THE NEWLYN CORNISH LANGUAGE CLASS
Weekly lessons by Zoom

For your diary: Monday **31 May** 2021, 19:30; **7 June** 2021, 19:30; **14 June** 2021, 19:30; **21 June** 2021, 19:30; **28 June** 2021, 19:30. For each lesson the Zoom joining details will be emailed several days beforehand.

MONDAY 31 MAY 19:30
Lesson plan 19:30 Welcome, 19:40 Possessive pronouns, 20:00 Simple story, 20:30 Chat (in English, with a little Cornish thrown in) about Cornish language and culture

We've already learned the basic personal pronouns:

my (or **me**) 'I, me' – this appears in Second State as **vy** after a verb and with many prepositions
ty (or **te**) 'you' (singular, familiar) – this appears as **jy** after a verb and with many prepositions
ev 'he, him' – also 'it' referring to a masculine noun
hy 'she, her' – also 'it' referring to a feminine noun
ny 'we, us'
why 'you' (plural or just polite)
y 'they, them'

Now see page 57 of the coursebook for the possessive pronouns that go with them.

Quite a few points to note here: not all of them in the coursebook

Possessive pronoun **ow**[3] 'my' is pronounced with its w-sound, unlike particle **ow**[4] where the w is silent.

Possessive pronoun **y**[2] also means 'its' referring to a masculine noun. Possessive pronoun **hy**[3] also means 'its' referring to a feminine noun.

The Third State mutation after **ow**[3], **hy**[3], **aga**[3] is the same mutation as we've already encountered after numeral **try**[3] / **teyr**[3] 'three'. Mnemonics: 'Third State after the third numeral and for three possessive pronouns'. Also 'Second State after the second numeral and for two possessive pronouns'.

The spelling of personal pronoun **y** 'they, them' and possessive pronoun **y**[2] 'his' is the same, but the pronunciation is different.

The spelling of personal pronoun **hy** 'she, her' and possessive pronoun **hy**[3] 'her' is the same, but the pronunciation is different.

When used with **a** 'of', **dhe** 'to', **ha** 'with, and', the possessive pronouns **y** and **hy** combine to make **a'y**, **dh'y**, **ha'y**.

When used with with **a** 'of', **dhe** 'to', **ha** 'with, and', **in** 'in', the possessive pronouns **agan**, **agas**, **aga** combine to make e.g. **a'gas**, **dh'agas**, **ha'ga, i'gan**.

Note also combining form **'m** instead of possessive pronoun **ow** in **a'm** 'of my', **dhe'm** 'to my', **ha'm** 'and my', **i'm** 'in my'.

SIMPLE STORY

Yma Tùbmas ha'y gothman Hecka ow cortos rag gweles an medhek. Ha ken den ow cortos inwedh, Harry.

TÙBMAS *(Dhe Hecka)* Yma gloos dhybm in ow garr. Eus gloos dhis inwedh.

HECKA Eâ. Yma gloos dhybm in ow heyn.

TÙBMAS In dha geyn? Wèl, brâs yw an loos i'm garr vy. Mès nyns yw goles ow heyn yn tâ naneyl.

HARRY Cleves clun yw hedna, heb dowt.

HECKA Â! Yma gloos cleves clun wàr ow mabm inwedh. Uthyk yw.

TÙBMAS Pòr uthyk. *(Dhe Harry:)* Ha pëth yw agas cleves why? Eus gloos dhyso?

HARRY Nâ, gloos vëth nyns eus. Mès ny allama (= allaf vy) cùsca i'n nos, ytho pòr sqwith ov vy pùb eur oll.

HECKA Ny yll ow gwreg cùsca yn tâ. Yma hy owth esedha i'n gwely hag ow redya, hag ow côwsel inwedh, der oll an nos. Fest uthyk yw.

TÙBMAS Ogh, nyns yw hedna tra dhâ, dell esof vy ow codhvos. Yma broder dhybm. Mès y wreg, mar ny yll hy cùsca, yma hy ow mos dhe'n gegyn hag ow qwil tesen rag hy gour. Hèn yw gwell rag aga dew.

HARRY Rag agan try ny, gwell mars usy an doctour ow tallath y whel. Sqwith ov vy. Sqwith a wortos!

VOCABULARY NOT IN THE COURSEBOOK
Expanding your vocabulary at a reasonable pace is an important part of learning Cornish. It's a good idea to write new words down in your exercise book as you come across them

ken *adj* another *Last lesson we encountered the same word used as an adverb 'otherwise'*
gloos *f* ache, pain
goles *m* bottom, base
naneyl *adv* neither
cleves clun *m* sciatica (literally, 'hip illness')
uthyk *adj* terrible
cleves *m* illness
vëth *adj* any (after a negative)
fest *adv* very (it can go before or after the adjective it qualifies)
tra *f taclow* thing *This very common word is also a really odd word. The plural is irregular. And we use **ev, y** (possessive pronoun), **hedna** to refer to a thing, also **dew, try, peswar** when counting things, But **tra** does work like a feminine noun to cause Second State of a following adjective, and to go into Second State itself after **udn** (so, **udn dra**).*
broder *m* brother
gour *m* husband
aga dew *phr* the two of them, both of them (literally, 'their two')
agan try *phr* the three of us (literally, 'our three')
mars *conj* = **mar** 'if'; **mars** is employed before a form of the verb **bos** 'to be' beginning with a vowel