

faileas

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Newsletter • Iris 61 • An Dùbhlachd 2016 • December 2016



MAOIN ÙR AIRSON FÈISGOIL



Chaidh Coinneamh Bhliadhnail agus Co-labhairt Fèisean nan Gàidheal a chumail san t-Sultain ann an Taigh-òsta MhicDhòmhnaill san Aghaidh Mhòir. Chuir sinn fàilte bhlàth air Leas Phrìomh Mhinistear na h-Alba, Iain Swinney BPA, aig a bheil dleastanas airson na Gàidhlig, agus a thug leis naidheachd mhath gun robh Riaghaltas na h-Alba a' toirt taic a bharrachd don t-seirbheis Fèisgoil aig Fèisean nan Gàidheal.

A bharrachd air Mgr Swinney, bha Shona NicIlinnein, Ceannard Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' bruidhinn aig a' cho-labhairt madainn Disathairne air obair a' Bhùird.

Bha còrr is ceithir fichead duine an làthair, a' mhòr-chuid dhiubh bho na Fèisean, a ghabh an cothrom bliadhnail a tha seo a bhith cruinn còmhla airson còmhraidhean mun obair anns a bheil iad an sàs anns na Fèisean aca fhèin.

Bha sinn toilichte fàilte a chur air Catriona Nic an t-Saoir agus Katie Adam, dithis a bha nan cathraichean air Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus a rinn obair mhòr dhuinn tro na bliadhnachan. Bha ceòl againn bho òigridh Fèis Inbhir Narainn agus bhon chòmhlan aig Sìleas Nic na Ceàrdaich.

Bha trèanadh ann madainn Disathairne le roghainn ann an cuid de bhùithtean-obrach le leithid Art MacCarraig, Sìleas Nic na Ceàrdaich, Fiona Dalgetty, Rachael Duff, Raonaid Harris, Monica Neeling, Ailig 'Bhaltois' Dòmhnallach, Dòmhnall MacNèill agus Ellie Logan os cionn nan seiseanan eadar-dhealaichte.

The Scottish Government has provided £33,000 to Fèisean nan Gàidheal to support Gaelic learning.

The new funding will go towards the production of a new Gaelic music, drama and dance show involving children from two Gaelic primary schools – one in the Highlands and one in the central belt. It will also allow the organisation to offer its Fèisgoil Gaelic language lessons to local authorities that have not yet experienced them.

Deputy First Minister John Swinney made the announcement at the Fèisean nan Gàidheal AGM in Aviemore, where he was guest speaker. The AGM and Conference was attended by around 80 people, the majority of whom were representatives of Fèisean from across Scotland.

He said: "Gaelic is an integral part of Scottish culture and the Scottish Government recognises the cultural, economic and social value of the language to our whole country.

"Fèisean nan Gàidheal has made an immense contribution to both traditional music and the Gaelic language throughout Scotland through their support and promotion of the language, especially their work with young people and schools.

"I'm delighted we can provide further funding for their work so they can reach even more young people across the country and give them the opportunity to learn more about the Gaelic language and culture."

Fèisean nan Gàidheal Chief Executive, Arthur Cormack, welcomed the additional funding, saying: "We were delighted to welcome the Deputy First Minister as guest speaker at our AGM and we are extremely grateful for the additional funding that will enable us to provide arts activities for pupils in Gaelic-medium education.

Through our Fèisgoil service, we have assisted a number of local authorities to deliver commitments in their Gaelic Language Plans in a cost-effective manner. This additional funding will enable more local authorities to offer starter Gaelic lessons and to sample what Fèisgoil can offer."

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NEW INVERNESS OFFICE FOR FÈISEAN NAN GAIDHEAL

Tha sgioba Fèisean nan Gàidheal ann an Inbhir Nis air imrich gu oifis ùr sa bhaile. Bidh iad a' fàgail soraidh slàn le 111 Sràid na h-Acadamaidh aig àm na Nollaige agus a' gluasad gu taobh eile na h-aibhne.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Inverness base is moving! Bidding farewell to 111 Academy Street at Christmas, the team will be setting up base at 2 Ardress Terrace, Inverness, IV3 5NQ. The phone number will remain the same - 01463 225559.

Fèis representatives (or interested parties) are free to visit our office in Inverness or Portree at any time. The new office in Inverness offers better access on the ground floor and better facilities for the staff and visitors.



ATH-BHEÒTHACHADH FÈIS OBAR DHEATHAIN



Tha e cumanta aig an àm seo dhen bhliadhna a bhith a' meòrachadh air a' bhliadhna a chaidh seachad. Do chomataidhean nam Fèisean, 's e cothrom a th' ann coimhead air na tachartasan a chaidh a chumail agus beachdachadh air dè bu thoil leotha a dhèanamh an ath bhliadhna'. 'S mòr an t-atharrachadh air Fèis Obar Dheathain am-bliadhna: às dèidh co-dhiù ochd bliadhna de shàmhair, rinneadh comataidh ùr agus chaidh a' chiad seat de thachartasan a chumail às ùr.

Bidh Anna Thirkell a' stiùireadh Fèis Obar Dheathain agus bhruidhinn Faileas rithe mu dheidhinn cuid dhe na rudan a dh'ionnsaich i anns na mìosan a dh'fhalbh.

“S e an rud as cudromaiche dhòmhsa mun fhèis, gu bheil i a' toirt cothrom don chloinn Gàidhlig a bhruidhinn agus a chluinntinn taobh a-muigh na sgoile. Far a bheil sinne ann an Obar Dheathain, chan eil mòran ann aig a bheil Gàidhlig ged a tha buidhnean ann mar Club Gàidhlig Obar Dheathain a tha gu math fallain.

Tha mi a' smaointinn gur e margaidheachd aon dhe na dùbhlain as motha a th' oirnn. Bidh sinn a' sanasachd anns na sgoiltean, Cròileagain agus buidhnean Gàidhlig ach tha sinn cuideachd ag amas air daoine à taobh a-muigh nam buidhnean sin agus bho sgìrean taobh a-muigh baile Obar Dheathain. Bu mhath leinn togail air an àireamh de chloinn nach eil ann am foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig ach gum faigh iad eòlas air a' chànan ann an suidheachadh gu math spòrsail.

Tha sinn cuideachd taingeil airson gach taic is stiùireadh a gheibh sinn bhon Fèisean nan Gàidheal.

Thèid an ath thachartas: Fèis Obar Dheathain a chumail air 11-13mh den Ghearran 2017. Cumaidh sùil air an duilleig Facebook aca neo cuir brath thuca – feisobardheathain@feisean.org airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh.

BÙTH-OBRACH FÈIS BHARRAIGH & CÒMHLAN-PÌOBA SGOIL LÌONACLEIT

Air Disathairne 3 Dùbhlachd chaidh sgoilearan à Barraigh a-null a Bheinn na Faoghla airson pàirt a ghabhail ann am bùth-obrach le sàr luchd-teagaisg còmhla ri còmhlan-pioba Sgoil Lionacleit.

Bha seo mar phàirt de phròiseact a tha Fèis Bharraigh a' ruith airson co-obrachadh ann an ceòl a bhrosnachadh eadar na h-Eileanan agus cothroman a thoirt do chloinn na Fèise oideachadh fhaighinn aig àrd ire.

Chaidh bùth-obrach a chumail ann an Taigh-Òsta an Eilein Dhorcha, far an d' fhuair an ceathrar à Barraigh cothrom a dhol an sàs còmhla ris a' chòmhlan-phioba. Bha Allan Craig, Dòmhnall 'Bàn' MacDhòmhnaill, Donnchadh agus Dòmhnall Padruig MacNeacail agus Robert Sharp aig an stiùir, le clasaichean ann am feadan, piob agus drumaireachd gan libhrigeadh.

Aig deireadh cùise chaidh cèilidh a chumail san taigh-òsta airson airgead a thogail agus bha e soirbheachail dha-rìreabh.



On Saturday 3rd December, a group of youngsters from Barra headed over on the ferry to Benbecula to take part in a special workshop with the Sgoil Lionacleit Pipe Band. This was arranged as part of a joint project run by Fèis Bharraigh and the pipe band to encourage co-operation between island groups and to offer the fèis children tuition at a high level. A fundraising cèilidh was held on Saturday night to showcase the children's talent and this was very successful.

Keep a look out for further projects!

TAISBEANADH FIOLM FÈIS NA H-ÒIGE

Dè cho tric 's a chithear fiolm Gàidhlig neo co-dhiù dà-chànanach aig taigh-dealbh coimearsalta?

Tha Fèis na h-Òige a' feuchainn ri fuasgladh fhaighinn air a' ghainnead thaisbeanaidhean de dh'fhiolmaichean Gàidhlig ge-tà 's iad a-nis a' gabhail os làimh sgrionaidhean de dh'fhiolmaichean. Chunnaic na bha an làthair am fiolm "Hamish" – mu bheatha agus buaidh an t-saighdeir, neach-cruinneachaidh agus sgrìobhaiche Hamish MhicEanraig. Chaidh a' chiad taisbeanadh a chumail leotha aig Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis anns an Dàmhair 2016. Chaidh Fèis Bheag a chumail don fheadhainn a b' òige agus bha fiù 's popcorn air a reic don luchd-amhairc. Fhuair an fhèis stiùireadh agus cuid dhen uidheamachd fiolm air iasad bhon iomairt Grow Your Own Cinema, a tha a' toirt taic do bhuidhnean comhearsnachd na fiolmaichean aca fhèin a shealltainn. A bharrachd air Inbhir Nis, tha buidhnean saor-thoileach ann an Àird nam Murchan, Fìobha agus Dùn Phris is Gall-Ghàidhealaibh air trèanadh fhaighinn air an uidheamachd ann an sgeama pìleat.

Tha an fhèis a-nis an dùil taisbeanaidhean eile a chumail sa Bhliadhna' Ùir. Nam measg, bidh earrannan Fiolm G: fiolmaichean Gàidhlig de dh'iomadh seòrsa a chaidh a dhèanamh le òigridh agus buidhnean Gàidhlig air feadh Alba.

Fèis na h-Òige is now trying to address the lack of opportunities to see Gaelic films on the big screen as they embark on film screenings as part of their year-long Fèis programme. Their first screening "Hamish", about the life and work of the soldier, folklore collector and writer Hamish Henderson took place in October 2016.

The Fèis now looks forward to more screenings in the New Year. Visit their Facebook page, @feisnaoigeofficial for the latest news on upcoming film screenings, Fèis workshops and more.



MAGAIDH NIC SCRAGAIDH AIG FÈIS CHATAIBH



Chuir Fèis Chataibh fàilte air sgioba de dh'aoghean sònraichte as t-Samhain aig a' chiad tachartas aca riann do chloinn bheag is iad air an sgeulachd a thoirt beò ann an dòigh ionmhalta, draoidheil.

Thàinig Magaidh NicScragaidh agus a càirdean Izzie MacFrizzy, Arty Mac a' Phartaigh, Jeannie the Queenie, Brownie MacFrownie, Witchie NicRisnidh agus Nansaidh Nic a' Phransasaidh a Bhrùra airson cèilidh air a' chloinn.

'S ann a bha iad air cluinntinn gun robh taigeis bheò ma sgaol anns an sgoil, agus còmhla ris a' chloinn chaidh iad air turas mìorbhail each timcheall an togalaich ga lorg. Bha an sgoil fo gheasaibh air choreigin le coille dhraoidheil, eas-guidhe, bòrd-cuirm agus taigh bana-bhuidsich na bhroinn seach seòmraichean teagaisg àbhaisteach. Anns gach àite bha caractar eadar-dhealaichte a' toirt seachad rann, plòigh, gèama, pios ciùil, òran no pios ealain a chuireadh ri sgeulachd na taigeise agus a bheireadh taic dhan chloinn le bhith ga lorg.

Mu dheireadh thall leis a' chomhairle agus a' chuideachadh seo, agus as dèidh latha gu math trang, fhuaras lorg air dà thaigeis – mura biodh aonan gu leòr! Bha cothrom aig a' chloinn am faicinn aghaidh ri aghaidh agus thuig iad gur e creutairean gu math càirdeil, dòigheil a bh' annta. An uair sin, mus deach a h-uile duine dhachaigh, chaidh iad a dhannsadh còmhla ri Nansaidh Nic a' Phransasaidh san talla mhòr.

B' e neach-oide Fèis Chataibh Mhairi NicFhionghain a chruthaich an sgeulachd seo, 'Maggie MacScraggie and the Haggis Hunters', is thathar an dòchas gun till Magaidh dhan fhèis a-rithist ann an ùine nach bi fada airson iomairt dhraoidheil eile. Cumaibh sùil a-mach air duilleag Facebook Fèis Chataibh airson nan naidheachdan as ùire!

Fèis Chataibh normally works with young people aged 8 to 18 but this November the Fèis welcomed a team of slightly unusual guests to Brora to their first ever Fèis Bheag event for children aged 5 to 7.

Maggie MacScraggie and her friends Izzie MacFrizzy, Arty MacFarty, Jeannie the Queenie, Brownie MacFrownie, Witchie MacRitchie and Nancy MacPrancie visited Brora after hearing that there was a haggis on the loose in the school. The school was under some sort of spell, with an enchanted forest, a wishing waterfall, feast table and a witch's house where there were once ordinary boring classrooms and Maggie MacScraggie and her friends took the children on a magical tour of all these places to find the haggis. Each character had a verse, game, trick, song, piece of music or artwork which helped to unlock the story of the haggis and gave clues as to its whereabouts.

Finally, after a very busy day, not one but two haggis were found! The children each got to meet the haggis, and found out that they are really very gentle, friendly creatures. To celebrate, everyone learnt a new dance in the main hall with Nancy MacPrancie before heading home.

'Maggie MacScraggie and the Haggis Hunters' is an original story event created by Mhairi MacKinnon, a regular Fèis Chataibh tutor, and the Fèis hopes to host another magical adventure with Maggie in the not too distant future. Keep an eye out on the Fèis Chataibh Facebook page for news!



FUARAN NAN EILEAN PERFORM IN CAPE BRETON



Fèisean nan Gàidheal was delighted to showcase flagship heritage project Fuaran at this year's Celtic Colours International Festival in Cape Breton.

Four of our Fuaran singers crossed the Atlantic in October as part of Fuaran nan Eilean, 'Spring of the Islands' - a collaborative group representing Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Fuaran project and the innovative BA in Applied Music at Lews Castle College UHI.

Together the talented team showcased and celebrated Gaelic song and instrumental music from the islands - old and new - at a range of venues and concerts in Cape Breton. As well as performing with a host of professional musicians of all different styles and repertoires, the group also had the opportunity to meet and collaborate with young people from local Gaelic groups Fèis Mhabù and Brìgh, and students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. The group also visited Bayview Academy in Port Hood as part of the Celtic Colours outreach programme, performing music and song to a busy hall of students.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Development Officer Rachel Harris said:

"We'd like to thank all at Celtic Colours for their kind hospitality and for the opportunity to visit and spend time in the Canadian Gaelic community. Our participants certainly got a lot out of the trip - they loved hearing the Cape Breton fiddling and piping and were struck by the strong dancing tradition here. It was great too to hear Cape Breton Gaelic spoken and sung, and to learn about the stories behind the tunes and songs."

The full Fuaran team will be reunited for a special concert of Gaelic song and music at Celtic Connections in Glasgow on Saturday 28th January 2017. You can find out more and reserve your ticket at www.celticconnections.com.

In the meantime the Fuaran resource can be accessed online for free at www.feisean.org/fuaran.

DEALBH-CHLUICH NOLLAIG AIR TURAS NÀISEANTA



Image by Donald MacLeod

Air Diluain 28 Samhain, thòisich turas nàiseanta leis an dealbh-chluich Nollaig ùr Hansel & Gretel agus Fèill Mhòr na Fuine aig Bun-sgoil Ghilcomstoun, Obar Dheathain.

Mhair an turas 10 latha is thàinig e gu ceann air Dihaoine 9 Dùbhlachd. Chaidh an dealbh-chluich a shealltainn do dh'òigridh le Gàidhlig ann am bailtean mòra agus beaga air feadh na dùthcha. Am bliadhna, fhuair sgoiltean Gàidhlig ann an Leòdhas agus na Hearadh cothrom fhaicinn le trì taisbeanaidhean aig Talla Bhaile Steòrnabhaigh agus taisbeanadh aig Sgoil Sir E. Scott anns na Hearadh. Rè an turais fhuair sgoilearan bho chòrr is 40 sgoil cothrom an dealbh-chluich fhaicinn agus air feasgar Diardaoin 8 Dùbhlachd bha taisbeanadh poblach aig an Ironworks ann an Inbhir Nis. Chaidh an dealbh-chluich a sgrìobhadh agus a stiùireadh le Aonghas MacLeòid, Oifigear Dràma Fhèisean nan Gàidheal, dhealbhaich Shanon White an stuth-taic agus dreach na stèidse agus dhealbhaich Laura Cowie na culaidhean. Bha ceathrar chleasaichean san dealbh-chluich: Calum Dòmhnallach, MJ Deans, Debbie NicAoidh agus Iain Beggs.

Bha an dealbh-chluich Nollaig air a libhrigeadh tron t-seirbheis Fèisgoil aig Fèisean nan Gàidheal a tha gu mòr an comain Bòrd na Gàidhlig airson taic-airgid gus an dealbh-chluich a riochdachadh agus an turas a libhrigeadh.

A national tour of Hansel agus Gretel agus Fèill Mhòr na Fuine (Hansel and Gretel and the Great Baking Festival) began on 28th November at the Gaelic-medium department at Gilcomstoun Primary, Aberdeen.

The 10-day tour concluded on Friday 9th December and took the play to young Gaelic speakers in cities, towns and villages throughout the country. This year, schools in Lewis and Harris had an opportunity to see the play with three performances at Stornoway Town Hall and a visit to Sgoil Sir E. Scott, Tarbert. During the tour, pupils from over 40 schools saw the play and on the evening of Thursday 8th December, a public performance took place at the Ironworks in Inverness. The pantomime was written and directed by Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Drama Officer Angus Macleod, with props and set design by Shannon White and costume design by Laura Cowie. The four Gaelic-speaking actors touring the play are Calum MacDonald, MJ Deans, Debbie Mackay and Iain Beggs.

The Gaelic pantomime is delivered through Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Fèisgoil service with grateful thanks to Bòrd na Gàidhlig for funding.

MEANBH-CHUILEAG – LE MEAS

A six-week national tour of "Le Meas", a Gaelic play with theatre-in-education project Meanbh-chuilleag began in August.

"Le Meas" is based on a play originally written by Mairi Kidd and was toured through the Meanbh-chuilleag project in 2007. The original was concerned with Afghanistan; this year the play was re-interpreted to set it in the context of the Syrian conflict. It tells the story of an online friendship between two teenagers, a Scottish girl, Eilidh, played by Catriona Nicolson and a Syrian girl, Maram, played by Beth Frieden. During the play the impact of the Syrian Civil War on Maram is highlighted and Eilidh's misconceptions about life in Syria are challenged. Through Eilidh's interactions with the audience, ways to support those affected by the crisis in Syria are explored.

During two three-week blocks, the play toured Gaelic-medium primaries and was aimed at pupils in the upper school. The first leg of the tour took place between the 29th of August and 16th of September. The Highland leg of the tour featured as part of the Blas Festival's School Events programme. The second leg of the tour took place between the 24th of October and 11th November. The play was performed 50 times and 1554 pupils saw the play. The director was Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Drama Officer, Angus Macleod.

FÈIS THEÀTAR ÒIGRIDH GHÀIDHLIG 2016

Air 5 Dàmhair, ghabh ceithir theàtaran-òigridh Gàidhlig à Baile Dhubhthaich, Inbhir Pheofharain, Inbhir Nis agus Glaschu pàirt ann am Fèis Theàtar Òigridh Ghàidhlig a thug cothrom do 18 deugairean le Gàidhlig cleasachd ann an theatar proifeiseanta agus taic theicnigeach fhaighinn bho sgioba Eden Court. Chaidh na dealbhan-cluiche aca a thaisbeanadh do sgoilearan àrd-sgoile feasgar agus bha taisbeanadh poblach ann air an oidhche.

Tro "Maoin Leasachadh Dràma na Gàidhlig" aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig, tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus Eden Court ag obair còmhla gus cothroman a bharrachd a thoirt do sgoilearan àrd-sgoile le Gàidhlig air a' Ghàidhealtachd sgilean dràma ionnsachadh agus taisbeanaidhean dràma a dhèanamh tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig.

Ri linn a' mhaoineachaidh seo stèidhich an t-Oifigear Dràma aig Fèisean nan Gàidheal dà bhuidheann ann am Baile Dhubhthaich agus Inbhir Pheofharain agus le stiùireadh bhuaithe dheasaich iad dà dhealbh-chluich ùr a chaidh a thaisbeanadh aig an Fhèis.

Tha Eden Court agus Fèisean nan Gàidheal fada an comain Maoin Leasachadh Dràma na Gàidhlig 2015/16 aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig airson taic-airgid gus an Fhèis seo a libhrigeadh.



On the 5th of October, four Gaelic Youth Theatres from Tain, Dingwall, Inverness and Glasgow participated in Fèis Theàtar Òigridh Ghàidhlig 2016, a Gaelic Youth Theatre Festival for Gaelic speaking teenagers. A total 18 teenagers participated and had the opportunity to perform in a professional theatre with technical support from the team at Eden Court. Following rehearsal their plays were performed for secondary school pupils in the afternoon and a public performance was given in the evening.

DUAISEAN GU LEÒR – AWARDS GALORE!

Tha ràithe nan duaisean oirnn agus chaidh iomadh neach aig a bheil ceangal ri Fèisean a mholadh airson duais aig tachartasan eadar-dhealaichte.

Bidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal a' cumail taic ri Talla nan Seòid aig Na Trads gach bliadhna agus bha sinn gu math toilichte gun deach urram a bhuileachadh air iomadh duine fìor ainmeil cho math riuthasan a tha air obair ionmholta a dhèanamh aig ìre choimhearsnachd.

Annas na Duaisean Gàidhlig Daily Record, bha Fèisean nan Gàidheal ainmeachadh air a' gheàrr-liosta airson Duais Ealain is Chultarach, a bhuannaich Theatre Gu Leòr agus ann an Duais Eaconamach na Gàidhlig, a bhuannaich Museum nan Eilean. Bha Cairistiona Ghreumach, à Bòrd-stiùiridh Fèisean nan Gàidheal, air a' gheàrr-liosta airson Sàr Dhuais na Gàidhlig, a bhuannaich Seumas Watson à Alba Nuadh. Choisinn Shannon Cowie an duais Tosgaire Òg na Bliadhna. Na h-òige, bha Shannon fad iomadach bliadhna an lùib Fèis na h-Òige agus na ball den bhuidheann seinn Canntaireachd. Bha i ag obair aig Fèis Rois as t-samhradh agus i a-nise na ball de Bhòrd-stiùiridh na Fèise.

The awards season has seen many people connected with the Fèisean being honoured. Fèisean nan Gàidheal sponsors the Traditional Music Hall of Fame and we were delighted that the following performers were inducted this year: Andy M Stewart, Arthur Argo, Barbara Dickson OBE, Battlefield Band, Gordeanna McCulloch, Iain MacPhail, Jimmy McHugh, Jonathan MacDonald MBE, Michael Marra, Mirk and Murray Henderson.

Those honoured for their community work were Liz Marroni, Pete Heywood, Louis DeCarlo and Rod Mackenzie as well as three people directly involved in the Fèis movement – accordion tutor Gordon Connell, former Chair of Fèisean nan Gàidheal Catriona MacIntyre and the late Caroline Hewat who served on the Board of Fèis Rois. Fiona Ritchie MBE was given the Hamish Henderson Services to Traditional Music Award.

At Na Trads, we congratulated Fèis Rois on picking up the Community Project of the Year award, beating off opposition from Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Fuaran project. Congratulations, also, to Jim Hunter who has been a Fèis tutor mainly, but not exclusively, in his home area of Ardnamurchan for well over twenty years.

Community Public Service

Recently Peigi MacLennan, a member of Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Board, was given an award for Community Public Service for her part in organising the recent National Mòd and her community work in the Newton area of Stornoway. Peigi is also Chair of Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich. Meal do naidheachd, a Pheigi.



Shannon Cowie who was presented with the Young Ambassador of the Year Award at this year's National Gaelic Awards

SALTIRE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL BURSARY

A' comharrachadh 80 bliadhna bhon a chaidh a stèidheachadh, thug Comunn Crann na h-Alba cuireadh do dh'Fhèisean nan Gàidheal neach-ciùil no seinneadair òg air leth tàlantach a lorg, a shealladh mar a leudachadh cothrom eadar-nàiseanta adhartas agus eòlas ann an ceòl.

Chaidh bursaraidh a mhaoineachadh le Comhairle Bhreatainn (Alba) a lean iomairt a chaidh a chuir air chois dà bhliadhna air ais nuair a fhuair Innes Mac Ille Bhàin, compàirtiche Fèis Rois agus neach-labhairt na Gàidhlig, cothrom ionnsachadh mu cheòl mion-chànain eile – Catalan.

A collaborative initiative between the Saltire Society, Fèisean nan Gàidheal and British Council Scotland, resulted in Brìghde Chaimbeul picking up an International Travel Bursary at the recent Saltire Celebrates event in Glasgow's Òran Mòr.

Celebrating its 80th year, the Saltire Society invited Fèisean nan Gàidheal to identify a young musician or singer with exceptional potential who could demonstrate how an international experience would add enhance musical development. After an open process, and consideration of a number of applications, Brìghde was selected and hopes to travel to Bulgaria to experience, first hand, the music of the Balkans and the amazing sound of the Bulgarian gaita.

ADAM'S FIRST MUSICAL COLLECTION PUBLISHED

A collection of contemporary Scottish folk melodies from the pen of Loch Ness fiddler, Fèis tutor and composer, Adam Sutherland, has been published by Skye-based music publishers Taigh na Teud.

Adam comes from Errogie on the south shores of Loch Ness and is one of Scotland's most exciting composers, teachers and fiddle players appearing with The Treacherous Orchestra, Session A9, Peatbog Faeries, Babelfish and Croft no. Five. He has also played with a host of other well-known acts including Salsa Celtica and Mànran.

The Errogie Collection - Volume 1 is available now and in recognition of Adam's long association with the Fèis movement, Fèisean nan Gàidheal is supplying a copy to each of the Fèisean.

LAST CHANCE IN 2016-17 FOR A TASGADH GRANT

Tràth sa bhliadhna' ùir bidh an sgeama Tasgadh, a chaidh a chruthachadh airson tabhartasan beaga a thoirt seachad gus taic a chumail ris na h-ealain thraidiseanta, a' tighinn gu ceann airson 2016-17. Tha aon chothrom air fhàgail ge-tà airson iarrtas a chur thugainn.

Tasgadh is designed to be a fast turnaround and 'light touch' grant scheme offering up to £1,000 for traditional arts projects. In 2015-16, £31,500 was distributed across 64 projects worth a total of £174,000.

Following rounds one and two, in 2016-17 we have granted a total of £18,967, leaving £12,533 to be distributed following the third and final round, the deadline for which is 3 February 2017.

Don't miss the opportunity. Guidelines and application forms are available at feisean.org/tasgadh.

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