

Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh

le Ruairidh MacIlleathain

Briathrachas a' Chròlaidh (2)

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 1,407. There is also a simpler version – An Litir Bheag – which is broadcast at 2:30pm each Sunday. Litir Bheag 1,103 corresponds to Litir 1,407. The Litir is also available at www.bbc.co.uk/litir and www.learnghaelic.scot/litir. Ruairidh can be contacted at fios@learnghaelic.scot.

Bha sinn a' toirt sùil air briathrachas Gàidhlig a' chròlaidh. **Thuige seo**, seo na faclan is abairtean a bh' againn: *cròladh* 'curling'; *cròlach* 'curler'; *clach-chròlaidh* 'curling stone'; *sguabag* 'brush'; *sguabadh* 'sweeping'; *spèileadh* 'skating, sliding on ice'; a' *chuirteag* 'the house or circles'; a' *bhioraid* 'the tee'; sùil na *cuairteig* 'the button'.

Anns an Litir seo, bheir sinn sùil air faclan is abairtean eile co-cheangailte ris an spòrs seo. An toiseach, an sgioba – *the team or rink of curlers*. Ann am farpaisean, mar as trice, tha ceathrar nam buill dheth. 'S e an neach a tha aithnichte mar cheannard dhaibh an *skip*. Ann an Gàidhlig – an *sgìobair*. Mar as trice, bidh an sgiobair a' tilgeil na dà chloiche mu dheireadh.

'S e an neach a thilgeas a' chiad dà chloich an *lead* no a' *chiad chròlach*. Bidh an *dàrna cròlach* no *second* a' tilgeil na dà chloiche an dèidh sin. Bidh an *treas cròlach* no *third* a' tilgeil na dhà an dèidh sin.

Airson clach a thilgeil, bidh an cròlach a' cur aon chas anns a' *bhacan* no *hack*. Bidh e ga phutadh fhèin far a' bhacain le a làmh air làmh na cloiche. Bidh e a' sleamhnadh air adhart air bonn a chois eile. Feumaidh an cròlach a ghreim air làmh na cloiche a leigeil às mus ruig e Sgor na Caillich no *the Hog Line*.

An uair sin bidh a' chlach a' dol air adhart air an deigh a dh'ionnsaigh an taighe. Bithear a' cluinntinn fuaim a tha a' comharrachadh an spòrs seo. 'S e sin beuc na cloiche-chròlaidh '*the roar of the curling stone*'. Air sàillibh sin, bithear a' gabhail 'an spòrs beucach' air cròladh.

'S e sgil air leth a th' ann a bhith a' tilgeil na cloiche leis an neart cheart. Agus feumar toinneamh ceart a chur air a' chloich cuideachd. Bidh a' chlach a' tionndadh gu aon taobh a rèir an toinneimh oirre – agus an neart – agus staid na deighe a bharrachd.

Uaireannan, bidh an *cròlach* a' dèanamh tarraing no a' tarraing na cloiche. 'S e sin a bhith a' fàgail na cloiche anns an taigh, gun a bhith a' bualadh ann an clach eile. Bithear cuideachd, anns an aon dòigh, a' fàgail clach ann an àite taobh a-muigh an taighe mar gheàrd no *guard-stone*.

Ge-tà, uaireannan, bithear a' dèanamh sgailc le clach an tilgeil a' bualadh a dh'aona-ghnothach ann an clach eile. Mas e *takeout* a th' ann – a' cur na dàrna cloiche a-mach à cluich, canaidh sinn *sgram* ris. Sgram an gèard '*take out the guard-stone*'.

Ged a tha sgil air leth ann, ann a bhith a' tilgeil na cloiche, tha tòrr ann an cròladh an latha an-diugh **an crochadh air** an sguabadh. Nuair a tha clach a' gluasad air an deigh bidh cròlach no, gu math tric, dithis chròlaichean, a' sguabadh air thoiseach oirre airson an t-astar a thèid i no an t-slighe a ghabhas i atharrachadh. Tha sguabadh agus na sguabairean air leth cudromach ann an cròladh. Tha cuid de chròlaichean ainmeil airson cho math 's a tha iad air sguabadh.

Cha bu chòir dhuinn na clachan fhèin a dhìochuimhneachadh. Tha an fheadhainn a th' air an cleachdadh anns na Geamannan Oilimpigeach uile air an dèanamh de chlach-ghràin chruaidh a thig à aon eilean ann an Alba – Creag Ealasaid, far chosta Siorrachd Àir.

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Faclan na Litreach: toinneamh: *spin*; neart: *weight (force with which a stone is pushed)*; staid na deighe: *the state of the ice*; Creag Ealasaid: *Ailsa Craig*; Siorrachd Àir: *Ayrshire*.

Abairtean na Litreach: Ann am farpaisean, mar as trice, tha ceathrar nam buill dheth: *in competitions, usually there are four members*; an neach a tha aithnichte mar cheannard dhaibh: *the person that is recognised as their leader*; an neach a thilgeas a' chiad dà chloich: *the person who throws the first two stones*; bidh an cròlach a' cur aon chas anns a' bhacan: *the curler puts one foot in the hack*; bidh e ga phutadh fhèin far a' bhacain le a làmh air làmh na cloiche: *he pushes himself off the hack with his hand on the handle of the stone*; feumaidh an cròlach a ghreim air làmh na cloiche a leigeil às mus ruig e Sgor na Caillich: *the curler has to release his grip on the handle of the stone before he reaches the Hog Line*; bithear a' cluinntinn fuaim a tha a' comharrachadh an spòrs seo: *a sound is heard that characterises this sport*; air sàillibh sin, bithear a' gabhail 'an spòrs beucach' air cròladh: *because of that, curling is called 'the roaring game'*; a' dèanamh tarraing: *making a draw*; bithear a' dèanamh sgailc le clach an tilgeil a' bualadh a dh'aona-ghnothach ann an clach eile: *a hit will be made with the throw-stone deliberately hitting another stone*; a' sguabadh air thoiseach oirre airson an t-astar a thèid i no an t-slighe a ghabhas i atharrachadh: *brushing ahead of it to change the distance it goes or the path it takes*; air an dèanamh de chlach-ghràin chruaidh a thig à aon eilean ann an Alba: *made of hard granite that comes from one island in Scotland*.

Puing-chànain na Litreach: tha tòrr ann an cròladh an latha an-diugh **an crochadh air** an sguabadh: *much in curling today depends on the brushing. While historically this construction was an crochadh air (as in bha na bochd an crochadh air dèirc 'the poor were dependent on alms'), you will today also hear a' crochadh air (where crochadh has become viewed as a verbal noun). In addition, the preposition ri can replace air, giving us an crochadh ri or a' crochadh ri. Bha an Litir seo an crochadh air obair a rinn Fionnghal NicPhàdraig air briathrachas a' chròlaidh o chionn fhada.*

Gnàthas-cainnt na Litreach: Thuige seo: *up to now, to this point in time.*

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