

COMANN

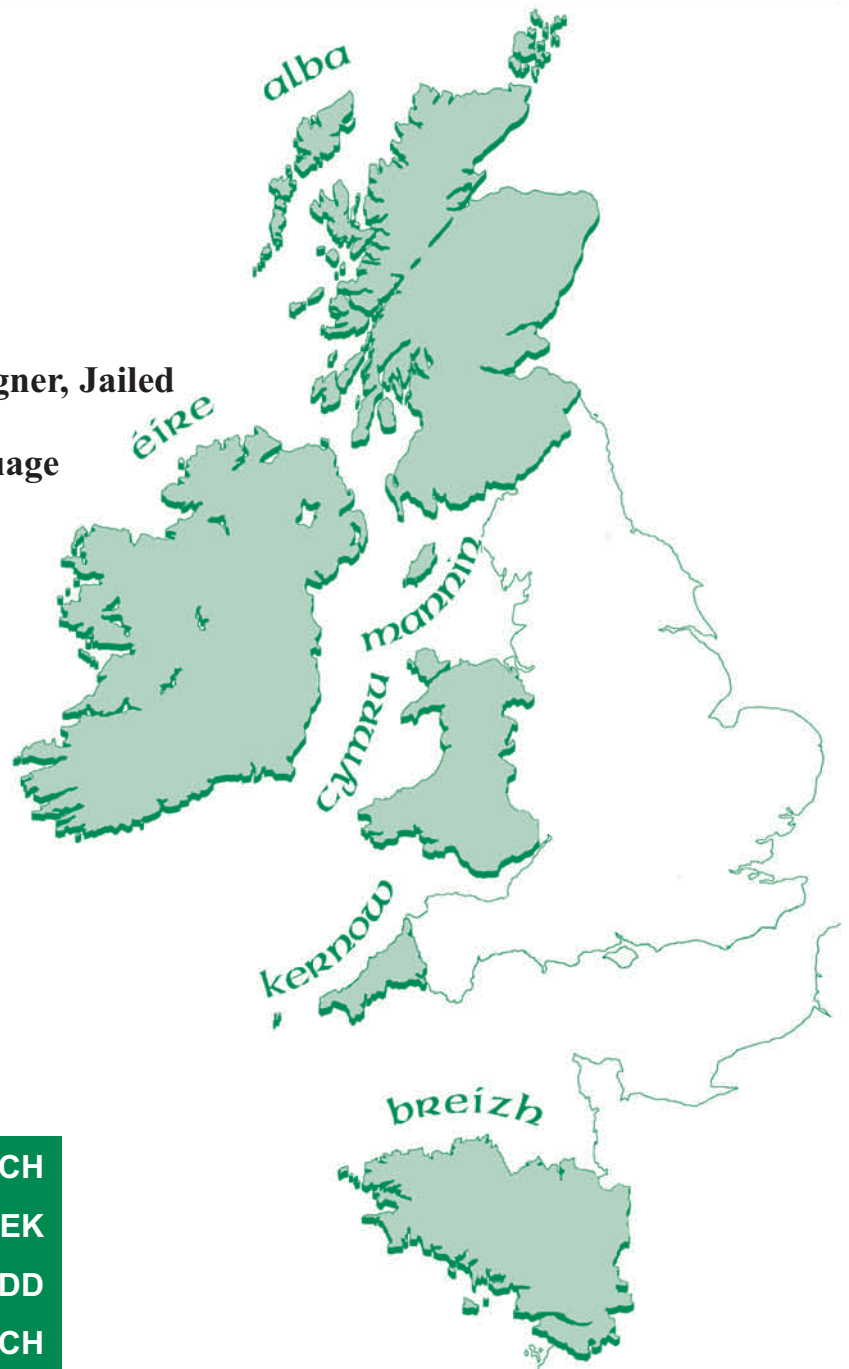
A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 145

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ALBA: AN COMANN CEILTEACH
BREIZH: AR C'HEVRE KELTIEK
CYMRU: YR UNDEB CELTAIDD
ÉIRE: AN CONRADH CEILTEACH
KERNOW: AN KESUNYANS KELTEK
MANNIN: YN COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE 



Alba



Tilleadh-Dhachaigh '09

Ma bhiodh tu ann an Alba am bliadhna seo, bidh thu gu math eòlach air “Homecoming Scotland”. Tha cuid ag ràdh gur e caitheamh-airgid, cuid eile ag ràdh gur e dìreach rud gòrach, cuid eile a’ gearain nach eil sinn a’ ruigsinn Seumaca, Pacastan agus mar sin air adhart. Fuirich mionaid! Seumaica is Pacastan? Uill, ma leughadh tu leabhar-fòn ann an Kingston, tha na sloinnidhean gu math Albannach! Nuair a tha na daoine seo a’ bruidhinn mu Pacastan, tha iad a’ ciallachadh na coimhearsnachd Phacastanach ann an Alba, agus na ceangailtean aca ris na teaghlaichean aca. Sin rud caran eadar-dhealaichte. Uill, ‘s mise *cynic*, agus tha mi a’ creidsinn gu bheil an urram air Aimearaga-a-Tuath, Àstrailia 7c air sgàth gur iad dùthchannan beartach, agus tha airgead gu leòr aig na teaghlaichean Albannach airson ticead-phleana. Leis an fhirinn innse, ged a bheil ginealachd Albannach gu leòr aig na Seumacanaich, is bochd iad, agus a bharrachd, thàinig an ceangail eadar Seumaica agus Alba tro tràilleachd. Tha a’ mhorchuid dhen Phacastanach ann an Alba a’ faireachdainn Albannach, ach carson a bhiodh Pacastanaich nach robh riamh ann an Alba a’ faireachdainn Albannach?

Dè tha ann an Albannach? Feumar aideachadh gu bheil na h-Albannach sgaoilte gu tur eadar-dhealaichte ris a cheile. Tha sinnsearan Albannach aig George W. Bush is Bill Clinton, chan eil sin annasach. Ach dè mu dheidhinn Colin Powell is Barack Obama?! Neo Juan Perón? Tha 100,000+ “Argentínios Escoces” ann! An cuala tu mu dheidhinn Carlos Javier MacAllister? Cò aig a fios? Agus tha sloinneadh Albannach aig sgrìobhadair ainmeil Ruiseanach, Mikhail Lermontov, neo Lermontov. Agus rugadh is thogadh am feallsanaiche “Albannach” as ainmeile, air oirthir Baltach, ann an Königsburg neo Kaliningrad. Se Immanuel Kant a bh’air. Ri taobh Pruisia-an-Ear, ‘s iomadh Albannach sa bha anns a’ Phòlainn – a-rèir cuid, se Uallas (Wallace) a tha ann an Mgr Walesa. Chan eil sin buileach cinnteach, ach tha ainmean mar Kobron (Cockburn), Makalienski (MacGhill-Eain/MacLean), Machlejd (MacLeod/MacLeòid) agus Szalmerz (Chalmers) soilleir dhuinn. Anns na 1600an, bha 50,000 Albannaich anns a Phòlainn. Cha robh iad a-mhain sna Meadhan Aoisean. Bha na Gardes Écossais aig a’ Fhraing nas aosda na Scots Guards

The Scottish Diaspora is much more diverse than Scottish society is, or indeed may ever be, as this image hopefully proves.

From left to right -



1. Juan Perón
2. Malcolm X
3. Lexa Doig
4. Jerry Rawlings
(former dictator of Ghana)
5. Mikhail Lermontov
6. Immanuel Kant
7. Edvard Grieg
8. Empress Eugénie de Montijo
(wife of Napoleon III)
9. Mrs Rita Marley
10. Lech Walesa
11. Oscar Hammerstein
12. Barack Obama

aig na Breatannaich. A-reir scotsitalian.com, tha buaidh aca fhathast an Eadailt-a-Tuath:

“Gurro, the small town in Northern Italy, which many considered to have been the final resting place for the [Gardes Écossais] of France following Battle of Pavia in 1525...The Lost Clan as it is locally referred to has left a lasting legacy on the town, they rested here following the defeat of the French and consoled the grieving widows whose husbands had died in the nearby battle... The local museum even houses a relic of Tartan material worn there around the 18th century. Recently one local appeared fully clad in kilt and complete with bagpipes in Italy’s version of the reality TV programme, Big Brother.”

An toil leat ceòl? Tha roghainn farsaing againn san “Diaspora” fhèin. Dè mu

dheidhinn Rogers and Hammerstein? Ged a bha sloinneadh “WASP” air Rogers, se Oscar Hammerstein aig a bha seanmhathair Albannach. Neo dè mu dheidhinn Calum MacLabhrainn? Malcolm MacLaren, le falt ruadh air is seacaid den clò Hearadh... stiuriche den Sex Pistols? Chan eil sinnsearan Albannach sam bith aige! Ach se Griogarach a bha ann an Edvard Grieg, neo “Greig” mar a chanas iad san ear-thuath. Is iomadh daoine ann an Reggae Seumaicanach aig a bheil sinnsearan Albannach cuideachd.

Coltach ri Mgr Hammerstein, is ann à Alba a bha sinnsearan aig Tommy Hilfigger is David Duchovny. Bho àm gu àm, cuiridh “Fox Mulder” feileadh air, nuair a thèid e gu Alba. Agus tha Hilfigger ag ràdh gur e ball dhen Siol Raibeirt – Raibeart Burns. Se cinneal mòr a tha ann – thug e mòran

bhramaran. Ròsan dearga gu dearbh. Agus sa Fhraing, Bana-iompaire Eugénie de Montijo, bean Napoleon III – bha ainm fada oirre bho thus - María Eugenia Ignacia Augustina de Palafox Portocarrero de Guzmán y Kirkpatrick. Kirkpatrick – Cill Phàdraig mar a chanas iad an seo – *bit of a giveaway*, nach e. Sa Chomann Eadar-Cheilteach fhèin, tha “Moffatt” (Am Magh Fada) agus “Lockerbie” againne – a-reir coltais bha ceangailtean eadar Eilean Mhanainn agus Siorrachd Dhùn Phris aig aon àm.

Clàrachadh sa Bheurla:

2009 was “Homecoming Scotland”, financed by the Scottish Government to boost tourism amongst those of Scottish ancestry. Critics complained that it was pointless, or even racist. Some pointed to the fact that North America had been targeted, but not Jamaica, which has plenty of people of Scottish ancestry. However, this was actually quite sensible, not because Jamaica is a mainly “black” country, but because it is sadly a poor country and its citizens do not have much money to spend on tourism. Besides, the legacy of slavery is not a pleasant one. (Countless well-known Jamaican reggae artists are of Scottish descent.) Like the Swiss, Scots soldiers could once be found all over Europe, and that has left a legacy too. There are at least twenty million people of Scottish ancestry outside Scotland, including a few in every other Celtic country— our very own Messrs Moffatt and Lockerbie for example— but it is perfectly reasonable to point out that people of Scottish ancestry aren’t all white, and some of them don’t even speak English. Due to the frequency of Macs and similar names, it is not uncommon for Scottish descendants to think that they are of Irish origin (Johnny Cash’s family fell into this trap, until he found out his family originated in Fife.) One of the highlights of the Gathering (the main Homecoming event) was in fact, a Maori dance demonstration. And this is it - Donald Trump may have family in the Isle of Lewis, but so it seems does President Obama. Even entire communities in Italy and Poland come from Scottish origins. But names are not always a good guide. Malcolm MacLaren is a Highland sounding name, but the red headed, tweed wearing ex-manager of the Sex Pistols has no Scottish ancestry (that he knows of!)... On the other hand, some kenspeckle figures surnamed Hammerstein, Hilfigger, Duchovny and Perón all do. It’s not always remote either – in the case of Oscar Hammerstein and Edvard Grieg, we’re talking about their grandparents.

Iain MacFhraingean

Gaelic Scotland and the Wars of Independence

Part II of III



Dearbhfhorghail or Dervorguilla of Galloway, mother of John Balliol, King of Scots from 1249-1314.

Background

In 1286, Scotland fell into chaos, with the death of Alexander III. His heir, the infant Margaret, Maid of Norway, died before setting foot on Scottish soil – or being crowned. 13 Competitors claimed the throne, amongst them Robert the Bruce, and John Balliol. William Wallace did not, although as “Guardian of Scotland” he became effective national leader at one point. Since Margaret had married Malcolm Canmore, there had been regular attempts to undermine Scotland’s Gaelic culture.

William Wallace

First a word about the Wallace, perhaps one of the least Gaelic of the major figures in the Wars of Independence. Blind Harry says he wore an “Erse mantle” in Biggar, but there is little else to go on. Perhaps we can use the old Scottish legal verdict of “guilty not proven”. He probably picked some up in his travels throughout Scotland. Perhaps he spoke Brythonic. *Braveheart* is inaccurate in the extreme, but it’s worth mentioning that Mel Gibson’s character can be heard shouting “Alba gu bràth!” in the film.

The 13 Competitors

The more exotic claimants were King Erik II of Norway and Florent V, Count of Holland. They remind us that Scotland’s world didn’t always revolve around England. Scotland had strong trading links with the eastern shore of the North Sea. Erik was closely related to the Maid of Norway. Perhaps he relied on the strong links between Scotland and Norway, such as the Bishopric of Trondheim, which controlled the Hebrides and northern Scotland – the last stronghold of Gaeldom today.

Robert the Bruce had no claim through primogeniture. His claim was based on something more Celtic – tanistry (tanaistearachd). This was a form of elective kingship in mediaeval Gaeldom, also paralleled amongst the Welsh princes. James VI (I of England) abolished tanistry in Scotland. Unlike Ireland, Scottish tanistry adopted the Pictish custom of matrilineal succession – Bruce’s claim was via his mother. In modern Ireland, *tánaiste* means deputy prime minister.

Kings and High Kings

Like Ireland, early medieval Scotland had kings (rìghrean), and high kings (àrd-rìghrean). It is likely that Edward I was aware of this, exploited it, and perhaps even saw himself as high king. The notion of high and low kings, persisted amongst Highland clans into the mid-18th century. The struggles of Clann Dòmhnall and Siol Dhiarmaid (Clan Campbell) are well known in the English-speaking world. Both these clans backed Bruce in his darkest hour, and gained in power as he did. In the Wars of Independence, at least, the Caimbeulaich were not the villains.

Many other families traditionally claimed the high kingship; some more obviously Gaelic than the 13 Competitors. Amongst these were the Clann Dòmhnall (Clan Donald), the Lords of the Isles, and also Clann Griogair (the MacGregors) whose motto is “Is rioghail mo dhream” (royal is my tribe) to this very day.

Two powerful sub-royal families in the 13th century were those of Galloway and Moray, at opposite ends of the country. Early on, they called themselves “kings”, later “lords”. The Galloway line maintained its claim through John Balliol, and was a rival of the Bruces. They had long maintained a dual identity – for example one of the line was known by the similar, but unrelated, names of Roland and Lochlann, depending on what the context was. Moireabh (Moray) had its own line, the Meic Uilleim (MacWilliams), named after Uilleam mac Donnchada, a son of Duncan II. The last of them was murdered in Forfar c. 1230. Moireabh remained distinct though, and one of Wallace’s commanders was Andrew de Moray/Murray (Anndra Moireach). Murray is still a common name in Scotland.

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The Quarrel begins

John Balliol is often unfairly derided by Scots as “Toom Tabard” (the empty surcoat). His policies were misguided but not without logic. He gives the impression, as a King, that his main aim was to appease Edward I, and/or to keep the massive English army out of Scotland. If anyone qualifies for the title of Quisling, it would be his son, Edward, not John himself.

John Balliol fought the Battle of Roslin (near the chapel of *Da Vinci Code* fame) against Edward I, alongside the Comyns. In casualty terms, this was harder on the English than the Scots, and proves that Balliol was not merely a pushover. Some people also think this battle was as pivotal as Bannockburn, and there is a big campaign running just now to have a proper memorial there.

Both Balliol and Robert the Bruce were Lowlanders from the far south west, and both were born to mothers who were proud Gaels. In Balliol’s case, Dervorguilla (Dearbhfhorgaill/Dearghal), came from Galloway’s own royal family. Galloway was Gaelic speaking until the 18th, possibly 19th century, and lies between Ulster, Argyll, and the Isle of Man. Balliol College in Oxford is named for Dearghal.

In 1295, John Balliol conducted a military treaty with Phillip IV of France, which has become known as the “Auld Alliance”. It meant they would come to one another’s aid in the event of an English invasion. Mediaeval Scotland had a strong French influence, particularly in architecture, and Scots would fight for the French at battles such as Agincourt. Likewise the Lion Rampant flag of Scotland still contains the Fleur de Lys.

Edward I’s retaliation routed John’s forces. Balliol was put in the Tower of London, later ending up in Picardy. His son, Edward Balliol returned a few years later, with the “Disinherited”, nobles evicted by Robert the Bruce – some possibly unjustly. Just as that group of Cuban exiles, who tried to unseat Castro centuries later, these Scottish exiles were backed by their country’s traditional enemy. Both failed, and partly because they had the wrong ally. Eventually, the Kings of England gave up on the Balliols – in 1356, Edward III pensioned Edward off to live with dad.

The dishonour was great. Bruce and Stewart are common surnames. But I’ve never met a Balliol. On the other hand, there are a lot of “Baillies”. According to tradition, this is no coincidence.

Ray Bell

Paisley born weaver, radical poet and “Father of American Ornithology.”

Alexander Wilson was born on 6 July, 1766. His birthplace was at Seedhills, just outside Paisley and within sight of the River Cart. His father, who was illiterate, ran a small illicit distillery that was concealed in the garden. Alexander, unlike his father, did have a formal education and attended Paisley Grammar. After leaving school at the age of 13 he was then apprenticed to his brother in law. The intention was that Alexander would learn the trade of weaving (www.renfrewshire.gov.uk).

After his five-year apprenticeship had ended however he took to peddling and to both writing, and attempting to sell, his poetry. Social conditions at the time were dire. Wilson, influenced by the revolutionary ideas that had spawned both the American and French Revolutions, wanted to speak out. Often he did so through his poetry. His poems often alluded to the struggle between capital and labour. He berated employers in particular for the treatment of the weavers. One of those poems, “The Shark” (written in 1792) took the form of a satirical letter to the owner of Lang Mills.

The authorities, concerned already about the weavers growing radicalism, took a dim view. They accused Wilson of incitement and said the poem was libellous. He was imprisoned in the Tolbooth for a fortnight, fined and made to burn the remaining copies in full view of the public at Paisley’s busy crossroads. Wilson -who’d lived for a time in Lochwinnoch- had won some acclaim in particular for “Watty and Meg.” Written in 1791, it’s a ballad focusing on the “battle of the sexes.” Wilson had also met another Paisley poet, Robert Tannahill, and there was a sense of this being something of a “golden age of song for Renfrewshire song.”



Alexander Wilson

Yet Wilson was still troubled and poor. In 1794 he and his nephew William Duncan set sail from Belfast to America. They could only afford deck space and after his arrival in Delaware he struggled at first working as a labourer, copper printer and -ironically enough- in his old trade as weaver. However he eventually secured a schoolmasters post in Pennsylvania, met a naturalist William Batram and found himself increasingly interested in ornithology. Soon he was travelling extensively, often through wilderness, observing and drawing North American birds. The result was a nine volume classic, “American Ornithology (1804-1814)” with portraits of 320 species, 32 of them new to science. (www.renfrewshire.gov.uk)

Wilson died in 1813. He was only 47 and was apparently worn out by his exertions. However his legacy is not forgotten. Wilson is known as the “Father of American Ornithology” and several species of American bird -plover, snipe, phalarope, petrel, warbler and thrush- are named after him. Back in his native Paisley also there is a statue of him in the Abbey grounds and a memorial near Hammills waterfall on the banks of the River Cart.

Alan Stewart

STRAW BLOCKS PUBLICATION OF MINUTES OF 1997 CABINET COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON DEVOLUTION

The Justice Secretary Jack Straw has used his powers of veto to block the publication of minutes of meetings of a Cabinet Committee on Devolution.

The minutes had been requested under Freedom of Information laws and their release had been ordered by the Information Commissioner.

Straw has claimed however that disclosure would put the convention of collective Cabinet responsibility for decisions at “serious risk of harm” (Glasgow Herald 10 December 2009).

The Cabinet Committee meetings -some 15 of them- were held between May and July 1997. The Scottish people had just voted for a Parliament with tax raising powers and the Committee was tasked with preparing the Scotland Act.

In sessions of the Committee Jack Straw, then Home Secretary, and the Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott fought a bitter rearguard action against the Scottish Secretary, the late Donald Dewar. Straw and Prescott hoped to minimise the extent of the powers that would be handed over to Edinburgh.

SNP chief whip Pete Wishart, MP for Perth and North Perthshire, says Straw is attempting to “cover-up” the “absolute chaos and confusion and disagreement inside the Labour Government at the time of the debate on devolution.” He adds that “there can be no other reason for this pathetic attempt to conceal what was going on.” It shows, he says, a real “contempt for democracy” (Aberdeen Press and Journal 11/12/09).



Breizh



Deskiñ kerneveureg e Breizh – Dyski Kernewek yn Breten Vyghan



Dr Ken George (left) with Ronan Tremel next to him and the mayors, Carole Le Juene on the right.

'al Lun 28 a viz Kerzu 2009 e oa bet lidet e ti-kêr Kallag gant an itron maerez, Carole Le Juene, gant Jacques Le Creff, prezidant Kumuniezh kumunioù Kallag, roidigezh diplomoù kerneveureg gant an Dr Ken George da eizh brezhoneger. Deut e oa ivez un nebeud dileuridi eus komiteoù kêrioù Breizh gevellet gant kêrioù Kernev-Veur; kinniget zo bet dezhe kenlabourat war dachenn ar sevenadur hag ar yezh.

Stajoù dibennoù-sizhun zo bet aozet e Breizh gant ar gevredigezh Eostin Spered ar Yezh a drugarez da skoazell kelennerien gerneveureg deut meur a wech da ambroug ac'hanomp war hent hor yezh c'hoar: da gentañ gant levr Graham Sandercock *Holyewgh an Iergh*, azasaet e brezhoneg gant Ken George (un alc'hwez mat a c'haller goulen digant hor c'hevredigezh, 5 €). Da heul ar stajoù kentañ zo bet savet ur strollad emren hag a labour ingal, bep miz, gant levrioù Wella Brown ha gant ar gazetenn viziek *An Gannas*, da c'hortoz stajoù dibenn-sizhun an nevezamzer 2010 a vo digor d'an holl. Arabat ankouaat eo liammet Breizh ha Kernev-Veur dre o istor kantvedel hag o zonkad stourm ouzh ar gwask da zerc'hel bev o yezh, o

sevenadur, o bro. Enta, d'ar re a fell dezhe dizoloñ ha deskiñ ur yezh ken tost d'ar brezhoneg, dre ar brezhoneg, e pedomp anezhe d'en em enskrivañ da greskiñ ar strollad. Eostin Spered ar Yezh (E-SAY) a ra war-dro kelenn brezhoneg, eostin, dastum, ar brezhoneg komzet hag a ginnig mont buan war-raok gant ar c'herneveureg.

E-SAY, 24, straed Lavanant, 2160 Kallag, Breizh: 00 33 2 96 45 94 38, ronantremel@wanadoo.fr.

Ronan Tremel

Summary:

The association E-SAY launched a program of Cornish language teaching through the medium of Breton in Brittany a few years ago. After a number of workshops at weekends, and summer schools, eight students were presented with their Cornish diplomas by Dr Ken George at a ceremony in December. These first Cornish students from Breizh will develop links between the two Celtic nations in Kernow and Breizh. The same program will start again this spring.

Robert Burns...
His continuing importance
to Scotland today
Pouezhus a viskoazh
evit Alba

Ar vroioù dre vras o deus ur barzh evit skeudenniñ sevenadur ha spered ar vro. Evit Alba ar barzh-se a zo eveljust R. BURNS (1759-1796). Skrivet o deus d'ar mare e oa kollet un tamm loc'h evit ar vro. Alba o doa kollet ar Parlamant dre eun emglev fall gant bro Saoz (1707), hag araoz o doa torret al liammoù gant an noblañs (1603). BURNS e neus skrivet gant ur hengoun kreñv, diazaset war al labour kaset gant ar skrivagnerien Allan Ramsay ha Bob Fergusson. Ar peb brasañ eus e varzhoniezh oa skrivet e izel-skoseg (*Scots*), met skrivet e neus ivez e saozneg. Ganet e oa e-barzh ur familh paour awalc'h er Ayrshire, e mervent Alba. Diwezhatoc'h eo deuet da vezañ merour. E varzhoniezh a ziskouezh war ar memes tro barregezh ha loureznnegezh hud. Levezonnet o deus An Emsav romantel hag ivez ar radikalezh politikel, eus an amzer-se. Eñ a zo anavezet mat evit e varzhoniezh hir ha danevelleg (eg Tam o' Shanter); evit e varzhoniezh flemmus (eg Holy Willie's Prayer, e-giz « a Parcel of Rogues in a Nation »); e varzhonegoù diwarbenn an natur (eg To a Mouse). Met, e barzh muioc'h anavezet a zo pe e ganaouenn diwar-benn ar garantez, gant kanaouennoù karantez evit ar grennarded betek tud deuet (eg A Red Rose Rose, Mary Morrison, Ae Fond Kiss, O Wert Thou in the Cauld Blast, John Anderson my Jo), pe e ganaouennoù diwar buhez boutin an dud (Auld Lang Syne, A Man's a Man for a' That).

Dreist holl, eo anavezet e-giz unañ e neus diorren mennozh ar breuriez gwelloc'h

eget bep filosofer pe politikerian. E ganaouenn 'A Man's a Man for a' That' a zo ar muioc'h brudet evit plaenda a lak war well hon delenezh boutin. A vloaz-mañ, evit e genober evit an "Homecoming", al levr aoueg barzhonegoù evit Alba o deus gouestled tud a bep seurt oad dre gwrizioù Alba (& pelloc'h) e-barzh ur raktres faltazius evit lakaat ur banniel braz-tre, livañ ar gentañ linen eus e ganaouenn. Tud oa pedet da choaz ul lizherenn eus ar barzh hag da livañ al lizherenn-se. Ar re se oa lakaet asamblez hag un dibab graet evit krouiñ un troidigezh liezliv ha c'hweniañ eus ar ganaouenn. Goude dre numerel eo bet savet ur banniel bras kenañ evit goloñ ur

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savadur kozh ha bras e kreiz-ker Din-Edin. E touez ar varzhed a zo bet diviset evit o labour, eo bet hini R. Burns a zo vet dibabet peogwir e oa peurgwirion skoziz gant leun a dalvoudegezh. (Gwelit <http://burnsbanner.wordpress.com>)

Anavezet e oa evit skrivañ ganaouennoù ha barzhonegoù hag ivez evit dastum kanaouennoù en doa klevet. E varzhonegoù a ya d'an dud a greizh kalon peogwir o deus un ton a gomz d'ar gevredigezh. Siwazh eo marvet yaouank awalc'h. Padal den a lavaro ne deus ket bevet kant-dre-gant. E oa ur merc'heter. Setu perag o deus bet fred diavezh e familh. Un dra anavezet mat hag a glot gant 'toast tae the lassies' pad koan, da lavaret eo abadennoù izpisial gant haggis, bouet eus ar vro, toast ha prezegennoù evit er bed ha bezh e kenver e devezh laouenn ar vloaz, d'ar 25 a viz genver. E varzhonegoù a zo bet troet e meur a yezh ha dreist holl e bro Rusia e pe lec'h emaint brudet.

(An account of the continuing importance of Robert Burns and his work in Scotland and beyond.)

this festival is one of the top 5 in Europe.

In 1996 Christian Troadec started a weekly newspaper in Karaez called *Poher Hebdo*, a success story which helped the editor know more about Kreiz Breizh. *Poher Hebdo* was sold to *Le Télégramme* daily newspaper three years later. It's still very alive as a Karaez weekly and provides each time one page in Breton as well as an English page, for the Celtic and English communities. After this C. Troadec started a new challenge, in this century. He bought the Coreff brewery in Montroulez /Morlaix. (Coreff is a Middle Breton word for a beer, today used in Cornish). For further development a new factory was built in Karaez. He sold the brewery in 2008 in order to devote time to his political career and the new alliance. Thus C. Troadec is a strong leader ready to fight successfully for Breizh. In the French political system, businessmen of the left wing and civil servants of the right are often good politicians.

C. Troadec's political career started in 2001, as mayor of Karaez. The former journalist, who covered the anti-Soviet revolutions in the early 90's, beat the communist lobby in charge of the city hall at that time. As mayor he worked hard to develop jobs in the outskirts of the city and a better quality of life down town. On the cultural field, the Erer Kozh festival (150,000 fans each year) was a leading activity. A lot of money was invested in cultural activities, thanks to the festival. Karaez developed a Diwan lise (Breton-medium secondary school), Ofis ar Brezhoneg, the Glenmor Congress Centre which has staged the famous "salons al levrioù Karaez" (book exhibition). The city is also intending to create a special cultural centre for a new cultural revival. Therefore Karaez is planning to be the cultural capital of Breizh, alongside Roazhon which is the political capital and Naoned which is the business one...Wait & See!!!

For the second term election C. Troadec's team won the second leg by 2/3 against 1/3 to the conservative UMP. The real challenge came on the first leg against Richard Ferrand, a Jacobin leader of the Socialist Party (SP). This ENArchist coming from the TOP French state administration is very opposed to the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages ...so he is out of touch with the European Convention for Human Rights!

R. Ferrand is also opposed to the reunification of Breizh (the re-inclusion of Bro Naoned /Loire-Atlantique in administrative Brittany) as well as real devolution as in Great Britain with more than 21bn € budget for the region.

On the other hand C. Troadec had stressed that his list is far from the Paris political lobbies and traditional parties. His main goal is to act on the ground here, in Breizh, with craftsmen, trade-unionists, workers, students, etc... in fact, it's a way to draw attention to the fact that B. Malgorn, the right-wing can-

Christian Troadec: We'll build Breizh



Christian Troadec

Nous te ferons Bretagne – We'll build Breizh, are the words of a famous Breton writer, Xavier Grall. These words have been used as the name of the political alliance founded by Christian Troadec, the pro-Breton mayor of Karaez, in 2008 for the 2010 regional elections. On the 5th of December, at a meeting in Pornizh, Bro Naoned, the national council of the Parti Breton decided to join this alliance, thus increasing its potential.

This new political alliance takes its inspiration from Grall, a mystical author who wrote a lot about the meaning of Breton life in *Le Monde*. Xavier Grall and Christian Troadec - two strong personalities, two rebels. X. Grall

expressed his passion for Breizh in a book *Le Cheval Couché* ('The Lying Horse'), and in other books. C. Troadec did it through a newspaper: *Poher Hebdo*, and a folk-rock festival, an Erer Kozh ('The Old Ploughs'). This four-day annual festival was started in 1992 in the small village of Landelo in Bro Gerne, as a reaction against a maritime festival, The Old Boats, in the NATO city of Brest. This maritime event received a lot of publicity and public funds when the farming region of Kreiz Breizh (central Brittany or east Bro Gerne) was in bad economical and cultural shape. Three years later, the Erer Kozh had become so successful that they had to move to a larger venue at Karaez. Today

didate, is a former civil servant (prefete), directly linked to President N. Sarkozy.

On the left, regional council president Jean-Yves Le Drian is not free from the SP. In Penn-ar-Bed (29), the SP engineered the removal from office of Yann-Bêr Thomin, the prominent supporter of the Breton language within the SP. The whole Breton movement was really upset with this very bad decision for Breizh. The move of the SP towards a Jacobin political centralist stance gave Christian Troadec the opportunity to develop a Breton "SNP"...Wait & see if he'll be the Alex Salmond of Breizh!

In political terms, jobs are the first priority for Breizh, in Karaez and elsewhere. The second priority is pollution - people have ready for more action on this since last summer when seaweed killed a horse. Otherwise, the global warming cause is on track, the Greens + UDB beat the Socialist Party last year *e Breizh*. The 3rd goal is Breton reunification - the return of Bro Naoned. We remember that Hitler and Pétain cut Bro Naoned /Loire-Atlantique out of Breizh. Another problem for the SP is that Naoned's mayor and president of the SP in the French National Assembly, Jean-Marc Ayrault is very opposed to reunification.

The last important goal of the programme, at the very beginning of 2010, is about public services, in the countryside and especially in Kreiz Breizh where the problem is more important. C. Troadec and the people of the Karaez area won an epic battle to keep the hospital in Karaez last year. A huge boost for Troadec, the mayor and leader of the battle. His book *Carhaix Résistance* ('Karaez Resistance'), shown in Carn 142, is a good demonstration of his fighting spirit for the people of Kreiz Breizh.

Now Christian Troadec, who was elected to the Council of Brittany in 2004, has decided to work hand in hand with the new regionalist party Strollad Breizh/Parti Breton. With 3% of the vote and momentum gained during the last European election (see Carn 144), "We'll build Breizh" must find 6% in order to go through to the second leg, with 10% altogether.

Whatever happens "We'll build Breizh" will be good for Breizh. Wait and see if the Breton SNP is born!

GiK

Coláiste na nGael Irish Language Course, St. Jacut de la Mer

We will be holding an Irish language college in St Jacut de la Mer, Brittany on **April 8 - 11th 2010.**

In the past, Breton activists have joined us. We welcome Breton speakers. Please let your contacts know - they will be very welcome.

Christy Evans. UK 01277 249 274
AnColaiste@aol.com

BREIZH'S VISION FOR THE 21st CENTURY

Part 2

The afternoon started with a super show from chairman J. Bernard, and F. Bourget, manager of "Produet e-Breizh, = Produit en Bretagne" (= PEB). Today PEB's logo with the tiny lighthouse, on the products is famous in Breizh and all over the state.

This year the club will try to expand into a few European states with adverts and products placed in shops... First of all they congratulated J.-C. Simon who thought of this business-club 16 years ago. The EVEN-Cooperative's commercial manager worked on strong Bretons' values, including ethics, solidarity and sustainable productions. At the beginning Breton consumers bought those products (+25% globally) along with adverts in solidarity with the workers in Breizh". The number of products was very small and mainly came from the farming industry. The ethical committee took some time to open the club to new services or cultural productions. Today 2,700 products make a profit off the logo and more than 100, 000 workers in more than in 200 firms are employed. This label is recognized by about 90% of people in Breizh.

With the new chairman, innovations are in the cultural field: books, CDs and DVDs.

PEB organised different awards for music, books and other innovations, which were also exported, only one has failed to achieve success for the PEB at the moment. PEB is a recognised label with innovation and authenticity, managed by passionate leaders - for passionate citizens!!!

After this introduction the audience took part in three workshops:

How to develop the Breton Diaspora?

How to export the Breton Know-How.

How to develop Bretons' values, in a globalised world.

Jakez Bernard from PEB oversaw this workshop along with the help of Jean-Jacques Henaff. The main problem was to define commonly held values. Many studies have been undertaken in this area, but as yet they remain uncoordinated. So, first of all we need to prioritise all the actions, in order to have some efficiency, in Brittany...

Sorry: "Bretagne". Like Alba for Scotland, Breizh is not well - known, yet!

Mainly, in the globalised world, Breizh is not well known apart from our sailors and the flag: Gwenn ha Du...

The main problem now is coming from the fact the all sorts of public and private organisations bought all kinds of advertising campaigns from professionals



Jean-Yves LeDrian

in Paris. The people of Breizh did not have any say. Obviously we need to do concentrate on doing the work within Breizh for the Breton nation. It sounds incredible but no such study exists yet. However the Breton Economical Agency started an important job in 2007. They will produce a presentation of their works at Lorkarn Institute (L.I.) sometime next year. The Breton President, or PM, Jean-Yves LeDrian, really wants to include the all studies already done with the business bodies as well as their advisers on the matter, in order to have a real image of Breizh which will include the cultural, economic and the social aspects. It looks like Breizh must develop a VISION, for the long - term, to achieve success in this globalised world. We must be careful that the any new technologies will use the term Breizh for their services and products, instead of Western - which is associated more with the USA !!!...Breizh or Bretagne is essential and good enough for our vision for the future.

Yann-Berr LeMat, underlined that Breizh had a tradition of working through nets (J.A.C.) and cooperation. Otherwise, the quality of a job well done as well as vocal press releases should help Breizh to export its products all over the world.

Yves Pelle is working hard work on the Breton diasporas. Unfortunately the number of inter-national members is very low. So, the Breton Diaspora (DEB) needs to do some in depth profiling in order to be efficient in the long term. DEB's members must trust the network to develop business, all over the world...

The videoconference as well as the Asian

interventions allowed the audience to appreciate the very real opportunities Breizh can find over there...

Jean-Yves LeDrian, reminded the audience that the L.I. is a Think-Tank and that he always felt free to express himself. He began with a joke, telling us that he knew about the JAC movement and even more about the JEC (=Christian Youth Students) movement, in which he was very active when he graduated. Most of the businessmen felt good about that. The republican hardliners' accepted it because he is in the leadership of the socialist party in Breizh - A strong leader who gave back confidence to the people of Breizh through symbolic actions, in the cultural field.

Next ST YVES' Day, was dealt with - Black and White flags for a soccer final, Breizh touch parade, etc... His main concern came from the fact that Breizh did not have the rank we should have in Europe and in the world. We only attracted 300 businesses from abroad Our Task is to work harder to gain much more international funding.

We need to re-organise cooperation within Brizh He said, "I would like to build a Breton-Chapter, but it'll need one year to put all the actors, round the table!"

On the tourism front has taken four years. Now Breizh has an Irish manager, Michael Dodds, to promote our tourism activities on the internet, on one hand and on the other hand we need to gather together all the partners, to promote the Breton image.

J.-Y. LeDrian is working hard in order to promote a "made" for Breizh image, shared by all the people and institutions. He showed a strong will to develop a Vision for Breizh on the local, European and global stage...

President Alan Glon, thanked PM J. -Y. LeDrian, as well as all the Asian delegates showed a strong interest in the proposed activities.

After the financial crisis the rules of the markets are under scrutiny. Obviously the people are better than the organisations, which are willing to manage them...

We are in a binary system, with the left wing on one side and the right on the other. It's the same for providers and distributors. They move the percentage up and down but do not develop any wealth. The bosses hope for more freedom in order to become more efficient. President A. Glon is hoping to change the mood from one of mistrust to confidence. Because the world is changing this century, he is wondering if the new generation of managers should not destroy what the Breton tiger built, last century??? We must move on to the other side of the mirror! We need to take on responsibility for our own businesses, to further help them reach a higher level, Glon concluded.

.GiKeltik.

The Inter-Regional Rendevous (RDV)

The inter-regional RDV started eBreizh in 1990 with K.S.B.* managed by Per Denez on the one hand and the office of the Lesser Spoken Languages (EBLUL) with Anna-Vari Chapalain, on the other hand. A grant from the EU was gained at that time from special funding for the Lesser Spoken Languages. This funding does not exist anymore. Per Treut was the Vice-President, in charge for culture for our region, at that time.

A RDV was organized in Roazhon (Rennes) in the office of the Regional Council, with associations from all over the French State. Delegates and workers from Elzas, Occitania, Kataluña

(Catalonia), Euskadi (Basques) and Breizh. The goal was to develop links between people working in the field of the languages in non-official ways. At the same time, to develop the new language policies, by giving more powers to the elected people working in this new field. Help from Europe for a few delegates offered an official status to some on the body

One of the best results, alongside the work done with Eukariz was the fact that the French National institute of Statistics (INSEE) undertook carry out a study in order to determine the number of people who speak non-official languages. From year to year we maintained the RDV, in different Regions with different subjects: education, mass media, politics about languages etc. To learn from one to each other and work altogether was the goal of these meetings. To create newspapers for the children for example, or for all the population like Semana and Ya! In 2008, we studied the importance of the way to write in order to make the Lesser Spoken Language, more official. This year in eBreizh the aim was how to make our languages alive in every day life. The K.S.B. organized RDVs in different places in eBreizh Izel (Lower Brittany, SKED, Ti Ar Vro Leon, Kemper, Konk...) and in eBreizh Uhel (Upper Brittany, St., Malo, Roazhon). A full weeklong meeting was held between 2nd and 7th November 2009, in order to go forward and be alive in our languages.

Tangi Louarn

(President, *Kuzul Sevenadurel Breizh, [Cultural Counsel of Brittany])



Tangi Louarn

Three MEPs of Europe Ecologie in Treguier

The summer university of Regions and Peoples Solidarity (RPS, federation of political parties which includes UDB) had been anticipated for a long time in Brittany. Finally, it took place last August in Treguier where 250 people from Occitania, Corsica, Alsace, Savoy, the Basque Country and Catalonia met together. This gives some of the main points of those three days discussions.

It began with a few conferences on the role of regions in the fight against climate change, which was the main theme of the summer university and constituted the most important part of the final motion of the four days. Finishing with the brilliant speech of Alain Retière, coordinator of the project ClimSat in Brest, vice-president of the regional council of Brittany Christian Guyonvarc'h warned of the international dimension of increased temperatures and its consequences on geopolitics in future decades. "The less responsible will be the most affected by this climate crisis". Then, he explained to a hushed assembly (with facts and figures) that the richest States and the ones that use the most GES were the ones that demand that the poorest reduce their emissions from 15 to 30%! Christian Guyonvarc'h insists on the necessity to give the responsibility of the fight against climate change to "sub-states" levels.

At the end of the day, RPS welcomed the other partner of Europe Ecologie : Nicole Kiil-Nielsen (green MEP), Yannick Jadot (associative MEP). The goal was to create a balance sheet and also to look at the perspectives after the European elections and the huge success of Europe Ecologie (since this summer university, UDB has chosen to continue this strategy inside Europe Ecologie). On Tuesday René Louail, the famous farmer criticized in a very passionate monologue the politics of agriculture. "Food is not merchandise like other things". He also said that over-production will not solve the problem of the farmers who live there, nor the problem of hunger in the world. He stood up against the loss of 17,000 workers from agriculture in only 5 years. To conclude, Brendan Yvet, regional secretary of the CFDT (syndicate), explained the social aspect of the world crisis in Brittany.

The afternoon was reserved for free time that consisted of a trip to enjoy the north coast of Brittany (Perros-Guirec). A long journey before a Celtic meal where all the participants could have some very interesting conversations on the future of their countries...

Gael Briand (on behalf of UDB)

Cymru

LLAFUR WEDI COLLI CYSYLLTIAD GYDA'R FRO GYMRAEG

Dyweddodd Cymuned ym mis Awst fod penderfyniad Dr Brian Gibbons i benodi Rheolwr Gyfarwyddwr dros dro ar gyngor Ynys Môn sydd ddim yn siarad Cymraeg nac yn dod o Gymru, a sydd gydag amheuaeth dros ei swydd flaenorol, yn dangos yn glir nad oes gan y Blaid Lafur yng Nghymru mo'r ddealltwriaeth sydd angen i gynrychioli trigolion y Fro Gymraeg.

'Mewn hinsawdd lle mae dybryd angen swyddi ar bobl leol, mae penodi rhywun o'r tu allan i'r Ynys sydd ddim hyd yn oed yn siarad Cymraeg yn gam gwag difrifol sydd yn anfon neges cwbl annerbyniol at bobl ifanc Môn' meddai Aran Jones, Prif Weithredwr Cymuned. 'Rydym yn galw ar y Rheolwr Gyfarwyddwr newydd i ddatgan ar frys y bydd yn ymrwymo i ddsygu'r Gymraeg o fewn y misoedd nesaf; ond rydym yn bryderus iawn nad oes gan y Gweinidog y ddealltwriaeth angenrheidiol o'r Fro Gymraeg i fedru cyflawni cyfrifoldebau ei swydd fel Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol.'

Cred Cymuned fod Dr Brian Gibbons hefyd yn dangos diffyg arweiniad personol o ran y Gymraeg, gan nodi iddo gynrychioli etholaeth sydd yn cynnwys wardiau fel Glynorrwg lle mae'r canran o bobl 10 i 14 oed sy'n siarad Cymraeg dros 34%. Serch hynny, mae gwefan y Gweinidog yn uniaith Saesneg, er mor syml ydy darparu gwefan ddwyieithog.

'Mae'n hynod siomedig nad yw'r Gweinidog hyd yn oed yn darparu gwefan ddwyieithog, heb sôn am ddsygu'r iaith ei hun,' medd Richard Evans, Cadeirydd Pwyllgor Gwaith Cymuned, 'ond mae'n adlewyrchu ei ddiffyg dealltwriaeth llwyr o natur bywyd yn y Fro Gymraeg. Dyma yn union y math o dorri cysylltiad gyda chymunedau Cymru sydd yn arwain at dranc y Blaid Lafur.'

Mae Cymuned yn annog Dr Brian Gibbons i edrych at yr enghraifft y mae Nick Bourne, arweinydd y Ceidwadwyr yng Nghymru, yn ei gynnig trwy fynd ati i ddsygu'r iaith a thrwy fod yn ymwybodol o bwysigrwydd yr iaith mewn cymunedau Cymraeg. 'Mae angen dybryd i sicrhau newid er gwell ar gyngor sir Ynys Môn er lles pobl leol wedi cyfnod helbulus mor hir,' medd Nick Bourne. 'Rhaid i bob penderfyniad am ddyfodol yr awdurdod leol gael ei gymryd gyda gwybodaeth llawn a

sensitifurwydd am faterion lleol, gan gynwys yr iaith Gymraeg.'

Fel rhan o'r ymgyrch CyngorNi.com, mae Cymuned yn galw ar Gyngor Sir Ynys Môn i ddilyn polisi iaith hynod lwyddiannus Cyngor Gwynedd trwy weithio'n fewnol trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg er mwyn sicrhau swyddi i bobl leol a dyfodol hir-dymor i'r iaith Gymraeg.

Summary:

Cymuned have condemned the appointment by a Labour minister in the Assembly of a non-Welsh speaking director to Ynys Môn (Anglesey) council and call on this council to follow the example of neighbouring Gwynedd in adopting Welsh as the council's internal operating language.

Teyrngedau i un o gewri Cymru – Hywel Teifi Edwards (1934-2010)

Talwyd teyrged gan lawer yn y mudiad cenedlaethol i'r cenedlaetholwr amlwg Hywel Teifi Edwards a fu farw ar y 4ydd o Ionawr. Yn wreiddiol o Aberarth, Ceredigion, 'roedd yn bennaeth ac yn Athro ar yr Adran Gymraeg yng Ngholeg Prifysgol Abertawe cyn ymdeol. Hanes y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg ac yn arbennig hanes yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol oedd ei arbenigedd. Siaradai yn aml yn raliau Cymdeithas yr Iaith, ac 'roedd yn



Hywel Teifi Edwards yn siarad yn rali'r Gymdeithas o flaen y Senedd, Mai 2009.

gyfrannwr cyson ar deledu a radio Cymraeg. Safodd fel ymgeisydd seneddol dros Blaid Cymru dwywaith – yn etholaeth Llanelli yn 1983 a thros Gaerfyrddin yn 1987.

Wrth ganmol ei gyfraniad enfawr at Gymru a'r iaith Gymraeg, dywedodd Cadeirydd Cymdeithas yr Iaith, Menna Machreth, y diwrnod canlynol:

"Credaf fod pawb yng Nghymru oedd yn rhannu'r un weledigaeth a'r un gwerthoedd â Hywel Teifi yn galaru heddiw, ond ar yr un pryd yn gwerthfawrogi ei gyfraniad aruthrol i fywyd y genedl.

"Bu ei gyfraniad i fywyd gwleidyddol a bywyd diwylliannol Cymru yn gwbl anhepgor. Fe fydd aelodau Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg yn gweld ei golli yn fawr iawn. Bu iddo siarad mewn nifer fawr o'n raliau a'n cyfarfodydd cyhoeddus.

"Y tro olaf iddo wneud hynny oedd ddiwedd Mai y tu allan i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol mewn rali oedd yn galw am yr hawl i Gymru gael y pŵerau i greu Mesur Iaith cyflawn. Fel ar bob tro arall cawsom ganddo araiith danbaid a chyrrhaedgar oedd yn ysbrydoliaeth fawr i'r dorf o'i flaen."

Talodd arweinydd Plaid Cymru, Ieuan Wyn Jones, a Llywydd y Blaid, Dafydd Iwan, deyrngedau i Hywel Teifi hefyd. Disgrifiodd Dafydd Iwan ef fel "un o wir gewri Cymru - ysgolhaig a gwerinwr yn un". Dywedodd Ieuan Wyn Jones AC, "Des i nabod Hywel Teifi yn dda pan oedd o'n ymgeisydd dros y Blaid yng Nghaerfyrddin a finnau yn Ynys Môn yn 1987 a ddaru ni gydweithio'n agos gyda'n gilydd bryd hynny. 'Roedd yn ymgyrchydd brwd iawn dros yr iaith, a thros ein gwlad. Tro diwethaf i mi rannu llwyfan gydag o'roedd o'n galw am fesur newydd ar gyfer hawliau ieithyddol a sefydlu comisiynydd ac mae'r ffaith ein bod ni ar fin llwyddo i gael y pŵerau yma yn ddiolch i'w ymgyrchu.

"Roedd yn hanesydd ac ysgolhaig o'r radd flaenaf, yn awdur toreithog, yn sylwebydd craff ac yn Gymro i'r carn. Dyma Gymro balch a ysbrydolodd gynifer o gyd-Gymry i ymgyrchu dros yr hyn yr oeddent yn ei gredu. Mae ei gyfraniad at yr iaith, ac at Gymru yn enfawr. Mae'n meddyliau oll gyda'i deulu yn ystod y cyfnod anodd yma."

Dyweddodd Llywydd Plaid Cymru, Dafydd Iwan: "Newyddion trist dros ben yw clywed am farwolaeth Hywel Teifi - un o wir gewri Cymru, ysgolhaig a gwerinwr yn un. Mae Cymru wedi colli cawr o ddyd a gyfrannodd gymaint i sicrhau ein bod yn deall hanes ein cenedl a datblygiad y Gymru gyfoes gyda'i democratiaeth ifanc. Mae'r genedl heddiw yn dlotach le o golli Hywel Teifi."

Summary

(Tributes from the national movement to the prominent nationalist and Welsh scholar Hywel Teifi Edwards who died in January.)

Language campaigner sentenced to a month's imprisonment



Osian Jones

A member of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (the Welsh Language Society) was sent to prison for a month at a hearing in Caernarfon magistrates' court on the 25th of November, following his protest against major high street stores' lack of bilingual language services. The magistrates had warned him that he faced imprisonment because of his refusal to pay fines for painting slogans on high street stores as part of a Cymdeithas yr Iaith campaign for a comprehensive Welsh-Language Measure. He had £1,000 in fines and costs to pay for painting slogans on Superdrug, Matalan, Boots, and PC World stores in Bangor in April 2008 over their lack of basic services for customers in Welsh. The action was part of the campaign of Cymdeithas yr Iaith for a change in the private sector's treatment of the Welsh language. They are calling for a new Language Act to covering these retailers, in order for the language to be promoted and normalised in everyday life.

Speaking after the verdict, Menna Machreth Jones, Chairman of Cymdeithas said:

"Direct action is the last step in any campaign we run. Osian took this step because the people of Wales don't have the right to see and use the Welsh language. It's very sad that we've got a system which puts the profits of large multinational companies ahead of the right for everyone in Wales to enjoy the Welsh language. These companies who show extreme disregard for Welsh do not deserve compensation; they should be paying us for making the language invisible.

"Cymdeithas call on the government to make these massive firms, like Superdrug and Boots, provide a basic service in Welsh. Unfortunately, the government of Wales won't have sufficient powers to do this, even after their latest bid for powers from London.

"These companies are ignoring public opinion. 76% of the public agree that bilingual marketing and signage is

important and 81% believe that training staff to learn Welsh is as well."

None of the businesses targeted by Osian were included in the draft Welsh language order which at the time was going through the Westminster parliament.

Speaking before his sentence Osian Jones said: *"The companies we use day-to-day don't do enough to reflect the nature of Welsh communities with high numbers of people who speak Welsh as a first language. Hopefully my imprisonment will make other people realise how bad these companies really are and how little respect they show to Wales. After all, all we want is for these companies to let the Welsh language live and thrive."*

Osian was the second member of Cymdeithas to go to prison in 2009. Ffred Ffransis was imprisoned back in June for refusing to pay fines also imposed for his part in the campaign for a comprehensive Welsh Language Measure.

Osian Jones said:

"It's interesting that both Ffred and I faced prison this year for our part in this particular campaign. What is more significant is that the 'offences' for which Ffred was imprisoned go back to January 2001 which proves that this particular campaign has been long and hard. The sad thing is that the Welsh Language LCO which is now on offer, and which is the product of all this campaigning, is utterly inadequate since it does not give the Welsh people their legitimate linguistic rights which enables them to live their lives fully through the medium of Welsh, nor do its powers extend to the private sector.

"Even though we argued our case with conviction before committees in both the National Assembly and at Westminster it became obvious to us that the legislative process in Wales is both wearisome and defective, and that we have no choice but to continue with our direct action campaign. I hope that my imprisonment will give other people the inspiration to campaign for the language and that we will see the responsibility for legislating on the Welsh language transferred in its entirety to the National Assembly in the near future. The Welsh people have had to wait a long time to see their linguistic rights realised. They deserve a great deal more than the LCO which is now on offer."

Cymdeithas yr Iaith have sent letters to Superdrug and Boots asking for their reaction to Osian Jones's imprisonment.

On his release on the 8th of December

Osian warned that 'the next decade could see the destruction of Welsh as a community language', and urged companies and the government simply to 'let the language live'. His 28 day sentence had been the longest handed down to a Welsh language activist since 1991, and he was greeted by a crowd of supporters as he arrived at Bangor station. Cymdeithas members had marked the jailing with pickets and streets stalls all over Wales: five Aberystwyth university students went on a 24 hour hunger-strike as a show of support.

Warning the public about the future of the language, Osian Jones said:

"I hope that my actions will mark the start of a new exciting period in the history of Cymdeithas. The future of Welsh hangs in the balance because too many politicians don't take it seriously. Despite the overwhelming support, the next decade could see Welsh destroyed as a community language because of the indifference and failures of politicians, multinational businesses, and the Welsh language establishment."

Writing in a letter to supporters from prison he said:

"The situation in prison makes me realise that, in a sense, all prisoners here are political prisoners: social injustice lies behind every closed door in this place. I was lucky to have so much support while I was inside, I want to thank to everyone who wrote to me - I've received hundreds of cards."

Menna Machreth Jones, Chair of Welsh language campaign group Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, added:

"It's time for us to remind people of our core message: as a society, all we want is for these big companies to let the Welsh language live. So many major retailers offer only a superficial service at best. It's not good enough. The Government needs to act to secure rights for people in Wales to use the language in their everyday lives."

Students fast for language rights

Five Aberystwyth university students went on hunger-strike for 24 hours on the 3rd of December as a show of support for Cymdeithas member Osian Jones who had been jailed for protesting against the language policy of major high street stores in north Wales. Osian Jones from Dyffryn Nantlle, had been sentenced to 28 days imprisonment for painting slogans on Boots and Superdrug stores in Caernarfon, Llangefni, and Bangor in protest against their lack of Welsh services. The students' fast was part of a series of events organised by members of Cymdeithas to raise awareness of the imprisonment and the lack of Welsh language services in the private sector.

All Wales Convention Report completed

The All Wales Convention report was presented to the National Assembly on the 18th of November. The Convention was tasked by the Welsh government with assessing the level of public support for further law-making powers for the Assembly. This was a key commitment in the One Wales programme of government agreed between Plaid Cymru and Labour in July 2007. Both parties also agreed subject to the conclusion of the Convention to proceed to a successful outcome of a referendum on lawmaking powers at or before the end of the Assembly term.

Plaid Cymru's leader Ieuan Wyn Jones AC welcomed the report of the Convention, and said that the government would now consider the conclusions of the report and the timing of a referendum. He added "We are very grateful to Sir Emyr Jones Parry, his Secretariat, and members of the All Wales Convention for the thorough and professional manner in which they have carried out this extremely important piece of work.

"The conclusions of this report are absolutely clear and need to be considered carefully. We will now discuss the report in



Helen Mary Jones (AC for Llanelli)

18 year old Mair Evans, one of the five students who were fasting, said: *"We are doing this to show support for Osian. He's in prison because he stood up for the rights of everyone in Wales to see, hear and use the language. It's unfair that our legal system criminalises Osian. These companies should, at the very least, provide basic Welsh language services, the fact that they refuse makes protests like this inevitable."*

Commenting on the events, Menna Machreth, Chairman of Cymdeithas, Language Society, said:

"I'm glad our members are holding these events to mark Osian's imprisonment As a society, all we want is for these big companies to let the Welsh language live. So many major retailers offer only a superficial service at best. It's not good enough, the Government needs to act to secure rights for people in Wales to use the language in their everyday lives. We have tried to persuade these companies to provide a bilingual service, but without success."

detail with our coalition partners and look at when the referendum should be held."

Plaid's Deputy Leader in the National Assembly, Helen Mary Jones (AC for Llanelli) said that it was a historic day for those people who want to see a better system of government in Wales. Welcoming the publication of the All Wales Convention report, she said the findings were proof that the people of Wales have seen that a referendum is needed. Ms Jones added that the people of Wales can see the difference that having a Welsh government has made and believe that it should be given the proper tools to get the job done.

"The All Wales Convention took an innovative approach in preparing this report and this has clearly paid dividends. We can see from the report's findings that the people of Wales are ready for change. As a nation, there is recognition that this is not about power for power's sake but about giving our Welsh government the proper tools it needs to do the job at hand.

"People know that this Welsh government has been working hard to bring about benefits for Welsh communities, but they also know that a lot more could have been done if the necessary powers were in Wales rather than London. People are tired of our politicians having to go cap in hand to Westminster to make laws to help Welsh communities. People can see that the people of Wales are no less capable than the Scots of making their own laws. We need Welsh solutions to Welsh problems. We need these extra powers in order to deliver these solutions.

"Our communities are tired of the broken politics of Westminster, but trust the Welsh Assembly government to get on and get the job done. Our own democratically elected Government should have the tools to get the job done for us; to stand up for us and our needs. This cumbersome system is failing all of the communities of Wales. It is wrong that our voluntary organisations have to waste their precious resources having to lobby two separate institutions for one piece of legislation. It is wrong that vulnerable families in Wales are unable to access housing that they can afford while London politicians haggle over minutiae. And it is wrong that despite cross party agreement, Wales had to wait for England to agree before smoking could be banned in public places.

"The publication of this report makes today a historic day for Wales. It has come about through Plaid's determination to improve the way our nation is governed. I now look forward to the discussions that are to come in deciding exactly when the referendum is to take place."

The chairman of the Plaid Cymru group in the National Assembly, Dr Dai Lloyd AC,

said he hoped the publication of the All Wales Convention report would signal the beginning of the end for "a failing system". According to Dr Lloyd, the announcement was the next crucial step in creating a workable and sustainable system of government for Wales. He said that the work of the Convention had been hugely important in engaging the people of Wales with the nation's legislative future.

The Plaid regional AC for the South West said that he looked forward to help delivering the One Wales commitment between Labour and Plaid Cymru for a referendum on further powers to be held before the 2011 Welsh elections.



Dr Dai Lloyd AC

"The work of the All Wales Convention has been hugely important in engaging all sections of Welsh society in the nation's legislative future. The publication of this report signals the beginning of the end for the current system of government which has let people down so badly. I am very much looking forward to studying and acting upon the report's recommendations.

"The people of Wales can see that they have been short changed by the current legislative settlement. It's frankly ridiculous that we have had to wait over two years to get the powers to provide more affordable housing for the communities that need it the most; that in order to improve the rights of people who care for others, we have to go cap in hand to Westminster; and that had we had the powers at the time, we could have banned smoking in public places around 3½ years before it actually happened.

"The current system is failing all people and all parties in Wales. One backbench AM has had to wait two years for a Westminster committee to even look at her proposal for sprinklers to be fitted in all new homes.

"Recent polls have demonstrated that the people of Wales are ready to move forwards. There was overwhelming support for the National Assembly to have the same level of powers as the Scottish Parliament in the recent Yougov poll.

"The time has come for the people of Wales to be given the tools to do the job. I am sure the report will pave the way for the One Wales government to deliver on its commitment for a referendum on primary lawmaking powers before the next Assembly election."



Éire



Comóradh Cilmeri 2009

Cuireadh tús le Tosaíodh ar Comóradh Cilmeri sna seascaidí i gcúimhne ar Llywelyn III, a dtugtar ‘Prionsa deireanach na Breataine Bige’ air (in ainneoin gur tháinig Owain Glyndwr ina dhiaidh roinnt céadta bliain ina dhiaidh sin, ach is cosúil nach raibh tionchar ná riail chomh leathan céanna aige sin).

Bhí Llywelyn ag troid ar feadh na mblianta chun an Bhreatain Bheag a choinneáil saor ó dhaorsmacht Shasana agus ba é iarthuaisceart na Breataine Bige (Gwynedd) an ceantar dúchasach agus an lárionad cumhachta aige. Bhí cúrsaí sách casta le linn na tréimhse sin. Bhí gaolta le Llywelyn, a dheartháir Dafydd san áireamh, agus prionsaí Breathnacha eile ag troid ina éadan tráth mar chomhghuaillithe ag na Sasanaigh. Amanna eile, ba ag troid in éindí leis a bhíodar. Dar ndóigh, bhí na Sasanaigh ag iarraidh easaontas a chothú i gcónaí. Sa mhullach air sin, bhí tionchar agus caimiléireacht na ‘Marcher Lords’ (tiarnaí teorann) in oirthear agus i ndeisceart na tíre le cur san áireamh. Bhíodarsan dílis go bunúsach do rí Shasana ach bhídís i gcónaí ag iarraidh a gcumhacht féin a mhéadú. Mar sin féin, glactar leis go raibh Llywelyn i mbarr a réime nuair a d’éirigh leis aitheantas a bhaint amach mar Phrionsa na Breataine Bige ó Anraoi I, Rí Shasana, i gConradh Montgomery sa bhliain 1257, seilbh a choimeád ar na tailte a ghabh sé agus umhlaíocht a fháil ó fhormhór na rialaitheoirí dúchasacha, rud a chuir i gceannas ar an mBreatain Bheag go hiomlán é.

Sa bhliain 1272, de thoradh bhás Anraoi I, tháinig a mhac siúd, an Rí Éadbhard I (‘Longshanks’ nó ‘Casúr na nAlbanach’, mar a tugadh air ina dhiaidh sin) i gcumhacht. Níor umhlaigh Llywelyn i dtosach d’Éadbhard ach, tar éis do rí nua Shasana ionradh a dhéanamh agus an chuid is mó den tír a ghabháil sa bhliain 1277 agus an bhean (Eleanor de Montfort) lena raibh sé geallta a thógáil agus í ag seoladh thar farraige chuig Llywelyn, ghéill sé. Cúngaíodh a chumhacht d’iarthar Gwynedd ansin ach tugadh cead do Eleanor a phósadh. Faoin mbliain 1282, áfach, bhí fiú amháin na mionphrionsaí a thacaigh le hÉadbhard ag gearán faoi riail na Sasanach. Go hiorónta, ba é a dheartháir Dafydd a chuir tús le héirí amach a scaip ar fud na tíre. In ainneoin ar thit amach roimhe sin, thacaigh Llywelyn leis an éirí amach. Ní go maith a chuaigh cúrsaí, áfach. Rinne Éadbhard mar a rinne sé sa bhliain 1277, ghabh sé Inis Món agus oirt-



An mórshiúl ón Prince Llywelyn Inn go dtí leacht comórtha Llywelyn i gCilmeri.

hear Gwynedd. Is cosúil go ndearna ardeaspag Chantarbaire iarracht Llywelyn a mhealadh le tairiscint ó Éadbhard eastát mór a thabhairt dó i Sasana dá ngéillfeadh sé an Bhreatain Bheag dó. Dhiúltaigh Llywelyn dó sin, agus dúirt nach dtréigfeadh sé an pobal a chosain a shinsir ‘ó laetha Kamber, mac Brutus’. B’fhéidir gurb é an ráiteas sin a thoil an meas mór air a mhaireann go dtí an lá atá inniu ann.

Chuaigh Llywelyn ó dheas le hiarracht a dhéanamh tacaíocht a chruinniú i lár agus i ndeisceart na tíre agus tús a chur le fronta eile. Is ann a maraíodh é agus tá leaganacha éagsúla ar fáil faoi céard a tharla ach táthar ar aon tuairim gur buaileadh bob air le go n-imeodh sé óna arm agus gan aige ach díorma beag (ocht nduine dhéag de chomhairleoirí nó de ghardaí cosanta pearsanta). Ceaptar gur lig Edmund and Roger Mortimer, Hugo Le Strange and Gruffudd ap Gwenwynwyn, tiarnaí aitiúla, orthu féin go raibh siad chun taobhú leis, gur imigh sé le plé leo agus ansan gur maraíodh é. Is i gCilmeri, Cefn-y-Bedd, (trí míle siar ó Bulith Wells) a feallmharaíodh Llywelyn. Baineadh a chloigeann de, seoladh go dtí Éadbhard é agus crochadh ar sparra é lasmuigh de Thúr London. Ní fios go cinnte cár cuireadh an corp ach is cosúil gur in Abbey Cwm Hir a adhlacadh é. Taispeánadh cloigeann Llywelyn dá arm agus cuireadh ina luí orthu géilleadh dá bharr sin, ar ghealltanachas nach marófaí iad. Níor seasadh leis an ngealltanachas sin, áfach, agus cuireadh os cionn 7,000 fear chun báis in aice le Bulith Wells, san áit a bhfuil an seachtú tí déag anois ar mhachaire gailf Bulith Wells. Is i bpríosún ar feadh a

saoil a chaith an t-aon duine clainne a bhí aige, iníon a rugadh ón bpósadh le hEleanor. Bhí Eleanor tar éis bás a fháil le linn na breithe. Scrios Éadbhard gach rud ábharach agus siombalach a bhain le teaghlach ríoga Gwynedd agus ba é an bás nó an príosún a bhí i ndán do mhuintir agus gaolta Llywelyn.

Tógadh cloch comórtha ar láthair a bháis i gCilmeri sa bhliain 1956. Bíonn an comóradh san áit sin ar siúl ar an Satharn is gaire do lá a bháis, an 11 Nollaig. I mbliana,

chuaigh scata ball ó Chraobh na hÉireann agus ó Chraobh Chorn na Breataine den Chonradh Ceilteach go dtí Comóradh Cilmeri. Níorbh é sin an chéad uair don Chonradh Ceilteach freastal ar an gcomóradh. Le blianta beaga anuas, tá baill as Cymru, Kernow, Alba agus Craobh Shasana tar éis a bheith i láthair ann ach ní raibh Craobh na hÉireann ann ó lár na seachtóidí. An tráth sin, d’fhreastail deichniúr as Éirinn ar an ócáid. Bhí buíon áitiúil de bhaill ó chraobh na Breataine Bige in Abertawe gníomhach an tráth san (agus a nuachtlitr féin acu) agus thug said óstachas do na hÉireannaigh uilig. Chuamar ó Ros Láir go Abergwaun. An tráth sin, ní raibh mórán carranna ag dul soir siar i mí na Nollag. Ar ndóigh, bhí na trioblóidí faoi lán seoil sa Tuaisceart agus gníomhaíocht ar siúl i Sasana freisin. Tugadh suntas dúinn, stopadh muid, ceistíodh muid agus rinneadh cuardach ar na carranna agus ar an mbagáiste. Thángthas ar bheart de *An Phoblacht* a thug ball amháin leis le díol. Coinníodh muid roinnt uaireanta a’ chloig agus glaonna á ndéanamh ag na póilíní. Ar deireadh, scaoileadh saor muid ach ní leis an mbeart nuachtán!

An bunchomóradaí i gCilmeri, is mórshiúl é ina mbíonn píobairí Breathnacha agus drumadóirí Caimbriacha agus na sluaite ó eagraíochtaí éagsúla (agus duine aonaracha) páirteach agus imíonn sé ón Prince Llywelyn Inn i gCilmeri go dtí an leacht cuimhneacháin atá thart ar leathchiliméadar uaidh. I mbliana, thug Richard, Lord Livesy of Talgarth, Roger Williams (Plaid Cymru) an Feisire Parlaiminte áitiúil, David Peterson (a

bhí mar fear a' tí) agus Adam Philips óráidí. Ócáid dhátheangach a bhí ann.

Ó thosaigh an comóradh sna seascaidí bhí Saor-Arm na Breataine Bige (FWA), Fronta an Tírghrá (PU) agus Mudiad Amddiffyn Cymru (MAC – An Conradh um Chosaint na Breataine Bige) ag tabhairt tacaíochta dó agus ag cuidiú leis. Cé nach bhfuil na dreanna míleata sin gníomhach le fada an lá, leanann an tacaíocht do Cilmeri agus anois is comóradh í an ócáid freisin ar cheannairí na gluaiseachta atá anois ar shlí na firinne (Commandants Cao Evans agus Denis Coslett, Eurig ap Gylym [a thug tacaíocht agus traenáil don ghrúpa rúnda Manannach *Fo Hallo* (Faoi Thalamh) sna seachtóidí], Toni Lewis [a chríochnaigh a shaol i Manainn agus gnó seodra airgid aige] agus Glyn Rowlands, a fuair bás sa bhliain 2009). Aon duine ar mhaith leo scéal na neagraíochtaí sin a léamh, féadfaidh siad *To Dream of Freedom*, le Roy Lewis, a léamh (Y Lofa a d'fhoilsigh). Tá neart eolais ar fáil ar an idirlíon faoi chomóradh Cilmeri i rith na mblianta agus na daoine in FWA agus in PU ar shuíomh duine darb ainm Gethin 'Iestyn' Gruffydd, a bhí bainteach le FWA agus le PU <http://coffadcilmeri.blogspot.com/> agus <http://www.gurfal.com/Cilmeri/index.htm>.



Cuid de bhaill an Chonartha Cheiltigh lasmuigh de shéipéal Llanynys le lucht eagraithe an tsearmanais, David Peterson (filleadh beag,), agus iad ag iompar Airm Gwynedd.

Le titim na hoíche, bhí paráid eile ar siúl agus tóirsí lasta agus tinte cnámha ag an leacht. Tugadh óráidí eile ansin agus sa deireadh dódh Naprún an Bhúistéara, mar a thugtar air. Bhí ceol agus amhránaíocht ar siúl san Prince Llywelyn Inn ar feadh roinnt mhaith uaireanta a' chloig ina dhiaidh san. Casadh roinnt amhrán Éireannach freisin, buíochas le Caoimhín. Le tamall de bhlianta anuas, tá comóradh deiridh seachtaine seachas comóradh lae déanta as. Ar maidin, bíonn searmanas i séipéal Llanynys, atá in ainm is a bheith mar an séipéal ar ar fhreastail Llywelyn ar aifreann don uair dheireanach sular maraíodh é. D'fhreastail an Conradh Ceilteach air sin. Thosaigh sé thart

ar a 11.00, léadh ráitis stairiúla, dánta agus óráidí chun an slua a chur ag smaoinneamh níos doimhne ar an tréimhse sin agus ar Llywelyn. Bhí Geraint Roberts mar fhear a' tí air sin. Maidin Dé Domhnaigh, bhí comóradh ann ar 10.30 ag geataí an chlub gailf i mBulith. Ní thugann an cumann gailf cead dul isteach ar láthair an áir, ach tugann siad cead an Draig Goch agus brat Llywelyn a chrochadh ar na cuailí ag an ngeata, áit a ndearnadh comóradh, le ceol agus dánta, ar ar maraíodh. Ansin ar aghaidh linn go dtí Aberedw, áit a raibh caisleán (atá scríosta le fada) ag Llywelyn agus bhí a thuilleadh ceoil agus aithriseoireachta ann. Bhí ar chomhaltaí an Chonartha Cheiltigh tosnú ag fillleadh abhaile ansin ach lean an comóradh ar aghaidh le teacht le chéile ag Abbey Cwm Hir, áit ar reáchtáladh seirbhís. Sa tráthnóna, thug an tOirmhinneach Alec Edwards léacht bliantúil Iontaobhas Abbey Cwm Hir, bunaithe ar fhreagra Llywelyn ar ardeaspag Chantarbaire John Peckham sa bhliain 1282.

Cathal Ó Luain

Summary

Various branches of the Celtic League have attended the Cilmeri commemoration for Llywelyn III from time to time. In 2009 a group of Celtic League members from Ireland and Cornwall attended the Cilmeri

commemoration on the 11th Dec. Appreciation was expressed for their attendance by various speakers. This article describes the circumstances leading up to the death of Llywelyn III, and the founding of the ceremony in the sixties. Over the years it has been a focal point for the Free Wales Army and Mudiad Amddiffyn Cymru (MAC) and tribute was paid to deceased members. The commemoration has expanded over the years with events on the Sat morning and Sunday also. These events held this year are outlined. The Websites referenced give some general information and photos from previous years.



Geraint Roberts ag órádaíocht ag leacht comórtha Llywelyn.

Nokia users abroad dig the sound of 'Amhrán na bhFiann'

Ireland's Soldiers Song (National Anthem) seems to have turned into more of an Internationale, thanks to a free karaoke download from Nokia that teaches the words to Amhrán na bhFiann

To Nokia's surprise, the application has become an Irish hit for the Finnish mobile giant. More than 25,000 downloads have been made in just two months of the free application, which was created by Irish mobile application developers MobaNode in consultation with Irish language promoters Gaelchultúr last year.

"Fifty per cent of the downloads were from outside the Irish market, including Vietnam and Turkey," said Sian Gray, head of marketing for Nokia Ireland. She said Turks in particular seemed enamoured with learning to sing in Irish. While delighted with the application's popularity, Nokia is a bit baffled as to why there have been so many foreign downloads, even accounting for the diaspora.

The company is pleased with its surprise hit, not least because Nokia commissioned the application itself to provide an example of the kind of local Irish content it hopes developers will produce for the company's Ovi Store portal site. Ovi – which means "door" in Finnish – offers music, applications, and a variety of free services and is Nokia's rival to Apple's popular iPhone App Store.

The success of the Amhrán na bhFiann application has encouraged Nokia to launch a competition for Irish developers, who can submit their own ideas for Irish-oriented applications. Nokia will select two promising applications and fully cover the cost of their development and promotion

Anyone can download it from: <http://short.ie/6d5vd0>

20 YEAR STRATEGY for the IRISH LANGUAGE 2010 -2030

The long awaited 20 Year Strategy for Irish was launched at the end of 2009 after a number of postponements. The 45 page bilingual document is available at www.pobail.ie/en/IrishLanguage. The Strategy sets out areas of action under nine key headings: **Education; The Gaeltacht; Family Transmission of the Language – Early Intervention; Administration, Services and Community; Media and Technology; Dictionaries; Legislation and Status; Economic Life; Cross-cutting Initiatives.**

Some of the main points are given below.

Following on from the 2006 Policy Statement, the headline goal has been set of increasing over 20 years the number of

- People with a knowledge of Irish from the current 1.66 million to 2 million.
- Daily speakers of Irish from the current level of approximately 83,000 to 250,000.
- Increase the number of speakers who speak Irish on a daily basis in the Gaeltacht as its invigoration will be critical to the overall plan/strategy.
- Increase the number of people that use State services through the Irish language and can access television, radio and print media through the language.

There will continue to be a senior Minister and a Government Department (the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs) with central responsibility for Irish language affairs.

Planning and Implementation of the Strategy will be directed from a Strategy Unit within that Department, with dedicated staff and the function of assigning duties and implementation roles to implementation agencies, as necessary.

With regard to the main implementation agency to be responsible for delivering on the Strategy, it is proposed that an existing Irish language agency – Údarás na Gaeltachta – will be fundamentally restructured as a new national Irish language agency – Údarás na Gaeilge. While the implementation of certain Gaeltacht policies and plans will continue to be the responsibility of the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, it may, however, devolve functions to Údarás na Gaeilge, as appropriate.

Foras na Gaeilge will continue to deliver on its statutory responsibilities in relation to Irish. These include undertaking supportive projects and grant-aiding bodies and groups to support the language as appropriate, developing terminologies and dictionaries, supporting Irish-medium education and the teaching of the Irish language on the island, and generally facilitating and encouraging

the use of the language in public and private life. In fully carrying out its remit, Foras na Gaeilge will remain a key element of the support structure for the language in both parts of the island.

The 2007 Report on the Linguistic Study of the Use of Irish in the Gaeltacht recommends that the main strategic focus of language policy in the Gaeltacht should be on supporting and empowering future generations of young Gaeltacht parents to raise their children through Irish. The Report reinforces in particular the importance of maintaining and increasing the proportion of active Irish speakers in Gaeltacht areas.

As already referred to, Údarás na Gaeltachta will be fundamentally restructured as a national Irish language agency – Údarás na Gaeilge (with its headquarters in the Gaeltacht) – with responsibility for Irish language matters throughout the State, as well as keeping many of its present functions. Legislation will be prepared in order to place the new body on a statutory footing. Údarás na Gaeilge will be run by a board made up of both elected representatives and members appointed by the Minister.

Under the new Act, a language planning process will be instigated whereby a language plan will be prepared at community level for each Gaeltacht district. These plans will integrate the approach in relation to linguistic issues, education, physical planning, and social and community development. Community buy-in and participation will be critical. Resources will be made available to implement the language plans.

The State will also develop a comprehensive set of supports for Irish-speaking families in the Gaeltacht in consultation with parents of young children and infants, and expectant parents. There is considerable experience in other jurisdictions, including Wales and the Basque Country, in supporting families raising children with two languages. Building on experience in Ireland, particularly in supporting networks of Irish speaking families and providing language support for children in Gaeltacht schools, and on international best practice, a range of practical measures will be put in place to support the transmission of Irish in the family.

A further category of language community will be recognised in the new Act to allow for targeted initiatives to develop new language communities/networks outside the Gaeltacht. These will be predominantly in urban communities that have achieved the essential critical mass of community and State support for the Irish language.

TG4 will be further supported to provide

television services through Irish. TG4 now has a new target of a six-hour daily Irish language schedule, up from a current level of approximately 4.4 hours. Sufficient funding is vital for TG4 to carry out its statutory remit and to retain its market share in an increasingly competitive environment as an independent statutory body.

Subtitling options will be substantially increased in order to offer the option to have subtitles in Irish, English, or both, or no subtitles, thus significantly reinforcing the accessibility of TG4 to learners and non-proficient users of Irish as well as fluent speakers.

The Good Friday Agreement provided that the British Government would work with the relevant British and Irish broadcasting authorities to make TG4 more ‘widely available’ in Northern Ireland. The Government will continue to work with the relevant British authorities to ensure that this will be achieved in the context of the switchover to digital television by 2012.

Bilingual labelling and packaging: The Government will examine the feasibility of introducing a voluntary code for bilingual labelling and packaging of all goods sold in Ireland. This activity could be used as a mechanism to develop the range of areas available in which people can choose Irish as a language of exchange

A portal site for Irish will be developed. This will be designed to provide easy open access to all materials and resources for and in Irish, to include e-learning materials, publications, media, terminology, placenames, academic publications, language networks, digitised sources, and social and professional networks.



Donncha Ó hÉallaithe

The Strategy received a general if cautious welcome from the Irish language organisations. One positive element was confirmation that a senior Ministry and government department with central responsibility for Irish language affairs would remain. It had been proposed in the recommendations of the cost cutting ‘An Bord ‘Snip’ that it be abolished. Many see the Strategy as good on aspiration but weak on implementation. Northern commentators felt it did nothing for the language in the North. Also of course the key issue of funding must be clarified. Some Gaeltacht commentators do not see the restructuring of

Údarás na Gaeltachta as a national Irish language agency, Údarás na Gaeilge, as at all beneficial to the Gaeltacht. It has to be remembered that the Údarás only came into being after a long campaign decades ago by Gaeltacht activists and it is feared that this move would affect provision of employment and enterprise in the Gaeltacht.

At the end of January the Dáil committee dealing with Irish language affairs confirmed cross party support and heard submissions from a (randomly selected) number of language bodies and activists. Concerns were expressed about the whole managerial structure, real responsibility for implementation and monitoring. Various additional proposals were made among them some with regard to education, bilingual road signage of equal status, recruitment to ensure Irish speaking fluency in the public service. More clarification was need between the roles of the new Údarás na Gaeilge and Foras na Gaeilge. Fiontar, the Irish language enterprise group in DCU, had provided a report to the government to inform the Strategy but not all these proposals were accepted. A call was made, by Donncha Ó hÉallaithe, Gaeltacht activist and researcher, for Fiontar to be invited to the Dail committee to discuss their proposals which had not been accepted in the Strategy.

LISBON'S CONSTITUTIONAL REVOLUTION BY STEALTH

With the coming into force of the Lisbon Treaty on Tuesday 1st. December, members of the European Parliament, who up to now have been "representatives of the peoples of the States brought together in the Community"(Art.189 TEC), become "representatives of the Union's citizens" (Art.14 TEU).This change in the status of MEPs is but one illustration of the constitutional revolution being brought about by the Lisbon Treaty.For Lisbon, like the EU Constitution before it, establishes for the first time a European Union which is constitutionally separate from and superior to its Member States, just as the USA is separate from and superior to its 50 constituent states or as Federal Germany is in relation to its Länder.

The 27 EU members thereby lose their character as true sovereign States. Constitutionally, they become more like regional states in a multinational Federation, although they still retain some of the trappings of their former sovereignty. Simultaneously, 500 million Europeans becomes real citizens of the constitutionally new post-Lisbon European Union, with real citizens' rights and duties with regard to this EU, as compared with the merely notional or symbolical EU citizenship they are assumed to have possessed up to now. Most

Official Recognition for the Early-Immersion Education System in Gaelscoileanna

Gaelscoileanna throughout Ireland are celebrating today's announcement that circular 0044/2007 in relation to **Language and Literacy in Infant Classes in Irish-medium schools** has been officially withdrawn. The Department of Education and Science's decision to withdraw the controversial circular and to grant official recognition to



Bláthnaid Ní Ghréacháin,
CEO Gaelscoileanna

the early-immersion education system has been warmly welcomed by GAELSCOILEANNA TEO. The Department's decision follows a period of intense campaigning in the sector since the release of circular 0044/2007 in 2007. The predominant demand of the campaign, the withdrawal of the circular, has now been achieved. The outstanding demands, which include agreement on the official models of early-immersion education in gaelscoileanna as well as implementation of a programme of research to form the basis of strengthening the immersion education system, will be considered and agreed in a consultative manner with stakeholders.

The decision opens the door to the necessary and comprehensive development of the early-immersion education system in gaelscoileanna. The next step in the process will involve publication of a draft statutory instrument

referring to the early-immersion education system, which will be presented and agreed with stakeholders.

GAELSCOILEANNA TEO. extends its congratulations to the plaintiffs in the legal case and also its gratitude to the organisation's delegation who engaged in discussions with the Department

throughout the campaign in an effort to resolve the crisis. GAELSCOILEANNA TEO. also acknowledges the central role played by Irish-language partners, education partners and the teacher unions in particular throughout the campaign.

C.E.O. of GAELSCOILEANNA TEO., Bláthnaid Ní Ghréacháin, stated, "this is very positive news and we wholeheartedly welcome the Department's decision to strengthen the Irish-medium education sector, thereby allowing schools to continue to implement the most effective system of language acquisition available. This departure illustrates the positive effect of collaborative efforts and we are very grateful to all in the sector, including schools for their unrelenting lobbying as well as to the plaintiffs who fought against the enforcement of the circular since its publication."

Europeans are unaware of these astonishing changes, for two reasons. One is that, with the exception of the Irish, they have been denied any chance of learning about and debating them in national referendums. The other is that the terms "European Union", "EU citizen" and "EU citizenship" remain the same before and after Lisbon, although Lisbon changes their constitutional content fundamentally. The Lisbon Treaty therefore is a constitutional revolution by stealth.

The EU Constitution, which the peoples of France and Holland rejected in 2005, sought to establish a new European Union in the constitutional form of a Federation directly. Its first article stated: "This Constitution establishes the European Union". That would clearly have been a European Union with a different constitutional basis from the EU that had been set up by the Maastricht Treaty 13 years before. Lisbon brings a constitutionally new Union into being indirectly rather than directly, by amending the two existing European Treaties instead of replacing them entirely, as the earlier Constitutional Treaty had sought to do. Thus

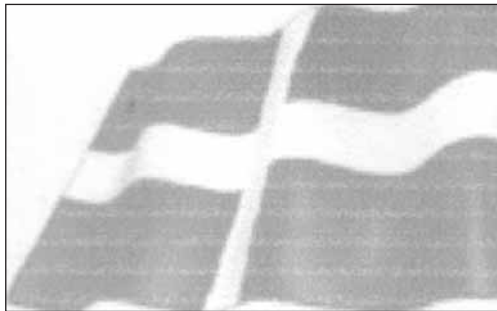
Lisbon states: "The Union shall be founded on the present Treaty" - viz. the Treaty on European Union (TEU) - "and on the Treaty on the Functioning of the Union." These two Treaties together then become the Constitution of the post-Lisbon European Union. A new Union is in effect being "constituted", although the word "Constitution" is not used.

What we called the "European Union" pre-Lisbon is the descriptive term for the totality of legal relations between its 27 Member States and their peoples. This encompassed the European Community, which had legal personality, made supranational European laws and had various State-like features, as well as the Member States cooperating together on the basis of retained sovereignty in foreign policy and defence and in crime and justice matters. Lisbon changes this situation fundamentally by giving the post-Lisbon Union the constitutional form of a true supranational Federation, in other words a State. The EU would still lack some powers of a fully developed Federation, the most

continued on page 23



Kernow



WIKIPEDIA, TROESPONS HA FENESTER AN YETHOW NEBES KEWSYS.

Aswonnys yn ta yw Wikipedya lemmyn. Gwrys veu Wikipedya yn Sowsnek yn mis Genver 2001 gans Jimmy Wales. Wosa henna lies yethow a wrug sywya. Yma lemmyn a-dro dhe 250 dyllans Wikipedya ha 200 anedha yn fyw yn 2009. Wikipedya yw godhoniador liesyethek gans dalgh igor, gruthys ha mentenys gans bodhogyon dre vedhelweyth wiki. An Fondyans Wikimedia yw hostys Wikipedya; nag eus dhodho ev amkan rag budh.

Eth warn ugens dyllans a'n jeves pub huni moy ages 100,000 erthygel: Sowsnek, Spaynek, Almaynek, Frynkek, Japonek, Italek, Polonek, Swedek, Iseldiryek, Portyngalek hag erell...

War-lergh Hitwise, kowethyans musurya war-linen, Wikipedya yw an wiasva pennfenten derivadow moyha usys war an Kesrosweyth.

Dres oll an yethow soedhogel na yma tyller rag yethow nyns yw soedhogel, po yethow nebes kewsys po yethow marow avel Galythiek, Kernewek po Latin! Meur anedha a wra pedri yn bywnans poblek po yn bywnans oll an dydhyow mes war an wiasva byw hag usyes yns i!

An yethow nebes kewsys a wrug kavoes yn Wikipedya le rag bleujoya po splanna ha degemmeres an keth dygthyans a'n yethow soedhogel. Henn yw kas an yeth bretonek, rag ensampel gans meur a 30,000 erthygel! Henn yw an 51a yeth moyha poesek war Wikipedya!

Sevys veu an Wikipedya yn Bretonek yn 2004. Henn yw ynwedh an yeth keltiek gans moy erthyglow. Hag yma moy erthyglow yn Bretonek ages yn yethow soedhogel rag ensampel an Albaynek! Magys yw dre vras dyllans bretonek gans studhyoryon ha dyskatoryon pennskolyow Breten Vyghan ow havoës erthyglow ha derivadow war dhyllansow erell hag ow threylya an erthyglow ma yn Bretonek.

Byttegyns res yw dhyn notya stat an dyllans katalanek gans meur a 207,000 erthygel! An yeth katalanek yw an 15ves yeth moy poes war Wikipedya war an keth

nivel ha yethow soedhogel avel finnek rag ensampel. Yma yethow nebes kewsys avel Galythiek, Baskek po Cebuano (unan a'n yethow Filipinys).

Spas da yw Wikipedya rag an yeth kernewek! Da via ynkressya niver a erthyglow yn Kernewek war Wikipedya, dell grysav. Yma lemmyn 1,811 erthyglow war an Wikipedya Kernewek. Hwi a yll agan gweres mar kodhewgh konvedhes Kernewek - gwra skrifa erthygel a-dro dhe neppyth a les dhewgh, po gwelhe, po ewnhe an pyth usi omma seualabrys.

- * Kewgh dhe borth an gemmynieth rag kavoes derivadow a-dro dh'agas akont devnydhyer, tybyansow rag erthyglow, ha moy.
- * Rag gweres, kewgh dhe'n tavern. Henn yw an le rag govynadow, profyansow ha kows ollgemmyn a-dro dhe Wikipedya.
- * A-dro dhe skriforyon-kompostor:

Pubonan a vydh kummys dhe skrifa erthyglow nowydh y'n skrifa-komposter a'ga bodh. Pubonan a yll chanjya an skrifa-komposter usys yn unn erthygel, mars usi va/hi ow lesa an erthygel ha ekspondya war desten ev.

Summary :

Wikipedia, the free web-based, collaborative and multilingual encyclopedia was launched in 2001 by Jimmy Wales is currently the largest and most popular general reference work on the Internet. Wikipedia is a fabulous opportunity for minority languages, among them Cornish. As Wikipedia is written collaboratively by volunteers around the world, and almost all of its articles can be edited by anyone with access to the site it could be a real opportunity for Cornish speakers to increase the number of articles written in Cornish. And this could be done with the other Celtic languages too...

José Calvette

Radyo an Gernewegva a grevha an taves kewsys

Y'n termyn eus passyes, nyns esa meur a jonsow a glywes Kernewek kewsys y'n bywnans poblek. A-darr mos dhe'n Bennseythun Gernewek po Lowender Peran, ny'gan beu saw BBC Radyo Kernow gans 'An Newodhow', towlenn omma hag ena der an bellwolok, ha rag termyn verr yth esa nowodhow der Pirate FM ynwedh.

Byttegyns, an bys re drelyyas yn feur.gans an kesrosweyth. Lemmyn ni a yll dannvon son ha gwydheo a-hys an bys heb edhomm a wernow tavethli. Ytho my a lonchyas gorsav radyo der an kesrosweyth nans yw diw vlydhen. Yn gwir, nyns yw gorsav, saw kodhethliansow (po podkastys).

My a dhallathas gans 'Nowodhow an Seythun' (Mis Gwynngala 2007) neb a ros an nowodhow a Gernow pub seythun y'gan



Matthew Clarke

taves ni. Pesya a wrug bys y'n mis Ebryl warlyna, mes res o dhymm y hedhi awos bos re a ober dhymm dh'y wul. Byttegyns yma hwath 'Radyo an Gernewegva' (dalleth a wrug mis Meurth 2008). An dowlenn ma yw kodhethlys pub seythun. Durya a wra hanter our, hag ynny y kevir keskows hag ilow – oll anodho yn Kernewek. Nyns yw es gul hanter our seythunweyth, byttegyns challenj da yw, ha dell glywav, degemmerys yw yn ta gans tus ow tyski an taves a-hys an bys. My re glywas dhiworth Kembroyon ynwedh neb a woslow pub seythun, hag es lowr yw ragdha konvedhes.

Mar mynnowgh goslowes orti agas honan, ewgh dhe: www.radyo.kernewegva.com

Summary

Radyo an Gernewegva started in March 2008 providing a weekly half an hour programme totally in Cornish. It is a mix of music and chat. The service is helping students of the language, particularly further a-field.

Matthew Clarke

ANCIENT CORNISH SITES CLEANED UP

It was hard graft for all as members of An Kesunyans Kelttek Scoren Kernewek (the Cornish Branch of the Celtic League) joined those of Roesweyth Gwith Hen Leow Kernewek - RGHLK (Cornish Ancient Sites Protection Network) in clearing the ancient rights of way as well as the actual surrounds of the Holy Well at Sancreed, west of Penzance.

The well is pre Christian and under the care of RGHLK, a completely voluntary organisation, which works hard to maintain and protect many, such sites.

In addition to cutting back wild vegetation, many inappropriate 'clouties' left hanging in the nearby tree were removed. Suitable offerings were carefully left.

Clouties are traditional custom at healing wells, whereby rags were torn from part of the body where there was injury or hurt and tied on a tree close to the well. As the material disintegrated so the hurt was supposed to go.

Nowadays, the gifts are hung by local people for good luck although sadly, holiday makers have been found leaving Tesco carrier bags and the like being not fully aware of the significance of their actions. Sancreed is dedicated to St.Credan, a mythological saint who in the old texts supposedly accidentally killed his father and became a swineherd in penance. In Celtic mythology pigs were totem animals of the Otherworld.

At the end of a very successful day and as the sea mists rolled in, mead and hot cross buns were shared and a blessing made in Cornish. A similar such clearance day is planned for next month.

Tony Leamon, An Kesunyans Kelttek Scoren Kernewek



Tony Leamon

'Melting Pot' Cafe

The 'Melting Pot' Cafe, situated at 'Krowji', the old Redruth Grammar School, was filled with scores of Cornish language speakers from all manner of Cornish organisations, groups and societies from around Redruth for a musical 'Troyl' - an evening of song and dance in celebration of Christmas.

Aside from the usual Christmas fare, 'thunder and lightning' - treacle and cream on splits and saffron buns were freely distributed.

Singers from the Tregojorran Choir entertained the crowd in attendance performing many very traditional Cornish Carols.

Hardly a word of English was to be heard as the many Cornish speakers conversed freely in the resurgent Celtic language.

The ever popular Clive Baker, who teaches the Cornish language at various classes in the Camborne and Redruth area was able to wish all his students 'Nadelik Lowen ha Blydhen Noweth Da!' (Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year) and above the merrymaking, responses of 'Gorhemmynadow as Seson re



'gas bo, Clive' were called back. (Seasons greeting to you, Clive)

The Melting Pot holds a 'Nos Kernow' every Wednesday, late afternoon and evening, for those wishing to learn Cornish and to later enjoy Cornish traditional music

and has hosted Cornish Language fact finding visits from groups of visitors from as far a field as the USA.

The venue is also available for hire and details may be found at the website: <http://www.themeltingpotonline.co.uk/>



'A Sign of the Times'

Seemingly timed to coincide with the recent decision by Cornwall Council to proceed with the policy of an 'old for new' dual English and Cornish language signage replacement policy, despite the not unexpected Tory opposition, this thought provoking graffiti appeared on the Cremyll Ferry route from Kernow to Plymouth, England. Situated on the east bank of the Tamar near to Plymouth's Stonehouse Jetty, it has drawn much public attention including from many tourists who have photographed it.

Again, not unsurprisingly, it has not been mentioned in the press normally quick to report such things, probably as it does not mention violence and lacks the sensationalism called for in the centrally controlled media.

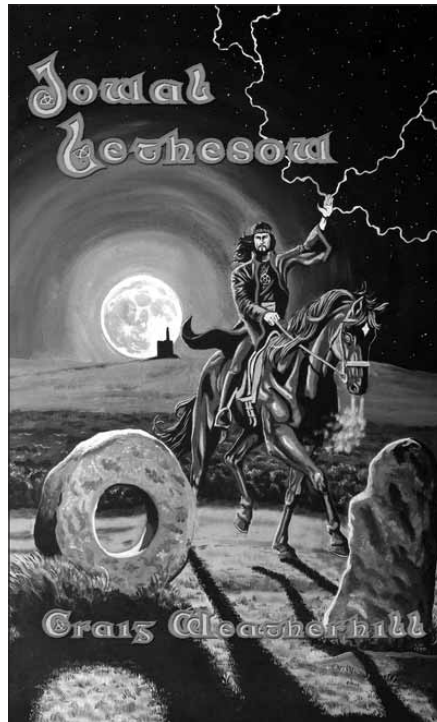
JOWAL LETHESOW

Craig Weatherhill "Jowal Lethesow: Whedhel a'n West a Gernow", Co. Mayo: Evertype, 2009, £10.95

Back in 1991, I remember stumbling into the late and lamented *Truro Bookshop* and coming across a novel called *The Lyonesse Stone: A Novel of West Cornwall*. Having grown up on an epic diet of Stephen Donaldson (*The Chronicles of Thomas Covenant*), J.R.R. Tolkien (*Lord of the Rings*) and Jack Vance (*Lyonesse*), this fantasy seemed the very thing for me. At the time, Weatherhill's novel was a tremendous breakthrough in Anglo-Cornish literature: a mature, intelligent and well-written novel that managed to weave together many mythological strands of history, folklore and legend.

Although perhaps marketed then by the Padstow-based publisher Tabb House as a teenage or young person's fiction, in fact, has considerable appeal for adult reader as well. Even better, it was dedicated to that 'old Celt' William Bottrell, folklorist and story collector. Weatherhill's original project concerned the story of modern-day Penny and John Trevelyan, who are caught up in a centuries old quest for power and immortality, connected to the flooding of Lyonesse – the mythical land between Land's End and the Isles of Scilly. Having an almost Alan Garner-like realism and a Susan Cooper-style darkness, the novel managed to redefine contemporary fantasy literature of Cornwall. What I always found great about the novel is the way that Weatherhill managed to weave in place-names and their meanings (the author is an acknowledged place-names expert), with Part One 'The Crownstone' linking Men Scryfa, the Hooting Carn and a fogou, and Part Two: 'Shall Times Intermingle', linking the past with the present – in a way, a notion that sums up the Cornish experience.

So, why the revisit? Well, the novel has now been expertly translated into Cornish by Nicholas Williams, and the result is that we now have an important contribution to Cornish-language literature. The effect of Williams' translation is often dazzling; the Cornish giving new illumination to major sequences in the novel, as well as presenting a further realism of space and place. Williams is a precision translator, weaving absolutely the correct meaning from the original, but also giving a tremendous feel of the original: in fact, the two qualities one would most want. *Jowal Lethesow*, is the novel's title in Cornish and it has been diligently produced by Evertype of County Mayo in Ireland. Evertype have made something of a reputation for themselves of late, not only producing an acclaimed series of publications on the Cornish language, but also translating a range of world-class



literature into Cornish. One such publication is Weatherhill's novel. What is very important about this book is that it marks a new watermark for literature in Cornish. We have, so it would seem, moved on from safe 'bang the drum' novels solely about nationalism or 1497, and now have a coteremporary literature that sits up there with J.K. Rowling and Michael Murpurgo. Evertype have high production values, so this is not the thrown together piece of work of some Cornish language organisations. Instead, we see a modern typeface, contemporary styling and an awareness of what a modern literature needs to look like.

2009 would appear to have been a significant year for Weatherhill. Halsgrove have just reprinted a fine new edition of his *Cornovia: Ancient Sites of Cornwall and Scilly 4000BC – 1000AD*, which features many of the places imagined in *Jowal Lethesow*. For that extra degree of realism, read the two books together, and one is able to map the characters' journeys across the landscape of West Cornwall. The sequel to *Jowal Lethesow* was *Seat of Storms*, which was a thoroughly enjoyable second instalment of the saga. A third, *The Tinner's Way*, is planned for the near future. It would be a fine thing indeed, if these could also be translated into Cornish, and that Weatherhill continues to both examine and recreate our mythological past. The book contains illustrations by the author. Copies may be obtained from Amazon.co.uk, from Amazon.com, or from Spyr's a Gernow: e-mail shoppa@spyr's.org. See also <http://www.evertype.com/books/jowal.html>

Alan M. Kent

St Piran "First"

The 'First Bus' Company, whose passenger vehicles serve most of the Duchy, have announced that their drivers in Cornwall will be displaying the now widely accepted St. Piran's flag on their uniforms.

The older 'Truronian' bus company has now been absorbed into 'First Bus' and in addition to the driver uniforms there is an ongoing policy of adding St. Piran flags to vehicle liveries.

Marc Reddy, who is managing director of First Cornwall, said: "We believe these changes will benefit most people in Cornwall, so we are celebrating their introduction as well as our own Cornish heritage. With this in mind, we have had some pin badges made featuring the St Piran flag and the First logo; our staff will wear them as they serve local people."

NEW SECRETARY FOR CORNISH BRANCH



Mike Chappell

A new secretary of the Kernow Branch of the League has been appointed following an extra ordinary meeting. It was decided at the meeting in November in Roche that Michael Chappell should be approached to take up the position of branch secretary again following Iwan LeMoine announcement that he wished to step down for personal reasons. Mr LeMoine consequently invited Mr Chappell – who was not present at the meeting to consider being reappointed as branch secretary in view of the good work that Mr Chappell had undertaken in organising the branch during his time as branch secretary between 2005 and 2008.

Mr Chappell who accepted the invitation to take up the role again was warmly welcomed by Kernow branch treasurer Tony Leamon and general secretary of the League Rhisiart Tal-e-bot. Mr Leamon said: "Mike is a great personal friend of mine, but he is also someone who has a commitment to Cornwall and the other Celtic countries that is second to none. In addition he is a fantastic organiser and gets things done. I am so pleased he agreed to take up the lead again. He is the natural choice for secretary."

Mannin

Gear-cheim ayns Nerin Hwoaie reeshtagh

Veih'n aght ta ymagglaghey goll er resooney syn ym-ysseraght Ghoaldagh, s'aashagh smooinghyn dy nee ymagglagheyderyn Muslimagh ta jannoo yn chooid smoo jeh'n ymagglaghey ayns y Reeriaght Unnaneyssit. Agh cha nel shen kiart. Dy ve ferrinagh, she ayns Nerin Hwoaie son y chooid smoo ta sleih soie er sleih elley dy raghtal. As son y chooid smoo, she ass-unnaneyderyn pobblaghtagh ta jannoo yn stoo raghtal. V'eh grait dy jinnagh Coardail Jeheiney Caisht cur sthap da bleaystane, shottal sleih as kerraghey sleih liorish bwoalley ad dy trome. Agh ny shlee na jeih bleeaney lurg y Coardail shen, ta'n earroo dy haghertyn agglagh ayns Nerin Hwoaie goll er bishaghey.

Er y gherrid, va bleaystan kiare cheead punt faagit ec ard-offish y voayrd-poleeney ayns Beéal Feirshtey – cha ren eh bleaystey. Va ass-unnaneyderyn as meoiryn-shee lhiggey gunnaghyn noi ry hoi ayns Co. Fear Manach. Ayns y Strah Bane, ren ass-unnaneyderyn lhiggey gunnaghyn syn aer ec oanlucky, kionfenish sleih dy liooar va bwoalley bassyn – y chieed cheayrt haghyn y lheid rish nuy bleaney. Va daa hidoor as meoir-shee marrit ayns Mee Vayrnt, as, ayns ny shey mee ny lurg shen, va meoiryn-shee soit er un cheayrt jeig lesh gunnaghyn. Harrish y daa vlein shoh chaie, va 720 raau-bleaystan currit. Ass yn earroo shen, va 420 red oddagh oo gra 'bleaystan so-chredjal' rish. Ayns Nerin Hwoaie nish ta mysh un 'taghyrt ymagglaghey' ayn gagh laa.

Son shickyrys, cha nod shoh goll er cosoylaghey rish ny reddyn mooarey va'n IRA jannoo paart dy vleeantyn er dy henney. Ta ny possanyn ass-unneaneagh beg, lane dy vrahderyn, as cha nel ad goll er pohlldal goll rish ny pobblaghtee armit ayns ny bleecantyn tree feed as jeih, as kiare feed. As, ec y tra cheddin, ta Sinn Féin goll er pohlldal feer niartal. Agh hug y Commishoon-scrutee Eddyrashoonagh skeeal magh er y gherrid dy vel yn earroo dy hoiaghyn armit ec y leval syrjey neayr's va'n Commishoon currit er bun shey bleaney er dy henney. As ta kimmeeys ny leighalee phara-hidooragh feer ard neesht. Ta ny leicideilee phobblaghtagh as unnaneyssagh goaill rish dy jig y raghlid dy ve ny smessey, s'cosoylagh.

Cha nel ad ayns coardailys mychione monney stoo elley. Ec y tra cheddin as ta'n troddan ass-unneaneagh gaase mastey ny pobblaghtee, ta gear-cheim er jeet er rheynn pooar eddyr unnaneysseryn as pobblaghtee. Er y daa heu, ta ass-unnaneyderyn girree

magh noi'n status quo. Er y cheu leighalagh, ta'n Partee Unnaneyssagh Deynlagh fo baggyrt veih'n Chora Unnaneyssagh Tradishoonagh – ny deiney feer chreoi. T'adsyn lhiittal garraghey pooaraghyn poleeney as cairagh gys shecktyrys Nerin Hwoaie, red va coardit un vlein jeig er dy henney. Son pobblaghtee as ashooneyryn Yernagh, ta'n chooish shoh smoo scanshoil na cooish elley erbee. Dy beagh pooaraghyn poleeney as cairys currit da shecktyrys Nerin Hwoaie, veagh Nerin Hwoaie geddyn smaght deynlagh harrish niart va ymyd jeh son traa liauyr dy hranlaasey dy scarreydagh yn mynlagh sy steaten t'ad gra Nerin Hwoaie rish. Kyndagh rish shen, ta ny leighalee er chroo conaant lurg conaantyn dy lhiittal garraghey ny pooaraghyn scanshoil veih Lunnin gys Nerin Hwoaie.

Myr shen, ta sleih er ve gra foddee dy beagh Sinn Féin cur reihysshyn fo raad, ny foddee dy beagh rheynn pooaraghyn tuittym veih my cheilley. Ta Jeffrey Donaldson veih'n Phartee Unnaneyssagh Deynlagh gra nagh vel eh feer voirit, as dy vel lucht Sinn Féin kinjagh lhiggey er dy vel ad doo-aignagh tra nagh vel ad geddyn ny t'ad gearree. Agh ta'n gear-cheim pohlldal as niartaghey troddan ny h-ass-unnaneyderyn pobblaghtagh. By vie lhiusyn rheynn pooaraghey y vrishey sheese. My t'ou toiggal y niart as y shennaghys jeh tradishoon pobblaghtagh Nerin, cha nyrrys nagh vel mynlagh pobblaghtagh er ghoaill rish y lhiggey lesh y cheilley va jeant ec Sinn Féin myr ayns jeh'n choardail-shee. Son shickyrys, ta sidooryn Goaldagh er gholldy valley, as ta unnaneysseryn er ve eginid dy rheynn pooar lesh sleih v'ad soit er stroie. As ta foddey smoo cairyn theayagh as corrymid heayagh ayn. Agh ta oikyn y reiltys foast nyn ayns jeh'n steat Goaldagh, as ta Nerin unnaneyssit foast foddey ersooyl. Nerin unnaneyssit – she ard-dean phobblaghtys Yernagh va shen rieau. Y lhiass-eaghtyrane jeh Sinn Féin Pobblaghtagh, t'eh gra nagh vel ad goll boayl erbee. As eshyn: 'Cha nel ad agh loayrt mychione cur bree da reill Goaldagh as leigh Ghoaldagh'. Agh dooinney ta loayrt son Sinn Féin, t'eh gra dy vel caggey lesh gunnaghyn y red s'jerree dy jannoo. Mannagh vel strateish ayd, as cha nel oo agh goll magh dy varroo sleih, she marrooder oo. She fer-gunney oo, cha nee ravval.

Ta sleih ennagh cosoylaghey troddan ny h-ass-unnaneyderyn pobblaghtagh nish rish troddan yn IRA ayns ny bleecantyn jeih as

daeed – troddan ren goll er fioghey kyndagh rish genney pohlldal. Agh dy beagh red agglagh jeant as dy beagh ymmodde sleih marrit, foddee dy jinnagh shen greinnaghey aawoalley mooar as cooyl-skyrraghtyn atchimagh. Cha ren Coardail Jeheiney Caisht feaysley yn caggey, ren eh cummal as dooney stiagh eh. Reeshtagh ayns Nerin Hwoaie, ta sthurneish unnaneyssagh lhiittal politickaght cheeallagh. Kyndagh rish y ghear-cheim argidoil, foddee, t'eh jeeaghyn nagh vel ny reiltysshyn ayns Lunnin ny Divlyn cur monney geill da taghyrtyn feer ghaueagh ayns Nerin Hwoaie. Bee eh ommidjagh erskyn towse my vees ny reiltysshyn shen lhiggey harrish y raue. Cha nel sleih laccal y clag dy ve currit erash daeed blein. Ayns ny bleecantyn tree feed, hirr mynlagh Nerin Hwoaie cairyn theayagh. Cha ren reiltys Lunnin veg. Sleih va fo chosh, hirr ad ny cairyn shen er aghyn sheeol, as eisht va brouityn unnaneyssagh lowit dy hoie orroo lesh claghyn as maidjyn. Cha row firghunney ry-akin as va'n IRA marroo. Agh va'n IRA aa-chrooit ec raghtalid unnaneyssagh as ec faasid reiltys Lunnin. Cha nel shin laccal ooilley shen reeshtagh.

Summary

It looks as though power sharing in the North of Ireland could fall apart over the issue of transferring policing and justice powers to the Northern Ireland executive. Maybe the financial crisis is making the London and Dublin governments not to take things seriously enough.

Brian Stowell

Cooish Review, 2009

The Cooish is a festival that has been held for many years now in November each year, this year's report of the Cooish which took place on the 7th – 14th of November, is evidence of the growing strength of the Manx language and arts. Also the organisers of the Cooish have expanded the event, which now embraces an Inter Celtic dimension.

As ever the festival wouldn't happen without the **Manx Heritage Foundation**; **Cains the Arts Council** also thanks must go to **Manx Telecom** for their publicity and **Manx Radio** for their extensive coverage.

The full report can be found at http://www.learnmanx.com/cms/news_index_all.html Carn readers are strongly encouraged to visit this site, which shows clearly how Manx is progressing and how Inter Celtic links can help. Below are a few snippets of some of the events that occurred over the week.

continued on page 20

- As a prelude to the Festival Marcas Mac Ruairí from Downpatrick from the North of Ireland visited the island. Over the last few months organisers have been working to develop close links with the language Community there; hopefully, next year group of children and teachers from their Irish Medium school will attend. Marcas was able to share with teachers and parents from the Bunscoil practical advice for encouraging parents and children to use their Manx outside of a classroom situation. This is a key language development area which can be progressed over the next few years.



Marcas and Cathy Clucas

- Over the years the Cooish has welcomed a number of fantastic speakers from around the Celtic world to deliver the **Ned Maddrell Lecture**. This year was no different with Jenefer Lowe, from the **Cornish Language Partnership**, was able to attend and provide what was a fantastic overview of the language situation in Cornwall.



Jenefer being interviewed for Manx Radio.

- In many ways the highlight of the week's events was the official launch of the Manx Gaelic Youth Group **Possan Aeglagh** – at the Youth Centre in Peel. This fitted in well with the work Marcas

£100m VAT Bombshell Hits Isle of Man

The Isle of Man Government announced in October a cut of between £100 - £140 million in its share of the Isle of Man/UK VAT Revenue Sharing Arrangement which will have serious implications for Government spending for years to come. While in the short term this is clearly a massive blow to the Manx people it does allow for a more honest and potentially much bolder approach to Manx politics.

Ever since the 'great deceit' in 1765 when the Duke of Atholl sold us out to the British Crown as a result of the haemorrhaging of customs duties from Britain to the Isle of Man, the Isle of Man has had a Customs and Excise Agreement with the UK. For much of this period the UK was a significant beneficiary of this and other elements of the British Crown's 'purchase' of the Isle of Man. During the period when the Isle of Man's lead mines dominated world production vast sums of money left our shores headed for UK Government coffers.

In recent decades however the Isle of Man Government has been particularly successful in negotiating attractive deals for the Isle of Man which have meant that the Customs and Excise Revenue Sharing Arrangement has been greatly beneficial to the Isle of Man. This has allowed the Isle of Man

helped us with and is an important next step for the language: it's vital children have the opportunity to use the language outside of a school environment. Cathy Clucas is the Manx Gaelic leader at the group and thanks must go to those who are helping her with this project and the IOM Youth Service for their commitment to the language. Last week there were 16 children at the regular Monday night sessions; this is very encouraging.

- As ever Friday was the busiest day on the Cooish programme where a concert was held at The Centenary Centre in Peel. A number of excellent musicians from Ireland and Scotland performed including Aodán Mac Sheafraidh, Maeve McKibben and Deaglan O Doibhlin from Ireland and from Scotland Mairi MacInnes, Sineag MacIntyre and Mark Sheridan took part. Of course a number of Manx musicians performed some of the best Manx music around. The evening finished off with a great session in the White House, a pub in Peel where Manx music can be heard regularly on Saturday nights.

Courtesy: Adrian Cain, Manx Language Officer, Manx Heritage Foundation
www.learnmanx.com
<http://twitter.com/greinneydr>

Government not only to build up substantial reserves of £1.3 billion (more than double the annual revenue spend) but also to undertake a massive upgrading and renewal programme for the Island's infrastructure.

Successive Government's have indeed been regularly criticised for their profligate use of tax payers' money, and rightly so in a number of cases. However, the decision has clearly been taken that while the beneficial Revenue Sharing Arrangement continued we should undertake this massive infrastructure spend.

The difficulty which I, and I'm sure other politicians, have faced is that we have not been able to openly discuss the reasoning behind the 'profligate' spending, attacked by Government's critics. Clearly if we publicly explained the level of spending was possible due to an attractive deal which probably resulted in us receiving £100 million a year more than we could reasonably justify it would not be long before the UK would pick up on this and the deal would be changed.

There will now be a difficult few years as government spending is weaned off this lucrative additional income, however, when we emerge out the other side of the inevitable cuts in spending and services the Isle of Man will be a stronger place. For Nationalists a far stronger argument can be made for independence and clearly a more open debate can be undertaken.

There are, as ever with politics, a variety of reasons why the change has been made but the primary reason appears to be the desperate state of UK finances. It would appear that the UK has become increasingly aware of the apparent inequitable nature of the Revenue Sharing Arrangement and decided it could no longer afford to continue this 'over generous' funding.

In outlining the scale of the challenge in October Tynwald, Chief Minister Tony Brown MHK pointed out the UK gave little time for discussion on this matter. "On the 17th September 2009 the Isle of Man Government was informed that the United Kingdom Government wished for the Revenue Sharing Arrangement to be further amended." "Over the last month there have been intensive and extensive discussions with United Kingdom officers and politicians."

"I can confirm that the changes required by the UK Government to the Revenue Sharing Arrangement by the 15th of October have, after intensive negotiation, now been agreed and formally signed. I have to advise that the changes agreed will result in a loss of income to the Island estimated to be at least £50million for the year from April 2010, and a further £50million per year from April 2011."

"This is in addition to the already projected loss of income, due to the performance of the UK economy and the decision made by the

UK Government last year to lower the rate of VAT to 15%, both of which will result in lower receipts to the Island."

"As a consequence of these factors we anticipate that under the agreement we will receive some £30million to £40million less than previously estimated."

"Consequently, for the financial year 2010-2011 the Island faces a total reduction of some £90million in relation to our revenue income from the Revenue Sharing Arrangement, from that previously estimated, with that figure increasing to £140million in subsequent years."

"I would remind Hon Members that the Island's present total revenue expenditure Budget for 2009/2010, which funds our public services, public sector salaries, and all other public revenue expenditure undertaken by Government is estimated at £572.1million."

"This situation is clearly extremely serious for the Island and unprecedented in our recent history. However, I am confident that we will come through this present situation, albeit that at times it will be extremely difficult for us all; some very difficult decisions will have to be made, especially over the coming months and for some time into the future."

Richard Murphy, an ardent critic of the Isle of Man's finance sector, claimed some of the credit for the UK's decision in an essay in the Isle of Man Examiner in December. Murphy is a founder of the Tax Justice Network, an organisation which has had increasing influence on the UK Government.

The Tax Justice Network claims to promote "transparency in international finance and opposes secrecy. It supports a level playing field on tax and opposes loopholes and distortions in tax and regulation, and the abuses that flow from them. It promotes tax compliance and opposes tax evasion, tax avoidance, and all the mechanisms that enable owners and controllers of wealth to escape their responsibilities to the societies on which they and their wealth depend."

Murphy wrote in the Examiner "I discovered that the Isle of Man VAT sharing agreement provided the Isle of Man with a subsidy of £230 million a year from the UK." He claims his calculation showed the Isle of Man's national income "would have needed to be almost three times higher to have achieved that outcome. So I published that fact because I could see no reason why the people of the UK should subsidise the, on average better off, people of the Isle of Man so that the Isle of Man could return the compliment by seeking to undermine UK tax revenues whilst hiding behind a veil of secrecy when doing so."

"If that revelation by me and the resulting change in the VAT sharing agreement will cause real people real pain in the Isle of Man I am sorry. But don't blame me: blame your politicians who said I was not telling the truth and dismissed all my claims whilst refusing to provide information to the



Phil Gawne MHK. Minister Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Tynwald to justify their own bravado. It is they that misled you. It is they who deceived you behind the veil of secrecy they built to protect themselves. That, unfortunately, is the Isle of Man way".

As one of the politicians Murphy is attacking I can't argue with much of his rhetoric. However, if secrecy was the price to pay for repatriating at least some of the funds which the UK had pocketed from us during the first two centuries of the Customs and Excise Agreement then I believe it was reasonable for any Manx politician who cares for his people to pay that price. The fact that that money has helped us rebuild our infrastructure and build up reserves can hardly be seen as a bad thing.

What is perhaps more encouraging for those of us who are more at home being open and transparent is that we can now be much more forthright in the future. Despite the VAT bombshell and the ending of a reciprocal health care agreement with the UK (which means all travellers to and from the Isle of Man will need health insurance in the future), the Isle of Man still needs and has a close relationship with the UK.

Recent events have shown, however, that such over dependence on our 'friends' in London is far from risk free. A great opportunity now presents itself to Manx nationalists to work with the Manx people to develop a route map to independence. We can and I'm sure will work over the next decade to lessen our dependence on the UK and build greater partnerships with other countries.

With strong nationalist representation in the governments in the North of Ireland, Scotland and Wales it is clear that nationalism can no longer be described as a fringe activity. The UK's decision to be tough with the Isle of Man has I'm sure created the right environment for our small nation to be friends with its neighbours but dependent on none.

Phil Gawne MHK

MANNIN ABOO!

Manx nationalist feeling is coming to the fore again in the Isle of Man after many long years. This rise of nationalism is linked to growing anger at the UK's apparent hostility towards the Island, starting with UK Chancellor Alistair Darling describing the island as a 'tax haven sitting in the Irish Sea', continuing with the scrapping of the reciprocal health agreement and culminating with the raid on the island's VAT revenues.

A Facebook page, *Mannin Aboo* has been set up to call for *Mannin Seyr - The Isle of Mann a Republic !!*

The page has attracted widespread interest since its launch in December last. The creator of the site goes under the name of Manannan Mac Leir and asks: 'Should the Isle of Man be an independent Nation again? Join if you agree. The Isle of Man forever – Mannin Aboo.'



MANNIN SEYR: Graffiti daubed on the road at the top of the Ballagyr hill heading north just outside Peel.

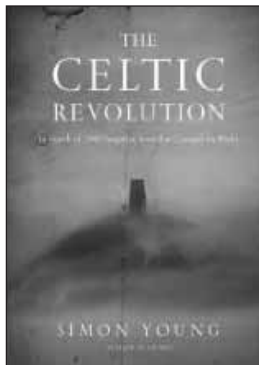
Nationalist banners were also posted on road signs and graffiti was sprayed across the roads on the main routes into Peel. All read Mannin Seyr, which means 'Manx independence'. Signs written in Manx Gaelic were also posted on flagpoles in Peel. All the flags targeted had Union Jacks on them.

One of the people at the inaugural meeting of the Manx nationalist party, Mec Vannin, Mr. Bernard Moffatt, said there appeared to be a growing number of young people in the Isle of Man who were getting involved with the Manx language and nationalism. But Mr Moffatt criticised the tactics of painting graffiti. He said: 'I always believed in an upfront approach rather than skulking around daubing paint under the cloak of darkness.'

It's not the first time that nationalism has been expressed through non-violent action. The 1980s saw the FSFO arson campaign where newly built properties were targeted as house prices rose considerably, leaving young Manx people unable to enter the property market. In the 70s Fo Halloo (Manx for 'underground') opposed the IoM Government's New Resident's Policy, which resulted in mass immigration eventually leading to the indigenous Manx becoming a minority in their own country also used non-violent action. Both groups mentioned above were also strongly opposed the growing dependence on the finance sector as the main source of income for the Island.

Celtica

The Celtic Revolution: In Search of 2000 Forgotten Years that Changed Our World.



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A paperback edition will be available by the same editor in March 17, 2010 at £8.09 with ISBN-10: 1906142424 and ISBN-13: 978-1906142421

About the Author

Simon Young is 35 years old. He was awarded a First in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic studies from Cambridge University, as well as the Chadwick Prize for Celtic studies and completed a doctorate at the University of Florence. He became interested in the early Middle Ages (400-1000) and especially the British Celts in this period. He has lived in Spain, Ireland and Italy. He combines a commitment to serious history, especially that of the medieval Celts, with a desire to communicate Dark Age history to the general public. He is the author of books for the general reader such as *500 AD* and *Farewell Britannia*, and of many other academic publications both academic and freelance on the theme. As a freelance journalist he has written on European minorities and the right of self-determination. In 2001, he received the *Premio Historia Medieval de Galicia* - (Galicia Medieval History Prize - for his book *Britonia: caminos novos* about the settlement of British Celtic colonies in Galicia during the Dark Ages. He is now living outside Florence with his Italian wife and his young daughter.

Book Description

This excellent book, or should I say (brilliant?) is a window to almost 2,000 years of Celtic history from Iron Age Celts to late Middle Ages Celts. The book is divided into three parts:

Part I: Making the Roman Empire, Part II: Saving Dark Age Christianity, Part III: Creating the Modern World. There are also two appendices, Appendix I being Discovering America? The Irish Exiles in the Northern Atlantic and Appendix II being – Will the Real King Arthur Please Stand Up?

All three parts of the book, ancient, medieval, and medieval/modern are good and interesting but the two appendices are even more interesting; the first one exploring the Celtic discovery of America and the other the historical origins of the legend of Arthur.

Today we think of the Celts as a mysterious, fringe people doomed to extinction. Some historians even question their existence. But in this riveting guide to two thousand forgotten years, Simon Young uses the latest research to show how pivotal the Celts were to the modern world.

Of course some of the information given in the book could be well known by some of our readers but this book is a novel history that, based on sources in many languages, goes beyond ordinary history books and brings back to life a people as important as the ancient Greeks, the Romans or the Etruscans.

As Simon Young states in his introduction: 'The following pages have been written as a partial antidote to the poisonous idea of Celtic failure. They are a reminder that on at least three occasions in their history the Celts worked a revolution in their neighbour's affairs and that the world we live in today would be a different one if the Celts had never existed. [...] By saying then that the Celts changed the world I am not claiming that the Celts were special or blessed. I am canvassing for their right to matter as the Greeks or Romans, the Etruscans or Carthaginians matter, and to be recognized as a major influence on our history'.

This book is just very interesting, very good and very entertaining, i.e. a great read!

José Calvette

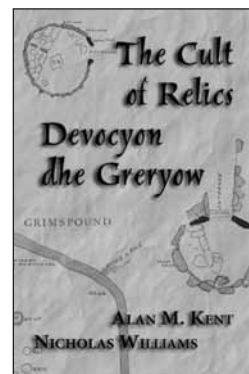
Robert Tannahill Federation 2010 Bicentenary Concert

Tannahill Weavers will be appearing on Friday 21st May at 8pm at Paisley Arts Centre, New Street, Paisley.

Entrance: £10/£8.
Tickets: 0141 887 1010
www.roberttannahillfederation.com

The Cult of Relics: Devocyon dhe Greryow published by Evertype

The Cult of Relics yw novel nowyth dhyworth Dr Alan M. Kent (auctour a *Proper Job*, *Charlie Curnow!* hag a *Electric Pastyland*), hag yma va dyllys gans traillyans Kernowek Nicholas Williams, *Devocyon dhe Greryow*. An whedhel-ma a gebmer le i'n West a Vreten Veur in cres an bledhydnyow mil, naw cans, peswar ugans ha deg, termyn cot warlergh Bresel an Morbleg. Yth eson ny ow metya ino gans try ferson, meur a les: Jûd Fox, Viayjores a'n Oos Nowyth; Eddie Hopkins, an fôtojournalyst Amerycan; ha'n hendhyscansyth dhia Gernow, Robert Bolitho. Ymowns y aga thry ow dyscudha bos kescolm intredhans dhyworth bledhydnyow avarr an seytegves cansvledhen. I'n whedhel hudol-ma yma Kent ow qwia warbarth bêwnans kenyer onen anodhans gans an "Stranjer" kevrînek. Crer sans ha stranj re beu gwehys ganso ev, ha'n dra-na yw an crespyont a'n othem a'n jeves ketpet onen a gowethyans ha govenek.



The Cult of Relics is a new novel by Dr Alan M. Kent, member of An Kesunyans Keltek Scoren Kernewek (author of *Proper Job*, *Charlie Curnow!* and *Electric Pastyland*), presented in a bilingual format, with a Cornish-language translation, *Devocyon dhe Greryow*, by Nicholas Williams. The story is set in Western Britain in the mid-1990s just after the Gulf War, and tells of three extraordinary people: of the New-Age Traveller Jude Fox, of the American photojournalist Eddie Hopkins, and of the Cornish-born archaeologist Robert Bolitho. The three characters discover a set of connections between them, stretching back to the early seventeenth century. Kent's intriguing story weaves together their disparate lives with that of the mysterious "Stranger", whose preservation of a curious holy relic becomes a focus for their collective need for communion and hope.

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See <http://www.evertype.com/books/cult.html>

obvious one being the power to force its Member States to go to war against their will. It would possess most of the powers of a State however, although it has nothing like the tax and spending levels of its constituent Member States.

Three steps to a federal-style Constitution

Lisbon's constitutional revolution takes place in three interconnected steps:

Firstly, the Treaty establishes a European Union with legal personality and a fully independent corporate existence in all Union areas for the first time (Arts.1 and 47 TEU). This enables the post-Lisbon Union to function as a State vis-a-vis other States externally, and in relation to its own citizens internally

Secondly, Lisbon abolishes the European Community which goes back to the Treaty of Rome and which makes European laws at present, and transfers the Community's powers and institutions to the new Union, so that it is the post-Lisbon Union, not the Community, which will make supranational European laws henceforth (Art.1 TEU). Lisbon also transfers to the EU the "intergovernmental" powers over crime, justice and home affairs, as well as foreign policy and security, which at present are not covered by European law-making, leaving only aspects of the Common Foreign, Security and Defence Policy outside the scope of its supranational powers. The Treaty thereby give a unified constitutional structure to the post-Lisbon Union.

Thirdly, Lisbon then makes 500 million Europeans into real citizens of the new Federal-style Union which the Treaty establishes (Arts.9 TEU and 20 TFEU). Instead of EU citizenship "complementing" national citizenship, as under the present Maastricht Treaty-based EU (Art.17 TEC), which makes such citizenship essentially symbolical, Lisbon provides that EU citizenship shall be "additional to" national citizenship.

EU Democrats initiatives, the Foundation for Democracy

The EU will be constitutionally superior even though the powers of the new Union come from its Member States in accordance with the "principle of conferral" (Art.5 TEU). Where else after all could it get its powers from? This is so even though the Member States retain their national Constitutions and their citizens keep their national citizenships.

Under Lisbon population size will in turn become the primary basis for EU law-making, as in any State with a common citizenry. This will happen after 2014, when the Treaty provision comes into force that EU laws will be made by 55% of Member States as long as they represent 65% of the total population of the Union.

The constitutional structure of the post-Lisbon EU is completed by the provision which turns the European Council of Prime

Ministers and Presidents into an "institution" of the new Union (Art.13 TEU), so that its acts or its failing to act would, like those of the other Union institutions, be subject to legal review by the EU Court of Justice.

Constitutionally speaking, the summit meetings of the European Council will henceforth no longer be "intergovernmental" gatherings outside supranational European structures, as they have been up to now. The European Council will in effect be the Cabinet Government of the post-Lisbon Union. Its individual members will be constitutionally obliged to represent the Union to their Member States as well as their Member States to the Union, with the former function imposing primacy of obligation in any case of conflict or tension between the two. One doubts if all the Heads of State or Government who make up the European Council themselves appreciate this!

As regards the State authority of the post-Lisbon Union, this will be embodied in the Union's own executive, legislative and judicial institutions: the European Council, Council of Ministers, Commission, Parliament and Court of Justice. It will be embodied also in the Member States and their authorities as they implement and apply EU law and interpret and apply national law in conformity with Union law. Member States will be constitutionally required to do this under the Lisbon Treaty. Thus EU "State authorities" as represented for example by EU soldiers and policemen patrolling our streets in EU uniforms, will not be needed as such.

Although the Lisbon Treaty has given the EU a Federal-style Constitution without most people noticing, they are bound to find out in time and react against what is being done. There is no European people or demos which could give democratic legitimacy to the institutions the Lisbon Treaty establishes and make people identify with these as they do with the institutions of their home countries. This is the core problem of the EU

integration project. Lisbon in effect has made the EU's democratic deficit much worse.

It is hard to imagine that this will not make struggles to re-establish national independence and democracy and to repatriate supranational powers back to the Member States the central issue of EU politics in the years and decades ahead.

Anthony Coughlan

(Director of the National Platform EU Research and Information Centre, Dublin, and President of the Foundation for EU Democracy, Brussels).

OPEN EUROPE'S EXAMPLES: To read examples of EU waste in full, see here: www.openeurope.org.uk/research/top50waste.pdf

ALBA REFERENDUM SUPPORT CALL FROM LEAGUE

At the League's annual general assembly in Kernow in 2009, the League reiterated its support for the Scottish referendum and pledged to help promote and publicise a positive result in the run up to the vote. At the end of 2009 a statement was issued.

"A positive vote in Scotland's referendum on independence in 2010 will be the biggest single political development to occur within the Celtic countries since devolution was granted by the UK government in 1997. 2010 will therefore be a decisive year not only for the people of Scotland, but by all the peoples of the Celtic countries and throughout Europe. The Celtic League calls on Scottish voters not to be fooled by flattery about the close geographical and cultural links between Scotland and England that would be a shame to undo. Many countries have much in common in terms of culture, but they are still independent. Scotland is an ancient nation with a distinctive national culture, so the Scottish people needn't worry about any possible cultural loss in being independent. The Celtic League calls on England and unionists in Scotland to respect the referendum and respect the result of the referendum if the Scottish people vote for independence. We hope they will not try to do as was done in Ireland and demand that Scotland be partitioned to placate unionists who refuse to accede to the wishes of the majority.

We call on the international community, particularly the European Union and the United Nations, to ensure that England does not use force or dirty tactics against Scotland in the run up to the referendum or in the event of the Scottish people voting in favour of independence. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania became independent again after 50 years of Russian occupation. The Czech Republic and Slovakia separated peacefully in 1993.

A vote for independence in Scotland will have a positive impact in the other Celtic nations. It will no doubt encourage the Welsh people to vote for further powers for Wales and possibly a referendum on independence too. It may also prompt the Manx government to finally decide to hold a referendum on full independence and the people of Cornwall will also be encouraged by a positive Scottish vote to step up their demand for self-government. Scottish independence will have enormous implications in Ireland too and it will hasten Irish reunification.

Throughout 2010 the Celtic League will be offering its support to those organisations that are campaigning for a yes vote and asking the peoples of the Celtic nations and others around the world to support the Scottish people's right to independence and to assist them in any way they can to help achieve this goal."

Rhisiart Talebot

CELTIC LEAGUE AGM 2010

will be held in **PEEL,
ISLE OF MAN**

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(First weekend of Manx
Festival Yn Chruinnaght)

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International Branch Internet Site

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celtic league press releases

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

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American Branch Internet Site

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Telephone Stirling 01259 730099

Website www.scotsindependent.org

Irish Postcodes

Conradh na Gaeilge wants the Department of Communications to base Ireland's postcode system on the original placenames in Irish. Postcodes based on the abbreviated form of the placename in English only would completely contradict the Government's bilingual policy as well as the policies of the European Union that are dedicated to encouraging and fostering minority languages. The Minister for Communications Éamon Ryan indicated that there was nothing in the National Postcode Projects Board's proposal that would oppose postcodes being based on the Irish version of the placename in the case of towns situated in the Gaeltacht, but he made no provision for using the Irish placename in postcodes for areas outside the Gaeltacht.

Check out FIONTAR's new website <http://www.logainm.ie/> to find your area's original placename in Irish and tell the Minister for Communications that the country's postcodes should be based on this Irish version by sending a **Support Irish Postcodes** email today. Send to: eamon.ryan@oireachtas.ie

Celtic League WEBSITE

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Membership and Subscriptions

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

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

Material for the next issue of *Carn* should reach the Editor no later than 1st March 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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