

Registered Company No: SC166766  
Registered Charity No: SC025026

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**  
**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

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**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

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**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**  
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**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

<b>Charity Name:</b>	Comhairle nan Leabhraichean
<b>Registered Office and Operational Address:</b>	32 Mansfield Street Glasgow G11 5QP
<b>Charity Registration Number:</b>	SC025026
<b>Company Registration Number:</b>	SC166766
<b>Trustees:</b>	D I Brown (Chair) U MacDonald K A MacIver Dr M J Watson S Campbell D J MacInnes C Murray M Sinclair
<b>Secretary:</b>	Rosemary Ward
<b>Manager:</b>	Rosemary Ward
<b>Core Projects</b>	Support of Gaelic writers and publishers Development of Gaelic Literature Literary events Bookselling
<b>Independent Examiners:</b>	Wylie & Bisset LLP Chartered Accountants 168 Bath Street Glasgow G2 4TP
<b>Bankers:</b>	Bank of Scotland 258/262 Dumbarton Road Glasgow G11 6TU
<b>Solicitors:</b>	Mitchells Robertson George House 36 North Hanover Street Glasgow G1 2AD

## **COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

The Trustees are pleased to present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015. The legal and administrative information on page one forms part of this report.

Comhairle nan Leabhraichean / The Gaelic Books Council is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 2 July 1996 and updated on 23 February 2011.

#### **Purpose**

- To support the development of Gaelic writing.
- To stimulate interest in Gaelic books and other related materials.
- To support Gaelic authors and publishers by awarding commission grants and publication grants.
- To support the Gaelic publishing industry through training, advice and guidance.
- To increase the range, quality and impact of Gaelic literature.

#### **Funding**

The Gaelic Books Council generates income through our Glasgow book shop, online and outreach sales. The annual sales target is set at £100,000. The Books Council has two main funding bodies:

- **Creative Scotland** – The Gaelic Books Council was confirmed by Creative Scotland as a Regular Funded Organisation in October 2014. RFO funding is awarded for a period of three years.
- **Bòrd na Gàidhlig** – The Gaelic Books Council is one of Bòrd na Gàidhlig's key delivery agents. In addition to its core responsibilities for literature, the Gaelic Books Council also administers third party grant funds to Acair Ltd and manages the utility finances of An Lèanag, the Gaelic development hub in Glasgow, on behalf of Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

#### **Staffing Structure**

The Gaelic Books Council employs five FTE members of staff:

- |   |                   |                                   |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ➤ | Rosemary Ward     | Director                          |
| ➤ | John Storey       | Head of Literature and Publishing |
| ➤ | Mairi MacCuish    | Literature and Publishing Officer |
| ➤ | Janice Campbell   | Sales and Marketing Officer       |
| ➤ | John N. MacDonald | Sales and Finance Officer         |

#### **The Council and its Members**

The directors of the charitable company Comhairle nan Leabhraichean / The Gaelic Books Council are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

Trustees are invited to apply for the position through national advertisement and are selected by the Chair and Director on the grounds of their ability to advise staff on how best to progress the work of the charity.

## **COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

Trustees are appointed for three years, in the first instance, but may serve for a further two years if that is mutually agreed. At the request of the board, the current Chair has agreed to stand for a further two years (until 2016-17). The restructuring of the organisation and the improvement agenda were priorities for the first two years of his tenure and members wanted the Chair to oversee the implementation of priority projects that form the basis of the Regular Funding Agreement and provide stability. With the exception of the Chair, who is awarded an annual honorarium in recognition of the additional responsibilities associated with this post, Trustees are unpaid and receive only travel and subsistence expenses.

Council / Board meetings are held four times a year. A sub-committee (Grants Committee) meets four times a year to respond to applications from authors and publishers for grants and commissions. While there is no formal Audit or Remuneration Committee in place, the Trustees conduct an annual salary review, in line with the Scottish Government's Pay Policy, and the company finances are reviewed at the quarterly board meetings.

Meetings called by external agencies are normally attended by staff, but the Chair and Trustees may be required to attend when it is appropriate.

The Trustees who served during the year and since the year-end, unless otherwise stated, were as follows:

- Donald-Iain Brown - Chair
- Una MacDonald
- Katrina MacIver
- Seumas Campbell
- Moray Watson
- Donald John MacInnes
- Christine MacLeod (resigned March 2015)
- Ceitidh Murray
- Marion Sinclair (appointed - ex officio June 2014)

#### **The Chairman's Introduction**

Satisfyingly, 2014 has been another successful year for the Gaelic Books Council. Each year we incrementally move our ambition and our reach onwards.

A reasonable part of the year was spent reviewing our activities and detailing our ambitions for the future. Those ambitions were then distilled and submitted to Bòrd na Gàidhlig and to Creative Scotland in our bid for Regular Funding. We put forward a strong, ambitious bid and that was recognised by Creative Scotland who offered us funding for the next 3 years, with a very small increase. This was a hugely important achievement as not all applicants were offered continued financial support. Like all organisations funded by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, we saw a small decrease in our annual funding. However, all in all I was delighted that we achieved positive outcomes in both funding bids. I'd like to thank the whole team for their hard work and dedication in helping us achieve this outcome - it's no mean feat!

Away from the minutiae of funding and revenue streams, the team focussed on our reason for existing - that all important priority of supporting Gaelic writing and Gaelic writers.

The Head of Literature and Publishing has been working with external colleagues to develop a much needed Gaelic Editorial Course. This initiative has been progressing well and we are in the final stages of the work to ensure that the course is accredited by an approved academic partner. We believe that this course is going to be a great addition to the training provision available in Gaelic publishing.

## COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN

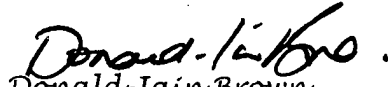
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### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

#### The Chairman's Introduction cont'd

To augment the Donald Meek Award, we were delighted that Bòrd na Gàidhlig agreed to fund two additional literary prizes, under the Donald Meek Award banner. Additionally, we have established two new awards, a Young Gaelic Writer Award and a New Gaelic Playwright Award. All are a welcome addition to the range of Gaelic literary awards on offer.

The team have also been busy considering the next strand of supported Gaelic fiction publications and how the publishing sector will be best placed to deliver this. This is a singularly important task and one that we hope will bear much fruit in the years to come.

  
Donald-Iain Brown  
Chairperson

#### The Director's Report

In 2014-15, the Gaelic Books Council felt the impact of Amazon on the sale of Gaelic books, recording an 18% drop in sales from 2013-14. While many high street book shops have been reporting major reductions in sales for several years now, the Gaelic Books Council, perhaps largely due to the specialised nature of our products, have recorded steady increases in recent years. As more and more publishers of Gaelic books choose to sell their titles through Amazon, the Books Council will need to review our marketing strategy, continue to improve our online shopping facility, and be more innovative in our efforts to increase footfall into the book shop. Mobile sales opportunities, social media marketing and shop based literary events will be exploited to market new Gaelic publications and drive up sales.

In 2014-15, a total of 21 individual applications for publication grants and 16 commission grants were approved and responded to within the designated timeframes. Small block grants were awarded to Sandstone Press, Clàr, Leabhraichean Beaga and Spòrs to give them the editorial freedom to plan for several titles within their overall publication programmes. These individual and block grants represent a total grants commitment of £88,680.

The Gaelic Books Council's ongoing collaboration with Scottish Book Trust, to identify and support new writers through the annual Gaelic New Writers Awards, continues to source new and imaginative writers. Calum MacLeod and Steven Ritchie were the recipients of the 2014 awards. A new collaboration with Scottish Book Trust in 2014-15 led to the establishment of a similar training programme for writers under the age of 18, Finlay Cuniffe from Edinburgh was the recipient of the first Young Gaelic Writer Award. The Books Council also worked in partnership with Scottish Book Trust to deliver a range of Gaelic events and workshops to mark Book Week Scotland 2014. The Books Council continues to maintain its collaboration with the Scottish Poetry Library and once again sponsored a Gaelic poetry postcard, as part of the set of eight issued to all schools and libraries to mark National Poetry Day in Scotland. The Gaelic Books Council continued to support the RNIB Transcription Unit in Glasgow with their recording of Gaelic books.

Following on from the success of the Ùrlar Drama Project, the Books Council strengthened its partnership with Playwrights' Studio Scotland and funded a new Gaelic Playwright Award specifically to stimulate interest in Gaelic drama writing. The recipient of the 2014 Gaelic Playwright Award was Iain MacRae, an accomplished Gaelic actor and director who has an interest in developing his writing skills.

## COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN

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### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

#### The Director's Report cont'd

A second national training course specifically designed to develop a network of skilled and experienced Gaelic editors was delivered in Stornoway in April 2014. Eleven individuals, from a variety of backgrounds, successfully completed the three-day intensive course under the guidance of tutors Roddy MacLean and Myles Campbell. A strong working relationship was developed with the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) and Skillset Scotland, and preliminary discussions took place with potential academic partners well placed to support the Gaelic Books Council in securing accreditation for the Gaelic Editorial Course.

The Gaelic Books Council's annual literary prize, The Donald Meek Award, realised a 30% increase in submissions of unpublished manuscripts for what is becoming a very prestigious award. Norma MacLeod was the recipient of the 2014 Donald Meek Award for her novel, *An Dosan*. Funding from Bòrd na Gàidhlig facilitated the establishment of two additional literary awards. Alison Lang's novel *An Aisling* received the Bòrd na Gàidhlig Highly Commended prize, while Christine Stone's collection of short stories *As a' Bhùth 's an Tac an Teine* was awarded the Bòrd na Gàidhlig First Book award. All the prizes were presented at a special event at the Edinburgh International Book Festival in August 2014.

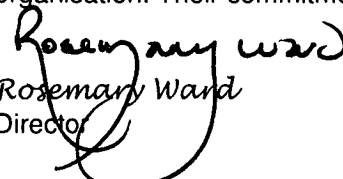
The Gaelic Books Council continued to promote Gaelic literature and books at a range of local and national literary events and book launches. Gaelic books featured on the programmes of the Edinburgh International Book Festival, Aye Write!, The Royal National Mod and the Inverness Book Festival. Many of the new Gaelic publications were given excellent coverage on the BBC Radio nan Gàidheal monthly literary programme, *Leugh an Leabhar*. The cost implication of taking mobile sales to the more remote communities remains an issue for the organisation, particularly against a backdrop of falling sales, but every effort is made to respond to all invitations to sell Gaelic books where demand exists.

The Gaelic Books Council would like to thank Creative Scotland and Bòrd na Gàidhlig for their continued support and investment. Confirmation from Creative Scotland that the Books Council's application for Regular Funding had been successful was greeted with a sense of relief given that the total applications received by Creative Scotland greatly exceeded the available resources. The relative stability afforded by a three year funding package and the knowledge that Creative Scotland values the work of the Gaelic Books Council is extremely reassuring.

In April 2014, the Books Council received notification that a bequest of £30,000 had been made to the organisation from the estate of the late Professor John Dumbreck. Professor Dumbreck, a graduate of Glasgow University, had been a valued customer and supporter of the Gaelic Books Council for many years. In recognition of Professor Dumbreck's association with Glasgow University, the Books Council commissioned a piece of art which was gifted to the Ossianic Society in the university and will be awarded to the winner of the Ossianic Society's annual Gaelic Writing Competition.

In February 2015, the staff and Board of the Gaelic Books Council were deeply saddened by news of the passing of Donald John MacIver following a short illness. An exceptional Gaelic teacher, bard and writer of Gaelic fiction, Donald John inspired several generations with his knowledge of Gaelic literature and delighted many with his Gaelic writing.

In conclusion, I am deeply indebted to the Chair and Trustees of the Board of the Gaelic Books Council for their willingness to give of their time to support the work of the organisation. In June 2014, we welcomed Marion Sinclair back as an ex officio member of the board. As the current Chief Executive of Publishing Scotland, Marion's insight and advice is invaluable. I would also like to thank my hardworking team of staff who work tirelessly to respond to the needs and responsibilities of the organisation. Their commitment and support is greatly appreciated.

  
Rosemary Ward  
Director

## COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN

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### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

#### Publication and Commission Grants

Grant applications are invited from writers and publishers on a quarterly basis, with a timeline for submissions prominently advertised on the company's website. All applications are considered and responded to within a designated timeframe. The Gaelic Books Council's Grants Committee assists staff in evaluating applications for commission and publication grants. Funds are awarded to support the publication of Gaelic-only and Gaelic / English bilingual books.

In 2014-15, the Board continued to allocate block grants to Clàr, Leabhraichean Beaga, Spòrs and Sandstone Press as part of our investment programme in Gaelic publishing. A total of £5,000 was awarded to Clàr, and Leabhraichean Beaga and Spòrs shared a £4,000 grant. An £8,000 grant to Sandstone Press facilitated the development of Lasag, a new short fiction imprint which has been designed specifically for young adults and adult learners of Gaelic. The grant enables Sandstone to commission and edit new contemporary fiction. These block grants provide a degree of stability and continuity for small Gaelic publishers and enables them to plan for a broader publishing programme.

A total of 21 publication grant applications were received and approved in 2014-15. A total of 23 commission grant applications were received and 16 individual commission grants were approved in 2014-15. These funds, and the above block grants, were allocated from a budget of £90,000 designated for grants and commissions.

#### Gaelic Books Council grant-funded titles published in 2014-15

##### New Children's Books

*An Tilleadh agus Sgeulachdan Eile à Sgoil Lionacleit* – Sgoilearan Sgoil Lionacleit (Sgoil Lionacleit)

*Tintin: Toit nam Phàro* – trans. Gillebrìde MacIlleMhaoil (Dalen Ltd)

*Teàrlag agus na Crùbagan* – Marie C. NicAmhlaigh (Acair)

*Cairistiona Camaillean agus an Sgòth Dhraodheil* – Catriona NicilleDhuibh (Acair)

*Calum Coineanach* CD – read by Flòraidh NicIlleathain (CLÀR)

*Artair ann an Geneva* – trans. Catriona Murray (Grace Note Publications)

*Asterix agus an Corran Òir* – trans. Raghnaid Sandilands (Dalen Ltd)

*Asterix agus an Cealgaire* – trans. Raghnaid Sandilands (Dalen Ltd)

*Donnchadh am Fuamhaire* – Lisa Storey (Leabhraichean Beaga)

##### New Books for Adults

*Feur Buidhe an t-Samhraidh* – Tim Armstrong (Sandstone Press)

*Nigheanan Mòra* – Catriona Lexy Chaimbeul (Sandstone Press)

*Caogad san Fhàsach* – Dòmhnall Iain MacIomhair (Acair/Aiteal)

*Craobh nan Ubhal, Scottish Studies 37* – ed. Virginia Blankenhorn (School of Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh)

*Gàidhlig Dhùthaich Mhic Aoidh* – ed. Seumas Grannd (Taigh na Gàidhlig Mhealanais)

## COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN

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### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

#### Gaelic Books Council grant-funded titles published in 2014-15 (cont.)

*Saltire: Ionnsaigh* – trans. Raghnaid Sandilands (Diamondsteel Comics Ltd)

*Bàird Ghleann Dail / The Glendale Bards* – ed. Meg Bateman & Anne Loughran (Birlinn)

*Cala Bendita 's a Bheannachdan* – Màrtainn Mac an t-Saoir (Acair/Aiteal)

*Casan Searraich / Memories of the Life and Times of Calum MacFhearghuis* – Calum MacFhearghuis (Acair)

*Eadar Clachan Shannda agus Tobar na Màthar* – Tormod E. Dòmhnallach (Acair)

*Gaelic is Fun!* (reprint) – ed. Colm Ó Baoill (Acair)

*Lasair Litreachais: Mòd 2014* (Comhairle nan Leabhraichean & An Comunn Gàidhealach)

*Bàrd Chliuthar: A Bheatha agus a Bhàrdachd* – Lachlainn MacAmhlaidh (Adhartas na Hearadh Earranta / Harris Development Ltd)

*Bàrdachd na Hearadh* – ed. Magàidh Nic a' Ghobhainn (Adhartas na Hearadh Earranta / Harris Development Ltd)

*Eilean Uaine Thiriodh: Beatha, Òrain agus Ceòl Ethel NicChaluim* – Margaret Bennett & Ethel MacCallum (Grace Note Publications)

*Tro Chloich na Sùla: Mar a Chunnaic Peantairean Ainmeil an Saoghal* – Maoilios Caimbeul (CLÀR)

*Gaelic and English: Their common origins* – George McLennan (Argyll Publishing)

*D.M.N.C. – Sgrìobhaidhean Dhòmhnaiill Mhic na Ceàrdaich* – Dòmhnall Mac na Ceàrdaich (CLÀR)

*The Going Down of the Sun / Dol Fodha na Grèine* – Comunn Eachdraidh Nis (Acair)

*Ian Rankin: Taghadh de Sgeulachdan Inspeactair Rebus* – trans. Norman MacLean & Ruaraidh MacIntyre (Grace Note Publications)

*An Sgoil Dhubh* – Iain F MacLeòid (Acair/Aiteal)

*Màiri nighean Alasdair Ruaidh* – ed. Colm Ó Baoill (Scottish Gaelic Texts Society)

*Glainne* – Daibhidh Eyre (Sandstone Press)

*Tuath air a' Bhealach* – Màrtainn Mac an t-Saoir (Sandstone Press)

*Ri Luinneig mun Chrò* – Seònaid Ghriogair (Grace Note Publications)

*Struileag: Shore to Shore / Cladach gu Cladach* – ed. Kevin MacNeil (Polygon)

*Seinneamaid le Chèile* – arr. Pat Sandeman (Govan Gaelic Choir)

## **COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

#### **Love Literature Initiative**

Exposure to Gaelic literature and books is critical in laying foundations for readers and writers of the future. In 2014-15, while the Gaelic Books Council continued to coordinate collaborative creative writing workshops, these were geared more to established and aspiring adult writers. Collaborations with Pròiseact nan Ealain, Playwrights Studio Scotland, National Theatre of Scotland, Glasgow Life and Scottish Book Trust resulted in a number of writing workshops and residencies being delivered for Gaelic writers. The focus for young people and families was on reading for enjoyment. 30 different literary events, including 'Meet the Author' sessions, book launches, rehearsed readings of drama scripts and Bookbug sessions were delivered for young people, families, learners and fluent speakers of Gaelic in venues across Scotland. In addition, 25 separate book fairs were offered in schools and communities across the country.

#### **Sales and Marketing**

In spite of a heightened social media campaign and an increase in the number of outreach sales events and book promotions, the total income from the sale of books fell short of the projected target of £100,000 in 2014-15. A number of promotional campaigns were offered to customers both in-store and online, including a Spring/Summer Sale and multi-buy offers. There is no doubt that the company website and increased use of social media such as Facebook and Twitter does help to drive up online sales and footfall into the book shop, but with more Gaelic publishers opting to sell their books through Amazon, the Gaelic Books Council will need to review our sales and marketing strategy to increase interest in and access to Gaelic books.

The Gaelic Books Council's sponsorship and marketing fund continues to attract a healthy number of applications from a range of publishers seeking to secure funding to support Gaelic literary events, book launches and marketing initiatives. This fund specifically targets small Gaelic publishers to help them promote and market their products.

#### **Events and Sales Opportunities 2014-15**

##### **April 2014**

*Caribblit – Martin MacIntyre – Aye Write!*  
*Edinburgh Provincial Mòd*

##### **May 2014**

*Writers Workshop – Catriona Lexy Campbell – Glasgow*  
*Parents' Evening – Condorrat Primary School*  
*East Kilbride Provincial Mòd*

##### **June 2014**

*Gaelic Bookbug Session – Linda MacLeod - West End Festival*  
*Gaelic Gruffalo Party – Linda MacLeod - West End Festival*  
*Aberfeldy Provincial Mòd*  
*Glasgow Provincial Mòd*  
*Oban Provincial Mòd*  
*Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig – Edinburgh*

## **COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**

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### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

#### **Events and Sales Opportunities 2014-15 (cont.)**

##### **July 2014**

*Gaelic & Scots Gruffalo Performed Readings – Commonwealth Games – Kelvingrove Bandstand*

##### **August 2014**

###### **Edinburgh International Book Festival**

*Aimhreit agus Aithreachas/Conflict and Regret – David Eyre, Aonghas MacNeacail & Gillebride MacMillan*

*The Donald Meek Award 2014*

*Launch of Saltire – Ionnsaigh – Diamondsteel Comics*

*Gael-Lit with International Reach – Martin MacIntyre & Duncan Gillies*

###### **Inverness Book Festival**

*Young Gaelic Writers - Tim Armstrong & Seonaidh Charity*

*Aimhreit agus Aithreachas/Conflict and Regret– Marcos Mac an Tuirneir, Gillebride MacIlleMhaoil & Aonghas MacNeacail*

*Srùbag Shamhraidh / Tea Party in aid of Erskine Hospital – Glasgow*

*Book Fair – Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce - Edinburgh*

##### **September 2014**

*Gaelic Learners Day – Auchinleck*

*Freshers Week – University of Glasgow Celtic Department*

*Book Fair at An t-Alltan & An t-Alltan Beag – Aviemore*

*5 separate events at Blas Festival – Isle of Skye, Inverness, Lochaber, Nairn and Dunoon*

##### **October 2014**

*Anne Lorne Gillies – Wigtown Book Festival*

*Lisa MacDonald – Wigtown Book Festival*

*Gaelic Literature Day – Glasgow University*

*Meet the Author – Norma MacLeod (An Dosan) - Royal National Mòd –Inverness*

*Meet the Author – Lachlainn MacAmhlaigh (Bàrd Chliuthar) - Royal National Mòd –Inverness*

*Book Launch – ‘Teàrlag agus na Crùbagan’ – Marie C. NicAmhlaigh - National Mòd –Inverness*

*Book Launch – ‘Eilean Uaine Thiriodh’ – Ethel MacCallum & Margaret Bennett*

*Week long sales opportunity at The Royal National Mòd –Inverness*

*Book Launch – ‘Tro Chloich na Sùla’ – Maoilios Caimbeul - SMO*

*Careers Fair – Highland Council Secondary Schools – Eden Court - Inverness*

*Gaelic Learners Day – Paisley*

##### **November 2014**

*Book Launch - Sgrìobhaidhean Dhòmhnaill Mhic na Ceàrdaich – Edinburgh*

*Ceilidh agus Còmhradh – Book Week Scotland – Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu*

*Drama Workshop – Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu - Glasgow*

*International Gaelic/Gaelige Shinty Tournament – Glasgow*

*Family Learning Event – Renfrew*

*Performed Reading of new play – Alison Lang – GBC Bookshop*

*Book Fair – Condorrat Primary School, Condorrat*

## **COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**

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### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

#### **Events and Sales Opportunities 2014-15 (cont.)**

##### **December 2014**

*Gaelic Day for Parents – Onthank Primary School, Kilmarnock*

*Ossianic Society Writing Competition – University of Glasgow*

*Book Launch – ‘Taghadh de Sgeulachdan Inspeactair Rebus’ – GBC Bookshop*

*Christmas Fair – Condorrat Primary School, Condorrat*

*Christmas Fair – Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, Glasgow*

*Nativity Event – Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce, Edinburgh*

##### **January 2015**

*New writers Awards Showcase – Edinburgh*

##### **February 2015**

*Book Launch – ‘Glainne’ – Daibhidh Eyre – Barrhead Foundry*

*Sales Promotion – West Dunbartonshire Council*

*Gaelic Day - Meadowburn Primary School, Bishopbriggs*

##### **March 2015**

*Parents’ Night – Mount Cameron Primary School, East Kilbride*

*Gaelic Learners Day – Kilmarnock*

*Book Launch – ‘Dol Fodha na Grèine’ – Glasgow*

*Gaelic Learners Day – Paisley*

#### **Financial Review**

The results for the year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 14. The charity made a surplus of £24,511 for the year (2014: £8,546) and has funds carried forward at 31 March 2015 of £102,191, of which £23,843 are designated as yet unpaid commission and publication grants approved in 2014/15.

#### **Principal Funding Sources**

The charity has an operating sales target of £100,000 per annum and has two main funding sources, Creative Scotland and Bòrd na Gàidhlig. The monies from these bodies are in the form of revenue grants.

#### **Reserves Policy**

The Board adopted a formal reserve policy:-

- To provide six months charitable running costs with a target date of 10 years. At current levels of expenditure this would equate to £227,912. This will be to cover staff costs, rent, communications, postage & carriage and other liabilities of the key projects being delivered by the Gaelic Books Council.
- Currently, general reserves stand at £65,726 which is below the targeted level.

## **COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**

**(A charitable company limited by guarantee)**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

#### **Plans for Future Periods**

In 2015-16, the Gaelic Books Council will launch an extensive programme of *Leugh & Seinn* sessions for 3-5 year olds and their parents. These sessions, which will initially be offered to families from Glasgow and the surrounding areas, will be rolled out in various other locations in the future. A similar programme will be launched to promote the Lasag imprint which is specifically aimed at teenagers and adult learners. These 'Meet the Author' sessions will provide audiences with the opportunity to appreciate new contemporary Gaelic fiction. Acair will continue to publish new adult fiction through their Aiteal imprint, and the production of fiction will remain a priority within the Books Council's grants procedures.

The Gaelic Books Council will continue to work in collaboration with Scottish Book Trust to promote and encourage interest in the annual national Gaelic Young Writers Award. The Books Council will also maintain support for two Gaelic awards in the national New Writers Awards Scheme. The ongoing collaboration with Playwrights' Studio Scotland will see the Books Council funding a second Gaelic Playwright Award. The Donald Meek Award for Gaelic literature remains an established priority for the Gaelic Books Council and the continued financial support from Bòrd na Gàidhlig to increase the number of literary prizes available for Gaelic writers is greatly appreciated.

The Gaelic Books Council will continue to work with Ruairidh MacLean to make the necessary changes/additions to the editorial course recommended by our approved academic partner, in the hope that formal accreditation will be achieved in 2015-16. The next phase of the development will be to produce a refresher course for accredited editors to undertake in order to maintain their skills and knowledge, and an access course for those who have limited Gaelic editorial experience, but wish to discover whether they have the necessary skills and knowledge to complete the accredited editorial course.

Driving up sales of Gaelic books remains an ongoing priority and the Gaelic Books Council will continue to implement a comprehensive sales and marketing strategy and will exploit social media to market and promote new Gaelic publications, increase sales of Gaelic books and increase the incidence and reach of Gaelic literary events. The organisation will seek to extend existing cooperative working relationships with a wide range of national literary festivals and increase Gaelic content at major literary events.

#### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The Trustees (who are also directors of Comhairle Nan Leabhraichean for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

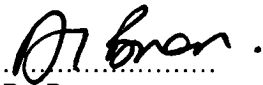
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities cont'd**

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in March 2005) and in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Name: D-I Brown

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2015, which are set out on pages 14 to 22.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respects the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Wylie + Bisset*

Jenny Simpson BSc(Hons) FCA DChA  
**Wylie & Bisset LLP**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
168 Bath Street  
Glasgow  
G2 4TP

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(including Income and Expenditure Account)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2015**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2015 Total	2014 Total £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	3	411,650	-	411,650	391,090
Investment income	4	19	-	19	12
Incoming resources from charitable activities	5	68,665	-	68,665	80,212
Other incoming resources	6	-	-	-	1,076
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<u>480,334</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>480,334</u>	<u>472,390</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Costs of generating voluntary income	7	4,374	-	4,374	4,408
Charitable activities	8	440,192	-	440,192	448,204
Governance costs	9	11,257	-	11,257	11,232
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<u>455,823</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>455,823</u>	<u>463,844</u>
<b>Net incoming resources for the year before transfers</b>		24,511	-	24,511	8,546
<b>Transfers</b>		-	-	-	-
<b>Net income for the year</b>		24,511	-	24,511	8,546
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward	18	77,680	-	77,680	69,134
Total funds carried forward	18	<u>102,191</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>102,191</u>	<u>77,680</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN****(A company limited by guarantee)****BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2015**


	Notes	£	2015 £	2014 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>				
Tangible assets	14		12,622	15,207
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Stocks	15	19,863		11,312
Debtors	16	10,262		15,233
Cash at bank and in hand		73,549		62,971
		103,674		89,516
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(14,105)		(27,043)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			89,569	62,473
<b>Net Assets</b>			102,191	77,680
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Funds	18	65,726		19,067
Designated Funds	18	36,465		58,613
			102,191	77,680
Restricted Funds			-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			102,191	77,680

For the year ended 31 March 2015 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit or loss for the financial period in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These Accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.

  
Name: D-I Brown

  
Name: K MacIver

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015

**Company Number: SC166766**

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**a) Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005 applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Companies Act 2006. The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

**b) Taxation**

The company is a charitable company within the meaning of Section 467 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010. Accordingly, the company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 and section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that such income or gains are applied for charitable purposes only.

**c) Fund accounting**

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

**d) Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Donated items for resale are included at 50% of the anticipated sale price.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Incoming resources from charitable trading activities are accounted for when earned.
- Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

**1. Accounting Policies (continued)**

Income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

**e) Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Grants in respect of the commission of new works are not recognised as a liability until the manuscript has been produced and approved by the council. Grants in respect of the publication of materials are awarded on condition that publication occurs within 12 months. Such grants are recognised as liabilities to extent that they are paid or expected to be paid within that timescale
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the external scrutiny fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

**f) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% Reducing balance
Computer equipment	20% Reducing balance

**g) Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Items donated for resale are included at 50% or less of anticipated sale price.

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015****h) Pension scheme**

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are administered by Trustees in a fund independent from those of the company.

The pension costs charged against profits represent the amount of employer's contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

**2. Legal Status**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

**3. Voluntary Income**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2015 Total £	2014 Total £
Creative Scotland	191,000	-	191,000	191,000
Bòrd na Gàidhlig	190,500	-	190,500	200,000
Memberships	90	-	90	90
Legacies	30,000	-	30,000	-
Donations	60	-	60	-
	<u>411,650</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>411,650</u>	<u>391,090</u>

**4. Investment Income**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2015 Total £	2014 Total £
Bank Interest	<u>19</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>12</u>

**5. Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2015 Total £	2014 Total £
Sale of books	65,789	-	65,789	80,212
Literary Events	2,876	-	2,876	-
	<u>68,665</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,665</u>	<u>80,212</u>

**6. Other Incoming Resources**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2015 Total £	2014 Total £
Other Income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,076</u>

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

**7. Resources Expended – Costs of Generating Voluntary Income**

	<b>Direct Costs £</b>	<b>Support Costs £</b>	<b>2015 Total £</b>	<b>2014 Total £</b>
Staff costs	-	4,374	4,374	4,408

**8. Resources Expended- Charitable Activities**

	<b>Direct Costs £</b>	<b>Support Costs £</b>	<b>2015 Total £</b>	<b>2014 Total £</b>
Sale of Books	36,355	28,002	64,357	82,840
Literature and Publishing	132,567	243,268	375,835	365,364
	<u>168,922</u>	<u>271,270</u>	<u>440,192</u>	<u>448,204</u>

Included within resources expended on Gaelic Book Activities are the commissioning and publication grants payable totalling £77,680 (2014: £64,665).

**9. Resources Expended – Governance Costs**

	<b>Direct Costs £</b>	<b>Support Costs £</b>	<b>2015 Total £</b>	<b>2014 Total £</b>
Independent Examiners fees	1,884	-	1,884	1,824
Chairman's honorarium	4,999	-	4,999	5,000
Staff costs	-	4,374	4,374	4,408
	<u>6,883</u>	<u>4,374</u>	<u>11,257</u>	<u>11,232</u>

**10. Support Costs – Breakdown by Activity**

	<b>Fundraising £</b>	<b>Sale of Books £</b>	<b>Literature &amp; Publishing £</b>	<b>Governance £</b>	<b>Basis of Allocation</b>
Staff Costs	4,374	17,495	148,705	4,374	Time spent
Premises Costs	-	5,190	46,713	-	Time spent
Telephone/website	-	875	7,875	-	Time spent
Printing, Postage and Stationery	-	2,925	26,329	-	Time spent
Miscellaneous expenses	-	95	845	-	Time spent
Travelling expenses	-	863	7,770	-	Time spent
Depreciation Professional fees/courses etc	-	559	5,031	-	Time spent
	<u>4,374</u>	<u>28,002</u>	<u>243,268</u>	<u>4,374</u>	

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

**11. Net Incoming Resources for the Year**

This is stated after charging:

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Independent Examiners fees	1,884	1,824
Other accountancy fees	4,122	3,064
Depreciation	3,155	3,802

**12. Staff Costs and Numbers**

Staff costs were as follows:

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Salaries and wages	146,544	145,124
Social security costs	12,733	14,808
Other pension costs	15,249	15,174
Total	<u>174,526</u>	<u>175,106</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2014: Nil).

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents,  
was as follows:

<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

**13. Trustees' Remuneration and Related Party Transactions**

The Chairman, Mr D I Brown, is entitled to an honorarium of £5,000 per annum.

During the current year Mr Brown was paid £4,999 (2014: £5,000).

No other Trustees received any remuneration during the year (2014: Nil). During the year travel expenses totalling £419 (2014 - £422) were reimbursed to 5 (2014 - 5) Trustees.

No Trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year (2014 - Nil).

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015****14. Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Furniture, Fittings &amp; Equipment £</b>	<b>Computer Equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
At 1 April 2014	76,212	-	76,212
Additions	-	570	570
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2015	<u>76,212</u>	<u>570</u>	<u>76,782</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2014	61,005	-	61,005
On disposals	-	-	-
Charge for the year	3,041	114	3,155
At 31 March 2015	<u>64,046</u>	<u>114</u>	<u>64,160</u>
<b>Net book values</b>			
At 31 March 2015	<u>12,166</u>	<u>456</u>	<u>12,622</u>
At 31 March 2014	<u>15,207</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,207</u>

**15. Stock**

	<b>2015 £</b>	<b>2014 £</b>
Goods for sale	19,863	11,312
	<u>19,863</u>	<u>11,312</u>

**16. Debtors**

	<b>2015 £</b>	<b>2014 £</b>
Trade debtors	5,844	8,190
Other debtors	4,418	7,043
	<u>10,262</u>	<u>15,233</u>

**COMHAIRLE NAN LEABHRAICHEAN****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015****17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	5,769	10,576
Taxation and Social Security costs	3,944	1,447
Other creditors	4,392	15,020
	<u>14,105</u>	<u>27,043</u>

**18. Unrestricted Funds****Movement in Funds**

	<b>Balance at 1 April 2014</b>	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Expenditure (gains)/losses</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March 2015</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Grants payable	43,406	-	43,406	23,843	23,843
Fixed Assets	15,207	-	3,155	570	12,622
	<u>58,613</u>		<u>46,561</u>	<u>24,413</u>	<u>36,465</u>
General funds	19,067	480,334	409,262	(24,413)	65,726
	<u>77,680</u>	<u>480,334</u>	<u>455,823</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>102,191</u>

The designated fund for grants payable, represents Commission and Publication Grants grants approved in principal but only payable on receipt of appropriate manuscripts.

The designated fund for Tangible Fixed Assets represents the value of the charity's unrestricted funds which is tied up in fixed assets.

**19. Lease Commitments**

The charity has an annual commitment, under non-cancellable operating leases, in respect of property of £32,440, expiring 31 March 2017.