

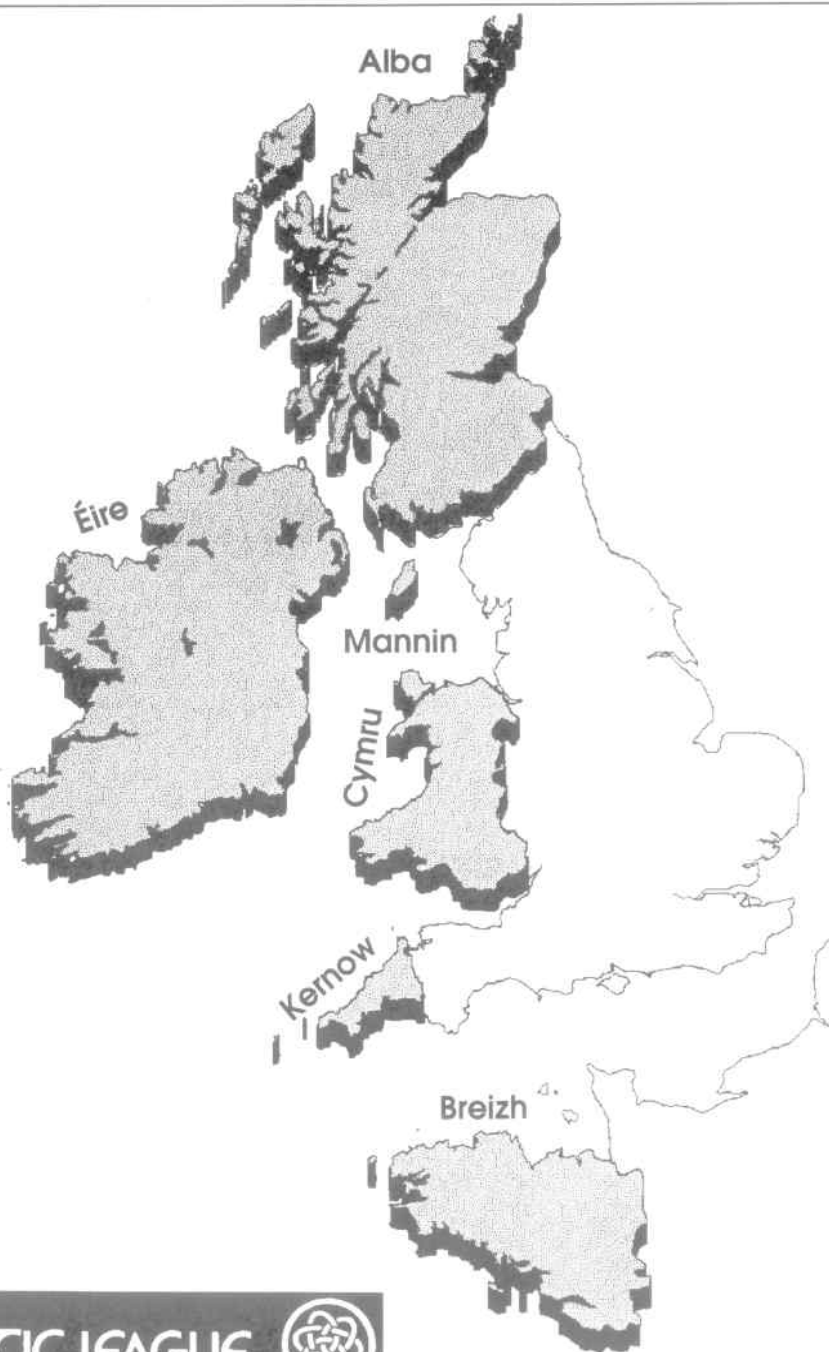
celtin

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 104

Winter 1998/99

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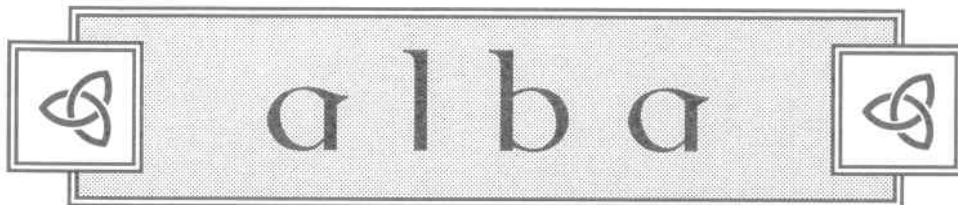


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COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE





Teagasc Tre na Gàidhlig ...no gheibh i bàs.....

C iamar a tha sinn cinnteach gum bheil dùthaich neo-eisimeileach?

Seo agad an fhreagairt... rioghachd no stàit far a bheil a h-uile cuspair air a theagasg tre na cànan aca... agus leis a sin bithidh a' mhuinntir aca comasach air a bruidhinn 's air a sgrìobhadh fhads a tha iad a' mairsinn beò.

Gun teagamh, bhiodh iomadach duine air fàs fileanta a thaobh cànanan eile ach dh'ionnsaich siad iad tre na teanga aca fhéin. Seall ris an Roinn Eorpa, far a bheil a' mhór chuid de nan dùthchannan a' teagasg tre na cànan aca fhéin... agus an sin ga cur gu feum fhad's a tha iad a' mairsinn beò... A' Phòlainn, A' Ghrèig, A' Phortagail, An Eadailt, Suòmi (Finland), An Ungair, Rumania, An t-Suain agus mar sin air adhart... feadh an Roinn Eorpa.

Seall ris air na sia nàiseanan Ceilteach – chan eil neo-eisimeileachd idir bhon nach eil aonan dhiu far a bheil teagasg tre na cànan aca fhéin ann feadh na dùthcha uile gu leir. Air an taobh seo de Chaolas na Frainge, air a' mhór chuid, chan eile ach aon cànan far a bheil iad a' teagasg... a' Bheurla... cànan nach eil Ceilteach idir!

Arsa an riaghaltas ann an Lunnain, ris a h-uile pàrtaidh poileataiceach... "na h-abair facal a thaobh na Gàidhlig... ni sinne na tha feumail, earbaibh annainn."

Ach dé dha a tachairt nuair a thig Ministear na Stàite a tha dealasach air sgàth na Gàidhlig? ... 'S sin ri ràdh Brian MacUilleim. Dé rinn Tony Blair ach dh'fhuadaich e Brian coir gu Lunnain! Agus mar sin, fad air falbh on Ghàidhlig.

Ach mur eil atharrachadh ann, bithidh ar cànan cho marbh ri sgadan far a bheil i beò an diugh. Mar a tha fios againn ann am pàirtean de'n Eilean Sgitheanach, air Colasaidh, Gigha agus sna h-Eileanan an Iar. Chan eil a h-uile sgoil a' teagasg tre na Gàidhlig agus tha teagasg tre na Beurla an cumantas.

Far a bheil sgoil a' teagasg tre na Beurla 's ann a tha ar cànan a' dol bhuaidhe. An suid's an seo chì sinn sgoil far a bheil iad teagasg tre na Gàidhlig ach tha iad sin tearc tearc.

Bha sgoiltean Ghàidhlig ann gus. Achd an Fhoghlaim 1872. Ach mharbh an Achd seo na sgoiltean Ghàidhlig uile gu leir agus

bha teagasg tre na cànan Shasannaich a-mhàin an deidh sin. Ach chionn fichead bliadhna neo rudeigin mar sin, fhuair sinn stèidheachadh nan croileagan agus na sgoiltean Ghàidhlig. Is e an t-ionnsachadh bòidheach!

Ach, tha cnuimh nan cridhean ... Sa chiad dol a-mach ... Tha uallach air na parantan ... mur eil iad neo-dhaingeann mùchaidh iad an croileagan agus an sgoil Ghàidhlig, mar a thachair an Eilean Liosmór. Carson nach eil an riaghaltas deònach sgoiltean fhosgaladh far a bheil iad a' teagasg a h-uile cuspair tre na Gàidhlig far am biodh a h-uile sgoilear a' dol agus bhiodh an t-uallach air na parantan a bha nàimhdeil.

Feumaidh sinn brosnachadh Gàidheil is Goill air son sgoiltean Ghàidhlig on a tha a' Ghàidhlig 'na cànan naiseanta Alba.

Rud eile, stiùireadh sgìrean (*local authorities*) na sgoiltean Ghàidhlig sin mar Dun Eideann, far nach eil iad cairdeil don chànan idir, ged a tha Dun Eideann prìomh bhaile Alba! Chan eil e ceadichte ach an aon bunsgoil Ghàidhlig, sgoil Tollcross, a mheudachadh agus bithidh Comhairle an Fhoghlaim aca a' taghadh cò bhiodh a' dol don sgoil sin!

Rud eile, chan eil mòran teagasg idir tre na Gàidhlig sna h-ard-sgoiltean air a mhòrchuid, ged a tha na bun-sgoiltean aca far a bheil teagasg tre na Gàidhlig.

Seo agad dearg gheur-leanmhainn... a' teagasg tre na Beurla.

Ach, bitheamaid spòrsail... leigeamaid oirnn nach do stad am prionnsa aig Derby, ach lean e air gu Lunnain agus, taing do dh'Alasdair MacMhaighstir Alasdair, bhiodh gur ire bhig gach sgoil, colaisde is oilthigh feadh Shasainn a' teagasg tre na Gàidhlig! Bhiodh fheadhainn ann an Sasainn nach biodh toilichte idir!

Am biodh iad uile gu leir toilichte nan robh ar Runaire na Stàite air son Sasainn a' cur an cèll gum biodh sgoileadh-cumhachd (devolution) air son Sasainn agus gum biodh Pàrlamaid nuadh (nach robh uile-cumhachdach) an ceann ceudan de bhliadhnan gu bhi ann an Westminster ach gum biodh na Buill-Pàrlamaid gu ire bhig a' bruidhinn na Gàidhlig an àite na Beurla fad an latha agus gach latha.

Am biodh na Sasainn cho toilichte nan robh e cho doirbh teagasg tre na Beurla fhaighinn mar a tha e a thaobh na Gàidhlig ann an Alba an diugh! Bhiodh iad ag iarraidh na Beurla feadh gach sgoil, colaisde agus feadh Shasainn gu leir!

Mata, cha robh iad sona idir nuair a bha an Fhraingeis na h-aon chànan anns an robh iad a' teagasg feadh Shasainn uile gu leir on Cheannsachadh sa bhliadhna 1066 gus an do thòisich Cogadh nan Ceud Bliadhna an aghaigh na Frainge (1338-1453) nuair a dh'fhàs teagasg tre na Fraingeis suarach, ann an Sasainn. An sin, thill iad gu teagasg tre na Beurla a risd feadh Shasainn.

Co dhiù, dh'ionnsaich sinn mòran a thaobh aiseirigh na Gàidhlig fad na fichead bliadhna a dh'aom.

Thuir Mairi Morley, ball den Gaelic Pre-school Council a thaobh teagasg uile gu leir tre na Gàidhlig sa chiad clas san bhunsgoil... "An ceann cola-deug tha a' chlànn ga bruidhinn fad an latha agus nuair a thig An Giblean cho dàna a bhi bruidhinn na Gàidhlig don neach-teagaisg agus nuair a thig an Samhradh tha iad a' bruidhinn ri chèile sa Ghàidhlig."

Tha fios againn a-nis na tha feumail... de dh'fheumas sinn a dhèanamh... brosnach a h-uile duine... Gall is Gàidheal feadh Alba gus am bi a h-uile teagasg tre na Gàidhlig anns a h-uile sgoil, colaisde is oilthigh feadh Alba uile gu leir.

Feumaidh sinn brosnachadh air son teagaisg tre na Gàidhlig an àite na Beurla mar a tha an diugh.

Am fear nach cuir a chuid 'an cunnart, cha dèan e call no buinnig!

Archy Macpherson
(Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich)

.....



**Scots
Independent**

**Independent Scots read the
'Scots Independent'**

Contact
**51 Cowane Street
Stirling FK8 1JW
Alba/Scotland**
**Telephone
Stirling 01786 473523**

Gaelic Teletext Campaign

Gaelic activists are currently campaigning for a Gaelic teletext service. Such a service would be able to provide local, national and international news in Gaelic, available at the touch of a button to the vast majority of Gaelic speakers in Scotland. It would also be able to provide details of community events, of competitions, of Gaelic organisations and of Gaelic broadcasting. At present, all five UK terrestrial channels provide teletext services, Ceefax on BBC 1 & 2, Teletext on ITV & Channel 4 and 5 Text on Channel 5. No Gaelic is carried on any of these teletext services at present.

Teletext services are already available through the national languages in Ireland and Wales: Sbectel on S4C and Gaeltext on RTÉ. In addition to the usual teletext services, S4C also operates a page for Welsh learners (p333) and an innovative subtitling service. Viewers can have Welsh language programmes subtitled into

English using page 888 or into simplified Welsh for learners through page 889. There can be no doubt that such a service would be useful for Gaelic. The Irish language Gaeltext is available on the internet at <http://realaudio.digex.net/rte/mirror/aertel/aertelplus/p480.htm>.

If you care about the future of Gaelic broadcasting then please write to or e-mail the following addresses asking for the introduction of a Gaelic teletext service.

Ceefax, BBC Scotland, Broadcasting House, Queen Margaret Drive, Glasgow G12 8DG. Ceefax@BBC.co.uk.

Teletext: Teletext Editor, PO Box 297, London, England SW6 1XT.

E-mail: DennisW@teletext.co.uk (Scottish Editor) and Editor@teletext.co.uk (UK Editor).

5 Text: 5 Text Letters, Welby House, 96 Wilton Road, London, SW1V 1DW.

Alasdair MacCaluim

Scottish General Election Campaign already started!

A series of opinion polls have placed New Labour and SNP neck and neck with the LibDems and Tories trailing badly with the prospects for a long and dirty election campaign leading to May 6th 1999. This has sprung a series of smears and red herrings from the closely orchestrated New Labour machine that is as London controlled as ever. The SNP is targeted with charges of separatism, of planning to wreck the devolved Scottish Parliament and use it to create a battering ram against the Union.

Charges of wrecking tactics by Messrs Blair and Brown against the SNP have to be seen in context of a Scottish economy hit hardest by multi-national company closures due to high pound, Far East financial chaos and government determination to slim down spending ahead of entry to the Euro. Scots are hit hard by policies designed for SE England, a familiar tale which strongly echoes the Tory arguments deployed against devolution.

Meanwhile various groups of prominent business people are lining up for and against Independence. Business for Scotland is the SNP inspired pro-independence lobby. As yet talks between Scottish Office Nat Basher, Helen Liddell, formerly a treasury minister and now parachuted into the Scottish Office team to sort out education and the SNP, and some hard to pin down business contacts opposed to the break up of the Union have failed to gel. The mood of Scottish voters is one of confidence that in twenty years Scotland will be independent and that far being separatist the SNP message takes Scotland into a more natural, historic partnership with our European trading partners. Scots see Independence, built on successful devolution as a means of improving their lives.

A recent speech in Belgium to a colloquium of bishops caused a flurry in Labour doocots. Cardinal Thomas Winning of Glasgow, a well known Old Labour supporter described Scottish nationhood and political nationalism as mature, respectful of democracy and international in outlook. This was seen as most definitely off message by Blair's control freaks. Also troubles with rebel Labour MPs in Scotland, Wales and London who seek positions of power against the leadership's wishes has struck a dissonant chord. This shows alongside

Gaelic Political Party to be founded?

Preparations are currently underway for the formation of a Gaelic political party. Fionnlagh MacLèid, founder and director of the Gaelic playgroups movement CNSA announced during the national Mod that a series of meetings were to be held in the Autumn with a view to the setting up of a Gaelic National Party - Pàrtaidh Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig. Such a party would stand in seats throughout Scotland and not merely in the Gàidhealtachd. According to Mr MacLèid, "Gaelic must be raised to a new level in Scottish politics". Plans for a Gaelic political party have met with

scepticism from most Gaelic activists who feel that such a party would gather few votes and might serve to marginalise the language. More importantly, it is feared that the time and resources required to sustain a Gaelic party would be better employed in the foundation of a Gaelic civil rights pressure group along the lines of Cymdeithas yr Iaith, CEFN, Conradh na Gaeilge or the defunct Gaelic lobbying groups Comunn na Cànan Albannaich, Strì and Ceartas. No such group exists in Scotland at present.

Alasdair MacCaluim

Euro Charter

Gaelic groups have welcomed the news that the UK government is to sign the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages with reference to Gaelic, Irish, Welsh and Scots. Exactly which of the charter's clauses are to be adopted for Gaelic remains to be seen. While warmly welcoming the government's decision to support the charter, Comunn na Gàidhlig and other Gaelic development agencies have stated that they see the ratification of the European Charter as being a step towards the implementation of a stronger official status package for Gaelic as laid out in the "Secure Status for Gaelic" report.

Celtic League

T-Shirts/Sweatshirts

Green with gold Celtic League motive in corner.

T-shirts £8, Sweatshirts £12.50
+ 10% p & p

Bí seacsaídh, bí san fhasan
Faigh an Léine T/S againn!
Uaine le snaidhm òr a' Chomainn
Cheiltich 's an oisean.

For further information contact
the Alba Branch Secretary
(addr. Pg 24)

Labour's continuing local government difficulties and a string of lost by-elections for council seats that the battle for hearts and minds in Scotland is wide open.

A unique by-election in NE Scotland for the European Parliament seat was called on 26th November. Caused by the sudden death of highly popular SNP MEP Allan Macartney. His former election agent and council leader of SNP Angus Council, Ian Hudgton is being challenged by New Labour, Tories, Lib Dems fielding a former Weslh Tory MP Keith Raffan, Scottish Green Party and Scottish Socialist Party candidates. The independence / separatist issue continues to receive wall to wall coverage. It has set the tone for the next six month's campaigning for Holyrood.

The shape of Scottish democracy is being fashioned as we speak. A local government commission has proposed fair voting, cabinet style councils and a reduced better paid number of councillors while a Catalan architect S Morales has presented the winning modern design for the new parliament complex at the foot of the Royal Mile in Edinburgh. A series of Peoples' Parliaments organised by the SNP in the Old Royal High School building in Edinburgh are highlighting health, the arts, education and housing as major platforms for change in Scotland. They herald the most direct access by citizens to the new parliament that will have open select committees and internet access as standard.

A whole series of conferences about aspects of government have been launched by every conceivable group which ensures that the political life of Scotland has never been so alive. Debates include the place of Gaelic and Scots tongues in public life. The parties are honing their manifestos and the government is completing a major series of public consultations on policies for the new parliament. One important example is the six major consultations on land reform related issues. Rural Development, Land Reform, Countryside Access, National Parks proposals, Environmental Designations, Crofting Law Reform and Feudal Burdens Abolition will all have a high priority in the new parliament's programme according the new Labour, the SNP, Greens and LibDems.

Carn readers will be aware of the long years which have elapsed since the rise of Scottish self-determination. It is a real opportunity to encourage complementary progress amongst all the Celtic countries. Both the proposed Council of the Isles and the demonstration effect will encourage democratic, cultural, social, environmental, economic and linguistic progress among the Atlantic peoples.

Rob Gibson

New Minister for Gaelic

Calum MacDonald, MP for the Western Isles, has been appointed as the new Minister for Gaelic. MacDonald, a Lewisman and native Gaelic speaker,

replaces the first ever Gaelic minister Brian Wilson who has moved to Whitehall following a cabinet reshuffle.

Don't Shoot the Pianist, He's Doing His Best!

I don't know if this is true in all the Celtic countries, I suspect it is, but there is a curious attitude here towards musicians. Put simply, they might as well not be there. This is especially true when they are playing under informal session conditions. They can be playing for say half an hour whilst all present are chattering away paying almost no attention, but let one singer or dancer perform and they can be sure of attention and applause. When the musicians resume, so too does the chatter and inattention.

I am not writing this out of resentment or envy, I can also sing and dance. This is just something I have observed. I am sure other musicians will be nodding their heads. I hope that by pointing this out I may raise perception amongst audiences. Here are some facts which may help.

I recently heard that no matter how frequently or infrequently a musician practises, it will take the same length of time to master an instrument by any individual person. To put it another way, practising once a day or once a week, or even less frequently, it takes the same number of hours to gain the skill. Whichever way, it takes dedication. Ask any musician how long it took. Talent does enter into it. There are a few who will not take to it and give up, but it is mostly persistence that pays off.

I am not saying that singing or dancing does not also take dedication and persistence, I know that it does. However, one dance or one song, in the eyes of the audience has a higher value which deserves applause. A dance makes a bigger visual impact, a song may demand attention for better understanding of the story in the words - you could say that if you know half a dozen songs or dances you can be sure of appreciation. A musician will have to know up to one hundred tunes to sustain a session, many know far more.

Last of all think of the equipment. I took a random sample of our Friday session some weeks ago and asked five present to write down anonymously how much it would cost to replace their instruments.

The total was £3,600.00. Most people don't know the value of instruments. This is shown by the reluctance of most musicians to let a stranger 'have a go'. Nine times out of ten the stranger will abuse the instrument in some way, however minor. They won't even know they are doing it.

Bearing this in mind, do you not think that musicians deserve a bit of attention? Without their support there would be no dancing and a lot less singing. They provide the circumstances under which both skills can find a location and an ambience where they can thrive. Where we play on Fridays, the audience varies greatly, especially at times of the year when tourists begin to arrive. Very often we have been playing for some time without recognition, then a new party will arrive in the middle of a tune and applaud at the end. This has the effect of startling the whole of those present into paying more attention. It takes only one or two to get them all going.

Let me just say that musicians as a rule don't crave applause in spite of appearances to the contrary. Mostly they selfishly play for their own pleasure, satisfaction and enjoyment. All that on one side, it is nice to be appreciated, even in silence. I don't mean stop chattering, it doesn't matter so long as the musicians can hear each other; just to acknowledge that they are there.

Colin Jerry

CELTIC LEAGUE INTERNET SITE

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mkermode@mcb.net

Breizh

Iwerzhon: ha rannvroelaet e vo?

Armerzh Republik Iwerzhon zo oc'h ober kement a verzh abaoe dek vloaz bennak ma komzer eus "an Tigr Kelt" diouzh skouer ar berzh a rae armerzh broioù "gwrinnenn ar Meurvor Habask" ergentaou. Gant na c'hoarvezo ket amañ a-daol-trumm an dismantr a c'houzañv ar re-se bremañ! Diazezet eo ar burzhud armerzel iwerzhonat evit un darn vat war ar c'hompagnunec'hioù bras dreistbroadel dedennet gant distaolioù tailhoù hag o deus engouestlet o arc'hant e kenderc'hadur ardivinkoù pe kevrennoù elektronek, danvezioù apotikerezh ha me'oar. Evit ar mare ez eus labour evit an neb a glask ha ne gav ket al labouradegoù a-walc'h a vicherouren hag a ijinourien zoken.

Met ar c'hresk-se n'eo ket bet astennet d'an holl rannvroioù-se. Dre vras eo reter ha gevred ar vro, troet war-du Breizh-Veur hag ar c'hevandir europat, o deus tennet korvo eus an diorroadur. Dulenn dreist-holl en deus dedennet tud yaouank diwar ar maez eus kornog Iwerzhon. En em ledet he deus ar gêr-benn a-dreuz hag a-hed douaroù strujus Cill Dara hag en arvor etre Wicklow ha kontelezh Meath kement ma'z a rannvroioù ec'hon en arvor atlantel, pe a-hed an harzoù ouzh ar 6-Kontelezh ha zoken e-kreiz ar vro, war zidudañ. En un nebeut bloavezhioù ez eo kresket ar C'henderc'had Kriz Diabarzh a 40% er Reter tra ma ne oa nemet a 10% er rannvroioù isdiorroet-se. Koulskoude ez eus bet roet d'ar Stad, sellet outi en he fezh evel un tiriad isdiorroet, skoazell vras eus ar "Fontoù-Frammañ" Europat krouet a-ratozh evit barrekaat broioù-izili isdiorroet nevez ar Gumuniezh da dizhout live-bevañ keitat ar re all. Bremañ emeur degouezhet er par-se en Iwerzhon, well-wazh. An diforc'h n'emañ ket mui etre ar vro-mañ hag an diavaez met en diabarzh.

Etre 2000 ha 2006 e vo digresket tamm-ha-tamm skoazelloù ar Gumuniezh. Ur reoliadur zo koulskoude hag a aotre ar Stadoù da c'houlenn arc'hant eus ar Fontoù-Frammañ evit ar re eus o rannvroioù, ma'z int bras a-walc'h, hag a zo izelloc'h o C'henderc'had Kriz Diabarzh (KKD) eget 75% eus an hini europat. Met ret eo e vije ar rannvroioù-se kenstag, en ur pezh eta. Evel-se emañ kont gant 13 kontelezh e Republik Iwerzhon, e darn

anezho ez eo an dregantad ken izel ha 66%. En em astenn a reont eus Donegal betek kontelezh Galway, koulz hag a-hed an harzoù ha war un nebeut kontelezhioù eus kreiz ar vro.

Goulennet en deus ar gouarnamant d'ar 17/11/- ouzh Komision an Unaniezh Europat reiñ fontoù-frammañ evit ar bloavezhioù 2000-2006 evit ur rannvro o kentoueziañ an 13 kontelezh-se ha div all, Kerry ha Clare, daoust ma'z eo uhelloc'h ar c'h-KKD eget 75% en div-mañ. (O folitikerien zo deut a-benn da "weañ brec'h" an Tevezeg B. Ahern... Ezhomm en deus eus unan anezho, ur c'hannad dizalc'h, evit delc'her ar gouarnamant en e sav. Se n'eo ket graet evit magañ bolontez vat e Brussel). Roet eo bet sifroù ar c'h-KKD evit ar bloavezhioù 1994-'98 da Vurev ar Stadoù Europat (Eurostat). Eno e vint gwiriekat hag e vo erbedet pe distaollet ar goulenn. Ar Gomision a raio diouzh an ali. Ma vez asantet, e vo gouest Iwerzhon da gaout ar muiañ skoazell evit ar bloavezhioù-se digant ar Fontoù-Frammañ. Hag e vo aotreet ouzhpenn-se da reiñ kalz muioc'h eget ahendall eus kef ar Stad ivez evit atizañ ar greanterezh er rannvro isdiorroet, lakaet dezhi an dere "Objective 1" (Amkan 1). Met ret e vo reiñ d'ar rannvro-se, ha n'eo ket unan istorel, un diazez lezennel moarvat, ha galloudoù gwirion. N'eo ket evit kaout ar muiañ ma c'haller a arc'hant digant Europa e tlefe Iwerzhon bezañ rannvroelaet. Dister eo an digreizennadur er Stad-mañ. Ma vije bet engouestlet un tamm mat muioc'h e diorroadur ar C'hornog e vije kalz yac'husoc'h ar gevredigezh: buhezekoc'h ha gwelloc'h servijet ar rannvro isdiorreet, gwelloc'h marc'had an tiez e Dulenn, nebeutoc'h a dorfedoù da heul an dilabour er c'harterioù dibourvez. Emic'hañs e vo ret d'ar bolitikerien leuskel un darn vat eus ar galloud o deus e Dulenn da vont diouto. Komisionerez Europat ar Rannvroioù a seblant bezañ mennet da bouezañ war at Stadoù evit ma roint holl muioc'h a frankiz d'ar rannvroioù da zivizout pezh zo mat evito o-unan. Ret e vefe da Greiz Breizh goulenn an dere Amkan 1.

A.H.

Initiative of Sked

On the initiative of **Sked**, a federation of associations in the Brest area, 6 other similar federations got together for a campaign to publicize the evening classes in Breton which they organise for adult learners. Large attractive posters were put up, free of charge, thanks to the publicity agency Decaux and with help from the B-4 Regional council in a dozen of the major Breton towns.

Ar Bed Keltiek

on line books, records, Celtic art,
Kemper: 02.98.95.42.82
Brest: 02.98.44.05.38
<http://www.arbedkeltiek.com>
e-bost: arfur@eurobreteagne.fr
bernez.abk@eurobreteagne.fr

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

*Gerioù ha n'emaint ket e
Nouveau Dictionnaire Br.Fr.R.
Hemon 1970*

Kenderc'had Kriz Diabarzh: *Gross Domestic Product*; Fontoù-Frammañ: *structural funds*; keitat: *mean*; o kentoueziañ: *including*; Tevezeg: *Kentañ Minister*; *Taoiseach*.

Summary

The economic boom presently enjoyed by the Irish Republic resulted largely from the granting by the European Union of very substantial structural funds to the country (26 counties) as a unit. But it has left the West, the Border areas and much of the Midlands underdeveloped. The government has now decided to apply for the status of Objective 1 for a region of 15 counties which would allow it to obtain maximum structural funding for them over the period from 2000 to 2006, as well as to grant large State aid for their industrial development. The answer from Brussels will be known early in the New Year. Regional decentralisation with real powers of decision should have taken place for social reasons.

Ar Brezhoneg er Sportoù Poblek

Kib Ar Bed (World Cup) er Stade de France zo bet ur chañs vras evit ar brezhoneg er Skinwel peogir en deus graet Loeiz Bocquet hag e skipailh gant Euro-Sports-Breizh e-pad ur miz muioc'h eget chadenn ar Stad France-3. Evel evit ar vell-droad ez eus ur sport poblek all ma vez graet gant ar brezhoneg evit displegañ an traoù: ar redadegoù marc'h-houarn. Dreist-holl evit Tro Bro-Leon. Ul levrig zo diwar he fenn. "Tro Bro-Leon zo koulz ha Paris-Roubaix, eme an dud. Koulz? Kalz gwelloc'h eo. Ni n'hon eus ket ezhomm da vont da foetañ bro evit kaout poultrenn, pri, mein kalet, pe grouan", a lavar Goulc'han Kervella ar c'hentskrid. Ar pennad zo displeget gantañ war ar c'hasedig video savet gant J. Luc Roudaut. Ar bloaz-mañ eo Yann-Youenn Fichoux, speaker ar gevredigezh, en deus enrollet komzoù brezhonek war video. Plijout a ra dezhañ yezh ar vro. Ur ger en deus evit maer Lanniliz, ur ger all evit paotred ar marc'h-houarn, Jean Le Hir (Lannarvili) pe Louis Bihannig (Hanter-Eost). Ouzhpenn-se Patrick ar Gouarnig en deus kizellet an Triskell ha zo bet roet da briz. Dav eo deomp trugarekaat rener an Dro,



Gant gounezer Tro Bro-Leon
Yann-Youenn Fichoux, Fred Delalande
(Skipailh Jean Floc'h) o telc'her ar priz
ha J. Lallouet (Ouest-France).

Yann-Baol Mellouet, evit bountañ ar brezhoneg war an hent mat... O vezañ m'en deus roet Patrick Le Lay eus TFI lañs d'un TV-Breizh poblek e voe tro e Lokarn, (22), da selaou c'hoazh sportoù poblek displeget en hor yezh.

Gi Keltik

Summary

The Breton language is gradually getting its due place in coverage of popular sporting events. The Tro Bro Leon bicycle race provided last Summer an excellent example of this.

A Further Step Towards a Breton TV

The realization of a Breton television service moved a further step forward on November 7 when Patrick Le Lay, president of the oldest and prestigious French television channel TFI – privatised in 1981 – presented the project briefly alluded to in *Carn* 103. He spoke to a gathering of enthusiastic "decision-makers" in Lokarn (near Karaez, Central Brittany) where an institute for the training of Breton business managers was set up a few years ago.

Le Lay, who has become passionately interested in his native country and its language, created a sensation last Spring when he announced his determination to establish a Breton, independent and bilingual television service. "In the era of satellite broadcasting", he said at a press conference, "no political power will any longer be able to control television".

Encouraged by the great success encountered by the broadcasting in Breton of comments on the Soccer World Championship matches he announced in Lokarn that the channel he has in mind will be privately owned with up to 30 or 40% of the programmes in our language. This would change radically from the 75 minutes a week, hardly 1% of the time, on

France 3 Ouest (this name is a programme in itself!) What a wretched shame compared to the dozens of hours a week allocated in democratic states like Switzerland, Belgium, or even Spain and the "UK" to the minority languages!

In order to finance this Breton channel which for a start could give employment to 60 or 80 people, Le Lay hopes to find economic partners willing to join him in investing 300 to 400,000 million francs in it, i.e. about 50 million ecus.

We have already reported that a group headed by the ex-president of DIWAN, A. Lavanant is working under the aegis of the Breton Cultural Council on a different project which will depend on financial backing from the Breton elected councils. Could the two be combined? In a matter of such importance the union of all the people who want a proper Breton channel and who know they will never get it from the French State is absolutely necessary. It would be an unprecedented example of success arising from a conjunction of our country's economic and cultural forces.

Th. Jigourel
(transl. by A.H.)

Bilingual Education: 20.5% increase

The Union of Breton Teachers, UGB, published very encouraging figures in the October issue of its quarterly, *Kannadig* for the number of schoolgoers getting their education this year through the medium of Breton and French. The total for the 3 types of bilingual schools is 4,535, an increase of 772 or +20.5% compared to 1997.

DIWAN schools (all levels):

1996, i.e. +243 or +14%

State bilingual classes:

1398, i.e. +306 or +28%

Catholic schools:

1141, i.e. +223 or +24.6%

40 new bilingual teachers are needed every year. Only 5 qualified last Summer from the IUFM (State training college) in St. Brie. 7 new auxiliary teachers had to be taken on in State schools to meet the demand. The number of such teachers in those schools is increasing. Is it part of a sabotage plan to leave them with insufficiently trained staff?

Only one new (pre-primary) DIWAN school opened in 1998, the first since 1995. The obstacles placed to the development of DIWAN by State imposed financial conditions and the shortage of teachers explain the relatively low % increase above. DIWAN opened an institute, KELENN, in Kemper in 1997, to train new teachers and provide refresher courses to those occupying posts. 15 qualified last Summer. Others are trained in Beziers, Languedoc, together with teachers for other "regional" languages. The campaign goes to get DIWAN recognised as a public service, and for a special competition organised for bilingual teachers.

EDITOR'S NOTE

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those members who contribute material to *Carn* on a regular basis.

I would also remind readers and members that the magazine is open to contributions from you as long as they are in line with our aims. It is important that we cover all aspects of news, views, events etc of interest - if you feel there is a gap, fill it. Any suggestions for changes to *Carn* are welcome as long as they are followed by action.

POBL National Council: grassroots increasingly for independence

POBL, the Party for the organisation of a free Brittany, held its National Council meeting on November 7. Unlike its Congress which takes place every second year and is open to internal and external friends, the Council is strictly reserved to members. POBL stems directly from the Movement for the Organisation of Brittany founded in 1957 by several veterans of the pre-war "Emsav" who survived the French repression in 1945. They included Yann Fouere and Per Lemoine. They were joined by young post-war militants. POBL is thus the oldest and most traditional branch of the Breton political movement. Its present president Patrick Montauzier was prominent in the FLB-ARB which in the 60s and 70s thought it worth engaging in armed actions against police stations and military training camps.

Strictly speaking, POBL was set up in 1982 when following an amnesty decreed by President Mitterand the ARB prisoners including Montauzier who was serving a 30 year sentence were finally released.

The last National Council meeting gave rise to an overall review of the party policy.

The leadership, apart from P. Montauzier, has always declared itself for federalism but the rank and file, rather young and free from the post-war complexes, leans more and more for independence. However the two tendencies were reconciled by the adoption of a resolution in favour of independence – in the party they rather use the term "national sovereignty", as in Quebec – in relation to the French State and integral federalism at the internal Breton level as well as at the European level.

This resolution which was proposed by Yann Fouere, the author of the best-seller "L'Europe aux Cent Drapeaux" stated textually that the POBL stood firmly for a federal and federalist organisation of Europe in which the Breton nation will recover its rightful place beside the other nations. It also expressed the view that the French State had become a useless and costly intermediary between Brittany and and Europe. It was adopted unanimously.

There was also complete agreement for the decision to boycott the forthcoming European elections on the grounds that in spite of promises made by L. Jospin last Spring the French territory will again be a single constituency. "The regionalism of these elections which most neighbour countries practise as the most natural thing in the world is here once more put off indefinitely, in particular because of the communists' opposition.



At the POBL National Council Meeting, first from left, P. Montauzier, third Yann Fouere

The POBL re-affirmed that its struggle cannot be defined as being rightist or leftist in accordance with the French

terminology. It rejected any alliance with parties which are controlled from Paris.

Thierry Jigourel

AL LIAMM, literary magazine in Breton, bimonthly. Subscription 180 F but 200/250 F airmail outside State, to Alan Dipode, Ti Nevez Kervenal, 29510 Brieg.

With 200 pages, Nr 310 (Sept-Oct) is a good deal bigger than usual. The most important contribution is Fañch Kerrain's which is not about literature but the political theory of the French State. Its title is 'Stad-Broad had Ideologiezh' (State-Nation and Ideology). Starting with B. Poignant's offensive remark referred to in *Carn* 103, p.6, Kerrain shows how ideologists distort the meaning of words in order to mislead the people. The hybrid term State-Nation is used by the French centralists to describe their polity. The completely different meanings of its two components are

sharply distinguished here. Pointing out that the human rights include the rights of nations, Kerrain quotes from Pope John Paul's address to the UN General Assembly which denounced eloquently as violence against the dignity of their people, individually and collectively, as a crime which is called ethnocide the denial of the right of small nations to maintain their languages and cultures. In order to isolate those who stand up for that right, to intimidate those who would support them, they are labelled as fascists or Nazis, as enemies of the people... Was that not what Poignant wanted to do when he alleged that Breton language activists subscribed to the "Aryan" theory of "One language, one territory", as if he did not realise that it just applied to those who have ruled France since 1789.

Annual Congress of UDB

The annual congress of the UDB held in Brest on Nov. 14/15 was attended by a hundred delegates from all over Brittany. It was decided to give priority to better explain to the people how important **autonomy** is in a global technological society. The word is often misunderstood. Yet, the weekly *Bretagne Info* point out that on a banner the party proclaimed its aim as a "Bretagne Majeure" (an adult Brittany) but in Breton it was "Breizh Emren" (Br. selfgoverning). It has also alienated many sympathisers with its practice of pacts with centralist French leftist parties at election times. It appears now to recognise (but does it?) the need for

credibility to go out independently of those. No decision was taken whether or not to put forward candidates for the European elections. It would be a very costly and fairly useless exercise when France, the Unique, is only one constituency. Ah! what a democracy!

Farmers Unions

The two Finistère federations of farmers unions, FDSEA and CDJA, have organised this year week-end courses in cooperation with the **Roudour** teachers to make their members more proficient in Breton. Many of them speak or understand it but not well enough to discuss their affairs on the radio.

Herve Kerrain – A Grievous Loss



Herve Kerrain, a courageous Breton activist, died on September 14 aged 43, deeply regretted by his young family and numerous companions in the fight for the freedom of Brittany. He was born in Pontrev near Gwengamp at a time when the great majority of parents, believing they had no choice but to yield to the tyranny that excluded the Breton language from any place in public life ceased transmitting to their children. However like his brother Mark he learned it very well by attending various courses. When called for military service he refused: he would not serve a country that negated his real nationality. He had then to take refuge in Ireland. In 1981 Mitterand said that France owed amends to Brittany. He then together with another refugee returned and was arrested. He got a particularly severe sentence for speaking Breton in court (a motive confirmed in a letter from the Minister of Defense to a député). On his release he took up a teaching post with DIWAN and was afterwards appointed to head their pedagogy section. With several others he set up the semi-clandestine organisation, **Stourm Ar Brezhoneg** which carried out a campaign of daubing sign posts to oblige the administration, on account of the cost of replacing them, to include the proper Breton forms of the place-names. This proved fairly effective, though much remains to be done. He was again sentenced for these activities. In the early nineties he left DIWAN to devote himself to teaching the language to adults, for him as important as teaching it to children. After a while with **Stumdi** he went on to form with three others the Roudour Cooperative in An Uhelgoad for courses also for adults. He was for years a regular contributor to the monthly **Bremañ** which provides news not only of the Breton movement but of the whole world in our language.

Herve lived fully in accordance with his convictions. He placed the language at the centre of his family life as of his activities. He rejected the idea that bilingualism could save a language so endangered. He will long be remembered in every part of Brittany, but also by those who met him in Ireland and in Wales.

He leaves behind a wife and three young children. **Skoazell Vreizh**, a committee which supports families in need as a result of their breadwinner being prosecuted for Breton reasons, have set up a special fund to help them. It is a most deserving case, given that Herve's service to Brittany was for them no easy way of life. Contributions should be sent to Skoazell Vreizh, Feunteun Wenn, 3 str. Aristide Briand, 44350 Gwenrann/Guérande, Brittany – specifying, e.g. on the back of cheques "Evit Herve Kerrain".



(In front of the France 3 Offices, Rennes)

From left to right. Anna, Ivi, Tual with their parents Herve Kerrain and Joelle Barzhig. Behind Anna: Enora Kerrain, Klaod an Duigou.

(Courtesy of **Bremañ**).

KEAV for Practice of Breton

Every year in July since 1948, Kamp Etrekeltiek ar Vrezhonegerien welcomes people who have made a good start in the study of Breton. It offers them the opportunity to practise it in the company of competent teachers and fluent speakers. No other language is allowed. The "camp" is held in the Joliot-Curie school, Skaer (N. of Kemperle, S.-E. Finistère). It used to be open only for a fortnight but in 1997 many applications had to be refused, so it was decided to have it henceforth for 3 weeks. Last Summer there were 85 participants in the first two and 77 in the third week. Next Summer it will open on July 11 and close on 31st. Further information from the secretary Anna ar Beg, 5 Ale Gasset, 35000 Roazhon or (during holidays) 22 Hent Moulouen, 29000 Kemper.



Brittany Shops

A group of young businessmen have opened an internet site labelled Brittany Shops for the sale world-wide of high quality Breton products representing "a strong image of identity". The text is in Breton as well as in French. It may be soon also in Japanese!

EMGANN AGM

EMGANN, the leftist independence party, held its AGM, attended by about 80 delegates, on November 7/8 in An Oriant. It had in the past year recruited many young members and staged several demonstrations, especially in favour of the Breton language, e.g. at the offices of France 3 TV, and of three main French parties in An Oriant and St. Brieg, at tax offices in Gwengamp and Naoned, at the Kemper townhall in front of which 3 men stood naked (behind a large poster...) to underline how devoid the language is of any protection. EMGANN (meaning 'fight') only occasionally puts forward candidates for elections (local councils) but has then got up to 10% of the vote. It has decided to widen its platform and cooperate with other people. Does that mean also the UDB?



GWENN HA DU, nationalist bimonthly in French. 28 pp. Subs. to J. Le Maho, 190 bis, Ave. de Clichy, 75017 Paris. 150 F but outside State 170 F.

In the Oct-Nov issue, six pages are devoted to the continuation of Henri Poisson's memoirs. He gives an account of the problems he had in the years for the publication of his "Histoire de Bretagne" and of the obstacles put in the way of the sale of his biography of Yann Vari Perrot. Of many other contributions, the book reviews are particularly interesting, e.g. of J.Ch. Perazzi's history of the first 20 years of DIWAN's and of "Envorennoù Roparz Hemon" (R.H.'s memoirs, which concern only part of his life).

Goulc'han Kervella

Awarded

Ermin Collar

In 1381 the duke Yann IV created a military and honorary order, the Ermin Collar, with a view to strengthen the bonds of fidelity between him and the people as he strove to maintain Brittany's independence against the French pretensions. The originality of the order was that women could also become members as knights.

In 1973 it was founded again by the Breton Cultural Institute with the aim of giving recognition every year to people who have distinguished themselves in the service of Brittany. This year in September, the honour was bestowed in the castle of Josselin on the poet Naïg Rozmor well-known for a collection of her love poems in Breton, on Henri Maho, one of the founders of the association "Breizh Santel" (for the preservation of our architectural heritage), on Per Loquet for his dedicated work with "Skoazell Vreizh", which collects funds to help those jailed for their Breton activities and their families, and on Goulc'han Kervella, the manager of the theatre group "Strollad ar Vro Bagan". The latter's dynamic career is particularly worthy of our attention.

G. Kervella was born in 1951, the son of a seaweed gatherer in the district of Leon in N. Finistère known as "Ar Vro Bagan", the Pagan Country (nobody knows for sure why). He went on to study medicine and specialise in psychiatry. On account of his traditional upbringing he came to the attention of the cultural association "Ar Vro Bagan" then based near his home place in Plouneour-Traezh north of Lesneven and was invited to join it (1973). AVB was then an active catholic-oriented body.

However the post-1968 period was geared towards protest and upheaval against the consumer society and its values. Two plays produced by G. Kervella, "Kernevez City" about agricultural productivity and *Roue ar Moc'h* (The Pigs' King) already foreshadowed the present pig production crisis. He decided to devote himself full time to the staging of Breton or bilingual plays at the head of Strollad ar Vro Bagan. His research in the religious history of Brittany resulted in the production of "Buhez Mikael an Nobletz" which is about the life of a 17th century missionary. After that he started work on "Yann-Vari Perrot" which concerns a priest who dedicated himself as fervently to Brittany and her language as to his religious vocation and was assassinated by Resistants in December 1943. This event was still fresh in people's minds, dividing them, when the play was staged first in 1985. Confronted with that problem, Kervella

tried to help them to understand the different attitudes during the Second World War. But ten years later he had the most resounding success when he wrote "Brezel e Bro-Leon" (War in Leon). The future belongs to creation...

After a summer spent on stage and in the Keryann castle, SaVB is busy with stagings of "Ar Mestr" (The Master), which deals with the eviction of a tenant farmer in the 30s, and of "Avanturio ar citoien Yann Konan" which is adapted from an autobiographic account in verse of adventurers at the time of the French Revolution. The group is also preparing a great show for the year 2000. In the meantime you will have the opportunity to see a few plays by Roparz Hemon...

Apart from his artistic activities, Goulc'han Kervella is involved in the Seaweed Gatherers Museum and in the Missions Museum, a true symbol which deserves our full acknowledgement and support.

Gi Keltik



Vieilles Charrues

The association "Vieilles Charrues" which organises every year a big festival in Karaez bestowed in October one million francs on DIWAN to help its schools develop. The two associations have agreed to set up a "cultural pool" with a view to create a "technopole" around the DIWAN lycée which is due to be transferred in September 1999 from Ar Releg-Kerhoun near Brest to Kerampuilh near Karaez.

The technopole will bring together complementary activities serving to promote the Breton culture and to create jobs in this area of Central-West Brittany which suffers from economic underdevelopment. 2 Million francs are earmarked by "Vieilles Charrues" for it. It is hoped that it will be the nucleus of a DIWAN university.

Keleier

For detailed information in French about all that is being done to promote the Breton language in public life, the media, publishing, cultural life, teaching in schools and evening classes, read **Keleier**, quarterly 160-200 pages. Subscription 100 Francs to Servij ar Brezhoneg, Skol Uhel ar Vro, 1 straed Raoul Ponchon, 35069 Roazhon Cedex.

Charter: to sign or not to sign...

The proposals contained in the Poignant Report to Prime Minister Jospin about the place to be given to the "Regional" languages were referred to the jurist Guy Carcassonne for advice regarding the compatibility with the French Constitution. In his view 52 of the 98 provisions of the European Charter (for the protection of such languages) – which B. Poignant said, should be signed by France – would present no problem. It was even sufficient to adopt the 35 most innocuous of them and the State could claim as liberal an attitude towards those troublesome languages as required for a good image in the European Union. However, the seemingly favourable advice is tempered by recommendations which if adopted would leave the Charter empty of any real substance. It could mean for instance that the 69 DIWAN teachers who get paid by the State would be struck off its payroll.

Demonstrations are to take place on December 5 in all the areas where the "regional" languages are spoken to maintain the pressure to change the Article 2 of the Constitution which by proclaiming French as the only language of the Republic is used, in spite of assurances given at the time of its adoption (in 1992) against granting any official recognition to them.

No sooner had Mr Jospin announced, at the beginning of October, that the government would sign the European Charter that the fascistic National Front and the Freemasons of the "Grand Orient de France" lodge joined in an unholy alliance to denounce such a decision as dangerous for the unity of their "State-Nation". The Masons see themselves as the truest guardians of the principles of the 1798 Revolution. Their influence permeates the whole French system.

After signing, the Charter would yet have to get approval by the Constitutional Council and win a majority vote in the National Assembly. Not to mention all the obstacles which a powerful administration could place to its implementation. But the media will help in accrediting the notion that France is engaged in saving "this previous part of our national heritage".



Pigeon Celtaidd

YR ALBAN

Buddugoliaeth

Enillodd yr SNP yr is-etholiad i Senedd Ewrop yn etholaeth Gogledd-Ddwyrain yr Alban a achoswyd gan farwolaeth is-lywydd yr SNP, y Dr. Allan Macartney. Ian Hudghton oedd yr ymgeisydd buddugol a gadwodd y sedd i'r blaidd genedlaethol gyda mwy o fwyafrif nac oedd o'r blaen, er gwaethaf i ganran llai bleidleisio. Y Torfaid ddaeth yn ail, a Llafur, y prif elyn y dyddiau yma, yn drydydd. Mae dwy sedd yn dal gan yr SNP yn Senedd Ewrop felly - Winnie Ewing yn sedd Yr Ucheldiroedd a'r Nysoedd ydyw'r aelod arall.

Milwyr Lloegr

Pobl yr Alban yw 14% o weithlu'r Llu Awyr, 13% o'r Fyddin a 10% o'r Llynges Frenhinol - canrannau uwch o lawer na'r canran o boblogaeth y wladwriaeth sy'n byw yn yr Alban.

Siartr Ewrop

Mae'r llywodraeth yn San Steffan wedi penderfynu llofnodi'r Siartr i Ieithoedd Lleiafrifol neu Ranbarthol. Bydd y llofnodi yn hwb i'r nod o 'statws sic' i'r Aeleg. Bydd rhaid i'r llywodraeth ddarparu ar gyfer defnyddio'r Aeleg yn y llysoedd.

Canolfannau Gaeleg

Trwy gydweithrediad asiantaethau fel Ysgol Astudiaethau'r Alban, Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol yr Alban, y BBC, a Phrifysgol Caeredin sefydlwyd archif genedlaethol ar gyfer cofnodion llafar. Bydd canolfan ar gyfer cerddoriaeth a diwylliant Gaeleg yn cael ei sefydlu yn hen ysgol Loch Baghasdail, Uibhist a Deas. Gobeithir, hefyd, sefydlu canolfan Aeleg ar Ynys Ile/Islay, efallai yn yr hen ysbyty.

Ardaloedd ymylol a bregus

Mae Iomairt an Oir - Menter yr Ymylon - yn fenter newydd sy'n anelu at leihau'r diboblogi yn yr ardaloedd mwyaf anghysbell fel Uig a Bernera (Leodhas).

Colbhasa/Colonsay, Eirisgeigh, Loch Baghasdail, Gogledd Cataibh/Sutherland ac Aird nam murchan.

IWERDDON

Diwedd Adolygiaeth

'Mae adolygiaeth hanesyddol Wyddelig wedi marw'. Dywedwyd hyn gan y Dr. Brendan Bradshaw yn ystod Ysgol Haf Desmond Greaves yn Nulyn eleni. Adolygiaeth (revisionism) ydyw'r ffordd 'wrthrychol' o ysgrifennu hanes Iwerddon sydd yn mynegi cydymdeimlad cudd ag ymdrechion y Saeson ac yn bychanu pob agwedd adeiladol o genedl y Gwyddelod, ac felly yn gweithio fel propaganda gwleidyddol i wrth-genedlaetholwyr. Mae adolygiaeth wedi bod yn ffasiynol ers degawdau, ond erbyn hyn mae wedi colli parch ysgolheigion, diolch i weithiau'r Dr. Bradshaw ymysg eraill.

Gwyddeleg yn Lloegr

O fis Medi 1999 bydd y Wyddeleg yn bwnc gwirfoddol yn y cwricwlwm cenedlaethol yn Lloegr. Bydd £120,000 y flwyddyn ar gael i ysgolion ddysgu Gwyddeleg. Mae pob un o ieithoedd swyddogol yr Undeb Ewropeaidd ar restr ieithoedd y cwricwlwm yn barod. Mae amheuaeth a fydd yr Eglwys Gatholig yn Lloegr, y mae cyfran helaeth o ddisgyblion Gwyddelig Lloegr yn mynychu ysgolion dan ei rheolaeth, yn gefnogol i awydd rhai o'r Gwyddelod i ddysgu eu hiaith.

CERNYW

Ffyrdd allweddol

Mae gan Gernyw 262 km o gefnffyrdd, 490 km o briffyrdd a 6604 km o ffyrdd eraill. Hefyd, mae 4209 km o lwybrau cyhoeddus a llwybrau ceffylau. Arnynt ceir dros 40 mil o oleuadau stryd a 1747 o bontydd. Bu dros 2500 o bobl mewn damweiniau dros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf. Felly, paham mae rheilffyrdd Cernyw mewn cyflwr mor wael?

Mudiadau'r Llydaweg

Mae Skol-Uhel ar Vro (1, straed Raoul Ponchou, 35069 Roazhon) yn gwneud gwaith amrywiol gan gynnwys rhoi grantiau i gyhoeddwy'r llyfrau Llydaweg, cyhoeddi 'Keleier Servij ar Brezhoneg' (casgliad rheolaidd o doriadau o'r papurau newydd sy'n ymwneud ag iaith a diwylliant Llydaw) a chyfieithu arwyddion ffordd ayb. Mae Olier ar Mogn, sy'n gweithio i Skol-Uhel ar Vro, yn rhugl yn y Gymraeg. Prif swyddfa'r mudiad ysgolion Llydaweg - Diwan Breizh: B.P. 156, TA Sant Ernel, 29411 Landerne, Llydaw

Siartr Ewrop

Mae llywodraeth Ffrainc wedi cytuno arwyddo Siartr Ewrop ar gyfer Ieithoedd Lleiafrifol a Rhanbarthol ar ran y Llydaweg. Er mwyn cwrdd, 'r isafswm o ddisgwyliadau bydd yn rhaid dyrchafu statws y Llydaweg yn sylweddol.

CJ/RapT

Gweithgareddau Gwirfoddol I Hyrwyddo'r Iaith Gernyweg

Nid yw'r gweithgareddau i hyrwyddo'r iaith Gernyweg yn cael yn rhyw gefnogaeth ariannol swyddogol. Oherwydd hynny y mae sefyllfa'r iaith yn ddigon bregus. Eto i gyd y mae hi yn magu nerth trwy weithgareddau gwirfoddol.

Y mae dobarth nos ym Menheniot yn nwyrain Cernyw. Y mae sawl dosbarth nos yng nghyffiniau Camburn, Redruth a Falmouth. Y mae dau eleni ym Mhenwith, un i ddechreuwy'r a'r llall i fyfyrwyr y drydedd flwyddyn. Cynhelir y rhai hyn yn Tavaru an Venton (Tafarn y Ffynnon) yn Hallentacken ym mhlwyf Eglossanres (Sancreed). Mae Eglossanres yn enwog yn hanes yr iaith Gernyweg oherwydd yno y bu fyw ysgrifennwr enwog. Wella Rowe oedd ei enw, amaethwr dwy ffarm, Hendra a Bojewan, yn yr ail ganrif ar bymtheg.

Un o'r pethau sy'n angenrheidiol i ddysgwyr iaith yw geiriaduron. Y geiriadur pennaf yn yr iaith Gernyweg yw *A Practical Dictionary of Modern Cornish*. Daeth ail argraffiad y rhan Gernyweg-Saesneg mas ym 1997. Daeth y rhan Saesneg-Cernyweg mas ym mis Hydref 1998. Gwaith swmpus yw'r geiriadur i gyd, yr ateb i ddyheadau'r dysgwyr a'r hyfforddwyr. Daeth a daw rhagor o eiriau i'r amlwg gyda'r ymchwil barhaol yn y llenyddiaeth. Daw trydydd argraffiad mas cyn bo hir i'r rhan Gernyweg-Saesneg. Bydd honno'n fwy yn sgil y gwaith a wnaed ar ochr arall y geiriadur.

S4C has launched the first digital Celtic channel. In November it started to broadcast 12 hours of Welsh language programmes every day from midday to midnight. It carries all S4C's current Welsh programmes from 6 to 9 pm and a whole range of new programmes. There are new daytime shows, classical music, arts scene, overseas links, nature and best of the best repeats. For information, phone 0800-389-336 or surf to HYPERLINK <http://www.s4c.co.uk>

£6 million has been spent on digital programming and £1 million to re-equip technical programmes.

Clive James

Gweithgareddau (contd)

Paratoir llawlyfr newydd i ddysgwyr. Erbyn cyflawnu hwnnw bydd adnoddau cynhwysfawr i'r myfyrwyr yn yr iaith. Yn y cyfamser carreg filltir bwysig yw'r geiriadur sydd hefyd yn cynnwys cryn dipyn o ramadeg.

Un o'r pethau mwyaf calonogol yw'r rhieni sy'n magu eu plant yng Nghernyweg. Y mae modd erbyn hyn i siarad â phlant gyda'r Gernyweg yn iaith gyntaf iddyn nhw. Mae hynny am y tro cyntaf oddi ar y ganrif ddiwethaf. Gwaetha'r modd ni ddysgodd y siaradwyr Cernyweg ymhlith y Cernywyr sut i ddarllen a sgrifennu eu hiaith. Daeth y Gernyweg yn iaith lafar yn unig yn y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg. Yn Saesneg oedd addysg y pryd hynny.

Y cam nesaf yw cael addysg Gernyweg. Mae ffordd hir i fynd. Soniwyd am hynny mewn erthygl Saesneg yn y cylchgrawn hwn.

Merfyn Phillips

Summary

There is no official public backing for Cornish at all. Progress is being made to promote Cornish but through individual initiative only. There is an evening class being held in Menheniot in the eastern end of Cornwall. There are others in the western hundreds of Kerrier and Penwith. A highlight of the revival is the recent publication of the complete Practical Dictionary of Modern Cornish. Cornish students and tutors now have the most comprehensive Cornish dictionary ever printed.

Language Developments

Cymdeithas yr Iaith held a rally in Cardiff in November as the next step of their campaign for full status for Welsh in the National Assembly, following the successful meeting with the Secretary of State in August and the publication of the document *Agenda for the National Assembly* outlining the language requirements. The Assembly has great potential for transforming the position of the language in Wales. A necessary step towards this is the adoption of a firm bilingual policy by the Assembly itself. Cymdeithas's document *Dwyieithrwydd Gweithredol* (Active bilingualism) is one of the most detailed papers on bilingualism ever written in Wales. As the first in a series of documents about the language and the Assembly it has attracted a positive response and has been the subject of debate in the Press. The rally in Cardiff was an expression of support for the principles in the document. Chaired by the new leader of Cymdeithas, Branwen Niclas from the Dolgellau area, it was supported by a range of other

organisations supportive of Welsh and received widespread press coverage.

Recent legislation will enable children whose parents live in Wales but who are born in England to receive bilingual birth certificates.

Of people with a Welsh-speaking mother but a non-Welsh-speaking father, 35% can speak Welsh. However, of children with only their father Welsh-speaking only 28% can speak the language.

At the European Summit in Cardiff in June it was announced that Tony Blair would sign the Council of Europe's charter for minorized languages. The charter calls for action to safeguard languages, facilitate their use in public life and promote mutual understanding between all linguistic groups in member states. However, it is not expected that any major changes will occur to the status of Welsh in Wales.

CJ/RapT

Plaid Move Towards The Assembly

Plaid Cymru will continue to be known by their traditional name. Following a debate about the name of the party at their Annual Conference Plaid will, for technical reasons, be registering for the European elections with their name translated into English, but will continue to be known by their Welsh name in any language.

A recent opinion poll gave Plaid Cymru 20% of the first vote section of National Assembly voting for individual candidates and 24% for the party list section. At the last General Election they obtained 10% support. With Plaid running second to Labour a recent poll gave Labour 36 seats, Plaid Cymru 11, Tories 7 and Liberal Democrats 6.

Plaid have gained a seat from Labour in a bye-election for Caerffili county council. Between June 1997 and August 1998 the cumulative situation has been:

	Plaid	Labour	Tory	Lib.Dem.
Gains	6	2	3	4
Holds	0	4	4	2
Losses	0	12	0	4
Net	+6	-10	+3	0

Cymru Branch Campaigns

Cymru branch of the League is promoting the national petition to de-anglicise the Welsh language media. Recently there has been a sharp increase in the amount of English included in Welsh language programs, radio and television. Interviews in English on the news are no longer translated into Welsh and documentaries do not hesitate to carry extensive untranslated interviews in English. The amount of English pop music broadcast is having a detrimental effect on the status of Welsh popular music. There are also officially bilingual programs but their time and budget is taken out of that allocated for Welsh broadcasting.

The branch has also started a campaign for bank statements in Welsh. Even though banks make increased use of Welsh, they are refusing to issue monthly statements to customers in Welsh. As far as we know bank statements have never been available in any Celtic language.

Robat ap Tomos



Éire



SÍNEOIDH AN FHRAINC AN CHAIRT EORPACH?

Is cosúil anois go bhfuil sé beartaithe ag an Fhrainc an Chairt Eorpach do Teangacha Mionlaigh a shíniú agus a dhaingniú. Deirfeá gur dea-scéal é sin do na mionlaigh teanga i Stáit na Fraince atá le fada an lá ag éilimh go ndéanfai amhlaidh, ach ní hé deireadh an scéil é. Le blianta fada tá feachtas ar bun ag gluaiseacht na teanga sa mBriotáin ag iarraidh stádas oifigiúil a bhaint amach don Bhriotáinis, agus le tamall anuas bhí an t-éileamh céanna a dhéanamh ag na mionlaigh teanga eile ba bhFrainc, an Alsáis, an Chorsaic, Tuaisceart Tír na mBascach, Occitania agus an Chatalóin (gan trácht ar na pobail i dtailte na Fraince thar lear a labhrann Créole, Tahitien, Kanak agus rí.). Bhí an brú ar Rialtas na Fraince ag dul i dtreise le tamall, go háirithe ón uair gur fhógair Sasana go síneofai an Chairt go luath le haitheantas a thabhairt don Gháidhlig in Albain, an Bhreatnais agus an Ghaeilge ins na Sé Contaetha. D'fhág seo nach raibh fágtha de na tiortha san Eoraip le mionlaigh teanga ach an Fhrainc agus an Ghréig ag diúltú an Chairt a shíniú. Bhí doicheall ar an Fhrainc roimh aon aitheantas a thabhairt do na teangacha réigiúnda agus go gcuirfeadh síniú na Cairte dualgas dá leithéid orthu, go deimhin dhearbhaigh an Chomhairle Stáit go raibh forálacha na Cairte ag teacht salach ar Bhunreacht na Fraince, go speisialta ar Airteagal 2 a dheimhníonn gurb í an Fhrainc amháin teanga na Fraince.

Nuair a d'eisigh B. Poignant, maor Kemper, a thuarascáil féin ar na teangacha réigiúnda i mí Iúil na bliana seo, ba chúis iontais do ghluaiseacht na teanga sa mBriotáin gur mhol sé go mba chóir don Fhrainc Cairt na dTeangacha Mhionlaigh a shíniú agus aitheantas teoranta a thabhairt do na teangacha réigiúnda i Stáit na Fraince. Mar sin féin ní raibh aon mholadh dearfa aige leis an fhadhb bhunreachtúil a sháru, gan an Bunreacht a athrú nó dli ar leith a reachtáil a aithneoidh go bhfuil teangacha eile na bhFrainc chomh maith leis an Fhrainc. Is ansin a d'iarr Lionel Jospin ar Ollamh le dlí bunreachtúil, Guy Carcassonne, scrúdú a dhéanamh ar an gCairt i bhfianaise na moltaí i dtuarascáil Poignant, agus a bhreithiúnas féin a chur

faoi bhráid na Parlaiminte faoi dheireadh an tSamhraidh.

Foilsíodh an breithiúnas sin ar 6/10/98, agus ní amháin go molann sé do Rialtas na Fraince an Chairt a shíniú, ach gur féidir sin a dhéanamh gan athrú ar bith a dhéanamh ar Bhunreacht na Fraince. Faoiseamh mór do Rialtas na Fraince agus bua do na teangacha réigiúnda más ea? Is cinnte nach bhfuil aon gháir mholta ag teacht ó mhuintir na Briotáine tar éis dóibh siúd cáipéis Carcassonne a scrúdú. Dar leis nach gcuirfeadh síniú agus daingniú na Cairte dualgas dá laghad ar an Stáit aitheantas ar leith a thabhairt do na teangacha réigiúnda nó aon foráil speisialta a dhéanamh dóibh sa chóras oideachais nó sa tseirbhís phoiblí. De réir léimh Carcassonne níl d'aidhm ag an gCairt Eorpach ach cosaint a thabhairt do na teangacha réigiúnda ar fud na hEorpa, ní thugann sé cearta ar bith do lucht labhartha na dteangacha mhionlaigh seo go n-aithneofai iad mar mhionlaigh chultúrtha nó teanga, aitheantas a bheadh go h-íomlán i gcoinne bhunphrionsabal aontachta Phoblacht na Fraince agus a phobal.

Luaitear an coincheap de 'grúpa teanga' sa Chairt, ach tá a chiall fhéin a baint ag Carcassonne as an focal 'grúpa' (ciall nach bhfuil ag teacht fiú leis an 'Petit Robert', foclóir bunúsach na Fraincise). Níl sa 'ghrúpa' ach daoine aonara, ní sheasann sé mar aonad ann féin agus níl aon cearta ar leith nó aitheantas dlíte dó. Molann sé go mbeadh ráiteas minithe dá leithéid le cur leis an síniú.

Gan amhras tá laigi sa Chairt a thugann deis éalaithe don Fhrainc agus tá moltaí Carcassonne ag teacht i dtír ar na laigi seo sa chaoi go bhfágfar an Chairt gan téagar, gan tairbhe. Mar shampla, tá 98 forálacha san íomlán sa Chairt, ach ní dá d'aon Stát glacadh le níos mó ná 38 díobh. Measann Carcassonne go bhfuil 50 de na forálacha seo inghlactha agus nach mbeadh ag trasnail ar bhunreacht na Fraince. Dá réir sin d'fhéadfadh an Fhrainc glacadh leis an gCairt 'à minima' agus a chuid ráitisí faichilleacha féin a chur leis ar eagla na heagla.

Ní h-aon ionadh mar sin nach bhfuil gluaiseacht na teanga sa mBriotáin ag cur fáilte ar bith roimh na moltaí thuas. A

mhalairt ar fad mar tá siad cáinte go láidir ag na h-eagrais éagsúla agus ag na páirtithe polaitíochta Briotáineacha.

Deir POBL gur Cairt fholamh atá a thairiscint agus nach féidir muinín a chur i bPáras. Ní mór do na Briotáinigh féin smacht polaitiúil a fháil chun an teanga a chosaint agus a fhorbairt.

I ráiteas an UDB deirtear go bhfuil tuarascáil Carcassonne 'jésuitique' – athbhríoch agus cam – maireann an Bhriotáinis ina theanga bheo ach ní ann don phobal a chuir an teanga ar aghaidh ó ghlúin go ghlúin le 1500 bliain mar shampla amháin den mhíloighciúlacht atá ann. Tá cruinniú fógraithe don 24/10/98 i gcomhar le Cónascadh na Réigiún agus na bPobal .i. na pobail mhionlaigh sa Fhrainc d'fhonn teacht ar chomhréiteach ar trí éilimh dearfa:

- 1 an Chairt a shíniú agus a dhaingniú ag an leibhéal is airde le go mbeadh toradh air;
- 2 Airteagal 2 de Bhunreacht na Fraince a athrú ag an gComhdháil i Versailles in Eanáir '99 nuair a pléifear cúrsaí bhunreachtacha ag an Congrès (Scanad + Parlaimint);
- 3 dearbhú ón rialtas go dtabharfar stádas oifigiúil do na teangacha eile i bPoblacht na Fraince chomh maith leis an bhFraincise.

Tá cruinniú eile a ghairm ag EMGANN i St. Brieg ar an 17/10/98 agus cuireadh oscailte chuige do chuile dhuine gur chúis leo an Bhriotáinis. Arís deirtear ina ráiteas nach bhfuil Lionel Jospin réidh le tada a ghéilleadh do na teangacha réigiúnda nó an Bunreacht a athrú. Tá gá níos mó ná ariamh le troid ar son stádaís oifigiúla a fháil don teanga.

Ar aon dul leo siúd thuas atá na freagraí a thug eagrais eile ar mholtai Carcassonne. Deir ceann amháin díobh gur chéim siar do na teangacha mionlaigh a bheadh i síniú na Cairte seachas a mhalairt

Cá bhfágann seo cás na hÉireann tharla nár shínigh Éire an Chairt Eorpach go dtí seo chan oiread, agus cé go bhfuil iomrá le tamall anuas go ndéanfar an beart, ní mór an cheist a chur an fiú é i bhfianaise leagan amach na Fraince ar an gCairt. Measann go leor de lucht na teanga anseo nach mbeadh ann ach céim síos don Ghaeilge, céad teanga oifigiúil an Stáit i mBunreacht na hÉireann, agus sílim gurb í an tuairim chéanna atá ag an Aire Stáit sa Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht, Gaeltachta agus Oileáin, Éamonn Ó Cuív a bhfuil cúram na teanga air sa rialtas. Tá sé féin ag cur a mhuiníne sa Acht Teanga atá á ullmhú ag a Roinn faoi láthair agus a cuirfear os comhair na Dála go luath – laistigh de sé mhí b'fhéidir? Is gá an Acht Teanga le cinntiú go mbeadh polasaí dearfa i leith na Gaeilge sa tseirbhís phoiblí, ins na cúirteanna agus sa saol poiblí go ginearálta. Ní mór bheith dóchasach go gcuirfear i bhfeidhm é.

Brid Heussaff

Comhaontas Ceilteach

Mí Bealtaine seo chaite fuair an "Comhaontas Ceilteach" – cumann micléinn a chuireann na tíortha Ceilteacha chun cinn – aitheantas ó Lár Choiste na gCumann i gColáiste na Tríonóide i mBaile Átha Cliath. Le linn Seachtain na nGibeannaigh, cláraíodh 267 baill – sármaith do chumann nua-bhunaithe. Tá an chumann tar éis a bheith an-ghníomhach ag eagrú imeachtaí go raibh an-tóir orthu sa Cholaiste.

Bhí toghcháin agus an chéad cruinniú (le oíche Ceol agus Ól ina dhiaidh, urraithe ag Guinness) ann i mí Dheireadh Fómhair. I mí na Samhna bhí díospóireacht spéisiúil faoin Bhriotáinis. Ag labhairt bhí Cathal Ó Luain, cathaoirleach an Chonradh Ceilteach; Henry Leperlier, léachtóir as Ollscoil Chathair Átha Cliath agus labharthóir Briotáinise; Anne-Frances Badoui, ionadaí Ambassáid na Fraince, agus Yann Rivaillan, ón Biúro Eorpach do Theangacha Neamhfhorleathana.

B'é an eachtra ba mhó go fóill áfach ná an "Cic-Ass Céili Ceilteach", ar ar fhreastal 1,000 micléinn as os cionn 4 Ollscoileanna. Ceol Gaelach (Albanach agus Éireannach) fiáin a bhí ann ó "Gliondar", banna ceoil na hoíche. D'eagraigh an Comhaontas Ceilteach an ócáid seo le Cholaiste Phádraig agus Ollscoil Chathair Átha Cliath, agus bhí tacaíocht agus poiblíocht ó AMLÉ (Aontas Mic Léinn na hÉireann) ann chomh maith.

Tá teagmháil bunaithe idir an Comhaontas agus an Conradh Ceilteach, agus tá Carn curtha ar díol ag an Comhaontas i siopa leabhair na Micléinn sa Cholaiste. Tá plananna seachtain eolas Ceilteach a bheith ann níos déanaí sa scoilbhliain agus turas go tír Ceilteach amháin (ach táthar fós ag argóint faoi cén ceann...).

Eoin Ó hÓgáin
Cathaoirleach

Summary (Sineoidh an Fhrainc...)

The professor of Jurisprudence who had been appointed by Lionel Jospin to examine The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages has recommended that the Government should sign the Charter, but with precautionary reservations. His report claims that signing and ratifying the Charter does not oblige the French state to give official recognition to any minority language within the State nor to provide special funds for their promotion. The report has been widely condemned by both language and political organisations in Brittany, who have demanded a change in the French Constitution which states that French is the only language of France.

Summary

College recognition has been granted to a new "Celtic" society in Trinity College Dublin. So far, 267 members have been recruited. The society is called "An Comhaontas Ceilteach" ("The Celtic Alliance") and its activity has been proven by three outstanding events so far: the first Meeting – which was followed by a night of music and drink; a debate on the Breton language, with speakers from, among others, the Celtic League (Cathal Ó Luain, Chairman) and Dublin City University (Henry Leperlier, Breton speaker and activist) providing many interesting points. The society's greatest success so far, however, has been the joint organisation of a Celtic Céili – the "Cic-Ass Céili Ceilteach" which was attended by about 1,000 students – some from as far afield as Galway (two lively bus-loads).



Radicals and Revolutionaries: Essays on 1798

This collection of essays on the United Irish Movement's rebellion of 1798 (most of which have been printed in the *Irish Democrat* throughout this anniversary year), attempts to look at some of the important aspects of the United Irish Movement and the rebellion of 1798. Thus, there are chapters on the role of women in the rebellion, James Connolly's examination of the United Irishmen, a study of one of the United Irish leaders, Wolfe Tone, an examination of the links between Irish and Scottish republicanism and finally an examination of the role of Ulster in 1798.

The booklet is available for £3.30 (Britain and Northern Ireland, incl. p+p) and £3.85 (Ireland and Europe, incl. p+p) from 244 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8JR. (Make cheques payable to Connolly Publications Ltd.)
fax: 0171 916 6172.
email: connolly@geo2.poptel.org.uk



Pádraig Ó Snodaigh

Book Launched on Radio Poetry Series

On December 10th last in the United Arts Club in Dublin Paddy Glackin, Executive Producer (Weekends) RTÉ Radio 1, launched 'Éigse an Aeir' a new poetry anthology featuring over forty contemporary Irish language poets. The book is based on the radio series of the same name which has been running on RTÉ Radio 1 since the beginning of 1998 and features leading poets such as Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill, Cathal Ó Searcaigh, Máire Mhac an tSaoi, Michael Hartnett, Biddy Jenkinson and Michael Davitt.

The introduction for 'Éigse an Aeir' was written by leading critic and academic Dr Alan Titley of St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra. Speaking in Irish he told the assembly of leading poets and critics that "this is not English poetry dressed up in Gaelic clothing. This is Irish language poetry which is the legitimate heir to the lyrics of Old Irish which spoke and still speaks to a community of individuals throughout the country. If there are stereotypes in this anthology I failed to find them. If I were asked what the main characteristic of this collection is," he continued, "I would have to say it is the universality of Irish language poetry. The anthology's strength is that we are allowed to experience the work of individual contemporary poets as part of a wider canvas of creative activity. Although there are links with the Gaelic poetry tradition, the poetry in 'Éigse an Aeir' is also a positive statement about the future of poetry in Irish as it enters its third millennium."

'Éigse an Aeir' features a wide range of poets from all over the country who accepted RTÉ's invitation to read a selection of their most recent work in conjunction with some of their personal favourites from their individual collections.

'Éigse an Aeir' was edited by RTÉ producer Cathal Póirtéir and is published in paperback by Coiscéim.

Nuclear Waste Scandal

Waste dumped in the Irish sea over thirty years ago is probably highly toxic debris from the Windscale fire disaster.

The Celtic League is pressing the Irish government to investigate claims that highly toxic nuclear waste was dumped in the Irish sea over thirty years ago. The League have already received support from Welsh Nationalist leader Dafydd Wigley who has set down a question in the British parliament.

For many years the British government had denied the inshore dumping of nuclear waste although they were forced to concede that "small" quantities of waste had been disposed of at the Beaufort Dyke and also a few miles off the Anglesey coast in the Holyhead deep.

But last month reports from Ireland indicated that an Irish shipping company was contracted in the late 1950s and 60s to dispose of nuclear/toxic waste from Windscale/Sellafield.

The League asked the British Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to investigate claims by a retired Irish seaman, Mr. Walter Regan, that he was employed in an operation in the 1950s and 60s carried out by the Limerick Steamship Company to dispose of nuclear/toxic waste from Windscale/Sellafield.

Destined for disposal off the Hebrides the material was, to quote, the man, dumped in the Irish sea: "Invariably, the weather was too bad. No one checked. So we'd tip the barrels into the Irish sea usually about 60 miles south of Holyhead"

His description of the method of disposal overboard in drum like containers have a familiarity with later deep water nuclear disposals which were well documented until they ceased in the 1980s.

MAFF have provided the League with comprehensive detail on dumping at a number of sites around the Irish sea and inner Hebrides but say they can find no evidence to support Mr. Regan's allegations.

Pointedly however, they do not totally dismiss the claims and disturbingly allude to the possibility that debris i.e. "very small quantities of fuel and isotopes", from the 1957 Windscale Pile 1 fire could have been dispatched to UKAEA Harwell for analysis and the "residues disposed of by authorised sea disposal routes".

The Celtic League are also considering the data supplied by MAFF on dumping as documented Irish sea disposals. Of the three sites identified Liverpool Bay, Holyhead Deep and Beaufort Dyke the Liverpool bay area has the highest contamination although MAFF insist all sites pose no danger. Possible accidental recovery of material is also deemed unlikely by MAFF however with current concerns over cable laying work at Beaufort Dyke this assumption like some of the other exposure scenarios contained in the documentation may be naive.

J. B. Moffatt



Where it is - Inshore Nuclear Waste Dump Sites

Three Irish Sea locations and sites of Inner Hebrides and eastern Britain. MAFF seem unclear about where some material from the Windscale fire in 1957 was disposed. Ambiguity over the subject is not new, until 1997 successive British governments had denied any dumping of nuclear waste in the Irish sea or other inshore waters.

Whitehall "Spooks" Key to Airliner Loss

Earlier this year a question in the House of Commons once again tried to draw back the veil of secrecy and lies that surround the loss of an Irish airliner over the British Aberporth missile testing range in March 1968. Sixty eight people, all on board, died in the incident and the top secret establishment then in its cold war heyday has long been suspected of involvement. The Celtic League campaign to retrieve information has drawn support from members of both the British and Irish Parliaments

Dafydd Wigley, one of the group of MPs who have campaigned to secure the truth of the incident, asked the British Department of Transport (in March) to release papers about the crash. Astonishingly Junior Transport Secretary, Glenda Jackson, said the papers had been "destroyed".

That the papers should be "destroyed" at a time when there was a new focus on the crash beggars belief and this taken with the "disappearance" of log books from three British naval vessels at the aircraft crash site is highly suspect.

Despite the best efforts of various sections of the British establishment to eliminate all evidence of the crash or the subsequent recovery operation there is however one

repository where detailed records will be kept and will be intact.

It is inconceivable, given the slow political decline under-way in N. Ireland in the late 1960s, that the whole area of Anglo-Irish relations was not under scrutiny. The British Intelligence Services must have taken a keen interest in the potential political embarrassment of any link or suspected link of the military establishment at Aberporth to the crash. Also the fact that Britain's hush-hush missile testing range should be placed so squarely in the frame must have also frustrated the "spooks" of Whitehall. All official reports and indeed their own military intelligence must have been collated.

This material will now be mouldering in the dusty files of MI5 and/or MI6 and would be a rich source of evidence to resolve this mystery. The League has written to Bertie Ahern asking him to use the new detente in Anglo-Irish relations to prevail upon the Blair government to unlock the archives. The Celtic League believe the British will be only too willing - unless that is they still have something to hide!

J B Moffatt

Agreement On Ministries And Cross Border Bodies

After many months of acrimonious negotiation agreement finally emerged on the contentious issues of the number and responsibilities of the Ministries responsible to the Northern Assembly and of the various Cross Border implementation bodies. As predicted in CARN 103 it took the intervention of those who brokered the agreement (Irish Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern and British Premier Tony Blair) to ensure that an agreement acceptable to all was arrived at - this happened in the very late hours of the third Friday in December.

There will be ten Departments:

- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Environment
- Regional Development
- Social Development
- Education
- Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment
- Enterprise, Trade and Investment
- Culture, Arts and Leisure
- Health, Social Services and Public Safety
- Finance and Personnel

The six implementation (Cross Border) bodies are:

- Inland Waterways
- Food Safety
- Trade and Business Development
- Special EU Programmes
- Language (Irish and Ulster Scots)
- Aquaculture and Marine Affairs.

According to reports the implementation body on the Irish Language came at the insistence of Bertie Ahern to satisfy Sinn Féin. It has the curious addendum of the responsibility to promote also a greater awareness of Ulster Scots! It will indeed be interesting to see how the fortunes of the Irish Language fare under this new all-Ireland Body.

Peace and Neutrality Alliance

Partnership for Peace

There has clearly been a complete change of policy by the Government on the issue of Irish membership of the Partnership for Peace. The Fianna Fáil Election manifesto clearly ruled out membership yet it now appears it is Government policy to join although they say they want a debate. PANA leafleted the Fianna Fáil Ard Fheis putting the case for not joining, has written to every FF TD and Senator and will be publishing a Briefing Document on Partnership written by Carol Fox and hopefully jointly sponsored by Irish CND. We would hope that DOCAS and other groups that have declared their opposition to PFP membership reiterate their opposition publicly as soon as possible.

The Irish political/media elite however have learnt their lesson from the debate on the Amsterdam Treaty where apart from the Independent Group of Newspapers we were given fair coverage. This time we are not being given any opportunity, as for example the Irish Times has published several articles in favour of the PFP and have refused to publish our case. However we must continue to make the case to the media at every available opportunity.

European Neutrality Zone

PANA was one of the joint sponsors of an appeal to the Governments of Europe to create a neutral zone between the existing states of NATO and Russia as a better way to build peace rather than see all these states join NATO and build up their armies rather than spend their money on health, education and housing. The Chair of

PANA will be attending an International Press Conference in Vienna with the other groups from Austria, Finland and Switzerland who co-sponsored the Neutrality Zone Appeal.

Neutrality-European Security Conference April 23/24 1999

PANA has agreed to hold a major Conference on Irish Neutrality and European Security in TCD on April 23/24. A number of Speakers have already agreed to speak, Patricia McKenna MEP, Bernie Malone MEP and Alan Dukes TD. We hope to get a number of other speakers in order to make it a major conference which will help to set the agenda for the Euro elections.



Patricia McKenna

Federal Nuclear Armed Superstate

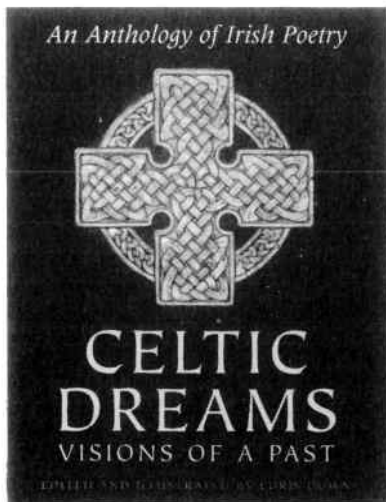
The Peace & Neutrality Alliance was established to defend Irish Neutrality and oppose the transformation of the EU into a nuclear armed superstate. We envisage the EU as a Civic Organisation for trade and commerce which does not have a military dimension. Security concerns should be dealt with through international organisations such as the UN or the OSCE. We need your help and support if we are to achieve our objectives. We have shown with the Amsterdam Referendum result that there is real popular support for neutrality in Ireland despite the political elite. However we need know if you believe we are pursuing the correct strategies and still have your support. Please contact us.

Roger Cole

Peace & Neutrality Alliance
113 Springhill Avenue, Blackrock,
Co. Dublin
e-mail - vmacdowe@iol.ie

Celtic Dreams – visions of a past. An Anthology of Irish Poetry.

Edited and illustrated by Chris Down. Blandford, Hardback
ISBN 07137 27411 £16.99.



Featuring the work of Seamus Heaney, Louis MacNeice, W.B. Yeats and Jonathan Swift.

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For further information contact Cassell Publicity Department on UK 0171 420 5594.



Gwel an Vlydhenn 1998

An vlydhenn 1998 a dhallethys yn lent. Pan wruk an parti lafur a waynyas erbyn an parti Tori wosa an dewysyans a 1997 tus a brederys y fia gwell, mes wosa degeyans a Le'ti St Erth, Abru Aluminium, bal South Crofty h.e., tus adreylyas aga thybians yn kever a'n governans nowedh. Drefen y fydh senedhow rag Alban ha Kembra mes travith ragon ni. Ytho drefen an kalleterow dallethys o "Cornish Solidarity" neb a synsys nyver a "high profile publicity stunts" kepar ha'n "penny Protest" pan wrug bagas a dus tremmena pons Tamer ha tylli an toll £1 gans 100 bath dinar, hag ynwedh yn mis Est i a dhegeas an amal gans Pow Sows rag mynsen dhe dhri dhe vrys an governans kalleterow Kernow ha dhe ri kovheans nag yw Kernow manas tyller rag degollyow.

Yn mis Hedra Mebyon Kernow a synsys aga Kuntelles Kemryn Blydhennek i a dhallethys gans mynsen disonek yn kovheans E.G.R. Hooper (Talek) neb a verwys moy avar yn Vlydhen. Ena y hwrussens dysmigi a vydh an brassa nyver a sav rag dewysyans konsel ranndirek yn mis Me 1999, (22 dhe'n dewetha reknans) Ynwedh i a apointyas avel Hon. Presydynt Richard Jenkin onen a'n dallethor MK, Kyns Barth Meur, ha den aswoenes meur yn broyow Keltek. Y'n Dohajydh pan o an kuntelles igerys dhe'n poblek esa arethow dyworth Bernard Deacon (CoSERG), neb a wrug areth yn kever ober war'tu ha "Objective 1" ha'n kalleterow mar kwra Kernow kavos an £500 milvil, Dafydd Williams (Plaid Cymru) neb a wrug areth yn kever ober wor'tu ha'n Senedh Kembrek, ha Mark Kaczmarek (Cornish Solidarity) a wrug areth yn kever ober "Cornish Solidarity" ha'n pesyans y'n keskows dhe dhasygeri bal South Crofty.

Nyns o pub tra drog a wrug an governans yn mis Metheven Eurostat a wruk aswoen Kernow avel ranndir yn unnik (ranndir N.U.T.S. 2) ha dre henna Kernow yw war'n fordh rag "objective 1 status". Yma a nyver a berson aji Konsel Kernow, dewysys ha

sodhogyon o erbyn defnydhyans a gernewek war brofyans dhe Europ (nyns esa marnas 12 ger) mes wosa nebes protest bras dyworth esyli Kernewek an eryow na o dasworres yn skrif.

Lemmyn grwen ni mires orth 1999 pyth eusi ow hwarfos. Yma kudhyans an howl yn mis Est, yma dewysyans konsellow ranndir mis Me ha dewysyans Europek mis Metheven. Ynwedh newodhow da rag tiogyon gorfenn an "Beef ban".

An dewysyans konsellow ranndir a vydh gwella chons rag MK kavos aga hanow ha tybiansow a rak an boblek drefen ny vydh possybel gul travith rag dewysyans Europek mar kwra an governans pesya war aga fordh dh'y sysnsi dre "system roll degeas ranndirek". Rag MK dhe vos dewysys y fia res dhedha kavos 210% a bub vot yn Kernow po 750,000 vot.

Mes pan eus senedhow yn Alban ha Kembra pes hir a vydh kyns eusi Alban rydh? Yn Kernow pyth eus dhe hwarfos nyns eus senedh nyns eus RDA (marnas RDA rag 6 konteth sowsnek ha Kernow ha'ga penn nebonen diworth Northants.) nyns eus travith marnas keskerth wor'tu ha Soth-West ranndirheans mar ny wren-ni sevel er aga fyn

Summary

A look back at the past year with the protests from "Cornish Solidarity" such as "the Penny Protest" and the total closure of the border with England for one symbolic minute. Also the closure of Europes last tin mine South-Crofty, and the recognition of Kernow as a "N.U.T.S 2" European region.

Also a look forward to 1999 and the challenges that it brings. With events such as District Council elections in May and the problems of getting the Cornish voice heard during the European elections if they are fought as the UK Government want on closed regional list system, meaning MK would need 210% of the Cornish vote to get elected or 750,000 votes.

pewa Reeg pea Rag an Kidniow?

Fatel ew eysy cabel ri eral rag falladow gon hunnen! Eze co tha why a an theaw polat smale na, Laurel ha Hardy? Pesqueth a skydnia war Hardy neb droaglam, e levery, "Lebmen, meer peath resta gweel them gweel!", andelna trailia adreneuhan an blame thort e hunnen!

Alerh, Alex Salmond, pedn leder an Pow Kenezlack Kelezonack, reeg progath derage kentel e vayny adro than termen hogan a Alban. Eve a lavaras dro preze dressa an Scottes ry aman cably an Sausen rag amplish o hunnen; an Scottes a dalveea cowas serves rag radn o hunnen, ha rag miscomerians o hunnen.

Henew tha laull drew de an dethiow a Hardy, ha dre gothe thene gara tha veaz gazooly dro tha gon radn nye. Ma an descreers pub preze gurra an blame war ri eral rag cabmoth o hunnen, avel edn dean reeg moaz aleaz et an glawe, ha creeny drova derbethes, buz nag o devethes et e vzeze dralgava perna cota stanche, ha andella assoylia an amplish e hunnen. Daslier ew blamia kene ri avel gurra an beh war gon owne duscooth, ha devezalena theria nye nebas ha nebas nakevy fatla comeras weeth a gon hunnen, ha ma an state nye trailia nevra lacka ha lacka.

En breze ve ew devethes deaw vatter, kenza an tavas Kernuack. Rag fra riga defigia, than? Awotta questyon lecas! Theria nye ree veno whelas an gorru en story agon glaze: kenever droag ew dew than Sausen tebal leb reeg gon arveth nye ha ladra ker gon heynes: gye reeg destrea an tavas nye! Buz ma hebma mar bell thort an gwreanath es drella boaz, rag bosogian gon pow reeg tregas en usia an Kernuack meel vlethan po nebas ugge arveth an Sausen, ha radn reeg longia tha e clappia bis en dewetha blethidniow an 19vas cansblethan; ha na dale thene nekevy peath reeg Carew compla dro tha deez a drisal erria *Me na vidna cowz a Sowsnack!*

Thea dallathvas an cansblethanma, car droren nye eta, bagas bean a deez kelednack a vee saya tha drailia andro radn agon tavas; terwithiow cabmdirectes, ha vos tel na alga nye agrea pub preze gen ago trade, nye a gothe thene gormal an speres angye; near a vee effectes, ha na eil deneth deneya drew an bobel Kernuack, ha kene ri, covis an tavas Kernuack hethow, ha prowit anotha; whathe, nag ens buz nebas an withorian, ha nag eze buz scall a Kernowian ew parres tha desky ha usia an tavas, ha thort hebma ma lecas a tescreea. Mallew tha nye cowas an Kernuack maga creav avel an Gembrack! Soo, rag fra nag eze milliow a deez a tesky an Kernuack, ha e clappia en strates?

Kene matter: an economy a Kernow, rag fra ewa mar veaz gadgack? Drevan mikan an Sausen leb na vedn gon gweras nye, whathe ew parres tha gon usia avel

gweale gwary? A vedn nye, metessen, dresa Kernow boaz *reeth*, ha rowlia e hunnen der neb maner vor? Thera nye quachas dre vedn 'angye' dry thehe hebma war scuddel driziebmal. Whathe, gothe tha nye pedery dreze tha nye kens lebmen gon owne senes nye. Senes an Stenorian, peea thehe an colon tha gweel nepeth itna, ha e scoothia.

Ena leas glaze bean, behatna avel agon pow nye, pokene a cowas lee a bobel, eze a rowlia o hunnen war neb coor, ha gen lower sowena, ha parres terwithiow tha usia tayas enwedgack o hunnen: Luxembourg? Ennis an Reaw? Barbados? Mann? An Enezow Faroe? Nye alga gweel pecare, peea thehe an mennas, peea nye parres tha ry aman radn an hezowack eze thehe thort gara tha ri eral agon governa nye, ha hethas rage gon cap rag pe rothow bennag pee angye parres tha wotheffia thehe.

Mesk paperiow Wella Borlase ez igges a cawas an reem bearma:

*Why pobel Poreea,
Na ra why descreea,
Why ra gowas muna da pea
Rag goz kidniow wharea.*

Ma nepeth obma ew cooth thehe, ha nye ell gorthrothy Kernow rag Poreea. Whathe, ma obma edn dra na oren nye notha: pewa reeg pea an kidniow, you?

Richard Gendall

Précis:

Our beloved comic Oliver Hardy has long made us laugh by putting the blame for every accident upon his chum Stan Laurel. Alex Salmond has recently warned the Scottish National Party that the Scots must cease blaming England for all their own shortcomings, and from now on take responsibility for their own destiny. The example of Laurel and Hardy and the wisdom of Alex Salmond must be taken to heart by all Cornish people who would see either their Cornish language more enthusiastically taken up, or their country in a better position to control her own affairs.

A New Practical Dictionary of Modern Cornish — Part 2, English-Cornish

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PUTTING OBJECTIVE ONE IN PERSPECTIVE

Policy follies and missed opportunities

Cornwall - forgotten and invisible?

Cornwall is one of Europe's rich tapestry of nations and regions, with a fierce sense of belonging underpinned by a Celtic history and language and a proud industrial heritage.

Yet many outsiders and even some insiders seem unaware of this and Cornwall is ignored by central government while it is invisible statistically.

But it's not really invisible. In fact Cornwall is very visible but only in one guise - through the tourist gaze.

A history of lost opportunities

We are told that Cornwall is a land steeped in history. Both the heritage industry and grassroots interest in the past is strong in Cornwall. However, the least well known history and yet the most important is the hidden history of the past 25 years or so, a history of lost opportunities and failures of leadership. We must re-acquaint ourselves with this history.

The framework for this history of lost opportunities is Cornwall's slide down the various league tables, for example:

- in wages
- in GDP per capita
- in measures of deprivation
- in the less measurable quality of life
- in increasing social inequality

These things don't just happen. There must be some sort of link between the policies pursued over the past 25 years and this sorry tale of stagnation. It's widely recognised that one of Cornwall's problems is the lack of institutions that might provide the tools and thinking necessary to evolve the strategic package to meet Cornwall's particular needs. But over the past two decades we have seen a series of missed opportunities, when the battle to gain the institutions required were forfeited before a shot was fired.

What were those lost opportunities?

- a Cornwall based TEC
- a Cornish university

- Objective 1 status [in particular, the failure to gain this funding in the 1980s and early 1990s]



A generation of mistaken policies

Why weren't these opportunities grasped? Obviously there are structural factors involved, such as Cornwall's lack of political weight in the British state.

Also the absence of 'can-do' and dynamism amongst Cornwall's policy makers. The result is reactive and ad-hoc policy making, no clear vision and a tendency to follow other peoples' agendas.

The policies that emerge from this vacuum which have actually made Cornwall's position worse and can be viewed as classic policy follies, things such as:

- over-dependence on tourism
- road building
- population growth
- Devonwall
- a muted opposition voice.

It's not that opposition has been absent. Quite the contrary, there has been a vigorous and dynamic critique of the dominant agenda since the 1970s by organisations such as CIDA, Mebyon Kernow, various environmentalist groups and CoSERG. The problem is that these voices have been consistently ignored, patronised and marginalised despite the fact that many of the policies they have been urging for years (e.g. CDA, Cornish university, Objective 1 status) have now been belatedly adopted by sections of the ruling elite.



So who is to blame for this lamentable failure?

It's not difficult to identify a whole range of candidates, for instance:

- *Central government* ignorant of Cornwall's case and wedded to over-centralisation.
- *Local politicians* especially on the County and District Councils. In general, these are imbued with

parochialism and are unwilling and/or incapable of thinking strategically.

- **Local political parties.** The Conservatives are wedded to their market dogma, which had disastrous results for the Cornish economy in the 1980s. Labour Party members are either unimaginative and unable to 'think Cornish' and come up with indigenous answers (and thus end up supporting dominant policy follies) or they are carpet-baggers with a lack of knowledge of local conditions. Liberal Democrats are probably the most culpable as they have been the controlling group on Cornwall County Council for the last decade and have fought and won elections on a 'Fair Deal for Cornwall' plank. Yet, once elected, Liberal Democrats have proved themselves as feeble and incapable of leadership as the rest. Even worse some of them turn out to be active Devonwallers, road builders, tourist touts and the like.
- **Quangoites.** The Tory government's expansion of the quango state resulted in a great increase in the spending of public money by non-elected local bodies. In Cornwall a small and unrepresentative group, self-selecting and with little accountability to the local community, monopolise the local quangos. They have usually been vociferous supporters of the dominant policy follies, either through ignorance or because they are presenting their own interests as the common good.
- **The business community.** Because of Cornwall's industrial structure, with many small and medium sized businesses plus the role of branch factories, there is a weak business lobby. As many of them are unaware of Cornwall's case they have happily tagged along with a more vigorous business lobby based in Devon, led by the privatised monopoly of South West Water, who have been pursuing a 'regional' agenda. Unfortunately this agenda is part of Cornwall's problems not its solutions.
- **Intellectuals.** There are insufficient numbers of intellectuals in Cornwall, based on the absence of an institutional base. What intellectual class exists in Cornwall is often compromised by having to sell their labour to Devonwall or broader state institutions in order to survive.
- **Local government bureaucrats.** Ineffective, undynamic and uninspired. For many Cornwall is just a step on a career ladder and policies appropriate to places like Hampshire are applied to Cornwall unthinkingly.
- **The media.** There is no critical, investigative media in Cornwall: Much of the press have either, like the

Western Morning News, been the ideological wing of the programme to construct a 'Westcountry' region, a programme that has undermined Cornwall's special case at every opportunity. In addition, 'regional' press and TV share the dominant imagery of Cornwall as a leisure zone, an imagery that fails to connect with Cornwall's problems. The local press in Cornwall remain stubbornly parochial. BBC local radio, despite some good moments, too often appears content with a Radio Yokel image whereas Pirate FM is merely an accident of geography, a clone of the innumerable commercial stations that inhabit a spatial nether-world of the airwaves.



Objective 1: the only game in town

In 1998 the ruling elite belatedly woke up to the possibility of Objective 1 funding. After years of dismissing the possibility of gaining this funding, the first few months of 1998 saw the unedifying and incredible spectacle of assorted defenders of Devonwall desperately waving the Cornish flag and climbing on the bandwagon of Objective 1. The corollary of obtaining this is that Cornwall is recognised as a separate European region, thus completely destroying the logic of the Devonwall policy strenuously pursued by the same people ever since the mid- 1970s.

We can identify three factors in this amazing volte-face. First, the closure of Crofty was one closure too many and raised the very real danger that the policy follies of the previous generation would have the searchlight turned on them. Second, Cornish Solidarity was a new factor, difficult to marginalise as it seemed to receive public sympathy. The political dinosaurs were most confused. What better than to co-opt one of its six demands at the same time as ignoring the others. Finally, the County Council was beginning to panic about the prospect that, under changes to the EU regional aid programme, Cornwall was in real danger of losing the 5b money that it currently receives. Objective 1 therefore became the only game in town as the Western Morning News, business interests, quangoites and councillors pitched in to support the campaign for it.

But in doing so the dead hand of the ruling elite has transformed the Objective 1 campaign into a simplistic slogan. It has become the answer to all our problems, just as road building and Devonwall were presented in the 1980s. Hysterical over-reaction has replaced a measured assessment of the benefits of Objective 1.

For Objective 1 in reality offers both opportunities and threats. The main threat is that, if the same policies as before are pursued, Objective 1 just means that more

money will be wasted on policy follies and that Cornwall will undergo a re-run of the events of the 1970s and 1980s. Objective 1 in the absence of a serious re-think and without the other necessary factors in place, could be a major disaster, economically and environmentally.

In other words, the ruling elite see Objective 1 as merely a way of continuing business as usual. But what is needed is new agendas, new thinking on a broad front and a clear end to the policy follies of the past 25 years. This probably requires replacing the grant gatekeepers, the 'opinion-formers'. In the 1939-45 War the British political class replaced Chamberlain and the other supporters of appeasement with Churchill, someone not tainted with the failed policies of the 1930s. In a similar way how can we trust the same people who have led us into the current mess to lead us out of it?



The Way Forward

It is now becoming clear that it is not enough to demand Objective 1 funds and then just use this as a framework for the same stale strategic thinking and the same tired old policies that are well past their sell-by dates.

So what is required? The vision has to be Cornwall as a European region in its own right. This will enhance Cornwall's visibility and clout by stressing its own clear case. To do this means ending the present mixed messages and disengaging from Devonwall. The latter has been an unmitigated failure for Cornwall. That needs openly acknowledging. A drift to institutional merger should be replaced by co-operation if and when necessary. We have to demand an end to the institutional deficit that blights Cornwall and prevents it making its own special case. This requires some sort of democratically elected strategic assembly with regional powers based on Cornwall, together with the reform of a local government system that has failed abysmally. Moreover, it will also demand new private sector institutions, e.g. a Cornish based newspaper and a revived local radio station.

The Cornish dimension has to be inserted into policy making. Some of the anger and passion felt at the closure of Crofty has to be translated into the political domain.

For this we require new brooms. We need to sweep away the deadwood who currently occupy the corridors of 'power' in Cornwall. Their policies have failed. Why should they continue to be supported from the public purse? Political reform would help to unleash the dynamism at present stifled by an undynamic ruling clique.

Bernard Deacon
CoSERG

Branch News

- The petition to Prime Minister Tony Blair requesting the U.K. government to recognise Cornwall's unique position and its right to greater control of its own affairs was signed and forwarded on behalf of the C.L. International Branch. The same request was sent to the two MPs for Cornwall, John Prescott and Richard Caborn.
- The secretary of the C.L. International Branch signed the petition circulated by Mebyon Kernow calling on the U.K. government to create an accountable economic development agency in Cornwall for Cornwall.
- C.L. Branch secretaries wrote to the director of EDILARGE Editions Ouest-France, Rennes, asking him to rectify or make amends for the defamatory error in the book 'Archives Secrètes de Bretagne', by Henri Fréville, namely in the passage which attributed to Roparz Hemon a racist article published in the periodical STUR in 1938 and which was proved to have been written by a Roger Hervé using the pseudonym 'Katuvolkos'.



Cornish at the Bottom of the Ladder



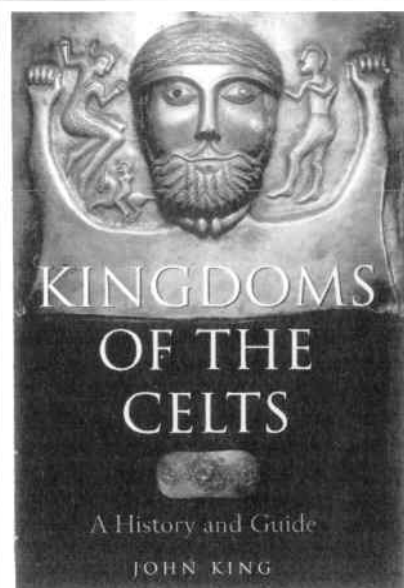
The national language is not the usual medium of education in any of the Celtic countries. Even in Wales there are less Welsh medium schools than there are English ones. Indeed it is only in the realm of nursery and primary education that there are Welsh schools. There is not one single Welsh secondary school. The best that Wales aspires to in secondary education is bilingual schools.

The percentage of Irish primary schools is less than that of Welsh ones. The other primary schools in Ireland are English schools or at best bilingual ones. One would not expect the situation to be as it should be in Northern Ireland. But the Republic has been a sovereign state for over three quarters of a century. In that state Irish schools should be the norm by now. At least there are some all-Irish secondary schools. The Republic of Ireland beats Wales on that count.

Wales and Ireland are shining beacons when compared with the other Celtic countries. Brittany and Scotland are trailing a long way behind. The DIWAN schools are excellent but there are too few of them. Many more of them are needed to counter the rapid decline in the use of Breton. In Scotland there is a new spirit of self-confidence with the prospect of its own parliament. Let us hope that that self-confidence will permeate the country's educational system. At present the number of Gaelic schools is pitifully meagre. However the political developments in Scotland bode well for the promotion of Scots Gaelic in the schools.

Until a few years ago Mann and Cornwall would have been bottom equal in promoting their languages. While there are no Manx medium schools yet there has been a transformation in favour of Manx. This has been brought about by the dedication of Brian y Stoyll together with a few teachers. The education authority in Mann was overwhelmed by the response from parents wanting their children taught Manx. The demand for Manx outstripped what the education authority would provide in the number of Manx teachers. Let us not pretend that the language situation is good in Mann. It is dismal. But it is so much better than it used to be. With the continuing pressure from parents it is going to get better and better. Mann has left Cornwall by itself on the bottom rung of the linguistic ladder.

Merfyn Phillips



Kingdom of the Celts – A History and Guide,

John King, Blanford, ISBN
07137 2692 X £18.99.

Examining and tracing the history and legends of the Celtic people through their special regard for their kings and queens. Expert, John King tracks the rise and fall of the Celtic dynasties and their famous royalty such as Boudica, Vortigern and Arthur, from pre-Roman tribal warrior-kings and queens to the lairds of the 19th Century. All the different Celtic countries are accounted for, including Ireland, Man, Wales, Scotland, Cornwall, Brittany and Galicia.

An important text which reveals the legacy left to us by the good leadership of the Celtic royalty who were believed to be personifications of the powerful divine forces ruling the land. What made them so well respected was their adherence to honesty, equality, just punishment, loyalty and honour.

If you require further information about this title, contact Cassell Publicity Department on UK 0171 420 5561.

EDITOR'S NOTE

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those members who contribute material to Carn on a regular basis. I would also remind readers and members that the magazine is open to contributions from you as long as they are in line with our aims. It is important that we cover all aspects of news, views, events etc of interest - if you feel there is a gap, fill it. Any suggestions for changes to Carn are welcome as long as they are followed by action.

DROGH AIGH VRETIN

Ren Ron Davies coayl e chiartey myr Scrudeyr Vretin lurg taghyrtyn quaagh er Clapham Common. Sleih ta noi jee-laaraghey (devolution) Vretin, t'ad glackey'n caa shoh dy lhiettal jurnaa Vretin gys y jee-laaraghey shen. Sleih ta noi jee-laaraghey, cha nel ad ooilley nyn Dhooreeyn Sostnagh. Ta kuse jee sy Phartee Obbraghys Goadagh. Y sleih t'ayns foayr jeh jee-laaraghey Vretin, tra hooar ad y varriaght sy refrane shen, va peiagh ny ghaa sy Phartee Obbraghys bunnys gra nagh row y varriaght shicky dy liooar dy chur (!) jee-laaraghey da ny Bretnee. Va sleih sansheraght mychione kialgeyrys sy refrane as cur sannish dy row y lught er Ron Davies. Ta sleih dy liooar sy Phartee Obbraghys Goadagh goaill aggle roish dy chooilley horch dy h-ashoonaghys er-lhimme yeh ashoonaghys Sostnagh. Kyndagh rish shen, ta lheid y sleih shen er ve neuarryltagh dy chur seyrnsys da Bretin ny Nalbin (ny Nerin).

Erskyn ooilley, ta'n soshiallys (socialism) lajer ayns Bretin, as s'mie shen. Agh, er y fa dy row ad credjal feer lajer ayns eddyr-ashoonaghys as unnaneys ny h-obbreeyn, ren soshiallee Bretin cur ashoonaghys Bretinagh fo chosh as co-obbraghey dy niartal lesh Lunnin. Cha dooar ad monney son yn ynricks shen. Ec y traa cheddin, ren polaseeyn ny shenn soshiallee Bretinagh lheanaghey'n shenn scoltey eddyr twoaie Vretin as jiass Vretin ('Shiny ayns y jiass, ta shin caarjoil as lhean-aignagh. Cha nel shin goll rish y sleih coon-aignagh sy twoaie, ta soiet er loayrt Bretinish car y traa.')

Nish, ta reddyn er chaghlaa as ta ny shlee Bretnee toiggal dy nhegin dauesyn jannoo cagey dauesyn hene sy cheer oc hene dyn y ve geaishtagh rish Lunnin car y traa. Son shickyrys, ga dy dooar lught jee-laaraghey'n varriaght sy refrane, cha row y varriaght shen yindyssagh. S'liklee nagh row monney sleih er y Costa Geriatrica sy twoaie ayns foayr jeh jee-laaraghey. As syn ard-valley, Caerdydd, va'n chooid smoo dy 'leih noi jee-laaraghey. Cha bee eh aashagh by chur er bun Quaiyl Vretin (quaiyl nagh bee cho lajer as Tinvaal er laa olk).

Agh, gyn ourys erbee, adsyn ta noi jee-

laaraghey, t'ad gra dy vel ny doilleeidyn ny smoo na t'ad dy firrinagh. Ayns cooishyn Bretinagh ayns Lunnin, s'mooar y kynneeaghys noi ny Bretnee. Tra hie Ron Davies magh ass myr Scrudeyr Vretin, chlou y fritlag shen y 'Sun' jalloo jeh'n fer boght as eshyn coamrit myr bard-Gorsedd lesh ny focklyn 'Baa! Baa!' (Shione dhyt dy vel gagh dooinney Bretinagh geddyn marish kirree). Er agh ennagh, ta'n kynneeaghys noi ny Bretnee ny smessey na'n lheid noi ny Yerne.

Surrys enn dy jean y chooish shoh soilshaghey vel lane jeeanid er reiltys Tony Blair mychione jee-laaraghey ayns Bretin (as ayns Nalbin). Bee Blair guce mollaht dy cooyrtoil dy daik yn atchim shoh er Ron Davies tra va Blair smooingaghtyn dy row eh er ngeddyn y dooinney kiart dy stiurey Quaiyl Vretin. Nish, shegin reih fer elley, as sy reihys shen bee ny scoltaghyn sy Phartee Obbraghys ayns Bretin ry-akin dy cronnal. Ta scoltey mooar eddyr sleih ta graihagh er Lunnin as Blair, as sleih ta currit da Bretin hene. S'doillee da Bretnee dooghysagh co-veaghey marish Blair, Mandelson as nyn lheid.

As, ec y traa cheddin, ta fys ec reiltys Lunnin dy vel yn SNP jannoo mie er bashtal ayns Nalbin. Shirveishagh-argidoil reiltys Lunnin, Gordon Brown, t'eh sheeane beggan debejagh tra t'eh gra dy beagh Nalbin brisht argid dy beagh ee cheet dy ve seyr. T'eh jeeaghyn dy bee yn SNP cosney ram soieagyn ayns Ard-Whaiyl Nalbin. As, my vee Lunnin cur y Phartee Obbraghys Vretinagh fo chosh, bee'n SNP abyly dy ghra 'Jeeagh - ta reiltys Lunnin lhiggey er dy vel eh jee-laaraghey Bretin as Nalbin, agh cha nel ad eer arryltagh dy lhiggey da ny Bretnee reih'n fer-toshee oc dauesyn hene'.

Ta fys ec Tony Blair as e chumraagyn ayns Lunnin dy vel ad goll er raad gaueagh. T'ad laccal y fer oc hene dy ve yn ard-dooiney ayns Quaiyl Vretin. Agh bee ny Bretnee ayns Bretin hene coontey'n fer shen dy ve ny hraidoor goll rish Quisling. As my ta lught Blair lhiggey da ny Bretnee reih'n leeideilagh ayns shee, s'cosoylagh dy bee ad reih soshiallagh - red nagh vel lowit sy phartee noa, partee ta fo ordaag Rupert Murdoch, partee nagh vel gimraa

shenn reddyn myr soshiallys. Ta reiltys Lunnin guce dy vod eh cur seyrnsys ennagh da Bretin as Nalbin gyn goll er y raad dys brishey seose y Reeriaght Unnaneysit. Dy firrinagh, cha nel eh jeeaghyn dy bee Bretin scapail. Skeel elley ayns Nalbin, foddee.

Summary

Enemies of Welsh devolution have seized on Ron Davies' misfortune. Tony Blair's government has to tread delicately.

Orree Crennell



Children's Custom Under Attack

A few weeks before 31st October 1998 there appeared an attack on Hop-tu-Naa, the Manks eve of Samhain custom. The attack came out in the "Courier" and was attributed to the Vicar of Kirk Michael. It transpired later that it had in fact come from a parishioner without his authority. This person was actually attacking Hallowe'en customs because of a supposed connection with Devil-worship and a fear that children might in some way become contaminated. It should not come as any surprise that the two festivals have become confused one with the other as there are similarities and, indeed, they may have a common origin.

This is not the first time that Hop-tu-Naa has come in for criticism. Some years ago a new resident was complaining about children "begging round the houses", and from time to time a leaflet has been circulated to schools from a Christian organisation asking staff to discourage Hallowe'en customs and practices. I received a copy myself through the post from an anonymous Douglas resident, "for my enlightenment"!

Several people, myself included, wrote letters and other submissions to the

papers. Manks Radio had a phone-in on the topic and in general the public response was supportive and considered that the custom is harmless. However, there is still much confusion of the one custom with Hallowe'en.

One local shop had a display of Hallowe'en turnips and Hop-tu-Naa pumpkins for sale. Also, over the years there has been an increase in the sale of witch costumes, brooms and horror masks. In addition even the Hallowe'en is being referred to as "trick or treat night", in imitation of the American version of the custom. My own daughter was asked by a friend whether her girls were going out trick or treating. "No", said my daughter, "but your girl is welcome to join mine to go round singing for Hop-tu-Naa".

The substance of the Hop-tu-Naa custom is the making of a turnip lantern, several versions of a song that was originally in Manks and a processional dance. The turnip lanterns in Peel, and probably elsewhere, are made by hollowing the turnips out from the bottom. Turnips with a bit of stalk left on as a handle, are supplied to the shops by sympathetic farmers. Patterns and symbols, moon, stars, cats, boats etc. are then cut into the skin, making silhouettes when the candle inside is lit. It is probably the oldest surviving of the Manks calender customs, and was thought not to be in any danger of dying out. When I was still a teacher, our school had a competition for turnip lanterns each year.

The folk-lore collectors at the turn of the century do not mention turnip lanterns. The singers at that time were said to have uprooted a cabbage with a hard head and a long stalk with which they would bang on the door if the resident was slow to respond to their sung request for money or gifts. Turnips on sticks were used in the same way. There is evidence that Hop-tu-Naa is the equivalent to Hogmanay. Certainly, in former times, there were many customs involving foretelling the future, some of which were also attached to New Year's Eve.

It would be a sad thing if this night, which so many generations of children have enjoyed, should disappear, whether because of ill-informed censure from religious quarters or because a drowning under a tide of largely American Hallowe'en influence. Several other seasonal customs which had all but disappeared, have been successfully revived. If schools are unwilling or cannot find the time to find out about and encourage a better and more distinctly Manks way of celebrating Hop-tu-Naa, it is difficult to know what to do. Certainly the various cultural organisations should make an effort in good time for 31st October 1999 to promote a proper observance and to spread information about it's Manks Celtic origin.

Colin Jerry

Edwards' Report on Tax Havens Published

A major PR operation swung into place as the Manx and London governments adopted a positive stance on the publication of the Edwards Review into the off-shore tax havens.

Even before publication of the Edwards Review various Manx government Ministers issued statements on the line that the Island had little to fear, or learn, from Edwards - although off course his views would be considered.

The Isle of Man, with its economy heavily dependant on finance related business, may already be engaging in damaging self-delusion about both the importance of the Edwards document and also the factors which have brought about its compilation.

Whatever the state of current regulatory controls within this jurisdiction, and indeed the other Channel Isles dependencies, these have been achieved in spite of rather than because of any desire on the part of government.

We arrive at Edwards as a result of a series of damaging scandals involving virtually all sectors of the Manx Financial Services Industry. The crash of banks such as SIB in the 1980s should have signalled the need to react promptly and positively. However, inertia prevailed and subsequent scandal ensued. Company Registration and the abuse it fostered were well known long before documents linking the Island to this shady trade were found on the blood spattered bodies of victims of a central African war. The Manx governments own police force knew of (and still knows of) the problems of money laundering. The Head of the Island's minuscule police enforcement agency had the courage to speak out openly about what others like ourselves had eluded to - but still this tiny under resourced unit was not strengthened. Dodgy banks, dodgy companies and money laundering were all a feature of the Finance Industry in past years and no report from Edwards will sweep that aside, however sanitised its delivery by the Manx government and the heavily finance dependant Manx media.

The Manx Government believes that it had and has matters in hand but again this contention will not stand scrutiny. For example, in respect of so called "all crimes money laundering legislation" now deemed a necessary component of finance regulation we called for this many years ago and yet in August 1996 the British government could still only confirm that it was asking "all its dependencies to give serious consideration to passing" such legislation. As with every other facet of control the initiative came from without not within.

So let's not have a nauseous rewriting of history please. No gerrymandered account of the years during which investors were swindled, crooked companies operated under a cloak of secrecy and we derived benefit from the criminals destroying the youth of Europe with drugs who could quietly send their ill-gotten gains off-shore.

By all means let us learn from the Edwards Report but also let us not lose sight of the fact that another "Edwards" could be waiting in the wings if we get it wrong.

Bernard Moffatt

Post Edwards - Euro-View Sought

Following the publication of the "Edwards Report" the Celtic League contacted Per Brix Knudsen a director at the European Commission.

In the letter the General Secretary writes: "I draw your attention to an article in The Times (UK) (20/11/98) which states that the *Head of the European Commission's anti-fraud unit said that the island's were good examples of how "lax regulation combined with off-shore status" created ideal hiding places for illegal financial operations.* I assume that this statement is either attributable to you or the Commissioner, Anita Grabin. Could we enquire if, as a result of the Edwards' Report, you will be modifying your view on jurisdictions such as Isle of Man and Channel Island and issuing a retraction of the earlier statement, giving them, so to speak, 'a clean bill of health'?"

I should stress that the Celtic League, which has branches in the six Celtic countries, has been a strident campaigner for better regulation of off-shore centres including (in our organisations area of interest) the Isle of Man and Ireland. In this context we support efforts by the EU, and other International organisations, to properly regulate all financial service centres and combat financial crime."

J.B. Moffatt

Celtica

On the brink of hope - how fare the Celts in Europe?

Is the Europe we live in, which cradled Celtic civilisation two thousand years ago, and now cradles a would-be federal union, hindering or aiding the sustainable recovery of our own Celtic countries?

Viewed from our 'western shores' we cannot ignore the Atlantean thesis of Irish journalist Bob Quinn which explored Ireland's North African and maritime heritage in a book and subsequent TV series launched in 1986. When he first heard sean-nós singing in Connemara he was fascinated by a musical form that seemed outside European tradition; the similarity between sean-nós and Arab music was the first of a series of discoveries connecting Ireland with the middle East. He found archaeological, musical, artistic, linguistic and religious parallels between the inhabitants of the coastal regions of Western Ireland and other isolated groups in Brittany, Galicia and the Middle East. The parallels extend from pre-historic megaliths to the twentieth century, showing contact in all periods of history. Gradually the notion of a land-diffused Celtic culture was replaced by a culture diffused by sea - a common inheritance of the people living on the western seaboard of Europe and the Mediterranean; Atlantean culture.[1]

Such theses are joined in today's politics by the pragmatic development of solidarity between nations and regions in the European Union to bring pressure on the centre. At present that has had limited effect as has the European Free Alliance in the European Parliament. Here the Union Democratique Bretonne [UDB] party has been an active player now joined by Plaid Cymru and the SNP in Strasbourg related organisations. However the changing fortunes of regionalist and nationalist groupings in Europe has been far from steady. 1994's European elections removed important figures Euzkadi and Corsica from the frame. Nevertheless the potential



R. Gibson

power of a major block of small countries on the European scene has considerable importance as I will argue later.

Numerous lines of political development are sought; regionalism, autonomy, and full national independence based on the distinctive histories of particular nations. Tom Nairn 1976 essay Scotland and Wales - notes on Nationalist Pre-history[2] made some enduring points. Uneven development, economically and in terms of civic national institutions is a key concept. Scotland and Catalonia were both 'historic nations' like those 19th century revivals Poland and Hungary. Wales and Euzkadi developed nationally as industrialised and distinctive 'national entities' without the degree of self-governing mechanisms which nation states can display.

However the Irish case of a revived nation early this century cuts across that kind of analysis. Ireland's current 'tiger economy' status provides an exciting instance of a small nation on a rapid development curve grappling with the prizes and problems of modernity. A distinctive, attractive and welcoming cultural appeal has clear advantages as well as draw backs. Ireland's attempts to lose the

Eurovision Song Contest [because of its financial drain] and since the high fashion for Irish theme pubs and so-called Celtic music may have a short shelf life. Yet in Ireland's shadow the lure of a seat at the top table beckons for the Scots and others. But how can the nations of the Atlantic periphery influence such big players as the Franco-German block?

The convulsions of this century produced the Norway/Sweden separation at the start to the Czech and Slovak 'velvet divorce' during this decade. Indeed including European Russia the number of independent states in Europe have increased from 35 in 1990 to 48 today as Roy Pedersen chronicles in his 1992 study One Europe - 100 nations[3] the surge of nation building in the territorial kaleidoscope that is European history. It is clear testament to the struggle for democracy, the re-invigoration of its many tongues and the emerging European spirit which he believes will act as the conduit for unity in diversity.

He argues, 'The process is bound to be volatile, particularly as such re-alignments tend to take place over a short historic timespan. Of course nobody can predict precisely how such a radical power shift will work out in practice. It is possible, however, by interpreting current trends and aspirations, to create a model which identifies a feasible future pattern of European self-governing territories. Each of them has some, if not all, of the following characteristics;

- * existing statehood or a history of former statehood;
- * a distinct culture or religion;
- * a distinct language or dialect;
- * the existence of a popular movement for autonomy or independence;
- * geographical distinctiveness.'

Pedersen's arguments for the 100 nations thesis notes in passing that this would give an average of 6 million which equates quite closely with the average population of individual US states.

Ireland's independence and Scotland's aspirations to independence within Europe may not be as typical as the current status of Catalan, Basque and Galician autonomy. Nevertheless Nairn noted in 1976 the demonstration effect encourages those seeking autonomy whatever the specific circumstances of their struggles. Therefore the current examples in September 1997 gave others great heart - the strong Scottish referendum votes for a tax varying Edinburgh parliament and the tight squeeze as Wales shaved past the post towards an elected Assembly. Witness the comments reprinted even in the Scottish tabloid press[4] from the Breton, Flemish and other autonomy movements.

What certainties are there in today's view

of Atlantic periphery against a backdrop of the looming uncertainties of the global market which the big economic players plot through their *World Trade Organisations*? It is necessary to ask what could a 'confederation of Celtic republics' – in Alan Stivell's memorable phrase [5] – do to sustain and nourish our nations in the third millennium?

Relevant light is shed by Richard Douthwaite's 1996 book *Short Circuit - strengthening local economies for security in an unstable world*[6]. A professional economist, he has advised the Jamaican and Montserrat governments but he came to prominence with his 1992 work *The Growth Illusion - how economic growth has enriched the few, impoverished the many, and endangered the planet*. Born in Yorkshire, Douthwaite has been based in Mayo since 1974 and provides many examples across the globe of the fight back against global market forces in small nations and small communities. A significant number of these come from among the Celts and along the Atlantic Arc. He argues cogently for 'new attitudes for new times' in that the market economy relies on competition to control the way businesses behave. As high levels of competition are not possible in a community economy, new approaches and attitudes towards how we should interact commercially need to be found. Mediaeval craft guilds, the Mondragon co-ops in Euzkadi and the Briarpatch network in California provide hints for us, he writes.

In real terms the Atlantic periphery of Europe contains 40% of the EU land area, 20% of her people but only 13% of the GDP in conventional economic terms. But we contain the diversity of history, cultures, and natural resources to sustain our way ahead if our peoples can pool self-government and resources to cherish our unique resource base. The Celtic nations are at the core of this potentially dynamic zone. So we need to explore the possibilities of finding coherent partnership as one of the *regional poles of prosperity*[7] in an expanding European Community.

We should note that the Scottish National Party's 1988 formula of *independence in Europe* should occasion no surprise. Historian Michael Lynch introduced his 1991 study *Scotland a new history*[8] thus, 'The prospect of a greater Europe, in 1992 and after, may offer an alternative to the break-up of Britain. It is much the same journey as that earlier one from Home rule to *Home Rule all round*. It also re-establishes one of the most important threads of continuity in Scottish history.'

This can be applied to all of the Celtic countries following the example of Ireland which escaped London's economic clutches for the first time by embarking on the Europe project. So we are back at the point I started. The thrust of Bob Quinn's *Atlantean* thesis should point to a practical

and sustainable future for the Celtic peoples. Already the arguments which divide the Celts from other peoples along the Atlantic Arc boil down to specific cultural and linguistic distinctiveness. But in cultural, economic, environmental and political terms there are many more factors which join us.

In 1991 the European Community helped kick start links between the regions which contain 100 Atlantic ports. A development package was earmarked to be promoted by local government representatives. I believe that such a regional grouping has the potential to be built into an international one. I also believe that the best interests of the Celtic peoples are to campaign for such a grouping.

The Atlantic Arc idea was born in Brittany. Its civil service is based in Nantes, the ancient Breton capital. The guide to its work published in 1993[9] quotes as an introduction the ideas of poet and writer Romain Rolland. He writes 'La vie est l'arc; et la corde est la rêve. Ou est le sagittaire?' - loosely translated this says - life is the bow, the bowstring is the dream, where is the archer? If the Celts are serious about sustainable recovery and development for our unique linguistic cultures and ancient nations in the coming millennium then the Atlantic Arc can potentially be the democratic sinews to fire an arrow of hope into the future.

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Rob Gibson

Dà Chànanachas

...

scriobh Colin Baker, àrd ollamh an fhoghlaim Oilthigh na Cuimrigh, "An Encyclopaedia of Bilingualism and Bilingual Education" air fhoillseachadh le Multilingual Matters, Frankfurt Lodge, Clevedon Hall, Victoria Road, Avon BS21 7SJ.

Sgrìobh e gum bheil e feumail an darna cànan a thoiseachadh roimh trì bliadhna dh'aois agus a reir rannsachaidh sna Stàitean Aonaichte agus san Rìoghachd Aonaichte togaidh am foghlam dà-chànanach an IQ aca agus nì dà-chànanachas iad nas fheàrr san ghoil.

A reir rannsachaidh san Oilthigh Antwerp tuigidh sin gum bheil aig pàisdean dà is trì bliadhna comasan ciallachadh fear am bheil iad a' cleachdadh dà chànan eadar-dhealaichte.

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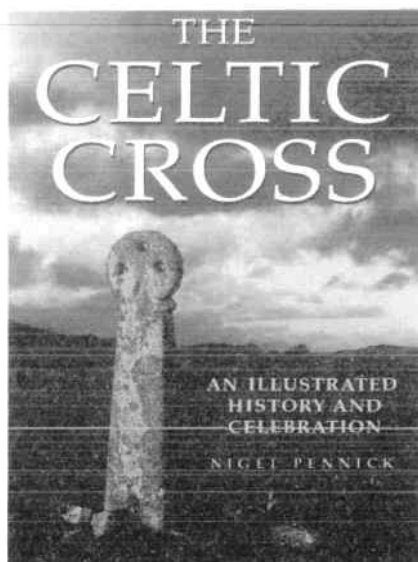
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