ceòlas

Aithisg Bhliadhnail

Annual Report **2015**

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Chairperson's Foreword

Tha e toirt làn thoileachadh dhòmhsa an aithisg bhliadhnail a tha seo a chur mar coinneamh. Is e teisteanas làidir a th' innte dhan obair mhath a tha Ceòlas a' dèanamh a thaobh leasachadh nan Ealain Ghàidhlig agus a' chànain fhèin.

I am delighted to be presenting this Annual Report to inform you about the many initiatives Ceòlas Uibhist Ltd has undertaken over the past year. Ceòlas is an ambitious organisation which has grown steadily over the years to become one of Scotland's best recognised and respected Gaelic & Traditional music organisations. The funding packages which led to an increase in staff have helped tremendously and the arrival of Rebecca Rennell and Liam Crouse have been a welcome boost. Their input has enabled us to move forward with crucial developments – the Building Project & Developing Partnerships and Gaelic developments. While concentrating on development we have also increased the programme of work we deliver in Uist and this year we ran 6 full weeks of activity and are already planning ahead for more as we acknowledge that much more is required if we are to fill a Centre. The Summer School continues to be a prime focus and this year's event was fantastic!

We have developed a strong working relationship with Lews Castle College and Bòrd na Gàidhlig over the year and we look forward to more collaborations with both these organisations. Our funders have been invaluable and we hope they will be pleased with the outputs they are getting for their contributions.

Ceòlas has a very dedicated and able staff team supported by a strong Board and Committee and together we are achieving great things for Uist and for the Gaelic and music communities of Scotland.

Màiri T NicAonghais

Cathraiche

Building Development Report

The building development project has moved on significantly since the last Annual Report. Following community consultation and a rigorous options appraisal process, Ceòlas now have an agreed location for the building. In partnership with Lews Castle College music staff a clear idea about the required building facilities has been formed, as well as an architect's design report has been produced, with a price proposal for the planned building and a capital funding strategy. A Memorandum of Understanding with Lews Castle College has been agreed and continued support from project stakeholders: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Scottish Government and Creative Scotland has been forthcoming.

In January 2015 the Implementation Manager, Dr Rebecca Rennell, prepared a document outlining the facility and capacity requirements for the proposed building in consultation with Ceòlas staff and Lews Castle College music staff. The Facility and Capacity Requirements document was presented to the Ceòlas Board for approval on the 16 February 2015. The agreed facilities include teaching spaces, practice rooms and a large performance area.

On the 13 February 2015 Ceòlas hosted a public meeting to outline the building project progress and plans inviting the community to contribute to the building location decision making process. The meeting, chaired by Fr Donald MacKay, was attended by forty six members of the public, in addition to the Board of Directors along with Staff and Committee members. This demonstrated overwhelming support for the project and a keen interest among the community to be involved. Several suggestions were offered for the building's location. These suggestions were followed up by the Implementation Manager and, where appropriate, included in the subsequent options appraisal assessment.

Following the public meeting the Implementation Manager collated information about available and appropriate sites for the new building. This information was presented to the Ceòlas Board and to the Committee for appraisal on 20 April 2015. A summary of this information was also made available to Ceòlas members who were balloted for their preferred site location. Over 60% of Ceòlas' members took part in the community vote. The outcome of the vote identified Cnoc Soilleir in Dalabrog as the preferred site, with 65% of votes registering Cnoc Soilleir as their first or second choice. Simultaneously, the Board and Committee members undertook a weighted options appraisal which assessed and scored the following criteria; plot size, availability, 'build-ready' timeframe and cost, proximity to amenities, landscape and setting, potential for student accommodation and community support. The rigorous options appraisal process also identified Cnoc Soilleir as the most appropriate location for the building. The land at Cnoc Soilleir is in the ownership of the Stòras Uibhist Estate, but has been leased historically to the Church of Scotland. The Ceòlas Board and Committee agreed Cnoc Soilleir as the preferred location for the project. Lews

Castle College was informed and endorsed this decision. Stòras Uibhist and the Church of Scotland subsequently provided letters of support for the project.

In May 2015 Ceòlas commissioned John Renshaw Architects to prepare a feasibility study and design report for the proposed building at Cnoc Soilleir. This was paid for by Ceòlas, Lews Castle College and Highlands and Islands Enterprise. John Renshaw visited Uist to work closely with the Implementation Manager, other Ceòlas and Church of Scotland representatives along with Lews Castle College music staff. MacInnes Brothers offered a ground survey as an in-kind offer to the project development. The feasibility study and design report identified options for a joint Ceòlas and LCC facility at Cnoc Soilleir. Crucially, John Renshaw's report successfully captured Ceòlas' vision and aspiration:

> *'The building will create an inspiring and unforgettable impression for visitors arriving in Daliburgh … The building shall be accessible, sheltering and fostering creativity and the joy of music, dance the Gaelic cultural traditions. Internally, it will be an exemplary modern teaching and working environment, with ideal acoustics and ambience for performing and teaching traditional music, dance and Gaelic. The building will be characterised by plentiful natural daylight, excellent ventilation and indoor air quality, and an intimate connection with the surrounding landscape.'*

In conclusion, the report recommends a high-specification, single storey building constructed to the highest comfort standards ensuring optimum acoustics and low running costs. A Quantity Surveyor has costed this proposed building at Cnoc Soilleir at £9.6 million.

Image 1: Proposed building and associated landscaping at Cnoc Soilleir, from John Renshaw Architects report

In June 2015 the Implementation Manager prepared and submitted the first capital funding application for the building project. An application was made to the Big Lottery Growing

Community Assets Fund for £1.24 million, 13% of the overall capital costs for the building. In October 2015 Ceòlas were informed that this application had not been successful. Although Ceòlas are very disappointed with this outcome, positive feedback shows that the application was very strong and with some additional work could be resubmitted in the near future.

Dance Development Report

The dance development project is now coming to the end of its third year. In her two years at Ceòlas, Dance Development Officer Laura Johnston has developed a variety of education and community projects.

Education

The Dance Development Officer has worked in all primary school across the Uists and Barra, in three-month blocks, to support teachers deliver a challenging and lively dance curriculum in line with Curriculum for Excellence. Schools across Uist and Barra were very appreciative of the high quality input.

Dance classes were made available to secondary students in the form of free weekly afterschool activities. In addition, Laura worked alongside the community project 'Include Us', a programme of additional education - to develop the confidence and self-esteem of young people.

Laura also ran workshops for Lews Castle College traditional music course-students developing contemporary dance routines in response to live and original compositions between March and May 2015.

Ceòlas Summer School

During the Summer School, Ceòlas offered drop-in dance classes. This was to showcase the variety of styles taught by the Dance Development Project during the year including ballet, contemporary, house (hip hop), line dancing and dance fitness. There was keen interest with an average of 20 people participating in each session.

Community Activities

The Dance Development Officer contributed to the Ceòlas Adult Education Programme by running a weekly Over 50s dance fitness class, initially run by Health Promotion.

The classes proved to be so successful the participants requested a continuation beyond the initial period.

A range of after-school clubs was very popular with young people of varied ages.

Successful dance workshops were run during the Easter holidays, popular with locals and visitors. The dance officer made a valuable contribution to International Women's Day by offering dance routines. Several visiting tutors throughout the last year supported the dance officer and contributed to the positive experience offered to participants.

Post Continuation

Creative Scotland funding which enabled the dance project to flourish has expired and a continuation has not yet been found, despite substantial attempts at attracting new funds. Ceòlas will continue to strive to attract funds to enable the project to develop in its diversity within our community.

Gaelic Development

In 2015, Ceòlas developed its Gaelic language output in several areas, working to exploit South Uist's rich Gaelic heritage as an asset for national benefit. The appointment of a Gaelic Development Officer has enabled the growth of Gaelic language, through cultural and educational contexts. Gaelic classes at Lews Castle College and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses for Gaelic Medium teachers, Gaelic Language Learning & Gaelic Learning in the Primary School teachers have been successfully delivered this year. This progress is significant in fulfilling the aspirations of Ceòlas in supporting Gaelic Medium Education in Scotland.

LCC Gaelic Classes

Ceòlas has continued to deliver successful Gaelic classes for students at the Benbecula Campus of Lews Castle College. The classes were popular, but the irregular attendance of students hampered consistent progress. The Gaelic Development Officer conducted a survey to ascertain causes for the low retention levels. And as a result a revised timetable has been implemented to avoid clashes with other activities at the college and to coincide with local transport services. Progress is being monitored.

Teacher Training

2015 marked the first delivery of a successful CPD Gaelic enrichment course for current Gaelic Language Learning (GLL) & Gaelic Medium Education (GME) teachers, as well as

prospective Gaelic teachers. The course was run at the same time as the main summer school and six teachers took part, with participants from Highland Region, Edinburgh, Glasgow and the Western Isles. The course ran alongside the Gaelic Immersion for Teachers (GIfT) short course (see below). Morning classes comprised of grammar and spoken language; 'out of school' activities were planned to contextualise the language learning. Students also took part in the main summer school evening community programme. Daily guest lectures were given on various topics such as Uist proverbs and Gaelic poetry. The teachers had the opportunity to practise their Gaelic in the community with trips to Kildonan Museum, local enterprises, crofts and sites of archaeological interest.

Feedback for the course was immensely positive. Teachers made specific reference to the rich Gaelic environment of South Uist, repeatedly praising opportunities to hear and use Gaelic as a spoken language.

Image 2: Teacher training and GIfT course at the summer school 2015.

Gaelic Immersion for Teachers (GIfT)

Ceòlas has been working in partnership with the University of Strathclyde to increase integration between the university's GIfT programme, which trains current teachers to teach in Gaelic-medium streams, and Ceòlas' ambitions for Gaelic development.

In July, Ceòlas ran two immersion courses funded by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, to complement Strathclyde University's GIfT programme. The course offered past and present course students an opportunity to participate in Gaelic language immersion in South Uist, the strongest Gaelic-speaking community according to the 2011 Census.

Week 1 was held in Dalabrog alongside the summer school and week 2 was held in Iochdar alongside the Symposium, allowing students to take part in a wider programme of Gaelic cultural events and workshops.

Students gained linguistic skills and confidence in grammar, vocabulary and idiom in both formal and informal contexts, they also had a range of opportunities to use the language socially. The course demonstrated that Gaelic is very much alive in South Uist.

Feedback from course participants was very positive. In the evaluation, the unique setting of the Uist Gaelic community was recognised. Participants stated that they would recommend this course to other GIfT students and GLL / GME teachers.

Ceòlas Summer School 2015

A week-long summer school of very high standard was held from 5 to 10 July. The main campus for the event was Sgoil Dhalabroig with some activities taking place in Daliburgh Drill Hall, St. Peter's Hall, Southend Hall and Talla Choimhearsnachd Èirisgeidh. The target was to register 100 attendees and a total of 111 students attended over the week, due to the endeavours of staff and volunteers.

Participants travelled from many parts of the world including Japan, Switzerland, Germany, Singapore, Romania, Nigeria with the majority coming from mainland Scotland and England. There was a healthy balance of male / female participants across a range of ages, which contributed to a refreshing intergenerational mix. Cathy Bhàn NicDhòmhnaill, the popular presenter from Radio nan Gàidheal, focussed her programme on Ceòlas for the week by taking part in classes and engaging with the Gaelic community and visitors during her visit.

Image 3: Margaret MacLellan and students singing at the Singing Concert.

2015 Tuition Team

Iain Dòmhnallach, Artistic Director, chose the team listed.

Cape Breton:

Class: Fiddle	Dwayne Côté
Class: Fiddle	Howie MacDonald
Class Stepdance	Leanne Aucoin

Scotland:

Gaelic Tutors:	Catrìona MacIntyre, Catrìona Black, Peggy Anne MacDonald
Song:	Paul McCallum, Margaret MacLellan, Màiri MacInnes,
Step Dance:	Jayne MacLeod
Reels & Quadrilles:	Shona MacLellan
Piping/Pìobaireachd:	Fin Moore, Griogair Labhruidh, Angus Nicolson (Youth Tutor)
Clàrsach:	Patsy Seddon
Youth Fiddle:	Alasdair White

Musicians for Dance: Sarah Hoy, Seonaidh MacIntyre, Kilphedar Sound

Image 4: Ceòlas summer school tutors Sarah Hoy, Fin Moor, Angus Nicolson & Leanne Aucoin.

The Week's Activities

Those arriving on the Lochboisdale Ferry were welcomed by the strain of the pipes played by the newest Ceòlas member of staff, Liam Crouse. A Gaelic Mass, recorded by Radio nan Gàidheal, was celebrated in St. Peter's Hall, Dalabrog, on Sunday morning followed by student registration in St Peter's Hall. The Ceòlas Welcome Cèilidh on Sunday evening was full to capacity in St. Peter's Hall with a varied programme on offer. Màiri T. MacInnes, Ceòlas Chair hosted the event. Flòraidh Forrest, Film G, launched a competition for short film at the start of the evening and encouraged people to engage with the project. Kilphedar Sound had people on the floor in minutes, pipers and singers also showed their talent. Local stars - Paul McCallum, Michael Steele, Màiri MacInnes and Sineag MacIntyre - welcomed the visiting tutors and students and set the tone for the week to come.

Image 5: Fiddle class at the 2015 Ceòlas summer school.

Classes ran smoothly from Monday morning onwards and progress in the learning and collaborating became evident as the week progressed.

The customary Monday night piping evening - a great attraction for the local community - was hosted by Rona Lightfoot, showcasing the talents of Fin Moore, Griogair Labhruidh, Angus Nicolson and Seonaidh MacIntyre supported by Andrew MacIsaac, Calum Craib, Cailean Martindale and Sheena Peteranna among others. On Tuesday evening our generous and welcoming hosts opened their homes for house cèilidhs.

Image 6: Griogair Labhruidh and Alasdair White playing a duet.

Image 7: Ellen MacDonald with 'Rathad Ùr Loch a' Phortain' at the Singing Concert.

On Wednesday evening, the Singing Concert followed by a dance in Èirisgeidh, were both well attended and many danced into the wee small hours! Alastair White ably took the role of caller. The wet weather on Thursday did not impact on the walk to Clach an t-Sagairt, Gearraidh Sheilidh. This well-known ancient religious site is reputed to be the site of early marriage ceremonies and religious services before churches were built. The walks are a highly appreciated aspect of the Ceòlas week and Dòmhnall Ruairidh Caimbeul never fails to find subjects to walk and talk around before sharing a dram - this year in Taobh a Deas Loch Baghasdail.

Image 8: Alasdair White, Paul McCallum, Rena Gertz, Cathy Bhàn, Patsy Seddon, Margaret MacLellan, Rona Lightfoot and Màiri MacInnes all together at the Singing Concert.

Rody Gorman from Sabhal Mòr Ostaig delivered an interesting and informative lecture on his own poetry compositions.

Angus MacDonald directed the Thursday night Dance & Fiddlers night with tutors from Cape Breton demonstrating the 'square dance' styles. Friday afternoon's showcase concert drew the tuition element of the summer school to a fitting close. The Cèilidh Mòr, hosted by Cathy Bhàn MacDonald was the culmination of a great week with Southend Hall packed to capacity to appreciate the talent of the finest musicians, singers and dancers.

Image 9: The Cèilidh Mòr concluding the 2015 summer school.

Highland Music Trust

The Highland Music Trust supported 8 young women to attend Ceòlas by participating in a full range of workshops.

From	First Choice	Second Choice
Benderloch	Fiddle	Fiddle
Edinburgh	Pipes	Song
Edinburgh	Song	Step Dance
Fort William	Fiddle	Step Dance
Fort William	Song	Gaelic
Cornwall	Fiddle	Song
Èirisgeidh	Pipes	Piping
Paisley	Song	Clàrsach

Image 10: Highland Music Trust participants in 2015.

Artist in Residence

In 2015, our artist in residence was Sharon Macpherson from Beàrnaraigh na Hearadh. Sharon exhibited her work at Ceòlas and also took the opportunity to observe classes, attend cèilidhs and meet students, visitors and locals. Sharon's work was very well received and she secured several commissions from her visit to Ceòlas.

Image 11: Sharon Macpherson, Ceòlas' 2015 Artist in Residence.

Song Conference: Cainnt nan Òran

A week-end conference took place in May with workshops spread between Sgoil an Iochdair and Kildonan Museum. Gillebrìde MacIlleMhaoil, Paul McCallum and Jo NicDhòmhnaill delivered talks and song workshops. Those who attended were very positive in their evaluation and suggested that earlier advertising would be useful for travel arrangements. There was a strong message that the Gaelic singing community of North Uist wished to engage with the Ceòlas activities.

Image 12: Gillebrìde MacIlleMhaoil teaching a song class during Cainnt nan Òran.

Symposium: 'S e ur Beatha

This year's symposium focussed on traditional food and drink with a parallel World War I theme. It opened with an exhibition in Taigh Cèilidh Ghèirinis commemorating the fallen of the First World War. Murdo Beaton from Urras an Eilein in Skye gave a lecture to a group of forty at the opening of the Symposium. Sunday's planned outdoor Mass was relocated to St. Michael's, Àird Choinnich, due to the inclement weather. There was a full attendance and the service was brought to a poignant close as the names of the World War I fallen were read, village by village.

Family events followed in the afternoon at Sgoil an Iochdair complementing the traditional cooking and animal husbandry workshops. Grass scything demonstrations were also given - a much more difficult task than people imagine! All the activities were very popular with the large audience. The Sunday evening activity consisted of beer tasting and debating which 'Beastie Beer' (*leann nam biast*) was the most authentic. It seems a combination of packaged home brew with bog myrtle beer (*leann roid*) has a good head and tasted fine. The quiz evening hosted by the BBC's Mòrag Dhòmhnallach that followed was challenging and fun, and none of the questions was too contentious!

Image 13: Family fun day at the 2015 symposium.

On Monday, Fr Michael MacDonald gave a talk titled 'Licensing Laws as they affected the local community in times goneby'. This was followed by a talk from Dr Sarah Marr on food and nutrition around the time of World War I. After lunch there was an opportunity to walk around Caolas Liubharsaigh and a visit to the site of an old inn which once had a still and a smuggling passage which brought alive the stories being told. Those who could not manage the walking tour were taken on a bus trip to visit several polytunnels, where interesting and innovative planting and growing is done. Dance classes were arranged for children. Local young talent performed well at the evening Piping Concert in support of the sterling performances of Ailean Dòmhnallach and Fiona MacLean.

Image 14: Dòmhnall Mhurchaidh leading the walk out to Caolas Liubharsaigh.

The following day, Dr Sarah Marr gave a workshop on the healing quality of plants. That was followed by baking demonstrations with Mòrag MacLeod, Angusina MacEachen and Bella Cameron. Dr Rebecca Rennell, who informed the audience of the importance of this ancient ruin, led the afternoon walk to Borve Castle, Lìonacleit. The symposium was brought to a close with a community cèilidh in Talla an Iochdair hosed by Mòrag Dhòmhnallach and featuring local artistes. The highlight of the evening was the lively performance of waulking songs given by the visiting Barra singers.

Image 15: Còmhlan=-ciùil Fèis Tìr a' Mhurain playing at the symposium cèilidh.

Buttons & Bows

Ceòlas' bid to the People's Health Lottery for funds to run classes in Fiddle and Button Box Accordion was successful. Tuition in fiddle and button box accordion are now available to people of all ages. Classes are run weekly in central locations throughout Uist and Benbecula. Aonghas Ailig Dòmhnallach was appointed as 'Buttons' tutor but sadly he passed away in July. Thankfully Iain Dòmhnallach has managed to persuade Uilleam Morrison to take on the role. Allan Henderson is the fiddle tutor. The project will run until February 2017, by which time it is hoped that there will be an enthusiasm in the community to maintain their skills.

Image 16: Aonghas Ailig Dòmhnallach.

Guthan an Iar

The Guthan an Iar singing group is the legacy of the European Oral Singing Tradition. Singers with an interest in developing their repertoire in unpublished Gaelic songs meet weekly, and under the direction of Mrs Dorothy MacVicar learn new and unusual songs. The group has a regular membership of about 12 and is in high demand for singing at cèilidhs and public events.

Image 17: Guthan an Iar singing 'O mo dhùthaich' at the symposium cèilidh.

CeangalG

Members of Guthan an Iar visited Donegal in November 2014 where they performed and shared songs and experiences with Irish tradition bearers. This was followed by a return visit in February by a group from Donegal who came to North and South Uist, where they met the Carinish Singers and Guthan an Iar group again. Guthan an Iar were invited to attend a Donegal festival in July 2015 and three members of the group attended that festival. It is hoped that we can retain strong links with the group in Gaoth Dobhair in Donegal.

Image 18: Members of Guthan an Iar singing in at An tSean Bhearaic, Gort a' Choirce, Donegal.

Easter Cèilidh

On the 8th of April Iain Dòmhnallach organised an Easter family cèilidh in St Peter's Hall in Dalabrog. This was to coincide with a visit to Uist, specifically to Taigh Chearsabhagh by Micheál De Mordha Director of Ionaid an Bhlascaoid Mhóir in Dun Chaoin, Dingle, Kerry. Taigh Chearsabhagh were hosting a photographic exhibition on the Blasket Islands. Everyone was well entertained by many local artistes along with Special guests from Ireland, Breanndáin Begley, Gaelic singer and accordionist from the famous musical Begley family from Baile na bPoc in Kerry and fiddler Feargal MacAmhlaoibh from West Kerry.

Diaspora Visits

Ceòlas in Edinburgh

In June, Ceòlas organised a showcase evening hosted by Bothan Dùn Èideann at Canons' Gait in Edinburgh. Helen and Alana MacInnes acted as Ceòlas ambassadors and Rona Lightfoot, Ailean Dòmhnallach, Ewen Henderson and others performed to a full house. The night was a great success and Ceòlas have been invited to organise future events in conjunction with Bothan.

Image 19: Ceòlas visits Bothan Dùn Èideann; Ewen Henderson, Ailean Dòmhnallach and Mike Katz.

Presentation to the Comunn Gàidhlig Inbhir Nis

Ceòlas were invited to give a presentation about their work to the Comunn Gàidhlig Inbhir Nis in February 2015. A presentation relating the story of Ceòlas and showing how it has evolved from a one-week summer school to a key Gàidhlig and music development organisation was delivered by Màiri MacInnes, supported by Mary Schmöller. The society members were very appreciative and interested in the many strands of the work of Ceòlas. They complimented us on the success of what can be achieved by a small dedicated community.

Rural Nations

Ceòlas works in partnership with Rural Nations by acting as local promoter and organiser for events funded through network. Several events have taken place in St. Peter's Hall, Dalabrog, and in Talla Staoinebrig. Ceòlas also works with this group on the new Hebrides International Film Festival (HIFF) now in its second year. Ceòlas is able to choose some of the films and theatre experiences to be shown locally. The work is contemporary and often challenging.

Ceòlas at Celtic Colours

Ceòlas was represented at Celtic Colours festival in Cape Breton in October 2014 with a concert entitled ‘Ceòlas to Cape Breton’. The concert was sold out well in advance and was in Glendale Hall, which is in Inverness County. The musicians were Howie MacDonald, Dwayne Côté, Kinnon & Betty Lou Beaton, Fin & Sarah Moore, Harvey Beaton, Glenuig piping brothers Aonghas, Ailean and Iain, our Artistic Director, with Fear an Taighe - Goiridh Dòmhnallach keeping proceedings running smoothly in his usual Gàidhealach way. All these artistes have been tutors at Ceòlas over the years.

Duaisean na Gàidhlig

The Gaelic Awards of Scotland

Ceòlas Uibhist Ltd was proud to uplift an award at Duaisean na Gàidhlig 2014. The award was ‘Gaelic as an Economic Asset’ sponsored by Highland & Islands Enterprise. Ceòlas is also a finalist in Duaisean na Gàidhlig 2015 under the category of International Award, and whether we win the award or not, we are delighted that our work is being acknowledged at this level.

Music from the Machair

The DVD of Ceòlas at Celtic Connections in 2014 is available and can be bought locally.

Ceòlas is working in partnership with Lews Castle College and Taigh Chearsabhagh to co-ordinate events and activities within the island chain to there is partnership working to avoid duplication and clashing events. Working collaboratively is becoming a new requirement for many funders.

It is hoped that we can collaborate to ensure that Uist has a good profile nationally and we will be appearing at Celtic Connections again in January 2016. The concert is entitled 'Music from the Machair' and will happen in The Old Fruitmarket on Thursday the 21st January. The concert will feature Ceòlas tutors past and present as well as students from the Traditional Music Course in Benbecula, under the direction of course leader Anna Wendy Stevenson. Artistes will include South Uist's Màiri MacInnes, the inimitable Rona Lightfoot, Benbecula resident fiddler Allan Henderson, young rising star Ellen MacDonald, Cape Breton piper Angus MacKenzie and special guest from Cape Breton, The Honorable Rodney MacDonald (ex-Premier of Nova Scotia) fiddler, and CEO of A' Cholaiste Ghàidhlig in Cape Breton. There will be specially edited UistFilm footage from Taigh Chearsabhagh.

Social Media

Ceòlas is active on Facebook and Twitter. The Facebook page currently has 930 'likes' giving us a fantastic base from which to engage with the local community and beyond. Similarly, the twitter page (@ceolasuist) has 695 followers.

Ceòlas Board of Directors

Màiri MacInnes
Margaret Walker
Pauline MacDonald
Isabel MacDonald
Catrìona MacIntyre
Angus MacDonald
Donald Allan Smith

Ceòlas Staff

Mary Schmöller	Development & Office Manager
Iain Dòmhnallach	Artistic Director
Dr Rebeca Rennell	Implementation Manager
Liam Alastair Crouse	Gaelic Development Officer
Peigi Ann NicIlleMhaoil	Administrator

Ceòlas Community Committee

D. R. Caimbeul, Angus MacDonald, Flora Campbell, Màiri Ann Chaimbeul, Katie Campbell, Chrissie MacPhee, Mary Steele, Sandy Jones, Anne Marie Collier, Shona MacKay, Peggy Campbell, Florence Morrison, Seumas Campbell, Seonag MacRury, Ewan Wilson.

Ceòlas summer school 2016 3 - 8 July