

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 900 (which corresponds to Litir 1,204). Ruairidh can be contacted at fios@learngaelic.scot.

Different people have different opinions on the NC500 – a road route in the northern Highlands. It attracts tourists. But, in some of the areas on the route, there are single-track roads. Many tourists come who are not at all used to driving on narrow single-track roads. It provides them with a challenge! And locals as well!

I was considering the Gaelic phrases that would be useful in connection with driving on the single-track roads on the NC500. Here are examples. 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!

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

Tha diofar bheachdan aig diofar dhaoine air an NC500 – cuairt-rathaid ann an ceann a tuath na Gàidhealtachd. Tha e a' tarraing luchd-turais. Ach, ann an cuid de na sgìrean air an t-slighe, tha rathaidean singilte ann. Bidh mòran luchd-turais a' tighinn ann nach eil cleachdte idir ri rathaidean cumhang singilte. Tha e a' toirt dùbhlann dhaibh! Agus do mhuintir an àite!

Bha mi a' beachdachadh air abairtean Gàidhlig a bhiodh feumail ann an co-cheangal ri draibheadh air rathaidean singilte 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!

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

<p>you. Tha an t-àite-seachnaidh as fhaisge dìreach air ur cùlaibh.</p> <p><i>And this phrase is useful at times.</i> Chan eil e glic a bhith a' siubhal ann an sreath charbadan. <i>It's not wise to travel in a convoy of vehicles.</i> Chan eil e glic a bhith a' siubhal ann an sreath charbadan.</p> <p>And I've said this once or twice: Cùmaibh a dol – chan eil ann ach bò Ghàidhealach! <i>Keep going – it's only a Highland cow!</i> Cùmaibh a dol – chan eil ann ach bò Ghàidhealach!</p> <p><i>That is a series of phrases that might be useful on the NC500. But perhaps this one is the most important to say at the beginning of the day.</i> Chan eil rud sam bith a' dol a chur suas no sìos mi an-diugh. <i>Nothing is going to upset me today.</i> Chan eil rud sam bith a' dol a chur suas no sìos mi an-diugh.</p>	<p>seachnaidh as fhaisge dìreach air ur cùlaibh.</p> <p>Agus tha an abairt seo feumail ag amannan. Chan eil e glic a bhith a' siubhal ann an sreath charbadan. <i>It's not wise to travel in a convoy of vehicles.</i> Chan eil e glic a bhith a' siubhal ann an sreath charbadan.</p> <p>Agus tha mi air seo a ràdh turas no dhà: Cùmaibh a dol – chan eil ann ach bò Ghàidhealach! <i>Keep going – it's only a Highland cow!</i> Cùmaibh a dol – chan eil ann ach bò Ghàidhealach!</p> <p>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. <i>Nothing is going to upset me today.</i> Chan eil rud sam bith a' dol a chur suas no sìos mi an-diugh.</p>
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