

# An Naidheachd Againne

The Newsletter of An Comunn Gàidhealach Ameireaganach / The American Gaelic Society

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Tha Alison Lang a' fuireach ann an Dùn Èideann. Is e ionnsachadh a rinn i air a' Ghàidhlig agus tha i na ball-bùird air buidheann charthannais airson luchd-ionnsachaidh, Cli Gàidhlig (<http://www.cli.org.uk>). Às dèidh dhi a bhith ag obair aig Pàrlamaid na h-Alba agus airson MG ALBA, com-pàirtiche leis a' BBC ann san t-seanail telebhisean BBC ALBA, tha i a-nis ag obair air a' ceann fhèin mar sgrìobhadair. <http://www.alisonlang.co.uk>

A very fluent Gaelic learner, Alison Lang lives in Edinburgh. In addition to her primary work now as a free-lance writer, she is a board member of the non-profit organization for learners Cli Gàidhlig (<http://www.cli.org.uk>). She has previously worked for the Scottish Parliament and for MG ALBA which partners with the BBC in the television channel BBC ALBA. For more about her books and other writing (along with excerpts), see <http://www.alisonlang.co.uk>

## Dùn Èideann a' Feitheamh le Alison Lang

Tha Dùn Èideann na bhaile a' feitheamh. Air dè? Nan cuireadh tu a' cheist air duine àbhaisteach ann an Sràid a' Phrionnsa is math dh'fhaoide gun canadh e, "Air na tramaichean," a' gearan mun sgeama chòmhdhail ùr a tha air meadhan a' bhaile a chur troimhe chèile fad còig bliadhna a-nis. Neo is dòcha gum biodh neach-turais a' tomhas, "Air an Fhèis Eadar-nàiseanta?" Agus chanadh luchd-poileataigs – cuid aca, co-dhiù – "Air neo-eisimeileachd."

## Edinburgh in Waiting by Alison Lang

Edinburgh is a city that's waiting. What for? If you were to ask the ordinary man in Princes Street he might say, "For the trams," complaining about the new transport scheme that's been causing chaos in the city centre for five years now. Or perhaps a tourist would venture, "For the International Festival?" And politicians – some of them, anyway – might say, "For independence."



Pàrlamaid na h-Alba / Scottish Parliament

Alison Lang

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

Ach tha Gàidheil Dhùn Èideann a' feitheamh cuideachd, a' feitheamh air bun-sgoil ùr, air ollamh ùr san oilthigh, agus air adhartas airson na Gàidhlig sa chathair-bhaile a' leantainn air plana ùr an ùgh-darrais ionadail. Dh'fhaodadh linn ùr a bhith air faire dhuinn.

Chanadh cuid gur e Glaschu prìomh bhaile na Gàidhlig. Tha sluagh nas motha an sin a tha ga bhruidhinn, mu 10,000 ann an cunntas-sluaigh 2001 eadar Baile Ghlaschu fhèin agus na sgìrean timcheall air. Ach le 4,000 ann an Dùn Èideann agus 3,500 a bharrachd ann an Lodainn, na Crìochan agus Fìobha chan eil taobh sear na dùthcha buileach as aonais blas Gàidhealach. Thèid toraidhean a' chunntas-sluaigh a rinneadh ann an 2011 fhoillseachadh as t-samhradh am bliadhna. Sin rud eile air a bheil na Gàidheil a' feitheamh, agus chì sinn a dh'aithghearr a bheil na h-àireamhan air fàs neo air crìonadh.

Ach ged a tha cliù eachdraidheil aig Partaig mar "sgìre Ghàidhlig" Ghlaschu, tha Gàidheil Dhùn Èideann air a bhith sgapte. Chan eil àite againn a thathas ag aithneachadh mar chridhe na coimhearsnachd agus is beag an t-iongnadh gu bheil seo air buaidh a thoirt air ìomhaigh na Gàidhlig sa bhaile. Mura tèid thu a-mach ga lorg, agus fios agad càite am faigh thu lorg oirre, cha chluinn thu facal dhi.

Ann an dùthchannan eile, bhiodh e annasach mura robh cànan nàiseanta follaiseach sa chathair-bhaile, ach shaoileadh an neach-turais nach robh ach Beurla ga bruidhinn an seo. Is ann glè ainneamh a chithear Gàidhlig sgriobhte air soidhnichean, mar eisimpleir, ach fò Achd na Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005 tha uallach air buidhnean poblach planaichean aontachadh le Bòrd na Gàidhlig airson leasachadh a' chàinain san obair aca. Mean air mhean tha sinn a' faicinn adhartas – cuid a bhuidhnean a' toirt orra fhèin ainm oifigeil Gàidhlig, mar eisimpleir, agus ga chleachdadh air litrichean agus làrach-lìn – ged is e adhartas slaodach a th' ann.

An dèan a' bhun-sgoil ùr diofar do choimhearsnachd Dhùn Èideann? Às dèidh bhliadhnaichean fada den stri airson sgoil fa leth, mar a th' aca ann an Glaschu agus Inbhir Nis, bidh Bun-Sgoil Taobh na Pàirce a'

But Edinburgh's Gaelic speakers are waiting too, waiting for a new primary school, for a new professor in the university and for some progress for Gaelic in the capital as a result of the local authority's new plan. We could be on the brink of a new era.



*Pàrlamaid na h-Alba / Scottish Parliament*

*Alison Lang*

3,500 in Lothian, the Borders and Fife, the east of the country isn't completely devoid of Highland culture. The results of the census conducted in 2011 are due to be published this summer. That's something else the Gaels are waiting for, and we'll soon see if numbers have risen or fallen.

But whereas Partick has the historical reputation of being Glasgow's "Gaelic quarter", Edinburgh's Gaelic population has always been more dispersed. There is no district that's recognized as the heart of the community and it's small wonder that this has affected the image of Gaelic in the city. Unless you go out looking for it, and unless you know where to find it, you won't hear a single word spoken.

In other countries, it would be considered odd if a national language lacked prominence in the capital city, but a tourist could be forgiven for thinking that English was all that was spoken here. It's very rare to see Gaelic written on signs, for example, but under the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 public bodies have a responsibility to agree plans with Bòrd na Gàidhlig to develop the inclusion of the language in their work. Little by little we're seeing progress – some organizations adopting an official Gaelic name, for instance, and using it in correspondence and web pages – although this progress is pretty slow.

Will the new primary school make a difference for Edinburgh's Gaelic community? After long years of campaigning for a separate school, such as exists in Glasgow and Inverness, Parkside Primary School will

## Scottish Studies Campaign

While the University of Edinburgh's move to fill the long-vacant chair of Celtic is to be welcomed, there are fears that the university's plans to relocate the School of Celtic and Scottish Studies to new premises with severely limited library space could separate students and staff from the unique archive of books, recordings and other ethnographic materials currently held by the department.

Some of the archive's recordings have already been digitized by the Tobar an Dualchais project, but this work remains incomplete. It had been proposed that much of the School's archive would be taken off-site where it would no longer be available to researchers or to the public. A student campaign to maintain the integrity of the collection and ensure continued access has attracted widespread support, and the university has now responded by committing funds to improve access. The campaign leaders describe themselves as cautiously optimistic, but further clarification of plans for the archive's future is awaited at the time of going to press.

You can follow the campaign on Facebook and Twitter or by visiting <http://scottishstudiescampaign.wordpress.com/>

fosgladh san Lùnastal 2013. Thuige seo tha na sgoilearan Gàidhlig air a bhith ann an ionad sònraichte an taobh a-staigh bun-sgoil Bheurla, suidheachadh nach robh freagarrach tuilleadh ... agus gu dearbh cha robh e freagarrach bho chionn deich bliadhna, nuair nach robh a' Chomhairle idir cho bàidheil ris a' Ghàidhlig 's a tha e an-diugh.

A thaobh foghlam bun-sgoil tha sinn air dheireadh air Glaschu agus Inbhir Nis, ach a thaobh foghlam aig àrd ire bha Oilthigh Dùn Èideann air thoiseach air na h-oilthighean eile nuair a steidhich iad a' chiad Chathair Cheiltis ann an Alba bho chionn 130 bliadhna. Tha a' chathair sin air a bhith bàn a-nis fad còrr is trì bliadhna ach thathas a-nis a' sireadh ollamh ùr mu dheireadh thall.

Tha oileanaich agus òraidichean a' feitheamh air an ollamh ùr, agus tha a' chlann-sgoile a' feitheamh air an togalach ùr-sgeadaichte aca. Bidh e math ma thig piseach air neart na coimhearsnachd Gàidhlig air sàilleabh nan leasachaidhean seo, ach cha ghabh coimhearsnachd Ghàidhlig a chruthachadh le bhith a' feitheamh agus a' feitheamh airson ionadan ùra neo stiùireadh oifigeil neo toraidhean cunntas-sluaigh. San eadar-ama bidh luchd na Gàidhlig sa bhaile a' dèanamh na rinn sinn daonnan ... a' tighinn ri chèile, dithis neo trì, neo barrachd uaireannan, agus a' bruidhinn ar cànan bho latha gu latha ... no cho tric 's a tha cothrom againn.

Is e dùbhlán a th' ann, gun teagamh, ach tha oisean an siud 's an seo far a bheil cànan beag-aithnichte Albannach ga bhruidhinn ann an cathair-bhaile na dùthcha. Ged a bhios a' mhòr-chuid coma mu deidhinn, tha a' Ghàidhlig beò fiù 's ann am mòr-bhaile na Beurla.

be opening in August 2013. Until now the Gaelic scholars have been in a special unit within an English primary school, a situation that was no longer acceptable ... and indeed, it had ceased to be acceptable ten years ago, when the Council was less well disposed towards Gaelic than it is today.

In respect of primary school education we're lagging behind Glasgow and Inverness, but when it comes to higher education Edinburgh University was ahead of the other universities when it established the first



*Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce / Parkside Primary School  
Alison Lang*

Chair of Celtic in Scotland 130 years ago. That chair that has been vacant for more than three years, but at long last a new incumbent is now being sought to fill it.

The students and teachers are waiting for their new professor, and the schoolchildren are waiting

for their newly refurbished building. It'll be good if the Gaelic community is strengthened by these developments, but a Gaelic community can't be created by waiting and waiting for new institutions or official leadership or census results. In the meantime, Gaelic speakers in the city will do what we've always done –coming together, two or three of us, or sometimes more, and speaking our language from day to day ... or as often as we get the chance.

It's a challenge, undoubtedly, but there's the odd pocket here or there where a little-recognized Scottish language is spoken in the country's capital. Though the majority of the population may be quite indifferent, Gaelic is alive even in this great English-speaking city.

## Litir a' Chinn-Suidhe

*le Scott MacIlleMhoire*

Fàilte oirbh! Tha mi an dòchas gu bheil sibh uile a' cumail an fhuachd air falbh. Tha fios is cinnt ann nach fhurasta sin a dhèanamh agus math dh'fhaodte gu bheil sibh a' miannachadh aimsir nas fheàrr. Ach na gabhaibh dragh! Chan fhada gus an tig an deagh shìde agus na cois thig iomadh tachartas Gàidhealach inntinneach. Tha fiosrachadh anns a' cholbh Dè tha Dol san iris seo.

Agus gu dearbh, am measg nan tachartasan an sin bidh tachartasan ACGA cuideachd. Bidh an Deireadh-Seachdain Taomaidh againn air 19-21 dhen Ghiblean. Siuthadaibh, cuiribh comharra air na mìosachain agaibh agus cuiribh romhaibh a bhith ann! Cùmar e ann am baile-mòr Phoenix am-bliadhna. Theirig chun an làrach-lìn againn air Facebook Arizona Gaelic Weekend (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/346318745424901/?fref=ts>) agus gheibhear fios agus naidheachdan ùra. Bidh an t-seachdain aig Beinn Seanair ann cuideachd, 7-12 dhen Iuchar 2013 aig Colaiste Lees-McRae, Banner Elk NC. Tha a' chomataidh air tòiseachadh air nithean a chur air dòigh a thaobh sin mar thà. Tha fios a bharrachd mu dheidhinn an luchd-teagaisg againn ri fhaotainn air an làrach-lìn <http://www.acgamerica.org>. 'S iad Seumas Greumach agus Kirsteen NicDhòmhnaill à Alba agus Seumas MacDhòmhnaill againn fhin a bhios a' teagasg ann. Agus na diochuimhnicibh am Mòd againn, 20-22 dhen t-Sultain 2013 ann an Ligonier PA. Bidh cèilidhean agus cuirmean-ciùil ann airson airgead a thogail airson a' Mhòid ann an ùine nach bi fada. Theirig dhan làrach-lìn againn air Facebook ris an canar US Mòd Fundraisers agus gheibhear tuilleadh fiosrachaidh. Agus cuimhnicibh gu bheil làraichean againn air YouTube agus air Facebook (ACGA) cuideachd. Tha iomadach còmhradh agus bhideo inntinneach a' feitheamh oirbh.

Tha an taghadh a' dlùthadh oirnn cuideachd. Cumaibh sùil airson nam baileatan a thig tron phost-dealain no tron phost àbhaisteach cuideachd. Bidh trì beàrnann air a' bhòrd-stiùiridh ri lionadh am-bliadhna. Tha sinn a' cur feum air daoine a tha deònach a dhol air a' bhòrd-stiùiridh. Ma tha ùidh agaibh a dhol an sàs ann leigibh fios thugainn.

Uill, sin e bhuamsa an turas seo. Cumaibh trang is blàth agus cumaibh suas ur cuid Gàidhlig cuideachd! Mar sin leibh.

Tioraidh,  
*Scott MacIlleMhoire*

## President's Letter

*by Scott Morrison*

Welcome all! I hope that you are all keeping warm. I know that it is not easy to do and perhaps you are longing for nicer weather. Don't worry. It's not far away and along with it come many interesting Gaelic activities. Dè tha Dol in this issue has details.

Of course, ACGA events will be amongst them. The Immersion Weekend takes place April 19-21, 2013. Mark your calendars and make a commitment to be there. It will be held in Phoenix AZ this year. Come visit the Facebook page Arizona Gaelic Weekend (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/346318745424901/?fref=ts>) where more information and updates will be posted. The Grandfather Mountain Gaelic Song and Language Week will take place July 7-12, 2013, at Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk NC. The GFM Committee has already started putting things in order for that event. More information on our instructors, James Graham and Kirsteen MacDonald from Scotland and our own Jamie MacDonald, can be found on our website here <http://www.acgamerica.org>. And don't forget our 26th National Mòd, September 20-22, 2013, in Ligonier PA. Ceilidhs and fundraising concerts for this event will be announced soon. Visit the Facebook page called US Mòd fundraisers for further details. And remember that we also have pages on YouTube and on Facebook (ACGA). There are many interesting conversations and videos on them.

The election is also approaching. Keep your eyes open for the ballots that will come to you all through email or paper where necessary. There will be three empty seats on the board this spring. This is a chance to support Gaelic whatever your present level of language ability, and we warmly encourage your participation on the board or on the selection committee. We depend on willing volunteers, and with a relatively small membership we count on members to be active. If you have an interest in serving, let us know please.

Well, that's it from me this time. Keep warm and busy and keep up with the Gaelic!

Cheers,  
*Scott Morrison*

Seo caibideil a dhà de sgeulachd air aithris le ar caraid Liam Ó Caiside. Tha coltas ann gur e seann sgeulachd a th' innte ach an e? Chan eil fhios againne, ach nochdaidh caibideil a trì san Ògmhios.

## Sgoil nan Eun neo Sgeulachd Iain Fhearchair Òig

### *Le Liam Ó Caiside*

#### Caibideil a Dhà: An Sgoil Sheunta

“Thuir am mac gum b’ e siud an sgoil anns am b’ fheàrr leis a dhol dhe na h-uile.”

~ Sgoil nan Eun, no, Mac an Fhùcadair

“Bha caisteal meadhanach mòr aig an draoidh seo, ged bha pàirt dheth na thobhta mar thà. Abair àite àraidh. A’ chiad rud a bha mìorbhaileach ma dheidhinn, cha b’ urrainn do neach sam bith an caisteal seo fhaicinn bhon taobh a-muigh. Cha robh ri fhaicinn ach clachan briste agus seann bhallachan am measg thobhtaichean eile. Ach rachadh aig na h-eòin air fhaicinn – agus, thuir an Draoidh Mòr, na sìthichean cuideachd.

Bha e suidhichte air creig air ceann rubha, agus bha drochaid àrd chumhang eadar an caisteal agus an rubha fhèin. Bha e dìreach mar eilean nuair a thigeadh an làn-mara. Bha an t-àite seo caran iomallach agus cha robh duine sam bith san sgìre a’ tighinn dlùth ris. Àite uaigneach agus neònach a rèir muinntir na sgìre. Àite far am faighte bòcain agus tannaisg agus rudan nas miosa, ’s dòcha, air oidhche dhorcha, agus sheachain iad an t-àite.

Cha robh eagal aig na ròin, ge-tà, agus bha deannan dhiubh daonnan a’ snàmh anns a’ mhuir mu thimcheall a’ chaisteil, neo gam blianadh fhèin air na creagan. Uaireannan, nuair a chuala Iain na ròin a’ comhartaich, shaoil e gur ann a’ dèanamh faire air an sgoil a bha iad. Am b’ e rabhadh a bha iad a’ toirt dhaibh neo dha?

Agus is tric a chunnacas ealtan eunlaith air sgèith mu thimcheall a’ chaisteil. Faoleagan, sgàireagan agus eòin dhen a h-uile seòrsa. Cha robh feadaireachd nan eun riamh fada bho chluasan Iain.

Bha an caisteal làn sheòmraichean ach bha a’ chuid bu mhotha dhiubh fo ghlais. Uaireannan, dh’fhairich Iain guthan anns na seòmraichean nuair a bha e a’ dol seachad orra – daoine a’ cagarsaich, no a’ gal – ach nuair a stadadh e, cha robh guth ann.

Bha dà bhalach dheug ag ionnsachadh còmhla ri Iain, agus bha còmhnaidh aca ann an aon sheòmar ri chèile. Cha robh mòran aca – leapannan, bòrd, cathraichean, cistean airson aodaich agus rudan eile – ach bha na balaich cofhurtail gu leòr.

Cha robh caileagan a’ faighinn foghlam anns an sgoil ach bha trìuir nighean an draoidh a’ fuireach anns a’ chaisteal: Gormfhlaith, Farbhfhlaith agus Dearbhfhlaith. Ach cha robh bean aig an draoidh, agus cha chuala Iain dè thachair dha am màthair.

Bha na balaich comharraichte agus neo-àbhaisteach ann an iomadh dòigh. Thàinig iad às a h-uile ceàrn de dh’Alba ’s de dh’Èirinn. Cha robh gin dhiubh a’ cleachdadh ainm ceart ach bha far-ainm aig a h-uile duine aca.



Bha Ladhar Beag agus Ladhar Mòr ann, Glagan agus Glafair, Niall Mo Nuar agus Calum Mo Chreach, Ceann-Cleiteig agus Uilleam Dèan Suidhe, MacMhanainn (’s ann à Eilean Mhanainn a thàinig esan), Calman Beag agus Cù-Eòlais, agus Fead a’ Phìobaire. Thug iad “Am Fitheach” air Iain, seach ’s gun robh falt cho dubh aige ri iteagan an fhithich, mar a thuir Cù-Eòlais.

Bha aon sheòmar mòr cearsalach ann aig mullach an tùir far an robh na balaich ag ionnsachadh draoidheachd. Dh’fheumadh iad staidhrichean cloiche, cama, caola a shreap gus an seòmar a ruigsinn. Shuidheadh iad ann an cearcall aig casan an draoidh.

“Chan e droch bhuidseachd neo sgoil dhubh idir a gheibhear air cùl an fhiosrachaidh seo,” dh’innis an Draoidh Mòr dhaibh. “Chan e fios-brèige a th’ ann

ach fios-firinne, draoidheachd dhomhainn a dh'ionnsaich mi aig glùin mo mhaighstir, Coibhidh.”

“Cùine bha sin?” dh'fheòraich Iain dheth.

“Dar a bhruidhneadh na cearcan, agus dar a dh'innseadh a' chomhachag sgeulachdan,” fhreagair an draoidh.

“Cò bh' ann an Coibhidh?” dh'fheòraich Iain a-rithist.

“Thog Coibhidh Sgoil nan Eun. B' ann aig Sgàthach a bha an caisteal seo roimhe sin,” thuirt an draoidh. “Ach bha Coibhidh glè aosta nuair a thàinig mise gu Sgoil nan Eun.”

Cha do dh'ionnsaich Iain tuilleadh mu dheidhinn Coibhidh agus Sgàthach an uair sin. Agus cha do dh'ionnsaich am balach ach beagan mu dheidhinn a mhaighstir fhèin.

An toiseach, bha e duilich a ràdh dè an aois a bha an Draoidh Mòr. Bha coltas duine meadhan-aoise air, ach bha e soilleir bhon chainnt gun robh e fada nas sine. Cha robh e a' coimhead mar dhraoidh sam bith a chuala Iain mu dheidhinn anns na seann sgeulachdan. Bha falt donn agus liath air, agus aodann geur gun fheusaig. Chuireadh e aodach an duine bheartaich air nuair a rachadh e a-mach air shiubhal, ach 's e aodach Gàidhealach seann fhasanta a chaith e nuair a bha e anns an sgoil. Agus bha am bata daraich cinn airgid, “mo lurgann” mar a thuirt e ris, daonnan na dhòrn.

Cha bu mhinig a bhiodh an Draoidh Mòr a' gàireachdainn, agus bha e soilleir, nuair a thachradh sibh ris timcheall a' chaisteil, gun robh a smuaintean gu tric fad air falbh.

Ge b' e dè 'n seòrsa duine a bh' ann, chan e breug a dh'innis e nuair a thuirt e gun robh e na mharsanta, agus beartach.

Dh'ionnsaich Iain gun robh taigh-marsantachd aige ann an Glaschu far an deach e gu tric – a' falbh agus a' tilleadh ann an aon latha, 's chan eil fhios aig neach sam bith ciamar a dhèanadh e sin – agus bha longan aige a bha 'dol air feadh an t-saoghail a'

giùlan bathair agus a' toirt air ais nithean sònraichte a bha dhith air.

'S e nithean draoidheil a bha na bàtaichean a' lorg – dùdach draoidheil às na h-Innsean, clàrsach a bha aig Mac Gille Mhaoil na Cruit, fàinne a thug Naoise do Dheirdre, agus claidheamhan agus coireachan agus cuachan agus cleòcaichean – agus bha an Draoidh Mòr gan cumail anns na seòmraichean glaiste.

Mu dheireadh, dh'fhàs an Draoidh Mòr cho ealanta agus cumhachdach thar nam bliadhnaichean 's nach robh na b' fheàrr ri fhaotainn am measg dhraoidhean na h-Alba, thuirt na balaich ri Iain, agus cha robh gin anns an dùthaich a bheireadh dùbhlàn dha.

“A bheil mòran dhraoidhean air fhàgail anns an t-saoghal, agus carson nach eil barrachd dhaoine eòlach orra?” dh'fhaighnich Iain dhen Draoidh Mhòr latha nuair a bha iad a' coiseachd ri chèile air balla a' chaisteil, a' coimhead a-mach air a' chuan.

“Chan fhaighear mòran dhinn an-diugh idir, Iain,” arsa an Draoidh Mòr. “Chan eil air fhàgail ach criomag den chomann a bh' ann eadar iomall an domhain siar agus an ear mhòr dà mhìle bliadhna air ais, mus do rugadh Caesar agus mus do dh'èirich an Ròimh agus mun tàinig Calum Cille agus na naoimh eile a dh'Alba.”

Anns na meadhan-aoisean, dh'ionnsaich Iain, bha cinnidhean de dhraoidhean ann an Alba agus Èirinn, dìreach mar a bha clann de lighichean, bhàird agus bhritheamhan ann. Chaidh an aithreachd fad air ais gu àm nan cinneach. Cha robh tighearna ann an Alba no Èirinn aig nach robh draoidh mar chomhairliche – ged 's tric a theireadh iad “bàrd” neo “breitheamh” neo “seanchaidh” ris.

“Ach cha robh fhios agam gun robh an leithid ann fhathast,” thuirt Iain. “Cha b' fhuilear dhuinn fios mu ar deidhinn-sa a chur a-mach thall 's a-bhos!” thuirt a mhaighstir. “Smaoinich, a bhalaich, dè bhiodh daoine a' dèanamh nam biodh fios aca mu dheidhinn ar leithid. Cha bhiodh sith againn a-rithist gu bràth sìorraidh. Mura biodh iad a' toirt ionnsaigh oirnn, bhiodh iad ag iarraidh cuideachaidh bhuainn. Chan fhaigheadh sinn cuidhteas iad!”

Thuir an draoidh gun cuireadh e feadhainn de na h-oileanaich anns an t-seirbhis aige ann an taigh-marsantachd no air na soithichean – ach cha tuirt e dè bhiodh an dàn do dh'Iain.”

“Draoidheachd agus marsantachd air am measgachadh ri chèile? ’S neònach an sgeul a th’ agaibh a-nochd,” thuirt Calum ris an sgeulaiche, agus e a’ sineadh gloinne uisge-bheatha dha. “Fuirich gus an cluinn sibh tuilleadh,” ars esan.

## Dè do Bheatha Eile?

Here’s the next in our series of articles in which an ACGA member tells us about some aspect of his/her life other than Gaelic. Janice Chan’s other life takes us far, far, away.

### Mo Bheatha Mar Chreutair à Planaid Eile

*le Janice Chan*

Tha mi nam shuidhe aig bòrd ann an taigh-bìdh ann an teis-meadhan bàile Thorontò air latha teth samhraidh. Tha an t-àite loma-làn dhaoine de gach seòrsa -- luchd-turais, òganaich a’ suirghe ’s iad ag òl botal fiona eatorra, luchd-gnothaich a’ crìochnachadh cunnradh agus teaghlach Klingon. Seadh - teaghlach Klingon.

Cha bhi an sealladh seo cho mì-àbhaisteach ann an Toronto, san Lùnastal co-dhiù. A bharrachd air Klingons, dh’fhaodte gun tachair sibh air Stormtrooper no dhà, Dalek ’s fiù ’s sgaoth zombies.

Ach na gabhaibh dragh. Bidh iad uile glè chàirdeil agus cha bhi cunnart sam bith ann. Cha bhi annta ach feadhainn a tha dèidheil air ficsean saidheansail ’s a thig dhan Fan Expo nam mìltean gach bliadhna a dh’fhaicinn ’s a dh’èisteachd nan cluicheadairean, sgrìobhadairean ’s dealbhadairean as fheàrr leotha.

Chan eil an co-chruinneachadh seo cho mòr ri ComicCon ann an San Diego (fhathast), ach bidh daoine ann bho air feadh Ameireaga a Tuath ’s fiù ’s na Roinn Eòrpa. Thachair mi ri grunn Klingons à Glaschu aon uair ’s fèilidhean orra. Agus cha robh camara nam làimh!

Ghabh mi ùidh ann am ficsean saidheansail agus sgeul-guaineis nuair a bha mi nam dheugaire. Leugh mi ùghdaran leithid Bradbury, Asimov, Philip K. Dick, T.H. White agus Tolkien. Gach Disathairne bhithinn aig an taigh-dhealbh a’ coimhead air an ear-

### My Life as an Alien

*by Janice Chan*

I’m sitting at a table in a restaurant in the heart of Toronto on a hot summer day. It’s packed with people of every sort -- tourists, young lovers sharing a bottle of wine, businessmen clinching a deal and a Klingon family. Yes, a Klingon family.



Janice the Vulcan

This sight isn’t so unusual in Toronto, in August anyway. In addition to Klingons, perhaps you’ll come across a Stormtrooper or two, a Dalek, and even a zombie swarm.

But don’t worry. They’re all very friendly and there is no danger at all. They are only some of those who are fond of science fiction and who come to FanExpo in the thousands every year to see and to hear their favourite actors, writers and animators.

These gatherings aren’t as big as ComicCon in San Diego (yet), but there are people from all over North America and even Europe. I bumped into a group of Klingons from Glasgow one time, and they were wearing kilts. And I had no camera close at hand!

I became interested in science fiction and fantasy when I was a teenager. I read authors like Bradbury, Asimov, Philip K. Dick, T.H. White and Tolkien. Every Saturday I would be at the movie theatre watching the latest instalment of *Batman* or films like

rann a b' ùire de *Batman* no air filmichean leithid *Planet of the Apes*. Agus bha mi cho sona ri bròig nuair a nochd *Star Trek* agus *Doctor Who* air Tbh!



Janice Chan

Chris Chan

Ach cha robh mi eòlach air mòran dhaoine eile aig an robh ùidh ann an òlaidhean-fala, siubhal chun fhànais agus fìorachdan eile 's le sin, nuair a bha mi na bu shine agus clann òga agam, bheirinn còmhla rium iad nuair a rachainn dha na co-chruinneachaidhean ficsean saidheansail.

Bhiodh feadhainn agaibh a' smaoinichadh, tha mi cinnteach, nach rachadh ach daoine aonaranach, gun chàirdean, dha na co-chruinneachaidhean is a leithid sin, ach bhiodh sibh fada ceàrr. Choinnich mi fhèin agus mo mhic ri daoine inntinneach dhe gach seòrsa -- ainmeil 's neo-athnichte, agus chuir mi eòlas air iomadh deagh charaid cuideachd, le cur-seachadan coltach ris an fheadhainn agam fhèin.

Cha bhi mòran àiteachan ann far am faiceadh sibh speuradairean, reuladairean, luchd-saidheans, cleasaichean agus ùghdaran anns an aon seòmar, agus a bharrachd air sin, cothrom a bhith agad bruidhinn riutha aghaidh ri aghaidh. Tha aon chuimhne agam gu h-àraidh air an àm sin. Chunnaic mi mo mhac as sine, a bha deich bliadhna aig an àm, agus esan a' bruidhinn ris a' chleasaiche John de Lancie, am fear a chluich "Q" anns a' phrògram TBh *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Dh'fhaighnich mi dha às dèidh làimh cò mu dèidhinn a bha iad a' bruidhinn. Fhreachair mo mhac ann an guth dùrachdach, "Bha sinn a' beachdachadh air na leabhraichean as fheàrr leinn."

Cha do dh'fhaighnich mi dha a-riamh dè an leabhar a b' fheàrr le Mgr de Lancie -- tha rudan ann a bu chòir fuireach ann an dìomhaireachd -- ach bidh mi an-còmhnaidh taingeil gun do chuir e seachad ùine cuide ri balach beag a bha a' toirt mòr-spèis dha.

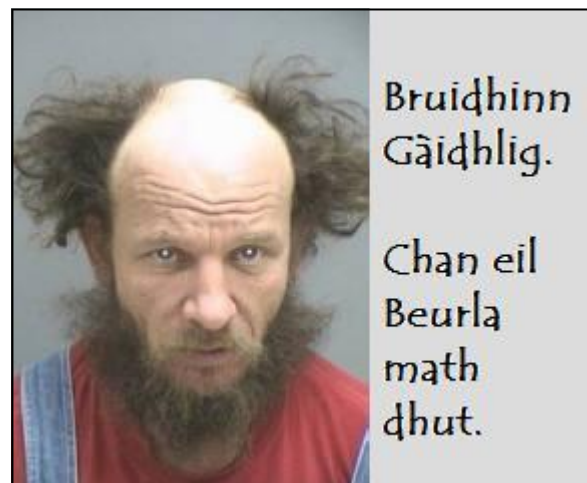
*Planet of the Apes*. And I was over the moon when *Star Trek* and *Doctor Who* appeared on TV!

But I didn't know very many other people who were interested in vampires, travelling to space and alternate realities, and so when I was older with young children, I would take them along with me when I would go to science fiction conventions.

Some of you think, I'm sure, that only lonely, friendless people would go to conventions and that sort of thing, but you'd be very wrong. My sons and I saw all kinds of interesting people -- famous and not so famous, and I got to know many good friends too, with interests similar to mine.

There aren't many places where you can see astronauts, astronomers, scientists, actors and authors in the same room, and on top of that, have an opportunity to speak with them personally. I have one particular memory of that time. I saw my oldest son, who was ten years old at the time, speaking with the actor John de Lancie, who played "Q" in the TV programme, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. I asked him afterwards what they were talking about. My son answered in an earnest voice, "We were discussing our favourite books."

I never asked my son what Mr. de Lancie's favourite book was -- some things should remain confidential -- but I was always grateful that he took the time to speak with a little boy who admired him.





There is probably no other food as quintessentially Scottish as shortbread. There are countless variations, but the following recipe is as simple and traditional as it gets. Shortbread keeps well for a few weeks in an air-tight container stored in a cool, dry place but we're betting it won't last long enough for you to discover that!

## Aran-Milis

dà chupa de dh'ìm aig teas an t-seòmair  
aon chupa de shiùcar geal  
ceithir cupan de mhin-fhlùir  
aon spàin-tì de dh'fhaoineag (mas toil leat)

Buail an t-ìm ann am bobhla mòr le spàin-fhiodha. Beag air bheag, buail an siùcar ris an ìm. Buail an fhaoineag ris an uair sin, mas toil leat. Cuir ann a' mhin-fhlùir gu slaodach, ga measgachadh gu math ris an ìm 's an t-siùcar.

Sin an taois sin ann am pana 15½ x 10½ òirlich a tha air a chrèiseachadh (no ann am pana arain-milis). Briog bàrr na taoise gu lèir le forc. Bruich e ann an àmhainn aig 325 F fad 35–40 mionaidean no gus am bi e òr-dhonn.

Leig leis fuarachadh anns a' phana fad deich mionaidean mus tionndaidh thu a-mach e air bòrd. Gearr e ann am piosan nuair a bhios e fhathast blàth.

## Shortbread

2 cups of butter at room temperature  
1 cup of white sugar  
4 cups all-purpose flour  
1 tsp. vanilla (optional)



Rudy Ramsey

In a large bowl, cream butter with a wooden spoon. Gradually beat in the sugar. Beat in the vanilla if using. Gradually stir in the flour and mix well.

Press dough evenly into a greased 15½ x 10½ inch pan (or a shortbread pan). Prick the entire surface with a fork. Bake at 325 degrees F for 35–40 minutes, or until lightly browned.

Cool on a rack in the pan for about 10 minutes before removing the shortbread from the pan, using a sharp knife to loosen the edges and turning onto a wooden cutting board. Cut into fingers or pieces while still warm.



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!

### ACGA Announces Youth Membership

The most important issue in keeping any minority language alive is the attraction of young people, be they children, high-school or college students, or other young adults. We often see that young folks who start learning Gaelic find it very rewarding. And it can serve as a gateway into other activities that they also enjoy, such as Celtic music, singing, dancing, Highland games, or learning about Celtic history and culture. ACGA is the principal North American organization supporting Scottish Gaelic and Gaelic culture, and we want to do everything we can to make Gaelic accessible to young people.

So we've established a new dues rate of \$15/year for members aged 25 or younger. This dues payment entitles the eligible member to all membership benefits, including the newsletter, forum, bìdeags (our emailed tips and notices), participation in events, etc.

If you know of anyone under 25 who might be interested in this, please let them know. Or you could even give them a membership as a gift. 😊

For more information, go to <http://www.acgamerica.org/join/membership/>.

## Dè Do Naidheachd?

by Jeanne Pendergast, Anne Landin, and Cam MacRae

In these stories we all explored the same theme: someone finds something valuable that belongs to someone else. We also each use the three bolded words in our stories.

*Jeanne:*

Seall a' chailleach seo anns a' chathair-chuibhle; tha i an còmhnaidh **ag ath-aithris** an aon sgeul.

“An rud as priseile dhomh fon ghrèin, 's e dealbh sònraichte. Chaidh e air chall agus cha robh dùil agam gum faicinn a-rithist e gu **Latha Luain**. Cha robh fiosrachadh air ach, air a' chùlaibh, an dà ainm, Alastair agus Màiribel, sgriobhte mar chridhe.

“Sin an aon dealbh a bh' agam a' sealltainn an duine agam, agus thog am ministear e nuair a phòs sinn. Cha robh ann ach an triùir againn--'s truagh sin, ach bha an dà theaghlach fada an aghaidh a' phòsaidh. **Mhaoidh** iad gun cuireadh iad stad oirnn ach theich sinn.

“A dh'aindeoin sin, bha mi fhìn agus Alastair cho toilichte 's a ghabhas còmhla gus an robh aige ri dhol dhan arm aig àm a' Chogaidh Mhòir. Cha do thill e; cha do phòs mi a-rithist nam bheatha.

“Obh, obh; tha an t-àm a' ruith oirnn. An ath thuras a thig thu air chèlidh orm innsidh mi dhut ciamar a chaidh an dealbh air chall agus mar a fhuair am fear a lorg e grèim ormsa, air an aon tè san t-saoghal a bha ga ionndrainn cho mòr.”

### *Glossary:*

**ath-aithris** – re-tell, repeat, echo, reiterate (a slightly different form of our required word with a difference in the connotation)

**Latha Luain** – never, referring to the future only (it means a day lit only by the moon, i.e., that would never come; Nevermas)

gun cuireadh iad stad oirnn – that they would stop us (conditional tense)

cho toilichte 's a ghabhas – as happy as could be

gus an robh aige ri dhol – until he had to go

a bha ga ionndrainn – who was missing it (*an dealbh*)

*Anne:*

Bha mi air bhioran, agus cha robh sgeul air Catriona fhathast. Ca' robh i? Ceumnachadh gu mì-fhoighidneach, cha mhòr nach do chaill mi a' phiseag bheag bhìodach sna preasan. Bha i air chrith le eagal agus acras, mar gun robh an saoghal air fad a' **maoidheadh** oirre.

Thog mi am meanbh-isean. “A thruaghain bhig,” rinn mi dùrdail. Dìreach an uairsin, a-nall thàinig Catriona, cho slaodach ri **Là Luain!** “O, an e sin do dhinnear?” dh'fhaighnich i, a' dèanamh gàire. “Na bi **ag atharrais** orm,” thuirt mi dhi. “Tha fios agad gu bheil mi gu math measail air cait. Tha an tè bheag seo a' dol dhachaigh còmhla rium.”

*Glossary:*

air bhioran – on tenterhooks, nervous, anxious (*bioran* – any small sharp-pointed thing)  
cha robh sgeul air – there was no sign of  
cha mhò nach do chaill mi – I almost missed (almost didn't see)  
beag bìodach – little tiny  
air fad – all, the whole, completely (*an saoghal air fad* – the whole world)  
**a' maoidheadh** – threatening, menacing, bullying (use with preposition *air*)  
meanbh-isean – small baby animal; *isean* – baby chick, young bird, baby (usually an animal but sometimes used affectionately for humans)  
rinn mi dùrdail – cooed, purred, made comforting noises  
a' dèanamh gàire – laughing  
**ag atharrais** – copying, mimicking, imitating (making fun of by mimicking)

*Cam:*

Ann an dorchadas chual' e iad, a' gàireachdainn. Bha cuideigin **ag atharrais** air, a-rithist. Bhon chiad latha, bha strì air a bhith ann eadar e fhèin 's càch air sgàth na cainnt' aige. Ged a bha athair à Trondheim, rugadh 's thogadh e fhèin ann an Leòdhas agus labhradh e le blas muinntir a mhàthar. Fhad 's a bha blas Gàidhlig air, cha robh e na fhìor Lochlannach nam beachd-san. Cha do **mhaoidh** iad air a-riamh, ach dhèanadh iad fanaid air gun stad.

Uill, shaoil e, chì sinn dè thachras a-màireach nuair a laigheas sinn anns a' chamas agam fhìn airson uisge a tharraing. Ma shireas iad gu **Latha Luain**, cha lorg iad mise, no na dèideagan brèagha, dearga is geala, a bha an neach malairt a' toirt gu Dyflin. Nach mise a bhios beartach an dèidh dhomh an reic!

Agus le sin, thuit e na chadal ri taobh na ciste bige priseile a bheireadh e gu tìr anns a' mhadainn.

*Glossary:*

air sgàth na cainnt' aige – because of his speech (*air sgàth* takes the genitive since it is a compound preposition with a noun in the second position)  
labhradh – conditional form of verb *labhair*, *labhairt* – deliver a speech, also speak, express yourself  
dèan fanaid air – deride  
Dyflin – the Norse name for Dublin  
ri taobh na ciste bige priseile – beside the small precious chest [I have used the traditional form for adjectives following a feminine noun in the genitive. Today, this form is often replaced in speech (and even in writing) with that used for adjectives following a masculine genitive noun, which results in *ri taobh na ciste bhig phriseil*.]  
an dèidh dhomh an reic – after I sell them (an inverted nominal where the possessive pronoun *an* is the object of *reic*)



Lewis Chessmen

Caleb Wilson

# Cha Bu Mhiste Sinn Leabhar Na Tri

le Cam MacRae

## Manga? Superman? Pokemon?

A bheil sibh measail air nobhailean grafaigeach? Nuair a thòisich leabhraichean grafaigeach a' nochdadh air sgeilpichean an leabharlainn anns an robh mi ag obair mu dheich bliadhna air ais, cha robh ùidh agam annta idir. Uill, bha mi air *Maus* a leughadh, gu cinnteach, ach bha an còrr airson na cloinne, nach robh? O, bha gu dearbh, ach feumaidh mi aideachadh gun do leugh mi *Asterix the Gaul*, cuideachd. Abair dòigh eachdraidh ionnsachadh!

Tro na bliadhnaichean mheudaich an uiread is an caochladh de leabhraichean grafaigeach againn, agus mhothaich mi gun robh an dà chuid inbhich agus clann gan leughadh. Sna làithean seo tha an roghainn gu math farsaing, bho Star Wars, gu manga, bho sgeulachdan traidiseanta gu neo-fhicsean. Agus Shakespeare. Agus Robert Louis Stevenson. Chithear dealbhan simplidh annta agus dealbhan iom-fhillte, dealbhan dubh is geal agus dealbhan làn-dhathte. Dh'innis leabharlannaiche dhomh o chionn ghoirid gu bheil iomadh tidsear measail air na leabhraichean seo air sgàth 's gu bheil e math cruthan diofraichte a bhith ann airson leughadairean eadar-dhealaichte. Agus mar a tha fhios againn: Tha leughadh bunaiteach.

“Carson,” tha sibh a' faighneachd a-nis, “carson a tha am boireannach seo a-mach air leabhraichean grafaigeach?” Uill, 's e nobhail grafaigeach a bh' anns a' chiad leabhar Gàidhlig a cheannaich mi a-riamh. Cha robh mòran leabhraichean Gàidhlig anns a' bhùth ud, agus cha robh mo chuid Gàidhlig cho math nas motha. Nuair a dh'aithnich mi *Asterix an Ceilteach* air an sgeilp, cha b' e ruith ach leum. Air fhoillseachadh le Taigh nan Teud ann an 1989 còmhla ris na dealbhan tùsail air an dèanamh le Albert Uderzo, bha e air eadar-theangachadh le Peadar Morgan. Leis gu bheil an teacsa simplidh agus na dealbhan soilleir agus èibhinn, 'b e deagh roghainn a bh' innte airson neach-tòiseachaidh.

Bho àm gu àm tro na bliadhnaichean tha mi air nobhailean grafaigeach Gàidhlig eile a cheannach. Tha *Fo Bhruid* (2007) agus *Gnothach Annasach an Dr Jeckyll is Mhgr Hyde* (2008) bho Waverley Books stèidhichte air na

## Manga? Superman? Pokemon?

Are you a fan of graphic novels? When graphic books began to appear on the shelves of the library where I worked about ten years ago, I wasn't too interested in them. Well, I had read *Maus* of course, but the others were for children, weren't they? Sure, but I must admit that I read *Asterix the Gaul* too. What a way to learn history!

Through the years the number and variety of graphic books increased, and I noticed that both adults and children were reading them. These days the choice is quite broad, from Star Wars to manga, from traditional tales to non-fiction. And Shakespeare. And Robert Louis Stevenson. You'll see simple drawings and complex, black and white and full-color. A librarian friend told me the other day that teachers like these books because the different formats appeal to different readers, and as we all know: Reading is Fundamental.

“Why,” you are asking yourself now, “is this woman going on about graphic books?” Well, the first Gaelic book I ever bought was a graphic novel. There weren't many Gaelic books in the store, and my Gaelic wasn't that good anyway. Therefore, when I recognized *Asterix an Ceilteach*, the choice was easy. Published in 1989 by Taigh nan Teud, this translation by Peadar Morgan includes all the familiar original drawings of Albert Uderzo. The simple text and entertaining drawings made it good choice for a beginner.

Through the years I have bought more Gaelic graphic novels. *Fo Bhruid* (2007) and *Gnothach Annasach an Dr Jeckyll is Mhgr Hyde* (2008) from Waverley Books are based on the Robert Louis Stevenson



leabhraichean le Robert Louis Stevenson. Chaidh an eadar-theangachadh le Iain MacDhòmhnail bhò na nobhailean grafaigeach aig Waverley le Alan Grant. Tha na dealbhan le Cam Kennedy, dealbhadair aig a bheil mòrchliù ann an saoghal nan nobhailean grafaigeach.

Mar a bha e le *Asterix, Fo Bhruid*, agus *Dr Jeckyll is Mhgr Hyde*, bha mi eòlach mu thràth air na sgeulachdan ann an *An Tàillear 's an Taibhse agus An Suiridhe Sìth*, a bha air fhoillseachadh le Trueman Matheson (Siol Cultural Enterprises) ann an 2011. 'S e mith-sgeòil Ghàidhlig gu math aithnichte a th' annta, ach is iad na dealbhan dubh is geal a rinn Aonghas MacLeòid a thogas an leabhar seo os cionn a' chòrr. Tha na stòiridhean fhèin goirid ach bidh na dealbhan a' mairsinn nur n-intinn fad ùine mhòr.

Feumaidh mi ràdh gur e an leabhar as ùire anns a' chruinneachadh seo an leabhar as fheàrr leum: *Cuir Stad air an Stoirm Shneachda*, air fhoillseachadh ann an 2012 le Dualchas na Cloinne. Ged a bha e air thoirt am follais ann an Alba le sgioba Albannach, thàinig an sgeul fhèin o thùs bhò na Chukchi, daoine bhò cheann an ear-thuath Shiberia. Rinn Gillebrìde MacIlleMhaoil an t-eadar-theangachadh bhò stòiridh a sgrìobh Leaslaidh NicCoinnich, stèidhichte air an rannsachadh aig fear Waldemar Bogaras am measg muinntir Chukchi tràth san fhichead-amh linn. Tha an sgeul làn sneachda, dhraoidhean, fhuamhairean agus tuilleadh sneachda. A bharrachd air sin, tha na dealbhan le Shona Shirley Macdonald beartach is àlainn. Geal, donn, dubh, le criomagan de ghorm is de dhearg, tha iad cho cudromach 's a tha na faclan.

Cruinneachadh inntinneach ann an da-rìribh, agus tha rudeigin ann airson a h-uile duine, ach sin e, tha mi duilich a ràdh. Cho fad 's a tha fhios 'am, chan eil nobhail grafaigeach eile ann sa Ghàidhlig. 'S truagh sin, dhòmhsa co-dhiù. Tha mi cinnteach gu bheil leughadair-ean ann, deugairean agus inbhich, a tha a' lorg leabhraichean goirid, dealbhaichte, dibhearsaineach.

classics. Both were translated by Ian MacDonald from Waverley's English-language graphic novels by Alan Grant. The full-color illustrations were done by Cam Kennedy, a well-known illustrator of graphic novels.

As with *Asterix, Fo Bhruid*, and *Dr Jeckyll agus Mhgr Hyde*, I was already familiar with the stories in *An Tàillear 's an Taibhse agus An Suiridhe Sìth*, published by Trueman Matheson's Siol Cultural Enterprises in 2011. These are well-known traditional Gaelic tales, but it's the black and white drawings by Angus MacLeod that make this book stand out. The stories themselves are short, but the illustrations will stay with you for a long time.

I have to say that the newest book in my collection is also my favorite: *Cuir Stad air an Stoirm Shneachda*, published by Dualchas na Cloinne in 2012. Although it was produced in Scotland by a group of Scots, the story belongs to the Chukchi, an indigenous people of north-east Siberia. Gillebrìde MacMillan did the translation from a story written by Leslie MacKenzie based on the research of Waldemar Bogaras among the Chukchi in the early twentieth century. The story is filled with snow, druids, and giants, and more snow, and the pictures by Shona Shirley Macdonald are rich and beautiful. White, brown, and black, with touches of blue and red, they are as important to the story as are the words.

It's an interesting collection for sure, with something for everyone, but that's it, I'm sorry to say. As far as I know, there are no other graphic novels in Gaelic. That's too bad. I'm sure there are readers out there, teenagers and adults, looking for short entertaining illustrated books.

*In our next issue: Who is publishing Gaelic books?*



Given that each of the major smartphone platforms now boasts hundreds of thousands of software packages (“apps”) to accomplish almost every conceivable function, it was only a matter of time before we started to notice apps about Gaelic. So we decided to start a series of short reviews of these, and this is the third (see Fall 2012 issue for a review of Learnbots, Winter 2012 for uTalk). Rudy Ramsey has written the first three, but reviews by others, and for other mobile platforms, are most welcome.



Selectsoft

## Gàidhlig on the Go – Scottish Gaelic Immersion HD (iPad)

Review by Rudy Ramsey

Life is good! 😊 Just as I was starting to wonder if I would find any more really interesting Scots Gaelic apps for iOS, I ran across this refreshing example. Scottish Gaelic Immersion HD is specifically for the iPad. It’s fun, useful, and costs only \$3.99.

SGI allows you to look at a number of illustrations. The most interesting are common places (see photo), such as Cityscape, Classroom, and four more. Other illustrations deal with nine categories of everyday language (animals, clothing, etc.) and with family relationships. Each of these illustrations contains embedded labels in Gaelic that can be made visible by touching the object. The objects may be as big as a building or as small as a pepper shaker. If you have the feature turned on, you can also hear well-pronounced audio of the Gaelic word (or the English word, if that’s somehow helpful to you 😊).

There are four modes of use for these illustrations. You can simply poke around, touching objects to see if they have labels and seeing and hearing the Gaelic. Or you can have SGI cycle through all the labels in the current illustration at random, to teach you the vocabulary and show you the whole set of objects that are labeled. Or you can use the game mode, in which SGI displays

(and pronounces) the Gaelic name of an object and you have to find and touch it. Or there’s a dialogue mode, in which whole conversations are displayed and spoken.

The app is said to teach some 700 words, and is clearly suitable for advanced beginners through advanced intermediates, as well as learners like me who are advanced but vocabulary-challenged. It’s made by SelectSoft ([www.selectsoft.com](http://www.selectsoft.com)), a company that produces an amazing variety of apps for several mobile platforms, PCs, Macs, and more. They offer three different lines of language apps, historical tours of Paris, Yoga, Worm Dissection, ... well, perhaps you’re getting the idea. 😊 And their products include Scottish Gaelic apps for the Windows Phone and Android.



Tha Muinntir na h-Albann Nuaidh' a' caoineadh call dithisd Sheanchaidhean gasda na Gàidhlig  
Nova Scotia Gaelic Community mourns the loss of two fine Gaelic Tradition Bearers

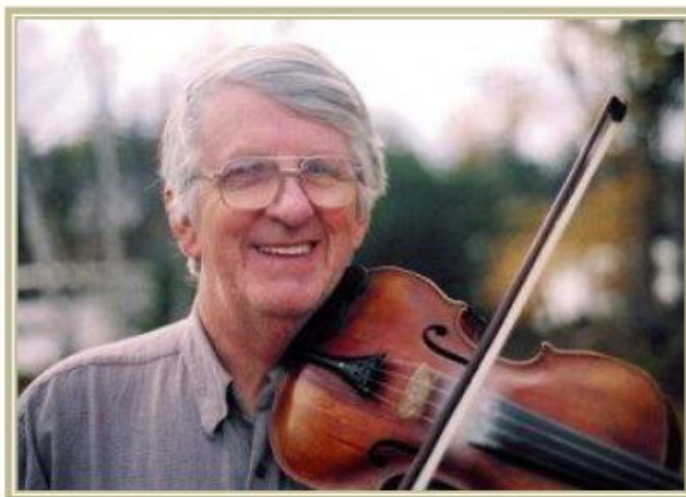
### **Peter J. MacLean**

*Peadar Jack Pheadair mac Caluim Ghobha*  
Rear Christmas Island, Cape Breton County



### **Joe Peter MacLean**

*Eòs Peadair mac Theàrlaich 'ic Eòis*  
Boisdale, Cape Breton County



Tha oifis Iomairtean na Gàidhlig duilich an naidheachd 'fhoillseachadh gun do chaochail dithisd dhaoin' uasal comasach air a' 11d là dhen Fhaoilleach, 2013. Bidh Coimhearsnachd na Gàidhlig 'gan ionndrainn gu mòr oir chaith iad am beatha a' roinn an eòlais a bh' ac' air a' Ghàidhlig agus nan tàlant an le duine sam bith a ghabh ùidh. Bha e gu math soilleir aig na fairidhean agus na tòraidhean an t-seachdain seo, aig Peadar J. ann an Eilean na Nollaig agus aig Eòs P. ann a' Baghasdal, am meas agus am miadh mòr a bh' aig an sluagh orra.

Gaelic Affairs regrets to advise that on January 11, 2013 two wonderfully gifted gentlemen passed away. They will be greatly missed by the Gaelic Community for their lives were spent sharing their Gaelic knowledge and talent with anyone who showed interest. The admiration held for these two gentlemen was clearly obvious at the wakes and funerals which were held this week – Peter Jack's in Christmas Island and Joe Peter's in Boisdale.

You are welcome to visit the following web-links to see and hear some samples of their valuable contributions to Gaelic language and culture.

<http://www.cainntmomhathar.com/>

<http://www.mustrad.org.uk/articles/jpml.htm>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYxSJUGm3Ww>

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_J1qvZSgI\\_o](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_J1qvZSgI_o)

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## A Bharrachd

### Looking for a Gaelic graphic novel?

Check your local library. It's amazing what you can get through inter-library loan. The Partick branch of the Glasgow Library and Leabharlann nan Eilean Siar (Stornoway) both have *Asterix* and *Fo Bhruid*. If that doesn't work, try your favorite bookseller. Unfortunately *Asterix* is out of print, but the others are all available from their publishers or through Comhairle nan Leabhraichean.

*Asterix an Ceilteach*, Taigh nan Teud, 1989 (out of print)

*Cuir Stad air an Stoirm Shneachda*, Dualchas na Cloinne, 2012

*Fo Bhruid*, Waverley Books, 2007

*Gnothach Annasach an Dr Jekyll is Mhgr Hyde*, Waverley Books, 2008

*An Tàillear 's an Taibhse agus An Suiridhe Sìth*, Siol Cultural Enterprises, 2011

For more on the Gaelic graphic novel editions of *Fo Bhruid* and *Gnothach Annasach an Dr. Jeckyll is Mhgr. Hyde*, see the review Heather Sparling wrote for "An Naidheachd Againne" shortly after these two books were published. Heather's review is in the winter-spring 2008-2009 issue (vol. XXV, no. 4). You'll also find a review of *An Tàillear 's an Taibhse agus An Suiridhe Sìth* in our spring 2011 issue (vol. 27, no. 4). These and other back issues of ANA are available on the ACGA Forum.

If you're already a member of the forum, click here <http://forum.acgamerica.org/>, and after you log in, go to the "members only" section of "Members' Room" and look in the "An Naidheachd Againne" thread.

If you haven't signed up on the forum yet, click here <http://forum.acgamerica.org/> and go to the "Public Room." Click on the thread called "About ACGA and These Forums (START HERE)," and read "Welcome to the ACGA Forums."

### Have a piece of shortbread

As we worked on the bilingual recipe in this issue, we realized rather quickly that we weren't sure how to translate "shortbread" into Gaelic. A search of dictionaries on-line produced half a dozen or so choices. *Aran goirid*? Probably not, and we also eliminated *bruan*, *sruan*, *sruthan*, and *spruan* when Google didn't produce evidence that any of these terms are actually used for this traditional buttery and sweet delight.

Left with a choice between *aran-milis* and *aran-cridhe*, we turned next to some of our friends with Gaelic *bhon ghluìn*. From Barra and Uist we heard that *aran-cridhe* usually refers to gingerbread, and this is corroborated in the title of a children's book published by Acair in 2011: *Maisy Luch a' Dèanamh Aran-Cridhe*. The original English title of this book by Lucy Cousins about a mouse who makes herself an afternoon snack is *Maisy Makes Gingerbread*. To confuse matters, however, we also noticed that the bilingual cookbook, *Às an Abhainn Mhóir: English-Gaelic Recipes from Pictou County* (Nova Scotia) includes a recipe for gingerbread, *aran-cri*, and another for shortbread, *aran-cridhe*.

And so we settled on *aran-milis*, partly through a process of elimination and partly because, in the end, that was the recommendation of our favorite Gaelic editor. Finding the right translation isn't always easy, although perhaps to be fair, we should give the last word to a friend from Skye: *Cha robh againn riamh ach 'shortbread' air*.



# Criomagan

## New On-line Dictionary

In mid-February Bòrd na Gàidhlig launched a new on-line dictionary, *Faclair Rianachd Phoblaich* (Dictionary for Public Administration), expanding on *Faclair na Pàrlamaid* published in 2001. Funded by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, *Faclair Rianachd Phoblaich* was compiled by The European Initiative, who also produced *Faclair na Pàrlamaid*, the Gaelic spell-checker “An Dearbhair,” and the Gaelic thesaurus *Co-fhaclair Gàidhlig*.

*Faclair Rianachd Phoblaich* includes both Gaelic to English and English to Gaelic sections and can be searched on-line or downloaded as a .pdf. For more information go to the homepage of Bòrd na Gàidhlig at <http://www.gaidhlig.org.uk> or click here to access the dictionary directly <http://www.gaidhlig.org.uk/bord/en/our-work/dictionary-for-public-administration.php>.

## New From Acair

*Fonn: the Campbells of Greepe*. Music and a Sense of Place in a Gaelic Family Song Tradition. 316 pages, bilingual English and Gaelic.



In this book the rich cultural heritage of Gaelic Scotland is revealed through the memories of one family – The Campbells of Greepe. From one of the best known names in Gaelic Music, the story of The Campbells of Greepe is synonymous with the way in which the cultural legacy of a community can be safeguarded, while a new generation of performers is nurtured at the same time. This book combines the memories of The Campbells of Greepe with traditional Gaelic songs and music – on paper and on a CD of rare recordings of older family members, including some recordings from the School of Scottish Studies.

## The On-Line Faces of ACGA

Like most organizations in the modern world, ACGA has several on-line faces, including more than one website, a Facebook page, a conversational forum, a YouTube page, and even a Twitter account.

Our main website, [www.acgamerica.org](http://www.acgamerica.org), includes a blog for announcements, tips, articles, etc. It also contains an archive of newsletters, detailed information about our major events, information about ACGA and how to join, learning resources, and more.

Our forum site, [forum.acgamerica.org](http://forum.acgamerica.org), is collection of conversational forums, some public, some for members only, and some for ACGA's internal organizational functions.

Our Facebook page (click [here](#) or search for “American Scottish Gaelic Society” on Facebook) is a public face of ACGA. Because this page is integrated into a social network, it has a very different feel from our website, and likely attracts a different crowd.

We don't have very much video content on our ACGAmerica [YouTube channel](#) yet (we're looking for more), but what we do have is interesting and ACGA-relevant.

Our Twitter account ([ACGAgaelic](#)) is presently used for ACGA announcements only, in Gaelic.

One of our events has its own website, too. The [ACGA Mòd](#) website contains a lot of information about past, present, and future Mòds.



## Catriona Parsons to Adjudicate 26<sup>th</sup> U.S. Mòd Sept. 20–22

— ACGA Mòd Committee

Plans are well under way for the 26<sup>th</sup> annual U.S. National Mòd, which will be held this Sept. 20-22 in Ligonier, PA, at the Ligonier Highland Games. Registration for the annual ACGA event, which costs \$15, is already open on the ACGA website – <http://payments.acgamerica.org>. Registrants will receive access to Mòd materials, including prescribed songs and materials for the mail-in or Distance Learning Competition, in the password-protected area of the U.S. Mòd Website, <http://usmod.wordpress.com>.

“We’re making an effort to get materials out to potential competitors earlier in the year so everyone has a chance to really work on and master their songs and take part in the mail-in competition,” said Liam Ó Caiside, publicity director. “The mail-in competition is a great way to test your Gaelic skills.”

Gaelic educator and U.S. Mòd co-founder Catriona NicÌomhair Parsons of Lewis and Nova Scotia will return to adjudicate the 26<sup>th</sup> annual U.S. National Mòd this year. This will be her 10<sup>th</sup> time as adjudicator at the Mòd. “We’re delighted to have Catriona back,” said Ó Caiside. “Catriona co-founded our Mòd along with Donald F. MacDonald and she adjudicated the first six U.S. Mòds. She was our special guest in 2007 for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary Mòd and it’s our pleasure to welcome her home.”

The U.S. Mòd will be held in conjunction with the Ligonier Highland Games, which have hosted the

event since 1994. Both gold medalists from last year’s Scottish Royal National Mòd are expected to attend this year’s competition in Pennsylvania.

Lodging will be available at the Antiochian Village, about seven

miles from downtown Ligonier. The retreat center is our “base” for the Mòd weekend.

Registrants will receive updates on the Mòd via e-mail and news will be posted regularly on the Mòd website. Poetry and storytelling competitions will launch the event Friday, Sept. 20, followed by a day of song competitions at the Highland Games Saturday, Sept. 21. A dinner and cèilidh at the Ligonier Tavern follow the competitions, and a Gaelic work-shop rounds out the weekend Sunday, Sept. 22.

“Although the Mòd is focused on a series of competitions, it is truly a celebration of Gaelic culture and what I think of as Gaelic language arts – poetry, storytelling and of course conversation,” said Ó Caiside. “We hope many Gaelic learners and speakers will join us this year in Ligonier.”

For more information on the Mòd, contact Liam Ó Caiside at [willbcassidy@gmail.com](mailto:willbcassidy@gmail.com).



2012 Women’s Gold Medal Winners, Erin Park and Anne Alexander

US Mòd Committee

### Gaelic Song, Music at May 11 Mòd Fundraising Concert

A special fundraising concert of Gaelic song and Celtic music will be held May 11 to benefit the 26<sup>th</sup> annual U.S. National Mòd. The Saturday night concert will feature gold medal-winning Gaelic singers from the U.S. National Mòd as well as an array of talented musicians and possibly Highland dancers.

The Mòd, the oldest annual event organized by ACGA, raises much of its annual budget through fundraising and donations. The first fundraising concert, held last March, helped bring Gaelic broadcaster Coinneach MacÌomhair of BBC Radio nan Gaidheal to the Mòd in Ligonier in 2012.

Performers at this year’s concert will include gold medal winners Erin Park, Anne Alexander and Michael Mackay, as well as musicians Ed Bradshaw and Liam Cassidy of “Na Maragan,” Anne Alexander and Mickey Hurray of “The Miceys” and Peter Walker of “The Devil’s Tailors.” The event may feature performances by Highland dancers and other entertainers as well.

The concert will be held at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria, VA, 22307, starting time TBA.

For more information, contact Mòd publicity director Liam Ó Caiside at [willbcassidy@gmail.com](mailto:willbcassidy@gmail.com).

# Dè Tha Dol? Gaelic Events

## April 2013

### **Sabhal Mòr Ostaig Gaelic Song Course, April 1 - 5, 2013, Isle of Skye, Scotland**

Instructor: Christine Primrose

In this 5-day residential course in Gaelic Song, students will be introduced to some basic Gaelic grammar together with grammatical construction of sentences. The course will also cover Gaelic pronunciation as well as the historical and social contexts of the songs.

<http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/en/cursaichean/cursaichean-goirid/orain-ghaidhlig-01-04-2013>

### **Cànan agus Òran, Gaelic Language and Song Day, Saturday, April 13, 2013, Toronto ON**

Guest instructors: Cathy Ann MacPhee (native speaker), Oighrig Keogh (native speaker) and David Livingston-Lowe (Gaelic educator).

The day of language classes and a song workshop will run from 9 am to 4 pm at Alumni Hall, 121 St. Joseph Street (Saint Michael's College, University of Toronto). Classes will be offered at the Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced levels. Should there be enough interest, a Beginner II (between Beginner and Intermediate) session will also be offered. The cost for the day is \$40; students, \$20; U of T students and native Gaelic speakers, free. Registrations, including cheque or money order, received two weeks in advance (March 28, 2013) pay \$27, non-U of T students \$15.

For more information email [ruadh@idirect.com](mailto:ruadh@idirect.com)

### **ACGA Immersion Weekend, April 19 - 21, 2013, Phoenix AZ**

Instructors include Michael Mackay, Scott Morrison and native Gaelic speaker Muriel Fisher. More information will be posted on the Arizona Gaelic Weekend Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/346318745424901/?fref=ts> and <http://www.acgamerica.org>

### **Gaelic College of Arts and Crafts, Spring Gaelic Weekend, April 26 - 28, 2013, Cape Breton NS**

See <http://www.gaeliccollege.edu/school/gaelic-weekends/general-information.html>

## May 2013

### **US Mòd Fundraising Concert, Saturday, May 11, 2013, Alexandria VA**

The concert will be held at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria, VA, 22307, starting time TBA.

For more information see information elsewhere in this issue, or contact Mòd publicity director Liam Ó Caiside at [willbcassidy@gmail.com](mailto:willbcassidy@gmail.com).

### **North American Association for Celtic Language Teachers (NAACL T), May 29 - June 1, 2012, Ottawa ON**

“Additive Bilingualism: Beyond 1+1”

The conference will be held at the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute, University of Ottawa. NAACL T includes but is not limited to academic professionals. People involved in Celtic language learning and teaching from every walk of life are invited to participate. Abstract deadline is April 1, 2013. Information about accommodations and conference registration will be available on the NAACL T web site <http://www.naaclt.org>. NAACL T offers a \$100 scholarship for financial assistance to partially offset the cost of attending the conference. If you are interested in presenting a paper and would benefit from this modest scholarship, please email [treasurer@naaclt.org](mailto:treasurer@naaclt.org) when you register for the conference.

## **July 2013**

### **The History of Scottish Gaels in Scotland, July 2 - 22, 2013, StFX University, Antigonish NS**

Instructor: Dr. Michael Newton

The History of Scottish Gaels in Scotland (CELT 331) is a 3-credit survey of the history of Gaelic Scotland from earliest times to 1800, including the main social, religious, and intellectual institutions of Gaelic Scotland and some of the achievements of Scottish Gaels.

For more information including tuition costs, please email Michael Newton [mnewton@stfx.ca](mailto:mnewton@stfx.ca)

### **Gaelic College of Arts and Crafts, July one-week sessions, Cape Breton NS**

Seisean nan Òigridh 1 / Youth Session 1 - July 8 - 12, 2013

Seisean nan Òigridh 2 / Youth Session 2 - July 15 - 19, 2013

Na Teaghlaichean / Family Session - July 22 - 26, 2013

See <http://www.gaeliccollege.edu/school/summer-school/summer-school-2013.html>

### **Grandfather Mountain Song and Language Week, July 7 - 12, 2013,**

#### **Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk NC**

The week consists of song and language classes at graduated levels, with special-interest workshops in the afternoons and an evening ceilidh. Guest instructors from Scotland are singer/piper James Graham

<http://www.jamesgraham.net/biographyeng.html> and singer / broadcaster Kirsteen MacDonald

[http://www.musicinscotland.com/acatalog/MP3\\_Kirsteen\\_MacDonald\\_CDs.html](http://www.musicinscotland.com/acatalog/MP3_Kirsteen_MacDonald_CDs.html). Popular Gaelic instructor

Dr. Jamie MacDonald returns as well. For more information see <http://www.acgamerica.org>.

### **North Carolina Gaelic Mòd, Saturday, July 13, 2013,**

#### **Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Linville NC**

The Mòd will start at 3:00 pm on Stage Number Three behind Donald's Gaelic Ceilidh Tent. Registration forms may be picked up at the ceilidh tent at any time during the Games until 1:00 pm on Saturday. See <http://www.gmhg.org/gaelicmod.htm> for more information.

### **Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Various Gaelic Courses, Isle of Skye, Scotland**

Please see the description for each course at the link below. In 2013, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig will be marking its 40th year as a college, and there will be many special events taking place. Various levels of Gaelic language will be offered, as well as Gaelic song and culture courses.

<http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/en/cursaichean-goirid/samhradh-2013>

## **August 2013**

### **Gaelic College of Arts and Crafts, August one-week sessions, Cape Breton NS**

Seisean nan Inbheach 1 / Adult Session 1 - August 5 - 9, 2013

Seisean nan Inbheach 1 / Adult Session 2 - August 12 - 16, 2013

See <http://www.gaeliccollege.edu/school/summer-school/summer-school-2013.html>

## **September 2013**

### **U.S. National Mòd, Friday, September 20 - Sunday, September 22, 2013, Ligonier PA**

Adjudicator: Catriona Parsons. More information will be posted here <http://usmod.wordpress.com> as it becomes available.



# Directory of Gaelic Classes & Study Groups

## Arizona

### Flagstaff

Study Group  
Richard Ferguson  
[fergusdubh@yahoo.com](mailto:fergusdubh@yahoo.com)

## Phoenix

Classes  
Richard Smith  
[coindubh@yahoo.com](mailto:coindubh@yahoo.com)

## Tucson

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

## California

### Sacramento Area

Classes  
Donnie MacDonald  
[minchmusic@comcast.net](mailto:minchmusic@comcast.net)

### North Hollywood

Study Group  
Eva Gordon  
[celt@celticartscenter.com](mailto:celt@celticartscenter.com)

## Colorado

### Boulder

Study Group  
Sue Hendrix  
[susan.hendrix@colorado.edu](mailto:susan.hendrix@colorado.edu)

### Denver

Lessons  
Glenn Wrightson  
[thegaelicguy@hotmail.com](mailto:thegaelicguy@hotmail.com)

### Denver

Study Group  
Reese McKay  
[reese-mckay@q.com](mailto:reese-mckay@q.com)

## Florida

### Jensen Beach

Treasure Coast Scots-Gaelic  
Study Group  
[gerhardherm@yahoo.com](mailto:gerhardherm@yahoo.com)

## Illinois

### Springfield

Study Group  
Bill McClain  
[fidheall@yahoo.com](mailto:fidheall@yahoo.com)

## Maryland

### Chevy Chase

Song Group  
Joan Weiss  
[sweiss@american.edu](mailto:sweiss@american.edu)

## Massachusetts

### Sandwich

Classes—Thomas Leigh  
[www.mermaid-productions.com](http://www.mermaid-productions.com)

Song Classes—Maggie Carchrie

[www.mermaid-productions.com](http://www.mermaid-productions.com)

## New York

### New York

Classes  
New York Caledonian Club  
[www.nycaledonian.org/studies.php](http://www.nycaledonian.org/studies.php)

### Newfield / Ithaca

Conversation groups  
Wayne Harbert  
[weh2@cornell.edu](mailto:weh2@cornell.edu)

## North Carolina

### Asheville

Study Group  
Leigh McBride  
[lmcbride@unca.edu](mailto:lmcbride@unca.edu)

### Guilford

Classes (advanced beginner)  
An Phillips  
[fiongeal@gmail.com](mailto:fiongeal@gmail.com)

## Ohio

### Cincinnati

Study Group  
Andrew MacAoidh Jergens  
[macaoidh@eos.net](mailto:macaoidh@eos.net)

## Kent

Classes  
Frances Acar  
Classes by Skype  
[frances.acar@gmail.com](mailto:frances.acar@gmail.com)

## Oklahoma

### Midwest City

Study Group  
Barry Acker  
[bearachanse@yahoo.com](mailto:bearachanse@yahoo.com)

## Tulsa

Study Group  
Adrian Martin  
[almarti6527@gmail.com](mailto:almarti6527@gmail.com)

## Pennsylvania

### Pittsburgh Area

Study Group  
Harry Webb  
[hwebb@zoominternet.net](mailto:hwebb@zoominternet.net)

## Texas

### Hurst

Classes  
David Gressett  
[jdgressett@hotmail.com](mailto:jdgressett@hotmail.com)

### Fort Worth

Study Group  
Jonquele Jones  
[jonquele@flash.net](mailto:jonquele@flash.net)

## Utah

### Salt Lake City

Classes by Skype  
Rachell Blessing  
[rachell-blessing@comcast.net](mailto:rachell-blessing@comcast.net)

## Virginia

### Alexandria

Classes  
Nick Freer  
[neacalban1@aol.com](mailto:neacalban1@aol.com)

### Catlett

Michael Mackay  
Local in-person and via Skype  
[mackay@progeny.net](mailto: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](http://www.gaelicacademy.ca)

## Nova Scotia

Halifax

New Glasgow

Port Hawkesbury

Classes

Atlanta Gaelic Academy

[www.gaelicacademy.ca](http://www.gaelicacademy.ca)

Port Hawksbury School of Gaelic

Kathleen Burbidge

[kathleenburbidge@hotmail.com](mailto:kathleenburbidge@hotmail.com)

## Sydney

Classes

Cape Breton Gaelic Society

Heather Sparling

[heather\\_sparling@cbu.ca](mailto:heather_sparling@cbu.ca)

## Ontario

Ottawa

Classes

Randaith Waugh

[comunngaidhligottawa@rogers.com](mailto:comunngaidhligottawa@rogers.com)

## Toronto

Classes

CLUINN

[www.torontogaelic.ca](http://www.torontogaelic.ca)

## Québec

Montréal

Study Group

Linda Morrison

[linda@lindamorrison.com](mailto: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, [ruadh@idirect.com](mailto:ruadh@idirect.com)



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## AN NAIDHEACHD AGAINNE

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*An Naidheachd Againne* welcomes submissions. Contact the editors for more information.