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CALUMCILLE... AN DÒRAINN AGUS A' BHUAIDH AIGE

Am bliadhna cuimhnichidh sinn air bàs Chalumcille, oir chaochail e 1400 bliadhna seo chaidh. Air 11 Sultainn nochd poball na h-Alba gun robh sin cheart cho dèidheil air a bhi cho saor à Sasain is a bha Calumcille e-fhéin nuair a shaor e Alba à Eirin aig Drumceatt sa bhliadhna 575 AD.

eugh mi a h-uile leabhar mu dheighinn Chalumcille as urrainn domh fhaotainn. Bha sgeulachdan gu leór ri fhaighinn mu na gnìomhan glòrmhor a rinn e ann an Alba agus mar a bha e 'na phrìomh naomh an Alba... ach cha robh móran ri radha a thaobh na beatha aige an Eirinn. Carson? Shaoil mi gun robh rudeigin air a cheill... chì sinn...

AN ÒIGE AIGE

Rugadh Calumcille an Garton. Dùn nan Gall sa bhliadhna 521 AD agus chaochail e air Eilean I, o chionn 1400 bliadhna, sa bhliadhna 597, aois 76.

Nuair a bha e sia bliadhna air fhichead a dh'aois bha e a' theagasg sa Cholaiste Moibhi, Glaisneamhan. Baile Átha Cliath. Bha a h-uile cail sa chiad dol a-mach a' dol gu math. ach ann an ùine ghoirid, thàinig droch thubaist — a'

phlàigh bhuidhe! Mharbh i oileanaich is luchd-teagaisg agus dh'fhalbh na hoileanaich dhachaigh. Gun oileanaich dhùin a' cholaiste agus bha Calumcille gun obair!

Mata, thill e dhachaigh, gu ruige Doire, don chinneadh aige. Clann Connail, sliochd O Nèill. Fhuair e obair mar fhear-theagaisg don cheann-cinnidh, Aedh, a bha deich bliadhna, aig an àm sin. Cha robh Aedh ach na chealgaire 's na bhlaigeard a bha daonnan a' dèanamh foill agus a' bagairt air ar-amach thoirt an aghaidh a cho-ogha Diarmait agus esan 'na Ard-Righ Eirinn, Shanntaich Aedh gu mór a bhi na Ard-Righ e-fhéin agus bha e deònach Diarmait bochd a mharbhadh air son sin agus àite a ghabhail.

AN LETH-BHREAC

Bha Calumcille dìleas don chinneadh aige, do na Gàidheil agus an dualachas againn, ach, os cionn na h-uile, bha gaol mór aige air a bhi na mhisionaraidh a' sgaoileadh Soisgeil Chrìosda a-measg nam pàganach. Ach bha e ro chas is ro

chinnteach 'na bharail fhéin.

Mata, thachair tachartas a bha sa chiad dol a-mach suarach ach mu dheireadh thall ruaigeadh ar naomh mach à Eirinn! Bliadhnachan an deigh sin chaidh e gu ruige Moibhil (Moville) a dhèanamh céilidh air maighstir-sgoile a b'aithne 'na òige... Finian. Bha e glé thoilichte fhaicinn a-risd, ach, chuala e gun robh leabhraichean nuadh aig Finian agus bha gaol mór aig Calumcille air leabhraichean.

'Bu mhian leam leth-bhreac a dhèanamh den Shalmadiar nuadh agaibhsa.' arsa Calumcille.

Dhiùlt Finian, oir bha fios aige gum biodh Calumcille a' dèanamh leth-bhric gu leór as a chiad leth-bhreac seo agus bhiodh e a' reic gach fear aig prìs ro mhór air sgath na misionaireachd aig Calumcille, agus bha Finian fhéin agus a' cholaiste aige bochd.

Bha Calumcille cinnteach gun robh efhéin ceart gu leór. Gu dé ach fhuair Finian ar naomh a' déanamh leth-breac neolaghail re na h-oidhche nuair a bha chuid eile de'n t-saoghal 'na chadal.

AM BREITHEANAS

'Sin a'nall an leth-bhreac agadsa, air neo. théid mi gu lagh eadhon don Ard-chuirt an Tara, arsa Finian.

Dhiùlt ar gaisgeach agus chaill e a' chùis aige.

Dé thuirt am britheamh an Gàidhlig na h-Eirinn ach:-

'Le gach boin a boinin.

Is gach lebur a lebran'

no, mar a theireadh sin an diugh:-

·Le gach bó a laogh

Is gach leabhar a leth-bhreac."

Dh'òrdaich an Ard-chuirt Calumcille an leth-bhreac a thoirt do Finian. Dhiùlt Calumcille a risd, ged a bha am breitheanas gu tu ceart... a' chiad cùis a thaobh na dhligh-sgrìobhaidh. (copyright).

A nisd, bha Aedh 'na inbheach agus smaoinich e gun d'thàinig cothrum ar-amach a thoirt an aghaidh an Ard-Righ. Diarmait bochd. Gheibheadh e coire do Chalumcille.

Bhiodh batail ann agus bhiodh Calumcille toilichte an leth-bhreac a nochdadh don Arm bhon a bha e cho chinnteach 'na bharail fhéin. Thuit Calumcille (agus esan neo-chiontach) a-steach don ribe aig Aedh olc. Nochd Calumcille leth-bhreac de'n t-Salmadair gu rag-mhuinealach don Arm a bha aig Aedh. roimh Bhlàr Culdreimhne faisg air Drumcliffe an taobh an iar na h-Eirinn.

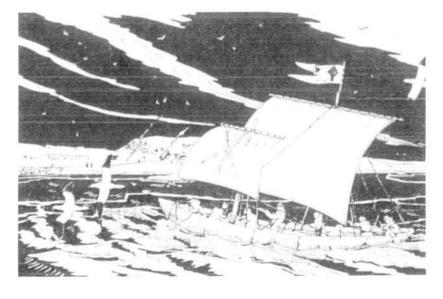
TORADH A' CHATHA

Thuit tri mile duine an Culdreimhne agus choirich Aedh a cho-ogha Calumcille.

'Tha a' choire sin aig Calumcille! Nach thaca sibh mar a dh'fhoillsich e an lethbhreac don Arm uile gu leir!' arsa Aedh.

Agus chreid muinntir na h-Eirinn e. Cha do thuig iad gun robh Aedh e-fhéin cionntach. An deidh sin bha an leth-bhreac ainmichte 'An Cathach' agus tha e ri fhaicinn fhathast anns an Royal Irish Academy, Baile Átha Cliath! Fad corr is mìle bliadhna chuireadh daoine a-steach do pheile dh'uisge e (an àite buinn airgid) agus thilgeadh iad an t-uisge thairis air bó thinn — shabhail e sin 'An Cathach'!

An deidh Culdreimhne dhuilt a' mhuinntir aig Calumeille an Doire agus theab nach thilg muinntir na h-Eaglaise a-mach... 's e sin Calumeille e-fhéin!



Chruinnich iad ann an Taillte (Telltown) agus taing do mholadh Naoimh Breandan à Birr a-mhàin rinn airson ar naomh cha do fhuadaich an Eaglais Calumeille. Thuig Calumeille gum biodh càirdean nam mairbh bhon Blàr Culdreimhe toilichte ga chur gu bàs agus an t-Ard Rìgh Diarmaid cuideachd oir chaidh an latha le Aedh.

FUDACH AN NAOIMH

Dh'fheòraich an naomh comhairliche na h-Eaglaise...

'Dé ni mi?' arsa Calumcille.

'Bi falbh à Eirinn — mach à seo... mach 'sealladh as Eirinn!'

Thuig Calumcille, le deòirean a' sileadh air a' ghruaidhean gun robh e-fhéin cèarr... fada ceàrr... a bhi cho rag-mhuinealach cho fada 'na bharail fhéin. Rachadh e a dh'Alba bhon a bha a chàirdean an sin daonnan g' iarraidh air tighinn thairis.

Rinn Calumcille céilidh air Finian agus dh'iarr e mathanas. Bha Finian mór-inntinneach agus mhath e ar cleireach le gairdeachas. Thug Calumcille 'An Cathach' do Fhinian mun do dh'fhàg e Eirinn mar dhiobarach deurach le bàta (curach) dèanta de sheichean coltach ri bàtaichean cleachdte fhathast sna eileanan Arann deich mìle air fhichead à Gallaimh (Galway).

TILLEADH AN T-SIUIL-MARA

Abair gun robh ar curaidh soirbheachail ann an Alba. Bha a mhàthair 'na piuthar aig Fearghais Mac Erc a stèidhich a chiad prìomh-bhaile na h-Alba... Dunadd. Uime sin, bha e a_measg nan co-oghachan aige. Dh'fhás e cho cumhachdach is gun do dh'ainmich e Aedan mar righ sa bhliadhna 574 AD.

An ath-bhliadhna — dá bhliadhna deug an deidh am fuadach aige thill e a dh'Eirinn... ach a-nisd bha cuibhl' an fhortain a' cur nan caran dhith. Bha e le chéile cumhachdach is gràdhaichte. Fhuair e cuireadh a dhol don Cho-chruinneachadh Drumceatt (Daisy Hill sa Bheurla) faisg air Leum a' mhadaidh (Limavady) nach eil fada à Doire... gu seòrsa de Phàrlamaid Eireannach.

'S e a' chiad cheist... an sgap agus am mil iad Bàird na h-Eirinn is na hAlba? Chaidh an latha le Calumcille mhaireadh na Bàird ged nach biodh iad cho lionmhor. Agus leis a sin fhuair ar gaisgeach taic a' Chruinneachaidh.

Dé an darna ceist ach mu dheighinn geur-leanmhainn Scanlan, Prionnsa Ossery le Aedh. Nochd Calumcille mar a bha Aedh 'na uile-bheist leis an do chur e Scanlan asteach do chéidse (cage). Bha Aedh ga bhiadhadh le feòil ro shaillte agus sin gun bhoinne dh'uisge idir... a' feitheamh agus an do mharbh Scanlan le tart. Chuir iad Scanlan ma sgaoil.

SAORSA NA H-ALBA

A nisd 's e an treas ceist — neoeisimeileachd na h-Alba.

Am biodh sinn fo smachd na h-Eirinn no nach biodh? Seo agaibh a' cheist. San darna àite fhuair sin sgaoileadh-cumhachd (devolution) à dh-Eirinn oir dh-fheumadh Dalriada saighdearan ma bios riaghaltas na h-Eirinn gan iarraidh.

San àite eile, cha phàigheadh Dalriada (agus mu deireadh thall, Alba uile gu leir) sgillin ruadh do dh'Eirinn mar chìs agus mar sin bhiodh Alba neo-eisimealach.

Shaor Calumcille ar dhùthaich air Drumceatt faisg air 1400 bliadhna seo chaidh. Neartaich e ar cànain nàiseanta agus sgaoil se i thall 's a bhos. Taing dhàsan shin ar creideamh Criosdaidh à Eilean I feadh Alba.

Chan eil e iongantach gur e Calumcille ar prìomh naomh!

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich (Gilleasbuig Lachlain 'Illeasbuig)

As this is the 1400 anniversary of St Columba's death; this year, it is appropriate that his story be retold as no other saint did so much for Scotland's oldest and national language and independence. This history is largely set in Ireland where the most momentous times of his life were spent and which are not always fully appreciated by Scottish readers.

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Gaelic in Scottish History and Culture



Michael Newton GAELIC IN SCOTTISH HISTORY AND CULTURE

by Michael Newton, Published by An Clochán, 1997, Price £3,00, ISBN 1-900286-05-X.

A resourceful analysis of the position of Scots Gaelic throughout its history and how, from being the language of the Scottish court, it lost ground to an extent that by the eighteenth century it was no

SCOTTISH POWER UPDATE

Scottish Power have announced that Gaelic electricity bills will be available from the end of 1998 when their new computer billing system is in place. This decision follows a letter writing campaign by language activists (see *Carn* 97)

longer recognised as the national language of Scotland, but rather the language of the Highlands alone. The need to address this misconception alone still strains the revival, which is making an impact through schools, media and agitation, although at present less than two per cent of Scotland's people speak Gaelic. Michael Newton also addresses other vital topics related to Scottish culture such as music and folklore, using this to develop the essential criteria as to why Gaelic does matter in today's world.

An Clochán is a publishing venture in Belfast focusing on Celtic cultures and languages in particular and minority cultures and languages in general. For further information regarding this and other publications write to: An Clochán. 36 Fruithill Park, Béal Feirste, BT11 8GE, Ireland.

Gaelic News

SECURE STATUS

omunn na Gàidhlig (CnaG) has completed its final report to the government on official status for Gaelic. This follows on from the 'Securing the Future for Gaelic' document of March 1997 and from CnaG's consultation exercise on the proposals which it contained. During this process, CnaG has managed to collect over 10,000 signatures on a petition in favour of official status.

The report recommends that official status legislation be passed to 'establish a basic principle of equal validity for Gaelic and English in Scotland, along the lines of the recognition given to Welsh by virtue of the Welsh Language Act 1993.'

Gaelic should be a key component of the Scottish parliament and it is recommended that a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Gaelic be established with a Gaelic officer to assist the committee in its work. Under CnaG's plan, constituents would be entitled both to use Gaelic in their dealings with parliament and to expect the use of Gaelic in reply. It is also proposed that the parliament should have a bilingual policy for its signs, stationery, electronic/multi media and that it should actively promote the use of Gaelic in its documents. Members of the parliament should have the right to use Gaelic in parliamentary committees and debates.

For local government, it is proposed that Gaelic officers be appointed by all local authorities to design and implement policies which would address all issues relating to Gaelic within each local authority's remit.

Like the Welsh Language Act. implementation of the legislation would be based on language plans. Under Comunn na Gàidhlig's blueprint, the Scottish Office, Local Authorities, Local Enterprise Companies and other public bodies in addition to Whitehall administered arms of central government would be required to develop Gaelic policies within three years of the enactment of legislation. The Gaelic policies would be submitted to the Secretary of State for Scotland (or. following the opening of the Scottish Parliament, to the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Gaelic) for approval. Approval 'should not be granted unless reasonable provision is established. As under the Welsh Language Act, the private sector is excluded from these provisions.

In the legal sphere, which has long been of symbolic importance to language activists, it is recommended that persons appearing before courts and administrative tribunals be entitled to both present cases and give evidence in Gaelic. Any document prepared and executed in Gaelic would have full legal force and validity.

For education, it is proposed that statutory provision be put in place requiring local authorities to make Gaelic medium school and pre-school education available where demanded by five or more pupils. 'The minimum such provision in all sectors should be made on at least a one school per area basis'.

On the subject of broadcasting the rather vague recommendation is made that 'legislation is required to create a cohesive Gaelic broadcasting service with capacity for growth to meet audience needs and to enhance the role of broadcasting in the development of the Gaelic language.'

One of the most radical and most widely reported clauses of the report is the one dealing with non-discrimination. It is recommended, amongst other things, that provision be made in the Race Relations Act 1976 and in the portion of the Public Order Act 1986, relating to the criminal offence of incitement to racial hatred, to specifically include Scottish Gaels in the protection offered under these statutes. A special remedy is also recommended to be provided for anyone who feels that any of their rights under the Gaelic Language Act have been infringed.

CnaG's final report on official status has been widely welcomed by the Gaelic community. It is clear that Comunn na Gàidhlig has listened to the views of Gaelic groups and activists concerning its initial proposals. Plans for a language quango for example have been dropped in the face of public opposition.

How much provision would be made for Lowland Scotland under official status legislation was also a major issue in the debate surrounding the recommendations contained in the 'Securing the Future for Gaelic' paper. Gaelic activists, including the Celtic League, argued that the basic all-Scotland provision mentioned should be as strong as possible and that the Cities should be given the same enhanced provisions as the Highlands and Islands for the purposes of the official status legislation.

The 'Secure Status' report reflects this view by recognising Gaelic as a national language and by setting out to 'enhance the profile of Gaelic among the broad Scottish population, and to build an increasing awareness that the living language was not merely the property of Gaelic speakers, but of all Scots.' While Gaelic will enjoy a

stronger degree of provision in the Highlands and Islands, it is clear that the 'basic level of provision' alluded to throughout Scotland has been interpreted in a maximalist way, which if implemented, would grant Lowland Gaels a great deal more rights than they presently possess. The report further recognises that Glasgow and Edinburgh should be recognised as areas for enhanced provision under the terms of a Gaelic language act and states that a policy of 'full bilingualism' is to be the ultimate objective for all major urban areas.

What is particularly noticeable about the 'Secure Status' report is its rights based approach to the question and the articulate and eloquent way in which it makes its case. The report ends by saying that 'ultimately the issue of Gaelie is not just a Scottish issue. It is an issue of human dignity, of belonging, and of justice'. It can only be hoped that the Scottish office will recognise this fact.

The full report is available free of charge from: Comunn na Gàidhlig. 5 Caolshràid Mhicheil. Inbhir Nis. IV2 3HQ. E-mail: Ailean a CNAG.org.uk

Alasdair MacCaluim

PHONE-BOOK CAMPAIGN

The Scottish Branch of the Celtic League are currently campaigning for bilingual phone-directories in Scotland to match those in Wales. At present none of the Scottish phone-books contain any Gaelic. Please write to British Telecom at the address below asking that they make the same provision for Gaelic in Scottish phone-books as they do for Welsh in those for Wales. The Scottish branch of the Celtic League would welcome copies of your correspondence.

Write to: Mrs Pat Ellis, Phonebooks Manager, Room 101, Telecom House, Trinity Street, Hanley, Stoke on Trent STI 5ND England.



An Urzh Oraniat

Bep bloaz adalek an nevezamzer betek an dianeost e vez kerzhadegoù gant an Unanourien ahed hag a-dreuz ar C'hwec'h Kontelezh a Norzhiwerzhon. Kantadoù anezho a vez, gwazed bagol gwisket e du, togoù ront war o fenn, skerboù orañjez hir en-dro d'o gouzout ha spilhennet ouzh diaraog o chupennoù, int o kerzhet sonn a-renkadoù a-dreñv bagadoù a sonerien yaouank o c'hwezhañ tonioù brezelek en o fleütoù pe o skeiñ taolioù kreñv ouzh o zaboulinoù bras. An Urzh Oraniat eo a laka a-wel evelse nerzh ar brotestantiezh e Bro-Ulad.

An div vrasañ eus ar c'herzhadegoù-se a vez aozet an eil d'an 12 a viz Gouere e koun eus trec'h William a Orania en Emgann ar v-Bóinn e 1690 hag eben d'an 12 a viz Eost evit keneñvoriñ an 'Apprentice Boys' a zalc'has penn ouzh ar Gatoliged e seziz Derry en hevelep bloaz. Talvout a reont, daoust ma ne vez ket lavaret fraezh, da ziskouez gant peseurt rummad emañ ar galloud bepred er C'Hwec'h Kontelezh. A-ratozh-kaer e vez kerzhet e meur a gêr dre garterioù katolikrik. Ne fell ket mui d'ar Gatoliged avat gouzañy an daeadennoù-se: goulenn a reont ma vo adhentet an dibunadegoù. E lec'hioù'zo ez eo bet asantet gwech pe wech d'o goulenn, met an Oranidi a respont ez eo o gwir kerzhet war 'hentoù ar Rouanez' e pep lec'h ma'z int boas da ober. E Portadown, 1996, e voe difennet outo gant ar bolis tremen dre ar Garbhachai met dre forzh gourdrouz ha harpet gant an dizurzh lakaet e lec'hioù all gant al Lealourien e voent trec'h: evit gouarnamant London e oa koulz hag anzav ne oa ket barrek da ren e Norzhiwerzhon. Treuzvarc'hadoù zo bet graet abaoe met n'eo ket sur e teuio ar poellgor hag a zo bet savet evit reoliñ ar c'herzhadegoù a-benn da virout na c'hoarvezo reuz adarre en abeg dezho ar bloaz-mañ. Da geñver an taol-se e Portadown e voe gwelet David Trimble, anvet goude-se da rener an Ulster Unionist Party, hag ar muntrer bras Bill Wright 'ar Razh' (lazhet gant an INLA e toull-bac'h Long Kesh war-dro Nedeleg diwezhañ) oc'h emguzuliañ. Trimble zo unañ eus pennoù a-raok an Urzh Oraniat ha ken start Unanour hag Ian Paisley nemet ez eo finoc'h, ha gwidreŭsoc'h ivez eget e

ziagentiad e penn an U.U.P., James Molyneux, 'Sovereign Grand Master' al lochenn 'Royal Black Preceptory' eus an Urzh. Kement-se a ziskouez ez eo ereetstrizh an Urzh hag an U.U.P. goude ma'z eo hemañ sañset bezañ kerreishoc'h eget strollad Paisley.

Karout a rafe darn eus renerien an Urzh reiñ da grediñ n'o deus da bal pe da vennad nemet difenn o frankiz relijiel, ned eo o c'herzhadegoù netra nemet gouelioù da zegas dihued d'hec'h izili ha n'int ket enebet ouzh ar Gatoliged. O haroz meur William a Orania en doa didronet ar roue James II Stewart evit mirout na zeuje ar rouantelezh da vezañ ent kefridiel ur Stad katolik en-dro, met ne fell ket dezho kounaat e oa William e-barzh ur c'hevredad a Stadoù katolik koulz ha protestant savet evit lakaat harz da aloubadegoù Loeiz XIV. hag e oa harpet gant arc'hant ha diplomatiezh ar Pab Inosant XI! Hemañ en dije bet abeg da geuziañ a dra sur rak heskinet kriz e voe ar Gatoliged gant warlerc'hidi William e-pad an darn vrasañ eus an 18-vet kantved. Met Protestanted eus ar seurt na oant ket anglikan, an Digensentourien, a voe difrankizet ivez daoust ma voe distennet ar gwaskerezh warno e-doug ar c'hantved-se. Un abeg politikel a oa d'an enebiezh e-keñver an div ranngredenn: ne oant ket leal a-walc'h d'ar Rouaned. E gwirionez, Digensentourien eo a oa dreist-holl e kevredigezh an 'United Irishmen' savet e 1791 gant Th. Wolfe Tone e sell da unaniñ an holl Iwerzhoniz ha da ziazezañ ur Republik awenet gant mennozhioù an dispac'herien amerikan ha gall. An emglev etre Katoliged ha Digensenterien a lakaas c'hwen e loeroù ar berc'henned douar ha tudientil all, Anglikaned anezho gwitibunan. Savet o doa ar re-mañ e 1782 ur Parlamant evit difenn o lazoù hag o brientoù ha tuet e oant da zisklêriañ o dizalc'hded diouzh hini London. O welet koulskoude e oa krog ar Saozon da reiñ un tamm frankiz relijiel d'ar Gatoliged e teuas aon dezho da goll darn eus o beli. Setu ma tivizjont, evit terriñ an unaniezh o tiwaniñ etre ar Brotestanted all hag ar Gatoliged, broudañ o feurmourien aenep ar gouerien gatolik e sigur ma oa ar re-mañ o prenañ douaroù a c'hallje ahendall bezañ gounezet ganto. Se a c'hoarvezas dreist-holl e kontelezh Ard

Mhacha. Da heul tagadennoù ha kabaduilhoù e voe savet eno e 1795 ar gevrenn gentañ eus ur gevredigezh kuzh hag a voe anvet 'the Orange Order'. E penn e oa tudientil eus an Uhelañ. Buan e voe diazezet 'Lochennoù' all anezhañ diouzh skouer ar frankmasonerezh, neket hepken en Iwerzhon met e Breizh-Veur ivez. Harpet e oant gant ar Virourien (Tories). Ne oa digor nemet d'ar wazed, hag evel-se eo chomet betek-henn. Pa voe diogelet lazoù ha beli an uhelidi gant an Akt a Unaniezh (1800) a stage Iwerzhon da vat ouzh Breizh-Veur e trojont kein d'an Urzh met kreñvaet e voe hemañ en-dro pa lakaas dieubidigezh ar Gatoliged (1829) an holl Brotestanted d'en em glevet hag e voe degemeret an Digensentourien (Presbiteriz h.a.) e-barzh (1837). Diwar neuze, ben tro ma tiskoueze ar Vroadelourien Iwerzhonat dont da vezañ kreñv (argadoù ar Fenianed. Brezel an Douar, Home Rule, ar Brezeldieubiñ), e save an Urzh Oraniat a-enep dezho o vont betek atizañ ar Brotestanted da aozañ pogromoù a-enep ar Gatoliged e

Diskouezet e voe splann gant an istorour Peter Berresford Ellis, en ur brezegenn graet gantañ e skol-hañv Desmond Greaves e Dulenn e 1996 dindan an titl 'Orangism: Myth and Reality' ez eo an Urzh Oraniat un aozadur politikel hag a denn splet eus rakvarnoù ha diouiziegezh ar werin brotestant evit harpañ galloud ur vegenn.

A. Heusaff

Summary

Every year during the Summer, the Orange Order stages marches throughout the 'Six-Counties' in N. Ireland. By insisting on passing through Catholic areas, often in a triumphalist manner, they result in dangerous confrontations.

AL LIAMM, bimonthly literary magazine in Breton, sub. 180F/outside State 200F to Per ar Bihan, 16 r. des Fours à Chaux, 35400 Saint-Malo.

In the Nov.-Dec. issue, Nr 305, Yann Gerven brings his story 'Liv Ruz an Hesk' to an unexpected conclusion, the decisive clue to the murders mystery coming from a brainy and... enterprising lass. (Breton literature has come a long way since the prude days of Vallee and the Sketla). The most substantial contributions are R. ar C'Halan's account of Jack Kerouac's restless life and Fañch Kerrain's brief biography of Plato, in fact dealing only with his attitude towards the degradation of political life in Athens and his unsuccessful attempts to influence the rulers of Syracuse. There are two poems by Tudual Huon who was awarded the Imram prize last year for a collection of his poetry (to be published this year).

History of Brittany: which version?

hen the schools re-open next September, children in Côtesd'Armor and Finistère will be given free copies of a book of Breton history. This is a new departure that deserves being put on the record. It is being written by Louis Elegouet at the request of Jean-Yves Cozan, ex-deputy, member of the Finistère General Council in which he is in charge of cultural matters. So far nobody but the author has seen the manuscript. A first restriction is that the book is to be reserved to the pupils of the colleges' first form. Moreover the initiative is to benefit only the two aforementioned departments: the others have turned it down, not surprisingly since most of their councillors belong to parties which take their cue from their headquarters in Paris.

J.Y. Cozan is well-known for his keen support of the Breton language, it has earned him the nickname of "Diwan deputy". Now, like a valiant knight, he has stepped forward to fight another battle, but it is far from being won. Morbihan has not (yet?) deemed it worth or right taking part in the project, its council being no doubt influenced by its almost lifelong president, Marcellin, whose fascist leaning was noted during the Gaullist regime - he has now retired from politics, so perhaps the councillors will reconsider? Loire-Atlantique bluntly refused, its councillors being largely under the thumb of Guichard. the old "overlord" of the Pays-de-Loire region created by the Petain government (40% of its budget is spent on trying to concoct an identity for this artificial region and sell it to its disparate parts). The refusal in Ille-et-Vilaine can also be related to the fact that its council is presided over by the Gaullist Mehaignerie. As for the Regional Council of Brittany-4, one would have expected it to stand for the Breton culture and identity, the latter being rooted so deeply in our history - its refusal leaves a bitter taste. Let us hope that the regional assembly for which elections will have taken place by the time this issue of Carn comes out will set up a new Regional Council that will take a different view. It will depend on whether nationalists are elected who might then get the negative decision reversed. The vast majority of the Bretons don't know that the attributions of the regional bodies are... the media make sure they don't!

Elegouet's history book is to have 224 pages divided in 17 chapters. He teaches history and geography in Lannuon, but has been given leave by the Ministry of Education to carry out that task. This raises some questions. He will have needed good connections in high places for such a favour. He was hardly known before. Of course one cannot judge his work without

having read it but the move is so well arranged that one may wonder what sort of History of Brittany the children will be presented with. Why did J.Y. Cozan not contact the Skol Vreizh teachers who have a long experience in this field and displayed a genuinely Breton outlook in their 5-volume Histoire de La Bretagne et des Pays Celtiques. A team of teachers would have been preferable to deal in a balanced way with such a subject for children. In any case, a national awareness is acquired at primary school rather than at college level. What is needed is a textbook of Breton history for ALL pupils of the 5 Breton departments, distributed in all the public and Catholic schools.

But of course, if the teaching of our history has been "neglected", it is because it would erode the foundations of a pseudonational French unity. It would show that French power has always been inimical to Brittany, that the Bretons did not relinquish their independence until forced by a military defeat. But the most sensitive point will be the period from 1919 to 1947: how is Elegouet dealing with the emergence of a nationalist movement and collaboration? Will he present a Breton view of our national history or reduce it to a regional aspect of the French history? This is the nub of the matter. We'll know in September. Just wait and see.

Jakez Gaucher



Jean-Loup Chretien

JEAN-LOUP CHRETIEN

The astronaut Jean-Loup Chretien who took part in several space flights together with Russians and Americans and now lives in the USA was selected last year as 'Breton of the Year' by Armor-Magazine. He says he enjoys the company of fellow-Celts in the US and though a French army officer he feels he is more Breton than French. He has signed the appeal to the French government to sign the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. (To which a categorical NIET continues to be opposed).

Repression of Solidarity with Basques

Three men went on trial in November in Gwengamp for their involvement in a demonstration by about 200 people in support of Bretons sentenced for giving hospitality to Basque refugees: Padraig Uhel, fined 5000 F, Klaod an Duigou fined 6000 F and given a suspended sentence of one month imprisonment. Gerard Bernard given one month 'firm'. The latter two have appealed and are taking a case for defamation, based on false identification by the police. Three other persons from Central Brittany who also gave refuge to Basques had their oneyear jail sentence confirmed. Annie Lagadec, a journalist who has repeatedly been in court in connection with the right to give hospitality to Basques, was given a similar sentence in Nov. '96. She is since last September in 'semi-liberty' in Rennes.

Breton Cultural Council

ne of the decisions taken by the Breton Cultural Council. which federates about 20 associations, at its AGM on Dec. 6 was to set up a commission, which includes professional media people, with the task of preparing proposals for a Breton language television service. It is finally becoming evident that for this we have to rely only on ourselves.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following information should have been included with the map showing Adult Learning on page 8. **Carn** 100.

- Approx. limits of dialect areas
- -.- Limit of the traditional...
- ▲ Courses (various levels... duration)
- ▲ Courses on a continuous basis.
- ☐ Cultural Centres
 - Theatre in Breton
- ← (Correspondences Courses for Students)
- Radio Stations

RADIO KERNE

A licence has been granted to Radio Kerne to broadcast mainly in Breton from Kemper on a 90.2 Mhz frequency. A similar authorisation has been given to Radio Arvorig in Kommanna. SE of Landerne. Both are to operate as community radios.

GOUEL AR BREZHONEG

The annual national Breton language festival. Gouel ar Brezhoneg, will take place this year in Langonned near Gourin on May 30-31.

Money Galore for French

rance will never change. After the Regional Council in Rennes had voted in favour of reuniting its four departments with Loire-Atlantique, Oliver Guichard, president of this department's council reacted scornfully, saying that there were more important problems, such as unemployment, in his area, Possibly, but who says that dealing with reunification would prevent attention from being given to them. While not denying the need to tackle unemployment, it may be said that its rate is not exceptionally high in Loire-Altantique, and that Guichard's administration is not renowned for pioneering attempts to alleviate it. In reality, his refusal to discuss the offer from Rennes has much to do with jealousy and rivalry between local power holders and with a conservatism which they find handy. His reply is typical of the attitude which French officials adopt when they don't want to deal with a problem. There are always more pressing concerns!

They seemed indeed to have even higher priorities than unemployment when they allowed it to reach well over the 12% rate. Was it not the case for the spreading of Francophonia for the past 25 years? The French government spent last Autumn the equivalent of \$17 million (US) on a summit to promote that concept, a sham nourished by the frustration of having lost an Empire and the inability to create a Commonwealth on the 'British' model. The summit was held in Hanoi where hardly anyone speaks French, Some of the countries represented were not even French-speaking or had any specific links with France: São Tome where Portuguese is spoken, Moldavia, Egypt. John Ryle (The Guardian, 17.11.97) writes: 'One cannot help thinking that the French government, which, on top of the Summit, spends nearly \$1 billion a year on promoting the French language and culture, has purchased the attendance of such countries at a rather high price.' France supported a renewal of Boutros Boutros-Ghali's mandate in the UN only because he speaks French, and the genocidal government in Rwanda because it was controlled by the French-speaking minority. A language of culture, perhaps. A language of freedom and fraternity, certainly not, but a language of arrogance, no doubt. Chinese, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese and English all number more locutors. French is no longer one of the world's dominant languages. Summits like the one in Hanoi appear like a joke. Why spend such fantastic sums abroad trying to promote a language which is no longer important as far as the world is concerned and when there are, as they put it, 'more

Tribute to the 1870-Armée de Bretagne

The dates of important events are landmarks which sustain the memory of nations, all the more so in the case of deeds which are passed over in silence after martyrising those of the participants who were on the losing side. History as well as language is one of the major elements of national identity. The European States know that well. For the history of the real peoples they have persistently substituted an official history that is frequently false and designed to serve imperialistic interests.

But you cannot indefinitely obliterate a people's memory. Each nation has sanctuaries where its gods or heroes sleep, waiting for reawakening. We Bretons have the mythical Avallon and, closer to us in time, Conlie.

In Conlie, halfway between Buchenwald and Wounded Knee, or more precisely halfway between Rennes and Paris, not far from Le Mans, the 'Armée de Bretagne' was literally exterminated during the Autumn of 1870 and the beginning of 1871.

Napoleon III's rule was replaced by a provisional government with Gambetta as Minister of War. To relieve besieged Paris. an army of 80,000 volunteers, which came to be named 'L'Armée de Bretagne', was raised in Brittany. Full powers to organise it were given to General de Keratry on 22,10,70. Hailing from Kerne (= Breton Cornwall), he was republican minded but also inclined to federalism. He set up his headquarters and a camp in Conlie. But soon fears arose among the French leaders that Keratry's army might back a revolt similar to that of the Chouans who fought the French from 1793 till 1800. An urgent appeal to Keratry to forget that he was a Breton was followed by dismissing him from his command. He had protested against having his men left without straw for their tents and supplied with old weapons, inactive in a camp which turned into a quagmire. In fact, on Nov. 22 Gambetta ordered the arsenals not to deliver any material nor ammunition to him. His protest, that he could not send his



Laying a wreath to the memory of the Breton Soldiers of Conlie

To commemorate the tens of thousands of Breton soldiers who died there in a hell of mud or were mowed down by the Prussians, hundreds of Pobl members gathered on January 11 last on the Boulevard de la Liberté in Rennes. The president, P. Montauzier, laid a wreath in the name of the party at the foot of a war memorial before recalling the facts, which we briefly state here.

Following the defeat at Sedan.

pressing concerns'? In continuing to deny the Bretons the means to save their own language, they should realise that other peoples will feel little sympathy with them if French also loses ground.

Séamas Ó Loingsigh

soldiers into battle in the state they were as it would mean certain death for them, was ignored. Epidemics (smallpox, typhus) were to cost them about 10,000 lives. Yet in January, 19,000 demoralised men were ordered, badly armed, to attack the Germans, only to be routed and massacred.

Several members of the Association Bretonne, banned in 1858 by Napoleon III. engaged then in a plot of which the aims have not been cleared up, it was not carried out.

On the occasion of the commemoration on Jan. 11th, the passers-by were invited by POBL to sign a petition for the renaming of the street in Rennes which bears the name of Gambetta, the man who deliberately sacrificed the Bretons in Conlie.

Th. Jigourel

Colum Cille and the Columban Tradition

by Brian Lacey, Four Courts Press, ISBN 1-85182-321-2. Stg £6.95.

This short book of 91 pages of text and five of notes is an excellent introduction to its subject. It should come to be regarded as a welcome addition to the wonderful Celtic studies library produced by Four Courts Press over the last several years. The author informs his readers that the work does not 'claim to be a substitute for the many works on the subject but an attempt 'to make a digest of what is known about Colum Cille and the 'institution' which he founded as it evolved through subsequent history and to describe something about the way the memory and legacy of Colum Cille was passed on in literature, in art, in folklore and in the landscape itself."

The book is organised into eight chapters. Chapters 1-3 are about Colum Cille himself. Drawing upon the various Lifes of the saint - those of Adomnán and Munus O'Domnaill for example - and the excellent scholarship on the subject - of Richard Sharpe for example - Lacey gleans the facts of the saint's life from the myths. legends and other accretions. Columba's part in the Battle of Cul Dreimne is examined - 'a conflict between the forces of Christianity (represented by the Northern Uí Neill] and those of pagan druidism [represented by the Southern Uí Neill].' The establishment of Iona and missionary activity amongst the Picts is considered, as is Columba's friendship with the British king of Strathclyde, Rhydderch, and his inauguration of Aidan Mac Gabráin

Book Reviews

as king of Dal Riada 'the earliest Christian inauguration of a [European] king.' The convention of Drum Ceat – in modern day County Derry – is examined and with it the suggestion that Derry was founded as a byproduct of it. Due space is also given to St. Aidan's mission to the Northumbrians – a people described by his predecessor as of an 'obstinate and barbarous temperament.'

Chapter four is concerned with Columba's successors at Iona while chapter five examines the contribution of his most famous successor, Adomnán, to the evolution of the Columba cult. In chapter 6 the reader is treated to a tour of the main Columban monasteries – Kells, Rechru, Swords, Drumcliffe, Moone and Durrow – the latter of which is revealed as the saint's principal foundation.

Chapter 7 is given over to Derry. We learn that Columba was not the sole founder of Derry but was co-founder with a certain Fiachrach. It would seem that Columba's association with the place were played up by his own people - the cenel Conaill to counter the encroachment on their lands of the cenel nEogain; yet it was the latter 'who fully developed the Columba legend and made most use of it.' This promotion of Derry was part of a plan for Derry to assume the leardership of the Columban monastic familia - a role which Kells had performed for 120 years following repeated Viking attacks on Iona. By the C, 12th Kells and the kingdom of Meath were in decline so the opportunity

existed for Derry to take over the leadership role. These developments. Lacey shows, are clear signs that the Columban familia were in process of reorganising along the lines of continental religious orders. The Normaln invasion prevented this from happening – not least because many of the Columban monasteries were in the midlands and east of the country, which they came to control.

Chapter 8 follows the evolution of the Columba cult through from the middle ages to the present. There is a particularly interesting section on the efforts of Manus O'Domnall. Ireland's great renaissance prince, in assembling the materials of Betha Colaim Chille.

A further theme of the book is the art of the Columban monasteries. A case is presented to the reader for interpreting the Book of Kells as being created as an act of homage to commemorate the centenary of the saint's death. The parallels which exist between designs on three high crosses on Iona and illustrations in the Book of Kells are shown to be crucial evidence that the work was begun on Iona. Unusually for the period, two of these crosses show representations of the Virgin and Child - as does the book. The fact that the same scene is depicted on a cross at Drumeliffe. another Columban monastery, is 'hardly coincidental' comments Lacey. He also points out that the oldest surviving Irish manuscript, the copy of the psalms called the Cathach - and decorated with La Tene Celtic motifs - is conceivably the work of Columba himself.

In short, this very readable book should stimulate even the casual reader into delving further into its subject.

The Salmon of Knowledge Celtic Myth and Folklore

by Brendan McMahon

The Salmon of Knowledge Reflections on Celtic Myth and Folklore



Brendan McMahon

An exploration of traditional narratives from the Celtic lands and the symbolism of Celtic myth and lore. Included are: Hazels of Wisdom. Cornish Giants, Saints and Serpents, The Voyage of Bran. Manx Folk Song

£3.50 (UK), £3.75 (EU), £4.50 (Overseas). Prices include airmail postage and packing.

Please make sterling cheques/eurocheques/international money orders in sterling payable to **Dalriada**.

Dalriada Celtic Heritage Trust. Dun na Beatha, 2 Brathwic Place, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8BN Scotland.

Celtic Ornament Art and the Scribe

by Courtney Davis, additional Text and Calligraphy by Fiona Graham-Flynn, ISBN 0 7137 2547 8. Price £9.99PB.

Celtic ornamentation is currently enjoying

a revival in popularity and, in fact, looks quite modern to most of us. It is, therefore, hard to believe that its roots can be traced all the way back to the Halstatt period (800-450 BC) when stylized bird and human representation decorated the artefacts of the day.

Drawing up all the strands such as the early days of Christianity to the Celts. Courtney Davis celebrates the 'art of the scribe'. His acclaimed and respected artistic skills are evident, and throughout this book he reinterprets and presents the intricacy and beauty inherent in Celtic ornamentation, from the famous manuscripts and gospels to the decorated brooches, word hilts, fine metalwork and craftsmanship.

Illustrated with intricate imitations of Celtic designs. This book gives lots of ideas for artists, designers, craftspeople and historians.

Further information please contact Victoria Mizen, Cassell PLC, Wellington House, 125 Strand, London WC2R 0BB.



Pigion Celtaidd

YR ALBAN

Arwyddion gobeithiol!

afodd yr SNP gryn hwyl mewn isetholiadau llywodraeth leol yn ddiweddar. Mewn isetholiad yn ward Garrowhill, Cyngor Dinas Glaschu, cipiodd y blaid genedlaethol sedd oddi wrth y Blaid Lafur mewn un o'u cadarnleoedd gyda mwyafrif o 17.5%. Cipiodd yr SNP sedd arall oddi wrth Lafur mewn isetholiad yn Rosyth, cyngor Fiobha/Fife. Cadwodd y blaid sedd St. Ninian's, cyngor Gorllewin Lleudduniawn (West Lothian) gyda mwyafrif clir.

RapT/CJ

Cymdeithas y Dysgwyr

Un o fuddiannwyr y Loteri yw 'Comann an Luchd Ionnsachaidh' gyda £60,000 dros 3 blynedd ar gyfer cyflogi rheolwr rhan amser i drefnu cyrsiau a thalu costau tiwtoriaid.

Yr Ifainc

Mae'r Loteri wedi cyfrannu £280,000 i ddatblygu'r mudiad ieuenctid Gaeleg, y clybiau 'Sradagan', ar gyfer plant 5-12 oed. Ar hyn o bryd mae 40 clwb gyda 1500 o aelodau. Mae Bwrdd y Loteri wedi cyhoeddi fersiwn Gaeleg o'u prif lyfryn.

Polisïau Gaeleg

Mae Cyngor yr Ucheldiroedd wedi cyhoeddi polisi ymgynghorol am yr Aeleg sy'n anelu at:

- · cynyddu'r nifer o siaradwyr
- annog defnyddio cyfleoedd i ddefnyddio'r Aeleg
- hyrwyddo'r iaith yn y cymunedau
- · cryfhau'r diwylliant traddodiadol
- annog cydweithredu rhwng grwpiau'r

Ar yr un pryd mae Comhairle nan Eilean yn adolygu eu polisïau presennol.

Yr Iaith Sgoteg

Iaith Diwtonaidd yr Alban yw Sgoteg ('Scots' neu 'Lallans'). Mae Cymdeithas yr Iaith Sgoteg yn ymgyrchu am gael cwestiwn yng Nghyfrifiad 2001 am y gallu i siarad Sgoteg. Er mwyn profi'r angen am gwestiwn felly cynhaliwyd arbrawf drwy sampl. Trwy arolwg o 3000 aelwyd cafwyd ateb fod 30% yn medru'r Sgoteg. Fodd bynnag, nid ydyw Swyddfa'r Alban wedi ildio i'r ymgyrch am gwestiwn am Sgoteg yn y Cyfrifiad.

Materion Crefyddol

Ar ôl cyfnod heb wasanaeth yn yr Aeleg, bydd Catholigion Gaeleg yng Nglaschu'n medru mynychu'r offeren yn fisol o hyn ymlaen. Cynhelir y gwasanaethau yn Eglwys St. Leo yn Dunbreck o dan arweiniad y Tad James MacNeill, darlithydd ym Mhrifysgol Glaschu. Hefyd, mae'r traddodiad o wasanaethau Gaeleg achlysurol yng Nghapel y Brifysgol yng Nglaschu yn parhau.

IWERDDON

Economi Llwyddiannus

Cododd incwm trethi llywodraeth Gweriniaeth Iwerddon dros 14% rhwng 1996 a 1997, gyda rhagolygon o 10% ym 1998. Gellir rhagweld dychwelyd 1.25% o'r Cynnyrch Gros Domestig i drethdalwyr yr ynys. Ceir elw ar y fasnach ryngwladol o £9000 miliwn a chwyddiant o 1.2%. Gwlad fach o faint Cymru yw Iwerddon.

Gaeltacht Ddinesig

Mae Pobal Mha Life yn brosiect sy'n anelu at sicrhau bod 20 o dai newydd ar gyrion Dulyn yn cael eu prynu gan deuluoedd a fydd yn siarad Gwyddeleg. Ymgais yw hon i sefydlu cymuned ddinesig Wyddeleg yn y brifddinas. Cost y tai – £85,000.

MANAW

Cyngor Yr Ynysoedd

Nid ydyw llywodraeth Lloegr wedi rhoi sedd i Fanaw ar y Cyngor newydd sydd yn cael ei gynnig yn y trafodaethau am ddyfodol Iwerddon. Hyd yma bydd cynrychiolwyr o Senedd yr Alban. Cynulliad Cymru, Gogledd Iwerddon, y Dáil a Senedd Lloegr (San Steffan) – dim i Fanaw na Chernyw. O ran Cymru bydd cynrychiolaeth ar gyngor cydwladol yn gam ymlaen, ond a oes perygl mai dyfais ydyw'r cyngor hwn i helpu'r Saeson i gael gafael ar Iwerddon gyfan unwaith eto?

RanT

LLYDAW

Addysg Lydaweg

Gyda'r tymor newydd ym mis Medi gwelwyd cynydd pellach yn y nifer o ddisgyblion sy'n derbyn addysg Lydaweg neu ddwyieithog. Mae'r dosbarthiad ar draws Llydaw fel a ganlyn;

Ysgolion	Meithrin	Cynradd	Uwchradd	Lycee	Cyfan			Nifer O Ysgolion
Diwan	752	674	268	56	1753	+255	+17	26
Cyhoeddus	581	512	149	41	1283	+133	+12	23
Preifat CYFANSWM	481 1 1821	421 1607	65 482	101	975 4011	+204 +592	+26 +18	26 75

Mae'r twf wedi bod yn gyflym. Bu'n rhaid disgwyl 12 mlynedd i weld 1000 o ddisgyblion, 4 blynedd arall at 2000, 3 blynedd arall hyd 3000 a dim ond 2 flynedd i gyrraedd 4000. Erbyn hyn mae'r disgyblion cyntaf, 12 ohonynt, wedi sefyll y 'Bac', pawb yn llwyddo, hanner efo anrhydedd. Eleni, agorwyd saith safle newydd – 4 preifat yn An Oriant, Henbont, Treguier a Ploudalmezou; 2 gyhoeddus yn Kemper a Redon, a thrydedd ysgol

uwchradd yn Kemper. Ar lefel uwchradd ceir 3 ysgol uwchradd ac un lycée gyhoeddus – Lannuon. Roazhon a Lanester. ac un breifat – Gwened/Vannes. Ond dim ond 5% o gymunedau Llydaw sydd ag ysgol ddwyieithog a dim ond 3% o ddisgyblion ynddynt. Fodd bynnag. mae galw gan rieni mewn 11 o gymunedau pellach. Disgwylir gweld twf bellach erbyn 1999!

Clive James

CYMRU

Yyg Nghymru - Cymraeg!

Mae'r Undeb Celtaidd yng Nghaerdydd wedi cynhyrchu glynion/sticeri i roi'r neges hon i bobl sydd yn anwybyddu ein hiaith. Gellir eu gosod ar jyncbost neu ohebiaeth o'r banc cyn eu hanfon yn ôl, neu rywle priodol arall. Mae llun o un o'r glynion isod. Melyn ydyw'r cefndir. Os ydych eisiau rhai o'r glynion i'w defnyddio, neu fwy o wybodaeth anfonwch at Yr Undeb Celtaidd – Caerdydd, 11 Heol Gordon, Caerdydd CF2 3AJ.

YNG NGHYMRU -

CYMRAEG!

These stickers have been produced by the League in Cardiff. 'In Wales – WELSH!' is the message. A use might be found for their equivalents in our other countries.

Argyfwng Ariannol

Cymdeithas Yr Iaith Gymraeg

ae Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg yn wynebu un o'r argyfyngau ariannol gwaethaf yn ei hanes. Tipyn o dasg fydd i ni oroesi hyd at ddiwedd Mis Mawrth os na ddaw cymorth o rywle.

Ar hyn o bryd mae'n rhaid i ni gael £10,000 ar unwaith er mwyn dod dros yr wythnosau nesaf. Ond ein prif nod yw codi £44,000 drwy archebion banc er mwyn cael incwm sefydlog a sicrhau cyflog i'r staff.

Y dasg nesaf sy'n ein hwynebu yw sicrhau lle i'r Gymraeg yn y Ganrif Newydd gan wneud yn siwr fod ei dyfodol yn saff yn y drefn wleidyddol fydd yn datblygu yng Nghymru gyda sefydlu'r Cynulliad.

Erfyniwn yn daer am eich cymorth gan ddiolch ar yr un pryd am eich haelioni yn y gorffennol. Anfonwch unrhyw rodd at Gymdeithas yr Iaith, 11 Heol Gordon. Caerdydd CF2 3AJ, Cymru.

Gareth Kiff (Cadeirydd)

News of Wales

A Further Victory

Plaid Cymru have gained Craig y Don ward from the Liberal Democrats in a bye-election for a seat on Conwy County Borough Council.

A Nonconformist Nation Again?

Collapsing numbers of members and ministers are persuading seven separate nonconformist Christian denominations that total unity is the only way to continue. The denominations involved are the Methodists, United Reformed Church, Baptist Union of Wales, Congregational Federation (yr Annibynwyr), Union of Welsh Independents and the Presbyterian Church of Wales. The Baptist Union of Great Britain are observers. If successful, the combined membership will exceed the current largest denomination, the Anglican Church in Wales.

Election Broadcasts

One distinctiveness of the political system in Wales is the tradition of 'free' party political broadcasts by significant parties on the radio and television. This includes Plaid Cymru, although not all Welsh voters can receive stations in Wales which show them, as the recent referendum showed. There is now a consultative period over the future of such broadcasts.

Language of the 'Mother of Parliaments'

The only languages recognised on the floor of the House of Commons in London are English, (Norman) French and Old English. However, twenty members of that parliament can speak Welsh. Seventeen represent seats in Wales and three in England (Claire Curtis-Thomas. Geraint Davies and Alan Beith). Three are learning Welsh at the weekly lessons at Westminster - Chris Ruane (Dyffryn Clwyd/Vale of Clwyd). Julie Morgan (Gogledd Caerdydd/Cardiff North), and Huw Edwards (Mynwy/Monmouth) (all Labour). Are they all eyeing up seats in the Welsh Assembly, which will, it is assured, be a bilingual (Welsh and English) establishment?

Clive James

CYMDEITHAS IN CRISIS - APPEAL FOR HELP

ymdeithas yr laith Gymraeg (Welsh Language Society) is facing one of the worst financial crises in its 35 year history. Without external assistance it will be difficult to operate at present levels.

At present we must raise £10,000. Our long term aim is to receive £44,000 a year through regular income such as standing orders etc. which will ensure job security for our staff.

The last time Cymdeithas made such an appeal was in 1992 when Alun Llwyd and Branwen Nicholas were serving prison sentences. There aren't any Cymdeithas members in jail at present but the battle for the future of the Welsh language continues and Cymdeithas is active in many areas.

Since the General Election we have:

Met with Ron Davies and Peter Hain in the Welsh Office to discuss strengthening the 1993 Welsh Language Act and the need to develop an independent Education System for Wales. We met with Win Griffiths to discuss our proposal for a Property Act that would safeguard all communities in Wales.

- Met and corresponded with every County Council to discuss Welsh Medium Education.
- Pressured for a Property Act through opposing damaging developments such as Morfa Bychan in Gwynedd and 'Y Buarth' in Aberystwyth.
- Arranged a march through Wales in August. on the verge of the Referendum calling for a Parliament for Wales.
- Pressured for a Welsh Language Act in the private sector by campaigning successfully against international companies such as Tandy.

The next step will be to ensure a prosperous future for the Welsh Language and people in the New Century by creating a new political order in post-referendum Wales.

Thank you for your generous support and we hope that you will be able to assist. Please send any donation to Cymdeithas yr Iaith. 11 Heol Gordon. Caerdydd CF2 3AJ. Wales.

Gareth Kiff Cadeirydd/Chairman

Clifford Ifan Bere 1915-1997

Below is part of Meic Stephen's tribute to Clifford Ifan Bere, a political activist who devoted his life to the cause of Welsh Republicanism.

Clifford Bere was a Welsh Republican, one of a small group of militants, mostly ex-servicemen and intellectuals who enlivened the political scene in Wales during the 1950s.

The movement was hostile to the Labour Party because of its broken promises on self-government for Wales, critical of Plaid Cymru on account of its pacifism and recognition of the Crown, and utterly opposed to the Tories on just about every other count.

Clifford Bere was, by common assent, the most single-minded of the Republicans, and the most hard-working. It was he who



Clifford Ifan Bere

wrote the movement's manifesto, published in 1948 and held the group together for the eight years of its existence.

The main work of the Republican movement after 1954 was the publication and distribution of a bimonthly newspaper, the Welsh Republican. The paper was remarkable for its coverage of Welsh current affairs, especially matters relating to the economy of South Wales such as the future of the coal and steel industries and the plight of the Cardiff docks. It also provided a vitriolic commentary on the Labour Party's attitude towards the question of Welsh self-government at a time when no such critique existed.

Many of its articles were written by Bere. They were sceptical towards the Parliament for Wales Campaign of 1951-55 because it fell short of the republic on which the movement had set its sights and spoke out against military conscription in Wales though arguing in favour of a Welsh army. Prior to the Coronation of 1953, the paper expressed staunchly anti-royalist views.

He was also an able writer and polemicist. Besides a novel, I Was a King, he wrote a memoir of the Welsh Republican Movement, The Young Republicans (1966), which is a valuable source of information about politics in Wales during the post-war period.

With the movement's demise in 1957, Cliff Bere joined Plaid Cymru becoming one of its most devoted members with a commitment which few have been able to match.

He would have been pleased by the result of the referendum, while at the same time arguing that the assembly which Wales is now to have is only "a half-way house" on the road to full self-government. It is fitting that, at his funeral, his coffin was draped with Y Ddraig Goch, the Red Dragon, the national flag of Wales, a country to which he devoted his life.

Meic Stephens

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS ON ITS WAY

The bill to give Wales its own elected assembly, to be known officially as Y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol or the National Assembly, is passing through Westminster at the time of writing.

The aftermath of the devolution referendum in Wales with its small majority in favour of Wales having an elected assembly has resulted in strange things being said. In the press in England the bitterness of some commentators has resulted in a series of anti-Welsh articles in various newspapers displaying a level of bigotry that the authors would not dare put into print against any other nation.

In Wales the defeated 'Just Say No' campaigners will just not go away. They are responding to the prospect of a Welsh Assembly in different ways. Some have attempted to have the referendum result invalidated by drawing attention to ways in which certain rules might have been breached during the counting e.g. the procedure followed for validating the postal votes was claimed to have been incorrect, and there seems to have been inconsistency in the treatment of ballot papers where the voter, instead of voting with an 'X' as per the instructions, wrote 'No' on the ballot paper.

Some Tories have now come out in favour of the Assembly, deciding they would like to stand for it. Others continue to work against it, either by trying to weaken its powers or by trying to put obstacles into the legislation which would reduce its efficiency e.g. a leading Tory spokesman for Wales (not an elected

representative for anywhere, needless to say, we don't elect Tories in Wales) has called for the representatives on the Assembly of the areas of Wales which voted 'No' to be able to veto the use of the Welsh language on official documents. Such institutionalised connecting of language with support or opposition to selfgovernment is a complete novelty in Wales. While such voices are unlikely to have much influence in the short term, the perceived anti-Welsh shift of the right wing in Wales following the referendum is a cause of some concern bearing in mind that the Tories might well come back to power in the English state during the next 15 vears.

Following the referendum result, an antidevolutionist English businessman living in Casgwent/Chepstow formed a limited company with the name "The Welsh Assembly" with the intention of trying by legal means to stop the Assembly using this name. Such arrogance is as clear an example as one could find of an immigrant acting out his national stereotype.

A draft parliamentary order has been published which sets out those functions of central government which will be handed over to the Assembly if the Devolution Bill becomes law. These include agriculture. fisheries and food; ancient monuments and historic buildings: culture. museums, galleries and libraries; economic development; education and training (not the university); the environment; health and social services; housing; support for industry; local government; social services; tourism; town and country planning; transport; and the Welsh language.

One power which is not included yet is broadcasting. One suspects that the English are aware of the power which television and radio hold over the minds of the people. Plaid Cymru have called for control of Wales's own television channel, S4C. to be handed to the assembly, pointing out the illogicality of England controlling an institution which operates only in our country.

Various other aspects of the assembly will irritate nationalists and republicans. The proposal that assembly members should have to take an oath of loyalty to the Queen of England is being opposed by Plaid Cymru, who have said that the members' loyalty should be to the people of Wales. The decision to bind the seats in the Assembly to the Westminster and European constituencies in Wales, like the oath, is seen as a unionist ploy to make the assembly look less national. However, for us at the moment, the future in Wales is looking encouraging.

Robat ap Tomos/Clive James



éire



Scots Independent – fiorghuth Alban?



s nuachtán de chuid pháirtí polaitíochta é seo agus a rian sin air. Pléitear toghcháin áitiúla agus fothoghcháin ar an bpríomhleathanach. I dtrí eagrán i ndiaidh a chéile fógraitear go bhfuil tacaíocht Labour ag titim agus an Páirtí Náisiúnach ag dul i neart. 'The only true voice of Scotland' mana maiteach an nuachtáin seo ach is léir go mbaineann sé le páirtí polaitiúil agus gurb í an pholaitíocht áitiúil, náisiúnta, Breataineach agus Eorpach is ábhar dó. Tá tuairiscí ann ó bhall de phairliamaint na hEorpa Allan Macartney agus altanna tuairimíochta ó chuid de theachtaí an pháirtí i Westminster. Is léir gur mhór an bua don pháirtí reifreann na bliana anuraidh inar vótáil pobal Alban ar son pharliamaint a bheith i nDún Éideann agus go mbaineann an tUasal Macartney an-sásamh as an aitheantas méadaithe atá ag a pháirtí dá bharr. Léiríonn a chuid altanna go bhfuil baill an pháirtí ar bís chun aitheantas ar bith a fháil, agus áthas an domhain orthu nuair a thugann daoine i dtíortha eile faoi deara go bhfuil tír dá gcuid féin acu. Tá alt i nGáidhlig ar pholaitíocht náisiúnach Chorn na Breataine, ar chraoladh raidió agus teilifíse sa Ghàidhlig agus ar pholasaí teanga Bhaile Dhùn Éideann. Alt míosúil atá ag Alasdair MacCaluim agus tá siad deascríofa agus soléite fiú don Éireannach nach bhfuil mórán aithne aige ar theanga cheilteach na hAlban. I ndáiríre tá níos mó eagsúlachta sna hailt sin ná mar atá sa chuid eile den nuachtán mar go bhfuil na scríbhneoirí eile go léir gafa le tromaíocht ar rialtas Shasana agus ar na mórpáirtithe polaitiúla eile sa tír. Déantar léirmheas ar leabhair agus mar a bheifeá ag súil leis is polaitíocht agus teangacha Alban is mó a phléitear.

Thabharfadh an nuachtán seo cabhair don té a dteastaíonn uaidh/uaithí eolas a bhailiú faoina bhfuil ag tarlú i bpolaitíocht na hAlban, ach theastódh a lán ábhair eile uait chun léargas iomlán a fháil ar an tír. Mura mbeadh de ghuth ag Albain ach an páipéar seo ba theoranta cúng an léargas a gheofá. Tagraítear don easpa spéise atá ag daoine go ginearálta sa pholaitíocht. Ní haon iontas é nach mbeadh tacaíocht fhorleathan ag páirtí nach dtugann faoi fhadhbann laethúla na muintire ina fhoilseachán. Tá ceisteanna bunreachtúla leadránach do dhaoine a bhfuil a gcaighdeán maireachtála

go dona mar gheall ar easpa seirbhísí sláinte, difhostaíocht agus na mílte rudaí eile. Ba ghá don nuachtán seo léargas i bhfad níos leithne a thabhairt agus aghaidh a thabhairt ar cheisteanna a bhaineann le saol na ndaoine sular féidir a mhaiomh go firinneach gurb é seo guth na hAlban. Nach dtugann na boic seo faoi deara go bhfuil úinéireacht talún, dífhostaíocht, na seirbhísí sláinte, an córas cumarsáide, an cultúr agus na mílte nithe eile ina n-ábhair imní do dhaoine agus gur gá plé leo má tá an páirtí a labhrann siad ar a shon chun tacaíocht a mhealladh ó na páirtithe seanbhunaithe impíriúla?

Iarla Mac Aodha Bhuí

This article is a review of Scots Independent newspapers

Nortbern Agreement for Referenda

After much speculation of possible rejection by various parties, rumour and undoubtable tension the parties to the talks on the North of Ireland emerged on Good Friday with an agreement.

The main elements of this are:

- A 108-member Northern assembly elected by proportional representation. An Executive Authority with a First Minister. Deputy First Minister and up to 10 ministers with departmental responsibilities. The ministerial posts will be allocated on a proportional basis.
 - Committee chairs, ministerial posts and committee places will be allocated in proportion to party strength. Key decisions of the assembly must be taken on a cross-community basis.
- A North-South Ministerial Council will be established under legislation at Westminster and the Oireachtas, to develop consultation, co-operation and action within the island of Ireland – including matters of mutual interest within the competence of the administrations, North and South.

The Council must draw up a work programme covering at least 12 subject areas. These areas include: animal and plant health: teacher qualifications: transport planning: environmental protection: tourism: social security fraud and certain EU programmes. The Council decisions will be made by agreement between the two sides and the ministers involved will be accountable. It is stated explicitly that the Assembly cannot function without the North-South Council.

- The Government of Ireland Act. claiming British jurisdiction over all of Ireland, is to be repealed. Provision is made for future polls in the North on its status: such polls muct be at least seven years apart. The Irish Government is to hold a referendum to amend Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution to allow the State to be bound to this new Agreement.
- A British-Irish Council will be established consisting of representatives of the British and Irish governments, devolved institutions in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands. It will hold summit meetings twice a year to exchange information, discuss, consult and use best endeavours to reach agreement on cooperation on matters of mutual interest within the competence of the relevant administrations.
- A new Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission will be established by Westminster legislation. A new statutory Equality Commission will replace the Fair Employment Commission. Equal Opportunities Commission, Commission for Racial Equality and Disability in Northern Ireland. The importance of respect for and tolerance of the Irish language. Ulster-Scots 'and the languages of the various ethnic communities' is explicitly recognised. The British government is to take 'resolute action' to promote the Irish language.

The participants reaffirm their commitment to total disarmament of the paramilitary organisations. An independent Commission will be established to make recommendations for future policing arrangements in the North.

The Ulster Unionist Party Executive have backed their party leader by a two to one majority. The Sinn Féin delegation will be referring back to their Ard Comhairle (National Executive).

Referenda in the North and South of Ireland will be held in late May.

'WHO FEARS TO SPEAK OF '98?' - TODAY NOBODY!

The commemoration of the bicentenary of the 1798 Rising is well under way now. A full and varied programme of events has been organised running throughout the year. The rising took place in Wexford and the south east, in the North in Antrim and Down and in the West, inspired by the equalitarian ideals of Wolfe Tone and the United Irishman and their aim 'to substitute the common name of Irishman in place of Catholic, Protestant and Dissenter'. It was crushed with great ferocity and brutality by



Chris McGimpsey, Ulster Unionist Councillor

the yeomen and militias raised by the Ascendancy.

In Rathcoole, Co. Dublin a weekend seminar organised by a local committee was held in early March. If events on the official programme are of the same high standard they will succeed very well indeed. Talks were given on the folklore of 1798 linking it to earlier periods and on the songs of '98 (by well known traditional singer Frank Harte). The latter was very welcome. With the war in the North and the official revisionist climate in the 70s and 80s rebel songs disappeared from the airwayes and many of today's generation are not familiar with them. The choir of Scoil Chrónáin, the local Gaelscoil, sang a selection of those fine songs (the only songs they have ever learned in English!) many of which recalled fond memories as regular party pieces heard when I was growing up.

The seminar included lectures on the philosophy of the United Irishmen, the history of the rising and the local events and personalities involved. It concluded with a session on what might have been had the rising succeeded and amongst the speakers at that were Dr Martin Mansergh, architect of the Fianna Fáil policy on the North and Chris McGimpsey. Ulster



Dr Martin Mansergh. Fianna Fáil Northern Advisor

Unionist Councillor in Belfast. After the event I took the opportunity to appraise Chris of the different Celtic League approach to East-West links and gave him a copy of Carn 100 which he indicated he would look forward to reading! The event was very well attended and appreciated. A monument to local participants will be erected in June in the village.

A full programme of events countrywide can be obtained from Bernard Browne or Catherine Kirby, Comóradh '98, Market Square, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Tel: (054)33540/37198. Fax: (054)35115. Email: 98com@iol.ie http://www.wexford.ie

Carn 100 Launch A UNIQUE EVENT!

The special issue CARN 100 was launched in Ireland at a function organised by the Irish Branch of the Celtic League on Feb 26th. It was held in Club an Chonradh, Dublin and featured a reading of poems from the Celtic Poetry Supplement in the special issue.

The issue was launched by Dr Brian Stowell (the first Manx Language officer ever appointed) who came with the financial support of the Manx Branch of the League. In launching the issue he outlined the political and cultural progress made in the last twenty years in the Celtic countries and described in articles in the issue. He also alluded to the dangers facing the Celtic languages but took the opportunity to stress the major step forward made by the Manx language through its introduction, with Manx Government support, into the schools on the Isle of Man.

Following the launch poems were read in each Celtic Language with Irish translations of many. To this writer's knowledge this is the first time that poems in every Celtic language were recited at a poetry court, which must surely make it an unique event!

Partaking were Caoimhín Mac Giolla Leith (Gaidhlig). Alan Heusaff (Breton and Irish). Éamonn Ó Ciosáin (Breton and Irish), Pádraig Ó Cearbhaill (Welsh). Liam Præt, Pádraig Ó Snodaigh, and Biddy Jenkinson (all Irish). Nicholas Williams (Cornish and Irish) and Brian Stowell (Manx and Irish).

It was a most enjoyable event and our thanks to all poets, translators and readers, to our Manx Branch, to Club an Chonradh and to Bord na Gaeilge for financial assistance. A final word of thanks to Editor, Pat Bridson for her work on the issue and also in helping to organise the event.

COL



Dr Brian Stowell, at the launch reading his own poetry

Air Crash Remains a Mystery – 30 Years On

This year is the thirtieth anniversary of one of the most mysterious and serious air crashes to have occurred over the Irish sea. On the morning of March 24, 1968 an Aer Lingus airliner crashed near Tuskar Rock, All 61 on board died.

The involvement of the British missile range at Aberporth has long been attributed to the crash, but despite substantial circumstantial evidence the British maintain their story that the range was not operational on the day.

Carn has carried a number of articles regarding the crash of Aer Lingus flight EI 172 over the years and the Celtic League have been assessing and exploring peripheral evidence and once again the trail leads back to Aberporth.

In the analysis and conclusion of the official Irish government enquiry published in June 1970 much attention focused on the evidence of eye witnesses. It was clear from this evidence that two aircraft were present in the area on the day. One aircraft seen very much further west of the impact location of the Viscount was described in some detail and it is this aircraft we have focused on.

Witnesses variously describe the aircraft as travelling fast and having bright red colouring on wing tips, tail and fuselage. The colouring identification is crucial in that it does not equate with the green and white colouring of the Viscount airliner.

Our research however, indicates it was the colouring used on unmanned Meteor U Mk. 15 and U Mk. 16 target aircraft operated from Llanbedr in Wales and attached to the Aberporth test programme.

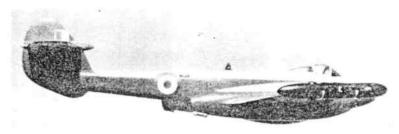
Witnesses who saw the aircraft, over Fethard-on-Sea. which subsequently crashed also observed peculiarities in the aircraft. It appeared "partly enveloped in mist" or "as if on fire" but with no smoke.

Again we have ascertained that the Meteor U Mk. (see photograph 1) were fitted with small acquisition flares below the jet pipes and these, when operating would have created the effect observed.

Finally in the context of this mystery aircraft, reference is made in the official report to debris in the sea off Fethard-on-Sea, many miles from the crash site of the Viscount aircraft. A vessel was also reported (although the official report was not able to identify it).

In 1993 Deputy Hugh Byrne set down a question in the Dáil in an attempt to clarify its identity, asserting that a British naval vessel was reputed to have recovered an object from the water. The Minister for Defense (David Andrews TD) denied any evidence of this.

However, if a Meteor unmanned target had been in the area and had crashed, one



1) An unmanned flight by VT310, a U.15, from RAE Llanbedr. Note the acquisition flares below the jet-pipe fairings.

of the standard procedures was for the range vessels to recover cameras which were mounted on the target aircraft. These recorded the progress of the missile test. Again our photographic evidence (see photograph 2) clearly shows the detachable camera pods fitted to a Meteor U Mk. 15 at the time.

Meteor debris has since reportedly been recovered in this area which would indicate that at sometime Llanbedr based target aircraft have strayed far from the Aberporth target containment area. This squares with other evidence uncovered by a South Wales journalist who found British government reports expressing concern that testing frequently strayed outside the target area. It also revealed that missiles had difficulty locking-on to target aircraft.

If, as we now believe, a missile failed to lock-on to its target and instead locked-on to the Aer Lingus Viscount that tragic accident may well have been recorded on the target aircrafts cameras, hence the scramble to remove debris from the sea

many miles west of the crash site.

The jury is still out on the crash of El 712 and the tragic loss of 61 lives. The British government may believe that by stonewalling the issue, and with the passage of time it will be forgotten.

But there are still many unanswered questions and the finger still points to British missile testing in that area at the time.

Usefully for the Irish government, should it wish to reopen enquiries into this matter, the identification and service record of all the Meteor target aicraft at Llanbedr will be well documented. Strangely, the official enquiry in 1970 did not ask for details of the target aircraft of their deployment.

If these records could be provided by the British government it would be a start. The Celtic League are cynical enough to believe however that like certain crucial ships log-books they will have gone missing!

J.B. Moffatt



 Wingtip camera pods and various command aerials were carried by R.4421. the prototype U.15 target drone which was converted from a Meteor F.4.

* The anniversary of the tragedy was given extensive coverage in the media in Ireland and Wales. The general Secretary, Bernard Moffatt appeared on BBC (Wales) television and radio. On both occasions he expressed criticism of both the Irish and British governments regarding the ambiguity still surrounding the deaths of the 61 people on board the airliner. He also took the opportunity to express our general concern about military activity in the Celtic countries. Several newspapers also carried lengthy articles, including the Irish Press, The Sunday Tribune, The Cork Examiner and the Western Mail (Wales). All but one

gave mention of the Celtic League's findings in this matter.

TnaG (Teilifís na Gaeilge) had a report in its main news. in this Celtic League Convenor. Cathal Ó Luain. had the opportunity to raise briefly the questions asked by the Celtic League Military Monitoring Campaign over the years. Prime Time (RTÉ) also devoted an hour long programme to the tragedy.

A special memorial service was held in Cork and Rosslare and relatives who met formed a group to lobby for a full public inquiry.



Hynwyn Tylleryow Dyw-Yethek

ma dhe Gernow lemmyn hy yskessedhek hy honen rag an Burow Europek Yethow Nebes Kewsys. An ys-kessedhek a den y ysyly adhyworth an try bagas mur usy owth enebhe abarth an try form Kernewek dasvewys hag ynweth bagasow erel gans bern y'n yeth.

Yma consels randyr yn Kernow ow tos ha bos whansek dhe dhrehevel arwedhyow hynwyn tylleryow dyw-yethek hag may hyllyn ny avoydya dysputyans poblek yn kever py dewys yn mes an ken-dewysyow yma'n ys-kessedhek ow whylas cafos kesassoylyans y'ga avys dhe Gonsels. Nyns yw hemma mater sempel! Mar pe unverheans yn muvyans an yeth ny vya an mater mar gomplek. Mes yw hemma gwyr?

Yma Agan Tavas owth enebhe abarth Kernewek Unyes hag Cussel an Tavaz owth enebhe abarth Kernewek dewedhes agryes na goth dhyn ny usya marnas formow ystorek adhyworth covathow an termyn us passyes.

Adro dhe peswar ugans cansran hynwyn tylleryow Kernow yw pypynak Kernewek kyn wruk lyes anedha dos ha bos pedrys wosa an yeth dhe verwel y'ga randyr. Kernewek avar yw brassa ran an hynwyn yn Kernow Est hag yn Kernow Cres Kernewek cres hag yn Kernow West Kernewek dewedhes. A vya ewn profya ken-dewysyow rag an hynwyn ma oll yn Kernewek cres poken oll yn Kernewek dewedhes? Yma nebes tylleryow kepar ha Falmouth hag Leedstown na wruk bythqueth cafos hanow Kernewek. Ywa fur lemmyn profya trelyans Kernewek ragtha war astell arweth?

An questyon yw, prag yth eson ny ow profya arwedhow dyw-yethek? Mars yw an skyla war an yl tu awos les Kernewegoryon, nyns yw possybyl nefra drehedhes unverheans gans muvyans a'gan tavas yn stuth del ywa. Mars yw war y gyla dhe brofya neppyth reveth dhe vysytroyon poken ewnhe poder kens, ena nyns us dewys marnas usya formow ystorek.

Summary Bilingual Placenames

Cornwall now has its own sub committee for the European Bureau of Lesser Used Languages. All three forms of Cornish are represented on it and the committee has been trying to reach agreement on advice to district councils for bilingual signs. In Cornwall the matter is complicated because existing placenames are a record of early middle and late Cornish. There seems little hope of agreement to use one form of revived Cornish everywhere even if this were the correct way to proceed. In Cornwall there is a good case for saying that it is not. The aim should be simple to correct past corruptions of existing names, eighty percent of which are Cornish anyway. This should be done using historically recorded forms from past records.

Ray Chubb

Kernowian Coath: Kernowian Noweth

ma tha nye pow bean, itan dro tha 400,000 a deez, mouy po lee. A rima, ma 168,000 a pretendia drens Kernuack cumpas, ha nagew hedna buz 42 an cans an bobell. Peea referendum en Kernow, an brossa bar alga dewes dre dalveea than behatna trussa aman ha moaz tha effarn, po whans dothans!

Eaysy ew gothas rag fra igge an Kernowian a chesya der vanar mar dubm ago heynes angye, ha angye prest a pooza war an deffrans treeth "angye' ha 'nye gon hunnen'. Nye a venga gwellas gon hunnen avell lydnyath pure; glane eneth! Whathe, pandra igge hedna a meynya, mor medn nye boaz assones avell teez shonick?

Na vee an Keltian o hunnen pobell pure eneth pe rigans doaz than ennisma en kensa dalla, ha pe reeg angye doaz ha anneza en parthow ew henwes hethow Alban, Worthen, Mann, Kimbra ha Kernow (heb menegas obma Breten Vean), gye reeg mellya gen pobell nango treges enna heernath, ha leb o devethes o hunnen thea tirriow kene avell rina thor leb o devethes an Keltian. Dres licklaud thera nena lee alga crya o hunnen Keltian es nab peath orol. Whathe an holl a theath ha boaz assones avell an Brittes.

Hethow, pewa ell denaha dreze teez, ha angye henwez lebmen avell Skottes. Gothily, Kembrian ampassy, ew seves a lydnyath Sowsnack, Scandinavian, Almaynack, Polish, Ethowack, Aphricanack, Eyndack... ha na orama pandra kene? En Pow an Sausen, pecare, Ha pe lew ew fysmant leeas an Sows? Gwidn? Due? Donack? Melyn?

Ha en Kernow, o why cryes Trevithick. Polgrean, Penhalligan, Rosevear, Cargeeg, pokean hanow orol ew devethes thor an hanowow-plasow a Kernow? Buz gothe thene adgan dre vee an Sausen leb reeg doaz hunz obma than pow nye, ha sesia an gwelha tirriow nye, ha nena comeras war o hunnen hanow an plasowma avell an leshan angye. Daa ew thene riddia peath reeg Edward Lhuyd screffa ort hebma:

Nag odzha vî a gorra mêr an poezder (ken yu hedda rêol por uîr en Kembra) uar anuo Brethonek Pednzhivikio Kernou. kymeryz a dhort an Telàryo; rag me ôr pordha try 'ryg radn anydha neuodzha a hanuo, heruedh hanuo an Plaso; ha rag hedda, ple ma faut a Kôth âhskref, nag yu spladn dhort pa an Tiz idzhanz deskennyz.

Ha why? Kernow po Kernowas o why? Thort puna lease? Thor puna termen?

Preze ew. metessen. meddra daa. Spladn ew na ell an contrevogian nye an termen ma, an Sausen, rowlya pewa ew Sowsnack pure seves athor an kensa dalla (eze nothans?), ha pewa ew devethes Sowsnack adewethas; buz nag eze oatham tha angye gweel dewhan dro tha hebma. rag drew an comiska gellez mar bell. ha drewa ree dewal. Onest veea gweel pecare en Kernow. Rag sertayne, me a ore radn ew due ort ago fysmant whathe drens gwell Kernowian avell rerol a orama ew gwidn... ha leb alga boaz devethes a pelle bennag mar vere drellama judgia. Nensew gwidn an Sausen, han Scandinavian, ha Almaynegian, he kene ri, herweth an breaz

Rag pothew an deez nye treges en Kernow edn po deaw aes, thera nye mentenya dro nye Kernowian fitty. Per efan, ma leb ew devethes thor deez a vee annezes en pow nye thea termen per goath. mesk rima radn reeg cowas o hanow thort an wheal angye, avell Angove. an gove. po an meer angye, avell Annear, an heer, Whathe an storian Trevelyan o devethes thor lydnyathe o treges peldar en noor a Pow an Sausen, thea an Ooz Crease eneth: alena, o hedna Kernow po Sows? Nye alga kennkia dro an Vatearnas Ebbet Tewdar Kembrack rag dro Kembrack e seera. Hedda la, rag dro Kembrack an seera eve. Hedda 7as. Na whathe. Ebbet a levery dro hye 'Pyrra Sowsnack'!

Andelha, me a hevol dem drewa preze thene gothas dreze Kernowian coath ha Kernowian noweth. Mesk rima, pewa veea mar vold ha tha ventenya drew eve 'Pyrra Kernuack', nagew hedna res them tha vrugy, buz avell drigge an Sausen a laull drens Sowsnack, han Scottes Albanack, han Frenkian Frencack, ampassy, mar te nye ha mentenya dro nye Kernuack hedna a dalveea meynya neppith leadan, ha ledanha, seer lowar, avell drova brederes kenz

En mean termen, mar medn nye gweel tha Kernow doaz andro ha trailia tha neppith broaz anoweth, bis en wheelas nab sort governans prevath, me a hevol dem na ellen nye moaz pell itna hadre veath an Kernowian buz 42 an cans an bobell! Ma oatham broaz tha nye a mouy Kernowian: hedna ew, brossa part an cans. Conorea, e veath Sausen trailez tha Kernowian na ellen nye cara (buz rerol drellen cara dasly); en contray part, ema kenzemmyn Kernowian fitty na ellen nye cara tabm veeth. Na ora why nothans? Ha hedna ew heb compla dreze leb na ell gon perry nye noneil!

Preze ew, metessen, dressa nye pedery neb ehan a passporth Kernuack. Dibblans dre gothfeea tha deez boaz treges et an pow rag an leiha a dermen ken boaz considdres sely lean, buz nensew hedna an case kenz lebmen dres oll an beaze, en kenniffer pow?

Richard Gendall

Old Cornishmen and New Cornishmen: précis

Because Cornwall is small and the proportion of her inhabitants who claim Cornish ancestry so scanty, the Cornish feel themselves to be under threat. But if we consider how larger countries, due to their very size and viability, have assimilated foreign elements and made of them nationals, whatever their colour, and to good effect, is it not time we Cornish ceased to regard ourselves as that diminishing 42 percent and made of ourselves a 100 percent nation composed of both 'old' and 'new' Cornish? Perhaps the time is ripe for a recognized Cornish passport or nationality based on a minimum domicile, for with only 42% how can we ever hope to make a proper Cornish future for our country?

O'DONNELL LECTURES 1998

The O'Donnell Lectures in the University of Oxford will be given this year by Dr N.J.A. Williams of University College, Dublin, who is himself an Oxford graduate. Dr Williams will give two lectures. The first entitled *Gaeilg*, *Gàidhlig*, *Gaelg: the position of Manx* will be held in the main lecture theatre in the Taylorian Institute, Oxford, at 5 p.m. on Thursday 22 May 1998. The second lecture with the title Nebbaz Gerriau dro tho Carnoack: A Few Words about Cornish will be given on Friday 23 May at the same time of day and in the same place.

Skoedbyans Gwydhaleg Diworth Konsel Béal Feirste

he guntelles gans pennsoedhek dyskans Sowsneg yn Iwerdhon. Sinn Féin yn mysk re erel a leverys ha muvyans an governans Sowsnek dhe weres gwydhalek bos rann ales a'n muvyans kres.

An kuntelles a dheuth y'n jydh pan wrug an governans sowsnek dyllo deryvas Yagh yn Gwydhaleg neb o dyllys kyns yn Chineg hag Urdu rag an re vyghan a wra defnydhya an yethow na.

Micheal Mac Giolla Ghunna. Penn rann gonysegyeth Sinn Féin a wovynnas orth soedhogyon Governans Sowsnek rag dastybi yn kever towlennow war tu ha yeth an weryn, skonyys rag termynn pell po gorras erbyn yn igor gans an Governans Sowsneg

Ev a leveras a goth dhe'n Governans Sowsnek aswoen bri a'n yeth ha kewsel a wrug a'n "ethom gwir an gemmenyth gwdhaleg rag servyans an stat war bar gans sowsnegoryon". Ynwedh i re gewsys yn kever res dhe Governans Sowsnek ri aswoenvos an yeth dre lagha, ha synya an "European charter for regional and minority languages".

An kuntelles ma a sewyas everyans Konsel an Sita Béal Feirste (Belfast) mires orth skoedhyans Gwydhaleg.

An kusulyans a wra oberi gans an desten a dyffrans ow gonysegyeth, hag yn arbennik an yeth Iwerdhonek ha yethow erel le gewsys.

Summary

At a meeting with Britain's top education official in Ireland, Sinn Féin among others stressed that British government moves to help the Irish language were an important part of the peace process.

The meeting took place on the day when the British administration finally agreed to print in Irish a health information pack which had already been translated to the Chinese and Urdu languages for the North's small immigrant community. Micheal Mac Giolla Ghunna, head of Sinn Féin's cultural department asked British Government officials to reassess their government's overall strategy towards the indigenous language, long ignored or openly opposed by the British government.

New English-Cornish Dictionary

Dr Nicholas Williams has recently completed his Gerlyver Arnoweth Sawsneck-Kernowek or Modern English-Cornish Dictionary. This ground-breaking new work provides Cornish speakers with a comprehensive modern vocabulary. The work used the spelling of Unified Cornish Revised throughout and includes such items as cangregynek carginogenic: cresfoesyk - centrifuge: cof hapkeragh - random access memory; tesvans bysefan - global warming; gwylanel glider; dysfaverans herwyth hyl - racial discrimination; maynoryeth sodhow employment agency; stumdro termyn time-warp; unsys dourwyth - intensive care unit; and many others. Gerlyver Arnoweth Sawsnek-Kernowek is a further important step in the revival of Cornish and will be welcomed by all those who value authenticity in the revived language. It is hoped to publish Dr Williams's dictionary later this year.

THE PRACTICAL DICTIONARY OF MODERN CORNISH

The Cornish-English part of the Practical Dictionary of Modern Cornish was published last May. It is the culmination of fifteen years of intensive research by Richard Gendall. He set out on a voyage of linguistic discovery in 1982. That voyage was in the uncharted waters of the Cornish language following its medieval period. The last medieval manuscript was written in 1504. Mr Gendall's studies ranged from that date to the last twentieth century fragmentary remains of traditional Cornish. He had long before established his expertise in Old and Middle Cornish. But Modern Cornish is much more extensive both in quantity and in the variety of its vocabulary. Researching it was a massive task that had to be carried out pretty swiftly.

One thing that has benefitted and extended Cornish studies has been the discovery of manuscripts this century. The earlier pioneers in Cornish this century like Henry Jenner and Morton Nance had not seen them. They could not present Cornish

in its fulness in their works on the language. Mr Gendall's dictionary has got the rich vocabulary of the whole range of Modern Cornish currently available. Users and learners of Cornish have now, for the first time ever, a comprehensive Cornish-English dictionary.

In any work dealing with the Cornish language the question of the spelling used crops up. Mr Gendall's Student's Dictionary records all known spellings of each word. The author in the Practical Dictionary makes a reasoned choice for each word from the various spellings. The result is an orthography strongly reminiscent of that used by William Rowe. One may ask why that is so. It is because Rowe's spelling is the most typical of the later Cornish writers. It is an orthography that one can feel comfortable with. It is, above all, authentic, a factor crucial to the restoration of any minority language.

We look forward now to the other half of the Practical Dictionary of Modern Cornish. That will be the English-Cornish section which is due to come out this year. This Cornish-English section is available from: Teere ha Tavaz, Tregrill Vean, Menheniot, Liskeard, Cornwall.

Merfyn Phillips

Gwel Kernow A Cornish View

by Ann Trevenen Jenkin, pp180 ISBN 0 9524601 2 2 , Price Stg. £8.00

This collection of poems in English with an essentially Cornish feel written by the Present Grand Bard of the Cornish Gorsedd takes a look at modern Cornish life from a more relaxed, possibly romantic view than is common for poetry of the late '90s (as exemplified by "Byrth Arnowedh Kernewek") yet despite this they are a pleasant read. The poems in this collection do not just cover the small world of Cornwall but extend through the wider Celtic world and in one section the county of Devon or more precisely Dartmoor.

The book is well illustrated with a number of both colour and B/W photos.

AN T-ALBANNACH

The Edinburgh based broadsheet newspaper The Scotsman have introduced a new Gaelic page which is to appear every second Wednesday. The newspaper's Gaelic section further hope that this feature will become weekly during 1998. The Scotsman's long-running Friday Gaelic column is to continue to appear weekly. For their efforts, the Scotsman have been awarded Comann an Luchd-lonnsachaidh's Kennedy award for those doing the most to promote the Gaelic cause during 1997.

Alasdair MacCaluim



Filmyn Celtiagh as Co-Obbraghey

y smoo as ny smoo, ta fir-fillym ayns Nalbin, Nerin as Bretin coobbraghey ry- cheilley. Y red scanshoil ta bentyn rish shen dy vel ny filmyn as feeshanyn ayns Gaelg Albinagh. Yernish as Bretnish. Bee paart jeh ny filmyn slane eddyr-Cheltiagh. Ta shen dy ghra, bee ad jeant dy ve cooie ayns fer erbee jeh ny tree cheeraghyn as eisht nee ad cur yn chengey oc hene er y fillym.

Ta sampleyr mie jeh shen ry-gheddyn ayns ny h-ellanyn Albinagh. Ta colught enmyssit Eolas Productions jannoo strane (series) ayns shey ayrnyn as feed. Ta ny flimyn mychione feallagh aeg ta goaill ayrn ayns co-hirraghyn, ta shen dy ghra, ratchal er coorsyn-lhiettrimys. She ayns Nalbin as Nerin vees ny filmyn jeant, lesh argid veih Teilifis na Gaeilge as Comataidh Craolaidh Gàidhlig (ren ad caghlaa yn ennym veih 'Comataidh Telebhisean Gàidhlig' dys CCG tra haink ad dy ve dellal rish radio chammah as yn chellveeish).

Bee Gaelg Albinagh currit er ny filmyn son Nalbin (enmyssit 'Cleas' – 'Contoyrtys') as Yernish son Nerin (enmyssit 'Eachtra' – 'Contoyrtys'). Ayns Nalbin, ta Eolas Productions jannoo ny filmyn ass lieh Çhellveeish Grampian. Ta Eolas Productions gobbraghey veih Steornavaie syn Ellan Lioas – red yindyssagh ny lomarcan my t'ou smooinaghtyn er ny bleeantyn hie shaghey.

Goll ersooyl veih co-obbraghey, ta CCG er chuirrey da skimmeeyn-jannoo dy yannoo tooilley claaryn-ynsee Gaelg Albinagh ry-hoi scoillyn Albinagh. Bee £380,000 ry-chosney veih ny claaryn shoh. Y chied ayrn jeh'n chalee (project), bee shen cooney lesh yn curriglym dauesyn eddyr queig as kiare bleeaney jeig dy eash. Bee CCG cur argid son jeih oor ny smoo dy chlaaryn-ynsee Gaelg Albinagh son BBC Nalbin ny Ammyr 4.

Ren Matthew Mac Iver, Caairliagh CCG, guee er ooilley ny sheshaghtyn Albinish dy obbraghey ry-cheilley myr unnid. Dooyrt eh dy nhegin da'n lughtymskeaylley cooney lesh ny reddyn ta taghyrt ayns scoillyn Nalbin bentyn rish yn chengey Ghaelagh. Mastey ny claarynynsee noa, bee strane jeh tree claaryn as feed vees feed minnid er liurid, ry hoi sharaghey schleiyn lhaih, loayrt as eaishtagh. As bee claaryn elley cooney lesh ynsagh crauee as moraltagh.

Lheim harrish dys Nerin, ta sheshaght enmyssit 'Oscailt' ('Fosley') kiarail cur er e hoshiaght jannoo filmyn giare ayns Yernish, goaill ymmyd jeh tashtey dy £200,000.

Hig yn argid veih Bord Scannán na hÉireann (Boayrd Filmyn Nerin) as Teilifis na Gaeilge, ta geearree cur geill mooar da stiureyderyn, fir-screeuee as leayreyderyn (producers) ren cheet roo er y gherrid. Shegin jannoo daa 'illym er y chooid sloo. filmyn vees jeih dys shey minnid as feed er liurid.

Ayns y Chorn, ta colught enmyssit 'Three S Films' jannoo filmyn dy specideilagh rish jeih bleeaney as feed. V'eh currit er bun dy yannoo filmyn mychione spoyrt-marrey as filmyn slane Cornagh, Agh, er y gherrid, v'ad eginit dy gholl ersooyl beggan veih cooishyn Cornagh dy yannoo tooilley obbyr da colughtyn ta ny smoo na keead meeiley ersooyl, ayns Plymouth. Ga dy row Feailley Cheltiagh ny Filmyn as Feeshanyn feer speeideilagh sy Chorn mleeaney, ta'n Cornaghys cheet dy ve fo hraastey mooar ayns colughtyn-fillym sy Chorn ta jannoo filmyn mychione cooishyn Cornagh. Goll rish 'Three S Films', t'ad eginit cosney argid liorish obbyr veih'n cheu-mooie, as cha nel y stoo Cornagh cho lajer as v'eh. Ny yei shen as ooilley, ta filmyn Cornagh foast jannoo dy mie. Y sambyl share, shen 'Yn Dann An Galow' ('Ayns y Toilshey Mooar'), fillym mychione y Chorn nish. agh trooid sooillyn yn chenndiaght.

As cre mysh Mannin ayns ny cooishyn shoh? Son shickyrys, ta filmyn mooarey goll er jannoo ayns Mannin, agh cha nel ad currit da'n Vanninaghys. Argid t'ayn ny lomarcan, ta Reiltys Vannin smooinaghtyn. Er y fa dy nee ellan Mannin, s'doillee cosney argid liorish jannoo filmyn giare ayns Mannin, goll rish ny Cornee. Son shickyrys, ta filmyn mychione spoyrtwheeylagh feer speeideilagh ayns Mannin. Shoh sorch dy chultoor Manninagh, gyn ourys, agh cha nel eh cooney lesh y chengey.

Ta feeshanyn Gaelgagh cheet roo ec y traa t'ayn. Va nane jeu jeant ec Alex Townsend ayns Scoill Ard Noo Ninian son Teisht Chadjin Ghaelgagh (General Certificate in Manx), as ta fer elley goll er jannoo liorish Charles Guard son Duke Video. Ta culleeyn-feeshan dy liooar ec Scoill Ard Phurt ny h-Inshey, agh cha nel ad goaill ymmyd jeu ec y traa t'ayn dy yannoo feeshanyn Gaelgagh. Ec y traa t'ayn, shegin dooin guee dy vel sleih ayns scoillyn Vannin (marish sleih elley) cur er bun ny h-undinyn jeh colughtyn-feeshan Manninagh.

Orree Crennell

Summary

There is increasing Celtic cooperation over film and video making. Film making has taken off in the Isle of Man. but it is almost entirely concerned with making money for the Manx Government, with no concern for Manx culture. There may be the beginnings of a truly Manx video inclusivy.



Fred Radcliffe

Reih Bleeaney Vannan Award

This year's Reih Bleeaney Vannan Award went to Fred Radcliffe.

Candidates for the trophy, awarded by the Manx Heritage Foundation, are nominated by members of the public.

The trophy is awarded to the person who the panel of assessors consider to have provided the greatest contribution to the Island's cultural heritage.

Mr Radcliffe. 72 is a fluent speaker of Manx Gaelic and has made and invaluable contribution to the study of things Manx over many years, a contribution which has ranged over many aspects of Manx life.

His work includes a series of educational packs for use in schools, which have provided a unique source of material for teachers on such subjects as Manx agriculture and fishing, mines and geology,

Mr Radcliffe's involvement in researching the Island's past also stretched to involvement in archaeological excavations, including leading the dig at Perwick Bay which revealed so much about life on the Isle of Man 2.000 years ago.

Manx Natural Heritage Under Threat

Imay be using the English language for this speech, but this Speaker does not underestimate the importance of the Manx language for our cultural and national identity.

I would make and urgent call to the Government on that basis for further resource allocation to ensure the survival of our language and further promotion, bringing it, at the very least, to the same standard of usage and credibility as any one else's national language, and something to be proud of.

Three hundred years ago Illiam Dhone, or William Christian, a man of great courage and conviction, knowing full well the consequences of his actions, attempted to try and resist the breaking down of our ancient heritage by English overlords, and was subsequently shot and murdered by them on this spot.

Our heritage is still under threat, especially, our national heritage. Ironically this threat is still coming from across the water, which is pushing the development line out into our countryside, causing the loss of wild places and dilution of our culture.

Nothing I can think of is more precious or uniquely Manx, than our countryside, typifying the Island, and giving it, its own special character.

It is this special character that causes us to enjoy our home, and land, bringing visitors and business alike to our shores. The Island is still 'green' and has plenty of open space. It is still interesting and mystical – for now.

At the heart of the Manx Countryside are the Mountains, the most prominent and important feature of the Island. This key attribute gives form, shape and variety making the landscape interesting, visually pleasing and truly beautiful.

Many of the mountains appear to have had their covering ladled on, suggesting the might of the Manx Sea God Manannin, giving the Isle of Man it's striking and, dramatic character.

The advantages of the hill-lands are their steepness and inaccessibility causing them to remain natural and undeveloped. The building line being restricted to the lowland valleys.

This means that the mountains still support a surprising range of rare plants, animals and birds.

These lands and their wildlife are so important the experts class them, not on a local or national level but on an international scale.

I wonder why it is that the Manx Government, knowing the importance of the hills, seem to ignore this factor.



Bill Henderson

seemingly, always pursuing the more lucrative and politically exciting options: construction and development?

The Government owns 50% of these hills and is therefore the most important piece of public owned real-estate, on the Island.

I would make a call on our Government to halt the decline in both our national, and natural heritage, and make a start by preserving and designating this jewel in the Islands Crown: the Manx Hill-lands, as a national park.

Given this Island's abysmal conservation record and woefully inadequate conservation legislation, the Government undoubtedly needs to make a 'U-turn' on its wildlife strategies and put right the environmental vandalism which has gone on for too long. They should have the guts to apply the same energy and conviction with which they court the finance and business communities, and apply that to the Island's urgent conservation needs.

It is this Government's duty to resist the breaking down of our ancient heritage, and act as true, independent, people's representatives, as set forth in their manifesto promises.

They are not here solely to increase the population and encourage further colonisation of our land!

We want our Island to stay the way it is, still with its natural beauty.

We want something left of our ancient heritage.

We want action from this Government.

We want action now, preserve our national treasures: Designate the Manx Hills, do something positive for the millennium.

(Part of the oration at the Illiam Dhone Service, Hango Hill, Castletown, Isle of Man, 2nd of January, 1998.)

> Bill Henderson Manx Ecological Concern

Appeal

Albert J. Phiebig Inc. Books. P.O.Box 352, White Plains, N.Y. 10602-0352 USA. Fax – 44 1624 673115 would like to hear from anyone who can identify the publishers of: The Proceedings of the 10th International Congresses of Celtic Studies.

UK Government Reviews Manx Finance Industry

anx Nationalists, Mec Vannin and others, have traditionally opposed the use of Mannin for tax-haven/avoidance purposes, both from its moral and political standpoint.

Mec Vannin's warnings that a Labour government in the UK may very well put a brake on tax-havens, including Mannin, stretch back into the 1970s. Whereas Mec Vannin have traditionally accused the Manx government of letting Westminster walk all over us, there is no point in inviting a battle that may well lead to, in part at least, a re-run of the 1765 Reinvestment Act that effectively rendered Mannin a Crown Colony.

On that occassion, the *Trade* was spirits and tobacco. Then, like now, the operations conducted in Mannin were perfectly legitimate. There was, however, a degree of smuggling of contraband goods from Mannin to the UK. Research has shown that the UK's perception of the level of smuggling was far greater than reality but it cost Mannin its independence.

Now, the *Trade* is the international finance industry and the *contraband* is either another country's tax dues or laundered money. Whether perception is worse or better than reality remains to be seen (if it will ever be seen).

The fact that the new UK Labour Government has a keen interest in the offshore jurisdictions was born out when, on 19 January, the UK Home Office informed the Manx Government that it was to conduct a six-month review of the the legislation, regulation etc of the finance industries in Mannin and the Channel Islands. They have since downgraded the review to a mapping exercise. Conducting the review is a freelance accountancy consultant!

The news that the UK Labour government is to review Mannin's finance regulation has been publicly welcomed by Chief Minister Donald Gelling, but if he has been correctly advised, he should be privately sweating buckets.

This development, when properly analysed, bears out yet again that the concerns of the nationalists are fully justified. Mec Vannin warned of the political disempowerment of the Manx people if the finance industry grew too strong. Now, the Manx government is scared to use our own language lest it cause some minor inconvenience to a couple of bankers as any attempt to effectively

regulate the industry is met with threats from the various industry mouth-pieces.

Mec Vannin warned of the growing probability that Europe would attempt to clamp down on tax-havens. The Manx government dismissed the warnings yet now the European Court of Auditors, the German government, several MEPs and even MPs are making moves to bring such a clamp-down into place.

Mec Vannin warned that a Labour government in the UK would inevitably look resentfully at Mannin's independence, traditionally nurtured under Tory governments to provide a low tax bolt-hole for pro-Tory ex-pats.

Mister Gelling dare not, of course, publicly state that the repercussions of a UK review could result in an attempt to legislate over our heads since this would upset his beloved finance sector. In an attempt to play down the potential consequences of the review, he has cited the high standard of regulation and the constitutional relationship with the UK as reasons to be cheerful.

As for our constitutional position, if we had a government who knew its proper place i.e. governing a country for the benefit of its people, and knew the place of the Westminster government i.e. several hundred miles away in a different country, the financiers may have less to fear. The reality is that the Manx statute books are littered with legislation extended by the UK over the heads of our government without consent or consultation.

Television reception licensing, radio broadcast licensing, Official Secrets Act and a host of others bear testimony to the ability of the UK government to walk all over our country when it suits them, even though all the above legislation is challengeable in law.

The current English Minister with responsibility, Lord Mostyn, has quickly moved to back the Manx government stance, saying how good Anglo-Manx relations are and how confident he is that all is rosy in the garden. The question then begs: Why conduct a review?

'New Labour' may not want to disturb the cosy relationship where legitimate UK/Manx investments are concerned, but the last thing it wants is another bullet for Europe to fire against it in the shape of money laundering, tax evasion and fraud allegations. The laws that will effectively prevent this are traditionally the laws that the Isle of Man based finance industry has most strongly and successfully resisted. The result may be very different when the UK government is involved.

Mec Vannin deeply resents the willingness of the UK to compromise our independence. Equally, we deeply resent the failure of our own government to act sufficiently responsibly to avoid the situation in the first place.

EUROPEAN CHARTER ON REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

The London Branch has made some good progress on UK signature and ratification of the European Charter on Regional or Minority Languages.

Acting on their behalf Chris Smith MP, received the following letter from the Foreign Office:

Council of Europe (CoE): European Charter on Regional or Minority Languages - UK Signature

- 1 Thank you for your letter of 23 October on behalf of your constituents Mr and Mrs Kenna of 72 Compton Street, Finsbury, London, EC1V 0BN,
- 2 Since you wrote to me you will have received a copy of Ron Davies letter to me of 18 November, advocating UK signature and ratification without delay (at least in the case of the Welsh language).
- 3 I see advantage to UK signature, which would send a positive signal to those new Council of Europe member states who are required to become party to the Charter as a condition of their membership. However, as Ron goes on to say, both Mo Mowlam and Donald Dewar will wish to give the nature and timing of UK signature and ratification of the Charter careful thought and the position will be clearer once we have their views.

Trevor Mylchreest for Robin Cook

(approved by the Foreign Secretary and signed in his absence by the Private Secretary) Foreign and Commonwealth Office 30 December 97

It certainly is promising for the Welsh language – about time too. Members are urged to keep up the pressure by writing to Mo Mowlam, MP and Donald Dewar, MP.



Military Monitoring – A Twenty Year Campaign

The General Secretary outlines briefly some facets of the Celtic League's Military Monitoring Campaign. Started almost by accident it has become one of the League's great success stories. Often xidiculed, in the early days, our claims about the problems caused to fishermen by submarine operations, and our concerns that large quantities of military chemical weapons had been disposed at sea, have been vindicated by the passage of time.

INTRODUCTION

The callous murder of a twelve year old girl by the British Army in South Armagh, was to lead to one of the longest running and most successful campaigns the Celtic League has ever undertaken.

Majella O'Hare was walking with friends near her local chapel at Whitecross in South Armagh. Initially military sources blamed the IRA, but eventually it was admitted that she had been killed by a burst of fire accidentally discharged by a British army patrol, her and her friends had just walked by.

Manx nationalists in Mec Vannin and members of the Mannin branch of the Celtic League had watched developments in North Ireland, particularly in relation to the use made of the Isle of Man as a base to support operations there. However no campaign of opposition had been initiated. The Majella O'Hare killing altered all this, and the nationalist grouping, the Celtic League & AMA (Anti Militarist Alliance), was established which pledged to campaign until all bases had been removed form the Isle of Man.

In August 1982, the Mannin branch having enjoyed some local success with the campaign, urged the Celtic League Annual Meeting, held in Dublin, to adopt a general policy to 'monitor the development of military activities and installations in the Celtic countries'. The remit was also to include monitoring of the environmental impact.

spy planes were frequent visitors from Aldegrove near Belfast. In 1988 after much concern had been expressed about British army behaviour in a 'Home defence' exercise held on the Island, the British Army quietly left.

The Breton Connection



Protesters alongside the French Navy vessel, Narvik.

Very little opportunity presented itself to give practical support to our opposition to French military activity, although several of the submarine incidents monitored involved Breton vessels. However visits by French naval vessels always attracted protest, and in the early 1980s the crew of the French minelayer Narvik, paying a courtesy visit to the tiny fishing village of Port St. Mary in the Isle of Man, were greeted by such protesters. Later visits by French vessels used the harbour at Douglas, where the French could avoid such opposition by tying up in the security area of the Port.

The Submarine Problem

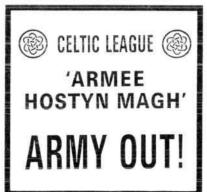
An Irish fishing vessel has sank after a mysterious collision in the central Irish sea area of Co Louth. BBC Northern Ireland radio made this announcement one morning in April 1982. The announcer went on to quote Royal Navy sources as dismissing suggestions that one of their submarines had been involved. No Royal Navy submarines had apparently visited the Irish Sea for several days. The Celtic League not only knew this was a lie but we had graphic evidence to confirm it. A photograph taken just hours before the sinking, of the Royal Navy vessel HMS Porpoise, on passage towards the area the Sheralga went down. The Sheralga incident led to further examination of the record of all submarine operating powers in the waters around Britain and Ireland. Comparatively swiftly, we built up a dossier of over 150 incidents. disappearances, sinkings and snaggings of vessels. We engaged in vigorous correspondence with government and International agencies, and with good support from MPs in the United Kingdom and TDs in the Irish parliament, succeeded in having the matter raised at the United Nations. Eventually the International

CAMPAIGNS

The NATO Range

When the general military monitoring strategy was adopted by the League, the Mannin branch had some years of local campaigning behind it. The RAF range of the north west of Mannin, used extensively by NATO, was one of the first targets. Leafleting and a vociferous campaign of monitoring low flying, produced early results and low flying by military aircraft below 2000 feet was banned over the Island's land mass. (This is still one of the few such bans on RAF activity over the United Kingdom and Isle of Man). In 1988 after almost ten years of opposition the Isle of Man government was forced to scrap plans to expand the range facility - a move it was making at the behest of the British government - and in 1993 the range closed and the last British facility was dismantled. A pollution legacy lives on however, and the Celtic League are now campaigning for compensation from the British to clean up 30 square miles of sea bed off the north coast.

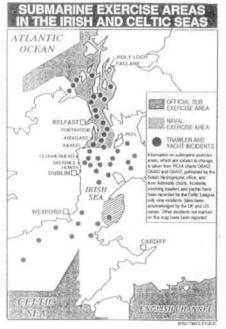
The British Army Leave Mann



In parallel with the bombing range campaign, a systematic programme of opposition to British Army use of Mann for military exercises was maintained. The observation of *goings on* in and around the military base at Jurby produced some interesting information. Units from North Ireland periodically used the base, particularly in the mid seventies, and helicopter traffic and fixed wing Beaver

Maritime Organisation (IMO) introduced two specific resolutions to address the problem. Officially the League ended this campaign three years ago when the AGS Mark Kermode laid a wreath to the memory of over 100 fishermen on a dozen vessels, believed lost in submarine related collisions.

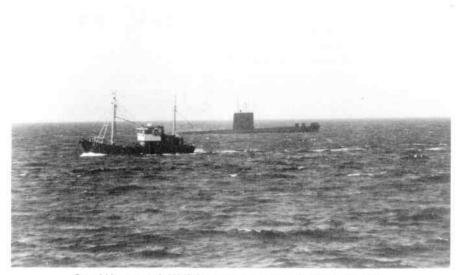
That photograph of HMS Porpoise also cost the British Ministry of Defence (MoD) dear. In 1988, six years after the sinking of Sheralga, several hundred thousand pounds in compensation was paid to the owner and crew.



Submarine exercise area.

The Sea Dumps

He swelled up like a balloon, turned purple and shed all his skin including his scalp. Reports like this, after a Breton trawler was contaminated by mustard gas in 1969 after fishing in the Beaufort Dyke area, led us to the assumption that not all the materials deposited were as inert as the authorities would have us believe. For over twenty years the Celtic League has campaigned for information about the contents of Beaufort Dyke and other sea dumps. Fifteen years ago we expressed concern that in addition to chemical weapons, nuclear material had also been disposed of at sea in these inshore areas. In 1993 we stepped up the campaign and called for Irish government support at a special Dublin Conference, the theme of which was 'A Dangerous Legacy in Our Seas'. Nothing, however, could have prepared us for the scale of the environmental disaster the British have created - to which a solution has still to be determined. From 1995 onwards there has



Royal Navy vessel, HMS Porpoise, on passage towards the area where the Sheralga went down.

been a stream of confirmatory evidence that vindicates our campaign. A staggering one million tonnes of explosives and chemical waste have been deposited in Dumps around the Irish coast and in Beaufort Dyke. In 1997, the British also owned up to the disposal of nuclear waste. The monitoring of this eco-disaster led to the development of cooperation with local authorities, in the areas affected by material seeping from the sea dumps. This campaign will continue for many years to come.



A fireman deals with strange objects.

Micro Wave Links – To Irish Neutrality

One of the issues used to illustrate the advantages of a coordinated monitoring campaign, when the League AGM considered the issue in 1982, was the revelation by the Mannin branch that the UKs Air Defence System was using facilities in Ireland to relay information from its main radar station, at Bishops Court in Ulster.

The Mannin branch had stumbled on the information when investigating why heavy capacity micro wave links were being constructed, linking Bishops Court through Mannin to the Lancashire coast. Several articles subsequently appeared in the Irish media. However the Irish government rejected the claim that the traffic constituted a breach of its neutrality.

Army Bases and Military Pollution – One in the Eye for Portillo

The Celtic League, after extensive research during 1992, determined that a serious pollution problem may have occurred around a wide range of used and disused military bases. We became aware that the MoD were suppressing two reports (one concerning Army bases, the other RAF airfields) which were highly critical. Requests to have the information released led initially to blanket denials that the reports existed. However using information from the Army document in 1993, we published our findings.

The issue was taken up on our behalf by George Foulkes MP (a good supporter in a number of monitoring campaigns we pursued). The rather bumptious junior Defence Secretary Nicholas Soames, initially denied our claims. However when we passed our report via Foulkes to Portillo, the Defence Secretary had to do a u-turn on earlier government comment and announce a staggering 600 'land quality statements' on military bases and installations.

The range of other Monitoring activities was, and is, extensive. Monitoring and campaigning against low flying in Wales and Scotland: publicising suppressed information about the problems caused by carbon fibre pollution at aircraft crash sites: investigating the operation of British military forces in Ulster and

exposing the humiliating attempt by the MoD to buy second hand helicopters world wide, to shore up its faltering helicopter force in North Ireland, prior to the 1994 cease-fire: continuously probing and exposing facets of the still mysterious crash of an Aer Lingus airliner over the British Aberporth missile testing range in 1968 (this resulted in a release of papers and official logbooks ahead of the thirty year rule); opposition to extensions to the Aberporth missile complex; attempting to unravel the mystery of the disposal of weapons manufactured in Britain's chemical weapons complex at Nancekuke in Cornwall, which closed many years ago. All these are just a sample of the elements that have made up our military monitoring in recent years.

The Celtic League have not worked alone. No record of our work is complete without acknowledgement to people like George Foulkes (Labour MP), Donald Stewart (SNP) in Scotland, Dafvdd Wigley and Dafydd Ellis Thomas (PC) in Wales. and Hugh Byrne (TD) in Ireland. These are just some of the parliamentarians who helped us. Also action and interest by various Irish governments and by International bodies such as the IMO have been invaluable. Over the years a greater degree of openness, in particular by the British government, has also assisted however it is pertinent to qualify this by saying information has invariably been proffered to avoid or deflect media embarrassment

The campaigns would have not have progressed without good publicity and a stream of press releases over the years, which produced a good take up by both the National media in Scotland, Wales, Ireland, London and also news media world wide.

The submarine monitoring campaign and the Chemical weapons dumping issue were picked up globally, and this in turn assisted our efforts.

Twenty years after it began, our Military Monitoring campaign continues.

J B Moffatt

More detailed information on individual campaigns is available from the General Secretary of the Celtic League.



ALBA? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

Carn no 95 featured a short article which discussed the etymology of the word Alba. This is a matter in which I have done some research, and as my conclusions differ from those quickly exposed in the mentioned article. I decided to share my view with anyone who might be interested. For I consider that a good deal of interesting information about a concrete place can be obtained from its very name.

Well, here is a brief history of the name of the land of the Scots in their mother tongue.

The word Alba is the survival in the Gaelic language of z!8\$\T< (Albion), the name the ancient Greeks learnt the isle of Britain bore. Remember that Alba, like z!8\$\T<, is a nasal theme, I mean, the last letter of the root of both names is a 'n', which is shown in the genitive case, at least in formal speech (compare also with Irish Albain and Welsh yr Alban). The AgDÅ 5 F:@L (About the World), a treatise on geography dating from c. 300 BC falsely attributed to Aristotle, is among the earliest records of this name:

Pseudo-Aristoteles, De Mundo, III

(In that part of the world there are two islands, referred to as British, Albion and lerne; these are bigger than the islands of which we spoke before [those in the Mediterranean Sea], and lie beyond the land inhabited by the Celts [that is, Gaul]).

The Romans -they were the best pupils of the Greeks also in Geography- borrowed this name, and used it transliterated. The *Natural History* of Pliny the Elder (finished c. AD 77) will provide us with a fine example:

Ex adversu huius situs Britannia insula clara Graecis nostrisque monimentis inter septentrionem et occidentem iacet, Germaniae Galliae Hispaniae multo maximis Europae partibus magno intervallo adversa. 'Albion' ipsi nomen fuit, cum 'Britanniae' vocarentur omnes de quibus mox paulo dicemus.

C. Plinius Secundus, Naturalis Historia, IV 102

(Opposite to that place, between north and west, lies Britain, an island well known not only to Greek records, but also to our own. This island is located in front of Germany, Gaul and Spain, the largest countries of Europe, but after a great distance from these. Its name was 'Albion', although all the islands I shall mention shortly after are given the name 'British').

Then is from Latin that the French. English or Spanish, for example, have obtained a poetic name for England; and it is no wonder if this name is used mainly for England. The reasons for this are the same that have made the name Britain another terminological fiction, for this name after all has also come to mean England only. However, both meanings of Albion (Britain and England), are, if not wrong, at least improper. We shall understand the motives if we go further back still in history.

The earliest Greek and Carthaginian explorers who fared to Britain (c. 500 BC. once the kingdom of Tartessos in southern Spain collapsed, for the Tartessians had always monopolized Atlantic commerce) thought that the indented peninsulas of Cornwall and Wales were simply the largest of a number of scattered islands belonging to a mysterious north-western Atlantic archipelago. This archipelago stretched from Uxissama, modern Eusa in front of Brittany (the ?U>4FV:0 of the Greek geographer Strabo, who mentions her for the first time: the name is Old Celtic, and means the uppermost; the Welsh word uchaf is the modern form of the same ancient name), up to the shores of lerne (bear in mind that the classical antiquity placed Ireland to the north of Britain). All the 'islands' one could find sailing from Brittany until reaching Ireland were considered to form a community, and were called Oestrymnides after Oestrymnis, the oldest recorded name for Brittany. ÆFJDL:<\H is the Greek adaptation of a foreign name, which designated the inhabitants of western Brittany (those of modern Bro Leon and Kernew-Uhel). This people is successively named CFJD a 4 (Ephorus, c. 350 BC), zSFJ:4a4 (Pytheas, c. 325 BC). zSFJ\T<gH (Artemidorus, c. 100 BC) and Ossismii (Caesar, 100-44

We owe thanks for the notice of these last details to a late Roman versifier. Rufus Festus Avienus (c. AD 300), who wrote Ora Maritima, a poem of a genre we find surprising nowadays, for it is didactical poetry on geography. Avienus worked on a poetical description of the mediterranean coasts, and since he had a taste for antiquities, he gathered the oldest historical sources at hand in the several public libraries of Rome. Some of the information he gives about the Celtic islands can be traced as far back as 6th century BC: Sub huius autem prominentis vertice sinus dehiscit incolis Oestrymnicus. in quo insulae sese exerunt Oestrymnides. laxe iacentes, et metallo divites (...)

Ast hinc duobus in Sacram (sic insulam dixere prisci) solibus cursus rati est. Haec inter undas multam caespitem iacet, eamque late gens Hiernorum colit. Propinqua rursus insula Albionum patet.

Avienus, Ora Maritima, 94-112

(Under this promontory's crest the Oestrymnic gulf spreads out, and contains the Oestrymnides, islands with broad plains and rich mines of tin and lead. (...) From here there are two days of sailing up to the Sacred island (so the ancients called her). This island amidst the waves is very large, and the race of the Hierni habite it extensely. Next, back in the opposite direction, is the island of the Albiones).

Avienus does not mention Britain at all. Since he deliberatedly makes use of the most remote testimonies available to him, he instead talks of Oestrymnides, Ierne and finally Albion. Yet this Albion is not Britain, but an enigmatic 'island' lying somewhere north of Wales and Cornwall, and close to Ireland.

In this early times the ancient Celts had not spread over the whole of Britain, and therefore the previous inhabitants of the island still remained, although confined progressively to the montainous north and west under the pressure of the newcomers. These pre-Celtic peoples were not of Indo-European stock, but Mediterranean (this etiquette is shared by several different peoples of antiquity, as the Iberians, the Ligurians and the Etruscans, among others). They gave their island a name whose root reappears in many illustrious examples all over their home country. The most remarkable are the city of the Ligurian Intemelii, Alba Intemelium (modern Ventimiglia, close to the Italo-French frontier), the mythical Alba Longa (the city founded in Italy by the Trojan hero Aeneas), and Alpes Montes (the central Europe mountain range). The basic meaning of the root *alp- is then explained as 'stone, rock', whence 'mountain', which is evident for the Alps, but also for Alba 'city', for a hilly environment was preferred for new cities (remember that Rome herself was sorrounded by seven hills at first).

Therefore our Albion can be understood as the abrupt and inaccessible northern refuge of those who some centuries later the Romans would call Picts, and in consequence Alba, the current evolution of that early denomination, can be rendered as "The Land of the Mountains", or even "Highland". if it were allowed

We see then the long history and extraordinary resistance of this toponym, which has designated the same land for 2500 years capturing an essential of the character of the country, the Highlands, the heart of the Gaelic culture.

> Alex Guilarte Barcelona

(Final note: It has been defended also a Celtic etymology, putting in relation the root *albjio- with the middle Welsh elvyd, 'world'. But an Indo-European etymology is unlikely due to the reasons exposed above).

LETTER

A Chara,

As a matter of accurate record, I have never described the Galicians nor Asturians as 'vultures' nor attempted to portray them as such. Neither, to my knowledge, has my estimable comrade Rob Gibson (Xon de la Campa ya Valdés' letter, Carn No. 99). In discussing the subject of our Galician and Asturian comrades' relationship with the Celtic nations, I do not think emotive and inaccurate language helps.

I have been a supporter of the Galician and Asturian independence movements since the mid-1960s when I wrote about their struggle in newspapers such as Western Mail (Cardiff) and Evening Standard (London). I have never had any problems with accepting that Galicia and Asturias have a Celtic heritage and have been most happy to accept invitations to speak on matters Celtic in Galicia. But even Xon de la Campa ya Valdés clearly accepts the fact that neither Galicia nor Asturias can be described as Celtic nations. Neither, in my experience, would most Galicians nor Asturians argue that fact. In their submissions to the United Nations and other international bodies prior to the 1970s, claims to nationhood rested upon their distinctive Romance language and culture, a literary language different from Castillian, and not on any Celtic

Incidentally, the Royal Galician Academy, issues these figures, percentage of population, for a knowledge of the Galician language: Corunna – 90.8%; Lugo – 88.26%; Orense – 93.84%; Portevedra – 92.53%; and Galicia – 91.01%. These are pretty impressive linguistic statistics, though 'knowledge' does not imply 'use'.



In October, 1992, the President of Galicia (El Presidente, Xunta de Galicia), Manuel Fraga Iribarne, who was a keen exponent of his country's Celtic heritage, contacted me offering his congratulations on my work which had explained the realities of the situation as opposed to the misunderstandings which were then being circulated. We discussed in detail Galicia's past and future role in the Celtic world. El Presidente Iribarne agreed that while his country was a land of Celtic heritage it could not, any any meaningful criteria, be called a Celtic nation.

There are several areas in Europe which could make the same claims to greater or lesser extents. Cumbria had pockets of Celtic speakers long after Galicia (the language was noticed in areas in the 14th Century) but no Celticist, let along a serious member of the Celtic League, would propose that the League now recognise Cumbria as a modern Celtic nation.

If, at any future period, the Celtic League felt about to make some sort of recognition of Galicia and Asturias in terms of their ancient Celtic heritage, they would have to make the same recognition to France, England, the Po Valley, countries along the Danube and even the area of the central plain of Turkey, including Ankara. That would weaken the argument of the modern Celtic nations for international recognition of their distinctive nationhood.

Peter Berresford Ellis

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A Journey in Celtic Music

(addr. Pg 24)

Cape Breton Style
 Sheldon MacInnes,

 0-920336-55-8 / \$21.95 PB, November 1997 / 170 pp / 6 x 9 / Illustrated,
 Musical Notation, Bibliography.

A Journey in Celtic Music – Cape Breton Style is a record of the author's life as a musician and a promoter of Celtic music. But it isn't just a personal story. MacInnes is at least partly responsible for the immense popularity of Celtic music today, and his book recreates the rich culture that fostered this music.

Beginning in the rural community of Big Pond in the early 1950s, A Journey in Celtic Music tells the story of the late Dan Joe MacInnis, the author's father and a popular Cape Breton fiddler. It moves through the semi-organised festivals of the 1960s and 1970s to focus on the influential Big Pond Summer Festival, and it ends with a look at the future of Celtic music and culture. Throughout, it celebrates the magic of the music and shows why it has such an irresistible appeal today.

For more information contact: David A Butcher, Marketing Officer UCCB Press, University College of Cape Breton, P.O. Box 5300, Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada B1P 6L2.

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Internacia Komitato Por Etnaj Liberecoj International Committee for Ethnic Freedoms

Etnismo the organ of the International Committee for Ethnic Freedoms, published 2-3 times a year and written in the international language



Esperanto would welcome news items relating to the Celtic countries on a regular basis, if possible.

For further information contact: IKEL. D-52249 Eschweiler, Im Romerfeld 44. FRG. Fax: 02403-64041.

Gaelic in Parliament

The Secretary of State for Scotland, Donald Dewar, has announced that the Scottish Parliament is to have "'Limited facilities' for simultaneous translation of the proceedings into Gaelic or foreign languages". What this will mean in practice remains to be seen.

Alasdair MacCaluim

NORTHAMPTON CONNOLLY ASSOCIATION



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Origingal photographs must be forwarded.

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