

# NEWSLETTER Winter 2010



## An t-Alltan 2010

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Ceumannan,  
the next step

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Whistle while  
we work

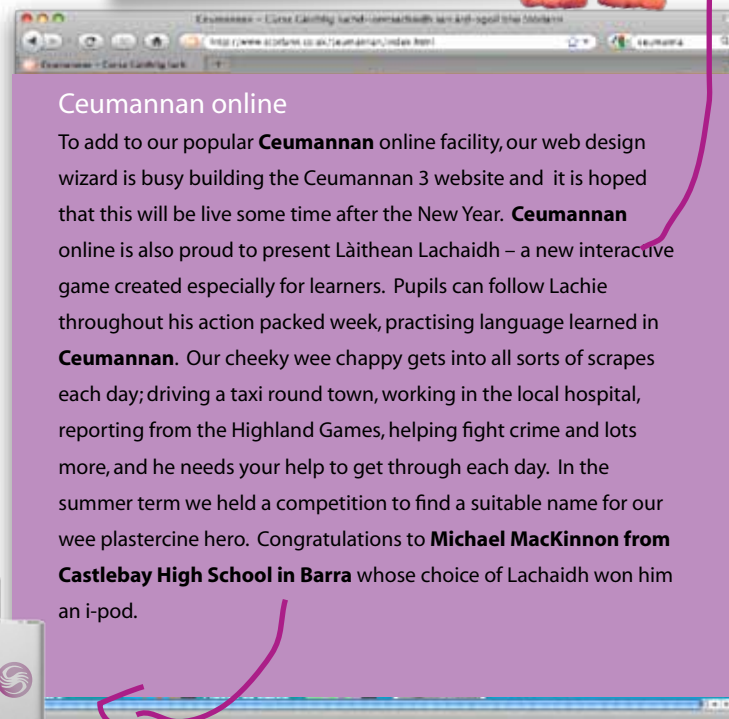
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Santa and Rudolf have been very busy lately delivering **Ceumannan 3** – the latest book in the new series of textbooks for Gaelic learners – to schools in time for Christmas. The book had been designed to take learners up to and beyond the third level of Curriculum for Excellence.

Santa has some extra Ceumannan goodies in his sack for teachers this year! Along with the **Teacher's Notes for Ceumannan 3** we are issuing a **DVD Rom** packed full of handy Ceumannan resources from every one of the books so far! The DVD is easily copyable and includes all illustrations from the books – great for making your own worksheets, flashcards, game cards and suchlike. The DVD also includes all PDFs and sound files

of listening extracts, songs and dictionaries, as well as PDFs of online worksheets and comics. Hopefully you will find this resource useful, especially those of you who might have difficulties getting access to the material online. But that's not all folks! You will also receive a large **'Anns a' bhaile' wall poster** for each classroom – an attractive and detailed town scene by Ceumannan's illustrator Bob Dewar. The poster is designed to be used in conjunction with some of the exercises in Module 3 Unit 2 of the book but can also be used for various other language games suggested in the teacher's notes. We hope that this will be a useful resource for pupils and teachers alike.



*Well done, Michael!*

### Have you tweeted yet?

Look out for regular tweets from Ceumannan on our website and don't forget you can follow us on Twitter too <http://twitter.com/ceumannan> Go on! Get tweeting! We're looking forward to hearing from you.



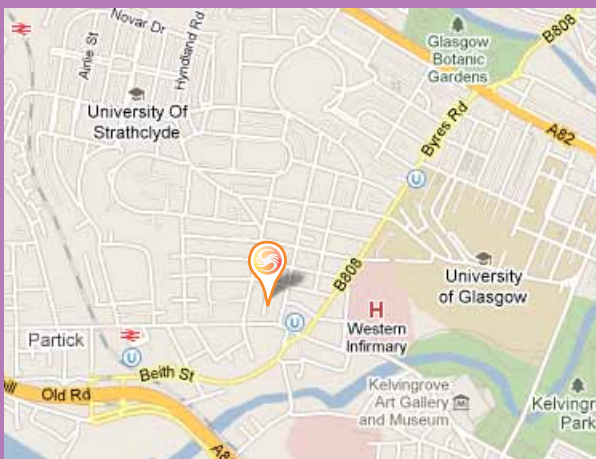
### Still to come

**Ceumannan 4** is currently under construction and work on writing **Ceumannan 5** is to begin soon. It is hoped that editing, illustration and design work will begin on **Ceumannan 4** in the new year and that the finished product will be available to schools in the academic year 2011/12. More updates of progress on these two publications will be given in subsequent newsletters.

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of the Ceumannan team.**



## New Glasgow Hub



### The Glasgow Hub on Mansfield Street is now open and Dòmhnall Eòghainn has moved in.

In the whole complex Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Colmcille, An Lòchran, Comunn na Gàidhlig, Comhairle nan Leabhraichean and, of course, Stòrlann Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig are represented. It's great being able to look over the short panels separating each desk and discuss issues instantly.

The hub has excellent meeting facilities that staff are all able to book for any meetings. Hot desks will also be available soon for staff to use.

Work is continuing on the Hub.



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- New Hub**
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[www.anseotal.org.uk](http://www.anseotal.org.uk)  
[www.gaelic4parents.com](http://www.gaelic4parents.com)





### Over 100 delegates, incorporating nursery, primary, secondary and quality improvement officers attend the two day event.

Delegates heard two keynote addresses from **Chris McIlroy, HMIE** and also from **Angus MacLennan, Deputy Headteacher at the Nicolson Institute** as well as having the choice of attending a pool of workshops each of which was relevant to their teaching experience. An t-Alltan's main aim was for delegates to explore Stòrlann's resources and how they could be implemented actively in the classroom. The workshops were as follows:

#### Beairteas Cànan – Idioms and Phrases

Margaret MacIver (P+S)

A look at how to promote the use of idioms and phrases in Gaelic writing, and as a result encouraging children to produce better quality pieces of Gaelic writing.

#### Maths

DJ Smith, Glasgow Gaelic School (S)

Active learning activities that can be used in the classroom, to help support Teejay Maths textbook/ materials.

#### Spelling

Alice Macleod and Margaret Ane Macleod (P-S)

Active spelling activities to accompany 'Lorgan Litreachaidh' spelling programme.

#### Poetry

Catriona Lexy Campbell (N, P+S)

Drama activities that can be taught in the classroom to support 'Can gun Robh' and 'Smeòrach Mi'

poetry books. A look at how the activities can be linked across different curricular areas to promote interdisciplinary learning.

#### Big Writing

Anne Glennie (P)

An introduction to 'Big Writing' and how it can be used interactively in the classroom to promote writing.

#### Ceumannan

Emma Burrows and Shona Cormack (S)

Interactive, give it a go approach to Ceumannan.

#### GLOW

Mary Macmillan (N, P+S)

Hands on approach to GLOW, highlighting its potential in Gaelic Education and in the classroom.

#### HIE – Renewable Energy

Pat and Liz (N, P+S)

Interactive training on how to use the Renewable

Energy Toolkit in the classroom.

#### Active Learning - Development of Language

Fiona MacLennan (N+P)

Active learning (Learning through Play) ideas that will promote use of Gaelic language at the Early Levels.

#### Scholar Programme

Gerry Toner (S)

Scholar programme provides online courses for Secondary. This year they are putting a Higher Gaelic online programme in place (information session).

#### SQA

Donald John MacIver and William MacDonald (S)

SQA talking to teaching staff re. exam paper requirements - giving teachers an insight into what they could be preparing pupils for in terms of assessments and discussing the future of assessments (information session).



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### Here are some of the comments from delegates:

#### Foirm-measaidh

'S e rudan feumail a bh' ann airson a dhèanamh sa chlas agus bha sinn a' dèanamh nan rudan an àite a bhith dìreach ag èisteachd

Thug Beairteas Cànanain orm smaointinn, cuimhneachadh agus a' bhith mothachail den deagh Ghàidhlig a th' againn 's gu bheil còir againn a chleachdadh nas trice gun eagal sam bith nach eil e "foghlamaichte" gu leòr! Big Writing - tòrr a-sin! MATH FHÈIN

Practical effective lessons to take back to the classroom

#### Tha cuimhn' am a bhith a' smaoineachadh...

A bheil tìde agamsa dhol gun a' cho-labhairt 's a-nis tha mi cho taingeil gun tàinig mi ann 's gun do dh'ionnsaich mi uimhir

Inspiring! This type of CPD/event should be the norm - it makes teachers feel professional and involved!

#### Tha cuimhn' am a bhith a' faireachdainn...

Enthusiastic & looking forward to getting back to the class with my new ideas

Tha gu leòr ann airson ar brosnachadh ionnsachadh math a thoirt do na sgoilearan againn

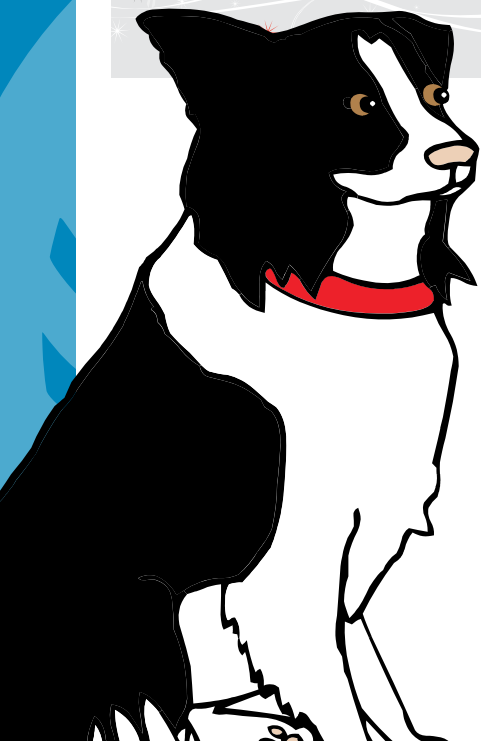
Stòrlann would like to thank the following for financial and other support relating to An t-Alltan:

- Managerial Review Group – Specific Grants for Gaelic Education;
- The Scottish Government;
- Bòrd na Gàidhlig;
- Learning and Teaching Scotland;
- Drumossie Hotel Inverness;
- All local authorities.



## Christmas Competition

This year we are running a wee competition linked to our Christmas card.



If you can name all the resources in the word Nollaig, email [nollaig@storlann.co.uk](mailto:nollaig@storlann.co.uk) and you will go into the draw to win your own cuddly Nip!

Good Luck!

(Closing Date  
30th January 2011)

## New Face



We would like to welcome Dòmhnall Eòghainn MacFhionghain as our most recent recruit! He joined the team as Development Officer in October.

"I recently joined Storlann having trained in physiology and taught Biology in Glasgow. Working for Storlann is really a dream come true for me since my Gaelic 'awakening' last year, until which I hadn't really been using my Gaelic at all. But here I am presented with the opportunity to use my creative talents, teaching experience, and my Gaelic every day as part of a warm, welcoming and talented team. I come from the Isle of Harris. In my spare time I write songs in both Gaelic and English and make short films."



A little Google-friendly birdie also unearthed this pic of Dòmhnall Eòghainn running the Harris half marathon (220), finishing as fastest local runner!



In schools now

## What is Modern studies?

Lately, a new unit entitled “Dè tha ann an Nuadh-eòlas?” was issued in digital format to **Modern Studies** teachers in secondary schools.

The unit was designed as an introductory pack for **Modern Studies**. Pupils in primary schools learn about History and Geography but they don't hear as much about Modern Studies. To develop liaison between primary and secondary schools, secondary teachers visit primary schools to tell P7 pupils about the subjects they will study in their secondary school. Stòrlann's advisory panel for Secondary **Modern Studies** recommends that **Modern Studies** teachers visit their associated primary schools and this unit was designed for that purpose. It is envisaged that secondary teachers could deliver one or two of the introductory lessons and then leave the rest of the unit for the P7 teacher to deliver. In instances where primary visits are not undertaken, the unit will provide an excellent starting point for S1 pupils.

There are two short Powerpoint presentations in the unit, one dealing with the concepts associated with **Modern Studies** and the other with needs and wants. The section entitled “What is Modern Studies?” comprises short exercises dealing with Crime and the Law, The United States, Conflict and Peace, Power and Control, and Needs and Wants. Each one of these gives the pupils an opportunity to work in groups, discussing issues and formulating opinions. A play, “The Court,” aims to teach pupils how to identify and evaluate relevant evidence. “Planaichean nan Leasan” is a teaching guide for teachers, suggesting ways in which the lessons could be delivered in class.

The unit was distributed in Word format and this will allow teachers to edit and change the content to their own satisfaction.

**Storlann is indebted to Mary Ellen Stewart for designing and preparing this unit.**

Chan eil daoine ann an Africa idir co-ionann ri daoine ann an Alba.....



Chan eil daoine beairteach agus daoine bochda idir co-ionann.....



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In  
schools  
now

**In October Stòrlann published An Fhìdeag Albannach, the first Gaelic textbook for music teachers. It is a Gaelic version of Fran Gray's Hands on Scottish Tin Whistle, first published by Taigh na Teud in 2005. This book was first recommended to Stòrlann by Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu.**

Fran Gray used numbers in grid notation to teach children to play tunes prior to them learning how to read music in standard musical notation. The grid notation and the standard notation are side by side on the pages in this book and, as a result, in very little time, children will learn not only to play simple tunes but also to read music. Each line is designed to be read and played as a phrase. Each tune is carefully chosen and they are all put in an order that ensures the course is progressive.

The book is now in schools and, soon, it will also be available on-line on Stòrlann's website. Then one will be able to listen to Shona Cormack reading the whole text, Dougie Beck playing the tunes and Rona Lightfoot giving canntaireachd versions of the tunes. Then, literacy in Gaelic and music should be no impediment to children learning to play the tin whistle! Another four tunes, not included in the book, will also be available on-line.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal assisted Stòrlann with this publication by ordering 500 copies of the book from Taigh na Teud. This reduced Stòrlann's per-item costs. Co-operating with Taigh na Teud proved to be a very pleasant experience. Christine Martin is an exceptional musician and she was exceptionally generous with her time, her guidance and her support. Mòran taing!

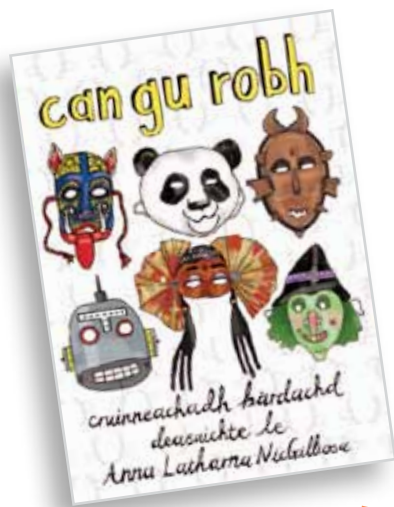


with thanks to  
Christine Martin



## New programme

Here are the materials on the 2010-11 programme. A good few are already shaping up well and are being printed or delivered to schools already.



### Primary

#### Matamataig

**Giant Discussion 4-7:** more in the Problem Solving series

#### Language and Literacy

**Can gun Robh:** Poetry collection

**Sgrìobhadh com-pàirtichte:** collection of Shared Writing texts for levels 2 and 3

**Ailig Aurora:** novel for upper primary

**Sàr obair:** publication of Level C

**Faclair na Sgoile:** all-new schools' dictionary based around Brìgh nam Facal content

**Catriona air Chuairt:** pasganan eile

**Speak Out:** play scripts with 'invisible' differentiation and cross-curricular themes

**Mirean:** language programme

#### Geography

**Classroom Globes**

#### Eòlas Àrainneach

Sreath leabhraichean bho **National Geographic**

**Atlas** from Oxford

#### GLPS

Revised teachers' materials

### Secondary

#### Gàidhlig

**Kidnapped 2010:** novel

**Ceumannan 2, 3, 4 & 5**

**Eadar Dà Sgeul:** collection of short stories with teacher support materials

**Modern Short Stories**

**Course for Fluent Speakers**

**National Museum for Scotland Treasure Boxes**

**Topic Packs**

**Listening Materials**

**Past papers**

#### Maths

**Teejay Maths Level C**

**Teejay Maths Level D:** homework pack

**Teejay Maths Level E:** homework pack

**Teejay Maths Level F:** homework pack

#### Geography

**Textbook for S3 and 4**

#### Science

**Whiteboard Materials:** from publishers Daydream Education

**Saidheans 5-14 Leabhar an Sgoileir S1:** textbook from Hodder Gibson

**Saidheans 5-14 Leabhar an Sgoileir S2:** textbook from Hodder Gibson

#### History

**Rioghachd na h-Alba anns na Meadhan Aoisean:** textbook from Heinemann Education

**A' Ghearmailt 1918 - 1939:** textbook from Heinemann Education

#### Physical Education

**Series of posters**

#### Modern Studies

**Modern Studies Units**

#### Ceòl

**Leabhar na Fideig**

#### Home Economics

**Pack**

