

faileas

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Newsletter • Iris 40 • An t-Sultain 2011 • September 2011

FÈIS SPÈ CELEBRATES WITH "THE HIGHEST GIG" AT SUCCESSFUL BLAS 2011



Chomharraich Fèis Spè 21 bliadhna mar phàirt den 'chuirn as àirde aig Blas' a chaidh a chumail ann an Taigh-bìdh an Tàrmachain, a tha mu 150 meatair fo mhullach a' Mhonaidh Ruaidh, air 9 Sultain.

Ann an 1990 cha robh Fèis Spè ach beag, stèidhichte ann an Obar Neithich agus air a cur air dòigh le sgioba de luchd-ciùil ionadail. Beag air bheag tha Fèis Spè air leudachadh agus an-diugh tha tachartasan na Fèise air an lìbhrigeadh tro Phàirce Nàiseanta a' Mhonaidh Ruaidh air fad. Mar thoradh air seo tha Fèis Spè a' ruith fo bhratach ùr - Fèisean a' Mhonaidh Ruaidh. Thar nam bliadhnaichean tha an Fhèis air iomadh pròiseact a chur an cèill gu soirbheachail airson cothroman ionnsachaidh a thabhann do dh'òigridh na sgìre. Tron bhliadhna bithear a' ruith Fèis Bheag airson clann ann am Prìomh 1-4, leasan seachdaineach ann am fidheall, clasaichean obair-bhuidhne gu cunbhalach agus deireadh-seachdainean sònraichte airson deugairean. A bharrachd air sin bidh an Fhèis a ruith Ceilidh air Chuairt a' Mhonaidh Ruaidh agus trì Fèisean san aon t-seachdain san Dàmhair!

Mar chomharra air na thathar air a choileanadh ann an 21 bliadhna chaidh iarraidh air luchd-ciùil proifeiseanta aig a bheil dlùth cheangal ris an Fhèis pàirt a ghabhail anns a' chuirn cuide ri luchd-ciùil òga na Fèise. Chaidh sgeulachdan, fuinn agus òrain, sean is ùr, a ghabhail le Charlie MacKerron, Ewan Robertson, Mhairi Hall agus Fraser Stone le taic bho Ceilidh air Chuairt a' Mhonaidh Ruaidh, The Bear Creek Reelers, còmhlan òigridh na Fèise agus Bean an Taighe Sile NicAoidh.

Among many highlights at the recent successful Blas Festival, two Fèisean celebrated landmark birthdays. Fèis Rois presented a wonderful concert - Shoots and Roots - at the Spa Pavilion in Strathpeffer featuring former and current Fèis participants and tutors to celebrate 25 years.

Fèis Spè celebrated 21 years of providing tuition, inspiration and performance opportunities for the young folk of Badenoch & Strathspey with 'the highest gig at Blas' in the Ptarmigan Restaurant on Cairngorm on 9th September.

A number of professional musicians with very close links to Fèis Spè share the stage with young musicians currently benefiting from the Fèis experience. The Bear Creek Reelers (their name comes from a favourite Aonghas Grant tune) and the Cairngorms Ceilidh Trailers supported Charlie McKerron, Ewan Robertson, Mhairi Hall and Fraser Stone in an evening of new and old tunes, songs and celebrations.

Bean an Taighe for the evening was Sheila MacKay – a long-standing supporter and friend of Fèis Spè, with more than a few stories of her own to add to the proceedings.

Fèis Spè is very grateful to numerous supporters and funders for enabling the first 21st years to be such a success and welcomed representatives from some of these on Cairngorm, including Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Cairngorms National Park Authority and various 'branches' of LEADER.

Special thanks are also due to The Highland Council's local discretionary fund and to Cairngorm Mountain for helping make the evening possible.

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FÈIS NAN DEUGAIREAN AN LOCH ABAR

Bidh Fèis Deugairean a' tachairt ann an Àrd-sgoil Loch Abar eadar 8-10 Dàmhair 2011. 'S e pròiseact co-obrachaidh a tha seo eadar na Fèisean stèidhichte ann an sgìre Loch Abar, fosgailte do dheugairean na sgìre.

Bidh clasaichean air an tairgse ann am bogsa-ciùil, clàrsach, fidheall, giotàr, meur-chlàr, seinn agus a' phiob. A thuilleadh air seo gheibh compàirtichean cothrom clasaichean eile a fhrithealadh airson sgilean a leasachadh ann an clàradh, obair chòmhlain agus a' cleachdadh uidheamachd PA. Bidh sàr luchd-ciùil na Gàidhealtachd a tha a' fuireach anns an sgìre os cionn nan clasaichean.

Top tutors Angus Binnie, Finlay Wells, Ingrid Henderson, Rachel Walker and Sileas Sinclair will lead the Lochaber Teenage Fèis to be held in Fort William from 8-10 October.

Travel will be provided for participants from Mallaig or Acharacle.

Further information and application forms from Maria MacInnes on 01397 704132 or maria@fèisean.org.

FÀILTE BHLÀTH AIR AIS AIR FÈIS THRÒNDARNIS



An dèidh beàrn seachd bliadhnaichean chaidh fàilte chridheil a chur air Fèis Thròndairnis nuair a thòisich i às ùr air taobh tuath an Eilein Sgitheanaich toiseach an Lùnastail.

Stèidhichte aig Bun-sgoil Stafainn, chaidh an Fhèis a cumail bho Diluain 1 den Lùnastal le 40 compàirtiche ga frithealadh. Eadar 8 agus 18 bliadhna a dh'aois bha a' mhòr-chuid a' buntainn ris an sgìre fhèin ach bha feadhainn eile ann a thàinig à àiteannan cho fad air falbh ri Tobar na Màthair, Inbhir Ùige agus Boraraig.

Bha roghainn fharsaing de chuspairean rim faotainn don chom-pàirtichean le sgioba air leth tàlantach gan oideachadh aig irean luchd-tòiseachaidh, eadar-mheadhanach agus adhartach.

An dèidh latha trang aig an Fhèis, chùm an ceòl agus spòrs a' dol gu uairean beaga na maidne aig sabhal Theàrlach agus Seonaig Pheutain ann am Flòdaigearraidh. Aithnichte san taobh sear mu thràth airson nan dannsaichean bliadhnaile a thathar a' cumail gus airgead a thogail airson buidhnean carthannais, fhuair eadh ceathrar fhosgadh fad seachdain na Fèise le cuirm-chiùil luchd-oide oidhche Mhàirt agus oidhche Dhiardaoin a bha làn chiùil, dannsa agus òrain Ghàidhlig a chòrd gu mòr ri muinntir an àite cho math ris an luchd-turais, sean agus òg.

Thàinig an Fhèis gu ceann feasgar Dihaoine air beulaibh sluagh math de dhaoine aig cuirm na Fèise ann an talla choimhearsnachd Stafainn. Fhuair na compàirtichean cothrom taisbeanadh a dhèanamh de na sgìlean ùra a dh'ionnsaich iad agus fhuair cuid cothrom eòlas fhaighinn cluich air beulaibh luchd-amhairc airson a' chiad uair.

Bha Christine NicNeacail, cathraiche Fèis Thròndairnis, fada an comain na taice saor-thoilich a fhuair eadh bho bhuill comataidh na Fèise agus do dhaoine eile a thug taic dhaibh tron t-seachdain. Bha i cuideachd taingeil airson na maoin a fhuair eadh bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig, Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus Make a Splash!

Ma tha thu airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh fhaighinn mu dheidhinn Fèis Thròndairnis airson taic a thoirt don comataidh, no feumach air tuilleadh fiosrachaidh agus foirm-clàraidh airson Fèis na h-ath-bhliadhna cuiribh fios gu Oifigear Leasachaidh na sgìre, Jenna Mhoireasdan, air 01859 502 600 no le post-d jenna@feisean.org.

Fèis Thròndairnis made a welcome return, after a seven year gap, to the north end of Skye at the beginning of August and proved a hit with participants, local residents and visitors alike. Based at Staffin Primary School, the five day event had over 40 participants aged between 8 and 18.

FÈIS GHLEANN ALBAINN

With over 50 children taking part this year, the committee were delighted with another successful Fèis Ghleann Albainn.

A wide range of instruments were offered to participants from fiddle, whistle and accordion to chanter, keyboard and guitar. Fèis Ghleann Albainn also offered classes in shinty, art, drama, stage work, groupwork, sound and lighting. Once again, the final concert was entertaining and fun.



FÈIS ARAINN

Fèis Arainn took place in the last week of July and had over 65 participants from both Arran and the Scottish mainland.

As usual there were a variety of subjects on offer with Gaelic drama proving one of the most popular, hotly followed by guitar and drumming.

The family cèilidh in Whiting Bay Hall was a hit, with the dance floor full of children birling away to the excellent tutor's cèilidh band.

The theme this year was weddings with the children doing art activities making kilts and wedding dresses and the drama group acting out an untypical Highland wedding!

Everyone, including the tutors, had a great time and the fantastic weather helped to top up the tans!

FÈISEAN IN THE WESTERN ISLES SEE A RISE IN PARTICIPANT NUMBERS

Bha àireamhan nam compàirtichean anns an Fèisean air feadh nan Eilean Siar nas àirde am-bliadhna le 551 a' gabhail pàirt uile gu lèir. Shoirbhich le na Fèisean gu lèir agus fhuair compàirtichean raon farsaing de chuspairean a thaghadh aig gach Fèis le tachartasan oidhche air an tabhann airson teaghlaichean cuideachd.

Fèisean in the Western Isles were pleased to welcome a higher number of participants through their doors this summer. 551 youngsters attended Fèisean throughout the Western Isles and enjoyed a range of instrumental classes, many of which were taught in Gaelic. A variety of evening activities also took place throughout the islands for families as well as participants.

Fèis Eilean na Hearadh launched the start of the summer Fèisean celebrating their 20th Anniversary. A fantastic buffet and cèilidh was held on Friday evening to mark this milestone. Across the Sound of Harris in North Uist, an impressive line-up of tutors attended Fèis Tir an Eòrna.

In the second week of July Fèis Tir a' Mhurain and Fèis Bharraigh took place. Fèis Tir a' Mhurain was launched on Sunday afternoon with the Fèis Fun Run, a 3 mile run around the village of Stoneybridge followed by some light refreshments and entertainment. Fèis Bharraigh held a Tattie and Herring night which proved popular on the island as well as a special evening of music from the Pipes & Strings ensemble touring at that time.

The largest Fèis, Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich was held in the last week of July in the Nicolson Secondary School in Stornoway. For the fourth year running, Fèis nan Deugairean ran simultaneously with the main Fèis with thirteen young musicians taking part.



CÈILIDH AIR CHUAIRT AIG A' CHÒMHDHAIL CHEILTEACH

Bha a' Chòmhdhail Cheilteach a' tachairt anns a' Ghearasdan eadar 25 agus 29 Iuchar. Mar phàirt den tachartas seo ghabh Ceilidh air Chuairt Loch Abar pàirt ann am bùithtean-obrach a bha a' ruith san sgìre. Bha iad air an gabhail le Deirdre Ghreumach cuide ri luchd-ciùil òga à Èirinn, às a' Bhreatann Bheag, Eilean Mhanainn, Ceap Breatainn agus na h-eileanan Albannach, far an robh iad ag iomlaid dòighean cluiche. Oidhche Dhiardaoin ghabh a' Chèilidh air Chuairt pàirt ann an cuirm a chaidh a chur air dòigh airson muinntir na co-labhairt, le cuid aca a' seinn òrain Èireannach ro dheireadh na h-oidhche. Chòrd an gnothach ris a h-uile duine!

ARGYLL FÈISEAN CÈILIDH TRAIL



This year the Argyll Cèilidh Trail had a full complement of eight talented performers. They toured 14 venues over 14 days and for the first time performed in Coll, Tiree & Iona. They were invited to a recording studio to do a demo disc and have also been invited to perform at the Best of the West Festival at Inveraray Castle. A successful year altogether.

FÈIS FHOIRT - SEISEANAN SAMHRAIDH



Am bliadhna chuir Fèis Fhoirt iomairt ùr air dòigh air a bheil Seiseanan Samhraidh le sùil ri Cèilidh air Chuairt a' stèidheachadh gu foirmeil bho 2012 air adhart.

Fo stiùir Siobhan NicAnndrais, tha sia com-pàirtichean na Fèise air a bhith cluiche aig tachartasan is cèilidhean as t-samhradh timcheall sgìrean Sruighlea, Calasraid, An Eaglais Bhreac agus Pàirce Nàiseanta Loch Laomainn is nan Tròisichean.

Tha na Seiseanan Samhraidh air a bhith air leth soirbheachail 's iad a' faighinn moladh mòr bho luchd-frithealaidh nan cuirmean, nam measg ceithir buill pàrlamaid Albannach. Cluinnear muinntir nan Seiseanan Samhraidh aig Coinneamh Bhladhnaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal air Dihaoine 23mh Sultain ann an Dùn Bhlàthain.

Deagh thoiseach tòiseachaidh airson Ceilidh air Chuairt a' stèidheachadh san sgìre.

This year Fèis Fhoirt have introduced a new pilot scheme Seiseanan Samhraidh – Summer Sessions with the aim of introducing a new Cèilidh Trail in the area from 2012 onwards.

A group of five young musicians from the Fèis led by Siobhan Anderson, herself a former Fèis participant and current tutor, have been performing to great acclaim at various cèilidhs and events in Stirling, Callander, Falkirk and the Lomond and the Trossachs National Park.

SUTHERLAND FÈISEAN COME TOGETHER TO LAUNCH THE 2011 FÈIS CHATAIBH CEILIDH TRAIL

On Thursday 21st July Fèis Chataibh and Fèis a' Chaolais came together for the first time when they organised a joint Family Ceilidh in Bonar Bridge Hall to mark the opening night of the 2011 Sutherland Ceilidh Trail.

This event provided an opportunity for younger Fèis a' Chaolais participants to join in a workshop with the Ceilidh Trailer participants and perform along-side them on stage.

On the day, the Ceilidh Trailers led a two hour group-work session under the direction of experienced musician and Ceilidh Trail Co-ordinator Zoe Renouf. The workshop was a great success with both groups of participants gaining experience in working together and passing on skills.

The musical talents of all the children were appreciated by the audience at the well attended Ceilidh. The joint performance by the children and Ceilidh Trail was followed by music for dancing by the Ceilidh Trail musicians who looked and sounded very professional, and this was just the start of their tour!

This event was a great source of inspiration for older members of Fèis a' Chaolais who have formed their own Fèis band - Ulaidh Mhigein under the tutorship of Catriona Macleod and Kirsty Fowler. This group had their debut performances at Blas events in Lochinver and Ardgay, and the Invercharron Games in September.

CUIRM SHOIRBHEACHAIL AIG FÈIS CHEILTEACH INNSE GALL LE ÒIGRIDH FÈIS TIR A' MHRUAIN



Air Dimàirt 12 Iuchar, rinn ochdnar an turas à Uibhist a Deas gu Steòrnabhagh gus pàirt a ghabhail ann an cuirm-fhosglaidh Fèis Cheilteach Innse Gall. Chaidh an tachartas a chumail anns An Lanntair feasgar Diciadain le timcheall air 50 an làthair.

Chaidh Còmhlan Tir a' Mhurain a stèidheachadh anns an t-Samhain 2010 le Fèis Tir a' Mhurain agus on uair sin tha ochdnar luchd-ciùil òga air a bhith a' frithealadh nan clasaichean chòmhlain a tha air an cumail ann an Sgoil Lionacleit. A' cluiche mar phàirt den chòmhlain bha Paula NicAonghais, Màiri Innes, Siobhan NicNeacail, Sarah NicAonghais, Alasdair agus Micheal Steele, Aonghas MacAonghais agus Pàdruig Moireasdan.

B'è seo a' chiad turas a' chluich a' chòmhlain mar phàirt de dh'fhèis cho cliùiteach ri 'HebCelt'. Ged nach robh An Lanntair loma-làn, cha robh seo na bhriseadh-dùil dhan chòmhlain agus chuir iad an gnìomh cuirm a bha beòthail agus proifeiseanta. Abair gun do chòrd a' chuir ris an fheadhainn a bha an làthair. Aig deireadh na cuirme bha a h-uile duine san luchd-èisteachd air an casan ag iarraidh air a' chòmhlain òg tilleadh air ais don àrd-ùrlar airson sreath phort eile.

Nuair a bha iad saor tron t-seachdain, chosg iad ùine a' frithealadh bùthan-obrach ciùil, air an cur air dòigh leis an fhèis, a' cluich beò air Radio nan Gàidheal agus a' dèanamh ro-chlàraidhean airson Aileag agus Isles FM. Chuir iad seachad dà oidhche anns an teant ghorm ag èisteachd ri Dàimh, Seth Lakeman, Stornoway agus na Peatbog Fairies.

Bu thoil le Fèisean Tir a' Mhurain taing mhòr a thoirt dha na buidhnean a leanas airson taic a chur ris a' phròiseact: Eileanan na h-Alba, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.

SGOIL SHAMHRAIDH DHRÀMA



Chaidh oidhche thlachdmhor a chumail aig Stiùidio FÀS aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig – goireas air leth a chaidh a thairge dhuinn le MG ALBA airson crìoch a chur air an Sgoil Shamhraidh Dhràma. Tha sinn gu mòr nan comain airson na taice a thug iad dhuinn gus an oidhche a thoirt gu buill.

Airson a' chiad uair a-riamh, chaidh an oidhche a ruith ann an co-bhonn le Fèis Alba, a bha a' tachairt air a' Phloc aig an aon àm. Bha an compàirteachas seo air leth soirbheachail, agus tha sinn an dùil an aon rud a dhèanamh sna bliadhnaichean ri teachd.

Am measg an luchd-teagaisg a bha a' stiùireadh thaghadh farsaing de bhùithtean-obrach is chlasaichean bha Artair Donald, Daibhidh Walker, Catriona Lexy Chaimbeul, Ruairidh MacNeacail, Wilma NicUalraig, Fiona Nic an Aba, Frank McConnell agus Kay Smith.

“Tha sinn air leth toilichte gu bheil na h-àireamhan air fàs,” thuirt Dougie Beck, Oifigear Dràma FhG. “Tha cuid de na h-oileanaich a bh' againn am-bliadhna air tilleadh bliadhna an dèidh bliadhna, agus tha seo mar dhearbhadh an dà chuid air cho soirbheachail 's a tha an iomairt seo, agus cho feumail 's a tha i do leasachadh nan ealain Ghàidhlig am measg dhaoine òga.”

Ged nach eil am maoinachadh gu lèir dearbhte fhathast airson SSD2012, tha sinn an dùil gur ann eadar 2 agus 13 Iuchar 2012 a bhios i a' tachairt. Bidh fiosrachadh ga sgoailleadh a dh'aithghearr!



DRAMA

This year the Fèisean nan Gàidheal drama team is providing a new drama service for Gaelic Medium Primary Schools. A series of workshops will be delivered regularly throughout the year and see participating pupils receive tuition in a wide variety of drama skills through the medium of Gaelic. The project was launched in the Skye and Lochalsh area at the beginning of September with seven schools participating.

The team is also busy just now with Gaelic workshops in English-medium schools, and a host of other initiatives which are just about to kick off, including drama clubs for teenagers, more GM skills workshops, an English-medium TIE tour, a panto and workshops at Stòrlann's annual conference.

For more information on any of the projects contact either Angus Macleod or Dougie Beck at the Fèisean nan Gàidheal office in Inverness on 01463 225559.

WALKING THE CORRIEYAIRAK PASS



An dèidh làmh an uachdair fhaighinn air Beinn Nibheis ann an 2009, ghabh comataidh thachartasan Fèisean nan Gàidheal dùbhlán ùra na bu thràithe air a' mhìos seo le cuairt tionail a' coiseachd thar Bealach Choire Ghearraig, a tha ruith eadar Lagan agus Cille Chuimein – còrr is 17 mìle.

Chriochnaich iad an cuairt taobh a-staigh seachd uairean-a-thìde a' togail còrr is £1,500 airson tri carthannasan

Having climbed Ben Nevis for charity in 2009, the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Adventures Committee took on a new challenge earlier this month with a sponsored walk over the Corrieyairak Pass which runs from Laggan to Fort Augustus.

The group of twelve walkers, led by their mascot Ted, included members of Fèisean nan Gàidheal staff, their friends and family. They completed the 17 mile route in seven hours raising more than £1,500 for three good causes which have become personally significant over the last year: road safety charity Brake, Ward 33 (Clinical Neurology) at Edinburgh's Western General and Keir's fund which will directly support the family of Keir McGruer, a young Fèis participant who suffers from Pulmonary Hypertension.

Anyone who would still like to make a donation to this great fundraising effort can do so by visiting

www.justgiving.com/fng1

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