

faileas

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Newsletter • Iris 42 • An Giblean 2012 • April 2012



FÈIS SUCCESSES AT FILMG

Bha Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus na Fèisean ionadail air an deagh riochdachadh aig Oidhche Duaisean FilmG ann an Glaschu bho chionn ghoirid. Bha còrr is 350 duine an làthair aig a' Fruitmarket airson oidhche shònraichte de filmichean goirid Gàidhlig a chaidh a dhèanamh airson farpais na bliadhna seo.

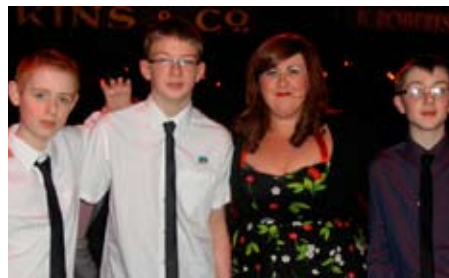
Bha com-pàirtichean na Sgoil Shamhraidh Dhràma air a' gheàrr-liosta le dà fhilm, 'Thèid no Cha Tèid' agus 'Tè eile'. Shoirbhich le Alannah Pheutan a bhuannaich duais airson sàr chleasachd 's i a' cluiche pàirt nighean òg aig a bheil beatha thoilichte chofhurtail ged nach eil sin a' maireachdainn!

Bha com-pàirtichean Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain air leth toilichte àite fhaighinn air a' gheàrr-liosta leis an fhilm aca 'Smaoinich', mu dheidhinn ath-chuartachadh agus coimhead às dèidh na h-àrainneachd, ged nach do shoirbhich leotha air an oidhche.

Tha na filmichean seo agus na filmichean eile a chaidh ainmeachadh air a' gheàrr-liosta, uile air loidhne www.filmg.co.uk

Fèisean nan Gàidheal and the Fèisean were well represented at the recent FilmG awards. The Sgoil Shamhraidh Dhràma had two of their films included in the shortlist. Alannah Beaton was awarded Best Performance in the 12-17 category.

The Fèisean were also represented by Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain in the FilmG theme award, and though they didn't win, they thoroughly enjoyed their trip and even managed to hang out with some of the stars!



NEW HIE FUNDING WELCOMED

Fèisean nan Gàidheal has welcomed further Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) funding of £480k.

In partnership with Creative Scotland, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and local authorities, HIE's investment will help the fèisean build upon the success generated over the last 30 years.

The three year funding package forms part of HIE's support for arts and cultural activity strengthening the Highlands and Islands.

Neil Ross, head of community growth at HIE, said: "Fèisean nan Gàidheal's economic benefits are enjoyed in some of our most fragile

communities and participating in the fèisean brings new skills and confidence to young people. It has made an immense contribution to the lives of many young people and has strengthened both traditional music and the Gaelic language throughout Scotland.

"As well as supporting and promoting talent and creativity its work attracts newcomers and returners to the area. We are delighted to announce a new three year funding package as part of our support for cultural activity strengthening the Highlands and Islands."

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FÈIS FHOIRT TO LAUNCH A NEW CÈILIDH TRAIL

An dèidh dhaibh maoineachadh fhaighinn bho Alba Chruthachail, bidh Fèis Fhoirt a' cur air bhog Cèilidh air Chuairt as t-samhradh le com-pàirtichean a' cluiche air feadh Siorrachd Shruighlea agus Pàirce Nàiseanta Loch Laomainn agus nan Trosaichean san Iuchar agus san Lùnastal.

Having secured a two-year funding package from Creative Scotland, Fèis Fhoirt will launch a new Cèilidh Trail this summer which will see participants performing throughout Stirling and the Lomond & Trossachs National Park during July and August. Auditions for the Trail will take place on Sunday 29th April in Stirling. Anyone interested in finding out more about the Cèilidh Trail should contact Siobhan Anderson on 07919923595 or feisfhoirt@gmail.com.

With the support of LEADER, HIE and Creative Scotland, Cèilidh Trails will also be taking place in Skye & Lochalsh, Lochaber, Sutherland, Ross-shire, Cairngorms and Argyll and auditions are taking place on various dates throughout April. For more information contact the Fèisean directly or email ceilidhtrails@fèisean.org.

FÈIS LOCHABAIR RUNS FAMILY FÈISEAN IN BALLACHULISH & FORT WILLIAM



Fèis Lochabair have been busy with their latest project - Fèis Teaghlach. As part of the project three events have taken place: one in Ballachulish Primary School on Saturday 4th February, in Upper Achintore Primary School on Saturday 25th February 2012 and in Spean Bridge Primary on 24th March 2012. The project gives families an opportunity to spend the day in a Gaelic environment and each try out different activities.

At the Upper Achintore Fèis day Maisie Dennison led the Cròileagan for pre-school children, Dougie Beck and Fiona McIntyre entertained school children with Sgioba-G; Sarah Sutherland gave taster Ùlpan classes and there were workshops in singing and step-dance. Catriona MacIntyre held a Cofaidh & Còmhradh session and Deirdre MacDonald's band, 'Sgoil Chiùil Lochabair' entertained all the participants with traditional music sets.

FÈIS ÌLE NUMBERS GROW

Fèis Ìle had their best Fèis ever this year with 65 children attending split between Ionad Chalum Cille Ìle for the older children and the MacTaggart Centre in Bowmore where the Fèis bheag took place for the younger participants.

This year the Fèis took a different approach with the children learning tunes that all had an Islay connection which they would be playing alongside a video of old Islay footage. As a result the Friday evening "picture show" was a sell out with standing room only. It was so successful that folks want to see it again and plans are now afoot to take the show round Islay.

LATHA BLASAD FÈISE AIG FÈIS NA H-ÒIGE

Chùm Fèis na h-Òige 'Latha Blasad Fèise' air leth soirbheachail aig Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis Disathairne 28 Faoilleach. Bha an latha fosgailte do theaghlachan le clann aig a bheil Gàidhlig, agus bha tachartasan ann do gach aois. Bha clann na b' òige an sàs ann an clasaichean ciùil, ealain is obair-chiùird aig an Fhèis Bheag.

Bha 15 duine-chloinne an sàs ann an taghadh farsaing de chlasaichean - fidheall, fideag, bogsa, dannsa-ceum agus meur-chlàr nam measg – agus thàinig an latha gu crìch le cèilidh far an d' fhuair na com-pàirtichean cothrom sealltainn na bha iad air ionnsachadh.

Fhad 's a bha a' chlann trang le na clasaichean aca bha cothrom aig pàrantan beagan Gàidhlig ionnsachadh agus barrachd fhaighinn a-mach mu Fèis na h-Òige fhad 's a bha iad a' coicheadh taigis, snèip 's buntàta do na com-pàirtichean gu lèir. Chòrd an latha ris a h-uile duine a bha ann agus tha an Fhèis an dùil latha eile den aon seòrsa a ruith ro dheireadh na bliadhna.

FÈIS GHALLAIBH

Bha Fèis Ghallaibh trang a' dol timcheall sgìre Ghallaibh le cuairt-chiùil airson tachartasan na Fèise a bhrosnachadh aig toiseach a' Mhàirt.

Chaidh Celia NicDhùghaill agus Ruth Wells timcheall bun-sgoiltean agus àrd-sgoiltean na sgìre le taisbeanadh goirid a bha làn de dh'òrain Ghàidhlig, ceòl traidiseanta agus geama beag spòrsail no dhà. Chòrd na taisbeanaidhean gu mòr le na sgoilearan 's iad uile gu math deònach a bhith togail fonn agus ùidh aca barrachd fhaighinn a-mach mu Fèis Ghallaibh.

Tha an Fhèis air leth trang fad na bliadhna a' cumail thachartasan gach mìos ann an Inbhir Theòrsa agus Inbhir Ùige le prògram de chlasaichean ann an seinn agus ceòl traidiseanta an cuide ri obair-buidhne, còisir agus tòrr rudan spòrsail eile.

Bha Fèis aon latha aca Disathairne 21 Giblean aig Sgoil Mount Pleasant, Inbhir Theòrsa.

Cuiribh brath gu feisghallaibh@feisean.org airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh mu fhèisean san sgìre.

FÈIS ÒIGRIDH NA MARA

Chùm Fèis Òigridh na Mara tachartas Disathairne 3 Màrt 2012 an Àrd-sgoil Mhalaig far an d' fhuair 29 com-pàirtichean à sgìre Loch Abar clasaichean ann am pìobaicheachd, feadan agus fidheall. Am measg na bha a' teagasg aig an Fhèis bha Iain MacPhàrlain (fidheall), Ailean MacEanraig (pìob mhòr & fidheall) agus Aonghas MacNeacail (pìob mhòr/feadan).

Thuit an luchd-teagaisg gum bu chòir barrachd thachartasan a chur air dòigh ann an sgìre Mhalaig agus tha comataidh Fèis Òigridh na Mara trang ag ullachadh airson an ath thachartais san sgìre. 'S math a rinn sibh uile!

Fèis Òigridh na Mara offered twenty-nine participants from all over the Lochaber area classes in piping, chanter and fiddle on 3 March. Local tutors Iain MacFarlane (fiddle), Allan Henderson (pipes & fiddle) and Angus Nicolson (pipes/chanter) taught at the Fèis and all agreed they would like to see more of this type of event taking place in the Mallaig area.

SGOIL SHAMHRAIDH DHRAMA 2012

Chan eil ach beagan ùine air fhàgail gus iarrtas a chur a-steach airson àite aig Sgoil Shamhraidh Dhràma 2012, a thèid a cumail ann am Port Rìgh eadar 2 is 13 Iuchar.

Tha an cùrsa fosgailte do dhuine sam bith le Gàidhlig aois 14 gu 18 aig a bheil ùidh ann an dràma. Le luchd-teagaisg ealanta leithid Artair Donald, Daibhidh Walker, Ruairidh MacNeacail agus Màiri Anna NicUairig an sàs, tha fhios gur e cola-deug air leth a bhios ann. 'S e 18 Cèitean an ceann-latha airson iarrtasan a chur a-steach.

There is only a short time left to apply for a place on the Gaelic Drama Summer School!

If you are aged 14 to 18, speak Gaelic and fancy a fun-filled fortnight of drama tuition from 2 to 13 July you have until 18 May to apply for a place. Forms are available from dougie@feisean.org.

COTHROMON GÀIDHLIG AIR AN LEASACHADH AIG FÈIS AN EARRAICH

Chuir Fèis an Earraich air dòigh dà iomairt ùr am-bliadhna airson piseach a thoirt air a' Ghàidhlig am measg luchd-teagaisg agus buill a' chomataidh. Chaidh an Fhèis a chumail ann an Àrd-sgoil Phort Rìgh eadar 2-6 Giblean le còrr is 150 an làthair.

A' cumail ri Poileasaidh Gàidhlig FnG thabhairn Fèis an Earraich cùrsa goirid do luchd-teagaisg agus comataidh na Fèise airson an cuid sgilean cànan a thoirt air adhart. Bha na clasaichean air an ruith aig deireadh gach latha-teagaisg.

Thuir cathraiche ùr na Fèise, Ruairidh Greumach, "Bha cothrom againn taic a chumail ri luchd-teagaisg tron t-seachdain airson a' Ghàidhlig aca a leasachadh agus an cuid misneachd a bhrosnachadh aig an aon àm. Bhitheamaid an dòchas barrachd chothroman a thabhairn san àm ri teachd leis cho soirbheachail 's a bha an iomairt seo."

Bha seachdain thrang air thoiseach air Fèis an Earraich am-bliadhna agus iad ag amas air sgeama a ruith airson ùidh agus sgilean anns na meadhanan a thogail am measg na h-òigridh, le taic bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig. Chaidh an cùrsa a libhrigeadh le Mòrag Stiùbhart agus Kayleigh Nicllinnein à Sealladh TBh. Mar phàirt dhen chùrsa Ghàidhlig fhuair com-pàirtichean eòlas ann a bhith a' cur film goirid agus prògram rèidio le chèile, a bharrachd air podcasts a chruthachadh.

A' moladh nan sgeamaichean ùra seo thuir Jenna Mhoireasdan, Oifigear Leasachaidh na sgìre: "Tha mi air leth toilichte gun do libhrig Fèis an Earraich a' phlana Ghàidhlig aca le bhith a' stèidheachadh iomairtean ùra airson inbhe na Gàidhlig a thogail aig an Fhèis. Tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal air leth toilichte taic a chumail ri fèisean air feadh na dùthcha le sgeamaichean, beag neo mòr, a chur an gnìomh airson Gàidhlig a leasachadh air prògraman nan cur-seachadan."

Fèis an Earraich offered two new courses as part of their Fèis programme to encourage Gaelic participation throughout the week. Now in its 24th year, the Fèis had over 150 participants when it took place between 2 and 6 April in Portree High School.

To encourage Fèis tutors to learn Gaelic and increase their confidence, Fèis an Earraich offered tutors daily language classes at the end of each teaching day. The classes were open to all tutors, supervisors or committee members.

It was an even busier year for Fèis an Earraich with a new media course for older participants delivered by Morag Stewart of Sealladh TV with funding from Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

5 LATHA

Chaidh tachartas ùr '5 Latha' a chumail le Fèisean nan Gàidheal anns na Gearrannan, Eilean Leòdhais, le 16 com-pàirtichean bho air feadh na dùthcha a' faighinn cothrom ionnsachadh tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig mu obraichean traidiseanta nan Gàidheal.

Am measg chur-seachadan air an libhrigeadh le muinntir na coimhearsnachd, fhuair an òigridh blasad de dh'obair chaorach is chruidh, buain mòna, iasgach agus obair a' Chlò Mhòir, a bharrachd air ceòl is òrain.

Thuir Calum Ailig Mac a' Mhaoilein, Manaidsear Leasachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal: "Bha beachd againn cothrom a thoirt do dhaoine òga a bhith mar phàirt de choimhearsnachd Ghàidhlig agus a bhith ag ionnsachadh mu na h-obraichean a bha, agus a tha fhathast, cudromach ann am beatha nan Gàidheal, a' cleachdadh na Gàidhlig fad an t-siubhail."

Thuir an t-Oll. Alasdair Allan, Ministear airson Ionnsachadh, Saidheans agus Cànan Alba: "Bha mi air leth toilichte cothrom fhaighinn a bhith mar phàirt den tachartas sònraichte seo sna h-Eileanan an Iar. Tha Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chur romhpa suidheachadh seasmhach a dhaingneachadh don Ghàidhlig sna bliadhnaichean ri teachd, agus aig a' cheart àm ag aithneachadh an àite a th' aig coimhearsnachdan Gàidhealach ann a bhith a' coileanadh seo."

"S e cothrom air leth a bh' ann an 5 Latha do luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig, 's e a' toirt cothrom do sgoilearan bho air feadh Alba sgilean traidiseanta ùra ionnsachadh 's iad a' fuireach ann an eilean a tha air a bhogadh ann an dualchas na Gàidhlig. 'S e coimhearsnachd Ghàidhlig an t-àite as fheàrr airson na sgilean ùra seo ionnsachadh, far a bheil na sgilean seo fhathast am follais san latha an-diugh."

Fhuair Fèisean nan Gàidheal taic-airgid bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig bhon Sgeama Thachartasan Còmhnaidh aca.

Thuir Leasaiche Cànan Gàidhlig aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Daibhidh Boag, "Tha am Bòrd air a bhith ag obair le diofar bhuidhnean air feadh Alba gu prògram taic ùr a chur air dòigh do dheugairean gu sònraichte, far am bi iad a' gabhail pàirt ann an tachartasan spòrsail tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. Tha e deatamach gu bheil inbhich òga misneachail agus sgileil againn, gu ar cànan a chleachdadh agus a bhrosnachadh anns na bliadhnaichean ri teachd."

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's new residential event was held at the Gearrannan Blackhouses on the Isle of Lewis from 9-14 April.

'5 Latha' (5 days) offered an exciting opportunity to high school pupils fluent in Gaelic, to learn about the traditional works that were, and still are, of great importance to Gaels such as crofting, fishing and Harris Tweed whilst also receiving cooking tuition and music and song workshops.

TWITTER APPEAL YIELDS ACCORDIONS

Fèis Ìle children had been receiving accordion lessons over the winter with accordions borrowed from Dunoon Accordion Club. However Dunoon needed their accordions back leaving the Islay children with lessons but no accordions.

The Argyll Fèis Development Officer decided to put out a "tweet" on the social network Twitter for 6 accordions. Bearing in mind Twitter only allows tweets of 140 characters or less it was going to be a tight squeeze. The tweets were hash-tagged to highlight the words "accordion" "Islay" and "tradmusic".

No one was more surprised than the Development Officer when 5 "unloved" accordions were donated within a week of the first "tweet".

The story grew arms and was covered by BBC Alba, For Argyll, Newsnet Scotland and the Oban Times and there were tweets coming in from well-wishers from as far afield as Texas, Italy and Iceland. The final elusive 6th accordion also came in.

One accordion in particular hit the headlines as it was donated by a company called Black Diamond Accordions from an island off the East coast of England called Mersea. Another was loaned by a company called Hobgoblin Music, again from England. Pentland Music from Thurso also offered 6 second-hand accordions at a mouth-watering price which were quickly scooped up.

All in all, that initial "tweet" got over 40,000 hits and yielded the accordions. The power of social networking!



DRÀMA

Tha obair a' dol air adhart ann an sgoiltean Earra Ghàidheal agus Loch Abar an-dràsta a dh'ionnsaigh cuirm mhòr a bhios a' tachairt san Òban Dimàirt 1 Cèitean. 'S e seo an siathamh turas a tha sinn air am pròiseact seo a ruith, agus am-bliadhna bidh seachd sgoiltean a' gabhail pàirt, le 11 dealbhan-cluiche gan taisbeanadh.

"Tha sinn a' faicinn adhartas mòr a thaobh dràma sna sgoiltean a tha a' gabhail pàirt," thuirt Dougie Beck, a tha a' toirt taic do sgoilearan agus tidsearan leis na dealbhan-cluiche aca. "Tha mi a' faicinn diofar mhòr bliadhna an dèidh bliadhna a thaobh sgilean dràma na cloinne, agus chanainn gu bheil a' chlann nas treasa na bha iad a-riamh a thaobh sgilean cruthachail agus cleasachd."

Tha a' mhòr-chuid de na sgoiltean a' sgrìobhadh nan dealbhan-cluiche aca fhèin am-bliadhna, agus aig an latha taisbeanaidh san Òban bidh taghadh farsaing de dhealbhan-cluiche rim faicinn, a' tarraing air cuspairean leithid cogadh, spùinneadairean, burraidheachd agus pàrtaidhean. Tha sinn air leth toilichte gu bheil grunn sgoiltean a' cur air adhart dà dhealbhan-cluich, is gu dearbha tha cuid de na cleasaichean as òige a cheart cho tàlantach ris an fheadhainn as sine.

The annual Argyll and Lochaber Drama Festival will come to a conclusion on 1 May in the Corran Halls, Oban, with 11 plays being performed by 7 primary schools. The sixth year of this project looks to be the strongest yet, with many schools choosing to write their own plays, and some schools submitting both junior & senior plays. For more info contact christine@feisean.org.

GAELIC FOLKLORE GETS A DRAMATIC BOOST



Meanbh-chuileag, Feisean nan Gàidheal's Theatre in Education company, have been busy travelling around 46 Scottish schools showcasing Gaelic folklore in the form of the play MacCodrum nan Ròn or MacCodrum of the Seals.

In partnership with Stòrlann Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig, the five week tour was launched in February in front of pupils from Meadowburn Primary, Bishopbriggs and special guest Dr Alasdair Allan, Scottish Government Minister for Learning, Science and Scotland's Languages.

The play is based on an ancient tale common along many of the shorelines of Europe and which ties in with the story of the same name in Stòrlann's 'Mar a chuala mise e', a collection of traditional stories from Scotland and Ireland. The play was performed by Meanbh-chuileag with actors David Walker, Debbie Mackay and Sean Macleod. Schools were also offered a drama workshop, where they discussed the topics raised in the play and in groups had the opportunity to devise and perform their own alternative ending to the tale.

Stòrlann and Feisean nan Gàidheal will also be working together in the dramatisation of several other stories from the book and the production of a drama resource pack for schools supporting Gaelic-medium education.

Donald John MacRitchie, Stòrlann's Head of Projects said: "The publication project 'Mar a chuala mise e' has brought agencies together across two nations to work collaboratively on it. This fantastic children's resource will greatly benefit schools across Scotland and Ireland both culturally and socially."

Meanbh-chuileag's work also receive support from Bòrd na Gàidhlig, HIE, The Highland Council and Creative Scotland. For more information about Meanbh-chuileag contact the Feisean nan Gàidheal office in Inverness on 01463 225559 and ask for Dougie or Angus. For information about the 'Mar a chuala mise e' project contact Stòrlann on 01851 200880.

FÈIS TRÈANAIDH

Annas a' chiad trì mìosan de 2012, tha iomadh rud air a bhith tachairt a thaobh trèanaidh. Bha clasaichean Gàidhlig do luchd-tòiseachaidh a' ruith do luchd-teagaisg nam feisean. Air 25/26 Gearran, thàinig daoine còmhla a-rithist airson Trèanadh Luchd-teagaisg aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig agus air 10/11 Màrt bha Fèis Trèanaidh 2012 ann do luchd-eagrachaidh ann an Inbhir Nis.

In the first three months of 2012, there has been lots of activity going on in the training department. During Celtic Connections, Feisean nan Gàidheal ran beginners' Gaelic classes for fèis tutors where 8 tutors received a taste of Gaelic from Seonag Anderson. A similar class was held in Inverness a couple of weeks later, where a further 8 received an introduction to Gaelic.

The annual tutor training session took place at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig on 25/26 February guided by Andy Thorburn and Valerie Bryan - two busy but enjoyable days for everybody. Tutors attended from Uist, Glasgow, Easter Ross, Achiltibuie and Newcastle (among other places) on the three different levels. Three tutors took the first part of their Level 3 qualification this year, with one tutor completing Level 3 (Part 2 - observed class/classes). Hugh Marwick is the first tutor to achieve this level and Feisean nan Gàidheal would like to congratulate him on his success.

Two weeks later, and Fèis Trèanaidh 2012 took place in Inverness, offering training in different topics to fèis organisers. Over 40 attended over the two days, taking workshops in subjects as varied as Recording and Podcasting, and Manual Handling.

If Feisean have any training needs they should contact Iona MacDonald, our Training & Policy Officer at the address below - or email iona@feisean.org

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