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A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 150

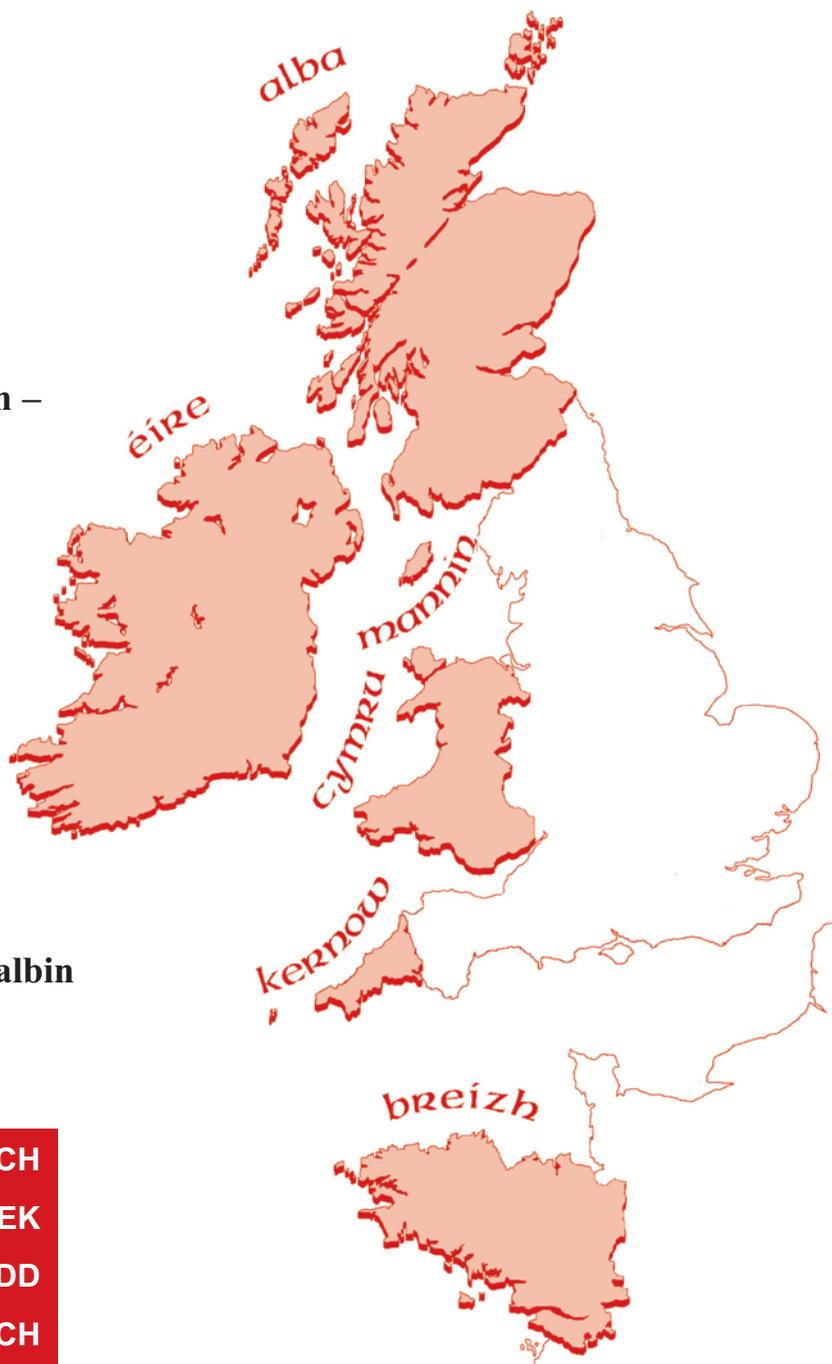
Summer 2011

€4.00 Stg£3.00

**50th Anniversary of
the Celtic League**

**When the Yellow is on the Broom –
SNP Victory**

- **Agalon - a Business in Breton**
- **Welsh MPs Oppose S4C Cuts -
Campaigners face court**
- **No Bondholders to be Burnt!
No Imperial Apology!**
- **Broadcasting Award for
Kernow League members**
- **Barriaght Phartee Ashoonagh Nalbin**



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

CELTIC LEAGUE



Editorial

50 years of the Celtic League and the Celtic Nations Progress



**The Celtic Knot.
Symbol of the
Celtic League
and of
Celtic Unity**

This year is the 50th anniversary of the Celtic League, which was founded in Rhosllanerchrugog in Cymru (Wales) on 9th August 1961 by a dozen founding members from Wales, Brittany and Scotland. In that initial first meeting it was agreed that the fundamental aim of the organisation was *“To foster national rights of the Celtic Nations, Political (including governing their own affairs), Cultural and Economics”* At the second meeting held in Cardiff on 30th September 1962 representatives of all six Celtic nations were present.

The Celtic League has developed much since then, The constitution and aims were expanded over the years and now state *“The fundamental aim of the Celtic League is to support, through peaceful means, the struggle of the Celtic Nations, Alba, Breizh, Cymru, Éire, Kernow and Mannin to win or to secure the political, cultural, social and economic freedom they need for their survival and development as distinct communities.”* Commitments are made in the constitution to work for the restoration of the Celtic languages, to fostering interceltic solidarity and co-operation, to publicising our struggles and achievements, to furthering the establishment of organised relations between the Celtic nations and to socially just societies. The full constitution is available on our website at www.celticleague.net.

The early years of the League and the events of the first 20 years are outlined in a two part article in the League magazine Carn 35 and 36 published in 1981 *“The Celtic League – 20 Years a Growing”* by author and historian Peter Berresford Ellis. On the occasion of our fortieth anniversary in 2011 in an editorial in Carn 116 *“40 Years of Progress on the Interceltic Front”* the campaigns and developments of the League in the eighties and nineties and the progress made by the Celtic nations are presented. The special supplement in Carn 76, in our thirtieth year, on *“The Single Market and the Celts”* makes interesting reading. The conclusions are as valid now as then. These issues of Carn may be seen on our new multilingual website where all issues of Carn since its launch in 1973 to 2010 have been made available.

For many decades now the Celtic League has been an independent campaigning organisation furthering our aims through Carn, though our website, through a range of activities and through publicity releases on a wide range of issues both on our site and yahoo news groups. Our national and other

branches have over the decades organised interceltic events, bilateral interceltic visits, solidarity manifestations at commemorations, summer schools, conferences, assisted in elections, held pickets and demonstrations, arranged visits of political leaders and campaigned for prisoners. They supported the editor of Carn and the general secretary and director of information on the military monitoring, language, political and cultural campaigns and issues. It can with fairness be said that the League and its activities have had a pivotal role in increasing the level of interceltic consciousness and making our struggles better known in our own countries and abroad.

Since the initial meeting of the Celtic League the peoples of the Celtic countries are still struggling for the political, cultural and economic freedom of their territories, but there have of course been significant developments towards this end over the last 50 years. The two countries that have made most significant gains over this period are Alba () and Cymru (). The political devolution that has occurred in Alba with the Scottish Parliament and in Cymru with the Welsh Assembly has provided a realistic foundation on which to build independent nations.



**Rhisiart Tal-e-bot,
General Secretary of the Celtic League**

The overwhelming vote in the Parliament elections in May in favour of the Scottish National Party (SNP) to form a government in Alba, shows that the people are ready to embrace the opportunity being presented to them for a referendum to determine their own future. A Gaidhlig language Board has been established and some progress made in promoting the language. Similarly in Cymru, a positive referendum vote for greater legislative powers for the Assembly in March means that from June the new Welsh Parliament will be able to exercise greater legislative powers than at any time since the

inauguration of Owain Glyndwr's first parliament in the fifteenth century. Although Welsh is the strongest of the Celtic languages it is still threatened and activists still see problems and fight for improvements.

Gains have been made in the other Celtic countries too, but they are more contentious and less obvious. In for example the nationalist party UDB has gained representation in the Regional Assembly but political development towards any form of self government has not progressed and the unification of is still fought for. The real progress of Diwan and Ofis ar Brezoneg are to be welcomed but there is no halt to the continuing decline in native speakers of Breton.

In the economic progress of the nineties in the Republic was shattered in this century by the greed and stupidity of bankers, developers and politicians. The state is now in control of the troika of IMF, ECB and EU and the general population are paying for debts of the banks and developers. In the North institutionalised sectarianism has been largely dismantled and the creation of the Stormont Assembly has given rise to the power sharing executive. Recent events in show the fragility of this when resurgent Loyalism once again comes to the fore.

An Official Languages act has been passed in the Republic, a 20 Year Strategy for Irish has been launched, the Irish Language achieved official status in the EU, RnaG and TG4 flourish, Irish medium education expands, sometimes with difficulty, in both parts of the island but the Gaeltacht areas are still under considerable threat.

Demands for a Cornish Assembly were rejected despite 50,000 signatures but Cornish identity is stronger, the Cornish language has been officially recognised and a Cornish nursery school founded. In Mannin the teaching of Manx has expanded into Manx medium education at primary level and the relationship between the and the is being increasingly questioned by each generation.

While much has been achieved our nations have still a long way to go to secure the political, cultural, social and economic freedom they need for their survival and development as distinct communities. One question that has to be addressed is this can be achieved in an EU where every treaty cedes more power to the central institutions?

**Rhisiart Talebot, General Secretary,
Cathal Ó Luain, Convenor**

Reflections

Of Surviving Founders of the Celtic League on its 50th Anniversary

It is inevitable that during the League's bicentenary year an element of reflection will occur, where members feel compelled to look back and assess what progress has been made to date. Are the gains mentioned above the kind of progress the founding members of the Celtic League envisaged for their nations fifty years ago?

With this question in mind, we asked the two founding members of the Celtic League who remain alive, Séamus Filbin (Alba) and Yann Fouéré (Breizh) what they thought of the progress that had been made by the League over the last fifty years.

Below both men reflect briefly below on the progress of the League over the last 50 years and the extent to which the Celtic countries have moved forward in their opinion, in terms of their political, economic and cultural development. It is interesting to note that even after fifty years the fighting spirit of our two founding members has continued!

Séamus Filbin

"Gains have happened to some extent, but the gains have not been specific enough for me. The Celtic League has made some contribution perhaps, but they have not engaged enough with nationalist politicians for example. I also expected something along the lines of a Celtic confederation to have developed.

"I was one of the younger people present at the first meeting and was very enthusiastic, but I remember expecting something more than the gains that have been achieved, but we adopted a pragmatic approach as far as I remember."

"it is disappointing that Brittany has not consolidated the nationalist movement into something stronger like in Scotland or even in Cornwall. Nationalist politics seems a bit diffused in Brittany right now.

"The European Union has not worked in my opinion; it is taking more and more from the nations of Europe and this idea of creating a European army is ludicrous. My fears about the EU are that it will result in a situation like the United States of Europe or develop into some sort of dictatorship as occurred in my younger days.

"Despite my reservations about the EU, I still think that a Celtic confederation based along the lines of the Norden Association could work. It annoys me that the Isle of Man, Ireland and Scotland do not engage with each other as much as they could. In the same way I would like to see closer cooperation between Brittany, Cornwall and Wales.

"Resolutions that come from the generally react against the developments that have already happened and in my opinion we are not being proactive enough in creating a Celtic confederation. An inter-Celtic dimension in the governmental administrations in the Celtic countries, which is separate to their participation in the British/Irish Council, is one possibility that the League should be exploring. I am not opposed to the British Irish Council and think that the League should approach them to invite Brittany to be observer members like Cornwall now is.

"In many ways the Celtic League could do with a re-launch to shift its focus onto creating a 'Celtic Association'."

Yann Fouéré



Yann Fouéré

"There is no doubt much has been achieved, over the past fifty years, in terms of greater linguistic, cultural and even political acceptance of the rights to which the Celtic nations are entitled, yet the degree of acceptance varies considerably between the different nations, with Brittany probably having the most difficulty, largely owing to

the heavy heritage of the aftermath of the 2nd world war.

"Much of the recognition of the rights of Celtic nations and people belonging to minorities has occurred at the European level, with the adoption of a number of Conventions on rights of people belonging to minorities, negotiated within the framework of the Council of Europe.

"However, one of these, relating to minority languages, has yet to be ratified by two of the EU member States; France, whose constitution states that the language of France is French, thus requiring a modification of the Constitution; and Greece, which still refuses to recognise the existence in its territory of any minorities, except one (Muslim community under the Lausanne treaty 1926).

"The initiative of establishing the Celtic League was undoubtedly a courageous step at the time; In those first minutes of the League, the main objectives of working towards fostering national rights to govern our own, political, cultural and economic affairs, as well as campaigning for acceptance of Wales, Scotland and Brittany into the Common Market, as separate entities, certainly contributed to the acceptance of rights of the Celtic nations - another important benefit being that this initiative helped to raise awareness of these issues for all minorities throughout Europe.

"However, what has been achieved has undoubtedly taken much longer than the founders imagined!"

(Yann Fouéré has written much in French about his life and times but in early June an autobiography in English of his time in Connemara, Ireland was launched in Ireland. It will be launched in Aberystwyth, Wales in early Sept., to coincide more or less with the anniversary of the founding of the Celtic League. It was translated by his daughter Rozenn Fouéré Barrett. "La Maison in Connemara" was published by Old Chapel Press [352pp, €15, ISBN 978-0-9560062-2-6, www.oldchapelpress.net

CELTIC LEAGUE 50th Anniversary, Falkirk, Alba, 28th to 30th October 2011

Public Session 'The Celtic Nations, 50 years of Progress' Saturday 29th October, 2pm to 6pm.

- *50 years of Interceltic Activity - Introductory speech from Celtic League*
- *The Celtic Nations - 1961 v 2011, a Sea Change ?*
Keynote speech by Author and Historian Peter Berresford Ellis
- *Election Victory of SNP and Plans for Referendum,*
SNP speaker
- *The Way Forward For the Celtic Nations and Interceltic Co-operation*
Open Forum with speakers from the floor

Further information will appear on the Celtic League website www.celticleague.net closer to the event on venue and with full programme for the weekend. Alternatively please contact General Secretary or branch secretaries for full details.

Dè an seòrsa beathaich a th' ann *an lug*?



Alex Salmond, SNP Leader

nach ann an 2011 air a mhineachadh ann an àiteachan eile an iris, ach dè tha e a' ciallachadh airson na bliadhnaichean ti teachd? An robh Tam Dalyell ceart nuair a bha e na fhear-iomairt an agaidh an referendum ann an '97, ag gradh gur e an 'road to Independence' a bha 'devolution'?

Bha na polls a' comhrachadh gun robh na Làbaraich a bhiodh an partaidh nas motha, agus chan eil iad cearr tric. Chiall na Nàiseantaich creideas a' dèanamh argamaid eaconomach steidhichte air duthchannan mar Innis Tìle agus Eirinn ron a 'credit crunch' ged a bha iad fo riaghladh beag-cuid o 2007, ach an la an-diugh, tha na Làbaraich, Lib dems as na Toraidhean ann am mì-riaghailt. Le beachdachadh air bun-reachdal, no 'constitutional change' air a BhBC tha e coltach gu bheil dragh mòr air Pàrtaidhean an Aonaigh ann an Westminster.

Rè am parliamaid ùr bidh Alex Salmond a' cur an argamaid air adhart gun sgiur son neo-eismealachd. Am bi e soirbheachail no am bi bun-reachdal a-mach as an agenda son ginealachd eile mar a bha e as dèidh an referendum an an 1979? .Nam bheachd fhèin, theid an luchd -bhòtaidh le 'Independence Light', neo-eismealachd fiosaicail, a-rèir mar a tha na 'Crown Dependencies.' Ach as dèidh an taghadh sin, s mathaid gu bheil mi neomheasadh am buaidh aig Alex Salmond air muinntir na h-Alba?

Steve Jackson

Summary

In the last issue, I wrote about the poetry of Seumas MacGaraidh, who often vented his frustration that the people of Scotland did little to further their cause during his lifetime. That all changed in dramatic fashion with the results of May's stunning election victory for the SNP. But what will it mean for the future? Is Scotland on the verge of being an independent country, or was the result a 'false dawn' that will lead to disappointment like the referendum in 1979. The week following the result, constitutional change was high on the agenda on BBC Radio 4, and the unionist parties in Westminster will certainly be concerned that they all got such a drubbing. My personal opinion is that by the end of this parliament, the Nationalist government may achieve 'fiscal autonomy' based on the model of the Crown Dependencies, and that independence may take a little longer.

A deach thu do Camperdown a-riamh? 'S e seòrsa pàirc airson ainmhidhean a th'ann Camperdown, agus tha e naoi mìltean bho mheadhan baile Dhuin Dè. Chitheadh tu muncaidh is mathanan is madaidhean-allaidh ann, ach cuideachd, chitheadh tu cait-fiadhaich is dohran. Nuair a bha mi ann airson ciad uair, chuir e iongnadh orm nuair a chunnaic mi barrachd air aon gnè neas. Càite eile am faiceadh tu sin fo na rionnagan? Ach, bha a h-uile rud soilleir nuair a chunnaic mi na lugan: Bidh mi ag innse dhut mu dheidhinn sin nas anmoich.

A-nis, dè an seòrsa beathaich a th' ann *an lug*? Uill, chan e seòrsa boiteig a th'ann. 'S e seòrsa leòmhann no cat-mòr a th'anns an lug. 'S e am facal Beurla, lioncs no *lynx*, a chanadh tu gu cumanta. Gu dearbh, cha robh am facal "lug" air a ràdh airson nas fhada na mìle bliadhna air ais! Mar sin, carson a tha mi a' sgrìobhadh ma dheidhinn? Uill, chan e gur e seòrsa ainmhidh a-mhàin a th'ann, 's e ainm airson seann character ann an seachas a th' ann an Lug cuideachd. B' e an t-ainm lèw a bha air an lioncs 'sa Seann Chuimris agus b' e Llew an t-ainm a tha air laoch Cuimreach. Ach, airson nan Gaidheal, b' e Lug Làmh-fada no Lugh Dànachd a bha an t-ainm air a' ghaisgeach. Is docha gu bheil fios agad ma dheidhinn, ach is cinnteach mi nach robh fios agad gur e ainm an cait a bh'aige.

Ma tha thu còlach air an sgeul, smaoinich air cleas Luga nuair a bha e a' marbhadh Balor, am fear le sùil mhòr, nimheil. Mar nàmhaid Luga, tha sùilean mòra, geala aig an ainmhidh "lug" cuideachd. Smaoinich tu air an sgeul mar sabaid eadar dà bhiast le sùilean soilleir, uabhasach. 'S beag an t-iongnadh gum b' e Lug na cheannard air an t-sluagh Ghàidhealach. Cuideachd is beag an t-iongnadh gum bi am facal lug a' ciallachadh sàr laoch sam bith anns na bliadhnaichean as a dhèidh.

Co-dhiù, nuair a chunnaic mi an lug aig Camperdown, bha mi a' tuigsinn roghainn an ainmhidh aca. Bha cuid-mhòr de na bheathaichean – lugan is neasan is cait-fiadhaich is madaidhean-allaidh is mathanan – beò ann am Breatainn còig ceud deug bliadhna air ais. Is urrainn dhuinn cuimhneachadh air na rudan a chaill sinn an uair a chì sinn a h-uile beathaichean còmhla. Mar sin, chuir mi an t-ainm lug air an *lioncs* oir bu toil leam cuimhneachadh air beul-aithris caillte. Tha sgeulan is òrain mu

dheidhinn nan ainmhidhean seo aig a' mhòrchuid de na dùthchannan san Roinn Eòrpa. Carson nach eil ann an Alba?

Summary

Lee Ramsay explores the link between mythology and language and, after looking at one of the many Celtic characters whose name is that of an animal, explains why the Gaelic for a lynx will always be lug and not lions for him.

NEO-EISMEALACHD NA H-ALBA NO BRISTEADH-DUIL EILE?

Ann an Cairn 149, sgrìobh mi artagail mun bàrdachd Seumas MacGaraidh, fìor-tir-gràidhaiche na-Alba a bhàisich bliadhna ro bhuidh ainmeil Winnie Ewing ann an 1967. Rinn MacGaraidh bàrdachd nàiseantach ann an Gàidhlig, Beurla agus Beurla Ghallda. Re a bheatha, cha robh mòran taic son neo-eismealachd agus chur sin bhròn air. Cha b' urrainn dha chredsinn carson nach bha na h-Alabannaich deònach a bhith a' stri airson neo-eismealachd, a' faigheachd càite a bheil na chridhean orra anns an dàn 'Gone.'

Where are the hearts that once with pride
Swelled at the pibroch's sound;
Where are the chiefs who took thy side
When the clansmen gathered round?

Where are the heroes that Wallace led,
Who scorned to bend the knee,
And who for their Scotland fought and bled,
And lived but to see her free?

'S urainnear a gradh gun robh an ceist aige air a fhreagairt mu dheireadh thall aig Taghadh na h-Alba an an 2011, as dèidh buaidh le fìor ghluasad san Partaidh Naiseanta na h-Alba. Ged a bha a' mhòrchuid den t-sluaigh ann am fàbhar air fèin-riaghladh ann an 1997, bha am parliamaid ùr fo smachd Pàrtaidhean an Aonaigh as dèidh a 'chiad taghadh. Tha am buil do-chredsinn

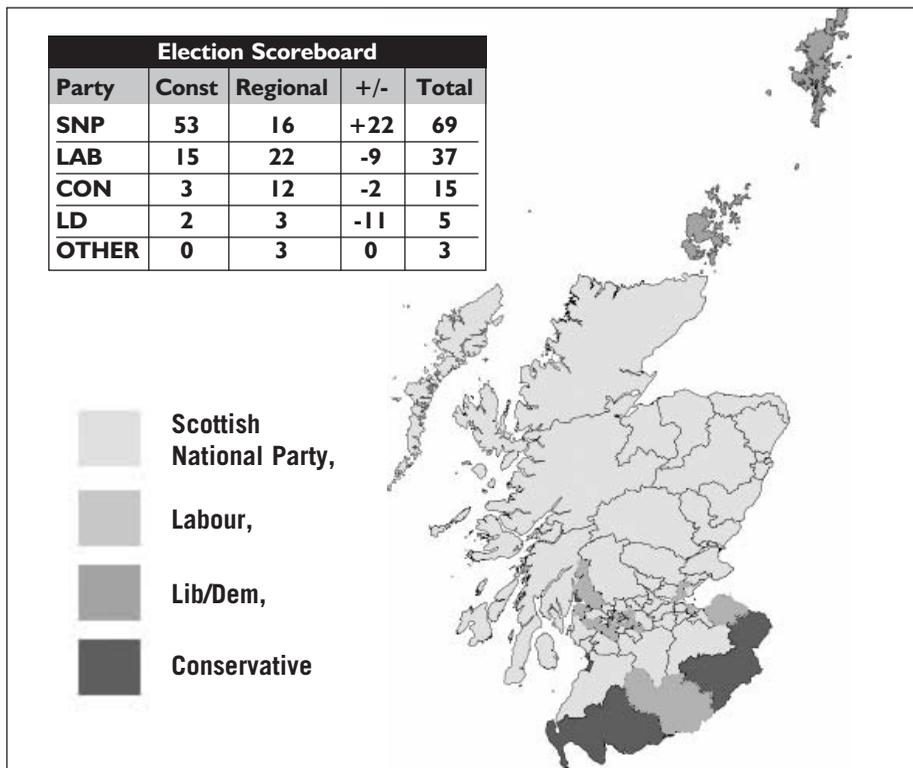
When the Yellow's on the Broom

By the time most people went to work on the morning after the May election, the political map of Scotland had completely changed (see map where the lightest grey is the yellow of the SNP). The SNP had been given an overwhelming mandate by the Scottish people.

The SNP fought a much slicker, and positive campaign than their opponents. It could be criticised for focussing too much on Alex Salmond himself, but it concentrated on the strengths of the last government. In the leadership debates on TV, Alex Salmond wiped the floor with his opponents, with only Annabelle Goldie showing any character and humour. In contrast, the Labour Party's campaigning was mostly negative and scare mongering... including a last minute mail shot warning people that a vote for the SNP was a vote for independence. Iain Gray failed to raise his profile much, and was chased into a Subway sandwich shop in Glasgow by people campaigning against Labour cuts. The other two parties failed to make much of an impression, and in Clydesdale, the Liberal Democrat candidate failed to get his registration in on time.

The night was one of numerous surprises. In the major cities, Aberdeen and Dundee went completely SNP. Edinburgh went completely SNP, except one seat... in the Lothians, Scottish Labour leader Iain Gray retained his seat, but by a mere 150 votes – his was the only constituency outside Edinburgh. More surprisingly, most of Glasgow and the surrounding area also went to the SNP. Larkhall and Harthill, the bastions of Orangeism in Scotland now have SNP MSPs. Big names to lose their seats included David McLetchie, former Tory leader, Labour strongmen Tom McCabe and Andy Kerr, Cathy Jamieson, and every Liberal Democrat in mainland Scotland. After the election, the Unionist party leaders, Iain Gray (Labour), Tavish Scott (Lib Dem), and Annabelle Goldie (Conservative) were all forced to resign by their masters in London. Figures such as Andy Kerr and Tom McCabe were so confident that they would regain their seats they never put themselves on the regional lists. Another Labour MSP took a three week holiday in the middle of campaigning, only to come back and find he'd lost his seat!

A lot of people had expected the SNP to win, but very few felt that the victory would have been on this scale. The previous SNP administration was most definitely a minority one, getting in by the narrowest of margins, indeed it was only a recount on the Highland regional list which assigned the SNP an extra MSP which would help give them a plurality in the last parliament. Alex Salmond had booked Prestonfield Hotel in Edinburgh for a victory speech long before-



hand, but even the SNP itself looked surprised at the scale of the victory handed to them.

Of course, in the regional list votes, the three major parties clawed back some MSPs under the additional member system of PR... which squeezed out the minor parties. The Greens, who had been hoping for at least six MSPs, retained two, and Margo MacDonald, an independent got back in. So there was no return to the second Scottish Parliament, when the Greens and SSP had seven MSPs apiece, along with the Pensioners' Party and several independents... 2011's Scottish election was most definitely a "two horse race", as the Lib Dems would say.

What about the parts of Scotland which didn't go SNP? Well, the Borders have never had much of a nationalist stronghold, preferring the Tories and Liberals. In this election they voted Conservative. The two constituencies in the southwest were more surprising. Dumfries went Labour, which was completely out of character, and in Galloway, the Conservative and former Presiding Officer Alex Fergusson* won back his seat after an extremely hard fight with the SNP. In the Central Belt, the remaining Labour vote was much depleted and in some places Labour only got in by the skin of its teeth. The main exception to this was Jackie Baillie's seat in Dunbartonshire, where she actually increased her majority. Orkney and Shetland retained their Lib Dem MSPs, one of whom was Tavish Scott. This is hardly surprising as they have long been safe seats. However, Liam MacArthur in Orkney came

under intense pressure in a three way split with the SNP candidate, and an independent who had great personal popularity. (Orkney and Shetland have never been completely comfortable with a Scottish identity, due to their history... they are essentially Norse in outlook, and have never spoken Gàidhlig.)

But the SNP victories in Glasgow, Edinburgh, and the areas around them which were the big success story of the night. The SNP has failed to make much of an impression in Edinburgh before, but there was a breakthrough in the last election when Kenny MacAskill took Edinburgh East. While the SNP has scored stunning victories in by-elections in west central Scotland – Govan, Motherwell, Hamilton, Glasgow East- it never taken these seats in a general election, and that's what's important. In some of these seats, the SNP overturned massive majorities, and this cannot be put down merely to a "collapse in the Lib Dem vote" as some Labour people claimed, since there was never much of a Lib Dem vote there.

It's now up to the SNP to take this good will from the public and use it wisely. The late Labour leader Donald Dewar had tried to set up a system which would not allow an absolute majority by the nationalists. Last week it failed to.

Alex Fergusson is not to be confused with Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager. The footballer did play a minor part in the Scottish election, and campaigned for Labour.

Celebrities flock to SNP

Hollywood star, Brian Cox, is one of many cultural figures to come out for the SNP. Cox who was elected Rector of Dundee University with 2/3 of the votes said:

"As a lifelong Labour supporter, I find myself in this particular election feeling that I must support Alex Salmond and the SNP. At this juncture, I feel that Alex Salmond's policies are the right policies to hold the line against [university] tuition fees in Scotland. I believe passionately in free education and know that as long as Alex is First Minister, he will defend this principle."

This is a major coup for the SNP, as Cox has always been a staunch Labour supporter, to the extent of appearing in their electoral broadcasts. Brian Cox, not to be confused with the English astronomer of the same name, is a major Hollywood actor, and Emmy winner. He has appeared in such films as *The Bourne Identity*, *X Men 2*, *Troy* and *Braveheart*, as well as the TV series *Deadwood*. His breakthrough was as Hannibal Lecter in *Manhunter*, a few years before Anthony Hopkins took on the same role.

While the SNP has counted Sean Connery, actress Elaine C. Smith and the Proclaimers as celebrity fans in the past, traditionally such support has tended to be thin on the ground in the past. Many people in show business have been afraid to come out as SNP supporters, because they're worried about it affecting their career.

Controversial painter Jack Vettriano also offered his support for the SNP. His paintings have been extremely successful commercially, but continue to draw criticism from the art world.

The internationally renowned comic book artist Mark Millar also threw his weight behind the SNP. His works include *Kick-Ass* (recently made into a successful film), and he has written material for 2000 AD, various Marvel comics featuring Spiderman, Superman and the Fantastic Four.

Other celebrities to voice support for the SNP include Gerald Butler, Alan Cummings, and Midge Ure, singer in Ultravox and an organiser of Live Aid.

The idea of independence, or at least a referendum on the issue, is supported by three prominent historians: Niall Ferguson, Michael Fry and Neil Ascherson. In the case of Fry and Ferguson, this is especially surprising given their revisionist views on Scottish history. Ferguson recently wrote an article in *The Scotsman* saying that Scots should not "sit on the fence" over the independence issue, and should either support or oppose it, and that the status quo was a bad compromise.

Amongst the other parties, Labour managed to pull in Alex Ferguson of Manchester United, comedian Eddie Izzard, and the Tories managed to pull rugby great Gavin Hastings.

Ray Bell

The amazing life of a famous Scottish radical

The son of a farmer turned merchant, Thomas Muir was born in Huntershill - just north of Glasgow- in 1765. Muir also lived there subsequently and the house still stands. After Grammar School Muir studied law at Glasgow University. However in 1780, after a dispute with college authorities over his role in a student protest- Muir withdrew and completed his studies in Edinburgh instead. He set up a law practice back in Glasgow though. There he gained a reputation as a "man of principle" who was often engaged as counsel in cases of "patronage against local landowners." He also appeared gratis for some of his poorer clients.

With this radical outlook Muir was, not surprisingly perhaps, drawn to the emerging reform movement in Scotland. In July 1792 he and William Skirving established the Scottish Friends of the People. They wanted to "sever the Union of 1707 and to establish an independent Scottish republic!" (Ellis 2007). Muir had been vocal in his appreciation of the French Revolution. He'd also corresponded with the revolutionary United Irishmen about a unified campaign that would embrace common demands for democracy and national freedom. All this made Muir a marked man. When at the First Convention of the Friends of the People he read out a fraternal address from the same Society of United Irishmen it was deemed to be sedition and he was arrested. Whilst on bail Muir went to France (where he met Thomas Paine). The trial date was then suddenly brought forward. Stranded, Muir didn't make it back in time and he was



Thomas Muir

declared an outlaw. When he did return, in August 1793, Muir was then tried in front of a notoriously partial judge Lord Braxfield. Muir said all he had done was advocate "equal representation of the people." It was a "good cause" and it would "ultimately prevail."

The ruling class was having none of it though. Muir was sentenced to 14 years transportation to Botany Bay. George Washington heard of -and was outraged by the length of the sentence. He sent the USS Otter to rescue Muir. Muir's escape was made good in 1796 but the USS Otter got into trouble off Panama. The Spanish accused Muir of being a spy and took him first to Havana and then back towards Spain. But then British ships attacked and Muir lost an eye. Muir finally ended up in Paris. He was made a French citizen and his house at Chantilly became an "intellectual centre" for Scottish republicans. Irish revolutionaries like Napper Tandy also visited (Ellis 2007). Muir died in 1799. He is still remembered as an enlightened, radical thinker and as an impassioned orator who fought for Scottish freedom.

Alan Stewart

The achievements of a poet who helped lead the Scottish cultural renaissance

Hugh MacDiarmid was born (as Christopher Murray Grieve) in Langholm on 1 August 1892. His father was a postman and MacDiarmid was said to have derived much of his future radicalism from both him and from the "fiercely independent tradition of the burgh" (Slainte 2005). The house where Hugh lived as a boy was adjacent to the town's library. From his earliest days Hugh had unrestricted access to books. This encouraged his interest in reading and languages -an interest that stayed with him throughout his life (BBC 2005).

In fact after leaving school in 1910 MacDiarmid turned naturally enough to journalism. When war broke out he did join the Royal Army Medical Corps, serving in Greece and France. In 1918 however he developed malaria. Back he went to Scotland to work as Chief Reporter for a paper in Montrose.

Journalism was still providing him with a living therefore. He was also increasingly interested though in developments in the field of contemporary poetry and literature. To this end he began to publish a poetry anthology, "Northern Numbers" and a literary magazine, "Scottish Chapbook." The first collection of his own poetry, "Sangshaw", appeared in 1925. It was followed, the year after, by his major work -a long poem titled, "A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle."

MacDiarmid believed in, and was increasingly at the forefront of, a Scottish literary renaissance. Granted in the 1930's, after the breakdown of his first marriage, he did move with his new partner Valda Trevlyn, to the isolated Shetland island of Whalsay. As such he was cut off for a time from "mainland cultural developments." But he continued to write "ground-breaking and stylistically innovative poetry" (BBC 2007).

After the war his literary reputation continued to grow. He had the opportunity to travel abroad, including to the Soviet Union and China. Yet MacDiarmid was never wealthy. In the early 1950's he and Valda moved to a cottage, "Brownsbank", near Biggar. They lived there until his death on 9 September 1978.

Alan Stewart



Breizh



ARMORICA- BREIZH Spectacular

Bro-Skos paz-ha-paz war-zu an dieubidigezh

N'eus ket bet añv eus votadegoù Bro-Skos e kazetennoù an douar-bras. D'en em soñjal a zo diwar-benn ar vank-se. Padal ar gazetenn ekonomikel The Economist, deuet er-maez e-kreiz miz Mae, he doa lakaet war wel politikerezh Bro-Skos: "Dieubidigezh dre guzh", an dieubidigezh oc'h en em staliañ tamm-ha-tamm.

Dav eo lavaret, eo ar pemp a viz Mae 2011 un devezh istorel, da vat. An SNP, a-du gant an dieubidigezh, en deus sachet 69 dilennad war 129 er Parlamant nevez. Da lavaret eo, 23 dilennad ouzhpenn e-keñver votadegoù 2007. D'ar mare-se e oa aet ar maout dija gant skipailh Alex Salmond. Setu perak emañ e-penn ar gouarnamant en-dro. Kentañ-ministr a vez graet outañ, e-giz e Bro-Gembre. An traoù a vo aesoc'h an taol-mañ gant ouzhpenn hanter-kant dre gant eus an dilennidi gantañ. Ouzhpenn-se paotred an unvanour gant Breizh-Veur a oa a-enep dezhañ hag o deus roet o zilez eus ar stroladoù sokialour, konservatour, ha Lib. Dem.

Ha perak 'ta ez eus bet ar lañv-bras-se? Da gantañ tout int bet e-karg e-pad pemp bloaz. En abeg da se o deus graet kalz a draoù evit ar Skoziz (tailhoù ebet evit mont er skolveur, evel evit a re gozh en tu all da 65 vloaz, keñver ar seku...) Lañs evit an energiezh padus ha nevez, nac'hañ da gas soudarded skozad d'ar "Blackwatch" (en Afganistan h.a.), met ivez labour an dilennidi, tost-tre eus ar poblañs er Kuzulioù Kumunioù ha brud vat ar mestr Alex Salmond, war ar marc'h-had.

Evit komprenn an disoc'hoù dreistordinal dav eo teuler ur sell ouzh politikerezh Breizh-Veur ha bedel zoken. Ar Skoziz a zo bet dipitet gant an emglev e gouarnamant ha Parlamant Westminster etre ar C'honservatourien hag al Lib. Dem. E Bro-Skos al Lib. Dem. en doa pakaet un taol bazh gant pemp dilennad war seitek a-raok. Ar pezh pouezusañ eo an ekonomiezh evito. Bro-Skos zo bet skoet fall gant kudennoù bras marc'h-had an arc'hant, abaoe 2008.

A-raok Din-Edin (=Edimbourg) oa e seizhvet plas en Europa. Siwazh, an tiez-bank o doa kalz a broduioù "toxic" deuet da heul ar "Pension Funds" eus S.U.A. Ret eo bet da c'houarnamant Bro-Saoz lakaat anezho dindan anv ar stad evit hanter-kant dre gant. Evit ar Skoziz gouarnamant Breizh-Veur a zo bet kablus da goll ho talvoudegezh,

SNP

en ur bezañ a-du gant marc'h-had an arc'hant. Dre se niver an dud dilabour en deus kresket. Padal, a-raok e oa gwelloc'h ar stal eno eget e Bro-Saoz. Hag evit echuiñ ganti, brezelioù NATO a zo gwelet fall-put gant ar familhoù kollet ur bugel dezho. Brezelioù digomprenus evito.

Setu peseurt dieubidigezh evit Bro-Skos gant ar SNP? Evit poent, Alex Salmond a chom fur. E-giz en deus skrivet The Economist, ur votadeg a-enep Breizh-Veur ne dalv ket ur "Ya" d'an dieubidigezh. Ret eo d'an SNP prouiñ he politikerezh war an dachenn. Alex Salmond a implij ur strategiezh sioul, pazenn-ha-pazenn, evit sachañ muioc'h a arc'hant eus Westminster. Gouzout ar ra mat e vo dav dezhañ marc'h-hatañ evit mont pelloc'h. Evit poent an SNP en deus raktreset ur referendom diwar-benn an dieubidigezh evit 2014. Un doare all da marc'h-hatañ.

Wikileaks en deus diskuliet war ar skinwel ur sekred anavezet mat: ar gaz hag an eoul-mean o tont eus ar mor tro-dro a zo o vont da netra. Dav e vo da Vreizh-Veur embroañ an div drederenn eus an ezhommoù, a-benn ar bloavezhioù o tont. Ouzhpenn-se an nukleel a zo en arvar abaoe Fukushima. Hag ur politikerezh kreñv tro-dro d'an energiezh padus a saveteio Bro-Skos? Ur vro gant startijenn hag he deus adkavet he dieubidigezh bet kollet gant Unvaniezh ar Parlamantou (1707), a-raok adaptout ar Parlamant er bloavezh 1999. Ur Vro-Skoz diplomatek a zo bet a-viskoazh digor war ar bed a-bezh.

Per Deligniere

Summary

An account of the great SNP victory in the 2011 election. There was no mention of the election in the French press!!! With the SNP winning a clear majority in the Scottish Parliament, Alex Salmond will now be able to negotiate for a larger budget and the referendum for independence is planned for 2014.

ARMORICA is an important outdoor show which is held on the Leon's coast in Breizh. Ar Vro Bagan (AVB) gathers about a dozen professional comedians as well as one hundred volunteers on stage. For the last two decades some 500 to 1,000 spectators have attended the show, which is performed for six to seven nights. As always the show is based on an historical theme. The producers' aim is to create the right atmosphere by placing lights not only on the stage, but also on the rocks and on the old sailing boats, hoping to inspire the audiences imagination to travel from place to place and from time to time down through the centuries. As the cast suggests the show is a comedy and dancing is also part of the show during the battles as well as for the fairs, in the summer time, when the weather is fine...

ARMORICA-BREIZH is a new show, which will be repeated for the next two or three years. For technical reasons the show will not be in the Breton language this year, but a few expressions are scattered throughout the play.

Anyway, it's an opportunity to learn more about the arrival of the Bretons, i.e. the Celts and Saxons who came from Great Britain, in two different waves of migration - the military invasion and the religious migration which came later during the seventh Century.

In order to understand who's who I'll use the word "armoricans" for the people from Armorica i.e. Breizh and the British-Bretons (B-B) will be used to identify the Roman & Saxon warriors from Great Britain and the religious people who also came from

Great Britain, mainly from Cymru, but not only... As you may know some 700,000 years ago during the Palaeolithic period, carbon-14 has proved that there were people settled in Armorica, but they were not Celts. At about 5000 BC during the Bronze Age we find the first signs a civilisation, which is linked to the Celts. Ar Vro Bagan begins the show in Halstatt (750-BC) and La Tene (350-BC); two cities in Switzerland. By 500 BC the migration from the centre of Europe to Ireland, through Armorica was well organised, thanks to a hierarchical society, with warriors, Druids, craftsmen and farmers...

In Armorica, the settlers had to contend with the Romans. Julius Caesar and Brutus beat the Armorican fleet, in the small sea of Morbihan, in 56-BC due mainly to a lack of wind that did not help the Armoican fleet.

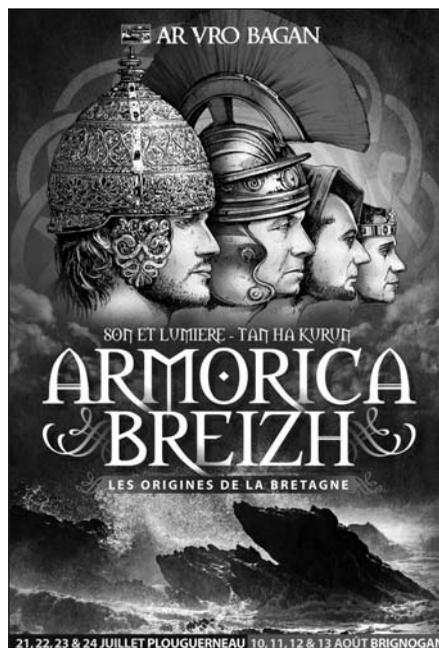
Goulc'han Kervella, the producer of AVB, is well known for his meticulous research

before each play. As usual he invited a few specialists like Bernard Merdrignac and Jean-Phillipe Cassard to assist him in the production of the show. As a result we learn a lot about our history from this play, which covers a wide spectrum in history. Among other things it shows the link between the Armorican tribes and the Franks against the Romans, during the Battle of Alesia in 52 BC. Alesia is marked as a milestone in Breton history by academics and archaeologists who claim that it brought about the end of Celtic civilisation in Brittany. They use this sacred milestone to pinpoint when the French state came into being, despite the fact that celtic languages, festivals and lobbies are still in existence in Europe. It should also be noted that Breizh only joined the french kingdom in 1532-AD.

Alesia strengthened the links between the Roman and Armorican tribes. The Romans built roads and ports to expand their trade throughout their empire. During the 2nd century the Roman's conquered England, however they were unable to conquer the Picts and the Welsh.

Between the 4th and 5th centuries the Roman empire began to decline slowly but surely. During the 4th century the Saxons and Frisons commanded a strong fleet in the Channel, which forced the Romans occupying Great Britain to fight them on both sides of the Channel. Maxime, the officer in charge of Great Britain grew weary of the situation and mounted an offensive to defeat Emperor Theodose. In 387, he gained control over Rome, but in 388 he was defeated by the Emperor in Slovenia and as a consequence a lot of his warriors went back home. A few of them settled in Armorica, however Viking raids at sea and in Bagaudes threatened the trading links and the Romans were unable to control the situation. In the middle of the 5th century, they left the Saxons in charge of most of England and as a result the first military migration started from Great Britain to Armorica, thus the Roman army took control the ports on both sides of the Channel in order to ensure peace on the continent. This part of our history is not well known. Most of the Breton people believe that the monks, who came from Cymru and Great Britain, were the first British- Bretons to settle in Armorica, however this second religious migration came much later during the 5th and 7th centuries.

Between both migrations, King Clovis of the Franck's was baptised in Reims in 498, which is marked as yet another milestone in french history. At this time the Breton speaking catholic lobby had beaten the french catholic hierarchy, with the help of Pope Jean- Paul II, during the 4th century on his first visit to Breizh. Returning to Breizh Jean-Paul II first visited the Breton catholics in Reims declining to go to St. Anna an Alre, held by the french church, until the following



day. As mentioned earlier Breizh only became “officially” part of France in 1532!!!

The links and agreements between Clovis and the Breton-British army helped a lot during this second migration with the aid of King Riwal of Domnonea in 511. As you may know this small kingdom is now “Devon”. At the time this kingdom also controlled the northern part of “Armorica-Breizh” (Leon and Treger). Therefore, this is the first time it is possible and correct to use the word “Breizh”, because these people came from Great Britain.

Roman Catholic saints who were children of, or close relatives of the king, replaced the Druids, and belonged to Saint Colomban order and it was only under the rule of Karl Magnus in the 800's that they adopted Benedictine values. It should be emphasised that this migration was massive and well organised. The main group came from Cymru as well as from ST Pol, ST Telo, ST Malo, ST Brieg, ST Samson and STz Ninig. Other saints came from Ireland among them ST Coloman, ST Jaoua,

ST Roman, ST Sezni, ST Briac and ST Gwevennoc who built Landevennec in Aber-Elorn, which has always featured as a very important place in Breizh, even into this century!

As their language and religion were similar most of the Armoricans accepted them as liberators, protecting them from the Vikings at sea and in land at Bagaudes, however the process of total assimilation of the newcomers took generations to be achieved, but it is this group who are the Breton speakers of today.

The play gives a good opportunity to understand the B- B...Blue- Beard: Conomore from Domnonea, who killed seven wives because he was afraid to have a successor. ST Samson went to Paris to sort out the situation with King Childebert. When this king died in 558 a new wave of wars

started in Breizh. The Carolingiens came into power in the Franck Empire and by the 750's they succeed to isolate Breizh, with the “marches” from Clisson to Averanches. In 831, the emperor Louis Pious came to an agreement with the Breton kings and gave the title of “Missus-Imperiatoris” to Nominoe, Earl of Gwened, handing over a lot of power to him, but maintaining the link of “prefet” with the Emperor. Later on, Nominoe became the real king of Breizh when he beat Charles Moal in Ballon in 845. Therefore, Breizh was Independent for a few years. In 851 when he died Erispoe, who also beat Charles Moal in Jengland, came to power and consolidated the kingdom of Breizh. The play ends on this happy note.

Like many people I look forward to AVBS next spectacular play.

GiK...

DISTRICT ELECTIONS 2011, PRESENCE OF EMSAV

In the last district elections, Emsav, the Breton Movement, has proved it is now a political force to be reckoned with. But because of the voting system, it is still without any elected representatives, with the exception of Christian Troadec, Mayor Carhaix left in the colours of his formation: *We will make thee Brittany.*

On 20 and 27 March, the French population was invited to renew half of the general council, elected officials of the department, the structure invented before the Revolution of 1789 to break up the old “provinces” and worn on the baptismal font by revolutionary ideologues, in 1790.

It was the last time voters were asked to elect representatives who will only sit in the departmental authorities. Because the reform initiated by the government of François Fillon provides, in 2014, for a merger between general and regional councilors and between the Regional Assembly and the four general councils of administrative Brittany (four counties). With a voting system of a two-round majority, which favours, as in many French elections, a polarization of political representation of the left and the right adhering to ideological postures and spreading the troublesome formations, especially the autonomists, present for two terms now in the regional assembly elected by proportional representation. Under such conditions of rigged democracy, or even denial of democracy, it is understandable that a number of activists of Emsav do not wish to engage. This was notably the case in the ranks of the right and the radical left: Adsav

and Breizhistance (ex Emgann), who preferred to abstain.

A significant part of the Breton movement, on the contrary, decided to engage, to make heard the discourse of an autonomous Brittany in a Europe of peoples. The fiery mayor of Carhaix Christian Troadec, was head of the list on behalf of the Breton Party, in the regional elections of March 2010, crossed the bar in the first round with 12.5% of registered voters, which enabled him to hold on to second round where, because of the absence of a challenger, he won with a score of 100% of the vote. This was unheard of in central Brittany.

The UDB (Union Démocratique Bretonne) had 29 candidates in the assembly of five counties of Brittany, in partnership with Europe Ecology-The Greens. The results show the anchorage of the autonomists of the left in the Breton landscape. With an

average of 7.7% of votes throughout the territory of Brittany, the UDB starts to count with its leftist allies. In the Cotes d'Armor, with a double-digit average of 12% they are an even more significant political force. Two of its candidates, Gwen Riou for Plouagat, and Jean-Michel Le Naour, for Rosporden, with respectively 17.73% and 18.28% of the votes, were even present in the second round and demonstrates the reality of the autonomist vote.

The Breton Party, which is nationalist and defends the project of a fully independent and sovereign Brittany, and is classed as the center right, for its part suggested ten candidates, distributed over the whole of historic Brittany. Its average score is close to that of the European elections: 2.73%. But two of its candidates, Reun L'Hostis for the district of Ploudalmézeau and Michel Philippot, for that of Blain, in Loire-

Atlantique where the Breton consciousness and identity are consistently fought over with the Regional Council of Pays-de Loire, have still surpassed 5%, above which, according to President Yves Pelle, first deputy of the city Erquy, one can hope to influence local politics.

Emsav is now a visible and meaningful political component of Brittany. But alas, due to the systematic polarization of French politics, the pervasiveness of Jacobin and Parisian formations, this clarity is only reflected in terms of mandates, reflecting a lack of democratic life in France. There is still long way to go for France to become a democratic country, and for Emsav to enjoy a true representation, the equal of Plaid Cymru in Wales or the SNP in Scotland.

Thierry Jigourel

Agalon Clothing Company helped by K.E.B.

At the end of May the members of **Klub Embregerezhioù Breizh** (K.E.B.), a Business consortium in Breizh, traveled to the Armor-Lux Headquarters in Kemper at H.Q. (cf.: sailors' striped B&W. T-shirts) in order to meet Gwillom PUECH and Gwenaël ROGEL the two founder members of Kalon (Heart), the company who make the Agalon range of clothing. As a result K.E.B. have promised a loan of €1,500 in order to help the two managers to develop their business in the near future.

In 2010, the two 23-year-old men started their small business. Both had studied in Diwan schools, before going on to continue their education further a field outside Breizh.

However, feeling homesick they decided to create a business, linked with their own culture and their language. Their aim was to produce clothes which displayed strong symbols of their identity, like the Ermine, the Gwenn ha Du, etc.

Gwillom PUECH explained that at the beginning they were helped by Armor-Lux, and even today they still worked hand in hand. The production is done in Armor-Lux's factory from their designs patterns and their stock of clothing is held in storage there too. Therefore, he said, 'we do not need to rent a warehouse which is good news in term of money!'

They have concentrated on designing clothes for men with the Ermine symbol embroidered on each item just like the crocodile on another famous make!!! However, only recently they have expanded and now market clothing for women and children.

K.E.B. was established in 2008 by businessmen who lived or were reared in a bilingual environment. Their goal was to offer all their employees a chance to discover the Breton-Celtic culture in the workplace. They also wanted to promote the creation of Breton speaking businesses in Breizh. Alan ArGal, president, said 'To stay alive a language must be used on an everyday basis'... so in the firms the use of the Breton language between workers was encouraged... We are happy with the creation of Agalon, because it provides two jobs in Breizh, and we expect more in the future'. Agalon's plans are 100% in line with the goals of K.E.B. because it is based on our identity and the Breton is the language used at work. 'Today we start to reap the dividends from the bilingual activities in schools. It's encouraging to see students from the Diwan schools keep using Breton in the workplace. It'll help other young Breton men and women to do the same', ArGal insisted.

An appeal to go for... Pol Puech, father of Gwillom stated that, 'Before today clubs and associations received some financial help from us. Is it good to see that businesses are now also getting help too. So if creators of workshops are prepared to embrace our Celtic identity and Breton language, do not be afraid to come and see K.E.B. in order to put forward your proposals...'

www.agalon.fr

Courtesy Nelly NENAN, Ya!



G.PUECH (left) Alan ArGal (KEB-centre) G.Rogel (right).

Cofnod Cymraeg yn ein Cynulliad ni

Mae Cymdeithas yr Iaith wedi lansio ymgyrch ar-lein i gryfhau presenoldeb y Gymraeg yn y Cynulliad. Mae'r ymgyrch a chywynwyd ym Mehefin yn canolbwyntio ar sicrhau bod cofnod llawn o drafodion y Cynulliad ar gael yn Gymraeg. Maent hefyd yn pwyso am gynnydd cyffredinol yn y defnydd o'r Gymraeg yn y Cynulliad.

Nid yw'r Cofnodion ar gael yn ddwyieithog ers Medi 2010, ac mae Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg wrthi'n ymchwilio i'r mater, yn dilyn cwynion gan y cyhoedd.

Wrth lansio'r ymgyrch, dywedodd Catrin Dafydd, llefarydd hawliau Cymdeithas yr Iaith, "Mae pobl Cymru wedi dangos ffydd yn y Cynulliad wrth bleideisio am ragor o bŵerau. Oherwydd hyn, mae mwy o gyfrifoldeb nag erioed ar ysgwyddau gwleidyddion ein corff democrataidd i ddangos a ydynt o ddifrif am brif-ffrydio'r Gymraeg i bob agwedd ar fywyd y Cynulliad ai peidio. Byddai gwyrddroi penderfyniad y trydydd Cynulliad a sicrhau bod y Cofnod llawn ar gael yn y Gymraeg yn dangos gweledigaeth ac yn symbol clir o naratif Cynulliad Cymru ar gyfer y dyfodol. Pe na baent yn gwyrddroi'r penderfyniad, byddent yn tramgwyddo hawliau iaith pobl Cymru ar lefel gwbl sylfaenol. Byddai parhau â'r sefyllfa fel ag y mae yn gosod cynsail peryglus iawn ar gyfer y dyfodol, ac yn gwbl groes i'r datganiad fod gan y Gymraeg statws swyddogol yng Nghymru yn dilyn pasio Mesur y Gymraeg, 2011."

Mae'r Gymdeithas wedi llythyru aelodau'r Comisiwn i sicrhau y bydd Cofnod gwbl ddwyieithog o drafodion yn y Cynulliad ar gael yn y dyfodol agos. Mewn llythyr at aelodau newydd y Comisiwn, dywedodd Catrin Dafydd, ar ran grŵp hawliau'r Gymeithas "Penderfynodd y trydydd Cynulliad stopio darparu fersiwn dwyieithog llawn o Gofnod y Trafodion, penderfyniad oedd yn amhoblogaidd ymysg y cyhoedd yng Nghymru ac ymhlith Aelodau Cynulliad o bob plaid. 'Rydym yn erfyn anroch felly i ddychweyd at y polisi o ddarparu Cofnod dwyieithog cyflawn fel y gall pobl Cymru ddarllen trafodion y Cynulliad yn eu hiaith eu hunain, boed hynny yn Gymraeg neu'n Saesneg.

"Mae'r Gymraeg bellach yn iaith swyddogol yng Nghymru, yn dilyn pasio Mesur y Gymraeg 2011, ac 'rydym yn falch iawn o'r datblygiad hwn fel yr ydych chithau. Mae'r penderfyniad i adael i'r



Cofnod - dogfen o'r pwys symbolaidd mwyaf - droi bellach yn ddogfen uniaith Saesneg ar y cyfan, ar ôl iddi fod yn gwbl ddwyieithog ers 1999, yn gwbl groes i'r datblygiad hwn ac yn sathru ar statws swyddogol y Gymraeg.

"Clywsom yn ddiweddar fod llai o lawer o Gymraeg yn cael ei siarad yn y Cynulliad erbyn hyn, ac 'rwy'n siwr y bydd ein gwleidyddion eisiau mynd i'r afael â'r broblem hon. 'Does dim dwywaith nad yw diffyg Cofnod dwyieithog yn ychwanegu at y broblem honno gan fod angen cyd-destun dwyieithog er mwyn i ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg yn y Siambr a'r tu hwnt fod yn gam naturiol. Mae perygl gwirioneddol i'r Gymraeg droi yn ddim mwy nag addurn yn y Cynulliad. Bydd hynny yn tansilio'r Gymraeg ar draws y wlad.

"Mae diffyg Cofnod dwyieithog yn fater o bwys i'n haelodau, ac mae unigolion o bob cwr wedi cynnig ymgyrchu ar y mater hwn. 'Rydym yn deall hefyd bod Bwrdd yr Iaith yn ymchwilio i'r mater o dan Ddeddf yr Iaith Gymraeg 1993. Os yw'r Cynulliad ei hun yn torri ei Gynllun Iaith, pa obaith sydd i weddill sefydliadau Cymru?

"Deallwn fod bwriad cyflwyno bil ar gyfer diogelu'r Gymraeg yn y Cynulliad. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth mawr ei angen, a byddwn yn cadw golwg ar y datblygiad hwnnw. Fodd bynnag, bydd sicrhau Cofnod dwyieithog unwaith eto yn hanfodol fel rhan o'r rhethreg ynghylch 'corff gwirioneddol ddwyieithog' sy'n cael ei ddefnyddio mor aml heb ystyried ystyr hynny. Mae angen cofnod dwyieithog fel man cychwyn cyn adeiladu ymhellach ar hynny wedyn. Mater o egwyddor yw hyn, parchu hawliau iaith pobl Cymru ar lefel sylfaenol.

"Pan stopiodd y Cofnod fod yn ddwyieithog am y tro cyntaf, daeth aelodau o bob plaid ynghyd i fynegi pryder ac i'n sicrhau y

byddai'n mynd yn ddwyieithog. Erfyniwn ar ein haelodau Cynulliad felly i wyrddroi'r penderfyniad a wnaethpwyd gan y Cynulliad blaenorol ynglŷn â'r mater hollbwysig hwn."

Summary

Cymdeithas yr Iaith have launched an on-line campaign calling for the Welsh language to have a stronger presence in the Welsh Assembly, concentrating specifically on the need for a fully bilingual version of the Record of Proceedings (Cofnod).

Anrhydeddu ASau'r Blaid gyda 'diolch' o Gatalwnia

Ar y 13eg o Fehefin cafodd y tri aelod seneddol o Blaid Cymru yn senedd Lloegr eu hanrhydeddu gan ddirprwyaeth o seneddwr ac ymwelwyr o Gatalwnia am eu gwaith yn codi ymwybyddiaeth yn San Steffan o'r argyfwng cyfansoddiadol sy'n wynebu llywodraeth Catalwnia.

Diolchwyd i Hywel Williams AS (Arfon) am ei gefnogaeth ac am gyflwyno "Cynnig Bore Bach", a gefnogwyd gan nifer o ASau o wahanol bleidiau. Yr oedd ei gynnydd yn galw am gefnogaeth i Statud Ymreolaeth Catalwnia 2006 yn dilyn penderfyniad anemocrataidd llys cyfansoddiadol Sbaen yn Madrid i ddiddymu adrannau allweddol o'r statud.

Llofnodwyd neges o gefnogaeth i Mr Williams gan dros 11,000 o Gatalaniaid. Daeth dros 100 o Gatalaniaid i San Steffan i ddiolch i Mr Williams, Elfyn Llwyd AS (Meirionnydd Dwyfor), a Jonathan Edwards AS (Dwyrain Caerfyrddin a Dinefwr), yn bersonol.

Dywedodd Mr Williams "Rwy'n falch iawn o'r cyfle i gyfarfod cynifer o gynrychiolwyr o Gatalwnia a datgan fy nghefnogaeth i'w gwaith diflinio dros gael gwrandawriad i ofynion democrataidd cwbl rhesymol pobl eu gwlad. Bu'n anrhydedd i mi fedru chwarae rhan fach yn yr ymgyrch.

"Mae Catalwnia yn genedl. Felly mae'r Catalaniaid yn gweld pethau, ac yn sicr, dyma hefyd yw ein barn ni.

"Cyflwynais y CBB i alluogi fy nghyd-ASau i ddangos cefnogaeth ac uniaethu gyda phobl Catalwnia a'u hawl i ddewis natur eu dyfodol yn ddemocrataidd drostynt eu hunain.

"Mae'r dyfarniad hwn gan lys Madrid ac a orfodwyd ar lywodraeth Catalwnia gan lywodraeth Sbaen yn cyfyngu cwmpas pŵerau datganoledig yng Nghatalwnia – sydd yn llwyr tansilio'r refferendwm democrataidd a gynhaliwyd yn 2006. Mae hefyd yn golygu nad oes modd i Gatalwnia gael ei chydabod yn gyfreithiol fel cenedl

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Cyhuddo Prydain o dorri cyfraith Ewrop dros S4C



Y ddirprwyaeth o Gymru, yn cynnwys Jill Evans ASE a'r Dr Simon Brooks (Cymdeithas yr Iaith), a swyddogion Ewropeaidd.

Aeth dirprwyaeth o ymgyrchwyr iaith i drafod y bygythiadau i S4C mewn cyfarfod â swyddogion uchaf Ewrop ym mis Mehefin. Yn ystod yr ymweliad â Senedd Ewrop yn Strasbwrg gwaneth aelodau o Gymdeithas yr Iaith gwrdd â Chomisiynydd Diwylliant Ewrop Androulla Vassiliou a phennaeth Secretariat Siarter Ewrop dros ieithoedd lleiafrifol Alexey Kozhemyakov. Trafododd y ddiwrprwyaeth gyda'r swyddogion effaith y toriadau ar ymrwymadau cyfreithiol Llywodraeth Prydain. Toriadau a fyddai'n golygu lleihad sylweddol yng ngweithrediad yr ymrwymiad i wasanaeth teledu Cymraeg o hyn ymlaen, o'i gymharu â 1998 pan lofnodwyd y Siarter gan Brydain. Yn dilyn cadarnhad gan swyddogion uchaf Ewrop ym mis Mehefin y byddai lleihau sylweddol ar lefel gwasanaethau teledu Cymraeg yn groes i gyfraith ryngwladol mae'r ymgyrchwyr yn ystyried her gyfreithiol dros S4C. Cafwyd cadarnhad bod dyletswydd cyfreithiol ar Lywodraeth

Prydan i ddarparu sianel deledu Gymraeg. Wrth drafod ag Alexey Kozhemyakov, cadarnhawyd hefyd bod y siarter yn gwahardd gwledydd rhag 'lefel is o ymgymeriad', sef gostyngiad i'r gwasanaeth i'r bobl sydd yn ei dderbyn. Mae S4C yn wynebu cwtogi 94% ar ei chyllideb dros y pedair blynedd nesaf.

Dywedodd Menna Machreth, llefarydd darlledu Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, y byddai'r mudiad yn ystyried unrhyw gamau cyfreithiol y gallan nhw eu cymryd yn dilyn y cyfarfod: "Mae'r hyn ddywedodd y swyddogion yn arwyddocaol iawn i'n hymgyrch dros ddarlledu Cymraeg. Mae'n glir bod cynlluniau'r Llywodraeth a'r BBC yn mynd yn groes i gyfraith ryngwladol. Mae'n anorfod bod safon y gwasanaeth yn mynd i ddioddef gyda'r toriadau enfawr maen nhw'n eu cynllunio. Felly, fe fyddwn ni'n ystyried unrhyw opsiynau cyfreithiol sydd gyda ni fel bod modd atal y Llywodraeth rhag torri ei hymrwymadau. Cadarnhaodd swyddogion fod y siarter iaith Ewropeaidd sydd yn diogelu gwasanaethau radio a theledu yn orfodaeth ryngwladol. Pwysleisio nhw fod Llywodraeth Prydain wedi cytuno'n rhydd i'r siarter sydd yn eu gorfodi'n gyfreithiol.

Dywedodd Jill Evans, ASE Plaid Cymru, "Mae'r ymosodiad ar S4C yn ymosodiad ar yr iaith Gymraeg ei hun. Fel un o ieithoedd cydnabyddedig yr UE, mae i hyn oblygiadau ymhell y tu hwnt i Gymru. Gwelir S4C fel patrwm i lawer o wledydd eraill, ac y mae'r Siarter Ewropeaidd ar Ieithoedd Lleiafrifol yn mynnu darpariaeth deledu a radio yn ieithoedd perthnasol pob gwlad."

"Rwyf wedi gwrthod talu fy nhrwydded deledu fel protest yn erbyn ymosodiad llywodraeth San Steffan ar S4C. Carwn weld y cyfrifoldeb dros ddarlledu yn cael ei ddatganoli i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol, gan nad yw, yn amlwg, yn derbyn y parch dyledus gan lywodraeth San Steffan. Dylai ieithoedd lleiafrifol gael cydraddoldeb gydag ieithoedd Ewropeaidd eraill ym maes darlledu, sy'n golygu cyllid digonol heb ymyrraeth gan gwledyddion."

Ychwanegodd Menna Machreth "Mae degau o filoedd o bobl wedi gwrthwynebu'r cynlluniau hyn gan gynnwys Archesgob Cymru, arweinwyr y pleidiau yng Nghymru, a degau o fudiadau. Mae yna ddyletswydd arnon ni fel cymdeithas sifil i ystyried pob opsiwn er mwyn atal cynlluniau sydd yn groes i hawliau dynol pobl Cymru. Mae'n amser i'n gwledyddion ddechrau gwranddo."

Summary

A deputation of Welsh language supporters, including Plaid MEP Jill Evans and Cymdeithas members, visited the European parliament in Strasburg to gain support against the cuts to Welsh-language television that the London government are threatening. They were advised that the cuts would be contrary to international law given the agreements the Brits have previously signed.

'No you don't have to speak Welsh', jokes Radio Station

Cymdeithas yr Iaith made an official complaint to Real Radio, notifying Ofcom and the Welsh Language Board, following an advertisement for a job by Real Radio. Real Radio in the advert said: "A brilliant opportunity has come up at Wales's only national commercial station, Real Radio. We are looking for an experienced Broadcast Journalist to join our Breakfast team, based in Cardiff, delivering the on-air content our news and sport hungry listeners demand.

"You must have an outstanding voice, a keen eye for the right story and the confidence to play a key role in our flagship show. You should also be an expert in using audio creatively to keep us sounding fantastic.

"In return we can offer you the chance to join a station with nearly 500,000 listeners in a country bursting with news and sport, and a true commitment to original journalism. **And, no, you don't have to speak Welsh!**"



Bethan Williams, Chairperson of Cymdeithas yr Iaith said:

"The real joke is the fact that Real Radio is allowed to broadcast nationally without having to provide any services in Welsh. It is disgraceful that this radio station is allowed to disregard the Welsh language after getting a license across the whole country. At present, Wales is fighting to keep our only Welsh language television channel, but a new 'national' radio station chooses to dismiss the language outright. This is totally unacceptable."

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gan i Sbaen hawlio mai nhw yw unig 'genedl' y wladwriaeth.

"Bydd hyn yn taro tant cryf gyda chenedloedd datganoledig y DG.

"Hawdd ydy deall dicter y Catalaniaid – mae llys Sbaen wedi llwyr danseilio eu sistem ddemocrataidd.

"Rhaid i ddyfodol pobl Catalwnia fod yn eu dwylo nhw eu hunain – nid yn nwylo neb arall."

Summary

Plaid Cymru MPs have been honoured by a delegation of parliamentarians and visitors from Catalonia for work in raising awareness in the London parliament of the constitutional crisis facing the Catalan government. Hywel Williams MP (Arfon) was thanked for his support and for tabling an Early Day Motion calling for support for the 2006 Catalan Statute of Autonomy following the undemocratic decision of the Spanish constitutional court to scrap key sections of the statute.

Welsh MPs oppose government TV plans

Unions and language groups have welcomed news that a majority of Welsh MPs voted against government plans to cut S4C's budget, as a critical cross-party report was published. Only votes from English MPs prevented the cross-party group of MPs formally including a line calling for S4C to be removed from the Public Bodies Bill (p. 46), legislation that would allow the Government to cut its grant to the channel by 94%. The effort to stop the plans was supported by Labour, Plaid Cymru, and Liberal Democrat representatives on the committee.

Speaking on behalf of union group, the FEU (Federation of Entertainment Unions), David Donovan said: "It's clear that the majority of Wales' MPs want to stop the Government's plans by taking S4C out of the legislation, that's to be welcomed. The fact that the Government has relied on the vote of English MPs on the committee says it all. We warmly welcome the opposition of the Labour party, Plaid Cymru, and the Liberal Democrats to the Government's attempt to change the law. There's hope that we can win our battle for a secure future for our only Welsh language TV channel with their continued support."

The report accepts the need for "a new S4C: a multi-platform, multi-media broadcaster/publisher" (para. 64, pg. 18) and recognises that the deal between the BBC and the Government was made 'in haste' and 'without sufficient consultation' (para. 131, pg. 33). There is also recognition of the financial uncertainty after 2015, the committee argues that it is 'essential that there is a long term funding formula [for S4C] enacted in primary legislation.' (para. 100, pg. 26)

Menna Machreth, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg's broadcasting spokesperson added:

"Although the Government has ignored the views of Wales so far, it will have to reconsider its ill-thought-out plans following this critical report. We're glad that the united opposition from Wales to these massive cuts is reflected by the majority of Welsh MPs. It doesn't surprise us that the opposition is so strong, given that the deal between the BBC and the Government would mean a 94% cut to the channel's grant - a cut which is totally unfair. Certainly, we agree with the need for a new S4C in the new multi-platform age and the need for a long term funding formula protected in statute."

Meic Birtwistle from journalists' union the NUJ added:

"This report puts a great deal of pressure on the Government to look afresh at all its plans. Only with a new way forward, which builds a consensus across Wales, can we secure the high quality programming needed for the success of the channel."

Plaid leader unveils new team for 4th Assembly

Plaid Cymru Leader Ieuan Wyn Jones AC unveiled his new Shadow Cabinet for the 4th National Assembly in May. Mr Jones pledged that the new team will work hard to hold government to account as well as promote Plaid's policy agenda. The Plaid leader re-affirmed his party's election promise to represent people from all parts of Wales. Plaid's representation is now 11 members, compared with 15 after the last assembly election. They lost the seats of Aberconwy and Llanelli, and lost a member in the South West and South Central regions.

Plaid Cymru Leader Ieuan Wyn Jones AC said "The pool of talent from which I have been able to choose this shadow cabinet is very strong. Not only does Plaid Cymru have a wealth of experience amongst our long established ACs, we have also gained new members who have a vast amount to contribute.

"Without a majority government in place at



Ieuan Wyn Jones AC

this time, the Plaid team's responsibility is to ensure that any Welsh government plans that come before the National Assembly are fit to bring about real improvements for the people of Wales. Our focus will remain firmly fixed on ensuring that the voice of every part of Wales is heard loud and clear in the Senedd."

Hotel in Welsh-speaking area bans Welsh conversation in kitchen

23rd March 2011

I would like to ask all staff if they could please refrain from speaking Welsh when in the kitchen area. Head Chef Mr Bob Marshall is in charge of the kitchen and cannot speak or understand the Welsh Language; in order for our hotel to run in an efficient and professional manner it is imperative that all staff understand one another.

Signed:  Ruth Hogan - General Manager

The memo issued to staff at the Carreg Môn hotel

It has been a while since we have had one of those No Welsh in the Workplace cases, but one emerged in March in a hotel in the village of Llanfairpwllgwyngyll on Ynys Môn (Anglesey), in the Bro Gymraeg (area where the natives speak Welsh). Employees at the Carreg Môn hotel were issued with a memo (See photo of memo stating exact words)

This memo was issued in a workplace in an area where Welsh is the native language and it clearly not restricted to speaking Welsh to the colon chef in question, but to other Welsh-speaking colleagues. Following the adverse publicity in the media officials of the hotel have denied "banning Welsh" and made other vague excuses, but they have not apologised or retracted the offending note.

The issue has been discussed in considerable detail on a Facebook page, "Hawl i siarad Cymraeg yn Carreg Môn / The Right to Speak Welsh in Carreg Môn".

Insurance company awarded for Welsh Language Service

Cymdeithas yr Iaith have presented an award to Tarian Cyf, a Caernarfon-based insurance company, an award for offering an exceptional Welsh-language service to the public. The "Gwobr Caru'r Gymraeg - Love Welsh award", part of the language movement's new initiative, was presented to the company officers as thanks to the company for providing a high standard of service.

Presenting the award, Osian Jones, regional organiser for Cymdeithas, said:

"A few weeks ago Tarian Cyf. launched a new website to sell insurance, the website (www.tarianarlein.com) is completely bilingual, and shows what can be delivered when firms show respect for the language."

"Tarian Cyf. see the business sense in offering a comprehensive Welsh language services, it's a pity that big international companies don't do the same. We are very pleased to present this certificate to the company, which offers an excellent Welsh language service to the public."

Party leaders' message on S4C future

Cymdeithas yr Iaith campaigners visited the offices of the four main political parties in Wales during the Welsh general election campaign in April to deliver an urgent message about the future of S4C.

In November last year, the four party leaders had written to the British Prime Minister outlining their opposition to the current plans. Representatives from Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg and unions visited party offices in Llangefni (Plaid Cymru), Aberhonddu (Brecon) (Lib. Dems. and Tories), and Cardiff (Labour) with a proclamation calling on all the political parties in Wales to press for a full review of S4C rather than continuing with the British government's present plans for the channel. The proclamation stated:

"We call on you as the leader of your political party in Wales to demand that David Cameron the British Prime Minister order that an independent and comprehensive review be held into the future of S4C, the only Welsh-language channel in the world.

"We also call on all politicians who represent Wales either in the National Assembly in Cardiff or in the House of Commons in London to declare their full support for such a review and for Welsh language broadcasting..."



Bethan Williams, Chairman of Cymdeithas yr Iaith

"No decisions should be made about the future of Welsh language broadcasting in Wales until a thorough review has been conducted. So S4C should not be part of the Public Bodies Bill which currently being discussed in the House of Lords.

"You supported the call for a review back in November 2010. We now call on you to make a firm stand on the future of S4C and Welsh-language broadcasting."

The London government is attempting to change the law in order to cut its funding to

S4C by 94% and instead fund the channel primarily through the BBC. Twenty-four different organisations, including the NUJ, BECTU, the Musicians' Union, Equity, and the Writers' Union, have written to the government calling for these plans to be halted.

David Donovan from the trade union BECTU, and Dr Simon Brooks and Danny Grehan from Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, presented the proclamation to Carwyn Jones's office at the Labour Party headquarters in Cardiff.

Dylan Morgan and Osian Jones, along with Mair Rowlands from Bangor Students Union (UMCB) presented the proclamation at Ieuan Wyn Jones's Constituency Office in Llangefni.

Bethan Williams, Chairman of Cymdeithas yr Iaith, presented the proclamation to Kirsty Williams, leader of the Liberal Democrats, and to Nick Bourne, leader of the Tories in Wales, in Aberhonddu.

Ms Williams said *"There is widespread opposition to the massive funding cuts faced by S4C and its proposed merger with the BBC. This is an issue where there is a united opinion in Wales. Those political parties that are part of the coalition government in London must reconsider their decision to ignore us in Wales. We expect all parties to demand the full review they called for to take place, instead if the ill-considered plans of the Westminster government are abandoned."*

S4C report: BBC-Government deal 'in crisis' – umbrella group calls for broadcasters to pull out of talks



In May trade unions and language groups called on the BBC and S4C to pull out of talks on the future of Welsh-language broadcasting following a highly critical report by a cross-party group of MPs.

According to the House of Commons Culture Committee, the Government's plans *"sounded more like a [BBC] takeover than a partnership"*. An umbrella group, including BECTU, the NUJ journalists union, the Writers Guild, actors union Equity, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, and the Musicians Union, are campaigning against plans for a 94% cut in the government grant to S4C and a BBC takeover of the channel. In an open letter, the groups have called on the Government, S4C, and the BBC to end their talks. The letter says: *"It's time to scrap these ill-considered plans for S4C which have been condemned so widely. The leaders of the four main political parties in Wales, the Welsh Affairs Committee, tens of unions and language groups, tens of thousands of people who have signed petitions, attended rallies and written to politicians, and now the Culture Committee, have all criticised the plans. You, as public bodies, are politically isolated, your discussions are in a state of crisis - they are not legitimate in the public's eyes.*

"For how long are you going to continue to ignore the opinion of all these people and groups? No-one wants this, it's not good for the Welsh language, Welsh-language broadcasting, or public service broadcasting in general. It seems that [Culture Secretary] Jeremy Hunt and [BBC Director General] Mark Thompson are the only people left in Britain who still think that merging S4C and the BBC is a good idea.

"It's not a surprise that the BBC doesn't want to hold a public consultation on its plans – they fear the public knows these plans are absurd. We call on you to bring your talks to an end, as no-one has faith in them."

The umbrella group held a protest "Rhaid i Cyw Fyw!" (Cyw must live!) at the Urdd Eisteddfod in Abertawe/Swansea on 31st May.

S4C campaigners to face Cardiff magistrates

Two members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith who took part in a direct action protest to save S4C will go on trial at the start of July (14:00 7th July 2011)



Heledd Melangell Williams

Cardiff magistrates have confirmed.

It's alleged that the two campaigners - Jamie Bevan (from Merthyr Tudful) and Heledd Melangell Williams (from Nant Peris) - broke into Cardiff North Conservative MP Jonathan Evans's office and sprayed a slogan on the wall of the building against the changes to S4C. Bethan Williams, chair of Cymdeithas said at the time of this announcement:

"It's time for the people who have benefited most from S4C existence to realise the sacrifice of the people who risked their freedom for the language over the years. Over the decades, hundreds of people like Heledd and Jamie have put their freedom, livelihoods, and in one case their life on the line for the Welsh language. Without them, our language would be much weaker today."



Éire



Gluaiseacht mhisniúil na gCornach

Má tá suim agat i bhforbairt ghluaiseacht an náisiúnachais sa Chorn le céad bliain anuas, gheobhaidh tú eolas go leor i leabhar atá foilsithe ag Welsh Academic Press: *Mebyon Kernow and Cornish Nationalism*, le Bernard Deacon, Dick Cole and Garry Tregidga. Tá cur síos maith le fáil sa leabhar seo ar na tréimhsí éagsúla a aithníonn na húdair i saol pháirtí náisiúnach am Choirn, Mebyon Kernow (Mic an Choirn), agus na bhfréamhpháirtithe agus na mbuíonta a d'fhás as nó a raibh baint acu leis.

Dar leis an húdair, ba í an teanga a chinntigh, míle bliain tar éis choncas na Sasanach, gur tháinig an Corn slán mar shainchuid de na hOileáin Cheilteacha agus nár imigh féiniúlacht na tíre agus féimheas an phobail mar náisiún ar leithligh de dhroim an tsaoil ar fad. Ba í an teanga agus an chuimhne náisiúnta ar na céadta bliain d'ansmacht na Sasanach orthu (tréithe a bhain leis na náisiúin Cheilteacha go léir sna hOileáin Cheilteacha) a choimeád tine an Chornachais ar lasadh i measc na gCornach, agus ba é dul i ndisc na dtréithe sin de dheasca briseadh míleata, coilíniú agus eisimirce a d'fhág meon an neamhspleáchais sa Chorn ar an dé deiridh. Is ábhar suntais é go nascann an aicme ghallda sna tíortha Ceilteacha go léir na tréithe sin le 'iargúlacht' agus 'mí-aibíocht' agus go dtugann siad 'aibíocht' ar aon ní a léiríonn go bhfuil na tréithe sin á gcailliúint againn – is é sin go bhfuilimid ag fás i dtreo an ghalldachais agus ag fágaint tréithe nach mbeadh ár máistrí sásta leo laistiar dinn. Táimid ag éirí 'inghlactha'.

Agus na tréithe sin á gcailliúint ag muintir an Choirn, mar sin, tháinig gluaiseacht chun cinn a sheas an fód don Chorn stairiúil Ceilteach agus nár lig dó dul i ndearmad – Mebyon Kernow. Ba chróga an dream iad an chéad ghlúin sin de MK agus is deacair, agus an cuntas seo a léamh, gan meas ar leith a bheith againn ar Helena Charles, céadchathaoirleach an pháirtí agus bean nár chuir fiacail riamh ann nuair a tháinig sé go dtí bunphrionsabail an náisiúnachais. Sa deireadh, bhí a seasamh ró-láidir dá taobh féin agus tháinig dream a bhí 'níos pragmataí' chun cinn ina háit.

Tá cuntas anseo ar na feachtais agus na fadhbanna a raibh ar na Cornaigh dul i ngleic leo i rith na mblianta agus is deacair gan trua a bheith agat dóibh agus iad ag seasamh an fhóid in aghaidh namhad a bhí i bhfad níos cumhachtaí, níos glíce agus níos soiniúla ná iad. Ceann de na samplaí is measa

de sin ab ea an tionscadal "overspill", nuair a shocraigh rialtas Shasana go mbogfáidís na mílte daoine as Londain go dtí an Corn agus iad a lonnú i dtithe comhairle áitiúla ann. Dar ndóigh, tugadh lucht ciníochais orthusan a chuir ina aghaidh.



Helena Charles, an Chéad Chathaoirleach ar Mebyon Kernow

D'fhág an t-éagomhlann seo idir mionlach beag agus ceann de na stáit ba láidre ar domhan go raibh an dá dhearcadh i gcónaí ann idir na daoine a chreid go gcaithfí seasamh go neamhleithscéalach leis na bunphrionsabail agus iadsan a mheas maidir leis an té nach bhfuil láidir nach foláir dó a bheith glíc. Tá an scoilt sin (nár cheart an scoilteachas seachas an teanga a bheith ina slat tomhais le haghaidh na bhfíorCheilteach?) le feiscint sa chur síos seo, ní hamháin laistigh den pháirtí ach idir an páirtí agus na Cornaigh sin a mheas go raibh MK ró-umhal maidir lena chur chuige agus lena chuspóirí. Ba é an léiriú ab fhearr air sin ná an Cornish Nationalist Party, faoi cheannas an Dochtúra James Whetter sna seachtóidí.

Castacht eile a bhain le MK ar feadh na mblianta ab ea an drogall a bhí ar a chomhaltáí féin glacadh leis gur pháirtí polaitíochta iad! Cuid mhór de na comhaltáí, ba chomhaltáí de pháirtithe eile iad – an Páirtí

Liobrálach, go háirithe – agus bhí roinnt de na feisirí parlaiminte a bhí ag an bPáirtí Liobrálach i Westminster ina gcomhaltáí de Mebyon Kernow freisin! Ina theannta sin, bhí cuid mhaith daoine a bhí páirteach ann a mheas gur gníomhaíocht 'neamhspleách' a bhí ar siúl acu.

Is í an cheist mhór i gcónaí, gan dabht, ná ar éirigh le Mebyon Kernow agus gluaiseacht náisiúnach an Choirn i gcoitinne aon rud a bhaint amach agus an oiread sin deacrachtaí acu, fiú amháin ón taobh eagraíochtúil de? Má fhéachtar ar na torthaí toghcháin a thugtar sa saothar seo ó thaobh líon vótaí agus céatadán, ní mheasfá gur éirigh go ró-mhaith leis an bpáirtí a chuid polasaithe a chur chun cinn. Ar an lámh eile dhe, dealraíonn sé gur éirigh go maith le feachtais áirithe a raibh MK páirteach iontu – feachtais faoi uisce, tithíocht, iascaireacht, comharthaí Cornaise agus an cháin chloiginn, mar shamplaí.

Dar ndóigh, feachtas ar éirigh thar cionn leis ab ea cur chun cinn bhratach an Choirn – Cros San Piran (nó Ciarán, mar is fearr aithne air i measc na nGael). Glactar leis an mbratach sin anois ar fud na tíre agus ar fud an domhain mar bhratach an Choirn, fiú amháin ina measc siúd ar beag a dtuiscint ar stair na tíre.

Dealraíonn sé go gcreideann na húdair gur sa náisiúnachas saoránach seachas sa náisiúnachas cultúir atá todhchaí na gluaiseachta náisiúnta sa Chorn .i. náisiúnachas a chuireann fáilte roimh gach saoránach (is cuma cén bunadh atá acu) agus a dhíríonn ar chearta gach saoránaigh a bhaint amach mar chuspóir náisiúnta. Ní léir dúinne gur gá rogha a dhéanamh idir an dá shaghas náisiúnachais sin agus measaimid gur i dteannta a chéile is fearr iad a bheith, cé go mb'fhéidir go bhfuil daoine sa Chorn agus i gCeltia i gcoitinne a bheadh teoranta go docht do leagan amháin nó do leagan eile.

Tá rud amháin soiléir, áfach: go dtí go n-éireoidh le Mebyon Kernow tacaíocht a mhealladh is leithne ná an tacaíocht, bunaithe ar an traidisiún neamhspleách agus liobrálach sa Chorn, a mheallann siad de ghnáth, agus tacaíocht ó dhaoine ar de bhunadh gaillda iad san áireamh, is snámh in aghaidh easa mhóir Shasana a bheidh ar siúl acu chun fíorthionchar a imirt ar thodhchaí an Choirn.

Tadhg Riabhach Ó Dulchaintigh.

Summary

This article reviews the book Mebyon Kernow and Cornish Nationalism, by Bernard Deacon, Dick Cole and Garry Tregidga (Published by Welsh Academic Press). The authors state that the Cornish language helped maintain Cornish identity. The book outlines the forerunners of Mebyon Kernow and describes how the party developed and the challenges along the way. To make progress and be in a position to influence events in Cornwall the party must expand beyond its traditional base.

NO BONDHOLDERS TO BE BURNT! NO IMPERIAL APOLOGY!

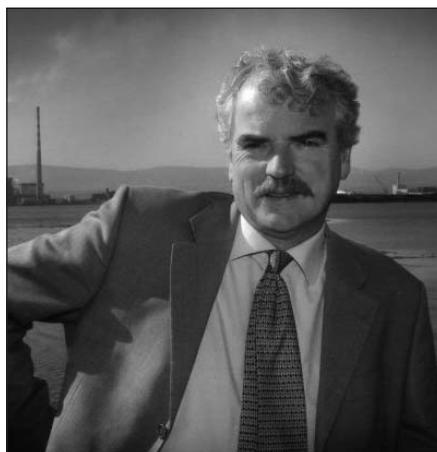
Both Fine Gael and the Labour Party election manifestos stated that bondholders should share in bank losses and in the debts of insolvent financial institutions. After some three months into the Coalition government they clearly stated that this will not happen. They pointed the finger at the European Central Bank claiming that the ECB has 'held out solidly that senior bondholders will not be touched'.

Minister for Finance, Michael Noonan then declared that the Government had plans to impose substantial losses on senior bondholders in the now defunct Anglo-Irish Bank and Irish Nationwide Building Society. Within a day this had been challenged by EU Economic Commissioner Ollie Rehn, who said no such proposal had been conveyed by the Irish authorities and commentators stated that the general stance of the ECB was well known and unlikely to change. EU Competition Commissioner J. Almunia said the sweeping scope of the bank guarantee given in Sept. 2008 was the problem. He claimed that in 2001 the commission had put forward proposals to warn the Irish authorities about the overheating of the economy but these were rejected.

Nor, at the time of writing, has any progress been made on the other key issue of renegotiating the interest rate on the bail out. Again and again independent economic commentators have pointed out that these crippling terms will stymie economic recovery and that alternatives has to be sought including the possibly of default. These are not the only U turns made, the new (Labour) Minister of Education, Ruairi Quinn, who had promised student bodies in the run up to the election that he was against increases in fees has now changed his position and declared they are necessary.

In April the Nyberg report on the systemic banking crisis was published. The report stated that it occurred because of lax oversight and changes from time honoured prudential limits and procedures of the financial institutions themselves. Culpability extended across all areas of society, the banks, auditors, the financial regulator, the Central Bank, the Department of Finance and Government, politicians, the media and investors. The mania in the Irish property market created a consensus few were will to challenge, risk management in the banks proved largely ineffective and there was only a handful of people who warned about the developing risks. No real surprise there on the basis of information which had been coming into the public domain in the last few years but what is quite strange is that the report stopped short of blaming any

individuals. Nor is there any recognition of the disastrous role played by European banks (who are now being protected as senior bondholders) in funding the speculation in . On individual responsibility what about CEOs and directors who breached their own institutions guidelines, did not have rules in place at all or did not record their discussions and decision making, Ministers of Finance and Taoisigh whose responsibility it was to be fully aware of critical issues in governance of the banks and the economy? Once again the ruling elite responsible for the crisis, the costs of which they are making the ordinary citizen pay for, have walked away scot free.



Finian McGrath, Independent TD who outlined in the Dáil the broader opposition to the Queen of 's visit

The findings of the report of the Moriarty Tribunal published in March also make interesting reading. This was the *Report of the Tribunal of Inquiry into Payments to Politicians and Related matters* which centred on concerns relating to the 1995 mobile licence competition (the licence was awarded to D. O'Brien's Esat Digifone). This focused particularly on the actions of the then Minister for Communications, Michael Lowry (then in Fine Gael, and at the time party fundraiser). This story is too long to give many details here but be careful if you are looking for the report on the web as a site titled moriarytribunal.com is in fact one set up by D. O'Brien. The Tribunal found *'In the cynical and venal abuse of office, the brazen refusal to acknowledge the impropriety of his financial arrangements with Mr Denis O'Brien and Mr. Ben Dunne, Mr Lowry has cast a further shadow over this country's public life. Also in regard to another matter 'What was contemplated and attempted on the part of Mr. Lowry and Mr. Dunne was profoundly corrupt, to a degree that was nothing short of breathtaking.'* All

three men rejected the findings of the Tribunal with Dunne challenging the Tribunal to prove its findings in court. Lowry had to resign in 1996 when it was revealed Dunnes Stores had paid for work on his home and is now an Independent TD. He made untruthful statements before and his rebuttal speech on Moriarty's findings in the Dáil was greeted in stony silence. The Garda Commissioner said the report was being examined with a view to identifying criminal offences. On the basis of the outcome from previous tribunals do not expect too much, if anything.

Queen Elizabeth 11's visit took place in May amidst such a level of security that in Dublin and elsewhere only specially invited guests were allowed close and city centre had the air of the deserted village. The scheduled events which took place there and at others venues went off without any real incidents. While the visit was on the cards for quite a while and was seen by some as a part of the Peace Process Sinn Féin, who was central to that process, did not welcome the visit, saying it was premature. While the Queen was laying a wreath in the Garden of Remembrance (for those who died fighting to free Ireland), protesters released black balloons in memory of those who have given their lives in the cause of Irish Freedom. Éirígí, Republican Sinn Féin and the 32 County Sovereignty Movement all organised protests during the visit, at one of which the latter two groups skirmished with Gardaí. Finian McGrath, Independent TD had said in the Dáil earlier there were many elected members of the House and many more elected representatives in Scotland, England and Wales who do not support monarchies or outdated institutions with inherited powers. Some British citizens had come to to oppose the wars in and and protest against the British arms industry and their recent deal with. He queried the invitation to the ceremony at the British war memorial in Islandbridge of five UDA brigadiers. Of particular concern to many was that the visit coincided with the 37th anniversary of events which caused the single largest loss of life (33 dead) in the Troubles, the Dublin and Monaghan bombings, carried out by Loyalist groups with the involvement of British Intelligence services. Calls were made for the release of files which the British would not give to the Barron Inquiry. British Prime Minister David Cameron of course has to approve all the Queen's speeches. An opportunity was lost to include a formal apology for 's imperial role in Irish affairs. Not surprising maybe as Cameron later rejected the calls for release of the Dublin Monaghan bombing files.

In the Northern Assembly Peter Robinson, Democratic Unionist Party(DUP), and Martin McGuinness, Sinn Féin, are back as First Minister and Deputy First Minister. The results of the Assembly election in early May were DUP 38(+2), Sinn Féin 29(+1), SDLP 14(-2) , UUP 16(-2), 8(+1), Others 3.

20 YEAR STRATEGY ON IRISH LANGUAGE – KEY CHANGES ANNOUNCED

The 20 Year Strategy on the Irish Language had been published last December by the previous Fianna Fáil/Green government (ostensibly with a measure of all party support) but since the election of the new Fine Gael/Labour coalition nothing had been heard on plans to ratify it or indeed implement it. However in early June the Minister of State for the Gaeltacht, Dinny McGinley TD, speaking at a meeting of the Board of Údarás na Gaeltachta (Gaeltacht Authority) in Co. Donegal, announced several important changes to the 20 Year Strategy for Irish and significant changes in the government agencies to be charged with implementing the strategy.

He stated that the proposal to establish a new authority, Údarás na Gaeilge agus Gaeltachta, have been shelved by the new Fine Gael/Labour Government. This new authority was to have been one of the key players in the implementation of the 20 Year Irish language Strategy. Instead, Gaeltacht body Údarás na Gaeltachta will be responsible for the implementation of the Strategy within Gaeltacht areas (it aims to increase the number of speakers in the Gaeltacht by 25% by 2030).

Outside of the Gaeltacht areas, the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will oversee the Strategy in conjunction with Foras na Gaeilge with other Government departments such as the Department of Education expected to be have some input into the roll-out of the Strategy. McGinley said that there had been too much duplication when it came to the implementation of the strategy, which was no longer feasible given the pressures on the public finances.

The agency will retain all of its current functions including the enterprise function, which had been set for the chop following the publication of Colm McCarthy's An Bord Snip Nua Report. The Údarás will be expected to co-operate with Enterprise Ireland and the IDA on significant projects with high potential.

Changes were also announced to the make up of the Board of the Údarás. These changes will bring an end to the general elections for the Board of the Údarás. Local authorities will now nominate members to the board, which the Minister said would retain some element of democracy. It will now have between 10 and 12 members, as against 20 previously, some of which would be appointed by the minister. The changes will be outlined in a new Bill to be published in 2012. Critically the government has also announced plans to advertise for the appointment of a CEO to the Údarás. This position had been vacant for some time and



**Minister of State for the Gaeltacht,
Dinny McGinley TD**

the lack of action in filling it had been criticised.

It was also announced that a new statutory definition for Gaeltacht areas, based on linguistic rather than geographical criteria, would be provided. Statutory status will be given also to a new type of 'Gaeltacht network' area outside the existing statutory Gaeltacht areas. 'Gaeltacht Service Towns', which service Gaeltacht areas, will also be given statutory status.

Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge (Coordinating body for Irish Language organisations) broadly welcomed the Government decision to continue with the existing functions of Údarás na Gaeltachta, including its enterprise functions, and the decision to allow the appointment of a CEO to An tÚdarás. An Chomhdháil however recommended adequate provision be made, in terms of funding, to ensure An tÚdarás can suitably perform its enterprise functions. The announcements were also broadly welcomed by Guth na Gaeltachta (www.guthnag.com) the pressure group set up to oppose detrimental proposals on the Gaeltacht of Colm McCarthy's An Bord Snip Nua Report.

However Guth na Gaeltachta stated that the fact that there will be no elections in future to elect the board members of Údarás na Gaeltacht was a detrimental step from the point of view of democracy, transparency and accountability. They understood that there is a need to reduce costs because of the current economic climate but thought that other options could have been explored such as running the Údarás elections on the same day as the County Council elections or appointing a new board on an interim basis until more resources are available. They are against the proposal outlined by the Minister of State today that future board members be nominated by local County Councils in Gaeltacht areas. They believed that this could not only result in a strong possibility of

conflict of interest but also that these board members would not be nominated because of their Gaeltacht or Irish language expertise but on the basis of political patronage as is the case with other boards and committees.

The most vigorous critic of the proposals was previous Fianna Fáil Gaeltacht Minister Éamonn Ó Cuív. He condemned the decision not to establish a new Údarás na Gaeilge agus Gaeltachta saying that leaving the promotion of Irish outside the Gaeltacht to Foras na Gaeilge, a cross border body, would leave the State policies on Irish open to a 'veto' from Northern Ministers who would not (particularly unionists) be prepared to go as far in language policies. The Foras was not the appropriate agency in this case. He also criticised a formal connection between the Údarás, the IDA and Enterprise Ireland saying that the power relationship was not equal between them, the Údarás would suffer and it would be a case of 'death by a thousand cuts'.

Feis na nGael



Linda Nic leoid

Linda Nic leoid, Uist a Tuath sna hOileáin Thiar (from North Uist in the Outer Hebrides) singing in Gáidhlig at the Feis na nGael session in Club an Chonradh, Dublin at the end of May. Also participating were singer James Graham from Loch an Inbhir, Sutherland, fiddler Alasdair White from Leodhais (Lewis) and Larry Kinsella with Éamon Breathnach from Éire. From Thursday to Saturday they took part in a number of workshops and sessions along with others. In the Club they were joined also by Breton dancers from the Breizh-Éire group (www.breizheire.com). The series of events was organised by Feis na nGael (www.FeisNanGael.com) and funded by Colmcille (www.colmcille.net), the partnership programme between Foras na Gaeilge and Bord na Gaidhlig. Further events are planned for September and October.

WHAT FUTURE FOR IRISH LANGUAGE ORGANISATIONS

The future of many of Ireland's Irish language organisations is uncertain, as the current funding model will cease at the end of the year, with a new funding model to be implemented in January 2012. Now, in the fourth year of the review of core-funded organisations, the new funding model is still being developed by Foras na Gaeilge (FnaG). Since FnaG was first established in 1999, it has provided annual funding for organisations in the Irish language voluntary sector, funding which paid the running costs of the organisation, the services they provide and the projects they complete.

Presently, nineteen organisations are core-funded by FnaG, twelve of whom are located in the Republic, with seven organisations located in the North, with some organisations operating across the entire country. FnaG states the proposed restructuring sets out to provide the value for money, along with a more efficient approach to the promotion of the Irish language and the provision of Irish language services to the Irish speaking community. The new funding model consists of a portfolio of schemes, as follows: Advocacy and Research; Community Radio; Arts; Public Competence; Lifelong Education, Preschool Education; Educational Aids; Family Support; Youth; Educational Support. As a part of the new funding model, applicants would receive funding based on their implementation of projects under each scheme, which would require funding for the costs incurred for implementing particular initiatives rather than the current core-funding model.

The new funding model raises many questions as to the future of the organisations currently core-funded by FnaG, and whether they will be able to continue to provide their current services, or to employ fulltime staff if funding is only available on a scheme by scheme basis. There is no indication of how this funding approach is supposed to support the 20 Year Strategy for Irish or indeed if it is supportive of it at all. Another cause for concern is that the new model is based quite heavily on the Scottish National Plan for Gaelic, without much thought to the sociolinguistic differences between both languages.

SAOR ÉIRE SEMINAR

On the 7th of May last Republican Socialist party éirigi held a highly successful event in Dublin entitled Saor Éire. The one day event was held on a Saturday and consisted of a series of talks on various topics followed by brief discussions. The event was held to coincide with the anniversary of the execution at the hands of the British military of Scottish born Irish Republican Socialist, and one of signatories of the 1916 Proclamation, James Connolly.

The day began at 10 a.m. and was opened by éirigi General Secretary Breandán Mac Cionnaith who drew comparisons between the world as it was when Connolly lived and as it is today. Mac Cionnaith remarked that "Ireland remains divided by imperialism. The livelihoods of the vast majority of Irish people are controlled by undemocratic capitalist forces which stretch from this island to London, to Washington and Brussels. They are no different to those same undemocratic controlling forces which Connolly and others struggled against."

Afterwards the first of the talks began which had as its theme the giveaway of oil and gas reserves by the Dublin government to huge multi-nationals such as Shell. Joanne McDonald of éirigi described the staggering amount of the state's natural resources that had been given to Shell without any benefit to the Irish exchequer, while Maura Harrington of Shell to Sea described the ongoing campaign against the corporation in Rosspoint, Co. Mayo.

Next on the agenda was the question of whether Connolly was an idol or an ideologue for Republicans of the 20th century. Historian Aindrias Ó Cathasaigh, creator of the popular and well received television series detailing the lives of the seven signatories of the 1916 proclamation and aired on TG4 entitled *Seachtar na Cásca*, spoke first. He detailed Connolly's affect on Irish Republicanism in the years shortly following his death and into the 1920s and 30s, and remarked on the fact that due to Connolly's complete writings not becoming widely available until much later, his resonance with early attempts at building Republican Socialism such as the Republican Congress and Saor Éire were not that strong. Brian Kelly of Queen's University Belfast then gave an account on the place Connolly's teachings in the recent conflict in the North of Ireland. It seems, Kelly concluded, that the



Daithí Mac An Mháistir, éirigi, speaking on the Irish and global financial crisis.

conflict was primarily one driven by nationalism rather than class struggle and as such the Marxist ideas of Connolly were not to the fore in the 70s or 80s either, particularly after the Official IRA were outdone in terms of prominence in the northern Catholic community by the Provisional IRA.

Daithí Mac An Mháistir of éirigi, Unite Union regional organiser Brendan Ogle and Chilean trade unionist and Latin America Solidarity Centre activist Pepe Gutiérrez then discussed the present financial crisis in both the 26 county state and globally. Gutiérrez in particular gave an interesting account of the damage so-called austerity measures that had been imposed on the people of Central and South America during the 70s and 80s by the IMF had caused. He pointed towards an optimistic outcome for Ireland moving forward in the fight against similar measures if they were to learn the lessons of history and look not repeat the mistakes of countries like Chile and Argentina who took nearly three decades to shrug off the parasitic IMF.

The final talk saw éirigi Cathaoirleach Brian Leeson and Roger Cole of PANA discuss the modern day manifestations of imperialism and the critical role opposition to the visit by the British Queen to the 26 county state would play in opposing these. Following this, attendees of the conference walked the short journey to Arbour Hill cemetery where a ceremony was held to commemorate James Connolly that included a number of short speeches followed by a wreath being laid in honour of one of Ireland's greatest patriots.

Kerron Ó Luain



New iPhone App for Raidió Rí-Rá

The new and improved Raidió Rí-Rá application is available for free from www.rrr.ie/iphone/ and the Irish-language chartstation wants it to top the iTunes charts!

Thousands of people have downloaded Raidió Rí-Rá's iPhone application for free from iTunes since its launch. Traic Ó Braonáin, Chairperson of Raidió Rí-Rá said: "The Raidió Rí-Rá app has been in high demand since day one, whereby people can listen to all the hottest music from the charts being presented through Irish 24/7. Raidió Rí-Rá is the only station presenting music from the charts completely through Irish all year around, online."



Kernow



“ADHYSKANS – ny wra trohow sawya nevro”.



An baner o degys gans eseli Kesunyans Dyskadoryon Soth-West hag i ow keskerdhes dres an benncita yn unn grodhvolas a-dro dhe drohow spenans an governans. Yn medh an baner: “ADHYSKANS – ny wra trohow sawya nevro”.

Andy Woolley, Skrifennyas a'n Kesunyans Dyskadoryon Soth-West, a wrug keswel bellwolok yn fyw a-dryv an baner yn Plen an Senedh, hag yth esa meur a-dro dhodho

war'n bellwolok, warlinen hag yn paperyow-nowodhow.

Summary

A banner, translated by MAGA' gained high media coverage when members of South West National Union of Teachers marched against government spending cuts in London. Translated the banner reads: EDUCATION - cuts never heal.

THE GWETHNOC TARTAN COMPANY

Prop: Peter R Morton Nance

Cornish Tartan & Tartan Wear

Bespoke Tartan Wear

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Tartan Design

Cresen An Brthen Kernow –
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90 Fore Street, Redruth,
Kernow/Cornwall TR15 2BP

0044 (0)1209 213131 /
(0)8453303919

Email: peter@cornishtartans.com
Website: www.cornishtartans.com/

An gwari ma, neb a waynyas piwas Holyer an Gof rag an gwella gwari, a vydh performys yn Kernow ha wosa hemma yn Breten Veur rag tri mis. An dro a dhalleth orth Gwariva An Minack yn Kernow, hag y hwra mos ynwedh dhe nebes gwarivaow a vri kepar ha'n Gwariva Lowry yn Salford, ha Gwariva Pleasance yn Loundres. Hemm a vydh an kynsa prys rag lies a'n woslowysi dhe woslowes orth an yeth Kernewek yn gwari an par ma. Rann an gwari yw a-dro dhe Robert Walling, den neb a wrug 'An Howlsedhas' – lyver-termyn yn Kernewek a-dro dhe Gynsa Bresel an Norvys. Walling a gewsis gans Henry Jenner, hag yma Menyster Methodek, Joseph Hocking, ynno ynwedh.

An hwedhel ma a wra sywya tus dhyworth Porthpyran ow tehweles dhyworth an vresel gans sleyneth

nowyth a vordardha, ha'n gwari re dheuth ha bos klassek kevos.

Rag pella kedhlow, mirewgh orth www.bishbashboshproductions.co.uk.

Summary

Bish Bash Bosh Productions in collaboration with Iron Shoes, are touring Alan M. Kent's First World

War-themed drama 'Surfing Tommies' this summer. Based on the story of returning Perranporth men who learnt surfing whilst serving their country, this drama is a contemporary classic.

For more details, see www.bishbashboshproductions.co.uk.

Gwari Kernewek a wra tro genedhlek



Articles kindly supplied by MAGA – The Cornish Language Partnership Gwasva / Website: www.magakernow.org.uk

Plans laid out for huge St Piran's event in Redruth

Redruth is to hold another mammoth festival to celebrate St Piran's Day next year. The 2011 event, which took place on 5th March, attracted over 2000 people to market stalls, exhibitions, musical performances, steam engines and many other attractions. Organisers say that 2012 will be even bigger, and will take the undisputed title of "The Biggest St Piran's Celebration in Cornwall". Saturday 3rd March has been earmarked as the day to look forward to, and many of this year's attractions are expected to return alongside new additions

The organisers, which include Mike Chappell of the Celtic League, Redruth Rugby Club, Redruth Town Council, Redruth Chamber of Commerce and the newly formed Redruth Radio, say that festival-goers can also look forward to a procession, fireworks on the rugby field, fancy-dress, and many other activities, especially in the town centre. Redruth Rugby's fixture list for next season will not be confirmed by the Rugby Football Union until late May; if they are at home there will be some spectacular action (though this year's match will take some beating). If they are away the club will stage a special St Piran's exhibition match. The firewalk, which this year raised over £2000, is back on the cards for 2012 and organisers say they hope to see a long line of people queuing up to follow in the footsteps of blind 87 year old Bobby Bownas who impressed the crowds at this year's event. The possibility of extending family entertainment throughout the evening will be explored, alongside the successful live music events in pubs and bars across the town.

The event this year sparked international interest; one participant was even interviewed on Irish TV. It is thought that the huge celebrations might also have further influence, as the announcement to stage the second St Piran festival next year comes as Cornwall Council attempt to convince central government to make St Piran's Day a bank holiday. Alongside the Cornwall-wide St Piran's Pub Packs project, coordinated by Ben Read – also a working group member for Redruth's St Piran's Festival – the celebrations could give weight to the bank holiday proposal.

Town Development Manager, Lee Dunkley, said "We were overwhelmed by the community participation in the St Piran's Day festivities this year, which was the first such attempt in Redruth's recent history. The town is building on this, grounding the pride



and passion of 'Cornishness' in to the fabric of this historic and cultural town. The 2012 festival should prove to be even bigger and better, with even more input from the local community; this is why we are holding a public meeting (date to be confirmed, likely June) to invite residents to share their ideas and to become members of the working group."

Redruth Rugby's General Manager, Gerry Reilly, commented "We were delighted to be at the centre of this year's St Piran's Celebrations and we are eagerly anticipating being involved again next year. This year saw the entire Redruth Community come together along with many visitors to the Town. We hope that even more will swell the numbers next year and we look forward to welcoming them to the Recreation Ground."

George Saint, Secretary of Redruth & District Chamber of Commerce, added "The Redruth Chamber fully supports next year's 'St Piran's Festival', which brings people from far and wide into our historic town. This year we had visitors from far and wide; Penzance in the West and Dorset in the East, coming to enjoy not only the festivities, which were numerous, but also the friendly atmosphere of Redruth and the local traders. Next year will be bigger and better. So we as the supporters of local commerce all say 'bring it on'."

The Redruth St Piran's Festival 2012

is set to be held on Saturday 3rd March 2012 with a fully packed programme on the day. Join in with "The Biggest St Piran's Celebrations in Cornwall": Redruth Town Centre and Redruth Rugby Football Club.

Mayor of Redruth, Ian Thomas, who addressed crowds in Cornish and English at

the 2011 event, said "We had a fantastic St Piran's Festival 2011 with, literally thousands of people in the Town Centre and at the Rugby Ground – no one was more proud than I to be part of the day's celebrations. The local community and people from much further afield came along to support us – we had a contingent from Wales. Of course, this festival, as we had hoped, was the first of an annual celebration of St Piran linked very closely to the county-wide intentions of others".

Councillor Thomas added "2011 turned out to be an incredibly sound foundation to build 2012's festival on. We learnt a lot from our experience, but mainly there were two things that stick in my mind. Firstly, that there is a great desire, no, demand, to continue such celebrations - you simply wouldn't believe the number of people, near and far, who have asked us to 'keep up the good work'. Secondly, we witnessed true civic pride through the expressions of enjoyment and enthusiasm and we displayed a strong belief and spirit in our town. The challenge for all of us now is to make our next festival bigger and better, but one thing we can be sure of is that we expect more and more participants and visitors to come to Redruth 2012."

Mike Chappell of the Celtic League and one of the founder members of the celebration said "It is my pleasure to serve Redruth and indeed our little Country of Cornwall as Saint Piran and I hope to do the same next year. This celebration marks Cornwall's distinctiveness as a Celtic Nation and not a part of England."

For more information about The Redruth St Piran's Festival 2012 you can contact the Town Development Manager, Lee Dunkley, on 01209 210038 or tdm@redruth-tc.gov.uk.

Cornish Language Partnership awarded €3600,000 over 3 years

Kernewek once considered a “critically endangered” language has been thrown a lifeline by the Government with funding for a further three years. The ancient tongue had been declared extinct by The United Nations Educational and Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 2009 only to be brought back from the brink a year later.

Efforts in the county to breathe fresh life into the Celtic language, which was spoken widely until the 18th Century, prompted UNESCO to reclassify its status last year.

Andrew Stunell, Minister at the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), announced an extra £360,000 for the Cornish Language Partnership (MAGA) during a visit to Cornwall.

MAGA Manager Jenefer Lowe, said the announcement underlined “the unique place the language holds in Cornwall’s distinct culture”.

“We are grateful for the support of the DCLG and Cornwall Council - with ever increasing interest and demand from schools, businesses and the public, we look



Joan Symons

forward to a busy and productive three years.”

Kernewek, as Cornish is known, gained official recognition under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages in 2002. It shares about two thirds of its vocabulary with Welsh, and even more with Breton and is spoken by about 300 people fluently with thousands more able to hold a conversation. In

2008 a standard written form was agreed in an attempt to unify the orthographies and move forward the revival.

MAGA was set up in 2006 and brings together a range of voluntary organisations and statutory bodies from its office and team of dedicated staff. It has worked with schools, businesses and community groups, produced resources, overseen work on the language itself and promoted Cornish widely at home and through Europe.

Cornish language studies have been introduced in a number of schools with the first Cornish language crèche opened in 2010 at Cornwall College near Camborne. Recent MAGA projects include a translation service providing Cornish house names, wedding speeches and tattoos.

Joan Symons, Cornwall Council’s cabinet member and chairman of the Cornish Language Partnership, added: “We are delighted that the Government is continuing its support for the Cornish language. This funding will enable us to continue to provide the services we currently offer and undertake further projects and development.”

CHUCK McLAUGHLIN, R.I.P.



It was with deep sadness when we heard the news of the sudden death of Chuck McLaughlin, Age 59, who passed away suddenly on Sunday, June 12, 2011. He was a member of the Irish Freedom Committee Board and Chairman of the Albuquerque, New Mexico cumann.

Chuck was a tireless, compassionate, and outspoken advocate for Irish republican political prisoners and their families. One of his last acts was to organise a substantial donation drive for several families of republican prisoners. Chuck was deeply committed to the efforts to appeal for an International human rights delegation to visit Maghaberry jail, and he was to visit the jail himself later this month and meet with several of the prisoners there. Chuck diligently and regularly corresponded with many of the republican prisoners imprisoned at Maghaberry, Portlaoise, and in prisons in Lithuania and France; who no doubt will feel a great loss at the news of his passing.

Chuck’s every energy was spent on righting wrongs wherever he found them. His compassion knew no geographical boundaries; he was equally outraged over human rights and territorial abuses to all Celtic peoples, Native Americans, the Palestinian people, and displaced and occupied peoples all over the world.

Chuck McLaughlin was a larger-than-life presence whose tireless, endless energy was totally focused on the downtrodden, the wrongfully accused, the imprisoned, the occupied, and the abused.

Chuck and Judi attended the Celtic League AGM in Kernow in 2009, where he made many fiends. On behalf of his Celtic League friends I would like to extend our condolences to his wife Judi and family and to thank The Irish Freedom Committee for contacting us with the sad news. <http://www.irishfreedomcommittee.net/index.htm>

PB

CELTIC LEAGUE MEMBERS WIN RADIO BROADCASTING AWARD

Celtic League members, Michael Chappell and Tony Leamon, who produce and present the hugely popular One And All Radio show on Falmouth’s Source FM today won a local award for most innovative programming on the station.

Their show goes out every Monday morning between 9am and 11am on 96.1FM. They play Cornish and Celtic music, debate local issues and give Westminster politicians a hard time! Guests on the show have included local MPs, Councillors, musicians, filmmakers, and lecturers. The Cornish language features in the programme.

Thanks to the show going out live on the internet via the source website they have a truly global audience and the programme is the most listened to on the station. Listeners as far away as New Mexico and Australia have spoken live on the show. News items, poetry and music are regularly sent in from Celtic League members as well as listeners in Australia, South America, and all the Celtic nations in Britain.

When Tony Leamon accepted the award he stated that the show would be nothing without his “pard” Mike Chappell who was unable to attend due to massive family



Tony Leamon

commitments. Indeed, Mike has been offered work as a political interviewer by a media company.

According to one of the hundreds who did attend the opening ceremony of Source Fm’s new studio the quality of programming at the station rivals any of the larger commercial or national radio stations.

Website: www.thesourcefm.co.uk

Tony Leamon, Assistant General Secretary. (tel. mobile : 07858367843)



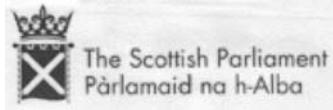
Mannin



Barriaght Phartee Ashoonagh Nalbin

Ec y toshiaght jeh Mee Boaldyn 2011, chossyn Partee Ashoonagh barriaght yindyssagh ayns ny reihyssyn son reiltys Nalbin. Son y chield cheayrt, hooar y partee tromlagh glen ec Holyrood, as eh geddyn tree feed soiag as nuy. Fer-toshee Phartee Ashoonagh Nalbin, Alex Salmond, t'eh credjal dy vel y varriaght shoh cur niart da dy reaghey refrane mychione seyrnsys Nalbin sy tra ry heet. Hed y Reeriaght Unnaneysst er scoltey, ta unnaneyseryn dobberan hannah. Agh va mee riau goaill yindyss nagh vel monney sleih toiggal dy jagh y Reeriaght shen er scoltey hannah, tra daag shey counteeyn as feed jeh Nerin, bunnys keead blein er dy henney. Jeeragh ny lurg ny reihyssyn ayns Nalbin, dooyrt ard-shirveishagh y Reeriaght Unnaneysst, David Cameron, dy jinnagh eh goaill noi refrane mychione neu-chrogheydys Nalbin dy lajer. Agh tammylt beg ny lurg shen, dooyrt Cameron nagh beagh eh prowal dy chur sthap da lheid y refrane. Agh dooyrt eh dy jinnagh eh caggey feer jeean dy chummal y Reeriaght Unnaneysst myr t'ee ec y tra t'ayn. Ec y tra t'ayn, eddyr 25% as 35% dy leih aasit ayns Nalbin, t'ad ayns foayr jeh seyrnsys. Cha jean Salmond prowal dy reaghey refrane mannagh vees eh shickyry dy liooar dy beagh tromlagh ayns foayr jeh seyrnsys.

S'cosoylagh dy jean Alex Salmond shirrey tooilley pooaraghyn son parlamaid Nalbin dy chelleeragh – dy gheddyn ny pooaraghyn shen as, ec y traa cheddin, dy yeeaghyn da pobble Nalbin nagh vel pooaraghyn dy liooar ec y pharlamaid shen nish. Nee eh shirrey tooilley seyrnsys argidoil son Nalbin – soie raayt Albinagh son keesh cho-corpagh, myr sampleyr. My vees Albinee goaill aggle roish red casley rish slane seyrnsys, oddagh Partee Ashoonagh Nalbin shirrey seyrnsys glen son cooishyn argidoil cheusthie jeh'n Reeriaght Unnaneysst, as smaght ec Nalbin er dy chooilley nhee, er lhimmey jeh cooishyn mooie as coadey (beggan gollrish Mannin!). Ta leighderyn ennagh as sleih ta noi seyrnsys Nalbin gra nagh vel y pooar ec Salmond refrane leighoil y reaghey. Agh ta Salmond gra dy vel eh gearree refrane cowreydagh (indicative referendum). Dy beagh tromlagh soilshaghey dy beagh ad son seyrnsys, eisht veagh smaght politickagh ec Salmond (cha nee smaght leighoil) dy varganey son seyrnsys.



Dy jinnagh Nalbin cheet dy ve seyr, yinnagh shen livrey Sostyn gys laueyn ny Thoreeyn son traa foddey. Ta'n Partee Obbraghys Goaldagh croghey trome dy liooar er olteynyn Obbraghys Albinagh ec Westminster ayns Lunnin. Ec y traa t'ayn, ta nane as daeed jeu shen ayn, cosoylit rish shey olteynyn ec Partee Ashoonagh Nalbin. Dy beagh Nalbin seyr, cha beagh olteynyn Obbraghys Albinagh erbee ec Westminster – parlamaid Hostyn eisht. Verragh shen vondeish dy liooar da ny Thoreeyn. Myr shen (as son resoonyr elley) ta'n Partee Obbraghys Goaldagh dy bollagh noi seyrnsys Nalbin. Tra hug Tony Blair as e chumraagyn ardwhaiyll Albinagh as Bretnagh er bun, smooinee ad dy by liooar shen. V'ad cho tootagh as nagh hoig ad dy beagh ny hAlbinee as ny Bretnee shirrey ny smoo as ny smoo. She cheer elley yn bolgan Lunninagh, as ny politickeyryn ta goit ayns shen, cha nel ad toiggal monney jeh'n teihll mooar cheumooie. Heill fir-toshee yn Phartee Obbraghys Goaldagh dy beagh ny h-Albinee jeant booiagh ec minniagh dy heyrnsys. As cha hoig ny fir-toshee shen dy row orroo cur geill mooar da ny reddyn va taghyrt ayns y cheer hootagh shen myhwoaie jeh Watford. Cha dug ad monney geill, as chaill ad ram soiagyn ayns ard-valjyn as baljyn Hostyn. Ec yn un cheayrt, ayns politickaght, haink Partee Ashoonagh Nalbin dy ve er cheu hoshtal yn Phartee Obbraghys Goaldagh. Tra hooar Tony Blair as e chaarjyn greim er yn Phartee Obbraghys Goaldagh, haink y partee shen dy ve casley rish partee Thoreeagh elley.

Cha nel eh shickyry noadyr dy vow Nalbin seyrnsys. As cre'n sorh dy heyrnsys ta shin loayrt mychione? Dy firrinagh, y seyrnsys smoo leaghar, shen seyrnsys veih sheer-vunargidys. Ta cooid vooar jeh'n teihll fo'n smaght jeh bunargidys, ayns y chummey jeh colughtyn moarey as banceyryn ta nyn roosteyryn. Seyrnsys veih sheer-vunargidys? Fodmayd dreamal. Erash ayns shoh wass, foddee ny h-Albinee jerkal rish tooilley seyrnsys ayns cooishyn argidoil as cooishyn cultooril. T'eh jeeaghyn dy vel ny h-Albinee smoo daaney ayns nyn aignaghyn na

v'ad. Ec y traa cheddin, ta foast scoltey eddyr y 'Cheer Ard' as y 'Cheer Injil'. Ta sleih dy liooar sy Cheer Injil foast coontey sleih yn Cheer Ard dy ve myr sleih dyn ymmyd. As cre mysh y scoltey crauee, y vollaght shen haink rish kyndagh rish eabbaghyn fir-toshee Hostyn dy chur ny Yernee fo chosh dy bollagh keeadyn dy vleeantyn er dy henney? Lhig dooin guee dy vod Nalbin geddyn rey rish y vollaght impiroilagh shoh.

Ny lurg cragh ny Jamysee, haink Sostyn dy ve croghey mooar dy liooar er sidooryn Albinagh dy gheddyn laue yn eaghtyr er noidyn Hostyn. Shimmey Albinagh ta goaill moyrn mooar jeh tradishoon caggoil Nalbin. As, mennick dy liooar, va'n/ta'n tradishoon shen shirveish reiltee Hostyn – shen yn agh ta impiraghtyn gobbraghey. Jean moyrn Albinee son nyn sidooryn milley yn raad dys seyrnsys Nalbin? As cre mysh y lught-thie reeoil Sostnagh/Goaldagh? Dy darragh Nalbin dy ve seyr, cre harragh er y Chrooin? Pobbلاغht Albinagh? Co-chrooin? Hannah, ta skeealyn er nyn gur magh dy vel Benrein Hostyn boirit dy jean y Reeriaght Unnaneysst brishey seose. Jean Albinee ennagh gra 'Ogh, y venrein voght! Cha nodmayd ee y hreigeill!' Feyshtyn anaasagh.

Ayns pabyr-naight Sostnagh er y gherriid, va art ayn bentyn da barriaght Phartee Ashoonagh Nalbin. Ard-linney yn art, va shen 'As shinyin coayl Nalbin, cha beagh faagit dooin agh y Sostnaghys s'beg lhien'. Gyn ve gaccan mychione y smooinaight 'coayl Nalbin' (!), y red anaasagh syn art shoh, shen dy row yn peiagh Sostnagh screue eh dobberan nagh vel ashoonaghys 'cooie' ec ny Sostnee. Va'n fer-screuee gaccan dy vel ashoonaghys Sostnagh goit ec sleih politickagh fashistagh as riftanyn bluckan-coshey – 'y Sostnaghys s'beg lhien'. Cre'n fa ta Sostnee cooyrtoil goaill aggle loayrt mychione Sostnaghys? Atreih, er lhiam pene dy nee ashoonaghys Sostnagh y slane job lot – y stoo cooyrtoil as y stoo neu-chooyrtoil. Va mee riau smooinaightyn dy row eh quaggh dy row (as dy vel) ymmodde sleih ayns cheer impiroilagh gra 'ashooneyryn' rish pobble ta currit fo chosh oc tra ta'n pobble shen shassoo dy dunnal son ny cairyssyn oc hene, as ec yn un traa cha nod y sleih impiroilagh gra 'ashooneyryn' roo hene! Keayrt dy row, va mee my oltey jeh'n Phartee Obbraghys Goaldagh. Tra va olteynyn Sostnagh gra dy row ashoonaghys Celtiagh ny red ommidjagh as agglagh, as va mish gra red gollrish 'She ashooneyryn Sostnagh shiuish', haink ad dy ve corree agglagh. Agh shegin dooin gobbaraghey ny cooishyn shoh dooin hene.

Summary

The wonderful SNP election victory in May raises many questions about the future of the UK – the nature of Scottish independence, the British royal family, the Scottish military tradition, etc. But it's a time for optimism in Scotland.

Brian Stowell

Manx Preschool Movement – A Success Story

In March I visited Mannin on a research trip to find out how the Manx language is taught and managed in the Moonjer Veggey (MV) early year's settings.

In 2008 I contacted MV for advice ahead of setting up a Cornish language preschool movement - Movyans Skolyow Meythrin (MSM) - and after returning to Kernow (Cornwall) in 2009 and setting up a Cornish language Saturday preschool (Skol Veythrin Karenza) the following year, my mind turned again to how I may learn from the MV experience.

Skol Veythrin Karenza has now been running for over a year and as the main preschool teacher at the school I felt as though I needed to find out if I was on the right track and being ambitious for the movement, how MSM could develop further. People often say that every language revival is unique and even though of course this is correct, I nevertheless believe that there are many lessons that we can learn from each other and this is no truer than in the case of the Celtic family of languages.

Two of the overarching aims of the Celtic League are to foster and promote cooperation between the Celtic countries and to help in the restoration of the Celtic languages and I feel that this particular research project meets these two aims nicely. Even before I left for Mannin I began 'cooperating' with my fellow League members by asking who I should best contact on the Island to tell me everything I needed to know and the name of Janice Quilliam was immediately raised by Patricia Bridson. Janice is the MV coordinator and not only was she a really lovely Manx woman in her own right, she was my trusted MV guide and mentor for the whole trip! Janice planned the whole week for me (even down to the unseasonably beautiful weather!) and took me around in her car to the different early years settings that MV runs and manages.

My research was particularly focused on Manx language early year's provision and even though I am aware that Bunscoill Ghaelgagh is also part of the MV movement and do a fantastic job, I was not particularly interested this time in primary education. This fact came as a surprise to some of the people I met on the Island, who had assumed that I had only come to visit Bunscoill, which included my cousin and her Manx husband, who even though they lived on Mannin and had three young children themselves, hadn't heard of any of the other MV schools.

MV runs and manages three nurseries and two playgroups on the Island. The nurseries are Ashley Hill, Peel Cloth Workers and Willaston and the playgroups are Ballasalla Playgroup and Braddan Playgroup. The MV

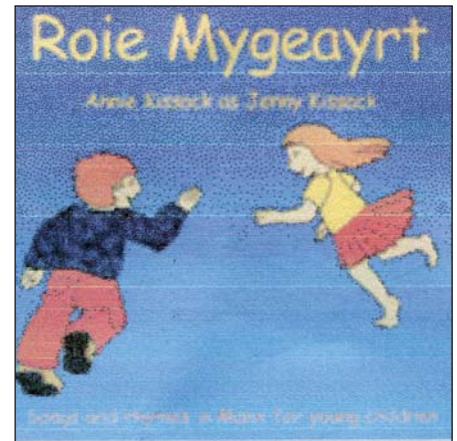
nurseries are linked to the English language primary schools and come under the same name as these schools, even though they are in theory run independently from them. The cost for the children to attend these nursery places is met by the Manx Department for Education and Children (DEC), but as a result MV needs to meet certain educational requirements, such as the teaching of the Early Year's Foundation Stage Curriculum and the Freedom to Flourish scheme. The MV playgroups however are run independently, with the exception of the health and safety guidelines as set out by the Manx Department of Social Care (DSC). Consequently MV is free to use its own curriculum and structure the day as it pleases.



Janice Quilliam

I have already explicitly mentioned that there is a divergence in the curricula used by the different types of setting, but that is one of only several differences. Other differences between the two different types of setting include the fact that the playgroups only run in the mornings and that parents/carers have to pay for the provision. Also, as already indicated, two different government departments preside over the different settings – the DEC and the DSC. The playgroups are inspected by the DSC for quality purposes, but the nurseries however are not inspected. Another difference that was pointed out to me was the difficulty that MV has in recruiting suitably qualified staff for the playgroups compared to the nurseries.

Despite the differences between the two types of setting, there are many more similarities and of course many instances of good practice. Both the playgroups and the nurseries for instance run for five days a week and demand is generally high, especially for the fully funded nursery school places. The nurseries and playgroups are also extremely well resourced, but the level of Manx language resources was low in all the settings. As I know from my experience in Kernow and from when I worked as a bilingual teacher with the British Council in the state of Spain, the cost - in terms of time and money - of producing language resources in a target language is high. This situation is no different in Mannin and



schools are reliant on the dedication and employment of staff and the odd interest free loan and grant from Manx organisations such as the Manx Heritage Trust.

Some of the difficulties that were being experienced by MV are being tackled, in no small part by the dedication and enthusiasm of staff members like Janice Quilliam. The lack of Manx speakers for instance is being addressed by MV by inviting Manx Language Officer, Adrain Cain, to teach Manx specifically to adults who are interested in working in the early years. The new classes are going to take place in Braddan Playgroup, which will also hopefully bring in more suitably qualified staff to work in the MV settings. The popular 'Roie Mygeayrt' Manx language children's songbook by Annie and Jenny Kissack, was being reproduced and the continued expansion of the movement was also being discussed with one idea discussed of possibly having a nursery attached to Bunscoill Ghaelgagh. Janice also said that in sharing early year's language practice and education planning with me during my visit to the Island, also allowed for her to reflect on a number of areas that she said she needed to "keep in mind".

The practice of sharing teaching experience is invaluable when it comes to language revitalisation and education planning specifically. My visit has given me added impetus and greater confidence in my own Cornish language teaching and planning. It has also provided me with a better idea of how we should further develop Skol Veythrin Karenza and MSM in the near future, which I will be sharing with parents and colleagues over the next few months. Since my return I have been lucky enough to secure more research funding to visit Cymru (Wales) for a week in June 2011, where I plan to visit the Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin (MYM) Welsh language preschools, in order to learn more about the Welsh experience. This will no doubt provide me with further knowledge and understanding of how Cornish language early years provision could be further enhanced.

Moonjer Veggey: <http://www.mv.chrislittler.co.uk/>

Rhisiart Tal-e-bot

Celtica

Galicia

The Celtic League continues to receive enquiries from people who ask why Galicia does not have a national branch within the organisation and why Galicia is not recognised as a Celtic nation by the League.

To these requests I normally refer the enquirer to the Frequently Asked Questions page on the Celtic League website (Celtic League, 2010), where the question 'Why isn't Galicia listed by the League as the seventh Celtic nation?' is answered clearly and concisely. Despite this I usually make the point that if the enquirer would like to send us information about what is happening in Galicia, we would be more than happy to consider this for publication on our Celtic League news site, as we do for the Basque Country occasionally. Unfortunately though, very little information has ever been sent to us as a result of these invites. There is little doubt though that many people in Galicia perceive themselves and their heritage to be Celtic.

In 1996 an organisation called 'Liga Celtiga Galaica' (League of Celtic Galicia or LCG) was formed with the intention of promoting Galicia as a Celtic nation. Unlike the Celtic League, the LCG focuses on the cultural and historical traditions of its Celtic past and has the motto "A people who forget their origins lose their identity; a people who lose their identity become dust." The LCG helps to organise an annual International Congress on Celtic Culture, which its President, Manoel "Mhor" Camba Gayoso, says aims to "unite people from Portugal, Spain, and the rest of Europe to learn more about our shared Celtic history." (Aviva, 2009). The third International Congress took place in the Galician city of Narón between 15th and 17th April.

In an open letter to the 'Celt countries' on the LCG website, Camba Gayoso writes:

"Galicia is a constant source of Celtic information that after many centuries sunk in dreams, in a fossil state, it begins today to be reality, to the thanks to investigations and studies on our specialized people's land. "...we want to strike up a friendship with you which will mean an interchange of all kind of things. And the base for this future relation can be the wish for peace, friendship and brotherhood among all the people who belong to the celtic culture." (Camba Gayoso, 2009)

Galicia may not be recognised as a Celtic nation under the linguistic criterion put forward by the League and other pan Celtic

organisations, but it would nevertheless be interesting for all concerned if channels of communication were opened up and maintained, as Camba Gayoso suggests in his open letter. I heard recently from a Galician nationalist politician for instance that there is a small group from the University in Santiago that is attempting to reconstruct the ancient Celtic language that was spoken in Galicia over a thousand years ago. Whether they are successful in their endeavour, we will have to wait and see, but an interesting project nevertheless.

I look forward to hearing more from our Galician friends about what is happening culturally (and politically too) in their beautiful country and I am sure my sentiment is shared among the League's other members.

Rhisiart Tal-e-bot

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Celtic League (2010) **Frequently Asked Questions** Available at:

<http://www.celticleague.net/faq/>

Manoel Camba Gayoso (2009)

Presentation to the Celt's countries

Available at:

<http://www.ligaceltigagalaica.org/?p=90>

Scottish Education Secretary makes historic Gaelic Euro speech

Educational Secretary Mike Russell made history by becoming the first person to address a European Council meeting in Gaelic.

Mr Russell made a short speech on youth issues in the language at the Education, Youth and Culture Council in Brussels. Interpretation was provided for Ministers and representatives from the other 26 member states.

The move comes after Gaelic was given co-official status as a language of the European Union and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the UK Permanent Representation to the EU (UK Rep) and the Scottish Government in October 2009.

"HUBBADULLYA"

In addition to broadcasting on Source FM in the form of the 'One & All' programme, Tony Leamon & Mike Chappell have now reached an agreement with the brand new Redruth Radio to broadcast on that station.

On line only at this stage but with live transmissions from the Carmanellis aerial due to commence in late July with coverage of Redruth, Portreath, Camborne and outlying areas (FM frequency to be announced), "Hubbadullya" (its a Cornish word - look it up !) will be live from Thursday 7th July, 2011 from 1000 to 1200. Making use of European funded state of the art facilities, situated within the renovated 'Elms' Centre in Green Lane, Redruth, the programme will broadcast Cornish and Celtic Music and have a different take on news reportage in the local press. Guests and making full use of the new outside recording and broadcast facilities, the programme will add to 'One & All' in its coverage of Cornish and Celtic issues and from the outset will be highly critical of the Westminster regime and seek to highlight matters Cornish and Celtic.

Guests from pro Cornish & Celtic Political Parties and Organisations are warmly welcomed on "Hubbadullya" and offered free to air publicity in this European funded project.

One and All will continue to be broadcast and expanded on Source FM and retransmitted on Redruth Radio.

On Friday 8th July, BBC Radio Cornwall are visiting Redruth radio to view the new facilities and to consider combined transmissions. Where Cornwall leads, it seems the dear old BBC follows.

<http://www.redruthradio.co.uk/>
<http://www.facebook.com/redruthradio>

Get out of Cornwall

"Natural England', 'English Heritage,' other English Quangos, Westminster politicians - be gone with the lot of you. We don't want you any more. Get out of Cornwall. An honest Cornish housewife struggling to support her family on a pittance does a better job. Clear off out of our Country all the way back to England."

Mike Chappell's comments on 'One & All' in mid-June. Less than 10 minutes later the phones went into melt down and Sarah Newton MWP offered to come live on air to speak.

Celtic Big-Bang e-Breizh Part 3

Will be published in 2012 when the book of the colloquium / L'INTERCELTISME will be produced by U.B.S (University of Breizh South), hopefully this year.

Scotland: Onwards to Independence

The modern struggle for independence

The Scottish Conservatives from 1965 were formally known as the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party. Labour was also pro-Union. So it was left to the Scottish National Party, formed in 1934 (and its' predecessor the National Party of Scotland, formed in 1929) to make the case for independence.

The SNP's first real, sustained success came in the late 1960's and early 70's. It won Hamilton in a '67 by-election, Govan in a '73 by-election and took one third of the vote in a '74 General Election. The emphasis, from the SNP's point of view, was on who would benefit from the "newly exploited oil riches of the North Sea."

Pressure for independence led to devolution concessions. But the 1979 referendum was loaded by Labour. The terms stipulated that 40% of the total electorate had to vote "Yes." But as Houston (2008) points out- few 20th century British Governments had been "elected by that many."

In the two decades that followed there was a massive reaction against the social and economic policies associated with Thatcher and Major. The handling of the Miners strike alienated Scotsmen. So too did the early introduction of the "community charge" or Poll Tax. There were also many high profile industrial closures. Steel at Gartcosh, carmaking at Linwood and aluminium at Invergordon all faced the axe. But "ethical, socially democratic ideals" had underlain Scottish society for generations. Scots began to rediscover their own civil society.

By the 1st of July 1999 the Scottish Parliament had resumed/re-opened after a gap of nearly 300 years. But Scotland is still not fully independent. The Scottish Government only makes and implements policy on certain devolved matters whilst -for instance- defence, foreign affairs and relations with the EU are "reserved matters" for Westminster alone.

The SNP meanwhile continues -with ever greater success- to espouse a "mature, reflective, constructive and broadly based civic nationalism." It recently won an overall majority at Holyrood. It now hopes to strengthen the Scotland Bill and plans, in due course, to hold a proper referendum on independence.

Further Reading: Rab Houston, SCOTLAND: A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION, Oxford (2008)

Alan Stewart

Membership and Subscriptions

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

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