ceòlas

Aithisg Bhliadhnail 2018

09/2017-09/2018

Annual Report 2018

Ceòlas Uibhist, Dalabrog, Uibhist a Deas

HIE Highlands and Islands Enterprise Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean
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Clàr-iùil

AITHISG A' CHATHRAICHE *FOREWORD FORM CHAIRPERSON* **3**

PRÒGRAM BLIADHNAIL *CORE PROGRAMME OF EVENTS* **5**

Sgoil Shamhraidh *Summer School* 5

Neach-ealain air Mhuinntireas *Artist in Residence* 7

Urras Ceòl na Gàidhealtachd *Highland Music Trust* 8

Symposium: Lagh a' Chladaich 8

Moladh Uibhist 9

Às an Tobar *Gaelic Book Festival* 9

FÈILL A' GHEAMHRAIDH *WINTER FESTIVAL* **10**

Fèis Chullaig 10

Latha Fhèill Brìghde 10

Beannachadh nan Sgothan *Blessing of the Boats* 10

Eòlas nan Naomh *Project on Uist Saints* 11

CNOC SOILLEIR **11**

Mu Chnoc Soilleir *About Cnoc Soilleir* 11

Ar Lèirsinn *Our Vision* 12

Ùrachadh air Adhartas *Progress Update* 12

LEASACHADH AN DIASPORA *DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT* **13**

Seachdain na Gàidhlig *Edinburgh Gaelic Week* 13

Celtic Connections 2018 14

CEANGLAICHEAN EADAR-NÀISEANTA *INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS* **14**

British Irish Council, Belfast & Stornoway 15

Cruinneachadh Òg Mhion-chànan *Youth Summit (HIGA), Bilbao* 15

PRÒISEACTAN GÀIDHLIG *GAELIC PROJECTS* **16**

Cùrsaichean Bogaidh *Gaelic Courses* 16

Taigh na Gàidhlig *Month-long Gaelic Immersion* 17

Clasaichean Gàidhlig Coimhearsnachd *Gaelic Community Classes* 17

PRÒISEACT CIÙIL AGUS DANNSA *MUSIC AND DANCE PROJECT* **18**

Dannsa *Dance Project* 18

Bogsa & Bogha *Buttons & Bows Project* 18

A' CUR AIR ADHART THACHARTASAN *EVENTS PROMOTION* **18**

MEADHANAN SÒISEALTA *SOCIAL MEDIA* **19**

AM BÒRD-STIÙIRIDH AGUS AN LUCHD-OBRACH *BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF* **19**

COMATAIDH *COMMITTEE* **19**

APPENDIX 1 ..... **20**

Aithisg a' Chathraiche *Foreword form Chairperson*

Tha e toirt toileachas dhomh Aithisg Bhliadhnail 2019 a lìbhrigeadh, sam bheil aithris air an liuthad pròiseact a tha Ceòlas Uibhist air cur air adhart do mhuinntir Uibhist, cho math ris an t-saothar nàiseanta agus eadar-nàiseanta againn. Tha sinn a' sìor-thogail air a' phròram againn gus cànan is ceòl nan Gàidheal a sheasamh nar coimhearsnachdan, agus tha mi air mo dhòigh gu bheil na h-àireamhan – cho math ris na molaidhean – a' dol suas. Tha Ceòlas a-nise a' ruith na sgoil samhraidh cho math ri còig fèisean beaga a chomharraicheas ar cànan is ar cultar ann an dòigh fìor-tharraingeach, a' cur ris an eòlas a th' aig daoine – gach cuid muinntir Uibhist agus daoine a thig dhan eilean. Tha ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig a' fàs gu làidir ann an Uibhist a Deas agus tha sinn a' tabhainn cothroman sònraichte air eòlas dùthchasach nan Gàidheal fhiosrachadh agus ionnsachadh anns an eilean fhèin, agus am measg nan daoine fhèin.

Tha am fàs seasmhach seo mu choinneamh pròram Cheòlais a' cur ris an lèirsinn mhòr adhartach againn gus Cnoc Soilleir a chur air stèidh làidir ann an Uibhist, agus tha seo air ar n-aire fhad 's a shireas sinn a' mhaoin dhan togalach ùr. Tha mi toilichte fhaicinn gu bheil Colaiste a' Chaisteil – an luchd-compàirt againn – cuideachd a' leasachadh na h-obrach aca a thaobh ceòl nan Gàidheal agus iad a' sireadh neach-obrach ùir. Ged a tha Cnoc Soilleir a' toirt nas fhaide na bha dùil, cuimhnich gu bheil am fear a bhios fada aig an aiseag, gheibh e thairis uaireigin – agus a dh'aithghearr tha mi cinnteach!

Bu mhath leam taing mhòr a thoirt dhan sgioba bheag agus na saor-thoilich againn a bhios a' cur an uamhais de dh'obair a-staigh às leth Ceòlas, Cnoc Soilleir agus cànan is cultar Uibhist. Tha mo thaing cuideachd a' dol gu na buidhnean maoineachaidh agus an fheadhainn a bheir tabhartasan agus eile dhuinn – cha bhiodh sinn ann às ur n-aonais.

I am pleased to present this year's Annual Report and Accounts to you which outline the wide range of activities Ceòlas Uibhist Ltd has presented to the local community and our involvement in National and International initiatives. Ceòlas has continued to build on its programme of Gaelic and Music events in Uist throughout the year to ensure each of these is sustainable and I am delighted to say that each event has successfully evolved with numbers of attendees increasing and evaluations giving positive feedback. Ceòlas now hosts the renowned Summer School and five mini 'festivals' which celebrate our Gaelic language and culture and inform participants in an attractive style pleasing to local people and the increasing number of visitors to the Islands. The teaching of Gaelic is rapidly gathering momentum in South Uist and we are effectively developing a unique offer through the rich store of community members who are keen to share their knowledge of the language as a way of life.

Our ambitious aspirations in Cnoc Soilleir require steady growth in the Ceòlas programme of activity in South Uist and our focus will remain on this as we move towards securing the funding for the new building. I am pleased to see that Lews Castle College, our partners in Cnoc Soilleir are also developing their work in Gaelic music through the a new staff appointment. Cnoc Soilleir is taking a while to happen but I am confident that it will be our turn very soon!

I wish to extend my grateful thanks to the small staff team and the volunteers at Ceòlas and Cnoc Soilleir who deliver enormous outputs for Gaelic culture and language in Uist and beyond. My thanks also to the supportive funding organisations and those who give cash donations and other assistance in kind – without all of you we could not do what we do.

Our plans for the future include some exciting projects with new partners alongside embedding the core events and

Tha pròiseactan ùr inntinneach le buidhnean ùra nar n-amharc, agus cumaidh sinn am pròg ram bliadhnail againn a' dol.

Mòran taing!

Màiri T NicAonghais
Cathraiche

activities which already exist. Watch this space!

Mòran taing!

Pròg̀ram Bliadhnail *Core Programme of Events*

Sgoil Shamhraidh *Summer School*

Leis gu bheil an sgoil shamhraidh na 23mh bliadhna, bu chòir dhuinn meòrachadh air mar a tha i air fàs agus mar a tha lèirsinn na sgoile fhathast mar stèidh ar n-obrach. 'S i an sgoil shamhraidh an rud as prìseile a nì Ceòlas gach bliadhna. Am bliadhna, fhuair an luchd-teagaisg – sean is ùr – moladh mòr bho na h-oileanaich.

Bha an àireamh bu mhotha a bh' againn a-riamh am bliadhna, a' gabhail a-steach mòran oileanaich bhon chùrsa chiùil aig UHI, a' toirt beòs dhan sgoil. Bha àrainneachd ionnsachaidh bheairteach ann, agus na h-oileanaich a' cur ris na clasaichean agus an teagasg a bh' ann.

'S e am measgachadh eadar dannsa-ceum agus fìdheall às Ceap Breatainn agus an ceòl, an cànan agus na h-òrain a gheibhear às Uibhist a nì an t-seachdain cho sònraichte gach bliadhna, gach cuid do dh'oileanaich, luchd-teagaisg agus a' choimhearsnachd.

Bidh an ceangal le Ceap Breatainn a' fàs gach bliadhna làmh ris an neartachadh ann an Uibhist mu choinneamh nan ealan agus an dualchais Ghàidhlig. Chaidh clas ùr a lìbhrigeadh air Seanchas Uibhisteach le Aonghas Iain Dòmhnallach do dh'fhileantaich na Gàidhlig.

Bha pròg̀ram ainmeil de chèilidhean, cuairtean agus cuirmean gan ruith air an fheasgar don choimhearsnachd leis an stiùiriche ealain Iain Dòmhnallach agus Fin Moore, an neach-taice. A' leantail air na bliadhnaichean roimhid, bha tachartasan feasgair cho math 's a tha ri fhaighinn a bhios a' taisbeanadh tàlant an luchd-teagaisg agus an luchd-chiùil eile a thig.

'S e cothrom math a th' anns an t-seachdain don luchd-poilitigs agus eile a bhith a' faicinn ceòl, dannsa agus cleamhnas nan Gàidheal nan dachaigh fhèin. Tha cuideachd, gu bheileas a' taisbeanadh seo don mhòr-shluagh, a' cur ri tursachd nan Eileanan Siar

As Ceòlas enters its twenty-third year we reflect on how the Summer School has gone from strength to strength and how the original core values are equally relevant today as they were in 1996. The summer school remains the jewel in the Ceòlas crown. The fantastic tutor team was highly thought of by the students and the old hands mentored a number of new tutors.

This year we hosted a record number of students including many UHI music course alumni providing vibrancy in the summer school. This created a dynamic learning experience as the students brought their own knowledge and experiences to the classes - creativity was developed and ideas shared. The Ceòlas offer based on step dance and fiddle from Cape Breton and Gaelic language and song, piping and dance from South Uist continues to make for an outstanding week for all – participants, tutors and the community.

The Cape Breton connection continues to blossom alongside the steady growth in interest in South Uist Gaelic arts and culture. The new class, Seanchas delivered by Aonghas Iain MacDonald was well received and fluent Gaelic speakers were taught to develop the art of storytelling.

A rich programme of evening and community-wide events was planned by our artistic director Iain MacDonald supported by Fin Moore to complement the daily classes of the school. Following on from the success of previous years, there was a range of high-quality evening events featuring the talent and abilities of the tuition team and many of the visiting musicians and performers.

Ceòlas week is an opportunity for politicians and significant people within the Music and Gàidhlig fraternity to flock to Uist and witness the importance of Uist as force of Gàidhlig and traditional music in Scotland.

agus eaconamaidh an eilein. ’S e àm fìor thrang a th’ ann an Ceòlas, a’ fàgail gu bheil siubhal, àiteachan-fuirich, bùthan, taighean-bìdhe agus eile uile a’ faighinn buannachd às.

Dh’fhosgladh an t-seachdain leis a’ Chèilidh Fàilteachaidh agus daoine a’ lìonadh Talla Naomh Pheadair airson aoigheachd ainmeil nan eileanan – an ceòl agus dannsa cho math ris a’ bhèicearachd! – fhiosrachadh. ’S e na taighean-cèilidh as motha fèill fhathast don luchd-tadhail againn. Bha mòran de na taighean-cèilidh àbhaisteach ann agus tha ar taing a’ dol a-mach do na daoine fialaidh a dh’fhosglas an dorsan do dh’aoighean Cheòlais gach bliadhna. Bha sinn air ar dòigh gun tàinig am BBC gus clàradh a dhèanamh den Oidhche Phìobaireachd againn agus chaidh sin a-mach air Radio nan Gàidheal agus Pipeline. Mar a chualas, b’ e oidhche fìor mhath a bh’ ann agus na pìobairean air gleus; tha sinn toilichte gun deach ìre cho àrd de nòs pìobaireachd Eilein Uibhist a chlàradh. Bha pìobairean òga ann còmhla ris an luchd-teagaisg agus tha e na thlachd a bhith gan èisteachd a’ tighinn air aghaidh a h-uile bliadhna. Bha Oidhche nan Òran a’ taisbeanadh farsaingeachd de sheinn Ghàidhlig, a’ gabhail a-steach Griogair Labhruidh agus Guthan an Iar. Chaidh meal-a’-naidheachd a chur air Cairistiona Primrose a fhuair MBE nas tràithe den bhliadhna – abair urram do sheinneadair Gàidhlig! Bha Raonaid Walker agus Màiri Sìne Laomaind à Ceap Breatainn a’ sealltainn mar a tha stoidhlichean seinn à ceàrnaidhean eile dhen Ghàidhealtachd. Mar a b’ àbhaist, bha Oidhche nam Fìdhlearan agus nan Dannsairean làn gu sprèadhadh, le deagh mheasgachadh de dhannsaichean Albannach, -cèilidh agus -ceum, agus Orcadian Strip the Willow a tha sìneadh fada sìos an talla le gach aois 8 gu 80! Tha a’ chuirm feasgar Dihaoine daonann trang agus nochd gu leòr bhon choimhearsnachd a chluinntinn na clasaichean a’ co-thaisbeanadh na dh’ionnsaich air thairis an t-seachdain.

’S e An Cèilidh Mòr barr na seachdain, agus bha Dòmhnall Uilleam ‘Ryno’ MacIlleMhoire na fhear-an-taigh ag innse iomadh sgeulachd

The general increase in tourism to the Western Isles coupled with the draw of Ceòlas ensured a very busy time for the island and local businesses from transport and accommodation to shops and eating places.

Sunday evening Welcome Cèilidh was crowded and the Ceòlas Catering Team were the stars of the evening, richly applauded by the whole audience of visitors and tutors. House cèilidhs continue to be the most popular event of the week for our visitors. This year many of the regular hosts continued to offer their homes and generous thanks is extended to them. Ceòlas was delighted that BBC came to record the Piping Concert on the Monday evening and this has been broadcast as part of BBC Radio nan Gàidheal BBC Scotland Piping Programmes. The pipers did not disappoint with a fantastic display of piping that is now recorded for posterity. This event showcasing our own young Pipers as well as the visiting tutors brought people from far and wide to listen and for those who love piping it is seen as the best example of good practice. Singers’ night presented an array of visiting stars - complemented by Griogair Labhruidh and our local Guthan an Iar. Christine Primrose was congratulated on gaining an MBE, a rare distinction for a Gaelic Singer. Rachel Walker and Mary Jane Lamond from Cape Breton showed how songs evolve into a new cadence of voice from a place other than the Hebrides. Fiddle and Dance Night was as usual filled to capacity and a great mix of country dancing, cèilidh dancing and step dancing was on show. Thursday night was the night of greatest interaction between the students and the community – an Orcadian Strip the Willow ensured that no one is left out whether 8 or 80! The crossover concert on Friday afternoon is always a popular event with many from the community coming to hear all the classes performing some of the work that they had been putting together all week.

An Cèilidh Mòr on the Friday night is the keynote event of the week, Donald William Morrison was the MC for the night and his

bho bha e fantail an Uibhist. B' e dealas nan ceòladairean agus seinneadairean a chur sogan air an oidhche agus bu mhath a b' fhiach i a dh'èisteachd ris an tàlant bharraichte thar grunn uairean – dh'fhaoidte gum faigheadh Ceòlas sgillinn no dhà a bharrachd le bhith ag rèic chluasagan-tòine agus Ceòlas sgrìobhte orra!!

Chaidh na cuairtean glè mhath, le oileanaich agus Uibhistich a' falbh còmhla. Am bliadhna, bhathar a' coimhead air trusadh bìdhe còmhla ri Fiona Bird, agus air làrach Cille Choinnich aig bonn Beinn Ruighe Choinnich còmhla ri Ruairidh 'Poker' Dòmhnallach.

Bha ceisteachain deireadh na sgoile gu math togarrach agus molaidhean gan toirt leis an luchd-teagaisg agus na h-oileanaich.

time in Uist in a past life provided a fruitful source of stories. The sheer enthusiasm of the performers was a tonic for the audience and everyone felt they had more than their money's worth with the international talent performing over several hours - this could also present an opportunity for selling Ceòlas branded cushions!!

The guided walks were popular with the local community and visitors. This year the focus was on foraging on the foreshore with Fiona Bird, and exploring the site of the church of 'Cainneach' at the base of Beinn Ruigh Cainneach (Adhratobhta) with local tradition-bearer Roddy MacDonald.

At the end of the week the evaluations were extremely positive from tutors and learners.

...this just goes to show where attending the Ceòlas Summer School can take you, particularly for the young ones, and perhaps goes a little way to illustrate why the likes of Ceòlas is so important, not just for the local community, but for the community at large. As a family, we appreciate all the efforts that the people of South Uist have put into Ceòlas over all the years we have attended. In addition to the friends we have made through Ceòlas, this week's event contributes considerably to us spending a very enjoyable time together and has given us many fond memories to share as a family. Hopefully there will be many more to come! My thanks to you all.
THE MILNES, ATTENDEES OF THE SUMMER SCHOOL FOR MANY YEARS

Neach-ealain air Mhuinntireas *Artist in Residence*

B' i Mòrag Duff, à Èirisgeidh, neach-ealain air mhuinntireas na bliadhna aig an sgoil shamhraidh.

Mòrag Duff of Èirisgeidh was this year's summer school artist in residence.

Urras Ceòl na Gàidhealtachd *Highland Music Trust*

Kirstyn	Howarth	Alba
Katie	MacFarlane	Alba
Caitlin	McNeill	Alba
Angus	MacDonald	Alba
Euan	MacPhail	Alba
Elise	Coral Morton	An Fhrang/Astràilia
Ilona	Kennedy	Alba
Murray	Willis	Alba
Eibhlin	Milne	Alba
Ciar	Milne	Alba
Kara	Creighton	Alba

Symposium: Lagh a' Chladaich

Tachraidh symposium Cheòlais gach bliadhna san Ìochdar, eadar an talla agus an sgoil. Èiridh cuspair nan symposia às còmhraidhean coimhearsnachd Ceann a Tuath a' Chinn a Deas tron bhliadhna. Am bliadhna, choimheadadh air stòras na feamainn, a bha gu math toipigeach. A rèir coltais, bhiodh lagh a' chladaich a' ciallachadh nach rachadh cruitearan gu tuath gu feamnadh – air a' chladach aca fhèin no gu deas orra sin. B' e lagh às a' bheul-aithris a bha seo, a' co-roinn an stòrais gu cothromach. Ri linn sgrùdadh, fhuaireadh a-mach gun robh riaghailtean an taobh an ear gu tur diofraichte agus b' ann a rèir suidheachadh na cruite a bha na riaghailtean gu cothrom air an fheamnadh. 'S iomadh còmhradh beòthail a dh'adhbhraich seo, cho math ri cuairtean air dà chòrsa an eilein.

Thug Heather Pheutan, RSPB, a' chuairt don taobh an ear agus bha Fiona Bird gar treòireachadh timcheall Rubha Hòrnais, san Ìochdar, air an taobh an iar.

Bha Dr Philip Kerrison, à SAMS faisg air an Òban, ann son òraid a thoirt air gnìomhachas na feamainn ann an Alba, a chunnaic iomadh fàs is crìonadh thar nan linn. Tha fàs às ùr air fàire don cheilpe an cois adhartasan san t-saoghal bio-meideigeach, roinn nan cuingidhean-leighis agus biadh.

Bha Dr Kevin Grant a' roinn a chuid rannsachaidh a rinneadh air arc-eòlas gnìomhachas na feamainn ann an Loch

The Ceòlas symposium takes place at the north end of South Uist around Talla and Sgoil an Ìochdair. The topics for the symposia generally arise from conversations with tradition bearers and community members at the north end of the island. It was decided to focus this year on the topical subject of seaweed. Apparently as a common courtesy, crofters could not go north to collect cast seaweed – only south. This was one of the unwritten rules the land ensuring that natural resources were equitably available. Through discussions it transpired that the rules on the east side were completely different and that access to seaweed depended on the croft's location. This topic made for lively discussion and talks as well as interesting walks on the east and west sides of South Uist.

Heather Beaton from RSPB for the walk on the east side to see the wildlife and to Fiona Bird for the walk on the west side at Rubha Hòrnais, in Ìochdar.

Talks on the seaweed industry, past and present were given by Dr Philip Kerrison from Scottish Association of Marine Science in Dunstaffnage, who highlighted that it was a boom and bust industry, with each era being overtaken by scientific advances, until new uses were found and then another boom would be created. It appears we are on the cusp of another boom period for alginates in the bio-medical world, having

Aoineart, far an tug e cuairt threòirichte cuideachd.

progressed from the pharmaceutical and food developments.

Dr Kevin Grant contributed by sharing research he carried out on the archaeology of the seaweed industry in Loch Aoineart and St Kilda. He also led a walk to Loch Aoineart.

Moladh Uibhist

Tha Moladh Uibhist a' brosnachadh nòs seinn dhualchasach Uibhist, agus chaidh a ruith eadar 5-7 den Chèitean ann an Càirinis, Èirisgeidh, Loch Baghasdail agus Gèirinis. Bha òranaichean is sgoilearan ionadail ag ionnsachadh an stoidhle Uibhistich do na bha gabhail pàirt. Bha Sìneag Nic an t-Saoir, Catrìona Garbutt, Penny Burgess, Màiri Floraidh Holliser agus Pòl MacCalluim a' gabhail nan clasaichean, san do nochd deagh cuid a dh'ionnsachadh grunn òrain nach eil idir cho bitheanta air an seinn air an latha an-diugh. Thar nan trì làithean, bha mu 60 duine a' gabhail pàirt.

The annual spring song festival took place across four venues – Càirinis, Èirisgeidh, Loch Baghasdail and Gèirinis on the 5th to the 7th May. The conference was designed so that local tradition bearers could teach their songs to participating singers, facilitated by Sìneag MacInytre, Catrìona Garbutt, Penny Burgess, Màiri Flora Hollister and Paul McCallum. A healthy number of attendees shared unpublished songs across many genres and generations.

Each venue was attended by people local to that area and therefore a range of venues increased the number of individual attendees with nearly 60 people taking part over the three days.

Às an Tobar *Gaelic Book Festival*

Chaidh a' chiad fhèill litreachais tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig a chumail ann an Uibhist eadar 30 den t-Samhain agus 1d den Dùbhlachd. Bha Catrìona NicIlleDhuibh a'

The first Gaelic Book Festival to be held in South Uist from November 30th to December 1st. Authors present were Catrìona Black with 'Sly Cooking' her work based on some of the

foillseachadh an leabhair ùir 'Sly Cooking', stèidhichte air na faclan a chruinnich Mgr Ailein. Bha e na thlachd dhi an obair aice a thoirt do mhuinntir Uibhist – nan cànan fhèin. Leugh Seònag Monk às an leabhar aice 'Mil san Tì', agus bha deagh chòmhradh a' leantail. Cuideachd, bha Marion F NicIlleMhoire a' leughadh cuid den bhàrdachd aice-se a fhuair aithne nan duaisean.

words collected by Fr Allan in Eriskay and South Uist, the book was launched in Stornoway but to an English-speaking audience and the author enjoyed her visit to Uist to share the work in Gaelic. Seònag Monk read from her book 'Mil San Tì', which was enjoyed by all. Marion Morrison shared some of her recent award-winning poetry which was appreciated by all present.

Fèill a' Gheamhraidh *Winter Festival*

Fèis Chullaig

Chaidh an àireamh a bu mhotha a bh' ann a-riamh gu Fèis Chullaig, eadar 28-31 den Dùbhlachd. Dh'fhosgladh i le seisean ealain aig Taigh-òsta Loch Baghasdail, agus seisean ciùil na chois a thàladh mu 60 duine. Bha cuairt chun na srùbain ga leantail le Cuirm Phìobaireachd agus Dannsa ann an Èirisgeidh. Bha a' Chullaig thradaiseanta ann an Loidse Ghróigearraidh gu math mòr agus còrr is leth-cheud duine a' tighinn a dh'èisteachd deagh cheòl is fearas-cuideachd. Bha còrr is 200 duine ann aig dannsa le Trail West an Talla an Ìochdair agus bha mu 100 duine an làthair feasgar Cullaig fhèin sa Bhorodail agus Cèilidh Teaghlaich a' dol.

Fèis Chullaig lit up the community over four days from 28th December to 31st December, opening with a free children's arts session at Lochboisdale Hotel followed by a music session which attracted around 60 people. A beach walk to collect cockles was followed by a Piping Recital and Dance took place in Eriskay. Crab, cockles and cocktails were served in Grogarry Lodge to the 50+ people who attended to hear well known Gaelic singers and musicians. The dance with Trail West in Talla an Ìochdair for over 18s was a tremendous success with a capacity crowd. The finale was the Family Cèilidh on the afternoon of Hogmanay in the Borrodale.

Latha Fhèill Brìghde

A' comharrachadh na Fèille Brìghde, thug Dr Dòmhnall Uilleam Stiùbhart òraidean seachad air clàraidhean Marsaili Fhrìseal-Cheanadach – a chluinnte air a' chiad uair ann an Èirisgeidh ann an ceud bliadhna! Bha Màiri NicLeòid a' ruith bhùthan-obrach don chlann-sgoile a' togail 'Crois Brìghde'.

Fèill Brìghde was acknowledged in February 2018 with Dòmhnall Uilleam Stiùbhart giving several talks on his most recent work and Màiri MacLeod running workshops in the primary schools on how to make 'Crois Brìghde'.

Beannachadh nan Sgothan *Blessing of the Boats*

Chaidh seirbhis a ghabhail leis an Urr Ross Crichton a' beannachadh nan sgothan iasgaich agus an criuthan aig Gàsaigh. Bha seo na dheagh chothrom gus an CD ùr de dh'òrain iasgaich, a chaidh a dhèanamh le Gillebrìde Mac 'IlleMhaoil às leth Dr Magnus Course, air

A service was conducted by Fr. Ross Crichton where all types of boats and their crews were blessed and prayed over at the Lochboisdale Marina. This event presented an opportunity to launch a CD of 'working' songs by Guthan an Iar produced by

an robh Guthan an Iar a' seinn. Bha Dr Course a' rannsachadh a' cheangail a th' eadar a' Ghàidhlig agus an t-iasgach, agus chaidh film goirid a dhèanamh mun rannsachadh cuideachd. Chaidh seo a shealltainn aig a' Phàrlamaid agus aig Comann Iasgairean nan Eilean Siar.

Gillebrìde MacMillan. In the development of the CD, Gillebride collaborated with Dr Magnus Course who had been carrying out work on the relationship between language and activity on behalf of the University of Edinburgh, a short film was also produced to demonstrate his work.

Eòlas nan Naomh *Project on Uist Saints*

Le taic Bòrd na Gàidhlig, tha Ceòlas a' ruith pròiseact rannsachaidh a' coimhead air mar a thàinig a' Chrìostachd a dh'Uibhist. Bithear a' cur feum mòr air a' bheul-aithris an cois a' phròiseict seo. Tha dàimh làidir ann ris an naomh Cainneach ann an Uibhist a Deas, eadar tobhtaidhean agus an amar-baistidh ann an Eaglais Ghearraidh na Mònadh. 'S e an t-Oll Thomas Clancy, Oilthigh Ghlaschu, a thug dhuinn taisbeanadh air toraidhean an rannsachaidh chun na h-ìre seo. Bha deagh fhiosrachadh a bharrachd aig muinntir an àite ri thoirt dha.

Ceòlas is facilitating - with the support of Bòrd na Gàidhlig (BnG) Colmcille Project - a research project exploring the information available through oral traditions on how Christianity was brought to Uist. There is a strong association with St. Cainneach across South Uist from ancient ruins to fonts and church sites of the present day. The research is carried out by Prof Thomas Clancy from Glasgow University who gave a presentation and open discussion on his findings so far. Many members of the audience were able to furnish him with additional information.

Cnoc Soilleir

Mu Chnoc Soilleir *About Cnoc Soilleir*

'S e iomairt chompàirteachaidh eadar Ceòlas Uibhist agus Colaisde a' Chaisteil UHI a th' ann an Cnoc Soilleir. Suidhichte sa choimhearsnachd as treasa sa Ghàidhlig,

Cnoc Soilleir is an exciting joint venture between Ceòlas and Lews Castle College, to construct a new building in Daliburgh in South Uist. This is recognised as the key community for the revitalisation of the

brosnaichidh an t-ionad dualchas agus cànan Gàidhlig na coimhearsnachd.

'S e amas a' phròiseict ionad a stèidheachadh air a' Chnoc Shoilleir ann an Dalabrog, le goireasan air an dealbhachadh a dh'aona-ghnothach airson feumalachdan foghlaim LCC/UHI agus tachartasan coimhearsnachd Cheòlais timcheall air ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig, dualchas, cultar, ceòl is dannsa Gàidhealach.

Bidh an togalach eadar an dà bhuidheann; rè na teirm acadaimeagaich, 's i a' Cholaisde as motha a chleachdas e, ach air an fheasgar, air an deireadh-sheachdainean, agus ri linn nan saor-làithean, bidh Ceòlas agus a' choimhearsnachd ga chleachdadh.

Gaelic language in Scotland, and Cnoc Soilleir has a significant role in leading this development.

The completed building will provide new state of the art facilities, for music, dance, cultural heritage, Gaelic language, and education in Uist. The innovative partnership between the college and community organisation is ground breaking and the key to the success and deliverability of the project. The building has been designed around the needs of both organisations, and their complementary timetables mean that the building will be used and occupied year-round with optimal use of resources.

Ar Lèirsinn *Our Vision*

- Uibhist àrdachadh mar àite fàbharach son cosnadh agus còmhnaidh
- Obair a chruthachadh, àireamh an t-sluaigh a chur am meud agus coimhearsnachd eileanach iomallach a neartachadh le fàs a bharrachd ann an gnìomhachas agus tursachd
- Oileanaich agus inbhich òga a thàladh gu coimhearsnachd a tha crìonadh
- Goireasan sàr-mhath gus foghlam HE agus FE a thabhainn thar caochladh cuspair
- A' leigeil leis an dà bhuidheann fàs mu choinneamh nan amasan aca fhìn, agus amasan a' Phlana Cànain Nàiseanta, sa choimhearsnachd as treasa sa Ghàidhlig

- Contribute to making Uist a desirable place to live and work
- Create employment, sustain and grow population and revitalise a remote and fragile island community with additional benefits to the local infrastructure in tourism and business
- Attract students and a younger population into a declining community
- Provision of world class facilities to deliver education at HE and FE levels and informally across a range of subjects
- Enable both organisations to grow and meet their own objectives, and the aims of the national Gaelic plan in the strongest Gaelic speaking community

Ùrachadh air Adhartas *Progress Update*

Bhon choinneamh bhliadhnail mu dheireadh, tha Cnoc Soilleir air grunn cheumannan adhartais a ghabhail. Chaidh cead togail iarraidh sa Mhàrt, agus fhuaireas e san Iuchar. San Dàmhair, chuireadh an làn

Since last December's AGM the plans for Cnoc Soilleir have continued to progress. In March a full planning application was submitted, with approval was granted in July. In October, we submitted the full Building

Barantas Togail a-steach. Bithear ag obair gu dlùth leis an sgioba dhealbhachaidh gus dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil an t-àite freagarrach dar feumalachdan is lèirsinn.

As t-earrach, thàinig e am follais gum biodh e doirbh a' mhaoin uile a chruinneachadh gus an t-ionad a thogail aig aon àm. Mar sin, chuir sinn romhainn an t-ionad a thogail ann an dà leth, mean air mhean. Tha seo a' fàgail gu bheil cothrom nas fhèarr air a' mhaoin a lorg airson a' chiad cheuma, agus a' leigeil leinn faighinn a-steach chun na làraich cho luath 's as urrainnear – uaireigin as t-samhradh 2020.

Cluinnidh sinn tràth sa bhliadhna ùr an d'fhuair sinn a' mhaoin dheireannach a bha a dhìth orm mu choinneamh togail a' chiad leth de Chnoc Soilleir. Leanaidh pròiseas tagraidh agus tòisichidh an obair-togail as t-earrach an ath bhliadhna.

Cho luath 's a tha daingneachadh againn air maoin a' chiad leth, tòisichidh sinn gun dàil air maoin an dàrna leth a chruinneachadh. Tha Ceòlas agus LCC mar-thà a' smaointinn mu dhealbhachadh curraicealam agus stuth cùrsa dhan ionad ùr, cho math ris na cothroman mòra a bhios an cois nan goireasan ùra gu fàs.

Tron phròiseas seo, tha an luchd-ùidhe fhathast a' cur taic fhialaidh rinn: Riaghaltas na h-Alba, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, HIE, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar agus Alba Chruthachail.

Warrant application. We have been working closely with the design team throughout to ensure that the detailed plans continue to meet our needs and vision.

During the spring it became increasingly clear that we were going to struggle to get the full funding package to build the whole building in a single go, and a phased approach for the construction was developed. This allows us to meet an achievable funding package for the first phase, and enables us to get on site as soon as possible, and be open with the first part of the building for summer 2020.

We are currently in the final stages of funding approval to meet this phased programme and expect to have confirmation early in the new year, followed by tendering the project, and a start on site in late spring next year.

As soon as we have confirmation that all the funding for the first phase of construction is in place we will begin in earnest with fundraising for the second phase. Both Ceòlas and LCC are already beginning to think about curriculum and course content of the new building and how the new facilities will enable them to grow and take the best advantage of this opportunity.

Throughout this we continue to be supported by our Stakeholders: Scottish Government, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, HIE, CnES, Creative Scotland.

Leasachadh an Diaspora *Diaspora Development*

Seachdain na Gàidhlig *Edinburgh Gaelic Week*

San t-Samhain 2017, chuir Ceòlas latha de bhùthan-obrach, cleas na sgoil samhraidh, air dòigh sna Tallachan Meadhain, Dùn Èideann, a thàladh 40 duine. B' e luchd-teagaisg an latha: Ailean Dòmhnallach, Robbie Greig, Sìneag Nic an t-Saoir, Fin Moore agus Ceitidh Sheathach. Bha an tachartasan soirbheachail na dheagh dhòigh

In November 2017 Ceòlas Uibhist organised a day of pop-up workshops Central Hall in Edinburgh attracting 40 people. Tutors for the day were, Allan MacDonald, Robbie Greig, Sìneag MacIntyre, Fin Moore and Katie Shaw. The event proved to be a great success and was an effective marketing tool for the Summer School. The date was chosen to

air an sgoil shamhraidh a shanasachd do dhaoine ùra. Thèid an tachartas a chumail a-rithist ann an 2018 ri linn Seachdain na Gàidhlig.

coincide with the Edinburgh Seachdain na Gàidhlig and is to be repeated in 2018.

Celtic Connections 2018

San Fhaoilleach, bha dannsa aig Ceòlas ann an Talla Baile Phàrtaig, Glaschu, le Beinn Lì – a thàinig gu ìre to iomairtean ceòl òigridh Uibhist – ri linn Celtic Connections. Chuir Gillebrìde agus Màiri Nic 'IlleMhaoil ris an oidhche le òrain bhrèagha no dhà, air an gabhail eadar dannsaichean. Bha na thàinig ann de gach aois agus cinneadh, a' sealltainn cho tarraingeach 's a tha an cultar dannsa againn dhan mhòr-shluagh.

In January, Ceòlas hosted a sell-out dance in Partick Town Hall, Glasgow with music provided by the popular Beinn Lee band, who emerge through Uist's youth music provision. The attendees enjoyed our own singers Gillebrìde and Màiri MacMillan and who interspersed the dancing with a few songs. The audience were very mixed in age and nationality demonstrating the attraction of our dance culture to a wide section of society.

Ceanglaichean Eadar-nàiseanta *International Connections*

Chaidh buidheann bho Cheòlas a fhrithealadh Scoil Shamhraidh Willie Clancy ann an Sráid na Cathrach, taobh siar na h-Èireann. Bhathas a' coimhead air modalan eile obrachaidh a dh'fhaodadh a thoirt a dh'Uibhist. Chuir na h-àireamhan mòra (mu 1500 oileanach) iognadh air Iain Dòmhnallach, Liam Crouse, Dòmhnall Iain Dòmhnallach agus Màiri NicAonghais. Tha ant-ionnsachadh a' ruith bho 9m gu 1f, leis a' chòrr den latha ga lìonadh le bùthan-obrach dannsa no Gaeilge, òraidean, cuirmean, taisbeanaidhean agus tachartasan chloinne. 'S e cuirm oidhche Shathairne prìomh thachartas na sgoile. Bha gu leòr ann do mhuinntir Cheòlais son smaointinn mu dhèidhinn. Bha craic iongantach aig an fhèill, agus bha ionnsachadh ga thoirt a-mach às na clasaichean-teagaisg agus a-steach gu seiseanan-ciùil sna taighean-seinnse gach feasgar. Dh'fhairich riochdairean Cheòlais gu bheil deagh shuathadh aig an sgoil shamhraidh Uibhist – a tha nas lugha – ris an sgoil Èireannach.

Tha e doirbh coimeas a dhèanamh eadar an dà sgoil, leis cho mòr sa tha an tè Èireannach, ach tha na h-aon amasan agus luachan aig a

A Ceòlas delegation attended the Willie Clancy Summer School in Miltown Malby in the west of Ireland. The object of the visit was to be inspired by their work but also learn what could be transferable to Uist. Iain MacDonald, Artistic Director, Liam Crouse Media and Communications Officer, Donald John MacDonald Director of Ceòlas and Mairi MacInnes, Chairperson of Ceòlas, were impressed by the numbers of people in attendance (1500 students) in the small town. A programme of tuition runs 9am until 1pm with the remainder of the day filled with a variety of workshops from dances to Gaelic / Gaeilge conversation classes, talks, recitals, concerts, exhibitions, lectures, tribute concerts and children's activities culminating in the big memorial concert on the Saturday night. It gave the delegation food for thought. The festival had an amazing buzz and learning was brought out of the classroom in the afternoons and into the music sessions in every pub. It was felt by those present that our Ceòlas summer school favoured well in comparison to this massive festival.

dhà, mar ghleidheadh an dualchais. Tha Willie Clancy ag amas cuideachd air clann, ach tha rud ann do gach aois agus ceòladairean Èireannach a' smaointinn gur e seòrsa de Mhecca a th' ann do cheòl Gàidhealach na h-Èireann. Dh'fhaodadh Ceòlas a bhith smaointinn air uiread ùine a tha oileanaich ann an clasaichean a lùghdachadh gus barrachd fois a thoirt dhaibh tron latha – rud a tha air èirigh sa mheasadh deireadh sgoile againn.

It is difficult to compare the festival to Ceòlas as it is so much bigger but has the same core values as regards the maintaining of the tradition, but on a much grander scale. There is much more emphasis on teaching children which is one of the main differences between Willie Clancy & Ceòlas but all in all, many Irish musicians describe it as a kind of 'Mecca' for Irish Traditional Music. It might be a consideration for Ceòlas to decrease the time spent in classrooms to allow for more breathing room through the day – something which has been brought up in summer school evaluation forms.

British Irish Council, Belfast & Stornoway

Bha riochdairean bho Cheòlas ann aig Comhairle Bhreatainn is na h-Èireann ann am Beul Feirste sa Ghearran 2018. Bidh a' bhuidheann seo ag obair gus ceanglaichean eadar an dà dhùthaich Cheilteach seo a neartachadh. Chaidh càirdeasan sean is ùr ùrachadh. Chaidh coinneamh sruth Gàidhlig na Comhairle a chumail ann an Steòrnabhagh agus fhuair Ceòlas cothrom math air an obair againn a thaisbeanadh dhaibh.

Delegates from Ceòlas attended the bi-annual British Irish Council conference in February 2018 held in Belfast. This organisation is important for its work in strengthening connections between Celtic cultures. Old and new relationships were kindled. The Gaelic element of the workstream of the British Irish Council was presented in Stornoway to the culture committee and Ceòlas was fortunate to have the opportunity to demonstrate the breadth of our offering.

Cruinneachadh Òg Mhion-chànan *Youth Summit (HIGA), Bilbao*

Bha Liam Crouse ann an Dùthaich nam Basgach a' frithealadh HIGA 2018, an dàrna cruinneachadh cruinneil de luchd-labhairt òga mhion-chànain. Cuideachd a' riochdachadh na Gàidhlig, bha Eòs Sanders, às leth Oilthigh Ghlaschu. Bha iad am measg 70 luchd-labhairt eile a bhruidhneadh 30 mion-chànain eile, a' gabhail a-steach Basgais, Sámi, Silesian, K'iche agus eile à còig mòr-roinnean. B' e amas a' chruinneachaidh òigridh, a chaidh a chur air dòigh le Comhairle Baile Vitoria-Gasteiz agus Oilthigh Dùthaich nam Basgach, luchd-labhairt òga bho air feadh an t-saoghail a bhrosnachadh agus a chomhairleachadh mu ath-bheòthachadh cànain. Bha na dàimhean eadar suidheachaidhean cànanach nan diofar mhion-shluagh gan sònrachadh, gu h-

Liam Crouse represented Ceòlas at HIGA 2018, the second global summit of young speakers of minoritised language, taking place in the Basque Country. Also representing the Scottish Gaelic language was Joe Sanders, from the University of Glasgow. They joined over 70 other participants from over 30 minoritised languages. The youth summit, organized by the Vitoria-Gasteiz City Council and the University of the Basque Country, sought to inspire and advise new and native speakers of minoritised languages from around the world. The situational similarities between many languages were highlighted, and although language groups may differ in their prioritized areas of development, the structural evolution in terms of policy and

àraidh a thaobh leasachadh poileasaidh agus reachdais. B' e a bhith a' bruidhinn mu na bha an luchd-labhairt òg air fiosrachadh air leth cumhachdail, agus bha Gàidhlig na h-Alba ann an deagh shuidheachadh an taca ris na cànanan eile air taobh a-muigh na Roinn Eòrpa a tha a' fulang làmhachas-làidir fhathast air an latha an-diugh. San fharsaingeachd, dhearbh an cruinneachadh gu bheil ginealach òg dealasach ag iomairt an aghaidh dlùth-chruinneas agus crìonadh chànan tùsanach.

legislation is generally shared. The sharing of experiences was particularly powerful, with Scottish Gaelic comparing remarkably well to other language situations, such as those non-European languages that still suffer racism and violence against their speaker populations. Overall, the summit demonstrated that there is a younger generation who is dedicated to their respective minoritised languages that is challenging the broad homogenising tendencies of globalisation.

Pròiseactan Gàidhlig *Gaelic Projects*

Cùrsaichean Bogaidh *Gaelic Courses*

Tha Ceòlas a' leantail air a bhith ag obrachadh ann an compàirteachas ri Oilthigh Shrath Chluaidh a' lìbhreagadh trèanadh do thìdsearan Gàidhlig. Tha an cùrsa againn stèidhichte air a' choimhearsnachd Ghàidhlig, a' toirt cothrom a bhith dol an lùib beatha agus eaconamaidh dhùthchail an eilein. Tha a' choimhearsnachd na cridhe dha seo. Thachair a' chiad chùrsa sa Ghiblean 2018 ann an Taigh-tasgaidh Chill Donnain. Bha an dàrna cùrsa ri linn na sgoil samhraidh agus chaidh treas cùrsa, air an robh 5r nach robh nan tìdsearan, a chumail ri linn na symposium. Tha na cùrsaichean seo tarraingeach do na sgoiltean leis gu bheil iad gan ruith air taobh a-muigh na teirm. Bha na beachdan a chaidh a chruinneachadh glè mhath, agus na h-oileanaich ag ràdh gur e cothrom fìor-mhath air ionnsachadh cànain ann an àrainneachd bheairteach chuideachail a bh' ann. Bidh Ceòlas ag obair air seo a leasachadh.

Ceòlas has continued to work in collaboration with Strathclyde University to support the training of Gaelic teachers. We have developed a course that is based around a Gaelic speaking community, showing real life in a rural area and how the rural economy works, with the support of the community being critical in making this work. The first GIfT took place at the end of April 2018, based in Kildonan Museum with outreach into the community. The second course specifically for teachers ran during the Ceòlas summer school and a third immersion course ran during the symposium in late July, which attracted 5 people who were not teachers. These courses are popular with schools as they are run outwith term time. Feedback has been very positive with the attendees commenting that they experienced a rich and rewarding learning experience. This is an area of work that Ceòlas plans on developing further.

Taigh na Gàidhlig *Month-long Gaelic Immersion*

Chaidh iarraidh air Ceòlas le Bòrd na Gàidhlig cùrsa bogadh fad-mìos do thìdsearan a chur air dòigh gus cur ris na sgilean cànain aca a rachadh a chumail as t-samhradh. Chaidh luchd-teagaisg Uibhisteach a chur gu feum le ionnsachadh seachd latha san t-seachdain thar ceithir seachdainean. Bha iomadh turas agus fiorsachadh an cois a' chùrsa, agus fhuair na h-oileanaich fìor dheagh bhlasad de bheatha Ghàidhlig an eilein ann an caochladh roinn.

B' e Bòrd na Gàidhlig a thruis ceathrar thìdsearan à Alba agus thàinig tè eile à Ceap Breatainn air a' chùrsa (le maoin bhon riaghaltas aice fhèin). Bha an cùrsa èifeachdach ann a bhith a' toirt nan tìdsearan air adhart nan ionnsachadh agus tha dòchas gun cum e dol san àm ri teachd.

Ceòlas was approached by the Education Department of BnG to organise an intensive immersion course for teachers to enrich their language skills. It was proposed that before colleges and universities began and early in the school year would be the most appropriate time. Local teachers were recruited to facilitate the learning with 7-day engagement over 4 weeks. A wide range of visits and experiences was provided with current education initiatives being integral to the content.

Recruitment to the course was undertaken through BnG and four teachers from Scotland attended and one from Cape Breton who had heard about it through Ceòlas, (she was funded through her own government). The initiative was hailed a great success and hopefully will be repeated.

Clasaichean Gàidhlig Coimhearsnachd *Gaelic Community Classes*

Chaidh clasaichean Gàidhlig a ruith aig grunn ìrean eadar Griomasaigh agus Dalabrog as t-fhoghar agus tron gheamhradh 2017/18. Bha deagh chunntas dhaoine an làthair agus leanaidh an obair seo ann an 2018/19. Tha oileanaich a' pàigheadh nan clasaichean iad fhèin.

Gaelic language classes for various levels were run from Grimsay to Daliburgh over the autumn and winter of 2017/18. These were very well attended. This work will continue in 2018/19 and classes are already underway. The classes are self-financing.

Pròiseact Ciùil agus Dannsa *Music and Dance Project*

Dannsa *Dance Project*

Chaidh am pròiseact seo a mhaoineachadh leis an Urras MhicDhonnchaidh agus NHS Eileanan Siar mar obair phàirt-ùine. Thàinig i gu crìch sa Ghiblean 2018 ach fhuaireadh maoin ùr san Ògmhios 2018.

This project was previously supported by Robertson Trust and NHS in the Western Isles on a half time basis and ended in April 2018. New funding was acquired in June 2018.

Bogsa & Bogha *Buttons & Bows Project*

Tha ionnsachadh a' bhogsa-phutain agu na fìdhle a' dol fhathast, bho 2015, agus luchd-teasgaisg a' dèanamh 7 uairean san t-seachdain. Tha a' mhaoin air ruith a-mach agus a dh'aindeoin iomairt, thig an iomairt seo gu crìch san Dùbhlachd, 2018.

The teaching of Accordion and Fiddle continued this year with both tutors having 7 hours teaching time to progress what was started in 2015. Funding has been sought from a variety of sources without success and the current funding will be finished in December 2018.

A' Cur Air Adhart Thachartasan *Events Promotion*

Bidh Ceòlas a' cur air adhart thachartasan ealain agus chiùil. Tha na leanas na chaidh a chur air adhart thar na bliadhna a dh'fhalbh.

Ceòlas has recently developed a role as an arts promoter. The table below lists the events which we have promoted within the last 12 months.

Deeds Not Words	Theatre	Talla Staoinebrig	02/2018	40
Scottish Opera	Opera	Dalabrog, Talla an Ìochdair, Baile a' Mhanaich, Paibeil	05/2018	50
Budapest Café Orchestra	Music	Sgoil Lìonacleit	06/2018	125
Ciaradh na h-Oidhche	Music/cèilidh	Talla Naoimh Pheadair	09/2018	120
Phil Cunningham & Aly Bain	Music	Talla an Ìochdair	09/2018	170
Hebridean International Film Festival	Film	Talla Staoinebrig	09/2018	2

Meadhanan Sòisealta *Social Media*

Tha Ceòlas beò air na meadhanan sòisealta:	Ceòlas is active on social media:
Facebook (Ceòlas): 1,929	Facebook (Ceòlas): 1,929
Twitter (@CeòlasUist): 1,406	Twitter (@CeòlasUist): 1,406
Instagram (@Ceòlasuist): 753	Instagram (@Ceòlasuist): 753

Am Bòrd-stiùiridh agus An Luchd-obrach *Board of Directors and Staff*

Màiri NicAonghais, Cathraiche
Pauline NicDhòmhnaill
Iseabail (Nic a' Chlèirich) NicDhòmhnaill
Catrìona Nic an t-Saoir
Maighread Walker
Dòmhnall Iain Dòmhnallach
Iseabail (NicChoinnich) Dhòmhnallach
Róisín King
Lauren Mhoireastan

Mary Schmöller, Manaidsear Leasachaidh agus na h-Oifig
Iain Dòmhnallach, Stiùiriche Ealain
Peigi Ann Nic 'IlleMhaoil, Oifigear Rianachd
Liam Alastair Crouse, Oifigear Conaltraidh Gàidhlig
Catherine Yeatman, Manaidsear Pròiseict (Cnoc Soilleir)

Comataidh *Committee*

Aonghas Dòmhnallach
Flòraidh Chaimbeul
Dòmhnall Ruairidh Caimbeul
Màiri Anna Chaimbeul
Ceitidh Chaimbeul
Criosaidh Nic a' Phì
Màiri Steele
Sandaidh Jones
Ann Marie Nic an t-Saoir Collier
Seòna NicAoidh
Peigi Chaimbeul
Florence Mhoireasdan
Seumas Caimbeul
Niall Mac an t-Saoir
Peinidh Nic an t-Saoir
Seònag NicRuairidh
Eòghann Wilson

Appendix 1

Às an Tobar 2017

Full attendance	**114**
Cèilidh	54

Fèis Chullaig

Full attendance	**792**
Dannsa Trail West	250
Cèilidh san Loidse	52
Cèilidh Chullaig	130

Moladh Uibhist

Full attendance	**54**

Sgoil Shamhraidh *Summer School*

Full attendance	**2269**
Locals	861
Visitors	1408
Paying students	**142**
An Cèilidh Mòr	330

Symposium

Full attendance	**781**

Toradh *Harvest Festival*

Full attendance	**50**