

celtn

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

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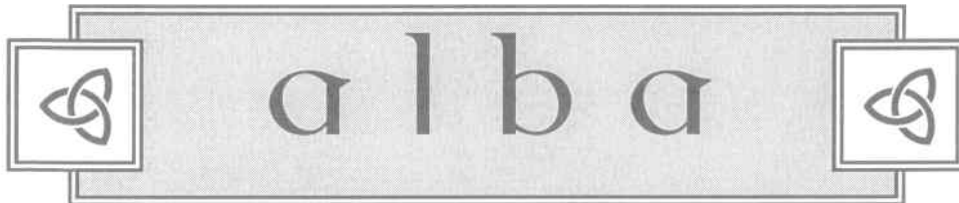


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COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE





Hans Skaggerak, Ball Pàrlamaid

Latha airchoireigin, fhuair Skaggerak litir on cho-ogha ann an Schleswig-Holstein. Dè thuirt e innte ach:-

“Trobbhad air ball, Hans,

bhon a tha thu cho cumhachdach a-nis
sa phàrlamaid ann an Copenhagen.

Tha ceist ro mhòr agam!

Mise do cho-gha spèiseil,

Hendrik Skaggerak.

“Nochd e an litir don cheann-suidhe agus
gheall e gun bheireadh e cobhair dha.

A’ deidh iomadh cruaidh-chas ghoid A’
Ghearmailt an tìr seo sa bhliadhna 1864.
Ach a dh’aindeoin sin tha fuidheall a’
bruidhinn na Daineis.

Bha e a’ coiseachd comhla ris a’ cho-
ogha Henrik.

Mar a bha iad a’ gabhail ceum seachad
air achadh farsaing de chruithneachd
buidhe, ach:

Dh’innis an tuathanach ris a’ Bhall
Pàrlamaid na bha ceàrr.

“Teagaisgidh iad a h-uile cail tre na
Gearmailteis, bheil fhios agad?” arsa
Henrik.

“Tùigidh mise gu bheil thu a’ bruidhinn
mu dheighinn nan sgoiltean an seo ann an
Schleswig-Holstein?”

“Seadh, Hans, na sgoiltean!” arsa an
tuathanach.

Chuala Skaggerak uair airchoireigin gun
robh a’ chàin Albannach... a Ghàidhlig
... a’ dol a dhòlaidh ann an aon doigh far
an robh daoine a’ teagaisg tre na Beurla sna
sgoiltean.

“Bha ar càin daonnan na Daineis, bheil
fhios agad,” arsa Henrik.

“Gun teagamh sam bith, fad mìle
bliadhna bha sinn ga bruidhinn roimh thug
luchd na Gearmailteis buaidh oirnn,”
fhreagair Hans Skaggerak.

“Chuala mi mu dheighinn parantan an
seo a’ bruidhinn na Daineis agus gu tric
freagaireadh a’ chlànn aca sa Gearmailteis
... an seo ann an Schleswig-Holstein... bu
mhòr an beud,” arsa Hans.

“Chruithnachd bheannaichte! Nach duine
mòr a tha annad! Sa Phàrlamaid ann an
Copenhagen!... dèan rudeigin!” dh’èigh an
tuathanach àrd làidir.

Rinn Skagerrak a dhìcheall a
mhìnicheadh nach robh e ach na neo-neach
sa Phàrlamaid. Ach cha do thuig a cho-
ogha idir.

Cha robh ach aon fhreagairt aig Henrik,
“Dèan rudeigin!”

Air tilleadh do Chopenhagen dh’aithris
Hans a h-uile cail do cheann-suidhe na
Pàrlamaid.

“Skagerrak, dèanaibh bhur òraid Di h-
Aoine feasgar,” arsa bodach na Pàrlamaid.
“Cha bhi mòran ann agus cha bhi iad ag
eisdeachd gu dùrachdach.

Thuig am fear-lagha gum biodh sin ceart
gu leoir oir cha bhiodh e a’ bruidhinn mu
dheighinn pris chàise no ime no hama!

Rinn an Ball Pàrlamaid beag a dhìcheall
Di h-Aoine feasgar ach cha robh ach
sàmhair ann. Nuair a thug e an òraid aige
bha buill na Pàrlamaid eile cho samhach ri
eaglais fhalamh! Nuair an do stad e, cha
d’thuirt ach fear no dhà, “Meal do
naidheachd!” nuair a thachair iad ris.

Le sin smuain Hans Skagerrak gun robh
an òraid aige gun fheum sam bith.

Air an adhbhar sin chuir fiosradh on
cheann-suidhe iongnadh mòr air an fhear-
lagha.

Thuirt bodach na Pàrlamaid gun do
dh’ordaich Rùnaire Dhùthchannan Cèin an
teachdaire Danmhairceach gus a’
Ghearmailt cuis luchd labhairt na Daineis
ann an Schleswig-Holstein a thagair air
beulaibh Seansailear na Gearmailt e-fhèin,
do bhrìgh ha h-òraid.

Agus dè thuirt riaghladair na Gearmailt
Konrad Adenauer ach...

“Ceart gu leoir, ghoid sinn Schleswig-
Holstein corr is ciad bliadhna air ais. Le sin
bithidh sinn a’ teagaisg tre na Daineis anns
gach sgoil anns gach sgìre far a bheil Daineis
fhathast roimh ceann na bliadhna seo!”

Choisin Hans an Ball Pàrlamaid cliù ro
mhòr mar thoradh air a’ bhuaidh seo. Ach
dhi-chuimhnich a h-uile duine ann an ùine
ghearr!

Di h-Aoine feasgar bliadhnachan an
deidh sin.

“Seo agaibh litir on Mhargadh Coitcheann
Eòrpach,” arsa ceann-suidhe na Pàrlamaid,
“a’ tairgsinn dreuchd do neach

Danmhairceach agus an rùnaire no a’ bhan-
rùnaire aige, a dhol timcheall air an Roinn
Eòrpa air sgath nan càin bheaga...
Chunnaic sibh iomadh uair agus bha sibh
seachd sgith dhen Phàrlamaid agus
sliopadh sibh a-mach gu aighearach air lorg
obair sna cùirtean-lagha. Chan eil neach
nas freagarraiche na sibh p-fhèin feadh
Dainmheag uile gu leir!

“Ach an aontaich luchd na Pàrlamaid?”

“Aontaichidh iad, gun teagamh... nach
do chord iad an òraid agaibh mu cor na
càin againn ann an Schleswig-Holstein!

Abair gun robh Hans lan de
dh’aobhneas. Dhèanadh a dhìcheall air
sgath nan càin beaga san Roinn Eòrpa
direach mar a rinn e airson na Daineis ann
an Schleswig-Holstein!

“Ach tha an obair seo ro chunnartach,”
arsa bodach na Pàrlamaid gu trom-
chridheach. “Posda?” arsa esan.

“Uime sin, bithidh an dreuchd seo
uamhasach cunnartach. Bhri i ceangail-
posaidh an duine aig an robh an dreuchd seo
gus a-nis agus an duine roimh sin. Bha na
mnathan aca aonranach agus iad a’
feitheamh aig an taigh! Abair gun robh iad
feargach nuair an do chuimhnich gun robh na
daoine aca agus na ban-rùnairean aca a’
fuireach anns an aon taigh-osda thall thairis.”

“Mata, tillidh mi Di-Luain comhla ris a’
bhan-rùnaire agam,” arsa Hans, “agus
innsidh i dhuibh ma bhios a’ bhean agam
gu bhi eudach!”

Agus chaidh am fear-lagha dhachaidh le
fiamh-ghàire air a bhilean.

“Chan eil sinn a’ dol a-mach an nochd,
Mhàiri, a ghraidh,” arsa Hans, nuair a thill
e dhachaidh don mhnai aige. “Bithidh
duine a’ tighinn an seo aig seachd uairean
an nochd agus teagaisgidh e thusa clò-
sgriobhadh (typing), faidhleach is dealbh-
sgriobhadh agus tillidh e Di-Satharna is Di-
Dòmhnaich. Phaidh mi gu daor.”

Dh’aontaich Màiri gu dùrachdach agus
bhiodh i ainmichte “Màiri Hansen” mar a
bha i mus do phòs i Hans.

Di-Luain bha iad le chèile an lathair
bodach na Pàrlamaid.

“A bheil sibh cinnteach, A’ Mhaighdean
Hansen nach biodh a’ Bhean-phòsda
Skaggerak ag eudach agus sibhse is
Maighstir Skaggerak nur aonar a’ dol
timcheall air an Roinn Eòrpa às a
h-eugmhais?” arsa am bodach aosda liath.

“Bha mi eòlach oirre fad mo bheatha
agus tha fios agam nach biodh i mi-
thoilichte idir, idir.”

“Glè mhath,” arsa ceann na Pàrlamaid,
“bithidh an dreuchd agaibh, gun dàil.”

Agus sin mar a bha Hans a’ neartachadh
na Gàidhlig le ùghdarras a’ Mhargadh
Coitcheann Eòrpach agus mur an robh An
Danmhairg na rioghachd a bha fèin-
riaghladh bhiodh e a’ leanntain an lagha
ann an Copenhagen fhathast!

..... Chan eile an stòraidh seo na h-
uirsgheil (fiction) idir ach tulsan na firinn.

Gaelic in the Scottish Parliament

Gaelic is to be an official language in the Scottish Parliament. This was the verdict of the Consultative Steering Group on the Scottish Parliament, the group charged with the drawing up of the standing orders for the Parliament. Their 170 page report "Shaping Scotland's Parliament" was released in mid January. A summary leaflet in Gaelic and the five most commonly used

ethnic minority languages of Scotland is to follow.

While English is to be the normal language of the Scottish Parliament, the use of Gaelic will be allowed subject to prior notice being given to the presiding officer. Simultaneous translation equipment will be present to translate Gaelic speeches and these speeches will be reported bilingually in the Parliaments official report (Hansard). As there are unlikely to be many Gaelic speakers elected to parliament, however, these facilities are unlikely to be made use of often.

More obvious to the general public will be the bilingual Gaelic/English signs in the Parliament which the Consultative Steering Group has recommended. The Parliament's public information centre is also to produce regular information bulletins in Gaelic specifically targeted at the Gaelic speaking population.

The proposals have been warmly welcomed by the Gaelic groups, all of whom had been lobbying hard for such an outcome. There was, however, disappointment as to the oath to be taken by MSPs. The oath must be taken in English, though it may be repeated in any other language subsequently. This has been seen as an insult to Gaelic by language activists. The content of the oath, which involves swearing loyalty to the monarchy has also caused controversy and has been criticised by many as a cynical measure introduced solely to cause offence to nationalists and socialists.

It also currently unclear whether or not there is to be a parliamentary Gaelic committee, a Parliamentary Gaelic officer or staff translators. The issue of whether or not there is to be a right for constituents to correspond with their MSP in Gaelic and to receive a reply in Gaelic is not covered in the report either.

Alasdair MacCaluim

Hans Skaggerak, contd...

An robh fearlagha Danmhairgeach ann? Gu dearbh bha, d'am b'ainm Skadegard agus sgrìobh mi an eachdraidh seo sa chiad dol am mach bliadhnachain air ais nuair a bha Skadegard beò. Ach bha e 'na dhuine anabarrach faireachal agus leis a sin bha eagal orm gum biodh e fo chràdh nuair a chual e an eachdraidh seo. Le sin, dh'atharraich mi 'ainm gu Skaggerak (caolas eadar Danmhair is Lochlann). Ach, mu dheireadh thall, chaochail Skadegard agus thuig mi gum biodh e ceart gu leor an cùntas seo a chuir an clò.

Ach dè deireadh na cùise?

Chaidh Skadegard agus a' bhean aige timcheall air a' Mhargadh Coitcheann air sgath na cànan as lugha agus mu dheireadh thall thuig iad gun robh e feumail biùro (bureau) a stéidheachadh agus seo agad The European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages, 10 Sràid Haiste Ìocht., Baile Àtha Cliath 2, Éire/Ireland. Ma bhios an leughadair togarrach an iris aca fhaighinn... an "Contact Bulletin" aca... sgrìobh chuca...

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich
(Gilleasbuig Lachlain 'Illeasbuig)

Summary

When the Skadegards (the Copenhagen lawyer and his wife) reached Scotland he recounted to the writer how he had worked an innocent ruse to have his wife accompany him as his secretary throughout the European Community on behalf of the Community's Lesser Used Languages. He said that he had had to employ the term "lesser used languages" after meeting "King" John MacCormick of the Scottish Covenant. Since MacCormick had taken grave exception to Skadegard describing Gaelic as "a minority language of Scotland."

"Gaelic is the Scottish Language," declared MacCormick, "much persecuted and neglected for centuries in favour of the English language!"

This historic encounter led to the organisation being named The European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages. Should any reader wish to receive their publication the Bureau should be written to for its "Contact Bulletin" address above.

son luchd ionnsachaidh is luchd Gàidhlig
for Gaelic learners and supporters

ag adhartachadh na Gàidhlig
promoting the Gaelic language



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What's In A Name?

A small political party like the Scottish Green Party always expects to have to overcome obstacles at elections. Not being able to use the party's name, however, was a problem they had not anticipated!

Under the rules for elections to the Scottish Parliament, parties must be registered, to avoid confusion at the ballot box. There was an infamous case in England where an unknown independent had stood as a "Literal democrat" to take votes away from the Liberal Democrats and allow another party to win, and the new rules were meant to stop such abuses.

Unfortunately the Registrar of Political Parties has interpreted this as meaning that there cannot be two "Green" parties registered separately in the UK.

Scottish Green Party press officer Dr Eleanor Scott explained: "Apparently the registrar is worried that candidates from the Green Party of England and Wales could stand in Scotland, or the Scottish Green Party could decide to field candidates in England or Wales. "Both parties have let him see the relevant bits of their constitutions. That of the Scottish Green Party clearly states that the party exists to fight elections in Scotland, and there is a similar section in the GPEW's constitution. That did not satisfy him. "The legislation covering registration of political parties was so badly drafted that there is no appeal procedure built in. We have tried to enlist the help of Scottish devolution minister Henry Mcleish but he has refused our offer of a meeting."

The Scottish Green Party became independent from the then UK Green Party nine years ago, with the full support of Greens in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (the latter has since also become an independent party). The parties along with Comhaontas Glas in Ireland cooperate extensively and have regular meetings, but the Scottish Greens now face the prospect of having to pretend to be part of the Green Party of England and Wales for this election.

The Scottish Socialist Party initially also faced problems with registration but its application has now been accepted. Dr Scott added "We are grateful for the support we have received over this from other parties like the SNP and from organisations like the Celtic League".

Eleanor Scott

Families near the Chapelcross nuclear plant, in S W Scotland, are to be issued with anti-radiation tablets for use in the event of an emergency. The decision seems to indicate an increasing wariness by the nuclear industry over safety as we approach the millennium.

Last month the Irish government indicated it was concerned about the efficacy of computer systems in British nuclear power stations and the possible impact of the 'millennium bug'. Ireland is to stage a major test of its "revised nuclear emergency plan" later this year. The Celtic League, which monitors nuclear pollution problems in the Irish sea area, have also expressed concern at the dearth of information on preparations that the British nuclear industry are making to meet any possible threat.

Call to Avert Millennium Melt-Down

The British nuclear industry has an overwhelming dependence on computers for safety-critical applications. A recent report of the British Health and Safety Commissions Nuclear Safety Advisory Committee (NuSAC) was hardly a ringing endorsement of the industries ability to meet best standards.

In the past few weeks a serious incident at the Scottish nuclear power station at Hunterston (B) in Ayrshire provided a graphic illustration of the continuing danger that nuclear sites in Scotland, England and north Wales pose.

The Celtic League has written to Irish government Minister Joe Jacob urging Ireland to press the United Kingdom government to hold a millennium safety audit of all computer systems at British nuclear facilities.

J B Moffatt

NATO WARNED OVER SCOTS GUARDS

The Celtic League has written to all NATO countries highlighting the British government's decision to allow convicted murderers back into the British Army on discharge from prison.

The League highlights the cases of the two Scots guardsmen, Mark Wright and James Fisher, and also parachute regiment murderer Lee Clegg.

The League say that it is incumbent on the NATO countries to advise their citizens if convicted murderers are included in armed detachments deployed on exercise in their countries.

The League also question if the employment of murderers in the British armed forces is not in itself a breach by the British of the preamble to the North Atlantic Treaty.

J B Moffatt

Campaign for Radio nan Gaidheal throughout Scotland

Reports in the West Highland Free Press have suggested that the BBC have no plans to extend Radio nan Gaidheal to cover the whole of Scotland in the foreseeable future. For this reason, Comann Ceilteach Oilthigh Dhùn Èideann (Edinburgh University's Gaelic and Celtic languages society) have launched a campaign for the national availability of Radio nan Gaidheal. We are asking speakers and supporters of Gaelic to send picture-postcards of the town in which they live (or of the closest town for which a postcard is produced) to the Controller of BBC Scotland, asking him when Radio nan Gaidheal will be available throughout Scotland.

This campaign is a simple and a fun one. Simply write your name and address on the postcard and send it to the controller of BBC Scotland with a short message in Gaelic or English asking for a national Gaelic radio service. Something such as "Cuine a bhios Radio nan Gaidheal ri fhaighinn air feadh na dùthcha?" or "when will Radio nan Gaidheal be available throughout Scotland?" should suffice. Please make the effort to write whether or not you are able to receive Radio nan Gaidheal in your area.

Gaelic activists outside Scotland can also help by sending postcards of their town and asking in Gaelic or English when they will be able to receive Radio nan Gaidheal, perhaps through satellite or the internet. English and Welsh supporters of Gaelic might also ask for a resumption of Medium Wave broadcasting of Gaelic radio. A suitable message might be "Cuine a bhios Radio nan Gaidheal ri fhaighinn air feadh na h-Alba agus air saideal is air an eadar-lìon?" (when will Radio nan Gaidheal be available throughout Scotland and on satellite and the internet?).

Send your postcards to: John McCormick, Controller, BBC Scotland, Broadcasting House, Queen Margaret Drive, Glasgow G12 8DG.

It would greatly help our campaign if the BBC were to receive cards from each of the Celtic Countries and further afield. Let us know how you get on!

Alasdair MacCaluim

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19 George Square, Edinburgh EH8 8HF
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SPEECH THERAPY CAMPAIGN

The Gaelic playgroups movement Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich has launched a campaign for the fairer treatment of Gaelic by speech therapists. They are concerned by the fact that non-Gaelic speaking speech therapists often attempt to discourage parents from sending children with speech problems to Gaelic medium units or from speaking to them in Gaelic. Such advice is due to at best to extreme ignorance and at worst to anti-Gaelic prejudice and has no clinical justification.

Good news from Glasgow

It was announced in February that Glasgow is to be the home to Scotland's first all-Gaelic school. The school, which is to be situated close to the university at Woodlands in the city's west-end will be the only school where all pupils are educated through the medium of Gaelic. Up until this point, all of Scotland's Gaelic medium teaching has taken place through Gaelic units within otherwise English speaking schools. The victory of Gaelic activists in Glasgow has given hope to those campaigning for Gaelic schools in Edinburgh and Inverness.

breizh

Un Adskol-Veur Skosek

Pa'z eer eus Fort William, e penn mervent ar Ganol Galedoniat, war-du ar c'hornôg e tizher porzh Mallaig ha goude treizhañ strizh-mor Sleibhte e vezer en Ardvasar en Inis Sgitheanach (Skye). Ac'hano n'eus nemet ur c'hardeur bale betek Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. El lec'h-se emeur o paouez digeriñ un "adskol-veur" a reer Arainn Chaluim Chille anezhi. Kevreet e tle bezañ gant adskolioù-meur all e-barzh ur rouedad a gevrennoù eus Skol-Veur an Uheldirioù hag an Inizi, un ensavadur nevez hi ivez: en diskar-amzer tremenet eo ez eo kroget da vont en-dro. Ar Sabhal Mòr — "ar C'hrañj Vras" — a oa un ti da Ian Noble, un aotrou hag a zo perc'henn 3000 hektar a zouar fraost evit ar pep brasañ, er c'horn-bro. Kement-mañ ne vir ket outañ a vezañ tre a-du gant adsav ar skoseg. Goude d'an ti bras bezañ bet adaozet a-zoare e voe tu da vodañ eno tud en oad gour da zeskiñ ar yezh, e skolioù-hañv pe e dibennoù sizhun. Pemzek vloaz 'zo bennak e voe troet d'ur skolaj trede live evit studioù kenwerzhouriezh ha merouriezh aferioù dre hanterouriezh ar skoseg. Deuet eo da vat ha mat-tre gant an embregad-se, ken en deus roet atiz da ziorren ar skol.

E. Mezheven 1997 pa oa aet prezidantez Iwerzhon, Mary Robinson, da Skos da geñver eñvoridigezh marv Sant Colm Chille, diazeour manati brudet Iona, 1400 vloaz 'oa, e voe pedet da blantañ ur wezenn e-tal Sabhal Mòr, da verkañ an diviz sevel ar gevrenn nevez. Gant-se e voe merket ivez youl Gouzeled Iwerzhon ha Skos da startaat o darempredoù sevenadurel dre ur raklun kefridiel anvet Intru du Colm Chille end-eeun.

C'hwec'h milion a lurioù breizhveuriat a oa gouestlet evit savadurioù an Arainn: pevar milion evit kreizenn ar studioù ha daou evit hini al lojeiz. Prest e oa rannad ar studioù en diskar-amzer tremenet. Aze ez eus ur sal vras enni ardivinkoù-kelenn ha-deskiñ hag ul levraoueg, ur sal evit bodadegoù a c'haller rannañ e kombodoù bihanoc'h, peder sal evit ar c'hentelioù ha teir evit sonenskrivadurioù. Ouzhpenn-se ur sal evit enklaskoù hag ur sal-debrñ vras. Rannad al lojeiz zo anezhi daou savadur, enno aezamantoù eus an arnevesañ. Unan anezho zo e stumm un tour ma weler diwarndñ ar rannvro gaer, mor ha menezioù tro-war-dro. Ennañ e vo lojet, estreget studieren, kelennerien hag ostizidi.

Diwar vremañ e c'hallor eta studiañ

estreget ar genwerzhouriezh e Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. Tu a vo da aozañ un aotreegezh yezh ha sevenadur gouezelek hag un aotreegezh all, Gouzeleg ha Studioù Norzhatlantek. Fellout a ra d'ar renerezh ober eus al lec'h-se kreiz ar gouzelva skosat hag iwerzhonat en ur zedennañ studieren eus Kanada hag ar Stadoù-Unanet koulz hag eus Iwerzhon, ha Skos evel-just.

E Gwengolo tremenet e tapas un tregont bennak a studieren o aotreegezh kenwerzhouriezh. E gwirionez an darn vrasañ anezho a bell a oa studierezed. Ministr ar Skoseg hag an Deskadurezh, Brian Wilson, a zeuas da zereñ o zestenoù dezho ha war un dro da zigeriñ an Arainn. E-pad an herrad ma'z eo bet e garg ober war-dro aferioù ar yezh en deus diskouezet e oa mennet-mat da wellaat he stad. Ezel eo eus Strollad al Labour, kaer eo gouzout. An heligentañ o vezañ ken kreñv etre ar strollad-se had ar Strollad Broadel e c'halled gortoz e vije e brezegenn digarez dezhañ da vragal gant ar pezh a ra gouarnamant London, abaoe m'emañ Tony Blair e penn, a-du gant ar skoseg. Padal, pouezañ a reas kentoc'h war talvoudegezh ar yezh evit buhez ar vro hag eus an diaesterioù a ranko-hi trec'hiñ warno.

"Peseurt endro a gavo ar studieren er gevredigezh skosat evit a sell ouzh implij o barregezh war dachenn ar skoseg? A dra sur en deus graet kammedoù brav war-raok nevez'zo, er skinwel, en deskadurezh, el lennegezh, h.a. Kement-se zo c'hoarvezet kalz a-drugarez da youl vat ha brokusted ar gouarnamant. Biskoazh n'eus bet hini ebet tuet ken mat ha hini Tony Blair da skoazellañ hor yezh. Met ret eo anzav e vo hir an hent ken he devo tu da c'hoari ar roll eo barrek dioutañ e buhez ar vro. Rak ma skraber ar gorre e weler e vez nac'het atav he zalvoudegezh hag e vager outi enebiezh a-leizh zoken. Ma vounter start evit reiñ muioc'h a frankiz dezhi e vez klevet o sevel ken buan grozmoz tud hag o deus levezon hag int o klemm: "Betek amañ ya met arabat mont pelloc'h!"

N'eus ket a-walc'h a ledander spered emesk Skosiz da welet e vefe splotus dezho e-keñver ar c'henwerzh koulz hag ar sevenadur ma vefe kreñv o skiant eus ar pezh ez int e gwirionez, o hevelepted. Evel ministr e karg a'r skoseg em eus bet tro meur a wezh da welet penaos e c'hall bezañ implijet ha brudet e-touez ar re na

gemeront ket perzh er stourm. En ur c'hendalc'h a gouraterien-beajiñ Amerikan, ar c'hendalc'h brasañ biskoazh e Skos, e voe digoret an divizoù gant kanerien ar strollad Capercaillie. Trelatet e oa ar selaouerien, ar 5000 anezho, ne ouient ket e oa ur sevenadur dibar da Skosiz. Pebezh plijadur evito an dizoloadenn-se!

E Norzh Lanarkshire em eus gwelet peseurt labour kalonek a reer evit ledañ an anaoudegezh eus ar yezh gant ur skol-vamm, ur skol kentañ derez, kalz klasoù evit tud en oad gour hag, ur rouedad kevredigezhel evit harpañ an dra-se; pannelloù straed divyezhele en Ardrie na voent ket lamet kuit goude Gouel ar Mod. Ma vefe prest an dud e karg d'ober diouzh ar skouerioù-se e kement lec'h m'en goulenner ha pa ve un tammig nebeutoc'h ivez, neuze e vefemp krog-mat da adober eus ar skoseg un elfenn greñv eus gwiañ hor buhez kevredigezhel hep redi na droug da zen ebet."

Brian Wilson en deus diskouezet petra a c'hall ur ministr ober evit adsav ur yezh p'en devez galloud ha youl. Koulskoude, e-kerzh ar brezegenn-se a roas da c'houzout ivez e oa o paouez bezañ anvet d'ur garg all, ministr ar Greanterezh hag ar C'henwerzh. Evitañ eo ur c'hammed d'an nec'h moarvat, met peseurt gounid d'ar skoseg? E warlerc'hiad evel ministr evit ar Yezh, Calum Mac Donald, n'emañ ket an Deskadurezh en e garg. Gant ma ne vo ket diaesaet gant ar c'hemm-se trevell ar re a striv da gavout digor d'ar skoseg er skolioù!

Mac Donald a zegasas keleier mat da Ouel ar Mod e miz Here. Divizet e oa, emezañ, sinañ ha peurwiriekaat Karta Europat ar Yezhoù Bihanniver. Ne vo graet ken nemet evit 35 mellad, an nebeutañ rekis... Met diogelaat a raio dere (dezvad) ar skoseg e-keñver al lezenn. N'eo nemet an derou, emezañ. Kejet o doa e gargidi gant dilennidi kevredigezhioù yezh evit plediñ gant o c'hinnigoù arbennik.

Kemenn a reas e oa kresket ar skoazell a vo roet d'ar Mod eus £85,000 da £100,000 en tri bloaz'zeu. Da aozadurioù all e vo roet muioc'h a arc'hant a-berzh Stad ivez: £300,000 da Comunn na Gàidhlig, £143,000 d'ar Gaelic Playgroups (Skolioù-mamm a laka ar vugale da zeskiñ un tamm skoseg e-ser c'hoari), £43,000 evit an Arzhoù Gouzel (C'hoariva h.a.) ha £22,000 evit C.L.I. (un aozadur a embann ar c'hannadig COTHROM, ennañ keleier eus ar stourm evit ar yezh, hag a bouez war an dilennidi hag ar c'henstrolladoù armezhel ha kevredigezhel evit ma tennfent implij anezhi). En holl ez eus evel-se ur c'hresk a £64,000. N'eo ket ur maread. Met daoust hag emañ Strollad al Labour kreñvoc'h eget ar Strollad Broadel a-du gant ar skoseg? Fionnlaigh Mac Leoid, unan eus renierier luskad ar "Playgroups", ezel eus an SNP abaoe 20 vloaz, a roas e zilez e miz Here pa gave dezhañ ne oa ket ar strollad-se engouestlet a-walc'h er stourm evit ar yezh. Digasted? Jedadurioù dilennadeg!

A. Heusaff

Summary

Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (Isle of Skye) has developed from being a centre for adults learning Scottish and then for students doing third level business studies through Scottish to a university college offering also courses in Scottish Gaelic language and culture. Its new buildings cost £6 million. It was opened in September by the then Minister for Gaelic who referred to the good progress being made by the language and to the obstacles in its way.

Avel ar Vro. ur c'hevread nevez

Un dek kevredigezh bennak e Lesneven o deus en em glevet evit kenlabourat dre un aozadur nevez, Avel ar Vro. E sez e Plas Europa zo bet digoret ez ofisiel e miz Here tremenet. Ul lec'h arouezel eo, kinniget ma'z eo bet gant an ti-kêr evit sikour personelezh Vreizh da vont war-raok un Europa en amzer da zont.

Kevredigezhioù a bep seurt eo ar re o deus krouet Avel ar Vro. Menegomp da gentañ Skol Diwan Lesneven, Evit ar Vretoned (Kentelioù-norz brezhoneg), Dastum Bro-Leon (Sonerezh ha Kanennoù hengounel), Ar Vro Bagan (C'hoariva), Keltik-Associations (kas en-dro, "animasionnoù"). E-barzh emañ ivez Skolig al Louarn (mirdi), Mirdi Leon, ha war dachenn ar sportoù Skol Gouren Lesneven ha Tro Bro-Leon (redadegoù marc'h-houarn). Lakaomp c'hoazh Bleunioù Balan (dañs ha sonerezh), Kerabers, h.a. Ur goulenn kreñv zo ivez war du ar c'hevelerezhioù.

Evit ar c'houlz, ar strolladoù dañs ha sonerezh eo a vez klask ar muiañ warno. Ahendall, dre Dastum ha kevredigezhioù all e fell deomp aozañ diskouezadegoù hag abadennoù kas endro a-hed an hañv evit an douristed. Hag a-raok dibenn ar bloaz-mañ e vo embannet ul levrig-Leon evel m'eo bet graet gant kevredigezhioù Bro-Dreger.

Evit lakaat lañs ha startijenn en ti, Avel diouzh un tu ha Dastum - Leon diouzh an tu all o deus c'hoant da c'hoprañ un den yaouank. Tu a vo neuze da greskiñ ar c'henlabour etre ar strolladoù zo deuet e-barzh ar c'hevread. Un urzhiataer a vo prenet ivez evit levraoueg Dastum. Marteze e vo gallet sevel ur rouedad eus ar c'hevreadoù en hanternoz Breizh, eus Brest da Vro-Dreger. Ur pal evit ar c'hantved da zont.

Gi Keltik

A War of Attrition

The demand for bilingual Breton-French schools (or streams in the public and private-Catholic schools) has grown stronger from year to year - see **Carn Nr 104**. But as if alarmed that such a trend could pose a threat to the position of the French language, obstacles and pretexts for not meeting this demand are being multiplied by the officials of the French Department of Education. Their opposition uses indirect arguments, e.g. that there is also a shortage of teachers for monolingual schools, or that all public school teachers should be available for service anywhere in the State. A climate of uncertainty is fostered around the bilingual schools or classes, regarding the continuity of the teaching, its quality, its availability, or conditions of employment. It looks very much as if the Department hopes that this

bilingual stream system. As for training bilingual teachers in sufficient numbers to meet the foreseeable needs, the Department disclaims responsibility. If recourse has to be made to auxiliary teachers, the quality of teaching is bound to suffer, but it is up to the parents to find a remedy. If classes are over-crowded, they only have to refuse pupils! The could-not-give-a-damn attitude was best exemplified by the recent appointment to a bilingual class of a teacher who had not a word of Breton.

On 11-01-99, Jean-Do Robin, president of UGB, the Breton Teachers Association, submitted a dossier to the minister of education, making out the case for a scheme for recruiting and training teachers for the public bilingual French-"Regional languages". It made the following points:



UGB delegation (with J.D. Robin on the right) on the way to meeting with W. Marois, 12.2.98.

widespread interest in Breton, Basque, Occitan, etc. will wane and eventually dwindle or that by making it necessary to go on struggling, demonstrating, fund-raising discouragement will some day set in. Just pretend to do something, cancel concessions after a while listen patiently to complaints, render them ineffective by inertia, let people believe these languages are now taught and recognised...

In 1995, the minister of Education put out a circular allowing the public schools to set up bilingual streams, parallel to the monolingual French classes, where the demand from parents was sufficient. But neither the officials nor the school principals were under any obligation to actively promote bilingualism, e.g. making it known to pupils or parents that such teaching could be availed of. There was no attempt at coordinating arrangements for it. A school inspector stated a year ago that officially, there was no such a thing as a

- 1 The Department of Education cannot be unaware of nor disregard the 1995 ministerial circular recognising the public schools' obligation to provide bilingual education wherever parents want it for their children;
- 2 The increasing demand (+20% annually) from the parents and the community cannot be compared with a weakly expressed interest in getting for the children a superficial introduction to the language which some counter propose;
- 3 The shortage of qualified (tenure-holding) teachers goes on increasing (2 in 1997, 6 in 1998, 15-18? in 1999), nor for lack of a reserve of applicants, but because proper provisions are not made for recruiting and training;
- 4 To fill the deficit, recourse to auxiliary teachers has become more and more frequent in primary schools, to the detriment of the quality of the teaching;

- 5 The Department committed itself to quotas of posts for the Diwan and (Basque) SEASKA associated schools but not for the public schools which are left to depend on a haphazard method for nominating the necessary teachers;
- 6 The basic need for a system of recruiting and training bilingual teachers lies at the very heart of the preoccupations of those who, like the thousands who demonstrated in Kemper (5/12/-) and Bayonne (19/12/-), stand for the teaching of the so-called regional languages;
- 7 The Department's rejection of this demand is tantamount to a repudiation of the 1995 Circular. By proposing no alternative solution, it appears to be **banking on a gradual disintegration of bilingual teaching.** The present government's policy regarding these languages is certainly a retreat from the position taken by its predecessor. It empties of political significance the declarations of the Prime Minister in favour of signing the European Charter for Regional or Minority Language.

The UGB president points out that the membership of the Breton Basque, Occitan language movements leans generally to the left. It is far from being a negligible electoral factor. The government parties should bear this in mind.

On the 11th of January, J.D. Robin also wrote to the Head of Education in Brittany, William Marois, requesting an interview for a delegation of the UGB to discuss matters relating to the Diwan as well as the public schools.* They wanted to press the Education authorities to recognise the Diwan schools as part of the public education service and to adopt a comprehensive plan taking full account of the foreseeable rise in the demand for bilingual education. It was their duty to foresee developments. They were mistaken if they thought they could curb or neglect them. Such a plan existed for Alsace. Why not for Brittany?

The UGB was already working on a draft plan to be put on behalf of the three bilingual Breton types of schools (Diwan, Div Yezh, Dihun) before the B-4 Regional Council, the Loire-Atlantique General Council and the Education Authority in Rennes.

The widespread peaceful support for the restoration of Breton has grown to such an extent that its teaching can no longer be treated piecemeal or opposed with inertia. Many people are wondering however whether the neglect is motivated not only by a hope that the movement will ebb after a while but that it might provoke a resort to violent means which could then be exploited to whip up a reaction against the whole movement.

The meeting was unfruitful. The 'recteur' was unyielding, discourteous, scornful, according to a report in Bremañ, March.

Under the yoke

Annie Alexandre was sentenced at a special court in Paris on Jan. 29th to serve 6 months of imprisonment, while Bernard Michon got 10 months suspended, for giving shelter to Basque refugees whom they believed were threatened with torture if they were returned to Spain.

On Feb. 23rd, Gerard Bernard was sentenced in Rennes to serve one month imprisonment, while Klaod an Duigou got a suspended one month sentence and a 6000F fine, both being accused of having broken a window at the Gwengamp courthouse during a demonstration in support of Bretons who had also sheltered Basques. They deny the evidence against them and have decided to take their case to the Court of Cassation. If necessary they will go to the European Court. Duigou has long been subject to police harassment. He has played an active part in Stourm ar Brezhoneg.

Fañh Bideault was in court in An Oriant/Lorient on March 25th, as a consequence of a demonstration organised by EMGANN during the Interceltic

Festival for the recognition of Breton as an official language.

Michel Herjean, secretary of Skoazell Vreizh, an association which gives financial help to families of Breton prisoners, was subjected last year to unjustified arrest in Central France. He is taking a case against the préfet of the Indre department and the police commandant of Issoudun for illegal use against him of unofficial documents relating to actions of his which were amnestied almost 20 years ago.



Klaod an Duigou

Diwan Pressing On

For a new Diwan school to be opened, its proposers must satisfy the administration that its budget will be well balanced. And the commune in which the school is to be located will be obliged to provide the building and to maintain it only if there is a minimum of 15 pupils for a start. Opposition can arise on the part of the municipal councillors if some of the children come from neighbouring communes while they have to bear the whole cost. And since each commune has at least one public school, they see Diwan as bringing about reductions in its class sizes and possibly in the number of teachers. Ideological factors intervene also in the objections. This happened in Plabenneg, N. of Brest, where for the past three years parents wanted the municipal council to provide a building for a Diwan school. The rightist mayor kept refusing but they persevered. They have succeeded finally in getting a good building thanks to a financial contribution from the Diwan association but they had themselves to carry out renovation work. In An Alre/Auray, a plan to open a Diwan school has so far failed due to the opposition of a socialist majority. (In Plestin, NW of Morlaix, a bilingual pre-primary class could have opened in September in the public school but for a small majority opposition composed of 8 Communist and 3 UDR councillors).

The pressure keeps building up for new Diwan schools in spite of all the

difficulties. There are projects for Dinan-St. Malo, Gwenrann, Benac'h, Kistreberrzh. A special association, Evit ar Vugale (For the Children) was founded in May '98 to collect funds to be used exclusively to help setting up Diwan schools. Its address is 29500 Laz, Tel. 02 98 73 80 11 (mornings).

In St. Brieg, a second school will soon be needed as classes in the existing one are getting over-crowded. In Kemper, the Diwan primary had for several years to repeatedly move into different buildings but has now got good premises in Kerfeunteun, on the N. side. With a large increase in the number of children due next September, an annex or another school will yet be needed (on the S. side of the town). Kemper has a considerable lead over the other Breton towns in the promotion of our language. Here about 200 adults are attending evening classes, half of them organised by the Mervent association which runs such classes at 23 sites throughout the South of Breton Cornwall, with 4 salaried and about 20 voluntary teachers and a total of 518 learners, of which many have children attending bilingual classes or schools. A number of Kemper city officials from the social and technical services are taught 1.5 hours a week of Breton by Mervent which also has a specific course for a dozen department council officials.

A firm decision has been taken to open a Diwan college in Gwened/Vannes in September 1999. It has the backing of

Jean-Charles Cavaillé, president of the Morbihan General Council in the quest for suitable premises. The Morbihan department, long lagging behind Finistère and Cotes-d'Armor, has shown recently a willingness to take positive steps in favour of Breton. The Gwened college will draw pupils from the existing primary schools in An Oriant/Lorient, Baod and Gwened, hopefully also soon An Alre, as well as from Nantes and St. Nazaire from which Diwan pupils have now to go to the more distant Kemper college.

The Diwan Lycée is scheduled to move from Ar Releg near Brest to Karaez/Carhaix in September. Here an old people's home in Kerampuilh is to be vacated in May, when work to adapt it for this educational purpose will begin. But the State is not in any hurry to give money for the completion of a new home, so that it looks as if only one of the three Kerampuilh buildings, the one intended for housing 80 or 90 boarders, may be renovated and equipped in time and classes will then have to be held elsewhere in town pending execution of more time consuming work on the two others. The whole complex should be able to take in 200 students by September 2000. The Brittany-4 Regional Council is contributing 10.2 MF and the Karaez Council 5MF to the cost. The Lycée will bring a much needed stimulant to the economy of this part of Brittany, particularly as various other activities will grow around it.

The Diwan association has high expectations from the promised French signing of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. May they be fulfilled!

(Data culled from **Keleier Servij ar Brezhoneg**, January)

ARB ACTIVE AGAIN

The clandestine organisation, ARB (=Breton Revolutionary Army) has claimed responsibility for seven actions and is thought to have carried out seven others, during the past seven months. Generally they took place in the Ille-et-Vilaine and in Côtes d'Armor and consisted of bomb attacks against tax offices, police stations, courts of justice. The one which caused the greatest damage occurred in Belfort (Eastern France) where the town-hall had much of its structure destroyed. Belfort is in the constituency of J.P. Chévènement, minister of Home Affairs, who is a strong protagonist of French centralism. The ARB had previously been quiet for two years. For the independentist party EMGANN, this return to violent means is in response to the contempt and the repression used by the French State in dealing with the most legitimate Breton demands and its disregard for the wishes of the majority as regards the language and the reunification of Brittany. The feeling is widespread that no progress is anymore possible by peaceful means.

AL LIAMM, literary magazine in Breton, bimonthly. Subscription 180 F but 200/250 F airmail outside State, to Herve Latimier, 27 Bali Laenneg, 35000 Roazhon/Rennes.

In Nr 311 (122pp), the Flemish writer Jan Deloof contributes a poem which juxtaposes the suffering arising from the slaughter of soldiers and of victims of persecution in World War II. Deloof has published two collections of poetry in Breton translated into Dutch by him. From Per Garnaod there is an adaptation of a play by Tchekhov satirising the greed for land. Yann Gerven tells a story based on a real fact, in which a man finds himself inadvertently caught in a secret cellar from which he could not have escaped but for a cat. The book reviews will acquaint the readers with an important novel of R. Hemon's about the people of Brest, with

four novels by Astafiev recently published by **Hor Yezh** (translations from Russian by Anna Mouradova), with R. Hemon's long poem about **Cúchulainn** and **Fand** titled **Gwarizi Vras Emer**. (Fand and Emer, like Cúchulainn, belong to the Ulster cycle). Reviewed are also three books in French which are recommended for a good understanding of the "philosophy" of the French State. "Let us no longer", urges one of the authors, "mix up access to universality with conformity to the arrogant French model." "Ar Roñfl" is a very amusing story about the working of a vacuum cleaner as seen through the eyes of a very young boy. The "pièce de résistance" in this issue is an account left by a member of the Bezen Perrot of a dangerous border crossing which he and a companion carried out by night in 1948, when they were on the run, between the Pfalz and Alsace.

J.L. Roudaut's European Stars "Stered aour", "Golden Stars" is the latest CD released by the Breton composer J.L. Roudaut and the Welsh singer Ffran May. "Golden Stars" sounds like a hymn to nature and peace amongst peoples.

"They express the poetical vision of a sharing Europe of Regions which would respect languages and culture", explains Emmanuel Morucci, the manager of the "Maison de l'Europe", the European Centre for West Brittany in Brest.

The composer and songwriter's "childhood dream" - this is also the name of his first group - take flight on the wind. This is what is expressed by several titles: "Children of the Wind", "Chinook"... the wind, "The Swan", "The Rainbow", "Golden Stars". As for the other titles, they evoke travels: "Bound for...", "Blue Island", "Galicia", "Sudan", "Amen mab-

den", written by Ffran May, is a song of hope for a better world. The Welsh singer's soft voice is actually, in the present context, more impregnated with softness than energy.

The great strength of this first European CD comes from the use of several languages, not only international languages (French and English) but also languages of the heart, Welsh and Breton. This joining of passion to common sense gives the CD a European dimension filled with many hopes. Meanwhile, the composer ends several of his songs with warnings, warnings which may be taken as challenges for the future...

Fifty years after the birth of a pacified Europe (its northern parts at least...), ten years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Celtic peoples seem to realise that it is increasingly important to sing for a Europe of passion and common sense.

Gi Keltik

An estimated 6,000 people demonstrated in Kemper on December 5 to demand the signature by France of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and the amendment of the Article 2 of the Constitution which prevents recognition of the "regional languages".

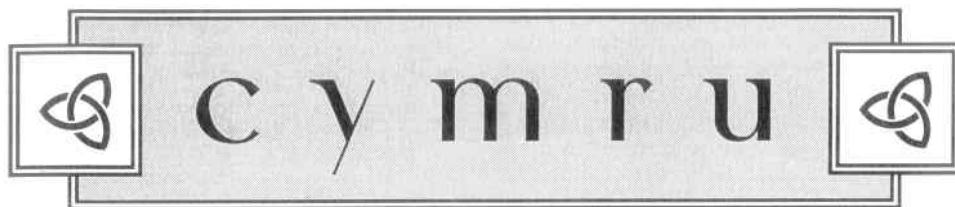
Many of the participants wanted Breton to be given official status. Among the demonstrators were also Jean Yves Cozan, a regional councillor "in charge of the Breton identity", and two socialist MPs, L. Le Pensec and Ivon Abiven, but other socialist representatives, B. Poignant and Kofi Yamgnane, were notable for their absence. Nearly all the

Waiting for the Charter



Breton political and cultural organisations had asked their members to attend, but EMGANN, though recognising that it was important to show that large numbers are attached to their national language, considered that the Charter would be limited in France to the strict minimum and

would leave the language without juridical protection and means to survive. They wanted to leave no doubt about their aim that Breton must be given full national status, a 100% television service, generalised sign-posting, teaching in every school, that it must be backed by a comprehensive policy to enable all to learn and use it in all aspects of life.



Pigion Celtaidd

YR ALBAN

Gwrthod y 'Scottish Six'

Mae'r ymgyrch i ennill rhaglen newyddion ar wahân i'r Alban ar y deledu tua 6:00 gyda'r nos i gymryd lle'r rhaglen safonol o Lundain wedi methu. Gwelwyd angen am raglen newyddion lawn i'r Alban yn sgil sefydlu'r Senedd eleni a'r angen am adlewyrchu bywyd gwleidyddol newydd y wlad. Mae rhai cenedlaetholwyr yn gweld gwrthod y cais gan lywodraethwyr y BBC fel tystiolaeth bellach o ffafrïaeth y cyfryngau i'r Blaidd Lafur. 'Roedd swyddog o'r BBC wedi dweud adeg y cyfarfod i benderfynu a oedd angen am raglen newyddion i'r Alban nad oedd y BBC eisiau hyrwyddo cenedlaetholdeb na rhedeg o flaen cynigion datganoli'r llywodraeth. Cawn ni yng Nghymru fod yn ddiolchgar fod gennym ein gwasanaeth ein hunain!

Polisi iaith

O'r diwedd mae Bwrdd Iechyd yr Ynys Hir wedi mabwysiadu polisi iaith, gan gynnwys penawdau papur, dogfennau cleifion, recriwtio, cyrsiau Gaeleg i staff, deunydd addysgiadol ac arwyddion.

Prif Swyddog Gaeleg

Mae Swyddfa'r Alban wedi hysbysebu am swydd newydd ar gyfer rhywun i gydlynu gwaith yr Adran gyda'r Aeleg. Mae Cyngor Peairt agus Cinn Rois/Perth & Kinross hefyd wedi hysbysebu am swyddog cydlynu'r ddarpariaeth addysg, i ddatblygu strategaeth ac i gydweithio efo asiantaethau eraill a chysylltu â'r cyfryngau, er mwyn hyrwyddo'r Aeleg.

Tirfeddianwyr gwrth-gymdeithasol

Mae'r Llywodraeth wedi cyhoeddi papur gwyn sy'n argymhell p_erau newydd i brynu'n orfodol tir tirfeddianwyr sy'n camreoli eu stadau yn yr Alban. Bydd hyn yn cynnwys hyrwyddo prynu gan gymunedau lleol.

Etholiadau

Gellir edrych ar y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf gyda'r Senedd newydd trwy archwilio safle newydd ar y We -

www.scottishelections.co.uk

CJ

CERNYW

20 mlwyddiant Cowethas an Yeth

Ugain mlynedd yn ôl, ym 1979, y sefydlwyd Cowethas an Yeth Kernewek, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gernyweg, gan nifer o bobl gysylltiedig â Gorsedd Cernyw yn cynnwys y diweddar P. A. S. Pool, arbenigwr ar enwau lleoedd Cernyw, a'r diweddar Brian Webb a ddaeth yn ysgrifennydd cyntaf y Gymdeithas. O ddiwedd yr wythdegau ymlaen, a'r mudiad iaith wedi hollti rhwng cefnogwyr gwahanol ffurfiau'r Gernyweg, daeth Cowethas i fod yn fudiad i siaradwyr Kernewek Kemmyn yn bennaf, ond maent wedi aros yn un o fudiadau mwyaf gweithgar y Gernyweg drwy'r blynyddoedd, dan gyhoeddi papur misol An Gannas ("Y Gennad"). Maent yn bwriadu cyhoeddi cyfrol am hanes y mudiad yn nes ymlaen eleni.

Ailagor mwynglawdd alcarn

Trwy gytundeb gwerth £625,000 rhwng rheolwr cyffredinol a phrif gyfrandalwr gwaith alcarn Crofty Sooth/South Crofty ger Redruth a'r Cymro Wilf Hughes, gellir gweld ailagor y mwynglawdd alcarn naw mis ar ôl iddo gau gyda cholled 300 o swyddi.

Becws Cernyw

Agorwyd Becws Cernywig cyntaf Caerdydd ar y gornel gyferbyn ag Eglwys Sant Ioan yn Heol yr Eglwys yng Nghaerdydd. Sefydlwyd y cwmni gan Tim Simons, brodor o Borth Ia (St. Ives) gyda'r siop gyntaf yn ei dref enedigol.

RapT/CJ

LLYDAW

Cynllun iaith

Cyhoeddwyd dogfen ddwyieithog â'r teitl "Diwylliant Llydaweg ar gyfer yr 21ain ganrif" gan Gyngor Diwylliannol Llydaw. Y Cyngor Diwylliannol yw asiant y 5 'sir' yn Llydaw a dros 40 o gymdeithasau diwylliannol. Hanes Llydaw, y Llydaweg, y cyfryngau ac economi a diwylliant ydyw pynciau'r ddogfen. Gellir cael copi yn rhad ac am ddim oddi wrth Kuzul Sevenadurel Breizh/ Conseil Culturel de Bretagne, 7 rue Général Guillaudot, 35069 Roazhon Cedex, Llydaw.

Mudiadau iaith

Mae SKOL AN EMSAV, 8 straed Hoche, 35000 Roazhon yn un o brif fudiadau iaith Llydaw. Mae'r arwyddlun yn debyg iawn i Dafod y Ddraig wedi'i throï ar ei hochr!

Mae STOURM AR BREZHONEG, Conseo - BP15, 29480 Ar Releg Kerhuon yn fudiad sy'n ymgyrchu dros ddefnyddio'r Llydaweg fel iaith swyddogol.

Mae KEVREDIGEZH AN DILENNIDI VREZHONEGERIEN, 22 Straed an Argoad, 29260 Lesneven yn gymdeithas o gynrychiolwyr etholedig sy'n medru'r Llydaweg.

Cynllun dwyieithog:

Mae Cyngor Dinesig An Oriant/Lorient wedi mabwysiadu cynllun dwyieithog. Mae tair elfen - arwyddion ffordd, arwyddion ar adeiladau a gohebiaeth gyda'r cyngor. Goruchwylir gweithredu'r cynllun gan weithgor o bum aelod o'r cyngor.

Clive James



Foothold for Welsh in planning decisions

In response to the long and on-going campaign of Cymdeithas for the Welsh language to be given full status as a factor to consider in local authority planning decisions, the Welsh Office published a note in December revising the guidelines for local councils to the effect of making it

clearer that the language could be considered. Previous guidelines were considered ambiguous. Cymdeithas regard this as a step forward in allowing local authorities to prevent damage to Welsh-speaking communities caused by unwanted housing developments, though only the Property Act demanded by Cymdeithas will provide the full powers needed.

Broadcasting, law and the National Assembly

The coming National Assembly will result in new legislation made in Wales. Thus the law in Wales will gradually become more different from the law in

England and while Scotland and Northern Ireland have their own legal system, there is an increasing discussion about the need to separate the Welsh legal system completely from that of England.

Broadcasting is one field that has not been devolved to the National Assembly (one suspects for ulterior political motives). Plaid Cymru and Cymdeithas yr Iaith will both campaign for this to be changed and once the assembly is established Cymdeithas will be relaunching the campaign for an independent Welsh broadcasting authority.

Cernyw: Y Dyfodol?

Nid wyf yn credu mewn iaith heb gymdeithas, heb ei chymdeithas. Y mae'n wir fod Lladein wedi cael ei defnyddio trwy Ewrop yn y canoloesoedd heb gymdeithas leol, ond iaith yr Eglwys oedd hi. Y mae'n wahanol yng Nghernyw, cytuna bawb.

Yn Iwerddon, y mae'r iaith yn marw oherwydd fod y Gaeltachtaí wedi dirywio ac yn dal i ddirywio heddiw. Nid oes mwyach parhaurwydd, ac y mae'r gymdeithas draddodiadol yn diflannu yn gyflym. Nid oes ond ynysoedd ieithyddol yn ôl, a mae'n sier nad yw hywny'n ddigonol wrth sicrhau dyfodol yr iaith.

Pa fodd bynnag, y mae'r cyflyrau yn hollol wahanol yng Nghernyw eto, am nad oes yr un ynys ieithyddol yno, yr un ardal i siarad yr iaith. Wrth gwrs, y mae pobl yn ei

siarad trwy Gernyw i gyd, ond anfantais mwyaf mudiad yr iaith yw nad oes cymdeithas lle y gallai siaradwyr y Gernyweg ddefnyddio eu hiaith bob dydd, ac ym mhob maes eu bywyd.

Dyma, yn fy marn i, yr hyn y dylai mudiad (au!) yr iaith anelu ato yn y wlad honno, wrth goleddi eu hetfeddiaeth. Ac o ddifri, ni fuasai hynny mor anodd i'w chynhyrchu. Byddai yn rhaid dewis pentref bach a chanolog yng nghefnwlad fel Prif Ddinas yr Iaith (mwy neu lai fel y gwnaethpwyd yn Hay on Wye gyda llyfrau), hwyrach lle y mae pennaeth un o'r mudiadau yn byw ynddo, ac yn darbwyllo'r rhan fwyaf o'r boblogaeth dysgu Cernyweg, meithrin ysgoll holl Gernyweg ac yn y blaen.

Pa ganlyniadau y câi fath o ganllun?

Mewn gwirionedd, byddai yn creu gwir gymdeithas, canolfan er mwyn Gwasg a chyhoeddiadwyr a phapur bro yn ogystal â man lle y gellir dod wrth siarad, clywed a dysgu Cernyweg Fyw, fel yn y Gwledydd Celtaidd eraill. Dim ond syniad, ond gallai weithio.

Séamas Ó Loingsigh

Summary

To survive a language must be spoken as the language of a community. Cornish in particular suffers from the lack of an area or at least a centre where this condition would be realised. For a start it would be necessary to persuade the people of, say, a village to learn Cornish and use it in their daily life.

MoD Tight-Lipped On Land Pollution

A hospital and South Wales' first hospice for children may be standing on polluted land.

The fears involve Sully Hospital in Cardiff and the new Ty Hafan Children's Hospice that opened in January this year and is the largest hospice of this kind in the United Kingdom.

The pollution threat is posed by an 18 acre area of contaminated military land right next door to the Hospice and hospital.

The land is thought to have been used as a store for petrol and lubricant oil during World War II to support the D-Day landings.

Similar storage sites across Britain are known to have been heavily contaminated by the gradual leakage of fuels being stored. A worry is that the land at Hayes Road, Sully, Cardiff was polluted in exactly the same way and that pollution has spread outwards.

A growing campaign to establish the risks and extent of pollution is being led by a local MP who has tabled five written

questions for the Secretary of State for Defence, George Robertson, covering health and public safety risks as well as questions about the value of the land.

Although contacted by a local journalist in January the MOD were tight-lipped and refused to say anything about the type of pollution that had been discovered or its extent.

The Celtic League understand that bulk fuel tanks were removed from the site ten years ago and that given MOD construction techniques when the tanks were built, almost fifty years earlier, coupled with poor MOD environmental policies the site may be saturated by fuel/lubricant seepage.

MOD reticence over the extent of pollution at this site does not surprise the Celtic League, which has campaigned for many years for a safety or "Green audit" of all military sites, both occupied and disused. We have also argued for tighter controls. The League believe contamination of military land poses a considerable problem throughout Wales and other Celtic countries like Ireland and Scotland.

For years the extent of military pollution was kept secret because the MOD could claim Crown immunity from assessment by outside agencies. Despite this protection being waived eight years

ago the League are unaware of any prosecution on environmental protection grounds and local authorities still encounter difficulty investigating pollution at active military sites.

Finding out about the extent of pollution at both redundant and existing bases has become more difficult. In 1996 after a Scottish MP intervened on behalf of the Celtic League the then Defence Secretary Michael Portillo admitted that "land quality assessments" were taking place at over 600 military sites throughout the United Kingdom.

However the Labour government is proving more evasive than its predecessor at dodging the issue and a prominent Welsh newspaper has been waiting for over twelve months for answers from the MOD to 17 questions it submitted by fax, seeking information on the "land quality assessments" announced by M Portillo.

Ironically it was the British Army that first focused concerns about the potential extent of the problem when five years ago a Royal Engineer's report confirmed bad environmental practice and pollution. When the Celtic League sought copies of the report and a parallel RAF document on military airfields the MOD denied all knowledge.

J B Moffatt

*Address (edited version) to the Celtic League/Celtic Alliance, Trinity College Dublin, February 1999
(see Éire section also)*

When the elections to the National Assembly are held, on Thursday the 6th May 1999, there will be rejoicing in all areas of Wales.

For the first time we will be electing representatives to the first democratic institution which will be responsible for governing some aspects of the life of our country.

It will be a time for rejoicing for a number of reasons, some symbolic, some political, some economic, some rational and some borne of sheer necessity.

In essence, Wales has decided that it wished to continue to live as a nation, and in order to do so has decided to take into its own hands, albeit tentatively, some decision making processes.

In some ways, Wales took only a small step towards the path of devolution when we voted, narrowly, in favour of the Labour government's plans for an Assembly in September 1997.

In other ways, it was a giant leap forward, for without taking that step no further progress would have been possible and indeed it is likely that no government would have sought to bring forward any plans for constitutional change for at least a generation – if not longer.

Taking this small step has given the Welsh people an enormous lift, a massive boost to our confidence.

It has given us a new image of Wales, a confident nation, a forward looking people and has reinforced our sense of identity.

Even within the realms of popular culture, being Welsh is now seen as a positive rather than as a negative attribute.

I suppose that those of us in Wales who have campaigned for constitutional change throughout our political lives will always want to relive the wonderful moment when we realised that the result of the referendum was going our way.

Indeed, those of us who recall the evening will always recall that the **Yes** votes were always lagging behind, and it was the result, the emphatic result from Carmarthen, in west Wales that finally swung it.

Plaid Cymru had decided to campaign under the umbrella of the all party **Yes For Wales** campaign.

I was in charge of mobilising our supporters, and we used the most modern campaigning techniques to deliver the vote in areas of Plaid strength, and in other areas where we had particularly active members who worked very hard to deliver the **Yes** vote.

So was it worth the effort?

Can the Assembly make a real, a decisive difference to people's lives in Wales?

At the end of its first term, will the Assembly have created a sense of well being amongst the people of Wales, an atmosphere, a mood which is different?

The Challenge of the Assembly for Wales

*by
Ieuan Wyn Jones*

Let's look at its limitations. The National Assembly will lack the legislative powers of the Scottish Parliament and any powers to vary taxes.

The Scots will have powers to vary taxation by 3% – up or down. To that extent the Welsh Assembly will have greater difficulty to follow a course which is different from that being pursued in England.

The Scots will find it relatively easy to develop their own agenda for economic development, for health or education. The lack of legislative powers will hinder our ability to do the same.

The Assembly will take over the Welsh Office budget of some £7B rising to some £8b. and the powers currently vested in the Secretary of State for Wales.

The Assembly in theory will negotiate with the Treasury in London over its budget on an annual basis, although indicative budgets will be given for a three year period. But in practice there will be very little room for manoeuvre.

The Assembly's budget, at least in the short term will continue to be fixed according to the Barnett formula under which Wales receives a fixed share of the sums allocated to the domestic departments in England.

Although the budget at £7B sounds a great deal, the Assembly will not have a great deal of opportunity to move money around between policy areas.

If the Assembly wishes to pursue a course which requires new primary legislation, such as abolishing health trusts, then it will have to negotiate time for it with the government in London.

Given these limitations, is the Assembly worth having?

The answer I give is a resounding **Yes**.

Although the Assembly cannot legislate or raise money, or move significant sums around, it can with a little imagination begin to make a real difference.

To show it can make a difference the Assembly must do a number of things.

1 It must make a real impact in the economic life of Wales. There is an imbalance in terms of economic performance between the SE and NE of Wales and the rest of the country. Given that the Western areas of Wales and the Valleys of the south of Wales are likely to qualify for Objective 1 status, we must use that money some £2B over 6 years to improve the level of GDP – per head from

its currently low figure of 72%. It seems unlikely that we will get significant matched-funding from the UK Treasury, so we must look for ways of using resources from the current allocation.

2 In the area of education and training, we must create a climate which eliminates competition between schools, colleges and training agencies. They must co-operate **more, each concentrating on what they do best**, and eliminating areas of duplication and conflict. We should get rid of the crazy notion that each education establishment chases pupils and students as though they had a price on their head. We should also replace the narrow focused A level system with a Welsh baccalaureate, to take account of the fact that young people need to have a much wider range of skills than ever before.



Ieuan Wyn Jones, M.P.

3 In health, we must tackle areas of high deprivation where the levels of ill health and sickness are some of the worst in Western Europe. Our priority must be to tackle ill-health where it is at its worst, and to improve housing and social conditions which are significant contributory factors.

4 Wales' relationship with Europe. This has, frankly been non-existent ever since we joined the EU in 1973.

Currently Wales is represented in all aspects of the life of the EU through the UK government, other than in the European Parliament where we currently have 5 members.

In all vital negotiations affecting our country, such as agriculture or regional funding, no minister for Wales ever attended the Council of Ministers meetings where important decisions were made.

And it is only in recent years, last 2/3 that junior ministers from Wales were invited to accompany UK ministers, and who are always regarded as the lead ministers in COM meetings.

The Welsh presence in Brussels is confined to a hardworking but very small Wales European Centre funded by local authorities, the WDA universities and so on.

Thus I believe that the Welsh Assembly **Must** as a matter of **Priority** improve our relations with Europe.

And these are the requirements in this area.

- An Assembly secretary must be given responsibility for the European portfolio, and with a seat in the Assembly Cabinet;
- The First Secretary or the European Secretary, or the relevant Assembly Secretary should always be a member of the UK delegation to COM meetings where matters of direct relevance to Wales are being discussed. And the Secretary should always be consulted before the UK vote is cast in the COM on these occasions;
- An Assembly civil servant should always be part of the UKREP team in Brussels;
- The WEC should be beefed up, using Assembly resources, so that it can become a body representing Wales in all facets of EU life, like the offices maintained by Catalonia or the German Lander.

These are minimum requirements.

We must ensure that Wales plc plays a major role in Europe.

We have our own vision of how we want to see Europe develop, the relationships which will exist between the EU Institutions, the member states and autonomous nations and regions.

We want to see the Committee of the Regions increase its influence, and want all the Institutions to become more open, more democratic and more accountable.

Whilst the creation of the Assembly will not put us centre stage, at least we will now be on the pitch, and not simply confined to the terraces, shouting rather impotently.

All these things are necessary if the Assembly is to succeed.

But how do we move on from here?

How do we ensure that devolution is a process and not an event?

Is the Assembly the end of the road, or simply the first chapter in the book?

We have to recall that the referendum result was very narrow.

Some interpret the result as the reluctance of the people of Wales to embrace such a change, borne of the lack of self confidence in ourselves as a nation.

Others have argued that the result was so narrow because people could not bring themselves to be enthusiastic for such a weak body.

And some have even argued that the East/West division reflected in the vote indicated that the feeling of Welshness reduces as one approaches the border with England.

I don't think that there is one simple explanation.

The character of a nation is a complex notion. How it is formed depends on your history, your culture, your place in the world, how you are treated by your neighbours, indeed a myriad of different things.

And people's willingness to embrace further change will depend on a number of factors, some of which are outside your control.

But I have no doubts whatsoever that the Assembly must win over the hearts and minds of a significant proportion of the population who voted **No** before the next step can be contemplated.

And the next step will be to secure the legislative and financial powers given to the Scottish Parliament.

How the Assembly conducts itself will be important.

It must become the nation's forum not simply a place where power is exercised by the majority party.

It must speak for Wales, not simply for the governing party.

It must command respect, not ridicule.

And it must not simply replicate Westminster in Cardiff.

The nascent Welsh democracy must reject an adversarial style of politics.

It must practise inclusiveness and build consensus where that can be achieved.

The clash of political ideals is the very stuff of the democratic process.

People need to feel that their views and aspirations are represented.

The new voting system for the Assembly, a form of PR, not as proportional as your STV system, but an advance on the first past the post system, will ensure that most shades of opinion will be represented in the new Assembly.

Because it is an untried system, it is difficult to predict how it will turn out, save to say that the 4 major parties in Wales will secure seats.

Although members of the Cabinet will naturally come from the ruling party or possibly the ruling coalition, all parties must be given the opportunity to chair the policy committees and/or Standing Committees.

The policy committees will have a role in policy implementation and in the scrutiny of secondary legislation.

They will also become forums for public debate.

The plenary sessions of the Assembly must be used on occasions to put the case for Wales plc.

Although the powers of the Assembly are limited, the Assembly will be able to debate any issue of relevance to Wales.

It will thus be able to build a national consensus around certain issues, such as the Euro, or other European issue.

Thus we are entering a new chapter in the history of Wales.

It is an important time in the life of our nation.

Rebuilding a nation's self confidence is an important and yet delicate task.

We are standing on the threshold of a great event in the development of a new and vibrant Welsh identity.

Wales must come to terms with its new role, and those of us who expect to be elected to the new body carry a great deal of responsibility.

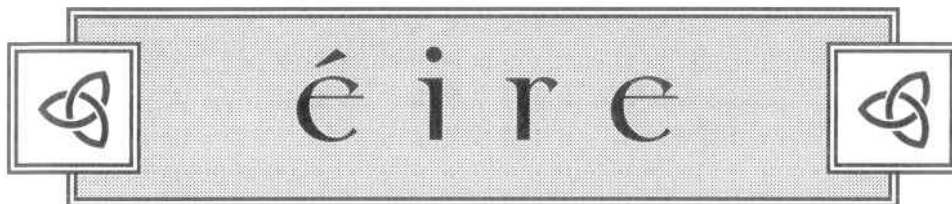
It is a challenge I am looking forward to with some relish.

Minutes in English, weeks for Welsh

A Welsh Office consultative document angered Welsh language activists by stating that minutes of meetings of the National Assembly would be published in English within three days, with a Welsh version appearing within *eight weeks*. Hardly equal treatment Welsh and English. Cymdeithas yr Iaith responded with a national petition in January calling for the two versions to be published together, and the Welsh Office is re-examining the matter. While it is acknowledged that translation of English transcripts into Welsh will take time, it is not acceptable for transcripts of original Welsh speeches and meetings to be available only in English translation while the Welsh version is being held back.

Cymdeithas meet Alun Michael

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg chairman Branwen Niclas described as *ëpositivei* a meeting in January between a Cymdeithas delegation and Alun Michael, the new Secretary of State, the atmosphere comparing favourably in particular with that at recent meetings between Cymdeithas and the language quango. Alun Michael acknowledged that there were weaknesses in the Welsh Language Act, and that a wait of up to eight weeks for the Welsh version of the minutes of National Assembly meetings was unacceptable. He said that he would try to speak Welsh in the National Assembly if elected. Branwen Niclas said that she hoped this would be the first in a series of constructive meetings and expressed that Cymdeithas wanted the National Assembly to be thoroughly bilingual and to adopt policies that would strengthen the language and communities of Wales.



Géarchéim na Briotáinise

Céad tubaisteach don Bhriotáinis

Tugtar léargas grinn ar an tubaiste atá tar éis an Bhriotáinis a bhualadh san aois seo in alt le *Gand An Avank* in eagrán Dheireadh Fómhair 1998 d'iris chraobh Cheanada den Choiste Idirnáisiúnta um Chosaint na Briotáinise.

Is í an easpa staidrimh oifigiúil an deacracht is mó atá le sárú ag duine ar bith atá ag iarraidh staid na Briotáinise a mheas ó diúltaíonn an stát Francach an teanga a aithint sa daonáireamh. Rinne Fanch Broudig suirbhé (thart faoi 1991) dá leabhar *La Pratique du Breton* (1993) (a ríomhann scéal na teanga ó 1789 go dtí an lá inniu) agus d'fhoilsigh an iris Brud Nevez torthaí suirbhé a rinneadh i 1997.

Bhí tuairim is 1.2 milliún Briotáiniseoir ann ag tús na 20ú haoise, rud a chiallaíonn gurbh í an Bhriotáinis an teanga Cheilteach ba fhorleithne ag an tráth sin.

San aois seo bhí an córas oideachais dírithe ar ídiú na teanga. Ghéaraigh an Chéad Chogadh Domhanda ar an bpróiseas. Súdh glúin iomlán d'fhir óga na Briotáine isteach in arm na Fraince. Thug siad an Fhraincis agus drochmheas ar Bhriotáinis ar ais chuig gach ceard den Bhriotáin Iochtair (mar a raibh an teanga láidir an tráth sin).

Sna 1940í agus 1950í díbríodh an Bhriotáinis ón eaglais, a bheag nó mór. Ba í an Fhraincis teanga an stáit, na tráchtála, na meán cumarsáide, na scoile agus, de réir a chéile, an teaghlach.

Dar le suirbhé Brud Nevez bhí 67% de na cainteoirí Briotáinise níos sine ná 60 bliana d'aois i 1997, má bhí an sampla ionadaitheach. Is léir go raibh titim in úsáid na teanga sa teaghlach go fiú idir suirbhé Broudig agus ceann Brud Nevez. Mar sin féin meastar go bhfuil Briotáinis i gcónaí ag 20% de phobal na Briotáine Iochtarai ach ní chiallaíonn sé sin go labhraíonn siad go rialta í.

In ainneoin an tubaiste tá léas beag dóchais ann, dar le *Gand An Avank*, i ngluaiseacht DIWAN. Tá fianaise ann go bhfuil an tacaíocht don teanga sna scoileanna imithe i méid go suntasach. Deich mbliain ó shin bhí go leor Briotáiniseoirí ar nós cuma liom (nó fiú naimhdeach) maidir le múineadh na teanga do dhaoine óga ach dealraíonn sé go bhfuil athrú ar an scéal sin.

Micheál Mac Aonghusa

Summary

The 20th century has been disastrous for Breton. Conscription in World War I, the educational system and the church have been leading factors in forcing the change to French. Most present-day speakers are over 60.

Cá bhfuil an Bhriotáinis in Douarnenez?

Chuas chun féile mhara in Douarnenez anuraidh. Bhí an fhéile thar barr agus bhaineas taitneamh mór aisti. A leithéid de dhífriocht idir í agus ceann eile in Penzans. Bhí drocheagraíocht uirthi sin. Ba é ceann de na rudaí ab fhearr i bhféile mhara Penzans seastán chun an fhéile in Douarnenez a fhógairt. Bhí mórán bolscaireachta ann ag na Briotánaigh a d'eagraigh an seastán. Bhí bia, T-léinte, leabhair ar díol acu leis. Chonaic mé cailín álainn ann agus ags dúirt mé léi, "Mat eo an traou?" D'fhéach sí orm gan pioc a rá. Dúirt mé léi ansin, "Ca va?" agus fuairas freagra uathí. Dúirt sí liom ná raibh aon Briotáinis aici. Bhí Mouez Port Rhu ann leis, cór fear as Port Rhu lámh le Douarnenez. Bhíodar ag casadh amhráin fharraige i bhFraincis. Ní raibh Briotáinis ag aon duine acu ach an oiread. Bhí sé mar an gcéanna in Douarnenez. Níor chuala mé mórán Briotáinise ann ach ag seandaoine agus ag duine óg a bhí ar scoil de chuid DIWAN. Is ina leithéid de scoileanna atá an dóchas is mó don Bhriotáinis san oideachas.

Bhí dóchas agam go bhfaighinn caoi le beagán Briotáinise a fhoghlaim agus mé sa Bhriotáin. Ach ní mar sin a bhí. Fuair mé mo dhóthain de chleachtadh sa Fhraincis. Ní raibh Briotáinis ar bith ag bean an tí san áit a raibh lóistín agam. Ba as an Normainn di agus ní raibh ach cúpla focal Béarla aici ach chomh beag. Níorbh áil liom Béarla a labhairt pé scéal é agus mé sa Bhriotáin. Mar sin bhiomar ag labhairt Fraincise.

Is aoihbhinn liom na longa seoil. Bhí mórán acu san fhéile. Cheannaíós leabhair orthu ó sheastán Chasse-Marée ar an gcé. Toisc go bhfuil said chomh suimiúil sin beidh said ina spreagadh agam mo chuid Fraincise a fheabhsú a thuilleadh. Cheannaíós leabhair eile ar sheastán eile, leabhar ar féidir Briotáinis a fhoghlaim uaidh trí Fhraincis. Is maith liom an chaoi

chun Briotáinis a fhoghlaim agus feabhas a chur ar mo chuid Fraincise san am céanna.

Chuir staid na Briotáinise in Douarnenez díomá orm. Bhí sí láidir sa cheantar sin leathchéad bliain ó shin. Is mar an gcéanna atá sé i gceantar eile sa Bhriotáin. Deirtear liom gur fearr staid na teanga sa tuaisceart, in Bro Dreger. B'áil liom a chloisint go bhfuil sí láidir sa Bhriotáin go léir. Chuige sin ní foláir a thuilleadh scoileanna DIWAN a chur ar bun. Is deacair é sin a dhéanamh in aghaidh dhrochaighe Phoblacht na Fraince.

Mervyn Phillips

Summary

This article is an expression of disappointment at the lack of Breton in Douarnenez. Worse luck, the same state of affairs prevails in other parts of Brittany too. The need for more DIWAN is urgent. One has to contend, however, with the ill-will of the French Republic.

Hillsborough Declaration a Danger

While the Northern parties have to reconvene for further talks on April 13th and some progress may have emerged by the time this issue reaches our readers the signs for progress are not good following the Hillsborough Declaration. This statement effectively introduces a precondition on decommissioning, as an 'obligation', (which was not present in the 1998 Good Friday Agreement) before the setting up of the Executive. It also calls for some arms to be 'put beyond use' before it starts to function.

The Declaration is seen, even by independent commentators, as a reversal of a key element of the Agreement which was essential to the acceptance of the overall package by Republicans who have already indicated that it is not possible to deliver to these new terms. If Bertie Ahern's endorsement of the declaration is seen as adoption of a pro-Unionist stance it is time he used his much vaunted political skills to redress the balance to ensure progress can be made in keeping with the Agreement.

Irish Language — Civil Service Rule Not OK!

One of the new North-South bodies agreed is that for the Irish language and the Ulster Scots dialect. There will apparently be a twenty four member body with an eight member board for Ulster Scots and a sixteen member board for Irish. The boards will operate independently, there will be five representatives from the North on the Ulster Scots board and three from the Republic; on the Irish language board there will be nine representatives from the Republic and seven from the North.

It appears, however, that there will be no democratic representation on these boards and that Civil Servants operating behind closed doors are deciding matters and nominations with none being accorded to voluntary organisations who have been active for years in the real development and promotion of Irish amongst communities. Proposals from Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge (Co-ordinating Committee for Irish Language Organisations) and Pobal that the majority of board members would be nominated by them appear to have been ignored as no doubt will be the comprehensive proposals with regard to funding of voluntary organisations, the maintenance of their independence and

practical matters in the realm of planning and implementation of plans.

A statement issued in March from the Department of Arts, Heritage, The Gaeltacht and Islands indicated that matters were being sewn up "it is envisaged that the new body would be in place by 1 April 1999 and if that is the case the responsibilities of Bord na Gaeilge will be subsumed into the new body. Other responsibilities are also being considered for this body. It is envisaged that the staff of Bord na Gaeilge would be transferred over to the new body and that they would remain in their premises in Dublin. It is also envisaged that an office be established in Belfast and staff be recruited for it."

While the positions in Belfast will be advertised and filled in accordance with the rules of the EU Commission the same Civil Service staff in Dublin will apparently transfer across to the new body. None of this augers particularly well for the Irish language. Bord na Gaeilge has not been effective in promoting the use of Irish in the state sector and is singularly lacking in initiatives in other areas. Indeed the chance of a radical review of its operations and powers seems to have been badly or deliberately passed over.

League Secretary General In South Armagh

On February 7th I addressed a meeting organised by South Armagh Farmers & Residents Committee (SAFRC), at the Cloghue checkpoint in S. Armagh. Two thousand marchers assembled at Killeen bridge and marched the short distance to Cloghue. The group was led by a cavalcade of tractors, one of which towed a mock-up of a British Army observation tower. The mock tower was symbolic and it also indicated that the people of S. Armagh, despite all the privations of the past thirty years, have a dry sense of humour. Mo Mowlam had hailed the removal of a road checkpoint at Cloghue last year as a sign of demilitarisation by the British Army. However SAFRC and the people of the area know that this is a lie exposed by the continued construction and expansion of other military installations. The message was clear - Mo had staged her charade and now the people of S. Armagh would match it with one of their own.

Earlier in the day I had awoken to the shaking rumble the British army helicopters made as they circled the houses and farms in the area. On a morning tour of the areas with SAFRC Chairman Declan Fearon we weaved along mountain roads and hills which are topped with fortified observation posts and fire bases. At Glassdrummond closer examination of the hilltop "fort" yielded evidence of the type of health threatening microwave equipment which I would highlight in my speech at Cloghue later.

Away from the hill tops bases like Bessbrook, where two years ago Celtic League exposed problems with pollution, Crossmaglen and Forkhill dominate the villages. All the time in the clear sky multiple and continuous helicopter movements belie any claim that the military presence is being scaled down.

Back at Cloghue later, and despite the SAFRC having cleared their demonstration with "the authorities", a massive RUC operation is in force. Armoured cars, machine guns and police in riot gear backed up by army troops in the surrounding fields confront 2000 men women and children, workers, businessmen, farmers with their families backed up by fifty Wexford Pikemen who add a festive air to the proceedings. Overhead the ubiquitous Army Lynx helicopters weave and twist.

South Armagh delivers its answer to the Mo Mowlam charade as, following speeches, from the platform the mock-up observation tower is torn apart by the tractors. The RUC glower sullenly as the demonstrators cheer.

SAFRC members analyse the success of



Ieuan Wyn Jones, Plaid Cymru M.P. for Anglesea, Wales, delivering his lecture in February in Trinity College Dublin on "The Challenge of the Assembly for Wales." The visit was arranged by the Welsh and Irish branches of the Celtic League with the support of the Celtic Alliance, T.C.D. An edited version of the address is given in the Cymru section. The events generated some publicity in Wales and Mannin (I Wyn Jones gave a live interview on Manx Radio) but the Irish media continued with its policy of showing no interest in Welsh affairs although an interview was recorded for the Dublin Irish language Raidió na Life.

Collusion in Rosemary Nelson's Death

The death of Rosemary Nelson is a savage and vile crime and the possibility of collusion in it by the security services in Northern Ireland cannot be ruled out.

Rosemary Nelson was a unique person. Like another murdered lawyer, Pat Finucane, she fought for people and their rights with the one thing that frightens the bully and bigot most, law and reasoned argument.

It is a sorry indictment of the N. Ireland State that one of the groups which saw her as a threat was the State security and police service. The threats from Loyalist paramilitary's were to be expected but threats and physical intimidation by the State is incomprehensible to those of us who live outside the North of Ireland.

The British government and the RUC ignored the threat to Rosemary Nelson and looked the other way until the bomb exploded. However, to a certain extent we are all guilty of complicity in the death of Ms Nelson. In several high profile interviews and documentaries she personally outlined the threat to her and other lawyers working in N. Ireland. On this occasion we cannot use the United Nations or some other convenient



Rosemary Nelson, RIP

International scapegoat as an excuse for inaction. The UN too via its Special rapporteur Param Cumaraswamy warned of the threat to lawyers working in the North and to Rosemary Nelson in particular.

Ronnie Flannigan RUC Chief Constable has gone to great lengths to establish an independent enquiry into her death but is this just the start of another cover-up such as those the tragedy of Ulster's last thirty years are littered with?

It cannot be simply left to "the Kent police with assistance from the FBI" to solve this crime. It should be overseen by the UN Special rapporteur, at least he spoke out when so many of us were silent!

J B Moffatt

Secret. General contd...

the rally. Held just before key committee members set out on an awareness-building tour of the US it is judged a success. Despite a bitterly cold day a good crowd has turned out and the Wexford Pikemen, now retired to a watering hole south of the border, managed to contain themselves and not rout the RUC.

The demonstration caused a substantial unnecessary deployment of police and troops. It blocked the main Belfast - Dublin road for almost three hours causing substantial diversion of traffic or delay.

The extent of SAFRC's problem is however demonstrated by the evening news. There is limited coverage from RTE and almost a complete news blank from the BBC, whose reporter at the scene spent most of his time asking committee members about their political beliefs.

I left Newry the following day a little more aware of the problems of this community which is trying to shake of the effects of thirty years of military occupation.

SAFRC want the cease-fire to hold. They want the Army/RUC to go so that the true economic potential of this area can be developed and the people can lead a normal life. Mo Mowlam and Tony Blair are not listening, so they are taking their message to the United States.

In the Home of my Ancestors My Mother's Country

Latest CDs by Australian Celtic Band, Gavin O'Loughlen & Cotters Bequest

"Cotters Bequest" a Celtic band, has six members who play 23 instruments, and together with guest artists, the band features Highland and Uilleann pipes, harp, military snare drums, whistles, accordians and string quartet all wrapped in lush vocal harmonies, guitars, samplers, vocoders and synthesisers.

In addition they write, record and perform in five Celtic languages - Irish, Scottish, Manx Gaelic, Cornish and Welsh.

In many ways this is Australian Celtic music, drawing from their Celtic origins, languages and instruments - but in an Australian context.

Visit the band's website at <http://www.locrian.com.au> where readers may read the background and lyrics to the tracks, the players and the albums as well as hear musical excerpts from all the tracks on the CDs.

Locrian Records, Marshall Rd, Lenswood 5240, Ph/fax: 08 8389 8417. email: locrian@locrian.com.au Website: www.locrian.com.au



Michael McManus (Fermanagh) of Republican Sinn Féin speaking at the public meeting in Buswell's Hotel, Dublin, earlier this year to mark the 80th Anniversary of the First All-Ireland Dail Éireann. Earlier a letter calling for a British withdrawal from Ireland was handed in to the British Ambassador in Dublin by Ruairi Ó Brádaigh, President, Republican Sinn Féin.

Matearn? Drew Hedna?

Mor teffa why ha govena pehane ew hanow an matearnath en Kernow, why a venga attendia dro nye radnes ter dew radn: ma rina ew parres tha wheaz an baner, ha declaria go leldury visquethack rag matearn, po matearnas, ha pow, ha gye vedn saval en vor aheaz ha creia hurraw pesqueth a ressa an leiha esal an 'chy real' davethas drizlebm al et an bar; whathe en contrary part, ma ri eral bydnar coves a heynes ago pow, henew a Gernow, peea hedna en ednack der vanar buz hanter gonvethes; ha na vedons gweel dewhan rag zorth veeth matearnath.

Pandrew vreaaz rima ort Doog Kernow? Anna, pandrew breaz an Gembrian ort Pryns Kimbra? Gothvethes drigge an Doog bewa eta thort tong e estates en Kernow. Ha fatel reeg e cowas rima?

Ethell boaz reva en 1999, meel vlethan ugge coll agon dewetha Matearn Kernow, ha gonz hedna coll agon fredom, dre veea teez Kernuack leb eze adgan o hunnen avel Kernowian ha na avel Sausen; en deda, eze stella regardia an Sausen avel eskerens! Nag era va cowz dro than deez younk, na dro tha rina reeg desky ago kenezlath thort levrow, buz ther a ve menegas an deez ew hunt tha pagerigans bluth ha deeg, reeg desky thort ago tazow ha hendazow, en lene cumpas athor rina a usias declaria *Me na vidna cowz a Sowsnack!*

Pewa a vee an dewetha matearn nye en Kernow? Mesk an moyha pednzhiwick agon matearnath a vee Geraint.(hethow, Gerrans) leb reeg cowas e ankow en 710 en aerva Llongborth. Hedna a vee dalla an fo rag an Kernowian, whathe na vee buz en 925 dreeg an matearn Howel Kernow submittia than Sowz Athelstan, hag ethew e regardes en leeaz athelstan agon dewetha matearn Kernuack. Whathe arta, ma mean co en Penzans vee dereves adro than vlethan 1000 tha Ricat, henwes avel rex, henew matearn, ha pewa bennag vo an gwreanath ort hebma, sertayne ew na vee Matearn Kernow ugge hedna. Metessen dro an Kernowian nenna whensis a honora Ricat avel matearn en speita than Sausen.

Thera than Brittes ago matearnath, seer lower, buz rima o Brittes ago hunnen, ha deweses meaz an Brittes, ha Brittes o, ha Brittes a vetha whathe an Kernowian. Sowz o an matearn Athelstan, hag eve a wraze e hunnen avel matearn dres an Kernowian

dre nearth, buz hebma ew gwythres scall po turont; en deda, nag o Athelstan tam veeth gwell avel lader leb reeg sesia Kernow en kethe delna reeg Hitler sesia Poland, Hollen, Frink ampassy. An Kernowian a vee subject than Sausen drevan na oya angye namoye fatel erria wor ago fidn, drevan nag o angye creav luck tha gweel resistens; buz oll nye a ore per thaa story an Kernowian termen an Ozow Creaz, fatel rigans tregas en obery heb referrians tha na reverans rag an curun Sowsnack, ha fatel o Senez an Stenorian en Kernow abil tha erria bedn an Senez en Loundres heb daunger.

Rag Kernow, pewa edn matearn po edn vatearnas? Pewa edn pryns po prinnes? Hethow, traveeth buz hanow curtes rag aysheew rina reeg cowas ago dallathvas en ladran! Nageze matearnath tha nye en Kernow, na prynses. Whathe nye ell gurra an thatel pella: rag consecyt matearnath en vlethan 1999 a dalveea boaz tra hendrez, peath whiddlow spriggian. En gweer eta, nageze oatham tha nye namoye a vatearn Kernow, seer lower nagwonnen Sowsnack! buz a senez Kernuack a vo rowles gen senezers Kernuack, vo cuntles meaz an deez Kernuack dreth dewes Kernuack.

Edn journa?

Richard Gendall

Precis: A King? What's That?

The Cornish were deprived of both king and independence when forced to give in to the English king Athelstan in 925. Despite this, the Cornish still defiantly named as king Ricat, to whom a monument was erected c.1000 in Penzance. Throughout the Middle Ages the Cornish continually defied the authority of the English crown, and the Tinnars' Parliament was able to challenge that of the Parliament in London. These days the notion of kings and queens is the stuff of fairly tales. Cornwall does not need a king, let alone an English one, but her own Cornish-elected Senate.

Regulating The 'Slave Wages' Trade

The Manx TUC (Isle Of Man Trades Union Council) wants to see better regulation of conditions globally for workers employed through companies or shipping agencies operating from off-shore centres like the Isle of Man.

The United Kingdom is taking steps to end the abuse of Third World workers employed on off-shore oil rigs in the North Sea. Rights to a minimum wage are to be extended to the workers from May.

The Isle of Man Trades Union Council raised the issue of the trade in labour from the third world with the Isle of Man government and asked what steps are taken to regulate the wages and conditions of those employed off-shore by holding companies or agencies registered in the Isle of Man. It followed the allegation in the North Sea "slave wages" scandal that an Isle of Man based company was involved.

The Trades Council have also used this focus on the issue to pursue enquiries about the terms and conditions enjoyed by seafaring staff employed on vessels registered in the Isle of Man.

The issue was raised at a meeting in March of the Manx National Economic Development Council and the Manx TUC will be expecting answers to the questions it posed at the next quarterly meeting in June.

J B Moffatt
President Manx TUC



A New Practical Dictionary of Modern Cornish - Part 2, English-Cornish

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as y Spaaney' Agh liorish 1750, son y chooid smoo, va ny kiare ashoonyn shoh fo smaght reiltys Lunnin, as gra y Reeriaght Unnaneyssit roo. Va'n unnaneys shoh cooney lesh Britain (sic) dy yannoo yn impiraght smoo niartal sy teihll. Cre'n agh ren shen taghyrt?

Shegin dou goaill rish nagh vel y slane lioar cho scammyltagh as shen, agh ny-yei shen as ooilley yinnagh eh cur er Celtiee dooie dy hilgey. As shoh lioar oikoil ayns scoillyn Vannin. Lhisagh Rheyenn Ynsee Vannin goaill nearey voar.

Shegin dooin ve bwooisal son un red: ta caslys-cheerey beg sy lioar shoh ta jeeaghyn 'Britain' dooin as cha nel Nerin ry-akin (ny smenkey as ny smenkey nish ta 'Britain' sheeyney magh dy 'lugey seose Nerin ooilliu). Er y laue elley, voish caslyssyn-cheerey elley t'ou gynsaghey dy row Mannin cur MP-yn gys Lunnin!

Shoh doilleeid cadjin ta ry-gheddyn ayns gagh cheer Cheltiagh. Adsyn ta geddyn y varriaght, t'ad screew y shennaghys. Agh ta ram sleih jarrood ny t'ad gynsaghey ayns ny scoillyn ansherbee. Ayns Nerin nish ta doilleeidyn er-lheh ry-gheddyn. Ta paart dy screewdeyrnshennaghys gobbraghey goll rish y jouyl hene dy aa-screew shennaghys Nerin as dy yeeaghyn dooin nagh row Sostyn cho agglagh as shen.

Ayns Mannin, tra vees y Curriglym 'Ashoonagh' scughit magh ass (as nee shen taghyrt ayns Sostyn hoshiaght) lhisagh shin ve aarlooy dy chur shennaghys Manninagh roish ny ynseydee ayns scoillyn Vannin, goaill ymmyd jeh stoo ta screew hannah as jeh stoo noa. Lhisagh shennaghys ny h-ellany shoh goll er ynsaghey er aghyn Celtiagh chammah's aghyn Sostnagh.

Brian Stowell

Summary

History text books currently in use in schools in the Isle of Man (and other Celtic countries) present a travesty of the history of 'Britain'.



CELTIC LEAGUE INTERNET SITE

<http://www.manxman.co.im/cleague/>

e-mail General Secretary:
b.moffatt@advsys.co.im
e-mail Assistant G.S.
mkermode@mcb.net

Shennaghys: Rieughid as Neu-rieughud

Tammylt er dy henney hug mee my ner dy row inneen ayns goaill ymmyd jeh lioar-scoill enmyssit 'Discovering the making of the UK'. Shoh lioar t'ad gymmydey ayns scoillyn ayns Mannin. Ta'n lioar shoh ayns jeh strane enmyssit 'Feddyn magh mychione y tra hie shaghey', as t'eh mychione 'Y Crooin, Ard-whaiyllyn as Pobble, 1500 - 1750'. Reesht, ta'n lioar ayns jeh Shalee-Shennaghys ny Scoillyn (The Schools History Project), va currit er bun ayns Sostyn sy vlein 1972. Va'n lioar hene currit magh ayns 1992 as reesht ayns 1995.

Foddee dy vel stoo mychione cheeraghyn elley ayns lioar elley sy 'trane 'Feddyn magh mychione y tra hie shaghey', agh ta'n lioar shoh ooilley mychione Sostyn, son y chooid smoo: Rheyenn 1 - 'Sostyn ayns ny bleecantyn 1500'. Rheyenn 2 - 'Cre goll rish v'eh, cummal ayns Sostyn ec y tra shen?' Rheyenn 3 - 'Cuin va'n Aachummey-Agglish ayns Sostyn?' Rheyenn 4 - 'Cuin va'n Ravvloyd Sostnagh (English Revolution)?' Rheyenn 5 - 'Cre cho jeianagh as va'n Reeriaght Unnaneyssit?' Rheyenn 6 (Y Jerrey) - 'Turrys mygeayrt Britain'.

Lhig dooin jarrood Sostyn, Sostyn, Sostyn car y tra son minnid, as neemayd jeeaghyn er yn agh t'ad gearree gynsaghey shennaghys sy lioar shoh. Son shickyrys, tra t'ou fosley dty veal as loayrt mychione shennaghys, nee peiagh ennagh gra dy vel oo aggairagh. Ayns cooishyn politickagh, s'mie lesh sleih er y skian jesh loayrt mychione ny reeghyn as mraane-rein as sleih niartal elley ayns shennaghys. Bare lesh lught y skian toshital loayrt mychione y theay as cre goll rish ve ayns seihll y theay. Ayns Sostyn, tra hooar ny Thoreeyn y varriaght ayns 1979, phrow ad dy gheddyn rey rish yn eab va goll er ayns ny scoillyn dy ynsaghey da feallagh aeg mychione y theay syn ynyd jeh gynsaghey ny daaytn jeh reeghyn as mraane-rein. Va ny Thoreeyn lane shickyry dy row ram ynseyderyn keoi ayns Sostyn lhieneey king ny ynseydee oc lesh eieyn gaueagh. Haik shennaghys ayns ny scoillyn dy ve ny smoo politickagh foastagh.

Sy lioar-shennaghys ta mee screew

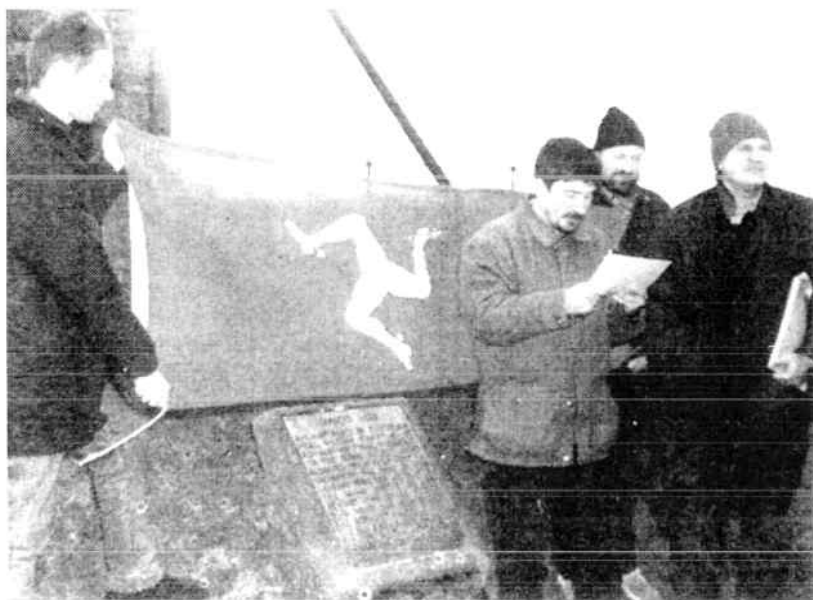
mychione ayns shoh t'ad dellal rish seihll y theay kiart dy lioar, agh ta stoo quaggh dy lioar ayn. Myr sampleyr, ta paart dy ghuillagyn sy lioar briaght 'Row y sleih boght dy firrinagh boght?' Ta shin lhaih dy row reiltys Hostyn boirit dy mooar sy cheyoo eash jeig as sy chaghtoo eash jeig dy row y cheer lane dy wagaantee va shooyl ny dhieyn, shirrey jeirkyn. Ta'n lioar gra dy row ymmoddey sleih baghey ayns stayd treih car y tra as cha row niart oc er shen. Agh eisht ta'n lioar goll er dy ghra: 'Agh shimmy peiagh sy cheyoo eash jeig as shimmy scrudeyr-shennaghys neayrs y lling shen ren gra nagh row ram jeh ny wagaantee shoh as lught shooyl ny dhieyn dy firrinagh prowal dy chooney lhiusyn hene. Oddagh y sleih boght er nobbraghey dy beagh ad laccal jannoo shen, agh v'ad shaghney obbraghey jeh yioin. Bare lhiusyn beaghey liorish shooyl ny dhieyn, roosteyrys as geid.'

Va mee corree agglagh tra lhaih mee shoh. Y chieed red, cha nel ny paitechyn aym gynsaghey agh feer veggan dy hennaghys Vannin ayns scoillyn 'Manninagh'. Y nah red, y shennaghys t'ad gynsaghey mychione Sostyn, t'eh jeeaghyn dy row paart jeh screew ec Jenghiz Khan. Agh nee gagh moir as ayr toiggal dy vel oo ayns cront bentyn rish cooishyn-scoill as ny paitechyn ayd hene. Cha nel ad laccal oo dy yannoo musthaa sy scoill as cur nearey orroo. Myr shen, son y chooid smoo, t'ou eginit gaccan sy thie as jannoo veg. Eisht cheayll mee mychione yn arnane va currit da'n inneen aym dy yannoo: jannoo posteyr ry-hoi cur raue da sleih mychione 'fer boght' nagh row boght er chor erbee - v'eh goll mygeayrt geddyn jeirkyn liorish kialgeyrys! Ren mee sluggey my chorree reeshtagh.

Ta rheyenn sy lioar enmyssit 'Unnaneyssy'n Reeriaght'. T'eh goaill toshiaght myr shoh: 'Ayns 1500, va ny h-Ellany Goaldagh jeant seose jeh un reeriaght va lajer dy lioar, Sostyn, daa reeriaght faase, Nerin as Nalbin, as Bretin, va fo smaght Hostyn as fo smaght flahaghyn seyrey. Va Britain (sic) mee-unnaneyssit. Myr ashoonyn scarrit, va Sostyn, Nerin, Nalbin as Bretin faase cosoylit rish cheeraghyn niartal myr y Rank

Illiam Dhoan Ceremony

Synopsis of Manx Oration delivered by Philip Gawne



Hango Hill Ceremony

On the anniversary of his death, it is important to consider just how significant the actions of Illiam Dhoan were to the political, social and cultural development of the Isle of Man. It is true that some people dispute his motivation for surrendering the Isle of Man to the parliamentarians, however, few dispute the effect of Illiam Dhoan's actions.

Had Illiam Dhoan followed the wishes of the Stanleys, it is quite likely that a significant number of Manx people would have been slaughtered, the ancient rights and laws of the Manx would have been swept away and undoubtedly the power of Tynwald would have been severely cut if not abolished altogether. So effectively we would have been annexed to the North West of England and ruled by a government too far away to hear the cries of its newly acquired island and people.

The prosperity which the Manx had enjoyed during the eighteenth century would not have come to us and it is quite likely that the decline in Manx language and culture would have begun a century earlier due to the greater influence of the English on Manx affairs. In short if it hadn't been for Illiam Dhoan our nation would have been impoverished culturally politically and socially.

Therefore, there is no doubt in my mind that the vibrancy and political confidence which exists in Mann today owes a great deal to Illiam Dhoan and his actions should be better acknowledged by the Manx Government. By all means have a 'patriots day', but alongside that we should have a national holiday to remember Illiam Dhoan.

Over the years the Manx Government has come in for much criticism at the Illiam Dhoan Ceremony - some justifiable and

some not. This year, however, I feel compelled to break with tradition and praise a Government which is becoming more and more supportive of Manx culture, and more in tune with the wishes of its people.

The Manx language has been neglected for centuries by politicians specifically and Manx people generally. However, for a variety of reasons in the last 20 - 30 years a considerable interest in the language and traditional culture of Man has developed in the Manx population. In the past 10 years the Manx Government has gradually become more supportive of the endeavours of language groups and cultural organisations, recognising the value and importance of our indigenous language and culture.

Bearing in mind the considerable hostility to the Manx language from its people during much of this century (apparently as a reaction to the loss of Manx as an everyday community language) it is amazing that any Tynwald members brought up in the Isle of Man could ever support its greater use in Mann. Those of us who fervently believe that our native tongue and its associated culture should be an integral part of the life of our nation, should remember how greatly many of our politicians are being asked to change when we call for greater support for cultural causes.

There are still a lot of areas which need government support and/or action, however, I believe that the Government should be praised for the actions it is taking rather than criticised for the ones it is not! The case for supporting the traditional culture of our island is so overwhelmingly strong that I feel sure that the legacy of Illiam Dhoan will be secure long in to the next millennium!

THE LIGHT HOUSE *Thie Soilshey.*

Contemporary Manx Music.
Manx Heritage Foundation
MHFC4, Douglas 1998.
Cassette £7.99.

The recent release of The Lighthouse - *Thie Soilshey*, featuring exclusively a number of young groups and individual musicians, adds to a growing number of cassettes now available of traditional and contemporary Manx music. Included on this tape are *King Chiaullee* ('music heads'), the Manx Gaelic choir *Caarjyn Cooidagh* ('friends together'), new groups *Sheean Raah* ('good sound') and *Moot* ('turnip'), as well as the individual musicians Peter Cubberley (known affectionately as Boris) and Katie Lawrence.

The items range from known traditional pieces (e.g. *Juan y Jaggad Keeary*, *Ta Cashen Er-sooyl dys yn Aarkey*, etc.), to songs and tunes associated with Mona Douglas (e.g. *Geay jeh'n Aer*, *Shooyl Inneenyn*) but which often pass for traditional, to recent and completely new compositions (e.g. *Sac dy Check*, *Dooragh*, *Ushag Varrey*, *Kinnoull*, etc.). The styles of playing include what is felt to be traditionally Manx and feature associated instruments (e.g. fiddle, whistle, flute, etc.) to more modern interpretations using a variety of electronic instruments (e.g. brass guitar, keyboard, samples, etc.).

On occasion I get the impression that some groups have been cobbled together solely for this recording (as if rising out of the mists of the Curragh), or of serving the interests of Manx music's prima-donnas and paladins. In addition, there is a tendency to rush through some tunes, as if there was no tomorrow. The application of appropriate ornamentation can give a feeling of speed and gusto whilst maintaining a moderate tempo.

I am somewhat puzzled as to the relevance of the title The Light House. I would have thought a Manx title more appropriate, e.g. *Eiraght Jiu* 'heritage today'. There seems to be the assumption, mistaken in my view, that a non-English title will not sell.

All in all, The Light House is a most welcome addition to the Manx music scene. It brings Manx music as a living and thriving artform into the new Millennium.

SyC

Building Inter-Celtic links – An opportunity through sport for Mannin

In the modern world, sport is an avenue through which a great deal of international interaction takes place. Furthermore, many small and 'lesser-known' nations have achieved a great sense of self-confidence, pride and, indeed, international recognition purely on the basis of their sporting prowess. A Celtic example of this would be the fortunes of the Republic of Ireland soccer team over the last decade and the positive impact this has had upon the nation, both at home and internationally.

The 'Council of the Isles' aside, opportunities to establish strong connections between Celtic nations on a formal political basis are limited at this current stage in history. However, the world of sport could offer opportunities for such inter-Celtic bonds.

One such opportunity may exist for Mannin in the soccer world. There has been in existence at various stages over the last decade (if not also currently) an 'Isle of Man' soccer team. Playing friendlies and the occasional tournament, they have not participated in any senior league. For a number of reasons I believe it would be beneficial to the Celtic cause if this Manx team was to apply to join the National soccer League in the Republic of Ireland:

Whilst soccer is obviously not a Celtic sport, it is in general viewed as a truly international game. It is therefore not the sole preserve of a single alien culture. It is also the world's most popular sport, and therefore an ideal vehicle through which a nation can elevate its standing. The following points discuss the positive aspects of Manx participation within the National League in Ireland:

1) Mannin's identity and economy.

Playing in the National League (N.L.) would strengthen the island's identity by giving it a senior competitive team around which to rally. There are other examples whereby the peoples of ancient cultures/regions that are part of larger states rally around soccer as a means of asserting identity and pride in their individual cultures – e.g. Barcelona in Catalonia, Athletic Bilbao in the Basque country (has a policy of signing only native Basque players). Whilst the passion for soccer within these countries is greater than in Mannin, there is no reason why a Manx soccer team could not over-time nourish deep bonds with the island's population.

A senior team participating in the N.L. would also provide an economic boost to the island. The team would essentially be a

local business – providing employment for players and staff, and creating the potential for 'feeder' firms in industries such as merchandise, catering, printing etc. Even the smallest of soccer teams require these facilities/services. Away fans travelling to Mannin for games would also contribute to the local economy (unlike their English equivalent, soccer fans in Ireland are a generally peaceful breed).

2) Celtic solidarity

Having a team from Mannin participating in the N.L. would create an official bond, and a regular point of contact, between 2 self-governing Celtic nations. It would also provide a boost for indigenous soccer within Ireland (where the majority of the population currently support foreign English teams).

3) The League of Ireland offers the most realistic option for senior soccer on Mannin

A Manx team could not hope to survive successfully in the English or Scottish leagues, given their financial demands. Meanwhile, the League of Wales is of a lower standard than the N.L., and would therefore not provide the level of competition or profile a Mannin team would want/need. The League of Ireland is of a standard high enough to provide entertainment, but currently not so high as to make competitive participation fruitless for Mannin.

4) International profile of Mannin

Playing in the National League would open up the real possibility of Mannin being represented at a European level in a senior sport – through winning the league or the Cup (not unfeasible over time). This would undoubtedly be a great boost to the island's pride, identity and standing.

Mannin could even go-on to field a Manx team in senior International European soccer, initially at least through friendly games with other Celtic nations. This is *not* a pipe-dream – e.g. the Danish-occupied Faroe Islands (population approx. 25,000) participate in all international soccer competitions. There is also agitation for Catalonia and the Basque Country to be allowed national teams of their own.

5) Travelling costs to games in Ireland would not be as expensive as may seem

Of the 22 teams currently in the National League 7 are based in Dublin City, with 2 more in the Dublin commuter area. In total,

half the teams in the N.L. are situated along the Eastern Seaboard – within easy access of Mannin/Dublin.

As a means of creating bonds and encouraging interaction between Celtic nations and their people, sport can indeed present opportunities that are currently lacking within the formal political arena. A Manx soccer team competing within the National League of Ireland would assist in achieving the first aim/objective of the Celtic League – "fostering co-operation between Celtic peoples", and could provide a platform on which to work towards the further objective of "developing the consciousness of the special relationship and solidarity between them". It would be a small and potentially challenging step to take for the Celtic cause. Yet all such minor steps can only assist in our journey down the road of Celtic nationhood.

Steve Bradley
E-post: bradley.s@pg.com

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Profit From Death And Misery

Despite assurances that loopholes allowing Arms Traders to operate from the Isle of Man would be plugged does the trade go on? – is some of our prosperity built on murder and misery in the Third World.

Once again the trading links of companies operating from the Isle of Man with 'dark deeds' in Africa have been exposed.

A United Kingdom newspaper (1) has learned that British companies using offshore centres like the Isle of Man helped to arm the Rwanda Hutu militia who attacked a group of British and American tourists butchering eight of them, including four Britons, in Uganda in March last.

This is not the first Rwanda link. In November 1996 documents seized in Rwanda from retreating Hutu militia revealed a tangled web of arms trafficking linked to the Isle of Man and other offshore centres(2). It is not clear if the Observer is referring to this episode or suggesting a continued link. Last year the Sandline episode showed that arms traders were still using offshore jurisdictions in an effort to conceal their tracks.

What is perhaps disturbing about these Africa links is that they are not isolated incidents but stretch back over two decades. There is indeed a culture of shadowy and sinister links which probably began at the time of Apartheid and the Rhodesia sanctions and have continued since.

In 1987 the United Kingdom Independent newspaper (3) revealed details of secret meetings between the Isle of Man government and Southern African business interests.

Also in 1987 first details of an aircraft leasing and transport operation similar to that cited in the recent news reports was revealed. The Observer newspaper (4) carried a report that a company with offices registered in the Isle of Man, Guernsey and Shannon freeport in the Irish Republic was engaged in leasing Hercules transport aircraft to a company called Southern Air Transport, based in Florida, which was at that time engaged in supplying arms to rebels fighting with UNITA against the Angolan government.

After the exposure of the Manx involvement in the Rwanda genocide the Celtic League called for law changes which would make it impossible for the arms dealers, who trade on the death and misery of hundreds of thousands of people, to operate here. The government responded with the Island's FSC announcing that loopholes would be closed (5). The loopholes however may still be there. Have our calls and those of others (6) gone unheeded with more people dead? Why has no one been prosecuted for assisting in one of the worst genocides in this decade the massacre of one million Tutsis. We should recognise also that, although the recent deaths of the European tourists were well publicised, the militias armed by these companies are spreading a reign of murder, rape and destruction across the Central African region with weapons supplied at the time with the help of companies operating from the Isle of Man and other offshore centres.

The Manx government needs to wake up to the fact that if they do not act to expose those involved in the Rwanda arms trade then they invite international opprobrium.

J B Moffatt

Reference sources:

- (1) UK Firms Armed Hutu Killers – Observer 7/3/99
- (2) British Company Supplied Arms to Hutu Militia – Independent 18/11/96
- (3) Island Accused in Sanctions Scandal – Independent 22/1/97
- (4) MP Linked to Firm in Pretoria Oil Deals May – Observer 1987?
- (5) Rwanda FSC Acts Over Guns Supply – Isle of Man Courier 23/11/96
- (6) Reform Needed to End Abuse – Editorial Manx Independent November 1996

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AL LANV,

quarterly in Breton, devoted to political and social matters as well as literature. Subscription 180F but 220F outside State. 59 Hent Kerdroniou Vihan, 29000 Kemper.

The Oct.-Dec. issue (Nr 87) carries an appreciation of the part played by the late Andreu Latimier in the Breton movement. The main articles deal with the spreading use of signs in Breton in shops, the work of the co-operative EMUN for the Basque language, recent developments in the Basque political struggle, the American Civil War, the Cajun Music. Short stories, book and music record reviews, poems contribute to a wide appeal. But it was an article by Divi gKervella about *Knowing our Emblems* which particularly drew my attention. It shows the very important place taken by the swan in the Celtic and specially in the Breton traditions.

D. gKervella is a specialist on this subject. He is the author of a 100-page booklet in French, "Emblèmes et Symboles des Bretons et des Celtes", now in its 2nd edition and soon going to get a 3rd augmented version. It is published by Coop. Breizh, 1998, Kerangwenn, 29540 Spezet. Price 68F. The ermine which is represented in stylised form on the Breton flag was introduced in our country not quite 800 years ago whereas the swan appears on Celtic archaeological items including a First Century statue of a goddess found near Menez C'homm in W. Brittany and figures in various ways in the traditions and literature of at least four Celtic countries. (Old Irish tales, a Luzel folk tale...). This book adds to the authenticity of the beautiful patriotic Barzhaz Breizh song "An Alarc'h", as it shows the association of the swan symbol with the duke Jean IV, an association with Breton freedom which is revealed even more amazingly by the emblem of the daughter of our last sovereign, Anne de Bretagne. On it there is a swan transpierced by an arrow, undoubtedly symbolising the destruction of our independence. Let us again take the Swan as our national emblem!

A. Heusaff

Media Influence

"Four hostile newspapers are more to be feared than a thousand bayonets"

Napoleon Bonaparte

Media influences us all. It can often make a decision for us, through very discreet manipulative persuasion. Events can be so hyped that we all end up with an opinion that was aired through chat show programmes. For example air rage and drinking or single parents and benefits and so on. Policies are often made through this hype. So what connection has this to our own Celtic nations? If we can be manipulated to come to decisions about the above then why not the politics related to Devolution or Independence?

In 1945 there was no television, politics tended to be communicated through newspapers and public meetings. Most people did own a wireless, and party political broadcasts were aired. In 1946, approximately 25,000 people had the ability to watch BBC for a few hours in the evening.

Comparing the media of the past to the media today, there is an immeasurable difference, in fact we are flooded with variety. There are newspapers, television from over the world through cable and satellite all hours of the day and Internet sources.

Today politics is a large feature in our television and newspapers. The news broadcasts give us the politics, which we hope to be unbiased. Television by law is supposed to be balanced and free from bias. Today television has replaced the public meetings with carefully structured and staged media events of our political coverage.

It is believed that a couple of minutes primetime viewing is equivalent to a lifetime of political canvassing.

The press is owned by transnational companies, which have developed out of family groups which began many of the national newspapers. Extremely powerful individuals such as Rupert Murdoch lead these transnationals. Due to powerful influence and lack of regulation, Rupert Murdoch can influence his own particular media. It is essentially true that newspapers support different political parties, predominantly Conservative with an element of Labour, however, it is difficult to separate their ideologies today. Labour does appear to suffer from an identity crisis.

Electronic media differs from print media, as print media is a free market, electronic media is regulated. BBC Television is funded by a grant from

license fees, which citizens pay for and Independent Television receives funding through advertising.

Within the print media, if the owner has economic and political interests then it is possible to manipulate news items.

There are different theories on the way in which media affects society. Agenda setting is the theory that media affects us by concentrating on certain issues and not others. Some of these issues can make their way up the political agenda. Framing theory is down to interpretation. The media only influence what people think. A news item by certain media groups may be given in such a way that the meaning is different. Reinforcement theory is the concept that the media only reinforce public opinion and that the views are already held in society. The market determines the media and if they only gave their own views then they would be unable to exist.

Direct effects theory is the idea that the media influence attitudes and behaviour as well as the agenda. This includes voting behaviour. A method used in manipulation is having an associated item following the main news item. For example, "Item 1, The Russian nuclear power station explosion. Item 2, Safety at Sellafield nuclear power station, Cumbria" (Webb & Tossell, 1994)

It is possible for Government to refuse BBC increases in their grant, if they refuse to comply with them. Some news items in papers may be written in such a way as the manipulation association. An example of this may be to have headlines, for example, Large terrorist bomb kills many in America, beside this item may be Sinn Féin, no to decommissioning.

On television this is done in a similar way. The headlines will be the major story and the second item behind the headlines is the item they may wish to use to manipulate or taint the first item. There are also other variations of manipulation association.

An example may be on Friday 25 September 1998, Scotland Today (Scottish news) had headlines on the SNP conference in Inverness. The focus was Alex Salmond's speech stating that we should not blame the English for our political predicament. However, the second item reported on a family who apparently had been subject to racist attacks for being English. The family had apparently moved to Blackpool to escape. However, on further investigation it turned out the father was Scottish and this apparently occurred in his hometown. The family had a 13-year-old son who was being bullied at school. No adults were involved and the media knew about this situation on the

Wednesday but waited until Friday, the day of the conference. No one was available for comment. It is suspicious that such an incident could make it so high on the news agenda.

Labour and Conservative are unionist parties and would never welcome an Independent Scotland. To give SNP bad publicity they link nationalism with racism.

Politics have influenced media for many years and not just in the Celtic countries. Globalisation has created media and political interest in other parts of the world. Rupert Murdoch owns large extensive media groups in Australia and the USA. In some countries if the media criticise Government then disastrous consequences can occur, such was the case in El Salvador when two newspapers criticised the Government. They were shut down in 1980 and 1981 one editor was shot with two of his work force killed. (Noam Chomsky, 1997)

We should never underestimate the power of the media within politics.

Louise NicLeoid

Breton Language Service



J.Y. Cozan

In November, the Brittany-4 Regional Council voted unanimously for the signature by France of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Vice-President J.Y. Cozan announced that the Council will hold a debate on the Breton language and identity, that a Breton Language Service will be set up with translators and research workers, that a Breton Library is planned to be operating throughout Brittany as a network. The Council decided to allocate 4.2% of its budget to the promotion of the Breton Language and Culture, but this was attacked by the National Front members – not a surprise.

Book Reviews

There seem to be no let up in the output of books on Celtic themes. Unfortunately, quantity is no guarantee of quality. Duplication of matter seems to have reached plague proportions. These points are well illustrated by some offerings from Blandford. They have added yet another *Dictionary of Celtic Myth and Legend* (Mike Dixon Kennedy, (1997), ISBN 0-7137-2613, £9.99) to the ranks of those already available. As is the way with such books there is an introductory section covering matters such as pronunciation, spelling and who the Celts are – all offered as a prelude to the dictionary itself. It has to be said that given a choice between this book and Mirander Green's (Thames and Hudson ISBN 0-500-27975-6), I would choose Green's. Blandford also offer us *'The Bardic Source Book'*, (ISBN 0 7137 2664 4, price £20) edited and selected by John Mathews. It is a collection of 25 essays and translations from Celticists of the past. Amongst the offerings are Dan Corkery's *'The Bardic Schools'*, (originally chapter three of *The Hidden Ireland*), Osborn Bergin's introduction to his *Irish Bardic Poetry* and Eoin MacNeill's *The Shield of Fionn* (from *Duanairé Finn* vol. 1, pp. 134-39). If a potential reader is led from this collection to the original publications (the three works cited still being in print), then it will have served a good purpose. Otherwise, I cannot see the point of it, especially when sober pieces of scholarship, like those referred to are accompanied by pieces from less reliable writers, including Iolo Morgannwg. Blandford seem to be on something of a mythological quest at the present. They have published John Mathews' and Michael Stead's *'Landscapes of Legend'* – subtitled *'A Photographic Journey Through the Secret Heart of Britain'* (ISBN 0 7137 2650 4, £20). The work is not specifically Celtic in theme but it deals with images which stereotype the past and therefore contributes to the twaddle still passed off as essentially Celtic. Take the chapter headings and sub-headings: Dreams and Rituals: 'Stone circles and standing stones'; Guarding the Land: 'Hill Figures, Forts and Roman Ways'; The Memory of the land: [and the even more enigmatic] 'Time Past and Time Future'; Fortresses of Chivalry: 'Medieval Castles and Halls'; Celebrations in Stone: 'From Tomb to Cathedral'. Are not the past and the landscape fascinating enough without this? Many of the 48 photographs are truly stunning, like those of Men-an Tol and The Merry Maidens, both in Cornwall. Each is accompanied by a short description, making the whole a pleasant coffee table

book. Given that only 48 locations are dealt with, it is surprising to find Piercebridge Roman site captioned as being in Northumberland (p. 51); this mistake is repeated on the location map (p. 11). Blandford are surely capable of better than this. Their *Heraldic Art Source Book* by Peter Spuier (ISBN 0 7137 2708 X, price £19.99) – not on a Celtic theme – is at least from someone seeped in the subject. The book is carefully laid out and illustrated and takes the reader step by step through its subject matter.

Peter Berresford Ellis has been at it again: *Celt and Greek: Celts in the Hellenic World* (Constable, ISBN No 09 475580 9, price £20). Ten of the twenty chapters are a history of the Galatians, and as such a very welcome contribution, for these most easterly dwelling of the Celts have not been given the attention in popular works that they well deserve. Peter has based his history around the classical writers – Pausanias, Polybius and Herodotus for example. He also looks at the Celtic advance into the Balkans, their meeting with Alexander the Great, their sack of Delphi and involvement in internecine Greek conflicts. There is also a chapter on the Celts in Egypt. Irish tradition has the Gaels fighting as mercenaries in Egypt, even if at an earlier age than the Hellenistic one. Scholars tend to dismiss this as a fiction. I am delighted to see that Ellis examines whether this might be a genuine tradition of a time when Celts were indeed fighting in Egypt. Ellis also examines the question of whether the Galatians to whom St Paul addressed his famous letter were Celts or Greeks living in Galatia. He argues that they were indeed Celts, reminding us that the first sizeable non-Greek community to convert to Christianity were Celts (pp. 250-52). It is incredible to think that Celts have spoken to men and women who had actually known Jesus. This ought to be a reminder of just how involved we have been in Christianity and acts as a convenient cue to mention Maire Herbert's *Iona, Kells and Derry* (Four Courts Press, ISBN 1-85182-244-5), which is now available in paperback, price £20. The book is so highly regarded – and rightly so – as to make anything I could say about it superfluous.

Kevin Collins

For the reunification of Brittany

A big demonstration with participation from all over Brittany took place in Nantes on March 6th in support of the demand for the inclusion of Loire-Atlantique in the same administrative region as the other 4 Breton departments. Polls have repeatedly shown that this is wanted by 62% or more of the Loire-Atlantique population.

Finance Sector – Who Benefits from a Code Of Secrecy?

The news that an Isle of Man based bank is being asked to provide details on the accounts of former Dublin Council Official, George Redmond comes as no surprise. Redmond was arrested at Dublin airport after stepping from a flight from the Isle of Man with £300,000 in his procession.

Manx police are apparently assisting their Irish counterparts and news reports indicate that Mr. Redmond may be trying to negotiate some immunity with the Irish authorities in his dealing with the Flood Tribunal into allegations of sleaze in public life in the Republic.

The fact that Manx police do not seem interested in Mr. Redmond suggests that he committed no breach of law under Manx jurisdiction, so it must be asked why the secrecy surrounding the bank in which Mr. Redmond lodged his funds?

Consistently, when controversy surfaces surrounding the Manx Finance sector and who services it, there is a reluctance to provide details on the banks and institutions involved. Perhaps the most notable example of this was three years ago, when it was revealed that US DEA officials had uncovered a scam to launder millions of pounds of drugs money through offshore centres, including the Isle of Man. Manx authorities, to give them their due, had co-operated with the Americans to bust the drugs money ring. Photographs of smiling police officers and politicians appeared holding a cheque of reward money from the successful operation. No mention however of the banks involved.

The question must be posed – Who in government determined that this culture of secrecy should prevail and whom does it assist? If dodgy money is recovered or dodgy deals are exposed then all the information including where the business was transacted needs to be available.

The Edwards Report, commissioned by the UK Home Office into offshore centres, we are told gives Mann a clean bill of health. However, that label will only stick if we are open and honest when scandal looms!

TO SUBSCRIBERS FOR ATTENTION

Since January 1, Irish Banks are charging £1 minimum on each cheque written out in Euros or in the currency of any of the 10 European Union countries other than the Republic of Ireland which have joined the European Monetary Union.

Eurocheques in Irish £ are exempt from the charge as well as cheques in BRPs, US\$, Can\$.

Please take into account that our rates are fixed so as to ensure that we get the amounts indicated on page 24.

Don't lose the Parish!

Mrs Joan Cook of Maughold is asking the Post Office to reinstate the parish names in the official postal addresses throughout the Island for the year 2000.

Since introducing post codes, parish names have been dropped in favour of using postal sorting areas; e.g. places like Jurby and Maughold would use Ramsey. Mrs Cook feels very strongly that this will undermine use of our historic place names, and has written to Mr A Downie MHK, Chairman of the P.O. over the matter. She points out that the post code provides all the information needed, including the sorting area.

In a reply to Mrs Cook's letter, P.O. Chief Executive W.R. Collister denies "attempting to extinguish our Island's heritage or dictate to individuals in advising as to the best way to address post." He goes on to write, "the correct

postal address of your property... is not necessarily a geographic description... but more importantly a routing instruction for the P.O. to follow." He claims that including parish names can lead to confusion and delay if the post town is omitted, although he writes the "P.O. does not compel users... to use a particular form of address."

The postal service is praised by Mrs Cook, but she disagrees that the P.O. is not compelling us to use a particular form of address... "The P.O. has told us what our address is, and has given out our addresses to whomsoever wants to make use of them, and therefore all Companies, including some of our own Government Departments, use the address **you** have supplied, **not** the one that I want to use."

Manx language enthusiasts welcomed the use of post codes because it meant addresses could be entirely in Manx, without the danger of post being delayed or undelivered. It seems that this could happen under some circumstances, if P.O. staff do not know the post towns in Manx.

C.J.K.



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Halifax Say No To Welsh Statements

The Halifax bank/building society have told the Cymru branch of the League that they will not be ceding to the branch's campaign for Welsh bank statements. Quoting a statistic of only 0.3% of the cheque books they issue being bilingual (does this include those issued in England?) they have told a League member who holds an account with them that demand and costs do not justify the provision of statements in Welsh.

Cymru branch correspondence with other banks is continuing. Lloyds Bank are still considering the matter and have requested further information. While Welsh cheque books and paying-in books have been available from some banks for many years to date no bank has ever provided Welsh bank statements. We look forward to announcing the name of the first bank to agree to do so.

RapT

English Only On Car Tax Disks!

Examples are to be found every day of how the inadequate Welsh Language Act of 1993 fails to protect the rights of Welsh-speakers to use our language, but a recent case has emerged of a public agency whose actions are covered by the act refusing to comply with regulations after having undertaken to do so.

The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA), based in Abertawe/Swansea, is responsible for producing car tax disks which are issued to the public by the Post Office. In compliance with the Welsh Language Act it has produced a Welsh Language Scheme which it is legally obliged to follow. Around late October 1998 DVLA issued a circular to post offices stating that car disks must not be filled in by Post Office staff in Welsh nor even bilingually, but in English only. A reason given for this is that car disks will sometimes be read by people without Welsh, particularly if the car goes to England. The matter was brought to light when a member of the public was forced to accept an English-only disk in Hirwaun

near Aberdâr. The law and DVLA's own language scheme are not ambiguous in this case. Welsh is to be treated equally, and the circular from DVLA is illegal.

One of the earliest campaigns of Cymdeithas yr Iaith in the 1960's was for Welsh on car tax disks, and a number of members were prosecuted for displaying a home-made Welsh disk instead of the official English one. Even though it is only a small document, the legal obligation to display it on the car makes the tax disk an effective subject for a civil disobedience protest, and this campaign was soon won. But this time it is the authorities who are breaking the law. We have seen much of the ineffectiveness of the Language Act arising from the narrowness of its scope. No one has yet been prosecuted for failing to comply with the Act. If the Welsh Office and the Language quango are unable to force DVLA to comply on this matter then the Act will be seen to be totally ineffective.

Robat ap Tomos

Gal Gael Longhouse Building Project

The Gal Gael are starting work on their Longhouse building training project in May this year in Glasgow. This is an entirely unique opportunity to learn an almost lost

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La Bretagne de A à Z, 180 pp,
21x10 cm, by Jakez Gaucher,
published by Coop Breizh,
Kerangwenn, 29540 Spezet,
1998. Price 68F.

This book is intended as a practical guide to enable its readers to know what is most essential about Brittany. It consists of fairly short chapters on specific subjects with their headings in alphabetical order, such as 'Bretagne Indépendante', Bro Gozh ma Zadoù (= national hymn)... Cornemuse..., Fest-Noz... However, 27 pages are devoted to a history of Brittany. Included are also useful addresses of organisations and bookshops as well as a bibliography and a glossary of important Breton terms relating to culture, language and history.

Breizh ha Poblou
Europa/Bretagne et Peuples
d'Europe, 740 pp, 21x15 cm.
Published by Hor Yezh and
Pur Rennes.

This book is published in honour of Per Denez, since 1990 retired from the Chair of Celtic, University of Rennes II. It contains numerous articles connected with his field of study as well as contributions by linguists from all over the world. Per Denez is one of those who have worked indefatigably for the Breton language in this century as a writer, a linguist, an educationalist and above all as a militant.

Hor Yezh, c/o D. ar Gevell, Amzer Nevez, Soe, 56270 Plañvour.

Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership fee (including *Carn*) and subscription rates are IR£10; Stg£10; 100FF or US\$20.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank). Europe Stg.£10 outside Europe Stg.£13.00 airmail.

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BREIZH

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CYMRU Robat ap Tomos, 113 Stryd Cyfarthfa, Y Rhath, Caerdydd, CF2 3HG.

ÉIRE Fionnbarra Mac Tréanfhir, Tuama Dubh, Buirgheas O'n Dróna, Co. Ceatharlach.

KERNOW Martyn Miller, 10 Trewartha Court, Pound Street, Liskeard.

MANNIN Cristl Jerry, 6 Glenfaba Road, Peel. Tel: UK (0) 1624 843864.

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

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

INTERNATIONAL BRANCH Alan Heusaff, Seana Gharráin, An Spidéal, Co. na Gaillimhe, Éire.

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Original photographs must be forwarded.

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