



Teachdaireachd bhon Cheann Suidhe

A' toirt sùil air ais air 2013, bha coltas ann gu robh adhartas air a thighinn air suidheachadh na Gàidhlig – barrachd adhartas ann am foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig, gu sònraichte anns na sgìrean far an robh mòr-shluaigh na dùthcha a' fuireach, le dùbhlanan an cois sin a thaobh solarachaidh luchd-teagaisg agus cur seachadan Gàidhlig taobh a-muigh na sgoile. An cois sin thàinig fiosrachadh bhon chunntas-sluaigh a' sealltainn leasachaidhean dòchasach, gu sònraichte a thaobh na h-òigridh, ach le rabhaidhean a thaobh seasmhachd na Gàidhlig ann an sgìrean dùthchasach a' chàin. Tha dealbh-tìre na Gàidhlig air atharrachadh agus feumaidh sinn dèiligeadh ri sin. Tha mi den bheachd gu bheil e fhathast comasach àrainneachd Ghàidhlig ath-bheothachadh anns na sgìrean dùthchasach sin, ach tha e na fhaochadh dhuinn aig an aon àm gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig fhathast a' leantainn mar chànan conaltraidh gu ìre anns a h-uile sgìre de dh'Alba, agus iartas ann fhathast air a son.

Mar a thig gach Mòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail gu crìch, tha e iongantach an ìre gu bheil luchd-frithealaidh a' fàgail an sgìre san deach a chumail le faireachdainnean dòigheil, brosnachail, càirdeis is buntainn, le an sùilean air an ath àite gus a bhith ag ùrachadh an cuid spionnadh dualchais. 'S math a rinn sibh a Phàislig! A-nis air adhart gu Inbhir Nis! Ach dè a bheir 2014 a-steach? Bliadhna de phrìomh thachartasan ann an Alba, le Tilleadh Dhachaigh, cuimhneachadh a' Chogaidh Mhòir, tachartasan mòra spòrs, co-dhùnadh mu dheireadh air cùis neo-eisimeileachd na h-Alba, agus am Mòd a' tilleadh a dh'Inbhir Nis às deidh bearn de 17 bliadhna. Gnìomhachd gu leòr agus mòran chothroman gus luach agus beartas ar cànan agus ar cultar a thaisbeanadh.

Mòran taing dhuibh uile airson bh' ur taic fad na bliadhna a dh'fhalbh don Chomunn Ghàidhealaich, do na Mòdan Ionadail agus don Mhòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail. Bliadhna Mhath Ùr dhuibh nuair a thig i.

Iain Macleòid, Ceann-suidhe.

Message from the President

As we look back at 2013, the prospects for Gaelic development were mostly positive – further advancements in Gaelic-medium education, particularly in the populated areas of Scotland, presenting challenges for teacher supply and extra-curricular activities in Gaelic for the growing number of pupils. That was strengthened by census releases that showed promising developments overall, particularly in the younger age groups, but with warning messages for the survival of the language in the traditional heartland areas. The Gaelic landscape has changed and we need to respond to that. I believe that it is still possible for a Gaelic environment to be revitalised in these traditional areas, but it is also re-assuring that as a means of communication, Gaelic lives on in all regions of Scotland and remains popular.

As each Royal National Mod comes to a conclusion, it is remarkable the extent to which those involved leave the annual venue with feelings of satisfaction, inspiration, friendship and belonging, with their eyes set on renewing the annual cultural injection at the next venue. Well done Paisley! Roll on Inverness! But what will 2014 bring? A year of major events in Scotland, with Homecoming, Great War remembrances, sporting highlights, a long-awaited decision on the independence issue, and a return for the Mod to Inverness after a gap of 17 years. Plenty activities and many opportunities to highlight the value and richness of our language and culture.

Many thanks for your support to An Comunn Gàidhealach over the past year, to the Provincial Mòds and the Royal National Mòd. Happy New Year to you all when it comes.

John Macleod, President.



An Comunn Gàidhealach



Robin Banks a' leigeil dheth a dhreuchd mar Stiùiriche ACG

Leig an Comunn Gàidhealach soraidh slàn le caraid shònraichte aig Mòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail na bliadhna-sa ann am Pàislig. Chaidh gibht shònraichte a thoirt dha Robin Banks, as an t-Òban, aig co-labhairt na meadhanan air an latha mu dheireadh den Mhòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail 2013 mar dhòigh air taing a thoirt dha airson an iomadh bliadhna de sheirbheis is dilseachd a thug e don Chomunn Gàidhealach agus don Mhòd Naiseanta Rìoghail.

Bha Robin an-sas sa bhuidheann aig ìre ionadail is nàiseanta airson 58 bliadhna agus bha e na neach-gairm air a' Chomataidh Ionadail san Òban nuair a bhiodh am Mòd a' tadhal air a' bhaile. Bha Gàidhlig aig màthair Robin agus le sin bha ùidh mhòr aige sa chànan. Chaith e fad a bheatha anns a' bhaile, a thuilleadh air tide chur seachad san t-Seirbheis Nàiseanta agus ann an Oilthigh Dhùn Èideann. Bha e na àrd stiùiriche aig a' chompanaidh lagha Anderson Banks agus chaith e ùine na shiorraidh agus na chomhairliche ann an Earra-gaidheal is Bhoid.

Chan eil mòran dhaoine cho eolach air eachdraidh a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich agus a' Mhòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail 's a tha Robin. Tha an ùidh agus an dilseachd a tha e a' toirt dhan Chomunn sonraichte agus na thaic air leth dhan luchd obrach.

Ach – 's e a tha airidh air beagan fois agus tha sinn a' guidhe gach beannachd dha agus e a' gabhail ceum air ais.

Chaidh tiodhlaic cuideachd a thoirt dha bean Robin, Ishbel, a bha cuideachd air leth taiceil dhan bhuidheann thairis air na bliadhnachan. Bhiodh Ishbel gu math tric air a faicinn a' toirt seachad duilleagan breithneachaidh a' Mhòid gach bliadhna – obair a bhiodh gu math tric a' fàs gu math trang agus riaslach, agus chan e a h-uile duine a chumadh cùisean a-ruith cho siubhlach mar a bhiodh Ishbel! 'S e boireannach dòigheil, spòrsail a th' ann an Ishbel agus tha i an còmhnaidh ag obair gu cruaidh, air cul gnothaich, gun fhios do dhuine.

Cupal sònraichte a tha air a bhith air leth taiceil dhan Chomunn Gàidhealach agus tha sinn air a bhith gu math fortanach gun robh a leithid againn mar phàirt den sgioba againn airson bliadhnaichean mòra. Taing mhòr dhan dithis agaibh agus tha sinn a' coimhead air adhart ri bh' ur faicinn aig iomadach Mòd ri tighinn.

Robin Banks Retires as Director of An Comunn

An Comunn Gàidhealach bid farewell to a very special person at this year's Royal National Mod in Paisley. A special presentation was made to Mr Robin Banks, from Oban, at a press conference on the last day of the 2013 Royal National Mod, as a thanks for his many years of dedication and service to An Comunn Gàidhealach and the Royal National Mod.

Robin had been involved with the organisation at both local and National levels for 58 years, and was convener of the Local Organising Committee in Oban when the Royal National Mod would visit the town. Robin's interest in the language came as a result of the encouragement of his Gaelic teacher in Oban High School, Mr Donald Thomson (known by many as 'Mr Gaelic') who was originally from Ness in Lewis. He spent all of his life in Oban, apart from his time in the National Service and in Edinburgh University. He was a senior partner at law firm Anderson Banks and also spent time as honorary sheriff and Councillor for Argyll & Bute Council.

There are few people who are as knowledgeable about the history of An Comunn Gàidhealach and the Royal National Mod as Robin is. His interest and dedication to the Mod was tremendous and his input will be missed greatly.

However he is very deserving of a well earned rest and we wish him all the best as he takes a step back.

A presentation was also made to Robin's wife, Ishbel, who has also been a great support to the organisation over the years. Ishbel would always be found handing out adjudication sheets to competitors at the Royal National Mod each year – a job which gets very hectic at times and few would be able to take control as well as Ishbel! Ishbel is a great character, full of enthusiasm and fun and is always busy working away in the background.

A wonderful couple who An Comunn Gàidhealach have been very fortunate to have had as part of their team for many years. A very big thank you to you both and we look forward to you joining us at many future Mods.



Robin with his specially commissioned Gold Medal



Saor Làithean na Nollaig

Bidh oifis Inbhir Nis a' dùnadh airson na saor-làithean air Dihaoine 20mh Dùbhlachd aig 5f.

Bidh oifis Steòrnabhagh a' dùnadh aig àm lòn air Dimàirt 24mh den Dùbhlachd.

Bidh an dà oifis fosgailte a-rithist air Diluain 6mh Faoilleach 2014.

Nollaig Chridheil agus Bliadhna Mhath Ùr dhuibh uile!

Christmas Holidays

Our Inverness office will be closed from 5pm on Friday 20th December.

The Stornoway office will close at lunchtime on Christmas Eve.

Both offices will re-open on Monday 6th January 2014.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!

Dreach Ùr air Làrach-lìn a' Chomuinn

Chithear gu bheil sinn air làrach-lìn a' Chomuinn ùrachadh bho chionn ghoirid. Tha dreach ùr agus nas tarraingaiche air an làrach agus tha sinn an dòchas gu bheil e nas fhasa lorg fhaighinn air fiosrachadh agus mar sin air adhart.

Tha barrachd sheirbheisean ann cuideachd, mar eisimpleir, gheibhear air na pìosan ainmichte a cheannachd agus a thoirt bhon làrach-lìn againn chun a' chomputair agaibh fhèin, 's urrainnear cuir a-steach agus pàigheadh airson farpaisean air loidhne, gheibhear air cuir a dh' iarraidh cuairt-litir a' Chomuinn agus a dhol bhon làrach gu duilleagan Facebook agus Twitter againn le bhith a' bruthadh putan agus mar sin air adhart.

Thoiribh sùil air aig www.ancomunn.co.uk agus cuiribh thugainn ur beachdan.

New Look of An Comunn Website

You will see that our website has been re-designed and has a number of new features. The website has been re-designed to have a fresher look, making it easier to navigate and to offer more services.

For example, you can now purchase and download individual prescribed Mod pieces directly from our website, submit and pay for entries online, sign up for our newsletter directly, connect directly to our Facebook and Twitter pages and so on.

Have a look at www.ancomunn.co.uk and let us know what you think.

Farpais an Aigeallain Airgid

Thathas a' cur an cuimhne farpaisich an Aigeallain Airgid gu feumar na cuspairean shònraichte, a chaidh a thaghadh airson farpaisean A252 (Mnathan) agus A253 (Fir,) a leantainn. Aig Mòd 2014, 's e *Gaol* an cuspair dha na mnathan (A252) agus 's e *Cogadh* a bhios ann do na fir (A253).

Thèid na cuspairean ainmeachadh gach bliadhna air clàr-eagair inbheach a' Mhòid agus air liosta nam pìosan ainmichte.

Thèid na cuspairean seo a thaghadh gach bliadhna leis a' Chomataidh Chiùil 's bidh iad ag atharrachadh bho bhliadhna gu bliadhna. Thathas an dòchas gum bi roghainn de dh' òrain nas fharsainge aig farpaisich ri linn an atharrachaidh seo.

Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh mun atharrachadh seo, cuiribh fios chun Chomunn Gàidhealach gu: info@ancomunn.co.uk neo air am fòn: 01463 709705.

Silver Pendant Qualifying

Prospective Silver Pendant competitors at next year's Royal National Mòd are reminded that for competitions A252 (Ladies) and A253 (Men), they must choose a song which reflects a specified theme. For the 2014 Mòd, the theme for Ladies (A252) is *Love*. The theme for Men (A253) is *War*.

The respective themes will be chosen annually by the Mòd Music Committee and the themes will change from year to year. This variation has been made in order to offer competitors a wider range of song choice.

The specified themes will be communicated to competitors each year in the Mòd senior syllabus and in the list of prescribed pieces.

For any more information on this subject, please contact An Comunn Gàidhealach at: info@ancomunn.co.uk or Tel: 01463 709705.

An Comunn Gàidhealach



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Mòd Inbhir Nis 10-18 Dàmhair 2014



Inverness Mod Local Committee

Useful Contacts

Convener – Allan Campbell

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Ionmhas – Donald N. Macleod

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Chair of Inverness Branch - Tormod MacAoidh

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Mòd Inbhir Nis 10-18 October 2014



Cinn-là Feumail / Dates to remember:

Saturday 21st December – DIN Choirs performing at Tesco, Retail Park

Tuesday 31st December – Hogmanay Ceilidh, Grebe Hall, Inverness

Saturday 18th January – Soup Lunch, Dunbar Centre, Church Street

Saturday 15th February - Soup Lunch, Dunbar Centre, Church Street

Saturday 15th March - Soup Lunch, Dunbar Centre, Church Street



Comunn Gàidhlig Inbhir Nis

Òraid

'Glaschu: Òrain Gàidhealtachd a' Bhaile Mhòir
le Mairi Anna Nic Ualraig

Dihaoine 28.02.14 7.30f

Bun Sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis



Comunn Gàidhlig Inbhir Nis

Talk

'Glasgow: Highland Songs of the City'
by Maryann Kennedy

Friday 28.02.14 7.30pm

Bun Sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis

An Comunn Gàidhealach



Bho Comataidh Ionadail Mòd Inbhir Nis 2014

Thadhail riochdairean bho Comataidh Ionadail Mòd 2014 agus Meur Inbhir Nis air Mòd 2013 ann am Pàislig am bliadhna, agus thill iad le iomadach beachd airson Mòd 2014!

Bho thill iad bhon a' Mhòd, tha iad air a bhith trang le measgachadh de thachartasan gus airgead a chruinneachadh agus inbhe Mòd 2014 a thogail. Thòisich na tachartasan geamhraidh aig Meur Inbhir Nis air ais san t-Samhain, le madainn cofaidh air leth shoirbheachail agus lòn le brot san Dùbhlachd. Bidh iad a' cumail Lòn gach mìos thairis air mìosan na geamhraidh agus tha fàilte chridheil air duine sam bith a thighinn còmhla riutha. Mar is àbhaist, bidh tombola agus stàlla bèicearachd aig na tachartasan seo agus 's e cothrom math a th' ann airson coimhearsnachd na Gàidhlig a thighinn còmhladh.

Chaidh suipear 'Stovies' agus danns a chumail le Còisir Ghàidhlig Inbhir Pheofharain air Dihaoine 1mh den t-Samhain, anns an Legion, le ceòl bhon còmhlan cèilidh aca fhèin, "Mo Chreach!" Bha oidhche shònraichte aca – taing mhòr dhan a h-uile duine a thug taic leis.

Chaidh "Pamper Night" a chumail ann an Talla Rathaig Mhòir air Dihaoine 29mh Samhain. Bha 7 boireannach ann a bha a' toirt seachad seirbhisean eadar-dhealaichte mar massage agus iomadach rud eile! 'B e seo an dàrna oidhche Pamper a chaidh a chumail, agus thathas an dòchas fear eile a chumail ann an dhà no trì mhìosan, leis cho soirbheachail 's a tha iad air a bhith.

Ma tha sibh a' fuireach an Inbhir Nis, agus ma tha beagan agaibh ri cheannachd fhathast, feuch gun tèid sibh a-mach gu Tesco "mòr" air feasgair an 21mh. Cumaibh sùil agus cluais a-mach air an son, agus thoiribh dhaibh bhur taic!

Agus mu dheireadh, an tachartas mu dheireadh a bhios aca ann an 2013, Cèilidh Oidhche Challainn! Thèid cèilidh na bliadhna-sa a chumail ann an Talla Grebe, Inbhirnis, bho 9f gu anmoch, le ceòl bho Còmhlan Cèilidh Monach Isle. Thoiribh leibhotal, agus airgead airson raffle agus stovies.

Cosgaidh ticeadan £12 (inbich) agus £5 (clann). Tha iad air a bhith a' reic luath, mar sin, ma tha sibh airson feadhainn a' cheannachd, cuiribh fòn gu Chrissie Cumming air 07891814925.

Tha sinn airson taing mhòr a thoirt dhan a h-uile duine a tha air taic a thoirt dhuinn thairis air a' bhliadhna – tapadh leibh, agus chì sinn an ath bhliadhna sibh.

Mòd Inbhir Nis 10-18 Dàmhair 2014



From Inverness Mod 2014 Committee

Committee members from both the Mod 2014 Local Organising Committee and the Inverness Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach attended the very successful Mod 2013 in Paisley and have come back with lots of ideas and suggestions for Mod 2014.

Following the Mod they have had a busy end to 2013 with various fundraising and awareness activities. The Branch's monthly winter events in the Dunbar Centre on Church Street resumed in November with a very successful coffee morning, the usual "Soup" lunch returned in December and will continue one Saturday a month over the winter (dates below). All ages are welcome, there is usually a tombola and baking stall and these events are a great meeting point for the local Gaelic speaking community.

Dingwall Gaelic Choir held a Stovies Supper Dance in the Royal British Legion on Friday 1st November with their very own ceilidh band "Mo Chreach!" It was a hugely entertaining and successful night and thanks go to all who helped organise it!

A fundraising "Ladies Pamper Night" was held in Raigmore Rec Hall on Friday 29th November. Around 20 ladies received beauty treatments from 7 talented therapists offering a range of treatments including reflexology, mini facials, file and polish, massage and more! This was the second time this event has taken place and due to its popularity another one is being organised for the Spring.

For those in the Inverness area who are considering any last minute shopping on Saturday 21st December, DIN (Dingwall, Inverness and Nairn) Gaelic choirs will be entertaining shoppers in the "big" Tesco at the Retail Park that afternoon! Keep an eye and an ear out for them and offer them your support!

The last event in the 2013 calendar is the annual "Hogmanay Ceilidh"! This year it takes place in Grebe Hall, Inverness from 9pm until late with music provided by the Monach Isle Ceilidh Band. It is a Bring Your Own Bottle event and there will be stovies and a raffle on offer.

Tickets are £12.00 for adults, £5.00 for children, they are selling fast. If you are interested please contact Chrissie Cumming on 07891814925.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us over the year – thank you very much and we will see you next year.

Mòd Inbhir Nis 10-18 Dàmhair 2014



Playwrights' Studio, Scotland presents...

Ùrlar

A New Gaelic Play Laboratory

Diardaoin 16 Faoilleach / Thursday 16 January @ 7.30f

Club Room, CCA, 350 Sràid Sauchiehall, Glaschu, G2 3JD

Led by director, actor and writer **Iain Macrae**, Gaelic artists will work together to develop and rehearse two new scripts and devise a new one on the night!

The plays will be shared with you, the audience, in a unique exploration of cultural expression.

Tha Ùrlar a' comharrachadh beartas dràma Gàidhlig
Urlar is a celebration of the richness of contemporary Gaelic drama.

Freagarrach airson Fileantaich & Luchd-ionnsachaidh
Accessible to Gaelic and non-Gaelic speakers.

Air a sgrìobhadh le **Martainn Mac an t-Saoir, Rob MacNeacail, Gerda Stevenson**
Writers are Martainn Mac an t-Saoir, Rob MacNeacail, Gerda Stevenson.

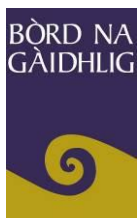
Air a chluich le **Carina NicLeòid, Mairi Mhoireasdan, Daibhaidh Walker, Ruairidh MacIomhair.**
Performed by Carina Macleod, Mairi Morrison, Davey Walker, Ruairidh Maciver.

Ceòl le **Mairearad Green.**
Music performed by Mairearad Green.

Then join us for a post-show discussion as we look at
the possibilities of contemporary Gaelic drama
and how we might continue to support its future development.

Airson pàirt a ghabhail, cuiribh fios gu / If you would like to attend, please RSVP to emma@playwrightsstudio.co.uk
ro co dhiù 5f air Diluain 13 Faoilleach / no later than 5pm on **Monday 13 January.**

Le taic bho / Supported by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, The Gaelic Books Council and the CCA.



Playwrights'
Studio
Scotland

CCA:

Taighean-solust: Do Bhan-Phrionnsa Anna

Le Lodaidh MacFhionghain
Bàrd dhan Mhòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail

Tha taighean-solust ann
O dhùthchannan dlùtha agus céin
A thàlaidheas sibh
'ro cheò aig astar
Gun eòlas ann

Cumaidh na teintean-rabhaidh seo
Aire air cànan is cultar sluaigh –
Luchd-aire – a chunnaic srì an cuid solust
A theann aghaidh ri aghaidh le mùchadh;

Chaidh na seilbhean seo aig Oisean a sgapadh
Air feadh an t-saoghail chruinne
Is am bun a-mhàin
A lasas a' rathad air adhart dhan luchd-air' aca,
Lanntairean na Féinne a tha seo;

Gàidheil, muinntir aig a' robh solust a chaidh a lùbadh
'ro linntean de chruidh-chàs;

Gàidheil, a lean orra mar a chaidh a' solust
Bho gheal is gu dubh
Is an uair sin gu glas;

Gàidheil a bheir fàilte chridheil dhuibh
Is sibhs' a' dèanadh céilidh orra
Far an coinnich gu goirid –
Dà shaoghal
'Ro riochdairean dà phobaill
Mar aonan –
Fo sholust scracte thaighean-solust air tilleadh

An do shaoil sibh a-riamh
Is ur ceann ann am brúadar
Gun tigeadh na solust a chunnaic sibh o chionn fhad' an t-
saoghail
Air corsaichean nan Gàidheal air ais 'ugaibh –
Is sibhs' 'nur Ban-Phrionnsa nan tiotalan aosda –
Mar chànan agus chultar dhaoine
Air an do shoillsich daonnan na solust seo,
'Ro ghathan duain?

An 15mh dhen Dàmhair 2013

Light-houses: For Princess Anne

By Lewis MacKinnon
Royal National Mòd Poet

*There are virtual lighthouses
From countries close and far
That lure you
Through a mist of distanced unfamiliarity;*

*These beacons keep
An eye on a language and culture of a people –
Watchers who saw the straining of their lights
Come face to face with a smothering –*

*These possessions of Ossian were scattered
Throughout the round world
And the only source
To light the road forward for their minders,
These lanterns of Finn's followers –*

*Gaels, a people whose light has been bent
Through centuries of hardship;*

*Gaels, who persisted
As the light went
From white to dark
And then to gray;*

*Gaels, who extend a hearty welcome to you
As you visit them
Where
Two worlds –
Via two people's representatives
Meet briefly
As one –*

Under the rented returning light of light-houses;

*Did you ever imagine
In your wildest dreams
That the lights that you saw so long ago
On those coastlands of the Gaels
Would come back to you –
A Princess of ancient titles –
Like the language and culture of a people
For whom these lights have always shone,
Through the rays of a poem?*

October 15, 2013



An Comunn Gàidhealach

A look back at Mod 2013 in Paisley. Photos by Graham Hood.





Oidhirp airson Eaglais Ghàidhlig a shàbhaileadh

Thathas a' dèanamh planaichean anns an Eilean Dubh an dràsta airson Eaglais Ghàidhlig a th' ann an Cromba a shàbhaileadh. Chaidh an Eaglais a thogail ann an 1783 ann an Cromba, le Seòras Rois, mar àite adhradh dha muinntir na Gàidhlig a-mhàin, a thàinig chun a' bhaile bho na gleanntan a lorg obair.

'S e togalach àlainn a th' ann, air a dhealbhadh le Raibeart Adam. Bhathas ga chleachdadh airson adhradh fad na tìde, gu 1918, ach bho thuit mullach an togalach a-steach ann an 1952, cha deach càil a dhèanamh leis. 'S e togalach 'listed' (B) a th' ann.

Tha an togalach suidhichte os cionn a' bhaile agus a' sealladh a-mach air Caolas Chrombaidh, ri taobh carragh-cuimhne Ùisdean Miller – ach 'se sealladh truagh a' th' anns an Eaglais fhèin.

Tha aon bhalla làn eidheann bho taobh gu thaobh agus tha sgàineadh air a' bhalla air an taobh eile a-ruith bho mhullach gu bonn an togalach. Tha craobhan a' nis a' fàs às a' mhullach agus tha mullach a' phoirdse air falbh gu lèir cha mhòr a-nis cuideachd.

Thathas a-nis a' feuchainn ri Urras a stèidheachadh le Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, Urras Chrombaidh agus Comhairle Coimhearsnachd Chrombaidh. 'S e a' chiad rud a dh'fheumadh an urras a dhèanamh, faisg air £500,000 a thogail airson an togalach a dhèanamh sàbhailte.

Tha Craig Friseal, Comhairliche An Eilean Dubh aig Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, den bheachd gu bheil an togalach seo air leth prìseil agus cudthromach airson cultar na Gàidhlig, agus chan eil mòran coltach rithe air fhàgail chun an latha an diugh.

Choinnich Mgr Friseal ri Iain Moireasdan bhon Chomunn Gàidhealach air an 3mh den Dùbhlachd. Bha Mgr Moireasdan den bheachd gur e pròiseact cudthromach a bha seo agus gu robh e an dòchas gum biodh e soirbheachail. Thuirt Mgr Moireasdan cuideachd gun toireadh An Comunn Gàidhealach litir taic airson tagraidhean sam bith a thèid a-steach a' sireadh taic-airgid.

Thuirt e cuideachd gum biodh fàilte air an Urras, taisbeanadh a chur air dòigh airson Mòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail 2014 ann an Inbhir Nis.

Gaelic Chapel Rescue Plans

Plans are in hand to set up a trust to rescue the Gaelic Chapel in the Black Isle town of Cromarty from dereliction. The Chapel was built in 1783 by Cromarty laird George Ross exclusively for worship by Gaelic speakers, who came from the glens to the town in search of work.

It is a fine building in Old Red Sandstone, of a design associated with Robert Adam. It was in continuous use for worship until 1918, but has been left to decay since its roof collapsed in 1952. It is a Category B Historic Listed Building.

The chapel shares a commanding position overlooking the town and the Cromarty Firth with the monument commemorating the great geologist and writer Hugh Miller, yet it is a sad sight today.

One wall is clad from end to end in ivy. The opposite wall has a crack in it from top to bottom. The roofless nave is becoming choked with trees, and the porch roof has almost gone too.

A trust partnership is expected to be formed between The Highland Council, the Cromarty Estate, and Cromarty Community Council, whose first task would be to raise the funds necessary to stabilise and consolidate the building. Costs have been estimated at around £500,000.

Highland Councillor Craig Fraser (Black Isle) believes the Chapel is a major monument to Gaelic culture, and one of very few of its kind to survive. He has ambitions to see it redeveloped for community and public use.

Mr Fraser had a meeting with An Comunn Gaidhealach's John Morrison on December 3rd, at which Mr Morrison praised a worthwhile project, and wished it success. Mr Morrison also said An Comunn Gaidhealach would provide a Letter of Support for future funding applications.

He indicated the proposed trust would be welcome to put on an exhibition at the next Royal National Mod in Inverness in 2014.





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Tha sinn a' lorg boireannaich eadar **18 – 70 bliadhna a dh' aois, aig a bheil Gàidhlig**, airson fiolm air Macbeth a bhios a' tòiseachadh ann an Alba, tràth anns a' bhliadhna ùr.

*We are looking for **Gaelic speaking ladies aged between 18 - 70+ years olds**, to get in touch for an upcoming feature film version of Macbeth shooting in Scotland early next year.*

Tha sinn a' lorg boireannaich Albannach aig a bheil Gàidhlig agus aig a bheil eòlas anns na cuspairean gu h-ìosal. Ma tha ùidh agaibh, cuiribh post-dealain thugainn le beagan fiosrachadh mu ur deidhinn fhèin, dealbh agus seòladh. Cuiribh fios thugainn cho luath's a ghabhas gu: casting@kahleencrawford.com le 'Gaelic Ladies' mar cuspair am post-dealain. Tha sinn airson gun coinnich sinn ribh ron an Nollaig!

*We are asking any Scottish Gaelic speaking ladies from the following backgrounds to please get in touch via email only, sending in some info about themselves, a recent photo (one full length and one headshot) and contact info. They should email us at as soon as possible at casting@kahleencrawford.com with the subject - Gaelic ladies to try and arrange a meeting this week or next!
(Before Christmas!)*

chan fheum eòlas dràma a bhith agaibh airson cuir a-steach airson seo idir.

They do not have to have any acting experience to apply.

Tha sinn a' lorg boireannaich le eòlas anns na leanas:

In particular we would like to hear from ladies with the following background areas:

***Storytellers
Folk Singing / musicians
Dancers
Physical theatre performers
Life Modelling
Performance Artists***

Cuiribh fios gu:
casting@kahleencrawford.com



Dreach Plana Gàidhlig Comhairle Shiorrachd Inbhir Àir

Tha Comhairle Shiorrachd Inbhir Àir a Deas a' cur ri chèile a' chiad Plana Gàidhlig aice a rèir feumalachdan Achd na Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005 agus ann an co-bhonn ri Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

Tha sinn ag aithneachadh cuideam na Gàidhlig don chultar agus don dualchas nàiseanta againn agus tha sinn a' cur fàilte air a' chothrom cur ri mothachadh agus cuideachadh gus cànan, dualchas is cultar na Gàidhlig a dhaingneachadh, a chur air adhart agus a leasachadh don ghinealach a tha ann an-dràsta agus do na ginealaich ri tighinn.

Tha an dreachd de Phlana Gàidhlig Chomhairle Shiorrachd Inbhir Àir 2014-17 a' cur an cèill mar a bheir sinn an obair againn air adhart gus taic a chur ri cinn-chrìche Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig thairis air an ath thrì bliadhna, a' dèanamh cinnteach gun aithnich na coimhearsnachdan, an luchd-pàirteachaidh agus na com-pàirtichean againn an t-adhartas againn gus Gàidhlig a chur air adhart is a chleachdadh.

Is e am facal-suaicheantais a tha againn 'Na Dèanaibh Dearmad air an t-Sluagh A-chaidh' agus tha seo a' gabhail a-steach feumalachdan muinntir na Gàidhlig a' fuireach is a' tadhal, agus a' cruthachadh chothroman dhan fheadhainn aig a bheil ùidh ann an Gàidhlig, gus an cànan a chleachdadh nam beatha làitheil.

Leigibh fios thugainn dè ur barail air an dreachd de Phlana Gàidhlig Chomhairle Shiorrachd Inbhir Àir 2014-17 le bhith a' leughadh a' phlana agus a' lìonadh a-steach a' cheisteachain air an Lìon aig www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/gaelicplan. Faodaidh sibh copaidh ann an clò iarraidh le bhith a' fònachd 0300 123 0900.

Thig an co-chomhairleachaidh gu crìch air Dihaoine 17 Faoilleach 2014.

South Ayrshire Draft Gaelic Language Plan

South Ayrshire Council is developing its first Gaelic Language Plan in line with the requirements of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 and in conjunction with Bòrd na Gàidhlig (the Gaelic Board).

We recognise the importance of Gaelic to our national culture and heritage and welcome the opportunity to raise awareness and help secure, promote and develop the Gaelic language, heritage and culture for both current and future generations.

Our draft South Ayrshire Gaelic Language Plan 2014-17 sets out how we will take forward our work to support the objectives of the National Plan for Gaelic over the next three years, ensuring our communities, stakeholders and partners can recognise our progress to promote and use Gaelic.

Our motto is 'Ne'er forget the People' and this includes the needs of Gaelic-speaking residents and visitors, and creating opportunities for those who are interested in Gaelic, to use the language in their daily lives.

Let us know what you think of the draft South Ayrshire Gaelic Language Plan 2014-17 by reading the plan and completing our online survey at www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/gaelicplan. You can request a printed copy by calling 0300 123 0900.

The consultation closes on Friday 17th January 2014

Ma tha sibh airson naidheachd no fiosrachadh a chur dhan ath iris den chuairt-litir, cuiribh fios thugainn!

If you would like to contribute anything to one of our future newsletters, please get in touch!

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TIRIODH A' BUANNACHADH AIG DUAISEAN NA TRADS

IADSAN A BHUAINNAICH AIR AN AINMEACHADH AIG DUAISEAN NA TRADS MG ALBA

Chaidh Duaisean Ceòl Traidiseanta Albannach MG ALBA (Na Trads) 2013 air adhart air Disathairne 7 Dùbhlachd airson an 11mh bliadhna le tachartas sònraichte, gleansach ann an Obair Dheathain.

Air a chraoladh beò air BBC ALBA, chaidh cuirm nan duaisean, a tha air a chur air chois le Hands up for Trad, a chumail ann an Talla Chiùil Obair Dheathain le tòrr rionnagan ciùil Albannach an làthair. Chaidh an oidhche a libhrigeadh le Màiri Anna NicUalraig agus Tony Kearney. Chaidh còrr air 90,000 bhòt a chuir airson nan duaisean am-bliadhna.

Thuir Simon Thumire, a stèidhich na duaisean agus a tha a' cur oidhche nan duaisean air adhart: "Tha an oidhche a-nochd air a bhith mìorbhaileach agus tha sinn toilichte na duaisean a thoirt seachad airson an 11mh bliadhna. Meal-a-naidheachd dha-rìribh air an fheadhainn a bhuannaich agus cuideachd orrasan a rinn a' gheàrr-liosta agus muinntir a phobaill a chur a-steach na bhòtaichean. "Bu mhath leinn cuideachd taing mhòr a thoirt do MG ALBA airson an taic leantainneach a tha iad air a thoirt dhuinn agus iad air a bhith còmhla rinn fad sia bliadhna. Tha na tha iad a' dèanamh dhuinn gun phrìs."

Am measg na bhuannaich am-bliadhna tha Fèis Chiùil Thiriodh a bhuannaich an duais Tachartas na Bliadhna, le taic bho VisitScotland. 'S e bliadhna air leth a tha air a bhith aig an Fhèis agus na tiocaidean air an reic ann an ùine gu math goirid – agus àireamh sluaigh an eilein a' dol suas trì-fillte thairis air deireadh sheachdain na fèise. Tha an fhèis air trì duaisean ainmeil a bhuannachadh mu thràth ann an 2013 - An Tachartas Cultarach as Fheàrr aig Duaisean Turasachd na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean, An Tachartas Beag as Fheàrr airson na dàrna bliadhna aig Duaisean Tachartas na h-Alba agus An Tachartas Cultarach as Fheàrr aig Duaisean Thistle. Tha e air ainmeachadh gum bi an fhèis a' dol thairis air trì latha an ath-bhliadhna an àite a dhà .

Am measg an fheadhainn eile a bhuannaich bha an Ionad Pìobaireachd Nàiseanta an Glaschu (an t- Àite as fheàrr am-bliadhna); Dòmhnall Shaw (Sgrìobhaiche na Bliadhna); Blazin' Fiddles (Còmhlan Folk Albannach na bliadhna) agus chaidh duais Clàr na Bliadhna gu *Room Enough For All* leis a' Chòmhlan Battlefield Band. Faic gu h-ìosal na bhuannaich air fad.

Thuir Dòmhnall Caimbeul, Àrd-Oifigear MG ALBA, a thug taic dhan tachartas:

"Tha Na Trads a' dèanamh aithne orrasan a tha air fìor obair a dhèanamh agus tha sinne aig MG ALBA air ar dòigh aon uair eile a bhith nar luchd-taic".

Chaidh an oidhche a thoirt gu crìch le ceòl sònraichte bho chuid den luchd-ciùil agus de na seinneadairean as cliùitiche ann an Alba, le Kathleen MacInnes, Blazin' Fiddles, Brian Gear agus Violet Tulloch, North East North East Folk Collective, Paddy Callaghan Trio (BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician Award Winner 2013), The Shee, Ross Ainsley Band, Deoch 'n' Dorus, Tom Spiers and family agus Bucksburn & District Pipe Band nam measg.



**Gu h-àrd: Rachel Wilker, Robert Robertson & Trail West
Dealbhan le Andy Buchanan**



TIREE COMES UP TRUMPS AT TRAD AWARDS

WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR MG ALBA SCOTS TRAD MUSIC AWARDS

The **MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards** celebrated its 11th year in style on Saturday 7th December with a glittering awards ceremony which was the biggest and best yet!

Broadcasted live on BBC ALBA, the awards- organised by **Hands Up for Trad**- saw stars of the Scottish music scene flock to Aberdeen's Music Hall to celebrate and honour the very best of traditional Scottish talent. This year's glamorous ceremony was hosted by **Mary Ann Kennedy** and **Tony Kearney**. *Winners of the prestigious awards were selected by almost 90,000 public votes.*

Event Founder and Hands Up for Trad Creative Director: Simon Thoumire says: *"Tonight has been amazing and we're proud to have been awarding Trad talent for the 11th year. A massive congratulations to all our winners and nominees and to the public for taking the time to vote.*

"We'd also like to thank MG ALBA for their continued support of the awards and are privileged that this is the 6th year they have sponsored us, their contribution is invaluable."

This year's notable winners include **Tiree Music Festival** which scooped the **Event of the Year Award, Sponsored by VisitScotland**. It has been a momentous year for the festival which sold out in record time – tripling the population of Tiree over the festival weekend and has already won three prestigious awards in 2013 - 'Best Cultural Event' at the Highlands and Islands Tourism Awards, 'Best Small Festival' for the second year in a row at the Scottish Event Awards and Best Cultural Event in Scotland at the Thistle Awards. It has also been announced that the festival will be extended to three days in 2014.

Other winners of the prestigious prizes included **National Piping Centre** (Glasgow) scooping **Venue of the Year**; the **PRS for Music award for Composer of the Year** was taken by **Donald Shaw**; **Blazin' Fiddles** bagged **Scottish Folk Band of the Year** and the prestigious **Album of the year** was won by **Room Enough For All by Battlefield Band**. Please find a full list of winners below.

The evening was concluded by a fantastic array of performances from the country's Trad music stars including, Kathleen MacInnes, Blazin' Fiddles, Brian Gear and Violet Tulloch, North East North East Folk Collective, Paddy Callaghan Trio (BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician Award Winner 2013), The Shee, Ross Ainsley Band, Deoch 'n' Dorus, Tom Spiers and family and Bucksburn & District Pipe Band.

Donald Campbell, Chief Executive of event sponsors MG ALBA says: *"The Trads recognize those that have achieved excellence and we at MG ALBA are delighted to have been involved once again as sponsors."*

The full winners list for this year's MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards:

Album of the Year sponsored by Birnam CD- Room Enough For All by Battlefield Band

Club of the Year sponsored by Royal Scottish Country Dance Society - Folkclub

Composer of the Year sponsored by PRS for Music - Donald Shaw

Community Project of the Year sponsored by Gordon Duncan Memorial Trust - Gizzen Briggs (Tain Royal Academy)

Event of the Year sponsored by VisitScotland - Tiree Music Festival

Gaelic Singer of the Year sponsored by Macmeanmna - Rachel Walker

Instrumentalist of the Year sponsored by Temple Records - Chris Stout (Shetland)

Live Act of the Year sponsored by Greentrax Recordings - Breabach

Citty Finlayson Scots Singer of the Year sponsored by Traditional Music and Song Association - Siobhan Miller

Scottish Dance Band of the Year sponsored by National Association of Accordion and Fiddle Clubs - Trail West

Scottish Folk Band of the Year sponsored by All Celtic Music - Blazin' Fiddles



An Comunn Gàidhealach



*Nollaig Chrìdheil
agus
Bliadhna Mhath Ùr*



*bho
Ceann Suidhe, Stiùirichean
agus
Luchd Obrach a' Chomuinn
Ghàidhealaich*

An Comunn Gàidhealach

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