



GORSEDH KERNOW **The Celtic Spirit of Cornwall**

LYTHER BARDHEK - BARDIC NEWSLETTER

Mis Du 2015 bys dhe vis Genver 2016 / November 2015 to January 2016

Messach dhyworth Bardh Meur / A message from the Grand Bard

An kynsa seythennyow ha my Bardh Meur a dhiskwedhas dhymm fatel o movyans an yeth Kernewek mar vras ha diwysyk. Keskussulyans Skiens Tremogh a dhiskwedhas ev dhe vos skoodhys gans hwithrans down gans nebes yethoryon ha yethoresow skentel. Byttegens yeth an werin yw Kernewek hwath. Onan an kynsa oberennow ha my Bardh Meur o dhe ri piwasow rag apposyansow a'n yeth Kernewek. An re ma o tus dhyworth pub fordh a vewnans neb a gevrannas tan yn golon rag, ha kerensa a, agan yeth Kernewek.

Mis Hedra yth esa meur a bryvylej dhymm kaderya kynsa kuntellyans Forum an Yeth Kernewek. Y feu formys an bagas ma dhe worweles ha skoodhya towl yeth Konsel Kernow. Eseleth an bagas ma a dhiskwedh an gadon efan a ober usi ow bos omgemerys a-ji dhe vovyans an yeth, a dhisplegya ha dyski an yeth dhe avonsyans arwodhyow Kernewek dres agan powdir.

Ytho, ott omma ow messach dhe bub bardh oll. Perghennys yw Kernewek gans oll ahanan hag y kodh dhyn y usya avel agan arwodhik a Gernewekter. Yth yw oll a-dro dhyn y'gan hynwyn tylleryow, ytho, gwren ni kenertha tus dhe omjersya ha hwithra an steryow. Gwren ni ynwedh y wul dhe dhos ha bos aswonny's dell yw rann aswonny's a'gan kerghynnedh kowethasek der usya gorhemynadow Kernewek kepar ha "myttin da" ha "dydh da" po gorthebow kepar ha "splann" po "meur ras". Dre sevel an profil posedhek a Gernewek, ni a wra kenertha tus moy dhe dhyski agan yeth.

Dell nes nosow ha misyow tewl a "Du" ha "Kevardhu", gwren ni perthi kov rann aral a'gan ertach, agan karolyow Nadelik. Yth o yn 1822 pan dhellos Davies Gilbert kynsa kuntellyans karolyow an werin a Gernow. Ev a grysis bos hemma rann a Gernow o marow ha gyllys ha neppyth dhe vos recordys avel koyntys henstudhyansek. Kammgemeryans bras o dhodho! Gwerthys glan o y lyver ha res o dhodho dyllo nessa ha brassa dyllans.

Ober Davies Gilbert a awenis kuntellow Kernewek erel ha wortiwedh ev a brovias devnydh rag an Lyver Karolyow Resoghen. Yn sur ny verwis hengov karolyow y'n nawnjegves kansvledhen a-varr, mes yth eth a grevder dhe grevder ha martesen y trehedhas bleyn ughel y'n ober Thomas Merritt. Yth o agan hengov a gorolyow kernewek hag a awenis Epskop Benson a Druru dhe gomendya servis a "Naw Dyskas ha Karol" dhe'n Kalendar Eglos yn 1880.

Kernow Bys Vykken!

Telynor An Werin, Bardh Meur Kernow

The first few weeks of being Grand Bard have shown to me just how widespread and hard working the Cornish Language movement is. The Skiens conference at Tremough showed that the movement is supported by some well-informed research by skilled linguists. Cornish nevertheless remains a language of the people. One of my first tasks as Bardh Meur was to present awards to those who had achieved their grades in the examinations. These were people from all walks of life who shared an enthusiasm for, and love of, our Cornish language.

In October I had the privilege of chairing the first meeting of the Cornish Language Forum. This group has been formed to monitor and support Cornwall Council's language plan. The membership of this

group demonstrates the wide a range of work being undertaken within the language movement, from developing and teaching the language to promoting Cornish signage across our countryside.

Here then is my message to all bards. Kernewek belongs to all of us and we should wear it proudly as our badge of Cornishness. It is all around us in our Cornish place-names so encourage people to enjoy and explore meanings. Let us also make it a familiar part of our social environment by using Cornish greetings such “Myttin Da /Good morning” and “Dydh Da / Hello” or responses such as “splann / brilliant” or “meur ras /many thanks”. By raising the positive profile of Cornish we will encourage more people to take an interest in learning our language.

As the nights draw in and the dark months of “Du /November” and “December /Kevardhu” approach let us remember another aspect of our Cornish heritage, our Christmas carols. It was 1822 when Davies Gilbert published the first collection of folk carols from Cornwall. He believed these were part of a Cornwall that was dead and gone, something to be recorded as an antiquarian curiosity. He could not have been more wrong. His book immediately sold out and he was obliged to publish a second and larger edition.

Davies Gilbert’s work inspired other Cornish collections and eventually provided material for the first Oxford Book of Carols. Far from dying in the early nineteenth century the Cornish Carol tradition went on from strength to strength and perhaps culminating in the work of Thomas Merritt. It was our Cornish carol tradition that inspired Bishop Benson of Truro to introduce the service of “Nine Lessons and Carols” into the Church calendar in 1880.

Kernow Bys Vyken!

Telynor, Grand Bard of Cornwall

Nowodhow dhyworth Konsel Gorsedh Kernow / News from Gorsedh Kernow Council

This being the first meeting of the Council since the St Austell ceremony, new Grand Bard Merv Davey, *Telynor an Weryn*, wanted to offer thanks to Mike Millard, *Gwythias Melyn*, who has now retired as Senior Marshal. The role has now been taken up by former Deputy Marshal Tim Hambly, *Roscarrek*, who has now joined the GK Council. He also reported back on the first meeting of the new Cornish Language Forum which is chaired by the Grand Bard in a neutral role as mediator. Nevertheless, it was felt that a GK representative was needed and Maureen Pierce, *Cares Awgrym*, kindly agreed to take on this role. Venues for future Gorseddau were discussed and will be announced in due course. Plans are well underway to change the scope and nature of GK Awards and Competitions in time for 2016.

More organisations are looking to work with Gorsedh Kernow and there was exciting news of a potential strong future link with the new Kresen Kernow, or the National Library of Cornwall as some are already calling it, on track to open in 2018.

There is an ongoing need for more volunteer help please. No-one will be expected to give more time than they are able, but every little helps as they say! We especially need help with Sales and Marketing as we have an impressive and growing range of items available for sale including books, DVDs, diaries, calendars and of course the Awen jewellery. Might you be able to run a sales stall occasionally in your immediate area to raise funds for GK? If a few people came forward to each do a couple of stalls during the year it would help enormously with our fundraising and raise the profile of Gorsedh Kernow and Cornish culture. You do not have to be bard to help, but we do ask that you support the aims of Gorsedh Kernow.

If you can help at all please send your details to Gorsedh Secretary Esther Johns, *Tamm Steren*, by email on secretary@gorsedhkernow.org.uk Thank you very much.

Yma Nadelek ow tos / Christmas is coming!

Are you looking for a really special Christmas gift to give to someone you love? Well, we have just the thing and you don’t even need to leave the comfort of your armchair! The St Justin range of beautiful Awen jewellery consists of stud earrings, brooch, pendant and t-bar cufflinks and all pieces are supplied

in satin and velvet-lined gift boxes. All pieces in the Cornish Awen range contain at least 30% Cornish tin and will not cost you a bard's ransom to send through the post.

If you already have enough jewellery to open your own shop then why not consider one of the many fascinating books or perhaps a calendar or desk diary from the high quality Sarah Lay range?

There is also a good choice of DVDs published by Gorsedh Kernow, including **the very latest compilation** for 2015, 170 minutes running time with **NEW** footage of the Proclamation and main Gorsedh ceremony in St Austell and the Awen ceremony at Carwynnen Quoit, and all for just £8 plus £1.30 p & p. More info from Keith Shaw, *Kaswydh*, email keithandbarbarashaw@btinternet.com

All these items are also available to purchase now through the Gorsedh Kernow website www.gorsedhkernow.org.uk and you will be helping to raise funds for Gorsedh Kernow each time you buy - just click on the shop page and away you go.

As an alternative, you may like to consider making a donation to the Gorsedh Kernow Endowment Fund, set up early in 2014 to help support our vital role as a centre of expertise and help finance specific projects (using the interest, the capital remains untouched) that foster Cornish culture and identity. The fund currently stands at around £3000. Further details from the Treasurer, Jerry Rogers, *Mab Eglosvelyan*, email jerryrogers@sqrconsultancy.co.uk

Profyansow rag Berdh nowydh / Proposals for new Bards

There is still some confusion about the process for nominating potential new bards. Just one proposer is necessary (not two as was the case in the past) and there is absolutely NO NEED to send your proposal to anyone other than the Admissions Secretary, Marion Coombe, *Cum Morek*. There are definitely no sub-committees pre-vetting any proposals and all bards, wherever you are in the world, who have paid their current subscription are eligible to nominate. Please use the latest "CITATION FOR CONSIDERATION FOR BARDSHIP" form with guidelines which is enclosed with this newsletter and send it **DIRECT** to the Admissions Secretary by email on admissions@gorsedhkernow.org.uk You are not required to send or copy your proposal to anyone other than the Admissions Secretary. Proposals must be submitted by 31st December each year. We hope this clarifies the process.

A garsewgh redya? / Do you like to read?

The annual Gorsedh Kernow Holyer an Gof Publishers Awards is fast becoming one of the key dates in Cornwall's social and business calendar, but much of its success rests on the shoulders of the many reader reviewers who help make this popular project run smoothly. Would you like to join our panel either as a general reader or someone with specialist knowledge? There is room for both so please don't be shy, the range of subjects is amazing and you are bound to find one or more to interest you. If you can help please contact Rael Harvey, *Myrgh Mydroilyn* by email on enquiries@holyerangofawards.org.uk

Nowodhow bryntyn! / Brilliant news!

On Sunday 27th September our Gorsedh Chaplain Jane Kneebone, *Colum Wyn*, was made a Canon at Truro Cathedral, which is wonderful for her and we are immensely proud of her achievement. Each of the new nine Canons, who were each seated at the stall allocated to their particular parish, were presented with a psalter. There are also particular psalms for each parish. Jane's citation for canonship was as follows:

"The Reverend Jane Kneebone is a self-supporting Priest and Director of Reader Training, a member also of the Diocesan Formation, Education and Discipleship Committee; Jane has significantly contributed to the resurgence of the use of the Cornish language, including the re-introduction of services at Truro Cathedral in Cornish."

At the service, when Jane came to agree to the canonship, the Bishop did a stage whisper and asked her to do it in Cornish, which she did. It is good to see him openly supporting the Cornish language. Jane's formal title is Rev. Canon Jane Kneebone. *Keslowena Colum Wyn / Congratulations Jane.*

Gwregh Neppyth Rag Kernow! / Do Something for Cornwall!

Don't forget to keep sending your stories about how you are "Doing Something for Cornwall" for posting on the Gorsedh Kernow website or Facebook page, with photos if you can. Of course, all our social media outlets are open to the general public but don't forget that other bards love to know what's happening in Cornwall, especially those based overseas, so keep 'em coming please to Delia Brotherton, *Myrghwyn Melynor* by email on communications@gorsedhkernow.org.uk Thank you.

A wrussta kelli neppyth ? / Have you lost something?

There were two items left in the gents changing room after the September bardic ceremony.

- A leather style jacket
- A black plastic earpiece (perhaps part of a hearing aid?)

If either or both are yours please contact Mike Millard, *Gwythyas Melyn*, to arrange recovery of the item(s).

Dedhyow dydhlyver / Diary dates

Fri 13th November 7.30pm St Buryan Village Hall, "Tawny & Barn Owls of Cornwall", film by John Potter.

Sun 29th November 3pm Budock Parish Church, Advent Service in Cornish

Fri 4th December 7.30pm Hayle OCS Passmore Edwards Institute, "Tall Ship Kruzenshtern from Penzanze to Bremenhaven" film by John Potter

Sun 13th December 3pm St Ives Methodist Chapel, Christmas Service in Cornish

Sun 3rd January 2016 3pm Bridge Methodist Chapel, Christmas Service in Cornish

Sun 10th January 2016 3pm Gulval Parish Church, Epiphany Service in Cornish

Advanced notice – Saturday 16th April 2016 Gorsedh Kernow Proclamation and AGM, St Keverne, venue to be confirmed.

Kovheans / In Memorium

I am sorry to have to pass on the news of the passing of two of our Bards – Pauline ROWE – *KERNOWES GOTHYS* (Proud Cornishwoman). Pauline was Barded at Pensilva in 2002 and she lived in Ludgvan, near Penzance. Her funeral was held at Ludgvan Church on Tuesday 22nd September.

Also Mary Helen DERRINGTON – *CHUN* (Place Name) who died on Tuesday 20th October 2015, aged 95 years. Mary Helen lived in Pendeen and was made a bard in 1966 at St Ives. She was Honorary Treasurer for Gorsedh Kernow from 1985-1993, and was a very active member of many local organisations. She is survived by her husband, bard Dr Arnold Derrington, *Carer Penwyth* (Lover of Penwith).

As an addition to the Gorsedh Kernow website we have decided to add an "In Memorium" page which will list deceased bards as read out by the Deputy Grand Bard at the September bardic ceremony.

Lyther Newodhow Bardhek/Bardic Newsletter

Information to be included in the next newsletter, for February, March & April 2016, should be submitted to Delia Brotherton, *Myrghwyn Melynor*, Communications Officer by email to communications@gorsedhkernow.org.uk by the 15th of January 2016 please. If you have an email address and wish to receive the newsletter electronically please tell the Membership Secretary, David Holman on membership@gorsedhkernow.org.uk Although everyone receives the quarterly newsletter there are often "short notice" events that members who receive paper copy will not hear about. You can also catch up with the latest news about Gorsedh Kernow on our website

www.gorsedhkernow.org.uk or you can



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