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The events surrounding the statement by Gilligan on the BBC Radio Four News followed a normal sequence.

For years we have listened to the World Service at night, in the early morning, and carried on listening after the transition to Radio Four. Here in Malta we can listen to BBC World until nine am.

I used to listen to the World Service and telephone the Radio Four Studio before it came on air.

Several times I was able to add to a story on BBC World and then hear it transmitted, with the added information on Radio Four.

Before Dyke the first news in the morning was fact, at seven BBC management woke up and the item was given the BBC spin, at eight the government spin doctors became active and complete coverage was given to the government line, this was totally predictable.

Often I was telephoned later at home by a presenter or the producer from their home to thank me for my information and then to talk it through.

That was when I had access to the precursor of the internet and the BBC did not then use it.

I only had that access as we were Beta testing the system and had access to databases which are no longer available on the Internet but by subscription at rates which no individual could afford or the BBC could justify.

With growth of the Internet we now can all take part in the worlds largest news gathering organisation, Indymedia.com

With Birt and later Dyke the news was centralised and much more carefully managed. There were days of coverage, days of left wing coverage and days of extreme right wing bias, superimposed on the six, seven, eight progression, according to who was on the particular shift. The management philosophy presumably was that balance was not necessary in the individual coverage but over time.

News is now more carefully coordinated and has to follow the central BBC management daily agreed or imposed guidelines.

The lesson from this is that a twenty four hour service has to have twenty four hour management.

Not government intervention in the management of the BBC.

The BBC did not send a nation to war. I smell a sulphurous whiff of Mandelson in the air.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Campbell.

*I. Thakur*



**IN FLIGHT** The Greenham Common statue has been moved from a high profile spot in Cardiff Bay to an alcove in City Hall, below.



# A NEW HOME FOR GREENHAM STATUE

A STATUE that was at the centre of a national row has been moved from its original home.

The row over the statue which commemorates the Welsh women who protested at Greenham Common has been rumbling on since June 2000.

The 6ft bronze statue of a mother holding her child was first placed in the public area of the National Assembly, but after objection from the Tories it was moved to the Transport and General Workers Union building, in Cathedral Road, Cardiff.

Conservative chief whip David Davies attacked the Greenham Common women as a "bunch of con-artist communists and drop-out".

Now the statue seems to have found its final resting place in an alcove in City Hall. But the women

**Alex Lemon**  
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who marched the 110 miles from Cardiff in the name of peace say they are pleased after years of debate.

More than 30 women - some with small children - set off from the city in 1981 to march to Berkshire to protest about the storing of cruise missiles at an American air base in Greenham Common.

Some chained themselves to fences and others were arrested in an occupation which lasted until the last missiles were taken back to the US 19 years later.

There were plans to place the statue outside City Hall but there were fears of vandalism and problems with upkeep.

Thalia Campbell, who the sculpture, said: "I'm delighted. We wanted it in of a fountain because I would protect it but that's not possible for practical reasons."

"I dearly wanted a sculpture plaque outside City Hall march started from. The Temple of Peace and the statue is inside but it's great standing there."

Plaid Cymru AM Dai L was originally presented statue, said: "I'm naturally ted that the statue is not played prominently. The position taken by the women ham Common was entirely ate. This is a democracy of the sacrifice these women serves proper recognition."

said: "It is great and it also rounds which is number of pupils

most probably locked down if done anything e are very glad ation authority about it. e to emphasise

the help we have had from the education authority, who have contributed to the costs as have the school." The pavilion has been at the site in Plasrug since about 1968 and has previously been used for cricket and for the

mini minors football league. But it has been left empty for the last few years and it was decided by the council's education department that it could be appropriate for use by Ysgol Gymraeg. And in his speech at the

opening, Cllr Eklund said: "One of the education officials said that maybe the school could use the old pavilion rather than demolishing it and they could get the strip of land there as part of the school premises.

"The governors and the headmaster agreed with the possibility of this. "I emphasise that we took advantage of the situation because it is not usually possible to prepare this sort of thing at all primary schools."

governor. In the background are seen Ysgol Gymraeg pupils. Photo order code: DP110A04

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# Bow Street bard's verse will grace peace sculpture

BOW Street bard Vernon Jones has been asked to write a four-line stanza which will be placed on the plinth of a sculpture which commemorates the Greenham Common Peace March of 1981.

The sculpture, previously on show in Aberystwyth, has finally found a permanent home in Cardiff.

It was made by Anton Agius and commemorates the march by a group of 36 women, four babies and six men who set out from Cardiff in August 1981 for Greenham Common to protest about the American ground-launched nuclear missiles

being deployed there.

One of those marchers, Thalia Campbell, of Ynyslas, said: "The sculpture shows a woman and a child. The child is holding the dove of peace. The woman wears purple, green and white ribbons in her hair to pay homage to the suffragettes."

After being on display at various places around Wales, including the Ceredigion Museum, Aberystwyth, the statue has finally found a home in the entrance of Cardiff's City Hall.

It will be officially unveiled on 20 July and Vernon's englyn will be put on a plaque

on the statue and reads:  
Ar ein daear niwclar ni - ei henaid  
A daniodd ddaioni  
Nid yw perth ei haberth hi  
Na'i ffydd byth yn diffoddi.

In English this translates to:

Over our nuclear land her soul has fired goodness  
The bush of her sacrifice and faith will not be extinguished.

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## Extraordinary meeting

AN extraordinary general meeting of the Aberystwyth and District Archaeology Society takes place on 9 April to decide future field activities.

## Llanbadarn man hid heroin packet in his mouth

A LLANBADARN Fawr man sentenced to a conditional discharge for possession of cocaine and heroin has been warned if he breaks the discharge he will face a harsh penalty.

## Police

POLICE in A... who smashed... The window... appealing to... about the inc... Staff at the... photographs... have it replac... Please get i...

## Animal

TWF project... visiting super... Whilst talk... children bilin... entertain the... Pioneer in Lan... enthusiastic a... The project... anniversary la... Randerson, se... initiatives for...

Business start-up sup

disa

Thinking of sta... but need some

Enter can offer you... and pre-start works