



Fèisean nan Gàidheal

A' toirt ar dualchas do ar n-òigridh

Aithisg Bhliadhnail 2005
Annual Report 2005

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Fèisean nan Gàidheal Aithisg Bhliadhnail 2005

Annual Report 2005

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**Fèisean nan Gàidheal is a company limited by guarantee,
registration number SC130071, recognised as a Scottish Charity
and gratefully acknowledges the support of its main funders
Scottish Arts Council, The Highland Council and
Highlands & Islands Enterprise**



FACAL BHON CHATHRAICHE

'S e àm glè inntinneach a th' air a bhith agam mar Chathraiche Fèisean nan Gàidheal airson na dàrna bliadhna, agus tha e na thoileachadh dhomh Aithisg Bhliadhnail na buidhne a chur fo ur comhair, ann am bliadhna eile far an robh iomairt nam Fèisean a' sìor-fhàs agus a' leudachadh mar nach robh riamh roimhe.

Tha obair na buidhne stèidhichte gu tur air taic a thoirt do na Fèisean, agus tha sin air a bhith air ath-dhearbhadh anns a' Phlana Leasachaidh ùr a th' againn.

Ach tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal aithnichte airson pròiseactan de gach seòrsa a chur an gnìomh, agus tha sinn air a bhith glè thoilichte a bhith an sàs ann an cùmhnant le Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, agus le Comhairle Lodainn an Ear airson ceòl traidiseanta a theagasg anns na sgoiltean aca mar phàirt de dh'Iomairt Ciùil Òigridh, a bharrachd air a bhith a' leasachadh na fèise ùr, Blas. Chaidh Blas a chur air bog le trì cuirmean gu math soirbheachail anns an t-Samhainn 2004, ann an Srath Pheofharain, anns a' Chlais Mhòir agus ann an Sròn an t-Sithein, agus thathar an dùil gun tèid a' chiad fhèis shlàn a cumail anns an t-Sultain 2005.

Bha cothrom air leth aig cuid a tha air a bhith an sàs anns na Fèisean, pàirt a ghabhail anns an t-sreath phrògraman 'Bèolach' air an telebhisean. Chaidh na prògraman a dhèanamh le Media nan Eilean le taic-airgid bho Sheirbhis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig. Meala-naidheachd air a h-uile duine a ghabh pàirt, a dhearbhaich cho sgileil, ealanta is a tha an òigridh a tha a' tighinn tro na Fèisean.

Fhuair Fèis Rois urram an uiridh aig na Duaisean Chiùil Traidiseanta airson na pròiseact choimhearsnachd a b' fhèarr, agus bu mhath leinn meala-naidheachd a chur air an sgioba air fad aig Rita Nic an t-Sealgair.

Tha am Bòrd-stiùiridh ùr, air a thaghadh le na Fèisean air fad, air coinneachadh ceithir tursan thairis air a' bhliadhna a chaidh seachad. Ann a bhith ag ùrachadh a' Bhùird, thug sinn soraidh slàn do Rita Nic an t-Sealgair, Nanac Skivington, Cairistiona Ghreumach agus Jessie Newton. Tha sinn gu mòr nan comain airson na rinn iad thairis air iomadh bliadhna. Chuir sinn fàilte air buill ùra: Seonag Robasdan, Ceitidh Adam agus Peigi NicNeacail.

Ged a tha an siostam bhòtaidh ùr ag adhbhrachadh atharrachaidhean, 's e siostam fìor mhath a th' ann a nì cinnteach gu bheil na Fèisean air an riochdachadh, agus gu bheil daoine ùra a' faighinn cothrom a bhith ag obair nar measg. Am bliadhna, bidh mi fhìn a' fàgail, còmhla ri John Joe MacNeill agus Fionnghal NicIain, agus tha mi 'n dòchas gun gabh a h-uile Fèis pàirt anns an taghadh a thèid a chumail an dèidh na coinneimh bliadhnail seo. Bu mhath leam taing a thoirt do bhuill a' Bhùird a tha air a bhith ag obair gu math dìcheallach fad na bliadhna a' sìor-leudachadh obair na buidhne.

Mar is àbhaist, bu mhath leam taing shònraichte a thoirt dhan luchd-taic saor-thoileach air fad ann an iomadach choimhearsnachd air feadh na dùthcha a tha ag obair gun sguir do mhaith iomairt nam Fèisean. Chan e 's gu bheil iad dìreach a' ruith na Fèise aca fhèin, ach feumaidh iad barrachd is barrachd ùine a chur seachad a' tuigsinn agus a' coileanadh laghan is riaghailtean ùra. Mar bhuidheann, 's e fear de na prìomh amasan againn taic a thoirt do ar luchd-obrach saor-thoileach, agus ged a tha sinn an còmhnaidh a' feuchainn ri obair a lughdachadh dhaibh, tha daoine saor-thoileach fhathast a' toirt an taic as motha do na Fèisean ionadail, agus tha sinn gu math taingeil airson sin.

Tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal gu mòr an comain nam buidhnean a tha a' toirt airgid dhuinn agus bu mhath leam taing shònraichte a thoirt do Chomhairle Ealain na h-Alba airson taic leantainneach a chumail dhuinn, a bharrachd air Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd agus Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean. Tha maoinachadh phròiseactan a' tighinn bho iomadh àite agus tha na buidhnean air fad a tha air airgead a thabhainn do Fhèisean nan Gàidheal air ainmeachadh anns an aithisg, ach bu mhath leam taing a thoirt dhaibh uile gu foirmeil an-seo.

Tha Comhairle Ealain na h-Alba an sàs ann an sgrùdadh mionaideach air na buidhnean a tha a' faighinn airgid bhupa gach bliadhna, agus ged a tha fhios againne dè gheibh sinn ann an 2006-07, tha an cothrom againn tagradh a dhèanamh airson barrachd taic bhupa leis gu bheil na Fèisean air fàs cho mòr on a dh'aontaich sinn suimean airgid mu dheireadh. Tràth ann an 2006, thig an t-ionmhas a fhuair sinn bho Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd gu crìoch, agus tha sinn taingeil gu

bheil a' bhuidheann mothachail air cho luachmhor is a tha dreuchdan cultarail do eaconamaidh na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean. Tha co-dhiubh, 26 obraichean anns na Fèisean, agus sinn an dòchas mar sin gum faigheamaid barrachd airgid bhon bhuidheann bho 2006 air adhart.

Tha Comhairle Ealain na h-Alba air a bhith glè thaiceil do na Fèisean. Tha iad air poileasaidh Ealain Gàidhlig a dheasachadh, agus tha e mar phrìomhachas aig a' Chomhairle ceòl Gàidhlig agus ceòl traidiseanta a leasachadh. Tha a' Choimisean Chultarail air an aithisg a chur fa chomhair an Riaghaltais, agus ged nach eil fhios againn fhathast dè thig às, tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal gu daingeann a' creidsinn gum bu chòir buidheann a bhith againn ann an Alba a tha ceum air falbh bhon Riaghaltas airson taic a thoirt dha na Fèisean, agus do na h-ealain anns an fharsaingeachd.

Chuir sinn fàilte chridheil air Bòrd na Gàidhlig o chionn dà bhliadhna, agus bha a' bhuidheann an sàs ann an iomairt airson dèanamh cinnteach gun deach beachdan a-steach dhan Riaghaltas air dreach Bile na Gàidhlig, a chaidh fhoillseachadh anns an Dàmhair 2003. Chaidh Achd na Gàidhlig tro Phàrlamaid na h-Alba na bu tràithe am bliadhna, a bha gu math na bu treasa na bha sinn an dùil air a' chiad sealladh den dreach bhile. Tha seo gar misneachadh, agus tha sinn a' coimhead air adhart ris an Achd a' tighinn gu bith, agus a bhith ag obair gu dlùth le Bòrd na Gàidhlig airson earrannan de Phlana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig a chur an gnìomh.

Tha Fèisean nan Gàidheal air poileasaidh Gàidhlig a chur ri chèile am bliadhna, airson na buidhne fhèin, agus airson nam Fèisean. Feumaidh cinnt a bhith againn gun tèid seo a chur an gnìomh le na Fèisean, agus le taic bhuanne, gu bheil iadsan dìcheallach ann a bhith a' neartachadh na Gàidhlig anns na sgìrean aca fhèin. Le faisg air 5,000 a' dol gu Fèisean a h-uile bliadhna, chan eil teagamh gur e seo an àireamh as motha de dh'òigridh a dh'fhaodadh ùidh a ghabhail ann an Gàidhlig. Chan eil ach nas lugha na 2,000 anns na bun-sgoiltean Gàidhlig air feadh na dùthcha, agus mar sin, tha cothrom air leth againn beagan Gàidhlig a theagasg do chom-pàirtichean nam Fèisean. Tha sinn taingeil gu bheil ionmhas ùr ann bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig airson taic a thoirt do leasachaidhean na Gàidhlig taobh a-staigh nam Fèisean am bliadhna.

Bu mhath leam taing a thoirt do luchd-obrach na buidhne a tha ag obair gu cùramach agus gu dìcheallach do Fhèisean nan Gàidheal. Cha bhiodh a' bhuidheann cho soirbheachail às an aonais.

Tha, agus bidh, Fèisean nan Gàidheal an urra ri ar buill. 'S e ar prìomh amas taic a thoirt dha na Fèisean, agus mas urrainn dhuinn cuideachadh no taic sam bith a thoirt seachad, bhitheamaid toilichte sin a dhèanamh.

Catriona Nic an t-Saoir
Cathraiche Fèisean nan Gàidheal

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR

It has been a great experience to have served for a second year as Chair of Fèisean nan Gàidheal, and it is my pleasure, therefore, to present the organisation's Annual Report, which recounts yet another year of unprecedented activity within the Fèis movement.

The core work of the organisation continues to be the support of the local Fèisean, and there has been a refocus on that area of our work within the new Fèisean nan Gàidheal Development Plan.

But Fèisean nan Gàidheal has built up a reputation as an organisation that can deliver a wide range of projects, and we are particularly pleased to have been involved in Youth Music Initiative contracts with the Highland Council and East Lothian Council, as well as in the development of the new Blas festival. Blas was launched very successfully with 3 concerts last November, in Strathpeffer, Clashmore and Strontian, and planning has been ongoing to deliver a full festival in September 2005.

Fèis participants featured in the successful television series entitled 'Beòlach', made by MnE with funding from Seirbhis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig, broadcast at the end of last year, and our congratulations to all those involved, who showcased the high standard of young musicians and Gaelic singers being nurtured by local Fèisean.

Fèis Rois picked up an award at the Scots Trad Music Awards last year for the Best Community Project of the Year, and we congratulate Rita Hunter and her team on this achievement.

The new Board, elected by all the Fèisean, has met 4 times over the past year. Last year, we lost Rita Hunter, Nanac Skivington, Kirtseen Graham and Jessie Newton all of whom retired from the Board by rotation. Their input over a great many years was invaluable. We welcomed Joan Robertson, Katie Adam and Peggy Nicolson.

The new election procedure, while resulting in change, is a healthy and democratic way of ensuring Fèis representation and turnover of people. This year I will be leaving, along with John Joe MacNeil and Fiona Johnston, and nominations will be invited for replacements soon after the AGM. I would like to thank the Board members who have supported me and have served with dedication over the past year, and presided over the development of the organisation.

As ever, I would like to pay particular tribute to all the volunteer organisers and helpers in the many communities throughout the country who work tirelessly to ensure the success of the Fèis movement. That effort is not simply confined to running their local Fèis but more and more time has to be spent understanding and complying with new legislation and regulations. As an organisation one of our key roles is to support the volunteers, and while we always try to reduce the burden as much as possible, volunteers still make the most significant impact on the Fèisean locally, and we cannot thank them enough for their continued involvement.

We are grateful for the funding granted to the work of Fèisean nan Gàidheal, and I would like to thank the Scottish Arts Council, The Highland Council and Highlands & Islands Enterprise for their continuing support. Project funding comes from many sources, and all the organisations that have offered funding to Fèisean nan Gàidheal in its development work are credited within the body of the report, but I would like to formally record our thanks here.

The Scottish Arts Council is currently reviewing all its core-funded organisations, and while our funding is set for 2006-07 already, we have the opportunity during this review to make the case for enhanced support for the movement, which has grown considerably since the last package was negotiated. In early 2006, we will come to the end of a three-year funding agreement with Highlands & Islands Enterprise, and welcome their recognition of the cultural sector in creating and sustaining employment in the Highlands & Islands. The Fèisean are responsible for over 26 FTE jobs, mostly in the Highlands & Islands, and we hope to renegotiate a funding package with HIE for 2006 onwards.

The Scottish Arts Council has been a great champion of the movement. It has developed a Gaelic Arts Policy, and has prioritised the development of Gaelic and traditional music at the heart of its music strategy. The Cultural Commission has reported, and although the outcome of its findings

are as yet unknown, Fèisean nan Gàidheal believes that it is vital for Scotland to retain an arms-length body that supports the Fèis movement, as well as all the arts in Scotland.

We welcomed the establishment of Bòrd na Gàidhlig two years ago, and the organisation was involved in a campaign to ensure people took the time to write to the Scottish Executive with thoughts on the draft Gaelic Language Bill, published in October 2003. The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act, passed by the Scottish Parliament in April this year is a considerably stronger piece of legislation than envisaged on first site of the draft Bill. We warmly welcome that, and look forward to the Act coming into force, and to working with Bòrd na Gàidhlig in helping to deliver what we can of the National Plan for Gaelic.

This year, we have developed a Gaelic language policy for Fèisean nan Gàidheal, and the Fèis movement as a whole. The challenge now is to deliver on that policy within Fèisean nan Gàidheal, and ensure that the Fèisean - with help - can do their bit in their own localities to strengthen the use of the language. With nearly 5,000 young people taking part in the Fèisean annually, there is no doubt that this represents the largest number of young people who could benefit from an introduction to the Gaelic language. With just under 2,000 pupils in Gaelic-medium primary schools, there is clearly a case for attempting to engage Fèis participants in a positive way with Gaelic. We are grateful that Bòrd na Gàidhlig has come on board with new funding for the Fèis movement's development of Gaelic for this current year.

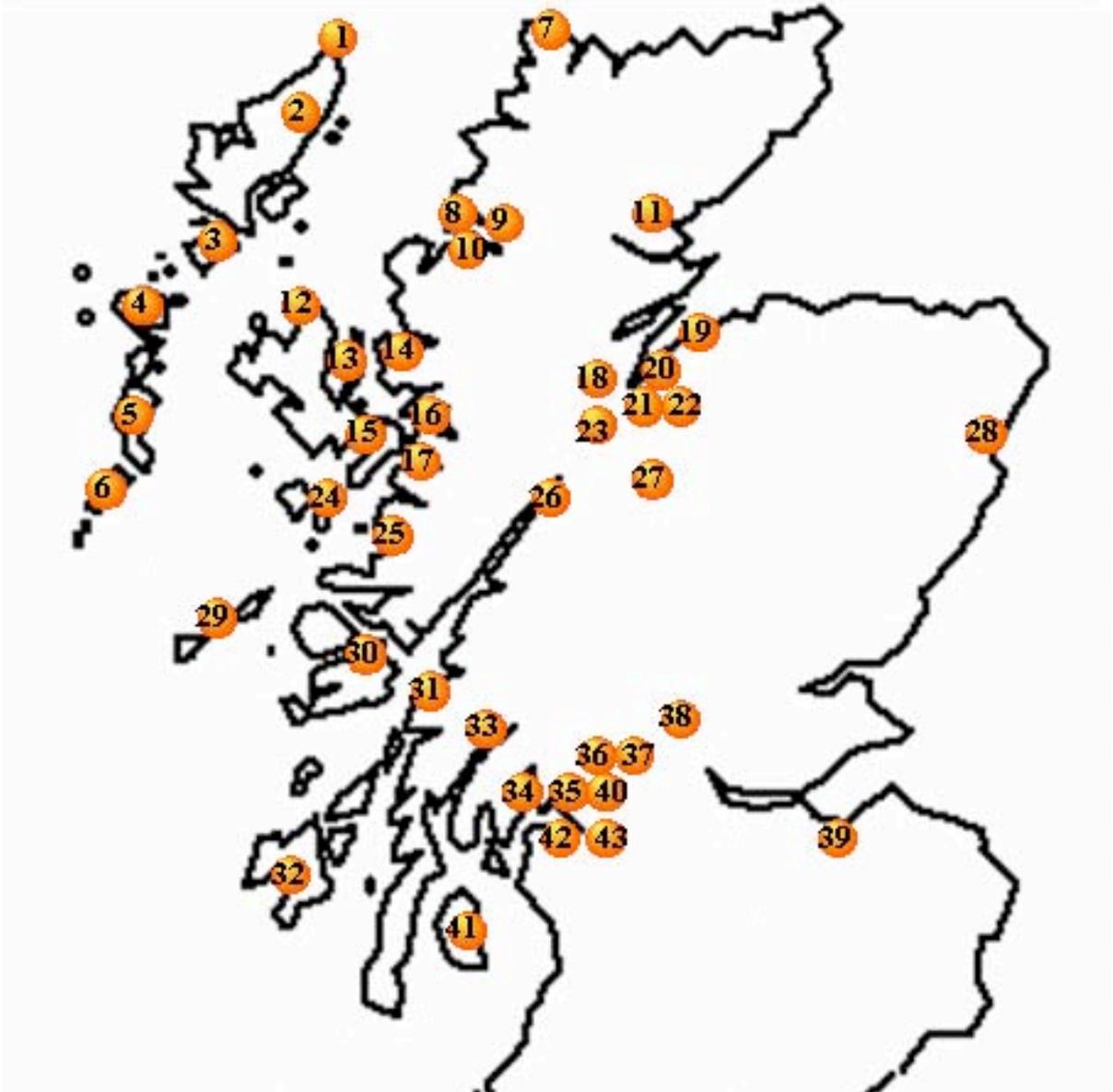
I would like to thank all the staff of the organisation whose commitment to Fèisean nan Gàidheal, and the Fèisean, is one of the key factors in our success.

Finally, Fèisean nan Gàidheal is, and will remain, a membership-led and membership-run organisation, whose primary aim is to support the Fèisean. Members should always get in touch if they need support or advice.

Catriona MacIntyre
Fèisean nan Gàidheal Chair

1 FÈISEAN ANN AN ALBA 2004-05

Over the past twelve months, the number of Fèisean in Scotland has risen, with Fèis Inbhir Narainn (Nairn), Fèis Ceann Loch Goibhle (Lochgoilhead), Fèis sa Mheadhan (Stirling area) and Fèis Òigridh na Mara (Mallaig) coming on stream. The map below shows the current spread of Fèisean across Scotland, with each numbered dot representing one of the 43, all of which are listed in the table below.



1. Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh	2. Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich	3. Fèis Eilean na Hearadh	4. Fèis Tìr an Eòrna
5. Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain	6. Fèis Bharraigh	7. Fèis Air an Oir	8. Fèis Rois Òigridh
9. Fèis Rois nan Deugairean	10. Fèis Rois Inbhich	11. Fèis Chataibh	12. Fèis Throdairnis
13. Fèis Ratharsaidh	14. Fèis nam Bealach	15. Fèis an Earraich	16. Fèis Alba 2004
17. Fèis Òigridh na Mara	18. Fèis Chille Mhòraig	19. Fèis Inbhir Narainn	20. Fèis a' Bhaile
21. Fèis na h-Òige	22. Fèis Farr	23. Fèis Ghlinn Albainn	24. Fèis Eige
25. Fèis nan Garbh Chrìochan	26. Fèis Lochabair	27. Fèis Spè	28. Fèis Obar Dheathain
29. Fèis Thiriodh	30. Fèis Mhuile	31. Fèis Latharna	32. Fèis Ìle
33. Fèis Ceann Loch Goibhle	34. Fèis Dhùn Bhreatainn	35. Fèis Òigridh Glaschu	36. Fèis Innis an Uillt
37. Fèis Lannraig a Tuath	38. Fèis sa Mheadhan	39. Fèis Dhùn Èideann	40. Fèis Ghlaschu
41. Fèis Àrainn	42. Fèis Naomh Conbhal	43. Fèis Carmunnock	

1.1 Statistics

FÈIS FACTS 2004-05		TOTAL PARTICIPANTS IN FnG ACTIVITIES	13,063
Total number of Fèisean	43	Main Fèisean	
Highland Council Area *	21	Total number of individual participants	3,420
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	6	Total Granted by Fèisean nan Gàidheal	£77,735
Argyll and Bute	5	Total Expenditure by Fèisean	£296,133
Edinburgh City	1	Classes and Workshops	
Aberdeen City	1	Total number of individual participants	1,467
North Lanarkshire	1	Total Granted by Fèisean nan Gàidheal	£36,746
Glasgow City	3	Total Expenditure by Fèisean	£91,865
West Dunbartonshire	1	Annualised Hours	
East Dunbartonshire	1	Full time equivalent posts	2.6 FTE
North Ayrshire	1	Total Granted by Fèisean nan Gàidheal	£28,170
Inverclyde, Renfrewshire	1	Fèis Development Fund	
& E. Renfrewshire		Total Value of Activities	£100,251
Stirlingshire	1	Total Granted by Fèisean nan Gàidheal	£20,000
		Other Activities	
		YMI: Number of Participants	4,666
		Meanbh-Chuileag: Number of Attendees	3,515
		TOTAL GRANTS PLEDGED in 2004-05	£162,651

*Includes Fèis Rois Òigridh, nan Deugairean & Inbhich plus Fèis Alba

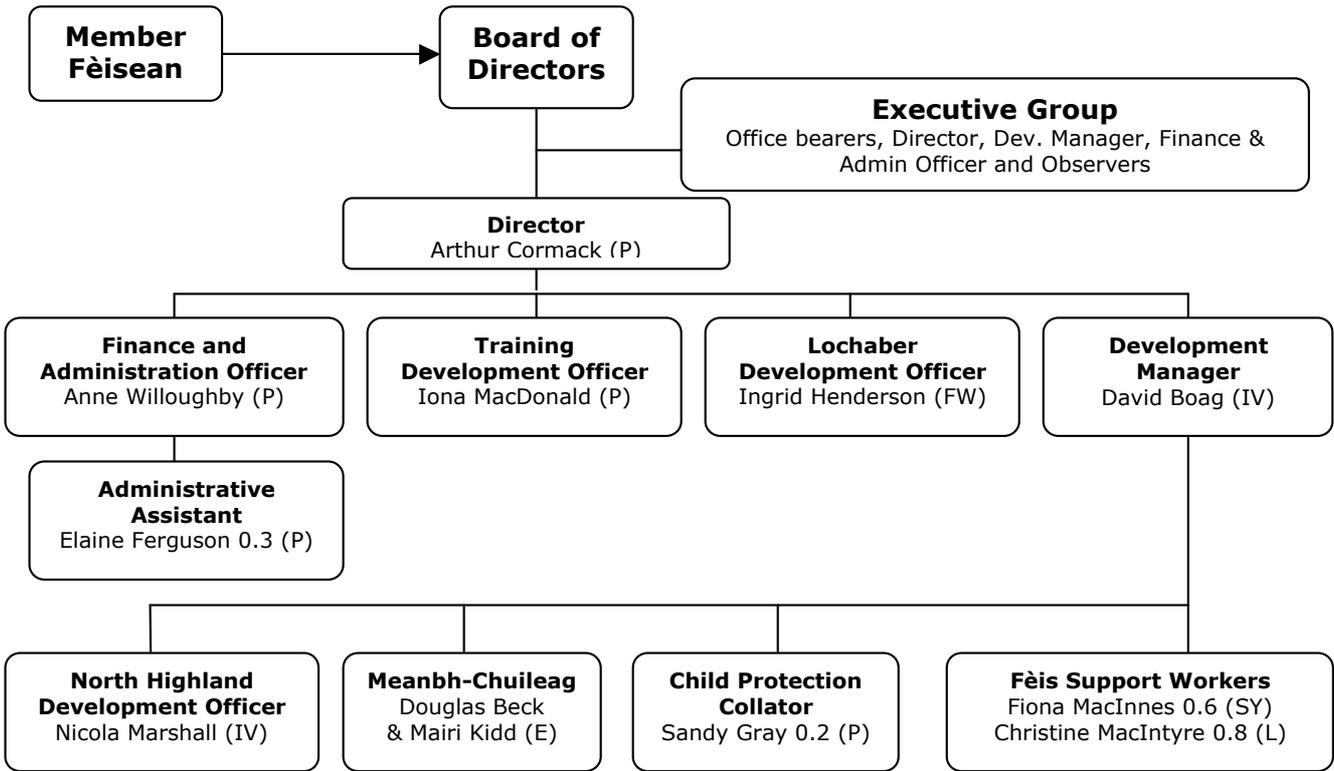


Blas launch events, November 2004.



2 STAFFING

The staff compliment over the last 12 months has remained steady over the last twelve months, with Elaine Ferguson joining us at the office in Portree as Administrative Assistant from April 2005.



The main office is at Meall House, Portree, Isle of Skye and staff based there are indicated with a (P) next to their name. Fèisean nan Gàidheal has satellite offices in Inverness (IV), Fort William (FW) and Stornoway (SY), with Fèis Support Worker for Argyll and Glasgow based at home in Lochgilphead (L). The Meanbh-Chuileag Theatre-in-Education company is based at the Gracemount Youth Centre in South Edinburgh (E).

Our training officer is employed half time to look after the training needs of Fèisean nan Gàidheal, with the other half time devoted to provide administrative support for the Traditional Music Tutor Training Network (TMTTN).

Fèisean nan Gàidheal also manages the "An Drochaid – Skye and Lochalsh Traditional Music Project" on behalf of Skye and Lochalsh Enterprise, with their co-ordinator based in Meall House. In addition, Comunn na Gàidhlig's Youth Projects Officer, Fay McDiarmid shares space in our Portree office.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal achieved Investors in People status in 2000 and has continued to maintain this standard through an on-going system of staff appraisals and personal development.

3 THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

During the course of 2004-05, the Board of Fèisean nan Gàidheal met a total of four times on 25 May, 3 September, and 7 December 2004 and on 28 February 2005, all in Inverness. In addition the Executive Group of the Board met twice on 10 May in Fort William and 23 August 2004 in Portree. Due to illness and changeover of board personnel at the AGM in September, the next meeting of the Executive was not held until May 2005.

As part of the new voting arrangements which allows for a maximum tenure of three years, four members of the previous board - Rita Hunter, Kirsteen Graham, Nanac Skivington and Jessie Newton - stood down following the Board election, to be replaced by Joan Robertson, Peggy Nicolson and Katie Adam. A fourth position, for nominations by Fèisean in other areas, was not filled due to a lack of nominations.

	Western Isles	Office	Term	Attendance	Fèis
1	John Joe MacNeil		2	2 of 4	Fèis Bharraigh
2	Joan Robertson		3	2 of 2	Feis Tir a' Mhurain
*	Nanac Skivington	Term ended Sept.04	0	1 of 2	Fèis Tìr an Eòrna
	Highland				
3	Catriona MacIntyre	Chair	1	3 of 4	Fèis Lochabair
4	Ken Houston	Company Secretary	2	4 of 4	Feis Chataibh
5	Peggy Nicolson		3	2 of 2	Feis an Earraich
6	Katie Adam	Vice Chair	3	2 of 2	Feis a' Bhaile
*	Rita Hunter	Term ended Sept.04	0	2 of 2	Feis Rois
*	Kirsteen Graham	Term ended Sept.04	0	2 of 2	Feis an Earraich
	Argyll & Bute				
7	Ken MacKenzie		2	2 of 4	Feis Latharna
	Other Areas				
8	Fiona Johnston		2	4 of 4	Feis Obar Dheathain
9	Kate Kerr		2	0 of 4	Feis Dhùn Bhreatuinn
10	Unfilled				
*	Jessie Newton	Term ended Sept.04	0	2 of 2	Feis Dhùn Èideann
	Observers				
11	Carolyn Paterson	Scottish Arts Council		1 of 4	
12	David Smillie or Alasdair MacLeod	Highlands & Islands Enterprise		2 of 4	
13	Morag Anna MacLeod	Highland Council		2 of 4	
14	Cllr Donald J MacSween	Comhairle nan Eilean Siar		4 of 4	
15	Kristine Kennedy	Comunn na Gàidhlig		1 of 1	Left CnaG May 04
	Staff Members				
16	Arthur Cormack	Director		4 of 4	
17	David Boag	Development Manager		4 of 4	
18	Anne Willoughby	Finance & Admin. Officer		4 of 4	

Executive Group

In addition to the establishment of the new board, an Executive Group made up of the three office bearers, observers and the three staff members who attend Board meetings was established. The aim of this is to allow more detailed scrutiny of matters such as the finance, leaving the full meetings to consider the strategic planning of the organisation. These meetings take place two weeks prior to the full Board meetings, with a minute kept and circulated in the full Board papers.

4 CORE ACTIVITIES

4.1 Introduction

This section of the report deals with the core activities undertaken by Fèisean nan Gàidheal on behalf of member Fèisean. In 2004-05 the cost of Fèisean nan Gàidheal membership was £100.

4.2 Core Staff and Premises

Fèisean nan Gàidheal receives funds from the Scottish Arts Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and the Highland Council towards the essential costs of the organisation key staff wages, employers contributions and expenses, Fèisean insurance, office rental, electricity, post, telephone, fax etc and key elements of the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Development Plan such as the Annual General Meeting and Conference. The following is a breakdown of the core funding received in the year 2004-5.

Scottish Arts Council Voted Funds	£90,000
Highlands and Islands Enterprise	£37,030
Highland Council	£18,313
Total	£145,343

The Fèis support workers based in Argyll and the Western Isles are now incorporated into the core staff of Fèisean nan Gàidheal. In addition to part financing from the core grants given by the Scottish Arts Council, Highland Council and Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Argyll and Bute Council, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar and Sgeama Gàidhlig sa Choimhearsnachd in the Argyll and Isles Enterprise area provided finance to support the worker in their area.

4.3 Grants Scheme for Fèisean

In the current year, Fèisean nan Gàidheal continued to provide support to member Fèisean for their "Main Fèis" and "Follow-on classes". A full explanation of these two schemes are given below, however these were made possible through grants from the following sources.

Scottish Arts Council Lottery Funds (including £10k from Music Dept)	£75,000
Highland Council	£22,000
Argyll & Bute Council	£ 6,000
From earned income	£ 11,481
Total	£114,481

Main Fèis Grants

Member Fèisean that run concentrated periods of Fèis activity e.g. for a weekend or week qualify for Main Fèis Grants. Part of the core funding which Fèisean nan Gàidheal receives goes directly into this scheme. All member Fèisean are able to apply for up to 20% of their total eligible expenditure in undertaking this Main Fèis. However, due to additional support from the Highland Council, all Main Fèisean in that area are eligible for a further 12.5% of funding, and those in Argyll and Bute Council area each receive an additional £1,500 per Fèis. In the coming year, Fèisean in the Western Isles will also receive a fixed sum 'top-up' from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar. In 2004-05 Fèisean nan Gàidheal committed £77,735 in financial support towards these Fèisean.

Year-round Fèis Activity

Grants of up to 30% of eligible costs are available for Fèisean who undertake to run a series of regular classes. In some cases, Fèisean will operate this programme in addition to their Main Fèis, and others will only run year-round classes. In 2004-05, Fèisean nan Gàidheal committed £36,746 in support for these classes. Funding for this scheme was made available through grants secured through the Scottish Arts Council Music Department.

Annualised Hours

This has proven to be an extremely useful scheme for Fèisean, allowing them to employ locally based administrators to undertake some key tasks on a paid basis, ranging from 30 – nearly 400 hours depending on the range of activity. A total of £28,170 or approximately 4,695 (2.6 FTE) hours was committed by Fèisean nan Gàidheal in support of this project. Funding for this scheme was granted as follows:

Scottish Arts Council NCS Funds	£10,000
Highlands and Islands Enterprise	£15,000
From earned income	£ 3,170
Total	£28,170

4.4 Development Fund

In 2004-05, Fèisean nan Gàidheal was able to offer member Fèisean some development funding to let them try out new projects. This fund was made possible with support from the Highland Council's Equalisation fund, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and part of the core grant from the Scottish Arts Council. A total of 23 projects were supported from this scheme, with £100,250.81 of new activity created from the £20,000 fund available. Funding for this fund were secured as follows:

Highlands and Islands Enterprise	£10,000
The Highland Council	£ 5,000
Scottish Arts Council NCS Funds	£ 5,000
Total	£20,000

4.5 Annual General Meeting and Conference

Each year Fèisean nan Gàidheal holds a conference to coincide with the organisation's Annual General Meeting. Funding is made available for one representative from each member Fèis to attend the event, including all travel and accommodation expenses. The 2004 AGM and Conference was held at the Columba Hotel, Inverness 2 and 3 September. This began with the AGM on the Friday evening, plus a special reception and dinner, where attendees were treated to performances by young people from Fèis na h-Òige, Fèis a' Bhaile and Fèis Chille Mhòraig. Guest speaker for the evening was Mark Sheridan, Head of Applied Arts, University of Strathclyde. The following day saw the annual conference, with the official launch of our "Celebrating 25 years of Fèisean" book, which is to be written by Kate Martin and Cailean MacLean.

4.6 Training

The provision of training for Fèisean nan Gàidheal Staff, Fèis Organisers, Fèis Tutors and Fèis Participants is a core part of the organisation's work. However, with the appointment of a dedicated Training Officer, the funding granted towards the development of the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Training Plan, and the work of the partnership work of the Traditional Music Tutor Training Network (TMTTN), this has gathered a great deal of momentum over the last twelve months. A full summary of this is contained in the Projects section of this report.

4.7 Publishing

Fèisean nan Gàidheal has published two books, *Ceòl nam Fèis* Volumes 1 and 2, compiled by Valerie Bryan. These publications have become popular resources at Fèisean and beyond, and sales in 2004-05 continued to be good. It is hoped that a 3rd volume may be possible within the coming few months. In addition, Fèisean nan Gàidheal has been working alongside Ross-shire based musician Sarah Munro, to produce a bi-lingual fiddle tutor book.

During the year, Fèisean nan Gàidheal purchased copies of the reprinted *Òranaiche* by Archibald Sinclair, and supplied these to all Fèisean.

4.8 Child Protection & Disclosure Checking

As part of Fèisean nan Gàidheal's continued commitment to ensuring that young people are allowed to undertake Fèis activities within a safe and supportive environment, the organisation undertook a revision of its current Child Protection Policy to take in recent changes in legislation. This has been formally adopted by the Board and each member Fèis has a copy. As well as this, the organisation has continued to carry out disclosure checks on behalf of member Fèisean, with Sandy Gray acting as collator.

4.9 Insurance

Fèisean nan Gàidheal is currently insured by the Ansvar insurance company and cover is available to all paid up members of the association. As well as cover for normal Fèis activities and instruments, the policy provides cover for the company and employees from eventualities such as personal injury. This continues to be a fantastic saving for member Fèisean, affording them, and their equipment, an excellent level of protection.

4.10 Information and Communication Technology (ICT) support

Project funding from the Scottish Arts Council National Lottery Fund and Highlands and Islands Enterprise enabled Fèisean nan Gàidheal to supply all member Fèisean with internet ready computers as required. We also were able to purchase a range of useful software, plus audio-visual equipment, which is available for use by Fèisean. As part of its core operations, Fèisean nan Gàidheal also maintains the site at www.feisean.org which is packed full of information and news about every member Fèis. This continues to draw a significant number of hits per day from interested parties throughout the world. The site also acts as a useful hub for those Fèisean which have their own site, and is linked to many of the Gaelic and Scottish cultural web-sites.

4.11 Advocacy

Staff and Directors of Fèisean nan Gàidheal are regularly involved in promoting the Fèis movement to a wide range of organisations, including local and national politicians, local and national government, funding agencies and other interested parties such as private business.

4.12 Directory of Fèis Tutors

The Directory of Fèis Tutors continues to be a valuable resource for member Fèisean and other organizations, and is held electronically. This is continually updated, as new names are submitted to the office for inclusion.

4.13 *Faileas* - Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Newsletter

Two issues of *Faileas* were circulated in 2004-5. This remains an effective way of disseminating information. At present, we send more than 1,000 copies out each time it is published, and this remains an effective and popular means of communication with Fèis members and other interested parties. Increasingly, this goes directly to interested parties via e-mail, saving a great deal in terms of printing and postage, and is posted on the Fèisean nan Gàidheal website as a PDF file.

4.14 Fios na Mìos

In addition to *Faileas*, an e-mail based monthly bulletin for Fèisean entitled *Fios na Mìos* continued to be distributed in 2004-05. *Fios na Mìos* pulled together a range of information relevant to Fèisean e.g. funding opportunities, details of up coming events and any Fèis news, for distribution on a monthly basis.

4.15 Information

In addition to Fios na Mìos, Fèisean nan Gàidheal staff regularly send out paper copies of information leaflets and other publications sent to the main office, with details of meetings, conferences, events and news from other organisations. Over and above this, Fèisean nan Gàidheal regularly use the newly established email system to distribute information quickly and cheaply.

4.16 Funding opportunities

With this regular dissemination of information, Fèisean nan Gàidheal has kept in touch with developments in funding over the past twelve months, and passed on relevant information to its members.

4.17 Musical Instrument Bank

The Fèisean nan Gàidheal instrument bank is still in very heavy demand from Fèisean and individuals alike, keen to make use of the opportunity to try out an instrument before they commit to the full cost. Due to additional Scottish Arts Council National Lottery and Highlands and Islands Enterprise funding, we were able to expand the bank in 2003, and although the instrument bank now has more than 200 instruments available for use, very few of them are in the same place at any one time.

4.18 Gaelic resource materials

Fèisean nan Gàidheal continues to enhance and develop the range of Gaelic resource materials available to member Fèisean. In addition to the highly useful Gaelic resource booklet *Gàidhlig do Luchd-tòiseachaidh* and accompanying CD, Mairi Kidd and Douglas Beck have produced Gaelic resource packs for each Fèis. Within each of these are a range of materials such as door and other bilingual signs e.g. for windows and fire extinguishers to give the whole Fèis a Gaelic environment.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal has now developed a fuller Gaelic language policy, which Fèisean will be expected to implement, in addition to the organisation itself, with support from staff.

4.19 Crannchur nam Fèisean – National Raffle

In 2004-05, Fèisean nan Gàidheal introduced its first ever National Raffle. This was drawn on Friday 23rd October as part of the Fèis Rois nan Deugairean final concert. The first prize of £2,500 was scooped by Catherine Urquhart-Taylor of Poolewe, with the various other prizes winging their way across Scotland, from Glasgow to Forsinard and Nairn to Harris. Nearly 11,000 tickets were sold across Scotland, with approximately £4,400 being retained locally by Fèisean themselves, and the remainder going to Fèisean nan Gàidheal to support the cost of the main prize.

5 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS 2004-05

5.1 Training Officer and Programme

Fèisean nan Gàidheal undertook a wide range of training in the past year. Training Officer, Iona MacDonald is employed jointly to undertake the organisation of training for staff, volunteers and tutors on behalf of the organisation and to administer the Traditional Music Tutor Training Network (TMTTN). Events specifically aimed at teenagers are the responsibility of Development Manager, David Boag.

Tutor Training

Over the last number of years, Fèisean nan Gàidheal has developed a successful programme of tutor training. Traditionally this has all been based at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in Skye, but in response to demand, a Level 1 course aimed as an introduction to training was delivered in Inverness, 7–8 August 2004.



The annual Level I and level II tutor training session was held at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig 19–20 February and was well-attended. As well as young and not so young Fèis tutors, participants included a number of tutors from the Edinburgh based Scots Music Group, the Glasgow Fiddle Workshop, and the Inverness Traditional Music Classes.

Also during this period, Fèisean nan Gàidheal was a key player in the establishment of the Certificate in Music

Tuition, validated by the Scottish Qualifications Authority. This was officially launched at Perth College, and a number of Fèis tutors have expressed an interest in taking the qualification.

A number of advanced level courses for more experienced Fèis tutors also took place, including a weekend of pipe music at Glenfinnan House Hotel, and looking at the "Gesto" Collection of Highland Music in Portree. A 1-day workshop on pùirt-a-beul was included in the Gesto workshop and there was another 1-day workshop on "Collecting Culture" aimed at assisting fèisean with technical and administrative information on running an oral history collection project.

A number of tutors also took advantage of the opportunity to receive assistance in undertaking Gaelic language courses/training.

Fèis Organisers

One of the key aims of Fèisean nan Gàidheal is to give Fèis volunteers a chance to undertake training that will be both of benefit to them personally, and to the Fèis. Under this scheme, a number of Fèis organisers have undergone training in Gaelic language, either individually or as a group. Some have opted for the year long Cùrsa Inntrigidh distance learning course run by Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, whilst others have opted for short or evening courses.

Some other organisers have undertaken computer training, either on a bespoke level to suit their individual needs or through more formalized, general courses such as the European Computer Driving License (ECDL).

As well as these events, Fèisean nan Gàidheal aims to assist Fèis organisers to get together on a regional basis once a year, over and above the opportunity afforded at the Annual Conference. Regional training sessions took place in Cromarty (combining Lochaber and North Highland areas), Oban, and Cairnish (North Uist). All of these were well attended and offered a useful opportunity to meet up and learn from each other.

Staff

Under our commitment to personal development for those working for Fèisean nan Gàidheal, all staff are offered opportunities to undertake training to enhance their skills. Over the past twelve months this has taken the form of attending organised courses and workshops, undertaking specific training in an area of need, or allowing time to undertake a particular course of study.

Staff are particularly encouraged to undertake training to develop their Gaelic language and literacy skills at whatever level they are at.

In addition, Fèisean nan Gàidheal organisers regular staff meetings to ensure that staff have a chance to meet face-to-face, share ideas, experiences and undergo training as a group. It can prove difficult in getting all staff together at one time, particularly in the winter months. It is a constant aim of the organisation to hold at least four of these per year, but in reality this is more like twice or three times a year.

Teenage Training

One of the key aspects of the Fèisean nan Gàidheal training strategy is to offer specific training for teenagers. In 2004-05 this reached unprecedented levels of activity, with teenage groupwork workshop weekends in the Western Isles, Argyll, Sutherland and Lochaber. In addition, Fèis na h-Òige organised a Gaelic medium teenage groupwork weekend, which drew young people from all over Scotland.

Fèis Alba 2004 was also staged under this heading, and took place in Plockton, based at the National School of Excellence in Traditional Music, 2-5 July. The programme was devised to cover each of the four key areas identified taking into account feedback from previous events. The programme was open to 16-25 year olds with proven traditional music skills at the upper-intermediate or advanced level.

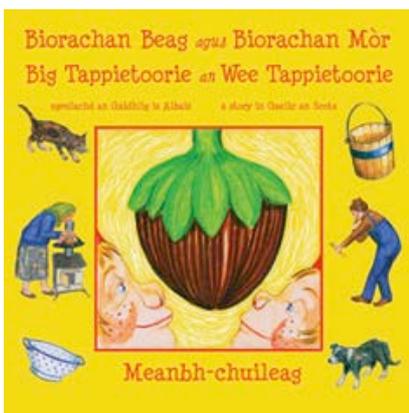
Fèisean nan Gàidheal continued to provide special assistance to Fèis Rois nan Deugairean to allow up to 20 additional places for participants from out with the Ross-shire area.

5.2 Meanbh-Chuileag

2004-05 continued to be a very busy year for the Meanbh-Chuileag Theatre-in-Education company, with more than 250 individual workshop sessions completed and with more than 3,500 individuals taking part. Whilst the work has continued on the ground, the difficulties of finding a long term, sustainable financial package for the company has also continued. We were successful in securing funds from the Scottish Arts Council and Bòrd na Gàidhlig to continue the work of Meanbh-Chuileag and embark on a new Gaelic language development project from 1st April 2005. The following is a summary of Meanbh-Chuileag's work over the last 12 months.

Theatre

The company's early-years' play *Biorachan Beag agus Biorachan Mòr* was toured in East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, and the Western Isles. A valuable accompaniment to the play came in November 2004 with the publication of the Gaelic/Scots children's book *Biorachan Beag agus Biorachan Mòr - Big Tappietoorie an Wee Tappietoorie*. The book has been highly acclaimed, and is selling well in bookshops across Scotland.



Meanbh-chuileag became a contractor for Historic Scotland/the National Trust for Scotland's 'After the Battle', a project in which upper primary pupils explore the joint history of the Culloden and Fort George sites. Meanbh-chuileag devised an original play for the project exploring the effect of the '45 on Gaelic culture, and produced an education pack on the same theme. The project will continue into 2005-06, and Meanbh-chuileag also retains the rights to the play, which was toured independently in Clackmannanshire in April 2004.

November saw the first Fèisean nan Gàidheal activity in Orkney with a Meanbh-chuileag tour of *The Seal Wife* to schools all over the islands, including Papa Westray - which took the group on the shortest scheduled flight in the world!

The well-established link with Kaimes Special School in Edinburgh was maintained with a three-day visit including a performance of the *History of the Highlands* and arts workshops.

5.5 Youth Music Initiative (YMI)

Over 2004-05, Fèisean nan Gàidheal continued to work closely with the Highland Council to deliver the traditional music portion of their commitment to the YMI in all of their primary schools. The focus of Fèisean nan Gàidheal's work is on the pupils in primary 5 and 6 so as to meet the Executive target for the Youth Music Initiative by 2006.

Working in conjunction with Fèis Rois, Fèis an Earraich, Fèis Chataibh, Fèis Spè and Fèisean Lochabair, Fèisean nan Gàidheal has been offering schools blocks of tuition in all Highland schools. Gaelic-medium tuition has been offered in Gaelic-medium schools, and in any other schools which would like to try this option. While tuition is being concentrated, in the first instance, on pupils in the Primary 5 and 6 age group, Fèisean nan Gàidheal recognises that in smaller schools the roll justifies including the whole school. In larger schools, they are having to divide the pupils into several groups.

In year two, Gaelic Song, Tin Whistle, Children's song and group music were offered to over 4,000 individual young people in Highland.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal was also contracted by East Lothian Council to deliver a series of traditional music classes, which it did in partnership with Fèis Dhùn Eideann in Edinburgh, in keeping with our method of delivering YMI by strengthening the local Fèisean to allow them to deliver in their own area, where possible. Fèisean nan Gàidheal was responsible to both Councils for the contract, for ensuring Disclosure checking, tutor training, the supply of resources and evaluation of the work, but the Fèisean have the opportunity to be the deliverers.

5.6 25th Fèis Bharraigh Events

Over the last twelve months, Fèisean nan Gàidheal has been working in close partnership with the Fèis Bharraigh committee, in order that we can stage a series of high profile, celebratory events to commemorate the 25th staging of Fèis Bharraigh. Included in this project has been raising sufficient funds to erect a 400 seat marquee to host three events; the final Fèis Concert on Thursday 28th July, Cathy Ann MacPhee and Friends in Concert on Friday 29th and a special "Ceòl nam Fèis" concert on Saturday 30th. This final event aims to draw together participants from across Scotland, as well as from Barra itself, to highlight both the origins and growth of the Fèis movement since 1981. Groups across Scotland have been preparing for this event over the winter months, and a special grant from the development fund to assist Western Isles Fèisean to undertake special groupwork classes was approved by the Board of Fèisean nan Gàidheal.

5.7 25th Anniversary book

During this year, Fèisean nan Gàidheal has commissioned a special commemorative book that will chart the development of the Fèis movement over the years. This will be published in summer 2006 to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the first Fèis, in Barra. The book will focus on the recollections, experiences and memorabilia of people connected with individual Fèisean and the wider movement over the years, and is being edited by Kate Martin and Cailean MacLean. In addition, we aim to employ a research student to help collate some of the information gathered, both in the form of physical and recorded materials and interviews.

5.8 Tracking Exercise

After tendering the contract, Fèisean nan Gàidheal commissioned the RSAMD's Research Department to carry out a 'tracking exercise'. The aim of the study was to map out the story of people who have taken part in a Fèis or Fèisean, and to ascertain how their participation has influenced their life, their career, and crucially, their attitude to the Gaelic language.

The study was funded by the Scottish Arts Council and Highlands & Islands Enterprise, and the results of the are due to be published in September 2005.

6 ADVOCACY and COLLABORATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

6.1 Introduction

Fèisean nan Gàidheal continues to enjoy excellent working relationships with a wide number of agencies and groups. This is both in terms of developing the work of the Fèis movement through funding arrangements and service delivery, but also in promoting the excellent work and important place of the Fèis movement within modern Scottish society.

6.2 Scottish Arts Council

Fèisean nan Gàidheal continues to enjoy an excellent relationship with the Scottish Arts Council (SAC), both as a key funder and development partner in a number of projects. Carolyn Paterson, SACs Music Officer is Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Lead Officer within SAC, although staff regularly liaise with a wide range of staff.

6.3 Local Authorities

Fèisean nan Gàidheal continues to work in close partnership with members and staff of a wide range of Local Authorities. Their help, either direct or in-kind, is of vital importance to the continued success and growth of the Fèis movement in Scotland.

6.4 Highlands and Islands Enterprise

In 2003-04, Fèisean nan Gàidheal was successful in securing a substantial three year grant package from Highlands and Islands Enterprise. As well as providing 'core' support, the investment will help fund a number of key projects including the purchase of ICT equipment, musical instruments and the undertaking of a Fèis participant 'tracking' exercise.

6.5 Local Enterprise Companies

As well as working with HIE, Fèisean nan Gàidheal works with a wide range of Local Enterprise Companies, particularly with regard to supporting locally based projects. This is an extremely valuable partnership and one which is highly valued with the Fèis movement.

6.7 Traditional Music Tutor Training Network - TMTTN

Fèisean nan Gàidheal has been a key player in the development of the Traditional Music Tutor Training Network, TMTTN, where individuals from a number of key traditional music agencies in Scotland, including Fèis Rois are represented.

6.8 GASD

The Gaelic Arts Strategic Development Group (GASD) comprises representatives of Pròiseact nan Ealan, Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Tosg, Comhairle nan Leabhraichean, An Comunn Gàidhealach and Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig.

The Scottish Arts Council and Bòrd na Gàidhlig jointly funded a programme of development, with the aim of enhancing the profile for Gaelic arts and artists, increasing audiences and building support in the wider community for the Gaelic language.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal has been responsible for devising the Development of skills part of the programme, which aims to:

- Support young people to pursue a career in the Gaelic arts through a training and talent development programme of traineeships
- Assist those working in the Gaelic arts sector sustain employment within the sector through a group based professional development programme
- Broaden the experience of those working within the Gaelic arts sector and focus upon the fostering of interest in Gaelic arts and language in communities through a programme of residencies.

6.9 Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Fèisean nan Gàidheal has now been confirmed as an approved contractor with Bòrd na Gàidhlig. This means that the Bòrd will look to Fèisean nan Gàidheal to deliver aspects of Gaelic development work, which they recognise as contributing to the aims of their priorities within the Plana Gnìomh, or operational plan. Over and above this, new funding opportunities for Fèisean exist with the establishment of the Gaelic initiatives grant.

6.10 The Traditional Music Forum

The Scottish Arts Council facilitated the formation of a Traditional Music Forum which met several times throughout the year. It is made up of representatives of Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Fèis Rois, the TMSA, RSAMD, Hands Up for TRAD, SAC, the Scots Music Group and the National Centre of Excellence in Traditional Music among others, and has proved to be a useful collaboration. Some funding has been allocated to its activities for 2005-06 from SAC.

6.11 Highland 2007 - The Scottish Year of Highland Culture

Fèisean nan Gàidheal has contributed to a number of discussions with regard to the Scottish Year of Highland Culture in 2007. It is hoped that the Fèisean will play a significant part in these celebrations as youth, Gaelic and community are key themes.

6.12 Youth Music Reference Group

Fèisean nan Gàidheal's Director is a member of the reference group set up to oversee the spending of the YMI funds, as well as to agree a strategy for the development of Youth Music provision in Scotland. It met twice during the year.

6.13 Cultural Commission

The work of the Cultural Commission was ongoing during the year with a report expected from them in June. Fèisean nan Gàidheal submitted a paper to the Stage One consultation, and had input to the submissions of the Scottish Arts Council and the Traditional Music Forum's submissions, as well as to later calls for submissions.

6.14 Hands up for TRAD traditional music awards

As agreed, Fèisean nan Gàidheal hosted the pre-Awards reception at the Queen's Hall in Edinburgh on 4 December. This provided a valuable opportunity for us to highlight our work to the traditional music sector, politicians, Cultural Commissioners, SAC staff etc, and we had the bar area very well laid out with Fèisean nan Gàidheal and Blas banners, as well as Powerpoint presentation on a loop, playing throughout the evening.

7 FÈIS NEWS

This section gives a brief summary of the activities of member Fèisean over the year 2004-05. This is by no means all of the activity, but is designed simply to give a flavour. The report is presented under the heading of the Fèis Support Worker for that particular group of Fèisean.

7.1 Lochaber Fèisean (Ingrid Henderson)

Lochaber Cèilidh Trail



Summer 2004 saw the launch of the Lochaber Cèilidh Trail after successful funding applications to the Scottish Arts Council, WHELK Leader+ and Lochaber Enterprise. Participants undertook training as part of Fèis Alba in Plockton, and subsequent gigs across the area were hailed as a great success by participants, audiences and venues alike. Toni Russell was appointed as co-coordinator for the project and did an extremely good job, given the complexities of establishing a project such as this. The administration, organising and publicity of the project has been very time consuming but worthwhile with such a good outcome achieved. The Cèilidh Trailers took part in one of the launch events for the new Blas festival at Strontian on 13th November.

Youth Music Initiative

The Lochaber Fèisean have been actively involved in the delivery of Highland Council's Youth Music Initiative commitments in the area. In May 2004 all Lochaber schools filled out and returned choice forms for the scheme and a project coordinator was appointed to establish the initial blocks of tuition. After discussions with head teachers and local education authority staff, it was agreed that the first visits into Lochaber Schools would begin in September and cover an 8-week block of tuition before Christmas.

Workshops

Over the course of the year, Ingrid Henderson organised two one day workshops for teenagers, utilising bands passing through the area on tour. The first of these was with bands Clìar and Altan in Fort William as part of their joint tour in May, and in June Highland band Dòchas ran a music workshop in Glenuig with during their Highland tour. Twenty youngsters attended the Glenuig day which was mixed with a small performance time and then tuition in Gaelic song, whistle, fiddle, accordion, piping & clàrsach. Both of these workshops were funded from the Lochaber Fèisean Development Budget established as part of the overall project.

Fèis Òigridh na Mara

Mallaig, Morar & Arisaig have now set up their own Fèis committee similar to the three other Lochaber area Fèisean. Their first event was a one day taster session on 22nd November, which attracted 25 young people from the local area. A successful Awards for All application granted £4150 towards the staging of larger event, scheduled for August 2005. They also plan a series of workshop days and on-going classes in the area, with particular demand for clàrsach and guitar.

Fèis Lochabair, Lochaber

This year's Fèis took place in Lochaber High School, during the Easter holidays. Ninety young people took part in the Fèis, which was led by a great team of tutors. The week was rounded off with a family cèilidh on the Friday afternoon, which has proved very popular with participants, tutors and families. The Fèis were also successful in securing a grant from the Fèisean nan Gàidheal development fund, which allowed them to buy four new accordions. As well as this, the Fèis has been very active with an extensive programme of year round classes, and several youngsters from Fèis Lochabair took part in the Cèilidh Trail.

Fèis Eige, Isle of Eigg

Fèis Eige successfully applied to Awards for All for a grant to support a story-telling project which would involve 4 weekends over the course of the year. As the level of grant was relatively small, this also allowed for sessions to take place on the mainland as well as on Eigg itself. The Fèis held their annual weekend in July, which again attracted a healthy number of participants both from

and off the island. As part of the Youth Music Programme, classes were delivered in the island's school which currently has a roll of 4.

Fèis nan Garbh Chrìochan, West Lochaber

Over the last twelve months, the Fèis committee have been busily organising their regular programme of activity, which includes the main Fèis over a week in July, plus an extensive menu of year-round classes. The committee took the decision to hold the main Fèis workshops within the new Ardnamurchan High School complex in Strontian. The traditional venue of Acharacle school had become too problematic, both in terms of the space available and quality of the accommodation. However, plans are in hand to rebuild the school in Acharacle and once completed, the Fèis will hopefully return home. Over and above this, the committee have successfully purchased a range of new instruments for their own 'bank'. Support for this came from the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Development Fund, Lochaber Development Fund, Lochaber Enterprise and the Community Foundation.

7.2 Other Areas (David Boag and Arthur Cormack)

Fèis Obar Dheathain, Aberdeen

The most easterly located of Fèisean in Scotland, celebrated their 10th Anniversary Fèis, over the February weekend 2005. Once again, young people from across the city and beyond gathered for the weekend of activities and the committee reported that it had been their most successful Fèis to date, with excellent feedback from all concerned. Locally based button-box tutor Dougie MacDonald delivered his class entirely through the medium of Gaelic and the committee have made it clear in their Gaelic policy, their desire to increase this provision in years to come. The Fèis was visited by Aberdeen's Lord Provost and plans are well under way for hosting the Fèisean nan Gàidheal AGM in the city in September 2005.

Fèis Dhùn Èideann, Edinburgh

This has been another very busy year for the committee of Fèis Dhùn Èideann with their annual Fèis in February 2005, and an extensive programme of activity year-round. The committee successfully applied to the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Development Fund to support a new "Cèilidh Band" project. The aim of this was three-fold; to give a new opportunity to younger teenagers to get involved, to promote the work of Fèis Dhùn Èideann to a wider audience and potentially raise funds for the Fèis coffers. In total the project attracted 12 young people who attended and participated on a regular basis, and according to the committee, more young people are keen to take part next year.



Fèis sa Mheadhan, Stirling

Fèis sa Mheadhan has had a very busy year. They were formally constituted as a Fèis in May 2004, and in October they held their first weekend at Wallace High School, Stirling with 22 participants taking part. Fèis sa Mheadhan successfully applied to Fèisean nan Gàidheal for £500 from Development Fund to support this new Fèis. After their first successful weekend, thoughts turned to preparing for their second weekend, which is scheduled for Callander, 23 – 24 April. Indications at this stage are that numbers for this event will be significantly up on the first. Longer term plans for Fèis weekend in Falkirk are in pipeline for September 2005. Fèisean nan Gàidheal would, like to extend a warm welcome to Fèis sa Mheadhan into the family of Fèisean.

7.3 North Highland Fèisean (Nicola Marshall)

Fèis an Earraich, Skye and Lochalsh

Fèis an Earraich held another successful week of activities during the Easter holidays 2004. Portree Primary School was the venue and proved to be an excellent new venue, with a record breaking 132 participants attending this year. Follow-on classes in a number of subjects continue to run through out the year. Funding applications were submitted in December 2004 to North Highland Leader+ and the SAC for a cèilidh trail project which is due to take place in the summer of 2005. Fèis an Earraich have also been involved in delivering the Youth Music Initiative in primary school through out the area.

Fèis Air an Oir, North West Sutherland

This Fèis operates in the far North West corner of Sutherland, with one of the most scattered and remote communities anywhere on the mainland. The majority of their activity is based in Bettyhill, with young people traveling from across the area to attend. Over the course of the last twelve months, Fèis Air an Oir ran 14 sets of workshops over the autumn/winter months, with 30+ participants attending and they were well established in the area.

Fèis Spè, Badenoch and Strathspey

This has been a very exciting year for Fèis Spè, with funding secured to appoint a part-time development worker. Financial support was provided by the Cairngorms LEADER+ scheme and The Scottish Arts Council YMI Informal sector fund. Judith Bullivant was appointed and will take up her post in mid April 2005. Her job will be to ensure the on-going development of Fèis Spè activities over the coming three years and as part of this, the committee hope to establish a company limited by guarantee.



The main Fèis took place in October in Kingussie High School, with around 70 participants taking part, with an additional 40 children participated in the 'Feis Bheag'. The very successful music club ran throughout the year, with an average of 30 participants. In February, all the music club participants were involved in a multi-disciplinary project entitled 'Dannsa Spè' and a group performed at a number of locations in the Christmas/New Year period in a mini winter Cèilidh Trail.

Fèis Ratharsaidh, Isle of Raasay

Fèis Ratharsaidh held their annual weekend of activity on the island of Raasay, 11 – 12 February, with 26 young people taking part in the range of subjects on offer. The island has a resident population of 196, and a current school role of 24, which makes this Fèis one of the best attended per head of population in the country.

Fèis Throdairnis, Trotternish, North Skye

Fèis Throdairnis covers the area to the immediate north of Portree, covering the communities served by MacDiarmaid, Uig, Kilmuir and Staffin primary schools. The annual Fèis took place in July as usual in Kilmuir, and a number of follow-on classes in chanter and fiddle ran on a weekly basis. In February the committee welcomed Corrina Duin as annualised hours administrator. As with many Fèisean, pressures on volunteer time have increased over the years, and the Fèisean nan Gàidheal "annualised hours" fund offers valuable paid administrative support at key times of the year.

Fèis a' Bhaile, Inverness

Fèis a' Bhaile held their annual Fèis in Charleston Academy, Inverness 18 – 22 October with 70 young people attending classes. In addition to the usual classes, a new groupwork class was introduced during the week of the Fèis, with numbers growing steadily over the course of the week. In the wake of this success, a new groupwork class ran throughout the year and these have proven to be very successful. This is in addition to the on-going Gaelic medium drama classes run jointly with Fèis na h-Òige, who spent the early part of 2005 preparing to take part in the Gaelic musical "Taigh Mairi Anndra." Again in conjunction with Fèis na h-Òige, a bi-lingual publicity leaflet was produced with funding from the Development fund, and was distributed around all of the schools in Inverness and was handed out at the Inverness Highland Games. The Fèis committee were also delighted to take possession of a brand new PA system, courtesy of a successful "Awards for All" grant.

Fèis nam Bealach, Applecross

Over the course of the last twelve months, the community in Applecross have been busily working to re-establish a Fèis within their community. There is now a group overseeing the development of a wide range of Gaelic developmental activities in the community, including Croileagan and adult night classes. As part of this, they see the re-establishment of a Fèis as an aim, and they hope to hold their next weekend in September 2005, with young people from surrounding schools also joining in. The group also booked "Meanbh-Chuilleag" for a one day workshop within the primary school, which was very well received.

Fèis Chille Mhòraig, Beaul, Strath Glass and Glen Urquhart area

Fèis Chille Mhòraig held their annual weekend Fèis on the 25th and 26th September in the Craigmorie Centre, Drumnadrochit. This school offers excellent facilities both from the point of view of teaching and performance space. This year saw an increase in attendance on the previous year, which the committee were delighted about. The Fèis were also successful in securing funds from the Fèisean nan Gàidheal development fund to hold a series of groupwork classes aimed at older and/or more experienced young players from the area.



Fèis Chataibh, Sutherland

Fèis Chataibh have had another exceptionally busy year, with a busy programme of year round activities, their main Fèis, the Cèilidh Trail and acting as hosts for one of the Blas festival launch events at Clashmore Hall, 13th November. Amongst the usual series of winter classes and workshops was a programme of arts and craft workshops designed specifically to develop the Gaelic language skills of the participants.

The main Fèis took place in Golspie High School in early July and was full to capacity with 90 participants enjoying the programme of activities on offer. The Cèilidh Trail visited various venues throughout Sutherland over a period of two weeks, with healthy audiences across the area. The AGM had attracted an excellent attendance, with a full committee appointed including some parents from Caithness. With this in mind, the committee are hopeful that more participants from Caithness will be encouraged to take part in Fèis Chataibh activities in the coming year.

Fèis na h-Òige, Inverness



As mentioned above Fèis na h-Òige worked jointly with Fèis a' Bhaile to produce a publicity leaflet. The main Fèis took place during the first week of the school summer holidays as normal. Following the main Fèis two successful applications to Sgeama Ghàidhlig sa Coimhearsnachd. The committee ran its first Gaelic-medium group-work weekend for teenagers, the workshop took place on the 18th and 19th of September in North Kessock and

participants came from as far a field as Ullapool and Cumbernauld. The second application allowed the Fèis to increase its instrument bank and provide sports and craft equipment. In early February the Feis undertook another new venture with a visit to the Traditional Music school of Excellence in Plockton.

Fèis Rois, Ross-shire

Fèis Rois Òigridh, held in Ullapool, was well attended, with 152 participants, a large number of whom were complete beginners. Almost half of the 32 strong tutor and supervisor team was made up of former Fèis participants which added to the atmosphere of the Fèis. In October 163 teenagers participated in the 15th annual Fèis Rois nan Deugairean. This year participants were offered a new Drama class at the Fèis which was led by Lindsay Dunbar and DW Stewart. Following on from this participants have had the opportunity to improve their Gaelic and Drama skills through the Feisteas project which has seen regular classes taking place in Ullapool, Gairloch and Poolewe. Fèis Rois Inbhich saw a huge increase in the number of participants attending, with 310 participants and 38 tutors, making it the biggest to date! Frank McAivty, Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport visited Fèis Rois Inbhich.

The summer was busier than ever. The Cèilidh Trail took place over four weeks with 10 students visiting various venues throughout the area. As well as the Cèilidh Trail a lively programme of summer sessions around 6500 tourists and locals alike were entertained in 19 local venues.

New Fèis Rois Education Officer Chris Rasdale has been kept busy with the Youth Music Initiative which has seen Traditional music tuition take place in every primary school throughout Inverness and Caithness. The YMI input has proved to be extremely popular with teachers and pupils alike and the program is being rolled out to incorporate schools in Ross-shire and Nairn as well.

Fèis Rois participants have been involved in a number of exciting performances which have included Ceòlraidh, a special Fèis Rois showcase sponsored by the Faculty of Advocates which was staged in Eden Court on Saturday 11 September. The launch of the new Blas festival in November and a concert in the Piping Centre in Glasgow in January as part of the Celtic Connections Young Tradition Series.

In December the Scots Trad Music Awards took place in the Queens Hall Edinburgh where Fèis Rois were delighted to receive the award for 'Best Community Project of the Year' in recognition of the Traditional Music in Schools scheme. This project has seen 15,296 pupils in over 254 schools participating in one-off traditional music workshops. Former Fèis participant Lauren McColl also had something to celebrate earlier this year when she won the prestigious BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award.

The latest project to be launched – Fonn nam Fèis, will celebrate and showcase the high standard of musicianship amongst the teenage Fèis participants. Participants will have the opportunity to work on a professional recording from rehearsing and arranging sets to working in a recording studio. The project will be led by Charlie McKerron with support from Fèis Rois tutors.

Fèis Farr, by Inverness

Fèis Strath Fharragaig formally became Fèis Farr at its AGM held in November. This is a reflection of the fact that the Fèis, which originally has its roots in the Strath Errick area has now found its home within the highly successful Farr Community Hall. Young people from across the area still attend the Fèis, and are regularly treated to top class traditional music concerts in the hall which has become one of the top venues on the scene in Scotland. Following on from that the usual winter/spring series of workshops ran as normal in Farr Hall. On the 26th November 2004, the Fèis hosted a mixed instrument workshop led by members of the Maggie MacInnes Band following their performance the previous evening. This attracted young people from the local area, Inverness and Fort Augustus.

Fèis Ghlinn Albainn, Fort Augustus and district, Inverness-shire

This is one of the youngest Fèisean within the movement, but this isn't reflected in the level of activity they have already managed to achieve. A fundraising concert held in Invermoriston on 8th July 2004 was very well attended and greatly increased Fèis funds. Although the committee have staged a couple of summer schools over the previous couple of years, plans for their first full "Fèis" are underway for July 2005. In addition, the committee has organised various music classes throughout the year, plus weekly Gaelic language and Gaelic-song classes. Building on the success of the adult Gaelic class a Gaelic session for children was also introduced.

Fèis Inbhir Narainn, Nairn

The committee became members of Fèisean nan Gàidheal in the spring of 2005 and plans are well underway for their first weekend Fèis, which will take place in September. The group have been able to secure funding which will allow them to appoint a project worker for the coming three years, with interviews scheduled for May. There has been growing interest within the Nairn area over the last few years, both in traditional music and Gaelic language. Fèisean nan Gàidheal are delighted to welcome them as members and look forward to their continued success over the coming years.

7.4 Argyll and Glasgow area Fèisean (Christine MacIntyre)

Drama Fèis 2006

Plans are now underway to re-establish an Argyll based drama festival, scheduled for March 2006. This has been a long held ambition of Fèisean nan Gàidheal, as in previous years, this area had taken part in Fèis Òigridh Ghlaschu when Strathclyde Regional Council existed. Funding is being sought at the present time, from local and national sources.

Fèis Arainn, Isle of Arran

The committee have had another busy year, with their annual Fèis being held in July. Attendances were up on the previous year, with a total of 92 children participating. All the evening cèilidhs and events were well attended, and feedback from all who took part was

extremely positive. Fèis Arainn were particularly successful in selling Fèisean nan Gàidheal raffle tickets. Under the scheme, local groups get to keep 80p from each £1 ticket sold, with the remaining 20p going back to the core fund to support the main prize. Fèis Arainn were also successful in a bid to the Fèisean nan Gàidheal development fund to assist with the running of fiddle workshops over the winter months.

Fèis Ceann Loch Goible, Lochgoilhead, Argyll

This is a brand new group who joined Fèisean nan Gàidheal just prior to the end of March 2004. Christine MacIntyre, Fèis support worker for Glasgow and Argyll area has been in close contact with them and they plan to meet again in May to push forward plans for the coming year. The group are particularly keen to establish a programme of year round tuition in the area. Fèisean nan Gàidheal would like to extend a warm welcome to this new Fèis and wish them every success in years to come.

Fèis Dhùn Bhreatainn an Iar, Dumbarton

The Fèis ran their annual project in the local primary schools, which aims to teach young people in the local area about Gaelic language and culture. In 2004-5 this project received some extra funding from the local authority via their Community Education Officer, and in addition, the Fèis aims to purchase Ceòl nam Fèis books for primary schools in their area. Follow-on classes were due to commence for a 10 week period from 18th April, with the 2006 dates set for 13th February to 24th March.

Fèis Innis an Uillt, Meadowburn Primary School, Bishopbriggs

The final Fèis day in their 2003/4 programme took place on 22nd May, when fiddle classes were incorporated for the first time. The entire programme is delivered through the medium of Gaelic, drawing on pupils from the school where there is a Gaelic medium department. Their 2004/5 programme kicked off in November, but unfortunately some re-arranging of classes had to be undertaken as some of the expected accordions required didn't arrive in time. The programme will consist of a number of _ day Fèisean, culminating in a one day Fèis in May 2005. East Dumbartonshire Council confirmed that they would buy two clàrsaich for use by the Fèis and this would allow the committee to look for a suitable tutor.

Fèis Latharna, Oban

The Fèis launched their own new web-site www.feislatharna.com during the course of the year which is full of useful Fèis information. Their main Fèis took place in Oban, during the Easter holidays, 13 – 16 April. This had been preceded by a series of workshops in January / February and 4 taster days throughout March. Numbers attending the Fèis had been down slightly, but all events had been very well attended including the cèilidh dance on the Wednesday, and the final concert on Friday. Toni Russell stepped down as coordinator, and it was the feeling of the Fèis Latharna committee that in reality the hours need to carry out the post really needed to be doubled. Later on in the year, Sileas Sinclair from Connell took on the post. Joint work with Fèis Mhuile has been on-going, although there has been some changes within the Mull committee which has held things back.

Fèis Lannraig a Tuath, Condorrat

This Fèis underwent some major restructuring over the past twelve months, but a new and vibrant committee are now in place. They held their first four-day Fèis at Greenfaulds High School in July and although it clashed with some other events, it was none the less very successful according to both participants and tutors alike. The 2005 event has been scheduled for August to avoid this potential clash occurring again. The committee were also successful in securing some lottery funding to help with their programme of activity.

Fèis Ghlaschu, Glasgow

This is a brand new Fèis organised principally by An Lochran and Glasgow City Council. They held their first Fèis in Glasgow during the October holidays 2004. This first Fèis attracted some funding from the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Development Fund under the "New Fèis" arrangements. The principal organisation of the Fèis was sub contracted to Giant Productions on behalf of the organising committee. After this initial Fèis, the committee began to move forward with plans for a second Fèis, which they plan to stage in Partick Burgh Halls in April 2005. Fèisean nan Gàidheal would like to extend a warm welcome to the committee of Fèis Ghlaschu on their entry to the Fèis movement.

Fèis Mhuile, Isle of Mull

The Fèis Mhuile committee have been undergoing some problems over the last couple of years and over the course of this year, the chair resigned, with the vice-chair stepping in whilst a replacement could be found. In previous years, the Fèis committee had been made up entirely of members from the south end of the island, where the majority of the activity had been centered. However, as a result of the joint Fèis Latharna project, activity has been spread out throughout the island and more people from the north have come onto the committee. With this uncertainty the committee were unable to organise a main Fèis this year. However, Fèisean nan Gàidheal continues to try and assist the committee through this period of transition.

Fèis Òigridh Ìle, Isle of Islay

There has been a great deal of difficulty with sustaining this Fèis over the last few years, and like their colleagues in Mull, this demonstrates the fragility of the majority of Fèisean, who rely totally on the good will of volunteers. Without a secure committee structure in place, it is very difficult to make progress. However, signs of real progress have emerged in Islay this year, with a "Taster session" attracting 10 youngsters. This was followed up with a series of 10 weeks of classes in primary schools across Islay and Jura in conjunction with Ionad Chalum Chille Ìle. Funding from the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Development Fund and match funding from Argyll and Bute Council ensured that this programme was able to take place. A weekend Fèis took place 24 & 25th February, featuring a teenage workshop on the 25th. Much of this development has been led by Domhnall Angaidh MacIllinein of Ionad Chalum Chill Ìle, but as a result of the increased activity, 10 new names for the committee have come forward.

Fèis Òigridh Ghlaschu, Glasgow

The annual Fèis Òigridh Ghlaschu took place at the Mitchell Theatre, Glasgow on May 11th 2004. This was preceded by a series of workshops led by Wilma Kennedy around the Gaelic medium schools in Central Scotland. This resulted in each of the schools producing 10 minute plays which were performed on the stage the night of the Fèis. The existing committee have all decided to step down to make way for some younger blood, and happily, some teachers from the schools have come forward. Next year's Fèis will have to find a temporary new home as the Mitchell Theatre is undergoing refurbishment at the time of the Fèis.

Fèis Thiriodh, Isle of Tiree



The annual Fèis in Tiree is one of the most established events in the Fèis movement, attracting excellent of both local and visiting participants. This year's Fèis took place 5- 9 July 2004, and again the weather was fantastic and everyone who taught, played, participated or went to the sessions left the island exhausted. A well organised Fèis with a good mix of tutors and participants and Caribbean weather! In addition to the main Fèis, there was a programme of year round activities to keep the island's young people busy through the winter months.

Fèis Naomh Chonbhail, Inverclyde, Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire

This Fèis is spread over quite a large geographical area, and to cover the full area, has been experimenting with a few locations since it's inception. This leads to difficulties in building up momentum and unfortunately a couple of workshops sessions scheduled for Greenock and Inverclyde during the summer months had to be cancelled due to poor numbers. However, Fèis organiser Alasdair Law is pressing ahead with plans for Fèis in Neilston, East Renfrewshire during August 2005. Over the course of the last year, a new Gaelic

partnership was established in the area to promote Gaelic more widely and hopefully will give greater support in developing the Fèis.

7.5 Western Isles Fèisean (Fiona MacInnes)

Western Isles regional meeting

The second annual Western Isles Regional Meeting was held in North Uist, 5 -6 November 2004, with representatives from each Fèis in attendance. This was an opportunity for all of the Western Isles Fèisean to get together, and as well as IT training, other subjects covered included a Good Practice and Fèis Improvement Plan, financial matters and general Fèis discussions. This is now seen as a very worthwhile and necessary part of the Western Isles Fèis calendar.

Teenage weekend – Scaladale – 27 and 28 August 2004

Following on from the first successful WI teenage weekend that was held in Lewis in June 2003, this weekend also exceeded expectations. The mix of ages, abilities, skills, talent and enthusiasm amongst the participants was to be admired. This was a great opportunity for teenagers from the Uists, Lewis and Harris to get together as a group and to interact socially. The weekend was also very beneficial and enjoyable for the tutors and the organisers. This weekend fuelled the desire to set up groupwork classes in their own areas and this happened in Lewis, the Uists and Barra.



Fèis Bharraigh, Isle of Barra



The Fèis Bharraigh committee staged their 24th Annual Fèis on the island in July 2004, with 172 young people attending. For the first time the Fèis provided tuition for a range of different ages, Fèis Bheag for the youngest participants, Fèis sa Mheadhan for those in the middle stages of primary, Fèis Mhòr for teenagers and Fèis Mhòr Mhòr for their parents! This format proved to be very popular indeed and plans are underway to incorporate this again in 2005. The committee have also been busily drawing up plans for their 25th Fèis which will revert to the original two week format to mark the anniversary. In addition, the Fèis will stage a special reunion night, and along with Fèisean

nan Gàidheal hold a series of concerts in a marquee on the machair. A lot to think about, but also exciting times.

Fèis Eilean na Hearadh, Isle of Harris

The committee staged their annual Fèis within Sir E Scott School, Tarbert in 5-9 July 2004, with 79 young people attending. This was particularly heartening as this represented a rise in numbers of 25 on the previous year. On offer was a wide range of activities, including clàrsach, song and shinty. Interest in shinty within the Western Isles has been steadily growing and Fèisean have played an important part in this. The game was played here in historic times, but more or less died out.

Fèis Taigh Dhonnchaidh, Ness, Isle of Lewis

The Fèis is based within Taigh Dhonnchaidh, a house that was gifted to the community by the late Duncan Morrison, a gifted musician who travelled the world performing. The committee have worked extremely hard over the years to refurbish the house, and they now boast an excellent community facility. The Fèis runs a wide range of classes throughout the year in a variety of disciplines and each year they hold "Ceòl Nis" which is a week long mixture of workshops and concerts. This year's event in July 2004 attracted a good attendance from local young people, swelled by a group from Ireland who travelled especially to take part,

Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis



The committee has seen some significant changes in personnel over the last twelve months, with Nan Smith stepping down as chair after a number of years. However, the committee has been able to attract new members and are busily preparing for their Fèis, which takes place in the first week of August 2005. Their 2004 Fèis attracted an extremely healthy 150 participants, with young people travelling from all over the island and beyond to take part. The Nicolson Institute has been the home of the Fèis since its inception, and the mix of class room and performance spaces on the same campus is a real asset. Fèis Eilean an Fhraoich also benefited from the Development

Fund to stage teenage groupwork classes over the winter and spring months, and are aiming to send a group to Barra to take part in the Ceòl nam Fèis concert.

Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain, South Uist

Once again the committee held their annual event in South Uist, entirely through the medium of Gaelic. In all 118 participants took part, mainly from the local community but also a healthy number of visitors taking advantage of the quality Gaelic experience on offer. In addition, the Fèis ran a number of year round classes, and in early 2005 commenced with groupwork sessions with the ultimate goal of performing at the Fèis Bharraigh Ceòl nam Fèis concert. The Fèis have also been working on compiling a video from the video production class they have been running at the Fèis for a number of years, which they hope to use as a promotional tool to attract new participants.



Fèis Tìr an Eòrna, North Uist



The main Fèis was held in Paible school, North Uist in July 2004 with a very

healthy 133 participants taking part. As well as the classes through the day, the Fèis incorporates a number of evening activities, including concerts and a tutors v pupils shinty match. This is one of the most hotly contested sporting events on the Fèis calendar and the level of commitment shown by both sets of teams demonstrates how keen each is to win! In addition to the main Fèis, the

committee have been busy with a series of year round classes, and joined forces with Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain to stage teenage groupwork classes prior to the Barra Ceòl nam Fèis concert. Over and above this, the committee has been working alongside Colaisde Beinn nam Faoghla to produce a CD featuring young people from the Fèis. This received backing from the Fèisean nan Gàidheal Development Fund and will be released at the time of the Fèis in July 2005.

8 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2004-05

9.1 Fèisean nan Gàidheal trading account for the year to 31 March 2005

	31.03.2005 £	31.03.2004 £
Income		
Grant income	338,528	547,019
Membership fees	3,910	2,430
Bank interest	5,150	242
Other income	4,822	8,452
Book sales	2,087	2,705
Instrument bank revenue	-	5,469
An Drochaid Management Fee	-	7,101
Fèis Alba	6,273	8,404
Blas Festival	41,493	0
Training		3,243
Meanbh-Chuileag	56,396	8,809
	-----	-----
	458,659	593,874
Expenditure		
Wages	125,353	182,398
Employers' Contributions	8,560	5,991
Staff expenses	20,741	13,076
Pension Contributions	1,420	-
Grants paid out	159,722	127,022
Travel for Tutors	-	440
Stationery & printing	11,989	8,930
Music book fees	6,568	9,792
Annual Conference	8,551	6,037
Board Expenses	3,289	3,633
Other expenses	2,374	4,721
Auditor	934	1,074
Child Protection Costs	7,864	10,002
Professional Fees	5,473	176
Rent & Water	11,239	11,147
Insurance	3,700	3,746
Light & Heat	1,921	1,144
Telephone, Fax, E-mail	5,315	3,604
Projects:		
Blas Festival	30,406	-
Lochaber Development Programme	-	5,520
Youth Music Initiative	600	881
Ceòl nam Fèis concerts	-	1,124
Meanbh-Chuileag	64,345	23,365
Training Programme	-	47,809
	-----	-----
	479,463	470,912
	-----	-----
	(£20,804)	122,962
Depreciation:		
Office equipment	2,545	2,543
Musical instruments	3,017	6,529
Computer Expenses	799	267
	-----	-----
	6,361	9,339
	-----	-----
Net surplus/(deficit) for the period	(£27,165)	£113,623
	-----	-----

9.2 Fèisean nan Gàidheal balance sheet as at 31 March 2005

	2005	2004
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets	1,074	7,435
Current Assets		
Stocks	2,306	2,571
Debtors	42,362	36,860
Cash in hand and at bank	267,650	167,427
	-----	-----
	312,318	206,858
Creditors		
Amounts falling due within one year	132,793	(69,484)
	-----	-----
Net Current Assets	179,525	137,374
	-----	-----
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	180,599	144,809
	-----	-----
Reserves		
Restricted Reserves:		
Training Project	18,757	4,804
Lochaber Development Fund	(5,292)	(1,271)
Instrument Bank	-	(3,547)
Youth Music Initiative	176,991	129,756
Unrestricted Reserves:		
Profit & Loss Account	(9,857)	15,067
	-----	-----
	£180,599	£ 144,809
	-----	-----

DETAILS OF RESERVES

	Profit & Loss Account £	ICT Project £	Training £	Lochaber £	Instrument Bank £	YMI £	Totals £
At 1 April 2005	15,067		4,804	(1,271)	(3,547)	129,756	144,809
Deficit for the year	(27,165)						(27,165)
Transfer between funds	2,241				(2,241)		
Grants received		9,075	81,423	21,177		219,511	331,186
Earned income					5,788	3,881	9,669
Salaries & expenses			(28,665)	(22,082)		(126,843)	(177,590)
Administrative costs				(3,116)		(32,723)	(35,839)
Other costs			(38,805)			(3,881)	(42,686)
Capital Expenditure		(9,075)				(12,710)	(21,785)
As 31 March 2005	(9,857)	0	18,757	(5,292)	0	176,991	180,599

The full audited accounts are available on request from the Fèisean nan Gàidheal main office.

Appendix 1 Board Members and observers as of 31 March 2005

1 Catriona MacIntyre (Chair)

7 Camaghael Road, Caol, Fort William, Inverness-shire, PH33 7HU
Tel 01397 703180

2 Katie Adam (Vice Chair)

Silema, Essich Road, Inverness, IV1 2AH
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