

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 65 (which corresponds to Litir 369). Ruairidh can be contacted at roddy.maclean@bbc.co.uk.

Bha mi ann an Uibhist a Deas o chionn ghoirid. Dh'innis mi sin dhuibh anns an Litir mu dheireadh. Chaidh mi gu Taigh-tasgaidh Chill Donnain. Tha iomadach rud inntinneach anns an taigh-thasgaidh. Am measg nan rudan inntinneach sin tha clach ainmeil. 'S e an t-ainm a th' oirre *Clach Chlann 'ic Ailein. The Clanranald Stone* ann am Beurla. Clach Chlann 'ic Ailein. Tha suaicheantais Chlann 'ic Ailein snaighte air a' chloich. Tha birlinn oirre. Tha caisteal oirre. Agus tha leòmhann oirre.

Bha i air a dèanamh anns an t-siathamh linn deug. Bha i air a dèanamh airson Iain Muideartach, ceann-cinnidh Chlann 'ic Ailein. Bha i an toiseach ann am balla ann an caibeal anns an Tobha Mhòr. Tha an Tobha Mor pìos beag sìos an rathad bho Chill Donnain.

Bha an Tobha Mòr cudromach ann an eachdraidh na h-Eaglaise anns na h-eileanan. Chaochail Iain Muideartach ann an còig ceud deug, seachdad 's a ceithir (1574). Bha e air a thiodhlacadh anns an Tobha Mhòr.

Thuit an caibeal às a chèile anns an fhicheadamh linn. Chaidh a' chlach a thoirt a-mach às a' bhalla. Chaidh a cur am broinn na tobhta. Ach ghoid cuideigin i. Bha sin ann an naoi ceud deug is naochad (1990). Chaidh a lorg ann an Lunnainn.

Fhuair Comunn Eachdraidh Uibhist a Deas air ais i às dèidh còig bliadhna.

Bha Iain Muideartach an sàs ann am batail ainmeil air a bheil *Blàr na Lèine*. Nise, dè a' Bheurla a th' air sin? *Field of the Shirt*, nach e? *Blàr na Lèine*. Ach mar as trice, bidh daoine ag ràdh *Field of the Shirts*. Ach nach e *Blàr nan Lèintean* a bhiodh ann an *Field of the Shirts*? A bheil an t-ainm ceart? Uill, chì sinn anns an ath Litir.

Ann an còig ceud deug is ceathrad (1540) chaidh Iain Muideartach is Rìgh na h-Alba, Seumas V, a-mach air a chèile. Bha Iain anns a' phrìosan. Cha robh ceannard aig a chinneadh. Thug na Frisealaich – Clann 'ic Shimidh – taic do charaid aig Iain – Raghnaill – mar cheann-cinnidh. 'S e ban-Fhrisealach a bh' ann am màthair Raghnaill. Ach bha cuid am measg Clann 'ic Iain an aghaidh Raghnaill. Agus thàinig an dà thaobh gu sabaid. Bha sin aig *Blàr na Lèine* ann an còig ceud deug, ceathrad 's a ceithir (1544).

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Faclan is abairtean: bha mi ann an Uibhist a Deas o chionn ghoirid: *I was in South Uist recently*; dh'innis mi sin dhuibh: *I told you that*; Taigh-tasgaidh Chill Donnain: *Kildonan Museum*; iomadach rud inntinneach: *many interesting things*; Clach Chlann 'ic Ailein: *The Clanranald Stone*; suaicheantais: *emblems*; snaighte air a' chloich: *sculpted on the stone*; birlinn: *galley (ship)*; anns an t-siathamh linn deug: *in the 16th Century*; bha i air a dèanamh airson Iain Muideartach: *it [fem] was made for John of Moidart*; ceann-cinnidh: *clan chief*; bha i an toiseach ann am balla: *it was originally in a wall*; ann an caibeal anns an Tobha Mhòr: *in a chapel in Howmore*; bha e air a thiodhlacadh: *he was buried*; thuit an caibeal às a chèile: *the chapel fell to pieces*; anns an fhicheadamh linn: *in the 20th Century*; chaidh a cur am broinn na tobhta: *it was put within the ruin*; ghoid cuideigin i: *somebody stole it*; chaidh a lorg ann an Lunnainn: *it was found in London*; Comunn Eachdraidh Uibhist a Deas: *South Uist Historical Society*; chaidh Iain Muideartach is Rìgh na h-Alba, Seumas V, a-mach air a chèile: *John of Moidart and the King of Scotland, James V, fell out with each other*; cha robh ceannard aig a chinneadh: *the clan had no leader*; thug na Frisealaich – Clann 'ic Shimidh – taic do charaid aig Iain: *the Frasers (Clann 'ic Shimidh is the clan name) gave assistance to a relative of John's*; 's e ban-Fhrisealach a bh' ann am màthair Raghnaill: *Ranald's mother was a Fraser*; thàinig an dà thaobh gu sabaid: *the two sides came to conflict*.

ends