



Ruaraidh Iain MacLeòid



Rugadh agus thogadh Ruaraidh Iain MacLeòid anns an Eilean Sgitheanach ach 's ann às na Hearadh a bha athair agus a mhàthair – bha iad am measg nan teaghlaichean a thàinig às na Hearadh a Phort nan Long anns na 1920an.

Chaidh Ruaraidh Iain a sgoil Phort nan Long (1957-65), an uair sin a dh'Àrd-sgoil Phort Rìgh (1965-71) agus, às a sin, gu Oilthigh Dhùn Èideann far an tug e mach ceum le urram ann an lagh (1975).

An dèidh an oilthigh fhàgail chuir e mun chuairt trèanadh mar fhear-lagha ann an Dun Èideann ach dhealaich e ris a sin airson dà bhliadhna eadar 1977-78 nuair a chaidh e a dh'obair mar neach-rannsachaidh ann an telebhisean Gàidhlig aig a' BhBC. Aig ceann na h-ùine sin, thill e chun an lagh agus chaidh crìoch air an trèanadh a bha air tòiseachadh ann an Dùn Èideann còmhla ri buidheann de fhir-lagha ann an Tobar na Màthar.

Thàinig e a-mach mar fhear-lagha ann an 1980, san aon bhliadhna agus a phòs e a bhean, Lorna, agus eadar sin agus 1993 bha e anns an dreuchd sin ann an Dùn Èideann. Ach b' ann ann an obair cùrtach a bu mhotha a bha ùidh agus anns an luchar 1994 dh'atharraich e gu bhith na fhear-tagraidh. An dèidh sia bliadhna a chur seachad ris a sin chaidh a dhèanamh na Shiorram agus, anns an Dàmhair an-uiridh, na Chathraiche air Cùirt an Fhearainn fon tiotal Morair Mhinginis, an sgìre san Eilean Sgitheanach dham boin e.

Air taobh a-muigh obair mar fhear-lagha, tha Ruaraidh Iain an-còmhnaidh air a bhith a' gabhail ùidh ann an gnothaichean Gàidhlig agus 's e Cathraiche Bòrd Stiùiridh Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. Ged a dh'fhàg e an t-Eilean Sgiathanach ann an 1975 agus e an làn bheachd tilleadh aig a' chiad chothrom, tha e fhathast ann an Dùn Èideann.

Òraid

Bheir Ruaraidh Iain cunntas air mar a thachair saoghal an fhoghlaim ris fhèin; na rudan a bha math is dona mu dheidhinn. Tha beachdan làidir aige air an dòigh san robh foghlam ga libhrigeadh aig an àm sin ('s ann air èiginn a fhuair e troimhe) agus mar a bu chòir dha bhith air a libhrigeadh an-diugh. Bruidhinnidh e cuideachd mu dheidhinn àite an t-Sabhail Mhòir ann am foghlam Gàidhlig agus e a nis a' tighinn gu deireadh ùine (10 bliadhna) air a Bhòrd Stiùiridh.



Roddy John MacLeod

Roddy John MacLeod was born and brought up in the Isle of Skye but his parents were from Harris – they were among the families which came from Harris to Portnalong in the 1920s. Roddy John went to Portnalong school (1957-65), then to Portree High School (1965-71), and from there to Edinburgh University where he graduated with an honours degree in law (1975).

After leaving university he began training as a solicitor in Edinburgh but he took a two-year break from this from 1977-78 to work as a Gaelic television researcher at the BBC. He then returned to law and completed his training which had begun in Edinburgh with a law firm in Motherwell.

He qualified as a solicitor in 1980, the same year as he married his wife, Lorna, and was a solicitor in Edinburgh from then until 1993. But his main interest was in court work and in July 1994 he transferred to being an advocate. After spending six years in this role he was made a Sheriff, and in October last year was made Chairman of the Land Court with the title Lord Minginish, the area of Skye to which he belongs.

Outside his legal work, Roddy John has always taken an interest in Gaelic matters and he is the Chair of the Board of Directors of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. Although he left Skye in 1975, fully intending to return at the first opportunity, he is still in Edinburgh.

Speech

Roddy John will relate his own experience of the world of education; what was good and bad about it. He has strong views on how education was delivered at that time (he only just got through it) and on how it should be delivered today. He will also speak about the role of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in Gaelic education as he comes to the end of a ten year period on the Board of Directors.