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# Lyther-nowodhow

From Kernow to Kerry

**A Cornish band is preparing to take on the Celtic world's best bands and songwriters.**



The members of Skwardya (photo: by Chris Bowden)

*Skwardya* is representing Cornwall at the Pan Celtic Song Contest in Ireland. The event is being held April 6th-11th in Dingle Town in county Kerry.

*Skwardya* is the only band (as far as we know) that performs almost all of its material in the Cornish language. It is made up of Matthew Clarke, Dave Miller, Alison Roberts-Davies, and Colin Roberts. The band hit international fame in 2006 for performing some Beatles songs in

Cornish. Now it wants to beat the Irish, Welsh, Scottish, Bretons and Manx in the Celtic world's premier music contest.

Matthew's former group, *Krena*, won in 2005 - this time he is hoping his song 'Pols Anella' (a breathing space) will be victorious too. It is about how South Crofty tin mine was saved from closure in 1994. The foursome is also entering into a competition for the 'best new song written in the traditional

genre'. The entry for that one is 'Aswonn agan Gonisogeth' (Recognise our Culture).

Matthew said: "We are all looking forward to this adventure - a chance to meet fellow celts and enjoy each other's cultures. We obviously hope to bring the PanCeltic trophy home to Kernow, but it is more about representing the Duchy. Cornwall has a good track record of winning at the contest. Kernow claimed victory three years in a row between 2003-5."

Yma bagas ilow Kernewek,  
Skwardya, ow mos dhe  
Iwerdhon yn mis Ebryl dhe  
gesstrivya erbyn bagasow erel  
dhyworth an broyow keltek erel  
yn Kesstrif Kan Keskeltek. Aga  
han, henwys 'Pols Anella', a veu  
skrifys gans Matthew Clarke,  
neb a waynyas an piwas ma  
kyns gans y vagas aral, Krena.

# Hwythfians a les dhyworth skolyow

## Kynsa derivas dhyworth an Sodhogyon Adhyskans, Mike Tresidder ha Pol Hodge



Students from Cornwall College at a taster lesson organised by MAGA

An gorholedh dhyworth skolyow rag skoodhyans dhe dhelivra Kernewek yw pur generthus. Y hwovynnir orthyn ni 'dydh blasa' a'n par usadow mes ynwedh yth yw apert bos skolyow lemmyn degemerus dhe'n tybyans i aga honan dhe dhelivra dyskansow war sel hirdermyn. Orth an pols ma an gorholedh moy re dheuth dhyworth an ranngylgh kyns-skol ha kynsa skol (dustuni hwedhlek a brof bos hemma yndella awos bos argemynnans posedhek a-dro dhe lonch Movyans Skolyow Meythrin).

Ni a aswon ynwedh bos res skoodhya an dhyskatoryon ha festys ha gorvynnus neb yw grondys y'n gemenieth efan hag y tal dhyn ni bos parys dhe dherivas tybyansow moy manylys yn skon. Avel an kynsa kamm, y karsen ni gelwel pubhuni a'n jeves fentynow, daffar po tybyansow rag esedhogow-dyski o fest da dh'aga danvon omma dhyn ni orth MAGA.

Gans agas gweres ha kesoberyans y hyllyn ni drehevel fenten a braktis da a yll bos kevrynnys gans an gemenieth-dhyski efanna. Mes y'n tor ma, mars eus edhom a weres ha kusul a-dro dhe vaters-dyski, gwrewh agan kestava ni.

encouraging. Not only are we being asked for the usual 'taster day' type of sessions but it has become clear schools are also very receptive to the idea of delivering lessons themselves on a long term basis. At the moment the main demand has come from the pre-school and primary sector (anecdotal evidence suggests this in no small part due to the positive publicity surrounding the launch of Movyans Skolyow Meythrin).

Not only are we being asked for the usual 'taster day' type of sessions but it has become clear schools are also very receptive to the idea of delivering lessons themselves on a long term basis.

To meet this demand, and to support a lasting presence in these schools, our energies have been focussed on developing resources, teacher training and creating a network of supporters. However, we have also begun to notice an increase in interest from the secondary schools and FE colleges although it remains to be seen if this will be maintained once St Piran's day has past!

We are also conscious of the need to support the established and aspirant teachers based in the wider community and should be ready to announce more detailed ideas soon. As a first step, we would like to invite anyone who has resources and ideas for teaching sessions that went really well to send them to us here at MAGA.

With your help and co-operation we can then build up a source of good practice that can be shared with the wider teaching community. In the mean time, if you need help and advice on teaching matters please feel free to contact us.



Skol Veythrin Karenza

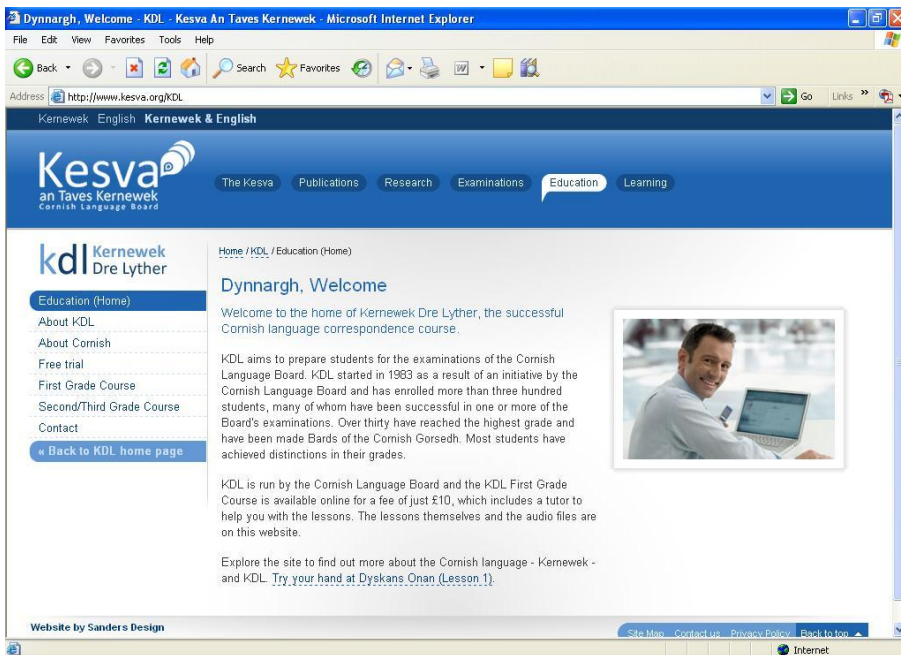
### Surge in interest from schools First report from the Education Officers, Mike Tresidder and Pol Hodge

The demand from schools for support in delivering Kernewek is very

Y hwovynnir orthyn ni 'dydh blasa' a'n par usadow mes ynwedh yth yw apert bos skolyow lemmyn degemerus dhe'n tybyans i aga honan dhe dhelivra dyskansow war sel hirdermyn.

Rag kolenwel an gorholedh ma, ha rag skoodhya lok duryadow y'n skolyow ma, agan nerth re beu fogellys war dhisplegya fentynow keffrys ha daffar, dyski dyskatoryon ha gul rosweyth a skodhyoryon. Byttegyns, ni re dhalathas ynwedh merkya kressyans yn les dhyworth skolyow nessa ha koljiow AP kyn na vo hwath gwir, martesen, ha Dydh Sen Pyran tremenys!

# Gwiasva Nowyth Kernewek Dre Lyther



## Folen dre a'n wiasva nowth KDL

Kernewek dre Lyther (KDL) a'n jeves gwiasva nowyth - [www.kesva.org/KDL](http://www.kesva.org/KDL) (gans 'KDL' yn lytherennow bras).

KDL a veder orth pareusi studhyoryon rag apposyansow Kesva an Taves Kernewek yn Kernewek Kemmyn. Rynnys yw an steus yn diw rann veur - 1a Gradh, ha 2a/3a Gradh. Yn keworansel y hyll KDL pareusi studhyoryon rag an 4a Gradh, an uhella nivel a apposyans.

Y kevir y'n wiasva nowyth pub dyskans ha restren son hag yw res.

An steus ma a veu dalethys may hallo dyski Kernewek tus mayth yw ragdha kales po analadow mos dhe glass yn fenowgh. Yma'n studhyoryon trigys yn Kernow, rannow erel a Europa ha pella dhe-ves, yn arbennik yn Ostrali. Appoyntys yw dyskador rag pub studhyer. Esys yw hemma awos devedhyans an kesrosweyth drefen bos der e-bost keskomunyans gans an dyskador rag an brassa rann a studhyoryon. Mes hwath y hyllir kowlwul an steus dre baper, pluven ha post hengovek mars yw henna gwiw.

Yn-mysk an moy ages 300 studhyer re omrolyas a-dhia 1983, lies re beu sewen yn onan po moy a apposyansow an Gesva, ha 32 re dhrehedhas an uhella gradh mayth ethons ha bos Berdh an Orsedh. Rag ensampel, y'n vledhen usi passyes eth

studhyer a dhalathas an steus ha pypm a sewenas y'n apposyansow.

Gans KDL studhyoryon a dhyght an steus herwydh tooth yw gwiw dhedha. Skrifys veu an steus gans Ray Edwards, dyskador galwesik a yethow, wosa gorholedh dhyworth Kesva an Taves Kernewek. Yn 1983 an Gesva a bysis orto ordena steus bostel dredhi may hallsa studhya an yeth tus na yllens mos dhe glass, yn arbennik an re na na driga yn Kernow.

A-dhia ena moy ages 300 studhyer re omrolyas yn rannow divers a'n bys ha steus an kynsa gradh re beu treyls yn Breton ha Chekk.

Nebes tus a studhya kyns gans Ray a's teves rann jyf yn dasserghyans an yeth, nebes avel dyskadoryon KDL.

Ytho, deus ha mir orth an wiasva [www.kesva.org/KDL](http://www.kesva.org/KDL), assay an kynsa dyskans martesens, hag yn skon y hwredh konvedhes fatel ober an steus!

## New Kernewek Dre Lyther website

Kernewek Dre Lyther (KDL) has a new website at [www.kesva.org/KDL](http://www.kesva.org/KDL) (with 'KDL' in capital letters).

KDL aims to prepare students for the Kesva an Taves Kernewek exams in

Kernewek Kemmyn. The course is split into two sections – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, and 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade.

Additionally, KDL can prepare students for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, the highest level of exam.

All of the lessons and audio files can be found on the new website.

This course was started so that people could learn Cornish even if they could not get to classes regularly. Students live in Cornwall, other parts of Europe and further afield, particularly in Australia. Each student is assigned a tutor and this has become easier as a result of the internet, as most of the communication between the tutors and students is now conducted by e-mail. However it is still possible to complete the course using paper, pen and traditional post where this is more appropriate.

Amongst more than 300 students who have enrolled since 1983, many have been successful in one of more of the Kesva's exams, and 32 have reached the highest grade and become bards of the Gorsedh. For example, last year eight students became the course and five passed exams.

With KDL students can study at their own pace. The course was written by Ray Edwards, a professional language teacher, who was commissioned by Kesva an Taves Kernewek. In 1983 the Kesva asked him to set up a correspondence course so that people who could not attend classes, in particular those who did not live in Cornwall, could study the language.

Since then more than 300 students have enrolled from all over the world, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Grade course has been translated into Czech and Breton.

Some of the people who studied previously with Ray have gone on to play important parts in the revival of the language, some of them as KDL tutors.

So, take a look at the website at [www.kesva.org/KDL](http://www.kesva.org/KDL), perhaps try the first lesson, and soon you'll find out how the course works.

## Kesva an Taves Kernewek

### Derivas dhyworth Kuntelles Kemmyn Bledhynnyek Kesva an Taves Kernewek, gans Maureen Pierce

Kuntelles Kemmyn Bledhynnyek Kesva an Taves Kernewek a veu synsys dhe'n 20ves a vis Hwevrer yn Truru ha'n Gesva nowyth wosa an etholans a's teves tri esel nowyth: Clive Baker, Roger Garside ha Stephen Harris.

Byttegyns, dew esel re omdennsa wosa an etholans awos skila personel may fydh hwath dew le dhe lenwel. An Gesva a re galow, ytho, dhe'n re a garsa sevel dre dhanvon hanow/henwyn dhe'n Skrifenyades, Maureen Pierce ([mpiercekernow@btinternet.com](mailto:mpiercekernow@btinternet.com)), gans hanterkans ger a-dro dhe'n om-brofyer.

Korf-laha an Gesva a veu amendys nebes yndellma: 'An Sodhogyon - Kaderyer, Iskaderyer, Skrifennyas Kemmyn, Alhwedhor - a vydh etholys gans an Gesva pub teyr bledhen ket-tel vo hewul wosa etholans pub Kesva nowyth. I a wra synsi soodh teyr bledhen hag y fydhons dewisadow rag dasetholans.'

Sodhogyon 2010-2013 a vydh:

Kaderyer: Polin Prys

Iskaderyer: Graham Sandercock

Skrifennyas Kemmyn: Maureen Pierce

Alhwedhor: Wella Brown

Gwasva Kernewek Dre Lyther yw nowythhes ha gwellhes hag y hyllir

goslowes orth an dyskasow heb tyli: [www.kesva.org/KDL](http://www.kesva.org/KDL).

### Report from the Kesva AGM, by Maureen Pierce

The AGM of The Cornish Language Board was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2010. There are three new members: Clive Baker, Roger Garside ha Stephen Harris. Nevertheless two members have had to resign, therefore the Kesva is calling for anyone who wishes to serve on the Kesva to send his/her name to the General Secretary, Maureen Pierce ([mpiercekernow@btinternet.com](mailto:mpiercekernow@btinternet.com)), together with 50 words about his/herself.

The constitution was amended as follows: to include the position of Vice-Chairman, and that officers would, in general, serve for three years.

The Officers for 2010-2013 will be:

Chariman: Polin Prys

Vice-Chairman: Graham Sandercock

General Secretary: Maureen Pierce

Treasurer: Wella Brown

The meeting also heard about the new KDL website which is now under the umbrella of the Kesva website. [www.kesva.org/KDL](http://www.kesva.org/KDL).

## Nowodhow an Diwetha

War-lergh agan lyther-nowodhow a'n mis eus passyes, mars eus hwath tus a venja kemeres radn yn lavurya gen pobel yonk, yma odhom dhen klowes ahanowgh skon, rag ornys 'vedh dedhyow rag shoppys-kodnek yn kot termyn, mala nei dalleth agan oberow der vaner diwyjyk.

### Stop Press

Following on from last month, if there is anyone else who would like to become involved with working with young people, then we need to hear from you as quickly as possible as we will be setting the dates for some skills workshops soon so that we can start the projects in earnest.

## Redyer PDF yn Kernewek

Yma lemmyn redyer PDF gans ynterfas Kernewek rag jynnow-amontya gans an system oberyans Fenestri. An medhelweyth pennfenten ygor SumatraPDF re beu treyllys gans Steve Harris, Albert Bock ha Ben Bruch, hag a yll bos iskergys dhyworth an folen vedhelweyth war [www.kernewegva.com](http://www.kernewegva.com). Res yw chaniya an yeth dhe Gernewek dre dhorn wosa an stallasyon der an rol Settings > Change Language.

### PDF Reader in Cornish

There is now a PDF reader with a Cornish interface for computers with the Windows operating system. The open source software SumatraPDF has been translated by Steve Harris, Albert Bock and Ben Bruch, and can be downloaded from the software page on [www.kernewegva.com](http://www.kernewegva.com). It is necessary to change the language to Cornish manually after the installation through the menu Settings > Change Language.

## Yeth an Werin yn Kernow Est

Yma Yeth an Werin nowyth ow talleth yn Kernow Est. An kynsa gorthuher a wra hwarvos orth Klub Livrel Ryskamel dy' Gwener 19ves mis Meurth dhe 7.30. Wosa henna, an Yeth an Werin a vydh synsys yn tyleryow divers yn Kernow Est. Mirewgh orth lyther-nowodhow MAGA rag dydhyow dres an misyow ow tos.

### Yeth an Werin in East Cornwall

A new Yeth an Werin is starting in East Cornwall. The first evening will take place at Camelford Liberal Club on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm. It will then move around different venues in East Cornwall. Keep an eye on the MAGA newsletter for details of future dates and venues.

# Pennseythen Gernewek Porthia 2010

## Report from the St Ives Cornish Language Weekend, by Dee Brotherton



Cornish speakers and learners at the Pennseythen Gernewek held in St Ives

It was my own fault really. I wanted to know why Agan Tavas didn't have its own language weekend and was told that, at the moment, there was no-one willing to organise it. The challenge was on! We decided to try St Ives, ridiculously overcrowded in summer but, hey, it was February, so St Ives it was. The date coincided happily with St Ives Feast which created a great focus for us and we picked the Western Hotel as our venue, right in the heart of the town and, as it turned out, just the right size and location for us. As always, parking was a bit of a problem but generally that minus point was outweighed by the convenience and atmosphere of the Western and we were able to move downstairs in the evenings to the Kettle'n'Wink bar for our entertainment.

We had a good mix of abilities which allowed for absolute beginners to spend most of their time together grappling with the basics under the tuition of Clive Baker, while everyone else shared their knowledge in one group with Ray Chubb. For future occasions we might wish to create a third group for more fluent speakers

although no-one expressed any dissatisfaction with the group mix. For those of us at intermediate level it was a great opportunity to stretch our knowledge and hear the language spoken as a fluid, dynamic tongue.

We were aiming for a relaxed atmosphere where we could have fun



Arriving at the Tate St Ives

while learning and participating in the various activities. The programme included a bit of grammar, word games, newspaper reviews, talks by Craig Weatherhill and Grand Bard Mick Paynter, a humorous re-enactment, with hats, of Jowan Chy an Horth and a visit to the Tate Gallery. We were using vocabulary and phrases ranging from mediaeval texts

through to modern contemporary expressions including the all-important "juxtapose" - an essential word for describing some modern art exhibits!

Craig Weatherhill's novel "Jowal Lethosow" (The Lyonesse Stone), recently translated into Cornish by Nicholas Williams, has received critical acclaim from Prof. Alan M Kent and it was fitting that Craig came along to talk us, in Kernewek and Sowsnek, about his work. Grand Bard Mick Paynter, a son of St Ives, spoke of his childhood in the town and of the many changes that have taken place over the years.

Our visit to the Tate was stimulating and aroused a range of comments one might expect from such an encounter. Thankfully, for those of us with limited vocabulary, the works were not overly abstract and, armed with a very handy list of appropriate words from Ray Chubb, we were soon well into the swing of "the critique". Not to everyone's taste, the exhibition at least got us talking about contemporary issues in Kernewek!

Evening entertainment centred mostly around Cornish culture with renditions of tunes, songs, prose and poetry. Those who were still around on Sunday late evening joined the St Ives Guisers as they celebrated Feast Eve round the town, receiving a particularly warm welcome at the Castle Inn and the Kettle'n'Wink bar which was beginning to feel like a second home - but perhaps we shouldn't get on to that subject!

We're already talking about next year so make a note in your diary - Friday 4th to Sunday 6th/Monday 7th February 2011.

Dee Brotherton a re dhyn derivas  
dhyworth an Bennseythen  
Gernewek Agan Tavas synsys yn  
Porth la yn mis Hwevrer.

## Bagas Porthia - A Cornish Life

Bagas Porthia has released its first CD, entitled 'A Cornish Life'. The band was formed in March 2006 after a chance meeting at a St Piran's Day procession and the band has quietly built up a strong following with its combination of traditional and contemporary tunes performed with a rich celtic instrumentation.

More than just a selection of well known and well loved tunes, the tracks on this new CD draw on the band's experiences of modern life in Cornwall. There are references to mythical figures, incomers, the demise of tin mining and the teamwork of the seine fishermen about to land a good

catch, written in the Cornish language.

The CD is available through the **Bagas Porthia** website at [www.bagasporthia.co.uk](http://www.bagasporthia.co.uk) and at selected outlets. For further information, contact: [bagasporthia@aol.com](mailto:bagasporthia@aol.com).

Bagas Porthia re dhellos aga hynsa CD, henwys 'A Cornish Life'. Yma kanow yn Kernewek warnodho, keffrys ha tonyow hengovek kernewek. Y hyllir y brena dhyworth gwasva Bagas Porthia ha nebes gwerthjiow.

## Darvosow / Events

### March

- 7th** Pirantide church service at St James' Church, Kilhampton, including hymns in Cornish, 11am
- 7th** Cornish Pirates St Piran Festival, prior to the British and Irish Cup game between Cornish Pirates and Newport, Camborne Recreation Ground, 12.30-3pm - visit the MAGA stall at this event
- 7th** St Piran Play - a processional play through the sand dunes to the sites of the oratory and mediaeval church, Perran Sands Holiday Park, 2pm, for further information call 01872 572121
- 7th** St Piran Dinner, Ponsmere Hotel, Perranporth, 7.30pm, contact Beatrice Curnow-Plummer for tickets on 01209 860410
- 9th** Yeth an Werin, Queens Arms, Constantine - for further information contact [paulshelagh@sabrehost.net](mailto:paulshelagh@sabrehost.net)
- 14th** Evensong for the feast of St Piran, Perran-ar-Worthal Parish Church, 3pm
- 16th** Yeth an Werin, Cornish Arms, St Ives - for further information contact [deliabrotherton@aol.com](mailto:deliabrotherton@aol.com)
- 17th** Yeth an Werin, Coldstreamer, Gulval - for further information contact [koreen@freshapproachaccountancy.co.uk](mailto:koreen@freshapproachaccountancy.co.uk)
- 25th** Yeth an Werin, New Inn, Mabe - for further information contact [gwenenen45@btinternet.com](mailto:gwenenen45@btinternet.com)
- 30th** Yeth an Werin, Plume of Feathers, Scorrier - for further information contact [ray@spyrays.org](mailto:ray@spyrays.org)

### April

- 4th-5th** Easter Fair at Trereife House, Penzance - visit the MAGA stall at this event
- 6th** Yeth an Werin, Royal Standard, Gwinear, 8pm - for further information contact [jori.ansell@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jori.ansell@tiscali.co.uk)
- 9th-11th** Pennseythen Gernewek organised by Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek, Sandy Lodge Hotel, Newquay - for further information phone 01344 424105 or e-mail [kowethas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kowethas@hotmail.co.uk)

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### Gwasva / Website:

[www.magakernow.org.uk](http://www.magakernow.org.uk)

## Derivadow Pella / Further Information

For further information about any of the articles in this newsletter, please contact the MAGA office using the contact details above.

If you are organising a Cornish language event and would like to have it publicised in this newsletter please send us the details.

If you would like to subscribe to receive this newsletter free of charge every month send us an e-mail or letter and we will add you to our distribution list.

Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to others.

Deadline for contributions to April newsletter: **Thursday 1st April.**

Arhesans Keskowethyans an Taves  
Kernewek yw dhyworth:  
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