

Sanas Obrach: Oifigear Iomairt Ghàidhlig Dhùn Èideann

Please let your friends and family know about the new part-time position of Gaelic development officer in Edinburgh which is currently being advertised. The closing date for applications is 5th May 2010.

Sanas Obrach: Oifigear Iomairt Ghàidhlig Dhùn Èideann
(Tuarastal eadar £22K agus £25K, pro rata, a-rèir eòlais)

Tha Comunn na Gàidhlig a' sireadh Oifigear Iomairt Gàidhlig airson Iomairt Ghàidhlig Dhùn Èideann (0.5 FTE). Bidh an oifigear stèidhte agus ag obair ann an Dùn Èideann. Thathas a' lorg neach-obrach a tha fileanta sa Ghàidhlig, eòlach air a bhith ag obair aig ìre coimhearsnachd, comasach air a bhith ag obair le glè bheag de stiùireadh bho latha gu latha, math air obair co-òrdanaiche agus a bhith a' bruidhinn ri buidhnean 's luchd-obrach aig iomadh ìre. Sa chiad dol a-mach, 's e cùmhnant bliadhna a bhios an seo agus gheibhear Tuairisgeul Obrach neo/agus tuilleadh fiosrachaidh, bho www.cnag.org.uk/fiosrachadh/sanasanobrach/oifigear_i_c_de.php, no 01463 234138.

Feumaidh iarrtasan a bhith againn air 5 Cèitean 2010.

Tha a' phròiseact seo air a mhaoinachadh le Bòrd na Gàidhlig.



Edinburgh Shinty Club

Camanachd Dhun Èideann has been running for over a year now. Five volunteers have been through their coaching certificate with The Camanachd Association and they are assisted by many other helpers.

We run training sessions on a Friday from 12:30 - 1:30pm for children in Primary 3 and 4. We also have training sessions for all ages on Saturday mornings from 11:30-12:30.

All sessions currently take place in the Games Hall at Tollcross Primary School although there are plans to start outdoor training session on Tuesdays at the Meadows.

For more details on training sessions and how to join the club, please contact us at:
camanachd@duneideann.net

Iomairt Ghàidhlig Dhùn Èideann

At a meeting on the 26th of April, the Gaelic community in our capital city took a few more important steps forward, and the chosen direction of those steps is excellent news for parents.

The initiative, one of a number set up and supported by Comunn na Gàidhlig (the Gaelic development agency) among significant Gaelic communities around the country, is now well underway. The Steering Group, consisting of many key Gaelic community representatives, set priorities for the project, and decided on the formal name **Iomairt Ghàidhlig Dhùn Èideann** (Edinburgh Gaelic Initiative).

In summary, the **Iomairt** is now set to:

- work to support and develop Gaelic education in Edinburgh
- bring together and strengthen the city's diverse Gaelic community

This will be achieved:

- through the work of steering committee on these two priorities, with the support of CnaG assisted by a development officer (post as advertised)
- through liaison with the City of Edinburgh Council – and there is every expectation that a united Gaelic community voice working with the Council can achieve much

The Steering Group is next scheduled to meet on **Tuesday 1st June, 7 pm**, at the Gaelic community office above Fountainbridge library (Dundee Street), with simultaneous translation provided. All welcome.

www.cnag.org.uk/iomairtean



Naidheachdan is produced jointly by Comann nam Pàrant and the Cròileagan to provide information for all parents and friends of Gaelic Medium Education in Edinburgh.

All contributions are very welcome (in English or Gaelic), as are photographs and artwork. Please send contributions to Marion Thompson:

marionthompson@live.com
07968 405 670

Mòran taing to all those who contributed to this issue: Wilma Laird, Sandy Nicholson, Alasdair Cameron, Ian MacDonald, Andy Murray.

Naidheachdan

Edinburgh Gaelic News

April 2010, Issue 2

Comann nam Pàrant www.gaelic-education.org

Next meeting:
7pm-9pm Monday 10th May
Tollcross Community Centre room 1

All parents are very welcome to attend this meeting.

committee@gaelic-education.org

Comann nam Pàrant Update on Edinburgh's Gaelic Language Plan

In June 2008, Edinburgh City Council was notified by Bòrd na Gàidhlig (the principal public body promoting and developing Gaelic) of its statutory requirements to produce a Gaelic Language Plan. The Council then produced a draft Plan which was launched to an audience of more than 100 people on 10 November 2009. The public consultation ran from November to January 2010.

In total 349 responses to the consultation were received which is an excellent response. A big thank you again to all parents/families and friends who responded. We wait with interest to see if the Council takes our views on board. The timetable now is as follows:

- 18 May - Children and Families Education Committee - Review of Options
- 8 June - Policy and Strategy Committee
- 11 June - Submission to Bòrd na Gàidhlig - if amendments approved

We are pleased to see a number of people involved in discussing the issues with the Council. Arthur Cormack, Chair of Bòrd na Gàidhlig, has met with Jenny Dawe, Leader of Edinburgh City Council. A representative from The Scottish Government was also present at that meeting. The discussion was very much focused on the development of Gaelic medium education in Edinburgh.

Arthur Cormack has also met with Alex Wallace, Headteacher at James Gillespies High School, regarding the development of Gaelic language subjects at secondary level.

Arthur Cormack's correspondence with Jenny Dawe and Alex Wallace is available to view on our blog:
www.gaelic-education.org

Ginealach Ùr na Gàidhlig

Bòrd na Gàidhlig on 13th April published 'Ginealach Ùr na Gàidhlig' - an Action Plan to increase the numbers of Gaelic speakers. The Plan was prepared for Scottish Ministers detailing proposals to accelerate the number of people learning and using Gaelic and also ensure the most effective use of existing resources and structures.

The Action Plan sets out steps to increase the number of Gaelic speakers in Scotland. It focuses on key areas of Parental Support, Promotion, Adult Learning, Pre-school and School Education.

In his foreword to the Plan, Cathraiche (Chair) Arthur Cormack states: 'This Plan supports, and does not seek to replace, the National Plan for Gaelic 2007-12. The Action Plan reprioritises resources and actions with the aim of achieving an incremental increase in language learning and will act as a bridge between the current National Plan and the next one. Delivering it will be Bòrd na Gàidhlig's priority from now until March 2012.'

There is much of interest in this new plan, including a target of six standalone Gaelic schools and explicit recognition of the importance of secondary education.

A useful summary of the Action Plan can be found in the 'latest news' section of the Bòrd na Gàidhlig website:
www.gaidhlig.org.uk

On 15th April, the Action Plan was debated in the Scottish Parliament. The full debate can be found in the 'official reports' section of the Parliament's website:
www.scottish.parliament.uk

Gaelic medium education

Does your Councillor know your views?

In light of the upcoming Edinburgh Council committee meetings, it is very important if you have not already done so to make your views known to your local Councillor.

It is highly beneficial to meet your Councillor in person because:

- Constituents are key people as far as politicians are concerned. Every vote counts.
- Not many people make the effort to contact their Councillors, so direct contact on your part will not go unnoticed.
- It may well be that your Councillor is not familiar with Gaelic medium education or indeed the benefits of a bilingual education.

Comann nam Pàrant has details of all the Edinburgh Councillors, and the addresses and times of their surgeries. We can also provide leaflets to be left with Councillors. Contact the CnamP committee:
committee@gaelic-education.org

Comann nam Pàrant Committee

The committee is looking for volunteers to give a little time to help out with some important tasks. Groups of parents are being established to help in the following areas:

Communications
Spokesperson (s) - Fluent Gaelic Speakers
Lobbying
Events/Social
Croileagan
Sgoil Araich (Nursery)
Primary
Secondary
Writing Group
CnP Naiseanta Representative (s)
Administration

If you have an interest in one of these areas, please get in touch with the committee:

committee@gaelic-education.org

We also very much hope to see you at the CnamP meeting, **7pm on 10th May** at the Community Centre.

Comann nam Pàrant (Nàiseanta)

The 2010 annual general meeting of the national organisation representing Gaelic parents' associations will take place in Inverness as follows:

7.30-9.30pm on 21st May
Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis

The CnamP (Nàiseanta) committee includes representatives from all areas of the country and meets a few times a year. Expenses are paid to attend meetings. There are three allocated committee positions to represent the East of Scotland. As of this year, Edinburgh will not have a representative, unless there is a parent willing to join the committee.

It is important that we can continue to represent Edinburgh on the committee, and indeed at meetings at national level. For each meeting, a couple of attendees are funded for each regional association.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact the Edinburgh committee:

committee@gaelic-education.org

Those parents who are members of Facebook may wish to join the newly established Comann nam Pàrant (Nàiseanta) Facebook group.

Mòd Ionadail Dhùn Èideann 2010

The Edinburgh Local Mod 2010 took place on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th April at Tollcross Primary School and Community Centre. It was a huge success with around two hundred and fifty children taking part in over 50 competitions. The introduction of the second day of competitions seemed particularly successful and the craft stalls were a welcome addition to the event. It was particularly pleasing to note the comments of adjudicators about the high standard of the competitions.

The Local Mod Organising Committee would like to congratulate all those who took part in the Mod and helped to make it such a success. We'd also like to thank the Tollcross staff, parents and others who helped us over the two days.

A full list of results is available on the Mod website:

www.modionadaildhuneideann.co.uk or
www.edinburghlocalmod.co.uk

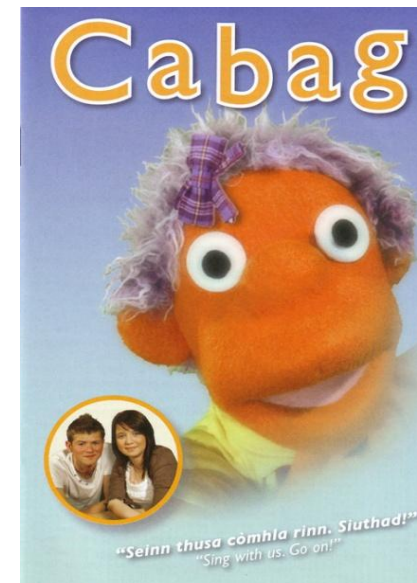
Mòran taing from us all for the very hard work of the Mod committee: Fiona Mackintosh, Catriona Pirie Morrison, Anne MacPhail, and Alasdair Morrison.

Have you met Cabag?

Cabag, which is Gaelic for 'blether', is the brainchild of Morag Stewart, from Skye, and Mary MacKinnon, of Oban. Cabag features a puppet and presenters engaging in Gaelic songs, games, rhymes and stories, with some of the filming taking place in Gaelic medium nurseries, including Tollcross. The DVD was funded by Bòrd na Gàidhlig through Argyll and Bute's Gaelic Language Act Implementation Fund.

The free DVD will be distributed to Gaelic medium pre-school facilities across Scotland. Glove puppets of Cabag have also been produced for the initiative, which aims to support parents to help young children who are learning Gaelic.

The two presenters on the DVD are Linda MacLeod and Derek MacIntosh, and Mairi Morrison is the puppeteer and voice of Cabag. The DVD was compiled by Benderloch-based Mor Media and Sealladh TV, based in Skye. Rosemary Ward, director of education and learning for Bòrd na Gàidhlig, said it was hoped the character would grow in popularity to such an extent that it would eventually be awarded a television series.



Parents Like Us

Leith Links, 7th - 9th May

Please come along to the Parents Like Us festival and support the Croileagan hands-on events. Both the events sold out in the first two days of ticket sales (although there will be some additional tickets available on the day), so we know there will be a big turnout! It is a great opportunity to speak to interested parents about Gaelic medium education. The events are: **Cur is fàs** (Sow and grow) 12.30pm on Saturday 8th May; and **Oink mù uac!** (Oink moo quack!) 11.30am on Sunday 9th May. The **choir** will also be performing on the afternoon of Friday 7th May.

We also need additional helpers for the **Comann nam Pàrant** stall, which will be running throughout the festival. Please contact the Croileagan if you could spare some time to help with the stall.



The **Tollcross Croileagan 2010 AGM** will take place on Tuesday 25th May at 8pm. The venue will be Toast, 146 Marchmont Road, EH9 1AQ.

www.toastedinburgh.co.uk

It is fantastic that recently the numbers at Cròileagan have grown, and the AGM allows us to plan for the year ahead, as children move onto Sgoil Araich. We need to elect a new committee who know that they will be able to continue to attend Cròileagan.

In addition to electing a new committee, we will be discussing:

- Finance and fundraising, including how to spend the remainder of our grant income.
- Projects that will help to stimulate the use of Gaelic in the home, such as the Gaelic story sacks.
- How we can welcome new members.
- Whether we can start some daytime Gaelic lessons for Cròileagan parents.

We will also be deciding on a name for our mascot, so any more suggestions are very welcome!

This is an open invitation to all Cròileagan parents, however to enable us to confirm numbers please confirm your attendance by emailing:

croileagantollcross@hotmail.co.uk