

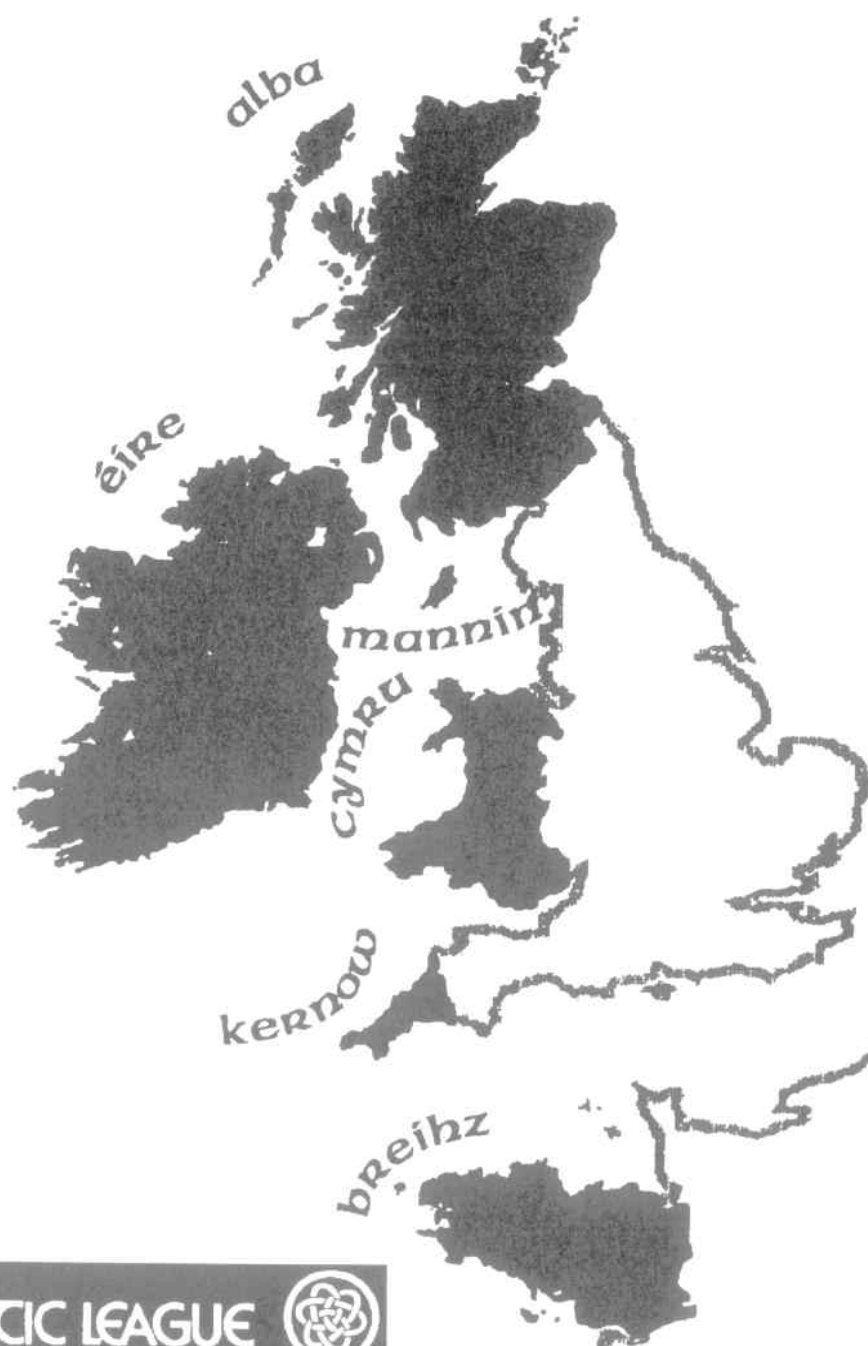
celtic

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 83

Winter 1993/94

£1.50



- Nuclear Threats
Plague Solway Firth
- Diwan Schools
threatened with
closure
- Siôn Aubrey Roberts
- Joint Authority
Acceptable for Six
Counties?
- Cadjiney ny
Çhengaghyn
- Opposition to Thorp
- Cultural Tourism and
Celtic Solidarity

ALBA: COMUNN
CEILTEACH • **BREIZH:** KEVRE
KELTEK • **CYMRU:** UNDEB
CELTAIDD • **ÉIRE:**
CONRADH CEILTEACH •
KERNOW: KESUNYANS
KELTEK • **MANNIN:**
COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE



ALBA

Cunnart agus Cothrom

Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd le Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich (Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig)

A reir aithris bheir An Comunn Eòrpach sùim mhór, mu trì millean nòt, don Ghàidhealtachd bhon a tha i na h-àite nach eile cho beartach ri coimhearsnachdan eile feadh na Roinn Eòrpa. Neartaichidh an t-airgead seo an structair.

A reir Winnie Ewing, a tha na Ball-Pàrlamaid Eòrpach agus feadhainn eile, is docha gum bi airgead gu leòr air son Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd a stéidheachadh.

Math dh'fhaoite bhiodh an t-Oilthigh seo na bheannachd gun mheang, ach chan eil sin ceart idir. Tairgaidh an t-Oilthigh seo cupan le puinnsean ann dhuinn, mur eil sinn faicilleach. Chan eil na Goill agus an fheadhainn eile daonnan a' saoilinn coltach ris na Gàidheil — cha sinne is iadsan an comhnaidh air an aon ramh!

Is docha gum biodh iad a' beachd-smuaineachadh coltach ris a sin — "Ah, Oilthigh ùr... bithidh e coltach ris an fheadhainn eile. Bithidh teagasg tre na

Beurla mar bu nòs... agus bithidh Roinn Cheilteach ann cuideachd, coltach ri na Oilthean eile... tre na Beurla cuideachd."

Glé mhath, ach mar a theireadh an seanfhacal... "Lean gu dlùth ri cliu do shìnnse." Am biodh ar sinnsearan a' leantainn barail seo nan Goill? Cha chreidsinn sin idir. Nach canadh iadsan, "B'eolach mo sheanair air a' Bheurla! Teagaisg a h-uile cail tre na Gàidhlig!"

"Ach", theireadh an fheadhainn eile, gu firinneach, "chan eil Gàidheil gu leòr ann idir... chan eil uiread de dh'oileanaich fileanta sa Gàidhlig ann..."

Air an adhbhar sin, feumaidh sin cothrom fhaighinn oileanaich a theagaisc tre na Gàidhlig. Mur eile sinn gan teagaisg mar sin bithidh Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd ach na oilthigh Gallda a' cleachdadh na Beurla!

Ma bhios cùrsa luath (crash course) agus bogadh sa Ghàidhlig (total immersion) ann, bithidh sinn comasach cuspairean a theagaisg tre na Gàidhlig. Bhiodh an cùrsa seo air a thairgsinn sa

chiad bhliadhna mur eil oileanach/fileanta nar cànan. Nuair a bhios e a' tairgsinn a h-uile cuspair tre na Gàidhlig bithidh Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd nar ciad Oilthigh Ghàidhlig!

Mar an ceudna, mur eil tuilleadh daoine fileanta ri faighinn cha bhi luchd-teagasc na Gàidhlig sna sgoiltean is sna croileagan. Mar tha, chan eil luchd-teagasc na Gàidhlig nan inbheach gu leor againn an drasda. A reir iris Comunn an Luchd-Ionnsachaidh nochd dà fhichead duine ùidh sa Gàidhlig ann an Annan gun neach fileanta gan cuideachadh! Bha tuilleadh ann an Langam far nach eil nach idir!

Ma bhios Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd ri fhaighinn, sireamaid Cothrom na Féinne air son "ar cànan 's ar ceòl" gun dail, oir cha bhi cothrom cho gealltanach ann sna bliadhnaichean ri theachd.

Gabhaimid misneachd, iarraimid teagasg na Gàidhlig!

Is lag greim an neo-shùrnt.

Summary

The possibility of the various colleges throughout the Highlands and Islands being brought under the aegis of a University of the Highlands presents dangers as well as opportunities.

Nuclear threats plague the Solway Firth

Radiation discharges from Sellafield have turned the Solway Firth into one of the most radioactively contaminated areas in the world, with some areas polluted well in excess of official safety limits.

An unpublished Scottish Office survey of radioactive contamination in the south-west of Scotland casts fresh doubt on official assurances that there is no risk to the health of local residents.

An aerial survey along 100 miles of the north Solway coast was carried out for the Scottish Office earlier this year by the Scottish Universities Research and Reactor Centre in East Kilbride.

It reveals for the first time the full extent of the Solway's contamination, highlighting particular radiation hotspots along all the five main river estuaries — the



SHUT IT NOW!

Cree, the Nith, the Dee, the Urr and the Fleet. Children who play on the river banks, fishermen, bird-watchers, and nature wardens are most at risk.

The survey, which is due to be published in the autumn, will also show that a dozen coastal Sites of Special Scientific Interest are polluted with caesium 137 in breach of safety limits derived by the government's National Radiological Protection Board. The nuclear industry, however, has argued that it is "unnecessarily alarmist" to apply these limits.

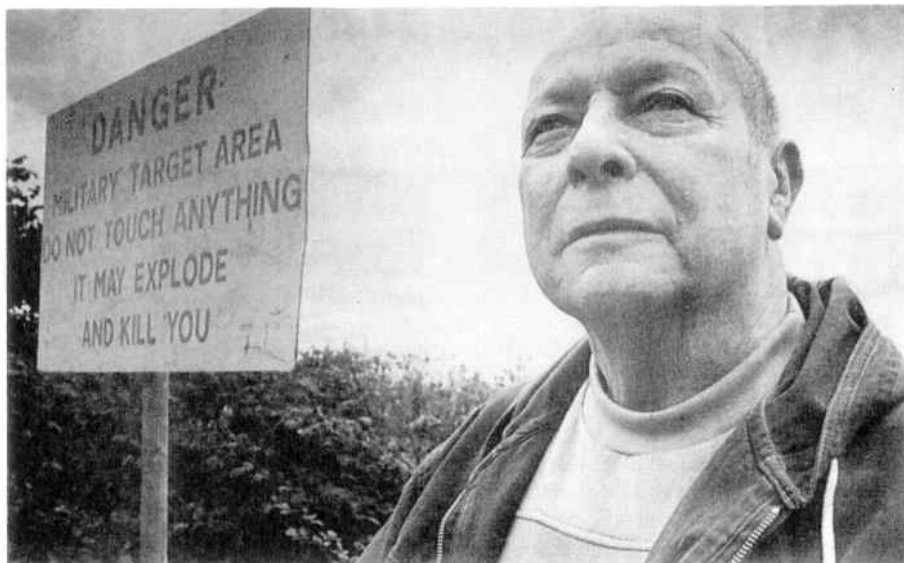
At the same time there is mounting concern about the possible hazards caused by the test-firing of thousands of uranium-tipped shells at the Ministry of Defence's Dundrennan range on the Firth near Kircudbright.

For years Dan Kenny, 73 has been raising questions about the range's use of depleted uranium shells, only to be dismissed as an eccentric old man with a particularly irritating bee in his bonnet.

The possible health effects associated with the military use of the depleted uranium has become an issue of international concern since the firing of uranium-tipped shells during the Gulf war became linked with a mysterious illness suffered by thousands of Gulf veterans. An investigation has been launched in the United States.

Depleted uranium is only mildly radioactive compared to the huge range of toxic compounds Sellafield has discharged into the sea over the last 35 years. Although uranium is chemically toxic, its potential hazards pale into insignificance against Sellafield's plutonium, americium and caesium, which have made the Solway Firth one of the world's most radioactively contaminated areas.

Recent research raised new concerns about radiation and cancers. The impact of the alpha radiation from plutonium on human cells may be worse than previously thought. And a new understanding of the way in which those cells mutate could explain the appearance of an unusually high incidence of relatively rare cancers,



Dan Kenny, veteran campaigner against the Dundrennan Range on the Firth

particularly among children in Dumfries and Galloway.

The concern is understandably heightened by the fact that Sellafield plans

to increase its radioactive emissions if it is eventually allowed to open its *Thorp* reprocessing plant.

Beaufort Dyke - Further sea explosives dumping?

The Celtic League campaign to provoke British Government action to monitor the Beaufort Dyke (North Channel) explosives dump has received a useful boost from County Antrim Councillors.

The League has liaised with Moyle District Councillor. Oliver MacMullan who successfully persuaded his colleagues to make an approach to the N.I.O. about mystery explosives, believed to originate from the dump, which have been coming ashore in Antrim, the Isle of Man and south-west Scotland. Other Local Authorities are being urged to lend support.

Access to all Celtic League information was made available to the Councillor with correspondence between the League and various U.K. government agencies. In addition charts of the contaminated coastline and also of explosives dumps around the Irish Sea and coastline were provided.

In a parallel development the League has once again written to the U.K. Ministry of Defence asking about future sea disposal plans.

The League initiative has been taken following information that large stocks of World War 2 vintage sea and air laid mines await disposal from the Royal Naval Armaments Depot at Trecwn in South Wales. It had been intended that the weaponry would be retained and modernised but the U.K.'s 'Options for Change' Defence review has forced a rethink.

Ironically safe land disposal using facilities at the plant is unlikely due to earlier manpower cuts. At a time when land disposal could provide useful job opportunities the United Kingdom seems set to discharge further hazardous material into our seas.

Hand Epynt Back!

Before the Second World War, Bro Epynt was a large Welsh speaking area in Central Wales.

Following the declaration of war the inhabitants were forced to move at short notice with minimal compensation. A community was destroyed. The land was handed over to the War Department for training purposes. It is still used as such by the Ministry of Defence.

Britain spends £24 billion a year on so-called defence. It must have escaped the

notice of the government that it no longer has an enemy big enough to justify such expenditure. Swingeing cuts are needed. Part of the savings could be spent on rebuilding the rail transport network in Cornwall, Scotland and Wales.

In particular, the training areas should be cleaned up, evacuated and handed back to local people. The status of Bro Epynt as a Welsh-speaking agricultural community should be fully restored, if necessary with grants to Welsh speaking farmers who are willing to settle there to cultivate the land.

Ifor Kenna

Aer Lingus Flight EI 712 Questions Remain

The British Ministry of Defence has for the first time supplied detailed evidence to refute claims that a stray missile caused a fatal 1968 Aer Lingus plane crash.

Material sent to the Celtic League by ministry chiefs would not normally be expected to be released until 1998 under the 30 year secrecy rule.

The League has for years alleged that a missile being tested by the British military at the Aberporth range in Wales malfunctioned and struck Aer Lingus flight EI 712 on March 24, 1968. The plane crashed with the deaths of all on board close to Tuskar Rock off the Wexford coast.

The material released by the MoD confirms the League's belief that the Dublin government never requested such data.

The MoD material also proves that missile testing was under way at Aberporth in Wales in the days before the Aer Lingus disaster and contradicts previous claims that Aberporth did not operate at weekends.

Ministry chiefs refute claims that HMS Penelope was testing missiles in the area in which the plane came down and, although confirming that two other naval vessels - Invermoriston and Uplifter - were in the vicinity, have been "unable to trace the log-books of either".

There is no doubt that the MoD has gone to some length to clarify the picture. It has provided evidence now which the Celtic League requested five years ago and that is a vindication of our campaign. But we believe there are still enough question marks and ambiguities to warrant a more detailed inquiry.

Cultural Tourism and Celtic Solidarity

"Take nothing but photographs, leave nothing but your footprints" runs the "green tourism" motto, which prompts me to ask what effect the attractions of visiting our Celtic neighbours has done for the language and national movements.

Having recently attended the 70th Festival de Cornouaille in Kemper (Brittany) in company with musically minded friends. I am acutely aware of the outward trappings of traditional culture and alert to signs of inward strengths and weaknesses.

Undoubtedly the creation of leisure time for the young and incomes to support travel and involvement in youth culture led to a great flowering of traditional music from the 1960s onwards. Alan Stivell, The Chieftains, Dafyd Iwan, The Corrie Folk Trio all evoke memories of the new demand to explore national musical roots and also vitally brought about a cross over of the generational barrier which mid-Atlantic pop had built up around the exploitation of youth culture.

As one Irish collector and broadcaster put it in 1977. "Our traditional music has never been so popular in Ireland and outside Ireland amongst young and old, and this must go down as one of the major developments in Irish social history of the last 25 years." Such a situation was mirrored in the other Celtic countries in varying degrees. It helped many musicians make a living wage when the musically starved Germans took to Irish and Scots music with such gusto. Music venues there and in the other Celtic countries and more recently in Catalonia, Galicia and Eukadi have contributed to this cross-pollination.

It is noticeable that publicity in Brittany in 1993 emphasises the continuity of traditional culture with modern interpretation as the life force which maintains and develops its attractions. The sale of traditional Breton food and drink, the symbols of Breton identity, bagad, fest noz, bombardes, flags and banners and the massive publicity hype for the Lorient Festival all present one facet of the 90s sales pitch. The Celtic idea at its heart is expressed each year with renewed vigour.

Beneath the surface, unseen by most casual travellers and visitors, are the year round efforts on behalf of Diwan, of the Breton Summer Schools, such as that at Scaer during the Kemper Festival. There are also the Cercle Celtique, Breton Games Associations and organisers of the various spectacular summer festivals which attract visitors to return to Brittany again and again.

Surely the gains of the last fifteen years since the high hopes of the 70s have been the broadcasting of TV and Radio programmes and the setting-up of stations in the Celtic languages. For if anything was gained in Welsh politics in the 70s it was the establishment of S4C. Of course there is uneven development as the debate about the £9m for Gaelic TV in Scotland is this year provoking.

So where does this lead my musings on cultural tourism? Well, the cross-fertilisation of cultures by participants at inter-Celtic and other international musical events is a vibrant and increasingly common experience. The Scottish and Breton pipe bands are one example, the Irish and Gaelic Scots singer and poet exchanges each year another, the guest groups from other Celtic countries at music festivals are all points of contact.



Also the phenomenon of the Celtic Film and Television Festival is an example of a vehicle for Celtic and other minority cultures. Such links are now found at all sorts of levels which strengthen the indigenous cultures despite trying economic and political times. The twinning movement between small communities has been a new source of strength where clear lines of shared development are agreed.

Here in Scotland the Gaelic-based Feis movement, which is a participant rather than a spectator activity, is bringing many more young people to appreciate traditional music, by playing it and learning the rudiments of the language in which it is rooted. This started in Barra and has spread across the country.

This will feed into the Gaelic playgroup movement which gathers pace as does the adult learner movement aided by the new TV coverage. There are soon going to be more children brought up in a Gaelic ethos than are currently being reared in traditional Gaelic speaking homes! This is all a far cry from the aspirational mood of the 70s when the reawakening of roots-based culture aroused curiosity which expanded folk festivals and the demand to play as well as listen.

But the growing realisation of common interests such as the Atlantic Arc concept and the new possibilities for the small nations and regions of Europe in an expanded Community are being cemented by the political efforts of the European Free Alliance whose president is SNP Euro MP Winnie Ewing. Debates about sustainable cultural and economic benefits require to be entered through this forum if the EC Committee of the regions is to have a strong impact on the needs of the EFA members.

So the cause of cultural re-invigoration and political empowerment for the peoples of Europe is aided by the sure knowledge that culturally we are adaptable and able to absorb outside influences without losing the essence of our individual Celtic roots.

Such a lesson could well be learned by the increasingly racist overtones of inward looking big states. For this traveller care to leave footprints that walk in parallel with my hosts hopes and fears are of prime importance. So it should always be as we travel purposefully through the Celtic lands and beyond.

Rob Gibson

BREIZH

Gouel en Enez Vanav

Ar bedervet gweizh eo bet din mont da Enez Vanav en hañv tremenet. Eus an 18 d'ar 24 Gouere e oa gouel broadel Manav, Yn Chruinnaght, e Ramsey ha d'ar sadorn e oa eno ivez bodadeg-vloaz ar C'Hevre Keltiek. Tro am eus bet e-se e-doug ar pevar devezh ma oan du-hont da arvestiñ ouzh darn eus abadennoù ar gouel.

E bal eo diskouez ar pezh a ra dibarder sevenadurezh an Enez ha reiñ lañs d'he diorren. Aozet eo diouzh patrom gouelioù sevenadurel all er broioù kelt "tramor": Oireachtas Iwerzhon, Mod Alba, Eisteddfod Kembre. Un emglev zo etre ar pevar anezho evit eskemm dileuridi bep bloaz, daou eus pep hini. Ar mizoù-beaj ha-lojeiz a vez paet gant an ostizien.

Eus Breizh ne vez ket a zileuridi d'ar gouelioù gouezel. (Me n'ouzon dare penaos ez a en-dro bremañ an eskemmoù etre ar Gorsedd hag e genanvidi kerneveuriat ha breizhat...) N'eus nemet Gouel Broadel ar Brezhoneg hag a zellezfe bezañ kevrenn gant an Oireachtas en un eskemm. Hogen ne bad hennezh nemet daou zevezh tra m'en em astenn hemañ war eizhtez, evel an Eisteddfod. Ha n'eo ket harpet gant aozadurioù arc'hantek evel ar re-mañ 'm eus aon! Ker e koustfe d'e gef digoll ar gevelerien dramor eus o mizoù.

Ret eo din spisaat ne glever koulz lavaret nemet iwerzhoneg en Oireachtas. Er Mod e vez gouezeleg hepken war al leurenn met ahendall e vez graet kalz gant ar saozneg, da varn diouzh ma skiant-prenañ. E Gouel ar Brezhoneg hevlene e oa kreñv hor yezh war ar straed, al leurennoù (?) hag an talbennoù-stalioù hogen kerse eo bet ganin pa'm eus komzet brezhoneg ouzh an dud yaouank a oa o skoazellañ er Burev-Degemer hag er Bank Broadel: un darn vat anezho ne gomprenet ket. Arabat din feukañ tud a-youl-vat evelto. Ha sur a-walc'h n'eo ket bet aes d'an aozerien kavout muioc'h eget un toulladig brezhonegerien da ouestlañ o amzer vak da gas ar gouel en-dro, ur gouel a oa e gwirionez ur blijadur kemer perzh ennañ.

Aet eo Yann pell diouzh e gazez. Yn Chruinnaght, dishañval diouzh Gouel ar Brezhoneg, a resev skoazell-arc'hant digant aozadurioù foran: Burev an Droiadouriezh,

Ensavadur Hêrezh v-Manav, Kuzul an Arzoù, Bank Manav, Kuzul-kêr Ramsey. Ha tregont kevredigezh bennak a bae evit embannoù war roll ar gouel.

En nebeut abadennoù am eus arvestet outo, abadennoù sonerezh, e oa dister an implij graet eus ar manaveg evit kemenn ar pezh a ginniged. Mona Douglas, ar vrogarourez a ouestlas he buhez da zastum hengounioù Manav hag an hini a adsavas Yn Chruinnaght e 1978 a felle dezhi e vije debarzhet ul lec'h a-bouez ennañ d'ar yezh vroadel. Gwiriekaet em eus e oa roet ur plas dereat dezhi er c'henstrivadegoù - rak evel en tri gouel Kelt meneget a-us, ul lodenn vat eus an abadennoù zo e stumm kenstrivadegoù. N'eo ket hepken er sonioù da ganañ, met e pezhioù berr da aozañ pe da c'hoari, e barzhonegoù da skrivañ ha da zibunañ, en arroudoù komz-plaen da zezrevell, e troidigezhioù da ober diwar ar saozneg. Ar pep brasañ eus ar seurt-se a oa evit bugale ha krennarded, ar re zo o teskiñ manaveg er skolioù. Setu un doare mat d'o atizañ, rak e-leizh a brizioù a vez. Labour talvoudus a ra aze Yn Chruinnaght evit an dazont!

Ur gouel etrekeltiek eo ivez e-keñver abadennoù all. Deuet e oa daou strollad sonerien, dañserien ha kanerien eus Iwerzhon, ur bagad sonerien hag ul lazhekanañ eus Alba, un delennourez hag ur strollad dañserien eus Kembre, ha dañserien eus Kernev-Veur ivez. Evit degas an holl arzourien-se e oa ezhomm a-dra-sur eus harp Bank Manav! Met gonezet o deus o boued a-hed ar sizhun. Iwerzhoniz ha Skosiz a oa bev-buhezek ha nerzhus ar pezh a ziskouezent. Hogen heverk e oa ivez ar sonioù hag ar sonerezh-benveg a roas Manaviz yaouank deomp da glevout. An doare meurdezus ma voe sonet "Ny Kirree fo Niaghtey" en abadenn en iliz-veur Purt ny hInshe a c'horroe an ton brudet-se da renk ur c'henaoadur klasel. Teir c'hasedenn sonerezh manavat a oa e gwerzh er c'harr-boutin difredet dalc'het gant "Mignoned ar Gouezeleg" war al leurger. Lavaret e voe din e oa "Mactullagh" an hini wellañ evit tonioù hengounel. Siwazh, goular em eus kavet ar pep brasañ anezho. Koulskoude ez eus

c'hoazh, goude ar bladenn "Ny Kirree..." hag ar c'hasedennoù-se, tonioù kaer manavat ha n'int ket bet embannet. Bodet e oamp, derc'hent devezhiad labour ar C'Hevre Keltiek, en ur sal-ostaleri evit un tamm dihued kevredigezhel, ur "sochal" evel ma laverfed e Kersaoz. O seniñ e oa Brian Mac Stoyll gant e akordeon, Colin Jerry gant e bibenn-ilin, Cristl gant he zelenn ha daou rebedour. Tonioù eus ar vro ganto, n'em boa o c'hlevet biskoazh, hag int kaer ur bam. Hag eñ e oa anv d'o enrollañ ur weizh bennak? Cristl a zistaolas ar menoz en ur c'hoarzhin.

Brian em boe tro da gomz gantañ diwar-benn ar raklun "Manaveg er skolioù" ma'z eo bet karget bloaz' so bremañ gant Maodiemezh an Deskadurezh d'e seveniñ. Evit ar mare n'eo mennet da badout nemet daou vloaz. Un taol-arnod, evel ar c'hlasoù divyezhek brezhonek-gallek? Goude ur santeadenn-venezioù e 1990 e oa bet kaset paperennoù-goulenn da holl ar renerien-skolioù evit gouzout pegement a skolidi o doa c'hoant da zeskiñ manaveg: ouzhpenn 40% anezho a lavaras dont d'ar c'hentelioù. Kalz muioc'h eget na soñje re ar Gouarnamant. Anvet neuze Brian da aozañ ur raklun a aotrefe d'an holl skolidi o defe c'hoant kaout un hantereurvezh bep sizhun. Ha gopret daou zen all da reiñ ar c'hentelioù Philip Kelly hag an It. R.C. Carswell. Ar re-mañ o deus d'ober war-dro 16 skol pep hini. Dav 'vez dezho levata!

Brian a gonte e oa degemeret mat-tre ar c'hentelioù gant ar re yaouank. Fent o devez oc'h ober gant troiennoù manavek en divizoù kenetrezo hag en o c'hoarioù. N'eo ket bet bastet d'an holl c'houlennnoù-klasoù: kantadoù a skolidi pe a gerent zo chomet war o c'hoant. Brian en deus trawalc'h da ober gant e labour ren ha steuñviñ, met ranket en deus ober kentelioù ivez.

Sebezus eo ar berzh en deus graet emsav ar manaveg en un nebeut bloavezhioù. N'eus nemet un nebeudig eus ar vugale o doa kroget hag o deus paouezet a zont d'ar c'hentelioù er bloaz tremenet. Hogen enebiezh zo a-berzh kargidi, politikerien ha skolaerien ivez. N'eo ket sur e vo kendalc'het gant ar raklun a-benn bloaz. Digarezioù a vo atav: berr an arc'hant, gwelloc'h deskiñ yezhoù "talvoudus", h.a. N'eus nemet un dra a lakafe ar re zo e penn da zalc'her kont eus youl an dud: diskouez dezho ez eus un

Repel this Threat

Diwan was brought to court in May by URSSAF, the State Social Security services for failing to pay a debt which has accumulated to 6M francs. Faced with the threat of having its schools closed by order, the association which has also a budget deficit of 1MF this year, undertook to reorganise itself (no increase in the number of posts, an average of 15 instead of 13 pupils per class, all salaries frozen till the end of 1993). It also called on parents to contribute from 1% to 5% of their annual income (up to now it provided free schooling). It launched a public appeal to raise 3MF to help balance its budget. These measures should convince the court, as well as those councils from which Diwan is seeking aid, that its financial affairs are being managed as strictly as possible. By July 4 1.7 MF had been collected but donations were coming in more slowly, the effort must not therefore be relaxed. If Diwan were to fail, the bilingual classes in State schools would soon be phased out. A new Diwan preprimary was opened in Gwened at Easter. Plans for a college near Gwengamp and for the Roparz Hemon college near Brest to become a lycée are going ahead.

If you can, send a donation to Diwan, Z.A. Sant Ernel, BP 165, F-29411 Landerne-Cedex.

262 students took Breton as a subject in this year's Baccalaureat (postprimary leaving certificate) in the Paris region. It is a measure of the work being done by the association of teachers of Breton in that area.

Gouel... (cont.)

dregantad bras eus ar bobl a-du gant ar manaveg er skol. Pedin start a ra an emsaverien an dud-se da skrivañ e sell da se d'an It. Hazel Hannan, maodiernez an deskadurezh.

A. Heusaff

Gerioù diaes: kenanvidi - namesakes; debarzhed - allocated; difredet - disused; sonteadenn-venozioù - opinion poll; levata - to run miles.

Summary

Yn Chruinnaght, the Manx national festival, is held annually in July. It gives visitors an excellent opportunity to acquaint themselves with the Manx culture and - even more important - it stimulates the development of the latter as multiple incentives are given to the young who are learning Manx at school to make use of it in competitions. Yn Chruinnaght is also an interceltic festival with guest groups of musicians and dancers from other Celtic

Langue de France

Eleven students in the Ch. Goffic college, Lannuon, were pre planning to avail of assurances given in January by the then Minister of Education and confirmed in February by the Rennes Academy rector that it would be possible to pass certain subjects in the 'brevet' (Inter Cert) e.g. "history and geography in a langue de France such as Breton." They had done these subjects through Breton over a period of 4 years. On June 14, the new minister cancelled his predecessor's undertaking. No other langue de France for him but French. What are the 80 MP's, many belonging to government parties, who stated before election that they wanted France to ratify the European Minority Languages Convention doing about this blatant abuse of power which victimises young people? It is another example of arbitrary decisions aimed at discouraging schoolgoers from learning Breton. There is no sign of the French government intending to ratify the Convention. Those regionalists who believe that their talk of "langues de France" cuts any ice in Paris are fooling themselves. Only French is good for you!

Blue like blue eyes which were not my own

by Per Denez 104 pp. Published by Mouladurioù Hor Yezh 1993.

We have here a translation into English by J. Ian Press, professor of Slavonic and Comparative Linguistics at the University of London, of the novel "Glas evel daoulagad c'hlas na oant ket ma re" published by *Al Liamm* in 1979. It is the story of a woman who is totally dedicated to her husband, deluding herself that she is making him happy, but who discovers, after his disappearance (suicide) that he had a lover.

From then on she coolly works out a scheme to ensnare her ex-rival. Her enjoyment in carrying out her poisoning is spoiled by a development which appears to be supernatural. Per Denez's short novel unfold smoothly, leisurely, like a monologue with frequent digressions to give a fuller picture of the main character's mental processes. Here also a fantastic element is introduced which clashes with a materialistic understanding but reminds of the magical world of our traditional tales.

The Breton Cultural Institute

(Skol Uhel ar Vro) was created in 1981 with the backing of the "Breton" Regional Council (B-4) and the Loire-Atlantique General Council. Its function is to coordinate the promotion and spreading of the Breton culture in its various aspects. It has given financial support for the publication of 700 books (it contributes 40% of the cost of publication of books in Breton and in Gallo), for some 20 mobile

exhibitions, for the production of some 30 records/cassettes and of nearly 80 films. It has given 30 grants for research. It has about 800 members in the five Breton departments. It publishes a monthly bulletin of 16 pages in Breton and French (the same information in each language) as well as a 24 pp. magazine in French, *Bretagne des Livres*. Its offices have recently moved to 74F, rue de Paris, BP 3166, 35031 Rennes-Cedex.



Entrance of the new offices of the Breton Cultural Institute

countries taking part in it. The past couple of years have witnessed a strong public demand for the teaching of Manx. A two-

year project to that effect is being carried out with very encouraging results. This effort must be put on a permanent basis.

"Les Marches de Bretagne au Moyen Age"

by René Cintré. 238 pp hardback, (22 x 29 cm). 290F.

Publ by Jean-Marie Pierre.

The Marches of Brittany were not simply a line of fortifications, a Maginot Line of which the impressive castle of Fougères, Chateaubriand, Clisson and several others are the testimonies down to the present day. They covered a wide area, being formed by a series of fiefs which combined for the defence of our nation, blocking the way to invaders, all its population more or less trained for war in a state of permanent alert.

The early Breton rulers are said to have brought farmers - soldiers from the West of Brittany to settle in this border area - men of good Celtic stock! Their descendants did not keep their language but they kept their spirit, it still lives in one way or another in us people of the Marches. It is the genesis and life of these "pays", Pays de Dol, Pays de St. Malo, Pays de Rennes et de Nantes, which R. Cintré relates with great skill in this magnificent book. He takes his place beside the best of our contemporary researchers such as Leon Fleuriot and Jean Kerherve. The production is distinguished by its abundant illustration in black and in colour, many plans, fourteen eloquent maps, all in very sound taste.

Light is thrown here on the causes of the weakening of that belt which protected

the Breton State, the ravages brought by the Hundred Years War, plagues... After the accession to the French throne of Louis XI - the "Spider" - in 1461, the people of the Breton Marches no longer enjoyed any respite, subjected as they were to continual enemy incursions even in the middle of peace. Such a situation could be compared to that which prevailed all along the Sino-Soviet border until recently. When war started, successive massacres and devastations turned the Marches into something similar to Bosnia today - large tracts of land being emptied of their population.

Annexation followed by a Treaty of Union (1532), which would at least safeguard our main liberties and institutions, appeared to buy peace for those unfortunate people. The Marches had lost their *raison d'être*. But the continual wars of the French Kingdom with England, Spain or Holland would henceforth result in extending that frontier area to all of Brittany. The terrible League War (end of 16th century), with its trail of destruction, would hardly have affected our country but for that union. The latter brought it also the heartbreaking rifts of the Revolution, the ruinous Napoleonic Wars, the 1914-18

slaughter which bled it white with its casualties double in proportion to what the French themselves suffered.

We cannot therefore totally agree with R. Cintré's conclusions accepting with resignation events which were not ineluctable. Of course given the growing power of the Kingdom of France, the struggle was unequal. But let us not forget that Brittany was not alone, no more than was Belgium in our times faced with the German empire. It was an important piece in the European chess game but an incredible combination of circumstances prevented the intervention of other powers: England was exhausted by the War of the Roses, Spain was fully occupied with the reconquest of Grenada, the Empire was threatened on its Eastern borders. Our country was thus deprived of its natural allies. These circumstances enabled France to annex it and compel it to accept its conditions. Subsequent events showed that real peace would have been more firmly secured by a policy of neighbourly coexistence of the Breton State with the French kingdom.

We can only regret that such an important work, which is likely to be frequently referred to, is not provided with an index. A lexicon of technical terms and another of Middle French ones which readers are not all familiar with would also have been useful.

Yann Bouessel de Bourg

Prizes

The Langleiz prize for literature in Breton, founded by Mme de Langlais in 1976, aims to encourage writing in our language and to perpetuate the memory of Xavier Langleiz, painter and author to whom we owe a version in modern Breton of the tale of Tristan and Isolde. The prize is bestowed annually, mainly for creative literature but also occasionally for other types of works in Breton. The jury of 9 members includes, apart from Mme de Langlais, Per Denez (president), Yann Bouessel du Bourg (Secretary), Ronan Huon (editor of *Al Liamm*), Bernez an Nail (director of the Breton Cultural Institute). This year, the prize was given at the national festival Gouel ar Brezhoneg (Spezed) to Alan Heusaff for the totality of his work in Breton (journalism, translation, lexicography).

On the same occasion the 1993 Roparz Hemon prize was awarded to Lukian Raoul for his *Geriadur ar Skrivagnerien ha Yezhourien Vrezhonek* (Dictionary of the Breton Language writers and linguists). This work, which gives details only about those who died before May 1992, was published by *Al Liamm* (492pp. price 150F).

Awards in Spezed, (from left to right) Per Denez, Lukian Raoul, Ronan Huon, Mme de Langlais, Alan and Bríd Heusaff.

Musique Bretonne

Bimonthly, published by Dastum, 24pp. Subscription 130F/170F outside State to 16 r. de Penhoet, 35065 Rennes-Cedex.

In the March-April issue, an interview with Herve ar Beg, director of the local radio station Radio Kreiz Breizh which is now 10 years old and broadcasts partly in Breton; also articles of ethnological interest, reports on aspects of musical life in Brittany.

L'Avenir de la Bretagne

Monthly organ of the party P.O.B.L. (for a free Brittany in a Europe of the Peoples) 16pp. Subscription 180F/200F outside State, to BP4103, 22041 St. Brieuc-Cedex 2.

Of special interest in the July-Aug. issue: "La regionalisation de l'Europe et les Droits de l'Homme" reproduces a talk given by a Basque university professor at a colloquium on the "Europe of Regions" in Copenhagen: it dealt with the concept of "ethnic" of which language is a central element.



Histoire de Bretagne

Henri Poisson/Jean-Pierre Le Mat, 494 pp., paperback. 140F + postage.

Publ. by Coop. Breizh, Kerangwenn, 29540 Spezed, 1993.

ISBN 2-903 708-15-0.

The major part of this book (308pp.) is the 8th edition of the Abbé Poisson's *Histoire de Bretagne* which was first published in the face of enough difficulties in 1948 and then augmented with only two pages to bring it up to the early sixties. We are greatly indebted to J.P. Le Mat for taking it up from there, covering the period from 1960 to 1990.

H. Poisson, a Rennes-born Catholic school teacher and author of Breton history and geography textbooks for schools as well as a biography of Yann Vari Perrot, leans on the monumental research work of the end-of-19th century historian A.L. de La Borderie in presenting an outspokenly national view of our past. His purpose is educative: this is necessary as the French schools leave our people ignorant of their origins and long struggle to maintain their freedom from French domination. There are frequent excerpts from other historians' work such as the quotation of a dialogue between Charles VII and the Duke Arthur of Richmond, the latter doggedly rejecting, like all his predecessors, the French monarchy's demand of homage-liege which if conceded would have amounted to a recognition of sovereignty over our country. The equally important declaration of Viscount Botherel denying the French revolutionary Constituent Assembly (1790) the right to legislate for Brittany is also quoted in full. All along we witness resistance to the encroachments of an aggressive power, a resistance which could be overcome only in the battlefield.

Being a priest, H. Poisson devotes a large place to the role played by Christianity and in particular the Catholic Church in our history. He was associated with the *Bleñ Brug*, an association in which the Abbé Y.V. Perrot was the leading figure until his murder in 1943 and of which the motto was: *Ar brezhoneg hag ar Feiz zo breur ha c'hoar e Breizh* (Breton and the faith are brother and sister in Brittany). Other aspects than the political, military and religious ones are dealt with also but necessarily in a less detailed manner than in the five-volume *Skol Vreizh* history. It is worth noting that the papacy backed the Breton rulers during the last 120 years of our independence owing to the French kings' policy aimed at subordinating the Church. But centuries earlier it gave little or no support to the efforts of Nominoë and his successors to abolish the Breton clergy's subordination to the archbishop of Tours.

It might be argued that a disproportionately large place is given to

the period which J.P. Le Mat has dealt with. But these years have seen an extraordinary blossoming of activities in all spheres of Breton life. In answer to the question raised on the blurb "Whether there is such a thing as a contemporary history of Brittany, distinct from that of France", J.P. Le Mat shows that the Breton personality has reasserted itself since 1960 in a very specific way which justifies speaking even of national history. He gives a brilliant, highly readable account and analysis of the revolutionary transformation of agriculture which has enabled the Breton farmers to hold their own, in conditions created by the E.C., by organising their production and creating marketing structures. "They did not carry guns but they were never shy of direct action" - hence the title of this chapter, "Les Texans de l'Europe"! The effects of a half-hearted decentralisation of industries, the struggle for recognition of our linguistic rights, the success of our music, the decline in religious practice are gone into in great detail. Distinguishing the manifestations of French politics in Brittany from the organisations which seek to secure Breton powers of decision under the guise of regionalism or autonomism, Le Mat notes that whatever progress has been achieved is credited to those politicians, like R. Pleven and J.Y. Cozan, who operate within the French parties. (The question is: would they not have been ignored without the pressure of a public opinion influenced by the nationally-minded organisations?)

The conclusion is that modernisation, far from wiping out the differences between Brittany and France, brought a renewal of the Breton identity. The events of the last 30 years reveal a nation in the process of wakening, asserting its values, forward-going. For Le Mat, the way ahead would be along three strategic axes: an adjustment of relations with the French power, European integration, cooperation with the other countries of the "Atlantic Arc" to counteract the drift of resources from the peripheral Western seaboard areas towards the centre of the EC.

This book is well presented with an attractive cover, short sections with subtitles on every page, a dozen full page woodcuts by the well-known artist X. Langliez, and copious indexes of place and personal names.

If you wish to know about Brittany's past and get a synopsis of her present situation, you will find reading this work most rewarding.

A. Heusaff.

Remon ar Porzh:

Breton-English Dictionary,
third part, E-F-G 192pp Publ. by
Mouladurioù Hor Yezh, 1 Plasenn
Ch.Péguy, 29260 Lesneven 100F.

This is the third volume of a dictionary which R. ar Porzh was unfortunately unable to complete before his death in 1990. He had a masterly command of our language. Having lived many years in Ireland - he got a job with the Cork University Press and was assistant for Breton in the Irish Department of UCC - he was supremely qualified to provide the kind of textbooks which would enable those wanting to learn Breton without knowing French to undertake the study. Indeed he prepared an Elementary Breton-English dictionary and a translation into English of Per Denez's beginners course "Brezhoneg Buan has Aes" which were published by the Cork University press, as well as an elementary English-Breton dictionary published by Mouladurioù Hor Yezh.

The present work is distinguished, like the two other volumes, by the fact that for the common words examples have been gathered from books by good writers who were native speakers, so as to show their correct use. This is very important as all too often even those who have acquired fluency in Breton are unconsciously influenced by alien patterns of speech or may hesitate in determining such things, e.g. as which is the correct preposition to use with a given verb. Thus it is also useful to Bretons needing to improve their grasp of the language. An indication of pronunciation would have been desirable, using the International Phonetic Alphabet. The accent is marked when it does not fall on the penultimate syllable.

A.H.

Obituary

Alan al Louarn who took an active part in the Breton national movement, died on May 15, aged 75. In the repression which followed the war in 1944, he was interned and later compelled to live outside Brittany for many years. He and his wife Noella brought up a large family in Breton in spite of great material difficulties. On his return to Rennes, he set up a bureau which disseminated information about all sorts of activities and publications related to Brittany. Carn is indebted to him for helping to make it known.

CYMRU

Cre'neash, Etifeddiaeth Pwy?

Bûm ym Manaw ym 1988.

Peter Lloyd sy'n aelod yng Nghangen Cymru ac yn byw yn Seland Newydd bellach, aeth ef a ffrindiau yn ei gar ef ar gylch-daith o beutu'r ynys, yn ym-adael â Rhumsaa tua phedwar o'r gloch yn y bore rwy Ddydd Sul.

Ar ein taith cyrraeddodd ni Gre'neash pentref hanesyddol o dai traddodiadol Manewig dan ofal Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin. CADW yw'r corff sy'n cyfateb yng Nghymru. Gan fod y tai ar gan Gwelon ni nhw o du fâs. Oddi ar hynny yr oedd uchelgais gennyf i ymweld â'r lle ar oriau agor.

Arhosais eleni gyda Colin a Cristl Jerry yn eu ty ym Mhurf ny h-Inshey. Fore Dydd Gwener 23 Gorffennaf es i i Ddoolish ar fws ac ar y tren o Ddoolish i Burt Chiam yn ne'r ynys. Cerddais o Burt Chiam i Gre'neash. Es i i mewn ty o'r enw Cummal Beg. Siomais yn deg i weld bod yr arwyddion a'r llenyddiaeth yng Nghre'neash yn Saesneg yn unig, hynny dan awdurdod Et i feddiaeth Genedlaethol Manaw, neu, i ddefnyddi o'r enw Manaweg, Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin.

Er mor bwysig yw cadw'r hen adeiladau traddodiadol pwysicach fyth yw arddel yr iaith genedlaethol. Canmolaf Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin am gyflwr y tai to gwellt a'r pentref yn gyffredinol, yn cynnwys bwtlyn enwog Harry Kelly a'i ddod-refn ond collfarnaf yr Eiraght am ddiystyru'r gwaith pwysicach, cadw a hyrwyddo iaith genedlaethol Manaw.

Cyrrddais â phennaeth Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin mewn tafarn yn Rhumsaa ar ôl fy ymweliad yng Nghre'neash. Des i i wybod yn ddigon clau taw Sais oedd e nad oedd ganddo unrhyw barch at y Manawyr. Pam cafodd ef ei benodi i swydd mor allweddol i Fanaw. Pwy a'i benododd? Nid yw dyn sy'n dal swydd mor bwysig a dylanwadol yn cyflawnu ei waith yn i awn os yw e'n esgeuloso'r iaith genedlaethol. Dylid ei orfodi i sicrhau bod y Fanaweg yn cael o leiaf ddefnyddiad cyfartal â'r Saesneg. Dylid sicrhau hefyd na châl neb di-Fanaweg swydd a llweddol mwy dan Lywodraeth Manaw. Gwn fod gennym Redwood di-Gymraeg yng

Nghymru ond ni phenodwyd ef gan Lywodraeth a etholwyd gan y Cymry. Nid oes esgus bod dynion di-Fanaweg yn cael swyddi allweddol ym Manaw gan fod humanly wodaeth gan y wlad honno. Fel arall y mae pethau yng Nghymru hyd yn hyn.

Er gwaeth af fy achwyn am agwedd ieithyddol Cre'neash y mae'n galonogol i weld cynnydd yn nefnyddiad y Fanaweg yn gyffredinol ac ehangder yr awydd gan y Manawyr i'w plant ddysgu en mamiaith yn yr ysgolion. Ond y mae diffygion niferus. Soniais am un yn unig.

Merfyn Phillips

Summary

The article deals with the almost total neglect of the Manx language by Manx National Heritage in the village under its care near Port Erin, namely Cre'neash which is open to the public while there is a welcome increase in the use of Manx. There are glaring deficiencies under the authority of the Manx Government, Manx National Heritage is just one among many.

Pigion Celtaidd

Yr Alban

Economi Ynys Skye

O bob £1000 o wariant gan ymwelwyr i'r ynys ceir £291 o incwm lleol. Mae angen gwariant o £27,500 er mwyn cynnal un swydd llawn amser. Ceir y budd mwyaf o sefydliadau llai o dan berchenogaeth leol.

Yr Adeg yng Nglaschu

Ar hyn o bryd ceisir paratoi strategaeth ar gyfer datblygu'r Adeg yng Nglaschu trwy Buidhearr Obrach Ghaidhlig Glaschu.

Preifateiddio

Ar restr y llywodraeth Tori ar gyfer preifateiddio yw'r cwmni fferi Caledonian MacBrayne sy'n gwasanaethu Ynysoedd y Gorllewin o'r Afon Clud i Leodhas. Ceir grant blynyddol o £7.2 miliwn ar hyn o bryd. Dim ond pedair taith sy'n gwneud elw - Gourrock i Dunoon, Ullapool - Stornaway, Oban - Mull a Kyle of Lochalsh - Skye.

Partneriaethau Gaeleg

Ceisir sefydlu partneriaethau lleol rhwng y bobl leol a'r mudiadau sy'n

cefnogi'r Adeg yn ardaloedd Oban a Lorne ac ynysoedd Islay a Jura.

Rhaglen Gaeleg

O fis Medi ymlaen bydd Radio nan Gaidhael yn darlledu o 7.30 i 10.00 y bore, 12.00 i 1.00, 5.00 i 6.00 a 9.00 i 10.00 y nos - cynnydd mawr yn yr oriau.

Dysgwyr

Sefydlwyd grŵp newydd er mwyn cyd-gysylltu dysgu'r Adeg i oedolion - LION.

Chwarel Enfawr

Mae Comhairle nan Eilean wedi pleidleisio o 24 i 3 o blaid datblygu chwarel enfawr ger Lingerbay ar "Ynys" Harris. Disgwylir rhwng 20 a 30 o swyddi lleol newydd.

Is-Etholiad

Mewn is-etholiad yn Lower Devoran, Grampain, mae'r Ceidwadwyr wedi cael mwyafrif o 20.9% dros y S.N.P.

Cernyw

Etholiadau

Ar ôl yr etholiadau i'r Cyngor Sir mae gan y Rhyddfrydwyr fwyaf o 3 sedd ar ôl ennill 13 sedd, 4 o'r aelodau annibynnol.

Iwerddon

Etholiadau'r Gogledd

Cafwyd cynnydd o 1% ym mhleidlais Sinn Féin yn ddiweddar. Mae gan Sinn Féin 9 sedd newydd - cyfanswm o 51. Hefyd cafodd y Social Democratic and Labour Party gynnydd o 1% a 120 cynghorydd. Mae'r cenedlaethwyr yn rheoli cynghorau Limavady a Magherafelt. Collwyd 2% o'i pleidlais gan yr Ulster Unionist Party, ond ennill rheolaeth Ballymena o'r Democratic Unionist Party. Enillwyd 44 sedd newydd gan yr Alliance Party.

Y bleidlais oed:

	1993	1989
U.U.U.	29%	30.4%
D.U.P.	17.2%	17.7%
S.D.L.P.	21.9%	21.2%
Sinn Féin	12.5%	11.3%
Alliance	7.7%	6.8%

Appointment in Aberedwy: The Death of Llewelyn ap Gruffydd-Prince of Wales,

by Anthony Edwards. 1992. Published by the author, Hadofty Uchaf, Tregarth, Gwynedd LL57 4NT. Price £4.50.

'Appointment in Aberedwy' is a detailed argument on behalf of one theory regarding the death of Llewelyn ap Gruffydd, Prince of Wales. While dealing with this subject quite seriously there is, as the title suggests, an air of 'Who done it?' about the book - Also despite, or maybe because of the preciousness of the subject and era, one does not have to know all the details relevant to this time to follow the book.

The Dramatis Personae at the beginning is extremely useful, given a period of intermarriage, re-marriage and family rivalries which can very much confuse a reader.

Edwards then methodically goes through the evidence to ascertain whether Llewelyn died in Cilmeri through chance, or at Aberedwy through planned deception. This is not merely a discussion over where. For in proving the Aberedwy theory and the English states involvement Edwards can point to a much more pre-planned effort on behalf of Edward II with his plans in regard to subjecting Wales.

Contemporary accounts from '1282 - A collection of documents' (Nat. Lib. of Wales)

are quoted, and despite contradictions in the documents crucial detail does emerge e.g. the date, December 13th, numerous references to Mortimer, to a priest being present at the time of death, and so on.

These details are then held up against the accepted dogma - 'Llewelyn ap Gruffydd' the bible of the Cilmeri theory. Edwards uses other details such as the size of Llewelyn's force, mention of his Privy Seal, and of letters, to show that he was lured to Aberedwy for a bogus purpose.

Having argued the ground regarding Aberedwy, Edwards then seeks to answer other crucial question - Who planned the ambush? Who were the conspirators? and who did kill Llewelyn? Using the manuscripts Edwards points us to the Mortimers and thus possibly King Edward's involvement in the plot.

King Edward's personality is then examined to show that he was very much capable of planning such an ignoble deed.

But to talk to the people on the ground, so to speak the Welsh themselves, and not officials who would have good reason to lie, Edward looks at the Bards accounts of this

event, one such mentioning 'The heavy sword stroke that felled him treacherously, the long swords that drove him before them'. No hint of a chance encounter at Cilmeri here.

Having thus established Aberedwy as the scene of the pre-planned crime Edwards turns to the central question. Why? As I have said before, if it were merely an argument over where? it would be of little consequence but in setting the murder at Aberedwy the author reveals plots and conspirators, where Cilmeri argues just a chance of fate in Llewelyn's death.

And to ensure that we are not left with the nagging question of who actually killed him Edwards goes through a short list and comes up with — Now I couldn't tell you that!

In 'Appointment at Aberedwy' Edwards is not seeking to dismiss the sentiment behind Cilmeri, which is discussed in itself in a chapter, rather to bring to light important evidence in this crucial period - the last days of Welsh independence.

Diarmuid Ó Breaslaín

Pigion Celtaidd (contd)

Ynys Manaw

Cyllideb

Yr ynys eleni yw incwm o £192 miliwn a gwariant o £202 miliwn - ar gyfer poblogaeth o 70,000. Ceir treth incwm ar raddfeydd 15% ac 20% a chasglwyd hanner yr incwm o drethi cwmnoedd ac unigolion.

Gweision Sifil

Cyflogwyd 6,500 gan lywodraeth Ynys Manaw - 14% mwy nag ynys Guernsey gyda'r un boblogaeth. Rhennir y llywodraeth o dan wyth adran - Amaethyddiaeth, Pysgota a Choedwigaeth; Addysg; Iechyd a Lles Cymdeithasol; Prifffyrdd; Porthladdoedd ac Eiddo; Materion Cartref; Diwydiant; Llywodraeth Leol a'r Amgylchedd a'r Trysorlys.

Manaweg yn yr Ysgolion

Ar ol ymgyrch ers 1985 gan Gynsaghey Gaelg ayns ny Scoillyn (Dysgu Manaweg yn yr Ysgolion), dechreuwyd dysgu'r iaith yn swyddogol yn ysgolion yr ynys eleni gyda thri athro teithiol, o dan y Dr. Brian Y Stowyll. Roedd 40% o blant y 30 ysgol gynradd yn awyddus i ddysgu'r iaith a 6% o'r 5 ysgol uwchradd. Ceir hanner awr o wers bob wythnos ar hyn o bryd. Mewn pŵl barn yn 1990, roedd 36% o'r ynyswyr o blaid dysgu'r iaith yn yr ysgolion.



The County Council elections in May last confirmed Plaid as Wales' second party. They have also confirmed that in areas where the party has worked in depth, consistently for a period of time, there is a foundation for success. But they have also underlined that more effort, resources and focussing of our message is needed to break Labour's vice-like grip on the industrial valleys. In Gwynedd we have surged ahead of Labour whilst notable gains were made in Mid-Glam, Gwent and in the Llanelli constituency. In the South West Clwyd seat where Plaid already has a strong structure and an employed organiser we now have three county councillors.

A very significant pattern has become apparent in the "Heart of Glamorgan" area (Cynon, Rhondda and Taff-Ely) where Plaid secured 42% of the vote compared to Labour's 50% in those wards contested by both parties. This indicates that a small swing could bring a major breakthrough for Plaid next year when elections are expected for this new unitary authority. The new Caerffili Council could also be a battleground between Plaid and Labour next year.

In Parliamentary terms, we have already seen the benefits of focusing our resources on winnable seats: that is what delivered Ynys

County Election '93

The Presidential Verdict

Môn and Ceredigion. The same strategy is required for the local elections, identifying not only the councils where we are striving to gain control but even the wards which can deliver victory. This means selecting candidates in the next few months, publishing ward newsletters, leading local campaigns and building up our branch organisation to sustain momentum.

As a party we are indebted to every one who stood in May, especially those in the most difficult wards, and to party workers who helped create the success which was achieved. We should also remember the debt we owe to those who have worked as councillors over many years, usually in permanent opposition. The time has now come for us to move on from being an opposition party to one of governing: locally and nationally.

Our county results have laid the foundations on which to build.

Dafydd Wigley, M.P. (President)
(Courtesy 'Welsh Nation')

Welsh Oath

The first Queen's Counsellor to take an oath in Welsh, Philip Price, again took his oath in Welsh when he became a circuit judge on the Wales and Chester Circuit

Siôn Aubrey Roberts

*Guilty of loving his country
Victim of police and MI5 framing
Innocent of the fixed charges of conspiracy
and explosives*

The Facts

1. Siôn was under heavy surveillance from Oct. 1991 until his arrest. He knew.
2. Siôn was arrested after a heavy-handed police raid on the flat he was minding for an aunt, police claiming to find bombs there.
3. Siôn was 20 yrs old at that time; he was in custody (bail refused) for 13 months, during which time he was constantly moved around remand centres without notice.
4. Siôn was eventually tried by a jury vetted - and changed - by MI5.
5. Siôn was found guilty by a majority verdict after an 8 week trial, and a weeks deliberation by the puppet jury.
6. Special branch, N. Wales constabulary and MI5 were desperate to apprehend someone from the Meibion Glyndwr, after 12 years of failure.
7. The "Cyfamodwyr" were growing as a popular movement, and they, unlike Plaid Cymru or the Welsh Language Society, refused to condemn the Meibion. One member (Dewi Prysor) actually openly supported the Meibion on a TV programme.
8. Siôn was a member of the Cyfamodwyr.

The Fiction and Dramatisation

1. Siôn knew of the police shadowing - would anyone be careless enough to produce bombs in an occupied block of flats, and attempt to post them in that situation?
2. The prosecution did not claim to see Siôn posting the letter bombs despite the close surveillance, but, two police officers claimed the honour of finding the empty books of stamps - in two different places, totally contradicting one another.
3. The 'dangerous explosive devices' were found in Bangor sorting office by a clerical. A young lone policewoman was sent in her car to collect them - were they dangerous at all? (the police knew).
4. Siôn was only 8 years old when the bombing began - not even the prosecution claimed that he had a significant role in any campaign - he was described as 'foot soldier' - but his sentence 12 yrs was out of all proportions.

The Situation Now

Siôn is at present in Full Sutton high security prison

Address for correspondence

Siôn Aubrey Roberts, BJ 3795, HMP Full Sutton, Moore Lane, Full Sutton, Yorkshire, YO4 1TS.

However, don't expect a swift reply, as all his post is first redirected down to the masters in London.

His friends and fellow compatriots in Wales are sending this statement -

"Os ydy'r heddlu, MI5n neu Mr. Elwyn Jones wir yn credu eu bod nhw wedi dal un o Feibion Glyndwr wrth garcharu Siôn - maent yn gwneud camgymeriad, ac mae'n ddrwg gennym drostynt. 20 oed oedd Siôn, a'r ymgyrch losgi'n 12oed - pam targedi hogyn ifanc?"

Hogyn cyffredin iawn ydi Siôn, ond am un peth-ei gariad at ei wlad, a'i ddyhead am ryddid i Gymru - ydi hynny'n drosedd?"

Mae'r ddau wladgarwr arall yn rhydd - a diolch am hynny, ond roedd rhaid cael un bwch dihangol - a dyna yw Siôn. Mae Siôn fel Stwmp a Prysor yn ddi-euog.

Dan ni'n dedfrydu'r heddlu a MI5 yn euog o drio difetha bywyd Cymro ifanc.

Apeliwn ar bawb i gofio Siôn. Mae o'n aberthu 6mlynedd o'i fywyd dros ei wlad, yn diodde am fod yn genedlaetholwr; am feiddio cefnogi Meibion Glyndwr.

Mae Siôn yn gymeriad cryf fawn. Daw o'r carchar a'r un cariad tuag at Gymru. Ydyn ni Cymry yn werth ei aberth?? Gadewch inni sefyll yn y rhengoedd i warchod ein gwlad, a gwlad Siôn.

Rhaid diogelu Cymru i'r Dyfodol."

Translation

"If the police, MI5 or individuals such as Elwyn Jones think that they have caught one of the Meibion - they are making a grave, silly mistake.

Siôn is a scapegoat for their failings. He knew he was being watched as are many, just because we are sincere Nationalists.

There's nothing special about Siôn, but for one thing, the depth of his love for Wales. Is that just reason to shadow and frame a young Welshman?

North Wales Police, MI5, you stand Guilty of the theft of 7 years of Siôn's life.

We appeal - remember Siôn. He is a sacrifice for his country's aspirations, he is suffering for his faith as a nationalist; he is victimized for daring to support Meibion Glyndwr.

What can we do?

We must defend Wales, we must keep our country so that it'll be recognizable to Siôn in 1999. That means refuse quangos, immigration, anything that erodes our precious Welsh way of life. Only so will Siôn's sacrifice not be in vain."

Editor's Note: This years Celtic League

A.G.M. approved a resolution expressing concern at the contradictory evidence which led to the conviction of Siôn and calls on the U.K. Government to order a full enquiry into the case (See p.23) Again, I would appeal to members/subscribers to write letters of support to Siôn at the address given above.

Rules are Broken - Democracy Usurped

In the course of photo-opportunities for the 'fake glasnost' announced by British Intelligence recently, Military Intelligence (M.I.5) confirmed that 40% of its budget and manpower is devoted towards countering terrorism emanating from the Celtic countries. This telling indictment of the stability of the United Kingdom was further qualified by the disclosure that the organisations manpower levels are higher now than during the Cold War.



Stella Rimmington
- England's No 1 'Spook Head' of M.I.5.

Mrs. Rimmingtons 'minders' cited the legitimate targets i.e. the I.R.A. and Welsh group Meibion Glyndwr as evidence of the need for this disproportionate effort.

However, disturbing evidence continues to unfold that in its zeal to counter these 'legitimate' targets M.I.5 and associated bodies bend the rules, usurp the democratic process and commit acts of terrorism themselves, including murder and robbery.

This year's A.G.M. of the Celtic League passed a resolution which urged all pressure groups and political parties throughout the Celtic countries to campaign for a public enquiry into the activities of British Military Intelligence over the past 20 years. (See pg.)

Mrs Rimmingtons 'glasnost' will not soften that intent!

ÉIRE

Féile Náisiúnta na Briotáinise

I measc an iliomad féilte náisiúnta agus idircheilteacha a eagraítear ar fud an domhain Cheiltigh - agus iad ag dul i méid de réir dealraimh - tá Gouel Broadel ar Brezhoneg, Féile Náisiúnta na Briotáinise, nach bhfuil ach cúig bliana ar an saol agus ag bailiú nirt. Is i lár na tíre sa cheantar is láidre a bhfuil an Bhriotáinis fós ina theanga phobail a tionóltar an Fhéile agus mar a bhí anuraidh, is i mbaile beag Spezed a bhí sé ar an deireadh seachtaine deireanach de mhí Bealtaine. Ó tharla go raibh mé fhéin i láthair is féidir liom a rá gur féile éagsúil í ó na cinn a bhfuil taithí agam orthu ins na tíortha Ceilteacha eile agus ón bhféile mhór eile sa mBriotáin, Féile Idircheilteach an Oriant. Níl ann ach féile dhá lá, ní bhíonn aon chomórtas ann, ach is iontach an méid imeachtaí a cuireadh isteach sa tréimhse sin, idir coirmeacha ceoil, festoú-noz (céilithe), drámaí, cluichí peile agus iomrascála, gan trácht ar obair ghluaiseachta ag bailiú síniúcháin agus airgid ar don Diwan, ag díol agus ag ceannach leabhar, irisí, caiséid agus ag dáiliú ábhar bolscaireachta de gach cineál.

Tá an Fhéile seo ag brath go hiomlán ar oibrithe deonacha, daoine óga den chuid is mó agus bhí neart díobh ann le linn an deireadh seachtaine i mbun stiúradh agus reachtáil na Féile chomh maith le bheith ag glacadh páirt ins na himeachtaí éagsúla.

Ní heol dom go mbíonn aon deontas le fáil ag an bhféile ó aon fhoinsé oifigiúil ach in ainneoin sin bhí sé d'acmhainn acu buíon ceoil cáiliúil ar nós na Chieftains, buíon pópairí ó Euskadi, ceoltóirí aitheanta ón Chorsaic chomh maith leis na ceoltóirí is fearr sa mBriotáin féin a fháil le bheith páirteach ins na coirmeacha ceoil agus na céilithe oíche Shathairn agus iarnóin agus oíche Dhomhnaigh. An chéad rud a bhí le tabhairt faoi ndeara ag teacht isteach sa mbaile na fógraí uilig a bheith i mBriotáinis os cionn gach siopa, tábhairne agus áit gnó.

Ach oiread leis an tír s'againn féin, lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht agus cathair na Gaillimhe, is beag comhartha i mBriotáinis a bhíonn le feiceáil ar thithe gnó sa mBriotáin, seachas an corr cheann ar Creperie nó ar siopa leabhar nó ceirde. I Spezed bhí na comharthaí déanta go speisialta agus curtha in airde ar mhullach na ngnáth gcinn i

bhFraincís le haghaidh an deireadh seachtaine. Chaith dream beag daoine óga atá ag obair in Ionad Cultúrtha gar do Spezed dhá mhí ag ullmhú na gcomharthaí agus á gcróhadh suas roimh an Fhéile le comhoibriú ó mhuintir an bhaile. Mheasas go mba thrua é go mbeidís a dtógáil anuas arís, mar is cinnte go rabhadar déanta go slachtmhar ealaíonta, agus cuma an-tarraingteach orthu, níos deise go deimhin ná na gnáth cinn i bhFraincís.

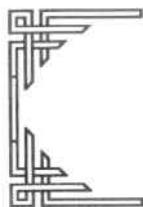
Rud eile a bhí suntasach ag barr na príomh sráide ab ea an fógra mór do 'Bank Broadel Breizh' .i. Banc Náisiúnta na Briotáine in aice le h-oifig eolais na Féile. Tugtar cuireadh do chuile dhuine airgead na Fraince a mhalartú ar son airgid na Briotáine agus sin amháin a úsáid le linn an deireadh seachtaine. Nótaí amháin a bhí ar fáil dár ndóigh i luachanna idir 5 lur (franc) go dtí 100 lur iad greanta go h-ealaíonta le pictiúirí de phearsain stairiúla na tíre orthu, Nominoé, Anna na Briotáine, An Diúc Yann IV mar shampla. Dá mbeadh cuid den airgead seo fágtha agat ag imeacht duit, ní raibh le déanamh ach é a aistriú ar ais go dtí airgead dleathach na Fraince. Arís sa bhfiontar seo bhí muintir an bhaile sásta comhoibriú le lucht riartha na Féile, agus ba chuma céard a bhí le ceannach - builín aráin ón mbacús, píosa feola ón mbuistéir, ag íoc as deoch sa tábhairne nó béile sa teach ósta, bhí glacadh leis an airgead Briotáineach.

Dearfá nach bhfuil ann ach an sop in áit na scuaise ag na Briotáinigh é. Tá sé d'aidhm ag lucht riartha na Féile seo an teanga a chur os comhair an phobail agus sinn-féineachas éigin a léiriú, fiú muna bhfuil ann ach deireadh seachtaine amháin sa bhliain, agus d'éirigh leo sin a dhéanamh go foirfe.

Is in ollphubail a reachtáiltear furmhór imeachtaí na Féile; bhí trí cinn mhóra ann, ceann amháin do na coirmeacha ceoil agus céilithe (ní raibh an aimsir sách maith ag deireadh Bealtaine le fanacht amuigh faoin aer) an dara ceann le h-aghaidh na taisbeántais agus na seastáin a bhí ag cumainn cultúrtha, eagrais pholaitiúcha agus gach dream idir eatorra, agus an tríú ceann don bhia; go deimhin bhí níos mó ná dream amháin ag soláthar béilí, rud a bhí ag teastáil

do an sluaite móra a bhí i láthair ar an Domhnach go h-áirithe, agus gan ach teach ósta nó dó sa mbaile, nach bhfuil mórán níos mó ná Uachtar Ard. Bhí cúpla halla ar fáil sa mbreis ar na pubail, agus is i gceann acu a cuireadh na drámaí ar ardán. An chéad tráthnóna léiríodh dráma ag an cumann drámaíochta áitiúil, dráma sean-aimseartha ar chúrsaí cleamhnais, ar aon dul le cuid mhaith de na drámaí a bhíodh le feiceáil in Éirinn suas go dtí scór bliain ó shin. Gan amhras bhí an Bhriotáinis ó dhúchas ag na h-aisteoirí uilig agus cumas maith aisteoireachta ag a bhfurmhór. Ar an Domhnach léiríodh leagan Briotáinise de dhráma Sheán Uí Chathasaigh, "The Plough and the Stars" - faoin teidil "An arar hag ar Stered" - aistriúchán díreach. An léiritheoir féin a rinne an t-aistriúchán agus bhí an leagan foilsithe ar díol san halla. Is cumann drámaíochta gairmiúil, Ar Vro Bagan, a chuir an dráma ar an ardán, agus clú bainte amach ag an gcumann cheana leis an léiriú seo de dhráma Uí Chathasaigh, agus le drámaí eile i mBriotáinis atá léirithe ag an fhoireann. Deineann Ar Vro Bagan roinnt drámaí i bhFraincís - tá seo riachtanach ar son teacht isteach rialta a fháil - agus téann timpeall na scoileanna le drámaí do pháistí, ag múineadh aisteoireachta ag an am céanna. Bhí an halla lán go doras don léiriú i Spezed, an-chuid daoine óga arís i láthair agus teaghlaigh le páistí óga, daltaí ó na scoileanna Diwan ba léir, agus munar thuigeadar an chaint uilig bhí gníomhaíocht agus geatsíocht go leor len iad a choinneáil ciúin. Bhí an léiriú snasta críochnúil agus cuid de na h-aisteoirí thar barr ach go raibh sé ró-fhada; beagnach dhá uair go leith a mhair an dráma agus gan de bhriseadh ann ach na h-amhráin a canadh - i mBéarla - idir na radharcanna, an t-amhrán 'Nora' atá mar chuid den dráma sin, agus 'A Nation Once Again', 'The Foggy Dew' agus a leithéid eile, nach gcloistear ró-mhinic in Éirinn ar na saolta seo. Bhí sluaite níos mó fós ag freastal ar na coirmeacha ceoil, b'éigean daoine a chur ó dhoras nuair a bhí na Chieftains ag seinnt.

D'éirigh go seoigh leis an bhféile seo, a bhufochas sin do na h-oibrithe óga a d'eagraigh agus a reachtáil na h-imeachtaí uilig. Isteach is amach le 200 san iomlán a bhí páirteach san iarracht. Is tuar dóchais don Bhriotáin an oiread sin den óige a bheith sásta a gcuid ama a chaitheamh i gcur chun cinn na teanga agus an chultúir, fiú má tá go leor díobh ar bheagán Briotáinise. Is laige é



Language News



New Irish-Medium Schools

Fourteen new Irish-medium schools, eight primary and six secondary, opened in the first week of September. Although the number of Irish-medium schools has grown dramatically in the last twenty years, this year heralds the largest number of new schools to open in any one year.

Irish-medium schooling is the largest and most dynamic growth area in Irish Education in the last twenty years. The number of Irish-medium secondary schools is also climbing steadily from 9 in 1980 to 22 in 1993, as parents, having seen the benefits of Irish-medium education at

primary level, decide to fight for Irish-medium education at second level also.

The Irish-medium primary schools will be opening in the following areas: Knocknacarra, Galway; Mayfield, Cork; Tullamore, Co. Offaly; Listowel, Co. Kerry; Ballymun, Dublin; Clondalkin, Dublin; Maghera, Co. Derry; Ballymurphy, Belfast.

The Irish-medium secondary schools will be opening in the following areas: Tallaght, Dublin; Cork City South; Youghal, Co. Cork; Mallow, Co. Cork; Newcastlewest, Co. Limerick; Ennis, Co. Clare.

Gaelscoileanna, has recently received funding from the National Lottery. This additional funding will be used to employ 2 full-time Regional Development Officers, for a period of 2 years, starting from September, 1993 in order to strengthen and develop Irish-medium education.

Inter-Denominational School

A new departure in Irish-medium education is the fact that the school in Mayfield, Cork is the first inter-denominational Gaelscoil. This school is an exciting new departure in both Irish-medium and inter-denominational schooling. It is thought that this school will be the first of many. The school has not yet received departmental approval, due to difficulties in slotting the new school into any of the traditional categories. The school sets a new precedent in Irish education and, although Gaelscoileanna, the organisation for the promotion of Irish-medium education, and the founders of the school are disappointed at the delay in departmental sanction, they are confident that this will not be withheld for long. The school will open, with or without, approval for the new school year.

While the majority of these children are catholic, the chairperson of the Board of Management, Mr. Eoin Ó Laoire, stresses that the core curriculum will be based on a multi-denominational environment, which favours no one religion.

Teacher Training

Last year there were protests when it was announced that of 300 entrants to teacher training colleges only nine were from Gaeltacht areas. This was in spite of long standing provisions that 10% of those

going into teacher training should be from the Gaeltacht. This year it was stated that about forty teacher training students would be Gaeltacht people.

Conradh Celebrates Centenary

Conradh na Gaeilge, now one hundred years has been organising a series of events to commemorate their centenary. The organisation had ten founding members (not seven as assumed by some), amongst them Dubhglas de hÍde and Eoin Mac Néill, probably subsequently the most well known.

One of the main events was a 'celebration' held outside the house in O'Connell Street, Dublin where the inaugural meeting was held on a midsummer's day. Dancing and music was the order of the day. Speaking on the occasion President P. Mac Aonghusa, stressed the aim of the founders of restoring Irish as a community language.

Guthanna i gCoill na Lón

Brian Ó Baoill, 64pp. Publ. by Cló Iar-Chonnachta, Indreabhán, Conamara 1992. £3 plus postage.

Brian has several books to his name, including accounts of his stay in Canada and of visits to Wales; he has also published a record of songs in Irish for children. For at least 25 years he has been professionally associated with endeavours such as the Gael-Linn festival "Slógadh" to encourage young people to make greater use of Irish. Some 50 poems are collected here. Most are fairly short, they are easy to understand. They owe their inspiration to a deep commitment to a Gaelic Ireland and to a strong feeling of closeness to nature, as indicated by the title of one of them which is also that of the book. Brian's sense of historic perspective makes him highly critical of those who owe their positions at the head of the state to the freedom fighters of 75 years ago but have scant regard for the aims they stood for. He compares Ireland to a "bean gan stiúir" a woman who has lost her way but he does not yield to pessimism, even when imprisoned: Ireland was never without defenders, they often went on the wrong track yet "we are still alive in spite of lies and betrayal". This book challenges reflexion.

A.H.

Féile... (contd.)

seo nach bhfuil éasca le leigheas agus an áit imeallach atá ag an teanga sa chóras oideachais. Pointe lag eile is ea na meáin chumarsáide; níor tugadh poiblíocht ar bith don Fhéile ar an gclár amháin teilifíse i mBriotáinis a bhíonn ar FR3, ach bhí an raidió áitiúil i láthair, trí cinn a chraolann i gceantacha éagsúla sa tír. Bhí tuairiscí ar chuid de na nuachtáin chomh maith. Rud amháin atá faoi bhláth sa mBriotáin is ea an fhoilsitheoireacht: is mó irisí a chuirtear amach i mBriotáinis ná i nGaeilge, agus tá riadhse leabhar á bhfoilsíú le blianta beaga anuas. Fiú na h-irisí a fhoilsíonn na páiríthe polaitíochta m.sh. Le Peuple Breton (UDB), Combat Breton (EMGANN) agus L'Avenir de La Bretagne (POBL) agus a mbíonn go bunúsach i bhFraincís, bíonn altanna nó píosaí i mBriotáinis iontu uilig. Tá dluth cheangal idir cúrsaí polaitíochta agus an teanga, rud a théann chun tairbhe don teanga den chuid is mó. Níl de dheacracht ann ach an easpa cumhachta atá ar na páiríthe polaitíochta beaga sa mBriotáin.

Brid Heussaff

Summary

The National Festival of the Breton Language held on the last week-end of May, is outstanding in that it is organised and run entirely by voluntary workers, involving up to 200 young people, many of them Breton learners.

The small town of Spezed was transformed with all commercial signs changed to Breton. Although only a week-end event, it included concerts with well-known groups such as the Chieftains and I Muvrini from Corsica, art, drama, games, festoù-noz as well as exhibitions and stands by cultural and political organisations.

Well worth a visit.

Opposition to Thorp

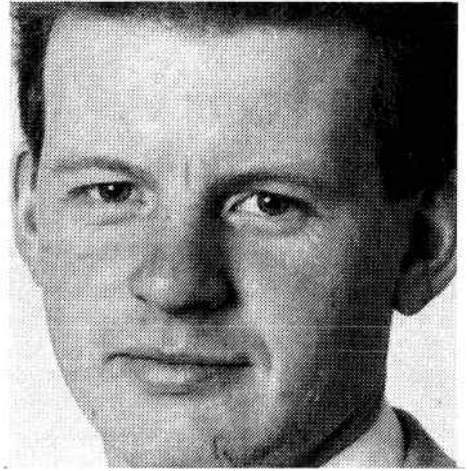
Following the British government's decision to allow testing of the *Thorp* reprocessing plant at Sellafield to proceed strong protest were made by many in Ireland. The Green Party TD, Mr Trevor Sargent, urged the Government to make the campaign against the *Thorp* plant at Sellafield a priority. "Unless we act now, the Irish people for ever more will remember this Government as the one which allowed another nuclear menace to wreck their future," he maintained.

Mr Sargent has written to the British authorities urging them to reconsider the decision to approve the start of tests using

uranium. He said that to allow these tests would contaminate the plant, increase the cost of decommissioning it and add further strain to Anglo-Irish relations.

Mary Banotti, MEP (Fine Gael), said the Government should invoke a section of the 1957 Euratom Treaty which places certain obligations on states such as Britain which intend to carry out dangerous experiments.

The Democratic Left environment spokesman, Mr Eamon Gilmore TD, called on the Government to take international legal action against the British government over the operation of the Sellafield plant.



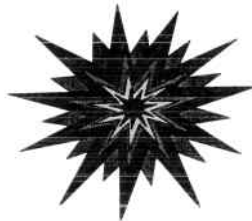
Trevor Sargent, TD.

THORP

BEFORE



AFTER



Joint Authority Acceptable?

In a Sunday Tribune interview in July, Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams when asked about Martin McGuinness's earlier reference to 'interim arrangements to calm Unionist fears' stated: "First of all I haven't considered it but on its own joint authority, while it might have some significance, would not be acceptable. If the policy objective (of Irish unity) was set and joint authority was part of the process towards an end to partition and provided that it was democratised it is something Republicans would have to be flexible about looking at.

"But as an alternative, no. As a staging process, and it would depend how the end objective was set, it might be that republicans might be prepared to embrace the idea. The key to it all is that we need to see a substance in a change of British policy. We want to see a unitary state at the end of the day and there may be other staging posts."

Addressing a meeting held in July in Dublin Mr. Adams elaborated on his discussions with SDLP leader John Hume. The establishment and development of a peace process was a priority for Sinn Féin

and a personal and political priority for him, he stated.

He said that it was in this context that he was having discussions with the SDLP leader, Mr John Hume. "It is essential that a political strategy to bring about peace and justice in Ireland is developed. This is what Mr Hume and I are exploring. Others should also apply themselves to this task. Such a strategy requires courage and imagination."

The Government, he told an attendance of about 200, should take the initiative and was now in an ideal position to seek a new agreement with London which would have as its main objective the exercise by the Irish people of their right to national self-determination.

This could be done through a process of dialogue and inclusive negotiations to agree the shape of a new Ireland; the introduction of new structures which would allow the people of Ireland to work together to end past divisions and to build an agreed future and through a process of national reconciliation which would assure the cultural integrity and civil rights of all sections of the Irish people.

Greenpeace Victory

Greenpeace won permission in the High Court in London on 2 September to challenge the British government's decision to allow uranium-testing at *Thorp* in Sellafield.

Mr Justice Brooke granted Greenpeace leave to seek a judicial review concerning the legality of the British government's decision to allow British Nuclear Fuels Ltd to test *Thorp*'s reprocessing system with uranium prior to the final decision on whether the plant should be fully opened.

Greenpeace failed, however, to obtain an order preventing BNFL from testing the uranium before the judicial hearing on September 14th. Although Mr Justice Brooke agreed Greenpeace had an "arguable case", he admitted that he had been "very considerably influenced" by BNFL's evidence that the company would lose more than £2 million a week and that 700 people could have faced redundancy.

The news was welcomed by Trevor Sargent who said that Greenpeace's victory high-lighted the Government's failure to take legal action against the *Thorp* plant, despite its repeated threats to do so. He called on the Attorney General to contact Greenpeace's legal advisers in Britain to see what Ireland could do to support the High Court challenge to *Thorp*.

The Democratic Left, MEP, Mr Des Geraghty, welcomed Greenpeace's success, saying that, if *Thorp* went into operation, it would increase dramatically the number of ships carrying spent radioactive fuel through the Irish Sea. Each ship would carry enough nuclear waste to cause a disaster on the scale of Chernobyl, he said.

He called on the Government to make further representations to the British government to halt *Thorp*, plutonium shipments through the Irish Sea and the discharge of radioactive waste in the sea and air.



IF YOU SEE THIS — REPORT IT

With renewed concerns over the bombings in Dublin city and Monaghan in 1974 British Intelligence and Special Forces are again the focus of attention. However the British Army and Military Intelligence still mount incursions into the Republic of Ireland. The United Kingdom maintain in service four Agusta A 109A Swallow helicopters as shown here.

The only reason for maintaining such a singular type in service, in such small numbers, is the types similarity to

commercial and military types such as the Aerospatiale Dauphin operated in the Republic.

It should therefore come as no surprise that these helicopters are not utilised by the regular British Army but operated by a special flight of the Army Air Corps, No 8 flight based at Netheravon and permanently seconded to the special air services. Sightings of the helicopters in or over border areas should be reported to the Irish authorities.

About A109s in Ireland

MoD spokesperson on the record -B mail: "I can confirm that there is no truth in any suggestion that A 109s are being deployed to the province."

MoD spokesperson off the record - by 'phone: "I'm afraid I'm not prepared to make a categoric statement... we do not keep detailed records".

Contact: Celtic League Military Monitoring Group c/o Bernard Moffatt address on page 24.

Human Rights Record Attacked

The United Nations Human Rights Committee, the world's top human rights body has expressed deep concern over Ireland's emergency laws, police powers, censorship, the lack of divorce, and the treatment of travellers, juvenile offenders refugees and asylum seekers.

These criticisms follow public hearings on Ireland's human rights record in Geneva in July.

The UN committee, which consists of leading human rights lawyers from around the world, has now issued its written comments. And although the committee has no direct power to enforce its recommendations the government is required to submit a further report in 1996, which will again be considered at public hearings in Geneva or New York.

Despite claims by the Attorney General that the Special Criminal Court was required because of threats of violence related to the Northern Ireland conflict, the UN committee said it "does not consider that the continued existence of that court is justified in the present circumstances."

With regard to the emergency powers, the committee adds that the government has

failed to comply with its international obligations by not notifying the UN secretary general of the existence of a state of emergency.

It also said that Section 2 of the Emergency Powers Act 1976, which allows for seven day detention, "provides excessive powers to law enforcement officials". The act is not in use but can be brought into operation by ministerial order.

On the issue of censorship, the UN committee said the Section 31 ban "infringes upon the freedom to receive and impart information under Article 19, paragraph 2, of the Covenant".

The UN also criticises restrictions on information on abortion and Irish censorship generally and calls on the government to "ensure judicial review of all decisions taken by the Censorship of Publications Board".

The committee's report also calls for strict controls on the gardai "particularly with respect to power of search, arrest and detention and the use of firearms".

The UN report may also allow persons who feel their human rights have been jeopardised in Ireland to press their claims before the European Court of Human Rights.



Celtic Design Giftwrap Paper

Four different designs on four 18"x24" sheets with four matching gift cards - Price £3.30

Gregory Mirow has taken some of the basic elements of Celtic art and used them to create four dazzling giftwraps. One sheet features circles and squares filled with intricate swirls of colour, a second sheet is made up of interlaced borders, a third of brightly coloured letters right off the pages of an illuminated manuscript. On the fourth sheet, bands of sensuous, biomorphic forms combine to form a magnificent medallion design.

Available from: Constable & Company Ltd., 3 The Lanchester, 1662 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 9ER.

KERNOW

Pons Nowydh?

Yma tus a'n Menystrans Karyans y'n eur ma owth omgusulya gans an werin yn kever treusva nowydh a-dreus an Avon Tamer, pons dell hevel a dhegsa fordh nowydh dhe Gernow ha gensi havysi, trygoryon nowydh a Aberplymm ha 'ga herri.

Nans yw dewdhek blydhen warn ugens pan veu igerys an pons fordh Essa yn 1961, yth esa re a warnyas a'n sywyans rag Kernow kettell veu igerys an yet-liv ha'n fros nowydh ow tos warnan. Ni a wel an sywyans na y'n jydh hedhyw - trevow ystynnys, pow distruys, spyrys Kernow yn-dann wodros - ha res yw dhyn ni godhav tryga ganso.

Lemmyn wosa an dowloryon dhe omgusulya war an dra, peswar hyns possybyl yw profys - tri anedha mar wokki may hyllir aga nagma distowgh (gwel mappa). An peswara a wra sywya an fordh eus ena lemmyn.

Herwydh an skrifow dyllys bys y'n eur ma, nyns yw govynnys mars eus edhomm a bons nowydh. Derivys yw bos deg war ugens mil karr ow tremena pub dydh; mes an dus a wra tremena an pons na yn fenowgh a woer nag eus meur a lett. Gwir yma lies mil ow mos dhe oberi pub myttin ynter eth ha naw eur mes a-ban veu igerys an gowfordh Essa skant nevra nyns yw tegys an pons. An brassa lett yw kevys dres neb hwegh Sadom yn hav, y'n dygoelyow-skol, pan dheu havysi y'gan hevvaow dhe lenwel an pow. Pandr'a hwer gans an niverow a havysi y'n dydhyow ma? Digressya a wra aga niver dell hevel pub blydhen ha tus ow mos moy ha moy tramor orth kost isella dhe gavoës kewer well. An negys hav yn Kernow a wra meur a dros heb meur a sewena. Hag ynwedh an fordh ewn dhe dhos dhe Gernow rag brassa rann an dhygoeloryon yw an A30, Karesk-Lannstefan-Bosvenegh.

Unn dra yw sur: ny vydh gawyn dhe Gernow mar pydh drehevys pons nowydh. An gwayn a vydh dhe'n sita Aberplymm; konseloryon a'n sita na a's teves mall bras a gudha parkow glas kernewek gans chioh rag aga thus.

Ytho yn kynsa, res porres yw dhyn sevel erbynn an tybyans bos edhomm a dremenwa arall.

Bagasow yma lemmyn ow sevel kaskergh erbynn an Menystrans Karyans, yntredha bagas nowydh re dheuth war-barth yn arbennik hag yw henwys Tambrig (pella derivadow yn kever Tambrig diworth Jack Spiers, West Brendon, Sen Dominik, Essa/Saltash Kernow).

Dhe dus a wel yn kler nag eus edhomm vith a'n pons profys, yma dew boynt arall dhe dhadhla yn krev.

Yn kynsa an damaj a vydh gwrys dhe'n kyrghynnedh ha tekter an pow a vydh meur ha rann an hyns ow treusi heyl ha fennva an avon - tylleryow a dal via gwithys neb kor.



Nessa res yw dhyn mires orth kost an towl ha pygemmys arghans a via skoellys yn termyn pan vo treghys lies servis a vern, ha henna y'gan ranndir yw boghosek lowr.

An kost a vydh, dhe'n lyha, kans milvil a beunsow (£100,000,000), ha dell wodhon ynta gans tolow a 'n par an kostow dismygys a wra yskynna yn fras kyns dos an ober dh'y worfenn. A ny yllir gul devnydh ar arghans rag tolow karyans erell? Gans sommenn a'n par na y hyllir:

- * gwitha ha gwellhe an hyns-horn kernewek - a ny vydh res a bons hyns-horn nowydh kyns pell?
- * gorfenna ledanhe an fordh A30 ynter Bosvenegh ha Karesk;
- * gwellhe ha dewblekhe an fordh A38 ynter Essa ha Trerulefoot (Trerulefoot) may fydh moy salow dhe'n dremenysy usi omma lemmyn.
- * displegya karyans poblek yn

Aberplymm dre wellhe kyttrinyow, hyns-horn.

Diskwedhyans re beu sevys yn Aberplymm, Essa ha Penntor, may hyll trygoryon ri aga husel. Herwydh derivas y'n bellwolok moy es peswar ugens kansrann a'n vysytoryon yw erbynn an towl yn tien.

Mes an diwettha govynn yw mar pydh drehevys pons nowydh, a vydh henna gwrys yn-dann dowl muskok an governans ma dhe brivedhhe pubtra? Mars yw drehevys gans kowethas priva, martesen an tollow a vydh mar ughel ma na vydh hwans dhe dus aga thyli; martesen hemma a vydh an gwella gwith oll rag Kernow hag a wra gul dus gasa an karr y'n karrji ha prederi yn kever vyaja yn tren.

Summary

Now the Department of Transport have published their proposals for a new Tamar crossing, four possible routes are proposed - three of them are so stupid that one can discount them immediately (see map). The fourth follows the road that is there now.

One thing is sure: Cornwall won't gain if a new bridge is built. The city of Plymouth will gain; councillors of that city have a great desire to cover Cornish green fields with houses for their people.

For people who clearly see no need for the proposed bridge, there are two points to argue strongly. First the damage that will be done to the environment and the beauty of the country. Second we must look at the money that will be wasted when services are disrupted.

The cost will be at least a hundred million pounds, and as we know with plans of this sort the published cost will rise greatly before the work finishes. Couldn't the money be used for other road plans. With a sum such as this one could:

- * save and improve the Cornish railway.
- * finish widening the A30 between Bodmin and Exeter
- * improve and dual the A38 between Saltash and Trerulefoot
- * promote public transport in Plymouth by improving buses, trains.

Exhibitions were held in Plymouth, Saltash and Torpoint, where residents could be consulted. According to TV reports more than 80% opposed the plan totally.

De Zadarn Barlez

Me ve en Curnow en vlethanma termen degoliow Laffenake, Millbrook ha Helles. Ketheze leez degol en Curnow tha verkya hanter vorr dreath an vlethan Geltack (Calamea po ogaz than jeethna) nag eze buz nebbaz anothans en Kimbra. Thera ve moaze mennau tha onen ew henwez Dydd Sadwrn Barlys - De Zadarn Barlez - en Aberteifi (Cardigan). An degolna o gweethez war Calamea en vlethanma. Mor nag igge Calamea skidnia war an Zadarn mava gweethez war an dewetha Zadarn a veeze Ebral. Gothe than barlez boaze gonethys bidn an journama, ouga an keer.

Ma desquethianz merth meten De Zadarn Barlez en park reb Aberteifi. Tha deaw eare dohodgath an merth ew comerez tha gerras en cheif straites an drea. Hedda ew ra go desquethaz tha berhednaw an casigi a venga cawas ebilli thurtans.

De Zadarn Barlez ew degol than deeogian ha tha go theeze wheal. Warler an heynes an deeze wheal o kibmiez tha gara go mestrizi ha wheelaz wheal orol an journama. Ma ruth vea a boble en

Aberteifi pub De Zadarn Barlez tha wellhaz an merth. An degol ew per goath.

Warler an heynes aweeth an deeogian reeg gara an hendra war Calamea ha moaze tha go hewas en teerathe ewhall ha boaze ena drez an have warbar gen ago theeze wheal ha gen ago bestaz.

Ma dallah an vlethan Keltack merkys gen feer Cala Gwave han deeogian devethez trea tha go hendra. An feerna en Aberteifi ew gweethez 10vas a veeze Due. Blethednaw lebma thera an deeogian goberna go theeze wheal tha feer Aberteifi. Buz thew hedda story orol.

Merfyn Phillips

Summary

Unlike Cornwall, most of the May festivals have died out in Wales. One that remains is Barley Saturday, Held in Cardigan on 1st May if it is a Saturday, otherwise the last Saturday in April. That day is called Barley Saturday because it is reckoned that the barley which is the last corn to sow should be in the ground by then.

Keltian?

Keltian? Thew peldar aba reeg dalla an kensa breselersna, teeogian, govian han rerol, tha gara an menithiow a Europe Crease rag moaze aleaze, wheelaz teere noweth, hoim, han distrypyans a cas. Tho an Greckians coath reeg go hanwall angye keltol, buz an hanawma reeg gorwetha keethez tereba Edward Lhuyd tha e thismigga pols bean ouga 1700. Nye a dale ry marci tha eve rag hedda; whathe, tha veza lena, assewa cabmusys an geerma!

An Romans reeg usya an geer galli rag an bobellma, ha ma hebma neese than hanaw o leez mesk an Gauls go hunnen, ca nagew guthvethes gena nye lebben an form poran notha et ago thavaz angye. Buz ma devethez an hanaw Kelt mar vea leez en geeth hethow uz na ellen nye usya keen geer rac'tangye lebben.

Car drova an geys mesk an Geltian, a niel ehan ha nena e gilla reeg rowlyah amisk an deffrans teeze; penagell vor, an henwin ew cooth thene, Keltian po Galli, tho angye en dallah an henwin a serten teeze ez roze tha oll rina reeg joynya go hunnen dothans. Andella, an Brittez a ve heb dowte edn ehan bean louare en kensa, reeg hetha e hunnen boree tereba leaza e hanaw drez oll an ennis.

Na dale thene pedeere dreeg keneverah dean, benen ha flôh 'Keltack' doaze tha Vretten poran thor an menithiow a Europe; mesk rina a gomeraz aman an tavaz han geys an Geltian, ha doaze ha boaze henwez

'Keltian' go hunnen, brossa radn nonge heb dowte theath an lidniath era en ennisma kenz ennah; ha aban nena, pewa ell reckna pegebmys gowg Sousnack ha Nordic eze meskez ittans?

Whathe, pera ve pedeere paseil a gowg Keltack eze kurtaz hethow amisk an deeze en powiowma ew criez 'Keltack', thera ve gawas serten dool... Haaze an kensa Keltian tho dro angye broaze laveris, segeris, gwylls, pedn throage, cowlack, brash, foulze, debredar, tavassock; broaze oberys tereba mascogna en bresel, whathe heb seanz veeth a towle pell; hagenzol, thera angye nevra en streef mesk ago hunnen, tha keneverah dean e vreaaz e hunnen, e dowle e hunnen!

Dar, an peath eze try them an doolma thewa drellen nye gwellhaz an kethsame haaze mesk nye en geeth hethow... Nag eze dowte veeth drew part vroaze ahanan nevra 'Keltack'!

Richard Gendall

Summary

CELTS? Though the Greeks named them Keltoi, our early ancestors knew themselves by a name recorded by the Romans as galli: Gauls. It was Edward Lhuyd shortly after 1700 who re-discovered and introduced to the world the term 'Celtic'. Probably the bulk of the British stock was made up from a line that was already present when the Gauls came. To this was mixed who knows how much Saxon and Norse blood? Are there, indeed, any Gauls left? A consideration of the known characteristics of the early Gauls is reassuring: They are still with us today!

Linguistic Authenticity

Part 2

The most controversial aspect of the original reform was Ken George's theory that medieval Cornish had possessed two palatal phonemes not represented by either Middle Cornish orthography or Nance's Unified system; and these two sounds, represented as tj and dj, were made a part of the new "Kernewek Kemmyn" standard. This changed not only the spelling of Cornish, but the fundamental rules of its pronunciation: an innovation that was met with intense resistance – not surprisingly for it violated the first rule of language planning we cited above. Fortunately, Ken George soon conceded that this theory had been mistaken, and the two offending phonemes were removed from Kernewek Kemmyn. The remaining changes are not only rather tame, but entirely in line with the effort to rationalise and simplify Unified Cornish spelling: the use of k and s in place of the ambiguous c, for instance, and the distinctions between long and short vowels mentioned above. The change from Unified Cornish to Kernewek Kemmyn is certainly no greater than the change of appearance that came over Irish when its spelling was reformed after World War II. Anyone who has learned Unified Cornish can easily read Kernewek Kemmyn (I can testify to that myself!), and vice versa. Thus our first rule of language planning is again being respected and, whatever disagreements may still remain, the boundary between "old" and "new" usage in the language is fully "permeable".

What of the second and third rules? The reform was itself undertaken to satisfy the exigencies of the second rule, and it has evidently succeeded: the resulting system is simple and logical, with a minimum of exceptions and inconsistencies. As for the third rule, in so far as Cornish does have a literary heritage, the major part of it dates back to the later Middle Ages (the other part, of course, consists of what has been written in Unified Cornish in the twentieth century), and the current standard does make the writings of that period more accessible to modern Cornish-speakers. One might also add that it gives Cornish-speakers a better perspective of their position in the Celtic world by making Welsh and Breton more accessible – and the similarity between them becomes apparent only because Welsh and Breton already have phonemic writing systems.

What, then, of "Traditional" Cornish? Its most controversial aspect is its

(Cont. overleaf)

(Cont. from page 17)

insistence on reviving the English-based spelling used by the antiquarians who recorded Late Cornish in the eighteenth century. It is claimed to be the only "authentic" spelling. But on what grounds is it "authentic"? It was never a community standard. It came into use - in non-codified form - when the Middle Cornish standard (which had been developed when Cornish was still a self-sufficient community language) had fallen into disuse and Cornish itself was giving way to English in all spheres of public life, and it represents an attempt - by people whose main experience of written language was English - to apply rules of spelling familiar to them to a language with a completely different phonetic system. In short, it represents what Cornish sounded like to an English-speaker of the time, and makes short shrift of Cornish sounds (especially vowel sounds) not found in English. It refers impressionistically to English models rather than expressing the structure of Cornish itself. If the Late Cornish sources were far more extensive than they are, were widely-known, and if their English-based spelling had, in a codified form, been in continuous use throughout the history of the revival, there would be some argument for retaining it in spite of its clumsiness. But we know that this has not been the case: and to impose a return to Late Cornish standards would be to ask hundreds of people who have already assimilated a simple and logical writing system to give it up for something far less clear and consistent in design (even pedagogically, the English-based spelling has little to recommend it, since it encourages students to believe that Cornish is pronounced exactly like English). It is hard to understand why proponents of "Traditional" Cornish seem to think that any attempt to improve on the work of eighteenth-century antiquarians leads to "inauthenticity". Compare the history of Breton: the Middle Breton standard of orthography fell into disuse during the 17th century, as Breton literacy declined, and for the next two centuries, when Breton was written at all, it was spelled impressionistically according to French phonetics. Eventually, beginning in the mid-19th century, a phonemic Breton writing system was gradually developed, better suited to representing the actual sounds of the language. If one leaves out the century-long disappearance of the Cornish-speaking community, this is not very different from what happened to Cornish: why, then, prevent Cornish from adopting, at this stage in its history, an elegantly simple phonemic writing system, as Welsh and Breton already have?

Does this mean that an interest in Late Cornish is unjustified? Of course not.

Although their writing system is their least attractive and least useful feature, the Late Cornish sources are very important because they represent our only examples of straightforward Cornish prose (most of the Middle Cornish sources, though far more extensive, are in verse). They are thus our best clue to the syntax of everyday spoken Cornish, and as such can guide us in devising a comfortable and easily learned conversational style for the language. The extensive studies of Late Cornish that went into the creation of "Traditional" Cornish are of great pedagogical value for all the branches of the language movement.

What is most important, at this stage, is to prevent the "ghettoisation" of three standards, especially the nursing of personal resentments that could so easily destroy a community as small and as fragile as our *Kernewegva*. Students who first encounter Cornish through one standard should not be made to feel that they must give their lifelong allegiance to that standard: they should cultivate an awareness of the community as a whole, and make up their own minds. The situation can only be saved through intelligent compromise. I can easily see future language activists learning to combine the rational orthography of *Kernewek Kemmyn* with the structural insights of "Traditional" Cornish. Our present divisions can be transcended only by the work of cool, lucid minds, and a naive, emotional recourse to nebulous concepts like "linguistic authenticity" cannot help: it can only blind us to the way languages really live and evolve.

Alexei Kondratiev

Economy & Culture linked

There are about one million Bretons in the Paris area. Among those in the higher spheres of learning and industry, many proclaim their Breton identity. One of them, Professor Jo Le Bihan, is working out a project which will involve an investment of 12 million francs to build a management institute in Locarn (Central Brittany) in which courses, seminars etc. will be held with the participation of leading figures in industry and commerce as lecturers/speakers, putting their experience in the service of their home country. Le Bihan's comments were critical of the situation in Kernow: "We must not allow Brittany to become an English Cornwall, devitalised, hardly aware of its history, dotted with secondary residences owned by eccentric characters opposed to any kind of modernisation. To avoid that, Brittany must boost its economic vitality and foster its identity. The danger is that, while we are activists, we are not strategists."

Culture as a factor of economic strength was also being acknowledged by the delegation of 8 Finistère General Councillors led by J.T. Cozan which spent a fortnight in China seeking export outlets. (Similar steps took Breton delegations to Portugal, Hungary, Columbia, not to mention Cornwall and Devon).

Cornwall Council Election 1993

On the 7th May 1993 Cornwall Council came under party political control for the first time in 104 years. What this means for the future of Cornwall all depends on the Liberal Democrats who gained control of the Council. Going on their past record as the largest party on Cornwall Council their dual policies of talking in favour of Cornish national integrity and working towards Devonwall are confusing and obviously there is a need to keep a sharp eye on them.

The Liberal Democrats' victory may be the worst thing that could have happened to the party. Until now they have been the largest party on the Council and effectively in control, but they have been able to use the excuse that they were opposed by the other parties and unable to get their plans through Council, this excuse is no longer possible.

The only party to do badly in the election was the Tories their representation on the Council fell to 6 from 14. Mebyon Kernow did quite well considering they

only put up 7 candidates, although these were spread through out the Duchy from Stratton in the far North East to Penzance in the West. M.K managed to retain their seat and get over 3,000 votes overall, in those seats contested by MK they managed to get an average of 20% of the vote.

The party political make up of Cornwall Council is now as follows:

Liberal Democrats	42
Independents	21
Labour	8
Conservatives	6
Liberals	1
Mebyon Kernow	1

During the election there was some talk of the forming of a Cornish group on the Council made up of MK, Liberal and some independent members, we shall have to wait and see what comes of this (if anything).

Authentic, or Not?

Alexei Kondratiev, writing in the Kernow section of Carn No 82, is making heavy weather out of the word **authentic**. A collector, talking about antiques or paintings, certainly knows what he means by **authentic** otherwise he would risk wasting a great deal of money; and certainly everybody knows what this means in terms of the Cornish language. If anyone is in doubt, authentic Cornish is that Cornish produced by writers who were brought up in the midst of the living historic vernacular. They used the language current in their day, and did not mix it with archaic forms.

By extension, it might be fair to say that any Cornish carefully based on an historic form of the language (not a confused one made up from several periods) might also claim to be authentic; but I would be open to persuasion on this point, by comparison, if one were to write English in a mixture of Chaucer, Shakespeare and Dickens, would this in fact pass as authentic? I am asking... but I should not have thought so.

Anybody who wishes can take up books and learn the Cornish language from any of its identifiable historic forms: the mediaeval form from the 15th century, the transitional, Tudor form from Tregear and Jordan, or the Modern form (so referred to by Cornish writers of the early 18th century). But among the three forms being put forward for the purpose of revival, two are composed and augmented; Nance's term 'Unified' Cornish admits this. Beyond the mask of a new orthography and a somewhat revised system of pronunciation, Common Cornish is really no different from Unified Cornish; both are based more or less on mediaeval Cornish, but also take and use as padding everything that is useful from the other historical periods. Nance, after all, actually launched Unified Cornish in the 1920's by taking the fully Modern Cornish tale of 'Jooan Choy a Horr' and converting it to his own new style, though its grammar is markedly different from that of the mediaeval period. The legacy has passed to Common Cornish.

The third form put forward for revival is that of Modern Cornish (not that confusingly called 'Modern Cornish' in Mr Brown's new grammar book, which is in fact Common Cornish, but the... dare I say it?... authentic Modern Cornish of c.1700, in which the system adheres strictly to the period for grammar, orthography, pronunciation and intonation).

As for vocabulary, Unified and Common Cornish take more from Modern Cornish

than it does from Mediaeval Cornish. From them, Modern Cornish takes nothing. There is indeed plenty of evidence to indicate that the bulk of the middle Cornish vocabulary was carried over into the later periods, and the very few occasions on which a revived Modern Cornish has to dip into the earlier period for words is therefore perfectly justifiable. Nevertheless, to make whatever sort of Cornish usable in a 20th century context requires considerable adoption from other languages (the normal practice followed by all historical forms of our language), or else the concocting of new words from sundry roots (not, in point of fact, so typical of historical Cornish).

But all languages have had to borrow from each other to evolve a fully viable vocabulary; the major European ones have done so gradually, so that one hardly notices that English, for example, is largely composed of foreign words! Cornish, as being **revived**, and the other Celtic languages, as having **survived**, but mostly in a rural context, are all trying desperately to catch up on all the missing words. Fortunately much new vocabulary is international, being formed on classical roots, so that for instance the word **television** is the same in English, French and Spanish (apart from the addition of an accent). This is highly convenient, yet the contortions Cornish revivalists go through to avoid the use of English, or English-looking words is comical, and there is a real danger of getting the whole idea of language revival out of proportion. The greater the intensity among the enthusiasts, the less the humour.

The number of people involved in the Cornish language revival movement (sic) is really quite insignificant. We are talking of an area where the last native speaker certainly died before the appearance of Jenner's 'Handbook' in 1904! If Cornish were today the normal language of the whole of Cornwall, then any words that came into that language, and were accepted into common use, and approved by the best authorities, would of course be **authentic**. The major European languages are crammed full of such adopted words, but so too in its smaller way is historical Cornish, whether Middle or Late ...Mediaeval or Modern... but these are words assimilated by a viable body, a majority body, of native speakers.

That's the difference. That's what makes them **authentic**.

Richard Gendall

Film and TV Festival

The 14th Celtic film and television festival was held in An Oriant during the last 5 days of April. It was an occasion of "pride for the Welsh and shame for the Bretons" (Combat Breton, Nr 90).

The main prize, a gold torque, was awarded to the film *Hedd Wyn* about the life of the pacifist poet Ellis Evans who was crowned posthumously as a bard at the Eisteddfod after he had been killed in World War 1. Present were the best representatives of television in the Celtic countries except... Brittany. Reviewing the event, Combat Breton asks: have the Breton directors of production nothing to learn from our Welsh and Irish neighbours? Are they not interested in the efforts of those trying to create a true Breton film industry? Breton films were practically absent from the list of winners (lack of means or of imagination?) Worse was the absence in the various debates. The panel for "TV and Learning the Celtic Languages" consisted of a Welshman, an Irishman and a Scotsman but no Breton. Yet Fañch Broudig, the man in charge of the Breton Language programme(s) on F3 Ouest was there... in the hall. In the debate about TV and Public Service, the regional director of F3 Ouest, J.P. Guen, was... missing. He said afterwards that he did not know yet what the new government's policy on television was and thus could not take part. But of course F3.O is interested in regional culture. His sense of humour was not shared. Stourm ar Brezhoneg had no difficulty in convincing the participants at a press conference of the necessity of setting up a Breton channel.

Celtic Congress

Plans are well ahead for the next International Celtic Congress which will be held in Falmouth, from 4th - 9th April 1994. It is 5 years since the last Celtic Congress was held in Newquay. This will be an important event for Falmouth and for Cornwall, with delegates, probably about two hundred, coming from all the six countries of the Celtic world. It is hoped that all Falmouth organisations will support this venture, and already the Town Council, the Tourist Board, several hotels, the Old Cornwall Society, Falmouth Polytechnic Society and other groups and organisations are working together with the local Celtic Congress Branch to make this a prestigious event. Any other organisation or individual who could help in any way is asked to contact Denise Chubb on 0209-842394.

Ann Trevenen Jenkin

MANNIN

Cadjiney ny Chengaghyn

Shimmey arganys va currit fo raad ec chengaghyn as, dy jarroo, va cagey ny ghaa ayn kyndagh roo neesht. Eer cheusthie jeh un chengey ny lomarcen, ta arganeys dy liooar. Ayns Baarle, myr sampleyr, ga dy vel yn chengey er ve cadjinit (standardised) dy mooar, ta sleih ennagh bunnys aarloosleih elley y varroo kyndagh rish cooishyn ennagh ayns Baarle. Ec y tra t'ayn, ta Sostnee resooney mysh Baarle Oikoil as ny fo-ghlaraghyn reeshtagh. Ga dy vel ny shenn fo-ghlaraghyn Baarlagh moal dy liooar nish, ta foast jeelymyn faagit jeu. Myr sampleyr, ta niart sleih gra 'I were' ayns ynyd 'I was' er y fa dy vel shen y red dooghyssagh daue, as ta 'I were' slane kiart sy fo-ghlare oc hene. Sy chooish shoh, ta drogh-ourys ec lught 'I were' dy vel reilys Hostyn er-chee marroo ad kyndagh rish y loght agglagh shoh.

Dy firrinagh, cha nel doilleid erbee ec y chooid smoo dy 'leih er y fa dy vel ad daa-hengagh ec y chooid sloo. Tra t'ad marish yn feallagh oc hene, t'ad gra 'I were' as marish sleih 'ooasle' t'ad loayrt Baarle Oikoil. Er-lhiam nagh vel peiagh erbee gra nagh lhisagh paitchyn Hostyn gynsaghey Baarle Oikoil. Agh bee boirey mooar ayn my vees peiagh erbee ayns reilys Hostyn gra nagh vod sleih loayrt yn fo-ghlare oc hene rish yn feallagh oc hene! Ansherbee, quoy vees freayll rick?

Ren ny Sostnee as ny Frangee cadjiney ny chengaghyn oc foddey er dy henney. Agh cha ren shoh taghyrt raad va chengaghyn goll er loayrt as yn sleih fo smaght sleih elley. Myr sampleyr, va Loghlynn fo smaght ny Danvargee sy cheed shoh chaie as va Loghlynish cheet dy ve ny s'Danvargee gagh laa. Roish as lurg y tra hooar ny Loghlynnee nyn seyrnsys, v'ad streu dy chur yn chengey oc hene er e hoshiaght. Agh cre'n ghlaire? C'rad va Loghlynish Loghlynagh? Va arganeys mooar eddyr ny Loghlynnee hene mychione shoh. Dy jarroo, ta'n arganeys foast goll er.

Er agh ennagh, ta'n boirey cheddin er ve jannoo er ny Celtiee ooilliu. Kyndagh rish ny Sostnee as ny Frangee cruinnaghey stiagh orroo, cha dod ny Bretnee, Yernee, Albinee as Britaanee croo chengaghyn va

cadjinit dy 'dooghyssagh'. Ayns Nerin, myr sampleyr, roish my daink ny caggaghyn sy cheer dy ve cho agglagh, va sleih ynsit freayll arrey er chengey va goll er ymmydey son daanyn as cooishyn ynsit. Oddagh yn chengey shoh er jeet dy ve Yernish Oikoil, agh cha haghyr shen. Syn ynyd jeh shen, va stoo mie screut ayns fo-ghlaraghyn.

Gys yn laa t'ayn jiu, ta sleih lhiantyn rish yn fo-ghlare oc hene as gaccan mychione ny eabyn jeant ec Divlyn chengey cadjinit y chroo. Tra hooar paart jeh Nerin e seyrnsys, hug reilys Divlyn y fo-ghlare veih'n jiass er e hoshiaght ayns ny scoillyn. Va lioaryn mie cheet ass yn ard shen (Kearree as Corkey), lioaryn goll rish 'Feed Blein Gaase' as 'Peig Sayers' as 'Yn Ellanagh'.

As va goo mie ec y fo-ghlare veih'n jiass roish my row ny lioaryn shen ayn. Agh lurg bleantyn, ghow reilys Divlyn toshiaght dy chur ny smoo geill da fo-ghlare Chonnamarrey. Va ny earrooyen jeusyn as Yernish oc dy dooghyssagh er duittym ny smoo ayns y jiass na ayns Connamarrey na ayns Ullee (Doonagoal).

Ta loayrtee Ullee dy mennick gaccan nagh vel Divlyn cur geill da'n fo-ghlare oc. Lurg y Nah Chaggey Mooar, ren ny Yernee cadjiney yn chengey er agh va speeideilagh dy liooar. Va'n grammadys as yn agh-screuee cadjinit as, son y chooid smoo, hooar ad rey rish ny lettyryn 'Gaelagh' (raad t'ou cur spottyn er corockleyn syn ynyd jeh screu 'h' nyn yei). Hug shoh yn olk er sleih dy liooar, agh va sleih elley slane ayns foayr jeh'n chaghlau.

Ta fo-ghlaire ny jees ayns Bretin neesht. Chammah as shen, ta baarney eddyr yn chengey loayrit as yn chengey screut. As sy Vritaan, ta boirey er ve ayn rish keeadyn dy vleantyn mychione fo-ghlaraghyn. Ec yn un cheayrt, foddey dy vel 'boirey' yn fockle neu-chiart er y fa dy vel fo-ghlaraghyn berchaghey chengey dy mennick.

Va Mannin ro veg son fo-ghlaraghyn kiart dy heet rish. Agh son shickrys ta sorghyn anchasley jeh'n Ghaelg ayn: Gaelg Phillips sy chiaghtoo eash jeig, Gaelg y Vible sy hoghtoo eash jeig, as Gaelg ny

loayrtee dooghyssagh s'jerree, myr sampleyr. Cre'n sorgh dy Ghaelg lhisagh ny Manninee (as sleih elley) gynsaghey? Gaelg y Vible, ny Gaelg ny loayrtee dooghyssagh? Lhisagh shin cur geill da fyrrynid ny bwoirrynid ny fockleyn Gaelgagh? Lhisagh ny Manninee prowal yn chengey oc y chadjiney? (er nonney, prowal dy chadjiney yn chengey oc?).

T'eh jeeaghyn dy bare da Manninee shaghney eab erbee dy ghra 'Shoh yn Ghaelg Oikoil as ta red erbee elley neu-chiart'. Gyn ousy erbee ta sleih ayns feme jeh coyrle as stiurey, agh stiurey meeley yn stiurey share. As er y fa dy vel sleih loayrt Gaelg as prowal dy loayrt ee, ta sorgh dy Ghaelg loayrit ta cadjinit goaill toshiaght dy heet rish. Shoh Gaelg ta mestey Gaelg y Vible as Gaelg ny loayrtee dooghyssagh. Yn red ta Mannin ayns feme jeh, shen Gaelg screut ta cadjinit er agh meen. Ta shen dy ghra, ta'n Ghaelg ayns feme jeh lioar-laue mychione yn chengey ta gra 'Ta shoh mie dy liooar, as ta shen mie dy liooar, agh cha nel shen ro vie'. Sy chooish shoh, ta mee cheet er reddyn goll rish 'Raad ny Ben-Rein' ny 'Raad y Ven-Rein', cha nee reddyn ta dy baghtal kiart ny neu-chiart.

Ta ny Manninee er ve aighoil dy scapail veih red erbee goll rish y cagey baasoil ta goll er sy Chorn eddyr possanyn dy 'leih mychione yn agh-screuee jeh'n chengey ayns shid. Va skeealyn goll mygeayrt dy row sleih sy Chorn baggyrt marroo sleih elley kyndagh rish arganeys mychione yn agh-screuee! Shimmey keayrt ta sleih goaill ny smoo soylley ass lheid yn arganeys na ass obbyr fondagh, agh shen cliaghtey sheelnaue.

Raad ta scoltaghyn eddyr feallagh kyndagh rish fo-ghlaraghyn, foddey yn radio as yn chellveeish tayrn possanyn scarrit ry-cheilley. Ta'n chellveeish jannoo shoh ayns Bretin as ta Raidio na Gaeltachta jannoo yn red cheddin ayns Nerin. S'cosoyllagh dy bee shoh taghyrt ayns Nalbin nish as clareyn chellveeish ayns Gàidhlig bishaghey.

Orree Crennell

It is advisable to attempt the standardisation of any language with sensitivity and understanding. This is particularly true for the Celtic languages.

USE OF EXOTIC HARDWOODS

As a maker of bagpipes and other musical instruments I am faced with a bit of a dilemma. Most people like them to be made in African Blackwood or other exotic hardwoods. African Blackwood is difficult to obtain in large enough dimensions to make the whole set in the same wood but so far as I can find out it is coming from a renewable resource. Whatever kind of wood is used it has to be hard to do a satisfactory job. There are a few native woods which are hard enough, holly, laburnum, pear and other fruitwoods have been used in the past, but these are also quite difficult to obtain. They also are not so attractive as exotic hardwoods which in many cases come from tropical rain forests.

Suppliers are well aware of the widespread feeling of people against the destruction of the rain forest world-wide, and especially in the Amazon Basin, so they are very anxious to put their case. In three catalogues that I have received recently the suppliers used a lot of space setting out their side of the argument. One of them states that only about 10% of the wood felled in these regions ever reaches the timber trade, most of the rest is wasted by burning and we all know what that does to the atmosphere. They say that the U.K timber trade imports 0.93% of the world's sawn tropical hardwood production and 0.03% of tropical hardwood logs. As they point out, the cropping of mature trees coupled with re-planting is a perfectly legitimate use of forests. They are buying as much of their timber as possible from properly managed areas. The Timber Trades Federation have initiated a campaign in conjunction with the International Tropical Timber Organisation which will ensure that by the year 2000 all timber imported by member countries will come from renewable resources. In addition, there will be a levy on all timber imported which will be used to support renewal schemes in the exporting countries. They point out that the countries from which this timber comes are likely to be in need of foreign currency for the development of health, educational and other services for their populations. Therefore, it seems illogical to boycott a resource which could be managed and renewed to those countries' benefit, and may even be encouraging them to waste it because there appears to be no demand for it.

All this sounds very responsible and I believe that the wood suppliers are doing their best to maintain supplies in an ecologically sensitive way. However, we all know that most of this forest is being cleared, and largely wasted, by people coming into the area from outside, driving out the indigenous people, and changing the land use. This can also lead to walking off the fertility of centuries on the hoof and

leaving the impoverished land a prey to erosion with almost no chance of recovery. Worse still, the money is almost never used to the benefit of the population which has been displaced. Little enough of it even remains with the incoming farmers or ranchers. I doubt whether much of the money earned from properly managed forest actually reaches the people who lived in it before it became managed. That is not the way the economics of the developed world works.

So there it is. If I use tropical hardwoods I may be participating in rain forest destruction. If I don't use them I may be encouraging their destruction. If I use them I doubt very much whether I am discouraging waste.

In the end, like many other craftsmen, I shall probably come down on the side of use. Much has been said about the forests being the lungs of the earth. This is true of young growing trees, they consume a great quantity of carbon dioxide and yield a profit of oxygen. Mature trees, however, achieve a balance between consumption of carbon dioxide and oxygen production, so

culling of large trees, before they fall naturally, makes sense. In any case, as they decay, they release carbon dioxide back into the atmosphere, undoing the good they did at an earlier stage in their growth.

The use of wood, not just exotic species, should be extended rather than reduced. It is a very versatile material for so many purposes and has been often replaced by materials which do great damage to the eco-system. Throughout the world it could be a means for putting money where it would do most good. A lot of things would have to change before it would work properly. The whole concept of to whom a resource belongs would need to be revised.

In the case of using the rain forest to everyone's benefit, for all purposes, the indigenous people are already being used to identify plants with medical properties, without proper reward according to some people. They ought to be in control of, and benefiting from the sustainable use of their entire habitat. They are the best equipped to know the location of trees fit to be cropped. Ideally, it should be their decision how the crop should be conducted and managed. Until that happens we have to try to act for the best in an imperfect world.

Colin Jerry



New Gaelic Meeting House

There is no Gaeltagh in Mannin, but king-shiaghain Gaelgagh (Gaelic week-ends) are held. These involve a group of around 12 Gaelgeyrin of varying abilities spending a weekend at some remote venue such as an outdoor pursuit centre, to improve their Manx through immersion methods.

The facilities are, by the nature of the centres, basic (and the sessions have to be arranged around other uses of the facilities). This also precludes the establishment of permanent reference materials for participants. Recently, a major advancement in Manx Gaelic facilities has been put in motion through the commitment of one M.H.K. and a small group of dedicated volunteers. The M.H.K. (who prefers not to have his name

publicised at the present) has, completely from his own funds and at great personal financial risk, purchased a derelict cottage in the countryside just outside Douglas. The volunteers are helping to restore this to a comfortable, habitable condition.

The intention is that it can serve as a Gaelic meeting house for Oieghyn Gaelgagh (Gaelic evenings), a study centre, accommodation for students on immersion course etc. Although the facility will remain in private ownership for the foreseeable future, Caarjyn ny Gaelgey will be given the management of the house on an arbitrary lease. The success of the venture will rest mainly upon the local speakers using the facility to its best advantage.

Cian Quayle - Manx Artist

Cian Quayle, 26, of Douglas, who has a BA in art and design, has been offered a place on the MA European Fine Art Course at Barcelona and Winchester, by the prestigious Winchester School of Art.

He went through the system of applying to the Department of Education for a grant to cover the £6,000 costs of taking the postgraduate course, of which £2,700 is fees.

But he was refused funds on grounds that his degree was not adequate. Apparently they've changed the rules and only people with a 2:1 class degree or higher qualify for a grant to do an MA. Despite letters from past and future tutors confirming that his qualification was equal to the 2:1 class required.

What made things worse was that they only produced the new guidelines after the closing date for applications. He took the case to appeal, but was again met with a refusal.

Now he has been forced to seek private sponsorship to take up his place.

The John Nicholson Foundation, set up four years ago by the Rotary Club of Rushen and Western Mann, has given Cian a boost by presenting him with a cheque for £800.

Renowned artist John Nicholson was a founder member of the Rotary Club and the foundation aims to perpetuate his memory by encouraging visual arts in the Island.

A spokesman for the foundation said it was donating its full disposable assets to Cian because it felt he 'merited' the award.

Cian is making a name for himself with his original screen prints of Manx crosses. An exhibition of his work at the Arts in Mann Gallery, Clinch's Court, Douglas, over Christmas 'helped pay a few bills', and one composition won him runner-up prize in this year's Singer and Friedlander competition.

Born and schooled in Douglas, he has exhibited at L'Orient Festival, Brittany, Covent Garden, London, and Birmingham. Forthcoming exhibitions include displays at Bradford Cathedral, and the Nathe Exhibition, London.

He cites his main influences at Spanish artist Antoni Tapies, and German Anselm Kiefer. But what is the importance of doing the Barcelona/Winchester course?

According to Cian Barcelona is a cultural hotspot. Art in the Isle of Man can be very insular and artists can all suffer from getting stuck in a rut. Spain is a country which loves art and encourages artists of all kinds, and going into that kind of environment would make his work more international.

Cian met privately with the Minister for Education and the Director of Education in a last ditch attempt to change their minds.

However, they remained inflexible on the grounds that the Department of Education has had to implement cutbacks. According to the Minister, who was responsible for drawing up the guidelines, there has to be a cut off point somewhere if cutbacks are to be effective.

Postgraduate awards have always been discretionary but one would have hoped that the Department would have made an exception in Cian's case.

Among the many letters of support sent in to the Department one from Cian's former headmaster Mr. I. Masterson says: "Cian is an exceptionally talented artist and any investment to further his studies and development would be repaid to the island in the future in the exceptional quality of his art. Cian is very much in love with the island and would spend most of his life working here."

Another letter states: "The MA European Fine Art from Winchester School



of Art is an absolutely unique course with its European context, it is a unique opportunity for Cian to broaden and develop his work and also establish the necessary and essential contacts required to further a career in this field."

An exceptionally talented Manx Artist and a unique course, surely a most deserving case!

Manx Studies

Under the chairmanship of Professor J.K. Davies, SACOS, a major two-day research review took place in the Centre for Manx Studies in May. Held in Douglas, it was the culmination of a six-month research exercise, when over 400 researchers, amateur and professional, working on and off the Island, were approached for their views on the current state of work related to Manx topics.

Eleven consultants, all leaders in their own fields and drawn from Universities around the British Isles, had the interesting, but lengthy, task of considering some six hundred comments which formed part of over two hundred submissions, in order to define a research strategy for their research areas in relation to Manx studies, as well as placing them in a wider context. Dr. Peter Davey, Director of the Centre, commented,

Bombing Range Health Fears

Fears that exposure to low flying aircraft could cause long-term health problems were voiced by the Celtic League Military Monitoring Group just a week after the withdrawal of the RAF from the Island in July.

The Manx Government has been urged to investigate any claims of ill-health lodged by residents living close to the former Air Force station at Jurby.

The League pointed to recent studies in three German universities which have revealed a link between sustained low flying and a deterioration in health.

"The members of the policy board representing the university, Manx National Heritage and the Island's Department of Education, found this an invaluable exercise. A major role of the Centre will be to co-ordinate research. The contact which we have made during this fact-finding exercise and the overall view we have been able to assemble will provide a firm foundation for the future of the Centre".

Two days of concentrated discussion, and a reception where the academics and Manx researchers were able to exchange ideas, produced a list of points for immediate action, as well as proposals for longer-term projects. Among the topics under consideration was a multi-volume history of the Isle of Man which is intended to draw together existing work and provide a focus for researchers associated with the Centre. A multi-disciplinary site study is also envisaged.

The League claimed that a legacy of derelict property and despoiled farmland may not be all the British military left behind after the RAF "Beat the Retreat" from Jurby.

According to the German investigations, air exercises at low altitude have been associated with structural damage but these studies confirm a long suspected health risk.

The League, which campaigned for the closure of the Jurby station for 17 years, is seeking further information about the research along with two parallel projects undertaken at universities in Wales and Leeds.

CELTICA

Annual General Meeting and Resolutions

This year's A.G.M. was held on the 24th July in Ramsey, Mannin.

The Officers for the coming year remain unchanged with the exception of the position of Treasurer.

The General Council Members elected: Chairman - Cathal Ó Luain; General Secretary - Bernard Moffatt; Assistant General Secretary - Cristl Jerry; Treasurer - Paul Kelly; Editor - Patricia Bridson.

A vote of thanks was made to Roy Green who retired as Treasurer of the League after 14 years.

Resolutions Approved

- * Considering the substantial amount of time allocated on Television to Welsh and soon to be allocated also to Irish and Gaelic;

This A.G.M. notes with extreme dissatisfaction that the Breton language, although spoken by a similar number of people as the other Celtic languages, remains subject to crippling limitations under French Television control.

Supports the demand for a Breton Television Service which would, as one of its priorities, broadcast on a continuous basis an attractively designed course in Breton so as to facilitate viewing of other programmes by an increasing public.

- * Popular support for the Manx language in Schools Programme has been overwhelmingly proved. Both the Minister for Education and her Department have publicly expressed commitment to the programme in a policy statement. This A.G.M. calls upon the Government to provide the necessary resources in order that the Department of Education may fulfil its policy commitment to provide Manx language courses for all those pupils who wish it.
- * This A.G.M., understanding that the reformed E.C.'s Common Agricultural Policy specifies that the agricultural areas to be excluded from cultivation are to be kept bare to facilitate control,

urges that the regulations be modified so as to allow maximum advantage to be taken of non-cultivation for a restoration of the habitats of endangered species.

- * The Celtic League, considering that our languages have been excessively influenced by English/French in this century, and that this should be counteracted by a conscious effort to strengthen their Celtic character, the aim being to develop the kinship between our languages, advocates that in coining new words needed for adequate expression in present everyday life, preference be given to basing them on Celtic roots rather than on superficial adaptations from non-Celtic languages. If such new words exist already in one of the Celtic languages, they should be adopted after adaptation in accordance with known rules of correspondence by any other Celtic language needing to express the same concepts.
- * This A.G.M., being aware of the activities of the British Intelligence Service in many of the Celtic countries over the past twenty years, calls for a wide ranging enquiry into those aspects of the agencies activities which are suspected of illegality.
- * This A.G.M., being aware, and welcoming the desire of the Council of Europe to establish a binding protocol embracing minority rights as part of the European Convention on Human Rights, urges the United Kingdom and France (two of only four States opposing the move) to embrace the principle of such a protocol.
- * This A.G.M. calls on Manx National Heritage to play a vigorous part in promoting and maintaining the national language of Mann in all its labelling, public signs, documentation and activities.
- * This A.G.M.:
(1) Expresses concern at the contradictory and confusing evidence, which led to the conviction of Siôn Aubrey Roberts of the Cyfamodwyr Three.

(2) Calls on the United Kingdom Government to order a full and open enquiry into the tactics of MI5, which led to the apprehension and eventual conviction of Siôn Roberts.

- * This A.G.M. expresses dismay at the ban on the sale of CARN, the only inter-Celtic magazine published, at Yn Chruinnaght events and asks the Manx Branch to open dialogue to resolve this anomalous situation.
- * This A.G.M. supports the campaign by Mebyon Kernow, Plaid Cymru and the S.N.P., for a Cornwall only Euro-constituency.

Celf a Chrefft Celtaidd Cymbria

Arbenigwyr Mewn Gwisgoedd Ethnig

Dear Editor,

I am a member of the Celtic League Cangen Cymru and I am wondering whether you could help me with information which could, in due course, lead to trade between Éire and Cymru.

I am interested in Irish ethnic dress based on the kilt and tartan and would welcome any information in relation to the history together with the names and addresses of the manufacturers of the materials used in the National dress.

William Llewellyn Thomas,
Burrows Hall, Llangennith, Gower,
Abertawe, Cymru.

Al Liamm

Literary magazine in Breton, 6 issues a year, subscription 150F, 160/200F outside State, to P. Le Bihan, 16 r. des Fours à Chaux, 35400 St. Malo.

In the March-April issue (80pp) a story by L. Tangi in excellent Breton but a bit long-winded, involving the devil in the form of an uncanny farm hand - the interlocking of the natural and supernatural realms is a traditional feature in our story telling -; another story by Tudual Huon in which three men back from fishing come to grief at the hands of a mob of sunbathers on the beach; a clear account of Columbus' discovery of America; an extensive presentation by F. Favereau of Seán O'Casey's Plough and the Stars and review of its staging in Breton by Strollad ar Vro Bagan.

The Yanks Are Coming - British Media Fears of U.S. Aid

A recent article in the U.K.'s Independent newspaper referred to possible Welsh emigre aid from emigrant organisations in the U.S. for the nationalist movements in Wales. The article was accompanied by an almost xenophobic attack on the notion of such aid in the leader article which painted a slightly rose-tinted view of contemporary Wales. Despite the reservations of the British media such interest by emigrant groups is set to increase.

The Celtic League with branches in all the Celtic countries is currently coordinating several such efforts some cooperative via its United States branch.

In August last the branch organised an Irish-Welsh Solidarity Social to raise funds for Siôn Aubrey Roberts' aged mother, who has been left with no source of support since his imprisonment by an English Court on false and fabricated charges.

A Los Angeles lawyer, Rees Lloyd, set up a fund recently named Twn Siôn Cati, a Welsh Robin Hood figure, which will have a wide ranging role. As well as supporting

education, economic and development initiatives the fund will also be used to support nationalist causes, such as providing financial legal support for the appeal of Siôn Aubrey Roberts. It is also hoped to establish a base for Twn Siôn Cati at Trefor, on Anglesey, the "most Welsh" village in the principality where 97 per cent of the population speaks Welsh.

In August the U.S. branch also met to consider a programme of action to further this effort and a major effort to organise a 'Convention' in the spring of 1994. Delegates are to be invited from all the Celtic National movements in Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Mann, Cornwall and Brittany.

U.S. support for the Celtic Countries has to date surrounded efforts for Ireland and Brittany, the latest developments show a broader consensus developing and despite the reservations of such august pillars of the established British Media as the Independent this is no bad thing... certainly not for the Celtic countries.

The Celtic Pen

The Celtic Pen is a new quarterly magazine launched this September. The magazine is primarily in English but also deals with literature and all aspects of the written word in the 6 Celtic languages. It deals with literature from ancient to modern times and will be distributed via shops and mail order in the 6 Celtic countries, as well as America and England. The magazine aims at a more popular than academic readership. Some of the subjects included in the first edition are Early Irish literature, Daydd ap Gwilym, Breton publishing, Cornish Miracle Plays, Poetry of the Scottish Clearances as well as translations of Irish poetry and Manx stories.

The Celtic Pen hopes not only to provide an information platform for Celts about the literatures throughout Celtica, but also to increase awareness among non-Celtic speakers and encourage learners of the languages. Articles in the Celtic languages will be included from the second edition onwards and depending on strength of sales in the various countries, language supplements could be a possibility. Articles from anyone with an interest in, or knowledge of the Celtic Literatures are also welcomed. The subscription rate is £5 per annum or £1.30 per edition from the address below. Cheques made payable to *The Celtic Pen*.

The Celtic Pen will also carry a book review section.

Diarmuid Ó Breasláin, 36 Fruithill Park, Belfast 11 8GE, Ireland.



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Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership fee (including *Carn*) and subscription rates are IR£8; Stg£8; 80FF or US\$20.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank). Postage outside Europe is Stg£10.00 airmail.

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