

celtin

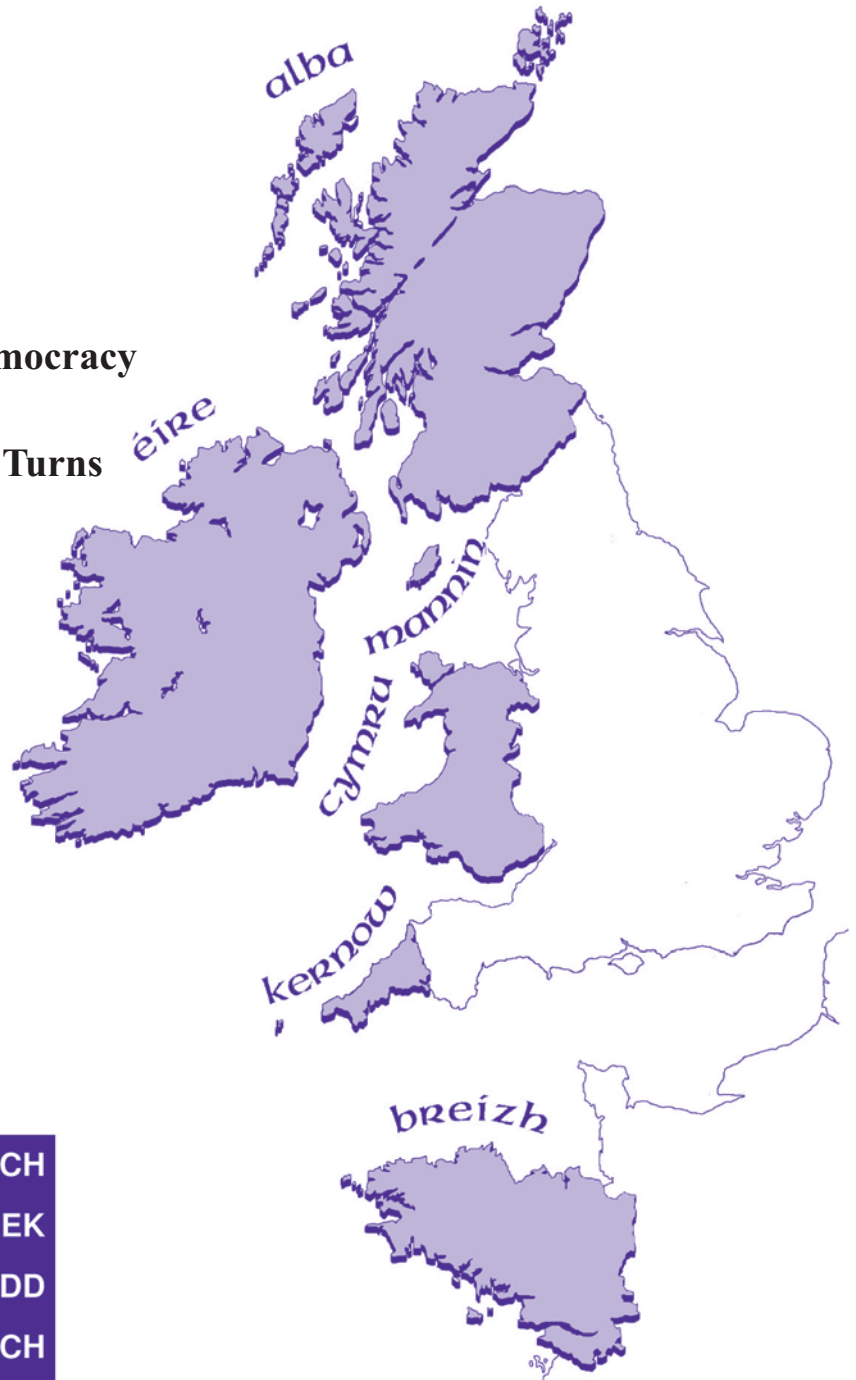
A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 142

Winter 2008

€4.00 Stg£3.00

- **SNP Gain and Setback**
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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 



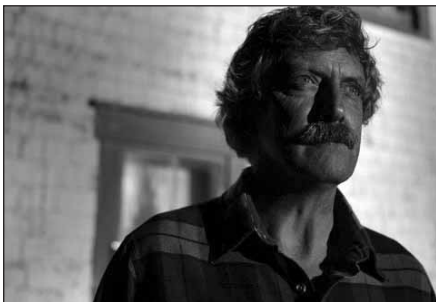
Alba



Faire gu math beòthail

Thàinig DVD a-mach o chionn ghoirid a bhiodh gu math ùidheil do Ghàidheil agus luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig ge b'è air bith a tha iad air feadh an t-saoghail — “Faire Chaluum Mhic Leòid,” film ann an Gàidhlig bho Eilean Cheap Breatainn.

Cha mhair “Faire Chaluum” ach sia mìonaidean, ach theirinn gun do chuir e tuilleadh anns na sia mìonaidean na gheibh thu ann an iomadh film fada nas fhaide.



Tha “Faire Chaluum” suidhichte ann an Ceap Breatainn. An toiseach, thachair sinn ri Calum nuair a bha e na dhuine òg, ag innse sgeulachdan mu dheidhinn Baran Mòr na Gaoithe dhan chloinn aige. Ach thionndaidh an t-suidheachadh ann an diog gus an latha an-diugh. Tha Calum a-nist na bhodach. Tha a chlann sgapte, mar a thuir e, “fad is far-saing,” agus tha e 'na ònar.

Oidhche dhorcha, stormeil a th'ann agus tha Calum a' gearan leis a' Bharan, ga fhoighneachd, “Dè am feum a th'ann an sgeul gun luchd-èisteachd?”

Bheir Calum dha gealladh gun stad e 'g innse sgeulachdan — “tha mi deis le innse sgeulachdan” — agus an uair sin, stad a chridhe. Diùltaidh a chridhe a bhualachd — agus tuitidh Calum marbh.

Agus sin toiseach an fhilm!

Chì sinn Seumas, Uilleam agus Mòrag a' tighinn air ais gu Ceap Breatainn agus an dhachaidh a dh'fhàg iad airson faire a' bhodaich bhochd, an athair. Ach chuir iad car anns an sgeul nach innis mi dhuibh ... chuir e clisg orm, feumaidh mi aideachadh. Dh'fhaoidte gu bheil sibh cho glic 's gum faic sibh e a' tighinn, ach cha chan mise an còrr.

Dè am feum a th'ann an sgeulachd? 'S dòcha gu bheil feum ann fhathast, à rèir coltais. Agus tha e inntinneach gun tàinig dà fhilm a-mach a' dèileagadh ri dè cho cud-thromach 's a tha sgeulachdan dhan chultar

ann am bliadhna — am fear seo agus “Seachd” ann an Alba.

'S math an obair a rinn iad nuair a chuir iad an DVD seo ann an cruth. Tha fo-thiotalan ri leughadh anns a' Bheurla agus ann an Gàidhlig cuideachd. Tha tuilleadh fiosrachaidh ann mu dheidhinn an fhilm, Gàidhlig, cultar agus ceòl Gàidhealach ann an Ceap Breatainn. Chuir iad na “storyboards” ann cuideachd, agus bha iad gu math inntinneach.

Cò-dhiubh, bha “Faire Chaluum” 'gam chòrdadh gu mòr, mòr. Meal ur naidheachd dhan a h-uile duine a bha a' sàs anns an fhilm, gu h-àraidh Aonghas Mac Leòid — “Calum.”

Chan eil ach an aon gearan agam — bha e ro-ghoirid. Dh'fhaoidte gum faic sinn filmichean nas motha mar seo a' tighinn a-mach — à Ceap Breatainn agus à Alba.

Agus cha bu chòir dhomh an ceòl dhìochuimhneachadh. Chluinnear ceòl uamhasach brèagha bho Mhàiri Sine Lamond anns an fhilm, agus fìdhleireachd bho Eòs Peadar MacIllEathain.

Ma's toigh leibh “Faire Chaluum Mhic Leòid” fhaicinn agus a cheannach, rachaibh gu www.gaelicbooks.com, an làrach-lìn aig Siol Enterprises ann an Alba Nuaidh. Tha fiosrachadh eile mu dheidhinn an fhilm ri fhaotainn aig www.wakeofcalummacleod.ca.

LIAM Ó CAISIDE

Summary

A six-minute film in Scottish Gaelic from Cape Breton, “Faire Chaluum Mhic Leòid” or “The Wake of Calum MacLeod”, explores the importance of storytelling and the imagination in keeping a language and community alive, and delivers a surprise along the way. This may be the first of many short Gaelic films from Nova Scotia.

Liam Ó Caiside is a journalist in Washington who has studied Scottish Gaelic in Scotland and Cape Breton. He is the co-host of Gaelcast, a podcast in Scottish Gaelic available at gaelcast.com. He has been an officer and member of the Celtic League American Branch, An Comunn Gàidhealach Ameireaganach, and the Greater Washington Area Manx Society.

STONE OF DESTINY - EXCELLENT TRIBUTE TO 1950's SCOTS PATRIOTS

Ian Hamilton QC is something of a legend in nationalist circles. In recent years he has been a highly entertaining and controversial blogger and he enjoyed a sparkling legal career as an advocate but his ultimate moment of triumph was his 1950 heist (with other young Scots nationalists) of the Stone of Destiny.

This action of civil disobedience caught the imagination of a generation and has inspired all future Scottish independence activists. It's sheer audacity and ambition remains incredible today and it must have been utterly startling in 1950's Scotland. Charles Martin Smith (a co-star with Sean Connery and Kevin Costner in Brian de Palma's 1987 classic *The Untouchables*) like Mel Gibson before him (with *Braveheart*) has brought an outsiders enthusiasm to Scottish history.

The film based on Ian Hamilton's own book is excellent from start to finish. 1950's Scotland and London is convincingly portrayed and there are some wonderful supporting turns by Robert Carlyle as nationalist leader John MacCormick (father of Neil (SNP Euro MP) and Iain (SNP MP) and founder of the Scottish National Party), Brenda Thicker as his housekeeper and Lord of the Rings star Billy Boyd as a reluctant co-conspirator.

The main cast are also superb, the young actors who play Ian and his (future) wife are particularly good (Charlie Cox and Kate Mara) and Peter Mullan is superb as the proud but stern father of Hamilton. The film begins with the frustration of the Scottish Covenant, the two million strong petition for Home Rule which is completely ignored by the UK Government. In one scene a bitter drunken man reflects on the dreadful position Scotland finds itself, as North Britain a mere adjunct of the British state.

The young Hamilton realises that only an audacious act of rebellion can shake up the torpor of Scotland's resentful acceptance of the union even when (as with the Covenant) it is blatantly obvious that her interests are completely ignored. He hatches a plan to steal the Stone of Destiny. The ancient 'seat of the Scottish kings' had been stolen by England in 1296. Rebellions initially led by William Wallace and the eventual victory of Robert the Bruce at Bannockburn managed to guarantee Scottish independence for hundreds of years but the theft of the Stone of Scone was a huge historic injustice. For years the Stone had been welded into the bottom of the UK King's coronation chair and it represented England's ancient dominion over Scotland.

(Some claim by the way that the stolen

Stone was in actual fact not the real stone at all and that the actual stone had been hidden. A view that the current leader of the SNP, Alex Salmond endorses.) The Stone was considered a potent symbol of Scotland's rights to political independence and the repatriation of the stone proved to be a massive rallying point for the Scottish nationalist cause. The film highlights the fear and uncertainty of the young gang but also their undiminished passion for their country and their determination to get the job done. It proves extremely difficult but eventually they are successful leading to a massive wave of patriotic pride, which cannot be underestimated in its effects on the national cause.

Ian Hamilton and the others gave themselves up but were denied their day in court (the authorities realising that it would only give further publicity to the cause). Hamilton is a deserved hero and the story of him, Kay and his compatriots Alan Stuart and Gavin Vernon (played in the film by Ciaran Kelly and Stephen McCole) is a fitting tribute. Hamilton himself has a cameo and it must have thrilled him to see his efforts so lovingly recreated on the big screen.

Sadly the film has been subject to a number of scathing reviews which no doubt are in reaction to its uncompromising Scottish nationalist stance, however this is a brilliant, funny and passionate portrayal of a crucial event in Scotland's past.

J Middleton

Politics Professor Predicts Independence for Scotland

Patrick Dunleavy, Professor of Politics at the prestigious London School of Economics, has made some interesting recent comments about Scotland's future.

Dunleavy writes in the latest issue of "Red Pepper" magazine (Oct/Nov 2008) that a referendum looks certain to come to fruition in 2010.

He adds that in Scotland the whole "political spectrum is more left wing than in England." Labour's political hegemony north of the border has already been shattered by the SNP minority government. And the prospect of a decade or more of Conservative rule at Westminster creates "strong contingent incentives for centre-left Scots to vote Yes to independence."

What's more, high energy prices in a world with shrinking oil and gas supplies means that the economic feasibility of an independent Scotland has "never looked better."

Alan Stewart



A scene from the film 'Stone of Destiny'

SNP Election Gain and Setback

One of the biggest upsets of modern Scottish politics took place over the summer when the SNP took the "safe seat" of Glasgow East from Labour, and overturned a majority of 13,507. The Westminster seat has been held by Labour in some shape or form since 1922. In his victory speech, a jubilant John Mason said that it was a "political earthquake off the Richter scale", and that the "dead hand of Labour had been lifted off Glasgow".

The contrast between the two parties could not have been greater. From the start, the SNP were reasonably optimistic, while Labour was reeling from by-election defeats in England, and the loss of Wendy Alexander, their leader in Scotland. The candidate, John Mason, was not well known before this election, even within his own party, although it is fair enough to say that he got the highest personal vote of any councillor in Glasgow. The Labour candidate, Margaret Curran on the other hand, had been a Scottish minister.

There is a saying that Labour could put up a monkey for election in these parts and it would win. Sadly, this is not far off the mark. Many working class Scots vote Labour, because their parents and grandparents did.

Glasgow East was always going to be a challenge, but it was one that the SNP took head on. A safe Labour seat was fought like a marginal. This should give hope to nationalists in all the Celtic countries – if enough effort is put in, it can pay off.

However, a by-election held in November, after the death of sitting Labour MP John

MacDougall, proved to be a setback for the SNP. The constituency borders the Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath seat held by Mr Brown, who visited Glenrothes several times during the by-election campaign.

Alex Salmond shouldered the blame for the Scottish National party's failure to beat Labour in the Glenrothes by-election, admitting he had been out of touch with voters and by taking personal responsibility for the SNP campaign.

Salmond admitted a series of personal and tactical errors by himself and his party: he had failed to recognise how effective Labour's attacks on his party's policies in Fife had been, failed to engage with voters, and failed to react quickly enough to Labour's tactics. "That's my fault, for not having my finger on the political temperature in that constituency, ...Perhaps I should've spent more time on the doorstep to see how the temperature was changing."

The SNP had hoped for around 14,000 votes. In the event, it polled 13,209, still a 5% swing from Labour. But Labour had found 5,000 extra voters, a gap too wide to bridge. It was Labour's best Scottish by-election result in 30 years.

Salmond said: "We had a setback yesterday and while it's certainly true we've had virtually untrammelled political success for 18 months, nothing in political life continues in that vein forever. The job in confronting a setback is to learn lessons and come back stronger."



John Mason, SNP

RB/PB

Angus Calder and Ken Skeel RIP

In 2008, Edinburgh lost two of its great men, Angus Calder and Ken Skeel. Life can be full of strange coincidences. So can death. Their funerals were in the same spot, within three weeks of one another – yet neither of them seems to have known each other.

Angus' life was so full that I can't give a decent account of it. He had an obituary in all of the major broadsheets, which can be read on the internet. However, they don't really tell the full story. They play down his interest in Scottish independence and culture. Joy Hendry's is possibly the best. They are both major literary figures in modern Scotland, and she knew him well. I think the most touching though, is by Craig Gibson, and appeared in the "One of Clock Gun", a small Edinburgh magazine that Angus helped nurture. His account doesn't list his achievements, but captures his



Angus Calder

personality. Unfortunately, various groups have already tried to appropriate Angus. For example, Neil Davidson, a historian whose sole aim in life seems to be to justify the British project, contains excellent quotes from Angus, but claims him for the SWP, a group which he described as "the Fabians of the Far Left" to me. When I knew Angus, he was never the Brit that "Kneel" Davidson would have him be. Angus, was, and always will be, though an extremely complex character. Angus also told me personally that he regretted some of the stuff he had written earlier in his career about Scotland, and there can be no doubt that his stance towards independence and Scotland softened over the years. In early life, I think he favoured devolution, but later in life, fully supported independence. Angus started his political career on the left wing of the Labour party, but became sick of its lack of principles. He would later end up in the SNP, and after that the Scottish Socialist Party.

Angus Calder was what the Americans call "a Renaissance Man". He could talk on almost any subject, from sport to African literature, from Johnny Cash to the Scottish Renaissance (literary revival). While he was the son of Lord Ritchie Calder, he was no snob, and was equally at home in the local workingmen's pub (the Auld Toll) and in Kay's Bar in the New Town. He married twice, once to Jenni, the daughter of the famous Scottish Jewish academic David Daiches, and had several children. His first

love, though, I think was cricket. While I dislike the game myself, he came nearer than anyone else to converting me to it! Unlike many cricket fans in Scotland, he was not an England supporter either. Sadly, in his later years, Angus suffered from a number of health problems, and went into sheltered accommodation. It was then that he got to know exactly who his fair-weather friends were, and he came to suffer from an unbearable loneliness. But not everyone neglected him, and they were his genuine friends.

He taught all over the world, especially in Africa, and notably championed African writers such as Chinua Achebe, before they became fashionable, and wrote extensively on Hugh MacDiarmid and Walter Scott. He also debunked the myth of the "Spirit of the Blitz", pointing out that looting and sex crimes were rife in London during WWII. He also wrote "The Home Front" episode of the classic ITV series, "The World at War". He had some inside knowledge of the subject, because his father worked in the War Office. He pointed out that when "Britain stood alone" in the War, it did so on the shoulders of the millions who happened to live in her colonies.

Ken Skeel, by contrast, only received one small obituary in the "Edinburgh Evening News". However, Kenny was also an

example, on one of his banners, he stayed up till five in the morning, working on a single letter.

During the dark days of the 1980s, Kenny was heavily involved in the Vigil for a Scottish Parliament. They placed a caravan outside the Royal High School, which was supposed to have been the Scottish parliament, and manned it 24/7. It started off in obscurity, but by the time of the Referendum, it had become a tourist attraction in its own right. When Independence First was set up in Edinburgh, his experience was indispensable.

By his own admission, Kenny's origins were humble, and he spent most of his life within a single square mile of Edinburgh. But he did travel. He went on the overland trail to India in the 1960s, years before the Beatles got in on the act, and hippies started following them. In more recent years, he was vocal in "Save our Old Town", which has been campaigning against an ugly development in the city centre. He died of bone cancer, which was diagnosed less than a month before.

Strangely, Angus and Kenny were buried within a few feet of each other, within two weeks. Many of the same people were at each funeral, and yet, I don't think that they knew each other.

Ray Bell



Ken Skeel (on left) holding a banner he made

incredible figure, and touched the hearts of many people. He looked like a much more cheerful version of John Knox, and he fought for the underdog his whole life. He was unassuming, gently spoken, and kind natured, but had lived life to its fullest. He taught himself how to paint and draw, and one of his greatest monuments must be the wall of the National Museum in Edinburgh, where he painted the words of the Declaration of Arbroath. He did other murals around the city, and produced posters, banners and other work free of charge to good causes. He was a real perfectionist, for



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Breizh



Pennad-kaoz gant Rhodri Morgan, kentañ ministr Kembre

AN ORIENT— Bro-Gembre an hini eo a zo bet pedet ar bloaz-mañ gant Festival Etrekeltiek an Oriant. Un digarez a-feson evit reiñ ar gaoz d'he c'hentañ ministr.

Jakez an Touz: Abaoe 1999 he deus Bro-Gembre he Bodad Broadel dezhi hec'h-unan. Peseurt bilañs a rit eus an 10 vloaz a «dévolution»?

Rhodri Morgan: «*Ar brasañ cheñchamant a denn ouzh ar fiziañs hon eus ennomp. C'hoant hon eus da gemer an divizoù a sell ouzomp. Se eo ar gwellañ tra he deus degaset deomp an «dévolution». Un efed all he deus bet, lakaat an dilabour da zigreskiñ betek en em gavout a-live gant hini Bro-Saoz. Abaoe 1999 he deus gounezet Bro-Gembre 150 000 implij. An «dévolution» n'he deus ket lakaet da serriñ postoù-labour, en desped d'ar pezh a lâre ar re a oa a-enep dezhi met ar c'hontrol, sikouret he deus da grouiñ postoù nevez. Hor bro he deus cheñchet kalz dindan dek vloaz. Bremañ omp prest da gemer hon dazont e karg, o tennañ kentel eus ar fazioù bet graet. Evel-se eo e vez savet ur vroad.* »

Jakez an Touz: E 1997 e oa just-tre ar brasañ-niver a felle dezho krouiñ ur Bodad Broadel. Abaoe zo bet meur a sontadeg o tiskouez anat e vez degemeret mat an dévolution hag ar strollegezhioù kembreat nevez savet a-ziwarni.

Rhodri Morgan: «*N'on ket souezhet. N'eo ket bet ar Gembreiz divarrek da verañ o dazont, evel ma embanne ar re a-nep-dévolution. Trawalc'h eo sellet ouzh ar fedoù. War wellaat eo aet stad Bro-Gembre abaoe m'eo bet krouet Bodad Broadel Bro-Gembre.*

Un nebeud skouerioù a roin eus ar pezh he deus votet ar Bodad Broadel:

- war dachenn an Deskadurezh hon eus aozet un doare bak kembraek evit ar re 16-10 vloaz, magourioù bugale war skouer ar broioù skandinav ha, bep an tammig, e pella an hentennoù kelenn kembraek ouzh re ar sistem saoznek, a vez o ren hor skolioù abaoe 125 bloaz.

- war-zu ar yec'hed e reomp strivoù: yalc'hadoù evit ma c'hellfe ar brasañ niver a grennarded ober studioù, difenn butuniñ, louzeier digoust...

- ouzh ar re gozh e taolomp evezh ivez. Digoust eo ar c'hirri-boutin evit an dud war o leve, evit ma c'hellfent mont da brenañ o defotachoù pe evit mont da welet o familh. Dindan 10 vloaz hon eus cheñchet hon doare da welet an ekonomiezh. Echu eo gant an

aozañ tachennoù labour greantel a-raok klask embregerezhioù evit dont d'en em staliañ enno. Bremañ e vroudomp an embregerezhioù da ziorren o rannoù teknik ha skiantel er hor bro. 10 vloaz 'zo n'hor boa tost embregerezh ebet gant rannoù-enklask a live etrevroadel. Bremañ zo kalzig, EADS, IBM, Motorola, Avaya, GE Healthcare, General Dynamics ha meur a hini all c'hoazh...

Ur skouer diwezhañ. Implij a ra ar greizenn Airbus ouzhpenn 6000 den e kontelezh Y Fflint war bostoù a live teknikel uhel-tre war ar sevel askilli evit holl kirri-nij an embregerezh. E Sain Tathan, e traonienn Morgannwg e vo savet e vo un akademiezh milourel a grouo meur a viliad postoù-labour en ur skol par da Oxford pe Cambridge. »

Jakez an Touz: Galloudoù Bodad Broadel Kembre n'int ket ken ledan ha re ar Parlamant skosat. Ha c'hoant 'peus war an hent-se?

Rhodri Morgan: «*Disheñvel-tre eo o hengoun a -fed politikerezh ouzh hon hini hag hini Bro-Saoz. Met setu ur goulenn a zeu war-wel bremañ e Bro-Gembre. Dekred 2006 a ro aotre deomp da aozañ ur vuezhiadeg a-benn ledanaat galloudoù lezennel hor Bodad Broadel. Ar strollad «Labour» ha Plaid Cymru zo prest da labourat evit ma vefe disoc'hoù mat d'ur referandom a c'hellfe bezañ aozet e 2011. Ur c'honvansion evit Bro-Gembre, en e benn Emyr Jones Parry bet kannad Bro-Saoz e aozadoù ar Broadoù Unanet, en deus krouet ma gouarnamant evit selaou ali an dud war ar poent-se. E 2010 e rento ar bodad-se e zivizoù. D'ar poent-se e tibabo ar gouarnamant an deiziad evit ar referandom.* »

Jakez an Touz: Abaoe bloaz e labour strollad Labour Kembre ha Plaid Cymru asambles evit ren ar vro. Petra eo al linennoù politikel ho peus dibabet ha petra ho peus kaset da benn asambles?

Rhodri Morgan: «*Ar program «Cymru'n Un/One Wales» savet gant gouarnamant Labour-Plaid Cymru a zo ur sintezenn eus hon 2 program, gant ar pouez lakaet war ar yec'hed, an deskadurezh, an endro hag ar yaouankiz lakaet diaes. 220 ober hor boa da gas da benn ac'han da 2010 hag un tamm*

mat hon eus graet dija, evel ar plasoù parkañ digoust evit an dud da vezañ operataet pe ar «mediateur» war dachenn gwrioù ar re gozh (ar re gentañ omp evit se, er bed a-bezh) pe ar sistem skol evit bugale 3-7 vloaz savet war skouer ar Skandinaviz.

Termenet hon eus ivez ur steuñv evit an energiezhioù padus ha lec'hiet an tachennoù e-lec'h ma vo savet ar c'hreizennoù milinoù-avel. »

Jakez an Touz: Peseurt plas a fell deoc'h reiñ d'ar c'hembraeg er gevrdigezh kembreat?

Rhodri Morgan: «*Ur roll a-bouez he deus ar c'hembraeg da gaout er vro, d'ur mare ma kresk an niver a vugale skoliataet e kembraeg. Aet eo ma gouarnamant e darempred gant Westminster evit ma vefe kresket deomp hor gwrioù, deomp da vezañ gouest da votiñ lezennoù nevez evit broudañ ar c'hembraeg.* »

Jakez an Touz: Sinet ho peus un emglev kenlabour gant Jean-Yves Le Drian ha Kuzul Rannvro Breizh. Peseurt ober zo bet kaset da benn ? Ha posupl eo kreñvaat ar c'hlenlabour-se ?

Rhodri Morgan: «*Liammoù istorel hon eus gant Breizh. Embannet eo bet war an ton bras dre ur memorandum, Memorandum of Understanding, etre Kembre ha Breizh, e 2004. Gantañ e vez roet ar framm evit seveniñ ur c'hlenlabour etre Bodad Broadel Kembre ha Kuzul Rannvro Breizh war ur gont mat a dachennoù.*

Ez-pleustrek e tegasomp da Vreizh hor skoazell evit ma c'hellfe emezellañ er rouedad european EARLALL, ur gevredigezh european evit ar rannvro war dachenn ar stummadur dibaouez. Labourat a reomp ivez asambles dre ar Ofisoù evit ar c'hembraeg hag evit ar brezhoneg. Sinet zo bet un emglev kenlabour etre Canolfan Organig Cymru/ Organic Centre Wales hag ar FRCIVAM e Breizh evit diorren al labour-douar bio, padus ha kengred. »

Jakez an Touz: Niverus-mat e vo dileuridi Bro-Gembre en Oriant, ar bloaz-mañ. Peseurt skeudenn a fell deoc'h reiñ eus ho pro d'ar Vretoned ?

Rhodri Morgan: «*Un darvoud sevenadurel a-bouez eo Festival an Oriant. Pedet eo bet Bro-Gembre. Un degouez a-zoare eo evidomp, deomp da zont da ginnig ar gwellañ eus ar pezh a ouzomp ober a-fed sonerezh ha sevenadur. C'hoant em dije ivez e teskf e ar sonerien a Vro-Gembre deuet betek an Oriant penaos o deus graet ar Vretoned evit brudañ ken brav ar sonerezh kelt war ar marc'had gall, ar pezh n'he deus ket gouezet industriezh kembraek ar sonerezh hengounel ober gant ar marc'had saoz.* »

Komzoù dastumet gant Jakez an Touz

Summary

The piece is an interview by Jakez an Touz. on behalf Agence Breton Press with Welsh First Minister Rhodri Morgan, Plaid Cymru.

Mass Demonstration for the Arts in Breizh

Some 9,000 people took part in a demonstration in Naoned, the historical and economic capital of Breizh, on the 20th September, followed by Fest-Deiz (show), in the evening. Numerous organisations linked to music, education and members of the Kuzul Sevenadurel Breizh were represented.

Participants, especially members of the bagadoù, were concerned by the proposed introduction of a new bill, which the state intended to introduce (because of lack of money) on amateur artists who take part in our Celtic social life, through festivals or Fest-Noz, etc throughout the year

The demonstration took place in a festive mood, with a large number of supporters coming from all over Breizh, due to the fact that Christine Albanel, the minister in charge of culture had taken the bill off the agenda a few days before the demonstration. A lot of politicians, from the left as well as a few from the right wing, arrived to show their solidarity. Among them Jean-Yves LeDRIAN(SP) president of the Breizh council, Patrick MARECHAL(SP) president of the Loire-Atlantique council, Jean-Louis JOSSIC, who is in charge of culture in Naoned, singer of Tri-Yann, François deRUGY (Green-MP), Caroline OLLIVRO (moDEM) in Roazhon, Kristian GUYONVARG'H (UDB), Emile GRANVILLE(SB). Famous Breton musicians including Alan STIVELL, Dan arBRAS and Gweltaz ADEUX and numerous other musicians also attended. However, most musicians there were from the pipe bands, notably the Cap Caval band which won the world championship in Glasgow for 2008, therefore, a lot of banners used the slogan: ***DON'T touch my Bag Pipe!***

In order to understand the situation on must go refer back to events that took place in the last two years when the financial support organized for the professional artists collapsed, which meant that others workers had to pay for them, through the French social system (sécurité sociale=Sec.Soc.). Usually this organization is managed by the trade unions, (workers and bosses) but when problems occur the government can interfere and take decisions.

First of all, you must understand that this organisation, which is typically French, goes back to the communist culture after WWII, which saw the state 'help' the artists! The system is helpful for a lot of unknown artists, who at least got some remuneration (SMIC), if they performed about fifty shows during the year. A lot of pipers or comedians could survive, thanks to this 'soviet' framework. However, the system collapsed mainly because of the development of the TV networks. Also money was used to pay comedians as well as the secretaries or the lorry drivers! All kinds of comedians have



The organisers and politicians on stage after the demonstration and before the festival.

- Courtesy breman

used the system, which was controlled by the communist trade-union (CGT), from the beginning. On the whole the CGT has shown strong support for the arts and media. In the last few years, the orange revolution in Europe gave more votes and power to the Christian-social-democrats' trade union (CFDT). This saw drastic changes and the CFDT, now in charge of the Soc.Sec., does not accept that all the workers should pay for the artistic organisations. As a consequence there were a lot of strikes during the last two summers and a few festivals collapsed. The situation in Breizh is quite different to that in France where the professionals manage the shows, in Breizh there is more reliance on voluntary workers to manage the Fest-Noz and events. During Lorient festival (F.I.L.) or Landerne (Kann Al Loar), professional musicians and technicians work along side volunteers. Usually they have a lot of

bagadoù in the parades that are not paid. The French professional artists would like the Bretons get wages and pay taxes the same as them. This idea sounds good, but in fact it will stop immediately those parades and festivals because the organizers cannot afford to pay the musicians. Moreover Breton participants at the may cultural events throughout Breizh want to strengthen the Breton-Celtic social life in cities and villages and do not want payment.

It was Kuzul Sevenadurel Breizh (KSB), which is in charge of the associations of festivals (Gouelioù Breizh), musicians, dancers, Breton speaking schools ... etc, which decided to organise the demonstration in order to stop this new bill.

As Patrick MALRIEUX, the president of K.S.B. put it: ***'Breizh has the right to express its own culture.'***

Gi Keltik

Breton Perspective on the Irish NO vote to Europe...

The Irish No vote to the constitutional treaty of Lisbon was a shock for a lot of Breton people, especially for the Bretons who strongly believe in a federation of Celtic nations as well as some kind of federation between the European states. A long and peaceful process towards the united states of Europe (400 million people) in a globalized world.

The Irish vote may sound like a "No" to Europe as a whole. The Lisbon treaty must take into account the neutrality of the state in foreign affairs. This specific point is very important for a very young state (less than a century old) that needs to go further towards a full and strong independence from the old kingdom. At

the end of the day the goals are the same for all the Celtic nations: more human rights, independence, and freedom through peaceful means.

In order to understand the strong reactions of a few Breton militants we must go back to the European starting point, in 1957. From the beginning the Breton leaders of the farming industry used the various European bodies to open up the French administration based in Paris. Europe was a positive and dynamic way to develop economic and social relations in the Benelux, for example. The C.A.P. provided more markets, money, and jobs in the last century. On the cultural front Breton towns established

numerous twinning arrangements with towns in the other Celtic countries as well as in German laender. Since the European bodies were much more open and democratic than the colonialist French state, they were a lot of help for Breizh. The European Charter for Lesser Spoken Languages for example, was a source of support for cultural organisations. Therefore, Breton leaders from different movements look at Europe positively and the people of Breizh have always voted in favour of Europe, even when the French voted NO !!! At the end of the day the Breton people feel like a group in favour of the European community. That's to say in favour of more human rights, devolution, and freedom...

Europe-27, with 400 million people, is at the very beginning of a constitutional process and Ireland has not yet achieved full independence on the island. Therefore, the Irish republic must keep hold of its own powers. It's something important for the future of the Celtic nations. From the beginning Ireland was the motherland of our Celtic lands. Of



course the Irish NO is a problem for the efficiency of the EU-27, because the most important changes need unanimity. This should stop the constitutional process, for a while. So it will be a chance for Ireland to feel stronger and more senior inside the EU-27. It's also an opportunity to give time to the newer members. The opportunity to offer time to European bodies to explain simply the constitutional treaty. Obviously technocracy is not a good thing for democracy. On the other hand I can understand that in a democratic body, all the members have the right and the will to vote. At the end of the day those votes must not change the result. Anyway Lisbon 2 will be the same than Lisbon 1, even if there will be a few improvements for Ireland's neutrality. The main goal of

the treaty is still the efficiency of the EU with 27 members. Does our small European community of 400 million people need more efficiency in a globalized world, this century? Obviously the European states need to work together on globalized matters like international business or financial activities!!! At the same time, all the states, and especially the "small" states (<21 million), must decide for themselves... Most of them are not afraid of a constitution because they have been involved in the European peace process for a long time. I hope that the Irish No vote will help the small states to create a new Euro-group: G20. On the same line it's important that Ireland organises, in Brussels, as well as in Strasburg, a G6 with the six Celtic nations...

The European peace process from WWII has been good for the Irish one. First of all the peace process is due to the Irish people. Secondly, it's not possible to achieve a peace process without strong allies from different sides. The first external lobby is the Irish Americans, thanks to Bill Clinton & Co. The second lobby is London. Thanks to New Labour and Tony Blair to be ready for devolution. The peace process could not succeed without the same standard of living all over Ireland. It looks as if the Celtic tiger did well! At this stage I will mention EU for the help on infrastructures. At the end of the day those different lobbies did quite well. Obviously, the situation today is not the same in the USA, London, or Brussels. So Ireland and the Celtic lobbies must stick to this peace process as much as we can...

We must also be aware that the peace process in Ireland is also part of the process of devolution in Great Britain. The next goal for all the Celtic lobbies is the referendum on independence in Alba. In my point of view, the Scots are the main leaders of this evolution. Then, the SNP and Scottish Enterprise with strong connections in Brussels did a lot in this process. At different levels the EU is a point of reference and a lead for Alba as well as Cymru. Thanks to the new EU, those regions exist out of the old kingdom. Because of globalisation and EU expansion into the old communist states, Tony Blair went on the way to more democracy. So he signed the European Charter for Lesser Spoken Languages. Jacques Chirac did not. Therefore the French state is outside the law according to the European Court for Human Rights!!! The British choice will have consequences on the process of devolution. The Celtic lobbies will profit from devolution in terms of language, education, media, etc... So the Celtic nations need more Europe in GB and France as well as more political powers for Ireland... We remember that the

European slogan is "unity in diversity". Personally I prefer "diversity in unity". Anyway, in the Celtic nations we need to do both. So we must accept different strategies for different situations, as far as it's for the same goals: more human rights, devolution, and independence.

The NO votes in France, the Netherlands, and Ireland show that a lot of citizens were upset by the politicians. The NO votes show that the main parties, trade unions, and media were in favour of Europe. In Breizh, it was clear that the extremist parties from the left and the right worked hard in favour of the NO and succeeded – in the short term. Of course the French right wing Jean-Marie Le Pen was not able to work alongside the Communist Party of Marie-George Buffet during last local elections, this year. Olivier Besancenot, the extremist leader of the LCR, intends to create a New Anticapitalism Party (NPA), in 2009. That's very good news because the



socialists, the liberals, and the conservatives are in favour of Europe, as are the peaceful regionalist parties UDB and SB/PB. NPA, like the FN, are against Europe. EU is not the problem. Their problem is the capitalist system. Are they going to build a new version of communism? A very good question. Whatever the NPA will be, more than two thirds of the European people will vote for the main parties, for a while. I am pretty sure that it will be the same in our six Celtic lands. That is why I really think that we must stick to our Celtic League constitution and work hard for more human rights, more devolution, more independence, based on peaceful means. For now the Celtic League must focus on independence for Alba with the help of the Celtic nations as well as the European community...

Gi Keltic

THE LEGACY OF TV BREIZH

TV Breizh, the Breton channel based in Lorient, has stopped producing and broadcast its last programme in Breton, last summer. When this private channel was set up 8 years ago, it raised great hopes amongst the defenders of the Breton language and culture, but they were soon to be crushed by the reality of commercial television.

TV Breizh: expectations versus reality?

Regional television provision in Brittany consists of opt-out from a national network (France 3), and the programming is simply the complement of a Parisian editorial line. It provides daily news in Breton and French, and a few weekly programmes in Breton.

The purpose of TV Breizh was to provide bilingual programmes about Brittany, using private funds, trying to reach an audience large enough to meet with the expectation of both Breton people and the share holders of the channel.

TV Breizh started with a rather ambitious range of homemade productions about Brittany and provided 2 hours of children's programmes in Breton every day during the first two years. As a direct consequence the State Television channel followed this lead and also started its own children's programmes in Breton.

Unfortunately TV Breizh was refused access to terrestrial television on three occasions by the French authorities. Three years after the start of the channel it became obvious that its Breton ambitions were completely unrealistic.

The number of satellite dishes and cable connections in Brittany was very low and the audience small and the entire project was on the verge of closing down.

The channel TF1, the main shareholder decided to change the policy of the channel, the aim was to appeal to a wider audience, broadcasting popular series and films.

TV Breizh soon gained the third best audience on satellite and cable television in France, but not much was left from its Breton image. A name, a 7 minute daily news programme, a weekly Breton language magazine broadcast early on Saturday morning and a few films broadcast on the two sound tracks, one in French, the other one dubbed in Breton. The expectations of the too tiny Breton audience was definitely crushed and now, as it is going to finally get access to the terrestrial digital network TV Breizh is getting rid of its last Breton embers, its Breton magazine *Mil Dremm* and soon its daily news in French.

The dubbing Industry

Cartoons

The evolution of TV Breizh was far from what was expected 8 years ago but nevertheless it can be argued the experiment was not entirely negative.

The channel was very proud at a time, to publish regularly that it spent more than 3 million euros to provide Breton programmes over the years. Never before had such a large



sum been invested by a private company for our language.

During the first three years 340 hours of cartoons were dubbed in Breton. Several cartoons have been shown in cinemas all over Brittany for the children of the bilingual schools or sold as DVDs. 5000 children have seen these cartoons in some 40 different places. This was organised by the association *Dizale* which was in charge of dubbing in Breton.

Public financial support

At the beginning TV Breizh paid on its own for the total amount of the cost of dubbing. It took quite a lot of lobbying to get financial support from the Regional Council. One has to be aware of the political situation in Brittany. The total budget of the Breton Regional Council is less than 1 billion euros (15 times less than that of the Welsh Assembly for a rather similar population). With such a budget they couldn't support a public regional television station even if they wanted to.

In 2002 the right wing majority at the time accepted to take charge of half of the cost of dubbing. When a left wing majority took office a few years later they continued the same policy.

Films and series

In 2003 when the channel changed policy it stopped broadcasting cartoons as it could not compete with other channels specialising in kids programmes. It started then to dub feature films in Breton.

It started with films linked to traditional Breton culture. Historical feature films like

Marion ar Faoued, the story of a sort of female Robin Hood who lived in the XVIIth Century in Central Brittany and *The Sez nec Affaire*, a true story of criminal court case which is still very controversial in Brittany. These films were produced in French but their characters would have been Breton speakers, so the dubbed versions were no cultural shock. A DVD was produced from the Breton version of the *Sez nec Affaire*.

A new regional policy for TV Programmes in Breton

When the channel decided to dub American

series that was another matter however! *Perry Masson* and *Columbo* were available on the Breton soundtrack of the channel at prime time. The Regional Council had accepted to support financially the project but the decision became very controversial.

It underlined the opposition between Breton speakers who consider their language as a normal medium of communication with the ability to express global culture and those who see the regional language as a heritage which has to be confined exclusively to the traditional way of life. The matter was debated by the Regional Councillors.

They decided that a new separate fund should be set up to finance linguistic policy rather than being financed as before by the budget for culture in general. It became obvious that it met different criteria.

Other American films were dubbed in Breton later on such as: *Shakespeare in Love*, *The Untouchables* by *Brian De Palma*, *Beethoven* or *Apollo 13*.

The action of TV Breizh for the language was then more a sort of sponsorship, acting as a patron when funding the dubbing of films that could be produced later on DVD or shown in cinemas.

The need for public financing also contributed in persuading the Regional Council to clarify its policy. The linguistic fund, which was established after the *Perry Masson Controversy*, can now finance various other programmes available on the Internet including cartoons. The Council also accepted the idea that the dubbing of some children's programmes could be financed entirely by public funds when they were shown in cinemas or on the net and when there were no television channels involved in the production.

This had the effect of boosting the presence of the Breton language on the net, some programmes are filmed professionally like *Webnoz*, a monthly magazine, presented in a different place each time by a former journalist of TV Breizh. Other sites offer short news items or programmes.

Three new terrestrial local television channels will soon be available in Brittany and two others are already broadcasting. This is an opportunity to imagine new types of programmes in Breton. The actors who learnt their skills in the dubbing industry worked with *Dizale* to produce a soap opera which is now broadcast by one of these channels.

There is no hope to see a television channel in Breton similar to those in Wales or Ireland yet. However there are now various places to broadcast programmes to a Breton speaking audience either on television or on the net and TV Breizh, even if it failed to fulfil its initial project, largely contributed to opening the doors and to training the professionals.

But good attractive programmes need money and the problem is basically financial. The question is: has the Regional Council of Brittany the financial capacity to take up this challenge?

Mikael Baudu

Brittany: Hospitals in danger

For many years the Health authorities have been closing public hospital services to the benefit of private nursing homes.

The public hospital services are vanishing in two ways: they are either closed down or obliged to join with private institutions. Already some maternity hospitals have been closed in Douarnenez, Paimpol, Pont l'Abbé, in spite of the fight to keep them open - in one case a hospital was closed despite a court judgement to the contrary. Now some public hospitals have been amalgamated with private nursing homes: in Pontivy, Dinan, Gingham. In Gingham the private hospital went bankrupt which proves that amalgamation is not always a sure solution. The most profitable part, the surgery, is always transferred to the private partner. There is a third way, which is not better, the amalgamation of two public hospitals, a large one and a small one with the big one taking over the smaller one.

From 1999 to 2004, in the official region of Brittany, a quarter of the surgery services vanished. Now, the surgery service is in danger of being available only in the six hospitals at Carhaix, Douarnenez, Landerneau, Paimpol, Redon and Vitré. Only recently Quimperlé hospital lost its maternity and surgery services too.

The reasons advanced to justify these closures are ever the same: the lack of safety measures in place because of a low number of medical operations because of the lack of (specialised) physicians and surgeons. But there is no shortage of physicians in the South of France, in the rich quarters or suburbs or in most of the private hospitals. The true reasons for these changes are because the government and the Health authorities want to reduce health expenses by reducing the supply in spite of demand. The government, which reduced taxes on various societies and rich people, is now facing a huge deficit in its Budget with the result that public expenses are now being cut to make both ends meet.

The consequences for the general public are very bad; there is no real security because it takes more time to go to a hospital, sometimes over three quarters of hour (or less) which can be dangerous in cases of emergency or child-births. The expenses are not really reduced and patients have to wait longer in emergency cases. In big hospitals there is much more work for the staff and overcrowding has become a major problem, patients are also farther from their families and friends. More and more the health services provided are seen, not as a service to human beings, but as a market to earn money.



J.Y. Le Drian and the leaders of The Friends of Polig Monjarret.

Moving Launch of the Statue of a Great Breton Patriot

An Oriant - Sunday August 3rd

Despite a persistent drizzle several hundred people - friends, musicians, activists, people working in cultural fields, gathered in Place Polig Monjarret, with members of the family of Polig Monjarret, for the inauguration of a statue commemorating this great Breton patriot, nationalist, and musician who died in 2003.

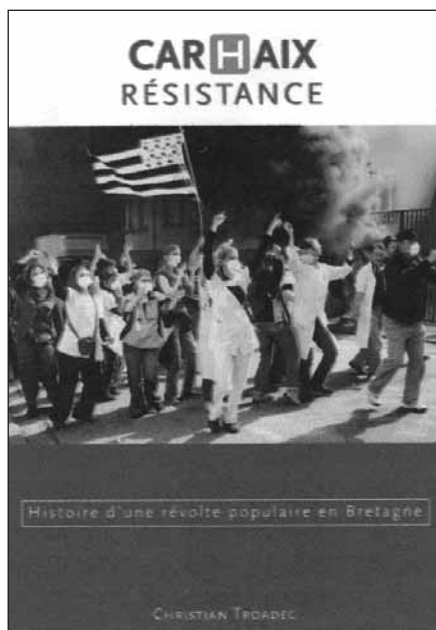
The idea of erecting a statue had been conceived at the inauguration of the Place Polig Monjarret in the centre of An Oriant. The initiators organized as the association The Friends of Polig Monjarret, *Mignoned Polig Monjarret*, and quickly obtained the support of both leading figures in the Breton cultural world and also numerous politicians like Jean-Yves Le Drian, President of the Regional Council of Brittany, and the president of the General Council of Mor-Bihan.

The realization of the project took more than 3 years and required a budget of almost 60,000 euros, financed partly by local authorities but initially by the friends of Polig and a certain number of businesses.

Created by the Breton sculptor Bernard Potel and the Nivet de Plérin foundry, the bronze statue represents Polig sitting on a bench. The design permits visitors to pose for a photograph sitting next to the great Polig, one of the founders of BAS, the creator of the Brittany-Ireland association, of Kan ar Bobl, of the Interceltic Festival, and more.

The inauguration included a song by Gilles Servat followed by an *aubade* (dawn serenade) from musicians representing various Breton bagadoù.

Jacques-Yves Le Touze



The situation is getting worse because of the new French government. For example, recently in Carhaix, a little town in the middle of Brittany, far away from any other hospital, was threatened by the closure of both its surgery and maternity sections. Following a public outcry and numerous demonstrations against the cuts, a judgement by the administrative court in July ensured that the services were opened again and there hope they will remain open.

The situation is getting worse throughout France because the government wants (but does not say openly) to abolish Social Security to encourage people to subscribe to private insurance for medical treatment. The rich people will be very well looked after, but the poorer sections of the population will suffer as they are forced to choose between covering their living costs (rent, food etc.) and medical treatment.

Yves Jardin

Cymru

**Now it's
NO affordable
housing at all for
Pont Tyweli**

Plaid Cymru yn croesawu “daeargryn” Dwyrain Glaschu

Anfonodd Ieuan Wyn Jones, arweinydd y Blaid, longyfarchiadau ei blaid i'r SNP yn dilyn eu buddugoliaeth hanesyddol yn yr isetholiad yn Nwyrain Glaschu. Cafwyd gogwydd o 22.5% oddi wrth Lafur, oedd yn golygu bod yr SNP wedi dymchwel mwyafrif o 13,507, gan roi buddugoliaeth i'w hymgeisydd John Mason gyda mwyafrif o 365 pleidlais. Cododd hyn y nifer o ASau gan yr SNP yn San Steffan i ddeg.

Meddai Ieuan Wyn Jones AC: “Dros yr wythnosau diwethaf, ymladdodd yr SNP ymgyrch wych yn un o seddi saffaf Llafur yn yr Alban. Mae eu gwaith caled wedi talu ar ei ganfed, ac wedi profi nad oes mo'r fath beth bellach â seddi Llafur saff yn yr Alban. Clywais gan y cynghorwyr a'r gwirfoddolwyr a deithiodd i Glaschu i helpu ymgyrch yr SNP y bydd John Mason yn ychwanegiad clodwiw i'n grŵp ar y cyd yn San Steffan. Mae'r canlyniad hwn yn dangos bod yr SNP a'r Blaid fel ei gilydd mewn sefyllfa i ennill seddi yn etholiad nesaf San Steffan a ffurfio grŵp dylanwadol mewn sefyllfa dda i gael llais cryf yn ffurfio llywodraeth nesaf Prydain. Bydd hyn yn adeiladu ar y rhan mae'r naill blaid a'r llall yn ei chwarae yn llywodraeth **ddatganoledig ein gwledydd.**”

Dywedodd Llywydd Plaid Cymru, Dafydd Iwan, fod buddugoliaeth isetholiad yr SNP yn Nwyrain Glaschu yn agor y ffordd i gynnydd gan y pleidiau cenedlaethol yng Nghymru yn ogystal â'r Alban. Wrth longyfarch Aelod Seneddol newydd yr SNP dywedodd fod pleidleiswyr yn y ddwy wlad bellach yn gweld fod siawns Llafur o ennill yr etholiad cyffredinol nesaf wedi diflannu “bron yn llwyr”. Erbyn hyn mae pobl yn gorfod wynebu'r tebygrwydd o lywodraeth Doriaidd a fyddai'n debyg o geisio gorfodi polisiâu asgell-dde ar iechyd, addysg, a'r gwasanaethau cymdeithasol.

“Ar ôl cyfres o ganlyniadau trychinebus mae'n glir bod Llafur yn wynebu cyflafan etholiadol” meddai Llywydd y Blaid mewn llythyr i John Mason.

“Ein blaenoriaeth yn awr yn ein dwy wlad yw cryfhau hunanlywodraeth ddemocrataidd. I ni yng Nghymru, ein tasg yw ennill Senedd go iawn, gyda'r hawl i benderfynu'n polisiâu ni yn rhydd o hualau San Steffan. Ond yn hytrach na chefnogi pobl eu gwlad eu hunain, mae Aelodau

Seneddol Llafur Cymreig yn cwyno bod y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol eisoes yn gweithio'n rhy galed ac yn eu cadw'n rhy brysur.

“Yng Nghymru, fel yn yr Alban, mae gan bobl ddewis clir. Mae Plaid Cymru a'r SNP bellach yn cynnig y cyfle i'n dwy genedl i gael gwared ar ddegawdau o esgeulustod, a sicrhau system o lywodraeth sy'n addas i'r 21ain canrif. Ac yn dilyn buddugoliaeth yr SNP yn Nwyrain Glaschu, mae cyfle gwyh i sicrhau cynnydd sylweddol i bleidiau cenedlaethol Cymru a'r Alban”, meddai.

(Responses from Plaid Cymru to the SNP victory in the Glasgow East by-election in July.)

Cymdeithas congratulate new Heritage Minister



Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg have written to Alun Ffred Jones (Plaid Cymru AC for Arfon) congratulating him on his appointment as the new Heritage Minister. Speaking on behalf of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, Dafydd Morgan Lewis said,

“We wish Alun Ffred Jones well in his new job. Our feeling at the moment is that the One Wales Government is still on trial as far as its commitment to the Welsh language is concerned. The failure, earlier this year to establish a Welsh-language daily newspaper was a great disappointment. But the Welsh Assembly Government's greatest test will come in the Autumn when the LCO on the Welsh language is published.”

“Our hope is that this will demonstrate the WAG's commitment to a comprehensive Welsh language Measure. Our hope is to meet Alun Ffred Jones in the near future to discuss this and other issues.”

Cymdeithas yr Iaith have vowed to do everything possible to stop a housing development, which would undermine a Welsh-speaking community in the Teifi valley and which makes a total nonsense of planning laws.

On the 20th of December 2007 Carmarthenshire County Council refused planning permission to an application by a company called Eatonfield to build 50 houses in Pont Tyweli because of (amongst other reasons) the effect such a development would have on the Welsh language. This original application contained a tokenistic amount of "affordable housing". On August 14th Carmarthenshire Council's planning committee considered another application by the company to build 31 houses on the same site that would simply omit the affordable housing contained in the first application and propose a development of large 4 bedroom houses only. The planning officers recommended accepting this application, even though they admitted themselves that the number of houses is far too much for the need locally. Their report to the Scrutiny Committee stated:

“However, in this case and in such a rural area the number of dwellings proposed is well above the allocation, which will have an effect on the ability of the settlement and the community to absorb such a number of dwellings. Therefore it is considered that the development in terms of its size and scale is greater than that which is required in terms of local need, which is reflected in the number of dwellings allocated in Pont Tyweli as a total.”

But since planning permission was granted in 1990 to build 31 houses on the site, and that preparation work has started on the site within a specific period (mainly opening a hole in the verge and clearing an entrance to the new estate - nearly impossible to see by now) the officers said that they have no choice but to accept this application.

Cymdeithas yr Iaith's Dyfed Field Officer, Angharad Clwyd, who lives in the village said:

“This makes a total nonsense of the whole planning system. We are not going to allow the fate of our Welsh-speaking rural communities to be decided by speculative private developers. Carmarthenshire Councillors must stand up for the local people and reject this cynical revised application. Cymdeithas yr Iaith will certainly do all in our power to place every obstacle in their way.”

OPEN UP THE WELSH COLLEGE DEBATE TO THE PEOPLE

In a meeting on the Eisteddfod field Cymdeithas yr Iaith called for the debate about a Welsh-medium Federal College to be opened up to the people. Education Minister Jane Hutt had announced that a Working Group was being set up to look at different models for establishing a Welsh-medium Federal College, which was one of the core commitments of the coalition government's One Wales document.

Cymdeithas Campaign spokesman Rhys Llwyd commented:

"This Working Party is to be chaired by the current head of Higher Education Wales's own group, and is likely to be made up in the main of the same Establishment figures who have been doing everything possible to defend the vested interests of their own institutions,



Rhys Llwyd

and undermining any real progress towards setting up an independent Welsh-medium Federal College. This is why little progress has been made on the issue during the first year of the Coalition Government. We must now step up a gear if the promise to set up the College is to be realised during the remaining life-span of this government."

Mr Llwyd explained:

"Our intention is to seize back the initiative from the Establishment and to open up the debate and campaign to the people of Wales ... We shall therefore be turning our Public Meeting on the Eisteddfod Field in Cardiff on Aug 6th into an Open Working Party to which everyone is invited to voice their views as to how the College should be set up. Eisteddfodwyr are also invited to post their ideas at the Cymdeithas unit on the Maes, and all this evidence will be delivered to the Minister so that she does not have to rely solely on the tired old establishment views."

Fight for a Welsh-language daily newspaper continues

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg put the case for a Welsh-language daily newspaper before the National Assembly's Petitions Committee meeting at the annual Royal Welsh Agricultural Show in Llanellwedd, Powys, in July. Cymdeithas had launched a petition following the announcement made by the then Heritage Minister, Rhodri Glyn Thomas AC, in February that there would only be a £200,000 annual grant towards the development of the Welsh-language press.

Hywel Griffiths, chairman of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg said,

"We are presenting evidence which will emphasise yet again that the Welsh Assembly Government broke its promise concerning the establishment of a Welsh-language newspaper. There was a clear and unambiguous commitment in the One Wales document to establish a Welsh-language daily newspaper. This would have contributed greatly to our identity and confidence as a nation, and it would have encouraged a great number of people to learn Welsh. The replacement package offered instead of a daily Welsh newspaper is aimed at those who are privileged to have access to the World Wide Web, be that at home or in

the work place. The service will not be available for those who are not able to make use of the website. We only need to look to the Continent to see that Wales is behind the times."

Within a fortnight of Rhodri Glyn Thomas's announcement that there would be no Welsh daily newspaper Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg had collected over 1,000 signatures on a petition criticising his decision.

Sioned Haf, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg's Campaigns Officer said:

"The announcement was a terrible blow to those who had campaigned for a Welsh-language daily newspaper. The announcement betrayed the Welsh Assembly Government's lack of commitment to the Welsh language. The vision that drove those who campaigned for a Welsh daily newspaper was a cause of great optimism and showed a wish to see the normalisation of Welsh in the life of Wales. But this new found optimism was destroyed by the Welsh Assembly Government. Our hope is that the Petition's committee will be able to throw some light on the matter."

Cymdeithas build a house on Eisteddfod Field as part of Housing Protest

In order to draw attention to the housing crisis in our communities members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg built a small wooden house on the field of the National Eisteddfod (held this year in Cardiff) on the Friday, August 8th. The house was then carried to the unit of the Welsh Assembly Government on the field.

Iestyn ap Rhobert, who leads Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg's housing campaign, said before the protest:

"Our communities are faced with deepening housing crisis. Our young people can no longer afford to live in these communities. We will build our own house (a modern tŷ unnos) on the Eisteddfod field in order to draw attention to the problem. After the house has been built we will carry it to the Welsh Assembly Government's unit where we will further emphasise our concern."

"Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg believe that if the housing crisis in Wales is to be tackled then the thinking that has controlled housing policy since the days of Margaret Thatcher needs to be challenged and radically changed. We must once again put the emphasis on the RIGHT TO RENT rather



Deddf Eiddo

than continue with Thatcher's obsession with the RIGHT TO BUY."

"Over the years this is an issue we have discussed time and again with various politicians. The last meeting with Jocelyn Davies AC was held about a month ago, and even though we welcome some of the Welsh Assembly Government's initiatives on this issue we are afraid that they are not far reaching enough to make a real difference to the lives of the people of Wales. That is why we are making the RIGHT TO RENT the basis of our demonstration on the National Eisteddfod field."

A Welsh bid for holding the Euro Championships – and a Welsh Olympic team?

a. The European Championship – Wales can take part

Plaid Cymru AC Janet Ryder (North region) called in June for the London Labour government to guarantee funding to ensure that Wales has the infrastructure needed to co-host the 2016 European Football Championships.

The North region AC said that the chance to hold the event along with Scotland should not be missed. She added that funding from the UK treasury will be needed to ensure that Wales's major football venues are up to the necessary standards.

Janet Ryder believes that the European championships bid could safeguard the future of Wrecsam's Racecourse ground and turn the venue into a national attraction, capable of hosting future international sporting fixtures. She said:

"We're currently losing much needed sport in Wales because of all the funding that is being channelled towards the London Olympics. Yet the amount of money that would be needed to ensure that Wales gets to co-host the 2016 European Championships is tiny in comparison. These championships would mean a huge amount to Wales and I call on the Westminster government to promise that funding now. The very promise of that money could swing this in our favour. The cost of the 2012 Olympics is now expected to top £10 billion. For a fraction of that cost, Wales could be part of one of the biggest international tournaments ever to be held here.

"The financial advantages of holding the European championships are potentially huge. The 2012 game will be hosted jointly between Ukraine and Poland. Some projections state that Ukraine could make a net gain of over a £100 million from the tournament. These are huge sums of money that we in Wales cannot afford to turn down."

b. The Olympic Games – Wales not allowed in

International sport is one of the greatest stages where Wales (and Scotland) can make their existence known to the world, and this presence was notably absent in one of the most prominent sport events this year, namely the Olympic Games, where, because of the reluctance of the International Olympic Committee to recognize stateless nations, there is one team representing the whole of "Great Britain", which the media then portray as an extended England. The performance of this GB team was followed by the English media with a carnival of unionist sentiment, the Butcher's Apron everywhere. It should be of concern to Celtic nationalists that the even greater media hype that will accompany the next Olympic

Games in 2012, to be held in London, England, will be a further attack on our national movements and could even be a factor in influencing the Scottish independence question.

An on-line petition has been launched to have a Welsh Olympic team set up by the time of the next Olympic Games, set up by the Union of Welsh Independent Chapels (visit www.assemblywales.org/gethome/e-petitions/P-03-169). A team for Wales would not be without precedent as there were numerous teams in this year's games representing places that are not fully internationally recognized nation states (e.g. Aruba, American Samoa, Hong Kong, Cayman Islands, British Virgin Islands, US Virgin Islands, Palestine, Puerto Rico). However, the campaign for a Welsh team will be difficult, not least because of the certain strong opposition that would come from the London government.

JILL EVANS TO HEAD PLAID EURO LIST AGAIN

Jill Evans MEP will be Plaid Cymru's lead candidate for the upcoming European elections, following hustings across Wales and an internal election. Jill Evans's name will be at the top of the Plaid Cymru list of candidates, followed by Eurig Wyn, Ioan Bellin, and Natasha Asghar.

Following the selection, Plaid Cymru's lead candidate said: "It's a great honour for me to once again lead the Plaid Cymru team for the European elections. There is much hard work to be done over the coming months and I'm looking forward greatly to working with Eurig, Ioan, and Natasha as we put forward the very strong reasons for people to vote for Plaid Cymru come polling day. We've been travelling throughout Wales over the last month speaking to party members in our hustings meetings and all candidates have acted with great enthusiasm and professionalism. It will be a pleasure to work together as a team, and I know that we will all do our best for Wales." Plaid Cymru's Chief Executive, Gwenllïan Lansdown said: "This has been an excellent contest between 5 candidates who have all proved that they would be worthy representatives of Plaid in the forthcoming elections. All have put forward some very compelling reasons to be chosen. Our final list has four candidates of the highest standard and I know that they will work well together in order to maximise Plaid's vote. Jill has proved herself to be a first rate MEP over the past 9 years and it's come as no surprise that the party has once again placed its trust in her as our lead candidate. But our team of candidates have all shown that they have the skills and enthusi-

WELSH-SPEAKING FOOTBALL FANS PENALISED BY SATELLITE TV COVERAGE

Plaid Cymru Assembly Member Bethan Jenkins spoke out in September against the lack of Welsh language television coverage for Wales's international football matches shown on satellite channel, Setanta. Her calls come ahead of the Welsh national team's World Cup qualifier game against Russia in Moscow. Three of Wales's away World Cup qualification games will be on the channel. Previously, Welsh-speaking fans have been able to watch Wales's games on Sky Sports and select their preferred language for commentary, using the red button on their remote controls. Ms Jenkins said: "In the first instance, I think it's very unfair that Welsh football fans have to pay an additional £10 per month to watch their country play in these important matches. But this is a double whammy for Welsh-speaking fans, who will be unable to listen to commentary in their own language whilst watching their country." Ms Jenkins has vowed to raise the matter with Plaid Cymru Minister for Heritage, Alun Ffred Jones, and has also written to the Football Association of Wales and Setanta Sports. She added "Football is ... of huge importance to our sporting nation. The Welsh Football Association and broadcasters should always place huge emphasis on the linguistic and cultural aspects of Welsh life and should reflect this in their activities."



Jill Evans MEP

asm to do the job and they would all make excellent representatives for Wales in the European Parliament."

In the European Parliament elections Wales is treated as one constituency that returns four MEPs, and voters are presented with party lists and vote for one of them. The number of votes given to each list determines the number of MEPs for that party, and the order of candidates on the list determines which members for that party, if any, are elected. At present the Labour Party hold two of the four Welsh seats, and Plaid Cymru and the Conservatives have one each. Plaid's main struggle in the election will be to try to win a second seat, probably at the expense of Labour.

Cumbria Welsh Part 3

PROSPECTS FOR REVIVAL

An article on the Cumbrian language (or Cumbric) in Wikipedia, the on-line encyclopaedia, mentions an embryonic language revival movement. However, there appears to be some disagreement on what form the revived language should take. The main candidate would appear to be the Welsh of the Old North, the language of Taliesin and Aneurin. Yet, some argue that, by the time of its demise, Cumbrian would have markedly diverged from Welsh and become a separate language. Unfortunately such late Cumbrian can only be theorised using the earlier language as a base.

Whilst the literary language of Taliesin and Aneurin gives us a grammar and a considerable vocabulary (although even this would have to be enlarged with borrowed words, probably from Welsh), the only evidence for late Cumbrian is in several counting systems, as used by shepherds, several dialect words in the English of Cumbria and southern Scots, and several hundred place-names, and these have been distorted by their English spellings and the passage of many centuries.

Even so, allowing for these distortions, these place-names are still surprisingly Welsh. For example 'Penicuik', a town to the south of Edinburgh shows both the same genitive case and definite article as Welsh i.e. **penn-i-cuik**; Welsh **pen-y-gog** = the **cuckoo's top**, probably referring to a local hill. Similarly Pennersaugh, near Ecclefechan, in Dumfriesshire, is **penn-ersaugh**, Welsh **pen-y-Sais** = the **Saxon's/Englishman's top**, again referring to a local hill. The name **Ecclefechan** itself is also an obvious Cumbrian Welsh word, meaning 'little church' (Welsh 'eglwys-fechan'). It is also worth noting that the 'i' and 'er' in these names correspond to 'y' of modern Welsh, and they are not at all like the 'an' sound of the Cornish or Breton definite articles.

Above we have two possible choices, **A.** basing a revived Cumbrian on the Welsh of the Old North, i.e. that of Aneurin and Taliesin, or **B.** basing it on this same language and, perhaps, using place-names and dialect words to theorise sound changes that may have occurred in Late Cumbrian. There is, however, a third choice, and that is for the revivalists to adopt modern Welsh as their revived Cumbrian. If you examine it this proposal is not as outlandish as it at first appears.

In the early Middle Ages the difference between Cumbrian and Welsh (i.e. Cumbraic and Cymraeg) was more that of dialect than of a different language, something like the difference between Dutch and Flemish today*. They also shared a common literary tradition. What Cumbrian could have developed into before its demise we cannot really

know as there are no surviving records. Welsh, on the other hand, is the language of that part of the Kymric people whose culture survived the Middle Ages, and which is today a vibrant modern language.

Adopting modern Welsh as a basis for revival needn't exclude local variations, and it does offer distinct advantages over trying to reconstruct a language on the lines of **A** or **B** above. There are radio and television programmes, books, magazines, and even a pop culture in the language, and plenty of support for learners. No doubt though, as the revival grew in strength and numbers it would be able to make its own contribution to this culture, a contribution with its own Northern flavour.

Colin Lewis

(Colin Lewis is the author of 'Hereford, the Welsh Connection' published by Carreg Gwalch.)

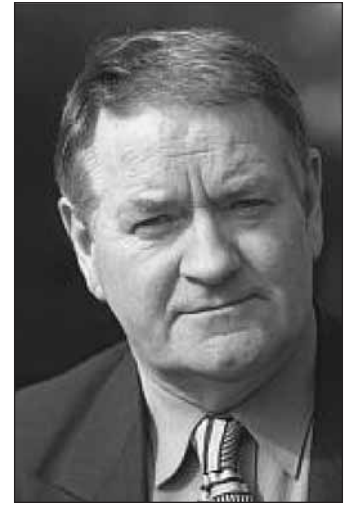
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Labour's Welsh language stance criticised

Plaid MEP Jill Evans accused the Labour party of hypocrisy in their attitude towards the Welsh language following an attack by Labour MEP Eluned Morgan on plans to boost the status of the Welsh language in the EU.

Ms Evans said people would find it hard to understand how Ms Morgan could square her role as chair of Cymdeithas Cledwyn, set up to counter Labour's unpopularity in certain Welsh-speaking areas, with opposing co-official status for Welsh. Jill Evans has been campaigning to improve the status of Welsh in the EU and has won the support of the Welsh Assembly and UK Governments.

"Some in the Labour party might like to claim they're supporters of the Welsh language, but when it comes to real commitment and action, it's another story."



Dafydd Iwan

PLAID PRESIDENT CALLS FOR FAITH IN NEW WELSH DEMOCRACY

Plaid Cymru President Dafydd Iwan called in September on the people of Wales to show faith in the new Welsh democracy and to reject the negative rhetoric of those who say we can't govern ourselves. Speaking at his party's annual conference in Aberystwyth, Dr Iwan said that people of all political parties now accept that Wales needs full law-making powers. He told party delegates: "We must progress from here. Wales deserves better; the people of Wales deserve better. We must, for the sake of democracy in Wales, have a system of governance and legislating, which is open, transparent, and clearly understood by the people. We must have faith in our own representatives, in our own democracy, and in the right of the people of Wales to decide matters, through their elected representatives, in their own Parliament. So, across party lines, let us prepare in good time for this great step in the evolution of Welsh democracy."

At the same conference Wales's new Heritage Minister and the Assembly Member for Arfon, Alun Ffred Jones, warned that the Welsh language will "shrivel further and die" unless speakers of the language have the freedom to use it in all aspects of life. Mr Jones said that the Government of Wales has a duty to do more than demonstrate goodwill towards the Welsh language in order to ensure its survival. He said, "It is not a relic which exists independently of anything else. Unless it's an integral part of all the activities of Government and beyond, then we have failed. Unless speakers use it in all walks of life – and have the right to do so – it will shrivel further and die". The minister reiterated the commitment to realise the One Wales promises regarding legislation in the context of the Welsh language – to ensure official status for the language, to secure rights for Welsh-speakers, and to create the post of Language Commissioner.



Éire



Cambria – Dioscúrsa Náisiúnach na Breataine Bige trí Mheán an Bhéarla

Bhí an deis againn ar na mallaibh eagráin éagsúla d'iris náisiúnta Bhéarla na Breataine Bige, Cambria, a léamh. Cé gurb as Béarla ar fad atá sí, is léir gur iarracht í an iris seo scéal na Breataine Bige a oscailt don phobal mór sa Bhreatain Bhig nach bhfuil Breatnais ar a dtail acu agus rochtain a thabhairt dóibh ar dhioscúrsa náisiúnach a mbeidís dúnta amach as mura mbeadh an acmhainn seo ann dóibh.

Foilsítear raon leathan alt faoi ghnéithe éagsúla de scéal na Breataine Bige in Cambria. Bíonn an speictream go léir ann idir pholaitíocht, stair, gharraidóireacht, chúrsaí taistil, ghluasteáin, bhia agus, gan dabht, na healaíona – litríocht, foilsitheoireacht, ceoldráma, péintéireacht, scríbhneoireacht agus amharclannaíocht. Bíonn an t-idircheilteachas go láidir ann freisin. Ar shlí, is iris den scoth í Cambria don mheánaicme náisiúnach léannta sa Bhreatain Bhig. Ní bhíonn aon rugbaí na sacar ann ná spórt de shaghas ar bith. Ní phléitear leis an gceol comhaimseartha ach an oiread ná le cúrsaí teilifíse. Don Bhreatnach ar mian leis/léi aithne níos fearr a chur ar scéal a dtíre, áfach, níl aon easpa ábhair acu san iris seo.

Ar a shon sin agus uile, ba dhearmad é a cheapadh gur iris choimeádach í Cambria. In eagrán Mhárta-Aibreáin den iris, ceistíonn Síon Jobbins *raison d'être* stáit Bhreatnaigh mura bhfuil an stát sin chun na hacmhainní is gá a chaitheamh chun an Bhreatnais a chur i réim arís mar theanga thiomlaigh náisiúnta na Breataine Bige. San eagrán céanna, éilíonn Rhydian Fôn James go n-aithneofaí gurb é polasaí Phlaid Cymru i dtaca le cúrsaí títhíochta – tionóntacht inacmhainne – an t-aon leigheas ar fhadhb na títhíochta sa Bhreatain Bhig, go háirithe sna ceantair Bhreatnaise. In eagrán Mheán Fómhair-Dheireadh Fómhair, ceistíonn Royston Jones an cuspóir atá laistiar de 'lárionad athmhuintearais teanga agus cultúir' atá le bunú ar leithinis Llŷn. Deirtear gur ar an 'athmhuintearas' atáthar ag díriú ach ní léir cé eatarthu. Ina theannta sin, tá baint ag na póilíní leis an bhfiontar agus iad ag fógairt go bhfuil sé mar aidhm acu "to cut crime rates caused by language and cultural differences" toisc gur minic go mbíonn 'coiriúlacht fhoréigineach' mar thoradh ar na héagsúlachtaí sin! Faigheann an Seonach boladh bréan ar an rud go léir, agus thuigfeá dó.

San eagrán céanna, áitítear go bhfuil sé in am do na Breatnaigh díriú ar pholasaí

gnóthaí eachtracha a fhorbairt. Agus nach mithid? Ar nós mhuintir na hÉireann, tá an acmhainn ar thug an tUachtarán Mhic Ghiolla Íosa 'diaspora sainiúil' uirthi ag an mBreatain Bhig leis. Cuireann an acmhainn sin ar chumas na Breataine Bige léargas ar leith a bheith aici ar ghnóthaí idirnáisiúnta ach, cheal stáit dá cuid féin chun leas a bhaint as an léargas sin, fágtar díomhaoín í. An méid sin ráite, an féidir a rá go mbaineann sochaí na hÉireann leas as an acmhainn sin? Is minice dearcadh an tSasanaigh ar chúrsaí na cruinne i dtreis ná a mhalairt i meáin chumarsáide na hÉireann. Bíonn an chuma ar thuariscíú RTÉ agus nuachtán áirithe ar scéalta idirnáisiúnta gur trí shúile comhfhreagraí an BBC san áit atá i gceist a fhaightear é. Dar ndóigh, ceist teanga a bhíonn ann de ghnáth – ní bhíonn uathu ach béarlóir. Níos measa fós, ar na 'nuachtáin' Oirish a dhíoltar gach maidin, is é dearcadh amh na himpireachta faoi náisiúin eile a sholáthraítear, fiú amháin na samhailchineálacha maslacha bennyhilleacha.

Ar an taobh éadrom den speictream, bíonn neart ábhair spésiúil le léamh ar Cambria. In eagrán Mhárta-Aibreáin, tá alt an-suimiúil faoin bpéintéir Sidney Curnow Vosper a bhí ina shea céad bliain ó shin agus a d'fhógair gur Chornach seachas Sasanach é – ráiteas cróga go leor don tráth sin. Tá cuid mhór de na pictiúirí a d'fhág Vosper ina dhiaidh den Bhreatain Bhig agus den Bhriotáin cáiliúil anois. In eagrán Mheán Fómhair-Dheireadh Fómhair, is ar an bpéintéir clúiteach Alfred Sisley, a chaith seal sa Bhreatain Bhig, a dhírítear. Duine de mhór-imprisiúnaíthe na Fraince ab ea Sisley, a rugadh i bPáras do thuismitheoirí saibhre as Sasana, agus chaith sé tamall sa Bhreatain Bhig, áit ar chruthaigh sé sraith pictiúirí den radharc tíre ansin.

Iris shármhaith is ea Cambria, iarracht chumasach dioscúrsa náisiúnach a sholáthar faoi chás na Breataine Bige trí mheán an Bhéarla. Baineann ardchaighdeán leis an iris ó thaobh na smaointeoireachta de agus ó thaobh shaibhreas an raoin ábhar a fhoilsítear uirthi. Ina theannta sin, tá leagan amach críochnúil gairmiúil uirthi ó thaobh cur i láthair de. Cheannaíos féin íoslódáil den eagrán is déanaí ar shuíomh idirlín na hirise – sampla an-mhaith den teicneolaíocht nua-aimseartha a bheith á húsáid chun luach an traidisiúin a chraobhscaoileadh.

Traolach Ó Duibhne

Summary:

This article reviews the Welsh magazine CAMBBIA and concludes it is an excellent publication which provides a national discourse on Welsh affairs through English



Campaign for ÉIR

Máirtín Tom Sheáinín, a Radio na Gaeltachta presenter and sean nós singer has launched a campaign to replace the IRL on car number plates in Ireland with ÉIR. In the early years of the Free State SÉ (Saorstát Éireann) was required if going abroad and from 1939 to 1961 ÉIR was needed but in 1961 that was changed to IRL. Under EU directives the

country abbreviation must be part of the overall plate. Máirtín called for the use of ÉIR comparing it with the use of ÉIRE on stamps, coinage and official documents. He hoped for support from the Minister for the Gaeltacht, Éamonn Ó Cuív in this effort but if nothing is done by Jan 2009 he intends using ÉIR on his own car number plate.

Lisbon – Threats, twists and turns

In the months since the referendum result there have been a series of suggestions from the pro Lisbon lobby, mainly political commentators in the national print media and pro politicians, on how to the Irish electorate can be saved from themselves. They all have an underlying assumption that there has to be another referendum. One suggestion has been to separate out the issues in Lisbon, which require amendment of the Irish constitution as they relate to transfer of competencies. The proposal then would be to have all elements of Lisbon except these ratified in the Dáil and a referendum on the constitutional issues, if these were not accepted opt outs would then have to be sought. Taoiseach Brian Cowen has told the Dáil that the Irish government is consulting the legal services of the EU to explore the type and drafting of opt outs and declarations which would make the Lisbon Treaty palatable to the Irish public. Publication of the full results of the survey on research on the referendum results did not add much to the preliminary results (outlined in Carn 141). Loss of a commissioner, erosion of Ireland's neutrality, undermining of workers rights and reduction of democracy within the EU all featured strongly as key reasons why a majority voted no.

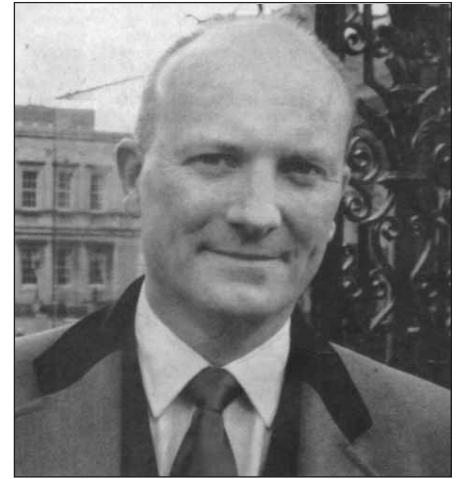
Reports that the Irish Government might consider opting out of European security and defence policies were met with dire predictions that this would mean the end of Irish peacekeeping, ignoring the fact that the vast majority of such engagements until very recently were in direct conjunction with the UN and not through European forces. The need for referendums dictated by the Crotty judgement on the European Single Act in 1986 was also subjected to attack. The visit of French President Sarkozy turned out to be a bit of a damp squib for the pro Lisbon lobby as he adopted a low key approach despite earlier utterances that he wanted to make progress during the French presidency in the second half of 2008 and have Lisbon ratified before the European elections in June 2007. However the key issue is what will be done at the European summit in early Dec.(see below). On September 24 the People's Movement launched a *Covenant between Irish Public Representatives and the People of Ireland*. The text declares that the signatories believe the referendum on the Lisbon Treaty 'expressed the democratic will of the people of this State and must be fully respected'. In addition to existing public representatives, candidates in next June's local and European elections will be invited to sign the document. see <http://www.people.ie>

Headlines told us that '*Voters may approve new Lisbon Treaty, poll reveals*' but you had to read the small print to find out that this

would be on the basis of a modified treaty which would allow Ireland to retain its commissioner and that other Irish concerns on neutrality, abortion and taxation were to be clarified in special declarations!! Patricia McKenna, chairperson of the People's Movement, one of the leading No groups, said: '*declarations on tax, abortion and neutrality are a devious ploy designed to dupe Irish voters into believing that our government have somehow obtained concessions from other EU states on the Lisbon Treaty. But nothing could be further from the truth. Declarations, unlike protocols are not a legal part of a treaty and thus holding a second referendum on Lisbon will in legal terms mean voting on the exact same treaty rejected by the voters in June. The government parties, supported by the main opposition parties, are displaying utter contempt for the decision of the voters. This whole approach is clearly designed to deceive enough Irish voters into believing that they will not be voting on the exact same thing a second time.*'

As October drew to a close there seemed to be an acceptance by the Irish Government, and indeed the main opposition party, that the public was not in a mood to pass a second Lisbon poll and also that whatever nature a second poll might take it would not be held until late in 2009. Nevertheless all other European countries continued with ratification of the Treaty as promoted enthusiastically by European Commission President Barosso, a tactic designed to isolate Ireland and one that negates the basis of EU treaty changes or proposal, that all changes have to obtain the ratification of all member states. One notable exception was the Czech Republic. Despite the Czech Supreme Court having ruled that ratification of the Treaty did not contravene the constitution Czech President Vaclav Klaus has said he will not sign if the Treaty is not ratified in Ireland. On a visit here in November he criticised the Treaty.

The *LIBERTAS* organisation was one of the most vocal opponents of the Treaty but curiously, as it is on the right of the political spectrum, it has been credited by the pro Treaty side with being the main body to bring about the rejection of the Treaty. This led the pro Treaty press to probe into the background and finances of its founder Declan Ganley. The most they could elicit it seems was that he gave €200,000 of his own money to Libertas and that there was a large overlap between staff in his business body, Rivada, and those who established Libertas. Nevertheless charges continued to be levelled that Ganley was motivated by his US business contacts who saw the Lisbon Treaty as contrary to US interests. Ganley robustly denies this and has said he is deeply



Declan Ganley, Libertas founder who has registered the organization as a European political party

committed to the EU. However allegations in a statement by a Labour Party TD have led to the threat of legal action by Ganley's solicitors. At the beginning of November he put an end to months of speculation by registering Libertas as a European political party having changed its memorandum to declare it 'a political foundation at European level', wording which reflects EU law on the way political parties can access EU funding. By the end of the month the Libertas Party had applied for European political party funds, set up a Brussels office, appointed a director to coordinate its European activities and had started recruiting candidates across the EU to run in the European Parliament elections. Declan Ganley said he wanted to raise €75M to finance an election campaign that would be a pan-European referendum on the Lisbon Treaty. In giving evidence to the Oireachtas sub-committee on Ireland's future in the European Union earlier in the month he had said that Lisbon was dead and should be replaced by a 15 or 25 page constitution.

When that sub-committee's draft report became available it claimed there was no legal obstacle to a second referendum and talked about declarations and a strengthening of 'the triple lock' (UN mandate, Government approval and Dáil majority) on the neutrality issue. The report was attacked by ex Green MEP Patricia McKenna, now a spokesperson for the People's Movement, who pointed out that the document 'Ireland's Future in Europe; Scenarios and Implications' was prepared by the Dublin European Institute, a body she stated was clearly biased in favour of the Treaty. In November she said, following reports in the French publication *L'Express* that Paris is more and more confident that it will be possible to make the Irish vote again on the Treaty of Lisbon in 2009, '*the comments expressed by the French President Nicolas Sarkozy that "Germany and France are on the same line, we support the Treaty of Lisbon. We will make all efforts to obtain the*

Treaty of Lisbon, we have agreed on a common language on the right way forward for our Irish friends” indicates a deliberate conspiracy, regrettably facilitated by our own government, against those Irish people who voted No to the Lisbon Treaty.’

Anthony Coughlan, of the National Platform issued a statement saying “ The practical alternative to the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution is to go back to the 2003 Laeken Declaration on a more democratic, more transparent and less centralised EU, whose laws would be made in proper democratic fashion by people who are elected directly to make them, and not by bureaucrats, judges and bankers.

What is now needed after Ireland's No is not a "period of reflection", as after the rejection of the 2004 Constitutional Treaty, but a "period of consultation" with the citizens of the Member States on what kind of EU people really want, as the Laeken Declaration envisaged. The Laeken Convention from which Lisbon came was hijacked from the start by the Eurofederalists, out to give the EU the constitutional form of a Federation. This the peoples of the EU Member States emphatically do not want, although many of



Patricia McKenna, spokesperson for the People's Movement

their political elites do want it because it gives them more power personally at the expense of their own peoples.

Commenting on the ongoing events Celtic League General Secretary, Rhisiart Tal e bot stated; “...rather than being ungrateful or anti European, Ireland was merely exercising its right to a democratic voice, which is a right that it may have to forfeit, should the Lisbon Treaty be revived in its present state and force-fed to the Irish people in the form of a second referendum. By rejecting the Treaty, Ireland was not only standing up for its sovereignty as a small independent EU member state, but was also ensuring that other small nations in Europe will have a right to pursue self determination and gain independent EU member status in the future.

“ It is not only Ireland's political future within the EU that is at stake here, but also the future of other nations, within the EU,



MORE FACTS ABOUT IRISH

In early November the Taoiseach, Brian Cowen, T.D., launched the book '**More Facts About Irish**' written by the Helen Ó Murchú (a long standing worker for Irish, and active with many organisations over the years). The book was published by the Irish Member State Committee of the European Bureau for Lesser Spoken Languages. It contains a wealth of very up to date information on the situation of the Irish language in Ireland today and would undoubtedly be of interest not alone to the Irish speaking community but to many others, among them students, politicians and planners. The book contains eight sections and is replete with many useful statistics and tables. It also comes with a disc, which contains all the material with some more recent updates.

- The Irish Language
- The Present Language Community
- Constitutional, Legal and Administrative Provision for Irish
- Acquisition Planning: Education
- Status Planning
- Economic Life
- The Voluntary Language Movement
- The Irish Language in Northern Ireland

Speaking on the occasion Brian Cowen said this was a valuable interesting book, which was a handbook on all aspects of Irish. He alluded to favourable developments for Manx and Gaidhlig in recent years. He claimed that the Government was intent on

development Irish as a living language in the community. This is rather hypocritical in view of the Minister for Education's decision on issues affecting Gaelscoileanna (see p.17) – will he now instruct the Minister to approve the opening of new Gaelscoileanna and withdraw the circular banning early total immersion?

Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge is marketing and distributing the book. It may be obtained in bookshops or from Chomhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge, 46 Sráid Chill Dara, BÁC 2, Teil: 01 679 4780, R-phost: eolas@gaelport.com.

Culture and Innovation

Another book launched by Brain Cowen was *Capitalising on Culture, Competing on Difference; Innovation, Learning and Sense of Place in a Globalising Ireland* (Blackhall Publishing) by Professor Finbar Bradley and Dr. James J. Kennelly.

Finbar Bradley is one Fionnbarra Ó Brolacháin, who founded the Irish Language Enterprise unit, Fionntar, in Dublin City University. He said that although the book was academic it contained one simple message '*Think globally but be rooted in Ireland*'. He said '*With globalisation there is more, not less, importance attached to the local place. A community, region or country is creative or innovative when they have distinctive knowledge and think in different ways or have special characteristics*

that are striving for independence and unification, like the Celtic countries of Alba/Scotland, Breizh/Brittany, Cymru/Wales, Éire/Ireland, Kernow/Cornwall and others like Catalunya, Basque Country, Flanders, Galicia and South Tyrol.

“If a second referendum is held in Ireland on the Treaty of Lisbon and the Irish public is persuaded into ratifying it, as was the case in 2001 and 2002 with the Treaty of Nice, this could spell, in reality, the democratic end of political independence movements within the EU. The Lisbon Treaty is no friend

to groups that push for greater political autonomy, the self-determination right and especially independence. That is why one of Ireland's biggest critics after the Irish no vote was the Spanish Government, who are concerned that their already powerful autonomous 'regions' of the Basque Country and Catalunya could one day soon begin moves towards independence from the Spanish state. With the Treaty of Lisbon in place and ratified by all states, independence will be a far more difficult goal to pursue within the EU.”

GAELSCOILEANNA CONFERENCE OPPOSES THREATS

At the Educational Conference and AGM in November, of Gaelscoileanna, (the organisation which promotes Irish Language Medium Education), anger and frustration was expressed at recent decisions of the Minister for Education which would seriously impede the progress of the organisations plans to provide increased access to Irish language medium education. The new Strategic Plan 2008-2011 for the organisation was launched during the weekend. This lays the foundation to continue the growth with an ambitious target to open 20 primary schools and 10 second level schools by 2013. This year the organisation celebrated the opening of four new primary level schools, one each in counties Monaghan, Dublin, Offaly and Wicklow. There are nine local committees hard at work for over a year aiming to open schools in 2009. The Minister for Education, Batt O'Keefe, could now thwart all their efforts by his announcement in Sept. that the arrangements for recognition of new schools would be reviewed and that this process would take two years. In the meantime no new schools outside 'growth' areas would be recognised. This is a total negation of promises made in the Government's statement on the Irish Language made in



Prof. Colin Baker

2006. A strongly worded motion was passed mandating Gaelscoileanna to vigorously oppose this latest assault on parents who want their children educated through Irish.

The theme of the conference this year was 'Ag Cothú Pobal Gaeilge lasmuigh den Seomra Ranga' (Cultivating an Irish Language Community outside the Classroom) and one of the main workshops of the event focussed on practical strategies in this area.

Following the trend of inviting leading experts from other Celtic countries the guest speaker at the Educational Conference was Professor Colin Baker, Bangor University, Wales. He delivered a stimulating address

on 'Changing Perspectives on Celtic Bilingual Education'. This outlined that Bilingual Education cannot be understood from just an educational perspective. It requires **multidisciplinary** perspectives:

1. **Language Planning Perspective**
2. **Political perspective.**
3. **An Economic Perspective and**
4. **The Pedagogical Perspective.**

He dealt with ten specific language issues in Bilingual Education and then stressed that to the four perspectives above must be added a fifth **A Child Centred Perspective**, going on to give the potential advantages to children of Celtic Bilingual Education, which stands the chance of giving a new generation of Celtic children child-centred advantages.

A delegation from Gaelscoileanna met the Minister in November but reports from the meeting were very negative. He apparently refused to abandon plans to curb the growth of new Gaelscoileanna and also to withdraw the circular issued by his predecessor, which banned early Irish immersion education. It seem that the parents groups who want Irish medium education for their children and Gaelscoileanna have a major fight on their hands.

Fight for Irish Language Act in North Continues



In mid October the umbrella organisation for Irish, POBAL, organised a march in Belfast calling for an Irish Language Act. It was attended by groups from all over the North, with some coming from the Republic. Over 4,000 attended the march, held just a year after the DUP Minister Edwin Poots announced his refusal to bring in legislation for an Irish Language Act, two years after it was promised by the Westminster Government in the St Andrews Agreement

and forty years after the first march for Civil Rights from Queen's University, Belfast. Janet Muller, Chief Executive of POBAL referred to the Language Acts in place in Scotland, Wales and the Republic and said the Irish language in the North deserved the same recognition from the British Government and the Unionists. She also called on the Irish Government to challenge British Premier, Gordon Brown, on the broken St Andrew's Agreement promise.

Just over a month later agreement was reached between Sinn Féin and the DUP on the recommencement of meetings of the Northern Executive. These had not taken place for about five months due to stalemate, largely on the issue of devolution of police and justice powers. First Minister, Peter Robinson (DUP) and Deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness (Sinn Féin) said they were agreed that devolution of these powers should happen. The likely scenario is that a Minister for Justice would be appointed under temporary rules with the permanent arrangements to be in place by next May. The Executive would meet weekly to clear the backlog of items. There was no mention of the main other item in dispute, the Irish Language Act. Janet Muller however welcomed the arrangement and expressed hope that the talks would lead to progress but she said nothing should be done that would leave provision for Irish linked to or depending on such for any other language (a clear reference to 'Ulster Scots').



Kernow



Dasserghyans an taves: sewen po meth?

Kaskyrgh dasserghyans Kernewek re strivyas moy es kans blydhen yn unn assaya gorra taves Kernow yn ganowyow an bobel. Byttegyns pyth eus dhyn wosa oll an termyn hir na? Gwir yw leverel bos nebes tus a woer klappya yn freth, nebes moy anedha a woer redya Kernewek yn ta, ha milyow gans konvedhes a nebes geryow ha lavarow. Byttegyns, hwath an gemmynieth na yw fest munys pan virir orth braster poblans an pow.

A-gynsow yth esa dadhel a-dro dhe selya kanel bellwolok Kernewek. Nebes huni a brofyas bos possybel y wul. Soweth, res o dhymm kewsel gans godhvos an media, ha wosa gul kodhethlians y'n taves rag unn vlydhen. Rag gul gonis pellwolok, y koedh bos lowr a dus a woer kewsel Kernewek yn freth rag gul an nowodhow, gwariow, hag erell. Ena y koedh bos milyow rag mires orth an gonis may hallo bos skoedhyans kenwerthek dre avisya. Truedhek yw bos difyk a dus a'n par na.

My eth dhe Lowender Peran mis Hedra gans jynn rekordya ha hwans a wul meur a geskows y'n taves rag Radyo an Gernewegva. Res yw dhyn aswonn bos an goel a-vri ma onan an hwarvosow a'n moyha Keltik yn Pow Kernow. Ytho, ny via koynt my dhe grysi bos chons da a gavoës meur a Gernewek kewsys ena. Truedhek yw derivas yth esa dyfyk. Heb mar, es o kavoes keskows freth dhiworth berdh a-vri kepar ha Pol Hodge, Elizabeth Stewart, Frances Bennett, ha nebes huni erell. Byttegyns, yn mysk an bush a ilewydhyon ha donsoryon, ny yllis kavoes saw deg a wodhya lowr.

Gwir yw leverel bos tevyans bras yn omaswonnvos Keltik yn Kernow. Y hyllir gweles baneryow Pyran yn pub sorn. Y hwelir kowethasow gans geryow Kernewek y'ga henwyn. Ha heb mar pub onan a woer bos hanow Kernewek a'gan pow 'Kernow'. Byttegyns, yw hemma lowr wosa moy es kans blydhen?

Wosa an termyn hir na, hwans via genev a weles kemmynieth a Gernewegoryon freth lies mil aga niver dhe'n lyha. Y fia kales kavoes tus na wodhya bos taves Kernewek. Drog yw genev derivas bos an niver boghes hwath... ha prag yth yw yndelma? A yllyn kuhudha an dhadhel hir ynter an bagasow Kernewek? Wel, heb mar ny wrug gweres. Dhe'm breus vy, an kudyn yw gnas an dasserghyans.

Ny vynnaw kewsel erbynn na an dus ow tyski na an dhyskatoryon, byttegyns, res yw dhymm avowa oll anedha a dhiskwa dyfyk a hwans kewsel an taves. Saw hobi yw dhe lies



Matthew Clarke
Courtesy Chris Bowden

huni, rag may hallens konvedhes styr aga hanow teylu, po chi. Da yw gansa redya an taves. Soweth, y hyllir kavoes lies huni neb re dhyskas Kernewek rag moy es deg blydhen, ha hwath skant ny wodhens leverel saw "meur ras", "marpleg2, ha "dydh da" hag ena an keskows a dheu ha bos Sowsnek arta.

Niverans gwrys a-gynsow gans Maga a dhiskwedhas bos brassa rann an dus gans les a Gernewek yw moy es hanter kans bloedh aga oes. Da yw genev i dhe gara Kernewek. Byttegyns, wosa kans blydhen, y koedh bos tommals a dus yowynk owth usya an taves a-vel arv polytek ha garma an taves yn unn serri.

Ny welav travyth a'n par na rag termyn hir, ha trist ha tewl yw ow derivas. Y karsen bos kamm pan lavarav bos studh gwann dhe'n taves hwath. A yll nebonan argya dhe'n konter?

Matthew Clarke

Summary

The Cornish language revival has been around for more than a hundred years and still the number of fluent speakers is incredibly small. Matthew Clarke argues that this could mean the revival has been a failure. But he is hoping someone can prove him wrong. Matthew Clarke is a broadcaster on Pirate FM and produces two weekly podcasts a week in Cornish on www.radyo.kernewegva.com. He is also a Cornish language songwriter and has produced three CDs with Skwardya.

An Kowllesker

Konsel Kernow re wrug kevambos gans an kowethas skoellya, SITA y hanow. Yma towlenn dhe drehevel kowllesker orth Dinas yn Kernow Kres. Gans gedyans dhiworth Europa erbynn tirlenwel hag eth ha tri ugens mil ji nowydh bos drehevys y'n nessa ugens blydhen yma kaletter bras dhe Gonsel Kernow. Pyth dhe wul gans oll an atal?

An problem a yll bos byghanhes yn kynsa le mars o Konsel Kernow harth lowr dhe skonya an dowlenn dhe drehevel 68,000 chi nowydh yn nessa 20 blydhen. An dowlenn ma re dheuth dhiworth South West of England Regional Development Agency (ny vynnaw treylya an hanow ma drefenn ev dhe wul poran pyth eus skrifys war an sten.). Mes an Lib Dems orth Hel Konteth a votyas dhe dhegemmeres hemma heb dadhla vyth. Yma an kethsam tra gans an governans Ruwvaneth Unys ow kemmeres an gedyans europek a-dro tirlenwel heb govynn hag yn sur heb prederi a-dro Kernow. Yn trist yma agan diwysogneth pri ow merwel ha Kernow y'jeva lies toll bras – The Eden Project (arta pyth yw an point treylya hanow an le ma) yw ensampel da.

Unn gorthyp yw kowlleskans; oll an atal a yll bos kuntellys ha kemmeres dre fordh ha leskys. An skoell yw leskys yn plont 'toemnder ha galloes kesunys' ha'n nerth devnydhys gans an kemmynieth teythek.

Kowlleskans o an gorthyp nans yw deg blydhen! An gwella lemmyyn yw goans anerobek mayth eus an atal kuntellys ha gesys dhe bodri. An methan gwrys yw kuntellys ha leskys dhe wul tredan. Pyth eus gesys yw skwatys dhe wul ynysegans rag chio...wel mar mynnons i drehevel 68,000 chi y fia fur kavoes devnydhyansow teythek ha devnydhyansow a ylli gwitha nerth.

Yma lies den erbynn an dowlenn ma; kynsa an teknologeth kowlleski yw seulabrys koth y'n dydhyow ma hag ynwedh le effeythus ages fordhow nowydh rag ensampel 'goans anerobek'.

An kudynn genen ni, trigoryon a Gernow, yw hemma; an gonseloryon orth Hel Koneth re sinas kevambos a geln yn laghel Kernow dhe gowlleskans rag 30 bloedh. Ny yll Kernow kavoes an teknologethow nowydh a hedhyw po a-vorrow. Gweth ages hemma agan konsel a ros dhe SITA agan negys skoellya CEM. Yn hwir rag bos sur y fydh kowllesker drehevys an Lib Dems a votyas ri a ves heb kost vyth CEM ha ganso oll an gwiryow omblegya po devnydhyia tirlenwel. Kekkefrys yma edhomm tylli

pymp mil beuns yn tollow dhe'n governans rag ri an ro ma dhedha – ankrysadow!

Nessa, an kowlesker a wra 'dewoksins' (kemygow a wra kanker) ha herwydh nebes a yll distriui an diwysogneth boes yn Kernow. Tus negys re leveris yn foblek bos ogas hag ugens mil soedh yn-dann wodros.

Ye, sur an plont a wra oberi fest yn ta dhe dhalleth hag y fydh an dewoksins orth nivel isel lowr rag an lagha mes preder rag pols. Pan wra vysytor dhe Gernow dybri pasti yma ev po hi ow tybri 'A Cornish pasty' – ny vern mars eus an pasti dhiworth Porthbud po Penntorr po Penn an Wlas – pasti yw Kernewek ha dhe vos gwir dhiworth Kernow ha gans henna leun a dhewoksins. Hag y fydh pur es dhe worra hasenn a dhowt yn y po hy brys. Dewoksins a wra ri dhis



A computer generated image of incinerator in Cornwall.

kanker hag yma dewoksins y'n ayr Kernewek. An den dhiworth Bristol a leveris yndella (godhoniethor distegell?) Dewoksins a dheu dhiworth py le – A! An chymbbla ena! Towlennys yw dhe gavoës chymbbla 120 meter gans golowyow ow terlenti. An welenn bellwolok orth Peder Bownder yw 150 meter. Pan wel tus an welenow orth Peder Bownder po Bre Garadon i a bred.. pellwolok pan wrons i gweles an chymbbla orth Dinas i a wra prederi... dewoksins.

Tressa, Konsel Kernow yw kelmys dhe'n kevambos yw deg war'n ugens bloedh. Mar kwra an erbysieyth treyllya yn feur y fia res rag SITA kemmeres atal dhiworth Aberplymm po leski atal diwysogethel nag yw gwiw rag an kowlesker po leski orth tempredh isella dhe witha gass.

An plont a wra oberi yn ta hag e nowydh mes

Ytho yw an kowlesker, hag y fydh marnas onan, da po drog rag Kernow? My a grys bos an erviransow gwrys a-barth an pobel a Gernow kamm yn tien ha selys war bolitegow yn le godhonieth.

Pol Hodge

Summary

This article discusses the subject of waste management in Cornwall from a proposed incinerator in St Dennis to the building of houses.



THE CORNISH FIGHTING FUND

The Cornish Fighting Fund was launched in August 2008 with the aim of funding an ongoing legal battle against the UK Government by the Cornwall 2000 pressure group with the intention of getting the Cornish people included within the Council of Europe's 'Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities'. The organisation needs to raise £100,000 in pledges to cover the potential costs of getting the case to the European Court of Human Rights at Strasbourg.

The Cornish fit all the criteria for inclusion within the FCNM but the UK Government have singled them out as the only group NOT to be included. Cornwall Council, the UK Commission for Racial Equality and the Council of Europe itself have all strongly advised the Government to include the Cornish in the Convention, but to no avail. This reluctance is believed to be based on the fact that there are unresolved territorial issues relating to the ambiguous legal status of the Duchy of Cornwall. The Cornish appear to be the unwitting victims of the Governments desire to suppress these issues and maintain the status quo.

Under protection from the FCNM the Cornish would gain official recognition as a minority group within the UK and be treated the same as other groups already included within the Convention, i.e. Ulster-Scots, Welsh, Gaels, Irish Travellers etc. Apart from providing the Cornish with parity of esteem and equality of status, the Convention would strengthen the Cornish identity by, among other things, bringing to an end the suppression of Cornish history in schools.

Whether Cornish or English, school children in the Duchy are forced to adhere to an English National Curriculum. This curriculum does not meet the Governments legal obligations regarding the provision of a pluralistic educational programme. It also fails to fulfil the educational needs of Cornish children - who are obliged to undergo forced assimilation. The Convention has within it a provision to end forced assimilation of minorities, and this is one reason why Government are so determined to prevent the Cornish from coming under its protection.

With a deadline of the end of December the Cornish Fighting Fund still needs to raise approximately £75,000 in pledges. You can do your bit for Cornwall by visiting the CFF website, studying the content and making a commitment to fight this current injustice.

Please log on to:

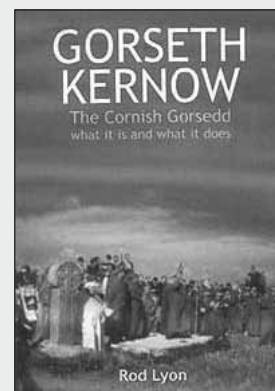
<http://www.cornishfightingfund.org/>

and make a pledge. More info here:

<http://duchyofcornwall.eu/duchy05.php>

<http://www.petitiononline.com/CORNISH/petition.html>

C Todd



Gorseth Kernow/The Cornish Gorsedd: what it is and what it does' by Rod Lyon

This year marks the 80th anniversary of Gorseth Kernow and sees the publication of a booklet, which looks at the organisation from the inside.

As well as charting its origins in early Britain and Wales, Rod Lyon (Tewennow) looks at its ceremonies and regalia and explores the impact of key figures such as Henry Jenner and Robert Morton Nance. He explains, too, how Gorseth Kernow has changed over the years and how it sees its role in 21st-century Cornwall and across the Cornish diaspora.

Lavishly illustrated in full colour with many previously unseen photographs, "Gorseth Kernow/The Cornish Gorsedd" also contains explanatory notes about Gorsedd regalia and handy lists of Grand Bards, Deputy Grand Bards and Gorsedd sites.

Price: £5-70 (UK) or £6.45 (overseas) cheques payable to Gorseth Kernow The Treasurer, David Lindo can be contacted at david.lindo@lineone.net the Treasurer's Pay Pal address.

For further enquiries contact: Ann Trevenen Jenkin, Chair of Gorsedd Publications, An Gernyk, Fordh an Chapel, Leedstown, Hayle TR27 6BA, Kernow/Cornwall, Uk. Tel: 01736-850332.



Mannin



Yn Cohaglym Celtiagh Eddyrashoonagh 2008

Hie yn Cohaglym Celtiagh Eddyrashoonagh er cummal Jerrey Souree ayns Aberystwyth, ayns troggalyn Ollooscoil Vretyn. Myr dy cliaghtagh, va'n cohaglym goaill stiagh shey leaghtyn (nane veih gagh cheer), turrysyn, cuirraghyn-kiuallee as shirveish-chillagh. She yn çhymmyltaght va bun-chooish ny leaghtyn, as, myr yinnagh oo jerkal, va anchaslys dy liooar eddyr ny aghtyn va ny shey loayrtee dellal rish y chooish. She Peter Davies loayr son Bretyn. T'eh ny choylragh-shalee ta gobbraghey marish ny kerrooyn preevaadaghy, theayagh as arryltagh. Eshyn y lhiass-chaairliagh son Bretyn jeh Bing Lhiassaghey Yn-yummyrkey yn Reeriaght Unnaneysit (UK Sustainability Development Commission) – t'eh cur coyrle da, as scrutaghey, livrey-ys Cho-whaiyl Vretyn jeh lhiassaghy yn-yummyrkey. Kiarthey elley t'echey, ta shen arganagh, erskyn ooilley sy Chorn. She co-oardaghey giastyllsyn Phrinse Vretyn y kiarthey shen. Roish shoh ooilley, va Peter Davies gobbraghey marish colughtyn jeadyssagh. Y bun jeh loayrtys Peter Davies, va shen dy begin da Bretnee greinnaghey moyrn sy çheer, çengey as cultoor oc hene. Ragh shen marish jeeanid dy chummal ayns seihll glass, yinnagh Bretyn roshtyn liorish leodaghey as geddyn rey rish croghey er connaghyn-carboan as shaleeyn glassey elley. Va 'Troorane dy Chaghlaa' ayn – y reiltys, colughtyn-dellal as y theay. Lhiassagh y reiltys leedeil, agh va Co-whaiyl Vretyn ayns Caerdydd rour goll rish bolgan v'ayns seihll elley. Va mysh tree millioon dy leih ayns Bretyn, agh cha row fys ny anaase ec y chooid smoo jeh er cooishyn y çhymmyltaght as lhiassaghy yn-yummyrkey. Va genney moyrn ashoonagh ayn. 'C' red oddys Bretyn jannoo? Beggan', va sleih gra. Oddagh colughtyn-dellal jannoo ram son y chooish ghllass, ga dy nee colughtyn-dellal ren ram jeeyl ayns ny bleecantyn t'er n'oll shaghey. Dy jarroo, son cooid vooar, ta shin croghey er colughtyn-dellal dy lhiassaghey connaghyn yn-aanoaghey. Va Bretyn nane jeh ny chieid çheeraghyn dy chur toshiaght da'n Ravloid Jeadyssagh. Agh ta shoh er naagail brockyn agglagh, erskyn ooilley ayns y jiass jeh'n çheer. Ta doolaneyn mooarey ayn: cooishyn-slaynt, cooishyn genney kiartaghyn, boghtyns. Agh ta reddyn mie taghyrt. Myr sampleyr, ta skeym ayn dy chur y caa da sleih aeg veih jiass Vretyn goll dy obbraghey er gowaltysyn ayns y twoaie. Ta shoh er ghreinnaghey bree

noa sy sleih aeg shen. As loayr Peter Davies mychione y doilleeid jeh coadey yn çhymmyltaght as sharaghey arraghey ayns Bretyn ec y traa cheddin. Ayns Bretyn, s'doillee goll my hwoaie veih'n jiass as my yiass veh'n twoaie. Myr shen, va Bretnee jeant booiagh dy chlashtyn mychione shirveish-aer noa eddyr Ynys Môn as y jiass. Agh shirveish-aer elley as shynyn coadey'n çhymmyltaght?

Dimraa Peter Davies y ghleashaght Baljyn Chaghlaa (Transition Towns movement) as cre cho scanshoil as t'ee. Agh, myr ram reddyn bentyn rish y çhymmyltaght, she sleih veih buill çheumooie jeh Bretyn ta goaill cooishyn ayns laue. T'eh yn un red ayns gagh çheer Cheltiagh – she sleih t'er jeet stiagh ta goaill cooishyn ayns laue.

She Muriel le Morvan loayr son y Vritaen. T'ee ny h-earisheyr daa-hengagh ta gobbraghey son yn ammyr-çhellveeish France 3 Breizh. Hoshiaght, loayr ee mychione yn agh ta ooill veih lhongyn er hollaghey traieyn sy Vritaen as er nyannoo jeeyl vooar da cretooryn feie sy çheer shen. Son y chooid smoo, loayr ee mychione eiyrtys y virril harmaynagh sy Vritaen haghyr lurg y nah chaggey mooar. Chroo eirinee cho-obbraghyn va feer speeideilagh, as hug ad Brittany Ferries er bun dy lhiassaghey turrysid dy mooar. Haink eiryns Britaanagh dy ve feer speeideilagh as ny Britaanee creck ram lossreeyn, ollagh as muccyn çheumooie jeh'n Vritaen. Agh nish ta prios dy ve eekit. Va eoylley ass towse currit er y thaloo. Va paart jeh'n eoylley foaysagh, agh cha row eirinee agh geddyn rey rish eoylley son y chooid smoo. Ta shoh er nyannoo jeeyl vooar da'n thaloo, as eh croo famlagh quaagh er ny traieyn neesht. Chammas as shen, va rouyr ymyd jeant jeh naitraidyn. Son y chooid smoo, ta eirinee mee-arryltagh dy chredjal dy vel jeeyl jeant as dy vel ad foast jannoo jeeyl. Ayns y Vritaen as ayns y Rank, cha nel monney sleih arryltagh dy ghoail rish dy vel ad jannoo jeeyl da'n çhymmyltaght. Bentyn rish eeastagh, s'olk ta cooishyn. Rish bleecantyn, ta eeasteyryn Britaanagh er ve eginit shiaulley ny sodjey as ny sodjey magh eeastyn erbee y hayrtyn. Goll rish eeasteyryn ayns çheeraghyn elley, she ny sheanseyrn (scientists) ny noidyn mooarey oc. Cha nel ny eeasteyryn credjal (ny gra nagh vel ad credjal) nagh bee eeastyn erbee faagit mannagh jig caghlaaghyn mooarey.

Ga dy vel cooishyn er ve goll dy moal bentyn rish coadey'n çhymmyltaght sy Vritaen, ta

22 ynyd mwylyjn-geayee ayns shen ry hoi giennaghtyn lectraghys. Cha nel cooishyn aachoorisal (recycling) goll dy mie – ta ram losteyderyn ayn cour geddyn rey rish orçh. Agh va tooilley sleih goaill toshiaght dy hoiggal y scansh jeh coadey'n çhymmyltaght.

Loayr Éanna Ní Lamhna son Nerin. Booise da Jee son ny Yernee! Loayr ee dy niartal lesh bree as aittys. Ren ee ronsaght myr benecology, as t'ee er ve Eaghtyrane An Taisce – Treisht Ashoonagh Nerin. T'ee er screeu lioaryn as er nobbraghey dy niartal myr loayrtagh mychione cretooryn feie as y çhymmyltaght er y çhellveeish. Dooyrt ee dy row yn Çheegyr Celtiagh ersooyl – v'eh sleetçal ayns corneil nish. S'mooar y jeeyl va jeant da'n çhymmyltaght ayns lhing y Çheegyr Celtiagh. Va reiltys Nerin er chredjal nagh dod troggyderyn-thie jannoo red erbee agairagh, as shimmeyn peiagh v'er neeassaghey argid goll rish y jouyl. Kyndagh rish shen, hie meeillaghyn as meeillaghyn dy hieyn noa er troggal fud ny çheerey, ram jeu ayns buill cheoi. Va ymmodee thieyn noa nyn shassoo nyn



Éanna Ní Lamhna

lomarcen, magh ayns y çheer. Shimme y keayrt, cha nee baljyn begghey kiart v'ayn, agh çhaglymyn dy hieyn va troggit er agh fud y cheilley fegooish sornaigys cooie as foddey ersooyl veih scoillyn erbee. Cha row yn sornaigys goll er dellal rish dy kiart, as mennick dy liooar va sornaigys pishooney'n thaloo. As va boiraghyn mooarey ayn buill ennagh bentyn rish glennid yn ushtey ry hoi iu ec sleih. Va sleih dy liooar cummal ayns buill foddey veih'n obbyr oc, as va earroo ommidjagh dy leih nish eginit croghey er gleashtanyn dy bollagh. My v'ou coontey ny meeillaghyn meanagh va gagh gleashtan ayns Nerin troailt ayns blein, v'eh yn earroo smoo syn Unnaneys Oarpagh, as eer ny smoo na shen ayns ny Steatyn Unnaneysit! Chammas as shen, ta gagh peiagh ayns Nerin ceau ersooyl ram orçh – 804 kg/(peiagh)

continued on page 18

Manx Language GCSE Success



From left to right, Cesar, Sinéad and Jemma.

Photo courtesy Fiona McArdle.

In September 2007 three of the students who left Bunscoil Ghaelgagh, transferred to the secondary school in Peel, (the only school to make provision for some curriculum lessons through Manx).

Sinéad Kaneen, Cesar Joughin, and Jemma Mulhern, all age 12, took GCSE Manx this summer, four years earlier than is usual to sit GCSEs and all three succeeded in gaining A*.

Yn Cohaglym Celtiagh Eddyrashoonagh continued

(blein). Red ver yindys er sleih dy liooar, va Éanna Ní Lamhna slane ayns foayr jeh losteyderyn, as rass-reap myr bio-chonney. V'ee smooïnaghtyn dy jinnagh cooishyn sharaghey ayns Nerin bentyn rish y çhymmyltaght er y fa dy row yn aeglagh gynsaghey mychione y çhymmyltaght ayns ny scoillyn, as va reddyn goll rish ny curreeyn çheet dy ve coadit.

Loayr Julie Tamblin (veih'n Chorn) mychione y Ghleashaght Chaghlāa as y scansh jeh ny Baljyn Chaghlāa, goll rish Lostwithiel. Shoh gleashaght ta çheet veih'n theay, agh foddee dy vel gaue ayn dy jig ny fir-toshee dy ve myr jeeghyn. Loayr Ruairidh Mac Illeathain son Nalbin, as ren eh dellal rish y chooish er aght lane anchasley. Va carrey da er ninsh da dy row gaue ayn dy row Gaeil Nalbin lhiggey harrish nyn gultoor hene as ad gaavioaghey yn chengey. Myr shen, loayr Ruairidh mychione y cultoor Gaelagh yindyssagh ta tashtit ayns enmyn-buill Nalbin. Phil Gawne, Shirveishagh Eirinys son Reiltys Vannin, loayr eshyn son Mannin. Va Mannin er ve moal bentyn rish coadey'n çhymmyltaght as connaghyn yn-aanoaghey, agh v'ee goaill toshiaght dy ghoostey nish. Va Phil Gawne noi jannoo bio-chonnaghyn. V'eh jeaghtyn roish gys y laa veagh Mannin seyr veih connaghyn-carboan.

Summary

The main theme at the 2008 International Celtic Congress was sustainability and the environment. In general, the Celtic countries had been slow to recognise the dangers to the environment and the urgent need for sustainability, but recognition was improving.

Brian Stowell

'MERCHANT OF DEATH' - ANY MANX LINKS QUERY?

The Celtic League have asked the Chief Minister of the Isle of Man if an International arms dealer, once dubbed by a British Minister as a 'Merchant of Death' and currently the subject of US extradition efforts in Thailand, has had any links with the Isle of Man.

Several years ago a UN report alleged that Viktor Bout was the mastermind behind most illegal arms shipments to Africa. Many of these were carried by an air transport company first registered in Ireland by company formation agents, who set up the company on behalf of an Isle of Man company, which has subsequently been dissolved.

J.B. Moffatt

CHRONICLES - DON'T BE DEFEATIST MANX GOVERNMENT URGED

The Celtic League have urged the Isle of Man government to continue to press the United Kingdom to restore the Chronicles of Man and the Isles for permanent exhibition at the Manx Museum.

Earlier this year the Manx government indicated that an approach to the UK had been rebuffed and that they were abandoning efforts to seek the Chronicles return.

The League have said that this attitude is defeatist and cited the example of the transfer of the Icelandic manuscripts from Denmark to Iceland in much more difficult circumstances as an example the two governments should look to.

JBM

THE FUTURE OF MANX AGRICULTURE

There is a split in opinion on the way Manx agriculture should go. "Farmers For Productive Farming", who are against the proposals by the Department of Agriculture, to transfer payments to Manx farmers (subsidies) to care for the countryside, with no need to produce food.

The Minister for Agriculture, Phil Gawne, stated that proposed changes from animal subsidies to payment for acreage was fairer, and would allow farmers to respond to demands by the consumer rather than being dictated to by government. This is due to be debated in Tynwald in December and the complete change from the old method of payment to the new, will to come into force in April next year, if the Department of Agriculture gets its wish.

"Farmers for Productive Farming", is not against introducing the change known as "decoupling", but believes it should be done more gradually, to give farmers a chance to adjust.

At the end of September a meeting was arranged by PAG (Progressive Action Group) entitled "Food for Thought". Initially, it was intended to give both sides of the argument a platform to put forward their case. In the event it turned out to be a talk by



Phil Gawne

Phil Gawne, Minister for Agriculture, followed by some questions from the floor, with too little time to give the opposition a chance to express their opinions.

Maughold farmer, David Moore, issued a press release at the end of August which the press has not been taken up so far. It was quite detailed and perhaps rather longer than Manx News Group can handle. However a more concise handout produced by "Farmers for Productive Farming" and was available at the meeting and published below. They urge the public who support their campaign, to contact Tynwald members to persuade the Department of Agriculture to change its policy and "stop the transfer of food subsidies to the countryside care scheme". If that fails, they would like an all Island referendum on it.

C.J.K.

Celtica

This AGM rejects the anti democratic attitudes shown by some European state leaders, like Sarkozy, with regard to the Irish NO vote on the Lisbon referendum. We call for the Irish referendum vote to be respected.

Tacaíonn an Chruinniú Chinn Bhliana seo leis na hiarrachtaí le hAcht Gaeilge a bhaint amach sa Tuaisceart.

Celtic League Annual General Meeting 2008

Baile Átha Cliath, Éire

Delegates from the six Celtic nations assembled in the offices of Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge for the annual general meeting of the Celtic League on Saturday 16th of August.

Many topics were discussed during the course of the day. The meeting heard reports from all Branches and the Officers. Among the many topics discussed were the Celtic League website and the future of Carn. Regarding the website it was decided that hosting companies in the six Celtic nations be investigated and that the new site should have the six Celtic languages on it. The delegates felt it was important to continue publishing Carn for the next few years despite a reduction in the number to be published each year from four to three. The commitment to produce an online version of Carn in the near future was agreed upon.

The meeting was especially happy to hear of the dropping of charges against Kernow member Tony Leamon and that he was able to be present to represent his nation at the meeting.

The incumbent officers were re-elected to their respective offices. A newcomer to the League, Seanán Ó Coistín from Éire, was elected to the position of Assistant General Secretary.

The delegates met later for social entertainment in Club an Chonartha in Dublin city centre where Irish and Breton musicians played.



Seanán Ó Coistín from Éire, new Assistant General Secretary.



Some of the delegates at this year's AGM

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Members can follow the progress made on these resolutions by visiting the CL News List at: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league/

Alba

This AGM:

1. Supports the SNP's call to lower fuel duty, as this comprises the majority of the cost of petrol in the UK, and is especially crippling in rural/island areas.

1.2. Emphasises that oil money should be invested in Scotland's post oil future as occurs in other oil rich states.

2.1 Opposes the Norwegian Government's attempts to close their consulate in Edinburgh

2.2 Notes that this is extremely bad timing with Scotland progressing towards independence, and that it is opposed by most of the consular staff.

2.3 Emphasises that Norway is held up as a positive example in Scotland as a successful nation, and that many Norwegians, especially students and oil workers live here.

Éire

Diúltaíonn an Chruinniú Chinn Bhliana seo do dhearcadh mídhaonlathach roinnt ceannairí stáit san Eoraip, ar nós Sarkozy, i leith vóta NÍL na hÉireann san reifreann ar Chonradh Liospóin. Eilíonn muid go seasfar le toradh pobalbreith na hÉireann.

This AGM supports the efforts to achieve an Irish Language Act in the North of Ireland.

Cáineann an Chruinniú Chinn Bhliana seo Rialtas na hÉireann as ucht tógáil motar bealach an M3, atá ag déanamh ollscrios ar iarsmaí ársa náisiúnta na hÉireann, i ngleann Teamhair/Srín.

This AGM condemns the Irish Government for building the M3 motorway, which is destroying ancient Irish monumental features, in the Tara/ Skrine valley



Tony Leamon representing the Kernow Branch

Kernow

This AGM supports the campaign to secure a .KER internet domain name for Kernow and encourages closer cooperation between the .SCO, .BZH, .CYM and .KER campaigns to secure internet domain names for Alba, Breizh, Cymru and Kernow respectively.

Mannin

This AGM:

Views with concern the decision of the Isle of Man Department of Trade and Industry to consider licensing sea-bed aggregate exploratory works in the North Irish sea.

This AGM:

- Calls upon the Isle of Man government to accept that 'The Chief Ministers Drug and Alcohol Strategy' has been an abject failure.
- Urges the government to convene, as a matter of urgency, a meeting of all relevant interest groups in civil society on the Isle of Man to determine a workable alternative.

General Secretary

In view of the fact that the Hill of Tara was named one of the world's top one hundred most endangered heritage sites by the World Monument Fund (WMF) and in recognition of its cultural and archaeological significance in Eire and the rest of the Celtic world, this AGM calls for the Hill to be dedicated as an UNESCO World Heritage site.

Convenor (Cathal Ó Luain) and Editor (Patricia Bridson)

This AGM of the Celtic League confirms that it will continue with the publication of CARN magazine (3 issues each year) until at least 2011 (the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Celtic League)

This AGM welcomes the Irish NO vote on the Lisbon Referendum, and commends the Irish Branch for its part in opposing the Lisbon Treaty and supporting a NO vote. We call on the EU leaders to respect the Irish decision, realise that the Lisbon Treaty is dead and review the whole process and direction of the European Community to ensure that a truly democratic Europe, which respects the rights of its citizens and workers is proposed.

Director of Information

This AGM:

Mindful that in the past two decades a significant number of child care scandals have occurred in various Celtic countries calls upon the National governments within the Celtic countries to carry out a retrospective child care audit to ensure that those whose lives were damaged in state institutions achieve redress.

Independence more necessary with financial crisis

Dear Editor,

I note that all the usual suspects in the media have decided that the current world financial crisis presents definitive proof that Scottish independence is now a hopeless cause. Given that none of them believed in independence in the first place this is no great shock.

What has actually happened is that the British parliament has used its superior financial muscle to buy our banks out and move control directly from Edinburgh to the city of London. As an independent nation this definitely would not have happened.

Whether it was a brilliant idea or a disastrous financial mistake is the question. In truth it is likely to be a bit of both. It may well help stabilise the UK economy but it will undoubtedly undermine Scotland's long-term financial prospects.

No country around the world is looking for political control to be taken away from them in the midst of this financial crisis. Quite the reverse.

Iceland was in part brought down by the British Labour Government's illegal

appropriation of 4 billion pounds of funds held by Icelandic banks under 'anti-terrorism' legislation. Iceland described this as an 'extremely unfriendly' act.

At the same time the new Scottish Secretary has deliberately insulted all our near neighbours by claiming they share an "arc of insolvency" despite the fact that Norway and Ireland have both acted more swiftly than the UK and with better effect.

The UK might be pleased to hear that they do share a political set of values with one Government however. Yes, Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe is trying to convince his political opponent that control of foreign policy, defence and home affairs is best left in his capable hands. A deal that Morgan Tsvangirai says 'only an idiot' would accept. Sounds familiar? Well isn't that the 'great deal' that British unionism offers for Scotland!

Independence is normality and nothing in the current financial crisis suggests a long-term problem for small nations. It does however show very clearly the problem of being ruled by a political union where your country is outvoted 11-1.

Yours faithfully,
Joe Middleton

Antonine Wall Wins World Heritage Status

Alan Stewart writes about the most important Roman fortification remaining in Scotland.

The Antonine Wall runs from Bo'ness on the Firth of Forth across Central Scotland to Old Kilpatrick on the Firth of Clyde. It was begun about AD142, during the reign of the Roman Emperor Antonius Pius. The idea was to extend the Roman Empire's northern frontier into Caledonia and it took about 12 years to build.

The wall consisted of a turf rampart sat on a stone foundation with a ditch in front. To the south ran a military road. Along the wall some 19 forts were also built. One of the smaller ones –but also one of the best preserved- is Rough Castle Fort near Bonnybridge.

In the end the wall was only defended for about 20 years. During that time it was constantly attacked by the Picts. Thereafter, with the Roman Empire already on the wane, a decision was made to abandon it.

Although much of the wall has vanished beneath "farms, housing estates, golf courses and motorways" parts of it –about a 1/4 – do survive to this day and on 7 July this year the remaining bits achieved World Heritage Status (Belcher 2008).

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

American Branch Internet Site

www.celticleague.org

International Branch Internet Site

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

Email: International Branch Secretary
mlockerby@enterprise.net

COMPETITION

The lucky winner of the *As Yesterday Begins* by Les Merton was Irish Branch Member, Micheál Mac Aonghusa.

King Arthur's Realm by David P. Riley is the prize for this Competition. Readers need only answer the following question – answer can be found in this issue!

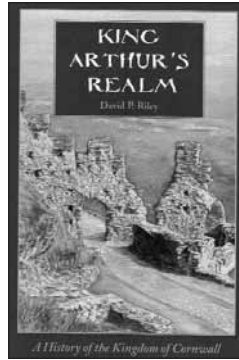
Q. What was Ian Hamilton QC's ultimate moment of triumph?

I would like to urge members and readers to enter these completions, the response to the Carn 141 competition was, disappointingly, very poor.

King Arthur's Realm by David P. Riley - ISBN 978-0-7223-3574-1 – Published by Arthur H. Stockwell Ltd, Torrs Park, Ilfracombe, North Devon, EX34 8BA at £19.99 hardback

Review

This is an impressive book by teacher, David Riley, who is a member of the Cornish Branch of the Celtic League. The book is authoritative and extremely well researched and quite obviously represents a work of love on the part of its author. The volume's subtitle 'A History of the Kingdom of Cornwall' represents an excellent précis of the contents although the research contained within its 252 pages detail not only Cornish history but closely related themes, exploring as it does how Cornwall fitted into Dumnonia, one of the foremost Kingdoms of Dark-Age Britain. Refreshingly, it shows



that Cornwall is a quite distinctive part of Great Britain with a history & heritage quite different from England's although affected by events in that Country. Not only does it shine a bright light on what have rather misleadingly been called the Dark Ages by some but it leads through its text to the more modern Cornish migrations across the globe. Interwoven within Mr. Riley's study are Arthurian legends and how these were used to enhance the status of the later Lords of Cornwall thus giving the book great breadth as well as depth. An altogether enjoyable read and one which tidily pulls together Cornish history into one neat volume so allowing the Cornish enthusiast an instant reference point as well as being of general interest to the lay reader. The book sits comfortably with the growing calls for greater recognition of Cornish ethnicity if not nationality and certainly is the foundation of a claim for autonomy and nationhood enjoyed by our brethren in Wales, Scotland and other Celtic Nations.

Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership/subscription rates (including *Carn*) are: €23.00, Sterling £13.50, Europe (airmail) £17.00, Outside Europe £20.00. US\$30.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank).

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

Material for the next issue of *Carn* should reach the Editor no later than 1st February 2009. 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

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