

## THE NEWLYN CORNISH LANGUAGE CLASS

### Weekly lessons by Zoom

For your diary: Monday **24 May** 2021, 19:30; **31 May** 2021, 19:30. further lessons to be announced. For each lesson the Zoom joining details will be emailed several days beforehand.

### MONDAY 24 MAY 19:30

Lesson plan 19:30 Welcome, 19:40 Prepositions **dhe** and **gans**, 20:00 Simple story, 20:30 Chat (in English, with a little Cornish thrown in) about Cornish language and culture

We've already learned some of the personal forms of **dhe** and **gans**. Here are all the forms in a single table. Variants in each entry are in increasing order of formality.

<b>dhe vy</b> or <b>dhèm</b> or <b>dhybm</b> or <b>dhybmo</b> [vy] to me	<b>gena vy</b> or <b>genama</b> or <b>genef</b> [vy] with me
<b>dhe jy</b> or <b>dhis</b> or <b>dhy</b> or <b>dhyso</b> [jy] to you (singular familiar)	<b>gena jy</b> or <b>genes</b> [sy] with you (singular familiar)
<b>dhe ev</b> or <b>dhodho</b> [ev] to him or masculine it	<b>gens ev</b> or <b>ganso</b> [ev] with him or masculine it
<b>dhedhy</b> [hy] to her or feminine it	<b>gens hy</b> or <b>gensy</b> with her or feminine it
<b>dhe ny</b> or <b>dhyn</b> [ny] to us	<b>gena ny</b> or <b>genen</b> [ny] with us
<b>dhe why</b> or <b>dhywgh</b> [why] to you (plural or polite)	<b>geno'why</b> or <b>genowgh</b> [why] with you (plural or polite)
<b>dhe anjy</b> or <b>dhodhans</b> or <b>dhedha[ns]</b> [y] to them	<b>gens anjy</b> or <b>gansa[ns]</b> [y] with them

The forms **dhybmo** and **dhyso** are specifically emphatic. You can spell **geno'why** as **gena why** if you prefer, the pronunciation is the same. Forms **dhedha** and **gansa** are literary.

Remember **dhe** triggers Second State of a following word. **Gans** (colloquially **gen**) is followed by First State (*i.e.* no change).

**Dhe** means 'to'. It occasionally also means 'at'. This is the case with times o'clock, *e.g.* **dhe bymp eur** 'at five o'clock'. And in fixed phrases like **dhe'n lyha** 'at least'. But some speakers also use **dhe** colloquially to mean 'at' of places – compare Cornish dialect of English 'where's it to?'

Neither the E in **dhe** and **gen** nor the A in **gans** is given full pronunciation. The vowel reduces to sound like E in the English word *the* spoken without particular emphasis.

Because **dhe anjy** (stress on second syllable) could easily be confused with **dhe jy** in speech, you will usually hear it as **dhe anjei**, and it may be so written.

Finally, note that **gans** / **gen** also means 'by'. The ancestral sense of the word is floating *down* the Dnieper: you go *with* the flow and are carried along *by* the river.

## SIMPLE STORY

**Wosa kerdhes wàr Garn Bre (Carn Brea) yma Crysten ha Tôny in Cambron arta.**

**TÔNY Yma sehes dhybm.**

**CRYSTEN Eâ, yma otham a dhewas dhe vy kefrÿs.**

**TÔNY Res yw dhyn esedha hag eva neppëth. In Costa martesen?**

**CRYSTEN Gwell yw gena vy prena dewas in Greggs. Dâ vëdh genama kerdhes nebes moy.**

**TÔNY In Costa ny a yll debry inwedh.**

**CRYSTEN Nyns ov vy gwag.**

**TÔNY Saw my yw pòr wag.**

**CRYSTEN Pùb eur oll, dell hevel. Yma barr chocklet genama. Ny a yll radna hedna.**

**TÔNY Wèl, y hyllyn ny in gwir. Saw gwell yw genef debry nebes moy. Mar mydnyn ny prena dewas in Greggs, my a yll kemeres packet a rolyow selsyk ganso, ha knofen toos.**

**CRYSTEN Ogh, fethys oll oma! Gwell vëdh dhe ny mos dhe'n goffyva. Dhe'n lyha yma latte tanow ena.**

**TÔNY Ha coffy gans syrop ha dehen. Ha breghtan cras. Ha tesen lus.**

**CRYSTEN Me a wra debry udn flapjack, heb namoy. Saw gwell dhe'n yêhes yw voydya vytel Greggs pùb dëdh. Costa ytho, ny allama (= allaf vy) ken!**

## 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*

**sehes** *m* thirst (compare **sëgh** 'dry')

**kefrÿs** *adv* too

**neppëth** *pron* something

**dewas** *m* drink (contrast **eva** *v* drink)

**pùb dëdh** *and* **pùb eur oll** *phr* always

**nebes** *quant* a little, a few

**mar** *conj* if (followed by 4<sup>th</sup> State)

**rol selsyk** *f* rolyow sausage roll

**knofen toos** *f* doughnut

**fethys oll oma** *phr* I give up (literally, 'defeated all am I')

**breghtan cras** *m* toastie

**heb namoy** *phr* nothing else (literally, 'without any more')

**yêhes** *m* health

**voydya** *v* avoid (also 'leave in a hurry')

**vytel** *col* food

**ken** *adv* otherwise