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*Editors*

Muiris Ó Laoire  
Nancy Stenson

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## JOURNAL OF CELTIC LANGUAGE LEARNING

*Journal of Celtic Language Learning* is an international review for researchers and teachers of modern Celtic Languages. The official publication of the North American Association for Celtic Language Teachers, *JCLL* includes papers presented at the association's annual conference in addition to manuscripts submitted by Celtic language scholars worldwide. It is also a forum in which Celtic language teachers can share insights into methodology with their peers.

*JCLL*'s mission, similar to that of NAACLTL, is to provide another forum in which teachers and applied linguists can contribute to the literature presently available on second language acquisition as well as increase communication among Celtic language teachers and researchers.

### Editors

#### Muiris Ó Laoire

*Department of Languages and  
Communication,  
The Institute of Technology,  
Tralee, Co. Kerry  
Éire.*

*E-mail*

*Muiris.olaoire@staff.ittralee.ie*

#### Nancy Stenson

*Institute of Linguistics,  
ESL and Slavic Languages and Literatures,  
University of Minnesota,  
214 Nolte Centre,  
315 Pillsbury Dr. S.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55455.*

*E-mail [stensonn@umn.edu](mailto:stensonn@umn.edu)*

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- ◇ Those interested should submit four typed copies of their manuscript (**two** without any indication of the authors' name) to Dr. Nancy Stenson, Institute of Linguistics, ESL and Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Minnesota, 214 Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Keep a disk (computer) copy of the paper. It will be requested in the case of acceptance.
- ◇ All submissions should be double-spaced. Articles should be 2,500 to 3,000 words (with a 50 to 60 word abstract at the beginning) and short descriptions of a program or technique should be 200 to 500 words.
- ◇ Two anonymous readers will referee all submissions blindly.
- ◇ Comments from the referees will be forwarded to the authors together with the editors' decision regarding publishing before publication date.

**INDEXES**

Some of the articles published in the *Journal of Celtic Language Learning* are abstracted or indexed in *Language Teaching*, LLBA (*Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts*), RIE (*Resources in Education*), the Modern Language Association *International Bibliography*, and Institiúid Teangeolaíochta Éireann's *Selected Articles from Language Journals*.

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**A Note on Welsh Demographics following the 2001 Census**

**Martin J. Ball**

*University of Louisiana at Lafayette, USA*

This paper gives a brief history of language decline, revitalization, and maintenance in the context of Welsh. In particular, it focuses on the results of the 2001 census in the United Kingdom, which showed the first increase in numbers and percentages of Welsh speakers since records began. It concludes with some thoughts on the future development of the Welsh speech community.

**Language Decline**

Wales lost political independence in 1282, but the language in its literary form, which had been supported by the patronage of the princes, was still vigorous, as local nobility maintained the patronage system.<sup>1</sup> However, the Act of Union between Wales and England in 1536 robbed the language of political and legal domains, and the poetic tradition went into a slow decline (DG Jones 1988). Such a loss of public domains can have a disastrous effect on a politically subordinate language (see, for example, the decline of Irish). However, the protestant reformation in England and Wales, with its push to provide the scriptures and prayer books in vernacular languages, provided what might be thought of

as a lifeline to Welsh. The translation of the Prayer Book and New Testament in 1567, and the complete Bible in 1588, not only

<sup>1</sup> The discussion in these first sections follows parts of Ball (forthcoming) and Ball, Müller and Munro (forthcoming).