



Comann nam Pàrant

Dùn Èideann agus Lodainn

Cuairt-litir air. 37

1st November/1 An t-Samhain 2007

Exciting Times

With the captivating Gaelic film *Seachd* sparking controversy, the excitement of the Mòd, the Gaelic Act starting to get into gear, our schools excelling continually, and much else going on, there never has been a more fascinating time to be involved in the world of Gaelic-medium education.

And, things look set to become even more thrilling very soon, as we look forward to a Gaelic TV channel, readily accessible Gaelic fluency through Edinburgh's newly trained Ùlpan tutors, and our own Gaelic plan which has every chance of putting Gaelic on course for real impact in the capital.

Edinburgh's Mòd Adventure

Our children (and the large contingent of staff and parents who gave up their holidays to assist) are back from the Mòd in Fort William covered in glory.



All competitors deserve a medal for the huge courage needed to take part - something many adults wouldn't do in a million years, and for representing our great schools.

And we can be very, very proud of our children who won placings in the competitions, which are becoming tougher every year, with numbers and standards soaring. Amy, for example, came out top against 42 other competitors from every area, a truly remarkable achievement!

Gold: Amy (singing), Sim (singing), Sorchà (trad. storytelling)

Silver: Choir, Kirsty & Finlay (duet)

Bronze: Cameron (singing), Mikaela (singing), Kirsty (clàrsach), Choir (twice), and the Drama group

Also, Calum MacLeod (Tollcross FP) won medals including gold, in harp, bible reading & singing, and many others involved in Edinburgh's traditional arts scene won places.

Edinburgh has grown in stature each year for a number of years now, and it is especially worth noting the success of the choir in consolidating their position as one of the three top Gaelic children's choirs.

The P5/6 drama group put on a performance of a lifetime. The group, led by Ms Nic Leòid, courageously opted to stage a play written by the children, reflecting issues affecting them, rather than stick to safer themes.

The Mòd was also a great occasion for many of our families who spent much of the week in Fort William, attending events and enjoying the good weather later in the week among friends.

Next year's Mòd is in Falkirk, where organisers are keen to make it memorable. Note that this will be during term. We are hopeful that our head teachers will be supportive of all who hope to enhance the reputation of our amazing Gaelic schools!

Storytelling

The Scottish International Storytelling Festival continues until Sunday 4th with great events. www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk

As part of this, many families and others enjoyed a wonderful and varied Gaelic storytelling session at the Netherbow last Saturday.

Plan Debate Builds to a Climax

With less than a week until the current consultation on Edinburgh's Gaelic plan closes*, there is one final chance to get up to speed and play your part in deciding whether or not Gaelic in Edinburgh takes off on the scale envisioned by Bòrd na Gàidhlig's national plan.

The Gaelic Community & Comunn na Gàidhlig's Annual Forum will join forces with the City of Edinburgh Council to stage an event relevant to everyone supporting Gaelic in Edinburgh.

Saturday 3rd November
12.30 - 3.30 p.m.

Light food/refreshments provided

University Settlement
The Old Fire Station
27 East Norton Place
(Easter Road/London Rd crossing)

There has never been a better opportunity to get informed. Also, time has been set aside for informal discussion, socialising, and browsing the exhibits and Gaelic Books Council stall.

In addition to hearing about the plan from its architects, with a chance to put your questions, the forum will hear views of what the plan must do from all community aspects. Bòrd na Gàidhlig will also be present to provide valuable insights.

*Note that the consultation has been extended till 5th November to allow receipt of responses following the forum & meeting.

Bothan this Friday 2nd November

Music/song with Roddy Campbell (Barra) and Don Mackenzie (Lewis), & lots of craic. 8.30 pm, Meadow Bar, Buccleuch St. (£2). A special warm welcome to *all* with an interest in Gaelic.

Edinburgh Events Coming Soon

☞ Remember to get your tickets for *Crossing the Minch*, the cèilidh dance of the year in Princes St. Gardens with Iain Angus MacLeod and Gillian Mackenzie. Tickets from www.crossingtheminch.co.uk (where you can also learn what crossing the Minch really means!) or 01859 520 337.

☞ In place of Bothan on 7th Dec., there will be a concert featuring Meantime to celebrate the launch of the Gaelic plan at St. Bride's.

☞ Our Christmas party will again take place at Fairmilehead Church Hall, but this year will be on a Sunday, 16th Dec, 2-4 pm. Help with organisation would be very much appreciated. Please contact Yvonne on 0131 664 5527.

Debates again set to enthral

Once more, James Gillespie's High School's Gaelic debaters - this year Hannah MacLeod and Catriona MacMahon, head for the first rounds of the annual BT debate, taking place in Inverness on 6th/7th November. This will likely be broadcast on Radio nan Gàidheal. Check the schedules (see below) so you can follow the fortunes of our brave and talented team. *Tha sinn an dòchas gun soirbhich cuisean leatha!*

The motions to be debated are set to produce fascinating argument and witty riposte from our nation's keenest young minds.

The finals of the debate will take place at the Parliament on 29th November at a great event, which may be broadcast live.

Fèis News

The Fèis has a new administrator, Kaela Rowan, who hails from Lochaber & has been part of many traditional bands and projects.

CnP would like both to welcome Kaela, and to thank Keith for many years of dedicated service.

Kaela can be contacted on 07541 848 268, and forms, etc., should be sent to: 53/11 Shore, Leith, EH6 6RA. The Fèis e-mail remains feisdhuneideann@feisean.org.

Forms for the Christmas term are now out, available from Kaela or in the Community Centre lobby. Please try to return promptly.

Taing Mhòr

Many thanks to all who bought a copy of *Eadar Sgrìon is Luchag*, the magazine produced by the Gillespie's Gaels as part of the school's Enterprise & Citizenship week. £25 was raised for *Childline* by selling these at the Edin. Mod

Trad awards - vote now!

Voting for the prestigious 2007 Trad awards is now open on-line at www.handsupfortrad.co.uk. Why not help Gaelic artists and Gaelic-related events such as the Mòd, Harp festival, and Glasgow's Ceòl is Craic secure an award which will help them progress?

Gaelic Film from Nova Scotia

The Inverness Film Festival will screen the UK première of Nova Scotian short film *Faire Chaluim Mhic Leòid* on Sat/Sun 17th/18th November. Donovan MacNeill who attended Tollcross has a part in this. *Seachd*, and 1993 Gaelic film, *As an Eilean* will also screen www.invernessfilmfestival.com. For those who can't travel that far, we hear it will air on the BBC at some time. Watch this space.

On TV This Month

Charlie is Lola make a most welcome return to CBeebies. For all details: www.radiotimes.com.

Children's Education/Entertainment

BBC2 Mon-Fri 8.30 a.m. *CBeebies*
BBC2 Thu 6 pm *Dè a-nis?*
STV Sun 10 am-ish *Bigeil*

TeleG 6pm

Mon *Angelina balerina/Dun Dearrsa/Fifi*
Wed *Dè a-nis?*
Thu *Ben nam Mathan/Dun Dearrsa/Fifi*

General

BBC2 Thu 6.30 pm *Eòrpa, various*
STV, midweek late *Fir Chlis, Ceòl*
TeleG 6 pm: Tue, Fri-Sun *various*

Air an Radio

Radio nan Gàidheal broadcasts on 104.1 FM in Edinburgh and is well worth checking out. See www.bbc.co.uk/alba for details.

Oisean Colam



Am Mòd Lochaber - Abair Mòd!

Next CnP Meeting

Monday 12th November, 6.30-8.00, Thistle Hotel, Manor Pl. All welcome.

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<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cnpduneideann>

Feuch e! *A few ideas to try*

Na choimhead thu maids camanachd eadar Èirinn is Alba?

Cha do choimhead. Cò bhuannaich?

Alba. Sin an treas turas ann an trì bliadhna! 'Se maids sgoinneil a bh' ann.

For your diary...

Fri 2 nd Nov	Bothan
Sat 3 rd Nov	Gaelic in Edinburgh Forum & Consult'n Mtg
Mon 5 th Nov	Plan consultation ends
6/7 th Nov	BT Gaelic debate
Sat 10 th Nov	Fèis classes restart Crossing the Minch
Mon 12 th Nov	CnP open meeting
Thu 29 th Nov	BT debate finals
Fri 7 th Dec	Civic launch of plan Celebration concert
Sat 8 th Dec	Fèis Xmas concert
Sun 16 th Dec	CnP open meeting
Fri 21 st Dec	Last day of School

24th Dec - 4th Jan *Holidays*

Mon 7 th Jan	Back to school
16 Jan-3 Feb	Celtic Connections programme now out! www.celticconnections.com