

# COMANN

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

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ALBA: AN COMANN CEILTEACH  
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ÉIRE: AN CONRADH CEILTEACH  
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CELTIC LEAGUE





# Alba



## Seumas MacGaraidh:

### *Neach-iomairt Ghàidhlig agus Fìor 'Pan Celt'*

Chaidh James Carr Hay a bhreith ann an Obair-Bhrothaig ann an 1885. On a bha e na dhuine òg, thug e an t-ainm Seumas MacGaraidh. Thathar a radh gun robh na h-Albannaich anns an fhairsaingeachd prìseil air na chuir iad ri buaidh na Ìompaireachd Bhreatainnach, 's le sin, 's e adhbhar-iongnaidh gun do dh' fhàs MacGaraidh a bhith, mar a chuir a charaid Seumas Mac a' Ghobhainn an ainm air, 'a one-man nationalist movement'. (*Irish Weekly*, March 1970, 8) Ged nach robh uidheamachadh foghlaim aige, thog e ùidh ann an sgrìobhadh, eachdraidh na h-Alba agus Gàidhlig, an cànan a bha aig an sinnsearan aige sia ginealachan roimhe (Mac A' Ghobhainn: *Rosc*: March 1966, 4) agus choisinn e fileantachd sa Ghàidhlig ron àm a bha e fichead bliadhna a dh' aois. Thàinig e a bhith an sàs ann an clasaichean Gàidhlig ann an Obair Bhrothaig ann an 1911.

#### An Cogadh Mòr

Ged a bha MacGaraidh ag iomairt airson neo-eismealachd na h-Alba agus Gàidhlig fad a bheatha, 's e fìor 'Pan Celt' a bh'ann, air a tharraing a steach don carachdadh pan-Ceilteach leis an duine uasal Ruaraidh Arascain, neach fhoillsichear a bha den bheachd gum bu choir Alba a' tilleadh den t-seann ordachaidh Cheilteach aice.

Chur MacGaraidh failte mor air oileanaich a Eirinn a chlàradh den clas Gàidhlig aige ann an 1911, agus thuir an sgrìobhdair Seumas Mac a' Ghobhainn gun robh spèis mor aig MacGaraidh airson muinntir na h-Eirinn, agus chuir iad brosnachadh air leis an seashamh aca an agaidh ainneart Bhreatainnach. (*Rosc*: March 1966, 4) Chuir e ris gun robh ceangal laidir eadar MacGaraidh agus comuinn nàiseantaich mar Clann na h-Alba agus Sinn Fèin. Bha gnìomhachas Clann na h-Alba air a chlàradh tric ann an *Highland News*.

A dh' aoindeoin an seasamh aig MhicGaraidh an agaidh an ùghdarras Bhreatainn, ghabh e san airm ann an 1915, agus e a' creidsinn gu bheil an Cogadh Mòr a bhith a chur cath airson saorsa nan nàisean beaga a ghleidheadh. (*Irish Weekly*, March 1970, 9) Chaidh an rèiseamaid aige, air a chreidsinn a bhith le 2mh Feachd an Fhreiceadan Dhuibh, a chur do Bhasra ann am Mesopotamia far an robh saighdearan

Breatainnach agus Innseanach cuairtiche leis na Tuirceach ann an Kut-al-Amara. Dh' fhuirich MacGaraidh anns an Ear-Mheadhan airson ceithir bliadhna.

#### Celtic Congress

Ann an 1920 sgrìobh MacGaraidh artagail airson an *Arbroath Herald*, a' toirt eachdraidh air na cruinneachan aig toisheach an fhicheadamh linn. Mar eiseimpleir, 's ann aig Canaervon ann an 1904 gun robh a' Chorn air aideachadh mar an t-siamh duthaich Cheilteach, agus tharraing an cruinneachadh seo luchd turais bho tharais an Roinn Eòrpa agus na Staitean Aonaichte. Bha MacGaraidh fhèin an lathair aig a' Choinneamh Ceilteach ann an 1920, air a chumail ann an Dùn Èideann, agus ann an artagail ceudna, sgrìobh e 'never at any period in the history of the Celt was such a congress more needed than at this precise moment'. A' toirt suil air ais den cruinneachan nas traithe, lean e:

*They were characteristic of a sane and healthy Nationalism and in an unmistakable voice they spoke of the unity and fraternity of the Celtic nations in their mutual interests and emphasized the great necessity of preserving their several languages and national characteristics, an inspiration that has still an undeniable vitality in the doings and deliberations of the Pan Celtic Congress today. (Arbroath Herald, June 4 1920, 8)*

#### San Francisco

A rèir Mac a' Ghobhainn, bha e air fhaicinn mar reubal cunnartach leis na h-ùghdaran air sgàth a cheanglaichean poilitigeach agus 's ann airson adhbharan eaconomaiceach a ghabh MacGaraidh air bòrd an luing SS Regina ann am Màirt 1923. Le cuideachaidh bho grunn caraidean, chuir MacGaraidh am Mòd Shanfrancisco air dòigh ann an 1943, tachartas bliadhna a' tarraing aire trice *An Gaidheal*, iris a' Chommuin Ghaidhealach. Bha an t-ochdamh Mòd air a chumail air an 29mh den Ghiblean, 1950, agus chaidh iomradh fhoillseachadh ann *An Gaidheal*, a' toirt tuirsgeul air na farpaisean àbhaisteach agus farpaisean chànan ann an Gàidhlig na h-Eireann agus Eilean Mhannain, agus Cuimris.

Labhairt MacGaraidh a-mach gun sguir a



Seumas MacGaraidh

thaobh coireachan duthchannan Ceiltis uile a bhith saor 's air sgàth sin chuir e farpaisean air an son aig na Mòdan, (ann an San Francisco) gu h-àraid na h-Eirinnich, a bha a rèir MacGaraidh, na daoine ceudna leis na sàr-bheachdan ceudna. (*Rosc*: March 1966, 4)

*Mo naire air a' Bheurla!*

*Each Gaidheal takes up the strain  
Our Albainn shall be free once more,  
Agus a' Ghàidhlig againn fhèin  
(MacGaraidh: 1941, 37)*

Peter Jackson

#### SUMMARY

*When the Celtic Nations were driven in different directions by the outbreak of war, Seumas MacGaraidh believed that the Scots and Irish were of the same ilk, and that they should unite to preserve their language and identity, and break free from the colonial shackles that had robbed them of their language and true history through a centuries-long campaign of Anglicisation. MacGaraidh was drawn in by the Pan-Celtic movement, and in particular by arguably its chief protagonist, the Scottish nobleman Ruairidh Erskine of Marr (1869-1952). His friend and fellow writer, Seumas Mac a' Ghobhainn, claimed that MacGaraidh had a deep love of the Irish people and was inspired by their history of resistance to English oppression. He also stated that there were strong links between MacGaraidh and Nationalist organisations that were based in London, such as Clann na h-Alba that was being used as a 'clearing house' by Sinn Fèin. Despite MacGaraidh's stance against the British authorities, he enlisted into the British Army in 1915, believing that the Great War was being fought to protect and restore freedom for small nations. This is a*

# BRITISH POLICY: CONTEMPT FOR SCOTLAND AND WALES

British Petroleum has been in the news a lot recently. A massive eleven billion loss will decimate pension funds for future generations. Strangely enough though a similar sum can be found for the London Olympics. Yes this mass extravaganza will be entirely wonderful for everyone (well everyone in London anyway) and please don't question the enormous cost because we all know that it's the London metropolis that keeps all us beggars on the outer fringes afloat. The fact is that the facts don't agree? You'll never get that through the media.

The thing I think about most when I consider the London Olympics is Lord Sebastian Coe who when asked about what Britain should do if Scotland and Wales didn't want to be part of Britain's football team. His answer? F\*\*\* 'Em! Strangely enough however despite this comment being picked up in the press Lord Coe is still fronting the London Olympics and to my mind that fact represents a two fingered salute to every other country in Britain outside England.

Of course all has changed recently. We have a wonderful new coalition Government. Yes the new Conservative Government has added a dash of Liberal Democrats and we are now supposed to accept their drastic monetarist cost cutting medicine as inevitable and indeed entirely just. After all that nice Mr Clegg would hardly get himself involved in any shenanigans would he? Oh, no! The coalition Government has a new found lovey dovey respect for Scotland and Wales which lasted oh, two whole weeks before things returned to business as usual.

The pleasant Mr Clegg decided that the best thing for us Scots and Welsh was to

## Seumas MacGaraidh continued

*theory he went on to question in 1921. He attended the Celtic Congress in 1920, and three years later MacGaraidh set sail for San Francisco. It is claimed that he found himself excluded from the workplace, and was seen as a dangerous rebel by the authorities, on account of his political beliefs and affiliations with such groups as Comunn nan Albannach and Clann na h-Alba. One of MacGaraidh's biggest achievements was the establishment of the San Francisco Mod. The eighth Mod was held on 29th April 1950, with An Gaidheal describing the usual competitions with additional entries for the Irish, Manx and Welsh languages.*



Illustrative headline with Sebastian Coe on left.

have our national elections at the same time as his AV referendum bill. Thus ensuring a big British campaign which can drown out all those irrelevant local issues like who is going to run our countries for the next four years. After all didn't that work well at the last election? Scotland and Wales ignored and only the big English parties getting equal TV coverage. Just to be on the safe side the 2015 elections for Scotland and Wales will be on the same day as (you guessed it!) the next Westminster elections.

Yes the respect agenda is alive and well. We get told what to do and are given less money and are expected to get on with it. Strangely enough the new coalition bears a startling resemblance to a Conservative Government. Every big post, Foreign Secretary, Home Secretary, Defence Secretary and Prime Minister are all held by the Tories. Mr Clegg became the new John Prescott while Vince Cable is the new Lord Mandelson. If Mr Clegg says the Iraq war is illegal he can be ignored as speaking for himself yet if a Conservative minister makes an announcement then that is party policy. I think I can see how this works.

Of course Mr Clegg didn't give up the Liberal Democrats votes for nothing. Oh no! He got that aforesaid Alternative Vote (AV) referendum which was what he had always wanted. Well no, he said during the election AV was a waste of time. Which it is, marginally better than First Past the Post but by no means proportional, unlike STV (Single Transferable Vote). Personally I would have supported AV as a small step in the right direction however given that Mr Clegg has stuck it right in the middle of Scotland and Wales's election campaigns Plaid Cymru and SNP would be both amply justified in telling him exactly where to stick it.

Still the Liberals did get another wondrous prize, yes the post of Secretary of State for Scotland, the cabinet post that the LD's said should have been abolished during the election is now the greatest thing since sliced bread. You can tell that by the fact that Danny Alexander wanted to hold on to it for oh, weeks before rushing off to bigger and better things. We now have a new puppet Michael Moore who will no doubt regularly

tell us that the Tories are right and that we Scots can survive on less money.

The sepulchral figure of Jim Murphy was of course our last SoS for Scotland. Murphy had a very simple law; if you are comparing Scotland with other nations make sure you never mention anyone with oil. After all that's utterly irrelevant. Norway? No! Finland? Yes! Still voting Labour will definitely keep the Tories out. We did, but strangely enough we got 'em. It makes you think that perhaps there is another country ten times our size that has rather more influence on the UK than Scotland. Still I'm sure thin Jim will get his reward some day with a job in the House of Lords or as I like to call them, the House of Losers. Yes, it doesn't matter how incompetent you were as a politician or how you made no useful contribution to public life. So long as you were in the British cabinet you get a guaranteed spot in a plush retirement home with a nice new ermine red coat.

That real working class hero John 'two jags' Prescott has been punted up to the Lords. John Reid the man who did so much for British rule in Ireland and was rewarded with the chairmanship of a supposedly Irish nationalist football club has had a further 'promotion'. Joining him is Helen Liddell (another SoS) various other Labour non-entities and Jack McConnell. Yes McConnell the former First Minister was considered to have been such a decent suck up that he didn't even have to wait to lose his seat in the Scottish parliament before receiving his 'just desserts'. The thought of this detritus of politics joining the ranks of such illustrious political hate figures as Lord Ian Lang and Lord Michael Forsyth makes me feel that what goes around comes around. Nonetheless, where is Guy Fawkes when you really need him? He could cut public expenditure at a stroke and no-one would be the worse for it.

William Hague is the new British foreign secretary, well he was but now it appears David Cameron prefers to make the rounds of other countries on Britain's behalf. Mr Cameron doesn't let the facts get in the way of sucking up to America. Oh, no he'll rewrite history and insult past generations if his supple tongue requires it. What's that sir?

You want Turkey to forgive Israel? Count on me!

Foreign policy for Britain is about asking America just how high they want us to jump. Don't think of irrelevant stuff like the human rights of the Kurds or that silly old Turkish annexation of half of Cyprus, no think only of Uncle Sam and the rights of Israel to commit acts of terrorism that will ensure world respect.

Personally I would like to see Turkey in the EU. But only after they have relinquished half of Cyprus and improved their record on human rights. Strangely enough that is what the EU wants as well but it would be mad wouldn't it to think we have a common interest with those European types. No far better to maintain an irrational xenophobic dislike of all Johnny Foreigners. Those mad continental types don't even speak the Queen's English.

BP's trouble in the USA has led to the Americans taking a sudden interest in Scottish affairs. Of course Mr Cameron did the decent thing when asked to explain BP's dodgy dealings. Don't look at me he said look at Scotland who let out the mad terrorist Al Megrahi! It is of course true that Kenny MacAskill showed compassion for a dying man. It is also probable that the man in question had no connection whatsoever with the Lockerbie bomb. The US demanded to hear from the lowly Scots in person and were amazed to find that our Government had learnt a word which no British diplomat had ever used in recent recorded history: 'No'.

There was indeed a 'deal in the desert' BP did in fact lobby a foreign Government. However it was the last Labour British Government, not the Scottish one. Mr MacAskill decided to grant compassionate release to a dying man. This has put those lovely types from the tabloids and the unionist politicians together in a basket in which they each hold a stopwatch and guess how long he's got to go.

The fact the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission reckoned his conviction was 'unsafe'. Who cares? The indisputable fact he's dying of cancer? What does that matter? What matters is he is not dying in three months like he should have done!

I joined a US website a while back because I wanted to leave a comment re an inaccurate report about Scotland. Since then I have received numerous mail shots. If they are anything to go by the art of politics has died in America in favour of pathetic idiotic semantics. America might have the power the money and the secret agents but in terms of moral authority or fresh political ideas it has nothing. An independent Scotland and Wales would be far better throwing their lot in with the rest of Europe. The fact UKIP, the BNP and most of the Tories all want us to disengage from Europe gives us an idea of the right and wrongs of the issue!

Joe Middleton

# Robert Cunninghame Graham

Alan Stewart looks at the amazing life of the first President of the SNP

Recently I was in a north Featherstone pub, the Bradley Arms, and I saw various items about Robert Cunninghame Graham hung round the walls. He'd apparently spoken at a meeting in the pub shortly after the infamous Featherstone Massacre. A quote from him was also inscribed above the fireplace. I resolved to find out more about Cunninghame Graham.

Robert Cunninghame Graham was in fact born on 24 May 1852. The son of Major William Bontine, he was educated at Harrow and spent some time in Scotland on the family estate before they all decamped to Argentina where they also owned a ranch.

After his father's death in 1883 however Robert changed his name to Robert Cunninghame Graham and returned to Britain.

He first took over and then disposed of the family estate - which was at Gartmore near Aberfoyle - and began to immerse himself instead in progressive politics. He spoke at many meetings and met the likes of Morris, Shaw, Hyndman and Hardie.

His first electoral foray, in 1886, saw him stand as the Liberal Candidate in North West Lanarkshire. Despite the nominal party label Graham described himself as a "socialistic radical." His programme called for the abolition of the House of Lords; universal suffrage; nationalisation of the land, mines and other industries; free school meals; disestablishment of the Church of England; Scottish Home Rule and an Eight Hour Day.

With Liberal and left support he took the seat, beating the Conservative candidate by 322 votes. Once in the House however Graham refused to toe the party line or to abide by established convention. On 12 September 1887 he found himself suspended from Parliament for making a "disrespectful reference" to the House of Lords—a chamber he wanted, of course, to see abolished.

He also spoke up for civil liberties and criticised police attempts to prevent public meetings and curtail free speech. One such public demonstration, in Trafalgar Square on 13 November 1887, ended in rioting and deaths. Graham, beaten up and arrested, spent six weeks in prison. Not bad for someone who was still a JP and Deputy Lieutenant of Dunbartonshire!

In December 1888 he was suspended from the Commons again. This time it was for protesting too vociferously about the poor working conditions endured by chain makers. Workers rights were now one of his key concerns and he pushed several times to get through a bill enshrining the "8 hour day."

After his Parliamentary career ended in 1892 he travelled widely - in North Africa as well as the Americas - and wrote vivid accounts of his experiences on the road.

But he remained politically involved. Having been the first President of the Scottish Labour Party, he later assisted his friend Keir



Robert Cunninghame Graham

Hardie in forming the Independent Labour Party.

Graham also passionately supported Scottish independence. He'd backed the Scottish Home Rule Association (f. 1886), the first modern nationalist movement in Scotland. In 1928 he helped establish the National Party, forerunner of the Scottish Nationalist Party. He became the SNP's first President in 1934 and he stood several times as a Scottish Nationalist in the Glasgow University rectorial elections. On one occasion he only lost out to Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin by 66 votes!

Graham died of pneumonia on March 20, 1936 in the Plaza Hotel, Buenos Aires after a visit to the birthplace of his friend, William Hudson. Graham was widely admired in South America as an intrepid travel writer—they called him "Don Roberto"—and he lay in state in the city's Casa del Teatro whilst the Argentinean President led nationwide tributes.

Afterwards his body was shipped home to Scotland and buried next to his wife at Inchmahome Priory on the Lake of Mentieth, only a few miles from what had been the family's Gartmore estate.

## APPEAL for Gàidhlig

Comann nam Parant (*Society of Parents*) in Scotland are calling on people to sign their names on a petition to the Highland Council to maintain the ratio of teachers to students as it is for education through the medium of Gàidhlig. Gaelic Medium pupils have special requirements with regard to their immersion in the language, and with regard to the different levels of fluency in the language that pupils have when they enter Primary 1. Gaelic Medium Education does not enjoy anywhere near the same level of teaching resources and materials as English Medium Education.

<http://aireamhan.epetitions.net/>



# Breizh



## SKOURR-BREIZH ER GOUEL-VRAS WAR ENEZ MANNAV

*Evit ar wech kentañ er c'hañved-mañ Skourr-Breizh en deus aozet ur brezegenn diwar Breizh evit an degemer ofisiel ar Gouel-Vras: yn CHRUINNAGHT. Ar gouel-se a zo ur gouel etrekeltiek hag a denn eus an Esteddfod war Enez Mannav.*

Goude bezan bet krouet e-Rhumsaa (Ramsey), e hanternoz an enezenn, ar gouel a zo bet dalc'het er bloaz-mañ e Kornog, e ker Peel. Bodadeg-Veur ar Celtic-League oa ivez e memes ker hag ar memes sizhun ar bloaz-mañ. Ha peogwir n'ez eus nemet ur c'harr-nij bep sizhun etre Brest ha Dulenn em boa asantet, ar raok an hañv, kaozeal diwar-benn stad ar yezh e Breizh. Da lavaret eo, da heul ar brezegenn savet evit an abadenn ofisiel d'ar Merc'her noz.

Goude un nebeut gerioù evit degemer an aozerien ha diwar-benn va istor personel e-giz brezhoneger a-vihannik (genidik eus ar Gwaien er bloavezhioù hanter-kant) em eus loc'het gant stad ar brezhoneg goude an eil brezel-bed.

Evit komprenn stad ar brezhoneg er fin ar c'hantved tremenet eo dav teuler ur sell war al lezenn 1905, dispartiet ganti ar stad diouzh an iliz. Evel-just al lezenn-se hag an daou vrezel-bed o deus cheñchet kalz plas ha pouez ar yezh er vuhez bemdeziek, er gevredigezh. Komz brezhoneg goude an eil brezel-bed oa gwelet fall. Da lavaret eo, evel ur yezh a-enep d'an dazont, ur yezh a-enep d'an unvaniezh bro-Frañs. Setu perak kelennerien ar skolioù publik ha deus ar skolioù kristen a zo bet a-enep d'ar brezhoneg...DOUE ar galleg da gentañ.

Un dra « sakr » eo deuet da vezañ. Evit va c'herent e-giz ar re all ar galleg oa ar yezh evit klask bezañ pinvidig. Er Bloavezh 2010 ez eus tamm-pe-damm 250 000 den deuet war an oad hag a gomprenn pe gomz brezhoneg ur wec'h an amzer hag tro dro 13 000 bugel a zo en tri hentenn skol añvet an 3D. E-giz: Diwan, Dihun ha Divyezh. Siwazh n'eo ket aes da lakaat an traoù da vont war a-raok, setu perak dav eo deomp-ni stourm...e-giz e vez graet amañ, gant Julie Matthews hag he skipailh war-zu Tynwald Hill.

E-Breizh ar re gozh a zo ur chañs evit ar re yaouank. Dreist-holl peogwir ez eus muioc'h-mui a dudoù kozh a-du da sikour ar re yaouank. Cheñchet ar c'hantved, cheñchet tamm-ha-tamm ali an dud war ar brezhoneg gant Treizherien Soñjoù...

Bremañ e vez implijet ar brezhoneg evit ar blijadur, evit digeriñ ar spered war ar bed hag evit ar vuhez bemdeziek.



**Gi Keltik pad e brezegenn er  
Chruinnaght-10**

### **Dazont ar brezhoneg a vo graet gant an 3D:**

*Da gentañ ar skolioù Diwan krouet e miz Mae 1977 e Lambaol-Gwitalmeze. Diwan, ur sapre abadenn ! Ur souezhadenn eus ar c'hentañ klas savet gant skoazell ar gerent evel-just ha bed ar sevenadur ivez, da lavaret eo : ar musik, al levrioù, ar k/C'horev, zoken. Ur bed nevez tost eus hon gwizioù, tost eus an natur ha digor war ar bed. Dav eo trugarekaat ar prezidant Reun l'Hostis loc'het gentañ an stourm-se gant sikour ar rener Bernez Abernot, ur muzisian anezhañ. Niver ar vugale en deus kresket en un doare ingal evit tapout 3000 e 2010. E-giz war Enez Mannav er « Bunskoill Gilgac'h » ar bedagogiezh a zo dre soubidigezh. An doare efedusoc'h evit komz buañ ha mat meur a yezh. Un dra bouezus kenañ er c'hantved-mañ a-drugarez d'ar WEB. Ar hentenn DIWAN en deus divizet implij ar brezhoneg « peurunvan » e-giz ar skolioù all. Un dra bouezus evit dazont ar yezh. Un dra da implij dre ret evit ar re o deus ar youl hag ar furnez da sikour an 10000 bugel bennak ar ra gant ar brezhoneg. Ar skolioù Diwan a zo laïk, digoust ha prevez, hervez al lezenn Debre. Da lavaret eo evel ouzh ar skolioù kristen, e-keñver ar mont en-dro. Ar gudenn vrasañ a zo ar goprou da baeañ e-pad pemp vloaz a-raok e vefent kemeret e-karg gant ar stad Frañs.*

*Ar skolioù divyezhek a zo ganet e bloavezhioù pevar-ugent dindan ren ar brezidanted Jean-Yves Broudig hag Alan Ar Gall. Kresket mat o deus graet an henten publik, war-dro 5500 bugel a zo enno e 2010. Divyezh a zo ur skol stadel, laïk ha digoust. Da lavaret eo ar gelenerien, ar melestradur hag ar mont-en-dro a zo paet gant ar stad bro-Frañs. War dachenn ar bedagogiezh e vez implijet ar yezh « peurunvan ». Peogwir eo ur skol divyezhek e vez kelennet ar galleg da gentañ hag ar brezhoneg da heul. Pouez ar melestradur publik(E.N.) a zo kreñvoc'h war chouk ar skolioù ar Republik. Setu perak eo mat gwelet anezho stourm da heul gant an hentendoù prevez.*

Ar skolioù Dihun a zo ganet e fin ar bloavezhioù pevar-ugent, a-drugarez da Soeur Anna-Vari Arzur, e bro-Leon ha Yannig Baron er Morbihan. Hemañ a zo atav prezidant e 2010. Ar skolioù kristen o deus kresket ingal ivez. Er bloaz-mañ ez eus tro dro 4500 bugel enno. Dihun a zo dindan al lezenn prevez (Debre). Dav eo paeañ ar bod hag ar boued. Tro em eus bet, me va-unan, da vont er skolioù publik ha kristen goude. Va zud ne oa ket pinvidik, memestra int deuet a-benn da baeañ ar skol. D'am soñj ne oa ket ur gudenn e-doug ar bloavezhioù burzhudus. E-keñver ar bedagogiezh e vez implijet ar brezhoneg « peurunvan ». Ar pezh a zo dedennus gant Dihun eo ar PMB (=Programme Multilingue Breton). Da lavaret eo e vez kroget buañ-tre gant tri yezh: brezhoneg+galleg+saozneg. Un dra bouezus-kenañ d'ar mare ar WEB. Dihun en deus bet ur priz digant an Europa evit ar program-se. Padal, er bloaz-mañ ar soubenn a zo trenket etre Dihun & ar melestradur katolik(DDEC). Gwelet e vo hag-eñ eo torret ar chadenn etre ar pobl hag an eskoptioù katolik..

Gant an 3D ez eus hiziv war-dro 13 000 bugel skoliataet e Breizh gant ar yezh « peurunvan ». Evel-just al liveoù brezhoneg a zo disheñvel. Ar bedagogiezh dre soubidigezh e-giz amañ war Enez Mannav, a zo an hini efedusañ. Ar PMB savet gant Dihun ar ra al liamm etre Diwan ha Divyezh. Evit soñjal en dazont dav eo derc'hel soñj ouzh an istor. Goude an eil brezel-bed ar stad hag an deskadurezh-stad(E.N.) a oa a-enep d'ar brezhoneg hag d'an holl yezhoù minorelezet.

Al lobbioù o deus stourmet e-barzh ar „resistance“ e-pad an eil brezel-bed a oa da gentañ ar c'hommunisted hag d'an eil ar gatoliked, aet da heul De Gaulle. Tamm-pe-damm al lobbioù-se o deus lakaet o c'hrabanoù war an Deskadurezh -Stad, h.a... Paotred an ENA, da lavaret eo an enachisted o deus renet ar stad da heul al lobbioù-se. Setu perak eo bet diaes da lakaat war sav klasoù all estreget hini DOUE ar galleg. Trugarez d'an 3D ha d'an holl re o deus skoazellet ar stourm evit gwirioù mab-den, al liester hag ar gwirioù. Dav eo stourm hiziv ha warc'hoazh evit lakaat ar brezhoneg da greskiñ, muioc'h-mui...

## Kudennoù eus ar Bonreizh:

Kudennoù ez eus atav e 2010 evit digeriñ klasoù ha skolioù. Mankout ar ra arc'hant, an tiez-ker a zo a-enep a-wechoù, ar sindikadoù jakobin ivez evel-just, ar gelennerien, pe ar mistri-skol o deus aoñ da goll postoù-labour...abegoù a bep seurt a zo. Memestra e vez digoret klasoù nevez ingal. Setu perak eo dav stourm ha stourm c'hoazh. A-dreñv ar c'hudennoù-se ez eus hini ar Vonreizh. Er c'hantved tremenet an tu dehou hag an tu kleiz oa a-enep krenn d'ar brezhoneg h.a... Er c'hantved-mañ ar Prezidant Sarkozy, a zo a « lawyer »,divizet gantañ cheñch ar Bonreizh. Kredabl-bras n'ez eus ket plijet dezhañ e vefe bet kondaonet bro-Frañs gant Lez-Varn-uhel ar Gwirioù-Mab-Den an Europa. Ar stad Frañs ne zouj ket ouzh « ar yezhoù nebeutañ komzet ». Abaoe ar bloaz-mañ ez eus ouzhpenn « DOUE » ar galleg, er Vonreizh! Ar pezh a vank eo ul lezenn nevez pe ziv evit implij ar Vonreizh nevez. Ul lezenn evit ar yezhoù e-giz eo bet prometet gantañ, met nac'het gant Frederic Mitterand, an aotrou ministr. Kredabl-bras, goude kudennoù bras an arc'hant-bras, e vo ret gortoz ar votadegoù 2012 evit gwelet ul lezenn bennak. War ar seblant an tu kleiz a vefe a-du evit al liesyezhoù bremañ. Gwell a se...D'am soñj din-me ul lezenn all war ur gwir digreizennañ (21bn€) a vo ezhomm sevel ivez e-giz e pep lec'h all er stadoù Europa. Ar yezh a zo afer ar rannvroioù, e-giz e-lec'h all. Poent-bras eo kemer ar pleg da ober tamm-pe- damm e-giz ar vroioù all en Europa. Er bed ar WEB, 500millions a zen a zo bihan! Setu perak eo dav stourm atav evit an amzer da zont. Goulenn muioc'h-mui a sikourioù digant ar rannvroioù, an tiez-ker, ha mont war-zu ar gwizioù, an natur...en XXIved kantved.

Dav eo ivez en em skoazellañ etre broioù keltiek. Ar vreizhiz evit brudañ ar Bunskoill



**Julie Matthews**

Gilgac'h hag an holl re al labour gant skipailh Julie Matthews, ha deus an tu all soñjal ivez ober bruderezh evit an 3D... ezhomm hon eus deus an holl skolioù brezhoneg evit kas ar yezh war a-raok en amzer dazont. Trugarez & ha Kenavo d'ar c'hentañ tro.

**Gi Keltik.**

## Summary

*This article is based on a speech given by Gi Keltiek who was invited by Yn Chruinnaght 2010 to give an overview of the state of the language in Breizh.*

## Mark CAVENDISH ar sprinter eus enez Vannav



**Aet eo ar maout gant Mark CAVENDISH evit ar pempvet gwec'h, war ar Champs-Elysées**

Un nebeud a dud war enezenn Mannav ha pelloc'h zoken, dedennet gant ar marc'h-houarn en deus bet klevet añv eus Mark Cavendish. An holl re o deus sellet ouzh an Tour de France e bloavezhioù tremenet o deus klevet añv diwar e benn en ur mod bennak, mad pe fall. Ar jestroù graet gantañ, ur wec'h treuzet al linenn, o deus savet tabut. CAV. A zo bet gwelet e-giz ur bugel bras gant ur penn kaol-fleur. Ar re a zo paket penn-kil-ha-troad gant virus ar velo hag ar youl da c'hounit a zo laouen o welet e blijadur p'az a ar maout gantañ. E zoare da ober a zo kant dre gant naturel, en ur bed e-lec'h m'emañ an tagadennoù hag an adrenalin un tamm mat eus an abadenn. Krediñ a ra en o zalvoudegezh, ar pezh a zo bet gwelet gant lod e-giz loc'hus & disrespect. Padal e welañ-me an dra-se e-giz un doare onest da gomz diwar-benn o sportoù gant ar sportourien a live uhelañ. Pa vez goulennet digant Mark daoust hag-eñ eo ar buanañ sprinter, e vez respontet “ya” gantañ en un doare onest. Siwazh an dra-se zo degemeret re alies e-giz “ur marc'h al loc'h” kentoc'h eget un doare da soñjal e pezh a zo gwir. Prest eo atav da drugarekaat paotred ar skipailh Columbia evit al labour graet evit skoazellañ ha kas anezhañ betek ar c'hant metrad diwezhañ evit ur sprint eus ar c'hentañ.

Er bloaz-mañ, evit an eil gwec'h, Mark en deus gounezet ar sprint war ar Champs-Elysées. Morse n'en deus bet aoñ da lavarout e oa un dra priefñet gantañ. Dreist-holl, an tizh en deus plantet e-barzh an taol evit mont dirak ar re all, a oa spontus. E sprint diwezhañ, e-pad a vetradoù da echuiñ a zo bet sebezus. P'en deus startijenn & ur yec'hed mat ar sprinterien all n'int ket a live gantañ evit ar c'hant metrad diwezhañ.

Tri-ugent mignon ha supporter o deus karget ur charter eus an enezenn betek Paris, evit gwelet anezhañ gounit ur pempvet gwec'h war hentoù bro-Frans. Fiziañs o doa

e-barzh e youl da sachañ war al lodenn diwezhañ, memes m'en doa kollet ar match evit ar chupenn glas, diwar unek poent nemetken. Ar pal-se a zo un afer amzer, a-raok e teuo a-benn da bakañ anezhañ.

E-giz studier, Mark en deus labouret e-barzh ur rann eus un ti-bank, e-lec'h e oañ-me e-karg eus ar c'hef. Goulennet em boa digantañ: “Penaos emañ kont gant ar velo?” Ar respont a zo bet prim: “Oh, mat-tre, an traoù a vale eus ar c'hentañ ». Sklaer e oa evitañ petra a vefe graet gant e vuhez. Peseurt hobby oa gantañ. Ne oa ket graet evit tremen e vuhez gant ur chupenn estreget unañ e lycra.

Klevet em eus en doa ur c'helenner goulennet digantañ petra en doa c'hoant d'ober goude ar skol. Lavaret en doa e vefe un reder a vicher war marc'h-houarn. Setu ar c'helenner o c'houlenn digantañ en-dro: “kenkas ne deufes ket da vezañ ur pro war ar velo?”. Ar paotr Mark en doa respontet krak-ha-berr: “Hag e vin ur pro war ar velo.” Añat e oa ne oa plas ebet evit ur pal all. se a ziskouez sklaer en doa choazet e dazont.

Daoust dezhañ bezañ anavezet mat er mediaoù, Mark ne c'hoari ket ar superstar en diavaez d'ar c'hameraioù. En-dro er ger e vez gwelet ingal war an hentoù o pleustriñ gant rederien eus ar vro. Va merc'h he deus loc'het gant ar marc'h-houarn ivez 18 miz a zo, ha he deus kemeret perzh e-barzh un trial 16 KM anezhañ. Sebezet ha laouenn en ur welet ar paotr “CAV” e-giz e vez graet outan, o kemer perzh ivez er redadeg-se evit e labour pemdezic. Evel-just an dra-se a zo bet un dervezh ispisial eviti. Dav eo lavar ivez e deus graet e-giz ar re all ha n'en doa ket ar youl da vezañ renet en un doare all, e-giz a-raok n'en defe pakaet mil brud meurbet.

He vedalenn aour e Melbourne e-doug c'hoarioù ar Commonwealth-2006 he deus diskouezet e oa prest d'ober plijadur d'e vignoned. Memestra, a dra-se a zo bet heuliet

gant kerse er c'hoarioù Olimpek e-Beijing e-lec'h en deus kuitaet ar vro China hep medalenn ebet. Soñj em eus da vezañ distroet d'ar red er ger goude al labour evit sellet eus ar redadeg war ar skramm ha bezañ dipitet bras o welet an hini gwellañ e-touez ar re yaouank ha ne oa ket gouest-en da redek evit ur vedalenn. Memestra, an dra-se en deus roet lañs da vont war zu paliou brasoc'h.

Mark a zo bet degemeret e-giz gounezer evit ar prizioù aozet war dachenn ar sportoù. Laouenn eo da eskemm e fiziñs e-barzh an dazont, gant tud ar vro. Ar re-se a zo dreist-holl prest da sikour anezhañ evit rastellat muioc'h a vedalennoù evit an dazont... Enez Yannav he deus un istor war dachenn ar velo. Hentoù sioul a-walc'h gant menezioù bihan, ar pezh a zo mat tre evit pleustriñ hag a zo bet a-viskoazh liammet gant berzh-mat war al live broadel hag etrevroadel gant ar paotred hag ar merc'hed. Memas tra evit ar re yaouank hag o deus kemeret perzh er skipailh junior Breizh-Veur, gant ar pal da ober gwelloc'h-gwellañ. Bep Meurzh da noz ur c'hant a dud yaouank pe kozh a vez gwelet war ar marc'h-houarn er Kreizenn Sport Broadel. Sklaer eo ar velo a zo poblek enno a-drugarez d'ar vrud degaset gant Mark.

Pa vez komzet gant an dud hag o deus anavezet anezhañ e penn-kentañ tout, e vo lavaret deoc'h ez eus atav un dra ispisial gantañ, dreist-holl pa vez war-zu al linenn. Evel-just Mark en deus labouret start evit bezañ e-touez ar re wellañ. Setu penaos eo deuet da vezan an hini brudetañ war an enezen Yannav evit pezh a sell ouzh ar sportoù. Sellout a ran laouennoc'h ouzh ar vareoù da zont evit gouzout hag-eñ eo ar paotr Mark ur marc'h al loc'h pe get.

**Bridget Kaneen**

### Summary

*Few people on the Isle of Man or further abroad with even just a slight interest in the sport of cycling can fail to have heard of Mark Cavendish. Recently Mark claimed the final sprint to Paris for the second year in a row, and never was he shy in saying that taking the last stage in the tour on the Champs Elysees was part of his plan. Indeed the speed at which he catapulted past the others was breath taking in execution.*

*His final burst of raw power in the final metres was amazing and when he is on form it would appear that the other sprint specialists have no answer to his speed in the last surge for the line. This final win of the Tour delighting me along with the rest of the Manx nation. Seventy local friends and supporters chartered a direct flight from the Island to France to see him win again on the roads of Paris, so confident they were in his ability and his need to get the final stage under his belt Despite losing out in the battle for the points race (green jersey) by 11 points, it will surely be only a matter of time before he achieves this long held aim.*

## Dihun Conference: towards an early trilingualism

On the 12th and 13th June in the Locarn Institute, the centre for brain storming by the heads of Breton enterprises, an important conference took place, organised by Yannig Baron and his team from Dihun, the network of Breton bilingual Catholic schools. An occasion to underline the interest being shown in early bilingualism and even trilingualism.

For several years the Dihun network has been considering the interest in looking at the necessity to pass a statute on a Breton-French bilingual school and that of a trilingual school, whilst assuring an education both based on Breton roots and also open to the world around us. The multi-lingual Breton plan, initiated with success since 1966 by Yannig Baron as its president and his early years education team, is the privileged instrument of this development. This early years education programme, which involves 1156 pupils throughout 21 schools, seeks to assure an effective bilingual education up to the end of primary level and a real trilingualism to the end of the secondary level.

The attempts realised are quite conclusive. For the linguist, Giles Dalgalian, participating in the conference, the pupils of Sant Gwenn in Vannes whom he followed and studied for several months, all passed the Cambridge tests. Whilst applying themselves to early level Breton-French bilingualism they attained the A2 level in oral expression of English by the end of year two, a level hoped for by the national education system by the end of year three.

### The Basque example.

The passage from bi- to trilingualism has been achieved for a long time by our Basque friends in the south, with the support of an active autonomous government.

Itziar Elorza, language co-ordinator for

Ikastolas in the south of the Basque country, has shown that the time spent learning a language, or better *in* a language, is not prejudicial to other languages. It is only in France that languages are considered to be mutually exclusive. Itziar Elorza explains, *"The acquisition of languages does not develop in a parallel fashion, independent of each other, but in an integrated way. There exists a general capacity to compare and contrast languages, and the interaction between them, for the construction of an integrated multilingual competence."* In other words the Eliantz programme begun in the autonomous Basque region avoids a juxtaposed education of languages by encouraging the children to make the transfers of which they are capable. There are so many paths of reflection for around a hundred attentive learners.

There were numerous people attending the conference. People from the economic world, such as Malo Bouëssel from Bourg, the director of the association of enterprises of Breton Produce, who had just signed the charter Ya d'Ar Brezhoneg (Yes to Breton) in partnership with Ofis ar Brezhoneg, and political dignitaries such as Emile Granville, representative of the Parti Breton. For his part he estimated that *"Breton is a national language and we must give it all the attributes of a state language, even in Brittany it is still a language without a state."*

Léna Louarn, vice-president of the Regional Council, for her part confirmed that the institution that she represents already did a lot with the little means at her disposal (the budget of the RC of Brittany is 40 times less than that of Scotland) and the Skoazell plan notably gives 10,000 bursaries to students orientated to bilingual education.

**Thierry Jigourel**



**Six young Bretons who had daubed slogans in support of Breton Reunification in Nantes in Dec 2008 were fined €22,500 and received prisons sentences of two months each (suspended) in mid July after an appeal. They intend to appeal further. A charity concert will be held in Doulon, Nantes, 'Naoned Calling' on October 23rd with a wide range of artists.**

# Gwobrau 'caru'r Gymraeg' i fusnesau - menter gan y Gymdeithas

Lansiwyd cynllun gwobrwyo cwmnïau sydd yn cynnig gwasanaethau Cymraeg arbennig o dda ym mis Gorffennaf gan Gymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg gyda'r cyflwynydd teledu Angharad Mair mewn seremoni yng Nghaerfyrddin.

Mae hyn yn drywydd newydd i'r mudiad sydd wedi canolbwyntio ar ymgyrchu'n ddygn dros y blynyddoedd yn erbyn cwmnïau mawr cyfalafol. O dan y cynllun newydd, bydd aelodau Cymdeithas yr Iaith yn asesu safonau gwasanaethau Cymraeg. Bydd cwmnïau bach sydd yn cefnogi cynnyrch lleol ac yn darparu safon uchel yn Gymraeg yn gymwys i'r gwobrau.

Ymunodd Angharad Mair ag aelodau'r Gymdeithas i lansio'r gwobrau - cwmni gemwaith Trysor yng Nghaerfyrddin oedd y cwmni cyntaf i dderbyn un o'r gwobrau. Wrth gyflwyno'r wobwr Caru'r Gymraeg gyntaf dywedodd Sioned Elin, Cadeirydd Rhanbarth Sir Gaerfyrddin o'r Gymdeithas:

"Mae'r fenter yn un gyffrous ac mae'n rhan o ymdrechion pellach y Gymdeithas i hybu defnyddio'r Gymraeg yn y gymuned. Tra bod yna lawer o gwmnïau sydd yn anwybyddu'r Gymraeg, yn enwedig busnesau mawrion rhyngwladol, mae'n bwysig ein bod yn gwobrwyo'r cwmnïau bach lleol sydd yn meddwl am y gymuned leol.

"Mae Cymdeithas yr Iaith bob amser wedi cynnal digwyddiadau i hybu defnyddio'r Gymraeg yn ein cymunedau, fel gigs a gwahanol fathau o ddigwyddiadau cymdeithasol. Dyma ffordd arall i wthio'r agenda ymlaen.

"Rydym fel mudiad yn edrych am gyfleoedd eraill i gefnogi arferion da yn y dyfodol. Mae'r Gymraeg yn drysor i bawb yng Nghymru p'un ai ydynt yn siaradwyr Cymraeg neu beidio. Felly 'rydym eisiau canmol y cwmnïau bach lleol sydd yn cadw'r iaith yn fyw."

Dywedodd Angharad Mair "Rwy'n falch o gael y cyfle i gymryd rhan yn y cynllun positif ac arloesol hwn gan Gymdeithas yr Iaith. Mae'n hawdd i ni i gyd gwyno, felly mae'n braf cael cyfle i gannol heddiw. Mae'r cynllun yn gyfle i bawb yng Nghymru gwneud gwahaniaeth a chefnogi'r Gymraeg yn eu cymunedau. Mae hi mor bwysig ein bod ni i gyd yn cyfrannu at wella sefyllfa'r

Gymraeg yn ein cymunedau ein hunain."

Ychwanegodd Tina Wilson o gwmni Trysor Caerfyrddin:

"Rydym yn hapus iawn i dderbyn y wobwr yma gan Gymdeithas yr Iaith sydd yn cydnabod ein hymdrechion ac yn barod i edrych ar gwmnïau bach annibynnol sydd yn gweithio ar adnoddau cyfyng. Rydym yn hapus iawn i gynnig gwasanaeth Cymraeg ac mae'n naturiol i ni wneud. Mae'n holl bwysig ein bod yn cadw presenoldeb y Gymraeg ar y stryd fawr er mwyn cadw'r naws Gymraeg yn amlwg yn ein trefi."

**Os ydych chi'n gwybod am fusnes sy'n haeddu gwobr debyg, cysylltwch â'r Gymdeithas!!**



## Summary

*Cymdeithas yr Iaith launched a new award scheme for companies who offer excellent Welsh language services at a ceremony in July in Caerfyrddin/ armarthen where the jewellers Trysor became the first company to received one of the awards.*

## Cynlluniau'r Torïaid yn 'ddifaol i gymunedau Cymraeg'

Mae Cymdeithas yr Iaith wedi cyhuddo'r Llywodraeth y Torïaid/Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn Llundain am grybwyll syniadau a allai fod yn ddifaol i gymunedau Cymraeg yn yr un ffordd ag y dinistriwyd cymunedau Gwyddeleg eu hiaith yn Iwerddon ganrif a hanner yn ôl.

Mewn cyfweiliad yn un o'r papurau dydd Sul, dywedodd Ysgrifennydd Gwaith a Phensiynau San Steffan: "Mae gan Brydain un o'r gweithluoedd mwyaf sefydlog yn y Byd Gorllewinol, gyda phobl wedi'u cloi yn eu bröydd". Yr awgrym oedd y dylid gosod cymhellion i bobl symud i ardaloedd eraill i chwilio am waith.

Dywedodd Cadeirydd Cymdeithas yr Iaith, Menna Machreth:

"Mae llawer o'n cymunedau Cymraeg yn dioddef o ddiffyg cyfleoedd gwaith difrifol ar

gyfer pobl ifainc. Ymddengys bod y Torïaid a'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol eisiau rhwygo'r cymunedau hyn wrth annog pobl i symud i ardaloedd eraill i chwilio am waith, ac felly'n chwyddo problem sydd eisoes yn argyfyngus. Atgoffir rhywun ynghylch sut y dinistriwyd cymunedau Gwyddeleg yn y 19eg ganrif drwy allfudo anferth (yn ogystal â llwgu). Mae yna dueddiad yn sicr. Mae cau gwasanaethau cymunedol fel ysgolion hefyd yn golygu nad yw teuluoedd yn debygol o godi aelwyd mewn cymunedau Cymraeg ac felly bydd y cymunedau hyn yn colli eu bywydau.

"Eleni, bydd Cymdeithas yr Iaith yn gosod ein pwyslais ar adfywio bywyd cymunedol. Rhaid cael polisïau holistaidd i adfywio cymunedau Cymraeg, ac, mewn ardaloedd eraill, dylai adfywio'r Gymraeg fod yn rhan o adfywio bywyd cymunedol. Mae hyn i gyd o dan fygythiad oherwydd cynlluniau'r Torïaid."

## Summary

*A statement from the Westminster government that "Britain had one of the most static workforces in the western world with people locked into areas" has been criticised by Cymdeithas for suggesting that Welsh-speakers should be willing to leave the Bro Gymraeg and move to English-speaking Britain to find work. This is, of course, what is happening but it does not help for Westminster to endorse it.*

## Plaid yn cwestiynu rôl yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol yn y cynlluniau am refferendwm am y Bleidlais Amgen

A grybwyllodd yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Ceidwadol Cymru etholiadau Cymru pan oedd ei chydweithwyr yn y llywodraeth yn cynllunio refferendwm ar y 5ed Mai? Os naddo, pam lai?

Dyna'r ddau gwestiwn allweddol y mae Plaid Cymru wedi eu gofyn ddechrau Goffennaf mewn ymateb i awgrymiadau bod y Glymblaid yn San Steffan yn bwriadu cynnal refferendwm am newid y system ar gyfer etholiadau San Steffan ar yr un diwrnod ag etholiadau Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru.



Nerys Evans AC



Galwodd Nerys Evans AC o'r Blaid y sefyllfa'n wirion, gan ychwanegu bod yn y cynllun yn profi y byddai'r glymblaidd ConDem yn blaenoriaethu refferendwm ar y Bleidlais Amgen (AV) dros etholiadau Cynulliad Cymru – er gwaethaf y ffaith nad yw'r Ceidwadwyr na'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol yn cefnogi mabwysiadu system y Bleidlais Amgen.

Dyweddodd yr AC rhanbarthol Plaid Cymru dros y Canolbarth a'r Gorllewin, Nerys Evans:

“Ar ôl datgan, rhai wythnosau yn ôl yn unig, na ddylid cynnal refferendwm ar yr un diwrnod ag etholiad, nawr mae'r Ceidwadwyr a'r Dem Rhydd yn bwriadu cynnal refferendwm ar yr un diwrnod ag etholiad. Ac mae'r refferendwm yma am fabwysiadu system bleidleisio nad yw'r un blaid yn ei chefnogi. Dyma sefyllfa wirion i ddweud y lleiaf.

“Y tu ôl i'r ffars, mae rhai cwestiynau pwysig am a oes dylanwad gan Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru o gwmpas bwrdd cabinet San Steffan? A wnaeth hi hyd yn oed godi'r ffaith y bydd etholiad yng Nghymru ar y diwrnod hwnnw ai beidio? Os naddo, pam lai? A beth ddigwyddodd i wrthwynebiad y Ceidwadwyr i gynnal refferendwm ar yr un diwrnod ag etholiad?”

#### Summary

*Plaid have criticised the London government for planning to hold a state-wide referendum on electoral voting reform on the same date next year as the elections for the National Assembly of Wales.*

## ANTI-WELSH BODIES BENEFIT FROM LANGUAGE LAW - Porthmadog Rally

Protestors complained that bodies with anti-Welsh language-policies will benefit from government plans for a new language law at a rally in Porthmadog in June. The North Wales NHS Trust came under heavy criticism for its failure to provide services in Welsh and concerns were expressed that not one of the body's directors speaks Welsh. In a recent report, European watchdog Comex criticised the NHS in Wales for failing to provide enough Welsh-language services.

Bard Twm Morys and singer Ceri Cunnington addressed the protest. Mr Cunnington played the role of the new Language Commissioner - a post to be created under the new language law - and visited high street store Superdrug to audit its services in Welsh. Criticising the Betsi Cadwaladr Trust, local campaigner Bethan Russell said:

“The health trust's language scheme has been out for consultation recently, but in the plan, very worryingly, there are many examples where Welsh and English aren't treated equally. The flaws in the plan need to be fixed because there are so many examples of where it's noted that Welsh services will be provided 'where possible' and 'where suitable'. It's not good enough. It's much too easy for the health service to refuse a service in the medium of Welsh to patients, and do



**Bard Twm Morys**

that with the support of a flawed language scheme.”

Speaking ahead of the rally, Cymdeithas chairman Menna Machreth said:

“The way the local health authority is behaving is disgraceful, so many local people speak Welsh. People are starting to realise that the government's plans for a new law aren't going to ensure a better service for people around the country. It will, however, give clear rights for companies and bodies to try to avoid providing any Welsh language services.

“The new Welsh language law could be worse than the current situation. Any politician who votes for the law in its current form - without official status or rights for individuals - doesn't deserve our support.”

## PRESSURE GROWS ON THE MINISTER TO GRANT LANGUAGE RIGHTS

A senior all-party group of politicians called for a significant strengthening of government plans for a Welsh-language law in a landmark report issued in July. In their report, the committee argued that a 'clear and unambiguous' statement establishing official status for Welsh, a Language Commissioner more independent of Government, and more rights for individuals, need including in the legislation.

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (the Welsh Language Society) reacted positively to the report claiming that it showed clearly that “the government plans broke the promises they made to the public” because of the absence of official status and Welsh-language rights in the law or Assembly Measure.

On official status for the language, something Cymdeithas have campaigned for decades and one of the coalition commitments, the committee report stated:

*“We have also considered and acknowledge the weight of evidence in favour of a clear and unambiguous*

*statement about the Welsh language having official status in Wales. We agree with this view. We believe that ... the proposed Measure, as currently drafted, makes no change to the status of the language... It contains no declaration as to the status of the Welsh language. In our view such a declaration is necessary.”*

In response to the cross-party report, Menna Machreth, Chairman of Cymdeithas, said:

*“This report to confirms what we've been saying ever since this draft law was published: it breaks all the promises made in the One Wales agreement. The report agrees that the proposed law, as it stands, doesn't establish Welsh language rights, official status for the language, or an independent Commissioner. And those were key promises of the Labour-Plaid Cymru coalition.*

*“The government is treating this vital once-in-a-generation legislation as a tick-in-the-box exercise. Only a couple of weeks ago, the Heritage Minister (Alun Ffred Jones AC) was arguing that proposed measure*

*'confirmed official status', and created 'rights'. Everyone in Wales, apart from Mr Jones, accepts that the Measure doesn't make Welsh an official language. This report has driven a coach and horses through the empty rhetoric of the government. The ball is now in their court, they've got to fix their mistakes. If not, this law will hang like a millstone around Alun Ffred Jones's neck.*

*“People are starting to ask what exactly is this law going to deliver? Worse than nothing, would be the honest answer. The absence of rights in the Measure means that it could do more bad than good - that's the awful truth. The Minister can expect a fierce response from our campaigners if they carry on and don't deliver what the Labour-Plaid Cymru coalition promised. There's a responsibility on every AC now to make sure that there are meaningful amendments o the Measure.”*

Earlier in the summer fourteen major language groups had made a written plea for changes to the Assembly Government's Welsh-language law plans. In an open letter to the Heritage Minister, the organisations and individuals - including Friends of the Earth Cymru, teaching union UCAC, and language specialist Professor Colin Williams - argued:



**Professor Colin Williams**

*“The language is facing threats from many directions: cuts in S4C’s budget, the Assembly scrapping its bilingual record of proceedings, and the future of Welsh-medium education in the capital city. The lack of linguistic rights and official status for Welsh are central to these challenges.*

*“We welcome the Government’s efforts to develop legislation to affirm the Welsh language’s situation. However, since the publication of the draft Welsh Language Measure organisations, lawyers and specialists have been unanimous in their view that the Measure in its present form does not fulfil the Government’s promises.*

*“...we want to see an unambiguous statement that the Welsh language is an official language in Wales, a statement never before included in previous legislation. Now is the time to take that step.”*

*“The evidence shows that linguistic rights, official status, and an independent Commissioner, would improve services through the medium of Welsh across Wales. These are the amendments that we would like you, as Minister, to table to the Welsh Language Measure.”*

Speaking about the letter, Tegwen Morris, National Director of women’s voluntary group Merched y Wawr, commented:

*“Now is a very important time for the language, and this letter is a sign of the fact that the Welsh Government could do more to strengthen their draft law for the benefit of everyone in Wales. This letter will add to the pressure on them to fulfil their promises. We will have to wait to see if the administration has the political will to strengthen it or not.”*

Author and former chairman of Cymdeithas Catrin Dafydd added:

*“I welcome this letter because it adds to the calls from solicitors and barristers of high regard in Wales who are in favour of strengthening the measure substantially. This is now a consensus amongst organisations, language and legal experts that the Measure, in its present form, doesn’t deliver the Government’s promises.*

*“It’s extremely significant that so many organisations, as well as specialists in the legal field, are raising the question of the lack of an unambiguous statement which gives official status to the Welsh language. It’s also clear that the proposed law doesn’t establish rights to Welsh for individuals either.”*

## Children in Welsh-medium school crammed together like ‘sardines’

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg have accused Carwyn Jones, the First Minister, of “leaving children in limbo” because of his decision to refuse Cardiff Council’s bid to move Ysgol Treganna, the Welsh-medium primary school in Treganna/Canton, west Cardiff, to a bigger building to meet growing demand for Welsh-medium education in the capital. Ffred Ffransis, Cymdeithas education spokesman, said in May:

“It’s completely unfair that children have to suffer because of the inability of politicians to devise justice for those who want Welsh-medium education. Everyone should come together with aim of ensuring a Welsh-medium school in every community of Cardiff so that in future there are no overcrowding pressures.

“It’s disgraceful that so many non-Welsh speaking parents who want their children to receive Welsh language education are left in limbo as one tier of government argues with another. This situation is repeating itself in a number of other places in Wales - such as Rhydaman (Carmarthenshire) - as well.”

A spokesman for Ysgol Treganna parents, added:

“We’re furious. The school is more than over-crowded. With this decision, the Assembly is saying the current linguistic



**Ffred Ffransis,  
Cymdeithas Education Spokesman**

discrimination in Treganna is justified. The resources and school buildings Ysgol Treganna are insufficient to meet children’s educational needs.”

Cymdeithas yr Iaith is committed to supporting parents who want to secure and strengthen Welsh language education in all parts of Wales, whether in our rural villages or in our capital city. The Labour party is generally the principal source of the unwillingness to increase provision for Welsh-medium education. The pressure group that has been formed locally to press for increased provision for Welsh-medium education in west Cardiff is called “Sardins” in reference to the cramped conditions being endured by the children of Ysgol Treganna.

## Incomers to Cymru /Alba /Kernow must speak English says London government

The government in London are intending to introduce new rules to ensure that foreign students coming to Britain are able to speak English. Such a ruling would be a direct snub to the Celtic languages, and an even greater insult to the Celtic-speaking communities of Cymru and Alba that have to endure uncontrolled colonization by English-speaking incomers who do not try to use the local language. The new rules must have an opt-out for Welsh learners said Plaid Cymru’s Hywel Williams, MP for Arfon, in July. The English government has announced changes to Tier 4 (General) category immigration to make it a requirement for students studying at a below degree level course to pass an English-language test at a minimum of B1 level on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. This is estimated to be the equivalent of around 300 to 400 hours of study.

Mr Williams said “While fully understanding that the Government wants to crack down on bogus students attempting to enter the state illegally, we believe that they must take the position of Wales into

consideration in drawing up these rules. Wales is a bilingual country. It has strong links with many parts of the world, most notably Patagonia (in Argentina), and we wish to promote our language to whoever wants to learn it, within Wales and outside. It is ridiculous that a student wanting to come to Wales to learn or improve their Welsh must first spend around 400 hours learning English before they can even start a Welsh course, or that someone who has already spent years learning Welsh in Argentina must then learn English so that they can come to Wales!

“We will be raising this issue with the Minister for Immigration to come to an agreement under which students who can show that they are genuinely coming to Wales to learn Welsh can do so, whatever their fluency in English.

However, following the UK Border Agency’s refusal of visas to Welsh learners in the past, and the new Government’s consideration that languages such as Welsh are an expense rather than a core part of our daily activities, this may not be an easy battle.”

# S4/C

## Threat of major cut in funding for S4C

Plaid's deputy Leader in the Assembly, Helen Mary Jones, AC for Llanelli, described reports in July suggesting that the London government will cut almost a quarter of the budget for S4C, the Welsh-language television service, as shocking, adding that such cuts would endanger Welsh-language programming and Wales's broadcasting industry. Ms Jones said that people would rightly feel misled after Conservative assurances during the election campaign that S4C would be safe under a Tory government.

"The reports regarding S4C suggest a clear agenda within the ConDem Coalition to slash S4C's budget. If the reports are true, it will not only be a blow for the Welsh language and those of us who watch S4C programming, but it could severely undermine the broadcasting industry in Wales. S4C is an important player in commissioning programmes throughout Wales and an announcement like this could mean further difficulties for many companies who compete in this market.



**Helen Mary Jones AC**

"If these reports are true, it suggests that the Conservatives have some very serious questions to answer. During the general election campaign, key Welsh Conservative figures promised that S4C would be safe under a Tory government. It appears that those statements were clearly untrue and many people will rightly feel that they have been misled. I would urge those who are as shocked as I am at these reports to contact their local Conservatives and Lib Dems to ensure that they are fully aware of the damaging effects that these cuts would have."

## Constituency reform plans condemned

Plaid Cymru's parliamentary leader Elfyn Llwyd MP has criticised plans by the English Government that will slash Welsh representation at Westminster by up to a quarter, creating separate constituencies for the Welsh Assembly and Parliament, and hold parliamentary and assembly elections on the same day in 2015. The plans were formalised in the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill and in the Fixed-term Parliaments Bill.

Mr Llwyd said:

"These plans really are a recipe for confusion and disaster. They intend to uncouple the parliamentary and assembly constituency seats and in a separate piece of legislation have the elections on the same day. It is very possible that in May 2015 we will be voting in two elections for three different types of constituency and with three different voting systems (two for the Assembly, and a third for Westminster). Like everything else that Nick Clegg and his party have done since taking the Tory shilling, they've made an absolute pig's ear of this. There is need for reform of the voting system to make it properly proportional and there is

a need for fixed term parliaments, but on both issues the Liberal Democrats have got this wrong. The proper voting system is STV, a genuinely proportional system where your vote really matters, and a fixed term parliament should be for four years, not five.

"By forcing each constituency to have the same number of electors, largely irrespective of geography and history, they are doing Wales a major dis-service, cutting our number of MPs by up to 25%, but only 5% in England.

Apparently no constituency will be greater than 13,000 square kilometres, which will be of little comfort to us in Wales where the whole country is around 20,000 square kilometres. But this will still mean vast super-constituencies hundreds of kilometres long and wide, which won't be welcomed by constituents who will find it very difficult for them to see their MP on a regular basis. These are plans which have been hastily and badly prepared and are ill thought through. For a party which thinks that fair voting is its *raison d'être*, the Lib Dems have disappointed many today with their unfair plans for Wales."

## BANGOR UNIVERSITY APPOINT NON-WELSH SPEAKER AS HEAD

Campaigners reacted with disappointment after Bangor University decided to recommend appointing a non-Welsh speaking head in June. Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg argued that the University still had the chance to place a legal duty on the successful candidate to learn Welsh. Over recent weeks, students, staff and campaign groups across north Wales had asked university officials to reverse their decision not to make speaking or learning Welsh a legal condition for the new vice-Chancellor of the college. According to campaigners, the University had missed an opportunity to appoint a bilingual person to such a vital post. Rhys Llwyd, vice-chairman Cymdeithas and a research student at Bangor University, said "We're gutted that the University has carried on and appointed someone who can't speak Welsh. Bangor University no longer deserves to be described as a Welsh institution given its attitude to the local community. It's essential that the new official can communicate properly in Welsh given the substantial number of Welsh speaking students, staff and local communities here. The University still has an opportunity to make learning Welsh a legal condition of employment on the new officer, they have no reason not to do so."

Cymdeithas are demanding that the University take the following practical steps to attempt to rectify their glaring mistake.



**Prifysgol Bangor University, Gwynedd**

The society is pressing for the University to:

Include in the new Vice-Chancellor's contract that he must learn Welsh within his first year in the job, and if that condition is not fulfilled to restart the appointment process.

Immediately increase the number of Welsh-speaking officers on the Management Group from 0 to 2 by: (i) appointing a new bilingual Deputy Vice-Chancellor with one responsibility, namely designing and leading a Welsh-medium education and research strategy for the University and be a public leader for the institution in Wales; and (ii) ensuring that Welsh is essential for any other vice-Chancellor appointment

Adopt a new and stronger language scheme to ensure that every high-level post in the University from now on is a bilingual appointment.



# Éire



## Féile faoi bhláth – Yn Chruinnaght

Reachtáladh cruinniú cinn bhliana an Chonartha Cheiltigh in Oileán Mhanann i mbliana, i bPurt ny hInshy (Port na hInse / Peel). Is minic a dhéantar iarracht dátaí an chruinnithe cinn bhliana a shocrú gar d'fhéile náisiúnta nó d'fhéile idircheilteach (An Eisteddfod, An Mód, Lowendar Perran, Féile Lorient, nó a leithéidí) le deis a thabhairt do na hionadaithe fanacht agus freastal ar imeachtaí na féile. Is amhlaidh a deineadh i mbliana nuair a beartaíodh an 10ú agus 11ú Iúil a roghnú do chruinniú cinn bhliana an Chonartha Cheiltigh, agus Féile Náisiúnta agus Idircheilteach Mhanann, Yn Chruinnaght, á reáchtáil idir an 10ú agus an 18ú Iúil. D'oibrigh san go maith agus thug sé deis domsa athnuachan a dhéanamh ar mo tadhall pearsanta leis an bhféile.

Bhí an fhéile a bunaíodh sa bhliain 1924, Cruinnaght Vanninagh Ashoonagh ('Oireachtas Náisiúnta Mhanann), mar réamhthachtáí ar Yn Chruinnaght. Ba é William Cubbon, an chéad stiúrthóir ar Iarsmalann Mhanann, a bhí bainteach go dlúth freisin leis Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh (Cumann Gaeilge Mhanann) agus Cumann Domhanda na Manannach a bhunaigh é agus bhíodh sé ar siúl i dtús mhí na Samhna. Féile lae ina mbíodh comórtais amhránaíochta (an Mhanannais san áireamh), calaíona agus ceardlanna a bhí ann agus chríochnaíodh sé le ceolchoirm mhór. Tháinig deireadh leis le tús an Tarna Cogadh Domhanda.

Sna seascaidí, tháinig athbheochan chultúir agus spéis bhreise sa teanga, sa cheol agus sa rince. Sa bhliain 1977, d'eagraigh Mona Douglas, a bhí go mór chun tosaigh i gcúrsaí cultúir i Manainn, Feailley Vanninagh Rhumsaa (Féile Mhanannach Rhumsaa [Ramsey]) agus baineadh leas as suaitheantas an lae inniu den chéad uair. Níos tábhachtaí, thug sí fógra go ndéanfaí athbheochan ar Yn Chruinnaght i 1978 mar fhéile idircheilteach cúig lá. Reachtáladh an fhéile i ndeireadh Lúnasa i Rhumsaa. Bhí sí an-sásta, is cosúil, gur tugadh aitheantas don bhféile ag Oireachtas na Gaeilge, ag Gorsedd y Beirdd agus Yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol i gCymru agus ag an Mod in Albain. Is i Rhumsaa a d'fhan an fhéile go dtí 2006.

D'fhreastalaíós féin ar Yn Chruinnaght den chéad uair in 1983. Bhí an fhéile faoi lán seoil faoin mbliain sin. Bhí buíonta as gach ceann de na tíortha Ceilteacha páirteach inti agus bhí neart imeachtaí á reáchtáil in óstáin, ar na sráideanna agus i bpáirc Morrhagh, páirc ina bhfuil áiseanna áineasa ar imeall an

bhaile. Ceann de na hócáidí ab fhearr a bhí ann an bhliain sin ná geamaireacht ar an trá i Rhumsaa (coimhlínt idir na Lochlannaigh agus na Ceiltigh!), agus bhí fulacht (beárbaiciú) ina dhiaidh. Ar an gcuid den trá díreach trasna ón tábhairne 'The Prince of Wales' a bhí sé sin agus bhí an bhuíon cheoil Mhanannach 'Mannin Folk' ( beirt Éireannach ann!) ag casadh ar an mbalcóin ar an gcéad urlár. Ba le hÉireannach, John McCoy, 'The Prince of Wales' agus d'fheidhmigh an tábhairne mar chlub féile neamhoifigiúil ar feadh na mblianta. Bhíodh seisiúin iontacha ar siúl gach oíche go dtí go moch ar maidin. Bhí sé d'ádh ormsa lóistín a bheith agam sa tábhairne!

Ó shin i leith, bhíos ar ais minic go leor, ní don bhféile iomlán, b'fhéidir, ach do mhíre-

anna nó ar oícheanta faoi leith. I lár na nochtóidí, bhíodh díolaíocht mhaith ar iris an Chonartha Cheiltigh ag an bhféile, agus mé féin i measc na ndíoltóirí. Baineadh geit asam oíche amháin, más ea, nuair a iarradh orm éirí as an díolachán. Bhí aithne mhaith agam ar an té a d'iarr, ceoltóir Manannach a rabhas ina chomhluadar go minic ach a bhí anois ina stiúrthóir ar an bhféile. Bhí náire air ach mhínigh sé go bhfuair sé treoir. Is cosúil gur ghlac duine de Choimisinéirí Bhaile Rhumsaa, iarchomhalta den RAF, col le halt a bhí san eagrán ag tuairisciú ar an dul chun chinn a bhí déanta ag Sinn Féin sna toghcháin a bhí ar siúl tamall roimhe sin! Cé gur chuir an eacra as dúinn, nuair a pléadh é ag cruinniú cinn bhliana an Chonartha Cheiltigh beartaíodh gan gearán oifigiúil a dhéanamh de bharr an dlúthcheangail a bhí ag bail ghníomhacha Chraobh Mhanann leis an bhféile.

De réir mar a d'fhorbair an fhéile, éiríodh as na hóstáin a úsáid le haghaidh imeachtaí oíche agus tosnaíodh ar leas a bhaint as ollphuball agus bhí na hollphubail níos mó de réir mar a ghluais na blianta. Bhí an bhéim ar an rince, cuid maith, cé gur casadh amhrán nó dhó freisin. Bhíodh oícheanta faoi leith ag na tíortha éagsúla Ceilteacha. Faoin am sin, bhí an Prince of Wales imithe le fada (bhí



**Ceol agus rince ag an dream óg san White House i bPurt ny hInshy**



John McCoy tar éis filleadh ar Éirinn). Is teach altránais anois é. Ach bhí ionad eile tagtha chun cinn mar chineál club féile neamhoifigiúil, Tábhairne an Chaomhánaigh (Kavanagh's), trasna ón seanché irarainn. Is ansin a chruinníodh na ceoltóirí na hoícheanta nach raibh orthu a bheith i láthair don seisiún oifigiúil san ollphuball.

Is iomaí seisiún agus oíche mhaith a bhí in Kavanagh's. Bhíos ann oíche le Bernard Moffatt. Bhí ceoltóirí Manannacha agus beirt ó Mannin Folk i láthair agus dhá ghrúpa ceoltóirí agus rinceoirí as Éirinn, ceann as Ciarraí agus ceann as Ráth Cairn. Casadh ceol den scoth. Ós rud é nach raibh an áit mór, bhí orainn na rinceoirí a chur in airde ar bhoird bheaga cruinne (an dá cheann acu á gcoinneáil ag an mbun ag ceathrar fear an ceann!). Ansin bhí sé ina iomaíocht idir Máirtín Chóilín Anna Pháidín as Ráth Cairn agus fear óg de rinceoirí na Ríochta! 'The Mother of All Sessions' a thug Bernard ar ariamh i leith!

Bhíodh imeachtaí mórán gach tráthnóna i bpáirc Morragh, taispeántais rince ó na tíortha éagsúla, grúpaí ceoil agus bannaí píobaireachta. Ceann de na himeachtaí ba thaitneamhaí a bhíodh ann ná na cinn a raibh ‘Food and Folk’ mar theideal orthu a bhogadh timpeall ó thábhairne go tábhairne ar an mbaile i rith na seachtaine. Ghlacadh tír faoi leith tosaíocht sna seisiúin lá faoi leith ach bhíodh amhráin le cloisteáil as go leor tíortha ag aon seisiún.

Spreg an fhéile caradas idir ceoltóirí óga as na tíortha éagsúla. Sampla de sin ná an ceangal a d’fhás idir MacTullagh Vannin (Peter Cubberley, Mai Ying Lee, David Collister, Sue Ling Lee, John Corlett agus David Speers) agus an grúpa Éireannach Leodhais (Brian Ó hUiginn, Colm agus Aodán Ó Feinneadha, Pádraig Ó Farachtáin agus Seán Ó Conaill). Deich mbliana tar éis casadh ar a chéile, d’eagraigh siad seisiún i mBaile Átha Cliath mar chomóradh.

D’athraigh cúrsaí, áfach. Ní raibh an talamh ar a leagadh amach an t-ollphuball i Rhumsaa ar fáil a thuilleadh agus ba ghá machnamh arís. Bhíodh corr-imeacht anseo is ansíúd in áiteanna eile ar fud an oileáin i rith na mblianta ach bhí an fócas go hiomlán ar Rhumsaa. Anois, ó 2007 i leith, tá tromlach na bpríomh-imeachtaí san fhéile bunaithe i bPurt ny hInshy (Port na hInse). Tá athrú ar leagan amach na féile freisin. I mbliana, cé go raibh cúpla oíche rince ar an gclár, bhí béim níos mó ar cheolchoirmeacha agus ar thaispeántaí foirmeálta. Bhí roinnt imeachtaí i Rhumsaa fós, ceolchoirm óige ar an Satharn, agus rince agus Buíon Cheoil Ellan Vannin (Píopaí agus Drumaí) sa Morragh tráthnóna Domhnaigh. Is ann freisin a bhí léacht na féile ar an Máirt, Leacht Ian Ó Laoighre, ar chath farraige idir cuid de loingeas Shasana agus na Fraince in aice le cósta Mhanann sa bhliain 1760, *Thurot agus Elliot*, (bhí seo mar chuid de cogadh na seacht mbliain san Eoraip, bhí an bua ag Elliot agus na Sasanaigh) a tugadh ag Bob Carswell, le seisiún ‘sea shanties’ ina dhiaidh. Bhí an léacht spéisiúil. Tá amhrán i Manannais faoin eachtra. Bhí baint ag Thurot le hoileán Mhanann, chaith sé na blianta roimhe san ag smuigléireacht ón oiléan. Rud nar luadh sa gcaint ná gur Éireannach a bhí ina shean athair agus is gaol leis, Captain Farrell, ba chúis leis teacht go hoileán Mhanann. Is cainteoir líofa Gaelg é Bob Carswell – meas tú tuige nach raibh an léacht i Manannais?

Bhí dhá imeacht i nDoolish (Dúghlas): rince Briotanach/Manannach an chéad oíche Domhnaigh (ní raibh tinreamh ró-mhaith ann, is baolach) agus ceolchoirm na ‘Red Hot Chill Pipers’ ar an Déardaoin. I bPort na hInse, bhí cruitire agus amhránaí as Cymru le chéile san ardeaglais ar an gCéadaoin (taispeántas den scoth), rince agus ceol Cornach agus Breathnach ar an Déardaoin agus ceolchoirmeacha idircheilteacha ar an Satharn is ar an Domhnach deireanach. In ainneoin aon locht a bhfaighfeá ar an bhféile, is léir go bhfuil sí faoi bhláth.

Bhí fáiltiú ann do na teachtaí bráithreachais ó na féilte eile. Go tráthúil, bhí an ócáid sin san ionad céanna ina raibh cruinniú cinn bhliana an Chonartha Cheiltigh, an Centenary Hall i bPort na hInse. Ós rud é nach raibh duine ón Mod i láthair, labhair Steve Jackson ar a son. Tá Steve ina chathaoirleach ar Chraobh Oileán Mhanann den Chonradh Ceilteach agus ar choiste Yn Chruinnaght. Ós rud é nach raibh ionadaí ó Fhéile Lorient i láthair, eagraíodh go labhar-fadh Gi Keltiek, rúnaí Chraobh na Briotáine den Chonradh Ceilteach. Thug an bheirt acu aitheantas cuí do thacaíocht an Chonartha Cheiltigh, dar ndóigh.



**Steve Jackson chathaoirleach ar Craobh Oileán Mhanann den Conradh Ceilteach, ag labhairt ar an bhfáiltiú.**

Nuair a bhí an fhéile bunaithe i Rhumsaa, níor deineadh aon iarracht i ndáiríre cuairteoirí a mhealladh. An leithscéal a tugadh ná nach raibh go leor lóistín ar an mbaile. Bhí cuid den fhírinne ansin, is dóigh, mar thógadh lucht na féile an chuid ba mhó den lóistín. Mar sin féin, dá bhfaighfeá lóistín ach é a chuartú go maith chun tosaigh ar dhátaí na féile, bhí de bhuntáiste go raibh gach imeacht ar an mbaile. Anois agus na himeachtaí scaipthe ar fud an oileáin, is cinnte go mbíonn carr ag teastáil le freastal ar na himeachtaí go léir, fiú amháin dá mbeadh do rogha áite lóistín agat. Agus céard faoin té a dtaitneadh braon leis tar éis ócáide? Leis an leagan amach nua, is deacair áit ar nós an Prince of Wales nó Kavanagh’s teacht chun cinn. Mar sin féin, sé an áit is gaire dóibh ná an Teach Bán (The White House) i bPort na hInse. Is ann a bhíonn ceol Manannach le cloisteáil mórán gach Satharn agus bhí seisiún iontach ann tar éis na ceolchoirme ar an gCéadaoin san ardeaglais agus na Breathnaigh ag glacadh páirte freisin. Bhí sé go deas an tarna glúin de cheoltóirí Manannacha a fheiceáil agus a chloisteáil agus iad faoi lán seoil. Mo mholadh duit ná fanacht i bPort na hInse!

**Cathal Ó Luain**

### **Summary**

*This article describes the genesis of the Manx national and interceltic festival, Yn Chruinnaght and how it has developed over the years. One of the best aspects was the fringe music sessions. The festival was based in Ramsey until 2007 but now most events take place in Peel but with some still in Ramsey and a few in Douglas and an increased emphasis on formal concerts. This years events are dealt with briefly. The conclusion is that the festival is thriving!*

## **Fine Words but Foul Deeds?**

### *The Irish State and the Irish Language*

In Carn 145 the principal points of the Irish Government’s Draft 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language were outlined. These contained many positive proposals including support for Irish language medium education. The Oireachtas Committee (Dail and Senate) on Tourism, Culture, Sport, Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs which considered the Draft Strategy and heard submissions on it issued its report in July. There were 39 recommendations in all. Amongst them was one that Údáras na Gaeltachta should retain the primary function of developing the economy and infrastructure of the Irish speaking districts and any proposed restructuring should not involve a reduction in the services it provides. However the Government’s capital programme, published days before, proposed a reduction in investment funds allocated to the Dept. of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs from €105M this year to €30M in 2016. The CEO of the Údáras, Pádraig Ó hAoláin, said it would not be able to function on that basis.

The report also included recommendations supportive of Irish medium education. However what is the reality now? Up to two years ago Gaelscoileanna was assisting in the opening of four or five new primary schools each year in the Republic under the rules then operated by the Dept of Education and there were nine committees actively seeking to open schools with the likelihood of five at least getting recognition. Then the Dept put a moratorium on the process and last year and this year no Irish medium primary schools were given recognition. The new policy seems to be that only new schools in growth areas will be recognised, a policy that totally ignores the widespread proven demand for Irish medium education right across the country much of it not in population growth areas. Further more one proposed Gaelscoil, for Rathoath, Co. Meath, was clearly in a growth area and was still refused. The founders and parents have decided to open the school this September without Dept of Education recognition. This of course places a huge additional financial burden on the committee and parents. Gaelscoileanna is supporting the effort (as are other Irish language organisations) and have called for donations to assist Ráth Tó. Contact may be made at [www.gaelscoileann.ie](http://www.gaelscoileann.ie). Local community and businesses are helping.

Meanwhile in the North of Ireland Education Minister, Caitríona Ruane, announced that four new Irish language primary schools will open in September, a decision criticised by UUP MLA, Tom Elliott !.

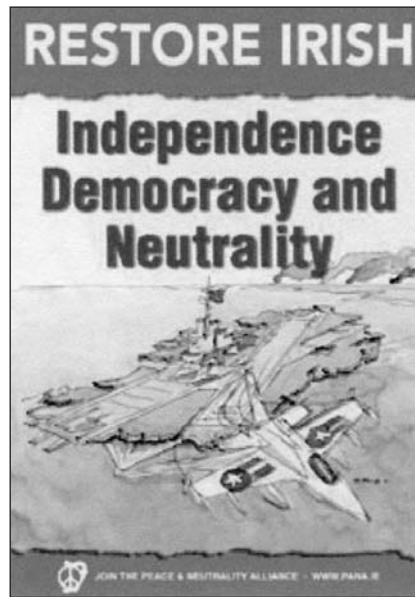
## PEACE AND NEUTRALITY ALLIANCE – US ARMY OUT OF SHANNON

The Peace & Neutrality Alliance is a broad-based alliance established in 1996 to advocate that Ireland should have its own independent foreign policy, and that neutrality should be its key component, which should be pursued primarily through a reformed United Nations.

We established it because we believed that the Irish political elite intended to destroy Irish independence, democracy and neutrality by integrating Ireland into the US/EU/NATO military structures in order to ensure our full and active participation in the resource wars of the 21st century. This commitment to a neo-liberal militarist ideology will have one absolutely inevitable outcome: the military defeat of the US/EU/NATO axis and the collapse of the economy. We therefore opposed the Amsterdam, Nice and EU Constitution/Lisbon Treaties, which transferred sovereign power away from the Irish people and their national democratic institutions to the European Union, which seeks to transform into a centralised neo-liberal militarised Superstate. We sought to ensure that a Protocol, similar to that already achieved by the Danish people, be added to the treaties that would have excluded Ireland from paying for, or being involved with, the militarisation of the EU. PANA also opposed the Afghanistan and Iraq wars and Ireland's participation in those wars by the decision of the Irish political elite to destroy Irish neutrality as laid down in international law via the Hague Convention of 1907. We held the first demonstration against the use of Shannon Airport in May 2002. We have achieved several successes. We were the only broad based alliance that opposed the Amsterdam Treaty - 38% of the people voted no. We played a key role in defeating the first Nice and Lisbon Treaties and took an active role in the Forum on Europe.

While we were defeated in the 2nd Lisbon Treaty there can be little doubt that this was because of the elite who spent millions of euro advocating a yes vote and who destroyed the Forum on Europe which had supported democratic debate. It was also due to a totally biased corporate media. In the case of Shannon Airport, the number of US troops using it on their way to their imperial wars in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan has continued – over 430,000 in 2009 alone. Planes that could be carrying prisoners to torture chambers are not searched. The US military has a permanent presence in the Airport and it has cost the Irish taxpayer nearly €10 million over the last few years to protect it.

While it is true that the political elite have so far won, everything we predicted fourteen years ago has proven to be correct. However



the vassal states of the US have already withdrawn from the war in Iraq and the defeat and withdrawal of the US is inevitable. In Afghanistan & Pakistan the same process will ultimately follow. The reality is that the American people are becoming impoverished by the wars of the American Empire which it can no longer afford. It is now absolutely clear that this neo-liberal militarist ideology has totally failed.

PANA campaigns for jobs at home and peace abroad by the rejection of this mistaken ideology. PANA needs your support now and membership is open to all individuals and groups that accept our objectives. Please complete the application form and help us build a Social Europe, a Partnership of independent, democratic states, of legal equals without a military dimension.

**Roger Cole**

Membership of PANA is €45 for an individual waged and €15 unwaged. Write to PANA, Dalkey Business Centre, 17 Castle Street, Co. Dublin. Payment should preferably be by Standing Order (entitles to free badge) to National Irish Bank, 9/10 Upper Georges Street, Dublin Laoghaoire, Co. Dublin. IBAN Number: IE05 DABA 95160021 106511. See also website, [www.pana.ie](http://www.pana.ie)

The Irish Branch of the Celtic League is affiliated to PANA. A Conference on *An Independent Irish Foreign Policy – A Future?* will be held by PANA in Dublin in early September with a wide range of speakers including TDs from Government and Opposition parties for some sessions. Details are on website. It is hoped to report on this in the next issue of Carn.

## Anglo-Irish, How much is too much?

In Carn 145 we reported on the economic difficulties of recent years in Ireland and noted in a comment that the rescue of Anglo-Irish Bank was ill advised. The amount that the taxpayer would have to put in the bank was then estimated at €22 Billion. Unfortunately as matters progressed they became worse and in August it was announced that the total State aid was set to exceed €24 Billion. This was as a result of the deeper discounts being applied to the toxic loans that it is transferring to the National Asset Management Agency (NAMA). Continuing concerns were expressed about what the final cost of the bailout would be to the taxpayers and it was noted that every man, woman and child would pay at least €5,500 each for the folly of the few. Some commentators pressed on the issue of how much would be too much and were little satisfied with the response from the Minister for Finance, Brian Lenihan, who essentially dodged the issue. The mistake made in giving a blanket guarantee (including all bond holders) was focussed on, particularly as these guarantees will expire in September.

Meanwhile Anglo-Irish Bank are seeking to try to reverse the transfer out of €1.75M out of the retirement fund of the bank's former Chairman, Sean Fitzpatrick (incorrectly referred to in Carn 145 as ex CEO), into a pension product in Dec 2009 for his wife. Fitzpatrick was declared bankrupt early in July after Anglo blocked his attempt to reach a settlement deal with creditors to repay some of their debt over time from asset sales. Anglo want to reverse the transfer out of his pension to maximise the repayment of his loans over the course of his bankruptcy.

The real cost of the financial debacle and unbounded greed of developers continued to escalate as it became clear that the so called 'Ghost' (uncompleted) housing estates littered around the country are posing serious health and environmental dangers. A study has found problems with incomplete sewerage systems, water contamination, unfinished roads and open manholes. The pilot study, on behalf of the Dept of the Environment, was carried out in county Laois and found a quarter of housing developments granted planning permission in the last five years had health and safety problems. Unfortunately it also transpired that local authority requirements for building bonds (supposed to be taken out to ensure estates are completed) were inadequate or were completely ignored.

It is estimated by the Dept of the Environment that there may be as many as 650 ghost estates whose future remains uncertain. If they are not to be completed, and NAMA will probably have a role in this, councils will have to take charge of the estates and complete unfinished roads and sewerage as well as demolishing half-finished houses. And at whose cost? why YOURS of course.



# Kernow



## Cornish Crèche Celebrates a Successful Start

### Yma Kernowek ow kwaya uskis!

Flehes ow kows an eyl dh'y gila yn Kernowek dre an internet woja dew jorna gen an tavas yn skol, aspioryon, gedyorejow, kelyn ha brownys ow kul aga ambosow yn Kernowek, an para rugby 'Morladron a Gernow' owth ornda kowethas dhiwyethek rag skoodhyoryon, flehes ha'ga herens ow tyski Kernowek war-barth yn skol veythrin, servis trelyans sowyn, ha henwyn stret diwyethek.

Yma an re ma mes radn an taklow a yll bos gweles avel sewyans an kressyans yn dynyans an tavas Kernowek yn bledhednyow a-dhiwedhes. An Dasserghyans Kernowek a dhallathas yn

Kernowek orth keniver level. Da yw gweles an hwans eus yn y geveer dhe flehes keffres ha dyskajoryon. Apposyanjow warrantys nowyth a yll bos usyes gen skolyow ha dyskyblon erel ma'll bos selyes dyskans a'n tavas Kernowek war grond yw kehalval orth tavasow erol.

Yma dhe'n tavas presens kreffa dherag an dus drefen bos sinys diwyethek a veu gwres war-lergh polyci nowyth Konsel Kernow, - ha ma hwath moy a Gernowek yn paperyow, yn lyvrow-termyn ha gen negysyow. Yma meur kressyys hwel Servis Trelyans MAGA y'n teyr bledhen dhiwettha, gen dyffrans trelyanjow pekar'a tattous, lavarow-eva rag



kensa bledhednyow an 20ves kansbledhen ha krevhe a'n termyn na. Brassa radn a'n termyn na, y hwrug perthi fowt a skoodhyans sodhogel ha fowt a vona ha daffar, mes meur a nerth ha hwel a veu proviys gen an vodhogyon era lavurya heb powes dhe avoncy a klappya aga thavas.

Pa veu an tavas aswonys war-lergh an Chartour Europek yn 2002, yth era tro dhe 'poyntya sodhogyon rag an tavas ha kawas keffres an mona ha'n skoodhyans sodhogel a wrug chanjya an kas rag Kernowek. Keskowethyans an Tavas Kernowek, MAGA, a veu formys yn 2006 gen korfow soghogel ha kowethyanjow a-vodh unys dhe brovia towl displegyans ledan. An mona yw furnyes gen an Governans (RU) ha Konsel Kernow. Yma Konsel Kernow orth pedn an hwel gen pajer sodhek - Dygthyor Displegya, dew Sodhek Adhyskans radndermyn ha Sodhek rag Skoodhya Ragdresow. Yma hwath odhom dhe MAGA a'n bagas a glappys uji ow sakra aga theryn dhe wul klassys ha dyffrans hwarvosow erel, lies gweyth y'n vledhen ahes.

A'n termyn a veu 'poyntyes agan sodhogyon rag adhyskans yn mis Genver, yma prest moy a skolyow ow rekwirya

demedhyanjow, kedhlow ha derivadow. Yma servis radyo internet nowyth gen program pub seythen ha moy a lyvrow a veu dyllys y'wedh.

An charj eus dhen, rag an bledhednyow a vedn dos, yw spedy a dhe trelyya an kressyans yn hwans an dus, ha'n kressyans yn hewelder an tavas, dhe prest moy a glappys abel a vedn usya Kernowek pub dedh oll. Na valsa an towl na mar unpossybl dhe wul avel y'n termyn eus passyys!

Rag kedhlow pella, klassys, hwarvosow ha nowodhow erel, kewgh dhe wiasva MAGA orth [www.magakernow.org.uk](http://www.magakernow.org.uk), gwrewgh gorra agas hanow rag an lyther-nowodhow po dannvon e-bost dhe [cornishlanguage@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:cornishlanguage@cornwall.gov.uk)

**Jenefer Lowe**

*Dygthyor Displegya, MAGA*

email / epost: [jlowe@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:jlowe@cornwall.gov.uk)

### Summary

*Cornish on the move! Since the establishment of MAGA, the Cornish Language Partnership in 2006, a far-reaching development strategy to promote the Cornish language has made great progress.*

Cornwall's only Cornish language preschool celebrated its first successful seven months in business last Saturday (17th July) with a party for parents, supporters and children alike.

Skol Veythrin Karenza (SVK), which started in Cornwall in January this year, was the first school of its kind to open its doors to families with young children who were interested in learning the Cornish language. The school was set up following the creation of Movyans Skolyow Meythrin - Nursery Schools Movement (MSM) in 2008, which aims to establish a series of Cornish language preschools throughout Cornwall in the coming years. The movement took inspiration from the Moonjer Veggey schools in Mannin/Isle of Man, CNSA in Alba/Scotland and Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin in Cymru/Wales, all of which the founders of MSM had been in touch with.

Over the last seven months SVK has attracted 10 children and their parents to attend the preschool every Saturday to learn the Cornish language and the culture of Cornwall. Set in the fully equipped crèche facility of Cornwall College Camborne, parents leave their children with an early years Cornish language specialist in the crèche every Saturday and go off to learn Cornish themselves in an adjacent classroom, with a trained teacher.

One of the founders and organisers of the movement is a French lady, from Bourgogne, Emilie Champliaud, who has a child in the crèche herself and helps out with the children. Emilie, who is a keen student of Cornish only came to Cornwall to live last year. Emilie said:

"I have been really encouraged with the development of the school over the last seven months. We have received a lot of support from the community for the project and many people have come along to help out in any way that they can. We now want to look carefully at ways to build on our success."

Both the school and the MSM movement are currently run as not for profit community interest companies, but organisers are now considering forming a charity to take the project on into the future.

The League's general secretary, Rhisiart Tal-e-bot, who is a founding member of MSM and teaches the children at the school every week, said that the group are now looking to formalise the structure of the organisation further. Rhisiart said:

"The setting up of the school happened very quickly and we have all been amazed at the commitment shown by parents and our



**Rhiart Tal-e-bot, one of the founding members of MSM, teaches the children at the school every week**

*Cornish Crèche continued*

community partners. It has also been a lot of work for those involved.

It was always our intention to set up a full time fully functioning Cornish language preschool, but I don't think any of us fully realised the amount of work that this would involve. We have some ideas about how we

can expand our provision further from September and we will make the most of our holidays to think this through! We would like SVK to run as a model school for preschool managers to visit who are thinking about introducing the language into their own settings."

Since the preschool started, Maga - one of the sponsors of the school - has been inundated with requests from existing preschools in Cornwall who have been so inspired by the success of SVK that they now also want to introduce the Cornish language into their own provision.

Rhiart said that the Celtic League has also contributed to the success of the project. He said:

"In addition to the Kernow branch raising much needed funds for the school, one of the main inspirational factors that helped in setting up the movement was my first visit to Mannin/Isle of Man for a Celtic League AGM. On that visit, I saw firsthand the success of the Manx language Mooijer Veggye pre-schools. I remember thinking that if it can be done in Mannin, there is no reason why the experience should not be emulated in Cornwall.

Then at the 2007 AGM in Breizh/Brittany, the League passed a resolution supporting the creation of a bilingual preschool in Cornwall, which was up to me to implement."

SVK will begin again in September 2010 and will run every Saturday during term time.

**Rhiart Tal-e bot**

## "ONE AND ALL" "Speaking out with a Cornish voice"

Following discussions, technical training, sound tests and an examination of proposed content and schedules, the prospect of a Celtic League voice on the radio draws ever closer.

Tony Leamon, Mike Chappell, Chris Webber and others from the Celtic League in Cornwall have met up with Matthew Rogers, station manager of Source FM whose studios are situated in the campus of the Combined Universities of Cornwall at Tremough near Penryn.

Source FM is a new community radio station and already has a listener ship in excess of 6,000 together with an untold number who listen on line.

Mike Chappell conducted a mock radio show and was described as a 'natural' by Matthew and Tony soon mastered the equipment.

Tony remarked, 'Mike has the ability to chat and interview and I have the knowledge to work the equipment. We shall all try our very best to make this programme reflect the true Cornwall which is too often brushed under the mat along with news from the other Celtic Nations. I know Mike intends to invite as many guests as possible to take part in the programmes.'

Provisionally, "One and All" will be aired on Monday mornings for an hour slot sometime between 9am and 11am but Matthew has also offered extended times on

Tuesday afternoons and is likely to 'go live' later this year.

A further meeting is planned Tuesday 6th July when a full hour long practise programme now in preparation will be trailed.

The "One and All" programme will seek to air real Cornish music, the studios being fully licensed to play music, Cornish history, language, dialect, place names, literature and poetry, give airtime to Cornish politicians and campaigners, Celtic news as well as probably progressing to a Cornish phone in.

Mike Chappell said, 'As part of the League's Operation Phoenix which will involve a protest outside the BBC later this

year, we have also been pleased to liaise with Matthew at Source FM, an up and coming radio station to really project Cornish and Celtic issues in our Country. Matthew has been extremely kind and I intend to throw this resource open to "One and All" in the Cornish movement. We shall be able to air things that the other stations refuse to touch such as Cornwall's constitution and so on. Matthew has even kindly offered me recording equipment so we shall be able to go out and record live events.'

Matthew remarked, 'I am excited by the plans I have seen outlined and am sure that this venture will prove a great success. There are many excellent ideas in the proposals I have seen.'

Source FM can be heard on 96.1FM and online at - <http://www.thesourcefm.co.uk/>

**Tony Leamon**



**Tony Leamon, Chris Webber and Matthew Rogers at Source FM Studios.**



# YSTORY BRYTHEN KERNOW

*Men of the Kingdom of Kernow have been shown to have worn short tartan pleated garments similar to what we call kilts since early history. With 18 current generic and family tartans registered in Cornwall plus the black kilt, Cornish tartan is part of the revival of Celtic Cornish culture.*

The Cornish are Brythonic Celts along with the Welsh and Bretons who have similar languages to Cornish.

The tradition of wearing tartan pleated kilts in Cornwall goes back many centuries into the annals of time. Although the short pleated kilt did not appear in Scotland until the 18th century woven tartan was used long before in the land of the Celts, colours and patterns depicting which district, clan, tribe or family they belonged to. Clearly if Julius Caesar and medieval bench ends are evidence, men in Cornwall seem to have been wearing kilts a long time, women in Cornwall have been depicted wearing tartan shawls as late as the 19th century. History records that the Cornish, after their Kings were displaced, fought hard to preserve their culture, customs and way of life. We know kilts were banned on fear of death in Scotland but there is no record of this censorship in Cornwall, although the English banned many other things, but history records there were eight major Cornish rebellions over 100 years and an estimated eight in nine male adults died fighting.



Since the design of the first modern Cornish tartan in the 1950's by E.E. Morton Nance several others have been produced. The weavers of bygone ages were most ingenious artists, manufacturing woollen cloth that astounded other nations with its richness and singularity. Their method of dyeing the material and its fabrication was unique, both warp and woof were woven in alternate colours.

The Celts were ever lovers of colour and the Celtic nations of both the western continent (Brittany) and Britain who were contemporary with the Romans wore the same checkered or tartan garments described by the Romans as 'braccae' and indeed in the Welsh, Cornish and Breton languages the equivalent term is 'brythen' meaning checkered or tartan and hence the derivation of their name 'Brythen' to 'Briton'.

The Brythonic Celt wore a short garment belted around his waist and an upper tartan garment of the Ancient Briton was no doubt the prototype of the plaid of the modern Highlander with this difference, where as the Highlander pins his plaid with a single brooch to his left shoulder, the British Celt pinned his plaid on both shoulders.

**Peter R Morton Nance**

## THE GWETHNOC TARTAN COMPANY

Prop: **Peter R Morton Nance**

**Cornish Tartan & Tartan Wear**

**Bespoke Tartan Wear**

**Men's Kilt Hire**

**Jewellery in Cornish Tin**

**Tartan Design**

Cresen An Brthen Kernow –  
The Cornish Tartan Centre  
90 Fore Street, Redruth,  
Kernow/Cornwall TR15 2BP

0044 (0)1209 213131 /  
(0)8453303919

Email: [peter@cornishtartans.com](mailto:peter@cornishtartans.com)  
Website: [www.cornishtartans.com/](http://www.cornishtartans.com/)

## The Cornish people – The Insults Continue

In the run up to the World Cup in South Africa several highly charged articles appeared in the newspapers about the England Team and the reasons why Cornish people should support that team as opposed to any other.

One such paper to run a series of articles with inflammatory titles was the Western Morning News, an organ of the massive Northcliffe Media Empire which owns dozens of local newspapers including the Daily Mail and which enjoys a virtual stranglehold on the printed press in Cornwall.

The Western Morning News, in common with many other newspapers also has an online version and until fairly recently, a members forum.

Following scores of complaints, the forum was eventually closed, as it became the haunt of several people who enjoyed hurling abuse at the Cornish people and anyone who expressed a divergent view. Perhaps sadly, the online version of the newspaper which is entitled 'This Is Cornwall' as it takes in the Cornishman, West Briton and Cornish Guardian papers as well, allows readers comments to be recorded beneath selected articles.

A highly biased column piece also recently appeared in the Northcliffe owned 'West Briton' weekly newspaper penned by 'Charlie Knowles' who accused Cornish people of being less than patriotic if they supported anyone other than the England Football Team and noted with surprise that a few years ago, countless Cornish people actually supported South Africa when a team

from that country played England at Rugby. Mr. Knowles goes on to inform that Cornwall's stated ambition of limited self government might be damaged if anyone other than the England Team should be supported.

Vitriolic and outward abuse has been allowed to occur on the comment columns of 'This is Cornwall' and because they dare to be different, Cornish people and a wide variety of Cornish political and cultural organisations have been slated including some who declared themselves bards of the Cornish Gorsedd and Councillors, some being called fascist, some terrorists, many racists and so on. Those who pronounce themselves Cornish on the comment postings have been threatened and demeaned.

As an experiment and noting that the number of comments recorded beneath one such on line article had exceeded 500, I checked through the various comments and then telephoned Northcliffe Media asking to be put through to their Digital Editor. I was refused permission and told that if I had concerns about any of the postings, I should report the matter via the 'abuse report' system on the website. This I did although to do so took me nearly three hours.

Noting that many of the offensive remarks remained in situ the following day, I emailed the various comments to the Editor in Chief of the 'Western Morning News'. He emailed me back asking that I report them via the 'abuse report' system, which I again did. Some of the offensive remarks were removed,

however many have been allowed to remain.

I have recorded a sample of the least offensive but highly imperialistic comments below to give a taste of what near un-moderated comment columns can descend to:

“Oh dear! Last time I looked Cornwall was a County within England. I do think that these so called Nationalists are off their trolleys.”

Comparing Cornish difference and diversity to violence, one poster writes: “Read the comments from the nationalists if you want to know how extreme they are, read the invented history stirred up by the likes of TGG creator of the chains book. If others wish to debate with this late arrival feel free, the evidence is below showing the type of person attracted to Cornish nationalism and people are right to be warned about how dangerous they are, no doubt Nicky Reilly friends and relatives thought he was a nice guy before he did what he did, there is a thin line between passion and extremism and to stir bigoted attitudes is to cross that line, the very story is extremist. All just read the hate of England and judge if you want to support bigots.”

“Cornish means people from the English shire of Cornwall”

To a direct quote from Cornwall Councils’ Diversity Policy, one frequent poster identifying herself as Sarah states: “Tony la la land. The Cornish are not a minority in Cornwall, they are the majority. But they are not nationalists as you deem the word Cornish to mean. Cornish means people from the English shire of Cornwall not nationalist, English is the only language spoken natively”

Another poster identifying himself as being from the north of England posted: “First they ignore you. Then they laugh at you. Then they fight you. Then you win. (Then some crazed nationalist shoots you)”

A further calling himself Charles from Somerset continually posts:

“God Save the Queen.” and when any discussion of Cornish difference is mentioned a link is made to a ‘You Tube’ site depicting an hysterical child.

Another poster ‘Ben’ states in response to the fact that not all Cornish people for various historical and cultural reasons are happy flying the flag of St George notes:

“This is pure and simple racist hate and someone is going to get hurt, let us all hope the police come down hard and source the people behind this. My neighbour is one person I will enjoy handing over”

Whilst another poster tells a self confessed Cornishman that “you encapsulate the evil spirit of a handful of people stuck in a time warp, the amount of people who hate England are such an insignificant amount it is debatable if this story was worth writing in the first place” even though no anti English hatred or sentiment had been expressed.

Meanwhile Sarah again delivers her considered judgement by saying that the



“Cornish is person living in or from Cornwall and is composed mostly of English people. People are free to wave whatever flag they wish but they are not free to make racist comments or pretend they are the only true Cornish people due to living in remote part of the county and stating they are from 15 generations of pure Cornish blood. We are all Saxons the pure blood thing is a creation of Harry Potter and Kernow lovers and has no place in Cornwall 2010”

The grammatical and factual errors have been allowed to remain exactly as recorded on the newspaper website.

I am glad that Cornwall Councils’ ‘Corporate Equality and Diversity Framework’ document issued earlier this year makes the following declaration in its Forward:

“In Cornwall this means it is essential that we deliver within the context of our unique geography, heritage and culture and that we take full account of those people in our communities that describe themselves as Cornish and who consider themselves, a minority group.”

And in paragraph 2:

“Cornwall has a unique and special culture heritage. An increasing number of people describe themselves as Cornish and it is important in all our equality and diversity work that we actively recognise Cornish as a minority group and continue to support the Cornish Language and the Cornish indigenous culture.”

I am also glad that the Chief Executive of Cornwall Council has written to the relevant Whitehall Department adding the Councils’ support to the calls for proper recognition of the Cornish as a National Minority.

Past experience has taught however that Westminster Governmental Departments and Ministries and related quangos have little time for those who dare to proclaim themselves Cornish. I fear that we, the Cornish people will have to continue to endure insult, vitriol and belittling comments and that until the Westminster Government takes action, we the Cornish will have no redress or protection in law and the unfettered abuse of the Cornish under class will remain.

**Mike Chappell**

## GRAFFITI



Following a break of two or more years, Nationalist graffiti and stickers are appearing across the Duchy.

The stickers are of the highest artistic quality and have been seen in prominent places such as parking machines and cash points (ATM's) around various towns and call for Cornish home rule, Cornish freedom and the like.

It is a matter of speculation whether the police in Cornwall with their popularity at an all time low will allocate resources to this as has occurred recently on the Isle of Man.

# Mannin

## Musthaa beg elley ayns Mannin

Mysh Mee Houney shoh chaie, haink kuse dy leih-gherrymyn rish er raaidyn as boal-laghyn ayns Mannin. Va stoo goll rish 'Mannin Aboo!' ry akin, chammah as ny h-enmyn jeh cheeraghyn ennagh daag ny Goaldee tra va'n impiraght oc goll magh ass, marish ny daaytn daag ny Goaldee ny cheeraghyn shen (ga nagh row ooilley ny daaytn kiart). Dy chelleeragh, v'eh jeeaghyn dy row meoiryn-shee Vannin gaghtey myr dy beagh possan mooar dy hranlaasee-agglee er chee jannoo cragh ayns Mannin Veg Veen. Va meeryn beggey ayns ny pabyryn-naight dy row ny meoiryn-shee soit er feddyn magh quoi va lunney yn 'trod-dan ashooneyragh' shoh. Lurg tammylt, va fer aeg ny ghaa goit seose. Foddee dy beagh cassid jeh jeeyl vyskidagh jeant noi fer ny ghaa jeu shid. Foddee ayns cheer ennagh elley, veagh final ennagh er ve currit er peiagh ennagh, as veagh shen er ve yn jerrey jeh'n chooish. Agh jarrood shen ayns Mannin. Ghow skeealyn quaagh as boiraghyn toshiaght dy heet magh bentyn da'n chooish as ny h-aghtyn va meoiryn-shee dellal ree.

Burrys enn quoi va fer ny ghaa jeh'n sleih aegey va cur seose ny sleih-gherrymyn ashooneyragh, as foddee v'adsyn mastey possan haink ry cheilley dy scrysey magh sleih-gherrymyn jeh nyn yioin hene. Dy fir-rinagh, cha row monney sleih-gherrymyn jeant, agh, kyndagh rish yn aght va ny meoiryn-shee loayrt, veagh sleih ennagh er ve smooinghtyn dy beagh eh costal meeil-laghyn dy phunt dy gheddyn rey roo. Eisht, haink skeealyn as faaueyn mygeayrt dy row ny meoiryn-shee gaghtey er aghtyn neu-chooie. Dinsh guilley ennagh da caarjyn dy daink 'un veoir-shee jeig' dys cummal e lught-thie as ad 'ceau jaggadyn-flak'. Ren ad cur lhieu eh gys stashoon meoiryn-shee raad nagh row ad feer chooyrtoil rish, as cha jin-nagh ad lowal da loayrt rish e phaarantyn. S'cosoylagh dy nee blaatar paart jeh shoh, agh, dy firrinagh, s'kiart bun y skeeal. Va'n guilley shoh goit seose mastey sleih aegey elley. Ghow ny meoiryn-shee ny chell-vaneyn shooylagh as ny co-earrooderyn oc, as t'eh grait dy dug ny meoiryn-shee ny chellvaneyn as co-earrooderyn gys Sostyn raad hie ad er ronsaghey d'eddyn magh row feanish jeh kimmeeys orroo! Chammah as shen, va baggyrt jeant er sleih va goit seose dy beagh cassidyn jeant noi oc dy row co-chialg goll er reaghey oc. Va skeealyn dy row meoiryn-shee briaght jeh sleih row Gaelg oc! Y red smessey sy chooish shoh,

shen dy row fer aasit oney goit seose ec meoiryn-shee ec e hie hene as v'eh er ny leei-deil ersooyl as glass-laue er. Va shen scam-mytagh ass towse. T'eh jeeaghyn dy smooinee meoiryn-shee ennagh dy row Mainshter Mooar ennagh leei-deil sleih aegey bolvanagh er shaghryn. Agh cha nel shen feer liklee noadyr.

Cha row lheid ny skeealyn shoh ry chlashtyn er y radio, ny ry lhaih ayns pabyryn-naight. Son shickyrys, ren fer ny ghaa gra er y radio dy row eh jeeaghyn dy row laue ro lajer ec ny meoiryn-shee. Agh dobb ard-veoiryn-shee shen, as ad gra dy row ad er naghtey er 'aghtyn cooie'. Ta shen kiart, choud as t'ou credjal dy nee 'aghtyn cooie' cur glass-laue er dooinney oney, jannoo baggyrt er sleih aegey dy bee cassidyn jeant noi oc dy row ad reaghey co-chialg, as goaill chellvaneyn as co-earrooderyn veih sleih as cummal y stoo shen son meeghyn. Ta sleih ennagh smooinghtyn dy dooar ny meoiryn-shee saraghyn politickagh d'aghtey myr shen. Agh foddee dy daink jeeanid ennagh er ny meoiryn-shee nyn lomarcen. Er y laue elley, foddee nagh daink. Er jerrey (ta shin jerkal dy nee yn jerrey t'ayn), va ny meoiryn-shee keeallagh dy liooar dyn y yannoo cassid noi peiagh erbee.

Son shickyrys, ta'n ashoonaghys Manninagh er jeet dy ve ny stroshey er y gherid, kyndagh rish daa chooish. Y chid chooish, shen dy dooyrt reiltys y Reeriaght Unnaneynit (gyn co-coyrl erbee marish Mannin) dy jinnagh ad cur sthap da'n Choardail Kiarail-slaynt Maylartagh eddyr Mannin as y Reeriaght Unnaneynit veih'n chid laa Mee Averil 2010. Kyndagh rish y Choardail shoh, sleih veih'n Reeriaght Unnaneynit ta cheet dy ve ching ayns Mannin, t'ad geddyn kiarail-slaynt nastee fo Shirveish Slaynt Ashoonagh Vannin. As sleih veih Mannin ta cheet dy ve ching ayns y Reeriaght Unnaneynit, t'ad geddyn lheihs nastee ayns shen. Va'n reiltys Lunninagh son geddyn rey rish y Choardail: veagh er sleih ching eck son lheihs. Agh va Manninee ennagh feer chorree kyndagh rish shen, as t'eh jeeaghyn dy jed y Coardail er aareaghey.

Y nah oyr dy vel Manninee corree, shen dy dooyrt reiltys y Reeriaght Unnaneynit dy row marran jeant oc bentyn da'n Cho-sporran. Shoh coardail cramp bentyn da keesh tooilley feeuid (VAT) as argid elley goll noon as noal eddyr y daa reiltys (Cha nel Mannin geddyn argid-coonee (subsidy)). Dy doaltatym, dooyrt ny Goaldee dy noghe reiltys

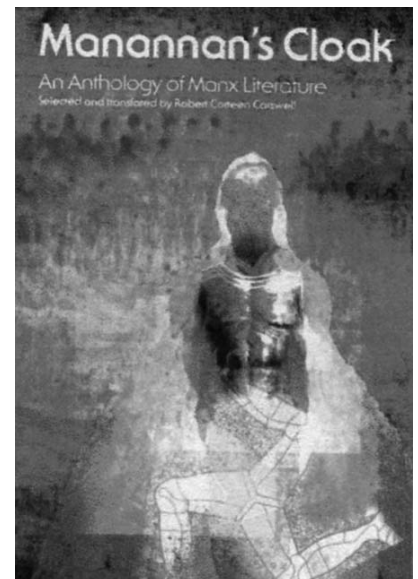
Vannin keed millioon punt ny sloo ayns 2011, as £150M ny sloo gagh blein maghey shen. Shen red goll rish 20% jeh claare argidoil (budget) reiltys Vannin. Cha nyrrys dy vel Manninee corree as boirit. Er lhiam nagh dug shen er paart dy Vanninee aegey goll mygeayrt screeu seose stoo goll rish 'Manx, not British!' as 'End London rule!', agh s'feer dy vel reddyn quaagh taghyrt.

### Summary

*There has been a minor outbreak of graffiti in the Isle of Man in the last year, described somewhat grandly as a 'nationalist graffiti campaign'. The response of the police was disproportionate, but, sensibly, no one was charged. The shenanigans between the Manx and UK governments over the Reciprocal Health Care Agreement and monetary arrangements probably had little if anything to do with the so-called 'graffiti campaign'.*

Brian Stowell

## Manannan's Cloak: An anthology of Manx Literature.



Bob Carswell who has dedicated a remarkable amount of time to promoting and supporting the language has produced a fantastic new publication about Manx Gaelic, entitled *Manannan's Cloak: An anthology of Manx Literature*.

The book is published by Francis Boutle Publishers and supported financially by the Manx Heritage Foundation. I have to admit that this book is a must buy for any Manx regardless of whether they speak the language or not. Not only are the examples of Manx usage fascinating, but it is also worth buying alone for the commentary (In English) and potted history of the language. Well done to all involved. The book retails at £16.99 and is available direct from Francis Boutle at: <http://is.gd/dy4Nw>

A. Cain

## Dr Brian Stowell receives Tynwald's highest award

THE highest accolade Tynwald can bestow upon a member of the public was awarded to Dr Brian Stowell, on *Laa Tinvaal* - Tynwald Day, July 5th this year. Dr Stowell, 73, of Hilary Road, Douglas, will be the fourth recipient of the honour. The first was presented to Norman Sayle in 2007, followed by Isle of Man Newspapers farming correspondent Harvey Briggs and entertainer Ian Qualtroough.

The honour not made annually, but is presented to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to Manx life, most often outside of their normal employment. Recipients must have shown selfless commitment over a significant period of time to promoting the quality of life in the Island and/or well being of its population.

Brian's award 'based upon his significant contribution to Manx life and language over many years', it is impossible, in such a brief piece, to do justice to the contribution Brian has made to the Manx language movement in his over fifty years involvement in it.

Brian is considered one of the primary movers behind the revival of the Manx language, having written several Manx courses and published many articles in and about Manx and Celtic matters in general, indeed Brian has contributed Manx language arti-



cles for Carn since it's inception, nearly fifty years ago.

In 2006 he published the first full-length novel in Manx (Dunverysyn yn Tooder-Folley – The Vampire Murders). His contribution to the teaching of Manx is unrivalled and he continues to be active in the revival of the Manx language. Dr Stowell said of the honour: 'I'm very pleased to get the nomination – and slightly surprised.' He said that interest in Manx Gaelic had grown considerably in recent years but that it was important to ensure that the progress made was maintained. 'There is a danger of falling back all the time,' he said.

**Gaelg Vio** :[http://www.learnmanx.com/cms/news\\_index\\_all.html](http://www.learnmanx.com/cms/news_index_all.html) carries a series of interviews with Brian in Manx on their Learnmanx website at: [http://www.learnmanx.com/cms/video\\_collection\\_82161.html](http://www.learnmanx.com/cms/video_collection_82161.html)

For those who speak Manx they provide a great insight into the recent history of Manx.

Adrian Cain, Manx Language Officer, has also uploaded a video story of Brian talking about his experiences with the native speakers on to their blog at: <http://cowag.wordpress.com/2010/07/21/brian-stowell-aboo/> The story was originally produced by the IOM Newspapers.

I am sure we all feel this award was highly deserved and thank Tynwald for making such a very wise choice for this particular honour. Congratulations Brian!

*Pur lowen on ni dhe glewes adro dhe'n enor profyes dh'agan bardh ni Scryfer Kynnyaf. Yn certan sur honn yw prevyans furnedh an Tynwald rag nyns yw nagonan arall po gwell po gwirwya ragdho. Ages Bardh Meur Gorsedh Kernow y vynnnav vy danvon dhe Vrian, agan koweth ni, y honan, dhe'n Tynwald ha dhe'n bobel Manowek agan keslowena yn unn ranna an dewis bryntin ma.*

*Skogyann Pryv BARDH MEUR, GORSEDDH KERNOW*

*We are very happy to hear of the honour offered to Brian Stowell, who is a Bard of Cornwall. This is certainly proof of the Tynwald's wisdom for there is no other better or more suited for it. As Grand Bard of the Cornish Gorsedd I want to send congratulations to our friend Brian himself, to the Tynwald and to the Manx people to share in this excellent choice*

MICK PAYNTER  
Grand Bard, Cornish Gorsedd

## NURSERY EDUCATION

The Department of Education and Children is a protagonist of early years' education, but only 11 of the 35 primary schools have a nursery (pre-school) class. Children aged three to four (the year before compulsory education begins) can attend for half of each school day during term time, with nurseries catering for up to 40 children in each of the 11 schools. Places are free of charge.

Of the 11, three are run by the Manx language charity, Moojnje Veggey, out of Department premises.

Places are severely oversubscribed and parents tend to register their child as soon as possible under the misconception that this gives a better chance of getting a place.

Consequently the Department has constructed a priority system for entry.

This is as follows ...

**Category A** Children who are at high risk of safety impairment.

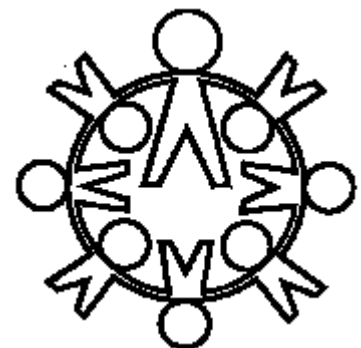
**Category B** Children in catchment for whom there is a recommendation for nursery education by a health professional, social worker, educational psychologist or education liaison officer on the basis of the child's special educational needs or social needs.

Examples of special educational needs might include:

- emotional and behavioural problems
- hearing difficulties
- lack of personal interaction and stimulation
- physical disabilities
- speech and language problems
- visual problems
- a child on the child protection register
- a child with English as an additional language
- a child who is a 'looked after child'.

**Category C** Children with a brother or sister (including children living as siblings in the same family unit) with disabilities (as in B) that require a significant amount of additional support.

**Category D** Children who have a brother or sister (including children living as siblings in the same family unit) on the school roll who will still be attending school, or a linked



junior school on the same site, during the year of admission.

- **Category E** Other children in catchment.
- **Category F** Children out of catchment with special educational needs and/or social needs.
- **Category G** Other children out of catchment.

The Admission Criteria clearly states ...  
'5.3 If more applications are received than there are places available, preference will be given to children who live closest to the school based on the shortest distance, measured as a straight line, from school to

the entrance of the property (i.e. the child's home address).'

and that ...

'5.1 The headteacher and governors will consider all applications in accordance with the following criteria, which are set out in priority order. Length of time on any waiting list will not be taken into account.'

*(Admission to Department of Education Nurseries – Policy Statement April 2009)*

It is clear that early registration is no guarantee of a place.

Language (Category B) a child who arrives in the Isle of Man without English is at a great educational disadvantage. The opportunity for non-English speaking

children to mix with other children at an early stage will of course be very helpful. A newly arrived child with little or no English would take priority over another child on the allocation list.

Siblings (Category C) A child arriving in the Isle of Man even a few days before places are allocated will automatically be given a Nursery place once a sibling is placed in the school. As a result of the Sibling Rule first-born Manx children move down the allocation list.

Distance from School (Admission Criteria 5.3) In Peel, an estate of new houses is near completion. Being close to the school, children living on the estate will be placed higher on the list than those living in the older part of town. The estate developers could even use proximity to the school as a

sales ploy to sell their houses. These houses are only affordable to high earners, the type of person who could afford to pay for a private Nursery place. Most of the public (Commissioners) housing is located away from the school. This will make for a very elitist Nursery. It's not unknown for families to buck the system by giving a more advantageous address (say of a relative) or even just to live in that part of Peel for the address with no interest in the local community.

There is no likelihood of expanding nursery provision to meet the demand, particularly in the present economic climate. The Department admits that the private sector will always be the main provider of pre-school nurseries.

C.J.K.

## NATIONALIST AWAKENING

*Anger at political inertia combined with a growing sense of the loss of national identity is proving a potent cocktail to awaken nationalism in young people on the Isle of Man. The situation is compounded by politicians and a media which is 'deaf in one ear', and an incompetent police force whose allegiance is to the English Crown not the Manx people.*



There has been a curious mix of nationalist expression on the Isle of Man over the last twelve months that indicates an eclectic range of forces are at work which may signal a difficult time for the Island's neo-colonial establishment going forward.

Last autumn slogans appeared across the Island calling for Manx freedom and also clearly linking the lack of progress towards its achievement to the political dominance that the United Kingdom still retains over the Manx people. Initially sporadic, the daubing built up in ferocity until on one night alone slogans were daubed in almost every parish. Authorities were caught on the back foot and even to a certain extent the established Nationalist Party was taken aback.

In the case of the authorities the Manx government assumed that the money it has thrown at language and cultural projects since the daubing and property burning of the late 1980s had effectively 'bought-off' dissent and to a certain extent it seemed that strategy had worked with some of the more dissenting voices from the past settled.

In the case of mainstream Nationalism it was clear we had underestimated the loathing with which some younger Manx people regarded the current status quo vis a vis the Isle of Man and the UK government.

Police reaction to the new outbreak of direct action was swift but in its earlier stages amateurish and little progress was made.

Known nationalists were placed under surveillance and eventually this scrutiny was extended to those involved in the language movement with little political pedigree.

Police frustrations at their inability to catch the perpetrators boiled over and a key meeting of senior figures eventually decided to deploy all resources available to catch the 'graffiti artists'. Unfortunately by now the exasperation within the police had produced tensions of its own with some officers quietly questioning whether the Force was being politically manipulated and the use of resources was over the top. (Other officers simply quietly enjoyed the overtime for which no figure has ever been published.)

Eventually a number of arrests were made and after a series of behind the scenes arguments involving police, the attorney general's office and politicians the charges were quietly dropped.

Lately graffiti has started to appear again this time worryingly for the government in the heart of the Capital itself. The new message is less sophisticated and indeed perhaps even less political than the mix of

Manx language and anti-colonial slogans, which appeared six months ago. It says bluntly 'MANX NOT ENGLISH'.

Continently this new bluntness parallels a similar outburst of expressionism on the Internet, which coincided but is clearly not coordinated with the graffiti campaigns. New web sites calling for Independence have been complemented by less political but equally succinct calls for Manx identity to be respected.

Most recently a new Face book group is active calling for more 'Manx accents on Manx Radio'.

It is clear that a generation of younger people feel frustrated that their identity is being suppressed and the ability to express discontent over this, via the mainstream media is also being stifled. Island Radio Stations including the so-called 'Nations Station', Manx Radio, make no serious attempt to reflect nationalist feeling.

Indeed Manx Radio has gone even further adopting a partisan stance at the time of the graffiti campaign with the Islands Chief Constable 'bleating incessantly' on its news bulletins about the graffiti 'criminals'.

It is ironic that just weeks after this display of bias the radio station finds itself in the firing line – poetic justice perhaps?

Where does all this leave nationalism on the Isle of Man? It is unclear how long-lived the current upsurge will be but for the present it seems stronger.

**Bernard Moffatt**

Note: The above article is a précis of events on Mannin over the past twelve months articles and comment on the specific events can be found on the Celtic League News site at:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic\\_league/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league/)

Other sites referred to can be found on Face book



# Celtica



## Alexei Kondratiev (1949-2010) - Tributes

It was a phone call that brought unexpected news: Alexei Kondratiev had died. He was walking home Thursday, May 27 from the subway and had a heart attack at the age of 61. He is survived by his mother, sister and brother.

Alexei had a way with languages. This gift he received from his mother who was a simultaneous translator at the United Nations during the time of Nikita Khrushchev.

Alexei was born in New York to a French mother and a Russian father. As a child raised in rural France, Alexei was fascinated by the mysterious remains of ancient Celtic civilization in the landscape around him. This later led him to the discovery of the Celtic cultures still alive in the world today, and to spending extended periods over four years in the 1960's on the Aran Islands to learn Irish from native speakers. He had remained intimately involved with Irish language and culture ever since. A graduate of Columbia (anthropology and linguistics), he studied Celtic philology at the École des Hautes-Études in Paris.

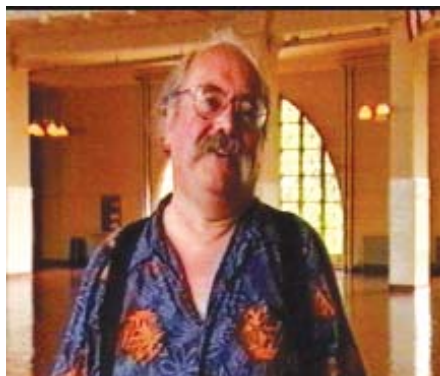
Alexei taught beginner's, intermediate and advanced Irish at the Irish Arts Center as well as Celtic mythology, Celtic Christianity and the history of Celtic traditional music since 1985. His knowledge of Celtic mythology came in handy at knowing the history of various Celtic myths and the dress code of those times. This knowledge also came through in his book "The Apple Branch". It is an enjoyable and informative book.

As anyone who has a gift he liked to test people. When I became Branch Secretary of the U.S. Branch, he started talking to me and I only understood one word: failte. I asked him after the meeting what he had said and he laughed. It turned out he was speaking all 6 Gaelic languages fluently into 3 sentences. Imagine that! My first Pan-Celtic Conference at the Irish Arts Center, he was teaching the history of the Celtic language and I was thoroughly fascinated at how the Celts moved westward and how the language changed as they entered each country. Alexei had the knowledge of 64 languages of which he could speak fluently 15. If he was given advance notice he could pull the other languages out of his brain.

Alexei's sense of humour would pop to the surface after our meetings as the Branch would have dinner at O'Lunney's in Manhattan. He also conducted the Samhain

festival at O'Lunney's which was the American Branch's place to be; our own Studio 54!! He was a private person and irascible and most of all he will be missed.

**Peggy McGrath**



Uair amháin, chuir Brian Mór an chest ar Alexei Kondratiev: cén teanga a bhíodh in úsáid aige agus é ag smaoineamh? D'fhreagair sé i gceann cúpla soicind: "Go firinneach, níl a fhios agam!" Ní hé sin ach scéal amháin i measc a lán scéalta faoin Uasal Kondratiev i rith na mblianta, duine é a raibh éachtaí finscéalacha go leor déanta aige. Fuair sé bás i Nua-Eabhrac ar an seachtú lá is fiche de mhí na Bealtaine, tubaiste a bhain múinteoir mór ón gcomhphobal Éireannach, laoch tábhachtach ó ghluaiseacht na hAtógála Ceiltí, fíorscoláire ón domhan i gcoitinne.

I rith seacht mbliana, bhí an onóir agam a bheith i mo scoláire Gaeilge i ranganna Kondratiev, ar dtús san Ionad Ealaíon Éireannach, agus ina dhiaidh sin go príobháideach. Anois, agus na daoine a raibh aithne acu air ag measúnú a shaoil, feicimid go raibh sé ina scoláire na bhfinscéalta agus na gcreideamh, go raibh eolaíocht aige faoi gach taobh de chultúr na gCeilteach. Feicimid go raibh cúig theanga déag aige go líofa - ina measc, na teangacha Ceilteacha go léir. Níl a fhios ag duine ar bith cé mhéid teangacha a bhí aige ar leibhéal acadúil, a raibh sé in ann iad a léamh agus a scríobh agus a labhairt. De réir foinse amháin, ceathracha, ceann eile, seasca. Chuir mé fhéin an cheist sin air uair amháin agus dúirt sé "cúpla dosaen". Ansin mhínigh sé: "Mar gheall ar an gcaoi ar fhás mé suas, agus mise i mo bhuaicail óg, bá rud é sin a dhéantaí. Téann tú go dtí áit nua, agus foghlaimíonn tú teanga nua." Is fíor le rá gur ghléas a mhuintir agus a shaol le hilteangachas é: tógadh é

sa bhFrainc, agus ansin i Meiriceá le máthair Bhriotánach agus le hathair Rúiseach. Bhí sé ró-chúthail each ar fad chun é féin a mholadh ach is í an fhírinne ná nach mbeidh a leithéid arís ann.

Bhain an t-Uasal Kondratiev céim amach san antraipeolaíocht agus sa teangeolaíocht in Ollscoil Columbia. Ansin, fuair sé céim ar an ardleibhéal sa bhfocleolaíocht Cheilteach ón École des Hautes Études i bPáras. I rith na seascaidí, thug sé a chuid Gaeilge go dtí leibhéal an-ard in Árinn. Eolas coitianta iad na firicí sin. Ach, ní raibh an crosbhóthar ina shaol sroichte aige go fóill.

Thug tuairim acadúil le tuiscint (mar a dhéanann i gcónaí) gur creideamh marbh í an Phágántacht Cheilteach. Deirtear nach raibh ceangal barántúil le fáil idir na traidisiúin a bhí in úsáid sa Bhreatain agus in Éirinn dhá mhíle bliain ó shin agus an Draíocht sa lá atá inniu ann. Mar gheall air sin, rinneadh idirdhealú, a bhíodh ar dheacair é a fheiceáil uaireanta, idir an Phágántacht Cheilteach (idir shean agus nua) agus creidimh ar nós na Críostaíochta nó an Ghiúdachais, cé go rabhadarsan bunaithe ar thraidisiúin atógtha nach raibh na staraithé ró-chinnté fúthu. Mhínigh sé, mura n-abródh sé an *shibboleth* sin, an dearcadh oifigiúil a dúirt nach raibh sa chreideamh a bhí mar bhuntéama ina chúrsa ach ábhair a bhain leis an ársaíocht — ní ghlacfaidh an M.L.A. agus comhaltáí gairmiúla eile lenar scríobh sé. Ní raibh ann ach comhghéilleadh measartha, de réir chaighdeán na n-acadúilaithe Meiriceánacha na laethanta seo. Obair chrua é scoláire rathúil a bhaint amach nach bhfuil freanga inchurtha leis sin déanta aige ó am go chéile. Ní hiadsan Alexei Kondratiev. Chaill sé a chúrsa acadúil. Choinnigh sé a chreideamh. Is mar gheall air sin a bhuaileamar leis i Philosophy Hall ar Shráid 51, cé gur thuill sé oifig san áras sin go díreach mar a thuill aon duine eile a raibh aithne agam orthu ansin.

Scríobh Matthew Arnold faoi cheartchreidimh chultúir a ré siúd: fhéin: "Our Puritans, ancient and modern, have not enough added to their care for walking staunchly by the best light they have, a care that that light be not darkness." Sin é an meon a bhí ag Alexei Kondratiev, i ngach uile chuid dá cheird. Ón mbliain 1984 go dtí an bhliain seo, mhúin sé san Ionad Ealaíon Éireannach: an Mhiotaseolaíocht Cheilteach téarma amháin, an Chríostaíocht Cheilteach téarma eile, agus an Ghaeilge gach téarma. Le linn na dTrioblóidí, chur sé i gcuimhne do lucht an náisiúnachais nach féidir linn Poblacht na hÉireann a chosaint gan teanga na hÉireann a bheith cosanta againn — nó gan í a bheith in úsáid againn. I rith na n-ochtóidí (de réir cleachtóra amháin), bhí saghas ann a chuir béim thánaisteach ar an léann mar shreang ba láidre sa ghluaiseacht Nua-Phágántachta. San am sin, sheas an tUasal Kondratiev ar údarás a bhí bunaithe ar an dianscoláireacht. Is é *The Apple Branch: a Path to Celtic Ritual*, a foilsíodh sa bhliain 1998, an saothar is mó, agus is léir gur duine

a bhí ina antraipeolaí agus ina fhocleolaí, agus ina threoraí reiligiúnach ag an am céanna, a scríobh é. Mar gheall ar an leabhar sin, beidh a rian fágtha aige ar an bPágántacht Cheilteach Atógtha sna laethanta atá romhainn — creideamh ar éirigh leis é a dhealú ó na leaganacha ba luaithe den Draochas agus den Nua-Phágántacht.

Scríobhadh *The Apple Branch* le haghaidh cloch mhíle chúrsa Alexei Kondratiev. I

ndeireadh na dála, bá bhuaic an chúrsa sin é. Anois, agus é tugtha dúinn, caoineann a chairde, a chuid scolairí, a chomhthais-tealaithe i dteannta a chéile. Tuigimid go ró-dhéanach nach bhfuair sé riamh dalta, nó daltaí, a bheadh in ann leanúint as an traidisiún a roinn sé go flaitiúil i rith a shaoil ar fad — traidisiún nach féidir liomsa a léiriú ach i bpáirt. Is minic gur mar sin a tharlaíonn leis na haigne is mó.

Ní hionann cultúr beo agus saol aon duine amháin, cé gur duine lonrach é. Mairfidh an

traidisiún Ceilteach ina dhiaidh seo. Ach tugann bás tobann Alexei Kondratiev ceacht amháin dúinne a bhí mar chairde agus mar scoláirí aige. Sé an bóthar thuas an t-aon slí amháin chun tosaigh. Beidh obair chrua orainn, agus sinne ag cur leanúnachais ar na traidisiúin atá againn inniu. Is éigean dúinn faire ar na rudaí a deineadh dúinn.

Dan Collins

Meitheamh, 2010

Arlington, Massachusetts, SAM.

## CELTIC LEAGUE AGM 2010



Some of the Celtic League delegates who attended the Sunday morning session of the AGM

A successful AGM was held this year in Purtny hInshy/ Peel, Mannin / Isle of Man on 10th and 11th July 2010.

The two-day event meant that there was time to discuss issues relating to the League in more depth than usual, which was the order of the day for part of Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Some of the issues discussed included giving substance to the idea of Celtic Council, Carn (it was decided publication would continue for three years), celebrations and plans for the Celtic League's 50th anniversary and the use of the Internet and social media.

All League officers were re-elected and the vacant assistant general secretary position was filled by Tony Leamon from Kernow / Cornwall.

On the Sunday afternoon delegates were shown around Bun Scoill Ghaelgagh - the Manx Gaelic primary school in St John's, by Julie Matthews, the head teacher. Coinciding with the AGM was the Yn Chruinnaght Celtic music festival, which some delegates attended over the weekend and during the following week.

It was agreed that the League's 50th anniversary AGM would be held in Stirling, Alba/Scotland around October next year.

**The full text of the resolutions passed at the AGM can be found below:**

- Condemns the UK Government for the contempt shown to the devolved administrations in Edinburgh and Cardiff by choosing a date for the referendum on the UK voting system, which coincides with the national elections in Scotland and Wales and also those of Northern Ireland.

- Notes the general lack of Celtic language signage in airports and ferry terminals, other than occasional phrases for tourists, and calls upon all Celtic countries to rectify this.

- Requests that the Isle of Man and Manx language be recognized by Colmcille (formerly the Columba Project) and also included in the scheme. Furthermore we ask that the Manx be included in the Scots/Irish poet/singer exchanges.

- Condemns youth groups such as the boy scouts and girl guides for forcing children to swear loyalty to the British Queen. We believe this is unfair as it imposes a political position on them i.e. monarchist and unionist, and should be dropped.

- The Celtic League AGM calls on the French Government, in line with the modification of the French Constitution (the languages of France are part of French heritage) to vote for a new law in order to apply the European Charter for Regional or Minority languages.

- This AGM calls on the Irish Department of Education to grant recognition to Gaelscoil Ráthó and put an end to the policies which are preventing the development of Irish Language education throughout the country.

- This AGM condemns the murderous attack by Israel on the international aid fleet 'The Freedom Flotilla' and the blockade of Gaza. We call on the United Nations to hold an independent international inquiry and to take measures to make Israel lift the blockade.

- This AGM of the Celtic League calls for all public and utility services to be administered and controlled from within Cornwall thus making them more accountable to the people.

- This AGM of the Celtic League calls on the BBC to better represent Cornwall's distinctive Celtic nature in its broadcasts and delete from those broadcasts the descriptive term 'county'.

- This AGM calls for an open and transparent independent public enquiry into Maghaberry Prison in the North of Ireland following constant complaints by inmates of human rights abuses.

- This AGM: Bearing in mind the decision of the UK government to proceed with a new generation of nuclear power plants, many sited around the Irish Sea, reiterates its opposition to these plans. Calls on the UK government to come forward with a coherent strategy for dealing with the pollution and waste legacy from existing nuclear plants.

This AGM: Reiterates the objective of the Celtic League to have artefacts (such as the Lewis Chessmen and the Chronicles of the Kings Man and the Isles) which were removed from the Celtic countries to be returned to their countries of origin as soon as is practical. Urges the Celtic League to renew an active campaign to achieve this objective and to compile a list of such artefacts.

- This AGM: bearing in mind concerns expressed by the Celtic League about

*continued on page 24*



**Alba delegates Les McNulty and Ian Ramsay at Tynwald Hill in St. John's.**

overcrowding at female prison facilities in Ireland in July 2009 and aware of assurances given at that time by the Minister for Justice and Law Reform reiterates its concern about serious overcrowding of the Irish prison establishment generally and facilities for women in particular.

● This AGM: Concerned at the suspicious circumstances surrounding the death of Basque nationalist, Jon Anza Ortuñez, calls on the French government to convene an

independent international inquiry into the cause of his death.

● This AGM: Recognising the considerable financial support provided to UK corporate institutions and Banks over the past two years urges the United Kingdom to provide a similar financial support package to assist depositors in the Northern Ireland Presbyterian Mutual Society (PMS) who have suffered since that institution went into administration in 2008.

## 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).

**For information about the Celtic League contact secretaries:**

**ALBA** Ray Bell 33, Gogarloch Haugh, Dun Eideann, EH12 9JG.

**BREIZH** Gi Keltik Plougerne, BP44 - 29880 Breizh/Brittany.

**CYMRU** Robat ap Tomos, 11 Heol Gordon, Y Rhath, Caerdydd, CF2 3AJ.

**ÉIRE** Caoimhín Ó Cadhla, 16 Ascaill Gairbhille, Ráth Garbh, B.Á.C 6

**Subs to:** 33 Céide na Grianóige, Ráth Cúil, Co. Átha Cliath

Email: [eire@celticleague.net](mailto:eire@celticleague.net)

**KERNOW** M.J. Chappell,

3 Edwards Apartments, Gweal Pawl, Resrudh/Redruth TR15 3AE

Email: [kernow@celticleague.net](mailto:kernow@celticleague.net)

**MANNIN** Ruth Black, Thie Meanagh, 7 Michael St., Peel, IM5 1HA

Tel No: 07624 474159

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

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

**INTERNATIONAL BRANCH** Mark Lockerby, 12 Magherdonnag, Pony Fields, Port Erin, IM9 6BY, Isle of Man.

**GENERAL SECRETARY**

**Rhisiart Tal-e-bot,**

5 Chyandour, Resrudh/Redruth TR15 3AB. Kernow/Cornwall

Email: [rhisiart.talebot@gmail.com](mailto:rhisiart.talebot@gmail.com)

**EDITOR** Ms P. Bridson,

33 Céide na Grianóige, Ráth Cúil, Co. Átha Cliath, Éire.

Email: [pa.bridson@upcmail.ie](mailto:pa.bridson@upcmail.ie)

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

Material for the next issue of *Carn* should reach the Editor no later than 10th October 2010. Articles sent for publication in *Carn* must relate to our aims. All materials copyright © *Carn* unless otherwise stated. The views expressed in *Carn* are not necessarily those of the editor or of the Celtic League.

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**The Stirling-Galway Session 2010 festival** took place from Sunday June 6 to Monday 21 in both Galway city and in Stirling in Scotland. The festival is the brainchild of Mick Crehan, who runs The Crane Bar on Sea Road, and Fergus Wood, the Scottish National Party Provost (mayor) of Stirling. Fergus is a member of the Kinlochard Ceilidh Band and the two men became friends after the band played in Galway a number of times.

## International Branch Internet Site

<http://homepages.enterprise.net/mlockerby>

Email: International Branch Secretary  
[mlockerby@enterprise.net](mailto:mlockerby@enterprise.net)

## celtic League press releases

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