

celtic

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

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- The Missing Link for Gaelic
- Rennes Promotes Breton Identity
- Syniadau Pum Munud
- Irish Artists in Breizh
- Cornish Holocaust Remembered
- Manx Patriots Honoured
- Celtic League AGM 1999

ALBA: COMANN
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COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE





alba



An tUilebheist ag ithe ar Cànan

Seo agad dealbh far a bheil uilebheist (dineosor) d'am b'ainm "teagasg tre Beurla ag ithe dineosoir beagan beag biodach eile an canar "ar cànan".

Ach dé tha sin a' ciallachadh?

Direach mar gum bheil teagasg tre Beurla a' mharbhadh na Gàidhlig.

Gus a' bhliadhna 1872, nuair a thàinig Achd an Fhoghlaim a-mach, bha teagasg tre na Gàidhlig na rud nàdurach feadh na sgoiltean Gàidhlig an siud 's an seo feadh Alba. 'S ann a tha a' cheud sgeul sa leabhar "Rosg Gàidhlig" ag aithris mar a bha e roimh Achd an Fhoghlaim seo.

A nisd, fad còrr is sia fichead bliadhna an deidh sin, tha feadhainn cinnteach fhathast gum bheil e na rud as nàdurraiche a bhith theagasg tre Beurla. Bu mhór am beud! Mar eisimpleir, chunnaic mi video d'am b'ainm *Around Ardnamuchan* nuair a chunnaic sinn clas Gàidhlig ann an Sgoil Àth Tharracail (Acharacle) sa bhliadhna 1990.

Bha leabhar Gàidhlig air beulaibh gach leanabh. Bhiodh am maighstir-sgoile a leughadh beagan sa Ghàidhlig agus an deidh sin bhiodh e a' ceasnachadh sa Bheurla a-mhàin mar gun robh i na cànan choimheach. Bha a' bhean-teagaisg anns an ath sheòmair a' teagasg tre na Beurla uile gu lèir! Ann an rum eile bha boireannach a' teagasg an orain "Gleann Gollaidh". A nisd, bha an t-ionnsachadh tre na Beurla. Sheinneadh an fheadhainn òg rann sa Ghàidhlig agus dh'fhaighnich a' bhean-teagaisg... *What does that mean?* (Dé tha sin a' ciallachadh?)

An sin, aon an deidh aon, dh'eadar-theangaicheadh a' chlann uile gu leir sa Bheurla na bha iad air a sheinn!

A-muigh air an raon-cluiche, nuair nach robh a' chlann a-staigh ag ionnsachadh, bha cànan na cluiche aca ach tre Bheurla a-mhàin. Cha robh ùidh aca ann an Gàidhlig bhon a bha iad ag ionnsachadh tre cànan choimheach.

Chuala sinn le sin gun robh ar cànan a' dol leis an t-sruth feadh Àth Tharracail.

Seo agad far a bheil a' bhiast ro mhór ag ithe ar cànan mar san dealbh. Ach tha an làn-mhara air tilleadh. Ach cha bhiodh aiseirigh na Gàidhlig an aghaidh cànan eile... bhiodh duine ag ionnsachadh Beurla agus an robh e cho fileanta 's tha e 'sa Ghàidhlig agus bhítear ag ionnsachadh



chàinainean eile is cuspairean eile dìreach mar a tha e an diugh tre Beurla.

Chan eile sin neònach idir... eisd ri na facail aig an t-Ollamh Somhairle Mac Iain - Dr Samuel Johnson - a rinn Faclair mòr Beurla san ochdamh linn deug... *There is no tracing ancient nations but by language, and therefore, I'm always sorry when language is lost, because languages are the pedigree of nations.* Mar a theireamaid "Chan eil lorg do chinnidhean àsaidh ach tre na càinainean aca agus, air an adhbhar sin, tha mi daonnan brònach nuair a tha cànan air chall, oir 's ann a tha càinainean nan sinnsireachdan chinnidhean."

Ach chan eil reusan sam bith ann carson a bhiodh ar cànan air chall ann an àite sam bith feadh Alba nuair a bhios croileagan, sgoiltean agus cluich tre na Gàidhlig anns gach àite. A bhàrr air seo bithidh gach

duine cho fileanta sa Bheurla is a tha e sa Ghàidhlig.

Nach e comharradh nàisean gum biodh teagasg tre na cànan nàiseanta? Nach eile sin ceart ann an Sasainn a thaobh Beurla agus Gearmailteis anns a' Ghearmailt agus Pòileis feadh a' Phòlainn agus mar sin mar adhart feadh na Roinn Eorpa?

Ach chan eil status de na croileagan is sgoiltean againn gun dragh. Mhinich Aonghas Pàdraig Caimbuel... "on nach eil status laghail aig ar cànan, tha sin a' ciallachadh gu bheil gach sgillinn taic a tha sin a' faighinn bhon riaghaltas fo sgiath rùn, no mi-rùn mòr nan Gall. Ma tha an sporan làn, 's ma tha iad a' faireachdainn bàidheil dhuinn, bheir iad dhuinn sgillinn no dhà; ma tha an sporan a' fàs gann, 's ma tha iad a' faireachdainn ann an droch shunnd, theid gach taic a ghearradh ar ais."

Seo agad ana-ceartas ro mhór. Feumaidh sinn Inbhe Thearainte dhan Ghàidhlig fhaighinn. Ged nach eil ar Pàrlamaid ùr Albannach neo-eisimealach fhathast tha cumhachd gu leir aice Achd den t-seòrsa seo a dhèanamh. Glèidh ar cànan suaicheantas na h-Alba a dh'aindeoin mì-rùn no bochdain an ùghdarras ionadail! Air seo caillidh sinn an t-adhartas a bhuannaich sinn ré na fichead bliana seo chaidh.

Tha mòran de dh'ùghdarrasan ionadail ciontach de "dhith uidh, bacadh, cuilbheirt agus naimhdeas follaiseach do na cròileaganan is sgoiltean againn. Le sin, feumaidh sinn Achd faidhinn on Phàrlamaid Albannach a thoirt inbhe thearainte dhan Ghàidhlig.

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich (Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig)

Summary

The picture shows in pretty graphic terms that where the language of teaching is English, our language is at risk! Till the 1872 Education Act it was natural to teach through Gaelic in such schools but thereafter English became the sole language of teaching and many are still so brainwashed that they consider the only medium of teaching is through English. But the tide is turning. Only one thing needs rectifying... the way in which the local authorities are providers. Some may be anything from indifferent to hostile to such instruction through the language and when funds are short, unless we have their goodwill, support will be cut back. The solution would be for the new Scottish Parliament to pass an Act to provide secure status for Gaelic.



THE MISSING LINK

One of the most obvious gaps in the present infrastructure for Gaelic learning is the lack of teaching of Gaelic in the secondary school. While Gaelic medium education has gone from strength to strength since its beginning in 1985, there has been no comparable growth in the teaching of Gaelic as a subject within English medium education. At present Gaelic (Learners') Standard and Higher Grade exam courses may only be chosen in a limited number of schools, most of which are concentrated in the Highlands and Islands. Twenty one out of Scotland's thirty two local authorities make no provision whatsoever for the teaching of Gaelic in the high school. While numbers in Gaelic medium primary education are nearing the 2000 mark, the numbers sitting Standard Grade Gaelic (Learners') in 1998 were 391 with only 141 sitting Higher Grade Gaelic (Learners').

There are many arguments for the expansion of the teaching of Gaelic as an optional high school subject. Gaelic medium education is not available in all areas and not all parents choose such an option for their children even where it is available. Research into Gaelic learners has consistently shown that the age profile of learners is biased towards the middle aged and elderly with few in the important 16-25 age group. Increased opportunities to study Gaelic as a second language at school would enable an increase in the numbers of younger Gaelic learners. It would also create a direct link between the school and Gaelic medium tertiary and higher education and could be expected to lead to increased numbers of students in the university Celtic departments and at the Gaelic medium college Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. The most important argument of all for an expansion of high school provision is the fact that thousands of young Scots with an interest in Gaelic have been denied a chance to learn their own language.

There are many constraints to the expansion of high school Gaelic teaching. The most significant of these is the shortage of trained Gaelic teachers. It must also be remembered that Gaelic medium subject teaching, Gaelic medium primary education and other fields of Gaelic development are in a real sense competing for a limited number of young, educated Gaelic speakers. To make too many demands for the teaching of Gaelic as a second language in high schools would be

both counterproductive and difficult to achieve. It would, for example, be totally impractical at the moment to demand a Gaelic teacher for each school in Scotland. For these reasons, reasonable, workable and achievable solutions must be put forward.

The first step would be to extend access to Gaelic as a subject in the cities by having a Gaelic teacher based in one secondary school in each of the main cities, two in Glasgow, and by making their services available to any pupil in that city. This could be achieved through children travelling to the school where Gaelic is taught. At present very little is done by local authorities to make the study of Gaelic available in this way, or where it is done, to publicise the fact. It is crucial that the availability of Gaelic as a subject should be adequately publicised and that all

provide instruction in the Gaelic language as a modern European language, through the medium of English, at all secondary schools in Scotland, upon a showing of reasonable demand. Once again, 'reasonable demand' for these purposes should be defined as 'demand made on behalf of five or more pupils'. (CnaG 1997b:28)

This could be achieved relatively easily in many areas if there was increased co-operation between local authorities, enabling the sharing of teachers. This would be an obvious solution for Greater Glasgow where there are seven different local authorities and where Gaelic is only currently taught in three. Availability of increased government funding for Gaelic education at secondary level would help local authorities meet this demand.

Employing sufficient Gaelic teachers to enable all pupils to study Gaelic as an optional Standard Grade/Higher Grade subject will be a long and difficult task. There is no question, however, that this task is crucial to the Gaelic revival or that access to Gaelic learners' classes for all (as an optional subject) should be a key demand of the Gaelic movement.

Local Authorities where Gaelic is available as a secondary subject		Local Authorities where Gaelic is not available as a secondary subject	
	No. of Schools		
Aberdeen City	1	Aberdeenshire	North Lanarkshire
Argyll and Bute	4	Angus	Renfrewshire
Clackmannanshire	1	Borders	South Ayrshire
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	13	Dumfries and Galloway	West Dunbartonshire
East Dunbartonshire	1	Dundee	Falkirk
Edinburgh	1	East Ayrshire	East Lothian
Glasgow City	1	East Renfrewshire	Midlothian
Highland	14	Fife	West Lothian
Perth and Kinross	2	Inverclyde	
South Lanarkshire	1	Moray	
Stirling	1	North Ayrshire	

As shown above the overall picture of schools teaching Gaelic is very uneven.

school students should be aware of this option. This would give the majority of Scotland's pupils access to Gaelic teaching should they wish to do so at a minimum of cost. With time provision could be expanded in line with supply of trained teachers and demand for the subject and could perhaps include the employment of peripatetic teachers. Comunn na Gàidhlig's target for secondary education as set out in the Secure Status for Gaelic document provides a longer term goal for Gaelic medium education:

'Statutory provision should be put in place requiring all local authorities to

GAELIC UNIT FOR ERISKAY

The Western Isles, local authority Comhairle nan Eilean Siar have taken a brave step by deciding to set up a Gaelic medium unit on Eriskay against advice from the council's officers. The education department argued that there was no money for such a unit and that there were insufficient pupils. Councillors took a different view, voting for the unit on the grounds that Gaelic would die on the island otherwise.

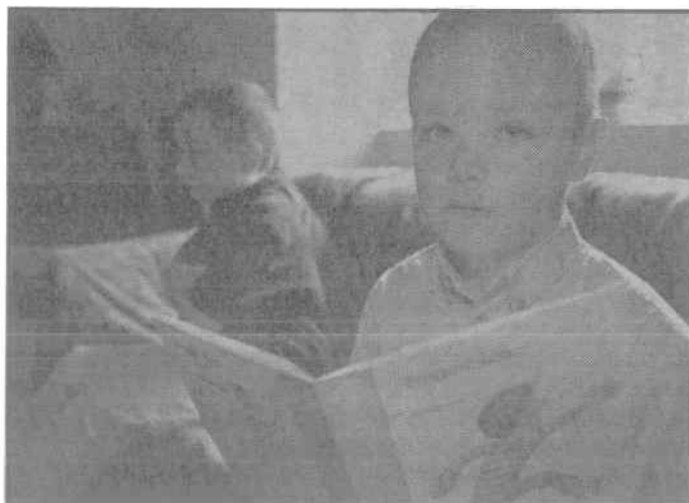
Alasdair MacCaluim

A Parent's Perspective On The Gaelic Struggle

While it may be noticeable that Alba is constantly fighting for Gaelic to be spoken in all aspects of daily life such as within the Scottish Parliament. I can honestly say that we have fought the hardest for Gaelic in the last few months. My son Andrew did not have the opportunity to go to Gaelic Medium Education because we discovered this too late. However, our son Conall was admitted through the Gaelic nursery. The whole concept of Gaelic Medium Education was very new to us and while being firm supporters of Gaelic we did not really know what type of education to expect. When Conall first attended Gaelic Medium Education, many people questioned our motives and we felt we needed to justify ourselves and really be sure ourselves why we wanted Gaelic Medium Education. It takes a great deal of scrutiny. Our vision from then on was to fight to have both boys learn Gaelic. We are both learners but do not possess enough Gaelic to teach our children.

Our plan was to send Andrew to James Gillespie's High School this being the only High School to teach learners Gaelic. James Gillespie's High School is to say the least an over-populated school in the centre of Edinburgh. Some also consider the school to be of a high academic standard, which is possibly why it is so popular. Andrew attended the feeder primary school with the hope that he could enter James Gillespie's High School. When Edinburgh Council wrote to us informing us that Andrew had not been accepted into James Gillespie's High School it was as though our whole vision was shattered. The reason he could not attend James Gillespie's was because he does not live in the catchment area and those who do live within that area have priority. Gaelic was not part of the Council's criteria to gain access, Edinburgh Council said that everyone would use Gaelic as a means of accessing a popular school. The question we had was why do they not re-locate Gaelic? Or, use peripatetic teaching. We vowed to fight on.

We sent letters to all the Gaelic activists we could and all of those we contacted and asked for support were without a doubt of



Brothers Andrew and Conall at home

the highest calibre and we will be eternally grateful. Some Celtic League activists have been exceptional in their campaigning. We contacted the media who realised that this did have the potential to open Gaelic up to the wider public. We were informed by many that Andrew may not obtain a place at James Gillespie's High School but we may be laying the foundation stones to children of High School age having the opportunity to study Gaelic. By far we wanted Gaelic for Andrew but if he could not have it and we opened the door for other children then at least this would be an achievement. We had a friend contact us stating *Gaelic in High School for my child would be something breath-taking, we are unable to commit to Gaelic Medium Education, but this would be ideal*. They also live outside James Gillespie's High School catchment area and would be faced with the same problem we encountered unless we campaign to have Gaelic in secondary schools.

It suddenly dawned on us, why does no one fight for Gaelic at high school level and surely we are not the first to realise this problem existed? The next part of our fight became incredibly complex. My findings are not all positive but there is the potential to challenge any off-putting aspects.

We received a letter from Isobel Vass (Neighbourhood Liaison Officer and Support Services Manager) from Edinburgh District Council who pointed out that Gaelic is only available to children at Gillespie's High School from S1 if children have undergone Gaelic Medium Education. Gaelic for learners is available in S3/S4, however a demand for Gaelic is essential in the first instance and the child would need to already attend the school or travel from another school.

I was also curious just how many children actually pursue Gaelic in

secondary from Gaelic Medium Education? Isobel Vass stated *it is a matter of concern that only 2 of the 5 pupils moving from the Gaelic Unit to secondary school in August 1999 have chosen to continue with their Gaelic studies*. This reflects a national pattern currently the subject of inter authority discussion. Isobel Vass also made it clear that to some parents James Gillespie's High School was crucial, so the question of re-locating Gaelic at secondary school level raises some controversy. It is clear that some people choose the option of Gaelic at Gaelic Medium Education level to have clear access to James Gillespie's High School and not as we would hope, for the growth of Gaelic.

Gaelic is a good language and Gaelic should be obtainable to everyone. Many parents would simply not place their children into Gaelic Medium Education. Not because they oppose Gaelic Medium Education, but because they do not speak Gaelic themselves. For instance, one major question that worries most parents is; how do I manage to help them with their homework? I have observed both Gaelic Medium Education and mainstream education for my children and I know that homework is precious. I am also studying a BSc (Hons) and am customary to homework myself. This trepidation of mine has grown so much in the past year. Surely, then there should be support groups to help parents who do not have much Gaelic?

In Edinburgh the only organisation that claims to be a support group is Comann Nam Parant (Dùn-Eideann agus Lodainn) but their main concern at the moment is a dedicated school, no matter what the cost. I witnessed at one of their meetings concerning the proposed dedicated school, parents who do not have Gaelic, revealing their realistic worries. However, they were dismissed and ignored rather than

encouraged. This was intolerably distressing and opened my eyes significantly. This is all to the proposed dedicated school's loss, as I now understand, approximately ten children are leaving Gaelic medium education from the pre-school Gaelic playgroup, Gaelic nursery and primary school.

This is due to parental anxieties, which have allegedly stemmed from elements within Comann Nam Parant (Dùn-Eideann agus Lodainn) and their lack of understanding of the needs of Gaelic learners. It is always better to promote positive attitudes where Gaelic is concerned and it is always disheartening to identify these negative facets but if we can all learn from it; it is equally as crucial!

The fight now is our petition to have Gaelic at secondary school level with the expectation that parent's who desire their children to be taught Gaelic, while maintaining their mainstream education will have the opportunity to do so. Some parents miss the opportunity to send their children to Gaelic medium education; it is not widely publicised. However, no matter what reason, these children should not be excluded from the opportunity to learn Gaelic. We will also campaign for Gaelic not to be just for sections of society but for everyone to use and enjoy and not as mere tokenism (a full living language). We need Gaelic playgroups, Gaelic units, Gaelic in mainstream schools, Gaelic in secondary schools and wherever required, dedicated schools which should also include people who have disabilities.

Perhaps, some day Edinburgh's Gaelic Medium Education Unit will be able to support and fully empathise with parents who speak very little Gaelic. Gaelic will never fully flourish until every need of Gaelic is recognised and we all fight for a common goal, without hidden agenda, personal differences and above all else, personal gain.

Whether that need is one hour of Gaelic per week for one child or full Gaelic medium education for another it is essential that all these needs be met. After all, it is the survival of Gaelic that is at stake. It is precious. Gaelic is not something that belongs to any one person but to us all, whether native speaker or learner, regardless of religion or culture. Our children are Gaelic's future, let us get it right!

Send now for a petition C/O Alba Branch address.

Louise NicLeoid



Gruinard Island remained out of bounds for more than 40 years because of 'uncontrollable hazards' after anthrax tests in the early 1940s

An Embarrassing Chapter?

Are the British embarrassed by a period in their history when they sought to dominate the technology of mass destruction by chemical and biological means. Recent revelations about the British development and trials of Chemical weapons during and after WW 2 are the latest in a *dripping tap* of revelations which still see the episode shrouded in mystery.

We now know that Porton Down carried out its tests with deadly contaminants, such as anthrax, at bases in both Western Scotland (Gruinard) and S. Wales (Penclawdd). However, the British chemical weapons manufacture, and more importantly its operational testing and ultimate disposal sequence, is a blank page in the history books.

We know that many thousands of tonnes of captured German weapons were stored in Western Britain and eventually disposed in sea dump sites around the Irish sea and off Western Scotland and

Ireland. The revelations about one such dumping operation code-named *Sandcastle* caused outrage in Ireland and in communities around Britain when its extent was revealed five years ago. Indeed it was only the persistent campaign to reveal the truth by pressure groups which wrought this admission from the British government. The latest 'sliver' of information once again links the Celtic countries to this deadly test and disposal programme.

It is somewhat ironic that over half a century after WW 2 we only know the whereabouts of Nazi chemical weapons. The location of the *nasties* produced by Britain, their test sites and disposal remain top secret. Is it not past time the British closed the chapter on this infamous period? Are they embarrassed perhaps by a period in world history when they, like some middle east dictators of today, sought to dominate the technology of mass destruction by chemical and biological means?

Bernard Moffatt

"FINANCIAL TERRORISTS" STRIKE AT GREENPEACE

The British and French governments have been labelled financial terrorists by the Celtic League for freezing the assets of Greenpeace in July this year. The Secretary General of the League said in a media release -

"Let there be no illusions the action by BNFL in obtaining a Court Order against Greenpeace is action by the British and French governments to attack the global environmental protection movement. Greenpeace is committed to many environmental and ecological programmes world-wide and

the injunction, granted by a Dutch court, is designed to frustrate their effectiveness. BNFL, not noted for their PR finesse, have overstepped the mark this time. They are saying in effect to the whole of mankind 'damn you if you stand in the way of the nuclear industry'. All governments and NGOs throughout the world should mobilise to meet this threat".

The League also wrote to the Dutch Ambassador to London to protest at the injunction issued in a Dutch court. The letter stated: "The Netherlands and its people stand indicted of frustrating and impeding environmental protection programmes globally".

J B Moffatt

Tiegezhioù Iwerzhonegerien: un enklask

Comhluadar – distaget evel ‘colouadar’ – zo ur gevredigezh savet e 1993 evit bodañ ha harpañ an tiegezhioù zo o tasevel o bugale en iwerzhoneg. Er bloavezhioù ‘60 e oa bet savet un aozadur heñvel e bal e Dulenn. Goude ugent vloaz bennak e oa dizeriet dre ziouer a dud prest da ober war e dro. Koulskoude e oa tiegezhioù hag o doa czhomm da vezañ kennerzhed dre un emglev en o strivoù da ober iwerzhonegerien eus o bugale e-kreiz “mor ar saozneg”. Kalz a sante ne oant ket barrek nemet e c’hallfent tennañ gounid eus skiant-prenañ ar re o doa sevenet un hevelep mennad.

E 1997 e stagas Máire Nic Ghiolla Phádraig, eus ar Greizenn Imbourc’h Skiantoù Kevredigezhel e Skolaj Skol-Veur Dulenn gant un enklask e-touez izili *Comhluadar* e sell da c’houzout penaos e raent evit seveniñ o mennad ha diskoulmañ o c’hudennoù. Daou vloaz ‘zo ne oa c’hoazh nemet daou skourr, unan e Dulenn, egile e Corcaigh, div gêr ma ‘z eo niverus a-walc’h an tiegezhioù iwerzhonegerien evit ma ve aes a-walc’h o lakaat da gejañ, da gemer perzh a-gevret e troiadoù, abadennoù, dihuadoù h.a. Ne oa neuze nemet 176 tiegezh en aozadur. D’ar re-se e voe kaset un toullad mat a c’houlennnoù. 114 anezho a respontas, darn o reiñ disklêriadurioù all ivez. Niver keitat ar vugale dre diegezh oa 2,83, o oad keitat 11,67 met e div drederenn eus an tiegezhioù-se e oa an holl vugale dindan 13 vloaz.

Ret eo merkañ mat da gentañ ez eus anv hepken eus an izili a oa e 1997 e *Comhluadar*. Abaoe ez eus emezelet ouzhpenn 100 tiegezh all ha savet daou skourr all. Kalz tiegezhioù a chom c’hoazh hep emezelañ. An dregantadoù a vo meneget a c’hallfe eta bezañ disheñvel ma vije bet gallet astenn an enklask d’ar vro a-bezh. Koulskoude e kan d’an enklaskerezh e oa talvoudus reiñ da anaout d’an iwerzhonegerien disoc’hoù he labour pa ‘z eo ar wezh kentañ d’ur seurt imbours’h bezañ bet kaset da benn. Emañ-hi e soñj ober c’hoazh un dezrann pizh eus ar respontoù. Amañ ne vo roet nemet ar sifroù

pouezusañ ha daoust da se e vo gwall vorodus moarvat kement a dregantadoù.

Goude ma ‘z eo disheñvel-mat saviad an tiegezhioù brezhonegerien diouzh hini an iwerzhonegerien e vo talvoudus emichañs d’ar re-se gouzout penaos e klask ar re-mañ diskoulmañ o c’hudennoù. E dalc’h gant hor c’henvroiz yaouank emañ dazont hor yezh. Mat e vefe eta ma rafe Arsellva ar Brezhoneg un enklask heñvel e-touez an tiegezhioù brezhonek? M. Nic Ghiolla Phádraig zo bet harpet gant aozadurioù all, da sk. Ensavadur Yezhoniezh Iwerzhon evit divizout ar goulennnoù da ober, ha gant *Comhluadar* evel-just. Abaoe daou vloaz e vez roet skoaziadoù d’an aozadur gant ar gouarnamant, pezh en deus roet tu da c’hoprañ un den evit tuta izili. Krouiñ skourroù nevez, o lakaat d’en em zaremprediñ, reiñ harp dezho da aozañ kejadennnoù, evel festoù da Ouel an Hollsent ha da Nedeleg pe troiadoù da welout mereurioù, kreizennoù arz h.a.

Endro-yezh ar gerent a-raok en em anavezout

60% eus ar mammoù hag hogas kement-all eus an tadoù a oa barrek war an iwerzhoneg kent dezho kejañ, tra ma oa 30% all barrek evit ar pep brasañ eus divizoù ar vuhez pemdeziek. En holl diegezhioù e oa unan da vihanañ gouest da gomz mat ar yezh goude ma oa nebeutoc’h eget 1/3 anezho hag a oa bet desavet en un endro iwerzhonek pe divyezhek.

An darn vrasañ o doa pleustret skolioù ma vezent kelennet e saozneg; ne oa c’hoazh neuze nemet un nebeut skolioù holl iwerzhonek. War-dro an hanter a oa aet d’ar skolioù-hañv er Gouezelva, ha kement-all a oa bet izili eus kevredigezhioù iwerzhonek. 50% eus an tadoù ha 60% eus ar mammoù o doa studiet ar yezh e skolioù trede derez.

Dre levezon o zud-int, ar skol, ar Gouezelva, ha goude e 15% eus an degouezhioù dre hini o friedoù (pe kevelidi) e oant deuet da gemer perzh en emsav iwerzhonek.

Goulennet e voe ouzh pep hini, tad ha mamm, diouzh e du hag eñ e oa bet kemm en o implij eus ar yezh etre “a-raok” ha

“goude” dezho kaout bugale. Araok e veze komzet reoliek gant 60% anezho met ne oa nemet 39% a zegouezhas dezho priediñ gant iwerzhonegerien “reoliek” evelto. Hogoziñ 50% o doa kejet an eil ouzh egile en un endro gouezelek. Tamm-ha-tamm e oant deuet da reiñ muioc’h a bouez d’ar yezh en o darempredoù, met 53% a rae c’hoazh implij aliesoc’h pe hepken eus ar saozneg. Goude ma oa bet ganet ar c’hentañ bugel ez eas war greskiñ niver a rae a rae peurliesañ pe hepken gant an iwerzhoneg, hag int o klask reiñ ar skouer vat.

Eus ar steuñviñ d’an erouint

25% eus ar c’houbladoù o doa divizet a-raok dimeziñ sevel bugale en iwerzhoneg. 38% o doa goulennet kuzul da gentañ.

Tra ma felle da 42% e vije iwerzhoneg hepken en o zi ne oa nemet 28% o doa sevenet ar mennad-se. Dre vras e oa muioc’h a saozneg en implij eget na oant en gortoz, met an 20% a felle dezho e vije muioc’h a iwerzhoneg eget a saozneg a oa deuet a-benn. A-hend-all e oa kement ha kement eus an div yezh e 30% eus an degouezhioù ha muioc’h a saozneg eget a iwerzhoneg e 22%.

Ar vugale hag o implij eus an iwerzhoneg

War-dro an hanter eus ar vugale a oa an iwerzhoneg o yezh kentañ. Met da vare an enklask ne oa nemet un drederenn anezho hag a oa aesoc’h dezho komz ar yezh-se eget ar saozneg, an darn vrasañ o vezañ barrek ken mat ha ken mat war an div yezh. Dre vras e respontont d’o zud an hevelep yezh ma vez komzet outo. A-hend-all e komz 44% anezho iwerzhoneg gant bugale all an ti, 47% gant o c’henskolidi er Gaelscoileanna, 28% gant o c’hendirvi. N’eus nemet 6.5% a c’hall en ober gant bugale amezeien.

E peseurt degouezhioù, ma vez ar vugale a-gevret gant o zud, e reont gant ar iwerzhoneg kenetrezo? C’hoarvezout a ra dreist-holl o lavarout pedennoù, pa vezont gant o fredoù, o c’hoari, o vont da bourmen pe d’ober troiadoù. Heverk eo e vez div wech aliesoc’h pa vez ar gerent o c’hoari ganto eget o tisplegañ kontadennoù dezho.

Evit a sell ouzh komz iwerzhoneg ouzh ar vugale pa vez tud all na ouzont ket ar yezh-se er gompagnunezh, graet e vez gant 44% eus ar mammoù ha gant 51% eus an tadoù, daoust ma ne zeu ket ken aes ar yezh gant ar re-mañ dre vras.

Unan eus ar c’hudennoù diaesañ eo kavout tud da ober war-dro ar vugale ha gouest da gomz ganto en iwerzhoneg pa ‘z a ar vamm koulz hag an tad o-daou eus ar gêr da c’hounit o boued. Se a c’hoarvez kalz muioc’h hiziv an deiz: 52% eus ar mammoù zo gopret leizh an amzer. Padal, diaes-tre eo kavout evezherien da ziwall bugale ha diaesoc’h c’hoazh kavout anezho

hag a oar a-walc'h a iwerzhoneg. Gwarderezhioù zo met div drederenn anezho n'eus enno nemet saozneg. Evit an drederenn all, skolioù-mamm iwerzhonek pe divyezhek int. Harp a vez roet ivez gant tud-nes, gouest mui pe vui da gomz iwerzhoneg, e 43% eus an degouezhioù. Met n'eus ket gwelloc'h eget ar gerent evit diogeliñ ur c'hendalc'h en implij ar yezh. Setu perak ivez e tibab 20% eus ar mammoù ha 4% eus an tadoù chom hep mont eus ar gêr da labourat.

En ur pennad all e vo gwelet petra a vez graet evit barrekaat ar vugale war an iwerzhoneg, peseurt roll eo hini ar skolioù er gefridi-se, pegen talvoudus eo *Comhludard*, peseurt faktorioù zo emsavus pe skoilhus da sevenidigezh ar mennad, ha peseurt kentelioù a c'haller tennañ eus disoc'hoù an enklask.

A. Heusaff

Gerioù anavezet nebeut. skoaziad: *subvention*; keveliad,-idi: *partner,-s*; erounit: *to execute, to carry out*; gwarderezh: *nursery, creche*.

Summary

Comhludard is an association set up in 1993 with the aim of bringing together and helping families which are raising their children wholly or partly in Irish. A detailed survey of its operation was undertaken in 1997 by Máire Nic Ghiolla Phádraig, UCD. Whereas today its membership comprises about 300 families in Dublin, Cork, Galway, the research involved only 114 of the 176 families which had joined by then. They answered a comprehensive set of questions designed to find out how much use was being made of Irish by parents and children and which way they dealt with the difficulties they encountered. A first analysis of the results has just been published in Irish. Even though many other Irish-speaking families are not (yet) members of *Comhludard*, this investigation will be of great help to all who are endeavouring to transmit the Irish language to their children in the vastly predominant English-speaking environment. As an example of its findings, let us mention that while Irish was the sole or main language used by 40% of the parents in their *mutual* relations prior to the birth of their first child and by 43% "now" (p.6), it was similarly used in their relations with their children by 60% of the mothers and 68% of the fathers taken *individually* and it was used *more* than English in half the families (p.10).

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



Members of Office Team of UPRACB (Union of Breton associations in Rennes Area)
Courtesy of Bremañ

RENNES MUNICIPALITY PROMOTES BRETON IDENTITY

The City Council of Rennes has a socialist majority headed by the mayor Edmond Herve. In 1996 it set up a consultative Committee with responsibility for cultural matters. In an interview given for a special issue of the weekly *Bretagne Info*, its secretary showed with various examples how the council had, already since 1977, taken an active part in promoting the development of a creative Breton culture. This he said was a fitting role for Rennes as the capital of Brittany. Its help had contributed to the success of the annual *Tombees de la Nuit* festival which had brought to the fore such excellent singers as Denez Prigent and Gilles Servat. It was in Rennes that Dan ar Braz and Donal Lunny had first produced the *Heritage des Celtes* concert. In collaboration with Jean Vyes Veillard, curator of the outstanding Musée de Bretagne, exhibitions were organised illustrating different aspects of the history of Rennes, in particular its frequent social conflicts. Another exhibition due to take place before the end of next year will commemorate the artists who in the thirties gathered in the name of the *Seiz Breur*, animated by the ambition to develop a specific Breton art in architecture, painting and music; they had indeed bequeathed to us very original works.

The Council also took a very positive view of the Breton language as being an integral part of the Breton culture in spite of the fact that the city was outside the traditional Breton speaking area. Rennes, however, has attracted an increasing number of workers from Lower Brittany. It boasts a successful Diwan school; the Celtic Dept. of Rennes University has for the last 30 years played a leading role in Celtic Studies, as well as securing - thanks to the energy of Professor Per Denez - the establishment of a series of academic degrees in Breton. Moreover, many active members of the Breton language movement living in Rennes are co-ordinating their efforts in the UPRAB organisation which runs classes for adults. Thanks to its intervention, the Council had begun to introduce bilingual signposts and the use of Breton on its official documents; it is also trying to get the State Educational Authorities to re-introduce the study of Breton in the Public Secondary Schools, where it suffered a sharp decline during the past 7 or 8 years due to their ill-will and lack of co-operation.

In any case, here as in several sectors of the Breton economy, it is openly admitted that a strong sense of identity is an important factor in creating and fostering a spirit of enterprise and self-confidence.

Ups and Downs in Councils' Support

The Regional Council of Brittany-4 has decided to recruit an administrative official who will have to be proficient in Breton. It will be a permanent full-time post. The decision was taken in anticipation of measures which should be introduced on the basis of the European Charter for Regional and Minority languages. The Council moreover is officially backing the newly created *Ofis ar Brezhoneg*. The appointment of such an officer is a remarkable innovation. The successful candidate will in particular have to deal in Breton with those who wish to avail of the Council's services in this language, as well as with current secretarial work, and occasionally to provide simultaneous translation at meetings. The creation of this post in a public body whose range of activities is bound to expand, opens new professional prospects for Breton speakers. Credit for this development goes undoubtedly to the Council president Josselin de Rohan, and to its vice-president for cultural affairs, J.Y. Cozan.

Morbihan

The Morbihan Dept. Council has recently shown a welcome change of attitude towards Breton culture. For years it trailed behind the councils of Finistère and the Côte d'Armor, and treated with contempt appeals from music and language associations for support. It ignored the fact that half of Morbihan is traditionally Breton speaking, although the number of Breton speakers may now be no more than 80,000; and that important events such as the *Kan ar Bobl* competition for songs in Breton and the *Lorient Interceltic Festival*, which yearly attracts more visitors than any similar festival in France, are held in Morbihan.

There was an almost hysterical opposition at council meetings on the part of prominent members who viewed claims for the language as being subversive. In fact the councillors were intimidated by the president, the arch-centralist Raymond Marcellin and by his successor Christian Bonnet. For 30 years they stifled any real political life in Morbihan. But there was resistance to their dictates in the Lorient area. Here a number of active cultural associations co-operated under the umbrella of *Emglev ar Brezhoneg*. They set about lobbying the

voters to support their aims. Among them were members of a semi-clandestine organisation, *Stourm ar Brezhoneg*, whose campaign for Breton on signposts, involving the defacing of French forms, was proving too costly for the Department Council, so that they had to yield to the Breton demands. The arrival of new councillors free from the prejudices of their predecessors and the departure of Marcellin and Bonnet opened the way for positive measures such as financial support for *Diwan* and the Breton Radio *Gwened*, as well as the siting of *Tele Breizh*, the Breton language service, in Lorient early in the New Year.

Finistère

The Department elections held in 1998 resulted in a socialist majority taking control in Finistère with Pierre Maille, Mayor of Brest, as president. Until then Finistère, on J. Y. Cozan's initiative, had taken exemplary steps in support of Breton. Last year the Council renewed the grants previously given to numerous Breton cultural associations, but in April of this year it decided to reduce its support, cancelling or reducing some of the grants, and making them conditional on strict accountability. Agreements could be concluded with associations with whose aims the Council agreed. The associations whose applications have been rejected decided to co-ordinate their efforts with a view to get the Council to reconsider its decision. Among them is the monthly *Bremañ* which is particularly dismayed as it has also lost the financial help hitherto given to it by the Regional Council, the *Drac* and the European Commission. And now sees its ambition to become a weekly or fortnightly unrealisable and faces an uncertain future. *Carn* 106 has reported the tensions which had arisen between sections of the Socialist Party in Finistère and some language associations. The cuts suffered by the associations may be explained by this situation. There is at least some satisfaction in that the Mervén association, which has nine salaried teachers employed in teaching Breton in 23 centres in South West Brittany giving 63 classes a week to a total of 518 adults, is being continued.

Set back for Charter

As the saying goes, hardly was the ink dry on Prime Minister Jospin's signature of the European Charter for Regional and Minority languages that President Chirac had referred it to the French Constitutional Council. The latter pronounced that the 39 articles, anodyne as they were, were still incompatible with the Constitution since they would contradict Article 2 which states that *French is the language of the Republic*. Article 2 was adopted by the French National Assembly in 1992 on the pretence that it was necessary as a protection against the threat posed to the French language by the expansion of English. The deputies who supported *Regional languages* were then assured that it was not intended against the latter. Chirac himself, while on a visit to Kemper, stated that he was in favour of France signing the European Charter for Regional and Minority languages.

The verdict of the Constitutional Council means that unless Article 2 is suitably amended the Charter cannot be ratified by the National Assembly, and consequently loses all validity in France. The necessary modification of the Constitution would require a procedure to be initiated by President Chirac. Falling into line with those who vociferously expressed their hostility to the Charter as endangering the indivisibility of the Republic, he refuses to take such a step.

As a sop to the numerous voices raised in protest against his decision, Chirac said he would advocate the adoption of a *loi programme* for the regional languages, which presumably would serve as a kind of framework to guide the government in decisions regarding those languages. For good measure he also condemned the excessive *jacobinism* of the French State, the usual double talk?

Unless sufficient political pressure can be brought to bear on the higher echelons of government, the hope that the Charter would give some legal basis to the concessions which had been won for Breton and other regional languages can be abandoned. They are left deprived of any protection by the law, indeed outlawed, exposed to repressive measures by unsympathetic officials in an administration where equality does not extend to the *lesser cultures* and their languages.

Use of Breton in Economic Life

In October of last year, a number of enterprise managers founded an association called *Diorren* for the purpose of promoting the use of the Breton language in the economic and professional field. They had been impressed during a visit to Ireland when they met people involved in the *Fiontar* (meaning Enterprise) management school (in Dublin City University), by the fact that their interlocutors had some difficulty in identifying Brittany as a distinct country with a language and an active cultural life of its own. When informed that the visitors also wanted to do for Breton what *Fiontar* was doing for Irish i.e. training people to be able to use their national language in business relations, the two sides were in agreement that it was important for a country's trade to project a strong image abroad and that this helped to establish conviviality and responsibility and thus facilitated business contacts.

Diorren has since grown to a membership of about 40, many of them being native Breton speakers. As few of them had been educated through the medium of Breton, they would be restricted to their enterprises' internal level in using the language, but this still contributed to their aim. The founders of the association were well aware of the potential of Breton for scientific expression, it having been actively developed by the *Preder* group and by the *Termbret* branch of The Breton Cultural Institute (now incorporated in the newly set up *Ofis ar Brezhoneg*).

Diorren does not see its role as lying in the field of campaigns for rights and protest actions. To fulfil its aim however it sees the necessity of a Breton Management School such as *Fiontar*, to enable a generation of business managers and technicians or professional people to make efficient use of Breton in their work. Such an institute could interest pupils emerging from *Diwan* and other bilingual schools. The students graduating from *Fiontar* have no difficulty in getting employment, on the contrary *Údarás na Gaeltachta* (The Gaeltacht Development Authority) has jobs for them in Ireland, but unfortunately too many of them have taken employment in other European countries. (Source Bretagne Info).



At the commemoration of the 30th Anniversary of *Skoazell Vreizh*, Karaez 19-20 June.

Skoazell Vreizh which has given financial support to families of people prosecuted for Breton activities, calls for 150F annual contributions. Courtesy Bremañ

Ar Bed Keltiek - on the Net

Nerzh Nevez, is an association composed of 500 elected representatives from all political tendencies which actively fosters the use of Breton in public life. For the past five years, with Yves Cozan as president, it has awarded prizes to public bodies such as communes, which promote the Breton culture. This year it created a Business Award. *Gweltas ar Furis* enterprise, *Ar Bed Keltiek*, was its first recipient amongst strong competition.

Musician and author of the song *eDiwanit Bugalei*, *Gweltas* put his musical career on hold some twenty years ago to devote his time to building up his business which deals mainly in books, music and arts & crafts.

1997 brought a new professional challenge when a shop was opened on the Internet. Under the supervision of *Bernezh Bouleih*, aided by *Keven ar Fur*, the web site already numbers 350 pages, becoming the most important Breton commercial site. Information is carried in Breton, French and English.

The award, not only recognises *Gweltas ar Furis* business acumen, but also his commitment to the Breton language which is the main means of communication throughout his businesses.

An award well deserved!
<http://www.arbedkeltiek.com>
info@arbedkeltiek.com
Tel: (0)2 98 44 05 38

OBITUARY Yann Goulet

The Breton sculptor Yann Goulet died in Shankill near Dublin on August 22, 1999 after a long illness. He first came to public notice as a Breton nationalist in 1938 when as a student of art, together with two other militants, he destroyed a statuette displayed in an art gallery in Paris which represented a Breton woman in the grotesque form known as *Becassine*, a subject of derision, with no mouth, i.e. as a symbol of not being able to speak French.

In 1941 Yann Goulet was put in charge of the Breton National Party's Youth Organisation, *Ar Bagadoù Stourm*, whose members he often reminded of the Irish leader Patrick Pearse's readiness to make the supreme sacrifice for Ireland's freedom. He was sentenced to death in absentia in 1946 and came to Ireland as a refugee in 1948 together with his wife and children. He earned his living as a sculptor and painter and as an art teacher in Bray, Co. Wicklow.

Among his best known works are four statues inspired by the Irish struggle for independence: there is one in each province of Ireland. Let us mention in particular, the one in front of the Customs House in Dublin, and the group in Ballysheedy near *Trá Lí* representing a tragic episode of the Civil War. His art reflects his forceful personality. He was a member of the Irish artists association *Aos Dána*. His commitment to the cause of a free Brittany remained undiminished.

Alan Heusaff



Symbolic Status Or Genuine Bilingualism?

Syniadau Pum Munud

Mae cylchlythyr diweddaraf y mudiad hawliau iaith Cefn, 'Asgwrn Cefn', yn tynnu sylw at y gwaith ardderchog mae'r mudiad hwn yn ei wneud dros hawliau Cymry i ddefnyddio ein hiaith. Mae'r rhifyn yma, a ddaeth allan ar gyfer Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Môn, yn cynnwys erthygl am ffyrdd bach o brotestio yn erbyn lle darostyngedig y Gymraeg yng Nghymru yn ein bywydau bob dydd, nad yw'n cymryd ond ychydig o amser. 'Cymreigio'r byd bum munud ar y tro.'

Mae jynbost yn bla i lawer ohonom y dyddiau hyn - dwsinau o lythyrâu na ofynnwyd amdanynt yn cyrraedd ein drysau gan ein hannog i brynu, neu fenthyca arian ayb. a'r cwbl yn uniaith Saesneg. Bydd y rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn dod o Loegr. Yn aml bydd amlen â'r post wedi'i dalu ymlaen llaw ar gyfer eich atebiad yn amgaeedig yn y jynbost. Yn lle taflu'r cwbl i'r bin ysbwriel, beth am dalu'n ôl i'r cwmni am wastraffu eich amser ac anwybyddu ein hiaith drwy ysgrifennu ar y jynbost nodyn tebyg i hyn:

"Os ydych am werthu (roi benthyg ayb.) i mi yng Nghymru dylech fod yn gwneud hynny yn Gymraeg neu'n ddwyieithog."

If you want to sell (lend ayb.) to me in Wales you ought to do so in Welsh or bilingually."

Stwffio'r jynbost i mewn i'r amlen wedi'i dalu, ac ar ôl ychwanegu 'Lloegr' at y cyfeiriad os yn briodol, gyrru'r cwbl yn ôl ar gost y cwmni! Os bydd llawer o Gymry yn gwneud hyn, bydd y cwmnïau yn siŵr o sylwi.

Mae cangen Cymru o'r Undeb Celtaidd yn darparu glynion/sticeri gyda'r geiriau "Yng Nghymru - Cymraeg!", a allai fod yn ddefnyddiol yn y cyswllt yma yn ogystal ag mewn amryw sefyllfaoedd digon cyffredin eraill! Maent ar gael yn ddi-dâl gennym o'n cyfeiriad ar gefn Carn.

Mae syniadau eraill yn yr erthygl yn pwysleisio'r angen am fod yn barod gyda'ch ymateb wrth geisio gael gwasanaeth yn Gymraeg a gorfod wynebu haerllugrwydd rhai Saeson sydd i fod i roi

gwasanaeth i chi. Pan fydd Sais yn smalio ei fod heb glywed yn iawn a dweud 'Pardon' neu felly, yn lle dweud na fedr o Gymraeg, awgrymir siarad yn uwch ac yn arafach, dan ddefnyddio'r bysedd a phwyntio os bydd rhaid, fel y gwna Saeson dramor (yn ein gwlad ni ydan ni, cofiwch)!

Gellir cael manylion pellach am Cefn o: Tŷ Glyndŵr, 1 Stryd y Castell, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1SE.

Robat ap Tomos

Summary

Action to promote our languages need not take long. A leaflet issued by the Welsh language rights organisation Cefn, outlines small steps we can take day to day such as returning English-only junkmail in the enclosed pre-paid envelope with a note pointing out the need for companies to use our Celtic language if they want our custom.

Gwyddeleg yw'r busnes

Mae'r cwmni Forbairt Feirste ("Datblygiad Feirste") sydd ar Bôthar na bhFâl yng Ngorllewin Béal Feirste, yn hyrwyddo'r Wyddeleg o fewn y sector busnes yng Ngogledd Iwerddon wrth ddefnyddio e.e. arwyddion dwyieithog a gohebiaeth ddwyieithog.

Mae'r cwmnïau Northern Ireland Electricity a Phoenix Natural Gas wedi dechrau cyfathrebu efo'u cwsmeriaid drwy'r Wyddeleg pan fydd cwsmeriaid yn gwneud ymholiadau yn Wyddeleg. Mae tua 50 o fusnesau yn ardal Béal Feirste yn frwdfrydig iawn ynglŷn â pholisïau dwyieithog. Mae rhai ohonynt yng Nghanolfan Cinnéide, Béal Feirste.

Mae arolwg diweddar wedi awgrymu bod tua 142,000 o bobl yn gwybod y Wyddeleg yng Ngogledd Iwerddon erbyn hyn, ac y mae'r ysgolion Gwyddeleg yn cynyddu hefyd.

Hir oes i'r ymgyrchoedd dwyieithog yng Ngogledd Iwerddon!

Suas leis an Ghaeilge!

John Hunter

Summary

The use of the Irish language in business in the Six Counties is on the increase.

A public meeting was held by Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, the Welsh Language Society, on the 7th July in Cardiff to draw attention to the position of the Welsh language in the new National Assembly for Wales, since it is vital, if our language is to remain a central aspect of Welsh life rather than something belonging to a minority on the periphery, that Welsh is thoroughly involved in the new governance of our country from the start. It was stated that the Cynulliad has virtually a *carte blanche* as far as the language is concerned.

An examination of the minutes of the first weeks of the Assembly's existence showed to our concern that, despite the fact that each AC (Aelod Cynulliad = Assembly member) has the right to address the Assembly in Welsh and that some third of the members can speak Welsh, only 9% of what was said in the Assembly was in Welsh and 91% was in English. The reason for this was not that the Welsh-speaking members are disproportionately quiet but that AC's who can speak Welsh choose to give speeches in English. This despite the fact that simultaneous translation from Welsh to English is always available.

While reasons are given below for inadequacies of the translation system contributing to this situation, part of the responsibility must lie with the members themselves. It is disappointing to note that even some Plaid Cymru AC's failed to use Welsh on all occasions, though exceptions who have been consistent in using Welsh were Cynog Dafis (Mid & West) and Gareth Jones (Conwy), and also Elin Jones (AC for Ceredigion) who was a speaker at this meeting. In her speech Elin Jones said that she always used Welsh both in the main chamber and in committee meetings and that she had never been hindered in doing this.

The Cynulliad/Assembly will have to choose between genuine bilingualism and symbolic bilingualism such as that encountered often, *faraor*, in the Irish State.

Cymdeithas's campaign has attracted

some opposition in the Press, including the comment that AC's should be free to choose in which language they speak. This campaign does not aim to force Cynulliad members to use a particular language, of course, but to persuade those who can use Welsh to do so of their free will.

A major issue in the language campaign is that of translation. Cymdeithas have been calling for two-way simultaneous translation from the start. What we have at the moment is simultaneous translation from Welsh to English but not the other way, so that speeches in Welsh will be heard by some members via the translators but speeches in English will always be heard in their original form with all the original intonation etc. This, making one's point more effectively, is one factor which inclines some AC's to speak in English sometimes. Further, with no recorded spoken Welsh translation of English speeches, they have to be translated into Welsh when the Welsh version of the written minutes are being prepared, thus delaying the publishing of the Welsh version of the minutes.

Translation in official circles in Wales tends to be one way. Official documents are usually written in English, and translated into Welsh to keep "them" quiet. The spoken word, in council meetings and in the Cynulliad at the moment, is translated only the other way, from Welsh to English, again in the spirit of granting "them" the right to speak in their own language.

Underlying the language policy are two opposing ideological views of Welsh. The view that was imposed on Wales during the years of Tory government, that of the unitary "British nation" as an extended England, is no longer in play. To the Labour Party and to a section of Plaid Cymru the Welsh-speakers are a minority who must be given certain rights. There are English-speakers (i.e. people who cannot speak Welsh) and Welsh-speakers (people who can) in Wales and the Welsh-speakers are to be granted their concessions. According to the second view, held by Cymdeithas and other nationalists, the Welsh language belongs to everyone in Wales, however much of it they know. As the language proper to Wales it should be present in every aspect of the government in Wales and everything connected with our Cynulliad should be, originally or by translation, available in Welsh. The use of English is justified and necessitated by the presence of people in Wales who do not speak enough of the national language in order that these should not be excluded from access to information. And any consideration of language in Wales should not forget that there are speakers of other

languages resident in Wales too.

A further undecided issue is that of order of languages on public signs and notices. At the moment the Cynulliad is following the policy of the Welsh Office of allowing individual departments to decide whether *Cymraeg* or English is to be first, while county councils over most of Wales now regularly put *Cymraeg* above or on the left with the same size letters etc. Now is the time to push AC's to make the Cynulliad give a good example.

It was stated that the issue of Health and Safety has to be on the agenda of every committee meeting in the Cynulliad. We should aim for Language to be similarly a compulsory item on every agenda.

Robat ap Tomos

RELAUNCH OF CELL CAERDYDD

The Cardiff cell of Cymdeithas yr Iaith has been relaunched this summer after a relatively quiet period. In the past Cell Caerdydd has played a leading role in Cymdeithas's campaigns for the language, particularly in pressing for shops, banks etc. to use Welsh. It is envisaged that the deficient language policy of Cardiff County Council will be a main target for the reformed group.

Os hoffech gymryd rhan yn y gwaith o hyrwyddo'r Gymraeg yn ein prifddinas, naill ai drwy ymgychu neu drwy gynorthwyo'r gwaith o gynnal ein cyrsiau i ddysgwyr, cysylltwch â Chell Caerdydd, 11 Heol Gordon, Y Rhath, Caerdydd CF24 3AJ, ffôn (029) 20486469.

RapT

Euro-Elections - Better Again!

Quickly following the National Assembly elections in which Plaid Cymru managed their best ever all-Wales performance came the elections to the European Parliament and Plaid not only held their vote but increased even further. The election with proportional representation replacing the previous one-seat system by which Labour held each of our five seats, was based on all Wales party lists. Plaid Cymru took the second highest number of votes, coming within 15,000 of Labour, the closest ever. Plaid won two of the five seats with Jill Evans from the Rhondda and Eurig Wyn based in Gwynedd being elected. Labour took two seats (Glenys Kinnock and Eluned Morgan, both Welsh-speakers) and the Conservative & Unionist party one seat (Jonathan Evans, a member who has said that he will not apologise for being unable to speak Welsh).

While the count reckoned the whole of Wales together, the individual constituencies declared separately. Plaid came top in all nine of the constituencies which they won in the Assembly election, and "gained" one extra from Labour - Carmarthen West & South Pembrokeshire.

The Tories, significantly, made great inroads into the Labour vote in "British Wales" - the anglicised belts. More ominous to us was the result in England where the Tories soundly beat Labour and took a majority of seats so large as to give

them an overall majority of seats in the whole of Britain, and the extreme-right "UK Independence Party" won three seats. The result in England was reminiscent of the Thatcher years. If the English are tiring of New Labour and returning to their traditional home, then our new National Assembly will have to be ready for a struggle.

Robat ap Tomos

son luchd ionnsachaidh is luchd Gàidhlig
for Gaelic learners and supporters

ag adhartachadh na Gàidhlig
promoting the Gaelic language



iris son fios is ùidh is oideas
mag for news, interest, learning

an ràitheachan Gàidhlig-
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é i r e



FICHE BLIAIN AG FÁS – ÚDARAS NA GAELTACHTA 1979-'99

Nuair a bunaíodh Údarás na Gaeltachta i 1979 bhí dóchas ann ag an am go gcabhródh sé chun stop a chur le meath na teanga agus le heisimirce an óige trí fostaíocht a chur ar fáil don aos óg ina á ndúthaigh féin agus forbairt eacnamaíochta, sóisialta agus cultúrtha na Gaeltachta a bhaint amach. Bhí an tuiscint ann chomh maith go spreagfadh an tÚdarás féinmhuinín i muintir na Gaeltachta sa chaoi go mbeadh níos mó smacht acu ar a saol féin. An dá sprioc a bhí ag an Údarás fostaíocht a chruthú trí tionscail a bhunú ins na ceantracha Gaeltachta agus “caomhnú agus leathadh na Gaeilge mar theanga labhartha sa Ghaeltacht a spreagadh agus cinnteoidh sé gurb í an Ghaeilge a úsáidfear a mhéid is féidir nuair a bheidh a fheidhmeanna á gcomhlíonadh aige agus thar a cheann” (An tAcht um Údarás na Gaeltachta 1979). Muna féidir a rá go bhfuil na spriocanna seo bainte amach ó bunaíodh an tÚdarás fiche bliain ó shin, ní féidir a shéanadh gur éirigh go maith leis i réimsí áirithe, ag cur san áireamh na deacrachtaí uilig a bhí le sárú aige. Gan trácht ar an gcumhacht teoranta a tugadh don Údarás agus na hacmhainní suaracha a cuireadh ar fáil dó, bhí easpa infrastuchtúir, córas lochtach cumarsáide agus iompair, agus níos measa fós easpa scileanna ins na pobail áitiúla, go speisialta scileanna bainistíochta agus teicniúla. Ní haon ionadh mar sin gur theip ar go leor de na tionscail agus dúnadh monarchain ó am go chéile, cé nach sa Ghaeltacht amháin a tharla a leithéid. Gan amhras tá feabhas mór tagaithe ar fhostaíocht i gcoitinne le blianta beaga anuas ach ní san earnáil tionsclaíochta atá an fás ag tarlú. De réir an chuntais ar obair an Údaráis idir 1994-'97 admhaíonn an príomhfheidhmeannach nach féidir níos mó postanna tionsclaíochta a chruthú sa nGaeltacht. De na daoine uilig atá fostaíte sa nGaeltacht anois tá 28% ag obair i dtionscail agus meastar gur figiúr sách ard é seo i gcomparáid le réigiúin eile, cuid acu i bhfad níos forbartha ná mar atá an Ghaeltacht.

Ní léir chan oiread go dtiocfaidh mórán fhás breise ar tionscal bunaithe ar acmhainní nádúrtha – iascaireacht, foraoiseacht agus portaigh – in aineoin an dóchas mór a cuireadh ina leithéid ins na

hochtóidí; idir ama tá go leor fadhbanna tagtha chun cinn sa bhfeirmeoireacht éisc agus sa bhforaoiseacht ó thaobh truaillithe agus galair de a chuireann amhras ar go leor den phobal, gan trácht ar na rialacha uilig atá á leagan síos ag an AE (Aontas Eorpach) ar chaomhnú agus cosaint na timpeallachta, portaigh agus ceantracha áilne ar leith a bhfuil neart díobh ar fud na Gaeltachta. Ní róshásta atá cuid mhaith daoine faoin ord nua seo, bac ar fhorbairt atá ann, dar leo. Tionscal eile a bhfuil fás mór tagtha air ins na príomh ceantracha Gaeltachta is ea an turasoíreacht. Níl aon chumhacht ag Údarás na G. an turasoíreacht a fhorbairt, fiú ar bhonn teanga agus cultúir. Lasmuigh de na Coláistí Samhraidh, a thagann faoi scáth Roinn na Gaeltachta, ní mór an tairbhe a dhéanann an turasoíreacht don Ghaeilge nó don chultúr a ghabhann leis, ainneoin go bhfuil an coincheap den “turasóireacht cultúrtha” faoi thrácht go minic ar na saolta seo. Go hiondúil ní bhíonn i gceist ach féilte (ceoil agus spóirt den chuid is mó) agus corr éigse staire is litríochta. Cabhraíonn roinn Chultúr agus Teanga an Údaráis le cuid de na himeachtaí seo trí deontais bheaga a bhronnadh orthu, ach ar éigean go gcruthaítear aon phostanna dá bharr sin. Go deimhin is beag post lánaimseartha atá sa turasoíreacht lasmuigh de na bailte móra.

Feasta caithfidh Údarás na Gaeltachta díriú níos mó ar phostanna san earnáil seirbhíse agus sa teicneolaíocht. An bac is mó ar an fhorbairt seo faoi láthair nach bhfuil daoine cáilithe ar fáil le dul ina mbun. Anuraidh bhí feachtas ag an Údarás ag iarraidh céimithe a ndeachaigh ar imirce a mhealladh abhaile.

Sé an tionscal closamhairc (audio-visual) an ceann is mó a bhfuil gealladh faoi sa nGaeltacht le tamall anuas, go háirithe ó bunaíodh TnaG. Tá an tÚdarás ag tabhairt spreagadh don fhorbairt seo, fiú ins na blianta sul a dtáinig TnaG ar an saol bhí sé páirteach i mbunú Telegael sa Spidéal agus bhí cúrsaí scannánaíochta a reachtáil go rialta i gceannáras an Údaráis ins na Forbacha. Ó shin i leith tá mórán de na daoine óga a rinne na cúrsaí seo ag obair leis na comhlachtaí neamhspleácha atá ag soláthar cláracha do TnaG, cé nach sa Ghaeltacht amháin atá siad seo suite. Is cinnte go bhfuil fás in ann don

tionscal closamhairc agus is féidir le ÚnaG sciar maith de a fháil, agus le beannacht an Aire Stáit, Éamon Ó Cuív, a dúirt an lá cheana go gcuirfí béim ar leith ar an fhorbairt áirithe seo.

Tá an tAire céanna tar éis Bille leasaithe Údarás na Gaeltachta a fhoilsiú agus cuireadh os comhair an tSeanaid é i dtús mhí Iúil. Baineann na hathruithe is mó le struchtúr an Bhoird agus na toghcháin. In ionad an 13 ball a bhí air to dtí seo, beidh 20 ar an mBord nua, 17 díobh tofa agus 3 ceaptha ag an Aire, an Cathaoirleach ina measc; go dtí seo seachtar a bhí tofa agus seisear ceaptha ag an Aire. Tá líon na dtoghlaigh le hardú ó trí cinn go dtí seacht gcinn, sa chaoi go mbeidh toghlach amháin i chuile chontae ina bhfuil limistéar Gaeltachta. Is ar bhun an daonáirimh atá líon na suíocháin roinnte idir na toghlaigh; Gaillimh 6, Tír Chonaill 4, Muigheo agus Ciarraí 2, Corcaigh, An Mhí agus Port Láirge 1. Dar ndóigh tá míshásamh ar dhaoine éagsúla leis an leagan amach seo, go háirithe na Conallaigh a mheasann go bhfuil buntáiste tugtha do Ghaillimh de bharr cuid de chathair na Gaillimhe bheith taobh istigh de theorainn Ghaeltacht Chonamara. Níl aon athrú a dhéanamh ar theorainneacha na Gaeltachta, agus cé thógfadh ar an Aire é an cheist achrannach seo a sheachaint? Ach is ceist í atá le réiteach luath nó mall.

Muna bhfuil deireadh curtha leis an eisimirce ón Ghaeltacht, ar a laghad tá rogha éigin ag daoine óga le hoideachas maith obair a fháil níos gaire don baile. Muna bhfuil leathadh tagtha ar labhairt na Gaeilge sa nGaeltacht, níl an cúlú chomh mór is a d'fhéadfadh sé bheith leis an mbrú ó domhain mór an Bhéarla ar chuile taobh. Caithfear bheith dóchasach go dtabharfaidh an ionadaíocht bhreise ar Bhord an Údaráis spreagadh agus cabhair don phobal Gaeltachta an teanga agus an oidhreacht atá acu a thabhairt slán don chéad ghlún eile.

Bríd Heussaff

Summary

Údarás na Gaeltachta, the Gaeltacht Development Authority was established in 1979, and since then has been active in establishing industry on a small scale in Gaeltacht areas, and in the promotion of the language and culture of the region. In recent years it has become involved in the Audio-Visual industry, which has developed in many Gaeltacht areas since the advent of TnaG.

An amendment to the Bill of ÚnaG, recently introduced in the Senate recommends as extended Board of 20 members, of which 17 will be elected, instead of the present 13 members, 7 of whom are elected. Instead of the present three electorates there will be seven, one in each county in which there is a Gaeltacht area.

The White Page / An Bhileog Bhán

Twentieth Century Irish Women Poets

Edited by

Joan McBreen

The White Page

If this white page could rise
Smoothly it'd come 'tween you and the wind
as its live.

Again it'd burst instantly these new roof
wattles
To put a marble floor under your shoe.

But, love, that wind won't come
Nor the shoe.

This white page won't rise,
But it'll wipe the tears from my cheek.



Cover painting: Usimh series (1996)
by Gwen O'Dowd

An Bhileog Bhán

Dá bhéirfidh an bhileog bhán seo éirí
is íofa a thófaí si íle d'á agus an ghaoth
na crannóg.

Pheáscadh ariú ar an toirt na raolacha nua
seo
Le húrú mairmair a chur faoi do bhróg.

Ach, a ghra, ní thófaí an ghaoth sin
Ná an bhróg.

Ná éireadh an bhileog bhán seo.
Ach glantaí si na deora de mo ghra.

by Caitlín Maude

(Courtesy of Cathal Ó Lúin)

The White Page / An Bhileog Bhán is a comprehensive study of Irish women's poetry published in book form from 1930 to the present time. It takes the form of an extended annotated directory, including biographical and bibliographical details on each poet. Poems and photographs, generously donated by the poets themselves, are also included. Poets born in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, poets of Irish ancestry and non-nationals who have been resident and writing in Ireland are included.

A reference book for students of Irish literature, it is also a poetry anthology representing poets who have published at least one collection of poetry in the twentieth century.

Joan McBreen is from Sligo, and lives in Tuam, Co. Galway. Her poetry collections are: **The Wind Beyond the Wall** (Story Line Press, Oregon, 1990; reprinted 1991) and **A Walled Garden in Moylough** (Story Line Press and Salmon Publishing, Co. Clare 1995). A third collection, **What We Have to Offer**, will be published in 2000. She trained and worked as a primary teacher for many years. In 1997 she was awarded an M.A. degree in Women's Studies by University College, Dublin, presenting **A Dictionary of Twentieth Century Irish Women Poets** as her dissertation.

Her poetry is published widely in Ireland and abroad and has been broadcast, anthologised and translated into many languages.

To order a copy of **The White Page / An Bhileog Bhán**, send a cheque for £9.99 plus £2.00 P&P (\$6.00 to USA) to Salmon Publishing, Cliffs of Moher, Co. Clare, Ireland. Please make cheques payable to Salmon Publications.

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CELTIC POETS UNITE! YOU'VE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR TONGUES

Nó sin a deir Academi Cardiff agus iad ag fógaírt *International Poetry Competition 2000*. Agus tá £5,000 i nduaiseanna le scaipeadh san 'International Poetry Competition' seo atá eagraithe ag Academi Cardiff - ainm trádála Yr Academi Gymreig (The Society of Writers of Wales and Welsh National Literary Promotion Agency) dream a mhaíonn ar a guíid bróiséir a oibríonn "with the support of the Arts Council of Wales."

Cén gearán atá agam, deir tú? Nach

maith an rud *International Poetry Competition* a bheith á eagrú ag Yr Academi Gymreig with the support of the Arts Council of Wales"? Is maith gan amhras, ach, ach, ach! Tá coinníollacha ag baint leis an International Competition seo. Ceart go leor tá an comórtas oscailte do "writers of any nationality and from any country" ach agus tá an ach an "provided they (na dánta) ar in English".

P. Ó S.

Artist's Identity?

The Dáil Éireann diplomat, Art O'Brien, presented a cartoon depicting the death of Terrence Mac Sweeney, to the National Museum. It was by a Breton artist he said. It is signed as well as I can decipher it' (A?) Bennesec (k)'. Can any one out there identify him or his oeuvre?

P.O.S.

Irish Artists in Breizh

Back in the 60s I often suggested to Ethna Waldren, then Curator of the Hugh Lane Gallery of Modern Art in Dublin, that she should publish her extensive knowledge on the phenomenon of Irish artists living - if temporarily - and working - often - in Breizh. People used to talk of them going to Normandy and were annoyed at my correction. Others talked vaguely about France until I asked for precision; art history (not that I could contribute much to the discipline) needs accuracy.

Ethna published very little - an article on Joseph Malachy Kavanagh in the *Capuchin Annual* in 1968 is the only source by her drawn on in a recent publication *Peintres Irlandais en Bretagne* (euro 21.52), a catalogue of the exhibition of the title shows in the Musée de Pont Aven from the 26 June to 27 September before its transfer to the Crawford Municipal Gallery in Cork. The lavishly illustrated (full colour) A4 production is a model of its kind and the thorough and detailed and unobtrusive introductory essay by Julian Campbell is the product of a worthy successor in this area to Ethna Waldren.

In a preface, by Catherine Puget, Curator of the Pont Aven museum, she puts this show and publication in the context of a series (1990 *Finns in Breizh*, 1995 *Yanks there*, 1999 *the Irish*); mentions O'Connor (always listed with Gauguin), Leech and Hovenden; and comments on 'la vivacité de nos liens entre Bretons et Irlandais' - would they were stronger and that publications such as this were in Breton and Irish instead of French and English. In its way this choice of language (some wouldn't see it as a choice) indicates how far we have got to go towards the restatement of our differentiating individualities.

Campbell opens his essay with a mention of Synge becoming fascinated with Breizh in the 1890's, writing about Le Braz, trying to learn Breton and expressing his 'admiration for the culture and plays of the Breton speaking peasantry of Low and Western Brittany' in his article 'A Celtic Theatre' in the *Freeman's Journal*, 22 March 1990. Synge's cousin, Edward Millington Synge was one of the Irish artists in Breizh at this time and is included in this exhibition and book. Campbell wonders if Synge was 'aware of the presence of another Irishman, the painter Roderic O'Connor who had been living at nearby Pont Aven for several years' (Synge was in Kemper). Campbell marks the differing effect: 'while Synge's discovery

of Brittany stimulated his interest in his own native culture - he returned home and devoted himself to Irish themes... O'Connor's encounter with the Pont Aven school was to bring him close to the French avant - garde, and further away from Ireland'. O'Connor was not the first Irish artist in Breizh, as Campbell points out. He mentions Francis Darby and Louisa Cosello in the 1830's in Dinan; others who 'journeyed to the north coast in the sixties; and that 'in the seventies and eighties, increasing numbers of Irish painters explored Finistère, staying at the artist's colonies of Douarnenez, Pont Aven, Quimperle and Concarneau,' migrating, as he says, to paint from Nature.

As well as commenting on the artists' attitudes to Breizh Campbell gives an extra context, even if, as he suggests, most of them may have been ignorant of it: 'religious and maritime links... since Celtic times'; 'religious communities such as Loceran and Saint Jacut de la Mar - founded by Irish Monks'; 'trade relations... commenced in the fifteenth century'; 'soldiers and mariners, boat builders and engineers'; Irish beggars 'on the roads (as noted by Éamon Ó Ciosáin in his contribution to Laurent and Davis, *Irlande et Bretagne, Vingt Siècles d'Histoire*, Rennes, 1994); the Irish College in Nantes, Arthur O'Leary in Saint Malo' and Wolf Tone leaving from Brest in 1796.

Some of the artists listed met their spouses in Brittany - Hazel Lavery, still a shadowy presence on Irish banknotes, an American artist, met John Lavery there and the last man listed, Michael Farrell married a Breton girl and lived with her in Saint-Malo until his return, impoverished, to Ireland in 1946.

The ultimate effect of their pelerines to Breizh can and will be argued about but for themselves and for us Campbell concludes:

'In the greater context of French art (more bleddy cultural imperialism! - PÓS), and amongst the diversity of painters working in Brittany Irish artists, with the exception of an individual such as Roderic O'Connor have passed little noticed. Yet, the Breton experience was of immense importance for Irish art. It had a liberating effect upon the Irish artists who worked in Brittany. Indeed several artists produced the most significant work of their career there. The Breton oeuvre is unique in Irish art. There could scarcely have been more concentrated, yet varied, representation of any other region, at least outside of Ireland.

Pádraig Ó Snodaigh

Córas Uimhreacha ISBN: Feachtas do Cheiltigh?

As readers may or may not know I as a publisher refuse to be dragooned or forced (by threat to my necessary subvention from the state) to use ISBN numbers on books published under the Coiscéim imprint.

The ISBN scheme is a good one, the idea behind it laudable. What could one complain about? Is an International Standard Book Number "what is says on the tin" (to echo the TV ad). It aint if you are a publisher in a Celtic country. Publishers in Breizh who use an ISBN number do so from the numbers and codes allotted to France, their books are therefore listed, recorded and catalogued as French publications.

The ISBN numbers and codes used in all the other Celtic countries are numbers and codes from the English series: all their publications are recorded therefore internationally, catalogued and listed as English. We object and rightly so to English annexationism in terms of our literature, athletes and so on. We can and we should halt them from annexing our book trade and business also.

The ISBN idea emanated from the "National" Book Week organised by Whittaker of London. Years ago "National" Book Week saw Hanna's windows in Nassau Street Dublin festooned with Union Jacks: quite rightly they knew (an opted into the usages of) the 'nation' concerned. (The day after I noticed the "decoration" all traces of siad union rag were removed from their displays ach sin scéal eile, as they say).

A solution to the ISBN dilemma in the Celtic Countries in view of their authorities failure to act to ensure products are not labelled as English, was mentioned by Anraoi Lerpelier to the undersigned lately.

He suggested that the Celtic Nations combine and arrange for a separate sequence of numbers separate from the English and French series. He cannot envisage any legal problems with this. Is his idea a worthwhile project for the league? I think so, and properly organised could lead to employment.

P. Ó S.

Openness of New Bloody Sunday Enquiry Undermined

The British directly and indirectly were never slow to quote the late Sean McBride's background when he spoke out on rights issues in Ireland in his UN capacity. Despite being an extremely well respected and internationally renowned human rights figure his previous involvement with the IRA (of another age) was enough to, in the view of the British, taint his judgement.



Lord Woolf

In a startling example of the hypocrisy for which the United Kingdom and its Justice System are renowned, we are expected to accept that the *good Justice Woolf* was trailing no such baggage, from his earlier military loyalty and commitment, when he sat to adjudicate in July in the Appeal Court and ruled that British Soldiers giving evidence to the new Bloody Sunday enquiry could remain anonymous.

The truth of course is that Lord Woolf, whatever twists and evasions the British put on the issue was and is a *Woolf in British Army clothing*.

Lord Woolf has said his previous Army service did not require him to declare an interest as it was forty years ago and he was only a conscript for National service.

In a letter he suggests that those interested or involved in cases heard by him should refer to *Who's Who* and similar publications if concerned about his military links.

Despite the Noble Lords spirited defence of his position the League intends to press the issue and has written to Irish Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern suggesting the Appeal Court ruling undermines the openness of the new Bloody Sunday enquiry.

NATO Chief Who Gave Murderers *Licence To Kill*

George Robertson's election to the position of Secretary General of NATO will bring some added qualities to the position. It was Robertson who, as United Kingdom Secretary of State for Defence, oversaw the re-integration into the British Armed forces of a number of convicted murderers. Most notable amongst these were the two Scots guardsmen Fisher and Wright who cold-bloodedly murdered Belfast man Peter McBride in 1992. Perhaps Robertson will encourage NATO members to extend the same largesse to their own prison inmates.

In the face of repeated Irish government protests and to the obvious distress of the McBride family, a misguided but well organised campaign for their release

achieved its ultimate objective when Northern Secretary Mo Mowlam released the two 'on licence'. Robertson added insult to the injury Peter McBride's family felt by allowing the two back into the Army and hence paradoxically giving them a 'licence to kill'. Indeed one of George's first actions was to endorse their service with a NATO deployed unit in Kosovo.

Some Scots, and others on the NATO scene, may see Robertson politically as the strong man of the Kosovo crisis. However, his handling of the Fisher and Wright episode, and others which allowed Army felons convicted in Ulster back into the Army, expose him as the weak little man he is.

No Watchdog For Radiation Danger

There appears to be no statutory body north or south of the Irish border charged with monitoring health implications connected with the British Army's use of non-ionising radiation emitting equipment in border areas.

The Celtic League recently wrote to various organisations in the United Kingdom and Ireland seeking information on the monitoring which was undertaken. Replies received from the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland (RPII) and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, indicate there is a vacuum which at present no independent monitoring body is filling.

The information is all the more surprising given that assurances were given in Dáil Éireann in March 1995 that: "the (radiation emitting) equipment used by the (British) Army in South Armagh is not harmful to health". It now appears that when this assurance was given it had no substance in fact.

Microwave emitting equipment and surveillance radar pose an undefined threat. The *jury* is still very much *out* on the long term implications to health but these have been increasingly in focus with concerns about systems such as transmitters for mobile phones.

One of the difficulties in quantifying the danger posed by the military installations, many of which sprout all manner of dish and antennae equipment, is that much of the information is classified.

The League still await replies from the British MoD and the NRPB but expect neither to be able nor willing to clarify the issue. Ireland's RPII is probably the one

body with the expertise and integrity to provide a definite analysis but at present the issue unfortunately "does not fall within its area of responsibilities".

J B Moffatt

IRISH WOMEN EARN A QUARTER LESS THAN MEN

Ireland ranks eleventh out of the 15 countries of the EU on equal pay between men and women. The average gross hourly wages for a woman in Ireland are 73.4% of a man's gross hourly earnings, according to an EU wide survey published in June by EUROSTAT, the Statistical Office of the European Communities.

The EUROSTAT survey is based on 1995 figures. Structural factors account for much of the difference in earnings between men and women, the survey points out.

Unemployment Down

Unemployment in the Republic is now down to a projected rate of 6% for this year and since 1993 the average increase per annum in the number at work has been 5%. Employment is projected to grow by 45,000 this year and a further 30,000 in each of the years 2000 and 2001.

Fraga na Tabm Guirhevelepter?

En journama ma pobell an beaz neverah comerez moye ha moye gen soon an heynes angy, en mar vear tel nag eze scantlower edn pow bennag na cowethyans a deez buz ma e dregorian meraz warthellar tha neb termen a vee an taklo 'kene' war neb coore. Radn a vetha omgwetha o hunnen en delhaz edn oge ew passiez pell than urma, en gurra drew hebma an leall powz ago henezel; ma rerol gwary batallyow, quethes en mael, a toane pub e arv coath vel gonn mean flent, gew po dinaul; hag en mèn termen skant nag eze keverang nan gevas cowethyans rag tedna gen gwaracke.

Mero tuah an moar, ha why ra gwella oll sorto coocoe ha gorollion dadn goul, hagenzol war an teer ma teez a vetha spenga ago freze en glanh ha mentayna gynnes tane.

Car dre hevol, ma gwage et agon bownaz hethow ew geres genz agon geys nouedzha. Era nye a moaz rage gen ree a dothe, metessen? En deda ethew hebma vor scappya meaz a dra na ellen nye gytheffia, buz en kettermen ethew seen dreze moye termen vage tha nye vel doren nye gweel dotha; rag a termen coath mar vesy o a beaz na oyah teez gweel kene vel laviria ha poaz, ha debre pee angy louare fortidniez; atter an pednzhivigian ha'n bobell vroaz, heneu!

Nag eze traveeth bedn dythana agon hunnen ha gwary; ha pur wyre en faes, nye a gotha thene gweel andellha, rag drevan styrt an skeeans na ellen nye omwetha rag gawas pylta termen vage, hag ull ema rina ew siger heb boaz angy o hunnen tha vlanya.

Peea tha ketep pedn bonogath dah! Buz, ethlays! an lavar coath ew lavar gweel drigge Satnaz neverah a cavaz wheal tha doola siger! Rag, pe nag eze traveeth a vo droag poran adro tha gara e laze, e thavaz ha e geysiw coath, ha po termeniow pa gotha tha deez saval aman ha omwetha o hunnen derage drogkoleth pe poesigian, whathe, gustla bell ha sordia streef wos preva neb consceyt prevath ew kene matter, en enuedzhek po hembra en contradicion an gwreanathe.

Pandrera ve a menia? Eah, nye a ore per thah, ha gwra ew, dro Kernow glaze thibblans pell than urma, ha remenadou an state ma reeg dirria bis en termen dewethaz, ew disquethez dreth bownaz an tavaz Curnooack, dreth adzhuanfas ha cove

gon teez coath drenz sevys a lydynathe coath Curnooack, ha mett ew dressans boaz prow a hebma. En contary part, po scadganho ha baigellio yuzia an gwreanthe ma rag trailia an holl tha leas o hunnen, wos neb spyta alanz cawsia, po neb drudgan alanz exercysa, drogkoleth ew hedna.

Menga pe na venga rima e adzhan, skant glanthder eze a treegaz en gūdzhan bobell Curnooack hethow, na bith moye et e geysiw. Nagew gon bownaz nye en Kernow scantlower kene es drewa en neb bar orol nag en Enezow Brethon na drez moar; ema an moyha radn a tibiaz, a tebre, omgwetha hag omthythana pecare; heb traveeth orol, an peledrooz a venga gon joynea nye oll warbar, ha ma teez Cheany eneth a comeras hedna aman lebben!

Ema rina a venga gweel o hunnen pure Curnowean, buz na ore angy pandrigge hedna a stirria, ha rag hedna mownz wheelaz framy glaze, geys ha heynes ew henroses it ago breze angy, neb teer fangles meza quignogs. Nag eze whathe attendes gongans dreze leez hanuo an plaso Sousnack en Kernow? Drew an Sousnack kenza tavaz an pow thea an 16vas cansblethan, po derage hedna? Ha mar teffan ha wheelaz en levan an phone dadn an letheran T, leb veath kevez henwyn eze a talla gen Tre-, an moyha leez hag arbednek an henwyn Curnooack, nye ra cavaz dreze scantlower moye avel 135 a henwyn ew Curnooack heb daunger, amisk moye avel 1000 a henwyn comerez oll warbar. Gweel ew drigge Tre- yuzia 15 column, buz ma Taylor e hunnen yuzia 7 nonge!

Soo, rag fra na comeras gon pow car drewa? Rag fra benthigio a'n Skottez ago thartan, kilt ha pib zah? Po a'n Kembrañ ago Gorsedd? Po a'n Bretten ago hans? Po a'n Gothily ago streef? Nag igge an takloma longia tha nye! Ew shame gena nye ra' gon henwyn, po angy Sousenack po Curnooack? Ew meth gena nye rag an peath a vetha Kernow en leall?

Pylta crefha neverah a veath cowethyans ew foundyes war an gwreanathe ha'n gwra.

Richard Gendall

Precis

Why not a bit of Reality?

To-day, with so much leisure time compared with our forefathers, we are able

to indulge what seems to be a fascination with the past, perhaps dressing up in the costume of olden times, or shooting with the bow, or restoring ancient steam engines. This is harmless enough, and why not, indeed, be proud of our past? But unfortunately there will always be mischievous, or at best misguided persons who are not satisfied with the facts as they find them, but manipulate the truth to suit their own ends. The character of Cornwall's history and cultural background need not and should not be either distorted or fabricated to make of it what it is not. The notion of racial, national, or cultural purity for the Cornish is a myth. Extravagant claims about a 'Celtic Cornwall' are part of this myth, the only indisputable 'Celtic thing' being the Cornish language, and that too owes its distinct Cornishness to its admixture with English. We have even had English law for 1000 years, not counting the Stannary Parliament which has now 'fizzled out'. Let's stop playing games. Truth is always better than fiction, and produces a stronger, healthier culture.

Euro

Hedhyw y teuth dhymm Carn Hav 1999 ha my a wel bos diw seythun gesys dhymm kyns an 'linenn varow', an kynsa a vis Est dhe skrif dhis. My a garsa leverel fatell yw da an niver ma, dres oll martesen awos an skrifow pals yn Sowsnek ha Kembrek, ha meur aga les a'm koweth Robat ap Tomos, kyn fo nebes trist, war forth arall, gweles nag eus travydh dyllys yn Kernewek Kemmyn.

My a skrif dres oll dhe rassa dhe Robat ow kampoella an lyvrik byghan *Hunros Macsen Wlegid* treyllys dha Gernewek a Gembrek gans José Calvete, den pur skentel yn yethow keltek, devedhys y deylu, dell skrif Robat, dhiworth Galithi, ha trigys lemmyn yn Pow Frynk. Gas vy dhe veneges ynwedh, mar pleg, bos *Peder Skorrenn an Mabinogi* treyllys dhe Gernewek gans Jowann Richards dyllys ynwedh gans *Kernewek dre Lyther*.

Gwann kyn fo ow Hembrek my re assayas redya skrif Robat, *Ewro*, *Euro*. *Iwro*?? Mara'n konvedhav yn ta, yma Robat ow leverel bos res dhe Gembregoryon dewis yntra leverel (ha skrifa?) *Ewro*, *Euro* hag *Iwro* avel hanow an mona nowydh europek. Unnver yw *Ewro* gans an fordh gembrek a skrifa Europ, h.y. *Ewrop*. Unnver yw *Euro* gans an fordh gemmyn a skrifa an hanow kyn na dhiskwa hemma an fordh dha a leverel an hanow yn Kembrek. *Iwro* a dhiskwa yn lytherennans kembrek an fordh sowsnek a leverel an hanow, ha hemma a via an fordh sywys gans mall gans lies Kembrek kyn

An Kynsa Knutelles Brythonek

An 6 a vis Est, synsys veu yn Bretoña (Galythi) an kynsa kuntelles Brythonek. Ottomma le ha hanow arwoedhek rag an kynsa kuntelles Brythonek! Dhe dhiwedh an V^{ves} kansblydhen y teuth Brythonyon dhe Alythi Gledh dre vras, ena y kevir hwath henwyn-tyller avel Bretoña (ogas dhe Mondoñedo). Amkan an kynsa kuntelles Brythonek ma o rag ensampel:

- dysplegya kevrennow ynter an Poblow Brythonek a-dhiworth Kembra, dre Gernow, dre Vreten Vyghan dhe Vretoña ha gans an Poblow Keltek

Euro (contd)

fo, herwydh Robat *efelychu'n slafaid* iaith ein meistri! (sywya avel kethyon yeth agan arlydhi).

Dell woer lies den yth yw an syllabenn eu greka, ha kyn fo skrifys yn keth forth yn lies yeth, kewsys yw pub le y'n fordh dihevelep ow sywya rewlys an yeth may ma kewsys. (Awos hemma y feu an hanow dewisys, dell grysav). Yma'n fowt, martesen, gans an yeth kembrek re treylas an lytherennans kesgwasek ma, yn le y witha ha'y leverel y'n fordh gembrek. Kemmyn lowr yw an syllabenn yn kembrek. My a wel lies ger y'm gerlyver kembrek a dhalleth gans eu- kyn nag yw gans styr greka. Ytho my a garsa profya Kembrekoryon dhe skrifa Euro ha'y leverel yn gis kembrek dell y'n lever an Sowson y'n gis sows, an Frynkyon yn gis frynkek, an Almanyon y'n gis almaynek h.e.h.e.

Mes ena pydh yw an kusul gwella rag an Rekys voghosek a ros dhyn an hanow yn kynsa? Milweyth gweyth yw aga stuth i! Yn Greka skrifys yw Euro, 'Evpo, mes yn Greka arnowydh leverys yw an nesa lytherenn, an *upsilon* avel v yn Kernewek ha Sowsnek po f yn kembrek. Mar mynnons skrifa Euro dhe vos leverys heb an son v res vydh skrifa 'Eovpo! Ytho my a omwovynn pandr'a vynnons dhe wul?!

Ray Edwards

Summary

I am praising Carn 106, thanking Robat ap Tomos for mentioning 'Hunros Macsen Wlegid' and commenting on his notes on possible Welsh forms of Euro, suggesting Euro would be best and wondering what the Greeks will do about the word as the u (upsilon) is pronounced as v in Modern Greek.

erell, henn yw Iwerdhon, Alban ha Manow.

- omguntell pub trevesigeth an Vrythonyon yn Galythi avel y'n V^{ves} kansblydhen yn termyn epskop an Vrythonyon yn Galythi henwys Mailoc.
- krevhe an gevellansow ynter an trevow Brythonek y'n termyn eus passys.

Y few keskusulyansow ha moesow-krenn yn-kever an yeth Bretonek gans Gérard Lilieure, doktour yn yethonieth yn Pennskol Santiago de Compostela (Galythi) ha Belen Martin, dyskadores yn Reims (Pow Frynk), yn-kever an ilow vrethonek gans Moncho Failde hwitherer yn ethnologieth hag y kevis ynwedh moesow-krenn yn-kever gevellansow trevow Breten Vyghan ha trevow Galythi.

Wosa an keskusulyansow ha'n moesow-krenn yth yskynnas an dus war an vre henwys 'Auruxeira' yn Bretoña rag koena hag eva gwin da! Wosa henna keywywes veu Goel Lughnasad gans ilow keltek.

An kynsa kuntellyans Brythonek a veu ordenys gans A.C. AURUXEIRA gans kesoberyans an LIGA CELTIGA GALAICA (Kesunyans Keltek Galythiek) ha'n IRMANDADE GALIZA-BREIZH (Brederedh Galythi-Breten Vyghan).

Pella derivadow ow skrifa dhe:

Liga Celtiga Galaica, Apartado 2167,

A Coruña, 15080, Galiza (Via Spain)

Tel: 981 226167

Asociación Xuvenil 'Auruxeira',

22746 Bretoña, Galiza (Via Spain)

Tel: 982 349157.

José CALVETE

Summary

The first Breton (or should we rather say) Brittonic gathering was held on the 6th August 1999, in Bretoña (Galicia). A good choice since we should remember that Bretoña was the heart of the Breton settlements in Galicia and Northern Spain in the Dark Ages. The aims of this first gathering were to link again all the Brittonic diaspora from Wales, through Cornwall and Brittany and to the land of the old Breton settlement of Galicia but also to strengthen the links with the other Celtic people. There were conferences and debates about the Breton language, music and about the twining between cities of Brittany and Galicia. At the end of the day, there was a 'Lughnasad' feast on the hill surrounding Bretoña with Celtic music.



THE CORNISH HOLOCAUST REMEMBERED

The first week of July saw the commemoration of Cornwall's Prayer Book War of 1549, an event no less tragic and significant in Kernow's history than the An Gof rising of 1497 of which the 500th anniversary was marked in 1997. The Prayer Book War does not figure prominently in the history taught in Cornish schools but in its effect on the Cornish language it is possibly the most significant single episode in the country's history, and the reprisals for the rising in 1549 are well fitted to the title of *Cornish Holocaust* proposed at this year's Cornish Language week-end. The story of the war is given in a bilingual book, *Cornwall's Secret War* by Pol Hodge, published this year by Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek.

The war was an unsuccessful uprising of the Cornish against religious reforms introduced by the English government ruling in the name of the young king Edward VI, in particular against the introduction of English language services and an English prayer book instead of Latin. Under the leadership of Sir Humphrey Arundell from Helland near Bodmin, the rebels sent a series of articles to the government, including a call for the will of the previous king, Henry VIII, to be carried out until Edward VI was old enough to rule, and a call for the retention of Latin mass for the *Cornishmen did not understand English*. The articles were refused and the Cornish rebels marched through east Cornwall into Devon and laid siege to Exeter. In an encounter with the English army at Clist St. Mary, 1000 Cornish were killed and 900 taken prisoner. These prisoners were then massacred. This was quickly followed by a further defeat of the Cornish in battle at Sampford Courtney, while any Cornish captured were put to death. Arundell surrendered in August 1549. He was taken to London, tried, and executed in January 1550. Some 4000 Cornish had died in the rebellion.

The English reprisals for the rebellion, under Provost Marshal Anthony Kingston, involved hanging about 1000 men in an episode reminiscent of the reprisals for the 1745 Jacobite rising in Scotland, and possibly the French reprisals in Brittany at the end of World War II. (The hanging of the mayor of Bodmin is still re-enacted in Bodmin Riding Festival.) A total of 5000 Cornish had been killed, some 11% of the population of Cornwall. These would have

been generally youngish men, and overwhelmingly Cornish speakers. It seems that the reprisals under Kingston were directed against the Cornish speaking population. It can be said that the heart had been ripped out of the Cornish-speaking community by these events, which, together with the severing of links with Brittany following the associated Protestant Reformation and the general alienation of Cornish from the establishment, are responsible for the consequent collapse of the language. In the early 16th century Cornish was spoken over most of Kernow, possibly as far east as the Tamar in places. In 1602 it was reported that English *hath driven the same into the uttermost skirts of the shire*. In the face of persecution it seems that the 16th century saw Cornish cease to be passed on by parents to their children over much of the country.

In July 1999 the Prayer Book War and the subsequent Cornish Holocaust were marked by a march from Bodmin to Exeter and the planting of 900 Cornish flags in the lawn in front of Exeter cathedral.

Robat ap Tomos



Indíxenas e Romanos na Galicia Céltica

by Rosa Brañas,

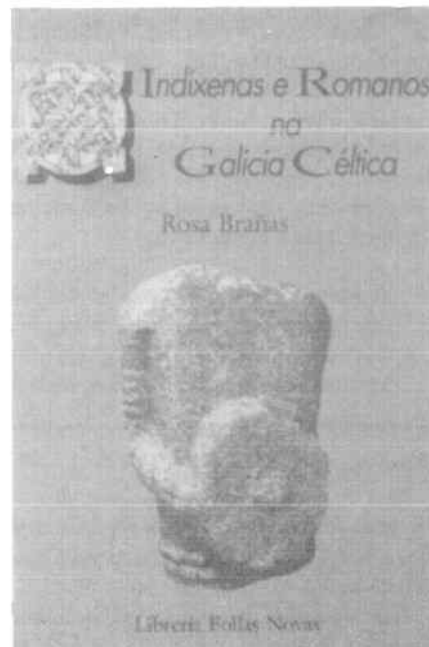
Librería Follas Novas, I.S.B.N. 84-605-4361-7.

This book contains 364 pages and is written in Galician. The title means *Natives and Romans in Celtic Galicia*. This is a very interesting book and it should come to be regarded as a welcome study of Galician history before and during the Roman conquest and occupation.

The book is organised into four chapters. It begins with an important introduction where the author explains the tribal and clannish organisation of the old native Galician society which was called "Gallaecia" by the Romans. The author particularly explains the symbol "⌒" appearing on the Roman inscriptions of Gallaecia.

Chapter 1 is concerned with the Roman vision of the native inhabitants of Gallaecia, described as people of obstinate and barbarous temperament, in contrast to the Roman world and civilization. We also find in this chapter the report given by Strabo in his "Geography" which is the most important report of the classical period.

Chapter 2 deals with the integration of "Gallaecia" in the Roman Empire and the use of native institutions, political and territorial divisions by the Roman administration.



Chapter 3 is a study of personal native names found in the inscriptions and related to "⌒" groups. This is a very interesting chapter as the great majority of these personal names are traceable to Celtic origin and linked with those of the Roman provinces called Lusitania, Celtiberia, Britannia and Gallia. It is also noteworthy that a good amount of them are explained with references to Old Irish and to Brittonic (Welsh, Breton and Cornish). The place-names related to these tribal groups with the symbol "⌒" are also explained with the help of the Celtic languages.

Chapter 4 is concerned with the study of the ancient society of Gallaecia, its organisation, its structures with large references to the Old Irish society, tales and myths.

Throughout the book, there are large footnotes, some illustrations with photographs of "castros" (Galician hill-forts) and sculptures of warriors found in these castros and as an appendix, all the inscriptions found in Galicia and referred to in the book.

I think it is a very valuable and interesting book, but alas the book is written in Galician; a language unknown to the great majority of members of the Celtic League. You can obtain a copy of this book at the following address: Librería Couceiro, Rep. De El Salvador, 9, 15701 Santiago De Compostela, Galicia (Via Spain) phone 56-58-12, fax 57-22-39

José CALVETE

AN BALORES

A new Cornish magazine is born! *An Balores* (in English - The Chough) is North America's first periodical in and about the Cornish language. Its aims are to promote the Cornish language in North America and to support learners and speakers of Cornish both in North America and overseas in whatever Cornish orthography they use, i.e. Kernewek Kemmyn, Unified Cornish, Unified Cornish Revised or Modern Cornish.

Articles deal with information about the history of the language, its literature, language lessons at all skill levels in Kernewek Kemmyn, Unified Cornish or Unified Cornish Revised, a calendar of upcoming events in North America and Cornwall, book reviews and original Cornish writing.

It is a very pleasant magazine to read and an open-minded one as far as Cornish spelling is concerned since you will find articles and Cornish lessons written in the different spellings. I warmly recommend this new magazine to learners of Cornish since they will find valuable lessons and to fluent speakers of Cornish since they will find good original Cornish writing. If you want more information about *An Balores* please contact:

- Benjamin Bruch (A Kernewek Kemmyn user), P.O. Box 391804, Cambridge, MA 02139-0018, USA. e-mail: info@schoenhofs.com
- Brian Young (A Unified Cornish user), 1227 N 10th Street, Enid, OK 73701, USA, e-mail: caledfwlch@prodigy.net.

José CALVETE

Chaghnoaylleaght-Fysseree Ayns Nalbin

Ta British Telecom chebbal kianglaghyn noa-emshyragh da Gaeltaght Nalbin. Bee ny kianglaghyn shoh frauagyn reayrtoil (optic fibres). Foddee fysseree (data) goll trooid lheid ny kianglaghyn shoh tappee agglagh, as foddee frauagyn goaill foddey ny shlee chaghteraghtyn na strengyn metal. Gobbraghey lesh chaghnoaylleaght noa, goll rish co-earrooderyn, oddagh shoh cooney dy moor lesh sleih ta cummal ayns ny h-ellany Albinagh as ayns y thaloo sleitagh er y cheer vooar Albinagh. Oddagh y Ghaeltaght Albinagh lheim dy jeeragh dys eash y dellal lectraneagh (dellal-l) as oddagh sleih ayns shen creck cooid oc liorish yn Eddyr-Voggyl.

Ersdyn ooillee, ta sleih guee dy nod ad cur bree noa da'n Ghaeltaght Albinagh as croo startaghyn feeu son sleih aeg ayns shen. Son ymmodde sheelagheyn, shen y chooid smoo ta'n Ghaeltaght cur da'n teihll: feallagh aeg ta egnit faagail y cheer oc hene as goll feiy ny cruinney shirrey obbyr. Gyn ourys, va Ventyrys y Ghaeltaght (Highlands and Islands Enterprise) braew bwooiagh tra haink British Telecom huc er y gherid lesh y treealtys dy chooney lesh chaghnoaylleaght noa. Agh cha nel BT son eek dy chooillee nhee: ta BT laccal ny boodeeyssyn ynnydagh (local communities) as y reilts Goaldagh dy eek paart jeh'n chostys.

My vees ny kianglaghyn shoh jeant, bee sleih abyly dy chur yn troaryn oc roish yn teihll er yn Eddyr-Voggyl as creck ny troaryn shen. Chammah as shen, bee ellanee Albinagh abyly dy insh da'n teihll dy vel ny h-ellany oc ayn as dy vishaghey dellal-turysid. Ny sodjey na shen, oddagh Shirveish Slaynt Nalbin sauail argid moor er y fa nagh beagh er ass-layntee ellanagh getlagh dys y cheer vooar lesh shillee er fir-lhee coyrlee. Oddagh fir-lhee coyrlee er y cheer vooar Albinagh scrutaghey ass-layntee ayns ny h-ellanee liorish culleeyn-chellveeish. Ta lheid ny culleeyn shen gobbraghey hannah eddyr Ellan Arran as thieyn-lheihys er y cheer vooar. She BT hug ny culleeyn fo raad ayns Arran. Foddee yn unnid ayns shen cur jallooyn-

cronneyder (scanner images) ta feer vaghtal gys thieyn-lheihys er y cheer vooar. Foddee ny jallooyn-cronneyder shoh ve jeant lesh scellyn-X, mynreayrtan ny cronneyder CT. As ta Oik Nalbin kiarail lhasaghey moggyl-lhee ry-hoi dellal rish kahngyr ny h-oohraghyn. T'ad kiarail kianglee y moggyl-lhee lesh ynnyd-chahngyr ayns Glaschu.

Lheid y scrutaghey foddey jeh, shoh cooish ta BT ronsaghey dy jeean. Myr sampleyr, ta'n colught lhasaghey culleeyn vees cur yn ablid da fir-lhee ayns thie-lheihys er y cheer vooar feddyn magh vel doghan ennagh jannoo er peiagh er ellan ennagh. Er yn ellan bee sambyl jeh fuill y pheigh currit stiagh ayns saagh beg er-lheh vees kianlt gys co-earrooder. Hed y sambyl-folley er mynscrutaghey as bee y fysseree currit er agh lectraneagh gys fir-lhee er y cheer vooar dy yeeaghyn er. Eisht, nee ny fir-lhee cur faashyns-enn (diagnosis). Lhasaghey-slaynt elley, shen culleeyn oddys mynscrutaghey ennal, daah yn chrackan, kiarkil-sooillee as ocsaidaghey (oxidation) yn chrackan.

Ayns Islay, y red smoo scanshoil bentyn rish y chaghnoaylleaght noa shoh, shen dy vod ee cur ablid da sleih ayns Islay jannoo coorseyn-ynsee gyn faagail yn ellan. Foddee ad goaill ymyd jeh seyraaidyn-ynsee (teaching facilities) ayns ollooscoillyn as ad tannaghtyn er yn ellan oc hene. Oddagh studeyrn ayns Islay geaishtagh rish as jeeaghyn er leaghtyn-ollooscoill veagh goll er livrey er y cheer vooar. Ta treealtys ayn dy neekagh ny studeyrn shoh lesh 'meegra-chooinagyn' ('micro-tokens'). Veagh ny studeyrn reih ny leaghtyn daue hene. Cha nod ooillee y stoo shoh ve jeant mannagh vel linnaghyn-fysseree ry-gheddyn oddys livrey ra fysseree ec yn un cheayrt. Shen y fa dy vel ny frauagyn-reayrtoil cho scanshoil. Ta sleih guee dy jean ny frauagyn shoh cur cooney daue dy chur Gaeltaght Nalbin stiagh ayns cree yn Oarpey as freayll y cultoor dooghyssagh ec yn un cheayrt. Ta Sabhal Mòr Ostaig syn Ellan Skianagh goaill ayn moor ayns ny h-immeeaghtyn shoh.

Brian Stoyll

Language Advances

- Following a suggestion by Anne Cain, Member of the Board of Education, the Department of Education is to investigate the feasibility of running induction courses into the culture and heritage of Mann for new employees to the Island. Ms Cain asked that the Dept. make the courses compulsory, however Mr Rodan, Education Minister, felt that the courses should not be compulsory. This suggestion should be applauded, as new teachers, in particular, would benefit greatly from an early introduction to the distinct culture of Mann. At present such courses are run for civil servants.

- The Manx Heritage Foundation (MHF), which aims to identify unique areas of Manx heritage and culture and find practical ways of making them relevant to today's society, gave grants totalling £107,908 during the previous year.

One of the most important elements of the foundation's work is to encourage the use of the Manx language.

During the past year Mooinjer Veggey, the Manx language pre-school playgroup, received funding and a scheme to promote a programme of creative writing in Manx was introduced. The MHF was also involved in many publications during the year.

Future plans include the establishment of a dedicated Manx Gaelic writer in residence and the construction of a website.

Summary

British Telecom is proposing high-speed optic fibre communication links to help regenerate the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

New Network Monitors Radiation Threat

New radiation detectors installed by the Manx government will provide added security and advance warning of any nuclear threat to communities, in the Isle of Man, Scotland, Ireland and N. England.

The Celtic League have welcomed the installation by the Isle of Man government of a new network of radiation monitoring devices at various locations on the Isle of Man. The new equipment will enhance the warning available to people around the Irish sea of any nuclear radiation threat posed. The equipment will be connected to a central analyst's Department in the Islands capital. Information will be received, and audible and visual alarms triggered, if there are any abnormally high readings and the Island authorities will be immediately aware of any emergency situation.

One of the detectors will be sited on Snaefell the islands highest peak which is immediately adjacent to the Sellafield reprocessing plant. Another will be sited at Ramsey in the north of the Island which is the closest centre of population on the Island to the BNFL complex.

The Island, like parts of Eastern Ireland, was severely effected by the fire at Sellafield in the mid fifties at that time the British government kept details of the contamination secret for several weeks.

The equipment will also be useful for monitoring any general radiation threat from the many nuclear installations in the United Kingdom which have suffered a stream of minor accidents and incidents in recent years. Only last week a serious fire occurred at Torness nuclear power plant, in East Lothian, although no radiation release appears to have resulted.

The League has also recorded its appreciation in a letter to the Manx government of the work of its radiation monitoring section which four years ago successfully identified the appearance of a new isotope (technetium-99) connected to discharges from the Sellafield plant. Like their Irish counterpart the RPII the Manx analyst's keep track of changing radiation levels in water and soil around the Irish sea.

The Manx government in common with its Irish counterpart is committed to seeking the closure of Sellafield.

J B Moffatt



Anne Kissack, Phil Gawne and children Ewan and Catreeney

When Man becomes Mannin, on Ireland's RTÉ television

Mention the Isle of Man to most Irish people, and they will imagine a tax haven which runs motorbike races, an 'offshore' island where money can be sheltered from scrutiny. But this autumn, on 21 September, RTÉ 1 Television broadcast a half-hour documentary in the *Léargas* series, which looked behind the stereotypes to examine the identity and self-image of Manainn. The programme included interviews in Manx and in Irish, and was subtitled in English.

Global finance versus native culture, loyalty to the Crown versus nationalism, survival for a small country of 70,000 people... These were the major issues which ran through the programme. How have the Manx people coped as the huge influx of finance workers have made them a minority in their own island? Have the incomers been to the benefit or detriment of the Manx language? What are the day-to-day difficulties faced by the small number of families now speaking Manx to their children? What about independence for Mannin in the future?

Léargas included interviews with Mark Kermode, Chairman of Mec Vannin; with Phil Gawne, language development officer, and with his wife Anne Kissack; with Dr Brian Stowell, academic and former language education officer; and with Donald Gelling, Chief Minister and member of the island's Tynwald (parliament). The issues raised and the places illustrated would be unfamiliar to most Irish television viewers, and in a half-hour programme, many of them were dealt with only briefly. But the programme (in a series which regularly attracts at least 200,000 viewers) should help show a wider audience that there's more to Mannin than bank accounts.

Léargas on 'Manainn' was produced by Anna Heussaff, who got the idea for the programme last year from reading *Carn's* special 100th edition! It was broadcast on RTÉ 1, and later repeated on TG4, the Irish language TV station formerly called TnaG. Both RTÉ and TG4 can be received, it seems in some western areas of the Isle of Man.

"Know Your Customer" - The Russian Mafia?

It comes as no surprise to us who have consistently argued for tighter money laundering legislation that the Isle of Mann seems destined once again to be implicated in scandal. International news reports indicate that the Island may be involved in the multi-billion dollar money laundering scandal that has rocked the Russian government.

The revelations are also a further knock for the Island's puerile money laundering Policy "Know your Customer".

The scandal involves US and Swiss banks which, if subsequently proven, will put recent Manx government claims to be expanding business with Swiss banking interests in a slightly different light.

The origins of the vast sums swindled in this latest scam are also an embarrassment. While much of the total has been skimmed off from public funds - part of the corruption endemic in Russian political life today - at least some of it is said to originate from the lucrative vice trade, which grips Russia.

Celtic League AGM Kernow 1999

The thirty eighth AGM of the Celtic League was held in the Public Hall, Liskeard, Kernow on September 18th. Delegates from five National branches and England branch heard reports from the General Officers and Branches, discussed, and passed the motions listed below.

A good level of activity had been achieved throughout the year, but both Chairman and General Secretary called on branches to launch a drive for increased membership to ensure the League would continue as a potent force for inter - Celtic co-operation into the next millennium. (see also Celtic League Campaigns on page 23.)

This AGM of the Celtic League:

Calls upon the Scottish Executive to put statutory provision in place as soon as possible to ensure that all secondary school pupils in Scotland have the choice to learn Gaelic as a modern European language through the medium of English and to sit Standard and Higher Grade Gaelic Learners' exams should they wish to do so.

• This AGM of the Celtic League:

Calls upon the newly appointed Director-General of the BBC, Greg Dyke, upon the newly appointed head of the BBC Broadcasting Council for Scotland, Sir Robert Smith and upon the Controllers of BBC Scotland and BBC Wales to ensure:

- a) that 'Scottish Six' and 'Welsh Six' national and international news programmes are established immediately.
- b) that Radio nan Gaidheal be made available throughout Scotland within 2 years.
- c) that funding to Radio nan Gaidheal be increased immediately to enable an increase in hours broadcast.
- d) that Radio nan Gaidheal and Radio Cymru be broadcast on satellite and on the internet for the benefit of Gaelic and Welsh speakers and learners world-wide.

• This AGM supports the creation of a digital Gaelic television channel as recommended by the Fraser report, but calls upon BBC Scotland and upon the Scottish ITV companies to ensure that Gaelic programmes are also shown on their digital English language channels given the vital role which Gaelic television has played in bringing Gaelic to the attention of non-Gaelic speakers.

• This AGM:

Calls upon the UK Government to return to Scottish control fishing and territorial sea rights in the area off South East Scotland and urges the Scottish Executive to actively pursue this objective.



Alasdair Mac Caluim, a Scottish delegate.

• This AGM of the Celtic League objects strongly to BNFL proposals for shipment of toxic enriched uranium through the Irish Sea and calls on the Irish and Manx Governments to take legal action to prevent this.

• This AGM:

a) Calls for full publication of documents relating to the emergency shutdown of Hunterston B power station in Ayrshire in

December 1998 and the potential 'melt-down' scenario that ensued.

b) We call for an independent risk assessment of the potential danger posed by the incident to central Scotland and the surrounding area.

• This AGM:

Concerned that restrictions and obstacles are continuously being put by the (French) Department of Education to the progress being achieved in recent years in the teaching of Breton in schools.

Wishes to express its rejection of the idea that the adoption and implementation of the measures necessary for the transmission of the language to the younger and future generations is dependant on the goodwill and decision of any authority other than that of a democratically elected assembly representing the people to whom that language belongs.

Calls on the Regional Council for Brittany to demand, of the French Government and Minister of Education, the delegation of the powers required to ensure that an effective and adequate system of teaching Breton be established.

• This AGM condemns the UK and French Governments' decision not to recognise Kernow and Breizh respectively under the provisions of the 'European Charter for National Minorities'.

• We call upon the UK and French Governments to recognise Kernow and Breizh under the provisions of the Charter. We also call upon the European Commission to re-examine the policy of allowing Member States to define who should be recognised as a 'National Minority'.

• This AGM condemns the decision of the Irish Government not to hold a referendum on Irish membership of PpP and calls on the major partner in Government to honour its traditional commitment to Irish neutrality and to meet its pre-election pledge of holding a referendum on Irish participation in PpP.

• This organisation calls on the organisers of the long standing Irish/Scottish (Gaeilge/Gàidhlig) cultural exchange to broaden this to include participation from and visits to the Isle of Man and encourages the Manx Heritage Foundation to support and aid the funding from their side. We also suggest to the GAA to investigate the



Martyn Miller and Julyan Holmes, two of the Cornish delegates.

Welcomes the release of the 23 leaders of Herri Batasuna and the relaxing of restrictions on the free Basque media. The Celtic League call on the Spanish government to reach agreement with the Basque people which allows their self determination within Europe.

- The Celtic League calls for International condemnation of the repression of minorities currently administered by the Indonesian government particularly the peoples of East Timor, Irian Jaya and Aceh.

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feasibility of extending their Hurling/Shinty exchanges to the Island.

• This AGM:

Condemns the failure of the British government to live up to de-commissioning commitments in the Good Friday Agreement particularly in the border areas of N. Ireland and South Armagh.

We call on the British government to end the refurbishment and reconstruction of installations in these areas and call for a full environmental impact study into the long term pollution and potential environmental health problems caused by these fortifications.

• This AGM:

Reiterates its support for the Irish Peace Process based on the Good Friday Agreement and urges implementation by the parties and the Irish and British Governments.

- This AGM expresses support for the Cornish Stannary Parliament in its demand that a Cornish organisation takes charge of Cornish cultural and historical sites. Signs, which bear the name of the organisation, English Heritage are out of place on Cornish national monuments.

• This AGM supports the principle that:

- a) No person holding any Public Office in Mannin should be required to offer or swear any allegiance to any authority or body having jurisdiction outside Mannin.

b) No person holding Public Office in Mannin should accept any honours, titles or enhancements from any jurisdiction outside Mannin while holding such Office.

c) No Civil Servant or Officer of the Manx government will accept any post or duties that may result in a conflict of loyalties or interest with their duty to the elected Manx government.

• This AGM:

Recalling the resolution of the Celtic League's Caernarfon AGM which condemned the supply by the United Kingdom to Indonesia of Hawk aircraft and the training of Indonesian personnel using facilities in Cymru and off Mannin. The Celtic League welcomes the initiative taken by the Isle of Man Chief Minister in raising this issue with the British government.

• The AGM of the Celtic League:

- a) supports calls by Irish Community Groups in England for a full public enquiry into the death of Richard O'Brien in police custody in London in 1994".
- b) urges an investigation by the Home Secretary into allegations that anti-Irish racism is 'rife in the Metropolitan Police".

• This AGM:

Mindful of the resolution of our 1998 AGM which criticised the Spanish government for its repression of the Basque National Party, Herri Batasuna.

To members and subscribers, Celtic League International Branch

Alan Heusaff regrets to say, that due to health problems, he is obliged to relinquish most of his duties as branch secretary and sub-editor of the Breizh section of *Carn*. Fortunately Mark Lockerby, address 20 King Williams's Way, Castletown, Mannin/Isle of Man, has agreed to take over from him, at first as assistant secretary. Subscribers who are paid up will continue to receive their copies of *Carn* from Brid Heusaff until their subscriptions have expired. They will then be asked to send the required payment to Mr. Lockerby. However subscribers in Ireland should preferably renew their subscriptions with the Irish Branch Secretary, Fionnbarra Mac Tréanfhir (address page 24 *Carn*).

Alan wishes to state that he will find it difficult to answer letters. He hopes that members and subscribers who have shown unremitting support for the work of the Celtic League and for *Carn* in particular will continue to do so in future.

CELTIC LEAGUE CAMPAIGNS

*Extract from the General Secretary's
Report*

Readers and members will be interested to get a back stage glimpse of the campaign work carried out by the General Secretary (supported by the branches) during the year.

During the year (to June) postal mailings and fax messages (mainly press releases) were sent. The press mailing & fax figures are broadly in line with previous years and total approx. 1500 (combined). This level of communication is time consuming but it does ensure that centrally the organisation has a visible profile.

Publicity has accrued, as in previous years, with good coverage both from the print and broadcast media for the Leagues campaigns. Coverage in 1998/99 period was reasonable and in addition to targeting main National media, local and regional media sources were included.

The main subjects covered in press releases were as follows:

- 1) Humboldt Chair of Celtic Studies - Celtic countries and Germany.
- 2) Sellafield wide range of press releases focusing on S/field problems and the British nuclear Industry generally.
- 3) Gaelic and Celtic languages - a range of publicity.
- 4) Beaufort Dyke and the sea dumping of munitions this issue surfaced periodically.
- 5) Military low flying - Continues to generate good and effective publicity with good take-up by local media (mid Wales, SW Scotland, Highlands).
- 6) Various issues relating to N. Ireland including the McBride killing, Dirty War, RUC, (S. Armagh - see 19) etc.
- 7) Basques implementation of AGM resolutions.
- 8) EI-712 ongoing from previous years - Continued interest and publicity.
- 9) Finance Sector (Dublin & Mann) continuing campaign. Good publicity accrued following the arrest of Charles Redmond on a flight from the IOM to Dublin with over £300,000.
- 10) Language issues various communications and press statements - In this area excellent cooperation between the Alba branch and the General Secretary.
- 11) Loss of MFV Amber Rose

assistance to the family's campaign to provide support considerable time expended on this.

- 12) Nuclear waste disposal at sea in the 1950s uncovered details of this previously unknown situation
- 13) Support for peace process N. Ireland and Basque country.
- 14) Nuclear shipments - Barrow incident publicity pushed out.
- 15) MOD pollution issue S Wales - cross reference SAFRC.
- 16) Arms trade and exploitation of third world - various press releases, letters etc.
- 17) Support (in the form of letters - press releases) various third world movements (Asia, Africa, L America).
- 18) Protest to the Israeli Embassy and correspondence with the UN and Irish governments over UNIFIL deaths.
- 19) SAFRC - Considerable correspondence MOD, RPII, NRPB, Irish government, TD, NIO. Press information, preparation of leaflets/posters.

During the course of the year two opportunities arose for the General Secretary to travel to Éire when he spoke at a rally in S. Armagh in February and was also a guest speaker for the Irish branch at a meeting arranged in Trinity College in the early summer.

The above only cover some of the topics addressed.

Commercial Threat To Language

The proposal, currently mooted, to allot the frequency of Gaelic broadcaster Radió na Life to a commercial operator is being opposed by the Celtic League. It also seems likely that an appeal from the League to cultural and language organisations throughout the six Celtic countries will gather considerable support.

Raidió na Life has been an extremely successful operator, expanding its broadcast base to service the Gaelic speaking community in the Dublin area. It epitomises what Celtic linguists and language organisations want to see, which is development of community based broadcast facilities which avail of the new opportunities in broadcasting today.

Ironically, as other Celtic countries face a rising tide of pressure to expand broadcasting facilities the Irish broadcasting authorities seem to want to court a cultural rights controversy that they will not win.

The Celtic League has written to political leaders including the Taoiseach urging a rethink of the flawed proposal.

J B Moffatt



MANX PATRIOTS HONOURED

The Manx Branch of the Celtic League and the Ramsey Manx class, under the tutelage of Freddie Cowle, have organised a number of wreath-laying ceremonies - to run throughout the year - to pay tribute to those who played a significant part in preserving the Manx language. The ceremonies are arranged to coincide with the centenary of Yn Cheshaght Ghailckach, The Manx Language Society.

Among those remembered was Sophia

Morrison who died in 1917. A wreath in the form of the Three Legs was laid on her grave in Peel cemetery. Above shows Freddie Cowle who addressed those who attended the service.

A series of booklets commemorating the work of each of the Manx patriots have been produced for the wreath-laying ceremonies by the Manx Branch. The booklets are available from the General Secretary at £1 (inc. p&p).

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Published continuously since 1939, the *Irish Democrat* is the bi-monthly journal of the **Connolly Association** which campaigns for a united and independent Ireland and the rights of the Irish in Britain. Regular contributors include the respected Celtic historian **Peter Berresford Ellis** whose regular column *Anon is Anall* has been a feature of the paper for over ten years.

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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 IRE£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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Original photographs must be forwarded.

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