

faileas

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Newsletter • Iris 27 • An t-Ògmhios 08 • June 08

CÈILIDHEAN AIR CHUAIRT 2008



Thèid buidheann de luchd-ciùil òga air chuairt am-bliadhna a' taisbeanadh an cuid sgilean ciùil ann an iomadach àite air feadh nan Eilean Siar. Bidh ochdnar a' cluich mar chòmhlan proifeiseanta far am bi aca ri fuinn agus òrain Ghàidhlig ullachadh airson sreath de chuirmean sònraichte a mhaireas dà sheachdain anns an Lùnastal.

Thuir Rhona Niclain, Co-òrdanaiche na cuairte, "S e cothrom dha-rìribh a tha seo dhaibh a bhith air chuairt fad dà sheachdain mar chòmhlan. 'S e obair chruaidh a bhios ann gun teagamh ach gheibhear sealladh air mar a tha gnòthaichean a' tighinn gu buil agus eòlas a bhios feumail dhaibh mar luchd-ciùil san àm ri teachd." Thèid cuirmean a chumail ann an Uibhist is Barraigh eadar 4 – 9 Lùnastal agus anns na Hearadh is Leòdhas eadar 11 – 16 Lùnastal.

Gheibhear tuilleadh fiosrachaidh mun chuairt bho Rhona Niclain air 01851 830796.

CÈILIDH TRAILS 2008

The first ever Western Isles Ceilidh Trail will take place this year showcasing the musical talents of 8 young aspiring musicians. Following a week's training at Feis Alba to be held in Plockton the local group will perform at various venues throughout the Western Isles during a two week trail in August where they will be treated as professional musicians.

"Being part of the Western Isles Cèilidh Trail is both a wonderful opportunity and a great learning experience! I have a chance to work with a small group of local musicians and to be on tour as a band will be very exciting indeed." **For tour details or further information please contact Rhona Johnstone on 01851 830796.**

Other Ceilidh Trails are taking place during the summer in Badenoch & Strathspey; Lochaber; Sutherland; Ross-shire and Skye & Lochalsh. Details at www.feisean.org/ceilidh-trails.html

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DRAMA SUMMER SCHOOL

Portree will be full of young Gaelic-speaking actors who will be receiving tuition from some of the best drama tutors in the world this summer. Between 30 June and 11 July, 20 young people, aged 14 to 18, will be spending their time learning new skills, including voice work, acting skills, technical skills, and creative techniques.

Along with familiar faces such as Catriona Lexy Campbell, Mairead Ross and Roddy Nicolson, Dennis Cahill, from the Loose Moose Theatre Company, based in Calgary and Tim Licata, from Plutôt la Vie in Edinburgh, will be working with the participants.

A play, or a series of short plays, will be put together for a wonderful night of drama in Àros, Portree on Thursday 10 July that will be open to all. In addition to the drama school, a technical course will also be running, and there are still a few places left on that.

For more information about the Sgoil Shamhraidh please contact Dougie on 01463 225559 or douglas@feisean.org.

PRÒISEACT NAN TASGLANN

Tha pròiseact ùr aig Fèisean nan Gàidheal 'Pròiseact nan Tasglann' ag amas air òrain, ceòl agus sgeulachdan a chruinneachadh agus a chlàradh bho na diofar sgìrean far am bi Fèisean a' tachairt. Am bliadhna, tha Fèis a' Bhealaich a' gabhail pàirt anns a' phròiseact agus tha com-pàirtichean na Fèise air a bhith a' dèanamh agallamhan còmhla ri muinntir an àite agus ag ionnsachadh òrain Ghàidhlig às a' Chomraich. Cuideachd, thàinig Fèis Air an Oir, Fèis a' Bhaile agus Fèis na h-Òige uile còmhla airson latha-trèanaidh ann an ionad-tadhail Chùil-lodair far an do dh'ionnsaich na com-pàirtichean sgìlean ùr airson agallamhan a dhèanamh. Leanaidh na pròiseactan seo ann an Inbhir Nis agus Cataibh tron bliadhna agus tha Fèis Cheann Loch Goibhle an dùil pàirt a ghabhail anns an darna bliadhna den pròiseact.

THE ARCHIVING PROJECT

The archiving project is an exciting development for FnG that aims to collect and record songs, tunes and stories from areas where Fèisean are taking place. With funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, this year Fèis a' Bhealaich have been taking part in the project where Fèis participants have been recording local Gaelic speakers and learning Gaelic songs from the Applecross area.

In addition to this, Fèis Air An Oir, Fèis a' Bhaile and Fèis na h-Òige came together for a training day at the Culloiden Visitor Centre where participants learned new skills in collecting and recording oral history. The projects in Inverness and Sutherland will continue throughout the year and Fèis Cheann Loch Goibhle will be taking part in the second year of the project.

12 SGOIL A' CUR AIR ADHART OBAIR ÙR ANN AN GÀIDHLIG

Dh'obraich Fèisean nan Gàidheal còmhla ri dusan bun-sgoil anns na h-Eileanan Siar, Siorrachd Rois, Cataibh agus anns an Eilean Sgitheanach son oidhcheannan dràma a chur air dòigh.

Bha sgoilearan bho Airidh an Tuim, Sgìre na Pàirc agus Lional ann an Leòdhas; Geàrrloch, Drochaid a' Bhana, Cnoc na Creige agus Inbhir Pheofharain ann an Siorrachd Rois agus Cataibh; agus Cille Mhoire, Dùn Bheagain, An t-Ath Leathann agus Port Rìgh anns an Eilean Sgitheanach a' deasachadh dhealbhan-cluiche sònraichte airson nan cuirmean.

Thuirt Dougie Beck, Oifigear Dràma Fèisean nan Gàidheal "'S e deagh chothrom a bh' ann airson nan sgoilearan a bhith a' cleasachd air an àrd-ùrlar. Tha sinne a' faireachdainn gu bheil dràma Ghàidhlig cudromach airson Gàidhlig na cloinne a leudachadh".

Thug am pròiseact seo cothrom do 303 sgoilearan ann an ionadan Gàidhlig pàirt a ghabhail anns na bùithdean-obrach dràma. Ghabh 262 dhiubh pàirt ann an dealbh-chluich air an àrd-ùrlar.

Bha am pròiseact seo gu math soirbheachail ann an Earra-Ghàidheal ann an 2006 agus mar sin tha sinn air am pròiseact a leudachadh gu sgìrean eile am-bliadhna.

Chaidh am pròiseact dràma seo a mhaoineachadh le Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar agus Comhairle Ealain na h-Alba.



SCHOOLS DRAMA PROJECT

Fèisean nan Gàidheal teamed up with twelve primary schools in the Western Isles, Ross-shire, Sutherland and Skye for what was a series of fun nights featuring new Gaelic drama.

Pupils from Airidh an Tuim, Pairc and Lional in Lewis; Gairloch, Bonar Bridge, Craighill and Dingwall in Sutherland and Ross-shire; and Kilmuir, Dunvegan, Broadford and Portree in Skye, performed individual plays that they had written and developed themselves.

The schools drama project was launched successfully in Argyll in 2006, and as a result has extended to other areas this year.

The project enabled 303 pupils in Gaelic Medium education to take part in the drama workshops that were held in the three areas and 262 of them to perform on stage. This provided them with a great opportunity to develop their language skills as well as their acting skills!

FÈIS CHOLLA

The island of Coll held its first fèis ever. It was attended by 90% of the island's children of Fèis age. Besides the normal music, drama and shinty, they also had for the first time cooking at a Fèis. Everyone enjoyed the cakes and biscuits. Now they are all eagerly looking forward to next year for more of the same fun and hilarity.

FÈIS DHÙN OMHAIN

Dunoon now has a new Fèis. At the moment they are working closely with the children who are taking part in this year's National Mòd. In October, they are holding a one day Fèis and after that they hope to work closely with the Gaelic unit at Sandbank primary.

FÈIS AIR AN OIR

Following on from a successful year of projects in 2007, which included a special Burns Supper, 'Summer in the Strath' and the production of a DVD as a fundraiser for the Fèis, Fèis Air an Oir have been busier than ever. As one of the first Fèisean to participate in Pròiseact nan Tasglann, they have been out and about in their local community as well as making a trip to Inverness to join Fèis a' Bhaile and Fèis na h-Òige for a joint workshop. In addition to the archiving project and their regular fortnightly classes, the committee organised the Caithness and Sutherland local Mòd which took place in June.

FÈIS LANNRAIG A TUATH

Fèis Lannraig a Tuath has won a Gaelic Initiative Award for North Lanarkshire. Meala naidheachd air a h-uile duine agaibh - well done to all of you!



FÈIS BLAS A' CUR AIR BHOG CLÀR CULTARACH 2008

Chaidh prògram Blas a bhogadh ann an Eden Court, Inbhir Nis air 29 Cèitean. Tha an fhèis Ghàidhlig is chiùil thraidiseanta as luaithe fàs anns an rìoghachd a' cur 45 tachartas air adhart air feadh na Gàidhealtachd ann an 2008 eadar 5 agus 13 Sultain. 'B e Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, ann an co-bhonn le Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus Promoters Arts Network, a dhealbhaich an Fhèis.

Tha e mar phrìomh amas aig Blas cultar na Gàidhealtachd a chomharrachadh, agus bidh an luchd-ciùil is còmhlain-chiùil as fheàrr ann an Alba agus à dùthchannan eile a' libhrigeadh prògram sgoineil, le òigridh na Gàidhealtachd agus a' Ghàidhlig an teas-mheadhan ghnòthaichean. Bidh luchd-ciùil nam Fèisean gu math trang aig Blas, le buidhnean de dh'òigridh a' gabhail pàirt ann an tòrr chonsairtean. Bidh na buidhnean òga Canntaireachd agus Fidhlearan Chill Tighearna air a' chlàr còmhla ri còmhlan air leth ainmeil à Èirinn - na Chieftains - ann an Eden Court air 10 Sultain. Bidh Fèis Rois a' cur cuirm shònraichte "Ceòlraidh" air dòigh ann an Srath Pheofhair air 12 Sultain. A bharrachd air sin, bidh tòrr de luchd-teagaisg nam Fèisean a' gabhail pàirt cuideachd.

Tha iomadh tachartas tarraingeach eile air clàr na bliadhna-sa, nam measg Phil Coineagan agus Aly Bain, an seinneadair JP Cormier à Eilean Cheap Breatainn, an còmhlan Èireannach/Ameireaganach Cherish The Ladies, Peatbog Faeries, Julie Fowlis, Alyth, Shooglenifty agus Balaich Bhatarsaigh.

Gheibhear fiosrachadh mun fhèis agus mu tòrr rudan eile air an làrach-lìn.

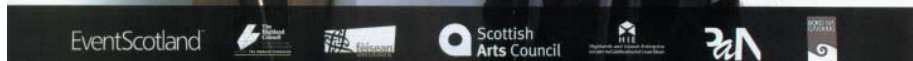
Blas Festival 2008 launched

This year's Blas Festival was officially launched at Eden Court Theatre, Inverness on 29th May. The festival takes place from 5 - 13 September and is a joint initiative between Fèisean nan Gàidheal, The Highland Council and the Promoters Arts Network, delivering a programme of 45 events right across the Highlands.

Blas is a celebration of Highland Culture, presenting a programme of top quality Scottish and International artists, whilst ensuring that young people and the Gaelic language are given a starring role. Fèisean involvement in the festival has never been stronger with groups performing at 19 concerts. Gaelic song group Canntaireachd and Fèis Rois Kiltearn Fiddlers are on the bill with Irish super group The Chieftains at Eden Court on 10th September and Fèis Rois are organising a special "Ceòlraidh" concert set to take place at the Strathpeffer Pavilion on 12th September. Over and above this, many Fèis tutors will be performing throughout the festival.

Other festival highlights include performances from Phil Cunningham and Aly Bain, stunning singer/songwriter JP Cormier from Cape Breton, top Irish-American group Cherish the Ladies and Scottish talent, The Peatbog Faeries, Julie Fowlis, Alyth, Shooglenifty and the Vatersay Boys.

Information about the festival events and some great competitions are available from the website.



FÈIS ALBA 2008

Fèis Alba has become an outstanding training opportunity for young musicians. This year, youngsters from the Western Isles will be joining participants from Lochaber, Skye and the Cairngorms at Fèis Alba in Plockton. The Fèis makes use of the excellent facilities available at the National Centre of Excellence in Traditional Music.

Participants are given the opportunity to learn more about key skills that will be of use to them as they develop as aspiring semi or fully professional musicians.

It is funded by Fèisean nan Gàidheal, the Scottish Arts Council, The Highland Council and Highlands & Islands Enterprise and has proved especially useful to participants of the various Ceilidh Trails. As well as providing training, it provides a platform for young people with similar interests to share their creativity.

This year participants will benefit from the expert tuition of well-known traditional musicians including Fraser Stone, Ingrid Henderson and Donald Shaw. The Ceilidh Trails will be kicked off with a joint concert at Plockton High School Pupil Residence on Thursday 3 July at 7.30pm.

TRAINING 2008

The date for the annual Fèis Trèanaidh - the Training Fèis for organisers - has been fixed for 14 and 15 March 2009 at the Ben Wyvis Hotel, Strathpeffer.

Keep an eye on the website for further information, and let us know if you have any requests for workshops during the weekend.

Don't forget:

Level I Tutor Training at Cromarty on 9 and 10 August. Details from iona@feisean.org.

DEALBH DÙTHCHA

Ghabh 29 com-pàirtichean nam Fèisean pàirt anns an taisbeanadh Gaidhealtachd 2007 ann an Eden Court anns an Fhaoilleach far an do chluich iad coimisean ùr a sgrìobh Blair Dùghlas air a son. Cluinnear an ceòl a-rithist mar phàirt den Fhèis Blas aig Eden Court air Disathairne 6 An t-Sultain; ann an taigh-tasgaidh Kelvingrove ann an Glaschu cuideachd anns An t-Sultain; agus ann an Liverpool anns an Dùbhlachd, mar phàirt de 'Dhealbh Dùthcha' agus tachartasan Prìomh-bhaile Cultarach na Roinn Eòrpa 2008.



Highland 2007 Showcase Eden Court, January 2008

Photos Courtesy of Highland 2007
le taing do Gaidhealtachd 2007 airson nan dealbhan

AGM & CONFERENCE 2008

Thèid Coinneamh Bhliadhnail agus Co-labhairt Fèisean nan Gàidheal an cumail anns a' Ghearasdan am bliadhna ann an Taigh-òsta a' Chinn Siar. Cruinnichidh muinntir nam Fèisean airson sùil a thoirt air a' bhliadhna a dh'fhalbh. Bidh ceòl agus òrain bho òigridh Fèisean Lochabair agus dinnear le dannsa às a dèidh. Thèid a h-uile càil a chumail Dihaoine 19 agus Disathairne 20 An t-Sultain agus thathar an dùil gum bi sluagh gu math mòr an làthair bho Fhèisean air feadh na dùthcha.

The Annual General Meeting of Fèisean nan Gàidheal will be held in the West End Hotel, Fort William on Friday, 19 September 2008. It is expected that many representatives from all the Fèisean across Scotland will be in attendance. There will be a Cèilidh following the dinner, which will feature young people from the Lochaber Fèisean. The Conference will take place on Saturday 20 September, with the usual mix of presentations and workshops.

LUCHD-OBACH ÙR

Chuir sinn fàilte air luchd-obrach ùr bhon iris mu dheireadh: Jenna Chuimeanach (Oifigear Leasachaidh nan Eilean Siar); Caoimhin Rodgers (Oifigear Leasachaidh Fèisean Loch Abar); Moreen Pringle (Oifigear Gnìomhachais); Deirdre Ghreumach (Oifigear Dràma) agus Emily Edwards (Oifigear Tasglann agus Pròiseactan Shònraichte. Dh'fhalbh Ingrid NicEanraig le meala naidheachd oirre fhèin agus air lain agus iad air gille beag - Seumas Ailig - fhaighinn.

PORTRAIT OF A NATION

29 Fèis participants took part in the Highland 2007 showcase event at Eden Court in January where they performed a new commission, including tunes, Gaelic songs and step-dancing, all written by Skye musician Blair Douglas. The participants will be performing the commission again as part of the Blas festival in Eden Court on Saturday 6th September; at Kelvingrove Museum in Glasgow also in September; and in Liverpool as part of the Capital of Culture Celebrations Portrait of a Nation event in December.



LÀRACH-LÌN - WEBSITE
www.feisean.org

for useful information and resources on Events, Fèisean and Projects (including the Archiving Project, Meanbh-Chuilleag, Sgioba-G and the Cèilidh Trails) taking place throughout Scotland.

Under the "Information" section you will find details on Fèisean nan Gàidheal, its staff and responsibilities as well as downloadable documents such as copies of our Annual Reports and Policies e.g. Child Protection and Gaelic Policies; New Fèis Information; Grant information; Details on the Youth Music Initiative Scheme; Resources; and Research documents.

If you require any advice or assistance (or have anything you wish to put on the website) contact your relevant Development Officer who will be glad to help - or get in touch with us at the address below.

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