

# Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh

le Ruairidh MacIlleathain

*A special programme, in the form of a “letter”, written and compiled by Roddy Maclean, and specifically aimed at Gaelic learners who already have some knowledge of the language. A short vocabulary and comments on points of grammar and figures of speech are included with the text. If you have comments, Roddy can be contacted at [roddy.maclean@bbc.co.uk](mailto:roddy.maclean@bbc.co.uk) \* This is Litir 348. Note that Roddy also broadcasts a simplified version – An Litir Bheag – on Monday evenings at 7.00 pm. This is also available on the BBC website. Litir Bheag 44 corresponds to Litir 348.*

Is iomadh leabhar math Gàidhlig a chaidh fhoillseachadh an-uiridh. Gu dearbh, saoilidh mi gur e deagh bhliadhna a bh’ ann an 2005 airson foillseachadh Gàidhlig. Am measg nan leabhraichean a bu tarraingiche a nochd an-uiridh, bha fear a chaidh fhoillseachadh le Acair ann an Steòrnabhagh. Air a’ chiad shealladh chanadh tu, ’s dòcha, gur ann do chloinn a tha e. Ach saoilidh mi gum faigheadh mòran inbheach tlachd às cuideachd – an dà chuid fileantaich agus luchd-ionnsachaidh. Mholainn e gu sònraichte do phàrantan a tha a’ togail an cuid cloinne le Gàidhlig mar phrìomh chànan. Agus tha mi an dòchas gu bheil sin a’ gabhail a-steach a h-uile duine a bhios ag èisteachd ris a’ phrògram seo!

’S e an tiotal a th’ air an leabhar “Air do bhonnagan a ghaoil”, agus ’s e a th’ ann cruinneachadh de rannan do chloinn, a chaidh a chur ri chèile le Tormod Caimbeul à Nis ann an Leòdhas. ’S e cruinneachadh mòr a th’ ann, le faisg air dà cheud gu leth duilleag, agus dealbhan dathte brèagha an cois nan rannan. An t-seachdain seo, agus an ath-sheachdain, tha mi a’ dol a thoirt blasad dhen stuth a th’ anns an leabhar – agus tha mi an dòchas gun tèid sibh a-mach is gun ceannaich sibh fear!

Tha cuid de rannann ann a tha co-ionann ri feadhainn a nochdas ann am Beurla. Uaireannan tha e doirbh dèanamh a-mach an e eadar-theangachadh as coireach no an do dh’èirich iad gu neo-eisimeileach o chèile. Mar eisimpleir an rann Beurla:

*Seagull, seagull, sit on the sand,*

*It’s never good weather when you’re on land*

agus am fear Gàidhlig:

*Fhaoileag, fhaioleag, taobh an cuan,*

***Na faiceam thu air talamh cruaidh:***

*Air talamh cruaidh ma nì thu fois,*

*Bidh gaoth is dìle tighinn na chois.*

Canaidh mi sin a-rithist gus an greimich sibh air:

*Fhaoileag, fhaioleag, taobh an cuan,*

*etc...*

Ach seo rann a tha le cinnt na eadar-theangachadh air fear ainmeil ann am Beurla. Tha mi an dùil gum mothaich sibh cò fear a th’ ann:

*Seinn port na sia sg’inn,*

*Mo phòcaid làn sìol-cur;*

*Ann am broinn a’ bhonnaich mhòir*

*Bha còrr is fichead druid;  
Nuair dh'fhosgladh am bonnach suas  
'S a sheinn na h-eòin le spìd,  
Nach b' e siud an truinnsear brèagh',  
Ga chur air beulaibh rìgh.*

*Bha 'n rìgh an taigh an ionmhais  
A' cunntadh suas nan sgillinn;  
Bha bhanrigh anns a' chùlaist  
Ag ithe mìr is mil air;  
Bha 'n t-searbhant anns a' ghàrradh  
**Cur aodach air an ròp** –  
Nuas druid dhubh le sgreuch  
Is spìon i dhith an t-sròn.*

Tha mi an dùil gun do dh'aithnich sibh e. Tha e co-ionann ri “Four and Twenty Blackbirds”. Tha a' Ghàidhlig gu math dlùth ris a' Bheurla, nach eil? Seo agaibh a-rithist e, beagan nas luaithe, gus an glac sibh air an ruitheam. Bheir sinn sùil air feadhainn a bharrachd an ath-sheachdain:

*Seinn port na sia sg'inn etc...*

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**Faclan na Litreach:** cruinneachadh: *collection*; blasad: *taste*; druid: *starling*.

**Abairtean na Litreach:** is iomadh X a chaidh fhoillseachadh: *many X were published*; a bu tarraingiche: *the most attractive*; air a' chiad shealladh: *at first sight*; mholainn e gu sònraichte: *I would particularly recommend it*; gu bheil sin a' gabhail a-steach a h-uile duine: *that that takes in everybody*; dealbhan dathte brèagha an cois nan rannan: *beautiful coloured illustrations along with the verses*; tha e doirbh dèanamh a-mach: *it is difficult to make out*; an do dh'èirich iad gu neo-eisimeileach: *did they arise independently*; gaoth is dìle: *wind and rain*; seinn port na sia sg'inn: *sing the tune of the six pennies*; nach b' e siud an truinnsear brèagh': *wasn't that a lovely plate*; ga chur air beulaibh rìgh: *to [being] put before the king*; bha [a'] bhanrigh anns a' chùlaist: *the queen was in the parlour*; mìr is mil air: *bread with honey on it*; nuas druid dhubh le sgreuch: *down [came] a black starling with a scream*; is spìon i dhith an t-sròn: *and it plucked off her the nose*.

**Puing-chànain na Litreach:** **Na faiceam thu** [air talamh cruaidh]: *don't let me see you [on dry land]*. The last time we looked at faiceam was in Litir 153, nearly four years ago. Did you recognise it as being the first person imperative of faic? The [-e]am ending is diagnostic of this. It is not commonly met with. Faiceam and cluinneam are probably the commonest, eg cluinneam e (let me hear him/it).

**Gnàths-cainnt na Litreach:** [a'] **cur aodach air an ròp**: *putting clothes on the [clothes] line*. Note that we say ròp in Gaelic, or to give it its full name ròp-anairt (“linen-rope”) or ròp-aodaich (“clothes-rope”).

\* Tha “Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh” air a maoinneachadh le Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig.