GAELIC PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Chùm Féisean nan Gàidheal Co-labhair Bhliadhnaí na buideann ann an Dùn Bhlaithain air 23 agus 24 Sultain. Bha timcheall air 60 de luchd-eagrachadh nam Féisean an làthair le riodhdairean bho bhuidhnean cultarail eile agus thug Ministear na Gàidhlig, An t-Oll Alasdair Allan BPA, seachad òraid.

Chuir An t-Oll Allan air bhog iomairt ùr sanasachd airson daoine a bhrosnachadh a thaobh na Gàidhlig, a' cleachdadh stuthan ùra air an deasachadh le Fèisean nan Gàidheal. Bidh bileagan fiosrachaidh air an sgoileadh a' mineachadh nam buannachdan an cois dà-chànanas, cothroman a tha a' Ghàidhlig ag adhrbhachadh agus dòigh airson inbhich a tharraing gu ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig.

Tha cothrom aig daoine a dhol gu www.feisean.org far an clinnean faclan agus abairtean air-loidhne a tha cuideachd rim faighinn ann an cairt ùr abairtean. Bithear a' leudachadh nam faclan agus nan abairtean san àm ri teachd. Bidh na stuthan fìoilseachaidh rim faotainn le buidhnean Gàidhlig eile a bhiós airson an sgoileadh aig na tachartasana aca fhèin.

Thuirt An t-Oll Allan: “Sheall rannsachadh bho chionn greis gum bu mhiann le daoine barrachd fhìaighinn a-mach mun Ghàidhlig agus ciamar a dh’ionnsachadh iad i. Dhaingnich an rannsachadh cuideachd beachd a phobail agus an luach a thathar a’ cur air a’ chànan agus a h-àite ann an cultar na h-Alba. Bidh an iomairt ùr seo, air a’ cur air doigh le Féisean nan Gàidheal, a’ tarainge aire dhaoine do na cothroman a th’ ann air feadh na dúthacha dhaibhsean a tha ag iarraidh Gàidhlig ionnsachadh.”

Bha iomradh cuideachd air amas an cleachdadh na Gàidhlig a leudachadh aig ire nam Féisean ionadail.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal’s Annual Conference in September was addressed by the Minister for Gaelic, Dr Alasdair Allan MSP.

Dr Allan launched Fèisean nan Gàidheal’s new Gaelic promotional campaign with leaflets being made available containing general information about Gaelic including the benefits of bilingualism, the opportunities speaking Gaelic can bring and ways in which adults can learn the language.

People can log onto www.feisean.org to hear the words and phrases in a newly produced phrase card being spoken and the bank of phrases and words will be augmented regularly.

LÀITHEAN FIOSRACHAIDH

Chaidh dà latha fiosrachaidh airson teaghlachd a chumail ann an Uibhist agus na Hearadh san t-Samhain airson cothroman ionnsachadh tromh mheadhan na Gàidhlig a neartachadh a-measg clann agus am pàranta. Bha Féisean nan Gàidheal an làthair aig gach tachartas airson seirbheisean agus cothroman ionnsachadh na buideann a chur am follais am measg phàranta agus an coid chloinne. Bha Ceiteag NicLeòid a’ riodhachadh Féisean nan Gàidheal agus Fèis Tir a’ Mhruain ann an Sgoil Baile Mhanaich air Diciadain 16mh. Chaidh Féisean nan Gàidheal a riodhachadh le Oifige Leasaachadh na Sgorann ann an Talla Coinmhearsnachd an Tairbeirt.

Chaidh diofar stàilichean fiosrachaidh agus cur-seachdan a chur air doigh le riodhdairean a’ riodhachadh mar phàirt den tachartas fhuir clann cothrom leum air caiteal mòr lán ãdhcheir, cairtean neo dealbhan Nollaig a chruithachtachd agus a’ coid aghaidhean a sheagadh le peant sonrachtuire, cur-seachdan a chaidh an lìbhreigeadh anns a’ Ghàidhlig. B’ e priomh amas an tachartas seo obair nam buidhnean a shanasachd do phàranta agus na cothroman ionnsachadh a tha rim faotainn anns na h-Eileanan an lár fhoinn leis a dhaibh.
**FÈIS ROIS PERFORM AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL**

This year’s Fèis Rois nan Deugairean took place in Ullapool from 17 – 21 October 2011. 121 teenagers took part in the event. Workshops on offer included fiddle, accordion, drama, Gaelic song, guitar, harp, piano, pipes, tune writing, song writing, sound engineering, step dance and group music making. The 13-strong tutor team included a number of former Fèis Rois participants, including Barry Reid, Lauren MacColl and Mairearad Green.

This year, the advanced group work class was led by former Fèis Rois participant, Corrina Hewat and her husband, pianist and composer, Dave Milligan. Corrina participated in the very first Fèis Rois 25 years ago in 1986.

This group had the unique opportunity to go on to perform in The Royal Albert Hall in London as part of The Schools Prom series on Tuesday 8th November.

31 traditional musicians and 2 step dancers from Fèis Rois collaborated with 7 classical musicians from across Scotland to perform 8 minutes of music arranged by Corrina Hewat and Dave Milligan. The Heads of Instrumental Tuition in Scotland (HITS) were invited to nominate their best brass and woodwind players to participate in this unique collaboration.

The Schools Prom is organised by national music education charity, Music for Youth. This charity allows young musicians across the UK the chance to perform at festivals and concerts. “Music for Youth shares many of the same values as Fèis Rois,” said Chief Executive, Fiona Dalgetty. “We are delighted to be working in partnership with them to give our young musicians the opportunity to perform in one of the most prestigious venues in the world. Our young performers were excellent ambassadors for traditional music, the Gaelic language and Highland culture.”

The Fèis Rois group was invited to perform at The Proms to highlight that Music for Youth will be bringing its entire festival series to Scotland for the first time in 2012.

**A SUCCESSFUL FÈIS NAN DEUGAIREAN**

Le 15 deugairean a’ gabhail pàirt aig toiseach an Dàmhair, bha Fèis nan Deugairean, air a raith le Fèisean Lochabair, uabhasach soirbheachail.

Chaidh a cur air doigh thairis air tri làithean ann an Àrd-sgoil Loch Abair. Bha na deugairean a’ gabhail pàirt ann an clasaichean traidiseanta Fèise – fidheall, clàrsach, bòdhran, giotàr, meur-chlàr, giotàr, feasgad agus fideag.

Chriochnach gach latha le dà uair a thide de sheasanaidh-buidhne, far an robh na compàirtichean air fad a’ tighinn cómha ris an luchd-teagaisg airson seataichean cóil a chur ri cheile airson tachartas feasgar Diluain. Bha Ingrid NicEanraig, Aonghas Binnie, Colla Dòmhnallach agus Sileas Nic na Cearraidh aon measg luchd-teagaisg ionadail an Fèise. Bha Vicky Nicilleathain, à Sgioba Ghàidhlig Fèisean nan Gàidheal, a’ teagasg lan nan deugairean deònach an ùine aca a’ criochnachadh le fliom air leth a chruthaich na deugairean fhéin.

Thug Ingrid NicEanraig, neach-teagaisg ionadail le clu eadar-nàiseanta, seachad a beadh mun Fhèis: “Tha e luachmhор fhacinn cho deideal, deònach agus easgaidh ‘s a tha na deugairean air a bhith ann a bhith ag ionnsachadh sgilean ura. Tha tàlant air leth ann an Loch Abair agus tha e uabhasach matì gu bheil na deugairean deònach an ùine aca a chur seachad aig tachartas den t-seòrsa seo.”

Chaidh an Fhèis a mhàineachadh le Bòrd na Gàidhlig – Taic Freumhan Coinhearsachd, agus chaidh taic mòr a chumail ris aig tachartas le muinntir comataidh na Fèise agus daoine a’ chumhachas airson na deugairean deònach.

A successful Fèis nan Deugairean – Teenage Fèis – run by Fèisean Lochabair was held between 8 – 10 October in Lochaber High School with 15 participants taking part in the event. Each day ended with a two-hour group session where all participants gathered along with tutors to create new sets for the final event on the Monday afternoon.

**FÈIS FARR**

Thòisich sréadh úr de bùthan-obrach aig Fèis Farr a toiseachadh air 25 An t-Samhain ann an Talla Farr, Srathnairn. This year’s Fèis Farr nan Deugairean took place in Ullapool from 17 – 21 October 2011. 121 teenagers took part in the event. Workshops on offer included fiddle, accordion, drama, Gaelic song, guitar, harp, piano, pipes, tune writing, song writing, sound engineering, step dance and group music making. The 13-strong tutor team included a number of former Fèis Rois participants, including Barry Reid, Lauren MacColl and Mairearad Green.

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**FÈIS NAN GARBH CHRIOCHAN & FÈIS ÓGRIDH NA MARA**

Gach seachdadh anach na deugairean cha dh’fhabhadh a bhith thar a donn le daoine sa choimhearsnachd. Neach-chluichd de laigh ann an t-acharachd, foilteachadh aig na gaoithe, bha na deugairean a’ gabhail pàirt aig tri làithean ann an Àrd-sgoil Lochabair air a bhith ann airson tachartas feasgar Diluain.

This year’s series of workshops began on 25th November in Farr Hall, Strathnairn. This year sees a new line-up of tutors and activities including Accordion, Chanter, Fiddle, Gaelic Song, Step Dance, Bodhran, Guitar, Whistle and Art. Further sessions will be held on 26th December, 20th January, 17th February and 16th March. All ages and abilities are warmly welcomed. For more information phone 01808 521333, or visit the Fèis Farr Facebook page.
’S iomadh oidheidse is tachartas air leth a bhà hri fhaotainn aig Blas na bladhna-sa a bhà gu math soirbheachail le barradh air 14,000 duine ga frithealadh.

Dhùinn air t-seachdadh feis a leòr dh’oinn de chás a’ bhlàthadh i mhaor. Òran a’ stiùr air do leithid Gary Innes bhon chòmhlan Mànran a bhà ab obair air Cuairt Dhíreacha de Chumhachd na Còr ãr na Còrradh – ged nach robh e a’ cluich ann a bhà dh’iobhsein – far an robh òigridh bhò na Còilldean air Chuairt a’ cluich.

Ghabh Gary chun an ard-uraidh nas fhaidhe air an oidheidh le Mànran a bhà a’ cluich cómha dhà Màn Dhùin, Cérthe thrathail air a bh’ a riachdadhadh Feis a’ Bhaile agus Feis na h-Oige.

Le taic a bharradh bho Eilean an h-Alba, bhà Fèis Blas na bladhna a’ comharradh agus a’ foilseachadh na tha sònraichte mu chuid de na làraich is sùidheachaidh eireachdail a thà huile chladaich iommallach na Gàidhealtachd. Bha an fhèis a’ comharradh ceud bhliadhna bhog robadh am bàrd Somhairle MacGillEain le Hallaig, ceòl a dhealbh leis na neach-ciùil a’ dhèan air an Cheannaire Mànran Stuard MacRath. Chaidh Hallaig, air a chur air adhart ann a bh-fhàtomh ri Urras Shomhairle, a mholaadh ann an Duaisean Clùid Traidiseanta na h-Alba.

Having got off to the best-ever opening weekend in terms of attendance and range of performances, the festival’s continued success through a packed week resulted in over 14,000 people attending events as part of Blas 2011.

Donna MacRae, Director of Blas 2011 added: “This year’s festival has been innovative, imaginative and inspiring. We have involved local suppliers and their food and drink produce at events; provided local talent with a platform to showcase their skills alongside some of the most popular traditional musicians in the world and built new relationships with organisations and 400 volunteers which has seen us stage events selling out at numerous venues from Lochaber to the top of the Cairngorms, from Wick to the waters of Loch Ness. Our opening Friday night in particular was unprecedented with four out of six shows sold out. This is all a great tribute to the artists themselves, the volunteers who have helped stage everything behind the scenes and indeed to the audiences who have continued to back Blas as a concept which delivers the high quality events across a wide range of venues involving a stellar list of performers. We are very proud of the fact that we attracted sell-out audiences. It might be difficult to top this but we are up for the challenge of surpassing what we have achieved when we deliver Blas 2012.”

This year’s Blas festival staged nearly 100 cultural events between 9 and 17 September throughout the Highlands and Islands including a comprehensive schools programme organised by Lynn Johnston of The Highland Council. Traditional music as well as Gaelic language and song are the bedrock of the festival and, for the first time, Blas also featured Gaelic organised by Lynn Johnston of The Highland Council. Traditional music as well as Gaelic throughout the Highlands and Islands including a comprehensive schools programme organised by Lynn Johnston of The Highland Council. Traditional music as well as Gaelic language and song are the bedrock of the festival and, for the first time, Blas also featured Gaelic

### ARGYLL CÉILIDH TRAILERS

The Argyll Cèilidh Trail band fresh from their appearance at Blas then had to hot foot it to Inveraray as they were performing at the Best of the West Festival at Inveraray Castle. Despite being one member short when their piper took ill, they still gave an excellent performance.

In October two of the band members were invited to perform with Fred Morrison in Caithness. Singer Kim MacDonald and piper David Provan were delighted to have been asked to be Fred’s support act and played to a full house.

Kim and fellow cèilidh trailer Ewan MacDonald also got into the last 10 finalists of Radio 2’s Young Traditional Musician of the Year. This was an excellent achievement for two of the young performers on their first time entering the competition.

### FEIS ÒIGRIDH ÌLE

Anns an Dàmhair thàinig buidheann Eireannach a’ tadhair air Ionad Chaluim Chille lie ann an Ile. Nan lùibh bha Comhairliean, Tidsearan, luchd-obraich òigridh, luchd-ghnothaich agus clèir. Bha iad air turas rannsachaidh airson faighinn a-mach ciamar a tha a’ dol don Ghàidhlig Alba ann an Ile agus am b’ urrainn dhaibh beagan bheachdan thoirt air ais gu Eèirinn a Tuath ann do dòchas gun tir leudachadh air an airreamh do luchd-labhairt Gàidhlig ann an Eòrin ann a Tuath. A group of Irish visitors came to Ionad Chaluim Chille lie in October. They consisted of Councillors, Teachers, youth workers and people and clergy. They were on a fact finding visit to discover how Scottish Gaelic was faring on Islay and whether they could import some ideas over to Northern Ireland in the hope of increasing the number of Irish speakers in the North. The two Councils involved were Dungannon & South Tyrone and Cookstown.

### CLASCAIGH CANÀIN DO CHLANN NAM BUN-SGOILTEAN

Tha Dougie air a bhith ag obair ann an bun-sgoiltean air feadh na Gàidhealtachd ’s e a’ toirt cothrom do mu 170 dl geòr aig nach el Gàidhlig beagan den chànan ionnsachadh.

Tha bun-sgoiltean Shruithteir Eireann, na Manachain, Drochail an Aonachain, Drochail Ruaidh, Chaol Loch Abar, na Comraich, Chille Chiuimein, an Naoimh Brighde agus Achar an Todhaire Uarach air a bhith air a bhà na bhà le chluichdadh airson tachartas Saigh-proseic.

Mar a thuirs Dougie, “Ged a thà thorr bhun-sgoiltean a’ teagasa Gàidhlig mar dhàna cànna air Gàidhealtachd tron sgèama GLPS agus tro domhghne eile, tha cuid mhath de sgoiltean ga fhaighinn doibh leathid a sheirbhis a thabhann. Tha sinn an dòchas, leis a’ phróiseact anns a bheil ann an sàs an-dràsta, gu bheil sinn a’ fhuair sa thòrr bha na bàraadh èile.”

Tha seachd a sheachd bùthan-obraich an líúb a’ phróiseict seo, ’s e ga mhaoineachadh le Brod na Gàidhlig. Bu mhath leinn ann a sheirbhis a leudachadh gu sgìreán elle, nam biodh maoin ann.
TRÈANADH 2012

Chan fhada gus am bò 2012 againn, agus mar a' bhaith an Fèis Rois as na seicinn trèanaidh againn sa chlaid ràthie a tha freagarrach do luchd-teagaisg agus luchd-eagrasdaidh.


Tha 3 trein ann a-nis – Ire 1 far am faigh sibh clasaichaidh Gàidhlig agus stiùireadh air mar bu choir dhùibh a bhith a' làimheachadh chlasachaidh a sheòrachadh a eadar-dhealaich. Tha a’ mhòr-chuid dha dha bhaoineachd a bhail an t-earlach air teagasc aig dha dha, agus a tha a’sùileachadh barrachd eòlais agus leòr-bhinn bo na com-pàirtichean (chan eil Ire 2 fosglaithe dha dha fo aos 18). Bhid Ire 3 fosglaithe dha dha bhainn rinne Ire 2 a mhàin far am faigh sibh clasaichaidh fa-let+a bhail le cèol Gàidhlig, agus fèin-mhesadh air ur sgilean teagaisg. Thèid Ire 3 a chrioschnadh naing n-uine fhèin le mesadh “beò” bho neach-meas a tha aithnichte agus udheamaichte ann am beachd luchd-stiùiridh a’ chùrsa.

Ged a tha na h-oileanchuid air a’ chùrsa seo gu math trang far an dà latha, chan eil sin a ciallachadh nach eil cothrom ann airson spòrs, agus bidh seisean clasaichaidh ann am gu thalamh sàisean agus eòlas a chur air a chèile.


Ma tha ceist aig duine mu na tachartasan seo, cuiribh post-d brath@feisean.org.

FÈIS ROIS GAELIC AND MUSIC RESOURCE

As part of their 25th anniversary celebrations, Fèis Rois has published a new Gaelic language and music book with two accompanying CDs.

The first half of the book aims to support music book with two accompanying CDs. Fèis Rois has published a new Gaelic language book with two accompanying CDs.

The second half of the book is a music resource. It includes a selection of more than 30 Gaelic songs and tunes that will provide a shared repertoire amongst Fèis Rois tutors and participants; 10 tunes that celebrate the people who have contributed to the success of Fèis Rois over the past 25 years. These include original compositions by Duncan MacGillivray, Norman Gillies, Mairearad Green, John Somerville, Blair Douglas, Lauren MacColl, Corrina Hewat, James Ross and Val Bryan.

There is also an accompanying CD of each of the tunes being played through slowly for those who are more comfortable learning by ear than with sheet music.

Individuals can purchase the book from Fèis Rois for £15 by visiting www.feisrois.org or contacting them on 01349 862600.

Fèis Rois is also offering other Fèis Rois the opportunity to buy some books for £10, which you can then re-sell for £15 to make some money for your Fèis.

Please contact Fiona Dalgety for more information: fiona.dalgetty@feisrois.org

Fèisean nan Gàidheal is a company limited by guarantee, recognised by the Inland Revenue as a Scottish Charity, number SC002040, and is funded by Creative Scotland, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, The Highland Council and Highlands & Islands Enterprise.

Youth Music Initiative has now become well established in Highland schools and news that it is continuing into session 2012/13 allows Fèisean nan Gàidheal tutors to work closely with schools in delivering aspects of the Curriculum for Excellence.

The Traditional programme addresses the Principles and Practice of Expressive Arts along with elements of Literacy and Health and Wellbeing.

At the Tutor Training Day in August, tutors identified major positives experienced in schools. Among them were:

- To pass on knowledge and music
- Being able to teach children something about which I am passionate
- Fun/relaxed
- Boys singing
- Variety of input
- Picking up Gaelic
- Flexible working hours
- Sense of achievement
- Cultural awareness
- Meeting individual needs

This term, Sheilah Cunningham and Elspeth Buxton have been working with Ullapool Primary School to enhance their project on ‘the Clearances’. This culminated in a spectacular performance of ‘The Battle of the Braes’ with children singing, playing a variety of instruments and exhibiting confidence in performing.

Fèis Rois had the opportunity to buy some books for £10, which you can then re-sell for £15 to make some money for your Fèis.

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