). However, all but one of the prisoners denied any involvement with the ARB. Many of the prisoners were then released, some on parole.

Kristian Georeault was the one prisoner who

admitted being associated with the ARB. He was then sentenced to 11 years in prison. On June 29th 2005, Georgeault was then tried again in a normal court for the same offence as the one he was tried for in 2004. At this court he was sentenced to 6 years.

To date, Georgeault has served 6 years, taking into consideration the time he has already served leading up to his 2004 trial. The Kernow Branch of the League therefore believes that their resolution is justified in calling for Georgeault's immediate release.

The General Secretary has written to the French Minister of Justice Pascal Clement requesting Georgeault immediate release.

Kristian Georgeault can be contacted at the address below. Messages of support would be gratefully received:

Kristian Georgeault Prisonnier Politique
Bretonl n°20533 Cellule OG15 Centre de
detention - Kerbriant BZH-56275 PLANVOUR

Background

The resolution was moved by the Kernow Branch and relates to activities that the Branch has undertaken in support of Breton political prisoners held by the French state authorities.

Kristian Georgeault was one of a number of political prisoners detained by the French authorities in 2000 after a bomb was exploded

Continued from page 21

● This AGM

a). Condemns the use by United States and Israeli civil and military aircraft of Prestwick airport as a transit point for arms shipments to the Israeli Defence Forces

b). Calls for an enquiry to establish if the actions of those in the United Kingdom who authorise or facilitate the shipments are guilty of crimes under International law.

● This AGM expresses its concern that despite the United Kingdoms "heightened state of alert of terrorism" a journalist was

recently able to gain access to a Cumbria-bound train carrying nuclear waste.

● This AGM, recalling the campaign by the Celtic League to clarify the circumstances surrounding the loss of several motor fishing vessels in inexplicable circumstances whilst sailing in or near military submarine exercise areas expresses its concern that the cause of the loss of the Breton trawler Bugaled Breizh is still unresolved.

Note: The Celtic League campaign to investigate these unexplained losses covered a twenty year period during the Cold War. The loss of and damage to scores of

vessels was assessed. The League determined that in 15-20 instances there was strong cause for concern about possible military submarine involvement. The loss of several vessels from Brittany was examined. The single greatest loss of life also involved a Breton vessel, the Cite D'Aleth, which sank suddenly with all 10 crew members off Wexford, Ireland in January 1983."

● This AGM calls for the all political prisoners in and from the Celtic countries to be repatriated and put in prisons close to their homes.

A CELTIC CALENDAR FOR A CELTIC YEAR

In time for the Celtic New Year (November 1st) the Celtic League's new 2007 Celtic Calendar is now available. Sporting twelve original black and white illustrations of themes from Celtic mythology by noted artist Laurie Fraser Manifold, this year's Calendar is also distinguished by a bold cover illustration honouring Celtic women by Brian MacIsaac. Beginning with November 2006, each month is named in one of the six Celtic languages of Irish, Scots Gaelic, Welsh, Cornish, Breton, and Manx, along with an authentic proverb from the language of the month. In addition to information about the traditional Celtic feast days, each day of the upcoming year is noted with the anniversary of an important Celtic person or historic event, over one thousand in all. A veritable almanac of Celtic history and culture, copies of the 2007 Celtic Calendar are available for only \$10 each, post paid, from Celtic League Calendar, c/o Tom Cullinan, 3 Stoneleigh Plaza #5C, Bronxville, NY, 10708.

celtic calendar 2007



AN HISTORICAL AND MYTHOLOGICAL CALENDAR REPRESENTING THE CELTIC YEAR: NOVEMBER 1, 2006 TO OCTOBER 31, 2007

Implementing language legislation

EBLUL Partnership for Diversity 2006

The Partnership for Diversity Forum, an ongoing, successful European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages project, held its annual conference on 29th and 30th June on the Gaelic-speaking Isle of Skye, Scotland. It was attended by delegates from all over Europe, including from pre-accession states. The theme this year was implementing language legislation.

It was noted that the content of language plans had to be clear, not aspirational. Enforcement methods needed to have formal mechanisms which specified how failures might be punished- even good legislation to be effective needed a good political environment. It was difficult to regulate big areas of daily life, such as the private and voluntary sectors, and laws needed to clearly specify what the minimum standard of service a community should expect to receive; they should put power into the hands of individuals and communities.

Dr Peadar Ó Flatharta looked at the Irish Language Act. It provided for a Language

Commissioner in its implementation structures, an office which was seen to be effective; staffing in other areas was low, however, and language schemes seemed to be developing on the margins of the system of public administration rather than being embedded in it. Looking more generally at the context in which the Act existed, he noted that the Act was not part of a national plan; its' structures do not include important parts of the language apparatus of the state system. He asked if perhaps a separate public body administering an Act like this would offer a better solution, but noted that, in any case, it was early days for this Act and there were still unexplored possibilities in terms of how its' implementation would

Colin Williams gave an overview of the implementation of the successful Welsh Language Act. He noted in the subsequent discussion that it is not the presence of language legislation in isolation as much as the effort of activists that leads to results; law actually follows activism. Rights in the area of health, anti-discrimination, and care of the elderly can have a huge impact on the delivery of bilingual

services. Thus the provision of clauses that imply these rights can lead to the mainstreaming required. The job of language planners is to change norms; to translate the potential to use your language into the strongest actual reality that is possible. He also pointed out that many people who could benefit from clauses in language acts do not actually use them to anything near their potential.

Concluding, Siv Sandberg said that people make legislation happen; it gives a platform that is important to those who want their languages to survive and flourish. But minorities need to be less innocent and more professional in their approach if they want real results. Peadar O Flatharta noted that language rights are not embedded in societal fabric- unlike gender rights. But it was noted that one issue- cost- should not be used as a block to development; research shows that assumptions of huge costs in providing languages services have been proven to be untrue

Many other interesting contributions were made and discussed. Papers will be published on the EBLUL website.

Bernard Moffatt – a successful 20 years as General Secretary!

Bernard Moffatt, the Celtic League's second longest serving General Secretary in the organisation's history, decided at the August 2006 AGM in Landernev, Breizh, not to stand again for that position.

Bernard is the only General Secretary to have held the position twice, between 1984 - 88 and 1991 – 2006. In addition to this Bernard was also the Director of Information for the League, an additional post that demanded a high level of commitment in terms of both time and dedication.

Commitment and dedication to the aims of the League however are two qualities that Bernard was never seen to lack. He has campaigned extensively over the years on a wide range of issues, in particular the military monitoring campaign for which Bernard received unanimous commendation at the 2005 AGM in Alba.

Prior to becoming General Secretary, Bernard was the Manx Branch Secretary. He was re-elected as Director of Information for the League and will no doubt continue actively campaigning on the League's behalf.



Bernard Moffatt (second row, right hand side) pictured with some of the delegates attending the Celtic League AGM 2006, outside Stumdi College, Landernev, Breizh. Composite flag of the Celtic Nations with the symbol of the League, the Celtic Knot, held in the foreground.

E.P. Intergroup demands that France ratify ECRML, FCNM and EU intervene on minoritised languages

The European Parliament lesser-used language and national minority Intergroup met in Strasbourg in May with representatives from EBLUL France, comprising Bretons, Alsacians, and Occitans, and the Association of the French Regions. Following the meeting, Intergroup President and Hungarian Socialist Csaba Tabajdi (PES) issued a Declaration demanding that France ratify the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ECRML) and the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM). Furthermore, Mr Tabajdi called for the EU to intervene to help the languages on French territory that are now facing endangerment because of State policies that have led to serious decline.

CARN APPEAL

One of the hot topics discussed at this year's AGM in Breizh was the future of Carn. Carn, now in its thirty-fourth year of publication, is the longest running inter-Celtic publications of its kind, but over the last few years its publication has put a serious financial strain on the organisation as a whole.

This has resulted in the setting up of a sub committee by the League to discuss its future. Various options have been explored about how we can continue with its production and maintain its high standard, but the fact remains that costs are increasing and with it the strong possibility that without increased sources of funding, the future of the publication must cease or dramatically change.

One of the options that has been explored is to make Carn available through electronic format, so that it can only be read with access to E mail or the internet. However, it seems that many League members would still like Carn to be available through hard copy format and enjoy receiving the publication by post. Another option is to reduce the number of copies of Carn produced on an annual basis and indeed this will be done in 2007, where three as opposed to four copies of Carn will be produced.

Obviously if we continue in this vein, without tapping into new funding sources, the situation will result where we will have to reduce the number of publications in successive years until all funds have dried up.

Of course this is not the choice solution. Ideally we would like to continue with the production of Carn in hard copy format. We would therefore like to hear from any of our readers who have good ideas for raising extra money to keep Carn going.

Donations are always welcome and cheques can be made payable to the Celtic League at one of the addresses below:

For Euro donations:

Celtic League, 33 Ceide na Grianóige, Rath Cuil, Co. Átha Cliath, Éire

For Pounds Sterling donations:

Celtic League, Millcroft, East Baldwin, Braddan, Mannin

All other suggestions and ideas can be forwarded to the General Secretary (rhisiart.talebot@gmail.com).

Assistant General Secretary (macdhiarmuid@manx.net)

or the Editor (patriciaabridson@eircom.net) by email or by post to the addresses on the back of this publication.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Diolch yn Fawr
Rhisiart Tal-e-bot
General Secretary

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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FUTURE OF CARN

Please tick the options you agree with and return this form to your Branch Secretary.

☐ I would like to receive Carn in future in e-mail format. (i.e. as a PDF attachment)

My email address is _____

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☐ I will retain my membership of the Celtic League even without Carn or if it is replaced by a newsletter.

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Thank you for completing this form – it will help the Celtic League in providing the most cost effective service to our members. If you would like to discuss this further before making a decision, please contact: Rhisiart Tal-e bot, General Secretary, Calle Mayor 8, 4º, 09240 Briviesca, BURGOS, Spain. Tel: Spain (+ 34) 692497877 UK (+ 44) 7787318666 or Email: rhisiart.talebot@gmail.com

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