



# BEAIRTEAS

## Seisean 8

Angela NicEachainn &  
Ailean Òg Dòmhnallach



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
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# Angela NicEachainn

## Angela MacEachen



Rugadh agus thogadh mi ann an Uibhist 's bha mi an sin – ann an dachaigh agus ann an coimhearsnachd, far an robh beairteas do Ghàidhlig – gus an deach mi dhan sgoil ann an Inbhir Nis, aig aois aona bliadhn' deug.

Chaidh mi an uair sin dhan Oil-thaigh ann an Dùn Èideann, far an do rinn mi Ceiltis agus far an d' fhuair mi ionnsachadh, ann an Gàidhlig na h-Alba agus Gaeilge bhon Urr. Uilleam MacMhathainn agus bhon Oll. Uilleam MacGillÌosa – bliadhnachan a chòrd rium gu mòr. Rinn mi cànanan eile cuideachd agus sin far an robh an ùidh a bu mhotha agam agus, gu dearbha, 's ann fhathast. Tha mi cinnteach gur ann air sàilleabh 's gun robh mi fileanta ann an Gàidhlig a bha e an uair sin furasta dhomh cànanan eile a thogail.

Cho luath 's a cheumnaich mi, chaidh mi a dh'obair ann an Roinn na Gàidhlig aig a' BhBC ann an Glaschu, far an robh mi ag obair air prògraman rèidio agus telebhisean dh dh'iomadh seòrsa. 'S iomadh latha a rachainn a dh' obair sa mhadainn 's a thillin air an oidhche, 's gun mi air guth a bhruidhinn ach Gàidhlig – rud a bha gu math an-àbhaisteach, shaoilinn, ann an Glaschu.

A bharrachd air a bhith ag obair ann an craobh-sgaoileadh, rinn mi cuideachd teisteanas ann an teagasg agus bidh mi a-nis a' teagasg tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig bho àm gu àm 's tha e a' còrdadh rium gu mòr, a bhith ris an dà chuid.

Tha dithis mhac agam a tha fileanta ann an Gàidhlig agus tha iad le chèile air feum mòr a chur air a' Ghàidhlig aca, thaobh an cuid cosnaidh, ceòl agus cur-seachadan. Tha a-nis ogha agam, a tha min dòchas a bhios cuideachd fileanta ann an Gàidhlig – ach, feumaidh e tòiseachadh air bruidhinn an-toiseach!!

*Born and brought up in a strongly Gaelic-speaking home and community in Uist, I left the islands at the age of 11, to attend secondary school in Inverness.*

*Following that, I went to the University of Edinburgh where, among other subjects, I studied Scottish and Irish Gaelic / Gaeilge with Rev. William Matheson and Prof. William Gillies – a time I much enjoyed. Languages were of particular interest to me through school and university – and still are – and I do think that being a Gaelic speaker, helped me achieve more fluency in other languages and understand any complexities.*

*As soon as I graduated, I went to work in the Gaelic Department of the BBC in Glasgow, where I was involved in a wide range of programming, on both radio and television. There were many days when I would go to work and back home again in the evening, without having spoken a word of English – surely quite unusual for someone working for a large corporation in the middle of Glasgow.*

*As well as working freelance in broadcasting, I later returned to part-time study and gained a teaching qualification, enabling me to teach through the medium of Gaelic, as well as the medium of English and, now, in addition to being involved in programme-making, I also teach from time to time. I very much enjoy doing a bit of both.*

*I have two sons who are fluent Gaelic speakers and Gaelic has been very useful for both of them, in their work and in pursuing their interests. I now have a grandson, who I hope will also be a fluent Gaelic speaker - but, first of all, he actually has to learn to speak!!*



# Ailean Dòmhnallach

## Allan MacDonald



B' ann an Dùn Èideann a rugadh 's a thogadh mi ach, a dh'aindeoin sin, 's i Gàidhlig a bha mi a' cluinntinn bho latha gu latha, aig an taigh. Mar sin, cha do thòisich mi air Beurla a bhruidhinn 's a thuigsinn, gus an robh mi anns a' bhun-sgoil.

Bha ceòl a-riamh san teaghlach 's, mar sin, chuir mi airson drumaichean agus beum-cheòl a dhèanamh aig Sgoil Chiùil Naoimh Moire ann an Dùn Èideann fad sia bliadhna. B' ann an uair a bha mi an sin a ghabh mi ùidh ann an obair chamara an toiseach agus thòisich mi air togail dhealbhan gu proifeiseanta agus bha mi cuideachd a-measg craobh-sgaoileadh.

Lean mi orm le obair chamara agus obair chiùil nuair a bha mi ann an Oilthigh Dhùn Èideann, far an do rinn mi ceum urramach ann an Eitn-eòlas na h-Alba.

Aig toiseach na dàrna bliadhna agam san oilthigh, thòisich mi air trèanadh mar 'Special Constable'; oifigear-poilis saor-thoileach. Ghabhainn a h-uile cothrom falbh a-mach a dh'obair an dèidh dha na h-òraidean agam a bhith deiseil.

Rinn mi grund bhlidhnachan de dh'obair chiùil agus obair chamara, ach bha mo dhreuchd sa phoileas gam shìor thàladh. Mar sin, an dèidh sia bliadhna, thòisich mi nam oifigear-poilis làn ùine agus tha mi san obair sin fhathast, ann an aon dha na sgìrean as trainge; Lìte.

Thathar gam chumail trang san taigh cuideachd – tha gille beag, bliadhna a dh' aois, agam air a bheil Ailig – agus tha min dùil gum bi làn-chlaiginn de Ghàidhlig (agus de mhì-mhodh) aige, ann an ùine nach bi fada!

*Despite having been born and raised in Edinburgh, Gaelic was always the language I heard at home. It was only when I entered primary school that I began to learn and speak English.*

*Music has always been in the family, so I later applied to study drums and percussion at St Mary's Music School in Edinburgh. I first became interested in photography here and after a short while, I began to work professionally. I also worked in broadcasting, covering music and children's programmes.*

*I continued my photography and music work during my time at the University of Edinburgh, where I completed an Honours degree in Scottish Ethnology at the Department of Celtic and Scottish Studies.*

*During the weekends, I was always busy, and in my second year of university, I became a 'Special Constable'; a volunteer Police Officer.*

*Several years of music and photography work followed, but my work in policing always drew me back. Finally, after six years, I became a full-time Police Officer. I currently work in one of the busiest areas, Leith, which is on the north side of the city.*

*I am also kept busy at home – I have a one-year-old son called Alex – and before long, I hope that he himself, will speak and understand Gaelic (unless he's too busy being cheeky to his dad!)*

