

CAWPN

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 138

Autumn 2007

€4.00 Stg£3.00

- **SNP call for vote on Scottish Independence**
- **Breizh - Election results bode ill for Breton reunification**
- **Return of the 'Welsh Not'**
- **Irish Immersion Education banned in Republic!**
- **Cornish Branch – A target for Police Frustration**
- **Questyons Rag Kernow**
- **Return the Chronicles Campaign revived in Mann**
- **Celtic League AGM 2007**



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



Soraidh Slàn leis a' Mhòd?

Chaidh an ceòl air feadh na fìdhle anns an Lùnastal nuair a thuirte comhairliche Gàidhealtach gun robh am Mòd seann-fhastanta, boring agus nach robh e idir cuideachail don chànan. Thuirte Coinneach MacLeòid, a tha na Comhairliche Lib-Deamach airson Allt a' Mhuilinn ann an Inbhir Nis, gum bu chòir cur às don Mhòd agus fèis Phan-Cheilteach ùr a stèidheachadh.

Thuirte e nach robh am Mòd air atharrachadh bho a chaidh a chur air dòigh an t-òiseach ann an 1892 agus gun robh an t-àm ann rudeigin ùr a chur na àite: rudeigin a bhiodh a' toirt daoine à Alba, Èireann, Eilean Mhanainn, a' Chuimrigh, a' Bhreatainn Bheag agus a' Chòrn còmhla. Tha beachdan Mhgr MhicLeòid air deasbad sradagach a thogail ann an saoghal na Gàidhlig.

Chaidh am Mòd Nàiseanta a stèidheachadh ann an 1892 anns an Òban gus cànan is cultar nan Gàidheal a bhrosnachadh. Coltach ri fèisean Bhictorianach eile, bha e stèidhichte air co-fharpaisean. Bha blas gu math Bhictorianach air a' cheòl fhèin cuideachd oir chaidh ceòl dualchasach na Gàidhlig atharrachadh mun àm sin gus am biodh e na bu thaitniche do chluasan luchd na Beurla.

Thèid am Mòd a chumail ann am baile eadar-dhealaichte gach bliadhna. Bidh na mìltean a' frithealadh a' Mhòid gach bliadhna agus bidh e a' cur gu mòr ris an eaconomaidh ionadail. Tha an fhèis a' còrdadh gu mòr ri tòrr dhaoine agus air an adhbhar seo, tha cuid den bheachd nach eil feum air atharrachadh sam bith.

Chan eil a h-uile duine cho dèidheil air a' Mhòd, ge-tà, mar a tha follaiseach bho na beachdan aig a' Chomhairliche MacLeòid. Ged a bha e mar amas don fhèis a bhith a' brosnachadh an dà chuid cànan is cultar nan Gàidheal, tha tòrr dhaoine den bheachd nach eil e – is nach robh e riamh – a' cur cuideam gu leòr air a' Ghàidhlig. Tha a' mhòr-chuid de na postairean, stuthan sanasachd, agus de na h-òraidean anns a' Bheurla a-mhàin agus chan eil facal Gàidhlig air tòrr de na daoine a tha a' cur air dòigh no a' gabhail pàirt anns a' Mhòd.

Tha cuid den bheachd gu bheil an iomhaigh a' Mhòd a' toirt droch chliù don chànan cuideachd – cus tartain is cus fhèilidhean. Mar thoradh air seo, is e glè bheag de luchd-ionnsachaidh is luchd-iomairt cànan a bhios a' dol don Mhòd.

Chan eil ceòl a' Mhòid a' còrdadh ris a h-uile duine nas motha. Chanadh tòrr dhaoine a tha dèidheil air ceòl Gàidhealach nach e ceòl

dùthchasach a th' anns a' mhòr-chuid den cheòl a chluinnear aig a' Mhòid co-dhiù ach ceòl pop Bhictorianach. Agus ged a tha am Mòd a' còrdadh ri tòrr dhaoine, tha ceist ann mu dè cho fada a mhaireas e mur a tèid cruth na fèise atharrachadh. Tha a' mhòr-chuid de na daoine a tha a' dol don Mhòd a' fàs nas sine agus chan eil ginealach ùr a' tighinn ann nan àite.



Chomhairliche MacLeòid

Chan eil teagamh sam bith ann nach aontaicheadh gu leòr ann an saoghal na Gàidhlig ris a' Chomhairliche MacLeòid gu bheil am Mòd seann fhasanta, boring is nach eil e a' cuideachadh aiseirigh na Gàidhlig. Is docha nach aontaicheadh iad, ge-tà, leis an fhuasgladh a tha e a' cur air adhart: gum bu chòir fèis phan-Cheilteach a chur na àite. Tha luchd-iomairt cànan den bheachd gum biodh fada cus Beurla ann aig fèis mar seo agus gum biodh e na bu mhiosa na am Mòd fhèin a thaobh na cànan.

B'fheàrr le luchd-iomairt cànan am Mòd ùrachadh le na lugha de dh'fharpaisean, barrachd ciùil ùir, drama, comadaidh, òraidean agus clasaichean do luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig gus am biodh rudeigin ann airson a h-uile duine.

Màrtainn MacLeòid

Summary

Controversy has erupted about the Mòd, Scotland's annual celebration of Gaelic music. This follows the assertion by Highland Councillor Kenneth McLeod that the festival is out-dated, does little to ensure the future of Gaelic and "bores the pants off" spectators. He is calling for the Mòd to be replaced by a pan-Celtic festival. Many within the Gaelic community agree that the Mòd is old-fashioned, boring and does not use enough Gaelic. More controversial is the idea of its replacement with a pan-Celtic festival. Language activists feel that any changes to the Mòd should place Gaelic at the heart of a modernised festival rather than replacing it with another festival where the English language would predominate.

GAELIC NEWS

Inverness Gaelic School Opens

Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis, Highland Council's first dedicated Gaelic primary school opened in the Highland capital in August 2007. On opening, the purpose-built school had 100 primary and 45 nursery pupils.

Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Glasgow's dedicated Gaelic school, has reported an increased roll. Pupil numbers at the school which comprises nursery, primary and secondary education now stand at 320 which is up 75 on last year's figures. Overall the roll in Gaelic-medium education from nursery through to high school has risen in the city by 19-per cent in 2007/08.

While news has been encouraging for two of Scotland's three all-Gaelic schools, the future looks less promising for the third: the tiny Bun-sgoil Staoinibrig in South Uist. This school which is the only dedicated Gaelic school in the Outer Hebrides (Carn 133) is currently being considered for closure by Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (the local authority) as part of a school closures programme.

Gaelic Microsoft Vista Consultation

The Microsoft Vista operating system is to be translated to Scottish Gaelic and speakers and learners of the language were given the opportunity to assist the project by contributing views to a consultation by national Gaelic development agency Bòrd na Gàidhlig on the terminology used.

In February Microsoft announced a joint venture with Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Strathclyde University and Learning and Teaching Scotland to develop support for Scottish Gaelic in Windows Vista and Office 2007.

While the web browser Opera and office suite OpenOffice have already been produced in Gaelic this will be the first time that an operating system will be available in the language. Once completed this comprehensive software package will be used in Gaelic-medium schools, universities and in the workplace to assist the teaching, learning and general use of the language.

Consultation Begins on Gaelic Language Plans

Consultation exercises have taken place over summer on the first three statutory Gaelic Language Plans under the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005. Argyll and Bute Council, Highland Council and Highlands & Islands Enterprise are seeking views on draft

plans which state how they will put into practice the principle that the Gaelic and English languages will be treated on a basis of equal respect. Consultation will soon also be taking place on plans by the Scottish Government (formerly the Scottish Executive), the Scottish Parliament and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar. The Gaelic Act allows Bòrd na Gàidhlig to require public bodies under the authority of the Scottish Parliament to draw up Gaelic language plans.

Harry Potter and the Minority Language Controversy

As English speakers enjoy the new Harry Potter book and film, language activists in Scotland have renewed calls to have the popular series of books translated into Gaelic.



Alasdair Allan

Following a well publicised campaign, publishers Bloomsbury indicated that they intended to produce a Gaelic version of *Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone* by Christmas

2006. Plans were subsequently dropped, however, with a lack of suitable translators being cited as a reason. Gaelic campaigners have hotly disputed this claim, pointing out that Gaelic publishers have translated large numbers of children's novels to Gaelic. The advent of the final book in the Harry Potter series has inspired language activists to renew their campaign. Both the national Gaelic development agency Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Alasdair Allan, Member of the Scottish Parliament for the Western Isles have written to the publishers asking for the production of *Harry Potter agus Clach an Fheallsanaiche*.

William Wallace Remembered



On Saturday 25th of August the annual commemoration was held to mark the 702nd anniversary of the martyrdom of Scotland's patriot and hero William Wallace. Members of the Alba branch of the Celtic League and the Francis Hughes Cumann of Sinn Fein Poblachtach marched alongside Scottish Nationalists to the Wallace Memorial in his native Elderslie. At the memorial a rally was held at which several speakers recalled the words and deeds of the Liberator of the Scots and their relevance today.

The patriots of every land have acclaimed Wallace as their inspiration and model hero in the fight for freedom. His life was the textbook of the Ulster heroes of 1798 and it was fitting that in his address to an Easter Week Commemoration in Glasgow in 1926, the President of Sinn Fein, Father Michael O'Flanagan noted that: "The greatest man in the history of Scotland and the tradition of the people is not Andrew Carnegie but William Wallace".

Wallace was not inclined to compromise on matters of essential national importance. For him there could be no bending of the knee to a ruthless imperialism or ignoble bartering of principle. Today there is an SNP Government in Holyrood which has successfully completed its first 100 days in

power. The election disclosed the latent strength of British unionism, amongst the public, the media and the political establishment and is the reason why the SNP is running a minority government. As we have seen the Liberal Democrats were not permitted by London to join the SNP in coalition unless it agreed to the dropping of its nationalist objectives. The SNP Government faces many challenges and dangers. The party hopes it can convince the people of its ability to govern successfully, contrary to the barrage of unionist propaganda which predicted disaster for Scotland if the Nationalists won.

As we know to our cost the Brits are ruthless and it is likely that nearer the end of the parliamentary term, they will unite to go in for the kill, probably on the issue of the Referendum Bill. Alex Salmond and his colleagues will use their skills to try and create the conditions under which the Scottish people will opt for independence. The SNP is only as strong as the people make it and freedom will come when the people not only demand it but also are prepared to fight for it. In the struggle that lies ahead, the people of Scotland have the magnificent example of Wallace to look to for inspiration.

Scottish Saltire 1, Butcher's Apron 0

It was a fine result on July 30th for the Scottish team in the Symbolic Games. Gordon The British Gopher (Brown) had kicked off the match with what looked suspiciously like an offside goal when he declared that all government buildings should fly the Union Jack for 365 days a year. The referee confirmed as much and the goal was indeed chalked off.

The slack-jawed Brits then came under immediate pressure from a new look Scottish team who put in a great defensive tackle,



moved the ball swiftly upfield, and scored a magnificent strike when SNP captain Alex Salmond stated that "Britishness went bust in Scotland long ago" and plans for Union Jack-waving were halted in their tracks. The

Scottish Saltire will take pride of place instead.

We won't find out whether the Brits will bribe the match officials to fly their ridiculous Butcher's Apron (Union Jack) over such indigenous buildings as the Scottish Parliament and Edinburgh Castle until the final whistle is blown. But right now it looks like another famous Scottish victory is on the cards, while the British team look tired, bereft of ideas, and totally outplayed.

Kevin Williamson

CHOOSING SCOTLAND'S FUTURE

SNP calls for vote on Scottish Independence

Alex Salmond, Scotland's First Minister, reopened debate about the future of the United Kingdom (UK) with the launch of his government's White Paper **Choosing Scotland's Future**, which calls for a national conversation on proposals for Scottish independence.

As the leader of a minority administration, Mr Salmond accepts that he has 'a bit of work to do' to win a majority in the parliament to hold a referendum by 2010. With the backing of the Scottish Greens, Mr Salmond can claim about 50 of the 129 MSPs in favour of independence.

Mr Salmond ousted Mr McConnell (Labour) as first minister after the SNP emerged the largest party in the Holyrood parliament with one seat more than Labour. The Liberal democrats declined Mr Salmond's power sharing offer after he refused to abandon his referendum commitment and instead opted to return to the opposition benches, which seemed a decisive blow to the SNP's plans. However, Mr Salmond's minority administration has so far defied the expectations of its opponents, prospering rather than buckling under the pressures of office and is indeed setting the political agenda.

After barely 100 days in office with the launch of the White Paper, Mr Salmond has initiated a debate, led by him, which is carefully crafted to embrace a whole range of options – from the status quo to greater autonomy for the Scottish parliament, through federalism to full independence – making it impossible for the other parties to ignore. At the time of the launch of the White paper in August a YouGov poll found that while almost half those questioned backed the nationalist party only 31% favoured independence.

At the launch of the White paper, *Choosing Scotland's Future, a National Conversation - Subtitled Independence and Responsibility in the Modern World*, Mr Salmond declared that 'This debate – one focused on the next stage of self-government – demands the attention of every Scot, ... It does so not because Scotland is entirely united on the best option for further constitutional change, but rather because we are now united in the belief that no change is no longer an option.' He went on to say that, 'Just as the settled will of the Scottish people was once for the creation of a parliament, so now the settled will is for that parliament to grow in influence and authority.'

A central political point in this matter is that Salmond has made the most of his limited victory by accepting that further devolution can be a stepping stone to



Alex Salmond, SNP, Scotland's First Minister.

independence, rather than an end in itself. Thus the White paper opened with the famous quote from Parnell: "No man has a right to fix a boundary of the march of a nation; no man has the right to say to his country, 'thus far shalt thou go and no further'." That is the meaning of the conversation involved. He has succeeded in shifting the political ground towards him following a joint statement by Labour, the Liberal Democrats and the Conservatives, rejecting independence but accepting that further devolution is on the agenda.

Mr Salmond retains the right to determine the outcome of the conversation in deciding when to hold a referendum on independence and accepts it could be a two-option choice between that and deeper devolution. He also accepts that the issue could be put to the vote only once in a generation, so timing will be central.

Developments in Scotland are being closely monitored in Ireland North and South. Mr Salmond has cultivated good relations with Ian Paisley (Democratic Unionist Party) and Martin McGuinness (Sinn Féin) during several visits to Belfast, developing potential joint approaches to dealing with the Westminster government in London. The White Paper foresees closer relations with Dublin through the British Irish Council (BIC), whose agenda Salmond wants to extend. The document says the BIC 'could provide a model for future co-operation across Britain and Ireland following independence for Scotland'.

In the foreword to the paper, Alex Salmond outlines the case for independence, he writes:

'We in the Scottish Government are ambitious for the future of Scotland. We also believe that sovereignty in our country lies with its people. As a sovereign people, the people of Scotland - and we alone - have the right to decide how we are governed.

This paper is intended as the starting point and inspiration for that conversation. It explores areas in which Scotland could take on further responsibilities - such as employment, our national finances, or legislation on public safety such as firearms -

as well as the concept of independence, and wider constitutional developments in Britain.

It is now ten years since the referendum to establish the Scottish Parliament. We have seen its potential to respond to the wishes and needs of the people of this country. But we have also seen the limitations of its current responsibilities. I believe it is now time for us, the people of Scotland, to consider and choose our own future in the modern world.'

Access to the conversation is through The Scottish Government website:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/a-national-conversation>

Gaelic Channel Delay

Scotland will not now have a digital Gaelic television channel until March 2008 at the earliest. It had been planned that the new service would begin operation by the end of 2007. This delay has been due to a new consultation procedure introduced by the BBC Trust on proposals for new BBC services: the Public Value Test.

Jeremy Peat, the BBC national trustee for Scotland, said that a decision to support the channel is not a foregone conclusion. The proposal would have to fit the purposes of the BBC – sustaining citizenship and civil society, promoting education and learning, stimulating creativity and cultural excellence, representing the UK's nations, regions and communities, bringing the world to the UK and the UK to the world, and delivering digital services.



Breizh



KEMMOÙ BRAS EN INIZI PREDENEK

Mouezhiadegoù pouezhus, gant heuliadoù politikel ken pouezhus all, zo bet dalc'het en nevezamzer 2007 en tu all da Vor Breizh.

E Breizh-Veur e voe, d'an 3 Mae, mouezhiadegoù lec'hel da nevesaat an Dael skosat hag ar Vodadenn vroadel gembreat, hogen ivez ar pennadurezhioù lec'hel e Bro-Saoz, re ar C'huzulioù-Distrikt pergen. Merket e voe ar mouezhiadegoù-se gant kiladenn ar Strollad Labour, e penn ar Rouantelezhioù-Unanet abaoe Mae 1997, dirak ar Strollad Mirour e Bro-Saoz pe dirak ar vroadelourion e Skos hag e Kembre.

E Skos –renet gant ar Strollad Labour abaoe an Devolution (Emrenerezh) hag e First Minister Jack MCCONNELL– eo aet an trec'h gant ar Strollad Broadel Skosat (SNP), renet gant Alex SALMOND. E gwirionez n'en deus ket paket an SNP ar muianiver dreistel, ar muianiver keñverel ne lavaran ket. Diwar ar 129 sez ez eas 47 evit an SNP, 46 evit ar Strollad Labour, 17 evit ar Strollad Mirour, 16 evit ar Frankizourion-Demokrated, 2 evit ar Re C'hlas. Evel boas en deus bet e zisoc'hoù gwellañ e Reter ar vro : 58,8 % e pastel dilennel Banff ha Buchan, 51,6 % e Tayside-Norz, un tamm a-is da 50 % e Moray, Dun Deagh-Reter, Angus..., pastelloù a oa dalc'het endeo gant an SNP. Pezh a ziskouez splann ez eo stadell a-raok pep tra ar "vroadelouriezh" skosat, pa n'eo ket e kornvroioù ar C'hornog ken kreñv an SNP, daoust ma voe gounezet an Inizi Gall gant Alasdair ALLAN (SNP) diwar-goust ar Strollad Labour. E Gordon en deus bet Alex SALMOND 41,4 % ar mouezhioù. Disoc'hoù gwelloc'h en deus bet ar Strollad Labour e kornvroioù greantel Glasc'ho ha Dinedin, p'o deus bet ivez un nebeud kannaded ar Frankizourion-Demokrated hag ar Virourion (dreist-holl e-kichen ar vevenn gant Bro-Saoz). Da heul en dilennadeg-se e voe roet lamm da Jack MCCONNELL (Strollad Labour), First Minister abaoe 2001, gant Alex SALMOND, d'ar 16 Mae, eztaolet evitañ 49 mouezh (gant mouezhioù 2 gannad ouzhpenn re an SNP eta : re ar Re C'hlas ?) pa ne voe nemet 46 evit Jack MCCONNELL, ha savet gantañ ur Gouarnamant gant maodierned SNP hepken.

E Kembre eo chomet an trec'h gant ar Strollad Labour, dreist-holl e kornvroioù greantel ar Su (Kêrdiz, Abertawe, Porzh-Nevez...), daoust dezhañ na vezañ paket ar muianiver dreistel er wezh-mañ. Plaid Cymru he deus graet arakadennoù avat. Er c'hontrol d'ar pezh a c'haller gwelout e Skos

ez eo liammet-start kartenn disoc'h ar strollad broadelour ouzh hini ar yezh : PC he deus paket 59,7 % e Dwyfor Meirion, 53, 5 % e Caerfyrddin-Reter, 52, 4 % e Arfon, 50,1 % e Llanelli (pastel dilennel gounezet diwar-goust ar Strollad Labour), 49,2 % Ceredigion...Izel e oa er c'hontrol an disoc'hoù e Su- ha Reter-Kembre : 4,8 % e Blaenau ha Gwent, 5,5 % e Brecon ha Kontelezh Radnor, 6,6 % e Alyn ha Deeside...Da verkañ memestra arakadennoù ar Strollad Mirour, paket gantañ diwar-goust ar Strollad Labour pastelloù dilennel Dyfed, Kêrdiz-Norz ha Clwyd-Kornog. Addilennet eo bet Rhodri MORGAN, rener ar Strollad Labour e Kembre, da First Minister, hag en deus savet evit ar wezh kentañ, d'an 19 Gouere, ur Gouarnamant ennañ 3 Maodiern eus Plaid Cymru –he rener Ieuan Wyn JONES o vezañ hiviziken Depupy First Minister ha Maodiern an Armerzh hag an Dezougerezh-ouzhpennet da 7 Maodiern ar Strollad Labour. Gallout a reer en em c'houlenn hag-eñ ez eo un diviz fur he deus kemeret PC da genlabourat gant ar strollad breizhveurat e penn ar Rouantelezh-Unanet, ha petore splet he deus d'hen ober...

E Kerne-Veur ne voe kemmoù ken anat. Nevesaet e voe pergen Kuzulioù ar 6 Distikt a ampar ar vro. Mebyon Kernow o deus gounezet 1 sez e Kuzul-Distrikt Caradon gant Andrew LONG, maer Kelliwik (n'o doa MK dilennad ebet betek-hen) hag unan all e hini Restormel (2 sez e-lec'h 1), pa voe kollet er c'hontrol ur sez e Kuzul-Distrikt Kerrier (3 sez e-lec'h 4). Miret e voe sez Distrikt Kerne-Veur-Norz gant John CHAPMAN. N'eus dilennad ebet e Distriktoù Pennwydh ha Carrik. Dilennidi a-berzh MK zo bet dilennet e kuzulioù-kêr pe-parrez, e Kammbroenn, Pennsans, Truru, Kelliwik, Lyskerrys, Pennryn...

Pouezhus eo disoc'hoù an dilennadegoù-se evit dazont politikel ar Rouantelezh-Unanet dre vras, en-tu hont da hini Skos pe Gembre hepken. Daoust da faezhidigezh ar Strollad Labour en deus Gordon BROWN, Maodiern an Arc'hant betek-hen, a-orin eus Skos kemeret lec'h Tony BLAIR (genidik eus Dinedin ivez) evel Tevezeg. Gallout a reer en em c'houlenn avat hag-eñ ne vo ket Gordon BROWN nemet un Tevezeg "da c'hortoz" faezhidigezh da zont ar Strollad Labour e 2010 rakwelet gant tud 'zo, evel ma voe, goude Margaret THATCHER e 1990, John MAJOR un doare Tevezeg "da

c'hortoz" faezhidigezh ar Strollad Mirour e 1997. Emañ David CAMERON, Rener ar Strollad Mirour, o c'hortoz e vare...

Dilennadegoù ken pouezhus all a voe dalc'het e Iwerzhon, ken en Norzh hag er Su. En Norzh e voe dalc'het d'ar 7 Meurzh ar vouezhiadeg da nevesaat ar Vodadenn norzhiwerzhonat. An trec'h zo aet gant daou strollad taerañ an daou du : Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) ar pastor Ian PAISLEY (36 sez) ha Sinn Fein renet gant Gerry ADAMS (28 sez), ar strolladoù "habaskoc'h" o vezañ erruet a-dreñv : 18 sez evit an Ulster Unionist Party (UUP), 16 evit ar Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP), 7 evit an Alliance hag 1 evit ar Re C'hlas. Ar Sinn Fein en deus bet e zisoc'hoù gwellañ e pastelloù dilennel Beal Feirste-Kornog (70 %), Kreiz-Ulad (48 %), Tir Eoghain-Kornog (44 %), Newry hag Ard Mhacha (42 %), Fear Manach ha Tir Eoghain-Su (38 %)...Da heul an dilennadeg-se e voe adroet gant Gouarnamant Londrez ar galloud d'an Erounid emren norzhiwerzhonat d'an 8 Mae, a voe savet gant holl strolladoù pouezhus norzhiwerzhonat (DUP, SF, UUP, SDLP) ha –souezhusat arvest– gant ur renerezh daouek o vodañ an div gostenn daerañ hag enebet kenetrezo : Ian PAISLEY (DUP), First Minister, ha Martin MCGUINNESS (SF), Deputy First Minister.



Ieuan Wyn Jones

Er Su, goude d'an Dael bezañ bet loezet gant Arlevierez ar Republik, Mary McALEESE, e voe dalc'het an dilennadeg d'an 24 Mae. Abaoe 1997 e rene ur yuzh gouarnamantel eus an tu-dehou amparet gant Fianna Fail an Taoiseach (Tevezeg) Bertie AHERN ha strollad bihan an Demokrated-Araokaourion. Bertie AHERN en deus tenet korvo eus disoc'hoù armerzhel an "tigr keltiek" evit gounit an dilennadeg-se. Er yuzh gouarnamantel nevez –savet da geñver emvod kentañ an Dael nevez, d'ar 14 Mezheven– emañ ivez hiviziken, ouzhpenn ar Fianna Fail (41, 6 % ; 77 sez) hag an Demokrated-Frankizourion (2,7 % ; 2 sez), ar Re C'hlas (4,7 % ; 6 sez). Ar Fine Gael (27,3 % ; 51 sez) hag ar Strollad Labour (10,1 % ; 20 sez) n'int ket deuet eta da reiñ lamm da vBertie AHERN. Kollet eo bet gant ar Sinn Fein sez Dulenn-Mervent, ha n'en deus nemet 4 sez e-lec'h 5, gant 6,9 % ar mouezhioù. Bertie AHERN en doa embannet e nac'hfe degemer ar Sinn Fein en e C'houarnamant. Gant ar Sinn Fein e penn Gouarnamant Iwerzhon an Norzh avat, hiviziken, ne vo ket mui, marteze, Bertie AHERN ken taer a-enep dezhañ er Su...

continued on page 6

Emglev ar Peoc'h e-Hanternoz Iwerzhon

Ouzhpenn nav bloaz eo bet sinet Emglev Belfast Gwener Fask (EGF) ha koulskoude eo bremañ nemetken ez eus ur Gouarnamant er Parlamant stabil du-hont.

A-raok e oa ur gouarnamant renet gant D. Trimble, kentañ Ministr, eus an UUP ha S. Mallon, kannad kentañ Ministr, eus an SDLP. Da lavaret eo div strollad eus an tukreiz. Unan a-du gant an unvanerien hag egile gant ar broadelourien. An dud-se 'zo aet e-biou e falloc'h-fallañ gant o menozhioù peogwir palioù D. Trimble oa lakaat ar Sinn Féin da vont pelloc'h war hent ar peoc'h. Klasket o deus adskriñ tammoù eus Emglev Gwener Fask hep teurel evezh eus ar reolennoù a gas war hent an disarmerzh.

Strollad DUP eus an Ao. Person I. Paisley en doa taget ingal an Emglev 'pad ar memez amzer, neuze D. Trimble en deus lakaet ar gouarnamant da vont d'an traoñ. Se 'zo kaoz, T. Blair en deus lakaet diaes ar gouarnamant. Daleet en deus ar votadegoù a laosket a gostez kalz traoù eus an Emglev. Dreist-holl ar pezh a denne eus an eskemmoù war an arzhoù etre Republik Iwerzhon hag an Hanternoz. N'eus forzh, an traoù oa o cheñch war an dachenn politikel. An DUP a zo deuet da vezañ kreñvoc'h eget an UUP ha war ar memez tro Sinn Féin en deus kemeret plas an SDLP. Se 'zo kaoz an IRA a zo aet larkoc'h war hent an dizarmerzh hag en deus lavaret sklaer e oa echuet da vat gant ar brezel.

Savet eo bet divizoù etre Gouarnamant Bro-Iwerzhon, Breizh-Veur, an DUP, ha Sinn Féin goude ar votadegoù diwezhañ. An Emglev oa diazez ar roll dalc'het war c'h-wec'h sizhunvezh labour evit dont a benn da adlañsiñ an Devolution hag aozañ ar galloud e Stormont, hag ouzhpenn-se eo bet gwelet evit ar wec'h gentañ an Ao. Person I. Paisley ha G. Adams e-pad an divizoù-se e Stormont. Ouzhpenn an divizoù dalc'het ingal etre I. Paisley hag M. McGuinness e-giz kannad kentañ Ministr e oa bet savet ivez emgavioù gant ar pevar rummad a oa da vezan añvet da gemer perzh er gouarnamant nevez. 'Benn ar fin d'an nav a viz Mae ar galloud rannet 'oa adsavet e hanternoz Bro-

continued from page 5

Meur a gemm a c'haller gortoz eta, ken er Rouantelezh-Unanet, ken e Iwerzhon...

Summary

This article deals with the progress made by the national parties in elections earlier this in the Celtic countries outside of Brittany.

Rafael URIEN

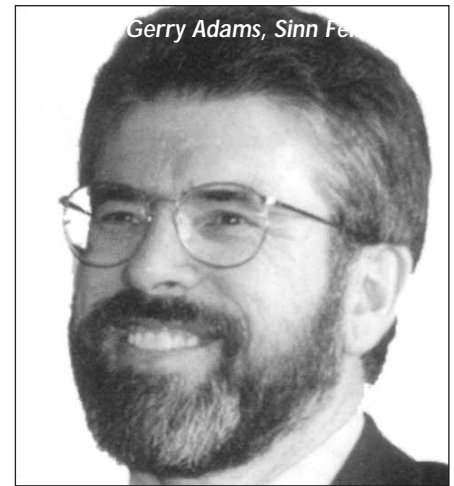
¹ Arabat kemmeskañ anvadoù ar re a zo penn ar broioù emren Kembre, Skos hag Iwerzhon an Norzh, *First Minister (Príomh Mhinisteraer e skoseg)* anezho, hag an hini a zo e penn ar Rouantelezh-Unanet, *Prime Minister* anezhañ, eleze an Tevezeg.

Iwerzhon, gant I. Paisley anvet kentañ Ministr hag M. McGuinness anvet kannad kentañ Ministr gouarnamant an Hanternoz gant dek ministr all.

E-keñver an addigadorur tro ez eus bet da glevet prezegennoù habask a-berzh peb hini. «Soñj a ra din eo deuet poent ar Peoc'h evit Hanternoz Bro-Iwerzhon. Un amzer da zont hep kasoni. Pegen brav e vefe kemer perzh en ur bareañs hon rannvro» en deus lavaret I. Paisley. Se 'zo komzoù kreñv a-berzh unan eus an aozerien o doa taget balerien ar Gwirioù Mab-Den daou-ugent vloaz zo e Burntollit hag oa a-enep kreñv Emglev Gwener Fask. Lavaret en deus ivez I. Paisley : «N'em eus ket cheñchet va zoare da welet an unvaniezh. Da lavaret eo an unvaniezh eus Hanternoz Bro-Iwerzhon gant Breizh-Veur, a zo kreñvoc'h eget biskoazh.»

M. McGuinness en deus lavaret eus e du: «Me 'zo fier da vezan amañ evel un iwerzhonad republican, hag en deus spi en ur vro Iwerzhon adunvaniet.» Lavaret en deus M. McGuinness ivez: «Evel pennoù-bras ar Gouarnamant ar C'hentañ Ministr ha me o deus prometet ober pep tra a zo moaien d'hen ober dindan hon galloud evit cheñch da vat buhez hon bro dre sterniañ ho barrezhioù gant un deskadurezh a-feson, un aozadur eus ar c'hentañ evit ar yec'hed ha sevel an ekonomiezh dre bostañ arc'hant ha gwellaat ar bed forañ.

Buan da heul eo aet I. Paisley da B. Ahern, war al lec'h m'oa bet emgann Boyne hag ur brezegenn eus B. Ahern e Westminster. Ar wec'h kentañ d'ober-se evit ur c'hentañ Ministr eus Bro-Iwerzhon. Goulennet en deus, dre e brezegenn, skoazellañ da vat ar gounit graet e-Hanternoz hag izlinnenet ar



Gerry Adams, Sinn Féin

cheñchamantoù bras graet etre Breizh-Veur hag Iwerzhon. Padal an aozadur «Ard Chomhairle» eus Sinn Féin en deus votet evit ma vefe tri c'hannad o kemer perzh en melestradur arc'herien eus Hanternoz.

Labourat a ra mat a-walc'h ar gouarnamant nevez, war ar zeblant. Un emgav a zo bet e-kreiz miz Gouere, etre ar Ministrerien eus an Hanternoz hag ar re ar Su-Iwerzhon. An daou gouarnamant o deus dibabet un nebeut rak-tresoù ekonomikel talvoudus evit an holl, hag ar memez live startijenn evit an ekonomiezh hag an tailhoù. Gouarnamant Bro-Iwerzhon en deus lakaet war an daol 580M[€] evit adsevel hentoù-bras war an douaroù hag war ar morioù.

Summary

In May 2007 the Northern Power Sharing Executive was reintroduced in the North with the appointment of the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, as First Minister and Sinn Féin MP Martin McGuinness as Deputy First Minister of a Northern Executive of ten ministers.

Gi Keltik

CORNISH LESSONS IN BRITTANY

In February 2007, Ronan Tremel approached the Cornish Language Board, saying that there were a number of Breton speakers interested in learning some Cornish, and asking whether anyone could come to Brittany to teach them. Thus it was that during the spring, Cornish lessons were held in Karaez over three separate weekends. Up to fifteen students attended the course, from various parts of Brittany. Breton was used, as far as possible, as the medium of instruction, under the academic direction of Ken George.

For many years, students of Cornish have used the text-book *Holyewgh an Lerg* (Cornish this way), by Graham Sandercock. Ken translated this book into Breton for use in the lessons. Because Breton and Cornish are very similar, the students were able to make much faster progress than would English monoglots learning Cornish.

Ken was ably assisted by his wife Malou (a Breton-speaker who learnt Cornish), and by Morwenna Jenkin and Neil Kennedy (both Cornish-speakers who had learnt Breton). Loveday Jenkin, Polin Prys and Maureen Pierce,

all members of the Cornish Language Board, also shared the teaching, which was quite intensive: 0930 to 1700 on Saturdays and 0930 to 1300 on Sundays. In addition to semi-formal grammar lessons from the text-book, the students played games and sang songs in Cornish, and also tried Cornish dancing.

Karaez was an ideal venue, being centrally placed in the Breton-speaking part of Brittany. It was interesting to hear and compare the different dialects of Breton used by the students. Some of them hope to use their newly-acquired Cornish when they attend events in Cornwall (such as the Celtic Congress, the Gorsedh or Lowender Pyran). In any case, the success of the course is likely to lead to further developments in the future.

Ken George

STAJ Kernewek... e ti ar vro Karaez

10+11/XI & 08+09/XII::2007-08-31

Contact: Ronan TREMEL: Eostin Spered ar Yezh, 24, straet Lavanant, 22160 KALLAG, BREIZH.

TEL:(33)0296 459

438::ronantremel@wanadoo.fr

Presidential and Legislative Elections in France and Brittany

Presidential

The Presidential elections were notable for a regaining of interest in politics among French citizens with a participation of 85% in France as a whole and 88% in Brittany. It was a campaign of Right versus Left, marked by a very strong tendency towards bipartism, UMP/PS, and by the crushing of the smaller parties. The sole exception was the centrist candidate, François Bayrou and his good score in the first round. The special significance of this campaign lay in the UMP/PS (1) compromise, or at least Nicolas Sarkozy and Ségolène Royal, to install an American style presidential regime, reducing the roles of first minister and government to those of simple executives. The two candidates used the still felt bond of pride in the French identity. The Bretons are not expecting anything good from Nicolas Sarkozy in spite of his qualities as a modern manager, exemplified by his ability to surround himself with competent people, even choosing them from among his recovering opponents like the strategy of F. Bayrou, and destabilising the PS. His lack of interest in a true decentralisation, such as his refusal to sign the European Charter on Minority Languages, and a vague proposition of a “French” statute, was unwelcome in Brittany. It is untrue that this refusal was only determined by alignment with that of the Constitutional Council, as his followers tried to make us believe. It must be noted that before his departure Jacques Chirac had promised his friend, Jean-Louis Debré, the post of President of the Constitutional Council, being well-known for his visceral attachment to the notion of an ultra-unitary France, like his father, Michel Debré. Hopes for a signature of this Charter vanished for a long time! Ségolène Royal was prepared to sign, just like François Bayrou candidate of the MoDem and the most credible in this area. He is an ardent defender of his mother tongue, Béarnais. There were none of the candidates clearly attached to the idea of the administrative unity of historic Brittany, save for F. Bayrou, who was invited to a conference organised in Kemper/Quimper by the Cultural Council of Brittany, to which the principal cultural associations in Brittany participated and “Brittany Reunited” ex-CUAB. For the first round the UDB campaigned for Dominique Voynet, Greens candidate in accordance with their political alliance. But numerous militants and sympathisers of the Breton cause didn’t hide their sympathy for F. Bayrou. The independence party, Emgann,



Isabelle Le Bal

declared itself unconcerned with the French presidential (2).

The Results and the Breton Exception.

In the Second Round Nicolas Sarkozy was elected with 53% of the votes from all the French territories but only 47% in historic Brittany where Ségolène Royal was in the lead with 52.7%. The Département of Morbihan placed Sarkozy in the lead, but with a lower percentage than anywhere else in West France except Sarthe. Brittany clearly distinguished itself on the map, apart from the latter only the Southwest of France resisted the flood tide of N. Sarkozy. One could conclude that today the radical-socialist tendency quite well developed in Brittany no longer confronts a clerical conservatism but on the contrary finds an alliance with the ideas of Christian socialists. This is confirmed by the important report of the pro-Bayrou Breton votes reported in the Second Round for the PS candidate. It’s a pity that a still important part of the radical-socialist Breton activists and sympathisers remains viscerally attached to a “jacobin” state.

Ségolène Royal and the PS lost the elections because the day after the 2001 presidential elections which put J.Chirac in the lead, followed by Jean-Marie Le Pen, the candidate of the extreme-right and nationalist FN in the first ballot, the PS did not know how to reform itself fearing a clash not only between those for and against the European Constitution but because of the gap between those who believe in a PS linked to the left and close to PC and those who adhere to the social democrats. Its adhesion to the “market society” would force it de facto into the clan of social democrats. As Michel Rocard, PS Deputy, remarked the difference between social democrats and democratic socialists are more and more tenuous. If the different Marxist regimes have not been brilliant in their economic, social and ecological successes ultra-liberal politics based solely on the market takes us towards a neo-feudal society, where the new Lords will be the multi-nationals, the holdings companies, and where the directives will be more powerful than those of the State and those with political responsibility. I take the opportunity however in this article to say to our Irish Republican friends that the majority of French politicians belonging to the

republican left hostile to the European Constitution are also violently opposed to every federal organisation of the French state.

Legislative

They were notable for their crushing of the smaller parties, including the new party of F.Bayrou (MoDem) and the increase in the PS, no doubt so as not to give an overwhelming success to N.Sarkozy. In Brittany there was a slight set back to the PS, the UDB is stable and the Greens progress a little.

Here is the table copied from the “People Breton” magazine of the UDB. The Green percentages and the UDB are calculated on the whole of Brittany even though the parties were not present everywhere.

	BZH 2007	F 2007	BZH 2002
LCR	2.2	3.5	2.7
PCF	2.9	4.5	3.2
UDB	1.2	-	1.3
Greens	4.4	3.3	3.8
PS	30.4	27.6	32.8
MoDem	8.8	7.9	4.1*
UMP	38.3	45.7	6.7
FN	2.2	4.8	5.6

* MoDem candidate as UDF

It was in Quimper that one could observe the best result of the Greens-UDB alliance, 10.1 % in the First Round and this in spite of the presence of a centrist candidate of the MoDem, Isabelle Le Bal, well known for her sympathies towards the Breton cause. She was also the only candidate to mention the reunification of Brittany in her manifesto.

The legislative elections have a great importance at the level of Brittany as the elected deputies will be the sole Breton voices in the National Assembly (parliament). It is the government, after consultation with the Deputies, (and with the agreement of the Constitutional Council), that decides the autonomy in finances devolved to the administrative regions which will condition the work of the Regional Council of Brittany. The Breton Deputies are appropriate to carry forth the project of the reunification of Brittany. It is in this spirit that an important campaign has been led by the Cultural Council of Brittany on the level of information on Breton, Gallo and Breton culture in general and jointly with “Bretagne Réunie” for the Reunification of Brittany. More than 170 candidates responded positively to the project of reunification which precedes a consultation of the population of Loire-Atlantique. Among the candidates of all persuasions 18 were elected and another 18 elected have not yet replied how they defend the idea of the Grand Ouest or Great West (and what limits?) or a fusion of the region of Brittany with four départements with that of Pays-de-la-Loire to five départements which the majority of the Regional Council of Brittany refuse,

conscious of the importance attached to a Breton identity. However, in spite of the sincere wishes of the elected Breton PS candidates and Jean-Yves Drian, President of the Regional Council, it is obvious that the majority of the PS are in favour of the status quo. Some clearly expressed at a PS conference on Europe held in Quimper a few years ago. The frosty position of the PS candidates of Loire-Atlantique demonstrates this too, in spite of the excellent work of Patrick Mareschal, PS President of the General Council of Loire-Atlantique, and active supporter of reunification. The Mayor of Nantes, Jean-Marc Ayrault, who is also the President of the PS parliamentary group of the National is in favour of Grand-Ouest, his friend, the Vendée President of the PS in Pays-de-la-Loire is violently opposed to reunification. It is obvious that this region without Loire-Atlantique should not remain in the hands of the UMP !

On the right wing it is hardly any better. Clearly the problem transcends parties. The new Prime Minister is the old zealous President of the Pays-de-la-Loire. At least his Welsh wife has Celtic fibre and makes him understand our demand for a coming together of Monmouthshire and Pays Nantais. We can only rely on ourselves and the will of the population who declared themselves 72% in favour according to the opinion polls.

General Conclusion

The method of scrutiny of the legislative introduced the under-representation of the small parties, thus with 46.37% of votes expressed the UMP obtained 72.48% of the parliamentary seats. Proportional Representation as in Germany is urgently needed if we want to save our democracy. The Left has been wrong to demonise N. Sarkozy who has the courage of his political convictions, which is a change of style from that of Chirac with unfulfilled promises. However it is difficult to follow him on his immigration policy, of new work contracts, the suppression of tax on huge fortunes and the raising of VAT, the will to re-dynamise the economy by making the French nuclear industry the champion of the locked sale in the hands of the EPR across the world. We wait impatiently for his "Grenelle" (3) on the environment, his policy on renewable energy, OGM etc We can only salute his wish to set to the work with honour, but if it is only to earn still more and spend still more according to the ultra-liberal logic, we shall declare two times no.

(1) UMP "Union pour une Majorité Présidentielle is a centre-right party amalgamating l'ex-RPR and a part of the elected representatives of the UDF "Union Des Démocrates". MoDem (Modernes Démocrates) is a new centre party gathering dissident members of the UDF around their leader F. Bayrou.

(2) For the Legislative elections "Emgann" launched a campaign entitled "French election? Breton republic!" to the candidates from all over Brittany for the right of the Breton people to self-determination. The results were published on their website (republique.bretonne@gmail.com).

(3) "Grenelle" is a grand national assembly calling on all political persuasions for a project of vital importance.

Jakez Derouet

French presidential election: Supermarket Democracy?

After a 5 year long campaign, Nicolas Sarkozy made it to win the French presidential election. The leader of the right-wing party UMP has been in the last period of time in charge of two different cabinets and was even the number two minister of the Villepin government. However, he managed to gather 53.05% of the expressed votes after arguing he was the candidate for change. His « rupture » and his waking-up-early France have dominated a campaign he deliberately led against the socialist candidate, former minister Ségolène Royal.

What stands out most in this race for election is that most of the candidates agreed to enter what could be called « supermarket democracy ». During the months before voting, lobbies and pressure groups had submitted their concerns to those who were considered the most important candidates (there were twelve qualified for the first round of the two-round ballot).

The best known was the ecologist-TV host Nicolas Hulot who had all the principal candidates sign his ecological pact. But other groups such as the pro hunting, black people, homeless and the gay association also acted the same, sending letters to the different parties or even inviting their champions to big hearings. With one main question: « If you were elected, what are you planning to do for us! ».

Language or cultural defenders all around the country also tried to push their ideas forward. In Brittany, two different entities* sent letters to the different candidates, hoping to ease the choice of their followers on one particular issue they considered important; the Breton language and culture and the ways the french state would help them and give them freedom.

Not all of them had answers from all the candidates. And in the case of local cultures, those were not very precise, except from the candidates who had already taken positions on that topic before.

This way of cutting the presidential programs into little pieces to take what interests one sees in them seems to compromise the search for a global society project that would unite one country behind it. But maybe that is the way people see politics, or even their lives, nowadays: a giant supermarket where they can choose whatever they like without any link between each item they pick.

Mathieu Herry

* Ar falz/Skol Vreizh, book and periodicals publisher on the one hand, and, on the other, Kuzul sevenadurel Breizh (Breton cultural council), as a member of a wider federation of associations defending the rights for local languages and cultures to live.

Celtic Water Games in Montroulez-Breizh

The city of Montroulez together with a few small cities like Karanteg, hosted the Celtic Water Games (CWG) 2007. This year saw the name of the event changed to *Jeux Nautiques Interceltiques et de l'Espace Atlantique*. A change that was brought about as the games expanded, opening its frontiers to other nations along the Atlantic coast, or more accurately translated, the *Atlantic Space*

The inclusion of the Atlantic Space opened the Games, a few years ago to the Euskariz and the others lands of Spain. Therefore it is easy to understand that there are different groups, in terms of Celtic culture. The first group is comprised of teams from the six Celtic nations. The second group represents those nations which have a strong Celtic-influence in their music, dance or wrestling like Galicia, Northern Portugal or the Canary Islands. The third group is composed of nations like Euskadi, Catalunya & Normandie.

If the real name of the CWG changed, the winners were still the sportsmen from Euskadi for the third time in a row.

The Breizh-Team did quite well at the beginning of the games and was leading until the last day. They did very well in sailing. The Euskariz beat us, in the rowing and surfing competitions. Next year it will very difficult to beat them on their home grounds. Wait and see... First of all it will be very important for the Breizh team to take part in more, if not all competitions in order to increase their total points. A team is automatically awarded 12 points each time a competitor enters an event.

Breizh succeeded in winning the competition for the first group of the Celtic nations with Kernow in 2nd place. Anyway, like in the Olympics the most important aspect is to enter into the spirit of the games. So far this competition is the only one which brings together all the Celtic nations to compete at sports. If all remains on track the continued popularity of the games should see a further increase in the number of participants in Euskadi where the games will take place.

Gi Keltik

Cymru

Y Gyfraith yn cefnogi'r iaith – mewn un achos

Gyda chyflwyno gwaharddiad ar smygu mewn lleoedd cyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn gynharach eleni, cafodd y Gymraeg ychydig mwy o statws nag oedd ganddi o'r blaen. Mae'r rheolau newydd yn effeithio ar bob tafarn, siop, swyddfa, tafarn, a lle caeedig sy'n agored i'r cyhoedd, ac mae'r rheolau yn dweud bod rhaid codi arwydd ym mhob lle felly sydd yn cyfateb i ofynion penodedig, yn cynnwys yr union eiriau Cymraeg a Saesneg: **Mae ysmegu yn y fangre hon yn erbyn y gyfraith / It is against the law to smoke in these premises.** Mae hyn yn wahanol i'r arwydd a ddefnyddir yn Lloegr (gweler y lluniau).

Mae'r canllawiau swyddogol yn dweud er mwyn cadw at y gyfraith, rhaid rhoi arwyddion Dim Smygu mewn safleoedd (mangre-oedd) a cherbydau di-fwg. Gellir lawrlwyddo'r arwyddion o'r wefan www.gwaharddsmygucymru.co.uk, ond rhaid cymryd gofal nad ydyw argraffydd yn newid maint y delweddau canlynol, a sicrhau bod y fformat sydd wedi'i argraffu yn bodloni'r meini prawf hyn:

- leiaf 160mm x 230mm o ymyl allanol y petryal coch
- leiaf 85mm diamedr o ymyl allanol y cylch coch sydd yn y petryal

Bydd angen i gyflogwyr, rheolwyr a'r rheiny sy'n gyfrifol am safleoedd dim smygu osod arwyddion Dim Smygu a chymryd camau rhesymol i sicrhau bod cwsmeriaid, aelodau ac ymwelwyr yn ymwybodol o'r gyfraith newydd ac nad ydynt yn smygu ar eu safle. Argymhellir arddangos hysbysiadau ac arwyddion dim smygu (a bennir yn y [rheoliadau a'r canllawiau](#)) fel bod pob gweithiwr, cwsmer, ac ymwelydd yn gallu eu gweld yn glir tra mae ar y safle.

Bydd pwerau gan swyddogion sydd wedi'u hawdurdodi gan yr awdurdod lleol i fynd i mewn i safle dim smygu er mwyn gwneud yn siwr fod pobl yn cadw at y gyfraith. Byddant hefyd yn gallu rhoi hysbysiad cosb benodedig i bobl y maent yn credu eu bod yn cyflawni trosedd, neu sydd wedi cyflawni trosedd, o dan y ddeddfwriaeth.

Mae'r ddeddfwriaeth yn creu tair trosedd benodol:

- Peidio ag arddangos arwyddion dim smygu ar safle sy'n dod o dan y gyfraith

- Smygu mewn man di-fwg
- Peidio ag atal pobl rhag smygu mewn man di-fwg

Yn ogystal, bydd yn drosedd rhwystro'n fwiadol swyddog sydd wedi'i awdurdodi gan yr awdurdod lleol i orfodi'r ddeddfwriaeth ddi-fwg neu beidio â chynorthwyo'r swyddog i wneud ei waith heb achos rhesymol.

Gallai rheolwr safle dim smygu neu'r person sy'n gyfrifol am y safle gael cosb benodedig o £200 am beidio ag arddangos arwyddion rhybudd ar y safle. Ar gyfer collfarn ddiannod, gallai'r ddirwy fod cymaint â £1000. (Geiriau swyddogol.)



'Lloegr – England'.

Mae'n dod yn amlwg ychydig o fisoedd ar ôl cyflwyno'r rheolau nad ydyw pob sefydliad yn cydymffurfio, ac i'r rhai ohonom sydd yn ymddiddori yn yr iaith mae'n arwyddocaol nad ydyw pob sefydliad yn arddangos yr arwydd dwyieithog statudol, ond yn lle hynny eu harwyddion uniaith Saesneg eu hunain. Mae hyn wedi dod yn fwy cyffredin ers i Loegr ddechrau gwaharddiad tebyg ym mis Gorffennaf, a darparu arwydd uniaith Saesneg sy'n wahanol i arwydd Cymru, y gellir ei lawrlwytho o'r wefan ar gyfer Lloegr. Gwnaeth Cymdeithas yr Iaith ymchwil yn Heol y Frenhines yng Nghaerdydd yn ddiweddar. Archwiliwyd yr arwyddion smygu mewn 72 o siopau yn y stryd. Cafwyd



Cymru

bod 37 ohonynt yn cydymffurfio â'r gyfraith gan ddangos yr arwydd statudol dwyieithog. Weithiau y geiriau Cymraeg ar yr arwydd oedd yr unig Gymraeg i'w weld yn y siop. 'Roedd 19 o leoedd yn torri'r gyfraith ym marn yr ymchwilydd mewn ffordd nad oedd a wnelo â'r iaith e.e. dim arwydd o gwbl, neu arwydd di-iaith answyddogol yn unig, ond nid ein problem ni oedd hynny. Ond 'roedd 18 o siopau/fwytai yn y stryd heb ddim ond arwyddion Dim Smygu uniaith Saesneg, neu ambell waith arwydd answyddogol yr oedd y Gymraeg yn israddol arno e.e. o dan y Saesneg neu mewn ffont gwahanol anodd ei ddarllen. Roedd yr arwyddion mewn rhai lleoedd yn debyg iawn i'r arwydd a ddefnyddir yn Lloegr (llun).

Yr hyn sy'n wahanol yn yr achosion hyn ydyw bod cyfraith gwlad yn gofodi defnyddio'r Gymraeg – fel tasai ein deddf iaith wedi cyrraedd. 'Does dim angen protestio na chwyno – y cwbl mae eisiau ei wneud ydyw nodi pwy sy'n trosedd a ffonio'r llinell gwahardd smygu – 0845-300-2526 – a rhoi'r manylion. Dyna a wnaed yng Nghaerdydd. Yr awdurdod lleol sy'n gyfrifol am orfodi'r gyfraith yn y sefyllfaoedd hyn. Ni wyddom eto a oedd Cyngor Caerdydd am gysylltu â'r troseddwy. Ond os nad ydynt am wneud, gan fod cyfraith Lloegr y tu ôl i'r iaith ar y pwynt bach hwn bydd modd i ymgyrchwyr yr iaith gymryd camau cyfreithiol ein hunain.

Robot ap Tomos

Summary:

The anti-smoking legislation in Wales demands that premises open to the public display the statutory bilingual sign for Cymru (illustrated). It is an offence to display only English-only signs such as the sign used in England, and premises not complying can be reported on the smoking ban line 0845-300-2525. This is a rare example of the use of Welsh being enforceable by the law and language supporters are recommended to make use of it.

Return of the ‘Welsh Not’

Workplace bans on speaking Welsh



Cymdeithas pickets outside Thomas Cook Travel Agency.

Summer this year saw the occurrence of several incidents where Welsh speakers have been forbidden to converse in their own language in a situation where their ability to fight back has been limited - in the workplace. Firstly in June the news emerged that employees in the Bangor branch of the travel company Thomas Cook had been reprimanded for discussing a work matter in Welsh, in accordance with a rule of the company that all work-related conversation must be in English. (Apparently workers had the privilege of being allowed to use their own language in coffee breaks etc.) The issue received front-page news coverage in Wales. Whether or not such a policy was legal under current race equality laws was dubious. Cymdeithas yr Iaith immediately responded by requesting Thomas Cook to revise their policy and when the company stood firm Cymdeithas held pickets on the Thomas Cook branches in Bangor and Cardiff.

Plaid Cymru also condemned this “Speak English” policy, reminiscent of the ‘Welsh Not’ used in schools a century ago when pupils were forbidden to converse in Welsh. Referring to the original incident in Bangor, party president Dafydd Iwan said:

“This shows an arrogant prejudice towards what is after all the majority language in Gwynedd, and it is unfortunately prevalent in many large companies who have their main base outside Wales. I would urge people in the Bangor area to use the local travel firms who show respect to the Welsh

language, and where you can get a service in your own language. Thomas Cook’s attitude is further proof that we need a New Welsh Language Act to eradicate this nonsense for good, giving the Welsh language full parity with English, and giving Welsh speakers full rights in law. We could then go on with our lives, and expand the use of Welsh in business. Dafydd Iwan also went on to mention the current situation in the National Assembly:

“We have waited long enough for an updated Welsh Language Act, and now it is within our reach. Any agreement to establish a sustainable government in the Assembly must include a firm commitment to a New Language Act.”

After several weeks of declarations and counter-declarations, with the company being visited by representatives of the National Assembly and the Commission for Racial Equality, it was reported that Thomas Cook finally agreed not to ban staff speaking Welsh either socially or in a work context, and that there was no ban on speaking Welsh with customers. Cymdeithas yr Iaith responded to the report saying that if it was true, Thomas Cook had moved from the 19th century to the 20th. They still produced all their printed material in English only, and that to bring them into the 21st century a New Language Act was needed. However, a few weeks later it emerged that Adecco, an employment agency recruiting for Tesco, Wales’ largest supermarket chain, had also issued, on Tesco’s directions, an instruction

to its employees to speak only English at work. Adecco, who are based in Switzerland, had been found guilty and fined last year in a French court for carrying out a racist recruitment campaign. Adecco had been complying with a client’s instructions to recruit only white women for its counters in Paris. The court accepted that the instructions requesting ‘BBR’ (bleu blanc rouge, the colours of the French flag) women were a racist code for excluding black, Arab or Asian women. (The term is used in the literature of the Front National in France.) Adecco’s memo on behalf of Tesco stated “In accordance with Tesco policy we would like to remind associates (employees) of the need to work with professionalism at all times. As Tesco is a successful national company we appreciate your contribution to the business. In order for operations to run smoothly, there is a business need for English to be spoken at all times when you are at work. However, at break times associates may speak in their native tongue.”

Cymdeithas yr Iaith held a rally outside the Tesco supermarket in Porthmadog on the 14th of July calling for a New Language Act, with the lack of written Welsh on goods and notices as well as this discriminatory policy being the focus. The rally of 150 people was addressed by Gwenno Teifi, a member recently released from prison, and saw the arrest of former chairman Steffan Cravos for sticking posters on the Tesco shop.

The worst of these workplace bans on Welsh however came in the village of Y Felinheli between Caernarfon and Bangor, in the Bro Gymraeg (Welsh-speaking Wales), in a colon-owned restaurant (i.e. run by English-speaking incomers who have not learned Welsh). The owner, apparently, overheard a waitress conversing with a local customer in Welsh, and told the waitress that she must not speak Welsh at work when the owners were present, and if a customer should speak to her in Welsh she must answer in English. So in this case the ban on Welsh extends to a customer’s right to service in the language, and this in a Welsh-speaking area. The waitress immediately left the job, regarding such working conditions as intolerable, and legal action may follow.

Such workplace abuse of the rights of speakers of a minorized language are of particular concern as they are imposed in situations where, with the threat of losing their job threatening, the victims are less likely to want to resist.

Rh. Gethin

Keep Welsh first in bilingual rail announcements say Cymdeithas and Plaid

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (the Welsh language society) and Plaid Cymru (the national party) have both condemned the attempt by a group of Labour MPs in the London parliament to have changed the order of the languages in which announcements are made over the loudspeakers in railway stations in Wales. In recent years the company who run Welsh trains, Arriva Trains Wales, have adopted a policy of making announcements at all stations in Wales in Welsh followed by an English translation. In July the group of six MPs from south Wales, led by MP for Rhondda Chris Bryant and including former 6 County minister Paul Murphy and former minister Don Touhig, proposed a motion that said

“That this House notes that the announcements at all railway stations in Wales are made in Welsh first and then in English ... believes that it would be far more sensible and far more convenient for passengers, whether regular commuters or local visitors, if announcements at each station were made first in the language used by the majority of the local population.”

Cymdeithas described the motion as a cynical attempt by the anti-Welsh element in the Labour Party to destabilise the newly formed Labour-Plaid coalition in the National

Assembly. There were practical reasons for announcements being in Welsh first. Welsh-speakers understand English, and if the English comes first they will be given the message in English and not in their own language. Putting the Welsh first gives learners a chance to understand it with a translation to



Hywel Williams MP, Plaid's spokesperson on the Welsh language.

help them out afterwards. And as Welsh is the indigenous language in Wales it is appropriate that it comes first.

Plaid Cymru in Westminster described the proposal as ludicrous and backward looking. Plaid's Parliamentary Leader, Eifyn Llwyd MP said:

“I have always believed that Welsh Labour MPs are anti Welsh language, and this merely confirms my long held view. It is disappointing they think so little of the national language, but it is typical.”

Hywel Williams MP, Plaid's spokesperson on the Welsh language added:

“All Welsh speakers can understand English, so if the Welsh announcement came second nobody would listen to it and it would just serve as tokenism. Applying different rules in different areas of the country would just complicate matters. This is a ludicrous and rather pathetic campaign by Welsh Labour MPs. A new Welsh language measure is gaining all-party support in Wales. Labour MPs in Westminster are backward looking and are seemingly incapable to deal with the new political reality.”

Paul Flynn, the pro-Welsh Labour MP for Newport West, said “It's the defeated anti Red-Green coalition MPs soothing the hurt of their bloody noses by putting the boot into the Welsh Language. A new Welsh Language Act is one of the coalition's aims. Sad really that our two Gwent ex-ministers cannot find anything more useful to fill their lives. Cheer up, Don and Paul and return to serious politics’.

To date the proposal has made no progress.

Book Review

Herefordshire, the Welsh Connection

by Colin Lewis, pub. by Gwasg Carreg Gwalch (2006), £6.90.

Some of you may have heard of the so-called ‘Lost Lands’ of Wales in England. The Western Mail did mention them some years ago in an article involving car tours of these ‘Lost Lands’. They are in fact areas beyond the present day border of Wales, which were once in the Dominion of Wales and formed part of the March of Wales, and which are mainly in Shropshire and Herefordshire.

Welsh language and customs persisted in these areas for centuries after they had been incorporated into England. In Shropshire, of course, Welsh is still alive today, in the Oswestry area. However, even in western Herefordshire, an area that was once so Welsh that it was called “Hereford in Wales”, Welsh survived well into the 18th century and, in parts, probably into the 19th century. Even today there are still dozens of Welsh place-names there, such as

Llanveynoe, Pontrilas, Pencoyd, and Llangarron.

In his book “Herefordshire, the Welsh Connection”, Mr Lewis, explores in detail the southern part of the March i.e. those parts of Herefordshire that were once in Wales. He gives us an overview of the history of these areas, their Welsh heritage, and links with present-day Wales. However, in spite of the book using historical sources, it is, in Mr Lewis's words, not just a local history of western Herefordshire, but a book that clearly highlights the county's Welsh Connection.

The result is a book that tells a story ranging from the Roman invasion, and Caradog and the Silures' defence of the Wye Frontier to the present day. It tells us of the ancient kingdoms of Ewyas and Ergyng, of the Age of Saints, of Vortigern and the Saxons and of the desperate battles fought to defend the



Wye Frontier from later invaders, not only Saxon and Norman, but also Viking.

Mr Lewis makes a point of emphasising how central and influential western Herefordshire's contribution to Welsh history has been, for example. The fierce Silures' defence of the Wye Frontier caused the Romans to despair and almost call off their invasion and withdraw from Britain. In the

continued on page 12

5th and 6th centuries during the Age of Saints, it has been said that western Herefordshire was the cradle of Welsh Christianity. In 1063, it was the war to secure the Wye frontier, at Hereford, that led to the downfall and death of one of Wales's greatest rulers, Gruffudd ap Llywelyn. His loss robbed the Welsh of unity on the very eve of the Norman Invasion. In 1067, William Fitzosbern, the new Earl of Hereford, launched the Norman invasion of south Wales. In the early 15th century, western Herefordshire was not only the scene of several battles in Owain Glyndwr's War of Welsh Independence, but was also where he died and where he was buried. In the 17th and 18th centuries, western Herefordshire played a vital role in the Welsh Nonconformist movement. The first Welsh Baptist church was built here, in 1633, and,



some hundred years later, Howell Harris preached to huge congregations here, in both English and Welsh.

Mr Lewis's book is well researched and written in an easy-to-read style. It gives a concise portrait of an unexpectedly Welsh area, is packed with little known facts and has some amusing stories about rulers and their battles. It also has a gazetteer which lists and explains dozens of Welsh place-names in the county.

At the beginning of the book, Mr Lewis states that few are aware of the strong links that exist between Herefordshire and Wales, and that he hopes that his book will improve matters. He compares the county to Cornwall and concludes by suggesting that it would be to the advantage of the people of Herefordshire to place a much greater emphasis on their 'Welsh Connection' and in so doing create their own unique identity as a Marcher county and possibly attract more tourists in the process.

Reading the book, I was surprised at how important this frontier area, "The Wye Frontier", has been in Welsh history, and thoroughly enjoyed the excellently re-told historic tales including those of illegitimate sons of princesses and beheaded virgins that are an integral part of the author's research. An excellent read, I found it difficult to put the book down.

Rhiannon Dixon

"Unashamed Health" – NO!

Annwyl Olygydd

An article entitled "The Language of the Dragon" in the Breizh section of Carn 137, while drawing attention once again to the negative attitude of the French state towards its minority languages, gave a too optimistic view of the position of Welsh. The limited status that has been won for Welsh by campaigners in recent decades may give a superficial impression of health when compared with Breton, but the Welsh language is still losing ground and the linguistic rights of Welsh-speakers are far below those of English-speakers, principally due to the lack of necessary support from the state. Like Breton, Scottish, and Irish, if present trends continue Welsh is in danger of dying as a natural community language, a situation reflected by its place on the UNESCO list of endangered languages.

According to official censuses the proportion of people in Wales able to speak Welsh has remained at around 20% in recent decades (about 0.5 million), with a small increase in the last (2001) census. But the bare figures are deceptive. In short, the Welsh-speaking community in the Bro Gymraeg of the West continues to decline through emigration, population displacement through colonisation, and, in some places, language shift to English among the speakers. This is counterbalanced in the census figures by thousands of children in English-speaking Wales who attend Welsh-medium schools, or who just have Welsh lessons in school, being put down as Welsh-speakers by their English-speaking parents. This difference between the apparent number of speakers on a census and the reality is even more exaggerated in Ireland. It is sometimes politically useful to use census figures to boost the number of speakers in our countries,

e.g. when claiming services in the language, but let us not deceive ourselves.

Support for the language and resistance to the causes of its decline has come entirely from the Welsh people through native movements and institutions like Cymdeithas yr Iaith and the National Eisteddfod, not the English government and its "Welsh Language Board" as suggested in the article. Many have endured imprisonment and other suffering before the government has yielded. The English state has never had the same ideological desire for linguistic unity as the French state. Their attitude is more indifferent and uncaring, but they give concessions when pressure is exerted, often just to quieten down protest. The Welsh Language Board was created by the government in 1988 in order to divide and weaken the campaign for a new Welsh Language Act, which was becoming irresistible. Since then the "language quango" (as language activists often call the WLB) has combined 'harmless' support for Welsh like grants and advice on bilingual signage etc., with apologising for and justifying government inaction on more significant issues. One of the tactics of the quango is to portray the language as being healthy in order to weaken opposition to government policy.

While Welsh can provide ideas and examples to weaker minorized languages, Celtic solidarity depends on mutual support and is not served by the misrepresentation of one country's situation to support another. To see an example of a linguistic minority that is really thriving, one should look at Catalunya or Québec.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir

R. ap Tomos
Secretary Cymru Branch

Plaid calls for national holiday to strengthen Welsh identity

Plaid Cymru have called for making St David's Day a national holiday in Wales to strengthen national identity. Speaking at the re-opening of the National Assembly in Cardiff, after the third Welsh General Election, Plaid's Parliamentary Leader in the London parliament Elfyn Llwyd MP said:

"Two senior Government Ministers and the Leader of the Opposition have today called for a 'Britishness day to create a strong sense of national identity among natives and immigrants alike'. Plaid has long called for a similar celebration in Wales on St David's Day.

"There is a lack of understanding and knowledge of what it means to be Welsh, and the teaching of Welsh history is virtually non-existent in the education curriculum. But

by making St David's Day a national holiday, the people of Wales could celebrate all aspects of Welsh society – from heritage, to culture and democracy."



In response to an on-line Downing Street petition last year calling for a national holiday on St David's Day, which was signed by thousands of people from Wales and beyond, including Plaid Cymru members, the English Prime Minister said that "individuals and communities in Wales already celebrate St David's Day in a way they consider more suitable."

Mr Llwyd added "I do not buy the Prime Minister's excuse. We are calling for a national celebration, not a celebration for individuals. There are also great economic opportunities in a national Welsh day, as the Irish have proved with St Patrick's Day."



Éire



Cornish not English.com

Is é an chéad rud a rithfeadh leat faoin suíomh idirlín *cornishnotenglish.com* ná an teideal. Nach ait é, arsa tusa, go measfadh lucht bainistíochta an tsuímh Chornaigh seo go gcaithfidís a dhearbhu i dteideal an tsuímh féin gur Cornaigh agus nach Sasanaigh iad. Is baolach nach ait nuair a chuireann tú san áireamh na cúinsí ina maireann na Cornaigh. Ar nós na dtíortha Ceilteacha go léir, tá an coilíniú ar siúl go tiubh sa Chorn. Bliain i ndiaidh bliana, lon-naíonn Sasanaigh de gach saghas sa tír (nó sa Diúcacht, mar a thugann na Sasanaigh air) agus fágann an rabharta inimirceach gallda sin na Cornaigh ag snámh in aghaidh easa, ní hé amháin chun a dteanga agus a gcultúr féin a chur chun cinn ach chun a bhféiniúlacht mar náisiún ar leithligh a chaomhnú.

Sampla maith den chás ina bhfuil na Cornaigh ab ea an feachtas a bhí ar siúl sa Chorn cúpla bliain ó shin nuair a bhí Sasana páirteach i gCorn Rugbaí an Domhain. D'eagraigh na meáin chumarsáide agus roinnt dreamanna tráchtála feachtas chun go dtaispeánfaí bratach Shasana, Cros Sheoirse, ar fud an Choirn mar chomhartha tacaíochta don "fhoireann náisiúnta" agus chrom daoine ar fud an Choirn ar an mbratach sin a chur in airde. Nuair a thriail eagraíochtaí Cornacha an scéal a shoiléiriú don phobal agus a mhíniú dóibh nach é cros Sheoirse an bhratach náisiúnta ach Cros Chiaráin (nó Pyran, mar a deir na Cornaigh féin), cuireadh ina leith gur dream iad a bhí saite san am atá caite agus nach raibh sásta bogadh ar aghaidh leis an aimsir (cé chomh minic is a chualamar an ceann sin cheana in Éirinn agus i dtíortha Ceilteacha eile?).

Cé go bhfuil daoine go leor thar lear ag aithint an Choirn mar náisiún neamhspleách – fiú amháin, dhein an clár teilifíse *The Simpsons* roinnt Cornaise agus sluáin ar son saoirse an Choirn a áireamh i gceann dá guoid cláracha siúd – tá slua ollmhór inimirceach sa tír atá chomh dall air sin is atá siad ar chomhdhéanamh na gealaí. Tar éis fheachtas Chros Sheoirse, d'aithin roinnt Cornach forásach go raibh fadhb bhunúsach féiniúlachta acu ina dtír féin agus go gcaithfidís beart éigin a dhéanamh chun an scéal a fheabhsú. Ba mar thoradh ar an machnamh sin a bunaíodh an feachtas Cornish not English agus is as sin a d'éascair an suíomh idirlín den teideal céanna.

Mar chuid den fheachtas feasachta féiniúlachta seo, tá caipíní agus léinte ar a bhfuil an sluán clóite, bratacha agus greamáin le haghaidh gluaisteán agus fuinneog tí, leabhair agus cúrsaí, agus meirgí

Cornacha le haghaidh guthán póca. Cuid thábhachtach den fheachtas, dar ndóigh, is ea an suíomh idirlín féin, áit a bhfuil teacht ag daoine ar na huirlisí feachtais go léir agus, níos tábhachtaí fós b'fhéidir, áit a bhfuil fáil ag daoine ar an eolas agus ar na hargóintí ar son fhéiniúlacht an Choirn. Ar bhonn praiticiúil, is mór an chabhair do dhaoine é eolas a bheith ar fáil dóibh sa tslí is gur féidir leo féiniúlacht an Choirn a chosaint in aghaidh na n-argóintí aineolacha a chuirtear ar aghaidh sna meáin chumarsáide. Agus níl aon dabht ná gur láidir an cás é a dhéantar ar an suíomh *cornishnotenglish.com* agus gur soiléir.



Agóid ar son fhéiniúlacht an Choirn

I dteannta an eolais agus na bpointí tacaíochta go léir atá ann ar son fhéiniúlacht an Choirn, tá gné eile den suíomh ar mór an taca é ó thaobh na díospóireachta náisiúnta de. Sa chuid ar a dtugtar *The Future*, díreítear go dearfach misniúil ar thodhchaí an Choirn mar chuid mhúineach fhorásach den Eoraip agus den domhan, agus is todhchaí é sin nach féidir leis na Sasanaigh a shamhlú dóibh féin go fóill.

Peadar Ó Broin

Summary

*The website **Cornish Not English** is reviewed favourably here while outlining some of the problems faced by the Cornish nation.*

Northern police Ombudsman finding on Nelson death threats

Rosemary Nelson was a prominent Human Rights lawyer in Portadown, Co. Armagh, who had a range of clients from across the community. She also represented the Garvaghy Rd. residents who were opposed to the Orange marches from Drumcree returning through their area. She had been the subject of numerous threats including death threats and was killed by a loyalist bomb outside her home in March 1999.

Her murder was one of those investigated by Canadian Judge, Peter Cory, who recommended that an independent tribunal of inquiry be set up. Hearings of this are due to start in October. The Ombudsman's investigation arose from allegations made by the Committee on the Administration of Justice (CAJ) on the RUC handling of Mrs Nelson's security. Twenty incidents including seven death threats were referred to in the report. She found that the RUC did not 'deal with either the letter or leaflet properly' and that it had not initiated any investigation. The report was welcomed by CAJ who said that the ombudsman had confirmed that those threats were not treated with the gravity and urgency required.



Rosemary Nelson

Meanwhile another case has emerged. Following the Council of Europe's finding that the investigation into the shooting of three IRA men in Armagh in 1982 by the RUC was not compliant with European Court of Human Rights standards it has been passed to the Northern Police Ombudsman, Nuala O'Loan for investigation. The three IRA members were shot near Lurgan in Nov. 1982. Their car had been struck by 109 bullets and the men were unarmed. Three RUC men were charged with murder but acquitted. This case was one which was investigated by John Stalker but his report into the controversial killings was never published. There was the usual outcry from ex RUC personnel and Unionist politicians.

Irish Immersion Education Banned in Republic!

At the end of July the Minister for Education in the Republic, Mary Hanafin, ordered all Irish medium schools (Gaelscoileanna) in the country to teach English for a half an hour every day from the beginning of the second term in the junior infant entry level class. This effectively bans the full Irish immersion programme run by many Gaelscoileanna in which no English was taught for the first year or two years. Existing schools will be given until 2008 to introduce this. There are many international studies which show that total immersion programmes are the best to give second language fluency and these studies also show that the fluency and literacy in the home language (which would be English in the case of most Gaelscoileanna pupils) is equal to or surpasses the competency of pupils taught in that language only by the time pupils are just over midway through the primary school cycle.

President of Gaelscoileanna, Micheál Ó Broin condemned the controversial decision and, in referring to the international research situation, said the Minister, now that she had noticed the Gaelscoileanna, should not fear to undertake research in the State in this and base her decisions on such. He said that pupils in Gaelscoileanna had no difficulty reading Harry Potter (to whom the Minister had alluded) in either Irish or English. He said the decision ignored the excellent results, the values and the continuous high standards achieved in the Irish immersion education system. It went against the advice of the CNCM (National Council for Curriculum and Assessment), Gaelscoileanna and all the Irish language groups. The Minister's attitude was all the more disturbing as it cuts across the Irish State's policy on promoting Irish as it bans the best method of promoting fluency in the language. There is no evidence showing that immersion education is not succeeding nor that pupils in the system are behind in English competency, in fact the opposite is the case. The decision was also condemned by Eagraíocht na Scoileanna Gaeltachta (Organisation for Gaeltacht Schools) whose Bríd Ní Luíng said the need for immersion was equally strong in the Gaeltacht schools and there was little point in the Department of the Gaeltacht employing Irish language assistants (to assist with the high numbers now entering Gaeltacht schools without Irish) when the Department of Education was putting an end to immersion education.

The President of Conradh na Gaeilge, Dáithí MacCárthaigh, called the decision disastrous and said that the decision went contrary to advice given to the Minister. He stated that an immersion system was necessary to counter the all prevailing influence of English and to ensure that pupils were given a good foundation in Irish and the language



Caitriona Ruane,
Minister of Education in the North.

was reinforced amongst the pupils and in the school. An Conradh had already passed a motion against a reduction in the status of Irish immersion education at their Ard Fheis (AGM) and both they and other Irish language bodies would not accept this decision.

It was reported that some of the background to the decision was that a complaint had been made to the Department of Education by a parent that no English was taught in the first two years in a long established Gaelscoil, Gaelscoil Mhic Easmuinn in Tralee. This school had an excellent educational achievement and the policy on Irish immersion education in the school is explained fully to all parents. The motives of those, who on having a child accepted in such a school, would then pursue a case detrimental to the success of the school must surely be questioned.

The Minister of Education in the North, Caitriona Ruane, ruled out ending total Irish immersion education for junior infants in Northern Ireland. She said as a parent she was fully supportive of Irish immersion education and believed, as did international experts, that in teaching the second language it was important to give priority to it at the beginning. She was speaking at a meeting to set up a group to review the progress of Irish medium education in the North at which she encouraged them to be bold and brave in their work which was coming at a time when the demand for Irish language education was growing in the North but the overall number of pupils in the schools was falling.

Despite setbacks such as this Gaelscoileanna was able to announce the opening of 8 new all Irish medium schools this year. There are 4 at primary level, one each in counties Leitrim, Galway, Meath and Cork and 4 at second level. The Gaelcholáistí will be in Waterford, Gorey, Co. Wexford, Buncrana, Co Donegal and in Arklow, Co. Wicklow. In addition it was reported that the Irish unit in Kilkenny city has progressed to become an independent Gaelcholáiste.

Decision on Pat Finucane Case Condemned



Pat Finucane

A few months ago the North's Public Prosecution Services confirmed that no former or serving British soldier or RUC or PSNI officer will be charged in connection with the 1989 murder by loyalists of solicitor Pat Finucane.

The Stevens inquiry, into what was called the North's 'Dirty War', going back to 1989 found there was British Army and RUC collusion with loyalist paramilitaries about the period of P. Finucane's murder. A total of 46 people were convicted as a result of these inquiries including UDA member Ken Barrett who admitted murdering Mr. Finucane. But no former or serving police officer or British soldier was charged notwithstanding the findings of collusion. In 2003 it had been suggested by sources within the Stevens inquiry that up to 20 former and serving members of the British Army, RUC and PSNI, including an army brigadier, could face charges relating to collusion with loyalist paramilitaries. The Finucane family condemned the decision, as did SDLP and Sinn Féin representatives. Sinn Féin MLA, Alex Maskey, himself a target, said the decision was 'an absolute scandal and showed the British government was incapable of facing up to their own responsibilities in all of this'.

An official inquiry into Pat Finucane's death is still scheduled to take place but the Finucane family have objected to the terms of the inquiry contending they would prevent the full truth from emerging.

The North, Bedding in - with some Interceltic connections?

In mid July the first meetings of the British-Irish Council and of the North-South Ministerial Council since the restoration of the power sharing Executive and the election of the Dr. Rev. Ian Paisley of the Democratic Unionist Party as First Minister and Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness as Deputy First Minister were held. There had been misgivings that matters would be delayed with the change of British Prime Minister from Tony Blair to Gordon Brown but following diplomatic pressure from Dublin on the need to keep the process moving it seems Brown committed to come sooner rather than later and at this first meeting as Prime Minister with Irish Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern Brown stated 'I am here to show I mean business'.

The creation of the British-Irish Council (BIC) came about as result of Unionist pressure and was seen by many as their counter balance to the North-South Council. At this first meeting of the BIC at Stormont Dr. Paisley seemed to reinforce this saying "For too long the east-west axis was the poor relation of the North-South business, we are committed to redressing the balance. " Part of that may well be the apparent decision that BIC will be supported by a permanent Secretariat and its first task will be a strategic review of the council's work programme, working methods and support arrangements. There was little else of much interest in a bland communiqué dealing with transport, misuse of drugs, environment, e-Health, tourism, knowledge economy, social inclusion, demography (yes, this does mean immigration issues!) and indigenous, minority and lesser used languages (but do not expect this to do much for your Celtic language!). M. McGuinness welcomed the holding of the BIC in Stormont saying it "was another mighty leap forward. The First Minister and myself enjoy the support of all these administrations and the people they represent"

The BIC meeting was attended by SNP leader and Scottish First Minister, Alex Salmond and Welsh Deputy First Minister, Plaid Cymrus's Ieuan Wyn Jones. Interestingly both expressed an interest in acting as hosts to a permanent secretariat. Incidentally it seems the DUP are more interested in having such a permanent secretariat rather than where it is to be located. Alex Salmon addressed the Northern Assembly later and gave his perspective on BIC, saying the new administrations in Edinburgh, Belfast and Cardiff would offer Westminster 'totally new perspectives' - better for London to hear 'combined wisdom' from a trio of assemblies and parliaments, he said. So is this a stepping stone to a league of Celtic nations? Certainly not, with the firm link to Westminster, no assembly in Kernow and Breizh in the mist



Dr. Rev Ian Paisley and Martin McGuinness in jovial mood at the North/South Ministerial Council meeting in Armagh.

(obscured across the channel!), nevertheless, depending on the make up of parliament and assemblies, if they are controlled by nationalist parties or not and who is First Minister they may operate to develop more bilateral links between the Celtic nations.

The North-South Ministerial Council appeared to be a cordial affair, building further on the relationship between Paisley and McGuinness. Paisley is reported to have said 'the Ice Age is over' recalling a time when he threw snowballs at a former Taoiseach for daring to visit Stormont. 'We want both parts of Ireland to prosper' he stated. The meeting was held in Armagh city, his birthplace, and he pledged to work for mutual co-operation, good neighbourliness and prosperity on an island wide basis. Martin McGuinness praised Dr. Paisley's contribution "I think he has made a very powerful contribution to bringing the position to where it is today. There is tremendous hope on this island. We want to end conflict on this island. I believe the First Minister and myself are part of an administration that is full of dedication and commitment to make this work and I believe we are going from strength to strength."

One of the main outcomes of the meeting was the Irish government's commitment to give €400 M to help fund major road programmes within the North, serving the North West gateway to Donegal and the Belfast-Larne corridor. In addition the Council agreed to proceed with the restoration of the section of the Ulster canal between Clones (Co. Monaghan) and Upper Lough Erne (Co. Fermanagh) in the light of the Irish government's offer to cover the full capital cost of the project. Waterways Ireland, a North/South implementation body will be responsible for this and the management of the link following completion. The next plenary meeting is to held in Dundalk towards

the end of next year with ministerial meetings proceeding in the meantime.

Not all was sweetness and light however. In August Martin McGuinness attacked the decision of the British Northern Secretary, Peter Hain, to set up a new group to deal with the legacy of the Troubles. He said the decision was a 'unilateral move' and more strongly still objected to the exclusion of British state forces in terms of parties that have to included. He said "He has deliberately ignored the hundreds if people killed by the British state or their surrogate paramilitary forces. If you do not look at the activities of British intelligence agencies, the RUC, the British Army and the Northern Ireland Office it would not work."

In August the role of the British Army in the North officially ended after 38 years (!), an intervention called Operation Banner. No ceremony was held to mark what was claimed to be the longest single British military operation in history (surely they are forgetting some centuries old wars on Ireland?) nor, it was reported, was anything done that might give an impression of withdrawal. Nevertheless all the British Army installations and surveillance towers in nationalist areas are now gone.

In September Dr. Paisley met the President of the Irish Republic, Mary McAleese, at the opening of an exhibition at the Somme Heritage Centre in Newtownards in Co. Down. The battle of the Somme in 1916 during the First World War led to huge casualties of Irish soldiers serving in the British Army, both from Unionist and Nationalist communities. The Nationalists were there on the urging of their political leaders in the Irish Parliamentary Party (Remondites) to 'fight for the freedom of small nations' eg Belgium, in the vain hope of Home Rule being granted. There is a ballad which has a



Rev. Ian Paisley meets with President Mary McAleese at the Soome Heritage Centre in Newtownards. Co. Down.

line in it 'they fought in the wrong war and for the wrong cause' but that is glossed over now. Dr Paisley gave Mary McAleese a warm handshake, rather a change from a year ago when he declared at the DUP party conference that he did not like the President because she was 'dishonest'. This followed remarks from McAleese a year earlier when she likened anti-Catholic sectarianism over the decades of Unionist rule in the North to anti-Semitism in Nazi Germany, a remark for which she later apologised.

Despite matters proceeding well so far in the Northern Executive difficulties lie ahead in the area of devolution of policing powers.

The target for this is next May according to the terms of the St Andrew's agreement but the DUP (Ian Paisley Junior) insists that it will not happen within the life of the lifetime of this Assembly. There is also the matter of the Irish Language Act promised in the St . Andrew's agreement (see Carn 135). Dr Paisley announced that the DUP was opposed to this and issued a letter to party members to this effect. "That was a proposal made by the two Governments (British and Irish at the St. Andrew talks) and was never agreed to or even discussed with us "he claimed.

Our Dear Far Voiced Veteran

Tom Munnely, possibly the last great collector of Irish traditional song and folklore of the late 20th century passed away on August 29th last aged 63 years. Over a period of more than 30 years, Tom collected more than 20,000 traditional songs, as well as volumes of folklore. In truth he was, 'an iconic figure in the world of Irish traditional music'!

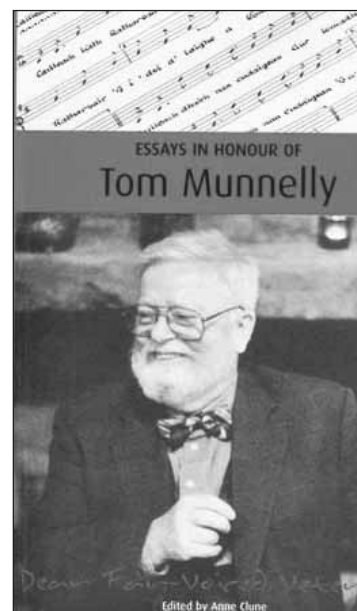
Tom Munnely was born in Dublin, in 1944. He grew up in the suburb of Crumlin and attended Clochar Road Technical School. On leaving school, he worked in a Dublin knitwear factory for a number of years in a number of capacities, finally becoming a bookkeeper. He first developed an interest in folk singing in the 1950s. By 1964, he had already begun to make his own recordings. In 1969, he became a research assistant to DK Wilgus, professor of Anglo-American folk song at UCLA, receiving both help and advice from folklorists Seamas Ennis and Hamish Henderson.

In 1971, Breandán Breatnach persuaded An Roinn Oideachas to establish a national traditional music-collecting scheme, and Tom became its full time folk song collector. This project was merged with the folklore department at UCD in 1975, later becoming the Delargy Centre for Irish Folklore. It now contains the country's National Folklore Collection. Despite lacking academic qualifications, Tom lectured widely and his talks were always well attended, as his knowledge of his subject was vast.

In 1978, Tom Munnely moved with his family to West Clare, where he was on hand to record many local singers of note such as Michael 'Straightey' Flanagan of Inagh and the legendary Tom Lenihan of Miltown Malbay. His recordings of Tom Lenihan can be heard on 'Paddy's Panacea', also released by Topic that year. He became Chairman of the Willie Clancy Summer School in 1978, and during his tenure in the chair the annual

July festival went from strength to strength, attracting visitors from many parts of the world.

Tom also helped set up 'An Cumann le Béaloideas agus Cheoil Tíre an Chláir' and organised all its lectures from 1982 to 1991. Tom became a member of the Arts Council for three years from 1985 to 1988. He chaired the newly founded Irish Traditional Music Archive from 1988 until 1993, remaining on the Board from 1995 until this year. 1995 also saw him launch 'The Mount Callan Garland: Songs from the Repertoire of Tom Lenihan', During this time, Tom wrote for a number of periodicals including 'Dál gCais' (the Journal of Clare) and JMI-Journal of Music in Ireland. To acknowledge his services to Irish traditional music and folklore, Tom was made an honorary Doctorate of Literature by NUI Galway last June. He was also presented with the festschrift 'Dear Far-Voiced Veteran: Essays in Honour of Tom Munnely', though he was by then in serious ill health.



At his funeral service Bob Blair's sang 'The Joy of Living' and the Crehan Family played 'The wild Geese'. 'The Hour of Death' was read by Ríonach Uí Ógáin and Pádraigín ní Uallacháin sang 'An Bhean Caointe', before Tom in his unique 'wickerwork coffin' was borne from the chapel to nearby Ballard Cemetery. There, uileann piper Éamonn O'Bróithe played 'Philip Séimh Ó Fatha', and Maighread and Tríona ní Dhomhnaill sang the 'Greenwood Laddie'. Nicholas Carolan gave the graveside oration, and members of An Cór Cúil Aodha sang the great Munster Jacobite song, 'Mo Ghile Mear'. Tom's brother in law, Jerry O'Reilly led all assembled in 'The Parting Glass', before Jerry, Bob Blair and Terry Moylan bid a last adieu to Tom singing Hamish Henderson's 'Freedom Come All Ye'.

Tom Munnely is survived by his wife Annette, his sons Colm and Tara and his daughter Éadaoin.

© Pat Burke 2007

Survey of State of Irish in Gaeltacht pessimistic

The results of a study on the position of the Irish language in Gaeltacht areas makes alarming reading. The survey states that Irish will only have a life of up to 20 years as a community and home language in the strongest Gaeltacht areas unless a significant change occurs in present patterns of use of the language and influences on it. The study makes some radical proposals to stem the tide.

It was recommended in the report of the Commission for the Gaeltacht, published in 2002 and commissioned by Minister Éamonn Ó Cuív of the Department of the Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs in January 2004 and was carried out by the National University of Ireland (NUI) Galway's Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge and NUI Maynooth's national institute for regional and spatial analysis. The report was apparently completed in April but the Government choose not to publish it before the general election. It is to be brought to the Government in the autumn.

The study states that the social dynamic in Gaeltacht areas is changing against Irish, that people are moving into the Gaeltacht who are not active Irish speakers and that this change will have serious implications on the sociolinguistic environment. According to the survey only 24% of young Irish speakers actually speak Irish to their friends. However 94% of them are in favour of the language which illustrates a large gap between their attitude, their fluency and the use they make of the language. A 'process of socialisation through Irish' is proposed to tackle this problem.

In the educational system in the Gaeltacht 25% of the pupils were born or reared outside the Gaeltacht and 46% of pupils come to schools without Irish or with little Irish. This situation is detrimental to those pupils who are reared with Irish, preventing them from achieving a high standard of Irish academically in their native language. Accordingly it is claimed they do not have the wealth of the language one would expect from native speakers. Neither is the system making active Irish speakers of those who come to school without Irish.

The report recommends a revolutionary reorganisation of the whole Gaeltacht educational system. It also recommends, with regard to the protection given to Irish in the planning system, that this need to be developed and has only limited application at present. The recommendations to redeem the situation are;

- Each Gaeltacht region to prepare a 7 year language plan. This would be independent of the Department of the Community, Rural and Gaeltacht



**Éamonn Ó Cuív,
Minister for Community, Rural,
and Gaeltacht Affairs**

Affairs who would be responsible for monitoring its implementation.

- Community educational institutions and state bodies should function in the Gaeltacht in a manner which gives pride of place to the rights and needs of native Irish speakers.
- Provide a legislative mechanism to allow institutions and organisations to differentiate between the different types of Gaeltacht communities and their needs (eg the strongest Gaeltacht areas in Category A where 67% are native speakers)
- To implement a school entry policy which would ensure it was essential that pupils entering school would have Irish.
- To found schools for pupils without Irish to give them fluency in the language. They would not be allowed to attend ordinary Gaeltacht schools until fluent.
- That COGG (An Comhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta, Council for Gaeltacht and Irish Medium Education) would be given full legislative responsibility for all aspects of Gaeltacht education.
- That a College of Education be founded in the Gaeltacht
- That children without Irish should be assisted to become fluent in it before they attend nursery, primary or second level schools in the Gaeltacht.
- In Category A Gaeltacht schools all instruction would be fully through Irish.
- That Údarás na Gaeltachta (Gaeltacht Industrial Development Authority) be given a stronger sociolinguistic role, for example they should control planning in Gaeltacht areas.
- Significant changes are proposed in the 'Scheme for Spoken Irish'

EU Constitution – Repackaged as Reform Treaty

At the end of June after a European summit dominated by German and Polish arguments largely centring on Polish opposition to the new voting system based on population which favours large countries like Germany against smaller to medium states we were presented with the EU Constitution dressed up as the 'Reform Treaty'. This gave German Chancellor Angela Merkel (holding the EU presidency then) cause to proclaim that the 'constitutional crisis' is over. Poland's stance led to the proposal to delay the introduction of the new voting system until 2014 and a three year transitional phase during which decisions can be blocked using the Nice treaty voting system now in place. There were agreements on opt-ins and opt-outs on justice and a concession that will boost the powers of national parliaments to scrutinise European Commission proposals. Otherwise everything is much the same it seems. Irish Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, proudly stated that the substance was indeed the same, 90% at least. He rambled on about the removal of Article 8, with references to EU flag and anthem, as a sop to some member state leaders who feared such symbolism would hinder their efforts to get the treaty ratified. A final text has to be worked out in EU talks over the coming months. Ahern's intention is to hold a referendum, calling for support for the Treaty, in mid 2008. Despite the fact that many of the provisions of the Treaty are detrimental to small states like Ireland it will be a difficult task to achieve a rejection. Doubtless other EU leaders will, as always, try to ratify in national parliaments to avoid embarrassing defeats in referendums. Already the Dutch (who rejected the Constitution by referendum) have confirmed for some strange reason no referendum is needed this time

In addition to matters mentioned above some key elements are:

- Full time President of the European Council elected for two and a half years
- New high representative of EU for foreign affairs and security
- Number of commissioners down to 18 from 27 and new voting system by 2014
- Reduction in national vetoes in about 40 policy areas, mainly justice
- More Parliament and European Court scrutiny in those areas
- Ireland (and Britain) can opt in or opt out on sensitive justice proposals
- National vetoes remain in place in foreign affairs, defence, tax, social security and culture
- When ratified the Treaty will lift the present block on future enlargement
- EU gets a single legal personality and can now sign international treaties



Kernow



Questyons Rag Kernow

En termen an vledhedniow passiez en enwedgak thea an nessa bressel beaz, thera divroeth an fidnian (brain drain) thort agon pow Kernow. En ketterman thera broaz showr a díz souznak a toaz tha Kernow tha tregas, vel tíz cõth anneylis pokên tíz younk rag whilaz bownaz gwella noweth en pelder thurt poesigian a vownaz anjy en cites souznak brauz. Eze fanges gena ny havalder treeth an thew?

Gero ny examinia hedna en muy downder. Mar tíz younk cudnic academical medn moaz thort Kernow rag gweal ago deskans en Pow Souznak, ha mar na medn angy dewhelez, pandrew an nature a rina nekovaz adhelhar? Lebmen agon companys inguinor, agon balow stenow ha agon whealober pôz ew gelles. Eze possible lebmen rag tíz younk desky galaw? Puna sorth wheal eze rag tíz scant deskas, ha heb wheal per thaa, fatel ra angy amendia go hunnen? Ha mar na kellans desky nepeth obma en Kernow, pandrew an termen vedn doaz rag Kernow? Ew lickly drell an tíz scant deskas comeraz radn en bownaz kernuak, po en politics kernuak? Ew lickly drell angy boaz esily an Kedva Kernuak?

Ha tíz anneylis. Thew lavaraz drew angy 60 bludh ha adres. Thew hedna gwîr. Ero why pederi dre vedn angy radna ago skeans gen tíz kernuak, mal e vedn gweel daa tha bubonen, po vedn anjy buz perna treven gen priz euhal, ha en lecas tregas ago journiow halcyon en Kernow têt vel dreborian lotus.

Ha an tíz younk noweth a toaz tha Gernow

– limners scoffers, tiogian ecological, ha croganers. Heb dowt angy alga ry nearth moy than vounaz kernuak, buz venga angy mesky gen tíz kernuak, vedn ago flehes por sompel desky an tavaz kernuak? Venga an flehesma war an dua accountia ago hunnen Kernow po Kernowas?

Gen an universite noweth en Tremough ha muy colgys a theskians pella anurma en Kernow, ny ell gwellas dre vedn muy ha muy yunkers kernuak madra en Kernow. Thew hedna real dra. Buz oudga ago deskans eze wheal daa ragtans, per tha lecas ha peiz per thaa, malga angy determia tha tregas obma? Eze treven râz lower ragtans?

Ero ny gweel lowar rag inflammiya agon yunkers gen tumder rag heynes kernuak, bounaz kernuak, ha tavaz kernuak? Vedn agon yunkers boaz Kernow ha Kernowas po Sowz ha Sowzas?

Summary

Questions For Cornwall

In the past and especially since the Second World War, there has been a severe brain drain from Cornwall. At the same time, a large number of English immigrants have come into the county to live, either as older retired people, or as young people seeking a better life away from the stress and strain of life in large English cities.

This article looks at how this may affect the future of Cornwall and Cornish identity.

Mina Dresser

Carlyon Bay

Chris Webber of the Kernow Branch was delighted to receive a complimentary letter from Terry Beer of the Carlyon Bay Watch organisation in Kernow. Following succesful public opposition to a development scheme in which the Kernow Branch played a very active part, a planning hearing resulted in the proposed development being refused permission.

In his letter, Mr Beer said, 'Now that we have had time to reflect on and fully understand the Ministers report on the beaches of Carlyon Bay, I am writing on behalf of the board of Directors, to thank you for your support and the evidence you gave was instrumental in the inspector and the minister both deciding to refuse permission for the developer to build as they had hoped. We are now actively bringing pressure to bear on Restormel Borough Council to implement an enforcement notice on the developer to remove the iron piling, the untidy nature of the buildings and the unauthorised sea wall. It would be a real bonus if the beach could then be allowed to recover and be an asset to the wider community again.'

Chris Webber was subject of a recent vote of thanks by the Kernow Branch for his attention to detail and for attending the public hearings throughout the process despite nursing his sick mother, a superb example of commitment to a cause.

SETTING CORNWALL ON ITS FEET

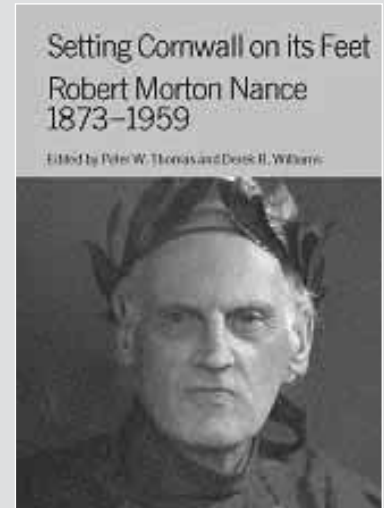
ROBERT MORTON NANCE
1873-1959

Edited by Peter W. Thomas and
Derek R. Williams

Published in association with Gorseth
Kernow by Francis Boutle Publishers

ISBN 9781903427347

Price £12.50 post free



This collection of essays celebrates the life and work of Robert Morton Nance, artist, folklorist, writer, maritime historian, founder of St. Ives Old Cornwall Society and Grand Bard of the Cornish Gorsedd, whose work on the standardisation of the Cornish language led to books such as *Cornish for All* and *An English-Cornish and Cornish-English Dictionary* and inspired a generation of Cornish speakers. As well as contributions from Charles Thomas, Brian Murdoch, Rod Lyon, Ann Trevenen Jenkin, Hugh Miners, Peter Thomas, Donald Rawe, Peter Pool, Derek Williams, Alan Kent and Brian Coombes, the book contains reminiscences and examples of Nance's own writings, including Cornish poetry, a traditional play, a folklore study and an essay on The Spirit of the Celtic Movement. The book is richly illustrated.

Available from:

Gorseth Kernow, c/o Treasurer David Lindo, 13b Trevone Crescent, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 5ED

Tel: 01726 66854

Cheques payable to 'Gorseth Kernow'

Francis Boutle Publishers, 272

Alexandra Park Road, London, N22 7BG

Tel: 020 8889 7744

Email: info@francisboutle.co.uk

Cheques payable to 'Francis Boutle Publishers'

Cornish Branch – A Target for Police Frustration

Cornish Branch Secretary, Mike Chappell, and other members of the branch have been under increasing pressure, following threats of violence by a new group, calling itself the Cornish National Liberation Army (CNLA) and the publication of an article in The Sunday Times newspaper, alleging that a Cornish branch member, John Bolitho, was a member of the group.

The formation of the CNLA and their subsequent announcement, which the League reported on in August (see CL news pages at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league/), has placed a heavy burden on the Cornish movement. Threats of arrest, house searches and confiscation of property, have taken place and the publication of the above mentioned article, has not helped matters. In a communication with the League's General Secretary and the Director of Information, Mike Chappell said:

"Today I have received several telephone calls and am growing increasingly fearful.

One stated it was from a friend (whom, I don't know). I was told: 'Mike - you are going to be arrested. Look out for yourself.'

Shortly afterwards, I received a further telephone call from a member of the Cornish Stannary Parliament and Celtic League member (I leave him unnamed other than to say it was NOT Jack Bolitho). He had already been arrested and his home searched much to the upset of his parents. His book, *Our Future is History*, (available in any high street bookshop) by John Angarrack was seized together with other general Stannary and Celtic League papers."

Mike Chappell goes on to say:

"If any of you should be arrested, please be informed of the following advice:

SAY NOTHING - NOTHING - TO THE POLICE ON ARRIVAL AT THE POLICE STATION, DEMAND TO SEE A SOLICITOR AND SAY NOTHING UNTIL YOU HAVE SPOKEN WITH ONE. THIS IS YOUR FREE AND LEGAL RIGHT

This arrest and my fears follow on from

press reports in Cornwall which alleged that threats were made against Jamie Oliver, Rick Stein and others. This is the price we bear for being Cornish in our own land. No one cares and the Campaign for Racial Equality do not recognise me."

As the Celtic League previously warned on its news pages: "One of the most ominous comments in relation to the emergence of reawakened direct action in Cornwall recently was the statement from Devon and Cornwall Police that they are to set up 'a task force to investigate the threats.'"

An ominous comment indeed, but unfortunately the consequences are being felt by people who only peruse peaceful and democratic means to further the nationalist political aims of a Cornwall that is now under the close scrutiny of a police task force.

Celtic League General Secretary, Rhisiart Tal-e-bot, has written a letter of complaint to The Sunday Times newspaper and the Press Complaints Commission regarding the Sunday Times article, which can be found by following the link: <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/crime/article2010217.ece>

J B Moffatt

Director of Information Celtic League

An agenda for a police state with Crown immunity?

On the strength of the manipulation of the evidence taken from a Cornish teenager and activist, Jack Bolitho of the Kernow Branch of the Celtic League, the press appears to be attempting to condemn as nationalist anyone claiming to be Cornish. Nationalist is not applied to anyone claiming to be English. We are all British with only British passports so, any sub-division of British is equally nationalist. If British is the legally correct nationality, then, the use of English, for the state funded English Heritage Co. Ltd., would be an example of cultural nationalism.

Are we Cornish really the guilty nationalists as charged by those self-appointed judges, the barons of the English press?

The press appears to have been given the task of covering up centuries of economic nationalism in Cornwall retained, with Crown immunity and inalienable rights, for Duchy profit authorised by the permanent English majority at Westminster. This feudal legacy is ripe for exposure as incompatible with the modern principle of equality before the law. In a state where the public are being deprived of the other side of the story, the suspicion is aroused of the presence of journalistic nationalism.

Recently, the United Kingdom became the only one of 27 member states of the European Union to have "won" the right to exclude Fundamental rights from its legal system. This apparent assertion of racial



John Bolitho

supremacy is similarly suspected in the exclusion from the Human Rights Act 1998 of Article 13 of the European Convention on Human Rights: "the right to an effective remedy for violations by persons acting in an official capacity". In addition, politicians do not appear prepared to legislate for a guarantee of: "The right to equality before the law for all persons" currently unavailable in the English legal system. Such a basic international right is available in a written constitutional form for all the citizens of the Monarchy of Sweden, the United States of America, France, Germany, Poland and Switzerland to name but a few governments who have created universal inalienable rights for their citizens. They have rejected legislative nationalism by accepting that the individual has the right, in every case of the alleged abuse of power, institutional bias and official racial discrimination, to enforce accountability upon persons acting in an official capacity.

To avoid the possibility of a charge of academic nationalism, we challenge English universities to write down the British Constitution as it stands today showing proof of any inalienable rights available to the individual to challenge any alleged failure to comply with the Oath of Allegiance taken by persons acting in an official capacity.

The Human Rights Act includes Article 10 of the European Convention: "Freedom of expression". This gives Cornish people the right to declare their membership of the Cornish national minority, (Article 14): "without interference by public authority". The Police do not record declarations of "Cornish" on their forms. Is this a case of interference with freedom of expression encouraged by the Duke of Cornwall's attack on human rights? (The Times, 2nd March 2006).

The denial of basic Human rights, Fundamental rights and equality before the law is an agenda for a police state with Crown immunity. Every attempt to grab absolute power must be resisted by rejecting all forms of aggressive nationalism, whether Cornish or English, and demanding the right to be condemned only by an impartial and independent Court of law free from judicial nationalism.

Colin Murley

Cornish Stannary Parliament

Cornish Branch Secretary returns medals of commendation

Retired police officer and Branch Secretary of An Kesunyans Keltek - Scoren Kernewek (The Cornish Branch) has pledged to return his two medals awarded during a long and commended Police career in order to raise funds for the homeless in Cornwall as well as The Original Cornish Heritage organisation.

Last year, Mike and a group of local business people and a doctor (GP) wrote a letter to Prince Charles, Duke of Cornwall drawing his attention to the plight of the China Clay industry and the terrible job losses in the Clay Country around St. Austell and asking for his expression of sympathy. The letter was written using the correct protocol. No reply was received. To date not even an acknowledgement has been received.

Mike also helps homeless Cornish people who cannot afford to rent or buy a home or to put a roof over their heads and to survive in a Cornwall that he regards as increasingly a two tier society with the mega wealthy Rock/Padstow second home owners and the Rick Stein and Jamie Oliver set on one side



Mike Chappell delivering the Kernow Branch report at this year's AGM.

and the impoverished Cornish people on the other.

Having taken the appropriate legal advice, Mike has established that his oath of allegiance to the Crown is now ended and that he may return his medals via Police Headquarters to the Queen as they remain her property.

Mike, now a Republican, seeks sponsorship of at least a Pound per supporter of his action and causes which he will equal with the eventual sum being split between the Original Cornish Heritage organisation and the local homeless charity. In return for such support, he will publicly return his medals and hopefully make known what is happening in Cornwall to the Cornish people and of how a Duke who draws so much income does so little for his people. Mike may be contacted via his e-mail: michael.chappell@tesco.net to discuss any pledges and will invite the press to the medal return in order to publicise this event. He also intends to fund raise using the more traditional methods.

Glasley Memorial

The photograph shows members of the Cornish Branch of the Celtic League at the Glasney Memorial Stone at Penryn, Kernow during the festivities there on Saturday 25th August, 2007. The Grand Bard of the Cornish Gorseth in her address to the assembled crowd which exceeded 100 people, made reference to the massacres of the Cornish people during 1549 and how the Bishop of Truro had recently expressed regret on behalf of the Church of England for what had happened.



Left to right: Dave Wrench, Angela Angove, Tony Piper, Mike Chappell, Tony Leamon and Phil Hosking.

Opinion Poll reveals startling results

In a recent public opinion poll held on a Cornish website which posed three responses, current poll results of 263 returns has revealed that a remarkable 206 (78.33%) believed that the Cornish National Liberation Army are 'freedom fighters for a better Kernow', as compared with 30 (11.41%) who believed that they were 'an English plot to halt growing Cornish awareness' and 27 (10.27%) who believed them to be 'a few disaffected extremists.'

The poll ran for just over a week and reveals an interesting insight into anonymous Cornish opinion on recent events allegedly involving the terror group. (Poll held on Cornwall 24 website)



Mannin



Cohaglym Celtiagh 2007 sy Chorn

Hie yn Cohaglym Celtiagh Eddyrashoonagh er cummal sy Chorn mleeaney, ayns Penryn, ta faggys da Aber Fal (Falmouth). Gagh blein, ta chaghteryn veih ooilley ny shey cheeraghyn Celtiagh cheet ry cheillee ayns nane jeh ny cheeraghyn shen dy eaishtagh rish leaghtyn mychione cooish va reih ec y vanglane sy cheer raad ta'n cohaglym goll er cummal. Mleeaney, va'n chooish mychione ny Celtiee daag ny cheeraghyn oc hene as ny v'ad cur da ny cheeraghyn v'ad goll goll dy chummal ayn, bentyn rish ellyn, sheanse as jeadys.

Er agh ennagh sy toshiaght, v'eh jeeaghyn dy beagh eh aashagh dy ghellal rish cooish myr shoh. Agh, tra v'ou smooinghyn ny s'diuney er y chooish, cha row ee cho aashagh. Shoh va'n doilleid: v'eh aashagh dy liooar dy smooinghyn er ben niartal ny dooinney niartal ennagh veih shennaghys dty heerey hene, as dy ve loayrt mychione y ven ny'n dooinney shen. Eisht v'ou smooinghyn er ben elley ny dooinney elley – oddagh oo loayrt my nyn gione neesht. As ben elley as dooinney elley... jannoo list liauyr as leaght liauyr veagh cur er y lught-eaishtagh dy ve nyn gadley.

Son shickyrys, haghyn y loayrtagh son Bretyn, Walter Ariel Brooks, y gaue shen. Loayr eshyn mychione yn agh hie Bretnee gys Patagonia sy nuyoo cheead jeig d'eddyn cheer raad oddagh loayrt y chengey oc hene ayns shee as lhasaghey nyn gultoor hene. Va'n dooinney shoh braew abyl leaght myr shoh y chur, er y fa dy vel eh voish Patagonia as t'eh jeh slught Bretnagh. Hug eh leaght bioyr as anaasagh. Ga nagh chooilleen y choloin shoh agh paart jeh ny reddyn y ny Bretnee shirrey, va speeideilys dy liooar eck. Dod ny Bretnee jannoo fegooish goll er sluggey stiagh ayns seihll Spaainagh yn Argenteen, as, lesh cooney veih Bretyn nish, ta aavioghey beg fo raad bentyn rish Bretnish ayns Patagonia. Hooar ny Bretnee foays ayns Patagonia, as ren ad foays da'n Argenteen.

Er lhiam dy daik ny leaghtyn share veih Bretyn as veih Mannin. She Pat Skillicorn hug y leaght son Mannin. V'ee ny ben-ynsee as t'ee ny taue nish. Loayr ee mychione Manninee nagh jagh foddey ersooyl veih Mannin. Cha jagh ad agh gys Sostyn, agh hie ad gys seihll elley ny yei. Loayr ee mychione Nigel Kneale, chroo ymmodde reddyn ayns chellveeish tra nagh row chellveeish agh goaill toshiaght, as mychione Frank Kermode as Randolph Quirk, daa Vanninagh t'er nyan- noo obbyr niartal son y chengey Vaarlagh. Cha dimraa Pat Skillicorn shoh, agh ta mee shein dy row Kermode as Quirk wheesh currit da'n Vaarle kyndagh rish y chaghlaa-chengey

haghyn ayns Mannin roish my row ad ruggit. Dimraa ee mac Nigel Kneale, Matthew Kneale, screeu yn oorskeal 'The English Passengers', ta dellal rish kynney-ghunverys ayns Tasmania sy nuyoo cheead jeig. As va stoo ry chlashtyn bentyn rish Michael Sandle, y jallooder ta croo sthowrany n noi barbaraght as craueeaght foalsey. Va leaght Pat Skillicorn cronnal, anaasagh (haisbbyn ee jallooyn) as giare dy liooar. As ren ee dellal rish kuse veg dy gheiney Manninagh veih'n eedoo eash. Va trimshey urree nagh ren ee dellal rish mraane erbee – goll rish ny loayrtee elley son y chooid smoo.

Er lhiam dy nee red dunnal va jeant ec Pat Skillicorn, er y fa nagh vel ee hene credjal sy Cheltiaghys. Foddey dy row yn Dr Matt Hussey sy stayd cheddin. Ga dy dug eh leaght ynsit as anaasagh mychione Yernee lhassee sheanse as jeshaghteyrys, va'n leaght red beg fud y cheillee as cha row eh lhiantyn rish y vun-chooish ooilley cooidjagh. She Norman Mac Donald hug y leaght son Nalbin as loayr eshyn mychione y scansh feer vooar jeh ynsagh syn Ellan Skianagh as yn agh hug yn ynsagh shen yn ablid da sleih veih'n ellan shen dy jannoo obbraghyn yindyssagh tra daag ad ellan nyn n'ooie dy ghol gys cheeraghyn elley.

Loayr Bernez An Nail son y Vritaas as hug eh magh ram fys mychione Britaanee ardghooagh ayns ny shenn laghyn. Loayr eh mychione y seihll creoi agglagh v'ec ny mraane aegey Britaanagh va eiginitt goll gys Paris sy nuyoo cheead jeig, chammah as loayrt mychione Britaanee va foddey ny smoo aighoil na shen. Rish keeadyn dy vleeantyn, va ny Cornee croghey er meaineraght as er east-agh. Son y chooid smoo, y loayrtagh son y Chorn, Phil Hosken, loayr eh mychione eiraght-veaineraght ny Cornee. Dy chooilley voayl feiy ny cruinney hie ny Cornee huggey, dynsee ad meaineraght da sleih elley. She leideilee v'ayn sy chooish shoh. Agh er lhiam pene dy row beoyr er Mnr Hosken dy chur faue dy row ambee meiygh ec gagh Cornagh as dy row ad skeaylley gien mie dy chooilley voayl v'ad goll huggey.

Ta meaineraght ersooyl dy bollagh sy Chorn, atreih. Hug shin shillee er meain ny ghaa ta nyn dhieyn-tashtee nish. Ta eiraght Wesley ry akin foast ayns buill goll rish Slogh Gwennap. Va meain ayns shen bleantyn as bleantyn er dy henney, agh huitt ram jeh veih my cheillee, ren faagail lhaggan mooar sy thaloo as cummee eagey ta goll rish cughlin ta bun ry skyn. T'ad er chummal shirveishyn killagh sy lhaggan shoh ec Slogh Gwennap rish ymmodde bleantyn – ren John Wesley preacheil ayns shen.

Hie yn Cohaglym er cummal ayns campus Tremough ('Balley Muickey'), ayn jeh ollooscoill noa sy Chorn, vees cheet dy ve mooar dy liooar. Bee shoh foaysagh da'n Chorn. Agh cha nel eh mie dy vel ny fograghyn oikoil gra reddyn goll rish 'Ny Ollooscoilyn Cochianglt ayns y Chorn' syn ynyd jeh 'Ny Ollooscoill Cochianglt jeh'n Chorn'. As ny smessey foast: 'Ollooscoill Exeter ayns y Chorn'. Ta ny Cornee corree agglagh kyndagh rish geddyn fooillagh veih buird ny berchee. T'ad laccal yn ollooscoill oc hene, cha nee meeryn veih cheer elley.

Red feer anaasagh, va Colleish Glasney ec Tremough. Keeadyn dy vleeantyn er dy henney, va Cloieyn-Mirril ayns Cornish er nyn screeu sy Cholleish shen. Agh tra va'n aachummey-craueeaght jeant, va Colleish Glasney stroiet dy bollagh as va builley agglagh ass towse currit da'n chengey Chornagh as e cultoor.

Oddagh oo gra dy vel y Chorn y cheer smoo boght mastey ny cheeraghyn Celtiagh nish. Cha nod Cornee cadjin fordrail cummal ec y clyst-marrey er yn oyr dy vel ny thieyn ro chostyllagh dauesyn. Ta'n lheid ry gheddyn ayns ooilley ny cheeraghyn Celtiagh nish, agh t'eh olk agglagh sy Chorn ec y traa t'ayn. Ta sleih cadjin corree kyndagh rish cooishyn as foddey dy bee reddyn raghtal jeant oc.

Ga dy vel shin foast clashtyn mychione arganeyn bentyn rish Cornish, va ram Cornish ry chlashtyn ec y Chohaglym. Myr sampleyr, va daa chuirrey-kiaullee ayn as va'n jees oc er ny gur lesh stiagh ayns Cornish ec Cornisheyrn flaoil – ben aeg as dooinney aeg veih stashoonyn-radio sy Chorn. As va Cornish dy liooar ry chlashtyn feiy'n Chohaglym.

Roish my jagh mee gys y Chohaglym shoh, va mee gaccan dy lajer dy vel Mannin yn ynri-can cheer Cheltiagh nish raad nagh vel aaght-studeyr ry gheddyn. Nish, cha nel mee gaccan cho lajer. Va ny shamyrn as stoo elley mie dy liooar ec campus Tremough. Agh va stiurey yn champus currit da colught preevaadjagh nagh vod stiurey reddyn dy kiart. Ghuee yn colught shoh dy jinnagh ad creck bee ynydagh sy thie-bee ec Tremough. Jarrood shen – t'ad geddyn bee neughey as castreycar veih'n cheu-mooie. Agh ren y Banglane Cornagh sur-ranse red smessey na shen: v'ad eginitt coardail rish coonrey tammylt liauyr roish my row fys oc quoid sleih harragh gys y Chohaglym. Kyndagh rish shen, chaill y Banglane Cornagh argid dy liooar. Foddey nagh vel Mannin ayns stayd faase lurg ooilley.

Summary

This year's International Celtic Congress was held at the Tremough Campus in Penryn, Cornwall, the theme being the contribution to the world of art, science and industry by the Celtic diaspora. An encouraging feature of the Congress was the extensive use of Cornish. There's a need to have a University of Cornwall rather than the present 'Combined Universities in Cornwall'.

Brian Stowell

Return the Chronicles Campaign Revived

To coincide with Tynwald Day, in early July, the Isle of Man's most important medieval manuscript *The Chronicles of the Kings of Mann and the Isles*, written by monks at Rushen Abbey in the 13th Century, was returned to the Island after a deal was reached with the British Library. The Celtic League has campaigned for over twenty years to see the ancient manuscripts returned to the Isle of Man, unfortunately once again, it was only 'on loan' from the British Library to Manx National Heritage.

The CL campaign had stalled until, and entirely unsolicited, the Isle of Man Examiner (the Island's main newspaper) took up the fight. The Examiner has had widespread local and international support for the return of the Chronicles. Celtic League national branches and Council Officers were quick to register their support through the Examiner's website.

However, United Kingdom Government, in a recent statement said that it had no plans to allow the Chronicles to be brought home permanently to the Isle of Man. In a defiantly pompous statement (which was almost a throw back to Empire) a spokesperson from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) told the Examiner:

"The British Library is the national library of the United Kingdom and houses one of the most important collections in the world. It is also an independent body with its own chairman and board, and is forbidden by law from disposing of any items in its collection. The government has no plans to intervene in this issue."

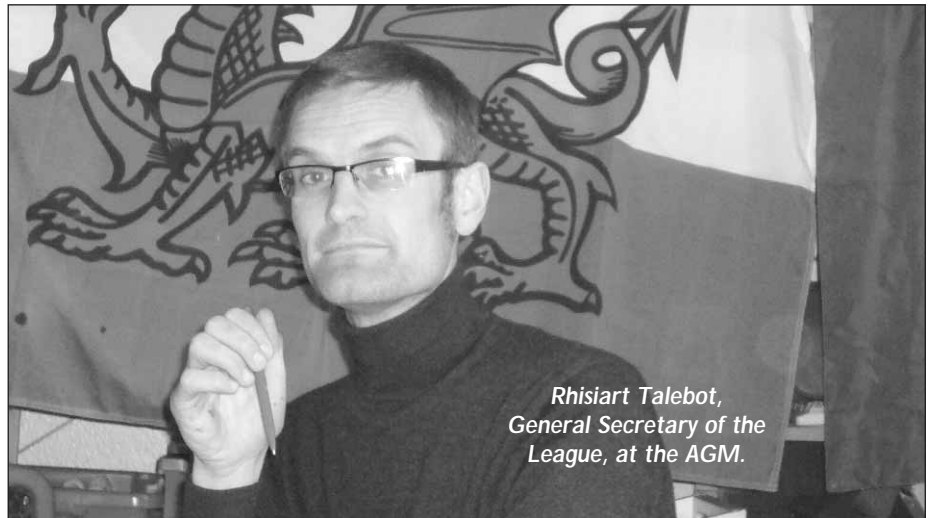
Perhaps the most puzzling aspect in the campaign surrounding the renewed call for the return of the Chronicles has been the stony silence from Manx Radio. Despite statements of support from a number of politicians, including the Island's Chief Minister and the provocative statement from the DCMS not a peep about the campaign has been broadcast.

The General Secretary of the of the Celtic League wrote to Isle of Man newspapers congratulating the paper on taking up this important cultural campaign and says that the League 'hopes that the Isle of Man Government finally sits up and takes notice of the support that it has garnered'.

[iomtoday.co.im](http://www.iomtoday.co.im) **campaign**
<http://www.iomtoday.co.im/news/It39s-time-for-the-Chronicles.3069159.jp>

Celtica

Celtic League AGM, Caerdydd 2007



Rhisiart Talebot,
General Secretary of the
League, at the AGM.

The AGM, held in Ty'r Cymry, in Caerdydd, Cymru was attended by delegates from all the National branches and England Branch, reports were heard from all secretaries and from the general officers and a vigorous debate was held on the way forward for the League. The Convenor stated it good to have an AGM in Cymru for the first time in Caerdydd and expressed satisfaction at the political progress made in Alba, Cymru, Kernow and the North of Ireland in the last year. It was reiterated that the main task of the League is to ensure that our fundamental aim of securing the political, cultural, social and economic freedom of the Celtic countries and to foster support between them is met. With regard to Carn it was decided that publication should continue until at least the end of 2008 but that by the end of this year a subcommittee should produce the practical implementation measures to refresh our Internet presence and proposals to supplement Carn on the net or to adopt an alternative approach.

Rhisiart Talebot was re-elected as General Secretary and a new Assistant General Secretary, Aren Grimshaw (Kernow) was elected. The outgoing AGS, Mark Kermode, who did not stand again, was thanked for the amount of work he had carried out over the years particularly on the CL Internet site and in external relations. Other general officers were re-elected.

The attendance was shocked to hear the details of the harassment suffered by officers of the Cornish Branch and expressed its full support for them and the branch in their vigorous pursuit of campaigns on a range of issues aimed at promoting Kernow, its

national identity and the aims of the League. Many of the key current issues across the Celtic countries were debated in the context of motions put forward from national branches and the general secretary. Amongst these were:

- Support for the campaign for a referendum on independence in Alba (a letter of support for the League AGM was received from **Independence First** via the Alba Branch and fraternally acknowledged);
- Opposition to the Irish Education Minister's ban on early Irish language immersion
- Concern about bans on Welsh in the workplace in Wales
- Call for recognition for Cornish in the 2001 census
- Call to Westminster and Cornwall County Council and other bodies for all strategies and policies for Cornwall, including culture, to be retained within Kernow.
- Other language and political issues across the Celtic countries including the poor coverage of Scottish/Welsh politics on BBC TV
- Opposition to nuclear facilities in the Celtic countries

Implementation of the various motions was discussed and agreed, this will be undertaken by the proposers and the General Secretary and we will report on this in future issues of Carn.

CÓL

Last Veteran of Irish War of Independence Dies

Dan Keating RIP

Below are excerpts of the oration delivered by Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, President Republican Sinn Féin at the funeral of Republican Veteran and Patron of Republican Sinn Féin Dan Keating (105 years) in Co. Kerry on Friday October 5.

“We stand by Dan Keating’s grave in all humility, for this was an Irishman and a Kerryman who gave more than 90 years of service to the All-Ireland Republic of 1916 and the First (All-Ireland) Dáil. But we are fiercely proud of his long lifetime of service.

For more than four score and ten years since he first took the Oath of Allegiance to that Republic, Dan fought in defence of it, stood by it and adhered faithfully to it until his death. He was an inspiration to succeeding generations of Republicans, never deviating from the hard road of service and suffering, striving to place All Ireland and its future in the hands of the Irish people.

Dan joined Fianna Éireann at the end of 1916 and went on two years later to enrol in the ranks of the Irish Republican Army, first with Kerry No 1 Brigade, and later with Kerry No 2 under its Brigade O/C, John Joe Rice. His combat duty included the highly successful ambush of British forces in his native Castlemaine in 1921. Later he saw service in the Castleisland ambush where casualties were also inflicted on the occupation forces, but four of his Volunteer comrades were also killed in action. Following the Treaty of Surrender, Dan fought against Free State forces in Limerick and Tipperary before being captured and interned in Portlaoise jail and later in Tintown Camp on the Curragh. Released in 1924, he was back in harness in the Republican Cause.

He endured several short terms of imprisonment in the 1930s, before going to England to take part in the 1939-40 Sabotage Campaign. Back in Ireland, Dan was interned without trial at the Curragh 1940-44.

When he retired from work and settled in his native Co Kerry in 1978, Dan threw himself into local Republican activity. In 2004, he was elected by the Ard-Fheis of Republican Sinn Féin to be its Patron. Dan Keating attended and spoke at Ard-Fheiseanna, gave interviews to newspapers, and on radio. He was at all times very clear as to what was required: Ireland was one country, one nation and one people. The English government had no right to be in any part of Ireland; they must go and then the Irish people, acting as a unit, would decide their own future. He accepted that this would be best resolved through a four-province federation, as proposed by Republican Sinn Féin, under one over-arching national parliament.



Dan Keating

During his long, healthy and adventurous lifetime, Dan has seen many splits and deviations from Republican principles, but he had remained loyal and true. Dan Keating regarded the so-called peace process as a surrender process and would not accept any British government presence in Ireland, regardless of how it was presented to the Irish people.

Long may his ideals live in the hearts of the Kerry people he loved and the Irish people to whom he gave a lifetime of service.”

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.”

CELTIC LEAGUE WEB PAGES

The main Celtic League web pages can now be opened at: <http://celtic-league.net/> (also opening if you use the prefix www at <http://www.celtic-league.net/>)

This Celtic News (group) at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league/ can be accessed from this new Celtic League site together with the older archive and also the Celtic League American Branch site and the Celtic League International branch site.

A link for the Celtic News (group) is also still in place at the <http://www.manxman.com/>

as is the Mec Vannin pages - which I know some subscribers to this site also visit.

The Manxman.co.im site is now closed. Reason for the changes is that Manxman.co.im subscription lapsed and as we now have a variety of Celtic League domain names one of these has been used for the new site.

As indicated we have purchased a number of Celtic League domain names and if there are any future changes to the main CL web address notification will be given in Carn and via our news group.

J B Moffatt, Director of Information

The Passing of Robert Alexander

The Celtic League American Branch was having its first Pan-Celtic Conference at NYU Glucksman Ireland House. I was the contact person and the phone rang and a man with a deep voice asked for directions. I gave him the directions and hung up. I was a little unnerved. We were having our monthly meeting in a few days so I would mention the call to the group. Thursday came and I mentioned it and they were curious also until I mentioned that he gave his name as Bob. They then laughed and explained to me who Bob was.

Steve, Tom C., Alexei, Greg and Mickey explained that Bob was one of the first members of The Celtic League American Branch. For every Samhain celebration he would show up and carve gourds and hand them out. I explained to them that his voice sounded like someone who should have been in a spy movie or on a radio show. The guys laughed and so did I. They had lost touch with him but were now looking forward to seeing him again.

Two weeks after that I finally met Bob Alexander at the Conference. He was a fountain of information about the beginning of this Branch. The stories that were told at dinner after the Conference that day exemplified the

way many Celtic organizations ran on “Celtic Time”.

I looked forward to seeing him at every Conference and Samhain celebration at O’Lunney’s and watched how casually he carved the gourds.

Unfortunately on August 2nd of this year he passed away after a sudden illness. We received notification from his son in the midst of September addressed to the postal box. Here is the obituary:

Robert M. Alexander was born January 7, 1936 to Capt. Ralph and Jane Conway Alexander. He was a merchant seaman, lover of chess, philosophy, poetry, music, politics and Celtic traditions. He lived in Nyack for the past 8 years. He is survived by Jim and Trudy Alexander (Atlanta, GA); Eileen and John Piscatelli (Poughkeepsie, NY), Bruce Alexander (NYC), Mary Jane Alexander and Don McMahon (South Nyack, NY) and by many cousins, nephews and nieces. His burial was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery. Requests are that donations to the Celtic League American Branch be made in lieu of flowers.

Peggy McGrath



Independent Scots read the
'Scots Independent'

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

Telephone
Stirling 01259 730099

Website
www.scotsindependent.org

Ar Bed Keltiek

On line books, records, Celtic art.
Kemper: 02.98.95.42.82
Brest: 02.98.44.05.38

<http://www.arbedkeltiek.com>

Ar Bed Keltiek (2 Str. Ar Roue
Gralon, 29000 Kemper).
When phoning from abroad,
omit the 0 in the prefix.

CelticWorld

Celtic League members may be interested in Celtic World. It's a real-time interactive wiki database like Wikipedia - except that Celtic World is dedicated to all things Celtic - and all who have some expert or special knowledge of things Celtic (be it historical, mythology, culture, arts, music, politics, books, magazines, whatever) are invited to contribute to the database.

<http://celtic.celticsurf.eu/>

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

Cli Gàidhlig

Quote this publication of a
free info pack from:

Cli, North Tower,
The Castle, Inverness
IV2 3EE Scotland



+44(0)1463 226710

www.cli.org.uk Email: cli@cli.ort.uk

International Branch Internet Site

<http://homepages.enterprise.net/mlockerby>

Email: International Branch Secretary
mlockerby@enterprise.net

American Branch Internet Site

www.celticleague.org

celtic league press releases

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

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

Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership/subscription rates (including *Carn*) are: €24.00, Sterling £14.50, Europe (airmail) £20.00, Outside Europe £22.00. US\$30.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank).

For information about the Celtic League contact secretaries:

ALBA. Iain Ramsay, 22 Denholme Gardens, Greenock, PA16 8RF, Scotland

BREIZH Gi Keltik BP44-29880 Plouherne, Breizh/Brittany.

CYMRU Robat ap Tomos, 11 Heol Gordon, Y Rhath, Caerdydd, CF2 3AJ.

ÉIRE Pádraigín Mylevreeshey 33 Céide na Grianóige, Ráth Cúil, Co. Átha Cliath. Tel- Éire (0) 14589795

KERNOW Mike Chappell, Kessenyans, Little Water, Goonhavern, TRURO, Kernow/Cornwall TR4 9QG

MANNIN Ruth Black, Thie Meanagh, 7 Michael St, Peel, Mannin. IM5 1HA. Tel No: 07624 474159.

ENGLAND BRANCH Florence Kenna, 72 Compton Street, London, EC1V 0BN.

USA Margaret Sexton, c/o P.O. Box 20153, Dag Hammarshjold Postal Centre, New York, NY 10017.

INTERNATIONAL BRANCH Mark Lockerby, 12 Magherdonnag, Pony Fields, Port Erin, IM9 6BY, Isle of Man.

GENERAL SECRETARY Rhisiart Tal-e-bot, Calle Mayor 8, 4º, 09240 Briviesca, BURGOS, Spain. Tel: Spain (+34) 692497877 UK (+44) 7787318666 Email: rhisiart.talebot@gmail.com

EDITOR Ms P. Bridson, 33 Céide na Grianóige, Ráth Cúil, Co. Átha Cliath, Éire. Email: patriciabridson@eircom.net

Articles for *Carn* should be e-mailed to the Editor. Appropriate photographs should be sent with them.

Material for the next issue of *Carn* should reach the Editor no later than 1st November 2007. 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.

ISSN 0257-7860