

Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh

le Ruairidh MacIlleathain

An NC500 agus a' Ghàidhlig

Each week the West Highland Free Press publishes the text for Ruairidh's "Letter to Gaelic Learners" on BBC Radio nan Gàidheal (103.5-105 FM). Broadcasts are as follows: 2:55pm on Sunday as part of BBC Radio nan Gàidheal's hour-long learning zone, following the Gaelic Learners' programme 'SpeakGaelic Extra', with a repeat at 10.30 pm on Wednesday. This is Litir 1,204. There is also a simpler version – An Litir Bheag – which is broadcast at 2:30pm each Sunday. Litir Bheag 900 corresponds to Litir 1,204. The Litir is also available at www.bbc.co.uk/litir and www.learn Gaelic.scot/litir. Ruairidh can be contacted at fios@learn Gaelic.scot.

Tha mi cinnteach gu bheil diofar bheachdan aig diofar dhaoine air an NC500. A bheil sibh a' tuigsinn dè th' ann? Cuairt-rathaid ann an ceann a tuath na Gàidhealtachd. Tha e a' tarraing luchd-turais don sgìre. Agus bidh feadhainn a' faighinn buannachd às.

Ach tha mòran dhen luchd-turais a' draibheadh gu math luath. Agus chan eil na rathaidean freagarrach airson trafaig throm. Bidh mise a' cur mòran tìde seachad air a' Chomraich, ann an Taobh Siar Rois, a th' air an t-slighe. Tha droch bheachd aig gu leòr de mhuintir an àite air an NC500 oir tha rathaidean singilte againn anns an sgìre air fad. **Chan eil rathad dùbailte anns an sgìre ann.**

Bidh mòran luchd-turais a' tighinn ann nach eil cleachdte idir ri rathaidean cumhang singilte. Rathaidean mar fhear nam beann a tha a' dol thairis air bealach ainmeil ris an canar Bealach na Bà.

Bha mi a' beachdachadh an latha eile air na chanadh daoine ann an Gàidhlig ann an co-cheangal ri draibheadh air an NC500. Seo agaibh eisimpleirean. Air ur socair – tha sibh a' draibheadh ro luath. *Take it easy – you're driving too fast.* Air ur socair – tha sibh a' draibheadh ro luath. Greasaibh oirbh – tha sibh ro mhall! *Get a move on – you're too slow.* Greasaibh oirbh – tha sibh ro mhall! Tha e doirbh a h-uile duine eile a shàsachadh air rathad singilte!

Sin àite-seachnaidh – cleachdaibh e! *That's a passing place – use it!* Sin àite-seachnaidh – cleachdaibh e! An leig sibh seachad mi? *Will you let me past?* An leig sibh seachad mi? Feumaidh sibh a dhol an comhair ur cùil, a charaid. *You'll have to reverse, my friend.* Feumaidh sibh a dhol an comhair ur cùil, a charaid. Tha an t-àite-seachnaidh as fhaisge dìreach air ur cùlaibh. *The nearest passing-place is just behind you.* Tha an t-àite-seachnaidh as fhaisge dìreach air ur cùlaibh.

Chan eil e glic a bhith a' siubhal ann an sreath mòr charbadan. *It's not wise to travel in a convoy of vehicles.* Chan eil e glic a bhith a' siubhal ann an sreath mòr charbadan. An leig sibh carbad na banaltraim seachad – math dh'fhaodte gu bheil cabhag oirre. *Will you allow the nurse's vehicle to pass you – she might be in a hurry.* An leig sibh carbad na banaltraim seachad – math dh'fhaodte gu bheil cabhag oirre.

Agus tha mi air seo a ràdh turas no dhà: Chan eil ann ach bò Ghàidhealach agus a laogh. Cha leig sibh a leas stad ann am meadhan an rathaid airson dealbh a thogail! *It's only a Highland cow and its calf. You don't need to stop in the middle of the road*

to take a picture! Chan eil ann ach bò Ghàidhealach agus a laogh. Cha leig sibh a leas stad ann am meadhan an rathaid airson dealbh a thogail!

Sin agaibh sreath de dh'abairtean a dh'fhaodadh a bhith feumail air an NC500. Ach 's dòcha gur e seo an tè as cudromaiche ri ràdh aig toiseach an latha. **Chan eil rud sam bith a' dol a chur suas no sìos mi an-diugh.** Gum bi latha math agaibh, a chàirdean. *Nothing is going to upset me today. May you have a good day, my friends.* Chan eil rud sam bith a' dol a chur suas no sìos mi an-diugh. Gum bi latha math agaibh, a chàirdean.

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Faclan na Litreach: A' Chomraich: *Applecross*; Taobh Siar Rois: *Wester Ross*; slighe: *route*; rathaidean singilte: *single-track roads*; cumhang: *narrow*; Bealach na Bà: *the pass of the cow[s]*; mall: *slow*; àite-seachnaidh: *passing-place*; glic: *wise*; carbad: *vehicle*; banaltram: *nurse*; bò Ghàidhealach: *Highland cow*; laogh: *calf*.

Abairtean na Litreach: Tha mi cinnteach gu bheil diofar bheachdan aig diofar dhaoine air an NC500: *I'm sure that different people have different opinions on the NC500*; cuairt-rathaid ann an ceann a tuath na Gàidhealtachd: *a road tour in the north of the Highlands*; tha e a' tarraing luchd-turais don sgìre: *it attracts tourists to the area*; bidh feadhainn a' faighinn buannachd às: *some people derive a benefit from it*; freagarrach airson trafaig throm: *suitable for heavy traffic*; bha mi a' beachdachadh an latha eile air: *I was considering the other day*; na chanadh daoine ann an Gàidhlig: *what people would say in Gaelic*; ann an co-cheangal ri draibheadh air: *in connection with driving on*; air ur socair: *take it easy*; greasaibh oirbh: *hurry up*; tha e doirbh a h-uile duine eile a shàsachadh: *it's hard to satisfy everybody else*; feumaidh sibh a dhol an comhair ur cùil, a charaid: *you'll have to reverse, my friend [you'll also hear people say 'reversadh']*; dìreach air ur cùlaibh: *just behind you*; math dh'fhaodte gu bheil cabhag oirre: *perhaps she is in a hurry*; cha leig sibh a leas stad ann am meadhan an rathaid airson dealbh a thogail: *you don't need to stop in the middle of the road to take a picture*; 's dòcha gur e seo an tè as cudromaiche ri ràdh aig toiseach an latha: *perhaps this is the most important one to say at the start of the day*.

Puing-chànain na Litreach: Chan eil rathad dùbailte anns an sgìre ann: *there is no double [two-laned] road in the area. The 'ann' at the end of the sentence here is not strictly necessary but is used idiomatically to emphasise the point being made.*

Gnàthas-cainnt na Litreach: Chan eil rud sam bith a' dol a chur suas no sìos mi an-diugh: *Nothing is going to upset me today.*

Tha "Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh" air a maoinachadh le MG ALBA