

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 28 (which corresponds to Litir 332). Ruairidh can be contacted at rodny.maclean@bbc.co.uk.

Chaidh Tormod MacLeòid gu seisean na h-Eaglais. Ach cha do dh'aontaich e fhèin is am ministear, an t-Oll. Ros. Bha fichead là aig Tormod airson falbh. Cha robh cead aige teagasg ann an Ulapul tuilleadh. Choisich e a-mach às a' mhansa.

Ach cha deach e fada. Bha abhainn faisg air an taigh. Bha an t-uisge ann fad an là. Bha tuil san abhainn. Cha d' fhuair Tormod a-null. Thàinig an oidhche. Bha Tormod bog fliuch. Thill e don mhansa.

Chuir am ministear fàilte air. Bha Tormod air a nàrachadh. Chuir e seachad an oidhche anns a' mhansa. Bha a bhean Màiri, ge-tà, a' coiseachd don abhainn. Bha naoi mìle eadar an taigh aice 's an abhainn. Bha i a' gabhail dragh mu Thormod. Bha i toilichte gu robh e ceart gu leòr.

Às dèidh fichead là dh'fhàg Tormod an sgoil. Bha leanabh aige fhèin is aig Màiri. 'S e Iain an t-ainm a bh' air an leanabh. Thug iad gu Loch Carrann e. Bha sin airson a bhaisteadh. Choisich iad ceathrad mìle leis. Ach, nuair a ràinig iad Loch Carrann, bha an t-Oll. Ros ann. Bha Ministear Loch Carrainn ag iarraidh air an Oll. Ros agus Tormod tighinn gu rèite. Ach cha do thachair sin. Chaidh Tormod is Màiri dhachaigh gun Iain a bhaisteadh.

Smaoinich Tormod mu bhith a' dol a dh'Ameireagaidh a Tuath. Ach bha fiachan air. Chaidh e a dh'Inbhir Ùige airson iasgach. Bha tuarastal math aige an sin. Fhuair e airgead mòr. Cha robh fiachan air tuilleadh. Bha airgead gu leòr aige airson Màiri is Iain cuideachd. Bha iadsan a' fuireach ann an Alba airson bliadhna. Sheòl Tormod leis fhèin air a *Frances Ann*. Bha i a' dol gu Pictou ann an Alba Nuadh.

Bha stoirm mhòr ann aig muir. Thòisich an soitheach air uisge a leigeil a-steach. Bha a h-uile fear air bòrd ag obair air na pumpaichean. Thuirt an sgiobair gu robh iad a' tilleadh a dh'Èirinn. Bha Tormod na aghaidh. Bha esan ag iarraidh cumail a dol. Chaidh e fhèin is an caiptean a-mach air a chèile. Fhuair Tormod taic bhon luchd-shiubhail. Chum iad orra. Ràinig iad Pictou. Fhuair Tormod tac. Bha e trang, a' leasachadh na talmhainn. Là na Sàbaid, bha e a' searmonachadh. Bha mòran airson èisteachd ris. "Cò th' ann an Tormod [MacLeòid]?" sgrìobh fear. "Tha searmonaiche a dh'èirich air a cheann fhèin a tha a' cumail a-mach nach eil ministear aig Crìosda ann an Eaglais na h-Alba air fad."

* * * * *

Faclan is abairtean: seisean na h-Eaglais: *the kirk session*; cha do dh'aontaich e fhèin is am ministear, an t-Oll. Ros: *he and the minister, Dr Ross, did not agree*; cha robh cead aige teagasg ann an Ulapul tuilleadh: *he no longer had permission to teach in Ullapool*; bha an t-uisge ann fad an là: *it was raining all day*; tuil: *flood*; cha d' fhuair Tormod a-null: *Norman didn't get over*; bog fliuch: *soaked to the skin*; thill e don mhansa: *he returned to the manse*; bha Tormod air a nàrachadh: *Norman was ashamed*; bha i a' gabhail dragh mu Thormod: *she was uneasy about Norman (because he hadn't come home)*; às dèidh fichead là dh'fhàg Tormod an sgoil: *after twenty days Norman left the school*; 's e Iain an t-ainm a bh' air an leanabh: *the baby's name was John*; Loch Carrann: *Lochcarron*; airson a bhaisteadh: *to baptise him*; bha X ag iarraidh air Y agus Z tighinn gu rèite: *X was wanting Y and Z to come to agreement/accommodation*; cha do thachair sin: *that didn't happen*; bha fiachan air: *he had debts*; chaidh e a dh'Inbhir Ùige: *he went to Wick*; tuarastal math: *good wages*; sheòl Tormod leis fhèin: *Norman sailed on his own*; bha i a' dol gu Pictou ann an Alba Nuadh: *she was going to Pictou in Nova Scotia*; thòisich an soitheach air uisge a leigeil a-steach: *the vessel started to let water in*; bha a h-uile fear air bòrd ag obair air na pumpaichean: *every man aboard was working the pumps*; chaidh e fhèin is an caiptean a-mach air a chèile: *he and the captain had a vigorous disagreement*; fhuair Tormod taic bhon luchd-shiubhail: *Norman got support from the passengers*; chum iad orra: *they kept going*; tac: *plot of land*; a' leasachadh na talmhainn: *developing the land*; searmonaiche a dh'èirich air a cheann fhèin: *a self-made preacher*; a tha a' cumail a-mach nach eil ministear aig Crìosda ann an Eaglais na h-Alba air fad: *who declares that there is not a minister of Christ in all the Church of Scotland*.

ends