

# Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh

## le Ruairidh MacIlleathain

### **Pàdraig na Beinne (2)**

*A special programme, in the form of a “letter”, designed for 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, Ruairidh can be contacted at [rodny.macleon@bbc.co.uk](mailto:rodny.macleon@bbc.co.uk). This is Litir 991. Note that there is also a simplified version called An Litir Bheag which is likewise available on the BBC website. Litir Bheag 687 corresponds to Litir 991.*

Bha mi ag innse dhuibh an sgeulachd *Pàdraig na Beinne*. Bha Pàdraig air bò a thoirt don mhargaidh ach thill e dhachaigh gun sgàth na phòcaid. Bha geall luach ceud not aige le caraid nach fhaigheadh e trod sam bith bho a bhean. Dh’fhan a charaid taobh a-muigh taigh Phàdraig, a’ cumail cluas ri claisneachd. ‘Tha mi air tilleadh, a bhean,’ thuirt Pàdraig.

‘Tha mi toilichte d’ fhaicinn,’ thuirt a bhean. ‘Ciamar a chaidh dhut anns a’ bhaile mhòr?’

‘Cha deach ro mhath,’ dh’aidich an duine aice. ‘Cha robh duine deònach a’ bhò a cheannach. **Cha do rinn mi ach a toirt seachad air each.**’

‘Air each?’ ars ise. ‘Nach tu fhèin an duine glic, a Phàdraig. **Cha leig sinn a leas** a bhith a’ coiseachd don eaglais tuilleadh.’

‘Ach chan eil an t-each againn,’ thuirt Pàdraig. ‘Thug mi seachad e agus fhuair mi muc na àite.’

‘O, rinn thu dìreach mar a dhèanainn fhìn,’ thuirt a bhean. ‘Faodaidh mis’ a-nise muicfheòil a chur air beulaibh dhaoine nuair a thig iad air chèilidh oirnn.’

‘Ge-tà,’ thuirt Pàdraig, ‘chan eil a’ mhuc agam a-nise. Fhuair mi gobhar na h-àite.’

‘Beannaich mise!’ ghlaodh a’ bhean aige. ‘Tha gobhar nas fheàrr na muc. Gheibh sinn bainne is càise a-nise.’

‘Stad ort,’ thuirt Pàdraig. ‘Chan eil a’ ghobhar agam idir. Thug mi seachad i agus fhuair mi caora na h-àite.’

‘Och, a Phàdraig,’ thuirt a bhean, ‘bha thu dìreach airson mo thoileachadh. Cha bhiomaid ach a’ dìreadh na beinne gach latha airson a’ ghobhar a thoirt dhachaigh air ròpa. ’S i a’ chaora fhèin as fheàrr oir bheir i dhuinn clòimh is bainne.’

‘’S e sin nam biodh i againn,’ fhreagair an duine aice. ‘Thug mi seachad i agus thug mi leam gèadh na h-àite.’

‘Nach tu a bha glic,’ thuirt a bhean. ‘Chan eil feòil nas blasta na feòil geòidh air a ròstadh.’

‘Socair ort, a-nise,’ arsa Pàdraig. ‘Dh’fhalbh an gèadh agus chan eil e agam a-nis. Thachair duine còir rium aig an robh coileach, agus thug mi dha an gèadh air.’

‘O, is math sin,’ thuirt a bhean. ‘Sin dìreach an rud a bha mi fhìn air a dhèanamh. Cha leig sinn a leas a ràdh tuilleadh nach eil cloc againn. Cha bhi latha ann nach dùisg an coileach sinn tràth sa mhadainn, agus cha bhi sinn fadalach airson nì sam bith.’

‘Ach nach mis’ a tha luideach,’ arsa Pàdraig. ‘Bheil fios agad dè rinn mi? Reic mi an coileach air tasan oir bha an t-acras orm.’

‘Agus nach mise, a ghràidh, a tha taingeil gun do rinn thu sin,’ thuirt a bhean. ‘Chan eil dad a tha thu a’ dèanamh ach mar a dhèanainn fhìn e. Dè feum a th’ ann an coileach no cloc an seo? Faodaidh sinn a-nise fuireach anns an leabaidh cho fada ’s a thogras sinn. Is mise, gu dearbh fhèin, a tha taingeil gu bheil thu air tilleadh dhachaigh slàn, sàbhailte agus gun do rinn thu a h-uile rud gu dòigheil.’

An sin, thionndaidh Pàdraig chun an dorais mhòir agus dh’fhosgail e e. Dh’èigh e ris an fhear a bha a-muigh, ‘Dè do bheachd a-nise? An do bhuannaich mi an geall?’

B’ fheudar do a charaid aideachadh gun do rinn e sin gun teagamh, agus phàigh e an geall dha.

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**Faclan na Litreach:** dh’aidich: *admitted*; muicfheòil: *pork*; beannaich mise: *bless me*; gobhar: *goat*; càise: *cheese*; stad ort: *stop there*; gèadh: *goose*; socair ort: *take it easy*.

**Abairtean na Litreach:** Bha Pàdraig air bò a thoirt don mhargaidh ach thill e dhachaigh gun sgàth na phòcaid: *Peter had taken a cow to market but he returned without anything to show for it*; bha geall luach ceud not aige: *he had a hundred-pound bet*; nach fhaigheadh e trod sam bith bho a bhean: *that he wouldn’t be scolded by his wife*; a’ cumail cluas ri claisneachd: *eavesdropping*; ciamar a chaidh dhut?: *how did you get on?*; cha deach ro mhath: *not too well*; nach tu fhèin an duine glic: *aren’t you a wise man*; thug mi seachad e agus fhuair mi muc na àite: *I gave it away and I got it a pig in its place*; rinn thu dìreach mar a dhèanainn fhìn: *you did just as I would do*; cha bhiodaid ach a’ dìreadh na beinne gach latha: *I would only climb the mountain every day*; airson a’ ghobhar a thoirt dhachaigh air ròpa: *to bring the goat home on a rope*; bheir i dhuinn clòimh is bainne: *she will give us wool and milk*; nas blasta na feòil geòidh air a ròstadh: *tastier than roasted goose meat*; thug mi dha an gèadh air: *I gave him the goose in exchange for it*; cha bhi latha ann nach dùisg an coileach sinn tràth sa mhadainn: *there will be no day when the cockerel doesn’t waken us early in the morning*; nach mis’ a tha luideach: *amn’t I stupid*; reic mi an coileach air tasan oir bha an t-acras orm: *I sold the cockerel for a shilling because I was hungry*; dè feum a th’ ann an coileach no cloc?: *what use is a cockerel or clock?*; fuireach anns an leabaidh cho fada ’s a thogras sinn: *stay in bed for as long as we want*; phàigh e an geall dha: *he paid him the wager*.

**Puing-chànain na Litreach:** **Cha leig sinn a leas** a bhith a’ coiseachd don eaglais tuilleadh: *we don’t need to walk to the church any more. This is a really good expression and you should try to use it in your everyday speech.* An tig mi còmhla riut ‘will I come with you?’ Cha leig thu (a) leas ‘you don’t need to’. Note that dialectally it is also cha ruig thu (a) leas.

**Gnathas-cainnt na Litreach:** **Cha do rinn mi ach a toirt seachad air each:** *I just swapped it for a horse.*

Tha “Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh” air a maoineachadh le MG ALBA