• 1994 A Year of Electoral Progress for Scotland
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ALBA: COMUNN
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COMMEEYS CELTIA GH
Annual General Meeting

This year's A.G.M. was held at Conradh na Gaeilge, Harcourt Street, Dublin, 27th August 1994.

The General Council Members elected:
Chairman - Cathal Ó Luain; General Secretary - Bernard Moffatt; Assistant General Secretary - Mark Kermode; Treasurer - Paul Kelly; Editor - Patricia Bridson.

The following resolutions were passed:

* This A.G.M. congratulates the Manx Government and Department of Education following its decision to continue the Manx Language Programme in schools.

* This A.G.M.:
(a) Deplores the inertia of the relevant governments in failing to provide adequate protection to Cornish, Irish and Breton fishermen during recent difficulties in the Biscay sea fishery.
(b) Calls upon the European Fisheries Commissioner to provide a report on the disastrous economic impact of Community fishery policy on the Celtic fishing communities of Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Mann, Cornwall and Brittany.

* This A.G.M.:
(a) Demands that the Canadian Government restore lands currently used for NATO air exercises to the Inuit people of Labrador.
(b) Instructs the General Secretary and Council of the Celtic League to orchestrate a campaign in Europe against continued NATO usage of the Inuit lands.
(c) Seeks, via the Manx Nationalist Party, to secure the Cape Breton and United States branches of the League to coordinate efforts in North America in respect of this campaign.

* This A.G.M.:
(a) Calls upon the Manx Government to end the practice whereby UK broadcasting organisations levy licence fees within the Isle of Man.
(b) Calls upon the Manx Government to determine the level of a broadcasting licence to be collected within the Isle of Man for the purpose of Manx broadcasting.
(c) Seeks, via the Manx Nationalist Party, the endorsement of a joint campaign of action against the British authorities.

* This A.G.M.:
(a) Welcomes the aspirations and objectives set out at the recent "Irish Race Convention" held in New York.
(b) Recognises the pivotal role the United States can play in promoting co-operation both within Ireland and between the British and Irish governments.
(c) Calls upon the United States Government to exercise its influence with all parties to secure a free and peaceful Ireland.

Some delegatos at Annual General Meeting
Dé mo dheighinn an t-àm ri teadh bhan a tha sin a’ dìthleachadh ris an aonamh linn air ficheadh.

Gaidhlig san fharsaingeach.

Sa chaid dol a-mach, chan eil e cho choilbh a thuiginn carson a tha sin a’ stèire as doin airseirigh na Gàidhlig. Carson, mata, iongantach ri ràdh thainig a’ Bheurla a-steach don Alba, sa chaid dol a-mach taing don Bhràigh Hastings. Cheannasaich Dubh Uilleam a’ Normandaidh Sasanais sa bhliadhna 1066 an sin agus thainig Fràngis a-steach do Sasanais comhla ris agus luchd na Fràngis agus.

Gus an dàinig Mairearad bha a’ chàinn sàbhallt gu leòr eile a bha i an teanga an t-Siùlm dhen Bheurla agus gu naoi ciadh bliadhna! bha a’ mhor chuid de na Normanaich. Cha airidh ri iughinn.

Coimhead air mar a bha na Sasanaich Beurla feadh Alba gu leir fhathast ged a tha chàin aice — an Unghairès agus a’ Sasanaich a’ deidh a’ Còannsachadh sa bhliadhna 1066 a bha Fraingis cho Iàidir ann an Sasainn an feadh Sasainn uile gu leir. Ach cha do fògarraich eile an Sasainn!

Iugh i na drcuchdan as fhàrr do na aice. Bhon nach robh uidh aice ‘nar chàinn, fheadhan eile.

Gaidheil agus Naomh Maircarad leis an (no Maircad) nam Mallachd leis na Bheurla a-mhain. Cha robh a’ Gàidhlig tachais ann an Sasainn. Nochd sinn ciamar na Fraingis aige.

Alba mar fògarraich. Bha a’ chaidh ihruanta do na Sasanaich iad uisgh iad gu aig gach Albannach sarn bhih. Sa bhliadhna 1066 an sin agus thainig Fraingis taing don Blàir Häslings. Cheannsaich Diùc a-stcach don Alba, sa chiad dol-a-mach bhon a tha sinn a’ dluathachadh ris an Uilleam a Normandaidh Sasainn sa iongantach ri rath thainig a’ Bheurla.

Thachair an an ròsba astharachaidh ann an Alba on taobh a-muigh sa bhliadhna 1975 nuair a thug bu an iughadh ann an Westminster còr richer air aig a’ chàinn Alba brokerach, sa chàidh aite bheo a bha ureadh a’ de’nich air gus an iughadh aisteach Bheurlannaich nach maireann agus a chionn ’s gun robh Maradh Ghoicheann Eorpaich a' rath.

Thachair an an darna rud a bha cudthromach do aiseirigh na Beurla mu am toiseach Cath nan Cìi bhiadha. Chàidh fann Trevisa a bha a Shearalegais aig aig an robh Corrain ‘thairis air a abhainm Tamar a-steach do Sasanais. Thàinig e a’ Còccagdon, St Mèllin, sa Chorn agus chàidh e dhan Oilligh Highlands far aon thachair e dhiith Chornail Chàile, Richard Pencerch agus fhar eile.

Nochd iad do na Sasanaich doigh aiseirigh na Beurla agus teagasg tar na Beurla dìreach mar a bha na Corrain a’ teagasg tar na Corrainns eile a’ Chorn.

An sin, sa bhliadhna 1385 sgrobh Trevisa e’-Fhèin gun robh an t-atharrachd a’ dol uamhasach math... “Feadh a h-uile sgoil-ghàrama ann an Saighdean a’ Phàrlamaid aca sa Bheurla.”

Mar a theireoidh... glè mhath... bhan a tha sinne a’ teagasg tar na Gàidhlig a-nisd mar sin beagan is beagan bhon a a thuileadh luchd-teagasg na Gàidhlig a dhìoth iomhann.

Ach rinn luchd na Beurla tuilleadh. Sa bhliadhna 1362 riun a’ Phàrlamaid aca Aichd a’ toabh nach uair a bhiodh gach eòin-dhraithe (plea) a’ Phàrlamaid aca sa Beurla, agus beagan is beagan, dfh’has an laigh ann an Sasainn a’ Phàrlamaid aca sa Beurla.

Feumagh sinna a bhe theann an càir a thairisth a bha ann na Beurla a h-uile cùirt-lagha feadh Alba mar an ceudna.

San son bhliadhna, 1362, dh’thosgail iad a’ Phàrlamaid aca sa Beurla agus bha e ceadachd Beurla a brìdh an t-eolais ann gu bh’ gaidhlig a bhit eacaidh a leithid. Feumadh Gàidhlig a bh’ eacaidh a leithid. Le sin an t-àr mhaireann agus a chionn ‘s gun robh tri ceudna a’ Phàrlamaid aca sa Bheurla.

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Letter from Australia

"... The Celtic Council of Australia holds annually a Celtic cultural festival at Glen Innes in New South Wales. It takes place in May (which corresponds here to the Autumn — Samhain) around the magnificent array of granite Standing Stones which at my instigation were erected as a Monumental Memorial to the contribution of the Celts to this country over 200 years of European presence. About 2,000 people come to a very good display of dance (and other) music from all our communities, except alas that we have no Bretons — do you know any here? We work together well here and are increasingly aware that we are one people in origin... despite the two millennia of separation and recent religious differences... We could do with more Irish involvement but things are moving forward.

As part of the creation of a Celtic centre I named a new grove of oak trees Glen Nemeton near the Stones. We created a Gorsedd Stone for the Brythonics; there is an Ogham Stone, and we have with the support of the local council called the hill above Tynwald Hill.

None of this is, of course, political freedom for the Celts in Europe which is the prime aim. I am Convener of the Scottish National Party here and we do raise some money for Scotland. But maintaining Celtic consciousness here must tend to help in Europe.

The University of Sydney is teaching Celtic studies in three undergraduate years, post-graduate, Masters and Doctoral levels, again at our initiative. Last year they taught five of the 6 Celtic languages and the courses have great support from students.

The University of Newcastle (here) is starting similar courses — majoring in music — since the initiative is Welsh!

On Australia Day (January 26th) we had a Celtic festival in Sydney and the State Premier, John Fahey, came. That festival, well supported by some Glasgow-born influential figures, will continue.

I have created an "Honours" system by which we recognise the work done for the Celts through local or Clan societies etc. These honours are in the various Celtic languages, i.e. Duine Uasal — Duine Urramach — Cyfaill y Celtiad — Tus Enorys Ewn — and Chairm Tuiste Ceilkaig in ascending order of seniority. They carry post-nominals and are valued. It is all part of the cohesion process.

We do have conservative criticism (academics say Standing Stones were pre-Celtic — so they may have been but Celts have dwelt among them for millennia. Others say there were no "Honours" among ancient Celts — nor were there, but we Celts are a living, developing people, strongly interested in and protective of our ancient history but not stranded in it). But generally things are moving harmoniously enough forward.

We wear national dress more here than is done in Ireland or Scotland but we need to do so: when in a minority you need badges of identity for cohesion and pride.

What else? Just continuing devotion to Celticism and for me personally a passionate longing for the Scotland of my ancestors. Celtic memories endure for many generations. We in dreams behold the Hebrides. Le deagh dhuairch.

Padruig Alasdair

Glen Innes Standing Stones

Celtic History Review

A new biannual magazine dealing with the histories of the six Celtic countries from a national and inter-Celtic viewpoint.


Annual Subscription £3.50 from
216 Falls Road, Belfast 12 6AH, Ireland
1994
A Year of Electoral Progress for Scotland

Scottish voters made full use of the local Regional elections in May and the European elections in June to register a new high in support for the Scottish National Party and its message of Independence in Europe. The Labour Party still rules the biggest Regions of Strathclyde, including Glasgow; Lothian, based in Edinburgh; Central, based in Falkirk; and Fife, based in Glenrothes; but they lost a shore of power in Grampian, based in Aberdeen with the SNP whose new partners are the Liberals. The most spectacular success for SNP was to take control of Tayside Region, based in Dundee. This was a first for the party at this level of government.

SNP gained most seats and aggregated over 27% of the votes cast across Scotland. This consigned the Tories to fourth place and no Regional councils once again. Yet while Labour was winning handsomely in Southern England they were losing ground in Scotland. Although local government reform, which is being pushed through parliament by the in-built Tory majority, will abolish most of these Regions next year, these results set up a great opportunity for further SNP advances next April. SNP gains such as around Kilimanock in Ayrshire bode well for that poll. Scottish politics has entered a new period of volatility in which Labour’s long domination of the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities in now in the balance.

SNP’s steady growth is based on a campaign to show Scots that Labour votes can’t stop the Tories from savaging Scotland. The London parliament has imposed VAT (value added tax) on fuel in a country which is far colder than SE England. Old Age Pensions are frozen. Scotland’s water is being taken from our local council’s control, while Scotland needs a voice at the top table in Europe to protect our oil and fish stocks and put Scotland’s case directly with other nations. The voters see the link with constitutional change as the way forward.

Just as this victory was sinking in, John Smith, leader of the Labour Party since 1992 died. He had been a Scottish advocate (lawyer) and represented Monklands East as MP, it was Labour’s fourth safest majority, over 16,000 votes over the SNP at the General Election two years ago. John Smith’s untimely death shocked the country, he had been tipped to beat the Tories at the next election and public politics were paralysed for ten days at the start of the European election till his funeral in Edinburgh. Such was the coverage of what amounted to a State occasion and his burial in Iona, the ancient burial place of Irish, Scottish and Pictish kings. Would there be a huge wave of sympathy for Labour? A by-election would take place just after the European poll at the time Labour was beginning to pick up Smith’s successor.

In the event the Euro Poll on June 9th brought new success to the SNP with an all-time high result of 33.7% of the Scottish votes and a gain of the North East Euro seat to give SNP two and Labour retaining six in Scotland as a whole. Winnie Ewing held her Highlands and Islands seat for SNP handsomely, gaining 59% of the votes cast, while Alan MacArtney turned a two thousand vote Labour majority in the NE, which includes much of Grampian and Tayside Regions, into a stunning SNP gain with a majority of over 31,000.

The unprecedented TV coverage across Britain included gains in two European seats for the Liberals in Cornwall and Devon. Across the UK Alan MacArtney’s delighted supporters with Scottish flags flying high made a brave sight. It marks another steady step forward for the Scottish Independence cause but not so for all of our allies in the Rainbow Group, the representatives of the European Free Alliance in the Euro Parliament.

We found out that the drop in support for the Regionalist/Autonomist and Green lists in France and Spain had robbed us of members like Simionini and Gerrakocha. So the SNP two and the Flemish Nationalist and member for the Canary Islands agreed to join with two Italian Radicals, and thirteen French radicals and ecologists of the left. How this will work out in Scotland’s interests will be reported on in Carn in future.

In the Monklands East by-election the SNP slashed the Labour majority from 16,000 to under 1,600! It had been the most vicious election in living memory but the SNP’s message of the Power for Change has reached a new high in popular support.

Call for Gaelic on Border TV

Gaelic learners and TV viewers in the South of Scotland are being discriminated against – and there is even demand for Gaelic programmes in Northern England and the Isle of Man!

This is the message from a recent petition in the Border TV area organised by the voice of Gaelic learners, Comann an Luchd-Ionnsachaidh (CLI).

According to the latest edition of the organisation’s magazine “Cochrom”, 685 Border TV viewers added their names to the call for the Carlisle-based TV company “to broadcast the successful Gaelic learners’ series and sub-titled Gaelic programmes currently seen on STV and Grampian TV”.

The petition has been sent to Border TV.

The geographical distribution of the names collected was: 52% from Dumfries & Galloway Region; 40% from Borders Region; 6% from Cumbria and Northumbria; and 2% from the Isle of Man.

CLI board member Anna Guthrie argued that interest in Gaelic in the Border TV area should come as no surprise: “The language was once encountered throughout the south during the early days of the Scottish kingdom, and the Gaelic monks had an important base on Lindisfarne.

“Galloway still had Gaelic-speaking communities as late as the 18th century, and the Isle of Man still has its own, related Gaelic. And of course, all in Scotland should have access to what is a fundamental element of our living national heritage”.

For further information contact: Comann an Luchd-Ionnsachaidh, 5 Mitchell’s Lane, Inbhir Nis (Inverness), IV23HQ.

Rob Gibson
An diskleriadur embannet e miz Kerzu gant pennavoiderenn Breizh Veur hag Iwerzhon e Straed Downing, London, a oa kinniget evel un diazez a c'hallfé diwnañ aozañ pce'h a Norzhierzhon. An dek kraf anezhañ ne deent taltov netet da sturiañ ar c'henbregozio a vefc a dober etre an daou c'houarnamannt ha dileuridi ar strolloñadu politad norzhierzhonat - re an Unanouren (UUP, DUP, Alliance) ha re ar vroadelourien (SDLP, ha Sinn Fén gant mañ dehke ar IRA kroazet da vat war ar stourn dre ar armoù). Gant unan eus ar c'hreñen eoa an anvazet gwir Iwerzhoniz da zivizout o dañzont politikel o-unan. Penaos? Dre hollguzuliadeq-bobil moearat. Ne oo kec spsiat an doare-ober. Ur guzuliadeq e framet ar 26 Kontelezh hag an unan a-zifkre e framet ar 6 Kontelezh, peun e unan evit holl dud an enez a-greuet? An eil doare - div guzuliadeq - ne vije ket kavet mac kant gant Sinn Fén. Eglel a vefc diastaolet gant an Unanouren. Seme, jetzet an traou en anezvien. Koulskoude gant ur c'hrañ all e oa diogelast ne vefc kemmet netra hep asant ha ur muianvoir eus poblalñ ar 6 Ko., da lavarout co ac'hann da bell hep asant an Unanourien peogwir ez int un tannt ma niveruñc'h c'hoozñ eger ar vroadelourien. Se, evit Sinn Fén, a oa kement ha reñi ur veto - an dañzont-diarben, - d'ar re-se war ar emdrouale, reñi tu dezho da gendelc'h d'ober an mistri evel diagiet er c'hornañ eus ar re vo. Rener an UUP, J. Molyneux, a oa prest a-walc'h da asantañ da Ziskleriadur Straed Downing, hogan e geveizer Paisley (rener an DUP) a c'hwesas un taol trubard e afer-se: ne zeule ket d'an daol-gonbregez koit ha ne vefc ket lamet ar mellou 2 ha 3 eus Bonreizh Iwerzhon hag a ziskleri ezh en am stenñ bel gournyannt Iwerzhon hervez ar Gwir war an enez a-bzh. Ha tost da lan Paisley hag e gencousted emañ arviourien an UDA hag an UVF, hag a ziskouze aboee ur pennad ez int mennet da herzel dre ar spreezhet, da skouer a teuler bombezennot e tavarniou leun-chouk pe dre ar preñester en tizez prevez, ouzh nep kom en o stad keodedol. Ha pa baouezfe an IRA, int ar gendelc'h gant a reuz ma klaske gournyannt Duleñ lakaet fri e en aferiou ar 9-Kontelezh.

Sinn Fén zo evel brech' politikel an IRA. Martzeze e karfe G. Adams reñi muioù a bouez d'an obererezh politikel met faltziius eo ar soñj ez afe a-enep da zivizout ar re a ren ar stourn dre ar armoù. Displeget en deus eoa en amans republikan a-zevi gant ar c'hoozñ da dizhout ar peçoc'h horeg re e oa emguzuliadu evel e gevrennoù a-raok diskleriadur pertr eus ar strolloñadu. Se hon eus gouezeet da haul ur C'hendal'k Sinn Fén Leit Ceannan, 23 a viz Gouere. Anzav a reer eas ur kinniget gwellamënoù gant ar Souzaoz met ne spiroet; ez eo ret kavout asant an Unanouren, met ne dleount ket kavout ar vetro. Ar Souzaoz a die o c'honderc'h u'n deus de goll oc'h en en glevout gant an Iwerzhoniz all, ur roll ha ne fell ket da c'houarnamannt J. Major sammariñ, sañset e roll zo hini un tredeeg etre Iwerzhoniz (dibool). Sinn Fén a lavar kenderc'h gant ar c'henbregozioù, met daouz ma red ar vruñ e vo un aras-brezeg hep dale an IRA a gendal'devez izv da dagañ soundiered, arc'hierien, arvilourien, ha zoken ar vao da dañzont eus ar bolitikerien lealeouricn. Nevez 'zo eo bet lazhet gant deus ar re a-zivout eus ar Unanourien, met ne dleont ket brec'h politikel an UUP, J. Molyneux, met en orin. o doare-walc'h a spered ne dlefe ket bezafi walc'h. Gant strivoaii ha bezan digor a-raok diskléri c'hennañ er c'hallfed eus kinniget gwel-lacnnoù gant ar c'hendalc'h Sinn Fein e Stxaed Downing, London, a ao bet lazhet gant deus ar re a sani ez int Iwerzhoniz a Souzaoz ane peun a-sevadur. Tra! Tu zo da vezñañ evel amezien, da aozañ emgevelioù a-zivout an hentoul-houarn, an tredan, an droidiouriezñ, da zifenñ a-gevet el lealeourien douar e Brezeg; met aneouat, koadnuat an e int un hevepel pob bel broad gant an Iwerzhoniz (all) se ne fell ket dezh. Pe neuze eo eo ken dister niver ar re a asantfe da unanigedium politikel ar re ma ne gredont ket hêl lavarout, nebeukoc'h a-hooz aozañ ur strolloñadu politikel evit hen erbediñ. Renerien an UUP kennebeut re a rean a-zivout nevped deus nac'h e gwiourioù d'an kraet ar re a sant ez int Iwerzhoniz a Souzaoz en am noñvur et rean a-zivout ket ez eo bet treset harruzioù ar 6 Ko. e doare a c'hallout delc'h krog war ul lodenn brasañ ma ou tu eus Iwerzhon. Lealeourien? Leale e-ketrev e zadoñ ha koudaññ a aleubas Bro-Ulad, met lokompe e tisklerfe rouanez pe roue Breizh-Veur nad eko met mui stag ouzh rannzededen ebet, petra 'teufe a faleld d'an Gurunenn da vezñañ? Forzh penaos, peseurt poezhe deus ar gristiennoù e gwiourioñ evit "stoumerienn" a daol bombezennot en un davanmir tud, pe a y a da vindrañhañ michezourien a vez Protestantiem e o menek.

Petra 'vo gouezeut ma sav drahñ-evel e Bosnia? D'an soñj ma vije bet pyl-wal ar berzh ar Souzaoz hag an Unanourien e ao tu da reizhñañ ar gazu bet garet ar 6-Kontelezh, da anaoout gwiourioù ar vroadelourien, da soñen gournyannt Duleñ da oberian evel gwasere ar re mañ, ha lezal ar peurestr da vezñañ ker "British" ha ma karjent. Koulskoude evo ezhufel-mat tud an daou numm e meur a gelver, en o orin, o doare-komm zoken. Hag e-lec'h ma ao peoc'hus a derepredoù ezh e en evel glevet mat a-walc'h. Gant stirñvañ ha bezañ digor a-walc'h e kovud ne diefe ket bezañ an Unanourien da genbrezeg. Kentoùch eget un tredeeg e kav da galez eo ez efe izev un Unanour. Mont a ra kontol d'ar pezh a oa bet divizet-start gant an daou c'houarnamannt: na vefc emgevel diwar-benn pep tra. Gant ar sturiñenn-se ne dleje ket al Lealouren kozant aou da zont d'an c'hendiviñuvoù. A. Reynolds n'en deus ket chanan abace miz Kerzu a lavarout ne go vo garet nep hep asant ar re-se, ha ne glask gant Dulenn bezañ kevrenn e gournyannt Norzhierzhon, met e bal eo kaout ensvadurioù dezho gwi ha galloud da oberian en daou d'un ar harzou. Nun avat, eme Paisley a Molyneux: gant seurt ensvadurioù e vefc garet ar c'hentañ kemmed war-da unanigdezh Iwerzhon. Goueit dre gær ha dre laer ar pezh a glask an IRA gounit dre hreg. Tra! Tu zo da vezñañ evel amezien, da aozañ emglevioù a-zivout an hentoul-houarn, an tredan, an droidiouriezñ, da zifenñ a-gevet al lealeourien douar e Brussel; met aneouat, koadnuat an e int un hevepel pob bel broad gant an Iwerzhoniz (all) se ne fell ket dezh. Pe neuze eo eo ken dister niver ar re a asantfe da unanigdezh politikel ar re ma ne gredont ket hêl lavarout, nebeukoc'h a-hooz aozañ ur strolloñadu politikel evit hen erbediñ. Renerien an UUP kennebeut re a rean a-zivout nevped deus nac'h e gwiourioù d'an kraet ar re a sant ez int Iwerzhoniz a Souzaoz en am noñvur et rean a-zivout ket ez eo bet treset harruzioù ar 6 Ko. e doare a c'hallout delc'h krog war ul lodenn brasañ ma ou tu eus Iwerzhon. Lealeourien? Leale e-ketrev e zadoñ ha koudaññ a aleubas Bro-Ulad, met lokompe e tisklerfe rouanez pe roue Breizh-Veur nad eko met mui stag ouzh rannzededen ebet, petra 'teufe a faleld d'an Gurunenn da vezñañ? Forzh penaos, peseurt poezhe deus ar gristiennoù e gwiourioñ evit "stoumerienn" a daol bombezennot en un davanmir tud, pe a y a da vindrañhañ michezourien a vez Protestantiem e o menek.
European Parliament Election

The parties which stand for some form of self-government for the ethnic minorities within the French State territory had hoped that an agreement could be arrived at with the French ecologists to set up a common list of candidates for the European elections. As there is only one constituency for the whole of that territory, any party or group had to present a list of 85 candidates.

In 1989 a similar agreement had made it possible to get a Corsican nationalist Max Simeoni, elected. He appointed Chr. Guyonvarc'h of the UDB (Breton Democratic Union) as his secretary in Strassburg and proved very outspoken in the defense of Breton interests.

However this time sharp divisions among the Ecologists resulted in the breakdown of the talks with representatives of the self-government parties. The Coriscans, Bretons, Basques, Alsacians and others (in particular from French overseas territories) decided then—late in the day—to put forward a list headed by Simeoni under the name of "Peuples et Régions solidaires". None of its candidates got elected (nor did any Ecologist... so much for electoral calculations). The significant fact is that for the first time all the minorities of the French state joined together to fight for their rights in the political arena. In Brittany the four parties which advocate self-government urged their members and supporters to vote for the list, the UDB and Frankiz Breizh being the most active in this.

As expected, the French Establishment ensured that they got practically no publicity: on television, two slots of 40-50 seconds each; no Corsican, Breton etc. flags must be shown. Having established the common list so late, time was too short for the mobilisation of resources and canvassing.

The overall results were analysed by Prof. M. Nicholas, University of Rennes. He stressed that the outcome was heavily influenced by the concentration on internal "national issues" in most EU countries but particularly so in France. One could hardly say "issues", as media attention was devoted above all to personalities. European matters, no more than the regional ones, did not concern the manipulators of opinion. Give plenty of distraction, that is what counted. It was said, after the Maastricht Treaty referendum, that it was the fault of the Brussels Commission bureaucracy if the mass of the people felt so little involved in the idea of European union. The same could be said of the governments. The French one, which acts above all as the representatives of powerful interests centering around Paris, obviously does not want the "provinces" to have a say in the European process. Only 2.4% of the Breton electorate took the trouble to go to the polling stations.

Generally speaking there was no great change in the position of the French parties in Brittany as compared to five years ago except that the conservative vote increased in the area surrounding Nantes, and that the ecologists suffered a considerable drop in support.

As regards the Simeoni list, it achieved percentages varying from 10.9% in Corsica to 1.65% in the N. Basque Country, 0.93% in Brittany, 0.70% in parts of Occitania and 0.64% in Alsace. In most overseas territories (Caribbean Islands, Guyana) it got 17 to 25% of the vote. Of the total 79,000-odd votes in its favour, Brittany contributed almost 13,000, which is considerably less than the number of people who voted for the Breton parties in previous—more local—elections (on some occasions almost 40,000). As you might say, there is nothing to crow about in those figures. A point worth noting is that the pro-Simeoni vote was comparatively twice as high in the area where Breton is traditionally spoken as in other parts of the country, particularly S. and E. of the Vilaine River, i.e. SErn Brittany.

Looking at it from the U.D.B. point of view, H. Gourmelen in Le Peuple Breton observed that while his party gets 7.5% to 10.5% of the vote in local elections, it has so far not been able to exceed 2 or 2.5% in those which are dominated by French-national issues, and this mainly on account of the very restricted access to television. As we mentioned above there were other handicaps arising from the failed attempt to cooperate with the Greens, but H. Gourmelen wonders whether the name of the list (Solidarity of Peoples and Regions) was not too abstract to appeal to others than the already committed. No matter how appropriate the message was in the European context, if you cannot reach the eye and the ear of the public, it is as if it did not exist. How to transmit the Breton idea more widely is a problem to which more thought and imagination must be devoted. The fact is also that for the past two years or so the evolution of the European Community or Union has been characterised by a reassessment of national-state sovereignty on the part of its larger members. In France this tendency is strengthened by the fear of having to play second fiddle in Europe. There are renewed efforts by the likes of Minister Pasqua to...
tighten government control over cultural and economic matters with a corollary reversal of the decentralisation which took place in the 80s. In such a climate Breton concerns find it more difficult to gain attention.

Since its inception the UDB avoided calling itself a national party in the belief that the Bretons, in spite of possessing all the characteristics of a nation, were not ready to claim the rights pertaining to such a community. So they built their propaganda around the apparently concrete but also vague notion of "people", It is not hard to see that it has had greater mobilisation value. A further step towards the indefinite is the increasing frequent use of the term "region" when Brittany is meant. Anything can be a region... although to be fair for the UDB it means Brittany in its historic, 1100 year-old limits. But if the term does not shock, it leaves rather indifferent. Mr Pasqua wants to reorganise the state on the basis of 7 regions, one of which would be called Loire-Armorique and would stick Brittany to five other departments as another step to dissolve its identity. Regions are like chewing gum. In the wake of this election, the UDB appears intent on seeking to stimulate political regionalism throughout France (some Picards and Lorrains were involved in the "Peoples and Regions Solidarity list"), and to renew cooperation with the Socialists, who in opposition might well be prepared to promise once more historic reparation...

This cooperation helped the party about 10 years ago to win seats in municipal elections. But judging by the 0.25-to-0.35% obtained by the Simone list in the French provinces, it seems that it would be a waste of efforts trying to stir them up to work for national federalism in France. They have long lost a real sense of identity.

**EMGANN for Independence**

The party EMGANN takes a much clearer stand in following an unequivocal nationalist line. Its monthly Combat Breton devotes a long editorial in its July issue to its policy of independence for Brittany, arguing that it is not only legitimate but realistic in view of Brittany's economic assets and possible as exemplified by several other smaller European nations which actually achieved freedom (Slovenia, Slovakia, the Baltic countries) or are well on the way to it (Catalonia, Flanders, Scotland). Independence is necessary for the Breton interests to be defended at European level. Self-government in subordination to French sovereignty (i.e. autonomy) will never give us the freedom necessary to restore the viability of the Breton language. But independence is not autarchy (selfsufficiency). Inherent in its geographic position, Brittany when free was always open to the world and keen on developing its international relations and exchanges.

EMGANN did not support the adoption of the Maastricht Treaty because it offered nothing to us as a nation in its own right but it stands for a European union based on peoples (national communities). EMGANN's role is to make the Bretons massively aware of the need to liberate themselves both individually and as a collective.

Like the UDB it places itself on the Left, criticising the existing socio-economic set-up though not proposing any definite outline for the Breton society.

The party POBL, nationalist in outlook, positions itself as a centre party or rather rejects the Left-Right dichotomy. It has been more successful than the two others, particularly EMGANN at present, in getting its members "out in the field". Its monthly, L'Avenir, gives much attention to a criticism of the political framework which constrains our country but it is quiet on social issues.

Finally there is FRANCKIZ BREIZH close to the UDB, with (apparently) geostrategically limited support.

From previous elections in which these parties put up candidates it would appear that by espousing socialist views the support which exists for Breton self-government had halved. The dispersion of means could not but reduce their influence and credibility.

**For one Breton party**

Since the setting up of the UDB in 1962, following its founders' departure from the Movement of the Organisation of Brittany (launched in 1957), the specifically Breton political organisations have remained captive of or coloured by the Left-Right dialectics which are normal for free democratic countries but have not proved a convincing way to advance our national claims. A comparison with the SNP and Plaid Cymru should not be taken too far but one cannot fail to contrast their electoral successes with the poor show of their Breton counterparts. There were tendencies within those parties which could have led to splits, but they were able to keep the support of almost all nationally minded people and, owing to the strength acquired through perseverance, to compel British parties to adopt a good deal of their demands so that they have now a real prospect of achieving their aims.

Is a revision of tactics not long overdue in Brittany?

While it may be argued that a party seeking self-government or independence needs a social policy in order to obtain the strong commitment of its members, it is not the case that people who are mainly concerned with social issues will rather give their vote to the French parties as they are much more likely to get soon the power to deal with them?

The primary justification for any Breton party being the achievement of a Breton power of decision it would surely be tactically more effective to acknowledge openly the common ground which exists between it and other Breton parties and then together to strive to establish a common social platform capable of winning the greatest support in numbers in elections. This could well mean the adoption of a left-of-centre position involving a real commitment to ideas of social justice and equality, without dogmatism, even at the price of alienating the more extreme in the social-political spectrum. One thing is undeniable: the corrosion of Brittany's identity has not been prevented by the "Left" any more than by the "Right". A good agreement acceptable to the great majority of those who give priority to the Breton interests, requiring trust between the contracting parties is the only way of impelling the movement towards freedom. What has been possible in Wales and in Scotland should also be so in Brittany, provided that the prominent elements in the existing organisations are prepared to recognise the ineffectiveness of their separate lines and adopt a program that will gain the largest possible popular support for a Brittany in control of its own affairs. Who is capable of taking the initiative of such a movement?

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**Obituary**

Youn An Oac'h, one of several Bretons who took refuge in Ireland after World War II died in Dún Laoghaire on July 6th aged 72. A Breton speaker he became keenly aware at the age of 18 of the dire consequences of the French occupation for our language. He then took an active part in propagating the message of the Breton National Party and later was willing to take great risks in the attempt to ensure that, whatever might otherwise happen, the grip of the French State on our country could not be reasserted. As a result he had for many years to face a life of deprivation in exile. In Ireland he was fortunate in meeting Bríd, a Galway girl who became his wife and both reared a family of six children, one of which, Ciarán, is a journalist working for the Irish language weekly Annals. Bríd herself is active in running an Irish nursery in Dún Laoghaire and an Irish conversation class for adults. Youen's funeral was attended by a large number of friends who thus testified to the great esteem in which he was held.

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On the Breton Language Front

To press their demands for (a) the teaching of Breton to be put on a proper basis, (b) the right of students taught in Breton to pass their exams through its medium, (c) the setting up of an oral exam in Breton for trainee teachers, (d) the replacement of the double-headed Breton-English certificate testifying to competence to teach the language (CAPES) by an exclusively Breton one, several associations jointly staged demonstrations and sit-ins on several occasions in May and June. Their delegates met the French Education minister Bayrou and the Culture Minister Toubon. On the 28-6 the (b) demand was acceded to and 27 students (Brest, Lannuon, Rennes) immediately took advantage of it.

The most used Breton surnames

Les noms de famille les plus portés en Bretagne by Gwénolé Le Menn, Publ. by Coop. Breizh. 255 pp. 120 FrF. No science is harder than onomastics, there is no road with so many pitfalls. Here in addition to a vast scholarship you must be endowed with a strong intuition and be aware of the risks involved in following it. On the other hand it is a subject that concerns us very closely, being capable of fascinating us, of stimulating our imagination and urge to discover. Indeed, apart from the personal aspects, its study is apt to reveal a great deal about the past of our people. Such is the abundance, the diversity of the Breton surnames that one cannot help thinking of a luxuriant forest. Gw. Le Menn has recorded 75,000 to 80,000 of them used today, and there are tens of thousands which unfortunately became extinct over the centuries. Our corpus of surnames is one of the most precious parts of our heritage. Who is not curious to find out the meaning and origin of his own? That leads sometimes to wonderful surprises. Although this work deals only with 5,000 of our surnames, they are the most commonly used so that a majority of our compatriots should find in it an answer to their question. In an excellent introduction of over 40 pages the author discloses to us the mechanisms and the secrets of his method. He gives a survey of the origins and of the general development of the names with statistics for the most widespread which are in certain cases astonishing. There is also a very comprehensive bibliography for those who would like to go further with the research. The book is presented in the form of a dictionary and is therefore of easy access. I am sure that you will often, along or with your family, feel like perusing it and referring to it, that you will find it an inexhaustible source of conversation and discussion. It must be the most momentous work of its kind in French dealing with the surnames of Brittany, particularly as it takes into account the three main origins from which they derive - Celtic, Germanic and Romanic - something which was generally not the case until now.

Y. Brussel du Bourg (transl. by A.Ch.-ar G./AH)

Request

Domiilile Vissenet, address 2 Résidence du Rond Point d'Assas, 114 Rue A. Maillol, F-34000 Montpellier, Tel. 67-61-18-94 would like to meet Irish people visiting the Languedoc region. He is a member of a group studying Irish traditions and he would gladly give information about the numerous beautiful old (often prehistoric) places in the region. There is an Irish centre in Montpellier.

Gouel ar Brezhoneg

At the Alan Stivell Concert, Spezod, 1994 (Courtesy Combat Breton)

The Festival was held as is now the well established custom during the last week-end in May in Spezod near Karaez. It attracted 10,000 visitors, the largest attendance since its foundation eight years ago. Its organisers, EMGANN, have secured the best cooperation from the small town’s business people and its municipal council who have made Spezod a model of bilingual signposting. The festival has become an enthusiastic demonstration of the vitality of the Breton language and culture providing publishers with a good opportunity to sell. The enjoyment is enhanced by numerous musical performances, the most noted this year being those of Alan Stivell, Gilles Servat and a Kabyle group playing Berber traditional airs. During the two days, all the money transactions could be carried out by means of Breton notes issued by the Bank Broadel Breizh (Br. National Bank) created for the occasion.
## Pigion Celtaidd

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plaid</th>
<th>Iwerddon</th>
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<td>D.U.P.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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### Cernyw

Mae Mebyon Kernow wedi ennill seudd ar Gymor Desbarth Carrick. Curoedd Tom Tormewnan, fferi mor lleol sydd yn medru Cernyw, yr ymgysydd anibynnol yn wedd Perranathuloe.

Yn Etholiad Ewrop, seudd Cernyw a Gorllewin Plymouth oedd yn o’r ddwy i symthio i’r Democratiaid Rhe-ddydnyddol.

### Yr Alban

Dyma sefyllfa’r cyngorhau rhanbarth ar ôl yr etholiadau.

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<tr>
<td>Borders</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
<td>22%</td>
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### Summary

The above compares the situation of the Tamils as a minority on the island of Eelam (officially Sri Lanka) and that of the Welsh as a minority on the island of Britain. Both nations suffer the consequences of being outvoted in the parliaments of the centralised states of which they have been forced to be a part.
Sion Aubrey Roberts: Victim of Conspiracy

It is generally agreed now that there were very dubious goings-on in Wales around the time of the arrests of Sion Aubrey Roberts and David Gareth Davies ("Stump") in December 1991. When MI5 arrived in the trial that they'd burgled Sion's flat, had two cameras trained on it, then (on a single day!) had 34 of their people (plus police) following him, a lot of people seemed surprised or shocked by these revelations. They came as no surprise to me.

By the autumn of 1991 I had concluded that something very nasty was in the air. I therefore contacted a television journalist I trusted and explained my suspicions to him. He was interested enough to arrange for a film crew to record his interview with me at the Owain Glyndwr Parliament House in Machynlleth, on November 27, 1991. The word I used to him before that interview was, "insurance"; that's how I regarded it.

In the interview I made four things clear: MI5 had been up to no good in Wales for some time; our organisation, Y Cyfamodwyr (The Covenanters), had been targeted; I feared arrests; but Y Cyfamodwyr was not involved in unlawful activity. Eight days later Sion and David were arrested; Dewi Prysor Williams was arrested on January 22, 1992. All three were members of Y Cyfamodwyr.

Their trial began on January 11, 1993, as it progressed it became obvious that the jury, and even the judge, were far from convinced by the MI5/police case. Had they seen the interview, or even been aware of its existence, their doubts might have been confirmed. But certain people, when they learnt of the existence of that film, and its contents, went to considerable lengths to ensure it gathered dust in some film store.

Three months before the trial began rumours started to be fed to the three men that I was working for MI5; or that I was, or had been, a policeman. After a year on remand they were bitter and confused, not knowing who or what to believe any more; none of them knew me well - so I became suspect. The smear campaign had its desired effect.

Did the interview serve any useful purpose? Yes, I think it did. As the whole sorry business dragged on it became clear that the intention had been to smash Y Cyfamodwyr and probably arrest many more. But I couldn't be arrested, nor could others in the leadership, who'd known me for over 25 years. They wouldn't have fallen for a cheap stunt like that; they, and I, would have used that interview in our defence. I'm not suggesting it was proof positive of a frame-up, but for a jury already questioning the prosecution case it could have been the clincher.

After the trial, after Sion had been sentenced to twelve years imprisonment, the (self-styled) Welsh media was full of uninformed speculation, and some deliberate misinformation. That MI5 had been so busy here seemed to amaze, and frighten, a lot of people. But one television company, HTV, had in its possession a file, in which someone not only detailed MI5's involvement, but also put it into its wider context and then predicted where it was heading. But HTV never transmitted that interview, they just sat on it. I suspect that someone was sitting on them.

What were the signs that made me believe Y Cyfamodwyr were being fitted up? In a general background sense, once the Cold War was over an underworked and overstaffed MI5 had to find pastures new: Wales and the arson campaign was an obvious attraction. Another indicator was a very silly, unguarded remark by David Owen, chief constable of The North Wales Police. In a television interview in 1989 he said that when he caught Meibion Glyndwr he would also "deal with the hangers-on". Finally, certain events in 1991 convinced me of what was afoot, and that's why I have the interview - "insurance".

Meibion Glyndwr ceased their activities in 1990. The North Wales Police soon realised this, and also realised they would have nothing to show for 11 years of frustration and humiliation. So they, in concert with MI5, decided to settle for framing David Owen's "hangers-on", those who dared articulate the reasons behind Meibion Glyndwr's campaign. Sion had just lost his appeal; after closed-court dealings between the judges and MI5. He is no terrorist, he is no criminal. Sion is another martyr for his long-suffering people. He is a victim of MI5's refusal to pay the peace dividend. He became the scapegoat for a police force's embarrassment.

Let him know you understand, and care; write to him: Roberts BJ3795, HMP Full Sutton, York Y04 1TS, England.

The Charges

Sion and David were charged with sending incendiary devices through the post. Sion was also charged with possession of explosive substances. Both were further charged, with Dewi, of conspiring to cause explosions.

David and Dewi were acquitted, as was Sion of course, on the conspiracy charge. But he was convicted by 10-2 majority verdicts of possessing explosive substances and of posting incendiary devices.

The substances were those MI5 "stumbled on" when they burgled Sion's flat on 5/12/91 to plant a fresh bugging device. They claim to have told the police, who waited until Sion returned from work, broke in, also "found" the material, and arrested him. A few hours later the police arrested David.

The incendiary devices were those which turned up in the Rangor sorting office the next day. On being informed of them the police did not call in the bomb squad, as is their normal practice. No, they sent down a young female officer to collect these letter-bombs and bring them back to the station in her car!

Royston Jones

Language Status in the Private Sector

Following the dilution of the promised Welsh Language Act by the English government to an extent where it gives no extra rights to Welsh speakers at all when dealing with private sector organisations such as building societies, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (the Welsh Language Society) has been targeting individual organisations once again to attempt to win status for the Welsh language.

The current edition of Tafad y Ddraig, the CIG magazine, reports that CIG have succeeded with their campaigning to bring about a change in the attitude of the Halifax Building Society towards providing a service through Welsh. The Halifax is one of England's largest building societies and has several branches in Wales. CIG had campaigned through written correspondence and pickets on branches of the Halifax, particularly in Caerdydd/Cardiff. Initially the response of the Halifax was very Thatcherite and included statements such as "English is the language of Britain and Wales is part of Britain".

However, after months of campaigning by CIG, the Halifax have said that they acknowledge Welsh as an indigenous language and were aiming to strengthen the service they provide through Welsh. We have yet to see what exactly this means. It is unlikely to mean a switch to a fully bilingual policy in their branches in Wales. We will be lucky if it is more than a few new pamphlets published in Welsh and a few Welsh or bilingual signs appearing in some branches.

This all shows that concessions to the language can be won from the private sector by concentrated campaigning. Banks, building societies and shops do not like being picketed in full view of the public. They are embarrassed by slogans painted on their branches, which cannot be cleaned up immediately. Such actions do damage to their public image and they tend
Television costs and times
The relative costs and production times of television programmes in London and by the two companies in Wales have been released. Budgets available for both companies in Wales are far lower and the production patterns of the two companies vary considerably.

HOW MUCH SHOWS COST TO MAKE BY THE HOUR

<table>
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<th></th>
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<th>BBC Wales (estimate)</th>
<th>HTV</th>
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<td>News and current affairs</td>
<td>£39140000</td>
<td>£21000</td>
<td>£18000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>£38000</td>
<td>£18000</td>
<td>£15000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and music</td>
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<td>£61000</td>
<td>£52000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>£512000</td>
<td>£86000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factual</td>
<td>£1300000</td>
<td>£52000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>£1080000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network</td>
<td>£1200000</td>
<td>£222000</td>
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HTV costs are estimates as the company refused to reveal any figures. Network costs are average.

OUTPUT PER WEEK

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<th>BBC Wales</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>News and current affairs</td>
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<td>5 hrs 59 mins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
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<td>Arts and music</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>25 mins</td>
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</table>

Welsh-language programmes for S4C are included for both stations.

Children's Books

Unfit Housing
According to unofficial statistics 22% of all housing in Wales is unfit for human habitation — well above the figure of 13% in England. Also 40% of the housing stock is in need of repair. The worst areas are Dinefwr and Dwyfor.

Educational Qualification
At long last the new work place orientated National Vocational Qualification (NVQS) can be obtained entirely through Welsh in caring, management and retailing.

No New School
Due to local English medium pressure and objections from Welsh parents in the Vale of Glamorgan, South Glamorgan Council will not now be opening a new Welsh medium secondary school at Ely.

Brand New School
However in autumn 1995 Mid Glamorgan County Council is on track to open a brand new Welsh medium secondary school in Cwm Cynon.

European Elections
Following the elections in May Labour held all five Welsh European parliamentary seats. The overall percentage of the vote throughout Wales was — Labour 58%, Plaid Cymru 17%, Conservative 14% and Liberal Democrats 8%. Plaid Cymru were second in North Wales and Mid & West Wales.

University funds and students
University of Wales colleges are to receive an increase in income of 5.4% in 1994-95, compared with 4.5% in England and 6.4% in Scotland. The totals per college and number of students expected are:

<table>
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<th>College</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aberystwyth</td>
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<td>5103</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bangor</td>
<td>£1542669</td>
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<td>£4159948</td>
<td>1149</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registry</td>
<td>£2788000</td>
<td>—</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

UW 126039652  28937
* includes fee compensation totalling £23749837.

There was an increase of 68% in the number of Welsh students in the University of Wales between 1988/89 and 1992/93 to 7856 and in Welsh students studying in England of 13% to 7830. The proportion of Welsh students in the university is now 31% — by individual college — Aberystwyth 27%, Bangor 31%, Swansea 32%, Lampeter 20%, College of Medicine 52%. The proportion of students per 10,000 of the population in each county studying in the University of Wales is — Clwyd 20.0%, Dyfed 45.3%, Gwent 26.2%, Gwynedd 26.3%, Mid Glamorgan 21.9%, Powys 38.3%, South Glamorgan 39.4% and West Glamorgan 37.2%.

Welsh language circle
A group has been established in the Tokyo area to offer native Welsh speakers a chance to chat and learners a chance to practice.

The group, Cylch Cymraeg Tocio, will meet regularly in suitable locations. Its purpose is to spread knowledge of the Welsh language and enjoy the pleasure of speaking it.

The Welsh language has long been the particular focus of Welsh national feeling. "People who speak a minor language may treasure it more than those whose language is secure", says Lawrence John a native Welsh speaker and organizer of Cylch Cymraeg Tocio. Minor languages of the world have importance beyond their utility, he insists; they express the culture of the people who speak them. There is much to be gained by learning and preserving them.

Anyone interested in Wales and Welsh is invited to join the circle. For information contact: Lawrence John at Kasahata 46061/402, Kawagoe-shi, 350 Saitama-ken, Japan.
Ár lá tagtha nó dallamullóg eile ar Cheiltigh?

Pé dearadh polaitíúil a bheadh ag dhuine, ní féidir a bhéadh ná gur lách aothair staírúila iad seo in Éirinn. Tá deireadh tagtha le caiteann de na tréimhse go bhfuil bháis teacht a riamh i stair ná tairseáil. De réir an gheallachtaí na Poblachta, tá deireadh leis an ngleic ar thuilleadh agus an chothú aiseadh don dhaingniú. Luann siad an deireadh a chur leis an gcheacht agus an cheannraí de chuid na maraipichte agus na múinteoirí agus nuair a bhfuil an cheiste gastrachtaí sa Sasanaigh i dtaobh an aisit. Luann siad idháin is fearr a dhéanach in Éirinn i stair na guinse, is féidir go bhfuil náisiúnta a thabhairt i stair na gáirbhíthe. Luann siad an deireadh a chur leis an ngeachtaí na Sasanaigh i stair na guinse, is féidir go bhfuil náisiúnta a thabhairt i stair na gáirbhíthe.

An fheidir go bhfuil sé seo féin? An fheidir go bhfuil sé seo féin an t-eolas éagsúil a thabhairt i stair na guinse. Luann siad an fheidir go bhfuil sé seo féin an t-eolas éagsúil a thabhairt i stair na guinse.

An fheidir go bhfuil sé seo féin? An fheidir go bhfuil sé seo féin an t-eolas éagsúil a thabhairt i stair na guinse. Luann siad an fheidir go bhfuil sé seo féin an t-eolas éagsúil a thabhairt i stair na guinse.
IRA Ceasefire

On the last day of August 1994 the IRA commenced an unconditional and complete ceasefire. The text of the statement issued is:

"Recognising the potential of the current situation and in order to enhance the democratic peace process and underline our definitive commitment to its success the leadership of Oglaigh na hEireann have decided that as of midnight, Wednesday, 31 August, there will be a complete cessation of military operations. All our units have been instructed accordingly.

At this historic crossroads the leaderships of Oglaigh na hEireann salutes our Volunteers, other activists, our supporters and the political prisoners who sustained this struggle against all odds for the past 25 years. Your courage, determination and sacrifices have demonstrated that the spirit of freedom and the desire for peace based on a just and lasting settlement cannot be crushed. We remember all those who have died for Irish freedom and we reiterate our commitment to our republican objectives.

Our struggle has seen many gains and advances made by nationalists and for the democratic position. We believe that an opportunity to create a just and lasting settlement has been created. We are therefore entering into a new situation in a spirit of determination and confidence, determined that the injustices which created this conflict will be removed and confident in the strength and justice of our struggle to achieve this.

We note that the Downing Street Declaration is not a solution, nor was it presented as such by its authors. A solution will only be found as a result of inclusive negotiations. Others, not least the British government, have a duty to face up to their responsibilities. It is our desire to significantly contribute to the creation of a climate which will encourage this. We urge everyone to approach this new situation with energy, determination and patience."

A virtual universal welcome was accorded to the announcement except in certain Unionist circles. In West Belfast and Derry Sinn Fèin supporters held parades akin to victory celebrations but in other nationalist areas reaction was more muted. The use of the word 'complete' rather than 'permanent' ceasefire was questioned by the British but following acknowledgment by Sinn Fèin leaders that the interpretations of the ceasefire as permanent by Irish Times editor Mr Reynold's and USA President Clinton was correct this particular semantic debate appeared to fade away.

Much speculation centered on what if anything had been agreed which led to the ceasefire. UK Prime Minister Major remained adamantly nothing had been conceded yet in the context of a military stalemate it seems unlikely that certain specific steps were not foreseen with regard the republican prisoners and British troops on the streets in the event of a ceasefire. Mr Reynolds moved quickly (too much so for British liking) to a meeting with Gerry Adams of Sinn Fèin and John Hume of the SDLP following which over a tripartite handshake a statement was issued stating all were committed to democratic and peaceful methods and the objective of a lasting and equitable agreement that can command the allegiance of all.

What form such an agreement might ultimately take and unionist involvement in reaching it is the real question. A 'framework document' is being worked on which includes apparently a devolved assembly in the North and cross border institutions. Does this mean that unionists and loyalist paramilitaries will accept an arrangement not dissimilar to the power sharing executive they wrecked twenty years ago? If Britain, as stated in the Downing Street Declaration, has no strategic or economic interest in the North why not set a date for withdrawal and become persuaders in obtaining unionist consent to a long term settlement?

(Contd from page 13)

in Ireland as evidenced by the Downing Street Declaration is based on an attempt to bolster constitutional nationalism and divert it by setting up quangos and structures as in Wales and Scotland, which give the appearance rather than the substance of autonomy - New Unionism.

In the wake of the ceasefire the reviewer remains to be fully convinced.

14 Carn

Save the Irish Democrat!

When Camden Council sold the premises used by Four Provinces Bookshop earlier this year, they did not only threaten the future of a specialist Irish book service. They also put a question mark over the future of the Irish Democrat, because the surplus generated by Four Provinces was used to cover the inevitable losses on the paper.

We are determined to continue publishing the Irish Democrat. The paper has the support of the Connolly Association executive, our publishing company and our members and readers. But with a much reduced bookshop service currently being run out of the CA's former office in 244 Gray's Inn Road, we are desperately short of cash.

So we have reluctantly decided to publish the paper on a bi-monthly basis, beginning with the current June/July issue. The CA executive will underwrite any losses until the end of the year. We could not give an open-ended financial commitment. That would have done nobody any favours. The CA's funds are small enough as it is, and we have already had to dispense with a national organiser simply because we could not afford to continue paying even part-time (poverty) wages.

But what is absolutely vital is guaranteed regular income for the Irish Democrat itself. The best way to help is by setting up a monthly standing order with your bank. All you need to do is write to your bank manager, telling them you wish to make a monthly standing order to the Connolly Association, account number 50503395, Co-operative Bank, 1 Islington High Street, London N1 9TR (sort code 08-90-33), £10 would be good, more would be great but less would be just as much appreciated.

If you can't take out a standing order, a donation is equally welcome. Rush what you can to Irish Democrat appeal, 244 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8JR.

M. Moriarty/F. Finley/A. Rei
British Helicopter Force in Ulster

The helicopter, immortalised in its Hollywood Vietnam war role in films such as Apocalypse Now etc., has long been associated with the classic guerrilla war. However, aside from the tragi-glammorous connotations of tinsel town, the military helicopter has a more practical value. Its various incarnations and developments, as a conflict unfolds, are an accurate barometer of the rising and sinking fortunes of occupying powers in guerrilla war and counter insurgency operations.

Background

Since World War 2, various countries (initially the old imperial powers of Britain, France and Portugal, then followed by the United States) have utilised air support to retain control of territory and subjugate guerrilla movements. France and the US opted early in developing the helicopter to support this role. In Algeria, France developed armed support helicopters when the type was still in its infancy. In Vietnam, later, the US developed the type to military perfection; heavily armoured and heavily armed, with sophisticated electronics. It was also used for more complex functions such as target illumination, surveillance and propaganda dissemination.

In its approach to counter insurgency the UK, whilst generously equipped in its early days with helicopter forces, did not deploy these forces with the degree of sophistication mentioned above: Britain opted for cruder methods. Operations in Malaya and Kenya, often cued by military analysts as classic counter insurgency operations, were often achieved with a blunt deployment of fixed wing aircraft. In these two countries, pre-empting the direction the US would later take against villages in Vietnam, hamlets, small communities and stretches of open countryside were saturation bombed.

Even in Aden in the mid sixties, the UK was still applying this policy of crude air control against villagers. However, aside from the tragi-glammorous connotations of tinsel town, the military helicopter has a more practical value. Its various incarnations and developments, as a conflict unfolds, are an accurate barometer of the rising and sinking fortunes of occupying powers in guerrilla war and counter insurgency operations.

Northern Ireland

When the British Army opened operations in N. Ireland in the late sixties, there was nothing to suggest that it would face the type of threat it had faced in its successful classic anti-guerilla operations in other colonies. The realisation soon dawned, however, that in this latest manifestation of a long struggle by the IRA, things would be difficult. As a result, the British deployed, with tragic results, some of the lessons learned elsewhere and its use of 'counter-gangs', as in Kenya and Malaya, led to some of the worst atrocities in the long conflict.

It was also soon realised that British army ground control of parts of Ulster had been lost. In seeking to address this, Britain could not apply lessons learned elsewhere. The nature of the conflict did not allow the deployment, as in Malaya or Kenya, of medium and strategic bombers to flatten local communities. The British reaction was, therefore, knee jerk, and helicopter support of isolated garrisons began and continues to this day in border areas.

These operations invested the army operation with an initial sense of false security. The IRA, acknowledged by all to be the longest standing guerrilla movement, had problems. Its operations, historically, were steeped in a tradition of land operations facing a terrestrial response. The Republicans, however, proved adaptable and, as with other guerilla movements, swiftly made moves to counter the helicopter threat. Given that comparable movements globally found swift access to Air to Surface missiles, the IRA response to British air activity in Ulster, whilst apparently unable to procure these weapons, has been significant.

Since the late seventies, there has been a steady and increasing aversion of British military helicopters in Ulster, and a damaging downward spiral in the fortunes of the military air component.

This contention is borne out by the fact that throughout the eighties, the armed component of helicopter operations has been increased. Most medium and heavy lift helicopters are now armed as standard with one or two 7.62mm machine guns. Within the past four years, the defensive process has accelerated with developments to both defensive armament and other equipment for target illumination etc.

In parallel with the armament update, development of tactics has proceeded. Gone are the days when solitary helicopters would operate with impunity. Progressively, helicopters have had to deploy in twos and more lately threes, to support each other.

The tactics and armament have, however, still been found wanting. In September 1993, a fierce battle ensued between three helicopters (RAF Puma and two Army Lynx) and the IRA near Crossmaglen. The IRA deployed, reportedly, five Active Service Units with a variety of automatic weapons including 12.7mm and 7.62mm machine guns. Following the encounter both sides claimed success. Behind the claims of both sides it was apparent that, in fact, both had suffered. The IRA had lost some weaponry (hardly significant if reports on their weapons stockpile are to be believed), however, more significantly and apparently totally unrecorded by British journalists briefed in Belfast by the army the following day, the air support operation in S. Armagh had received a nasty surprise. To put this in context, it is inconceivable that a similar force of US helicopters engaging lightly armed ground forces in Vietnam would have enjoyed such limited success.

That the Army received a shock is apparent by the fact that since this incident, major changes have been initiated to helicopter forces, New improved armour protection for flight crew has been installed. A new cabin door gun mount plus a new sighting system have been developed. In addition, due to an apparent failure to co-ordinate back up, consideration is now being given to procuring a Westinghouse / Skyship (Airship) as a flying Command Post which could loiter over sensitive areas controlling operations from a secure height and calling up assistance in “fire fight” situations.

A more general review of available forces has also taken place. As indicated in
In June 1993, the UK helicopter force was already overstretched and attempts were being made to purchase second-hand machines overseas. These attempts having proved fruitless within days of the Armagh battle, Royal Navy Sea King helicopters were deployed to the province, the first such deployment for 15 years. The Sea King was tasked initially to support army forces in the West of the Province, releasing urgently needed AAC machines to bolster the battered effort in S. Armagh.

Today, in addition to the RN presence, the RAF deploy (at Aldergrove) two squadrons of ageing Wessex and Puma helicopters topped up with detachments of heavy-lift Chinook helicopters of No.7-18 Squadron.

Also at Aldergrove are based the largest Regiment of the Army Air Corps, flying Lynx AH7 and Gazelle helicopters and a fixed wing unit of Islander recce aircraft. In addition to aircrew, a REME workshop and support unit is on site to carry out maintenance and repair CAT 1.3 battle damage. This latter function is useful as it ensures no statistical evidence of minor damage inflicted becomes public.

Today's N. Ireland operation is a far cry from the one AAC troop of six Scout light helicopters based at Aldergrove in 1969. Today's force strength is a telling indictment of the UK's failure to come to grips with its security problem in Ireland. Despite a dramatic expansion of the force, and an unparalleled degree of sophistication in armament and equipment, the air component is not able to operate with impunity in parts of N. Ireland. This is despite the fact that the security forces' nightmare scenario of the acquisition of ground to air missiles by the IRA has not yet materialised.

It seems unlikely that the Republicans will give up on attempts to acquire these weapons, and once that goal is realised, the already vulnerable garrisons in border areas will not be sustainable.

J.B. Moffatt

On Saturday, 11 June, the first Irish Race Convention, since 1947, was held at the Jacob Javits Convention Centre in New York City.

Approximately 2,000 persons attended the day-long event, which was sponsored by the Irish American Movement (a consortium of members and officers from numerous Irish organisations in the US). The purpose of the Convention was to gather the Irish community, from around the world, to pass a resolution declaring the "We, the children of the Irish Diaspora, demand that Britain set a date for withdrawal from our ancestral homeland, so that Ireland may exercise its right to be a sovereign and independent nation".

This resolution, which was introduced by Congressman Peter T King, was endorsed by representatives from nearly every Irish organisation in North America, individual activists (including Sean Mackin and Pat Moley), the Troops Out Movement in England, Dr. Des Wilson, CLAB Branch Secretary Stephen Paul De Villo and Irish organisations from as far as Argentina, Australia and New Zealand. In addition, a letter of support, signed by 300 political prisoners in Long Kesh, was received. CLAB Irish Chair Rand P. March (a member of IAM's executive board) read a statement of support from the Welsh nationalist group, Y Cyfamodwyr. The resolution was unanimously and thunderously accepted by the assembled throng.

The list of speakers included such notables as Fr. Sean McManus, Dr. Sean Cronin, Mary Holt Moore, Congressman Thomas J. Manton, District Attorney Charles Hynes, Richard Harvey and NYC Councilman Walter L. Mc Caffrey, who announced that the city's Council had proclaimed 11 June to be "Irish Race Convention Day".

Entertainment was provided by a vast array of bands, singers, stepdancers and a theatrical company, the Cill Cais Players.

One of the day's highlights was a showing of Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams' video taped message to the Convention.

CLAB's sales table was ably staffed by Scottish Chair Hugh Doonan, Membership Director Ken Gale and their, above mentioned, Branch Secretary and Irish Chair. Numerous other CLAB members attended the Convention, and Welsh Chair Lowri Sindoni designed the IAM's distinctive logo.

Rand P. March
Lyver Nowydh

‘Cornwall Since the War’ a veu dyliys nans yw termyn benn. An lyver ma yw da lwt marnas unn chaptra yn kever dasserghyans an yeth dres an hanter-kans blydhien na.

An Chaptra a veu skrifys, gans Bernard Deacon ha Phillip Payton, dëw dhen yw aswonnys ny ta ha dysks y’ga arbenniket aga honen, henn yw istori. Ytho an derivas istorek re veu gwrys yn eow law dré vras, kynth yw res leverel i dhe assaya kantelli warbarth oll an krodhvol moy es an kowes mis. Rag ensampl lowen yas i dhe ri tybannow unn akademek, Glanville Price, yw fest erbynn dasserghyans Kernwek, heb mires orth an tu konter.

Byttegyes, trist yw yw lyver da yn pub tremynn arall bos an dhem skrifar mar bell diwethro bys an Gernowymon ma n wodhins skant vydh oll an pythi us ow hwarvos; poken gweh, awos aga skila pynag aga honen, i a vydh passa liwyga deilyn jamm. Rag ensampl i a vydh previ dëll hevel bos avonsyans an yeth ow fyllel hag i a wra dewis aga niverennow yndellma; dre dhiskewedh bos an niver a duos othembrya rag apposyansow an Gesva nebes.

Kämm. Rag ensampl i a vynn previ dell omgusulya gans an re a krev a gwell via omgusulya gans an re a woer an lus a bub oes, soodh, kryjyans ha galloes. Wosa dyski kansow a godhvos bos tus yowynka ha krev y’ga gwell via omgusulya gans an re a wocr. Y’m mynnas ow tos ha tenkys an yeth ynter aga diweulv yne le an re akademek a hevel tryga war gen planet.

An dra yw martesen na garons furdh avonseyns an yeth, mar mnnynn godhvos res yw omgusulya gans an re a woor. Y’om breus eyv ow honen, sklender yw bos taklow dyliys ynn-dunn hanow an ‘Fondyans rag Studhyansow Kernwek’ ow plegya hag ow tretiy haog ow kwia hag ow ri delinyans kam mar bywans Kernwek. G.S.

**Summary**

‘Cornwall Since the War’ was published recently. Whilst most of the book is accurate the chapter on the language revival written by two well known historians, Bernard Deacon & Phillip Payton is one sided and contains several factual inaccuracies. They give the impression that the revival of the language is faltering, citing the fall in the number of people taking the Language Board exams whilst ignoring the rise in people attending classes. If these two had asked officials of the Board or the Fellowship they may have got a clearer picture of what is actually happening within the language revival.

**Pywa an Kernowian Radn 3**

Ouga an bressel a Boletin en 936 Kernow ve dreiz der vanner cew dañ sow an Sausen leb, ha judgia thur hanen Sausnack en Kernow, reeg seba en noor ar keverang. Straneton, en tavaz teer gen urrian gwreze gen an dow Ottery tua an noor a Lesteevan, ha arata en ennins formiez gen an dow Tamar ha an dow Litar, ha dro tha Lannaled. Gyo a sesiaz an gweh teer reeg longia kenz than vancr creav dadn rowl. Ouga an Sausen a wheelaz, cuzalatha nebbaz gen an Kernowian dreh apontia epscobow Kernuack. An espacak Daniel ve complez en 946 ha’n espacak Comore en 958; ha treed 942 ha 1050 e ve freez latex cals Kernowian. Thera nyn caws dreeg an Sausen gromiia teer tha deg deeg henwin hanter Kernuack hanter Sausnack, anelina Alfeah Gerent ha Wolnoth Rumoncant en 969; buzh ebyw ne vera calish tha judgia dadnallath teez thur go henwin, car drellen nye gwellas en Aphrica, en Zealond Noweth ha kene tellerriow. Buz an Sausen a humsendag thewez gen an Kernowian der neb maner, ha dreiz likluud nye reeg wheelas mekia gnon nacion dreth an eglos, rag en 994 an espacak Sausnack a Bosvena a gawaz charter thar rowlia an manathy a Sent Petrock warferth an geez Sausnack, ha Kernow ve desreffjez heb tell vel en ‘Province a Kernow’ ha carrha ‘diocese’ eze wor gen teky dro an eglos en Kernow rowleiz der vanner Kernowian kenz vel der geze meñecch henna. Whathe en 1046 an sea a Kernow a transformizez thar Credition en Pow Densher, mar nebbaz reeg an Sausen gnon regardia nye, pokene mar nebbaz reganz gontresia!

Na orren nye hethow, ha neeg eze mene tha gozhul lebemen, venga an Sausen moaz pella war an duath, ha gweel ahanan Sausen akeath, a cometas thurhan pub gwer ean sendy gen hunnen vel Kernuack. Veva an Normanow en 1066 reeg lethia angy dreeg dool thanth’gweel awto abeal caith?

Dah vega gena ve credgy dressa nye mekia gnon haaze Kernuack en neb case; buzh dehoyg yw droga nye treegs vel teez. Kernuack tereba heithow, prow a gontresia, ha dreeg an tavaz nye pedgia beaw tereba duan 18vas cansblethen... heb compla drera nye u sia et agon oze nye carra tavaz derevez.

Ma seezne drigg an Kernowian anurna humsendgy moy ha moy en lea le ha le Kernuack, wos an Iyw an Sausen eze duverhez hunz othma tha anenn a drough. Fatel ella nye boaz dregya nye saval mar bel ha mar greav bedn kelly gen haaze nye dree mel vlethan? Ebyw tra na ellen nye dismigga en faze... Fatel ella stirria an carena eze tha deez rag’go pow ha rag’go thava? Nebbaz an story a hedna me a lavar thewn nessa.

Richard Gendall

**Précis**

After the battle of Boleit in 936 the Cornish came firmly under the rule of the English who confiscated much of the best land, and settled in certain eastern enclaves. For a while the Cornish were still able to assert themselves by retaining their monastic system, but this too had been suppressed by the end of the 10th century though some of the first bishops remained, and lately even reaffirmed their identity despite heavy colonisation.
The game of 'Scrabble' could never work in Cornish, for however you spell your words there would be a good chance that you would be right, so great a variety is there! If you devise for yourself an artificial norm where the original variety in the language has to be largely stifled for the sake of the system, spelling becomes much easier; this has already been attempted by Nancy in 'Unified Cornish' and by George in 'Common Cornish', and it does have great advantages, the one great disadvantage being that one can very easily lose the original and typical appearance of the language; it is also possible to engender misapprehensions in this way.

Obviously nothing is wrong or can be wrong in spelling the language as it actually was spelt by native speakers and writers at the time when Cornish was a living tongue, but here the disadvantage is that the variety of spellings is so great that some sort of standardisation is essential if one wishes to write in the language oneself, particularly if it is to be taught. Pity the poor student!

The Cornish Language Council favours traditional spelling where Cornish is used as a revived language, and working in cooperation with Teere ha Tavaz, has produced a standardised orthography in which the details are taken from a choice made from actual historic spellings. It is always necessary, however, to keep an open mind and to be ready to adjust the system if evidence suggests that a better choice could have been made... for it is too easy to fail to notice the obvious at times; a good instance of this is as follows:

The use of the letter combination ew was widespread in Cornish in the 16th and 17th centuries to represent three different sounds: [iu], [eu] and [eau]. Thus ew [iu]: is; bewa [eu]: to live; plew [eau]: parish. To people completely familiar with the correct pronunciation, that is, to true native speakers there is no problem; we who use revived Cornish are not true native speakers... if we were, we would not be so worried about how to spell; as it is, we do rely to a very large extent on the written word when it comes to learning, and it is then that we form bad habits of pronunciation that we pass on to others by attempting to reach them without having a sound knowledge ourselves. Much of such trouble can be avoided by choosing spellings which can be clearly seen to represent the correct pronunciation.

Our Cornish for is can be found in the Modern period alone spell as ew, yw, eu, ewe, ew, u and yu. The last version which is Luhyd's makes it clear that the pronunciation is [iu]; of the other six native versions yw (from William Rowe) seems to be the best choice.

Our Cornish for to live is found as bowa, bewah, bewa and beur; the last version, which is Lhuyd's, makes it clear that the vowel is [eu], and of the native versions hewa seems to be the best choice.

Our Cornish for parish is found as pleaw, plewe, pleu, plew and pleu. The last version is Luhyd's which shows the vowel to be [eu]. The most typical native version is therefore pleaw as ea is the commonest way of spelling long e.

It is not really good enough to spell all three words with ew as if they had a common vowel (although perfectly correct historically) while alternative native versions occur which make the correct pronunciation clearer. It is for this reason that the Cornish Language Council has recently been overhauling the recommended standard orthography, and contributions in Modern Cornish that appear in Carn reflect the adjustments made or in hand.

If you are just beginning to learn Cornish, you accept the orthography as you find it. If you are some way ahead in your learning when alterations are made, a great deal of faith is placed on your good will and patience, for it can be frustrating to relearn what may have taken you so much trouble to learn; yet if we can all be patient we are all playing our part in evolving a sounder system of spelling that will not only be of advantage to future generations of learners (who will, it is to be hoped, outnumber us greatly) but also be something of which we can all be proud, and can use with confidence, knowing that we are spelling the language as it was spelt traditionally.

Flexibility is conducive to survival... but those who bend over backwards too far run the risk of ending up on their backs! And we do have a proverb... Cuzal ha teg, sarra wheag, moaz pel: Soft and fair, dear sir, go far or "Easy does it!"

Richard Gendall

Review of Afforestation Programme?

In view of the great loss of heather moorland in the British Isles, due to afforestation with conifer crops, the Manx Nature Conservation Trust (MNCT) is calling for an immediate review of the Department of Agriculture's 1994/95 proposed planting at Montpelier, Druidale.

It is to be welcomed that the Department has revised its consultation procedures, giving the opportunity to organizations like the MNCT to express their views. This suggests that this is a sensitive issue.

MNCT's submission sets out the conservation, ecological, landscape and community reasons for objection. It points out that the area is part of a Nature Conservation Zone, and that the plan is in direct conflict with the 1990 Wildlife Act, which aims to provide a balance between conservation, enhancement of natural beauty, countryside amenity and wildlife habitat.

Various projects of less significance have recently been subject to a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), but this proposal has not. The MNCT believes afforestation of this area would not be allowed if it were subject to an EIA.

The submission also questions the wisdom of proceeding with a programme which as well as being destructive to wildlife and the environment, would also be uneconomic. Timber produced on uplands is poor in quality and expensive to harvest. Great concern is expressed about the likely destruction of water courses, which would be detrimental to the public water supply and aquatic flora and fauna.

The Trust makes clear the value it places on an increase in broadleaf woodland, and that it is not opposed to mixed conifer and broadleaf trees in the right situations. The Trust regrets that such areas mostly lie outside government owned land and recommends grant aid to private landowners to encourage tree planting.

Proper implementation of the Wildlife Act is called for by the MNCT. It suggests a transfer of responsibility for the Act to Manx National Heritage, or the creation of a new Division of the Department of Agriculture with equal status to the Forestry Division with the remit of nature conservation, or a new Government Department of Wildlife.

C.J.K.
Royal Navy Bombing Range off the South Cornish Coast Opposed

Plans by the Royal Navy to site a Target Range off the South Cornish coast have been opposed by the local residents and fishermen, along with Cornwall Council & Tourism organisations and the Celtic League. The National Trust has also denied the Royal Navy access to Dodman Point where they wished to build an observation post.

Armed forces Minister defended plans for a new RN firing range off Dodman Point, claiming that sea training would bring big economic benefits to Plymouth, he also said that the South-West couldn't have the economic gain without some inconvenience. "It is the Navy's intention to work round rather than disrupt the activities of fishing and commercial vessels and leisure craft. We would expect there to be very little impact on Cornish's economy". This Statement from the Minister is self contradictory, if as he says there will be "big economic benefits to Plymouth" and "very little impact on Cornwall's economy". Then, why should Cornwall put up with the inconvenience of the Royal Navy target range disrupting the fishing.

Jeremy Hanley MP (former Minister of State for the Armed Forces) stated that the navy will take all possible precautions to prevent the possibility of danger to other shipping. However not much comfort can be taken from this statement considering that following a recent N.A.T.O. exercise dummy mines and missiles were being trolled up several miles outside the exercise area for weeks after the end of the exercise.

It has not been unusual to hear reports of fishing gear being lost after being snagged on lost or discarded munitions. Mr Hanley also stated that there would only be 70 two hour firing serials each year and that each firing would only be of 15 minutes duration. Since the firing would be only 2 to 3 miles offshore it is quite possible that it could be heard from the land. It should also be made clear that this is an area which is fished mainly by the smaller fishing boats under 10 metres in length and therefore harder to spot by radar.

The Navy are committed to moving their Operational Sea Training from Portland to Plymouth since it is cheaper to do their training off the Cornish coast than to continue using their existing site off the Dorset coast.

The Navy stated that it wished to use the National Trust owned land as an observation post as it needed to see where the shells fired from their vessels land, but unfortunately for the Royal Navy the National Trust has made it clear that they would not allow the navy access to their land.

We welcome the introduction of 'Subfacts' a MoD broadcasting giving mariners information about submerged submarines and the plans to introduce a 'Gunfacts' service giving details of firing exercises.

This may be helpful but it does not prevent the disruption to the fishing industry caused by such firing exercises. This along with the restrictions being imposed on the fishing industry by the British Government and the European Union could put some of the fishermen out of business.

Martyn Miller

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Twelve Celtic Bookmarks
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The distinctive aesthetics of Celtic design, with its rich coloration and delicate patterning in geometric figures and organic forms, is beautifully reflected in this collection of elegant bookmarks. The designs are crafted by artist Co Spinhoven and will grace any book. Each bookmark is printed on both sides and laminated for durability.

For further information please contact: Constable & Co. Ltd., 3 The Lanchesters, 162 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 9ER.

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For further information please contact: Constable & Co. Ltd., 3 The Lanchesters, 162 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 9ER.

Lowender Peran
19th - 23rd October 94
Festival of Celtic Culture
at
The Ponsmere Hotel
Perranporth
Cornwall

Dance Spectacular, Concerts,
Music Sessions, Ceilí’s, Workshops
and a Celtic Market

Artists include: Boys of the Lough, Ar Skewell, Cwmru Gweryn, Ponty Pool, Herriot Watt University Country Dance Group, Boek ywam Farne se, Pete Berryman, White noise, Ceol agus Rinne na Riacha, Tamar Troylers, Roz Kelk, Oma ny Mos, Ryb an Gwella, Bolingeuy Troyl Band, Myrghes An Vro, Myrghes Lowen A Vydhyon, Cam Kernow.

Festival Office: Gerald Morris, Worthyvale House, Penhallow, Truro, Kernow, Great Britain. Tel: (0872) 553413

Carn 19
Eddyr-Ashoonaghys

Gyn ourys (foddee) t’ou er chlasthyn mychione Oik Oarpagh ny Myn-Chengaghyn.

Va shoh currir er bun bleantyn dy liooar er dy henney dy chur er-ynyndoshlaig chengaghyn golli rish ny chengaghyn Celtiagh (er-himmem jeh’n Ghael!), Bascish, Freeshlannish as nyr shen. Ve’in toshiaig, ta ny Yernce er ve tarroogh syn Oik shoh, ta fo saaghnt ny Unnaneys Oarpagh sy Vrusheyl. Ta obbyr laioil Oik Oarpagh ny Myn-Chengaghyn golli er stureey veih offish ayins Divlyn, ga dy vel y pooor hene sy Vrusheyl. She Helen Ó Murchu eaghhrane yn Oik. Ta Helen er nynanno mi obbyr son Yernish as ith cur bree ayins aghgy ayny ‘r-hiu’ aynsaghey ny chengey, mastey raom roddy elle.

My t’ou lhaih mychione yn eub dy au-vioygh Yernish, son y chooid smoo yio wuss magh dy ren en eab ‘failleil’. Agh agn ny cooishyn shoh, c’red ta ‘specialidhe’ as c’reed ta ‘failleil’? C’red ta ‘chengey vie’ as c’reed ta ‘chengey varreo’? Foddee paart dy Vurnniee loayyt ‘chengey varreo’? Feer vie. Madylar rish ny Yernce, v’ad abyl dy ynsaghey Yernish rish thousaneyn as thousameyn dy leith ta toiggal en chengey feer vie, ga nagh vel ad jannoo ymmyd jeel dennyk. As ta ny Yernce er nyanoo mi studeyrys dowin er cooishyn chengey, kyndagh rish yn eab dy aui-vioygh nyn jengy hene. Myr shen, she red dooghyssagyagh dy ren ny Yernce leedeel obbyr Oik Oarpagh ny Myn-Chengaghyn.

As red elle, she vondich vooar v’ayn dy row yn reilitys oc hene ec ny Yernce, ga nagh vel reilisynn Yernagh er ve cho jeen son yn chengey as ve reilisyn Yernagh ayns ny shen laghy.

Dy firiirnagh, shegin da gagh myn-chengey jannoo eagggy jee hene son y chooid smoo. Agh ec y tra choedd, she vondich feer vooar t’ayn dy obbraghe marish sleih ta gobbraghey son myn-chengaghyn ellej traar eebc ta shen jantagh. My ta cooney jeeragh ry-gheddyn veih’n cheu-moie, feer vie. Ny share foast my na cooney nee-yeragh ry-gheid dyn neesiht. Ta’n lheid goaill toshiaig ayins chear ny ghaa nish. Myr sampley, ayns Nerin Twaoie ta sleih nou-chadyn cur gieil da Yernish kyndagh rish yn toshiaig dy eddyr-ashoonaghys ta bently rish yn chengey shen nish. Son shyckyrys, ta’n chooid smoo jeh unnaneyseryn Nerin Twaoie coontey Yernish myr chengey whaagh ny poggagheeg (myr dooryt bril beg shiartanar dy vleeannt er dy henney ayins cooyt ayns Nerin Twaoie tra loay ty doonney enagh agn y Yernish: ‘Cha nel shin loisyt gibberish ayns shoht’). As t’eh rish red oki dy vel ram Yernee smooagheegy, er y towice as er y jias neesht, dy vel Yernish chengey ny Shallidce.


Nish, ta pabayrny oikoil goll eddyr yn Vrusheyl, Lunnin as Beel Feirshy - pabayry t’ayn benny rish Yernish. Ec y tra cheddin, ta thousaneyn dy ‘leith ayns Nerin Twaoie er hoiilshagheag mawgdy vel ad slane ayns fooy t’ayn en chengey er e hoshaig.

Agh er lihiam dy nee ny pabayrny oikoil shen ta cur ur unnaneyseryn fondaghy dy chur geil da Yernish nish. She cooish staydys t’ayn. Ta sleih enagh ayns Nerin Twaoie goaill toshiaig dy hoilshag dy vel sleih ayns Cataloyn, yn Cheer Vascagh, yn Danvarg as cheeaghyn elley soiaghey jeh Yernish. Cha nel ad cooyt ee dy ve ny chengey nee-feu neadyr. Son shyckyrys, cha nel shoh cooney lesh ny deineny as mraan debejagh shen t’ayns staydaghy nish kyndagh rish fir ny gonnyn. Agh she red nex t’ayn, as ta sleih toiggal dy vod yn chengey tayrn moidyn ry-chellet y ny keaytyn.

Ayns chear sheeoi, y Chorn, t’ad toijgal y scann jeh’n Vrusheyl. Hooar ad argid veih shen dy chur magh fockleyr noa ayns Comish. As ta ny Corree er reoseemy cooishyn Oarpagh rish foddey (er y fa dy vel ny cooishyn shen ny snisseyt daue, s’cosooylagh).

Ayns Breitin, y Vritaan as Nalbin neesht, ta sleih dy liooar toiggal dy vod aigney eddyr-ashoonagh smoo hene.

Ays Mannin, ta shin cheu-moie jeh’n Unnaneys Oarpagh. Agh ny-yeci shen as ooiile, fodmayd co-obbraghgye marish cheeaghyn elley t’ayns yn Unnaneys. Fodmayd gendyn argid veih’n Vrusheyl choud’s ta shen jeant dy neu-yeragh, trooid sleih t’ayns yn Unnaneys hene (ta shen er ve jeant hanah). Y red smoo, ta shen dy chur er toolily Manninee dy hoilgag er cho shanishal as ta’n Ghael. Ny shenn Vanninnee as adynagh vel seg, cha yen jess jeh dy bragh gendyn rey dy bollagh rish y smooaghey dy vel yn Ghael. Sorn dy hengey gyn feesid va goll er loayct er bonkanyn veish feilloy ny daannyn ayns Baarle Manninagh. Agh eer ny shenn Vanninnee shoh, bee paart jeh eaghlaa ayns aigney beegaa tra vees ny smoo as ny smoo geil currir da’n Ghael veih’n cheu-moie.

Ny smoo as ny smoo, ta seihll ny Manninee er jeest dy ve goll rish seihll beg Hostyn jiea, raad ta sleih dy liooar foast credel dy lihsaghs ad reilh harrish yn tehill. Ny deiny ta reilh Mannin ec y tra’ayn, ta dy liooar jeu kiait seoot ayns yn chenm seihll cheddin - trimshye dy vel yn Impiraght ersooyl as trimshye dy vel Britannia er jeest dy ve ny jousah dree. Ta gleeshtagh ny myn-chengaghyn cur da Mannin nane jeh ny saaseyn dy scapail veih’n tehill beg shoi. Ny smoo as ny smoo, ta Mannin dellal ayns cooishyn eddyr-ashoonagh, ga nagh nie lihenn patr jeh ny cooishyn shoh. Agh ta ny aignaghyn foost stoic boayl ennagh ayns jiea Hostyn. Oddaghy da Ghaelg cur cooney as shinyn livrey ny aignaghyn shen.

Orrce Crennell

Summary
The work of the European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages is fostering sympathy and support for such languages among some of those previously hostile. What is crucial here is that international dimensions raise the status of the languages.
Enmyn Buill

Va mee clashyn nish claer er y radio voish yn Ullce as v'ad g'acean dy row sleih ym en en shen as adyn caghalaa enmyn buill voish Gaeg dys Baarle. V'eh taghryt feor vennick boayl va thicen noa goll y hroggl ayns stay baaghe noa. V'ad loayrt mychione boayl enmyn Ballyre, mastej buill elley, va caghalaa Dys Bexley. Ta lane fys ain, shinn y ga't'shaeghe Gaeg, dy vel y thiid taghryt ayns shoh, as ta fys aoin ollu dy vel lane caillit tra ta enmyn gollrish shoh skelli shokl ersooyl.

Ta fys ain er bun jeh fockley gollrish "balley", "awin", "cronk" as "bog", as eor mastoy ny Baarleynyn ta sleih ayns fys oc my-ny-goine. Ga dy vel lyn enmyn buill fo boggart as t'eh orrin oolloyle dy caodley ad, boayl ta fys ta niart myrgetun. Ta sleih ny mast ain ta freay blurre ayree kyinjagh as stroppey dy chur erash enmyn va bunns caillt. Agil nish, smooinee-jee er Sostyn. Ayns shen ta mecyen jerecc (suffixes) dy-liooar avs enmyn buill gollrish "-ton", "-hurst", "-worth", as "-ham" agh cha nel fys ec monney sleih er nyn vun. Ta fys oc bunnsy oolloyle on thehill er y vun jeh jord as "-choster" agh er-illmeney yen yen cha jinnagh monney cur bun er enmyn gollrish "Billinghurst" boggul ta my huyr baghey.

Roish my row moo poost as foast baghey avs Essex, tra nagh row fys erbee aym en'r Gaeg, va stay baaghe noa goll y hroggl mysh daa veeclel ersooyl voym. Er yn oyr dy baagh palchey dy leih noa cheet siaghl "sy valley beg v'ad er-choe trooggl thie oast noa da olleyle ny scoarnaghyn chiryrm noa shen. Va'n boayl reihit er corneil er raad enmynis "Hanging Gill Lane". Myr shen reih yn thic imbyl dy chur ennyn "The Gibbet" er. Va lane accan mastej ny barrante avs yn bailler sniessef (Brenthwood). V'ad smoo内在ghyn dy row yn enmyn je'n raad cheet voish dunverys-hene ennagh as d'ennce ad nagh row enmyn yn thie oast coogie. Cha row ad arryilagh kiedy chur er-y-hon.

"Sy vlein 1931 va tirc magh ny sleih cadjin ayns Sostyn. Va fer jeh ny cooisnyn v'ad no, keesh noa va'n Ree er-choe er ad fo emnynis y "poll tax". Haghlee fir-bagheu voish daa valley beg cheetty (Fobbing as Mucking) dys Brentwood as hyndsa a harrish ny buird baayl va ny biiinnwyn beggey chaglym yn keesh. Tra choebl jeh deyney voish Kent, ta tammylt beg ersooyl harrish yn Thames voish Fobbing as Mucking, dy row nyv vraaghyn avs Essex g'irree mughe hie ad leah Lunnin fo'n keeccit Liddell Wat Tyler as Jack Straw. Roish shen va saggyrt avs Essex enmynis John Ball er va precheel voish teks myr thoh:

"When Adam delved and Eve span, who was then the gentleman?" Tra rosh ad oolloyle dys Lunnin va'n Ree loayrt zoo ec chaglym mooar avs Spittalfields. Va Tyler dunoerit dy vrahedyeragh fiorish yn Arv-Vestor Lunnin as ghows yn Ree as ec chianmoytyrs toshiaght er tranlaese ny sleih cadjin. Hug ad palchey juey dus y chuyi ec Galloys Corner as Hanging Hill Lane avs Essex as buill elley avs Kent.

Seereu mish as my chaaajyn rish yn thic imbyl as dooyrt shin cre'n fa magh oddagh ad cur enmyn gollrish "The Wat Tyler" ny "The Peasants' Revolt" er'n thie oast. Oddagh jallooaghyn voish yn traa shen yen curret er ny voolaghyn as verragh shen foays er'n thie. Hooar shin freggyrt voue gra dy row ad er ve smoo内在ghyn er'n enmyn "The Last Drop" er agh wa lane boirey er ve oc hannah, as va'der reih dy chur un enmyn "The Woodpecker" er.

Colin y Jerree

Summary
The Celtic countries are not the only ones where place names and their associated history can be lost.
At its annual general meeting in May, Mec Vannin adopted recommendations made by the group’s finance sector policy review committee which reiterated the party’s opposition in principle to the presence and growth of the finance sector.

The report states: “Even though mostly legal, the business could at best be described as amoral in character, that is, its sole concern is with the making of maximum profit to the exclusion of all other social and environmental costs and ethical considerations such as the creation of Third World debt and impoverishment.”

On the other hand we have evidence that the smiling face of the finance sector masks a deeper layer of out and out criminal activities.

The investigations of the US government into the Caribbean tax havens on its doorstep have shown that the self same off-shore mechanisms and secrecy legislation that enable tax avoidance also and invariably provide a conduit and cover for all kinds of dirty money laundering from such sources as terrorism, drugs, fraud and larceny.

The Brinks-Mat investigations by the UK police, which revealed Isle of Man finance sector involvement in just such a chain of money-laundering, indicates that the Isle of Man is no different.

The underlying belief seems to be that given the money first of all we can then buy solutions for all our other social problems.

The trouble with that view is that the more money we make the more money we need to tackle the new problems thrown up by the runaway economic growth.

This is the madhouse economics of money addiction in which the real quality of life is sacrificed for excessive material consumption.

The report goes on to condemn government policy since the sixties which have allowed the finance sector to grow “uncontrolled to politically dangerous and economically unhealthy proportions”.

“In theory Tynwald still runs the show, but in practice it dare not legislate against the interests of the finance sector community.”

Instead of scrapping the industry altogether, which would cause economic dislocation and distress, the intention would be to contain it at its present level through ‘licence capping’. New licences would be issued only to replace business lost through natural wastage, while real efforts are made to develop indigenous industries, both traditional and new.

Economic Policies ‘which empower and protect the Manx people’ are detailed in the policy as an alternative to the Island’s dependence on the finance sector.

On the question of alternative the policy states:

“With its virtual autonomy in domestic affairs, Tynwald has the power to create an economic microclimate here in which home-grown enterprise could flourish.

For instance, the Isle of Man used to be a significant centre of shipbuilding in the 19th century because until 1866 the duty on imported timber was less here than elsewhere. A whole range of activities including a modern leisure-boat building industry could prosper given the right co-opting by government through fiscal and tax preferences.

Measures of economic empowerment would be vital to allow ordinary Manx people to take advantage of the above.

These measures might include a non-profit making community bank or credit union from which low interest, long term loan would be available to those with little or no capital; grants from government to enable attendance on vocational courses and college fees; a free small business advice and resource service; specific training at the Isle of Man College; a co-operative development agency. Turning to the kinds of activities that might be encouraged, the committee says: In spite of current government policies, we can already see some examples of the kind of diverse, small scale activity we would like to see as commonplace - eg. farmers converting redundant outbuildings to holiday accommodation and running farm shops to supplement their incomes; hotels providing special interest holidays for those interested in birdwatching, rambling etc.; an independent brewer providing real ale.

In addition we would suggest that there is scope here for the development of an energy conservation industry, a boat building industry as aforementioned; an ethical investment industry; an education industry centred possibly on a Manx University.

The government might claim to be identifying and supporting such initiatives already. The difference compared with our approach lies in the fact that the government searches far and wide across the world to attract an up and running business to fill an economic opportunity here.

What they ought to be doing is if they were really nationally minded is to make an opportunity available first to the people here even though this might take longer and involve investment in training and acquiring skills.”

The report concludes: “It is often stated (overstated in fact) that this is a land deficient in resources. The chief resource which is lacking at the moment, we feel, is a belief by the government in the resourcefulness and worth of its own people.”
Wreath Laid to Submarine Victims

Mannin Branch member Mark Kermode laid a wreath to the memory of almost 100 fishermen, drowned as a result of submarine activity. The ceremony was performed on Thursday, 26th August 1994, in the submarine exercise area to the west of Mannin while Mark was travelling to the AGM in Dublin. The wreath laying hopefully signifies the end in this chapter of the League’s activity, with a significant reduction in submarines in use around the Celtic Sea.

Breton Language Service

This service has been set up within Skol Uhel ar Vro for the purpose of giving our language a better place in public life. It intends to publish lists of words to help communes and departmental technical services and it is already providing them with advice on linguistic aspects with a view to standardisation wherever bilingual signposts are put up. Another project is a map of Brittany bearing the Breton forms of the placenames recommended by the Service’s Toponymy Commission. The latter is gathering as much as possible of the spoken forms of those names in Lower Brittany. Consultation was carried out this summer among its members about the Breton forms which should be proposed for placenames in Upper Brittany, many of which are Celtic in origin or based on the names of more or less forgotten “saints” from the High Middle Ages who took part in the immigration from Britain.

Breizh-Europa: Histoire d’une aspiration by Annaig Le Gars, 86 pp. Publ. by IHN, 29000 Kemper. 70F.

The author is a history-geography teacher who was a candidate in the European elections, on the Simeoni list. The booklet, subtitled “Brittany’s European Future” outlines the vagaries of the French decentralisation, contrasts France’s centralism with the structures of the other EU member States, surveys the assets which would enable our country to take its own place in a united Europe if it had the power to control its own affairs.
Breton Models

The “Presses Universitaires de Rennes” are publishing a series of books under the general heading of “Le Modèle Breton”. There is already “Le Modèle Agricole Breton” by Corentin Canivet. We now have “Le Modèle Industriel Breton” by Michel Philippinnoeau, 420 pp., dealing with Publishing and providing (annual sub. 80F), 28 brief accounts of all sorts of books (160F-200F airmail outside state) to Per ar Bimontlily magazine in Breton. Subs. 150F (220F; obtainable from “L’Agent Bretons’ Political Behaviour) since 1945”.

A third volume in the P.U.R. series is based on a doctor-thesis submitted brilliantly by J.J. Monnier, ex-editor of Le Peuple Breton, a year ago: it is titled “Le Comportement Politique des Bretons (The Bretons’ Political Behaviour) since 1945”. It offers a detailed analysis of the elections in the 220-plus cantons of Brittany and shows that there is a Breton political model: the Left connected with and relying on the French State and its organisations, the Right investing in the Breton economy, displaying initiative. Regarding the specific Breton demands, J.J. Monnier concludes that the people in general are aware of their collective identity but take it for granted and don’t see the need to defend or uphold it (“identité assumée mais non revendiquée”).

A characteristic of the Breton industry is its lack of concentration, contrary to what happens in France. (This corresponds to the urban pattern: we have no big cities but a scattering of large and medium sized towns: it helps to keep the social body better integrated).

Welcoming the wealth of information it provides about Breton firms, Herve Person (Le Peuple Breton, June) deprecates that it concerns itself only with the truncated Brittany of 4 départements in spite of the fact that all the South of Brittany maintains tighter economic relations with the Nantes area than with Rennes. The author thereby pays little heed to the Atlantic Row concept. Industries have developed along or close to the two motorways from Rennes to Brest and from Nantes to Kemper-Brest, to the neglect of the interior regions. Too much attention is given in the book to the official view, says H. Person. The social problems connected with industry are hardly mentioned. Shall we next have a study entitled “The Breton Social Model”?

Al Liamm

Bimonthly magazine in Breton. Subs. 150F (160F-200F airmail outside state) to Per ar Bihan, 16 r. des Fours à Chaux, 35200 St. Malo.

Most contributions in the double May-August issue are from women. Two of them pay homage to Madalen St. Gal de Pons in a classical form inspired by a strong Christian outlook with death as a rather pervasive theme. Anna Mouradowa tells a story about two students in a Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada BOE 34 St. an Argoad, 29190 Lennon, Brittany.


EIRE Janice Williams, 22 Bóthar Belgrave, Baile Atha Cliath 6.

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Our next deadline for material for Carn is 1st November 1994. Materials sent for publication in Carn must relate to our aims, and should be typed. All materials copyright © Carn unless otherwise stated. The views expressed in Carn are not necessarily those of the editor nor of the Celtic League.

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Memberships and Subscriptions

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THE CELTIC PEN

A quarterly journal, mainly in English, dealing with Celtic language literature

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Appeal

Articles for the Cymru Section of Carn in both Welsh/English are needed. Contributions should be sent directly to the Editor.