



## **Derivas Bledhynnyek 2022-23**

Annual Report 2022-23

## OVERVIEW

### Organisation type

CIO - FOUNDATION Registered 27 Nov 2019

### Charity Number

1186610

### Charitable objects

TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE CORNISH LANGUAGE BY:

- A) DEVELOPING UNDERSTANDING OF CORNISH LANGUAGE VOCABULARY, GRAMMAR AND PLACE NAMES.
- B) DEVELOPING THE COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE CORNISH LANGUAGE AND MAKING THIS KNOWLEDGE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE FOR USE BY SCHOOLS, PRE-SCHOOLS, ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS, RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS, AND ANYONE WITH AN INTEREST IN, OR IN LEARNING, THE CORNISH LANGUAGE.

### How we have met that purpose

The Akademi Kernewek and its four Panels have met regularly through 2022/23 to develop its research work in support of development of the online Cornish dictionary and the Cornish place name database. The Akademi has focussed this year on improving the quality of data and consolidating resources. The Akademi further developed the Cornish dictionary app so that it is now available on Apple as well as Android devices, and further expanded information available in the Cornish place-name database. These tools both make the Cornish language more accessible and the Akademi Kernewek place name website is linked to teaching resources for primary schools to learn Cornish language. The Akademi is continuously reviewing how to coordinate Cornish language research, make the results of that research publicly accessible and how to develop effective new tools to enable more use of Cornish. The schedule below sets out the detailed achievements of the Akademi Kernewek in 2022/23.

### Governance

The Akademi Kernewek is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) that is managed by a Board of Trustees who meet every two months. Four Panels (working groups), each with their own specialist function, meet more regularly and report their research work to the Board for approval. All work of the Akademi and minutes of meetings are published on the Akademi Kernewek website:

[Akademikernewek.org.uk](http://Akademikernewek.org.uk)

### Finance and administration

The research work of the Akademi Kernewek is done entirely by volunteers with the Cornish Language Office (CLO) providing in-kind administrative and technology support as part of its wider Cornish language programme eg enquiries and information from Cornish translations. As part of building the infrastructure for the Cornish language, the Cornish Language Office supported the following two projects which has used data from the Akademi and in turn helped disseminate Akademi Kernewek's work:

Item	Cost to CLO
Dictionary database (inputting and editing), development of corpus search and first phase development of language tech (spellchecker, thesaurus, verb conjugator)	£2,500
Bangor University dictionary development – website upgrades, iOS version of dictionary app.	£1,000.00
Total	£3,500.00

The Akademi Kernewek has no bank account and no assets other than intellectual property in its databases. The Akademi Kernewek will explore options for grant funding in 2023/4 and will open its own bank account if it secures funding with appropriate financial controls to be put in place.

## AKADEMI KERNEWEK – ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023 – Schedule of work completed.

AKADEMI KERNEWEK ANNUAL REPORT 22-23			
BOARD			
OUTPUT	TASK	COMPLETION DATE	Progress
	<b>The Akademi main process</b>		
Process	<p>In 2022/23, the Akademi will focus on improving the smooth-running of the two main cycles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New terms by Terminology Panel &gt; Additional research where required by Research Panel &gt; Approval by Board &gt; Checking, expanding entries and inputting into online dictionary by Dictionary Panel.</li> <li>Place Names &gt; Approval by Board and publication on Akademi website.</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>May 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 4 panels report to each Board meeting (every 2 months) but there is still a need for more coordination, more information sharing between panels and documenting of recommendations and decisions.</li> <li>The Terminology Panel meets frequently and is improving the quality of reports to make inputting easier and the Research Panel responds promptly and clearly to Panel requests.</li> <li>Dictionary Panel - at present a panel member is reviewing the whole dictionary database to apply SWF Review changes from 2014, make corrections including applying corrections from proofreading by another Panel member and some disambiguation. This will continue in 2023/4. Clear reports on progress are made to the Board and proposals made to Terminology and Research.</li> <li>Place Names work is still reported to Board verbally with only occasional documented reports but all work is published on the website.</li> </ul>
Metrics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop metrics for the Akademi to demonstrate progress (no.of new terms, no. of subject areas, no.of place names) and impact (no of dictionary searches, no of place name searches)</li> </ul>	Jul 2022	<p>Metrics agreed and figures for April 2022–March 2023 are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online dictionary: 936,917 searches (average 2,567 daily searches)</li> <li>Korpus Kernewek: 30,996 searches (average 85 daily searches)</li> <li>Place names: 8,694 total database entries</li> <li>Signage translations: 222 completed (average 19 per month)</li> </ol> <p>New dictionary terms: 1,079 researched and approved The Akademi website does not capture the number of searches made in the place name database so this will not be used as metric until further investment in the website.</p>

Governance															
Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual review of governance policies and procedures</li></ul>	March 2023	Policies updated and published on AK website in March 2022 – no need for change identified												
Trustees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review of Board membership including skills audit and appointment of replacement/new Trustees as appropriate</li></ul>	May 2022 Nov 2022	2022 review – one trustee renewed and one stood down 2023 review – MT, JL and PH – to be updated												
Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prepare risk management policy</li></ul>	Mar 2023	To be actioned in 2023/4												
Standard Written Form (SWF)															
Hyphens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Completion of appendix to specification: Hyphens</li></ul>	March 2023	Existing version of hyphen appendix published on AK website												
Variants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Completion of appendix to specification: Variants</li></ul>	March 2023	Existing version of Variant appendix published on AK website												
User guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Preparation and publication of users guide to SWF</li></ul>	March 2023	To be actioned in 2023/4												
Convergence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Develop proposals for convergence of SWF M &amp; L</li></ul>	March 2023	To be considered in 2023/4												
Dictionary and New Terms															
Disambiguation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Disambiguation of 90% terms with duplicate entries in the online dictionary to clarify context/use</li></ul>	March 2023	Sections R-Z complete Estimate 40% complete by Mar 23 with resource in place to continue in 2023/4												
New terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Expand number of terms in the online dictionary by researching failed searches from the online dictionary, terms used in translations and research on specialist topic areas by the Terminology Panel. Target</li></ul>	March 2023	<table><tr><td>Hedging</td><td>36</td></tr><tr><td>Unsuccessful searches</td><td>495</td></tr><tr><td>Common words -E</td><td>501</td></tr><tr><td>Translation service</td><td>43</td></tr><tr><td>Various enquiries</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Total new terms (by Aug 22)</td><td>1,080</td></tr></table>	Hedging	36	Unsuccessful searches	495	Common words -E	501	Translation service	43	Various enquiries	5	Total new terms (by Aug 22)	1,080
Hedging	36														
Unsuccessful searches	495														
Common words -E	501														
Translation service	43														
Various enquiries	5														
Total new terms (by Aug 22)	1,080														

	of 500 entries added to the online dictionary		
Database	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clean existing dictionary database files and ensure compliance with 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition of the SWF specification by March 2023</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Sections R-Z complete Estimate 40% complete by Mar 23 with resource in place to continue in 2023/4
<b>Place Names</b>			
Place names	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add translations for place names and street names to the Akademi Place Name database – target 500 new entries</li> </ul>	March 2023	222 signage translations completed April 2022-March 2023. 200 may be a more realistic target if a similar number were completed in 2022/3. With over 8,000 place names now recorded in the database, requests are for more obscure places which are more complex to research.
Gorsedh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research place names for the Gorsedh 2023 location</li> </ul>	March 2023	Contents for 2023 Gorsedh place name booklet – Hayle – researched and published.
<b>Research</b>			
Gender suffixes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish advice on gender suffixes for professions</li> </ul>	July 2022	Complete – advice note published on AK website and neutral suffixes applied to new terms.
Pronouns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish issues paper on gender-neutral pronouns</li> </ul>	July 2022	Complete – research paper published on AK website
Grammar.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Akademi will research and advise on grammar enquiries from the Translation Service and keep under review the case for a new Panel should the number and complexity of grammar issues warrant it.</li> </ul>	March 2023	Few enquiries have been received and have been dealt with within the existing AK processes. To be kept under review.
<b>Language technology</b>			
Digital framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to the development of a digital framework for Kernewek by the Cornish Language Lead in partnership work with Bangor University, the Digital Skills Partnership</li> </ul>	December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation with the Digital Skills Partnership has been postponed to later in 2023 as considerable progress has been made by the Akademi with the priority technology tools. The digital framework will be updated to set out where progress has been made and where key challenges remain in order to focus discussions with the Partnership.</li> </ul>

	and Software Cornwall. The framework will be used to support applications for partner funding.		
Fuzzy search	Online dictionary – a) develop fuzzy search and b) apply text changes to website as advised by Translation Service	December 2022 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fuzzy search will require development work by Bangor University – AK to consider whether this is a priority in 2023/4.</li> <li>Text changes applied to the dictionary website so that recurring messages are now correct.</li> </ul>
Tech tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritise development of the following tools in 2021-25: dictionary app (complete), verb conjugator, a thesaurus, a parts of speech tagger, and a spellchecker</li> </ul>	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trial verb conjugator, thesaurus and spellchecker are in development but will need considerable work in 2023/4 before they can be published as AK resources.</li> <li>No progress on parts of speech tagger and AK to review whether this is still a priority in 2023/4 in the context of changing technology.</li> </ul>
<b>Communications</b>			
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Akademi will publish all its work on the AK website.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	The website provides the online dictionary, corpus search, place name database, AK policies and details of all Board meetings. It is now a very rich resource but at some point will need a redesign to consolidate the site and make it more user friendly with the site led by resources rather than AK process.
Conference	Host the Skians 2022 Cornish language research conference together with the University of Exeter	Oct 2022	<p>The Skians Conference was held at the University of Exeter on 1 Oct 22 with 8 speakers and 40 attendees. Details of the conference were published on the Skians website</p> <p>And 5 of the talks were published on the Akademi Youtube channel</p>
Lecture series	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hosting and publish one online talk related to a subject researched by the Terminology Panel.</li> </ul>	March 2023	No technical lectures were hosted by the Akademi as the focus was on the Conference.
Social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Rosweyth (Speak Cornish) to publicise the work of the Akademi and its resources</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Skians conference advertised on social media with 5 talks published on AK youtube channel – 45 views. Tweets on Cornish Language Office about the online dictionary and corpus search viewed over 1200 times with 60 engagements.
<b>Partnership &amp; Higher Education</b>			

University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working in partnership with the University of Exeter to support the delivery of Cornish language research and teaching, and contribution of the Cornish language community to wider Cornish studies.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	There is good on-going contact and discussions with the Institute of Cornish Studies, which hosted the Skians Conference, and with the language unit on the Penryn Campus.
Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A taught Cornish language intermediate module for undergraduates at the Penryn Campus from September 2022</li> </ul>	Sept 2022	No students enrolled in 2022 for the beginners or intermediate course in 2022. The University will offer the beginners course again in 2023 but the University is also considering other options for teaching Cornish that would better suit student demand., eg. as part of an MA and/or a summer school.
Research	A research programme at the Institute of Cornish studies, including socio-linguistic research.	Ongoing Mar 2022	The research programme includes history of the language, barriers to use and learning of the language and linguistic research into use of dialect and links with Kernewek.