

AIKB Radio Project: Yann Rivallain

New Settlers

Interviewer	<p>Today I'm delighted, on behalf of Spotlight on Brittany, to have with me, here in the studio, Yann Rivallain, Editor in Chief of Ar Men magazine.</p> <p>How do you see the influx of new residents from abroad, particularly from the United Kingdom, how do you see that affecting Brittany? Is it a good thing or a bad thing?</p>
Yann	<p>For me, generally, it's been a very good thing. First thing, I've seen that a lot of people have come to areas where Breton people couldn't live any more, didn't want to live anymore. A lot of them have moved to cities and especially outside the centre of Brittany, Kreiz Breizh, so that has been very good to repopulate some of those areas, that's very important. Of course, that has helped to renovate a lot of the houses. A lot of Breton traditional houses had been actually left empty and had completely lost value in the eyes of Breton people, that's only 30 years ago. Through all these people, a lot of them have been renovated, so part of the heritage has been preserved. And, generally speaking I see that as a sort of an opening. Brittany's geographically a little bit isolated. A lot of people, statistics show that a lot of people here, a bit more than other parts of France, speak English, travel quite a lot so having a bit of diversity on your doorstep is a good thing if it makes life feel better. So the European feelings are quite strong here in Brittany so a lot of people, like me at least, appreciate having a bit of Europe around and mixing culture and languages so I think the effect is positive.</p>