

SEANACHAIDH

A Newsletter for members of Clann Gàidhlig

Iris 44

An Dubhlachd 2015



FÀILTE

Fàilte chridheil oirbh a-rithist, a' chàirdean dhan iris a' Gheamhraidh. 'S e àm gu math trang a th' ann agus bidh a h-uile duine a' coimhead air adhart ri tachartasan na Nollaige. Ach, tha tòrr rudan tarraingeach againn ann an Saoghal na Gàidhlig cuideachd.

Chì sibh tuilleadh anns an iris seo :

- ❖ *Oifigear Leasachaidh gu math trang*
- ❖ *Ur Comataidh*
- ❖ *Tachartasan Sòisealta*
- ❖ *Rannsachadh - na Meadhanan Gàidhlig*
- ❖ *A' Bhuidheann "SONAS"*
- ❖ *Fèis "Celtic Connections"*

OIFIGEAR LEASACHAIDH GU MATH TRANG

Ailean Campbell, our new Gaelic Development Officer (GDO) has been very busy during his short time in post. Developments include :

- Gaelic 'taster' days have been held at nurseries in Paisley (Foxlea) and Renfrew (Moorpark);
- An additional evening class has begun in Renfrew, to address the waiting list of learners;
- A Sradagan group for GME pupils at Whinhill Primary School, Greenock has been established, a homework class for parents has begun and there are plans to start shinty tuition;
- Discussions are being held with Pulse Radio (Barrhead) regarding a regular Gaelic radio Show

UR COMATAIDH

At our recent Committee meeting, Donald Doyle advised that he was stepping down. We are very grateful to Donald for the wise counsel he has provided during his time on the committee, and pleased that he will continue to take an active part in our social events.

Donald's departure means that we really do need a replacement to help continue our work and we would be delighted to hear from anyone who feels they could help. The work is not unduly onerous, and there are only about 8 committee meetings each year. Please contact the editor at the usual e-mail address or telephone number below.

TACHARTASAN SÒISEALTA

Despite the competing attraction of the Rugby World Cup Final, we had a good turnout for our Learners' Day on 31st October. Our next such day will take place on 19th March – enrolment forms will be sent out by e-mail and will also be available at the evening classes.

Alasdair Whyte will be our guest of honour for the annual Bardic Supper, to be held in Greenock on Saturday 20th February. His subject will be Dr. John McLachlan (*An Dotair Ruadh*), from Morvern. Alasdair is well known to Clann Gàidhlig members for his wonderful voice and we are sure to have a terrific evening. Tickets are available on request by e-mail, or from Alasdair (0780 591 8509), Anne (01475 728669) or Jean (01505 344948).

RANNSACHADH - NA MEADHANAN GÀIDHLIG

It has been brought to our attention through An Comunn Gàidhealach (ACG) that the BBC Trust is carrying out consultation on its service provision. You may be aware that the Government has recently announced cuts in funding which will affect services such as BBC Alba and Rèidio na Gàidheal. It is important that the voice of those using these services is heard and ACG has drafted a letter which may be useful to our members who wish to make their views known to the BBC Trust. I attach this and would ask all members to use it for their own purposes in framing a submission to the Trust.

Note that the deadline for responses is **mid-January**.

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A' BHUIDHEANN "SONAS"

The Sonas Gaelic Group, based at Beechwood Community Centre in Paisley have had another busy and enjoyable year with their inimitable mix of language learning and community outreach activities.

The year got off to an exciting start when 16 members travelled to Glasgow in blizzard conditions to participate in a Scottish Night at the Renfield St Stephen's Church Centre, organised by the Enable organisation. Sonas performed a mix of Gaelic song and action rhymes to a large and enthusiastic audience. Group members enjoyed the chance to meet with Enable service-users and staff and dance to music from Renfrew's own accordion maestro, Gary Blair.

In June, some members assisted as volunteers at the Glasgow Mòd, in response to a request for helpers. They had a fun-filled (if very busy) day which included stewarding at competitions and helping in the tea room.

More recently, Sonas welcomed a group from The Milldale Centre to their regular Thursday morning session at Beechwood. Sonas introduced their visitors to simple Gaelic vocabulary through audience participation in song and rhyme with Christopher MacIndeor's accordion playing and singing also being featured.

Community outreach is an integral part of the Sonas group's ethos and the enthusiastic and positive response from the Milldale group members served to remind us all that "Sonas" means "happiness" – not just for us but for all those who we meet through our outreach work!

As 2015 draws to a close, Sonas will have completed an amazing 12 years of fun, friendship and learning and they look forward to further opportunities for community outreach in 2016.

FÈIS "CELTIC CONNECTIONS"

January is always a busy month for lovers of Celtic-related music with Celtic Connections offering two weeks of very varied entertainment. Here are some of the concerts likely to be of interest :

16 th Jan. 8:00	Islay Night	Concert Hall
16 th Jan. 7:30	Ceòl 's Craic with Tional (new group with Arthur Cormack, Christine Primrose, Blair Douglas and others)	CCA
20 th Jan. 7:30	Màiread Stewart and Iain MacFarlane trio	St. Andrew's in the Square
21 st Jan. 8:00	Music from the Machair	Old Fruitmarket
22 nd Jan. 7:30	Anne Lorne Gillies : Songs of Gaelic Scotland	St. Luke's Church
23 rd Jan. 7:30	Fèis Rois 30th Anniversary Concert	Mitchell Theatre
24 th Jan. 8:00	Gillebride MacMillan & Kyle Carey	Tron Theatre
30 th Jan. 7:30	Karen Matheson and Nolwenn Leroy	City Halls
30 th Jan. 7:30	Skipinnish & Friends	Concert Hall

AGUS RUDEIGIN EILE / AND FINALLY

Membership fees were due in June. If you have not already done so, please complete the attached form and send a cheque for £5 to the Treasurer, c/o 26 Glenbank Court, Roukenglen Road, Glasgow, G46 7EG. Mòran taing,

..... agus tha mi 'n dòchas gum bidh deagh Nollaig agaibh uile.

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*As always, the editor would welcome contributions for future issues of "Seanachaidh" (articles, photographs or even just suggested topics for inclusion). Please call 0780 591 8509.*

Contact us by :

E-MAIL - [fios@clanngaidhlig.org](mailto:fios@clanngaidhlig.org) also see [www.clanngaidhlig.org](http://www.clanngaidhlig.org)

POST - ClannGàidhlig, c/o Renfrewshire Council, West Johnstone Community Learning Centre, Beith Road, Johnstone, PA5 0BB