

An Naidheachd Againne

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Tha Daibhidh Dauvit na òraidiche Gàidhlig sa Phrògram Cheiltis, Oilthigh Toronto, agus tha e air a bhith a' teagasg na Gàidhlig fad còrr is 25 bliadhna. Dh'ionnsaich e Gàidhlig an Alba agus Ceap Breatainn, a bharrachd air Gàidhlig h-Èireann ann an Conamara agus Dùn nan Gall.

David Livingston-Lowe is a Gaelic instructor in the Celtic Studies Program, University of Toronto, and has been teaching Gaelic for over 25 years. He studied Gaelic in Scotland and Cape Breton in addition to Irish in Connemara and Donegal.

Aibidil na Gàidhlig – Ath-bheòthaichte agus Ath-sgrùdaichte le Daibhidh Dauvit

Cuid a h-Aon

Gheibh luchd-teagaisg na Gàidhlig na ceistean “Ciamar a litricheas tu faclan gu h-àrd?” no “Dè na h-ainmean a tha air na litrichean anns an aibidil Ghàidhlig?” Feumaidh a fhreagairt fhèin a bhith aig a h-uile duine, a rèir ìre ùidhe no eòlais. Dh'fhaodte gun can cuid “Cha chleachd sinn ach na h-ainmean Beurla” agus sin e. Dh'fhaodte gun can cuid eile nach e cùis chudromach a tha innte mar bha an co-chomann traidiseanta Gàidhlig beul-fhoghlaimte agus cha chuireadh iad cudrom air sgrìobhadh no litreachadh. Dh'fhaodte gun toir cuid eile luaidh air an t-Seann-Ghàidhlig no air an Ogham-chraobh agus mar a tha beagan ainmean craobhan san Ogham – rud bhon t-seann-saoghal nach cleachdar an-diugh ach air turasgar turasachd no air làraich-lìn nua-phàganach. Tha earann dhen fhìrinn aig gach freagairt roimhe. Dhòmhsa, is e aithghearrachd shoirbh a tha ann a ràdh “cha chan sinn ach na h-ainmean Beurla” agus sin uile e. Co-dhiù, tha mi fhathast mì-thoileach mun fhreagairt agam. Cha mhòr gun gabhadh e beagan mhionaidan de dh'ùine an neach-teagaisg gus aibidil ionnsachadh a tha coltach ris a' chànan bhon tàinig i. Cha tèid agam mìneachadh a dhèanamh air carson nach do thachair seo fhathast an Alba no an Èirinn. Tha dà shiostam ri ar làmhnan a chleachdas an neach-teagaisg – an t-Ogham-chraobh (aibidil nan craobhan) agus aibidil Èireannach nua-aimsireil. Anns an dàrna cuid



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A Gaelic Alphabet – Revived and Revised

by David Livingston-Lowe

Part One

Gaelic teachers may encounter the questions “How do you spell words aloud?” or “What are the names of the letters in the Gaelic alphabet?” Each of us must give our own answer based on our level of interest or knowledge. Perhaps some say “we just use the English names” and leave it at that. Perhaps others say that it's not an important issue since traditional Gaelic society was orally literate and placed no importance on writing or

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Go to www.acgamerica.org for more on upcoming ACGA events and other Gaelic-related activities.



(a nochdas san Ògmhios 2023), bruidhnidh mi mu aibidil nua-aimsireil agus molaidh mi earrann a bharrachd airson litrichean nach fhaighear san absaidh thraidiseanta.

A' Bheith-Luis-Nuin – An t-Ogham-chraobh

Is e an t-Ogham an dòigh-sgrìobhaidh as sine aig a' Ghàidhlig, air a chleachdadh gu h-àraidh airson shnaidh-sgrìobhaidhean dìreach ann an clach no fiodh le eagan airson fhuaimreagan agus sreathan airson chonnragan. Bha ainmean litrichean ann air an aibidil, air an robh a' Bheith-Luis-Nuin (an absaidh), air a h-ainmeachadh an dèidh nan ciad litrichean san Ogham-chraobh. Tha an t-artaigil seo ro ghoirid a mhìneachadh toiseach agus cleachdadh an litreachaidh Oghaim, ach tha cinn-sheanchais mhatha ann an clò agus air-loidhne, a thuilleadh orra-san a tha sean agus mì-stiùireach. Chan eil e buileach fìor a ràdh gur e aibidil chraobhan a tha ann an aibidil na Gàidhlig. Ged a tha an ròlaist cho sean ris a' chrotal, mar a thuirt sgoilear a-mhàin, is e “fionn-sgeul craobhach” a tha ann. Tha e fìor a ràdh gun toir grunn litrichean Oghaim tarraing air craobhan, ach cha toir an còrr.

Aibidil Dhùthchasach 18 Litrichean Ailm (A), Beith (B), Coll (C), Dair (D), Eadha (E), Feàrn (F), Gort (G), Uath (H), Iodh (I), Luis (L), Muin (M), Nuin (N), Onn (O), Peith/Beith Bhog (P), Ruis (R), Suil (S), Teine (T), Ur (U)

Chaidh an t-Ogham eagrachadh ann an còig *aicmi* (*aicmean*) – teaghlaichean de chòig litrichean an urra. Ghabh a' chiad cheithir aicmean de 20 litir a-steach NG is Q is Z, ach cha robh P nan lùib. Bha an còigeamh *aicme* airson litrichean a bharrachd agus bagaidean fhuaimreagan no chonnragan, air an robh *forfeda* (for-fhiodhan no geugan a bharrachd) a ghabh a-steach P agus an dà-fhoghar AE (AO an-diugh) am measg chàch.

Litreachadh Gu h-Àrd Leis a' Bheith-Luis-Nuin

Gus faclan a litreachadh gu h-àrd, cleachd *mòr* airson litrichean mòra agus *beag* airson litrichean beaga. Cuir *stràc* ri ainm na litreach gus an sìneadh fada a chomharrachadh. Bidh feum ann cuideachd air *tàthan* is *asgair* is

orthography. Others might refer to Old Irish or the Ogham script and say something about how a few of the Ogham letters referred to tree names – something from our ancient past but not used today other than on tourist paraphernalia or neo-pagan websites. All of the foregoing responses have some truth. For me, it may be convenient and save time to say “we just use the English names” and move on to more important matters of introductory Gaelic. Yet, I still feel dissatisfied with my response. It would take no more than a few minutes of any Gaelic teacher's time to teach an alphabet that sounds like it actually refers to the language it comes from. I am unable to explain adequately why this has not taken place in either Gaelic Scotland or Ireland. We have two ready-made systems at our disposal that a Gaelic teacher can use – the Ogham “alphabet of trees” and a modern Irish alphabet. In Part Two (to be published in June 2023), I will discuss a modern Gaelic alphabet and propose an addendum for letters not found in the traditional alphabet.

The Beith-Luis-Nuin – The Traditional Ogham Alphabet

Ogham is the oldest Gaelic writing system, used predominantly for inscriptions and written vertically on stone or wood by means of inscribed notches for vowels and lines for consonants. There were letter names for the alphabet, called *a' Bheith-Luis-Nuin* (the ABCs), named for the first letters of the Ogham alphabet. This article is too brief to detail the origins and uses of Ogham orthography and its accompanying letter names, but there are reliable sources available in addition to many outdated and misleading sources both in print and on the internet. It is not completely true to say that the Gaelic alphabet is an alphabet of trees. While that romantic notion is centuries old, it is, in the words of one academic, an “arboreal fiction.” It is true to say that several of the characters of the Ogham alphabet refer to trees, while the remainder do not.

The Traditional 18-Letter Gaelic Alphabet

Ailm (A), Beith (B), Coll (C), Dair (D), Eadha (E), Feàrn (F), Gort (G), Uath (H), Iodh (I), Luis (L), Muin (M), Nuin (N), Onn (O), Peith/Beith Bhog (P), Ruis (R), Suil (S), Teine (T), Ur (U)

Ogham was divided into five *aicmi* – family groupings of five letters each. The first four *aicmi* of 20 letters included NG, Q and Z, but not P. A fifth *aicme* was for supplemental letters and consonant or vowel clusters, called *forfeda* (modern *for-fhiodhan*/additional branches) that included P and the diphthong AE (modern AO) among others.

Spelling Aloud With the Beith-Luis-Nuin

When spelling words aloud in Gaelic, use *mòr* to indicate upper case capitals and *beag* for lower case letters. Add *stràc* after the letter name to indicate the long accent. *Tàthan* (hyphen), *asgair* (apostrophe) and *beàrn* (space) will also be needed. Use definite article, gender and number

beàrn. Eisimpleirean:

- Gàidhlig. “gort mhòr, ailm stràc, iodh, dair, uath, luis, iodh, gort”
- a’ bhò. “ailm, asgair, beàrn, beith, uath, onn stràc”
- an seo. “ailm, nuin, beàrn, suil, eadha, onn”
- MacÌosaig. “muin mhòr, ailm bheag, coll, iodh mòr stràc, onn beag, suil, ailm, iodh, gort”
- peata-ruadh. “peith, eadha, ailm, teine, ailm, tàthan, ruis, ur, ailm, dair, uath”

Bruidhinn Mu Litrichean:

- The E is missing. Tha an eadha a dhìth.
- Where is the G in leughadh? Càite bheil a’ ghort ann an leughadh?
- You omitted the capital Ò. Dh’fhàg thu an t-onn mòr stràc às.
- The I’s need long accents on them. Tha feum aig na h-iodhannan air stràcan.

Faclair

ailm b. (gin. ~e, iol. ~ean); beith b. (gin. ~e, iol. ~ean); coll f. (gin./iol. coill); dair b. (gin. ~e, iol. ~ean); eadha b. (gin. eadha, iol. ~nnan*); feàrn b. (gin. ~a, iol. ~an); gort b. (gin. ~a, iol. ~an); uath f. (gin. ~a, iol. ~an); iodh f. (gin. ~a, iol. ~annan); luis b. (gin. ~e, iol. ~ean); muin b. (gin. ~e*, iol. ~ean*); nuin b. (gin. ~e*, iol. ~ean*); onn f. (gin. ~a, iol. ~an); peith b. (gin. ~e, iol. ~ean*); ruis b. (gin. ~e, iol. ~ean); suil b. (gin. ~e, iol. ~ean); teine f. (gin. ~, iol. ~ean*); ur f. (gin. uir, iol. uir*)

* foirmean neo-dhearbhte ann am faclair, air an dealbhachadh an coimeas ri ainmean no ainmean litrichean coltach.

of letter names as required. Examples:

- Gàidhlig. “gort mhòr, ailm stràc, iodh, dair, uath, luis, iodh, gort”
- a’ bhò. “ailm, asgair, beàrn, beith, uath, onn stràc”
- an seo. “ailm, nuin, beàrn, suil, eadha, onn”
- MacÌosaig. “muin mhòr, ailm bheag, coll, iodh mòr stràc, onn beag, suil, ailm, iodh, gort”
- peata-ruadh. “peith, eadha, ailm, teine, ailm, tàthan, ruis, ur, ailm, dair, uath”

Speaking About Letters:

- The E is missing. Tha an eadha a dhìth.
- Where is the G in leughadh? Càite bheil a’ ghort ann an leughadh?
- You omitted the capital Ò. Dh’fhàg thu an t-onn mòr stràc às.
- The I’s need long accents on them. Tha feum aig na h-iodhannan air stràcan.

Dictionary

ailm f. (gen. ~e, pl. ~ean); beith f. (gen. ~e, pl. ~ean); coll m. (gen./pl. coill); dair f. (gen. ~e, pl. ~ean); eadha f. (gen. eadha, pl. ~nnan*); feàrn f. (gen. ~a, pl. ~an); gort f. (gen. ~a, pl. ~an); uath m. (gen. ~a, pl. ~an); iodh m. (gen. ~a, pl. ~annan); luis f. (gen. ~e, pl. ~ean); muin f. (gen. ~e*, pl. ~ean*); nuin f. (gen. ~e*, pl. ~ean*); onn m. (gen. ~a, pl. ~an); peith f. (gen. ~e, pl. ~ean*); ruis f. (gen. ~e, pl. ~ean); suil f. (gen. ~e, pl. ~ean); teine m. (gen. ~, pl. ~ean*); ur m. (gen. uir, pl. uir*)

* forms not attested to in dictionaries, devised by analogy with similar nouns or other letter names.



Fiosrachadh air an eadar-lìon / Internet references:

- Wikipedia: Ogham <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ogham>
- Wikipedia: Forfeda <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forfeda>
- LearnGaelic <https://learngaelic.scot/scottish-gaelic-alphabet.jsp>

Photo Quiz

This bilingual sign is hiding in plain sight in George Square. At what Scottish institution will you find it? You will find the answer on page 13.



Jeff W. Justice



Litir bhon Cheann-suidhe le Liam Ó Caiside

A chàirdean còire,

An toiseach, bu chòir dhomh meala-naidheachd a chur air Slighe nan Gàidheal ann an Siatal airson na h-obrach a rinn iad aig Fèis a' Gheamhraidh am-bliadhna. 'S e tachartas cho math 's cho ùidheil 's a bha mi an sàs ann ann an iomadh bliadhna a bh' ann.

Cha robh iad a' dèiligeadh dìreach ris a' chànan agus ceòl a-mhàin ach ri cultar nan Gàidheal air an iomlan – rudan mar bheul-aithris neo *oral tradition* agus na “daoine eile” (cha bu chòir dhomh s*#h a ràdh) ann an saoghal nan Gàidheal. Agus bha clasaichean Gàidhlig agus òrain ann cuideachd, agus cothrom bruidhinn ri caraidean seana agus ùr. Tha e soilleir gur e coimhearsnachd ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig – neo dìreach “coimhearsnachd Ghàidhlig” – làidir, beartach, agus adhartach a th' ann an SnG. Mòran taing dhaibh agus guma fada beò am bradan!

Am faca sibh Nighean Ìomhair air a' chiad latha dhen Ghearran am-bliadhna? Chan fhaca mise Nighean Ìomhair, ach cha chreid mi gu bheil an tè sin a' fuireach faisg ormsa idir!

Cò th' ann an Nighean Ìomhair ach nathair a thigeadh às a toll an latha ud, Là Fhèill Brìghde. Dh'fhaoidte gur e “nimhir” a bh' innte, agus gur e leas-ainm a gheibh sinn ann an “Nighean Ìomhair.” Cha bu chòir dhut a h-ainm ceart a chleachdadh gun a bhith a' tarraing aire dhut fhèin.

Thigeadh an nathair, neo an nimhir, às an toll, ged a bhiodh troigh de shneachd ann, agus thigeadh an t-earrach, a dh'aindheoin an fhuachd, air Là Fhèill Brìghde. Dh'ionnsaich sinn sin agus tuilleadh anns a' phrògram Zoom againn airson Là Fhèill Brìghde an ceathramh latha den Ghearran seo le Bria Mason, Greagóir Ó Dáire, agus Adam Dahmer.

Sgrìobh Alexander Carmichael (fear a' Charmina Gaedelica) seo ann an leabhar-nòtaichean (see <https://carmichaelwatson.blogspot.com/2011/03/latha-fheil-brighde-st-brides-day.html>):

Mrs. Major MacLeod, a daughter of the celebrated Flora MacDonald, was on a visit to Mr. Tolmie ... One day while at breakfast some person remarked that the day was La-fheil-Brighde, St. Brigit's day. On hearing which Mrs. Major MacLeod started up, got a stocking, put something

Letter from the President by Liam Cassidy

Dear friends,

First, I must congratulate *Slighe nan Gàidheal* in Seattle on their *Fèis a' Gheamhraidh* (winter *fèis*) this year. It was as good and as interesting an event as any I've attended in many years.

They didn't deal just with language and music alone but with Gaelic culture as a whole – things such as oral tradition or *beul-aithris* and the “other folk” (I shouldn't say “F*#!ies”) in the life of the Gael. And there were Gaelic language and song classes as well, and opportunities to talk with friends old and new. Many thanks to them and long life to the salmon!

Did you see *Nighean Ìomhair* (Ivor's daughter) the first day of February this year? I didn't see her, but I don't believe Ivor's daughter lives anywhere near me!

Who is *Nighean Ìomhair* but a snake or adder that comes out of its hole on that day, St. Bridget's Day. Perhaps she's actually a *nimhir* or a serpent and *Nighean Ìomhair* is a nick-name of sorts. You shouldn't draw attention to yourself by using its true name.

The adder will come out of the hole, even if there's a foot of snow, and the spring will come, despite the cold, on St. Bridget's Day. We learned that and more in our Zoom Program on *Là Fhèill Brighde* on February 4 with Bria Mason, Greagóir Ó Dáire, and Adam Dahmer.

Alexander Carmichael, author of the *Carmina Gaedelica*, wrote the below in one of his notebooks (*leabhar-nòtaichean*) (see <https://carmichaelwatson.blogspot.com/2011/03/latha-fheil-brighde-st-brides-day.html>):

Mrs. Major MacLeod, a daughter of the celebrated Flora MacDonald, was on a visit to Mr. Tolmie ... One day while at breakfast some person remarked that the day was La-fheil-Brighde, St. Brigit's day. On hearing which Mrs. Major MacLeod started up, got a stocking, put something in it, probably a piece of peat, and

in it, probably a piece of peat, and proceeded to pound it down with a mallet saying as she did so:

‘Là Fhèill Brìghde thig Nighean Ìomhair as an toll Cha bhoìn mise do Nighean Ìomhair, ’s cha bhoìn Nighean Ìomhair rium.’

If the serpent under the name of Nighean Ìomhair is pounded in effigy on Là Fhèill Brìghde, the day on which it is believed it emerges from its winter retreat, it cannot sting that person during the whole year again.”

Ann an àiteachan eile, theirreadh iad “rìghinn” an àite “nighean”:

An-diugh Là Fhèill Bhrìde,
Thig an rìghinn às an tom,
Cha bhean mise ris an rìghinn,
Cha bhean an rìghinn rium.

Tha a h-uile rud seo ag innse dhuinn gum biodh an t-side air atharrachadh, agus gum bu chòir dhuinn mì-àgh a sheachnadh. Rudan a bha, agus a tha, cudromach, Nighean Ìomhair ann neo às.

Rud eile a tha cudromach ’s e gum bi sinn a’ cruinneachadh a-rithist am-bliadhna aig Beinn Seanair agus Colaisde Lees-MacRae ann am Banner Elk ann an Carolina a Tuath, 2-7 an t-Iuchar. Seo agaibh na tidsearan: Fiona J. NicChoinnich, Wilma NicUalraig, agus Stèiseag Nic ’IllEathain. Gheibh sibh tuilleadh fiosrachaidh air an làrach-lìn againne. Tha mi ’n an dòchas gum faic mi sibh ann!

Liam Ó Caiside
Ceann-suidhe, ACGA

proceeded to pound it down with a mallet saying as she did so:

*‘St. Bridget’s Day Nighean Ìomhair comes out of the hole,
I won’t harm Nighean Ìomhair, and Nighean Ìomhair won’t harm me.’*

If the serpent under the name of Nighean Ìomhair is pounded in effigy on Là Fhèill Brìghde, the day on which it is believed it emerges from its winter retreat, it cannot sting that person during the whole year again.

In other places, they would say “queen” in place of “daughter”:

Today is St. Bridget’s Day
The queen will come out of the hillock
I won’t interfere with the queen
The queen won’t interfere with me.

This all tells us that the weather is changing, and that we should avoid ill luck. Things that were, and are, important, whether *Nighean Ìomhair* is there or not.

Also important, we’ll be gathering again this year at Grandfather Mountain and Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk for our Gaelic Song and Language Week in North Carolina, July 2-7. The teachers are: Fiona J. MacKenzie, Wilma Kennedy, and Stacey MacLean. You will find more information on our website. I hope to see you there!

Liam Cassidy
President, ACGA

Seanfhacal na Ràithe – Pictured Proverb

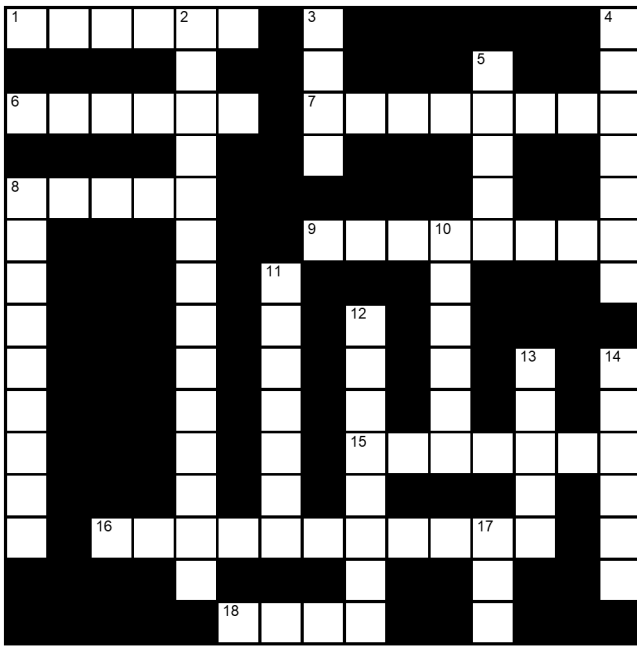
Do you know what familiar Gaelic proverb is illustrated here?

Check page 18 to see if you’re right.



Image by Harold Matern, Pixabay. <https://pixabay.com/>

Elementary Crossword: An t-side (the weather)



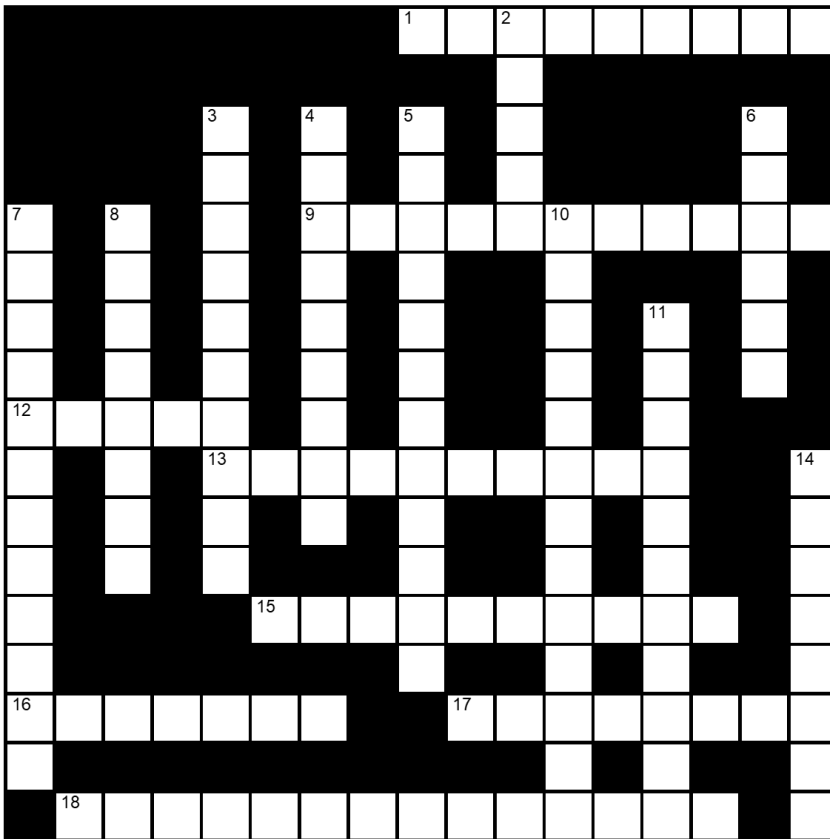
Across

- 1 Wet (6)
- 6 Dry (6)
- 7 Rain (2,1-5)
- 8 Ice (5)
- 9 Sunny (8)
- 15 Tornado (7)
- 16 Thunder (11)
- 18 Hot (4)

Down

- 2 Hailstone (5-9)
- 3 Cold (4)
- 4 Snow (7)
- 5 Calm (5)
- 8 Lightning (9)
- 10 (Another word for) weather (6)
- 11 Clouds (7)
- 12 Windy (8)
- 13 Warm (5)
- 14 Storm (6)
- 17 Mist (3)

Tòimhseachan-tarsainn Adhartach: Aig a' Chladach



Tarsainn

- 1 Dion craicinn (2-7)
- 9 Seallaidh iad an t-slighe (5-6)
- 12 Crìoch na mara (5)
- 13 Bidh e sa h-uile h-àite (10)
- 15 Brèagha, ach na bean ris (4-6)
- 16 Faodaidh tu coimhead sìos air a' mhuir bhuapa (7)
- 17 Gabhaidh cuid aca ithe (8)
- 18 "Coille-uisge na mara" (4,10)

Sìos

- 2 Adhar a' gluasad (5)
- 3 Eòin chumanta na mara (10)
- 4 A' gluasad le cumhachd na gaoithe (4-5)
- 5 Rudan a chruinneachas tu, 's dòcha (7-5)
- 6 Àite son bhàtaichean (6)
- 7 Pìosan fiodha inntinneach (4-8)
- 8 A' gluasad le cumhachd an duine (4-4)
- 10 Na tha thu a' cluinntinn an seo (7,2,4)
- 11 Bidh e a' bioradh nan sùilean (7-4)
- 14 Tha iad a' coiseachd air fiaradh (8)

See page 22 for solutions.

Nuair a dh'fhàg sinn Iain agus a chompanaich, bha iad ann an sealladh a' chinn-uidhe aca – Eilean Uaigneach. Ach aig an aon àm chunnaic iad rudeigin a bha iad an dòchas nach fhaiceadh iad tuilleadh.

Sgoil nan Eun neo Sgeulachd Iain Fhearchair Òig le Liam Ó Caiside

Caibideil Ficead 's a Ceithir: Crìoch gach Comann

Pàirt a h-Aon: Air druim na h-iolaire

“Thàinig an t-àm, agus thàinig an duine.” “Thig latha a' choin duibh fhathast.” “'S e crìoch gach comann dealachadh.”

'S tric a chruinnicheadh sinn sean-fhaclan, òrain, agus sgeulachdan mar a bha iad nan cuimhneachan agus bidh sinn gan cumail ann an leabhraichean mar a bha iad fuar marbh, glèidhte air duilleagan tro na linntean.

Cha tuig sinn gu bheil iad beò. Cho beò ris an fhuil nar cuislean. Cho beò ri smuain a' ruith tro d' inntinn. Cho beò agus làn deò ris an sgeulaiche a bha romhainn, na shuidhe ri taobh a' ghealbhain, faclan a' taomadh às a bheul agus sinne gan òl.

Nam b' e draoidheachd a bh' ann, bha sinn fo gheasaibh.

Bha sinn ann an taigh na sgeulaiche, am bodach còir ag innse a sgeulachd dhuinn, agus aig an aon àm bha sinn air mullach Beinn a' Chiuthaich ann an Eilean an Eòin, a' coimhead air an Eilean Uaigneach fada bhuainn thar a' chuain air aon taobh agus air sìùil Mhic na h-Oidhche a' teannadh rinn beag air bheag air an taobh eile.

“Dè fon ghrèin a nì sinn?” thuirt Mac Glumaig.

“Faodaidh cuid dhinn itealaich dhan eilean ann an cruth eòin, neo snàmh ann an cruth ròin,” ars Iain.

“Ach tha an t-astar gu math fada, agus ge b' e cho luath a bhiodh sinn, bidh Mac na h-Oidhche agus a long nas luaithe,” thuirt Nighean an Sgàthain.

“Molaidh mi dòigh eile a dhol tarsainn dhuibh,” ars am famhair. “Tha iolaire mhòr a' fuireach an seo, Iolaire Bheinn a' Chiuthaich. An t-ainmhidh as sine san eilean. Tha ise cho mòr 's gum b' urrainn dhi dithist a ghiùlan dhan Eilean Uaigneach ann an ùine nach bi fada.”

Chuir Fear-Feasa dà mheur ri a bheul agus rinn e fead fada biorach. Chuala iad gaoir àrd ga fhreagairt fad às.

Chunnaic iad tùic dhorcha fada bhuapa a' dlùthachadh orra gu luath. Mu dheireadh thall, thàinig an t-eun mòr a bha seo a-nuas às an iarmailt.

Nas motha na each mòr a bha Iolaire Bheinn a' Chiuthaich, le gob dubh agus sùilean buidhe. Bha a spògan cho mòr 's gun togadh i dà chaora reamhar anns gach spòg. Nuair a sheall i air na draoidhean òga, dh'fhairich iad fhèin mar gum b' e coineanaich a bh' anna.

“Bha thu fada bhon eilean, a charaid,” thuirt Fear-Feasa Cam.

“Bha,” fhreagair an iolair, fhathast a' coimhead air na draoidhean òga agus an caraidean. “Dh'itealaich mi os cionn an long ud thall air son coimhead dè 'n seòrsa daoine a th' innte. Loisg iad orm le gunnaichean, na draoidhean! Bha fear mòr grànda ann mar cheannard. Theab gun do bhuail e mi le urchair, ach bha e ro shlaodach.”

“An robh feusag fhada dhubh aige?” dh'fhaighnich Iain. “Seana-chòta mòr agus a aodann air a speach?” dh'fhaighnich Nighean an Sgàthain.

“An dearbh dhuine,” ars an iolair. “Bha e cho grànda ri droch dhùrachd.”

“Cnàmhan Dubha an t-ainm a thug iad air,” thuirt an nighean. “Cha bhiodh e math dha nan tachradh e rium a-rithist.”

Dh'innis Fear-Feasa Cam dhan iolair cò iad agus dè bha iad ag iarraidh. “Bhithinn toilichte gur cuideachadh,” thuirt Iolair Bheinn a' Chiuthaich, “agus nàimhdean sibh dha na spùinneadairean siud. Ach cha



toirinn ach dithist air mo dhruim cho fada ris an Eilean Uaigneach.”

Rinn iad co-dhùnadh gun rachadh Iain agus Nighean an Sgàthain thairis a’ chuain air druim na h-iolaire. Dh’fhàdadh an còrr dhiubh ris an fhamhair agus dhèanadh iad an dicheall an soitheach a chàrachadh.

Thug Mac Mhanainn ceum ri beulaibh Iain. “Tha rudeigin agam ri ràdh dhut,” ars esan. “Is mise do charaid Dollin Mac Kelly, à Baile Mhic Shuibhneigh san Eilean Mhanainn.” Thàinig tioma air Iain. Cha robh na draoidhean a’ cleachdadh an ainmean ceart ri chèile ach far-ainmean. Nuair a thug Mac Mhanainn a ainm dha, chuir e a bheatha na làimh.

“Agus is mise Iain Fhearchair Òig, do charaid seasmhach,” thuirt e, a làmh air gàirdean a charaid. Bha Nighean an Sgàthain suas air druim na h-iolaire mu thràth. “Feumaidh sinn falbh!” thuirt i. Chaidh Iain suas.

Sgaoil Iolair Bheinn a’ Chiuthaich a sgiathan agus a-mach a ghabh iad. Bha grèim làidir aig Iain agus Nighean an Sgàthain air cùl na h-amhaich aice. Thionndaidh Nighean an Sgàthain a h-aodann gu Iain.

“Is mise Dearbhal Ní Chroileagáin,” thuirt i ris. “Chan eil an sin ach d’ ainm,” ars Iain rithe. “Is tusa mo ghaol cho fad ’s a tha mi beò. Sin thusa.”

Agus dh’itealaich iad gu h-àrd thar a’ chuain.

Chunnaic iad an t-eilean agus a dà chnocan cruinnthe a’ fàs dlùth orra agus nas motha fodhpa. Chunnaic iad taigh-tughaidh eadar na cnuic agus riobhag de smùid ag èirigh às. Thàinig Iolair Bheinn a’ Chiuthaich a-nuas agus landaig i air beulaibh an taighe.

Leum Iain agus Nighean an Sgàthain sìos. Chuir an nighean a làmh na làimh. “Tha fhios agad dè cho fada ’s a tha mise a’ fantainn airson na h-uaire seo,” thuirt i ris. “Airson mo mhàthair fhaighinn air ais a-rithist.”

Agus bha fhios aige. Ach càite ’n robh am boireannach caol, àrd, le cuailean clannach air dath an òir a chunnaic e tron chloich?

Chaidh doras an taigh-tughaidh fhosgladh agus thàinig boireannach a-mach, ach cha b’ e màthair na nighinn a bh’ ann, ach cailleach bheag, reamhar le croit air a druim, seòrsa feusaige oirre, agus falt stireach, snìomhach, glas. Bha sùil mhòr fosgailte agus sùil bheag dùinte na h-aodann, agus fiamh-ghàire gann de dheudan ach làn choibhneis.

“Mo mhuime!” dh’èigh an nighean le iongnadh, oir ’s e Cailleach nan Cearc a bh’ ann. Ruith i thuice agus rinn iad dlùth-ghabhail ri chèile.

Bha Iain a’ faireachdainn caran iomagaineach, tha mi cinnteach. Cha do thachair e riamh ri boireannach coltach ris a’ chaillich seo, ged a chuir i Brìd Mhòr nan Each na inntinn. Ach thug a’ chaillich fois-inntinn dha anns a’ bhad. “S math gu bheil thu ann ’Ille Dhuibh nan Eun,” ars ise. “Tha gu leòr againn ri dhèanamh mus tig an ath-latha, agus ruigidh Mac na h-Oidhche.”

An uair sin, thionndaidh a’ chaillich ris an iolair. “Mo bheannachd agus mo bhuidheachas ort! Chuimhnich mi nuair a bha thu nad ugh, Iolaire Bheinn a’ Chiuthaich,” ars an t-seann-bhean, a’ cniadachadh gob mòr dubh na h-iolaire. Chrom an iolair a ceann dhi.

’S e feasgar a bh’ ann an uair sin, agus bha a’ ghrian a’ teannadh ris an dà chnoc. “Na biodh iomnaidh ort, m’ isean, na gabh dragh,” thuirt i ri Nighean an Sgàthain. “Tillidh do mhàthair an ealachd. Chaidh i a-mach a lorg rudeigin a dh’fhàg i am falach – an t-adhbhar a thàinig i dhan eilean.”

Agus an sin, thionndaidh i a-rithist dhan doras. “Thigibh a-steach,” thuirt i ris na draoidhean òga. “Tha mòran agam ri innse dhuibh, agus gun agam ach beagan de thìde.”



Nach cuidich thu An Naidheachd Againne? / Won't you help An Naidheachd Againne?

... by telling us what's happening in your Gaelic community by writing short articles about local events, in English or Gaelic.

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Bàrdachd airson ar linn

We love it when Gaelic learners turn into Gaelic poets! “Bàrdachd airson ar linn” is an ongoing column to encourage and promote original contemporary Scottish Gaelic poetry. Poets may range from fluent and native speakers to adult learners. This lovely poem, by singer/poet Caroline Bennett, tells the tale of an old spinning wheel and the women who spun on it. Caroline lives in upstate New York.

Cuibhle Shnìomha aig Shirley

le Caroline Bennett

An dachaigh làn càirdeis 's fàilteachan blàth',
Measg còmhraidh tha spòrsail is cupain tì làn,
Fon dealbh tha cuibhle na seasamh na tàmh,
A làthair ag innse dhuinn sgeòil mu thràth,
'S mun àite dhan till mo chridhe.

Sèist

Thug horo eile hiririri o
'S ann binn a seinn a cuibhle-shnìomh' fhéin
Thug horo eile hiririri o
'S i brìgh na snìomhadair a th' innte.

'San dùthaich air àrainn a' Chladach a Tuath,
Far an lùbadh Abhainn a' Chùbhair dhan chuan,
Chaidh bailtean a thogail le daoine bhon cheò
A sheòladh bho Leòdhas gus dèanadh bith-beò,
'S iad fuadaicht' o chòrsa is tìr ann.

B' ann àlainn na raointean a bha faisg air an tràigh
Far am faicear taigh-fearainn ri taobhan a' bhàigh.
Air fearann bha seo ochdad bliadhna 'sa chaidh
Bha dealbh air a thogail 's bu ghrianach an ràith,
Agus sin a' ghlèidh tràth a bha priseal.

Bha nighean na seasamh 'san dealbh fon ghréin,
A seanmhair a' snìomh air cuibhle-bheag fhéin,
Bha sabhal air an cùlaibh 's cròthan ri thaobh
A' cuairteachadh caora clòimheach is caomh.
Ogha maoth agus sèimh an nìonag.

B' i Anna Bhothchannan a shineadh a làmh,
A' snìomh le a biodaig a' coimhead air snàth.
B' ann dàimheil is dileas bha Murchadh a céile.
Na thuathanach dicheallach ag àrachadh spréidhe,
Bha e 'gan cuallach is gléidheadh is dìonadh.

Bha oifis a' phuist aig Anna 'sna làithean sin,
'S ise ga stiùireadh na cidsin bha fàilteachail.
Bhiodh nàbaidh no dhà nan suidhe gach là ann,
Mar a b' àbhaist toirt seanchais is dàin 'sa Ghàidhlig.
B' e naidheachd an latha a dh'innseadh iad.

Bha glasraich 'sa ghàrradh 's cearcan 's caoraich,
Is èisg 'san ràith is measan air craobhan.
Gun togadh an t-ogha is i suaic 's i caomhail,
Is dh'fhàsadh i suas na cuachag ghaolach.
'S e dualchainnt nan Gàidheal a bha innte.



Shirley Hefferon

Anna Buchannan's Spinning Wheel

The inspiration for this poem was an old spinning wheel belonging to Shirley Hefferon of Baddeck, Cape Breton. Shirley grew up at Indian Brook (Abhainn a' Chùbhair) near the North Shore, and her people had come from Lewis long ago. She remembers her grandmother, Anna Buchanan, spinning on this wheel. The spinning wheel had belonged to Anna's

mother-in-law before her. The wheel prompted stories and memories of a childhood growing up on Anna and Murdock Buchanan's small farm at Indian Brook, where this picture of Shirley and her grandmother was taken in the late 1940s. The wheel now stands beneath this picture and Caroline spins on it when she visits Cape Breton each year.

As déidh ochdad bliadhna 's falt glas air a ceann,
Tha cuimhneachan aic' air a beatha a bha ann.
De na duilleagan-bàite a' snàmh air an linn
le fàileadh bha àlainn 's flùr-bhileagan mìn,
Air fìod air bàrr mar neul.

Air carbad-eich 's i suidhe air saoidhe,
'S a' ruagadh cearcan a bha air an sgaoidhadh,
De bhràthair a mhàthar ga draibheadh 'san àile,
'S oiteagan saille air feasgaran blàtha.
'S a' coimhead air bàtaichean iasgaich.

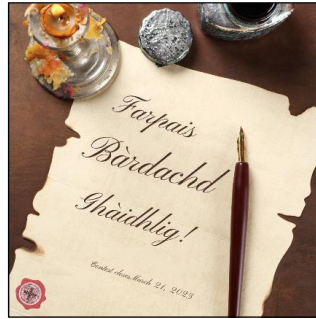
An-diugh is i fuireach faisg air bàgh eile,
Bidh càirdean 'sa chidsin gach là airson cèilidh.
Nan àgh no nan àmhghar bidh iadsan ri chèile,
Le dàimh 's le gàire 's sgeulachdan èibhinn.
A' dèanadh am bàidhe gun ìmpis.

Tha gàire a' cluiche na sùilean donn àillidh,
'S i bruidhinn air beatha làn gràdh agus càirdeis.
Bha a cuibhle na tàmh ach a-nis tha i deàrrsach,
Is mise a' snìomh 'son là ùr an snàith seo
Le màthair a màthar nam inntinn.

The Gaelic Society of Toronto Gaelic Poetry Contest

Contest Details:

- The contest welcomes international entrants.
- There are two categories, Intermediate and Advanced. The Advanced category welcomes both learners and native / fluent speakers.
- There is no fee for the first entry. Additional entries are \$10 CAD each, with a maximum of three entries per person.
- The contest closes on World Poetry Day, **March 21, 2023**.
- Winners will be announced in the Society's newsletter and social media on April 1, 2023 (April is National Poetry Month in both Canada and the United States).



Rules:

- All poems must be in Gaelic. English translation is not required.
- Poems must be previously unpublished (in print or online) and no longer than forty lines.
- Entrants can only enter into one category, either Intermediate or Advanced. Anyone who enters both categories will be disqualified.
- Please upload only one .pdf or .doc file per entry. The title must also be the document's name.
- Do not include your name or other identifying information on the document.
- Poems can be on any topic.

Prizes:

- First prize in each category is \$150 CAD.
- The runner-up prize in each category is a copy of two Canadian poetry books, *Òr a Mhaireas / Lasting Gold* and *Ràithean airson Sireadh / Seasons for Seeking*.
- First-place and runner-up winning entries will be featured in the Society's newsletter with the winning entries read at the Society's virtual ceilidh on April 21, 2023.

Judges:

Zachary Wallace, Dr. Nathaniel Harrington, Gillebride MacMillan

For full details, payment (if applicable), and to submit poems, see:

<https://www.gaelicsocietytoronto.com/farpais-bagraverdachd-ghagraveidhlig--gaelic-poetry-contest>



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R: *Mo chreach!* It's a Highland dance disaster at the Games!



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Meek Lines

Professor Donald Meek, academic, editor, writer, and poet, shares his poetry on a Facebook page called “Meek Lines,” explaining that he uses Facebook “in the same way our ancestors used the oral airwaves of their own day. Songs were sung and recited far beyond the composer’s original locality.” And as Meek reminds us, “Poems and songs are for sharing, and that is what gives them life.”

In that spirit of sharing (and with Professor Meek’s permission), in this issue of *An Naidheachd Againne* we have again asked one of our friends, Mike Mackay, to pick a poem from “Meek Lines” and tell us what it means to them.

A fluent Gaelic speaker, Mike has mentored many Gaelic learners through the years. He is a long-time member of ACGA, has served as president of the Society and also as an organizer of Mòd Nàiseanta Aimeireagaidh.



An Cù Beag

le Dòmhnall E. Meek

A choin bhig mo ghràidh-sa,
Is mòr m’ ionndrainn an-dràsda,
'S mi a' cuimhneachadh àbhachd do dhòigh.

Mar a bhiodh sinn dol sràidean
Feadh a’ bhaile gu làitheil,
'S tu a’ feuchainn gach fàileadh led shròin,

'S mi gad leantainn sna pàircean,
Is do theadhair nam làimh-sa,
'S tu gam dhraghadh gu làrach do dheòin!

'S tric a bhruidhninn ri nàbaidh
Le còmhradh beag bàidheil,
Is rachadh coigrich nan càirdean bha còir.

Is tu a chuireadh deagh fhàilte
Air gach inbheach is pàisde,
'S bha do chridhe làn blàths do ar seòrs',

Ach coin eile bu ghràin leat,
'S iad nan cunnart air d' àrainn -
'S tu riaghladh mar Bhàn-righinn gach fòid!

Chì mi a-nis thu sa ghàrradh
'S tu a’ ruith anns gach àite,
'S tu a’ fuadach gach nàmhaid à d’ chòir,

A’ falbh le leumannan àlainn
Mu thimcheall gach fàil dheth,
Cluich 's a' cleasachd aig àirde do spòrs.

Cha robh feòrag am pàirt dheth
No creutair nach b’ àill leat
Nach d’fhuair rabhadh bhith fàgail do chòrs'!

'S ged a bhithinn-sa cràiteach
Le trom-smuaintean mo nàdair,
Bheireadh tusa orm gàire is ceòl.

Fad nan sia bliadhna bha thu
Le co-chomann bu làidir
A’ cur neart ann am chnàmhan is treòir.

Ach is olc leam ri ràidhtinn
Gun tàinig laigse nad shlàinte,
Is gun romhad ach àmhghar is bròn.

Bu shearbh leam an t-Sàbaid
A thàinig crìoch air ar n-àbhachd,
Is a dhealaich do bhàs sinn le deòir.

Is a-nis tha na sràidean
Fuar, falamh fom shàiltean,
'S mi gad ionndrainn an-dràsda gu mòr.

Thug mi 'n aire dhan dàn seo aig Mgr Meek còir, nuair a chaidh mi air Facebook an latha roimhe, oir thàinig dealbh an cois an dàin, anns an robh dà rud a bheir toilicheas dhomh, gu h-àraid mu'n àm seo dhe'n bhliadhna: sneachd domhainn, agus cù na mhìreadh ann. Nist, a chàirdean, tha mi gu math cinnteach gun aithne dhuibh dhol air an eadar-lìon agus, ann an iomadach àite, coimhead air cù, no coin, no piseag, no cait, agus iad ri cleasachd no ri àbhachd, agus sinn uile ag ràdh, “nach grinn sin!” Agus tha peat' air a bhith againn uile tha mi cinnteach, aig àm air choir-eigin, agus làn fhios againn air an tlachd, a' chomhfhurt, a' mhùirn, agus a' bhròn, a thig an cois gach latha agus companach beag – no “pàisde bèin” mar a chanas cuid riutha – mar phàirt dhe'r beatha – agus 'se sin, saoilidh mi, a bhios gar tarraing chun nan làrach sin turas agus turas.

Ach, a' cumail dàn Mhgr Meek mar chuspair an seo, thàinig e a-steach orm gu bheil Dòmhnall còir air, chan e a-mhàin an t-èolas a th' aig gach duine agus peat' aca a chur an cèill, ach gu h-àraid mar a tha cù agus coin, dha dhuine sam bith aig a bheil na creutairean còir seo. Eadar mar a dhraghais cù sinn a dh' àite a thoil fhèin, no mar a leumas e no i na làn àbhachd is spòrs, no mar a nì iad dìon dhan dachaidh, ge b' e dè seòrsa chunnart a tha – agus nach eil – ann, thug Mgr Meek dealbh is iomhaidh nan con ann an dòigh a dh' aithnicheas duine sam bith sa mhionaid – agus a chuireas snodha-ghàire air aodann aig a' cheart àm.

Tha na dòighean pearsanta – ma dh' fhaodas mi a chur mar sin – cho fìor ghlan, cho neochiontach, agus cho blàth, 's nach eil e na iongantais idir gum meal sinn companas nan con nas fheàrr, uaireanan, na iomadh duine. Chan e 's nach faigh iomadh duine eile an aon tlachd bho cait ma bhios iad-san aca – chan eil mi airson blàr a thogail idir leis na chanas mi! Ach, bruidhinn orm-fhìn, cù no coin dhomh-sa, gach turas. Tha dà chù againn an seo, Milidh (bho “milis” leis cho maoth agus malda 's a tha a dòighean) agus Pippin (an t-amadan bòidheach), agus cha b' urrainn dhomh ach smaoinichadh orra agus mi a' leughadh nam faclan aig Dòmhnall còir. Dh' fhaodadh na sgrìobh e iomradh ceart a thoirt orra fhèin, gun atharrachadh sam bith!

Ach, mar a chanas iad, thig a h-uile sian gu crìoch, math no dona, agus, a-rithist, glac Dòmhnall na faireachdainnean a bhios aig gach duine aig an robh peata gràdhach aig a' cheann thall: an teagamh agus duighleadas, gabhail ris gu bheil an caraaid air fàs slaodach agus aosd', agus an co-dhùnadh searbh agus cràiteach a bhios riatanach nuair a thig sinn gu aithne gu bheil e no i fo chràdh agus tinneas cho dona 's gu bheil an t-àm ann airson fois agus faochadh a thoirt dhaibh. Duine sam bith aig nach robh an co-dhùnadh sin a choilionadh, chanadh e, 's dòcha, “nach truagh sin” agus iad a' leughadh an dà earran mu dheireadh. Ach dhuinne, a tha tuilleadh is eòlach air an dealachadh a tha sin, chan urrainnear an leughadh ach le cnap sa sgòrnan. Agus sin agaibh sgìl agus ealantas Mhgr Meek, a' toirt dhuinn deagh fhios bhàrdachd aon uair eile, a bhruidhneas rinn rudeigin fìor agus domhainn m'ar beatha fhèin.

~Michael Mackay

A Website to Watch



Beul-aithris & Uirsgeul Gàidhlig / Gaelic myth & legend

This website offers a wide range of learning resources for both adults and younger folk who are interested in Gaelic myth and legend. Explore a treasure trove of stories from Gaelic culture that can be read or listened to in Gaelic or English, with a full menu of stories in the kids' section, and even some at the toddler level. This could be a great way to teach your children Gaelic while you learn along with them. You can search the stories by geographical area, or by characters, such as heroes and heroines, mythological animals, wizards and witches. Once you choose a topic, you are given a choice of media in which to view or listen to the story. The animation is first class, and many stories are told by children. Do watch the *Haggis Express* story under the kids' menu, especially if you want to know what a haggis looks like in the wild.

For more information see <https://www.bocan.tv>

Facal à Aonghas / A Word From Angus

Have you ever wondered how to say a particular word or phrase in good idiomatic Gaelic? Want to expand your vocabulary? Then you might find these examples helpful.

Angus MacLeod, Gaelic teacher and author from Cape Breton, often answers these kinds of questions in his classes, sometimes with a Cape Breton *blas*. His graphic novels¹ also provide many useful phrases in idiomatic Gaelic.

These are a few ways to express “That won’t affect you.”

Cha toir sin buaidh ort.

thoir – to give, to bestow

buaidh (fem.) – a consequence, an effect, an impact, an influence

thoir buaidh air – to affect, to have an effect on

Cha bhuail sin ort.

buail – to strike, to impinge

Cha chuir sin ann no às dhut.

cuir – to put, to place

ann no às – in or out

Here are some other useful phrases that use this construction:

Bheir an tinneas buaidh mhòr oirre.

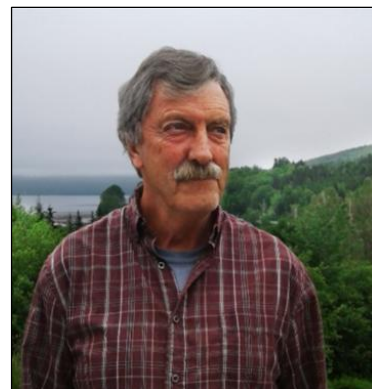
The illness will greatly affect her.

Tha an droch shìde air buaidh a thoirt air cùisean.

The bad weather has affected things.

Buailidh ìre an rèidh oirnn.

The interest rate will affect us.



¹ *Às a’ Chamhanaich*, written and illustrated by Angus MacLeod, Bradan Press, 2022

Dorsan, written and illustrated by Angus MacLeod, Bradan Press, 2022.



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Jeff W. Justice

Answer to Photo Quiz, p. 3

50 Ceàrnag Sheòrais is the street address of The School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures at the University of Edinburgh, where the Department of Celtic and Scottish Studies is located. A leading centre for the study of minority languages, the university has played a key role in teaching, researching and promoting Scottish Gaelic since 1882.



Litir à Dùn Èideann

by Jeff W. Justice

A chàirdean,

I spent time in Scotland and Wales in January, and I had planned to pen this installment as a *Litir à Dùn Èideann agus Caerdydd*. However, events occurred recently that now compel me to scrap the intended *Litir* and write instead what follows.

I have been in the Celtic countries twice in the past year to conduct field research toward my graduate degree. One theme that has recurred in the interviews I have conducted to point is that the Celtic languages will have their renaissance if the people really want them to have it. Between Scotland and Wales, particularly their capital cities, I noticed a lot of differences in will. For example, many – not all, but many – bilingual signs in Edinburgh feature Gaelic written in smaller script than English. Every single bilingual sign I saw in Cardiff featured Welsh treated on equal terms with English; the script of both used the same font and size. In fact, Welsh was often in the more prominent position, either on the left or on top. In addition, one cannot help but notice that a far greater percentage of public signs in Wales are bilingual.

The work of Bòrd na Gàidhlig has been important in raising Gaelic’s visibility within Scotland, and it has been crisscrossing the country to get public feedback on its next five-year plan. Those meetings have been well-attended, and the discussion – almost entirely in Gaelic – has often been spirited. I attended one, myself, in May 2022, and I will readily testify to the spirit of camaraderie in the room, despite some differences of opinion on what should be done for our language. But, other than public gatherings on the topic of Gaelic, or where the meeting advertisement made clear that it would be the primary language of the event, one very rarely hears anybody speaking it on the streets.

In Cardiff, English does indeed dominate, but I did hear people speaking in Welsh to one another. It punctuates the debates in Senedd Cymru. A member does not begin a speech by addressing the Presiding Officer, as at Holyrood; one addresses the Llywydd. The Senedd building is actually a public space where local groups can meet, and I heard one group holding their meeting in the café while enjoying *coffi a bisgedi*, everyone speaking Welsh and only in Welsh. I heard it being used on the streets, at the train station, and in restaurants. One person I interviewed for my research called Cardiff an “English” city; by that, they referred to the dominant language. True, I heard far more English than Welsh, but I did hear Welsh being used actively. Welsh belongs in Wales’ capital city.

This leads me to the point that caused me to rewrite this *Litir*. A few days ago, I received a tweet from an Edinburgh city councilor who is a good friend of mine. He is not a Gaelic speaker, but he wants his children educated in it and capable of using it. He was lambasting the three-party coalition administration for passing



Jeff W. Justice



Jeff W. Justice

through the council a budget that cut all funding for Edinburgh's Gaelic resource officer. Professor Wilson McLeod retweeted the tweet, adding that this decision was a very short-sighted one on the part of the council. A second councilor informed me that they hoped to find the money somewhere – money is frequently shifted about the budget – to keep the officer in position. Still, this is a serious and damaging punch in the gut.

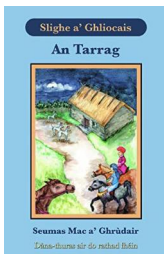
This council vote shows that the contempt Gaelic has faced for centuries is still alive and well in official circles. It is contempt for the language itself. It is contempt for the community that speaks it, and that community is not just those Gaelic speakers who happen to live and work in Edinburgh.

Welsh belongs in Wales' capital city, and Gaelic belongs in Scotland's capital city. I can only hope those in Edinburgh's leadership who voted to make this cut will realize what kind of damage they stand to cause to the capital's culture, heritage, identity, and history with it.

Le meas,

Goiridh | Jeff

REVIEWS



Book Review:

***An Tarrag* le Seumas Mac a' Ghrùdair and Tamara Nic a' Ghrùdair (illustrator)**

Slighe a' Ghliocais #1

Akerbeltz, 2022, 394 pages

ISBN-13: 9781907165061

ASIN: B0B9VD82RS (Kindle)

Reviewed by Ted Neveln

Teenagers are the target audience of *An Tarrag*, yet the level of Gaelic will give adult intermediate learners plenty of words and idioms to ruminate on and look up. The grammar is straightforward but intermediate from the start. Most of the narration is in the present tense or simple past. There was a fair number of words I did not know, not even after a Dwelly search. Although I found that I could slither along without a lot of dictionary searches, I felt impelled to do so because the narrative grabbed my hands back to the book every time I reached away to do a word hunt. Now for the publisher's blurb:

It's a sultry summer night and your parents are away, having left the Highland croft and your siblings in your care. Suddenly there are noises outside. Strange noises. One might almost say otherworldly noises. What do you do next and what would YOU do when faced with impossible choices? Can you find the path of wisdom or will you fail and fall into darkness? The choice is yours.

An Tarrag is the first Scottish Gaelic novel of its kind, making you the hero of the adventure and leading you down different paths in the story, depending on the choices you make, wise or foolish.

In other words, like a choose your own adventure book, it iterates. I have never read a book like this before and naturally I began to read it straight through, only to find myself dying miserably after about seven pages. A reader can learn some useful Gaelic just reading the choices: *Dé nì mi? ... Diùltaidh mi feòil ithe o làmh na ban-sithe... Gabhaidh mi balgam dhen fheòil a tha i a' toirt dhomh.* (Did you notice the user-friendly language?)

Since I wanted my protagonist to survive for more than a few minutes, I studied the choices. I decided to steer him to the path that seemed more irksome, less obvious, and more considerate of others, but even then the path of wisdom is not always obvious ahead of time. A reading group could get bogged down in protracted discussion if it resorts to democracy to choose their path. Another potential distraction could come from the

desire to sort out the complex relationships and connections between the different characters.

The adolescent protagonist, Madadhan, is enslaved by the Queen of the *sithean* who gives him a simple ultimatum – serve her or die and she means it. It doesn't help that there is a prospect of war. I know someone who takes the existence of, and the dangerousness of, the *sithean* seriously enough that he uses euphemisms to avoid attracting their unfavorable attention. He points out that Turlough O' Carolan's famous song *Sí Bheag, Sí Mhór* has fearsome lyrics:

*When the hosts gathered there was a terrible battle
To and fro over the plains;
And there was none that descended from the peaks
Who did not lose his head in that slaughter.*

<https://anglofolksongs.wordpress.com/2016/02/18/si-bheag-si-mhor/>

An Tarrag doesn't have beheadings like O' Carolan's Irish fairies, but these Scottish *sithean* do play rough. Even their table manners are uncivilized. The hero cannot avoid them; taboos and euphemisms avail him not.

How does this work as a learning tool? Even though this is a fantasy for teenagers there is large scope for adults to expand their vocabulary and idioms. For example:

“Beannachd air a' bhiadh seo, air a bheatha a' chruthaich e agus air an làimh a dh'ullaich e” td 67

Ach b' fheàrrde dhut gun a bhith a' falbh leis. Cha bhith deagh-dheireadh aig móran idir a chuireas cas air a' cheum ud. td 129

'S ann mu choinnleair a thìde a tha sinn a' coiseachd, agus tha mi toilichte gun do dh'fhàg sinn gu math tràth anns a' mhadainn. td 131

Tha cus aire aca oirnn, ar leam. td 133

Fhad 's fhios dhomh-sa, cha do thill duine sam bith gu ruige seo 'chuir cas air a' cheum sin. td 134

An dùil gur e siubhal gun siùcar a rinn mi? td 151.

The book has 394 pages but there is a lot of white space at the bottom of pages, the better for note-taking and decision-pondering.



An t-àite agam fhìn

“An t-àite agam fhìn” is where you will find short pieces by ACGA members and friends about their families, their homes, and their world. In this issue, Hilary NicPhàidein writes about her Granny (it's been a while), and Cam MacRae tells us about the latest *fighe aig astar* knitting project (it's complicated). Riobhca NicDhonnchaidh makes her debut in this column with a story of how and why a new garden is being created.

And if you would like to try your hand at a short anecdotal piece in Gaelic about the place where you live or the people in it, we'd love to publish it in “An t-àite agam fhìn”. Don't worry about making your Gaelic perfect. We'll help you with the editing process.

Granaidh dhàna le Hilary NicPhàidein

'S fhada bhon a sgrìobh mi mu dhèidhinn mo sheanmhar, Màiri NicUilleim.

Bha Granaidh seachdad 's a ceithir bliadhna nuair a dh'imrich mo theaghlach dhan taigh aice ann an Cill Rìmhinn ann an Alba san Fhaoilteach 1960. Bha sinn air seòladh thairis air a' Chuan Siar bho New York gu

Southampton le ar cuid dhen t-saoghal. Bha mi còig bliadhna gu leth aig an àm sin agus bha mi a' smaointinn gur e cailleach chruaidh cholgarr a bh' innte. Cha robh i cleachdte ri clann – bha ceithir againn ach dh'fhàs i na bu choibhneile mar bu shine a dh'fhàs sinn.

Dh'innis mo mhàthair iomadh naidheachd dhomh mu a màthair. Seo tè de na naidheachdan. Latha a bha seo bha Granaidh is Seasaidh, piuthar Granaidh agus an tè as sine den dithis chaileagan, còmhla ri am màthair anns an taigh-nighe. Bha Seasaidh agus a màthair a' dèanamh obair chruaidh agus bha an t-acras orra ach cha robh Granaidh cuideachail idir. Thug Seasaidh tastan do mo sheanmhair agus ars' ise, "Rach sìos dhan taigh-fhuine agus faigh rudeigin airson ar lòin." Thill Màiri air ais le бага làn de *cream buns*. Abair gun robh a màthair agus a piuthar mì-thoilichte.

Ghabh mo sheanmhair ceum sa chiad rang aig Oilthigh Chill Rìmhinn ann an naoi ceud deug 's a seachd. Bha i fileanta sa Ghearmailtis is san Fhrangais, agus bha i glè chomasach san Laideann, sa Ghreugais is san Ruisis cuideachd. An dèidh a ceumnachd agus gun i ach a h-aon air fhichead, chaidh i na h-aonar do Pharas airson greis. Gu dearbh 's e tè-misnich a bh' innte. Bidh mi fhìn nam neach-misnich nuair a thilleas mi a Bhràdhgair ann an Leòdhas sa Chèitean sa tighinn.

Innsidh mi dhuibh mu dhèidhinn mo dhàna-thurais san ath chuairt-litir.

A' fighe aig astar

le Cam MacRae

Deireadh a' Ghearrain

Tha i fuar is fliuch ann an Illinois, agus tha mi a' fighe mhiotagan. An-uiridh, rinn am buidheann fighe againn beanagan, adan, agus stocainnean, ach an turas seo, is ar làmhnan fuar, tha feum againn air miotagan. Mhol Hilary dhuinn pàtrain Sheanchair / *Sanquhar*, a chleachdadh air na miotagan. Tha na pàtrain seo, dèanta le dà dhath, sìmplidh agus toinnte iom-fhillte aig an aon àm. Thig an t-ainm, Seanchair, bhon bhaile leis an ainm sin ann an Dùn Phris is Gall-Ghàidhealaibh / *Dumfries and Galloway*. Chì thu na miotagan dathach againn gu h-ìosal.

Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh mu pàtrain Sheanchair, faic na ceanglaichean seo:

<https://kddandco.com/2014/11/03/a-day-at-sanquhar/>

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/charts-for-traditional-sanquhar-knitting>



Anne Landin



Janice Chan



Hilary NicPhàidein



Cam MacRae

A' Dèanamh Gàrradh Nàdarra

le Rìobhca NicDhonnchaidh

'S ann ann an eaglais shean, eachdraidheil anns am bi mi a' dèanamh adhradh. Bha i air togail dìreach ann am meadhan a' bhaile anns an naoidheamh linn deug. Tha leabharlann air aon taobh is rathaidean trang air dà thaobh eile. Tha taighean-bìdh is bancaichean cuideachd mun cuairt, agus steisean trèan ri taobh margaid mhòr faisg oirre. Coimhearsneachd glé thrang gun teagamh! Tha an eaglais na suidhe dlùth don rathad, ach air a cùlaibh tha gàrradh leathann is domhain agus tha e fosgailte ris a' mhor-shluagh.

Mun àm seo an-uiridh, bha an gàrradh làn de chraobhan is lusan gallda sgaoilteach. Thàinig smuain air cuid againn gum biodh e fada na b' fheàrr air ar son, airson ar nàbaidhean is airson slàinte an t-saoghail air fad smachd fhaighinn air. Rinn sinn plana is fhuair sinn beannachd an reachdaire againn is thòisich sinn ann an da-rìribh air cruth-atharrachadh a dhèanamh.

An toiseach, bha na craobhan gallda air an leagail. Bha còrr is dusan dhiubh ann! Dh'fhosgail sinn an talamh gu lèir is chuir sinn trì luchdan móra de'n dubh-thalamh air. Sgap sinn an dubh-thalamh, chladhaich sinn seachd tuill mhòra is chuir sinn doireachan beithean-aibhne annta. Bha spòrs mòr again a' togail shlighean lùbach mun cuairt. Tha a' chlann gu math measail orra! Agus bha sinne gu math sgith ach fìor thoilichte an déidh seo.

Anns an t-Sultain sgap sinn sìol choircean air an talamh gus còmhdach a chur air tro'n gheamhradh. Ro reòthadh bha neart de na sìl suas is iad a' crathadh 'san oiteig. Bha na h-eòin shiùbhilach toilichte an còrr de'n t-sìol ithe.

As t-earrach 'sa tighinn cuiridh sinn feòir is flùraichean tùsanach fo na beithean is thig na seilleanan is na dealanan-dé a dh'fhuireach a chaidh. Bidh sinn uile nar tàmh is nar suidhe air séis ann an oisean a' ghàrraidh no a' siubhal am measg na bòidhcheid. An dà, bidh sinn beò an dòchas!

Faclair

gallda sgaoilteach - invasive

reachdaire - rector

cruth-atharrachadh - transformation

dubh-thalamh - loam

doireachan - clumps

beithean-aibhne - river birches

tùsanach - native

séis - wooden bench



Rìobhca NicDhonnchaidh



Image by Harold Matern, Pixabay. <https://pixabay.com/>

Answer to Seanfhacal na Ràithe, p. 5.

Cho seagair ri luchag ann an cruach.

As warm and dry as a mouse in a stack of hay.
(As snug as a bug in a rug.)

Tha an reasabaidh seo a' tighinn bho ar caraaid Molly MacRae, sgrìobhadair leabhraichean diomhaireachd agus còcaire air leth!

Tha Molly ag ràdh: tha am buntàta seo furasta ri bhrùich agus bidh iad math còmhla ri feòil is glasraich neo sailead uaine neo ceapairean. 'S àbhaist dhomh aon bhuntàta a bharrachd air an àireamh de dhaoine a bhios aig a' bhòrd a chleachdadh, a rèir dè cho mòr 's a tha am buntàta. Tha *Russets* math ach tha sinn air *Yukon Golds* a chleachdadh cuideachd, neo ge b' e dè an seòrsa buntàta a bh' againn aig an àm. Cha do dh'fheuch mi an reasabaidh seo le buntàta milis; 's dòcha gum feuch mi iad. Bidh sgeallan *Dijon* neo fear donn spìosrach le sil ann math. Mur eil agad ach sgeallan buidhe, neo mas e sin as fheàrr leat, sin thu fhèin.

This recipe comes from our friend Molly MacRae, mystery writer and pretty good cook!

Molly says: these potatoes are easy to prepare and make a great side dish on any plate with an entrée and vegetables or a green salad, or with sandwiches. My rule of thumb is to use one more potato than the number of people I'm feeding, depending on how big the potatoes are. Russets are nice, but we've also used Yukon Golds or any other potatoes we have on hand. I haven't tried this recipe with sweet potatoes, but now I think I should give that a try. Dijon mustard, or a nice spicy brown one with whole seeds, are good choices. If you only have yellow, or if that's what you prefer, go for it.

Buntàta Ròsta le Sgeallan

Gu leòr airson 4



Molly MacRae



Mustard Roasted Potatoes

Serves 4

Grìtheidean

4 neo 5 buntàta rùisgte agus air an gearradh ann an ciùbaichean $\frac{3}{4}$ òirleach a leud
1 uinnean (buidhe, geal, neo dearg) mòr, air a ghearradh ann an dà leth, is an uair sin air a ghearradh ann am pìosan $\frac{1}{4}$ òirleach a leud
3 spàintean-bùird ola-chruinn-ola
3 neo 4 spàintean-bùird sgeallain dhuinn
Salann is piobar a rèir a bhlais a thogras tu

Ingredients

4 or 5 potatoes, peeled and cut into $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch cubes
1 large onion (yellow, white, or red), cut in half then sliced into $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch wide pieces
3 tablespoons olive oil
3 or 4 tablespoons brown mustard
Salt and pepper to taste

Stiùiridhean

1. Teasaich an àmhainn gu 450°F
2. Cuir steallag ola air duilleag fuine mòr eudomhain
3. Ann am bobhla mòr, measgaich a h-uile grìtheid gus am bi am buntàta agus na h-uinneanan còmhdaichte gu math
4. Sgaoil am measgachadh gu cunbhalach air aghann-fuine
5. Ròist fad 30-40 mionadean neo gus am bi am buntàta meata agus a' fàs donn, agus gus am bi an t-uinnean a' fàs donn is na pìosan nas lugha brisg. Cuir mun cuairt am buntàta 2 neo 3 tursan nuair a bhios iad a' ròstadh.

Method

1. Heat oven to 450°F
2. Spray a large, shallow baking sheet with cooking spray
3. In a large bowl, toss all ingredients until potatoes and onions are well coated
4. Spread mixture on baking sheet in an even layer
5. Roast for 30-40 minutes, or until potatoes are tender and turning brown, and the onion is beginning to brown and smaller pieces are getting crispy. Stir 2 or 3 times during roasting.



Do you have a favorite recipe that you'd like to share with other ACGA members? Submit it in a bilingual format to one of our editors and we'll publish it in a future issue of *An Naidheachd Againne*. Na gabhaibh dragh – we'll pass the Gaelic by a native speaker to be sure your recipe is delicious in both languages!

Dè Tha Dol? Gaelic Events

Am Màrt 2023 / March 2023

Cèilidh Oidhche Haoine Bhiortail / Friday Night Virtual Ceilidh, Comunn Gàidhlig Toronto, March 17, 2023

Join us on Friday, March 17, at 7:30pm eastern, for our Friday Night Online Ceilidh. Come prepared with your Gaelic songs, stories and poems. If you are on Facebook, please consider joining our Ceilidh Group for updates on our Ceilidhs and links to lyrics, ideas for future ceilidhs and more at

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/cgtfridaynightceilidh>

Simply fill out the form here <https://www.gaelicsocietytoronto.com/friday-night-ceilidh.html> and we will send you the Zoom link to join in online and the (toll) phone # to call in. Don't have a computer? Call in and join. If you have any questions, email us at gaelictoronto@gmail.com

Book Launch, My Scottish Island Kitchen, Comunn Gàidhlig Toronto, Toronto, Canada, Saturday, March 18, 2023

Join The Toronto Gaelic Society and the Hebridean Baker, Coinneach MacLeod for Scottish stories, music, singing, prizes, and more for the launch of his new book, *My Scottish Island Kitchen*, at the The Canadian Legion, 1395 Lake Shore Blvd W, Toronto ON, from 6pm–8:30pm.

Tickets: \$10 CDN are available here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/hebridean-baker-book-launch-and-ceilidh-tickets-567362666007>

Ticket price includes a dram from Jura Whisky or Harris Gin Distillery. Books will be available for purchase. Cash bar and refreshments will be available.

An Giblean 2023 / April 2023

New York City Tartan Week Mòd and Workshops, Tailor Public House, April 12-13, 2023

As part of the 25th year celebrations, New York City Tartan Week is proud to host its first ever Scottish Gaelic Song Competition hosted by Joy Dunlop on Thursday, April 13. There will also be a series of workshops (language, song, and dance) with Joy on Wednesday, April 12. The location for both events is The Tailor Public House, 505 8th Avenue, New York, NY 10018.

Wednesday, April 12, Workshops (10am-5pm)

See <https://tinyurl.com/NYCTartanWeekWorkshops> for full information and to register.

Thursday, April 13, New York City Tartan Week Mòd (10am-4pm)

Deadline to enter is **March 31, 2023**.

See <https://www.nyctartanweek.org/mod/> for links to sheet music, lyrics, and sound files for six suggested songs, as well as rules for the Mòd and registration.

Sponsored by the New York Caledonian Club, An Comunn Gàidhealach, and The Tailor Public House.

Cèilidh Oidhche Haoine Bhiortail / Friday Night Virtual Ceilidh, Comunn Gàidhlig Toronto, April 21, 2023

Join us 7:30pm EDT, for our Friday Night Online Ceilidh. Fill out the form here

<https://www.gaelicsocietytoronto.com/friday-night-ceilidh.html> and we will send you the Zoom link to join in online and the (toll) phone # to call in.

An Cèitean 2023 / May 2023

Cèilidh Oidhche Haoine Bhiortail / Friday Night Virtual Ceilidh, Comunn Gàidhlig Toronto, May 19, 2023

Join us 7:30pm EDT, for our Friday Night Online Ceilidh. Fill out the form here

<https://www.gaelicsocietytoronto.com/friday-night-ceilidh.html> and we will send you the Zoom link to join in online and the (toll) phone # to call in.

Mòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail / Royal National Mod 2023, Paisley, Scotland, Registration deadline

Registration for the Royal National Mod 2023 (October 13-21, 2023) is now open. Please note that the entry deadline for this year's Royal National Mod has changed to May 31, 2023. A full list of competitions, prescribed pieces and Mod competition rules can be found at

<https://www.ancomunn.co.uk/nationalmod/moddetail/competition-entries-open-for-the-royal-national-mod-2023-in-paisley>

An t-Iuchar 2023 / July 2023

Beinn Seanair / Grandfather Mountain Song and Language Week, Banner Elk, NC, July 2–7, 2023

This year's Grandfather Mountain Gaelic Song and Language Week will take place at Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk NC. Instructors for the week are Stacey MacLean (NS), Fiona J. Mackenzie (Scotland) and Wilma Kennedy (Scotland). For more information when it becomes available see

<https://acgamerica.org/2023-gm-gaelic-song-language-week/>

Sgoil Shamhraidh 2023 / Ceòlas Summer School 2023, South Uist, July 2-7, 2023

Ceòlas Summer School offers classes in language, music and dance, as well as the opportunity to attend concerts and ceilidhs. For more information see <https://www.ceolas.co.uk/>

Cùrsaichean Air Astar / Distance Learning

Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Isle of Skye

The distance learning courses offered by Sabhal Mòr Ostaig are designed to enable students to become fluent in Scottish Gaelic and to progress to further study through the medium of Gaelic if desired. They range from *An Cùrsa Inntrigidh* for those with little or no Gaelic to BA(HONS) in Gaelic language and Culture.

For a description of all distance learning courses offered through Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, see

<https://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/distance-learning/?lang=en>

Ongoing

Explore Gaelic with Angus MacLeod and Fiona Smith

The Explore Gaelic classes are 10-week sessions held throughout the year, designed to help learners of all levels to move toward fluency in Scottish Gaelic. Angus and Fiona believe that learning works best when it's fun. They are always trying out new ways to teach and learn. They drill tricky subjects and plunge into deeper explorations of the nooks and crannies of Gaelic. For more information about upcoming sessions, contact

Nickie Polson at nickiepolson@shaw.ca

Seinn air Loidhne / Gaelic Song Class with Brian Ó hEadhra

Brian is a well-known musician and singer based in Inverness, Scotland. You may know him as one of the members of the Gaelic quartet *Cruinn*. He holds Gaelic song classes on Zoom every so often, sharing great ceilidh and traditional songs. For more information, check Brian's Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/brianoheadhramusic> or his new *Seinn air Loidhne* Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/seinnairloidhne>

An Clas Camelon

An Clas Camelon is a thriving community of Gaelic learners based in the village of Camelon near Falkirk in Scotland. Throughout the year, the group offers Gaelic song and language workshops on Zoom. The workshops have been taught by the likes of Gillebride MacMillan, Maeve MacKinnon, Joy Dunlop and Robert Robertson, just to name a few. For more information or to register, email anclascamelon@gmail.com or see the group's FaceBook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1107654493032641>

Gàidhlig Photomac

Gàidhlig Photomac is a Scottish Gaelic Learning Community in the Washington, D.C. area, open to all with an interest in the Celtic language of Scotland and its sister languages, Irish and Manx. Meetups are typically social events geared to help learners use Scottish Gaelic outside the classroom. A song sharing session is hosted most months. You can find more information about this informal event at the *Gàidhlig Photomac* page on Meetup at <https://www.meetup.com/Gaidhlig-Photomac>. Email Cathleen MacKay at amum44@yahoo.com for more information.

Directory of Gaelic Classes & Study Groups

United States

Colorado

Denver

Conversation Group
(on pandemic hold, will resume when possible)
Monthly at Stella's Coffee Shop
Reese McKay reese.mckay25@gmail.com

Kentucky

Louisville

Online Gaelic language and song lessons
Adam Dahmer atdahm01@gmail.com

Maryland

Baltimore

Online Classes and Conversation Group
Sgoil Gàidhlig Bhaile an Taigh Mhóir
<https://sgoilgaidhlig.org>
Rick Gwynallen richard.gwynallen@gmail.com
301-928-9026

New York

New York

Classes (via Zoom)
New York Caledonian Club
Contact Barbara L. Rice, Chair, Scottish Studies
Barbara.Rice@nycaledonian.org
<https://nycaledonian.org/scottish-studies/>

North Carolina

Triangle / Raleigh area

Study Group (online during pandemic)
An Phillips fiongeal@gmail.com

Northern Virginia-Washington, DC-Maryland

Gaelic Learning Community
(online during pandemic)
Gàidhlig Photomac
Regular workshops and social events
Join us on www.meetup.com/Gaidhlig-Photomac/
Contact Liam willbcassidy@gmail.com
Cathleen amum44@yahoo.com

Virginia

Roanoke

Daily Gaelic
Online lessons & classes; email courses
<http://www.gaidhliggachlatha.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/DailyGaelic/>
<https://daily-gaelic-school.thinkific.com/>
Patreon, support and learning resources for members
<https://www.patreon.com/DailyGaelic>

Washington

Seattle

Slighe nan Gàidheal
Online Classes & Informal Study Groups
<https://www.slighe.org/learn-gaelic>

Canada

British Columbia

Vancouver

Comunn Gàidhlig Bhancoubhair
Classes and Ceilidhs - check Facebook for details
info.vancouvergaelic@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/GaelicVancouver/>

Ontario

Toronto

Gaelic classes & private tutoring via Zoom
Comann Luchd-Ionnsachaidh Thoronto
<http://www.torontogaelic.ca>

Québec

Montréal

Online Gaelic language and song & mouth music
Celtic choir (in person with safety measures)
Linda Morrison linda@lindamorrison.com

FOR MORE information about these resources and for information on long-distance courses, short courses, and private instruction, see our web page at <http://www.acgamerica.org/learn/classes>

For additions and corrections, contact Janice Chan at naidheachd@acgamerica.org



Nach cuidich thu An Naidheachd Againne? / Won't you help An Naidheachd Againne?

..... by sending us your favourite recipe. We'll help you with the Gaelic translation.

Interested? Email naidheachd@acgamerica.org

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A Note on ANA's Gaelic and English Orthography

ANA generally publishes articles in Gaelic using the Gaelic Orthographic Conventions published by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45356.html). However, articles employing older spelling are welcome, as are articles written in a particular Gaelic dialect (e.g., Cape Breton, Argyll).

For English articles, both British and American orthography are acceptable, as long as usage is consistent within the article.

ACGA Online Faces

Like most organizations in the modern world, ACGA has several online faces, including:

- www.acgamerica.org, our main website, containing a blog for announcements, tips, articles, etc.; an archive of newsletters; detailed information about our major events; information about ACGA and how to join; learning resources; and more.
- www.facebook.com/ACGAGaelic, our Facebook page.
- www.facebook.com/groups/1463155417230179, a special Facebook page for our Gaelic Song and Language Week at Grandfather Mountain. Click the "Join Group" button in the main menu to send a request to join.
- www.mixcloud.com/gngcom/, an archive for ACGA's Radio Guth nan Gàidheal channel on MixCloud, featuring 46 programs created between 2015 and 2017 for the online streaming Gaelic radio project Guth nan Gàidheal, featuring songs, stories and news.

An Naidheachd Againne

An Naidheachd Againne is the quarterly newsletter of *An Comunn Gàidhealach Ameireaganach (ACGA)*. The newsletter is published in the Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter. It is produced by the Publications Committee of ACGA.

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