

# faileas

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Newsletter • Iris 56 • An t-Sultain 2015 • September 2015

## BLAS FESTIVAL SUCCESS



Charlie McKerron, Adam Sutherland & Kevin Henderson of Session A9 at Sleat

Mairi MacInnes at Plockton

Bha Talla an Aodainn an Inbhir Nis làn chun nan tobhtaichean air an oidhche mu dheireadh de Blas 2015, a' tighinn gu crìch le cuirm-criochnachaidh a bha cho math, a rèir na bha an làthair, ri gin a th' air a bhith ann fad 11 bliadhna na fèise.

Bha a' chuirm a' luaidh òran Runrig, agus am measg na bha air an àrd-ùrlar bha sàr luchd-ciùil leithid Julie Fowles, Cathy Anne Nic a' Phì agus an còmhlan MÀNran, a chaidh a mhisneachadh gu mòr iad fhèin cuide ru Runrig. Còmhla riutha air an stèidse air an oidhche bha buidheann de luchd-ciùil òg às na Fèisean, Ceòl nam Fèis, a bha air an oideachdadh tron t-samhradh le Ellen Dhòmhnallach (Dàimh) agus Eòghann MacEanruig (Mànran). Chuir iadsan gu dol cuirm na h-oidhche agus an dreach fhèin air a' cheòl agus chòrd iad gu mòr ris an luchd-èisteachd.

Thairis air na 9 làtha a bha an fhèis a' ruith bha còmhlan is luchd-ciùil eile leithid Aly Bain & Phil Coineagan, Macanta, Dick Gaughan, Mairi NicAonghais, J.P Cormier, Session A9, Shooglenifty, Niteworks, Allan Kelly Gang agus òigridh à Cèilidhean air Chuairt a' nochdadh aig 34 cuirmean air feadh na Gàidhealtachd is Earra-Ghàidheal.

Chaidh moladh a dhèanamh air Anne Latharna NicGilliosa 's i 70 bliadhna a dh'aois agus bha Fèis Spè agus Fìdhlearan Chill Tighearna a' comharrachadh 25 bliadhna bhon a thòisich iad. Bha an fhèis air leth toilichte fàilte a chur air *Gaol is Gàire* a thug beagan comadaidh Gàidhlig a-steach don ghnòthach.

Chaidh prògram-sgoile farsaing a libhrigeadh a-rithist, le sgoilearan bho air feadh na Gàidhealtachd a' faighinn cothrom pàirt a ghabhail ann am bùithtean-obrach ciùil is seinn agus na h-ealain Ghàidhlig rè na fèise. Chaidh dealbh-chluich Meanbh-chuileag *Eachdraidh na Gàidhealtachd* timcheall sgoiltean 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 Fowles, 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, Shooglenifty, Niteworks, Allan Kelly Gang and the Fèisean Cèilidh Trails.

A number of this year's events were full to capacity, with concerts been very well received by appreciative audiences. Looking ahead now to Blas 2016!

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### NEW TRANCHE OF HIE FUNDING FOR 2015-18

Chuir Fèisean nan Gàidheal fàilte air an naidheachd bho chionn greis gun robh lomairt na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean air aontachadh taic-airgid £420k a chumail ri obair na buidhne airson nam bliadhnaichean 2015-18.

A bharrachd air a' mhaoin seo, tha lomairt na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean a' cumail taic ri neach ceumnachaidh, Rowan NicPheadrais, a tha an-dràsta ag obair cuide ri Fèisean nan Gàidheal air margaidheachd.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal recently received welcome news from Highlands & Islands Enterprise that funding of £420k has been awarded for the years 2015-18. This is especially significant as it coincides with regular funding from Creative Scotland which makes the delivery of Fèisean nan Gàidheal's ambitious Programme Plan a more realistic prospect.

HIE is also supporting a Graduate Placement within Fèisean nan Gàidheal.

## FÈIS PHÀISLIG INAUGURAL EVENT A GREAT SUCCESS



Tha Fèis Phàislig – buidheann ùr a tha a' cruthachadh chothroman anns na h-ealain thraidiseanta do dh'òigridh Shiorrachd Rinn Friù – a' dèanamh gairdeachais ri cho soirbheachail 's a bha a' chiad tachartas samhraidh aca ann am Pàislig.

Chumadh a' chiad fhèis aca ann am Pàislig anns an Iuchar 2015 le faisg air 60 òganach an làthair a' faighinn oideachas ann an caochladh cuspair. Am measg na bha air thairgse bha an fhidheall, bogsa-ciùil, feadan, a' phìob, dràma, giotàr agus òrain Ghàidhlig. Bha iomadh rud eile a' dol cuideachd leithid gheamannan Gàidhlig, ealain agus cèilidh leis an luchd-oide. A bharrachd air seo, thàinig a' bhuidheann Cèilidh air Chuairt aig Fèis Fhoirt a-staigh a' tadhal ar an fhèis gu cuirm-ciùil shònraichte a thoirt seachad. Aig deireadh na seachdain an uair sin thug consairt neo-fhoirmeil cothrom dhan chloinn a dhol air an àrd-ùrlar gus an sgilean ùra a shealltainn do shluagh mòr phàrantan.

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 cèilidh 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](http://www.feisphaislig.com).

## FÈIS ARAINN NUMBERS UP



Tha Fèis Arainn a' dèanamh gairdeachas as dèidh Fèis air leth a's t-samhradh. Bha an àireamh de chom-pàirtichean air èirigh agus thug sin misneachd dhan chomataidh a bha ag obair cho cruaidh tron bhliadhna. Bha fealla-dhà is spòrs gu leòr a' dol le sgioba mhath de luchd-teagaisg agus bha ceòl is Gàidhlig ri chluinntinn fad na seachdain.

Fèis Arainn were delighted with the success of their 14th Fèis this summer. The number of participants was higher than previous years, which was a real credit to the hardworking committee who spent much time preparing for the Fèis.

There was much fun and games going on at the Fèis, with a fantastic team of tutors and helpers, and Gaelic and music were heard, and enjoyed, all week.

## FÈIS EILEAN NA HEARADH

Eadar 29mh Ògmhios agus 4mh Iuchar bha clann na Hearadh air an cumail trang. Chunnaic iad àrdachadh anns na h-àireamhan bho 'n-uiridh le 100 pàiste aig Fèis Eilean na Hearadh ann an Sgoil Sir E Scott. Bha seachdain shoirbheachail aca, le sàr-oideachadh ann an iomadh ionnstramaid air a thabhann, a bharrachd air seinn agus cruthachadh Clò Hearaich. Chaidh clas sònraichte a chur air dòigh airson nan deugairean far an d' fhuair iad cothrom a dhol a-mach a sreap bheanntan, a' dol a-mach air kayak air an loch agus a' falbh air baidhseagal tron Ghearradh Chruaidh ann an Steòrnabhagh. Fhuair iad cothrom film a chlàradh fo stiùir Dhòl Eoin MhicFhionghain, a thèid a-nis a chur air adhart airson farpais Film G. Chaidh cèilidh luchd-teagaisg a chumail air feasgar Diciadain ann an Tigh mo Sheanar far an d' fhuair a' choimhearsnachd cothrom dannsa no dhà a dhèanamh fhad 's a bha sgilean an luchd-teagaisg a thaisbeanadh don t-sluagh a bha an làthair. Chaidh cuirm na cloinne air adhart Dihaoine agus thàinig cùisean gu ceann leis a h-uile duine a' gabhail *Chì mi 'n Tir*. Dè eile?

Feis Eilean na Hearadh held a busy week of activities for all ages during the summer with 100 participants taking part.

## FÈIS TÌR AN EÒRNA

Air a' chiad seachdain do shaor-làithean na sgoile chaidh Fèis Tir an Eòrna a chumail ann an sgoil Phaibil ann an Uibhist a Tuath, far an robh 70 an làthair gus sgilean ciùil ùr ionnsachadh air iomadh diofar ionnstramaid, cuide ri dràma, seinn agus iomain. Chaidh clasaichean ann an ealan a thabhann cuideachd, le toradh na seachdain air a shealltainn aig consairt na cloinne Dihaoine.

Chaidh cèilidh a chumail oidhche Chiadain ann am Marquee Shollais a bha soirbheachail dha-rìrbh. Chaidh tàlant an luchd-teagaisg a thaisbeanadh air beulaibh na coimhearsnachd, a' toirt cothrom dhaibh beagan fealla-dhà a bhith aca. Air feasgar brèagha Diardaoin chaidh a' chlànn mun cuairt nan clasaichean airson nan ionnstramaidean aca a chluich dha chèile ann an traidisean ris an canar 'raids'. Chaidh geama iomain a chumail an dèidh na Fèise agus rinn a' chlànn a' chùis air an luchd-teagaisg 5-2! Thàinig cùisean gu ceann feasgar Dihaoine leis a' chonsairt, far an do sheall a' chlànn dhan h-uile duine na bha iad air ionnsachadh aig an Fhèis.



## TACHARTASAN FÈIS BHARRAIGH

Nochd 134 pàiste aig Fèis Bharraigh air an 8mh latha den Iuchar airson seachdain làn fealla-dhà agus ionnsachaidh. Bha cothrom aig a' chloinn ceithir diofar chuspairean a thaghadh, a' toirt eòlas farsaing dhaibh air ceòl, òrain agus dràma a bhuineas do chultar na Gàidhlig. Chaidh dannsa na cloinne a chumail san sgoil Dimàirt le ceòl bhon luchd-teagaisg, a thug an cothrom dhan chloinn beagan a bharrachd eòlais fhaighinn air a chèile.

Chaidh cèilidh a chumail ann an Caisteal Chiosmhuil do mhuinntir Bharraigh agus don luchd-turais, far an d' fhuair iad blas de na bha a' chlànn ag ionnsachadh bhon luchd-teagaisg. Bha oidhche pìobaireachd aca Diardaoin, far an robh pìobairean òga Fèis Bharraigh ri làimh airson fuaim gu leòr a dhèanamh. Thàinig an t-seachdain gu crìoch le cuirm na cloinne agus le consairt agus cèilidh cuide ri Skipinnish.



## SLUAGH AIG FÈIS TÌR A' MHURAIN AN UIBHIST A DEAS



Chaidh Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain air adhart ann an Sgoil Dhalabroig an Uibhist a Deas eadar 14mh agus 18 an t-luchar le 96 an làthair. Bha iomadh diofar ionnstramaid ri ionnsachadh aig an Fhèis, nam measg bogsa-ciùil, clàrsach, drummaichean, feadan, fidheall agus fideag. A bharrachd orra sin chaidh seinn Gàidhlig, ealan, dràma, iomain, dannsa Gàidhealach agus sgilean meadhanan a thabhann do chuid, leis an teagasg air fad tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. Chaidh buidheann chloinne a chèilidh air na seann daoine ann an Dachaigh nan Naomh Uile Chridheach ann am meadhan na seachdain airson fonn no dhà a chluich, agus chòrd sin glan riutha.

Mar as àbhaist, aig toiseach na seachdain chaidh Rèis na Fèise a chumail anns an do ghabh daoine de gach aois pàirt, a' ruith tro bhaile Staoinebrig agus a' faighinn cupa tì agus bèicearachd aig an deireadh. Chaidh cèilidh luchd-teagaisg a chumail meadhan na seachdain ann an Tàlla Staoinebrig, agus b' e am fear a bu shoirbheachaile a bha aig Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain a-riamh agus an talla loma-làn. Chòrd ceòl is òrain bhon luchd-teagaisg ris na bha an làthair agus bha an t-uabhas ro dheònach na brògan dannsaich aca a chosg. Aig consairt deireadh na seachdain chaidh tàlantair ùr na cloinne a thaisbeanadh agus libhrig iad fhèin a' chùis air fad!

## CAISMEACHD A' CUR FÈIS AN RUBHA GU SEÒL



Air a' chiad latha de dh'Fhèis an Rubha, chaidh còrr is 40 pàiste a thoirt timcheall na sgoile leis a' phiobaire, a' caismeachd air a chùlaibh mar chmharra air toiseach tòiseachaidh na seachdain. Ged a bha na clasaichean beag ann an àireamhan, bha an ceòl a bha a' siubhal tro na trannsaichean làidir agus bha a' chlann dìcheallach agus deònach ceòl Gàidhealach a thogail. Fhuair a' chlann as òige cothrom a dhol timcheall nan clasaichean ciùil gus blas fhaighinn de gach ionnstramaid gus am biodh fios aca na bhios romhpa anns na bliadhnaichean ri teachd.

Le seinn, dràma, giotàr, maileòidean, clàrsach, feadan agus fidheall ri fhaotainn aig an Fhèis, bha roghainn gu leòr aca agus thàinig piseach air an cuid chomasan mar a bha an t-seachdain a' dol air adhart. Bha a h-uile duine a thàinig chun a' chonsairt oidhche Haoine air a dhòigh leis a' chloinn agus thàinig a h-uile duine còmhla aig deireadh cùis airson Eilean Fraoich a ghabhail le taic bhon luchd-teagaisg air an cuid ionnstramaidean.

### FÈIS THRONDARINIS

Chaidh Fèis Thròndairnis air adhart ann an Stafainn, an ceann a tuath an Eilein Sgitheanaich, le seachdain làn ciùil. Fo stiùir leithid John Carmichael agus Addie Harper, chuir a' chlann eòlas air a bhith ag obair còmhla mar bhuidheann, le dreach eadar-dhealaichte agus ùr air gach fonn, agus bha aig a h-uile neach ri Òran na Fèise ionnsachadh a sheinneadh iad uile còmhla aig deireadh na cùise.

Bha ceòl agus dannsa gu leòr a' dol tron t-seachdain ach thàinig a h-uile duine còmhla oidhche Haoine gus na sgilean ùr aca a thaisbeanadh air beulaibh na coimhearsnachd agus nam pàrantan.

### FÈIS EIGE

Nochd tòrr aig Fèis Eige am-bliadhna agus com-pàirtichean bho air feadh na dùthcha ann airson ceòl traidiseanta a chluich agus Gàidhlig a bhruidhinn.

Fèis participants came in droves to the Isle of Eigg in July to enjoy traditional music, speaking Gaelic and, most importantly, to have fun! Throughout the three days of Fèis Eige participants enjoyed traditional music, Gaelic and shinty, which was a particular highlight!. A traditional Eigg song was taught throughout the Fèis which was sung at the concert enjoyed by visitors and locals alike who had gathered to hear those who had taken part in the Fèis.

## ÀIREAMHAN FALLAIN AIG FÈIS NA H-ÒIGE

Thachair Fèis na h-Òige eadar 6 - 10 Iuchar aig Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis.

Bha na h-àireamhan de chom-pàirtichean suas am-bliadhna, agus mar sin bha seachdain glè thrang aig a h-uile duine a bha an sàs.

Le sgioba mhath de luchd-teagaisg tàlantach a' toirt seachad iomadh cuspair le fidheall, clàrsach, bogsa-ciùil, feadan agus dràma nam measg, dh'ionnsaich a' chlann mòran sgilean ùra agus bha seo follaiseach aig consairt na cloinne feasgar Dihaoine, an latha mu dheireadh den fhèis.

Fèis na h-Òige held its annual summer Fèis week from the 6th to the 10th of July at Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis. With an increase in participant numbers it was a busy but very successful week for all involved.

With a multi-talented team of tutors providing tuition in a wide range of subjects (including fiddle, clàrsach, accordion, chanter and drama) the participants learned a wealth of new skills and parents were treated to a great performance at the Participants' Concert which took place on the Friday evening.

Following on from the main week, the Fèis planned two Saturday workshop sessions.

On Saturday 19th September participants had the opportunity to choose from chanter or guitar and on 28th November there will be the chance to try accordion, fiddle, drumming or keyboard.

There will also be a Fèis Bheag session for 5-8 year olds. For more information e-mail [feisnaoige@feisean.org](mailto:feisnaoige@feisean.org) or find Fèis na h-Òige on Facebook.





Aig deireadh an t-samhraidh, an t-seachdain mu dheireadh de Fèisean nan Eilean Siar, bha Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich a' comharrachadh 25 bliadhna on a thòisich i agus bha gu leòr air faire. Nochd còrr is 150 pàiste air a' chiad latha, deiseil agus deònach am bogadh fhèin ann an oideachadh bho luchd-teagaisg a bha air a bhith an sàs aig an Fhèis fad iomadh bliadhna leithid Andy Yearley, Mischa Nic a' Phearsain, Lynn Nicilleathain, Noel Eadie agus Iain 'Costello' MacIomhair.

Am-bliadhna, chaidh blas ùr a thoirt dhan Fhèis le buidheann de dh'Èireannaich bho Club Óige Luraigh, a bha air turas a Leòdhas ann an co-bhonn ri Comunn na Gàidhlig. Chaidh an cur a-steach am measg nan Leòdhasach airson seinn, dràma agus ionnstramaidean ionnsachadh, agus thòisich iad ag ullachadh dealbh-chluich ann an Gàidhlig na h-Alba a sheall iad aig a' chonsairt air an oidhche mu dheireadh.

Fhuair a h-uile duine aig an Fhèis cothrom pìos cèic a ghabhail agus dealbh fhaighinn còmhla nuair a chaidh pàrtaidh a chumail airson 25 bliadhna a chomharrachadh.

An dèidh cuir mhoirbheachail san Lanntair oidhche Chiadain, le Marisa Dhòmhnaillach na bean an taighe, tè a bha an sàs sa chiad Fhèis bho chionn 25 bliadhna, thàinig cùisean gu ceann le dà chonsairt. Bha a' chlann a' taisbeanadh nan sgilean ùra aca air an àrd-ùrlar, agus rinn an luchd-èisteachd sogan ri dealbh-chluich nan Èireannach mu dheidhinn Father Ted. Aig deireadh na h-oidhche rinn pàistean, luchd-teagaisg agus buill comataidh chun an àrd-ùrlair airson *Eilean Fraoich* a ghabhail. Tha sùil aig Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich a-nise air 25 bliadhna eile de cheòl, seinn, dràma agus fealla-dhà!



Abair seachdain a bh' aig Fèis Thiriodh nuair a chomharraich iad an 25mh ceann-bliadhna aca. Tro seachdain na fèise bha tòrr a' dol leithid cèilidhean, consairtean agus fiù 's am 'Muse Cruise' far an do choinnich muinntir Thiriodh ri muinntir Bharraigh air a' chidhe ann am Bàgh a' Chàisteil airson dannsa mòr a dhèanamh!



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 Tìree 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.

Another Fèis celebrating 25 years was Fèis nan Garbh Chrìochan.

The Fèis participants made a CD for the occasion collecting songs, tunes and information from the older generation of the community. The CD was launched at a concert at the end of the week to which all former tutors and participants were invited.

As well as the usual Fèis activities there were many other events going on to mark this special occasion from boat cruises to cèilidhs and there was even a fun day for the children the day after the Fèis, where they had the opportunity to learn some circus skills!

Acharacle was alive with Fèis fun and many came from the surrounding area to partake in the celebrations and to mark the success of Fèis nan Garbh Chrìochan over the years.



As part of the Blas Festival, on 11th September at Carrbridge Village Hall, Fèis Spè celebrated 25 years of bringing traditional music and arts tuition to young people in the Cairngorms National Park area, with Gaelic language and culture at the heart of all activities.

The celebrations brought together past Fèis Spè participants who have gone on to become professional musicians, current Fèis Spè tutors and the Fèis Spè Song Group and bands, the Junior Cèilidh Band and the Cairngorms Cèilidh Trail.

To celebrate, they premiered two song commissions. *Am Bràighe* was written by two of their regular tutors, Charlie Mackerron and Sandra Mackay, especially for the celebration. It was performed by the Fèis Spè song group, tutored by Sandra and the Junior Cèilidh Band, tutored by Charlie.

The Cairngorms Cèilidh Trailers were joined by three former members, who have together written a song in celebration of 25 years of promoting Gaelic and more recent links with Ireland (as well as Scots heritage). The song was written over three very intense days in the summer, as part of the ongoing relationship between the Fèis and its Irish partners in Donegal, through the Colmcille scheme.

Especially for the celebration, they brought together a line-up of former Fèis Spè participants and current tutors to form the Fèis Spè 25th Anniversary Celebration Band, with:

Mhairi Hall - keyboard  
Charlie Mackerron - fiddle  
Harnish Napier - flute  
Sandra Robertson - step dancing and bean an taighe  
Fraser Stone - percussion

The evening was a great success. Here's to the next 25 years!



## HIGHLAND YOUTH MUSIC INITIATIVE GATHERING



Thàinig 300 sgoilear bho bhun-sgoiltean air feadh na Gàidhealtachd còmhla ann an Inbhir Nis airson Latha-Ciùil a' BhBC air 5mh Ògmhios a bha cuideachd a' comharrachadh 13 bliadhna de dh'Iomairt Ciùil na h-Òigridh.

Chaidh an latha a chur air dòigh le Fèis Rois le taic-airgid Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus tron latha bha an òigridh an sàs ann an grunn bhùithtean-obrach eadar-gnìomhail, le drumaireachd, seinn is dannsa cèilidh nam measg.

A bharrachd air sin, chaidh ceòl beò a chur air dòigh airson na cloinne, le buidhnean bho chuid de na sgoiltean a' gabhail port no dhà air an àrd-ùrlar, òrain agus ceòl bhon luchd-oideachaidh agus rud sònraichte: còmhlan drumaireachd-stàillean bho Acadamaidh Inbhir Narainn.

Tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal a' libhreagadh cùmhnant as leth Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, a' teagasg ceòl tràidiseanta anns gach bun-sgoil san sgìre tro Iomairt Chiùil na h-Òigridh aig Riaghaltas na h-Alba. Bu thoil leinn taing mhòr a thoirt seachad do mhuinntir Fèis Rois a chuir an latha air dòigh agus dhan a h-uile duine a dh'obraich cho trang air an latha shoirbheachail seo!

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. Thanks to everyone involved for all their hard work towards what proved to be a very successful event.

### YMI 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](http://www.feisean.org)



## TASGADH

Tha fèill mhòr ri sgeama tabhartais Tasgadh a tha ag amas air taic-airgid suas ri £1,000 a thoirt do phròiseactan anns na h-ealain thraidiseanta. Air a' cheann-là air 3mh Iuchar bha 49 iarrtas againn.

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

A panel consisting of Arthur Cormack, Brian Ó hEadhra, Dave Francis, Dr Mairi McFadyen, Fiona Campbell, Martin Hadden and Michelle Kelly assessed the applications and £14,726 was granted to 21 successful applicants.

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

Further information at [feisean.org/tasgadh](http://feisean.org/tasgadh).

## AITHISG BHLIADHNAIL

Bidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal a' foillseachadh Aithisg Bhliadhnail na buidhne aig co-labhairt ann an Uibhist.

Tha bliadhna thrang, shoirbheachail air a bhith aig a' bhuidheann, eadar planaichean ùr ullachadh mar phàirt den phròiseas tagradh a chur gu Alba Chruthachail, cho math ri pàirt a ghabhail ann an iomairtean nàiseanta mar An Tilleadh Dhachaigh 2014 agus Prògram Cultarail Geamaichean a' Cho-fhlaitheis, Glaschu 2014.

Fhuair buidhnean de dh'òigridh nam Fèisean cothrom pàirt a ghabhail ann an cuirmean Ceòl nam Fèis aig na Geamaichean ann an Glaschu, aig Blas san t-Sultain 2014, aig Na Trads san Dùbhlachd agus aig Celtic Connections san Fhaoilleach 2015.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Annual Report 2015 will be published in late September at the organisation's Annual Conference in Uist. It will outline the work undertaken in a very busy year for the organisation between preparing new plans as part of the bidding process for regular funding from Creative Scotland, as well 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 showcase events at the Commonwealth Games, at Blas in September 2014, the Trad Awards in December and finally at Celtic Connections in January 2015.

## DEALBH CHLUICH AIR CHUAIRT

Tha Meanbh Chuileag - buidheann tèatar oideachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal - air cuairt nàiseanta an-dràsta le dealbh-chluich mu sheann eachdraidh na Gàidhealtachd air a thabhan tron t-seirbheis Fèisgoil.

'S e dealbh-chluich Gàidhlig a th' ann an *Eachdraidh na Gàidhealtachd: 8000 RC – 795 AD* le bùth-obrach eadar-gnìomhail a tha ag amas air sgoilearan eadar BS4 agus BS7. Tha an dealbh-chluich a' toirt soillearachadh do sgoilearan air mar a dh'atharraich dòighean-beatha dhaoine air a' Ghàidhealtachd bhon chiad luchd-tuineachaidh mu 8000 RC gu 795 AD nuair a thug na Lochlannaich ionnsaigh air Eilean Ìdhe.

Tha dithis chleasaiche an sàs, le Artair Donald agus Catriona NicNeacail a' cluich iomadh seòrsa caractair tro na linntean le tuathanaich bho Linn na Cloiche, Colm Cille agus arc-eòlaiche às an latha an-diugh nam measg.

Airson tuilleadh fiosrachadh 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 amongst those who feature.

## 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.

## 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 seirbheisean foghlaim na buidhne, cho math ri barrachd leasachaidhean a thoirt air adhart.

Tha cliù nach beag aig Eilidh mar bhana-sheinneadair, leatha fhèin agus le peathraichean, agus mar sgrìobhaiche òran. A bharrachd air sin, bha Eilidh an sàs fad iomadh bliadhna ann am foghlam ciùil tro Iomairt Chiùil na h-Òigridh, mar stiùiriche Canntaireachd agus Còisir G agus ann an obair ullachaidh airson mòdan is eile.

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 YML 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.

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