BLAS FESTIVAL SUCCESS

Bha Talla an Aodainn an Inbhir Nis lán chun nan tobhtaichean air an oidhche mu dheireadh de Blas 2015, a’ tighinn gu crich le cuirm-cricnochadh a bha cho math, a rër na bha an lathair, ri gin a th’ air a bhith ann fad 11 bliadhna na féise.

Bha a’ chuirm a’ luaidh òran Runrig, agus am measg na bha air an ard-urlar bha sàr luchd-ciùil leithid Julie Fowlis, Cathy Anne Nic a’ Phi agus an còmhlan Mànran, a chaidh a mhìneachadh gu mòr iad fhèin cuide ru Runrig. Còmhla riutha air an stèide aird an oidhche bha buidheann de luchd-ciùil óg às na Fèisean, Ceòl nam Fèis, a bhala air an oideachadh tron t-samhradh le Ellen Dhomhnnallach (Dàimh) agus Eòghann MacEanruig (Mànran). Chuir iadsan gu dol cuirim na h-oidheachd agus an dreach fhèin air a’ cheol agus chòrd iad gu mòr ris an luchd-èisteachd.

Thairis air na 9 làtha a bha an fhèis a’ ruith bha còmhlaich is luchd-ciùil eile leithid Aly Bain & Phil Coineagan, Macanta, Dick Gaughan, Mairi NicAonghais, J.P Cormier, Session A9, Shoglenifty, Niteworks, Allan Kelly Gang agus ògìridh à Cèilidhdean air Chuairit a’ nochdadh aig 34 cuirmean air feadh na Gàidhealtachd is Earrá-Ghàidheal. Chaidh moladh a dhèanamh air Anne Latharna NicGillìosa ’s i 70 bliadhna a dh’aois agus bha Fèis Spè agus Fidhlearan Chill Tìghearna a’ comharrachadh 25 bliadhna bhon a thòisich iad. Bha an fhèis a’ cheol leis a thalamhaildheil a chuir a’ cheir air Gaol is Gàire a thug beagan comadaidh Gàidhlig a-steach don ghothacht.

Chaidh prògram-soile farsaing a lìbhregadh a-rìthist, le soilearun bho air feadh na Gàidhealtachd a’ fhagharth cothrom a’ pàirt a ghabhail ann am bùith-ghairm-obrach ciùil is seinn agus na h-ealan Ghàidhlich ré na féise. Chaidh deabhadh-chluich Meánbh-chulleag Eachdraidh na Gàidhealtacht timcheall soiltean aig a’ cheart àm.

Eden Court Theatre in Inverness may well need new rafters following an outstanding Blas finale on Saturday 12th September which saw the 11th festival close with Òran, a celebration of the songs of Runrig.

A packed theatre were regally entertained by a stellar cast which include Julie Fowlis, Cathy Anne MacPhee and Mànran.

An added highlight of the evening was the performance of the young musicians from the Fèis movement who had been tutored over the summer by Ellen MacDonald (Dàimh) and Ewen Henderson (Mànran) having played together for the first time at last year’s Blas Finale, Ceòl nam Fèis.

This year’s festival saw leading traditional music acts appearing at 34 concerts across the Highlands and Argyll including Aly Bain & Phil Cunningham, Macanta, Dick Gaughan, Mairi MacInnes, J.P Cormier, Session A9, Shoglenifty, Niteworks, Allan Kelly Gang and the Fèisean Céilidh Trails.

A number of this year’s events were full to capacity, with concerts being very well received by appreciative audiences. Looking ahead now to Blas 2016!
FÈIS PHÀISLIG INAUGURAL EVENT A GREAT SUCCESS

Tha Fèis Phàislig – buidhean ur a tha a’ cruthachadh chothromann anns na h-ealain thraidiseanta do dh’òighridh Shiorrachd Rinn Frù – a’ déanamh gàirdeachadh rì cho soirbheachail ’s a bha a’ chiad tachartas samhradh aca ann am Paislig.


Fèis Phàislig is a newly established organisation creating traditional music opportunities for young people in Renfrewshire and is celebrating a hugely successful inaugural week of music, singing and drama teaching in Paisley.

This first ever Fèis event in Paisley saw almost 60 children aged 8 to 18 enjoy 4 days of tuition in accordion, chanter, clarsach, fiddle, drama, guitar and Gaelic song. Other activities including Gaelic taster sessions, games, art and a ceilidh provided additional entertainment whilst special guests from the Fèis Fhoirt Cèilidh Trail visited Paisley to play a lunchtime concert. The participants themselves took to the stage at the end of the week to show a packed audience of parents, family and friends all the new skills they’d picked up at the Fèis.

The next Fèis Phàislig will take place from Tuesday 19th July – Friday 22nd July 2016. To keep up-to-date with Fèis news and events, search Fèis Phàislig on Facebook or visit the website at www.feisphaislig.com.
Chaidh Fèis Tír a’ Mhurain air adhart ann an Sgoil Dhalabrog an Uibhist a Deas eadar 14mh agus 18 an t-luchar le 96 an láthair. Bha iomadh diofar ionnstramaid ri ioniachadh aig an Fhèis, nam measg bogs-a-ciúil, clàrsach, drumaichean, feadan, fidheall agus fideag. A bharrachd orra sin chaidh seinn Gàidhlig, ealan, dràma, iomdan, donnas Gàidhealach agus sgilean meadhanan a thabhasan do chuid, leis an teagasc air fad tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. Chaidh buidhean chloinne a cheiliad air seann daoine ann an Dachaigh nan Naomh Uile Chridheach ann am meadhan na seachdain airson fonn no dhà a chuile, agus chòrd sin glan ri ritha.

Mar a bhàith ann, aig toiseach na seachdain chaidh Réis na Feise a chumail anns an do ghabh daoine de gach aois pàirt, a’ raith tro bhaille Staoinnebrig agus a’ faighinn cuipa ti agus béicearachd aig an deireadh. Chaidh cèilidh luchd-teagaig a chumail meadhan na seachdain ann an Talla Staoinnebrig, agus b’a eam fear a bu shoirbeachailte a bha aig Fèis Tír a’ Mhurain a-riamh agus an talla loma-làin. Chòrd ceoil is órain bhon luchd-teagaig ris na bha an láthair agus bha an t-uabhas ro dheònach na brògan dannaidh aca a chosg. Aig consar a' deireadh na seachdain chaidh tálantán úr na clòinne a thaisbeanadh agus libhrig iad fein a' bhugail. Aig an t-uabhas airson ceòl is òrain bhon luchd-teagaisg ris na bha an láthair agus bha an t-uabhas ro dheònach na brògan dannaidh aca a chosg. Aig consar a' deireadh na seachdain chaidh tálantán úr na clòinne a thaisbeanadh agus libhrig iad fein a' bhugail. Aig an t-uabhas airson ceòl is òrain bhon luchd-teagaisg ris na bha an láthair agus bha an t-uabhas ro dheònach na brògan dannaidh aca a chosg. Aig consar a' deireadh na seachdain chaidh tálantán úr na clòinne a thaisbeanadh agus libhrig iad fein a' bhugail. Aig an t-uabhas airson ceòl is òrain bhon luchd-teagaisg ris na bha an láthair agus bha an t-uabhas ro dheònach na brògan dannaidh aca a chosg. Aig consar a' deireadh na seachdain chaidh tálantán úr na clòinne a thaisbeanadh agus libhrig iad fein a' bhugail. Aig an t-uabhas airson ceòl is òrain bhon luchd-teagaisg ris na bha an láthair agus bha an t-uabhas ro dheònach na brògan dannaidh aca a chosg.
Throughout the Fèis week concerts and ceilidhs were running, including a reunion concert featuring people who had been involved with the Fèis at different times. This was rounded off with a new Fèis song penned by Flora MacPhail. A 'Muse Cruise' ran from Tiree to Barra where Fèis participants of each island met on the pier for a big Strip the Willow! There was a real buzz to the Fèis with its success over 25 years celebrated by all.
Macleod also filmed certain activities for tutors to access through the Fèisean nan Gàidheal whole new bank of material and strategies, ensuring quality delivery in the classroom.  Angus The events were well attended and proved to be extremely valuable in providing tutors with a expertise.

The Music Melting Pot allowed for the sharing of favourite songs, techniques, games and leading group music sessions with large numbers of young people, regardless of music ability. The two days, organised by Fèis Rois, focussed on Group Music - discovering techniques for working in schools.

As schools, co-ordinators and tutors look forward to another year of YMI provision, tutors gathered for a 2 day opportunity to develop and extend their musical knowledge and activities for working in schools. The two days, organised by Fèis Rois, focussed on Group Music - discovering techniques for leading group music sessions with large numbers of young people, regardless of music ability. The Music Melting Pot allowed for the sharing of favourite songs, techniques, games and expertise. The events were well attended and proved to be extremely valuable in providing tutors with a whole new bank of material and strategies, ensuring quality delivery in the classroom. Angus Macleod also filmed certain activities for tutors to access through the Fèisean nan Gàidheal website www.feisean.org

YMI IN SCHOOLS

The 5th of June saw Inverness Leisure Centre play host to 300 children from various primary schools throughout the Highlands as part of BBC Music Day - as well as marking 13 years of the Youth Music Initiative.

Throughout the course of the day, which was co-ordinated by Fèis Rois, pupils participated in a number of interactive workshops, ranging from electronic drumming to Scottish country dancing.

In addition, the youngsters were treated to live entertainment, with performances from two of the local primary schools, music and songs from tutors and even a spectacular display from the Nairn Academy Steel Drum Band.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal delivers a contract, teaching Scottish traditional music in all Highland Council primary schools through The Scottish Government Youth Music Initiative with funding devolved to Creative Scotland, as well as as participation in national initiatives such as the 2014 Year of Homecoming and the Commonwealth Games Cultural Programme.

Among many highlights were the participation opportunities for young people from Fèisean at Ceòl nam Fèis as part of the bidding process for regular grants with deadlines on 2 October 2015 and 19 February 2016. Further information at feisean.org/tasgradh.

TASGADH

Tha fèill mhòr ri sgeama tabhartais Tasgrad a tha ag amas air taic-airgid suas ri £1,000 a thoir t do phróiseactan anns na h-ealain thraidiseanta. Air a' cheann-là air 3mh luchar bha 49 iarrtis againn.

The first round of the new Tasgrad Traditional Arts Small Grants Fund, administered by Fèisean nan Gàidheal with funding from Creative Scotland, attracted 49 applications.

There will be a further two rounds of grants with deadlines on 2 October 2015 and 19 February 2016.

Further information at feisean.org/tasgradh.

AITHISG BHLIADHNAIL

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DEALBH CHLUICH AIR CHUAIRT

Tha Meabh Chuileag - buidheann tèatar oideachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal - air chuirt naiseanta an-dràsta le dealbh-chluich mu sheann eachdraidh na Gàidhealtachd aird air a thabhann tron t-seirbheis Fèisgoil.

’S e dealbh-chluich Gàidhlig a th’ ann an Eachdraidh na Gàidhealtachd: 8000 BC – 795 AD le buith-obrach eadar-gnìomhail a tha ag amas air spoilearan eadar BS4 agus BS7. Tha an dealbh-chluich a’ toirt soilleachadh do spoilearan air mar a dh’atharraich doigh-chean beatha dhaoine air a’ Gàidhealtachd bhon chidh luchd-tuineachd mu 8000 RC gu 795 AD nuair a thug na Lochlainn naionn air Eilean Idir.

Tha dithis chleasaiche an sàs, le Artair Donald agus Catriona NicNeacail a’ cluich iomadh seòrsa caracter tro na lìnteann le tuathanach bhog Linn na Cloiche, Colm Cille agus arc-eòlaiche às an latha an-diugh nam measg.

Airson tuileadh fiosraichd mu na pròiseactan tèatar oideachaidh aig Fèisean nan Gàidheal cuiribh fios gu Aonghas MacLeòid ann an oifis Inbhir Nis air 01463 225559

Meanbh Chuileag, Fèisean nan Gàidheal’s theatre-in-education group, is touring the country with a play about the ancient history of the Highlands, offered through the Fèisgoil service.

History of the Highlands 8000 BC-795 AD is a Gaelic medium play with an interactive workshop aimed at pupils between P4 and P7. The play is designed to help support various study themes and gives pupils an understanding of how life changed for people in the Highlands from the first inhabitants around 8000 BC until the Vikings attacked the Island of Iona.

Artair Donald and Catriona Nicolson play the part of various characters throughout the centuries with a farmer from the Stone Age, Colm Cille and a present day archaeologist among those who feature.

MANAIDSEAR ÙR FÈISGOIL

Tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal air Eilidh NicChoinnich fhastadh mar Mhanaidsear Fèisgoil. Bidh Eilidh a’ tòiseachadh na dreuchd ùr tràth san Dàmhair agus bidh i os cionn seirbheiseann foghlaím na buidhne, cho math ri barrachd leasachaidhe a thoirt air adhart.

Tha cliù nach beag aig Eilidh mar bhanas-sheinneadair, leatha fhèin agus le peathraichean, agus mar sgrìobhaiche òran. A bharrachd air sin, bha Eilidh an sàs fad iomadh ann am foghlan cluachu leis an t-eilean ìdir cleasaichd. Eilidh Mackenzie will take up a new post with Fèisean nan Gàidheal early in October managing the Fèisgoil service. Fèisgoil incorporates Fèisean nan Gàidheal’s work in formal education and Eilidh will be responsible for ensuring the smooth operation of current work as well as developing new opportunities.

In addition to Eilidh’s skills as a singer and songwriter, she is an accomplished arranger of music and has been involved for many years in music education through YMI and as leader of Gaelic music groups such as Canntaireachd and Còisir G. Eilidh has also been involved in creative writing with pieces such as Taigh Màiri Anndra to her credit, has taught at many Fèisean over the years and has been engaged in preparing young people and in setting music at local and National Mòd level.

FÈIS THÈATAR ÒIGRIDH GÀIDHLIG

Now in its third year, the Gaelic Youth Theatre festival ‘Fèis Thèatar Òigridh Gàidhlig’, was held at Eden Court in Inverness on Thursday 10th of September 2015. This year’s festival, hosted by Eden Court CREATIVE in partnership with Fèisean nan Gàidheal, featured Gaelic plays from three Gaelic Youth Theatres in Tain, Dingwall and Inverness.

With 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 high school pupils in Highland to learn drama skills and perform through the medium of Gaelic.

MEALA NAIDHEACHD

Congratulations and best wishes to Calum Alex MacMillan, our Development Manager, and his wife Angela on the birth of their daughter Alyth on 11 July. A wee sister for Finlay. A h-uile duine slàn, fallain.

www.feisean.org

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