ASTELL WYDN

Whiteboard

lovinglivingcornish, dalathoryon lovinglivingcornish, beginners

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Today we revised the numbers one to ten.

Then we learned **otta** ... 'there / here is' (pointing to something), and its more emphatic forms **otta** ... **dres ena** 'there is ... over there' and **ot obma** ... 'here is' (in my hand or very close to me). **Ot obma** illustrates how **otta** shortens to **ot** before a vowel.

Then we learned that there is one set of forms of **bos** 'to be' when we are identifying the subject (with a noun or an adjective), as in 'he is a learner' or 'he is happy' – **ev yw dyscor** or **lowen yw ev**. These are often called 'short' forms of **bos**. And there is another set of forms of **bos** when we are saying that the subject is in a particular place, for example 'there is a dog in the house' (not pointing now, just making a statement) or 'the dog is in the house'.

And we practised this: so **yma ky i'n chy** 'there is a dog in the house' or **yma an ky i'n chy** 'the dog is in the house'. Note how English grammar changes if subject goes from being indefinite to being definite. But this is nothing to do with *Cornish*, which treats the two as essentially the same: a statement of location. **Yma** must come first.

(We never use ***in an** for 'in the', it always shortens to **i'n**.)

With the extra words in my email before the lesson we can also say, for example: **yma an ky wàr an gwely** 'the dog is *on* the bed', **yma an gath in dadn an bord** 'the cat is *under* the table', **yma an gader orth an fenester** 'the chair is up against the window', **yma an bord ryb an daras** 'the table is *beside* the door', **yma an carr dhyrag an chy** 'the car is *in front of* the house' and **yma lowarth adrëv an chy** 'there is a garden *behind* the house'.

So you have lots of opportunity to come up with sentences on your own, using all the words you know so far. They can be comic sentences – humour actually helps fix things in your mind. For instance, **yma qwylkyn i'n desen** 'there is a frog in the cake'.