• Scotland’s Biggest Taboo
• Election Results in Breizh
• S4C Campaigner Jailed Again!
• Solidariaeth i YES Scotland
• Challenge to EMS Treaty goes to European Court
• Why Cornish? Conference
• Concern over Manx Studies
• Celts in South America
Gaelic Original

7. ’N uair thig an geamhradh is am na dúbhlichad
Bidh sneadcha d’dhuthadh ri cùl nan geug,
’S gu domhain dhùmhaird dol thar na glùine,
’S ge maith an triubharsaich cha dean i feum,
Gun stocain dhubhballaith ’s a mhocas chiùidhach
’Bhios air a dunadh gu dùth le ëill;
B’e ’m faisam or duinn a cog a thein aigh
Mar chaidh a rùsgaidh dè ’n h-brùid an dé.

8. Mur bi mi éidich airson mo chomhthacha
Gu ’m faigh mi reòta mo shròb’s mo bheul;
Le gaoth a tuath a bhios neamhailtaidh fearadh
Gu ’m bi mo chluasa an cunnart geur,
Tha ’n reothadh tuath’-sach, cha seas an tuagh ris,
Gu ’m mill e chruaidh ged a bha i geur;
Mur toir mi blàthais dì gu ’m bris an stàllinn,
’S gun dol do ’n chèaradh da cha gheàrr i beum.

9. ’N uair thig an sàmhradh ’s a miosa cèlithean
Bidh teas na greine ’g am fhìagail fann;
Gu ’m cuir i spéndel ’s a h-uile hile gu creòil
g迭h duachan na feadh nam bùithean,
Gu ’m pàighgair nuill e le fùlar nu im.

10. Gur h-iomadh ceum anns am bi mi ’n déis
gu tir nan craobh anns nach ’eil an t-saorsainn
Airson nan tràillean ’n uair ’bhàth e’n camp’.
’S cho liutha plàigh ann ’s a bh’ air rìgh Pharaoh
Gach beathach gràineil a thogas ceann,
Cha ’n fhaigh mi àireamh dhuibh ann an dànachd
Cha ’n fhaic mi ’n saoghal ’s ann ’bhios mi dall;
’S a h-uile ball diom cho dubh a sealltainn,
Cur sgonn nan teintean air muin a chéile
’S mu ’n dean mi réiteach airson a’ chroinn:
Bidh m’ obair éigneach mu ’n toir mi feum aisd’
Mu ’n dean mi saibhir mo theadh-an-tir;

11. Gu h-iomadh caochadh ’tigh ’nn air an t-
saoghal ’s a bh’ a’ shàoil mi ’n uair bha mi thal;
Bu bheachd dhomh ’n uair sin mu ’n rinn mo
Slàidheas.
Gu ’m fàsainn usal ’n uair thiginn ann.
An car a fhùair mi cha b’ ann gu m’ bhuamachadh,
Tigh ’nn thar a’ chuish air a’ chruaidh bha mealt’
Gu tir nan craobh anns nach ’eil an t-saorsainn
Gun mhart gu chara ‘s mi dì déhach gann.

12. Gur hiodamh ceum anns am bi mi ’n dèirs
làimh
Mu ’n dean mi salbhar mo theachd-an-tir;
Bidh m’ obair éigneach mi ’n toir mi feum aisd’
’S mu ’n dean mi réiteach airson a’ chroinn:
Cuir sgonn nan teintean air muin a chéile
Gu ’n d’ laisach fèithean a bha nam dhruim,
’S a h-uile ball diom cho dubh a sealltainn,
Bidh mi ’gam shabhailtaidh ris an t-suip

13. Ge mòr an seanachas a bh’ aca ’na Albainn
Tha ’chuir mi a dearbhhadh nach robh e fiorm.
Na doilair gormha cha ’n faic mi faibh iad
Ged bh a haid ainmeil a bh’ ’s an tir.

14. Cha ’n thic mar m’ haghadh na thalaithe fèile
Ni oinnam fearadh ann an dobhth,
Na ’n ri ’m feum dhùinna a meag a cheile,
Tha ’n sluagh nam éign ’s a h-uile dòthigh,
Cha chualaidh thraidh iad leis an airbhithach
A reic na shealbhàicheas iad an còr;
Bidh fear nam fhachan is cromadh cinn air
’Ga chur do ’n phrìosan mur diol e’n stòr.

15. Mu ’n tìg an càisean a taigh na còrtach
Gu ’n teid an dúbhlichad aig a mhòd,
Tha ’n lagh a gòban o làimh na
Gu ’n teid a spùinnaidh ’s nach fùin e’n córr,
Bidh earradh sùbhlach air feadh na dùthcha
’G an ruth le cuntasailt air an tòir;
Gur mòr mi chòmar gu ’n tìg e ’m iomnanaidh,
Cha gheàrr a dìùlaidh ’s dibh dhubail oirn.

16. Cha ’n thag mi ìnnsie duibh anns an dàn so
Cha dean mi nóadar a chur air dògh
Gach fios a b’ aill leam ’thoir do na càirdean
’s an tir a dh’ fhàg mi ’rinne m’ arach òg.
Gach aon a leaghas e tuigbh reusan
’S na táguladh éirsdeachd do luchd a’ bhòid,
Na fàidhèin bhrèige a bhios ’gur teumadh,
Gun aca ’spéis dhibh ach déigh ’ur n-òir.

17. Ged bhithinn dichiolach ann an srìgròthadh
Gu ’n gabhainn miosa ris agus còr
Mun ’n cuirinn crìoch air na bheil air m’ inntinn
’S mu ’n tuggain duibhle e le câint mi bheil.
Tha mulad dmhùr a déigh mo lioadh
Bu ’n éigin stiùrdachd ann so ri m’ bhèo;
Air bh eaghaí tellinninn ’s ’a chòile gu bràon
Gun duine fhaighneachd ann seinn mi ceilb.

18. Cha b’ e sin m’ abhaist an tús mò làiteann
’S ann bhithinn râbhartach aig gach bàrd,
Bu cridheil suntach don cumann cùirtel
Gur rùth a’ rùin’ gun cùrraim ann.

19. ’N uair thug mi cùl mi ruibh bha mi ’gur r-n-romhainn
Gu ’n shìl mi stùilean gu dùth le deòir,
Air moch Diar-daoin a dol seach an caolais
’S a’ stomp fha’-aoachd ’s a’ chaoth òn chòirs.

20. ’Bhios air a dàinadh gu dlùth le éill
Gun stòcan dhùbhail’ ‘s a’ mhocais chlùdaich
’S ge maith an triubharsaich cha dean i feum,
Mar chaidh a rùsgaidh de ’n h-brùid an dé.

A’ Choille Ghruamach

Part 2

7.

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English Translation

7. When the winter comes and the time of
December
There will be snow [in] piles on the top of boughs
And deeply, doubly, going up to the knees
And no matter the quality of [your] trousers, they will not be of use,

Without double stockings and ragged mocassins
That has been our new fashion with the cost of skins
As they are peeled from the brutes of the south

8. If I am not knowledgeable with my dressing
My nose and my mouth would turn to ice
From the northern wind that is deadly and freezing
My ears will be in sharp danger.
The freezing is dreadful, the axe won’t stand it
[Cold] cruelly blasts it, although it was sharp
If I don’t keep warmth on it, the steel will break
[Then] without going to the tinker it wouldn’t strike a blow

9. When summer comes and the month of May
The heat of the sun will make us weak
It takes the spirit from all the creatures
That are feeling sorrowful in their dens.
The bestial bears begin to rise up
To go through the flock so that the loss is great
And the poisonous black snouted fly
Wounds me constantly with [the] point of his sword

10. It is his bite that does my face [this] harm
I can’t see the world, I am blind
So that my eyes fester with the power of its venom
The lap of its tongue is too venomous [and] penetrating.
I won’t [even] try to list for you in verse
Every foul beast that raises [its] head
There are as many plagues on me as there were on King Pharaoh
When he flooded their camp for the slaves.

11. Of the many changes coming to the world
I thought too little when I was across [the sea].
These were our thoughts then, before I made [the] move
Of [a life of] high fashion when I came here
[But] the lot I got was not to my advantage
Coming across the sea on voyage (it was deceptive)
To the land of trees but not of freedom
Without cows, without sheep and me with few clothes

12. Of the many steps that my hands [must] accomplish
Before I am able to make my livelihood
My work will be hard before I have what I need for it
And until I put together the plough.
Putting blocks in the fire, [one] on the other
Enflames the muscles which are in my back
And [with] every article of mine as black as [you] see
I compare myself to the wisp.

13. No matter how great their stories in Scotland
[My] case shows that [they] were not true
I won’t see the blue dollars, they’ve left
Although they were popular in this[is] land.
If a bargain shall be made, it won’t include money
Although some may be named in the price
That is tightly fastened with laces
That has been our new fashion with the cost of skins
As they are peeled from the brutes of the south

14. I won’t see a market or a fair day
Or a fortune [of livestock] driving in the droves
Or anything we can make use of all together.
The whole population is in our distress in every way
They are not an object of envy, those with the debts
Selling the titles to what they own
The man of debts and [his] bowed head
Is taken to the prison if he doesn’t pay the store
Here’s a question for you – is the British Royal Family pretending to be Scottish? You might have seen them, kilts a-swinging, photographed at Balmoral or the nearby Braemar Gathering, in a coach going down Edinburgh’s High Street, or being driven around in a black limousine somewhere else. You may have seen Princess Anne singing Flower of Scotland at Murrayfield, Prince Michael of Kent looking bewildered at the Mod, or Her Maj being invoked in some football stadium or another. If you watch the television, you may have seen Prince Charles wrapping his tonsils round the Gàidhlig, or cutting peat in the Hebrides. You probably know his son went to St Andrews University, his niece was married in Edinburgh and that the Royal Yacht is berthed in Leith.

And even if you have had none of those experiences, then you will definitely walked past plaques commemorating one of them opening something or other, seen their coat of arms on a building (and forgotten it) or seen the Royal whatever, even if it’s the collecting boxes for the RNLI (in the shape of a lifeboat) or the RNIB (in the shape of a guide dog). Even the great dissident gets a look in, because while Scotland never really experienced those Evita-esque paroxysms over the death of Diana, you can still buy “her” tartan, from various kitsch merchants in central Edinburgh. This is despite the fact she couldn’t stand Scotland, and preferred Alton Towers.

I think their basic problem is that they try and claim connections to a ridiculous number of places. The British Royals don’t just wear kilts, they have been photographed holding spears, South Sea garlands, and holding Zulu shields, on any number of their vigorous, expensive and somewhat clichéd international tours. According to the BBC, on recent royal tours of Quebec and the Republic of Ireland, only a “tiny minority” of people objected to their presence. Aye right... Window dressing does not make you grant you a nationality or background. Donning a grass skirt does not make you Polynesian, a few words in Cymraeg does not make you Welsh, wearing a yarmulke does not make you Jewish... wearing a kilt does not make you Scottish. It is not that simple. It is also incredibly patronising to these various peoples and backgrounds to assume one or two gestures somehow makes you part of their culture, anymore than eating a curry makes a person omniscient about South Asia. Don’t get me wrong here, I do have an interest in Māori art, Welsh language activism and Jewish literature, but to be any part of any of these cultures I would have to put in a lot of effort, gain a lot of experience, and be respectful. Not to mention living in or around them on a long term basis.

Since their claim is based mainly on ancestry, it is worth examining that ancestry. For almost anyone else, this might be considered racist, but it is their own criterion. The main connection to Scotland, on which their claim is based, is very weak. Apart from the fact that it relies on excluding about fifty other claimants, such as Duke Franz of Bavaria, mainly on the basis of religion, it is a line which left Scotland in 1603. That line (through numerous twists and turns, such as the Hanoverians and House of Orange) did not visit Scotland in a state capacity for nearly two centuries after that. This connection is an extremely weak and tenuous one. Elizabeth, and her children, has a much better claim to a Scottish background through Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon (“the Queen Mother”), a Scottish aristocrat. But despite her posturing, and being called “the Queen Mother” (a title created at her own request), Bowes-Lyon was not royal, and the Scottish throne does not come down through her.

The Scottish connections of the British Royal Family are just a tiny part of an incredibly diverse tapestry. To use post-modern jargon, they’ve got “hybridity” going on all over the place. It’s an open secret that their ancestry is probably more
German/Austrian than anything else, but they’ve also got significant links to Russia, Greece (Phillip), France (numerous), Holland (Orange) and beyond. There are even more exotic links – how many people are aware that the reigning monarch is a direct descendant of Muhammad?

Many notable people are distant relatives of the British royal family, including the likes of most American presidents, Oliver Cromwell, Robert the Bruce, Brian Boru and Oswald Mosley. Conspiracy theorists can say all they like about these connections, but they misunderstand the nature of heredity. Each of us may have only four grandparents, but we also have thirty two great-great-great-grandparents, and that number doubles every generation we go back. By the time one goes back a thousand years, we’re talking about ridiculous numbers of ancestors. Some of these will be the same people (in different lines), but it is still mind boggling. Because of this, almost every member of the human race has at least some blue blood, and they will also have peasant ancestry. And unless it’s written down, we aren’t to know about such factors as rape, adultery, fornication or even the swapping of babies in our ancestry. The Royals are no different, except that their ancestry is much better recorded than ours. Many Scots and Irish are descended from Somerled, or Niall of the Nine Hostages. In Asia, at least 30 million people are descended from Genghis Khan, and I can guarantee that there’s probably a good few living here as well. Elizabeth is one of the many millions of Europeans descended from Charlemagne, and through him, Attila the Hun.

What about popularity, or their frequent visits to Scotland? It’s true currently enjoy more support here than any other royal claimants, including Michael of Albany and Duke Franz. But most of them, including Charles, Elizabeth, Harry and William (since leaving university) do not live here full time. They can never have a normal social experience with people in Scotland either. At best, they have holiday homes here. Popularity is something incredibly different to measure, but it fluctuates. It seems at least some of the old royal obsessives have transferred their “interests” onto more glamorous celebrities. However, they have attempted to marry into glamour in more recent times, à la Monaco. Diana Spencer lent Prince Charles the charisma he lacked, and the attractive Kate Middleton was probably allowed to marry in on such a basis.

Regarding the English Queen’s State visit to Scotland or was it, as one observer commented, a travelling circus? One of her stops was in the town of Greenock in the administrative area of Inverclyde. Here a strange ritual took place; all Scottish flags were removed from any public buildings etc and replaced by a political emblem, the Union Jack, The Butcher’s Apron. The flag of a defunct empire, and which was probably, at one time, the most hated and feared flag throughout the world.

Its greatest infamy was when it flew above the first concentration camps in what was termed the Anglo / Boer War. Thousands of non-combatants, mostly women and children and their black farm hands and servants perished in those camps, later copied by the Nazis in World War II. Many evil Nazi War criminals were tried and executed, but the Anglo / Brits were never brought to trial for their war crimes. Why not you ask? The answer is simple; the Victors always write the history books, and when those War Criminals took over South Africa they quickly removed all those places of British Imperial Genocide. The flag of shame that flew above those camps of misery and deprivation was none other than the Union Jack.

One of the English generals whose brainchild those camps were was Lord Kitchener. Yes the same guy you see in the famous World War I poster pointing to say “Your Country Needs You”. Henceforth droves of brainwashed lads, many underage, went to die under that flag of shame, not for a cause but for a family argument between three full cousins and all grandchildren of the Concentration Monarch, Queen Victoria. What a shambles of history.

It should be admitted that the Union (I’m all right Jack) Flag of shame, was probably only once on what one could term, the right side in World War II, against Hitler’s Third Reich. However in all actions previous and since, its credibility has been in grave doubt and its very legality in strong contention. Each time it is re-designed you can clearly see that the English Cross gets larger and wider, whilst the blue of Scotland is relegated to the periphery. So much so that when a young soldier’s coffin returns from Afghanistan with the flag on top, you can clearly see the re-design. This is not a coincidence, and has to say the least, sinister implications. It says this may be a union but don’t forget whose boss!!!

In the Anglo / Brit invasion of 1746, The Scottish Saltire was also hauled down and the same union rag put up in its place at bayonet point, and therefore becoming an emblem of occupation. Let’s pray and trust that in 2014, the people of Scotland vote for Independence and reinstate the Scottish Flag and tell England at long last to mind its own business. Like the Swastika or the Hammer and Sickle, the Butcher’s Apron can be lowered and consigned to the historical dustbin of obsolete political emblems.

Referring to Scotland, his country, Robert Burns said:

“What are the boasted advantages of the union that can counterbalance the annihilation of her independence and even her very name.”

Next year I hope to lay a wreath of remembrance on the monument in Krugersdorp, South Africa to the victims of the British Concentration Camps, many whom were of Celtic origin, many Scots, Irish, Welsh, Cornish and Manx. They were also farmers defending their homes - after all Boer simply means Farmer.

Iain Ramsay
Scotland’s Biggest Taboo?
Part 1

“Although colonised by the English, Scotland has long refused to consider itself as anything other than a separate country, and it has bound itself to historical fact and legend alike in an effort to retain national identity.” - Encyclopaedia Britannica (1)

Colonisation, Colonialism, Colony, Colonial. The concept of Scotland as “colony” is one of the biggest taboos in Scottish politics and historiography. If you hear these words at all in a Scottish context, it’s nearly always to do with Scots overseas, or the profits Scots made in the British Empire, e.g. the book Scotland’s Empire. (2) But it’s not the overseas Empire I’m interested in here, it’s the Near Abroad. Can we call Scotland a colony?

Few Scots would accept the idea of Scotland as a colony. This is for two main reasons, firstly their pride – Scotland is supposed to be a country in a union, not a conquered one – and secondly the definition – Scotland’s not supposed to fit it. Even the politicians who are willing to discuss the exploitation of Scotland in the Union never use the word “colony”. It’s a taboo – supposedly colonialism happened out there, beyond Europe, it didn’t happen within it. Yet no respectable historian, or politician for that matter, would ever deny Russia, Turkey and Austria had sizeable empires in Europe during and after the 19th century.

These days, you won’t see “colonialism” used much in a contemporary context. Instead, diplomats, politicians and journalists the world over use euphemisms such as “overseas territory”, “province”, “dependency” or even “region” for colonies. Examples of textbook colonialism may be far less common than they were a century ago, but they do still exist – French Guiana, Guam, Tibet, and Tahiti all spring to mind. These are much more extreme examples of colonialism than what we have here. Oddly enough, the same diplomacy is not reserved for self-determination – major English language publications such as Time, National Geographic, or The Journal of International Affairs use pejoratives such as “separatist”, “breakaway”, “insurgent” or “rebel” for such movements, depending on the level of violence involved. Hegemony’s not in it.

At a passing glance, many of the trademarks of British colonial rule just aren’t there. Scotland has neither a lieutenant governor, nor a governor general. It does have representatives in Westminster, and Brussels, and it does have a devolved parliament. The British Royal Family claims Scottish roots. People from Scotland have become leading figures in British politics, the last three British prime ministers – Cameron, Blair and Brown – all have some kind of Scottish background. Scotland was more similar to England, than say, Jamaica, Canada, New Zealand or Hong Kong. Its indigenous people were white Christian Europeans, with a similar level of technology. Some of the population already spoke a Germanic language. This allowed Scots to assimilate in ways that Indians, Chinese, or Africans could not. Do these factors mean Scotland was/is not a colony?

Here are some of the traits of colonialism in brief -
* Exploitation of resources, particularly mineral, e.g. Australia (numerous), Zambia (copper); general economic exploitation, although it should be noted that many colonies do not make a profit for their colonisers, e.g. American Samoa, which was taken mainly because of the USA’s Pacific expansion, and as a refuelling/repair base for ships, not economic benefits.
* Absorption of that country’s élite or aristocracy, by force, assimilation or purchase e.g. Ireland, India etc mainly by private education.
* Denigration of the pre-existing local culture(s) and languages achieved by various means, most commonly the education system, and/or media. Promotion of the coloniser’s own culture and values as being superior.
* Large scale in-migration by the coloniser. This does not happen in all colonies, and is probably less apparent in Scotland, than say, Canada or Australia.
* Population transfer. The use of colonial populations to fight, work in and/or hold down a third territory, e.g. Scots in Quebec, Indians in Africa, the black slave trade in the Caribbean. Sometimes this is voluntary, sometimes completely forced.

Territorial or strategic importance e.g. Guam in relation to continental Asia or the Falklands in relation to the Antarctic and Cape Horn. Scotland’s territorial importance relates to the North Sea (and by extension the Baltic), and North Atlantic (and by extension the Arctic Ocean/Norwegian Sea). This was particularly important during the Cold War.

* The idea that the colony in question is actually being helped by the coloniser, and needs it to be there for its own good. Many people in the colonising nation actually believe this, and people in the colonised nation internalise this notion as well.

Within Scotland, we can see some fairly similar processes. Until recently – and this is changing – the Scottish aristocracy quite literally had an English accent. The Scotsmen on the make such as Lord Reith, and Robert Watson-Watt sometimes had Scottish accents, but watered down ones. The aristocracy would send its children to English public schools, like the English accents, but watered down ones. The aristocracy would send its children to English public schools, like the

The Cheviot, the Stag and the Black, Black Oil
Originally staged by the 7.84 Theatre Company, the play tells of the exploitation of the Scottish Highlands from 1746 until 1973, the suppression of the clans, the Clearances and the oil boom of the 70s

continued on page 23

Carn 5
Diwan e-KerneVeur

Ur strollad eus skol Plijidi a zo bet oc’h ober un droiad e Kerne-Veur e-kerzh miz Mae, eno o deus eskemmet enno kanauennouh ha gerioù brezhoneg ha gerioù kerneveureg gant bugale eus ar c’hentañ derez. E miz Ebrel, D. Veillon, kellennerzh e skolaj Diwan Plijidi dipietet bras dre m’a oa nullet un abadenn aozet ganti e-pad pelli ganti evit ar veaj da Gerne-Veur. Dre glask ha furchal war ar rouedad Deirdre he doa skol ur skol kerneveureg. Divizet o doa mont e darempred gant unan eus ar renerien evit gouzout a gellout ar refent eskemm gant ar skol-se. Laouenn oo R. Tal-E-Bot, rener ar skol, da zigemer ar vretened. Lavareta a reas da D. Veillon ne veze kelenet kerneveureg


Pell zo emañ D. Veillon, hag hi amerikanek, e vevañ hag o labourat e Breizh ! Deirdre Veillon, ur vaouezh eus america o deus bevet ha labouret e-Breizh ! Lavareta e deus : “Laouenn-tre eo ar vreizhiz o vont e darempred gant bugale vihan gouest da gomz ha da ganañ en hor yezh. Dre-se eo bet plijius ha dedenus ar veaj. Kelennerzh war ar saozneg

nemt d’ar sadorn. Youl o doa ar rener sikour Deirdre. Setu ma lakeas anezhi e darempred gant Penponds skol e ker Camborne. Ar skol-mañ a asantas digemer skoljidi Diwan d’ar pevar a viz Mae goude en Carn. Ar Prezidant en doa c’hoariet evit ar fin e oa er bloavezh 2000, gant sikour tom o c’halon gant o c’hendiri tramor. A-benn ar fin e oa er bloavezh 2000, gant sikour ar gevedregezh gentañ, e voo bet krouet da vad Breizh-Bro-Skos.

SUMMARY

Teenage students from Skolaj Plisidi went on a visit to Cornwall where they had the opportunity to meet with Cornish students attending Penponts School in Camborne. The two groups exchanged songs and learnt some basic language skills from each other. Thanks to Rhisiart Tal-e-Bot the students were able to discover how close the Breton and Cornish languages are.

Deirdre Veillon, Diwan teacher, with some of the Cornish and Breton students

E-kreiz ar bloavezhiennouñ 80, yanto, e voo bet loc’het un danvez kevredregezh etre Breizh ha Bro-Skos gant un nebeut Breizhiz tomm o c’halon gant o c’hendiri tramor. A-benn ar fin e oa er bloavezh 2000, gant sikour ar gevedregezh gentañ, e voo bet krouet da vad Breizh-Bro-Skos.

D’ar poente-s e oa ar gevedregezh nemetñ a oa he fal an darempredou etrekeltiek. Hiziv an deiz ar strollad a lid e 12 vloaz. N’e’o ket fall ar wiski, avat ! Ha petra a zo emañ ? Er c’hoñtrol-mik eus ar c’hevredregezhioù koshoc’h, Breizh-Bro-Skos, er penn-tremañ, ne oa ket he fal gevelliñ kériou an dir vro. Ha mat hor boa graet ? Forzh penaos ne oa ket kreiv ar goulenn gevelliñ. Marteze emañ re bell an eil bro diouzh ebe ? Pen n’e’mañ ket ar pennoù bras war an dachenn ? Marteze an doare da ober n’e’o ket diouzh ar c’hiz ken ?

Bepred e oa bet enskrivet ar pal-se war statuduñ ar gevedregezh. Kredapl-bras eo uheloc’h an eskemmoù etre Breizh ha Bro-Skos. Anv a oa da sikour ha da ziorren an darempredou sevadnen, ekonomikel ha melestradurel etre mignoned ha studierien an div vro geltiek.

Hag ar bilañ war-lerc’h 12 vloaz ? Ma’z eus bet kaoudou ez eus bet keneltioù ivez da denañ diwar an amzer-se. Adalek ar penn-kentañ, skipailh Breizh-Bro-Skos en deus hetet sevel ur rouedad tud e Bro-Skos. Ar re mañ, hag int a-youl-vat, hervez o dudou a zo gomz da sikour hor mignoned eus Breizhda vezañ heñchiet ha bodet digoust pe get. Tu zo ives lakaat sevel raktresioù e Bro-Skos. Evel-just, n’e’o ket att ak rak ar rollad diskriverien skos a cheñh a vloaz da vloaz. Daouz ma’z eo bihan niver an izili (Ha gwir eo ?), ur rouedad a seurt-se n’e’o ket bet savet evit poent e Breizh. Dipitus eo !

E-pad ar bloavezhe kentañ an traoù o doa bet kroget mat. Ar Prezidant en doa c’houchiet an dro da leitiou ha da bretioù Din-Edin. Hag a-benn ar fin : Un dek a liseidi bennak eus Breizh-Bro-Skos. Da c’houdé, evit ober ar memes tra e Breizh, tud Breizh-Bro-Skos o Benn Bro-Skos. Da c’houde, evit ober ar memes bet kroueñ ar dachenn ? Ma’z eo bihev niver an izili ? (Ha gwir eo ?), ur rouedad a c’halon gant o c’hendirvi tramor. A-benn Breizh ha Bro-Skos gant un nebeut Breizhiz bet loc’het un danvez kevredregezh etre Breizh ha Bro-Skos gant un nebeut Breizhiz tomm o c’halon gant o c’hendiri tramor. A-benn ar fin e oa er bloavezh 2000, gant sikour ar gevedregezh gentañ, e voo bet krouet da vad Breizh-Bro-Skos.

Deirdre Veillon, Diwan teacher, with some of the Cornish and Breton students

12 vloaz eo Breizh-Bro-Skos !
2008, eo bet kaset kentoc’h studierien war ar skiantou politikel eus Skol-Veur Roazhon daven Parlament Bro-Skos.

War-fed ar sevenadur, ar gevredigezh n’eo ket chomet da straniñ. Skipaill Breizh-Bro-Skos en deus sikouret sevel raktersou braz, e-giz :Salon Lo Etrebroadel Levriiou an Iniiz e Eusa e 2007 pa oa bet degemeret Bro-Skos war an ton bras, pe e Begerel e 2008 pa oa bet degemeret ar vro da-geñver Gouel al Levriiou. Evit an daou salon-sa ar gevredigezh he doa roet hec’h ailiou hag he baragezhioù. Lakaet he doa he rouedad e pleust evit degemeret ha bodañ ar skrivagnerien, an amodermeren, ar varzhed hag an arzourien e Breizh.

Iziiz zo o deus savet prezegennou ha diskoueradegou diwar-benn ar broaodou keltiek. Hor c’hervedigezh a zo lorc’h enni da veziañ lakaet war sav he raktersou dezh, pergerhet, e tiskouez Breizh e Bro-Skos: e da vezañ lakaet war sav he raktresoù dezhi, keltiek. Hor c’hervredigezh a zo lorc’h enni diskouezadegoù diwar-benn ar broadoù skrivagnerien, an arnodennerien, ar varzhed he barregezhioù. Lakaet he doa he rouedad e pleust evit degemeret ha bodañ ar skrivagnerien, an amodermeren, ar varzhed hag an arzourien e Breizh.

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One year ago the French political system favoured the two main parties: the Gaullist and Socialist Party who represented 20 to 30% of the votes. Without proportionality in the system, only deals between groups can help the smaller parties to gain some representation in the Congress. For more than a decade now the National Front (N.F. / F.N.) represented about 15% of the vote. On the other side, the Left Front (L.F. / F.G.) with the Communist Party (C.P. / P.C.) gained some 5 to 10%. The centre is split between two parties: The Gaullist party (UMP) integrated with the New Centre and most of the apparatchiks, which represented about 10%.

Against, the UMP and N. Sarkozy, the orange movement, MoDEM, led by F. Bayrou represented about 10%. In the previous presidential election he gained 18%! The others under 5%!!! From the start the Socialist Party (S.P.) looked to be in a better position than N. Sarkozy, who had to face the financial crisis of 2008. Otherwise, with two primaries on the left side (Green and S.P.) the French population participated, favouring the democratic processes. There’s some hope for the future, in a state where they are at the same time suspicious about the politicians lobbies and fond of politics.

During the primaries we had two surprises. On the green side the lawyer E. Joly beat N. Hulot a well-known TV producer (USHUAÎA). On the socialist side the sex scandals surrounding DSK in New York knocked out the main socialist contender as well as the second one as the G.S., M. Aubry had a political agreement with DSK!!! Once more we must give our thanks to the foreign journalists for their coverage regarding this matter. We notice that the French press, in Paris, did not mention anything about DSK nor F. Mitterand’s daughter Mazarine!!! Therefore, F. Hollande, the former General Secretary (Sec.Dem.) appeared to be the best candidate for the socialist voters.

The last round this year confirmed the two challengers: F. Hollande v. N. Sarkozy. N. Sarkozy started very late in order to profit from the meeting with the leaders of G8 or E.U., especially A. Merkel who is also in the PPE. Anyway, F. Hollande held onto the lead after the TV debate. Therefore, N. Sarkozy took his stance and leant to the right and focused on security and immigration, in order to gain the N.F. vote. As a consequence, F. Bayrou the leader of the centre (MoDEM= 9%) decided to vote for F. Hollande. At the end of the day F. Holland beat N. Sarkozy by 1.5%!!! After seventeen years of government under the Gaullists parties and allies, the Socialist-Party is now in control to bring in a new era.

First of all we must keep in mind the fact that the French political system is very centralised and bipartisan. This type of organisation, without any proportional system of voting, is not democratic because the minorities were excluded under the Gaullist leadership. In order to be able to carry out his programme President Hollande needed about 300 MPs on his side. Of course 300 MPs from the Socialist Party would be ideal as he would then not have to depend on the Greens or the communist Left Front. The situation is very special, with a long process starting at the beginning of the century, when the S.P. gained power in most of the regions and a bit later most of the cities. As a consequence, they were in control of the Senate since 2010. One should keep in mind that unlike the USA, the Senate is not the most important chamber. Anyway, they needed to finish the job and win the parliamentary election.

Following his election success President Hollande appointed J.M. Ayrault to form the new government. The new members include four from Breizh. First of all the Mayor of Naoned, J.M. Ayrault then the President, J.Y. LeDrian (Defence!), M. Lebranchu (Devolution), B. Hamon (Consumer Affairs) I will add a typical Breton family name: St. Ciôl Keltik. According to the constitution, the President is head of our most important goal: Devolution. We must remember that the budget of the Breton regions is about 1 billion Euros, like in Breizh. Nothing to do with what is going on in the other European regions!!! As agriculture is still the mainstay of the Breton economy we should be happy that St. LeFoll is in charge... but as the social challenges are huge we will have to wait and see. Charles Doux, of Groupe Doux, Europe’s largest producer of poultry, launched the first economic battle...

The Presidency started with F. Hollande’s stating his resolve that all should be normal, as a consequence the PM will have more powers than under N. Sarkozy. Like in USA, N. Sarkozy was the leader and the PMs and Government were under his control. In the “normal” French political system, the PM is supposed to protect the President if things go wrong so the President can change PMs to safeguard position until the next elections...
FRENCH ELECTIONS (Cont.)

from the right wing in the constituency of Brest-Rural. Therefore, on the first day in the Parliament, we could listen to two young MPs speaking Breton on television!!! Something new which gave some hope for the future actions in favour of the European Charter for Lesser Spoken Languages. Next door, in the constituency of Landerne, in rural Leon, J. LeGwen, a close friend of D. Villepin who is an old enemy of N. Sarkozy was beaten by an unknown socialist contender C. Guittet. Her supporter, Guy Mordret, businessman and member of K.E.B. (Klub an Embregerezhioù Breizh) is an active promoter of Breton culture.

At the end of the day, Breizh was more than ever on the left political side. The socialists and their friends managed to get more than 300 MPs. The Green and the Left Front will have a group at the Parliament with 15 MPs or more. The National Front, (18% in the Presidential elections) got only two MPs, thanks to the UMP party who did not accept any deal, as a whole. Anyway, it’s a democratic problem when a party which represent more than 15% of the voters cannot have elected members for more than 10 years!!! Proportionality should be put in the electoral system in the future. It will help the regionalist parties to exist and improve their goals.

The PM excluded the communists lobby of the U.F., but included two ministers from the Green Party, in his team. That is in line with the Social-Democracy that F. Hollande is trying to develop in France, decades after Germany or Great-Britain. On the political field, F. Hollande and his government are in line with the programme they promote.

The international meetings in EU or G20 are in line with the goals of the President. So, wait and see after the summer in order to have some real ideas of the French political realities... for Brittany.

Gi Keltik

SPORTS: Inter Celtic Links

Photo: From left, Kevin Owens, Pádraic Quinn (Velotec), Colin Morrissey and Jean Paul Mellouet (Tro Bro Leon President). After the Interceltic Water Games, initiated in Brittany in the last century, Pádraic Quinn (VELOTEC), started the Celtic Series in Brittany. Pádraic said, ‘Colin Morrissey and I came up with the idea of a Celtic Cycling Series with Jean, who wanted to promote the Tro Bro Leon, and after discussing the options, we agreed that working with other events was the best way to promote Celtic heritage and culture through sport. More than 300 cyclists took part in the Tro Bro Cyclo in mid-April. The following month, the Celtic Series jumped from Penn-Ar-Bed to Pembroke (Wales) and in late May Connnemara (Éire), with nearly 800 cyclists there. The last event took place in Scotland (Ayshire), in July. For all cyclists who love nature, roots and sports, the Celtic Series is definitively the challenge to take on!!!

Araith wag Miliband am Seisnigrwydd

Beirniadodd arweinydd Seneddol Plaid Cymru, Elfyn Llwyd AS, arraith yr arweinydd Llafur Ed Miliband am Seisnigrwydd ddechrau Mehefin, gan ei galw’n ddifeddwl a di-sylwedd. Dywedodd Mr Llwyd nad oedd yr arraith bolisi yn ateb cwestiynau sy’n delio gyda “Chwestiwn Gorllewin Lleudduniawn” (y “West Lothian Question”) na safle cyfansoddiadol y DU yn y dyfodol.

“Mae’r Blaid wedi mynnu erioed y byddai creu Senedd i Loegr yn helpu i ateb Cwestiwn Gorllewin Lleudduniawn a thacio diffyg democratiad y DU, ond mae’n debyg bod gwell gan y pleidiau unoliaethol edrych y ffordd arall ac anwybyddu’r sefyllfa na llunio cylluniau adelaidol.

“Mae’n anllig fwy Llafur mewn llanast pan fo materion cyfansoddiadol yn y cwestiwn. Gwelwyd hyn yn ddieuddodar pan oedd Llafur yn unig brif blaid i beidio ac chyllywyno tystiolaeth i ran gynsaf Comisiwn Síl sy’n edrych ar drefniadau cillyd Cymru.

“Dylai pobl o bob cornel o’r DU gael yr hawl i siapio eu dyfodol eu hunain a chael eu trin fel dinasyddion cillyd, ac mae’n rhaid bod pobl Lloegr yn gobeithio am rywbeth gwll na geiriau gwag arweinydd Llafur.”

Summary
Plaid Cymru’s leader in the Westminster parliament, Elfyn Llwyd MP (Dwyfor Meirionnydd), criticised Labour leader Ed Miliband’s speech in June on Englishness and the unity of the United Kingdom, dismissing it as vacuous and lacking substance.

Arweinydd y Blaid yn cynnig cefnogaeth a solidariaeth i YES Scotland

Mae Mr Llwyd, sydd a’i blaid wedi amlinellu cynlluniau trylwyr yn barod am newid cyfansoddiadol, yn mynnu y bydd Llafur yn parhau i lusgo y tu ôl i bawb arall yn y ddadl os na fydd gwleidyddion unoliaethol yn dechrau cynnig syniadau adeiladol.

“Adeg lansio ymgyrch YES Scotland am y refferendwm am annibyniaeth, ym mis Mai, dywedodd arweinydd Plaid Cymru Leanne Wood:

“Rwy’n cynnig cefnogaeth a solidariaeth Plaid Cymru i YES Scotland.

“Yn 2014, gofynnir i bobl yr Alban bleidleisio ar ddyfodol eu cenedd. Bydd y pleidiau gyfle i bobl yr Alban cymryd eu tynged i’w dwylo eu hunain.

“Mae’r ymgyrch Ie yn yr Alban yn ymgyrch llaw gwlad, yr ymgyrch gymunedol fwyaf y hanes yr Alban.

“Mae hwn yn ddw rio bywybod yr Alban, mae’n rhaid pob bobol Lloegr yr Alban am fi o blodau sy’n effeithio ar yr Alban. Dywedodd Elfyn Llwyd AS: “Hoffwn ymestyn pob cefnogaeth i'r ymgyrch Ie. Mae'r ymgyrch Ie yn yr Alban yn ymgyrch llaw gwlad, yr ymgyrch Gymunedol fwyaf yn hanes yr Alban. Mae hwn yn ddiwrnod pwysig i bobl yr Alban. Mae’n gychwyn cyfle eurysta i bobl luno eu gwlad - i roi'r holl benderfyniad sy'n effeithio ar yr Alban. Mae'r ymgyrch Ie i'w datblygu iawn ac i bwyso byw ddwylo eu hunain ac i ganfod ariannau byw ddwylo eu hunain.

“Gobeithiafel y bydd pob pobol yr Alban yn achub y bywyd eu hunain ac i gael eu trin fel dinasyddion cyfan. Tra bod hyn yn ffurfio credoau craidd Plaid Cymru a'r SNP, mae'n rhaid bod pobl yr Alban am fi o blodau sy’n effeithio ar yr Alban.

“Rwy’n hyderus y bydd yr ymgyrch yr Alban yr Alban ymhlith y bobol pobol yr Alban. Rwy’n gobeithio y bydd pob pobol yr Alban yn achub y bywyd eu hunain ac i gael eu trin fel dinasyddion cyfan.

“Adeg lansio ymgyrch YES Scotland i mark the referendum on independence, the leader of Plaid Cymru Leanne Wood said: “I offer Plaid Cymru’s support and solidarity to YES Scotland. It is the beginning of a golden opportunity for people to shape the future of their country - to put all decisions which affect Scotland in the hands of the people of Scotland. It is now time for the people of Scotland to create their own prosperity; to create jobs and growth on their terms and to find Scottish solutions to Scottish problems. Plaid Cymru very much hope that the people do the right thing and vote YES for Scotland in 2014.”

Summary
On the launch in May of the YES Scotland campaign for the referendum on independence, the leader of Plaid Cymru Leanne Wood said: “I offer Plaid Cymru’s support and solidarity to YES Scotland. It is the beginning of a golden opportunity for people to shape the future of their country - to put all decisions which affect Scotland in the hands of the people of Scotland. It is now time for the people of Scotland to create their own prosperity; to create jobs and growth on their terms and to find Scottish solutions to Scottish problems. Plaid Cymru very much hope that the people do the right thing and vote YES for Scotland in 2014.”
Welsh language campaigner, Jamie Bevan was sentenced to 35 days in prison by Merthyr Tydfil magistrates on the 13th August for refusing to pay a fine he was ordered to pay in English-only. Jamie had already served a seven day sentence over proposed cuts to S4C when he broke into the constituency office of Cardiff North MP, Jonathan Evans, and sprayed a slogan on the building’s wall. (See Carn 151)

Jamie Bevan from Merthyr used the case to protest against the monolingual correspondence he has received from the courts. Jamie is continuing his fight for justice for the Welsh language within the prison. He has lost many of his rights as a prisoner because he has not been willing to sign forms in English only. It is clear that Cardiff Prison, as a public institution, has no Welsh language provision, and several officers are scornful of the language.

In a statement Jamie told magistrates:

‘Over the last year and a half I have followed completely constitutional means in complaining about the patchy and fragmented Welsh language service from the courts and justice system. I have received apology after apology with assurances that the systems are being put in place to make sure that these so-called mistakes don’t happen again. But the monolingual letters continue, the phone service with a Welsh language option which leads nowhere, and the sneering and disrespect from the court’s staff, the police and the security staff.

‘According to your language scheme, there is no right for a Welsh person to get a hearing in front of a Welsh language court. It says that you will try to provide a Welsh language court, but if you can’t do that you will provide a translator.

‘Welsh speakers are under an enormous disadvantage when receiving a court hearing through the medium of a translator as a translator cannot enable the individual to communicate directly with the judge or magistrate. Actually, many lawyers advise their clients not to choose a Welsh language court case because they recognise that disadvantage. It’s a disgraceful situation in the Wales of today.

‘Your language schemes also set out an employment strategy based on the area’s language profile. So, employing Welsh language speakers to enable a court to provide a Welsh language service depends on the percentage of local speakers and the whim of the court manager. How can you justify the fact that a Welsh person from Merthyr gets a deficient service while someone else in another part of the country receives a better service? Welsh people in every part of Wales have a moral right to use Welsh to its fullest extent.

‘I have no intention of conforming. I have no intention of paying a single penny of the fine although I can do so easily financially. Do as you please with me. I accept any result gladly’.

In a joint statement of support Plaid Cymru President Jill Evans and Labour MP Susan Elan Jones said:

‘I am keen to declare my support for Jamie Bevan in his court case today in Merthyr following his actions in the campaign to save S4C. The fact that Jamie has twice received English language service in Merthyr gets a deficient service while someone else in another part of the country receives better service is a disgraceful situation in the Wales of today.

‘Although we have gained ground in terms of the Welsh language, organisations and bodies do not take the Welsh language seriously. We see it every day by having to ask repeatedly for correspondence or services in Welsh. If you want to support Jamie’s stance, don’t accept correspondence that is only available in English, rather, return it immediately.

‘Jamie has made a stand and follows the example of many others, including Eileen Beasley who died over the weekend. He continues to make a stand within the prison but it is only too much that Jamie can do from his cell so it is now time for those who have the power to stand up for Jamie and all Welsh prisoners in Wales.’

Cymdeithas yr Iaith has asked for letters of support to be sent to:

A9459CFBEVA, Carchar Caerdydd, HMP Caerdydd, 1 Ffordd Knox, CAERDYDD, CF24 OUG.
The article on ‘Team GB’ was timely. English aspirations to success – whether at war, sport, empire-building, culture – always involved the use (abuse) of the Celtic nations towards their own ends.

Team GB is just another attempt. But your article (in Carn 152) goes someway to endorse the English aspirations. It does so in two ways. The first and most obvious one is the article’s assumption that ‘Northern Ireland’ is a nation. It isn’t, never was and never will be and the political interference of English sporting bodies in the history of athletics (in the inclusive sense) in Ireland maybe needs to be recounted again for younger readers.

The other and more insidious (and more widespread) term of note is the constant iteration of the phrase ‘home nations’.

‘Home’ as the cliché has it, is where the heart is and I do not belong to any ‘home’ of the English Empire, nor should we accept any ‘euphemism’ of these concoctions designed to absorb/re-absorb into their spheres.

A nation can’t belong to another ‘home’. The Celtic League aspires to the national independence of the Celtic nations however much the inclusion of Breizh annoyed some of our ‘home’ nations’ orientated colleagues in the early days of the League.

We should have ‘home rules’ maybe excluding the use of phrases echoing or encouraging English pretentions, ignorance, aspirations or at least when using them (as needs must betimes) to indicate our disagreement with them.

P.Ó Snodaigh.

Welsh football players sparked further controversy when they refused to sing the English national anthem at the Olympic Games 2012. All five Welsh members had already caused an outcry when they initially declared their intent to be part of Team GB, in spite of the Welsh FA’s declaration that it would not be taking part in the Games on the grounds that participation would be a threat to the identity and independence of the different Welsh FA’s in the Celtic countries. Welsh football supporters had severely criticised the Welsh players who opted to play for Team GB, with some current and previous Welsh national football players also criticising the move. Former Welsh international footballer Neville Southall said about the involvement of Welsh players in Team GB: ‘What flag are they going to put up if they win? The Union Jack? It’s not my flag. My flag’s a dragon.’

Mr Edwards said he personally would like to see a policy programme that included, among other things, devolution of powers to the Welsh Government. Britain is in a period of political climate change and the country is ready for a new era of politics, and notes the UK may have been radically altered by 2015.

He said: ‘Scotland could have voted for independence in 2014 with the Westminster election dominated by the negotiations for the formation of new successor states’. In Wales, successive opinion polls indicate that the unionist parties are far behind the curve of Welsh public opinion.

Plaid Leader, Leanne Wood, speaking on Scottish independence claimed that, ‘One thing is for certain: the future direction of my country is yet again linked to the fortunes of Scotland. We are both at a hinge point in history. The Scottish referendum is an exciting opportunity, not to discard but to redefine the ever-evolving relationships between the nations of these islands …the question of independence was a bit of an anorak issue. But now it’s in the mainstream: it isn’t something that’s such an impossible dream. It’s now tangible for Wales: we’re in a position to be able to start talking about independence in a normalised way…I’m sensing that people are looking for an alternative solution. And I think that independence is potentially it.’
Is dócha muna dtaithníonn ceol na mbannaí píob leat nó go deimhin ceol na mbagadou biniou is bombarde nach é Féile Idircheilteach Lorient (FIL) an féile is fearr dúitse b'fhéidir mar ní féidir éalú ó ceol na bpiób ariamh. Bíonn sé le cloisteál de ló is d'oiche, banna ag mairseál ar an tsráid, banna ag cleachtadh sa bpáirc, piobairí ag seinm lasmuigh de pubanna nó ar an mbealach abhaile. Agus é sin ráite tá neart eile ann agus rogha iontach leathan de cineálacha éagsúla cheoil ag an bhféile seo sa mBriotáin atá anois agus Asturies páirteach sa bhféile i mbliain 2004 a cheangal leis an bhféile. Deir FIL 'diaspora ceitleach' iad, ach an fior sin?

Dár le cara Briotánach liom cé gur tháinig cuid den dream a d'imigh ó ríocht na Fraince go Meiriceá Thuaidh ó 1800 agus an bhéagadh an tsíre agus an bhféile san Fheilidh Fhionnta, a d'oibrigh de na mhóirshaoltacht Chúiseartais agus an Bhrótnaigh a rathú i bhFraince. Tá an féile lonnaithe i lár an bhaile. D'fhéadfadh FIL aon leathan de na mpleasaíothaí agus aon leathan de na pléimhleachtóirí a thabhairt do ló is d'oiche bóthar an bhFhraince.

Bhíogadh FIL le pléimhleachtóirí na ríochta na Fraince, agus bhíodh an féile lonnaithe i lár an bhaile. D'fhéadfadh FIL aon leathan de na mpleasaíothaí agus aon leathan de na pléimhleachtóirí a thabhairt do ló is d'oiche bóthar an bhFhraince. Tá an féile lonnaithe i lár an bhaile. D'fhéadfadh FIL aon leathan de na mpleasaíothaí agus aon leathan de na pléimhleachtóirí a thabhairt do ló is d'oiche bóthar an bhFhraince. Tá an féile lonnaithe i lár an bhaile. D'fhéadfadh FIL aon leathan de na mpleasaíothaí agus aon leathan de na pléimhleachtóirí a thabhairt do ló is d'oiche bóthar an bhFhraince.
is mó a bhi le cloisteál (roinnt amhráin i mBéarla), dreamanna ar nós na Hay Babies (a bhi go maith).

Mar a luas thuas bhionn clár an leathan ag an bhféile seo. Bíonn cáilíúrachtaí agus rince, táispeántaisí ealáiona (ealáion le Ruth O’Donnell as Éirinn), imeachtai eolais, imeachtai do pháiste, agus saothar iomlán de táispeántaisí rince agus cheoil agus ceolchoirmacha saor in aisce sa bhreis ar na cinneadh a bhíonn ar siúl sna pubaill. Bíonn comortaisí ann freisin, cinn náisiúnta na mBagadou Briotánacha (bhuaign Kemper arís in mbhliana), cinn domhanda agus don phíob. Bhi bannaí píob, bannaí rince, bannaí shéadhbh, bannaí ceoil agus bannaí ceolchoirmacha an bhfásar sa bhreis ar na cinneadh a bhíonn ar siúl sna pubaill.

Bhí tosaíocht mór ann as Éireann i láthair. Banna Píob De La Salle as Port Láirge, Banna Píob Marlacoo as Co. Ard Mhacha, Rinceoirí Cois Laoi (Kíely/Walsh le Ceoltóirí Cois Laoi) as Corcaigh, Cór Ghaith Dobhair, Craobh Rua as Béal Feirste agus na Bonny Men as BÁC, a bhí ag criochnú a chéad camcuarthóir na hEorpa.

Buffy Sainte-Marie

Buena Vista Social Club as Havanna, Cuba

Cór Ghaith Dobhair ag casadh sa ‘Pub Irlandais’

Cathal Ó Luain

Summary

An account of this year’s Lorient Interceltic Festival in Brittany. A festival which has expanded and pushed out the boundaries. An enormous range of musical talent is on show here, from the Celtic countries and outside them, if you have never been you must visit it.
Stresses and Strains in Coalition

Could there be an election on the way? It is far too early to call just yet but the stridency of the tabloid press (especially) in their baseless but nonetheless damaging ‘campaigns’ against Sinn Féin in particular, independents – one of whom has been wounded by an imploding property bubble, and Fianna Fáil, (which despite its best efforts under Micheál Martin will not easily recover the thrust half of the population reposed in them on and off for half of a century at least) might be an indicator. Fianna Fáil has restored Éamonn Ó Cuív (a Euro sceptic) to its front bench in an obvious move to cover the cracks. They have gained slightly in opinion polls probably at the expense of Fine Gael.

Of course the government majority is large even if the parties have lost three TDs (Dail Deputies) between them to the independent benches. But the presidential campaign while returning the well known Labour Party radical, Michael D Higgins, showed the shallowness of Fine Gael support when an independent (often described as a Fianna Fáil Lite!) and a politically unknown candidate ran Higgins close.

The coalition of Fine Gael and Labour is holding well enough considering, but Labour in particular shows signs of worry. Opinion polls indicate a steady decline in support for them (and an almost exact improvement in Sinn Féin figures). Two obvious results of this are their continuous sniping at Sinn Féin for apparently supporting policies in the Six Counties at odds with those they propose in the Republic(conveniently ignoring the fact that the policies concerned are imposed on the Six Counties by ).

Both Fine Gael (United Ireland in the subtitle despite no representation in the Six Counties) and Labour (which traditionally through the Trade Unions at least had a window to the north-east) are in themselves coalitions. Fine Gael was formed out a coming together of Cumann na nGaedheal (the ruling pro-Treaty party from 1922 to 1931) the fascist leaning Blue Shirts, a couple of Southern Unionists and the remnants of the Irish Parliamentary/ Home Rule Party Their apparent homogeneity may be actually more self interest with a middle-class and strong farming base.

Labour, one hundred years old, was firmly bedded in the Trade Union movement but there too were tensions throughout the years between craft and general unions, English based and Irish unions, Marxist and the more traditionalist (Larkin vs O’Brien say), which led in time to a split and both parties being formed. They in time amalgamated and other smaller groups appeared and were absorbed such as the 1913 Clubs, Jim Kenny’s socialists and so forth. Absorbed or aspired to leadership. Of such was the arrival of the Democratic Left (once The Workers’ Party, Sinn Féin / The Workers’ Party which came from a split in Sinn Féin originally). The latter group are very much to the fore in Labour now and include the Tánaiste (Éamonn Gilmore) as well as Pat Rabbitte, Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, for example.

There will be eight fewer TD’s after the next election and constituency boundaries have been re-drawn and the party most under pressure seems at this stage to be the Labour Party from murmurings on their backbenches, as deputies come under increasing pressure at local level, being blamed for the austerity measures and health cut backs being enacted by a Government which – in terms of popular support – continue to blame Fianna Fáil alone for the economic woes ( even if the history of the previous government supports such a position). From such murmurings one can detect early attempts to create an exit strategy.

It is a long time since the radicals of the sixties in boasted ‘the seventies will be socialist’. Politics change more than is apparent and while the history of the last administration will hardly leave Fianna Fáil peaking again in the near future nevertheless the new world beckons (if only the other new worlds did not attract so many of our youth!) and election politics will be a really absorbing contest again.

The English imposed a Proportional Representation voting system on us to try to avoid Sinn Féin landslides, but the Irish electorate has adopted it with sophistication unexpected by those who laid it cuckoo-like in the nest of Irish politics.

Pádraig Ó Néill.

Challenge to EMS Treaty goes to European Court

In the last issue of Carn we reported on the campaign against the Fiscal Treaty. Unfortunately fear ruled the day and as most people even outside Ireland will know the Yes side won, with a vote of 60.3% as against 39.7% voting No. It was Europe’s only referendum on the treaty and only five of the 43 Irish constituencies rejected it. The constituencies that voted No were Donegal North East, Donegal South West, Dublin North West, Dublin South Central and Dublin South West (all Dublin working class areas).

While the outcome was welcomed by the Government, Yes campaigners and EU institutions those who campaigned against urged the Government to at least use the result to improve the financing arrangements for Ireland. Now it seems if any improvement is to come it will be as a result of the deal agreed to save the Spanish banks but that could be some time away.

The other key issue was the High Court challenge initiated by Independent TD, for Donegal South West, Thomas Pringle, against the Government’s intention to ratify, without a referendum, the European Stability Mechanism Treaty (see Carn 152, p.15). His case appeared in the High Court in late June. He claimed the EMS treaty breached the Constitution and EU Treaties and that it could be used to force the state to make a capital contribution of some €11 Billion, an amount equal to one third of Government tax revenue last year, and with no limit to funding which might be sought in the future. This breach was exacerbated by the excessive discretion conferred on an international autonomous institution plus the fact it would act outside the control of the EU and the fact that decision would be taken by qualified majority voting. The governors and staff of the new institution would be immune from legal proceedings in the acts performed by them.

The High Court rejected Mr Pringle’s case saying that this conclusion was influenced by the view of the European Central Bank (ECB). However it found that he had raised legal issues which had to be determined by the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU). Mr Pringle appealed the High Court decision to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court, the Government and Mr Pringle later agreed on three issues to be referred to the CJEU and the CJEU was asked to address these issues under its accelerated procedures on the grounds that the matter was of exceptional urgency. The Supreme Court initially reserved judgement on Mr Pringle’s Constitutional argument and adjourned other matters pending the outcome of the referral.
16 Carn

The Courts of Justice of the European Union, Luxembourg

The negative effects that the Foras na Gaeilge (FnaG) proposed scheme of competitive project based funding would have instead of regular annual funding (based on action and strategic plans) for Irish language organisations was covered in Carn 150. Submissions were sought by FnaG as part of a consultation process and it was reported that over 150 were sent in, all opposing the proposed new scheme on very sound grounds.

At a meeting of the North–South Ministerial body in Gaith Dobhair at the end of June it was decided that the proposed scheme should be dropped. Earlier that month, having heard evidence from Irish language organisations, the Dáil Committee on Environment, Transport, Culture and the Gaeltacht issued a report recommending that regular funding be provided for Irish language bodies to support the important services they provide for the Irish language community and the promotion of Irish. A motion had also been passed in the Northern Local Assembly casting doubts on the proposed scheme.

FnaG said they would now examine other models and take into account the Dáil Committee report and recommendations of the Local Assembly Committee on Culture, Arts and Leisure as well as proposals made in the submissions. There was a need now for FnaG and the language organisations to cooperate on a partnership basis to determine the most efficient method to fund the Irish language voluntary sector. It seems the process has been kicked off with some workshops held in July under the direction of the Supreme Court. Speaking in mid August he stated: “I welcome the decision of the CJEU to use the accelerated procedure available to it to allow for an oral hearing in October. This shows that the Court recognises the urgency of this matter and its utmost importance to all EU states involved, including Ireland.” The following are the questions to the CJEU:

1. Is the ESM Treaty compatible with the EU Treaties?
2. Is the related decision by heads of government to amend the EU Treaties legally valid?
3. Can the ESM come into operation before the EU Treaty amendment comes into force (1st January 2013 at earliest)?

He continued “We have seen how there is a new legal challenge being taken in Germany on the ESM. This is another example of the continuing and growing scepticism of this fund across Europe and Ireland, and I look forward to the outcome of the oral hearing in Luxembourg.”

CONTROVERSIAL FUNDING SCHEME FOR IRISH LANGUAGE BODIES DUMPED

language planners from Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge of NUIG.

Ferdia Mac an Fhailigh, CEO, Foras na Gaeltige

It emerged later in the summer, as a result of a Dáil question from Sinn Féin TD and Gaeltacht spokesperson, Peadar Tóibín, that the process had cost FnaG just over €131,000 to date. This of course is only the tip of the iceberg as language organisations had to deal with these issues and undoubtedly a lot of time was wasted and diverted from productive activity.

Conradh na Gaeilge (Gaelic League) CEO, Julian de Spáin, said that it was a pity FnaG pursued the scheme having been advised of its flaws and unfortunate the money had not been spent in the community. He said however language organisations now appeared to be getting a better hearing from FnaG.

The Gaeltacht Bill 2012 is the first piece of legislation dealing specifically with the Irish language and the Gaeltacht since The Gaeltacht Industries Bill of 1957. But a very short period was allowed for debate in the Houses of the Oireachtas. The Gaeltacht Bill, 2012 also aimed to provide for amendments to the board and functions of Údarás na Gaeltachta. (Gaeltacht Authority) doing away with elected representatives from the Gaeltacht areas.

When the Gaeltacht Bill 2012 was published in June the Language Commissioner, Seán Ó Cuirreáin, said that the bill was flawed unless parallel changes were brought in to the Official Languages Act making it a statutory requirement for State bodies to carry out their business through Irish in the Gaeltacht. He also expressed concern about the response of Gaeltacht communities to the Bill and pointed out that the Bill put most of the onus for language planning on the Gaeltacht communities themselves while the State was failing to provide services in Irish in the Gaeltacht.

Conamara language activist, Donncha Ó hÉilí, drew attention to anomalous features of the Bill in an article in the Irish Times in July. Under the Bill the Gaeltacht status of areas can only be withdrawn if no organisation within them formulates an approved language plan. The many areas and towns long English speaking within the official Gaeltacht boundaries could keep their status allowing the continuance of payment of, for example, to teachers of allowances of €3,000 p.a in areas which are no more Irish speaking than Clondalkin, Dublin or Carlow. Pointing out that the Bill was the culmination of 12 years of research, consultation and prolonged procrastination by officialdom he called on the Government to withdraw the Bill and readraft a more honest and courageous Bill in the autumn.

The Courts of Justice of the European Union, Luxembourg

The following are the questions referred to it from his case in the CJEU announcement of October 23rd as the date for an oral hearing regarding the ESM. This is another example of the continuing and growing scepticism of this fund across Europe and Ireland, and I look forward to the outcome of the oral hearing in Luxembourg.”

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Conradh na Gaeilge and Guth na Gaeltachta (Voice of the Gaeltacht) stated they believed it would be better to hold off enacting The Gaeltacht Bill, 2012 until the Dáil resumes in September 2012, as opposed to rushing such significant legislation through the Oireachtas before the summer break. This would mean that the Irish speaking and Gaeltacht community would have the opportunity to discuss The Gaeltacht Bill, 2012 in depth, ensuring that the legislation would support the Irish language via a comprehensive statutory language planning process, a purpose of the Bill explicitly expressed in the

continued on page 23
Erskine of Marr


An Lyver Termyn Keltek

Yn mysk hembrenkysi an SHRA (Kowethas Rewl Teythyeck Albanek), Erskine a omgavas yn herwydh dew skoodlyor a vri a Wodhelek, an kaderyer J.S. Blackie ha’n islewydh Alexander MacKenzie. Prof. Blackie (1809-95) o skoler an klasseg neb a skoodhya ken an groftoryon (crofters) hag yth o dysker freth a Wodhelek. MacKenzie (1838-98) o perhennek ha pennskrifer a’n eth ha bos nerth gwiw dhe vos gwelys yn Kenedhlekter Hanham re argyas ynwedh “kynsa rann an ugensves kansbledhen bohes a veyn mildir a genedhlekter yn a genedhlekter albanek avel “deskrifys yn studhyans a vri HM Hanham (1920). An lyver termyn ma a veu selys rag may termyn y’n yowynkneth ena yn kaslu sowsnek. Y floholeth a veu selys rag argya an difresow.

Daswel Albanek

Tybiansow Marr a vedha avonsys der aray a lyvrow termyn a dhylli ev hag yn Sowsnek hag yn Godhelek. An moyha a vri a’n lyvrow termyn ma o Guth na Bliahdha yn tiwytheck (1904-1905) ha’n Daswel Albanek, yn Sowsnek (1914–1920). An lyvrow termyn ma a veu deskrifris yn studhyans a vri HM Hanham a genedhlekter albanek avel “dew a’n bohes a veyn mildir a genedhlekter yn kynsa rann an ugensves kansbledhen”. Hanham re argyas ynwedh “Kenedhlekter eth ha bos nerth gwiw dhe vos gweyls yn skiansec, hag avel neppth dibertyth a’n Parti Livrel gans dyllys a’n Daswel Albanek.”

An Daswel Albanek a veu selys rag may fe gweleawv Erskine moy hedhadow dhe’n poblas iesledirek, amkan may sewenis dre vras, redys a-lés der o gans an kledh albanek. An Daswel a vira orth pub govn an dhyllwyth gwelva albanek lan gyn hag y’n jevo gologva gwsalwseghek hag a’n kledh-barth. An lyver termyn a ri ynwedh arethva dhe’n tregh gorthvreselek a’n omsav lavur albanek hag ev a dhegi erthyglow skrifys gans James Maxton hag erel. Yn kompas efan, an rannelneth a’n Dhaswel a dhiskwedh an gwyans war-tu ha’n kledh a gryjyangs Erskine esa ow kressya. Kyn re bia ev pub prys gorthprehedennek ha gorthvreselek, ny via ev bykken socyelek hag ynh 1906 ev re dhenaghas socyelogoeth avel “kryjyangs preytherek”.

Kemynegoreth Keltek?

Ny gavas an Kesunyans Kenedhlek Albanek (SNL) dallet da awos y vos selys yn Loundres hag a spoena myr termyn y’n y gymru gledhynnyow ow tadhla hag oth argyas, an sylwa iwerdhonex a gans hag ynhansow. Yn rhyn o Erskine y honan antadow orth an tedhe ma, del welir a’yu dyskas “Kemynegoreth Keltek” hag a ventena bos kemynegoreth a neb ehen tebogeth a-berthek an Geltyon hag a allsa bos, yn lies kas, skrifys yn kynradh dhe nasennow ahel. An tybyans o mae selys yn gywel enorys ha romansekhes a’n system kordhek albanek. Gwelva aral nebes kilwelek synsys hag ynhansow, heb ehen ma kemmyn yn mysk kessyblon yn minorita a’n dalleth. Kemynegoreth Keltek?

An Istorior Hanham a’n henow “dyghtyans pur gemyskys y’n lyvrow istori. An Istorior Hanham a’n henow “anan a’n gedenholigyn an moyha abel ha lel dh’yu bennwynwys re beu askorays gans Alban bys dhe lemmyyn.” Ny yllir doutya bos Erskine den koynt gans kemmyn anasadow a gryjyangsow a omvyski yn sewen hag yn kettermyn Jacobegieth ha Leninieth. Moy anresadow yw kows Erskine a ugh ha diffransow ahele. Tybiansow yw dampnysyn y tien lemmyn. Byttegyns, re yw perthi kov nag o an Kesunyans Kenedhlek Albanek unikun y’u dhyllwyth dhe gansayts avel “Clydeside Rudh” y’u dyghtyans pur gemyskys y’n lyvrow.” An Istorior Hanham a’n henow “anan a’n gedenholigyn an moyha abel ha lel dh’yu bennwynwys re beu askorays gans Alban bys dhe lemmyyn.” Ny yllir doutya bos Erskine den koynt gans kemmyn anasadow a gryjyangsow a omvyski yn sewen hag yn kettermyn Jacobegieth ha Leninieth. Moy anresadow yw kows Erskine a ugh ha diffransow ahele. Tybiansow yw dampnysyn y tien lemmyn. Byttegyns, re yw perthi kov nag o an Kesunyans Kenedhlek Albanek unikun y’u dhyllwyth dhe gansayts avel “Clydeside Rudh” y’u dyghtyans pur gemyskys y’n lyvrow.”

Politegieth

Yn gortiwyth, res yw leverel rer schemegar Schoke ha’u gowliansow dyghtysan pur gemosys y’n lyvrow. An Istorior Hanham a’n henow “anan a’n gedenholigyn an moyha abel ha lel dh’yu bennwynwys re beu askorays gans Alban bys dhe lemmyyn.” Ny yllir doutya bos Erskine den koynt gans kemmyn anasadow a gryjyangsow a omvyski yn sewen hag yn kettermyn Jacobegieth ha Leninieth. Moy anresadow yw kows Erskine a ugh ha diffransow ahele. Tybiansow yw dampnysyn y tien lemmyn. Byttegyns, re yw perthi kov nag o an Kesunyans Kenedhlek Albanek unikun y’u dhyllwyth dhe gansayts avel “Clydeside Rudh” y’u dyghtyans pur gemyskys y’n lyvrow.”

NPS

Erbynn termyn fondya an National Party of Scotland, Erskine e ha bos figur le bosek ynPolitegieth kenedhlogel. An Kesunyans rer gordeswa y wreythyn yn Loundres ha mos ha bos kreffya an Alban, an arbennik awos delanwes Tom Gibson. Gibson re awwonnos boe edhomm a bolitegieth kenedhlogel a vos junys orth daldraow pub-dydhyeg hag mae ha bos meurgyes, hag ev a wre devnyd y’n Anserhek Albanek rag argya an difresow socyel hag erbysiehek an anserhogeth. Ha moy a gedenholigyow bennfrossow tennys dhe’n Kesunyans, an Geltegys y’n bagas a dhethe ha bos yn minorita ha’n messach kenedhlogel Godhelek o tanowhes. Hemm o a kas a-berth an Parti Kenedhlek Alban yn arbennik mayth esa Marr ha’u dyhsybylon yn minorita a’n dalleh.

Skrifennow Godhelek

Nys o skoodhyans a’gan gweleuveck katholik Jakobegieth strothys dhe eyrow, del

Carn 17
Student Launch of CD for Movyans Skolyow Meythrin

A CD and booklet of Cornish language songs for preschool children was launched recently by Cornwall College students. The CD and booklet were produced by the students as part of their foundation degree studies at the College. The students were provided with a £300 budget, which was awarded to Movyans Skolyow Meythrin by several organisations who had granted money to the organisation to make the language resource. It was agreed that the students would take a leading role in the production of the CD/booklet and proceeds from the sale of the resource would go to Movyans Skolyow Meythrin.

As part of the launch the students presented their project to an audience made up of the funders and other invited guests and the CD/booklet was made available for general sale at £5. Most of the 45 songs on the CD/booklet have been used at Skol Veythrin Karezna over the last two years, but several new songs were also included that were created by the students themselves, a number of whom are currently employed in local preschools on a part time basis.

Emilie Champliaud, the project manager and Director of Movyans Skolyow Meythrin said: “The students did a wonderful job at producing what will be a fantastic Cornish language resource to use within the early years level of education. We have a severe limit of the number of language resources of any kind at this level and I would like to thank all funders for supporting the project, especially Cornwall College who have been instrumental to the success of the project. It just shows what a small amount of money and bucketfuls of determination can achieve when people come together for the benefit of the community.”

All proceeds from the sale of the booklet will go to Movyans Skolyow Meythrin to pay for one of the volunteers at Skol Veythrin Karezna to gain a level 3 qualification in childcare and education. The funders of the project include Redruth Town Council, Gorsedh Kernow, Plymouth University, Cornwall College and a number of private donors.

The CD/booklet can be ordered for £5 plus postage and packing by contacting: emilie.champliaud@movyans-skolyow-meythrin.net or phoning 07787318666.

### Further Information

Additional information on Ruaraidh Erskine of Marr, and discussion of historian HM Hanham’s assessment of Marr in Scottish Nationalism (1969). Also Marr’s influence on Scottish writers in Gàidhlig, such as John MacCormick, who wrote the first full length novel in Gàidhlig, and Angus Henderson... and on writers in English and Lowland Scots such as Hugh MacDiarmid, RB Cunningham Graham, Neil Munro (of Para Handy fame), and Compton Mackenzie, whose Monarch of the Glen was bowdlerised by the BBC some years ago. It also mentions his diverse, and sometimes contradictory political influences, as well as his proposals for a language academy.

His life and activism make him a major link between the Scottish nationalism and Gaelic activism of the late 19th century, and that of the mid-20th. See also James Hunter’s The Gaelic Connection: The Highlands, Ireland and Nationalism, 1873-1922 (1975)
Following a successful campaign against the imposition of a tax on the Cornish pasty, the UK Government announced a reversal of its decision in May 2012. The plans to add a 20% VAT charge on hot pastry products would have had an adverse effect on the Cornish economy, because so many businesses in Cornwall are either directly or indirectly dependent on the production and/or sale of pasties. The campaign even attracted transatlantic support with a petition from Calumet in Michigan in the USA presented to the Mayor of Camborne.

One of the main events of the campaign was a rally in the town of Falmouth, where members of the Branch joined with 500 people in appalling weather to protest against the imposition of the tax.

“To return to the Cornish perspective, the feeling is that there is a lack of recognition of a strong sense of identity and of Cornishness. To mention another visual aid, when the last runner with the Olympic flame left Cornwall and set off across the Tamar Bridge, he held in his hands a Cornish flag that was sadly confiscated by the police who were running alongside. To many in Cornwall, such things send out a signal that English, Welsh or Scottish identity is fine, but we do not really want to know about Cornish identity.”

The Branch Secretary of the League, Matt Blewett, has written to the Devon and Cornwall Police Constabulary to make a formal Branch complaint. Former Branch Secretary, Mike Chappell, who was one of the members visited by police, has also made a complaint to police for harassment.

http://www.bigbrotherwatch.org.uk/

Don’t Jubilee’ve it!

Members of the Kernow Branch travelled to London to take part in a protest against the English Monarchy, during the English Queen’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations in London on 3rd June 2012. The protest, organised by anti monarchy campaign group Republic, was billed as the biggest republican protest in London in modern times and was held on the banks of the Thames near Tower Bridge. About 250 protesters gathered in the restricted area near the River, with about 1000 more protesters gathering outside on the road. Peter Tatchell, one of the speakers at the event said:

“… in a democracy no public office should be inherited…nor should we have Heads of State who inherit their positions by virtue of being born into one very rich, powerful, privileged aristocratic family. …in a democracy we should all have the right to choose our head of state…and if that Head of State does not perform their duties well, we should have a right to replace them. The principle is democratic choice and public accountability and that’s one thing that Monarchy does not give us”.

POLICE VISITS AHEAD OF OLYMPIC TORCH

Several members of the Celtic League were visited by the police ahead of the arrival of the Olympic Torch in May 2012. The motivation behind the police visits is not clear, but it was evidently meant to intimidate people and deter them from protesting against the procession of the Torch at any point of its Cornwall leg.

A Freedom of Information (FoI) request by London based ‘Big Brother Watch’ showed that there were eighteen pre Torch visits by the police in Cornwall. Police intimidation turned to thuggery soon after the torch landed in Cornwall, with one protester being thrown into a stone hedge and one of the Torch bearers having his Cornish flag ripped from him by another policeman.

During a debate on the ‘Pasty Tax’ on 23 May in the House of Commons, Dan Rogerson Member of Parliament for North Cornwall said:

Cornish Language Conference for Early Years

Movyans Skoloyw Meythin helped to organise a conference at Coleg Kernow/Cornwall College in May last on the topic of the Cornish language.

The idea and title of the conference ‘Why Cornish?’ was decided upon by Skol Veythrin Karenza parent volunteer, Rhiaiart Tal-e-bot, who worked with Coleg Kernow/Cornwall College and Maga to host what is hoped will be an annual event. The conference aimed to highlight the reasons why the Cornish language is spoken in Cornwall, how it is introduced in schools by Maga and what provision for learning the language is available at preschool level in comparison with the situation of early year’s language provision in Wales and the Isle of Man.

Workshops were organised in the afternoon, which involved learning Cornish, discussing language use at home with bilingual families, providing ideas for games and activities for teaching Cornish and demonstrating Cornish language resources.

Approximately 30 delegates took part in the event which included parents from local preschools, staff from Coleg Kernow and students. Certificates were provided to delegates for attendance at the conference in association with Maga.

Pasty Tax Reversal

Following a successful campaign against the imposition of a tax on the Cornish pasty, the UK Government announced a reversal of its decision in May 2012. The plans to add a 20% VAT charge on hot pastry products would have had an adverse effect on the Cornish economy, because so many businesses in Cornwall are either directly or indirectly dependent on the production and/or sale of pasties. The campaign even attracted transatlantic support with a petition from Calumet in Michigan in the USA presented to the Mayor of Camborne.

One of the main events of the campaign was a rally in the town of Falmouth, where members of the Branch joined with 500 people in appalling weather to protest against the imposition of the tax.

http://www.bigbrotherwatch.org.uk/

Eddyr y nuyoo cheead lurg Creest as y nah cheead yeg, sie Britanish va chengey yn sleih oosale os Sritaan. Aghy ny lurg shen, hug y sleih oosale as ny brastyllyn meanagh toshigait da loayrt Frangish, as haink Britaanish dy ve yn chengey v’rec sleih nag row money noorag ny argid oc – y skeel cadjin ayns ny chengaghy Celtaig. T’eh jeacaghyn nagh row ny reacagh Frangagh boiroit ec ny chengaghy ardjynagh sy steat Frangagh, ga dy row sleih eignit goaill ymmyd jeh Frangish son delal-reiltys. Agh, faggy dàjerry yn hough hoceead jeig, haink cahglaa mooar lesh y Ryllov Frangagh. Hug y rellyts ralvadydh pagasee er bun ren fer er Frangish dy ve foodey erskyn ny chengaghy ardjynagh golllrish Britaanish. Va (as ta) sleih pOfaar gra ‘patois’ rish gaagh chengey ardjynagh, eer roosyn va (as ta) ard-letryyyughs as cultoor oc. She ‘Seyrnys, Braaghys as Cormid’ va sleih-ghermy y Ryllov Frangagh – agh cha row shen bentyn da chengaghy ‘s-inshley’.


Sy vlein 1925, va’n earisloear lettyraght Gwllarm currit er bun ec Roparz Hemon. Va shen jeant ecehe ry-hoi troogall Britaanish gys y leval, jeh ard-chengaghyn eddyrashoonagh lorish cur magh lettyraght va mie as noa ayns Britaanish. Va Galler ayn risn nuy bleeney jeig. Sy vlein 1946, ghow Al Lianne ynnyd Galler mlyn ard-earishlioor lettyraght. Haink earishliooran Britaanish elley risn as ny veeggan as ny veeggan va lettyraght moor dy lioooar er ny croo ayns Britaanish. Ta parct d’ilmyr er nyn yanno ayns Britaanish, as ta bardyn, chengedyrean as fir-screeree u nobbyrgey ayns Britanish as er chosney goo mee eddyrashoonagh. Ny mast’oc ta Yann-Ber Kalloc’h, Roparz Hemon, Anjela Duval, Pèr-Jakaed Helias as Youenn Gwernig.


Chamman as scoilllyn Diwan, hie yn saase-ynsee Div Yezh (Daa Hengy) er croo ayns Britaanish as ta bardyn, chengedyrean as fir-screeree u nobbyrgey ayns Britaanish as er chosney goo mee eddyrashoonagh. Ny mast’oc ta Yann-Ber Kalloc’h, Roparz Hemon, Anjela Duval, Pèr-Jakaed Helias as Youenn Gwernig.
Peter Karran Loses Ministerial Job

News that the government in Mannin has voted to gamble a huge amount of tax payers’ money - £25,000,000 of reserves – by purchasing shares in Pinewood Studios (some reports say as much as £50m) has provoked gasps of public disbelief, following the devastating budget cuts in February.

Peter Karran (Minister for Education and Children) refused to subscribe to the Council of Ministers’ block vote and was immediately sacked by Chief Minister Alan Bell.

On Tynwald Day, 5th July, the former Minister Mr Karran, paid his usual visit to the Mec Vannin stall. Unfortunately for him he was greeted with less than a sympathetic response because of his decision to close pre-school nurseries when Minister for Education and Children. It so happened that four teachers were present. He remained adamant that the decision was the only one that he could have taken without cutting teaching jobs in statutory school sector, yet the saving was, by his own admission, a mere £700,000 in a department whose annual budget is over £95,000,000 and whose budget has been increased by £170,000 despite the hatchet job and pay freezes.

He was asked how many EU countries which have more difficult budgetary constraints than ours, could manage to continue with free teacher-led pre-school provision when ours were cut. He did not get an answer to that particular question. One teacher recited a list of what she considered a waste of Departmental money and she was invited to write to him to arrange a meeting to discuss this. Most teachers agree that the department is top heavy with advisers who do little to advance education. Despite a huge reduction in actual teaching staff, provision when ours were cut. We did not get an answer to that particular question. One teacher recited a list of what she considered a waste of Departmental money and she was invited to write to him to arrange a meeting to discuss this. Most teachers agree that the department is top heavy with advisers who do little to advance education. Despite a huge reduction in actual teaching staff, additional “advisory” staff have actually expanded.

A petition of grievance (an ancient right of the people of the Island) against the closure of preschools was presented to the annual Tynwald Court by Miss Amy Burns. She believes that since the Department was renamed The Department of Education and Children, it has abdicated from its responsibility to children.

Despite his less than warm reception at Mec Vannin’s stall, Mr Karran was congratulated for his refusal to vote with the Council of Ministers’ plan to gamble over two thirds of the £35million saved by the extreme budgetary cuts announced in February.

Mr Karran has since joined the Department of Home Affairs as part of a reshuffle carried out by the chief minister taking on responsibility for the Island’s drug and alcohol strategy.

C.J.K.

Concern over future for Manx studies

The Centre for Manx Studies faces an uncertain future due to government funding cuts. The director of the Centre Dr Harold Mytum said: ‘The University of Liverpool’s Centre for Manx Studies, founded in 1992, is the only higher education research centre on the island, based at the University Centre at the Nunnery, Douglas. Two-thirds of the centre’s core funding comes from the university and the rest from the Manx Government. However, this has been severely cut by the Department of Education and Children and the future for the centre is uncertain.’

Dr Mytum said: ‘If the Manx contribution is not set at a viable level, the university has made it clear that the academic and other staff will move back to Liverpool, and their efforts will not be concentrated on the Isle of Man. The centre’s research into the island’s archaeology, history, music, language, and culture would be under extreme threat, and assistance and advice to Manx National Heritage and government in areas including education, planning, tourism, and agriculture would be lost’.

Manx Studies director Dr Harold Mytum
Although Latin America is not as associated with the Celtic diaspora as traditional places like the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, there is a strong link that goes right back to the “discovery” of Latin America by the Spaniards and Portuguese.

The Iberian Peninsula always had a strong Celtic influence which has remained in the name of Galicia, a region in the north-western corner of Spain with its own devolved government. The Galician port of Vigo was the traditional departure point for hundreds of thousands of Spanish emigrants who set off to try their fortunes in Central and South America in the 19th and 20th centuries. Large numbers, if not the majority, were Galicians, including the father of Fidel Castro. In many parts of Latin America, “Spanish” immigrants were referred to simply as “Gallegos” i.e. Galicians. Northern Portugal also has strong cultural and linguistic links with Galicia and many Portuguese have Celtic ancestry.

Freedom Fighters

Three outstanding Celts played leading roles in South American history in the 19th century when the Spanish colonies and Brazil fought for independence.

Bernardo O’Higgins (1778-1842) was the son of an Irishman and the main hero of Chilean independence. He is known as The Liberator and there is not a town or village in Chile that does not have a street named after him. Another Celtic hero is a Scots aristocrat, Thomas Cochrane, Lord Dundonald, (1775-1860) who was made admiral of the Chilean navy and a Chilean citizen by O’Higgins. Cochrane was created the Marquis of Maranhão by the first independent Brazilian government. He is still a revered name in the country’s history despite the fact that he fell out with the new government over payment for his services and fled after taking (or stealing depending on your point of view) public funds and sacking ships in São Luiz harbour. Cochrane was also head of the Brazilian and Chilean navies and helped both countries (and Peru) throw off imperialist rule. Peter Campbell (1780-1832) known as “Pedro” was born in Ireland and served in the 71st Highland regiment. He was part of the British army which failed to occupy Buenos Aires in 1806. However, he stayed on in the region and became a right-hand man of the Uruguayan national hero, Artigas, who made him commander of the newly independent country’s navy. The lives of all these men were filled with adventure and excitement and they played leading roles in freeing other countries from tyranny.

Hard-working Immigrants

On a more peaceful note, Argentina, Uruguay and Chile attracted thousands of Scottish, Irish and Welsh immigrants in the 19th and 20th century who made a tremendous contribution to building their new homelands. The signs of their presence are visible today day in place names and surnames. For example, the first Argentinean president after the ending of military rule in 1983, Raul Foulkes Alfonsin, was of Scottish descent. A pipe band festival is held in Buenos Aires every year attended by dozens of bands from all over Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and further afield. One of the main educational institutions in Buenos Aires is the St Andrew’s Scots School. A recent Argentinean finance minister was called Ricardo Lopez Murphy. Che Guevara’s full name was Ernesto Lynch Guevara and there is a district in Buenos Aires called Villa Lynch. Argentina is reckoned to have the fifth-largest Irish diaspora community in the world. Buenos Aires was the site of the International Irish Diaspora Congress held in June 2011 90 years after the first such meeting was held there, highlighting the long contact between Ireland and Argentina.

While some of these immigrants arrived as individuals, others were part of organized groups and established settlements as part of the Argentinean government’s attempts to settle the country, particularly the vast southern stretch of Patagonia. The Welsh were the most politically-minded and left Wales for cultural rather than material reasons. They set up several settlements in Patagonia from 1865 onwards in their bid to establish a “little Wales beyond Wales” where they could speak their own language and be far from English influence. Places like Trelew, Gaimin and Trevelin and an estimated 50,000 Argentineans were founded by the Welsh and still maintain links with Wales. Communities of Scottish settlers were established in Buenos Aires province and many Scots shepherds also worked on huge farms called estancias in Argentina, Chile and the Falklands/Malvinas. It was on one of these estancias that the most famous Scots associated with Argentina, Robert Cunninghame Graham, began his love affair with the country. “Don Roberto”, as he was known, lived and wrote about life among the Argentinean cowboys, the gauchos, and was a founding member of the forerunner to today’s SNP. He died in Buenos Aires in 1936 Cornish miners were also present in Argentina and Chile and Scottish engineers and railway workers helped set up railways in Argentina and Brazil. A team called the Scottish Wanderers played in the São Paulo state league in the early 20th century. The father of Charles Miller, the man who introduced football to Brazil, was a railway engineer from Glasgow and Charles Miller was born in São Paulo. Brazil’s most famous poet of the 20th century, Carlos Drummond de Andrade, was also of Scottish descent.

John Fitzpatrick in São Paulo, Brazil

Note: You can contact the writer at johnfitz@terra.com.br
**Welcome for Irish Exam results but...**

56,000 students sat the Leaving Certificate this year there was an 11% increase in the number of students taking the higher level Irish paper. The Minister for Education and Skills Ruairi Quinn TD claimed that changes to the oral Irish examination were the main factor in the higher demand for the higher level paper. According to statistics issued by the State Examinations Commission, 42,965 students sat an Irish language paper in this year’s exams. Of them 15,937 took the higher level paper .17.4% of students received an A grade at higher level this year in comparison to 13.9% who received top marks last year. 22,875 students took the paper at ordinary level and 74.2% of these candidates achieved A, B or C grades.

The format for the new oral Irish examination was a joint exam for those sitting higher and ordinary level exams which is worth 40% of the overall mark. However many groups including Irish teachers have expressed concern that the subject is being overly simplified at Leaving Certificate level in a manner which is unchallenging for students attending Irish medium schools in Gaeltacht regions and in Gaelscoileanna and they have called for the introduction of a new subject to compensate for this, a call so far rejected. It should also be noted that 7,000 students got a derogation from taking Irish, and there was an increase of 35% from 2007 in numbers not studying the language at second level.

**Flawed Gaeltacht Bill continued from page 16**

memorandum. Both groups lobbied and submitted many amendments, through opposition TDs, to strengthen the proposed legislation.

Minister of State for Irish, Dinny McGinley, ignored all appeals. The Government refused to accept even one of the more than 150 amendments submitted and voted the Bill through in late July after Opposition TDs walked out of the Dáil in protest at that. Éamonn Mac Niallais, Guth na Gaeltachta, said ‘Every step of this process showed a lack of democracy and consultation with regard to the Bill, legislation which is supposed to be addressing the needs of Irish and the Gaeltacht but which totally ignores the opinions, proposals and amendments of that community.

**Meon Eile - Media Resource in Irish**

A new online media resource for Irish speakers – Meon Eile (meoneile.ie) – has been launched in Belfast. It aims to give browsers regular written news, sport, music and cultural features as well as videos in Irish. Meon Eile’s producer Sinéad Ingoldsby said they intended to produce high-quality material and “interesting stories on a user-friendly site” to cater for Irish speakers on the web. Raidió Ri-Rá (rr.ie), an Irish-language station which plays popular music for young people, also announced that they would begin to broadcast live on the Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) platform in Dublin and Waterford and in Cork and Limerick by the end of 2012 and nationally after that. As well as being online, Raidió Ri-Rá is available on iPhone, Nokia and Android phones through the TuneIn application.

**‘This is anything but Cornwall’ and their curious opinion polls**

The London based Northcliffe Media group, owners of the near fascist Daily Mail as well as the Western Morning News, the West Briton, the Cornishman and the Cornish Guardian newspapers amongst others, has run a series of curiously Anglo centric articles in their publications based in Cornwall and accompanied them with opinion polls.

The poll results must have caused a slight quiver to a few English stiff upper lips at Northcliffe!

One attached to an article about support in Cornwall for the England football team showed a remarkable 93% of respondents ‘didn’t know and didn’t care’ about football. Another article talking up St George’s Day was accompanied by a poll where 99% to 90% of respondents were against a bank holiday in Cornwall to mark the adopted English Saint. On the other hand, an ageing poll, strangely still open at time of writing, accompanied by an article regarding St. Piran’s Day celebrated on 5th March annually, showed 83% of in excess of 3,500 respondents in favour of a holiday to mark Cornwall’s National Saint.

Other polls showing a decided lack of interest in the Olympic Torch relay and then the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee were quickly removed from the newspapers’ combined website, ‘This is Cornwall’, which has been described by some observers as ‘This is anything but Cornwall’.

Jo Wood, the journalist writing the article expounding the benefits of St. George entitled her piece ‘The bank holiday conundrum - Should St. George’s Day be a holiday?’ Apparently in everyone else’s mind, the question is hardly a conundrum at all!

Mind you, Northcliffe who have a substantial media presence in Wales as well, describe that country as a ‘region’ so perhaps nothing should come as a surprise to readers of their rags!

Michael Chappell

**Scotland’s Biggest Taboo? continued from page 5**

Flemish and Norman merchants, and destroyed the Culdee church. This led to the confusion and annexation that Edward Longshanks attempted. However, I believe a section of the Lowland Scottish aristocracy never quite let go of the colonial mindset between the Declaration of Arbroath and the Union of the Crowns. Most notably this can be seen in their persecution of Gaelic language and culture, and an attempted plantation of Lewis by the so called “Gentleman Adventurers of Fife”. And because the colonial mindset perhaps never entirely disappeared, Scotland faced first the abolition of its crown, and then its parliament a century later. We still exist within the Union, and we have gained a parliament, but I think we still face a colonial mindset in our media, civil servants and business community. This is partly down to education, particularly the private schools.

With a few exceptions, I do not believe that this issue has ever received proper attention. Unionists (and many nationalists) would deny Scotland was ever colonised. The idea rarely gets serious attention. I have heard a few rants by nationalists, in which emotion seems to have gained the whip-hand over fact and reason... and also numerous rebuttals by unionists, along the lines of “Africa/Asia suffered from X, Y & Z, and Scotland didn’t, so therefore it was not colonised”.

While I do not think this matter can be fully discussed in Carn, for reasons of space etc, I hope that this article may inspire other people to study this question further. I also hope that readers will think about how much the colonial traits listed above do and don’t relate to Scotland. Some are certainly much more applicable than others. Are Scots in denial, or am I plain wrong?

Notes:

1 - The quote at the beginning was taken from “Scotland” (2009 Encyclopedia Britannica 2009 Ultimate Reference Suite. Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica). I include it because it is unusual to see such language used in a mainstream context.

2 - Genuine Scottish imperialism was actually a paper mouse, involving a tiny colony in Panama and Nova Scotia. When the Panama colony (Darién) failed after a few months, the Scottish economy imploded which led to the end of independence. There is also the matter of Orkney and Shetland, which has never been discussed (to my knowledge) in Carn.

Ray Bell

Carn 23
Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership subscription rates (including Carn) are:

- €24.00, Sterling £14.50, Europe (airmail) £20.00, Outside Europe £22.00, US$30.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank).

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

Material for the next issue of Carn should reach the Editor no later than 3rd October 2012. Articles sent for publication in Carn must relate to our aims. All materials copyright © Carn unless otherwise stated. The views expressed in Carn are not necessarily those of the editor or of the Celtic League.

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