A-nist no gu bràth tuilleadh:
Gairm Éiginneach air na Gàidheil do Ghnìomh

Anns an aithisg, A-nist no gu bràth tuilleadh:
Gairm Éiginneach air Úr-Albannaich do Ghnìomh,
thoiribh a mach a’ facal Úr-Albannaich agus cuiribh a-staigh Gàidheil. An dà rìribh, ’s e sin a tha an aithisg a’ deanaidh. Tha i ’bruidhinn ri gach Úr-Albannach às gach dualchas. Thaobh cor na mòr-rioinneadh, chan e rud úr dha na Gàidheil a th’anns an aithisg. Nuair a thug a thig e leasachadh agus adhartachd, ’s e rathad doirbh is cruaidh a th’air a bhith ann fad iomadh linn is do dh’iomadh ginealach nan Gàidheal ann an Alba. A-nist leis an aithisg aig Coimisean na h-Allann Nuaidh’ air Togail na h-Economaidh Ùire Againn, tha a luchd-cruthachaidh a’ gairm air muinnitir na h-Allann Nuaidh uile – Gàidheil ’nam measg – gus an dìcheall a dhéanadh na h-àireamh han taobh dol sios na mòr-rioinneadh againn a thionndadh. Sin an naidheachd mhath.

O chionn beagan de bhliadhnaichean a-nist tha lomaithean na Gàidhlig is Coimhearsnachd nan Gàidheal ’s a’ mhòr-roinn air a bhith ag obair air ciamar a’ s urrainn dhùinn ar cànain agus ar cultur ’fheàbhasachadh às ur. Air a’ rathad seo, tha sinn air iomadh leasan ’ionnsachadh–chan ann dìreach a thaobh canaìn ach thaobh seanchais a thèid lâmh air làimh leis; agus as cudothromaiche ube gu leir na daoinn a bhios ’cumaí an dithist beò, brìghmhor, ’s gu bheil an ceangal eadar na fileantaich againn agus feadadh na bàs oide glè chudthromach gus fios a chompairteachadh air có sinne, cô na daoinn o’n d’ thàinig sinn, agus gur e an òigrídh againg ar dileab dhàn la ¯r-a-mhàireach.

Tha fios gu robh na Gàidheil air a bhith anfhainneach agus fhad ’s am bi ´ad a’ cur prògramm air adhart gus Gàidhlig a thogail is a chur gu feum agus le bhith a’ cumpairteachadh an dearbh-aithne chulturaiche, bidh luchd-eagraichd ’s na coimhearsnachdan againn a’ sealtain in gur ann mar sin a tha ´ad fhathast.

(a’leantainn air d. 7)
The Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, the Hon. Michael Russell, who has responsibility for both the Gaelic and Scots languages, visited Nova Scotia before year’s end, 2013. Members of the public had a chance to meet with the minister at the Gaelic College, St. Ann’s, to share thoughts and ask questions on the future of the Gaelic language.

Mr. Russell first addressed the gathering in Gaelic, explaining that he was “a 30-year learner” but it was a delight because of his “lifelong passion for Scottish culture and heritage”. In 2010, he made history as the first individual to address a European Union meeting in Gaelic. Argyll and Bute, taking in Gigha, Islay, Iona, Mull, is his constituency. He quoted from Isle of Lewis’s lain Crichton Smith’s poem, “The Beginning of a New Song”, in referring to Scotland as a “three-voiced country”. At the same time, the Barcelona system has been adopted for Scotland, i.e. that one should know one’s own language and learn 2 others. Today in Scotland, many are learning Chinese; teachers have been brought from China and there are Confucius Institutes.

With regard to Gaelic, Mr. Russell indicated that the budget had not been reduced, remaining at £2 million a year. These funds are specifically aimed at Gaelic Medium instruction, including pre-school for children, starting at age 3, which is under the jurisdiction of local authorities. His office is about to start “funding a Tech Institute, to see if we can get a cutting edge”.

Since Mr. Russell lived in Uist in 1977, the movement towards instruction using the Ulpan method has grown and is funded by his department. For many there is incentive to become fluent in Gaelic when work requires it.

The decline in Gaelic in Scotland has been stopped, according to Minister Russell, asserting that it’s a question of saving the “habitat” of the language. “We have an absolute duty, joining in a shared task, so that the richness does not disappear” He spoke of strategies that work: e.g. Gaelic Medium Schools. The second of these will open in Glasgow in 2015; Edinburgh, Portree and Fort William have one. There has been an increase in Adult Learners and in people training to teach. “We have to keep our effort strong and I think we should do it together”, Mr. Russell added.
Ceanglaichean (2):
A’ Ghàidhlig ann an Astràília

Bho chionn ghoidir, tha aire a bhith “ga cur air “buaich chrùinneal” na h-Albann”. Tha a’ bhuaich seo dhà-rìnbh ri fàicinn, chan ann a-mhàn an Canada, ach ann an Astràília agus Seilean Nauidh. Rud nach fhaoisear cho tric, sin buaidh nan Gàidheal am measg muintir na h-Albann a shuidichd agus a chur ris na dachaidhneun úr’ aca, às dèidh dhaibh a bhith air an sgapadh air feadh an t-saothair.

Ann a’ 2008, a’ bruaidhinn aig Féis Nàiseanta Ceòl-dùthchais ann a’ Canberra, thuig an Dr. Raghnall MacAoidh, ball de Chomann na Fìdhle Albannaich ann a’ Melbourne, taontaig air a’ ranneasachd a chaidh a dheànnamh le Eimíidh Lyle, Sgoil Êolas na h-Alba, Oilthigh DhunÈdeann, air Gàidheil Cuimrigh Nuaidh a Deas, Bhoictoria, agus Tasmainia ann a’ 1976-77. Bha mu 20,000 dha na Gàidheil sin a dh’imrich ann an 1857, taing do thaic hio Chomunn Imrich na Gàidhealachd agus nan Eileanan. Mar a thuiirt MacAoidh: “Bha eaglaisean Gàidhlig ann (an Eagsail Shaor), comainn agus eagrachais shocharaich. B’ a Ghàidhlig an ciad chànaín, agus chaidh mòran dhan uaign gu smid Beurla aca”. Cha do chait Gàidheil Hobaith ùine a tighinn le chèile, a’ cur a-mach a’ chidh air earann ann an Astràília dhin h-iris “An Teachdaire Gàidhealach” s’a’ Ghearran, 1857. Cha deach a chur an cloc aig an àm ach 10 àireamh, fear gach mios; ach a-nis, a’ tòiseachadh ann a’ 1998, tha Comunn Gàidhlig Astràilia air a bhith a’ foilseachadh na h-iris, an ceathramh ath-bheòthachadh aice bhon a chaidh a cù an cloc an Glaschu tràth’s an ochdinn ann do deug. (Gus barrachd fios ‘fhaighinn air a’ Chomunn agus feadhainn do na h-iris ean a leughadh, rachaidh gu www.ozgaelic.org).

Am measg na bhios iad a’ deànamh a thaobh na Gàidhlig, bho chionn an deichiud mu dhìreadh rhomh dhoinneachadh le Ruairidh MacAonghais, neach-eaconomachd aileachail, agus neach-cathrach do Chomunn Gàidhlig Astràilia. “S e dhuine aig a dhèòighrás dhan Ghàidhlig agus a tha ag obair gun sgios air a son a th’ann a’ Ruairidh. S ann do Mhùideart agus dhan Eilean Sgitheanach a bhùineas a shìnsearachadh; thàinig a fhàireadh air a bh’ stair air an t-àireamh, sin buaidh nan Canada, ach ann an Astràilia agus Sealain Nuaidh. Rud nach fhaicinn cho dhà- Alba*. Tha a’ bhuaidh seo dà Cuide ri sin, bho chionn 1996, tha an Comunn air sgol fad ceann seachadain a chumail gach bliadhna bhò 1996; chaidh Sgoil 2013 a chumail ann a’ Melbourne. Aig an àm seo, thatar aig obair gu dìcheallach aird airgead a dhogail gus an tèid neach-teagasg na Gàidhlig ‘fhasdadh aig an oilthigh a’ Suidnich. Buaidh is piseach air na h-oidhirpean aig na caraidean agamh ann an Astràilia air sgàth na Gàidhlig. Mar a tha an seanfhacal aig bonn na ciad duiileig ann an iris 2013 ag ràdh: “S e a’ Ghàidhlig bhi saolmhair, iuchair saorsa na Gàidheal!”

*m.e. An Dàmhair, 2009, co-labhairt an Albainn fo’n total “Buaidh chrùinneil na h-Alba—Mar a dh’atharraich aon dùthaich bheag an saoghal”

Connections (2):
Gaelic in Australia

In recent years, “Scotland’s global influence” has received attention*. This influence can readily be seen not only in Canada, but in Australia and New Zealand. What is less often specified in this diaspora is the influence of Scottish Gaels in their new homelands, since post-clearance Scottish emigrants were often of Gaelic lineage.

In 2008, Dr. Ronald McCoy, member of the Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club, speaking at the National Folk Festival in Canberra, referred to the research done by Emily Lyle of the Edinburgh U. School of Scottish Studies in Australia (1976-77), specifically New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania, where, in 1857, it was estimated there lived about 20,000 Scottish Gaelic speakers; for these people, cleared from their lands in Scotland, passage had been organized by the Highland and Island Emigration Society. As McCoy states: “There were Gaelic churches (Free Church), societies, and welfare organisations. For this group, Gaelic was their first language, and many went to their graves speaking no English at all”. The Gaels in Hobart, Tasmania, wasted no time in banding together, putting out the first Australian issue of the magazine “An Teachdaire Gàidhealach” in February, 1857. Although only 10 monthly numbers were published at the time, its fourth revival since the original publication in Glasgow in the early 1800s has been ongoing since 1998 under the auspices of Comunn Gàidhlig Astràilia. (Check out the website www.ozgaelic.org for more information on the Comunn and to view some of the more recent newsletters).

Recently in Sydney, Australia, Catriona Parsons had the pleasure of meeting Rod McInnes, an agricultural economist, and Convener for Comunn Gàidhlig Astràilia, who is a passionate and tireless worker on behalf of Gaelic in present-day Australia. His ancestry is rooted in Moideart and Skye; his great-great-great grandfather Donald MacInnes, with about 15 family members, landed in Sydney in March, 1840. (cont’d on pg. 4)
Among their Gaelic activities, since the 1990s Comunn members have been taking part in 30-60 minute conversation circles, or ‘Cearcaill’, based on one that ran in Inverness, Scotland, followed by reading Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh by Ruairidh Mac’Illeathain—readers will be aware the latter, originally from Tasmania, has been, and is, a strong influence for good with today’s Gaelic learners.

In addition, since 1996, the Comunn has held an annual weekend-long ‘sgoil’, the 2013 one in Melbourne. Currently, great fund-raising efforts are being made to secure a Gaelic Instructor at Sydney University. All power to them in their efforts—and to all the work of our Australian friends on behalf of Gaelic. As the proverb at the end of page one of the 2013 edition of their magazine puts it: “’S e a’ Ghàidhlig bhi saodmhor, iuchair saorsa nan Gàidheal!” ('The key to the emancipation/independence/liberty of the Gaels is the [continued] prosperity of Gaelic!')

*e.g. October 2009, conference as part of build-up to the year of homecoming in Scotland: “Scotland’s Global Impact—How one small nation changed the world”.*
### 2013 Gaelic Language in Community Program Funding Recipients, November 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An Clachan Gàidhealach</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>to assist with Neach-glèidhìdh na Drochaid IV, a manager for An Drochaid Eadarainn website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Clachan Gàidhealach</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>to assist with Stòras a’ Bhaile, a Gaelic folklife school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comann Leasachaidh Inbhirnis</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>to assist with Bun is Bàrr: Baile nan Gilneasach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comann Leasachaidh Inbhirnis</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>to assist with dh’Fhèill Mìos na Gàidhlig a chumail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sgoil Ghàidhlig an Àrd-Bhaile</td>
<td>$3,457</td>
<td>to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comann Eachdraidh Hogoma ’s a Sgire</td>
<td>$1,396</td>
<td>to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comunn Gàidhlig is Eachdraidh Mhàbu</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comunn Féis an Eilein</td>
<td>$1,914</td>
<td>to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ionad Mineachaidh a’ Chiùil Cheiltich</td>
<td>$2,600</td>
<td>to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ionad Mineachaidh a’ Chiùil Cheiltich</td>
<td>$1,100</td>
<td>to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Traditional Rhyme

Là na Nollaig, fad ceum collich  
Là na Blaidhn’ Ùireadh, uair a’ ghille chonnaidh  
Là Fhéill Pàdraig, grian bho shia gu sia.

Christmas Day, the length of a rooster’s step  
New Year’s Day, time for the lad to take in the firewood  
St. Patrick’s Day, sun from six to six.

A Traditional rhyme describing how the winter season is divided according to the prevailing weather. Inverness County, Cape Breton residents often referred to January having a “rooster’s step on the day”. 

---

The Nova Scotia Highland Village: $5,000 to assist with Stòras a’ Bhaile, a Gaelic folklife school.

Inverness Development Association: $5,000 to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.

Comunn Eachdraidh Hogoma ‘s a Sgìre: $1,396 to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.

Sgoil Ghàidhlig an Àrd-Bhaile: $3,457 to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.

Whycocomagh and District Historical Society: $1,914 to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.

Celtic Music Interpretative Centre: $2,600 to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.

Comunn Féis an Eilean: $1,914 to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.

Mabou Gaelic and Historical Society: $2,000 to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.

Celtic Music Interpretative Centre: $1,100 to assist with dh’Fhèill Mòs na Gàidhlig a chumail.
Dealbhan bho ’n choinneimh le Ministear na Gàidhlig, Raghnell Delorey, anns a’ Ghut, An Gearran 7, 2014

Photos from Minister Delorey’s Meet and Greet event in Port Hawkesbury held on February 7, 2014.
An Coileach Mór agus an Coileach Beag

Eisimplear dhen mhodh oideis a bh’ aig na Gàidheil leis a’ chlainn:

Leum an coileach mór air toman, sheas e air a chorra-bhiod, chrath e a sgiathan agus ghlaodh e ris a’ choileach bheag a bh’ a’ criomadh r’ a thaobh: “An aithne dhutsa có mi, a Dhòmhnaill?” Dh’fhiaich an coileag beag ri a fhreagaírt air an t-séòl cheudna, ach ged shin esan a sgòrnann, cha robh ’na ghairm ach: “Mac circe, mac circe”.

(bo’n leabhrach aig Alasdair MacNeacail, “Oideas na Cloinne”, ciad àireamh 1927, Glaschu, Alba; darna àireamh gu bhith tighinn a’ chumail 2014, le SÌOL Cill Rìmhinn, Alba Nuaidh.)

The following is an example of the way in which Gaels taught their children:

The big rooster leapt on a hillock, stood on his tippy-toes, shook his wings and proclaimed to the little rooster that was nibbling beside him: “Do you know who I am, Donald?” The little rooster tried to answer him in the same manner but although he stretched out his neck, he could only crow: “Son of a hen, son of a hen”.


Tha eòlas ann gun deach na Gàidheil air thoiseach air rudan a bh’a ’nam bacadh dhaibh, is ’s ann mar sin a tha e fhathast. Nuair a bhios Gàidheil airson tuilleadh chothrom-bhraith a bh’ uair a chur an gnìomh le beagan de ghoireasan, tha iad a’ coimhead air càn an agus cultar nan Gàidheal mar phriomh adhbhach a bhith a feumaidh ’n a coimearnachd an dhi’ærach iad’s a tha ’nach dachaidh dhaibh.

Agus tha iomradh gu leòr ann guarrann gloc a bh’ aig na Gàidheil is ’ad mothachail dha na rudan a bh’a a’ tachairt mun cuairt air a’ cho-chomann aca. ’S ann a-mach air a’ seo bhos Gàidheil nuair a bhios ’ad a’ toirt an air’ air dúbhblain a thaobh òigrìdh – an t-sàrn a thig do chòimhearnachd sam bith – agus ’s iad a tha ’g obair gus prògramm-oid’ a dhèanadh gu taic a thoirt do dhì-òigrìdh a chumail ’s a’ mhòr-rioinn againg.

Mar sin, leis a’ ghairm a chaidh a dhèanadh air gach Ùr- Albannach, tha cothrom-an-aig Gàidheil na h-Albann Nuaidh’ eisimplirean a chompaiteachadh le Coimisean na h-Albann Nuaidh’ is a’ mhòr-rioinn ’s an fharsaingeachd air mar a chaidh na Gàidheil air thoiseach air na cumann starraidh a bh’ a thigmha is gu dé an toradh a thainig ’s na h-oidhirpean aca. Cuide ri sinn, feumàidh iad an obair agus na cothroman a thig còmhla rithe ’s an am ri teac’innseadh do chàch.

’S a’ ghairm seo do dhèanadh air ghearradh dhàibh, tha ’àite ann do ghach duine dhinn. Faic: http://nowoneverns.ca/

Lewis MacKinnon, Exec. Director, Gaelic Affairs
A’ Ghàidhlig air Bhonn - Gaelic on the Go...

'M e an Céitean Mios na Gàidhlig.
Cum do shùil a-mach airson na h-ath litir-naidheachd againn.

May is Gaelic Awareness Month.
Look out for our next newsletter.
It will bring you the word on special events......!