

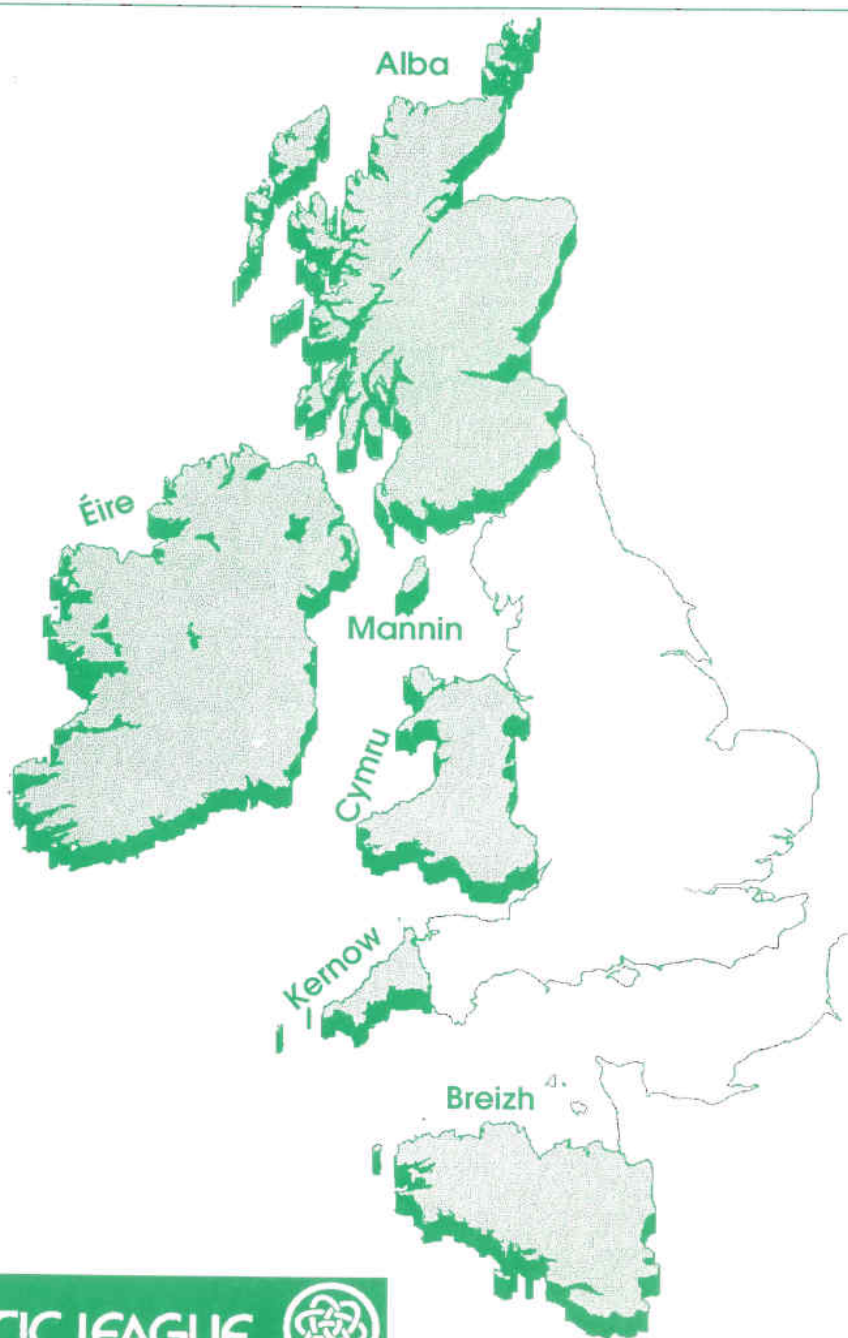
# comann

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

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Spring 2001

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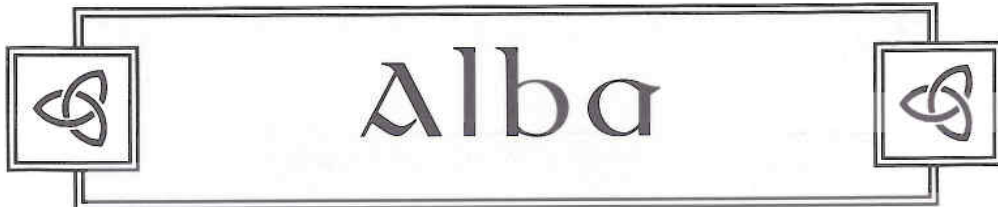
- Sectarian Bigotry cancels Taoiseach's, Visit to Alba
- Debate about Brittany Today
- Welsh Unionists Support Cultural Genocide
- Celtic Tiger-Growth for Growth's Sake?
- Cornish Assembly Petition
- Manx Gaelic Education Controversy
- Far Am Bi Toil Bidh Gnìomh
- Conference of European Stateless Nations

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COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE







# Far Am Bi Toil Bidh Gnìomh

Chunnaic sinn litir san paipear-naidheachd, "Am t-Albannach" o Daibhidh MacDhomhnuill a tha den Chomann nam Parant (Peairt). Sgrìobh e gun robh Comhairle Pheairt is Cheannrois a' smaoinichadh na clasaichean Gàidhlig a dhùnadh feadh na sgìre Ghaidhealach Pheairteach agus far a bheil teagasg tre na Gàidhlig am baile Pheairt.

Agus dé leisgeul a tha aig a' Chomhairle ach caomhnadh an airgid. Ach Carson a tha iad a' smaoinichadh air milleadh teagasg na Gàidhlig gun ghuth an aghaidh teagasg na Beurla?

Gun teagamh seo cuspair a bhiodh feumail thighinn gu co-dùnadh sa Phàrlamaid Alba. Air seo bithidh gach ùghdarras ionadail comasach gach croileagan agus a h-uile clas Gàidhlig a dhùnadh.

An diugh sgrìobh Michael Russell MSP (SNP chugainn) gum bheil e sgrìobhadh Bile Cànain Gàidhlig air son na Pàrlamaid Albannach. Chì sinn ma bhios soirbheasach!

Tha fios againn gum bi an cogaidh eadar ar cànain agus a' Bheurla fada agus cruaidh gus am bi ar cànain far a bheil a' Bheurla an diugh coltach ri gach cànain nàiseanta feadh na Roinn Eorpa, coltach ris Danmhairceis no a' Ghearmailteis no Pòileis no eile. Seo agaibh an spàirn eadarainn agus a' chànain Shasunnach (a' Bheurla).

A reir Mgr Siema a bha uair na cheannard de'n Institiùd Fhrangach ann an Alba. Thuit e gun do nochd sgoilearan feadh 1914 gu 1916 gun robh na Gaidheil san arm caran diùid a thaobh na chànain aca. Ach thàinig atharrachadh ro mhór. Sa bhliadhna 1917 bha iad a' bruidhinn agus a' dèanamh gaire sa Ghàidhlig cho àrd ris an fheadhain eile. Carson? A chionn gun robh iad a' tuigsinn gun robh dùthchannan eile far nach robh daoine fo smachd na Beurla – mar eisimpleir an Fhraing.

Agus tha an traidisean seo daonnan a' dol am meud. Chan eil e feumail a bhith teagasg cail troimh na Beurla idir. Chan eil àite thall thairis air ùr mór an Roinn Eorpa far a bheil daoine a' teagasg ach troimh an aon chànain aca, an cànain dùthchasail. Chan eil e ceart a bhi a' teagasg tre na Beurla idir oir chan eil sinn na pairt de Shasunn idir. A reir Siema coir bhiodhamaid buahmhor agus bhiodh ar

cànain fhathast cho làidir feadh Alba uile gu leir mar a tha Fraingeis san Fhraing, a reir an riaghaltas Frangach mur eile geur-leanmhainn ann... agus chunnaic sinn mar an do neartaich an Eaglais geur-leanmhainn fo Nero agus fir-sàrachaidh Romanach eile... bhon a bha misneachd ro mhór aig na Crìosdaidhean!

O chionn fhada bha mi air mo shaor-làithean san Ungair, ann am Budapest agus cha robh e daor idir. Se Feis na h-Òigridh a bh'ann agus bha sinn nar cadail sna sgoiltean le dasgan nan sgoilear air an càrnadh an aghaidh a' bhalla anns gach seòmar-teagasg. Bha an sgoil faisg air an drochaid thairis air an Danub ann am Budapest air taobh thall tunail.

Co dhiu, thill mi don sheòmar-teagasg far an robh mo leabaidh air son rud airchoirigin agus có bha anns an rum ach ban-sgoilear.

"Tha mi air lorg tuilleadh leabhrair (jotters) nan sgoilearan a cheartachadh," arsa ise.

Nochd i gun robh feileadh-beag umam.

"Am faca tu difir anns an seòmar-teagasg seo coltach ri fear ann an Alba?"

Chan fhaca mi cail. Bha an aon seòrsa dealbhan air na ballachan.

"De mu dheighinn na cànain", arsa ise, "Teagasgidh sinn a h-uile cail tre na Ungaireis!"

Agus sin agad e. Cha robh facial Beurla no Gearmailteis no eile ri fhaicinn.

Thachair mi ris na urrasairean no *trustees*

na Taigh-cluiche Nàiseanta Ungair agus chomhairlich iad mi gun robh e feumail strì a dhèanamh air son na cànain againn agus bhiodh na h-ùghdarrasan a' gèilleadh mean air mhean.

A reir aithris leag na Co-mhaoineach an Taigh-cluiche seo gu làr bhon a bha muinntir an Taigh-cluiche Nàiseanta cho deidheil t-sruth ach ùine ghoirid an deidh sin!

Ach bha na h-urrasairean ceart gu leoir. Theannaich na h-ùghdarrasan gun sguir air son na cànain agus dh-aontaich iad beagan is beagan.

Mata, fhuair mi eisimpleir na firinn' seo ann an Vienna nuair a bha mi a' dol dhachaidh. Bha mi nam shuidhe air being san Ringstrasse, ann an Vienna, agus có rinn suidhe air an aon bheing ach bodach sean sean.

"Càite an robh sibh air na saor-làithean agaibh?" arsa esan.

"Budapest", arsa mise.

"Ah, Budapest!", arsa esan, "bha mi an sin san seirbheis shìobhalta Impireil (i.e. Ostaireach). Sa chiad dol a-mach nuair a bhi mi ach òg bha a-uile cail sa Ghearmailteis. Sa ciad dol a-mach nuair a bhitheadh duine gnogadh air doras an oifis agam air son teachd a-steach fhaighin bhiodh e a' bruidhin sa Ghearmailteis gu tur, dh'feumadh mise freagair sa Ghearmailteis. Ach mean air mhean bha an Ungaireis daonnan a' dol nas làidire agus mu dheireadh thall thàinig òrdugh a-mach. Ma bhios an fhreagairt sa Ghearmailteis dh'fheumadh mi bruidhinn gu tur sa Ghearmailteis agus ma bha i sa Ungaireis, mata, bithidh e sa Ungaireis... ach bha an Ungaireis daonnan a' fàs nas làidire."

"De mu dheighinn duine a' bhiodh a' gnogadh gun fhacail sam bith ri ràdh?" arsa mise.

"Bhithinn ag ràdh, 'A-Ha' air son 'Thig a-steach' agus dh'fhàs mi an duine as fheàrr aig 'A-Ha' feadh na cruinne cé gu tur!"

Agus dh'imich sinn air ar slighe... ach thuig mi gun do ghéill na h-Ostairich bhon a bha fir dealasach na cànain Ungaireach cho leanailteach.

Bhithamaid a' teagasg cànain eile cuideachd, Fraingeis, Gearmailteis, Beurla agus mar sin air adhart, ach gan teagasg tre na Gàidhlig a-mhàin, eadhon Beurla. Bhiodh a h-uile cànain gan teagasg tre na Gàidhlig agus bhiodh iad uile co-ionann. Cha bhiodh Beurla fàbharach mar a tha i an diugh.

Glé mhath, ach feumidh sinn na cànain eile Eorpach faicinn cuideachd. Rach thairis Caolas na Frainge agus chì sinn a h-uile sràid anns an dùthaich far a bheil sibh... Fraingeis san Fhraing ach Gearmailteis san Ghearmailt, Eadailteis san Eadailt agus mar sin air adhart.

Beagan bliadhnan air ais, nochd Quebec dhuinn an doigh air sin a dhèanamh. Gus a sin bha na sràidean, buthan, oifisean, taighean agus mar sin air adhart, sa Bheurla, ach a-nis tha gach togalach is comharradh san Fhraingeis.

(Continued on page 2)

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## Far Am Bi Toil Bidh Gníomh

Ach a dh'aindeoin gach cnap-starrag aig luchd na Beurla bithidh ar cànan buadhmhor. Bithidh croileagan gu leòr ann agus bithidh teagasg uile gu leir tre na Gàidhlig. Nochd Quebec agus na dùthchanan air an tìr-mòr Roinn Eorpa dhuinn na tha feumail.

Chaidh an teanga Seiceach (Czech) fada sìos na Gàidhlig ach fhuair a' chànan aca air ais gus an robh i làidir anns gach cearn feadh Poblachd nan Seic agus chunnaic sinn air TV, film mu 1917 no 1918 ann am Prag, a sealltainn na Seiceach a bhith a' tarraing sìos a h-uile cail sa Ghearmailteis!

Sin agad e. Far am bi toil bidh gnìomh. Is ann an oidhirp a thig buaidh!

**Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich**  
**Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig**

### Summary

*This casts an eye over the world to see what we can learn from other countries especially those who have had to struggle to save their languages and cultures when times were not so good. As the title tells us, "Where there's a will there's a way". Two suggestions in the pursuit of language learning, it may still be possible to get the videos of that magnificent series "Can Seo" from Sabhail Mòr Ostaig shop, Wentworth Street, Portree, Isle of Skye and "Gairm" the Gaelic quarterly is offering 50 back issues earlier than No 161 at bargain prices, a magnificent library! "Gairm" is at 29 Waterloo Street, Glasgow G2 6BZ, Scotland.*

## Ministerial Gaelic Advisory Group

Following the publication of the Gaelic taskforce report (Carn 112), Gaelic Minister, Alasdair Morrison, has made an announcement as to the first measures which he intends to make in response. A Ministerial Advisory Group is to be established in order to prepare a strategic development plan for Gaelic and to identify performance measures and targets for the funds allocated under the plan. The members of the group will be: Professor Donald Meek: Aberdeen University (education), Professor Kenneth MacKinnon: language consultant (linguistic development), Jo Macdonald: BBC Scotland (culture), and Donald MacKay: financial consultant (economic development).

These appointments will run to 30 June 2002. The establishment of this group has been widely welcomed as the beginning of a serious language-planning model for Scotland. Some commentators are worried, however, that the Scottish Executive is trying to distract the attention of the Gaelic community from the need for a Gaelic language act.

**Brude mac Maelcon**

## Gàidhlig Education Shock

The Scottish Executive's lack of commitment to Gàidhlig education has become more obvious over the last few months. It was reported in Carn 100 that the Scottish Executive had refused to create a statutory right to Gàidhlig medium education subject to reasonable demand but had instead promised to designate Gàidhlig medium education as a "national priority": one of a short list of between three or five priorities for Scottish Education in the next 2-3 years. This was widely criticised, as in practice "national priority" status is virtually meaningless.

Supporters of Gàidhlig education were disappointed further when the actual text of the national priorities was released. While the Scottish Executive had promised to make Gàidhlig medium education a national priority in its own right, Gàidhlig education was relegated to a small mention on the end of another national priority. Gàidhlig came under the "Inclusion and Equality" priority which stated that the Scottish Executive will "help every pupil benefit from education with particular regard paid to pupils with disabilities and special educational needs, and to Gàidhlig and other lesser used languages".

The inclusion of "other lesser used languages" has also alarmed many Gàidhlig activists as very little indeed exists in the way of education for lesser used languages other than Gàidhlig in Scotland whether this be Scots or ethnic minority languages. Gàidhlig activists are, therefore, very worried that the text of the national priority will allow education authorities to make as little provision for Gàidhlig as they currently do for other lesser used languages.

Many Gàidhlig activists are also worried by the failure of the Scottish Executive to define the meaning of "Gaelic education" within the national priority. As Gàidhlig medium education is not mentioned, councils will be free to interpret this as referring only to Gàidhlig subject teaching. Defining "Gaelic education" as both Gàidhlig subject teaching and Gàidhlig medium education would have been more meaningful.

**Uilleam MacCaluim**

## GAELIC MEDIUM SCHOOL SAVED

Perth and Kinross Council have shelved plans to cut the Gaelic medium primary and nursery unit at Perth, other cuts to Gaelic education support services have also been dropped.

The ground swell of opposition against the proposals was such that they were not even considered as part of a general cost cutting exercise.

Gaelic language organisations in Scotland have extended their thanks to all who supported the campaign in which several branches of the Celtic League became involved.

The cost cutting proposals however should give all those committed to promoting the Celtic languages 'food for thought'. Gaelic education services were apparently listed along with such areas as grass cutting and general maintenance. This is a shocking indictment of the value that some individuals in the education service in Scotland place on their language.

The episode also highlights the need for widespread co-ordination and rapid response from the inter-Celtic movement when language promotion and education is threatened in any of our countries.

## ARMY DRUGS BUST HIGHLIGHTS HYPOCRISY

The dismissal of a further eleven Scottish soldiers from the British army indicates once again the hypocrisy of the Ministry of Defence about acceptable standards for servicemen.

The eleven men, from the Black Watch, were serving in Germany where, coincidentally, the two convicted murders Guardsmen Fisher and Wright are serving.

A Black watch spokesman said, "having drug users upon whom I cannot rely is unacceptable". Obviously however the British Army find those convicted of murder the type you can rely on.

Disappointed former *squaddies* fired from the service in the past twelve months might like to investigate the human right's position. We can only hope that disgruntled soldiers will consider taking the MoD to Court. Obviously, discharge from the service for drug abuse whilst murderers are positively lauded smacks of discrimination.

Meanwhile, more bad news for the MoD, a naval warship heading for the Caribbean and drug trafficking patrol work has been forced to confront a drugs problem amongst its personnel.

**Bernard Moffatt**



# SECTARIAN BIGOTRY WON, ECUMENICAL CARFIN LOST

*How not to foster Scots-Irish relations*

The coincidence of two Celtic versus Rangers football matches in one week is rare, a win in both for Celtic over their old rivals rarer. The request for Irish Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, who was to spectate at Celtic Park at the second match and then unveil an ecumenical monument to the Irish famine, not to come to Scotland for fear of inflaming sectarian bigotry is hopefully unique. Local Westminster MP Labour's Frank Roy engineered the sorry chapter. He has since resigned as private parliamentary secretary to Helen Liddell, Secretary for Scotland in the Blair government. What was gradually revealed in the first week in February was a peculiar affair in which three prominent Lanarkshire Labour MPs in neighbouring seats were in close collusion. They are each Roman Catholics.

Frank Roy was a confidant of John Reid, recently Secretary for Scotland moved to Northern Ireland, in the wake of the Peter Mandelson sacking. Roy's two week tenure as PPS to Helen Liddell, Reid's replacement was the shortest on record. Frank Roy's only previous fame was a censure in the House of Commons for betting successfully on the election of the recently elected Speaker of the House, Michael Martin MP for Glasgow Springburn who brushed aside anti-Scottish jibes to take the post. The far from repentant Roy finally revealed that his concerns for Bertie Ahern's safety were raised with Reid some months previously. But Roy decided to publicise his last minute plea to the Irish Government to call off what was in effect a private visit to a place of peace in his constituency. This caused consternation in Irish government circles. Ahern's spokesperson was forced to question the MPs motives. The Irish Consul in Scotland, Dan Mulhall was forced to deny leaking the warning. The Scottish Parliament Minister for external affairs, Jack McConnell, who sits for the contiguous seat to Roy but in Holyrood has remained silent. Various Labour MPs had tendered apologies for non-attendance. Whilst SNP leader John Swinney who realised the importance of the Taoiseach's presence in Scotland had planned to be there. Scotland's new devolved administration had been on good terms with Dublin. Ahern attended the opening of the Scots Parliament on 1st July 1999; he was the only foreign PM to do so. Scottish First Minister, the late Donald Dewar, was treated as a head of state, including motor-cycle outriders, on a trip to Dublin; and Dan Mulhall has been a massive presence in building Scots/Irish co-operation post-devolution. So why did this major gaff occur?

Unemployed catholic miners constructed the Carfin Grotto in the 1920s. It contains many Catholic icons. It used to be in sight of

the huge Ravenscraig Steel Works, now totally demolished. It sits in the heart of the old industrial province where skilled Scots workers were joined by thousands of unskilled Irish labourers particularly following 'an Gorta Mor' - The Great Famine from 1845 to 1851.

The sectarian Orange and Green division has had an important effect on Scottish life. The rise of Labour to parliamentary representative power from west central Scotland required the conversion of the Irish catholic



*Irish Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern*

vote. It previously supported Home Rule. It was won with the promise of social security and decent homes by John Wheatley, ILP Red Clydesider and the Minister for Housing in the short-lived Labour government of 1924. Thereafter Labour's catholic voters looked to London for security from Protestant discrimination in pre-World War Two Scotland. These same Protestants had insisted in the 1918 education act to set up state-supported catholic schools. Fast forward to the 1970s and onwards. The rise of the SNP, which made its breakthrough in Lanarkshire at by-elections in Motherwell in 1945 and in nearby Hamilton in 1967, has gradually bridged the sectarian divide. In the Scotland of the 21st century bigotry is not what it used to be, the nation is far more secular, one of many in Europe in which religious Catholics and Protestants are in a minority in the total population. Members of both faiths hold middle class jobs. Protestant and Catholic Scots alike are happy to visit swinging Dublin and make Celtic music and admire the Celtic Tiger of the European Union.

So why did Frank Roy MP doubt the advice of Strathclyde Police and the Special Branch that they could more than adequately cope with Bertie Ahern's proposed visit to Carfin? Undoubtedly post-Old firm matches

lead to increased breaches of the peace for minor assault and drink related offences. These tend to be concentrated in west central Scotland, though very often Rangers and Celtic supporters will watch such big games in the same pubs and slag the losers off whoever wins. But Roy, 'a small time politician steeped in the politics of sectarian division', seems like a blast from the past who is an embarrassment to most Scots who could hardly believe such a stushie could blow up in this day and age. Scottish First Minister, Henry McLeish, has officially invited Bertie Ahern to Scotland and he has accepted. He will unveil the monument to the Great Famine in due course. But it shows that the hard-won confidence between progressive Scots and our friendly nearest neighbour could be interfered with by an outburst involving the junior MP, and the Celtic supporting, former Secretary of State for Scotland who has taken over the Northern Ireland brief, and his successor in the Scotland Office. People who came out well from the affair are the people of Carfin itself, the SNP leader John Swinney, Dan Mulhall, and the Irish consul in Edinburgh, Cardinal Winning who had infuriated Labour politicians like the ultra-unionist John Reid in the run-up to the May 1999 elections by portraying Scottish Nationalism as 'mature, respectful of democracy and international in outlook'. So it is clear that Labour's influence is further challenged in the early days of the Westminster Election of Spring 2001. Its strategy of focusing on the Tories just won't work. With the SNP breathing down its neck in key areas Labour's redoubts in Lanarkshire are also beginning to get the message.

**Rob Gibson**

## FASLANE PROTESTORS STRIP SEARCHED

The Celtic League has written to the Chief Constable of Strathclyde Police seeking information why a group of Irish women involved in a peaceful protest at Faslane nuclear base in February were strip searched after their arrest.

In a letter to Sir John Orr the League say, 'We understand that a number of Irish women detained at a peace demonstration against the Faslane nuclear base on February 12 were subsequently subjected to strip searches.

Could you explain why persons arrested at peaceful protests of this type were subjected to strip searches? Could you also clarify how many persons (male and female) were subjected to strip searches after the recent protest?

The Irish government are also seeking an explanation for the incident and there is a concern that the human rights of these women may have been violated by the police action.'





## Seán O'Casey e brezhoneg

Pezhioù-c'hoari Sean O'Casey a zo bet lakaet tri anezho e brezhoneg gant Goule'han Kervella: "An arar hag ar stered" (The Plough and the Stars; cf.: Photo.), Nannie a ya kuit" (Nannie's Night Out) ha "Un abadenn e Kreiz an noz" (Bedtime Story). Gant Ar Vro Bagan int bet c'hoariet e Breizh, ha Nannie gant strollad Kastell-Paol. Daoust hag emañ an traoù o tremen e Bro-Iwerzhon an tudennoù a zo er pezhioù-c'hoari-se, a zo, lod anezho, tost a-walc'h ouzh ar Vretoned. Se zo kaoz int bet aes da gompren gant ar sellerien. Pezhioù all a dalvez ar boan bezañ troet e brezhoneg ha c'hoariet war al leurenn.

### Sean O'Casey

Ganet eo O'Casey e Dulenn e 1880. Diaes eo bet e vugaleaj, en dienez ma veve enni micherourien Dulenn, ha chalet gant e yec'hed (klañv gand e zaoulagad). Darbarer d'e bevarzeg vloaz ha micherour da c'houde. Ezel eus ar Strollad Republikan Sokialour Iwerzhon. Krediñ a ra e vo gelllet dieubiñ ha distagañ Bro-Iwerzhon diouzh Bro-Saoz nemet dre stourm al labourerien. Sekretour an Irish Citizen Army, bet eo bet ivez e Conradh na Gaeilge (ar c'hevre Gouezeleg), krouet gand W.B. Yeats evit reiñ lañs d'ar gouezeleg.

Dilezel a ra ar stourm politikel tro 1914, muioc'h dedennet e spered gand ar skritur hag an arzoù. Ne gemer ket perzh e emsavadeg Sizunvezh Pask 1916.

Azaleg 1918, kregiñ a ra O'Casey da skrivañ evit ar c'hoariva. C'hoariet e vo e oberennoù kentañ e C'hoariva an Abbey, C'hoariva Broadel Iwerzhon, savet gant W.B. Yeats ha lady Gregory e 1904. Oberennoù kentañ a vrud:

- *Skeud un Tenner* (The Shadow of a Gunman-1923),
- *Juno hag ar Pabor* (Juno and the Paycock-1924),
- *An arar hag ar Stered* (The Plough and the Stars-1926).

Mont a ra da Vro-Saoz da vevañ e 1929. Ne deui ket alies en-dro da Iwerzhon ken. E-pad ar bloavezhioù-se, e skriv:

- *Ar Gib Arhant* (The Silver Tassie-1928),
- *Ar Steredenn Ruz* (The Red Star)
- *Poultrenn Limestra* (Purple Dust-1940/43),
- Rozennoù ruz evidon,
- Taboulinoù an Tad Ned
- hag all.

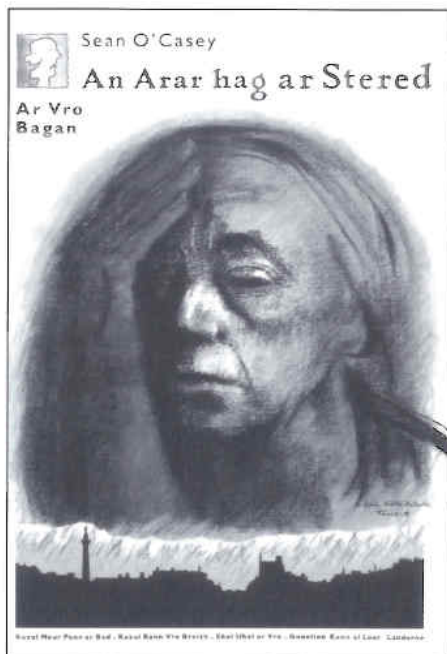
O'Casey ha Synge (War varc'h etrezek ar mor, lapous-den Penn ar Bed) a zo gwir krouerien c'hoariva nevez Bro-Iwerzhon hag a zo bremañ brudet dre ar bed oll.

### An Arar hag ar Stered

Penaos e oe digemeret e 1926 gand an dud...

An emsavadeg vroadel. Sizhunvezh Pask 1916 e Dulenn. Ar pesh-c'hoari a gont an darvoudoù skijus-se dre istor un nebeut tud eus pobl Dulenn.

C'hoariet eo bet An arar hag ar stered evit ar wech kentañ en Abbey Theatre e Dulenn e miz c'hwever 1926. Fall eo bet an digemer. Taget gand ar c'hazetennoù, an arvesterien o



terriñ kadorioù er sal, youc'hal ha taoler bouloù flêrius. De vloaz war-lerc'h Sizhunvezh Pask 1916 ha diskleriadur kentañ Republik Iwerzhon e oa bev mat atav ar soñj eus an harozed, an dreitourien, ar babored, an dud aonik, al laereres, al lazherezh, an naon. Ha kement oll e tispake O'Casey dirak an dud. Displeget en-devoa O'Casey e venozioù a-eneb d'ar fals-devoted, da fals-romantelezh ar gwad, a-eneb "d'an trouz hag ar tousmac'h". An dud o-doa kavet deszh e oa an dra-se nemet dismegañs ha goaperes, padal e felle da O'Casey diskouez teneridigezh ha karantez.

An arar hag ar stered a zo bet komprenet fall ha nebeut amzer da c'houde e tispartias O'Casey diouzh Iwerzhon. An arar hag ar stered abaoe a zo bet c'hoariet dre ar bed oll e meur a yezh bremañ e brezhoneg...(cf Brud Nevez-1992)

PS: - Un abadenn e-kreiz an noz gant Al Liamm-1995, - Nannie a ya kuit gant Al Liamm (kelaouenn)-1996.

### Adsav Iwerzhon (danvez" An arar hag ar stered")

Kriz eo bet an 19ved kantved evit Bro-Iwerzhon (dilabour, dienez, naon vras, divroañ).

Adsevel a ra Bro-Iwerzhon, ha Dulenn dreist-holl, e penn kentañ an ugentvet kantved :

- Adsav sevenadurel (James Joyce-An Abbey Theatre e 1904 e lec'h ma vo c'hoariet oberennoù Yeats, Synge, O'Casey).

- Adsav politikel. Tud eus pep kostezenn o kenlabourad, evel ar sokialour James Connolly, ha Patrick Pearse, ar barzh broadelour. Asambles e roont lañs da emsavadeg Pask 1916. Eur c'hwitadenn war an taol, met kemmañ a raio ster istor Bro-Iwerzhon...

### Seán O'Casey un den eus Dulenn oc'h enebiñ

C'hwezh ar poultr a zo c'hoazh e Dulenn, heuet eo O'Casey gand ar flaer-se...

Tud Dulenn a ra harozed eus ar gwazed, ar stourmerien, O'Casey a enor ar re a nac'h en em gannañ hag a lavar fraezh.

Ar merc'hed eo evitañ a ziskouez kaot ar muiañ a galon.

Kêr Dulenn a zo oc'h en em livañ a-nevez evit bezañ kêr-benn ar vro, O'Casey a gav gwelloc'h diskouez ar c'harterioù paour.

O'Casey ne gemer ket perzh er stourmoù evit dieubidigezh ar vro, met dibab a ra skrivañ -tri fezh-c'hoari, e bezhioù-c'hoari ar muia anavezet hiriv, diwar-benn an darvoudoù bras-mañ : Emsavadeg 1916, Brezel an Dieubidigezh hag ar Brezel Diabarzh.

An arar hag ar stered a zo o tremen e 1916 e-pad sizhunvezh Pask, Skeud un tenner e-pad ar brezel ouzh Bro-Saoz, ha Juno hag ar pabor e-pad ar brezel diabarzh.

Kudenn ar vro eo a zo a-dreñv an darvoudoù hag en tri fezh-c'hoari. Diwezhatoc'h eo nemetken e komzo O'Casey eus stourm al labourerien, tostoc'h d'e galon koulskoude, e Rozennoù ruz eviton da skouer, diwar-benn harzh-labour 1923...Beb tro e tibab diskouez an traoù eus tu ar re baour, ar re ne gontont ket, ar merc'hed dreist-holl, an dud eus karterioù paour Dulenn, a-eneb an istor ofisiel, ar relijion ofisiel, ar sevenadur ofisiel.

An harozed n'int ket tud a galon evitañ. Lod n'int ket nemet harozed termaji, hag ar

(Continued on page 6)





*The Plough and Stars*  
Courtesy Louis Blouise

re a ya d'an emgann n'int ket gwelloc'h. Ar merc'hed eo a zo kalonek en o buhez pemdeziek a-eneb da grister ar bed hag ar menoziou "gourel": ar brezel, ar marv. Ar wazed n'int ket harozed gwir: aon o-deus e vefe graet tud aonik diouto. N'int nemet soroc'hellou ha ne chom nemet avel war o lerc'h...

## Ar Pezhioù-c'hoari berr:

Ouzhpenn pezhioù-c'hoari bras ha hir en deus savet pezhioù c'hoari berr, farsus-kenañ ar bras anezho: -Bedtime story avat, goude bezañ berr ha fentus peur-liesañ, a zo ivez ur pezh-c'hoari flemmus a-enep kevredigezh Dulenn ha galloud ar relijion war spered an Iwerzhoniz. Hep ehan e vez John Mulligan o krenañ en ur soñjal "petra lavaro an dud" ma teuont da c'houzout. Ur pezh-c'hoari aes da gompren eta evit ar Vretoned.

Troet eo bet gant Goulc'han Kervella diwar ar skrid galleg dreist-holl Bedtime story-1951. N'eo ket bet troet ger evit ger, dre ma oa da vezañ c'hoariet. Meur a wech eo bet displeget gant berzh-bras dirak an dud ha filmet gant FRANCE 3 evit Chadenn ar vro (1993). Nannie ya kuit (Nannie's night out) n'eo ket bet c'hoariet ken alies.

### Summary

*This article looks at some of the plays of Sean O'Casey as performed by Ar Vro Bagan in Breton.*

## Forum-Bretagne: Debate about Brittany Today

*The latest discussion of Forum-Bretagne took place in Kaptellin on three current themes for Brittany.*

André Lavanant, previous chairman of Diwan, retraced the history of the movement. His report allowed a better understanding of the stakes Diwan is confronted with because of possible integration into the National Educational System. The presence of several parents of Diwan pupils enriched the debate and showed the significant differences of opinion about whether to sign / or not sign the agreement with the state.

The various participants saw the importance of opening the discussion to the whole of Breton society, because of the stakes, and also regretted the lack of ambition shown by the regional council of Brittany on this matter.

The second topic by Michel Treguer, journalist and director, covered the media in Brittany.

Exchanges on this particularly important subject for Brittany were nourished by the presence of the P.A.B. (Paysage Audiovisuel Breton), such as Mikael Baudu (TV-BZH), Jakez Bernard (Master Productions), Soizig Daniellou (Kalanna), Kristian ar Bras (Blaz-Production) and heads of magazines such as J-Y Le Dizez (Hopala) etc.

Owing to its recent creation, TV-BZH was one of the major topics in the discussion and everyone was able to acknowledge its stimulating part in the Breton audio-visual field.

The evening ended with a debate led by J-Y Cozan, the vice-president of the Regional Council of Brittany. A somewhat rambling discussion that underlined the urgent need for a genuine Breton voice inside the Regional Council - at present dominated by representatives of the hexagonal parties.

## Keleier eus Kerne-Veur...

N'eus ket pell a zo, ur gazetenn n'eus kontet istor ur famailh deus Breizh deuet da vevan e Kerne-Veur. "Brav eo ar vro ha plijus eo an dud" e lavaront. N'eo ket nevez an dra-mañ. Kerne-Veur a zo bet a-viskoazh gwelet evel ur vro gaer. Koulkoude ar vro n'eus ezhomm muioc'h eget kaerdet. N'eo ket yac'h pesk an ekono-miezh. Atav, e vez kavet amañ ar bae izellañ. Priz an tiez a gresk. Diaez eo evit ar re yaouank prenan un ti. Skouerioù a zo eus familhoù labourerien douar, dreist holl hag a vez o kuitaat ar vro. Marc'hamatoc'h eo adgre-gin gant al labour-douar e Breizh, e Normandi pe e Aotrali. Gwelet e vez muioc'h muan a dud war o leve o tont da chom amañ, ur bern diouto Saozon binvidik met ivez Kerneveuris o tistrein warlec'h bloavezhioù labour en diavez bro. Gant an niver bras a diez nevez savet, e teu ar kerneveureg da vezan beuzet ha lonket gant ar saozon. Kemmet eo bet an traou e-pad an triwech bloaz tremenet. Ekonomiezh ar vro a zo disheñvel. Ar mengleu-zioù a zo bet sarret. South Crofty a vo marteze digoret adarre. A besketerezh a zo gwanoc'h-gwanan. Al laboure-rien douar a zo bet rivinet gant after ar saout fol...

Met red eo din anzav emañ ar Kerneveuris oc'h en em zifenn kreñvoc'h-kreñvañ a-eneb d'an aloubidigezh saoz. Mebyon Kernow a zo o kas waraok ur stourm evit kaout un "assamble" e Kerne-Veur. Muioc'h eget ugent mil sinadur a zo bet dastumet. Tostaat ar ra adarre a viz Meur: devezh broadel Kerne-Veur. Ar baniel du gant ar groaz wenn a vo savet un tam-mig e peplec'h. Daou vil a dud a valeo war an tevennoù e Perranporth, e-lec'h ma oa deuet Sant Perran, sant broadel ar vro.

Triwech bloaz a zo, ne vije bet nemet un dornad a dud eno hag ar baniel a veze difennet gant ar pennoù bras. Deuet eo bremañ ar baniel da vezan un arouezh. Kresket bras eo live ar sonerezh, an dañsoù, ar yezh. Evit ar wech kentañ, e heller santoud eman ar sevenadur o vezañ anavezet evel ur binvidigezh ha sur awalc'h, ar sevenadur-mañ 'n'eus sikouret ar vro da gaout Objective 1: un bern arc'hant european da grouiñ labourioù nevez er vro ha da reiñ d'ar re yaouank spi evit an amzer da zont pinvidikoc'h.

Malou K. G.



*Protest at South Crofty mine prior to its closure in 1998. It is to be reopened (see p.16). This article deals with the economic situation in Cornwall. (Photo: Courtesy Cornish Nation, special publication, Manifesto, of Mebyon Kernow - the Party for Cornwall)*



# Culloden in Brittany ... Yes ...

The Scots have Culloden and its Memorial on the Windswept ridge between Moray Firth and River Nairn, with a sober granite cairn as a sombre reminder of a past that is not always easy for us to live with.

With the sky and the wind around him, the visitor to this ancient battlefield may reflect in silence and dignity on nations' pasts, always relevant to today's world and its current problems.

The Bretons, too, have their Culloden, close to the town of Saint-Aubin du-Cormier in the Department of Ile-et-Vilaine, Brittany. But any future visitor wishing to stop at this site and walk across the *lands* (moor land), that was the scene of a massacre by the well-armed mercenaries and troops of the french court in 1488, will not find the dignity nor the silence that impresses the tourist on Culloden Moor. He will, instead, be met by a vast rubbish heap - "a site d'enfouissement pour déchets ultimes"...

For the mayors of Saint-Aubin du-Cormier the nearby village of Mézières-sur-Couesnon's are determined to use the old site and its periphery to "meet a public need" (my quote).

Quite naturally, the local population do not agree, particularly as the procedure has not as yet reflected any debate or democracy, but it has also incensed those Bretons who have respect for their history.

Those who oppose this scheme have asked for archaeological research to help define the boundaries of the battle and the rout that followed it. The reply by the 'Sictom' de Fougères', the organisation for collecting and treating household rubbish, is to instigate a dig at the beginning of November. Good, that sounds fair enough... but this field in particular is where no local farmer or his ancestors have ever found any remains of the battle itself, unlike other fields, gardens or copse, which have turned up canon balls, pieces of sword belts etc, in the past.

Sir Edward de Wydeville, Lord Scales, had come from the Isle of Wight with 600 archers to help the Bretons defend their land and what was a thriving economy at the time. He lies, with all his men somewhere on the lands of Saint-Aubin du-Cormier.

One can't help feeling that another site should not be too difficult to find. Until now all other mayors of the surrounding 51 Communes concerned by the project have vetoed the project on their own lands. There are *Nimbys* here just as anywhere else. But others sites recently proposed have not pleased the deciders and the project would appear to be going ahead, in spite of public opinion.

It would perhaps be a good idea to consult the public over this problem of rubbish disposal. It would also be a demonstration of democratic procedures, which could help to

make us more aware of the downside of the consumer society and all the leftovers it generates. After all, our children's future is involved in our act of opening our dustbin lids each day...

Burying rubbish is out of date anyway. Association:

Mézières Environment web site:  
[www.multimania.com/saintaubin/](http://www.multimania.com/saintaubin/)



*Meeting in July 2000 in Saint-Aubin du-Cormier for the Breton speakers. We can see the modern national flag, Gwenn-ha-Du and the Black Cross on white, which is the oldest flag, the army and navy ones, since the 2nd Crusade in the XIth century.*

## A Unanimous Will for Decentralisation... (DEVOLUTION)

Since the beginning of summer, reporters who make the Parisian banner headlines have been going to the regions characterised by a strong identity and crossed by centrifugal streams (the Basque country, Savoie, Brittany and Alsace) to draw up a framework for autonomist revendication.

Among those regions *sounded out* Brittany and Savoie have been examined most.

All the research appears to show an extraordinary need, expressed across the political spectrum, to go on with decentralisation (Devolution) started in 1982 by G. Defferre. It seems that the "regional" question transcends the old rifts "right-left".

A. Madelin, the deputy-mayor of Redon and former Minister of economy and president of "Dem. Lib." said to Ouest-France's newspaper that: "when we talk about the ability to take fate in both hands, Bretons have to bring a few rights out. Anyway, if we wanted the autonomy of a Region to be "experimented" with, without any risks, Brittany would have been in a better position than Corsica". The opinion seems to be the same inside the Socialist Party, J.Y. Le Drian, leader of the opposition inside the regional council, and former Minister in charge of the sea, campaigns for his own *particular* status for Brittany.

The biggest bombshell in the humdrum of the French Jacobinism, are the results of the CSA - poll recently ordered by the Daily Telegramme. This study of a representative group of people from Corsica, Brittany and Savoie, shows that if only 14 % of Corsicans are in favour of pure independence, this number climbs up to 23 % in the 5 Departements in Breizh and also in Savoie. This proportion rises further in Loire Atlantique (Naoned) to 30%, but still separated from Breizh by the Order of 1941 and never reunified, despite many demonstrations and the unanimous wish for reunification by the regional council (1).

Among those people who are not in favour of total independence, many would probably accept autonomy on the Scottish model. Two-thirds of those questioned were in favour of receipt of important competencies by the "region". According to an essential measurement of Jospin's plan, a clear majority of Bretons are in favour of the obligatory teaching of the *regional* language. Finally, more than 46 % of those questioned said that they felt they were "firstly Breton". On this question France gathers only 24 % of the votes and the departement, the Jacobin's beloved child...nearly 1%.

It seems now that France cannot avoid a discussion about the needed reforms that will lead to decentralisation for the whole state and *deepened* autonomy for the regions that want it. In this case, it will join the way of democracy and the way followed by the neighbours who are clearly federal or pre-federal.

Thierry JIGOUREL.

1) 71% of the population of the Loire-Atlantique asks for the administrative unification of Brittany.





# A gewch chi ddefnyddio Cymraeg yn y banc?

Fel rhan o'r ymgyrch am Ddeddf Iaith Newydd, sydd eleni yn canolbwyntio ar y banciau, mae Cymdeithas yr Iaith wedi cynhyrchu holiadur am statws y Gymraeg mewn canghennau unigol o'r banciau a'r cymdeithasau adeiladu. Er pwyso am flynyddoedd am yr hawl i wasanaeth cyflawn Cymraeg gan y banciau, sydd yn rhan anochel o fywyd bob dydd, mae'r ddarpariaeth yn Gymraeg yn fratiog yn y banciau gorau ac mae rhai sefydliadau llai yn cynnwys rhai o'r banciau 'newydd' yn cael anwybyddu'r iaith yn llwyr gan nad oes deddf iaith yn eu gorfodi nhw i ystyried y Cymry.

Lluniwyd holiadur y gellir ei lenwi wrth ymweld â changen leol o fanc, a chan ei fod yn rhoi 'sgôr' i'r gangen mae'n hawdd gwneud cymhariaeth rhwng y banciau gwahanol a hefyd rhwng canghennau o'r un banc. Mae statws yr iaith mewn rhai banciau yn newid o gangen i gangen yn ôl mympwy'r rheolwr, sydd, heb ddeddf iaith berthnasol, yn rhydd i anwybyddu cyfarwyddiadau'r canol os ydyw'n meddwl e.e. 'nad oes neb yn yr ardal yn siarad Cymraeg'.

Mae'r cwestiynau i gael eu hateb wrth ymweld â changen leol o'r banc/sefydliad ariannol. Dylid ateb cymaint ag y gellir drwy edrych, heb ofyn i aelod o'r staff. Mae ateb positif i rai cwestiynau yn sgorio un pwynt, ateb positif i rai sgorio dau bwynt, ac mae'n bosib i fanc sgorio dau, un neu ddim hefo rhai cwestiynau.

Mesur agwedd y gangen unigol tuag at yr iaith yn hytrach na mesur polisi canolog swyddogol y sefydliad ydyw nod yr holiadur.

1. *A ydyw enw'r banc/sefydliad i'w weld yn Gymraeg ar y tu allan, a hefyd enw neu leoliad y gangen mewn Cymraeg cywir?*  
Ydynt, yn gymaint â'r Saesneg, a'r Gymraeg yn gywi 2 bwynt  
Ydynt, ond y Gymraeg yn israddol neu'n anghywir 1 pwynt  
Nac ydynt Dim
2. *A ydyw'r oriau agor yn Gymraeg?*  
Ydynt - 1 pwynt, Nac ydynt. Dim
3. *A ydyw'r arwyddion y tu mewn i'r gangen yn Gymraeg?*  
Llawer ohonynt 2 bwynt  
Rhaid ohonynt (o leiaf 3 gwahanol) 1 pwynt  
Nac ydynt, neu un neu ddau yn unig Dim
4. *A ydyw'r poster/hysbysiadau am wasanaethau yn Gymraeg?*  
Pob un 2 bwynt  
Rhaid 1 pwynt  
Dim un Dim
5. *A ydyw trefn yr ieithoedd yn gywir, h.y. Cymraeg yn uchaf neu ar y chwith, Saesneg yn isaf neu ar y dde, yn fwyaf aml?*  
Cymraeg yn gyntaf gan fwy 1 pwynt  
Saesneg yn gyntaf gan fwy Dim  
Dim Cymraeg Dim
6. *A oes taflenni gwybodaeth yn Gymraeg?*  
Oes - 1 pwynt, Nac oes Dim
7. *A ydyw'r sefydliad yn darparu llyfrau sieciau Cymraeg neu ddwyieithog?*  
Ydyw 1 pwynt  
Nac ydyw (neu'r staff ddim yn gwybod allan o law) Dim
8. *A oes ffurflenni talu-i-mewn Cymraeg/dwyieithog?*  
Oes - 1 pwynt, Nac oes Dim.

9. *A ydyw'r fersiynau Cymraeg ar gael yr un mor hawdd â'r rhai Saesneg, h.y. a ydynt allan ar y desgiau neu y tu ôl i'r cownter?*  
Ydynt 1 pwynt  
Nac ydynt Dim  
Dim fersiynau Cymraeg Dim
  10. *A ydyw'r peiriant arian (twll yn y wal) yn gweithio yn Gymraeg?*  
Ydyw - 1 pwynt, Nac ydyw Dim
  11. *A oes siaradwr Cymraeg ar gael i ateb cwestiynau?*  
Oes, mae polisi pendant e.e. cownter Cymraeg, yn sicrhau hyn 2 bwynt  
Oes, mae aelod o'r staff sydd yn digwydd medru Cymraeg 1 pwynt  
Nac oes Dim
  12. *A ydyw'r uchelseinydd ciwio yn ddwyieithog?*  
Ydyw - 2 bwynt, Nac ydyw Dim
  13. *A ydyw'r aelod o staff a holir yn gwybod a ydyw'r sefydliad mewn cysylltiad â'r quango iaith ac yn elwa o'r cymorth sydd ar gael gyda materion ieithyddol?*  
Ydyw - 1 pwynt, Nac ydyw Dim
  14. *Sut mae agwedd cyffredinol y staff a holir ynghylch cael eu cyfarch yn Gymraeg a siarad am bolisi iaith y gangen?*  
Brwd ac yn deall anghenion y Cymry 2 bwynt  
Cwrtais ac ymddiheuro, neu anwybodus 1 pwynt  
Anghwrtais, trahaus neu elyniaethus Dim
- (A dyma rai cwestiynau ychwanegol sydd yn fwy dibynnol ar bolisi canolog y banc, ond y bydd eu hatebion negyddol yn tanlinellu'r angen am Ddeddf Iaith Newydd):
15. *A ydyw gwasanaeth bancio-dros-y-ffôn y banc ar gael yn Gymraeg?*  
Ydyw - 2 bwynt, Nac ydyw Dim
  16. *A ydyw'r wefan neu'r gwasanaeth bancio-dros-y-Rhyngrwyd yn Gymraeg?*  
Ydynt - 2 bwynt, Nac ydynt Dim
  17. *A ydyw adroddiadau banc drwy'r post ar gael yn Gymraeg?*  
Ydynt - 1 pwynt, Nac ydynt Dim

## Sgorio:

Ychwanegwch y marciau ar gyfer y cwestiynau i gyrraedd sgôr y banc/sefydliad. Ychwanegwch un pwynt ar gyfer pob dau gwestiwn sydd ddim yn berthnasol e.e. dim peiriant arian. 20 ydyw'r sgôr uchaf bosibl (25 a chynnwys y cwestiynau ychwanegol).

Robat ap Tomos

## Summary:

An account of a questionnaire to evaluate the use made of Welsh in a branch of a bank or building society. Cymdeithas yr Iaith are using the deficiency of the service provided in the campaign for a new language law which includes a right to a Welsh service from private organisations.



# POLITICALLY CORRECT UNIONISTS SUPPORT CULTURAL GENOCIDE

Following evidence that the immigration of English, and other non-Welsh speakers, into Gwynedd and the other Welsh-speaking areas is once again increasing due to increasing differences between the prices of houses in rural Wales and parts of England, the chairman of Gwynedd Council planning committee called for controls to be available to limit the numbers of incomers. In his statement Councillor Simon Glyn of Plaid Cymru repeated what those concerned about the future of Welsh as a community language have been aware of for years in that his community and others are being destroyed by the continued appearance, at a rate far beyond the community's ability to assimilate, of incomers with no knowledge of the local language. He said that English people moving to Welsh Wales should be asked to learn Welsh and that the large numbers of people coming to retire to Gwynedd were putting a strain on services.

A television documentary on the issue highlighted as an example a family with nine children from Eastern England who had come to live in the Nantlle valley. Having bought a house at a much lower price than that for which they sold their English property, because the parents thought that the area was pretty. The children will have to learn Welsh in schools – a task easiest for the youngest and most difficult for those already in their teens – but it is unlikely they will become spontaneous Welsh-speakers, while the parents had no intention of learning Welsh. The statement of Simon Glyn was predictably condemned loudly by the unionist political parties and their supportive media, with 'racism' being the fashionable term to describe any call for action to safeguard Welsh communities. It was disturbing to see the Labour/Liberal Democrat administration of our National Assembly putting on tones of 'politically correct' indignation about whether anyone even had a right to speak about such things as a way of side-stepping the issue itself. The minister with responsibility for the language, Liberal Democrat Jenny Randerson, described the statement as 'totally beyond the pale of civilised political comment'. Alun Pugh, Labour AC for Clwyd West, said "When members of Plaid Cymru in positions of authority start talking about the English threatening our way of life ... we need to be clear about what this is. It is racism, racism pure and simple. Why does Plaid Cymru allow a racist to remain in a major post?" Pugh does not consider that the fact that a fair part of his constituency is Welsh-speaking a reason for learning the language.

The sad reality for us is that the unionist

parties are benefiting politically from the English immigration. Plaid Cymru are now the dominant party of Welsh Wales, and the degree of immigration into an area is reflected by unionist votes in local and national elections. It is by virtue of the English vote that Labour hold Clwyd West in the Assembly and Carmarthen East & Dinefwr in Westminster, and came so close to Plaid Cymru in Ynys Môn in 1997. Areas of England such as the Lake District, which would be very attractive to incomers, have their own planning restrictions which restrict the right to buy property and take up residency. The London government accepts the right of such areas to keep their character and avoid the burden to social services etc. of having a large proportion of retired people as more important than any right of people to live wherever they want. But they have refused to allow similar planning restrictions to apply in NorthWest Wales, dismissing such claims as nationalism. It is not unduly cynical to suppose that they welcome the political consequences of the anglicisation of Welsh Wales but are not prepared to say so openly.

## The response of Cymdeithas yr Iaith

A spokesperson on behalf of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg said "Welsh politicians have been enthusiastically throwing words like 'racialist' and 'racialism' around and hiding behind them rather than getting to grips with the social and economic problems that are undermining Welsh communities today. Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg believes that many of the answers to the problems caused by in-migration can be found in its handbook 'A Property Act For Wales'.

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg has also written to the Commission for Racial Equality and asked for the resignation of Roy Singh who made the first allegation that a stand for the Welsh language was paramount to racialism. Roy Singh's remarks suggest that the right of the individual to buy property is greater than the community's right to survive.

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg has asked for a meeting with the Commission for Racial Equality to discuss this issue. A spokesperson on behalf of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg said further: "The Commission for Racial Equality was established to fight and not promote injustice. The Commission should be on the side of those fighting for the future of civilisation rather than those trying to destroy it. It is certainly not their role to protect the rights of rich white people to move into poorer areas and preventing the indigenous population from buying homes

and property in their own community. Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg believes that the communities of Wales should be open to people of any racial background but that there is no welcome to anybody intent on destroying those communities."

Cymdeithas yr Iaith organised a rally in Caernarfon on February 17th in response to the hostile reaction of the unionist establishment to any steps taken against the colonisation process, with the theme "Wales Is Not For Sale - A Property Act For Wales".

The situation of the Welsh language in the face of this colonisation process has gone beyond crisis point. It is estimated that for a community to remain naturally Welsh-speaking, that is with Welsh being in spontaneous and natural daily use in shops, school playgrounds and local events (as opposed to being used just within families, groups of acquaintances and specifically Welsh events) it is necessary for the proportion of speakers to remain above 70-75%. By now it is thought that only twenty or so villages and small towns, all in the NorthWest, would meet this criterion.

What is new about the recent episode, which started with the remarks of Simon Glyn, is the hostility that the Welsh government parties are prepared to show to those who try to resist English colonisation and the loss of our language. Speaking on the above-mentioned documentary on S4C Plaid Cymru spokesman Dafydd Iwan said that those concerned for the future of the Welsh-speaking community need to face the reality that we can no longer regard wide areas of what was until recently Welsh-speaking, but acknowledge that the battle for the language has been lost recently in many places, and concentrate our efforts on helping the language thrive in the remaining towns and villages that we still had. In response, Labour MP Betty Williams dismissed these remarks as racism.

Robat ap Tomos

## Ar Bed Keltiek

On line books, records, Celtic art,

Kemper: 02.98.95.42.82.

Brest: 02.98.44.05.38

<http://www.arbedkeltiek.com>

e-bost: [arfur@eurobretagne.fr](mailto:arfur@eurobretagne.fr)

[bernez.abk@eurobretagne.fr](mailto:bernez.abk@eurobretagne.fr)

Note: Ar Bed Keltiek (2 Str. Ar Roue Gralon, 29000 Kemper), uses the term e-bost in preference to e-mail, like the Welsh. When phoning from abroad, omit the 0 in the prefix.



# IT'S CARDIFF, ENGLAND, FOR THE F.A. CUP!

The world of soccer is one of the few international areas where Wales has the status of a full nation. Despite not having any sort of government until two years ago, the Welsh national soccer team have always been allowed to participate in competitions such as the World Cup. Welsh clubs, by winning e.g. the Welsh F.A. Cup, can qualify to participate in European competitions under the Welsh flag. Very few other stateless nations have this privilege which is deeply appreciated by those who wish Wales to continue as a nation.

Not surprisingly, there are many that would prefer Wales to be grouped with England and Scotland, and be treated as one country in soccer with one British 'national' team. These 'soccer unionists' are not generally supported by the establishment in Wales, but the Wales's besieged international status was put in further jeopardy by the latter with their mindless campaign for the English F.A. Cup Final to be played in Cardiff over the next few years.

England's national soccer stadium near London is being rebuilt, and an alternative

venue for their Cup Final, which is an event of much higher profile than the Welsh equivalent since soccer is the national game in England and it is played to a higher standard than in Wales, was required. While there are several other large stadia in England, consideration was given to Wales's large new Millennium Stadium in Cardiff. It was of suitable size, not too far from London, and since the English public do not regard Wales as another country the anomaly of this specifically English event being held outside England would not be felt. As soon as it was known that Cardiff was on the shortlist of venues, the media, particularly the *Western Mail*, fanatically supported a campaign for "the F.A. Cup Final" to be brought to Cardiff. Throughout the campaign the English Football Association were referred to as 'the F.A.' and the cup as "the F.A. Cup" (as the media in England do correctly), even though Wales has its own equivalents. The whole campaign for Cardiff, not Manchester or Birmingham, to be selected as the venue was run in the spirit of Wales being part of England. A leader of the cam-

paign was Russell Goodway, the (discretely) anti-devolution Labour mayor of Cardiff. Goodway has already distinguished himself by refusing to let the National Assembly meet in the empty Cardiff City Hall, thus causing the need for a new Assembly building to be built at a cost of millions to the taxpayers. This time he demanded that the Assembly give him £1.5 million to fund the "F.A. Cup" campaign. After being refused he called for a second devolution referendum and the abolition of the Assembly. (It is remarkable how unionists who disagree with decisions of our Assembly then call for the abolition of the Assembly. If they disagree with Westminster or a local council, they do not call for it to be abolished).

The campaign having succeeded, it has to be seen if England playing their cup final in Wales will jeopardise our status as an independent soccer nation. Given that the event is broadcast world-wide it will certainly further confuse the millions who already think Wales is part of England.

Those who might have been expected to speak out against this campaign remained silent. The only dissenting voice came from the Welsh F.A. who said that the money spent on persuading the English F.A. to choose Cardiff would have been better spent developing soccer in Wales.

**Robat ap Tomos**

## RALLIES IN CAMPAIGN FOR NEW LANGUAGE LAW TARGET BANKS

Cymdeithas yr Iaith are holding a series of rallies throughout Wales as the next stage of the campaign for a new law for the Welsh language. The first was held in Heol y Frenhines / Queen St., Cardiff, in January, where the shift of emphasis in the campaign from the mobile phone companies, targeted in 2000, to the banks, this year's target, was marked by 200 protesters starting the rally outside an Orange mobile phone store, painting a slogan on the windows, and then moving on to the Woolwich, a bank whose new anti-Welsh stance included the removal of all Welsh signs and forms from their central Cardiff branch. The Woolwich was duly covered with posters, including copies of a letter sent to Cymdeithas from the Woolwich a few years ago saying that their policy was to introduce bilingualism when opening and refurbishing branches. The rally moved on to the Halifax, a bank whose use of Welsh is notably superficial, and slogans were painted on the windows. Finally the protesters targeted a new branch of the supermarket Sainsburys, which opened a few months ago with next to no Welsh signage again in contravention of a supposed language policy which Sainsburys had sent to Cymdeithas in writing. The manager agreed to meet with Cymdeithas members to discuss the shop's policy.

Four members of Cymdeithas were arrested during the rally: Ffred Ffrancis, Danny Grehan, Huw Lewis and Heledd Gwyndaf. Concern was expressed at the violent treatment of the protesters by the police.

The main point of these rallies is not to persuade the banks to improve their language policies. Cymdeithas have been working at this for decades. It is the lack of any legal obligation on private organisations to provide a service for Welsh speakers that means that any concessions won one year are likely to be lost after a time by a change in the bank's management or lack of concern.

## Rhondda Cynon Taf Council Praised by Auditor

Until two years ago Rhondda Cynon Taf council in Glamorgan was Wales' most notorious rotten borough. Generations of Labour misrule and abuse of power had left the council in millions of pounds of debt, with 2,000 council jobs under threat. Then on May 6, 1999 voters turned their backs on the voting habits of a lifetime. They gave their Labour councillors the long-deserved order of the boot and put Plaid Cymru in control of Wales' second largest council.

The Plaid run administration was praised recently by the District Auditor for the progress that has been made since then. This progress is to be seen in the council's finances and in the management re-structuring. The District Auditor's report says that finances are much better than they have been for many years advised the council to continue with its financial strategy.

The council under Pauline Jarman's able leadership have succeeded in implementing an extremely demanding financial strategy that has turned the deficit into a £4 million surplus in less than 18 months. They have also safeguarded the 2,000 jobs that were under threat.

The public endorsement of the great progress of the past 18 months gives testimony to the hard work of members of their administration and their officers and staff. After generations of Labour neglect, Plaid Cymru have a massive challenge to restore the trust and confidence of the people in local government. It is a great encouragement when we are told that we are on the right track.





## Polasaí glasach den eite chlé ó Mebyon Kernow

Agus tionscnamh na Ríochta Aontaithe lagaithe go mór le tamall de bhlianta anuas is ábhar spéise é an borradh nua atá faoi Mebyon Kernow sa Chorn. D'fhoilsigh an páirtí forógra cuimsitheach *A Fresh Start for Cornwall* le déanaí. Léirítear ann polasaí atá bunaithe ar chomhthionól Cornach, díláru, pleanáil eacnamaíochta, úinéireacht phoiblí, cur chuige glasach agus feabhsú ar sheirbhísí sóisialta. Is comhartha sóirt é an forógra seo go seasann an páirtí roinnt mhaith ar an taobh chlé den lár ar an speictream polaitiúil.

Maítear gurb í aidhm fhadtéarmach Mebyon Kernow go nglacadh an Corn a ionad cuí taobh istigh d'Eoraip dhiflárnaithe na bpobal mar náisiún uathrialach. Molann an páirtí an cineál sin Eorpa mar mhalairt rogha ar Eoraip an láraithe, na ngnóthas móra agus an mhaorlathais.

Cé go mbaineann Mebyon Kernow leas as an téarma 'comhthionól' seachas 'parlaimint' tá siad ar thóir institiúide a bheadh i bhfad níos cumhachtaí ná Comhthionól na Breataine Bige. Comhthionól reachtais atá uathau a mbeadh cumhachtaí aige a bheadh ar aon dul, ar a laghad, le cumhachtaí Pharlaimint na hAlban. Bheadh sé ina údarás sna hearnálacha forbairt eacnamaíoch, comhshaol, sláinte, pleanáil, seirbhísí sóisialta, póilinteacht, dóiteán, tithíocht, talmhaíocht, iascaireacht agus bia. Chomh maith leis sin ghlacadh sé cúraimí an rialtais áitiúil idir lámha chomh maith le feidhmeanna na quangos (comhlachtaí neamhrialtais neamhthofa) agus na náisiúneachtaí réigiúnacha. Thoghfaí é leis an vóta singil inaistrithe.

Tá Mebyon Kernow ar son Bille Cearta a bheith ann don Chorn a chosnódh cearta na ndaoine beag beann ar inscne, aois, sláinte, reiligiún, cúlra náisiúnta nó eitneach nó gnéisíúlacht. Aithníonn an páirtí nach ceist ciníoch í ceist na féiniúlachta agus na náisiúnachta Cornaí, gur ceist í a bhaineann le meas ar shaol agus ar chultúr na tíre, le cónaí sa Chorn agus le ceangaltas dearfach dá thodhchaí.

Maíonn an páirtí gur náisiún stairiúil iad na Cornaigh atá ag lorg na n-uirlisí lena dtír a fhorbairt mar shlánaonad polaitiúil agus eacnamaíoch. Le 40 bliain anuas tá Devon

Shasana agus an Corn á gcur le chéile mar réigiún do gach cineál cúraim, réigiún ina bhfuil an Cornaigh ina mionlach ann. Is de dheasca brú ó Mebyon Kernow agus daoine eile a tugadh aitheantas don Chorn mar aonad staidrimh. Marach sin ní móide go dtabharfaí stádas Chuspóir 1 dó mar aonad ar leith i Márta 1999. Léirigh an staidreamh ag an tráth sin nach raibh in olltáirgeacht intíre an Choirm ach dhá thrian de ráta na Ríocht Aontaithe. Luann Mebyon Kernow na tosaíochtaí ar chóir, dar leo, a bhrú chun tosaigh i margáil eacnamaíochta leis an mBruiséal agus le Londain - tábhacht na hiascaireachta, spleáchas ar thurasóireacht, féidearthachtaí na cumarsáide mara, páirt na ngnóthas beaga agus an mianach atá sa déantúsaíocht.



Richard Cole, Chair, Mebyon Kernow – the Party for Cornwall.

Sa bhliain 1998 ní raibh sa mheántuarastal sa Chorn ach 73.8% den mheántuarastal i Sasana béal dorais. Bhí cás na n-oibríthe ban níos measa ná mar a léiríonn an sonra sin. Bhí 36.9% díobh siúd ag tuilleamh níos lú ná £190 sa bhliain (agus b'ín gan oibríthe páirtaimseartha a chur san áireamh).

Tuarann forógra Mebyon Kernow borradh

eacnamaíoch bunaithe ar ghnóthais bheaga, comharchumainn, fiontair phobail faoi rialú áitiúil, áisíneacht forbartha (a mbeadh buiséad de £30-35 milliún aici dá ndéanfaí í a mhaoiniú ar aon dul lena leathbheac sa Bhreatain Bheag), combairle oiliúna agus fiontair agus ollscoil Chornach cheartmhaoinithe. Tá Mebyon Kernow ar son gníomhaíocht stáit le dífhostaíocht agus easpa tithíochta a réiteach. Cuireann siad glan in éadan príobháidiú ar acmhainní pobail agus tá siad ar son úinéireacht phoiblí ar sheirbhísí tábhachtacha sna hearnálacha fuinneamh, uisce, iarnród agus cumarsáidí bunúsacha.

Maidir leis an gcomhshaol molann Mebyon Kernow sraith de bheartais. Orthusan tá rialacháin dhiana i geúrsaí caomhnú fuinnimh, athchúrsáil agus cose ar aeráil agus a leithéid, rialacha pleanála a d'éascódh foráis miondíobhála agus a choscfaidh foráis dhochracha (ar nós ollmhargaí abhalmhóra lasmuigh de na bailte), srian ar bhóithre nua agus cur chun cinn an chórais taistil phoiblí.

Deir Mebyon Kernow nach bhfuil ag éirí leis an gComhpholasaí Talmhaíochta. Luann siad cuid dá thorthaí — rótháirgíocht, praghsanna arda ar bhia (ach dumpáil ar phraghsanna ísle taobh amuigh den Aontas Eorpach) agus drochmheas ar fheirmeoirí i súile na ndaoine i gcoitinne. Cuir leis sin an meathlú sa talmhaíocht, galar na mbó mire agus míchumas rialtas Shasana agus ní haon iontas é go bhfuil neart feirmeoirí banchhriste. Teastaíonn ó Mebyon Kernow go dtabharfaí cúnamh breise d'fheirmeoirí i gceantair faoi mhíbhuntáiste agus don chuid acu atá ag iarraidh ilghnéithiú nó dídhíochrú a dhéanamh ar a tháirgíocht nó dul le feirmeoireacht orgánach. Dar leis an bpáirtí teastaíonn polasaí struchtúr le nach roinnfí nó nach gceanglófaí feirmeacha go fánach.

Luann an forógra an Choirnis mar an léiriú is mó ar shainaitheantas na gCornach agus deir siad gur ceart go mbeadh an teanga ar fáil ag an uile dhuine ar mian leis í a fhoghlaim. Is í an tacaíocht is lú ar ceart a thabhairt don Choirnis, dar leo, tacaíocht ar aon leibhéal leis an tacaíocht a bhfaigheann an Mhanannais.

Deir Mebyon Kernow go neamhbhalbh gur tír Cheilteach é an Corn agus luann siad an cúig thír Cheilteach (ina n-ainmneacha) mar thíortha atá ag glacadh níos mó muiníne chucu féin maidir lena bhféiniúlacht agus atá ag baint leas as an bhféiniúlacht sin mar ghléas láidir polaitiúil.

Colm de Faoite

### Summary

*The manifesto of Mebyon Kernow, the party for Cornwall calls for a Cornish legislative assembly with powers not less than those of the Scottish parliament. The general thrust of the party's policy is significantly to the left. It also encompasses a serious green element.*



## Irish Language Bill still on course?

In a minor reshuffle in the second tier of the Irish Cabinet Minister for State for the Gaeltacht, Éamonn Ó Cuív has been moved from the Gaeltacht post. It was widely accepted that few had as firm a personal commitment to the Bill as Ó Cuív. Does his transfer bode ill for it?



*Mary Coughlan,  
new Minister of  
State for the  
Gaeltacht.*

The new Minister of State is Mary Coughlan, from Donegal, a fluent Irish speaker. Will she fare any better however, with the mandarins of the Civil Service which Irish Language organisations felt were responsible for the build up of delays?

In her first public statement on the matter in the Senate in early March she has indicated that the Bill will be published before year-end and that it will contain provision for a Commissioner to oversee implementation.

## Crisis for Second Level Irish?

The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) has produced a report on the teaching of Irish at second level which states that while students learn Irish for 3,186 hours during their school careers (primary and secondary) they do not appear to benefit fully from this level of teaching.

The report has led the NCCA to initiate a full review on the subject. The review will include a measurement of students' "basic proficiency" in Irish, concentrating on listening, speaking, reading and writing. The tests will be taken by first- and fifth-year students. They will also fill out a questionnaire on "their attitudes to and use of Gaelige in school and in other contexts".

A major conference on how best to support Irish will also take place. The final report will be issued next year by the NCCA and the cost will be £75,000.

Comhar na Múinteoirí Gaelige (Association of Teachers of Irish) disagreed that a crisis exists. They pointed out that in the Leaving Certificate examination 86% of those taking the Higher Level achieved honours in the subject while the figures for Ordinary Level and Basic Level were about the same – hardly a crisis!

Junior Certificate result were not far behind. These results are comparable or better than those for most other subjects but only Irish is scrutinised to such a degree. The Gael Linn organization said they were undertaking a survey in schools and responses to date indicated problems as mentioned in the report. They stood by their statement of last year that 60% of primary school teachers had insufficient fluency to teach the subject properly (this was rejected by teachers' unions and the Government at the time). Improved teacher training at primary and secondary level was urgently needed to combat low levels of fluency amongst teachers.



*Helen Ó Murchú, Director,  
Comhar na Múinteoirí Gaelige.*

## The Celtic Tiger – New Growth for Growth's Sake?

Anyone who experienced the bleak 80's when 30,000 young people a year left Ireland (their memory being commemorated in songs like the Wolfe Tones "Flight of Earls") must surely welcome the economic boom of the late 90's even if it brought it's own problems and the division of its benefits within society were open to question. The growth is projected to continue by groups like the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) even if the rate slows.

A new perspective on the implications of growth was delivered in a report by an Inter Departmental/Agency group on Immigration Policy in relation to meeting the objectives of the £41 Billion National Development Plan. About 336,000 people are expected to immigrate into the Republic over the next six years. About half of these will be returning 'Irish emigrants'.

The single largest group of new workers will be people coming to fill vacancies created as a result of continued emigration by Irish people, according to the group. A total of 112,000 potential workers – an average of 16,000 a year – are expected to leave the State over the life of the plan, despite a continued economic boom. They will have to be replaced by immigrants.

Another 88,000 immigrant workers, or 12,600 a year, will be needed to fill jobs created as a direct result of the huge investment envisaged in the national plan. The balance of the 336,000 new arrivals will be dependants of the people coming to take up jobs.

The report recommended that the thinking behind the national development plan be re-examined. "It was asking whether it was right that economic growth should be pursued purely for its own sake," said an official.

There are still question marks over the wisdom – in terms of costs and benefits to the economy – of encouraging such an influx into the State.

"A net inflow of such volumes of people will place additional pressure on domestic and social physical infrastructure" the report says.

The result, it warns, will be continued over-heating in the housing market and transport congestion. It will place extra pressure on services, such as education, health and the social security system.

## Irish on Campus

The number of students in Dublin City University who wish to avail of the opportunity to live in an Irish speaking medium on campus is increasing.

Ailín Ní Chonchúir, Irish Officer in DCU, said their aim was to create an Irish speaking community by providing Irish medium living quarters as had been done successfully in University Colleges of Galway and Cork (National University). Sixteen places will now be available in apartments for students who wish to use Irish regularly. Applicants who have been granted campus accommodation will be interviewed for the Irish medium places and will be expected to be active in the Irish language life and activities of the College.

In University College Cork the Bord na Gaeilge has reported a five per cent increase in the number of those who took part in activities organised under the auspices of the Centre for Spoken Irish. The teaching of Irish is the principal activity of the Centre.

According to the report more than 2,000 people used the facilities of the Centre. More than 800 learners attended language programmes, 862 students attended courses and almost 1,300 partook in other education activities.



## Iomairt Cholmcille - Columba Initiative

A Gàidhlig week-end was organised in Belfast in early February – "Canain nan Gàidheal". Musicians and Gàidhlig teachers attended. Beginners and intermediate Gàidhlig classes were given, Gàidhlig songs taught and a concert held. Also sponsored by Iomairt Cholmcille was the visit to Ireland from mid to late February of singer Anne Martin and harpist Ingrid Henderson from Skye. They played venues in Dublin, Belfast, Armagh and Rostrevor to appreciative audiences. They recently released a CD of new arrangements of traditional Gàidhlig songs 'Nighean nan geug', which was recorded last year in Colum Sands studio in Co. Down.

The strategic plan of the group was launched in Stormont in early Feb. by Michael McGimpsey (UUP), Northern Assembly Minister for Culture and Arts, at an occasion attended by Éamon Ó Cuív, the then Minister of State for the Gaeltacht, Brian Wilson, Westminster Minister of State in the Foreign Dept., Alasdair Moireasan, Gàidhlig Minister in the Scottish Assembly and Rhodri Williams, Chairperson of the Welsh Language Board.



*Ann Martin and Ingrid Henderson.*

Another initiative was an interceltic concert in Galway with Irish and Scottish sean nós singers and also Yann Fanch Kemener from Brittany.

## Funding for Irish in North

In February *Foras na Gaeilge* announced some significant funding towards Arts and Irish language community activities in the North. The Belfast Drama group, 'Aisling Ghéar', received £70,000 while a video unit 'Súil Aduaidh' got £117,500. £300,000 was agreed in principal for the Irish Language Centre (Gaeláras) in Derry and £100,000 for a site for the Mac Reachtain Cultural Society in Belfast. The Cumann Gaelach Cultural Centre in Portadown received £30,000 and Oideas Gael, the language teaching centre in Donegal was granted £42,000 towards an Internet magazine. The Irish Language school movement based in Belfast, Gaeloiliúint, was granted £150,000 and St Mary's University College, Belfast, received £100,000 towards a language center.

(Other benefits to Irish language education in the North were the channeling of £0.5M from the Dept. of Education towards schools without recognition and a further grant of £0.75M to Iontaobhas na Gaelscolaíochta (Trust for Irish Medium Education) the body charged with aiding such schools).

Many Celtic visitors to Dublin will have visited Club an Chonradh, Harcourt St., home of many a great session and much *craic* over the years. On your next visit you won't recognize it. A new design will have been implemented (with assistance of almost £40,000 from An Foras) and the rejuvenated Club was opened by St Patrick's Day.



*Liam Ó Cuinneagáin of Oideas Gael, which was granted £42,000 towards an Internet magazine.*

## The North

The new Police Ombudsman, Nuala O' Loan, has been appointed and since the office commenced work three months ago 1,500 complaints have been received against the RUC. That force is shedding older members and a new recruitment drive is expected to be under way (on the 50/50, Catholic/Protestant quota) by mid-March. This was criticised by Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams who called for action on a range of other recommendations in the Patten report and was also greeted coolly by Seamus Mallon of the SDLP who said none of the arrangements for the new Police Force were in place.

While there were more talks involving the Northern Parties and the Taoiseach and the British Prime Minister in early March in an effort to make movement before the forthcoming Dáil and Westminster General Elections, little progress has been made on the key issues. However all put a positive spin on the outcome (including David Trimble whose earlier negative response to the IRA's announcement that it would re-engage with the De Chastelain (Decommissioning) Commission had now become softened to calling it 'specific progress') and matters may be expected to remain static until the general elections are over.

## Language Challenge - European Year of Languages 2001

The Irish Committee of the European Bureau of Lesser Used Languages (EBLUL) has chosen two people to partake in a 'Language Challenge' organized as part of EBLUL activity for the European Year of Languages 2001, which opened in Lund, Sweden earlier this year. One is a refugee from Niger, a member with children in a local Gaelscoil, and the other is the well-known Belfast actor, Stephen Rea who has a daughter starting in an Irish medium second level school. Teachers will be provided and on-going assessment.

The European Year of Languages is intended to celebrate the multiplicity and diversity of languages in Europe and to encourage European Communities to learn each other's languages. Information on the progress of the two along with other information on language learning can be found on the new Irish Committee web site, [www.eblul.ie](http://www.eblul.ie)

A negative act of EBLUL however has been the decision to close the Dublin office. The establishment of the office here was seen, at the time of the foundation of EBLUL, as a welcome sign of some decentralisation to the periphery – now it seems all must be located in Brussels. Hardly a good omen for those whose languages are really threatened (as against being a lesser-spoken language group from some major language of another state). Will the Celtic Language organisations fight this?



# Gilligan gets 28 Years

*Dublin mobster peddled drugs and made a fortune, but who were his bankers and why have they not been exposed?*

The acquittal of Dublin mobster John Gilligan on charges connected with the murder of Dublin journalist, Veronica Guerin, has been made more palatable to a shocked Irish public by his conviction on a twenty-eight year sentence on drug charges. Gilligan was part of a network of criminals who, using the drug's trade, have destroyed communities in Dublin and Ireland all the while growing rich on the proceeds of their crime.

Anyone who stood in the way of these gangs was mercilessly swept aside. The murder of Veronica Guerin showed just how far the drug cartels were prepared to go.

However, the tentacles of the evil empires, built by Gilligan and others, could not have existed for long if they had not been able to disperse and launder the proceeds of the drug's trade. Gilligan's crime empire had a turnover of £40 million and the proceeds were laundered across Europe and in off shore financial centres.

Last year the Celtic League wrote to the Irish Justice Minister, John O' Donoghue, after another of the Dublin criminal fraternity, Thomas Meehan – related to Brian Meehan already convicted for the Guerin slaying – was reported to have opened a bank account in the Isle of Man. This was a *stepping stone* to accounts in Vienna.

The Dublin criminal Mafia uses the international financial sector to *grease the wheels* and hide the proceeds from their crimes and we urged O' Donoghue to name the banks involved in this business.

Unfortunately, the Irish Justice Minister did not *'consider it appropriate for the naming in public of any such institutions in a context which would infer involvement in money laundering'*.

It seems that this failure to **Name and Shame** banks involved in handling the accounts of people subsequently connected to serious crime is to continue. It is an insult to the memory of Veronica Guerin that the banks who profited from laundering of the drugs Mafia she had tried to expose have not been forced to account for their sloppy procedures.

Today the financial services sector speaks eloquently of regulation and meeting best international standards, but at the time the drugs business was created by mobsters like Gilligan that same sector were his bankers!



*Murdered Dublin journalist  
Veronica Guerin*

## PANA Organises for NICE Referendum - *Independence or Empire, the UN or the EU?*

The process of the transformation of the European Economic Community has been marked by a series of referendums in Ireland. The Irish political elite generally opposed the right of the Irish people to have a say in these referendums in a fair and democratic manner since the Single European Act. They opposed Ray Crotty's appeal in the Supreme Court when he sought a referendum of the people in regard to the SEA. They opposed Patricia McKenna when she sought equitable funding, and opposed Tony Coughlan when he sought equitable media coverage in RTÉ. While the referendums have shown a majority in favour, those opposing the transformation of the EEC into a European Empire has grown despite the elite, and it stood at 38% for the Amsterdam Treaty.

Since then, Mr Ahern said it would be fundamentally undemocratic to join the PFP without a referendum, and to join it, would give a clear signal that Ireland would join Nato and the WEU in due course. We joined without a referendum so the elite have given their clear signal of their support for the Empire.

The Amsterdam Treaty established a European Army of over 250,000, which will be needed to put 80,000 soldiers in the field. It has been given a radius of 2,500 miles in which to operate. Mr Chirac, the French President, has already called for an extra force of 200,000.

The next step towards the Empire will be the Treaty of Nice agreed at the end of last year. The Irish Government has conceded that

## HYPOCRISY OF NEW TERROR LAW

The Celtic League has hit out at new so-called anti-terrorism legislation in the UK, which they say will be used to perpetrate abuse against ethnic minorities.

Yesterday, the UK Home Secretary, Jack Straw, outlawed 21 groups. A high proportion of these groups were associated with Ireland or with Islamic countries. The Government also outlawed the Basque separatist group ETA.

The League say the legislation, based on its precursor the Prevention of Terrorism Act, will be used by the British security services to target legitimate groups.

The League also attacked the hypocrisy of the British government pointing out both they and other governments have themselves been indicted for involvement in terrorist acts.



they must hold a referendum which is expected in May 2001. In 1999, the MRBI carried out a survey which showed that only 27% of the voters in the Republic supported the creation of a European Army, while

57% were against. PANA will build an alliance to reflect these figures in the outcome of a referendum. PANA will seek a Protocol to the Nice Treaty which will exclude Ireland from the military dimensions of the Treaty, similar to that achieved by the Danish Government in the Amsterdam Treaty.

We will also seek an amendment to Article 29.2 of the Constitution, which will exclude the state from being a member of a military alliance.

PANA believes that as a small democratic and sovereign State operating within the United Nations through which it would pursue its security concerns rather than being an insignificant region of an Empire will provide a better future for ourselves and our children.

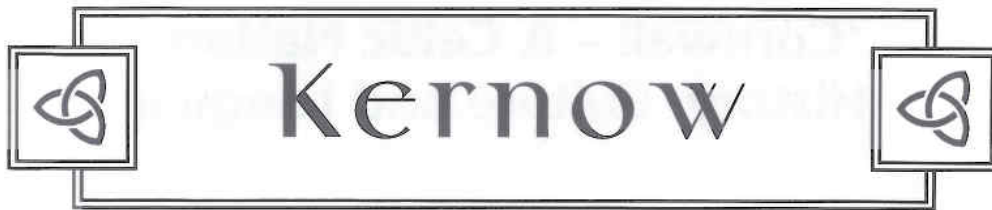
The choice facing us all is whether we want to participate in the Transformation of the only inclusive global organisation, the United Nations, where Ireland now has a seat on the Security Council, or whether we wish to participate in the Restoration of Empire. The Treaty of Nice will offer that choice.

**Roger Cole, Chair, Peace & Neutrality Alliance**

*If you or your organisation wish to become involved / require more information contact: 113 Springhill Avenue, Blackrock, Co. Dublin*

E-mail: [silchester@eircom.net](mailto:silchester@eircom.net)





# Kernow

## Kernuack, Ny Sousnack!

Alaire e ve rish ahoshonow urt an television a tuchia war an matter a voas Sousnack. E ve govednes, "Rag fra ero why omglowas Sousnack?", ha "Pewa tha voas Sousnack?"

Gy a thallathas en thuyran an Gorennis Dihow Orlewen, hag a heys reeg doas pelha than west. War an dewa, an govednack a theath tha Kemow, ha gy reeg gofen an kessam questyon. Han gorub?

"Bus thone Kernuack huns ubma, ny Sousnack!"

Marrugian ew hebma. Gon freedom o kelles ouga an Batall a Boleit en 925 pereeg an mateyrn Sousnack Athelstan gon fetha ny, han Dowr Tamar a ve sittis vel urrhian treeth an Sausen han Curnowean en 936. Nangew moye es meel vlethan thea nena, bus ema tees stella omsengy o hunnen tha voas Kernuack... ny Sousnack!

Enurma ma cows dro tha derevall aman Seneth Kernow war neb coor, ha gon Seneser Lardgy ny, Androw Jory, henew Andrew George reeg saval man ha requyrya dressa an matterma boas attendes der vanar daa. Lebhen pan es Senes keveris than Kembrean ha than Skottes, tibians neb consyderacion rag Kernow nagew meas a reason. Whathe na veath hedna drehethes heb lowar lavyr, rag ke vea tees nevra parres tha theclaria o hunnen Kernuack, na ore angy scantlower pandra tha weel itna, An gwiranath ew dres faut thene leuiader, ha hebma a ve an matter thea mernas an dewetha mateyrn ny- rag ke ve suyes gennan deffrans ledars rag edn cawse hag orol, hebma a ve der reason leuta speciall tewa pednshivigian en termen bressel po streef, han kethe ledarsma a kothas leuta en part angy tha neb mateym po cawse Sousnack. An rebellyans a 1497 eneth dadn an ledar kelednack Mehall Joseph nago matter polytyck bus a reath dadn an la. Seer lowar ma faut thene leuiadar, bus es ledars vase luck thene hethow? Marssew hebma matter broas rag Curnowean, peleha ma an ledars, than? Ha peleha ma an bothe a reis rag dry an state era ny oll a cows? Na amownt descrea pe nag one parres tha entra than gwarry gon hunnen.

**Doniert** a ve an dewetha Mateyrn Kernow. Ema e vean beath teag sittis urt treneuhan an vorr labm bean thur Liscarret. Radn ahanan a ore hedna per thaa, whathe mar teffa why ha gofen thurt an dean commine pew a ve an dewetha mateyrn a Gemow, na uffia e travith en matter. Nagew callish tha othas tabm moye, rag ny a ore drew an hanowma scr-

effes en Kernuack coath, en tavas Bretten metessen, ha dre dale convethas an letheren - **t** vel -**th** hethow. Ma record a vernas an mateyrn en *Brut y Tywysogyon* Kembrack leb ethew screffes, "-876 Ac y bodes Dwngarth, vrenhin Kernyw", henew, *Hag e ve bethes Doniert (Donierth), mateyrn Kernow.*

Pe kene mateyrn an lase ny ugge hedna, nages record na ko notha. Na ve *Hywel* na *Ricat* matemath Kemow. Alena, ny a dalvea honora Donierth speciall broas, ha e dry derage tees. Than Kembrean ema go gwaldrian *Owain Glyndwr* ha *Llywelyn*, than Skottes ema go *Robat Bruce* ha *Wella Wallace*. Pew es tha ny?

En creas Bosvena, ha ma hebma comples gennam kens lebmen, ma omick gwreis en mean callish tha anar an mateyrn Sousnack *Athelstan*, an kethe onen reeg gon fetha ny ha ladra kerr gon peath scantlower hantercans blethan ugge termen Donierth. A neil o cooth tha e gilla metessen, pew a ore? Bus rag fra era ny honora leb reeg gon usia vel ladar po adla, hag en -mean termen nekevny an dewetha soveran an dees a ve fethes gonga, ethew ny hedna?

Ken boas Seneth Kernow ma faut thene ledar po leuiadar, ha derage hedna ny a gothe thene adgan pelle ma an colan ny ha gon leuta, ha rag hedna ny a dale cawas gwalh a veath leall emadge gon glase, ha devesalena nages kene remedy vel honora hanow an dewetha Mateyrn Kemow, henew **Donierth**. Ny a reis derevall omick dotha, en creas Liscarret metessen, hag eve a dalvea boas gwalh an nacion Kernuack. Bus en kever Athelstan, me a venga towla doar kenever seen notha, pokene ethewa car dre vea dereves aman omick Adolph Hitler derage Chy an Gymmyr en Loundres, pe kelles an bressel, ha pew es ahanan a venga pertha hedna, anan?

### Précis:

#### *Cornish Not English*

*A recent television series raised the question of why people felt themselves to be English. When the presenters reached Cornwall, the reply came, "We are Cornish, not English!" That is a remarkable answer coming after over a thousand years under English rule.*

*Andrew George, our Liberal M.P., has recently demanded serious consideration for some sort of Cornish Assembly. Clearly there*

*is a favourable climate of opinion in Cornwall that might support this. But Cornish people lack leadership. They feel Cornish, yet do not know what to do about it. They are not always sure where their true loyalties lie. Therefore they also need a hero from the past, just as the Welsh have Owain Glyndwr and Llewelyn, and the Scots have Bruce and Wallace. These are political heroes.*

*Whom do we Cornish have to inspire us other than leaders who were fighting simply for social justice, or to give service to their gentry, who in their turn were simply supporting their ruling English monarch? Our obvious choice must be our own last ruling King of Cornwall, and that was **Doniert** or **Donierth** who died in 876, and whose memorial stands by the roadside near Liskeard.*

*Meanwhile, the statue erected in Bodmin to the actual oppressor of the Cornish nation, the English king Athelstan, is an insult to the Cornish, just as a statue to Adolph Hitler would have been outside the Houses of Parliament in London if the war had been lost, and it should be pulled down.*

**Richard Gendall**

## KDL yn Breten Vyghan ha Pow Frynk

Ni a vynn keslowenhe ha grassa dhe Skol Ober ha José (Yosep) Calvete an niver a studhyoryon nowydh re omrolyas dhe dhyski Kernewek gans Yosep der y dreylyans an kors KDL dhe Vretonek. Yma an brassa rann an re ma yn Breten Vyghan ha Pow Frynk mes yma unn koweth nowydh yn Pow Chester hag onan y'n Statys Unys. Sowsnegores yw onan anedha mes nyns yw hi Bretonegores hag yma hi ow sywya an kors yn Sowsnek mes hi a yll kesskrifa yn Frynkek gans Yosep, heb mar! Yn mysk an studhyoryon, res yw dhyn keslowenhe Gael Roblin. Ev re omrolyas spit dhe studhyow kales yn prison! Nans yw hirneth trelyans an kors KDL yn Kernewek Unys dhe Frynkek a veu dallethys a-barth dew studhyer mes ny bessons i aga hors ha ny veu an trelyans gorfennys. Re vysi yw Yosep y'n eur ma ow pareusi dylans an Vocabularium Cornicum ha trelyans an 2a/3a gradh KDL dhe Vretonek dhe dreylya KDL dhe Frynkek ha hemma a dhiskwa dhe oll an bys kemmys ober eus dhe wul a-barth

*(Continued on page 16)*



Kernewek gans Kernewegoryon a vynno profya aga thermyn ha'ga sken-toleth dhe'n ober. Nyns yw nebes an dus trigys mes a Gernow ow kul ober an par ma.

José Calvete

#### Summary:

*Thanks to the Cornish courses of Ray Edwards translated into Breton by José Calvete and published by Skol Ober, knowledge of the Cornish language is increasing in Brittany. Most of the students are living in Brittany but some Breton speakers living in France have also enrolled, even one in England and one in the United States! Among the students we must congratulate Gael Roblin who enrolled in spite of difficult conditions of imprisonment! The translation of the following grade is in preparation.*

### Good News for South Crofty

Cornwall's last tin mine appears to have been saved. The company, Baseresult, seems to have overcome opposition from the RDA and should soon begin to re-open the mine after two years closure. The Labour Government, and even the local MP still campaign against it, as they have other plans, giant housing estates for incomers.

Julyan Holmes

### No More Roses

For quite a few years now a campaign has been running to rid Cornwall of the insensitive 'English' brand marks. We still have 'English Heritage' plastered around some of our historic landmarks. But the Tourist Board has just announced that some Cornish symbol will replace the English Rose on tourist destination boards. [This, we are assured has nothing to do with the 'vandals' who repeatedly paint over this aggressively (English) nationalist intrusion in our land].



Photograph by Simon Burt, Western Mail.

## 'Cornwall – A Celtic Nation, its History, Culture and Language'

A lecture on the above was organised by the Celtic Alliance, TCD, Dublin and the Irish Branch of the Celtic League in March. It was delivered by Davyth Hicks of the Cornish Language Fellowship, presently head tutor in Celtic Civilisation in Edinburgh University.

This wide-ranging lecture addressed the information deficit brought about by centuries of propaganda and misinformation. It covered early history, the development of Cornwall as a separate nation and the loss of independence. The 1497 and 1549 Rebellions were dealt with and the strong relations with Brittany in the early medieval period, which came to an end as Cornwall was assimilated, and Brittany fell under French influence. The role of the Stannaries (Tin Parliaments) was outlined leading on to the periods of emigration and the modern period.

Emphasis was placed on the revival of the Cornish Language in recent decades, the need for support for Cornish in schools and language planning for Cornish in the context of European developments.

The emergence of the autonomy/nationalist movement was described and its progress in recent times as well as the campaign for a Cornish Assembly.

Celtic Alliance are to be thanked for their help and the reception organised after the event. CL Convenor, C. Ó Luain, gave an interview on the contents of the lecture on Raidio na Gaeltachta.

### Cornish Assembly Petition –Progress

*Kernow ynwedh a yll bos gorth: omdhiskwedhes a wra Kernow gwir dre'n skeusow.*

Well over 25,000 people have signed in support of a Cornish assembly (Seneth Kernow) to accompany the creation of the SWERDA (Southwest Regional Development Agency). Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is reported to have reiterated Labour's intention to strengthen the accountability of these agencies. Whether this means an elected assembly, we do not know. The seven county 'region' at present constituted is certainly far too big. It may work in Wales, but with no sense even of 'regionality', yet alone nationhood, people in the 'South-west', with its widely different and physically separate districts would find it irrelevant and remote. The petition is, though, further proof that Cornish people feel the need to have their say. We will not have bureaucrats imposing their ideas over our heads. So far as I know, there is no popular demand elsewhere in the 'region' for an assembly. It would be nice to think that Government will take this into account. Party machines however, working in secret, serve their own agendas...

J.H.

### The Flag

The new tourism symbol chosen for Cornwall may well be the national bird, the chough. It is unlikely to be the cross of St. Piran, yet one of the great changes of the last decade has been the acceptance and enthusiastic use of the flag, including commercially. Several supermarkets use it to successfully promote displays of Cornish produce. Cornish farming is in a deep crisis. Farmers could also adopt the flag to promote their goods thus taking advantage of Cornwall's good name.



For information on the Cornish cultural and political scene visit the following sites:  
[www.cornish-stannary-parliament.abelgratis.com/](http://www.cornish-stannary-parliament.abelgratis.com/)  
[www.tyr-gwyr-gweryn.kernow.eu.org/](http://www.tyr-gwyr-gweryn.kernow.eu.org/)  
[www.Cornish.Heritage.care4free.net/](http://www.Cornish.Heritage.care4free.net/)



**Mebyon Kernow**  
– the Party for Cornwall

Mebyon Kernow demands:

- ☐ Greater self-government
  - ☐ Legislative Cornish Assembly
  - ☐ Real national democracy
- Membership includes the quarterly magazine **Cornish Nation**.

Contact: MK Membership,  
Lanhainsworth, Fraddon Hill, Fraddon,  
St. Columb, Kernow/Cornwall, TR9 6PQ  
[www.mebyon-kernow.eu.org](http://www.mebyon-kernow.eu.org)



## Reiltys Jee-veanit ayns Nalbin as Bretin

Ren reiltys Lunnin cur er bun ard-whaiyl ayns Sostyn as quaiyl pholiticaghy ayns Bretin. Gyn ourys, va lught reiltys Lunnin treishteil dy jinnagh shen cur kione er treishtyn son seyrnsys kiart ayns ny cheer-aghyn shen. Yiowmayd magh.

Hannah, ta lught reiltys Lunnin cheet dy ve boirit mychione jee-veanaghey (devolution), erskyn ooilley ayns Nalbin. Ta ny hAlbinee geddyn rey rish taillaghyn-ynsee son studeyrn ayns ollooscoillyn, as t'ad mooad-aghey ny faillyn ta ynseyderyn-scoill geddyn foddey ny smoo na ayns Sostyn as Bretin. Gollrish Sostnee ennagh, cha nod ymmodee Albinee toiggal cre'n fa ta polaseeyn Thoree ec reiltys Lunninagh ta goll er stiurey ec Partee 'Obbraghys'. Ta reiltys Tony Blair geddyn rey rish toyrtysyn son studeyrn as cur orroo geeck taillaghyn-ynsee. Ec y traa cheddin, cha nod y reiltys shen toiggal cre'n fa nagh vel tooilley sleih aeg veih 'brastyl ny h-obbreeyn' (cha nod ny Sostnee jannoo fegooish anchaslys-brastyl) jannoo coorseyn ollooscoill! S'aashagh geddyn yn ansoor: cha nel argid dy liooar oc ny chour. Ga dy row lught yn Phartee Obbraghys ayns Nalbin noi geddyn rey rish taillaghyn-ynsee, begin daue croymmey sheese as adsyn fo baggyrtys y theay Albinagh.

Red elley ta goll noi Lunnin, shen dy bee shenn sleih ayns Nalbin geddyn kiarail personagh nastee. Tra dooyrt Albinee dy row ad goll dy yannoo shoh, va lught Lunnin goll ass nyn geeall ('Cha nel shinyn laccal soshiallys!'). Agh cha dod lught Lunnin jannoo monney, er y fa dy beagh y co-reiltys jeh'n Phartee Obbraghys as y Partee Deynlagh Libraalagh tuittyn veih my cheille y dy beagh y treealtys son kiarail personagh son shenn sleih ayns Nalbin ceaut magh ec lught y Phartee Obbraghys ayns Nalbin. Va riau coarys-leigh er l'heh as coarys-ynsee er l'heh ec Nalbin. As ayns Nalbin, feallagh aegey t'er vishey yn leigh, cha nel ymmodee jeu goll stiagh ayns quaiyllin (as er y raad dys bea jeh kimmeys, dy mennick). Syn ynnud jeh shen, t'ad goll dys buird-resoonee (hearing panels). Shimmey peiagh ta coontey ram jeh ny buird-resoonee shoh.

T'eh jeeaghyn dy jean jee-veanaghey mooadaghey anchaslyssyn myr shoh, ga dy vel Lunnin feer faitagh mychione y lheid. S'cooin lesh ny Sostnee ny haink er Bnr Thatcher (Y Thooder) tra hug ee er ny h-

Albinee geeck yn keesh persoonagh (poll tax). Ga dy dug shoh corree agglagh er ny h-Albinee, hug ny Thoreeyn er sleih fud y Reeriaght Unnaneysst y keesh shoh 'eeck. Va shoh yn ard oyr va'n Thooder ceaut magh sy jerrey.

Ga nagh vel quaiyl pholiticaghy Vretin cho pooaral as ard-whaiyl Nalbin, ta ny Bretnee jeeaghyn da'n teihll dy vod ad scarrey rish Sostyn ayns cooishyn ennagh.

Ren co-hionnal Vretin pointeil barrantagh son paitchyn, ga dy row shirveishee-reiltys Lunninagh dy bollagh noi shoh. Ren ny Bretnee shoh kyndagh rish coyrle haink ass brialty mychione drogh reddyn va jeant noi paitchyn ayns thieyn-paitchyn ayns twoaie Vretin. Geiyr er shen, t'eh jeeaghyn dy bee Nerin Twoaie as Nalbin pointeil barrantee-paitchyn neesht. Agh t'eh jeeaghyn nagh bee ny Sostnee jannoo y lheid, ga dy vel ram sleih ayns Sostyn laccal eh! Myr ta'n ard-reiragh jeh'n Cheshaght ry hoi Lhiettal Dewillys da Paitchyn (SLDP) gra, cha nel sthap currit da raghtalys noi paitchyn ec y clyst eddyr Bretin as Sostyn. Lhisagh barrantee-paitchyn goll er pointeil ayns Sostyn neesht dy ronsaghey skeealyn jeh raghtalys noi paitchyn. Mannagh vees shen jeant, ta'n SLDP laccal y barrantagh Bretinagh dy ve lowit dy chur coyrle mychione polaseeyn Lunninagh ta jannoo er paitchyn ayns Bretin (myr sampleyr, y fail sloo son feallagh aegey). As lhisagh y barrantagh Bretinagh ve abyl dy ronsaghey ny cooishyn jeh paitchyn Bretinagh ta currit dys Sostyn.

Anchaslys elley eddyr Sostyn as Bretin ta cheet rish, shen yn agh vees rick goll er freayll orroosyn ta jeeaghyn mysh paitchyn as orroosyn ta stiurey as gobbraghey ayns scoillyn son paitchyn ta feer aeg. Ayns Sostyn, bee yn obbyr shoh jeant ec Ofsted, adsyn ta scrutaghey scoillyn. Agh ayns Bretin, bee yn obbyr jeant ec barrantys stundayrtyr-kiarail (care standards commission). Ta ny Bretnee (gollrish ymmodee Sostnee) smooingaghtyn dy vel ny cooishyn shoh ny smoo l'hean na cooishyn-scoill.

Myr shen, ta jee-veanaghey cur Sostyn fo traastey dy ghoil ersooil veih polaseeyn Thoree. Ta anchaslys undinagh eddyr Sostyn er yn derrey laue as Bretin as Nalbin er yn jeh elley. She co-reiltyssyn t'ayn ayns Caerdydd as Doon Edin as ta Lunnin foast smooingaghtyn dy vel co-reiltyssyn myr obbyr

y jouyl. Agh ta co-reiltys eginitt dy eaishtagh rish ny smoo na un phossan. Ta sorch noa dy pholiticaght goll er ynsaghey ayns Caerdydd as Doon Edin. Ny veggan as ny veggan, ta Nalbin as Bretin cheet dy vel gollrish cheer-aghyn ayns y Cheer Vooar Oarpagh.

Va barriaght veg elley er ny cosney son jee-veanaghey er y gherriid. Lesh polasee Thoree elley, ta reiltys Lunnin prowal dy chleayney arryltee dy obbraghey nastee dy chooney lesh shirveishyn theayagh gollrish yn chirveish-slaynt (er y fa nagh vel y reiltys shen arryltagh dy eeck faillyn cairal da sleih ta gobbraghey son ny shirveishyn shen). As shegin shickyraghey nagh bee ny h-arryltee jannoo reddyn olk - oddagh kimmee goaill ymydd jeh'n chaa shoh dy yannoo cragh. Son shickyraghey oikoil, ta reiltys Lunnin laccal jeh punt veih gagh arryltagh (creid eh ny dyn). Agh cha bee arryltee ayns Nalbin geeck veg. Cooish veg t'ayn, foddee, agh t'eh soil-shaghey yn agh peajogagh ta reiltys Lunnin smooingaghtyn. Vel reiltys Lunnin er nyn-saghey veg? Dooyrt fer moor sy reiltys shen, Gordon Brown, dy vel Goaldee goll ersooil veih fuirraghtyn rish Lunnin dy yannoo reddyn daue. Syn ynnud jeh shen, ta sleih jerkal rish kiannoortys ynnudagh. Cha nel shin er nakin monney jeh shen veih Brown as e chumraagyn ayns mean Hostyn.

### Summary

*The UK government hoped to scupper moves for Scottish and Welsh independence by setting up the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Assembly. Recent developments in Scotland and Wales suggest that the cat might still get out of the bag.*

Brian Stowell

## Cosney yn whalleaght!

Jesam yn cheyoo laa jeh Jerrey Geuree 2001, va daa studeyr yeig er nyn jebbal lesh Teishtyn Cadjin Gaelgagh liorish Leslie Quirk yn loartagh Gaelgagh as Dr. Brian Stowell. Ta Leslie fer jeh skimme dy 'leih dynsee yn Ghaelg veih ny shenn loayrtee dooghyssagh tra v'ad foast er-mayrn ayns mean yn cheead shoh chaie, as ta Brian ny loayrtagh Gaelgagh ta fer jeh'n sleih ta reaghey yn TCG (Teisht Chadjin Ghaelgagh.) Hooar ooilley ny studeyrn teishtyn feer vie gyn fer erbee failleil!

Rere yn Rheyynn Ynsee ta'n teisht shoh corrym rish GCSE as t'eh ry-gheddyn eck da fir aasit neayr's yn vlein 1998. Va'n teisht currit l'hee stiagh syn ard scoillyn sy vlein roish shen myr cooish reihysshagh, as nish ta obbyr croo leval A fo raad ec Brian as e choobbreeyn. Bee

*(Continued on page 18)*



## Cosney yn whalleaght

yn whalleaght shoh soit er fer Frangagh ry-hoi ynsaghey Frangish ymmydoil, as bee yn trimmid er Gaelg oddys ve ymmydit.

She cowrey feer vie son yn traa ry-heet ooilley yn sleih shoh as sym oc er yn Ghaelg, as s'treisht lhiam dy varree ee dy vishaghey.

Pawl ap Rhosier.

### Summary

*On the 6th of January 2001, twelve adult students were presented with their TCG's (Manx Gaelic GCSEs) by Manx speakers Leslie Quirk and Dr. Brian Stowell. Also the creation of a Manx A level for the future was mentioned.*

## HOMBOLDT - MANX IN POSITIVE GESTURE

The Celtic League understand that the Manx government, via the Department of Education, has confirmed, in principle, support for the project to maintain the Chair of Celtic (Celtic Studies Department) at Humboldt University, Berlin.

We also understand that support, on a proportionate basis, will be made for a ten-year period. Although no figures have been confirmed. The Manx decision follows an earlier commitment from the Irish government, which initially specifies support over a four-year period but is subject to extension for the ten year term.

The University is also seeking support from other Celtic countries including Wales and Scotland. However, the significance of the Manx commitment coming ahead of any firm decision from the larger Celtic countries is impressive.

A full prospectus of work in respect of each Celtic country has been formulated. For the first time the Manx language and culture will form a distinct part of the University programme.

The Celtic League have campaigned for some years against proposals to discontinue the Celtic Department at the University, which has been at the forefront of Celtic studies for over a century. A breakthrough came last year when the closure was put on hold. At the time it was hoped that the funding commitment by Ireland would be matched by the other Celtic countries.

The Manx support makes it more likely that other countries will now firm up their intentions.

**Never to Return** by Hampton Creer, published by Manx Heritage Foundation 2000, PO Box 1986, Douglas, Isle of Man, ISB no 0952401975 £14.00. pp 159.

In the course of researching his family tree, the author was amazed to find that a distant, direct ancestor had been deported. In 1697 she, and eleven others, were sent to Jamaica. This twelve were the first to be deported from the Isle of Man, but his interest aroused, Hampton went ever deeper into the matter of deportation from the Island in general.

The story he has uncovered reveals a little known history of deportations stretching over a period of one hundred and sixty four years. As might be expected, it is a tale, generally speaking, of hardship, degradation, disaster, disease and often death. Most of all it describes the harsh and ruthless system of punishment enforced during those times. The poor, forced by their condition, to commit what we would now consider trivial crimes, were punished with savage ferocity.

To describe the book further would spoil the story. It upsets any romantic or nostalgic notions we may have had of an idyllic life for the ordinary Manx people. Life for many of them was one of brutal poverty. Deportation may even have been a relief for a few. As an alternative to the death penalty it was irresistible.

Colin Jerry

## MANX GAELIC EDUCATION CONTROVERSY

A House of Keys member was unsuccessful in his attempts to move several amendments to consolidate the position of Gaelic Education when the Isle of Man government moved to the clause stage of the new Isle of Man Education Act. Despite support from several other members he failed to get the necessary votes.

The new Bill contains for the first time a stipulation that the language, culture and history of the Island must be part of the curriculum. It also includes provision for the Department of Education to consult with language organisations about future policy.

However, this was not enough for Peter Karran MHK. He moved several amendments including the establishment of an advisory committee drawn from language groups, to advise on the development of Gaelic education. He also sought to include provision for the training of more staff to resource the Gaelic education programme and specific provision for the inclusion of Gaelic units in schools.

The Manx government, via its Education Minister, Steve Rodan MHK, could scarcely conceal their irritation with Mr. Karran's amendments. Mr Roden maintained that the new Act does include adequate provision for the further development of Manx.

Mr. Karran also came in for criticism from the media. The Manx Independent ran an editorial with the leader "Don't shout to loudly, Mr. Karran". Whilst acknowledging the importance of Manx the editorial said: 'The Education Bill, making its way through the Island's political system, is one huge and positive step towards restoring that loss.' It goes on to suggest that Mr. Karran's crusading might backfire provoking an adverse public reaction.

However, Peter Karran seems unlikely to let the matter rest. He told Tynwald (the Manx legislature) "This country shouldn't be ashamed of its past but proud of its heritage". He also attacked that attitude of what he described as 'moronic' Ministers for their stance towards the language.

Bernard Moffatt



Walter Clarke of Ramsey was awarded the prestigious Reih Bleeaney Vannanan - Manannan's Choice of the Year trophy- by the Manx Heritage Foundation.

His contribution to the Manx language has been both significant and substantial. During the late '40s and early '50s Mr. Clarke and a small team travelled round the Island recording the last native speakers, thus securing a lasting record of the way Manx was spoken. He has transcribed the tapes, which contain a wealth of stories, anecdotes and readings. For years Mr. Clarke taught Manx in Ramsey and believes Manx is, 'A colourful and wonderful language, there is no comparison with English. When you discuss something in Manx it is a joy to talk'.



# Illiam Dhone Commemoration

*Mark Kermode representing the Manx Nationalist Party, Mec Vannin, made the following oration at the Illiam Dhone Commemoration on 2nd January, 2001.*

There is little point in me standing here and lecturing you all on the ills brought upon the Manx nation by a government that has turned its back on the Manx people. We are all aware of that and it would be hard for me to say anything new in that respect.

Many Manx people I speak to (express) a feeling of defeat and irreparable damage, a feeling that it is impossible to fight a government that has used policies that have resulted in a genocidal destruction of the Manx nation. This society has changed and not for the better. That is a direct result of government policy - but exactly who is making those policies?

Who was successfully elected on a policy that said, "we will swamp the Manx people with immigration and if Manx people are driven out because they can't afford housing, then it's tough." The answer is not a single one, so who is making these decisions? Who advised Richard Corkill to drop tax rates to encourage even more tax-dodgers to flood our country? Why does the government refuse to disclose a target for population? Current government documents talk in terms of 100,000. That essentially means 20,000 new residents. That means another Douglas and we know what will happen when that figure is reached - it won't be enough and it will move towards 150,000 and no matter what, the views of the Manx people will not count.

The *Quality of Life Survey* of ten years ago clearly revealed that the Manx people did not want this substantial population growth yet governments since that time have pushed the population way past the arbitrarily chosen figure of 75,000 and who is deciding these policies?



The real policy makers in this country are faceless entities that manipulate the government to their own ends. The UK is one of them. The finance industry is another. Estate agents and developers are others. We should not be afraid to call those who manipulate our government for their own ends our enemies. Nor should we be afraid to call those Manx people who collaborate with them traitors.

I call upon each and every member of Tynwald today, the start of a new millennium, to make it their business to ensure that the policy of growth for growth's sake, the policies that minoritise and disenfranchise the Manx people are overturned or face the charge: Traitor!

Dandara (building contractors) can cover this island in houses and it will not address the housing crisis - it will just make it easier for more people to flood in from elsewhere but that's what the manipulators of government want. The estate agents will love it, which brings me to the subject of David Crane, whose attitude epitomises all that is obscene about a certain type of immigrant. If he doesn't like the idea of Manx people having a say in planning, he should leave. We didn't invite him here and we are not asking him to stay.

More broadly, we should never be afraid to say to anybody who comes into this island and disrespects the Manx people that they are more than welcome to leave. Manx is not a tax-status. Manx is not a residential status. Manx is not having a work-permit for five years.

I can understand the sense of defeat and hopelessness experienced by many Manx people, old and young, but I refuse to succumb to it. Many non-Manx people living here are now openly claiming that our minoritised status removes our right to primary consideration. I will say this to that sort of person: As long as this country has one Manx person left in it, then it is nobody else's.

➤ *Speaking at the opening of the commemoration, Bernard Moffatt, Sec. Gen. of the Celtic League said that the struggle for freedom for the Celtic nations continues and nationalists are suffering imprisonment today just as others suffered in the past.*

*He highlighted in particular the plight of the nine Bretons imprisoned by the French government, some of whom have gone on hunger strike to focus attention on their campaign for better conditions, one being their demand to be moved to prisons in Breizh. (See Carn 112)*

## CULTURE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE - NO THANKS

There has been much derision on the Isle of Man following an attempt by outspoken politician, Peter Karran MHK, to move an amendment to the Income Tax Bill which would have given tax rebates to Manx Gaelic speakers based on the achievement of certain competence levels.

The media competed with themselves to either directly deride or talk down the proposal.

It appears that no one was aware that two decades ago in Ireland similar moves, which introduced tax breaks for artists, writers etc. were introduced. Also in Ireland benefit concessions, including higher levels of house purchase support for those in the Gaeltacht were introduced.

Whatever one thinks of Peter Karran's proposal, often delivered in characteristically outspoken fashion, they do contain more than an element of substance.

He also attempted unsuccessfully to persuade his well-heeled Tynwald (Manx Parliament) colleagues that an Island awash with money should, as a Social imperative, introduce a minimum wage of £5. He was of course defeated.

It is not Karran, who has spoken out for the Island's culture and on behalf of the wage disenfranchised that should be derided. It is the spineless members of Tynwald who refused to vote with him and support the two resolutions, which were respectively innovative and just.

**Bernard Moffatt**

## MANX NATIONAL HERITAGE UNDER ATTACK

Manx National Heritage (MNH) which oversees Museums and Trust Lands on the Isle of Man has recently come under attack from a number of members of the House of Keys (MHKs) because of operating deficits. MNH is reputed to have an operating loss over five years of over £1,000,000.

Paradoxically some years ago the organisation was under attack from some quarters for being too commercial in its approach and some still see its decision to re-brand itself as a mistake. Others criticise a perceived failure to promote more prominently the Gaelic culture and language of the Island at its sites.

Between the conflicting arguments however, one thing is very clear, MNH has engaged in a programme of expansion, which has made its presentation of Manx history more relevant and presentable. It has also won considerable international respect, which is no mean feat.



## FORGOTTEN CELTS - A RESPONSE

It is with a great interest that I read the article "Europe's Forgotten Celts" in Carn N° 111, Winter 2000. First of all I have to say that I am myself of Galician origin ; my forefathers come from the area of Bergantiños whose name comes from a well-known Celtic tribe the "Brigantii". I am deeply interested by Celtic culture and languages though I know very well that Galiza and Asturias are no longer Celtic countries "stricto sensu", as their languages are derived from Latin. I have tried to satisfy this lack by learning Celtic languages. I have learnt Breton and Cornish as well as some Welsh and Irish, but I only have a basic knowledge of these two last languages.

As K.Collins shows us brilliantly in the article, Galiza has a strong and deep Celtic heritage. He writes about the "castro culture". I think that we have to find the first Celtic remains in the Castro culture and it is obvious that the Castro culture shares similarities with contemporaneous sites in Kernow, in Eire and in Alba, but archaeological remains are not enough to qualify a culture. Concerning this period which is more important, for me, at least are the epigraphical remains. These native written sources show clearly Celtic personal names, Celtic tribe names... As rightly pointed out in the article even the Leabor Gabala explains that the Milesians, i. e. the Goidels came from Galiza and settled in the green Eirinn.

The second Celtic period concerning Galiza and Asturias took place during the "Dark Ages" when Britons fleeing the hordes of Angles and Saxons ravaging Britannia settled in the northwestern seaboard of the Iberian Peninsula in what is now Galiza and Asturias. These Briton settlers called naturally their new settlements "Britonia". It seems that there are at least 2 or 3 settlements bearing this name in Galiza and one in Asturias. Ironically, another common point to these settlements and the British Isles was their destruction by Viking raiders !

Then, the end of the XIXth century, saw the development of Romanticism and Celticism which are closely linked in the wake of the work of MacPherson. It was then that Eduardo Pondal, our national bard as he was called, composed his famous "Queixumes dos Pinos" which later became the Galician

national anthem where the lyrics are full of references to Celticism and Romanticism ! During this period the first seeds of Celticism were sown. It was Florentino López Cuevillas that launched historical Celticism in Galiza with his book : "La Civilización Céltica de Galicia" in the fifties. From then on several good books about the Celtic past of Galiza have been published. It seems that nowadays interest for all things Celtic in Galiza and Asturias is widespread again.

I do not demand that Galiza and Asturias are recognized as Celtic countries, but I wish that they could be recognized at least as "Etsats Associés" to the Celtic nations in groups such as the Celtic League and the Celtic Congress, as a recognition of their deep Celtic roots, awareness to be Celtic and efforts to know better the other Celtic nations, their cultures and languages. By fostering cooperation between Celtic Nations and Galiza and Asturias, Galicians and Asturians could have a better access to knowledge of Celtic languages and culture. They have already been accepted in other Inter Celtic events but it is not sufficient ! Asturias and Galiza with their home-rule could be a model for devolution, home-rule and language revival policies in other Celtic nations ! I have always wanted the Celtic nations to collaborate and know themselves better in order to come closer together in a Celtic community of nations !

At the end of the wonderful article K.Collins writes and his words will be my conclusion : *"I would not dispute the primacy of the language but none ought to feel excluded because they cannot speak a Celtic language. Commitment to the Celtic cause is what matters most. And that commitment can manifest itself in numberless ways. I hope that our idea of Celticism is big enough to be generous, welcoming, to value all those who see themselves as children of the Celtic family - and that includes those Galicians [and Asturians] who regard themselves as Celts".* And as Peter Berresford Ellis wrote in his excellent book called "Celtic Dawn" : *"not being able to speak the language does not exclude your right to be considered Celtic..."*

José CALVETE.

## SPECIAL 40th YEAR ISSUE OF CARN

Last year the AGM agreed that a special issue be produced to mark the 40th year. I would like to take this opportunity to remind all of this. The issue will concentrate on Inter-Celtic aspects and bilateral Celtic links or deal with specific areas covering all the Celtic countries.

Areas already covered are Sport and Celtic Music. Other areas that suggest themselves are:

- ☐ Education in the Celtic Languages, the Position of the Celtic Languages in Education.
- ☐ Celtic (Language) Literatures and Publishing
- ☐ Mass Media - TV & Broadcasting, Internet?
- ☐ Common/ Inter-Celtic aspects of our nation's histories.
- ☐ Political Co-operation amongst the Celts
- ☐ Celtic Festivals both language, cultural and musical.
- ☐ Bilateral activities such as the long running Irish/Scottish exchange of poets and musicians. Similar P Celtic ones?

Suggestions for articles should be sent directly to me *as soon as possible* with a brief summary indicating length. Articles should not exceed 4,000 words to include illustrations etc.

Patricia Bridson, Editor.

## WELSH MEDIUM SCHOOL VICTORY

Campaigning parents are *delighted* after winning their campaign for a Welsh-medium primary school in one of the most predominantly English-speaking counties in Wales.

The struggle to establish the unit began two years ago in south Monmouthshire because children had to endure a one-hour journey to Welsh schools in either the north of the county or in neighbouring Newport.

There appears to have been initial opposition within the local Council however, the issue was resolved when Labour councillors who had previously opposed the plan reversed their decision

Campaigner Rhiannon Edwards said, "It is also a victory for Wales, its culture and its heritage. We can now look forward to children getting the education they want without having to travel so far."

This latest good news for the Celtic languages comes hard on the heels of positive language education initiatives in Scotland and the Isle of Man.



## WHOSE NATIONAL NEWS?

A debate about the continued centralised control of news from the BBC has raged for many years and more so since the break up of the UK. It begs the question, is the BBC, as it is currently structured, relevant to the changed and changing political circumstances of the United Kingdom?

The agenda now being pursued politically in Edinburgh, Belfast and Cardiff is not the political agenda formulated, as the current First Minister for Wales put it, "around dinner tables" in London.

The *Regional* operations of the BBC, which should now theoretically produce high quality news programming to meet the new national needs of Scotland and Wales, cannot deliver whilst this centralised mind-set within the London Offices of the BBC hold sway. Pointedly, in this context, we have not mentioned BBC N. Ireland because, unlike the *Regional* operations in Scotland and Wales which seem anxious to break free from the grip of "Broadcasting House W1A", the Ulster brethren seem unable to shake off their "Radio Orange" persona.

The BBC, dreamt up in the days of the Empire, has almost certainly had its day. It seems unable to make the transition necessary to service the needs of this somewhat less, United Kingdom.

## POBL becomes "the Movement for the Organisation of a Free Brittany"

Parti pour l'Organisation d'une Bretagne Libre (POBL). The current debate on the future status of Corsica and the new prospects for some form of Breton autonomy has prompted some soul-searching among Breton activists. As a result, it has been decided to turn the party into a *wide-open movement* with a clearly European and federalist perspective. Thus, POBL becomes the movement: "Pobl Evit Breizh Dizalc'h".

Inspired by the opinion poll in September 2000, showing that close to one fourth of the Breton population were in favour of an independent Brittany, the movement's prime objective is henceforth to secure a special status for a reunited Brittany. Nevertheless, its medium-range objective remains full sovereignty for the Breton Nation within the framework of a "one hundred flag Europe". In addition, the new movement Pobl Evit Breizh Dizalc'h will strive to promote, regardless of party affiliations, a united front in the face of an all-powerful French centralistic power.

(S.G.=) Padrig Delorme.

# Conference of European Stateless Nations



*Mark Kermode, (CL Asst. Gen. Sec.) addressing the general assembly of CONSEU in Barcelona. Aureli Argemi, CONSEU's Secretary is on the right.*

The 4th Conference of CONSEU was held in Barcelona, Catalonia from 19th. to the 20th. Jan. 2001. It was aimed at analysing the outcome of the Nice EU Summit and Intergovernmental Conference and developing strategies to gain a voice for the stateless nations of Europe. Representatives attending ranged from the Faroe Islands, Scotland and Wales to Galicia, the Basque Country, Sardinia and Corsica with Catalonia well represented.

Cathal Ó Luain (Convenor) and Mark Kermode (Asst. General Sec.) attended on behalf of the Celtic League and engaged in the discussions and working groups. Mark Kermode outlined the League position. The League did not see any sign or prospect of powers ceded to Brussels from the 'nation states' devolving back to the regions or to the small nations. He also stressed the problems created by large scale immigration into the Isle of Man.

The League was complimented by Yann Choucq, the Legal Adviser of CONSEU, for its work for both national and human rights.

C. Ó Luain stated that the position of the Celtic Nations reflected that of the nations without a state in Europe. Scotland with a strong Parliament and perhaps an election away from Independence, Wales with a weaker Assembly but flexing its muscles, Cornwall denied recognition by Westminster as a National Minority under the European Framework Convention for Minorities, Brittany with continued French repression and centralisation denying any form of recognition of Breizh as a separate nation. 'Nation states' was a misnomer; these states (UK, France, Spain) were multination states and should be called

such. The Celtic League stood for the break up of these states and for self-determination for all the Celtic Nations. CONSEU should have this as their long-term strategy even if working to gain some recognition for stateless nations within European institutions and frameworks.

The Assembly agreed to set up a permanent secretariat to continue the work. It would organise a broader Convention of Stateless Nations in 2002 with a view to preparing proposals for the Berlin summit and intergovernmental conference in 2004.

C. Ó Luain gave interviews on the Conference on Manx Radio and on Raidio na Gaeltachta



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# Lands for the People? The Highland Clearances and the Colonisation of New Zealand

*A biography of John MacKenzie by Tom Brooking*

(ISBN 1877133 21 3)

University of Otago Press, 56 Union Street, Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand.

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/phonebook/dept172.html>

I first came across this book by accident in New Zealand and found it so good, I decided to order it from the publishers when I returned home. It has an unusual cover, but don't let that put you off. The Scots were a major force in Canada and NZ like nowhere else, and this book honestly and fairly looks at part of that contribution. The book opens appropriately enough with a Gaelic lament, and ends with a Maori one, for what the Scots often gained was that which the Maori lost. Not unlike the Highlanders, the Maori were a fighting people, and this divisiveness was their downfall. MacKenzie\* as a boy had seen a huddled family by the side of a road, these he was told were the Gael cleared from their land. This vision was to haunt him for the rest of his life, when he gained a position of political power in New Zealand he set about destroying the big estates, and setting up the network of family farms which still exist today. NZ is all the better for it, and the irony is that a hundred years on, MacKenzie's native land still has not properly faced up to the issue of feudal land ownership. The book offers clear insights into MacKenzie's life and manner-

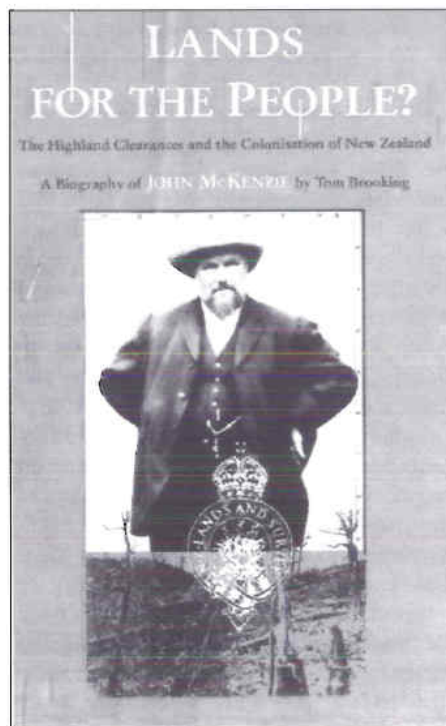
"His later habit of lapsing into his native tongue when provoked by the taunts of his opponents... was also a clever political ploy designed to counter wisecracks made in Latin and Greek and to win popular electoral support."

He also remained a member of the Gaelic society all his life. Shamefully however with his own family he only spoke it when he wished to keep something from his children – a sad but common enough story. Against him perhaps, was his support of capital punishment, opposition to women's suffrage, and his strange attachment to the monarchy, perhaps the biggest landlord of them all. NZ was the first country to give women the vote. He can also be said to have neglected the North Island, and possibly to have been nepotistic. Otago is the most Scottish area of New Zealand, even containing some Gaelic names such as Dunedin, Balclutha and Strath Taieri, and it is here that most of MacKenzie's reforms took place eerily similar to Easter Ross, his native ground.

The book contains many good pictures. The satirical cartoons often show him tam o' shanter crowned, and literally larger than life. There are also pictures of environmental damage wrought by *Pakeha* (non-Maori)

policies – colossal heaps of dead rabbits, apocalyptic scenes of bush clearance, his often (very!) humble homes.

Talking of MacKenzie's funeral (which judging by the photographs was massively attended) Brooking says, "Captain Russell, with the unerring insensitivity of a Sassenach, quoted from the Lowland poet Burns – 'Man was made to Mourn'"



If it was "insensitivity", it is ironic since Burns grew up in the most Gaelic part of Lowland Scotland. *Gall* is more likely the term MacKenzie himself would have used. There is no denying that there was animosity between Lowlander and Highlander, but Brooking overplays it at times. MacKenzie did call another politician a "Lowland Loon", loon meaning in Doric usage a "lad" rather than a "lunatic". Brooking criticizes one of MacKenzie's English contemporaries for describing him as "Doric speaking", this is indeed basically wrong, but Doric in original usage refers to any rustic dialect, but became linked to the dialect of the North East Lowlands, and the Highland English of Easter Ross has not been uninfluenced by it. This is a fairly minor mistake, as it is when Brooking talks of MacKenzie meeting with

the bishop of Salt Lake City, Utah; Mormon bishops are temporary, and fairly minor figures as opposed to Catholicism and Anglicanism, and the title is about all they have in common.

Scotland's land reform campaigners could not do better than adopt MacKenzie as a patron saint. New Zealand, well New Zealand should be celebrating him more. There is at least one way this can be redressed.

"The irony of renaming the town [of MacKenzie] after the Cheviot sheep, one of the demons of Highland clearance mythology, would not have been lost on MacKenzie. It should be redressed by renaming the town to commemorate the man whose political acumen brought it into being" (Epilogue)

Perhaps another way may be to remove the obscene colossus of the Duke of Sutherland, the supposed instigator of the clearances on Ben Bhraggie and replacing it with one of MacKenzie!

If you have some interest in the Scottish influence on New Zealand, land reform or the Highland clearances, it would be well worth ordering this book.

At the end of the book there is a poem, by another cleared people and it is perhaps fitting we too should end with a quote from it-

"He wahine he whenua i ngaro ai te tangata" – 'Man will fight to the death for women and land'.

\*MacKenzie's name is spelt in several different ways. He himself used 'Mc' later on.

Ray Bell

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## West Wales

Ethnic cleansing or the wholesale expulsion of whole people is, unfortunately, not a new form of persecution. The entire Brythonic populations of the Celtic countries have suffered such a fate.

One can still walk down the way of Offa's Dyke, created by the king of that name to exclude Westward the people of Wales. The Cornish too were subjected to such intolerable pressures when they were banished over the Tamar while those who could not be so confined had to make their way across the Channel to Brittany.

It was with the modern concerns of the Cornish people which has filled my mind for some time and the great decision that they must make quite possibly in the near future.

It is quite possibly on the cards that if the present government is returned after the General Election which might not be so far off, that the plan to set up a South West of England region which would swallow up Cornwall will be set in motion. When I tackled them a vague half promise was trotted out. But sad to say I was met with anything

(Continued on page 23)



# Celtic League American Branch Attends Hunger Strikers Memorial

For the third year The Celtic League American Branch has attended The Michael Flannery Memorial which was begun by *Cumann na Saoirse Náisiúnta*. This year was the Sixth Annual Dinner and commemorated The 1981 Hunger Strikers. It has been my privilege to be the emcee for each of these dinners. The guests of honour this year were George Harrison, Al Lewis and Geraldine Taylor.

*Cumann na Saoirse Náisiúnta* was first formed in the United States in 1986 by its founders Michael Flannery, George Harrison, Joseph Stynes, Michael Costello and Pete Farley in support for the keystone Irish Republican Principle of Abstentionism from the house of the 26 County assembly at Leinster House as well as any past or future Six County assembly at Stormont.

George Harrison was born in Shammer, Kilkelly County Mayo, Ireland. George holds proud memories of Sean MacBride, John Smee, Cmdt. Tom Maguire of Mayo, and Michael Duffy. George gives unqualified support to Republican Sinn Féin and rejects any other process, unless it includes a commitment by the British to withdraw unconditionally from Ireland.

Al Lewis has worked tirelessly over the years on various political causes including Irish Freedom. He is the host of his own public affairs radio show on WBAI.

Geraldine Taylor has taken the high road and as a prominent official runs the Belfast

office of Republican Séin Fein in the Falls Road of West Belfast. She requested the aid of the American Irish for Republican Sein Fein's continuing the cause of self-determination for the Irish people. Geraldine also highlighted the plight of Tommy Crossan (IRA political prisoner in Long Kesh and his request for political status.)

I was honoured to be in the presence of these honorees. They continue to fight the fight that needs to be won, no British rule in Ireland under any disguises. The significance of this is brought to the front again by denial of compassionate parole to Danny McAlister being detained in Portlaoise jail. He was denied visitation to see his ailing, now deceased father; denied leave to visit two of his children in the hospital for surgeries; denied leave to visit a brother diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia and denied leave to visit his ailing 77-year old mother.

It is people who are present at functions like this that make me proud to realize that as an American Irishman, I have the right to criticize and disagree with The Good Friday Agreement. Many people in Ireland do not have that luxury and so these dinners will continue as a way to support the families of political prisoners in Ireland. Gerry Adams fought for that right during his incarceration and with the shake of a hand signed it all away.

I am pleased to be a member of The Celtic League. A group, who fights for indepen-

getting the top status as laid out in "The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages", in the European Treaty Series Number 148, published by The Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France.

From our own experience in Scotland it is essential to have playgroups conducted for children between two a half and three years old up to five followed by teaching through the language to create native speakers even if their parents speak only English. There is a need for much more radio and TV access on behalf of the language and the establishment of a college like our Sabhail Mór Ostaig These and more could become realities through a loose confederation with Wales. It could be claimed that Cornwall is also known as West Wales with a language cognate and Celtic in respect of Welsh.

It is an irony of ironies that it was John Trevisa from Crocadon in St Mellion, Cornwall assisted by two other Cornishmen saved English from French... all three Cornish speakers. The time was ripe in the animosities of the most bitter kind following the outbreak of the Hundred Years War by England against France.

dence, free speech, education and recognition of the Six Nations. I know the Celtic League supports the Good Friday Agreement in terms of peace and no more fighting and bloodshed, but unfortunately the blood continues to be shed. Whether you who are reading this agree or disagree with The Agreement one has to realize that freedom of speech is a right and not a privilege and should be granted to everyone no matter what their beliefs. No better example exists than the fight for language signs to be posted in the Six Celtic Nations. People are being jailed for the simple right to see directional signs in their native language. People should be allowed the right to disagree and act on their beliefs with no threat of harm coming to them.

**Bobby Sands, Frankie Hughes, Raymond McCreesh, Patsy O'Hara, Joe McDonnell, Martin Hurson, Kevin Lynch, Kieran Doherty, TD, Tom McElwee and Michael Devine gave their lives for a free 32 county Ireland. Let not their lives be lost in vain.**

Thomas McGrath (CLAB)

## LEARN MANX - CD ROM

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E-mail him at: [bstowell@mcb.net](mailto:bstowell@mcb.net)

## West Wales

from indifference to open hostility to Cornwall's claim to nationhood with its own language.

So much for the English or British reaction; but that of many of the Welsh were much more positive even at times enthusiastic. Could it be possible to enter into negotiations with Wales which now after almost seven hundred years has some degree of autonomy? It seems that the opting out of the South West region into some arrangement with Wales by Cornwall would not be damaging to the plan to set up a South East of England, which the British government seems to envisage after a victorious General Election.

This could not ever be an incorporating union such as Monmouthshire but that of a loose confederation in which Cornwall would get increased powers and a cash allocation worked out between the Welsh Assembly and the British government. There are a variety of schemes for confederation at hand but those of the Isle of Man and of the Channel Islands spring to mind.

As far as I understand the British Government has not acceded to Cornwall

Writing about the growing change from French to English, Trevisa said "... John of Cornwall, a grammar master, changed the instruction and construing in the grammar schools from French to English; and Richard Pencrych, so that now, in the year of Our Lord 1385, the ninth of the second King Richard after the Conquest, in all the grammar schools of England, children are dropping French and construing and learning in English."

Another report that could be of interest is "Teaching in Gaelic medium education" from the General Teaching Council for Scotland; Clerwood House, 96 Clermiston Road, Edinburgh EH12 6UT.

It is high time that other Celts showed an interest in Cornwall which could well have hard negotiations with the Welsh Assembly and the British government in order to get its consent to an agreement worked out between Wales and Cornwall.

As we would say in our own Celtic language of Gàidhlig... "Aonan agus uile" or as one would say in Cornish... "Onen hag ol", ... One and all...

**Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich  
(Gilleasbuig Lachliann/Illeasbuig)**



## CELTIC LEAGUE AGM 2001

Returns to its Roots for Fortieth Meeting

*This year's AGM will be held in Rhosllanerchrugog, near Wreccsam, in Wales on the weekend August 4th / 5th. The venue for the meeting is the Miners Institute in Rhos.*

Rhosllanerchrugog is of course where the Celtic League held its inaugural meeting forty years ago. It is hoped therefore that all branches [and individual members] will make a special effort to be well represented at the meeting.

There is plenty of Hotel, B&B type accommodation in the Wreccsam area and Robat Ap Tomos has already posted some information via e-mail to branches. It is also available from him by post.

It is also hoped to include, as part of the AGM, a symposium with guest speakers from various Nationalist parties from each Celtic country. While details of this and financial implications have to be confirmed its success will depend on the commitment of branches and all members to this unique Annual General Meeting.

Branches should forward details of delegations to the AGM and proposed resolutions to either the Convenor or Secretary General of the League. Correspondence relating to the meeting could also usefully be copied to Robat ap Tomos, Cymru branch secretary. E-mail: [CellCaerdydd@i12.com](mailto:CellCaerdydd@i12.com)

## 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£12; Stg£12; 120FF; US\$25.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank). Europe Stg.£15 (airmail); outside Europe Stg.£18.00 (airmail).

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