

## About the course:

This course presents an introduction to the Cornish language as it is spoken today by a growing number of people in Cornwall and around the world. It is aimed at complete beginners as well as those with one or two years of Cornish study. **No prior experience with Cornish or Celtic languages is needed.**

While practicing conversational Cornish, participants will also have the opportunity to learn about Cornish history, traditions, and folklore. Other topics to be covered include Cornish place-names and family names, Cornish literature, and Cornish music.

The fee for each session is \$30, or \$90 for the whole series. It is hoped that participants will be able to attend all three sessions, but the course is structured so that each class includes a review of previous material as well as adding new material. Even those who can only attend a single session will be able to acquire a basic knowledge of contemporary spoken Cornish.

All participants will receive a course pack containing handouts, lessons, and other Cornish language resources. Accompanying audio files may be downloaded directly from a dedicated web page featuring links to Cornish language media and on-line learning materials.

The course is sponsored by the **Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society** and hosted by the **Pendarvis Historic Site** in Mineral Point, Wisconsin. The first session will take place during the **21<sup>st</sup> Annual Cornish Festival** in Mineral Point (September 27-29, 2013) and will be preceded by a free presentation on *The Cornish Language: Its History and Its Future*.

*A registration form is provided on the back of this page.*

## About the instructor:

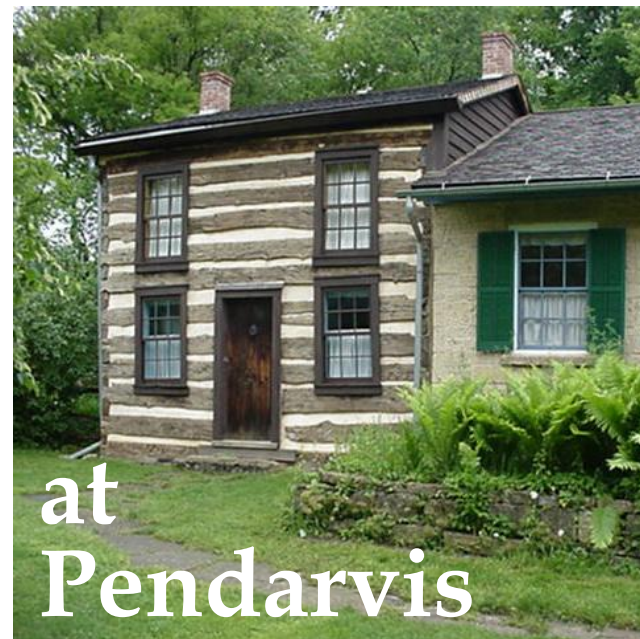
Born in Kenosha, Wisconsin, **Dr. Benjamin Bruch** currently lives and works in Iowa. He first became interested in Cornish while doing family history research in the 1990s, and quickly fell in love with the language, traveling to Cornwall to attend gatherings for language learners and eventually becoming a Cornish teacher himself.

Ben was made a Bard of the Cornish Gorsedd in 1998, taking the bardic name *Brogh 'Badger.'* A graduate of the Department of Celtic Languages and Literatures at Harvard University, he helped to develop the new standard spelling system for Cornish adopted in 2008. Ben has taught Celtic languages to students of all ages at schools, colleges, and cultural events in the United States, Great Britain, Germany, and Austria.



Learn more about the Pendarvis Cornish class and Ben's other Celtic course offerings at [www.benjaminbruch.com](http://www.benjaminbruch.com).

# Learn Cornish



An introductory course in the Cornish language taught by **Dr. Benjamin Bruch**  
*Wisconsin Native ❖ Cornish Bard ❖ Celtic Scholar*

**Pendarvis Historic Site**  
Education Center ❖ Kresen Adhyskans  
212 Spruce Street  
Mineral Point, Wisconsin, 53565

*Sign up for one session or all three:*

Sunday, <b>September 29</b>	2-5 PM
Wednesday, <b>October 16</b>	5-8 PM
Wednesday, <b>November 6</b>	5-8 PM

❖ *Beginners welcome!* ❖

Come to Pendarvis **September 29** from 12-1 PM for a special **free** presentation on *The Cornish Language: Its History and Its Future*

## What is the Cornish language?

At the far southwestern tip of Great Britain lies Cornwall: a small but proud country rich in history, tradition, and folklore. Although nowadays Cornwall is sometimes described as a part of England, the Cornish have not forgotten that their land is a nation in its own right, home to a Celtic culture and a Celtic language that set its people apart from their English neighbors.

Like many places in Britain, Cornwall has its own dialect of English, and many people there still use dialect words or speak with a Cornish accent. But *Kernewek*, the Cornish language, is something else entirely: like Irish, Gaelic, and Welsh, Cornish is a Celtic language, as different from English as French, German, or Russian. After centuries of decline, Cornish is making a comeback, and Cornwall's national language is now beginning to be taught in schools and used on street signs alongside English.



## Why learn Cornish?

For hundreds of years, Cornish was the everyday language in large parts of Cornwall, particularly in the far west of the country. By 1800, however, it was all but extinct, remembered only in bits and pieces by scholars and a few older people living in remote places. Only in the 20<sup>th</sup> century did many people begin to realize the value of preserving and restoring this important part of Cornwall's cultural heritage. Today, a growing number of speakers

as well as books, films, podcasts, and pop songs in Cornish are making the language once again a part of daily life in Cornwall.

Some study Cornish to reconnect with their own Cornish ancestors. Others are drawn to it by the lure of the landscape and the music of exotic place-names like Goonhilly, Landewednack, Lostwithiel, Praze-an-Beeble, and Tywardreath. Still others are simply excited to take part in the extraordinary project of breathing new life into a language that was dead for over a century.



For more information about the Cornish course please call Dr. Benjamin Bruch at 443-610-6677 or send an e-mail to [info@benjaminbruch.com](mailto:info@benjaminbruch.com).

Driving directions to Pendarvis and a calendar of events for the Pendarvis Historic Site are available at [pendarvis.wisconsinhistory.org](http://pendarvis.wisconsinhistory.org).

Information about the Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society and the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Mineral Point Cornish Festival (September 27-29, 2013) can be found on-line at [www.cornishfest.org](http://www.cornishfest.org).

## Registration Form ❖ Cornish Language Class

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*First* *Last*

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Number and Street*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City* *State* *Zip Code*

Phone:

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail:

Please register me for the following sessions:

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Fee</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday, September 29	2-5 PM	\$30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday, October 16	5-8 PM	\$30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday, November 6	5-8 PM	\$30

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to  
**SWCS - Cornish Language Class**  
and send payment to:

**Tamara Funk, Curator**  
**Pendarvis Historic Site**  
**PO Box 270**  
**Mineral Point, WI 53565**