

AN CUAIRTEAR CEILTEACH

Foghar 2010

Autumn 2010

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Celtic Studies Newsletter



RANNSACHADH NA GÀIDHLIG 2010

The biennial *Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig* conference on Scottish Gaelic Studies was in Antigonish in 2008; this year in Aberdeen we met up with many friends, colleagues, and past graduates of the StFX Celtic Department, such as Tasha Sumner (now at Harvard) and Tiber Falzett (now in Edinburgh).

SISTER MACDONELL LECTURE

The annual lecture series in honour of Sister Margaret MacDonell was inaugurated on 16 April 2010 by Professor William Gillies of the University of Edinburgh with the lecture, "The Books of Clanranald: a family history with a difference."

NEW IRISH LECTURER

We welcome the newly arrived lecturer in Irish, Ailish Bhreathnach, to St FX's Celtic Department. She is here thanks to the support of the Ireland Canada University Foundation.

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CELTS IN THE AMERICAS CONFERENCE 2011

We are currently preparing to hold a major international conference on the legacy of Celtic peoples in the Americas for summer 2011.

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StFX associates in Aberdeen: Prof. Nilsen, Tasha Sumner, Tiber Falzett, Dr. Newton.



Prof. William Gillies, Sister Margaret MacDonell, Prof. Ken Nilsen

Thanks to Natasha Sumner and Pauline MacDonald for the use of their photographs.

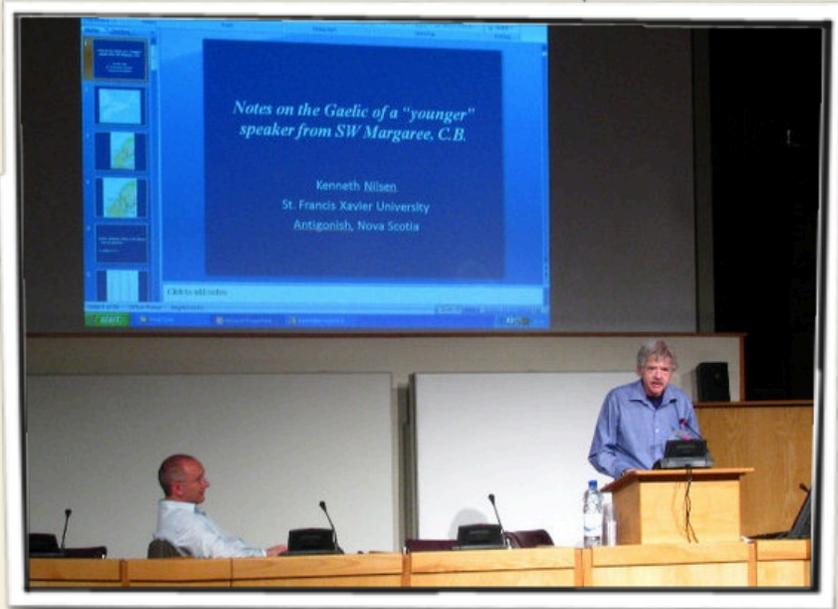
Tuairisgeul a' Cheannaird, an t-Àrd-Ollamh MacNíll Notes from the Chair, Dr. Kenneth Nilsen

The past year, 2009-2010, was a good one for the Celtic Studies Department, with a wide variety of courses, including classes in three of the Celtic languages: Scottish Gaelic, Welsh and Irish Gaelic. The Irish Gaelic courses were taught by Séamus MacFloinn, a visiting instructor from Dún Laoghaire, Ireland. Mr. MacFloinn's addition to our staff was funded by the Ireland Canada University Foundation. He was one of six visiting instructors from Ireland at various universities in Canada funded by the ICUF.

The year included a series of lectures by members of the Department. The Department held two well-attended Gaelic language days. We also continued our weekly Scottish Gaelic lunch table, a tradition that goes back over twenty years. A weekly Irish language table met on Friday afternoons. In addition, in conjunction with the student Celtic Society, a number of Celtic films were shown.

In March the fourth annual Celtic honours and advanced major student symposium was held with three students making presentations.

In April the student Celtic Society held its annual concert and once again it was a spectacular event. This fund-raiser enabled the Department to send two of our students, Melanie Altman and Graham MacDonald, to Scotland to study at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College on the Isle of Skye. Melanie Altman, and another of our graduates, Jason Bond, are currently pursuing a Bachelor of Education degree with an option in Gaelic at StFX.



One of the year's highlights was the inauguration of the Annual Sister Margaret MacDonell Lecture in Celtic Studies. The lecture was delivered by Professor William Gillies, retired professor of Celtic Studies at the University of Edinburgh. Professor Gillies is one of the leading scholars in the field of Scottish Gaelic studies. The topic of his lecture was the Books of Clanranald.

In July Dr. Nilsen taught a course in Modern Irish at the Harvard University Summer School. He used his time in the Boston area to renew friendships with speakers of Irish and Welsh. In August he traveled to Scotland to attend the Gaelic Research conference *Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig* 2010 at the University of Aberdeen and deliver a paper on features of the Gaelic of Cape Breton. StFX was well represented at the conference. Dr. Newton

of this department and Susan Cameron of the library's Celtic Collection also read papers. Former StFX Celtic students who delivered papers were Tiber Falzett (now at the University of Edinburgh), Lindsay Milligan (now at Aberdeen University) and Natasha Sumner (now at Harvard University). After the conference in Aberdeen, Dr. Nilsen traveled to Edinburgh to attend the launch of a collection of essays in honor of Professor William Gillies. Dr. Nilsen's article "P.J. Nicholson and *Achadh nan Gaidheal*" which deals with Dr. Nicholson's *Casket* articles (1920-1944) is included in the collection. Another of Dr. Nilsen's articles, "Scottish Gaelic in Canada," was published earlier this year in *The Edinburgh Companion to the Gaelic Language* published by the University of Edinburgh Press.

This year promises to be an exciting one. We are happy to welcome Ms. Ailish Bhreathnach, our visiting Irish instructor, who is here with support of the Ireland Canada University Foundation.

We would also like to welcome two exchange students from Scotland. Karen MacKinnon from Tiree and Colin Morrison from Lewis, both fluent Gaelic speakers, will spend the fall semester with us. On September 20 the StFX Art Gallery held its

launch of the exhibit of *An Leabhar Mór: The Great Book of Gaelic*. This was followed by a céilidh co-sponsored by the Art Gallery, the Nova Scotia Office of Gaelic Affairs, and the Celtic Studies Department.

Other events this year will include the Celtic lecture series, the film series, Gaelic language days and of course the year-end Celtic Society concert. Early next summer we are looking forward to a major

conference "Celts in the Americas" to be held at StFX, June 29 - July 2. The conference is being organized by Dr. Newton and will be co-hosted by the Celtic Studies Department of St FX and the Centre for Cape Breton Studies at Cape Breton University.

Le deagh dhùrachdan,
Prof. Ken Nilsen

2009-2010 Graduating Students and Theses

Melanie Altman

Jason Bond, *Not Just Another Stepping Stone: The Isle of Man's Presence in Irish Sea Trade, Politics, and Religion in the 10th-13th Centuries*. Supervisor Prof. Nilsen.

Rachael Noble, *Men in Labor, Women at War: Gender Role Confusion in the Táin Bó Cúailnge*. Supervisor Dr. Newton.
Scott Robinson

2010 Celtic Studies Prizes

Rev. John MacGillivray Gaelic Scholarship for Summer Study in Scotland: Melanie Altman Holder & Graham MacDonald

The following awards are generally awarded on an annual basis to students who excel in Celtic Studies courses. Preference is given to students in the Celtic language courses. Each award is valued at \$500.

Honourable Allan J. MacEachen Fellowship for Celtic Studies: Graham MacDonald

The Rev Donald M. Rankin Scholarship for Celtic Studies: Veronica Troy

The Reverend John Archie Chisholm Memorial Award: Catherine Thornton

Angus L. Macdonald Memorial Scholarship for Celtic Studies: Jason Bond

Angus Dan Gillis Award in Celtic Studies: Rachel Redshaw

Flora MacDonald Award in Celtic Studies: Cassidy Fortin

Fr. Malcolm MacDonell Award in Celtic Studies: Melanie Altman Holder



Prof John Kelly of the Ireland Canada University Foundation visiting in Nov 2009.

Sgrìob dhan t-Seann Dùthaich

LEIS AN ÀRD-OLLAMH COINNEACH MACNÍLL

Chuir mi seachad tacan anns an t-seann dùthaich as t-samhradh. Bha iomadach rud a' dol ann an saoghal nan Gàidheal. Se Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig 2010 ann an Obar Dheathain an rud ba mhotha, dh'fhaodte. Se th'ann an Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig co-labhairt a chaidh a chur air bhonn ann an 2000 le Roinn na Ceiltis aig Oilthigh Obar Dheathain. Aig an àm, se an t-Àrd-Ollamh Colm Ó Baoill a bha a' smaointinn gum bu chòir gum biodh co-labhairt ann a bhiodh a' déiligeadh ri cuspairean a bhuineadh dhan Ghàidhlig. Shoirbhich cho math leis a' chiad cho-labhairt sin gun tuirt muinntir Roinn na Ceiltis ann an Glaschu gum bu thoil leothasan co-labhairt dhen aon t-seòrsa a bhith aca agus mar sin dh'cagraich iad-san an dàrna Rannsachadh ann an 2002. Bhon uair sin tha Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig ga chumail gach dàrnacha bliadhna ann an deifear oilthighean. Bha an cóigeamh Rannsachadh

againne, Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig 2008, aig Oilthigh Naomh Fransaidh Xavier. Thàinig grunnan math as Albainn agus as àiteachan eile gar n-ionnsaidh airson sin. Bidh pàipearan an Rannsachaidh sin gan nochdadh ann an leabhar ann an ùine ghoirid. Se Clò Oilthigh Cheap Breatuinn a bhios ga fhoillseachadh.

Am bliadhna thill an Rannsachadh a dh'Obar Dheathain far an deach a stéidheachadh a' chiad latha riamh. Agus abair co-labhairt mhath! B'e an t-Ollamh Rob Dunbar prìomh stiùiriche na co-labhairt. Tha sinn gu math eòlach air Rob anns a' cheàrnaidh seo. Chaidh teann air trì fichead pàipear a libhrigeadh air iomadach cuspair a bhuineas dhan Ghàidhlig: cànan, dùthchas, eachdraidh, litreachas agus athbheòchadh na Gàidhlig. Thug dithis bho NFX seachad pàipearan ann: mi fhìn agus an Dr. Micheal Newton agus bha feadhainn eile ann a fhuair ceum sa Roinn Cheiltich againne: Lindsay

Milligan a tha a' dèanamh ceum aig Oilthigh Obar Dheathain, Tiber Falzett a tha a' dèanamh ceum aig Oilthigh Dhùn Éideann agus Natasha Sumner a tha a-nis 'na h-oileanach aig Oilthigh Harvard. Bha e cho math am faicinn a' soirbheachadh ann an saoghal acadaimeagach nan Gàidheal. Agus gu dearbh bha e glé thlachdmhor tachairt a-rithist ri seann chàrdean bhon t-seann dùthaich agus bho dhùthchannan eile cuideachd.

Cha b'e dìreach pàipearan acadaimeagach a bh'ann. Bha deagh chéilidh ann, feusd bhlasda agus deoch no dhà. Chaidh sinn air turas aon latha agus coimhead air seann chlachan nan Cruithneach, air cearcall de sheann chlachan roimh Cheilteach agus air làrach Manachainn Dheòir far an deach Leabhar Dheòir a sgrìobhadh a chionn mìle bliadhna.

Turas air leth math a bh'ann agus is fhada a chumas mi cuimhne air.



Aig tursachan ann an Siorramachd Obar Dheathain.



Ailish Bhreathnach (centre) receiving Ireland Canada University Foundation award.

SCOTTISH TEACHERS DELEGATION

A delegation of 16 teachers from Scotland (two of whom were Gaelic teachers) visited Antigonish schools, the StFX Celtic Studies department, and the Office for Gaelic Affairs on Tuesday October 13th.

The group are part of an international exchange training program formed in 2007 in Scotland, the Scottish Continuing International Professional Development Programme (SCIPD). It is under the direction of Learning and Teaching Scotland (LTS).

They explained how the 2009 Year of Homecoming had inspired this journey to Nova Scotia as an opportunity to explore links between Scotland and its diasporic communities.

Audrey Kellacher, national education development officer with Learning and Teaching Scotland, said the aim of the trip was to investigate the role of culture and heritage and how this is used to develop a sense of belonging and identity, amongst other aims.

STATUE OF BISHOP MACKINNON

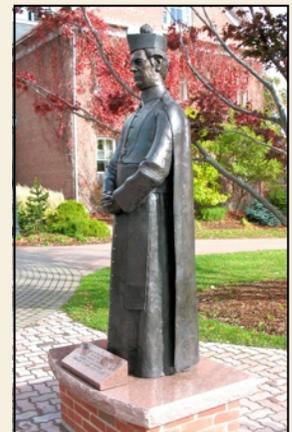
A bronze statue of Bishop Colin MacKinnon (Cailean MacFhionghuin), the founder of St FX, was installed in Xavier Square in the spring. The plaque at the foot of the statue (see right) is bilingual in Gaelic and English so that the

Bishop's mother tongue and that of the majority of his diocese – Gaelic – is given proper acknowledgment.

IRISH LECTURER: AILISH BHREATHNACH

We were fortunate enough this year to once again be given an Irish lecturer by the Ireland Canada University Foundation. Ailish Bhreathnach received her BA in Irish and French from NUI Galway in 2007. She received the highest marks in the country for the Irish component of her BA that year, and was awarded the Mansion House Fund Prize (*Duais Chiste Theach an Ard-Mhéara*) as a result. She received her H.Dip in Education in 2008, and has recently completed her MA *sa Nua-Ghaeilge* (Modern Irish), where she studied dialectology, language legislation and the Irish language and also sociolinguistics.

She has been teaching Irish language and literature at NUI Galway and also in *Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge*, NUI Galway for 3 years. Her research interests include Irish language grammar, sociolinguistics and language planning legislation.



Statue of Bishop MacKinnon



Bishop Colin Francis MacKinnon
 Founder of St. Francis Xavier University, 1853
 Bishop of Antigonish
 February 27, 1852 - July 17, 1877
 An t-Easbuig Cailean Fransaigh MacFhionghuin
 Fear-Stéidheachaidh Oilthigh Naoimh
 Fransaigh Xavier, 1853
 Easbuig Antigonish
 27 An Gearran 1852 - 17 An t-Iuchar 1877

Department activities and opportunities

COMUNN CEILTEACH

An Comunn Ceilteach, StFX's student Celtic Society, continues to provide social and educational activities for students, such as the annual concert which raises funds to send students to Scotland to work on Gaelic. This year Jason Bond is President and Cassidy Fortin is Vice-President of *An Comunn Ceilteach*.

Cassidy is teaching Irish songs in workshops to interested students and will be organizing an Irish Day later in the year in which there will be sessions on Irish culture, language, history and song. The weekly Irish Conversation group (*Bord na Gaeilge*) meets every Friday at Piper's Pub 2:30-4:30 PM.

SCOTLAND EXCHANGE PROGRAM

StFX has an exchange program with Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, a college on the Isle of Skye in Scotland which teaches all courses through the medium of Scottish Gaelic.

Rachel Redshaw is at Sabhal Mòr now, the first StFX student to spend the academic year there. We hope that other students will take up this exciting opportunity in the future.

LEWIS MACKINNON'S TALK

On 1st October 2009, Lewis MacKinnon, CEO of the Nova Scotia Office of Gaelic Affairs, made a presentation on recent initiatives concerning the Gaelic language and culture in the province. Some of those include bilingual road signs, a new provincial Gaelic symbol, support for language revitalization initiatives such as *Sruth nan Gàidheal* and *Cainnt mo Mhàthar*, and support to communities in developing ways to transmit the language more successfully.

IRISH STORYTELLER

Renowned Irish *Seanchaí* (storyteller) Batts Burn offered a presentation of and about the Irish storytelling tradition on 19th

October 2009 to a full and spell-bound room.

ANTIGONISH GAELIC CHOIR

Stephanie Johnston has resumed direction of the Antigonish Gaelic Choir this year. It performed at the Antigonight celebration in downtown Antigonish on 2nd October and expects to make numerous appearances in coming months.

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

The Celtic Studies department is planning a number of exciting activities this year: our autumn Latha Gàidhlig (Gaelic Day) will be Saturday 30th October, 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM on the 8th floor of Nicholson Hall, St FX campus; we will take a field trip to attend the unveiling of a plaque to *am Bàrd MacGilleathain* (the Bard MacLean) in Glen Bard on Saturday, 16th October; we will have a showing of the film *The Secret of Kells* and a discussion of the art, music, and history in the film with a panel of StFX faculty. *STAY TUNED!*



Dr. Kenneth Nilsen introduces Office of Gaelic Affairs CEO, Lewis MacKinnon



Seanchaí Batt Burns in full flight

Celts in the Americas – International Conference 29 June – 2 July 2011

The *Celts in the Americas* conference will be held 29 June – 2 July, 2011 at Saint Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia, hosted by the Celtic Studies Department of St FX and the Centre for Cape Breton Studies at Cape Breton University.

The *Celts in the Americas* conference will offer a unique opportunity to share scholarship about the history, culture, and literature of Celtic-speaking peoples in North and South America: it will be the first academic conference devoted to this theme, with presentations about aspects of the experiences and literatures of the communities speaking Breton, Cornish, Irish Gaelic, Manx Gaelic, Scottish Gaelic, or Welsh in the Americas. One day of the conference will be devoted to examining the interactions between Celtic peoples and non-Celtic peoples in the Americas, with a special emphasis on indigenous peoples and peoples of African descent.

Keynote speakers

Paul Birt, “The Earth in the Suitcase: Unravelling Hybrid Identities in Celtic America.”

Robert Dunbar, “Understanding Canadian Multiculturalism and Cultural Diversity in a 21st Century Context from a ‘Celtic’ Perspective.”

Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin, “ ‘The Stranger’s Land’: Musical Traditions and Postmodern Temptations in the Celtic Soundscapes of North America.”

Daniel G. Williams, “Pan-Africanism and Pan-Celticism: Language, Race and Diaspora in North America.”

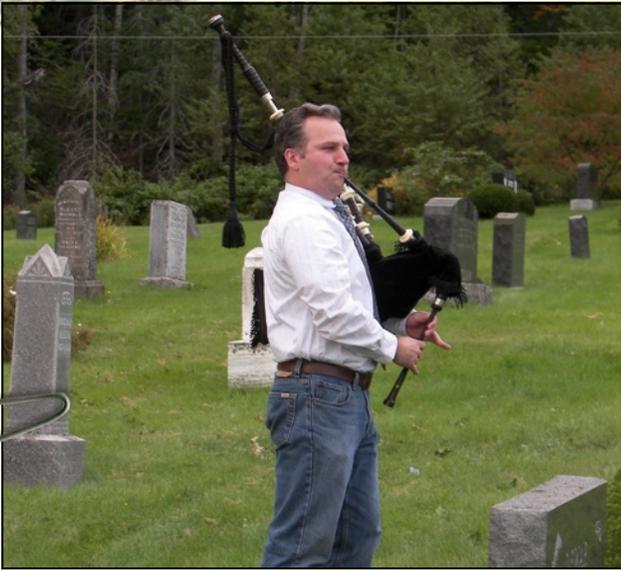
For further details, see the Celtic Department website.



Social gathering after Lewis MacKinnon's talk.



Dr. Linkletter delivering his November 2009 talk at StFX.



Dr. Linkletter during an annual visit by the Celtic Department to the burial site of the Bard Maclean and family in Glen Bard.

DR MICHAEL LINKLETTER

Although this is Dr. Linkletter's fourth year of teaching fulltime at St.FX, he has taught at the university in various capacities — both fulltime and part-time in the Celtic Studies and History departments — since 2001. He is currently working on a study of the Macdonaldite sect of the Free Church of Scotland in PEI and a branch of it which migrated to New England in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Dr. Linkletter spent part of the summer in Boston researching this topic where he also devoted time to going through the papers of the late Professor Charles Dunn which have recently been placed in the Harvard University Archives.

Dr. Linkletter also continues to work on developing a monograph on the life and work of Alexander Maclean Sinclair and various articles on the Gaelic placenames of PEI, the Gaelic travel writing of D. B. Blair, Anglo-Israelite millenarianism and the "Celts," and the visit to Canada in the 1930s of Norman Macdonald of Skye who wrote about his visit in Gaelic periodicals and was interviewed in Gaelic by Calum Maclean in 1953.

Over the past academic year Dr. Linkletter presented a paper entitled "The Early Establishment of Celtic Studies in North American Universities" at the 29th Annual

Harvard Celtic Colloquium. Dr. Linkletter also presented a version of this research at St.FX last November as part of the Celtic Studies Department lecture series which was recorded and broadcast on Eastlink's local cable TV service.

Dr. Linkletter's recent publications include a version of the paper he presented at Harvard which is being published in *Proceedings of the Harvard Celtic Colloquium* vol. 29; this will be available in print next January. His paper on Alexander Maclean Sinclair and his teaching activities at St.FX will be published in the *Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig 5* proceedings, and a paper on Maclean Sinclair and his contemporary influences will be coming out in a book of essays specifically regarding Alexander Maclean Sinclair, his father and grandfather, and their significant contributions to Gaelic culture and scholarship. During the mid-term break last spring Dr. Linkletter led a group of St.FX students on an Immersion Service Learning trip to Grenada.

This year Dr. Linkletter is teaching 1st-year Scottish Gaelic (both terms), Celtic Literature: Early Ireland (fall term), Celtic Literature: Early Wales (winter term), and a new course which he has developed called Celtic Christianity (winter term).





With Lewis MacKinnon after his October lecture.

DR MICHAEL NEWTON

The last year, and especially summer, have been particularly active, productive and rewarding for Dr Newton.

His book *Warriors of the Word: The World of the Scottish Highlanders*, published last year, was nominated for the 2009 Katharine Briggs Folklore Book prize.

He presented three papers at conferences this summer: “‘Woe to him who has lost his voice’: Re-discovering the Gaelic literature of the Lennox and Menteith” at the annual *Association for Scottish Literary Studies* conference; “‘Going to the Land of the Yellow Men’: The Representation of First Nations in Scottish Gaelic Literature in North America” at the *Irish and Scottish Encounters with Indigenous Peoples* conference at the University of Toronto and University of Guelph; and “Scotland’s Two Solitudes Abroad: Scottish Gaelic Immigrant Identity and Culture in North America” at the *Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig* conference.

Two of his articles appeared in print this summer: “‘The Keening of Women and the Roar of the Pipe’: From Clàrsach to Bagpipe (c. 1600 – 1782)” (with Hugh Cheape) in *Ars Lyrica*; “‘Have you heard about the Gaelic-Speaking African?’ : Gaelic Folklore about Race,” *Comparative American Studies* 8 (2010).

He completed five academic journal articles this summer, including the first academic survey of Scottish Gaelic folk drama for the forthcoming volume *Edinburgh Companion to Scottish Drama* edited by Ian Brown (Edinburgh University Press); “Làimh-sgrìobhainnean à Ceap Breatainn,” an analysis of Gaelic manuscripts in the possession of Sister Margaret MacDonell, for *Scottish Gaelic Studies*; and formal paper versions of the talks presented at conferences this summer.

His chapters on the history of tartanism in North America and the development of Scottish Gaelic Literature in the twentieth century will be appearing later in 2010 in volumes from Edinburgh University Press.

He is currently working on an anthology of Scottish Gaelic literature composed in Canada (prose and poetry), expected to be finished in 2011, including aspects of historical and literary analysis through the medium of Gaelic. He has also begun collaborating with Wilson McLeod on an anthology of Scottish Gaelic literature.

He is teaching three courses for the first time in the 2010-11 academic year: 131/132 (Celtic Civilization), 253 (Gaelic Music and Dance), and 331/332 (The Scottish Gael).

He is also organizing a major international conference about the Celtic peoples in the Americas (see page 7).



Turas-samhraidh a bh'aig Jason Bond

Bha an samhradh seo chaidh cudthromach dhomhsa o cionn 's gu robh cothrom agam turas a dhèanamh gu Alba. Bha mi air cuid mhór de Ghàidhlig ionnsachadh ach cha do chuir mi sùil riamh air an dùthaich a bha cho cudthromach ann an iomadach naidheachd agus òran Gàidhlig. Bha agam ri dol dhan t-seann dùthaich: chaidh mi a-nall anns a' Chèitean (2009).

Bha an turas bho Ghlaschu dhan Eilean Sgitheanach mu shia uairean de thìde. Chaidh mi air a' bhus. Chaidh sinn gu tuath ri taobh Loch Laomainn agus ràinig sinn Gleann Comhann far an robh an ceò tiugh 's faisg air na beanntan. Bha an gleann gruamach, gun fhuaim. Ás déidh dha no trì uaireannan eile chaidh sinn air an

drochaid eadar Caol Loch Aillse agus an t-Eilean Sgitheanach; Bha mi 's na h-Eileanan Siar mu dheireadh thall! Chuir mi seachad an oidhche sin ann an Caol Acain, baile beag aig bonn an Eilein Sgitheanaich far nach robh seòmar saor ann ach os cionn an aon taigh-òsda a bh'ann an Caol Acain fhéin. 'Se "Saucy Mary's Tavern" a bh'air; chuala mi gun tàinig an t-ainm bho bhana-phrionnsa Lochlannach. Bha còmhlan aig an taigh-òsda mu thràth, còmhlan-Gearmailteach leis na Harley-Davidsons aca; bha iad uabhasach faramach ach fhuair mi cadal co-dhiùbh agus dh'éirich mi gu math tràth. Rinn mi dealbhan air Caisteal Maoil ann an acarsaid Chaoil Acain agus chaidh mi dhan Àth Leathann far an d'rinn mi turas no dha

air cois troimh na cnuic. Bha an t-side eadar-dhealaichte bho'n cheò 's an t-uisge a bha mun cuairt orm nuair a bha mi a' tighinn bho Ghlaschu. Bha a' ghrian àrd 's an speur agus chuir e solas òir air mullach nam beanntan: abair sealladh brègha!

Dh'fhuirich mi air an Eilean Sgitheanach an t-seachdain sin agus chaidh mi air feadh an eilein. Bha mi ann am Port Rìgh trì làithean agus bha e glé fhurasda dol do iomadh àite air a' bhus. Rinn mi céilidh air taigh-tasgaidh beatha nan Eilean agus càrn-cuimhne Fhionnghal Nic Dhòmhnail air Ceann-Tìre Tròndairnis còmhla ri taigh-tasgaidh Chloinn Domhnaill ann an Sléibhte. Bha eachdraidh mun cuairt orm uile gu léir air an Eilean Sgitheanach, agus an Albainn fhéin



Turas-samhraidh a bh'aig Jason Bond

B' fheàrr leam fuireach air an Eilean ach bha leabaidh shaor a dhìth orm agus an luchd-turais a' tighinn. Bha a' mhuir coltach ris a' Charribean. Bha a' ghainmheach geal agus blàth, cha robh mi buileach cinnteach an robh mi anns an Roinn-Eòrpa fhathast!

Bha agam ri dol do dh'eilean eile agus mo shùil air Uibhist a Tuath. Chaidh mi gu Loch nam Madadh agus dh'fhuirich mi oidhche an-sin ann an ionad beag do luchd-rothair. Bha an togalach gruamach agus cha robh doras aig a h-uile seòmar ach bha e tioram agus bha mi taingeil. Cha mhór nach robh mi ann an Uibhist seachdain. Chaidh mi mun cuairt air bus a' phuist agus dh'inns am ban-phosta dhomh sgeulachdan mu'n eilean agus mu na daoine ainmeil a thàinig á Uibhist a

Tuath 's a Deas. Chunnaic mi an taigh a bh'aig na bràithrean Dòmhnallach, fir-ciùil Runrig, nuair a bha iad òg.. Dh'fhuirich mi ann an taigh dubh làmh ri Caol na Hearadh agus ri taobh tràigh àlainn air taobh tuath an Eilein. Ás dèidh ceann-seachdainn, chaidh mi dha na Hearadh air an aiseag. Ged a bha na taighean-òsta làn, chunnaic mi talamh na Hearadh nuair a bha mi air a' bhus gu Leòdhas. Ràinig mi Steòrnabhagh an aon là agus abair gun do choimhead e coltach ri York Nuadh no Boston as dèidh Uibhist a Tuath agus an t-Eilean Sgitheanach! Bha Gàidhlig air a h-uile sanas agus bha mi ga bruidhinn ri daoine air an t-sràid. Dh'fheuch mi marag dhubh agus biadh eile a' bhaile nuair a bha mi ann Steòrnabhagh ach dh'fhuirich mi air taobh a tuath

Leòdhais, ann ostail taigh-dubh eile, b'e Garenin an t-ainm a bh'air. Cha robh e fada bho Steòrnabhagh ach bha e faisg air Dùn Chàrlabhaigh agus Clachan Chalanais, seann àiteachan mar sin a tha a' còrdadh rium. B' fhearr leam a bhith an ann àiteachan mar sin o chionn 's gu robh mi air an talamh, b' urrainn dhomh ceum a ghabhail bho'n dorus agus bha mi am measg nan cnoc agus nan clachan. Chaidh mi a dh'Albainn a shireadh na dùthcha, na cànan, agus na h-eachdraidh mu'n robh mi ag ionnsachadh fad trì bliadhna agus fhuair mi iad. Chunnaic mi móran rudan àlainn agus tha móran eile ann ri'n lorg.

