

# cairn

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

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COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE





## TEAGAISG TRE GÀIDHLIG...

Sa bhliana 1872 thàinig Achd an Fhoghlaim a-mach on Phàrlamaid Shasunnach aig Westminster agus leis a sin rinn iad geurleanmhainn air ar cànan 's ar ceòl. Mhair e fad corr is ceud bliadhna. Dhùin iad gach sgoil a' teagasg tre na Gàidhlig. Cuideachd, chuir iad ùnnlagh no fine trom air na parantan nach robh a' cur a' chlann aca don sgoiltean seo far a bha teagasg tre na Beurla Shasunnach!

Taing don Ni Math, fhuair sinn ar Parlamaid Albannach aig deireadh an fhiceadamh linn agus rinn i Achd air sgàth na Gàidhlig. Chi sinn gum bheil an darna Achd feumail a bhi cinnteach gum bi teagasg tre na Gàidhlig.

*Seo agaibh nithean feumail anns an darna Achd Gàidhlig....*

Sgìrean far a bheil a' mhòrchuid at bruidhinn na Gàidhlig gu itheanta, mar sna h-Eileanan an Iar, An t-Eilean Sgitheanach Ile, sgìrean air an Tìr-mòr agus mar sin. Feumaidh a h-uile leanaban sgoil fhaighinn teagasg tre na Gàidhlig agus croileagan gu leoir. Thairis air fichead bliadhna bhiodh gach fear-comhairle, am poileas agus luchd nan cuirtean-lagha fileanta sa Gàidhlig. Ann an àite sam bitb feadh Alba bhiodh tuilleadh airgead agus luchd-teagasg Gàidhlig ri fhaighinn gus an robh a h-uile leanabh is mu dheireadh thall gach inbheach/adult fileanta.

Ma bhios sinn air lorg cosg a' cnuasachadh /considering na bhiodh feumail ...a-measg prìomh neach-àiteachaidh ann an Astràilia agus Ameireagaidh mu Thuath, na Maoris, Quebec, Catalonia, na Faroes, Gwyneth sa Chuimrigh agus Israel.

Chan eil e cho neonach gum bi croileagan anns gach àite agus teagasg tre na Gàidhlig a-mhain bhon a tha iad a' teagasg tre Pòilis a-mhain feadh A' Phòlainn is Ungairis feadh Ungaraidh agus mar sin air adhart.

Dé mu dheighin ainm na cànan againn nuair a bhiodh sinn a' bruidhinn cànan eile? Gu meadhan an t-siathamh linn deug agus neach a' bruidhinn sa Beurla Shasunnach no Ghallda bhiodh sinn ag ràdh 'Scottish' mar, 'Do you speak Scottish?' Chi sinn naimhdeas aig an àm sin eadar Dunbar agus an Gaidheal, Kennedy, sa bhardach Ghallda d'am b'ainm... 'The flyting of Dunbar and Kennedy'.

Nuair a tha duine a' bruidhinn Ungairis, dè facal aca air son a' chanain aca, ach

Magyar, agus a dhùthaich aca, Magyarország. Le sin nuair a tha sinn a' bruidhinn mu dheighinn sa Bheurla feumaidh sinn ag ràdh 'Scottish' agus a' bruidhinn san Fhraingis 'Ecosais'.

Gun teagamh bhiodh sinn a' teagasg na Beurla (Shasannach no Ghallda) ach tre na Gàidhlig agus a h-uile cuspair eile tre na Gàidhlig; Na di-chuimhnich, chan eil dùthaich feadh na Roinn Eorpa uile gu léir far a bheil iad a' teagasg tre na Beurla. Bhon nach eil sinn nar Sasunnach, cha bu choir dhuinn teagasg no ionnsachadh tre na Beurla.

Dé mu dheighinn a Bheurla Shasunnach i fhéin? An deidh an Ceannsachadh 1066 bha an Fhraingis ag ithe a' Bheurla Shasannach mar a tha a Bheurla ag ithe ar cànan Gàidhlig againn fhéin.

Sa bhliadhna 1332 bha / Achd na Pàrlamaid Shasunnach ag ràdh feumaidh gach leanabh ag sgoil a bhi ag ionnsachadh na Fhraingis. Ach, a dh'aithghearr thàinig atharrachadh ro mhór. Còig bliadhnaich ean as deidh sin, sa bhliadhna 1337, thòisich an Cogaidh Ceud Bliadhna eadar Sassun is An Fhraing. Leis a sin, dh'fhas fuath ro mhór an aghaidh gach rud Frangach, gu h-àraidh an cànan Frangach.

An sin bha teagasg sna sgoiltean o chean gu ceann sa Chòrn tre Còimis agus chaidh Iain Traversa à Croadon, St Mellion, A Chòrn thairis air an Tamar a steach do Shasunn a' dol don Oilthigh Oxford. San àite sin nochd e na Sasannaich gum b'fheudar dhaibh teagasg tre na Beurla Shasunnach no bhiodh an cànan cho marbh ri sgadain. Trevisa agus Richard Pencrych agus feadhainn eile às A' Chòrn, bha iad a' teagasg oileanaich a bha ag ionnsachadh teagasg sa Bheurla. Leis a sin sa bhliadhna 1385 bha a h-uile sgoil gramair feadh sasunn a' diùltadh na Fraingis agus at teagasg tre 'n Bheurla. 'Air an aobhar sin, bha a' Bheurla buadhach.

Tuigidh gach Seiceach/Czech agus Pòlach nam biodh Gearmailt cànan teagasg sna dùthchannan aca bhiodh at dol a dholaidh mar a tha ar cànan far a bheil teagasg tre na Beurla.

### SUMMARY

*The most important as far as our language is that Gaelic be the only language through which all teaching is conducted and this be for every child in Scotland. When we speak*

*of our language in another tongue it. Should be referred to as 'Scottish' as it was till the middle of the sixteenth century, so, 'Bheil Gàidhlig agad?' should be 'Do you speak Scottish?'. English itself only survived when French was dropped as the language of teaching in favour of teaching through English in every school in English.*

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich  
Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig

## New Conversational Gaelic Courses

CNSA, The Gaelic Pre-school Council are wishing to set up an entirely new Gaelic language learning course in the Edinburgh area; this will be the first venture of this type and should prove to be a most interesting and stimulating experience for all those involved.

The unique aspect of this course is that it will bring a complete beginner in the language, to a conversational level in 200 hours or less, rather than the 2000 plus hours it presently takes to reach a similar level of fluency.

The Gaelic language learning course is centred round the home and the activities found within this environment. Furthermore, the course is activity and action based, therefore, there will be absolutely no reading, writing, grammar or translation undertaken by students. Freedom from these tasks, guarantees to boost confidence in one's own language learning ability: be a remarkably stress free experience, while at the same time, allowing a student to make speedy progress in acquiring a Gaelic fluency. Hence the significantly shortened learning period of the course.

There is however; one condition that all potential students have to meet - they must attend a Student Information Meeting, prior to joining a course. This is an essential step, inasmuch as it outlines exactly what will occur while explaining what both a tutor and student can expect on the course.

If you are interested in becoming a student or if you have a Gaelic fluency already, why not consider becoming a tutor. Either way please contact Stuart on +0131-667-4924 or CNSA on 01463-225469.

Finlay Macleoid

# Naidheachdan Gàidhlig

## Gaelic Language Bill:

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Bill was passed unanimously by the Scottish Parliament on 21 April thus making Gaelic an official language of Scotland. The preamble of the bill reads as follows:

"An Act of the Scottish Parliament to establish a body having functions exercisable with a view to securing the status of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language, including the functions of preparing a national Gaelic language plan, of requiring certain public authorities to prepare and publish Gaelic language plans in connection with the exercise of their functions and to maintain and implement such plans, and of issuing guidance in relation to Gaelic education."

In other words, the bill recognises Gaelic as an official language with equal respect to English and establishes the Gaelic development agency Bòrd na Gàidhlig in law. It also obliges the Bòrd to draw up a national Gaelic language plan and gives them the power to require public bodies in Scotland to draw up Gaelic language plans and to issue guidance to local authorities about Gaelic education.

The text of the bill is available at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/bills/billsInProgress/gaelicLanguage.htm>

The text of the debate on the bill is available at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetings/Parliament/or-05/sor0421-02.htm#Col16317>

## New research

The position of Scottish Gaelic is weakening significantly in both rural and urban strongholds according to two newly released research papers which investigated the position of the language in the Western Isles and Edinburgh. Both studies found evidence of declining use in the family and community and very low levels of intergenerational transmission.

Western Isles study:

[www.planacanain.org.uk/english.htm](http://www.planacanain.org.uk/english.htm)

Edinburgh study:

[www.arts.ed.ac.uk/celtic/poileasaidh](http://www.arts.ed.ac.uk/celtic/poileasaidh)

## Gaelic education

Gaelic medium education continues to grow according to newly released figures. There were 2953 children in Gaelic medium education at nursery, primary and secondary level in 2004/05. This represents an increase of 64 pupils over the previous academic year. As can be seen from the figures, however, the pace of growth is very slow. For example, only 9 more children entered Gaelic nursery and only 14 more joined primary one in 2004/5 than in the previous year. Studies have shown that there is a net loss of around 750 Gaelic speakers each year and it is clear that a significant expansion of Gaelic medium education will be needed if it is to plug this gap. One of the key factors currently holding back the development of GME is a severe teacher shortage. The Scottish Executive has responded to this with a task force which is to report back on ways of increase teacher supply.

## Churches support Gaelic

In their annual general assemblies, the Church of Scotland and Free Church of Scotland have both discussed Gaelic issues. The Church of Scotland passed a resolution welcoming the Gaelic Act, encouraging an expansion of Gaelic broadcasting and committing the church to exploring ways to increase its use of Gaelic. The Free Church general assembly reported that it was working alongside Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (the local authority serving the Western Isles) in order to produce Gaelic religious and moral education materials for schools. It has also been announced that the Warner Brothers' *Jesus* film has been translated into Gaelic. Since released in 1979, this film has been translated into nearly 900 languages.

## Gaelic punk

The first ever punk CD in Gaelic has been released by Mill a h-Uile Rud, a Skye based band composed of fluent Gaelic learners from the US. The band have recently completed a European tour along with veteran Edinburgh punk band Oi Polloi who have also begun performing some material in Gaelic. Apart from pop-rock band Runrig, these are the only two bands currently performing contemporary music through the medium of Gaelic.

Uilleam MacCaluim

## Mill a h-Uile Rud

### Signage

A new report commissioned by the Scottish Executive, "Review of First Impressions of Scotland: Report to Ministers" recommends that bilingual welcome signs should be erected at main points of entry to the country such as major ports, airports and railway stations where appropriate. According to the study, bilingual signage would show tourists and other travelers that they are entering a unique country with a strong heritage. The Executive have agreed that they will encourage the development of such signs. It is unclear at this stage, however, how many bilingual signs erected, where and what format they will take.

Highland Council have also produced a new Gaelic language scheme which encourages bilingual road signs, street signs and signs on council buildings and schools throughout the council area. While the overall signage policy has been strengthened, however, any of the 8 local area committees of the council may opt-out of Gaelic signage if they feel that the cultural history of the area has "less of a Gaelic base". To date, Caithness and Sutherland have voted against Gaelic signs and the Inverness Area Committee have made it clear that they only wish to see Gaelic signs in the city centre. There are also signs that the Nairn area may opt out of Gaelic signage. These decisions and the absence of an overarching strategy have left a very uneven situation with regards to Gaelic signage in the Highlands. This has been compounded by the Scottish Executive's continued refusal to allow the erection of Gaelic signs on the A9, the main trunk road in the Highlands. [www.millahuilerud.com](http://www.millahuilerud.com)

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future too...*

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# SNP Gains in Westminster Election

Shortly after the final results were declared for the May General Election, SNP Leader Alex Salmond hailed the resounding success of the party's election campaign. Mr Salmond also congratulated his fellow SNP parliamentarians for their success in the polls, and looked forward to the 2007 Scottish election. The SNP met its target of 6 seats in the election, taking new seats from Labour in Scotland in a General Election for the first time since 1974.

Mr Salmond said: "After tonight's tremendous results, the SNP has made real progress in this election. We now have 'Scotland's Super Six' representing Scotland at Westminster, a team which has taken seats from the Labour Party in Scotland at a General Election for the first time since 1974.

"In the vast majority of seats across the country we've seen a clear swing in the vote from Labour to the SNP, which sets a firm foundation for the Scottish election in 2007. With this kind of progress tonight the SNP are in great shape to take over from the failing Labour and Liberal Executive in Holyrood in two years time.

"We also have a team of MPs who can make Scotland matter in Westminster, who can build on the success of the last Parliament and argue the case for a better future for this country and its people. We can now look forward with confidence to the prospect of an SNP victory in 2007 when both Labour and the Liberal Democrats will be saddled with all the misdeeds of their failed coalition."



Newcomer, Angus MacNeil, one of the six, regained the Western Isles seat from Labour for the SNP.

## Angus MacNeil MP for Na h-Eileanan an Iar

Angus is a native Gaelic speaker from Barra. He was in School in Barra and the Nicholson Institute in Stornoway. He studied Civil Engineering at Strathclyde University and then worked as a reporter at the BBC in Inverness for 2 years before becoming a Primary Teacher. Angus worked for 2 years in Salen in Mull where he started the Gaelic Unit before moving to Fort William when he got married. In the 2001 general election Angus was the SNP candidate for Inverness East Nairn and Lochaber. Last year Angus returned to Barra to teach and now works in Eoligarry School at the north end of the island.

## ELECTION 2005 – SNP Westminster MPs

Constituency	Candidate	% Votes	SNP Majority
Banff & Buchan	Alex Salmond	51.17%	11,837
Moray	Angus Robertson	36.59%	5,676
Perth & Perthshire North	Peter Wishart	33.68%	1,521
Angus	Mike Weir	33.65%	1,590
Na H-Eileanan an Iar	Angus MacNeil	44.90%	1,141
Dundee East	Stewart Hosie	37.20	383
The SNP contested 9 seats – above are the successful candidate's results			

## Publicity and Hard Cash

Soon after the British General Election held on May 5th, I met my great grandson who was pleased to tell me that the Scottish National Party had lost ground. I pointed out to him that previously we had 4 MPs from a total of 71, now we have 6 MPs from a total of 59 at Westminster. Hardly lost ground! Of course this does not reflect support for the independence movement over all of Scotland, as many SNP candidates came second in the poll, but in the 'first past the post' system, votes for them do not result in representation. As to MPs we had 2.84%. Now we have 3.54%

My great nephew went on to argue that Scotland could not stand on its own! Of course we hear this often. The Scottish Parliament cost too much. That was a project of the Labour government, but we get the blame for it. Under the 'Barnett Formula' Scotland is subsidised much more than our population justifies. There is a catch in that argument when the contributions from Scotland by means of taxes, whisky duty and

North Sea Oil are taken into account. The Dundee Courier on May 24th, in arguing against Dennis Canavan's, MSP, bill to make St. Andrew's Day a public holiday gave the argument a new slant – "Campaigners were told by the (Scottish) Executive it would cost 40 million pounds a year in lost production and economic turnover, and there are no plans to add November 30th to the list of Scottish bank holidays".

What price patriotism? Maybe I am too pessimistic, but I am thinking that for the independence movement to make real progress, before the 300th anniversary of the Union of Parliaments in 2007, we need to find some effective reply when our modest gains are reported as losses, and especially when the only criteria for assessing moves to independence are economic or financial. I wonder if anyone any more accepts that this nation with its own strong traditions, institutions and separate languages has a right to be independent regardless of cost. Recent Irish history suggests that when

patriotism is the chief motive in what we do, economic affairs will also come right.

## Larne to Stranraer

In 1953, during an exceptionally bad winter which brought floods in Holland and the East of England, the Larne to Stranraer ferry went down with considerable loss of life. In January this year the P. & O ferry "European Highlander" was blown on a sand bank by winds of hurricane force as she tried to berth in Loch Ryan, and passengers had to spend 30 hours on board whilst a life boat stood by. At one time there was a regular ferry from Glasgow (Broomielaw) to Belfast, which had much safer berths at either end. Have any lessons been learnt or urgent safety measures been adopted since the loss in 1953, to make this link between Scotland and Ireland safer? It does not seem so.

Ronald S. Matheson  
Raghnall Stiubhart MacMathain





# Breizh



## ARD-FHEIS CHONRADH NA GAEILGE

E Corcaigh e voe dalc'het emvod (Ard-Fheis) bloaziek ar C'hevren Gouezelek (Conradh na Gaeilge) d'ar 16 a viz Mae. Dibabet e voe Corcaigh en abeg an darvoudoù e darempred gant programm Kêr Europat ar Sevenadur. Arvestiñ a rejont dileuridi eus Iwerzhon a-bezh hag eus skorenn an estrenvro ivez. Anavezet mat-tre an emsav-mañ savet e 1893 evit difenn ha skignañ ar yezh gouezelek. Gwerinel eo an emsav-mañ peogwir ar prezidant (Uachtarán) e-unan a zo dilennet. Pal an Ard-Fheis a zo adwelet labour ar bloavezh tremenet ha kinnig mennadoù nevez evit an dazont.

Digoret e voe an Ard-Fheis gant **Seán Ó Sé**, kaner brudet eus Corcaigh. Dilennet en deus bet avel Prezidant **Oireachtas na Gaeilge** ar bloaz-mañ. Emvod broadel ha sevenadurel iwerzhonat eo Oireachtas na Gaeilge ha krouet e voe ivez gant **Conradh na Gaeilge** e 1898. Dalc'het e vo e Corcaigh ivez an Oireachtas ar bloaz-mañ e miz Here evit kemer perzh e anaoudegezh-vat hêrezh gouezelek kêr ha kontelezh Corcaigh.

Bez'e voe ar bloaz-mañ hervez **Nollaig Ó Gadhra**, Uachtarán Chonradh na Gaeilge o komz e Gouzeleg, araokaat dreistordinal, marteze, istorel evit ar Gouzeleg dreist pep tra gant diviz ar gouarnamant iwerzhonat da glask an anaoudegezh-vat hag ur statud ofisiel evit ar yezh e Unvaniezh Europa. Degemeret mat e voe embann diwezhañ skrid kevatalder ar yezh (avel e Kanada) met siwazh avel evit statud ofisiel ar yezh e Unvaniezh Europa e kemer re amzer !

Ret eo echuiñ ur Skrid Kevatalder ar Yezh bremañ ! Da skouer, nebeut implijet e voe ar yezh gant abeg marv ar Pab gant Prezidant Iwerzhon, dileuridi vroadel ha skeul-renk an iliz katolik (nebeutoc'h eget ar Pab e-unan e-pad e veaj da Iwerzhon e 1979), adskediñ emzalc'hioù anglo-amerikan e-keñver divyezhegezh, kreñvaet gant mediaoù iwerzhonat ! Setu prouenn gorread eus tro-spered unyezhek ar vro.

Ret eo da g/Conradh na Gaeilge kemer perzh el leur bolitikel, met politikerezh ar yezh ha neket er strolladoù politikel.

En ur degemerout mat al labour mat evit ar yezh graet gant ar ministr **Éamon Ó**

**Cuív**, sklaer eo bez'ez eus 'un ezhomm mallus da adwelet politikerezh ar yezh.

**Nollaig Ó Gadhra** a roas ar palioù evit diorren ar yezh en 21<sup>vet</sup> kantved. Setu ar palioù :

Derc'hel ha diorren implij ar yezh el lec'hioù ma vez komzet c'hoazh ha difenn ha kreskiñ ar c'humuniezhoù-se gant intrudu ijinus.

Diogeliñ da bep skoliad e Iwerzhon an dro da zeskiñ ar yezh gouezelek, istor, douaroniezh Iwerzhon hag hêrezh boutin ar vro.

Reiñ da gentañ holl diorren da sevenadur ha lennegezh iwerzhonat er yezh gouezelek gant tud empleget gant deskadurezh, arzoù, medioù hag all...

Ne c'hell ket Iwerzhon ankounac'haat 2000 bloaz a sevenadur, istor, arz, hêrezh ha yezh, he yezh dezhi hec'h-unan. Rann ar bed eo sevenadur Iwerzhon gouezelek ha teñsor e-mesk ar priziusañ Europa eo hengoun hep ehan ar yezh gouezelek.

Sevel ur stad lorc'hus hec'h amzerdremenet, oberiant bremañ ha gant spi en he dazont, setu pal **Conradh na Gaeilge**, sevel ur c'hevredigezh digor d'ar bed arveze met en em vevañ diwar he hengounioù hag he danvez, e berr-gomzoù kendalc'h kempoell hec'h amzerdremenet

### Summary:

*The annual Ard-Fheis of Conradh na Gaeilge, was held in Cork this year as part of that city's ongoing series of events in connection with the European City of Culture programme. The Ardfeis was opened by Seán Ó Sé, the well known Cork singer who has been nominated Uachtarán/President of this year's Oireachtas na Gaeilge, the Irish national cultural festival, initiated by Conradh na Gaeilge in 1898, and which will be held this year, also in Cork in October as part of the on going efforts of Conradh to contribute to the recognition of the Gaelic heritage of that city and county.*

**Conradh na Gaeilge** 6 Sráid Fhearchair  
Baile Átha Cliath 2, Éire  
r-phost: [eolas@cnag.ie](mailto:eolas@cnag.ie) / [www.cnag.ie](http://www.cnag.ie)

José CALVETE

## Sant Peran, tad santel Kerne-veur

Deuet eo Peran da Gerne-veur diouzh Iwerzhon er 5<sup>ved</sup> kantved, pezh a laka tud da soñjal e oa an hevelep den ha S. Kieran; ar skiantourien a lavar ne oa ket, evelato. Anavezet eo Peran e bro Gembre, hag e meur a lec'h e Breizh. E parrez Trezilide ez eus un delwenn dioutañ e-kichen an hent bras.

E Kerne-veur e kaver war-dro ugent lec'h gant Peran en e anv. Al lec'h brasañ a zo Perranporth, hag aze ez eo en em gavet er vro. Bez' ez eus tevennoù a-hed an aod hanternoz amañ, hag en o zouez e voe krouet gant Peran ur chapel. En 11<sup>ved</sup> kantved ar chapel-mañ a oa dilezet, ha dre an amzer e oa goloet gant traezh, kuzhet, ha kollet. Un iliz nevez evit ar barrez (Perranzabuloe, eus ar latin *Perran in sabulo* 'Peran en traezh') a voe savet war zouar kaletoc'h. E-barzh an iliz-se, er Grenn-Amzer, e veze dalc'het bazh ha kloc'h ar sant, hag e glopenn, zoken.

En 18<sup>ved</sup> kantved an iliz ivez a oa dindan c'houdrod bezañ beuzet dre draezh. Fiñvet e voe neuze e 1805 d'ar lec'h m'emañ bremañ, war zouar ughel pell diouzh ar tevennoù. War-dro ar memes poent e voe dizoloet ar chapel adarre (sellit ouzh ar skeudenn), ha korfoù eskern kavet en he c'hichen. E 1910 e voe krouet ur savadur divalav e bili-raz tro-dro hag a-us ar chapel, sañset evit miret dour da zont e-barzh enni. E 1980 tud a grede dezho e oa kollet ar stourm a-enep d'an dour, hag o deus goloet an holl savadur gant traezh. Pebezh mez, a soñje un nebeut broadelourien, da gaout chapel ar sant brudet-se kuzhet da vat. Neuze e voe savet ur strollad prest da zizoloñ ar chapel ha derc'hel anezhañ en ur stad mat; *St Piran Trust* eo anv ar strollad-se. Evit ar mare emaint oc'h imbours'hin live an dour e-pad ur vloavezh, evit gouzout an doare gwellañ da saveteiñ ar chapel.

Devezh gouel Sant Peran, ar 5 a viz meurzh, a zo deuet da vezañ devezh vroadel Kerne-veur. Gwechall e veze un devezh gouel evit ar vengleuzherien; bremañ e weler muioc'h-mui manifestadegoù e Truru, hag un tammig beplec'h. War an tevennoù e vez aozet ur pezh-c'hoari o tiskouez buhez ar sant, hag a vez heuliet gant mil a dud. Gwelout a reer aze nouspet banniel gwenn ha du, ur groaz wenn war ur foñs du; setu banniel Sant Peran, hag a ziskouez er memes poent ar sten o splannañ er reier, ha gouloù an Aviel o splannañ war fallagriez ar bed.

Ken George

# KEAV

## Breton Interceltic Summer School

Amongst the many Breton training courses that of K.E.A.V., "Kamp Etrekeltiek Ar Vrezhonegerien" (Breton Interceltic Summer School), has always been a great success. After having been organised for a long time over 2 weeks it is now extending to 3, with the possibility of opting for 1, 2, or 3 weeks according to the choice of future course participants, and of course the availability of places. It has taken place year after year in the month of July at Skaer, a small town situated near the centre of a triangle between Kemper/Gourin/An Oriant and 14 km from Rosporden railway station. There is a coach link between Rosporden and Skaer. It is, therefore, not far from the Black Mountains at the heart of Breton-speaking Brittany that the KEAV course gathers, and each week there are around 90 adults of all ages, many of them young people, 20 to 30 children and around 25 teachers or organisers.

The only enrolment condition is that of having regularly followed a course in Breton for at least 2 years, or one year of an intensive course. There are many correspondence courses such as Skol Ober. Breton is the sole language of the summer school outside of workshops in Welsh, or possibly in Irish. In the first days you may perhaps be allowed to have several words whispered in your ear in your own language, or in English, but that will be the only concession in order to help you settle in. There are, in any case, courses for absolute beginners arranged by other organisations during the summer and the rest of the year.

For the year 2005 the cost per week of the course is 230 and 180 for students and the unemployed. Please note that there is a camp site in Skaer about 2km away and for any other information or accommodation you need to contact KEAV directly.

### The Activities

In spite of what has just been said about the exclusive use of Breton, the summer school is great fun and is not short of activities outside of the 6 hours per day of the course. In addition to exhibitions you will find there are work-shops in various subjects in which you can initiate yourselves like dancing and Breton singing and put them into practice in evening sessions or even fest-noz (festival nights).

You will also find games there and even an acting workshop, the better to assimilate the language, sporting activities, discovery trails, visits to farms, artisans' workshops, castles and exhibitions etc.. A theatre troupe is sometimes invited for an opening spectacle. The summer school also devotes a half-day to Breton publications and



*Gwennael Huon (centre) his father Ronan Huon and his mother Loeiza Er Miliner (on right).*

organises the venue for writers, poets and artists, with a book-signing at a book fair.

Each year 5 to 10 course members come from across the channel, and others from France, Germany, Hungary, the USA and sometimes Japan, so why not you?

### Short History of the summer school

It was in 1948; at Kleder near Rosko (Roscoff), that the first KEAV summer camp took place. It came about from a splitting from the International Camp of the B.A.S (Bodadeg Ar Sonerion/ Meeting of the Pipers) where Breton was only a side issue to that of music and traditional dance. Three young writers in the Breton language, Mr Ronan Huon (1922-2003), Mrs Vefa de Bellaing (1909-1998), artist and writer Mr Xavier Langleiz (1906-1975) decided to organize a summer school where Breton would be the sole medium, thus creating the first immersion summer school in Breton. Its origins and its participation from the start of Welsh and Irish explained its being called "Interceltic". In 1948 there were 18 of them out of 57 course members. KEAV would like today like to rediscover such a bonding on their part and why not with the Cornish, Manx and Scottish!

The creators of the summer camp were in their turn its directors, Xavier Langleiz from 1948 to 1954, the time of the true "camp" under tents. Ronan Huon succeeded him

from 1955 to 1973 then Vefa de Bellaing took the lead until 1976 with the help of Paol Kalvez and Father Yann Talbod. 1977 saw the new generation take the reins with Gwennael Huon, son of Ronan Huon and Anna Ar Beg.

### Some dates which mark the evolution of the camp

1957 saw young couples coming with their families for the first time and also the first adolescents whose parents were not among the Emsav (or Emzao, the Breton Movement, come together). These were more and more numerous after 1973 thanks to the renaissance of the Breton culture after the dark hours of the war and the post-war difficulties. The author-composers, singers and musicians such as Glenmor, Alan Stivell, Gilles Servat and others pushing the young Bretons to take back ownership of the culture and language of their parents or grandparents. These young people came with a different view to the first generations. There was the generation from before 1968 and those who came afterwards. Those before were practising Catholics and the rest more or less influenced by pre-war nationalism, and those who later wanted to change the society judged by them as too conservative. Two ways of living and understanding the world confronted each other.

In 1974 a provisional balance was found in



*Anna Ar Beg, her brother Herve, and Lena Louarn, chairwoman of Ofis ar Brezhoneg. (Left to right).*

co-organising the camp with the young progressive and militant association, Skol An Emsav, the number of course participants reached 200! However, the experience would not be renewed because of other problems which arise.

Finally in 1977 the management of the new generation arrived and as a good response, the necessary balance and neutrality. The same year the KEAV summer-school was settled in Skaer, after having been itinerant, changing places each year. Initially established in the private school of St Alan the premises proved too small. In fact the 80 participants in 1980 passed a hundred in 1988 then more than 140 in 1995; it was necessary to find rooms with the local residents and making tents available as in the first years. Having problems with catering too and security the authorities in Skaer recommended the KEAV organisers use the public school Joliot-Curie and the college asked them to limit the numbers to 90 a week, so the 3 week school was born.

To conclude it is good to recall that the camp was sometimes the occasion of fruitful meetings and the crucible for other activities, thus in the setting of the camp in Lagoned in 1963 was formed a workshop to develop a vocabulary compatible with a modern scientific culture. This group was called SADED (Skourr An Deskadurezh Eil Derezh/Secondary Educational Branch). In 1968 separated amicably from KEAV to follow its own direction. Sometimes criticised for being elitist and abusive use of neologisms SADED has the honour of being the precursor of secondary education.

**Jaket Derouet**

*(Thanks to Yann Gag for assistance in bringing me his text prepared for the jubilee of KEAV in 1998).*

## EU Constitution

### The Regionalist Parties Urged a Yes vote

The political situation in the state of France cannot be compared to that in the British Isles. Here the Republicans / Jacobins are totally opposed to the any form of devolution for the regions and allow no recognition of lesser used languages.

Therefore the two main regionalist parties UDB and Parti Breton voted Yes in the Constitutional Referendum held at the end of May, along with the Greens, Socialists, Democrats and Gaullists and most of the Trade Unions.

On the day, the people of France rejected the treaty.

### Parti Breton's Stance on EU Treaty Referendum

To advance a stronger Brittany in a democratic Europe, the Breton Party encouraged all the Bretons to vote YES in the Constitution Treaty on May 29th of this year. Below is a press statement issued by the party.

The referendum on the European constitutional Treaty of May 29th is an historic change which puts up new stakes for Brittany. It warrants looking at from a specific Breton context.

Today the fate of Brittany is decided in Paris, capital of a State, without exception - numerous considerations: excessive centralization of the decisions; disregard of the separation of the powers; shocking territorial disparities; refusal to recognize its various peoples and the will to remove them. This dependence means that Brittany is subjected to interests which do not take into account the needs of its development, driving inevitably, at the same time as France, towards a deepening crisis. The current state of affairs offers us sad examples every day.

Everywhere in Europe, States were reformed, progressing at the level of the business and social laws and of the recognition of the rights of the individuals and the peoples. So today Europe can operate with the most advanced economic, social and political standards of the planet.

Everywhere, except in France, the exceptional nature of which bursts in broad daylight, to the surprise of our European friends. We, Bretons, have known for a long time what this French exception means: the French cock raised on its spurs to refuse any really democratic headway which would lead it to question its model.

To the Breton Party, the question of the referendum was clearly envisaged in these terms: will the values which are current in 24 European States allow better consideration of our interests? In other words, will more integration of the European States allow Brittany to answer better the challenges, its time and does it engage a process favourable to more political autonomy? And does the European Constitution contain headways susceptible to facilitate the emergence of an authentic Breton political power?

In this double question we answer YES. The Breton Party says YES to the European constitutional Treaty, in the name of our national interests. The Breton Party chooses

the History - that of Brittany integrated in Europe, sharing the same values of progress and freedom in the unity. To advance a strong Brittany in democratic Europe, therefore the Breton Party encourages all Bretons to vote YES on the May 29th.

**Jakez Arnol-Stéphan**

*Executive chairman, Parti Breton.*

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## UDB...Yes, without hesitation!



UDB (Union Democratique Bretonne) held a convention in LORIENT (an Oriant) in March, to decide their strategy in the referendum on the EU Constitution Treaty. At the end of the convention, different options were up for discussion and the vote cast showed that, 72% were in favour of a YES vote; 21% for a NO-vote and 7% without opinion. Therefore UDB appealed for a YES vote in the referendum. Below Ronan Divard, PRO for the UDB, outlines their argument for pressing for a Yes vote.

'YES...without hesitation! Everybody accepts the fact that Europe, with 25 states does not work well. The existing laws do not allow it. That's why the new treaty for an European constitution came about. This new treaty allows real progress in terms of democracy, transparency and efficiency in terms of decisions. Nothing in this treaty

*continued on page 8*



reinforces the liberal orientations already underlined in the union. At the opposite end it covers humanist values and social rights (the right to go on strike, equality between men and women, equal working conditions, protection for young workers)

The text of the treaty also embraces respect of cultural and linguistic diversity. It is important for us, the Breton people, because our fundamental rights are not respected within the french state.

The treaty reaffirms also that Europe will keep going on solidarity actions, in order to reduce the gap between regions. Breizh took profit from Europe. About 2.4 billion euro has been invested in Breizh since 1975. This process will keep going through different programs. Otherwise the treaty allows also a higher level of environmental protections.

The UDB works for a social, pacific and federal Europe which recognizes "people without state".

At this level the treaty is not perfect. It is the result of a long and complex negotiation, in which each lobby had to make concessions. Of course, no need to tell you that it's neither federalism nor the right for "people without state" that the french state fights for...

Thinking that a french-NO vote will help to put the text on the table and help to push through one of those ideas is unrealistic. Europe is not France, so it's arrogant and chauvinistic to imagine that the different states must conform to the french model. Who can seriously think that a french-NO vote will help social euro-forces to stop 50 years of common history.

Saying NO to the constitution means to agree with the most liberal part of the text (3rd part). Therefore we will not take advantage of the political progress of the 1st and 2nd part. As a matter of fact the 3rd part, which is the most contested on the left wing, is the result of the Rome and Nice treaties. They are already applied and will keep going on. Telling the opposite is just demagoguery and illusion...

Women and men from the left wing must know that in terms of social progress nothing is for ever. This treaty is more a question of political power than a constitution. If, this political power is not in favour of the workers it does not allow us to stop the European process. A stop will be good news for those, like the USA, who like to see the EU as a free trade zone, but not at all as a political power. Otherwise a NO-vote will weaken our continent in front of the emergence countries like China, India or Brazil...

A strong unified Europe will be able to exist today in this world as well as tomorrow as a peaceful zone with stability, democracy and respect for Human Rights...

Europe is a positive projection in the future. It is something vital for the future of Breizh and the Breton people...Don't push Europe to the side...'

Ronan Divard, UDB.

# Douarnenez Film Festival

This year, the 28th Festival will be held from the 20th to the 27th of August. It is dedicated to the frontier-line between the United States and Mexico and named "On the Other Line".

This frontier-line is about 3200 km long (about 2000 miles). It is strictly warded by federal guards, but also by a recently created civilian volunteers units. A wall was built for a short length in Tijuana and in El Paso, and a wire fence erected along 28 miles.

This frontier-line is separating a rich country (USA) from the poor countries in the South, however, despite all this supervision along the frontier it does not prevent the immigrants from entering the United States, sometimes at the risk of their life: every year "wet backs" are drowned when trying to swim across the Rio Grande or people die of thirst when passing through the desert. The illegal immigration is, for a part, in the hands of gangs; bad things are happening, like the murders and *disappearings* of many women in Ciudad Juarez.

In spite of the controls, about 800,000 to 2,000,000 illegal immigrants succeed to get into the United States every year, coming from Mexico but also from other countries of Central or South America. About 40 or 50 millions of Hispano-Americans are now living in the United States, half of them at least coming from Mexico. They are generally employed in low-paid jobs. Even if some of them succeed to riches, half of them are remain poor, held in contempt by the American people who call them "Chicanos". They still speak Spanish but many of them are mixing English and Spanish, with the birth of a new language, the Spanglish.

They form a large part of the population of some States: more than 40 % in New Mexico, more than a third in California or in Texas, more than the fourth part in Arizona. In some cities, near the border, they form more than nine tenths of the population and in some places the Spanish language is now the first language, but not often officially recognized. The unemployed young people, the "Pachucos" do not speak English and have also lost the Mexican culture and thus have difficulties to find a place in the United States.

Nevertheless, the poor people coming from the South, enduring hardship, have been fighting for decades to defend their rights and to preserve their dignity.

All these questions will be examined for the most part through films of different kinds, by many directors from Mexico (Alejo Galindo, Alfonso Arau, Enrique Arroyo, Alex Rivera, Luis Valdes, Lourdes Portillo, Patricia Cardoso, Yolanda Cruz), from the United States (Anthony Mann, Sam Peckinpah, Orson Welles) and from other countries (Chantal Akerman, Ken Loach). They will also be considered through debates and meetings with directors, reporters and academics.

A part of the festival will be dedicated to the new films from Brittany and another part, named the "Big Tribe", will show films about peoples which were in the past the subject of the Festival. A last part, called "The other side of the wall", will tackle the life in prison seen from the inside and from the outside.

Yves Jardin

**Information: Douarnenez Film Festival,  
Phone: 00.33.2.98.82.09.21, Website:  
[www.kerys.com/festival](http://www.kerys.com/festival)**



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# Cymru

## Etholiad 2005 – Enillion yn Éire ac Alba!

Siomedig oedd Etholiad 2005 i ni yng Nghymru - rhyw obaith y byddai'r Blaid yn gorffen hefo pum sedd, a dim ond tair a gafwyd. Mae'n amlwg mai pleidleisiau mewnudwyr yng Ngheredigion a wnaeth i Blaid Cymru golli'r sedd honno i'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol - gallai'r mwyafrif bach o 200 a gafodd fod o ganlyniad i'r mewnudwyr sydd wedi symud i mewn ers yr etholiad diwethaf yn unig. Eironi felly ar ôl amharodwydd y Blaid yng Ngheredigion i gefnogi ymgyrch Cymuned am faer etholedig i Geredigion y llynedd, a allasai fod wedi arwain at gamau pendant yn erbyn y Mewnlifiad.

Pur wahanol oedd hi i genedlaetholwyr y Chwe Sir, ond mor dawel oedd y cyfryngau yn ei chylch prin y buasech yn gwybod. Mae PUM sedd gan Sinn Féin rwan, un yn fwy na'r tro diwethaf. 'Does ryfedd bod y Sefydliad yn cadw'n dawel. Enillasant sedd An tIúr ac Ard Mhachá (Newry & Armagh) oddi wrth genedlaetholwyr gwan yr SDLP - Conor Murphy ydyw'r aelod newydd. Yn ogystal, cadwodd SF y pedwar aelod oedd ganddynt yn barod - Gerry Adams yng Ngorllewin Béal Feirste, Martin McGuinness yng Nghanol Uladh (Mid Ulster), Pat Doherty yng Ngorllewin Tír Eoghain, a Michelle Gildernew yn Fear Manach a de Tír Eoghain. Enillodd yr SDLP sedd oddi wrth yr Unioliaethwyr drwy gipio De Béal Feirste - felly mae tair yn dal gan yr SDLP. Erbyn hyn mae seddau'r cenedlaetholwyr (os galwn yr SDLP felly) yn gorchuddio dros hanner tirwedd y 6 sir a chymerodd y cenedlaetholwyr tua 44% o'r pleidleisiau ymysg y prif bleidiau. Mae hyn yn galonogol, os nad ydyw'r rhagolygon am Gytundeb Gwener y Groglith a'r broses heddwch yn rhy dda.

Nid oedd pethau i fod yn rhy dda i Blaid Genedlaethol yr Alban, yn ôl y cyfryngau cyn yr etholiad. Mae'r nifer o seddau am senedd San Steffan yn yr Alban wedi cael ei ostwng o 72 i 59 oherwydd bod ei senedd ei hun gan yr Alban. (Nid yw hyn wedi digwydd yng Nghymru eto.) Dilewyd rhai etholaethau a chyfunwyd neu estynwyd ffiniau llawer o rai eraill. Pum sedd allan o 72 oedd gan yr SNP - dan yr hen batrwm - Banbh (Banff) a Buchan (sedd Alex Salmond), Moireabh (Moray) (Angus Robertson), Gogledd Taobh Tatha (Tayside North) (Peter Wishart), Aonghas (Angus) (Mike Weir), a Peairt (Perth) (sedd Annabelle Ewing). Buasai ennill pedair o'r

seddau diwygiedig, allan o 59, yn cyfateb i'r un cyfartaledd, ond chwech o seddau a enillwyd o dan batrwm etholaethol llai ffafriol - y canlyniad gorau i'r Blaid Genedlaethol mewn etholiad San Steffan ers 1974. Ail-etholwyd llywydd y Blaid, Alex Salmond, yn sedd estynedig Banbh a Buchan gyda dros 50% o'r pleidleisiau. Ail-etholwyd Angus Robertson yn y fersiwn newydd o Moireabh gyda mwy o fwyaf. Cadwodd Mike Weir yr Aonghas estynedig er gwaethaf ymgyrch rymus gan y Torïaid i'w chipio a symud un o ardaloedd mwyaf cefnogol i'r etholaeth gymdogol. Enillodd Peter Wishart, sy'n chwarae yn y grwp Runrig, sedd newydd Peairt a gogledd Swydd Peairt, ond Annabelle Ewing ydyw'r unig un o'r ASau blaenorol na fydd yn ôl gan iddi golli sedd newydd Ochail a de Swydd Peairt o 688 pleidlais i Lafur - o leiaf dyna darged amlwg am y tro nesaf. Ond ar ben y llwyddiannau hyn cipiwyd dwy sedd arall oddi wrth Lafur. Enillwyd Dwyrain Dùn Dèagh (Dundee) gan Stewart Hosie - dyma'r sedd a ddaliodd cyn-lywydd yr SNP Gordon Wilson cyn ei cholli yn 1987. Ac, yn fwyaf diddorol i ddarlennwyr Carn efallai, ail-enillwyd sedd Na h-Eileanan an Iar neu Ynysoedd y Gogledd oddi ar Lafur. (Defnyddir yr enw Gaeleg ar gyfer y sedd hon yn Saesneg erbyn hyn, cymharer Ynys Môn.) Dyma'r sedd a gynrychioliodd gan y cyn-lywydd Domhnall Stiubhart o 1970 tan 1987. Angus MacNeil ydyw'r AS newydd.

Safodd Mebyon Kernow ym mhedair o bum sedd Cernyw, ond mynd i lawr ryw ychydig wnaeth eu pleidlais. Curasant ymgeiswyr adain dde Veritas bob tro o leiaf. O bwmpas, ni safodd MK yn sedd Porthia/St Ives, lle mae'r Democrat Rhyddfrydol Andrew George, siaradwr Cernyweg a lled-genedlaetholwr, yn AS. Yn wir, enillodd y Lib. Dems bob un o seddau Cernyw, dan gipio'r un sedd. Aberfal a Chambron, oedd gan Lafur. Deallwn fod Dan Rogerson, AS newydd Gogledd Cernyw, yn medru Cernyweg hefyd.

**Robat ap Tomos**

### Summary:

*The 2005 election saw advances in Alba and Éire. The SNP are now up to six seats. Sinn Féin are up to five, with nationalist seats in the Six Counties covering over half the land area.*

## Gwynfor Evans 1912-2005



Gwynfor Evans, former Plaid Cymru president and MP, died on April 21st aged 92. A native of Barri, Glamorgan, he learnt Welsh as a university student and spent most of his life in Llangadog, Carmarthenshire. Gwynfor was a life-long Christian and pacifist. He was associated with Plaid Cymru from its earliest days and became party president in 1945, a post he held for 36 years. He was a leading campaigner in the unsuccessful attempt to stop the drowning of the Tryweryn valley in Meirionnydd to make a reservoir for Liverpool in the 1960s, but in the same decade he permanently changed Welsh politics when he won the Carmarthen by-election in 1966 to become the first ever Plaid MP. The seat was lost to Labour in 1970 but regained from 1974 until 1979, along with two others that have remained Plaid ever since. In 1980, when the government in 1980 said they were not going to keep their promise to establish a Welsh language television service, Gwynfor's willingness to fast to the end was the most prominent part of the national campaign to restore the policy of providing the Welsh service and it was probably decisive in the success of the campaign for S4C. This success in turn marked the start of the national recovery after the defeats of 1979 - the devolution referendum and the election by the English of the right-wing Thatcher government. Over 2000 attended the funeral in Aberystwyth including past and present leaders of Plaid, Winnie Ewing of the SNP, and representatives of other parts of the national movement.

Gwynfor was the President of the Celtic League for the first ten years of its existence and his work helped secure the League's recognition.

A campaign has started, supported by Plaid MPs, for the new politics building under construction at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, to be named the 'Gwynfor' Building.

# Election 2005 – Colons taking over

Plaid Cymru entered the May 2005 Westminster election holding four seats and hoping to win a record fifth. They ended up with only three seats, having failed narrowly to win Ynys Môn from Labour and narrowly losing Ceredigion to the Liberal Democrats. They held Caernarfon, Meirionnydd Nant Conwy, and Carmarthen East & Dinefwr – a distribution of seats resembling the situation from 1974 to 1979.

Plaid have traditionally taken the bulk of their support from the Welsh-speaking community and all the seats they have ever held at Westminster (that is the five seats mentioned above, give or take boundary changes) have been those entirely or mainly in the Bro Gymraeg, Welsh-speaking Wales, with a Welsh-speaking majority. This is hardly a coincidence since Welsh national identity is language-based and national aspirations are dependent on a national identity being felt in the first place. Anglicised Wales is anglicised in more than just language. Since the 1980s at least Plaid have been the most supported party in the Welsh community in the Bro Gymraeg, but as this community is being depleted through economic emigration and diluted through colonization, so the nationalist power base is undermined, though very few people are mentioning this.

The Ynys Môn (Anglesey) seat had been gained by Labour from Plaid in the previous (2001) election with a majority of just 800, the votes of colons being decisive. Despite a strong campaign to win the seat back this time, with former MEP Eurig Wyn as candidate, the Labour majority increased to over 1200. In view of the number of English who have settled on the island in the intervening years this follows, though the decisive factor in defeating Plaid this time was ironically the presence of a colon independent candidate who, having received an unusual amount of media coverage, seems to have succeeded in attracting a proportion of the farming vote.

Ceredigion had been gained by Cynog Dafis of Plaid from the Liberal Democrats in 1992, with Simon Thomas being the MP from 2000 on. The heavy colonization in progress in Ceredigion, with the connivance of the county council, had received more attention than in most of the Bro Gymraeg with the divisive referendum campaign for a mayor for Ceredigion putting Cymuned and Plaid locally on opposite sides. The seat was lost to the Liberal Democrats this time with a small majority of 219. This is the first time ever that Ceredigion has had a non-Welsh speaking MP. With such a small majority all the influencing factors would have been individually decisive. These were:-

- Further colonisation and Anglicisation since 2001 – some 25% of the electoral list had not been there last time.
- The votes of the hundreds of English university students in Aberystwyth and Lampeter, included in the aforementioned 25%.



*Welsh  
Speaker,  
David Davies  
new  
Plaid Cymru  
MP for  
Mynwy/  
Monmouth.*

- There remained an amount of dissatisfaction, in nationalist circles, with Plaid locally on the colonization issue in the wake of the referendum.
- The general swing, on the unionist side, from Labour to Lib. Dem.
- The decision of the British Green party to field a candidate who took 800+ votes. They had previously co-operated with Plaid, but even there it seems recent colons are taking over.

Ynys Môn and Ceredigion, both held by Plaid in the Assembly, will form two obvious targets in the next Westminster election, but neither may be particularly easy to win back because the very community whose identity is expressed by supporting them is in decline and both constituencies now have unionist MPs with a vested interest in encouraging colonization.

Plaid held Caernarfon and Meirionnydd Nant Conwy, with Hywel Williams and Elfyn Llwyd respectively increasing their majorities despite ongoing colonization in these areas. The general swing away from Labour, the second party here, would have been a factor. Plaid has held these two seats constantly since 1974.

Plaid's best result came in Carmarthen East & Dinefwr where radical MP Adam Price tripled his majority over Labour in the seat he gained in 2001, this despite a strong Labour campaign to win the seat back. Adam Price has won much support through leading a campaign to impeach Prime Minister Tony Blair for the illegal war waged against Iraq.

In the rest of Wales, the 35 constituencies with a definite English-speaking majority, the Plaid vote remained at a similar level to 2001, going up a bit in some and down in others. Progress in English-speaking Wales does not look imminent. Among the unionist parties, there was a swing away from Labour, as in England. The Tories gained the three Labour seats of Monmouth, Preseli Pembrokeshire, and Clwyd West – all in territory the Tories held during the Thatcher years. The new MP for Mynwy / Monmouth is the Welsh-speaking Assembly Member David Davies who we hope will be a positive influence on language issues. Labour lost their safest seat in Wales, Blaenau Gwent, to disaffected former Labour AC, Peter Law. The new make up of MPs in Wales is Labour 29, Liberal Democrats 4, Plaid 3, Conservative 3, and Independent 1.

**Robat ap Tomos**

## Europe – Jill Evans says 'Time for a rethink on the way ahead':

Commenting on the French people's rejection by referendum of the EU Constitution, Plaid Cymru Deputy Leader Jill Evans MEP, called on EU leaders to respect the verdict of the French people and to rethink the way ahead for any EU Constitution.

Ms Evans said:

"The French people have spoken loud and clear and in great numbers – their verdict must be respected. This result is a wake up call for European leaders and a clear signal of popular unease with what's being proposed.

Plaid Cymru is a pro-European party and we agree that better arrangements are needed to run an EU of twenty five states, but we are seeing that this draft constitution is not standing up to popular scrutiny.

Europe's decision-making has to get right down there to the local communities to ensure that people do have a voice in shaping this new Europe. The Convention which drew up this Constitution was supposed to reflect the views of the people of Europe, but the French and the Dutch "No" votes show that they weren't listening enough to what real people had to say.

The plan before us in this Constitution is not our vision of what Europe should be or how it should develop. It could be a small step forward, but basically leaves power in the hands of the member states and unelected Brussels bureaucrats. It makes only passing reference to other levels of government such as our own National Assembly and this is a regrettable missed opportunity to spread real democracy at all levels throughout the EU."

# No more Language Legislation from Westminster, Says Plaid AC

Speaking before the Cymdeithas yr Iaith meeting on the Urdd eisteddfod field, Elin Jones, AC for Ceredigion, called for all new legislation on the Welsh language to be made by the National Assembly and not the Westminster Parliament. She called on all organisations interested in the status and promotion of the language to unite in a call to both Westminster and Assembly governments to use the impending White Paper and Devolution Bill to place all powers on the Welsh language with the National Assembly and to enable the Assembly to legislate on all matters related to the Welsh Language.

Elin Jones said,

"We now need to drop the call for a new Welsh Language Act from Westminster and take the opportunity presented by the White Paper to devolve all powers on the Welsh Language to the Assembly. We know that there needs to be new legislation on the Welsh language in the near future in order to create the Dyfarnydd or Regulatory Office as a result of the abolition of the Welsh Language Board. Currently the Assembly has no power to set up such an Office on a statutory basis. Alun Pugh AC, Culture Minister, recently stated in a Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Committee that such legislation was unlikely to be a standalone piece of Westminster legislation and would possibly be included as part of the forthcoming White Paper.

"Now is the opportunity therefore to ensure that whatever increased powers are given to the National Assembly as a result of the White Paper, that they should include full powers to act on all matters related to the Welsh Language. Obviously, if the National Assembly receives full primary legislative



Elin Jones

powers in the next few years then I assume this will automatically include legislative powers on the Welsh language. This is most definitely my preferred option.

"However, recent press comments by the new Wales Office Minister, Nick Ainger, have strongly hinted that Labour are likely to drop the Richard Commission proposals for primary legislation and go for a second rate solution of fast-tracking legislation. This is far from ideal and wholly betrays the notion of vesting law-making powers with the people of Wales. However, even under this proposal it could be possible for all legislation on the Welsh language to be made by the National Assembly. This could only require that an Order in Council is passed by both Houses of Parliament to give the National Assembly the right to legislate on all matters relating to the Welsh Language. From then on, the National Assembly could be free to create legislation on, for example, the status of the language, the role of the private sector in relation to the language, the role of the Welsh language in planning matters etc.

"We need to create a powerful lobby of all Welsh language supporters to devolve all legislative powers on the Welsh Language to

the National Assembly. The Labour governments must be persuaded that all matters relating to the Welsh language should be devolved to Wales and that this should not be confined to specific areas such as the creation of a Regulatory Office. Such narrowly-defined legislation should be rejected. The Government of Wales Act 1998 recognised in Section 32 that the National Assembly "may do anything it considers appropriate to support the Welsh language". However, this did not confer the right to legislate. Now is the opportunity to finally rest with the people of Wales the right to create laws that relate to its own language. It never made sense for Scottish and English MPs to be voting on legislation affecting the Welsh language. At long last, it could soon be up to ACs in Wales to decide on the fate of the Welsh Language."

RapT

## Language Act Campaign continues

As a continuation of their campaign for a new Welsh Language Act, members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith have targeted more chain stores and other private businesses that do not come under the 1993 language act, using stickers calling for a

"Deddf Iaith Newydd/New Language Act". During the spring action was taken in Aberystwyth, Y Trallwng/Welshpool, and Aberteifi/Cardigan. The companies targeted included Woolworths, Barclays, the Abbey, Burtons, Subway, and Dorothy Perkins.

The action was a prelude to the public meeting Cymdeithas organised in June on the field of the Urdd national eisteddfod, this year in Bae Caerdydd/Cardiff Bay, entitled "A Language Act - Now is the chance". The coming abolition of the Welsh Language Quango, the basis of the outdated 1993 act, necessitates the introduction of some sort of new legislation. A Cymdeithas spokesman said "The action in Aberteifi, Y Trallwng, and Aberystwyth was a sign of the determination of Cymdeithas to use direct action for a New Language Act, in advance of the Cardiff Bay meeting. Chain shops were targeted because we want to see any new legislation cover the private sector".

## Safeguarding Eisteddfod language rule

The new constitution of the National Eisteddfod includes a clause stating that "Welsh is the language of the Eisteddfod and that rule cannot be changed under any circumstances". The constitution states that a new committee for the operation of the language policy is to be set up. The pressure group Cylch yr Iaith, following last year's anglicised event in Casnewydd/Newport, have submitted a list of recommendations to the Eisteddfod including:

- All employed and voluntary workers should be able to speak Welsh, including stewards and programme-sellers;
- Every worker on a stand on the Maes who comes into contact with the public should be able to speak Welsh;

- Signs on the Maes should be in Welsh only;
- Translation equipment and bilingual literature for visitors without Welsh should be available from a specific location;

"Unfortunately, the language rule has not been put into complete effect", a Cylch spokesman has said. "In recent years there have been a number of complaints about the Anglicisation of the Maes and there is a danger that the Welsh-speaking atmosphere will be lost."

The Eisteddfod have said that some of the points are 'impractical', but acknowledge that others are feasible.





# Éire



## Lá maith ag an SNP ach níor thosaigh an cluiche mór fós

Cé nár éirigh chomh maith sin le Plaid Cymru i dtoghchán Westminster i rith an tsamhraidh, bhí scéal níos dearfaí le tuairisciú ag Páirtí Náisiúnach na hAlban. Faoi athcheannaireacht Alex Salmond, d'éirigh leo líon a gcuid sufocháin a ardú go dtí sé cinn. Díol suntais is ea gur éirigh leo na hOileáin Thiar agus Dún Daoi Thoir a bhaint de Pháirtí Lucht Oibre Shasana.

Bhí Salmond féin an-sásta, ní nach ionadh, leis an dul chun cinn suntasach a dhein an Páirtí ina gcéad toghchán Westminster ó toghadh eisean ina cheannaire athuair. "Tá an cluiche as baile imeartha anois agus buaite againn", ar seisean. "Beidh an chéad chluiche eile againn sa bhaile – Toghchán Hollywood 2007!" Tá cúis mhaith ag Salmond a bheith muiníneach. Fuair sé féin os cionn 51% de na vótaí in Banff agus Buchan agus, tar éis lag trá a lean ar aghaidh roinnt blianta agus a bhain an t-aer as seolta páirtí a mheas go raibh an casadh cinniúnach ar tí teacht am ar bith, tá an SNP thar n-ais ar chonair na bua agus fonn catha orthu arís.

Dar le Salmond go sáraíonn torthaí an toghcháin seo go comhréireach torthaí an SNP. Feabhra 1974, agus go bhfuil siad beagnach chomh maith le torthaí an Pháirtí. Deireadh Fómhair na bliana sin. Ní hé amháin sin ach d'éirigh leo sufocháin a bhaint de Pháirtí an Lucht Oibre den chéad uair le breis is tríocha bliain anuas. Ina theannta sin, ba dhóibair dóibh an seachtú sufochán a bhaint amach in Ochil agus Peart Thuaidh, áit nach raibh ach 688 vóta ag Páirtí an Lucht Oibre sa bhreis orthu.

Bhain an SNP taitneamh ar leith as a mbua sna hOileáin Thiar, áit ar éirigh le hAonghus Mac Néill 45% den vóta a fháil agus Páirtí an Lucht Oibre a fhágaint 10% laistiar díobh. Feisire óg fuinniúil is ea Mac Néill agus tá a pháirtí dóchasach go n-éireoidh leis greim a choimeád ar an sufochán amach sa todhchaí.

Dar le Salmond go bhfuil an tonn leis an bPáirtí Náisiúnach anois. Cinnte, dealraíonn sé go bhfuil bua an Olltoghcháin tar éis cur le hómhá intofa an pháirtí athuair agus tá scata fothoghcháin áitiúil buaite acu ó shin. I gComar na nAlt i Lanarkshire North, bhain iarrthóir an Pháirtí, Tom Johnson, 60% den vóta, agus sna Deaschríocha, fágann bua Bill Herd gur féidir leis an bPáirtí a bheith dóchasach faoi Thoghchán Hollywood toisc nach raibh ach tromlach 270 vóta ag na

Daonlathaigh Liobrálacha ansin an uair dheiridh.

Ach níl gach duine aontaithe go bhfuil cuma chomh dearfach ar an todhchaí agus a mhaíonn Alex Salmond. Deir an t-iarFheisire, Jim Sillars, cé gur éirigh leis an SNP dul chun cinn áirithe a dhéanamh i dtoghchán Westminster, go bhfuil titim shuntasach, ó thaobh líon vótaí, ar thorthaí an Pháirtí ón mbliain 1992. Dar leis siúd, má scarann na Daonlathaigh Liobrálacha lena gcomhghleacaithe ceannais i bParlaimint na hAlban, Páirtí an Lucht Oibre, go mbeidh siad ábalta tairbhe a bhaint as míshásamh an phobail. Ina theannta sin, is dóigh le Sillars má cheapann Páirtí an Lucht Oibre Gordon Browne mar cheannaire go bhféadfadh tairbhe a bheith ann dóibh in Albain.

Tá daoine eile buartha faoin mbéim éagsúil a leag an SNP ar an neamhspleáchas i dtoghcheantair éagsúla. In áiteanna a bhfuil an Páirtí thar a bheith láidir, luadh an neamhspleáchas mar sprioc dhlisteanach na hAlban. In áiteanna eile, Ochil agus Peart Thuaidh, mar shampla, deir an lucht cáinte nár úsáideadh an focal, fiú amháin, i geáipéisíocht toghcháin an SNP. Deir siad go bhfuil an baol ann, i gcás go n-éireodh leis an bPáirtí móramh a fháil ar son an neamhspleáchais i geodanna d'Albain, go mbeadh codanna eile den tír ag iarraidh fanacht le Sasana agus críochdheighilt a dhéanamh, mar a deineadh in Éirinn.

Bíodh dealramh leis na hargóintí sin nó nach mbíodh, níl aon dabht ná gur toghchán tábhachtach a bheidh i dtoghchán Hollywood i gceann dhá bhliain. Má éiríonn leis an SNP céatadán mór de mhuintir na hAlban a thabhairt leo thairseach shíceolaíoch an neamhspleáchais sa toghchán sin, beidh an cluiche ar siúl i gceart agus níl aon dabht ná gur imreoir den scoth é Alex Salmond. Ná bíodh aon amhras ar aoinne faoi rud eile, áfach – níl sé i gceist ag na Sasanaigh an cluiche sin a chailliúint agus is iadsan a chumann na rialacha.

**Caoimhín Mac Raghnaill.**

### Summary

*This article outlines the good results achieved by the SNP in the Westminster election and summarises the thoughts of party leader Alec Salmond and others on whether the SNP now.*

## Concerto Chaitlín Maude

On the 21st May (the day before her birthday) TG4 screened an excellent hour long documentary tribute *Concerto Chaitlín Maude* on the life and artistic legacy of the Conamara poet, singer and actress, Caitlín Maude. Caitlín was from Rosmuc in the Conamara Gaeltacht, where she was born in 1941. She gained acclaim for her poetry in the sixties and seventies and was recognised as a fine sean nós (traditional style) singer. She co-authored one play and her acting ability was widely praised. She was a life long activist for the Gaeltacht and the Irish language - sometimes at a cost to herself. She was also a long time Celtic League member and wrote regularly for *Carn*. Caitlín died of



*Caitlín Maude*

cancer in 1982 and left one son, Caomhán.

The programme was the inspiration of Aoife Nic Cormaic, who directed it. It was formulated in the movements of a concerto focussing on the different phases of Caitlín's life with newly composed music by Aoife which made it a work of art in itself. A considerable amount of old film footage and TV footage was sourced by Aoife including a film of Caitlín's wedding in Rosmuc to Cathal Ó Luain. Coupled with memories of friends and family this made for a very powerful piece of cinema where Caitlín's own voice came through loud and strong.

Caitlín's poems and prose had been published in two separate posthumous collections but had been out of print for some years. *Coiscéim* brought poems, prose and play together in a new edition of her works which was launched at the preview by TG4 of *Concerto Chaitlín Maude* in Club an Conradh.

# STÁDAS!

## Irish Language made an Official EU Working Language



*Daithí Mac Cárthaigh, Aoife Ní Scolaí, Proinnsias Ó Maolchallain and Pádraig Ó Laighin celebrate their victory.*

In mid June at a meeting of the EU Foreign Ministers in Luxembourg the unanimous decision was made to give Irish the status of a working language in the EU. The decision will be effective from January 2007 to allow time for implementation measures. The campaign to achieve working language status for Irish began with the formation of STÁDAS, a group operating under the aegis of Conradh na Gaeilge and Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge. The group lobbied strongly, collected over 80,000 signatures on the internet and organised demonstrations of support culminating in a major national demonstration in Dublin. It may be mentioned that if the Government of Taoiseach Jack Lynch, at the time of EU entry in 1973, had not reneged on its responsibility none of this would have been necessary. The status of working language was available to Irish on entry to the EEC at the time but they misguidedly decided that Irish should be a treaty language only.

The well run and organised STÁDAS campaign led to the acceptance by the Irish Government last November that official working language status would be sought for Irish. STÁDAS spokesman and chief organiser of the campaign, Pádraig Ó Laighin, welcomed the decision wholeheartedly declaring it a victory for the Irish people, the Irish language community and the Irish Government. The status of Irish as an EU working language means:

- Laws of the EU will be published in Irish. Irish legislation must be published in Irish and English. 75% of legislation comes from the EU and this will now come in Irish and English
- EU positions require two (or more) working languages of the EU. Irish now becomes an employment advantage in the EU.
- Irish can now be spoken in the European Parliament.
- The EU will now employ additional translators for Irish.

Irish will have the same status as the EU's

other official working languages but the Irish government agreed a slimmed-down regime which will not require all documents to be translated into Irish initially. From 2007, all primary legislation approved by the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament will be translated into Irish and ministers and MEPs will be able to use Irish on request during council meetings and European Parliament plenary sessions.

Irish Officials said that the decision would create between 20 and 30 jobs for Irish translators and interpreters in the European institutions. The European Commission estimates that making Irish an official language will cost the EU 3.5 million a year, compared to an average of 46 million for each of the other official languages.

The Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern welcomed the decision which he described as a very important step forward for the Irish language. 'It ensures that the status accorded to Irish in the Union reflects its domestic status. It is further evidence of the Government's determination to ensure that every opportunity is used to promote and facilitate the use of Irish, including in our activities as a member of the EU,' he said. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Dermot Ahern, praised Ireland's Permanent Representative to the EU, Anne Anderson, who conducted most of the negotiations, as 'absolutely magnificent'.

Minister for Gaeltacht Affairs, Éamon Ó Cuív, said the decision presented a challenge to the Irish-speaking community to make use of the new status achieved for Irish. He said it presented a challenge to Irish organisations and educational institutions to ensure there were enough qualified translators to meet the demands for the services.

In a separate move the foreign ministers agreed to offer semi-official status to minority languages which have a constitutional status within a member-state. This will open the way for enhanced status for such languages as Catalan and Basque and for Luxembourgish. Member states requesting enhanced status for such languages will, however, pay the cost of translation and interpretation themselves.



*A section of the large Stádas demonstration in Dublin last year*

# GAELTACHT HOUSING –

## Irish Language need confirmed but...!

An Bord Pleanála's (the Planning Appeals Board) policy on protecting the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht, as required by the new Planning Act, is clarified in two rulings issued in April in relation to permission for new housing developments in the Conamara and Kerry Gaeltachtaí. However, the policy won't apply to single houses. The two cases where linguistic conditions must be imposed by legal agreement involve a development in Baile an Fheirtéaraigh (Ballyferriter), Co Kerry, and in Na Forbacha (8 miles west of Galway city), Co Galway. The planning permission received from Kerry County Council by a Dingle company, Southbound Properties, for the development in Ballyferriter carried a number of conditions, including the use of Irish names for the development. However, the linguistic aspect wasn't considered to be specific enough by Donncha Ó hEallaithe, an Irish-language activist based at Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology. He lodged an appeal on behalf of a group of local residents.

An Bord Pleanála has ruled that 75 per cent of the dwellings actually constructed must be lived in by Irish-speakers. This percentage is based on census figures for Irish-language use in this Kerry Gaeltacht area and must be secured in a legal agreement between the developer and the local authority. The appeals board has also ruled that 60 per cent of the residential development with retail and office space in Furbo, Co Galway, will have to be occupied by Irish speakers - a percentage also based on census figures for daily Irish use in that area. Fluency will be determined under existing standards set for Gaeltacht housing, relating to the head of the household, rather than by any specific new rules.

In a third ruling however an appeal by residents of the Gaeltacht village of An Spidéal (Spiddal), Co Galway, against a scheme of 17 new houses on lands formerly owned by Lord Killanin at Bothúna, near An Spidéal, was rejected because the initial outline planning approval was awarded under the old Galway County development plan which did not allow for language protection.

In both the Furbo and Ballyferriter cases, the language conditions apply for the next 5 years and residential units let for less than three months a year for holiday purposes will be exempt. The board also emphasised that while they will be guided by census figures for daily use of Irish in determining how many dwellings should be occupied by Irish speaker the census figures will be used as a guide, but not an "absolute" one. "In some instances, the board may choose to increase the percentage of residential units to be occupied by Irish-speakers".

Meanwhile the requirements of the

Planning Act seem to have been ignored by Donegal County Council. The council granted permission last April to a local couple, with an English address, to build 27 two-storey houses in Falcarragh. The planning was subject to 24 conditions, none of which made any reference to the Gaeltacht or the Irish language.

While it was reported that Údaras na Gaeltachta has appealed the decision a spokesman for an Údaras said they had made a "submission" and not an appeal to An Bord Pleanála to express concern, about social and language issues. If this is the case it may not have legal status as an appeal. This is the second time that Údaras has expressed concern about building in the Donegal Gaeltacht. Last November a development of eight houses and 12 apartments in nearby Gortahork was refused planning permission after appeals by local people and the Gaeltacht Authority.

An Údaras spokesperson stated "We cannot grant or refuse planning permission in the Gaeltacht but we have a statutory advisory role to the council under the Planning Act 2000. A development with 27 houses is a very large development for this area and we made the submission to safeguard the language and other social issues in the Falcarragh area. This development could bring in 100 mainly young people to Falcarragh which has a population of 852 according to the 2002 census. And this could have a significant impact on the Irish language in the area."

The spokesman stressed that Údaras understand the need for housing but the authorities should be "very careful" when granting planning permission in Gaeltacht areas. He also questioned whether there was a proper economic and social infrastructure in Falcarragh to cope with the influx of young people.



### an Daingean!

As the Placenames (Ceantair Gaeltachta) Order 2004 takes effect all place names and village names in Gaeltacht areas must be in Irish only and English and bilingual signage has been replaced. While Irish only signage has been used in Gaeltacht areas since the early seventies Irish names must also now be used for all official purposes such as planning applications. A recent instance relating to the replacement of Dingle with *An Daingean*, in County Kerry, led to a mini hoo-ha in the English language media when one Kerry County councillor called for retention of Dingle on grounds of 'international branding'. We were told that most people wanted this. However when the Irish daily LÁ investigated the matter in the town it

reported that the majority of *An Daingean* residents were more than happy with the Irish language only version. This episode led the usual anti Irish elements in the English language media (such as the papers in the Irish Independent stable particularly) to launch a round of questioning on the cost of the implementation of provisions for services in Irish of the Official Languages Act. Minister for Gaeltacht Affairs, Éamon Ó Cuív, stood his ground, pointing out that the extensive debate on the Official Languages Act as it passed through its various drafts had been largely ignored by those now raising these issues and that the legislation was rights based giving legislative effect to the status of the Irish language in the Irish Constitution.



## Perilous State of Gaeltacht Education

A report commissioned by An Comhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscoilaíochta (Education Council for Gaeltacht and Irish language medium schools, established by the Government in 2002 after a long campaign by Gaelscoileanna) paints an alarming picture of the state of the language in Gaeltacht schools.

The report which was published in early June found that education in Gaeltacht schools was encouraging the use of English amongst native Irish speakers more than it was nourishing Irish. The report states that the position is so bad that some Gaeltacht schools have turned almost completely to English while in others the language position is in the balance. English is the language of instruction in almost 50% of class sessions in primary and second level schools and it is dominant as the language of instruction in 25% of primary schools and 33% of second level schools. Unless the circumstances under which the schools operate change and the necessary support services are provided the report states that few Gaeltacht schools will be teaching through Irish in twenty years time.

The provision of educational aids in Irish is not satisfactory and the shortage of teachers with Irish has meant that teachers without Irish have been employed. Twenty five per cent of pupils leave primary school with only middling Irish and ten per cent with little or no Irish. For second level the figures are eighteen per cent and ten per cent. Even in the stronger Gaeltacht areas fourteen per cent of those in sixth class do not have fluent Irish or have no Irish. English is the normal communication medium in most Gaeltacht schools and is in use in the school environs

even in half of the schools in the strongest Gaeltachtaí.

Most Gaeltacht schools do not have a language policy nor is there a system to give direction or advice in the development of such. Although Irish is the normal means of communication of the vast majority of teachers the report notes the significance of English being dominant in 18% of the second level schools. Irish is not dominant in any second level school in the smaller Gaeltachtaí in Mayo, Waterford or Cork.

The Report calls for greater efforts to be made to encourage teachers to improve their competency and to encourage those who are competent in the language. It also recommends:

- A new definition of Gaeltacht schools to include Gaelscoileanna which may lie outside the Gaeltacht areas.
- Gaeltacht schools should be administered as a separate educational sector with appropriate support and advisory services.
- Priority should be given to educational resources.
- There should be an immediate review of facilities and investment for training primary and post primary teachers.
- The work of the Gaeltacht schools and Gaelscoileanna should be viewed as part of a broader language planning strategy
- Provision should be made for a comprehensive youth service to be established in the Gaeltacht.

According to Breandan MacCormaic, chairman of the council, the future of the Gaeltacht is threatened. He warned, 'If the perilous current state of Gaeltacht education is not resolved, the future of the Gaeltacht itself is threatened'.

## New Policy from Gaeltacht Authority

In March the new Chief Executive of Údaráis na Gaeltachta (the Gaeltacht Development Authority), Pádraig Ó hAoláin, launched a new action plan for 2005-2010. It heralded a new approach in so far as it addresses language issues also. The Údaráis has often been accused by Irish language activists of placing too much emphasis on industrial development and not concerning itself with language matters or the effects of industrial development on the language.



*Pádraig Ó hAoláin,  
Chief Executive of Údaráis na Gaeltachta*

In recognition of the decline in the Irish language community in the Gaeltacht the Údaráis will set up a consultative committee on language planning, develop thirty units for language maintenance and learning across all Gaeltacht areas and strengthen their language planning department and support services for youth in the Gaeltacht. They will support communities to strengthen and extend social networks which sustain and promote the language as a community language. The Údaráis hopes to create 800 new jobs each year and will operate to help and expand co-operatives. Consultation will take place between now and year end with Gaeltacht communities to agree action plans to strengthen the language in strong areas and revive it in weak areas.

## The North - gains for Sinn Féin and DUP

In the elections of early May for the Westminster parliament the results in the North reflected those of the Local Assembly elections. Despite the attempts to link republicans with the robbery of £38m from the Northern Bank in Belfast in December (and indeed statements from Hugh Orde, Chief of the PSNI, that it was carried out by the IRA – but with no charges being made, or evidence produced) and the casting out of polite political circles of Sinn Féin (including exclusion from the St Patrick's Day celebrations in the US) in the wake of the outfall of the Robert McCartney murder, Sinn Féin increased its vote by 3%, gaining 24.3 % of the total vote. The party increased its number of MPs from 5 to 6 while the SDLP retained their three seats.

The other main result was the consolidation of the Rev. Ian Paisley's DUP at the expense of their unionist rivals, the UUP. The DUP increased its vote by 11%, and gained three seats giving them a total of 9 while the UUP was eclipsed, losing four of their five seats. Following talks with British Prime Blair Ian

Paisley declared the Good Friday agreement dead and seemed to close the door on power sharing. His view not shared by Blair or Irish Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern and was dismissed by Sinn Féin's President Gerry Adams, (who in April had called on the IRA to end its 'armed struggle' and fully embrace politics – a call for which a response is still awaited). He stated that the Belfast Agreement remained the template for political development. Ian Paisley later called for total IRA disbandment while the Irish government position is that of calling for 'a clear and unambiguous end of all paramilitary and criminal activity and to see the end of decommissioning'. Whether Paisley will ever share power in the changed political landscape remains to be seen – it seems likely no matter how far the IRA goes it will never be enough for him. Obviously there is quite a long way to go before any chance of getting close to the position of early last December where agreement on revival of the Executive seemed possible but equally the status quo or direct rule seem unacceptable.

# THE EU CONSTITUTION CRISIS

## ... WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

*First, all democrats should rejoice at the defeat of the conspiracy of the EU's governors against the governed which was the proposed EU Constitution.*

Let us enjoy the dismay of the Eurocrats, the Eurofanatics and the Eurobullies. The politicians who get more personal power for themselves at the expense of National Parliaments and citizens, as ever more functions of government are shifted from the national to the EU level. The bureaucrats in Brussels and the Member States who are freed thereby from democratic control over their decisions. The journalists who have prostituted the values of objective reporting to become missionaries for the integration project. The paid ideologues of the European Movement and the Jean Monnet Professorships. In Ireland the Iveagh House acolytes of Dr Garret FitzGerald and Mr Noel Dorr, who have misguidedly spent their lifetimes working towards making their fellow-countrymen citizens of an EU State run by people whom they do not elect and cannot control...

As democrats let us rejoice to see Jean Monnet's Euro-federalist project now headed for the rocks of history as the Europe of that great political realist Charles de Gaulle reasserts itself again, the statesman who once said: "Europe is a Europe of the Nations and the States or it is nothing."

The peoples of France and Holland have dealt a mighty blow to supranationalism and Euro-federalism. What is now to be done?

**1. BUILD STRONGER CROSS-NATIONAL LINKS:** The most important thing for democrats and EU-critics across our continent to do now is to strengthen the links forged in cross-national campaigns against the EU Constitution and keep in touch with and support one another in the time ahead as the Eurofederalists regroup. Democrats on the Left and on the Right have a common interest in defending the Nation State and national democracy. They should continue to cooperate or work in parallel, excluding any truck with racist or neo-fascist movements, through such networks as TEAM (The European Alliance of EU-critical Movements), the European No Campaign etc.

**2. PEOPLE WANT COOPERATION NOT CONTROL IN EUROPE:** Cherry-picking the EU Constitution and seeking to implement it in bits and pieces despite the French and Dutch No votes would be a blatant affront to democracy. All attempts by EU Governments to do this should be vigorously opposed. The EU does not need a Constitution. The Treaty of Nice proclaimed itself as the EU's enlargement treaty. We need a Europe of free trade between its developed economies. We need cooperation

between States on common problems, not supranational control from above by the non-elected EU Commission, the power-hungry EU Court of Justice and the oligarchy of the EU Council of Ministers.



*Anthony Coughlan, National Platform  
and Senior Lecturer Emeritus  
- Social Policy, Trinity College, Dublin*

**3. REPATRIATE POWERS FROM BRUSSELS TO THE MEMBER STATES:** Democrats should now insist on a proper debate on Europe's future and on what the peoples of Europe, not the EU elite, desire. This should take place in the 25 National Parliaments and among the citizens of the EU countries. Not one of the National Parliaments discussed THE PRINCIPLE of whether they wanted an EU Constitution prior to the Eurofederalists deciding that they would try to foist one on them. We do not need 100,000 pages of EU laws that seek to harmonise everything. The corrupt and inefficient Brussels apparatus must be dismantled. Powers should be repatriated from the EU to the Nation States: foreign and security policy, crime and justice policy, immigration policy, monetary policy, health policy, fisheries policy, much of the reactionary Common Agricultural Policy, which exploits the world's poor countries while making our own food more expensive. The possibility of doing this was mooted in the Laeken Declaration which set out the terms of reference of the Convention on the Future of Europe that drew up the EU Constitution. Yet the Constitution did not propose devolving a single power from

Brussels back to the States. It provided instead that Brussels should be given many more powers. The EU Budget should be drastically cut. EU national offices should be closed down. The Commission's vast propaganda budget should be abolished.

#### **4. RESTORE EUROPE'S NATIONAL CURRENCIES:**

The currency markets and the Euro's own internal contradictions will ensure that the euro will now never become the currency of all 25 EU States. The split over the EU Constitution between France and Germany on the one hand and the UK, Sweden, Denmark and the Central and East European States on the other, corresponds to the fault-line between those inside and outside the eurozone. The Constitution was meant to provide a Federal State political superstructure for the euro; but now that will never be. What we have is one currency and 12 States, with no one State responsible for maintaining the euro's value. The French want "social France" and a 35-hour working week. The British want liberalism, free-market and a 48-hour week. Both are entitled to what their people want, but they are not entitled to try to impose it on everyone else through the EU in the name of "social Europe" – or "liberal Europe" for that matter. Each country can decide its own policy on such issues if they have their own national currencies, so that movements in the exchange rate would take the strain of different policies. That cannot happen in an EU Monetary Union. The euro may last some years yet, but its days are numbered. As Otmar Issing, Governor of the European Central Bank, has said: "There is no example in history of a lasting monetary union that was not part of one State."

**5. AN ALTERNATIVE EU OF DEMOCRACIES:** The outline of an alternative EU that was produced by dissident members of Giscard's Convention, including Denmark's Jens-Peter Bonde MEP, the Czech Republic's Jan Zahradil MP, Britain's David Heathcoat-Amory MP, Ireland's John Gormley TD and others, provides a sensible interim programme of reforms for a more slimmed-down, more democratic and more decentralised EU for those who want that. Its details can be found at [www.bonde.com](http://www.bonde.com), [www.euabc.com](http://www.euabc.com), and in the Convention's own Report. People should copy it from there and disseminate it widely as one practical scheme for an EU that is closer to what the peoples of the EU want than the EU that currently exists.

*Anthony Coughlan,  
Secretary, The National Platform  
EU Research and Information Centre*



# Kernow



## DYDHWYETH AN YETH BRETONEK

Synsys veu dhe'n 5 a vis metheven « **Devezh ar Brezhoneg** » (Dydhweyth an Yeth Bretonek) rag an weyth nessa yn Karaez (Carhaix yn Frynkek) arta. Synsys veu an jydh ma gans kowethas « **Dazont ar yezh** » (Termyn a dheu an Yeth). Pur lowen o tus an kowethas gans sewena an darvos ! Res yw dhyn perthi kov bos skoedhys an jydh na gans « **Ofis ar Brezhoneg** » ! Yntra 3,000 ha 5,000 den a dheu dhe'n darvos an vlydhen eus passys !

Ervirys veu an vlydhen eus passys wosa an darvos dhe witha kynsa Sul an mis Metheven avel dydhweyth an yeth bretonek pub blydhen. Tus kowethas « **Dazont ar Yezh** » a vynn gul kuntellyans kewar rag **Dydhweyth an Yeth Bretonek** yn termyn kewar yn spyrys an dus. An keth amkan gans an keth spyrys, dell lavar **Anne-Lise Deleon**. Hembrenkyas kowethas « **Dazont ar yezh** » yw an vyrgh ma.

Kowethasow an « **Emsav** » (an Omsav bretonek) a allas keschanjya derivadow,

perthyans, hag all... dres oll kowethasow o ri dyskansow bretonek rag tevesigyon...

Gwerys veu kowethas « **Dazont ar yezh** » gans **Ofis ar Brezhoneg** ha **Kuzul Sevenadurel Breizh**.

Dadhelva yn-kever gwynnel rag an yeth a veu profys gans **Anne-Lise Deleon**. An vlydhen ma yth esa dadhelva yn Frynkek henwys « **Prag dyski Bretonek y'n 21<sup>st</sup> kansvlydhen?** ». Tus kowethas « **Dazont ar yezh** » a vynnys profya dihaual testennow ha dadhelvaow pub blydhen rag dydhweyth an yeth bretonek. I a vynnys displegya gwrians yn ha der an Bretonek. Herwydh **Anne-Lise Deleon** « pur boesek yw gorra an dus dhe sevel, dhe wruthyl traow rag an jydh na ».

Profys veu an vlydhen ma oferenn, ilow, sportow hengovek, gwariow, kanow ha dadhelvaow yn Bretonek. Res yw dhyn perthi kov bos heb kost an darvos...

Pella derivadow orth [www.devezh.com](http://www.devezh.com) po orth [devezharbrezhoneg@voila.fr](mailto:devezharbrezhoneg@voila.fr)



### Summary:

The « **Day of the Breton language** » took place this year for the second time on the 5th June. This event was organized once again by « **Dazont ar Yezh** » (Future of the Language) led by a young woman called **Anne-Lise Deleon**. It had been decided that the event would be held annually every first Sunday of June. It was a good occasion for those involved in the struggle for the language to exchange information, experiences, etc. A debate in French called « **Why learning Breton in the 21st century?** » was also organized. More information at: [www.devezh.com](http://www.devezh.com) or [devezharbrezhoneg@voila.fr](mailto:devezharbrezhoneg@voila.fr)

José CALVETE

## SOLEMPNYANS A'N YETH KERNEWEK/ A CELEBRATION OF THE CORNISH LANGUAGE

The Cornish language organisation Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek launched its new design and image for the twenty-first century on June 1st. Promoted as Solempnyans a'n yeth Kernewek (a celebration of the Cornish language), the Cornish Language Fellowship event intended 'to mark the progress of the language and to promote a fresh and dynamic approach to its use today'. By re-branding, Kowethas, which was founded in 1979, intends to bring Kernewek closer to the general public by encouraging more and more people to use the language in their everyday lives. Dr Loveday Jenkin, Chair person of Kowethas, said at the launch, held at the Hall for Cornwall in Truro, that, 'Kowethas isn't just for those fluent in Cornish... Kowethas is for everyone, whether they know a few words or only one ... we must get them to use the Cornish language as much as possible and show them that Cornish is fun'.

Martin Sanders of Sanders Design was responsible for the re-branding of the organisation. Having attended a Cornish language pre-school in the early 1980's, Martin has grown up with the Cornish language. 'I wanted the logo to reflect a wave and the feeling of being drawn in. Just as the sea is a tremendous natural force, the Cornish language, like the sea, has the power to draw people in too - why else have so many people learnt a language over a hundred year period that holds no economic gain for them, except for the knowledge that it is the language of their culture; the language of Cornwall.'



Martin Sanders (Designer) presenting his new logo for Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek

In addition Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek had a stall on Lemon Quay on Saturday 4th June, where they sold Cornish language materials, including books and films and further promoted the work of the organisation and the language to a wider public.



## Borough Council give their approval to Beach development

Restormel Borough Council gave their approval on 1st June, to a controversial development to redesign the sea wall at Carlyon Bay, St Austell in preparation to build 511 luxury holiday apartments and a leisure complex. The Council's approval of the plans is a slap in the face for Carlyon Bay Watch (CBW), the campaign group set up to oppose the commercial development by the Ampersand Group Ltd.

The Council meeting was attended by over 100 members of the general public, many of whom were members of CBW. Restormel could only give their approval to the plans, as the final decision resides with John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister. CBW is now hoping that Prescott will call a public inquiry into the development.

An Scoren Kernewek The Cornish Branch are opposed to the development for a number of reasons. In addition to the environmental and social impact of building such a large scale, unsustainable commercial development on the edge of a small village and on a beach, is the belief that Restormel Council's approval will send the message to the owners of the large number of privately owned beaches in Cornwall, that they could also 'cash in' on potential future developments.

All those who oppose this and similar developments are asked to write immediately to the Assistant Planning Manager at the address below, calling for a full public inquiry into the decision by Restormel Borough Council at St. Austell on 1st June Ref 05/00028.

Mrs Michelle Peart,  
Assistant Planning Manager,  
Government Office of the South West,  
Mast House, 24 Sutton Road,  
Plymouth, PL4 0HJ.

**R Tal-e-bot**

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT KERNOW

Since the May 5th General Election all of Cornwall's five Parliamentary Constituencies now hold a Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament. Previously, the Falmouth and Camborne constituency held a Labour Party MP, but in May this marginal seat was won by 26 year old Julia Goldsworthy.

Mebyon Kernow – the Party for Cornwall stood in four out of the five constituencies, having made an agreement with the Green Party not to stand against their only candidate in the St Ives constituency.

## French Navy play down Submarine Involvement in Fishing Tragedy

French naval authorities have tried to play down the possible involvement of a French or NATO submarine in the mysterious sinking of the Breton trawler, *Bugaled Breizh* which sank, mysteriously, off the coast of the Lizard in January 2004 with the loss of 5 of its crew.

French Naval Chief, Admiral Jean Louis Battet, told the media that whilst the authorities understood the pain of the families who had lost loved ones on the trawler the finger of blame should not be pointed at naval authorities.

Admiral Battet cited an example some years ago in which a US submarine sank a Japanese ship and said the submariners involved surfaced and tried to assist rescue operations.

In August 1984 Scottish trawler MFV *Huntress* snagged and towed. The incident was later acknowledged by United Kingdom – the submarine never surfaced.

In May 1985 pair trawlers MFV *Willing Lad* and MFV *Family Friend* were towed astern for five minutes before fishing gear parted. The submarine never surfaced.

In February 1987 the MFV *Summer Morn* was snagged and towed in an incident that covered over 10 miles and a duration of 3 hours. Eventually the Skipper cut his gear. A device picked up in the area identified the submarine as American and subsequently compensation was paid.

In 1989 the Irish MFV *Contestor* was snagged by a submarine. Subsequent debris recovered included a Submarine sonar buoy



*The Bugaled Breizh was raised and returned to France*

However Admiral Battet has a somewhat selective memory when it comes to incidents involving submarines and motor fishing vessels (MFVs) and we have written to him drawing his attention to some incidents in European waters which cast the submarine services of various navies in a less positive light.

We set out below some examples.

In 1982 the British submarine HMS *Porpoise* snagged the Irish trawler MFV *Sheralga* dragging it under in seconds. The trawler did not surface and the *Sheralga* crew were abandoned in the water. Fortunately a nearby fishing vessel rescued them.

In February 1984 the Breton trawler MFV *Jean de Lorraine* was snagged and towed astern for several miles and subsequently cut fishing gear cable to break free. An unidentified submarine spotted soon after 4-5 miles away.

In August 1984 the English trawler MFV *Joanna C* snagged and towed astern and was ordered by navy to cut gear – submarine never surfaced.

– the British submarine did not surface.

Meanwhile in new information from the Royal Navy sent to the League it is confirmed that designated Fishing Vessel Safety Ships (FVSSs) tasked to the exercise which commenced just after the *Bugaled Breizh* sank did not commence operations until the exercise was underway on the 16th January 2004.

To put this in context the detail of the exercise was notified to mariners via the Maritime and Coastguard Agency issuing a SUBFACTS notice at one minute past midnight on the 15th of January (the notice was subsequently re-broadcast at four hour intervals). The Fishing Vessel Safety Ships however did not take up station until the exercise commenced on the 16th January.

We will be querying with the MoD why, given that traffic including submarines on passage to the exercise area was deployed, why SUBFACTS and FVSSs were not deployed simultaneously.

**J. B. Moffatt**



# Mannin



## Y Mee-unnaneyys Oarpagh

Ayns Carn earroo 129, va art lajer guee er sleih dy voyal (my va lheid y vote oc) noi'n vunraght va sleih pooaral ennagh kiarail cur bree da son yn Unnaneyys Oarpagh. Mastey reddynd elley, va'n art gra dy row yn vunraght treealit shen ayns foayr jeh impiroilaghys, laissez-faire, preevaadjaghey shirveishyn theayagh, meanaghey yn Unnaneyys ny smoo, goaill pooaraghyn elley veih ard-whaiyllyn ashoonagh, lowal da ard-pholitickeyryn caghlaa yn vunraght myr bailliu, as jannoo neunhee jeh cheeraghyn beggery yn Unnaneyys. Red slane deynlagh, dy jarroo.

Neayr's va'n art shen currit magh, ta sleih ayns y Cheer Injil as ayns y Rank er votal dy lajer noi'n vunraght. Ayns ny cheeraghyn shen, ga dy row yn sleih niartal as bunnys ooilley ny pabyryn-naight as ny stashoonyn radio as chellveeish guee er y theay dy votal son y vunraght, ren y theay votal noi eck lesh tromlagh mooar ayns y daa heer. Va'n chooid smoo jeh ny fir-toshee sy Cheer Injil as y Rank gra dy beagh eh goll rish jerrey yn teihll dy jinnagh sleih votal noi'n vunraght ayns ny refraneynd. Cha ren ny padjeryn jeh ny lughtyn-reill caghlaa aignaghyn erbee. Ayns daa heer hug y Covargey er bun, ren ny lughtyn-reill coayl. Gyn ourys, shimme y oyr ren ad coayl. Ayns y daa heer, va ny voteyryn skee jeh ny reiltyssyn oc. T'eh jeeaghyn dy vel voteyryn sy Cheer Injil smooinghtyn dy vel ad cur rouyr argid va'n Unnaneyys. Va ny Frangee laccal freayll yn argid ry hoi pohlldal eirynys Frangagh, as cha row ad laccal shirveishyn theayagh dy groll er preevaadjaghey. Ayns gagh cheer, va drogh ourys ec sleih mychione tooilley sleih cheet dy chummal ayns ny cheeraghyn oc. Tra va ny refraneynd caillt, v'eh anaasagh dy chlashtyn ny dooyrt fir veih y lughtyn-reill sy daa heer. V'ad soilshaghey nagh row ad toiggal deynlaght ro vie: 'Ta'n pobble er nyannoo marran – reaghmayd refraneynd elley as inshmayd daue dy votal dy kiart y keayrt shoh.'

Bentyn rish ny Celtiee, cre hig ass ny taghyrtyn shoh? She Mannin yn ynrican cheer Cheltiagh nagh vel syn Unnaneyys Oarpagh. Agh ta Mannin fo ordaag ny

Sostynnee son cooishyn eddyrashoonagh, as dy firrinagh cha nel Mannin cheu-mooie ny cheu-sthie jeh'n Unnaneyys Oarpagh (stayd feer Vanninagh). Ga dy vel eh jeeaghyn dy vel paart dy pholitickeyryn Manninagh geddyn ny barelyn oc veih Daily Mail Hostyn, ta beggan dy voirey ayns Mannin dy row yn vunraght ceaut magh (t'eh jeeaghyn) er y fa dy beagh staydys Vannin er ve reaghit reesht sy vunraght shen. Vel reddynd heose syn aer nish bentyn rish staydys Vannin? S'doillee gra cre haghrys nish bentyn rish cooish erbee ta'n Unnaneyys Oarpagh dellal rish.

Bee sleih dy liooar ayns Nerin feer wooiagh dy vel eh jeeaghyn dy vel y vunraght marroo. Hannah, cha bee Nerin geddyn cho wheesh d'argid veih'n Unnaneyys lurg da cheeraghyn elley cheet stiagh ayn. Agh nish, ta stayd noa ayn, er yn oyr nagh vel eh liklee dy bee ram cheeraghyn noa cheet dy ve nyn olteynyn jeh'n Unnaneyys. As kyndagh ish ny votyn jiooldagh, ta'n troddan son ard-steat Oarpagh jeant smoo faase. Myr shen, son y traas t'ayn, cha bee treealtys son armee Oarpagh as y lheid geddyn monney geill – shimme Yernagh nagh vel geeearree cooney lesh impiroilaghys kyndagh rish shennaghys Nerin.

Gyn ourys erbee, hug Tony Blair booise da Jee tra vote ny Frangee noi'n vunraght. Er agh ennagh, va laue yn eaghtyr echey er Chirac, yn eaghtyrane Frangagh. Lurg ram arganys tammylt er dy henney, choard Blair dy beagh refrane sy Reeriaght Unnaneyssit mychione y vunraght Oarpagh. Eisht dooyrt Chirac dy beagh refrane sy Rank. Bee eh trimshagh ass towse dy dooyrt eh shen. Foddee dy noddagh eh er chur er yn ard-whaiyl Rangagh dy votal son y refrane fegooish refrane erbee, goll rish ny Germaane. Veih'n toshiaght, ta ourys mooar er ve er ny Sostnee mychione y chalee Oarpagh – joarreeyn aitt loayrt eddyr oc hene mychione cooishyn bolvaneagh ayns 'Europe' – car y traas ta ny Sostnee (as sleih elley) smooinghtyn nagh vel ny h-ellanynd shoh ayns yn Oarpey. Dy dooghyssagh, t'ad booiaagh dy liooar dy ghra 'Y Vretyn' ny 'Y

Vretyn Vooar' as eer 'Sostyn' rish ny h-ellanynd shoh myr unnid, agh cha nel ad goaill rish y feerid dy vel shin ooilley ayns yn Oarpey. Y boirey t'ayn, shen dy vel 'Yn Oarpey' er jeet dy ve ny ennym politickagh syn ynyd jeh ennym ayns cheeroaylleaght.

Rish keeadyn dy vleantyn, t'eh er ve myr polasee ec fir-reill Hostyn dy hickyragey dy row ny h-Albinee, Bretnee, Cornee, Manninee as Yernee fo'n smaght oc as scarrit rish sleih gaueagh ayns y cheer vooar Oarpagh. Phrow ny Spaainee as ny Frangee dy chooney lesh ny h-Albinee as ny Yernee, as foddee dy row eer ny Manninee arrymagh ro arryltagh dy chionnaghey stoo veih ny Frangee sy hoghtoo eash jeig. Ta tradishoon liauyr ec ny Sostnee as drogh ourys oc er joarreeyn agglagh ayns y cheer vooar Oarpagh – as shimme Celtiagh ellanagh ta smooinghtyn er yn agh cheddin. Myr shen, tra va ny refraneynd shen caillt, cha row monney Sostnee keaney.

Ta'n gaue smoo nish dy jean Tony Blair cleaney sleih ayns cheeraghyn y cheer vooar d'eiyrt er 'y trass agh' echey. She cloider croutagh y fer shen oddys jannoo cluic er sleih lesh gialdynys foalsey as goan brynnagh. Va'n schlei echey ry akin ayns ard-whaiyl yn Oarpey tra loayrt eh ayns shen gerrid lurg ny refraneynd shen. Kionfenish, va ymmodde politickeyryn voish cheeraghyn anchasley va slane noi Blair. By vie lesh kuse jeh eh y varroo. Cre haghry? Loayr eh er agh glick as shliawin. Deaisht ad rish dy h-arrymagh son y chooid smoo as woail ad ny bassyn oc. Ram jeh ny politickeyryn shen, bee ad toiggal dy vel 'y trass agh' yn un red as preevaadjaghey dy chooilley red, son y chooid smoo. Ec y traas t'ayn ayns Sostyn, ta scammylt lurg scammylt cheet rish, bentyn rish preevaadjaghey reddynd, goaill stiagh scoillyn as thieyn-lheihys as traenyn. Oddagh oo gra dy vel delleyderyn geid millioonynd dy phunt veih ny h-eeckeyderyn-keesh Goadagh gagh shiaghtin. Ta lught Blair gymmydey yn focle 'jeianaghey' ('modernisation') dy mennick. Shen y coad oc son preevaadjaghey.

Shimme art t'ayn pabyryn-naight Hostyn ta guee mollaaght er ny 'Frangee litcheragh'. T'ad coontit dy ve litcheragh er y fa nagh vel ad laccal dy chooilley nhee dy ve jeant preevaadjagh, coardail rish saraghyn veih America as lught-dellal. Fodmayd guee mollaaght er Staillin son cur drogh ghoo da soshiallys. Neayr's v'eh grait dy row soshiallys marroo ta sorch dy Staillins burgaishagh er jeet rish: shegin dooin lhiggey er dy vel dy chooilley nhee ny cholught dellal. Ayns Sostyn nish t'ad loayrt mychione thieyn-lheihys theayagh as ad 'coayl argid'. Feiy ny cruinne nish, ta lught yn argid (as sleih elley) gra nagh vodmayd fordail y steat-lhiasee (welfare state). Agh shen yn Oarpey ren croo yn steat-lhiasee as cha nhegin dooin ceau ersoooyl eh myr red brisht. She red onnorail t'ayn. As t'eh anaasagh nagh Blair as e phossan goaill

# NEW MANX LANGUAGE OFFICER

Rosemary Derbyshire has been appointed to the position of Manx Language Officer following the retirement of Phil Kelly in February last.

As a child Mrs Derbyshire, née Gelling, was introduced to Manx by her grandfather, JW Gelling, who was head teacher at Braddan Primary school. She attended Manx events led by the late Dougie Fargher and Adrian Pilgim, but left the Island in the 1970s to attend University in England. She returned to the Island in 1987 but it wasn't until 1991 that she turned to pursue her interest in Manx, attending classes with Joan Caine and the late Dick Radcliffe. In 1999 Mrs Derbyshire joined the Manx Language Units' team of peripatetic teachers.

In an interview with the national newspaper, The Manx Examiner, Mrs Derbyshire said: "The tide has definitely turned as far as the teaching of Manx in schools is concerned. Since the programme was introduced in 1992 it has gone from strength to strength. There are now 850 children having weekly Manx lessons ... Now every child from the age of eight has a chance to learn Manx and they can carry it on to A level if they desire.



Rosemary Derbyshire

"What I would like to see in the not too distant future is perhaps children at key stage three, which is years seven to nine, being able to choose Manx as a timetabled lesson in school. At the moment they have to do it before or after school if it could become a

timetabled subject like French or German that would be a big step forward. Then we would get more children opting to do it at GCSE and possibly A level." Mrs Derbyshire added: "Any" kind of language study is good for the brain and the more languages you learn the easier it becomes to learn a language. In the Isle of Man more and more jobs are being created where people use Manx".

## ACHIEVERS IN MANX MATTERS AWARDED

The North American Manx Association launched a programme for outstanding achievement by young people for the millennium of Tynwald in 1979. The awards – silver medals – are presented annually to the winners.

There are five categories in the competition which includes Manx music, arts and crafts, Manx language, outstanding contribution to Manx culture and outstanding contribution to the community or overcoming disability.

## Y Mee-unaneyys Oarpagh

(continued)

ymmyd jeh'n ockle 'soshiallys' – red voish Eash ny Claghyn, gyn ourys.

Ta sleih dy liooar er ve noi'n eie jeh'n Oarpey myr ard-steat unnaneyssit, Nish, bee tooillee sleih myr shen ayn. Cha beagh ard-steat foaysagh da ny Celtiee noadyr – veagh lheid y steat goll er stiurey dy bollagh ec ny cheeraghyn mooarey. As ga dy vel sleih ennagh sy Vrussyl er ve goaill cowag mychione 'subsidiarity' (cur tooillee poar da sleih ynnydagh), cha nel shin e chlashtyn monney mychione shen re y gherrid. T'eh jeeaghyn nagh vod oo caghlaa yn steat-ashoon monney. Myr shen, t'eh jeeaghyn dy nhegin da ny Celtiee jannoo lesh ny steatyn-ashoon son y traa t'ayn. Kyndagh rish arganeyn syn Unnaneyys Oarpagh er y gherrid, ta'n ashoonaghys er jeet dy ve ny stroshey. Oyr elley dy bee ny steatyn-ashoon tannaghtyn as nagh bee 'Oarpey ny h-Ardjyn' cheet rish.

### Summary

The current bitter disputes in the European Union after the apparent demise of the ill-fated constitution make it likely that the institution of the nation-state will be strengthened, making the emergence of a 'Europe of the Regions' very unlikely. Celts will welcome the setbacks for those who want a European superstate. Europeans should be wary of siren words from Tony Blair about 'modernisation'.

Brian Stowell

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# Manx Government Sanctions Illegal Activity

The scandal ridden government in the Isle of Man has buried its collective head even deeper into the sand and effectively sanctioned illegal activity with a recent announcement by the Chief Minister, Donald Gelling.

In 1992, a proposal to link the Island to the UK via a cable link was rejected by Mec Vannin as, amongst other things, it would not benefit the Island and its people economically – just the opposite, in fact.

[See: <http://www.manxman.co.im/mecvan/archive/generate.html>]

At the same time, recommendations to have a "T" connector put into a natural gas pipeline being laid through the Island's seabed territory were ignored.

Nonetheless, when Mr. Mike Proffit took over the management of the government owned Manx Electricity Authority in 2000, he pressed ahead with a cable link to England and had the gas pipe "tapped into". Unbelievably, despite the enormous costs of these exercises, he also dropped electricity charges. The economics didn't add up, but there was no way to challenge them from outside government.

Late last year, a crisis meeting of the Island's Council of Ministers was told that an audit required under law revealed a massive unauthorised borrowing of £120



million, acquired via a company that Mr. Proffit had established as a subunit of the MEA. This was in addition to an authorised borrowing of £180 million.

The borrowing was arranged through Barclays Offshore Bank Ltd, a banking operation registered in the Isle of Man with Mr. Proffit being a director. Mr. Proffit announced that he was not seeking a renewal of his contract with the MEA, which expired in January of this year.

When these details emerged, Mr. Gelling, then a member of the Treasury and now Chief Minister, relayed the MEA excuses verbatim to the Island's Tynwald assembly: It was claimed that the borrowing was legal.

Now, the report by auditors KPMG has been finally published in full and reveals that the borrowing was, indeed, illegal. Despite this, Mr Gelling announced on the 22nd June, that no action will be taken. Apparently, to prosecute criminal activity in the tax-haven may, "impact on the Island's international reputation and have possible economic implications." Nothing new there, then.

Meanwhile, the Island's populace, who are definitely not all wealthy tax-dodgers, are facing a possible doubling of electricity bills.

Mark Kermode

## US LAW AGENCIES SCRUTINISE TAX HAVEN

Manx government jubilation about the increase of monies deposited in the offshore tax haven will be tempered somewhat by the news that the Island is at the centre of a high profile US investigation.

In early June the Manx Treasury announced that deposits with banking institutions on the Island had increased by almost 8% from £2.38 billion to over £33 billion.

However, the positive image portrayed by this news has been tempered somewhat by the revelation that the Manhattan District Attorney, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS) are jointly probing a tax-shelter plan run out of the Isle of Man.

The revelations also contain a link to the US President in that the scheme being probed was devised by one of America's biggest banks and used by two billionaire donors to George Bush's election campaign among others. The probe is sent to inquire into possible breaches of securities and anti-money-laundering rules.

At the beginning of June the Isle of Man's dubious attractiveness to those seeking to avoid paying tax was been highlighted when a multi-millionaire businessman, who became a Labour minister, admitted holding part of his personal fortune offshore in a scheme that experts say could have helped him avoid £3m in tax.

The junior minister in question, established offshore trusts and companies in the Isle of Man that handled £30m he raised from the sale of his business. Experts say such arrangements are normally set up to avoid tax.

The Manx authorities are always crowing about the fact that the financial services sector on the Island has been given a clean bill of health and they have pointed in the past to full cooperation with outside agencies including those from the United States.

It looks as if they will be getting more opportunities to 'cooperate fully' in the months ahead.

J. B. Moffatt

## Time UK Paid up for Munitions Mess

Events on the North West coast of the Isle of Man in May last once again highlighted the dangers posed by discarded munitions left over from exercise usage in the area which spanned half a century. Both on shore and in the sea to the North West of the Ayres large quantities of potentially dangerous munitions have been abandoned. Periodically, incidents such as the recent event cause a sweep to be made and a small number of devices are recovered and disposed of. However, despite assurances, the Manx government has done nothing to pursue the British government to carry out a thorough clean up of the area.

Only six months ago the Celtic League wrote to the (then) Isle of Man Chief Minister, Richard Corkill MHK, expressing our concern at apparent double standards by the British Ministry of Defence which is engaged in a major clean up of exercise areas in the UK and has paid substantial compensation over areas it has contaminated overseas. Despite an exchange of correspondence (both written and oral) with the Chief Ministers Office no progress on the issue can be reported.

The Isle of Man provided ranges and facilities for decades to assist the UK and the defence of Western Europe. It received no payment or benefit for these facilities and indeed paid a substantial levy for defence from the UK. It is past time the UK honoured the debts it owes the Manx people and started to repay them!

J. B. Moffatt

## CELTIC LEAGUE AMERICAN PUBLICATION

There is a range of articles, reviews and a calendar of upcoming Celtic events in the current issue of SIX NATIONS ONE SOUL, the newsletter of the Celtic League American Branch.

SIX NATIONS is a regular publication (together with the Celtic Calendar) of the New York based Celtic League operation and the branch also operate their own web site with a variety of cultural and historical features on each Celtic country.

Anyone interested in reading more about the work of the Celtic League in North America should contact:

Alexei Kondratiev  
35-12 161st Street, Flushing,  
New York, 11358. USA



# Celtica



## Celtibérico



**Carlos JORDÁN CÓLERA**

List price: 26.00

Paperback : 476 pages (December 2004).  
(169 x 239)

Publisher: Universidad de Zaragoza,  
Monografías de Filología Griega N° 16

Language: Spanish

ISBN : 84-96214-9

### About the Author:

**Carlos Jordán Cólera** is a 41 year old scholar. He is a Doctor in Classical Philology at the prestigious Spanish University of Salamanca. While he was working on his doctoral thesis "*Relaciones dialectales entre el latín y el griego*", he was also working on several projects linked to the Pre-Roman languages and cultures of the Iberian Peninsula (now Spain and Portugal) under the direction of scholars such as **F. Villar** (University of Salamanca), **F. Marco** and **F. Beltrán** (University of Zaragoza). The Celtiberian language and culture and the study of Pre-Roman place-names were his main focus of interest. He has published several academic articles in Spanish reviews such as "*Emerita*", "*Fontes Linguae Vasconum*" and "*Veleia*", and also in several famous international reviews such as "*The Journal of Indoeuropean Studies*", "*Zeitschrift für Romanische Philologie*", "*Beiträge zur Namenforschung*" and "*Études Celtiques*". In 1998, he published "*Introducción al Celtibérico*". In 2001, he was responsible for the linguistic section of the edition of the fourth Bronze of *Contrebia Belaisca*: *El IV Bronce de Botorrita (Contrebia Belaisca): Arqueología y Lingüística*. Salamanca, (**F. Villar** - **M<sup>a</sup> A. Díaz** - **M. M<sup>a</sup> Medrano** - **C. Jordán**). He is also the founder and the

secretary of the Spanish magazine called "*Palaeohispanica*", a magazine dedicated to the languages and cultures of Pre-Roman Spain.

### Book Description:

The book first appeared in 1998. It had then 259 pages and was a corner-stone in the study of the Celtiberian language. Indeed, it was the first book only dedicated to the Celtiberian language to be published. It was then called "*Introducción al Celtibérico*". The title revealed that we were at the beginning of the study of that mysterious and sometimes disconcerting Celtic language using an odd semi-syllabic Iberian alphabet. Now some 7 years later, knowledge of the language has grown so that the book is now thicker. It now has 476 pages and the title has been changed from "*Introducción al Celtibérico*" to simply "*Celtibérico*". More evidence of the language has been found which has enabled **Carlos Jordán Cólera** and his staff to explain more words and to give us a better understanding of the language in general. The book contains valuable maps and figures showing a lot of objects with Celtiberian inscriptions. We also find one chapter dedicated to phonetics and phonology of the Celtiberian language and another one dedicated to the morphology and lexicon of the language which have been greatly enlarged in comparison with the previous edition. The translation of the inscriptions or the meanings given to the different recognized words are given with great precaution as **Carlos Jordán Cólera** considers that the corpus of the language is still very thin and for some points of discussion the decisive proof has still not been found.

I highly recommend this book to all those interested by this strange Celtic Language called Celtiberian and to those who would like to discover it. **Carlos Jordán Cólera** offers us an excellent study with up-to-date knowledge of it. Once again, his book is the corner-stone in the study and knowledge of the Celtiberian language. It deserves to be known and read by Celtic scholars and people in Ireland and Great Britain...

**José CALVETE.**

## Amnesty Urges Boycott of Restricted Finnucane Inquiry

Michael Finnucane, son of Belfast solicitor Pat Finnucane murdered by loyalists, has welcomed the Amnesty International internet campaign to persuade senior British figures not to work with the planned inquiry into the murder of his father.



Pat Finnucane

The inquiry is to be set up under new legislation that will grant the British government new controls over what is heard in public.

Amnesty's UK director Kate

Allen said: 'The (British government) will be able to control what the public finds out, and what it doesn't.' A number of other organisations and individuals have also expressed their concerns about the new legal framework for the proposed inquiry.

The Finnucane family and Mr Justice Peter Cory, the retired Canadian supreme court judge, who recommended the inquiry, have also rejected its terms. They believe that the new measures would hinder the inquiry's independence, effectiveness and openness. Judge Cory also called for inquiries into other contentious murders in which collusion between security forces and paramilitaries is alleged. However, these inquiries are to be held under existing legislation which is not contested by the families or human rights observers.

Preliminary hearings have already been held in advance of full investigations into the loyalist killings of human rights lawyer Rosemary Nelson and catholic Robert Hamill. The British government has also given the go-ahead for an inquiry into the murder of loyalist paramilitary leader, Billy Wright.

Geraldine Finnucane, widow of the murdered solicitor, has written to senior British judges calling on them not to work with any inquiry operating under the new legal framework. Michael Finnucane said, 'One of things that the European Court has determined is there should be a right-to-life inquiry in this case. There has been a violation of rights and there should be an investigation which is independent. But how can it be independent under the new Inquiry's Act? He said his family and human rights observers viewed the Inquiry's Act, 2005, as 'neither Western Park compliant nor Cory compliant'.

## Nuclear Dump Site List Made Public

A highly confidential list of locations for the potential disposal of nuclear waste drawn up by NIREX has been made public after being kept secret by the British government for over 15 years.

The information confirms what many have suspected for some time – that several sites in the Celtic countries are listed as potential areas for disposal. In addition to seven sites in England locations on remote Island sites off the coast of Scotland have been short-listed.

Also two sites close to the Sellafield nuclear works are potential candidates. Most controversially disposal under the sea off Scotland between the Inner Hebrides and Ireland is mooted and this is sure to anger politicians and environmental groups in Ireland and Scotland. Although no decision has as yet been reached about a long-term purpose-built repository for nuclear material the issue is very much a live one.

These new revelations will fuel opposition in Scotland and the Celtic countries generally against these areas being used as a dump for Britain's nuclear mess.

A complete list of the potential sites assessed by NIREX as being geologically suitable for a deep underground repository is set out below;

- Adjacent to Bradwell nuclear power station in Essex
- Ministry of Defence land on Potton Island, 8 km from Southend on Sea, Essex
- Under the North Sea, accessed from the port at Redcar, Yorkshire
- Under the sea between the Inner Hebrides and Northern Ireland, accessed from the port at Hunterston in North Ayrshire
- Killingholme, South Humberside
- Ministry of Defence training area, Stanford, Norfolk
- Adjacent to Dounreay nuclear plant in Caithness
- Two sites near the Sellafield nuclear plant in Cumbria
- Altnabreac in Caithness 18 km south of Dounreay
- Fuday, small, uninhabited island north of Barra in the Western Isles
- Sandray, small, uninhabited island south of Barra in the Western Isles

J. B. Moffatt

## REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN EXPLAINS VIEW ON EU CONSTITUTION

During a visit to Brittany as a guest of the Breton Independence movement EMGANN, the Vice President of Republican Sinn Féin, Des Dalton spoke at a Press Conference in Rennes on May 25, a public meeting also in Rennes on May 26 and a meeting in Guingamp on May 27 outlining Republican Sinn Féin's views on the proposed EU Constitution and neutrality. Their opposition to the Stormont Agreement and determination to end British rule in Ireland was also explained.

"The entire EU political and economic project is fundamentally undemocratic. It is about the centralisation of power and decision making, taking it away from the various national parliament and placing it in the hands of unelected bureaucrats. The European Parliament is nothing but an over subsidised talking shop, with real power wielded by the commission and the council of ministers. "For small nations like Ireland and Brittany the EU merely represents another form of imperialism. Instead of having power centred in London or Paris it will instead be administered from Brussels. This will not change the reality of either British or French rule; it is merely replacing one form of imperialism with another.

"Ireland's relationship with Brittany has always been special, our shared Celtic heritage coupled with our shared experience of colonialism and foreign occupation are the reasons for this. "Like EMGANN we believe in the "right of absolute equality between nations". This is the only foundation upon which true peace and stability can be created internationally.

The Breton people can only experience true democracy, when they have governmental structures which they have created, which involve them and which are accountable to them. Their right like that of all nations to elect a parliament and government which will legislate and govern in their best interests as well as representing them on the international stage is absolute. "The EU cannot provide the vehicle for this kind of revolutionary change. As a body it denies the existence of the stateless nations of Europe, the philosophy, culture and history upon which it is based is imperialist. For this reason we view the campaign against the EU Constitution as yet another front in the ongoing struggle for Irish Independence, for Breton independence and the independence and freedom of all stateless peoples.

## Demonstration Reminds Bretons of Freedom Struggle

A demonstration and commemoration were held in Gwengamp, Brittany in June to remember some of those who have died in the Breton freedom struggle over the years and also to remind Bretons of the ongoing court case and repression of Breton nationalists today.

The meeting was co-operatively organised by CARB (the Breton prisoners' solidarity group) and Nationalist Organisation, Emgann-MGI.

As is generally the case with such events the demonstration was attended by the media and also attracted the usual intimidatory scrutiny of the French Police.

However the demonstrators were not deterred and a wreath to commemorate fallen Breton comrades such as Kristian ar Bihan, Yann-Kel Kernalleguen and Jean Groix was laid. The wreath laying was followed by a patriotic rendering of "Kan Bale An ARB".

Bretons were urged to continue to give practical financial support to the Breton prisoners group, Skoazell Vreizh.

Those outside Brittany in the other Celtic countries who are sympathetic to the plight of the Breton prisoners can also contribute messages of solidarity and financial support. Details of how to contact Skoazell Vreizh are on their web-site: [www.skoazellvreizh.org](http://www.skoazellvreizh.org)

## £12m Grant for Irish Language Broadcasting in North

One commitment in the Belfast Agreement on the North was to "seek more effective ways to encourage and provide financial support for Irish language film and television production in Northern Ireland." The Joint Declaration in April 2003 stated that the British government would establish an Irish language film and television production fund. The fund's objective is to promote the Irish language in the North through the production and broadcasting of television programmes and films.

In June the European Commission authorised a British government grant of £12m to the Northern Irish Language Broadcast Fund to support the production of films and television programmes. Competition commissioner, Neelie Kroes said that the subsidy was compatible with EU state aid rules because the fund will promote culture. "The fund fosters broadcasts for Irish language speakers and I am happy to approve state aid which promoted cultural and regional identity."

To qualify for funding, a minimum of 60% of the spoken word within a production must be Irish and every production must be subtitled in English. The production must be of artistic quality and should reach a substantial audience in the North. Independent production companies will be eligible for assistance from the fund but grants can also be made to broadcasters in exceptional circumstances.

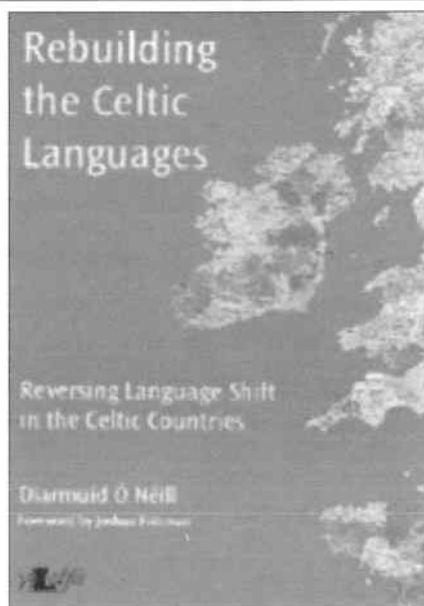


## Rebuilding the Celtic Languages / Diarmuid Ó Neill

First comprehensive attempt to apply the Fishman GIDS scale to the Celtic languages. The aim is not only to explore the strengthening of existing Celtic language communities and Celtic-speaking networks in the six Celtic countries but also to explore how the Celtic languages can be re-established on a much wider scale than is presently the case.

Edited by Canadian Diarmuid Ó Neill and includes contributions by prominent Celtic sociolinguists including Colin Williams, Marcel Texier, Pawl Birt, Kenneth MacKinnon and Brian Stowell. Foreword by Joshua Fishman.

This book should now be available for sale in the Celtic countries. It can also be purchased from **Y Lolfa's Online Shop** for **£19.95** at <http://www.ylolfa.com>



## Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership/subscription rates (including *Carn*) are: Stg£12; €20; US\$30 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank).

Europe: Stg. £15 (airmail);

Outside Europe: Stg. £18 (airmail).

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Articles for *Carn* should be sent on disk preferably in Microsoft Word or e-mailed to the Editor. Appropriate photographs should be sent with them.

Material for the next issue of *Carn* should reach the Editor no later than 1st August 2005. Articles sent for publication in *Carn* must relate to our aims. All materials copyright © *Carn* unless otherwise stated. The views expressed in *Carn* are not necessarily those of the editor or of the Celtic League.

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