



# **Fèisean nan Gàidheal**

A' toirt ar dualchais do ar n-òigridh

**Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Dark Island Hotel  
Benbecula**

**Friday 15 September 2006**

Fèisean nan Gàidheal  
Taigh a' Mhill  
Port-Rìgh  
An t-Eilean Sgitheanach  
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# Fèisean nan Gàidheal

Meeting of the Board of Directors to be held in the Dark Island Hotel, Benbecula from 2pm on Friday 15 September 2006

## Agenda

### 3.2006.01 PRELIMINARIES

- (a) **Present**
- (b) **Apologies**
- (c) **Minutes of the last meeting**  
Minutes of the last meeting are circulated. Board members are asked to approve them as a true record of the meeting.
- (d) **Matters arising**  
Board members are invited to raise any issues not included elsewhere on the agenda.
- (e) **Minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Group**  
Minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Group, held on 23 August are circulated for information. Board members are invited to raise any points they wish from those minutes.

### 3.2006.02 FINANCIAL ISSUES

- (a) **Financial Report**  
A report is circulated showing income and expenditure to and from Fèisean nan Gàidheal up to 18 August 2006. Also included is a list of grants pledged to Fèisean for 2006-07. Board members are invited to raise any points they would like to discuss.
- (b) **Bank balances and up-to-date information**  
This information will be tabled at the meeting.
- (c) **Annual Audited Accounts to 31 March 2006**  
Nicolson and Co have prepared audited account to 31 March 2006, which were approved by the Executive Group at its last meeting. Board members must recommend their approval at the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) **Quarterly Accounts**  
Accounts from 1 April to 30 June 2006 will be available at the meeting.
- (e) **Auditors**  
Nicolson & Co have been our auditors for the past two years, and are prepared to continue to act as such. We have sought quotes from other accountants to ensure that we are getting value for money, and there will be further information at the meeting.
- (f) **Funding from the Scottish Arts Council from 2007 onwards**  
The Scottish Arts Council have asked us for further information, and for a meeting. The information they have asked for is included in the papers for information, and Board members are welcome to comment on this. It must also be decided who should represent the Board at the meeting.

### **3.2006.03 POLICY ISSUES**

**(a) Wages review**

Anne Barke was employed to look at the rates of pay offered to Fèisean nan Gàidheal staff are paid. Recommendations have been made by her and the Director will table a report at the meeting for Board members only.

**(b) Staff Handbook**

At the same time, Anne Barke made changes to our Staff handbook and a copy has been sent to Board members in e-mail form only. Staff contracts will be tied into the new regulations from now on.

### **3.2006.04 DEVELOPMENT ISSUES**

**(a) Progress in implementation of Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Development Plan 2005-10**

A summary of progress to date against the measures in our Development Plan is circulated. Board members may discuss any issues arising from this summary.

**(b) Fèis: celebrating 25 years of the Fèisean**

We had expected that the book would be launched at the AGM, but unfortunately this cannot be. The Director will outline the reasons for this, and what stage the book is at.

### **3.2006.05 OPERATIONAL ISSUES**

**(a) Staff Progress Reports**

Progress Reports from staff are circulated. Board members are asked to note the content of these, and are invited to discuss relevant points.

**(b) Up-to-date information from staff**

Some of the staff are going to give Board members a short verbal report on some of the projects in which they are involved.

**(c) 2007 Conference**

The programme for the two days in Benbecula is included in the papers for information.

**(d) Election of Directors**

Three Board members will be leaving the Board this year, and an election process will need to be put in place to fill those places. A report from the Director is circulated with recommendations as to how this should be implemented.

**(d) Membership Fees**

Membership fees have been at the same level (£100) for two years. Board members are asked to consider whether this should be increased in order to recommend such at the AGM.

### **3.2006.06 OTHER**

**(a) A O C B**

**(b) Meeting of the Executive Group**

The papers from the Executive Group have been circulated in their entirety by e-mail only. Board members are welcome to raise any points they wish from those papers.

**(c) Date of next meeting**

The next meeting has been set for Thursday 7 December.

# Fèisean nan Gàidheal

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held in The Holiday Inn, Glasgow Airport, on Monday 22 May 2006 from 1.00pm

Agenda Item: 3.2006.01(c)

## 3.2006.01 PRELIMINARIES

### (a) Present

Katie Adam (Chair), Peggy Nicolson (Vice Chair), Ken Houston (Secretary), Alasdair MacDonald, George Stoddart, Jessie Newton, Jane MacNeil, Ken MacKenzie, Donald John MacSween (Comhairle nan Eilean Siar), Arthur Cormack (Attending), David Boag (Attending), Anne Willoughby (Attending)

### (b) Apologies

Joan Robertson, Kate Kerr, Alasdair Macleod (HIE), Morag Anna MacLeod (The Highland Council),

### (c) Confirmation of Minutes of the previous Board meeting

Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 6 December 2005 had been circulated. These were approved as a true record of the meeting.

### (d) Matters arising

Arthur Cormack, Director mentioned that he had received costings for the new website. The new website would allow us to make updates rather than waiting for someone else to do it for us. The new website has to be bi-lingual and there are one-off costs for design and setting up. It will cost £1800 for licence and hosting. The new website will cost around £8000. There is £10,000 allocated to website costs in the budget but we have no timetable as yet. Peggy, Alasdair and Ken agreed that we should proceed with this.

### (e) Minutes of Executive Group Minutes

Minutes of the Executive Group held at Cluanie Inn on Wednesday 10 May had been circulated. Board members were asked to note these and raise any points they wish to discuss from the minutes. There were no additional points to be discussed.

## 3.2006.02 FINANCIAL ISSUES

### (a) Financial Report

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's income and expenditure transactions to 31 March 2006 were circulated. Also circulated is a note of the grants pledged by Fèisean nan Gàidheal for 2005-06 and 2006-07, plus a budget for 2006-07. Board members were asked to note the contents of the report, and discuss any points they wish to raise.

The Director reported that although there was a £60,000 deficit there was £100,000 to come in against that and the situation at the end of year seemed a fairly healthy one but the annual accounts could show otherwise.

The budget for 2006/07 had been agreed with the Executive Group Meeting and the Board members were asked to approve it. Everyone was happy to approve the budget.

The Highland Council were reducing our core funding by £3000 as they were making cuts of 2% across the board. The Director was optimistic that we could receive extra funding to support two new Fèisean.

### (b) Bank Balances and up to date information

The current balances were:

- Current account: £51,536.00
- Hi-Interest account: £4395.00
- On Deposit: £100,064.55

- (c) **Update on funding from the Scottish Arts Council 2007 onwards**  
Katie, David and Arthur met with Iain Smith, Scottish Arts Council. Following on from the points raised at the meeting a letter to the Scottish Arts Council was circulated for information. There were still ongoing discussions on the level of funding required.
- (d) **Funding from Highlands & Islands Enterprise from 2006 onwards**  
A copy of the full application to HIE has been sent to all Board members by e-mail only, as part of the Executive Group papers. The Director reported that Alasdair MacLeod was moving forward with this but it was going to be late in the year before this funding was received.

### 2.2006.03 POLICY ISSUES

- (a) **Implementing our Gaelic Policy**  
A report from the Director on implementation to date was circulated. He reported that the post for the Gaelic officer was about to be advertised and he would be responsible for assisting the Fèisean to implement our policy.  
  
David Boag gave verbal update on the Bòrd na Gàidhlig funding, and how this was to be utilised. Bòrd na Gàidhlig granted £65,000 towards the implementation of Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Gaelic language initiatives and a breakdown of this funding was reported.
- (b) **Child Protection Policy**  
Board members were asked to ratify a decision by the Executive Group that Fèisean not complying fully with our Child Protection Policy should have their grant payments withheld. Alasdair MacDonald agreed with this decision and this was seconded by George Stoddart.

### 2.2006.04 DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

- (a) **Progress against Fèisean nan Gàidheal Development Plan 2005-10**  
A report by the Director was circulated, outlining progress with the implementation of the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Development Plan. Board members were happy with progress to date.
- (b) **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebratory Book**  
Board members were aware that we were publishing a book celebrating 25 years of the Fèis movement later this summer. The Director made a short presentation to Board members on progress and showed them examples of how the book is shaping up. It was to be launched at Fèis Bharraigh and also at the AGM.
- (c) **Blas 2006**  
The Development Manager gave a short presentation to Board members on Blas 2006, and outlined this year's programme.

### 2.2006.05 OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- (a) **Staff Progress Reports**  
Progress Reports from staff were circulated. Board members were asked to note the content of these, and were invited to discuss relevant points. Katie Adam reported that she had visited Fèis Lochabair and Fèis Lochabair and really enjoyed it. Board Members were informed that they were welcome to visit any Fèis at any time they wished and their costs would be covered.
- (b) **2006 Conference**  
Correction on the agenda (2006 not 2007) Our 2006 Conference and AGM will be held in Benbecula on 15 and 16 September. An outline programme was circulated and Board members were asked to get back to Anne before the end of June with any additional items to be included.

**2.2006.06 OTHER**

**(a) A O C B**

There was no other business that had not been already covered on the Agenda.

**(b) Date of next meeting**

Board members noted that the next meeting is set for Friday, 15 September, in The Dark Island Hotel, Benbecula.

# Fèisean nan Gàidheal

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Group held in Cluanie Inn, Cluanie

Wednesday 23 August from 1.00pm

Agenda Item 3.2006.01(e)

## EX2.2006.01 PRELIMINARIES

### (a) Present

Katie Adam (Fèis a' Bhaile, Chair), Peggy Nicolson (Fèis an Earraich, Vice-Chair), Ken Houston (Fèis Chataibh, Secretary), Arthur Cormack (Fèisean nan Gàidheal Director), David Boag (Fèisean nan Gàidheal Development Manager), Anne Willoughby (Fèisean nan Gàidheal Finance & Administration Officer)

### (b) Apologies

Morag Anna MacLeod (The Highland Council); Ian Smith (Scottish Arts Council)

### (c) Minutes of previous Executive Group meeting for approval

Ken Houston proposed approval of the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Peggy Nicolson.

### (d) Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

## EX2.2006.02 FINANCIAL ISSUES

### (a) Financial Report (circulated)

A report from the Finance Officer had been circulated. A brief funding update was given for all projects but some of the items were covered elsewhere in the agenda under project updates.

The Social Impact Study for Blas was not going to go ahead this year. We had received £5,000 from The Millennium Commission Fund and Steve Westbrook was approached to proceed with this study, but required £10,000 to carry out the work. It was anticipated that this would happen next year instead.

There were a number of questions from Board members concerning income and expenditure for the current year.

- Ken Houston questioned why management fees were not allocated earlier but this was due to the fact that YMI funding had not yet been received from Highland Council, therefore we could not allocate management fees from funds we did not yet have.
- There was an overspend on staff salaries but this was due to Chris DePlano's salary costs which were still to be allocated to the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book project.
- Capital costs were higher than anticipated due to additional furniture and computers required for the Inverness office. A portion of this could be allocated to the Meanbh Chuileag project. The National Raffle showed a minus figure in expenditure and Anne Willoughby explained that this was due to our recent mail out of raffle books. The draw was still to take place and the December meeting would show the real expenditure costs.
- There was still a large amount of money to come in. The money for An Drochaid was still to be received although the project finished in January. YMIS money from Highland Council was due in as well as £67,500 from The Scottish Arts Council. The Director confirmed that Highland Council had granted £1,500 for the establishment of two new Fèisean.

### (b) Bank Balances and up to date information

The current bank balances were given as follows: £7,656.00 in the Current account and £24,280.00 in the High Interest account. There was an additional £75,745 on deposit for a further month.

### (c) Annual Accounts to 31 March 2006 (circulated)

The annual accounts had been circulated and there were a number of issues regarding terminology which were to be double checked with Angus Nicolson:

- Directors were down as Trustees
- The charity number was wrong
- Page 5 - Wrong date for year-end – 31 December 2003
- Page 10 – Directors/Trustees – terminology
- SOFA or SORP

Katie Adam and Ken Houston approved the accounts subject to the above amendments.

**(d) Funding update: HIE and SAC (Verbal)**

Arthur, David and Katie had met with Ian Smith from SAC. Arthur stated that the £250k proposed was a huge increase from the £95k present core funding but as we had been in receipt of £212k for the past four years, the increase was not so great. He was hoping that the increase in funding would be more significant as our optimum budget requirement was nearly £500k and he had written to Ian Smith after the meeting. He was frustrated that there was no real progress with this and SAC were requesting more statistical information taking up more staff time.

There was no progress with the HIE application forwarded to Alasdair MacLeod in March except that David Smillie was to pass it on to an external consultant, since HIE did not have an appropriate staff member to deal with it currently.

**(e) Quarterly accounts and relationship with accountants (Verbal)**

Angus Nicolson CA had been in the Portree office working on the end of year accounts. He had agreed to produce quarterly accounts and balance sheet as from 1 April 2006 but there had been a number of reasons why this had not happened. A lot of staff time had been spent chasing accounts and there had been a lack of response to emails. However, he was due to come across to the Portree office on Tuesday 5 September to produce quarterly accounts.

Arthur Cormack stated our intention to continue with submitting our normal budget (income and expenditure) report and quarterly accounts were to be sent out to Board members as they came available.

Board members suggested that we should approach other accountants for a quote before the next board meeting and they agreed to forward names to Anne Willoughby.

**EX2.2006.03 STAFFING ISSUES**

**(a) Staff Appraisals programme (verbal)**

All staff appraisals had now been carried out apart from Arthur's, which was to be carried out later that afternoon after the meeting.

**(b) Gaelic Officer (verbal)**

Calum Alex MacMillan had been appointed as the Gaelic Officer and was now in post in the Inverness office. Katie Adam mentioned that Calum Alex had attended their last committee meeting and he had been very helpful.

**(c) Lochaber Fèisean Development Officer (verbal)**

Ingrid Henderson's post in Lochaber was continuing with funding from Lochaber Enterprise until March 2006 when it would be mainstreamed into core budgets.

**(d) Staff contracts, handbook and salary review (verbal)**

The Director reported that at their appraisal a number of staff felt their salaries did not reflect their responsibilities. Anne Barke, an HR consultant, had been appointed to look at staff salaries, job descriptions, staff contracts and also the staff handbook.

Katie mentioned that a Handbook for board members may be useful but it was decided that the CDs given to new members were sufficient. It was also agreed that new Board members would attend a presentation prior to the start of the Board meeting.

## **EX2.2006.04 PROJECT UPDATES**

### **(a) Gaelic Developments/Meanbh Chuileag/Gaelic Drama (verbal)**

David Boag gave a verbal update on progress to date. Douglas Beck and Calum Alex were working well together on different projects.

### **(b) Training Programme (verbal)**

The Director reported that numbers attending training events were consistently small and attendance from Fèisean was poor. There was support for a training weekend offering 6 different subjects over two days.

Ken Houston reported that young tutors were not happy with the recent training day in August, in particular the content of the programme, which they thought was not very relevant to their situation.

### **(c) YMI contracts (verbal)**

There had been timetabling problems due to visiting specialist teachers and although this was a Highland Council problem, it did impact on the work being done by Fèis organisers. The number of weeks in schools had been cut down from 12 weeks to 8 weeks for session 2006-07.

### **(d) Blas Festival (verbal)**

The Director mentioned that the Blas Festival was starting on the 1 September and on-line ticket sales were well up on last year. The programme was looking good and there would be launch events in Inverness and Glasgow.

### **(e) Lochabair Fèisean (verbal)**

This had already been covered elsewhere.

### **(f) 25 Years Celebratory Book (verbal)**

The Director reported that the book may not be ready for the AGM but was due to go to print next Wednesday. It was decided that there could be a presentation of the book at the AGM and that we could still take orders for it, although it was accepted that it could not now be launched at that time.

### **(g) National Raffle**

The raffle was to be drawn in Meall House on Wednesday, 20 September 2006.

## **EX2.2006.05 DEVELOPMENT ISSUES**

### **(a) Highland 2007**

Harvest was successful in acquiring funding from Highland 2007. This involved youngsters from Fèis Rois and Fèis Lochabair, and would be part of Blas 2007. There had been no suitable budget for the plan that Fèisean nan Gàidheal had for a touring Ceòl nam Fèis concert.

### **(b) Archiving Project (verbal)**

There had been no progress to report, apart from an outline application to HLF to which an indication of support for the project had been given.

## **EX2.2006.06 BOARD MEETINGS**

### **(a) Agenda items to be included**

It was decided that staff could report on their own individual projects at the next Board Meeting

### **(b) Annual Conference (verbal)**

Anne Willoughby was to email invitation list to Ken, Peggy and Katie for any additions they wish to make. David Boag had completed the Annual report and it was to be translated. The Director had approached Comhairle Nan Eilean to contribute to the cost of the dinner but this was declined.

**(a) AOCB**

There had been a concern regarding the last meeting that the translation did not work so well and Board members were reluctant to comment. It was agreed that Douglas Beck would cover the translations for the next meeting. It was agreed that Anne would pass the bank balances to him prior to the meeting.

The Director reported that YMI resources were to be sent out to the schools in two weeks time.

**(b) Date and venue of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 15 November 2006 – Cluanie Inn, Cluanie.

# Fèisean nan Gàidheal

## Financial Report

Agenda Item: 3.2006.02(a)

This report includes:

- 1 Income and Expenditure from 1 April 2006 to 15 August
- 2 List of the grants pledged to Fèisean for 2006-07

Agenda item 3.2006.02(b)

- 1 Current bank balances will be tabled at the meeting

Agenda item 3.2006.02(c)

- 1 Annual audited accounts to 31 March 2006 prepared by Nicolson & Co

**Anne Willoughby**  
Finance and Administrative Officer  
September 2006

## Income and expenditure to 31 March 2007, with actual transactions to 15 August 2006

Agenda Item: 3.2006.02(a)1

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Budget for Year</b>	<b>Budget for Period</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Core Grants	£138,112.00	£46,037.33	£ 41,039.52
Fèis Support Workers	£30,500.00	£10,166.67	£ 13,000.00
Grants Scheme	£150,500.00	£50,166.67	£ 31,000.00
Training Programme	£96,242.35	£32,080.78	£ 7,639.99
Meanbh-Chuileag	£93,702.09	£31,234.03	£ 49,250.00
Highland Youth Music Initiative	£181,511.00	£60,503.67	£ 60,503.67
Annualised Hours	£31,500.00	£10,500.00	£ 0.00
Lochaber Development Officer	£28,803.00	£9,601.00	£ 6,537.00
Fèis Development Fund	£15,000.00	£5,000.00	£ 0.00
Earned Income	£21,900.00	£7,300.00	£ 2,725.01
Fèis Bharraigh w/shops	£25,146.00	£8,382.00	£ 8,508.00
Support 2 New Fèisean	£12,000.00	£4,000.00	£ 1,500.00
Blas Music Festival	£252,191.00	£84,063.67	£ 109,386.09
Archiving	£20,000.00	£6,666.67	£ 0.00
Pr/Website	£5,000.00	£1,666.67	£ 0.00
Website Development	£10,000.00	£3,333.33	£ 0.00
25 Anniversary Book	£58,625.00	£19,541.67	£ 17,500.00
Support Other Publications	£10,000.00	£3,333.33	£ 0.00
City Fèisean Development Officer	£40,000.00	£13,333.33	£ 0.00
Still to be raised	£18,000.00	£6,000.00	£ 0.00
Management Fees	£78,683.00	£26,227.67	£ 11,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£1,317,415.44</b>	<b>£439,138.48</b>	<b>£359,589.28</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
<b>Running Costs</b>			
Core Staff Salaries	£143,750.00	£47,916.67	£55,318.47
NIC Contributions	£9,888.00	£3,296.00	£3,889.10
Pension Contributions	£3,000.00	£1,000.00	£846.27
Core Staff Travel	£17,000.00	£5,666.67	£5,382.34
Office Rent & Rates	£14,000.00	£4,666.67	£4,859.36
Stationery, Printing & Postage	£8,000.00	£2,666.67	£3,913.01
Telephone, Fax, E-mail, Heat & Light	£8,000.00	£2,666.67	£2,719.77
Board Expenses	£4,500.00	£1,500.00	£1,182.55
Implementation of Child Protection policy	£8,000.00	£2,666.67	£3,755.97
Insurance	£7,000.00	£2,333.33	£7,621.07
Sundry Expenses	£3,500.00	£1,166.67	£435.00
Accountancy & Bank Charges	£2,500.00	£833.33	£72.53
Instrument Bank Repairs	£2,000.00	£666.67	£1,537.47
Additional Support Needs	£2,000.00	£666.67	£0.00
Capital Expenses	£3,000.00	£1,000.00	£4,783.67
<b>Programme Costs</b>			
Grants Paid Out	£178,000.00	£59,333.33	£50,043.00
Annualised Hours	£31,500.00	£10,500.00	£5,953.00
Feis Development Expenditure	£15,000.00	£5,000.00	£1,451.60
Lochabair Fèisean Development	£28,500.00	£9,500.00	£14,321.18
Training Programme/Expenditure on Lottery Training	£96,242.35	£32,080.78	£20,090.45
Fèis Bharraigh w/shops	£25,146.00	£8,382.00	£1,286.72

Meanbh Chuileag	£93,702.00	£31,234.00	£28,060.75
Highland Council Youth Music Initiative	£181,511.00	£60,503.67	£68,815.63
National Raffle Expenditure	£2,500.00	£833.33	-£826.00
25 Anniversary/Book	£58,300.00	£19,433.33	£13,148.76
Directory of Fèis Tutors/Newsletter Publications	£1,000.00	£333.33	£0.00
Annual Conference	£3,000.00	£1,000.00	£2,217.25
Inter Fèis activities	£8,500.00	£2,833.33	£221.00
Blas Festival Development	£1,000.00	£333.33	£0.00
Archiving Project	£242,750.00	£80,916.67	£48,182.77
PR & Marketing	£20,000.00	£6,666.67	£0.00
Website Development	£5,000.00	£1,666.67	£0.00
<b>New Projects</b>	£8,500.00	£2,833.33	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Support 2 New Fèisean	£12,000.00	£4,000.00	£0.00
Support Other Publications	£10,000.00	£3,333.33	£0.00
City Fèisean Development Officer	£40,000.00	£13,333.33	£0.00
Contingency	£5,000.00	£1,666.67	£0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£1,303,289.35</b>	<b>£434,429.78</b>	<b>£349,282.69</b>
Transfer to Reserves (0.175%Management Fees)	13,769.53	£4,589.84	£1,925.00
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>£14,126.09</b>	<b>£4,708.70</b>	<b>£10,306.59</b>

#### Sums due at 17.08.06

##### Funding Outstanding

An Drochaid	£ 10,547.19
CnaG (Graduate placement)	£ 2,500.00
ESF	£ 3,393.00
HIE	£ 25,000.00
SAC	£ 67,500.00
Highland Council	£219,511.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 328,451.19</b>

## Grants pledged to Fèisean 2006-07

Agenda Item: 3.2006.02(a)2

Name	Main Fèis Grant	Local Authority	Follow-on Grants	Ann Hours	Ann Hours Grant	Dev. Fund	Total Grant Offered	Balance Paid	Outstanding Balance
<b>The Highland Council</b>									
Fèis an Earraich	£ 6,612.00	£ 3,306.00	£ 3,735.00	320	£ 2,400.00	£ 0.00	£ 16,053.00	£ 13,687.00	£ 2,366.00
Fèis Lochabair	£ 2,750.00	£ 1,375.00	£ 3,480.00	260	£ 1,950.00	£ 0.00	£ 9,555.00	£ 5,877.00	£ 3,678.00
Fèis Innis an Uillt	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 891.00	60	£ 450.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,341.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,341.00
Fèis nan Garbh Chrìochan	£ 3,820.00	£ 1,910.00	£ 4,500.00	200	£ 1,500.00	£ 0.00	£ 11,730.00	£ 4,298.00	£ 7,432.00
Fèis Chataibh	£ 2,697.00	£ 1,349.00	£ 1,640.00	220	£ 1,650.00	£ 0.00	£ 7,336.00	£ 3,035.00	£ 4,301.00
Fèis na Comraich	£ 263.00	£ 131.00	£ 344.00	40	£ 300.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,038.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,038.00
Fèis Thròdairnis	£ 1,080.00	£ 540.00	£ 1,224.00	80	£ 600.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,444.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,444.00
Fèis Rois nan Deugairean	£ 7,733.00	£ 3,867.00	£ 0.00	0	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 11,600.00	£ 0.00	£ 11,600.00
Fèis Chille Mhòraig	£ 1,450.00	£ 725.00	£ 112.00	200	£ 1,500.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,787.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,787.00
Fèis Eige	£ 492.00	£ 246.00	£ 480.00	20	£ 150.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,368.00	£ 554.00	£ 814.00
Fèis Rois Òigridh	£ 6,513.00	£ 3,257.00	£ 5,188.00	0	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 14,958.00	£ 9,532.00	£ 5,426.00
Fèis Srath Fharragaig	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 660.00	30	£ 225.00	£ 0.00	£ 885.00	£ 0.00	£ 885.00
Fèis na h-Òige	£ 1,964.67	£ 982.33	£ 2,138.00	180	£ 1,350.00	£ 0.00	£ 6,435.00	£ 2,210.00	£ 4,225.00
Fèis Air an Oir	£ 163.00	£ 82.00	£ 2,000.00	50	£ 375.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,620.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,620.00
Feis Ghlinn Albainn	£ 1,067.00	£ 533.00	£ 2,000.00	20	£ 150.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,750.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,750.00
Fèis Ratharsaidh	£ 850.00	£ 425.00	£ 0.00	40	£ 300.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,575.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,575.00
Fèis a' Bhaile	£ 1,924.66	£ 962.34	£ 486.00	180	£ 1,350.00	£ 0.00	£ 4,723.00	£ 0.00	£ 4,723.00
Fèis Òigridh na Mara	£ 1,116.67	£ 558.33	£ 4,000.00	160	£ 1,200.00	£ 0.00	£ 6,875.00	£ 2,600.00	£ 4,275.00
Fèis Inbhir Narann	£ 585.00	£ 293.00	£ 1,000.00		£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,878.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,878.00
Fèis Spè	£ 2,400.00	£ 1,200.00	£ 3,500.00	70	£ 525.00	£ 0.00	£ 7,625.00	£ 0.00	£ 7,625.00
<b>Other Area/City Councils</b>									
Fèis Dhùn Èideann	£ 2,480.00	£ 0.00	£ 5,106.00	600	£ 4,500.00	£ 0.00	£ 12,086.00	£ 4,803.00	£ 7,283.00
Fèis Chille Conbhal	£ 941.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,132.00	0	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,073.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,073.00
Fèis Arainn	£ 2,900.00	£ 0.00	£ 808.00	0	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,708.00	£ 2,175.00	£ 1,533.00
Fèis Obair Dheathain	£ 2,275.00	£ 0.00	£ 384.00	200	£ 1,500.00	£ 0.00	£ 4,159.00	£ 0.00	£ 4,159.00
Feis Dhùn Bhreatainn	£ 206.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,500.00	80	£ 600.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,306.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,306.00
Fèis Òigridh Ghlaschu	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,000.00	0	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,000.00

Fèis Lannraig a Tuath	£ 856.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	80	£ 600.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,456.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,456.00
Fèis 'sa Mheadhan	£ 2,518.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,284.00	100	£ 750.00	£ 0.00	£ 4,552.00	£ 0.00	£ 4,552.00
<b>Western Isles Council</b>									
Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain	£ 2,865.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,564.00	210	£ 1,575.00	£ 0.00	£ 7,504.00	£ 3,649.00	£ 3,855.00
Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich	£ 2,650.00	£ 2,000.00	£ 3,856.00	80	£ 600.00	£ 0.00	£ 9,106.00	£ 3,988.00	£ 5,118.00
Fèis Tìr an Eòrna	£ 1,483.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,352.00	100	£ 750.00	£ 0.00	£ 5,085.00	£ 2,612.00	£ 2,473.00
Fèis Bharraigh	£ 3,060.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 3,334.00	240	£ 1,800.00	£ 0.00	£ 9,694.00	£ 4,845.00	£ 4,849.00
Fèis Eilean na Hearadh	£ 875.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 0.00	0	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,375.00	£ 2,156.00	£ 219.00
Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,500.00	80	£ 600.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,100.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,100.00
<b>Argyll &amp; Bute Council</b>									
Fèis Latharna	£ 1,621.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,340.00	200	£ 1,500.00	£ 0.00	£ 5,961.00	£ 5,591.00	£ 370.00
Fèis Mhuile	£ 0.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 2,300.00	80	£ 600.00	£ 0.00	£ 4,400.00	£ 0.00	£ 4,400.00
Fèis Thiriodh	£ 1,025.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 260.00	0	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,785.00	£ 2,269.00	£ 516.00
Fèis Ile	£ 190.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 332.00	0	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,022.00	£ 0.00	£ 2,022.00
Feis Glaschu	£ 3,412.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	0	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,412.00	£ 0.00	£ 3,412.00
Fèis Ceann Loch Goibhle	£ 415.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,000.00	0	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,415.00	£ 0.00	£ 1,415.00
	<b>Total Main Fèis</b>	<b>Total LA Grants</b>	<b>Total Follow-on</b>	<b>Total Ann. Hours</b>	<b>Total Other Grants</b>	<b>Total Dev.</b>	<b>Total pledged.</b>	<b>Total paid out</b>	<b>Total still to pay out</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£ 73,253.00</b>	<b>£ 35,742.00</b>	<b>£ 66,430.00</b>	<b>4180</b>	<b>£ 31,350.00</b>	<b>£ 0.00</b>	<b>206,775.00</b>	<b>£ 73,881.00</b>	<b>£ 132,894.00</b>

# **Fèisean nan Gàidheal**

**Audited accounts to 31 March 2006**

Agenda Item: 3.2006.02(c)

**REGISTERED NUMBER: 130071 (Scotland)**

**FÈISEAN NAN GAIDHEAL**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND**

**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006**

Nicolson  
Chartered Accountants  
& Registered Auditors  
34 Church Street  
Stornoway  
Isle of Lewis  
HS1 2JE

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2006**

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**FÈISEAN NAN GAIDHEAL**

**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2006**

**TRUSTEES:**

Mr Ken Houston  
Mr Ken Mackenzie  
Mrs Kate Kerr  
Katie Adam  
Peggy Nicolson  
Joan Robertson  
Mrs Jane MacNeil  
Mr George Stoddart  
Mrs Jessie Newton  
Mr Alasdair MacDonald

**COMPANY SECRETARY:** Ken Houston

**CHARITY NUMBER:** SC002040

**REGISTERED OFFICE:** Meall House  
Portree  
Isle of Skye  
IV51 9BZ

**AUDITORS:**

Nicolson  
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors  
34 Church Street  
Stornoway  
Isle of Lewis  
HS1 2JE

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2006**

The trustees, who are also directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report with the financial statements. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2005 in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

**PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY**

The principal activity of the Society in the year under review was that of the provision of support to Community Arts Festivals promoting Gaelic.

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

Company and charity law requires trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**RESERVES POLICY AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

The directors continually review the charity's activities and the risks to which it is exposed. This involves the identification of potential risks and the design of policies to manage and mitigate risk.

The directors also monitor the level of free reserves, and ensure that these are sufficient to sustain operations over the coming year.

It is the view of the directors that the level of reserves is satisfactory for the coming year.

**AUDITORS**

A resolution proposing that Nicolson, Chartered Accountants, be re-appointed as auditors of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:**

Ken Houston - Secretary

Dated: 23 August 2006

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF FÈISEAN NAN GAIDHEAL**

We have audited the financial statements of Fèisean nan Gaidheal for the year ended 31 March 2006 on pages four to twenty seven. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2005), under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors**

As described on pages three and four the trustees (who are also the directors of Fèisean nan Gaidheal for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Trustees' Annual Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding trustees' remuneration and transactions is not disclosed.

We read the Trustees' Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

### **Basis of audit opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
FÈISEAN NAN GAIDHEAL**

**Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to

Smaller Entities of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2006, and of its incoming resources and application

of resources, including its income and expenditure, in the year then ended; and

- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

In our opinion the information given in the report of the directors is consistent with the financial statements.

Nicolson  
Chartered Accountants  
& Registered Auditors  
34 Church Street  
Stornoway  
Isle of Lewis  
HS1 2JE

23 August 2006

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2006**

	31.03.06			31.03.05	
	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
Grants	320,771	452,492		773,263	356,028
Other income	94,608	28,687		123,295	64,756
Management fees earned	64,873			64,873	33,919
Memberships	4,115			4,115	3,910
Interest received	7,434			7,434	5,150
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>491,801</b>	<b>481,179</b>		<b>972,980</b>	<b>463,763</b>
<b>DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE</b>					
Grants awarded	135,341			135,341	159,722
Wages and salaries		239,272		239,272	
Project support	93,477			93,477	77,372
Direct expenses	16,288	293,774		310,062	20,741
	<b>245,106</b>	<b>533,046</b>		<b>778,152</b>	<b>257,835</b>
<b>OTHER EXPENDITURE</b>					
Administrative salaries	123,650			123,650	135,333
Administrative overheads	96,577	35,431		132,008	55,889
Depreciation	799			799	6,361
	<b>221,026</b>	<b>35,431</b>		<b>256,457</b>	<b>197,583</b>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>466,132</b>	<b>568,477</b>		<b>1,034,609</b>	<b>455,418</b>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>	<b>25,669</b>	<b>-87,298</b>		<b>-61,629</b>	<b>8,345</b>
Fund balances brought forward	25,653	182,754		208,407	208,408
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>	<b>51,322</b>	<b>95,456</b>		<b>146,778</b>	<b>216,753</b>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**FÈISEAN NAN GAIDHEAL****BALANCE SHEET  
31 March 2006**

	Notes	31.3.06 £	£	31.3.05 £	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	4		<b>275</b>		1,074
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Stocks		<b>3,478</b>		2,306	
Debtors	5	<b>87,728</b>		70,171	
Cash at bank		<b><u>137,669</u></b>		<u>267,650</u>	
		<b>228,875</b>		340,127	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	6	<b><u>82,372</u></b>		<u>132,793</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			<b><u>146,503</u></b>		<u>207,334</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			<b><u>146,778</u></b>		<u>208,408</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
ICT project	7		<b>2,319</b>		8,087
Training project	7		<b>25,848</b>		27,246
Lochaber development fund	7		<b>(6,099)</b>		(5,292)
Blas Festival	7		<b>(15,638)</b>		-
Schools project	7		<b>89,026</b>		152,714
General fund	7		<b><u>51,322</u></b>		<u>25,653</u>
			<b><u>146,778</u></b>		<u>208,408</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2005).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 23 August 2006 and were signed on its behalf by:

Katie Adam - Director

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2006**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in 2005 and applicable accounting standards.

The statement of financial activities (SOFA) and balance sheet consolidate the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertaking. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

The charity has availed itself of Paragraph 3 (3) of Schedule 4 of the Companies Act and adapted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities. No separate SOFA has been presented for the charity alone as permitted by Section 230 of the Companies Act 1985 and paragraph 397 of the SORP.

**Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities ("SORP") issued in October 2000, applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 1985.

**Grants received and receivable**

Turnover represents net invoiced sales of goods and services, excluding VAT, grant income, membership fees and other earned income.

Income from grants, including capital grants, is included in incoming resources when these are receivable, except as follows: -

- When grants must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.
- When conditions are applied, the income is deferred until such time as the conditions are met.

When grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, but which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, the income is included in incoming resources when receivable.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Plant and machinery	- 25% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 12.5% on reducing balance

**Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

**Pensions**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable for the year are charged in the profit and loss account.

**Company status**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2006

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

**Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held permanently by the charity, principally investments. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

**Resources**

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

2. OPERATING PROFIT

The operating profit is stated after charging:

	31.3.06	31.3.05
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	799	6,361
Auditors' remuneration	1,081	934
Pension costs	<u>1,324</u>	<u>1,420</u>

No Trustee received any emoluments in either year.

3. TAXATION

As a charity, there is no liability to corporation tax.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2006

4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and machinery	Fixtures and Totals	Computer fittings	equipment
	£	£	£	£
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 April 2005 and 31 March 2006	<u>26,500</u>	<u>73,712</u>	<u>3,196</u>	<u>103,408</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1 April 2005	26,500	73,712	2,122	102,334
Charge for year	-	-	799	799
At 31 March 2006	<u>26,500</u>	<u>73,712</u>	<u>2,921</u>	<u>103,133</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>				
At 31 March 2006	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>275</u>
At 31 March 2005	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,074</u>	<u>1,074</u>

Fixed assets represent those assets acquired by the company which were not funded by restricted funds, and consequently the full value of some assets utilised by the company is not reflected in these accounts.

5. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.06	31.3.05
	£	£
Other debtors	<u>87,728</u>	<u>70,171</u>

Other debtors represents grants awarded but not received at the year ended, together with those retrospective claims for grant assistance which can be reasonably quantified.

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.06	31.3.05
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	18,936	79,331
Trade creditors	9,855	-
Taxation and social security	5,883	5,206
Grants awarded but unpaid and accrued expenses	<u>47,698</u>	<u>48,256</u>
	<u>82,372</u>	<u>132,793</u>

**FÈISEAN NAN GAIDHEAL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2006**

**7. FUNDS**

	<b>General fund £</b>	<b>ICT project £</b>	<b>Training project £</b>
At 1 April 2005	<b>25,653</b>	<b>8,086</b>	<b>27,246</b>
Surplus for the year	<b>25,669</b>		
Grants received	-	-	<b>54,207</b>
Earned income	-	-	<b>10,182</b>
Salaries and expenses	-	-	<b>(30,356)</b>
Administrative costs	-	<b>(5,767)</b>	-
Other costs	-	-	<b>(35,431)</b>
At 31 March 2006	<b><u>51,322</u></b>	<b><u>2,319</u></b>	<b><u>25,848</u></b>

	<b>Lochaber development fund £</b>	<b>Blas Festival £</b>	<b>Schools project £</b>	<b>Totals £</b>
At 1 April 2005	<b>(5,292)</b>	-	<b>152,714</b>	<b>208,407</b>
Surplus for the year				<b>25,669</b>
Grants received	<b>32,274</b>	<b>146,500</b>	<b>219,511</b>	<b>452,492</b>
Earned income	-	<b>18,505</b>	-	<b>28,687</b>
Salaries and expenses	<b>(33,081)</b>	<b>(33,615)</b>	<b>(142,220)</b>	<b>(239,272)</b>
Administrative costs	-	<b>(147,028)</b>	<b>(140,979)</b>	<b>(293,774)</b>
Other costs	-	-	-	<b>(35,431)</b>
At 31 March 2006	<b><u>(6,099)</u></b>	<b><u>(15,638)</u></b>	<b><u>89,026</u></b>	<b><u>146,778</u></b>

**8. TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS**

The directors of the company are members of organisations which receive grants from the company, and supply services to the company. Some directors also provide professional services - such as tutoring - to the company. The benefit from disclosing these transactions is, in the opinion of the directors, disproportionate to the cost involved.

# FÈISEAN NAN GAIDHEAL

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year Ended 31 March 2006

	31.3.06		31.3.05	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Turnover</b>				
Grant income	320,771		356,028	
Membership fees	4,115		3,910	
Bank interest	7,434		5,150	
Management fees & other income	64,873		33,919	
Sale of books	3,424		2,087	
Instrument bank revenue	6,882		-	
Meanbh Chuileag	81,101		56,396	
Feis Alba	<u>3,201</u>		<u>6,273</u>	
		<b>491,801</b>		<b>463,763</b>
 <b>Expenditure</b>				
Rent, rates and water	12,774		11,239	
Insurance	6,736		3,700	
Light and heat	1,340		1,921	
Telephone and fax	6,240		5,315	
Youth music initiative	-		600	
Meanbh Chuileag	78,715		63,435	
Core salaries	112,540		125,353	
National Insurance	9,786		8,560	
Pensions	1,324		1,420	
Staff expenses	16,288		20,741	
Grants awarded	135,341		159,722	
Stationery and printing	19,025		11,989	
Publications	132		6,568	
Musical instrument bank	2,530		-	
Annual Conference	6,841		8,551	
Board expenses	3,862		3,298	
Other expenses	5,146		2,374	
Tracking project	5,000		5,473	
Child Protection costs	7,487		7,864	
Radio project	2,275		-	
25th Anniversary celebrations	24,191		-	
25th Anniversary book	6,380		-	
Auditors' remuneration	1,081		934	
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets				
Plant and machinery	-		2,545	
Fixtures and fittings	-		3,017	
Computer equipment	<u>799</u>		<u>799</u>	
		<b>465,833</b>		<b>455,418</b>
		<b>25,968</b>		<b>8,345</b>
 <b>Finance costs</b>				
Bank charges		<u>299</u>		<u>-</u>
 <b>NET PROFIT</b>		<b><u>25,669</u></b>		<b><u>8,345</u></b>

# Fèisean nan Gàidheal

**Scottish Arts Council from 2007 onwards**

Agenda Item: 3.2006.02(f)

## **Background**

The Scottish Arts Council has asked us for a further submission and have requested a meeting, to discuss our foundation funding from next year onwards.

The papers that they have sent have been included here to let Board members see the information being requested, and Board members should decide who will represent the Board at the meeting, which has been set for 10 October in Edinburgh.

**Arthur Cormack**

Director

September 2006

**Scottish Arts Council Funding 2007- 2009**  
**Request for updated information from Foundation and Flexible organisations**

This information must be based on, and will be read in conjunction with, your application for core funding submitted in September 2005. It will inform our discussions with you at a review meeting in autumn 2006, and our next funding agreement with you. It is important that we have accurate artistic and financial proposals based on known resources, in order to take our final recommendations for your future funding to Council on 28 November 2006. This form is designed to capture any significant changes in plans and budgets since you submitted your funding application in September 2005.

**This form should be signed by the Chief Executive and returned to your Lead Officer at the Scottish Arts Council at least 10 working days prior to the meeting.**

Please refer to the Explanatory notes on page 7.

1. Name of your organisation  
**Registered name (as shown in your Memorandum and Articles)**

**Operating name (if different from registered name)**

**2. Development Plans for 2007/08 and 2008/09 (reference Section 3 application form)**

2.1 Please provide your detailed planned programme of activities for 2007/08 and describe your outline programme for 2008/09, based on your indicative maximum grant figure agreed by the Scottish Arts Council in February 2006. These should be developed from the outline information you provided in your application to us (September 2005).

2.2 **Outline any new developments and activities for 2007/08 – 2008/09 which will result from the new funding arrangement with the Scottish Arts Council Please refer back to the proposals you described in your application.**

Are these new developments or activities significantly different from those you proposed in your application?

YES  NO

If yes, please describe the changes and note any significant impacts.

2.3 For both plans (detailed 2007/08 and outline 2008/09), identify projections/targets (which must be based on known and realistic income and expenditure projections) and complete Section 6.

2.4 Please describe your critical success factors for 2007-2009.

**3. Budget (reference Section 5 application form)**

3.1 In describing your planned programme of activities and developments for the coming two years, please provide the following budgets:

- A detailed Budget for 2007/08 based on your indicative maximum grant figure from the Scottish Arts Council, with a full breakdown of income and expenditure.
- Please highlight in the budget additional/planned development resulting from any additional investment from the Scottish Arts Council.
- A budget estimate for 2008/09 based on your indicative maximum grant figure from the Scottish Arts Council.

**4. Governance (reference Section 6 application form)**

4.1 Have there been any major changes in your board membership or governance arrangements since you submitted your application?

YES  NO

If yes, please describe the changes and note any significant impacts

**5. Staffing (reference Section 7 application form)**

5.1 Have there been, or do you envisage, any major changes in your staffing, structure or pay scales since you submitted your application?

YES  NO

If yes, please describe the changes and note any significant impacts, including financial.

6. Programme projections

<b>Name of Organisation:</b>			
<b>Information requested</b>	<b>Year 2006/07 Estimated</b>	<b>Future Year 2007/08 Planned</b>	<b>Future Year 2008/09 Planned</b>

Attendance at performances\*

Number of performances			
Total Attendances			

Attendance at visual arts/crafts exhibitions\*

Number of exhibitions			
Total attendances			

**\*Please also complete 'Breakdown' section on page 5 if applicable**

Participation in education and outreach events

Number of events			
Total number of participants			

Support for Artists / Artistic Development / Professional Training

Number of events			
Total number of participants			

Distribution and Sales - Book and Book Sales

Total Number of New Titles			
Book Sales - New Titles			
Book Sales - Backlist Titles			

Distribution and Sales - Newsletters, magazines, Journals and CDs

Total number of publications			
Total number of issues (magazines, journals, newsletters)			
Total number of CDs			

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### Support Organisations

Individual Members			
Joint Members			
Corporate Members			
Other Group Members			

### Multi-Artform Organisations

#### Dance

Total Performances			
Total Attendances			

#### Drama

Total Performances			
Total Attendances			

#### Music

Total Performances			
Total Attendances			

#### Literature

Total Performances			
Total Attendances			

#### Other

Total Performances			
Total Attendances			

**Totals**

Performances			
Attendance			

Breakdown of productions/exhibitions

Number of home productions/ curated exhibitions			
Number of co-productions/exhibitions			
Number of visiting productions/exhibitions			

## 7. Your statement and signature (Chief Executive or equivalent)

**“All information in this submission and in any attachments is true and correct. The information provided is based on, and should be read in conjunction with, the application we submitted to you in September 2005. We understand that this information will form the basis of our funding agreements for 2007/08 and 2008/09.**

**We will tell you immediately if anything changes which could affect our future plans and financial statement. We are happy for you to provide copies of this document and any attachments to any person or organisation you need to consult about this application.**

**We note that any grant awarded based on this information will be subject to standard and specific conditions and confirm that we have the power to accept the grant under any conditions set by the Scottish Arts Council and to repay the grant if we do not meet them.”**

### Data Protection and Freedom of Information

The Scottish Arts Council processes all personal data in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Additionally we process and, where necessary, disclose information in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. For further information, please contact the Scottish Arts Council’s Compliance Officer on 0131 226 6051 or email [qualityservice@scottisharts.org.uk](mailto:qualityservice@scottisharts.org.uk).

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Explanatory notes

Question 1 **Some organisations use a different operating name from their registered name. Please complete to help us keep our records up to date.**

Question 2

This should be sufficient detail for us to understand your programme.

Projections/targets can be **quantitative**. Please Include a full break down of how each figure has been arrived at.

Describing the critical success factors will provide the narrative for more **qualitative** aspects.

Question 3

Identify how you allocate resources, in particular human and cash. We recognise that organisations present budgets in a variety of ways. For consistency, please present the budgets broken down against **key cost headings**: e.g. Programme, Education, Marketing, Staffing etc.

Please highlight in the budget additional/planned development resulting from any additional investment from the Scottish Arts Council. Please refer to section 5.3 of your application form.

Draft budget information submitted must be accompanied by a list of assumptions.

Provide details of any material variation in operations planned for 2007/08 which might affect the allocation of 2008/09 funding.

Indicate anticipated levels of support from the local authority, if applicable, for 2007/08 and 2007/09 and indicate if this is provisional or confirmed. If support is linked to a specific activity please indicate this. Clarify transitional / short term project funding from long term support. And identify the different lead departments within the local authority, such as culture and leisure, education, health, voluntary etc.

Question 6

Please refer to section 11 of your application form and update the information provided.

Please note that the final section of this question 'Breakdown of productions/exhibitions' is a new section. Please complete if applicable

# Fèisean nan Gàidheal

## Progress on implementation of Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Development Plan 2005-10

Agenda Item: 3.2006.04(a)

Enclosed is a summary of the main developments recommended in the Development Plan, along with progress to date, which should aid Board members in monitoring progress.

<b>1</b>	<b>Provide support for the development of individual Fèisean, promoting excellent working practices, and developing their range of activities</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>
4.1.1	Grants Scheme for Fèisean	Ongoing, and grants paid out as per agreements. Grants for 2006-07 now agreed.	*	*
4.1.2	Reducing the burden on volunteers	Support workers and a range of support services in place. Policies are made as easy as possible for volunteers to deliver. Continuation of Annualised Hours scheme, with increase in hourly rate.	*	*
4.1.3	Annual Conference	To be held in Western Isles 15 and 16 September 2006.	*	*
4.1.4	Insurance	Renewed and enhanced in 2006, but premium has increased by over £1k, albeit with amendments.	*	*
4.1.5	Musical instrument Bank	Ongoing and well used. Demand outstrips supply and quite a number of repairs/replacements carried out.	*	*
4.1.6	Disclosure checking	Ongoing – over 1,000 Disclosure Checks carried out.	*	*
4.1.7	Maintenance of a Fèis Tutors database	Ongoing. New template and online database being worked on at present.	*	*
4.1.8	Developing, distributing and selling publications	Ongoing. New bilingual Fèis Fiddle Tutor Book published and being distributed. Book celebrating 25 years of the Fèisean also about to be published.	*	*
4.1.9	Production and distribution of regular news and other information	Faileas to be resurrected soon, and become more regular again.	*	*
4.1.10	Support for new Fèisean	New Fèisean given assistance with set-up and funding, if appropriate, from the New Developments Fund.	*	*
4.1.11	Supporting the development of Fèisean, or collectives of Fèisean, wishing to become more independent	Supporting Lochaber Fèisean and Fèis Spè.	*	*
4.1.12	Extending support for the Fèisean outwith the 'traditional' Fèis local authority areas	Looking at viability of an officer to cover these areas as part of submission to SAC. Likely from 2007 onwards.	*	*
<b>2</b>	<b>Develop the use of the Gaelic language within the Fèis movement. Developing the spoken word as a means of communication and medium for tuition, according to the needs of the community each Fèis serves</b>			
4.2.1	Prepare a Gaelic Language Policy for Fèisean nan Gàidheal, which will be adopted by members of the organisation	Policy issued formally to Fèisean with letters of offer, along with guidance. Close monitoring, and maximum support, needed to implement effectively.		
4.2.2	Develop a Gaelic Language Development Team	Sgioba-G project running, and Bòrd na Gàidhlig funds increased by £5k for 2006-07.		
4.2.3	Develop mechanisms for the delivery of our Gaelic Language Policy within Fèisean nan Gàidheal	Sgioba-G, Gaelic policy implementation and Fèis Gaelic plans. Gaelic Officer now in place.	*	*

4.2.4	Develop wholly Gaelic-medium Fèisean and Gaelic-medium tuition at existing and new Fèisean	6 Fèisean now GM, and GM tuition being developed. No new Fèisean admitted for membership without Gaelic commitment.	*	*
4.2.5	Development of Gaelic Drama	Drama Fèis being developed for Argyll, and Sgoil Shamhraidh idea being mooted.	*	*
<b>3</b>	<b>Develop the work of the Fèisean within the formal education sector</b>			
4.3.1	Youth Music Initiative contract in Highland	Ongoing, and running successfully in its 4 <sup>th</sup> year. We have new guidelines for next year's provision, but funding remains the same.	*	*
4.3.2	Potential for Youth Music Initiative contract work in other areas	Work ongoing in East Lothian also, with Fèis Dhùn Eideann.	*	*
4.3.3	Gaelic Language work in schools	Various small-scale projects have been carried out but scope for more.	*	*
4.3.4	Other formal educational work	Nothing new at this stage.	*	*
<b>4</b>	<b>Strategic projects and contract work, with partners, carried out by Fèisean nan Gàidheal and individual Fèisean</b>			
4.4.2	Development of Blas – Celebrating Highland Music	Blas 2006 has been very successful and 2007 events expected to be larger. Clydesdale Bank has come onboard as sponsor.	*	*
4.4.3	Continuing support for Fèis Cèilidh Trails	Some funding available within Blas budget, so dependent on this running, but have also approached HIE and SAC.	*	*
4.4.4	Encourage local Fèisean to archive material which could be utilised in teaching situations in their area	Archiving project to be carried forward, and this will be a priority for the Development Manager.	*	*
4.4.5	Gaelic Arts Strategic Development – GASD	Ongoing work and FnG involved as a partner and as a deliverer of certain elements. Second round of applications approved.	*	
4.4.6	Inter-Fèis activities	Fèisean are encouraged to visit each other, but few take up the chance.	*	*
4.4.7	Traditional Music Tutor Training Network – TMTTN	Ongoing work, and now looking at promotion of PDA and development of an advanced certificate.		
<b>5</b>	<b>Develop training to enhance the skills of those involved in Fèisean and promote excellence within the Fèis movement</b>			
4.5.1	Retain a Training Development Officer	Retained for now and pulling funding together, with success.	*	*
4.5.2	Annual Training Programme	Programme running but with smallish number attending. Being rethought at present as to how we can deliver a programme better.	*	*
4.5.3	Teenage provision within the Fèis movement	Will continue to support Fèis Rois nan Deugairean, and will support other Fèisean wanting to make specific provision.	*	*
<b>6</b>	<b>Continue to foster closer links between Fèisean, other organisations and other countries, and raise the profile of the Fèis movement through enhanced PR and showcase opportunities</b>			
4.6.1	Networking	Ongoing – various presentations at events and presence at open days/PR-based events.	*	*
4.6.2	Advocacy	Always ongoing.	*	*
4.6.3	International Links	Joella Foulds and Cape Breton and Irish musicians were present at Blas this year.	*	*

4.6.4	Promotion and Marketing	Will be part of Chris Deplano's remit to raise profile and issue press releases regularly.	*	*
4.6.5	Information	Information of all kinds disseminated.	*	*
4.6.6	Website and ICT	Have had discussions with Sitekit about moving website to their content management system.	*	*
4.6.7	Showcasing opportunities	Blas is used to showcase Fèis participants, but more of this is needed	*	*

**Arthur Cormack**  
 Director  
 September 2006

# Fèisean nan Gàidheal

## Staff Reports

Agenda Item: 3.2006.05(a)

### Arthur Cormack, Director

#### Introduction

I am very proud of the fact that this report has been prepared in Gaelic for the first time, and indeed that we have taken the step of holding our meetings in Gaelic.

As usual at this time, things have been extremely busy and I, and other staff, have included summaries of the kinds of work we have been involved in.

#### Finance

We are still negotiating with the Scottish Arts Council over next year's foundation funding, and with Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) for funding for this year.

The SAC position is reported on elsewhere, but HIE are looking at our application with a view to our having an answer in a week or two, but certainly by the end of the month. There has been a long delay, mainly because Alasdair Macleod has moved to a new post within HIE, and they have now appointed a consultant to come in to assess and report on our application.

The funding that we do have confirmed has been coming in as expected, and we have not had any cashflow problems to speak of. But since we have not yet had an answer from HIE, some schemes, such as the Development Fund, have not yet been offered this year.

As agreed, we are now getting quarterly accounts from our accountants. Although they are late this first time, they are confident that now they have a template in place, further delays will not be experienced.

#### Staffing

- I attended a meeting with Lochaber Enterprise who have now agreed to continue funding the Lochaber Fèisean Development Officer post until the end of next March, when we will have funding from SAC and others to continue it thereafter.
- We had a staff meeting on 20 June in Inverness
- Interviews were held for the post of Gaelic Officer in Inverness on 26 June. My thanks to Peggy Nicolson, David Boag and Anne Willoughby for sitting in on the interviews, which were very encouraging.
- Calum Alex MacMillan started work as Gaelic Officer at the end of July
- All staff appraisals have been completed since our last meeting

#### Youth Music Initiative

We have now begun the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the YMI and the Highland Council are very happy with the way the contract has been run. We have had problems this year, however. Since visiting music teachers are being used to reduce the staff contact time in Highland schools, it was not possible for the schools to commit to the timetable in advance of the summer holidays.

I am very happy that Rae MacEachern is now shouldering the day-to-day responsibility for this, and much more has happened in the way of training and production of resources that I was able to do as a result.

#### Blas

This has gone very well indeed this year, and I feel that we have taken great strides in creating a very special festival for the Highlands. We hope that the 2007 festival will be a bit bigger, with special events to mark Highland 2007.

#### Gaelic Arts Strategic Development - GASD

We are still very much involved in the work of GASD, although Iona Macdonald has been representing us at meetings more of late. The work is ongoing and we have had very good support from Kirstie Anderson, GASD's Audience Development Officer, in preparing a marketing plan for Blas.

## **Frithealadh agus a' seirbheiseach nam Fèisean**

- I have been in touch with all Fèisean by letter and in disseminating information
- I attended a Lochaber Cèilidh Trail concert at Invergarry on 28 July
- I was at Fèis Rois's open day at Foulis Castle on 6 August
- I attended a meeting of the Lochaber Fèisean Steering Group in Mallaig on 29 September

## **Meetings and other**

- 23 May: Drama seminar organised by Bòrd na Gàidhlig
- 30 May: Meeting with Fiona Hampton, H2007, to discuss how Blas would acknowledge the support of H2007
- 6 June: Meeting of the Sgoil Chiùil na Gàidhealtachd steering group in Plockton
- 14 June: Blas meeting in Cluanie
- 15 June: Phone meeting with Bòrd na Gàidhlig to discuss drama developments following the seminar
- 19 June: Meeting with Kirstie Anderson, GASD, to put together a marketing plan for Blas
- 22 June: Meeting with Sitekit to discuss mew website
- 27 June: Meeting of the Scottish Arts Council in Edinburgh
- 29 June: SAC seminar with all organisations who will receive foundation funding from next year
- 5 July: Blas Steering Group meeting in Inverness
- 6 July: Meeting of H2007 Advisory Group in Inverness
- 26 July: Meeting with Clydesdale Bank representatives in Inverness
- 31 July: Meeting with Malcolm MacLean and Rita Hunter in Stornoway
- 2 August: Meeting of YMI tutors in Kyelakin
- 16 August: Blas launch in Inverness
- 24 August: Blas Travelling Folk programme in Glasgow
- Several interviews about Blas for radio

## **David Boag, Development Manager**

### **Introduction**

This is the first time that I have written my progress report bilingually and is part of the implementation of our Gaelic policy. At the moment, we are very busy putting the final touches to the Blas festival and our Annual Conference. I am delighted that Calum Alex MacMillan has started with us in the Inverness office and as part of this, we purchased new furniture to make sure that we all has a desk. Over this period of time, I took 12 days of my annual leave entitlement.

### **Management of staff**

I am in regular contact with the rest of the team in Inverness and the support workers in the Western Isles and Argyll / Glasgow. I am now also providing day-to-day management to John Joe MacNeil who is working on a Children in Need funded project for Fèis Bharraigh. I attended a staff meeting in Inverness, 20<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Appraisals**

I have been involved with a number of staff appraisals recently; Nicola Marshall and Douglas Beck, Inverness, 5<sup>th</sup> June, Fiona MacInnes, Stornoway, 8<sup>th</sup> June, Christine MacIntyre and Ingrid Henderson, Fort William, 12<sup>th</sup> June and Chris DePlano, Anne Willoughby and Iona MacDonald, Portree, 13<sup>th</sup> June. My own appraisal was undertaken at Cluaine Inn on 23<sup>rd</sup> August.

### **Gaelic Developments**

As I said earlier, I am delighted that Calum Alex MacMillan is now with us in Inverness, and himself and Douglas Beck have been working closely together. I am positive that they will make a great deal of progress in developing Gaelic at Fèisean. Although I manage their project, there is more detailed information in their individual reports.

### **Blas Festival**

I am the chair of the Blas Action Group and the last few months have been very busy, with the festival due to run 1 – 9 September, with 43 concerts taking place across the Highlands, except in Inverness-shire. I will be M.C. at three concerts, in Lochalsh, Ardrross and Nairn. We organised two launch events in Inverness on 16<sup>th</sup> and in Glasgow on 24<sup>th</sup> August as part of the BBC's "Travelling Folk" programme.

## **Fèis an Rudha**

I had the great pleasure of attending the first ever Fèis an Rudha, held at Aird Sgoil, Point, 11<sup>th</sup> August. There were nearly 50 participants and the final concert was a sell-out! Congratulations to everyone involved in the first Fèis and I am sure they will have many more successful Fèisean.

## **Fèis Bharraigh**

I was in Barra two times since the last meeting, lending support for the implementation of their Children in Need project. The first time, I met with Jane MacNeil and Ceiteag MacNeil to go through the detailed points to do with the project. The second time was to conduct interviews, and John Joe MacNeil is now in post.

## **Fèis Latharna**

I met with Christine MacIntyre, Sileas Sinclair and Jennifer McGlone (SAC) in Glasgow, 27<sup>th</sup> June to talk about on-going funding for Fèis Latharna.

## **Annual Report**

I compiled Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Annual Report during August. This is a little earlier than normal so that we can get in translated into Gaelic, prior to the Annual General Meeting.

## **Meetings and co-operation with other groups**

- Gealic Drama Conference, Inverness, 23<sup>rd</sup> May
- Met with a group from Moray Gaelic Choir, in Elgin on 31<sup>st</sup> May, to talk through plans for a possible Fèis in 2007.
- I attended a seminar run by SCVO to explain the proposed changes in LEADER funding.
- I adjudicated the fiddle competitions at the Lewis local Mod, in Stronoway, 9<sup>th</sup> June.
- I met with Douglas Beck and Sue MacKenzie (National Trust for Scotland) in Inverness on 19<sup>th</sup> June and with these two and Patricia Weeks (Historic Scotland) on 25<sup>th</sup> August.

## **Fèis Visits**

- Fèis na h-Òige, Inverness, 3<sup>rd</sup> July
- Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich, Stornoway, 28<sup>th</sup> July
- Fèis an Ruadha, Point, 11<sup>th</sup> August

## **Iona MacDonald, Oifigear Trèanaidh**

The training plan has been progressing as planned over the last three months since the last progress report, although numbers of trainees from amongst Fèis personnel are lower than expected. 114 trainees in total have gone through the courses since the beginning of the year. Between May and the end of August 2006, the following courses have taken place:

- Including Special Needs – Inverness – 20 May 2006
- Event & Venue Management – Drumnadrochit – 17/18 June 2006
- Introduction to the Archives, School of Scottish Studies – 23 June 2006 (full)
- Fèis Alba – Plockton – 3-7 July 2006
- (Numbers not included in total above)
- Level 1 Tutor Training – Inverness – 5/6 August 2006
- Fileantas (Gaelic for advanced learners) – Portree – 10/11 August 2006
- In the meantime, long-running courses such as the Access to Gaelic course (SMO), staff development and forward development of the plan are taking place.
- Between now and the end of the year, the following courses will run:
- Collecting Culture – Inverness – 28 October 2006
- Ceòl Beag (piping workshop/seminar) – Portree – 18/19 November 2006
- Regional fèis training (November/December)
- The AGM of Fèisean nan Gàidheal will take place on 15/16 September in Benbecula. Delegates will have the chance to hear Dr Cathlin Macaulay of the School of Scottish Studies talk about the work of the school, and to visit some of the museums in Uist.
- We also have a date for the next Level 1 & 2 Tutor Training, which will take place at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig on 17 and 18 February 2007

## **Other Work**

- TMTTN – currently producing support materials for the delivery of the Certificate in Music Tuition in colleges.
- GASD – currently working on training needs and professional development for personnel within the Gaelic Arts.

## **Nicola Marshall, Development Officer**

The summer months, especially July have been busy with Fèisean and Ceilidh Trails. Before taking a couple of weeks holiday in August I completed the Cùrsa- inntrigidh. As well as the usual activities I am now working with the Fèisean in my area, towards several projects for Highland 2007. Next week I will be out and about attending Blas gigs in some of the more remote venues.

## **Fèisean**

### Fèis a 'Bhaile

After a break over the summer, Fèis a' Bhaile are gearing up for their main Fèis in October and are continuing to develop the Gaelic input at the Fèis. A drama taster session for Gaelic learners was run in June and the first series of classes will start this week.

### Fèis a' Bhealaich

Fèis a' Bhealaich will take place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of September in Applecross. Dougie Beck will attend as the main tutor. I hope to meet with some of the committee when I attend the Blas gig in Applecross next week.

### Fèis Chataibh

Fèis Chataibh have had a busy summer. The main Fèis took place in the first week of July and I attended the end of Fèis concert. This was followed closely with the Ceilidh Trail which once again visited various venues throughout Sutherland. The quality of the performers continues to get better and better and I enjoyed a great performance in Clashmore. The Ceilidh Trail will be performing during Blas. The committee have various projects on the go which will be developed over the winter months.

### Fèis Chille Mhoraig

The main Fèis is set to take place on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of September although there has been a reduction in applications from participants. I hope to work with the committee to reverse this trend and look at ways to improve publicity for their events.

### Fèis an Earraich

Fèis an Earraich ran their second very successful Ceilidh Trail (Ceilear) over the summer, playing to audiences of locals and visitors alike. I visited the Ceilear at Eilean Donan Castle where they provided a great afternoon's entertainment. I will meet with the Co-ordinator over the next few weeks to complete a project report and funding claims. Ceilear will also be performing during Blas.

### Fèis Ghlinn Albainn

Fèis Ghlinn Albainn continue to be busy as ever. The annual concert had to be cancelled due to the availability of performers however, the main Fèis took place in the last week of July with 50 participants, an increase on last year. A new development this year was the 'Feis bheag' which also proved to be very popular. Monthly group-work sessions for more experienced players continued over the summer with a group performing at the launch of the Caledonian Canal Ceilidh Trail. Plans for a folk festival as part of the Highland 2007 celebrations are now well underway and I continue to work with the committee on this project.

### Fèis Inbhir Narann

The Fèis Inbhir Narann AGM was held in June and the committee were pleased to welcome a couple of new members. The committee are looking forward to hosting a concert as part of Blas and continue to run a regular programme of classes. The committee are progressing the move towards becoming a Company Limited by Guarantee.

### Fèis na h-Òige

Fèis na h-Òige held their main Fèis as usual in the first week of the summer holidays in Inverness High School. Prior to this a series of Gaelic song workshops for teenagers took place funded by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, it is hoped

another block of classes will run over the winter. At the moment I am working with the Fèis to organise art workshops as part of their Highland 2007 project.

#### Fèis Spè

Please see enclosed report from Judith Bullivant.

#### Fèis Farr

I have had no contact with the Fèis over the summer.

#### Fèis Throdairnis

The Fèis Throdairnis committee decided not to run their main Fèis this year. Instead they will continue their on-going classes. The committee hope to hold their AGM in September and I hope to attend.

#### Fèis Ratharsaidh

I have had no contact with the Fèis over the summer but I hope to arrange to meet with some of the committee when I attend the Blas concert next week.

#### Fèis Rois

Fèis Rois have had a busy summer as usual with the Ceilidh Trail and participants will be kept busy over the next week performing at Blas.

#### Fèis Air an Oir

I will attend a Blas concert which will be hosted by Fèis Air an Oir and I am looking forward to getting an update from them. Fèis participants will be performing at the event.

#### Fèis Alba

Fèis Alba once again took place in the Plockton Hostel in the first week of July. Participants worked extremely hard and a great week was had by all involved. The Fèis was attended by Ceilidh Trail groups from Lochaber and Skye and a group from the Edinburgh 'Youth Gaitherin'. I was in attendance for the week and I hope that next year's event will be as successful as this year's.

### **Meetings & events attended in addition to regular meetings**

#### **May**

15 – Skye Ceilidh Trail Interviews  
19 – Skye Ceilidh Trail Interviews  
25 – Meeting with Cheryl Campsie

#### **June**

5 - Appraisal  
14 – Blas meeting, Cluanie  
15 – Fèis Chataibh, meeting with Louise Mackenzie  
20 – Staff meeting, Inverness

#### **July**

1 – Blas/PAN Meeting  
7- Feis Chataibh Concert  
19 – Visiting Skye Ceilidh Trail  
27 – Fèis Chataibh Ceilidh Trail, Clashmore

#### **August**

23 – Support/Development Meeting Fort William  
24 – Blas launch, Glasgow

### **Ingrid Henderson, Lochaber Fèisean Development Officer**

This period has been very busy for Fèis work with the Ceilidh Trail project dominating most of the time. Two of the main annual Fèis events were also run successfully during this period, Fèis nan Garbh Chriochan and Fèis Eige.

## **Continuation of the Post**

After a meeting and some background work with Helen Cameron, Lochaber Enterprise has agreed to fund the Development Post for the interim period between the end of the initial three year project (July06) and the start of the new financial year (April 07). Fèisean nan Gàidheal then hope to incorporate it into their core costs funded by the Scottish Arts Council and HIE.

## **Cèilidh Trail Project**

The main Summer tour went extremely well this year with great feedback coming from venues and audience members. As in previous years planning and booking began back in April with Toni Russell (co-ordinator) coming up to the Fort William office most Fridays to work on the preparations.

The line up was almost the same as last year; Olivia Bridge, Megan & Ewen Henderson, Andrew MacDonald, Iain MacMaster, Robert Nairn and Lauren Tait, but with the addition of Sean Cameron on pipes, whistle and bodhran. The group worked well together producing some beautifully arranged tunes and songs which got better and better as the tour went on.

In addition to the main project the participants were also involved in recording a CD this year. It was recorded at Watercolour Studios in May and June with expertise help from Nick Turner and Iain MacFarlane. Thanks to the help of Skipinnish Records we managed to complete the art work and have it pressed and back to us before the tour began which is very impressive.

Unfortunately due to cost this cannot be repeated every year but the product will be available locally throughout the year and at Ceilidh Trail gigs to create revenue which will support future years of the project. During the three week Ceilidh Trail alone we managed to raise over £1000 from the CD.

Funding this year came from Blas, Lochaber Enterprise and Leader+ but next year it will be supported by Blas and our own revenue.

Billy MacIsaac (Lochaber Hydrotherapy) has requested to use some of these tracks on another charity compilation CD he is creating called the West Highland Connection.

The Ceilidh Trailers will be performing again as part of the Blas Festival in September.

## **Blas**

Final advertising and preparations are being put in place of the Festival at this stage. I will be attending all the Lochaber events as a Blas Action Group representative and in some cases carrying out Fear an Taighe duties.

## **Project Applications**

An application to the Scottish Executive Rural Development Fund to purchase a computer for Fèis Òigridh na Mara, was unsuccessful. On instruction from the funders, we may apply again under the specific Fèis name instead of the umbrella group Fèisean nan Gàidheal . Alternatively other funds may be tapped.

The Highland 2007 application made jointly by myself and Eileen O' Rua (Glenfinnan Community Council) for Gaelic activities in Glenfinnan, was successful and we've been awarded £5000. We will now apply to Awards for All for a further £10,000 and if required we may look at Bòrd na Gàidhlig support.

I have also been working on four Awards for All applications since June. They are all in different stages as follows:

<b>Fèis</b>	<b>Project details</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Stage</b>
Òigridh na Mara	Instrument purchases and group work project	£8500	Sent off 15/08/06
Garbh Chrìochan	Shinty Equipment	Approx £1200	Detail to be finalised

Eige	Instrument purchase	Approx £1500	Awaiting supporting information
Glenfinnan 07	Gaelic classes & events	£10,000	Draft stage

Since there is no Lochaber Development Fund in place now for leveraging funds, I hope that the FnG Development Fund will be operational soon and available for use in the three Fèis applications.

### **Youth Music Initiative**

Block 1 of the new school year started on August 21st and our main tutors once again are Hector Henderson, Andrew MacPherson and Rachel Walker. As instructed by Highland Council, visit times have been reduced from 16 to 12 weeks for the 06/07 year but pay and expenses have been increased slightly for tutors. Fiona remains employed on a part-time basis to co-ordinate the visits but since the whole year has now been programmed for the mainland schools there will be less to do throughout the rest of the year.

The Gaelic song resource we have been creating is now complete and being distributed to schools shortly. Song material has been provided by our main singing tutors Anne Martin, Kathleen Graham and Rachel Walker with editing and corrections from Mary Ann Kennedy and Shona Cormack.

A similar resource has been created for tin whistle by our tutors (Hector Henderson and Andrew MacPherson) and others working in schools throughout the Highlands.

### **Acharacle Primary School**

Despite all the frustration and hold up over the last while, all the relevant quotes are now collected and the application has been reworked to take account of these figures. Unfortunately we are now waiting on word from Highland Council about the VAT issues and if we can claim this back through them in order to keep the SAC funding amount under the upper limit of 75%. I have been trying to get a steer on this from Brian Hemming since June 12th but I have no conclusive answer as yet.

### **Northern Periphery Project**

The main work for this project in this period has been in relation to the social audit we have to carry out on the project and the creation of a feasibility study to ascertain whether a Lochaber Music partnership, along the lines of a Cultural Community Business, would be a useful legacy for music groups in the area.

The Social Auditing process, once I understand more about it, might even be useful to the Fèisean in the future for monitoring and evaluating projects and strengthening arguments for funders.

### **Development Plan**

Work has been ongoing on the new Development Plan to take the post until 2010. An interim plan and budget was also created for Helen Cameron, Lochaber Enterprise to back up our application for their support until March 2007.

### **2007 involvement**

The Lochaber Fèisean are to be involved in a joint music performance involving all the music organisation in the area. Although £15k of funding has been approved for this project from Highland 2007 details are slightly sketchy as to the format. It is thought that it may be a showcase event to show off the best of the different genres of music in the area especially involving our young people. The event is likely to take place in the Nevis Centre in November 2007.

I am also helping the Loch Shiel Festival with a music commission they are planning in 2007 based on Bonnie Prince Charlie's legacy. They are looking to compose new music in a classical and jazz style but taking influences from Gaelic song of the Jacobite era that I am sourcing for them. Highland 2007 and SAC have been applied to.

As mentioned above I am helping to support the Glenfinnan Community Council 2007 projects for Gaelic

learning, music tuition and events. If all the funding is forthcoming they have asked that the Lochaber Fèisean provide some of the workshop tuition.

The Lochaber Fèisean will also be happy to be involved in any national Ceòl na Fèis events as mentioned in past staff meetings. There are no details at present.

## **Other**

I have been liaising with Simon Thoumire regarding the Trad Music Awards coming to Fort William in 2006 and 2007. We already have Ceilidh Trail involvement in the performance part of the evening and Simon is keen to use the Fèisean volunteers to help out during the events.

Along with the other Support and Development Worker, I have been devising documents and guidance notes to fit in with a 'Fèis Best Practise Guide'. This would be to help newer Fèisean in particular, but it would also serve as a useful tool to new committee members and annualised hours workers.

Lochaber Enterprise invited me to apply for a directorship vacancies on their Board this Summer. After submitting a CV I attended an interview in August and I will hear soon whether I was successful. This is not a paid position but it may be quite useful to help shape their future policies and bring the traditional arts further up the agenda in business circles.

## **Attended meetings/events:**

May	2nd	Youth Music Initiative Meeting, Fort William
	22nd	Meeting with Arthur & Helen Cameron, Lochaber Enterprise
June	6th	Northern Periphery Project meeting, Fort William
	8th	Meeting with Niki Robertson, Mallaig
	12th	Appraisal with Arthur & David, Fort William
	12th	Work with Arthur on Acharacle School application
	12th	Ceilidh Trail BBC radio recording sessions, Glenfinnan
	14th	Blas Meeting, Cluanie
	20th	FnG staff meeting, Inverness
27th	Meeting with Fèis Òigridh na Mara	
July	3rd	Attendance at Fèis Alba (Ceilidh Trail Training), Plockton
	7 – 31	Attendance at various Cèilidh Trail events.
	17	Fèis nan Garbh Chriochan, Strontian
	19	Tutor's concert (Garbh Chriochan), Acharacle
21	Helping at Fèis nan Garbh Chriochan, Strontian	
August	9th	Meeting with Simon Thoumire, Trad Awards, Fort William
	15th	Working with Niki Robertson, Mallaig
	16th	NPP Social Audit meeting, Glenfinnan
	16th	Attendance at Blas Launch, Inverness
	17th	Meeting with Lochaber Enterprise Board, Fort William
	21st	Lochaber Gaelic Development Meeting, Fort William
	22nd	Meeting with Fèis Lochabair, Fort William
	23rd	Staff meeting, Fort William
24th	Attendance at Blas Radio Launch, Glasgow	

## **Fiona MacInnes, Support Worker**

Sun, sun and even more sun! That what comes to mind when I think back to the Western Isles Fèisean this summer. I can definitely say that it has been the best Summer since I started visiting the Fèisean. Every Fèis went well, with general increased attendance, new developments and everyone involved seemed to be quite happy and satisfied.

Again this year, it was good to get the opportunity to visit each Fèis, and to meet everyone involved. I would like to thank everyone for all their hospitality, and for the all the cups of tea, home-baking and plates of soup. Two of the Fèisean even had proper coffee!

This year, a new Fèis was held in the Point district of the Isle of Lewis. Even though the committee had no or little experience in running a Fèis, with my own help and with the hard work of capable committee members, the week was very successful. There were some initial reservations whether there was indeed a need for another Fèis in Lewis, but it was proved that there was with the enjoyment the children got from the week and the good local turn out at the Friday evening concert.

It was good to see so many young and new tutors at the Fèisean this year. They were all very capable, diligent and capable and they were liked by the children and the committee members. It was good also to see all the older experienced tutors to enable them to pass on their experience, wisdom and teaching skills.

I was however quite disappointed that Gàidhlig was not spoken or heard much at some of the Fèisean. I have noticed that over the years that Gàidhlig is on the decline amongst the Western Isles Fèisean. In my own opinion, the Gàidhlig content at Fèisean depends on whether the chairperson of the committee is a Gàidhlig speaker or that he or she supports the language. It also makes a huge difference if the majority of the people involved in running and helping at the Fèis (and especially the tutors) are able to communicate in Gàidhlig or are willing to learn the language.

Between now and the end of the year, I will continue to assist and encourage the committees with development funding for new projects. They will be encouraged and given assistance with winter classes and especially the continuance of teenage groupwork classes. A Western Isles Regional meeting is planned for December in Barra, which will give representatives of the Fèisean the opportunity to get together. Regular contact with the committee will continue by telephone, email and the attendance at the AGMs, if possible. The Fèisean will also be encouraged to exchange ideas, liaise and work in co-operation, as is happening with the joint FTAM and FTAE video project entitled "Muran agus Eòrna".

I am just embarking on the second year of my teacher training course, and I would like to thank Arthur, David and the Board of Directors for allowing me this opportunity to study whilst I continue to work for Fèisean nan Gàidheal.

### **Fèis Bharraigh**

- Attended meeting on 8 July
- The FB Support Worker began his work on 10 July
- The Fèis ran from 16 until 21 July and 150 children attended
- Attended on 20, 21 and 22 July

### **Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich**

- Attended meeting on 4 and 18 July
- The Fèis was held between 24 and 28 July. 160 children attended.
- The children were able to participate in sporting activities at lunchtime
- For the first time for this Fèis a football match was held between the participants and the tutors – interesting game!

### **Fèis Eilean na Hearadh**

- Attended meeting on 21 June
- The Fèis was held between 10 and 14 July. I attended over two days and was at the tutors' ceilidh.
- 80 children in attendance, the highest number ever
- New class for this year - class in drama, singing and games for age 5 -7 through the medium of Gàidhlig.

### **Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh**

- Ceòl Nis was held between 1 – 5 August
- I attended during the first three days of August
- The children's classes were more successful and better attended this year.

### **Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain**

- The Fèis was held between 10 and 14 July. 85 children attended.
- Attended on 10 and 11 July.
- New classes were held in Hebridean dancing and media skills

### **Fèis Tìr an Eòrna**

- The Fèis was held from 3 to 7 July and 104 attended
- Attended Fèis on 12 and 13 July
- Only 7 children attended the drama class – a low number for this Fèis

### **Fèis an Rubha**

- Attended meeting on 24 May, 15 June, 26 and 27 July
- The Fèis was held from 7 to 11 August and 42 attended

### **Other**

- Organised and held a tutor training day in Stornoway on 3 June.
- Attended First Aid course in Stornoway on 13 and 14 June
- Had appraisal meeting in Stornoway on 8 June with Arthur and David.
- Attended staff meeting in Inverness on 20 June
- In Barra on 22 June for interview for Fèis Bharraigh Support Worker.
- Had meeting with Dougie Beck in Stornoway on 7 August to discuss the Lewis and Harris Drama Project (PDLH)
- Dougie Beck and I met with Meg Rodger (CnES) to discuss funding for PDLH and the FB instrument project.
- Met with Ingrid, Christine and Nicola in Fort William on 23 August to discuss and devise a guide for Fèisean in how to organise a Fèis.

### **Christine MacIntyre, Support Worker**

#### **Activity**

- Have been attending regular meetings
- Have been assisting fèisean source funding
- Disclosure counter-signing ongoing
- Attended staff meetings in Inverness and Support Workers meetings in Fort William

### **Fèis Àrainn/Arran**

- They had a successful fèis this July
- Fiddle classes still ongoing
- Funding for next year less than they would like, so will be assisting them to secure further funding

### **Fèis Dhùn Bhreatainn an Iar/Dumbarton**

- They have been very busy this year
- Sadly, Bernard Bell (their Treasurer), his wife died suddenly and things have been thrown into turmoil. We all extend out sympathy to Bernard and his family
- However, this is a resilient fèis and they will soon be back on course

### **Fèis Innis a Uillt/Meadowburn**

- This fèis is ticking along nicely
- They are now hoping to extend their fèis beyond the series of one days they have at present
- They have introduced shinty and chanter into the school activity list and are looking to extending this to providing clàrsach classes also

### **Fèis Latharna/Oban & Lorne**

- They had a very good fèis this spring
- The joint project with Mull is coming to an end and they are now in the process of initiating new activities which they hope to extend beyond the Oban area

### **Fèis Lannraig a Tuath/North Lanark**

- They too had a very good fèis this August
- They are looking to developing a new project for next year

### **Fèis Mhuile/Mull**

- This fèis is very busy providing a variety of classes around Mull throughout the year
- They have taken on board a new and young administrator who seems very keen on assisting with future new developments
- This fèis is now progressing well

### **Mull/Latharna Joint Project**

- The project ends this autumn
- While the project was very successful at generating interest in Traditional music, I felt that it did not quite measure up in developing the Gaelic language element!

### **Fèis Òigridh Ìle/Islay**

- Despite not having an obvious committee presence, this fèis was very successful last February
- Those behind Fèis Ìle are now hoping to extend the fèis to three days
- Fiddle and Chanter classes still ongoing

### **Fèis Òigridh Dhràma Ghlaschu/Glasgow Drama**

- This year's fèis went well
- The Glasgow Gaelic School has now moved to new premises and there still seems to be a communication problem. However I am endeavouring to seek a remedy for this

### **Fèis Chile Chonbhail/Inverclyde**

- Unfortunately, I did not manage to attend this fèis as it clashed with another Central Region fèis; however I understand it went well.

### **Fèis Ghlaschu/Glasgow Fèis**

- This fèis was very good this year.
- Unfortunately they are still using tutors that have not been through Disclosure checks! However as a result of Feis nan Gàidheal's stricter Child Protection Policy, and the threat of no money, this fèis quickly sought to ensure that Disclosures were followed up!
- I felt too that this fèis should have a Fèis Bheag as some of the participants are far too young for a normal fèis and given that their numbers are increasing, this would act as a good feeder to their normal fèis.

### **Fèis Thioridh/Tiree**

- Yet again one of the most successful fèisean on my circuit.
- Lots of music and fun and enjoyed by the entire island

### **Fèis Cheann Loch Ghoibhle/Lochgoilhead**

- Going from strength to strength.
- Looking to extending to two days in the future
- They are investigation the possibility of a project connected to Gaelic and local place-names
- They have also sought funding to provide schools in the Helensburgh area with visits from traditional music tutors

### **New Activities**

- Attempting to secure funding for those fèisean that require it
- Assisting in generating ideas for new projects
- I was in Jura and met with some people who are interested in getting a small feis going there. I have suggested they link it onto the Islay fèis
- Attended a Support Workers meeting in Fort William where we developed a Good Practice Guide Booklet for any new and indeed existing fèisean

## **Dougie Beck, Gaelic Officer (Dràma)**

### **Meanbh-chuileag Theatre-in-Education Work After the Battle**

Meanbh-chuileag has worked closely with the National Trust and Historic Scotland over four years to provide the theatre-in-education aspect of the successful project After the Battle. The funding situation has changed significantly for projects like this, and it is not expected that Meanbh-chuileag will be continuing with this project.

Between 22 and 25 May the group visited six schools, including Sheildaig, Gairloch, Alness, Burghead, Alness, Inverness and the Black Isle. Douglas was accompanied by Domhnall Uilleam Stiùbhart and Iona MacRitchie for the tour.

The group went out again between 12 and 16 June, visiting 9 schools between South Lanarkshire, Inverness, Thurso, Fraserburgh and Ardersier. This time Douglas was accompanied by John Sikorski and Iona MacRitchie. Unfortunately Douglas was ill in Fraserburgh and could not perform the next day.

### **Meanbh-chuileag**

Although Douglas put out a call for scripts for a new piece of theatre-in-education in July, nothing was received. Douglas and Deirdre Graham have been working on a new script based on Citizenship, and it is expected that this will be on the road end 2006/start 2007. The Citizenship theme is a move away from subject areas such as history, which have been well-covered by the group.

Douglas has met with Arthur Donald at Tosg to discuss ways to work together. Amongst projects discussed was a training weekend for people interested in teaching drama at Fèisean.

### **Fèisean and Pròiseact G-Team**

Douglas's summer Fèisean started with **Fèis Alba**, where he was a supervisor. As well as looking after the participants, he prepared a booklet for participants to give them guidance on Gaelic use on-stage. He was also involved in preparations for the final concert.

Douglas was then at **Fèis Bharraigh** with Calum Alex MacMillan, organising and delivering G-Team classes. The new G-Team format was very successful, and Douglas and Calum Alex also gave advice and training to other tutors on how to conduct Gaelic classes.

These classes were more successful than previous G-Team classes, and everyone was pleased with the success of them.

On top of G-Team classes, Douglas and Calum Alex were also involved in evening activities and planning the final concert.

Douglas prepared Gaelic support materials for **Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh** and Calum Alex used these materials when he went to the Fèis.

Although he was not a tutor, Douglas went to **Fèis Arainn** for the final night, where he helped with preparations for the final concert, and he also acted as fear an taighe for the night. Before the Fèis Douglas provided Gaelic support materials.

Douglas will attend **Fèis a' Bhealaich** at the end of September, where he will be teaching Gaelic, drama and whistle/chanter.

### **Drama Projects**

Douglas went to Oban at the start of June to assist with **Pròiseact Dràma Earra Ghàidheal**. The schools involved came together in Oban for a very successful night of performances.

Carrying on from the success of Pròiseact Dràma Earra Ghàidheal, Douglas has met with Fiona MacInnes and representatives from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Domhnall Ruadh and Meg Roger) with a view to setting up **Pròiseact Dràma Leòdhais** and **Pròiseact Dràma na Hearadh**. This project will be kicking off at the end of October, with 15 schools from Lewis and Harris taking part. It is expected that each school which takes part will

receive three visits from a drama expert over the 6 months the project will be running. The schools will come together for performances in three different areas (TBC: Stornoway, Barvas and Tabert) around Easter 2007.

### **Other Work**

Douglas is now living and working in Inverness, and he is of the opinion that his work is now much easier because of that. He is also enjoying living in Inverness greatly.

Douglas has prepared a questionnaire about the use of Gaelic at Fèisean and has passed it on to the support workers. He has also prepared a new feedback form for Fèis Tutors.

### **Forthcoming Work**

Douglas will be acting as fear an taighe at several Blas concerts.

He will also be involved in the training weekend for G-Team tutors which will be held in Perth. He will also be holding fun sessions for children at the Mòd in Dunoon..

## **Calum Alex MacMillan, Gaelic Officer**

### **Barra**

I started off by going down to the Barra Fèis where I worked as a member of the Sgioba-G alongside Dougie Beck. We ran four different classes through the week. Split by Gaelic ability and then further split into two age-groups. The subjects which we concentrated on were Art, Games, Quizzes and Gaelic Language. About 50% of the participants were fluent and the Sgioba-G classes were felt by all to be successful.

### **Ness**

The 31st of July was the day which I formally started work with Fèisean nan Gàidheal. My first work project was to visit Taigh Dhonnachaidh and Fèis Nis who had asked for help with their Gaelic input. Numbers were very low with only two been present on the first day and three the next day. I did some Gaelic games, songs and artwork. I worked with the committee with Gaelic signage for Taigh Dhonnachaidh and I also went over the some Gaelic phrases with the Clarsach teacher. I went through a couple of points of the Gaelic policy with Fiona Morrison. After being in Lewis for the first three days from my starting I went to Inverness for the 3rd of August.

### **The Office**

I've now been in the Office for the best part of August and have been working on different projects but mainly the G-team project. I started by putting together a database of names which we could call upon to do the G-team classes at fèisean, and we are hoping to put on a training day for them on the 4th and 5th of November in Perth. Along with this I have been putting together a pack full of games, art projects, drama games and sketches and also puzzles e.g. quizzes and word searches.

### **Database**

I've been thinking of people who have done G-team working and people who are capable of doing the work and putting their names on a database. I have many names now and their contact details are all on file. From this list 20 will be selected and then invited to take part in the training weekend.

### **Training Weekend**

As told above we are going to organise a training weekend for the 20 we select from the database. The aim of this is, that we can call upon any of these people to go to a fèis and they will be ready and capable of doing the work. We are expecting an increased demand for the G-team and have to be ready to keep up with this. We are hoping to hold the training in the Salutation hotel in the centre of Perth. We see Perth as being the most suitable place for this as the majority of people wont have to far to travel and the travel service is excellent and will save us money. We will be showing the group how they should run the classes and we will cover the different subjects that G-team do. We will be speaking about the different ways in which you can use Gaelic at fèisean and we will also give the group an opportunity to share any ideas of their own.

### **G-team Pack**

I've been gathering materials that can be used for the G-team. I've gathered the material that was being used before and I've also been searching for other resources which will be useful. I've also been making up quizzes,

word-searches and other puzzles. I hope that this pack will be completed before the Perth weekend so that we can work through the pack with group.

### **Fèis a' Bhaile**

On the 21st of August I went to a meeting with the Fèis a' Bhaile committee. They are preparing for their fèis which runs from the 16th-20th October. They want the G-team there and they also want some help with advertising and signage. I'm working on getting G-team leaders for this weekend and I've also to prepare the signs for them.

### **Meeting with Fèis Spè**

Meeting with Judith from Fèis Spè about the G-team and how we could timetable the classes so that the G-team would have its own special slot. Dougie and I are going to prepare resources for the G-team and we are also going to give help to the committee and the non-Gaelic speaking tutors with some words and phrases that will be helpful and useful for the Fèis.

### **Dunoon Mod**

We (Dougie and I) are hoping to spend two days at the Mod. We are going to run classes for the children on the Monday and Tuesday. We are hoping to raise an interest in the Fèis and will be doing the same kind of activities that the G-team do. We are also thinking of promotional gifts and we have decided that badges with a fun logo that promotes fèisean will be most effective.

### **Christopher DePlano, Communications Officer/Researcher (Graduate Placement - CnaG)**

Since taking up my post in September 2005, I have spent the majority of time concentrating on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary book project. The work on the project has been challenging but enjoyable and it is hoped that the book will be published in the Autumn.

During this time my work has included; research, transcribing, proof-reading, editing, co-ordinating meetings and workloads between project workers, and generally pushing the project along so that it will be published on time.

Also during this period, as part of CnaG's graduate placement scheme, I was invited to spend a week on the Isle of Man following the work of Adrian Cain, Manx language development officer with the Manx Heritage Foundation. During this time I learnt about the development of the Manx language through education, training, publications and community development. I am grateful to CnaG, Fèisean nan Gàidheal and to the Manx Heritage Foundation for this opportunity.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2006, I begin my new post with Fèisean nan Gàidheal as Communications Officer and look forward to taking on new challenges and varied work for the organisation.

### **Targets**

- Book launch – September 2006

### **Year-round**

- New website research and development
- PR and Marketing
- Updating Fèisean nan Gàidheal external and internal communications, working with Calum Alec Macmillan on Gaelic publications.

# Fèisean nan Gàidheal

Conference and Annual General meeting

15 & 16 September, Dark Island Hotel, Benbecula

Agenda Item: 3.2006.05(c)

## Dihaoine 15 An t-Sultain ~ Friday 15 September 2006

18.30 **Annual General Meeting** followed by music and song from the young people of **Fèis Tìr an Eòrna**, **Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain** and **Fèis Bharraigh**

19.30 **Dinner** followed by **Cèilidh-Dance**

## Disathairne 16 An t-Sultain ~ Saturday 16 September 2006

09.30 **The work of the School of Scottish Studies in Uist:**

**Dr Caithlin MacAulay, Archivist, School of Scottish Studies**

The archives of the School of Scottish Studies have benefitted greatly from material collected in Uist. Dr MacAulay will give us a talk about the work of the School in collecting the songs and stories, illustrated with examples from the collection.

10.30 **Depart for Taigh-tasgaidh Chill Donnain**

Kildonan Museum was re-opened in June 1998 as very much more than just a museum. It has an excellent cafe, shop and Fèis Room. The museum has at its heart a collection of items from and about South Uist collected by a local Parish Priest, Father John Morrison, during the 1950s and 1960s. It also sets out the background to an island that is incredibly rich in archeological remains dating from the bronze age to the Viking era. Some of the exhibits are set out thematically, while others are contained within the rooms of a recreated croft house. Kildonan Museum is also home to the Clan Ranald Stone, thought to have been carved to commemorate John of Moidart, chieftan of the Clan Ranald in the late 1500s.

13.00 **Lunch at Dark Island Hotel**

14.00 **Depart for Taigh Chèarsabhadh**

Taigh Chèarsabhadh is an award-winning Museum and Arts Centre standing close to the high-tide mark at the sea's edge in the village of Lochmaddy in North Uist. The centre is a focus for life in North Uist, and welcomes countless visitors each year to experience the arts, culture and heritage of the islands in a friendly and stimulating environment. With an emphasis on community involvement and excellence in the arts, the centre contains two galleries, museum, arts workshop, shop and café.

**Arthur Cormack**

Director

September 2006

# Fèisean nan Gàidheal

## Election of Board Members

Agenda Item: 3.2006.05(d)

### Background

The Board is empowered to put an appropriate procedure in place for election of Board members. A special resolution was passed at the 2003 AGM, to ensure fair representation of the Fèisean on the Board, and to ensure turnover of Board members. An election has been held for the past three years, which gave all Fèisean the chance to vote whether or not they were able to attend our AGM.

This process has worked well, and if the Board has no wish to change the procedure, following our AGM I propose to write formally to the Fèisean inviting nominations for representatives to stand for election to the Board of Fèisean nan Gàidheal.

### The election this year

This year, in line with the agreed appointment term, Ken MacKenzie, Kate Kerr and Ken Houston are due to stand down, and will not be eligible for re-election until a year has passed, i.e. until the election next year.

As a member of Fèisean nan Gàidheal, each Fèis, within whose area there needs to be an election, will be entitled to nominate one person to stand for election to the Board.

Therefore, this year, nominations will be invited to elect:

- The nominee from the Highland Council area Fèisean who polls the highest number of votes
- The nominee from the Argyll & Bute area Fèisean who polls the highest number of votes
- The nominee from all other areas in which Fèisean take place who polls the highest number of votes

These new appointments will be for a three-year period.

Nominations will take the form of an application from an individual, such application countersigned confirming that the individual is a nominee of a Fèis. This must be submitted on an official application form, which will be enclosed with a letter to the Fèisean, along with a description of the role of Board members. Potential applicants should be given a copy of the role description, and will be asked to confirm that they have read it. Each eligible Fèis can only make one nomination, so it will be for each committee to decide who their nominee will be.

### Proposed timetable

We would like to have the new Board elected prior to the Board meeting on 7 December, and I would propose that we send out the invitation letter and forms in the week beginning 25 September, and ask for all application forms to be correctly completed, signed by the applicant and a representative of the nominating Fèis (who must be a different person to the applicant), to be sent back to me either by post, fax, or personal delivery, not later than 5pm on Monday 16 October.

Once those eligible for election are confirmed, if there needs to be a ballot, voting papers will be issued, and completed polling cards should be sent back to me by Thursday 16 November. We will confirm new appointments the following day, once votes have been counted in the presence of an independent scrutineer. Current Board members will stand down as soon as new members are elected.

**Arthur Cormack**  
Director  
September 2006



**Fèisean nan Gàidheal**  
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