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Alba



Camanachd

'S e fior sheann gheama a th'ann an iomain – neo camanachd. Thàinig e an toiseach dhan dùthaich seo còrr 's da mhìle bliadhna air ais le misionairidhean Èireannach còmhla ris a chreideamh Criostal agus an canan Gàidhlig. Chan eil teagamh sam bith ann gur e an spòrs nàiseanta ann an Alba. Tha cuid fiùs ag ràdh, gun d' tàinig an geama goilf bho chluicheadairean a' bualadh ball le caman – am maide a th'air a chleachdadh le cluicheadairean iomain. 'S e cuideachd an geama a tha a nis air a chluich mar hocaidh deigh ann an Canada.

Tha an geama air a chluich eadar dà bhuidheann do dhà chluicheadairean deug le trì fir-ionaid. Tha a' phàire-cluich eadar 140 agus 170 slat a dh'fhaid agus 70 gu 80 slat a leud. Tha na tadhlan (goals) 12 troighean bho chèile agus 10 troighean a dh'àirde. Tha cuairt-thomhas eadar 8 agus 7.5 orlaich aig a bhall a tha air a chòmhdach le leathar, agus tha eadar 3 agus 2.5 unnsa de chuideam ann (rud beag nas lugha agus chan eil e cho cruaidh ri ball hocaidh). Tha am maide - an caman - caran coltach ri maide hocaidh, le ceann crom, agus aodann oisinneach air gach taobh. 'S e an taobh oisinneach a tha a toirt air a bhalla èirigh suas nuair a th'air a bhualadh. Bi cluicheadairean a tha a' dìon na tadhlan agus cluicheadairean a tha a feuchainn ri tadhal fhaighinn a cleachdadh camain eadar-dhealaichte. Ged a tha mòran dhaoine a dèanamh coimeas eadar iomain agus hocaidh, 's e fìor bheag a tha an comas eadar an dà gheama. Gu dearbha 's e an geama Èireannach "iomainiocht" ('hurley') neo geama Mannannach "cammag" as coltaiche ri iomain. Bi geama eadarnàiseanta air a chluich eadar Alba agus Èirinn gach bliadhna le riaghailtean bhon dà gheama.

Tha an geama air a chluich thairis air dà leth de 45 mionaidean an urra. Tha an geama a' tòiseachadh le cluicheadair bho gach sgioba a' croiseadh na camain os cionn an cinn agus tha an rèitire a' tilgeil balla suas dhan eir eatorra. Tha an geama cus nas corporra na hocaidh. Faodar dà thaobh a chamain a chleachdadh agus ged a tha am ball glè thrice anns an eir, tha na sgilean cluich as fheàrr rim faicinn nuair a tha am ball air an talamh. 'S e geama uamhasach luath, fosgailte a th'ann an iomain. Tha an geama air a chluich bho

ceann gu ceann dhen raon-cluiche agus faodaidh cuisean atharrachadh gu haithghearr. Bi na cluicheadairean a' fuireach ann am pàirtean sònraichte dhen raon-cluiche an àite a bhith a' leantainn a' bhuill. Chan fhaodar am ball a bhreabadh, neo nàmhaid! Faodar casan a cleachdadh airson am ball a stad.

Nuair a thèid am ball a-mach air an raoncluiche, tha e air a thilleadh air ais a steach le cluicheadair a' tilgeil a' bhuill os cionn a chinn agus ga bhualadh le sail a' chamain. Feumaidh a dhà chàs a bhith air an talamh



agus coshinte ri oir an raoin-cluiche. Tha e cus nas duilghe seo a dhèanamh gu cunbhalach na tha e a coimhead! 'S e am fear-glèidhidh an aon duine a dh'fhaodas am ball a làimhseachadh – agus an uairsin chan fhaod e greim fhaighinn air a' bhall ach a bhualadh air falbh le làmh. 'S e an diofar as motha eadar iomain agus gcamaichean buill eile an riaghailt 'off-side'. Tha cluicheadair 'off-side' ma thèid e dhan bhogsa deich slait timcheall air a ghoil – tha seo air a shealltainn air an raon-cluiche -mus tèid am ball a steach dhan bhogsa – eadhan anns an eir neo air an talamh – chan eil e gu diofar.

Summary

This article is a brief description of shinty, known as "iomain" or "camanachd" in Gàidhlig, the national sport of Scotland. Although football and rugby have much bigger participation figures, it is shinty which can claim to be the national sport, along with golf and curling, since it comes from Scotland. However, it is not properly assisted, and the minority sport of cricket gets far more attention from the media and the sports fund. Few Scottish schools teach it either. Unlike Irish sports, shinty has been perhaps too apolitical. Shinty is very old, and was probably being played here before Scotland existed. Videos of shinty can be seen at http://www.bounci.tv/

Sabhail CARN

Bha CARN daonnan cudromach ann an Alba. Chuidich CARN leis an Achd ùir airson ar cànain: Achd na Gàidhlig (Alba) sa bhliadhna 2005. Bha an Achd seo càirdeil don chànain againn. Dh'fhaighnich an Riaghaltas den a h-uile ùghdarras ionadail air feadh Alba, "dè tha sibh a' dèanamh airson na Gàidhlig?" agus thug an Riaghaltas orra sin a dhèanamh.

Anns an darna àite, bha CARN cudromach a thaobh an Riaghaltais ùir SNP againn a tha fo stiùir Alec Salmond. Gus a seo tha e a' dèanamh a dhìcheall le tadhal do dh'Èirinn agus don Chuimrigh agus a' nochdadh càirdeas do na dùthchannan Ceilteach. Ach a dh'aindeoin sin tha feadhainn ann a tha airson CARN a mharbhadh agus a h-uile càil a chuir air an eadar-lìon. 'S e bàs CHARN a bhiodh ann an sin. Cha bhiodh daoine ann an Alba agus Èirinn toilichte le bàs CHARN idir. Ma bhios an fheadhainn sin toilichte a h-uile sgillinn ruadh a phàigheadh airson CARN a bhith air an eadar-lìon, tha sin ceart gu leòr, ach bu chòir CARN a shàbhaladh air pàipear cuideachd no bi e cho marbh ri sgadan. Mar eisimpleir, chaidh am pàipear beag aig na cànainean bheag feadh an Roinn Eòrpa air an eadar-lìon a-mhàin agus tha e a-nis marbh agus air dìochuimhne Chan eil e cumhachdach mar a bhe e. Dìreach mar a thuirt sinn........Sabhail CARN!

Summary

CARN in its present printed form could be said to have been influential in bringing about the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act by the previous Scottish Government; it was the most pro-Gaelic ever passed. In it local authorities were forced to declare what they could do for our language and were kept to their word.

Yet there are those who would close down the printed form in favour of a web site. I believe that killing off CARN magazine may lose the Celtic League much of its influence, membership and readership.

Gilleasbuig Mac a' phearsain no Archy Macpherson

NEWS FROM ALBA

- Branch members attended the unveiling of a monument to the Battle of Bonnymuir, which occurred in 1820 between Falkirk and Bonnybridge. It is often incorrectly stated that Culloden (1746) was the last battle on "British soil" (whatever that is), but the 1820 rebellion occurred decades later. It is mainly thanks to the efforts of Peter Berresford Ellis, and Seumas Mac a' Ghobhainn that it has been "rediscovered". The instigators were given much heavier sentences than the Tolpuddle Martyrs, but are never mentioned in British history books.
- The SNP has changed the name of the "Scottish Executive" to "Scottish Government". Despite the uproar this has caused, no one seems to have realised that



GAELIC NEWS

Gaelic Television Uncertainty Continues

Plans to establish a Gaelic television channel have once again been thrown into uncertainly following the publication of a report by the BBC Trust Unit which raises serious doubts about the scheme.

A partnership comprising the Gaelic Media Service and the BBC have submitted proposals to establish a Gaelic television channel by March 2008. As this would involve £2.5M additional BBC funding per annum, it is subject to a Public Value Test by the BBC Trust.

The first part of this test has concluded that evidence currently available "suggests that the potential public value would not be sufficient to justify the level of investment proposed". It is argued that more priority would have to be attached to attracting non-Gaelic speaking viewers, to encourage the learning of Gaelic and to securing a sustainable future for Gaelic in order to justify the investment.

The report also controversially suggests that the internet may be the way forward for the channel rather than terrestrial broadcasting. This would mean that while service would be available via digital satellite, cable and broadband, it might be unavailable through the most popular medium: digital terrestrial television.

The BBC Trust is to seek further clarification from the BBC management on their proposals before a final decision is made. The decision of the BBC Trust will be announced on 21 November 2007 and followed by a 28-day public consultation.

Gaelic Teacher Recruitment Campaign

Bord na Gàidhlig have launched a new campaign to attract new teachers to Gaelic education with the logo "So much tradition, So much passion, So much to learn".

The campaign will begin in the Highland, Argyll and Bute and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar council areas in the first instance, featuring adverts on buses, ferries and railway stations.

This initiative reflects the current crippling shortage of Gaelic teachers and Gaelic medium teachers which is currently holding back the development of both Gaelic medium and Gaelic learners education where growth in numbers of pupils has stalled in recent years.

Language planning experts have warned, however, that efforts to increase number of Gaelic teachers will fail unless pathways are established to enable existing teachers to learn Gaelic or for student teachers to learn Gaelic to fluency as part of their degree course. At present, efforts to increase numbers of teachers rely on attracting existing fluent Gaelic speakers to teaching, a strategy which is becoming untenable as numbers of fluent speakers decline and as numbers of pupils coming through Gaelic medium education remain low.

Màrtainn MacLeòid

- it was "Riaghaltas na h-Alba" in the official translation all along. The government has also set about cutting Quangos and commissioners (mostly Labour stooges). Alex Salmond has also written to dozens of international governments asking them for their help in eliminating nuclear weapons from Scotland. The Scottish Government has said that it will attempt to block the transport of nuclear weapons on Scottish roads and railways.
- * The Glasgow Airport attack, thankfully thwarted, also allowed Salmond a chance to show his mettle. Salmond was able to play on the SNP's strong friendly links with Scotland's Muslim population without trying to justify Britain's wars in the Middle East as his Labour equivalent would have done. The SNP has the first Muslim MSP, Bashir Ahmad, who founded "Asian Scots for Independence", and took his oath in Urdu. Unlike in England, where Asians do not identify as "English", most Asians in Scotland identify as "Scottish", and I know from my own experience that many support Scottish independence, Plaid Cymru also succeeded in getting the first Muslim AM elected - Mohammad Asghar, which is hopefully a sign of healthy relations between the party and Welsh ethnic minorities. Under Tony Blair however. Muslims were used as an excuse for greater surveillance and control, as well as justifying military policy.
- * Kelvin MacKenzie, editor of The Sun, is to be investigated for racism by the British police. It follows some anti-Scottish comments that he had made on the English political programme "Question Time" MacKenzie whose past outbursts include slandering the victims of the Hillsborough Disaster, and inventing stories about Elton John using rent boys, and "Freddie Starr Ate My Hamster". In July 2006, MacKenzie wrote a column for the Sun newspaper referring to Scots as 'Tartan Tosspots' and apparently rejoicing in the fact that Scotland has a lower life expectancy than the rest of the United Kingdom. Curiously his anti-Scottish outbursts do not appear in Scottish editions of the paper. The Sun has long had a reputation for xenophobia. Which is strange considering it is owned by an Australian who is an American citizen and no "Brit" at all. As you may have guessed from his name, MacKenzie had Scottish grandparents (from Stirling). The "Kelvin" is a river running through Glasgow, and a Scottish surname. His middle name is "Calder", also a Scottish placename and surname. His brother is called "Bruce" after King Robert the Bruce, the Scottish hero. So much for family pride then...

SNP in Justifiably confident mood

The SNP have recently held their annual conference. The party is at an all time historical high in terms of public support after winning the Scottish elections. The newspapers provided some last minute amusement in the election with a few 'qualities' suddenly switching to the SNP when the result became likely. However with the notable exception of the Sunday Herald the usual suspects have reverted to type and every time the SNP do anything it is reported with squeals of angry disapproval.

The British establishment have a developing strategy towards the new Government. This is to squeeze funds and then accuse the SNP of not keeping their manifesto promises. No doubt it is hoped that the people of Scotland will be daft enough to forget that the SNP is a minority Government in an under powered parliament and that the UK Labour party ultimately controls its finances. It would have been too obvious to go for a direct cut in the block grant, instead Labour have squeezed the expenditure, giving a miniscule increase in real terms which they hope will leave the SNP unable to achieve anything significant.

It is here of course that control of the press becomes very handy. The SNP can be portrayed as ungrateful whingers if they complain about the financial settlement (they did and have been) while at the same time if every manifesto commitment isn't delivered immediately the unionists can sing a chorus of 'broken promises' in the hope that eventually people will be sick of the SNP and say "they're all the same."

This mantra has been taken up by many already and the unionist hope must be that it will be sung from the rooftops in the future. A disinterested de-motivated electorate is less likely to have the confidence to vote for self government, particularly if it is not seen as absolutely necessary and it can be demonstrated that somehow Scotland is getting a 'good deal' from the UK. Every English daily regularly moans about the idle Jocks (apart from in their 'Scottish editions' of course) who are stealing from the rich enterprising English while North Sea oil is portrayed as a declining resource which is just about to run dry.

In actual fact of course our Scandinavian neighbours have used this resource to fund some of the most dynamic economies in Europe with hugely enviable social provision.



The SNP have managed to make some significant improvements already within devolution however large scale changes are unlikely to happen without independence.

All this of course adds up to an ongoing difficult situation for Scotland and Scottish nationalists however bias in the press is nothing new for us and despite the best attempts of the unionists our people retained enough confidence to reject Labour and their negative scaremongering agenda in the recent elections.

Alex Salmond is a politician of rare ability and has enormous ambition for his own country. The SNP have already re-named the Scottish Executive as the Scottish Government and they have just appointed an Ambassador to Washington.

The unionists have been left floundering in their wake. The new Labour leader Wendy Alexander (UK Minister Douglas Alexander's sister) has attempted to change Labour's direction to a more pro Scottish position, making some noises about greater powers for the Scottish parliament. However 'wee Windy' is no Rhodri Morgan and her noises have been just that.

The Tories under Annabel Goldie have initially tried to kiss up and be nice to the new administration though that is unlikely to last. They have also talked of support for fiscal powers for the new parliament.

The Liberal Democrats Nicol Stephen (probably on the orders of the now dumped

Sir Ming) blocked the establishment of a coalition on the undemocratic grounds that they didn't want to know whether Scotland supported independence or not and were unwilling to even ask the people their opinion. Since then their poll figures have went into freefall.

The Lib Dems subsequently called for taxation over oil revenues to be controlled in Scotland however when Mr Stephen made this call he didn't do it at their main British party conference (he was relegated to the fringes) and the new UK party leader candidates have made no such calls. This indicates the true importance of Scotland and the Scottish party in their deliberations!

Every time the unionists open their mouth it is to denigrate Scotland and our ambitions. I got a sense of déjà vu yesterday when Scottish office 'minister' David Cairns said Scotland 'could survive' with independence (as if we were going to tip into the sea the day after!). This exact same phraseology was used by Jack McConnell. The unionists much vaunted new convention on more powers for the Scottish parliament has fell to bits meanwhile. After their first meeting they decided to write to London and ask them what other powers they might grant to Scotland. This of course reflects the reality of their leadership and the power within their parties but it indicates a dreadful lack of ambition which contrasts with the 'can do' attitude of the SNP.

In short then the SNP haven't much to worry about from the Scottish branches of the unionist parties but they are still at the ultimate financial mercy of Mr Brown. He has now 'played his Joker' however in this respect and the SNP must be confident of even more future success if their opposition remains as basically anti Scottish as they are. They could also give themselves some wriggle room if they used the parliament's tax powers though I suspect if they did use them it would be to make a cut rather than an increase and wind up the English papers even more.

The wider Scottish independence movement remains united and focused on pressurising the unionists to agree a democratic referendum. The unionists might feel they can win this as the polls are not currently showing high support for independence, however normal powers for our country remains the only logical answer to both the West Lothian question and to various other issues like Trident and Iraq so no-one up here has any fear of the question being asked.

Joe Midleton



The Celtic League is currently preparing an official CL response to "the National Conversation" about Scottish independence. Hopefully, this shall not only address some of the weak points of the document, but also lend moral support to its strengths.



Breizh



evit an Itron Fabiani : « Dindan galloud Westminster emañ an dachenn-se c'hoazh met spi hon eus e vo krouet gant ar BBC ur chadenn emren evit Bro-Skos. Evit-se e vo ret deomp stourm kreñv war dachenn ar politik, evel m'hon doa graet evit ma vefe lakaet war-wel Istor ha sevenadur Bro-Skos e programmoù kelenn ar skolioù kentañ

Genrouedad, evit netra. 9 milion a lurioù saoz (13,140 milion €) hon eus postet er

raktres-se. » A-bouez-bras eo ar c'hleweled

Emgav gant Linda Fabiani... (Ministrez ar Sevenadur e Bro-Skos)

Ur weladenn en Oriant he doa graet an Itron Linda Fabiani e penn-kentañ miz Eost, pedet ma oa bet gant Gouelioù Etrekeltiek an Oriant pa oa Bro-Skos a oa lakaet en a-raok er bloaz-mañ, a-drugarez d'ur stand brasmeurbet ha birvilh ennañ e-pad an dek deiz, hag ivez en abadennoù a oa kinniget a-hed ar gouelioù. Ministrez ar Sevenadur hag Aferioù Europa eo honnezh e gouarnamant Alex Salmond, penn bras ar Scottish National Party hag a stourm evit ma vo dizalc'h Bro-Skos. Tro he deus bet da lakaat ar gaoz war sujedoù a bep seurt evel ar sevenadur, ar politik pe c'hoazh, an darempredoù etre Breizh hag he broad.

Ur vro degemerus ha leun a startijenn Laouen gant an degemer tomm a oa bet graet dezhi en Oriant, an Itron Fabiani he deus kavet pouezus-bras e vefe enoret Bro-Skos en Oriant hevlene. « Evidomp eo un darvoud meur ha talvoudus-kenañ ; hep mar ebet e sikouro kalz da reiñ Bro-Skos da anavezout e Breizh, ha pelloc'h c'hoazh » emezi. Deuet e oa Linda Fabiani e Breizh evit diskouez penaos e oa kreñv al liammoù etre hon daou sevenadur keltiek evel-just, hag ivez evit embann he youl da ginnig ur skeudenn eus Bro-Skos leun a startijenn, digor d'ar bed tro-dro ha c'hoant ganti da zesachañ muioc'h a douristed hag a embregerien : « Fellout a ra deomp lakaat an holl da gompren omp prest da zegemer an holl re a blijfe dezhe bevañ, labourat pe postañ arc'hant e Bro-Skos. A-drugarez d'ar Skosiz nevez-se ivez ma 'zo lañs ha pinvidigezh en hor bro. A-bouez e oa deomp bezañ gwelet en Oriant, deomp da embann hor politikerezh nevez savet a-benn reiñ kalite hor sevenadur da anavezout war an dachenn etrevroadel » he deus kemennet ar Vinistrez

Brudañ er bed a-bezh Hervez Linda Fabiani e ya hengounioù kreñv ar sevenadurezh gouezelek d'ober sevenadur Bro-Skos hag ivez levezonioù a bep seurt bet degemeret gant Skosiz : « Unan eus perzhioù pennañ hor sevenadur eo e varregezh da dalvezout war ur bern tachennoù, hengounel koulz ha modernoc'h : setu perak 'zo startijenn eleizh gantañ evit ijinañ traoù nevez ha bezañ priziet er bed a-bezh. » Youl ar gouarnamant eo kas e sevenadur war an dachenn etrevroadel just-a-walc'h : « E Bro-Skos hon eus ensavadurioù hag a zo talvoudus o mouezh war an dachenn-se, afed opera, dans, sonerezh, mirdioù, c'hoariva, festivalioù... Ar festival brasañ a zo er bed eo hini Kêredin, sur-mat. Kement-



mañ a rank bezañ lakaet en a-raok a-benn kreñvaat brud Bro-Skos er bed. Unan eus ar c'hefridioù a zo bet fiziet ennon evit ar mizioù da zont an hini eo. » Pal Ministrerezh ar Sevenadur a vo ivez aozañ ur gwir koulzad darvoudoù e-pad ar goañv. Kroget e vefe gant gouel Sant Andrew, gouel broadel Bro-Skos, ha kendalc'het gant Hogmanay (fin ar bloaz), lidoù Robert Burns e miz Genver, hag ar Celtic Connections in Glasgow. « Ur wir binvidigezh eo ar sevenadur evit Bro-Skos, e pep keñver, setu perak e rankomp e gas war-raok. »

Kreñvaat an darempredoù etrevroadel Evit ar pezh a sell ouzh an darempredoù etre Breizh ha Bro-Skos e soñj d'ar Vinistrez « eo gwall-anavezet Breizh gant Skosiz c'hoazh, hag a-fed sonerezh ivez. Unan eus hor palioù eo adsevel hor politikerezh a zarempredoù etrevroadel. E-giz-se e c'hello bezañ krouet liammoù war dachennoù disheñvel etre an div vro geltiek. Hogen, hor gouarnamant n'eo bet lakaet e pleustr nemet a-c'houde daou viz hag ur bern kefridioù hon eus da seveniñ war bep tachenn. »

Ur skol hollc'houezelek ha 9 milion evit an tele A-fed yezh, en deus ar gouarnamant nevez santimant da ziorren kalz ar c'helenn gouezeleg hag e gouezeleg. Ar skol gentañ ma vez kelennet e gouezeleg penn-da-benn, eus ar skol-vamm betek ar c'hlas termen, a zo bet digoret e Glasgow, n'eus ket pell 'zo. « War ar stern ganeomp ivez ez eus ur chadenn-dele hollc'houezelek hag a vo roet lañs dezhi e miz Meurzh 2008 hag a c'hello bezañ resevet dre loarell, dre fun ha dre ar

hag eil derez. »

Dizalc'h? Perak pas! Spi e-leizh a zo savet e-keñver politik ivez pa oa bet trec'h dizalc'hourien an SNP en dilennadegoù diwezhañ. « Evit Skosiz eo deuet hon strollad da vezañ gwir strollad Bro-Skos. Ur gammed bras eo an trec'h-se war-du ur Stad dizalc'h. » Er mare-mañ e embann ar Ministr Kentañ Alex Salmond e ginnig referandom, an « Independance White Paper ». N'eus nemet 47 sez diwar 120 hag a zo aet gant e strollad er Parlamant, setu ma vo diaes a-walc'h dezhañ tapout ar brasañniver evit aozañ ar referandom. « Evit an demokratelezh e embann bezañ ar strolladoù unanour. Dezhe da brouiñ an dra-se deomp en ur asantiñ d'ar referandom! » eme Linda Fabiani. Homañ n'eo ket ankeniet tamm ebet gant mennozh ur Stad dizalc'h : « Sellit ouzh Bro-Iwerzhon, Bro-Finland, Bro-Norvej, hag ouzh un toullad broioù bihan all en Europa ! Daoust ha soñjal a ra deoc'h e vefe Skosiz drochoc'h eget ar re all ? Barregezhioù dreist e-leizh he deus hor bro evit lakaat he stad dizalc'h e pleustr. »

Adaozañ ar galloud A-fed buhez ar Rouantelezh-Unanet, laouen eo Linda Fabiani p'eo deuet a-benn ar strollad Plaid Cymru da zegouezhout e penn Parlamant Bro-Gembre hag ivez o welout gouarnamant Norzh-Iwerzhon o vont war-raok. « N'eus ket pell 'zo en doa kemeret perzh Alex Salmond er Bodad Iwerzhon/Bro-Saoz, e Belfast, gant pennoù-bras an Inizi Predenek, ar pezh a zo evidomp ur gammed

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CNLA - un Taol Fall evit Kernev-Veur

Ul lañs nevez 'zo bet bevet gant Kernev-Veur er c'hantved-mañ. An disoc'h vrasañ eus ar youl politikel nevez e-keñver ar yezh keltiek. Tony Blair en deus sinet *Karta Europa ar yezhoù minorelezet* er bloavezh 2006. Dre-se ar C'herneveureg a zo deuet da vezañ ur yezh ofisiel en Europa. Ul lamm bras evit an dek vloaz tremenet. Ouzhpennse ul lañs evit kas war a-raok ar yezh. Chom a ra kalz c'hoazh d'ober evit dazont ar C'herne-veureg evel-just. Dreist holl evit sevel kalz muioc'h klasoù eget daouzek, dre soubidigezh hag all. Evit poent ez eus dreist

Emgav gant Linda Fabiani...

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war-raok evit adaozañ galloudoù hor broadoù en ur mod digoroc'h hag aesoc'h da gompren evit an holl. » Hervez ar Vinistrez, ar bombezennoù o doa tarzhet e Glasgow, o doa lakaet war-wel ar c'hengred etre ar c'humuniezhoù disheñvel a zo o kenvevañ e Bro-Skos. An holl o doa kondaonet an torfed-se a-unvouezh, evit ar wech kentañ er Rouantelezh Unanet. « Difenn a reomp mennozh ur vroad skos e-lec'h ma c'hell pep hini pleustriñ war e sevenadur dezhañ ha bezañ Skosad da vat, war un dro. Unan eus abegoù hor startijenn eo ivez! »

Kement ha klozañ, he deus adlâret Linda Fabiani pegen laouen e oa gant aergelc'h tomm festival an Oriant hag a ro fred d'ar broadoù keltiek d'en em gavout asambles, da eskemm ha da reiñ da welet ha da glevet o gwellañ perzhioù evit brasañ plijadur an holl.

Jakez an Touz.

Summary:

This summer the InterCeltic Festival in An Oriant, featured Scotland as the focus nation. The minister of Culture and European affairs in Alex Salmond's government, Linda Fabiani, was invited. She gave the people of Brittany the impression that new links were possible between the Celtic nations and the rest of the world. The will to develop the Scottish language from the nursery level up to university, in Glasgow and elsewhere, was very positive. The government of Alex Salmond intend to develop a Scottish language TV service under the BBC, with a budget of 13m. Linda Fabiani also wants to develop the symbolic festivals of Celtic culture like St Andrew's Day and Burns Nicht. On the subject of the independence of Scotland she spoke about the positive development of the Celtic nations (Wales and N. Ireland) through Devolution. Moreover Linda Fabiani went further and compared Scotland to the Scandinavian states. She clearly condemned the attack on Glasgow airport. saying that everybody can be Scottish and live with his own culture at the same time.

holl skolioù-noz evit an dud deuet. Stajoù e Kerney-Veur hag e Breizh gant Eostin Spered ar Yezh (ronantremel@wanadoo.fr) 'vez ivez e Karaez. Estreget ar vezh, adlañset eo bet ivez gouelioù Sant Piran, hag all. Al lañs a zo bet kreñv a-walc'h evit lakaat stourmerien da vont e darempred gant Kembreiz, dreist holl evit ambrougadeg Gouel Sant Dewi e Kerdiz. Fiziañs 'zo gant ar Gerneveuriz gwelet, un dervez bennak, un «Devolution» evel hini Bro-Gembre. Da lavaret eo muioc'h eget 21bn budjet, e-giz el lec'h all en Europa. Al lañs-se oa war an hent mat a-raok ma ne vefe ket añv eus ar CNLA. Da lavaret eo ar «Cornish National Liberation Army».

Ar strollad-se en deus lakaet an tan 'barzh ti ur familh o vevañ e bro Saoz. Ouzhpenn-se tud all o deus skrivet war un nebeud mogerioù menozhioù e-giz: «TEACH CORNISH» pe «LIBERATE CORNWALL NOW» ha c'hoazh e kerneveureg «DOMHWELANS PUP EUR OLL YN KERNOW». Skrivañ war ar mogerioù n'eo ket danjerus evit an Demokratelezh eveljust... Padal lakaat tan e-barzh tiez a zo un afer all...

E-barzh un atersadenn savet gant ar gazetenn Cornish World ur paotr eus ar CNLA a lavar sklaer ne felle ket dezhañ ober droug da zen ebet, sañset. Memestra, tan a zo bet lakaet 'barzh un ti, hag all...An dospered-se zo deuet eus Bro Gembre, tregont vloaz-zo, da lavaret e-doug ar XXvet kantved...ur stourm añvet «central heating campaign» (Meibion Glyndwr). Padal, Kerne-Veur, Europa, hag ar bed o deus cheñchet kantved abaoe, e-giz ar re all. Etre daou ez eus bet ar «peace process» e Bro-Iwerzhon. Mont gant an hent-se er c'hantvedmañ a zo evel-just mont en diavaez eus ar bed demokratel, eus ar gwirioù mab-den ha warzu ur stourm disparc'helour. War un hir termen, ar Pobl ne zaio ket d'o heul evel-just. Ne vo ket rastellet muioc'h eget 5% a vouezhioù evit strolladoù politikel ha ne vo ket nac'het ganto ar feulster en un doare sklaer. Ouzhpenn-se, an TV hag ar Web o deus cheñchet an doare da stourm. E Kerne-Veur, e-giz e Breizh, galoud ar mediaoù a zo gant kerbenn ar stad. Da lavaret eo Londrez. Dreist holl, ar gazetennoù eus Londrez, e-giz Sunday Times, o deus bet kalz muioc'h a leveson war ar Gerneveuriz eget Cornish World, ha kement 'zo...Ar CNLA hag ar stourmerien a zaio d'o heul, a c'hoario a enep d'ar Bobl. An abadenn n'eo ket echuet peogwir ar prosez zo da zont evit un nebeud dud yaouank pakaet gant an archerien. Evit poent, an dud-se' zo bet laosket dieub. Padal, forzh peseurt diviz a vo dibabet gant justis, diaes e vo kendelc'her gant al lañs politikel a oa o ren a-raok an hañv. Evit ar C'hevre Keltiek poent bras eo adlavaret pegen talvoudus eo ar PEOC'H e-barzh hon

vonreizh. Carn a zo bet krouet evit stourm war an hir termen ha war an dachenn Demokratel, Kalz a draoù zo da ober evit kas war a-raok stourm ar yezh ha stourm an Devolution hep mont war dachenn ar feulster. Evel-just troioù-kamm ar CNLA a vo implijet gant mediaoù Londrez ha dreist holl e vo kollet kalz amzer, nerzh ha startijenn gant an holl strolladoù politikel keltiek hag all... Se ' zo kaoz mennozhioù ar CNLA a zo fall-tre evit dazont Kernev-Veur hag an holl vrojoù keltiek. Dreist-holl dav eo skoazellañ skourr Kernow eus ar C'hevre Keltiek evit difenn ar stourm politikel war hir termen, dre ar PEOC'H hag ar Gwirioù MabDen...

Gi Keltik

Sekretour Kerne-Veur: Ao. Mike Chappell:

michael.chappell@midasdsl.com

Summary

At the begining of this century the Cornish cultural movement was growing and on a positive trend. As in other states in Europe the Charter for Lesser Used Languages was an important step forward. Then last summer the CNLA (Cornish National Liberation Army) appeared. A big danger for the Cornish cultural movement that could stop peaceful democratic development for Cornwall. Even if the French and British states are very different, these superpowers have been able to marginalize Celtic culture for more than a quarter of a century. Since we have seen the emergence of "Peace Processes", all over Europe this century, it has become more important to act in acordance with human rights. So now is the moment for the members of the Celtic League to take action on long terms goals by peaceful means in order to make a future for our Celtic languages. Let's go for the future of the Cornish language and children who are learning it at school, at home, or elsewhere



On line books, records, Celtic art. Kemper: 02.98.95.42.82 Brest: 02.98.44.05.38

http://www.arbedkeltiek.com

Ar Bed Keltiek (2 Str. Ar Roue Gralon, 29000 Kemper). When phoning from abroad, omit the 0 in the prefix.

Diwan – 30 Years On

Diwan's Breton-medium schools are going from strength to strength this academic year, attesting to the success of the immersion method of introducing a second language. At a time when the right to use this method is being questioned in Ireland, Diwan's congress in November, which marked 30 years of the organization, was addressed by Jim Cummins of the University of Toronto on the subject of Immersion and Bilingual Education.

Immersion and Bilingual Education: Forty Years of Research

In countries like France, Japan, or USA, where the dominant social group is largely monolingual, it has been common to view bior multilingualism as an exceptional state and as a potential threat to the social fabric. "Bilingualism" is often characterized as a transitional phase that immigrants go through in the first and second generation as they progress towards monolingualism in the dominant language and full integration into the society. Minority groups that try to maintain their languages across generations are seen as resisting assimilation and are often viewed with suspicion. Historically in many European states (e.g. Spain, France), minority languages such as Breton, Basque, and Catalan, have been suppressed and the educational system was expected to play its role in devaluing and discouraging use of these languages. In Wales during the 19th century, for example, the notorious "Welsh Not" was used to humiliate any child caught speaking Welsh. In short, societal power relations must be considered as an integral component of policy development for immersion and bilingual education among linguistic minority groups.

Types, Goals, and Participants

Typologies of bilingual education focus on characteristics of students in the program, the goals of the program, and organizational structures. The more important distinctions are outlined below.

Majority/minority languages or students,
Dominant/subordinated students or groups,
Enrichment/remedial programs,
Maintenance/transitional programs,
Late-exit / Early-exit programs,
Immersion / submersion programs.
The term immersion capacitate widespace

The term immersion came into widespread use in the context of French immersion programs initiated in Canada during the 1960s. 300,000 English students were 'immersed' in a French language school.

The overall results of French immersion programs can be summarized as follows:

 Students acquire good receptive skills (listening and reading) in French but their



productive skills (speaking and writing) are limited with respect to grammatical accuracy and range of vocabulary;

- Teaching through L2 entails no adverse effects on L1 literacy development;
- In early immersion programs, students are able to develop decoding skills in French despite the fact that their French proficiency in the early grades is very limited;
- A large majority of students spontaneously develop English decoding skills in grade 1 and 2 with no formal instruction in English reading;
- Immersion appears appropriate for a wide variety of students, not just an academic elite.

Pedagogical Issues

The interdependence hypothesis implies that we should actively teach for transfer across languages in bilingual/immersion programs. Lambert and Tucker (1972) noted that some students in the French immersion program they evaluated engaged in a form of contrastive linguistics where they compared aspects of French and English despite the fact that in this program the two languages were kept rigidly separate. If students in bilingual/immersion programs spontaneously focus on similarities and differences in their two languages, then they are likely to benefit from systematic encouragement by the teacher to focus on language and develop their language awareness.

The major reason this practice has not been applied in many bilingual/immersion programs is that it is seen as axiomatic that each language be kept rigidly separate from the other. In other words, monolingual instructional strategies are, paradoxically, seen as more appropriate to develop bilingualism than are bilingual instructional strategies.

Creation of dual language multimedia books and other forms of identity text.

Students write creatively in L1 and L2 and amplify these identity texts through technology (see, for example, the Dual Language Showcase http://thornwood.peelschools.org/Dual/ and the Multiliteracies web site www.multiliteracies.ca). Creation of these texts acts as a powerful stimulus for students to write extensively for authentic purposes and translation across languages serves to increase their awareness of similarities and differences between their languages.

We have termed these texts identity texts because students invest their identities in the creation of literate and artistic work which can be written, spoken, dramatic, visual, musical, or combinations in multimodal form

The process and the outcomes of this work hold a mirror up to students in which their identities are reflected back in a positive light. When students share identity texts with multiple audiences (peers, teachers, parents, grandparents, sister classes, the media), they are likely to receive positive feedback and affirmation of self in interaction with these audiences.

Sister class exchanges. Students engage in technology-mediated sister class exchanges using L1 and L2 to create literature and art and/or to explore issues

of social relevance to them and their communities (e.g. Social History of Our Community, Voices of our Elders, etc.). Students can also create movies, audio CDs, and/or multilingual web pages in collaboration with their sister classes.

Controversies and Future Directions

Controversy surrounding bilingual education is highly selective. It focuses only on the provision of L1 instruction for students from previously or currently subordinated groups. Although opposition to bilingual education often invokes educational arguments (e.g., bilingual education will deprive students of access to the socially dominant language), it is fuelled primarily by ideological concerns relating to diversity and power. Use of a language as a medium of instruction confers recognition, status, and often economic benefits (e.g., teaching positions) on speakers of that language. Consequently, bilingual education is not simply a politically-neutral instructional innovation. It is also a sociopolitical phenomenon that is implicated in the ongoing competition between social groups for material and symbolic resources. The debate among researchers and academics about the scientific legitimacy of bilingual education is finished, although there is still much to be discussed and investigated regarding optimal models and practices under different sociopolitical and sociolinguistic conditions. The ideological debate about the legitimacy of bilingual education for linguistic minorities will continue for the foreseeable future, partly because it has very little to do with education. It represents one small dimension of the larger controversy about national identity, immigration, and human rights in societies where diversity of language, "race", and sexual culture, religion, orientation is increasingly evident and openly contested.

Based on "Immersion and Bilingual Education: What Do We Know from 40 Years of Research?". Courtesy of Jim Cummins, University of Toronto

Gi Keltik

The New Judicial Map

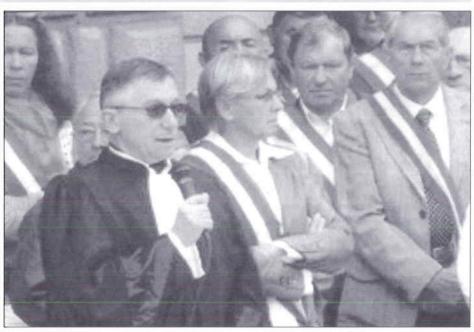
The reform of the Judicial Map of the French state is in trouble. Lawyers are on strike in different cities and demonstrating every week.

In October the Minster of Justice, Rachida Dati, announced a program of reforms of the courts in the French state involving the merging and closure of many regional and local courts, leaving generally only one Appeal Court (Cour d'Appel, CA) per région, and one Tribunal de Grande Instance (TGI) per département. Numerous local courts face closure.

This reform of the Judicial Map is one of the numerous reforms President Nicolas Sarkozy, a lawyer himself, had in his manifesto for the presidential election in 2007. The French judicial system goes back to WWII!!! Because of a lack of political will it has not changed since 1958. The budget of the judiciary is also one of the lowest among the main European states. Rachida Dati did not allow time for any consultations, or evaluation of the cost of this reform. She insists that fewer law courts will allow a higher budget for each and therefore justice will be faster and better. So the idea of one TGI for one département and one CA per région should be implemented. The lawyers and judges are fighting hard against this governmental policy because the reality on the ground is very different.

In Brittany, the Judicial Map recognises our historical territory (5 départements) - the département of Loire-Atlantique, including Naoned, is under the authority of the Appeal Court of Roazhon. The first challenge for the Breton people in the face of these reforms, alongside the lawyers and judges, was to keep Brittany recognised as a whole. The first demonstrations took place in Naoned and Roazhon on the first week-end of November. The number of lawyers and demonstrators was significant enough to win this first important campaign for the integrity of our territory. During her first trip to Brittany, on the 9th of November, Rachida Dati accepted the historical unity of our nation. On the other hand she stood firm on the closure of the three TGIs of Montroulez, Gwengamp, and Dinan. Those of Kemper and Gwened are also under threat at this level. At the local court (Tribunal d'Instance, TI) level, ten courts are on the black list. Half of those are in central Brittany. In fact we will have only one TI, in Redon, between Kastellbriant and Kastellin. Justice in Brittany will exist only at the seaside!!!

Lawyers and magistrates have been much involved in demonstrations all over Brittany since mid-November. Loïk Chapel, a Breton speaker and a senior lawyer in Montroulez, sent Carn news about the meeting organised in Paris on Friday the 23rd of November. The fist impressions of the lawyers were



Loïk CHAPELL (pennbreutaer) addressing protestors in front of Montroulez City Hall.

worse than expected. They discovered that the meeting had no agenda. Further there had been no studies of the financial impact of this Judicial Map reform. It is not even clear if the text is in line with the French Constitution. At the end of the day the lawyers in charge of the law courts in the French state called straight away for a new demonstration on the 25th of November. The lawyers were particularly upset by the Dati's intention of closing small TGIs in order to give more money to big ones. They claim that the reality is different. A small court like Montroulez is more efficient, more human, and costs less than most of the big TGIs. For example Montroulez copes with 236 actions per lawyer, while it is only 167 for Roazhon and 146 for Paris. Obviously Montroulez is in position to ask for more cases. They want a court for teenagers because the situation in

respect of this age group has deteriorated in this area in recent years. The court for teenagers is actually in Brest, more than 50 km away, which does not help justice to do its job quickly and correctly. At the end of the day Montroulez wants the same ratios as elsewhere, and Montroulez and most of the smaller towns went for more demonstrations in November and December.

This strong mobilisation of the lawyers is surprising to behold, because it is unusual to see judicial power in conflict with political power!!! The future of French justice is not clear. The state must put much more money into the budget for this department in order to be equal with the main European states. Hopefully the demonstrations will help to improve the situation.

Gi Keltik (courtesy Loïk Chapel)

CELTIC ART AND CONTEMPORARY CREATION

Reflections and suggestions following the International Celtic Congress 2006 held in Karaez/Carhaix under the theme "Celtic Influence in the Visual Arts". In September 2007 the Cultural Institute of Brittany chose the theme "Plastic Arts in Brittany" for finally dealing with the same subject, accompanied by a more general study entitled "How artists in Brittany live".

1) What is meant by the Celtic community, and what it is to be a Celt today?

To be a Celt is firstly to recognise oneself as the heir of that North-Alpine Western civilisation which began at the end of the

Bronze Age, developed with the Hallstaat and blossomed with La Tène. But today it is principally to be an heir of that civilisation which has survived in the Celtic countries, whatever the exterior contributions and the globalisation of the cultures which exist on their soils, giving an important place to those roots in our extreme Western countries. To this description we can add the presence of a still thriving Celtic language as a social link in these countries even into the 21st Century. However it is good to remain open to people who feel themselves part of the heritage of this culture, such that individuals as part of their personal sensibilities recognise themselves in this art.

The different approaches of Celtic art specifically:

What is there in common between the stylised vet realistic décor of the Gundestrup Cauldron (80/60 BC) and the curvilinear art form which blossomed in the La Tène period? Sometimes purely decorative it also succeeds as a symbolic representation, going almost to the abstract. After being well rooted in the south west of Britain it reached Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man. Although of a different craftsmanship, the scabbards of swords dated to the 3rd century BC which have been found in Hungary and Ireland illustrate well this passion of the Celts for the art of curves. One will find again later this style of engraving on the back of Cornish mirrors or Irish forks! This art distinguishes itself neatly by its dynamic of an art of a more classical style, of Etruscan or Greco-Roman influence present in other pieces of our heritage. It marks well the specific Celtic art even more than interlacing, or the broken lines with which they marry and complement in medieval manuscript art. In spite of obvious similarities with the arts of other peoples of the same period... bronze, iron... notably the Malayan-Indonesian art, to which is attached the art of the Maoris, the curvilinear art of the Celts remains unique to the world. However from the Halstaat period to the medieval semi realistic and abstract figures are always mixed together in pieces of Celtic art. A style, of elements of decoration, which are regarded as specific in as much as they find an original development that still persists in time. In addition to a collection of symbols common to all peoples, we cannot lose sight of the fact that we are all influenced in a vertical and horizontal manner: vertically by the successive inheritance from our ancestors and their and horizontally borrowings, contemporary and universal influences.

3) Arts and crafts, decorative arts and art

Following the romantic period and the new interest of popular cultures (stories of Ossian, Barzhaz Breizh) came by chance the period of "Art Nouveau", then "Arts Décoratifs". The creations of the Czech artist MUCHA or those of the Scottish Ronnie MacINTOSH call out to us as if emerging anew from Celtic art in every domain of decorative art, from illustration to typography, from furniture to architecture. This cultural mobility is not foreign to the Breton artistic renewal and notably in the creation of the Seizh Breur group between the two world wars.

Because our traditional art is essentially symbolic and decorative, it found at that time a propitious opportunity to relaunch a new Celtic creation onto a contemporary carrying wind. What are its supports today (scene decorations, CD covers, multimedia animations) that offer the musical renewal?

Apart from illustrations in publications it is still principally in the art of the goldsmith, tableware, fashion accessories which perpetuates and develops in their way our art, finding with difficulty elsewhere a true market in depicting a utilitarian side to these supports (objects).

Painting and sculpture such as we conceive of them today are distinct disciplines of the decorative arts. Even if we have had painting in our respective countries we cannot speak of Celtic painting, at the most we can speak of painting schools such as Pont-Aven with its Nabis. In Brittany the Seizh Breur also created a real school of sculpture but with powerful lines and very purified form, where is brought out all the force of temperament and of the Breton soil. It is very remote from the ancestral curvilinear art and is however Breton and thus Celtic!

(The second part of this article in the next issue of Carn will be accompanied with illustrations)

JAKEZ DEROUET

Scottish Isles literature and poetry enlightened at Ouessant (Brittany).



Christine de Luca (to the fore) was awarded Ouessant 2007 poetry prize; Rob Gibson (seated at end of table), writer, MSP, and vice-president of Brittany-Scotland Association was president of Ouessant book fair 2007 edition.

For nine years now, the isle of Ouessant, at the fore of the Atlantic Arc in Brittany, welcomes a book festival on the literature of the isles of the world, organized by CALI association, headed by Joel Richard and Isabelle Le Bal. Thanks to Brittany-Scotland association, 2007 edition was dedicated to the isles of Scotland, from Outer and Inner Hebrides to Orkney and the Shetlands.

Not less than fifteen writers or poets from these islands were hosted in Ouessant thanks to CALI, and during five days last August, one could enjoy himself or herself attending to poetry readings, in Gaelic, in Shetlandic, or even in English, attending to conferences on the specificities of Scottish isles' literature in all there differences and all their common richness and background, attending to cinema with Whisky Galore and Local Hero, attending to concerts, hear Alix Quoniam's lovely voice singing Hebrides well known tunes the Scots present could have accompany with all their heart, but just listened with admiration.

And by the way, Christine de Luca, brought up in Shetland, and recently translated into French, was awarded Ouessant 2007 poetry prize.

Can we say less than those days at Ouessant, those exchanges between Brittany and Scotland were great? Let's talk about the ambiance, or more, leave it to one of the Scottish guest, lan Stephen (Isle of Lewis):

"That, for me, is what festivals are about: exchanges and continuing relationships that are more than the sum of individual events. (...) When you see the coastline for the first time it strikes fear into your mariner's heart (...). But we, as a tribe of Scottish island writers, were met

with generosity and easy humour, the moment we landed. (...) Of course the catering was superbly organized. And that's where most of the literary ceilidhs really developed. (...) And late that same long weekend, like the ring of poetry, Christine's book won the poetry prize. A result for Scotland. But I came to think it was all a result. Our hosts were mainly volunteers. The whole community seemed to be involved in promoting a world scale literary event but with plenty of laughter coming from the busy kitchens. (...) And something happened within the disparate group of poets, novelists, dramatists, singersongwriters, propagandists, purveyors of nonfiction and jobbing journalists which comprised the Scottish island dimension. We became a team and are desperate to continue the interisland links as well as continuing the Breton connections."

What a conclusion, a result, a compliment for the organizers! A conclusion? Certainly not. Brittany-Scotland Association is already busy working on a next step. Actually, the Association is accompanying a co-operation between Wigtown and Bécherel, both book towns, respectively from Scotland and Brittany. So it's decided: Bécherel will celebrate its 20th book fair on the theme of Scotland literature for three days at Easter 2008. See, lan Stephen, the show is going on, as well as the Scots-Breton connections are strengthening!

Pierre Delignière, President of Association Bretagne-Ecosse 72 bis rue de la Providence – F 29000 Quimper bretagne-ecosse@orange.fr



Cymru



Beirniadaeth ar Mebyon Kernow - yr atebion!

Beirniedir Mebyon Kernow, plaid genedlaethol Cernyw, weithiau am beidio â bod yn ddeniadol i bobl ifaine, am fod yn rhy fychan, ac am nad ydyw'n ddigon gweladwy. Dyma Conan Jenkin, Dirprwy Arweinydd Mebyon Kernow, yn ateb y feirniadaeth:

"Nid ydyw MK yn denu pobl ifainc am fod eu delwedd yn hen ac yn sych."

Mae oedrannau aelodau'r blaid ar gyfartaledd yn iau nag oedrannau aelodau'r pleidiau eraill fel Llafur, y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol, a'r Torïaid. Er enghraifft, y tri ieuengaf o'r 24 o gynghorwyr ar Gyngor Dinas Truru ydyw'r tri chynghorydd Mebyon Kernow. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o gynghorwyr Mebyon Kernow yn eu 30au neu eu 40au. Mae cynghorwyr y pleidiau eraill ar gyfartaledd yn eu 50au.

"Mae Mebyon Kernow yn rhy fychan."

Y Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol ydyw'r blaid fwyaf yng Nghernyw o ran aelodau – mae ganddynt efallai bedair gwaith gynifer o aelodau â Mebyon Kernow. Mae'r Torïaid efallai ddwy neu dair gwaith gymaint ag MK. Yn fy marn i 'does ond ychydig o wahaniaeth rhwng Llafur a Mebyon Kernow erbyn hyn o ran aelodau. 'Dydi MK ddim wedi cyrraedd 1000 o aelodau eto, ond 'rydym ni'n gweithio tuag at hynny. Yn yr amser ers i mi ddechrau gweithio gydag MK yn 1992, mae'r nifer o aelodau wedi dod pedair gwaith yn fwy, ac erbyn hyn mae ein haelodaeth yn un o'r mwyaf ymysg mudiadau Cernywig.

"Nid ydyw Mebyon Kernow yn weladwy iawn mewn etholiadau."

Yn yr etholiadau lleol diwethaf etholwyd mwy o gynghorwyr MK yng Nghernyw nag o gynghorwyr UKIP drwy'r Deyrnas Unedig, ac mae gennym fwy o gynghorwyr lleol na Llafur yng Nghernyw.

Er gwaetha'r ffaith i Mebyon Kernow gael ei sefydlu yn 1951, ac ymladd etholiadau yn achlysurol, dim ond ers 1992 mae'r blaid yn ymladd etholiadau yn gyson – dim ond 15 mlynedd o gystadlu rheolaidd. Mae'r nifer o gynghorwyr etholedig sydd gennym yn uwch heddiw nag erioed yn ein hanes ac yn dal i dyfu bob blwyddyn.

Ond un peth 'rydym ni wedi methu ei wneud ydi ymladd etholiadau ym mhob man yng Nghernyw. Yn yr etholiadau diwethaf safon ni mewn llai na chwarter o seddi Cernyw,



Conan Jenkin

ond ennillon ni tua 10,000 o bleidleisiau. Petasai gennym fwy o ymgeiswyr yn cystadlu, gallen ni ddisgwyl yn ddigon rhesymol rywbeth fel 30,000-40,000 o bleidleisiau.

Yn yr etholiadau cyffredinol 'rydym ni'n cael ein gwasgu yn galed gan fod ein pleidleiswyr yn dueddol o bleisleisio'n dactegol (dros y Democratiaid Rhydfrydol neu Lafur) i gadw'r Torïaid allan. Beth bynnag, wrth i'n gweithgarwch gynyddu ar lefel llywodraeth leol, cynyddu y mae ein pleidlais mewn etholiadau cyffredinol.

Nid mewn undydd y codwyd Rhufain, ond 'rydym ni'n symud i'r cyfeiriad iawn.

Summary:

Some common criticisms against Mebyon Kernow in Cornwall are that it does not attract young people, it is too small, and has little visibility. Conan Jenkin, deputy leader of the party, responds to these criticisms.

Review of Welsh Language Printed Media

A review of the Welsh language printed press in Wales is being undertaken by the Welsh Language Board, as requested by Rhodri Glyn Thomas, Minister for Heritage. The idea behind the request was for the Welsh Assembly Government to know how it might implement its commitments to the Welsh language as set out in the One Wales document, written last year after the formation of the new Labour/Plaid coalition. The findings by the Welsh Language Board were to be released before Christmas.

Meanwhile, it was announced in June that the first Welsh language daily newspaper will be published on the first Monday in March 2008, in celebration of St David's Day. The newspaper will be called Y Byd ("The World"). The paper will receive a grant from the National Assembly.

Cymru in Brief

gan Rhisiart Tal-e-bot

Closer Welsh/Irish economic links

The European Commission has approved funding for a cross-border cooperation programme between Wales and Ireland, valued at 66,800,000 euros (48 million pounds sterling). The aim of the programme is to strengthen economic links by developing and building on innovation and skills in communities on both sides of the Irish Sea. It will also support Irish-Welsh projects which address climate change, sustainable development, and community regeneration. The Irish Minister of State at the Department of Finance, with responsibility for Regional Development, Mr Noel Ahern TD, said: gThe fact that this new Ireland-Wales Programme was the first such programme to be approved by the European Commission shows the level of co-operation between both Governments. I have no doubt that the new Programme will allow many collaborative projects between Irish and Welsh partners to develop and prosper over the next few years which, in turn, will demonstrate the great benefits of cross-border co-operation."

Cymuned demonstration about Erddig houses

Cymuned held a demonstration outside the offices of the National Trust in Llandudno in October to protest about the building of 223 houses on the Erddig estate land near Wrecsam. The Celtic League has reported on the selling off of National Trust land in Scotland and Wales in its Celtic League pages (see The 'trusts' - do they 'preserve and protect' our heritage? at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league/message/2294). Protesters came in fancy dress and Cymuned reported that a fun time was had, ensuring television coverage.

School closures

One of the biggest school closures to date in Wales has been planned by Gwynedd Council, with an estimated 29 schools listed to close. (Gwynedd is the most Welshspeaking council area in Wales and the only one where Welsh-speakers are in a definite majority.) It is feared that many of the closures will hit small rural schools. Eight new schools will be opened up in other areas. The reasons Gwynedd Council give for the proposed closures is that pupil numbers are falling and they want to modernise the education system. Meanwhile members of the Children and Young People Committee in Gwynedd decided to accept the Council's proposals despite large scale protests about the cuts.

Cymru in Brief

Plaid in Scotland

Plaid Cymru made a fraternal address at the Autumn Conference of the Scottish National Party (SNP) in Aviemore, Scotland on Friday 26th October. This was the first major conference since the SNP formed a Government after coming to power in May.

Second Gas Pipeline Across Cymru Possible

The possibility of a second gas pipeline across Cymru to feed England's energy needs has been highlighted by the MP for Carmarthen East & Dinefwr, Adam Price (Plaid Cymru), who says that the National Grid's Consultation Paper on the issue does not rule the possibility out.

The first controversial pipeline, commonly known as the Milford Haven pipeline, runs in Milford Haven south Pembrokeshire, Cymru, to Tirley in Gloucestershire, England, a distance of 316 km, and will carry liquefied natural gas. There have already been protests along the route of the pipe, which has cut across a section of the Brecon Beacons National Park. Despite protests from the park authority, the National Grid has pushed ahead with its plans.

The pipeline was laid without a public inquiry and without the prior authority of the National Assembly, leading many people to argue that such decisions should be made in Cymru and not in England. A spokesperson for the National Grid has said that there are no plans for a second pipeline.

There are many similarities between the Milford Haven pipeline and the Shell to Sea pipeline in Ros Dumhach (Rossport), Éire, and links have been developed and ideas exchanged between the two campaigning groups.

Ray Gravell a worthy name for a cup!

A petition, sponsored by the Cambria magazine, is aiming to persuade the Welsh Rugby Union to change the name of the Prince William Cup (named after Prince William, grandson of the Queen of England), awarded after international matches between Wales and South

Africa, to the Ray Gravell Cup, in honour of the Welsh rugby player who died at the end of October 2007 aged 56 years.

Ray Gravell, who played for the Llanelli club from 1970 to 1985, made his first appearance for Wales in 1975 against France and played in two Grand Slam winning sides for Wales during the 'Golden Age' when Wales dominated the annual Five Nations (now the Six Nations) championship. He retired from international rugby in 1982. He became a well-known personality on Welsh-language TV and radio and was the President of Llanelli Rugby Club until his death. A native Welsh-speaker and a nationalist, Mr Gravell lived on a road that was named after him (Heol Ray Gravell).

NUMEROUS TRIBUTES WERE PAID TO HIM, INCLUDING FROM PLAID AND CYMDEITHAS, SIONED ELIN, CYMDEITHAS'S CARMARTHENSHIRE SPOKESPERSON, SAID:

"RAY GRAVELL WAS SOLID IN HIS COMMITMENT TO WALES, TO THE WELSH LANGUAGE, AND TO WELSH COMMUNITIES. LANGUAGE CAMPAIGNERS THROUGH THE YEARS HAVE APPRECIATED HIS SUPPORT OF THE CAUSE."

A far more appropriate person to honour Welsh rugby than an English Prince who supports the England rugby team! (Incredibly Prince William is the Vice Royal Patron of the Welsh Rugby Union.) The petition can be signed at:

http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/cambriar aygravell/index.html

Back to the paint brush?

Swansea Council erect English-only signs

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg and other language supporters were dispmayed by the decision of officers working Abertawe/Swansea Council to replace bilingual roadsigns with English-only signs on a roundabout at Ynysforgan, just outside the city. It was stated that this was done for Health and Safety reasons, because of the complexity of the junction in question. Cymdeithas's response to the council included statements to the effect that in as far back as 1971 the Roderick Bowen Committee on Bilingual Signs had come to the conclusion, after a detailed study, that bilingual signage posed no danger, and other councils in Wales have long accepted the same conclusion. Would it be reasonable to suppose that this violation of Swansea Council's Language Scheme by unelected council officers (the change of signs was not the result of any decision of the council itself) was more due to contempt for the Welsh language than any genuine safety concerns?

IN THE WORDS OF A CYMDEITHAS OFFICIAL: "WE WILL HAVE TO CONSIDER ONCE AGAIN TAKING UP THE PAINT BRUSH AND 'PAINTING THE WORLD GREEN'. THIS WHOLE AFFAIR PROVES AGAIN THE NEED FOR A NEW LANGUAGE ACT SO THAT THIS SORT OF NONSENSE CANNOT OCCUR IN THE FUTURE."

Where do the Tories stand on devolution?

Plaid Cymru called on the Conservative party in October to come clean about where it stands on the issue of devolution. Two of the three Welsh Conservative Westminster groups had just openly attacked the National Assembly, the All Wales Convention, and the devolution process. David Davies MP attacked the Convention as "a publicly funded Yes campaign for a Welsh parliament", whilst Stephen Crabb openly opposes devolution and calls for a "rebalancing of the devolution settlement" because "abolition of the devolved institutions is not currently saleable".

Since the Conservatives at the Assembly now claim to support devolution and there will be Conservative representation on the All Wales Convention that Mr Davies so strongly opposes, Plaid Deputy Assembly Leader Alun Ffred Jones AC called on Cheryl Gillan and David Cameron to clarify where the party stands on devolution.

Alun Ffred Jones, the AC for Arfon, commented: "In 1997 it was mainly the Conservatives who ran the No campaign against devolution. Since then their Assembly Members claim to have been converted to supporting devolution and have openly backed calls for full law making powers for the Assembly. At the same time all three of their MPs are still very sceptical and would be quite likely to be part of a No campaign. The people of Wales deserve to know where the Tories stand on this issue. Cheryl Gillan and David Cameron should make it clear whether or not the Westminster Conservatives, either in government or opposition, would support a Yes vote in a referendum. The Tories will never be able to offer real political leadership for Wales as long as they remain fundamentally divided on the constitutional question."

Referendum 10th Anniversary — Plaid reflect

On the 18th of September, the 10th anniversary of the 1997 devolution referendum, Wales's new Deputy First Minister, Ieuan Wyn Jones AC, and Plaid's honorary president, Dafydd Wigley, looked at what the past ten years have meant for Wales. With more and more people backing devolution, they believe that it is time for those who have dragged their heels to recognise that further moves are inevitable. Dafydd Wigley commented:

"The political atmosphere in Wales has changed dramatically over the last ten years and nowhere was this shown more clearly

than in the recent poll indicating a surge in

support for a proper Parliament.

"Plaid is the one party that has always campaigned for devolution in Wales. However, we learned during the last referendum campaign that working together with the more progressive elements in the other parties is essential. It is time for everyone to embrace what is happening, even those Labour politicians who have chosen to make their careers in London.

"People are seeing that only policies made in Wales will truly safeguard the interests of Wales. Plaid Cymru will ensure that this faith in the Assembly is warranted by continuing to make a difference."

Ieuan Wyn Jones AC added:

"Plaid has achieved a great deal within the limits of the current Assembly settlement, having played a major part in getting a better deal for the health service, for students, for



Helen Mary Jones, AC

pensioners, and for the communities of Wales.

"It is now time to move forward and to give Wales the Parliament it deserves. Plaid has ensured that this is on the political agenda with a One Wales government commitment to a referendum on further powers.

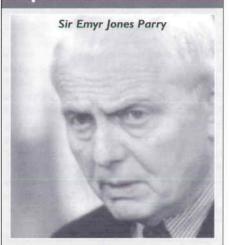
"A legislative Parliament will enable us to carry on making a difference and to make more of a difference."

Plaid's, Helen Mary Jones, AC for Llanelli, welcomed the findings of an opinion poll which show that support for a Scottish-style parliament in Wales has doubled over the past ten years. She commented:

"Plaid has always campaigned for the best deal for Wales. Although we have achieved a lot within the current settlement, further powers are necessary to truly make a difference. The findings of this poll demonstrate how out of touch those Labour MPs who oppose such devolution are with the aspirations of the people of Wales. As Ieuan Wyn Jones said in his conference speech, they should 'Come with us, or get out of the way!'

"Plaid have always criticised the current Assembly settlement as unsustainable and insufficient. It is for this reason that we insisted on a commitment to a referendum for a legislative parliament to be included in the One Wales agenda for government."

Plaid welcome the first step towards a Parliament



Plaid politicians welcomed in October the announcement that Sir Emyr Jones Parry will chair the Convention to prepare for a referendum on full law making powers in Wales. The appointment was announced during a joint press conference between Plaid Leader Ieuan Wyn Jones and Labour Leader Rhodri Morgan. Sir Emyr was, until July, the UK ambassador to the United Nations. Prior to taking the high profile role at the UN, he had been UK permanent representative at NATO and Minister at the British Embassy in Madrid.

Ieuan Wyn Jones AC commented:

"Sir Emyr Jones-Parry has an outstanding track record. Both parties had no hesitation in agreeing that we should approach him, and we are very pleased that he has agreed to take on the role."

Alun Ffred Jones AC (Plaid Assembly Deputy Leader) commented:

"I very much welcome today's announcement of the chair of the convention. This is the first, and a very important, step towards a proper parliament for Wales - something that was a deal breaker for Plaid in the One Wales agreement, and something that will deliver real and lasting change for the people of Wales. I am confident that with his wealth of experience and international perspective, Sir Jones-Parry will be ideal as chair of the convention."

Adam Price wins overall Best MP's website at British Computer Society Awards



Carmarthen East & Dinefwr MP Adam Price of Plaid beat off strong competition throughout Britain to win the British Computer Society's best MP's website award. The Carmarthenshire MP was presented with the award based on design, engagement, and accessibility. Adam price mp said:

"I am delighted to have won this. I am very proud that the efforts we have made to ensure that I am accessible to my constituents have been recognised. In today's digital age people want to be able to raise their concerns in many different ways. We have two full time offices that anyone can just pop in or phone and the next step was to allow people to use the internet. It has been a fantastic way of interacting with people and has really helped me tackle some of the major issues in carmarthenshire."

BCS Chief Executive David Clarke added:

"It now offers the world of politics the ability to present itself in a more exciting and communicative form. Today's computer technology enables Ministers and MPs to engage with constituents and voters in a two-way dialogue that enhances the democratic process."

ADAM PRICE'S WEBSITE CAN BE FOUND AT: HTTP://WWW.ADAMPRICE.ORG.UK/ HTTP://WWW.ADAMPRICE.ORG.UK



Éire



Sean-náisiún ag Teacht Chuici Féin

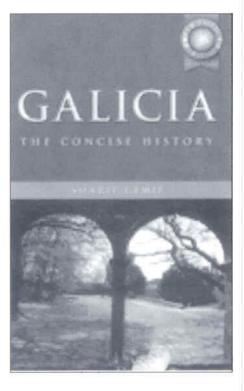
Galicia A Concise History By Sharif Gemie University of Wales Press, Caerdydd 2006. 206 lgh. Ni luaitear praghas

Is í an Ghailís an tír is iartharaí ar mhórroinn na hEorpa. De réir na miotaseolaíochta ba ón gceantar sin a tháinig na Gaeil go hÉirinn an chéad lá agus is cosúil nach bhfuil an teoiric sin go hiomlán gan dealramh. Sa Mheánaois agus ag tús ré na nua-staire bhí cur amach ag an-chuid Éireannach – agus ag Ceiltigh eile – ar an nGailís ó théadh na sluaite ar oilithreacht go Santiago de Compostela in aghaidh na bliana.

Bíodh is gur teanga rómánsach í an Ghailísis nó Galego luaitear "Ceilteachas" go minic leis an nGailís. "Gallaecia" a thug na Rómhánaigh anallód ar an gcuid sin den Leithinis Ibéireach, ainm atá gaolta le Gallia nó, go deimhin, le "Gall", "Gael" agus níos faide siar, b'fhéidir, le Keltoi. Thángthas ar go leor déantán ealaíont d'ardchaighdeán ar dhul stíl "La Tène" in uaigheanna den chúigiú haois RCh sa Ghailís, comhartha sóirt go mbíodh sibhialtacht Cheilteach ansin tráth. Níor fhág an pobal sin aon rian teanga ina ndiaidh taobh amuigh de dhornán inscríbhinní sochraide agus logainmneacha.

Ach níorbh é sin an deireadh ar fad le tionchar na gCeilteach mar sa chúigú agus sa séú haois AD agus na Briotanaigh faoi bhrú ó na Sasanaigh bhí méid áirithe imirrce ón mBreatain go dtí an Ghailís. B'in an tráth a raibh an mhórimirce ó iarthar na Breataine go dtí an Bhriotáin rud a chuir tús le bunú náisiún na mBriotánach de réir dealraimh ach ní raibh an imirce go dtí an Ghailís ar an scála céanna ná níor éirigh leo rian suntasach a fhágáil ar an tír.

I lár na 19ú haoise thosaigh náisiúnaithe cultúrtha ag caint ar oidhreacht Cheilteach na nGailíseach mar ábhar mórtais agus iad, is dócha, ag iarraidh scéal mór a dhéanamh d'aon ghné dá gcúlra staire a scoith iad amach ón Spáinn. Leanann cuid acu de sin go dtí an lá inniu. Glacann Féile Idir-Cheilteach An Oriant leis an nGailís mar lán-chomhpháirtí agus bíonn an gaita (píb Ghailíseach) agus go leor de cheol álainn na tíre le cloisteáil ansin gach Lúnasa, Tá cáil fhorleathan anois ar ghrúpaí mar Milladoiro, Berrogutto agus Fuxan Os Ventos a tháinig faoi bhráid an phobail idirnáisiúnta i dtosach báire ag An Oriant.



Déanann an Dr Sharif Gemie scagadh sa leabhar seo ar mhórán gnéithe de shaol agus de stair na Gailíse. Tugann sé roinnt mhaith spáis do cheist na teanga. Is é Galego teanga dúchais na tíre ón Mheánaois anuas ach níor foilsíodh leabhar sa teanga sin go dtí 1853. I Márta 1916 d'fhoilsigh Antón Villar Ponte paimfléad ina ndearnadh an cás ar son tosaíocht a thabhairt do cheist na teanga. Ag eascairt as sin bunaíodh Hirmandade dos Amigos da Fala ("Bráithreachas Chairde na Teanga"). Faoi 1918 bhí an eagraíocht seo éirithe thar a bheith polaitiúil agus í ag lorg comhnaidhm ina mbeadh an Ghailís, Tír na mBascach, an Chatalóin agus an Chaistíl agus a bheadh ar oscailt do bhallraíocht na Portaingéile. Sna 1920í luaití gleic na hÉireann agus na Polainne mar ábhar ionspioráide do na Gailísigh ach le linn dheachtóireacht Primo de Rivera (1926-31) b'éigean don Himandade é féin a theorannú d'imeachtaí cultútha agus d'imigh an eagraíocht i léig.

Tríd is tríd bhí náisiúnachas polaitiúil na Gailíse sa 20ú aois coimeádach go maith le hais náisiúnachas na Catalóine nó Thír na mBascach agus bhí lucht tacaíochta an aontaithe (leis an Spáinn) go mór ar dheis. Rugadh agus tógadh Franco sa Ghailís ach

níor léirigh sé aon ghean ar leith don tír sin gan trácht ar dhílseacht. Bhí an Partido Galeguista ag lorg féinrialtas inmheánach taobh istigh de Phoblacht na Spáinne 1931-36. Chuir a laghad agus a bhain siad amach díomá orthu ach bhí tubaiste i bhfad níos measa le teacht. Ghabh muintir Franco cumhacht thar oíche beagnach sa Ghailís i Iùil 1936 agus sna míonna ina dhiaidh sin cuireadh na mílte chun báis, poblachtaigh, cumannaigh, náisiúnaithe agus daoine nach raibh ina gcoinne ach go raibh intinn dá gcuid féin acu nó nár thaithin siad leis na tíoránaigh nua. D'imigh glúin iomlán sula raibh aon díospóireacht cheart phoiblí ar chúrsaí polaitíochta. Cé nach raibh cosc foirmiúil ar Galego bhí blas na mídhílseachta uirthi agus bhí deacrachtaí móra ag foilsitheoirí na teanga go háirithe.

Tháinig dóchas nua le bás Franco ach d'fhulaing an tír go mór ón tardofranqismo, an Francoachas déanach, a d'aithin gurbh gá don bhunaíocht géilleadh don athrú ach na hinstitiúidí nua stáit a úsáid ar mhaithe leis na seanluachanna deiseacha. Is é Manuel Fraga rí an tardofranquismo. Eisean príomhbhunaitheoir an Alianza Popular as ar tháinig an Pardido Popular agus is eisean an phearsa is tábhachtaí i bpolaitíocht na Gailíse le glúin anuas. Bunaíodh Xunta nó rialtas réigiúnach Gailíseach i 1981 ach bhí an PP in uachtar ann ó 1981 go 2005 agus Fraga ina uachtarán air.

Seo an chéad leabhar i sraith dar teideal The Histories of Europe faoi eagarthóireacht Ned Thomas. Táthar ar tí imleabhair sa tsraith a fhoilsiú faoin gCatalóin, faoin mBriotáin agus faoi gCorn.

Colm de Faoite

Summary

This work by Sharif Gemie brings the story of Galicia from prehistory up to the present. It covers the social history of Galego, the national language, with political movements as well as other aspects of Galician history. It is the first in a new series which will discuss the stories of other still stateless European nations.

Support for Celtic League of Free peoples

The following resolution was passed at the Republican Sinn Féin Árd Fheis. This Ard-Fheis notes the recent political gains by the Scottish and Welsh Nationalists and looks forward to the day when all the Celtic Nations join together in a Celtic League of free peoples.

Cumann Proinsias Mac Aodha, Glas Chú

Battle for Irish Immersion Education continues

On mid November on the day on which Gaelscoileanna launched a national campaign in support of Irish immersion education An Tumoideachas –Sároideachas, Excellent Education –Immersion Education a significant victory was achieved in the courts. The campaign was initiated in response to the Minister of Education's circular forcing Irish language schools to teach English after the first term (see Carn 138, and below *).

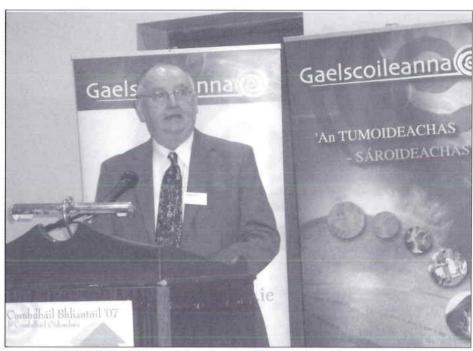
The Patronage Institute for Gaelscoileanna (Foras Pátrúnachta) and two individual Gaelscoil (Tralee and Naas) took an action in the High Court and were granted an interim injunction against the implementation of the circular. The full case is expected to be heard in some weeks time but a final judgment might not emerge for months later. Gaelscoileanna again called on the Minister to withdraw the circular which has no educational or research basis. In the meantime this means that the Gaelscoileanna are, practically speaking, not likely to be interfered with this school year.

At the launch of its campaign Gaelscoileanna issued a leaflet summarising the benefits of Irish immersion education. Among the reasons for parental choice were;

- curriculum advantages of a high academic standard and a greater ease in acquiring a third and fourth language
- communicative advantages of bilingual and biliteracy
- cultural advantages of a broader exposure to and appreciation of various cultures (enculturation), deeper multi-culturalism, greater tolerance and less racism
- cognitive advantages in creativity and sensitivity to communication

The organisation had earlier organised an Extraordinary General Meeting to galvanise its members in support. At the EGM unanimous motions were passed in support of the organisation's stance and campaign and an information package was then sent to all Gaelscoileanna. Political parties were canvassed and a similar package sent to elected representatives and meetings held with political party Education spokespersons.

At its yearly conference, held in Limerick in November the organisation publicised the results of an MA thesis carried out by Dónall Ó hAinféin, a principal in Gaelscoil Mhichíl Chíosóig, Ennis, Co Clare. This research shows clearly that pupils in both Class 2 and Class 5 perform significantly better in the standard English reading tests then those in ordinary schools and moreover that this



Dr. Richard Johnstone from Scotland, giving the keynote address on the benefits of immersion education internationally at the Gaelscoileanna Conference.

applies also in Gaelscoileanna in disadvantaged areas. Furthermore it confirms that children exposed to the fuller early Irish immersion adopt Irish quicker as the language of the schoolyard.

It is time for the Minister to admit her mistakes, withdraw her circular and stop hindering the good work in the Gaelscoileanna. She should emulate her counterpart in the North, Catiriona Ruane, who is continuing to support early Irish immersion in the Irish medium schools there. She attended the Gaelscoileanna conference dinner as keynote speaker and gave an excellent supportive address.

At the Education Conference which preceded the organisational aspects one of the guest speakers was Dr Richard Johnstone who gave the conference address on 'Immersion Education Internationally' which reinforced many of the positive points being made by Gaelscoileanna.

One person who did not seem to be getting the message was Labour Party chairman and spokesman on the Irish Lagnuage, Brian O'Shea, who launched an attack later in the month on the decision to bring the issue to the courts in a biased article in the Irish Times, which ignored the core issue and took no cognisance of the damage which would be done if the Minister for Education's ban on Irish immersion education proceeded. Gaelscoileanna asked the Irish Times for a right of reply but were refused. The same Mr. O'Shea could more aptly be termed the

spokesman against the Irish language as every utterance in recent times has been to suggest detrimental measures in regard to Irish, while, as with many others who do such, actually claiming they will help Irish.

Gaelsoileanna appeared before the Dáil Joint Committee on Education and Science in December and presented their case. They were generally well received. The Chairman, Paul Gogarty of the Green Party (who is in Government with Fianna Fáil) said his party was in favour of leaving the choice to the individual Gaelscoil. Some individual Labour party members were supportive. In the same month the attitude of the Minister for the Gaeltacht, Éamonn Ó Cuív, who had refused to comment until then, was elicited in the Dáil. He said he was supportive of Mary Hanafin's decision as he had ' a legislative responsibility ' to support another Minister's decision on the basis of collective cabinet responsibility but he failed to declare his own personal opinion.

Support for the Gaelscoileanna campaign can be given by signing the petition at

http://www.petitiononline.com/Tumoid/pet ition.html

Another threat to Irish medium education is a proposal from the Building Section of the Dept of Education and Science to force all groups seeking to found second level Gaelcholáistí to set up instead Units or streams in other second level English campuses which are being opened by the Department. Independent Gaelcholáistsí are the best second level option to ensure that an Irish language ethos is maintained. Quite a number of independent Gaelcholáistí have opened in recent years and the president of Gaelscoileanna Micheál Ó Broin said he was hopeful that the Minister would reject these proposals from within her Department. These proposals came to the fore in the context of publication of tables of how second level colleges performed in student numbers gaining entry to universities and third level institutions. Some Gaelcholáistí were shown to be doing very, well prompting the newspaper Lá to speculate in an editorial that the Department is trying to lower the level of achievement in Irish language schools as the easier alternative to raising standards generally. Lá called on the Department, if it will not support Irish medium education, to at least stop its continuous attacks on the sector.



Dónal Ó hAiniféin, whose research clearly proves the case for early Irish immersion education.

At the end of July the Minister for Education in the Republic, Mary Hanafin, ordered all Irish medium schools (Gaelscoileanna) in the country to teach English for a half an hour every day from the beginning of the second term in the junior infant entry level class. This effectively bans the full Irish immersion programme run by many Gaelscoileanna in which no English was taught for the first year or two years. Existing schools will be given until 2008 to introduce this. There are many international studies which show that total immersion programmes are the best to give second language fluency and these studies also show that the fluency and literacy in the home language (which would be English in the case of most Gaelscoileanna pupils) is equal to or surpasses the competency of pupils taught in that language only by the time pupils are just over midway through the primary school cycle.

Lisbon EU Treaty Referendum – a NO vote can be achieved



Members of the European Parliament demonstrate (during the signing of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, which will be attached to the Lisbon Treaty) against the lack of referendums in the EU countries on the Lisbon Treaty.

The so called EU Reform Treaty, or Lisbon Treaty as it is now termed, was signed by heads of all EU states to much fanfare in Lisbon in early Dec. Ireland looks like being the only EU State to have a referendum on this EU Treaty-cum-Constitution. The EU Prime Ministers and Presidents have agreed among themselves on no account to permit referendums on it, because it would probably be rejected in most places. Its essentially similar predecessor has already been rejected in France and Holland in 2005.

This is likely to be the last EU Treaty of any consequence. If the political elites of Europe can persuade Irish voters to rubber-stamp it and give them all the extra powers they seek through it, we may as well say good-bye to any pretensions we have to be living in an independent democratic State.

If there were to be a European Federation that is democratic and acceptable, the minimum constitutional requirement for it would be that its laws would be initiated and approved by the directly elected representatives of the people either in the European Parliament or the National Parliaments. Unfortunately, neither the Lisbon Treaty nor the EU Constitution which it would establish contains any such proposal.

This referendum can be defeated. There is nothing positive for Ireland in this Treaty-cum-Constitution - only loss of power, control, influence and money.

Irish democrats everywhere, whatever their views on others issues, need to do all they

can to ensure that voters reject it. Below is a letter sent to all members of the Dáil and Seanaid. The letter was accompanied by detailed submissions under each of the headings below and also submitted were many telling quotes from top EU politicians which outline clearly the non democratic nature of this project. The items have been vetted for legal accuracy by Irish and German authorities on European law.

N.B. Is Lisbon necessary to make the 27-Member EU more effective?

The advent of the 12 new Member States has not made the negotiation of new EU laws more difficult since they joined the EU in 2004. On the contrary, a study by the Science-Po University in Paris in early 2007 calculated that new rules have been adopted a quarter times more quickly since the enlargement from 15 to 27 Member States compared with the two years before enlargement. The study also showed that the 15 older Member States block proposed EU laws twice as often as the newcomers. The Nice Treaty voting arrangements therefore seem to be working well.

A valuable source of information: For a general analysis of the Lisbon Treaty and the full list of the 68 national vetoes which it would abolish, see the book by Denmark's Jens-Peter Bonde MEP: New Name, Same Content: The Lisbon Treaty-Is it also an EU Constitution?, which may be downloaded from www.bonde.com

Dear Deputy/Senator.

My colleagues and I hope that you will thoroughly examine the Renamed EU Constitutional Treaty which the Taoiseach will sign in Lisbon.

Is it right that other EU States are denying their citizens the right to vote on the Lisbon Treaty even though opinion polls show that their peoples want a say on it and even though the leaders of several EU countries promised referendums on its virtually identical predecessor? Should Irish citizens not support the peoples of France and Holland who voted in 2005 against a Treaty-cum-Constitution whose legal effect is the same as the Lisbon Treaty, as shown by the enclosed notes?

The Irish referendum arises from the 1986 Crotty court case, when the politicians of that time attempted to ratify the Single European Act Treaty by Oireachtas vote and the Supreme Court decided that only the Irish people had the power to do that. You may be interested to know that I can claim some responsibility for enabling our fellow-citizens to give their judgement on the Lisbon Treaty, for it was I who had the honour of asking my friend the late Raymond Crotty, the economist, to take this case - a proposal which that great Irishman readily agreed to.

The Lisbon Treaty is a real Constitutional Treaty in that it would constitute or establish quite a new European Union in the constitutional and legal form of a supranational Federal State and would make us all real citizens of that State, instead of our being merely notional or honorary EU "citizens" as at present. How Lisbon would do this is set out in detail in the enclosed document, which has been vetted for legal accuracy by several authorities on European and constitutional law. Lisbon would give 500 million Europeans a real dual citizenship for the first time, and we would have to give the new Federal European Union which it would establish the normal citizens' duty of obedience to its laws and loyalty to its authority, which would be superior to our duty to our own country and State as the new EU's authority would be superior to theirs.

The Lisbon Treaty is a power-grab by the EU's Big States. By making EU law-making mainly dependent on population size, it would increase the relative weight of the Big States in making EU laws in future and reduce that of smaller States like Ireland.

Although it is not so significant for the big States, the fact that Ireland would go unrepresented for five years out of every 15 on the EU Commission, the body that proposes all EU laws, is of serious concern. The Treaty would abolish the national veto and give the EU power to make laws or decide things in over 60 new areas or matters, more than in any previous EU/EC Treaty. It would give the EU Court of Justice the final decision on what our human and

civil rights are in a wide range of areas. It offers Ireland no money and it would further threaten our tax laws.

I trust you will agree that this is not "the unfettered control of Irish destinies" which the people of 1916 gave their lives for. Nor would it be the independent democratic Ireland that Eamon de Valera, W.T. Cosgrave and James Connolly sought to create.

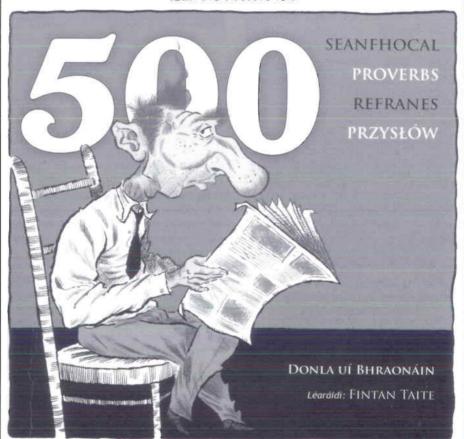
The Referendum Commission provided for by the 1998 Referendum Act is the only body which Irish citizens can rely on to give them objective, fair and non-partisan information on this Treaty, as it carries out its statutory function of telling citizens what the referendum is about and encouraging maximum turnout in it. My colleagues and I would like to urge you to use your influence to press the Government to call the Referendum Commission into being well in advance of the referendum on the Lisbon Treaty, and to ensure that the Oireachtas gives it plenty time and resources to do a proper job.

> Anthony Coughlan Secretary: National Platform

 The Celtic League continues to campaign for the repatriation of Noel Maguire to a prison in Éire, in consideration of the physical and psychological stress that the prisoner has been under over the last year and being the last of six co-defendants to remain in a prison in England.

500 Irish Proverbs in Irish, with Polish, Spanish and English translations

Donla Uí Bhraonáin (2007), Illustrations by Fintan Taite ISBN 978-1-901176-75-9



In Ireland today the most commonly spoken and heard language after English is Polish. Some of the new immigrants have learnt Irish, it is appropriate then that Polish is one of the languages in this book. In the introduction the Editor says

"This book is a small collection of proverbs which are quite well-known in Irish, with equivalents, or translations if no equivalents exist, into English, Polish and Spanish. The Irish proverbs were selected from various sources, particularly from Seanfhocla Chonnacht by Tomás S Ó Máille, published in 1949...The particular proverbs in this book were selected because, although they were generated in a way of life that was completely different from life today, in a rival culture, in a rural culture and often against a background of poverty, their counsel, their wisdom and their humour is still relevant today."



Kernow



Yth esa dyw vardhes noweth dhegemerys y'gan mysk gans Gwenc'hlan ages Drewyth Mur. Wosa cana Bro Goz ma zadou an vyrth a wruk eva dhiworth korn meth (py chuchenn) ha gorfenys yu an Orseth.

Mick Paynter, Skogynn Pryv

Goursez Breizh 2007

Hevlyny yth esa dheu gannas danvonys diworth Gorseth Kernow dhe'n Orseth yn Breten Vyghan, Cannas Barth Mur, Skogynn Pryv(Mick Paynter) ha Banoriethor(Phil Rendle).

Y tal dhyn notya h'an kufder ha'n helder an vyrth ena dhe vos hep par vyth oll.

War jeth an Orseth an gewer splann o hag yth eson ny yn hwyr yn dan an howl lagas an jeth.

Kyns bos ena Gwenc'hlan, an Drewyth Mur, esedhys yn y le, y Gannas, Per Vari Kerloc'h a lywyas an Solemptnya . Y'n vledhen ma dyw rann an gledha terrys o junyes gans Phil Rendle (Kernow) hag Edith Guenguino (BretenVyghan) ha dascorrys dhe Vererid Hopwood (Kembra).

Wosa areth adhya'n Gembroges Mererid Hopwood y whrug Mick Paynter areth cot rak Kernow.

Yn meth ef y vos lowen ow ton bolonjeth da adhya Gwenenen ha Consel an Orseth Kernow.

Lowen ynweth an Gannasow ow pos yn le ma gans aga henderow ha Bretonek ha



Kembrek war'n jeth splann na. BREIZ DA VIRVIKEN.

Yn medh Cannas Drewyth Mur dhynny "Kernow Bys Vyken."

Summary

This year there were two delegates from the Cornish to the Breton Gorsedd, the Deputy Grand Bard Mick Paynter and Phil Rendle Although the Grand Druid, Gwenc'hlan was present and sitting in his place, the ceremony was led by his Deputy Per Vari Kerloch. This year the two parts of the broken sword were joined by Phil Rendle (Cornwall) and Edith Guenguino (Britanny) and presented to Mererid Hopwood (Wales).

After a speech from the Welsh Delegate, Mererid Hopwood Mick Paynter, spoke for Cornwall. He said he was happy to bring good wishes from the Grand Bard, Vanessa Beeman, and the Council of the Cornish Gorsedd. The delegates were also pleased to be in this place with their cousins both Breton and Welsh on this brilliant day. BRITANNY FOR EVER! The Deputy Grand Druid replied in Cornish CORNWALL FOR EVER!

There were two new bards received in our midst by the Arch Druid Gwenc'hlan. After singing the Breton Anthem the Bards drank from a horn of mead or chuchenn and the Gorseth was over.

GEORGE TO MEET MINISTER FOR SOLUTIONS TO SECOND HOMES PROBLEMS

A delegation led by the MP for the West Cornwall and Isles of Scilly constituency of St Ives, Andrew George, has a follow-up meeting with Housing Minister Yvette Cooper MP in its quest to encourage the Government to introduce new measures to control high levels of second home ownership. They will meet on Thursday 15th November at 3pm.

The meeting follows on from one in February 2007 when Dan Rogerson MP for North Cornwall, Councillor Stan Collins – Housing Leader of South Lakeland District Council in Cumbria – and Mr George sought to encourage the Minister to adopt proposals including planning controls and the introduction of a second home impact charge to fund new, affordable housing.

Mr George emphasised evidence from his own surveys and other information which has shown that last year five times as many West Cornwall properties were sold to second home buyers as to first time buyers. In some areas more than half of all sales were for second home ownership whilst no properties were affordable to local people.



Andrew George, MP

Mr George and Cllr Collins have emphasised that the measures they wish to see approved by the Government would probably only need to be adopted in a few regions like their own where the impact of second home ownership has been particularly detrimental to affordable housing for locals and the viability of communities and their infrastructure (schools, post offices, villages halls etc).

In February the Minister promised to study the proposals further and although she has since discounted the proposed 'impact charge', she has not further determined if there is any prospect of implementing land use planning or other constraints. Mr George will be accompanied by the new Liberal Democrat Shadow Housing Minister, Paul Holmes MP, as well as Cllr Collins.

Mr George said: "Housing has risen up the Government's agenda. But its promise to build more houses will not solve the major problems people face in areas such as Cornwall, the Isles of Scilly, nor the Lake District where the issue is not the shortage of homes but the impact of second home purchases upon the sustainability of an affordable local market.

"Yvette Cooper has said she is listening. Our discussions must lead to real solutions. If the market for second homes continues to flourish, the most attractive locations in places like Cornwall, Scilly and the Lakes will exclude local people on local incomes."

CORNWALL'S NEW JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE MEETS FOR FIRST TIME

Members of the Joint Interim Committee need to work positively together to develop the new Unitary Council for Cornwall.

This was the message from David Whalley, the Leader of Cornwall County Council, to the County and District Councillors at the historic first meeting of the Committee at County Hall today.

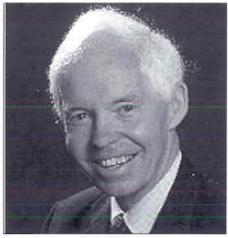
Mr Whalley, who was elected as Chair of the Joint Interim Committee, told the meeting "Today we have started on a journey to develop the new Council for Cornwall. I hope we all can work together as one team for the benefit of the people of Cornwall."

"This is a huge task for everyone in local government but if we work positively together we will ensure that the new Council delivers high quality services for everyone in Cornwall."

The Joint Interim Committee, which comprises 12 County Councillors and 12 District Councillors, is overseeing preparations to re-organise the County Council and six District Councils into the new single authority by April 2009.

Members at today's meeting discussed how the Committee will operate in the future and approved the interim management arrangements for the One Cornwall Programme. They also decided that future meetings of the Committee, which are open to the press and public, will be held in different locations throughout the county. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at the offices of Restormel Borough Council on December 5th.

Future meetings will look at developing the new Council's vision and culture and drawing up a list of priorities, including how services will be delivered in the future. Committee members emphasised the



David Whalley

importance of involving staff, Councillors and key partners in this work and said that everyone would be working together to ensure the quality of existing services were not affected during the transition period.

Graeme Hicks, Leader of Kerrier District Council, said "The formation of this committee will be a significant step towards bringing the new authority into fruition. I still have serious reservations about the County Council bid, and especially its financial viability and its ability to bring the decision making process closer to the local community. I have concerns as to how we move forward and at the same time maintain essential public services. It is clear the County Council won't have it all their own way, it's a joint committee and they will have to be flexible and inclusive of the Districts otherwise the process will inevitably break down."

Fred Greenslade, Leader of Carrick District Council, who was elected as the Vice Chairman of the Joint Interim Committee, said "I am assured that this new Joint Committee, supported by the Joint Implementation Team of officers, will be a true partnership of the County Council and ALL Districts in delivering a new Council and a new innovative model of Local Government that is right for Cornwall. I am dedicated to making sure all stakeholders and Parish and Town Councils are fully engaged in the process."

Graham Facks-Martin, Chairman of North Cornwall District Council, said: "Whilst in once sense this is a sad day for the Districts, we are determined to work constructively and positively for a successful commencement of the new council on 1st April 2009."

Hugh Francis and Kate Garner, representing Caradon District Council, said "As Members of the Joint Committee we are looking forward to shaping the future of good quality locally delivered services throughout Cornwall whilst representing the best interests of the people of South East Cornwall"

Tim Jones, Leader of Restormel Borough Council, said "The acceptance of the One Cornwall bid was only the start of a huge task that requires the merging of seven councils. I hope that the Joint Committee can quickly start to take a lead on delivering what is a very challenging timetable, to ensure that from April 2009 the new Council is able to deliver improved services for everyone who lives in the county."

Mrs Joan Tanner, Chairman of Penwith District Council, said "Through the Interim Committee today, Penwith District Council, although still seeking a Judicial Review, are working with the other District Councils and the County Council, to help plan the way forward for a new authority. There are many key issues facing us, but the people we serve would expect nothing less than the District Council to represent their best interests, and that we shall do."

M. Chappell

The Conservative minister for Cornwall on a state visit?

We have noticed that the Conservative MP for Hertford and Stortford in Hertfordshire is again coming to Cornwall to do his claim that he is a "Shadow Minister" for Cornwall. Just thought it may help to have a few questions prompts if you were intending to speak to him while he is around:

Which "Minister" is he shadowing?

If there is no such Minister then would he admit/acknowledge that his visits are just a cunning party political ploy?

Of the visits he has made so far, does he claim that he is on Parliamentary business and has he claimed/will he be claiming expenses from the taxpayer (even though he is not 'Shadowing' a Government Minister?) How do his constituents feel about his regular 600-plus mile round-trip jaunts to Cornwall? Are there no pressing constituency issues in Hertfordshire for him to deal with?

If he is concerned about Cornwall then why did he not seek to stand for a Cornish Parliamentary seat?

Are the Conservatives in Cornwall in such a poor state that they need someone to come all the way down from Hertfordshire to speak up for them?

Why did he vote this week to oppose a motion calling for a referendum on the UK's relationship with the European Union?

Many people have been saddened to learn that his sole act in Parliament in respect of Cornwall has been to seek to make party political capital for the Conservatives from the awful and very tragic circumstances of the Penhallow Hotel fire in which 3 people died.

Are there any depths to which he and has Conservative colleagues will not go to seek party political capital?

Does he have any regrets about the Conservative's Council tax policy to introduce a new tax subsidy (worth about £150m per annum) to wealthy people who can afford second homes when are so many thousands of local families who could not afford their first house?

Does he have any regret about the impact of water privatisation – particularly the impact of crippling high South West Water bills upon low income households in Cornwall? Does he have any regrets about the policies of the Conservatives in Government which undermined the viability of so many small Post Offices and led to 3,500 closures across the country?

Does he have any regrets about voting to support Prime Minister Blair to go to war in Iraq?

M. Chappell

North Cornwall leads the way in combating second homes

North Cornwall District Council has unveiled proposals to increase the number of affordable homes required when new developments in the District receive planning permission.

If approved, every new development of more than two homes will have to include some affordable housing. Areas like Padstow where a quarter of houses are second homes will have the most stringent rules with 50% of homes on new developments having to be affordable.

Unless they meet the new requirements, developers are unlikely to get planning permission.

Councillors have backed these proposals, which will now be the subject of public consultation until mid-November.

The proposals include:

Increasing the percentage of affordable housing required from 35% to 45% per development.

Reducing the size of developments above which affordable housing will be required from 15 homes to 5 homes in Bodmin, Bude, Camelford, Launceston and Wadebridge and to two homes everywhere else in North Cornwall.

Adding Padstow to the list of Parishes where, because more than quarter of homes are second homes, 50% affordable housing is required.

Increasing the income levels below which people are eligible for new affordable housing to £25,000 for a single person and £35,000 for a household.

Giving more priority to local people; if there are not enough local people who meet the initial criteria for a scheme, then the length of time someone has to have previously or currently lived in the area is reduced, and the income limits are increased for a further period, before the scheme becomes available to a wider area.

Planning and Development Committee



Councillor Colin Mutton

Chairman, Councillor Colin Mutton, welcomes the proposed changes:

"We all know the scale of the affordable housing issue for North Cornwall and the effect it is having on local people. Affordable Housing is the Council's priority, and ensuring that we use the planning system to create as many new affordable homes as possible is one part of the effort to tackling this problem."

"We will now listen to the views of the community, house builders, Parish and Town Councils and other interested parties and I hope as many as possible will respond."

If these proposals are accepted, they could be helping deliver more affordable homes from early next year.

Full details of the proposed changes and the consultation process are available on the Council's Web Site www.ncdc.gov.uk, and documents are available to view at any of the Council's offices.

Dems should not be taken at their word. Many times, campaigners for Scottish home rule mistook soft conditional support by politicians for real commitment and backing. Again and again, they were shanghai'd by two-faced politicians (especially Labour), or if they were unionists, countermanded by their superiors. Andrew George MP seems sincere, and probably is, being an ex-member of Mebyon Kernow and supporter of the language, but I doubt folk higher up in the Lib Dems will necessarily listen to him. The Lib Dems, as a party, either sit on the fence, or whore themselves out to get the votes, saying one thing one place, and another in the next. The way they have jumped into bed with Labour in Scotland, and tried to in Wales, whenever they can, is something that goes way beyond their historic connection, and shows them up as opportunists.

Two things worked in Scotland and Wales in terms of the devolution campaign(s) - namely, cross-party cooperation and impetus. In Scotland, this meant that every major party, but the Conservatives, made devolution part of their official platform. Tory dissidents, and Militant Labour gave their support, as well as people of no party at all, and a full-time vigil was kept for many years. Throughout modern history, whenever the Scots have failed to get home rule, it has often been due to a loss of momentum, not lack of support; for example, the Scottish Covenant got over two million signatures in the 1950s (80% of the Scottish electorate) for Home Rule and failed, and the 1979 referendum fell through (despite a majority "yes" vote), the problem was the follow up. This is what appears to have happened in Cornwall. Despite gaining 50,000 signatures out of a population of 400,000 and gaining support from celebrities such as the captain of the Cornish rugby team the trail seems to have gone cold for Cornish devolution, because the career politicians - not the people - say "no".

"South West" devolution would be one of the worst things to happen to Cornwall, but the Cornish should take advantage of the space opened up by the failure of the North East England referendum to undermine any plans for artificial "English regional devolution" there - or it will reappear. The most painless way to learn is not through bitter experience, but through the success and failure of others elsewhere. I think there is a lot to be learnt from the tactical voting of Scotland, Wales and Cornwall with regard to the Conservatives. Less than a decade ago, all three were Tory free, but it was possible to travel, within England, from the borders of one to the next without leaving Tory constituencies! The Cornish activists should create a pledge campaign for people to vote for candidates who openly support Cornish (not "south west") devolution, and a boycott of those who oppose it.

Ray Bell

Cornish home rule: a Scottish roadmap?

At the turn of the Millennium, I was one of many who wrote to London politicians appealing for a Cornish assembly and democratic self-determination. Coming from one of the two parts of the UK (three including London) which has succeeded in getting devolution, I have seen and experienced many of the things which got us there.

Cornwall is the most deserving of the "English regions" for devolution, because it is not a proper English region. True, some Cornish do describe themselves as English – nothing unusual there – but many don't, unlike people from English counties and

that's what sets them apart, along with their history, law and language – despite assimilation through broadcasting and education. Many Scots are unaware of this, sadly, despite attempts to try and remedy this. Few people outside Cornwall are aware of how Devon and Somerset's prosperity masks the fact that Cornwall is statistically one of the poorest parts of the UK, reeling from the loss of mining, fishing and farming, and simultaneously filling Royal coffers.

Cornwall, like parts of Scotland and Wales, is a Liberal Democrat stronghold, and the party there has creamed off many votes on the basis of being "pro-Cornish". The Lib

WESTMINSTER SWORDS INTO CELTIC PLOUGHSHARES

'Royal Navy to be cut by 50%' squealed the front page headlines of the Sunday Telegraph of 30 September, 2007. Disclosing a leaked Email from the British Ministry of Defence, the London based broadsheet, often referred to as the 'Torygraph' and bastion of Conservative England, bemoans the fact the British Royal Navy once pride of the Empire and ruler of the seven seas, would never be able to mount substantial offensive operations again following the leaked proposals and would be confined to small engagements only.

A few years ago, just before the resounding and confident 'yes' vote by the people of Scotland in the devolution referendum, the same Telegraph newspaper mocked the size of a potential Scotlish Navy and asked how a Scotland free from Westminster could ever afford to maintain its own armed forces.

More recently in Wales' 'Cambria' magazine, an article was written asking the rhetorical question 'how many aircraft carriers could an independent Wales afford?'

Of course, we all know that the answer would be none – for why should Wales wish to operate any?

Now, even the Western Morning News has taken up the story, revealing the shocking fact that the British Royal Navy would be smaller than that of France, as if the British were still at war with that nation!

One of the main arguments often used by the British Unionist political parties, both major and minor, is just how an independent Scotland and Wales would lose out when it came to the cost of defence and the maintenance of military forces. That objection to full independence being achieved by those and other smaller nations of the British Isles is fast losing relevance.

Whilst the fabricated British State has acted as a lackey to the military commercial machine of the United States of America, it has needed to maintain substantial military forces not only for the purposes of war but as a testing ground for armaments to be sold to a variety of dubious regimes across the globe. The Westminster Government has also maintained a mainly American supplied and controlled Trident nuclear missile submarine fleet of four submarines so ensuring a permanent British seat at the United Nations Security Council as well as securing the so-called 'special relationship' with Washington. This very one sided and somewhat mythical relationship has ensured Britain's co-operation in the loss of tens of thousands of innocent lives in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere as well as inviting acts of terrorism to be committed in our islands which could have been so easily avoided.

For as long as the British state remains in existence, giving the military 'boys their deadly toys' in the form of evil weapons of death and destruction', is likely to draw even more attention by those who seek revenge for our close relationship with the USA.

In truth, the Trident system could only ever be used with the full consent of the USA and indeed, as British military forces further diminish, are likely to represent a temptation to those in political power unable to 'power project' by conventional and no-nuclear means.

As with all weapons of war, the sooner these hideous submarines and their missiles are condemned to the scrap heap, the better.

It has been a matter of speculation in the Anglo-centric London press for some time now, that Gordon 'Britain' Brown harbours a dislike for the armed forces. Hopefully, during his time in office, this Scotsman, who appears to have forgotten his roots, will cause them to be cut even further together with the attendant cluster of medal bedecked and gold braided admirals, generals and air marshals, defence attaches, Royal Equerries, Officers' messes and civil servants.

The benefits of such cut backs would be considerable. Massive financial savings would be achieved allowing for proper funding of beneficial public services, releasing huge tracts of land dubiously seized and used by the military in the name of national security albeit only after a huge 'clean up' programme, the British Isles would diminish in status as a target for terrorism, young men and women falsely lured into the armed forces by a promise of glamour and travel but subsequently used to conduct little more than state sanctioned murder, would be seek constructive to more employment and one more reason for the maintenance of the artificially created United Kingdom removed.

No more would God less and hypocritical Clergy be blessing and condoning those whose mission is to kill other human beings and the militaristic and uniform bearing Royal encumbrance have further irrelevance.

So what defence forces would independent Celtic nations require?

As with other small nations, many

smaller than Kernow/Cornwall, and with the neutral stance of Eire in mind, probably small patrol vessels to police the coast and enforce International regulations, possibly a maritime patrol and rescue service, and a civil, perhaps territorial, emergency service with access to a limited number of small weapons in order to deal with any major incidents.

This would allow for peaceful cooperation and bring about a lack of military posturing so enjoyed by the Anglophiles, leaving dubious and often illegal global operations to the USA for as long as that nation continues to exist as a super power in the face of a resurgent China and India.

Michael J.T. Chappell

Crofty, Community and the RDA – a lost opportunity for Pool?

The continuing saga of whether Crofty Tin Mine will reopen or whether the Regional Development Agency will step in to take over the land at Pool obscures some fundamental issues. It is not a case of old versus new industry, a step backward or a step forward; the reality is one of missed opportunities, misguided visions and misplaced policy options.

The Urban Regeneration Company in conjunction with the RDA are keen to portray their plans as new, innovative and bold, offering the community a better environment, jobs and housing.

Yet, not only are such proposals simply property led development rather than community led development, they are not intended to benefit the local community. The facilities are designed to encourage people, (there are 300,000 within 'easy drive time') to travel to the area. The new roads are to accommodate the extra traffic created. The jobs and houses are to meet government targets to increase the area's population, not to meet local needs. To make matters worse, the myth that derelict land will be used for development is constantly spun and respun. But the reality is that existing businesses are displaced, greenfield land is built on and brownfield land converted to greenfield.

CoSERG considers there should be a complete reappraisal of the proposals for Pool, calling for proposals that reflect local community needs, not government targets or the demands of developers, and are actually sustainable rather than misuse the language of sustainability.



Mannin



Sostyn Veg Voght

Rish paart dy vleeantyn nish, shimmey art t'er ve ry akin avns ny pabyryn-naight tromechooishagh veih Sostyn mychione y jarrooenney ashoonagh (national identity) jeh Sostnee cheet dy ve faase. Chect dy ve faase? Nee spotch t'ayn? Chammah as artyn ayns pabyryn-naight dobberan mychione y stayd agglagh jeh Sostyn, ta sleih dy liooar screeu lioaryn ta gra yn un red. As ny jarrood ny claareyn-chellveeish as claareyn-radio t'er ve cur Sostyn fo halloo. Er lhiam pene dy vel y jarroo-enney ashoonagh ec y chooid smoo dy Hostnee feer lajer as dy vel eh çheet dy ve eer ny stroshey. Ec y traa cheddin, ta Sostnee vnsit ennagh gaccan dy vel Sostyn er chee skellal roish. Cre'n ommijys! T'ch jeeaghyn dy hoshee paart jeh'n chingys aignagh shoh tra va Lunnin kenjal dy liooar dy chur minniagyn dy heyrsnys da Nalbin as Bretyn. Kyndagh rish ny caghlaaghyn gloutagh shen, ta Sostyn Veg Voght coayl e bree as e jarrooenney. As smooinee er ny meeillaghyn dy yoarreeyn t'er jeet stiagh dy yannoo ny kiartaghyn nagh vel ny dooghyssee arryltagh jannoo.

Yiarrins nagh nhimmey Celtiagh ta credjal dy vel ram Sostnee coayl y jarroo-enney ashoonagh oc. Son shickyrys, ta ny laghyn ersoovl tra va Jee hene ny Hostnagh, as v'eh inshit da my vummig ayns Scoill Raad Albert dy row un Sostnagh feeu jeih "joarreeyn". Agh ta jarroo-enney ashoonagh ashoonaghys ny Sostnee foast feer lajer. Jeeagh er yn ashoonaghys jiarg-eulyssagh ta ry akin gagh keayrt ta skimmee bluckancoshev Hostvn cloie avns gammanyn eddyrashoonagh. Y cheayrt s'jerree va'n skimmee shen goaill ayrn ayns co-hirrey eddyrashoonagh, va Mannin hene baiht liorish bratteeyn Sostnagh. As, myr screeu earisheyr Manninagh ayns pabyr-naight Manninagh ec y traa v'ayn, va Manninee dy liooar cur seose ny bratteeyn Sostnagh. Agh ta shen shenn chliaghtey ayns Mannin pohlldal Sostyn - as cha lhisagh shin ve feer voirit mychione echey. Agh, myr ren yn earisheyr shoh gindys, ere'n fa dy vel whilleen Manninee pohlldal Sostyn gyn smooinaghtyn? Nagh vel shin nyn 'shooilleyderyn-straiddey', ren eh briaght. As ta shen kiart, er lhiam. Ram jin, ny Manninee, she shooilleyderyn-straiddey shin, cur ooashley da Moir Sostyn foastagh. Lhisagh shinyn, ny Manninee, toiggal dy vel shin cummal ayns y cheer ain hene. Sy teihll t'ayn nish, ny smoo as ny smoo, shegin dooin jannoo tooilley reddyn dooin hene. S'fardailagh cur feoh da Sostyn ny da Sostnee. Ta (as va) shin ooilley cummal ry cheilley ayns ny h-ellanyn shoh. Cha nodmayd gra er aght kynnecagh quoi ta 'Manninagh', 'Sostnagh', 'Albinagh', as myr shen. Agh son shickyrys ta sleih gennaghtyn 'Manninagh', 'Sostnagh', 'Albinagh', as myr shen. Ta'n ashoonaghys Sostnagh er ve cho lajer as dy dug eh er ymmodee Manninee dy ghoaill nearey jeh nyn Manninaghys.

T'eh jeeaghyn dy vel tro chadjin ry gheddyn feiy ny cruinney as car ny bleeantyn foddey. Ashoon feer lajer t'er chosney impiraght, tra t'eh coayl eer meer veg jeh'n impiraght shen, ta cummaltee ennagh jeh'n ashoon lajer shen lane shickyr dy vel ad coayl y jarroo-enney oc. As tra ta'n ashoon lajer coayl ooilley'n impiraght echev, shimmey'n cummaltagh ta dobberan dy vel yn ashoon caillt. Agh, da sleih ayns ashoonyn beggey cheu-mooie jeh'n ashoon impiraghtoil, ta'n ashoon impiraghtoil foast lajer as sonnaasagh - as gaucagh. Ta'n tro shoh ry akin ayns Sostyn, y Rank, y Roosh as cheeraghyn elley. As cha nel y loght er y theay ayns lheid ny cheeraghyn shoh. She er impiroilaghys ta'n loght. impiroilaghys goll rish sorch dy nieu ta milley'n sleih ta cur ny h-impiraghtyn er bun (liorish dunverys, kialg as cragh). Tra ta cheer ennagh er chosney impiraght, ta'n impiraght shen cheet dy ve ayrn jeh jarroo-ennagh ny cheerey. As tra ta'n impiraght caillt, ta cooid ennagh jeh cummaltee ny cheerey impiroil smooinaghtyn dy vel ram jeh'n jarroo-enney oc hene caillt neesht. Eaisht rish y foddeeaght hrimshagh ta ry chlashtyn Oie S'jerree ny Proms ayns Sostyn as buill ta foast fo'n smaght eck ("Cha nee ashoonaghys shen, shen graih-cheerey"). Agh, dy firrinagh, ta cree Hostyn foast bwoalley dy slayntoil, as cha nel Sostnaghys avns gaue erbee. Foddee oo gra yn red cheddin mychione y Rank as y Roosh.

Agh cha nel toiggaltee Hostyn credjal ny focklyn-gerjee shoh. Ta'n cheer oc ayns gaue agglagh, t'ad lane shickyr. Sambyl quaagh jeh'n chredjue shoh va art ayns pabyr-naight Sostnagh trome-chooishagh boayl screeu fer ynsit dy row genney cheeroaylleeaght cur yn olk er Sostnaghys! Cha nel monney paitchyn Sostnagh jannoo studeyrys er cheeroaylleeaght nish, as myr shen cha nhione daue raad ta ymmodee buill. Er aght quaagh ennagh, ta'n almoraght shoh leodaghey jarroo-enney Sostnagh. Ny smessey foast, ta joarreeyn ass towse cloie son skimmeeyn bluckan-coshey Sostnagh. Hug y fer-screeuee jerrey er yn art echey liorish gra dy beagh skimmee quaagh cloie son cheer chonrieugh enmyssit "Sostyn" sy traa ry heet.

Paart dy vleeantyn er dy henney, screeu Linda Colley lioar enmyssit "Captives: Britain, Empire and the World 1600-1850." T'ee smooinaghtyn dy vel Sostnaghys ny eie noa, as t'ee gra dy nee meehickyrys t'ayn dy ve prowal meenaghey dy myn c'red ta "Sostnaghys". T'ee credjal dy vel Sostnee er

ve shirrey Sostnaghys er y gherrid er yn oyr dy vel yn ashoon Sostnagh gennaghtyn dy vel eh goll er traastey magh ass liorish yn Oarpey er un cheu, as liorish jee-veanaghey pooar gys Nalbin, Bretyn as Nerin Twoaie er y cheu elley. Jinnagh oo credjal eh! Cre smooinagh Linda Colley dy beagh ee er ve cummal ayns cheer raad va'n sleih, cultoor as chengey er ve stampit fo chosh rish keeadyn dy vleeantyn?

Cha row yn Reejerey Bernard Crick ayns coardailys rish Linda Colley bentyn rish meenaghey Sostnaghys. Dooyrt eh: "Feddyn magh ny ta Sostnaghys, shen cowrey dy vel shin aarloo dy heet dy ve ny stroshey myr ashoon. Va shin faase tra nagh b'loys dooin briaght c'red va Sostnaghys". Jinnagh oo credjal eh reeshtagh. Cuin nagh row Sostnee lowit dy vriaght c'red va Sostnaghys? Vel y sleih shoh cummal ayns planaid elley?

Er lhiam dy vel y sleih shoh credjal dy vel ad ayns cront ennagh kyndagh "Goaldaghys" ("Britishness"). Va'n "chalee Ghoaldagh" feer speeideilagh, agh t'ee er vailleil er aghtyn scanshoil. Rish keeadyn dy vleeantyn, va fir-toshee Hostyn laccal geddyn greim er Nalbin. Cha dod ad jannoo shen dy bollagh liorish caggey, agh sy vlein 1707 va'n sniemmey jeant liorish argid (nish ta'n cic ayn dy row Nalbin brisht argid ec y traa v'ayn kyndagh rish eab ren failleil - eab dy chur coloin Albinagh er bun ayns America. Impiroilaghys reeshtagh.) Chroo sleih pooaral avns Sostyn as Nalbin yn eie jeh "Britain". Phrow ad dy gheddyn rey rish ny enmyn "England" as "Scotland" - she "South Britain" as "North Britain" v'ayn (cha row Bretyn ayn). Agh cha ghow yn theay rish ny h-enmyn shen. Ga nagh row monney sleih cadjin cur graih da"Britain" hoshiaght, va sleih feer phooaral ayns Lunnin erskyn ooilley va slane soit er unnaneyssey Sostyn, Nalbin, Bretyn, y Chorn as Nerin myr un cheer Vaarlagh. Cultoor nagh row Sostnagh as Baarlagh, cha row eh feeu son veg. Va Mannin ro veg dy ve ny boirey. Begin da ny Celtiee croo focklyn ayns nyn jengaghyn hene son "Britain" as "British" - "Y Vretyn Vooar" as "Goaldagh" ayns Gaelg. Ayns fockleyr Yuan y Kelly, va jeant mysh daa cheead blein er dy henney, s'anaasagh dy vel shoh ayn: "GOALDAGH, a. Welsh, English, foreign, Gaulish" as "GOALDAGH, s. ... a guest". Myr shen, ayns Gaelg nish, she "British" ny "a guest" y Baarle t'er "Goaldagh". Cha nel red erbee beayn! Foddee dy vow yn chalee Ghoaldagh heese baase roish foddey, agh va ram caghlaaghyn jeant eck. Agh, Hostnee - ny gow-shiu aggle.

Summary

Many features have appeared in the English media in recent years bewailing an imagined loss of English identity, often alleged to be brought about by limited devolution in Scotland and Wales. But, to most outsiders, English identity and English nationalism seem as strong as ever. It's a common feature that, when imperialist countries lose some or all of their empires, inhabitants of such countries feel they are losing their national identities.

Brian Stowell

LANGUAGE FORUM IDENTIFIES FUTURE NEEDS

As part of this year's Manx language festival, Cooish, a forum was held at which language activists highlighted their needs for the future. The forum heard from a variety of speakers that the successful developments of recent years are now the cause of some of our biggest problems.

Speakers from Mooinjer Veggey and the Department of Education explained that the growing popularity of the language and the increasing demand for Manx language education had pretty much exhausted the available pool of fluent teachers. Annie Kissack Mooinjer Veggey's Education Officer revealed that there are ever increasing numbers of children being registered for the only Bunscoill in Mann and that if numbers of inquiries continue at or about current levels there will soon be waiting lists for the school

It is clear to me therefore that we need to start planning for our second Bunscoill, however, this suggestion led to considerable debate as to whether we could find enough suitably qualified teachers and a building for the school. Bunscoill Headteacher Julie Matthews was pleased with the support that the school was receiving but stressed the need for a continued supply of high quality resources, translations and new Manx material. It was explained that a full time resource officer/writer is employed by Mooinjer Veggey with considerable financial support from the Department of Education and the Manx Heritage Foundation.

The Department of Education's Manx Language Officer Rosemary Derbyshire pointed out that the Manx language programme in all Manx schools was growing but it too was short of suitably qualified teachers and quality resources. The Department successfully runs A level and GCSE courses as well as a programme of half hour per week lessons in primary schools.

The forum also heard from Brian Stowell and Adrian Cain that more needed to be done for adult learners and that there is a growing work load from inquiries about the language. Translation requests and other language related work is growing due to the increasing popularity of the language and many speakers felt we are struggling to keep up with demand.

While it was agreed that governments can never provide too much support for their national languages, many thought that the Manx Government was doing quite well in terms of the level of support it provides. While we can and should ask for more, it was felt by many speakers that we should be wary of asking for too much and ending up with nothing.

I received general support for my proposal to develop a Manx language bill which I hope to bring forward next year to ensure that at the very least we protect what we currently have in place. I intend to bring forward some draft proposals on this shortly which I hope will be reported in the next edition of Carn.

The forum was deemed to be a great success and follow up sessions are planned for the new year which will focus on the how we can get more teachers, more resources, improved results from adult classes and more volunteers to help with language projects.

Phil Gawne MHK

Brian Stowell with Margaret Bennett who gave this year's Ned Maddrell Lecture



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO):

CORNISH AND MANX ARE EXTINCT LANGUAGES

On visiting UNESCO's website of the Red Book on Endangered Languages recently http://www.tooyoo.l.u-tokyo.ac.jp/Redbook/ I was surprised to discover that under the Extinct Languages section for Europe both the Cornish and the Manx Gaelic languages are listed.

The information, under both these languages, was compiled in 1993 and the website was last updated in 2003. Since this time the position of both these languages has changed. The Westminster Government has now 'officially' recognised the Cornish language, as from November 2002 and there are full time governmental staff working as a Cornish Language Officer and Cornish Language Administrator. There are more Cornish language speakers and learners than at any time and estimates of fluent speakers range from between 300 and 1000 plus. To state in the Red Book that the Cornish language is 'artificial' is not only unfair but inaccurate. By stating this it puts the language in the same category as the science fiction language of 'Klingon' for example.

With regard to the Manx language, a group of children have this year entered the mainstream secondary school education system where they will receive a part of their education through the medium of Manx. Prior to this they had been taught through the medium of Manx at Bunscoill Gaelgagh (school) at St John's, Mannin/Isle of Man. In the 2001 census.

almost 1700 people claimed to be fluent in Manx. The website is right in citing the last native speaker of Manx, Ned Maddrell, died in 1974, but there has never been a time when the language has not been learnt or spoken on the island. In addition, Mr Maddrell's speech was recorded by the Irish Government to keep a record of the way Manx was spoken by a native speaker. There is also a Manx Language Officer, Rosemary Derbyshire, who can be contacted at greinneyder@mhf.org.im and/or + 44 (0) 01624 685801 for more information

It seems that the websites definition of 'extinct' is far too narrow for it to be useful. A visitor interested in the Celtic languages could easily assume that no one speaks Cornish and very few speak Manx. At the Leagues AGM this year the following resolution was passed:

This AGM:

In particular, seeks to raise the profile, position and use of the different Celtic languages in the Celtic countries and internationally, during the UN International Year of Languages 2008.

Relating to this resolution, the Celtic League has written to the UNESCO Red Book coordinator, Tapani Salminen (t asalmin@cc.helsinki.fi), asking that the material relating to the Cornish and Manx languages is revised and updated before the UN International Year of Languages in 2008.

R. Tal-e-bot



Celtica



Conference of Nations without a State (CONSEU)

The 7th session of the Conference of Nations without a State (CONSEU) took place over the 12-14th October, with the Celtic League represented by Kernow branch member, Aren Grimshaw.

The conference took place in the Valle d'Aosta, a separate autonomous region within the state of Italy, with the hospitability of President Luciano Caveri and his regional government.

The aim of this year's conference was to establish possible reforms to institutional institutions such as the European Union, International courts and United Nations with the aim of making them more representative of the interests of nations without a state.

The conference heard from a range of speakers ranging from academic experts through to politicians and international human rights lawyers.

Time for discussion or debate was often limited throughout the conference with the main emphasis on identifying the issues and looking at ways in which they could be addressed. Focus was not on achieving any changes per se, but in helping organisations understand their current position and what specifically needs changing.

Many of the findings would not come as a surprise to members of the League, who are by now familiar with the principal that wealthy individual states, such as the US and British Government, marginalise the views of minority nations within their state.

What could be seen as very interesting in terms of legal and political issues is that in many cases companies achieve higher levels of recognition and representation than national groups, indigenous people or minorities put together.

The main argument put forward by the conference was that the establishment of many international organisations was driven by the need for global stability and in most cases only served the interests of a few powerful states at that time.

Interesting cases that reversed the trend did exist, such as the case of Belgium, where three separate groups were allowed to scrutinise and ratify decisions, and within the US where states had a role in ratifying international treaties.

Possibly the most useful aspect of the conference was in making connections with other groups and organisations across Europe who share in our struggles to gain the proper representation of our people.

Likewise the connections made with academic researchers and legal experts can only be a positive one for future League activities.

Aren Grimshaw

Delegates at the CONSEU Conference



Call for Scottish Government to Promote Gaelic

Our new government has made vast improvements in an incredibly short time, but I note one major oversight. We hear much of the Scottish Cringe (self-loathing essentially) and the Celtic Lion, but if we don't help the Gaelic language here and now, no matter how good our economy becomes, we'll have a lion stuffed with sawdust, and not a very "Celtic" one at that.

Individuals such as Alasdair Allan, Mike Russell and Anne Lorne Gillies have fought for the language, but elsewhere in the SNP, my experience is at best mixed. Some treat it with a sheepish grin, and in one exceptional case, I heard someone utter something about "Heuchter Teuchters". Isn't that the Cringe par excellence? But, the SNP as a whole must take a stronger stance towards the language because what the Western Isles Council used to call "benevolent neutrality" will kill it. It no longer appears on the party website, and is not high enough up the agenda.

Until the language is given recognition as one of the country's national languages, e.g. "Alba" on the national sports strips,

availability in all schools for those that want it (and not instead of Continental languages), better road signs etc. We must educate the public about how much more widely spread it once was e.g. parts of Aberdeenshire and Perthshire in living memory, and Galloway in the recent past. Gaelic place names can even be found in all the big cities, and the likes of Dumfries and Elgin. The late great DJ Ali Abassi, who was a Gaelic learner, appreciated it is an integral part of a diverse society. Scare stories about bilingual road signs are nonsense as anvone who's driven in the other Celtic countries, i.e. Wales, Ireland, Isle of Man and recently Brittany would know.

Do we want to be another big dull retail park just outside Newcastle, or a welcoming self-confident country which makes its heritage available to people of all backgrounds, with some depth to it? Supporting Gaelic helps our local economy, creates jobs and shows that we have grown out of our Cringe. The new government can do this.

Raymond Bell



Kampagn skoazell Diwan evit dazont skoioù

Diwan's funding has again fallen short of the target to carry on educational expansion and innovation in 2008

Today we appeal to you to help us in our hour of need.

HEP BREZHONEG BREIZH EBET, SANS LANGUE BRETONNE PAS DE BRETAGNE

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However little, all contributions are welcome.

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Office of Gaelic Affairs Celebrates Official Opening

Minister of Gaelic Affairs Angus MacIsaac officially opened the Office of Gaelic Affairs at a reception on Nov. 2nd., in Antigonish.

Addressing more than 200 guests, Mr. MacIsaac said Gaelic is enjoying a revival in Nova Scotia with more interest being shown in the language and culture than at any other time.

"The Office of Gaelic Affairs is successfully building on the important work of organizations such as the Gaelic Council of Nova Scotia and many years of grassroot community efforts to preserve and develop this language, which is customary to Nova Scotia," said Mr. MacIsaac. "Over the past year, more people across the province have been exposed to Gaelic and have participated in cultural and language learning opportunities."

CEO of the Office of Gaelic Affairs Lewis MacKinnon said through partnerships and co-operation with government departments and community groups, the province has developed English-Gaelic boundary signs, Gaelic promotional materials and an interactive website, and announced \$200,000 towards Gaelic programs in schools.

"We work closely with the Gaelic community throughout the province on the direction Gaelic language development should take," said Mr. MacKinnon. "The next step is developing a Gaelic-language plan for the province."

Mr. MacKinnon said Nova Scotia also continues to strengthen its partnerships with Gaelic communities in Ireland and Scotland.

Established by the province in December 2006, the Office of Gaelic Affairs' mandate is to develop greater awareness and appreciation for Gaelic language and culture, consult with communities on ongoing community-based Gaelic language programs, and develop a Gaelic-language plan and policy directions for the province.

More information is available at www.gov.ns.ca/oga.

International Branch Internet Site

http://homepages,enterprise,net/mlockerby

Email: International Branch Secretary mlockerby@enterprise.net

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celtíc league press releases

Those who would like Celtic League press releases via Electronic Mail can subscribe (free of charge) to the mailing list at:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league

Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership/ subscription rates (including *Carn*) are: €24.00, Sterling £14.50, Europe (airmail) £20.00, Outside Europe £22.00. US\$30.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank).

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

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