

comann

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

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ALBA: AN COMANN CEILTEACH
BREIZH: AR C’HEVRE KELTIEK
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Alba



COLA-DEUG GU MATH SOIRBHEACHAIL DO LUCHD-ACADAIMIGICH AN T-SABHAIL

Tha a' chiad chola-deug de 2009 air a bhith gu math soirbheachail do Shabhal Mòr Ostaig. Chaidh rannsachadh ann an Eòlas Ceilteach a rinn luchd-obrach an t-Sabhail, aithneachadh aig an ìre as àirde ann an Eacarsaich Sgrùdadh Rannsachaidh (RAE) o chionn goirid. 'S e sgrùdadh nàiseanta a th' anns an RAE far am bi eòlaichean anns gach seòrsa rannsachaidh a' toirt breith air buaidh rannsachaidh. An uair sin, thèid maoin a thoirt seachad a rèir mar a rinn gach ionad anns an RAE.

Thuir an t-ollamh Gillian Rothach, Co-òrdanaiche Rannsachaidh aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig: 'Tha sinn glè thoilichte leis na toraidhean a fhuair sinn bhon RAE, a chionn 's gur e seo a' chiad dreach den rannsachadh ann an Eòlas Ceilteach a chuir sinn a-steach. 'S e ceathrar luchd-obrach aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig a rinn an rannsachadh seo; an t-Oll. Meg Bateman, an t-Oll. Mike Cormack, an t-Oll. Richard Cox agus an t-Oll. John Purser. Chaidh an dàrna leth dhen rannsachadh aca a mheas mar 'cudromach aig ìre eadar-nàiseanta' agus chaidh còig deug sa cheud dheth aithneachadh aig 'an ìre as àirde gu h-eadar-nàiseanta'. 'S e togail air an t-soirbheachadh seo an ath cheum againn gu



Boyd Roberson Director of the Sabhal Mòr Ostaig

dèanamh cinnteach gun dèan sinn fiù 's nas fhèarr anns na measaidhean rannsachaidh eile a bhios ri thighinn.

Chaidh Boyd Robasdan, a thòisich an dreuchd ùr aige mar Stiùiriche na Colaiste aig toiseach na bliadhna, ainmeachadh mar 'Àrd-Ollaimh' le OGE. Choisinn Tormod MacGillÌosa, an Stiùiriche a bha ann roimhe, an tìotal 'Ollamh Emeritus'. Thuir an t-Àrd-

Ollamh Robasdan, a tha air leth toilichte a bhith air ainmeachadh mar 'Àrd-Ollamh', 'Tha seo a' sealltainn an eòlais agus an dichill a th' aig luchd-obrach an t-Sabhail Mhòir agus math na h-àrainneachd ionnsachaidh. Tha toraidhean an RAE nas sònraichte buileach air sàilleabh 's gur e seo a' chiad cur a-steach le luchd-obrach Shabhal Mòr Ostaig.'

Thuir Ruairidh Iain MacLeòid, Cathraiche an Urrais, agus e a' cur fàilte air na leasachaidhean seo: 'Tha an naidheachd seo anabarrach sòlasach agus i a' dearbhadh cliù is ainm Shabhal Mòr Ostaig mar shàr ionad-rannsachaidh agus tha mi a' cur meal-an-aidheachd air Gillian Rothach agus an luchd-rannsachaidh a choisinn na molaidhean seo. Tha an naidheachd gu bheil OGE air Boyd aithneachadh mar àrd-ollamh na dhearbhadh air an eòlas acadaimigich a th' aig Boyd agus a' sealltainn an t-sàr chliù a tha Sabhal Mòr Ostaig air cosnadh taobh a-staigh OGE. Tha sinn cuideachd air leth toilichte a chluinntinn gu bheil Tormod MacGillÌosa air aithneachadh mar 'Ollamh Emeritus' às dèidh dha a' cholaiste a stiùireadh cho fada agus le deagh chliù.

Summary

The first two weeks of 2009 heralded academic success and recognition for Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the National Centre for Gaelic Language and Culture on the Isle of Skye. Researchers at Sabhal Mòr have achieved world-leading classification for Celtic Studies research in the recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE). The RAE is a UK-wide, discipline-based expert review process where the quality of research is judged by experts in each field of research. <http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/>

GUTHAN NAN EILAEAN A' SGAOILEADH

Tha am pròiseact cànan cliùiteach, 'Guthan nan Eilean', a tha air a stiùireadh le Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, air an ath cheum a ghabhail a-nis, an dèidh ionmhas fhaighinn on Mhaoin Shòisealta Eòrpaich. Bha a' phròiseact dhà-chànanach do luchd-ionnsachaidh is luchd-oide na Gàidhlig is na Beurla stèidhichte an toiseach ann an Uibhist, ach, aig an dàrna ìre seo, sgaoilidh am pròiseact a-mach a dh'àiteachan eile anns na h-Eileanan.

Mar phàirt dhen pròiseact, bidh trèanadh air a thabhan do luchd-oide agus an cuid oileanach a tha airson na sgilean bhideo aca a leasachadh. Ann an co-bhoinn ri Cothrom agus buidhnean eile, cuiridh Sabhal Mòr Ostaig sreath de bhùitheat-obrach air dòigh sna h-Eileanan Siar agus san Eilean Sgitheanach airson cothrom a thoirt do dhaoine a tha airson an sgilean clàraidh is deasachaidh a leasachadh. Thuir Gòrdan Wells, Co-òrdanaiche na pròiseict,

"Chan eil agad ach ri coimhead air YouTube agus chì thu mar a tha teicneòlas ùr a' toirt cothrom do dhuine sam bith a tha airson film a dhèanamh. Bidh na bùitheat-obrach againn a' sealltainn cho simplidh 's a tha e film a dhèanamh agus 's ma dh'fhaoidte gum broснаich e luchd-oide gus obrachadh còmhla ri luchd-ionnsachaidh aig gach ìre



Peat cutting as part of the new programme

dhen riochdachadh". Ma tha ùidh agad anns a' ghnòthach, leig fios do Ghòrdan air 07879 644984 no info@gordonwells.co.uk

Tha an Dàrna Ìre dhen phròiseact co-cheangailte ris an àrainneachd is cuspairean traidiseanta a leithid gearradh na mòine is feannagan cho math ri spòrs an latha andiugh mar surfadh. Cuiribh post-d no fòn gu Gordon ma tha beachd sam bith agaibh a chuireadh ris a' phròiseact.

Summary

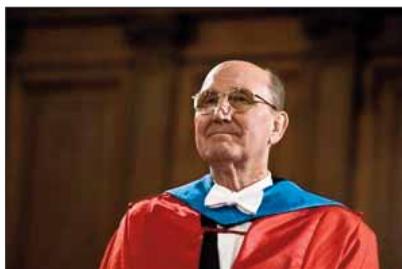
The award-winning "Guthan nan Eilean/ Island Voices" language-teaching project led by Sabhal Mòr Ostaig has entered a new phase of development. In collaboration with Cothrom the college is now planning a series of one-day workshops, concentrating on environmental aspects, to run through the basics of video filming and editing. Anyone interested should contact Gordon Wells, project co-ordinator, at info@gordonwells.co.uk or visit <http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/>

Obituary- Professor Neil McCormick

Professor Sir Neil MacCormick died on April 5, 2009 from stomach cancer. Born in 1941, Neil grew up in a flat overlooking Kelvingrove Park. After leaving Glasgow High School he studied philosophy and English literature at Glasgow University and then jurisprudence at Balliol, Oxford earning first class honours in both.

His own academic career began at St Andrews in '65 where he lectured in jurisprudence. He was then a fellow and tutor – again in the same subject- at Balliol from '68 to '72. His meteoric rise in academia continued. Still only 31, he was appointed Regius Professor of Public Law at Edinburgh University. It was a post he would hold for a record 36 years and one that would afford him the opportunity to write and talk widely on matters of legal philosophy.

Neil came from a prominent nationalist family. His father, “King John” MacCormick, had helped to found the SNP and had organised the famous “National Covenant.” Neil himself joined the SNP in 1968. He wanted it to have a left of centre, Scandinavian style social democratic outlook. Unfortunately his several attempts to win a seat at Westminster were unsuccessful but in 1999 he did finally become both an MEP and a Party Vice-President.



Professor Sir Neil MacCormick

The Glasgow Herald Political Awards subsequently saw him voted Euro MP of the Year on three separate occasions. He retired as an MEP in 2004 but three years later – after the SNP's minority administration took power at Holyrood-Alex Salmond made him a Special Adviser on European Affairs.

MacCormick was said to believe in an inclusive, “utilitarian” nationalism. He saw independence as the “best means to the well being of the Scottish people.” He also believed that, after independence, Scotland would automatically remain a member of the EU.

Alex Salmond has described MacCormick as a “man of immense warmth and intellect.”

Alan Stewart

The SNP recently celebrated its' 75th anniversary

Alan Stewart looks back at the Party's early years.

The Scottish National Party was formed in 1934 from the merger of the left-of-centre National Party of Scotland and the centre-right Scottish Party.

It won its' first parliamentary seat in 1945, taking Motherwell in a by-election. This unlikely victory owed something to the wartime “electoral truce” –which was still in effect- and the winner Dr Robert McIntyre duly lost it again when “normal politics” resumed three months later with the General Election.

The SNP then slipped back into the shadows. Another Home Rule initiative, John MacCormick's “Scottish Convention”, did launch the Scottish Covenant in October '49 and two million did sign it. But in general national independence was off the agenda.

Indeed the SNP didn't make any headway until the early 60's when once again it made the most of by-elections to raise its' profile. In November 1961 it won 18% in Bridgeton. Early on the following year William Wolfe also did well against Tam Dalyell in West Lothian.

Wolfe, soon to be a SNP Vice Chair, was a rising star in the Party. According to Harvie (1977) he shifted the SNP to the left on issues like “disarmament and land nationalisation.” He wanted the SNP to have something of day-to-day relevance to say the workers in Scotland's central belt. He wanted it to take an interest in particular in social issues and industrial battles (such as the battle against factory closures).

This reorientation paid dividends. In March '67 the SNP took a 28% share of the vote in the Pollok by-election. On 2 November it did even better, with the indefatigable Winnie Ewing winning Hamilton after a massive swing from Labour.

The Hamilton result put the SNP “on the British political map” and sent “shock waves” through the other parties (Devine 1999).

This sense of panic got worse when the SNP followed this up with gains in the local elections the following year. Edward Heath said nationalism was now the “biggest factor in our politics today” and he told the Scottish Tories –in his infamous “Declaration of Perth” - that the Conservatives were now for devolution (Devine 1999).

Campaign to bring back the remains of Mary, Queen of Scots to Scotland.

I am defending and fighting for the return of the remains of Mary Queen of Scots on many fronts and have done so for many years. My campaign is in the Scottish Parliament with MSP Christine Grahame and on the BBC website Scotland's History.

I have written to a many people and lodged the following Petition at the PM petition site. The petition read: We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to: ‘Return the remains of Mary Queen of Scots to Scotland’ I have launched my campaign to bring back to Scotland the remains of Mary Queen of Scots. She was illegally tried and executed of fabricated charges by the English Government and Elizabeth I. 1587. I have the support of Christine Grahame MSP in the Scottish Parliament and Scottish Classical composer James MacMillan. I have been in communication with Westminster Abbey where the remains of Mary have been held since 1612’.

This petition was rejected because it was ‘Outside the remit or powers of the Prime Minister and Government. This is a matter for the Church of England’. Zoe Tough of the Public Petitions Committee also informed me that only the Queen of England has the authority to deal with this matter. As for being a matter for the Church of England, Lambeth Palace claim they have no jurisdiction on this. Who then has responsibility for Mary Stuart?

This year Scotland has been initiated Scottish Homecoming Year by the Scottish Government, inviting Scots decedents to visit Scotland because of the 250th anniversary of the birth of our great Bard Robert Burns. This would be a good time to bring the remains of Mary to Scotland as it would generate worldwide publicity and good will between Scotland and England **Anyone who may wish to support my campaign can either write to me at: 347-2/1 Pollokshaws Rd, St. Andrew's Cross, Glasgow G411QT, or Email frank_dougan@hotmail.com** I appeal to all with internet access to sign the online petition I recently set up - <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/mary-queen-of-scots>

Frank J Dougan

For its' part, the Wilson Government set up a Royal Commission on the Constitution. The future Government of Scotland was part of its' remit. So all round it was clear that “after 1967 and 1968 Scottish politics would never be the same again” (Devine 1999).

Ref: T.M. Devine, “The Scottish Nation”



Breizh



Plas ha dazont Iwerzhon e-barzh saverezh nerzhus an E.U.

An dud a soñj dezho eo bet saverezh an Europa un dra vat evit Bro-Iwerzhon. Iwerzhon a zo bet atav pragmatic war dachenn an EU. Biskoazh ne m'eus kredet e-barzh «ul liamm kalonek». Soñjal a ra din o deus Iwerzhoniz sellet ouzh an E.U. (European-Union) e-giz un doare da nevesaat Iwerzhon. Prof. Brigid Laffan, BBC News, 15 mae 2007.

D'an 12 a viz Even, o deus 53% eus an iwerzhoniz votet a enep Emglev-Lisbon. N'eo ket ar wec'h kentañ e vez kaset un Emglev europaat da sutal. Ar voterien o doa nac'het an emglev anvet Emglev-Nice d'an 8 a viz Even 2001. Deus eun tu, eo posubl lavaret eo Iwerzhon ur vro dizarempred, troet warni he-unan, dizanaoudek hag he deus kemeret pep tra bet kinniget dezhi gant an EU. Bremañ, an trede NANN goude hini stad France hag an Izelvroioù d'an Emglev Europa er bloavezh 2005.

Modernaat an ekonomiezh oa ar youl gentañ evit mont e-barzh an EU (EEC) e 1973. Skeudenn ur vro diwar-ar-maez, katolik gant un dro spered eus an tu dehoù pellañ, eo bet e-pad kantvedoù ha kanvedoù hag an deiz hiriv c'hoaz evit toare ! D'ar memes mare e vez liammet bro-Iwerzhon gant Breizh-Veur evit ar pezh a sell eus an ekonomiezh liberal. Padal eo dav lakaat war-wel, he doa bro-Iwerzhon betek fin ar bloavezhioù hanter-kant, ur sell fall war liberalerezh Breizh-Veur...

Ma selle DeGaulle ouzh Breizh-Veur e-giz «ur marc'h eus Troie» en Europa, E. De Valera (1añ Ministr d'ar mare-se) a selle ouzh an diharzeskemm e-giz «ur marc'h eus Troie» e-barzh ur vro dieubet diouzh galloud Breizh-Veuriz, n'eus ket pell zo. Ar bloavezhioù goude ar brezel diabarzh (1920) bro-Iwerzhon o doa aon dirak efedoù an ekonomiezh, ar gresk hag ar keraozourezh e kêrioù brasoc'h brasañ. Setu perak vro Iwerhon he deus diviset politikerien gwarezeler.

Pad ar bloavezhioù 1950, «e oa deuet sklaer ar frankiz n'o doa ket sikouret da gas pinvidigezh hag hevoud d'an Iwerzhoniz. An dra-se o deus kaset ar bolitikerien d'en em soñjal war ar programmoù politikel, sevenadurel ha ekonomikel implijet. N'e oa ket tu d'ar gouarnamant laosker a gostez an efedoù fall eus ar goprou izel eus ar frouezhurezh, eus ar divroerezh hag an dilabour» (Laffan). Er bloavezh 1958 Ken

Whitaker, ministr an arc'hant, en deus savet un teuliad evit dont er maez eus ar gwarezelezh ha mont war hent an diharzeskemm hag al liberalerezh.

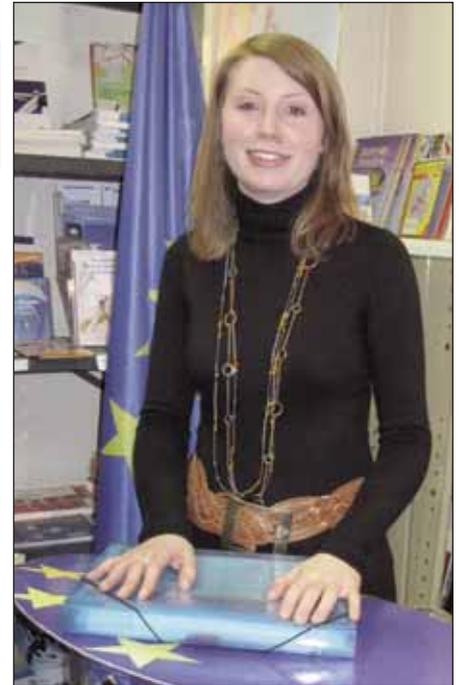
Abalamour eo chenchet o spered politikel hag abalamour ma oant troetoc'h ouzh ar bed diavez eo o deus bet c'hoant da emellañ er E.U. Daouzek vloaz int bet o c'hortoz araok mont e-barzh, buan a-walc'h avat int en em voazet ouzh Europa. Doare politikel Bro Iwerzhon n'eo ket ken reut ha doare broioù all a zo, gwir eo. Aesoc'h a se kaout darempredoù gant bep seurt liveoù evit sevel teuliadoù da vat.

Bezañ ezel eus an E.U. a laka kargidi a renk uhel d'en em zispakañ er bed melestradurel. Iwerzhonadez eo sekretourez-Veur a-vremañ ar Bodad Europeat (Katherin DAY) ha oar mat penaos a dreñ an E.U. An eil gwec'h eo e vefe un iwerzhonad er garse diwar ar pemp a zo bet betek-henn.

Dalc'hmat eo bet kumuniezhel spered Bro-Iwerzhon e-kenver kenvreutaerezh ha doujus e-keñver ar reolennoù sokial hag an endro. Atav edont a-enep lakaat reolennoù start war ar servijoù hag ar greanterezh. Peurbouezhus oa evito chom mistri en o bro ha dizalc'h. Arabat da vro all ebet lakaat o fri e kontoù-arc'hant Bro-Iwerzhon. Se zo kaoz ne oant ket a-du gant Europa a glaske unvaniñ politikerezh an tailhoù. Ar gudenn-se he deus lakaet meur a hini da lavaret «NANN» da geñver Emglev-Lisbon.

Araok Emglev Lisbona e oa Emglev Nice a oa bet savet diwar testennoù koshoc'h. Abalamour ma felle dezho chom neptu eo o doa lavaret NANN da Emglev Nice; ha lavaret NANN da emglevioù Nice ha Lisbon dre ma kave dezho e oant lakaet a-gostez eus an dael europaat. Kaout a rae dezho bezañ beuzet dirak kudennoù ken ec'hon ha ken luziet. (cf.: Deaglan de Breadun, le Courrier International).

A-du e oa an holl strolladoù politikel a-enep an danvez-emglev, ar pezh n'oa ket un dra vat, rak n'eo ket dre furnez e oant savet a-unan dre entane lavaran ket... Pa ne sav ket strollad bras ebet a-enep an Emglev ne vez ket digarez d'ar bolitikerien da vreutaat. Ne reont nemet adlavaret e-giz ma rafe an heklek komzoù boutin. e-lec'h studial donoc'h an traoù evit gellout difenn o mennozh. Abalamour d'an dra-se marteze o deus lavaret NANN d'an Emglev, dre ma ne oa ket ar strolladoù politikel a-walc'h a-



Maura STEWART

enep. Ne blij ket d'an dud e vefe komzet en o anv araok goulenno o ali diganto.

Meur a bolitiker, ar Ministr kentañ, Brian COWEN, en o zouez, o deus ansavet n'o doa ket lennet an Emglev penn da benn, ha goulennet digant ar vroiz memestra kaout fiziañs enno! Biskoazh kemend-all! E miz Kerzu 2008 e oa deuet mat Europa gant 59% eus an iwerzhoniz, pa ne oa nemet 46% eus ar c'hallaoued. Daoust da se ne'z eont ket en tu all d'ar mennozh-se: a-du gant Europa nemet mat ar vro da gentañ. Stag mat e chomont ouzh ar stad hag an ekonomiezh. Er bloavezh 2009 eo deuet Bro-Iwerzhon da vezañ ur vro baour adarre. Ur gresk a bemp dre gant dindan zero, 10% a dud dilabour, ur c'holl arc'hant etre 8 hag 11%, an dle a 55% pa ne oa nemet 25% e 2007. E pe stad e vo ar vro e 2016, kant vloaz war lerc'h dispac'h Pask 1916

Troet bras ha stag mat eo an Iwerzhoniz ouzh istor Europea, evel Daniz ha Gresianed. Emañ Bro Iwerzhon o vont da serriñ an nor ouzh an daou nerzh o doa krouet he istor hag he spered araok ha da c'houde emsavadeg 1916: ar gatoligiezh o ren ar galloud politikel hag ar gasoni ouzh Bro-Saoz, an impalaerezh trevadennel milliget! Abaoe 15 vloaz he deus an iliz katolik kollet he galloud war an dud (abalamour dreist holl da aferioù ar vugale). Gwellaet eo bet e-keit-se an daremprejoù gant Bro-Saoz, o vezañ m'eo echuet ar brezel e Bro-Iwerzhon an Hanter-Noz. Gant an daou nerzh-se e oa lakaet iwerzhoniz da vezañ ur bobl suj, un tropellad deñved o sentiñ hag o plegañ. Deuet oa da vezañ ur vro vodern e lagen ar vodernelezh. Daoust da se e klaskomp atav ur skouer bennak, ur mestr. N'euz droug ebet na deufe ur vad bennak d'e heul. An enkadenn a zo bremañ a raio vad d'ar vro marteze. Rak betek-henn ne raemp nemet mont da heul ar

c'hiz ; ober heñvel ouzh ar re all, e Breizh-Veur pe er Stadoù-Unanet.

N'omp ket deuet a-benn er bloaz-mañ da gaout emglev etre ar c'houarnamant, an implijerien hag ar sindikajoù evit espern arc'hant er servijoù publik. Ministrez an Embregerezhioù hag al labour a soñj dezhi e vezo kavet un emglev adarre diwezhatoc'h. Bez e ranko Bro-Iwerzhon lakaat un tammig hunvre, un tammig ijin en he folitikerezh. En hol lennegezh ez eus bet krouet oberennoù a dalvoudegezh uhel-kenañ gant Oscar Wilde, James Joyce ha Samuel Beckett. Mat e vefe da bolitekerien Iwerzhon sevel dreist lagenn ar politikajoù evit teurel o selloù war ar bed-holl hag an amzer da zont.

Maura STEWART...(c'hwevrer-2009).

Summary

The Future of Ireland in E.U: Joining the E.U. proved to be financially beneficial for Ireland. However, in June 2008 Ireland voted NO to the Lisbon Treaty. After the Civil War (1920s) Ireland was opposed to liberalism, which did not prove successful regarding the standard of living. In 1958, Ken Whitaker published a study and recommended that Ireland adopt a free trade policy. This new policy encouraged the Irish people to go into the EEC. Even if the state adapted itself quite quickly to the European community, it stayed very strong on national tax policy, which was seen to have encouraged inwards investment. This last idea was one of the most important arguments for the Irish NO vote during the Lisbon Treaty campaign in 2008. The other important issue was neutrality. Otherwise the consensus between left and right did not help to have real debates. The Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Brian Cowen did not read the treaty! This fact did not help the YES side and boosted the NO side!!! Therefore, nowadays Ireland needs to put more vision and more passion in its own politics as O. Wilde, J. Joyce or S. Beckett did in Irish literature.



Keit Vimp Bev needs your help!

Although the magazines Rouzig, Louarnig and Ya! are doing well, our Publishing house is in danger. For the year 2008 we will have a shortfall of € 30,000. The company will go out of business without financial help from its readers and all those who believe that K.V.B's work is instrumental for the future of our language.

Breton language: it is urgent for the Breton councillors to react

The report that Fañch Broudig wrote on the situation of the Breton language confirms what the Breton Party had pointed out in December 2004 on the occasion of the adoption by the administrative regional council of Brittany of a language promotion scheme: the situation of the Breton language is critical and the fast decrease of the Breton language speakers is particularly uncanny.



Jean-Yves Le Drian, president of the "Breton Region"

The Breton Party shares the opinion of president Le Drian on the prime importance of teaching for the development of the number of speakers, and supports his proposal to create a scholarship award for the future Breton language teachers. Yet it is surprising that such an initiative is only taken in the end of the term, which means 5 years have been lost; also, it is good to recall that the State Education Direction in Brittany (Rectorat) remains a major obstacle to the development of bilingual teaching, with its particularly failing management of the qualified staff in this matter.

Still, the Breton councillors have the possibility to take a major decision for the future of the Breton language, its durability and its development: the creation of a Breton language, or at least bilingual, television channel. If teaching is fundamental for the future, it has to come along with measures on the social, cultural and economic presence of the Breton language in daily life: shortly, what sort of TV programmes are currently offered to children who learn in Breton?

A few minutes with « Mouchig Dall » on Wednesday morning, provided this programme is not cancelled for any reason! Brittany is the only country on the Atlantic coast in such a situation: from Scotland to Galicia, all these polyglot countries have their own channel in their own language.

Brittany's situation is totally unacceptable. Now, if the main Breton councils were willing to do so, it could be envisioned to create such a television channel, either on the example of the Scottish channel BBC Alba, or Welsh channel S4C, or on the Corsican example Via Stella: the durability

of the Breton language is, here also, at stake. Besides, it is not only a cultural and linguistic project, but also economic, positive for employment and for Brittany's image.

The Breton Party calls once again to the Breton councillors to be concerned, and seriously, by this issue, fundamental for the Breton language, to which 80% of the Bretons are openly attached. Shortly, what are the Breton councillors waiting for? Their indifference contributes to weakening the Breton language, common heritage of all the inhabitants of this country, and also heritage of mankind.

Jacques-Yves Le Touze

The Breton Democratic Union joins the Ecologist Coalition for the European Elections

The Breton Democratic Union (UDB) has always been committed to the cause of a politically united Europe. The upcoming European elections are therefore of foremost importance for us. However, the size of the western constituency, of which Brittany is merely part, makes it difficult for a party such as ours to compete with a chance of success. Our situation is closer, in that respect, to that of Mebyon Kernow than that of Plaid Cymru.

The Breton Democratic Union has therefore chosen to respond positively, within the framework of the Fédération Régions et Peuples Solidaires (a federation of various regional parties in the French state), to Daniel Cohn-Bendit's call for a union of all ecologist forces and to join the *Rassemblement Europe Ecologie*. As a result of the negotiations François Alfonsi of the *Partitu di a Nazione Corsa* (Corsican nationalist) has been given the second position on the coalition's list in the south-eastern constituency, which makes possible for him to be elected. The UDB will be hoping to present a high profile in the western constituency.

It is not the first time we have worked together with the Greens. We share the same values of cultural diversity and sustainability, even if not necessarily the same focus, and this alliance enabled us to enter the regional council in 2004. A similar agreement had also led to the election of Max Simeoni as MEP in 1989. The present coalition is, however, different from the previous ones since it includes, alongside the Greens, various ecologist organizations such as Greenpeace and individuals such as rural community leader and presidential candidate José Bové. This, and the arrangements initiated by Daniel Cohn-Bendit, will hopefully enable us to gain from these elections significant progress for our ideas.

Two new books edited by Yorann Embanner

Guide to Breton and Celtic flags

This is a 107x217 mm pocket book in French, with very learned contents, put together by *Divi Kervella*, specialist in Breton vexillology and Celtic symbolism. With its 190 pages beautifully presented due to the talents of *Mikael Bodlore-Penlaez* this book offers us 550 flags on 44 colour plates.

With a brief introduction on emblems (shields and standards) in Britain and Gaul in the Roman period included, the work seriously covers the flags of Armorican Brittany since the Middle Ages.

It gives a very complete answer to all the passions of vexillology. It does not limit itself only to Brittany across the centuries and social classes. It also covers royal flags, ducal flags, flags of the noble families and the military or the marine. It also covers all the other flags of their history such as those of the counties, towns, ship-owners, sailors,



cultural and sports associations, political parties and workers' syndicates etc. and, of course, the modern national flag of Brittany, the "Gwenn ha Du" (White and Black). Forty pages are devoted to the other five Celtic nations, with 27 flags and 7 inter-Celtic flags, and the original one of the Celtic League.

Divi Kervella, who is also a member of the Scientific Council, "Ofis ar Brezhoneg", gives us a very complete French/Breton dictionary of vexillology. It is followed by an index, which allows you to easily find flags and references and addresses of Internet sites, notably that of two Breton associations of vexillology, *Bannieloù Breizh*: <http://www.banniel.com> and *Bannielomp* <http://www.bannielomp.com>

This book selling for €13.50 is distributed by *Coop Breizh*. For all information and packaging costs etc see info@coop-breizh.fr

Tristan and Isolde



This French version of the novel of *Tristan and Isolde* is the result of research by an expert in the medieval of Breton origin, *Joseph Bedier* (1864-1938). Additionally, this theme, from Breton, French and even Irish sources, still retains all its interest, in spite of certain arrangements. This book offers us 45 wood cuts and 19 decorated letters of the Breton artist and writer, *Xavier de Langlais*,

emblematic figure of the Breton artistic group, *Seizh Breur* (of first half of the 20th Century, see Carn 139). This book has 192 pages, is 235x200 mm, and has a board cover. For further information on *X. de Langlais* see the Internet site: <http://membres.lycos.fr/delanglais>

This book sells for €22 and is also distributed by *Coop Breizh* as previously cited.

Summary of Strollad Breizh's programme for the 2009 European elections

A STRONGER EUROPE

Give the European Union a clear Constitution, able to be understood by everybody, by focusing on the institutions. It will have to be approved by a single European referendum.

Transform the Council of ministers into a Chamber of the States, which would represent the governments and act as an assembly. Generalise the qualified majority vote.

Transfer economic powers to the Commission, instead of the mere coordination capacity it now has.

Create a European tax to finance the EU's social policies (European funds). Raise the European budget in the financial perspectives, especially by raising the states' contribution to 2% of the Gross National Revenue, instead of 1,27% now.

Suppress every discount in favour of member states (UK, Germany, Austria, Sweden, The Netherlands) and use the additional funds for community policies.

Set up a single representation for the EU in international institutions such as the UN, under the direction of the High Representative for Foreign Policy, and in association with the European Parliament.

Create a European defence, especially for peacekeeping missions. Rapid intervention battalions should be more europeanised, and in long term transformed into European blue helmets.

A EUROPE IN WHICH BRITTANY FINDS ITS PLACE

This part is very important for us, and very specific of the Breton Party. Indeed, it is the first time that a Breton party is candidate to European elections on its own. It is therefore a good opportunity for us to stand for our values: nationalism, social democracy, European federalism, and environment-friendly... One of our mottos is: «our future: Breton and European».

Recognise the Breton language as a «limited use» language, such as Basque, Catalan and

Galician. In long term, recognise it as an official EU language.

Set up with the support of the European Parliament a representation for Brittany in Brussels, in the same way Scotland or Catalonia did.

Transfer the powers over the European funds to Brittany directly, instead of France.

MAKE EUROPE CLOSER TO THE CITIZENS

Support generalisation of the « co decision » procedure, which allows the European Parliament to be at equals with the Council. The European Parliament should have a real legislative power.

Transform the European Commission into a real European executive. The next Commission should reflect the political majority in the European Parliament.

Enlarge the European Volunteer Service.

Enlarge European citizenship. Every European citizen should be allowed to vote at every election in the country they live in.

Officially recognise the EU's symbols that the Council removed from the Lisbon Treaty.

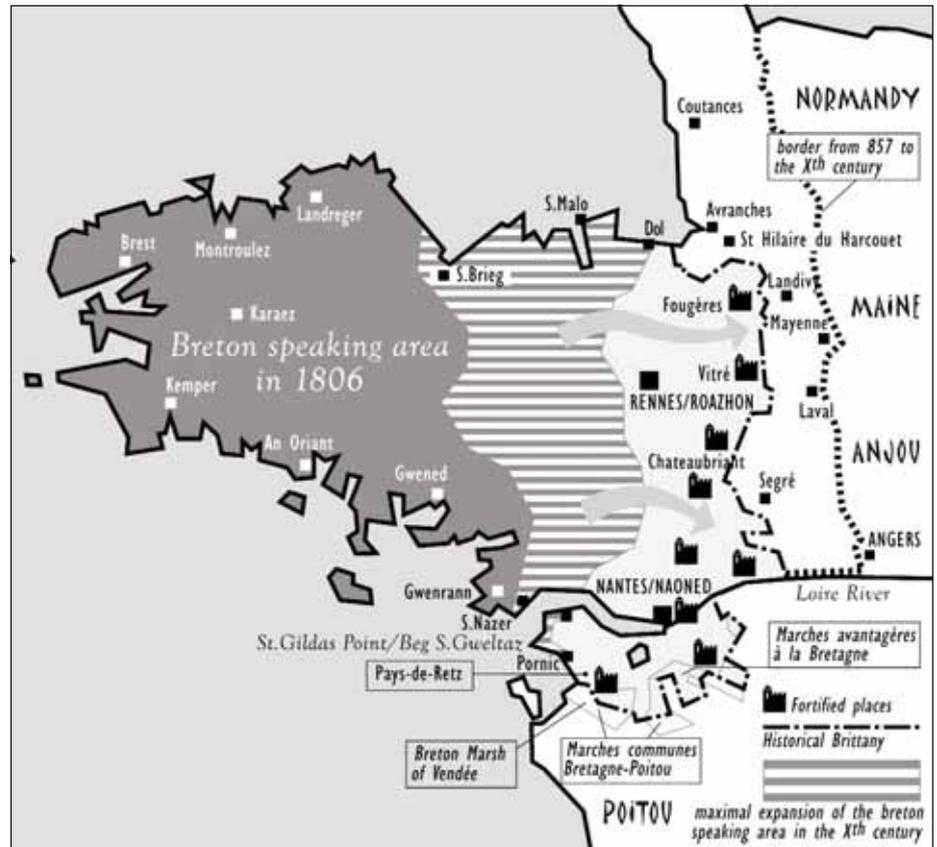
Alex ArGALL

What's new about the struggle for the unity of Brittany?

On the 27th November last, President N. Sarkozy, at the annual congress of French Mayors, announced thus: *Brittany consists of four magnificent departments. On Nantes, I am told "this is the capital of Brittany. But it is in Pays de Loire"*.

All the press broadcast this sudden recognition of the problem of cutting up the regions and its political opportunity. All the regions, with the exception of Alsace, belong to the opposition (PS), which accuses the State of giving them new challenges without the financial means. An extra-governmental commission is in the course of redefining the role of the regions and reducing their numbers (out of concerns about efficiency and economy) and the redistribution of roles between districts, departments and regions. It has been entrusted to **Edouard Balladur**, former Prime Minister of the centre right. In France structural reforms, even the most necessary, are never independent of ambitions and strategies about legal rights, such as the parties of the left. Supporters and opponents of reunification express themselves in the press. The most interesting article is that of the geographer **Jean Ollivro**, co-author with **Joseph Martray** of "La Bretagne Réunifiée" (Reunited Brittany). He explains well, supported by maps and statistics, the viability of a region corresponding to historic Brittany and appropriate with its history, geography, economy and a European dimension. He faces down numerous criticisms raised by the so-called disorganisation, which would affect the different territories of the west of France if the Loire-Atlantique leaves the region of Pays-de-la-Loire.

Jean Ollivro, like the association "Bretagne Réunie" and the UDB, proposes a regional redefinition, replacing the six actual regions in the west with four larger and more coherent ones. This proposition is the end of a serious study conducted by the tireless militant for reunification, **Pierre-Yves Le Rhun**, geographer, ex-academic of Nantes, ex-president of CUAB-Bretagne Réunie. Of course it is not our problem, but these criticisms also affect the people of Nantes, through propaganda linked to the proposal of a large west region where Metropolitan Nantes-Saint Nazaire would be the trump card for its economic development. It is this argument that has been placed before the majority of economic decision makers for Nantes over 70 years. They who most block the process of reunification and influence the local elected politicians by their orientation, right or left, and with little interest in the Breton claims. That plays the game of the Jacobins, who want, at all costs, to block a less ambitious autonomous Brittany, still assimilated to an unhealthy community. Does not their fear betray in them a



From the beginning of migration the Bretons settled in the estuary of the Loire. Nantes became the capital of Brittany in 973, following the victory of Alain Barbetorte (Alan Barveg) over the Vikings who occupied Nantes. From that moment on the Breton influence was felt across the entire territory. It was during this time that the Pays de Retz was joined to Brittany by a treaty, Brittany acquiring its definitive frontiers.

recognition of the Breton problem? The economic decision makers, and the politicians of other departments of the Pays-de-la-Loire (PDL), heavily apply their weight to maintain the power of this metropolis, even if some of them recognise the artificial borders of that territory.

The interest of this work, and the press articles cited above, also proposes an organisation of a Breton territory founded on a network of complimentary towns. It is not the choice of capitalists, who still oppose it, from Nantes to Rennes, and have a negative response to a "Grand-Ouest" with undefined limits. But it is the choice of the new *Breton Association of Geographers*, of which the president is **Jaques Lescoat**. In the situation where we come to remake the unity of Brittany in its historic limits, it would be possible to leave the administrative direction to Rennes and the industrial and economic leadership to Nantes-Saint Nazaire. That this metropolis would continue to shine out of a Breton territory is necessary and evident, Nantes is 22 km from the border. But it would not be a super metropolis at the centre of a region created for it, as a dream of certain politicians and economists from Nantes ... or Parisian technocrats.

As **Yves Lainé**, founder member of "Bretagne Réunie" and former director of the Autonomic Port of Nantes-Saint Nazaire, has often remarked: "The five arguments in favour of a "Grand Ouest" political and economic region are thus found to be clearly invalid. Once again that does not only mean a zone of inter-regional co-operation not being useful or necessary, but it is a question of a place of development, of concentration of big structural projects ... *Solidarity + Image + Means*, there is the winning threesome of a successful region. The "why?" merits another debate and does that integrate well with a need for sentiment? Inevitably is sentiment an unfounded value or "has been"? That is not the advice of modern sociologists: it is important to integrate its positive values and certainly there is no need to oppose it with the rational.

One cannot make better response to all those elites who refuse to take account of the sentiment of belonging to Brittany of 70% of the population of Loire-Atlantique (opinion poll). Unfortunately this strong sense of belonging does not express itself enough in the field of politics. The regional cutting up was imposed by decree in 1941. This cutting was imposed again in 1962 by Michel Debré,

the very Jacobin Prime Minister who considered all the peripheral national minorities as “the eggshells of a French omelette”. Schools do not teach the history of Brittany and, to better assist this anti-democratic carve up, the Regional Council of the PDL has told schools, in a brochure entitled “the Pays-de-la-Loire is you”, with a chapter on the history of the county of Nantes, not to mention the word Brittany. Elsewhere it freely dispenses money and assistance to make accepted as well-founded this artificial territory by means of all the propaganda at its disposal.

Perhaps some readers will find my approach too moderate. I confess that to use the words region or province for Brittany chokes me! My national, Breton conscience and my choice of a Brittany in its historic limits, however, does not give me the right to dodge the human and economic realities, nor to lock me into a narrow nationalist logic, nor to deny the necessity for a close collaboration with the adjoining regions.

Some historic reminders:

The rapport of the Breton people with the French people is not the same as that of the Celtic people across the Channel with the English people. It is not on the one side of an Armorican Brittany entirely re-populated and re-Celticised by Brittanian immigration in the 6th century etc. and on the other of a Romanised Gaul, then entirely Germanised by the Franks, as it was in England by the Anglo-Saxons. Historic Brittany corresponds with the limits of the five most westerly civitas of Romanised Armorique, which extended from the estuary of the Seine to that of the Garonne. The extreme East and South East of this little Armorique was only partially influenced by the arrival of the Bretons. Nantes and Rennes being important Gallo-Roman towns. To the south of the Loire, on the west coast, Pays de Retz was definitively attached in the 9th century and Bretonised on its coastal fringe. In the south east and eastern part of the south Loire there are marches sitting astride on the borders which are all closely linked to Nantes. In spite of the influence of the Franks the people from the other side of the frontier remained Gallo-Roman. One could describe Brittany in two ways: 1) a northern Brittany under the influence of Rennes and a southern Brittany under that of Nantes. 2) a western and south-western Brittany remained Breton-speaking at least until the 19th century; a frontier band east and south-east little influenced by Breton immigration where Nantes and Rennes are situated; and finally, between the two, a medial Brittany remaining Breton-speaking or bilingual until the 12th century. (See maps)

The actual situation:

The different polls taken in the Loire-Atlantique throughout 10 years give a mean majority of 67% (62 to 72) in favour of the

re-attachment of a “Re-united Brittany” (ex-CUAB and ex-B5), the campaign, since 1976, for a united administration of Brittany. Its action aims to inform the population by conferences and annual public demonstrations to force a constant pressure on the local political and economic elite to take an official position in favour of reunification. In 2001 Bretagne Réunie launched a grand campaign of signatures in favour of the “Charter of the Elected for Reunification”. More than 4200 of the elected or municipal councils from the whole of Brittany responded to the call. Bretagne Réunie undertook a popular consultation (referendum) so the population of Loire-Atlantique could make up their minds democratically. It had the support of the Cultural Council of Brittany and the Cultural Institute of Brittany and Breton political parties such as Parti Breton and UDB (see its courageous bill-posting campaign in November 2007, Carn No. 140). The demonstrations for re-unification gathered from 4 to 7000 people. The demonstration of 20th September 2008 in Nantes, which assembled 10,000 people, affirmed not only the rights of amateur artists but demanded an official status for Breton and the administrative re-unification of Brittany. **Patrick Mareschal** (PS) president of the *General Council of Loire-Atlantique* and **Jean-Louis Jossic**, assistant to the mayor of Nantes, brilliantly intervened in favour of reunification. We owe to Patrick Mareschal a brochure distributed to all the homes in Loire-Atlantique to affirm the belonging of that department to Brittany. In 2001 the General Council of Loire-Atlantique voted in favour of re-unification. In 2004 the Regional Council of Brittany (the four other departments) unanimously voted on a resolution in favour of re-unification. Since then they have collaborated on dossiers concerning culture, tourism and events. That happens slowly but deserves to exist. Of note also is the regular participation in all pro-reunification demonstrations of **Yann-Ber Thomin** (PS), vice-president of the Regional Council of Brittany, and in charge of culture and the Breton language.

Jean-Marc Ayault, mayor of Nantes, MP, and president of the PS group in the National Assembly, is a supporter of the Grand-Ouest, or by default of maintaining the status quo with inter-regional collaboration or the fusion of two regions, or that of Saint Nazaire (PS) himself. Following the intervention of Nicolas Sarkozy, Jean-Marc Ayault replied to him like this: “the limits of the regions wasn’t of the order of the day at the moment where the crisis poses more urgent problems for the workers”. A means of bringing back to regional politics all the workers exceeded by the crisis and banking scandals without responding to the problem!

Jean-Yves Le Drian (PS), president of the “Breton Region”, is of good faith, but in spite

of the unanimity of the vote we know that the elected members of the PS (like the UMP) put the brakes on this movement. Note, however, that contrary to the past UMP, “Région Bretagne” has just given its official support to reunification.

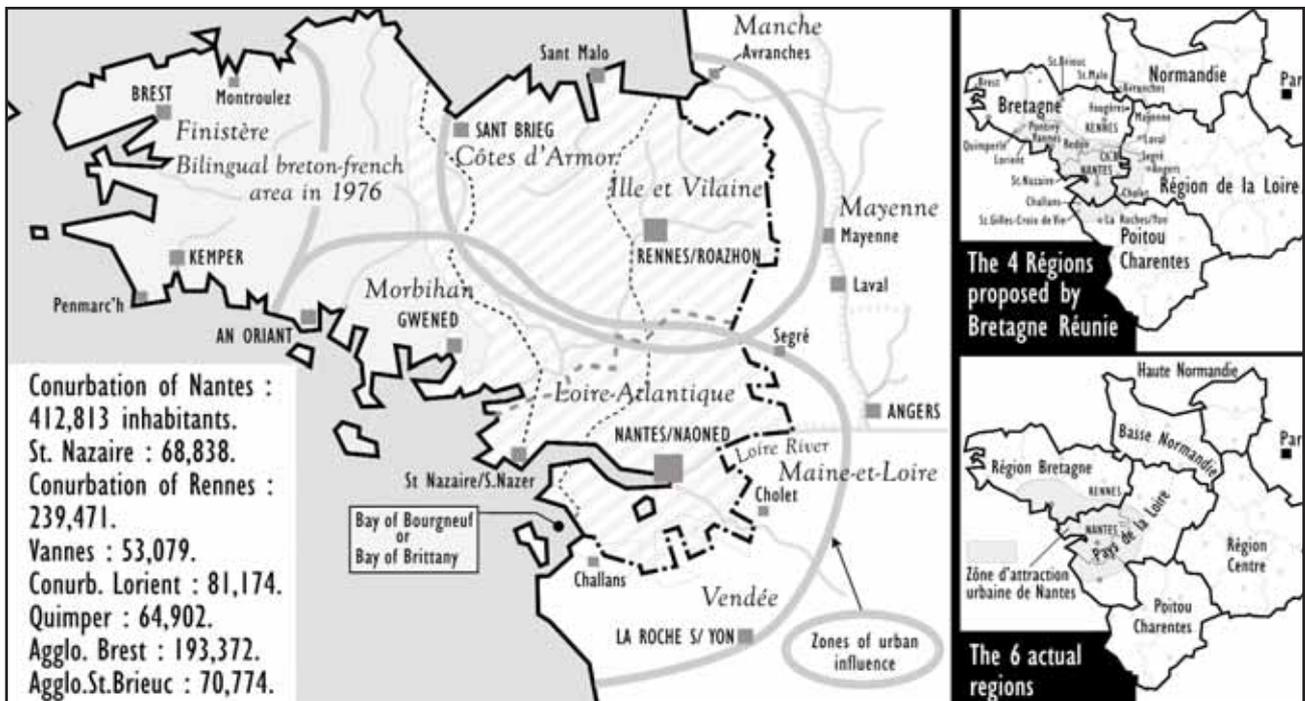
Jacques Auxiette (PS), president of the Regional Council of Pays-de-la-Loire, is not afraid to attack all the supporters of reunification. Without the weight of the PS of Loire-Atlantique he would not have been elected. He accuses the “Bretons” of wanting to annex Loire-Atlantique and had the entrants to the public debates screened to prevent the supporters of reunification from expressing themselves, and when these demonstrate more noisily, he accuses the forces of order of laxity

Jean-Yves Bourriau, president of Bretagne Réunie, was received on 21st January at the Elysée by the Director of Communication of President Sarkozy, to whom he had sent a complete dossier on reunification. This responsible person from Nantes, affirming himself a Breton, sent the dossier to the Balladur Commission. The Prime Minister, **François Fillon**, ex-president of Pays-de-la-Loire, confirmed that he will take account of the Bretonness of Loire-Atlantique. But he proposes a Bretagne-Pays-de-la-Loire region, being a fusion of two actual administrative regions. It is little probable that a French government of the right, as the left, will accord us by decree a Brittany of its historic dimensions. The intervention of President Sarkozy has at least the merit of recognition at the highest levels of the State. What are his last thoughts and those of his entourage: a strategy of rapport with his opposition? A push to diminish the number of the regions?

Reunification by referendum or decree:

This choice splits both the supporters and opponents of reunification. The opponents want a Grand-Ouest by fusion of two regions (some propose a Grand-Ouest of three regions), therefore not a referendum. In case there is a referendum their strategy rests in the manner of posing the question and wanting the participation of the whole population of Pays-de-la-Loire. Nantes being the regional capital, that introduces a restructuring (i.e. suppression) of work in the territorial function and the regional direction of private societies. The opponents will not shrink from using this problem to refuse all reasonable solutions.

The preference of the supporters of reunification is for a referendum in Loire-Atlantique, and in the four other Breton departments if necessary. The problem is of knowing how the question will be put to the population of Loire-Atlantique, to which is added the evident disproportion of means of communication between supporters and opponents, especially after 50 years of



intense propaganda and destruction of undermining of its Breton identity. How will they react, the 67% of the population sentimentally attached to Brittany in the face of the Nantes to prove? That is why some of the supporters think that a decree destroying the other decree could remake it. **However the passage from sentiment to a political act, of these 67%, for whom a Reunited Brittany is their password, remains the priority work.** One thing is sure, it is not by the linking of the struggle for reunification with that of independence that we will succeed. Following the violent assimilation of the French State, all the generation of militant, sincere Bretons were engaged in a hard-line nationalism until the eve of the Second World War, with the disastrous consequences that we all know. Do not let us make the same mistake again and cut ourselves a second time from the population.

News from end of January to February 2009:

Official announcement of a common project between the Region of Brittany and the General Council of Loire-Atlantique for a grand exhibition on “The Borders of Brittany” under the initiative of P. Mareschal.

The General Council of Ille-et-Vilaine declares itself in favour of reunification but reaffirms its intangible wish that Rennes remains the capital of Brittany.

Jean-Yves Le Drian, received by N. Sarkozy and E. Balladur, officially demands a referendum on reunification.

10th February: Press conference in Paris of the notable Breton personalities in favour of reunification, elected politicians, those responsible for cultural associations but also important people in economic life.

The president of the Economic and Social

Council of PDL accuses those in favour of reunification of wanting to “confiscate the richness and diversity of Loire-Atlantique and the metropolis of Nantes-St.-Nazaire and place it in the service of Brittany”.

But haven't they “confiscated”, undemocratically, the whole economic strength of Brittany since the regionalisation in 1962?

19th of February: 12 Breton deputies (MPs) out of the 36 sign a common position, cross-party demand (UMP, PS, Greens, New Centre) to be involved in the democratic process for reunification in territorial community reforms in 2009. The signatories are: Marc Le Fur (UMP Côtes-d’Armor), Marguerite Lamour et Christian Ménard (UMP Finistère), Jean-René Marsac (PS Ille-et-Vilaine), Thierry Benoît (N.C. Ille-et-Vilaine), Christophe Priou (UMP Loire-Atlantique), François de Rugy (Green Loire-Atlantique), Françoise Olivier-Coupeau (PS Morbihan), Loïc Bouvard, François Goulard, Michel Grall et Gérard Lorgeoux (UMP Morbihan).

The regional media continue to publish favourable or unfavourable notices (very numerous among the PDL, except on Sarthe). The next regional elections will take place in March 2010. Will this be the last real chance, or “last ditch battle”, to give the impression of democracy, before imposing on us from on high a Grand-Ouest that we do not want or be playing into the hands of the opposition between Nantes and Rennes, or the supporters of the proposition of Bretagne Réunie and those of the Grand-Ouest? That is the question!

Information from Bretagne Réunie, Skol Vreizh, Ouest-France.

For more information on reunification and Nantes, see the sites:

www.bretagne-reunie.org, or www.agencebretagnepresse.com

Footnote:

Following the work of the Balladur Commission and declarations of supporters as well as opponents of reunification, the newspaper Ouest-France undertook a new survey, which gives more than 27% in support of reunification in Loire-Atlantique. A collapse of 40 % of opinion is unthinkable. We need to closely examine the methods of survey (re-examine the undecided who end up choosing the status quo, 4 questions instead of one, etc). What is not surprising is that those who are undecided opt for the status quo, when the principal opponents use the argument of not changing anything in the context of the current economic crisis, an argument heavily used by the socialists, who are on their guard against a manoeuvre from the Right and from Sarkozy. Besides, since this opinion poll there has been an avalanche of communication, which is well orchestrated by the opponents, notably the socialist mayors of Nantes, Quimper, Brest, and Rennes. If certain economic points of view about the organisation of the territory remain (the choice of a complete reorganisation around the large conurbations, ignoring all the others aspects) they call on the population to systematically oppose reunification “based on an identity demand”. France of the Left defending a one-and-indivisible Republic is still there even when it accuses the Right of remaining Jacobin.

However socialists as Jean-Yves Le Drian, Patrick Mareschal, and Jean-Pierre Thomlin are sincere supporters of the reunification. New opinion polls are under way. They will be the subject of a new article.

Jakez DEROUET

Alex Salmond yn hyrwyddo 'dot Scot' - fydd dotCYM yn gwneud crystal?

Mae Prif Weinidog yr Alban, Alex Salmond, wedi datgan cefnogaeth gref i'r cais am enw parth lefel uchaf i'r Alban wedi iddo ymweld â Barcelona a chlywed yn uniongyrchol pa mor llwyddiannus mae'r parth Catalanaidd .cat wedi bod. Mae ei gefnogaeth yn newyddion da iawn i'r ymgyrch dotSCO.org sydd bellach yn hyderus y bydd yn ennill cefnogaeth ICANN ar gyfer y parth newydd yn ystod cyfnod ceisiadau 2009. 'Mae'r amser wedi cyrraedd i deulu byd-eang yr Albanwyr gael eu parth eu hunain, yn adlewyrchu cymuned ar-lein wedi'i diffinio gan ymroddiad i hunaniaeth, diwylliant ac economi'r Alban,' medd Alex Salmond. 'Nid yw hyn ar gyfer Albanwyr sy'n byw yn yr Alban yn unig, ond hefyd ar gyfer y niferoedd mawr sydd wedi mudo tramor, a bydd yn arbennig o addas bod y cais yn cael ei gyflwyno yn ystod 2009, ein Blwyddyn Ddychwelyd Adref. Mae'r grŵp sydd yn gyfrifol am gais tebyg am barth lefel uchaf i Gymru, dotCYM.org, wedi croesawu beth maent yn ei weld fel cam pwysig ymlaen ar gyfer ceisiadau parth diwylliannol ac ieithyddol yng ngwledydd Prydain. 'Mae cefnogaeth gref a chyson Alex Salmond am barth lefel uchaf i'r Alban yn ei gwneud hi'n glir bod ennill parth lefel uchaf yn rhan bwysig o strategaeth adfywio economaidd yr Alban,' medd Siôn Jobbins, rheolwr cyfarwyddwr dotCYM Cyf. 'Bydd y misoedd nesaf yn hollbwysig ar gyfer dotCYM a dotCYM, gyda llawer iawn o waith angen ei wneud er mwyn cyflwyno ceisiadau llwyddiannus i ICANN, ond os bydd ewylllys wleidyddol yn arwain at y gefnogaeth ymarferol angenrheidiol, 'rydym yn hyderus y daw llwyddiant.' 'Mae arolygon YouGov yn dangos bod pobl chwe gwaith yn debycach o glicio ar beth maent yn ei weld fel parth 'lleol', sydd yn golygu y bydd .CYM yn helpu trosglwyddo lefel uchel o wariant ar-lein o fusnesau Lloegr i fusnesau Cymru,' medd Siôn Jobbins, 'ac mae Google a Yahoo wedi datgan y bydd parthau lleol yn gwneud yn well am chwiliadau lleol, fydd yn helpu dod â defnyddwyr newydd i wefannau Cymreig.' Caiff aelodau'r cyhoedd helpu ennill parth lefel uchaf i Gymru trwy ymaelodi â dotCYM ar www.dotCYM.org am £2 y mis neu £24 y flwyddyn (£100 y flwyddyn i sefydliadau).

dotCYM Cyf.

3 Rhos Rheidiol, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 1JU, Cymru

Summary:

dotCYM is campaigning for a top level Internet domain name for the Welsh cultural and linguistic community (www.website.cym etc.) and is appealing for support. The corresponding campaign in Scotland, .SCO, has already gained the backing of the Scottish First Minister.

Ymgeisydd Plaid Cymru yn annerch cynhadledd am y Cwrdaid

Mae erledigaeth gynddrwg â'r hyn fu'n digwydd ar Lain Gaza yn digwydd ar drothwy Ewrop hefyd, mewn gwladwriaeth sydd eisiau dod yn rhan o'r Undeb Ewropeaidd, ac mae'n cael ei hanwybyddu gan y gymuned rhyngwladol. Dyna oedd neges Eurig Wyn o Blaid Cymru, y cyn-ASE fydd hefyd yn ymgeisydd Plaid Cymru yn etholiadau eleni i Senedd Ewrop, pan anerchodd gynhadledd am yr UE, Twrci, a'r Cwrdaid yn Senedd Ewrop ym Mrwsel ddiwedd mis Ionawr. Y bumed mewn cyfres o gynadleddau blynyddol a gynhelir ers 2004 gan yr EUTCC (Comisiwn Dinesig yr UE/Twrci) oedd hon.

Dywedodd "Mae 40 miliwn o Gwrdaid, 20 miliwn ohonynt yn byw yn Nhwrci, ac maen nhw'n cael eu herlid gan lywodraeth Twrci. 'Does ganddyn nhw mo'r hawl i siarad eu hiaith yn gyhoeddus, gwaherddir ysgolion Cwrdeg, mae'n anghyfreithlon rhoi enwau Cwrdaid i blant, a chaniateir dirwasgiad economaidd a thlodi lle mae'r Cwrdaid yn byw."

Ychwanegodd Mr Wyn, llefarydd i Amnest Rhyngwladol yng Nghymru, na ddylai'r UE ganiatáu aelodaeth i Dwrci nes i'w llywodraeth barchu hawliau dynol Cwrdaid y wlad. Meddai ymhellach "Mae'r holl ddeddfwriaeth rhyngwladol yn ei lle - Siatr y Cenhedloedd Unedig, Confensiwn Genefa, Siatr Hawliau Sylfaenol yr UE - ond mae'n cael ei hanwybyddu, fe ymddengys, yn achos

Ar yr 11eg o Dachwedd 2008, mi ddangosodd rhaglen "Y Byd ar Bedwar" fod nifer bach o bobl yn defnyddio gwasanaethau drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg. Mae hyn yn hynod o siomedig wrth ystyried yr ymdrech a'r aberth gan unigolion, Cymdeithas yr Iaith ac eraill, i gael yr hawl i ddefnyddio'n hiaith ym mhob agwedd o'n bywydau. Rhaid cofio'r ffaith syml fod angen defnyddio iaith er mwyn ei chadw.

Fodd bynnag, mae'r dyddiau'n gynnwys eto. Mae'n debyg y bydd yn cymryd amser i bob siaradwr Cymraeg ddod i'r arfer o ddefnyddio gwasanaethau yn ei iaith ei hun.

Mae mwy o wasanaethau newydd yn dechrau cael eu cynnig drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg trwy'r amser. Er engraifft mae Tesco wedi cyflwyno gwasanaeth Cymraeg yn eu peiriannau hunan-wasanaeth. Mae hyn yn wych. Wedi defnyddio'r gwasanaeth ein hunain, gallwn argymhell y broses syml hyn. Y cwbl sydd angen ei wneud ydy gwasgu'r botwm "Cymraeg" ar y sgrin, ac yna parhau i sganio eich eitemau. Dim problem, ond os bydd yn broblem, mae staff Tesco yn wastad barod i'ch helpu chi! Mae'n rhaid i ni fel Cymry Cymraeg i ddefnyddio'r math yma o wasanaethau, neu mi fyddwn yn eu colli.

Cofiwch fod yna nifer o wasanaethau eraill y medrwn eu defnyddio drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, gan gynnwys llinellau ffôn Cymraeg, cael llyfrau sieciau Cymraeg, ysgrifennu sieciau Cymraeg, defnyddio'r "twll yn y wal", a hefyd yr hawl i ysgrifennu at awdurdodau lleol ayb, yn y Gymraeg, a

y Cwrdaid. Mae'r ymosodiadau gan fyddin Twrci ar y gymuned Gwrdaidd yng ngogledd Irac yn parhau."

Summary:

Addressing a conference in the European Parliament in January, Plaid Cymru Euro-election candidate Eurig Wyn said that a persecution 'as flagrant in its implications as the situation in Gaza' is happening in Turkey, a state wanting EU membership, and being ignored by the international community. There are 20 million Kurds in Turkey and they are being persecuted by the Turkish government - Kurdish-medium schools are banned, parents aren't allowed to give children Kurdish names - and in the Eastern Kurdish community there is a designed economic deprivation and poverty."

chael ateb yn yr iaith. Cofiwch fod hyn yn fwy na hawl yn unig, mae hefyd yn etifeddiaeth mae Cymry'r dyfodol yn ei haeddu.

Yn gywir

Janette a Colin Lewis

Summary

Welsh-speakers are recommended to make use of the services available through Welsh, or they will be in danger of losing them.

Dyma rai o'r llinellau ffôn Cymraeg sydd ar gael:-

Gallwch ddefnyddio geiriau Saesneg os bydd hynny'n helpu, neu droi i'r Saesneg os nad ydych yn deall rhan o'r sgwrs.

Banciau:

Barclays -	08457 44 22 11
HSBC	08457 03 03 04
Lloyds TSB	08450 72 80 03
Nat West	01248 6712 22

BT - Cwsmeriad	0800 800 288
BT - Ymholiadau rhifau ffôn	118 404
Cyllid y Wlad	0845 30214 89
DVLA	0870 240 2288
Dŵr Cymru	0800 052 60 58
Y Gwasanaeth Pensiynau	

	08456 06 02 75
Heddlu De Cymru	01656 65 55 55
Nwy Prydain	0845 955 55 11
Parcel Force	0800 731 34 28
Scottish Power/Manweb	08452 72 12 12
Swyddfa'r Post	08457 46 84 69
Traveline Cymru	0871 200 22 33
Trenau	0845 60 40 500

Os ydych am gael rhifau eraill, cysylltwch â'ch Menter Iaith leol neu Fwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg 029 20 87800.

Above is a list of Welsh-language phone lines for a number of services.

PLAID MEP CHALLENGES EXCLUSION OF CYMRAEG

Plaid MEP Jill Evans expressed her disappointment in February that Welsh-language journalism has been excluded from a prestigious EU journalism award. The European Parliament Journalism Prize is awarded annually to journalists who have displayed excellence in covering major European issues and promoted a better understanding of European institutions or policies.

But the award is only open to entries produced in one of the European Union's 23 official languages, effectively excluding journalists who write or produce programmes in Welsh, Catalan, Basque, and many other languages that haven't yet achieved full official status.

The Plaid MEP, who represents the whole of Wales in the European Parliament, wants the rules changed to allow Welsh-language journalism to be considered and has teamed up with other MEPs from across Europe in an appeal to the President of the European Parliament. They have asked that the rules be urgently amended and have claimed that excluding non-official languages may be in breach of European law and contrary to other resolutions supported by the Parliament. In a letter to the European Parliament President Hans-Gert Poettering the MEP pointed out that the current rules may be in breach of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights. They also highlight the implications of a European Directive on Equal Treatment based on racial or ethnic origin as well as the Treaty of Lisbon.

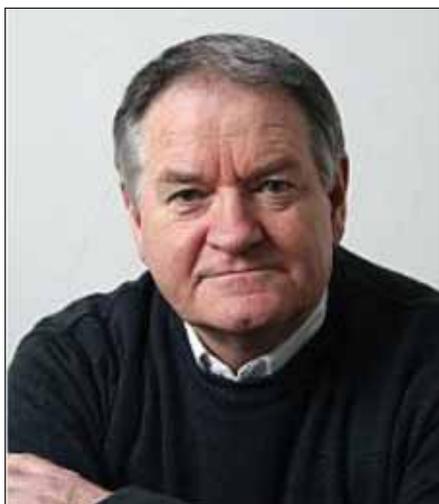
Jill Evans, who successfully campaigned for co-official status for Welsh and is campaigning for full official EU status for the language, said "This award is a great idea but it makes no sense at all to exclude Welsh-language journalism from taking part. We



Jill Evans, Plaid MEP

have a very high standard of Welsh and English-language media in Wales, both in print and broadcast, who regularly cover European issues. I find it extremely unfair and counterproductive to effectively ban Welsh-language journalists from entering this competition.

"I am hopeful that the European Parliament will change its rules. This is not just for legal reasons but to recognise the important contribution made by journalism in the European Union's many unofficial but widely spoken languages. If articles and programmes produced in Swedish, Maltese, Irish, or Danish can be put forward, then why not Welsh? We produce journalism of a high quality in Welsh and this should be recognised at European level. This is all the more relevant in the week when the One Wales Government published landmark draft legislation to boost the status of Welsh."



Dafydd Iwan

A Message from Plaid President Dafydd Iwan on the launching of the Welsh Language LCO

This is an exciting and important milestone in the history of our language and of our nation. The people of Wales have fought tirelessly, often against all odds, on behalf of our language. Now it's surely time for us to bring the powers over our language home.

Many people have fought long and hard for rights and status for our language and those who use it. When Plaid formed this government, we promised to ensure that we stand up for what is right and what is needed. With this announcement, we have done that, just as was promised.

What makes this such an historic event is that these plans would mean that a Welsh

government, a government directly elected by the people of Wales, will have the power to legislate on the Welsh language. That has never before happened in our nation's history and it would truly be a privilege to witness such change.

We have now officially asked for what should be ours - the freedom to speak Welsh with each other and to use Welsh as we go about our everyday lives, at work and leisure, without threat or persecution. Plaid fought the election in 2007 with the promise that we would bring about this change, and now that we are in government, this is exactly what we are doing.

London debates handing language powers over to Cardiff

On the day of the publication of the Welsh language LCO in early February, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg challenged the Welsh Assembly Government on that historic day to demand further powers in order to draft a more comprehensive measure.

An LCO (Legislative Competence Order) is a piece of constitutional legislation passed by the English parliament in Westminster, London, which transfers legislative authority from Westminster to the National Assembly of Wales. The LCO must be approved by the Welsh Assembly, the Secretary of State for Wales, the House of Commons and the House of Lords in London, and then the Queen in Council. Each LCO adds a 'Matter' to the list of areas in which the National Assembly for Wales may legislate. Each Matter then gives the Welsh Assembly Government permission to pass legislation known as an Assembly Measure, which operates in Wales like an Act of Parliament passed by Westminster (i.e. it can be enforced by the courts). The proposed LCO allows the transfer of certain powers relating to the Welsh language from Westminster to Cardiff, though exactly how much power has to be decided.

The LCO does include the powers to make the Welsh language an official language in Wales and it also has the scope to establish a Welsh Language Commissioner – two of the three aims demanded by Cymdeithas. But the rights on offer in the LCO are conditional. They will not extend into large areas of the private sector, according to Menna Machreth, Cymdeithas chairman.

She continued on the day "Even though there are many things about the LCO to be welcomed, the Welsh Assembly Government has prevented the people of Wales from gaining access to the Welsh language because of the absence of comprehensive statutory rights in the LCO. The Welsh Assembly Government has erected large 'No Entry' signs preventing access to large areas of the private sector. This is the very sector that most people come into contact with in their every day life. Our message to the One Wales Government is "Demand a better deal for the people of Wales". At the same time we warn MPs in Westminster not to participate in any cynical attempt to weaken the measure.

"Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg look forward to a wide ranging discussion on the measure and we challenge the government on how the new legislation will make a difference to those wishing to live their lives through the medium of Welsh."

Cymdeithas announced a new period of

campaigning for the Welsh language over the next few months with a number of 'events' taking place all over Wales. This would give the Assembly Government a clear message that they were demanding a language measure that is strong, transparent, and just.

Shortly before the publication of the LCO Cymdeithas held a rally on the main retail street of Cardiff, Queen Street, to draw the attention of the Assembly Government to the need for all legislative powers regarding the Welsh language to be devolved from Whitehall to Cardiff. Bethan Williams, leader of Cymdeithas's Welsh Language Act



Cymdeithas rally for language rights, Cardiff, January 2009

group said "We have been campaigning relentlessly over the past twelve months, lobbying, letter writing, and taking direct action against the giants of the private sector, leading to many of our members receiving criminal records and heavy fines. Despite their sacrifices for linguistic justice, very little attempt has been made by these companies to resolve the linguistic disparities."

During the rally, Cymdeithas members marched down Queen Street visiting the target companies of 2008 (see Carn 141), before presenting a letter to Alun Ffred Jones AC, the Minister with responsibility for the language, at the Welsh Assembly building in Cathays Park.

Amongst those speaking on behalf of Cymdeithas were singer and entertainer Caryl Parry Jones, actor Morgan Hopkins, Bethan Williams, and author and activist Catrin Dafydd, with a local dance group performing the ancient Welsh new year tradition of the Mari Lwyd. As a part of the campaign for linguistic rights, Cymdeithas yr Iaith called for official status for the language, the creation of a language

commissioner, and the right to use the Welsh language within all aspect of their lives.

Bethan Williams concluded "It is high time that the Welsh Assembly Government realise their responsibility in securing a comprehensive Legislative Competence Order that will allow legislation to ensure the linguistic dignity of the Welsh people. Without status, rights and a language commissioner within measures following the LCO, attempts to rectify the linguistic inequalities in Wales will fail."

Rhys Llwyd, Vice-Chairman of Cymdeithas said following the rally "We are very grateful to the people of Cardiff for the support given to our Rally in Cardiff today. More than 300 Cymdeithas members, and scores of local people, sent a clear message to the Assembly Government that we are serious in our demands for the rights to use the Welsh language in all aspects of our everyday lives. Whilst marching down Queen Street, we passed the stores of multinationals such as Orange and Vodafone, and were reminded that any LCO transferring powers to Cardiff Bay must be extensive enough to enable the Welsh Government to legislate to give the people of Wales the right to use the Welsh language in the public AND private sectors, because the private sector now dominates our daily lives."

It has become apparent that some Labour and Tory MPs in London are attempting to weaken the

draft of the Assembly's LCO for the right to legislate for the Welsh Language. The Tories will be concerned about reducing the profits of large corporations, while the Labour MPs, from the unionist wing of the party, are motivated both by hostility to the language and to the principle of transferring power from London to Cardiff. They consequently threaten to weaken the rights of the Welsh people to use the language. Bethan Williams said "Cymdeithas yr Iaith hope that the Language Order that will be announced at the end of the month will ensure linguistic rights across each sector. It is not the place of London MPs to suppress any aspect of this vision.

"To ensure that everybody in Wales has access to the Welsh language in every aspect of their lives, the Language Order must allow the Assembly Government to draw far-reaching language measures. The present act does not allow the rights of the Welsh people to see, learn, work, or use the Welsh language in their everyday lives. As things stand, there is no accountability, and no safety nets to regulate occurrences where rights are impinged."

An example of a language measure compiled in 2007 by Cymdeithas yr Iaith, calls for official status for the language, that a language commissioner is established with necessary power to regulate bodies across every sector, and that there are a series of language rights for the Welsh Language established, thereby normalising Welsh, and establishing linguistic rights for everybody in Wales.

Welsh language dragged back into Ice(land) Age

Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg accused the supermarket Iceland (a company with its roots in Wales) of dragging the Welsh language back to the 'Ice' Age, after their new branch in Llangefni (Ynys Môn/Anglesey) opened in February with no Welsh at all to be seen in the shop. Llangefni, in the middle of Anglesey away from the coast, is in the most Welsh-speaking part of the island.

Cymdeithas spokesman Dafydd Morgan Lewis said:

"Members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg were in Llangefni this morning (19/2/09) as Iceland opened a new shop in the town. There was no sign of the Welsh language in the store since ALL signage was in English only, even though Llangefni is one of the strongest Welsh-speaking areas in Wales. That is why Cymdeithas members put up stickers in the store with the message 'Where's the Welsh/New Welsh language Act.

"This is another blatant sign that the 1993 Welsh Language Act is a total failure. Also it proves that the Welsh language Board, with its emphasis on 'good will towards the language' has been a miserable failure. We would have expected better than this from a company that has its roots in Wales.



"This insult on the Welsh language and Welsh-speakers shows that there is a clear need for a new Welsh Language Measure that has powers extending to the private sector. Since there are now discussions now afoot about introducing a new Welsh Language Measure, it is our intention to draw the attention of our politicians to Iceland's inability to adopt a language policy, and how this proves the need for a comprehensive Welsh Language Measure."

Plaid welcome Caernarfon Prison announcement

Following over a decade of campaigning on the issue by the Parliamentary leader, Elyn Llwyd MP, Plaid Cymru welcomed the announcement in February that a prison will be built in north Wales. The party had specifically been campaigning over the past few months for the former Ferodo factory site in Caernarfon to be selected, and the local Plaid Cymru MP, Hywel Williams, has worked tirelessly to ensure that it was given due consideration. Upon hearing the news



Alun Ffred Jones AC

that the site had been selected, Mr Williams said that it was a welcome boost during a time of economic uncertainty and would provide much needed jobs to the area. The announcement was also welcomed by the local Plaid AM, Alun Ffred Jones.

Plaid Cymru MP for Caernarfon Hywel Williams said: "I'm delighted with the Minister David Hanson's decision to proceed with the former Ferodo site. The proposed prison will provide a long needed and appropriately sized custodial facility for the North. It will also provide a particular opportunity to develop unique Welsh-language services, as called for in the Welsh Affairs Committee report on Prisoners from Wales."

"The Prison will compliment the new court building nearing completion in Caernarfon, as well as the development of teaching and research in subjects such as law and psychology at the University of Wales, Bangor."

"The development will also bring hundreds of new jobs, firstly during the building work and then in operating the prison. It is also a golden opportunity for the creation of many other jobs with local suppliers. This is



Hywel Williams MP

welcome news at a time of economic uncertainty, as the prison will provide a much needed boost to the area."

"I look forward to a positive consultation with local people as the Department of Justice moves forward with the planning application."

Plaid Cymru AC for Arfon, Alun Ffred Jones, said: "This is an important development for the Caernarfon area. We've needed to have prison facilities in the north of Wales for a long time, so that sentences can be served nearer to home which we know greatly increases the chances of effective rehabilitation. A prison in the North is also important for prisoners whose home language is Welsh. I know that local Plaid MP Hywel Williams has worked tirelessly in the background to ensure that Caernarfon was given proper consideration. It is good news that we can now see the fruits of his labour.

"I am hopeful that both the construction and running of the prison will offer much needed jobs for the Caernarfon area at this difficult economic time. I now look forward to seeing further details and the timetable for the development. It is important that any local concerns are taken into account"

Plaid Cymru MP for Meirionnydd Nant Conwy, Elyn Llwyd, said: "For over a decade, I have campaigned for a prison to be built in north Wales. I therefore welcome today's announcement and congratulate my colleague, Hywel Williams, on his campaign to have the site in Caernarfon selected. This should be a local prison for the prisoners of the North, making the impact of their imprisonment less disruptive to their families, as well as making it easier to rehabilitate them back into the community once they are released."



Éire



Stair de shiúl na gCos

Leabhar taistil agus staire in aon iarracht an saothar seo. Ba é ainm an údair a tharraing m'aird air ó bhí leabhar eile dá chuid léite agam cheana. B'in *Attention All Shipping: a journey around the shipping forecast*, leabhar inar thug an t-údar aghaidh ar na loig a thug a n-ainmneacha do na limistéir fharraige a luaitear nó a luaití i dtuar na haimsire ar an bhfarraige thart timpeall ar an hoileáin seo. Leabhar taistil neamhghnách ar fad é sin a phléann le cinn scríbe neamhghnácha. Ach nuair a d'fhéach mé ar an leabhar is déanaí ag Charlie Connelly is beag ná gur chuir an fotheideal ó dhoras mé. Is é sin *Walking through 2000 years of British and Irish history*. Tá mé in amhras an ann do rud ar bith ar féidir "stair Bhriotanach" a thabhairt air agus ó cheart ní chóir an téarma "Briotanach" a úsáid sa nua-aois faoi rud ar bith beagnach, seachas mar théarma lom tíreolaíochta nó cur síos cúng ar fhorais impiriúlachta. Pé ar bith tá áthas orm gur thug mé faoin leabhar mar ní amháin gur saothar den scoth é ach tá tuiscint mhaith ag an údar ar fhéiniúlacht na bpobal Ceilteacha.



Charlie Connelly, údar

Is é a chuir Charlie Connelly roimhe siúlóidí a dhéanamh bunaithe ar thurais a rinne daoine áirithe sa stair. Orthu siúd tá Amhlaoibh Bideach (Rí Mhanann), Owain Glyn Dwr, Máiri Ríon na nAlbanach, Flóra Nic Dhómhnaill agus Tearlach Óg Stiobhart agus pobal i Maigh Eo a scriosadh leis an nGorta Mór.

Cé gur tógadh an Conghaileah i dtuaisceart Shasana tá cion ar leith aige ar mhuintir na Breataine Bige agus ar gach a bhaineann lena dtír. Chuir sé roimhe conair Glyn Dwr a leanacht de shiúl na gcos ó Machynlleth go dtí cósta theas na Breataine Bige. Tugann sé cuntas gairid cruinn ar éirí amach Glyn Dwr agus a sheasamh in aghaidh na Sasanach. Tá

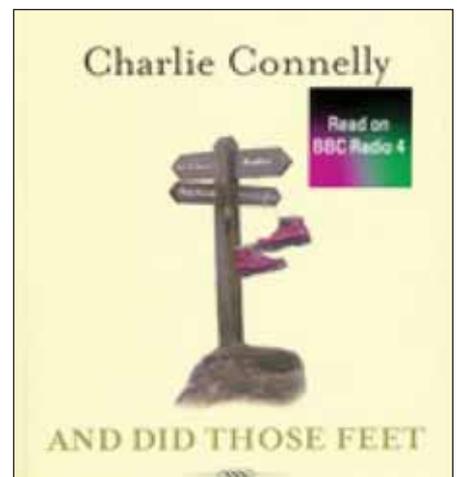
an taighde déanta go mion agus go maith aige. Agus é in Llanymddyfri, mar shampla, insíonn sé scéal Llewelyn ap Gruffydd Fach, taoiseach áitiúil a chuir Henry Bolingbroke, rí Shasana, amú d'aon ghnó -- thug sé eolas bréagach don rí arbh é a thoradh go raibh faoiseamh ag Glyn Dwr agus é ag eagrú a chuid fórsaí. D'íoc an Llewelyn seo go daor as, ó crochadh agus tarraingíodh é agus rinneadh ceathrúna de, an pianós álainn sin a chleachtaíodh Coróin Shasana ar feadh na gcéadta. Is aobheann leis an údar gach gné den stair agus den saíocht. Tagraíonn sé sa leabhar do George Burrow (a raibh grá mór aige don Bhreatain Bheag ach arbh fhuath leis Albanaigh!), Llywelyn Olaf (prionsa deireanach na Breataine Bige), Dylan Thomas agus imreoirí móra rugbaí. De thaisme ghlan tharla do Charlie Connelly a bheith i láthair ag an gcomóradh bliantúil in Cilmeri. Déanann sé cur síos ar lucht an chomórtha mar "... these proud people from all over the country who'd gathered here ... to remember a time when their nation was a nation in every sense, ... singing the anthem ... in a language that has survived concerted efforts by the English to wipe it out ..."

Ní miste a rá go bhfuil an leabhar seo lán de ghreann. Agus é ag ithe bricfeasta in Caerfyrddin, ní raibh de chomhluadar aige sa bhialann ach beirt fhear gnó Sasanach a bhí ag caint go maslach faoi na Breatnaigh in aird a gcinn is a ngutha. Luaigh siad mar a dtiontaíonn Breatnaigh ar an mBreatnais d'aon ghnó nuair a thagann eachtrannach isteach! (Ní thagann meirg ar na seanmhiotais!) Pléann an Conghaileach an naimhdeas oscailte atá ar go leor Sasanach do na Breatnaigh -- caint phoiblí leithéidí A.A. Gill agus Anne Robinson, mar shampla. Cuireann sé ceist, *"Is this seen as the last acceptable form of racism?"*

Tá daoine arbh ábhar iad do na caibidilí nach dtuilleann ómós laochra, dar liom, an somachán sin Tearlach Óg, mar shampla. Ar ndóigh tá cur síos moltach ar Fhlóra Nic Dhómhnaill ag an údar ach seachnaíonn sé an rómánsaíocht choitianta gur mar shearbhónta dílis a bhí sí ag freastal air. Bhí muintir Fhlóra uile páirteach san iarracht an Stiobhartach a thabhairt slán agus ba cheist onóra do na Dòmhnallaigh nach ngabhfaí a n-aoí, seandualgas Gaelach. Arís tá an stair go cruinn ag an údar. Bheadh athair an phrionsa ina rí ar Shasana agus a spleách-chríocha marach gur shocraigh lucht airgid Shasana trína bparlaimint léimt thar 58 duine san ord theacht i gcoróin leis an jab a

thabhairt don Ghearmánach Georg Ludwig de Hanover nach raibh focal Béarla ná mórán aon cháilíocht eile aige.

Taobh amuigh den stair cuirfidh an taistealaí spéis i go leor de na háiteanna atá luaite sa leabhar seo. Molann an t-údar Músaem Mhanann i nDúlais go hard. Deir sé go bhfuil Dún Éadain ar *"one of my favourite cities in the world"* cé nach dtaitníonn foirneamh na parlaiminte leis. Agus tá cur síos briomhar aige ar an gceantar idir Cluain Carbán agus Dumha Locha agus é ag comóradh siúlóide a rinne 600 duine ar an dé deiridh ón ocra in 1849 -- deirtear go bhfuair 400 acu bás. Meabhraíonn sé mar a chuir an pobal dúchasach Meiriceánach Choctow \$710 go hÉirinn le haghaidh faoiseamh do lucht fulaingte an ghorta nuair a chuala siad an scéal sin.



Tá caibidil ag Charlie Connelly faoi Buddug, taoiseach mhuintir Icení, a d'éirigh amach in aghaidh na gcoilínithe Rómhánacha i 60 RCh. An t-aon chaibidil neamh-Cheilteach (ar an gcéad amhrac) baineann sé le rí Harold Godwineson Shasana agus an mháirseáil a rinne sé ó dheas le tabhairt faoin Normannach Guillaume le Batard sa bhliain 1066. Tugann an t-údar Gruffydd ap Llewelyn agus Diarmait mac Máel (rí Bhaile Átha Cliath) isteach sa scéal chomh maith le saighdiúirí Briotanacha William. Ní amháin sin ach ar a shiúlóid ó Stamford Bridge go Hastings tugann sé cuairt ar uaigh Gwenllian, iníon Llewelyn Olaf.

Sárleabhar -- lán eolais, lán grinn!

Colm de Faoite

Summary

This article is a review of And Did Those Feet by Charlie Connelly, Little, Brown (Londain) £12.99. The author undertook journeys taken by historical characters such as Owain Glyn Dwr and others in the Celtic countries and England. The reviewer recommends the book highly for its insights, sympathetic approach to the Celts and its humour.

SLIGO TO HOST 2009 CELTIC CONGRESS

Every day of our lives is permeated by placenames, whether we are conscious of it or not. Placenames enshrine history, mythology, descriptions of landscape, languages, family names and ancient occupations. Our six countries are particularly rich in meaningful placenames.

This year's Celtic Congress in the Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo (July 27th -- August 1st), will be devoted to the theme of Celtic placenames. Experts from each country will discuss the placenames and will be available to try and answer the many questions that all lovers of the Celtic environment have about the names of towns, rivers, hills and ancient routes. No doubt the prevention of loss of traditional placenames and their replacement by meaningless monikers (or worse, codes and numbers) will arise in the workshops on the subject.

As is customary with Celtic congresses there will be more than serious discussion and the programme will include a bus tour and a concert as well as nightly sessions of music, song and dance. The opening will be marked by a reception and a congress dinner. There will also be a civic reception and a multi-lingual religious service. Above all the congress provides an opportunity to meet like-minded people from other Celtic countries.

There will be a reasonable charge for most events but an all-in ticket (including dinner each evening) may be had for €250. People staying at the Sligo Park Hotel for the special rate of €449 pps (single room €100 extra) will have admission to all events free (including dinners). (It is necessary to book directly with the Celtic Congress to avail of this offer.)



Art Ó Maolthabhair, who will lecture at the Congress. He is an authority on Celtic placenames, author of *Ó Lyon go Dún Lúiche: Logainmneacha san Oidhreacht Cheilteach (From Lyon to Dún Lúiche: Placeames in the Celtic Heritage)* and an Irish language poet.

Information can be obtained on the Congress website (www.ccheilteach.ie) or by e-mail (ccheilteach@ionad.org) or by contacting the PRO, Fionnuala Ní Chasaide at +353-(0)87-941 8917.

Irish State fights against Positive Irish Language Ruling

The Dáil introduced the Official Languages Act in 2003 with unanimous cross party support. This was intended to give legislative effect to the position of Irish in the Constitution. Now in a contradictory move the state is challenging a court ruling that would compel it to translate thousands of regulations into the country's first official language. In February the Supreme Court heard an appeal against a High Court ruling in 2004 which found there is a constitutional duty for government departments to publish Statutory Instruments (SIs) simultaneously in English and Irish. The state has cited a shortage of translators as one reason why it shouldn't have to comply.

The original case was taken by Pol O Murchu, a solicitor, who said he needed Irish versions of regulations to effectively represent clients who want their cases to be heard through Irish. Article 8 of the constitution states that Irish is the first official language of the state with English second. Since 2001 all acts of the Oireachtas must be immediately translated into Irish by Rannóg an Aistriuchain, the Dáil's translation section. This situation was only brought about however by High Court and Supreme actions in the case of Séamus Ó Beolain, which resulted in the Supreme Court judgement in April 2001. This laid down that the provision of Article 25.4.4 of the Constitution is to be implemented in relation to Bills (i.e. that an Irish Language version of a Bill must be available when the President signs the Bill into law). It furthermore stated that State had a legal

obligation to provide the Regulations of the District Court in Irish.

Secondary legislation, however, which gives effect to new laws and consists of 5,000 pages of statutory instruments annually, were not translated during 1993-2004. The Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht affairs says that more than 60,000 pages of SIs are waiting to be translated. It translates all its regulations into Irish, but the "vast majority" of other departments do not. In an affidavit to the court the department estimated that an extra 24 translators would have to be hired to transcribe 5,000 extra pages each year. Rannóg an Aistriuchain, employs 21 translators. The Ó Beolain case referred to above in fact led to achievement of this level of translators, about a doubling of the numbers there in 2001.

Among the secondary legislation not available in Irish are rules of the courts. The Department of Justice recently completed a translation of the district court rules but there is no Irish version of the circuit and superior court rules. The hearing in February was in Irish and a simultaneous translation service was used.

The state claimed that "it is not a constitutional requirement that constitutional obligations be fulfilled on a simultaneous basis". Is it hard to see how this can be sustained in light of the Ó Beolain decision of 2001 and the opinions expressed by the Supreme Court judges in delivering their judgement. Undoubtedly the Supreme Court will take account of the precedent set in that case when giving a verdict on this one.

Lisbon Treaty Rerun, a Denial of Democracy

but a chance for Ireland to save the EU from its folly.

JO'F

To sum up, the Irish Government have agreed to have another referendum on the Lisbon Treaty (absolutely unchanged) in the autumn of this year, by the end of October in fact. How this can be reconciled with any concept of democracy within the EU is absolutely amazing. When the Treaty started out it was clearly said that all member states had to vote in favour of ratification for it to come into force. Now after pressure from the other States Taoiseach Brian Cowen has capitulated. If a General Election failed to give a result desired by some should it held again? The mind really boggles at the attitude of those in power in Europe and the disdain they have for its citizens.

At the EU summit in December 2008 Cowen put a brave face on it. The summit agreed to his proposal that all EU member States should retain their Commissioner. Legally binding guarantees were to be drafted to protect the Irish position on neutrality, tax and abortion. On the workers

rights issue EU sources said legally binding guarantee offers to Ireland on social rights could have caused political problems in Britain. Of course it emerged the Lisbon Treaty would not be altered to include these guarantees. Instead they would be written into the Treaty for the accession of Croatia, which is expected to join the EU within three years.

The option of going back and renegotiating the Treaty was totally ruled out. What if the populations of other EU countries who had not been properly consulted or allowed to vote on it actually agreed with changes? – No, the politicians had to control the process! Those who campaigned against the Lisbon Treaty said these guarantees were worth nothing and subject to further erosion as time went on. While the Lisbon Treaty might initially confirm a commissioner this might only remain for an unspecified period. The power to reduce the size of the Commission will be given to the Council and sooner rather

the later there will be an end to one commissioner per member state. Furthermore the broader issue of the EU's democratic deficit, its erosion of workers rights and public services, its developing foreign policy and defence agendas and its policy of free trade over fair trade would not be addressed.

Early this year most attention focussed on Declan Ganley's (right wing) *Libertas* and its pan European political facet. Ganley had various launches in different countries after founding the movement as a European political party and cobbled together an assortment of politicians from various parties to stand in the elections for the European Parliament in June. He himself is standing in Ireland's North West constituency. He has said if he does not win a seat he will not run the *Libertas* campaign in the Lisbon 2 referendum. As he seems unlikely to win one (he will not gain from the main parties but only possibly from the one Independent) maybe this is his exit strategy. Nevertheless Ganley launched their campaign in early May with some fanfare, they will have 300 candidates in 24 EU states and claimed to hope to win 100 seats in the Parliament.

At the last EU summit there was no real discussion on Lisbon or clarification on the so-called guarantees, with the focus being on the economic crisis. The Czech parliament ratified the Treaty (last to do so bar Ireland) but the anti-Lisbon President Klaus said he would not sign the Bill until after Ireland's second referendum. The German constitutional court is addressing issues raised, but is unlikely to rule until after the Lisbon 2 referendum and in the EU Parliament the legal basis for the 'guarantees' have been challenged. A member of the Intergovernmental conference, which drew up the Treaty, said that adding Irish specific protocols to an accession treaty was not possible (Denmark had to wait for 5 years before opt outs agreed with it on Masstrich were finally adopted in the Amsterdam Treaty). They may have to await a new EU reform Treaty, which is unlikely to materialise for years. Meanwhile the European Parliament has voted on a string of reports in early May on enabling and implementation of the Treaty, totally ignoring the fact that that it is not fully ratified yet! What great institutions!

The last word has to go to Commission President José Barroso. He earlier said the Commission would try to help the Irish Government win the referendum, and a €1.8M EU publicity campaign in Ireland was launched. But ultimately it seems he is putting his faith in the economic crisis which he declared at an employment summit in Prague some weeks ago was likely to make the Irish people vote Yes in a second Lisbon referendum!

Recent Poll shows 52% Yes, only 29% No (and 19% don't know) but this is the same as in early polls last time.

SHELL TO SEA - TROUBLE AHEAD!

Various developments have occurred since last autumn in the long running saga of the fight of the community in North West Mayo against a high-pressure gas land pipeline and the location of the gas refinery. When work started on the sea pipeline in early autumn of last year protests by environmentalists to disrupt this were countered by the Garda Water Unit. Then to the surprise of many Irish Naval Service vessels were introduced. This action led to criticism by the Celtic League who took up the issue with the Council of Europe and the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) as an inappropriate and disproportionate use of military resources to support the policing of a demonstration. The Gen. Sec. of the Council responded stating "I have forwarded your letter to the Director General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs so that he can examine whether this issue calls for a new standard-setting activity" At the end of March CPT replied stating they had already taken note of the concerns expressed and that the CL.

"may rest assured that the CPT will take due account of this matter in the context of its ongoing dialogue with the Irish authorities." Adverse weather conditions apparently damaged the gas pipe laying ship and it was withdrawn for the winter leading to the calling off a twelve-day hunger strike by leading campaigner Maura Harrington. Protests continued however at the Glengad site where the pipe will come ashore.

After a visit by two Government Ministers, Eamonn Ó Cuiv of the Department of Community Rural Affairs and the Gaeltacht and Energy Minister Eamonn Ryan (Green Party) to the area they set up a community forum chaired by a retired civil servant. Talks got way at year end but the forum soon ran into difficulty with local groups stating the terms of reference were too narrow (excluding any alternative refinery location – incidentally work is continuing apace on the refinery site at Bellnaboy after a massive Garda operation a few years ago to clear protesters away and it is well under construction) and some boycotting it. In February Shell lodged applications for revised pipeline routes but their consultants said this was largely unchanged, though it is now 140m from the nearest dwelling as against 70 m on the original route. Despite direct contact at the forum between Shell and some of the Rossport Five (who had been imprisoned for 94 days in 2005 over their opposition to the project) for the first time, talks had broken down by early April, with the Mayo group saying there was no point in continuing discussions 'until Shell E&P Ireland has something to say to us'.

Shell to Sea activist Maura Harrington who was sentenced to 28 days in prison for slapping a Garda across the face at a demonstration, a sentence widely condemned as disproportionate, was released about that time after serving part of her sentence. The League had protested about this and the



Maura Harrington, Shell to Sea campaigner after her release from prison.

requirement for psychiatric evaluation stating "The Celtic League does not believe that, in the case of Maura Harrington, the government or courts have responded in a way that would suggest that they are being sensitive to the concerns of the residents of County Mayo who oppose the Shell development there. At the end of April matters worsened as activity continued at Glengad. A group of some 15 people broke into the site, they started a mechanical digger and managed to badly damage the compound fence and gate. One of the Rossport Five, Willie Corduff, who was awarded the Goldman international environmental award (seen as the Nobel Green Prize, he was the first ever Irish recipient) two years ago, was allegedly assaulted and injured (in strange circumstances later that night by masked men, later confirmed by Gardaí, it seems, as Shell security staff. He had been under a lorry delivering fencing on the site as a protest). The Governments only response was to call on all stakeholders in the conflict to remain within the law.

At a meeting of 300 people in early May called to address concerns that Gardaí were not protecting the people the Ministers were told there would be further injuries or even deaths if the dispute is not resolved. Energy Minister Ryan was the object of particular ire as he had opposed the project before the Greens entered Government. The alleged assault on Willie Corduff prompted a group of 20 recipients of the Goldman award to send an open letter to the Irish President and the Taoiseach, B. Cowen, and the Norwegian Prime Minister, Jens Stoltenberg, calling on them to intervene in the conflict. It expressed concern about the assault and "a potential humanitarian crisis" in North Mayo. Garda public order units were drafted into the area for a major protest by Shell to Sea action at the Glengad site the first weekend in May. The Human Rights organisation Frontline attended as observers. The full oral hearing on the revised pipeline route is scheduled for 19th May. We can expect this to be a focus for protest also.



Kernow



KEMBRA PATAGONI, HWATH KEMBRA DRES AN MORYOW !

Dell welsyn yn erthyglow eus passyes, yma tus ow lavurya yn ta yn Arghantina rag brashe gonisogeth keltek ha mentena yethow keltek ena. Synsys yw meur a arethow yn kever an yethow keltek, meur a dowlennow radyo war an yethow ha'n wonisogeth keltek, korsow gorthugher yeth kembrek, h. a. ... Res yw dhyn perthi kov bos pur boesek an kemmyniethow keltek ena dres oll an gemmynieth kembrek yn deghow an vro, y'n rannir henwys Patagoni.

Gwell aswonnys yw Patagoni gans an Gembroyon. Res yw dhyn perthi kov a'n drevesigeth kembrek ena y'n vlydhen 1865 gans Michael D. Jones. I a gasas Lerpoll yn mis Me 1865 war vord an skath-woelya henwys "Mimosa". Y'n vlydhen ma 160 trevesiger a gasas Europa. Pur deg yw Patagoni, yn sur ha pur dhe les yw an vro ma rag an dervyajoryon hedhyw mes yn termyn na pur dhidhynnargh o Patagoni rag an drevesigethyon gembrek. Mes an drevesigeth, aswonnys gans hy hanow kembrek "Y Wladfa", a wrug seweni yn ta gras dhe lavur an Gembroyon.

Yn Kembra, yn kres an XIXves kansblydhen, Gembroyon a wrug hunrosa a Gembra Nowydh, le y hyllens perghenna ha lavurya aga havrek aga honan hag ynwedh rewlya aga yeth ha gonosigeth. An drevesigethyon a wrug omlesa dhiworth an arvor dhe venydyow Andes.

Mes an XXves kansblydhen a wrug chanjya bywnans gonisogethek an drevesigeth. An yeth spaynek a dheu ha bos yeth soedhogel Y Wladfa drefenn bos moy ha moy kelmys orth Stat Arghantina an drevesigeth kembrek. Wosa 1914 ha dres blydhnyow, kestavow yntra Kembra hag Y Wladfa a wrug difyga. Gans henna yn 1930 gans skwat gwlassek luel José Felix Uruburu, an yeth kembrek a veu divroys ha'n yeth a dheu ha bos usys yn pryvedh yn unnik.

Mes yn 1938 fondys veu Cymdeithas Cymru-Ariannin (Kowethas Kembra-Arghantina) rag krevhe kevrennow yntra Kembra hag Y Wladfa. An traow a wrug chanjya wosa 1965 gans solempnytyas an 100ves penn-bloedh an drevesigeth. A-dhia an vlydhen ma synsys yw pub blydhen Eisteddfod Y Wladfa. Wosa solempnytyas an 100ves penn-bloedh moy ha moy tus dhiworth Kembra a dhallathas dhe vyajya dhe Batagoni. Ha restransow avel Andes Celtig (www.andesceltig.com) rewlys gans

tus avel Gwyn ha Monica Jones a wra ordena godrigow yn Patagoni rag tervyajoryon dhiworth Kembra. Gwyn Jones a dhiworth Kembra mes Monica Jones de Jones a dhiworth an drevesigeth. Genys veu Monica yn Patagoni. Hi a gews an yeth ha hi a wrug gwaynya pris yn Eisteddfod Kembra yn 2001 gans bardhonek yn-kever rydhses. Gwyn ha Monica a gews Kembrek dh'aga fleghes !

Yn 1996, Soedhva Gembrek a dhallathas towlenn ow pesya hwath yn-dann rewl Kuntelles Kenedhlek Kembra. Dyskadoryon a wra spena unn vlydhen yn Patagoni rag dyski an yeth dhe dus an drevesigeth. Yn 2001, Rhodri Morgan, Menyster kynsa rag Kembra a wra vysytya Y Wladfa hag yn 2007, Alun Pugh, Menyster rag Gonisogeth ha'n Yeth Kembrek, eth ena ynwedh.

Yma towlenn kesroethweyth gans Konsel Predennek dhe gevrenna dyskadoryon an yeth yn Patagoni gans Kembrogoryon yn Kembra. Teknologieth an XXIa kansblydhen a wra sostena tybyans an XIXves kansblydhen, hunros Michael D. Jones, henn yw mentena an yeth kembrek avel yeth pub dydh yn Patagoni !

Da via lemmyn rag an Kesunyans Keltek dhe aswonn Patagoni avel pow keltek ow kwruthyl skorenn ena avel yn Alban Nowydh !

Summary: *In 1865, 160 Welsh men and women left Liverpool dreaming of a New Wales beyond the seas where they could own their land and speak their language freely ! Their colony known as Y Wladfa succeeded despite difficulties. The language seemed to disappear under the influence of Spanish, the official language of their new state, Argentina. But from the 100th anniversary of the settlement in 1965 the language began to flourish again. Today there are still 5,000 Welsh speakers in Patagonia! Almost 150 years later the dream of Michael D. Jones is a reality! It would be good for the Celtic League to create a branch there and to recognize Patagonia as a Celtic country like the Celtic League did with Nova Scotia!*

José CALVETE.



Pictures courtesy Fernando Coronato and Martin Bassino

Hedhyw yma 150,000 den ow tryga yn Patagoni, 20,000 anedho yw a dhevedhyans kembrek ha 5,000 anedho a wra kewsel hwath an yeth. Splann yw gweles tus ow kewsel an yeth koth dh'aga fleghes avel rag ensampel ow howetha dha Gwyn ha Monica Jones ha splann yw ynwedh gweles tus ow tyski an yeth, a-dro dhe 700 den yn klasow gorthugher pub blydhen ! Tus gans henwyn spaynek po italek avel rag ensampel ow howeth da Martin Bassino po Fernando Coronato...

International Branch Internet Site

<http://homepages.enterprise.net/mlockerby>

Email: **International Branch Secretary**
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Cornish take the day off to celebrate St Piran



Dozens of workers in Cornwall were given the day off as an unofficial Bank Holiday to celebrate St Piran's Day. Cornwall's five MPs have signed a Commons motions asking for official recognition of St Piran's Day.

The campaign to mark an official public holiday for St Piran, the sixth century saint who discovered tin in Cornwall, comes as churches in parts of Britain with a tradition of mining prepare to mark the 25th anniversary of the start of miners' strike that divided the nation.

St Piran, who subsequently became patron saint of tin mining, was born in Ireland in the sixth century and, according to legend, was washed up at Perranporth beach after his countrymen threw him from a cliff into the sea with a millstone around his neck. Some reports have him arriving in a currach, a small boat.

According to the Celtic League, which has urged all local authorities to give their staff the day off, studies show that holidays can improve productivity. The League also notes that the United Kingdom has one of the fewest numbers of bank holidays in Europe.

Staff at Bodmin, St Columb and Penzance councils are among those told they do not have to work today.

In their motion the five MPs, all Liberal Democrats, say: "This house notes that celebrations in honour of St Piran each year are growing in scope, support and significance."

However, the campaign to make St Piran's Day a bank holiday is unlikely to succeed.

The Department of Trade and Industry said: "The Government receives a variety of suggestions for new or different Bank Holidays and celebrations. Whilst the Government is pleased that so many people are interested, as you can imagine it is not possible to please everyone as to who or what should be celebrated... and the Government has no current plans to change the arrangements."

Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger: status of Cornish and Manx languages

Letter to Koichiro Matsuura Director-General of UNESCO

Dear Director-General Koichiro Matsuura

I am writing to you following the publication (19/02/09) of the latest UNESCO Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger. On the UNESCO website, it states that the Atlas is "UNESCO's flagship activity in safeguarding endangered languages" and so the Celtic League were once again surprised to learn that the Cornish and Manx languages have, as in previous years, been given the status of being 'extinct'.

In addition to the fact that this is incorrect, for the United Nations to continually state in their publications that critically endangered languages (which is what the Cornish and Manx languages are) are 'extinct', is potentially damaging to these languages and can be detrimental to their efforts at reversing language shift. The Celtic League is now beginning to wonder how accurate the Atlas is, because if UNESCO has attributed 'extinct' status to the Cornish and Manx languages, then how many other languages have been misclassified in the same way.

On your website, you state that the Cornish language became extinct probably with the death of Dolly Pentreath in 1777, which is now widely accepted to be a popular myth. Also on the same website there are inconsistencies with regard to the Manx language. On the one hand it is stated that Ned Maddrell, who died in 1974, was the last speaker of Manx and on the other it is stated that "Manx is increasingly being revived and studied as a second language; revived Manx cannot be regarded as endangered as the number of users seems to be constantly growing". There are therefore some clear confusions. As you may be aware the, Irish Government funded the Irish Folklore Commission which recorded Mr Maddrell for language preservation sake and he even taught some young language learners, including the still very active language teacher and scholar Dr Brian Stowell.

The Celtic League has written to UNESCO about this matter on previous occasions in the past and we also wrote to the editor of the Atlas only last year to point out these errors. I am also aware of at least one letter that was sent from the (UK Government funded) Cornish Language Partnership language officer last year to UNESCO in an attempt to correct their information. It was felt that in the UNESCO International Year of Languages 2008, a little more effort could be made to remedy any previous misleading data. We are therefore very disappointed that

UNESCO has chosen to ignore our input and have failed to undertake proper research to ensure that its facts are presented accurately.

We are aware that there is at least one organization (European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages) that has UNESCO consultative status, which, if it had been consulted on this issue, would have immediately informed you that neither the Cornish or Manx languages are extinct. These languages are rather, experiencing a rapid period of growth, quicker than at any other period over the last one hundred years. This was one of the reasons why the Celtic League applied for consultative status of UNESCO last year, so that it would be in a better position to inform the organisation of specific developments within the language communities within the Celtic countries.

If UNESCO believes that the Cornish and Manx languages are 'extinct', because they are being revived, then perhaps a separate category for these kinds of languages should exist in the *Atlas*. However, all of the Celtic languages are in a similar situation in this respect, in that they have all experienced different degrees of language shift and are all currently being revived and revitalised in order to reverse this demise.

For your information I have copied this mail to the respective language officers in Kernow/Cornwall and Mannin/Isle of Man and have listed their contact details below and would urge you to contact them, in order to ascertain the position of the Cornish and Manx languages, according to your criteria, for your records. I have also copied your email to Diarmuid O'Neill, who is the author of *Rebuilding the Celtic Languages: Reversing Language Shift in the Celtic Countries*, which is an interesting book and a would be a good source of reference.

Jenefer Lowe

Cornish Language Development Manager

Email: jlowe@cornwall.gov.uk

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Adrian Cain

Manx Language Officer

Manx Heritage

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We look forward then to either a better editing of UNESCO's facts in its *Atlas* in the future, or the creation of an additional category to take the languages of Cornish and Manx into account. We would very much like to hear your views on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Rhisiart Tal-e-bot



Mannin



Soie er Cheeraghyn Beggey ayns Ennym Chairys

Ta'n smoash argidoil er chur er reiltys Hostyn dy hoilshaghey ny t'eh gennaghtyn ayns e chree bentyn rish cheeraghyn beggey ennagh. Rish paart dy vleeantyn ta ny Sostnee er ve beggan imneagh bentyn rish y 'speeideilys' jeh cheeraghyn beggey goll rish yn Eeslynn, Nerin, as Mannin. Nish, ta'n gear-cheim ayns yn choarys bunargidagh er lhiggey da reiltys Hostyn (as sleih elley) jeeaghyn da'n teihll ny t'ad coontey jeh ny cheeraghyn beggey scammyltagh shen: quoi ren lowal da ny cheeraghyn treih shen dy ve cho daaney as mitchooragh, ta reiltys Hostyn gra nish. 'Neemayd gynsaghey lessoonyn creoi daue nish', ta fir-reill Hostyn gra. Agh quoi ren greinnaghey sleih keeshyn y haghney as argid ass towse y ceassaghey? She reiltys Hostyn ren shen – er nonney, Lunnin argidagh by chiart dou gra. Ta cooishyn er l'eh ayn bentyn rish yn Eeslynn as Nerin, agh, dy firrinagh, ta Mannin er jeet dy ve myr meer jeh Lunnin argidagh t'ayns y cheayn. Nish, t'eh jeeaghyn dy vel shen er ve myr ayn jeh polasee yn reiltys ayns Lunnin neayr's y tra hie yn impiraght Ghoaldagh magh ass. Ta'n skeeal goll mygeayrt dy vrie peiagh ennagh ec y tra shen feysht jeh mandarin ayns Lunnin – dooinney feer niartal ayns shirveish heayagh Hostyn. Shoh yn eysht vrie yn peiagh shen jeh'n dooinney niartal: 'Nish as yn impiraght ain goll magh ass, cre'n erree hig er y sleih ayns ooilley ny jeelmyrn jeh'n impiraght – buill goll rish ny Ellanyn Cayman, Ellanyn y Voidyn, as myr shen?' 'Aashagh dy liooar', dreggyr y mandarin. 'Bee pargyssyn-keesh ny fasteeyn-keesh jeant asssoo'. As shen ny haghyr. Foddee nagh vel y skeeal shoh firrinagh, agh shen ny haghyr. As ta ny fasteeyn-keesh, goaill stiagh Mannin, er ve feer foayssagh da'n cherroo-argidys ayns Lunnin. Dy jarroo, she ayn jeh'n cherroo-argidys Lunninagh ad.

Tra va'n impiraght Ghoaldagh goll sheese y liargagh lurg y nah chaggey mooar, cha row row feme ec Mannin er dellal ayns argid quaaagh. Va'n turrysid ec Mannin foast, as va shen niartal gys ny bleecantyn tree feed. Va Mannin croghey er y turrysid – va mish hene troggit seose ayns y teihll shen. Agh eisht haink ny laghyn seyrey paggit rish, kyndagh rish troait-aer nagh row costal monney. Syn ynyd jeh cheet gys Mannin son laghyn seyrey, hie ny turrisee Sostnagh, Albinagh as Yernagh gys y Spaainey. Ayns shen hoar ad y ghrian, bee mie as feeyn neugheyr. As

sy Spaainey neesht foddee dy dooar ad oasteyrin nagh row cho grouw as paart jeu ayns Mannin. Haink cooishyn dy ve moal dy liooar ayns Mannin. Va'n earroo dy chummaltee tuitym, as va'n tarmayns ayns drogh stayd. Dy debejagh, hirr leeideilee Vannin aghtyn elley dy chosney argid da'n Ellan. Hoshiaght, reih ad polasee jeh cleayney Sostnee as argid oc dy heet as dy chummal ayns Mannin. Haink shenn Sostnee dy chummal ayns Mannin, as chossyn troggyderyn as delleyderyn elley paart dy argid. Agh cha row yn polasee shen speeideilagh. She shenn sleih veih'n impiraght Ghoaldagh son y chooid smoo haink gys Mannin as, roish tammylt, begin da reiltys Mannin geeck argid dy liooar dy reayll ad ayns sorch dy laynt chastreycair.

She l'ing ny 'when I's' v'ayn ('Tra va mee ayns Singapore...').

Begin geddyn agh elley dy lhieeny'n vaarne y faagit ec y turrysid. She yn kerroo-argidys va'n agh shen. Ayns y toshiaght, va ram dellal ayns argid quaaagh goll er jannoo – argid ayns mynjeigyn pabyr dhone, as myr shen. Agh lurg tammylt haink y kerroo-argidys Manninagh dy ve smoo doaiagh. Agh cha nod oo gra dy dank eh dy ve lane doaiagh ayns sooillyn y teihll. Foddee dy vel ooilley'n dellal argidagh ayns Mannin leighoil nish, agh cha nod oo gra dy vel dy chooilley nhee moraltagh. Ta coontysseyryn schleioil er nobraghey magh aghtyn feer chroutagh dy haghney keeshyn as dy chosney tooilley argid foastagh son sleih ta feer verchagh hannah - aghtyn ta leighoil. Shinyrn ayns ny cheeraghyn 'lhiasit', ta shinyrn ooilley kianlt seose ayns ny cooishyn quaaagh shoh. Erskyn ooilley, ta Mannin ayns cront kyndagh rish cooish y vanc Eeslynnagh Kaupthing. Tra ren Kaupthing failleil, huit y colught Kaupthing Singer as Friedlander myrgeeddin as va'n colught shen scanshoil dy liooar ayns Mannin. Eisht begin da reiltys Vannin geddyn millioonyn dy phuntyn d'eeck argid erash dauesyn vaih nyn argid ayns y cholught. Nish ta Mannin fo vaggryt mooar veih sleih ta soit er geddyn rey rish fasteeyn-keesh. Ta reiltys y Reeriaght Unnaneysit mastey'n sleih shen. Agh, ec chaglyn ayns Mannin er y gherid, dooyrt John Christensen dy vel Lunnin yn preeu-ynyd sy teihll son niee argid quaaagh – ta Mnr Christensen ny ghooiney mooar sy Voggyl ry hoi Aachummey Keesh (Tax Reform Newtwork). V'eh gobbraghey ayns Jersey as shione da ooilley ny croutyn bentyn rish

shaghney keesh. Ta'n Moggyl ry hoi Aachummey Keesh gobbraghey dy lhiettal shaghney keesh feiy ny cruinney. Gyn ourys erbee, ta shaghney keesh kerraghey sleih boght ayns cheeraghyn boghtey erskyn ooilley. 'Cha nee agh sleih beg ta geeck keeshyn', dooyrt ben verchagh Americanaagh blein ny ghaa er dy henney. Ta'n smooineaght shen bunnys myr polasee oikoil ayns cheeraghyn dy liooar nish.

Er lhiam dy row Mannin dellal ayns argid quaaagh roish my dank Nerin stiagh sy ghamman. Agh haink Divlyn dy ve ny costreeuder as ee caggey noi Jersey, Guernsey as Mannin – leodaghey keeshyn co-chorpagh, geddyn rey rish keeshyn, as lowal da colughtyn joarree cur offishyn follym er bun dy lhiggey er dy row ad er narraghey gys Nerin. Nish ta'n smoash er jeet rish as ta reiltys Hostyn gloatal mychione y stayd treih jeh cheeraghyn beggey va cheet dy ve ro vooar da ny bootsyn oc. 'Lhig da shoh ve ny raau e diu', ta ny Sostnee gra rish Nallbin – 'Jarrood-shiu ooilley'n boghtynid shen mychione seyrnsys'. Agh, myr shione dooinney, ta Sostyn cho dowin ayns y check as cheeraghyn elley. Oddagh y goll ergooyl argidagh ve cho olk feiy ny cruinney as shen haghyr ayns ny bleecantyn jeih as feed sy cheead shoh chaie.

Myr ta fys mie ec John Christensen, dy lhiettal shaghney keeshyn dy kiart, shegin da cheeraghyn poaral co-obbraghey ry cheilley dy fondagh. Cha nel shen jeeaghyn ro liklee ec y tra t'ayn. Un laa, ta Preeu-hirveishagh Hostyn cur raau agglagh da fasteeyn-keesh, as y laa er giyn t'eh meearyltagh dy cho-obbraghey marish cheeraghyn Oarpagh elley dy lhiettal shaghney keeshyn. Y gaue smoo son Mannin, shen dy bee 'sambyl' jeant jee myr 'fastee-keesh lane olk' ec y Reeriaght Unnaneysit, as y cheer shen stroie ayn mooar jeh kerroo-argidys Vannin – as, ec y traa cheddin, buill ta foddey ny smessey na Mannin scapail. Oddagh poble cadjin Vannin surranse dy mooar. Son traa liauyr roish my haghyr y smoash argidagh va mee smooineaghtyn dy row Mannin ayns stayd goll rish y stayd v'ee ayn roish 1765. Sy vlein shen, hug Ard-whaiyl Hostyn er y Diuic jeh Atholl creck Mannin da Crooin Hostyn. Va reiltys Hostyn coayl ram argid kyndagh rish dellal goll trooid Mannin. Roish 1765, va marchanyn Manninagh dellal dy seyr as dy speeideilagh lesh cheeraghyn feer foddey ersooyl veih Mannin – va ny Manninee nyn shiaulteyryn mie erbashtal. Ec y traa v'ayn, va ny Sostnee coontey Mannin dy ve ny cheer lane joarree – cheer lesh keeshyn ny s'inshley na adsyn sy Vretyn Vooar. Lurg tammylt, hoig marchanyn Sostnagh as Albinagh dy noddagh ad cosney argid dy liooar liorish ymydey Mannin myr ynyd-dellal. Eisht haink dellal leighoil dy ve drogh hraghtey, ny smuggleraght. Ghuee ny Manninee er ny Sostnee d'eaysley yn chooish dy sheeoil. Dob ny Sostnee shen y

continued on page 20

MANX LANGUAGE NEWS

Readers will be aware that I have been very keen to develop the adult language aspect of our language programme. We continue to work toward this and held a workshop to this effect on Saturday, 28th of March. The aim is to establish a professionally ran, well-administered network of classes working with a similar methodology. Training will be provided for tutors. I continue to get growing interest in learning Manx and have established a new beginner's class in Douglas at lunchtime. With more tutors we could easily establish other classes. In conjunction with this the number of activities for learners and speakers continues to grow. Of particular interest has been the text messaging service established with Manx Telecom, whose support for the language has been fantastic. Over 60 learners now receive regular Manx Gaelic updates to their mobile phones. Our e-mail service for learners also continues to grow and provides weekly lesson material for learners together with regular updates on events.

Our new twitter service at <http://twitter.com/greinneyder> is also aimed at the learner and provides daily updates in basic Manx which most learners should be available to follow. With regular conversational classes at Java Lounge in Douglas and more successful events, such as the Lazerblast evening recently held, we are slowly moving towards a systematic events calendar for learners.

We also held an informal session in March at the Bunscoill for teachers interested in teaching either there or on the Peripatetic team. We are making progress here as more

yannoo, as va Mannin goit oc ayns 1765. Dooyrt ny Manninee 'Y Chialg Vooar' rish shen. Feer tappee, haink ram Manninee dy ve boght er yn oyr dy row ad er ve croghey er y drogh hraghtey. Roish my row Mannin creckit ayns 1765, va olteynyn jeh Ard-whaiyl Hostyn er ve gra 'Yn Ellan shen!' rish Mannin as ad lane dy ghoanlys. T'eh goll rish ny reddyn ta goll er gra nish mychione Mannin ayns Lunnin, myr dy beagh gagh Manninagh ny roosteyr scammyltagh. Lhig dooin guee nagh bee Kialg Vooar elley jeant.

Summary

The worldwide financial crash has focused attention on trying to stamp out tax evasion. Considering the various financial sectors, there is a lot of finger pointing going on, when the real need is for concerted global action against tax evasion. As regards the Isle of Man, there is an uncanny resemblance between its present situation and the stituation before the Revestment Act of 1765.

Brian Stowell



Adrian Cain, Manx Language Officer

teachers are keen to get involved; however, the availability of teachers for the Bunscoill remains an area of concern. The Manx Heritage Foundation (www.manxheritage.org) has made available resources to cover

Tynwald day

Last year the Mannin Branch of the League hit the press on the Isle of Man when it suggested that the flypast of RAF Hawke jets on Tynwald Day should cease. Now the Celtic League has passed a resolution calling for the military flypast to be stopped altogether. Some of the reasons for this are explored below.

The arguments the Branch put forward for the annual flypast to be discontinued last year were based on the fact that Tynwald Day is the National Day of the Island and as the League's Director of Information told the press, should be "essentially a community day for all the Island's residents". Visitors to Tynwald Day should not have to put up with shows of military strength on the part of the United Kingdom, to which the Isle of Man does not even belong. In addition to this, the Branch also rightly pointed out that the unnecessary carbon emissions produced by these jets was not conducive to good environmental practise on the Island.

Some of the more unionist press publications on the Isle of Man accused the Branch of being "winging nationalist" and that they were given too much free reign in the media to vent its opinions. But the fact of the matter is that the Mannin Branch once again was right to express its concerns.

Some years ago there was a creeping militarization of the Tynwald Day ceremony, which has now been largely discontinued and it is thought that the jet flypast practise was adopted around about this time. The military has no traditional place in Tynwald Day - based as it is around the ancient Tynwald ceremony - and it was the right and duty of the League, as a pacifist organisation, to point this out.

Moreover, as an organisation that campaigns on environmental matters, the Mannin Branch was also concerned about the

the supply costs for teachers, who in order to improve their Manx, would like to spend time at the Bunscoill.

We have added some videos to our website at: http://www.learnmanx.com/cms/video_coll_index_25934.html

These are of Juan Crellin and are accompanied by transcripts of the conversations in Manx and English. There are more videos in the pipe-line as well as the Cartoon series 'Friends and Heroes' and a cartoon series for learners based around the character of Manannan.

The interest in the language continues to grow and requests for translations and assistance in learning doesn't seem to be reducing. We are faced with some serious challenges (most notably in teacher recruitment) but for a language which UNESCO categorises as 'extinct' we are not doing too bad.

Adrian Cain, Manx Language Officer



negative environmental impact that the flypast was having. An increasing number of today's environmentally aware public are either choosing not to fly or to substantially cut down on the number of flights that they take, including Plaid Cymru and Scottish Nationalist Party Members of the European Parliament.

So why continue a military jet flypast as part of a ceremony that has no traditional place in events and contributes to higher levels of environmental noise and pollution? Indeed Tynwald have even approved an energy policy that set a target of reducing its own CO2 emissions by 20 per cent by the year 2010, after the Island joined the joined the international Kyoto Protocol agreements in 2006. Discontinuing the military flypast for Tynwald Day would no doubt help the Government to show that they were serious about meeting their environmental commitment.

Consequently, a resolution was passed by the Celtic League this year that calls on the Isle of Man Government to discontinue the military flypast on Tynwald Day. A letter from the League, addressed to the Isle of Man's Chief Minister, Tony Brown, highlights some of the arguments why the flypast should be stopped and it is hoped that by the time this edition of Carn is published, the Isle of Man Government will have come to its senses and decided to stop the flypast for good.

Rhisiart Tal-e bot

COLIN JERRY (1936 -2008): *An appreciation by his daughter Kathleen*

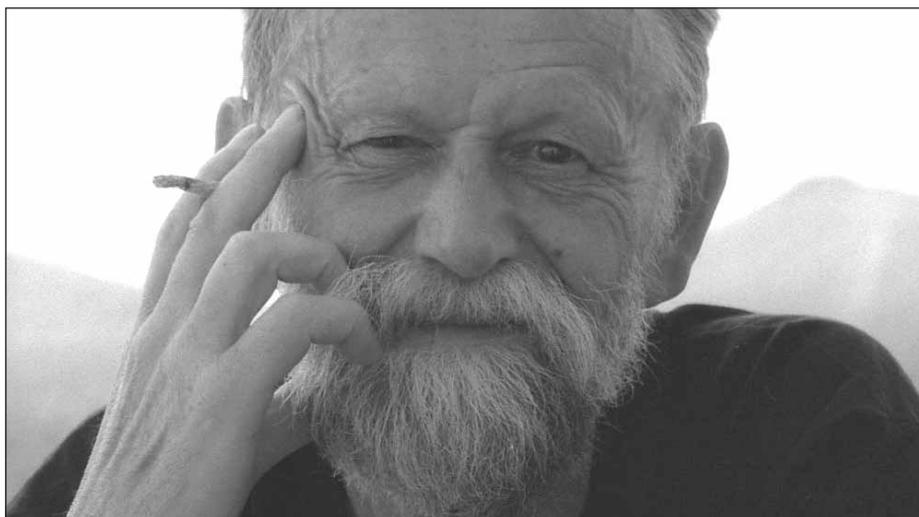
My father was born in Petworth, Sussex in 1936, his own father was a tailor and later a photographer and mother, a brilliant cook. My father's maternal grandfather was musically talented and having skipped a generation, my grandmother was overjoyed to see this, 'inherited' talent spring up in her son. This was encouraged, and by his early twenties, dad showed an eager interest in 'New Orleans Jazz', and having become an accomplished trumpeter, he had sufficient talent to become a 'professional' jazz musician, had he wanted. However, dad had other ideas for his future.

During the Second World War, my grandfather was temporarily stationed in Jurby, in the RAF. My grandmother took her children to Ramsey for the school holidays, so they could be near their father. So popular was it that the family returned time and again. My father's affection for the Island grew during the wonderful holidays he experienced as a young boy, against the backdrop of the bleak war and post war years.

Having met my mother at teacher training college, my father shrewdly took her to the Island for their honeymoon. Just a few years later, my mother agreed to move to the Island to bring up their young family. Dad was fortunate enough to get an interview for a teaching post with the Isle of Man Board of Education, and asked them if it was a prerequisite to learn/teach Manx in the Island's schools – he certainly was ahead of himself in the mid-sixties. After his first teaching post in Douglas in 1968, dad was transferred to Peel Clothworkers' School where he spent the remainder of his teaching life.

I have heard many compliments of my father's teaching methods both before and since he died. I also had the good fortune to spend a year in his class. With lessons in pottery and candle making, we hardly had time for English and Maths (I jest). School was a positive and creative experience. I remember clearly the Manx language posters he had hand written and illustrated, adorning the classroom walls. He had plenty of time for all levels of learning, and even the most unpromising students who had no will to learn before or after flourished during a year spent in his class.

It will be for his work and assistance in rescuing and publishing Manx music, his publications in Manx and his love of the Island's culture, that my father will be most remembered. I clearly recall, the handwritten, manuscripts for 'Kiual yn Theay' strewn on the living room floor, for years it seemed, and just when you thought the book was complete, and we might have



our living room back, they were back on the floor for more painstaking corrections. Then another book.....

From very early on, dad threw himself into all things cultural in the Isle of Man. Having heard that some people had been thrown out of a pub for speaking 'Manx Gaelic', he decided to speak Manx more publicly and see if he couldn't also be thrown out of a few places.

In the late 1970's, dad, not being satisfied with trumpet or guitar, decided to translate his knowledge of Manx music to the Uilleann pipes. My brother affectionately recalls the many years of 'goose-strangling' the family household endured while he learned his chosen instrument. I recall seeing him play many years later and found him to be 'quite good' by this stage. He decided that it was not enough just to play the Uilleann pipes, and after much research and meetings with Irish pipe makers, including Dan O' Dowd, decided to turn his creative talent into making bag-pipes as well. The sounds of 'goose-strangling' were replaced by grinding and drilling from his cellar workshop.

My father had many talents: artist, musician, linguist, writer and academic. Since his death, our family has been overwhelmed by the response of so many who had known him. Some who had only heard of him, or knew him only briefly, were moved to write a note to express their gratitude for the contribution he has made. One cannot help but feel moved by the way in which my dad had the ability to motivate and encourage talent. It was out of an unselfish passion and dedication to his own interests that he accomplished so much. Inspiring this motivation in others is a talent in itself and he had the ability to perform this task with modesty. There is so much I could say about my father and quality time shared with him that could fill a memoir. However,

his legacy is, the tireless work he invested in Manx Culture, which is gratefully well acknowledged and for which my family is most proud. He dedicated his time because he thought it was worth it, not because it was worth anything. More than this, there are now others carrying out the same work, which will ensure that the Manx culture has the best case for survival into the future.

Kathleen Jerry

I first met Colin at Peel Clothworker's School in 1970; he was a friendly and helpful colleague. Outside of work I was lucky to meet him regularly at Manx music sessions at both the Central and Whitehouse hotels in Peel, where he was the anchorman and through his efforts young Manx nationalists were able to enjoy and become acquainted with Manx traditional music; without him we would not have had the opportunity to appreciate and learn about this aspect of our culture – Colin was one of the few who insisted on promoting Manx music above all. Colin has, over the years, travelled extensively to Pan Celtic festivals representing Mannin.

Very often he performed for pleasure, not asking for any payment, at Mec Vannin and Celtic League musical events in Mann and in Ireland.

He also contributed articles about music and other matters to Carn magazine for over 20 years; Colin's efforts to bring Manx music to the wider Celtic audience will be missed, so too will he be missed as a friend.

Patricia Bridson
(Editor)

Celtica

BASQUE COUNTRY - FACT FINDING MISSION BY LEAGUE OFFICIALS

The Convenor and General Secretary (GS) of the Celtic League met with Basque linguists and political activists at the end of April in the Basque city of Iruñea/Pamplona. The informal meetings, arranged as part of a general interest that the League has with the political and cultural struggles of the peoples of Europe, were arranged to find out more about the current political and linguistic situation in the Basque Country. The League regularly reports on events in the Basque Country through its Celtic news service and the League's Convenor, Cathal Ó Luain and GS, Rhisiart Tal-e-bot, wanted to find out from campaigners and activists how they thought the political and linguistic situations were progressing. The first meeting was arranged with the Director of Services of the Navarran Government funded Euskarabidea, who informed the League of the linguistic situation specifically in the autonomous community of Navarra - one of the seven Basque provinces. The next meeting that was arranged was with the Director of Euskarakultur, a non governmental organisation that works for the

several people whose friends had recently been arrested by the police for their political activism. The GS said: "It is always useful to make personal contact with representatives of groups and individuals from 'nations without state' in other parts of Europe, especially in terms of language, culture and politics, because of the similarity of experiences that are shared with the other Celtic countries. The meetings were useful for us to find out at first hand from the people who live and work in the Basque Country what the current climate is like, which in turn helps with the work of the League".

Following the appointment of a new Socialist Lehendakari (President) in the Basque Country Autonomous Region (a coalition of Socialists and Conservatives has put the Basque Nationalist Party [PNV] in opposition for the first time in 30 years) Iulen Urbiola Loiarte, who heads the Navarran based Euskara Kultur Elkargoa, told the League that: "Until now the linguistic policies developed by the Basque Government has been an example of best

language with the administration and education being restricted to certain areas, are all highlighted in reports both from EBLUL and the Council of Europe. "I really hope that it won't become like Navarre - an example of bad practices. Regarding the consequences for Basque speakers in Navarre, there are many civic organizations that get funds from the Basque Government in Euskadi due to the poor financial help provided by the Navarre government for Basque language projects. If the new government reduces or cuts these funds, it will be very problematic for Basque in Navarre as there are many projects that can not continue without this financial help."

ALBA - BRANCH SUBMISSION ON GAELIC LANGUAGE PLAN

A Scottish branch submission to the Scottish Government's Draft Gaelic Language Plan, published for consultation on 29th January, 2009 was made in May. The full text can be found on the CL Yahoo News Groups release 3050, accessible through the League web site at www.celticleague.net. The submission was compiled by Alba branch members and coordinated for the branch by Ray Bell. Celtic League General Secretary, Rhisiart Tal-e-bot, also provided an input to the document:

Response summary:

The League welcomes anything which furthers the cause of Scottish Gaelic, and believes that the GLP provides many unprecedented opportunities for the language. However, we feel that the document needs to be tightened up in some areas and is a little vague. There are also some serious oversights and omissions, particularly in the area of education, where it seems that only the GME option is discussed. We believe that the regeneration of the language has to be based on a more holistic approach. Areas such as the rural economy, environmental protection, land reform, housing, planning and public transport, not to mention the delivery of services, all have to be taken into account, not just the more obvious aspects of language use, such as arts, broadcasting and publishing. As part of the process for the normalisation of the language in Scotland, the general public need to be educated about language related issues like the history of the language, topography and how the language has an influence on non speakers today.



CL Gen Sec Rhisiart Tal-e-bot, Iulen Calvo Jiménez (Director of Services of Euskarabidea), Iulen Urbiola Loiarte (Director, EUSKARA Kultur Elkargoa) and CL Convenor, Cathal Ó Luain after meeting in Iruñea/Pamplona

promotion of the Basque language and culture throughout all the Basque provinces in the Spanish state. Then lastly a meeting was arranged with political activists from some of the Basque left wing nationalist political parties that had been previously banned by the Spanish courts over the last few years. The GS and the Convenor then visited a local bar where they talked to

practice throughout Europe." Mr Loiarte, who has seen linguistic policies implemented by the PSOE and the PP in his home Basque province of Navarra, said: "During these last years Navarra has been one of the negative examples of Europe, the steps backwards in the application of the law, the lack of recognition of linguistic rights, the restriction in the use of the

Celtic League A.G.M. 2009

Proposed location and date for this advised internally last Oct. have been changed. Please contact your Branch Sec urgently for details of new arrangements.

TV and Radio in Breizh and the French State - Sarko doing the job...of the Socialist Party!

The state TV service is in trouble in France. The opposition (the *Parti Socialiste* and allies) are working very hard in the parliament to stop a new bill about the media. A surprising position for a party who had a similar plan themselves a few years ago. In order to organize the state television, the former PM, Lionel Jospin (PS) put France 2, France 3, France 4, France 5, and France Ô together under France Télévisions. These TV channels are all answerable to the state, as is French radio.

A consequence of this re-organisation, decided by Lionel Jospin, was that the chief of France Télévisions is nominated by the elected President. The next President will do the same. Therefore the state TV will be the TV of the people. It is something new in France. From the beginning of television, the Gaullist parties have controlled it. When François Mitterand (PS) was elected, journalists and leaders of talk shows were fired -sacked! It is worthwhile knowing that after WWII the communist leaders of the Resistance took control of a few sectors of French society, like the media, education, and the arts. They did it through the trade union CGT at the time. But, in fact, nothing really has changed since the beginning. It's just the handling of the situation that is softer now. The frame is the same.

The situation is really different from what is going on in Great Britain with the BBC. The term democracy does not mean the same in the Latin states, as you know. The TOP-Administration (ENA) with their unitary thinking (*pensée unique*) control the situation, through the budgets etc. Today the problem comes from the fact that President Sarkozy decided to take direct control of the nomination of the chief of France Télévisions, who will not now be selected by committees of people from various jobs inside and outside TV, but by the elected President. I think that Lionel Jospin was right to organise France Télévisions as he did, because the situation is clearer since his decision.

The second problem is a socialist proposal to remove the "ads" from the state channels. Too many advertisements are boring and push the lower classes into buying more than they need, more than they can afford! So came this idea to take the ads off the state channels. This started in January. This socialist idea is not popular with the TV workers who are afraid not to have the budget to do their job. In the bill the government put new taxes on the Internet in order to get the same budget. The government says Yes we can and the workers say No!!! Wait and see if President Sarkozy will respect the lawyer and

therefore respect the same freedom, for the journalists' advocates, on the state's channels. Otherwise everyone remembers how the journalists' lobbies from Paris handled the news about Mazarine, President Mitterand's daughter, or more recently the private life of the former minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn in Paris, before becoming the head of the IMF!!! Similarly for the conviction for misuse of public funds of the Gaullist former PM Alain Juppé, president of the RPR party! That's to say... nothing to do with our journalists in the Celtic nations!

In order to understand how the state TV system works in Breizh, I will explain the way I see the situation. The key player for the French state "propaganda" in Breizh is France Trois (3). The control and the budget are decided in Paris by the TOP-Administration. The aim is to grab the section of the population (10-15%) who are not ready to listen France 2, the establishment channel (15%).



France 3 is divided into different levels. First of all, the team in Paris for the national news and the management of regional activities. Secondly the regional team, which is divided into several levels. Before writing about these small teams you must know that Paris decided not to have a regional team for Breizh. The national managers, decided to mix Breizh with other départements from Pays de la Loire. Good news - Naoned is included in this multi-regional team. Bad news -they will not have Breton programmes... well done Paris!!! (A historical point to let you know that before WWII Breizh (all 5 départements) had been united since the war against the German emperor Charlemagne, by 808 AD.)

In terms of teams you must understand that Breizh is divided in two areas. 1. The Gallo area in the east of Breizh, and the Pays de la Loire départements. 2. The Breton team in the west of Breizh. Of course, the managers in Paris are keen to employ Breton-speakers (journalists and technicians) in the western team in order to offer enough Breton to the population. Anyway, this "Breton team" is split into two parts, the French one and the Breton one!!!

As usual with the French TOP-Administration, they use time (centuries) in order to achieve their goals. It was interesting to note that when TV Breizh started, the TOP decided, one year later, to

increase the budget of the western team in order to handle this new competitor, on the territory of "France 3 Ouest". As you can imagine, the new Breton journalists, as usual, worked hard to push the Breton language forward. Gurvan Musset, the new chief of the Breton-language programmes in the western part, is from a Diwan background. He took over from the famous old communist leader, Fañch Broudig, who had been in charge of the Breton programmes, since last century. Of course you cannot be the boss if you do not accept French state organization for years and years. Those new leaders from Diwan's direction are trying hard to change the system, from inside. That's why I call them the "Gorbies". Of course I will be very happy if they succeed and achieve the same things as are seen with the BBC in Cymru or Alba... Wait and see... Later...

Last century France Télévisions's channels did very well. They controlled the population efficiently. This organization which is an instrument of state policy, succeed in managing all the French regions with a budget of under 20 billion euros - very different from what is going on in Great Britain, Germany, Spain, or Italy! Far from €21 billion for the smaller regions and nearly €121 billion for regions like Breizh, Catalunya, Bavaria... In order to understand the situation the budget for Breizh was under one billion euros last century!!! The French state radio and TV channels did a "Good Job" in terms of state communication... The situation is under control !!!

In Breizh, the state radio did even better. They offer training sessions to the new Breton Associatives-Radios. Since state radio has very good technical facilities, the young journalists and technicians were very happy to keep in touch with the state radio. They became part of the state system of communication. Some of the new journalists are trying successfully to join the state radio. I understand that they are part of a wider game which is playing against Breizh through the state organization.

In mid February the socialist lobby claimed, in the NATO-city of Brest, that the "Breton TV had failed". So we need to go on the Internet in order to exist! I fully agree with that. We need to be out of the state control in order to exist. The Basque radio and TV services show us the way to more freedom...

Otherwise, because we are in the European Union today, I am waiting for the socialist leaders of Breizh, as well as UDB and Strollad Breizh to ask for a budget of 21 billion euros for all regions in the next European elections campaign. If they are not able to start from this point, the state system of communication controlled by France Télévision and the Top-Administration will stay very strong and very effective!!! That's to say: Very bad for Devolution and Human Rights in Breizh... this century!

Gi Keltik

COMPETITION

The lucky winner of *King Arthurs' Realm* by David P. Riley was member Lee Ramsay. The prize for this Competition is 'Electric Pastyland' by Dr. Alan M.Kent

Readers need only answer the following question – answer can be found in this issue!

Q. Who was awarded the Goldman International Environmental Award?

Review

'Electric Pastyland' by Dr. Alan M.Kent ISBN 978 0 9556477 2 7. Published by: Ryelands - Halsgrove House, Ryelands Industrial Estate, Bagley Road, Wellington, Somerset, England TA21 9PZ (www.halsgrove.com) at £9.99 (288 pages).

'Electric Pastyland' is Alan Kent's sequel to 'Proper Job, Charlie Curnow !' and follows the ongoing life of amateur rock musician, Charlie Curnow and his friends and family all of whom live on and about the notorious Trelawny Estate, just on the outskirts of Camborne in Kernow. (Cornwall)

This is a gritty yarn, not for the faint hearted, written in Cornish dialect throughout and a far cry from the glossy, tourist Kernow (Cornwall) of theme parks, surf and celebrities. It is an extremely accurate account of life in the hinterland of Kernow (Cornwall) so well known to many of us and brings to life characters who dream of a better existence free from poverty, drugs and unemployment whilst cherishing their Cornish identities and traditions. The characters, although fictional, are completely believable, much more so due to the settings and places, and Dr. Kent brings them to life together with their weaknesses and strengths and rough Cornish humour.

Alan Kent is a Cornishman, born in St. Austell's 'clay country.' He lectures for the Open University in South West Britain and is a prize-winning poet, novelist and dramatist. One of his recent works was serialised for the BBC.

I have enjoyed reading 'Electric Pastyland' as much as his many other fictional and factual works and commend this novel to one and all.

Mike Chappell

Membership and Subscriptions

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

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

Material for the next issue of *Carn* should reach the Editor no later than 1st July 2009. Articles sent for publication in *Carn* must relate to our aims. All materials copyright © *Carn* unless otherwise stated. The views expressed in *Carn* are not necessarily those of the editor or of the Celtic League.

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