



An Kesskrifer

Mis Ebrel/April, 2023.

Hello again!

After a pause, An Kesskrifer has returned to give you information and interesting things to read by students and teachers.

This is *your* newsletter, and it's important that we publish what's useful for you, so give us your opinions about this edition: what kind of articles would you like to read here? We'd also like to publish your work whether it be long or short, simple or more complicated, and about whatever you like!

As you can already see, after some long thought, we have decided to make An Kesskrifer two separate publications, one in Cornish as before, with an English version so that no matter what your level is, you'll always be informed! We hope, of course, that you'll use the Cornish edition only as soon as possible!

Welcome to our ten new students!

We'd like to welcome our ten new students who come from all round the globe. Studying at 1st grade we have 3 people in Cornwall, 2 in different areas of the USA and then one apiece in Australia, England and Spain. Joining them is a 3rd grade student from Cornwall, and a 4th grade student from Wales. Good luck to you, one and all!

Cornish Language Board Exams.

As it does every year, the Cornish Language Board are holding their exams in May (oral) and June (written). You can go to the website here: <https://www.kesva.org/examinations> which has instructions in both Cornish and English if you wish to apply. It might be a good idea to check with your teacher beforehand to make sure you are ready! **The deadline for applications is the 22nd April.**

Gorsedh Kernow Awards and Competitions.

Gorsedh Kernow organises annual awards and competitions. Among the classes there are those for writing in Kernewek. Beginners should write no more than 150 words. For more advanced competitors, you can either write up to 2000 words or if you wish to write in verse the limit is 100 lines. You can find more information here:

<https://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/awards/> In the past, KDL students have done very well in these classes!

You also have the chance to nominate other people to receive a Gorsedh Kernow award for their work for Cornwall. The Celtic Spirit of Cornwall has to be seen in this work in some way. You will find information on how to nominate by following the same link as above.

The deadline for both of these is the 23rd April.

Peter Green

Cornish speaker and Bristol Cornish class/KDL teacher, Peter Green, passed away suddenly at the beginning of March, leaving a huge loss to the Cornish-speaking community. Gari Angove has very kindly written an obituary about Peter. To summarise, Gari tells us that he had a long and very interesting life having travelled with the Army, and having a great knowledge not only of Cornish but of Hebrew, as well as Old and Middle English. Having wed his beloved Pat from Gorran, Cornwall, in his own words he became a Cornishman by marriage. He was greatly loved by his students and will be sorely missed by one and all. We send our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

Interview with Roger Henley

In this edition we asked Roger Henley, who is one of our longest serving teachers, a few questions. Here's a summary of the Cornish version!

When his uncle bought a new farm, both it and its lane were named in Cornish, and Roger wanted to know what it meant so he bought himself a copy of Morton Nance's Dictionary and Cornish for Beginners by Peter Pool. He used to study them during his lunch breaks.

After retiring at Christmas 1996, he started learning Cornish with Kernewek Dre Lyther and his teacher was me (Symon Harner). He went on to pass his First Grade in 1998 and Third Grade in 1999. His intention was to take the Fourth Grade in 2001 but fate had different ideas. In the end, he passed his Fourth Grade in 2004 and was invited to become a KDL teacher.

He says that the easiest part about learning the language was the grammar in the lessons but the worst was learning the mutations (*of course!*), a phenomenon in all the Celtic languages. This has been the case for all of his students but in the end, and after a lot of practice, it all became clear!

He advises students to read instructions, examples and, above all, the questions very carefully!

Next edition

Remember to let us know your opinions about this edition and, having been proof-read by your tutor, send us your work to be published in the next edition which is due in June or July! You can send your work to me, Symon Harner (Editor An Kesskriker) at syharner@gmail.com or if you have any general enquiry, contact Dee Harris at kerneuekdrelyther@hotmail.co.uk

Bys y'n nessa tro! / Till next time!