



Comann nam Pàrant

Dùn Èideann agus Lodainn

Cuairt-litir air. 36

4th October/4 An Damhair 2007

No news is good news?

Some of you may have noticed that our newsletters are appearing less often than before. This is at least partly due to the success of Gaelic-medium education, great progress being made, and the high level of activity, which is keeping your editor (and others of course) busy on your behalf!

If anyone would like to assist in the task of writing these important updates, even a small or occasional contribution would be valued, and help is available. Contact details overleaf.

Edinburgh Mod 2007



This was held on Fri. 28th Sept at Tollcross, and was another huge success, with more events (such as piping this year), and competitors sought from beyond the Gaelic schools. CnP would like to acknowledge our gratitude to all who organised and supported this year's local Mod. Thanks too to all who took part, and those who encouraged at home. Without you this would not have been possible. And you're all winners because the standard was so very high.



We now have the national Mod to look forward to. I am sure it will be most memorable, both for our children's performances, but also as a great social occasion for all those who will be in Fort William.

Uisge



The Uisge night at the Storytelling centre was a big hit, and very entertaining. Sheila's hanging raindrops, encapsulating our children's and community's creative expression of Gaelic, water, and life, was the backdrop to a great line-up of entertainment from our children, Martin MacIntyre with stories and poetry, Calum Cameron, and others. Many thanks to all contributors to the night.

We hope that this can lead on to other events, and Sheila and others are actively seeking to use this to obtain sponsorship. Several articles have appeared in the press, and it is hoped the exhibition will be available elsewhere in future. Collages from the work were exhibited in Ocean Terminal together with GME publicity.

We hope to make use of the Storytelling centre for further such events. For these we would ask that parents remain aware that these are public events, and make sure their children are appropriately looked after.

Drama for Gaelic-speaking Adults

Art Donald (Tosg) will run a drama course on Friday 5th October, 7-9 pm, at Leitheatre Workshop, Sunnyside 172 Easter Road. **Note the change of venue!** Enquiries to 0131 554 2829 Christine.Macleod@blueyonder.co.uk (Good reports from the last course!)

Gaelic Plan Consultation

Our city's draft plan is out, and we have a few weeks left to make sure it will deliver what we need - for our children in particular. It is vital that as many parents as possible write in. Make sure you don't miss the deadline: **31 October 2007**. (Replies can be e-mailed.)

CnP has prepared an info pack to explain the draft and suggest areas to comment on. This will be e-mailed shortly if you are on our list, and is also available from the school office, or call 07729 307 487. The pack contains

- ★ A copy of the draft plan
- ★ Parents' guide to understanding the draft plan in 4 sections:
 - setting the scene:** a powerful case for Gaelic in Edinburgh
 - aims:** targets to revitalise Gaelic in line with the national plan
 - action:** meeting the targets by building on existing provision and through new initiatives
 - making sure it works:** giving the plan teeth through involving stakeholders and partners
- ★ Some suggestions for comment

There will also be two meetings on the plan and consultation:

Open Meeting by the Edinburgh Gaelic Partnership at the City Chambers, Wed 24th October.

CGD, the Edinburgh Gaelic Community body, will be holding a public forum, which will also include a showcase for Gaelic arts, at the Old Fire Station, London Road on Sat 3rd November. (TBC).

This is a once-only chance for our kids. Please get a pack and write!

Seachd: Out now, amid a storm

For those of you who didn't manage to get to see *Seachd: the inaccessible pinnacle*, the acclaimed Gaelic film at the Film Festival, it is out on general release in cinemas across the country from Friday 5th October.

In Edinburgh, it is showing (probably till Thursday 11th) at Fountainpark www.cineworld.co.uk (5 showings daily), and, at Ocean Terminal www.myvue.co.uk (3-4 showings daily).

A number of parents will be going at these suggested times:

6 pm on **Fri 5th** at Fountainpark, optionally going on to Bothan.

6pm on **Wed 10th** at Fountainpark possibly with a meal after.

If you are interested let us know, or just turn up.

And, there is a growing storm over BAFTA's decision not to put *Seachd* forward for the UK's non-English language Oscar entry. (Of the 18 eligible Western European countries, the UK is the only one not to field a film.) Our Parliament will even discuss this.

BAFTA's decision is senseless, especially given the strong early reviews ("excellent" The Sunday Times, "breathtaking" The BBC, "tender, graceful...gorgeously-realised" The Herald, "worth shouting about" The Scotsman, "dramatic, funny and spectacular" The List, and "an astonishing production" Eye For Film).

You can help overturn this by e-mailing [Finola Dwyer](mailto:Finola.Dwyer@finoladwyerproductions.co.uk) finola@finoladwyerproductions.co.uk, the Chair of the BAFTA committee responsible for the decision, and Amanda Berry, the Chief Executive in BAFTA amandab@bafta.org.

Fèis News

Advance notice that the next annual Fèis may not take place in February, and May seems the most likely date. Further details to follow.

In the meantime Fèis classes resume after the October break, leading up to a Christmas concert.

Festivals

The first ever week of Gaelic Fringe events, at the Colm Cille Centre, was a great triumph despite being put together at the eleventh hour by our just-appointed Gaelic development officer. Each evening offered different entertainment, and its own feel. Our children, together with the Lothian Gaelic Choir, entertained a sizeable audience on the Tuesday night. Next year, it is hoped to build on the week and attract new audiences.

Parents' Gaelic Session

Remember Annmarie's informal fun session for parents/carers. Simple Gaelic words and phrases. This Friday, 10.30-11.30, Room 1 in Tollcross Community Centre, tea/coffee provided.

Ùlpan

And for anyone who would like to make rapid progress in a short space of time, it may still be possible to enrol in next week's Ùlpan course, running full days 8th - 13th October. Contact 01463 226 710 or ulpan@cli.org.uk now.

Two events

Anne Lorne Gilles will give the *Annual Highland Lecture* at Greyfriars, 7.30 pm Thu 25th Oct.

Crossing the Minch (cèilidh dance in Princes St Gardens) on Sat 10th Nov. with Iain Angus MacLeod Ceilidh Band, & Gillian Mackenzie - 01859 520 337, or ask CnP.

On TV This Month

Children's Entertainment/Education
BBC2 Mon-Fri 8.30 am: *Murdaidh!, Bruno, Blarag, Dòtaman, Na Daoine Beaga, na Bleigeardan and Rathad an Sutha*

STV Sun am: *Bigeil*

TeleG 6pm

Mon *Angelina Ballerina, Dun Dearrsa, Fifi*
Thu *Farpais nan Sgeul, Dun Dearrsa, Fifi*

General

BBC2 Thu 6pm: *Ealtainn, & much more.*
STV midweek late: *Ceòl, Fir Chlis*

TeleG, 6pm most days *Slighe Anndra, Dealbhairean na Duthcha, Tir is Teanga Binnne nam Beann and others*

www.gms.org.uk/programmes/schedules and www.teleg.co.uk for details.

Oisean Ealain



Uilebheist an Loch.

Next CnP Meeting: After the Mod

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

Feuch e! A few ideas to try

Am bi sibh a' dol dhan Mhòd, no am bi sibh ga choimhead air an tele?
Bidh mise ann. Chì mi sibh an siud!

For your diary...

Fri 5 th Oct	-Gaelic for parents - <i>Seachd</i> in cinemas -Drama for adults -Bothan: Alistair Codona
Sat, 6 th Oct	Last Feis classes
8 th - 12 th Oct	Ùlpan course
Wed 10 th Oct	<i>Seachd</i> night out
Fri, 12 th Oct	Last day of school
13 th -22 nd Oct	October Holiday
13 th -20 th Oct	The Mod, Fort William
Tue 16 th Oct	Most children's comps
Tue 23 rd Oct	Back to school
Wed 24 th Oct	City Chambers mtg.
Thu 25 th Oct	Annual High'd Lecture
Wed 31 st Oct	Plan consultation ends
Sat 3 rd Nov	CGD Open Forum
Sat 10 th Nov	Fèis classes restart Crossing the Minch
Fri 7 th Dec	Civic Launch of Plan
Sat 8 th Dec	Fèis Xmas Concert

For further info on any of the above events contact Comann nam Pàrant.