

An Naidheachd Againne

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Na deugaire bha Rhoda Meek na presentair air a' phrògram chloinne Dè-a-nis? Agus a-nis, tha i a' dèanamh rudan teicnigeach do dh'Ùlpan agus a' dealbhadh cha mhòr rud sam bith. Mar a leughas sibh gu h-ìosal, tha cothrom aice san latha an-diugh a bhith ag obair aig astar bho a dachaigh "ùr" ann an Tìriodh.

As a teen Rhoda Meek was, among other things, a presenter on the children's radio program Dè a-nis? but apparently always had a strong interest in the technical side of computing. Having recently moved back to the family croft on Tìree, she is now able to work from home doing design, marketing, and all sorts of technical things for Ùlpan who arrange Scottish Gaelic courses. In addition she designs posters, websites, and practically anything else that's needed.

A' Tilleadh a Thiriodh

le Rhoda Meek

On a bha mi beag biodach, b' e mo mhiann fuireach ann an Tìriodh.

Rugadh agus thogadh mi ann an Dùn Èideann. Chaidh mi tro Fhoghlam Gàidhlig ann an Dùn Èideann agus ann an Obair Dheathain, a' fàgail na sgoile fileanta sa Ghàidhlig.



Donald's father (Rhoda's grandfather) leading horse in stackyard 1913
Donald Meek on <http://meekwrite.blogspot.com>

Returning to Tìree

by Rhoda Meek

Ever since I was a kid, I have wanted to live in Tìree.

I was born and brought up in Edinburgh. I went through Gaelic Medium Education in Edinburgh and Aberdeen, leaving school fluent in Gaelic.

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

Gach samhradh on a rugadh mi, thill an teaghlach a Thiriodh. Tha aona chuimhne agam air mo sheanair, na shuidhe air beulaibh an teine san taigh, ‘Coll View’. Cha robh mise ach dà bhliadhna a dh’aois, agus bha mo sheanair tinn. ’S docha nach e cuimhne a th’ ann, ’s docha gur e cuimhne de dhealbh a th’ ann, ach tha mi coma, ge bith dè th’ ann, ’s e sin a’ chiad chuimhne a tha agam air Tiri-odh. Shiubhal mo sheanair beagan mhìosan às dèidh sin.

Dh’fhuirich mo sheanmhair anns an eilean leatha fhèin airson còig bliadhna, agus gach samhradh bhiodh fiughair orm tadhal oirre, agus tadhal air a’ chroit. ’S e àite sàbhailte, àlainn a bh’ ann dhòmhsa. A’ tighinn às a’ bhaile-mhòr gu eilean eireachdail, làn àitichean-cluich – tràighean, creagan, seann togalaichean agus rudan eile. ’S e àite air leth a bh’ann. Àite làn dòchais far an robh e ceadaichte dhomh ruith, leum agus cluich – gach cuid nam chuirp agus nam eanchainn.

’S e àite nas doirbhe a bh’ ann dom athair. Bha iomadh rud ri dhèanamh, ’s e feuchainn ris a’ chroit a chur an òrdugh; seann treallaich ri ghluasad, rudan rin càradh agus an seann taigh feumach air obair.

’S cinnteach gun robh e doirbh dom mhàthair cuideachd – dh’fheumadh i uisge a ghoil nan robh uisge teth a dhith oirre – ’s ann mar sin a tha an taigh fhathast, ach ’s iongantach mura robh e fada na bu doirbhe le clann nad chois!

A bharrachd air trioblaidean an taighe, bha mi mothachail, fiù ’s nuair a bha mi nam phàisde, gun robh iomadh bliadhna de dh’eachraidh ri fhaicinn taobh a-staigh ballachan na croite, ach cha b’ ann gus an do thòisich m’ athair air sgrìobhadh o chionn ghoirid mu eachdraidh an teaghlach a thuig mi cho cudromach sa tha an eachdraidh sin, agus cho prìseil ’s a tha i.

Tha cuimhne aig m’ athair a tha iongantach. Na sgrìobhaidhean, tha e a’ togail dhealbhan de na làithean a dh’fhalbh, làn faireachdainn agus dath. Ged nach do choinnich mi riamh rim shinnsearan sna sgeulachdan, le bhith leughadh mun deidhinn agus mum beathannan, tha mi a’ faireachdainn glè fhaisg orra ann an dòigh

Each summer, my family returned to visit Tìree. I have one memory of my Seanair (Grandfather), sitting in front of the fire in the house ‘Coll View’. I was only two and Seanair was ill. Maybe it’s a memory, maybe it’s a memory of a photo, but no matter, it’s my first memory of Tìree.

Seanair passed away shortly after.

My grandmother stayed on the island alone for five years and each summer I looked forward to visiting her, and the croft. It was a safe, beautiful place for me. Coming from the big city to a

stunning island, full of places to play – beaches, rocks, old buildings and more. It was an incredible place. It was a place full of hope where I could run, jump and play – both physically and mentally.

It was a more difficult place for my Dad. There was much to do as he tried to bring the croft to order; old rubbish to move, things to fix and an elderly house needing work.

I’m sure it wasn’t easy for my Mum either – she had to boil water if she wanted it hot – that’s how the house still is, but I am sure it was a good deal harder with children round her feet.

As well as the issue of the house, I was aware, even as a child, that there were many years of history to be seen within the bounds of the croft; however, it wasn’t until my Dad recently began to write about the history of the family that I started to realise how important that history is, and how valuable it is.

My Dad has an amazing memory. In his writing, he draws pictures of the old days, full of feeling and colour. Although I never met my ancestors in the stories, reading about them and their lives makes me feel close to them in a way I didn’t before. I told my Dad how much I was enjoying



Donald’s great-aunts Annabel (seated) and Maggie in 1957

Donald Meek on <http://meekwrite.blogspot.com>

nach robh mi roimhe. Thuir mi rim m' athair cho math 's a bha na sgeulachdan a' còrdadh rium, gach cuid air sgàth na bha mi ag ionnsachadh, agus cuideachd a chionns nach bi feum agam air suidhe leis ann am fichead bliadhna eile 's mi a' feuchainn ri a chuimhneachain a dhùsgadh!

Nuair a dh'atharraich gnothaichean nam bheatha fhèin am bliadhna, fhuair mi cothrom mu dheireadh thall mo mhiann a choileanadh. Ghluais mi a Thiriodh. Son seachdain no dhà. Dìreach gus faicinn am freagrachd e orm. Tha mi deich bliadhna fichead a dh'aois. Cha robh obair agam roimhe a leigeadh dhomh gluasad, ach tha a-nise. Mura greimich mi air a' chothrom an-dràsta, 's dòcha nach bi cothrom eile agam, 's mi 'fit', fallain.

Chuir mi seachad a' chiad seachdain a' cur beagan òrduigh air an taigh. Chuir mi seachad an dàrna seachdain sa ghàrradh, a' cladhach agus a' cur buntàta, agus chuir mi seachd an treas seachdain a' cuideachadh charaidean le breith nan uan.

Cha robh ceist nam inntinn. Às dèidh trì seachdaine-an, bha mi cinnteach gur ann an Tiriodh a bha còir agam a bhith. Chan eil àite eile air an t-saoghal far a bheil mi a' faireachdainn sìth mar a tha mi ann an Tir an Eòrna. Tha e nas fhasa anail a ghabhail an seo na ann an àite sam bith eile. Dhòmhsa co-dhiù.

Ma tha mi son fuireach anns an eilean, chan eil ceist ann – tha tòrr obrach air thoiseach orm, ach às dèidh dhomh ionnsachadh mun uiread obrach 's a rinn mo shinnsearan thairis air na bliadhnaichean, agus às deidh dhomh faicinn uiread 's a rinn mo phàrantan gus an taigh agus a' chroit a ghleidheil, cha mhòr nach eil e na uallach orm, ach uallach math, obair a dheanamh gus an t-saothair sin a chomharrachadh le bhith a' coimhead às dèidh an tasglainn phrìseil a chaidh fhàgail – eachdraidh an teaghlaich ann an Tiriodh.

'S dòcha gum faic mi ann sibh latha brèagha air choreigin.

Faodaidh sibh tuilleadh a leughadh mu eachdraidh mo theaghlaich, agus eachdraidh na croite air *blog* m' athar: meekwrite.blogspot.com

the stories, both because of what I was learning, and because he is saving me the trouble of sitting down with a tape recorder in twenty years' time and trying to jog his memory!

When my own circumstances changed this year, I got the chance to fulfil my dream. I moved to Tìree. Just for a week or two, to see if it suited me. I am thirty years old. I have never had a job which allowed me to work remotely, but I do now. If I don't grab the chance now whilst I am fit and healthy, I might not get another one.

I spent the first week bringing some order to the house. I spent the second week in the garden, digging and planting potatoes and I spent the third week helping friends with the lambing.

There was no doubt in my mind. After three weeks I was certain that Tìree was where I should be. There is nowhere else on earth where I feel peace like I do when I am in *Tìr an Eòrna*. It's easier to breathe here than it is anywhere else. For me, anyway.

I want to stay on the island, no question. There's a lot of work ahead of me, but after learning about the amount of work my ancestors put in over the years, and after seeing the amount of work my parents have put into keeping the house and the croft, it's almost a duty, a good duty though, to do my part to honour it by looking after the priceless archive which has been left behind – the history of our family in Tìree.

Maybe I'll see you there some day.

You can read more about my family history, and the history of the croft on my Dad's blog: <http://meekwrite.blogspot.com>.



Donald's Uncle Donald with horses and reaper

Donald Meek on <http://meekwrite.blogspot.com>

President's Letter

by Scott Morrison

Well, a big welcome to summer! Hopefully the weather is warm and the days are sunny where you are, and the winter and spring months were very productive for you in terms of bringing your Gaelic along. While things may seem quiet, we're very busy working behind the scenes preparing for the Grandfather Mountain Song and Language Week in July and the U.S. National Mòd in September. I hope that every one of you have gotten the Mòd materials from the Mòd's web page already and that we'll see you in Ligonier in September. If you haven't done so yet, it's not too late to plan to attend.

Grandfather Mountain will be very special this year also. Two instructors will be coming from Scotland, James Graham and Kirsteen MacDonald, both Royal National Mòd Gold Medalists. As well as being fine singers, the two have other talents, James as a piper, and Kirsteen as a broadcaster who will also be covering the week's activities for the BBC. There is a chance that you could appear on her program. However, you need to attend for that to happen, so register now! ACGA's own popular instructor Jamie MacDonald is back as well, so it promises to be an excellent week. And of course, you should stay on for the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games on the weekend.

The second annual fund raising concert for the U.S. National Mòd took place in Alexandria VA in May. Liam Cassidy, Mike Mackay, Cathleen MacKay, Anne Alexander, John Grimaldi, Peter Walker, Erin Park and some special guests as well as myself, sang and played Scottish and Gaelic music. Highland dancers rounded out a great show! A total of \$541 was raised for the Mòd, which is desperately needed to help defray the cost of flying our adjudicators from Scotland. Many thanks to Liam and to Kathy

Park and the Mòd committee, as they did fantastic work organizing this program.

I also have one announcement regarding ACGA governance. We will not have an election for new members of the Board of Directors this year, as we usually do. We did not succeed in putting together an Election Committee in time to hold the election in the correct manner. Rather than disrupt the functioning of the Board altogether, the Board decided to appoint directors this year. They will sit for one year, and their seats will be regarded as vacant next summer, so they'll need to be elected at that time if they wish to continue to occupy those seats. Three members of the Board are leaving in July: Rudy Ramsey, who is term-limited and whose seat is being eliminated to reduce the Board to 7 members, Tom Stewart, and Reese McKay. In addition, my own term as a Board member expires at this time, though I am eligible to run for office again. The Board has decided to appoint me, Jamie MacDonald, and Janice Chan for the three one-year vacancies. I'm sure you'll recognize the names of long-time ACGA friends Jamie and Janice. Anyway, they (and I) will be sitting in the chairs for the year and there will be a proper election next year without a doubt! If you have any concerns, you can send me an e-mail and I will be very willing to explain the situation. Here is my address:

SAMmallets@netzero.com

Well, I must go, but remember not to let up on your Gaelic studies through the summer. It's a good idea to think of the summer as an opportunity to catch up with them, or perhaps even get ahead!

Regards,

Scott Morrison



Seo caibideil a tri 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 ceithir san t-Sultain.

Sgoil nan Eun neo Sgeulachd Iain Fhearchair Òig

Le Liam Ó Caiside

Caibidil a Tri: Fàth-Fithe

“Fath fith ni mi ort, le Muire na frithe, le Bride na brot ... bho iantaidh an adhar,
bho shnagaidh na talmha, bho iasgaidh na mara, 's bho shiantaidh na gailbhe.”

~ *Carmina Gaedelica*

“Chùm an Draoidh Mòr an gealladh a thug e do mhàthair Iain, agus thug e a làn-oideachais dha. Dh'èirich Iain agus na foghlaintich eile mus do dh'èirich a' ghrian agus chaidh iad don leabaidh nuair a bha a' ghealach gu h-àrd am measg nan reultan.

Dh'ionnsaich iad àireamhachd, bàrdachd agus cliarachas, agus iomadh cuspair eile: reuladaireachd, feallsanachd, lubh-eòlas agus eòlas-leighis, ealain seann-sgrìobhaidh agus ealain nua-sgrìobhaidh, iomadh seòrsa de dh'ogham, cànanan leithid Laideann, Greugais, Fraingis agus Beurla (cha robh Beurla aig mòran de na Gaidheil aig an àm sin, gu h-àraidh far an deach Iain a thogail), agus an t-seann Ghàidhlig (agus abair nach robh Gàidhlig àrsaidh aig na draoidhean fhèin).

Dh'obraich iad gus an robh an cinn gus sgàineadh.

A bharrachd air sin, bha na h-oileanaich a' cleachdadh draoidheachd madainn agus feasgar. Thòisich Iain agus na foghlaintich as òige le obagan simplidh agus an dèidh sin orthannan a bha na bu duilghe. B' urrainn dhaibh ceò a thogail agus frasan a tharraing a-nuas – tachartasan nach robh neo-àbhaisteach anns a' Ghàidhealtachd co-dhiù.

Bha bàrdachd gu math cudromach dhaibh, seach gur e “buaidh na bàrdachd toiseach na draoidheachd,” mar a thuir an Draoidh Mòr riutha. Uaireannan, bha draoidheachd ceangailte ri ceòl, agus dh'fheumadh na h-oileanaich seinn nuair a bha iad ag ionnsachadh sheuntan, neo a' cluich na clàrsaich neo na feadaige.

Ach an rud a b' fheàrr, a rèir Iain, theagaisg an draoidh “Fath-Fithe” dha na h-oileanaich gus am b'

urrainn dhaibh na cruthan anns an robh iad a chaochladh agus a dhol às an t-sealladh ann am badaibh nam bonn. Thòisich iad aon mhadainn earraich nuair a bha na balaich anns an tùr, nan seasamh ri chèile ann an cearcall.

“ 'S e seo an draoidheachd as sine a th' againn,” thuir an draoidh riutha. “Tha i dol air ais cho fada 's nach eil fios againn an-diugh cuin a dh'ionnsaich na draoidhean i. Ach tha coltas ann gun tàinig am Fath-Fithe às an àird a tuath gu Failias agus Findias, Gori-as agus Murias, na bailtean cailte far an do chleachd Clann Danann draoidheachd, fios agus fàisneachd mus tàinig a' chiad Ghàidheal thar a' chuain a dh'Èirinn no a dh'Alba.”

An uair sin, chuir an draoidh a làmhan agus a lurgan tharta agus thuir e ann an guth garbh glòrach:



Fath-fithe nì mi oirbh,
Le neart, le feart,
Bho chumadh ceart,
Bho chaora, bho rùda,
Bho ghobhar, bho bhoc,
Bho mhathan màsaich,
Bho chù fàsaich,
Bho bhò, bho mharc,
Bho tharbh, bho earc,
Bho euntaidh an adhair,
Bho shnàgaidh na talmha,
Bho iasgaidh na mara,
'S bho shiantaidh na gailbhe,
Fath-fithe nì mi oirbh.

Agus thuir e: “Faioleag.” Mus deach aca facal a bhruidhinn, chaidh iad a-mach tron uinneig: aon fhaoileag mhòr agus trì faoileagan deug air sgèith ann am feò fuar a' chamhanaich.

Chaidh iad turas timcheall an tùir agus a-mach leotha thar nan tonn. Chuala Iain guth an draoidh na cheann agus e ag ràdh, “Ròn.” Sìos leotha fon uisge. Bha ceithir ròin deug a’ snàmh tron uisge dhubh-ghorm, na h-èisg a’ teicheadh romhpa. Thàinig iad a-mach às an uisge air creig agus thuir an draoidh, “Fiadh.” Leum ceithir daimh deug bhon chreig gu tràigh agus a-mach a ghabh iad cho luath ris a’ ghaoith, boc mòr aig an toiseach.

Ràinig iad sgeir agus leum am boc agus na daimh uile a-mach dhan adhar. Nuair a bha Iain cinnteach gun rachadh am marbhadh air na creagan fada shìos chuala e guth a mhaighstir aon turas eile ag ràdh, “Iolair.” Ann an diog, bha iad air sgèith a-rithist nan ceithir iolairean deug, a’ dìreadh suas gu h-àrd dhan iarmailt air sgiathan làidir, leathann.

Thug iad an caisteal orra, agus a-steach tro uinneagan an tùir. An uair a chuir iad spòg air an ùrlar, bha iad nan daoine a-rithist. Fhuair na foghlantich an siud ’s an seo air feadh an t-seòmair – sianar nan suidhe agus seachdnar nan sìneadh. Sheas an Draoidh Mòr nam measg leis an lurgan na dhòrn. Cha robh ach aon cheist aig Iain. “Cuin a nì sinn sin a-rithist?”

Bu tric a chaidh iad a-mach le chèile an dèidh sin. Cha robh seòrsa de chreutair anns an t-saoghal nach robh iad na chruth, agus bha Iain pong os cionn chàich.

“Chan iongnadh sin dhòmhsa, a dhuine,” thuir a charaid Mac Mhanainn ris, nuair a bha na balaich cruinn aig a’ ghealbhann anns an t-seòmair aca aon oidhche gheamhraidh. “Nach do dh’innis an draoidh dhuinn gun deach d’ ainm a sgrìobhadh anns an leabhar aige dà cheud bliadhna mus d’ rugadh tu?”

“An do dh’innis?” arsa Iain. “Dh’innis, gu dearbh.”

“Am faca tu riamh an leabhar aige?” dh’fhaighnich Iain. “Chan fhaca. Chan fhaca neach sam bith an leabhar cho fad ’s a tha fios agam,” thuir Mac Mhanainn. “Tha e ga chumail anns an t-seòmair aige fhèin fo shlabhraidhean iarainn,” arsa Cù-Eòlais.

“Chuala mise gum feumadh tu faclan draoidheil a ràdh airson an leabhar fhosgladh,” thuir Ceann-Cleiteig (bha a cheann còmhdaichte le iteagan bàna agus liath bhon a’ chiad uair a chuir e cruth calmair

air). “Mura biodh na faclan ceart agad, gheibheadh tu bàs anns a’ bhad.”

“Mo chreach! ’S mise nach dèanadh sin airson an fhortain ged a bhiodh na faclan air bàrr mo thean-gaidh,” thuir Calum Mo Chreach. “Cha duine gun tùr gun mhisneachd a dhèanadh e,” arsa Ladhar Mòr. “Cha dèan thusa e, ma tà,” thuir Glagan. An dèidh sin, thòisich an dithis aca ri carachd air an ùrlar, agus chuir sin crìoch air a’ chòmhradh.

Ach cha b’ urrainn do dh’Iain gun a bhith smaoinich air an leabhar agus na bha sgrìobhte ann ma dheidhinn.

Chaidh bliadhna seachad. Dh’fhàs Iain na b’ fheàrr air an draoidheachd fad an t-siubhail.

“Dh’ionnsaich thu barrachd ann am bliadhna na dh’ionnsaich mise ann an còig,” thuir Ladhar Mòr ris aon latha, eud agus meas na ghuth.

Chaidh Iain a-mach a h-uile cothrom a fhuair e a dh’itealaich os cionn a’ chaisteil ann an cruth fithich, an cruth-eòin a b’ fheàrr leis. Aon latha earraich, thuir e gum bu toigh leis a dhol gu tuath agus an Cuiltheann fhaicinn, ach thug an draoidh rabhadh dha.

“’S iomadh rud anns a’ Chuiltheann agus air feadh an eilein seo nach toigh leotha draoidhean,” thuir e. “Tha sìthichean ann, agus tha iad cunnartach eadhan nuair a tha iad càirdeil.” Bha creutairean cunnartach ann, nàdarra agus mì-nàdarra, agus bha droch-bhuidseachan ann cuideachd, thuir e.

“B’ iad pàirt dhen treubh a bha nan nàimhdean do na draoidhean agus do chàch bho thùs. Nam faigheadh iad cothrom, chuireadh iad fo fhiachaibh ’s fo gheasan thu, agus tha e coltach nach b’ urrainn dhuinn sìon a dhèanamh airson do shàbhaladh.”

Shaoil Iain gur beag an cunnart dhasan cho fad ’s a bha e ag itealaich faisg air a’ chaisteal – shaoil, gus an latha a chunnaic e feadhainn àraid a’ marcachd fodha nuair a bha e air sgèith.

B’ e sin a’ bhuidheann a bha neònach. Bha iad air an uidheamachadh mar thighearnan agus mar mhnathan -uaisle – na fir ann an còtaichean dearga agus tartain

agus bonaidean gorma air an cinn agus na mnathan ann an èideadh ann an uaine agus gorm fo chòtaichean mòra caiteineach. Bha iad a' marcachd air eich bhàna le cluasan dearga agus daoine beaga ann an còtaichean uaine a ruith às an dèidh agus mun coinneamh mar gun robh iad nan gillean.

Shin bean chaol a bh' ann an còta uaine a làmh amach agus thomh i air Iain. "Thig, fhithich! Thig!" thuirt i, agus a dh'aindeoin a thoil fhèin, b' fheadar dha tighinn a-nuas gus an deach e air spiris air a gàirdean. "Nach e creutair grànnda a th' annad," thuirt fear dhiubh agus e a' tarraing claidheimh. "Cuiridh mise a cheann dheth." "Cha chuir, cha chuir," arsa am boireannach. "'S e fitheach gu math sònraichte a th' agam an seo. Bheir sinn dhan lùchairt e, agus cluinnidh sinn dè an seòrsa òran a th'

aige." Thug i facal dha, agus bha e mar chloich ann an gleann nach caraich.

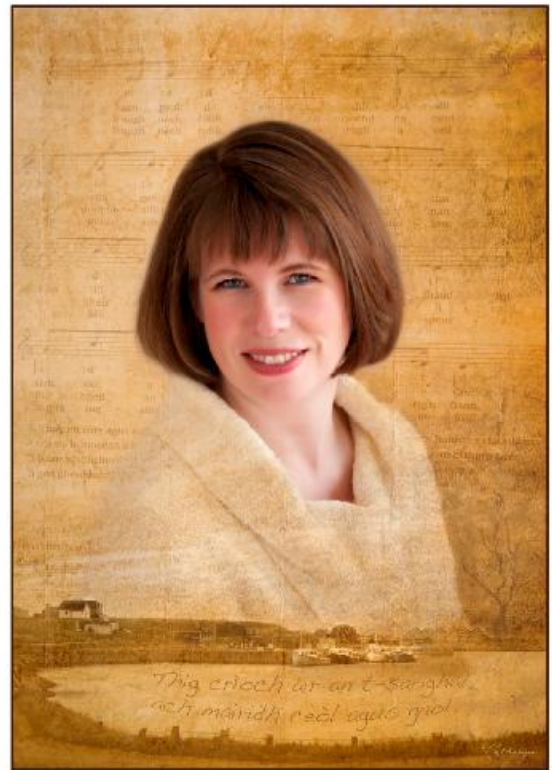
Dh'fhalbh iad uile — na mnathan agus na daoine mòra agus beaga — an uair sin suas dha na speuran ann an oiteag sluaigh agus thug iad Srath Suardail orra. Dh'fhosgail iad an sìthean, agus chaidh iad fhèin agus Iain bochd a-steach. Bha Iain na phrìosach aig na sìthichean, agus cha robh fhios aige air an t-saoghal gu dè a dhèanadh e."

Ghabh an sgeulaiche anail. Cha chualas ach an t-uisge a bha dòrtadh anns an oidhche air mullach an taighe. Bhris Eilidh an ciùineas. "Iain bochd!" thuirt i. "Cha b' fhurasta dha faighinn às an sin!" "Cha b' fhurasta," thuirt an sgeulaiche, "gun chobhair."

Meal do naidheachd, Heather!

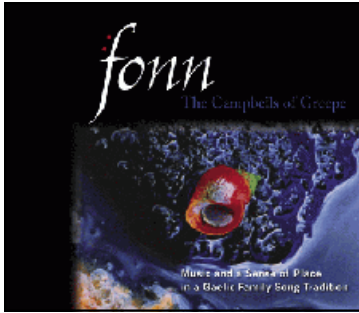
The Canadian government has presented a prestigious research award to ACGA member (and frequent ANA contributor) Dr. Heather Sparling of Cape Breton University to further and expand her work. The government website explains this very important research support: "Tier 2 Chairs – tenable for five years and renewable once, are for exceptional emerging researchers, acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their field."

Her new university position is Canada Research Chair in Musical Traditions. An ethnomusicology professor, Heather will now be able to spend additional time over the next five years examining "how communities sustain musical traditions, and how musical traditions sustain communities" in relation to the traditional music and dance of Atlantic Canada. Her particular interest is in the Scottish Gaelic song and traditional dance of Cape Breton as well as disaster songs of Atlantic Canada. Heather's extensive list of projects to be undertaken includes producing CDs and a video, writing books and articles for publication and conference presentations, and a number of other related activities.



Heather Sparling
Canada Research Chair in Musical Traditions
CAPE BRETON
UNIVERSITY

Katheryn Gordon (<http://gordonphoto.com/>)



Acair Ltd.

The Campbell Family. 2013. *Fonn – The Campbells of Greepe: Music and a Sense of Place in a Gaelic Family Song Tradition*. Stornoway, Lewis: Acair Ltd.

le Mìcheal Mac Aoidh

by Mike Mackay

Tha cuid againn anns a’ Chomunn gu math eòlach air teaghlach sònraichte a tha a’ nochdadh turas agus turas ann an naidheachd Gàidhlig na h-Alba nuair a ’s e ceòl agus seinn an cuspair. Gach turas a tha sinn a’ sireadh òran ùr, no còmhlan ùr ris an èist sinn, tha fear no tè de na Caimbeulaich, tha e coltach, bho àite ris an can iad An Gnioba, an sàs ann, gu ìre bheag no mhòr.

Cò iad, na Caimbeulaich seo? Uill, ’s dòcha nan canainn na h-ainmean Ceana, Màiri Anna, agus Wilma, bhiodh e gu math soilleir cò air a bheil mi a-mach. Nan robh sibh air tadhal air Beinn Seanair agus an iomairt a bhios ann am Banner Elk gach bliadhna, agus Ceana mo Màiri Anna a’ teagasg ann, bhiodh fios agaibh dè cho domhainn ’s a tha an t-eòlas aca air ceòl agus òrain nan Gàidheal, chan ann bho’n àite aca fhèin air an Eilean Sgitheanach, ach bho air feadh saoghal nan Gàidheal cuideachd. Ach cha b’ e sin a-mhàin – tha iad coibhneil fialaidh, agus ro thoilichte rud sam bith mu’n dualchas aca fhèin a thoirt seachad do dhuine sam bith a tha gabhail suim dheth. Nach iongantach gu bheil teaghlach mar seo ann, oir chan ann aig an triùir tha seo a-mhàin a tha an tàlant ann an ceòl agus dualchas an Eilein, ach air feadh an teaghlach air fad. Ciamar a tha seo, co-dhiù? Agus cò às a thàinig iad? Às an àite seo air an Eilean Sgitheanach, ceart gu leòr, ach cò na daoine às an tàinig iad?

Tha freagairtean nan ceistean seo ri fhaotainn ann an leabhar a chaidh fhoillseachadh am-bliadhna, air a bheil “Fonn – The Campbells of Greepe,” agus, gu dearbh, ’s e leabhar air leth a th’ ann. A dh’innse na firinn, ’s e dà leabhar a th’ ann, nuair a bheir sibh sùil a-steach ann, oir gheibh sibh an toiseach fìor dheagh shealladh air an teaghlach fhèin, bho an sinnsearan chun an latha an-diugh, mar a chaidh an àrach, agus na rudan a rinn iad uile nam beatha. Gheibh sinn freagairt air gach ceist anns an leabhar seo, agus chan e sin a-mhàin, ach gu

Some of us in ACGA are quite familiar with a special family who appear time after time in the Gaelic Scottish news when the topic is music. Every time we look for a new song, or a new group to listen to, it seems that one of the Campbells from Greepe is involved to some extent.

Who are these Campbells? Well, perhaps if I were to say the names Kenna, Mary Ann, and Wilma, it would be quite clear who I’m talking about. If you had attended Grandfather Mountain and the week-long ACGA event that’s there every year in Banner Elk, with Kenna or Mary Ann teaching, you’d have seen how deep their knowledge is of Gaelic music and song, not only from their own home in the Isle of Skye, but from all over the Gaelic world as well. But not just knowledgeable, they are kind and generous and only too happy to give of their heritage to any who take an interest in it. Is it not amazing that this kind of family exists, especially since it’s not just these three that are so talented in music and Skye’s heritage, but it’s also true of the whole family. But where are they from? From the Isle of Skye, of course, but from what people?

You can get the answers to all these questions in a book that was published this year, “Fonn – the Campbells of Greepe,” and indeed this book is special. It really is two books, when you look inside it, because in the first part you get a truly good look at the family, from their ancestors to the present time, the way they were raised, and what they did through their lives. You will get every answer you wish in this book, and more than this, there is a CD that comes with the book containing many pieces recorded for the School of Scottish Studies, with the family singing and

bheil CD an cois an leabhair, le iomadach pios air a chlàradh bho Sgoil Eòlas na h-Alba, de mhuintir an teaghlaich a' seinn òrain agus a' bruidhinn. An ann Stòr nan Caimbeulach, an darna leabhar mar gum biodh, tha cruinneachadh àraidh de dh'òrain a bhuinneas do na Caimbeulaich – le notaichean le Màiri Anna fhèin, a' toirt seachad mìneachadh air na faclan, na puingeas, agus na grinneas an nochdas anns gach òran.

Agus abair stòras priseil a gheibh duine a thogas an leabhar seo. Leis na th' ann de'n stòras seo, eachdraidh an teaghlaich, agus na notaichean, 's e leabhar mòr tomadach trom a th' ann – riochd gu math freagarrach do'n teaghlach tàlantach, ainmeil, sònraichte seo. Mar a sgrìobh Iain MacAonghuis ann an ro-ràdh an leabhair, “Tha saoghal-bràth aig na Caimbeulaich a dh'òrain.” Tha fhios gum fiach e tadhal a dhèanamh air an t-saoghal seo.

talking. In the “second” book, “The Treasure of the Campbells,” there’s an amazing collection of songs that belong to the Campbells, with notes by Mary Ann herself, explaining the words, the notes, and the ornamentations for the songs.

And what a treasure indeed that one gets by picking up this book. With all that’s in it, the history of the family, and the notes, it’s a weighty, substantial book – in quite apt correspondence with the extensive resources of this talented, famous and special family. As Iain MacAonghuis wrote in the introduction, “The Campbells have a world of song.” It is indeed a world well worth visiting.

Fonn – The Campbells of Greepe: Music and a Sense of Place in a Gaelic Family Song Tradition. 316 pages, hard-cover, containing traditional songs from the family’s repertoire plus a CD featuring rare recordings of older family members, bilingual English and Gaelic throughout, full-color with maps, photos; ISBN 9780861523535. £30



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 fourth (see Fall 2012 issue for a review of Learnbots, Winter 2012 for uTalk, Spring 2013 for SGI). Rudy Ramsey has written the first four, but reviews by others, and for other mobile platforms, are most welcome.



Gàidhlig on the Go – Briathrachan (iPhone, iPad)

Review by Rudy Ramsey

This is the mobile version of MacFarlane’s Scottish Gaelic Dictionary, “Am Briathrachan Beag”. It’s a free (no-cost) app.

I don’t like carrying dictionaries around, and find this app very convenient. It allows searching or browsing from Gàidhlig or English. You type in some or all of the word you’re interested in, and the app displays the corresponding dictionary entries for the other language. This is, of course, a very old dictionary – indeed, the fact that it’s long out of copyright is the reason it’s available for this use. You won’t find words for

modern technology here. 😊 The search mechanism is also very literal. If you even capitalize a word, it won’t find the entry.

I generally use the web-based dictionary, Am Faclair Beag (<http://www.faclair.com>), when I want to look up words from my iPhone or iPad. And there are several other web-based dictionaries available. However, if I’m in a place from which I can’t access the internet, Briathrachan is useful to have along. It’s also much quicker than web-based dictionaries, so if I’m only looking up one word, and I’m confident it will be in this old diction-

ary, this is the app I use. This is a worthwhile app, and will particularly interest those who use an iOS device without a data plan.



Kedgeree

Thathar ag ràdh gun deach kedgeree a thoirt do Bhreatann aig deireadh an naoidheamh linn deug leis na colonials a bha a' tighinn dhachaigh bho na h-Innseachan. 'S àbhaist do Kedgeree a bhith dèanta le fuigheall ris agus èisg agus air sàilleibh sin thèid Kedgeree ithe gu tric mar bhraicist.

Kedgeree is thought to have been introduced to the British Isles in the late 19th century by colonials returning from India. Because it can be made from leftover cooked fish and rice, it is often served for breakfast.

1 chupa ris air a bhruich
1 chupa èisg air a bhruich agus air a bhris ann am pìosan (ged a tha sgadan smocte tradaiseanta, cleachdaidh mi fhin bradan)
1 ugh, air a bhruich agus air a ghearradh dà unns' ime
peirsill air a ghearradh
coriander, cumin, garam masala, paprika, salann is piobar, a-rèir a' bhlais a thogras tu

Cuir an ris, an t-iasg, an t-ugh, agus an t-im ann am poit. Measgaich a h-uile sìon le chèile agus teasaich gus am bi an t-im air a leaghadh. Cuir am peirsill air uachdar.

Mar a thuirt Ewen: Braicist an rìgh! (Faic an ceangal gu Kitchen Music anns a' Bharrachd)

1 cup cooked rice
1 cup cooked fish, flaked (although smoked herring is traditional, I use salmon)
1 hard-cooked egg, chopped
1 tablespoon butter
chopped parsley
coriander, ground cumin, garam masala, paprika, salt and pepper to taste

Mix rice, fish, chopped egg, and butter in saucepan and heat until butter is melted. Season to taste. Sprinkle parsley on top before serving.

As Ewen said: The breakfast of kings! (See Kitchen Music link in A Bharrachd)



Cam MacRae



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!

Dè Do Naidheachd?

by Cam MacRae and Jeanne Pendergast

Two more short stories with bolded words chosen for a variety of reasons.

Cam:

O, halo, tha sibh ann. Chuir sibh clisg orm. Tha mi duilich ach chan eil mi deiseil fhathast. Bha mi nam sheasamh an dràsta an seo ann am meadhan a' chidsin, crogan de **phicealan eugsamhail** nam làimh. Ach carson picealan? Tha mi cinnteach gum bidh cuimhn' agam ann am mionaid no dhà. 'S ann anns an t-seòmarchadail a bha mi roimhe, ach an uair sin chaidh mi dhan chidsin agus dh'fhosgail mi am fuaradair. **A bharrachd** air picealan tha iomadach crogan ann, ach fhuair mi picealan eugsamhail bhon sgeilp, dhùin mi an doras, agus an ath rud, **dhìochuimhnich** mi carson picealan eugsamhail. A dh'innse na firinn, b' fheàrr leam chutney. Cheannaichinn picealan nam biodh cuideigin a' dèanamh cèilidh **oirnn**. Thuirt an dotair rium gum bi e feumail dhomh notaichean a chur air doras an fhuaradair ma bhios rud sam bith cudromach a' tachairt, ach chan eil air ach aon phios pàipeir le “**'S e a' chiad seachd bliadhna' as miosa**” sgrìobhte air. Uill, tha sibh ann co-dhiù. Dè an t-ainm a th' oirbh?

Glossary:

tha sibh ann – Does the use of *sibh* add anything to the story?

chuir sibh clisg orm – you startled me

phicealan eugsamhail – mixed pickles

eugsamhail – different, miscellaneous, variation, various

iomadach crogan – a lot of jars (literally - many a jar; *iomadach* is followed, as is *iomadh*, by a singular noun)

A bharrachd (air) – in addition (to); (have you noticed that this is the title of our page where we gather extra bits of information related to longer articles?)

dhìochuimhnich – I forgot (we included this for pronunciation practice; hint: it's much easier if you don't think about how it's spelled)

a dh'innse na firinn – to tell the truth (an infinitive followed by the genitive)

Jeanne:

Cuimhneachan...ah...na leth-cheudan, nuair a dh'imrich mi chun na Seapaine is mi a' fuireachd an uairsin aig Sgoil na Còcaireachd...agh...bracaist...cha do chòrd **picealan eugsamhail** agus iasg rium idir tràth sa mhadainn. Cha mhòr nach do **dhìochuimhnich** mi carson a chaidh mi ann.

Ach chaidh na bliadhnaichean seachad **oirnn** agus abair gur ceart an abairt: **'S e a' chiad seachd bliadhna' as miosa!** Dh'ionnsaich mi mar a dhèanadh tu biadh Seapanach **mòr-thaitneach** ceart gu leòr, ach a **bharrachd** air an sin, mar a chleachdadh tu biadh gus nach bi mòran a' dol a dholaidh.

Dh'ionnsaich mi Seapanais gu ìre mhath cuideachd. Far an robh mi a' fuireachd, 's ann tearc a chitheadh tu coigreach nach robh na neach-turais, agus uaireannan chluinninn rudan bho Sheapanaich nach robh air mo shon. Dh'fhaodadh iad a bhith èibhinn ach aon latha bha mi seachd searbh de “Tha i grànnda, 's a casan cho mòr,” 's msaa. Thuirt mi ann an Seapanais ealanta “‘S dòcha gu bheil mi grànnda ach chan eil mi-mhodhail.” Nach do chuir mi stad air an dithis bhoireannach mì-shiobhalta sin!

Glossary:

dh'imrich – used for relocating one's home (rather than *ghluais*)

chun na Seapaine – genitive construction with a definite feminine place-name (*an t-Seapan*)

seachad **oirnn** – past us, (went) by

abair gur ceart an abairt – how correct is the expression (*abair* puts emphasis on what follows)

'S e a' chiad seachd bliadhn' as miosa! – The first seven years are the worst. ('s e is needed with the superlative adjective)

mòr-thaitneach – can mean popular but there's also a connotation of particularly pleasing, *mòr* in this sort of construction providing emphasis

a' dol a dholaidh – going to waste

seachd searbh – a shortened form of *seachd searbh sgìth* meaning beyond tired of something



An t-Ionnsachadh Bòidheach

This is the introductory column in what we hope can be a continuing series for our young readers (see request for an editor on page 13).

The title comes from the Gaelic proverb, *An t-ionnsachadh òg an t-ionnsachadh bòidheach* (Early learning is beautiful learning). [There's an implied "'s e" at the beginning that is usually omitted.]

Our appreciation goes to Michael Newton who kindly gave permission to use this page from his children's book, *Calum and Catriona's Welcome to the Highlands*. The book is available at Siol Cultural Enterprises, <http://www.gaelicbooks.com>.

Highland Clothing

We are wearing the traditional clothes of the Highlands, which are labeled with the Gaelic names. Highlanders love bright clothing – please color us in!



A Bharrachd

Kedgeree

For another version of kedgeree follow the recipe that Ewen Henderson of Battlefield Band cooks up on Temple Records' "Kitchen Music," at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5xf1vQD8IaE>. The video is in Gaelic with English subtitles and also includes some terrific fiddle playing by Ewen.

Donald Meek's Blog

The father of Rhoda Meek ("A' Tilleadh a Thiriodh" in this issue) is Professor Donald Meek, who has been senior lecturer and professor of Celtic, Scottish, and Gaelic studies at several universities in Scotland, including the University of Edinburgh from which he retired several years ago. His blog is a treasure trove of his articles, including chapters of his in-progress autobiography, *Passages from Tìree*. To read chapter 6, "The Life and Work of the Croft," and view a wonderful series of 73 photographs of Tìree, past and present, click here. http://www.meekwrite.blogspot.ca/2013/04/autobiography-chapter-6-under_1.html

Class Poetry

When set the task of writing a haiku-like poem or short prose piece, students in Cam MacRae's beginner-level Atlantic Gaelic Academy class revealed something about their lives.

èirich agus tarraing anail
a-steach 's a-mach
fad an latha, a h-uile latha
~ Sharon Goldsby

Oiteag bhlàth, adhar bhon a' mhuir
Caistealan gainmhich
Samhradh.
~ Jenny Moreno

A Dhìomhaireachd mhòr
A Ghrèine, A Ghealach, A Thalmhainn, A Speuran, A Mhara
Tha sibh nam bhroinn agus mum thimcheall.
~ Kim Graham

Bha mi a' coiseachd a-muigh sa mhadainn an-diugh.
Tha madainnean brèagha.
Bha a' ghrian a-muigh agus bha na h-eòin a' seinn.
'S toil leam an t-earrach.
Bidh mi fhìn agus mo phiuthar a' dol a choisreachd sa mhadainn
a-màireach aig seachd uairean.
Tha còta sean agam ach tha còta ùr aice; bidh sinn blàth.
~ Debbie MacLeod

ann an seòmar beag air cathair,
a' sgrìobhadh agus a' leughadh
a h-aon, a cóig leabhraichean
~ Nick Kane

WANT ADS

Children's Page Editor

As part of the society's outreach to younger members, we've instituted "An t-Ionnsachadh Bòidheach" (see previous page), and we're hoping someone will volunteer to take on the task of creating and / or finding suitable material for upcoming issues. We've got some ideas to get you started, so please contact Cam, Janice or Jeanne (see gray box on the last page of this issue).

Indexer

Did you know that back issues of "An Naidheachd Againne" going back more than four years are available on our forum? To help members find articles on specific issues or by particular authors, we thought a simple author / subject index would be a good idea. If any of our readers are interested in working on this project, we're waiting to hear from you.

Cha Bu Mhiste Sinn Leabhar Na Tri

le Cam MacRae

Fhoillseachaidh Ghàidhlig – Dè do Chor?

O chionn seachdain neo dhà bha mi a' coimhead air an t-sreath de leabhraichean Gàidhlig air an sgeilp ri taobh an deas agam: bàrdachd, ficsean (tha tiùrr fhicsein ann gu dearbh), leabhraichean chloinne, agus irisean. Mhothaich mi gu luath gun tàinig a' chuid as motha dhiubh bhon an aon cheithir thaighean foillseachaidh: Birlinn, Clàr (Ùr-sgeul), Acair, agus Gairm. Saoil cò mhead foillsichear Gàidhlig a th' ann? Uill, thòisich mi a' cunntadh, an toiseach air na sgeilpichean agam agus an uair sin air-loidhne. Air na sgeilpichean agam fhìn: còig deug. Air làrach-lìn Chomhairle nan Leabhraichean: còrr is trì fichead 's a còig deug! Uill, a dh'innse na firinn, tha tuilleadh ann, ach nuair a ràinig mi na bha sin, stad mi a chunntadh.

Trì fichead 's a còig deug. A bheil iongantais ort? Tha ormsa co-dhiù. Tha feum aig na foillsichearan air luchd-ceannach, agus tha fhios againn nach eil margaid na Gàidhlig cho mòr 's a tha tè na Beurla no fiù 's tè na Gaeilge. Tha cùiltean-taic foillseachadh na Gàidhlig uile stèidhte ann an Alba agus gheibh sinn a' chuid as motha dhe na leabhraichean ùra againn bhua-pa. A dh'aindeoin sin, bidh leabhraichean Gàidhlig air am foillseachadh ann an Èirinn, Sasainn, Canada, agus na Stàitean, bho oilthighean, bho chomainn eachdraidh agus creideamh, agus bho fhoillsichearan eile aig a bheil fios gur is math as fhiach dhaibh aithne a thoirt dhan Ghàidhlig. Am measg na tha iad a' tabhann tha leabhraichean do chloinn, do dheugairean, agus do dh'innbich. Gabhaidh na liostaichean aca a-steach ficsean: nobhailean, sgeulachdan goirid, agus nobhailean grafaigeach; agus neo-fhicsean: eachdraidh, eachdraidh nàdarra, cruinneachaidhean bàrdachd agus òran, leabhraichean creideimh, is msaa. Tha cuid dhiubh air an eadar-theangachadh bhon Bheurla no bhon Ghaeilge, agus tha feadhainn dà-chànanach, ach tha grunn dhiubh air an sgrìobhadh bho thùs sa Ghàidhlig fhèin. Agus ged a nochdas a' chuid as motha de leabhraichean ùra fhathast air pàipear, tha na foillsichearan a' sìor thabhainn chruthan eileagtronaigeach dhuinn.

Agus air ais gu mo cheist. Fhad 's a tha saoghal nan leabhraichean air fad (na h-ùghdaran, na foillsichearan, luchd-reic leabhraichean agus na leabharlannan) as sàs ann a bhith ag ionnsachadh mar a sheòlas iad ann am fìorachd na h-eaconomaidh ùr chruaidh a th' againn sna làithean seo, Fhoillseachaidh Ghàidhlig, dè do chor? Tha coltas gu bheil e nas fheàrr na bha e a-riamh. Cha robh e riaghailt na b' fhasa a bhith a' ceannachd leabhraichean Gàidhlig agus tha na roinnean farsaing, anns an t-saoghal bheag agam fhìn co-dhiù. Tha mi 'n dòchas nach eil mi gam mhealladh fhìn.

Gaelic Publishing – How Are You Doing ?

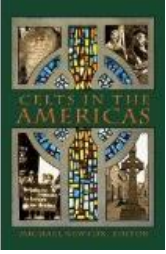
A few weeks ago I was looking at the row of Gaelic books on the shelf beside my desk: poetry, fiction (there's a lot of fiction), children's books, and periodicals. I quickly noticed that most of them have come from the same four publishers: Birlinn, Clàr and their imprint Ùr-sgeul, Acair, and Gairm. Wondering just how many Gaelic publishers there are out there, I began to count, first my own books and then on-line. On my own shelves: fifteen. At the Gaelic Books Council's website: more than 75! To tell the truth, there are actually more than that; that's just where I stopped counting.

Seventy-five. Are you surprised? I certainly was. Publishers need customers, and we all know that the market for Gaelic books isn't as big as the English market or even the Irish market. The mainstays of Gaelic publishing are all based in Scotland, and most of the new books come from them. Despite this, however, books in Scottish Gaelic are also published in Ireland, England, Canada, and the U.S. by university presses, historical and religious societies, and other publishers who recognize the value of a niche market. These publishers offer books for children, teens and adults; books for Gaelic learners and fluent Gaelic speakers. Their lists include fiction: novels, short stories, and graphic or illustrated novels; and non-fiction: history, natural history, collections of poetry and songs, religious themed books, and so on. Some of these have been translated from English or from Irish, and some are bilingual, but many were written originally in Gaelic. And although the vast majority still come to us printed on paper, publishers are increasingly offering electronic versions of their books.

And so back to my original question. As the entire book world (authors, publishers, booksellers, and libraries) learn to navigate the realities of a new austere economy, Gaelic Publishing, how are you doing? Buying Gaelic books has never been easier, and my choices of topic and format are wide. In my own little bubble things are looking better than they ever have. I hope I'm not deceiving myself.



Criomagan



New from Cape Breton University Press, spring 2013:

Celts in the Americas, edited by Dr. Michael Newton, professor of Celtic Studies at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish. A selection of papers from the “Celts in the Americas” conference held at StFX in 2011, as well as five further chapters providing overviews of the histories, cultures, languages and literatures of Celtic peoples in the Americas.

<http://www.stfx.ca/news/view/9631/>

MGAlba FilmG Awards 2013

MG ALBA, the Gaelic Media Service, has announced the winners of this year’s FilmG competition for Gaelic-language short films. You can learn more about this annual competition and watch any of this year’s 62 competition entries, including the winners, by clicking here: <http://www.filmg.co.uk/en/>.

The website also provides access to all the films for the previous four years. The amount of spoken Gaelic varies considerably, and a few include English subtitles.

ACGA members will be pleased to learn that Beth Frieden, winner of the 2009 ACGA University Scholarship appeared in “A’ Coiseachd nam Bhrògan,” winner of this year’s FilmG award for “Best Drama Short.” You can watch Beth’s winning performance here: <http://www.filmg.co.uk/en/winners/adults/best-drama/>

Donald Meek Literary Award 2012

And the award goes to - Dr Moray Watson for *A’ Bhàrdachd Ghàidhlig: Iain Mac a’ Ghobhainn* (Acair 2013), his comprehensive collection of the poetry of Iain Mac a’ Ghobhainn (Iain Crichton Smith). Watson is Senior Lecturer in Gaelic at the University of Aberdeen. For more information see this announcement from the University of Aberdeen. <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/cass/news/1804/>



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, 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, <http://forum.acgamerica.org>, is a 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.

Dè Tha Dol? Gaelic Events

June 2013

Mòd nan Lochan Mòra, June 21 – 23, 2013, Lorain County Fairgrounds OH

Adjudicator is Roddy Campbell from Barra. This event takes place in three different locations, but Saturday's competitions are at the Lorain County Fairground. For more information please email Frances Acar at frances.acar@gmail.com.

Thigibh dhachaidh thugainn / Come home 75th Anniversary Celebrations, June 30 - July 6, 2013

Colaisde na Gàidhlig / Gaelic College, Cape Breton, NS

Daily activities include campus tours, Great Hall of the Clans displays, cultural demonstrations, Blas Math lunchtime ceilidhs, nature walks, artisan market, children's activities and shuttle service

Please see <http://gaeliccollege.edu/event-calendar/75th-anniversary.html> for schedule of special events, ticket pricing and purchase.

July 2013

Scottish Gaelic Immersion Week, July 1 - 5, 2013, Ontario School of Piping and Drumming, 15800 Yonge Street (St. Andrew's College), Aurora ON

This program is designed for those who already have some background in conversational Gaelic. The instructor is Angus MacLeod of Cape Breton, well-known Gaelic teacher, actor, singer, storyteller and artist. Enrolment is limited to 20 people. To register see http://ospd.sac.on.ca/gaelic_program.html

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 at mnewton@stfx.ca.

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

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

Seisean nan Oigridh 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 Gaelic 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.youtube.com/watch?v=Nm-UhubHMZw>) and singer / broadcaster Kirsteen MacDonald (http://www.musicinscotland.com/acatalog/MP3_Kirsteen_MacDonald_CDs.html). Popular Gaelic instructor Dr. Jamie MacDonald returns as well. An extra incentive this year, especially for fluent speakers, is that the BBC wants to do a program about the Gaelic Week, with Kirsteen likely seeking interviews with some of the Gaelic learners who attend. 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 2 / 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.

October 2013

Royal National Mòd, October 11 - 18, 2013, Paisley, Scotland

For entry forms see <http://www.acgmod.org/nationalmod/entryform>.



Cha tuirt mi sin idir! Thuirt mi, "Chaidh trìuir Albannach a-steach dhan bhàr."

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@q.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
www.mermaid-productions.com

Song Classes—Maggie Carchrie

www.mermaid-productions.com

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

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

Port Hawksbury School of Gaelic

Kathleen Burbidge

kathleenburbidge@hotmail.com

Sydney

Classes

Cape Breton Gaelic Society

Heather Sparling

heather_sparling@cbu.ca

Ontario

Ottawa

Classes

Randaith Waugh

comunngaidhligottawa@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://www.acgamerica.org/learn/classes>

For additions and corrections, contact

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AN NAIDHEACHD AGAINNE

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