

faileas

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Newsletter • Iris 30 • Am Màrt 09 • March 09



FREUMHAN

'S e Fèis tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig airson clann ann an clasaichean 1 - 4 anns an Àrd-sgoil a th' ann am Freumhan. Bidh an Fhèis, a tha air a ruith le Sgioba Leasachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal, a' gabhail àite 6-10 Giblean ann an Ionad Spòrs Cheann Loch Goibhle ann an Earra-Ghàidheal agus gheibh com-pàirtichean bùthan-obrach ciùil agus cur-seachadan air a' bhàr a-muigh.

Thathar an dòchas gun tig deugairean bho air feadh Alba, a' toirt cothrom do na com-pàirtichean tachairt ri daoine òga eile aig a bheil ùidh ann an ceòl traidiseanta. Air sgàth 's nach bi ann ach 20 àite aig an Fhèis, gheibh na com-pàirtichean teagasg aig àrd-ìre gus an cuid sgilean a shàr-leasachadh.

'S e prìomh chuspair na seachdain obair-chòmhla a thèid a stiùireadh le sgioba de luchd-teagaisg agus luchd-àire proifeiseanta. Gheibh na com-pàirtichean cothrom ionnsachadh mu dheidhinn siostaman PA, cruthachadh ciùil agus sgilean taisbeanadh.

A bharrachd air seo gheibh iad cothrom cur-seachadan inntinneach fheuchainn air a' bhàr a-muigh, leithid seòladh-churrachan agus sreap.

Thuirte Caoimhin Rodgers, Oifigear Leasachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal: "Tha Freumhan ga mhaoineachadh le Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus 's e cothrom air leth a th' ann do luchd-labhairt òga na Gàidhlig na sgilean cànan, sòisealta agus ciùil a leasachadh ann an dòigh spòrsail agus ann an àite air leth freagarrach."

Ma tha ùidh aig duine sam bith ann am Freumhan, nach tèid sibh dhan làraich-lìn airson foirm-iarrtais - www.feisean.org - no cuiribh fios gu Nicola Marshall air 01463 225599 no nicola@feisean.org. Feumaidh com-pàirtichean a bhith eadar 11-16 bliadhna a dh'aois agus iad comasach air an ionnsramaid a chluiche aig ìre eadar-mheadhanach. 'S ann tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig a bhios an teagasg air fad.



BLAS 2009 NOW ON LINE

Tickets for Blas 2009, which takes place between 4 - 12 September, are now on sale via the festival website www.blas-festival.com. There are a number of special events as part of Homecoming Scotland 2009, with Gaelic language, young people and Highland communities very much at the heart of the festival. There are also lots of opportunities to save money, with Early Bird tickets available until the end of July offering up to 20% off the standard adult ticket price, plus family and concession reductions.

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FÀILTE AIR DÀ FHÈIS ÙR

Tha sin a' cur fàilte air dà Fhèis ùr; Fèis an t-Sratha ann an sgìre Bhlàr Ghobharaidh is Raitear ann an Siorrachd Pheairt agus Fèis Ghallaibh ann an Inbhir Theòrsa. 'S e deagh naidheachd dha-rìribh a th' ann air sgath 's nach robh Fèisean riamh sna sgìrean seo, agus 's e fianais a th' ann gu bheil ùidh aig na coimhearsnachdan seo anns a' Ghàidhlig agus cultar nan Gàidheal.

Tha an t-ainm Fèis an t-Sratha a' tighinn bhon t-Srath Mhòr - srath ainmeil a tha a' ruith eadar a' Mhonadh Ruadh is na Sidh-bheanntan. Tha iad ag amas air daoine bho gach ceàrnaidh den t-Srath a tharraing dhan chiad Fhèis aca anns a' Chèitean.

'S e meur ionadail a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich a tha a' cur Fèis Ghallaibh air dòigh, mar phàirt den obair-deasachaidh aca airson a' Mhòid Nàiseanta Rìoghail ann an 2010.

WELCOME TO NEW FÈISEAN

We would like to welcome two new Fèisean; Fèis an t-Sratha in Blairgowrie & Rattray, and Fèis Ghallaibh in Caithness. Fèis an t-Sratha hope to welcome participants to their first event in May. Fèis Ghallaibh has been established by the Caithness branch of An Comunn Gàidhealach as they prepare for the Royal National Mod there in 2010.



FÈIS DHÙN BHREATAINN

Tha an fhèis seo air buidheann-obrach a chur air bhonn ann an sia sgoiltean. Bidh a' chlann a' gabhail pàirt ann an dràma Gàidhlig. Bidh iad cuideachd ag ionnsachadh ciamar a nì iad sporain bheaga le clòimh. Tha na buidhnean-obrach seo air an ruith le companaidh bheag leis an ainm, sparc. Tha iad letheach slighe tron phròiseact agus tha e a' còrdadh ris a h-uile duine. Nuair a bhios e deiseil, bidh iad air còrr agus 300 sgoilear a theagasg.

Fèis Dhùn Bhreatainn has initiated a series of Traditional crafts and Gaelic language/drama workshops. These are spread over six West Dumbarton primary schools and are being delivered by two very experienced tutors from a community arts group called sparc.

All in all they will have delivered these workshops to 300 participants over the course of six weeks.

The children will be learning how to do traditional felting and to produce a panel of works and some small purses and pouches while also learning lots of new Gaelic words.

FÈIS GHLEANN ALBAINN

There was a feeling of coming of age within the relatively young Fèis Ghleann Albainn when three of its youngsters recently attended Fèisean nan Gàidheal's tutor training weekend at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.

Rona Cooper, Ailsa Hosie and Rebecca Skeoch have all been keen Fèis participants for some years now and are leading lights in the Fèis Ghleann Albainn Band, which is made up of purely home grown talent. They have been gradually changing their role within Fèis Ghleann Albainn over recent months from that of participants to that of tutors. Rona began as assistant to the fiddle tutor during their summer fèis and is now tutoring during the term time classes as is Rebecca. Ailsa is entering the classroom as joint tutor with Rona to gain 'hands on' experience.

It is a success story when youngsters leave a Fèis equipped with an ability to play an instrument and armed with an array of tunes or songs at their disposal but when they leave with the ability and willingness to pass on their skills, a sense of maturity is felt within the Fèis.

Fèis Ghleann Albainn has adopted the policy of sponsoring any of its young participants that wish to go forward for tutor training.

The committee also recently held their annual Adult Fèis which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who took part (upwards of 50 people). The Adult Fèis gave them an opportunity to try out their newly acquired PA system which was bought with help from Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Development Fund. The system will be used at future Fèisean in order to provide PA training for participants as well as other new projects.

FÈIS ÒIGRIDH NA MARA

Tha Fèis Òigridh na Mara air a bhith ag amas airson greiseag air bùithean-obrach clàrsaich a chur air dòigh agus ionnsramadain ciùil ùra a cheannach airson feumalachdan na coimhearsnachd a choileanadh. Tha iad gu math taingeil do dh'Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus do Bhunas Coimhearsnachd na h-Alba oir eatarra, tha iad air £10, 500 a thairgse dhaibh airson na pròiseactan a choileanadh.

With help from Fèisean nan Gàidheal and Community Foundation Scotland, Fèis Òigridh na Mara has raised funds for a series of Clàrsach workshops and to purchase new instruments in order to meet with demand for classes.

FÈIS ÌLE

Bha Fèis Ìle ann aig meadhan teirm sa Ghearran. Bha suas ri fichead sgoilear a' gabhail pàirt agus fhuair iad cothrom fideag, clàrsach, òrain Ghàidhlig agus fideall ionnsachadh. Bha iad cuideachd an sàs ann an ealain agus geamaichean. Bha a' mhòr chuid den luchd-teagaisg à Ìle fhèin ach fear na fideig Lorne MacDhùghaill bho Charradal an Ceann Tìre. Aig deireadh an dàrna latha bha cèilidh beag aca agus chòrd e gu mòr ris a h-uile duine.

Fèis Ìle got underway during the February mid term break. It was attended by children from all over Islay and Jura. This year the majority of the tutors were local with the exception of Lorne MacDougal a young piper from Carradale. The children had a choice of clàrsach, fiddle, whistle and Gaelic song. They also learnt some Scottish dance, art and games. On the Tuesday there was a group session and the event ended in a splendid afternoon cèilidh.



FÈIS TAIGH DHONNCHÀIDH

Aig àm na Càisge bidh gu leòr ceòl agus seinn ri chluinntinn ann an sgìre Nis, Ceann a Tuath Leòdhais le Taigh Dhonnchaidh agus Ionad Leasachaidh Nis a' fosgladh an cuid dhorsan airson seachdain de chur-seachadan Fèise. B' àbhaist do Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh a bhith a' ruith as t-samhradh ach thèid a cumail rè saor-làithean na Càisge am-bliadhna, eadar 6-10 Giblean. Bidh tòrr chuspairean rim faotainn do chloinn eadar 8-18 bliadhna dh'aois leithid bogsa-putain, giotàr agus fideall, a thuilleadh air seinn, dràma agus ealain.

Ann an leasachadh ùr eile am-bliadhna, gheibh clann nas òige an cothrom a bhith an sàs ann am measgachadh de chur-seachadan Fèise aig Fèis Nis, a bhios a' ruith air an aon seachdain eadar 10m agus 1f gu làitheil. Tha sinn a' toirt fiathachadh do chloinn-sgoile eadar P1-3 cur-seachadan eadar-dhealaichte fheuchainn aig Ionad Leasachaidh Nis, Dàil bho Thuath. Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh cuiribh fios gu Taigh Dhonnchaidh air 01851 810 166 neo Oifigear Leasachaidh nan Eilean Siar, Jenna Chuimeanach aig jenna@feisean.org.

EASTER TIME FÈIS FUN SET FOR NESS

The Ness area of Lewis will be full of music and singing this Easter as Taigh Dhonnchaidh and the Ness Development Centre, North Dell open their doors for a week of Fèis activities. Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh have decided to stage their main Fèis during the Easter break for the first time from 6 – 10 April and all children, aged 8 – 18 are welcome. A range of traditional instruments will be on offer including Melodeon, Accordion, Guitar and Fiddle as well as Gaelic singing, Drama and Art.

In another new development for 2009, younger children will also have the opportunity to engage in a range of activities at Fèis Nis during the same week from 10am to 1pm daily. Children in P1-3 are invited to go along to the Ness Development centre, North Dell, where they can participate in various art and musical activities all through the medium of Gaelic. For further information please contact Taigh Dhonnchaidh on 01851 810 166 or the Western Isles Development Officer, Jenna Cumming at jenna@feisean.org.

FÈIS CHATAIBH

Fèis Chataibh has had a busy time over the last few months.

In December a small group took part in the first Fèis Chataibh sound engineering workshop with Highland Alternative Music based in Dingwall. For some it was a whole new experience and to others it was about improving their knowledge. It was an extremely useful day and Gareth Ince proved an excellent instructor. This was followed up by a demonstration of the importance of getting the sound right at a workshop and Ceilidh night in Rogart Hall. The Workshop was tutored by Carol Anne Mackay, Jenna Reid and Rachel Stevenson. The workshop musicians performed in the evening to a packed hall with Gareth demonstrating the effectiveness of professional PA equipment.

On 13th February, eighteen young musicians gathered at Drummuie House, Golspie for a weekend of music and song.

Tutors for this weekend were Mike Vass and Dave Wood both part of the band Malinky and local musicians Ruairaidh Campbell from Conon Bridge and Mike Simpson from Evanton.

This was the second time Fèis Chataibh had used Drummuie House for a groupwork weekend. It has great acoustics and plenty of space as well as being able to sleep fourteen people.

At the end of the weekend there was an opportunity for some to audition for the Ceilidh Trail.



SGRÌOBHADH TIONNSGALACH AIG FÈIS A' BHAILE AGUS FÈIS NA H-ÒIGE

Mar phàirt de Phròiseact nan Tasglann, tha com-pàirtichean Fèis a' Bhaile agus Fèis na h-Òige air a bhith a' gabhail pàirt ann an sreath de bhùithean-obrach ann an sgrìobhadh tionnsgalach còmhla ris an sgrìobhadair agus bana-chleasaiche Catriona Lexy Chaimbeul. A bharrachd air a bhith a' neartachadh nan sgilean Gàidhlig aca, dh'ionnsaich na com-pàirtichean sgilean sgrìobhaidh ùra agus ghabh iad pàirt ann an co-fharpais-sgrìobhaidh a chaidh a chur air dòigh le ionad-tadhail Blàr Chùil Lodair.

FÈIS A' BHAILE AND FÈIS NA H-ÒIGE GET CREATIVE

As part of the Archiving Project, participants from Fèis a' Bhaile and Fèis na h-Òige have been taking part in a series of creative writing workshops with the writer and actress Catriona Lexy Campbell. In addition to strengthening their Gaelic skills, the participants have learnt about different writing techniques and have taken part in a writing competition organised by the Culloden Battlefield Visitor Centre.

TRÈANADH LUCHD-TEAGAISG 2009

Abair gun robh Iona NicDhòmhnaill air a beò-glacadh aon turas eile leis cho math sa rinn a h-uile duine air a' chùrsa trèanaidh againn air 21 agus 22 An Gearran aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. Bha daoine ann bho gach ceàrnaidh – cho fad' air falbh ri Cill Ribhinn Cille Chiarain agus Eilean Cholla, agus bho aois sgoile suas gu daoine a bha air an dreuchd a leigeil dhiubh.

Bha measgachadh de innealan ann cuideachd, agus daoine aig an robh barrachd is aon chomas – seinn agus fideall; no fideag agus bocsa-ciùil, mar eisimpleir. Bha tòrr de fhileantaich ann am bliadhna, am measg feadhainn eile a bha ag ionnsachadh agus daoine aig nach robh Gàidhlig idir, ach a tha a-nis air cò-dhiù facal no dhà a thogail.

A bharrachd air Valerie Bryan agus Andy Thorburn a tha a' tilleadh gach bliadhna airson a' mhòrchuid dhen chùrsa a theagasg, bha Gilleasbuig Fearghasdan ann gus Gàidhlig a thoirt dhaibh, agus Susan NicLabhrainn bho Jigsaw Training gan stiùireadh a-thaobh Dion Chloinne.

Aig deireadh a' chùrsa trèanaidh bha nàdar de chaitheamh-ciùil ann leis na h-oileanaich a ghabh pàirt agus fhuair a h-uile duine teisteanas gun robh iad air an cùrsa a choileanadh gu soirbheachail.

Tha feadhainn deiseil mar-thà airson a' Ghearrain 2010 nuair a thèid an dàrna pàirt den trèanadh a chumail aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig a-rithist. Tuilleadh fiosrachaidh iona@feisean.org

FÈIS TRÈANAIDH 2009

Fèis Trèanaidh 2009, the training session aimed at Fèis organisers and committees, took place in Strathpeffer on the 14th and 15th March. Approximately 60 participants took part over the two days, enjoying a range of workshop subjects from Gaelic songs for children, to Public Speaking, to First Aid. The feedback received suggests that the whole weekend was a very enjoyable and useful experience, and many thanks to all the speakers who gave up weekends to be there.

POILEASAIDH GÀIDHLIG FÈISEAN NAN GÀIDHEAL

Tha sgioba Gàidhlig Fèisean nan Gàidheal an-dràsta ag ùrachadh a' phoileasaidh Ghàidhlig gus cleachdadh na Gàidhlig a bhrosnachadh agus àrdachadh aig na Fèisean. Tha an ìre aig a bheil a' Ghàidhlig ga cleachdadh aig Fèisean air àrdachadh gu mòr bho chaidh am poileasaidh fhoillseachadh an toiseach, agus tha an t-àm ann a-nise togail air seo. 'S e am prìomh leasachadh ùr a bhios ann barrachd taic a thoirt do dh'Fhèisean gus luchd-teagaisg fhastadh aig a bheil Gàidhlig, aig ìre fhileanta no aig ìre ionnsachaidh sam bith, cuide ri brosnachadh agus cuideachadh a thoirt do luchd-teagaisg gus na sgilean Gàidhlig aca a neartachadh. Thèid am poileasaidh ùr a chur air bhog aig a' choinneimh bhliadhnail anns an t-Sultain.

FÈISEAN NAN GÀIDHEAL GAELIC POLICY

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Gaelic team are currently updating the Gaelic policy with the aim of encouraging and supporting the use of Gaelic at Fèisean. Since the initial implementation of the Gaelic policy, there has been a noticeable increase in the use of the Gaelic language at Fèisean and it is now time to expand on this. One of the new developments in the policy will be to support Fèisean in employing Gaelic speaking tutors, both fluent speakers and learners at any level, as well as to encourage and assist tutors in improving their Gaelic skills. The new policy will be launched at the AGM in September.

FÈIS NAN GARBH CHRÌOCHAN

Bidh a' Bhun-sgoil ùr ann an Ath Tharraicail deiseil ann am beagan sheachdainean agus mar sin, bidh Lesley Nic a' Mhaighstir a' gluasad dhan oifis ùr (taobh a-staigh na sgoile).

The New Acharacle Primary School will be completed in the coming weeks and will be hosting this year's Fèis nan Garbh Chrìochan event in July. The new building will also house the Fèis nan Garbh Chrìochan office and Lesley MacMaster will be moving in on completion.

MEANBH-CHUILEAG

Tha gnothaichean glè thrang an-dràsta a thaobh dràma aig FnG. Tha Cailean agus Deirdre air an rathad an-dràsta le Eilidh ag Eilthireachd, dealbh-chluich le Gilleasbuig Fearghastan a tha a' dèiligeadh ri in-imreachd agus eilthireachd le bhith ag innse mu nighean òg à Inbhir Nis agus creutair neònach à Celeron 8, planaid nach eil idir coltach ris an t-saoghal againne. Tha a' bhuidheann gu bhith a' tadhal air cha mhòr a h-uile bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig a th' ann thairis air sia seachdainean leis an dealbh-chluich a tha mu 50 mionaid a dh'fhaid. Fhuaradh moladh air leth bho thidsearan gu ruige seo, nam measg:

"Bha mi dìreach airson innse dhut cho math 's a chòrd an dealbh-chluich a rinn Cailean agus Deirdre rinn an latha roimhe. Bha na tidsearan agus a' chlànn ag ràdh gun robh iad dìreach sgoinneil!"

Bidh barrachd dhealbhan a' nochdadh anns an ath iris de dh'Fhaileas – cum do shùil air a' phrìomh dhuilleig!

Meanbh-chuileag is busy at the moment with a tour which will see the theatre-in-education group visit almost all of Scotland's Gaelic-medium primaries. Eilidh ag Eilthireachd deals with the hot topics of immigration and emigration.

TRIP TO GHANA



Emily Edwards, Fèisean nan Gàidheal's archiving officer, returned to work at the beginning of February after spending a month working as a volunteer in Ghana, West Africa. Emily was teaching English and maths to pupils aged 4 to 15, who were preparing to start school for the first time, through a sponsorship scheme run by BASICS International. Emily really enjoyed the experience and the pupils enjoyed learning some Gaelic and the Strip the Willow (not so easy when it's 33°!) as part of their cultural exchange class. For more information about BASICS International where Emily was working, please visit www.basicsinternational.org.

CUDROMACH! CINN-LATHA NA SGOILE SAMHRAIDH

DRÀMA 2009: 6 gu 17 Iuchar 2009 ann am Port Rìgh. 20 àiteachan airson daoine aois 14 gu 18. Bidh barrachd fiosrachaidh ga sgaoileadh a dh'aithghearr. Fiosrachadh bho douglas@feisean.org

IMPORTANT! SGOIL SHAMHRAIDH DRÀMA 2009 DATES:

6 to 17 July in Portree. 20 places for people aged 14 to 18. Interim info from douglas@feisean.org

A bharrachd air seo tha a' bhuidheann air sia seachdainean a dhèanamh bho Mhàrt 2008 ann am bun-sgoiltean nach eil a' teagasg tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig, le dealbhan-cluiche a chaidh a chruthachadh gus taic a thoirt do sgoilearan a tha an dàrna cuid ag ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig mar dhàrna cànan no a tha ag iarraidh barrachd fhaighinn a-mach ma deidhinn.



[Dealbh de dh'Eachann MacillEathain a dh'fhàg Muile airson a dhol a dh'fhuireach ann an Canada aig toiseach an 19mh linn deug...]

AONGHAS MACLEÒID



Tha sgioba FnG air leth toilichte fàilte a chur air neach-taice dràma ùr - Aonghas MacLeòid, à Borbh san Eilean Sgitheanach, a thàinig don bhuidhinn aig toiseach an Fhaoilich bho Chomann na Gàidhlig. Bha Aonghas roimhe na oifigear leasachaidh airson na Gàidhlig ann an sgìre Inbhir Nis. Tha Aonghas air a bhith an sàs ann an dràma agus sgrìobhadh airson iomadach bliadhna, agus bho thòisich e aig FnG tha e air a bhith trang a' dol timcheall bun-sgoiltean na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean a' cumail bhùithean-obrach dràma agus a' tabhann comhairle do thidsearan.

Tha FnG ag obair ann an co-bhonn le À Eden, an roinn foghlaim aig Eden Court, air sia pròiseactan dràma, anns a bheil còrr is 30 bun-sgoil an sàs. Tha Aonghas ag obair gu dlùth còmhla ri Ruairidh MacNeacail agus Debbie NicAoidh air na pròiseactan seo.

FnG welcomes our new drama assistant Angus Macleod, who, since he came to us from Comunn na Gàidhlig at the start of the year, has been busy travelling around primary schools across the Highlands and Islands delivering drama workshops.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal
Taigh a' Mhill
Port-Rìgh
An t-Eilean Sgitheanach
IV51 9BZ
Fòn 01478 613355
Facs 01478 613399
Post-d brath@feisean.org
www.feisean.org