An teirm-sa tha bun-sgoiltean Gàidhlig air feadh na dùthcha a’ fhaighinn cothrom ionnsachadh mu bhurraidheachd-saidhbeir agus sàbhailteachd air-loidhne tron dealbh-chluich ùr “Nam Brògan-san”, a th’ air a riodhachadh tro Meanbh-chuileag, am pròiseact tèatar-oideachaidh aig Fèisean nan Gàidheal.

Chaidh an dealbh-chluich do dh’acon neach, a tha ag amas air clann ann an ceann shuas na bun-sgoile, a sgriobhadh ‘s a stiùireadh le Aonghas MacLeod, Olifiear Dràma Fèisean nan Gàidheal. Thuirt e mun dealbh-chluich: “Thèid eòlas a chur air triùr charaidean sgoile, a th’ air an cluich leis an aon chleasaiche, is chithear mar a bhios burraidheachd-saidhbear ag adhbhharachadh sgaradh eatorra. Ann an eacarsaich dràma às déidh làinmhe gheibh sgoilearan cothrom a bhith a’ còmhradh mun chuspair ‘s na ghabhas a dhèanamh gus an dìon fhèin air loidhne.”

Chaidh dithis chleasaiche, Iain Beggs agus Lana Pheutan, fhastadh gus an dealbh-chluich a thaisbeanadh ann an sgìrean eadar-dhealaichte de dh’Alba. Thòisich an turas nàiseanta air 25mh Gearran ann an Eilean Leòdhais agus leanaidh e gu 2 An Giblean, le lain a thaithisean anns na h-Eileanan an lar, air a’ Ghàidhealtachd agus sgìre Earra-Ghàidheal. Tha Lana ga thoirt timcheall sgoiltean ann am Meadhan na h-Alba, Peairt agus Obar Dheathain.

This term, Gaelic medium primary school pupils throughout the country have the opportunity to learn about the impact of cyberbullying and the importance of keeping safe online thanks to a new Gaelic language play “Nam Brògan-san” (In their Shoes), produced through Meanbh-chuileag, Fèisean nan Gàidheal’s Gaelic language theatre-in-education project.

The play, performed by one person, is aimed at P5-P7 pupils and was written and directed by Angus Macleod, Drama Officer with Fèisean nan Gàidheal. He said “During the play, pupils are introduced to three school friends, all played by the same actor, and see the consequences of cyberbullying on their friendship. In a follow-on drama exercise pupils are given the opportunity discuss the subject and learn what steps can be taken to protect themselves.”

Two Gaelic-speaking actors, Iain Beggs and Lana Pheutan, have been employed to perform the play at schools in different parts of the country. The national tour started on the 25th of February on the Isle of Lewis and will continue until the 2nd of April, with Iain touring the Western Isles, Highland and Argyllshire. Lana will visit schools in the Central Belt, Perth and Aberdeen.

The production and tour have been made possible by funding from Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Creative Scotland and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.
Congratulations to Fèis Inbhir Narainn who celebrated their 15th Anniversary at their recent Fèis day in Nairn.

In November, internationally renowned percussive dance artist Nic Gareiss became the first artist to take up the new role of First Footing Traditional Dance Artist in Residence. The Residency, facilitated by the Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland and Edinburgh University’s Institute for Sport, Physical Education & Health Sciences, Moray House School of Education and the School of Scottish Studies aims to engage and connect communities of all kinds that are involved in traditional dance practice, development and performance.

As part of the project, Fèisean nan Gàidheal have been working closely with Nic and Michelle Brady, Dance Network Co-ordinators at the Traditional Dance Forum of Scotland to involve Fèisean in the project and create opportunities for step-dance tutors to develop their skills. Back in October, Nic visited Fèis Spè where he led a step-dance workshop for participants and also performed as part of their annual tutors’ concert.

In February, Fèis Lochaber’s step-dance classes had the opportunity to participate in workshops with Nic which were followed by a fantastic community ceilidh involving lots of dancing as well as performances by some of the young people who participate in the on-going Fèis classes. In April Nic will visit Fèis an Iar Dheas in Dumfries and also lead a workshop for participants of Fèis a’ Bhaile’s monthly step-dance classes.

As well as participants finding inspiration and developing their creativity, a number of Fèis tutors had the opportunity to share their skills and experience at a fantastic CPD event designed specifically for step-dance teachers which took place in Perth Theatre on Sunday 24th February. The day was titled ‘Casting a New Vision for Step-dance Education in Scotland: A Day of Conversation & Professional Development’ and it provided a hugely inspirational platform for discussion, skills sharing and peer learning.

More information about Nic Gareiss can be found here - http://firstfootingscotland.tumblr.com and information on the First Footing Residency and the Traditional Dance Forum Scotland can be found here - https://www.tdfs.org/first-footing-residency/

Over 30 Fèis tutors and volunteers have taken part in Gaelic training so far this year. The training days, held in Glasgow, Nairn and Oban, were aimed at giving beginner to intermediate Gaelic learners useful phrases and skills for Fèisean and other events. Further training is planned for the coming year.

If your Fèis is interested in hosting training, we’d love to hear from you. Get in touch with your local Development Officer.
The second phase of the Fuaran heritage project is well underway after 7 young people from the Féisean took part in a training led by Scotland’s leading experts in the field of Scottish Gaelic folklore last month. Angus John MacDonald, Margaret Stewart and Màiri McFadyen led workshops with the new participants of Fuaran, a Féisean na Gàidhlig initiative designed to encourage a new generation of Gaelic speakers and singers to actively engage in the research and collection of Gaelic songs in their local area.

Angus John (AJ) and Mairi gave advice on gathering stories such as preparing interview questions. Both have extensive experience of gathering for the School of Scottish Studies. Margaret has built up a reputation as a highly regarded singer and researcher of Gaelic song, and Màiri McFadyen led workshops with the participants transcribed songs.

The participants will spend the next few months researching and gathering local songs from their own communities before getting the opportunity to make a professional recording of them for online distribution.

22 songs were collected by the first participants of Fuaran (2014-2016). You can hear them all by visiting feisean.org/fuaran.

The participants transcribed songs.

Tha Fèis an Rubha agus Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh air Taighcèilidh a chur air bhonn anns a dh’fhàlabh airson daoine de gach aoi a thoirt còmhla airson a dhol ann an airain, ceòl, sgeulachdan is beagan cabadaich.

Chum Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh an dàrna Taigh Cèilidh aca bho chionn ghoidir. Chaoidh deagh thach a chumail ris bho mhuinntir na sgile gu leòr de shienn is sheanchas mar phàirt de na h-oidheachan, a bharrachd air port no dha. Cruinnichdhiad aird a-rithist ann an Taigh Dhonnchaidh air Dhàhoine 5 Gìbilean.

Le taic bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig, chuir Fèis an Rubha an Taigh Cèilidh acasan air dòigh aig toiseach a’ Mhàirt ann an Ionad Coimhearsnachd na h-Àirde. Bha oidhche dheòighail aca le sean is òg an lathair. Cruinnichdhiad aird a-rithist air 18 Gìbilean aig Ionad Stoodie san Rubha.
AGM & CONFERENCE 2019

The Annual General Meeting of Fèisean nan Gàidheal & Conference, will be held in The Kingsmills Hotel, Inverness on 27 & 28 September 2019.

We hope to be able to welcome at least one representative from each Fèis for whom attendance expenses will be paid.

If there are any training workshops you would particularly like covered, please contact anne@feisean.org

More information will be available on our website www.feisean.org in due course.

SORAIDH LE MOREEN

Tha sinn uabhasach duilich sàrainn fhàgail aig Moreen Pringle a bhios gar fàgail airson obair u r a ghabhail os làimh. Tha Moreen air a bhith cho dealasach agus taiceil dhuing uile re úine fhada na h-obair aig Fèisean nan Gàidheal.

Although extremely sorry to see her go, we wish Moreen Pringle the very best as she leaves Fèisean nan Gàidheal to take up a new post with a Skye company. Moreen has been a tremendous asset to the organisation throughout her 11 years with us. While we shall miss her greatly, we thank her for all she has done for the organisation and wish her every success in her new post.

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Fèisean nan Gàidheal is a company limited by guarantee number SC130071, a Scottish Charity number SC002040, funded by Creative Scotland, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, The Highland Council, Argyll & Bute Council and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar