

# comunn

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 148

Winter 2010

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

CELTIC LEAGUE 

## An Sgoil Ghàidhlig Shan Francisco

Ged a bha e fad air falbh bho tir a bhreith, cha do sguir Seumas MacGarraidh na h-iomairtean aige as leth foghlam Gàidhlig ann an Alba, agus nochd sreath neo-thròcaireach de artaigilean 's litrichean a bha air fhoillseachadh air dà thaobh a' Chuain Siar. Ann an artagail fo tiotal 'The Present Position of Gaelic' thuir e gun robh stait a' chànain a' cur tòrr iomagain air, 's gun robh An Comunn Ghàidhealach a' dìobradh an dleasdanas aca, air sgath nach do chuir iad taic ris am beachd aige. Cha robh teagamh sam-bith aige na bha a dhith air suidheachadh na Gàidhlig a leasachadh:

The remedy? Then we must get it into the schools, where it should have been hundreds of years ago, where the children will have chance to learn it not as a supplementary subject, but as their own language, and as the medium through which they can have their education. We must have the courage to tell people that the real enemy of the Gaelic is the English Educational System, which obtains throughout the length and breadth of Alba. (*An Ghaidheal*: An Damhair, 1937, 4-5)

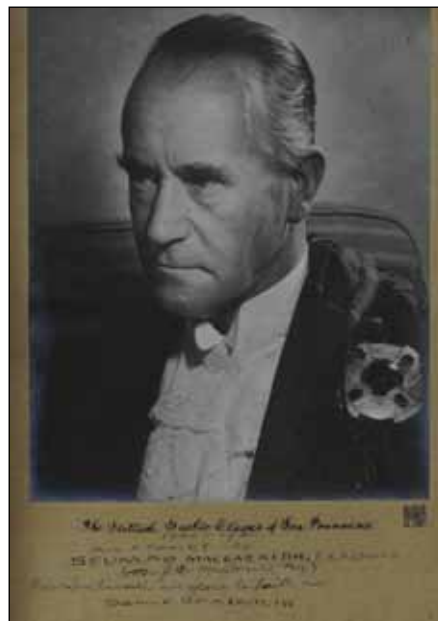
Cha robh an gnìomhachas aig MacGarraidh a thaobh teagasg suidhichte ann an a dh' Alba a-mhain: tha fianais ann gun robh e a' cumail clasaichean Gàidhlig rè barrachd air coig bliadhna deug ann an San Francisco, agus as dèidh sin bha e' fhathast a' toirt cuideachadh do luchd-ionnsachaidh tron a' phost do 'gach ceann an t-saoghail,' (SG: 19/5/1966)

B' ann sa phaipear naidheachd *San Mateo Times* a chaidh a' chiad iomradh air clas MhicGaraidh a lorg san rannsachadh seo, ag radh gum biodh clasaichean gan cumail tro mìosan a' gheamhraidh, airson luchd-ionnsachaidh gu h-àraid, agus gum biodh Walter L. MacAoidh à Burlingame na fheartaich. (17/6/1940, 3) B' e sin a' chiad clas Ghàidhlig a chur MacGaraidh air bonn, agus nochd iomradh air san leabhar eachdraidheil aig Comunn Gaidhealach Shan Francisco cuideachd ann an 1940. Chaidh fiosrachadh a chur don Chomann Ghàidhealach ann an Alba, 's thug Malcolm MacLeòid, fear-deasaiche *An Gaidheal*, an tuirseal a leanas:

Tha clasaichean Gàidhlig aca ga chur air bonn an ann San Francisco. Tha dithis Ghaidheal eudmhor air cùl a' gnothaich-Uilleam MacGilleSheathanaich-Ragallaigh agus Uilleam L. MacAoidh-agus air iarrtas an dithis so tha an Gaidheal foghainteach Seumas MacGaraidh airson a ghràdh do'n Gàidhlig, ag gabhail obair teagasg os làimh (An Dàmhair 1940, 3)

Ann an 1941, chaidh artagail fhoillseachadh ann an *San Francisco Chronicle*, fo tiotal 'Last Stand: An S.F Scot Struggles to Keep Gaelic Alive'. (14/7/1941, 11) Bha an clas seo air a chumail ann an Teampall nan Draoidhean (Druid's Temple) a h-uile mìos: 'S ann à Calafornia a bha a' mhòr chuid den oileanaich, ach bha Spàinnteach, Seiceach, Còrnach agus iomadh Eirinneach nam measg, cuid fileantach anns an Gàidhlig aca fhèin. Bha barrachd air ceud oileanaich ann am frithealadh agus chaidh ceilidh a chumail aig taigh-bidh Venetos aig deireadh an seisean, le piobairean Albannach 's Eirinneach, 's dannsair Ghàidhealach an làthair. As dèidh soirbheachadh a' chlas, chaidh MacGaraidh An Sgoil Ghàidhlig Shan Francisco air bonn ann an 1943. Nochd iomradh air ann an *San Mateo Times*: *Opening meeting has been set for Sunday, October 3rd, and the time set for 2pm. There will be a class for learners, and one for more advanced students, while both classes will join in the Gaelic songs and instruction. There are no fees whatsoever, no requirements, and no restrictions as to age, race or creed.* (28/9/1943, 4)

Chleachd MacGaraidh a dhreuchd aig an sgoil airson a bheachdan nàiseantaich a sgaoileadh, beachdan nach do chòrd ri cuid oileanaich Bhreatannaich (agus Gaidheil nam



*Dealbh air a thoirt do MhacGaraidh aig deireadh na teirm 1940-41 leis na h-oileanaich. Photograph presented to MacGaraidh by students in the term of 1940-41*

measg) gu h-àraid nuair nach do leig e leas Bratach an Aonaidh air a' bhalla ri taobh bratach Naoimh Aindreis 's na 'Stars and Stripes.' Bha an clas glè shoirbheachail co dhìu: chuir oileanaich MhicGaraidh clasaichean Gàidhlig air dòigh ann am Pasedena, Oakland agus Los Angeles agus chuir dithis dhiubh (duine 's a bhean) iris ann an clò, a' sgaoileadh beachdan nàiseantach Ghàidhlig a dh' ionnsaich iad fo oideas MhicGaraidh. A dh' aoindeoin an luchd-leantainn dileas aige, chaidh an clas a dhùnadh as dèidh impidh bho Albannaich ann an San Francisco a bha dileas don rìgh Bhreatannach 's an Aonaidh. Tha Mac a' Ghobhainn a' cur an cèill le gun do ruith An Sgoil Ghàidhlig barrachd air ceithir bliadhna deug. (*Rosc*: Màirt 1966, 4)

Lean MacGaraidh a' teagasg fad a bheatha, a dh' aoindeoin dùnadh na sgoil. Ann an litir mu dheireadh a sgrìobh MacGaraidh san iris *An Gaidheal*, bha e fhathast ag iomairt an agaidh siostam an fhoghlaim ann an Alba:

The root of the dry rot of decay in the future of Gaelic is the great enemy, the auld enemy, the English education system in Scotland. There is no choice, we either have a truly Scottish education, or we die as a nation. (An Lunasdal, 1964, 104)

### Summary

*In 1923, the Pan Celt and Gaelic Nationalist Seumas MacGaraidh reluctantly set sail to begin a new life in San Francisco. Despite being so far away from his native Scotland, he spent the rest of his life teaching Gàidhlig in California and beyond, and wrote endless letters and articles for the Scottish press campaigning for the implementation of Gaelic Medium Education in Scottish schools. Greatly concerned about the predicament of the language, he believed that the education system would have a crucial role if it was to survive. In his adopted home MacGaraidh set up a Scottish Gaelic class, which prompted the attention of the San Mateo Times, and An Comunn Ghàidhealach back in Scotland. In 1941, he had over a hundred students, mainly from California but including Cornish, Irish, Czech and Spanish. The success of this class led to the establishment of An Sgoil Ghàidhlig, based At the University of San Francisco, described by Seumas Mac a' Ghobhainn as 'a veritable powerhouse of Gàidhlig and Scottish national thought.' (Irish Weekly, March 1970, 10) MacGaraidh used the school as an opportunity to express his Nationalist views, and would not allow the Union Jack to be displayed along side the Saltire and The Stars and Stripes of America. It is ironic that the school was eventually brought down by fellow Scots who were fiercely loyal to the British Crown. However undeterred, MacGaraidh continued teaching Gaelic, mainly by correspondence courses, until two years before his death in 1966.*

**Steve Jackson**  
**Correction: in the Carn 146 the Gàidhlig article was also written by Steve Jackson**

## Celtic Colours Festival 2010, Cape Breton

Held on Cape Breton Island the annual Celtic Colours International Festival has been in existence since 1997. This year the festival ran for just over a week from the 8th to the 16th of October and I was lucky enough to have made the trans-Atlantic journey to attend! The festival draws musical talent for the most part from Cape Breton itself as well from the Celtic nations, primarily from Scotland and Ireland; though in years gone by artists from Brittany and Wales have also featured. Added to this is an eclectic mix of artists of other various nationalities. In the past the festival has seen musicians from Spain, Denmark, England, Germany, the US, Canada and Cuba also in attendance so that while Celtic music forms the mainstay of Celtic Colours there are numerous opportunities for a visitor to sample various other styles of folk music.

The meaning of the word 'Colours' in the title of the festival lies in it being set in Autumn, a season by which Cape Breton is renowned for the striking foliage that offers stunning scenery right across the island. Those visiting for the festival are able to take in a great deal of this scenery and the various tourist sights on the island such as the Cabot Trail or The Fortress of Louisbourg simply as part of their attending the concerts. The nightly events at Celtic Colours were spread out in various communities both small and large throughout Cape Breton in venues as diverse as a large civic centre in the town of Port Hawkesbury to local fire halls in small communities such as Christmas Island. While the Highland Village Church which is situated in the heart of a reconstruction of a predominantly 19th century Highland Village or Clachan Gàidhealach in the very centre of Cape Breton at Iona offered a unique concert venue indeed.

The organizers of the festival had adopted a general theme for 2010 as they do on an annual basis. This year the theme was one of 'home' and 'homecoming' and quite often the musicians played ballads and sang songs which reflected this theme. The opening concert was held in Port Hawkesbury, one of Cape Breton's larger towns. It featured acts such as Bruce Guthro, who some Scots may recognise as being a member of the Celtic rock band Runrig, as well as Rita MacNeil who has gained fame across North America for her country and folk singing and song writing. Bands such as Beòlach and Liz Doherty Connection along with the pipers of Seudan brought a distinctly traditional flavour to proceedings. The highlight of the evening for many was the finale in which MacNeil sang accompanied by the coal miners of the male choral ensemble The Men of the Deeps, both of whom received a standing ovation.

The following nights saw an array of artists perform across Cape Breton. The fact

that the majority of the concerts were held at the same time of 7:30 every evening meant that it was logistically impossible to see every act at the festival. The organisers of Celtic Colours, however, assured visitors through their website that they had taken "special care in the programming of each show so that it is possible to get a taste of all that the Festival has to offer" and we can vouch for them as each of the concerts which

Christmas Island Fire Hall where all of the acts took part in a 'milling frolic' prior to their performances. Seated at a long table they demonstrated the manner in which women would shrink cloth in times gone by beating it off the table whilst damp. This the performers did whilst singing in Gàidhlig to the rhythm of their "work". The group *Meantime*, from Alba, later added to the night with their unique style and contemporary songs in Gàidhlig. However the most impressive of the concerts, in which Gàidhlig featured almost exclusively, for us



**Chris Stout and Caitriona McKay play at the opening Celtic Colours concert in Port Hawkesbury (courtesy Celtic Colours Photos)**

we managed to attend presented its own distinctive style and sound. A further aspect of the festival that allowed listeners to experience a wider range of artists was the Festival Club, which was situated in the Gaelic College in St. Anne's. The Club opened following the evening concerts and set in a less formal atmosphere gave us the opportunity to see artists we had not booked tickets for as we had aimed mainly to see Cape Breton acts. Ultimately we were very pleased with the line-up in the Festival Club as it included Acadian and Quebecois acts such as Lennie Gallant and De Temps Antan who brought their own particular genres and style to proceedings not to mention the talents of the collaborative group T with the Maggies who included Mairéad Ní Mhaoínigh of Altan and Moya Brennan of Clannad within their ranks.

Of the Cape Breton acts we wished to see our priority were those who were performing in Gàidhlig. In Glendale Parish Hall an evening entitled 'Tradition Bearers' was held which involved the Iona Gaelic Singers who were also amongst some of the few remaining native speakers on the Island and who did not disappoint when it came to their delivery of traditional Gàidhlig Cape Breton and Scottish milling songs. Other displays of such linguistic and cultural tradition were to be seen at other events such as that at

was the 'Waters of Iona'. Situated in the aforementioned Highland Church this particular evening defined in my opinion what a Celtic music festival ought to be about. Performing on the night and also acting as MC was Gàidhlig speaker and language activist Lewis MacKinnon who along with Goiridh Dòmhnallach and Joanne MacIntyre put on an excellent display of traditional Gàidhlig song while Fiona Black, Ailie Roberston and Carl MacKenzie added to proceedings with their mastery of the piano accordion, harp and fiddle respectively. The people behind Celtic Colours have clearly made an effort to provide concerts through Gàidhlig and should be commended for this. However, we felt that more could have been done by way of promoting the language throughout the festival in a more general manner, as the framework provided by the organised events offers a certain opportunity to do so. Having said that, Celtic Colours far exceeded our expectations in many departments and with the next two years of the festival already agreed upon by organisers for another 9 days in early October 2011 and 2012 it comes highly recommended from someone not long recovered, at the time of writing, from its reverlies.

**Kerron Ó Luain**

# NEIL GUNN

## Alan Stewart looks at the life of a pioneering Highland novelist and Scottish Nationalist

Neil Gunn was born in 1891 in Dunbeath on the east coast of Caithness. His father was the captain of a herring boat and his mother a domestic servant.

The seventh of nine children, Neil moved in 1904 to live with his older sister and her husband in Dalry in the south west of Scotland. There he studied for his civil service exams, passing them in 1907.

Neil then moved to London. Working there broadened his horizons but in 1911 he was back in the Highlands in a new role as a customs and excise officer. At first he had temporary posts but eventually Gunn -who'd married Daisy Frew in 1921- took a permanent position at Glen Mhor distillery, west of Inverness.

He was already writing short stories. But in 1926 his first novel, *THE GREY COAST*, was published. It and *THE LOST GLEN*, which was published the following year, gave a pessimistic view of the economic problems of the Highlands. *THE MORNING TIDE* (1931) and *THE HIGHLAND RIVER* (1937) -which followed during the next decade- were more upbeat (BBC 2010).

*HIGHLAND RIVER* in particular confirmed Gunn's reputation as one of the leading lights in Scotland's ongoing cultural renaissance. He and the slightly younger Lewis Grassie Gibbon were now seen as being at the forefront of the country's literary revival. Gunn's success meant he was finally able to pack in his "day job", move to a farmhouse near Strathpeffer and write full time.



He was able to concentrate in particular on his next novel, *THE SILVER DARLINGS* (1941). This, his most successful book, was set amongst communities which were previously uprooted by the Highland clearances and which now struggled to readjust to the "forbidding, unpredictable ocean" as they made their living from fishing during the herring boom of the 1800's (BBC 2010).

Of course by the time Gunn returned to the Highlands the boom was long over and the industry was dying out. Indeed Gunn saw Highland life and culture as being under threat. He didn't simply yearn for the past though. As McCulloch (1995) puts it, Gunn wasn't interested in "antiquarianism." Rather he wanted us to "grow and blossom from our roots" and to draw on our traditions in a way that allowed us to move forward.

**Continued on page 22**

# TOKYO FIDDLE CLUB

*Founded in 2005 by Tamiko Kimura.*



***A visit to the Roundstone Irish Pub in Tokyo a few months ago led to the discovery of an Irish music session with the music being played by a very large group of young and not so young Japanese fiddle players. A few young ladies also gave an exhibition of Irish dancing. On talking with them later I found out this was the Tokyo Fiddle Club, who play Irish, Scottish, Swedish, English and other fiddle music, on their yearly pub session. Here is an account of how the Tokyo Fiddle Club came about and developed.***

Tamiko first started to learn the classical violin at five under the tuition of Zenmei Lee, a young viola player of baroque music. Tamiko did not go to musical college, but to a science division of a national university while she continued to play the violin as a member of an amateur orchestra. In 2002 Tamiko moved to the U.K. with her children to accompany her husband, -Fumiaki Kimura he began his 2-year study at Imperial College London for his PhD. Just Leaving before Japan, Tamiko somehow felt a vague urge, and in the last minutes of packing her violin was added to the list of baggage.

The day that turned her around musically came soon after relocating to London. She happened to find the words "fiddle" in the Adult School Guide Book. She had never heard the term before, but she knew it was the same as the violin, but something very different from familiar classical violin method. This led Tamiko to seek a tutor for Irish fiddling, and she found one in London, the experienced fiddle player Pete Cooper who runs the "London Fiddle School" at Cecil Sharp House in Camden, London. Her enthusiasm increased and she took group lessons and individual lessons in parallel so that she could absorb as many tunes and techniques during her limited time in London.

She attended fiddle workshops which took place in London, Edinburgh, Whitney (Oxfordshire) and Newcastle. She also learned various fiddle styles directly from players from different countries and regions, such as Ireland, Scotland, Shetland, England, Wales, Canada, Sweden, America, and Eastern Europe. Japan has produced many brilliant classical violinists since 20th century, but in regards of the traditional fiddle music from – the west, its introduction

to Japanese people was made only recently. One of the most successful Irish bands, "The Chieftains", toured Japan for the first time in 1991 and "Altan" in 1997. "Riverdance" had also left a huge impact on Japan from its successful tour in 1999.

So Tamiko started to think that she would like to introduce the Irish traditional fiddle music to Japanese people so that they can play and enjoy it as a lifelong education. She also knew that it would delight many Japanese violin amateurs because the fiddle tunes could be played easier than classical violin music. After coming back to Japan, Tamiko organized "Tokyo Fiddle Club (TFC)" and started to teach the traditional fiddle to both groups and individuals in Tokyo and its suburban area. Students vary from young to old and from total beginners to experienced players. Tamiko has developed her own method of teaching adult beginners.

TFC holds two annual fiddle events, "Fiddle Party" in December and "Pub Session" in August. TFC members also find opportunities to play the traditional fiddle music at various public occasions in Japan, for example, at Shrine Festivals or in town concerts. Tamiko invited Pete Cooper to Japan in 2008 and 2010, and organised some fiddle workshops and concerts in Tokyo, Osaka and Komoro (Nagano-pre.). Pete Cooper is also a writer and had already published a number of books on various fiddling styles. "Mel Bay's Complete Irish Fiddle Player" is one of his most-popular tuition books worldwide, and Tamiko intends to publish it in Japan as the first-ever Irish fiddle book. TFC continues to bring the wonderful world of fiddling to violin amateurs in Japan.

**TK/CÓL**

# Breizh

## PESKETAÑ E BRO IWERZHON, ABAOE 20 VLOAZ

Pad ar bloavezhioù 70 ha 80, e-giz krennarded, hon doa bet plijadur da besketañ war bord ar ganol Naoned-Brest. Ni paotred Speied, e Kreiz-Breizh, e-pad un devezh pesketañ hon doa diviset aozañ un droiad e bro Iwerzhon, anavezet mat evit al lennoù, ar maezhioù hag an dud. Ha ni o huñvreal da besketañ ar brasañ besked eus ar vro !!!

Setu penaos, e miz Mae 1991, seiz den o doa pakaet ar vag e Rosko war zu Corcaigh/Cork. Setu ni engavet e kêr Cora Finne/Corofin tal kichen Corcaigh. Paseet mat ar sizhun ganeomp, setu perag en-dro war ar vag en em promettet hon deus e vimp en-dro er vro.

Abaoe ar c'hentañ droiad o deus diviset da vont en-dro bep bloaz, er vro, da glask lec'hioù nevez evit pesketañ ha mont e darempred gant iwerzhiniez. Er bloavezh 2011 e vo graet ur gouel evit enoriñ an 20vet gwec'h. Pad ar bloavezhioù-se o deus



dizoloet "Cliffs of Moher, Cliffs in Donegal, Achill Island, the Burren, Conamara" hag ar *sky road* e-kichen An Clochán/Clifden h.a. Eveljust, o deus bet tro da gaout plijadur gant ar musik heñgounel

er puboù. Un nebeut banne Guinness a zo aet, da heul, hag a-wechoù un tammig muioc'h...

Pad ar bloavezhioù-se o deus merzet eun nebeut cheñchamentoù er vro Iwerzhon. Er penn kentañ ar vro oa eun tamm war-lerc'h ar re all en Europa. Er bloavezhioù 2000 ar vro zo deuet da vezañ pinvidig. E oa kamionoù bras ha tiez bras e bep lec'h. *Celtic Tiger* e oa graet outañ. Kalz lennoù a zo bet kempennet a drugarez an arc'hant pakaet gant an Europa. An hentoù hag ar savadurioù evit an touristelez a zo bet gwellaet. Hiriv an deiz ar vro o deus kudennoù ekonomikel, e-giz broioù all. Da skouer e vez merzet puboù derret gwec'h ha gwec'h all er gerioù vihan.

Memestra, dre vras, plij ar ra deomp kalz bro Iwerzhon, setu perag

e vimp laouenn da gendalc'h mont-dont en dazont...

**Skrivet gant Lannic, Dom., Bill, Best, ha Calou**

### Summary

*A group of Bretons from Speied have been making regular fishing trips to different places in Ireland for what will next year be 20 years. Despite many changes observed through the years the trips have continued to give much enjoyment.*

## Kerne-veureg e-Breizh

Gant div yezh a zo heñvel, aes eo evit komzerien an eil deskiñ he ben; da skouer, aes a-walc'h evit ar Spagnoled deskiñ portugaleg. Pehini eo ar yezh ar muiañ heñvel ouzh ar brezhoneg? Ar c'hembraeg? Nann, bez' ez eus ur yezh hag a zo tostoc'h c'hoazh, ar c'herne-veureg. Ken heñvel eo ar c'herne-veureg ouzh ar brezhoneg ma c'hell brezhonegerien e zeskiñ d'an daoulamm. Ha setu ar pezh a zo ur strollad a vrezhonegerien oc'h ober abaoe daou vloaz. Div wech bep miz emañ eizh pe nav den, a bep korn-bro e Breizh, oc'h en em vodañ e Sant Hern e kreiz Breizh, evit studiañ a-gevred. Hag ur wech an amzer e teu eus Kerne-veur kelennerien d'ho sikour en ur reiñ kentelioù.

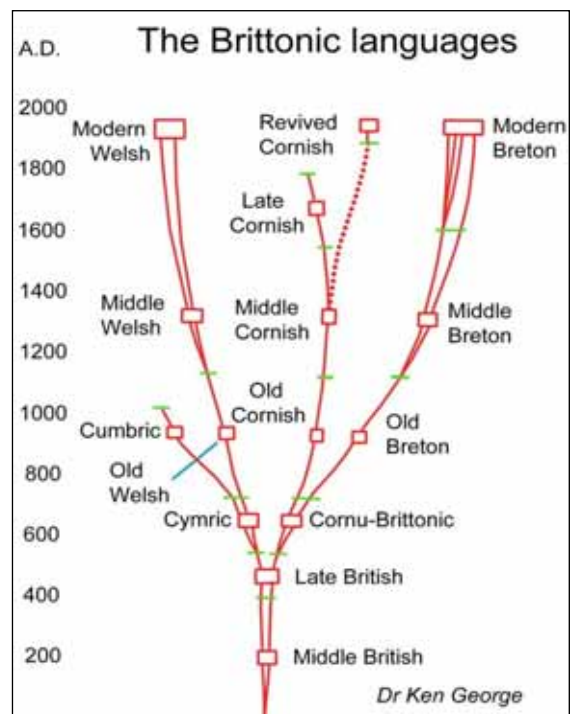
E miz here unan eus ar gelennerien-se, Ken George, a zo aet da Vreizh evit ul lid aozet gant Ronan Tremel. E ti-ker Sant Hern, e roas skridoù-testeni da izili ar c'hlas o doa tremenet an eil live an arnodenoù kerne-veureg savet gant Kesva an Taves Kernewek ("Cornish Language Board"). Eme Ronan Tremel: "Hevlene ez eus bet muioc'h a dud eus Breizh o tremen an arnodenn eget tud eus Londrez."

E-pad e bemp devezh e Breizh, Ken

George en deus komzet teir gwec'h diwar-benn e vro, Kerne-veur. E kerzh ur veilhadek keltiek e Porzhig, e komze e galleg diwar-benn ar sevenadur kerne-veurek, hag e kreiz e zisplegadur en deus kanet e kern-veureg. Antronoz e reas ur pennad-kaoz e brezhoneg e Montroulez diwar-benn ar yezh kerne-veurek, penaos e oa kollet ha goude adsavet da vev. An darvoud-se a oa aozet gant ar strollad KLT. Teir devezh da c'houde, en deus graet an hevelep pennad-kaoz e Ploufragan, met e galleg. Ar wech-se e oa aozet gant ar strollad Nevez Amzer. Un dudi eo gwelout ar Vreizhiz o tont da vezañ muioc'h-mui kemeret gant ar sevenadur hag ar yezh e Kerne-veur.

### Summary

*Invited by Ronan Tremel Ken George gave a new series of Cornish lectures in Breizh, which shows a growing interest by Bretons in the Cornish language and culture.*



**Graph showing the origins of the Brittonic Celtic languages**

### Contact:

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# Kristian Troadeg launches the Mouvement Breton de Progress

(Mouvement Breton de Progress ( Breizh War Raok=BWR)

Kristian Troadeg, the pro-Breton mayor of Karaez, is back on track again, six months after the regional elections. In spring this year, Troadeg and his team fell short by a mere 1% in the second round of the elections from what would have resulted in a vice-presidency. On his first attempt he had three lists called 'Nous te ferons Bretagne', "We'll build Breizh", which did well in Penn-ar-Bed, Mor-Bihan, and Aodoù-an-Hanternoz (29+22+56). His other two lists, in Il-ha-Gwilen (35) and Liger-Atlantel (44) took under 3% of the votes.

As far as Troadeg is concerned these results were encouraging for a first attempt and he is willing to go forward again, this time by means of a grouping called Mouvement Breton de Progress (MBP).

Insofar as the goal was, and still is, representation in the Regional Assembly, in a EU context, the MBP is a regional and pragmatic movement on the left. It must be ready to contest the next local election, that's to say the Département Council elections ('cantonales') in Spring 2011. Troadeg and the MBP organised their first meeting on the 12th December. It seems the leader is ready for this new challenge. Wait and see if MBP will become the SNP in Breizh.

During the last elections Kristian Troadeg was linked to Strollad Breizh ('Breton Party'). However, in the next elections the MBP will stand on their own as "a pragmatic and regional party" on the left of the political spectrum. Therefore the MBP will be a new alternative between Strollad Breizh, the UDB and the Green Party (Europe-Ecologie). "Today we must offer a stronger and realistic choice to the Breton people. There's a lack of political will", insists Troadeg.

There are funding bodies with budgets at Département and Regional levels. Troadeg reminded us that only the Alsace region used 100% of its EU funding. So, the main question today is not "devolution with a €21 billion budget", like in Wales or Scotland, but how to help the elected bodies use 100% of their budgets. His point of view is that political actions must be initiated by local people "working and living in Breizh". A famous slogan from the trade union, CFDT.

In terms of jobs, Troadeg, who was a businessman (Le Poher newspaper, Coreff Beer) a few years ago, is well aware that the farming industry is the most powerful political lobby in Breizh. Therefore, the antagonism between the cities and the countryside, between the Greens and farmers about the use of nitrates etc., cannot have a simple political solution. Like Jean-Yves Le Drian, Kristian Troadeg is much more in

favour of a new agricultural programme for getting out of the productivity system. That's to say being able to get all the different lobbies to sit at a "Round Table". A Celtic way to solve this most important question, on which many jobs depend. "Pragmatic" is a leitmotiv for K. Troadeg. Tourism is the second largest business in Breizh. Obviously, the interesting new slogan "Be Breizh" is not enough for Kristian Troadeg. He expects more than a slogan - new ideas, new services for the customers. There is a lot to do for



Kristian Troadeg

families who come over for a week. We don't have enough "packages" for parents on the one hand and children on the other. As usual he has a lot of ideas.

Our Celtic culture, open to the world, presents a huge opportunity. Recently we launched a new public body (EPCC) for Ofis ar Brezhoneg. Next summer we will have the 20th anniversary of the Erer-Kozh Festival (already in the Top 10 in the EU). The Tour de France 2011 will stop at Karaez at the very beginning of the Festival. The An Oriant Interceltic Festival, as well as Kann-Al-Loar in Landerne or Gouel ar St Loup in Gwengamp and other festivals, are lucrative tourist opportunities for Breizh. MBP are ready to face this challenge. As regards to the fishing industry, Troadeg is also ready with new ideas. One cannot help but be impressed by his ability to be so in touch with social and economic realities and his readiness to face the challenge of globalisation, since 2009.

Kristian Troadeg is well known in Breizh, mainly for challenging successfully the right-wing French administration in Kreizh Breizh (Central Brittany) to keep open nursery and surgery services at the local hospital. His victory gave him the commitment to defend more public services in Kreizh Breizh. He and the 'Movement 4 Breton Progress' (MBP) are ready for the Département Council elections in March 2011. Good luck to the MBP in Breizh. Wait and see if "Glocal" is good for Breizh.

Gi Keltik

## FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS, ARMOR MAGAZINE HAS BEEN SERVING BRITTANY

The monthly Armor magazine was founded in March 1969 by Yann Poilvet. The aim was to open the eyes of the readers on the political, economic and cultural life of Brittany so as to make them aware of its identity, engaged in protecting what is specific about it and intent on restoring its administrative unity.

In 1969, Brittany was in full economic revival thanks to the good works of the CELIB (Committee for study and liaison for Breton objectives). While at the same time a cultural renaissance had started, musical and also linguistic, epitomized by two great singers, Alan Stivell and Gilles Servat.

Yann Poilvet was born in 1927 in Landéhen (Côtes d'Armor). He worked for a while in Paris while a member of the executive committee of the MOB (Association to Plan for Brittany). He returned to Brittany in 1970. Currently, his daughter Anne Edith is managing editor.

Today, Armor is the oldest monthly in Brittany, and remains totally free of any links, political or financial. The magazine is facing courageously the recurring will of the French state to centralize and is promoting true devolution concerning Brittany, considering its heritage. Obviously, more autonomous territories would have the necessary financial resources, which is far from being the case in Breizh.

Armor has always been in the forefront of the fight to restore Brittany's administrative unity, following the partition of June 1941 by the Vichy regime, motivated essentially by the will of Admiral Darlan to punish the Bretons who were the at the heart of the Free French in June 1940 in London. Armor is also very much engaged in the battle for the public use of the Breton language and its teaching in the public schools and has supported the Diwan schools in Breton and the Cultural Institute of Brittany.

Every month, Armor publishes a letter by the editor, articles of reference, a corpus dedicated to a Breton commune or a group of communes, looking into local life from the social, economic and cultural point of view, with the objective to help readers understand their actual environment. The primary language is French, but some articles and the book reviews are published in Breton.

One of the strong points of Armor is the constant link between the economy and culture, which is indeed one of the strong points in the development of Brittany. Hence, its support to the *Locarn Institute* (Founder Jo Le Bihan, current president, Alain Glon) and *Produit en Bretagne* (Current president Jakez Bernard, current manager, Malo Bouëssel du Bourg).

Since 1977, Armor crowns each year "the Breton of the year", just as Time magazine

# E KOUN BERNEZ AN NAIL

## (In memory of Bernard Le Nail)

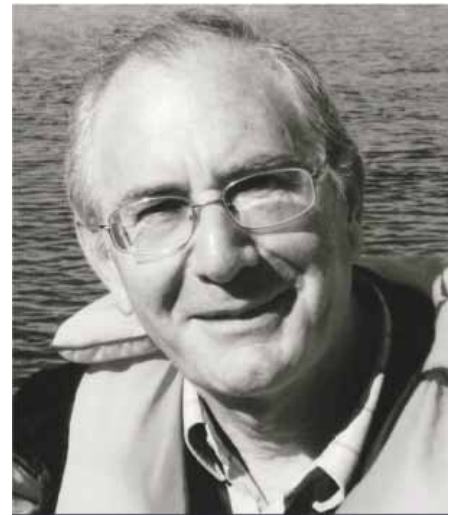
Bernard Le Nail died on the 5th of January, 2010, after suffering a stroke on Christmas Day. He was a faithful subscriber to *Carn* for many years and was better known as President and Vice-President of the International Celtic Congress. Several of you will certainly remember his dedication and interventions following the congress of Rennes in 2000, of which he was the talented promoter and kingpin.

Born in Paris in 1946, into a family originating in Nantes and with several ancestors coming from the Vannes country, Bernard spent part of his youth in the USA and Mexico, where his father was the French Consul. I did not learn of the diplomatic career of his father until 30 years after our first meeting. That says much for his discretion and simplicity. After having undertaken the HEC (*Higher Commercial Studies*) and obtaining a degree in sociology and economics he began his national service, not in the army but as professor of economics in Mexico for 2 years. Following this he went backpacking around Central and South America mixing with the humble Amerindian peasants.

In 1973 he came at last to live and work in Brittany. He was first of all the Head of the *Bureau of Industrial Promotions* of the CCI in Nantes (*Chamber of Commerce and Industry*). It was there in my native town that we became

acquainted on his arrival. We were both members of *Skol An Emsav*, an association created on the model of *Cymdeithas Yr Yaith Gymraeg*. I was enthralled by his enterprising spirit and his phenomenal capacity for work. To these qualities were added his innate sense of justice, his total refusal of all waste and his keen sense of the family. His militant ardour was always tempered by an intense Christian faith and his desire to serve issuing from his fidelity to the values of Scouting. Scarcely had he arrived before he launched a small magazine all in Breton *Keleier Naoned* (News from Nantes), then he cofounded the Nantes Centre of Celtic Culture becoming today the Breton Cultural Agency.

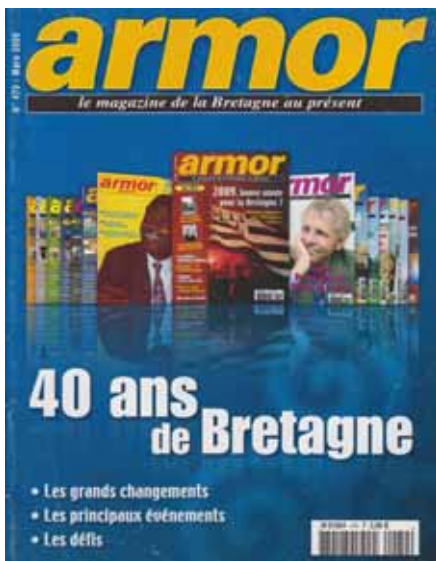
From 1973 to 1979 he was the secretary general of CELIB (Committee of Studies and Liaison in Breton interests), a regional organisation, created in the context of the difficulties after the war, in 1950 and whose aim was the promotion of the economic and cultural development of an integral Brittany. Bernard never ceased to work tirelessly at the side of Joseph Martray, cofounder of CELIB, with the intention of repairing that monumental error that resulted in the creation of a Region of Brittany with 4 départements, an error in part of certain notable Bretons motivated by their personal ambition ... treason according to Bernard!



Bernez An Nail, 1946/2010

In 1983 Bernard became the first director of the ICB (Cultural Institute of Brittany) a year after its creation, applying the Breton Cultural Charter signed by President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. Installed this time in Rennes, Bernard began to devote himself to this new task putting together his capacities for creation, management, erudition and his talents as a negotiator in the service of the Institute. He was also at the start of the re-launch of the Ermine Collar, this distinction and ducal honour for men and women who had served Brittany. The role of director was for him to form the world of publishing, one of the essential activities of the Institute. He never ceased taking to the grand exhibitions and fairs of European literature the works of the Breton publishing houses albeit small or simple associations. This allowed, for example, the production of books illustrated by children as cheaply in Breton as any other minority language. It was the start or contributed to the decisive manner of the creation of several book exhibitions in Brittany, notably those in Karaez and Gwenrann (Guérande near Saint-Nazaire).

Following internal problems in the management of the Institute and its moving to Vannes, he decided to remain in Rennes with his wife and three children, all bi-lingual and attending Diwan schools. In 2001 Bernard launched at last his own publishing house. Having travelled much, not only during his youth but also due to his professional functions, he noticed the journeys and adventures of numerous Bretons across the world and how few works there were on the subject. With his passion for history and noticing this gap he decided to focus on publishing a work on making known all the Breton travellers, navigators, naturalists and adventurers and migrants. The name of this publishing house was soon founded: Les Portes du Large. His wife, Jacqueline le Nail, librarian in Rennes took up the torch and became editor of the work following the demise of Bernard. For example there is the story written by the Australian Edward Duyker with the title *Marion Dufresne*, a sailor from Saint-Malo who was a discover in the Australasian Seas. This is the story of a



crowns the man, the woman or the people of the year. The Breton of the year is supposed to be an individual who has made a major contribution in Brittany in any domain covered or not by the magazine.

Amongst the laureates are singers (Glennor, Alan Stivell for instance), writers and defenders of the Breton language (Per Denez, André Lavanant, Monsignor Gourvès, Lena Louarn), well-known businessmen - Edouard Leclerc, Louis Lichou, Vincent Bolloré, Xavier Leclercq,

Jean-Guy Le Floc'h, François Pinault), political figures and civil servants - Jean-Yves Cozan, Louis Le Pensec, Kofi Yamgnane, Yves Thibault de Silgy), ecological activists (Annie Caval), people active in the media and communication - Rozenn Milin, Patrick Poivre d'Arvor, Jean-Pierre Pichard) while others are sport figures - Loïc Caradec, cosmonaut (Jean-Loup Chrétien), miss Bretagne (Mélanie Guyomard) or polemicist (Denis Sez nec).

Also, since 1977 *Armor* magazine has entered into a partnership with *Bretons du Monde-OBE* ([www.bretonsdumonde.org](http://www.bretonsdumonde.org)) and publishes each month, under the title "*Horizons Bretons-Dremmwel Breizh*", five pages devoted to the Bretons living outside Brittany, in the Paris area for instance, and of course all over the World and now there are many Bretons living in the Pacific zone. There is much to say about their professional lives, their encounters, their memorial meetings and celebrations!

### Contact

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# Yann Fouéré at 100 years

The remarkable personality of Emsav, Yann Fouéré, who was at times initiator of the campaign *Ar Brezhoneg er Skol* (Breton in School) in 1934, founder of the daily *La Bretagne* (Brittany) and then M.O.B. (Movement for the Organisation of Brittany) the monthly *L'Avenir de la Bretagne* (The Future of Brittany), *Strollad Ar Vro* (Party for the Country) and POBL (Party for the Organisation of a Free Brittany), has just blown out his hundred candles surrounded by his family and long-standing friends.

Yann Fouéré is without doubt one of the most eminent personalities of Emsav during the 20th century. Born on the 26th July 1910, in Aignant dans les Gers, where his father's work trained his family, he soon became aware of the situation of colonial oppression of which Brittany is a victim. Since 1934 he has continued to study – and will soon obtain a doctorate in constitutional law. He founded the association *Ar Brezhoneg er Skol*, whose aim is to obtain education in the Breton language in the schools of “the” Republic. In spite of the support of several hundred town halls for his petition, which he then launched, the State turned a deaf ear and kicked it into touch.

Yann Fouéré quickly realised that without political power the Breton culture is destined to a first-class burial. Since that time he has been elaborating the forward looking vision of the era, of an autonomous Brittany in a federal Europe of people and regions outside the archaic notion of Nation-States. A programme which he develops in the

**continued from page 7**

Breton navigator who discovered the North Island of New Zealand at the same moment that James Cook discovered the South. Well before Marion Dufresne had rescued Bonnie Prince Charlie.

Since his resettlement in Brittany in 1973 until his death Bernard wrote a multitude of articles published in Breton, French, English, Castilian, his contributions running to small reviews and large magazines such as *Reader's Digest* in 1999. We must also acknowledge him as author of a dozen books, one written jointly with his wife, four important contributions in other works and finally the publishing of some fifteen books as editor.

**Doùe d'e bardono!**

Goodbye Bernard in the name of all your friends in the Celtic League.

**Jakez Derouet**

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columns of the revue *People and Frontiers*, of which he dreamt in 1938 at the time when he became the secretary general of the Association of Friends of the Basques, and where he forged links with President Aguirre who was being pursued by General Franco. That is exactly his ideology. Yann Fouéré has always preferred links of the heart and political pragmatism. A man who many would consider as “centre right”, even though the label only moderately pleases him, he has never hesitated to support personalities and movements judged to be “on the left” from the moment they defend the emancipation of people deprived of their fundamental rights.

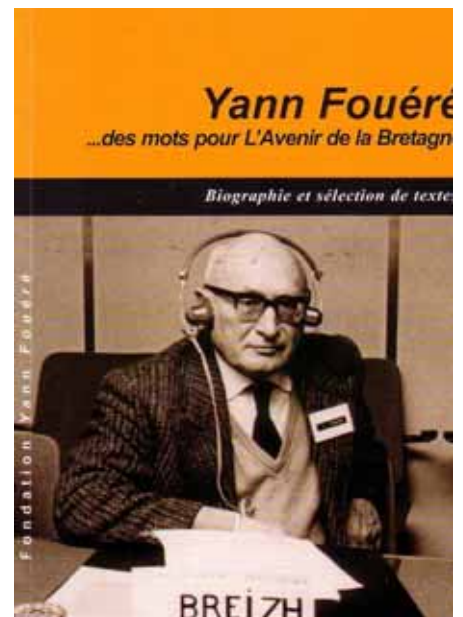
## **The daily *La Bretagne* and exile in Ireland**

These ideas of a true decentralisation led to the creation, during the war, of the autonomist daily *La Bretagne* and taking the political direction of *La Dépêche* (The Hurry), which became the *Télégramme de Brest et de l'Ouest*, while occupying the functions of secretary general of the Consultative Committee of Brittany, a sort of ancestor without real power of the future Regional Council. This uniquely consultative organism, as the name suggests, achieves at the same time several hours of Breton education and in the History of Brittany in schools. A historic first! A first result swept aside by the authorities of Liberation who rushed to dissolve *La Bretagne* and condemn its director to perpetual forced work. In fleeing orders of the court, Yann Fouéré took refuge in Ireland, like thousands of Breton patriots thanks to the assistance of Welsh nationalists. He undertook several jobs before creating, in Connemara, a lobster fishing business. Having obtained, in 1955, the revision of his process in a much calmer atmosphere, and cleared by acquittal of all the accusations of which he was charged ten years earlier, he decided to return to Brittany and re-launch the political fight, forbidden since 1945.

## **The resumption of the political struggle.**

With his friends such as Polig Monjarret or Piere Le Moine he founded in 1957 in Lorient MOB, *Mouvement pour l'Organisation de la Bretagne* and elaborated a project for the organisation of Brittany which was signed by 350 municipalities. A year later he created the journal *L'Avenir de la Bretagne* (the Future of Brittany) which month after month defended the idea of a greater political Brittany in the style of a Europe more united and more respectful of diversity. The ideas he developed in fundamental works such as “*L'Europe aux Cents Drapeaux*” (Europe of 100 Flags) a book considered as prophetic and translated into tens of European languages. *L'Avenir de la Bretagne* which rapidly passed into a

bimonthly and had several salaried journalists, started hardening its tone as the French state replied with its Jacobin and centralist position. In the “years of powder” a number of militant Bretons in the face of the unmoveable attitude of the state took the path of direct and clandestine action, rejoining the FLB (*Front de Libération de la Bretagne*) then the ARB (*Armée Républicaine Bretonne*) which claimed several military actions against the barracks of the forces of occupation. *L'Avenir de la Bretagne* thus became the “belt of transmission” of the secret organisation, with the management situated in Dublin in the Republic of Ireland. The FLB claimed its actions in the columns of the journal and published there a certain number of communiqués which sufficed to have Yann Fouéré arrested in October 1975. He was deported to the prison of La Santé in Paris and suspected by the French justice of being the grey leader of a clandestine organisation, he was only released in



February 1976 after an international campaign led by his Welsh cousins. He was to write later in his epilogue to “*En prison pour le FLB*” a work inspired by that episode in his life as a combatant: “I am free, since the door opened and closed again behind me on the dark street where the grey rain of February falls. I have not forgotten that this liberty is provisional, restrictive, limited just like the entire people of Brittany.”

Since then Yann his main fight has been in favour of Brittany. Co-founder in 1973 of SAV (*Strollad Ar Vro* or Party for the Country) which succeeded MOB, in 1982 he was among the initiators of POBL (*Parti pour l'Organisation d'une Bretagne Libre*) which succeeded SAV. Respected by the ensemble of Emsav, Adsav, “the nationalist right”, Emgann, the independent left, but detested by all that Brittany counts as Jacobins, collaborators and of mean spirit, he remains one of the major figures of the movement of liberation and an international reference for European federalism. Yann was a founder



# Celtic Big Bang in Breizh Part 1

The Lokarn-Institute's (L.I.) Summer-University-Meeting (S.U.M.) was based on a cultural theme: "Share Breton's-Celtic values for more market values."

Joz Bihan, reminded us that: "Cultures and Strategies at the international level" was the subtitle of the L.I. A fortnight before this meeting the 40th Interceltic-Festival of Lorient (F.I.L.) together with Product-in Breizh (PeB) and the L.I. organised "ETREVROADEL", an awards ceremony for the best businesses in the Diaspora - Economique-Bretonne (D.E.B.).

Last month, in October, the University of South Breizh (UBS) together with the F.I.L. organized another important conference with teachers and leaders from the Celtic world. At the end of the Celtic Year, 2010 looks like "a Big Bang" for the celtic values and a link between Business and Culture in Breizh

D.E.B. is a network born in 2005. The main goal is to link Breton based businesses with Breton businessmen all over the world it now has about 900 members in this "go-between" club. They succeeded to sell chicken, in China and find investors for Motorola's plant in Roazhon. "ETREVROADEL", which means International in Breton, gives the opportunity to promote Breton products worldwide. D.E.B. strives to show a strong will to promote: "a beautiful, rich and open-minded Breizh, with a strong sense of solidarity..."

Twelve awards were on offer to businesses, clubs and individuals. The winners were: 1) War Zao; 2) Bretonned Bro Vietnam; 3) Breizh-NYC. The Breton ambassadors were: 1) H. Offredo-USA; 2) F. Boyer-USA; 3) P. Goff-Chile. The Best Breton Club: 1) D-Mer; 2) VIIIn Breizh; 3) JCIn Breizh. The Breton Business Ambassadors were: 1) Henaff S.A.; 2) SeeMYSEA; 3) Bretagne-Gourmet.

Yves Pelle and all the D.E.B.'s team put on a great show and meeting, during the Festival



Interceltic in Lorient. This very 'special' event should without doubt be repeated again next year, especially because the title for 2011 is: "Année des Diasporas Celtiques...all the celtic accents"...

Last summer, at the end of August L.I.-S.U.M. gathered a lot of Breton businessmen, in Kreizh-Breizh, near Karaez city. Like last year, the new committee organised the event and invited Jakez A. Stephan as the main speaker in order to introduce the subject: "Share values for more market values" Joz Bihan from the strategic committee told the bosses about a meeting, in 1995, with the Japanese deputy-minister for industrial development who said that "Technological conditions will be standardised in a globalised world. The difference will come from the cultural software". The ability to work with others, with confidence...but not too much!!! (cf.: Human-Rights), will be important, in the 21st century. "Therefore, culture must be put on the top". The culture, in the western world is going down, especially in the USA, where the big bosses do not assume their own responsibilities for their own businesses. The lack of confidence in the capitalist system will change the situation soon. So the question for Breizh is: what kind of cultural software is good for us this century? Last century Flanders, Finland and Kataluña used efficient software for small territories within the European community. How can we use it in the future? One of the key slogans of President Alan Glon is: "When you sold a product from Breizh, you sold your culture alongside it"... President Alan Glon spoke about the French pyramidal organisation. It was an emotional speech. The last one before retiring from his business Glon-Sanders. The title of the speech was

"Build Breizh out of the pyramid". His vision of the French society is organised in three worlds - Elected-people, administration and professional organisations under a pyramidal scheme. All the decisions are taken from the top. Too much tax, too much violence, French society is going downhill. The leaders cannot go forward under a French "soviet"

administration. He told us: "The locomotive has stopped... are the wagons going to pass them?" so wait and see if regional leaders, associations and clubs will be able and allowed to use the "principle of experimentation". He's asking for 1% of taxes for a project, a club of your choice. "Now we are in a world where the people are much better than the government organisations. Breizh problem is the French administration.

The French administration that drives us down, are not going to take us out of this mess. So, no need to wait. As far as you see something looking like you, like Breizh, just go for it"... Alan Glon insisted.

The revival of Kreiz-Breizh is mainly due to the "Old Plough Festival (an Erer-Kozh), in Karaez. Yann Rivoal was at the start of the Festival in Lann-Telo, in 1992. This first try was an answer to Brest's "Old Boats Fair". This event got a lot of public funding and media publicity. If the Brest maritime Fair is still huge, the young students of Kreiz-Breizh did very well too. From 12,000 spectators in 1995 up to 170,000 this year, it now ranks in the top-ten of European festivals. The people of Central Breizh are strong supporters of the popular fair. The money is used for cultural programmes, like Diwan's High school. Therefore, the population is proud "to live and work" in Kreiz-Breizh. A few years ago the festival volunteers had to cope with a national strike, headed by the communist trade-unions CGT, in order to keep the public status of the artists, even if the deficit of this social branch was over five millions euros. Anyway, if the strikers did stop the festivals in Avignon, La Rochelle and elsewhere, they did not in Kreiz-Breizh because the volunteers controlled the festival and succeeded to hold on to it. Of course, the artists had opportunities to express their views on stage.

Loik Henaff, the new boss of Henaff S.A. is also in charge of the Business club at the Douarnenez Maritime Fair, which is a very well known event, now linked to the Brest-Navy-Fairs. Two years ago L. Henaff was wondering, why a businessman would want to take part in a cultural event? When the fair started it was essentially a gathering of fishermen, so they asked the fishing industry what kind of animations or shows they saw as important and from the feedback they started to create and revive different services. Authenticity was a key word. Therefore, Loik Henaff's team reshaped the fair as an authentic fishermen's family fair. They gave it a new name: "temp-fête", a new look and a new and a lot of new partners. The revival was spectacular due to a lot of good decisions.

The challenge of the revival is complex and needs to achieve results, in order to reboot the fair in the future. In 2010, 128 entrepreneurs joined Douarnenez's business club : Businessmen's quay. A real success that a lot of traditional fairs would love to emulate. A good opportunity to help the Breton cultural revival.

**Gi Keltik.**

*Part 2...in Carn149.*

member of the Celtic League and continued his support for it over the years at one time taking Carn subscriptions for his whole family. Age having come to him he now dedicates himself to his writing. He writes his memoirs which read like the best of novels, from the forbidden fatherland followed by the House in Connemara which tells of his Irish exile and life in green Ireland and the small Breton community. His last work (2008) *Des Mots Pour l'Avenir de la Bretagne* (Words on the future of Brittany) gathers together editorial from the journal of the same name, showing a modern and visionary thought.

Yann blew out his 100 candles on 26 July last in the Chateau of Quintin surrounded by his family which is dispersed to the four corners of the world and by many friends of long-standing or of recent date. Happy Birthday Yann, and 101 candles next year.

**Thierry Jigourel.**

# Cymru

## Gwnewch y PethauBychain.com - hybu'r Gymraeg ar-lein

Mae siaradwyr a dysgwyr y Gymraeg yn cael eu hannog i ddathlu'r iaith Gymraeg ar-lein, gyda menter newydd [pethaubychain.com](http://pethaubychain.com) a lansiwyd ym mis Medi.

Dynododd sefydlwyr y prosiect ddydd Gwener y 3ydd o Fedi fel y diwrnod cyntaf i ddathlu'r hen iaith ac i annog mwy o bobol i gymryd rhan yn y diwylliant Gymraeg digidol. Ar y wefan, maent yn gofyn i bobl wneud addewid i greu un peth bach ar-lein yn y Gymraeg - o greu fideo, i flogio neu bodlediadau neu e-farddoniaeth - ar y dydd. Fe ddywedodd Rhodri ap Dyfrig, o Aberystwyth, un o'r bobl y tu ôl i'r prosiect: "Rydyn ni'n or-ddibynnol ar gyfryngau wedi eu bwydo i ni yn y Gymraeg: mae'r We yn gyfle i ni ffurfio ein sianeli, ein gorsafoedd a'n diwylliant digidol ni ein hunain ar ein telerau ni. Os ydyn ni am i'r Gymraeg dyfu a ffynnu yna rhaid i ni greu diwylliant ar-lein Cymraeg annibynnol hefyd. Drwy wneud un o'r pethau bychain gall pobl chwarae rhan allweddol mewn llusgo'r Gymraeg i'r byd digidol."

*"Mae'n bwysig iawn i weld yr iaith Gymraeg ar y deledu ac ar y radio ac mae'r un peth yn wir am y We. 'Rydyn ni eisiau gwahodd pawb sy'n gallu siarad Cymraeg neu sy'n dysgu Cymraeg, yn hen ac yn ifanc, yn ddyonion ac yn ferched i gymryd rhan. 'Does dim angen profiad o flaen llaw. Mae digon o syniadau a chymorth i'w cael ar y wefan."* Mae Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg yn cefnogi'r fenter ac yn annog eu haelodau i gymryd rhan. Dywedodd Cadeirydd y Gymdeithas adeg y lansiio, Menna Machreth: *"Mae'r fenter hon yn wirioneddol fendigedig. Mae hynod o bwysig bod y Gymraeg yn ffynnu ar y We, ac ym mhob rhan o'n bywydau pob dydd. Trwy wneud y pethau bychain, gallwn ni wneud newidiadau mawrion dros ein cymdeithas a'n hiaith."*

### Summary:

A new project, [www.pethaubychain.com](http://www.pethaubychain.com), launched in September encourages people to make use of the Welsh language on the Internet.

yn y dyfodol trwy roi'r cymorth iawn i sectorau allweddol a buddsoddi yn y seilwaith hanfodol y maent yn dibynnu arno.

Fel Gweinidog yr Economi, datblygodd Ieuan Wyn Jones y Cynllun Adfywio Economaidd yn gynharach eleni - agwedd radical newydd i Gymru sy'n parhau i geisio cael mewnfuddsoddiad yn ogystal â datblygu ein cwmnïau Cymreig cynhenid, yn enwedig yn y chwe diwydiant twf allweddol.

Bydd y cynllun yn gwneud Cymru yn genedl band llydan cenedlaeth-nesaf gyntaf Ynysoedd Prydain, gan sicrhau cyflymder o hyd at 100mb i bob busnes erbyn 2016, a phob aelwyd erbyn 2020.



Ieuan Wyn Jones AC

Gyda'r dechnoleg a'r gefnogaeth hon, ein huchelgais yw i ddiwydiannau creadigol Cymru, a sectorau allweddol eraill, gynhyrchu cwmnïau o'r radd flaenaf i'r ddegawd i ddod.

Fel rhan o'r llywodraeth, mae blaenoriaethau economaidd Plaid Cymru yn mynegi nid yn unig ymrwymiad ac uchelgais i ddatblygu economi newydd i Gymru'r dyfodol, ond cynllun clir i'n helpu i gyrraedd yno.

### Summary

Ahead of the rugby match between Wales and New Zealand in Cardiff's Millennium Stadium on November 27th Plaid Cymru's Leader Ieuan Wyn Jones AC wrote about how Wales and New Zealand now have more in common than just a strong rugby tradition.

## Cymru a Seland Newydd: Mwy na dim ond rygbi yn gyffredin

O flaen y gêm fawr rhwng Cymru a Seland Newydd yn Stadiwm y Mileniwm ar y 27ain o Dachwedd ysgrifennodd arweinydd Plaid Cymru, Ieuan Wyn Jones AC, am sut y mae gan Gymru a Seland Newydd bellach fwy yn gyffredin na dim ond traddodiad rygbi.

*"Wrth i Gymru baratoi am y gêm fawr heddiw, bydd pobl yn y ddwy genedl yn gyfarwydd â'r ffaith ein bod yn rhannu'r hyn sydd bron yn obsesiwn â thynged ein timau rygbi cenedlaethol, ond nid dyna'r unig debygrwydd rhwng Cymru a Seland Newydd."*

*"Mae llawer o agweddau o gynlluniau economaidd newydd Cymru hefyd yn llwyddiannus i economi Seland Newydd, fel y diwydiant ffilmiau yn Seland Newydd. Cred y Blaid y gallai Cymru hefyd ddatblygu diwydiannau creadigol mor flaengar â dim yn y byd dros y ddegawd nesaf."*

Mae'r byd yn edrych ymlaen yn eiddgar ar ddwy ffilm enfawr o ddiwydiant ffilmiau

hynod ffyniannus y genedl wrth i gynhyrchu'r Hobbit gychwyn. Yn wir, gyda llwyddiannau ysgubol eraill megis *King Kong*, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, yn ogystal â *Lord of the Rings*, mae diwydiant ffilmiau Seland Newydd yn cael ei gyfrif ymysg rhai blaenaf y byd. Mae'n cynhyrchu tua \$2800 miliwn mewn refeniw bob blwyddyn.

Nid yw'r economi creadigol ehangach yn tawelu chwaith. Mae dyfodol yr egin-sector digidol, sy'n cynhyrchu cymwysiadau cyfrifiadurol, gwefannau, a rhaglenni teledu, yn edrych yn ddisglair.

Yn ychwanegol at grantiau sydd wedi eu targedu at sectorau allweddol, mae llywodraeth Seland Newydd hefyd wedi datblygu seilwaith technoleg uchel y wlad. Mae gwythiennau rhwydwaith band llydan y genhedlaeth nesaf yn bwydo clystyrau o ddiwydiannau digidol, a helpodd i'r diwydiant i dyfu o 20% rhyfeddol yn 2009.

Datblygwyd y math hwn o fodel hefyd i Gymru, lle'r ydym hefyd yn cymryd agwedd uchelgeisiol tuag at ddatblygu economaidd

## ASSEMBLY POWERS REFERENDUM: YES VOTE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

Plaid Cymru's Deputy Leader Helen Mary Jones has said that the laying of the referendum Order, for an increase in the powers of the National Assembly of Wales, in Council in October took on added significance in light of the announcement that week of cuts to jobs and services facing Wales from Westminster. Ms Jones said that a stronger parliament would be better able to protect the communities of Wales from the ConDem cuts.

The order in council, which has been laid,

was the next step towards the referendum on whether the Assembly should be strengthened. It sets out the referendum question and the statement to precede it on the ballot paper, rules for the conduct of the referendum and the referendum date. The referendum will be held on the 3rd of March 2011.

Helen Mary Jones, AC for Llanelli, said “We have seen very clearly this week how little the ConDem government in London cares about Wales. Their cuts will have a hugely disproportionate impact on our communities, and are expected to lead to thousands of job losses across the nation, and see many people thrust into poverty as their benefits are slashed. The people of Wales remember only too well what happened to Wales last time the Tories were in government. But it can be different this time. The people of Wales have the Assembly in Cardiff, with the Plaid-driven government ready and willing to stand up and fight for



**Helen Mary Jones AC**

them. Plaid is committed to doing what it can to cushion the blow of Westminster cuts to Welsh communities, but the Assembly’s powers are currently limited by the cumbersome and inefficient law making system that is in place.

“As we face these devastating cuts imposed by Westminster it is more important than ever that we have a stronger parliament that is better equipped to protect the communities of Wales. The current system is cumbersome and complex and means we have to go cap in hand to Westminster every time we want to create a new law. The savage blows rained on Wales by the ConDem government this week have demonstrated just how little regard they have for Wales and make it very clear just how dangerous it would be for us in Wales to have to continue to rely on their permission to make laws that meet the needs of the people of Wales. A Yes vote in the referendum next year will put the people of Wales in a better, stronger position in what are going to be very hard times ahead.”

## Language law changes are inadequate - Cymdeithas call for ‘abstentions’



**Cymdeithas members protesting outside the National Assembly, Cardiff – “Clean up the mess”**

The Welsh government (of the Assembly) is drafting another Welsh language law, supposedly to improve the status of the language and to make it easier for speakers to use Welsh in day-to-day life. But Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg campaigners have accused the Government of ‘lying’ after they presented changes that fail to establish rights for people or its official status. In their AGM in Aberystwyth at the end of October Cymdeithas passed a motion that calls on Assembly Members to abstain on the proposed law unless further changes are made.

Regarding official status, a Cymdeithas yr Iaith spokesperson agreed with remarks from lawyer Emyr Lewis who said that “...there is no independent legal force at all to the statement [proposed by the government]...”

In an open letter earlier this year, thirteen lawyers criticised the present government plans, saying: “Despite planned sanctions for breaches, imposing [duties on bodies] in this way does not establish linguistic rights for individuals.”

Menna Machreth, outgoing Chairman of Cymdeithas said:

*“The Government has told lies again by saying that they are delivering rights and official status in this law. The amendments do not mean this; they have failed to keep their promises. At present, the Government has given rights to companies to avoid providing services in Welsh, but there are no rights for people. It is totally unjust to put the power in the hands of bodies and big companies, but to leave people without any rights. That’s why we are suggesting a number of amendments to make up for the insult that is the current draft law. Without clear rights for people, the measure is just a long mess.*

*“We and other movements have presented amendments and strong evidence of the need to include rights in the measure. Although the Minister said he would listen to people’s*

*opinions it is totally obvious that he has not taken our opinions into account.*

*“Assembly Members have a chance over the next weeks to save Measure to ensure fairness between companies and individuals. This is the last chance for a generation to ensure rights and official status for the Welsh language, the boost that is needed in order to normalise the language and deliver justice for those wishing to embrace the language, whether they speak Welsh or not.*

*“The Legislative Competence Order was a betrayal because it failed to give powers over the language to Wales in full. But this is a further betrayal because the Government isn’t making full use of those powers”.*

In two open letters earlier this year, over a dozen lawyers and fourteen language groups criticised the plans for failing to deliver One Wales government (a Plaid/Labour coalition) promises. Before the summer, a cross-party committee called for major changes to the Assembly government plans - arguing the law didn’t make Welsh an official language, create rights for individuals to use it, nor establish a Language Commissioner sufficiently independent from the government.

According to a recent survey, 80% of Welsh-speakers support the right to receive all services in Welsh. Menna Machreth, responded saying:

*“[This law] doesn’t give individuals rights despite the fact that big companies will be able to challenge any request for services in Welsh - the government is favouring rights for businesses but not people. That’s not fair - without establishing rights for people, the language measure is just a complete mess”.*

Cymdeithas members slept outside the Assembly on the 20th September, the night before an Assembly debate on the proposed law.

*“We will be staying outside the Assembly building overnight and welcoming Assembly Members as they arrive to remind that that’s*

the least we can expect from the Measure, or they will have failed. This 'Mess-ure' must be cleaned up to make it worth while."

"We've argued since the Measure's publication that the plans break the One Wales government's promises. And a group of backbench ACs agree. They're clear that this law, in its present form, doesn't establish rights to Welsh, official status for it, or an independent Commissioner either. And those were the government's key promises in the One Wales document.

"We're still waiting for the government to do something real for the Welsh language. It's time for the politicians to take this opportunity - for rights and official status for the language. That would be a strong foundation for the future of Welsh across the country."

Cymdeithas yr Iaith are drafting amendments to the law, which would deliver rights to the language, a more independent Language Commissioner, establish clear principles, and official status for the Welsh language.

## MOTHER AND CHILD CAR PROTEST AGAINST POLICE LANGUAGE NEGLIGENCE

A Cardiff woman and her children refused to leave her car in a protest in August against the tokenistic use of Welsh by South Wales Police.

Lleucu Meinir, from Grangetown in Cardiff had refused to pay two parking tickets because of the lack of Welsh used by the police in Cardiff, who had sent English-only correspondence to her. Her car had been clamped by the authorities and was due to be towed away and sold at auction. She had received two parking tickets of £60, but refused to pay the fines because the police had filled out the forms in English only.

After five hours of protest Lleucu Meinir agreed to pay the fine after a police superintendent offered to discuss the force's language policy. She later gave the bill for over £600 to Welsh Language Board officials as they had agreed to the police force's language policy.

Lleucu Meinir, a member of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg commented:

"South Wales Police treat Welsh in a completely tokenistic way, making life much more difficult for those who really want to use the language. I've had to fight over and over again to get a service in Welsh. In reality, they provide an English language service, with a fake bilingualism added on. The letters demanding payment of the fines were all English-only on bilingual paper, the Language Board shouldn't allow them to get away with such a poor service. The whole episode demonstrates, once again, the need for a comprehensive Welsh language law which gives people the right to use Welsh in their everyday lives."

## Spending cuts threat to S4C

As part of their program of public spending cuts the Tory-Liberal Democrat coalition government in London is intending to cut the budget of the only television channel in the Welsh language by up to 40%. The UK government is not seeking similar cuts to the funding of any English channels. The government in London have not devolved broadcasting in Wales to the National Assembly in Cardiff, and now their plans include bringing S4C, the Welsh TV service, under the control of the BBC (the state broadcasting organization) and reducing its financing significantly.

BBC head, Mark Thompson, refused to give a guarantee of BBC funding for S4C after 2015 when questioned by members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg in Cardiff as he arrived to attend a lunchtime event hosted by the BBC for politicians and others in a pricey brasserie in Cardiff Bay in mid-November. During a long conversation with members of Cymdeithas Thompson repeatedly refused to give any guarantees saying "As I say, as I say, I'm not either guaranteeing or not guaranteeing...".

Menna Machreth, Cymdeithas's broadcasting spokesperson, said:

"Mark Thompson was repeatedly asked by our members whether he could give a guarantee of funding for S4C after 2015 when the agreement between the London Government and the BBC in London to fund S4C runs out. He was unable to give any such guarantee. S4C faces real term cuts of over 40% to its funding, a BBC takeover, and slash-and-burn powers in the hands of the Ministers in Westminster. It's clearer than ever that the BBC-Tory pact is going to kill off the channel unless something changes.

"S4C must be taken out of the Public Bodies Bill. We as campaigners are calling for managerial independence and complete editorial independence without interference from the BBC or the Government. An independent funding formula for the Welsh language channel, based on inflation, is also essential to ensure fair funding to create Welsh programmes of a high standard. We acknowledge that the channel could perform better - that's why we are campaigning for a new S4C, but that won't be possible under these plans."

The threats to the future of the Welsh-language TV service have sparked the most vigorous broadcasting protests in Wales since the struggle to establish S4C at the end of the '70s, with rallies in all parts of the country and the return of talk of withholding TV licence payments.

In April this year, the Leader of the Conservatives in Wales, Nick Bourne said:

"As you know we have strongly supported S4C in the past and we will in future...we are totally committed to the funding of S4C as in the past."

Cymdeithas welcomed the actions of the Heritage Minister in the Welsh National Assembly, Alun Ffred Jones AC (Plaid Cymru), to protect Welsh language broadcasting. Rhys Llwyd, Vice-Chairman of Cymdeithas said:

"Alun Ffred Jones deserves praise for standing up against the dirty deal cooked up in London by the BBC and the Government. We welcome his idea to establish a forum to protect the language; we look forward to working with him to save the only Welsh television channel in the world. It won't be possible to improve Welsh-language broadcasting and create a new successful model, if the BBC gobbles up S4C."

The society discussed the S4C situation in an open meeting on 30th October in Aberystwyth, at the time of their AGM, and held a rally "No to cuts, Yes to a new S4C" on 6th November in Cathays Park, Cardiff.

In reaction to the news that the British



Alun Ffred Jones AC

Government is planning to make the BBC responsible for funding S4C, Rhys Llwyd said:

"This news is unbelievable. The Tories and Liberal Democrats have lost the plot and haven't thought this through. If their representatives from Wales have any backbone, they will speak out against this terrible idea. Let's be clear what this means - going back to the 1970s when S4C didn't exist. The truth is that by 2015 it's possible that there won't be a channel left for the BBC to take over because of cuts. Does the government in London care about Wales at all?"

"It's essential that people who care about the future of the Welsh language come to our general meeting on the 30th October in Aberystwyth and our rally on 6th November in Cardiff to campaign against these cuts. This is the latest in a series of attacks on Wales. If we don't stand up against this anti-Welsh government now, then it's possible the Welsh language will have disappeared in a generation."

Members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith in

Ceredigion expressed their disappointment following a meeting with local MP Mark Williams (Lib. Dem.) in September, because they failed to receive an unconditional promise from him that he would vote against any cuts to S4C's budget. They will now keep in contact with the MP and contact him following the spending review on the 20th of October, in accordance with his wish, to ask him again to sign such a promise. Plaid Cymru are the second party in Ceredigion and Williams depends on the English-speaking and unionist vote for his majority and is thus the colons' representative. With several independent television companies in Ceredigion, such as Wes Gleï in Felinfach and the Pixel Foundry in Aberystwyth, highly-valued jobs could be lost to the area.

A group of Cymdeithas members also held a protest in London in September, against the cuts to S4C's budget. The protest was held outside the Department of Culture, where there was an opportunity to discuss the matter with UK Culture Minister Jeremy Hunt, before moving on to hold discussions with supportive Labour and Plaid MPs at Westminster. Inside a meeting was being held between Jeremy Hunt and S4C representatives regarding proposed cuts to S4C's budget. One of those attending the protest in London today was Meinir Ffransis, who was imprisoned for 3 months in the '70s as part of Cymdeithas's broadcasting campaign. She is also the daughter of former Plaid Cymru leader Gwynfor Evans, whose threatened hunger strike in 1980 was an important part of the fight to establish S4C. Mrs Ffransis said:

*"The struggle to establish the channel has been long and costly. The Welsh Language Society and its supporters managed to establish the need for a separate channel for Welsh language programming, and then managed to create a broad consensus in Wales for that cause. Many members of the Society were imprisoned - for a range of periods from a few days up to 2 or 3 years, and the cost has been very expensive for many. When my father threatened to fast because of the Government's broken promise, thousands of people were stirred to work and act for Wales.*

*"The channel is now part and parcel of the life of the nation and is an essential service. The service is vital and necessary for the continuation and prosperity of the Welsh language. The channel is now facing the gravest crisis since its creation and everyone who is worried about the future of our language and identity as a nation must join the campaign to protect S4C."*

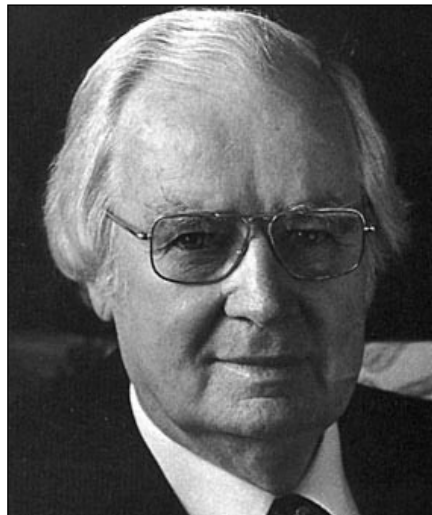
In May this year, Cymdeithas had requested a meeting with Secretary of State for Wales Cheryl Gillan. They still haven't received a reply.

### **Meinir Ffransis' imprisonment for 3 months in 1972**

In July 1972 four protestors, Meinir Evans (now Ffransis), Enfys Williams, Emyr

Hywel, and Jeff Ifan went to London with the intention of breaking into the BBC archives, and damaged many files as part of Cymdeithas's broadcasting campaign to ensure the establishment of a Welsh-language television channel for Wales.

In October, the case came before a magistrate called Neil McElligott, and as the accused demanded the right to speak Welsh in court, and sang loudly. When the request was refused, the magistrate ordered that they be kept in custody until November 20th for medical and mental tests and reports. The women fasted in Holloway as an additional protest. In the court case, Emyr Hywel was sentenced immediately, but the other three were committed to the Crown court for sentencing on December 18th, where they were given an unconditional release - they had spent a total of twelve weeks in prison!



**Gwynfor Evans**

### **The Campaign in the 1970s and the role of Gwynfor Evans**

Language campaigners had been fighting for a Welsh-language television service throughout the 1970s. Prominent Welshmen, among many others, refused to pay the license fee and campaigners broke into television studios, climbed masts, and destroyed broadcasting equipment. A consensus grew for establishing a Welsh television channel, and it became part of the manifesto for all of the political parties for the 1979 Election. When Margaret Thatcher and the Conservatives won the election they broke their pledge, and stated that a Welsh channel would not be established. In 1980 Gwynfor Evans threatened to fast until death because of this breach of promise and the devastating impact this would have on the language. There was uproar throughout Wales, and Gwynfor's statement led to fierce protests. Gwynfor addressed dozens of packed public meetings throughout Wales and hundreds committed to refuse to pay their TV licenses. This led to prominent Welshmen such as the Archbishop of Wales at the time, former secretary of state Cledwyn Hughes, and Sir Goronwy Daniel

attending a meeting with members of the cabinet, following which Margaret Thatcher surrendered and agreed to establish the channel.

### **Back to direct action on Broadcasting?**

Cymdeithas are threatening to re-start direct action against the UK government over proposed cuts to S4C. In an open letter in September to Jeremy Hunt, UK Culture Secretary, the then Chairman Menna Machreth said that the organisation plan follow similar non-violent tactics to those adopted in the fight to establish the channel. In their letter, the language campaigners stated:

*"Your intention to make savage cuts to S4C's budget is a clear threat to the Welsh language... We, in Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, will not accept cuts to S4C, and note that the broadcaster's budget is protected in law. No MP who votes for changing the law to cut S4C's budget, which is an investment in the language and our communities, deserves the support of friends of the Welsh-language either.*

*"We consider your proposal a discriminatory act against the Welsh language, especially at a time when you are making every effort to increase and protect the profits of other broadcasters.*

*"Your plans are also a clear economic threat: people will lose their jobs in many parts of Wales and it will be a massive blow to the economy in areas where S4C's investment is critical. Creative industries, of which S4C is a major part, represent between 22,000 and 30,000 jobs in Wales and contribute up to £500 million to our economic output.*

*"As a result, we want to notify you that we will be campaigning against the budget cuts to S4C. Perhaps you are not aware that the channel was established following national pressure from all directions, including non-violent direct action: a number of people were imprisoned to ensure that the government at the time kept their promise to establish a Welsh language channel for Wales. The people of Wales will not give in to the government's cuts lightly, we will campaign in the same way against your government if you continue with these unjust plans."*

The letter also criticises the Leader of the Conservatives in Wales Nick Bourne and Welsh Secretary Cheryl Gillian:

*"For months, we have requested a meeting with Secretary of State for Wales without receiving a response. Furthermore, the Leader of the Conservatives in Wales, Nick Bourne, told us in May this year that you remained committed to the current levels of S4C funding. In April, in response to our letter to Cheryl Gillan MP, he said: 'As you know we have strongly supported S4C in the past and we will in future...we are totally committed to the funding of S4C as in the past.'"*

# Éire

## Athbheochan i gCeap Breatain

Cúig phobal a chuir fúthu ar an mórchóir ó thús ama ar oileán Cheap Breatain, Albain Nua, Ceanada. B'in iad na Mi'kmaq, na Francaigh, na Sasanaigh, na hÉireannaigh agus na hAlbanaigh. Tá an cúigear ann i gcónaí ach is iad na hÉireannaigh an dream is lú a d'fhág rian teanga ar an oileán. Maireann teanga na Mi'kmaq, an Fhraincis agus Gaeilge na hAlban fós ann, más lag féin atá siad.

Tráth dá raibh sular tháinig méadú mór ar inimirce ó mhór-roinn na hEorpa bhí an Ghàidhlig ar an tríú teanga ba mhó i gCeanada agus faoin bhliain 1850 bhí sí á labhairt ag 200,000 duine sa tír sin. Bhí sí á labhairt in Ontario, Québec, Manitoba agus ar Eilean Eoin/Prince Edward Island go dtí an 20ú haois chomh maith le Ceap Breatain. Go deimhin, nuair a bhunaigh William Alexander coilíneacht Albanach in Albain Nua i 1621, faoi threoir an rí Shéamais VI, tuairiscítear gur lucht labhartha Gàidhlig a bhí i ngach duine de na coilínigh. Faoi mar a tharla níor mhair an choilíneacht ach bliain.

Ach ba é Fuadach nan Gaidheal ba chúis le pobal mór Gael a chur go Ceap Breatain. B'in san 18ú agus 19ú haois nuair a dhíshealbháigh na tiarnaí talún na pobail mhóra ar fud ghaeltacht na hAlban ar mhaithe le tógáil caorach. Tháinig an chéad mhórslua díobhsan sna 1770í, cuid mhaith acu ón Eilean Sgitheanach. Taobh istigh de ghlúin ina dhiaidh sin ba í an Ghàidhlig teanga an mhóiríoch ar an oileán. Thosaigh sruth nua teifeach ag teacht ó Albain in 1815 agus idir é sin agus 1870 chuaigh breis agus 50,000 cainteoirí breise Gàidhlig go Ceap Breatain. Sa bhliain 1890 rinne an Seanadóir Thomas Robert McInnes iarracht bille a thabhairt isteach a thabharfadh stádas dlí don Ghàidhlig. Níor éirigh leis ach tá sé suimiúil gur luaigh sé le linn na hargóine go raibh Gàidhlig ag deichniúr de na seanadóirí agus Gaeilge na hÉireann ag ochtar acu agus go raibh ceann den dá chineál Gaeilge ag 32 duine i dTeach na dTeachtaí.

Faoin tráth sin bhí meath ag teacht ar ghaeltacht Cheap Breatain féin. Bhí naimhdeas ann don teanga sa chóras rialtais agus sna scoilleana agus ar nós chás na hÉireann ba mhinc nach raibh meas madra ag cainteoirí dúchais ar a dtraidisiún féin. Le linn an dara Cogadh Domhanda rinne údarais Ceanada iarracht an teanga a chosc ar an gcóras teileafóin (ar eagla go mbeadh spairní Éireannacha á húsáid!). Sa lá inniu ann is ar éigean go bhfuil míle cainteoirí

dúchais ann agus níl ceantar mór forleathan ann ar féidir 'gaeltacht' a thabhairt air cé go bhfuil pócaí de chainteoirí ann i gcónaí, go háirithe i mBadaig/Baddeck, Eilean na Nollaig/Christmas Island agus An Cladach a Tuath/The North Shore. Mar sin féin, deir Seosamh Watson a chaith tréimhsí i gCeap Breatain i 1983 agus 1991 gur fíor do Sheumas Watson a dúirt (1987): 'The quality and depth of Gaelic language [i gCeap Breatain] to those who perceive its cognitive and effective value is still considerable ...'



*Bheidhlin ollmhór, comhartha saibhreas an traidisiúin cheoil, ag an Oifig Fáilte i Sydney, príomhchathair Cheap Breatain. Is feidir éisteacht le do rogha cheoil ach an cnaipe ceart a bhrú!*

(McCone et al, *Stair na Gaeilge*, 1994). Le déanaí tá athbheochan áirithe ann. Tá an teanga tugtha isteach mar bhunábhar i scoilleana in Am Baile Mòr/Antigonish ar mhórthír na hAlban Nua agus sa Drochad/Mabou agus Sanndraigh/Iona ar Cheap Breatain. Chomh maith leis sin tuairiscítear go bhfuil méadú suntasach ar líon na bhfoghlaimoírí fásta. Mar shampla, bhí ceithre leibhéal de ranganna ag brúchúrsa deireadh seachtaine sa Cholaisde Ghàidhlig i mBaile Anna/St Ann's. Tá dosaen eagraíocht ar laghad ag plé le múineadh na teanga. Cuirtear suim thar na bearta i gceol Albanach na hAlban Nua na laethanta seo, an amhránaíocht Ghàidhlig san áireamh. Faoi mar a tharla in Éirinn mhair an ceol go láidir in áiteanna inar tréigeadh an teanga. Tugtar

'Baile nam Fonn' ar bhaile Siudaig/Judique. Tá meas ar leith ar an bhfidleireacht in Albain Nua agus bíonn tóir mhór ar fheilt den cheol Albanch agus, go deimhin, ar an gcultúr Ceilteach trí cheile.

Ní fios fós cén toradh a bheas ar an athbheochan seo. Braitheann sé ar mhuintir Cheap Breatain. Más feidr an teanga bheo a chaomhnú agus a fhorbairt ansin tabharfaidh sé uchtach do lucht na teanga in Albain féin agus saibhroidh sé go mór an saol Ceilteach.

Colm de Faoite

### Summary

*This article outlines the Scottish emigration to Nova Scotia, driven by the Highland clearances, in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. All these emigrants were Gàidhlig speaking and established strong Gàidhlig language communities in Cape Breton and parts of the eastern Nova Scotia mainland. Unfortunately by the turn of the nineteenth century the language was under threat from the English education system, government hostility and societal change and a steady decline set in. It is estimated that there are less than 1000 scattered native speakers remaining now but with the establishment of the Office of Gaelic (Gàidhlig) Affairs a revival is taking place (see p.22). It may also be mentioned that a survey (reported on in Carn in 1989) by the Cape Breton Gàidhlig Associates Cooperatives, supported by St Ann's Gaelic College and the University College of Cape Breton showed that 74% of respondents signified they would like to speak Gàidhlig while the same percentage wished their children to speak the language.*

## Nuacht1.com - Irish Language News Linked

Nuacht1.com is an electronic news service which brings together a variety of Irish language news sources into one amalgamated stream.

Nuacht1 makes use of News articles and videos such as Gaelscéal, Nuacht24 and of course Gaelport.com, as well as radio stations such as Raidió na Gaeltachta and Raidió na Life to present live, up-to-date information on a running basis. Just as an RSS Feed works on your personal computer, links are gathered as soon as they are posted online. It also provides information on regional weather and some of the best known Irish language blogs. When it is available, the materials can also be read in English, but one distinctive aspect is the way the site is also available in the old Gaelic print, something which is rarely seen nowadays. Further information: [www.nuacht1.com](http://www.nuacht1.com)

# IRISH LANGUAGE NEWS IN BRIEF



*Released just in time for the Christmas market the Irish language version of Scrabble has proved a success. Designed specifically for the needs of the Irish language, after much analysis and field testing, the aim was to allow Irish speakers to reach the same high scores as in any other version of the game.*

## Action for Irish Language Act in North

The campaign to enact an Irish language Act in Northern Ireland continues, with Irish language organisation POBAL announcing that over 400 letters have been sent to David Cameron and Nick Clegg, demanding they follow up on promises made in the St Andrew's Agreement. The letters were gathered at the Irish language event, Rights and Revelry which took place in St. George's Market in Belfast in mid-October.

Over 2,000 supporters of the Irish language came to event focusing on the continued growth of the Irish language community in Northern Ireland and it featured local singers and dancers as well as sean-nós dancing and face-painting

## Gaelscoil Ráth Tó-Grant Recognition Now!

35 families registered their children to start in Gaelscoil Ráth Tó in September next at an induction meeting for the school in Rathoath, Co. Meath, in early November 2010, despite still waiting to get official recognition from the Department of Education and Skills. Parents and children attended the meeting in Gaelscoil Ráth Tó to meet the school principal and receive information on the school's progress.

The Department of Education and Skills will be announcing shortly where new schools will open in 2011; the Rataoth community expect to be on that list and that Gaelscoil Ráth Tó, which opened in September this year without recognition, will be recognised and sanctioned. The large attendance and the continued parental demand in the area confirms the urgent need to recognise Gaelscoil Rath Tó.

## Threat to Gaeltacht

The Gaeltacht will disappear within five years if proposed Government cutbacks of 80% are implemented, it has been warned

Organisations from Gaeltacht areas, including Cork and Kerry, have come together to oppose the cuts, which would reduce spending through the Department of

Gaeltacht Affairs from EUR149 million, in 2008, to EUR30m, in 2016. Gaeltacht community-based co-operatives and local development companies are opposing the cuts. They want funding for the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs to be maintained in the coming years. These community enterprises employ 140 people on a full-time basis and 230 part-time, as well as over 100 people on employment schemes which they administer. They have an annual turnover of EUR10m. and are active in operating many language and cultural businesses.

The cuts would be the largest reduction in any government department, according to Gaeltacht co-ops joint committee chairman Gearóid O Brosnacháin. "The implementation of the key recommendation in both the draft 20-year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010-2030 and from the Oireachtas Joint Committee on the Irish Language are central to the future of the Irish language and the future of Gaeltacht communities," he said. "The Department of Finance estimates are in total conflict with these recommendations.

Unfortunately the proposed cuts are in fact in the Government 4 year plan, so much for a 20 year Strategy for Irish!

## Irish Language Teddy

A Galway-based company, Bábógbaby Limited, based in Moycullen, Co Galway, which produced the world's first Irish speaking teddy bear has won a top award in the Electronic toy category at the Practical Pre-school awards in the UK. The children's toy company was set up by Adrian Devane in early 2010 to provide tools and toys for toddlers, children, and parents to learn their first words of Irish. This colourful teddy bear, which teaches toddlers and children 33 words in Irish, has certainly proven a success. Mr Devane said that Bábógbaby have plans to release a range of Irish speaking products over the next year.



## Leaving Cert Irish syllabus criticised

A decision by Minister for Education Mary Coughlan not to add a new Irish language subject to the Leaving Cert

curriculum will lead to "cultural impoverishment", a leading educationalist has warned.

A campaign to introduce the subject was launched by Áine Ní Ghallchóir of NUI Maynooth's Language Centre after it emerged that a revised Leaving syllabus being introduced this September included a reduced volume of literature for higher level-students. Instead, the new syllabus has a greater focus on spoken and aural examinations with 40 per cent of the marks to be allotted to the oral examination, and 10 per cent for the aural examination.

The syllabus no longer contains an entire novel and students are only required to read seven chapters of Maidhc Dainín's A Thig Ná Tit Orm and specified excerpts from Tóraíocht Diarmuid agus Gráinne. The history of the Irish language has also been removed as an element of the course.

Meitheal na Gaeilge ATAL, comprising representatives from Gaelscoileanna Teoranta, Eagraíocht na Scoileanna Gaeltachta and An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta, was formed to lobby the department for the introduction of a new literature-oriented subject. Gaelscoileanna said the revised syllabus does not recognise the existence of native Irish speakers, gaelscoileanna, or students of higher proficiency who may wish to attain a high standard of education in the Irish language at second level.

## A Resource for writers - scriobh.ie

A new website has been launched to assist writers in Irish by linking all the internet facilities available for writers. It is a portal site which lists all and allows direct connection to the sources. The site was developed by Dúrud Teoranta with support from Foras na Gaeilge with the aim of making the available facilities better known and more accessible. There are three versions, Irish (the most comprehensive aimed at fluent speakers), simple Irish (aimed at learners) and English.

## New Irish multimedia course

The multimedia course, 'Gaeilge gan Stró!- Lower Intermediate Level' has a practical focus and the book which was written by Éamonn Ó Dónaill from Gaelchultúr is accompanied by two CD's to aid learners.

The course aims to give learners the confidence they need to speak Irish in everyday contexts as well as helping them to understand the differences in dialects spoken by Irish speakers across the country.

Every chapter features phrases, articles and conversations on topical interest as well as an account of the grammar relevant to the various sections and contexts. The course in particular aims to improve the spoken Irish skills of participants.

For further information check out [www.gaelchultur.com](http://www.gaelchultur.com)

## PANA Irish Foreign Policy Conference

Even though the visit of Tony Blair to Dublin to launch his book overshadowed this conference, a very large audience attended along with many experts in the various topics for discussion. Amongst the topics that were discussed were, Ireland and the United Nations, Irish Foreign Policy, The Iraq and Afghan Wars, The Non-Proliferation Treaty, Burma, Ireland, The EU and the Foreign, Security & Defence Policy, Latin America, Humanitarian Intervention – The New Imperialism?, Palestine, Cluster Bombs, Extraordinary Rendition Flights, Shannon Airport & War and Anglo-Irish Relations. There was a very broad range of speakers, from groups such as Amnesty International and radical groups as well as the main political parties.

With regards to the talk on Human Intervention it showed how the American Army used the charities to further its own agenda. I had thought that all Humanitarian Intervention is good. The session opened my eyes. That basically all humanitarian intervention has an agenda. That Western Countries insist on human rights standards being improved when aid is given. I couldn't believe that Western Countries were insisting on Human Rights when they are the biggest abusers of Human Rights in the world, e.g. United States in Iraq. China's main reason for aid was to facilitate trade. Aid agencies have to be careful that they are not being used by states for their own agenda. The latest example was the floods in Pakistan, in which the Pakistan Government banned certain Muslim charities from giving aid as that might assist the Taliban regime in North West Pakistan. So all aid is politically charged. That was the reason why Medicin Sans Frontiers broke from the International Red Cross. For the Red

Cross to get access in most regions they have to abide by the rules of the different parties which reduces their impartiality. The conference highlighted different views to development aid between Western and

Eastern Countries. It showed that aid was not just a simple matter. It was the first conference on these topics and attracted the interest of many Irish politicians and diplomats from local embassies. I would have liked to have attended all the workshops that were on, the topics were so interesting.

In the Irish workshop we had Chris McGimpsey give a Unionist perspective on Ireland, a lot of which surprised me. He had studied Amhrán na bhFiann to show how militaristic the song is. This is more than most Irish people have done.

After his talk the public were invited to give their opinions. What basically followed were the views of Nationalists towards Unionists and Vice Versa. What came out of that is that we had a common heritage and that only politics divides us. Mr. McGimpsey gave his view with regards to the dissident republicans, while not supporting their aims nor means he had respect for them and had visited the republican prisoners in Maghaberry often. There were complaints that

too much emphasis was placed on history, but in my opinion in order to understand the present you've got to learn about the past. I believe it was a very productive workshop and showed how much in common we had. There should be more sessions like this to bridge the gap between Nationalist and Unionist.

The conference was very interesting and was suitable for every student studying International Affairs, diplomats, politicians and activists. I hope this is the first of many such conferences. The only problem is the difficulty to attend every workshop scheduled. What this conference showed was that issues aren't always black and white and that you have to take all sides of the question into account. PANA hope to produce a DVD of the conference.

The PANA A.G.M. was held on the 4th of December in the Ireland Institute, and it was followed in the afternoon by a public meeting with Irish CND. This had an interceltic flavour to it as the meeting was addressed also by representatives from Scottish CND and CND Cymru.

Alec MacKinnon, Chair of Scottish CND outlined how they had campaigned against Trident and the bases in Scotland. Jill Gough, National Secretary of CND Cymru, said CND



**Jill Gough, National Secretary, CND Cymru, speaking at the PANA/CND public meeting**

Cymru was firmly based in the historical and national peace tradition developed in Cymru and gave an interesting summary on this. They had engaged in many campaigns over the years including cooperating with the Celtic League on opposition to low flying RAF flights. David Hutchinson Edgar, Chair of Irish CND spoke on the progressive attitudes of previous generations of Irish politicians and diplomats who had pushed the anti nuclear proliferation treaty and said the challenge now was to ensure that items like these remained on the agenda. Roger Cole, PANA Chair said he looked forward to future involvement with the three CND groups. An interesting side issue which was mentioned by all three Celtic CND speakers was the imperialist attitude towards their Celtic colleagues of London based CND, who it seems even think Irish CND is a region of theirs!

**Caoimhín Ó Cadhla**

## Threats to Gaelscoileanna



**Fiona Ui Uiginn, at the Gaelscoileanna Conference**

The Irish medium education organisation, Gaelscoileanna, had a very successful Educational Conference and AGM in November. The theme of the Conference was 'Gaelscoileanna – at the Heart of the 20 Year Strategy'. This refers to the Government 20 year strategic plan for the Irish language and the conference included a debate on the 20 Year Strategy and how it might be implemented. A number of speakers presented at the debate one of them being Fiona Ui Uiginn who outlined the grave concerns she and Gaelscoileanna shared on the changes made to the Irish Leaving Certificate curriculum and the rejection of the call for a new subject (see news item) which left those in Irish medium and Gaeltacht schools at a severe disadvantage.

The Assistant Chief Inspector, Éamonn Murtagh, claimed the Dept of Education and Skills supported Irish medium Education. The Minister for the Gaeltacht, Pat Carey, in opening the Conference claimed he recognised the pivotal role of Irish Medium schools in developing the 20 year Strategy. Fine words from both but the reality on the ground is different and Murtagh's colleagues who stated that new-dedicated Irish medium schools would not be built were more brutally frank. This is in the context of Gaelscoil Ráth Tó still being denied recognition and a halt being put effectively on granting recognition to new Irish medium schools for the last two years.

Coupled with that we have the situation where many Gaelscoileanna have existed for years in temporary accommodation, some for over two decades, and we still await a proper rescinding of the Department of Education's ruling banning full early Irish immersion.

Hardly had the Conference finished when another attack was launched with the announcement that the Department would eliminate the current arrangement in the Irish medium schools on pupil teacher ratios. The present system recognises the challenge faced by Irish medium language schools and the lack of resources provided and had allowed a slightly more favourable teacher pupil ratio. Now from September 2011 the same ratios as for English language schools are to be applied. This will leave schools with a loss of staff, increased class sizes and a reduction in the effective learning experience for the children. It will have severe employment implications for teachers especially those who do not have panel rights and indeed there is no appropriate panel system in place for Irish medium schools.

The Gaelscoileanna President, Micheál Ó Broin, attacked the decision indicating that it was scandalous and unacceptable and would be strongly challenged.



# IMF and EU/ECB - A Compounded Betrayal !

In the last two issues of Carn we outlined the economic deterioration in Ireland and the growing concerns of the ordinary people as it became even clearer that matters with regard to the bank debts were worse than had been advised. Unfortunately the situation continued to worsen and undoubtedly many will have seen reports on TV and other media of the IMF and EU/ECB arrival in Dublin in late November.

By the end of September it was revealed that the banks bailout figure had now increased (from €35B advised in March) to €50B, almost 70% of which was accounted for by Anglo-Irish Bank. It was further revealed that the 'haircut' on toxic loans transferred to the National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) was 58%, far higher than originally envisaged, making the prospects for NAMA achieving the original brief it had been given very dubious indeed. The extent of the ghost estates problem was confirmed in October when the results of a National Housing Development Survey stated that there were 2,800 'ghost' estates comprising 43,000 unfinished or vacant apartments or houses. Of these 23,000 are completed and 20,000 are at various stages of construction. A 'high level expert group' has been set up to devise plans to deal with these.

The sheer extent of these figures show the absolute lunacy which was encouraged by low interest loans actively promoted by banks and which was not curtailed by local planning authorities who gave planning permission for these developments with total disregard for the real housing needs in their areas. And of course they were aided in that by local politicians.

Towards the end of November, after weeks of the likelihood being denied by the Government, the International Monetary Fund, and EU/European Central bank (ECB) arrived in Dublin to begin talks on a loan package. Their arrival had as much to do with concerns of the effect of the Irish position on the eurozone and particularly on Italy and Spain, as it had to do with assisting the Irish.

The Government had been developing a four year plan 'National Recovery Plan 2001-2014' to meet the EU requirement of achieving a budget deficit not greater than 3%. Elements of this were emerging over the weeks but as talks progressed with the IMF and ECB they released details of the plan. It imposes severe cuts, increased taxation both in income tax and value added tax and new charges, such as property tax. There are planned reductions in public service numbers, any new recruits to the Public Service will receive ten per cent less in pay and public service pensions will be cut by amounts ranging from six to twelve per cent depending on the level of the pension. Social

Welfare payments are to be reduced and the minimum wage reduced by one euro (from €8.65) - specific requirements of the IMF! There was no indication in this plan of any intent to gain tax revenues from the 1% who own 34% of the wealth in Ireland or those who had by their profligate actions led the country down the road of ruin. Down the road is the prospect of privatisation of the successful semi-state companies such as Bord Gáis and the Electricity Supply Board (ESB).

Trade Union leaders attacked the plan, with the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) saying the plan was savage, regressive and will cause a deep recession. It penalised the poorest and lowest paid making them pay for the reckless behaviour of others. SIPTU President, Jack O'Connor said "The most glaring deficiency is the absence of any plan for public investment... "



**ICTU Demonstration, Dublin, November  
Cowen the Reaper**

The IMF/ECB deal was eventually concluded and details subsequently released.

It involved a package of €85B, €50B to go to Government, €10B for recapitalisation of the banks and a € 25B bank contingency fund. The 4 year plan is an integral part of it. Ireland itself has to contribute €17.5B and €10B of that is to be taken from the pension reserve fund. A key issue was the interest rate to be applied which turned out to be 5.8%. This is regarded as a punitive rate which if the projections on CPI and growth rate are not met could send Ireland into a spiral of deepening recession in attempting to meet repayments. Essentially IMF/ECB take over the running of the Irish economy and there is a whole raft of obligations to be fulfilled and quarterly targets to be met. One item to remain intact was the Croke Park agreement on public service pay and reform, but only if it delivers. Another, despite much speculation that it would be drastically increased, was the 12.5% corporation tax.

A mass protest march was organised by ICTU and took place on Saturday 27th November in Dublin, concluding at the GPO. It was estimated that up to 100,000 people took part. In the speeches the loss of sovereignty to the IMF was objected to

but strangely there was no mention of the fact that every referendum on the EU over three decades had gradually conceded sovereignty! Dave Begg, the General Secretary of ICTU, drew parallels with the Treaty of Versailles in questioning the capacity to repay at the interest rates confirmed.

The level of anger of the public was clearly evident at the demonstration and it is quite obvious that the present Fianna Fáil government and their Green allies will be out of office after the next general election which has now been scheduled to take place early in the New Year. But unless there is a sea change in Irish politics as great as that which occurred in 1918 little will change.

We have to go back to basics to see why Ireland has ended up where it is.

- Joining the Eurozone was a cardinal mistake. It allowed access to unlimited cheap credit to Irish banks, with no exchange risk, who were encouraged by the ECB to avail of it. Low interest rates may have suited Germany's financial situation but certainly not Ireland's.
  - This also took away independent fiscal control and the possibility of using devaluation as a tool.
  - Irish banks not only gave loans to property developers without any risk assessment but encouraged them to take these and were reckless in this.
  - The out of control behaviour of Irish banks, particularly Anglo Irish Bank, should have been very obvious not only to the Irish Financial Regulator but also to the ECB.
  - The decision of the Irish Taoiseach and Finance Minister in September 2008 to extend a blanket guarantee to the banks (not just to depositors but to bondholders) was a betrayal of the interests of the ordinary Irish people.
  - This led to the Government taking responsibility for the total bank losses and making the Irish taxpayer pay for these.
  - The failure of the Irish team negotiating with the IMF/ECB to impress on them that the ECB had been 50% culpable in its failure in regulation and supervision of Irish banks in the four years up to 2007/8.
  - The failure to emphasise that ECB had knowingly advanced loans to the banks which enabled them to redeem in full senior bondholders when it was obvious that they were headed for insolvency.
- The way the Irish Government handled these matter can only be classified as a compounded betrayal of the Irish people. The IMF/ECB agreement must be repudiated, default on the bank debt and let the bondholders share the pain.

**JO'F**



### BOJET KERNOW A VYDH TROGH BRAS

Konsel Kernow re skodhyas bojet goredhomm hag a wra treghi £170 milvil dres an peder bledhen a dheu.

Tri ugens esel an konsel a skodhyas an bojet gans nawsek warn ugens er y bynn hag yth esa saw unn esel war an ke.

Nyns yw sertan na hwath py gonisogethow a vydh treghys. Byttegyns, konsler Porthbud, Nathan Bale, re skrifas der Twitter an troghyansow dhe vagla yn town kyns re bell.

Yma own rag tenkys a wonisyow rag tus edhommek. Sodhogyon an Konsel re leveris a-gynsow bos gonisyow kynsa gwithys heb troghyansow bras.

Yma own keffrys rag artys ha gonisogeth.

Konsel Kernow a leveris kyns bos edhomm a dhegea lies lyverva.

An pyth yw apert – pub sorn a vywnans a-hys Kernow a vydh skwattyes ha skwardyes gans an bojet ma ha lies soedh a vydh kellys.

Dres henna, hwath yth eson ow kortos rag gweltes mar pydh effeyth war agan taves.

**Matthew Clarke**

#### Summary

*Cornwall Council has passed an emergency budget, cutting over £170 million over the next four years. It is not clear exactly what services will be cut, but there is fear for things like adult care and culture.*

## One and all – speaking out with a Cornish Voice

Mike Chappell & Tony Leamon, Mark Lewiss & Bjorn Gould broadcast this programme on behalf of the Celtic League every Monday morning currently between 0930 and 1100.

By popular request, the programme is to be again extended to commence broadcast from 0900 to 1100 following popular requests.

This is YOUR programme! Please let us have any Cornish & Celtic News items, poems, protests, campaigns, coming events indeed anything you want broadcasting. Email at: [kernow@celticleague.net](mailto:kernow@celticleague.net)

We do not shy away from broadcasting the truth about Kernow and the other Celtic

Nations. If you would like to submit prepared articles for announcing, please do so. Provided the material is decent, we shall broadcast it!

The programme is broadcast live on the Source FM at 96.1 FM - and may be listened to 'on line' for those out of range:

<http://www.thesourcefm.co.uk/listen>

Podcasts available from CelticPatriot.com:

[http://celticpatriot.com/index.php?opti ... &Itemid=3](http://celticpatriot.com/index.php?opti...&Itemid=3)

Radyo an Gernewegva is also available as podcasts on this website.



*An Gool Kesheltek yn Iwerdhon a vydh syns yn An Daingean (Dingle), Ciarraí (konteth Kerri) nessa bledhen ynter 26ns mis Ebryl ha Kala Me, hag yma Kernow ow hwilas profyansow dhe'n Kesstrif Kesheltek Keswlasek ha'n Kesstrif Kana Hengovek.*

Res yw dhe'n kanow bos skrifys yn Kernewek, hag yma MAGA ow profya gweres skrifa geryow yn Kernewek dhe vagasow ha kanoryon a vynn profya kanow dhe'n kesstrifow.

An Kesstrif Kan Keswlasek yw rag kanow nowyth skrifys yn yethow Keltek, hag y fydh kesstrifow syns yn pub bro Geltek rag kavos kanow kanasow dhyworth pub onan a'n broyow Keltek orth an Gool Kesheltek yn Iwerdhon mis Ebryl ow tos. Y koth dhe'n kanow y'n kesstrif ma bos skrifys a-gynsow ha performys gans aga heveylyans aga honan.

Yma dhe'n Kesstrif Kana Hengovek diw rann: an eyl rag kanoryon a voy ages 16 bloodh ha'y ben rag bagasow a le ages eth ilewydh. Y'n dhiw rann, res yw dhe bub performyer kana diw gan: an eyl hengovek ha'y ben po hengovek po kan nowyth-skrifys yn furv hengovek. Y hyllir ri piwas aral dhe skrifer an gan nowyth yn furv hengovek breusys an gwella.

Dydh degea rag profyansow yw 31ns mis Kevardhu, hag y fydh kesstrif yn mis Genver rag dewis kan Gernewek rag an Kesstrif Kan Keswlasek. Gwrewhgh dannvon agas profyansow (gans an geryow yn Kernewek, trelyans a'n geryow dhe Sowsnek ha rekordyans an gan war CD) dhe Pat ha Dave Crewes orth 2 Hillcrest Close, Synt Colom Veur, Kernow, TR9 6BP.

Mar mynnowgh kavos gweres dhyworth MAGA orth skrifa geryow yn Kernewek, kesteveugh orth Elizabeth Stewart orth [elstewart@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:elstewart@cornwall.gov.uk) po war 01872 323497.

Rag derivadow pella a-dro dhe'n gool, rewlys an kesstrif h.e., kesteveugh orth Pat ha Dave Crewes orth [crewesy@aol.com](mailto:crewesy@aol.com) po war 01637 881556. Y hyllir kavos derivadow pella ynwedh dhyworth gwiasva Gool Kesheltek orth <http://www.panceltic.ie/index.html>.

**Courtesy Elizabeth Stewart  
Language Support Officer MAGA**

#### Summary

*The Pan Celtic Festival in Ireland will take place in Dingle, Co. Kerry next year from 26th April to 1st May, and Cornwall is seeking entries to both the Pan Celtic International Song Contest and the Traditional Singing Competition. Entries to both competitions must be in the Cornish language, and MAGA is offering help with lyrics in Cornish to bands and singers that would like to enter the competitions.*

# Keep Cornwall Whole Campaign

## CORNISH CONCERNS OVER BOUNDARY CHANGES

“Na wrewgh tava agan ordir” (Hands off our border) was the unusually political message from the Grand Bard, Mick Paynter, at the Cornish Gorsedh at a protest rally held in September last in Porthlha/St Ives. The Grand Bard was responding to plans by the UK coalition government to cut the number of parliamentary constituencies in the UK by making them roughly the same size. This would mean that two of Cornwall’s two eastern parliamentary constituencies - South East Cornwall and North Cornwall – would straddle Devon. Mr Paynter opened his speech with a direct attack on central government saying: *“This is a threat to our territorial integrity...It is a threat buried in the Coalition’s plans for electoral reform. Lest there be any doubt as to the meaning of ‘one and all’ we should show it together by saying loudly, that the Tamar has been our border for more than a thousand years. It is a historical border, it is a cultural border, it is a linguistic border and it is recognised as such by Europe. The Tamar is our national border. Na wrewch tava agan order! Hands off our border! Gesewgh Kernow dhe vos Kernow! Let Cornwall be Cornwall!”*

A ‘Keep Cornwall Whole’ group was set up by the Mayor of Saltash, Adam Killeya, to campaign against the proposed changes. The League’s Branch Secretary, Mike Chappell, was interviewed on Pirate Radio FM on 6th September, along with politicians from Cornwall, who were all speaking out against the proposed changes. Mr Chappell said: “The Westminster Parliament is increasingly out of touch with the people of Cornwall showing that devolution for Cornwall is needed.”

### **Hunger Strike Protest over Boundary Changes**

Celtic League Branch Secretary, Michael Chappell, embarked on a ten day hunger strike in October ahead of a rally in Essa/Saltash in protest over the possibility of forming at least one new constituency that straddles Cornwall’s historic border. His hunger strike shows the depth of feeling in Cornwall and the matter was raised in Westminster. The rally attracted an estimated 500 people to listen to speakers from across the political spectrum and representatives of none, speaking out against the government proposal that the Mayor of Saltash said will “ignore the right to self determination of half a million Cornish people.”

Writing in the ‘Western Morning News’ newspaper Mebyon Kernow – the Party for Cornwall (MK) leader Dick Cole, wrote: *“The legislation ignores what I would personally describe as Cornwall’s nationhood, its Celtic identity, history and culture, as well as its unique geography as a peninsula bounded by the Tamar River and its special constitutional position”*



**Mike Chappell**

The Bill when passed, will reduce the number of Members of Parliament from 650 to 600. It also wants all constituencies (except for two exceptions in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland) to be within 5% of the United Kingdom’s average constituency size.

At the House of Commons in November, an amendment was moved by Charles Kennedy, which sought to protect the parliamentary boundaries in a number of areas including parts of Scotland, Anglesey, the Isle of Wight and Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. It was voted down by 315 votes to 257 votes.

All six Cornish MPs voted to support Kennedy’s amendment, along with a further nine colleagues which included Scottish MPs and the member for the Isle of Wight.

But over 95% of Coalition MPs voted against the amendment. This included Conservative MP Mark Prisk who spent the months leading up to the General Election masquerading as a Shadow Minister for Cornwall.

The pro-Cornwall amendment was supported by MK’s sister parties from Wales and Scotland. Three Plaid Cymru and five SNP MPs voted in favour of the amendment, along with two members of the DUP, a member of the SDLP and all the Labour MPs present.

On Tuesday 2nd November, the Third Reading Vote was taken. This included the measures that would cause a Devonwall seat to be created. All six Cornish MPs voted for the Bill, though Andrew George MP rebelled by voting against the Bill.

*“I am extremely disappointed that the Cornish MPs did not have the bravery to vote against the Bill once the pro-Cornwall amendment had been defeated”* said Mr Cole.

### **Glimmer of Hope Over Boundary Issue**

The border between Cornwall and Devon looks ever closer to being erased in UK parliamentary constituency terms, following the failure of a last ditched attempt in the House of Lords to delay the much disputed Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill.

On 15th November 2010 a vote in the House of Lords to delay the Bill was defeated by 224 votes to 210, which a Cornish newspaper said “has effectively spelled the end of a passionate campaign to stop the creation of a

constituency...” Since the Lords vote the campaign organisation, Keep Cornwall Whole, has failed to update its site, signaling perhaps the disappointment that many campaigners feel about the lack of recognition by the Government, of Cornwall’s historic border.

The possible last glimmer of hope that Cornwall could still evade a gunshot marriage to Devon is small indeed, but that is about the long and short of it. The Keep Cornwall Whole campaign has effectively failed, but not through want of exercising its democratic right. Once again UK democracy has failed Cornwall.

Mr Chappell, expressing his disappointment, asked why it was felt necessary to ignore Cornwall’s ancient and legal border and to have us share an MP with Devon and why the demands of the Cornish people were constantly ignored?

Then in a wave of political spin, Mr Cameron, who has publicly promised to ‘set Cornwall free’ and then fails to understand that perhaps our River Tamar is like the Amazon River to us, gives his new born baby a third forename relating to Cornwall and all is well. He went on to say *“I no longer trust the Westminster Politicians any more, no, not one of them. They do not have the interests of the people of Cornwall at heart; they are intent on destroying our culture, our history, our heritage and our boundaries.... I may be an ordinary Cornishman, but they have not heard the last of me. I shall continue to campaign for a just Cornwall, a fair Cornwall and an open and honest Cornwall.”*

## **GOVYN KERNEWEK AWARD 2011 - GK11**

‘DOWR TAMAR YW, NYNS YW AN AMAZON A-BARTH DUW !’

The Cornwall Film Festival are looking for a great idea for a short film that uses Kernewek (the Cornish language) wholly or substantially in an interesting way.

It must be viable to make within a £5,000 budget and must be completed and delivered by 30th September 2011.

Ideas of any genre are accepted.

The suggested theme for GK11 is based on David Cameron’s ill thought out and throw away comment - ‘It’s the Tamar, not the Amazon for heaven’s sake’ - ‘Dowr Tamar yw, nyns yw an Amazon a-barth Duw!’ made when asked about cross constituency MWPs straddling the 1000 year old border of Cornwall with England.

In order to win the £5,000 grant and assistance necessary to make the film, interested parties are asked to Email a two page proposal and a two page CV to: [info@cornwallfilmfestival.com](mailto:info@cornwallfilmfestival.com) with GK11 as the subject.

Deadline for submission of ideas is Monday 31st January, 2011.

For full guidance please visit [www.cornwallfilmfestival.com/govyn-kernevek](http://www.cornwallfilmfestival.com/govyn-kernevek).



# Mannin



## Yn-chummal seose as ny cheeraghyn Celtiagh

Lhaih mee er y gherid nagh vel agh tree cheeraghyn sy teihll as yn-chummal seose (*sustainability*) ayns ny bunraghtyn oc. She Bretyn, y Latvey as y Tasmaan ny cheeraghyn shen. Cha row fys aym er shoh, agh sy vlein 2006 v'eh jeant oikoil dy nhegin da shirveishee ayns reilts Vretyn cur geill da yn-chummal seose bentyn da red erbee ta ny rheynnyn oc jannoo. Ayns y chooish shoh, ta ny Bretnee toilliu moylley mooar. Foddee dy vel eh cowreydaghy dy nee tree cheeraghyn beggery t'er chur yn-chummal seose ayns nyn munraghtyn. Roish ny bleecantyn kiare feed, cha row monney sleih cur geill erbee da yn-chummal seose. As s'goan y peiagh va boirit ec yn aghy ta sheelnaue spooilley berchys nadooragh y teihll myr dy beagh y berchys shen ry gheddyn son dy bragh – 'Ee-shiu, as iu-shiu, as gow-shiu soylley mooar, son dy vowmayd baase mairagh – as lhig dooin ny paitchyn ain y yarrood'. Ta reddyn er chaghlau beggan neayr's ny bleecantyn shen, agh, dy firrinagh, cha nel monney er chaghlau.

Agh cre ta 'yn-chummal seose' keeallaghey? T'eh jeeaghyn dy vel shen croghey er y pheiaagh, bunnys. Ayns 1987, hug lught ny h-Ashoonyn Unnaneyssit y cheeallaght shoh er yn-chummal seose: '...lhiasaghey ta cooilleeney ny femeyn jeh sleih t'ayn nish, fegooish jannoo assee da'n ablid jeh sheelloghey ta ry heet dy chooilleeney ny femeyn oc hene.' Dy chelleeragh, ta boirey ayn, kyndagh rish y raa 'cooilleeney ny femeyn jeh sleih t'ayn nish'. Adsyn ta currit da bunargidys jollyssagh as spooilley sheelnaue, cre 'ny femeyn' ec roosteyryn myr shen? Hig cragh vooar mannagh vees lhietalys ennagh currit er bunargidys as 'y margey seyr', agh cha nel jeeaghyn feer liklee ec y traa t'ayn. Ta keeallaght elley jeh yn-chummal seose loayrt mychione 'co-phobble downagh undint er arrym son nadoor, cairn-sheelnaue son gagh peiagh, cairns tarmaynagh, as cultoor jeh shee'. Dy row y lheid ayn. Agh shegin dooin jannoo caggey son y lheid, as shynyn jerkal nagh bee yn caggey shen fuilltagh. Er y derrey laue, foddee 'yn-chummal seose' ve ny raa ta cur er sleih dy ve gennaghtyn souyr, agh cha nel monney keeallaght ayn. Er y laue elley, foddee 'yn-chummal seose' ve fakinit myr

smooinaght scanshoil goll rish 'seymys' ny 'cairy's'.

Ansheerbee, lurg ooilley yn blaatarys mychione yn-chummal seose, ta shen ny 'ard-phrinsabyll-reaghee' ec reilts Vretyn neayr's 2006. Fer-coyrlee ec y reilts shen, t'eh gra dy bee eh doillee agglagh dy gheddyn bee dy liooar son ooilley'n poble sy teihll. Ta'n costys jeh bree girree, goll rish yn earroo dy leih sy teihll (s'cosoylagh dy bee shen dooblit ayns 2005), as ta'n emshyr caghlau feiy ny cruinney. Ooilley shen ry cheilley, t'eh cur er dy ve smoo doillee dy gheddyn bee dy liooar da sheelnaue. S'yymyrchagh ymydey ram bree dy gheddyn y bee shen. Son y chooid smoo ec y traa t'ayn, ymydey bree, ta shen yn red as ceau daa-ocseed charboan seose syn aer, as s'olk shen. Ayns yn Unnaney's Oarpagh, ta troarey bee cur magh 31% jeh'n daa-ocseed charboan goll seose syn aer. Myr shen, shegin leodaghey'n daa-ocseed charboan ta cheet veih troarey bee. S'doillee shen, er yn oyr dy vel cooid vooar jeh'n teihll currit da eiryns myr dellal goll rish thieyn-jannoo – thieyn-jannoo ta gymmydey ram bree.

T'eh creidit dy vel yn-chummal seose cooie da Bretyn – cheer lesh troareyrn beggery, troaryn-bee nadooragh lesh quallid ard, as beggan dy ghowaltysyn goll rish thieyn-jannoo. Sambyl jeh yn-chummal seose ayns Bretyn, shen colught ta creck mooiraneyn piggylit. Hug y shellouder jeh'n cholught shoh er y lught-reill ynnydaghy dy chur er bun reillyn son ocsyn va chaglym mooiraneyn er y traie. Shegin chagleyderyn geddyn kied mooiraneyn y haglym, as cha nhegin daue chaglym mooiraneyn erskyn yn earroo oikoil. Nish, foddee keead dy lieh dy hagleyderyn gobbraghey son imbagh lurg imbagh. Roish my row ny reillyn ayn, yinnagh earroo goll rish meeilley as daa cheead dy hagleyderyn cheet dy haglym mooiraneyn son daa laa. Sy traa gerrid shen, veagh lieh jeh ny mooiraneyn goit, as y lieh elley marrit – red atchimagh. Nish, ta yn-chummal seose gobbraghey dy mie. Sambyl elley jeh yn-chummal seose ayns Bretyn, shen y thie-bee syn ollooscoill ec Aberystwyth. T'ad geddyn kiare feed sy cheead jeh'n feill oc, as feed sy cheead jeh ny messyn as lossreeyn oc veih gowaltysyn s'lesh yn ollooscoill, as y chooid elley veih troareyrn ynnydaghy beggery.

Keeadyn dy vleecantyn er dy henney, va'n

eeastagh-skeddann mygeayrt Mannin reaghit dy chionn. Cha row eeasteyrn lowit skeddannyn y hayrtyn roish laa er l'eh as lurg laa er l'eh – va imbagh reaghit ayn, as va yn-chummal seose gobbraghey dy mie. Myr shen, va skeddannyn dy liooar faagit sy cheayn blein lurg blein. Eisht, sy nuyoo cheead jeig, haink baatyn-eeastee stiagh mygeayrt Mannin dy eeastagh skeddannyn. Cha row niart ec Tinvaal monney y yannoo dy fendeil shenn chairys ny eeasteyrn Manninagh. Haink ny baatyn-eeastee dy ve ny smoo as ny smoo, derrey ta ram jeu goll rish thieyn-jannoo floateil. Mie erskyn towsee cour tayrtyn eeastyn – choud's ta eeastyn erbee faagit sy cheayn.

Phrow Mannin dy fendeil e eeastagh-roagan liorish cur er bun sorch dy 'gowaltys-roagan' raad va roaganyn aegey gaase. Haink baatyn-eeastee joarree stiagh, ghow ad roaganyn aegey as stroie ad y 'gowaltys', son y chooid smoo. Quaagh dy liooar, agh ta sleih cur y loght er ny reiltsyn ayns Nalbin as Bretyn as Nerin Hwoaie son shoh. Er y fa dy dug Lunnin pooaraghyn ennagh da ny reiltsyn shoh dy fendeil y keayn mygeayrt nyn jeeraghyn, haink ad gys Mannin Veg Voght dy eeastagh! Shione dou dy vel y chooish smoo cramp na shoh, agh ta shen y bun jeh. Foddee dy jig foays ennagh ass coardail noa mychione eeastagh ayns Mooir Vannin, agh foddee nagh jig. Cha nel agh un vaatey-coadee ec Mannin (y Barrule), agh cha nod shen jannoo red erbee goll rish ny reddyn va jeant ec ny h-Eeslynnee mysh sheelloghe er dy henney. Ta Mannin as gagh cheer feme coardailyn sheeol noa ta coadey yn eeastagh as cur er dy ve yn-chummal seose.

Ec y traa t'ayn, ta Mannin troarey feill, flooyr, arran, oohyn, caashey, key riojyt, lhune as stoo elley jee hene. Ta cooid vooar jeh shen croghey er argid veih'n reilts. Lhig dooin guee nagh vod cadjeryn y 'vargey seyr' ayns reilts Vannin cur sthap da'n argid shen. Jannoo arrish er y raa creenee Yernagh, 'Cha nel margey seyr goll rish y vargey seyr ayd hene'. Dy firrinagh, cha nel margey seyr kiart ayn boayl erbee. Myr v'eh rieau, 'ta'n kiart ec y niart.' Bunnys dy kinjagh, yiow troareyrn mooarey laue yn eaghtyr er troareyrn beggery. Bentyn da bee ayns ny h-Ellanyn Goaldagh as Nerin, s'cummey quallid y vee, son y chooid smoo – shimmy'n peiagh ayns ny h-ellanyn shoh ta arryltagh dy ee trustyr erbee. Ec y traa t'ayn, ta baggyrt mooar er feill Vanninagh. Ta'n feill shen goll er coadey ec coardail hie er barganey lesh yn Unnaney's Oarpagh – cha nel ram feill neugheyr lowit cheet stiagh ayns Mannin. Agh hig y coardail shen gys jerrey roish foddee, as mannagh vees caghlau mooar jeant, bee feill neugheyr lowit stiagh. Ta quallid feer ard ec y vee ta goll er troarey ayns Mannin (ta ooilley ny cheeraghyn Celtiagh myr shen), agh s'cummey shen lesh ram sleih: choud's ta'n prios injil, nee ad gee bee nagh vel quallid vie echey. As, my t'ou boght, cha nel reih ayd: shegin dhyt

# LANGUAGE NEWS

## Manx and Business

It's always good to begin with some good news and in this respect a big **gura mie ayd** goes out to **John Shakespeare** at the **Strand Shopping Centre** in Douglas who is supporting the language with some new **No Smoking – Jaaghey Meelowit** signs that are now visible on the entrance to the Centre.

John is an enthusiastic supporter of all things Manx and was keen to promote the language. John commented that,

*"One of our goals is to try and make the centre more reflective of our local Manx identity. We have tried to do this by incorporating the three legs in our new logo, recognising important Manx dates like Tynwald Day by displaying Manx Flags and of course we are about to feature Hop-Tu-Naa. We have also been working closely with Adrian to look at ways of promoting the Manx language throughout the centre. We are used to seeing the Manx Language on road signs and on the buses but seeing Manx in unusual places hopefully makes a lasting impression. The first signs we have put at the entrances are No Smoking, which is 'Jaaghey Meelowit' in Manx. So please jaaghey meelowit in The Strand Shopping Centre.*

It's always good to see the language being used in innovative and exciting ways; not only does it get people thinking but it also demonstrates that the language can be used in a wide variety of contexts.

Our thanks to all those at the Strand Shopping Centre.



Adrian Cain (left) and John Shakespeare at the Strand Shopping

## Manx Book Published

It's good to report a new exciting publication on the language front. **Droghad ny Seihill** is the latest work from **Chris Lewin** and is a superbly written, fast paced novel centred around Mollie Karran and the various worlds she inhabits. Chris is clearly a fantastic writer of fiction and this is a superb addition to the material now available in Manx. The book is published by **Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh** and is in bookshops now.



## Cooish 2010

One of the highlights of this year's Cooish was the Ned Maddrell lecture with Rob Amery who discussed his work with Aboriginal languages.



Rob Amery

You can now view some short videos from this lecture on my blog at:

<http://cowag.wordpress.com/2010/11/26/ned-maddrell-lecture-with-rob-amery/>

Thanks for all those involved with the Cooish this year, which was a phenomenal success. Video clips of the book launch and music concert are now posted on the blog.

Adrain Cain

kionnaghey bee neugheyr – shen nane jeh ny h-oyryn dy vel cho whilleen dy leih roauyr ayns ny cheeraghyn Baarlagh ('gorley' ta sheeyney magh gys cheeraghyn elley nish.)

Ta yn-chummal seose cooie da ooilley ny cheeraghyn Celtiagh, bentyn da bee as da bree neesht. Agh she bunargidys jollyssagh as y feayn-skeal jeh'n 'vargey seyr' y noid smoo ayns shoh.

### Summary

*Wales is one of the countries, which has shown the way in its official commitment to sustainability, a path that is very suited to the other Celtic countries as well. But the big enemy here (as you might expect) is rapacious capitalism and the myth of the 'free market'.*

Brian Stowell

## USA Treasury Designate Manx Companies with Iran Links

The United States Treasury has announced this week the designation of five corporate officers and 10 businesses affiliated with either the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL) or Bank Mellat, two entities previously designated by Treasury for supporting Iran's weapons of mass destruction (WMD) program and carrying military cargoes.

The Treasury also designated four top IRISL executives; and eight IRISL front companies located on the Isle of Man.

Speaking to a reporter from the BBC World Service today the Director of Information (DOI) for the Celtic League said he was not surprised by the US governments move saying that there had been concerns for sometime about Iranian interests in the Isle of Man and that the Celtic League had raised

these with the Manx and UK government some months ago.

The DOI said it was disappointing that the British government had not taken the issue of Manx-Iranian business links more seriously. Meanwhile the Manx government had been evasive over the issue.

Links to related articles, which are on the Celtic League Newsgroup:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic\\_league/message/3484](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league/message/3484)

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic\\_league/message/3479](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league/message/3479)

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic\\_league/message/3480](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league/message/3480)

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic\\_league/message/3386](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league/message/3386)

J B Moffatt

# Celtica

and when the Departments of Education, Tourism, Culture and Heritage, Rural and Economic Development and Seniors spending is taken into account total funding for Gàidhlig would be \$1M CDN. Lodaigh and his team are to be congratulated on their achievements to date and we wish them well for the future, see [www.gov.ns.ca/oga](http://www.gov.ns.ca/oga).

## Progress on Gàidhlig Language and Culture in Nova Scotia

A meeting between Lodaigh Mac Fhionghain (Lewis MacKinnon), CEO of the Office of Gaelic (Gàidhlig) Affairs (OGA) in Nova Scotia (NS), Canada, Cathal Ó Luain, Convenor of the Celtic League and Patricia Bridson, Editor of the League's magazine, Carn, took place in Halifax, NS in mid September to exchange information on the Celtic League and OGA. The Celtic League had a branch on Cape Breton, NS from 1989 to 2001 and was keen to explore the possibilities of reviving it. The Office of Gaelic (Gàidhlig) Affairs was established in December 2006 in Nova Scotia to work with those supporting the Gàidhlig language and cultural renewal and Lodaigh MacFhionghain expressed interest in links with the CL. (see the article on p. 14 in Irish [ Athbheochan i gCeap Breatain ], with summary in English, for some further information on Cape Breton)

Lodaigh outlined the progress made on Gàidhlig language and culture. There are now about 1100 students, between first and second level education, in 15 schools studying core Gàidhlig. While most of these schools are on Cape Breton Island three are in Antigonish, two in New Glasgow and one in Halifax. This programme is funded by the NS department of Education. There are some 14 communities engaged in adult learning initiatives with about 250 learners in all. An interesting recent development is the programme 'Bun is Bàrr' ('Root and Branch') where apprentices work with mentors on their language and cultural skills. Three universities offer Gàidhlig studies with some 80 students availing of these and new educational resources are being developed specifically for Nova Scotian learners.

The OGA maintains that by investing in Gaelic language revitalisation, as this intimately connects to Gaelic's cultural expression, i.e. song, music, dance, milling frolic, foods and customs, the Province of Nova Scotia benefits in many tangible ways. Cultural expression is what connects individuals and groups to a community. This connection manifests itself in numerous ways; pride of place, connectedness, belonging, sense of ownership and responsibility, skills development and life long learning. Supporting Gaelic language and culture helps to enhance and grow the cultural, educational, social and economic contributions made to the province's social and economic capital.

The OGA has a staff of five, the CEO being based in Halifax with three staff in Antigonish and one in Mabou on Cape Breton. A regular newsletter is published reporting on community activities and announcing future events and programmes.

The OGA receives funding of \$541K CDN



**Lodaigh MacFhionghain (Lewis MacKinnon), CEO of the Office of Gaelic (Gàidhlig) Affairs (OGA) in Nova Scotia (NS), Canada, Cathal Ó Luain, Convenor of the Celtic League and Patricia Bridson, Editor of the League's magazine, Carn, at a working breakfast in Halifax, NS in mid September to exchange information on the Celtic League and OGA.**

### INTERNET BROWSER AVAILABLE IN GAELIC

Scottish Gaels will be surfing happily with the news that the internet browser 'Firefox' is now available in Gaelic.

Firefox, the second most-used internet browser in the world, is designed by the company Mozilla, and is at present available in over 70 languages.

Not only is every aspect of the programme available in the chosen language, but a spell-checker will make sure no errors are in the text the user types also.

Gaelic is the third Celtic language to be made available so far; an Irish and a Welsh version were released last year, something that attracted many users to the browser away from others such as Internet Explorer.

Mozilla Thunderbird is another bilingual application which organises E-mails. It is currently available in Irish, and a Gaelic language version is expected to be released soon.



**CALL for contact from those in Cape Breton who would be interested in re-establishing a branch of the Celtic League there and would like to become active in it. Please make contact with our General Secretary, Rhisiart Talebot at [rhisiart.talebot@gmail.com](mailto:rhisiart.talebot@gmail.com)**

CÓL

### Neil Gunn Continued from p.3

To that end he was both left-of-centre and a supporter of Scottish Independence. He campaigned for John MacCormick in Inverness in the 1931 General Election and was a member of first the National Party of Scotland and later the SNP.

This political nous led to him being invited onto a Committee deliberating on Post War Hospitals (1941) and it lead also to him joining a Commission of Inquiry into Crofting Conditions (1951).

But still he continued to write. His GREEN ISLE OF THE GREAT DEEP (1944) highlighted the abuse of power, featuring as it did an old man and a young boy struggling against a totalitarian state. And his autobiography, THE ATOM OF DELIGHT (1951) confirmed his spiritual edge, tracing his interest in particular in Zen Buddhism. In 1972 the Scottish Art Council created a Neil Gunn Fellowship. Gunn died soon after. However his following remained strong. The Neil Gunn Trust in particular does sterling work in raising awareness of his work. A memorial to him now stands overlooking Dunbeath Harbour and there's a monument also on the Heights of Brae, Strathpeffer.

# SISTER FIDELMA MYSTERY IN BRETON

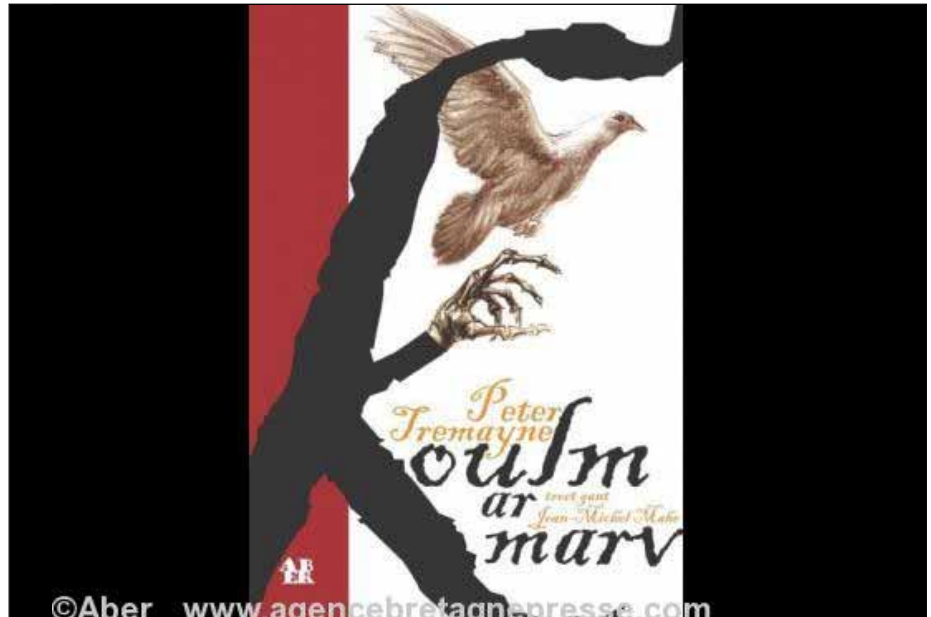
The longest detective novel ever published in Breton has been launched by Aber, the Landreda, Breizh, publishing company. *Koulm ar Marv* (*The Dove of Death*) is one of the recent titles in international bestselling Sister Fidelma Mysteries written by Peter Tremayne, the pseudonym of Peter Berresford Ellis, a former international chairperson of The Celtic League. Peter joined the League in 1966 and is still a member of the England Branch.

The Sister Fidelma Mysteries are set in 7th Century Ireland and Fidelma is not only a religieuse of the Celtic Church but a trained advocate of the ancient Irish law system, the laws of the Fénechus, which we now called the Brehon laws. Her cases have to be conducted and resolved according to the Brehon system. This was a time when women could aspire to all the professions as co-equals with them, including being lawyers and judges.

First launched in 1993, there are now nine novels and two volumes of short stories in the highly praised series. They have appeared in 18 different languages, and as radio plays and audio books. An International Sister Fidelma Society was launched in 2004 based in Charleston, USA, with a website and a regular magazine *The Brehon* issued three times each year.

Cashel, Co. Tipperary, the main setting of the books, now hold a bi-annual three day Féile Fidelma. There is even a Bruden Fidelma, a Sister Fidelma Guest House, in Cashel.

One of the speakers at the third Féile Fidelma, September, 2010, was the Irish language novelist, Anna Heussaff, daughter of Alan Heussaff, founder of the League and long



time general secretary. She spoke on 'Sister Fidelma and the Irish language'. She elaborated on her talk in the October, 2010, issue of the Irish language magazine *Comhar*.

There is currently only one Irish language title 'Scréach ón Tuama' (A Scream from the Sepulchre), a long short story which was published as a pamphlet by the International Sister Fidelma Society in 2008.

Through the pages of Breton language magazines *Al Liamm* and *Aber*, the Breton translations of the Fidelma stories have become very popular in Breizh. Over half a dozen short stories have been published so far.

The 415 page novel, *Koulm ar Marv*, was

translated by Jean-Michel Mahe and Peter has allowed this to be issued a few years in advance of a French version. Editions 10-18 of Paris publish the French editions, which are highly popular in France where *Livres Hebdo* described the fascination by readers as 'Fidelmania'. *Koulm ar Marv* is set in Brittany, where Fidelma's ship is forced ashore near Morbihan and has to resolve a dangerous mystery for the local chieftain.

The series are published in English by Headline Books in London and St Martins Press in New York.

David Robert Wooten  
[david@sisterfidelma.com](mailto:david@sisterfidelma.com)

## RAILFUTURE

As a member of the Kernow branch I am writing to you about the activities of the Rail campaign and lobby group - 'Railfuture'. ([railfuture.org.uk](http://railfuture.org.uk)). They have branches for Scotland and Wales and also regional groups for England including a Devon and Cornwall branch. They are active in re-opening stations and old branch lines as well as seeking planning restrictions to preserve trackbeds for potential future use! One great recent success of theirs in Kernow was the establishment of a passing dualling loop on the Falmouth branch line that now enables an half hourly service. Other campaigns include support for the Bodmin and Wenford railway reopening to Wadebridge and trackbed preserved to Padstow, linking St. Austell via St. Dennis to Newquay, protecting Perranporth at least as far as St. Agnes and re-opening Marazion to be served by trains between St. Ives and Penzance, re-opening Carn Brea and establishing a new station at Probus.

To improve services in and out of Kernow they also propose re-opening the line



between Plymouth and Tavistock (facilitated by the Gunnislake line) and linking it to Exeter via Okehampton. Furthermore because of closures occasioned by storms and high tides at Dawlish they want to safeguard the alternative inland route via the Teign valley which moves north until it crosses east behind Haldon hill to reach the Exe estuary.

Another one of their campaigns was to suggest that concessionary fares be made available on rail branch lines to offer a subsidy and encourage pensioners, which bus companies enjoy exclusively at present which is a disincentive to use rail!

As you can see Railfuture is a very worthwhile group which can serve the communities of Kernow and the other Celtic countries in mainland Britain as well as the country as a whole to meet the transport needs of remote and isolated communities and is worthy of recognition and further support.

Yours sincerely,  
David P. Riley

## celtic league press releases

Those who would like Celtic League press releases via Electronic Mail can subscribe (free of charge) to the mailing list at:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic\\_league](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/celtic_league)

## 80% of Welsh Speakers Support Language Rights



**Gwasaniaithau is a made-up word from Gwasanaeth ('service') and iaith ('language')**

Welsh speakers wish to receive services through the medium of Welsh according to research by Consumer Focus Wales – “Gwasaniaithau, Consumers and the Welsh Language” - *but there* are obstacles that prevent them from doing so. The survey shows that 80% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they should have the right to access all services through the medium of Welsh.

Rhys Llwyd, vice-chairman of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, said on the publishing of the report:

*“This report highlights many of the concerns we have as a society about the draft law - the individual and their rights have been totally ignored. It gives rights to big companies, but not to people.*

*“Where’s the sense in that? The government promised a rights-based approach, but have refused to deliver it. That failure means that the enormous barriers to using the language will remain.”*

### International Branch Internet Site

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

Email: International Branch Secretary  
mlockerby@enterprise.net



Independent Scots read the  
‘Scots Independent’

Contact

51 Cowane Street, Stirling FK8 1JW  
Alba/Scotland

Telephone Stirling 01259 730099  
Website [www.scotsindependent.org](http://www.scotsindependent.org)

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Website: [www.cornishtartans.com/](http://www.cornishtartans.com/)

## Celtic League WEBSITE

[www.celticleague.net](http://www.celticleague.net)

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## Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership/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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