

# Standing up for Cornwall after Brexit

Eleven o'clock on 31st January 2020 has passed. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has left the European Union and we are entering a new political era under a majority Conservative government.

The Prime Minister is arguing that Brexit means the UK Government has "taken back the tools of self-government" and will be able to improve the lives of "everyone" in "every corner of our United Kingdom." Boris Johnson also says he will spread "hope and opportunity," and continues to claim that he will "level up" the United Kingdom.

If these soundbite pledges are to mean anything at all, the Conservatives must prioritise what is in the best interests of Cornwall – which is still the poorest nation within the UK – both in terms of the trade and other negotiations due to take place during the transition period and, most importantly, in future domestic policy and investment decisions.

In a separate intervention, Government Minister Michael Gove has set out his view that Brexit equates to a complete "reset of the political system," adding that there "won't be a hiding place" for Westminster politicians like him. We must sincerely hope he is correct about the heightened scrutiny that he and his colleagues will face in the weeks, months and years ahead.

In Wales, the leader of Plaid Cymru Adam Price has already given a compelling speech in which he expressed the view that there was "little point" in revisiting recent battles over whether or not to exit the EU. He focussed on the need to find "new opportunities" for Wales "in the new landscape," demanding a "positive post-Brexit plan" with more powers to the National Assembly for Wales to "tackle and solve Wales' economic problems."

Here in Cornwall, it is vital that we approach the future in a similar fashion. We need to be ambitious and brave. We need to fight to "take back control" through a meaningful devolution settlement, and to secure fair funding to undo the damage done by a decade of austerity.

#### **Kernow FA in North Macedonia**

This coming summer, UEFA will be staging Euro 2020 but sixteen footballing teams representing small nations or historic regions will be in North Macedonia for the Conifa (Confederation of Independent Football Associations) World Football Cup.

Karpatalja, a side representing the Hungarian minority in the far west of Ukraine, won Conifa's last global tournament in 2018, while the winner of the previous competition in 2016 was Abkhazia from the South Caucasus on the eastern coast of the Black Sea.

This will be the first time that Cornwall will have been represented in the competition and Kernow FA has been drawn in a group to play the Mapuche (indigenous inhabitants of South Central Chile and South West Argentina), Matabeleland (a region in Zimbabwe) and Australian First Nations. This is an important event and we send our best wishes to all the players who will be flying the flag of St Piran on the international stage.



#### Contents Mebyon Kernow opposes "South West" regionalisation 3 Thoughts on General Election in St Austell and Newquay Images of Mebyon Kernow election campaigners 5 Election news on SNP, Plaid Cymru and English regionalists 6 Football with Kernow FA and the Chagos Islanders 7 Cornish Nation pays tribute to Roger Holmes 8 Remembering Bill Herring 10 Book reviews 11

#### **Cornish Nation 81**

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## Na dhe'n "Great South West"

Yma konseloryon ha beworyon Mebyon Kernow ow ledya an bresel er bynn ken ragdres hwath dhe veudhi Kernow yn honieth Soth-West

Rag lies degvledhen, y hwrug an fondyans politek Ruvaneth Unys palas yn-dann ewnhynseth a Gernow hag arta hag arta skonya krysi hy bos ewnhynseth hy honan.

Yth esa assayans beudhi Kernow a-berthyn kowethasow Soth-West ha rag henna yth esa meur a dhamaj gwrys dhe welder hag erbysiedh Kernow. Lies den west a'n Tamar re wrug gweres byghanhe tennans Kernewek yw omfethus dres eghen.

Resyw dhe'n fondyans
politek dalleth kavos
Kernow avel onan a'n
kenedhlow fondyanek a'n
RU, yn le marnas pympes
rann a neb tir komolek war
an tu west a Garoder!

Yma konseloryon Mebyon Kernow owth oberi yn fewek dhe witha ha brashe pub rann a ewnhyneth ha gonisogeth kernewek.

Y'ga mysk yma gwitha honanieth tirel agan kenedhel, hag y tal politegoryon erel hag ynwedh korfow poblek dadhla an kaws rag Kernow — nag yw neb tra Soth-West dibrederys ha heb furv.

Mes bagas a gorfow, konselyow y'ga mysk ha keskowethyansow aventur teythyek, ha negysyow re lonchyas "prospectus" rag neppyth henwys "The Great South West." Gans Kernow ha Syllan, an ranndir a'n jeves tri honteth Sowsnek; Sher Dewnens, Sher Dorset ha Sher Gwlas an Hav. Yma awtorita unses Kernow maglys gans an urdhyans ma, kyn nag yw skoodhys gans brassa rann a eseli etholys yn Konsel.

Yth esa derivas dyllys gans Lys Kernow rag usya gans lonch an ragskrif. Hemm a lever: "Agan messaj yw kler. An prys re dheuth rag digresen veur ha arghansereth dhe digelmi galladow leun a'n 'Great South West.' Yth yw termyn dhe ri gallos ha gasa an Great South West shapya y dermyn a-dheu."

Kales y grysi! Yn sur, y tal bos an messaj dyworth Konsel Kernow bos an prys re dheuth rag digresen veur ha arghansereth dhe digelmi galladow leun a Gernow, may hyllyn ni shapya agan termyn a-dheu agan honan.

Resyw dhe'n fondyans politek dalleth kavos Kernow avel onan a'n kenedhlow fondyanek a'n RU, yn le marnas pympes rann a neb tir komolek war an tu west a Garoder!

For many decades, the political establishment in the United Kingdom has undermined the integrity of Cornwall and repeatedly refused to treat it as a territorial and political entity in its own right.

There has been attempt after attempt to submerge Cornwall into South West bodies and this has done great damage to Cornwall's visibility and our economy. Many to the west of the Tamar have been complicit in this denuding of Cornish influence, which is self-defeating in the extreme.

Mebyon Kernow councillors are actively involved in efforts to safeguard and boost all aspects of Cornish identity and culture.

This includes protecting the territorial integrity of our nation, and other politicians and public bodies should also be making the case for Cornwall – not some incoherent and amorphous South West set-up.

But a group of public bodies, including councils and local enterprise partnerships, plus businesses, had launched a "prospectus" for something called "The Great South West."

In addition to Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, the area covered includes the three English counties or shires of Devon, Dorset and Somerset.

Cornwall's unitary authority is involved with the initiative, even though the efforts have not been endorsed by a majority of elected members on the Council.



A statement was issued from Lys Kernow for use with the launch of the prospectus. This stated: "Our message is clear. The time has come for substantial devolution and funding to unlock the full potential of the 'Great South West.' It's time to hand over the reins of power and let the Great South West shape its own future."

Unbelievable. Surely the message from Cornwall Council should be that the time has come for substantial devolution and funding to unlock the full potential of Cornwall. And that the reins of power should be handed over to Cornwall, so that we shape our own future.

The political establishment needs to start treating Cornwall as one of the constituent nations of the UK, rather than just a fifth of some vague landmass on the western side of Bristol!

<u>Thanks to Pol Hodge with assistance</u> <u>in the preparation of this page.</u>

# **Campaigning for Cornwall**

Cllr Michael Bunney reports back on the election campaign in the St Austell and Newquay constituency in the 2019 General Election

Mebyon Kernow did not support the recent snap election. We knew that it would be dominated by Brexit and that, outside of Scotland, opposition politicians would find it very difficult to make significant headway against a dominant governing party.

But it was important that MK did have a presence in the General Election, so that we could publicly make the case for more powers to Cornwall through our own National Assembly, to demand fair funding for Cornwall's public services, to push for action to properly address the climate emergency, to speak out against the over-centralised nature of the United Kingdom, to speak out against austerity politics, and much more.

I was pleased that Dick Cole agreed to contest the St Austell and Newquay constituency and, as his agent, I would like to thank everyone who supported the campaign with their donations and / or helped out with the leafleting.

We knew it would not be an easy election – and the weather was awful throughout much of November and December – but we fought a very positive campaign. Sadly, what hopes we had that we would secure an improved vote because of a general dissatisfaction with Westminster politics proved unfounded.

MK polled a total of 1,660 votes (3% of those cast). This was approximately 400 votes less than in 2015 – the last time MK stood in St Austell and Newquay.

It remains the case that it is so much more difficult to secure votes at parliamentary elections than, for example, at council level. Mebyon Kernow's position on Brexit was also a problem for many people, who were otherwise sympathetic to what we stood for. In addition, there was clearly a level of antipathy towards Jeremy Corbyn that seemed to overshadow other factors. At the same time, many left-of-centre voters who might have voted MK were taken in by Labour campaigners who made the false claim that, with tactical voting, they could win the seat. Nonetheless, it was great to hear from quite a few people who were voting for Mebyon Kernow for the very first time.



The basis of any good parliamentary campaign is meaningful coverage in the media, particularly on television. The 2019 contest proved to be a very harsh environment for getting fair media coverage. In the 2017 General Election campaign, MK's decision not to put forward candidates was covered – as the number one news item – on both BBC Spotlight and ITV Westcountry. But ridiculously, in the 2019 poll, MK got zero coverage on television – not one second of

It is important that we are not down-hearted at the result. There is much to be positive about and I am confident that the campaign will have a positive impact on future local election campaigns in mid Cornwall.

publicity!

Every single property in the constituency received a professionally produced A3 leaflet (delivered by Royal Mail), which included a lot of information about what MK stands for and our key policies. In addition, more than 20,000 copies of a second leaflet were hand-delivered by MK members and supporters. We also had a stronger social media presence than in previous contests. A number of paid adverts were placed on Facebook, which included two videos produced by Matthew Clarke.

General Election St Austell and Newquay Constituency Thursday 12th December 2019



Are you fed up with the broken politics at Westminster? Do you feel let down by the games being played by the London-based parties? Are you angry that Cornwall is never the top priority for MPs in London?

The people of Cornwall deserve better.

IN THE GENERAL ELECTION,
PLEASE CAST A POSITIVE
VOTE FOR CORNWALL

#### **DICK COLE**

Mebyon Kernow
- the Party for Cornwall

imoted and published by Michael Bunney at 5 Perhaver Way, Gorran Haven, St Austell, on behalf of Dick Cole at Lanhalnsworth, Fraddon Hill, Fraddon, St Columb, Printed by the St Austell Printing Company, St Austell Business Park, St Austell.

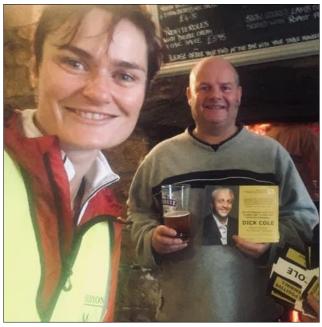
Dick also performed extremely well as our candidate and received a great deal of positive feedback. At the biggest of the hustings at Fowey Church, Dick was simply outstanding. And even though it was clear the majority of people present were not considering casting a parliamentary vote for MK - not least because of the first-past-the-post voting system - there was an enormous amount of warmth towards Dick. One person from the audience described his performance as "awesome," while many others told me that he was the best of the candidates. Another individual contacted Dick to say that he had "shone" at the event, and would be voting MK when the voting system had been changed!

Images on page 5 (left to right from top):
Robert Bunney who made many of the poster
boards; Julie Fox in the campaign trail in St
Austell; Cllrs Andrew Long, Dick Cole and
Michael Bunney in Penwithick; Dr Joanie
Willett and Cllr Matthew Luke warming up
in a pub in St Stephen after leafleting in the
rain; Ryan Congdon in St Austell and
wrestling champion Simon Margetts from St
Dennis showing his support.













## Vote 2019

Cornish Nation looks at how the Scottish National Party, Plaid Cymru and English regionalists fared in the General Election

The biggest success in the 2019 General Election was the SNP which achieved another landslide victory in Scotland. They polled 1,242,380 votes, which equated to 45% of votes cast, and won 48 of the 59 seats. This was up from 35 constituencies in 2017.

The SNP lost a single seat in the election (North East Fife formerly held by Stephen Gethins) but gained 14 others.

They took eight seats from Conservatives: Angus (Dave Doogan), Aberdeen South (Stephen Flynn), Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock (Allan Dorans), Gordon (Richard Thomson), Midlothian (Owen Thompson), Ochil and South Perthshire (John Nicolson), Renfrewshire East (Kirsten Oswald) and Stirling (Alyn Smith), plus five from the Labour Party: Coatbridge, Chryston and Bellshill (Steven Bonnar), East Lothian (Kenny MacAskill), Glasgow North East (Anne McLaughlin), Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath (Neale Hanvey), and Rutherglen and Hamilton West (Margaret Ferrier). In addition, Amy Callaghan ousted the Liberal Democrat's UK Swinson, leader, Iο East in Dunbartonshire.

In comparison, the Conservatives secured only six seats while the Liberal Democrats managed just four and the Labour Party, which had traditionally dominated politics to the north of the Tweed, was reduced to a single member of parliament.

Quite rightly, Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon declared that the result had "renewed, refreshed and strengthened" the SNP's mandate and was a "clear endorsement" that "Scotland should get to decide our future and not have it decided for us."

She has since spoken about how the start of a new year and a new decade is "an opportunity to look ahead and think about what sort of country we want Scotland to be by 2030," she said. "In government, the SNP is in a privileged position to help shape Scotland's future. Our job is to represent all of Scotland and as we look forward to the decade ahead, we have a particular responsibility to young people who will be growing up in our changing world."



Cllr Dick Cole with Ben Lake MP at Plaid Cymru's recent National Conference

Plaid Cymru polled 153,265 votes, which represented 10% of the Welsh vote. This was a similar percentage to the previous poll, but importantly Plaid retained all four of their constituencies. The highlight was Ben Lake's successful defence of his Ceredigion seat. Elected for the first time in 2017 with a majority of just 104, he ran a stunning campaign and increased his lead to 6,329.

Arfon MP Hywel Williams, who finished 92 votes ahead of Labour in 2017, meanwhile boosted his majority to a healthy 2,781, while Jonathan Edwards and Liz Saville Roberts were safely returned in Carmarthen East and Dinefwr, and Dwyfor Meirionnydd.

Plaid leader Adam Price was highly effective in a wide range of television debates, which will undoubtedly stand Plaid in good stead for the 2021 Assembly elections. Adam has since pledged to "lead the fight" for the people of Wales in a "new decade of change," in which he and his team would deliver "real solutions" to the issues facing Wales including tackling NHS waiting times, strengthening infrastructure, creating well-paid employment and securing fair funding for Wales after Brexit.

He added that Plaid Cymru "can and will" deliver for the people of Wales and would offer "new thinking and new ideas" after twenty years of a "tired Labour government."

In England, the Yorkshire Party put forward 28 candidates – up from 14 in 2015 and 21 in 2017. Setting out the party's platform at the start of the campaign, party leader Chris Whitwood said: "It's clear that Westminster isn't working for Yorkshire anymore. From crumbling schools to appalling air quality and dilapidated transport networks, our region deserves a better future. The Yorkshire Party is going to fight to deliver that better future." They polled a total of 29,201 votes.

Elsewhere, the North East Party contested two seats and secured 2,637 votes, while the newly-founded Shropshire Party put forward their first parliamentary candidate who won the support of 1,141 people.

# **Kernow FA and the Chagossians**

A Cornish football team took on the Chagos Islanders in an international at Bodmin's Priory Park

On Sunday 25th August 2019, a number of MK members attended a football match at Bodmin between the Kernow Football Alliance and the Chagos Islanders.



It is great news that the Kernow FA has been founded and accepted into CONIFA (the Confederation of Independent Football Associations), which is the "football federation for all associations outside FIFA" and supports more than 55 teams from nations, de-facto nations, regions, minority peoples and sports isolated territories. These include Australian First Nations, Greenland, Jersey, the Isle of Mann, Tibet, Tuvalu and Western Papua.

Mebyon Kernow has congratulated everyone involved with this wonderful initiative to ensure there is a Cornwall team playing on the international stage. The Kernow FA organising committee should also be praised for their support for the Chagos Islanders, which included holding a press conference to help publicise their plight when they were in Cornwall.

It is a truly shocking story. Between 1967 and 1973 the UK Government forcibly evicted the Chagossians from the Chagos Archipelago in the Indian Ocean, so that they could lease the largest of the islands (Diego Garcia) to the United States for use as a military base.

The expulsion of this community has been condemned many times as one of the most shameful episodes in British post-war history and the consequences of the exile has been very severe on the Chagossians, many of whom live in exile in Mauritius and the United Kingdom.

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Campaigners have brought a range of legal challenges against the UK Government and the islanders won a historic victory in the High Court in 2000. This ruled the actions of the UK Government to be illegal and Tony Blair was in a position to end the injustice.

But, in 2004, he instead invoked an obscure royal prerogative to ban the islanders from ever returning to Diego Garcia and the surrounding islands. The Government appealed a more recent High Court ruling and, in recent years, has even had the brass neck to argue that it is not feasible for the Chagossians to return home, because their existence would be "precarious" and "prone to the impacts of climate change." Strangely, they have raised no concerns about the large number of US servicemen and contractors, presently living on Diego Garcia.

It is shameful that the UK Government continues to hide behind legalese, and dubious and very mean-spirited arguments to stand against people who they have so terribly wronged. It is time that the Government did what is right and that is to allow the Chagossians to return home, and to help them to rebuild their communities.









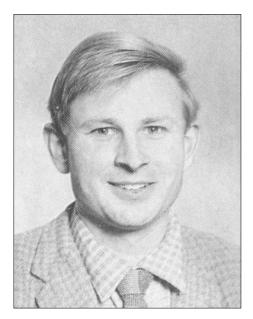
January 2020 ● CORNISH NATION ● 7

## **Roger Holmes**

Cornish Nation looks back at the life of a long-standing Mebyon Kernow member who was a councillor for over fifty years

Roger Holmes, who died in October 2019 at the age of 74, dedicated his entire adult life to public service, both in his home town of Liskeard and across Cornwall as a whole.

Roger was born in Grantham, Lincolnshire, and his family moved to Liskeard when he was a child. His father became a local GP and Roger, along with his brother Julyan, grew up in the town. Both men became active in Mebyon Kernow, with Julyan marrying Loveday Carlyon, who was MK's Chairman between 1986 and 1989.



Roger was a geologist and was elected to Liskeard Borough Council in 1968 at the very tender age of only 23 (see above). It was a time of significant progress for the Cornish movement, but Roger did have concerns about the direction of MK. It was principally acting as a pressure group and had, up until that point, failed to proclaim itself a political party. In 1969, he was part of the breakaway Cornish National Party, though it had very similar aims to Mebyon Kernow and sought "self-government for Cornwall" and the "rightful recognition of Cornwall as a Celtic nation and not an English county."

He served the short-lived organisation as its leader and stood as a CNP candidate in elections to Cornwall County Council in 1970. Roger was re-elected to Liskeard Borough Council in 1971, as an independent, and two years later, he made it onto the newly formed Caradon District Council. In this same year, he was again a candidate for Cornwall County Council.

He soon after rejoined MK and was reelected onto Caradon District Council as an official party candidate in 1976 and 1979, though he lost his seat in 1983. During this time, he also stood for Mebyon Kernow in elections to Cornwall County Council in both 1977 and 1981.

Roger was an official Mebyon Kernow candidate in a byelection to Caradon in 2001 and in the first set of elections to the new unitary authority in 2009. However, he sometimes chose to stand without a party label. He put himself forward as an independent in the 1991 district council elections and also to Cornwall Council in 2013, when he was successful. He failed to retain his seat in 2017.

In addition, Roger twice contested the South East Cornwall seat in General Election campaigns. In 1979, he was one of MK's three candidates in what was the Party's first serious intervention at parliamentary level, and included a protect march in support of Cornish fisherman in Newlyn in 1978 (see below).

His second parliamentary campaign was in 2010, when Mebyon Kernow put forward candidates in all Cornish constituencies for the first time in its history.

Roger was a stalwart of Liskeard Town Council and served on the authority until 2018. He was sometimes elected as a Mebyon Kernow candidate and sometimes as an independent, but twice served the town as Mayor, in 1977-78 and in millennium year 1999-2000. Roger represented his community on both the Cornwall Association of Parish and Town Councils and the Cornwall Association of Larger Local Councils, while he was an outspoken voice on Liskeard Town Forum.

He was active within a wide range of organisations which included the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall, the Cornish Bureau for European Relations and, in the 1980s, he was the treasurer of Cornwall Against the Structure Plan, which objected to the scale and nature of development across Cornwall.

Roger was also a strong advocate for all aspects of Cornwall's culture and identity, and was always keen to build links between the different Celtic nations.





His passionate belief in cooperation between Cornwall and Brittany led to a long association with the inter-Celtic festival at Lorient, and he was influential in forging twinning links between Liskeard and Quimperle in the early 1970s.

For his efforts, he was rewarded with membership of Gorseth Kernow. He was barded at Roche Rock in 1991 and took the name Carer Gwandra, which means "lover of travelling."

"Roger was a Liskeard man – a town full of intellectual dynamism – and he was deeply imbued with the liberal values and principles which have, for so long, characterised that town."

Cllr Bert Biscoe, who delivered the tribute to Roger at a meeting of Cornwall Council, described him as an "intellectual and a passionate Cornishman," who was a "driving force in the period of heightened political nationalism, which led to Richard Jenkin winning 10,000 votes in the first election for the European Parliament in 1979."

He added: "Roger was a Liskeard man – a town full of intellectual dynamism – and he was deeply imbued with the liberal values and principles which have, for so long, characterised that town.

"Above all else, Roger was a clear and passionate advocate for peace and conciliation whose good fortune never tempted him to take things easy, or to stop trying to understand how things worked, and how he, with his mind, his linguistic skills and diplomatic aptitude, could make things better, for the World, for the European continent and, most of all, for Kernow.

"Roger was never rancorous or anything other than even-tempered, even when, being misunderstood, he suffered setbacks in meetings and conferences.

"In his temperance and sharpness, he set an example to all of us and was always quietly but firmly encouraging of initiative, thoughtfulness and achievement, especially in the Cornish cause.

"Cornwall has lost a pillar of reason and vision, a key architect of our emerging and vital place in the world, and a man who placed value more in a comradeship which sustained debate than in sentimental friendship. I admired him for his scholarship, his broad strategic sweep and his desire to bring the political foment within the conduct of good robust conversation.

"He was a very civilised Cornishman who has left an indelible mark, untainted by ego or malice, on very many people and upon his cherished nation."

At this sad time, our thoughts are with Julyan, Loveday and the extended family.

We would like to thank Chris Bowden, Francis Boutle Publishers, Cllr Michael Bunney, Cllr Dick Cole, Keskerdh Kernow and Plaid Cymru for photographs used in this magazine.

# **Bill Herring**

Cornish Nation remembers a much-loved schoolteacher and Cornish speaker, who retraced the steps of An Gof and Flamank in 1997

William Pearn Herring, who died in November 2019 at the age of 85, will be remembered as a proud Cornishman and an inspirational teacher, who had an extremely positive impact on the lives of hundreds and hundreds of children from Fraddon, Indian Queens and St Columb Road.

Born in Liskeard, Bill taught at Indian Queens Primary School for over thirty years. Much-loved in the locality, tributes from former pupils on social media recalled him as a fantastic and kind teacher, who really did get the best out of the youngsters in his care. He lived nearby at Higher Fraddon for many years with his wife Val and they were blessed with one daughter, Fiona.

In the 1980s, he learnt the Cornish language at classes in Newquay and in 1987 became a bard of Gorsedh Kernow at Anthony House near Torpoint. He took the name Kerghyth, which is Cornish for heron.

He also joined Mebyon Kernow in the 1990s and, in 1997, he was one of a stalwart band of marchers who walked all the way from St Keverne to Blackheath to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Cornish rebellion led by Michael Joseph An Gof and Thomas Flamank.

Writing in Cornwall Marches On, the record of the commemoration, Bill remembered: "I decided to give the march a go. I wasn't sure how far I would get, as I had a hole in the heart operation about four years ago, and I had already had two knee operations. I thought I would go until I dropped, and other walkers encouraged and helped me.

"It was stubborn Cornish pride. I had some trouble with my leg, but I didn't give up, even when it was suggested I rode in the van once or twice. However, I hobbled on and did it all. Reaching Blackheath was one of the most wonderful moments of my life and I was filled with a special sense of achievement."

A few years ago, Bill and Val moved back to Liskeard to be closer to their daughter. Val died a few months before Bill and, at this sad time, our thoughts are with Fiona and her children Rory and Miranda.



Bill Herring (right) with Stan Gore and Julian German taking part in the 1997 Keskerdh Kernow march.

## **Book reviews**

New books of interest to Mebyon Kernow members include a tribute to Plaid Cymru AM Steffan Lewis and new poetry from Tim Saunders

Twelve months on from the death of Plaid Cymru AM Steffan Lewis, *Y Lolfa* has published a powerful new book, **Son of Gwent: Cofio Steffan Lewis**, which celebrates his life and achievements.

Writing in the foreword, Plaid Cymru President Dafydd Wigley remembers: "There are some people who create an impression from the very first second; and that meeting stays in the mind throughout the years. The first time I met Gwynfor Evans and Dr Phil Williams were all examples; and the electrifying effect of these moments have stayed with me until today. Meeting the dear deceased Steffan Lewis is one of those very few but special moments. And what is more incredible is the fact that Steffan was barely twelve years old when I met him for the first time in the House of Commons."

Elected to the National Assembly for Wales in 2016 at the age of 32, Steffan had developed an interest in politics and a desire to improve things for Wales from a very young age. He went on work experience with Jocelyn Davies AM and became a clever and respected politician, who had a big heart and was a great speaker and an even better listener.

The book includes remembrances by those who knew Steffan best, including some of the most well-known politicians in modern Wales such as Elin Jones AM, Leanne Wood AM, Carwyn Jones AM and Plaid Cymru leader Adam Price AM. It also features letters and newspaper clippings, as well as a number of political and personal photographs, including many of his wife Shona and their young son Celyn, which give a very personal insight into Steffan.

In addition, there is a moving interview with Martin Shipton of the *Western Mail*, about how Steffan dealt with his cancer diagnosis, as well as the text of a number of his speeches. This includes Steffan's address to MK's National Conference in 2016.

**Son of Gwent: Cofio Steffan Lewis** is highly recommended and costs only £9.99. A percentage of the royalty fee from sales will be given to Velindre Hospital which looked after Steffan during his illness.



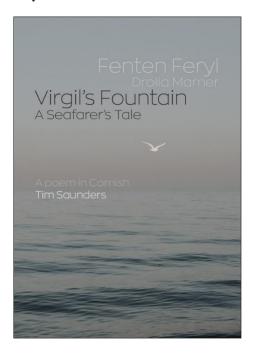
Joanie Willett, Natalia Pinkowska and Cllr Dick Cole with Steffan Lewis AM at Mebyon Kernow's 2016 National Conference

Tim Saunders is a much-respected Cornish language poet and literary historian, as well as a bard of Gorsedh Kernow. He has been the editor of two collections of Cornish language poetry: The Wheel – an Anthology of Modern Poetry in Cornish 1850–1980 (1999) and Nothing Broken – Recent Poetry in Cornish (2006). He was also the co-editor, along with Alan M Kent, of a ground-breaking anthology Looking at the Mermaid: A Reader in Cornish Literature 900–1900 (2000). His collected works in Cornish were meanwhile published as The High Tide in 1999.

His latest poem Fenton Feryl: Drolla Marner / Virgil's Mountain: A Seafarer's Tale, which is described as a tale of "love and loss in which myth strives to give shape to unbearable memory" of a Cornwall "which lies at the crossroads of the seaways and the winds from the sea reach every part of the narrow landscape."

It is a fully bilingual publication. As well as the original Cornish version, it includes an English translation that has also been produced by the author himself.

Published by Francis Boutle, **Fenton Feryl: Drolla Marner** costs £7.99.





# Kenedhel Gernewek

