

# Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd  
*Press Release*



**\*Please scroll down for English Version\***

## BÒRD NA GÀIDHLIG A' FOILLSEACHADH MYGAELIC.COM

**04 An Gearran 2009**

Dh'fhoillsich Bòrd na Gàidhlig, a' phrìomh bhuidheann poblach le uallach airson leasachadh na Gàidhlig, làrach-lìn ùr fiosrachaidh agus lìonraidheil – mygaelic.com - an-diugh (Diciadain 4 Gearran 2009). Tha mygaelic.com ag amas air a bhith na h-àite tadhail do neach sam bith a tha airson barrachd fiosrachaidh fhaotainn mun Ghàidhlig – an cànan agus an cultar, turasachd agus tachartasan co-cheangailte ri Gàidhlig, agus dòighean agus làraich eile far an urrainn dhaibh a dhol an sàs anns a' chànan. Tha mygaelic.com airson an dà chuid luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig, agus an fheadhainn a tha ùr dhan chànan. Bidh an làrach inntinneach do gach neach aig a bheil ùidh ann an Gàidhlig no a tha airson barrachd fiosrachaidh fhaotainn mun chànan, no a' Ghàidhlig ionnsachadh.

Chaidh an làrach-lìn fhoillseachadh ann an Glaschu, le Linda Fabiani BPA, Ministear na h-Eòrpa, Cultair agus Cùisean an Taobh a-muigh. Bha riochdairean bho dhiofar bhuidhnean Gàidhlig air cuireadh fhaighinn a thighinn a choimhead air an t-sianal conaltraidh ùr-ghnàthach.

Thuirte am Ministear: “Tha Gàidhlig na pàirt dheatamach de dhualchas na h-Alba agus de bheatha chultarach an latha an-diugh. Tha e riatanach dhan Ghàidhlig san àm ri teachd gun cùm sinn òirnn a' leasachadh an raoin fharsaing de chothroman a tha againn a-nis airson cleachdadh agus ionnsachadh a' chànan. Tha mygaelic.com 'na phrìomh eisimpleir de mar a ghabhas Gàidhlig a bhith air a dèanamh nas so-ruigsinneach do na h-uile, agus gu dearbh bidh mar thèid an teicneòlais seo a chleachdadh tarraingeach don luchd-labhairt as òige a tha mar phrìomh mheadhan air a' chànan a bhith seasmhach agus tèarainte san àm ri teachd. Is e ceum chudromach air adhart a th' ann an cur-air-bhog an inntrigidh seo agus tha mi làn chinnteach gun cuidich mygaelic.com, còmhla ri grunn iomairtean eile, le neartachadh agus tèarainteachd na Gàidhlig ann an Alba.”

Tha mygaelic.com pàirt lìonraidheil sòisealta, pàirt ionnsachaidh agus na bun-fiosrachaidh stèidhichte air an eadar-lìon. Tha an obair leasachaidh air a bhith a' dol air adhart airson dà bhliadhna. Tha an dreach Gàidhlig den tiotal, moghaidhlig.com, air a chlàradh cuideachd mar ainm malairt agus bithear 'ga chleachdadh ann an leasachadh na làraich san àm ri teachd.

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Chaidh a’ phròiseact a stiùireadh leis a’ Bhuidhinn Conaltraidh Chruthachail, Creative Cell, stèidhichte ann an Glaschu, a bhuannaich an tairgse airson na pròiseict a rannsachadh, a dhealbh agus a thoirt gu buil. Bharantaich Creative Cell togail na làraich do Reefnet, a’ bhuidheann leasachaidh làraich-lìn stèidhichte ann an Steòrnabhagh, agus chaidh stuth-sgrìobhaidh na làraich-lìn mygaelic.com a libhrigeadh le Alasdair Caimbeul bhon Eilean Sgìtheanach. Tha Creative Cell cuideachd a’ dèiligeadh ris an iomairt sanasachd agus àrdachadh inbhe a chuireas taic ris an làraich agus tha iad air an neach-labhairt Gàidhlig, Fìona NicIleDhuinn, fhastadh gus leasachadh na làraich a thoirt chun na h-ath ìre.

Thuir Rosemary Nic a’ Bhàird, Ceannard an Gnìomh Bhòrd na Gàidhlig: “Tha rudeigin aig mygaelic.com do gach neach le ùidh ann an Gàidhlig. Chaidh an stuth a th’air an làrach a dheasachadh aig trì ìrean cànan ach am biodh e tarraingeach do dhaoine gun Ghàidhlig, luchd-ionnsachaidh agus fileantaich. Am measg nam prìomh eileamaidean tha fiosrachadh mu raon fharsaing de ghnìomhachdan agus de bhuidhnean Gàidhlig, innealan eadar-obrachail gus a bhith a’ lorg no a’ cur ri àireamh charaidean, a’ cur air falbh theachdaireachdan agus a’ gabhail pàirt ann an deasbaireachdan.

“Is e aon de na prìomh amasan aig mygaelic.com a bhith a’ tairgsinn a’ chothroim do luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig a bhith ’gan toirt fhèin tro leasan bunasach, agus a bhith ’na bun-fhiosrachaidh far am faigh iad cuideachadh agus taic gus an cuid eòlais air a’ Ghàidhlig a leudachadh. Faodaidh neach-cleachdaidh susbaint a chur a-steach a dh’fhaodas a bhith air a mheasadh leis gach neach a bhios a’ coimhead na làraich. Thathar ag iarraidh air barrachd fhileantaich pàirt a ghabhail ann am buidhnean conaltraidh adhartach, agus a bhith ’nan co-mheasadairean a bhios deònach taic càirdeil a thoirt do luchd-tòiseachaidh nuair a bhios iad a’ sireadh cobhair agus brosnachadh.”

Thuir Sìm MacGuire, Àrd-stiùiriche Creative Cell: “Chan eil an seo ach toiseach tòiseachaidh do mygaelic.com. Bithear a’ sìor leasachadh na làraich mar a bhios sinn a’ tàladh dhaoine ùra gun chànan agus gun chultar Ghàidhlig.

“San làraich tha roinn a tha air a chomharrachadh airson ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig. Aig an àm seo, tha an roinn seo a’ mìneachadh nan adhbharan gus Gàidhlig ionnsachadh agus a’ comhairleachadh far am faod daoine a dhol airson sin a dhèanamh. A’ gluasad air adhart, thathar an dùil gum fàs an roinn gu ìre agus gum bi leasan foirmeil ann a bhios a’ gluasad bho ìre tòiseachaidh gu eadar-mheadhanach gu adhartach. Bidh teacs fogharach agus claidinn ann agus dh’fhaodadh bhideothan de dhaoine a’ bruidhinn Gàidhlig a bhith leis. Is e am moladh, gum bi leasan cuimsichte air clann a-mhàin san roinn seo cuideachd. Bidh na leasan sin dathach agus spòrsail le gluasadan beòthail a’ dol leis a’ chlaistinn agus an

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teacs. Bidh geamannan air an leasachadh cuideachd gus clann a bhrosnachadh gu bhith ag eadar-obrachadh agus a' togail abairtean san dol seachad."

Thuir Rosemary Nic a' Bhàird a-rithist: "Thèid iomradh a thoirt air buidhnean a tha an sàs anns a' Ghàidhlig anns na roinnean iomchaidh den làrach, le ceanglaichean gu na làraich-lìn aca fhèin. Tha cothroman urrasachd agus adhartachaidh ann cuideachd do bhuidhnean aig a bheil rùn a bhith nas follaisiche. A thuilleadh air an sin, bidh comas aig gach buidheann iad fhèin a chlàradh san earrann lìonraidheil dhen làrach agus còmhlan a chruthachadh a dh'aon ghnòthaich don bhuidheann aca fhèin, air am bi smachd gu tur aca fhèin. Faodaidh iad fiosrachadh mun bhuidhinn a chur ris, puist-dealain a chur gu daoine a bhios a' ceangal ris a' bhuidhinn agus cuideachd fiosrachadh a chur ris dhaibh fhèin agus às leth a' mhìosachain thachartasan.

"Tha roinn nan tachartasan na pàirt glè chudromach den làraich. Tha an dà chuid, tachartasan air an clàradh leis an rianaire agus leis an neach-cleachdaidh, air an taisbeanadh air prìomh mhìosachan a dh'fhaodas neach sam bith fhaicinn agus a shìoladh a rèir ìre agus a rèir comais cànan." A' cur fàilte air cur-air-bhog na làraich ùir, thuir Art MacCarraig, Cathraiche Eadar-amail Bhòrd na Gàidhlig: "Tha buil deireannach na h-obrach leasachaidh seo a' riochdachadh prìomh earrainn de rannsachadh agus de leasachadh ann an Gàidhlig a bu chòir ar n-uidheamachadh gus barrachd a dhèanamh le daoine aig a bheil ùidh sa chànan, ach aig nach eil fios càite am faigh iad cothrom air an taic ionnsachaidh air a bheil feum aca, no an conaltradh le luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig a tha cho cudromach dhaibh. Is e tasgadh sònraichte a tha seo don Bhòrd agus tha e deatamach gun cuir sinn taic riuthasan aig nach eil Gàidhlig a tha airson an sgilean adhartachadh, agus mar sin a' cur ri soirbheas eaconamach is cultarach na h-Alba."

## **Crìoch**

*Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh mun naidheachd seo, cuiribh fios gu Uisdean MacIllinnein air 0751 528 7040.*

*Foillsichte: Diciadain, 3mh Gearran, 2009 aig 09.00m*

## **Cùl-fhiosrachaidh**

Am measg chuspairean eile san làraich-lìn tha:

**Farpaisean** Bidh an làrach a' solarachadh measgachadh de dh'farpaisean leithid ceist shìmplidh ioma-roghainneach, ceist ag iarraidh freagairt goirid clò-bhuailte, no ceist aig a bheil feum air pìos teacs nas fhaide a chur a-steach. Bidh iad sin ag amas air brosnachadh. Tha farpaisean air an cruthachadh le luchd-riaghlaidh na làraich agus bidh iad ag atharrachadh gu cunbhalach.

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**Deasbaireachd**Tha bùird deasbaireachd co-cheangailte ri buidhnean fa leth gus cothrom air measgachadh de chuspairean a dheasbaireachd a tha buntainneach don bhuidhinn sin.

**Fiosrachadh às ùr**Gheibh buill fiosrachadh às ùr mu thachartasan agus mu naidheachdan ùra nam bocsa theachdaireachdan.

**Liosta de na Buill**Bidh comas aig buill fios a chur gu buill eile agus am faicinn, a dh'aindeoin inbhe caraid. Bidh dà ìre de bhuidhnean rim faotainn: Buidheann Poblach (faodaidh neach sam bith ballrachd fhaotainn) agus Buidheann Prìobhaideach (ballrachd tro chuireadh bho neach-cruthachaidh na buidhne). Faodaidh neach-cleachdaidh sam bith buidheann a chruthachadh agus cuireadh a thoirt do charaidean ballrachd a ghabhail/a dhèanamh poblach.

**Sgrùdadh Buidhne**Tha sgrùdadh an làraich a' toirt comas do bhuidhnean a bhith air an sgrùdadh a thaobh tiotalan agus iomraidhean. Bidh sgrùdadh thachartasan agus sgrùdadh bhuidhnean deasbaireachd a' taisbeanadh cuideachd toraidhean buntainneach bho bhuidhnean poblach agus buidhnean prìobhaideach do bheil an neach-cleachdaidh na bhall.

**Cunntasan Luchd-cleachdaidh**Tha cunntasan luchd-cleachdaidh ann an teis-meadhain nam feartan eadar-obrachail air an làraich. Bidh feartan aig gach neach leithid ìomhaighean, comas teachdaireachdan a chur gu chèile agus comas diofar fheartan a stiùireadh co-cheangailte ri am fèin-fhiosrachaidh leis an làraich.

**Ìomhaigh**Co-cheangailte ri ìomhaigh an neach-cleachdaidh tha àireamh bheag de dh'àiteachan anns a bheil fiosrachadh gu leòr gus làthaireachd air-loidhne a chruthachadh gun fiosrachadh prìobhaideach a libhrigeadh. Tha àiteachan nan ìomhaighean a' cur cuideam air cleachdadh na Gàidhlig airson barrachd luchd-cleachdaidh a bhrosnachadh gus a dhol an sàs anns a' chànan. Faodaidh luchd-cleachdaidh deilbh/ìomhaighean a luchdachadh suas airson an riochdachadh. Bidh teachdaireachd inbhe aig luchd-cleachdaidh. Bhiodh liosta de dh'abairtean Gàidhlig air am moladh an seo (m.e. Tha mi sgìth, Tha mi toilichte) gus an neach-cleachdaidh a spreigeadh, no faodaidh iad an fheadhainn aca fhèin a chur a-steach. Bidh inbhe aig luchd-cleachdaidh air an làraich stèidhichte air an ìre comais a dh'aithris iad a thaobh na Gàidhlig (m.e. neach-tòiseachaidh, eadar-mheadhanach, adhartach) gus cothrom a thoirt do luchd-ionnsachaidh fileantaich a dhearbhaich aithneachadh agus a chaochladh. Bidh luachadh "karma" aig luchd-cleachdaidh cuideachd – pàirt dhìomhair de an gnìomhachd agus deagh shaoranachd.

**Mo Leabhar Abairtean**Bidh leabhar abairtean aig luchd-cleachdaidh. Is e seo àite sgròbaidh speisealaichte a tha a' toirt cothrom do luchd-cleachdaidh criomagan teacsa Gàidhlig a stòradh, a chaidh a thogail bhon làraich no bho luchd-cleachdaidh eile no ge b' e càite a roghnaicheadh iad fhèin. Tha an leabhar abairtean a' stòradh na h-abairt, an t-eadar-theangachadh agus pìosan clastinn sam bith a thogras an neach-cleachdaidh a luchdachadh suas. Faodar an leabhar abairtean air fad a chlà-bhualadh. Anns an dòigh seo agus tro thìde,

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faodaidh an luchd-cleachdaidh inneal feumail a thogail a tha air a phearsantachadh airson an cuid cleachdaidh fhèin a-mhàin agus airson an tuigse den Ghàidhlig.

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## **BÒRD NA GÀIDHLIG LAUNCHES MYGAELIC.COM**

**04 February 2009**

The Gaelic development agency Bòrd na Gàidhlig today (Wednesday, February 4, 2009) launched a major new information and networking site, mygaelic.com, which aims to be the place to visit for everyone who wants to learn more about Gaelic – Gaelic language and culture, tourism, events relating to Gaelic and, how and where they can engage with the language. mygaelic.com is aimed at Gaelic speakers and novices alike, offering something for everyone with an interest in wishing to learn more about the language or indeed learning to speak Gaelic.

The website was launched in Glasgow by Minister for Gaelic Linda Fabiani, where representatives of various Gaelic organisations were invited to view the innovative new communication channel.

Minister for Europe, External Affairs and Culture Linda Fabiani said: “Gaelic is an essential element of Scotland’s heritage and current cultural life. It is vital for the future of Gaelic that we continue to develop the wide range of opportunities that now exist for the use and learning of the language. mygaelic.com is a great example of how Gaelic can be made more accessible to all, and of course use of this technology will appeal particularly to the younger Gaelic speakers who are key to a secure and sustainable future for the language. Launch of the portal is an important step forward and I am confident that mygaelic.com will, alongside many other initiatives, help to strengthen and secure the position of Gaelic in Scotland.”

The development work on mygaelic.com which is part social networking, part learning and a web-based source of information, has taken two years. The Gaelic version of the title moghaidhlig.com has also been registered as a brand name.

The project has been managed by Glasgow-based Creative Communications Agency, The Creative Cell, which won the tender to research, design and deliver the project. The Creative Cell commissioned the site build to Stornoway based web development Agency, Reefnet and the copywriting of mygaelic.com to Alasdair Campbell in Skye. The Creative Cell is also responsible for the advertising and promotional campaign that will support the site and has appointed Gaelic speaker Fiona Dunn to take its development to the next phase.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig’s Acting Chief Executive Rosemary Ward said: “mygaelic.com has something for everyone with an interest in Gaelic. It is intended to be a “one-stop shop” for those who have an interest in Gaelic or learning the language. Core elements include

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information on a wide range of Gaelic activities and organisations, interactive tools for adding and finding friends, sending messages, and taking part in discussions.

“One of the key aims of mygaelic.com is to offer learners of the language the opportunity to take themselves through basic lessons and to be a source of information on where they can get help and support to expand their knowledge of Gaelic. Site content has been created in three different language levels to engage with non-Gaelic speakers, learners and those who are fluent in Gaelic. Users can submit content which can be rated by everyone who views the site. More fluent speakers are encouraged to participate in advanced group forums, and to become moderators willing to give a friendly hand to beginners when they seek support and encouragement.”

Simon MacQuarrie, Managing Director of The Creative Cell said: “This is just the beginning for mygaelic.com. The site will continue to develop as we attract new people to Gaelic language and culture.

“Within the site there is a section dedicated to learning Gaelic. At present, this section outlines the reasons for learning Gaelic and advises where people can go to learn Gaelic. Moving forward, the intention is that the Section will evolve to contain formal lessons with progression from beginner to intermediate to advanced. This will have phonetic text and audio and could be accompanied by videos of real people speaking Gaelic. The proposal is that this section will also contain lessons specifically targeted to children. These lessons will be colourful and fun with animations to accompany audio and text. Games will also be developed to encourage children to interact and pick-up phrases as they go along.”

Rosemary Ward added: “Organisations involved with Gaelic will be referred to in the relevant sections of the site, with links to their own websites. There are also sponsorship and promotional opportunities for organisations who wish to have a more prominent presence. In addition, all groups will have the ability to sign up to the networking side of the site, and create a group specifically for their organisation, which they will have complete control over. Here they can add information on the organisation, send emails to people who join the group and also feed information for their own and, the master events calendar.

“The events section forms an important part of the site. Both administrator and user added events are shown on a master calendar which everyone can view and filter depending on category and language capability.”

Welcoming the launch of the new site, Bòrd na Gàidhlig Interim Chair Arthur Cormack said: “The final outcome of this development work represents a major piece of research and development in Gaelic which should enable us to attract those who may have an interest in

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the language but do not know where to access the learning support they need, or the interaction with other Gaelic speakers which is so important. This is a significant investment for the Bòrd and it is vital that we support the non-Gaelic speakers who wish to develop their skills, thus enhancing the economic and cultural well-being of Scotland.”

## Ends

*For further information on the contents of this news release, please contact Hugh Dan MacLennan on 0751 528 7040.*

*Issued Wednesday 3rd February 2009 at 09.00hrs*

## Background Information

Other features of the new website include:

**Competitions**The site will provide various competitions such as a simple multi choice question, a question requiring a short typed answer, or a question requiring a longer piece of text to be submitted. These will be incentive driven. Competitions are created by the site administrators and will change regularly.

**Discussion**Groups have discussion boards associated with them to allow discussion of a variety of topics relevant to that group.

**Updates**Members will receive updates of new events and news items in their message inbox.

**Members List**Members will be able to see and contact other members, regardless of friend status. Two levels of groups will be available: Public Group (anyone can join) and Private Group (membership by invitation of the group creator). Any user can create a group and invite friends to join / make it public.

**Group Search**The site search will enable groups to be searched on their titles and descriptions. Event searches and discussion group searches will also show relevant results from public groups and from private groups from which the user is a member.

**User Accounts**Central to the interactive features on the site are user accounts. Each user will have features such as profiles, the ability to send messages to each other and, the ability to manage various features about their experience with the site.

**Profile**The user profile consists of a small number of fields that provide enough information to create an online presence without giving away private personal information. The profile fields emphasise the use of Gaelic to encourage more users to engage with the language. Users can upload a photo / image to represent them. Users will have a status message. This would have a list of suggested Gaelic phrases (e.g. Tha mi sgìth, Tha mi toilichte) to prompt the user, or they can enter their own. Users will have status on the site based on their stated level of competence (e.g. beginner, intermediate advanced) in Gaelic



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to allow learners to identify fluent speakers and vice versa. Users will also have a “karma” rating – a mysterious function of their activity and good citizenship.

**My Phrasebook** Users will have a phrasebook. This is a specialised scratch area that allows users to store snippets of Gaelic text either picked up from the site or from other users or wherever they choose. The phrasebook stores the phrase, the translation and any audio clips the user chooses to upload. The entire phrase book can also be printed out. In this way, over time the user can build up a useful tool personalised for their own use and understanding of Gaelic.