

An Naidheachd Againne

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Brigadier John MacFarlane, the last native speaker of the Lorn dialect of Argyll Gaelic, visited Anne Landin in March. Here she interviews him on his life and the importance of Gaelic to him, particularly its endangered local dialects. Anne also recorded MacFarlane speaking in his native dialect. In addition to talking about his life, he told her a bit about the background of the Harlaw Brosnachadh and then read her this famous fifteenth-century exhortation. You will find links to these sound files as well as the text of the Brosnachadh in the box on page 2.

Brigadier John MacFarlane

By Anne Landin

Brigadier John MacFarlane was born and brought up in Tobermory, Isle of Mull, where his first language was—and still is—Gaelic.

After an education in Tobermory School, Oban High School and the University of Glasgow, where he graduated in Modern Languages, he served for over thirty years in the British Army and retired as Ministry of Defence Director of Education and Training Services (Army). During his career, he was primarily a linguistic specialist and spent much of his time in language and intelligence related posts both in the United Kingdom and on active service overseas. He spent nine years with the Brigade of Gurkhas, serving with soldiers from Nepal who enlist in their own units of the British Army and are probably the best infantry in the world.

After leaving the Army in 1994, Brigadier MacFarlane held posts in the Arab world but has now returned to live in Argyll. At his home in Taynuilt, he lives with his artist wife, Valerie, with a King Charles Spaniel called Sally, and with any members of his grownup family who happen to be visiting. He enjoys a part-time third career in national Gaelic broadcasting, both TV and radio, where he finds his Argyll Gaelic and knowledge of local folklore to be an asset.

An amateur local historian with a particular interest in local placenames, he is a devoted hill-walker and



occasional trout fisherman. He plays a leading role in many local organizations and sings bass in the Taynuilt Gaelic Choir and in the choir of St Johns Episcopal Cathedral Oban where he is an enthusiastic member of the congregation.

As his next project, he hopes to complete a book on the legends, placenames and folklore of Mid Lorn and to “find a publisher astute enough to print it.” He says:

There is an important word in Gaelic. It is *dùthchas* and refers to the almost mystical relationship that we Scottish Highlanders possess with our land and sea in

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Go to <http://www.acgamerica.org> for more information on upcoming ACGA events and other Gaelic-related activities.

John MacFarlane speaking in Argyll dialect about the Harlaw Brosnachadh and his youth in Tobermory.

1 What led up to the Battle of Harlaw (Cath Gairbheach):

<http://tinyurl.com/72wmo7w>

2 Preparations the night before and morning of the battle:

<http://tinyurl.com/6qdjhol>

3 John MacFarlane reads the Harlaw Brosnachadh, written by Lachlann Mòr MacMhuirich to spur on Clan Donald in the battle:

<http://tinyurl.com/83x7hp2>

4 MacFarlane's early life

<http://tinyurl.com/7j2sh7e>

5 Text of the Harlaw Brosnachadh.

<http://tinyurl.com/7s2d5x7>

Note: A slightly different text, the English translation, and more information on this can be found in *Duanaire na Sracaire: Songbook of the Pillagers: Anthology of Medieval Gaelic Poetry*, edited by Wilson McLeod and Meg Bateman.

all their qualities: a bond which unites their seasonal beauty, weather and wildness with our beliefs, our language, our history, music, poetry and song.

This echo of the land resonates particularly in our language, which is nowhere heard better than in our placenames, their history and the tales that are told through them.

As a native speaker, my dialect of Argyll Gaelic is the Gaelic of Lorn. When I returned from the British Army to live in my native village, our historical and linguistic background stimulated my interest in Argyll place-names. I see them as witnesses of the years that have gone. Our Highland landscape and its names are a palimpsest which reveals the layers of history: daily activities, war and peace, land-holding, land-use, belief and superstition. The faces and voices of common people are to be seen and heard in the names they gave to the land on which they worked and the rivers and lochs in which they fished.

My family on both sides has lived in mid-Lorn since at least the 1690s. This is particularly the case with my maternal side, the MacCallums. I received my Gaelic language, folklore and love of the land as a precious gift from my parents. My mother, in particular, was an academic and a very able Gaelic scholar who was influenced by her parents and her grandparents, all of whom came from the local area and lived in our home, Tighnambarr.

They never ever threw any paper away! While going through chestfuls of family documents, you can imagine my delight when I discovered notebooks and a marked map prepared by my mother. These recorded

the names, interpretation and location of the local placenames she had gathered from her parents, grand parents and from neighbours. They also contained stories, tales, proverbs and sayings from the local area. My great grandmother died in 1928 aged 100, so the range of folk memory went back to *her parents in the 1780s*.

I have since transferred this information to a relational database and have, through research in the National and local archives and by field research, continued to expand it and to discover and include more names and information. Names are recorded by geographical area and under headings such as early settlement, belief systems, religious settlement, burials, land-holdings, education, industry, roads and communications, droving, ferries, fords and water-names, agriculture and farming, and the supernatural.

John MacFarlane speaks six or seven languages fluently, including Gaelic, English, French, Turkish, Nepali, and several more “at least enough to make myself understood in the marketplace.” He notes that he spoke only Gaelic until he was six or seven at which time he learned English, and he believes that growing up bilingual enabled him to more easily learn the other languages he acquired during his education and career, and helped him in many other ways.

Although Gaelic was his first language, he was not able to read or write the language until he retired after 30 years spent mostly abroad, and returned

Links referenced in this article:

You Tube interview with John MacFarlane:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nph1RmMdh28>

Article on Will Lamb and Gaelic dialects:

<http://tinyurl.com/8x6kvzr>

Article on Gaelic dialects in general:

http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Scottish_Gaelic_Dialects

Bilingual booklet on Argyll Gaelic including an interview with John MacFarlane:

<http://www.feisean.org/downloads/Feis%20Cheann%20Loch%20Goibhle.pdf>

home. He strived to learn to read and write Gaelic at that time, with a special focus on Argyll Gaelic, and now reads easily, but he states that he still has difficulty writing the language.

His advice to learners: “Read, read, read,” and he tells us we should be hearing or listening to Gaelic radio or recordings all during the day, even if we can’t sit and listen actively the entire time.

I was privileged to have a visit from John in North Carolina in March, and we spoke about Gaelic in general and Argyll Gaelic in particular. I asked John about activities related to Gaelic and especially Argyll Gaelic around his home area at Taynuilt.

I am not active in formal language teaching as such but endeavour to pass on my knowledge of the language through my activities in BBC Alba and Radio nan Gàidheal, through advising Còisir Ghàidhlig Thaigh an Uillt on local pronunciation of words, and by arranging private conversation lessons with several of our choir members who request it, e.g., the director who needs to understand the Gaelic words and the emotions in them or members of choir who compete individually at Mods and want to progress through the language proficiency card system. I also am in the process of developing material on YouTube which reinforces both *dualchas* and *dùthchas* as well as providing local pronunciation of my dialect and the place-names that are so much our ‘umbilical cord’ to the land and its traditions and history. I speak Gaelic every day to those who I know understand it and even exchange greetings with those who don’t, as in the shops, etc.

I googled “gual ’s gaisgich” and found a wonderful 12+ minute video of John being interviewed in

Gaelic by Adhamh Ó Broin, while showing him around and commenting on many of the historic sites in the area. If you watch and listen to this video, you will find several distinct examples of John’s Lorn dialect. The video is to be followed by a sequel soon.

We have native speakers from Lewis, Harris, Barra, Skye, Mull, Tìre and Coll in my area, especially in Oban.

I am not aware of the exact current status of Argyll Gaelic but I know that I am the last person with the Lorn dialect, and Mull is rapidly being anglicised. I know two young people who, through listening to tapes from the School of Scottish Studies and the BBC archives and listening / talking to the remaining ‘linguistic fossils’ to analyse vocabulary, accent and dialectal forms, studying academic dialectological studies, etc., have been able to resurrect a close approximation of these now rare dialects. Adhamh Ó Broin is fluent in Cowal and mid-Argyll dialects and Griogair Labhruidh, who is from the Glencoe area, is very fluent in the Ballachulish dialect. They are both on Facebook where you could contact them.

I have not really studied the differences between dialects but I think you will find ample studies on the Internet by dialectologists. The main differences are in the vowel systems. Our vowels are less diphthongised and thus presumably clearer. People—especially learners—comment on how clear my Gaelic is and how easy it is to understand.

Our choir are enjoying Ùlpan classes for which there is funding. There are plenty of opportunities for conversational classes and ‘chat’ clubs in the Oban area. A few make annual visits to Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in Skye for immersion courses.

There are several choirs in our local area. Atomic Piseag, or the Argyll Ladies’ Gaelic Choir, is directed by Raymond Bremner who travels all the way down from Caithness for practice weekends. The Còisir

Ceann an Tuirc is a men's choir directed by Joy Dunlop and meets mostly in Lochgilphead. Taynuilt, as I mentioned above, has a Gaelic choir as does the Isle of Mull. The Islay Gaelic Choir has been recently revitalized and has had success under the direction of Iseabail MacTaggart. There is a Provincial Mod in Oban in June and one in Tobermory in Mull in September.

I have noticed a worrying tendency which affects the preservation of different dialects. Judges and An Commun seem to wish to standardize pronunciation on what I call a 'Mid-Minch' accent. I have had one blatant example of that. A judge criticized the Taynuilt Gaelic Choir on their local accent for a particular word and gave a sort of semi-outer island pronunciation as the model. I protested! Local choir = local accent! But I suspect that the whole thing is more subtle than that - you do not score good marks unless you conform to what seems to me to be the Mid-Minch, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig or 'EDUCATED' accent. One of the issues is that there is a preponderance of either Lewis or S. Uist teachers of Gaelic now, so the local dialects are dying even in local Gaelic medium schools. It also seems to

me to be inevitable that, through use of the new dictionaries (viz *Am Faclair Beag*) where the phonetics and the pronunciation tapes seem to be in MID MINCH, initiatives like this, though welcome, will undoubtedly standardize the language in the future. It can, however, be argued that a standard Gaelic is better than no Gaelic!

[Editors' note: for more on this, see the link in the box on page 3 to the article by Dr. Will Lamb.]

John reports that there are many Cròileagan or Gaelic pre-school playgroups all over the highlands and islands, where children are taught exclusively in Gaelic. Additionally there are Gaelic medium primary schools for children up to age eleven in Mull and Appin. There are new Gaelic medium high schools in Inverness, Glasgow, and Edinburgh. There are Gaelic storytelling sessions in local libraries, Gaelic radio and TV programs for children and adults. But as John says, the language will only survive if parents use it as part of everyday life and pass it on to their children.

Tha seo mu dheidhinn gaisgeach eile, Liam Ó Caiside, sgrìobhte le fear a tha gu math eòlach air a chuspair.

In this issue we come to our second "ACGA hero," Liam Cassidy, again written by someone who is well-acquainted with his subject.

An Gaisgeach Ó Caiside

le Micheal Mac Aoidh

Dè tha "gaisgeach" a' ciallachadh dhuibh? Dhomh-sa, 's e a th' ann, duine a bheir ort oidhirp nas motha a dhèanamh, a bhith a' feuchainn a-rithist rudeigin a tha duilich, agus duine, leis na rinn e, a bheir ort smaoinichadh gun urrainn dhut a bhith soirbheachail air sgàth gun do shoirbhich leis. Carson a tha Liam Ó Caiside na gaisgeach domh? Uill, thuirt iad rium nach robh còir agam barrachd na leth-mhìle facal a sgrìobhadh mu dheidhinn, agus chanainn nach dèanadh ceithir uiread dhiubh an gnothach! Tha Liam na gaisgeach nuair a thig e gu brosnachadh, ionnsachadh, leasachadh agus ùrachadh na Gàidhlig, agus innsidh mi dhuibh gu dè tha mi a' ciallachadh le sin. Agus feumaidh sibh mo



An Gaisgeach Ó Caiside

by Michael Mackay

What does "hero" mean to you? To me, it's a person that encourages you to try harder, to try something difficult again, and someone who, by accomplishing something, makes you think you can succeed because they did it. Why is Liam Cassidy a hero to me? Well, I only have limited space here to explain it, but I'd say that four times the space would not do it! Liam is a help when it comes to encouragement, learning and teaching, improvement and renewing Gàidhlig, and I'll explain what I mean by that. And you should believe me, when I say these things, because I'd say I'm the one who has spent the most time speaking and working with Liam over the years, in

chreidsinn, oir chanainn gur mise an duine a chuir an ùine a bu mhotha seachad bruidhinn ri, agus ag obair còmhla ri Liam thar nam bliadhna, ann an ACGA, anns a' Mhòd, agus le Gaelcast.

A thaobh brosnachadh na Gàidhlig, chan eil nas fheàrr, nam bharail, na Liam. Gach turas a thig thu thuige le ceist, smuain, no rudeigin èibhinn no inntinneach, chan fhaigh thu bhuaithe ach blàths-inntinn. Bheir e comhairle dhut le deagh shunnd, sgeul mu'n chùis, gàire, agus toileachas. Thig thu às a' ghnothach nas fiosraiche, nas dòigheil, agus – air do dh'fhìor dheagh bhrosnachadh!

Nist – ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig. Tha mise 'nam dhuine feòrachail ceart gu leòr, agus tha ùidh agam ann an iomadach rud co-cheangailte ris a' Ghàidhlig, ge b' e an cuspair – ceòl, bàrdachd, eachdraidh, no sgeulachd. Ach chanainn gu bheil mi leisg, coma-co-dhiù, an taca ri mo charaid! Tha e coltach gu bheil e a' toirt a h-uile mionaid de'n latha aige – nuair nach eil e ag obair gu dìcheallach aig a' chosnadh aige fhèin – ag ionnsachadh bàrdachd, òrain, agus sgeulachdan ùra. Chan iongnadh ged a bhruidhneadh tu ris as dèidh beagan seachdainean agus gum biodh rann ùr aige, agus e ag ràdh, “an cuala tu sin a-riamh?” Ciamar a chumas duine suas ris? Abair dùsgadh a bheir e dha d' inntinn!

'S e Liam an duine a nì leasachadh air a chuid Gàidhlig fad na h-ùine, agus innsidh mi dhuibh nach eil duine nar measg nas draghail nuair a thig mearachd an lùib a chainnt-se – tha Liam a' toirt an aire air cho math 's a tha gach rud a their e, agus e cho faiceallach gus iomhaigh na Gàidhlig a chumail suas. Chan urrainn do dhuine a bhith coma mu'n chomas aca bruidhinn agus a' sgrìobhadh innte nuair a tha eisimpleir mar sin ann! Agus, aig an deireadh, ùrachadh na Gàidhlig. Mar a sgrìobh mi aig toiseach mo sgeòil, rinn mi obair fhada ri taobh mo ghaisgich fad bhliadhnaichean, agus eadar pod-chraolaidhean, ceòl, bhideo, agallamhan, agus sgeulachdan, tha gnùis ùr aig a' Ghàidhlig a-bhos a seo, taing do'n t-saothair aig Liam agus na daoine a bhrosnaich, a dh'ionnsaich, a leasaich, agus a dh'ùraich i thar iomadach bliadhna, agus tha e na urram dhomh a ràdh gu bheil e na dheagh charaid dhomh.



ACGA, the Mòd, and with Gaelcast.

As far as encouraging Gàidhlig, there's no better, in my opinion, than Liam. Each time you come to him with a question, a thought, or something interesting or funny, you'll only get a smile and enthusiasm. He gives you advice with a great attitude, a story with it, a smile, and happily. You come out of the exchange smarter, happier, and very much more encouraged!



Now— learning Gàidhlig. I'm a curious enough person, and I'm interested in many things connected with Gàidhlig, whatever the subject. But I'd say I was pretty indifferent compared to my friend! It seems that he spends every minute of his waking day—when he's not hard at work at his job—learning new songs, poetry, and stories. It's pretty common for you to speak to him after not seeing him for a few weeks, and have him say, “Have you heard this one before?” How does one keep up? He certainly keeps your mind on its toes!

Liam is also one to continue to improve his Gàidhlig, and I would say that there's no one of us more aware of mistakes made in his own language – Liam always is conscious of how well he says things, and always careful to keep the image of Gàidhlig to a high standard. No one can be apathetic about his or her own ability to speak or write when an example like this is available!

Finally, renewal and reinvention of Gàidhlig. As I wrote at the beginning of my story, I've worked long beside my hero for years, and between podcasts, music, video, interviews, and stories, there is a new face of Gàidhlig over here, thanks to the efforts of Liam and the others who encourage, learn, improve, and renew it, and it's an honor to say that he is a good friend of mine.

Geocaching sa Ghàidhlig

le Rudy Ramsey

Ged a bhios mi a' cruinneachadh chur-seachadan mar a chruinneachas cù deargannan, tha fear dhiubh anns a bheil mi an sàs gu sònraichte. Tha “geocaching” na sheòrsa de shealg-ionmhais—pàirt spòrs, pàirt cur-seachad agus, airson mòran againne, pàirt beò-ghlacadh. Falaichidh geocachers soithichean de mòran sheòrsachan is mheudan, is cuiridh iad fiosrachadh mun deidhinn air an eadar-lìn, còmhla ris na GPS coordinates aca, gus am bi geocachers eile a' feuchainn rin lorg. Mar as àbhaist, cleachdaidh sinn GPS receiver airson ar faighinn faisg air an “cache,” ged is tric a bhios dealbhan-saideil bhon eadar-lìn gu leòr airson an lorg. Agus feuchaidh sinn na caches a lorg bhon ainm, am meud, am mìneachadh, agus 's dòcha oidheam a chuir sealbhadair an cache air duilleag an cache fhèin. Cleachdaidh sinn na sgilean againn 's an sgrùdadh-sùla againn aig an àite.

Chan eil ionmhas ann gu fìor, ged a bhios mòran againn a' fàgail thiodhlacan beaga (“swag”) airson a bhith air an lorg le geocachers eile—gu sònraichte clann. 'S e an “t-ionmhas” air a bheil sinn an tòir an cothrom a bhith a' fo-sgrìobhadh logga pàipear san geocache, agus an ceann-latha a chur air, gus lorg an cache a thagairt. “Bragging rights”, mar a chanas iad sa Bheurla. Sgrìobhaidh sinn ann an logga air an eadar-lìn cuideachd, 's dòcha le teacsa mun t-sealg. Dh'fhaodadh coltas simplidh, is 's dòcha ràsanach, a bhith nad inntinn mu geocaching. Bhitheadh sin ceàrr.

Tha mòran geocaches ann a tha furasta an lorg, is air fearann furasta. Tha mòran freagarrach airson cathraichean-chuibhle. Ach tha mòran eile ann le coiseachdan fada, doirbh, no dìridhean teignigeach, dàibheadh SCUBA, curachanachd is mar sin air adhart. Tha fear dhiubh air an stéisean-fànais, agus fear ri taobh luidhear teasach a tha mìle gu leth fo mhullach a' Chuain Siar. No beachdaich air Wyrmmholes, fear de na geocaches as spèiseile ann an Colorado, far a bheil mise a' fuireach. Tha sin na eachtradh de dh'iomadach toimhseachan 's chuireadh tu seachad làithean ann an siostam

Geocaching in Gaelic

by Rudy Ramsey

Although I seem to collect hobbies the way a dog collects fleas, there is one hobby that I'm especially involved in. “Geocaching” is a sort of treasure hunt—part sport, part hobby, and for many of us, part obsession. Geocachers hide containers of various types and sizes, and post information about them on the Internet, including their GPS coordinates, so that other geocachers can try to find them. We usually use a GPS receiver to get us in the vicinity of the “geocache,” though even satellite images from the Internet are often sufficient to locate them. We then try to find the caches based on the name, size, description, and perhaps a hint provided by the cache owner on the geocache's own web page (and, of course, based on our own skills and observation at the site).

There's no real treasure involved, though many of us leave trinkets (“swag”) for other geocachers—especially kids—to

find. The “treasure” we seek is the right to sign and date a paper log in the geocache, and to claim the find. “Bragging rights,” if you will. We then log the find online, along with text we may choose to write about the hunt. This may sound rather plain, and perhaps even boring. It isn't.

Many geocaches are easy to find, and on easy terrain. Quite a few are wheelchair-accessible. But there are many that require significant hikes, some involving technical climbing, some requiring SCUBA diving, canoeing, and lots else. There's a geocache on the space station, and one next to a thermal vent a mile and a half below the surface of the Atlantic. Or consider “Wyrmmholes,” one of the best-loved geocaches in my own state of Colorado. This is a multiday puzzle-solving adventure through a large, complex storm-sewer system beneath a major shopping center. Teams often go after this one, with



Rudy Ramsey

sàibhear fo aonad bhùthan mòr. Bidh sgiobaidhean a' sireadh an fhir seo, le pàirt dhiubh sna sàibhear an is pàirt sa chàr, a' fuasgladh thoimhseachanan le cuideachadh bhon eadar-lìn, agus an dà phàirt ceangailte le rèidio. Gu cinnteach, tha rudeigin ann an seo airson a h-uile neach.

'S ann de mhòran mheudan a tha geocaches Traidiseanta. Tha "nanocaches" ann – botail beaga alùmanumach coltach ris a' mheud de shuathain peansail, le clàr beag magnaiteach airson an cur an sàs ri rudan iarainn. Tha canaichean film ann, crogain im cnòtha-talmhainn, bocsaichean uidheim-ghunnaireachd, bucaidean còig-galan, is mòran eile. Bidh iad gu tric fo fhalach-fuinn airson a bhith coltach ri rudan a tha nàdarra anns an àrainneachd aca, gus am bi iad doirbh an lorg. Tha Earthcaches ann cuideachd, a tha a' teagasg cruinne-eòlas no paleontology. Tha Puzzle caches ann, is iadsan bho rùnach no Sudoku furasta gu toimhseachan mòra coltach ri The DaVinci Code no a leithid. Agus tha seòrsachan eile de geocache ann.

'S e "Rubha Robhanais" an t-ainm a th' air an cache as fheàrr leam chun a-seo. Tha e air Eilean Leòdhais, faisg air bile na creige aig an rubha as fhaide gu tuath sna h-Eileanan Siar, far a bheil Taigh-Solais David Stephenson. Bha mi ann air latha gaohach, fliuch air an robh e furasta a bhith a' faireachdainn an àilleachd agus cunnart na gaoithe's na mara. Dh'fheuch an GPS receiver mo mharbhadh, le bhith gam stiùireadh a-mach air bile na creige, ach bhuannaich spioradan nas sàmhaidhe, is lorg min cache air an taobh shàbhailte den loidhne air nach rachainn thairis nam inntinn. Is toigh leam geocaching oir bidh e gam thoirt a leithid de dh'àiteachan. Bu chòir dhan bheatha a bhith na shreath de dh'eachtradhan, agus 's urrainn dhan geocacher meud nan eachtradhan a thaghadh a tha foirfe air a shon.

Dh'fhuirich feadhainn de bhuill ACGA aig an aon taigh-òsta Ghàidhlig (am Manor Park) ann an Glaschu an-uiridh air an t-slighe gu agus air ais bho Eilean Leòdhais airson Mòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail na h-Alba. Feuchaidh mise beagan geocaching a dhèanamh ann an gach àite far am bi mi, agus bha ùidh aig Cam MacRae ann an geocaching fheuchainn. Mar sin, thug mi i còmhla rium ann an sealg airson geocache ann an Glaschu. Bha sinn an

some of the members in the sewers and others on the surface solving puzzles with the help of the Internet, and with the two groups connected by radio. There's definitely something here for everyone.



Rudy Ramsey

Traditional geocaches, which are physical objects containing at least a log to sign, vary greatly in size. There are "nanocaches"—little aluminum jars the size of a large pencil eraser, containing a tiny magnet to adhere to iron-based objects. There are film cans, peanut-butter jars, ammunition boxes, five-gallon buckets, and lots else. These are often camouflaged to

look like naturally occurring objects in their settings, so they'll be a challenge to find. There are also Earthcaches, which teach geology or paleontology. There are Puzzle caches that may be anything from simple ciphers or sudoku puzzles to multi-puzzle challenges similar to, and perhaps even based on, *The DaVinci Code* or such stories. And there are several other cache types.

My own favorite cache find so far is called "Rubha Robhanais," on the Isle of Lewis. It's very near the cliff edge at the northernmost point in the Outer Isles, by the Lighthouse David Stephenson. I was there on a windy, wet day on which it was easy to feel all the beauty and the danger of the wind and the sea. My GPS receiver tried to kill me by encouraging me to step off the cliff edge, but calmer spirits prevailed, and I found the cache clearly on the safe side of the mental I-won't-go-past-here line I had drawn. I love geocaching because it takes me to places like this.

Life should be a series of adventures, and the geocacher gets to fine-tune the size of his adventures so they fit his own needs perfectly.

Several ACGA members who attended last year's Scottish Royal National Mòd stayed at the same Gaelic-speaking hotel in Glasgow (the Manor Park) on the way to and from the Isle of Lewis. I try to do a little geocaching everywhere I go, and Cam MacRae was interested in trying it out, so I took her along to hunt for a geocache in Glasgow. We were looking for a



Rudy Ramsey

toir air geocache air an robh “Nabs Ye”, a tha mi a’ cleachdadh mar eisimpleir soilleireachaidh san aiste seo, le cead bhon t-sealbhadair aige.

Tha an sreath de dhealbhan seo a’ sealltainn Cam a’ sireadh ’s a lorg an nanocache. Chleachd sinn an GPS receiver agam airson slighe fhaighinn chun an roinn anns a’ chàr, agus airson coiseachd do dh’àite faisg air an cache. Bithidh GPS coordinates gad chur cho faisg air an cache ri 10–20 troigh, ach dh’fhaodadh an sireadh a bhith gu math doirbh fhathast, a reir iom-fhillteachd na h-àrainneachd agus a reir an duilgheadas a bha air aire. (Foillsichidh iad luachaidhean an duilgheadas-siridh agus an duilgheadas-fearainn, gus am bi e comasach dhut geocaches a thaghadh a tha freagarrach dhut. Tha an geocache seo furasta anns an dà dhòigh sin.) Leis an t-sireadh seo, tha na GPS coordinates faisg air feansa, agus dh’fhaodadh an geocache a bhith air an fheansa fhèin no air taobh seach taobh dhi. Thòisich sinn leis an fheansa fhèin, agus cha b’ fhada gus an d’ fhuair sinn an duais. Tha an dealbh mu dheireadh a’ sealltainn an nanocache agus an logga. Bha spòrs gu dearbh aig an dithis againn, ged a tha e soilleir gur e geocache furasta a th’ ann. Agus seadh, fhuair a’ Ghàidhlig a droch-dhiol sa phròiseas. ☺

’S dòcha gu bheil mòran geocaches mun cuairt ortsa. Tha mu 1.6 millean geocaches beò san t-saoghal, agus mu 5 millean geocachers gan sireadh. Direach mar eisimpleir, tha 68 caches a tha nas lugha na dà mhìle air falbh bhon taigh againn, a tha ann an iomall-bhaile Denver. (Tha mi a’ cunntadh an fhir anns an lios air ar beulaibh fhèin.☺) Tha geocaches ann an cha mhòr a h-uile h-àite. A bheil thu den bheachd gum b’ urrainn dhut fear a lorg? Na feuch mura bi thu deònach a bhith air do ghlacadh leotha. Ionnsachaidh mòran gu bheil geocaching nas inntinniche na bhiodh iad a’ smaoinneachadh bhon mhìneachadh. Na can nach d’ fhuair thu rabhadh!

geocache called “Nabs Ye,” which I’m using as an illustrative example in this article, with the permission of its owner.

The sequence of photos associated with this article shows Cam searching for, and finding, the nanocache. We used my GPS receiver to navigate to the area by car, and then to walk to a spot near the cache. GPS coordinates will usually get you within 10–20 feet of the geocache, but that can leave a very difficult search, depending on the complexity of the environment and the intended difficulty of the hide. (Both search difficulty and terrain difficulty are numerically rated, so you can choose the level of geocaches you prefer. This one is rated easy on both dimensions.) In this particular search, the GPS coordinates are near a fence, and the cache might be on the fence or on either side. We started our search with the fence itself, and were soon rewarded. The final photo shows the nanocache and log. We both had a great time looking for this cache, though it's obviously a fairly easy one. And yes, some Gaelic was abused in the process. ☺

There are probably lots of geocaches all around you. There are about 1.6 million active geocaches worldwide, and about 5 million geocachers hunting for them. There are, just for example, 68 geocaches within 2 miles of my suburban Denver house (counting the one in my front yard ☺). Some geocaches are urban, some rural. They're almost everywhere. Think you can find one? Don't try it unless you're willing to get hooked. Many folks instantly find that geocaching is far more interesting to them than they would ever have imagined from the description. Don't say you weren't warned!



Rudy Ramsey



Rudy Ramsey

To Learn More About Geocaching...

Check out the following websites or drop me a line at rudy@ramsisle.com with questions.

- The main geocaching site: www.geocaching.com
- Wyrmhales: <http://coord.info/GC1ZAD1>
- Rubha Robhanais: <http://dl.dropbox.com/u/5409866/Rubha.pdf>
- Nabs Ye: <http://coord.info/GC2KNR2>

Muilnean Ratharsair

le Cam MacRae, Jeanne Pendergast

Nach mi a bha toilichte ionnsachadh o chionn goirid mu dheidhinn iomairt a ghabh Urras Dualchas Ratharsaidh os làimh is i a' dearbhadh abairt as fheàrr leam: Tha eachdraidh gar cuideachadh gus atharrachadh a thuigsinn, agus tha i gar teagasg mar a thàinig an comann-sòisealta againn gu bith.* Ann an 2001 cheannaich an t-Urras iarmad seann mhuilinn ri taobh Ault na Muilan aig Taigh Mòr Ratharsair agus thòisich iad air ath-ùrachadh. Tha an toradh fada nas cudromaiche na an ath-nuadhachadh de sheann phìos acainn, ged-tà; leis an obair seo bidh cothrom math againn gus tuigsinn mar a bhios eachdraidh ionadail gar



Miller's House and Old Mill, c. 1911

teagasg mu dheidhinn eachdraidh nàiseanta.

Fad linntean, cha robh an dòigh-beatha ann an Ratharsair, eilean beag eadar an t-Eilean Sgitheanach agus an tìr-mhòr, air

a comharradh ach le tionndadh nan ràithean. Ach ann am meadhan an 18mh linn, thàinig gu Ratharsair sreath de dh'ùr-gnàthachaidhean teicneolach, an Tionndadh Gniomhachais, còmhla ri ath-bhualaidhean a tha fhathast am follais san àite ud.

Mu 1760, thog MacLeòid à Taigh Ratharsair muileann-mine, agus bhon latha sin, bha aig màladairean MhicLeòid am bràthan fhèin a mhilleadh, agus cìsean a phàigheadh gus an coirce a mheileadh aig muileann Ratharsair. Thigeadh mì-shealbh air MacLeòid, ged-tà. Ann an 1800, thòisich sreath de bhliadhnaichean a bha air a chomharrachadh le droch shìde agus buain lom, agus aig a cheann thall, gaiseadh a' bhuntàta ann an 1840. Tron àm seo cuideachd, bha MacLeòid a' caitheamh an airgid aige, agus ann an 1843 bha aige ris an t-oighreachd a reic, agus dh'imrich an teaghlach gu Astràilia. Dh'fhalbh mòran màladairean MhicLeòid aig

The Raasay Mills

by Cam MacRae, Jeanne Pendergast

I was pleased to learn recently about a restoration project undertaken by the Raasay Historical Trust because it so clearly illustrates one of my favorite history quotes: "History helps us understand change and how the society we live in came to be."* In 2001 the Trust bought the ruined remnant of an old meal mill beside the Inverarish Burn at Raasay House and began restoring it. The result is much more than an old piece of industrial equipment brought back to life; it presents one of those wonderful opportunities where "local" history gives us clearer understanding of a broader national history.

For centuries, life on Raasay, a small island between Skye and the Scottish mainland, was marked mainly by changes in the seasons. And then around the middle of the 18th century, a series of technological innovations we've come to call the Industrial Revolution reached Raasay, with repercussions that are still being played out today.

Around 1760, MacLeod of Raasay House built a mill for grinding meal, and after that MacLeod's tenants were required to break up their querns and pay to have their oats ground at the Raasay mill. Raasay House was plagued by ill fortune, however. Beginning around 1800, a string of years of bad weather and bad harvests culminated in a

potato blight in 1840. At the same time, the MacLeods had been spending beyond their means, and they were forced to sell the estate and emigrate to Australia



Meal Mill Prior to Repair

* *Why Study History*. Peter N. Stearns, professor of history at George Mason University. Accessed at the American Historical Association website April 1, 2012. <http://www.historians.org/pubs/free/WhyStudyHistory.htm>

an aon àm, air sgàth fuadaich no bochdainne, ach bha MacLeòid agus an sealbhadair ùr coma, leis gum biodh caoraich na bu phrothaidiche dhaibh na màladairean.

Ann an 1851 cha robh air fhàgail ann an Ratharsair ach dà fhichead teaghlach 's a h-ochd. Leis gun do dh'fhalbh muinntir na Gàidhlig, chaillleadh iomadh ainmean-àite Gàidhlig agus nan àite thàinig a-steach ainmean-àite ùra, co-cheangailte ri cleachdadh-fearainn ùr. Mu 1851 cuideachd bha am muileann-mine ga dhèanamh na mhuileann-sàbhaidh. Thairis air na 75 bliadhnaichean an dèidh sin dh'atharraich an sealbhadair grunn tursan eile. Ann an 1912 chaidh am muileann-sàbhaidh atharrachadh gu cumhachd-smùide ach sguir e dhen obair mu 1915. Tro na bliadhnaichean thogadh cuid de chlachan a bh' ann am ballachan a' mhuilinn airson obair-togail eile, agus 's ann mar bhàthaich a bha e air a chleachdadh anns na 1960s.

Le bhith ag ath-ùrachadh iarmad muilinn Ratharsair, (tha na planaichean a' gabhail a-steach togalach fiodh air an làrach mar chuimhneachan dhen mhuileann-sàbhaidh a bh' ann) tha Urras Dualchas Ratharsaidh a dèanamh barrachd na muileann-mine an ochdamh linn deug ath-thogail. Tha iad cuideachd a' soilleireachadh ceanglaichean eadar atharraichean ann an cleachdadh fearainn, ùr-ghnàthachas teicneolach, às-imrich, agus call càinain. Gu ìre bha na h-aon mhùthaidhean a' tachairt air feadh Alba rè na h-ùine sin, ach le bhith ag amas air a' phròiseas ann an aon àite beag ionadail, fàsaidh e nas fhasa fhaicinn "ciamar a chaidh sinn bho siud gu seo," mar a bhios neach-teagaisg eachdraidh a' mìneachadh fàth sgrùdadh eachdraidh.

Tha na dealbhan seo agus eachdraidh muileann Ratharsair bho *The Raasay Mills: Muilnean Ratharsair* by Rebecca S. Mackay, ri fhaotainn bhon Urras. Anns an leabhar tha mion-fhiosrachadh air muileann MacLeòid, air mar a chaidh a chruth-atharrachadh tro na bliadhnaichean, agus air na daoine na chois.

in 1843. Many of estate's tenants also left during this period, forced either by eviction or poverty, but neither MacLeod nor the estate's new owner minded as sheep promised to be more profitable than tenants.



Meal Mill, Present State

By 1851 there were only 48 families left on Raasay. With the departure of the Gaelic-speaking population, many Gaelic place names were lost and new place names, relating to the new land usage, were introduced. Also around 1851, the meal mill

was turned into a saw mill. Through the next 75 years the estate changed hands a few more times. In 1912 the saw mill was converted to steam power but ceased operating around 1915. Through the years some of the stones in the mill's walls were taken for other construction, and by the 1960s the building was being used as a byre.

By restoring the remnant of the Raasay mill, (plans also include building a wooden structure on the rest of the site to reflect its use as a saw mill) the Raasay Historical Trust has done is doing more than rebuild an 18th century meal mill. They are also illustrating the connections between changes in land use, technological innovation, emigration, and language loss. These same changes were taking place to some degree all over Scotland during that period, but by concentrating on the process in one small local area it becomes easier to see "how we got from there to here," as history teachers often explain the purpose of studying history.

These photographs and the history of the Raasay mill come from *The Raasay Mills: Muilnean Ratharsair* by Rebecca S. Mackay, available from the author through the Trust. Ms. Mackay's book is a detail-rich account of MacLeod's mill, its transformation through the years, and the people associated with it.



For more about the work of the Raasay Historical Trust, see: www.angelfire.com/il2/raasayheritagetrust/

BREAKING NEWS from Heather Sparling of the University Scholarship Committee: Rachel Redshaw is this year's recipient of ACGA's \$2,000 university scholarship! Rachel was also a recipient of a runner-up award in last year's competition. She has just completed her degree in Anthropology and Celtic Studies at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, through which she also spent a year on exchange to Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. She wrote her honours thesis, '*Chan eil sin ann tuilleadh': An Nòs -Ùr aig Gàidheil Cheap Breatainn*, entirely in Gaelic. She spent last summer working as a research assistant at the Highland Village in Iona, Nova Scotia, working on her Gaelic there with Jim Watson. She has taken advantage of a variety of Nova Scotia Gaelic activities, including "Gàidhlig aig Baile" sessions with Lewis MacKinnon of the provincial Office of Gaelic Affairs, a conversation group, guest lectures hosted by the Celtic Studies department at St. Francis Xavier University, and the university's "Latha Gàidhlig." Rachel plans to start her MA in Celtic Studies at St. Francis Xavier University in January.

Tha Rachel Redshaw, North Dumfries, Ontario, a bhuannaich sgoilearachd oilthigh bho ACGA ann an 2011, ag innse dhuinn dè an t-slighe a bh' aice gu Gàidhlig agus càit an tèid i a-nis.

Rachel Redshaw from North Dumfries, Ontario, and the recipient of one of ACGA's 2011 university scholarships, discusses how she came to learn Gaelic and where her studies might take her next.

Mo Shiubhal tron Ghàidhlig

le Raonaid Redshaw

Tha àireamh luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig a' sìor fhàs is tha barrachd a' gabhail suim bliadhna an dèidh bliadhna. Nuair a tha daoine a' faighneachd dhomh carson a dh'ionnsaich mi fhìn Gàidhlig tha iomadach beachd ri ràdh. Chaidh mi gu Oilthigh Naoimh Fransaidh Xavier ann am Baile Mòr, Albainn Nuadh, air sàilleibh 's gu robh Roinn na Ceiltis ann is bha iad a' tairgsinn chùrsaichean ann an Gaeilge is Gàidhlig. Bha Gaeilge anns an teaghlach agam fhìn ach chuala mi gu robh muinntir aig a bheil Gàidhlig bho thùs ann an Ceap Breatainn is mar sin thagh mi Gàidhlig. Thòisich mi oirre is bha e glè spòrsail, is dh'fhàs mi air mo bheò-ghlacadh leatha! Chùm mi oirre is san treasamh bliadhna, chaidh mi gu Sabhal Mòr Ostaig is rinn mi Cùrsa Comais. Cha ghabh e cur às àicheadh gu robh e caran doirbh ach tha mo chuid Gàidhlig *fada* nas fheàrr na bha i mus deach mi ann.

Thàinig mi air ais gu Canada is dh'obraich mi aig a' *Chlachan Ghàidhealach* <http://tinyurl.com/823wo72> ann an Sanndraigh, Ceap Breatainn, as t-samhradh. Bha mi fortanach air sgàth 's gu robh mi ag obair tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. 'S e sin an t-àite far an do dh'ionnsaich mi òrain-luaidh is seachas is dual-chainntean ann an Ceap Breatainn. Tha an dualchas cho pailt is thug mi poidhle bho *Sruth nan Gàidheal* <http://gaelstream.stfx.ca/> is *Cainnt Mo Mhàthar* <http://www.cainntmomhathar.com/> air an làrach-lìn. B' fheudar dhomh tar-sgrìobhadh is eadar-theangachadh a dhèanamh dhe bhideothan is pìosan-clàraidh agus mhothaich mi na dual-chainntean is na

My Journey through Gàidhlig

by Rachel Redshaw

The number of Gàidhlig speakers is continually growing and more are becoming interested year by year. When people ask me why I learned Gàidhlig I have many answers for them. I went to Saint Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, because there was a Celtic Studies Department, and they were offering courses in Irish and Gàidhlig. There is Irish in my own family, but I heard that there were people who were native Gàidhlig speakers in Cape Breton and so I chose Gàidhlig. I began learning the language and it was a lot of fun. Eventually, I became fascinated with it! I kept learning Gàidhlig and in my third year I went to Sabhal Mòr Ostaig and completed Cùrsa Comais. I will not deny that it was a bit difficult but my Gàidhlig is *much* better than it was before I went!

I came back to Canada and I worked at the *Highland Village Museum* <http://tinyurl.com/823wo72> in Iona, Cape Breton, for the summer. I was fortunate because I was working through the Gaelic language. Working at the museum I learned milling songs, stories and dialects in Cape Breton. The heritage is so rich and I learned quite a lot from websites like *Sruth nan Gàidheal* <http://gaelstream.stfx.ca/> and *Cainnt Mo Mhàthar* <http://www.cainntmomhathar.com/>. Since I had to transcribe and translate videos and audio recordings, I began noticing the dialects and the stories that came from each region, and that gave me a new perspective on Gàidhlig. I met speakers in the community and I had the opportunity to listen to

naidheachdan a thàinig bho gach sgìre agus thug sin sealladh ùr dhomh. Thachair mi ri beulaichean sa choimhearsnachd is bha cothrom agam a bhith ag èisteachd riutha a' bruidhinn sa Ghàidhlig. Tha fhios 'am 'nise dè cho prìseil sa tha a' Ghàidhlig ann an Albainn Nuaidh.

As deaghaidh dhomh obair ann an Ceap Breatainn, thill mi gu Oilthigh StFX airson an ceathramh bliadhna. Rinn mi tràchdas air an nòs-ùr aig Gàidheil Cheap Breatainn, 's e "Chan eil sin ann tuilleadh: An Nòs Ùr aig Gàidheil Cheap Breatainn" an tiotal a th'air. Thug mi sùil air na seann chleachdaidhean is ciamar a tha iad air am mùthadh gus a' là an-diugh. Tha ùidh mhòr agam sna beachdan aig na daoine òga (20–40 bliadhna a dh'aois) à Ceap Breatainn is tha mi airson barrachd measaidh a dhèanamh còmhla riutha air na seann chleachdaidhean is ciamar a chaidh an atharrachadh. Chaidh an tràchdas a sgrìobhadh tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig agus bha sin fìor chuideachdail dhomhs' a bhith ag ionnsachadh ciamar a sgrìobhas tu ann an Gàidhlig gu foirmeil.

Tha mi 'n dòchas gum bi mi a' faighinn obair leis a' Ghàidhlig. Tha dùil agam gum bi mi a' tilleadh dhachaigh is bidh mi a' dèanamh chlasaichean aig Oilthigh Guelph is a' cuideachadh le tachartasan aig Oilthigh Toronto ach bu thoigh leam obair ann an Albainn Nuadh cuideachd san àm ri teachd. Tha mi airson misneachd a thoirt dha na daoine òga Gàidhlig ionnsachadh. Tha fhios 'am gu bheil dùbhlain ann uaireannan ach cùm ort, 's fhiach e an t-saothair!

them speaking in Gàidhlig. Now I know how precious Gàidhlig is in Nova Scotia.

After I worked in Cape Breton, I returned to StFX University for my fourth year. I

completed a thesis about the new traditional ways of the Gaels in Cape Breton called "Chan eil sin ann tuilleadh: An Nòs Ùr aig Gàidheil Cheap Breatainn". I reviewed the old traditions and how they have transformed and adapted to the present today. I have a great interest in the opinions of younger people (20–40 years old) from Cape Breton and I would like to engage in more conversations with them about the old traditions and how they changed. The thesis was written in the Gàidhlig language and that was extremely helpful for me to learn how you write formally in Gàidhlig.

I hope that I will find work in Gàidhlig. I expect to return home to run classes / workshops at the University of Guelph and to help with events at the University of Toronto, although I would also like to work in Nova Scotia in the future. I want to encourage young people to learn Gàidhlig. I know it can be a challenge sometimes, but keep on with it; it's worth the hard work!



A' seasamh ri taobh Caisteal Eilean Donan
Standing by the Eilean Donan Castle

If you don't know the Gaelic for "Bookkeeper"

You can still be the new bookkeeper for ACGA!

As Bookkeeper, you will categorize deposits and checks so that we understand where our money comes from and where it goes, reconcile our various bank accounts, prepare annual budget documents and quarterly financial reports., and participate in our quarterly Board meetings. *Note that the Treasurer (currently Jeanne Pendergast) actually handles the money (manages the money accounts, makes payments, etc.).*

Heather Sparling has set up an excellent system using QuickBooks, by Intuit, and will train you. ACGA will provide this software if you don't already have it.

For more details, contact Heather at heather_sparling@cbu.ca.

When Professor Kenneth Nilsen died on April 13th of this year, Trueman Matheson described him as a "respected scholar and warrior for the Gaelic language." Catriona Parsons, another such scholar and warrior for Gaelic, and Ken's colleague for many years on the faculty of St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, has kindly sent us this remembrance.

Mar Chuimneachan: An t-Àrd-Ollamh Coinneach Nilsen

le Catriona Parsons

A' chiad turas a thachair mi air Coinneach Nilsen, bha mi a' teagasg aig sgoil-shamhraidh Colaisde na Gàidhlig ann a' Ceap Breatainn, agus bha esan beagan ùine às déidh gabhail ri cathair ùir na Gàidhlig aig Oilthigh NFX ann an Antaiginis, Alba Nuadh. Ach cha b' ann gus an robh sinn 'nar co-oibrichean anns a' Roinn Cheiltich aig NFX a thòisich mi air gnè an duine fhéin a thuigsinn.

Cha chreid mi gun do choinnich mi duin' a-riamh a bha cho foghlaimte 's aig an aon àm cho stuama leis. Mas d' thàinig e idir a dh' Antaiginis, is e an sàs ann an obair airson a' chéim as àirde aig Harvard, rinn e rannsachadh am measg Gàidheil Cheap Breatainn a bha a' fuireachd mu'n cuairt air Boston. Agus rè faisg air an fhichead bliadhna 's a deich a bha e aig NFX, bha e 'na dheagh charaid dhan t-seann Ghàidheil air am biodh e a' tadhal 's air an d' rinn e clàradh. B' e dòigh air leth coibhneil a bh' aige leotha oir bha meas mór aig 'orra—agus ac' airesan.

Mar threòraiche na Roinn' Cheiltich, bha e os cionn Làithean Gàidhlig a chur air dòigh dhan tigeadh daoine às gach ceàrnaidh; Ceum Maighstireachd ann an Eòlas Ceilteach a stéidheachadh; agus Sgoilearachd na Gàidhlig, a leigeadh do sgoilearan rannsachadh a dhèanamh an Albainn as t-samhradh, a chur air chois. Bha e 'na fhear-rannsachaidh domhainn, breithneachail air na cànaichean Ceilteach gu léir.

Chaochail Coinneach Nilsen air an 13mh là dhen Ghiblean am bliadhna. Mar a sgrìobh Lodaidh MacFhiongain ann an dàn a rinn e dhà: "Le do làmhnan caoimhneil fhéin/ Thug thu air flùr beag brisg ar muinntir fàs/ Is a' bhuaidh a th' agad/ Connadh anam' airson ghinealaichean".

In Memoriam: Dr. Kenneth Nilsen

by Catriona Parsons

I first met Ken Nilsen when I was teaching at the Gaelic College Summer School in Cape Breton shortly after he himself had been appointed to the new Sister St. Veronica Chair of Gaelic Studies at St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia. But it wasn't until we became colleagues in the Celtic Department there that I

came to value the nature of the man himself.

I don't believe I ever met anyone so learned and yet so modest at the same time. Before he came to Antigonish, and had received his Ph.D. from Harvard, he had already researched and recorded Cape Breton Gaels living in the Boston area. And during the almost 30 years he spent at St. FX, he was an

exemplary friend to the Gaelic elders he visited and recorded. He had such a kind way with them for he held them in great esteem—and they him.

As the guide and leader of the Celtic Department, amongst other accomplishments, he pioneered the Gaelic Days to which people came from afar; he established a Masters in Celtic Studies program; and he instituted a Gaelic Scholarship which allowed students to pursue summer study in Scotland. His research on the Celtic languages was always thorough-going and thought-provoking.

Ken Nilsen passed away on April 13 this year. Lewis MacKinnon's words in a poem he wrote for Ken are fitting: "By your own kind hands/ You made the little brittle flower of our people grow/ And your impact/ The soul fuel for generations..."



Litir a' Chinn-Suidhe

le Scott MacIlleMhoire

Hallo mo charaidean! Ciamar a tha sibh uile? Tha mi an dòchas gur ann an sunnd math a tha sibh. Is mi a th' air a bhith anabarrach trang leis a' Ghàidhlig (tha mi toilichte a ràdh) agus ann an iomadh dòigh eile. Tha an Samhradh a' teannadh oirnn, agus tha sin a' ciallachadh gum bi Beinn-Seanair ann a dh'aithghearr! Is cinnteach gun cuir sibh ur n-ainmean a-steach, nach cuir?? Bidh spòrs is mire mhòr ann agus tòrr Gàidhlig a bharrachd air sin. Gheibhear tuilleadh aig an làrach-lìn againn an seo:

<http://tinyurl.com/6tov7rz>

Chì sinn ann an Carolina a Tuath sibh ma-tha!

Tha mi uabhasach toilichte cuideachd a ràdh gum b' ann soirbheachail a bha an deireadh-seachdain bogaidh againn ann an Arizona. Bha sinn ag obair ann am Flagstaff fad an là air Dihaoine is Disathairne a thaobh na Gàidhlig agus bha cèilidh shona againn air oidhche Shathairne. Chòrd an turas ris an fheadhainn a tha fuireach ann an Arizona cho mòr is gun do chuir iad làrach Facebook fhèin air bhonn ris an canar "Arizona Gaelic Weekend" far am faighear mòran fiosrachaidh air na bha dol. Cha leig sibh a leas ach sin a sgrìobhadh a-steach dhan t-slat-rannsachaidh air FB agus treòraichidh FB sibh dhan àite cheart. Gheibhear tòrr dhealbhan, bhideothan is beachdan air an tachartas. Agus is còir dhuinn fàilte a chur orra seach gu bheil iad nam buill dhen ACGA a-nis....mar sin, Fàilte!

Agus, na dìochuimhnicheamaid am Mòd! 'S e Mòd air leth sònraichte a bhios againn am-bliadhna. Agus dè th' ann, ach an 25mh turas a bhios am Mòd Nàiseanta againn! Tha mòran phlanaichean an cois mar tha. Chithear tuilleadh aig an làrach-lìn againn an seo: www.usmod.wordpress.com/

Uill, mar a chithear is e amannan dripeil a tha dol a bhith againn tron bhliadhna. Tha mi an dòchas gum faic mi sibh aig aon de na tachartasan (neo fiù 's aig a dhà neo trì dhiubh!) agus gun cùm sibh suas le ur cuid Gàidhlig. Beannachdan an t-Samhraidh leibh agus bidh sinn a' bruidhinn!

President's Letter

by Scott Morrison

Hello my friends! How are y'all doing? I hope that you're all in good trim. I am happy to say that I have been extraordinarily busy with the Gàidhlig, and in many other ways. The summer is approaching, and that means that Grandfather Mountain will soon be here! I am certain that you will ALL put in your names to attend, right? There will be lots of fun and sport and a whole lot of Gàidhlig to top it off! More information can be found at our website here:

<http://tinyurl.com/6tov7rz>

We'll see you in North Carolina!

I am also happy to report that the Arizona Immersion Weekend was successful. We worked on Gàidhlig in Flagstaff all day on Friday and Saturday and we had a nice ceilidh on Saturday night, too. The Arizona people were so happy with the event that they started a Facebook page dedicated to the event itself! The page is called "The Arizona Gaelic Weekend" and all you need to do is type that title into the search-bar and FB will take you there. You can find many pictures, videos, and opinions on what happened. And we ought to welcome them since they are now members of ACGA. So...Welcome!

And let's not forget about the Mòd! We are going to have a very special mod this year. For, what do we have but the 25th anniversary of our National Mòd! Many plans are afoot already. More can be seen at our website here: www.usmod.wordpress.com/

Well, as you can see, it's busy times that we'll be having throughout the year. I hope that I will get to see you at one of the events (or even two or three of them!) and that you will all keep up with your Gàidhlig. Blessings of the Summer with you and we'll be speaking again soon!



Grandfather Mountain Gaelic Song and Language Week

Where Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk NC
When Sunday, July 8th, 2012
– Friday, July 13th, 2012

Schedule

Sunday July 8th

- Arrival, registration 3pm

Monday thru Friday

- Classes, workshops

Friday July 13th

- Departure 12pm

The 57th Annual Grandfather Mountain Highland Games will be held July 12–15, 2012 at MacRae Meadows on Grandfather Mountain near Linville NC. The North Carolina Mòd takes place Saturday afternoon at the games.

Instructors

Alasdair Whyte (Mull, Scotland)
Mike Mackay (Virginia)
Andrea Kluge (Scotland, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Skye)

Tuition

2012 ACGA members:

- \$475 Private dorm room, tuition, meals
(add \$50 after June 15)
\$250 Day student: tuition only, no meals

Non-members, family members: See link below

Description

The course will consist of language and song classes at graduated levels. Other activities include special interest sessions in the afternoon, an evening cèilidh, a silent auction, hikes in the beautiful surrounding mountains and the North Carolina Gaelic Mòd, which is held the following weekend, during the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.



25th annual U.S. National Mòd —sponsored by An Comunn Gàid- healach Ameireaganach

Where Ligonier, PA
When September 21–23, 2012 (song competition
Saturday, September 22)

Adjudicator

Beathag Mhoireasdan (Isle of Lewis, Scotland)

Other Special Guests

Neil Campbell and Catriona Watt
(winners of last year's Gold Medal at the
Scottish Mòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail)

Description

“The 25th annual Mòd will be held in Ligonier, PA on September 21–23, with Beathag Mhoireasdan as our adjudicator, and special guests from Scotland and Canada to commemorate our quarter-century mark! Come to compete, or to hear beautiful Gaelic music—or, if you can’t make it, be sure to enter our mail-in competition, and try your hand at Gaelic poetry and prose!” –Mike Mackay

See <http://usmod.wordpress.com> for details and a link to the registration form. Materials for the mail-in Mòd are available now on the website. The Mòd bulletin, with further details on the event, will be posted there later.

The US Mòd is held in conjunction with the Ligonier Highland Games.

Lees-McRae College

The college is located in Banner Elk NC about 2 hours from Charlotte Douglas International Airport.

See <http://tinyurl.com/6tov7rz> for details, and link to the registration form and PayPal payment option.

Mòd Chanada

June 8–10, 2012, Ottawa Canada

Gaelic Adjudicators: Cathy Ann MacPhee and Catriona Parsons

Awards were presented in these categories: Gaelic oral competitions, vocal, group, instrumental, art, and dance. We can list only the overall prize-winners here, but you'll find post-Mòd information on the Comunn Gàidhlig Ottawa website: <http://www.gaidhligottawa.ca>. The categories for the Mod were reduced this year to just two, Learners and Fluent, to align more properly with the Royal National Mod. Here are the winners:

Overall winners (over any 3 categories):

Learners: Krista Grant
Fluent: Mike Mackay

Solo singing:

Learners: Krista Grant
Fluent: Mike Mackay

Choral:

Senior: Ar n-Oran Gaelic Choir
Junior: Na Cuileagan Lasraich

Oral:

Learner: Cathleen MacKay
Fluent: Mike Mackay

Piping:

Practice Chanter: Shahna Summers
Small Pipes: Donald MacDonald

Fiddle: Krista Grant

CGO Award of Excellence: Sine McKenna

Tha Dòigh Eile Ann

by Jeanne Pendergast and Cam MacRae

Here is a variety of ways one might say that someone should, ought, or must do something:

's fheàrr dhomh - I had better (do it)

bu chòir dhomh - I ought to, should

chan fhuilear dhomh - I must (another of the wonderful expressions that appear to be negative but have positive meanings—it wouldn't be an infliction for me to do it)

cha b' fhuilear dhomh - I would have to do it (it wouldn't be an infliction if I were to do it)

feumaidh mi - I have to, I will have to, I must (no past tense - future and conditional only)

B' fheudar dhomh - I had to (also present tense)

tha agam ri - I have to, I must (can also be used with *bha*, *bidh*, and *bhithinn/bhiodh* for the other tenses)

thig orm - I will have to (external pressure) (also past and conditional tenses)

B' èiginn dhomh - I really had to, it was imperative that I (serious pressure) (also present tense)

Note: These expressions are all followed by the verbal noun, unlenited alone, but lenited and inverted when there's an object present. They also require a possessive when there's a pronoun object.

feumaidh mi falbh

feumaidh mi biadh a cheannach

feumaidh mi do chuideachadh

And, not quite the same, but related:

mar fhiachaibh air - obliged to, required to, incumbent upon (this one can be followed by different constructions, slightly changing how it's translated, but the sense is similar in all)

mar fhiachaibh air - he is obliged to, it is incumbent upon him [with *bi* or *thig*]:

Tha e mar fhiachaibh air...

Thàinig e mar fhiachaibh air...

cuir mar fhiachaibh air - pretend, make him believe; force, constrain, charge (burden)

bi fo fhiachaibh do - owe

Immersion Weekend 2012

On April 19th members of ACGA and the Northern Arizona Celtic Heritage Society (NACHS) gathered for an Immersion Weekend in the city of Flagstaff AZ. Instructors Scott Morrison, Mike Mackay, and Muriel Fisher conducted Gaelic classes at two levels for 19 students. Workshops offered included how to improve your Gaelic via Gaelic song with Mike Mackay, how to play the bodhran with Scott Morrison, and how to dance Strip The Willow. Muriel Fisher told us through an illustrated talk about her life as a young girl growing up on the Isle of Skye.

The weather in Flagstaff was beautiful as was the town. Fun was had by all learning Gaelic and other skills. This will become an annual event and it is hoped that even more ACGA members can make it out next year.



Franklin Brent Abbott

Hannah Short, Gina McClure, Scott Morrison,
Michael Satterwhite, and Gretchen Connerly



Scottish Gaelic Enthusiasts in Richmond

SGEIR's annual retreat took place May 4–6 at the James River State Park near Lynchburg, VA, with classes taught at three levels by Shel Browder, Liam Cassidy, and Mike Mackay. Saturday night's ceilidh went on until after 1:00 AM with songs, stories and instrumental music. Anna Bruce and Cathleen MacKay played the harp, David Bruce played uilean pipes and Liam played harmonica. Although a certain Genghis Khan look-alike (Nick Freer) was noticeably absent, Shel prepared the traditional Atholl Brose, which was excellent.



Anne Landin

An Phillips and Shel Browder on porch
of Lodge at James River State Park



Anne Landin

Jessie MacKay, Cathleen MacKay,
and Margaret Gérardin



Criomagan

An Drochaid Eadarainn / The Bridge Between Us

<http://androchaid.ca>

As part of Gaelic Awareness Month in Nova Scotia a new website was launched in May. An Drochaid Eadarainn allows access to field recordings by native Gaelic speakers as they talk about traditions, customs, and cultural practices in the Gaelic-speaking areas of the province.

Air Bilean an t-Sluaigh: Sealladh air Leantalachd Beul-Aithris Ghàidhlig Uibhist a Tuath

le Maighread Challan ISBN: 9780853899969. Queens University Press, 2012

This 2011 winner of the Donald Meek Award is based on the author's thesis, a study of the continuation of the oral tradition in North Uist. Prof. Meek has described the book as "an outstanding and creative piece of work in explaining the lore and tradition of North Uist through the medium of Gaelic."

MGAlba FilmG Awards 2012

<http://filmg.co.uk/en/films>

There were a record 76 entries in the 5th year of MGAlba's short Gaelic film competition. Awards were presented to the three to five-minute films in youth and adult categories at a gala ceremony in March. You can view all of the submitted films for 2012 at the link above, as well as short-listed and winning films from 2009, 2010, and 2011.

Atlantic Gaelic Academy Offers New Advanced Plus Course

<http://gaelicacademy.ca/>

The Advanced Plus course may be taken by students who have successfully completed the AGA Advanced course or equivalent. The course will run from September to May (with scheduled weeks off at Christmas and March Break), and consists of 30 three-hour weekly sessions. The program concentrates on reading, translation, discussion, and study of Gaelic stories and literature, as well as advanced Gaelic constructions and idioms.

Ás an Abhainn Mhóir (second edition)

Due to popular demand, a second edition of the Gaelic / English cookbook of recipes from Pictou County, Nova Scotia, is available through Siol Cultural Enterprises (<http://www.gaelicbooks.com>). As well as 58 recipes, this soft cover, coil-bound book includes colour photographs, proverbs, songs and short stories in Gaelic and English. Cost is \$15 (shipping and postage extra).

Ronnie was the baker in the kitchen of the Gaelic College of Arts and Crafts in 2000 where she made this delicious, slightly sweet version of oatcakes for hungry immersion students. The Gaelic translation is by Hector MacNeil, and is reproduced here by kind permission of the College (<http://www.gaeliccollege.edu>).

Adding to the flavour of these Cape Breton oatcakes is the fact that the recipe contains elements of the Cape Breton dialect. For example, standard Scottish Gaelic would say *trì cupannan de mhin-fhlùir* instead of *do mhin-fhlùir*. Dwelly thinks this might be the result of local pronunciation and suggests that it's to be avoided, but notice that we're happy to support dialect forms of Gaelic. Please don't let this controversy stop you from baking some of Ronnie's oatcakes! You can find out more of what Dwelly has to say about *do* in place of *de* on page 313 of *Dwelly's Illustrated Gaelic to English Dictionary*.

Aran-coirce Ronnaidh

trì cupannan do mhin-fhlùir
trì cupannan do mhin-choirce
trì cairteal cupa do shiùcar (donn no geal)
spàin tì do shòda
leth-spàin tì do shalann
aon chupa do gheir gallta
aon chupa do dh'im (no im gallta)
cairteal cupa do dh'uisge

Measgaich ri chèile ann am bobhla mòr a' mhin-fhlùir, a' mhin-choirce, an siùcar, an sòda agus an salann. Cuir ris a' gheir agus an t-im. Measgaich seo gus an tèid an taois na criomagan. Cuir an t-uisge rithe. Cuir an taois seo air a' bhòrd agus spleuchd i leis an roilear gus am bi i mu chairteal òirlich do thiughad. Gearr ann an ceàrnagan. Fuin anns an àmhainn aig teas 350 puing F. fad deich mionaidean.

Ronnie's Oatcakes

3 cups flour
3 cups oatmeal
3/4 cup sugar (brown or white)
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup vegetable shortening
1 cup butter (or margarine)
1/4 cup water

Mix together in a large bowl the flour, oatmeal, sugar, soda and salt. Add the shortening and the butter. Mix until the dough forms crumbs. Add the water. Roll the dough on a floured board until it is a 1/4 inch thick. Cut into squares. Bake at 350° F for 10 minutes.



Rudy Ramsey

Do you have a favourite recipe that you'd like to share with other ACGA members? Submit it in a bi-lingual format to one of our editors and we'll publish it in future issues 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!

Gaelic in the Kitchen

If you're into oatcakes, you might like to try this recipe featured on Guthan nan Eilean / Island Voices, a website where you'll find Gaelic and English videos and more on life in the islands. The recipe itself is in English, but there's a link to audio and accompanying photos as a group of friends bake Berneray Oatcakes. Follow this link: <http://tinyurl.com/7fb7jzh>.



Dè Do Naidheachd?

by Cam MacRae and Jeanne Pendergast

Two more stories, both using the same six prescribed words or phrases along with some other interesting and useful Gaelic idioms.

Cam

'S e latha fliuch gaothach a bh' ann, aimsir àbhaisteach aig an àm seo dhen bhliadhna, agus mi fhìn a' fuireach gu math comhfhurtail **fo chabair**, leabhar nam uchd, cupan teatha rim thaobh agus Runrig a' bocadaich tro "Sràidean na Roinn-Eòrpa." Bha mi sàsaichte gun teagamh, ach dè mu dheidhinn a' chait? Uill, bha Snorri **gu dubh diombach** leis nach robh mi a' toirt aire shònraichte dha. Chagainn e oir a' bhrat-ùrlair greis, agus an uair sin leum e air mullach a' bhùird am measg nan soithichean. Fhad 's a bha Runrig an sàs anns "An Toll Dubh," ge tà, dh'fhàs Snorri sgìth a bhith a' cluich na aonar is thòisich e ri gearan. "A mham, a mham, . . . a mhaaam" ràn e. "Carson nach bi thu a' cluich còmhla rium **fad an t-siubhail**?" Bhuail earball an làr. Mhol Runrig "Alba." Is mhothaich mise gun robh cat fiadhaich orains, a chluasan air ais, ag **èaladh** mo chasan, agus ghèill mi dha. Dè tha nas fheàrr air latha geamhraidh na leabhar *agus* cat na d' uchd is Runrig **a' cur às an corp** air "Dh'innse na Firinn."

Glossary:

fo chabair - inside, indoors (*cabar* means antlers, pole, and in this case, rafter)

mu dheidhinn a' chait - about the cat

gu dubh - extremely (*dubh* is often used as an intensifier)

leis nach robh mi - since I was not

oir a' bhrat-ùrlair - the edge of the carpet

fhad 's a bha - while, as long as, as far as

an sàs ann an - involved with

fad an t-siubhail - all the time

bhuail earball an làr - his tail hit the floor (the possessive pronoun his, *a*, isn't pronounced or written because the next word begins with a vowel; her tail would be *a h-earball*)

ag **èaladh** - creeping

ghèill mi dha - I gave up (literally, I yielded to him)

a' cur às a' corp - going on about

Sine

Bha mi a' bruidhinn air m' athair agus a bhràthair na b' òige. Aon latha fhuair iad airgead bhom màthair gus fiolm ùr fhaicinn. Bha bràthair màthar air a bhith ga càineadh **gu dubh**, is esan **a' cur às a chorp** gun robh cead idir aig na balaich dhol dhan taigh-dhealbh. Bha e rithe **fad an t-siubhail**. 'S e duine cràbhach **diombach** deimhinne a bh' ann, cinnt aige gun robh esan ceart is a h-uile duine nach deach leis, ceàrr. Carson a bha esan?

Chaidh na balaich ann dha aindeoin. Ach cò chunnaic iad air an t-slighe a-steach ach bràthair am màthar, na shuidhe san dorchadas. **Dh'èalaidh** iad air an socair sìos chun nan suidheachan air a chùlaibh, agus mar chloich às an adhar dh'eigh iad à beul a chèile, "Feasgar math, Uncail Raibeirt." Ghrad leum e gu a chasan is cha mhòr nach do ruith e a-mach air an doras chùl. Chan fhacas **fo chabair** an taigh-dheilbh a-rithist e—no fhad 's a bha na balaich òg co-dhiù.

Glossary:

ga càineadh - lacks lenition (meaning a feminine antecedent), so it's clear who is meant

bha e rithe - an expression suggesting that he was "on her case"

duine cràbhach diombach deimhinne - (note the typical Gaelic lack of commas in a string of adjectives)

nach deach leis - who didn't agree with him

Carson a bha esan? [borrowed from *Ceann an Rathaid* by Màiri Sine Chaimbeul; the expression has the sense of "why is he involved, anyway" or "why would someone be like that"]

dha aindeoin - a *dh'aindeoin* + 'him'

Dh'èalaidh - here has a slightly different connotation: they sneaked

mar chloich às an adhar - with no warning, (literally, like a stone out of the air)

à beul a chèile - simultaneously, with one voice

ghrad leum e - he sprang, leapt

cha mhòr nach - double negative, so it means "he almost" (did)

chan fhacas - past passive, he wasn't seen

Dè Tha Dol? Gaelic Events

June 2012

Mòd nan Lochan Mòra / Great Lakes Mòd, June 22–24, 2012, Medina, OH

Gillebride MacMillan (South Uist) will adjudicate the Mòd and conduct a song workshop Sunday morning. Other events include a cèilidh at the Ohio Scottish Games and Mòd dinner & cèilidh. Limited accommodation has been reserved for participants (see information elsewhere in newsletter). For more information email frances.acar@gmail.com.

July 2012

Grandfather Mountain Song and Language Week, July 8–13, 2012, Banner Elk, North Carolina

Once again the song and language week will take place at Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk, NC. Instructors include Alasdair Whyte, a member of the group "Na Seòid", ACGA's own Mike Mackay, an experienced teacher who took second place in Traditional Gaelic Song in last year's Mòd in Scotland, and Andrea Kluge, a teacher at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic college on the Isle of Skye. Please see <http://tinyurl.com/6tov7rz> for complete information on how to register.

Continued on next page

Dè Tha Dol? Gaelic Events, continued

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, July 12–15, 2012, Linville, North Carolina

<http://www.gmhg.org/>

North Carolina Gaelic Mòd, Saturday July 14, 2012, at the Grandfather Mountain Games

3: 00 p.m. Adjudicators are Alasdair Whyte and Michael Mackay.

For information on how to enter see <http://www.gmhg.org/gaelicmod.htm>

A' Cholaisde Ghàidhlig Sgoil-Shamhraidh / Gaelic College Summer School 2012

The Gaelic College in St. Ann's, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia will be offering courses in various disciplines of Gaelic culture for Youth (5 - 18) and Adults. Disciplines offered include fiddle, Gaelic song, Cape Breton piano, Cape Breton piping Weaving and Highland dance.

Youth only sessions: July 9–13 / July 16–20 / July 23–27

Adult only sessions: July 30–Aug 3 / Aug 6 –Aug 10

For a complete description of courses and costs please see the College's website

<http://tinyurl.com/765d28l>

Bu Deònach Leam Tilleadh / I Would Willingly Return, July 17–August 14, 2012, Christmas Island, Cape Breton NS

14th Annual Gaelic Concert Series

Please see <http://www.feisaneilein.ca/concertseries.html> for more information as it becomes available

August 2012

22nd Annual Féis an Eilein, August 20–25, 2012, Christmas Island, Cape Breton, NS

Please see <http://www.feisaneilein.ca/annual.html> for more information as it becomes available.

A' Cholaisde Ghàidhlig Sgoil-Shamhraidh / Gaelic College Summer School 2012, August 27–31, 2012 (Adult Only)

The Gaelic College in St. Ann's, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia will offer a complete Gaelic immersion week using the Gaidhlig aig Baile methodology of teaching. Beginner, Beginner Advanced, Intermediate as well as Advanced levels of learning will be offered. Please see

<http://tinyurl.com/7gz7tsl> for complete registration details.

September 2012

Mòd Nàiseanta Aimeireagaidh, 2012 / ACGA National Mòd, September 8, 2012, Ligonier, PA

25th ACGA National Mòd with adjudicator Beathag Mhoireasdan and 2011 Men's and Women's Gold Medalists from Scotland's Royal National Mòd

Gaelic song, story and poems in competition as well as cèilidhs!

To register or for more information see <http://tinyurl.com/7fd3jmf>

October 2012

Fèis nan Dathan Ceilteach / 16th Celtic Colours International Festival, October 5–13, 2012, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia

46 concerts in 33 communities around Cape Breton Island

See <http://tinyurl.com/7qozz7q>

Am Mòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail / Royal National Mòd, October 12–19, 2012, Dunoon, Scotland

2012 entry forms are now available at <http://tinyurl.com/6rms5cq>.



Directory of Gaelic Classes & Study Groups

Arizona

Flagstaff

Study Group
Richard Ferguson
fergusdubh@yahoo.com

Phoenix

Classes
Richard Smith
coindubh@yahoo.com

Tucson

Classes
Muriel Fisher
<http://www.murielofskye.com>

California

Sacramento Area

Classes
Donnie MacDonald
minchmusic@comcast.net

North Hollywood

Study Group
Eva Gordon
celt@celticartscenter.com

Colorado

Boulder

Study Group
Sue Hendrix
susan.hendrix@colorado.edu

Denver

Lessons
Glenn Wrightson
thegaelicguy@hotmail.com

Denver

Study Group
Reese McKay
reese-mckay@g.com

Florida

Jensen Beach

Treasure Coast Scots-Gaelic
Study Group
gerhardherm@yahoo.com

Illinois

Springfield

Study Group
Bill McClain
fidheall@yahoo.com

Maryland

Chevy Chase

Song Group
Joan Weiss
sweiss@american.edu

Massachusetts

Sandwich

Classes—Thomas Leigh
<http://tinyurl.com/7a4os2j>

Song Classes—Maggie Carchrie

<http://tinyurl.com/7a4os2j>

New York

New York

Classes
New York Caledonian Club
www.nycaledonian.org/studies.php

Newfield / Ithaca

Conversation groups
Wayne Harbert
weh2@cornell.edu

North Carolina

Asheville

Study Group
Leigh McBride
lmcbride@unca.edu

Guilford

Classes (advanced beginner)
An Phillips
fiongeal@gmail.com

Triangle / Raleigh area

Classes (beginner)
An Phillips
fiongeal@yahoo.com

Ohio

Cincinnati

Study Group
Andrew MacAoidh Jergens
macaoidh@eos.net

Kent

Classes
Frances Acar
Classes by Skype
frances.acar@gmail.com

Oklahoma

Midwest City

Study Group
Barry Acker
bearachanse@yahoo.com

Tulsa

Study Group
Adrian Martin
almarti6527@gmail.com

Pennsylvania

Pittsburgh Area

Study Group
Harry Webb
hwebb@zoominternet.net

Texas

Hurst

Classes
David Gressett
jdgressett@hotmail.com

Fort Worth

Study Group
Jonquele Jones
jonquele@flash.net

Utah

Salt Lake City

Classes by Skype
Rachell Blessing
rachell-blessing@comcast.net

Virginia

Alexandria

Classes
Nick Freer
neacalban1@aol.com

Catlett

Michael Mackay
Local in-person and via Skype
mackay@progeny.net

Washington

Seattle

Classes & Study Groups
Slighe nan Gàidheal
<http://www.slighe.com>

Canada

New Brunswick

Fredericton

Classes
Atlanta Gaelic Academy
www.gaelicacademy.ca

Nova Scotia

Halifax

New Glasgow

Port Hawkesbury

Classes
Atlanta Gaelic Academy
www.gaelicacademy.ca

Sydney

Classes
Cape Breton Gaelic Society
<http://tinyurl.com/85e82y8>

Ontario

Ottawa

Classes
Randaigh Waugh
comunnghaidhligottawa@rogers.com

Toronto

Classes
CLUINN
www.torontogaelic.ca

Québec

Montréal

Study Group
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://tinyurl.com/7bw78mn>

For additions and corrections, contact Janice Chan, ruadh@idirect.com

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