## The Celtic Congress Cornwall



## An Guntelles Keltek Kernow

NOWODHOW AN GUNTELLES KELTEK KERNOW

MIS EBREL / APRIL 2021



Controversy has erupted over a valid suggestion that Snowdon, Wales highest peak be renamed in the Welsh language **Yr Wyddfa**. Once again much public antagonism and jokes in poor taste from many in England about the Welsh language. Bearing in mind that Kernewek comes from the same branch of the Celtic language, Brythonic, this is a slight that we in Cornwall and Brittany feel. Is it not time that the tragic naming of Cornwall's highest tor, in English 'Brown Willy', is more suitably renamed in Kernewek, Bron Wenely (spelling has varies through the ages) meaning hill of swallows?

Of course, this does raise the subject of our national Celtic languages and creates an opportunity to bang the drum and promote them. We must not lie down and accept ridicule of our national Celtic minorities culture which is abhorrent.



Kernow applauds the success for Breizh and other minority national languages in France. Importantly including Kernow's sister language Breton. Breizh national anthem sung on the steps of the French national assembly led by Paul Molac. This followed in March over 5,000 (left) Bretons protesting against French government inaction relating to the lack of agreement regarding the Breton language and tuition.





Gwerthji Koffi Keltek at Newquay Heritage Archive & Museum, with Urban Kelt's Mark Bunney, featured in a recent Kernewek educational film produced by Golden Tree Productions.

This is one of a series of films promoting and for educational use by the Cornish Language Office. These are available to watch online on the Go Cornish website at <u>www.gocornish.org/resource/wjec-entry-</u> <u>level-cornish</u>

The website also includes pdf downloads for the script, vocabulary and session notes. There is so much new online Kernewek learning material to help students besides the traditional Cornish language classes and even many of these are now on Zoom As many will know the International Celtic Congress that was to have been held in Aberystwyth last year was postponed due to the COVID crisis to this year. Cymru was again given the opportunity to host this event. However, with so much uncertainty regarding the pandemic it was decided that this year's congress will be a virtual event from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> July. More information will follow on our Facebook page, with other links in due course.

We are pleased to report that plans are very well underway for this virtual International Celtic Congress. Although very different from the usual past congresses, this looks to be an interesting event utilising technology and bringing many new opportunities for online activities and interaction.

This event is a huge step forward for the International Celtic Congress and one that we here in Kernow support wholeheartedly. We hope that as the Celtic Congress branches step out into the virtual world greater numbers of new and younger members will join as members. There are large numbers of younger people with interests in the Celtic languages and wider culture and heritage. Engagement online through events and social media will attract interest from around the world from the Celtic Diaspora.



Celtic Congress Cornwall as reported in the last newsletter supported the Newquay St Piran's Festival through the 'Urban Kelt' evening music sessions. The virtual festival was coordinated by our Vice-Chair and Publicity Officer and he reports that it was a great success. With well over 5,000 hits over the various videos, several hundred hits on the five nightly videos and posts that involved Celtic Congress Cornwall it certainly helped show that our branch is still actively involved, albeit digitally during a lockdown. These videos are ongoing so will continue to receive views into the future.

Celtic Congress Cornwall is always interested in being able to support Cornish and the wider Celtic community at events throughout Cornwall wherever possible. If you know of any that may be of interest please let us know and we will help promote and support these events.

The Celtic Congress Cornwall Facebook page continues to attract followers to its page through a range of posts. There is now approaching 650 followers with over 450 added in the last 12 months. This is not just about Cornwall and what we do as a branch but sharing Celtic cultural and heritage themes from the other Celtic nations as well. The International Celtic Congress Facebook page started in March 2020 now has over 200 followers.

These share all types of information and posts about Celtic cultural heritage including other Celtic language and academic posts. It would help enormously to get our name out there more if existing members of ICC or its branches followed and shared posts, perhaps sending some of their own. Contact Len at associationcornishheritage@gmail.com who would be pleased to hear from you.



These are not Groups so people can just follow/like the pages and there is no joining required



Celtic Congress Cornwall planning for the full opening up of activities in June is on track. From 19th June to 27th June, it is 'Speak Cornish Week', and we will be holding an event at Gwertji Koffi Keltek in Newquay. More information on our Celtic Congress Cornwall Facebook page soon.

This will take place on 26th June from about 11.00am through to about 1.00pm and will be a taster to encourage people to have a go and learn some basic Cornish perhaps leading to going further with more lessons. Numbers will be limited, but if there is sufficient interest another event can be organised. The last one held for the St Piran's Festival 2020 was a great success and good fun.



**A Yeth an Werin** is an informal meeting of Cornish speakers. During pre-COVID times a number of Yeth an Werin were held around Cornwall, usually in a pub to use Cornish together. These were held once or sometimes even more a month and although these pub meetings have been prevented from taking place conversations have continued online.



Yeth an Werin online has encouraged and enabled people from around the world to enjoy participating and enabling them to use their Cornish language skills to a far greater extent

For those interested in joining an online Yeth an Werin checkout the Yeth an Werin Warlinen Facebook page at <u>www.facebook.com/groups/yaw.warlinen</u>

The Zoom links are all provided on the Facebook page and this is ongoing beyond COVID taking place on Thursdays. The beginners session is 19:00-20:00 BST (GMT+1) and is for anyone, even if you can only say hello! The session for more confident speakers is from 20:00 BST onwards.

We thought we would add a Cornish quiz in for a bit of fun, so first one to send correct answers to these questions will get a mention in the next newsletter. Send to Len at associationcornishheritage@gmail.com We'll try and rustle up a Cornish related prize and the answers with new questions will be in the June edition.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Where were the Crown Jewels and the Doomsday book deposited for safety during the Great War? Who shot the man who shot Lord Nelson and where did he come from? Which well-known landmark was given by Heinz to the National Trust? Where is Leek Seed Chapel and how did it get its name? At which Parish Church did the vicar	6. 7. 8. 9.	Who was crowned King Richard IV in 1497 and where? Who developed the first spliced cricket bat and what was his profession? Who launched Brunel's ship the "Great Eastern" when all attempts to move her failed? For what is Lieutenant Hugh Colville Goldsmith renowned and what was his punishment?
	preach to a cardboard congregation?	<b>10</b> .	What is the "Welcome Stranger"?

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Charity:	Registration No' 1125469	Treasurer:	Jerry Rogers:	jerry_rogers1@outlook.com

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An Guntelles Keltek Kernow is n to everyone who shares those aims	on-political and n	on-sectarian membership is open						
<ul> <li>Supporting Cornwall's own language and Cornish cultural heritage</li> </ul>								
<ul> <li>Maintaining ties of friendship with the people of the other Celtic nations</li> </ul>								
Enjoying the gifts of Celtic genius in creative arts								
<ul> <li>Celtic Congress Cornwall taking you to the friendly heart of the Celtic nations of Europe creates links with Celtic community and interest groups</li> </ul>								
<ul> <li>Encouraging young people to join in and learn about Celtic culture, including language, music, dance and the heritage of the Celtic nations.</li> </ul>								
<ul> <li>Working with other Celtic organisations that share the aims and goals of the International Celtic Congress.</li> </ul>								
The <b>International Celtic Congress</b> is an educational and cultural organisation working to promote the mutual ideals, cultures and languages of the Celtic people of Europe It holds an event every year rotating around the six nations making up Celtic Congress. This includes a conference together with Celtic music and dance.								
Membership of Celtic Congress Cornwall gives each member affiliation to the International Celtic Congress There will be a newsletter and be able to attend events organised Celtic Congress								
Cornwall as well as the Internationa								
Annual subscription:	Subscription	£						
Single: £ 8.00	Donation	£						
Family: £12.00 Group: £20.00	Total	£						
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Registered Charity Number: 1125469								