

faileas

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Newsletter • Iris 51 • An t-Ògmhios 2014 • June 2014

BLAS 2014 LAUNCHED



Thèid clach-mhìle eachdraidheil a chomharrachadh am-bliadhna le deich bliadhna bhon a thòisich Fèis Bhlas. Thèid tachartasan a chumail ann an 100 àite air feadh na Gàidhealtachd agus an Earra-Ghàidheal eadar 5 agus 13 Sultain.

Chuir Ministear Ionnsachaidh, Saidheans agus Cànan na h-Alba Alasdair Allan, BPA, meala-naidheachd air an fhèis. Thuirt esan: "Gach bliadhna, tha Blas a' tairgse prògram le beairteas ealain a tha a' taisbeanadh saibhreas cultarail na sgìre. Tha an fhèis a' cruinneachadh raon farsaing de luchd-ealain agus a' sineadh a-mach gu àireamhan luchd-amhairc is èisteachd a tha sìor dhol am meud, le Gàidhlig san teismheadhain. Tha mi an dòchas gun soirbhich le fèis na bliadhna seo agus gum faigh àireamhan mòra dhaoine toileachas aiste, an lùib Bliadhna an Tilleadh Dhachaigh."

Blas 2014 marks a significant milestone with the 10th anniversary festival reaching 100 venues in the Highlands and Argyll between 5 & 13 September. Blas will be the first of a number of national and international events as part of Highland Homecoming, supported by EventScotland.

There will be a new commission by fiddler Iain MacFarlane, and a stellar collection of musicians will be appearing across the area including Dàimh, The Mischa MacPherson Trio, MÀNran, The Red Hot Chilli Pipers, Marloch, Dougie Maclean as well as Gaelic singers such as Christine Primrose, James Graham, Gillie Mackenzie, Alasdair Whyte and Linda MacLeod. Contemporary Gaelic songs will feature through Dòl Eoin Mackinnon and Macanta. Shinty's cultural associations will be explored, as will the work of Gaelic writers past and present. International visitors include Cape Breton fiddler, Howie MacDonald and Cherish the Ladies. The festival finale will be Ceòl nam Fèis, a concert highlighting the success of the Fèis movement in engaging young people with the traditional arts - a hallmark of Blas since its inception.

The Highland Council has continued its support of Blas. Councillor Maxine Smith, Vice Convener said: "This year's Blas festival programme, in the Year of Homecoming, is exciting, engaging, and educational as it showcases Gaelic and traditional music in venues across the Highlands and Argyll. The festival allows residents and visitors to access the very best of traditional music in communities across the Highlands from Portree to Portmahomack and from Torridon to Taynuilt."

Over ten years, Blas has promoted 410 events involving 3,102 performers and has attracted an audience of 88,448. 11 new commissions and 24 hours of content for BBC Alba have been created. The festival has had an audience satisfaction rating of 91.2% over that time and has contributed £4.4m to the Highland economy.

Another of the festival's main supporters is Creative Scotland whose Director of Communications, Kenneth Fowler, said: "Having grown in scale and influence over ten years to become a pivotal event on Scotland's cultural calendar, Blas is a fantastic celebration of music and the performing arts. This year's programme is truly inspiring and I wish the festival every success."

The Blas 2014 full programme is available at www.blas-festival.com.

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COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Bidh cuid den òigridh a bhios an sàs anns na Cèilidhean air Chuairt a' dèanamh air Glaschu mar phàirt de Phrògram Cultarail Geamaichean a' Cho-fhlaitheis.



Gabhaidh iad pàirt ann an cuirm ann am meadhan baile Ghlaschu air latha far am bi cultar na Gàidhlig air a chomharrachadh ann an grunn thachartasan.

On 28 July young people from various Fèisean will take part in the Commonwealth Games Festival as part of a showcase in the 'Living Room' at the Glasgow Green Live Zone. The audience will run into thousands and several of the Cèilidh Trail groups will appear with special guest, Gaelic singer Linda MacLeod, herself a former Fèis participant.

A new song, *Càirdeas*, has been commissioned by Fèisean nan Gàidheal from renowned Skye musician, Blair Douglas. It has a Commonwealth theme and will be performed at the event which will be supported by Glasgow Life and Fèisean nan Gàidheal.

FÈIS CHATAIBH A' COMHARRACHADH 25 BLIADHNA



Tha Fèis Chataibh air bhioran bhon a thèid an còigeamh fèis thar fhichead aca a chumail san luchar ann an Goillspidh.

Eadar 7 – 11 den luchar thèid Àrd-sgoil Ghoillspidh a lionadh le compàirtichean òga a' faighinn oideachadh sna h-ealain thraidiseanta bho chuid dhen luchd-ciùil, seinneadairean is luchd-ealain a b' fhèarr an Alba.

Agus gus a' bhliadhna chudromach seo a chomharrachadh thèid cuirm-ciùil shònraichte a chumail Diciadain 9mh den luchar ann an Àrd-sgoil Ghoillspidh is bidh fàilte chridheil ron choimhearsnachd air fad.

Fèis Chataibh is eagerly anticipating a milestone 25th annual traditional arts festival in Golspie this July.

From 7 – 11th July Golspie High School will fill with young participants eager to learn from some of Scotland's leading traditional musicians, singers and artists. Classes on offer at the five day event include fiddle, pipes and chanter, accordion, guitar, mandolin, Gaelic singing, tin whistle, clarsach, keyboard, percussion, drama, art and storytelling.

To mark the twenty-fifth summer week organisers are planning a special birthday concert on Wednesday 9th July in Golspie High School to which the whole community is warmly invited.

Fèis Chataibh first began in 1990, aiming to provide local young people aged 8 to 18 with the opportunity to learn about traditional Highland music, language and culture. As well as the annual five-day summer event the Fèis today runs a variety of traditional music and art events throughout the year including workshop days, a groupwork music weekend and a hugely successful Cèilidh Trail summer tour for young musicians aged 16-25.

You can find out more and book a place at the Fèis by contacting Debbie Celli on 07731 761 982 / feischataibh@yahoo.co.uk or by visiting www.feisean.org.

FÈIS MHOIREIBH



Fèis Mhoireibh celebrated another sunny Fèis weekend in Elgin with over 75 participants attending its annual Maytime Fèis event.

A top quality team of tutors led the jam-packed weekend for children and, in a new departure, a separate and well-attended senior Fèis for S1-6 pupils offered advanced instrumental tuition in the morning with group music-making workshops in the afternoon.

Fèis Mhoireibh is now turning its attention to its continuing class programme of chanter, clarsach and tin whistle lessons: you can find out more by contacting Steph Christie on 01343 842223 / feis_mhoireibh@yahoo.co.uk or by visiting www.feismhoireibh.co.uk.

FÈIS LOCHABAIR

'S e seachdain mhiorbhaileach a bh' aig Fèis Lochabair am bliadhna. Bha tòrr chlasaichean a' ruith tron t-seachdain bho meur-clàr gu iomain gu clarsach. Bha cothrom aig an fheadhainn as sine, a bha trang ag ullachadh son an cuid dheuchainnean, pàirt a ghabhail ann an seiseanan feasgair far an d' rinn iad obair buidhne. Chaidh agallamhan a chumail cuideachd airson Cèilidh air Chuairt agus bha ochdnar soirbheachail a tha a-nise deiseil is deònach a dhol mun cuairt sgìre Lochabair as t-samhradh. Gur a math a thèid leotha.

FÈIS INNIS AN UILLT

Fèis Innis an Uillt took place over three different Saturdays in May. Each morning was set aside for the usual Fèis classes, including fiddle and stepdance, and the afternoon was dedicated to circus skills! Lots of fun was had making shapes out of balloons and balancing spinning plates among other circus tricks.



FÈIS GHÀIDHLIG GHLASCHU

Bha tòrr a' dol aig Fèis Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu a-rithist am bliadhna; Zumba, iomain, dràma is fideag nam measg. Thàining barrachd na 100 daoine don fhèis shònraichte seo agus abair gun do chòrd i ris a h-uile duine a ghabh pàirt. Tha Fèis Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu mothachail air an ìre de thàlant a th' aig na compàirtichean agus tha iad airson an fhèis fhèin a leasachadh gus clasaichean a ruith tron bhliadhna. Thèid na clasaichean seo a chumail tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig agus bidh iad fosgailte do dhuine sam bith aig a bheil ùidh ann an ceòl traidiseanta. Bidh clasaichean rim faotainn ann am bogsa-ciùil, seinn, a' phìob is drummaichean, meur-clàr is giotàr. Airson nochdadh gu bheil ùidh agaibh ann, nach cuir sibh post-dealain gu vicky@feisean.org. 'S e fìor dheagh chothrom a tha seo a bhith ag ionnsachadh ionnstramaid le tidsearan sònraichte anns a' chànan agaibh pèin.

FÈIS TAIGH DHONNCHÀIDH



Chaidh Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh (do chlànn bho aois 8-18) agus Fèis Nis (do chlànn bho clas 1 gu clas 3) a chumail bhon 7mh latha chun 11mh latha den Ghiblean am bliadhna ann an Nis an Eilean Leòdhais. An seo fhuair clann cothrom iomadh diofar ionnstramaid ionnsachadh bho luchd-teagasg cliùiteach leithid bogsa-ciùil, melodeon, giotàr is fidheall. Chaidh oideachadh a thabhainn cuideachd ann an seinn Gàidhlig, dràma, dannsa Gàidhealach agus ealain. Bha 24 an làthair eadar an dà Fhèis agus dh'obraich iad trang fad na seachdain ag ionnsachadh sgìlean ùra agus a' tighinn còmhla gus fuinn a chluich, agus dh'ionnsaich a h-uile duine òran ùr, Càirdeas. Chruthaich a' chlann bratach ùr airson Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh anns a' chlas ealain. Dh'ionnsaich a h-uile duine port a sgrìobh Jane Hepburn agus Alasdair Macilleathain a bha a' teagasg aig an Fhèis agus thàinig na h-ionnstramaidean còmhla gus seo a dhèanamh. Chaidh consairt a chumail aig deireadh na seachdain far an robh a' chlann air beulaibh am pàrantan a' taisbeanadh na bha iad air ionnsachadh aig an Fhèis, agus mar as àbhaist bha còmhlan melodeon Nis an làthair gus cluich airson dannsa no dhà.

CÒIG LATHA AIR LETH SOIRBHEACHAIL



Abair gun robh seachdain dhòigheil, spòrsail againn a-rithist am bliadhna aig 5 Latha 2014. Eadar an 7-12 chruinnich 20 duine òg airson son pàirt a ghabhail san tachartas, a' fuireach anns na taighean-dubha sna Gearrannan ann an Carlabhagh, Eilean Leòdhais.

Rè na seachdain fhuair na compàirtichean cothrom pàirt a ghabhail ann an grunn chur-seachadan is ghnìomhan tràidiseanta. Thòisich sinn Dimàirt le bhith a' cur seachad latha còmhla ri Dòmhnall MacSuain air a lot shuas ann an Nis. Chuidich a' bhuidheann Dòmhnall le na cearcan, na caoraich agus thog iad raon ùr dha airson tunnagan a bha gu bhith a' ruighinn Nis air an ath-sheachdain.

Dh'ionnsaich a' chlann mu bhìadh traidiseanta agus fhuair iad fhèin cothrom aran, duff agus ceann cropaig a dhèanamh. Ged a chòrd an t-aran 's an duff riutha cha robh cuid buileach cho cinnteach mun cheann cropaig!

A bharrachd air a bhith a' dol am measg na coimhearsnachd agus ionnsachadh mu na h-obraichean traidiseanta fhuair na compàirtichean teagasg ciùil bho Norrie MacIomhair agus Ailean MacEanraig. Chòrd seo riutha gu mòr agus chuir iad ceithir òrain agus trì seataichean ciùil còmhla gu math sgiobalta.

Air oidhche Dhiardaoin, chùm sinn cèilidh teaghlach anns An t-Seann Sgoil ann an Siabost far an do nochd mu trì-fichead duine bhon a' choimhearsnachd. 'S e cèilidh sònraichte a bha seo le taisbeanaidh ciùil is seinn air leth bho na compàirtichean. Tha sinn gu mòr an comain màthraichean na sgìre a chuir air dòigh fìor dheagh bhèicearachd airson na h-oidhche.

This year's 5 Latha event took place between 7-12 April at the Gearrannan Blackhouse in Carloway, Isle of Lewis. Participants had the opportunity to take part in a range of traditional activities from crofting and fishing to cooking some traditional recipes including the delicacy Ceann Cropaig. Only a handful of participants managed to sample this treat!

We are now looking forward to 5 Latha 2015 which will be held between 6-11 April.

FÈISGOIL: LOCH ABAR IS AN CEANN A TUATH



Eadar am Faoilleach agus toiseach a' Ghiblein chuir sinn seachad deich seachdairean a' teagasg Gàidhlig ann an seachd sgoiltean deug ann an Gallaibh, Dùthaich MhicAoidh agus Loch Abar.

Thug seo cothrom do chòrr is sia ceud sgoilear air a' Ghàidhealtachd beagan Gàidhlig ionnsachadh tro chur-seachadan, geamaichean is òrain, air an cruthachadh le Fèisean nan Gàidheal. Bha na leasan spòrsail is tarraingeach, ach aig an aon àm, glè fheumail a thaobh cànan. Chaidh na clasaichean a libhrigeadh le Anna Mhàrtainn, Anna Stiùbhart is Catriona NicLeòid, agus is cinnteach gun robh buaidh aig na comasan ciùil aca air na clasaichean anns an robh iad an sàs!

Between January and April over 600 pupils in Lochaber, Sutherland and Caithness received tuition in Gaelic through our Fèisgoil initiative, with tutors delivering Fèisean nan Gàidheal-conceived workshops in 16 schools over 10 weeks. Feedback was excellent, with pupils and teachers indicating they would like more!

We were delighted to attend the Highland Council Area Committee meeting in Lochaber, where Dougie Beck gave a presentation on the work carried out and councillors had the chance to chat to pupils from Upper Achintore Primary school about how much they enjoyed the sessions.

The pupils were given certificates in recognition of the effort they had put in to learn Gaelic. We were pleased to hear that the Council, who generously supported the project, is keen to keep going with Fèisgoil in the area.

CÈILIDH TRAILS 2014

Bidh seachd buidhnean Cèilidh air Chuairt a' gabhail ris an rathad mhòr as t-samhardh agus a' cluich thall 's a bhos air feadh na Gàidhealtachd, Earra-Ghàidheal agus sgìre Sruighlea agus na Tròisichean ann am barrachd is 200 tachartas. Abair dòigh saor-làithean an t-samhraidh a chur seachad agus airgead a chosnadh aig an aon àm!

The highly successful Fèis Cèilidh Trails will be taking to the road during the summer months offering locals and visitors an opportunity to sample Highland culture in the shape of performances of traditional music by great young musicians. In all they will be appearing at more than 200 events across the Highlands, Argyll and the Stirling & Trossachs areas.

Some of them will be appearing at a Commonwealth Games Cultural Programme event at Glasgow Green in the afternoon of 28 July where they could play to up to 12,000 people in an hour-long showcase of Fèis musicians with guest Gaelic singer, Linda Macleod. That evening a special concert has also been organised by Fèis Fhoirt in collaboration with the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park featuring some of the Cèilidh Trail groups along with very special guests Breabach, several members of which are themselves former Fèis participants.

Details of all Cèilidh Trail events are available at www.feisean.org/ceilidh. Catch them if you can!

Fèis Fhoirt
www.feisean.org

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THÈATARAN ÒIGRIDH GÀIDHLIG A' CUR PEANN RI PÀIPEAR



Tha compàirtichean ann an thèataran òigridh Gàidhlig à Acadamaidh Rìoghail Bhaile Dhubhthaich agus Acadamaidh Inbhir Pheofharain a' dol a dh'fhaighinn buannachd à sreath de bhùthan-obrach air sgrìobhadh dhealbhan-cluiche leis an sgrìobhadair Ghàidhlig Catriona Lexy Chaimbeul. Tha seo mar phàirt de CRUTHACHAIL - iomairt eadar Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus Eden Court gus thèatar òigridh Gàidhlig a leasachadh. Ag obair a dh'ionnsaigh taisbeanadh a thèid a chumail air Diciadain 10 Sultain ann an Thèatar One Touch aig Eden Court, bheir an sreath leantainneach de bhùthan-obrach cothrom do sgoilearan àrd-sgoile le Gàidhlig sgilean dràma 's thèatar Gàidhlig ùr a leasachadh.

Fosgailte do sgoilear àrd-sgoile sam bith a tha fileanta ann an Gàidhlig, tha na thèataran òigridh seo a' coinneachadh gach feasgar Dimàirt aig Ionad Coimhearsnachd Bhaile Dhubhthaich (TRACC) eadar 1540 agus 1700 agus gach feasgar Diciadain eadar 1600 agus 1715 aig Acadamaidh Inbhir Pheofharain.

Bheir Aonghas MacLeòid à Fèisean nan Gàidheal oideachadh gu cunbhalach gach seachdain, agus e a' co-òrdanachadh a' phròiseict. Faodaidh sibh fios a chur thuige air 01463225559 no air post-d angus@feisean.org

Tha Eden Court agus Fèisean nan Gàidheal glè thaingeil airson an taic-airgid a fhuaras à Maoin an Lionra Dràma Ghàidhlig aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

QUESTIONS, SPORT & WAR

Scotland's three major markers of 2014 are set to play a big part in Fèisean nan Gàidheal's drama output this year, with the Referendum, the Commonwealth Games and the First World War Commemorations all inspiring our material.

Two plays will be on the road after the summer: a Gaelic two-person play will visit secondary schools to give pupils a few pointers on how to separate the wheat from the chaff when it comes to making their decision on 18 September, and a one-person play, which will tour both English and Gaelic-medium primary schools, will look at the life of a young soldier from Garve who went to France in 1914.

Dougie Beck helped Banavie Primary School in Fort William prepare a drama piece for Mòd Ionadail Loch Abar – a funny play about Lochaber's entry for the Commonwealth Games. Although not a Gaelic-medium school, Banavie's pupils took second place out of three in the competition, which was won by Roinn-sgoile Ghàidhlig a' Ghearasdain with a play put together with FnG assistance as part of the Argyll and Lochaber Dràma Fèis.

FUARAN - GAELIC SONG COLLECTING

Ma tha ùidh agaibh ann an seann òrain, agus thu eadar 16 agus 24, tha Fuaran – pròiseact cruinneachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal – a' sireadh barrachd dhaoine a bhiodh deònach a dhol a-mach agus òrain ionadail a thogail. Tha daoine ann fhathast aig a bheil òrain nach deach a chlàradh agus tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal a' trèanadh, a' cuideachadh agus a' brosnachadh luchd-cruinneachaidh òg gus an obair seo a dhèanamh.

Tha a' chiad sgioba ag obair gu cruaidh air na clàraidhean aca agus tha sinn deiseil airson an dàrna bliadhna a thèanadh.

Ged nach eil pàigheadh ann, gheibhear cuideachadh le cosgaisean, agus gheibhear sgilean feumail fad-beatha às an obair.

Mas aithne dhuibh daoine aig a bheil seann òrain, tionndaidhean de dh'òrain ainmeil, no òrain eile a b' fhiach a thogail, leigibh fios do Iona NicDhòmhnaill - iona@feisean.org no 01478 614001. Ma tha ùidh agaibh ann a bhith a' cruinneachadh òran dhuinn, leigibh fios do Iona.

FÀILTE AIR CARA COBURN



Is mise Cara agus 's ann à Inbhir Pheofharain a tha mi. Tha mi dìreach air crìoch a chur air ceum aig Oilthigh Obar-Dheathain far an do rinn mi MA Gaelic Studies thairis air ceithir bliadhna. Tha mi gu math fortanach greis-gnìomhachais fhaighinn còmhla ri Fèisean nan Gàidheal tro sgeama Comunn na Gàidhlig fad an t-samhraidh oir fhuair mi fhìn cothromon ann an dràma bho FnG nuair a bha mi na b' òige. Tha e gu bhith gu math inntinneach fhaicinn dè tha dol air adhart air cùl ghnothaichean!

Tha mi air a bhith ag obair air iomadh diofar rud on a thòisich mi. Sa chiad dol a-mach dh'obraich mi còmhla ri Sgioba G aig Fèis Mhoireibh thairis air an deireadh-sheachdain far an robh sinn a' teagasg àireamhan agus abairtean Gàidhlig tro dhràma agus chòrd sin rium gu mòr.

A bharrachd air sin tha mi air obrachadh air na tweets airson Blas eadar-theangachadh gus dèanamh cinnteach gun robh am fiosrachadh a bha air an làrach-lìn againn ùr. Cuideachd, dh'fheuch mi ri sgioblachadh a dhèanamh air stuth FnG! Tha mi a' coimhead air adhart ri na seachdainean a tha romham is na tha mi gu bhith an sàs ann fad an t-samhraidh.

My name is Cara and I'm from Dingwall. I have just finished my degree at Aberdeen University where I studied MA Gaelic Studies over four years. I have been given the opportunity to work with Fèisean nan Gàidheal over the summer through Comunn na Gàidhlig's placement scheme and it is going to be very interesting to see what work goes on behind the scenes of the many events managed by FnG.

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