ceòlas

Aithisg Bhliadhnail 2020
Annual Report 2020

Ceòlas Uibhist Ltd
Dalabrog, Uibhist a Deas

Scottish Charity: SC031179
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Cùrsaichean Bogaidh Gàidhlig

San t-Sultain, chaidh cùrsa fèin-mhaoinichte a ruith ann an Èirisgeidh do bhuidheann de luchd-ionnsachaidh à Cille Bhrìde an Ear air a' Ghalltachd. Bha biadh agus cuid oidhche an cois a' chùrsa dhaibh. Thàinig luchd-ionnsachaidh à Uibhist an cois nan clasaichean cuideachd, a chumadh ann an Talla Choimhearsnachd Èirisgeidh. Bha sgrìoban timcheall an eilein cuideachd. Chuireadh an leabhar ùr Ainmean-àite Èirisgeidh gu feum mòr. Bha an cùrsa a' ruith o DhihAoine gu DiLuain agus fhuair na h-oileanaich dà latha de dhusan uairean de dh'ionnsachadh cànain.

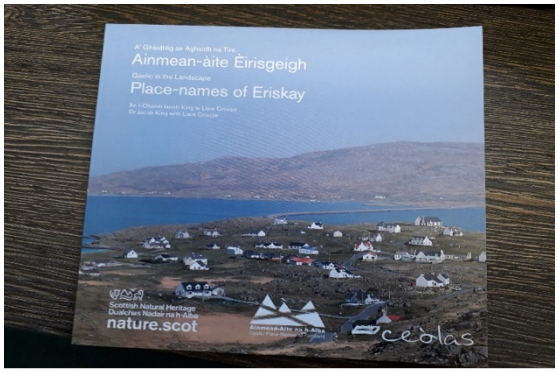
'S e deagh ionnsachadh cuideachd a bh' anns a' chùrsa dha Fionna Halliday, a dh'fhastadh le Ceòlas o mheadhan an Lùnastail mar Oifigear Curraicealaim na Gàidhlig. Bha e mar uallach air Fionna goireasan ionnsaichte structaraichte a chruthachadh do Cheòlas agus cùrsaichean bogaidh a theagasg a' dol air adhart. Bha dùil gum biodh cùrsaichean bogaidh a' dol sa Ghiblean, san Ògmhios agus dà thuras san Iuchar rè na Sgoile Samhraidh agus a' Symposium, agus fear eile air an Fhèill Mhìcheil.

Gaelic Immersion Courses

The beginning of Ceòlas year in September opened with a self-funded Immersion Course held in Eriskay booked by the East Kilbride Gaelic Learners Group. This first privately-run event was catered, and the group stayed together in a large house in Eriskay. Local students joined the classes which were held in Eriskay Hall and most of the outdoor activity took place in and around Eriskay. The book Ainmean-àite Èirisgeidh was prominently promoted. Group arrived on Friday afternoon and returned to the mainland on Monday morning. Two twelve-hour days of language were taught.

The course was a great introduction to Fionna Halliday who joined Ceòlas in mid-August as the Gaelic Curriculum Officer on a two-year contract. Fionna was tasked with creating structured learning resources for Ceòlas to teach with for future Immersion Courses.

2020 Immersion Courses were planned for late April, June, July at Ceòlas and during the Symposium week and another planned for September for Michaelmas.



Às an Tobar

Chruthaicheadh pròg ram ann an co-bhonn ri Cothrom, Taigh Chearsabhagh agus Sgoil Lìonacleit, a' leantail bhliadhnaichean eile. Bha dà latha de thachartasan, ged a chaidh latha sa Cheann a Tuath a chur dheth ri linn ghnothaich ris nach robh dùil. Chomharraicheadh co-latha breith a' bhàird, Dòmhnall Iain MacDhòmhnaill, agus bha sinn toilichte taic a chumail ri ath-fhoillseachadh an leabhar aige, Uibhist a Deas. Bha 36 a' gabhail pàirt san fhèill.

Gaelic Literary Festival

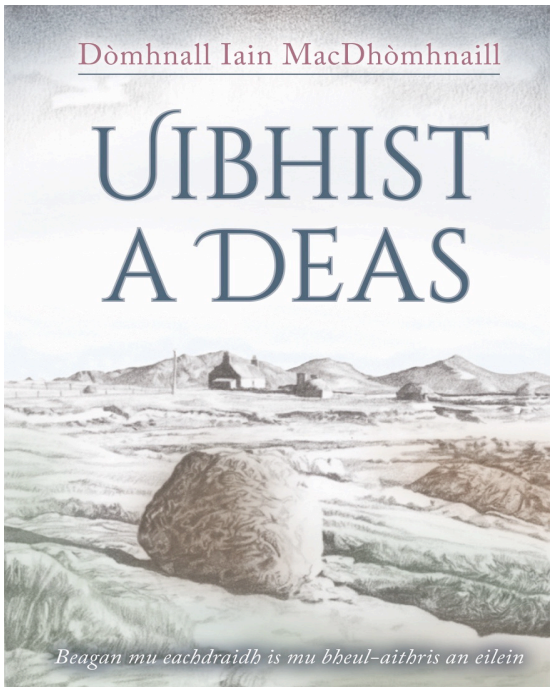
The programme was created in collaboration with the 2018 Toradh Group, Cothrom, Taigh Chearsabhagh and Sgoil Lìonacleit. Programme ran over two days with the planned repeat of day 1 in North Uist having to be cancelled owing to unforeseen circumstances. Ceòlas continued to celebrate the 100th Birthday of Dòmhnall Iain MacDhòmhnaill (Dòmhnall Iain Dhonnchaidh) and were proud to support the republishing of his book. 36 people took part in the events.

DiDòmhnaich, 17 Samh: STEALL, 7f
Ùghdarran: Gillebrìde Mac IlleMhaoil, Magaidh Nic a' Ghobhainn & Liam Crouse
Ceòl: Calum òg Mac IlleMhaoil
Àite: Fèis Room, Taigh-tasgaidh Chill Donnain

DiLuain, 18 Samh: Uibhist a Deas, 7f
Luchd-bruidhinn: Catrìona Garbutt
Ceòl: Ruairidh Gray
Àite: Fèis Room, Taigh-tasgaidh Chill Donnain

Sunday, 17 November: STEALL, 7pm
Readers/speakers: Gillebrìde MacMillan, Magaidh Nic a' Ghobhainn & Liam Crouse
Music: Calum òg MacMillan
Where: Fèis Room, Kildonan Museum (booked from 6pm-9pm)

Monday, 18 November: 'Uibhist a Deas', 7pm
Readers/speakers: Catriona Garbutt
Music: Ruairidh Gray
Where: Fèis Room, Kildonan Museum



Fèis Chullaig

Bha tachartasan thar 3 làithean, a' fosgladh le dannsa coimhearsnachd ann an Talla Staoinebrig, a' leantail air a' chèilidh teaghlaich a rinn muinntir an Talla. Bha 230 inbheach (os cionn 18 bliadhna) an làthair aig dannsa Trail West ann an Talla an Ìochdair. Bha 65 an làthair aig cuirm phìobairean òga ann an Èirisgeidh. Bha cèilidh bheag ann an Loidse Ghróigearraidh agus 40 duine an làthiar. Chaidh an fhèis a thoirt gu crìch le Cèilidh na Cloinne ann an Taigh-òsta a' Bhorrodail air Oidhche na Bliadhn' Ùire agus còrr is 100 duine an làthair tràth air an fheasgair.

Hogmanay Programme

Events were carried out over 3 days the programme is below.

The programme opened with a Dance for the community in Stoneybridge Hall, after the family ceilidh organised by hall. Trail West Dance in Iochdar Hall attracted 230 adults and was strictly over 18's. Piping Recital with the young pipers in Eriskay attracted a group of 65 people In the afternoon. Small ceilidh in Grogarry Lodge attracted 40 people and the highlight of the weekend in the Southend was the Children's Ceilidh at the Borrodale on New Year's Eve which attracted over 100 people in very early evening 5.00pm

Celtic Connections

Cuirm 25 Bliadhna

18 Faoi, 2020; 8f

Old Fruitmarket

Fìor dheagh oidhche a bh' aig gach duine an làthair, a' comharrachadh 25 bliadhna o stèidhicheadh Ceòlas. Bha MacTV ann a' clàradh, agus chì sibh fhathast cuirm shònraichte, gu h-àraidh nuair a ghabh Pòl MacCalluim 'Sìne Bhàn' le ceòl-taice o Ailean MacEunraig. 'S e Dàimh còmhlan na h-oidhche agus chì sibh fhathast an còrr ann an 2021.

Celtic Connections

25th Anniversary Concert

18 Jan, 2020; 8pm

Old Fruitmarket

A memorable night was had by all who attended, as part of the Ceòlas 25th Anniversary celebrations MACTV were in attendance and you will be able to share in the wonderful evening highlighted by Paul McCallum singing Sìne Bhàn accompanied by Allan Henderson. Dàimh were the house band but the other stars will become evident from the TV footage in 2021.

Clasaichean Gàidhlig sa Choimhearsnachd

Bha Fionna Halliday agus Catrìona Nic an t-Saoir a' ruith chlasaichean dhan choimhearsnachd on Dàmhair, ged a b' fheudar an gluasad air loidhne an dèidh a' Mhàirt 2020 air sàillibh COVID-19. Fhuaireadh taic o Bhòrd na Gàidhlig mun coinneamh agus bha trì buidhnean de shianar a' coinneachadh.

Gaelic Community Classes

Fionna Halliday and Catriona MacIntyre offered community classes in person from October until March 2020 and continued online with those wishing to continue. Numbers were healthy and Bòrd na Gàidhlig supported the small cohort group. Three groups of 6 met from October to June and has restarted again online owing to Covid 19.

Bogsa & Boghannan

O thòisich bliadhna na sgoile, chum Ailean MacEunraig air ag ionnsachadh na fidhleadh do 40 duine. Bha aig Uilleam Moireasdanach sgur a' teasgasg le uallaichean 'obrach. Ged a chaidh an cothrom a thabhainn do Ruairidh Gray, bha uallaichean sgoile airsan. Thug e beagan ùine cuideachd a lorg agus mu dheireadh, 'se Dùghall Dòmhnallach, às a' Cheann a Tuath (Trumbisgearraidh) agus a' fuireach ann an Obar Dheathain, a shuidhicheadh air ceann nan clasaichean. Bidh e gan gabhail gu saor-thoileach. Tha e air fàiligeadh oirnn trì tursan maoineachadh fhaighinn don phròiseact o Iomairt Ceòl na h-Òigridh aig Alba Chruthachail. Bu thoil leinn mìle taing a thoirt do na comhairlichean, Maoin Coimhearsnachd a' Cho-Op, Bags for All aig Tesco agus Urras Leasachaidh Innse Gall, a chum sruth maoin ris a' phròiseact airson 12 mìos eile.

Buttons & Bows

From the start of the school year last year Alan Henderson continued to teach fiddle to 40 young people. Uilleam Morrison's work commitment made him withdraw and although Ruairidh Gray was offered the opportunity to teach, he chose to focus on his studies instead. It took some time find a replacement who visits Uist regularly and he started teaching online prior to Covid. Dougie MacDonald from North Uist who lives in Aberdeen who offers his services on a voluntary basis. We have been unsuccessful the last three attempts to find support from Youth Music Initiative in Creative Scotland and we wish to thank our local Councillors, Co-Op Community Fund, Tesco's Bags for All and the Western Isles Development Trust for their contribution to the project which is now secure for at least another 12 months.

Tachartasan a Chuireadh Dheth

Moladh Uibhist: 1-2 Cèitean, chaidh co-fharpais nan òran a shanasachd ach cha d'fhuaireadh òran mus deach a chur dheth air 30 Màrt.

Sgoil Shamhraidh: chaidh an luchd-teagaisg a phàigheadh airson cur dheth na sgoile. Bha siubhal phleanaichean air an ceannachd, ged a dh'aisigeadh iad gu 2021. Chuir cuid dhen luchd-teagaisg – aig a bheil dreuchdan làn – an tuarastalan mar thabhartas do Cheòlas gu fialaidh. Tha luchd-teagaisg uile ann airson 2021.

Eòlas nan Naomh

Fhuaireadh sìneadh airson a' phròiseict seo agus tha sinn ag ullachadh taisbeanadh dà-chànanach ceangailte ri Eòlas nan Naomh airson Eaglais Thobh' Mòir mar phàirt de dh'ùrachadh na h-eaglaise pròstanaich. Gabhaidh an taisbeanadh a ghluasad ach an toir sinn air feadh an eilein e. Bidh seo cuideachd mar phàirt dhen symposium ann an 2021 a' comharrachadh Bliadhna Chaluim Chille.

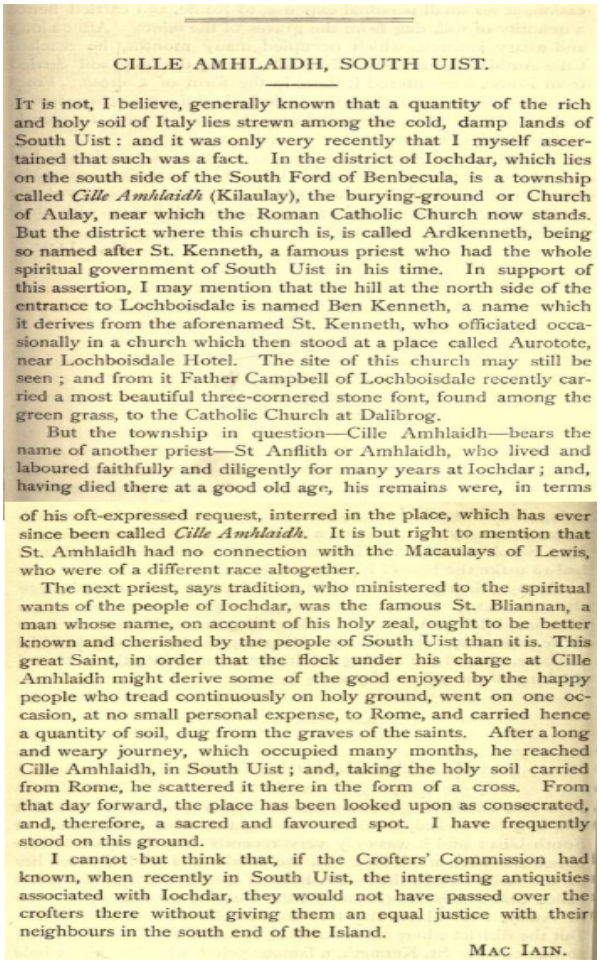
Cancelled Events

Song conference May 1st & 2nd Gaelic Song Competition advertised – no applicants by cancellation on 30th March

Summer School: Tutors paid for cancellation. Flights had been booked and we have been able to transfer them to 2021. Tutors who have teaching employment all refunded their fee Back to Ceòlas an extremely generous gesture. All tutors have been booked for 2020

Colmcille Project

This project is on extension from last year. An exhibition relating to Eòlas nan Naomh is being created and will have its first outing in Howmore Church as part of its refurbishment. The exhibition will be bi-lingual and portable so that it can be used at a variety of venues throughout the island. This project will be central to the symposium in 2021 for the year of Colmcille.



CILLE AMHLAIDH, SOUTH UIST.

It is not, I believe, generally known that a quantity of the rich and holy soil of Italy lies strewn among the cold, damp lands of South Uist: and it was only very recently that I myself ascertained that such was a fact. In the district of Iochdar, which lies on the south side of the South Ford of Benbecula, is a township called *Cille Amhlaidh* (Kilaulay), the burying-ground or Church of Aulay, near which the Roman Catholic Church now stands. But the district where this church is, is called Ardkenneth, being so named after St. Kenneth, a famous priest who had the whole spiritual government of South Uist in his time. In support of this assertion, I may mention that the hill at the north side of the entrance to Lochboisdale is named Ben Kenneth, a name which it derives from the aforenamed St. Kenneth, who officiated occasionally in a church which then stood at a place called Aurotote, near Lochboisdale Hotel. The site of this church may still be seen; and from it Father Campbell of Lochboisdale recently carried a most beautiful three-cornered stone font, found among the green grass, to the Catholic Church at Dalibrog.

But the township in question—Cille Amhlaidh—bears the name of another priest—St Anflith or Amhlaidh, who lived and laboured faithfully and diligently for many years at Iochdar; and, having died there at a good old age, his remains were, in terms of his oft-expressed request, interred in the place, which has ever since been called *Cille Amhlaidh*. It is but right to mention that St. Amhlaidh had no connection with the Macaulays of Lewis, who were of a different race altogether.

The next priest, says tradition, who ministered to the spiritual wants of the people of Iochdar, was the famous St. Bliannan, a man whose name, on account of his holy zeal, ought to be better known and cherished by the people of South Uist than it is. This great Saint, in order that the flock under his charge at Cille Amhlaidh might derive some of the good enjoyed by the happy people who tread continuously on holy ground, went on one occasion, at no small personal expense, to Rome, and carried hence a quantity of soil, dug from the graves of the saints. After a long and weary journey, which occupied many months, he reached Cille Amhlaidh, in South Uist; and, taking the holy soil carried from Rome, he scattered it there in the form of a cross. From that day forward, the place has been looked upon as consecrated, and, therefore, a sacred and favoured spot. I have frequently stood on this ground.

I cannot but think that, if the Crofters' Commission had known, when recently in South Uist, the interesting antiquities associated with Iochdar, they would not have passed over the crofters there without giving them an equal justice with their neighbours in the south end of the Island.

MAC IAIN.

Symposium: bha sinn fortanach nach robh cùmhnantan ann airson luchd-bruidhinn aig a' cho-labhairt. Cha robh a' chuid as motha de dh'òraidichean saor air na cinn-latha sin. 'S e cuspair na bliadhna a' togail air Eòlas nan Naomh, agus bha sinn gus tadhail air eileanan Pabaigh (ann am Barraigh agus Beàrnaraigh). Thèid seo a cheangal ri Bliadhna Chaluim Chille eadar Dùbh 2020 gu 2021. Bidh bliadhna eile de 'Chladaichean agus Uisgeachan' air an ath bhliadhna, agus Bliadhna nan 'Sgeulachdan' ann an 2022.

Symposium: We were fortunate that no booking of speakers had been made – contacts with UHI early medieval speakers had been made but they were unavailable. We were intending to extend the earlier work done on Eòlas nan Naomh and we had put in an application for funding to Plunge regarding visits to the two Pabbay sites nearby - Barra and Berneray. This will tie in with the year of St Colmcille from Dec 2020 to dec 2021 and the year of Scotland's Coasts and Waters which was also cancelled owing to Covid. This will segway into 2022 year of Scotland's stories.

Càirdeas Coimhearsnachd

Fhuair Ceòlas & Comann na Gàidhlig airgead às a' Mhaoin Co-obrachaidh aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig gus pròiseact eadar-ghinealach a ruith ann an Uibhist. Bha Cothrom Ltd agus Comhairle nan Eilean Siar gu bhith a' gabhail pàirt cuideachd. Bha am pròg ram gus ruith eadar a' Ghiblean agus an t-Iuchar.

Tha an sgeama daltachais air a bhrosnachadh leis a' phròg ram Bun is Bàrr a th' aig Oifis Iomairtean na Gàidhlig, Alba Nuadh, Canada.

Thèid trì stuthan – pàrantan & clann òg; deugairean; Gàidheil fhileanta – a thoirt còmhla ann an tachartasan tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. Bidh na Gàidheil fhileanta a' cur tagsa ris an dà bhuidheann eile ann an dòighean structaraichte, leth-structaraichte agus neo-fhoirmeil, le corra chothrom air cruinneachaidhean leis gach buidheann còmhla.

Càirdeas Coimhearsnachd

Ceòlas Uibhist & Comann na Gàidhlig have secured funding from the Maoin Co-obrachaidh administered by Bòrd na Gàidhlig to pilot a Gaelic Intergenerational Learning Project in Uist. Cothrom Ltd and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar have thus far expressed an interest in contributing to sections of the project. The project timetable was April – July.

The mentoring scheme ('buddy programme')

is inspired by the Bun is Bàrr programme run by the Office of Gaelic Affairs, Nova Scotia, Canada.

There will be three main demographic groups – parents & early years; teenagers; adult native speakers – who will be paired together in various Gaelic-medium social environments. Native speakers will directly engage with the other two demographics in structured, semi-structured and unstructured activities and there will be occasions when all three groups come together for joint gatherings.

’S iad prìomh amasan a’ phròiseict:

- Fàs a thoirt air cleachdadh na Gàidhlig am measg trì buidhnean gus cleachdadh eadar-ghinealach a leudachadh ann an coimhearsnachd Uibhist;
- Measadh air dòighean gus Gàidheil fhileanta a thoirt a-steach gu prògraman ionnsachaidh;
- Aire agus ceannas a thogail mu iomairtean na Gàidhlig am measg muinntir Uibhist, leis an dòchas gun cuidich iad ann am pròiseactan a’ dol air adhart;
- A bhith nar prìomh eisimpleir ann an Alba air leasachadh na Gàidhlig sa choimhearsnachd.

Thèid am pròram seo a ruith nuair a cheadaicheas riaghailtean cruinneachaidh e.

The principal goals of this pilot project are:

- To grow Gaelic language usage and learning among three key demographic groups and increase intergenerational language transmission in the Uist community;
- To evaluate further ways to engage adult native speakers in language programmes;
- To increase awareness and ownership of community-based Gaelic language initiatives amongst the Uist population, including participant commitment to future projects;
- To act as a leading example in Scotland of community-based Gaelic language development.

Ceòlas intends to continue with this project once it becomes possible to meet in groups of more than two households.

Sgoil Shamhraidh Dhidseatach

Mar fhreagairt air COVID-19, chaidh an Neach-taic Ionmhais agus Stiùiriche Ealain a chur air fòrladh. Bha aig Ceòlas ri làthaireachd nas faicsinniche fàs, ri linn ’s nach robh e ceadaichte cruinneachadh. Ghabh seo a-steach pàirtean dhen Sgoil Shamhraidh.

Chaidh Fo-bhuidheann Ealain a stèidheachadh le luchd-obrach, stiùirichean agus proifeasantaich eile gus am pròram a lìbhrigeadh.

Bha am Fo-bhuidheann a’ beachdachadh air cruthachadh agus cur an gnìomh a’ phròraim dhidsitich ri linn COVID-19. Bha seo a’ gabhail a-steach clàradh agus sruthadh ‘An Cèilidh Mòr’, on a chaidh an sgoil shamhraidh a chur dheth. Bha am Fo-bhuidheann cuideachd a’ leasachadh thaobhan eile dhen phròram ealain, mar a bha iomchaidh.

Digital Presence during Summer School

In response the COVID-19 pandemic, the Financial Assistant and the Artistic Director have been placed on furlough. Due to the restrictions and social distancing guidelines in place, Ceòlas needs to develop and curate a greater online presence. This may include aspects of the July summer school, such as a digital ‘Cèilidh Mòr’.

An Interim Artistic Subgroup, composed of staff, members of the Board of Directors and co-opted industry professionals, will be established to plan and implement the digital programme.

The Subgroup will:

- Consider the development and implementation of a digital programme during the COVID-19 restrictions;
- Consider, plan and implement a digital streaming of ‘An Cèilidh Mòr’ during the week of the cancelled 2020 Ceòlas summer school;
- Work to develop other aspects of the artistic programme, as appropriate.

Na Meadhanan Sòisealta

Bha deagh fhaicsinneach againn air na meadhanan sòisealta, agus bha sinn fortanach gun robh BBC Alba deònach pròg ram leth-uair a chraoladh dhen Chèilidh Mhòr. Dh'ionnsaich sinn fhad 's a bha sinn a' dol air adhart agus cumaidh am Fo-bhuidheann Ealain a' dol fhathast.

Eadar an t-Ògmhios agus an t-Iuchar, dh'èirich an sianal Youtube aig Ceòlas mar a leanas:

- +16 luchd-leantail
- +2,463 seallaidhean
- +16,934 mionaidean

Tha na clàran a tha sinn a' cumail a' sealltainn an t-soirbheachais.

Social Media Analysis

The social media presence was extensive and we were lucky with BBC ALBA agreeing to broadcast 30 minutes of the Ceilidh Mor.

In reviewing the offer several lessons have been learned and the Artistic Subgroup will continue meeting to develop the offer throughout the years.

Ceòlas Youtube Channel from 14th June to 14th July had the following statistics

- +16 subscribers
- +2,463 views
- +16,934 minutes

Our own record keeping shows the success of the strategy.

Stuth às an Tasglann | Archival Material

Date	Video	Reach	Clicks	Engagement
4/6	Cathy Ann MacPhee	2800*	546	205
11/6	Angus Nicolson	6400*	699	183
15/6	Màiri MacMillan	3900*	760	188
18/6	Coll MacDonald	4800	403	87
22/6	Rona Lightfoot	1800	307	75
25/6	Angus MacKenzie	5900	573	148
29/6	Margaret Stewart	1200	102	30
2/7	Ingrid Henderson	5500*	411	81
5/7	Howie MacDonald	1100	94	29

Vlogaichean | Vlogs

Date	Video	Reach	Clicks	Engagement
5/7	Cathy Ann MacPhee	9000*	883	157
6/7	Hamish Moore	2600	383	91
6/7	Paul McCallum	2500	449	86
7/7	Fin Moore/Sarah Hoy	3300	378	109
7/7	Margaret MacLellan	1700	133	36
8/7	Griogair Labhruidh	6100	740	184
8/7	Margaret Stewart	3000	298	97
9/7	Shelly Campbell	2800	379	101
9/7	Ingrid Henderson	2700	215	50

Cuirmean | Concerts

Date	Video	Reach	Clicks	Engagement
8/7	Piping	12300	1500	455
9/7	Fiddle	11100	1700	247
10/7	An Cèilidh Mòr	10700	3200	629

Facebook & Youtube

Facebook views	YouTube views
5276	264
4575	250
4998	289

Oifigear Conaltraidh na Gàidhlig

Thàinig an obair seo gu ceann aig deireadh an Iuchair agus bidh ionndrainn mhòr air Liam Crouse, a bha ag obair gu dìcheallach fad trì bliadhna. Chuir an obair seo, a bh' air a maoineachadh le LEADER, gu mòr ris a' bhuidheann, a tha air fàs na h-uimhir. Tha maoineachadh LEADER a' tighinn gu ceann, buaidh Brexit ann no às.

Gaelic Media & Communications Officer Post

This post came to an end at the end of July and Ceòlas will sorely miss Liam Crouse who had carried out the work diligently and with enthusiasm for three years. The contribution made by this LEADER funded post cannot be underestimated for the organisation, which has grown and hopefully will continue post Covid 19. LEADER funding will end without withdrawal from the EU.