

faileas

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Newsletter • Iris 52 • An t-Sultain 2014 • September 2014

CEÒL NAM FÈIS ENDS BLAS



Thàinig an deicheadh Fèis Blas gu crìoch le consart *Cèol nam Fèis*, cruinneachadh den chuid a fheàrr de dh'òigridh Fèisean na h-Alba. B' ann an Eden Court a chaidh an consart seo a chumail le còrr is 100 don fheadhainn as tàlantaiche a' nochdadh air an stèidse cliùiteach agus gu dearbha 's iad a bha airidh air a' mholadh a fhuair iad bhon luchd-èisteachd.

Thug an consart seo gu ceann sreath de chuirmean air feadh na Gàidhealtachd a' comharrachadh deich bliadhna den fhèis chiùil Ghàidhlig as motha a th' ann. Bha mu 45 prìomh thachartasan san fhèis bho Thaigh na Bruaich ann an Earra-Ghàidheal gu ceann a tuath na dùthcha le suas ri 300 luchd-ciùil a' gabhail pàirt.

Am measg nan cuirmean air an deach luaidh a dhèanamh, bha an coimisean ùr *Miorbhail nam Beann* le Iain MacPhàrlain, seinneadairean agus luchd-ciùil Cherish the Ladies, Mànràn, Macanta, Hò-rò, Dougie MacIlleathain agus cèilidh co-cheangailte ri iomain, *Glòir nan Caman*.

Ghabh bharrachd Fèisean pàirt ann am Blas am-bliadhna, a' cur thachartasan air dòigh, agus tron òigridh a bha a' nochdadh air an àrd-ùrlar anns na sgìrean aca fhèin còmhla ris an luchd-ciùil proifeiseanta às fheàrr a th' againn.

Uile gu lèir, shoirbhich gu math leis an fhèis agus thathas a-nis a' coimhead air an ath dheichead agus mar a ghabhas cùisean a neartachadh agus 's dòcha, a leudachadh.

The 10th Blas Festival came to an end with an outstanding *Cèol nam Fèis* concert in Eden court on Saturday 13 September. Over 100 participants from the Fèisean across Scotland performed to a fantastic reception from a very appreciative audience.

This concert marked the end of the biggest Gaelic and Traditional Music festival which featured 45 main events across Argyll and the Highlands, with over 300 musicians appearing on stages in village halls, schools, theatre and even a barn! Many more events were organised as part of the Schools and Communities Programme in collaboration with High Life Highland, Live Music Now, Music in Hospitals and An Comunn Gàidhealach.

Among this year's highlights were Cherish the Ladies, Dougie Maclean, Macanta, Mànràn, Hò-rò and a shinty-inspired show, *Glòir nan Caman*. This year's commission *Miorbhail nam Beann*, delivered in partnership with Scottish Natural Heritage, was written by Iain MacFarlane with five performances during the festival.

A number of Fèisean took a more active role in organising and promoting events at a local level as well as their young musicians performing in their local communities alongside some of our leading traditional musicians.



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HIGHLAND YOUTH ARTS HUB ESTABLISHED

Tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal am measg dusan buidheann ealain stèidhichte air a' Ghàidhealtachd a shoirbhich le taic luach £400,000 fhaighinn bho Alba Chruthachail agus 'Hub' Ealain na h-Òigridh a stèidheachadh air a' Ghàidhealtachd.

Tha Fèis Rois a' stiùireadh a' phròiseict seo, agus tòisichidh obair tràth san Dàmhair.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal is one of 12 Highland-based arts organisations that bid successfully for £400k over two years from Creative Scotland to establish a Highland Youth Arts Hub.

The project is being led by Fèis Rois and a Project Manager has recently been appointed to look after the day-to-day work of the Hub and to ensure the participation of the partners.

It is expected that activity related to the Hub will begin early in October and that it will promote collaborative working within the 12 organisations involved.

FÈIS BHARRAIGH NAN DEUGAIREAN



Bha a' ghrian a' deàrrsadh ann am Barraigh air an 23mh agus an 24mh den Lùnastal nuair a thàinig 20 deugaire còmhla airson dà latha làn fealla-dhà. Thòisich cùisean le bàll-coise 'bubble', far nach d' fhuair iad mòran tadhail leis gun robh iad a' ruith a dh'ionnsaigh a chèile agus a' tuiteam air an làr! Fhuair iad roghainn eadar a dhol a-mach air turas iasgaich no seòladh-clàir feasgar. Thàinig na h-iasgairean dhachaigh le basgaidean làn èisg agus thill an fheadhainn a bha air bhàrr nan tonn gu math sgèth! Chaidh geamannan a chluich air an tràigh fhad 's a bha iad a' feitheamh ri biadh bhon a' bharbecue.

An ath latha chaidh clasaichean obair-buidhne agus còcaireachd a chumail agus chaidh scavenger hunt a chur air dòigh airson gach buidheann. Aig deireadh an fheasgair chaidh bucaidean làn de dh'uisge fuar a lionadh 's chaidh an dòrtadh air cinn nam compàirtichean agus nan luchd-teagaisg gus airgead a thogail airson carthannais – abair gun robh e fuar! Thàinig cùisean gu ceann le seisean ciùil an taigh-seinnse Bhàgh a' Chaisteil. Taing do Bhòrd na Gàidhlig airson maoinachadh.

Barra's Teen Fèis took place at the end of August with a whole host of fun activities through the medium of Gaelic including bubble football, windsurfing, a fishing trip, a cookery class, a scavenger hunt and a BBQ on Tangasdale beach. The participants and supervisors undertook the ice bucket challenge to raise money for charity and a music session was held in the Castlebay Bar to bring the Fèis to a close. Fèis Bharraigh would like to thank Bòrd na Gàidhlig for funding the two-day event.

Feis Bharraigh's main Feis took place during the summer with over 120 children coming together from 7-11 July for a week full of music tuition and fun. On the Monday, pipers, dancers and participants gave a warm welcome to the Queen's Commonwealth Baton Relay - and Clyde!



FÈIS EILEAN NA HEARADH

Eadar 1mh agus 5mh An t-luchar bha clann na Hearadh air an cumail trang. Bha 80 an làthair aig Fèis Eilean na Hearadh ann an Sgoil Sir E Scott agus seachdain shoirbheachail aca le sàr-oidheachadh ann an iomadh ionnsramaid ga thabhanh a bharrachd air seinn, iomain agus a' cruthachadh a' Chlò Hearaich. Bha a' ghrian a' deàrrsadh bhon chiad latha agus fhuair a' chlann a-mach airson iomain a chluich air tràigh Sheileboist meadhan na seachdain. Airson an fheadhainn a bha beagan na bu shine, chaidh clas sònraichte a ruith far an d' fhuair iad timcheall air na clasaichean eile gus dealbhan a thogail fo stiùir John Maher, a b' àbhaist a bhith na dhru maire sa chòmhlan ainmeil The Buzzcocks.

Chaidh cèilidh luchd-teagaisg a chumail oidhche Chiadain ann an Tigh mo Sheanair far an d' fhuair muinntir na coimhearsnachd cothrom dannsa no dhà a dhèanamh agus bha cothrom aig an fheadhainn a bha a' stiùireadh na cloinne a bhith air an àrd-ùrlar.



FÈIS THRÒNDAIRNIS

Chaidh Fèis Thròndairnis a chumail le 55 an làthair airson seachdain làn ciùil is fealla-dhà. Fhuair a' chlann eòlas air obair ann an còmhlan, le dreach eadar-dhealaichte agus ùr air gach fonn. Bha pailteas dheugairean a' frithealadh na Fèise agus bha sin uabhasach brosnachail don luchd-eagrachaidh. Bha ceòl agus dannsa gu leòr a' dol tron t-seachdain, chan ann a-mhàin am measg na cloinne ach air na h-oidhcheannan cuideachd, le dà chèilidh air an cumail sa bhàthaich aig 4 Floideagarraidh. Ann an suidheachadh cho neo-fhoirmeil bha cothroman gu leòr aig an luchd-teagaisg an cuid sgilean a shealltainn, agus bha e follaiseach gun robh sin a' còrdadh riuthasan agus ris a h-uile duine a nochd aig na cèilidhean.

FEIS NAN GARBH CHRÌOCHAN

Abair seachdain thrang a-rithist aig Fèis nan Garbh Chrìochan anns an luchar! Le consairtean, cèilidhean is fealla-dhà gu leòr bha iad uile trang fad na seachdain. Bha spòrs aca ag ionnsachadh an òrain ùir, *Càirdeas* agus fo stiùir Dèirdre Ghreumach, bha iad dha-rìribh a' togail fonn còmhla!

What a busy week was had at Fèis nan Garbh Chrìochan in July. The time was filled with concerts, cèilidhs and much fun and games and the week went past in a flash. They had a good time learning the new song, *Càirdeas*, and under Deirdre Graham's instruction were belting it out together. Same time next year?!

FÈIS LANNRAIG A TUATH

Chaidh an fhèis seo a chumail san Lùnastal ann an Àrd-sgoil Greenfaulds agus chòrd i ris a h-uile duine a ghabh pàirt. A bharrachd air ceòl bha 'inflatable obstacle course' aca agus bha sin air leth spòrsail. Bha a h-uile duine a' farpais tron t-seachdain a' feuchainn ri bhith cho luath 's a b' urrainn dhaibh! Chrìochnaich an fhèis le cèilidh mòr agus 's e deagh chothrom a bh'ann an cuid sgilean a thaisbeanadh air beulaibh phàrantan is caraidean.

Fèis Lannraig a Tuath was held in August in Cumbernauld and it was enjoyed by all. This year there was much excitement as they had set up an inflatable assault course in the gym hall which provided a good laugh! All week the participants (and tutors!) were competing to be the fastest through the course. The Fèis ended with a big concert which was a great opportunity for parents and friends to see the talent and new skills of the Fèis participants.

FÈIS GHLEANN ALBAINN

Fèis Ghleann Albainn was held in July and the sun shone down all week. Classes were offered in shinty, singing, art and accordion to name but a few and there really was something for everyone.

Iain Ross was there to deliver the Gaelic class and by the end of the week he had arranged everyone into a massed choir singing the port à beul, Tha mi dol a dhèanamh banais.

We wonder if he has bigger plans for them at this year's National Mòd!

PISEACH AIR FÈIS EILEAN AN FHRAOICH



Eadar 21mh agus 25mh An t-Iuchar chuir muinntir Leòdhais fàilte air Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich, a chaidh a cumail ann am Bun-sgoil Steòrnabhaigh. Bha sìde mhath ann fad na seachdain agus chaidh cuid de na clasaichean a chumail a-muigh, a thug gu leòr spionnadh dhan chloinn! Le Fèis nan Deugairean ga tabhann fo stiùir dìthis iomraiteach, Andrew Yearley agus Catriona Watt, bha ceòl tarraingeach ri chluinntinn bho na compàirtichean a bha ag obair còmhla mar bhuidheann.

Thadhail Ministear na Gàidhlig, Alasdair Allan BPA air an Fhèis Diluain agus anns an Lanntair oidhche Chiadain, ghabh an luchd-teagaisg ris air an àrd-ùrlar airson oidhche làn ciùil agus dannsa. Bha pìos dràma ann cuideachd sgrìobhte leis an dìthis a bha a' teagasg a' chuspair.

Rinn a' chlann a' chùis air an luchd-teagaisg - a-rithist! - sa ghèama ball-coise a bhios an Fhèis a' cumail gach bliadhna. Chaidh dà chèilidh a chumail Dihaoine - aonan feasgar agus aonan air an oidhche - airson sgaradh a dhèanamh eadar cuspairean agus airson cùisean a dhèanamh nas fhasa do phàrantan. Bha toradh na h-obrach tron t-seachdain follaiseach dhan a h-uile duine a bha an làthair.

FÈIS FHOIRT ON A ROLL WITH MORE EVENTS



Fèis Fhoirt has been going from strength to strength with lots happening over the past few months.

2014 saw the third Cèilidh Trail for Fèis Fhoirt which once again went very well. After a great week at Fèis Alba in Plockton, the five young musicians performed 25 gigs over 17 days throughout July. They also performed with other Cèilidh Trails from across the country; Fèis Spè at Loch Morlich, Fèis Latharna in Arrochar and the National Cèilidh Trail in Kippen. The Cèilidh Trail came to a spectacular end at Lomond Shores in Balloch with the Fèis Spè, Fèis Latharna and Fèis Lochabair groups all performing alongside Breabach in a special event organised in collaboration with Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park. The group have been busy recording a CD of the material they put together on the Cèilidh Trail which will be available in October.

There has been no let-up with the Fèis bi-annual weekend event taking place in Camelon Education Centre, Falkirk on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd September. There were some fantastic tutors and numbers have been growing, with over 100 participants at their weekend event in March. This was the first time that more advanced participants could do purely group work for the duration of the weekend, while there was still a range of classes for beginners and intermediate participants.

The events continue with the turn of the parents in October at the third Adult Fèis in Callander. The weekend event on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th October will offer a range of classes across the two days. There will also be sessions, a concert and a cèilidh on the Saturday evening.

Fèis Fhoirt continues to run Saturday morning classes at the Tolbooth, Stirling, with over 60 children attending every week to learn a range of instruments. There is also a new Gaelic after-school club taking place at Riverside Primary School in Stirling. This allows children to learn some basic traditional music on whistle or fiddle, as well as learning Gaelic songs and language.

To find out more about Fèis Fhoirt and their forthcoming events, go to their website feisfoirt.org.uk



FÈIS EIGE BACK IN BUSINESS

After a wee break Fèis Eige is back in business and what a Fèis was had in July!

The Fèis was held over three days and there was a good mix of music, sport and fun. Camille Dressler was in charge of the art classes and the most beautiful fairy costumes were made over the three days. Shinty proved a popular activity with even the tutors getting involved in a game. Now the focus is on next year's Fèis and everyone is looking forward to it already.

OCTOBER FÈISEAN

The October school holidays are fast approaching which can only mean one thing: Fèisean.

Fèis Spè and Fèis a' Bhaile are gearing up for their main events in Aviemore and Inverness and this year they have a few new tricks up their sleeves.

Fèis Spè in Aviemore kicks off on Monday 13th October with three separate events in store for Strathspey. Fèis Bheag will provide Gaelic games, songs and music taster sessions for children in P1 to P3. Catering for P4-7 pupils the Junior Fèis offers workshops in a range of traditional instruments as well as step-dance, singing, drama and games sessions. Meanwhile, a newly tailored Senior Fèis will offer S1-6 pupils advanced instrument tuition with song and groupwork sessions and the added opportunity to explore sound technology.

Fèis Spè will also be running a busy fringe programme including a tutor concert, cèilidh, participant concert and taster classes for parents. Full information and online booking are available at www.feisspe.org.uk or ring Caroline 07989 907 213.

The following week, from 20th to 24th October, sees Fèis a' Bhaile's annual Fèis return to Millburn Academy in Inverness with a wide variety of traditional instrument tuition on offer. Button accordion classes will be available for the first time following on from the successful weekly classes run by the Fèis. In addition to instrumental workshops, the Fèis will also offer step-dancing, Gaelic song, Gaelic-medium drama, groupwork, art and shinty. Full information booking forms available at www.fèisean.org or contact feisabhaile@fèisean.org or 01463 225559.

As well as those Fèisean, Fèis Òigridh na Mara will be taking place in Mallaig on Saturday 4 October with classes in various instruments, song etc. The Fèis works closely with the local festival Feis na Mara which is taking place over the same weekend. Further information from Eilidh Shaw on 01687 460311.

Fèis Rois nan Deugairean aimed at teenagers from S1-S6, takes place in Ullapool from 20 - 24 October. This is a residential week offering a wide variety of classes and workshops. Check out the website www.feisrois.org for more information and to register online or call 01349 862600.

CEÒL IS CO-IOMLAID AIG FÈIS SPÈ



'S ann san Dàmhair a chumar prìomh sheachdain Fèis Spè ach tha an Fhèis an sàs ann an iomadach tachartas is pròiseact eile tron bhliadhna gu h-àraid tron t-samhraidh leithid Cèilidhean air Chuairt agus Còmhlan Cèilidh na h-Òigridh a bha trang a' cluich air feadh Pàirc Nàiseanta a' Mhionaidh Ruaidh.

Bha pròiseact sònraichte aig Fèis Spè is iad an sàs ann an iomlaid chultarach eadar Alba is Èirinn còmhla ri dà bhuidheann ciùil a bhuineas do Dhùn nan Gall. Chaidh am pròiseact a stèidheachadh le taic bho Colmille agus leis gun robh Fèis Spè ann an Èirinn an-uiridh, thriall muinntir Dùn nan Gall a dh'Alba am-bliadhna.

Chuir an Fhèis fàilte air na h-aoghean aca tràth as t-samhradh is aighear air a h-uile duine a bhith togail air na ceanglaichean ciùil, cànanais càirdeis a chaidh a chur air bhonn an-uiridh. Bha iad còmhla fad seachdain is iad ri bùthan-obrach, seiseanan, cur-seachadan spòrsail agus taisbeanaidhean ciùil timcheall air an Aghaidh Mhòir. Chùm iad cuirm-ciùil sònraichte aig deireadh na seachdain ann an Coit a' Ghartain a' taisbeanadh an cuid ciùil is seinn.

This Summer Fèis Spè was involved in an Irish cultural exchange with two music schools from Donegal. This exchange was set up last year with help from Colmille, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Foras na Gaeilge with Fèis Spè spending a very successful week in Donegal in 2013. This year it was the turn of Ceol na Coille and the Inishowen Traditional Music Project to visit Scotland with a group representing both organisations heading for Aviemore.

The Fèis welcomed their guests early in the summer and all were delighted to meet again and build on the musical and linguistic links established last year. They spent a week together playing music in workshops, sessions and performances around Aviemore, culminating in a special concert in Boat of Garten at the end of the trip.

The Fèis bid farewell to their Irish guests but the friendship does not end there: one Junior Cèilidh Band member travelled to Letterkenny to attend Ceol na Coille's summer week and all involved are keen to continue to nurture their connection further in future.

FÈIS TÌR A' MHURAIN

Chaidh Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain a chumail ann an Sgoil an Iochdair an Uibhist a Deas eadar 14mh agus 18mh den Iuchar le 101 an làthair. Bha iomadh diofar ionnsramaid ri ionnsachadh aig an Fhèis, nam measg Bogsa-ciùil, Clàrsach, Drumaichean, Feadan, Fideall agus Fideag. A bharrachd orrasan, bha seinn Gàidhlig, ealain, dràma, iomain, dannsa Gàidhealach agus sgilean mheadhanan air an tabhainn do chuid, leis a h-uile càil ga theagasg tro mheadhanan na Gàidhlig. Mar as àbhaist aig toiseach na seachdain, chaidh Rèis na Fèise a chumail far an d' fhuair daoine de gach aois cothrom pàirt a ghabhail, a' ruith tro bhaile Staoinebrig.

Chaidh cèilidh luchd-teagaisg a chumail am meadhan na seachdain far an robh cuireadh ron a h-uile duine a thighinn còmhla airson oidhche làn fealla-dhà, seinn agus dannsa, agus gu dearbh fhèin, cha b' e ruith ach leum! Aig cèilidh deireadh na seachdain chaidh tàlant an ùr na cloinne a thaisbeanadh agus libhrig iad fhèin a' chùis air fad!



FÈIS GHALLAIBH

Chaidh dà latha de chur-seachadan cruthachail a chumail le Fèis Ghallaibh air 13 is 14 Lùnastal. Chaidh bùitthean-obrach ealan, dràma, cruthachadh chumaidhean le balùnaichean agus sgilean siorcais a thoirt seachad leis a' chleasaiche-siorcais thàlantach Ariel Killick. Bha 25 an làthair thairis air an dà latha agus abair gun do chòrd cùisean riutha, ag ionnsachadh sgilean ùra. Le Gàidhlig aig cridhe ghnothaichean fhuair iad an cothrom faclan is abairtean ùra ionnsachadh cuideachd. Deagh dhòigh airson deireadh làithean-saora an t-samhraidh a chomharrachadh. Bidh Fèis Ghallaibh a' cumail a' dol fad a' gheamhraidh le na clasaichean mìosail aca.

Fèis Ghallaibh recently held two exciting days of creative workshops with leading circus artist Ariel Killick. 25 youngsters attended workshops in circus skills, art, balloon art and drama, learning Gaelic in all of these activities. Fèis Ghallaibh will continue with their programme of monthly classes through the winter.

FÈIS AN RUBHA

A' toirt Fèisean nan Eilean Siar gu crìoch aig deireadh an t-samhraidh, bha còrr is 40 a' gabhail pàirt ann am Fèis an Rubha. Fhuair a' chlann as òige cothrom a dhol timcheall nan clasaichean ciùil gus blas fhaighinn de gach ionnsramaid gus am biodh fios aca dè bhios romhpa anns na bliadhnaichean a tha ri thighinn.

Chaidh Fèis Dheugairean a ruith a-rithist fo stiùir Chaluim Mhàrtainn agus thòisich an dithis a bha na lùib ag obair sa bhad gus òrain ùra a sgrìobhadh. Thàinig iad còmhla ris an luchd-teagaisg gus dreach annasach a chur air Càirdeas anns an robh pàirt aig gach duine. Thòisich muinntir an dràma air dealbh-chluich tràth san t-seachdain agus cha bheag na cleasaichean a bha nam measg aig a' chèilidh Dihaoine! Bha cèilidh air leth ann agus bha a' chlann a' faighneachd mu dheidhinn Fèis an Rubha 2015 mus do dh'fhàg iad an togalach!

FÈIS TÌR AN EÒRNA @25!

Air a' chiad seachdain de shaor-làithean na sgoile, chaidh Fèis Tìr an Eòrna a chumail ann an sgoil Phaibil ann an Uibhist a Tuath, a' comharrachadh 25 bliadhna.

Bha 88 an làthair gus sgilean ciùil ùra ionnsachadh air iomadh diofar ionnsramaid, dràma, seinn agus iomain. Fo stiùir luchd-teagaisg a bha beòthail agus dìcheallach, chaidh òrain agus fuinn ùra a thogail gu luath agus bha ceòl ri chluinntinn tro thrannsaichean na sgoile fad na seachdain. Chaidh clasaichean ann an ealain agus beòthachadh a thabhainn cuideachd, far am biodh na tòraidhean air an sealltainn aig cèilidh na cloinne Dihaoine.

Chaidh cèilidh soirbheachail dha-rìreabha chumail oidhche Chiadain far an deach tàlant an luchd-teagaisg a thaisbeanadh air beulaibh na coimhearsnachd, a' toirt cothrom dhaibh beagan fealla-dhà a bhith aca. Thàinig cùisean gu crìoch Dihaoine leis a' chèilidh, far an do sheall a' chlann dhan h-uile duine na bha iad air ionnsachadh aig an Fhèis.

Bha cuirm sònraichte aca Disathairne ann am marquee Shollais agus thàinig compàirtichean, luchd-teagaisg a bha air a bhith aig Fèis Tìr an Eòrna roimhe agus daoine a bha an sàs sa chomataidh còmhla gus cèilidh a chumail, a' comharrachadh na clach-mhìle shònraichte seo. Le ceòl bhon luchd-teagaisg bha dannsa gu leòr a' dol agus bha oidhche air leth aig a h-uile duine.

FÈIS CHATAIBH @ 25!



Tha Fèis Chataibh air seachdain oideachaidh sna h-ealain thraidiseanta a chumail do dh'òigridh bho chaidh a stèidheachadh ann an Goillspidh ann an 1990. Bha e mar thoileachas dhaibh an còigeamh fèis thar fhichead aca a chomharrachadh am-bliadhna.

Air a' chiad seachdain de na saor-làithean chaidh Àrd-sgoil Ghoillspidh a lìonadh le còrr is 80 òganach a fhuair oideachadh bho chuid dhen luchd-ciùil, luchd-ealain agus na seinneadairean a b' fhèarr ann an Alba. Bha a h-uile coltas ann gun do chòrd an t-seachdain riutha glan is òran na fèise, Càirdeas, a rinn Blàr Dùbhghlas a' còrdadh glan ris na compàirtichean, a' clàradh bhideo dheth le drumaireachd bodhaig is cànan balbhanachd na chois.

A bharrachd air na tachartasan làitheil seo chaidh cèilidh mòr a chumail gus a' bhliadhna chudromach seo a chomharrachadh a tharraing barrachd air 100 neach, tòrr dhiubh a bha air cur ris an fhèis thar nam bliadhnaichean.

A' dèanamh chùisean na bu thrainge buileach, bha Cèilidh air Chuairt Fèis Chataibh trang air feadh sgìre Chataibh is Ghallaibh is turas air leth soirbheachail aca. Bha sianar luchd-ciùil thàlantach anns a' chòmhlán am-bliadhna.

An dèidh samhradh gu math trang, tha aire na fèise a-nis a' tionndadh ri sreath de bhùthan-obrach sa gheamradh agus as t-earrach a' tòiseachadh Disathairne 8mh den t-Samhain ann an Àrd-sgoil Ghoillspidh.

Fèis Chataibh has run a Summer traditional music and arts' tuition week in Golspie since 1990 and this year was delighted to celebrate, with its Uist counterpart Fèis Tìr an Eòrna, a milestone 25th Fèis.

During the first week of the Summer school holidays, Golspie High School filled with over 80 young participants eager to learn from some of Scotland's leading traditional musicians, singers and artists. A big hit this year was the Fèis song 'Càirdeas' composed by Blair Douglas and the young people produced a lively video complete with body percussion and sign language: you can see the video on the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Facebook page.

In addition to the daytime activities on offer, Fèis Chataibh organisers held a special anniversary cèilidh on the Wednesday evening which attracted over 100 people, many of whom had been involved in the Fèis in the past. Fèis Chataibh secretary Debbie Celli said:

"We're delighted to have reached this milestone and we'd like to thank everyone who has been involved over the years for all their hard work. We're really pleased with our 25th main Fèis and are looking forward to the next 25 years!"

As well as the annual Summer week, Fèis Chataibh also ran a successful Cèilidh Trail tour over July and August, sending a group of six talented young musicians out on tour across Sutherland and Caithness. The group was also in demand into September with invitations to play at both the Culloden Homecoming and the Camanachd Cup Final before finishing off their summer with a performance at the finale concert of the tenth annual Blas festival in Eden Court in Inverness.

After a busy Summer Fèis Chataibh are now planning a series of winter and spring workshops beginning on Saturday 8th November in Golspie High School. For more information or to register your interest please contact Debbie Celli on 07731761982 / feischataibh@yahoo.co.uk or visit www.feisean.org



COINNEAMH BHLIADHNAIL & CO-LABHAIRT 2014

Thèid Coinneamh Bhlìadhnaile Fèisean nan Gàidheal a chumail Dihaoine 26 Sultain aig 6.30f ann an Taigh-òsta Golf View, Inbhir Narainn. Bidh Dinnear agus Cèilidh as dèidh làimhe san Taigh-òsta, le ceòl bho òigridh Fèis Inbhir Narainn.

Thèid Co-labhairt na buidhne air adhart Disathairne 27 Sultain. Bidh Ailean Caimbeul, Neach-gairm Comataidh Ionadail Mòd Inbhir Nis 2014, air aoi gheachd againn.

Bidh fiosrachadh gu leòr aig luchd-eagrachaidh nam Fèisean ri fhaotainn agus cothrom ann beachdan a thoirt seachad mun àm ri teachd do Fèisean nan Gàidheal.



Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Annual General Meeting will take place at 6.30pm on Friday 26 September, in the Golf View Hotel, Nairn.

The AGM will be followed by a Dinner and Cèilidh with music from Fèis Inbhir Narainn and others.

The organisation's Conference will take place on Saturday 27 September. Allan Campbell, Convener of the Local Organising Committee Inverness Mod 2014, will be our special guest on Saturday.

There will be lots of practical information to pass on to Fèis organisers and an opportunity to shape Fèisean nan Gàidheal's future plans.

The programme may be downloaded from the organisation's website <http://www.feisean.org/downloads/AGM2014Programme.pdf>



SAMHRADH LÀN DE CHEÒL IS CLEASACHD!



Abair samhradh trang a bh' againn eadar Fèisean, Sgoil Shamhraidh Dràma agus na Cèilidhean air Chuairt a' gabhail àite rè na làithean-saora.

Chaidh 15 Fèisean a chumail air feadh na dùthcha as t-samhradh, a' tabhainn roghainn farsaing de chothroman ionnsachaidh do dhaoine òga anns na h-ealain Ghàidhlig thraidiseanta. Bha e air leth tlachdmhor a bhith cluinntinn na bha na compàirtichean air ionnsachadh, nam measg bha tòrr aca air *Càirdeas*, a sgrìobh Blàr Dubhghlas, a thaghadh mar òran na Fèise.

Thàinig 16 cleasaichean òga le Gàidhlig còmhla ann am Port Rìgh airson pàirt a ghabhail anns an t-seachdamh Sgoil Shamhraidh Dràma eadar 7 agus 18 An t-Iuchar. Ag obair fo stiùir Dhaibhidh Walker, Ruaraidh MhicNeacail, Eilidh Daniels, Aonghais MhicLeòid agus Dougie Beck, dh'obraich na rionnagan òga seo air measgachadh de chuspairean a thaobh sgilean dràma, leasachadh sgrìobht agus a' cruthachadh fiolmaichean goirid. Mar chomharra air ceud bliadhna bho thòisich an Cogadh Mòr, 's e 'Cogadh' a chaidh a thaghadh mar chuspair na bliadhna. Chaidh dealbh-chluich a chur ri chèile leis an òigridh agus chaidh a thaisbeanadh air an oidhche mu dheireadh aig Àros ann am Port Rìgh. Bha an ire chleasachd cho math sa chaidh fhaicinn aig Sgoil Shamhraidh Dràma, agus bha e follaiseach gu robh na compàirtichean air mòran ionnsachadh air a' chola-deug a bh' aca còmhla.

B' e seo an samhradh bu thrainge a bh' aig na Cèilidhean air Chuairt le còrr is 200 tachartas air feadh na dùthcha. Uile gu lèir, bha barrachd air 50 duine òga an sàs ann an 7 cuairtean a chuir Fèis Fhoirt, Fèis an Earraich (Ceilear), Fèis Chataibh, Fèis Spè, Fèis Latharna, Fèis Rois agus Fèisean Lochabair ri chèile. A bharrachd air sin, chaidh dà chuairt Nàiseanta a chur air dòigh le Fèis Rois a shuibhail air feadh na dùthcha. Mus deach iad air an rathad, fhuair na diofar chuairtean trèanadh aig Fèis Alba anns a' Phloc eadar 7mh agus 18mh An t-Iuchar. An uairsin bha iad a' gabhail pàirt ann an diofar sheòrsachan chonsairtean, chèilidhean is thachartasan san Iuchar agus san Lùnastal.

Fhuair Fèis Spè, Fèis Lochabair agus Fèis Latharna cothrom a chluich aig Fèis Geamaichean a' Cho-fhlaitheis air Lèanag Ghlaschu Diluain 28mh An t-Iuchar. Chluich iad airson uair-a-thìde air latha cho brèagha 's a bh' againn air an t-samhradh agus 's iad a chòrd ris na bha an làthair air an fheasgar ud. Na b' fhaide air an latha sin chaidh cuirm sònraichte a chumail aig Uisgeachan Saoghal na Mara air bruaich Loch Laomainn far an do nochd buidheann Fèis Fhoirt còmhla ris an t-sàr chòmhlann Breabach. Chaidh na taisbeanaidhean mu dheireadh de na Cèilidhean air Chuairt a dhèanamh aig Blas 2014 le cuid dhiubh a' nochdadh sna sgìrean aca fhèin, aig Cuairt Dheireannach Cupa na Camanachd agus aig a' chuirm shònraichte *Ceòl nam Fèis* air an oidhche mu dheireadh den Fhèis.

Samhradh trang, dòigheil a dh'fhuiricheas nar cuimhne. A-nis a' coimhead air adhart ri fèisean foghair, clasaichean geamhraidh agus planaichean na h-ath-bhliadhna.

We've had a busy summer with Fèisean, the Drama Summer School and the Cèilidh Trails taking place through July and August.

15 Fèisean held their main events during the summer school holidays and a great time was had by youngsters across the country trying new musical instrument, learning new tunes and singing Gaelic songs including *Càirdeas* written by Blair Douglas especially for this Commonwealth year.

The seventh Drama Summer School was held in Portree in July with 16 participants taking part. The youngsters undertook a range of workshops to develop their skills. During the fortnight they developed a newly-written play based on the Great War, chosen as this year's theme to mark its centenary.

In the busiest summer to date, over 50 youngsters took part in 7 Cèilidh Trails performing at over 200 events across the country. Highlights for this year included a fantastic set from Fèis Lochabair, Fèis Spè and Fèis Latharna on Glasgow Green as part of the Commonwealth Games Festival on 28th July. Later that day, Fèis Fhoirt and the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park hosted a concert at Lomond Shores with the excellent Breabach.

The summer came to a climax for the groups with performances at various Blas concerts, the Camanachd Cup Final and alongside Fèisean groups at *Ceòl nam Fèis*, this year's festival finale.

What next? Autumn Fèisean, winter classes and of course plans for next summer!

CUAIRT NAM BÀRD 2014

Chuir Alba fàilte chridheil air Cuairt nam Bàrd a-rithist, mar phàirt de Blas. Chum iad oidhcheannan ann an Glaschu, san Òban, Eilean Iarmain agus Inbhir Nis, agus fhuair na bàird Èireannach taic bho luchd-ealain ionadail anns gach àite.

B' e Dairena Ní Chinnéide agus Simon Ó Faoláin a bha a' riochdachadh bàrdachd na Gaeilge, le luchd-ciùil Tony Mac Ruairí agus Megan Nic Ruairí.

Chaidh Iona NicDhòmhnaill agus Cailean MacIlleathain còmhla riutha air an turas, a fhuair taic-airgid bho Cholmille. Thathas a lorg compàirtiche Èireannach gus an iomlaid a chumail a' dol.

Cuairt nam Bàrd, the long-running arts exchange tour between Gaelic Scotland and Ireland took place in September, having established its place as a part of the Blas festival over the last few years. The tour visited Glasgow, Oban, Isle Ornsay and Inverness, and hosted the Irish poets Dairena Ní Chinneide and Simon Ó Faoláin, with Irish musical father and daughter Tony Mac Ruairí and Megan Nic Ruairí.

The tour was accompanied by Iona MacDonald and Cailean Maclean, and included local bards and musicians at each venue. The tour is supported in Scotland by Colmille and organised by Fèisean nan Gàidheal, and efforts are being made to find a new Irish partner to host the trip, following the withdrawal of Cómhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge's funding.

It transpired that the Mac Ruairí family had an emotional connection with Argyll, having lost a close relative in the building of the Cruachan Power Station. The group stopped there for a short while on their way through to Oban on the Tuesday, to pay their respects and consider both the human achievement and the loss of human life involved in the Cruachan project. As a memorial, Tony and Megan performed *Amhrán Hiúdaí Phaidáí Eamoinn* - a lament for their relative - during the evening, which the Oban audience found very moving.



Simon, Dairena, Megan agus Tony a' fàgail Inbhir Nis an dèidh Cuairt nam Bàrd 2014

YOUTH MUSIC INITIATIVE (TRADITIONAL) IN SCHOOLS

Fèisean nan Gàidheal are delighted that the YMI in schools continues into the school session 2014-15. Tutors have developed skills in the delivery of the initiative and now play an important part in supporting schools in achieving targets within the Expressive Arts area of the Curriculum for Excellence.

Health & Wellbeing and Literacy outcomes are also included as pupils become

- Successful learners
- Confident individuals
- Responsible citizens
- Effective contributors

as required in the Curriculum for Excellence.

An important role for the tutors is to engage with the pupils in 'active learning' and so the annual gathering of tutors held in August allowed sharing of good practice in this area. Much fun prevailed as tutors became penguins, made strange noises and generally behaved like motivated pupils!

Included here are some pictures and quotes from some of the schools involved in last year's YMI programme:



"The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They are much more confident singing aloud. It also encouraged them to look more closely at their own surroundings and the history of Scots songs. The children are now showcasing their skills to others in the community."



"Bha an tidsear ciùil dìreach sgoinneil! Thug i air gach sgoilear a bhith gabhail pàirt gu dòigheil agus gu soirbheachail."

"Another wonderful session with YMI. Children really enjoyed Ruairidh's guitar playing and saw that you can play all different styles of music especially traditional music when you play an instrument. The boys were especially impressed with the amps and guitar sounds."



"Lovely mix of songs and dancing and good links made with our social studies themes."

"All sessions were well-organised, Camilla built up a fantastic rapport with the pupils and fully engaged them in learning."



"Chòrd gach seachdain ris na sgoilearan gu mòr."



COTHROM AIG NEACH OG TRO AISEAG



A Skye youngster recently had the opportunity to be involved in *Aiseag* (The Ferryboat), a dynamic new transatlantic composition which is at the heart of the cultural celebrations for Glasgow 2014. The project was masterminded by Mary Ann Kennedy and brought together the cream of traditional and classical musicians from Nova Scotia and Scotland.

Mary Ann was looking for a young, north Skye voice to read some of Aonghas MacNeacail's poetry and with support from Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Christina MacDonald from Staffin, a participant in her local Fèis, was chosen to take part in performances in London, Glasgow, Inverness and Skye.

Aiseag is a 15-minute work inspired by the network of small ferries that ply the west coast of Scotland and Nova Scotia. A score for choir, strings and traditional soloists, was created, setting poems by Aonghas, and incorporating realworld soundscapes.

MÒD INBHIR NIS

Eadar 10mh agus 18mh An Dàmhair, bidh baile Inbhir Nis a' cur fàilte air a' Mhòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail. Tha Comataidh Deasachaidh Ionadail an tachartais ag obair gu cruaidh a' dèanamh deiseil airson a' Mhòid agus tha iad fhathast a' lorg taic bhon t-sluagh. Bidh mòran cho-fharpaisean agus thachartasan ann fad na seachdain agus, mar sin, bidh cothroman gu leòr ann do dhaoine a bhios dèonach obair a dhèanamh dhaibh gu saor-thoileach. Ma tha ùidh aig duine san obair, chuireadh a' chomataidh fàilte oirbh.

Next month, Inverness will welcome hundreds of competitors and visitors to the Royal National Mod 2014.

Plans are well underway and the Local Organising Committee is working hard to ensure everyone will enjoy a great event. The committee is currently looking for volunteer support to help with various tasks throughout the week. If you have a couple of hours to spare and you are interested in finding out more about the volunteering opportunities available during the week visit www.modinbhirnis2014.com or email mod2014volunteers@hotmail.com

PAH! CHAN EIL ANN ACH POILEATAIGS!



Tha Dougie Beck is Artair Donald air a bhith air an rathad le dealbh-chluich is bùth-obrach a tha air cothrom a thoirt do dheugairean rannsachadh a dhèanamh air mar a b' fheàrr a nì iad sgàradh eadar firinn is faoineas 's iad ag èisteachd ri luchd-poileataigs is a' leughadh mu na poileasaidhean aca.

Air a sgrìobhadh le Dougie, is air a leasachadh le taic bho Artair, chaidh *Do Roghainn Fhèin* a thoirt timcheall grunn àrd-sgoiltean ann an Glaschu, air a' Ghàidhealtachd is ann an Earra-Ghàidheal. Èibhinn, spòrsail ach aig an aon àm làn fiosrachaidh is phuingeann feumail, tha e coltach gun do chòrd na seiseanan riuthasan a bha an sàs.

Mar a thuirt Dougie: "Chaidh an dealbh-chluich is a' bhùth-obrach seo a chur ri chèile gu faiceallach airson dèanamh cinnteach nach biomaid a' toirt seachad ar beachd pearsanta fhìn a thaobh an Reifrinn. 'S ann mu dheidhinn poileataigs anns an fharsaingeachd agus mar a nithear co-dhùnadh sam bith a bha na seiseanan seo, agus a bharrachd air facal no dhà aig toiseach an deilbh-chluiche, cha tuirt sinn dad idir mun Reifreann fhèin."

Tha Dougie an dòchas an dealbh-chluich a chleachdadh a-rithist: "Tha sinn an dùil *Do Roghainn Fhèin* a thairgse do sgoiltean a-rithist; bhiodh e freagarrach is cuideachail do chloinn aig ceann-shuas na bun-sgoile cho math ri sgoilearan àrd-sgoile a tha a' coimhead air saoranachd mar chuspair-sgoile."

Bha tòrr spòrs aig na balaich fhèin leis an dealbh-chluich. A-rèir Dougie, 's e an sgeids a chruthaich iad mu agallamh telebhisein ainmeil a b' fheàrr a chòrd ris: "Dh'ath-chruthaich sinn an t-agallamh ainmeil a chaidh a chumail eadar Jeremy Paxman agus Micheal Howard ann an 1997, agus abair gun robh spòrs againn le siud! Bha an sgeids seo eadar-dhealaichte agus a' sìor fhàs na b' fhaide gach trup a rinn sinn i!"

Dougie and Artair Donald have been on the road with a play and workshop looking at politics in general and how you can separate the wheat from the chaff in order to effectively make decisions in many different situations. Using mock television interviews, dodgy salesmen and fat-cat business executives, *Do Roghainn Fhèin* (It's up to you) was taken round several secondaries in Highland, Argyll and Glasgow.

According to Dougie, the play will be rolled out again: "Since we pretty much didn't mention the Referendum in the play, and instead looked at decision-making in the widest sense, we will be offering the play to schools again at a later date as something which could be useful to pupils looking at citizenship."

AN T-ALLTAN

Following on from highly successful workshops last year, Dougie Beck will be leading puppetry and drama sessions at this year's Alltan Beag and Alltan – Stòrlann's national conference. This will be held on 30 September and 1 and 2 October. Say hello if you see him!

GAELIC YOUTH THEATRE

Chaidh 'Fèis Dràma Dheugairean', fèis de Thèatar Òigridh Gàidhlig, a chumail aig Eden Court ann an Inbhir Nis. B' e Eden Court CRUTHACHAIL a chuir an Fhèis aon-latha air dòigh ann an co-bhonn ri Fèisean nan Gàidheal, far an deach dealbhan-cluiche Gàidhlig ùra a thaisbeanadh bho Thèataran Òigridh Gàidhlig à Baile Dhubhthaich, Inbhir Pheofharain agus Inbhir Nis.

'Fèis Dràma Dheugairean', a festival of Gaelic Youth Theatre, took place at Eden Court in Inverness on 10th September.

The day-long festival, hosted by Eden Court CREATIVE in partnership with Fèisean nan Gàidheal, featured three original Gaelic plays from Gaelic Youth Theatres based in Tain, Dingwall and Inverness.

Through support from Bòrd na Gàidhlig's 'Gaelic Drama Network' scheme, Fèisean nan Gàidheal and Eden Court are working together to increase the opportunities for Gaelic-speaking secondary pupils in Highland to learn drama skills and perform through the medium of Gaelic. More information about the Gaelic Youth Theatres in Tain and Dingwall can be found on the Fèisean nan Gàidheal website at www.feisean.org/tog

For more information about the festival, contact Fèisean nan Gàidheal Gaelic Drama Officer, Angus Macleod on 01463 225559 or angus@feisean.org or Kati Kozikowska, Eden Court Creative Projects Manager on 01463 239 841.



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