

# faileas

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Newsletter • Iris 67 • An t-Ògmhios 2018 • June 2018

## BLAS 2018 TO CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF YOUNG PEOPLE



**Ged a tha òigridh daonna a' nochdadh aig tachartasan Blas, tha barrachd smachd gu bhith aca air fèis na bliadhna-sa leis gu bheil Alba a' comharrachadh Bliadhna na h-Òigridh. A bharrachd air cothroman air an àrd-ùrlar gheibh iad eòlas air mar a ghabhas fèis den t-seòrsa seo a chur air dòigh agus bidh iad an sàs ga ruith.**

The Northern Meeting Park in Inverness will be transformed into a concert venue on Saturday 15 September when the Blas Festival will culminate in a largescale showcase of young talent - Òran Mòr - with over 1,000 young musicians and singers expected to perform alongside Skipinnish, Trail West, Breabach and Brìghde Chaimbeul in a special event to mark Scotland's Year of Young People 2018.

Blas has also offered a commission to young Gaelic singer, Mischa Macpherson, which will guarantee performances of her new music at Blas. With sponsorship from Thorntons Investments, she will have the opportunity to record the work after the festival to bring it to a wider audience.

There will be a Ceòl nam Fèis showcase concert at Strathpeffer's Spa Pavilion, involving around 150 young people from local Fèisean, on the eve of the finale Òran Mòr event.

Arthur Cormack of Fèisean nan Gàidheal, which organises the Blas Festival in partnership with The Highland Council, explained: "Blas has always involved young people as performers at events. This year their involvement will be even more widespread as young people take on a key role in creating, organising and running events, offering them a range of experiences in the process."

Paul Bush OBE, VisitScotland's Director of Events, said: "We are delighted to be supporting the Blas Festival through dedicated Year of Young People funding. Now in its 14th year, the festival, which is a wonderful celebration of Highland and Gaelic culture shines a spotlight on Scotland's traditions and indeed the region itself for both visitors and locals to enjoy."

"Events such as the Blas Festival further reinforce Scotland's capability in staging major events of this calibre, whilst enabling us to focus on the younger generation by providing a range of opportunities and exciting activity during this special year."

Councillor Alister Mackinnon, Chair of Corporate Resources and Chair of the Gaelic Strategy and Implementation Group, said: "The Highland Council is delighted to be supporting this signature event to celebrate the Year of Young People in the Highland area. The young people of the Highlands are our future as we rely on them to be the tradition bearers of our language and culture."

Arthur Cormack concluded: "Fèisean nan Gàidheal is grateful to The Highland Council for continuing to fund the Blas Festival which offers a platform to work in partnership with EventScotland, adding a valuable and meaningful Gaelic language dimension to the Year of Young People and attracting a larger scale event to the Highlands."

We are also grateful to all our regular funders and partners and look forward to a great celebration of the involvement of young people in traditional music at this year's festival."

Tickets for Òran Mòr will be on sale early in July when the rest of the 2018 Blas Festival programme is launched.

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## FÈIS CHATAIBH AND FÈIS AIR AN OIR CÈILIDH BAND

The Fèis Chataibh & Fèis Air an Oir Cèilidh Band is a collaboration project being put together featuring musicians from each Fèis. It is an alternative for young musicians too young to go for the Cèilidh Trail so they can nevertheless display their talent, get a taste of what the Cèilidh Trail is like and how it is run. All from Sutherland and Caithness, the members are aged 14-18 and following this there are two paths the participants can pursue. They may take a music performance route, such as next year's Cèilidh Trail, or they may take a more organisational role for either the Cèilidh Trail or running another Cèilidh Band next year.

Ross Celli of Fèis Chataibh said: "As a member of the cèilidh band and the coordinator, I know that I must put a lot of work into making sure everything runs smoothly. I know the importance of commitment to the band. If you are committed this opportunity is very rewarding as you get tutored by very accomplished musicians and a taste of what it would be like to be on the trail next year."

## FÈIS NAN GARBH CHRÌOCHAN AWARDED PHILANTHROPY PRIZE



**Chaidh duais luach £3,000 a thoirt do Fèis nan Garbh Chriochan tro chathrannas òigridh, Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI), às dèidh iomairt le sgoilearan Àird nam Murchan.**

**Thathas an dùil gun dèan an Fhèis feum dhen duais ann an iomadach dòigh, leithid a bhith a' ceannach ionnsramaidean agus uidheamachd agus a bhith a' stèidheachadh chlasaichean ciùil ùra.**

Fèis nan Garbh Chriochan has been awarded £3,000 by the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI), thanks to the efforts of Ardnamurchan students.

Rachel Ford, Frances MacDonald, Mary Ann MacPherson and Seamus Buchanan, all S3 pupils of Ardnamurchan High School, secured the award for the Fèis following their presentation to YPI judges on the work the Fèis does to tackle local social issues.

The Initiative operates in schools around the world and is designed to help increase young people's understanding of local social issues in their community and identify charities that are helping to combat inequalities.

Fèis nan Garbh Chriochan Chairperson, Sarah-Jayne Shankland, said:

"We are delighted to receive the award from the Youth Philanthropy Initiative.

We would like to extend enormous thanks to the team of students who nominated Fèis nan Garbh Chriochan and put together a very informative presentation highlighting the benefit and importance of the work of the Fèis in our local community".

## FÈISEAN AIG FÈIS CHEILTEACH INNSE GALL

**Bidh urram air leth aig Fèisean nan Eilean Siar nuair a bhios riochdairean a' nochdadh còmhla air a' phrìomh àrd-ùrlar aig Fèis Cheilteach Innse Gall 2018. Anns na mìosan a dh'fhalbh, tha buidhnean às na diofar fhèisean air tighinn còmhla gus pìosan ciùil ullachadh. A bharrachd air seo, chaidh deasachadh a dhèanamh air òran a chaidh a sgrìobhadh gu sònraichte le Eilidh NicCoinnich, a bhios ga thaisbeanadh aig deireadh a' chonsairt.**

Western Isles Fèisean have been working on an inter-fèis project over the past few months to perform on the Main Stage at the Hebridean Celtic Festival. Several groups of young musicians and singers from across the islands have been working on their own sets and will participate in an ensemble performance of a new song written especially for the event by Eilidh Mackenzie.

Eilidh said: "The Western Isles is such an important place for Gaelic song with the tradition still very much alive and thriving. It is great that the festival is celebrating the 2018 Year of Young People through a new song, amongst other things. It was such a pleasure to write something for the young folk involved and I am genuinely excited to hear how they arrange and perform it."

The group will be performing on the Main Stage on Saturday 21st July at 2pm. Fèisean nan Gàidheal would like to acknowledge the Hebridean Celtic Festival and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar for their support of this project.

## AGM & CONFERENCE 2018

**Thèid Coinneamh Bhliadhna agus Co-labhairt Fèisean nan Gàidheal a chumail ann an Glaschu air 28 agus 29 An t-Sultain agus thathar an dùil gum bi slughan làthair à Fèisean air feadh na dùthcha.**

The Annual General Meeting of Fèisean nan Gàidheal will be held in The Village Hotel, Glasgow, on Friday 28 September 2018. It is expected that representatives from all the Fèisean across Scotland will be in attendance. To avoid disappointment book your place now by contacting [anne@feisean.org](mailto:anne@feisean.org). Our Annual Conference will take place on Saturday 29 September, with a varied mix of presentations and workshops. More information will be available on our website [www.feisean.org](http://www.feisean.org) in due course.

## FÈIS PHÀISLIG AIR CHUAIRT

**Tha Fèis Phàislig gu bhith air chuairt as t-Samhradh an dèidh taic-maoineachaidh fhaighinn bhon sgeama Festival 2018 - stòras a chaidh a chruthachadh mar phàirt de na Geamannan Eòrpaich a thèid a chumail am-bliadhna ann an Glaschu.**

**Thèid buidheann de shianar, uile à Pàislig fhèin, a-mach a chèilidh air sgìrean ionadail, a' cluich aig iomadh cuir-m-ciùil, a' toirt cothrom dhaibh ùine a chur seachad ag obair mar luchd-ciùil proifeasanta thairis air cola-deug.**

Fèis Phàislig will be hitting the road this summer after successfully securing a grant from Festival 2018.

This generous donation means that Fèis Phàislig will be able to establish a Cèilidh Trail.

The group of six teenagers, all hailing from Paisley itself, will visit their local areas to play a number of concerts – giving the youngsters the opportunity to experience two weeks of touring and working as professional musicians.

The addition of this new group brings the total number of Cèilidh Trails in Scotland up to ten – meaning that there will be plenty of opportunities to hear a Cèilidh Trail near you this Summer!

The Fèis Phàislig Cèilidh Trail will be on the road from the 1st-12th of August with more information at [www.feisean.org/ceilidh](http://www.feisean.org/ceilidh).

## NEW QUALIFICATION FOR CÈILIDH TRAIL PARTICIPANTS

For almost 20 years the Fèisean Cèilidh Trails have provided opportunities for young musicians to develop their skills and talents through training and performance. This year, participants will have the opportunity to complete a National Progression Award in Music Performance and Live Sound production at SCQA Level 6 during the course of their employment on the Cèilidh Trail.

In the Year of Young People, Fèisean nan Gàidheal is delighted to be working with Rachel Walker and the staff at West Highland College UHI to facilitate this course. It will include elements of live performance, working with a PA and a creative project (planning a performance) all of which Cèilidh Trail participants engage in during their training weeks, rehearsals and tours. Additional work will involve recording and collating evidence to show that a certain level of knowledge and skill has been achieved and staff, tutors and Cèilidh Trail Co-ordinators will be on hand to offer help and support.

# AGALLAMH LE ROBBIE MACLEÒID



Dealbh le Ceitidh NicDhòmhnaill, Tìree Music Festival 2014

Thèid òran le sgrìobhaiche òg Gàidhlig a sheinn le na ceudan de dh'òigridh fèise agus sgoilearan aig tachartas sònraichte mar phàirt de Bhliadhna na h-Òigridh. Rinn Robbie MacLeòid 'Beò an Dòchas' airson Òran Mòr: tachartas far am faicear tàladh còrr is 500 luchd-ciùil is seinneadairean òga bho air feadh Alba. Bhruidhinn Oifgear Leasachaidh Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Karen Oakley, ri Robbie mu dheidhinn cò às a thàinig beachd airson an òrain...

## Meal do naidheachd Robbie! Cuin a thòisich thu air òrain a dhèanamh?

Thòisich mi air òrain a dhèanamh nuair a bha mi nam dheugaire òg. Anns a' chiad dol-a-mach b' ann sa Bheurla a bhithinn a sgrìobhadh, ach bha mi an-còmhnaidh airson òrain a dhèanamh sa Ghàidhlig cuideachd.

Dh'fhàs mi na bu chofhurtaile òrain a dhèanamh sa Ghàidhlig às dèidh dhomh a dhol an sàs san Taigh Òran, a chuir Fèisean nan Gàidheal agus Watercolour Studios air dòigh. 'S e cothrom a bh' ann ionnsachadh bho òranaichean Gàidhlig mu chruthachadh òran agus òrain a chlàradh. On uair sin tha mi air barrachd òran a sgrìobhadh sa Ghàidhlig.

## Cò mu dheidhinn a tha 'Beò an Dòchas'?

'S ann mu òigridh agus misneachd a tha 'Beò an Dòchas'. Thug iomadach rud buaidh air an òran. Chaidh a dhèanamh beagan sheachdainean às dèidh #IsMiseGàidhlig, agus cuideachd am March for Our Lives ann an Aimeireagaidh. Bha e a' faireachdainn coltach gun robh daoine a' tighinn còmhla, ged a fhuair e càineadh airson a bhith 'ro òg airson tuigsinn' no a bhith mar aislingichean. 'S e neach dòchasach a th' annam, bruadaire ma dh'fhaodte. Tha mi a' faireachdainn gu bheil còir agad a bhith nad bhrudaraiche fhad 's a 's urrainn dhut — 'Fhad 's a tha mi òg, bidh mi òg'.

Bha mi airson faclan a chur an cèill dhan fheadhainn a tha òg agus a tha deònach strì, a tha ag ionnsachadh luach a' chultair agus a' chànan. Bha mi airson strì an aghaidh a' bheachd a tha seo - gu bheil cùisean nas fheàrr na bha, is mar sin chan eil còir againn gearain agus strì. Bidh strì a dhìth an-còmhnaidh.

## Cò na seinneadairean/sgrìobhadairean a tha a' còrdadh riut fhèin?

Tha iomadh seinneadair agus sgrìobhadair ann a tha a' còrdadh rium. Sa Ghàidhlig, an-dràsta tha mi ag èisteachd ri tòrr WHYTE agus meanbh-chlàr Kim Carnie gu h-àraidh. Sa Bheurla tha mi air a bhith ag èisteachd ri Julien Baker agus Frightened Rabbit gu dlùth. Is truagh an naidheachd a fhuair sinn o chionn gheis mu Scott Hutchison.

A bharrachd air sin, lorgar mi ag èisteachd ri Hamilton cha mhòr gun stad.

## Càite an cluinn daoine do chuid sgrìobhaidhean?

Iomadh àite! A thaobh òrain, lorgar m' òran 'Cumha' air Spotify, iTunes is eile. Tha corra bhideo agam air Youtube, agus demothan agam air Soundcloud. Chaidh m' òran 'Tamhasg' a chlàradh le Mànran air an dàrna clàr aca, The Test, agus chuir mi faclan ri fuinn John Somerville airson dà òran air a' chlàr The Voyage of the Hector. Bidh mi cuideachd ri bàrdachd slam, a thèid a lorg air Youtube gu furasta fon ainm Robbie MacLeòid. Ma leanas tu 'Robbie Anndra MacLeòid - Bàrd' air Facebook, gheibh thu lorg air a h-uile sion.

## Dè a' chomhairle a bheireadh tu do chuideigin eile a tha airson sgrìobhadh sa Ghàidhlig?

Tha droch òran (no sgeulachd, no dàn...) nas fheàrr na deagh bheachd airson òran. Feuch air. Mur h-eil thu toilichte leis na rinn thu, feuch a-rithist air. Fàsaidh tu nas fheàrr le bhith ga dhèanamh. Agus le bhith feuchainn air, tha thusa a' cur ri stòras ar cultair.

## Quickfire

A' sgrìobhadh moch-mhadainn neo am beul na h-oidhche?

Oidhche!

Bob Dylan neo Aonghas MacNeacail?

Dylan, an-dràsta co-dhiù!

Peann is pàipear neo fòn-làimhe?

Ge bith na tha ri làimh!

Cha b' urrainn dhomh a bhith beò às aonais... Ogsaidean.

## 5 LATHA 2018 A GREAT SUCCESS

The seventh 5 Latha was held between 2-7 April at the Gairranan Blackhouses, Isle of Lewis with 12 participants taking part in a wide choice of activities, all delivered through the medium of Gaelic.

The group visited Harris Tweed weaver Rebecca Hutton, in Northton, Isle of Harris, where they learned about the industry and the various stages of her business: design, manufacturing and selling. The participants then had the opportunity to use some of Rebecca's tweeds as part of craft activities where they made a variety of cushions, hearts, keyrings and pouches for music equipment.

The group visited Donald Macsween, Air an Lot, in Ness and worked on a variety of crofting tasks, including preparing the barn for the imminent spell of lambing, and met his 9 two-day old piglets.

Each day Norrie Maciver (Skipinnish) and Ian Smith (Trail West) led music and song workshops with the group and they learned a number of pieces related to the subjects that are part of the Fèis week.

As the end of the week approached, the participants went on a trip out of Miavig, Uig with Seatrek. They saw a number of different seabirds and were able to land on Pabbay and walk around the island learning about the history of the local area.

The annual 5 Latha cèilidh was held in the Carloway Community Hall on Thursday 5th April with over 90 in attendance with performances from participants, tutors, supervisors and members of the local community.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal is grateful to Bòrd na Gàidhlig which funds 5 Latha and is indebted to the Carloway community who give a great deal of support to the event.

## FÈIS DHRÀMA A' CHINN A DEAS

A new drama festival featuring new Gaelic plays produced by Skye and Lochalsh primary school pupils was held recently at Talla Dhonaidh Chaimbeul, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.

Hosted by Fèisean nan Gàidheal, over 60 pupils from five primary schools participated in the day-long event held on Tuesday 22nd May.

Preparation for three participating school groups from Sleat, Broadford and Plockton and Lochcarron primaries started at the beginning of the term. Each group received expert support and direction from writer and actor Catriona Lexy Campbell, employed by Fèisean nan Gàidheal to deliver a series of weekly drama workshops to assist in the production of each school's play. A group from Mallaig Primary also performed on the day.

## AITHRIS IS OIDEAS - A NEW GAELIC GAMES RESOURCE



Chruinnich deichnean à Fèis na h-Òige ann an Cùirt Eden air Dihaoine 8mh Ògmhios airson òrain chloinne a chlàradh air bhideo. Chuir na deugairean òrain ùra air clàr a bharrachd air òrain à beul aithris.

'S ann bhon leabhar Aithris is Oideas a thàinig fear neo dhà de na h-òrain, leabhar a chuir Comhairle Albannach Rannsachadh Foghlam air bhog ann an 1964. Tha an leabhar seo làn rannan mu chreutairean, lùibhean is cuairt nan ràithean, rannan obrach, tòimhseachain is cleasan. The cuid fhathast an cuimhne dhaoine an-diugh ged nach eil mòran dhiubh air bilean an t-sluaigh. Chuir luchd-obrach Fèisean nan Gàidheal fuinn ùra ri rann no dhà.

A group of 10 Fèis na h-Òige participants gathered recently in Eden Court to record a number of Gaelic songs suitable for the playground. The teenagers coupled the songs, some of them old and some of them specially written for this project, with appropriate, fun games and in the videos you can watch them sing and play. The resource is intended as a pilot and if useful to Fèisean, schools and other community groups, we will look to add more songs with games in the months ahead. Fèisean nan Gàidheal is grateful to Eden Court for providing the space free of charge for the recording.

If your Fèis has any suitable material please get in touch. We will also be looking to visit different Fèisean with some new song-games and if you would like your Fèis to be involved in the recording process please get in touch with your development officer and/or Fèisgoil manager, Eilidh Mackenzie eilidh@feisean.org 01463 225559

## BLASAD GÀIDHLIG, SEINN & ACADAMAIDH A' MHÒID

An teirm seo, libhrig sinn seiseanan Blasad Gàidhlig ann am bun-sgoiltean air a' Ghàidhealtachd, ann an Glaschu, Lannraig a Tuath, Siorrachd Àir a Deas, Sruighlea agus sgìre na h-Eaglaise Brice. Cuideachd, eadar pròiseact 'Seinn' san Eilean Sgitheanach agus Acadamaidh a' Mhòid bha aig sgioba Fèisgoil ri miltean de mhiltean a shiubhal. Tha deich sgoiltean ann an sgìre Dhùn Omhain ag ullachadh airson Mòd 2018 agus airson a' chiad uair, thachair Mòd Ionadail an Eilean Sgitheanach ann am Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Phort Rìgh. Bu mhat leinn gach soirbheachas a ghuidhe don sgoil ùir agus obair a dhèanamh le clann na sgoile san àm ri teachd.

## HÙB HÀB: SEIRM NA SÌDE

The first regional tour of 'Seirm na Sìde', the latest production in the Hùb Hàb early years theatre-in-education service, took place between 23rd April and 4th May. The Gaelic language play focuses on the subject of the weather and the colours of the rainbow and is based on the format of previous Hùb Hàb productions.

Actors Megan MacLellan and Catriona Nicolson were employed for the tour of the Central Belt, Perthshire and Argyllshire which included 22 performances for 19 Gaelic-medium primary school/Gaelic nursery groups. Over 700 pupils attended these performances and a second tour is currently scheduled to take place in the Highland Council area between 10th and 21st September.

## LÀITHEAN DRÀMA DO THIRISTICH 'S ÌLICH ÒGA

Fhuair clann à Ìle agus Tìriodh buannachd às a' phròiseact 'Sgìlean Dràma' a chaidh a thabhan do bhun-sgoiltean le ionadan Gàidhlig ann an sgìre Earra-Ghàidheal.

Thug am pròiseact cothrom do gach sgoil a ghabh pàirt oideachadh fad latha fhaighinn ann an iomadach seòrsa sgìl dràma tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. Chaidh an t-eòlaiche dràma Artair Donald fhastadh le Fèisean nan Gàidheal gus am pròiseact a libhrigeadh. Chaidh bùthan-obrach a bha freagarrach do bhuidhnean-sgoile a tha ag ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig mar chànan a bharrachd agus sgoilearan gun Ghàidhlig a thabhan cuideachd.

Air Dihaoine 11mh den Chèitean chosg Artair latha slàn còmhla ri 30 sgoilear ann an Sgoil Thiriodh agus Diluain 4mh den Ògmhios dh'obraich e an cuideachd còrr is 40 sgoilear aig Bun-sgoil a' Bhogha Mhòir. Fhuair clann-sgoile à bun-sgoiltean Ìle eile cothrom sgìlean dràma a thogail cuideachd le seisean dràma as dèidh na sgoile a fhreagair air clann a bha fileanta agus clann gun Ghàidhlig. Tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal an comain Ionad Chaluim Chille Ìle a thug cothrom dhuinn an togalach aca a chleachdadh airson an t-seisein seo.

## OILEANAICH GAN SIREADH

Ma tha thu fileanta sa Ghàidhlig, a' tòiseachadh air cùrsa (no a' tilleadh don oilthigh) is a' lorg beagan cosnaidh, nach smaoinich sibh air cothroman obrach tro Fèisgoil? Ged a bhios obair sam bith a rèir iarrtas bhiodh e feumail fiosrachadh a bhith againn mu oileanaich le sgìlean Gàidhlig, sgìlean ciùil, seinn is sgìlean freagarrach eile.

If you, or anyone you know is a fluent Gaelic speaking student and interested in some part-time work through Fèisgoil please get in touch with eilidh@feisean.org or tel. 01463 225559

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