

# COMANN

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 129

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COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE



## TEACASG TRE NA GÀIDHLIG

Abair gun robh sinn toilichte cluinntinn gun bidh faclan Gàidhlig ar na ceadan-siubhail no passports again nuair a thig ... ceann na bliadhna seo no a dh' aithgheor 2000. Direach *mar* a tha sinn a' dol thairis air Caulas na Frainge le bàta no le trèan taing don tuneil eadar Sasunn is an Fhraing chì sinn a h-uile cail sa chànan dùthchasach Fraingeis agus tha iad a' bruidhin na Fraingeis agus sa Phòlainn sa phòlais no Portagaileis ann an Portagail agus mar sin air adhart. Chan eil rioghachd feadh Roinn Corpa far a bheil daoine a Leagasy tre na Beurla idir.

Ach is docha gum bi ar cànan againn fhin, a' Ghàidhlig cho làidir ri cànan Eorpach sam bith fhathast. Sa chiad dol a-mach tha Pàrlamaid Albannach again a-ris an deidh faisg air tri ceud bliadhna agus tha Bile Gàidhlig d'am b'ainm "Gaelic Language (Scotland) Bill" a dol troimhe.

Sa chiad dol n-mach, tha am Bile seo ag amass air buidheann a stèidheachadh d'am b'ainm ... Bòrd na Gàidhlig [www.bord-na-gaidhlig.org.uk](http://www.bord-na-gaidhlig.org.uk) agus bithidh am Bòrd seo a' cur na Gàidhlig air adhart, ga comhairleachadh agus ga brosnachadh. Mar eisimpleir, bidh am Bòrd a' cur taic ris a h-uile buidheann Ghàidhlig le taic a dh'ionnsaigh deich mìle not. ma bhios iarrtas a' tighinn a-steach don Bhòrd ro 28 den Ghearran 2005. Taobh a-staigh na bliadhna feumaidh am Bòrd innleachd no plana a dhealbhadh agus ga chur gus no Ministearan Albannach (se sin ri ràdh ar Rìaqhantas Albannach).

Tha sia mìosan aca airson freagairt fhaighinn bhuapa. Ach, mur eil ughdarras ionadail toilichte le iarrtas a Bhòrd chan eil ach 28 làithean aca airson ath-agairt no appeal.

Ach de tha sin a'ciallachadh? Cothrum na Féinne air son na Gàidhlig? 'S docha gum bidh chan eil fois againn fhathast. Ach tha dà rud feumail a bhì teagasg a h-uile cuspair tre na Gàidhlig feadh Alba uile gu leir ...agus cluich sa Gàidhlig ro aois dol don sgoil.

Nuair a thig sinn a-staigh don t-saoghal seo; chan eil facal sam bith again. Uima sin tha a faumail gum bheil gach leanabh a' cluich sa Gàidhlig roimh dol don sgoil. Taing do Chomhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich (CNSA) 53 sraid na h-eaglais,

Inbhnis/Inverness B IV1 1DR... fon 01463-225 469 e-mail [derek@cnaa.org.uk](mailto:derek@cnaa.org.uk) tha cobhair is fiosrachadh ri fhaighinn a thaobh cluich sa Gàidhlig ro aois dol do sgoil, Bithidh an t-ughdar is ionadail no CNSA Loilichte fiosrachadh a thoirt mo dheidhinn sgoiltean far a bheil teagasg tre no Gàidhlig, mar' eisimpleir bun-sgoil Toll-cross ann an DunÉidean no bunsgoil is ard sgoil Gàidhlig ann an Glaschu agus bun sgoil Gàidhlig ann an Inbhnis.



*Bòrd na Gàidhlig –  
Working for the language.*

Fad iomadach ginealachan tha an cànan Sasunnach, a' Bheurla, a' bagairt ar cànan Albannach again fhin a' Ghàidhlig. Ach ro briseadh a-mach a' Chogaidh Ceud Bliadhna cadar Sasunn is an Fhraing sa bliadhna 1337, bha an, Fhraingis a' bagairt na Beurla Shasunnach *mar* a tha Beurla a'maoidh a' chànan Albannach againn fhin an diugh. Mar eisimpleir, sa bhliadhna 1332 dh'òrdaich Achd Phàrlamaid gum biodh an Fhraingis air a' teagasg gu gach leanabh feadh Sasunn. Tri bliadhna an deidh sin sa bhliadhna 1335 thàinig an t-òrdugh a-macg ann an Oxford nach robh comhradh ceadaichte mur eil e sa Laideann no san Fhraingis. An sin, cò thàinig "thairis air an Tomar a-steach do Shasunn" ach Iain Trevisa, à Cracadun, St Mellion, a' Chòrn a' dh'ionnsachadh ann an oilthigh Oxford. Sna làithean seo bhathar teagasg a' Bheurla Shasunnach air a teagasg tre na Beurla, fada nos fhèarr na tre an Fhraingis.

Ghabh cairdean na Beurla ris a sin agus bha a' chànan aca buadh-mhor. Dhearbh e gun robh e feumail Lheagasg tre na Beurla ma bhios tu air son a Beurla a shàbhaladh. Uime sin, feumaidh sinn croileagan stèidheach feadh Alba gu leir fo smachd. Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich far a bhiodh gagh loanabh feadh Alba a' cluich

tre na Gàidhlig gus an robh e no I a' dol don sgoil. An sin bhiodh a' huile teagasg tre na Gàidhlig air son gach pàiste ann an Alba- Mur eil sinn fhaighinn sin bidh am Bile Gàidhlig gun fheum.

Thuig Iain Trevisa gun robh e feumail sin a dhèanamh. Seo mar a sgrìobh e sa bhliadhna 1365, "...dh'atharraich Iain à Còrn, maighstir gramair, ionnsachadh is tuigsinn gramair sna sgoiltean o'n Fhraingis gu Beurla agus dh'ionnsaich Richard Pencrych an aon scòrsa theagaisg agus feadhainn eile à Pencrych; leis a sin, sa bhliadhna don Thjghearna Againn" 1385, an naodhamh bliadhna do'n Rìgh Richard an dèidh a'Cheannsachaidh anns a h-uile sgoil gràmair feadh Sasunn, tha na leanaban a trèigainn na Fraingis agus a'cleachdadh gràmair agus ag iannsachadh na Beurla Shaasunnach."

Chan eil rioghachd san Roinn Eorpa far a bheil teagasg tre Beurla ach tre a' chànan duthchasac .... mar Daineis anns an Danmarc, no Fineis ann am Fionlainn no Pòileis ann am Pòlainn agus mas sin air adhart.

Tha fios againn gum bheil Gàidhlig air TV is radio, sna pàipearan is leabhraichean is club nan Gàidheal is soidhnean agus soidhnean-rathaid (mar air an *Eilean Sgitheanach*), .... Ach chan eil iad deata-mach no feumail. Tha fios againn gum bheil cluich sa Ghàidhlig ro sgoil agus teagasg tre na Gàidhlig anns gach sgoil, feumail air son aiseirigh na cànan Albannach againn fhin.

## SUMMARY

*The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Bill has been a long time dragging itself through the Scottish Parliament. Now its contents are available one is left wondering how it will set patterns for the future. It begins with setting up Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the main duties are to advise and promote the language. The Bòrd then has to make a language plan which the Scottish Ministers (that is the Scottish Executive) have six months to consider. Local authorities, on the other hand, have 28 days to appeal against demands to which they cannot agree. Though the bill, on the face of it; may only be setting out the rights and the duties of Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Scottish Ministers (i.e. the Scottish Executive) and the local authorities as time goes on we may find it the best legislative structure to allow the revival of our language so that it can be used throughout Scotland in the same way that other languages throughout Europe, as is Polish to Poland or as Dutch to the Netherlands.*

**Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich  
Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig.**

# The Sky is Falling on our Heads –

*A Journey to the Bottom of the Celtic Fringe*

By Rob Penn

Published by Sceptre / Hodder & Stoughton. 2004, £14.99. ISBN 0-340827521.

It has to be said, this is one of the strangest books you will ever read about the *Celtic scene*. The title refers to the only thing the ancient Celts were supposed to be afraid of. It will by turn infuriate, educate, then have you in stitches.

Rob Penn achieves what many of us would love to do – that is, spend the greater part of the year visiting and fully participating in Pan – Celtic music and festivals.

His method of achieving this rather expensive feat is by using journalistic experience to make the whole undertaking *research* for the book he would write.

Make no mistake though; our Rob is no ordinary journalist. He was no more spectator, but took his task so seriously that he risked liver damage and collisions with walls, kerbs and flying fists by over indulging in the alcoholic beverages as much as the most enthusiastic festival goers.

It is all the more remarkable when he informs us that his year of festival going meant long absences from his pregnant partner! I must try that *researching a book* line sometime.

Rob's journey is a search for his identity and leads him and us to question the whole notion of being Celts and what exactly are our similarities and differences. His observations at times makes uncomfortable as he reveals aspects of our six nations characteristics that many would prefer to keep hidden.

Examples of this would be drinking to excess, punch-ups and boorish, insulting behaviour to people with English accents.

He is fair though and mentions the many positive aspects of Celtic society such as the friendliness, helpfulness of people, the great music and poetry etc.

Rob's method of being accepted into the Celtic festival scene is by using his alter ego – Ned Clague.

After a vision when climbing Cadair Idris in mid Cymru he decided he would become a poet under his assumed Manks name. Rob's search for his Celtic roots was due to him being half english, half Manks, but being unaware of his Celtic side having lived mainly in England.

Ned's many adventures at several festivals in all six Celtic countries see him gaining confidence to stand up before audiences to deliver his self penned Manks / English poems. To his own surprise, and the reader, this proves fairly successful, but there are some hilarious situations



where his cover could be blown at any time.

His year of festivals starts at the Beltane, May Day, festivities in Edinburgh and wind up back there at Samhain.

He first explores the Scottish Ghaidhealtachd of the Outer Hebrides and after finding out that *nothing* in the island's capitol of Storeornabhagh on the Sabbath, he surprisingly declines the invitation to a party in the wee small hours of Sunday morning!

In mid-summer he makes the long trip down to the Golowan Festival in Penzance, Kernow and soon realises that many of the people there are proud to be Celts and not English.

The history of each country is well researched and Ned describes the effect that sites such as Holy Walls and Standing Stones have on him.

From being sceptical about Pan-Celticism he becomes drawn in and even defends the notion forcefully to a non-Celtic Irish lass at a fleadh in Listowel! This book has to be read to be believed.

**Les Mac an Ultaigh.**

*Interested in Gaelic?  
Make it part of your  
future too...*

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# The MacRae Inquiry

## Background

Twenty years ago on the 6 April the Glasgow lawyer Willie MacRae was found unconscious in his car by the side of Loch Loyne in the Scottish Highlands. At first seemingly the unfortunate victim of a car crash it later transpired that MacRae had in fact been killed by a gunshot wound to the head. Just one of a series of strange events that set the backdrop to MacRae's last fateful journey.

Willie MacRae had been an active campaigner for Scottish independence since the 1940s and a 'thorn in the flesh' of the British State. At the time of his death, and for some years beforehand, MacRae had been heavily involved in various campaigns to prevent nuclear dumping in Scotland, including defeating Thatcher's plans for nuclear dumping at Mullwharchar.



The authorities have consistently refused to release any information about the case. Furthermore the results of the post-mortem investigation, and an alleged second internal police inquiry, have never been released. Had this 'accident' happened in England it would have been subject to a Fatal Accident Inquiry. However the Scottish establishment has simply brushed aside all such requests. For many this only raises more questions as to what they could possibly be trying to cover up.

## The MacRae Inquiry

The MacRae Inquiry has been formed to resurrect the campaign for an independent Public Inquiry into the circumstances surrounding MacRae's death. Twenty years is far too long to wait to get to truth.

Our plans for the immediate future include:

- \* A Public launch at Holyrood with a cross-party group of MSPs,
- \* Motions been laid down in Parliament concerning this matter
- \* Launch of an e-petition to the Parliament.

More information can be obtained from our website at <http://ceartas.port5.com/>



# Breizh



## Adsavidigezh ar C'herneveureg - 100 vloaz



*Henry and Katharine Lee Jenner in 1881*

Kant vloaz a zo, e voe embannet al levr *A handbook of the Cornish language*. Skrivet eo bet al levr gant Henry Jenner, un den brudet kenañ e sevenadur Kerne-Veur. Da lidañ al levr hag an den, eo bet embannet nevez zo: *Henry and Katharine Jenner: a celebration of Cornwall's culture, language and identity*, graet gant Derek R. Williams. Diskouez a ra al levr-mañ buhez Henry

Jenner hag e wreg, hag ivez an aergelc'h sevenadurel e Kerne-Veur har er broioù keltiek all d'an ampoent. Kavet e vez skeudennoù kozh a-walc'h, da skouer: ar C'hendalc'h Etrekeltiek e kêrbenn Bro-Skos e 1907, hag unan all kemeret e Breizh, marteze e Lezvenen e 1903.

Petra eo levezon ar yezh en deiz a hiziv? Da gentañ eo ret lavarout n'eo ket marv ar

yezh, evel ma klever alies. Bev eo, hag implijet muioc'h-muiañ er vuhez foran. Kentelioù noz a vez graet e pevar korn ar vro. Aozet e vez dibennoù-sizhun e-lec'h ma'z eo posubl, da skouer, klevout *rock* e kerneveureg. Ar gouarnamant breizh-veurat en deus sinet ar chartr europat oc'h anavezout ar yezh. Bremañ e ranker soñjal ouzh ur raktres evit amzer da zont ar yezh. Kudennoù a zo koulskoude: kudenn ar skritur (c'hwec'h doare-skrivañ disheñvel a vez kavet); kudenn politikerezh (perak ne vez ket roet da Gerne-Veur un tamm emrenerezh evel e Bro-Gembre hag e Bro-Skoz?) En amzer da zont, spi a zo da gaout un ofiser evit ar yezh, paeet gant ar gouarnamant.

Muioc'h-muiañ e weler kerne-veureg e anvioù tiez, bigi, stalioù, straedoù, kelaouennoù, filmoù; met nebeut tre er skingomz hag er skinwel. Hevlene eo bet embannet an Testamant Nevez e kerneveureg, troet war-eeun eus ar gresianeg. Meur a levrioù all a zo deuet er-maez. E miz-du, e Aberfal (Falmouth), en diskouezadeg filmoù, e vo gwelet un nebeut er yezh ar vro.

War-raok eo aet ar yezh er c'hant vloaz paseet. Spi a zo e vo kreñvoc'h c'hoazh abenn kant vloaz all.

### Summary

*This new book presents a number of essays by present day Cornish writers on Henry and Katherine Jenner, who were important figures in the revival of the Cornish language in the 20th century. See Kernow Section for further details.*

## UDB in elections in 2004

Regional elections were held took place March on the 21st and 28th of March 2004. For the first time they were really regional elections, with a regional constituency, in place of four departmental constituencies, though the seats were shared at the end on the basis of the *départements*. Of course, the regional constituency did not correspond to the historical Brittany, because the Liger-Atlantel/Loire-Atlantique *département*, around Naoned/Nantes, the former capital, was not included, being now in another region, a very artificial one.

The elections were based on lists. The UDB (Unvaniezh Demokratel Breizh, the Breton Democratic Union) were in alliance with the Green Party. Among the candidates there were 23 candidates presented by the UDB, 52 presented by the Greens, 11 were not members of any party, and six were members of smaller Breton or leftist groups in Brest area.

In the first vote, on the 21st of March, no list took an absolute majority of votes. The Greens-UDB list came fourth out of seven, with 9.7% of the votes. It was necessary,

according to the new law, to receive 10% of the votes to take part in the second ballot, and with more than 5% it was possible to join with another list. So a new alliance was established (the plan had been prepared in advance) with the list led by the Socialist Party (with candidates also of the Communist Party and of the Left Radicals, a smaller centre-left party), which had taken 34.48% of the votes at the first ballot. In the second ballot, the new alliance list took 58.66% of the votes and 57 seats.

The UDB won three seats. It is the first time that members of this Breton party were elected onto the Regional Council. Even if this Council have few powers and means, it is a historic step. A group has been created in the Regional Council by the three UDB councillors and by another one of the "Alternative Left". One of the UDB councillors, Christian Guyonvarc'h, spokesperson of the UDB, is now one of the vice-presidents of the Council, in charge of European and international affairs.

During the election campaign, the main ideas presented by the Greens-UDB list were

sustainable development, respecting the environment and mankind, and the respect of biological diversity, as well as cultural diversity and the opening of Brittany to the world.

The UDB was again in alliance with the Green Party in the European election campaign. These too were list elections. France was divided into eight big constituencies (one of them for the French overseas territories). Brittany was joined to two other regions in one very artificial constituency. In this 'West' constituency there were 10 seats out of the 78 seats for the French state. There were two UDB candidates on the list, though they had no chance of being elected. Only one of the Greens was elected. The UDB campaigned for a Europe of diversity, for a Europe of solidarity and justice, for a Europe of life, and for a Europe of democracy and peace, as are the aims of the European Free Alliance, of which the UDB is a member.

**Y. Jardin**

# First Parti Breton Summer School

The first Parti Breton Summer School took place in Gwidel, near An Oriant, on the 18th-19th September. One hundred people came to listen and exchange ideas with a dozen guest speakers.

During the two days various speakers underlined the necessity for Brittany to be quickly given devolved institutions with a tax system in order to play a role in Europe. The Parti Breton sees its own priorities as reinforcing the party itself, working on the local level, and building a programme for the future. The party's strategy is to build a Breton way of political thinking, opening Breton minds to Europe-wide action in the economic, social, and cultural fields.

Joan Vallvé, a former minister in Catalonia, spoke first. He said that the stateless nation of Catalunya is as large as



Belgium and smaller than Brittany. In Spain, the Basques and Galicians do have devolved powers in various fields like education, health, and roads. They teach the native language in schools. In Catalonia they are able to cope with Catalan and Spanish. He said 98% understand Catalan. A long way to go for our political leaders in Brittany.

The journalist Yannick Le Bourdonnec addressed the audience on Sunday afternoon. In his last book *Que veulent donc les bretons?* (What are the Breton people asking for?) he gave a good sum up of the economical, social, and political situation in Brittany. In my opinion it's a good mix of 'la Bretagne dans 20 ans' (Breizh in 20 years) from the sociologist Ronan Le Coadic, and books and figures coming out of Rennes university with Jean Ollivro.

At the end of the day, the Parti Breton can

look back positively on this very interesting weekend and first Summer School. This new party, born in 2003, might change politics in Brittany if they can keep going forward with young politicians involved in the economic, social and cultural fields.

Gi Keltik.

## Call for more Breton Language Teachers

### AGM 2004

**Motion 2:** "This AGM calls on the French government to employ more Breton language teachers because there is more and more demand."

### Background

In 2002, the higher state court made it clear that French was the 'state language', therefore Diwan's schools could not be included in the state school system (Education Nationale). This made most parents and Breton people understand what a Jacobin republican state was about. Since 2002, the EN had told the parents that they were ready to train students in Breton courses in order to respond to the growing number of children in the bilingual schools, but they have not kept to their promise. In so far as they work for the state, it's not easy for Breton teachers to go on strike for Breton courses.

In secondary schools (lycées) teachers are not allowed any more to teach Breton if they are not enough children (at least six) in their classroom. Instead, the academy of Brittany bought a video conference display in order to teach Breton in five different schools. The socialist leaders of the Council of Brittany are refusing to give a single euro to this bad deal. At the end of the day, pupils are missing Breton lessons, and the education establishment make it clear that French alone is the language of this Jacobin state.

It looks as if the game is not over ...who's next?

Gi Keltik.



## Kampagn skoazell Diwan evit dazont ar skolioù

### LET'S KEEP BRETON ALIVE

*In the five Breton administrative departments the Breton language is a strong cultural asset, which is an integral part of our identity. However if we don't do something – now – all together our language risks extinction.*

*The state rejection prevents and obstructs public recognition but in no way undermines our will to carry on the educational innovation and expansion of this cultural initiative.*

*Today we appeal to you to help us in our hour of need.*

**HEP BREZHONEG BREIZH EBET, SANS LANGUE BRETONNE PAS DE BRETAGNE**

## THERE'S NO BRITTANY WITHOUT BRETON

**10,000 contributions of 50 Euro will allow 2,800 Diwan pupils to continue their education in Breton and the growth of the Diwan network.**

**However little, all contributions are welcome.**

**Cheque to be sent to: DIWAN BP 147 29411 LANDERNE BRITTANY  
<http://www.diwanbreizh.org/>**

## Datganiad y Fro Gymraeg

*a gyhoeddwyd y 23ain Hydref 2004*

### **Rhagymadrodd:**

Yn gymaint â bod pob bod dynol yn gydradd a chyfwerth;

Yn gymaint â bod amrywiaeth fawr a chyfoethog o fewn y ddynoliaeth o ran iaith, diwylliant a chenedligrwydd; a bod pob iaith, diwylliant a chenedl yn y byd yn gydradd a chyfwerth;

Yn gymaint â bod gan bob cenedl, boed fach neu fawr, yr hawl i fodoli yn ei phriod gymunedau a thiriogaethau, heb orfod dioddef gwladychu; ac nad oes gan yr un genedl hawl i wladychu cymunedau na thir cenedl arall;

Yn gymaint â bod hiliaeth (sef gorthrwm ar sail hil, hynny yw nodweddion corfforol, yn hytrach nag neu'n ogystal ag ar sail cenedl, iaith neu ddiwylliant) yn gyfangwbl wrthun;

Yn gymaint â bod gwladychu (sef yr hyn a geir pan fo ymfudwyr yn gwrthod integreiddio i wlad newydd, ond yn hytrach yn gorfodi eu hiaith, eu diwylliant a'u hunaniaeth eu hunain ar y wlad y maent yn ymfudo iddi, gan gymathu'r brodorion a/neu gael ymadael â nhw) yn ffurf ar ladrad ac felly yn drosedd, ac yn ffurf ar hiliaeth (sef hiliaeth wladychol) am fod gwladychiaeth a hiliaeth yn annatod ynghlwm wrth ei gilydd, yn hanesyddol ac o hyd heddiw;

Yn gymaint â bod llawer o ieithoedd, diwyllianau a chenedloedd cynhenid y byd mewn perygl o gael eu dileu ('cenedl-laddiad') ac eraill eisoes wedi'u dileu, a hynny yn bennaf oherwydd gwladychu a hiliaeth wladychol;

Yn gymaint â bod y broses hon yn fygythiad i etifeddiaeth gyffredin y ddynoliaeth gyfan yn ogystal â chenedloedd unigol, ac felly yn drosedd yn erbyn y ddynoliaeth;

Yn gymaint â bod y Gymraeg a'i rhiant, y Frythoneg, yn ieithoedd cynhenid Cymru ers oddeutu 2,500 o flynyddoedd, ond mai yn y Fro Gymraeg yn unig y mae'r Gymraeg yn parhau'n iaith gymunedol bellach;

Yn gymaint â bod y Fro Gymraeg, ei chymunedau, ei hiaith a'i diwylliant bellach yn wynebu difodiant a chenedl-laddiad oherwydd gwladychu ac oherwydd colli llawer o'i phoblogaeth gynhenid, yn yr un modd â llawer o bobloedd cynhenid eraill y

byd; Yn gymaint â bod datganiadau'r Cenedloedd Unedig a Chyngor Ewrop yn cyndabod hawl pobloedd cynhenid i beidio â dioddef cenedl-laddiad, i gadw eu tiroedd traddodiadol a'u hunaniaeth, ac i gael eu hamddiffyn gan eu llywodraethau; a bod yr hawliau hynny yn rhan annatod o'r drefn ryngwladol er diogelu hawliau dynol; Yn awr, gan hynny, Yr ydym yn ddwys ac yn ddifrifol yn cyhoeddi'r datganiad a ganlyn:

Erthygl 1 - Y mae'r Fro Gymraeg yn bodoli fel rhanbarth ac ardaloedd neilltuol o Gymru, sef y rhannau o diriogaeth draddodiadol cenedl y Cymry lle y mae mwyafrif y boblogaeth gynhenid a thraean neu fwy o'r boblogaeth gyfan yn medru siarad a deall Cymraeg.

Erthygl 2 - Yr ydym yn llwyr gefnogol i bob ymdrech i adfer a phoblogeiddio'r Gymraeg yn rhanbarthoedd eraill Cymru (ac hefyd yn gefnogol i ddiwylliant Cymreig y rhanbarthoedd hynny a fynegir trwy gyfrwng y Saesneg neu ieithoedd eraill) ond yn credu bod parhad y Fro Gymraeg yn anhepgor er mwyn sicrhau parhad a datblygiad y Gymraeg yng ngweddill Cymru ac fel iaith genedlaethol, ynghyd â pharhad Cymru fel cenedl.

Erthygl 3 - Y mae gan bobl y Fro Gymraeg hawl i'w chadw fel rhanbarth ac ardaloedd lle y mae'r Gymraeg yn briod iaith, lle y bydd y Gymraeg yn iaith swyddogol, yn iaith naturiol y gymuned, yn brif iaith gweinyddiaeth a masnach a phob agwedd arall ar fywyd, ac yn iaith gyffredin ymhlith mewnfudwyr a rhwng mewnfudwyr a brodorion; ac y mae ganddynt hawl i beidio â dioddef gwladychu na cholli'r boblogaeth gynhenid.

Erthygl 4 - Y mae gan bobl y Fro Gymraeg (yn cynnwys y bobl gynhenid hynny sy'n ddi-Gymraeg) hawl i gyfiawnder cymdeithasol, gan gynnwys cartrefi, gwaith a chynhaliaeth, ynghyd ag addysg a gwasanaethau eraill trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, a hynny mewn cymunedau Cymraeg eu hiaith.

Erthygl 5 - Y mae 'Mewnfudo Normal' (sef yr hyn a geir pan fo ymfudwyr o unrhyw darddiad, tras neu hil yn parchu iaith, diwylliant a hunaniaeth y Fro Gymraeg, yn dysgu ac yn defnyddio'r Gymraeg ac yn integreiddio i'r gymdeithas ar y sail honno) yn gwbl dderbynol yn y Fro Gymraeg, ac yn gallu cyfoethogi ymhellach ein cymdeithas Gymraeg aml-hiliol a chynhwysol.

Erthygl 6 - Nid oes gan neb hawl i wladychu'r Fro Gymraeg, ai o fwriad ai'n anfwriadol. Y mae'r fath wladychu yn weithred wladychol-hiliol ac yn drosedd, ac felly hefyd anogaeth neu gefnogaeth i wladychu. Y mae gwadu, gwrthwynebu neu danseilio bodolaeth y Fro Gymraeg a'i chymunedau hefyd yn weithredoedd gwladychol-hiliol.

Erthygl 7 - Y mae gan drigolion y Fro Gymraeg hawl moesol i wrthwynebu gwladychu a cholli ei phoblogaeth gynhenid, ac i wrthwynebu polisïau a gweithredoedd sy'n hybu'r pethau hyn. Y mae'r gwrthwynebiad hwn yn gyd-gefnogol â phobloedd cynhenid eraill drwy'r byd sydd yn dioddef oherwydd hiliaeth wladychol. Nid gwrthdrawiad rhwng cenedloedd mo hyn, ond yn hytrach rhwng dwy ideoleg, sef gwladychiaeth hiliol ar y naill law a gwrth-wladychiaeth/gwrth-hiliaeth ar y llaw arall.

Erthygl 8 - Yr ydym yn gwrthwynebu'n llwyr bob ffurf ar hiliaeth; yn datgan bod pob bod dynol yn gydradd ac yn gyfwerth, beth bynnag fo'i hil a'i nodweddion corfforol; ac yn datgan bod y Fro Gymraeg yn rhanbarth ac ardaloedd aml-hiliol a chynhwysol, a'r Gymraeg yn briod iaith iddi.

Erthygl 9 - Yr ydym yn datgan ei bod yn gyfrifoldeb ar bawb yng Nghymru i wneud yr hyn sydd o fewn ei g'allu i sicrhau parhad y Fro Gymraeg a'i chymunedau.

Erthygl 10 - Yr ydym yn mynnu y dylai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, Llywodraeth y Deyrnas Gyfunol, yr Undeb Ewropeaidd, a phob corff perthnasol arall gefnogi'r datganiad hwn, cydnabod bodolaeth y Fro Gymraeg a'i hawl i barhau, derbyn eu cyfrifoldeb moesol i'w diogelu, a gweithedu'n briodol er mwyn cyflawni'r cyfrifoldeb hwnnw.

### **Summary:**

*The above is the text of the Declaration of the Rights of the Bro Gymraeg as read on the 23rd October at a ceremony in Machynlleth held by Cymuned. (See article 'Cymuned Launch a Declaration')*

# Campaign for a New Language Act is renewed

On the night of the 17th October members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith covered the windows of numerous large private companies (chain shops, banks) in Cardiff with stickers and posters demanding “Ble mae’r Gymraeg?” (Where’s the Welsh?). The action took place in Heol Albany/Albany Road, Yr Eglwys Newydd/Whitchurch, and Treganna/Canton districts and the companies targeted included the Royal Bank of Scotland, Somerfield, Lloyds the chemists, Iceland, Boots, and Tesco, all of which make at most minimal use of Welsh. These are all large organisations with chains of branches, and they could easily afford to introduce extensive Welsh-language policies. Cymdeithas draw a distinction between these and small local businesses in Anglicised areas who could find difficulty in operating such policies.

This action was to draw attention to the fact that the present Welsh Language Act

does not cover the private sector and thus private businesses are free to provide services only in English if they wish, and most do. The protest followed similar action in Flint, Caernarfon, and Aberystwyth in the preceding weeks, and was part of Cymdeithas’s campaign for a New Language Act. Spokesman Rhys Llwyd said “Time after time we see companies and institutions still refusing to provide most of their services in Welsh and trampling on the rights of Welsh-speakers. This will not change until we have a New Language Act. It is over ten years since the present Act was passed, and so it is a suitable time to consider revising and strengthening the legislation. Indeed, considering the way privatisation and technology have transformed the way services are provided, this is a matter of urgency.” Society vice-chairman Hedd Gwynfor added “Through this action... we proclaim that the era of the old Language Act

has come to an end. Wales has transformed since the passing of the old Act in 1993, and a New Language Act is back as a serious item on the political agenda.”

Cymdeithas said that further action like this would take place in towns throughout Wales in the run-up to Christmas.

Indeed, the following Sunday night similar action took place in Bangor. Dozens of shops and offices were covered with the same stickers, including Kwik Save, Halifax, JJB Sports, Topshop, Burtons, Phones4U, and Debenhams. The message “Ble mae’r Gymraeg” was to be seen all over the city.

As a climax to this phase of the campaign, Cymdeithas will be holding a national forum on a New Language Act in the Old College, Aberystwyth, on Saturday March 12th 2005, where they will present their proposal for a new act. The aim will be to persuade the language quango to recommend that the Assembly demand a new language law from Westminster. Hywel Williams MP (Plaid, Caernarfon), who is in the process of drawing up a draft language bill to be put before Westminster, has agreed to address the forum and Meirion Prys Jones, the Welsh Language Board’s Chief Executive, has agreed to respond. In the period up to the forum Cymdeithas are calling for a national debate on the possible contents of any new act. Their document *Canrif Newydd – Deddf Iaith Newydd* has been sent to numerous organisations and there is to be more internal debate within Cymdeithas too.

R. ap Tomos



## Plaid Cymru call for official EU status for Welsh

Plaid Cymru have launched a campaign to establish Welsh as an official language of the European Union following approval of the policy at Plaid Cymru’s Annual Conference in Llandudno. The campaign will be led by the party’s Deputy Leader Jill Evans MEP.

The party wants the proposed European Constitution translated into Welsh before it will consider supporting any referendum and is also calling for Welsh to become one of the EU’s working languages. This would mean that Welsh speakers could write to the European institutions and expect a reply in their language and that Welsh speaking politicians could use the language in discussions on a European level.

The issue is back on the European agenda following Ireland’s request for Irish to become an official language; the Spanish government is also making the same demands for Catalan,

Basque, and Galician.

Plaid Cymru Deputy Leader Jill Evans MEP will lead a campaign to put pressure on the London Government to negotiate the necessary changes. Conference delegates received campaign packs from the Euro MP. Jill Evans MEP said:

“It is a matter of principle for us that Welsh should be treated equally with the languages of other European countries. The European Union is funded through public money and should be there to serve all of the people – it should have a duty to provide services to Welsh speakers in their language of choice.

“We are calling for Welsh to be given the status of one of the EU’s official working languages. This would mean that people could write to the European institutions and get a reply in Welsh. It would also mean that Welsh speaking politicians could use the Welsh

language in European negotiations with simultaneous translation provided into other languages.

“We’re now seeing similar moves for Irish, Catalan and Basque to get this status. If it’s good enough for them then why not Welsh? And let’s not forget that Maltese already has this status even though fewer people speak the language than speak Welsh.

“Not only is giving Welsh official EU status right in principle, it would also be good news for the Welsh economy and for tourism, raising our profile on the international stage.

“It now needs the London Government to argue the case at the European level. We’ll be doing all we can to make this happen and I personally look forward to the day when I can address the European Parliament in the language of the country I am privileged to represent.”

## CYMUNED LAUNCH A DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE BRO GYMRAEG



Cymuned, the movement founded to resist colonization by English-speakers in Welsh-speaking Wales, held a ceremony on the 23rd of October at Craig Rhyddid, Machynlleth, to make their public declaration of the Rights of the Bro Gymraeg (Welsh Gaeltacht). The Declaration, read at the ceremony by Gwynedd councillor Seimon Glyn, is based on the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

Tim Webb, a member of Cymuned's executive who took a leading part in formulating the Declaration, said 'The United Nations have recognised the right of minorities to exist in their own territories, but the Labour government are not taking the necessary steps to allow Welsh-speaking communities to exist in the Bro Gymraeg and it is time for us to start demanding recognition of our existence.'

Cymuned have defined the Bro Gymraeg as areas where at least 50% of the resident population native to Wales can speak Welsh, and at least 33% of the whole population, according to figures from the latest Census. This amounts to a swathe of western Wales running from Ynys Môn through most of Gwynedd and Ceredigion to Carmarthenshire, with parts of Conwy, Clwyd, and Powys and smaller parts of Pembrokeshire and

Glamorgan. Within this area Cymuned are defining areas requiring special attention such as those where the percentage is still high enough for them to be natural Welsh-speaking communities. Maps are also being prepared.

Aran Jones, the Chief Executive of Cymuned, said 'Experts in minorized languages like Joshua Fishman are agreed that to thrive a language community needs a geographic area where the language is the community language. In Wales we are fortunate to have the Bro Gymraeg, but it has been harmed by the denial of its existence. It is essential we now recognise the nature of the Bro Gymraeg and its value to our nation.'

Welsh as a community language has declined drastically in recent years as thousands of non-Welsh speakers - the overwhelming majority of whom are English but it does not make any difference where they come from - have moved to live in the Bro Gymraeg but have not been prepared to learn Welsh. Since they are imposing their own culture on another's territory they can be described as colonists. The struggle to keep the Bro Gymraeg over the next few years could well be the final battle to save Welsh, or indeed any Celtic tongue, as a fully living language.

## A federal Welsh-medium college in action - a foretaste of what could be!

For decades Cymdeithas yr Iaith and other language bodies have been calling for a federal Welsh-medium college in the University of Wales, but for one week in September such a college, on a small scale, became a reality. Cymdeithas organised six courses in locations through Wales including a college lecture theatre, a village school, a chapel vestry, a social club, and a theatre.

Ffred Ffransis, Cymdeithas's education spokesman, said "This variety shows how a Welsh-medium federal college can work to strengthen our local communities by organising relevant courses and offering practical education. It is not necessary to use a straight translation of English courses. This is our example for the University of Wales who work twice over against the interests of Welsh communities by offering education almost entirely through English and through deracinating young Welsh people by separating education from their communities"

In each session there was an open forum to discuss the need for a Federal Welsh-medium college, and afterwards a Welsh-medium course relevant to the needs of the local community. For a week the dream of a federal Welsh college was realised.

### CYMUNED LEAD THE BATTLE AGAINST 6500 NEW HOUSES IN CEREDIGION

Cymuned have declared that they will continue with the struggle against Ceredigion council's plan to build 6500 new houses in the county, doing further damage to the language, despite the defeat of the campaign for an elected mayor and the Brits' victory in the subsequent council elections earlier in the year. Cymuned have registered 150 objections with the ongoing enquiry, more than any other body. Simon Brooks, Cymuned's spokesman in Ceredigion, said that they had been given legal advice that the council's plans ran contrary to the Assembly's planning guidelines. Even though Cymuned had entered more objections than anyone else, it was their quality and not their number that would count and Cymuned would be working night and day over the coming months to show that the council's plans were based on false information.

### *Assembly fails on housing aid*

On the 24th of October the slogan 'Cymorth Prynu - £5 miliwn' ('Aid to Buy - £5m') was painted by members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith on the walls of the Assembly offices in Aberystwyth.

This action was to draw attention to the fact that the (Cardiff) government's draft budget does not contain any strategy for the next three years to help young Welsh people buy houses in their own communities. Cymdeithas said that their campaign would continue up to the publication of the final version of the budget in order to draw attention to the seriousness of the housing crisis facing Welsh-speaking communities.

Since the last election Cymdeithas have called on the Assembly to take two simple steps, which are within its present powers, to alleviate the housing crisis:-

1. Increase the money allocated for the Aid to Buy scheme to at least £5 million a year, with a program of increasing the funding to a level that will make a real difference to families who can afford to buy houses.
2. Set up a 'Right to Rent' fund, recognising that house prices have risen so much in many Welsh-speaking communities that it is impossible for many young Welsh people to buy a house even with help.

A Cymdeithas spokesman said "The proposals for housing in the draft budget do not contain any provisions for a substantial increase in funding the Aid to Buy scheme and there is no mention of a Right to Rent fund. Indeed, it's worth noting that the finance for the social housing grant is lower than it was in the days of the Welsh Office, and that despite the enormous growth in house prices over recent years. As a result, Cymdeithas will continue to take action in order to stress the need for additional money."

R ap T

# ANTI-WELSH RADIO CHANNEL IS WARNED

*Radio Carmarthenshire on 'Yellow card'*

The complaints by Cymdeithas yr Iaith and other language activists about a new local radio station's hostility to Welsh culture have been endorsed by the government quango Ofcom. Radio Carmarthenshire was given a licence to broadcast in Carmarthenshire, a county where 50% of the population still speak Welsh despite recent immigration, and which has the highest absolute number of Welsh-speakers in Wales. The licence stipulated a minimum number of hours to be broadcast in Welsh. Since they started broadcasting in June 2004 they have been criticised for their lack of Welsh language material and Welsh culture generally. Their nightly Welsh language programme broadcast from 7 to 9 every evening only plays English music with Welsh used to introduce each record. The only other Welsh heard on the station comprises bilingual trailers, twenty seconds of daily news bulletin and a patronising 'Welsh Word of the Day'. Cymdeithas are also unhappy that there are no live Welsh language programmes and therefore there is no opportunity for Welsh speakers to take part in programmes

Cymdeithas have campaigned against the station using pickets and occupation of the studio.

The response to the campaign from the radio station has been unequivocal, with MD Keri Jones saying:

"It may be that 50% of the people of Carmarthenshire speak Welsh, but 100%

speak English"

\* "We do not play Welsh music and we never will"

\* "We will not support local bands unless they have an agreement with Sony or a similar company and have reached the British charts".

Jones even threatened to shorten the evening 'Welsh' program if Cymdeithas continued complaining.

A rally was held by Cymdeithas and local language group Menter Taf Myrddin on October 23rd outside the studio in Narberth, Pembrokeshire, which was addressed by Adam Price, Plaid MP for Carmarthen East & Dinefwr, and the bard Mererid Hopwood. It was followed by performances from two local bands, Mattoidz and Garej Dolwen - the type of music Radio Carmarthenshire ignores. Before the rally Catrin Howells of Menter Taf Myrddin said:

"While an alien broadcast will be going on inside the building, the alternative station will be heard from outside the building. The county's wealth of culture and talents, ignored now by Radio Carmarthenshire, will be heard in the language of over half the population of this county."

Speaking about the rally Radio Carmarthenshire's MD said "There is nothing for me to say that I haven't said before."

Following the rally Ofcom, the government regulator for the communications industries, with responsibilities across television, radio,

telecommunications and wireless communications services, announced the results of an investigation they held following Cymdeithas's complaints. Ofcom's director in Wales said "Our monitoring suggested that the amount of Welsh broadcast by the station per day is less than that agreed. However, we are more concerned about the total absence of Welsh music ... It appears to be breaking the agreement clearly. Ofcom have the power to place statutory sanctions on licence holders including fines and shortening or revoking their licence to broadcast. We are today giving the station a yellow card and asking that they address these problems quickly and effectively".

In response to this Hedd Gwynfor of Cymdeithas yr Iaith said "Radio Carmarthenshire and their Chief Executive Keri Jones have shown total contempt for the Welsh language by not even broadcasting enough to meet the requirements of their license. Cymdeithas are calling for their licence to be revoked altogether and given to those with a real interest in reflecting and supporting the communities and culture of Carmarthenshire." He said that it was not a matter of the number of hours broadcast but of dealing with arrogance and prejudice towards the Welsh language and culture, and it is not a yellow card but only a red card that can deal with this.

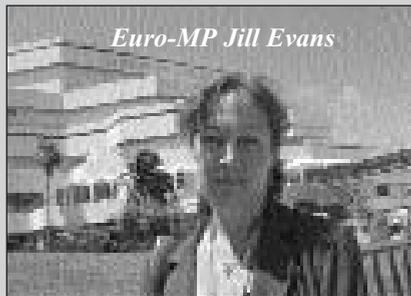
**Robot ap Tomos**

## *Evidence before admission, says Welsh MEP:*

Ahead of the report on Turkish EU membership, Plaid Cymru Euro-MP Jill Evans expressed dismay at reports that the European Commission was set to open the door for Turkey without first demanding hard evidence of progress on the country's human rights record, and in particular its treatment of the Kurdish people.

She explained that whilst Plaid Cymru and the European Free Alliance take the view that eventual Turkish membership of the EU would be good for Turkey and for Europe, there must be strict conditions attached, particularly in relation to human rights and the Turkish regime's treatment of the Kurdish minority:

"This is the reason for our dismay about the possibility of the Commission opening the door for Turkish membership with this report. Though our Group welcomes, up to a point, reports of a mechanism for slowing up or even halting the negotiations if Turkey fails to make progress on human rights, this falls well short of what we would have hoped for." Jill Evans, Deputy Leader of Plaid Cymru, continued:



*Euro-MP Jill Evans*

"Throughout this process we've voiced our concerns that not enough progress is being made in improving the human rights situation in Turkey, in particular the treatment of the Kurdish people.

"It remains the case that the linguistic, political and cultural rights of the Kurdish people do not get the recognition they deserve from the Turkish regime. Indeed it's reported that around 40% of the Kurdish population in Turkey cannot read or write - the legacy of an education system that doesn't recognise the Kurdish language. Can we really start accession negotiations against this backdrop?"



## **Impeach Blair Campaign**



Plaid MP Adam Price, shown here, is leading a campaign for the impeachment of Blair. Plaid members believe that an apology is no longer acceptable. Tony Blair must face the full consequences of his actions and his failure to resign has led to a call for impeachment.

## Iraq Survey Group report reinforces case for Blair's impeachment

Plaid Cymru's parliamentary leader, Elfyn Llwyd MP, has restated the case for the Prime Minister's impeachment following news that the Iraq Survey Group has concluded that Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction. He said:



*Elfyn Llwyd MP*

"The Iraq Survey Group confirm what many of us have believed for a very long time, that is, Saddam Hussein didn't have weapons of mass destruction. This was the main reason Tony Blair gave to Parliament and the public for invading Iraq, even though the evidence he had at the time was, as Lord Butler stated, thin. Had Tony Blair and George Bush allowed Hans Blix and his team of UN weapons inspectors to continue their work, thousands of innocent civilians in Iraq would not have been killed and Iraq would not be experiencing the bloodshed and chaos which we witness daily on our television screens.

"When ordinary people in ordinary jobs are found to have made serious mistakes, and even worse, when they are found to have misled or lied, they are forced to face the consequences. Tony Blair believes he is above this kind of accountability. It is now up to Parliament to show that he can no longer get away with such misconduct and impeachment is the only way to achieve this."

Howard vindicates case to impeach Blair:

Plaid Cymru's parliamentary leader, Elfyn Llwyd MP welcomed news that Michael Howard, the leader of the English Conservative party who generally supports the Bush/Blair war, has accused Tony Blair of lying in order to take Britain to war in Iraq. According to Mr Llwyd, this vindicates the case made by a number of MPs that the Prime Minister should face impeachment

proceedings for his misconduct in relation to the Iraq war.

Speaking from his constituency today, Elfyn Llwyd MP said:

"No longer can the Prime Minister hide behind claims that he acted in good faith when new evidence keeps coming to light which contradicts this. Michael Howard has seen through Tony Blair's lies and the public will do the same at the General Election.

"As more and more people have the opportunity to read our report, A Case to Answer, more people will understand the extent to which this Prime Minister lied, misled, exaggerated and deceived both Parliament and the public.

"A half hearted apology simply won't do. Tony Blair must face the full consequences of his actions and in light of his failure to resign, impeachment is the only way that this can happen."

Plaid MP Adam Price is leading a campaign for the impeachment of Blair.

## Labour boycott Richard Commission debate:

Ieuan Wyn Jones AC expressed his disappointment that only 16 of the 30 Labour members of the National Assembly turned up to discuss the Richard Commission proposals. The Plaid Cymru AC said:

"It is typical of Labour members that they are not prepared to listen to debate on the future of our nation. They wish to live somewhere in the 1950s where there is no opposition to their policies. New Labour Assembly Members are not prepared to defend Rhodri Morgan's fudge. Rhodri Morgan cut a lonely figure on the cabinet benches. Plaid Cymru are ready to debate the issues so we can deliver the quality public services that the people of Wales deserve."

## Another Labour fudge:

Leader of the Opposition Ieuan Wyn Jones AM speaking ahead of the debate in the National Assembly blasted Labour's fudge over the Richard Commission recommendations. The Plaid Cymru AC for Ynys Môn said:

"The Richard Commission's proposals set out a practical timetable to ensure that Wales gets a law-making Parliament by 2011. We had hoped, as he originally promised that the First Minister would lead the debate on the issue.

However, what we have is a fudge; Rhodri Morgan has abandoned his support for a Parliament in the face of opposition by self-serving Welsh Labour MPs in London.

So instead of Rhodri Morgan walking the length and breadth of Wales leading the debate on extra powers, he cobbles up some half baked scheme which he calls 13.2 plus. This is a classic Labour fudge. We will be calling on the Assembly to back the Richard recommendations in full."

## Llangollen disappointment but MEP urges further nomination

Plaid Cymru Deputy Leader and Foreign Affairs Spokesperson Jill Evans MEP has expressed her disappointment that the Llangollen International Eisteddfod has missed out on this year's Nobel Peace Prize. Now the Euro MP is calling for the festival to be nominated again next year, with the widest possible backing from Welsh civil society.

But Jill Evans congratulated this year's winner, Kenyan environmentalist and human rights campaigner Wangari Maathai who is the first African woman to be awarded the prize.

Jill Evans MEP said:

"Like many people in Wales I'm disappointed that Llangollen hasn't won this prestigious prize. The festival has done so much to promote reconciliation and mutual understanding between peoples. The way in which it brings together diverse cultures in a spirit of peace and understanding is an inspiration. The whole of Wales is tremendously proud of the Llangollen Eisteddfod and the wonderful work that it does. I'm sure that we're all grateful to Terry Waite, himself a great symbol of hope in the face of adversity, for nominating the Eisteddfod for the prize.

"I do hope that this won't be the end of the story. Let's hope that this provides the impetus for Welsh civil society to pull together and campaign for the Llangollen Eisteddfod to be nominated again next year. I am sure it would help to demonstrate the widest possible base of support - and Llangollen has certainly made friends all over the world."

Commenting on the Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Jill Evans MEP added:

"Wangari Maathai is a long standing environmental campaigner and it's heartening to see this recognition of the importance of the environment in terms of promoting peace in the world. Mrs Maathai is the first African woman to win this award and only the twelfth woman, she is a symbol of hope for many African women and is a fine example of the work women do to raise awareness of environmental problems in developing countries. I'm sure that we could learn a great deal from her example - perhaps she could be invited to speak at next year's Llangollen International Eisteddfod."



# Éire



## tochailt beartaíthe le haghaidh shuíomh chiaráin naofa

Tá carthanas sa Chorn ag obair go dian chun tionscadal a chur le chéile d'fhonn tochailt a dhéanamh faoi fhothracha Theampall Chiaráin Naofa (Piran sa Chornais) an bhliain seo chugainn. Teampall meánaoiseach atá i gceist. De réir an bhéaloidis sa Chorn, tháinig Ciarán Naofa as Éirinn i mbád cloiche (cloch mhíle a ceanglaíodh air nuair a caitheadh le haill é) agus tháinig i dtír san áit atá ainmnithe air ó shin – Perranporth (Port Chiaráin). Gach bliain, déantar teacht an naoimh a cheiliúradh ar an 5 Márta. Dar ndóigh, is é Cros Chiaráin bratach náisiúnta na gCornach.

Cuireadh tús leis an tionscadal mar *Thionscadal Chiaráin Naofa* sa bhliain 2000 ach tá an bhuíon atá páirteach ann tar éis stádas carthanas a bhaint amach anois mar *Iontaobhas Chiaráin Naofa*. Is é cuspóir na buíne ná na hiarsmaí seandálaíocha a bhaineann le Ciarán Naofa i bPerranzabuloe (An Paróiste – “Ciarán sa Ghaineamh”) i gceantar Perranporth, an séipéal paróiste a tógadh ina dhiaidh sin san áireamh, a chaomhnú agus a fhorfhaisiú.

Tá dhá mhórshuíomh reiligiúnda sna dummhcha ó thuaidh ó Perranporth: Aireagal Chiaráin Naofa ó luath-thréimhse na meánaoiseanna agus Teampall Chiaráin Naofa a tógadh ina dhiaidh sin. Is séadchomharthaí sceidealta iad an dá shuíomh agus tá cosaint dlí acu.

- Cill a tógadh go luath i ré na Críostaíochta is ea Aireagal Chiaráin Naofa ar tháinig clú uirthi san 19ú haois mar an foirgneamh Críostaíochta ba shine sa Bhreatain. Tá ardstádas aige toisc an bhaint atá aige le Ciarán Naofa, naomh náisiúnta an Choirn. De dheasca fadhbanna leanúnacha le loitiméireacht agus tuilte, cuireadh faoi ghaineamh arís í sa bhliain 1980 agus anois tá dumhach shaintógtha os a cionn.
- Tógadh Teampall Chiaráin Naofa timpeall na bliana 1150, tar éis don phobal éirí as Aireagal Chiaráin Naofa a úsáid, agus tá seans gur ar shuíomh réamhstaire a tógadh é.

### Tochailt faoin Teampall

Tháinig an teampall slán, Cros Cheilteach in aice leis agus dummhcha Thrá Penhale timpeall air. Cruinníonn na mílte timpeall ar an gCros agus ar an Teampall gach bliain mar chuid de cheiliúradh Lá Chiaráin Naofa.



*One of three Celtic crosses of its type in Cornwall, this cross stands next to the sand covered church of St Piran.*

Níor tugadh mórán aird ar an suíomh féin le fada. Tá codanna d'fhallaí an Teampaill le feiceáil cé go bhfuil an taobh istigh fós lán de smionagar agus de ghaineamh na farraige. Teastaíonn ó Iontaobhas Chiaráin Naofa tionscadal pobail a eagrú chun an smionagar a bhaint as an Teampall agus cabhrú cuid den chuma a bhí air a fháil ar ais.

I dteannta radharc níos fearr ar an Teampall a chur ar fáil, beidh obair chaomhnóireachta ar siúl ar na fallaí atá fágtha agus ar ghnéithe eile a nochtadh. Chomh maith leis sin, eagrófar taispeántas áitiúil de na nithe a aimseofar ar an suíomh tar éis na tochailte, cuirfear leis na háiseanna léirmhíniúcháin sa cheantar agus déanfar plean bainistíochta seandálaíochta le

haghaidh an cheantair a cheapadh. Beidh Seirbhís Timpeallachta Stairiúla Chomhairle Contae an Choirn ag tabhairt lámh chúnta don Iontaobhas san obair seo go léir.

Arsa Eileen Carter, urlabhraí de chuid an Iontaobhais:

“Cuid thábhachtach de thairpéis stairiúil Chiaráin Naofa, Perranporth agus an Choirn is ea Teampall Chiaráin. Is dóigh linne go gcuideoidh an tochailt faoin Teampall chun a bhfuil fágtha a thabhairt chun beatha athuair, rud a chuirfidh ar chumas daoine tuiscint a fháil ar an stair iomlán a bhain leis.

Ina theannta sin, tabharfaidh an tochailt an deis do mhuintir na háite páirt a ghlacadh san obair chun a dteampall a aisghabháil as an gaineamh.”

### Suirbhéireacht Gheofisiciúil

Cuireadh suirbhéireacht gheofisiciúil ar bun, Márta 2004, chun léargas a fháil ar na hiarsmaí atá fágtha faoin talamh timpeall ar Theampall Chiaráin Naofa. Chuir “Oidhreacht Shasana” an maoiniú ar fáil ar iarratas ó Sheirbhís Timpeallachta Stairiúla Chomhairle Contae an Choirn, agus gnólacht as Devon, Substrata Ltd., is ea a dhein an tsuirbhéireacht féin.

I dteannta taifeadadh a dhéanamh ar an mbábhún, deineadh taifeadadh ar fhianaise thábhachtach faoi sheanBhaile an Teampaill. San áireamh ansin, bhí roinnt páirceanna beaga siar ón mbábhún agus fianaise ar rian an chéachta agus ar shaothrú talún a bheith ar siúl. Thángthas, ina theannta sin, ar thrí cinn d'aimhrialtachtaí maignéadacha a d'fhéadfadh a bheith bainteach le hurtheach na reilige, tigín nó foirgneamh dá leithéid.

Dar le Dick Cole as Comhairle Contae an Choirn go bhfuil torthaí na suirbhéireachta go hiontach. Ar seisean:

“Leis an suirbhéireacht seo, táthar tar éis líon mór gnéithe seandálaíocha a aithint timpeall ar Theampall Chiaráin Naofa, gnéithe ar léir baint a bheith acu le lonnaíocht stairiúil Bhaile an Teampaill, lonnaíocht atá anois faoin talamh. Ábhar sceitimíní is ea eolas a fháil faoi mhéid agus cineál na n-iarsmaí seo, nithe atá anois faoi ghaineamh a séideadh anuas orthu leis na céadta bliain.

Beidh torthaí na suirbhéireachta an-úsáideach maidir le cabhrú oibreacha timpeall ar Theampall Chiaráin Naofa amach anseo a bheartú.”

**Tuilleadh faisnéise:** Dick Cole (Comhairle Contae an Choirn) 00441872 322056 / [ricole@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:ricole@cornwall.gov.uk)

### Summary

*This article describes the work being undertaken to restore St Piran's church, now covered under sand dunes near Perranporth in Cornwall.*

**Vivian Uíbh Eachach.**

# Irish Language News

## ● Irish Government moves on Stádas

The Irish Government finally put the formal case (through Ireland's permanent representative to the EU, Ms Anne Anderson), at a meeting of EU Ambassadors at the end of November, to have Irish made an official and working language of the EU. They were told that the Irish Government wanted to end the anomaly whereby Irish is the only 'treaty language' which is not also an official and working language. Their proposal would grant that status to Irish but would not require translation of all legislative proposals into Irish. There would be a transitional period of four years where only legislation adopted jointly by the Council of Ministers and the Parliament would be translated into Irish. After four years a review would consider if other documents, such as regulations, directives and decisions adopted by the Council and judgements of the European Court, should also be translated. The proposal was stated to have received a 'cautiously positive response', with Spain said to want any change in the EU's language regime linked to improvement in the status of Catalan and Basque.

## ● Housing Developments Threaten Gaeltachtaí

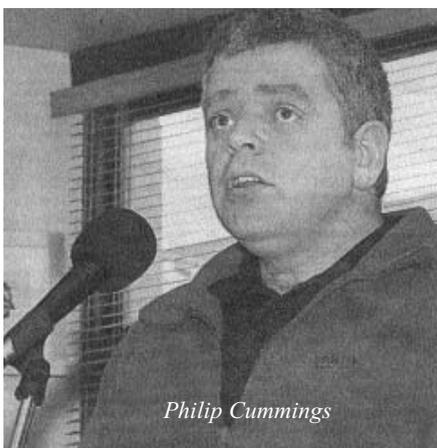
The issues of the detrimental effect of housing estates on the language in Gaeltacht areas which were discussed at the Celtic League seminar in An Spidéal over a year ago came to the fore again in recent months in relation to housing developments near An Spidéal and also in the Kerry Gaeltacht. In the case of An Spidéal a 17 house development in the centre of the village was given planning permission and Galway County Council signed a legal agreement with the developer that 62% of the units must be sold to those with fluent Irish. The permission was appealed by a local community group who, rightly, felt that it should be 100%.

The objectors put forward evidence that language usage in a community could only be sustained if at least 70% of the community spoke it daily. The influence of outsiders in changing the language practice of the local GAA club already was quoted. The appeal was held in Nov. and a decision is expected at the end of January. Galway County Council themselves have plans for an affordable housing scheme in the heart of the Gaeltacht, for which as a council scheme of their own no planning is required, and they apparently have no intention of having any language condition applicable

to purchasers! In Kerry no language condition was appended for a housing estate in the middle of the Gaeltacht in a complete abrogation of their responsibilities by the County Council. The decision has been appealed by language activist Donncha Ó hEallaithe from Conamara – what were local community groups doing or do they care? In Cork the Council attitude is the same. The situation obviously calls for a radical review and the transfer of planning powers for Gaeltacht areas from the County Councils to bodies charged with responsibility for the language. A demand made 30 years ago by the then Gaeltacht Civil Rights movement. Ironically however bodies one would have expected to be proactive on these issues e.g. Údarás na Gaeltachta, have ignored them!

## ● LÁ cutbacks

Irish language daily LÁ has had to cut back publication from 5 days a week to four and let one staff member go (with another likely to follow) after expected grants from the Intereg fund and Foras na Gaeilge were blocked. LÁ ran a vigorous campaign to prevent this after Lord Laird of the Ulster Scots Agency said Ulster Scots funding should not be restricted at the expense of funding for Irish. He apparently clarified that this was not directed specifically at LÁ however the result was the same. This action has wide ranging implications for funding for all Irish organisations. Sign LÁ petition at address below, 1330 signatures already listed - [www.PetitionsOnline.com/32130966/petition/html](http://www.PetitionsOnline.com/32130966/petition/html).



*Philip Cummings*

LÁ started in 1984 and had only a few weeks previously celebrated the launch of a book "Ár Nuachtán Laethúil", a collection of articles published in the newspaper, edited by its arts editor Philip Cummings.

## Irish Poets' Visit

The Irish poets who visited Alba in late Autumn 2004 on the long running inter Celtic exchange (started in 1970) were Daithí Ó hÓgáin and Dolores Stewart and they were accompanied by Colm Dubh Ó Méalóid, a brilliant box player, from the Rath Carn Gaeltacht and Seán Garvey a great sean nós singer from Kerry. Their first port of call was Sabhal Mòr Ostaig on Skye where a great poetry court and session was held, with a student (from England) at the College, Charles Quinnell, reading his Gaelic poetry also. Other venues were the north of Lewis, North Uist and then Glasgow. Another very successful series of events in the exchange which has done so much to cement relations between the Gaels of Alba and Éire.

## Republicans Reject 'Sackcloth and Ashes'

After months of negotiations between the British and Irish governments and (separately) Sinn Féin and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) of Ian Paisley it had been reported that a deal involving decommissioning and the restoration of the Local Northern Assembly was close. Republicans were stated to have been prepared to decommission all remaining weapons, disband the IRA and engage on policing. The Local Assembly was to be reconstituted with guarantees as to its continuance. Then the Rev. Ian Paisley stated in his heartland of Ballymena that not only should the IRA decommission but they must be seen to wear 'sackcloth and ashes' and the DUP demanded photographic evidence, a call which Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams characterised as a demand for public humiliation. The two governments supported this (despite having been told a month previously by Gerry Adams that the IRA would not tolerate it) but admitted events were stalemated again and stated they would publish details of what had actually been agreed.

While the DUP had, it seems, committed to sharing power with Sinn Féin the final outcome certainly raises questions about whether this was genuine and that their tactics in fact were to demand what even they knew was not acceptable. The attitude of the two governments in supporting his demand was termed totally naïve by one political commentator. On local administrations which they control the DUP has adamantly refused to share power with nationalists. Undoubtedly Paisley would love to be the North's First Minister but he certainly does not want Martin McGuinness of Sinn Féin as Deputy First Minister. He is now calling for the Northern Assembly to be reconstituted with Sinn Féin excluded (which is unlikely to happen) but either way he and the DUP stand to gain from this with Unionism in the forthcoming Westminster elections.

# JOHN REDMOND'S FOLLY

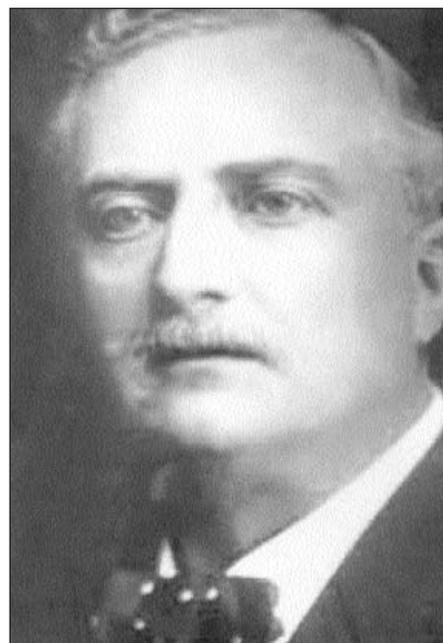
In an address given by former Taoiseach John Bruton, to a conference held by the 'Reform Movement', last September, He questioned the need for the 1916 Rising, and suggested that Irish independence could have been achieved without a shot being fired. This erroneous view is, unfortunately, shared by many, especially those of the 'revisionist' school. What is not widely known is that on the eve of the Great War, John Redmond, the Irish Party leader agreed to Partition, limiting Home Rule to a 26 county Southern Ireland. This was John Redmond's Folly!

After the disaster of the Parnell split, Redmond had re-united the Irish Party. In the 1911 election, they held the balance of power at Westminster. Redmond's price for supporting Herbert Asquith's Liberals to form a government was a new Irish Home Rule Bill, which would be put before parliament in 1912. Edward Carson's Unionists and their Tory allies were appalled. Even allowing for the possibility of a small number of Liberal defectors, the

numbers just wouldn't add up. Once the Bill passed its final reading, it would become law. With the formation of an Ulster Volunteer Force, extra parliamentary methods came to the fore.

On April 25th 1914 a massive arms importation took place at Larne. Faced with an armed insurrection, should Home Rule be enforced on Ulster, Prime Minister Asquith's nerve failed. He met with Tory leader, Bonar Law, who suggested excluding at least four of the six North Eastern counties, unless a majority there voted to accept Home Rule. John Redmond reiterated his view that Irish nationalists could never assent to the mutilation of the Irish nation. In early February, Asquith had given Redmond a number of reassurances that both he and his Cabinet were opposed to even the temporary exclusion of any part of Ulster. Now, faced with an armed Unionist militia contemplating a coup d'état, Asquith came up with a new proposal; any Irish county where a majority of its voters so decided, could opt out of Home Rule for

a six year period. After six years, unless Westminster had made a new provision, these counties would then automatically come under Home Rule.



*John Redmond*

## Gaelscoileanna Progress – new attitude from a new Minister?



*Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin, reviewing the Irish language software package 'An Cat Dubh' with pupils from Gaelscoil Osrai in Kilkenny following her launch of it after her address to the Gaelscoileanna Education and Annual Conference.*

The new Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin, was a guest speaker at this year's very successful Education and Annual Conference of Gaelscoileanna in Kilkenny in November. She at least, while showing the influence of the Department of Education mandarins in some parts of her speech, did, unlike her predecessor Noel Dempsey, indicate a willingness to accept a delegation from the organisation to discuss a range of issues affecting the position of many Gaelscoileanna and the broad range of difficulties facing Irish Medium Education. A series of very informative

workshops were held over the weekend ranging from curriculum oriented ones to those directed at planning second level schools (see also p.3). Amongst matters of concern shown in the reports of the executive and in motions discussed were the attitude of the Department to immersion education in the infant years in particular, the pressing need for development of second level schools and rejection of the policy evidenced by the Dept. earlier in the year with their refusal to sanction two new primary schools in Mullingar and Dublin. (See Carn 126).

After consulting with Ulster nationalist Joe Devlin, who had most to lose, given his position as an Ulster MP, Redmond suggested a temporary arrangement to allow Antrim, Armagh, Derry and Down to remain outside the Home Rule area for three years. Redmond then presented this watered-down opt out clause to Asquith. After more long hours of fruitless negotiations, Redmond finally agreed to the four-county, six-year opt out clause, but only as his very last concession. What John Redmond didn't know was that neither the Tories nor Edward Carson knew anything about these new proposals. When the new offer was put to Carson some days later, he rejected it contemptuously, stating,

*"We do not want a sentence of death with a stay of execution for either three or six years".*

As the Home Rule Bill got its second reading in the House of Commons, Carson took his members out of the House and returned to Belfast. The rumour was he was going there to stage a Unionist coup. The Liberal government watched and waited as Carson's now well-armed Ulster Volunteer Force prepared to flex its muscles. While the Irish Volunteers were organising their own small-scale arms importation at Howth, King George V invited all parties to a conference at Buckingham Palace in an attempt to find a way past the deadlock. The conference which took place from the 21st to 24th of July was amicable enough,

though it kept breaking down over the area of North East Ulster to be excluded from Home Rule. The even more contentious length of time for exclusion was never even discussed! As the conference broke up word filtered through about the arms shipment at Howth. But no sooner had that news reached London than it was followed by the horrific account of the Bachelor's Walk incident, when members of a detachment of the Kings Own Scots Borderers, fired on a Dublin crowd, leaving 4 dead and 38 injured. Dreams of a peaceful transition to Home Rule lay amidst the dead and wounded on Bachelor's Walk.

As the Great European Powers drifted towards war, Bonar Law through intermediaries, indicated to Redmond, a possible Home Rule plan which a number of prominent Tories believed Carson just might find acceptable. Under these terms, a geographical area of the north-east of Ireland, which approximated to Antrim, Down, Derry, Tyrone, North & Mid-Armagh and North Fermanagh would be excluded from Home Rule. For this purpose, the Tories would introduce an amendment to the Bill, once it was presented to the Commons. On Thursday July 30th, as Asquith was preparing the speech he would give that afternoon in the Commons, he received a telephone call from Bonar Law, suggesting an emergency meeting with Carson at Law's house in Kensington. Law's chauffeur was already on his way to Asquith's home. At Law's house, the final hand was played upon an unsuspecting Herbert Asquith. To maintain unity on the eve of the coming war in Europe, it was proposed that any Home Rule amendments be postponed until a later date. The Home Rule Bill would be put before parliament as it stood, but a simultaneous Suspensory Act would prevent it becoming law until the War's end, when new amendments could then be introduced. Asquith's cabinet accepted this in principle, and Redmond wearily agreed to accept a future county opt-out clause, without any six-year time limit!

On September 18th 1914, the ill-fated Irish Home Rule Act was placed on the Statute book, but suspended for the duration of the Great War, a war so many thought would be over by Christmas. By Christmas 1915, Home Rule began to look very distant. The enthusiasm that greeted Redmond's apparent success had evaporated. Soon, younger, more energetic visionaries would replace John Redmond's outdated Irish Party. Strangely, the only part of the Home Rule Act that ever came into force was another legislative amendment, establishing a Home Rule parliament for Northern Ireland at Stormont!

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## Mary Kelly, anti-war activist, sentenced.

The 52-year-old anti-war activist, Mary Kelly, has been given a two-year suspended jail sentence for causing criminal damage to a US military plane at Shannon Airport on January 29, 2003

The mother of four took an axe to a US navy plane causing €1.1 million worth of damage. Kelly, who freely admits taking an axe to the aircraft a few weeks before the US/UK invasion of Iraq—was forced to defend herself, without lawyers, in the trial. Back in June, she fell out with her lawyers over legal strategy just as the trial was set to begin.

Nonetheless, the Irish nurse conducted her defence meticulously, comprehensively establishing to the satisfaction of everyone except Judge Carroll Moran that she was entitled in law to try to show the jury that she has reasonable cause for her action based on the threat to the people of Iraq and her intention to prevent crimes there.

Judge Carroll Moran, who presided over Kelly's first, hung-jury trial last year, was determined to insist that "all evidence relating to the war in Iraq and the US use of Shannon Airport is irrelevant".

The jury heard next-to-nothing from an array of assembled witnesses. In his charge to the jury, Judge Moran said he had acted to prevent the case degenerating into a political debate. He said the defence of lawful excuse did not apply as there was no connection in space or time between the act carried out by Kelly and the person or property she was claiming to protect. Judge Moran appeared to know little shame. After two trials and a number of adjournments, Kelly finally faced sentencing on the 1st December last.

Counsel for Ms Kelly, Patrick Gageby, said his client's action at Shannon Airport brought no personal gain for her. He said it was an act of protest against what she believed was wrong. Ms Kelly has said she



caused the damage to save lives in Iraq and that her conscience was clear.

Judge Carroll Moran said Ms Kelly had committed more than civil disobedience. He said her action constituted criminal damage. The judge said society at large would expect him to prevent the sort of social anarchy which inevitably follows when people take the law into their own hands as Ms Kelly had done.

Judge Moran suspended the sentence for four years from today on condition that there is no repetition of criminal damage by Ms Kelly, and that she does not come within a one-mile radius of Shannon Airport.

Ms Kelly emerged from the court to cheers and applause from her supporters.

## IRISH DEMOCRAT

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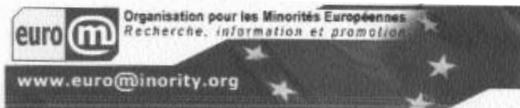
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# Kernow



## GWIASVA RAG BAGASOW BYGHAN EUROPEK.

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Gwrys veu an wasva ma yn 1999 yn



*Michel Bolloré-Pellé*

Kemper (Breten Vyghan) gans **Michel Bolloré-Pellé**. Breton yw an den yowynk ma. Privedh yw an kowethas ma ha nyns yw kevrennys gans an Unyans Europek. Pur boesek yw lavur an **OME** ha'n wasva yw hembrenkys ha gwithys dhe dhydh pup-prys. Gwrys yw an lavur ma gans an gesskriforyon hag ordenys gans **Michel Bolloré-Pellé**. Gweresys yw **Michel Bolloré-Pellé** (Ordenor hag alhwedhor) gans **Darko GAVROVSKI** (skrifennyas), **Perdu**

**PERRA** (kynsa islywydh) ha **Johannes HOFMEISTER** (nessa islywydh). Ygerys yw an **OME** dhe bub bolonjedh da. Heb kost yw bos esel an **OME**. Ty a yll dos ha bos esel an **OME** ow pos kesskrifer. Rag bos kesskrifer res yw ri derivadow kewar ha heptu heb godrosow aghel. Pub kesskrifer a yll skrifa y erthygel yn yeth y dhewis. Nyns yw treyls an wasva ma dhe Gernewek hwath ha da via kavoes kesskrifer kerneweger parys dhe dreylya an wasva ha dhe ri derivadow yn-kever Kernow ha'n Kernewek !

Pella derivadow orth: **Eurominority**, Michel BOLLORÉ-PELLÉ, 86, kae Stêr an Oded, **29000 Kemper, Breizh / Bretagne** (Dre Bow Frynk) **Tél. +33 (0)2 98 52 96 46** [www.eurominority.org](http://www.eurominority.org)

### Summary:

*www.eurominority.org is a website created in 1999 by a young Breton called Michel Bolloré-Pellé. The aims of the website are research, investigation and promotion of the minorities of Europe. Michel Bolloré-Pellé is helped in his task by Darko Gavrovski, Perdu Perra, Johannes Hofmeister and also by 90 correspondents all over Europe. Membership is free and this website is open to every good will. Everybody can become a correspondent. Articles written by the correspondents have to be objective, neutral and non-racists. Cornish correspondents are needed as the website has still not been translated into Cornish.*

**José CALVETE**

## Henry and Katharine Jenner

A Celebration of Cornwall's Culture, Language and Identity

Edited by Derek R. Williams



## Henry and Katherine Jenner

A Celebrations of Cornwall's Culture, Language and Identity

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This collection of essays is published to mark the centenary of the publication of Henry Jenner's Handbook of the Cornish Language in 1904, a landmark in the revival of Cornwall's ancient tongue, and to celebrate the contribution to Cornwall's culture of Jenner and his wife, Kitty Lee. Having helped Cornwall gain acceptance as a Celtic nation by the Pan-Celtic Congress, the Jenners went on to found the Old Cornwall Societies and Henry was to become Cornwall's first Grand Bard. Kitty Lee was a talented painter, poet and novelist, whose work until now has received little recognition. The book includes essays by Henry Jenner and poems by Jenner and Kitty Lee, with contributions by, David Everett, Alan M. Kent, Donald Rawe, Tim Saunders, Brian Coombes and Derek R. Williams, who explore the Jenners' writings, their achievements and their Anglo-Catholic and Royalist beliefs.

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# THE CORNISH IN LATIN AMERICA

Some of you will be aware that I have written several articles in this magazine about Celtic culture and activities in South America over the past two years. Maybe some of you already know that I have a strong interest in Argentina and Uruguay with most of my relatives living beyond the seas and strong connections with the Irish community in Argentina. Today I would like to **recommend a fantastic website** related to the Cornish migration to Latin America: [www.ex.ac.uk/cornishlatin/](http://www.ex.ac.uk/cornishlatin/).

For several years Sharron Schwartz has been researching and writing about nineteenth and early twentieth century Cornish migration to South and Central America and the Spanish Caribbean. Her interest was stimulated after she had discovered that she had several Cornish ancestors who migrated there as Mine Agents in the late nineteenth century.

The theme of Cornish migration overseas has largely concentrated on migration to the English-speaking world. Except for A. C. Todd's book on Cornish miners in Mexico, there is no definitive work that might explain the migration of many thousands of Cornish, who like her ancestors, went to Latin America. Intrigued and challenged, she set about addressing this lack of research that culminated in the award of PhD in the summer of 2003 at the Institute of Cornish Studies, University of Exeter. Of course, the interest and significance of Cornish migration to Latin America lay not in numbers: far fewer people migrated there than to the USA, South Australia, England and Wales or South Africa, but in the fact that the mines of Latin America were among the first to attract significant Cornish labour outside the British Isles and continued to recruit Cornish labour right into the 1930s. Cornish migration to Latin America began in the 1820s after the collapse of Spanish and Portuguese powers in Latin America. The 1820s marked also the beginnings of significant British capital investment in Latin American mining and led to the migration of thousands of Cornishmen and their families. Many of the defining features of overseas Cornish migration during what has been dubbed the 'Great Migration' (c1815-1920) have their roots in Latin America. These include the system of home pay (remittances) that were to become so important to the Cornish economy in the late nineteenth century, the rise of transnational communities, and more importantly the emergence of the reputation of Cornish miners, also known as 'Cousin Jacks', as the world's finest hard rock miners. The Cornish who migrated to Latin America were mainly engaged in metalliferous mining. This occupational specificity resulted in clusters of Cornish immigrants close to mines in

many areas across Latin America. Yet little research has focused on this important part of Cornish history. Sharron has amassed a great deal of information during the course of her studies and decided to make this accessible to those people, who like her, have an interest in this subject. In order to disseminate this information she has created a wonderful website at the following address: [www.ex.ac.uk/cornishlatin/](http://www.ex.ac.uk/cornishlatin/)

She hopes that this website will begin to address this lack of scholarship and that this site will also further the considerable work being undertaken on migration to Latin America from other parts of the British Isles. Her website contains an historical overview that seeks to answer several fundamental questions such as: who were the migrants, why and when did they leave Cornwall, where did they migrate from and where did they settle? Additionally, a balanced evaluation of the Cornish presence in Latin America is presented and the transnational aspect of life arising from migration which shaped the way people lived in communities on both sides of the Atlantic is not ignored. As she tells us: *'the data that I have presented here is merely the tip of the iceberg. But maybe you can help to augment this? Do you have information about your Cornish ancestors' migration there that you would be willing to submit, or any letters, diaries, photographs of people, places mines or headstones that you would be willing to share? I am currently engaged in negotiations with a university press to publish my thesis into a book, so any additional information and data would be most useful.'*

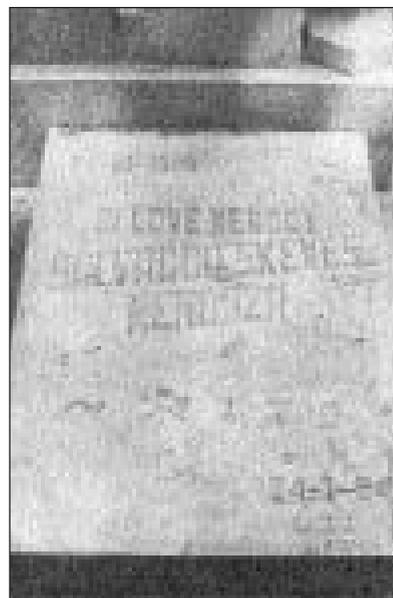
Sharron wants and hopes that this website will stimulate further interest in the historic transnational Cornish connections with many parts of Latin America. I hope that in the future we will see Cornish-Brazilian, Chilean, and Mexican associations similar to those in other parts of the Cornish world and maybe even Cornish towns twinned with their counterparts in South and Central America and the Caribbean. It is time that the Cornish in Latin America are recognised as a vital part of the Cornish diaspora.

Enquiries and general comments about this website can be directed to: [S.Schwartz@ex.ac.uk](mailto:S.Schwartz@ex.ac.uk)

**Sharron P. Schwartz** completed her BA (Hons) degree in European History at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London. Sharron has worked for several years as a history tutor for the Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Exeter, and launched the Cornish Global Migration Programme under the aegis of the Institute of Cornish Studies at

Murdoch House in 1999 and was the documentary researcher for the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site Bid, Historic Environment Section, Cornwall County Council. She has recently completed a doctorate in Cornish Studies at the University of Exeter entitled 'Cornish Migration to Latin America: A Global and Transnational Perspective'. She is currently research assistant to the Cornish Communities Programme at the Institute of Cornish Studies.

Sharron is the author of prize-winning *Lanner: A Cornish Mining Parish* (1998), and has published numerous articles on Cornish migration, mining and gender.



**Headstone carved 'In Love Memory' to Cornish-Mexican Salvador Skewes Mendoza at the Panteón de los Ingleses Real del Monte. He was born in 1910 and died in 1984. This rustically hewn stone is touchingly inscribed with the things that were dear to the heart of the deceased, including typically Cornish things like music and mining. A good example of how the Cornish mixed with the native population!**

***I would like to thank Sharron for allowing me to use some material from her excellent website for this article. Meur ras dhis Sharron...***

**José CALVETE**



# Mannin



## Yn Impiroilaghys Reeshtagh

Lurg y Nah Chaggey Mooar, shimmei peiagh va smooinghyn dy row eash noa vaynrey cheet rish. Va ny Natseyn currit mow, va ny h-Ashoonyn Unnaneysit currit er bun, as feiy ny cruinney va sleih streeu son seyrnsys as cairys. Ayns cheeraghyn Oarpagh dy liooar, v'eh coontit dy ve yn red kiart dy chroo shirveishyn-slaynt as shirveishyn-ynsee son dy chooilley pheiaigh, boght ny berchagh. Ec y traa cheddin, va ny shenn impiraghtyn Oarpagh goll sheese y liargagh dy tappee. Ny veggan as ny veggan, va ny meeryn slaait jiarg ec Sostnee niartal er caslys-cheerey yn teihll geddyn sorch dy heyrnsys. Va'n red cheddin taghyrt bentyn rish ny h-impiraghtyn Frangagh as Belgagh as impiraghtyn elley. Ga dy daink y Caggey Feayr rish as va sleih goaill aggle roish caggey cheshveanagh, hannee meeryn mooarey dy yerkalys.

Tra huitt yn Unnaneys Soveidjagh veih cheilley, va tooilley jerkalys ayn. Dy firrinagh, she yn Impiraght Rooshagh huitt veih my cheilley. Lhig ny Soveidjee er dy row ooilley yn poble syn Unnaneys oc corrym, agh, ginsh yn irriney, va laue yn eaghtyr ec ny Rooshee.

Agh cha row yn jerkalys shen cooilleenit. Vrish caggaghyn magh ayns cheeraghyn dy liooar, yn Yugoslaavey ny mast'oc. Fo'n ennym foalsey jeh CЄjeianaghey<sup>1</sup> (CЄmodernising<sup>1</sup>), ta pooaraghyn lajer er vooadaghey yn vaarney eddyr sleih boght as lught yn argid. Ta'n CЄdellal seyr<sup>1</sup> stroie ny beaghyn jeh sleih feiy ny cruinney.

Gyn ourys, shione dhyt ooilley yn stoo shoh hannah. Agh, myr Celtiee, erskyn ooilley, shegin dooin cur geill da'n impiroilaghys noa. Neayr's lhing ny Romanee ny shlee na daa veelley blein er dy henney, ta ny Celtiee er hurranse kyndagh rish yn impiroilaghys. Shoh yn polasee ta dellal rish sleih as cheeraghyn ta currit fo chosh myr greieyn-obbyr ta currit er y teihll cour cosney argid son ny mainshtyryn oc. Foastagh, ta ny h-aghtyn-smooinghyn ec ymmodde Celtiee soilshaghey dy vel yn impiroilaghys jannoo orroo ec y traa t'ayn.

Va kuse jin bolvaneagh dy liooar dy chredjal ny skealyn dy row yn impiroilaghys goll ersooyl son dy braght lurg y Nah Chaggey Mooar. Cha row shen kiart - t'eh cheet erash dy lajer nishtagh, goll er

leeideil ec deiney goll rish George W. Bush as Putin sy Roosh.

Neayr's hoie ny h-Arabee shen er America lesh etlanyn, ta leshtal cooie er ve ec Bush as Putin as fir-toshee elley dy lhiggey er dy vel sheshaght agglagh dy h-ymaggleyderyn gobbraghey ry cheilley feiy ny cruinney, dy jeean as dy fondagh. As ny jean jarrood y dooinney treih shen, Tony Blair. Agh hoar yn FBI as yn CIA nagh vel lheid y cheshaght agglagh shen ayn. Son shickyrys, ta possanyn dy gheiney debejagh ayn ayns ymmodde cheeraghyn ta arryltagh dy varroo sleih elley as jannoo reddyn scammyltagh elley. Agh t'eh er ve myr shen rish ram bleeantyn.

Ta reiltyssyn ennagh goaill ymyd jeh skealyn ard-yindyssagh mychione Al Qa'ida (Yn Undinys) dy cheau ersooyl cairyn sleih. Cooinee er yn chennaghys. Shimmei leigh hranlaasagh va bree currit jee ec fir-toshee Hostyn harrish ny bleeantyn kyndagh rish yn eab dy chur Nerin fo chosh. Ta ny leighyn shoh er chur stiagh er sleih cadjin ayns Sostyn, Bretyn, Nalbin, Mannin as y Chorn chammah as orroosyn ayns Nerin hene. As nish, kyndagh rish CЄY Caggey noi'n Atchim<sup>1</sup> t'ad croo leighyn smessey foast ayns America, Sostyn as cheeraghyn elley. As ta Putin er naavioghey yn impiroilaghys Rooshagh liorish y chaggey scammyltagh ayns Chechnya.

Agh ta'n sampleyr share jeh'n impiroilaghys noa ry gheddyn syn Earack nish. Rish ymmodde bleeantyn, ta Rumsfeld as e charjyn er naarlaghey dy hoie er y cheer shen. Nish t'eh jeant oc - as cre'n brock fuilltagh t'ayn. Jarrood y blaatar mychione Wappinyn Cour Ard-Chragh. As jarrood y boghtynid mychione seyrey poble - t'eh jeeaghyn nagh row ad laccal agh geddyn greim er yn ooill, s'cummei vel meeillaghyn dy leih oney marrooit.

Ayns Sostyn, ta'n impiroilaghys noa ry akin ayns ny claareyn CЄshennaghys<sup>1</sup> ta goll er creeley er y chellveeish. Jeeagh er y strane dy chlaareyn jeant ec y fer shen David Starkey son Ammyr Kiare. Ta Starkey er ngoll erash dys ny shenn laghyn as eshyn livrey goo Yee mychione cre cho yindyssagh as va reaghyn as mraane-rein Hostyn. Choud's ta fys aym, cha row ny Celtee imraait echey agh un cheayrt - myr poble neu-feeu va scughit ersooyl ec Anglo-

Hostnee va jeeaghyn da'n teihll yn agh dy chroo ashoon veagh reill harrish y chruinney. Ta Starkey gra dy vel Crooin Hostyn er nyannoo reddyn mooarey son CЄyn ashoon<sup>1</sup>. Shione dou cre'n ashoon t'eh loayrt mychione. Ny sodjey, ta Starkey corree CЄdy vel shin er chur sthap er ynsaghey shennaghys as cultoor yn ashoon ain dy kiart<sup>1</sup>. Gyn ourys, t'eh smooinghyn dy bare dooin jarrood y theay ayns shennaghys. Share y lught-recoil my t'ou cur yn impiroilaghys er e hoshiagh. Ta Starkey ny charrey mooar da'n Phrinse Chalse, ren gra CЄTa shin er choayl yn agh dy hoiggal yn eiraght ashoonagh ain. T'eh ooilley kyndagh rish ny bleeantyn tree feed.<sup>1</sup> Cre'n jeeil va jeant ec ny bleeantyn shen. As ta shin toiggal c'ired ta'n prinse oasle cheet er tra t'eh loayrt mychione CЄyn eiraght ashoonagh ain<sup>1</sup> as CЄshin<sup>1</sup>. Shione dhyt dy vel reddyn beggan ersooyl cam tra ta Starkey gra CЄShe yn rheam recoil yn agh dooghysagh dy reill. Gagh sorch elley dy reilty, she red aggaragh t'ayn<sup>1</sup>.

Fer -shennaghys elley, shen dooinney enmyssit Ferguson. Ta eshyn lane shickyry dy row (as dy vel) impiraghtyn foaysagh. Vel shen yn oyr hoar eh obbyr yindyssagh myr olloo niartal ayns ollooscoill Americaanagh myr Yale ny Harvard? Son shickyrys, ta ny CЄneocons<sup>1</sup> Americaanagh goll rish Rumsfeld slane ayns foayr jeh'n impiroilaghys. Shimmei neocon as shimmei sidoor Americaanagh ta lhaih dy jeean mychione yn Impiraght Ghoaldagh nish. Foddee ad jeeaghyn da ny h-Arabee treih yn agh dy chosney yn deynlaght.

Foddee nagh vodmayd, ny Celtee, jannoo monney mychione ny cooishyn shoh. Agh er y chooid sloo fodmayd gaccan mychione claareyn chellveeish nagh vel agh ashoonaghys Sostnagh. As ta currym er l'eh ain dy ve caggey noi'n impiroilaghys. Son shickyrys, ren ram jeh ny shennayraghyn ain cooney dy jeean lesh yn impiroilaghys - jeeagh er ny captanyn-marrey Manninagh va dellal ayns sleabyn. Agh er y laue elley, va shennayraghyn ain va mastey yn chield sleih va currit fo chosh ec yn impiroilaghys syn Oarpey. T'eh fassanagh ec y traa t'ayn dy hannaghtyn dty host. Lhig dooin gyllagh magh.

### Summary

*A new and dangerous imperialism is appearing, led by the unholy alliance of the Bush clique, Blair and Putin. Celts may appear powerless in the face of all this, but the insular Celts should at least protest about the stream of imperialist propaganda masquerading as history which is appearing on British television.*

Brian Stowell

# PILLARS OF MANX LANGUAGE DIE

## Leslie Quirk

29.9.1914 - 20.10.2004

A fluent Manx speaker and member of Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh (Manx Gaelic Society), Lesley Quirk will be remembered as part of the team which worked with the Irish Folklore Commission to ensure that the last native speakers of Manx were recorded. He was, therefore, part of a movement and group that ensured that the language was not quietly extinguished but remained alive. His involvement and commitment spanned decades and he carried on his work for the language with enthusiasm and courtesy until he died.

Throughout his life, Leslie loved the Isle of Man, the language, and other languages and cultures. He had learned a lot of Manx from Caesar Cashen, a noted Manx speaker in Peel. He also learned a lot of Welsh when he had to leave Mannin and was working for a forestry board in Wales, near Machynlletth.

Leslie had spent some time in Ireland and met some interesting characters. His Irish was good; good enough, in fact, to be asked to go to Ireland to work for the language there. Thankfully for the Manx, family matters prevented this. When at University College Dublin earlier this year for the launch of the remastered native speaker recordings, interviewers naturally wanted to hear Manx. Leslie was very polite, however, and spoke a lot of Irish with the result that

some people thought that Manx was a lot more like Irish than it actually is.

He was a kind, humorous, pleasant man, with no sense of glory-seeking - but there was a great solidity deep inside him. He believed in the Manx nation and he understood that you can't do much without politics.

He was one of the people who took the momentous step in the early 1960s to formally establish a Manx Nationalist Party, thereby ensuring that some of the constitutional freedoms that have since accrued were realised. On Saturday 11th January 1964, he became a part of what was termed 'the temporary management committee' of Mec Vannin (then called the Manx Nationalist Organisation) at its formative meeting. He served in Mec Vannin for several years, together with his brother Walter, and was one of those who stuck with the organisation as it experienced 'growing pains'. His patience, good manners and diplomacy were vital in some of the early meetings of the Party.

In his later years, he became Warden for Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh headquarters for several years and was honoured with the Reih Bleeaney Vannannin award in the 1990s. Only last year, he spent hours upon hours typing a Manx religious work written



in a slightly different orthography onto computer. He was reading stories to the children at the Manx-medium school and was studying Breton through the medium of Welsh.

Although the true Manx nature of the Island has become less strong, Leslie was delighted that children can now learn Manx in the schools and that there is a Manx-medium school, with young children speaking Manx confidently and with enjoyment. Fifty years ago, who would have thought that such things would happen?

Brian Stowell, who knew Lesley for 51 years from the time Lesley taught him his first Manx in 1954 and met him frequently up until his death, read a remembrance of his life at the funeral service at St Patrick's chapel, Peel, where Leslie had been an active member of the congregation. After the service, he was buried at Braddan cemetery, along with his wife, Ailsh.

Let us pay our respects to a Manninagh dooie, a true Manxman.

## Mr Richard (Dick) Radcliffe

Dick died peacefully on the morning of Thursday 14th October 2004 in his 84th year and our hearts go out in sorrow and sympathy to his widow and children who have suffered a great loss.

He was buried at Malew cemetery after a funeral service at Arbory Street Methodist Church, Castletown, attended by many relatives, friends and neighbours.

Although Dick wasn't born on the Island (his parents were living in Whitehaven at the time), he was a true Manxman indeed and he loved the Island and its language.

His family returned to the Island when he was three or four and they settled in Ramsey, where he spent his youth like many boys, playing football, gathering birds' eggs and walking the hills, a place he loved.

He was a sailor in the English Royal Navy, sailing the high seas in destroyers as a gunner. He took his Manx bible with him and it was there, while not on watch, that he began reading and learning Manx, a lifelong love to him

At the end of the war, he came back to the Island to his old job in a bank.

In the sixties, Dick gained promotion and had to move to Castletown - a new house but more than that, a bigger garden!

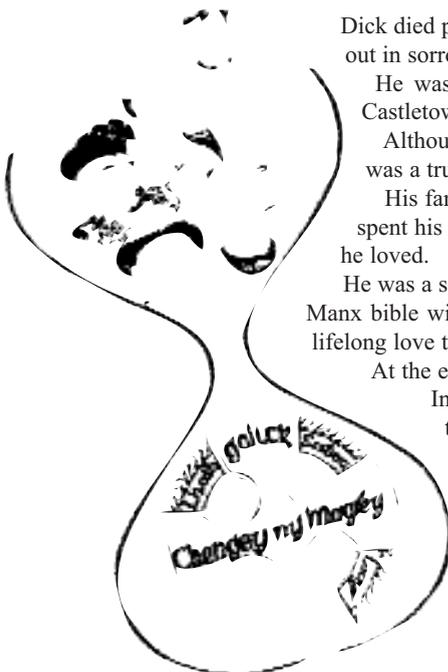
He was a terrific gardener and he enjoyed growing and exhibiting chrysanthemums, and he won many awards for his beautiful flowers.

Above all, he was well known for his sincerity, kindness and hospitality. His door was always open to anyone who wanted help, advice or a chat.

We who love the language will keep him in tender memory, for the kindness and charity he gave to us in helping us to speak our mother tongue and, for my own part, for the pleasant hours spent in his home.

Sleep peacefully good friend, and God's peace be with you.

Mark Kermode





# Celtica



## AGM 2004

This year's AGM took place on the 16th October 2004 in Perranporth, Cornwall. The following resolutions were adopted for progress by the branches.

### Alba

This AGM proposes that we liaise with the Unrepresented Nations of People Organisation (UNPO) with a view to membership of the Celtic League. This AGM requests that the International Olympic Committee hereby recognises the legitimate right of the ancient Celtic nations (Alba / Scotland, Breizh / Brittany, Cymru / Wales, Kernow / Cornwall, Mannin / Isle of Man) and in doing so proscribe the false, non-nations of Britain and France from participation.

### Breizh

This AGM calls on the French government for the reunification of a Brittany of 5 *departments* as it was before World War II without any opposition to connections with other Atlantic regions.

This AGM calls on the French government to employ more Breton language teachers because there is more and more demand.

### Cymru

The AGM notes the decision of Cymuned to adopt a strategy of trying to win recognition of the Bro Gymraeg as an entity in order to preserve Welsh as a naturally spoken community language. The AGM endorses this direction.

### Éire

This AGM calls on the new Minister of Education, Mary Hanifin, TD, to reverse Dept. of Education and Science policies which are curbing the expansion of Gaelscoileanna in the Republic. In particular we call for an end to the ridiculous policy of stating that demand for new schools must be accommodated in existing Gaelscoileanna, when they are in fact full and have little room for recreation let alone any totally disruptive expansion. We also call for a change to the date requirement for application for new Gaelscoileanna from September to December.

This AGM calls on the Irish and British governments to ensure that the Good Friday agreement in the North is maintained and implemented. The Assembly must be



*Sua Bowen,  
Secretary, Kernow Branch*

restored and cross border bodies fully implemented.

This AGM congratulates Stádas on its successful campaign to get the Irish government to ask for full EU working language status for Irish. We call on the EU Council of Ministers and the EU Commission to grant the request of the Irish government for full EU working language status for Irish and to expedite its implementation.

This AGM demands that the Irish Government stop its collusion with the US in the Iraq war in its illegal granting of the use of Shannon Airport for transfer of US military personnel and material. We call for the proper maintenance of Ireland's neutrality.

The Celtic League deplors what has happened in the recent past in the six counties of the North of Ireland in regard to collusion between Westminster State security forces and loyalist paramilitaries. This AGM calls for an immediate independent international inquiry into the London Government's collusion in murders committed there in the past.

### Kernow

1.1 That the Church of England in Cornwall should be disestablished to create a new province of the Church of England - a Church of Cornwall.

- 1.2 That the Archbishop of Canterbury should acknowledge on behalf of the Church of England its part in provoking and suppressing the 1549 Prayer Book Uprising.
- 1.3 That the Archbishop should make a statement of regret on behalf of the Church of England for all it has done since 1549 and continues to do to suppress Cornwall's national identity, political freedom, language and culture.

## GOD SAVE THE QUEEN TO BECOME SUBJECT OF RACIAL EQUALITY COMPLAINT

A Perthshire man is promising to make a complaint to the Commission for Racial Equality the next time he hears God Save the Queen played.

Mark Hirst, 35, of Abernethy, a public relations executive, said he had already contacted the commission for advice and intended to report a racist incident next time he hears the anthem.

Mr Hirst, who is not a member of any political party, said: "I have long been bewildered that God Save the Queen, with its openly racist and anti-Scottish lyrics, has not led to prosecution by the authorities.

"While Flower of Scotland simply asks the English to have a wee think to themselves, God Save the Queen wallows in the 'crushing' of our rebellious ancestors."

He said the commission advised him to make an official complaint the next time he heard the song played.

Mr Hirst does not intend to scour events schedules and TV listings in the hope of finding some place where he will hear it soon, but insists he will report an incident the next time he chances upon the anthem.

He added: "As for my preference to the Scottish national anthem, I think Flower of Scotland is a fine tune with inspiring lyrics, and long before the chattering middle classes started organising focus groups and petitioning the parliament, it was accepted and embraced by the people as our rightful anthem.

"Had it not been for the preference of Scots to sing Flower of Scotland as their anthem these last few decades, we might still be droning along to the tune which celebrates our defeat and humiliation at the hands of our English conqueror."

Mr Hirst also described it as ironic that the British anthem's lyrics were written to celebrate the defeat of the Jacobites.

He said the tune was an old Jacobite one, with the lyrics changed to suit the political agenda of the day.

*The third verse in full  
Lord grant that Marshal Wade  
May by thy mighty aid  
Victory bring.  
May he sedition hush,  
And like a torrent rush,  
Rebellious Scots to crush.  
God save the King/Queen!*

# The O' Keffe Chalice Campaign

In the Spring issue of *Carn* I wrote about the efforts of certain members of the Clann O Caoimh (O'Keeffe) to have an Ecclesiastical chalice of ours returned from its present abode, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, to a similar facility (such as the Cork Public Museum) in the Irish Republic. The chalice in question – now known as the 'Mount Keffe Chalice' – dates from 1590, making it one of the oldest Irish Ecclesiastical chalices. During the period of the Penal Laws the chalice was stolen from the O'Keeffe's by members of the English Army who also murdered two priests in their efforts to secure it.

A year ago, after consulting with other O'Keeffes, I wrote to the V & A, informed them of the chalice's history, and requested that they voluntarily return the chalice to a suitable museum in Ireland. The response I received was, as one might expect, dismissive of any claim to ownership on our part, but – surprisingly! – they did not contest the allegations of the theft (in fact they freely admitted being acquainted with the details). I subsequently sought a legal opinion from two internationally acknowledged experts – one of whom is British – whose work is primarily claims of restitution, usually of art works stolen by the Nazis. English Law is quite clear on the matter of stolen property: anyone buying or selling property without the permission of the original legal owner is liable to the original owner for the **tort of conversion**. This is a tort of strict liability, i.e.:

*the knowledge or belief of the purchaser is irrelevant.* Purchasers, including those who purchase in good faith from a legitimate dealer may be sued in English Law. In addition, the principle of *Caveat Emptor*, cautions the buyer that there can be no title from a thief; the thief does not have the right to pass on title of stolen goods. Therefore one who purchases goods from a thief has no greater title to those goods than did the thief, and *cannot legitimately pass title to any future purchaser*. Now although this seems straightforward to the layperson, it seems that it is not so simple, ... especially when it comes to the recovery of pieces now 'owned' by British museums. In fact, the British have enacted a number of laws whose sole purpose is to provide a 'shield' for museums to protect them from just such claims.

The news is now all bad, however, as there are a number of other options available:

First and foremost, counsel advises that **the British are terrified of such claims at the moment** – they **do not** want precedents reported in the newspapers! Thus, a representative – and this can be done by an individual parliamentarian – of the Irish government could contact either the Director or Board of trustees of the V & A to present the arguments for the return of the chalice. This would likely receive considerable attention.

A second course would be to address a British Working Group on the matter of Sacred Objects. Permission to give evidence

to this group can be requested by either governmental bodies or individuals.

Mediation: this method has been used in many of the Holocaust situations where it avoids legal problems, concentrating instead on moral/ethical issues and aspects. The "Report on the Spoilation Advisory Panel in Respect of a Painting Now in the Possession of the Tate Gallery" illustrates the work of that body – it can be found on the web site of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (U.K.)

The Irish Government can make an application to the **Intergovernmental Committee for the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin**, or its **Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation** situated in UNESCO. This however is more of a last resort as it is painting the British Government into a corner. It is preferable to first negotiate and, if necessary, mediate. To sum, even though a museum may – according to the laws of their nation – have 'good title' to an artefact, they will want to return it both because of the adverse publicity and the circumstances in which it was taken.

While seeking opinion from counsel, I also received a bit of fascinating news from the Office of Mr. John O'Donoghue, T.D., Minister of Arts, Sport and Tourism whom I had contacted requesting assistance. Mr. O'Donoghue's office informed me that they had broached the matter with the National Museum of Ireland (who reportedly enjoys positive relations with the V & A); the National Museum subsequently attempted to raise the issue of the chalice with the Victoria and Albert Museum on a number of occasions, but the V & A *failed to respond to their enquiries* (!) This suggests that the V & A are beginning to worry about the matter, but that they remain entrenched – ostrich fashion – in their tenuous claim to title.

I have since written to Mr. O'Donoghue, to Stella Cherry of the Cork Public Museum, to Mr. Michael O'Keeffe of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society, and to Mr. Patrick Wallace of the National Museum of Ireland advising them of our position and the advice of counsel. It remains to be seen how committed the Irish Government is to protecting and conserving our Gaelic Heritage and culturally sacred objects, but it can only help to have interested parties write and express their support of having the chalice returned! Mr. O'Donoghue can be reached at: Department of Art, Sport, and Tourism, 23 Kildare St. Dublin 2 and Frederick Buildings, South Frederick St. Dublin 2. The reference # is 035716. It would also be helpful to contact the Archbishop of Ireland, Sean Brady c/o Ara Coeli, Armagh, BT61 7QY.

Those interested in further details may also contact me directly via e-mail at: [pobalokeeffe@yahoo.com](mailto:pobalokeeffe@yahoo.com)

## THE CAT IS OUT OF THE BAG!

The Economist has recently undertaken a broad based research on the best countries to live in examining a range of factors including security, sense of community, and general happiness. The Irish Republic came out as the best place to live in the world. The UK came on the bottom of the European league along with the other big states of France and Germany.

Not long ago when the 26 Irish counties that now form the Republic were part of the UK they were among the most impoverished areas of Europe. It is a sad fact that those Celtic nations still under the grip of the UK still remain so far left behind locked into stifling bureaucracy and poverty (in Wales 1/3 of children live in poverty, 10,000 and growing homeless people).

The UK elite say Wales can't afford to 'go alone'. The result of this research has now exposed this monstrous lie. The

fact is, Wales can't afford to stay dependent on decaying and morally bankrupt leftovers of the British Empire. And as for those fanatics that have declared that an 'independent' Wales must remain locked into the EU come what may, they may want to take note that the second and third best countries to live in are little Switzerland and little Norway, the only two Western European countries NOT in the Union.

The message is clear. Small republics fare much better than big centralised states. This confirms the principle that the further removed government is from the people, the more the people will suffer. Small is not just beautiful. Small is strong. Gweriniaeth Cymru am byth!

**Simon Gruffydd Foster  
Cadeirydd , Cymru Rydd/  
The Welsh Republican Party**

**Tadhg Caoimhín O Caoimh/ Timothy  
Kevin O' Keffe**



# The Chough - an Avian Link between the Celtic Nations

The Celtic League journal *Carn* is subtitled *A link between the Celtic Nations*, because the word “*Carn*” occurs in all of the 6 Celtic languages. As a Manxman who has watched choughs for almost all of his life, I would like to suggest that this bird is also a link between the Celtic nations, as it occurs in all of the Celtic countries.

For those who are not familiar with the chough, either in the wild or on the Cornish coat-of-arms, it is a crow with glossy black plumage and striking red legs and bill. It is about the same size as the much more numerous and widespread jackdaw. Unlike other species of crow, such as the magpie and raven, the diet of the chough consists mostly of insects and other invertebrates. It is particularly spectacular when flying, both when soaring with wing feathers spread out like fingers and when swooping down with closed wings to its nesting and feeding sites. A sociable bird, it seems to do best in areas where there are lots of other choughs around to join in flocks for flying, feeding and roosting. Its name in the Gaelic languages is onomatopoeic. Thus, in Manx it is called *caaig*. The English name is not onomatopoeic, but a Cornishman once told me that he had heard the name “chough” pronounced like “chaw.”

The Celtic League’s definition of a Celtic nation is one which has a living Celtic language. How can I claim the chough as a Celtic bird? Although the species is fairly widespread in mountains in southern Europe, especially Spain, as far as north western Europe is concerned it only breeds in the 6 Celtic countries. There is no other species of bird which has a range like that. As examples, the two birds flanking the Manx Government heraldic shield are the raven and the peregrine falcon. The raven nests in the 6 Celtic countries, but also in all the other countries of north western Europe except Luxembourg. The peregrine falcon is, I believe, extinct in Breizh. It breeds in the other 5 Celtic countries, but also in parts of England and Scandinavia.

Even within some of the individual Celtic countries, the chough is concentrated in what might be regarded as being some of the most traditionally Celtic areas. Thus, although choughs are found almost all round the rocky coasts of Mannin, they are especially concentrated in the far south west, where more than 40% of the breeding population occupies less than 3% of the Island’s area. It was

in this part of Mannin where some of the last of the old generation of Native Speakers of our language lived in the twentieth century, including Ned Maddrell himself. Coincidentally, in the same way that the census of the human population in 2001 found a higher number than for many years of people who professed an understanding of the Manx language, a census of the chough population in 2002 found 426 birds (including 150 breeding pairs) in Mannin, likely to be the largest population since at least the mid 19th century.

In Alba, the chough is now restricted to just two of the Inner Hebrides, Islay and Colonsay, except for one pair that nests in Galloway. It is thought that the Galloway choughs went there from Mannin, thereby providing a link between the two countries. Single pairs also nested on Jura and Mull until recently. The population of choughs in Alba is now about 80 pairs. Choughs are more widespread in Cymru, with at least 200 pairs, but most breed in the west. Likewise, although there were more than 900 pairs in Eire in 1992, they were found mostly in the west, especially in Cork, Kerry and Donegal. I do not have an up-to-date figure for Breizh, but there were fewer than 40 pairs in 1988, and most of those were in the far west, except for some on Belle Ile.

As a Manx enthusiast for the chough, I like to point out that the species occurs in a higher population density in Mannin than in any other country in Europe (except for Andorra). However, I am happy to concede that the strongest historical and traditional link with the species is with Kernow. That said, when I wrote about the chough in *Dhooraght* a few years ago, I lamented the fact that it was extinct in that country. On a visit to Kernow in 1982, I bought a fine little book by T.O. Darke called *The Cornish Chough*, published by D. Bradford Barton Ltd. of Truro. In it, Mr Darke described the history of the chough in the country, the disappearance from the south coast in the 19th century, the eventual extinction in the north, reasons for the decline and prospects for a return of the species to Kernow, which he regretted were nil. However, even at the time of my trip to Kernow, Paradise Park in Hayle had been working for several years towards releasing choughs that they had bred in aviaries. This scheme was not supported by the ornithological establishment, including the Royal

Society for the Protection of Birds, not least because they felt that the reasons for the chough’s extinction were not fully known and, it was claimed, had not been corrected.

As a Celt, the extinction of the chough in Kernow concerned me for many years. I have always been very interested in wildlife, and one of the animal books that I had as a young boy contained a photograph of 2 young choughs on a cliff in Kernow, but the last Cornish chough died in 1973, when I was 15. Much of the research on the ecology of the species during the last 30 years or so has concerned the effects of changes of agriculture. Grazing by livestock and rabbits is very important, but so is some arable farming, like grass and grain growing. Stubble and newly mown grass fields often attract large flocks of choughs in areas where there is a sizeable population. The importance of mixed agriculture is probably best illustrated in the far S.W. of Mannin by the two farms of Cregneash (Church Farm) and Shennvalley (Sound Farm). With all due respect to Manx National Heritage, Shennvalley has almost always attracted the largest numbers of choughs of any farm in Mannin, including the best ever spring count, 86 on 22nd May this year. This was not just an isolated event; the area is consistently good for choughs.

Another factor that contributed to the decline and eventual extinction of the Cornish chough was persecution by man. The concentration on agricultural changes seems to have underestimated the effects of the collection of eggs and chicks, and the killing of adult birds. In Mannin, a decrease in the chough population in the mid 19th century was preceded by the likes of the visit by one Sir William Jardine in 1827, who wrote of acquiring “nearly thirty specimens in a forenoon.” Reading *The Cornish Chough*, it is clear that egg collectors from England must take some of the blame for the extinction of the Cornish chough, offering Cornishmen what must have seemed like large sums of money to risk their lives taking clutches of eggs from the caves, fissures and mines where the nests were placed. Fortunately, humanity’s attitude towards our fellow creatures has improved greatly since the days of Sir William Jardine and his like, but some persecution of choughs still taken place. With the increased numbers of choughs in Mannin, some are nesting in places that are much more accessible to people, resulting in an increased risk of accidental disturbance. However, some pairs of choughs are very resilient to quite high levels of human activity near their nests, with the females sitting tight on the eggs, for example.

I visited in Kernow in 1982, and stayed in Tregowris, near St Keverne. One day, I went for a very long walk, south to

Carrick Luz, then along the coast to Cadgwith, the Lizard and Predannack, with a long trek across Goonhilly Downs and back to Tregowris. Subsequently, I commented that the coast between the Lizard and Predannack looked suitable for choughs, but a reply that I received from friends with connections in Kernow was that the area was too busy with people. This view was also held by organisations who were concerned with choughs repopulating Kernow, including English Nature (sic) and the R.S.P.B.; the Lizard area was not suitable.

*Operation Chough*, based at Paradise Park in Hayle, planned to release some choughs into the wild in Kernow in 2001, but this was postponed because of access restrictions aimed at reducing the risk of the spread of Foot and Mouth Disease in farm animals. However, in spring 2001, 5 choughs turned up out of the blue in Kernow, and stayed. A pair has since bred successfully in the Lizard area, in 2002, 2003 and 2004. With the breeding population consisting of just one pair, and little prospect of other birds arriving from outside Kernow, *Operation Chough* took the controversial decision of releasing a group of 6 choughs in the west of Kernow in August 2003. Unfortunately, 3 of them have since died. However, I look forward to the day when the future of the chough in Kernow is secure.

Although we now have choughs back in Kernow and, therefore, all 6 Celtic countries, the species has long been extinct in some other countries. Thus, during the 19th and early 20th centuries choughs became extinct in England, the Channel Islands, Austria and Tunisia. There are now probably fewer choughs in Portugal than in Mannin; indeed, Rushen parish has more choughs than Albania or Switzerland. Because of population decreases and extinctions in many European countries, there have been a lot of research and initiatives into conserving choughs in the Celtic countries and, also, Spain and Italy. Without trying to be too controversial, work by the Scottish Chough Study Group and the Manx Chough Project lead the way in N.W. Europe!

During the time that it has taken me to write this, another Inter-Celtic connection involving choughs has occurred. I was on the Calf of Man on 14th August and saw two choughs that had been ringed in Cymru. Two others were seen there in early September. All 4 had been ringed as chicks this spring in Anglesey. There has only ever been one proven record of a Welsh ringed chough that crossed the sea to Mannin, and that was found dead on a beach. We could say that these 4 choughs have made the crossing from Ynys Môn to "Mona's Isle."

**Allen S. Moore-Co-ordinator of the Manx Chough Project**

## FAREWELL TO AN UNREPENTANT FENIAN

*By Margaret Sexton-McGrath*

A few years ago, I attended the Michael Flannery Dinner/Dance in New York City. When I went to the dinner I was pleased to see a lot of people who I had read about in the Irish papers. Appropriately it was held in the Killishendra Room. Murals abounded in the room of the Irish Revolutionaries, in particular Michael Flannery. I was introduced to George Harrison and engaged him in conversation about so many topics. During the evening I heard from other guests about George and was amazed at not only the people I was meeting but the stories I was hearing. I felt extremely lucky to be there that evening with living Irish history and to have met him again over the years. He passed away at his home in Brooklyn, New York on October 6, 2004. The upcoming 2005 Michael Flannery Awards will pay tribute to George and his life crusade for those oppressed both Celtic and non-Celtic. Here are some other reminiscences of the people I met:

### *Bernadette Devlin McAliskey*

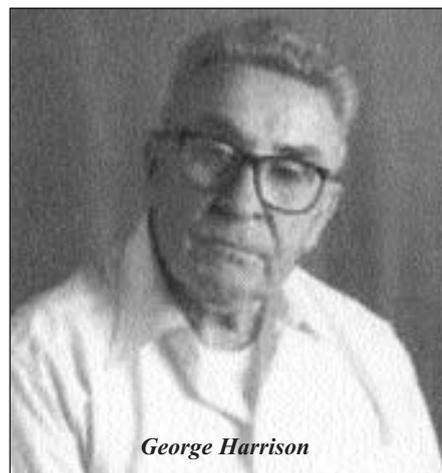
I met George the very first time I went to America, in 1969 'straight from the 'Bogside front-line.' I met a lot of people then, and thereafter, but there remains a small core of stalwarts, who have been my friends and compatriots ever since that momentous trip; foremost amongst these, were my two great mentors Paul O'Dwyer and George Harrison, both gone from us now.

You will each, today, be paying tribute and sharing memories of George's unique contribution to all our lives, his political commitment and principle, his personal generosity, and his lifelong involvement in the struggle for a better world for human beings to live in. Loyalty, reliability and discretion were the hallmarks of this old soldier.

George Harrison was above all other things a modest, quiet man. Even in the prime of his youth, a stranger passing him in the street, would have no hint, no signal, no reason to suspect that this was an uncompromising radical, a committed internationalist and socialist, a militant, an activist, a man whose every waking hour was devoted to struggle armed or unarmed, to bring about revolutionary change in the world into which he was born.

Only a fool like George Bush and a braggart like Tony Blair could delude themselves that the George Harrison's of this world can be defeated by their military intelligence, satellite surveillance, warmongering, human rights denial, and pathetic attempts to seal their borders. George Harrison, Mayo man, Irish Republican, Socialist, Internationalist Humanitarian and Labour Organiser led them all a merry dance for 70 years of adult life and lived and died on his own terms.

We shall miss him.



*George Harrison*

### *Ruairi Ó Brádaigh RSF President*

"George Harrison who has died in New York was Patron of Republican Sinn Fein since 1994. A native of Shamher, Kilkelly, Co Mayo, he was a veteran of the East Mayo Battalion IRA.

He emigrated to the USA in 1938 and from then on he was a life – long Irish American activist and an active supporter of international liberation struggles.

In 1982 along with the late Michael Flannery and three others he was acquitted in an American court on a charge of supplying arms to the IRA.

George was in his ninetieth year and his passing leaves a huge gap in the ranks of Irish American supporters of the Republican Movement in Ireland.

### *Leaba I measc na bhFiníní go raibh aige."* *Brian Mór Ó Baoighill, Cumann Na Saoirse Náisiúnta*

The National Irish Freedom Committee – (Cumann na Saoirse Náisiúnta) joins with all true Republicans in Ireland, Scotland, England and throughout the world to mourn the passing of a lifelong Irish Republican and Eternal Fenian, George Harrison of Brooklyn, New York, New Hampshire and the County Mayo.

We empathize with his family and innumerable friends during this time of their profound loss and grief at the passing of this modern Irish hero. He shall be remembered forever. And as we remember this dedicated man, we rejoice in his long consecrated and meaningful life. A life that was dedicated to the unification of Ireland by any and all means possible.

To this end, George and a committed cadre of his fellow physical force Republicans organized a weapons procurement programme which had three decades of success in supplying the Freedom Fighters of the Irish Republican Army with the wear with all to sustain their campaigns.

Unfortunately, the fruits of George's and his friends' labour is now being bartered as the price of admission for revisionist former

# Britonia: camiños novos

**SIMON YOUNG**

List Price: €8.50

**Paperback** 167 pages (March 2002), (140x215 mm)

**Language: Galician. ISBN: 84-95622-58-0**

Republicans to participate in British direct rule of the six occupied counties in the north of Ireland. Adams and his purloined posse are swapping semtex for summer homes, guns for governmental positions, and they are cementing over arms dumps to secure their status as second class citizens in their Loyalist controlled state – not what George and his compatriots had in mind when they set about their clandestine weapons quest.

We would be remiss if we didn't mention George's support of freedom movements worldwide. Of George it was said, "Never met a revolution he didn't like.", and to paraphrase the old ballad, "God grant you glory, old George, and open heavens to all your men, the cause that called you may call tomorrow in another cause for the Green again."

*Thomas McGrath,*

*Celtic League American Branch*

George Harrison was not in the street sense a Centrist. He was not an Irish language scholar such as his fellow Irish republican Martin O'Caer. Nonetheless, his life should serve as an example to those of us who seek to establish an ethnic or cultural identity that extends beyond the borders of one particular country.

Although born in the small west of Ireland village of Shammer, County Mayo. George viewed the Irish people's struggle for national and cultural identity in a global setting. He saw parallels to the cause of Africans oppressed by the apartheid regime in South Africa. This affinity was most clearly evidenced when David Ndaba of the African National Congress testified as a character witness at his trial.

George took great pride in detailing the role of the IRA in the fight against fascism in Spain. He time and again expressed his solidarity with the Basque people in their efforts.

George was truly as he was described by Ruairi Ó Brádaigh in a message to the Michael Flannery dinner in his honour "A rebel without a pause" but never without a purpose and a goal.

Those of us who wish to attain Pan-Celtic unity would do well to follow the transnational vision of one of the sincerest and courageous men it has been our privilege to know.

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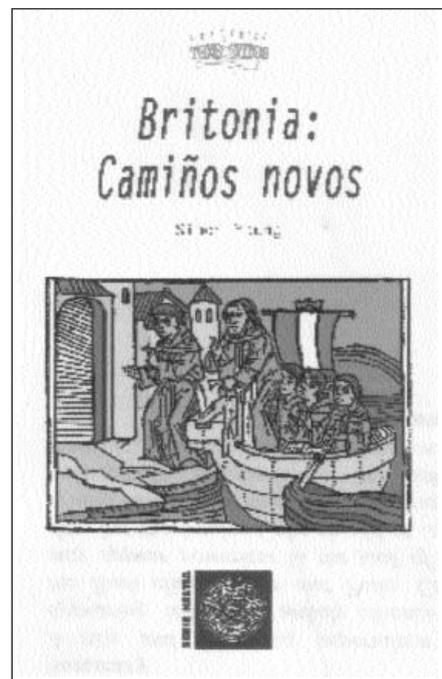
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**Publisher:** Editorial Toxosoutos, Serie Keltia. **TOXOSOUTOS**, is a recently established Galician publishing company covering medieval Galician history and language and also Celtic studies and Galician literature. The Keltia series has very interesting titles dealing with the Celts in Galicia as well as with the Celts in general. Visit their website at [www.toxosoutos.com](http://www.toxosoutos.com)

**About the Author:** Simon Young is 31 years old. This young English author is now living in Italy. He became interested in the early Middle Ages (400-1000) and especially the British Celts in this period at university, ten years ago. Since then he has written 3 books and many articles both academic and freelance on the theme and, at the moment, he is in the middle of a doctorate at Florence University where he is cataloguing «*The Insular Peregrini*» (Columbanus and others). This April 2005, **Wedensfield and Nicholson** will be publishing his latest book «*AD 500*», which is a kind of travelogue describing a trip around Britain and Ireland. His interest in Britonia (the British Celtic colony in Spain) began many years ago when an undergraduate at Cambridge. As a freelance journalist he has written on European minorities and the right of self determination. In 2001, he received the «*Premio Historia Medieval de Galicia*» (Galicia Medieval History Prize) for his book «*Britonia: camiños novos*».

### Book Description:

This book covers a subject seldom covered by Celtic scholars and little known among British Celts. Galicia has always claimed a Celtic past. But this Celtic past is not only pre-Roman as most people think. Like Brittany, though on a smaller scale, Galicia received British Celtic immigrants during the Dark Ages, fleeing the «*Saxon fury*» as Gildas told us in his «*De Excidio Britanniae*». These colonies of Britons on the shores of the north-western corner of the Iberian Peninsula, in what is now Galicia and Asturias are much less well known than those in Brittany. Few scholars have dealt with this subject as few scholars have had enough competence in Celtic studies and also in Galician medieval history. **Simon Young**, using the works of **Pierre David** and **Antonio García y García** was determined to put down the basic foundations for future researchers, something that was totally lacking in studies up to that time, studies that



tended to be woolly or full of folklore considerations. The book is divided into three parts. Part one looks at the traditional sources on the settlements. Part two shows us new sources of study. And part three is a provocative interpretation of parts one and two of the book. It also contains a very useful and interesting appendix dealing with place and personal names linked to these British settlements. The history of these British Celtic settlers in Galicia and Asturias is fascinating. The first mention of these British Celtic colonies is found in 572 in the acts of the second Council of Braga, stating that «*Mahiloc Britonorum ecclesiae episcopus hic gestis subscribitur*» which means «*I, Maeloc, bishop of the Church of the Britons signed this act*». Some 10 place-names directly connected with the British Celtic colonies of the Dark Ages are still to be found in Galicia and Asturias, among them the famous «*Bretonia*» near Mondoñedo. I would like to recommend very warmly this excellent and very interesting book which would merit an English translation in order to make it accessible to English-speaking readers. It would be also worth reading by British Celts and Celts in general...

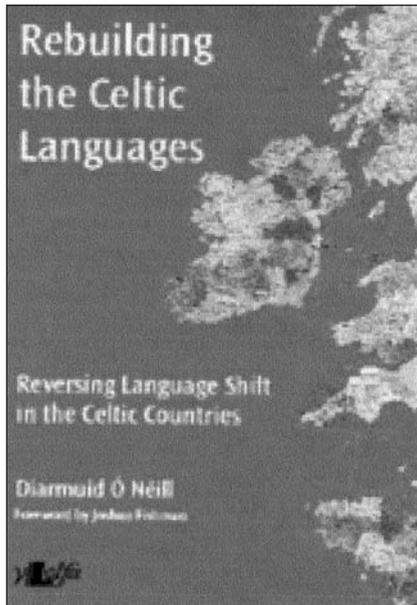
**Simon Young** also hopes to publish in English a series of articles expanding chapters of this book. In fact, the first of these has now come out and appeared in **Cambrian Medieval Celtic Studies in 2003** «*The Bishops of Britonia*».

## Rebuilding the Celtic Languages / Diarmuid Ó Neill

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

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

This book will be available for sale in the Celtic countries in new year, in the meantime it can be purchased from Y Lolfa's Online Shop for £19.95 at <http://www.ylolfa.com>



## Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership fee (including *Carn*) and subscription rates are: Stg£12; €20; US\$30.00 (US funds, cheques drawn on a US bank). Europe: Stg.£15 (airmail); Outside Europe: Stg.£18.00 (airmail).

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