

# An Litir Bheag

## le Ruairidh MacIlleathain

An Litir Bheag is a shortened and simplified version of Ruairidh's Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh (also available on the BBC website), designed for those who are at an earlier stage of learning Gaelic. The topic each week is the same as Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh so that, once the Litir Bheag is mastered, a student of the language might wish to try the full Litir. This is Litir Bheag 27 (which corresponds to Litir 331). Ruairidh can be contacted at [roddy.maclean@bbc.co.uk](mailto:roddy.maclean@bbc.co.uk).

An t-seachdain sa chaidh bha mi ag innse dhuibh mu na Cuimrich a chaidh a dh'fhuireach ann an Argentina. Dh'fhàg iad Argentina agus chaidh iad a dh'fhuireach ann an Saskatchewan. Uill, bha buidheann de Ghàidheil ann, agus rinn iadsan an aon seòrsa rud. Ach chaidh iadsan na b' fhaide na na Cuimrich. Bho Alba gu Canada, gu Astràilia is gu New Zealand. B' iad sin na *Normanites*. B' e an ceannard *Norman McLeod* – an t-Urramach Tormod MacLeòid. Rugadh Tormod MacLeòid ann an Asainte. Bha sin ann an seachd ceud deug is ochdad (1780). Bha a phàrantan ri croitearachd is iasgach. Bha Tormod na sgoilear math. Aig aois fichead 's a seachd (27), chaidh e a dh'Oilthigh Obair Dheathain. Cheumnaich e ann an ochd ceud deug 's a dhà-dheug (1812). Chaidh e dhachaigh a dh'Asainte. Phòs e a leannan, Màiri NicLeòid. An uair sin chaidh e a Dhùn Èideann. Bha e a' dol a dhèanamh cùrsa ann an Diadhachd. Bha e a' dol a bhith na mhinistear. Ach dh'fhàs Tormod mì-thoilichte leis na ministearan anns an Eaglais. Bha e a' smaoinichadh gu robh barrachd ùidh aca ann an gnothaichean saoghalta na bha aca ann an gnothaichean spioradail. Rinn Tormod co-dhùnadh mòr. Leig e seachad a' mhinistrealachd. Fhuair e obair mar thidsear. Bha sin anns an sgoil ann an Ulapul. Bha e ag obair do bhuidheann air an robh *The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge*. Bha e cuideachd a' leughadh nan Sgrìobtaran do mhuinntir an àite air an t-Sàbaid. Bha sin nuair nach robh am ministear, an t-Ollamh Ross, a' searmonachadh ann an Ulapul. Chaidh Tormod agus am ministear a-mach air a chèile. Sguir Tormod a dhol don Eaglais nuair a bha an t-Oll. Ross a' searmonachadh. Bha am ministear mì-thoilichte. Sàbaid a bha seo, bha an t-Oll. Ross a' searmonachadh ann an Ulapul. Dh'iarr e air daoine a bha taiceil don tidsear falbh. Agus dh'iarr e air pàrantan a' chlann aca a thoirt a-mach à sgoil Thormoid. Ach cha d' fhuair e taic bho na pàrantan. Thug a' chuid a bu mhotha dhiubh an taic do Thormod. Dh'iarr am ministear air an tidsear dhol gu seisean na h-Eaglais. Innsidh mi dhuibh dè thachair ann an ath-sheachdain.

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**Faclan is abairtean:** bha mi ag innse dhuibh mu na Cuimrich: *I was telling you about the Welsh people*; chaidh iad a dh'fhuireach ann an Saskatchewan: *they*

*went to live in Saskatchewan; rinn iadsan an aon seòrsa rud: they did the same sort of thing; na b' fhaide: further; an t-Urramach Tormod MacLeòid: Rev. Norman McLeod; Asainte: Assynt; bha a phàrantan ri croitearachd is iasgach: his parents were involved in crofting and fishing; chaidh e a dh'Oilthigh Obair Dheathain: he went to Aberdeen University; cheumnaich e: he graduated; phòs e a leannan: he married his sweetheart; Diadhachd: Theology; bha e a' dol a bhith na mhinistear: he was going to be a minister; gu robh barrachd ùidh aca ann an gnothaichean saoghalta na bha aca ann an gnothaichean spioradail: that they were more interested (had more interest) in worldly matters than spiritual matters; leig e seachad a' mhinistrealachd: he gave up the ministry; a' leughadh nan Sgrìobtaran do mhuinntir an àite air an t-Sàbaid: reading the Scriptures to the local people on the Sabbath; a' searmonachadh ann an Ulapul: preaching in Ullapool; An t-Ollamh Ross: Dr. Ross; chaidh Tormod agus am ministear a-mach air a chèile: Norman and the minister fell out; sguir Tormod a dhol don Eaglais: Norman stopped attending church; dh'iarr e air daoine a bha taiceil don tidsear falbh: he asked people who supported the teacher to leave; dh'iarr e air pàrantan a' chlann aca a thoirt a-mach à sgoil Thormoid: he asked parents to take their children out of Norman's school; thug a' chuid a bu mhotha dhiubh an taic do Thormod: most of them supported Norman; dh'iarr am ministear air an tidsear dhol gu seisean na h-Eaglais: the minister asked the teacher to go to the Kirk session; innsidh mi dhuibh dè thachair ann: I'll tell you what happened there.*

*ends*