

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2010

AN T-ALLTAN 2010
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New Chief Executive of Stòrlann

Johanna Marshall was recently appointed as the new **Chief Executive of Stòrlann**. She joins the organisation from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, where she worked as a Primary School teacher in Airidhantuim on the West Side of Lewis.

Originally from Back in the Isle of Lewis, Johanna graduated with a B.Ed with honours from the Northern College, Aberdeen. She has worked as a Gaelic-medium teacher and principal teacher in primary schools in Stirling and the Isle of Lewis.



Hallò chàirdean.

I am delighted to be in post and am hugely looking forward to this exciting challenge that is ahead. I look forward to taking Stòrlann on as a successful company and team, at this very exciting time in education.

I wished to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to let you know that I look forward to working with you in the future. I also look forward to meeting you in the near future.

If at any time I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to drop me an e-mail or pick up the telephone. I am more than happy to help. Come and visit us at any time, there's always a welcome.

Le gach deagh dhùrachd

Johanna

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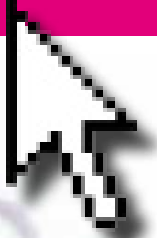
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Online Catalogue



Stòrlann's complete list of available resources will soon be uploaded as an online catalogue onto our website for viewing. This catalogue will give brief information on every resource which **Stòrlann** has produced over the years.



Stòrlann to co-work with CCEA

In forging further partnerships with new organisations and countries which also have indigenous languages, **Stòrlann** will co-work with **The Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment** on an upper primary project. The aim of the project is the editing and publication of Gaelic and Irish co-versions of a selection of traditional tales with full-colour illustration. Teachers' notes would be delivered separately online to complement the resource.

Stòrlann has already co-worked with Welsh partners and this new partnership with our Irish friends will help share further experiences of developments in Irish-medium and Gaelic-medium education, particularly in the area of curriculum resourcing and new learning and teaching initiatives, with a view to developing practice, maximising resources and securing best value.



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Storlann have gone Bright Red!

Stòrlann Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig will be "Bright Red" soon, but it's nothing to be ashamed about! For the first time, Standard Grade Gaelic and Gàidhlig pupils will have the opportunity to buy SQA past papers.



At this time of year, pupils and parents are often disappointed to find that books of past papers are not available in Gaelic/Gàidhlig, though they are available in a wide range of other subjects. Pupils sitting Standard Grade next year will have the opportunity to buy books of papers for 2007-2010 in the shops or through their schools in the usual way.

Stòrlann Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig, SQA and Bright Red Publishing (who already hold the contract to produce SQA's past paper books) have been working in partnership to bring the project to fruition. If all goes well with Standard Grade, we hope to be able to look at producing Higher papers in the future.

We are greatly indebted to SQA and Bright Red for taking this step forward with such enthusiasm and we hope the project will enhance Gaelic/Gàidhlig's profile amongst high school pupils. Pupils studying Gaelic/Gàidhlig are as deserving as any others of quality revision materials.



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Ceumannan 2 and 3

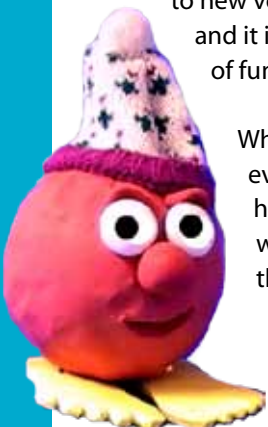
Ceumannan 2 and 3, the next steps in the Gaelic learners' course for secondary schools, should be in schools in early June 2010. These books should take learners up to the end of level 3 in the **Curriculum for Excellence**. The books are written and designers are working on them as we write!

Listening extracts are about to be recorded and further work will appear online including more video clips, interviews and some surprises. Language games will be a big feature of the online material with the focus on the new language in the books.

We have been working with a design company to develop a special series of games closely linked to the work in the modules.

Pupils can follow this cute wee chap through an exhausting week of activities: visiting the health-centre, helping police with their enquiries or driving a taxi around the town amongst many other things. Each day in the game will be linked to new vocabulary or language points and it is hoped that pupils will get a lot of fun out of this new character.

Who knows – they might even want to do a bit of extra homework on the games – and who would want to put a stop to that?



www.storlann.co.uk/ceumannan



Ceumannan 2 and 3 Competition!

Are you a big computer game fan? How would you like to **win an iPod**? This funny wee man will appear in the new Ceumannan 2 and 3 online games. You'll have lots of fun following him through a week of adventures as our little hero gets involved in all sorts of things. But what should we call him? Stòrlann is hoping you'll come up with a suitable name for him.

The competition is open to all Gaelic/Gàidhlig pupils in primary and secondary school. Send your entry by e-mail to ceumannan@storlann.co.uk, telling us the name you have chosen for the wee guy, your own name and class, your school and your age. All entries must reach us by **Friday 7 May**. We'll announce the winner the following week.

We are really looking forward to giving him a new name. Go on! Wouldn't it be great to **win a new iPod** for yourself knowing that you gave our little champion his identity?



curriculum for excellence



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The Big Evaluation

Stòrlann is funded by the **Scottish Government** and **Bòrd na Gàidhlig** to deliver a programme of curricular resources and continuing professional development for Gaelic education. The organisation is currently halfway through a three-year programme and is now looking ahead to the priorities for the next three-year period.

We therefore need your help!! As we plan a new programme we need the views of teachers with regard to both **PRIORITIES** for the time ahead and also the **QUALITY** of resources previously produced. Because of the new Curriculum in Scotland and new qualifications in the future, it is necessary to review the previous **FIVE** years to identify which resources are suitable for future use.

We value your views and would be very grateful if you would fill in the form which you will receive shortly; it should take about half an hour. When completed, please use the accompanying pre-paid envelope to return it to us.

Each form returned will be entered into a draw and the first ten to be drawn will win an

iPOD SHUFFLE

for the person who filled them in.

The image shows two overlapping evaluation forms. The top form is titled 'Cùl-thrèasachadh' and contains a table with columns for 'Mìos' and 'An t-òr'. The table lists various subjects and resources, with checkboxes for 'Eòlach' and 'Eòlach 2'. A large purple checkmark is overlaid on the bottom right of the forms.



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Earlier on this session, a questionnaire went out to Headteachers seeking their views as to what their staff would like from An t-Alltan and we have listened. Therefore, this year; we bring you a fresh, new and relevant approach to **An t-Alltan**. We aim for all delegates to leave the 2 day conference feeling encouraged, motivated and enthused about all that Stòrlann can offer you as an establishment, with childrens' Gàidhlig learning through **Curriculum for Excellence**, being the main aim at the heart of the conference.

What **An t-Alltan** aims to provide:

- Inspirational key note speakers relating to Gaelic and Curriculum for Excellence learning
- Encouraging workshops that make you want to go back to the classroom and give it a go!
- Sharing of new Stòrlann resources
- How resources may be implemented
- Interactive examples - Stòrlann staff, school staff and children using our resources
- Curriculum for Excellence – the way forward for resourcing at Stòrlann
- Networking with a clear purpose



An t-Alltan 2009



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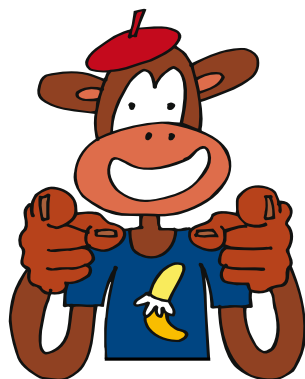
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Bearing in mind our vision and aims, we are particularly keen that **An t-Alltan** should become a forum where teachers can learn, exchange and share good practice. If you, individually or in co-operation with colleagues, have tried something new that you feel worked well, please let us know and we would be delighted to ask if you would be so good as to share the experience with others.



Stòrlann
needs
YOU!

Whether your area of expertise is **Gaelic Immersion, Active Learning, GLOW** and use of **ICT** across the curriculum, **Interdisciplinary Learning** or any other **CfE** related area, we would love you to get on board. We shall be in touch nearer the time, but please feel to pick up the phone or drop us an e-mail if you are willing to get involved. Our officers would be here to lend a supportive hand to help and work with you, if required. We would love to hear from you.

Please keep the dates **Wednesday 6 and Thursday 7 October 2010** free with **Drumossie Hotel**, Inverness being the venue. We truly appreciate the cost of covering supply within each establishment, but would greatly appreciate if at least one member of your staff or more, could attend. They may then return to work to take ideas forward and make a difference, for the benefit of each child in your establishment.

Further details re. booking will be coming to you before the end of this session. We hope to see you there, a warm welcome is extended!



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PRIMARY

Big Books – Persephone, Na Ceithir Dràgoin and Doimhneachd na Mara/Roban is Robag

Three new big books, two of which are e-book suite enabled, Persephone, Na Ceithir Dràgoin and Roban agus Robag/Doimhneachd na Mara. These resources are primarily intended for **shared reading and writing**, but can be used in many different ways. When considering ways of using this resource, you might like to look at the notes from Mary MacMillan's (LTS) session on shared reading and writing from the 'An t-Alltan' conference in 2008. These can be found at www.storlann.co.uk/an-t-alltan and we hope this will be of interest to you.



ICT Tràth Ìrean

ICT nan Tràth Ìrean was designed for pre-school children and children in the first couple of years of primary school. The material on the disk is divided into three topics, **Biastagan is Cuairean-beatha, Cumadh, Dath is Pàtran agus Comharrachadh is Fèisean**. Each topic has an introduction, two levels of difficulty and printable worksheets. The CD is designed to be used in conjunction with the accompanying Leabhar an Tidseir booklet which will explain the aims of the interactive activities on the CD-ROM and thus maximum benefit and enjoyment for both the teacher/play leader and child can be achieved.



SECONDARY

Cridhe Dorch an t-Samhraidh /Mus Tig an Oidhche

For Secondary schools, Stòrlann have produced a 'doubler' edition with two novellas from well-known Scottish writers in one cover: 'The Cold Heart of Summer' by Alan Gibbons and 'Before Night Falls', by 2008 Costa nominee Keith Gray. The novels are both **thrillers** and we hope that your pupils enjoy reading them.

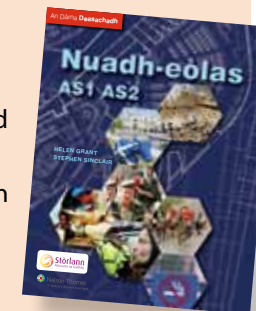
Linn nan Caochlaidhean Mòra

In this book the reader encounters the evidence which helped historians to **understand** the people who lived during the Age of Revolutions.



Nuadh-eòlas AS1 AS2

Nuadh-eòlas AS1 -AS2 is part of a series of award-winning books which were very popular. The book has been revised and information has been updated in this edition. Everything which was important in the first edition has been retained and **new units** on interesting topics have been added.



Teejay Maths Level F

This textbook has just come into the office and will be out in schools shortly. This is the third textbook we have done from the series; we've done **Levels D & E** previously. We are currently working on a Gaelic version of **Level C** which will be out later this year.



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Mìrean

Mìrean

Mìrean has now been written in full and is currently at editing and design stage. The resource will be in the form of a cd-rom which will have **simple explanations of grammar points** allowing teachers to improve the Gaelic of the pupils. The scheme was written by **Donald John MacLeod** and the support materials selected and created by **Angela Kennedy**. This scheme came about as a result of requests for a grammar teaching resource for the primary school.

Faclair na Sgoile

Faclair na Sgoile is currently at print and will soon be in schools. This is an updated version of **Brìgh nam Facal** by Richard Cox which was originally published in 1991. A great deal of work was done on the text to make it more useful for teaching purposes. Included in these changes are each headword now being in bold red text and each page having the alphabet down its outside edge with the letter being dealt with highlighted in red. The dictionary also has a hard cover to give it more protection. We are delighted to be nearing completion with this project and hope that you find the dictionary useful.



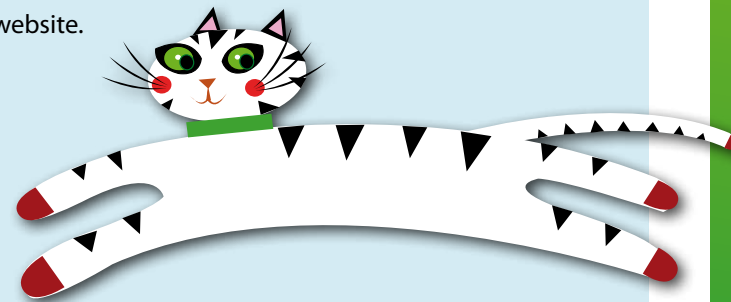
Fo Bhruid

A reworking of **Robert Louis Stevenson's** historical novel, **Kidnapped**.

Stòrlann is delighted to bring this novel to schools. The original story was published in 1886. This reworking sees the story brought into the modern day, by **Torcuil Crichton**, and introduces the reader to social and political issues which are ongoing. The story centres on Khaleel, a young boy from Glasgow.

Catriona calls again

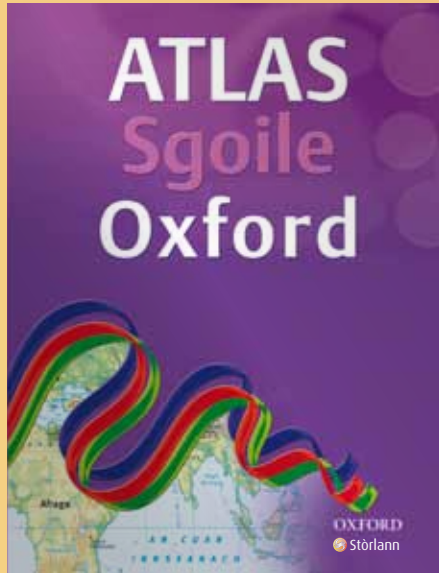
We have four new books in the Catriona series for pre-school and early years. **Ist** and **Faigh lasg Dhòmhsa** are based on the topics food and shopping. Then we have **Spòrs le Sgudal** and **Glusad Gleusta** which are based on building as an industry. There are packs of support materials to accompany the books and soon you will receive cd-roms on which there will be audio versions of the books and further activities. Teachers' notes for these will be available on the **Stòrlann** website.



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School Atlas

New up to date schools atlas that **targets core geography requirements** using digital maps that are clear, accurate and easy to read.



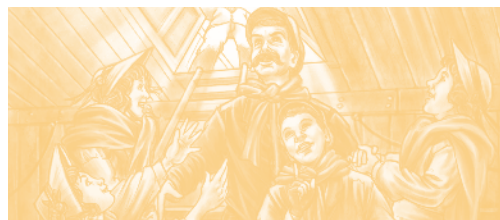
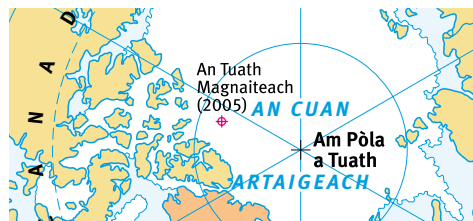
Speak Out Play Readings

This new differentiated literacy resource designed to **increase** oral and reading fluency, reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing and drama skills while **promoting** cooperative interaction between pupils.



National Geographic – A' Cleachdadh Stòrasan na Talmhainn

'A' Cleachdadh Stòrasan na Talmhainn' explains some of the different regions of Earth – **rain forests, oceans, deserts and mountains** – from which people collect resources to use. Each title in this series focuses on a different region and the specific resource that comes from it. This theme explores the natural resources Earth provides and how people use these resources.



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