

Geàrr-iomradh Summary

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Thathar a’ toirt iomradh anns an leabhran seo air mar a chaidh pròiseact beul-aithris a chur air dòigh ann an coimhearsnachd Shleite, ann an ceann a deas an Eilein Sgitheanaich, ann an 2025, le sgioba Leabharlann Shabhal Mòr Ostaig fo stiùir Leas-mhanaidsear an Leabharlainn, Greg MacThòmais.

Thathar an dòchas gum bi na chaidh ionnsachadh na ghoireas feumail do neach no buidheann sam bith a mhiannaicheadh a leithid a dhèanamh nan sgìre fhèin.

Tha Greg ag innse an seo mu na diofar cheuman a ghabh e fhèin, bho ìre beachd-smuain gu coileanadh ciad ìre a’ phròiseict, a’ togail air innleachdan, maoineachadh, ceadan, conaltradh agus deagh-chleachdadh. A bharrachd air a bhith feumail mar ghoireas ionnsachaidh prataigeach, ‘s math as fhiach e beachdan Ghreg a leughadh mun phròiseact.

This booklet describes how an oral history project was set up in the community of Sleat, in the south of the Isle of Skye in 2025 by Library staff at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, under the guidance of Deputy Library Manager, Greg Thomson.

It is hoped that what was learned during the project will be a useful resource for any groups who wish to conduct a similar type of project in their own community.

Greg identifies here the different steps that he took, from concept to completion of the first stage of the project, while referencing ideas, funding, permissions, communication and good practice. As well as being useful as a practical learning resource, Greg’s reflections on the project are well worth reading.



Thoir mo shoraidh thar sàile gu dùthaich nan
àrd-bheann don eilean as àill san Roinn Eòrpa,
Do Shlèibhte nam buadh is a cliathaich ri cuan,
's ann a dh'àraicheadh suas mi nam òige.



*Take my farewell over the sea to the land of the high mountains
to the most beautiful island in Europe
To Sleat of the virtues by the ocean,
where I was brought up in my youth.*

IAIN MACGILIBHRÀIGHE/JOHN MACGILLIVRAY,
CAMAS CHROS.

Ro-ràdh

Introduction



Stèidhich Leabharlann Shabhal Mòr Ostaig am pròiseact dualchais, Stòras Shlèite, as t-fhoghar 2024, le taic mhaoineachaidh bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig agus Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.

B' e amas a' phròiseict, thairis air bliadhna, togail air pròiseactan beul-aithris eile san sgìre san dà fhichead bliadhna a dh'fhalbh is gun rachadh muinntir a' phròiseict a-mach a dhèanamh agallamhan ùra cuide ri Gàidheil à Slèite. Bha e cudromach gun rachadh na bha is na bhithheadh air tasgadh a cho-roinn le muinntir na sgìre ann an dòighean iomchaidh. Bhiodh foghlam is brosnachadh a' chànain leis an òigridh aig teis-meadhan a' phròiseict cuideachd.

Bha e fa-near dhuinn làrach-lìn a dhealbhadh (storasshleite.scot) mar ghoireas coimhearsnachd air an nochdadh nithean a bhith eamaid a' cruinneachadh tron chiad bhliadhna den phròiseact. Chuireamaid innte rudan inntinneach bhon tasglann againn agus clàraidhean ùra le Gàidheil às an sgìre cho math ri ceanglaichean ri susbaint ann an stòrasan sgapte. Bhiodh cothrom againn measgachadh de ghoireasan a tharraing còmhla ann an aon stòras didseatach mar dhileab airson na coimhearsnachd - ach 's e dìleab bheò a bhiodh ann ris am b' urrainn do mhuinntir na sgìre cur le susbaint ùr aig àm sam bith.

Tha Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig 2023-28 ag aithneachadh gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig a' crìonadh anns na coimhearsnachdan tradaiseanta is na sgìrean dùthchail anns na h-Eileanan agus air a' Ghàidhealtachd. Ach tha am Plana cuideachd a' cur an cèill gu bheil fianais shoilleir ann gun urrainn iomairtean leasachaidh piseach a thoirt air cùisean. Bhiodh am pròiseact seo a'

The Library at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig established the local Gaelic heritage project, Stòras Shlèite, in autumn 2024 with funding support from Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.

The aim over the course of a year was to build on previous oral history projects done in the area over the last forty years and to send project staff into the community to carry out new interviews with Gaelic speakers from Sleat. It was important that what had been and would be gathered and preserved was shared back with local people in appropriate ways, since it was from the community that the knowledge and content came from originally. Education and the encouragement of the language among young people would also be central to the project.

We aimed to design a website (storasshleite.scot) as a community resource which would present what we collected during the first year of the project. We would add interesting items from our archive and new recordings with Gaels from the area to the site, as well as links to relevant content held in many varying and scattered collections. We would have the chance to draw together a range of resources relating to the Gaelic of Sleat in one digital repository as a legacy for the community - a living legacy, to which local people could contribute new material at any time.

The National Gaelic Language Plan 2023-28 recognises that Gaelic is in decline in its traditional communities in rural areas in the Highlands and islands. The Plan also notes, however, that there is clear evidence that development

neartachadh a' chànain aig na freumhan far a bheil am feum as èiginniche agus far a bheil beairteas na Gàidhlig ri lorg. Bhiodh am beairteas sin ga sgaoileadh do dhaoine aig am biodh ùidh agus, na bu chudromaiche buileach, air ais do na daoine on tàinig e.

B' urrainn air am pròiseact seo a chleachdadh mar theamlaid airson phròiseactan eile ann an sgìrean eile agus 's ann air an adhbhar sin a chaidh an leabhran seo a sgrìobhadh. Tha am fiosrachadh na chois a' cur stiùireadh an cèill do choimhearsnachdan eile a tha airson a leithid a phròiseact a chur air dòigh, stèidhichte air an eòlas againn is sinn a' libhrigeadh na ciad bhliadhna de 'Stòras Shlèite'. Tha e a' toirt a-staigh nan ceuman bho ìre dhealbhadh gu sgaoileadh toradh ciad ìre a' phròiseict, le molaidhean prataigeach is eisimpleirean, agus beachdan smuain airson am pròiseact a leasachadh.

Dhomhsa dheth, cha robh mi fhin a-riamh an sàs ann an iomairt cho tlachdmhor ri Stòras Shlèite agus a thug uiread a chothroman dhomh eòlas a chur air an sgìre anns an robh mi a' fuireach fad 25 bliadhna agus air muinntir an àite. Tha mi a' smaoinichadh gu bheil luach air leth anns na chruinnich is na thaisbean sinn thairis air a' chiad bhliadhna den phròiseact agus tha mi an dòchas gum bi beagan an seo a ghabhas cleachdadh ann an sgìrean eile.

Greg MacThòmais, Manaidsear Pròiseict - Stòras Shlèite

initiatives can improve the situation. This project would strengthen the language at the roots, where the need is most urgent and where the richness of Gaelic is to be found. That richness would be shared with people who have an interest and, most importantly of all, with the people it originally came from.

This project could be used as a template for similar projects in other areas, and it is for that reason that this guide has been written. The information in the booklet sets out guidance for other communities who wish to set up a similar oral history project, based on our experience of delivering year one of Stòras Shlèite. It includes steps from the planning stage through to sharing the outcomes of the first phase of the project, with practical suggestions and examples and ideas for future development.

On a personal note, I haven't been involved in an initiative quite as enjoyable as Stòras Shlèite, or one which has given me so many opportunities to get to know better the place I have lived in for 25 years and the people of the area. I believe that there is enormous value in what we have collected so far and shared during the first year of the project, and I hope that some part of this work will be of use in other areas as well.

Greg MacThòmais, Project Manager - Stòras Shlèite

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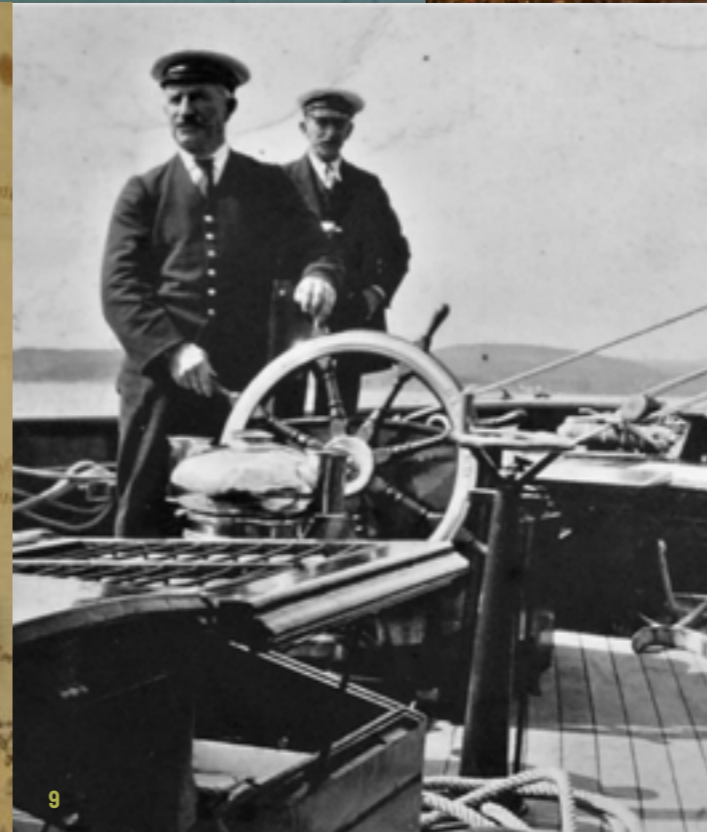
Toiseach-tòiseachaidh

Getting started



Le sùil air tagradh maoinachaidh a dh'fheumar ullachadh nas fhaide air adhart (faic earrann 2), bu chòir dhan bhuidhinn agad smaoinichadh air na leanas:

- Soilleirich dè thig às an ire seo den phròiseact – cruinneachadh de chlàraidhean fuaim? cruinneachadh litreachais? dealbhan? leabhar pròiseict? làrach-lìn?
- Soilleirich crìochan sgìre a' phròiseict. An e baile, paraiste no eilean cuspair a' phròiseict? Thagh sinn fhìn Slèite mar sgìre ged a bha fios againn gu bheil ceangal dlùth ann eadar Slèite agus sgìre an t-Sratha ri a taobh. Tha an t-uabhas às an tasglann againn a bhuineas don t-Srath cuideachd. Tha an dà pharaiste ceangailte ann an iomadh dòigh (dualchainnt, eachdraidh, ceòl is òrain) ach bha sinn a' faireachdainn gum fàsadh am pròiseact ro mhòr agus aon duine a-mhàin ga libhrigeadh, mar sin, chuir sinn romhainn sgrùdadh a dhèanamh air an sgìre anns a bheil Sabhal Mòr Ostaig stèidhichte agus air dualchas an àite sin.
- Cruthaich loidhne-tìm airson a h-uile ire den phròiseact. Bidh seo air leth feumail tron phròiseact gu lèir agus aig an deireadh nuair a dh'fheumar aithisgean a sgrìobhadh.
- Dèan liosta de shusbaint chlàraichte a th' ann mar-thà agus obraich a-mach dè tha a dhith fhathast (ceadan, èisteachd ri clàraidhean, cruth den fhiosrachadh, ùine ri chosg orra gan glanadh/deasachadh).
- Dèan liosta de dhaoine ionadail a dh'fhaodadh a bhith an sàs (cò, càite, anns an sgìre/taobh a-muigh na sgìre). Ciamar a b' urrainn dhaibh cuideachadh/cur ris a' phròiseact? Am biodh iad deònach agallamh a dhèanamh? A bheil stòras ainmean-àite aca? A bheil cruinneachadh de dhealbhan aca bhon sgìre? A bheil seann chlàraidhean aca? A bheil òrain aca no san teaghlach aca?
- Cùm sùil bhon fhìor thoiseach air dleasan GDPR. Tha e fada nas fhasa an taobh reachdail seo fhilleadh a-steach dhan phròiseact ma thèid ceuman a chur an sàs aig an ire seo, seach a bhith a' feuchainn ri na dleasan a choileanadh nuair a tha an obair cruinneachaidh is pàirtean eile den phròiseact air tòiseachadh. Tha stiùireadh is fiosrachadh air a' chuspair seo ri fhaighinn air làrach-lìn Oral History Society: ohs.org.uk/gdpr-2



With a view to a funding application which will need to be prepared later (see section 2), your group should think about the following:

- Clarify what will come out of this phase of the project – a collection of audio recordings? a collection of written material? photographs? a project book? a website?
- Clarify the geographical boundaries of the project. Is the subject of your project a village, parish or island? We chose the parish boundaries of Sleat as our area, even though we knew there is a close link between Sleat and Strath, the district next door. Much of our archive material also relates to Strath. The two parishes are linked in many ways (dialect, history, music and song), but we felt that the project would grow too large for one person to deliver, and so we decided to focus primarily on the district in which Sabhal Mòr Ostaig is based and on the heritage of that area.
- Create a timeline for each stage of the project. This will be extremely useful throughout and at the end when you have to write reports.
- List existing recorded content and work out what is still needed to use this material (permissions, time to listen to recordings, format of information, time and cost to clean up /edit).
- Make a list of local people who could be involved (who, where, in the area/outwith the area). How could they help or contribute? Would they be willing to be interviewed? Do they have a collection of place-names? Do they have photo collections from the area? Do they have old recordings? Do they have songs themselves or in their family?
- Be aware of GDPR requirements from the very beginning. It is much easier to integrate this legal side into the project if measures are put in place at this stage, rather than trying to fulfil obligations once the collecting work and other parts of the project have already begun. Guidance and information on this topic is available on the website of the Oral History Society: ohs.org.uk/gdpr-2

- Dè an taic a dh'fhaodadh a bhith a dhith? Am bi cothrom ann obraiche pròiseict fhadthad airson agallamhan a dhèanamh san sgìre? No am bi taic a dhith a thaobh rianachd/tasgadh/rannsachadh/dealbhachd-lìn? Soilleirich na h-uairean-obrach a dh'fheumadh neach-obrach/neach no buidheann cùmhnaint a chosg air taobhan sònraichte den phròiseact. Bidh an tuairmse seo riatanach nuair a thathar a' lìonadh an tagraidh. Chomharraich sinne san tagradh mhaoineachaidh againn gum bu thoil leinn neach-rannsachadh-làraich fhadthad pàirt-ùine airson cuideachadh le diofar phàirtean den phròiseact.
- Thoir sùil air pròiseactan coltach ris a' phròiseact a tha os n-ear dhut fhèin no anns a bheil eileamaidean a bhiodh tarraingeach an lùib na h-obrach a tha romhad no aig ìre taisbeanadh a' phròiseict. Am measg iomadach pròiseact eile, fhuair Stòras Shlèite an t-uabhas brosnachaidh is eòlais às na pròiseactan seo:

- What support might be needed? Will there be an opportunity to employ a project worker to carry out interviews in the area? Or will support be needed with administration/archiving/research/website design? Clarify the work hours that a staff member or contractor would need to spend on specific aspects of the project. This estimate will be essential when filling in the funding application. In our own application we indicated that we would like to employ a part-time fieldworker to help with various aspects of the project.
- Look at other projects similar to the one you have in mind, or that include elements you would like to incorporate in the work ahead or in how the project will eventually be presented. Among other projects, Stòras Shlèite took a great deal of inspiration and learning from projects such as:

Tobar an Dualchais – Dualchas sa Choimhearsnachd (www.tobarandualchais.co.uk/dualchas) Pròiseact àrd-sgoiltean airson tar-chur eadar ginealaichean a bhrosnachadh agus a neartachadh, le bhith a' dèanamh chlàraidhean de dhaoine aig a bheil Gàidhlig anns na coimhearsnachdan aca fhèin.

Guthan nan Eilean (guthan.wordpress.com) Stòras de chlàraidhean fuaim is bhideo anns na h-Eileanan an Iar airson luchd-ionnsachaidh is duine sam bith eile aig a bheil ùidh.

Seinn Spioradail (seinn.org) Tasglann didseatach is sgrùdadh air an t-sàr-bheairteas de sheallaidhean, fhuaimnean agus chuimhneachain de sheinn agus sgrìobhadh òrain spioradail ann am beatha làitheil ann an coimhearsnachdan anns a' Ghàidhealtachd agus na h-Eileanan.

The Spoken Irish of Rann na Feirste (www.rannnafeirste.com) Cruinneachadh de sgeulachdan is seanchas à Rann na Feirste ann an Dùn nan Gall agus sgrùdadh fòn-eòlach air an dualchainnt.

An Cruinneachadh/The Gathering (www.the-gathering.co.uk) Buidheann Ghàidhlig Chille Chuimein agus na sgìre mun cuairt airson Gàidhlig a bhrosnachadh - clasaichean cànan, buidhnean còmhraidh, com-pàirteachadh le sgoiltean, tachartasan cultarail agus rannsachadh.

Tobar an Dualchais – Dualchas sa Choimhearsnachd (www.tobarandualchais.co.uk/dualchas) Secondary-school project designed to encourage and strengthen intergenerational transmission by recording local Gaelic speakers in their own communities.

Guthan nan Eilean (guthan.wordpress.com) A resource of sound and video recordings from the Western Isles for learners and anyone else with an interest.

Seinn Spioradail (seinn.org) A digital archive and study of the outstanding wealth of images, sounds and memories of religious song and hymn-writing in the everyday life of communities in the Highlands and Islands.

The Spoken Irish of Rann na Feirste (www.rannnafeirste.com) A collection of stories and folklore from Rann na Feirste in Donegal and a phonological study of the local dialect.

An Cruinneachadh / The Gathering (www.the-gathering.co.uk) Gaelic group in Fort Augustus and the surrounding area promoting Gaelic - language classes, conversation groups, school partnerships, cultural events and research.



An Litreachas

Thoir sùil air an litreachas a tha ri fhaighinn air pròiseactan beul-aithris san fharsaingeachd agus air obair mhionaideach a chaidh a dhèanamh ann an diofar sgìrean. Bha na leanas am measg nan leabhraichean a mholamaid fhìn. (Faighnich don leabharlann ionadail agad feuch a bheil na leabhraichean rim faighinn tro iasad eadar leabharlannan):

Teòirig

Charlton, T.L., Myers, L.E. and Sharpless, R. (eds.), *Handbook of Oral History*, Lanham: Alta Mira Press, 2006.

Perks, R. agus Thomson, A. (eds.), *The Oral History Reader*, London: Routledge, 1998.

Raleigh Yow, V., *Recording Oral History: A Practical Guide for Social Scientists*, Thousand Oaks: Sage, 1994.

Schrag, Z. M., *The Princeton Guide to Historical Research*, Princeton: Princeton U. P., 2021.

Sommer, B. W. agus Quinlan, M. K., *The Oral History Manual*, Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2024.

Foillseachaidhean Gàidhlig

Comunn Eachdraidh Nis. *Eachdraidh le Cridhe is Càirdeas: Ainmean-àite Ceann a Tuath Leòdhais. Nis gu Baile an Truiseil*. Steòrnabhagh: Acair, 2020.

Fèis Thiriodh agus An Iodhlann, *Òrain an Eòrna: Traditional Gaelic Songs from the Island of Tìree*, Tìriodh: Fèis Thiriodh agus an Iodhlann, 2012.

NicDhòmhnaill, L. (ed.), *Òrain Ìleach: Òrain Ghàidhlig à Ìle - Gaelic Songs of Islay*, Steòrnabhagh: Acair, 2017.

Seanchas Ìle: Cruinneachadh, clàrachadh agus gleidheadh dualchas Gàidhlig Ìle, Glendaruel: Argyll Publishing, 2007.

Làraichean-lìn

Tobar an Dualchais (www.tobarandualchais.co.uk)

DASG (dasg.ac.uk)

The Oral History Society (ohs.org.uk)

Leabharlann Nàiseanta na h-Alba (www.nls.uk)

Subject Literature

Look at the available literature on oral history projects in general and on detailed work undertaken in different areas. The following were among the books we would recommend (ask your local library if they can obtain them through inter-library loan):

Theory

Charlton, T.L., Myers, L.E. and Sharpless, R. (eds), *Handbook of Oral History*, Lanham: Alta Mira Press, 2006.

Perks, R. and Thomson, A. (eds), *The Oral History Reader*, London: Routledge, 1998.

Raleigh Yow, V., *Recording Oral History: A Practical Guide for Social Scientists*, Thousand Oaks: Sage, 1994.

Schrag, Z.M., *The Princeton Guide to Historical Research*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2021.

Sommer, B.W. and Quinlan, M.K., *The Oral History Manual*, Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2024.

Gaelic Publications

Comunn Eachdraidh Nis, *Eachdraidh le Cridhe is Càirdeas: Ainmean-àite Ceann a Tuath Leòdhais. Nis gu Baile an Truiseil*, Stornoway: Acair, 2020.

Fèis Thiriodh and An Iodhlann, *Òrain an Eòrna: Traditional Gaelic Songs from the Island of Tìree*, Tìree: Fèis Thiriodh and An Iodhlann, 2012.

NicDhòmhnaill, L. (ed.), *Òrain Ìleach: Òrain Ghàidhlig à Ìle - Gaelic Songs of Islay*, Stornoway: Acair, 2017.

Seanchas Ìle: Cruinneachadh, clàrachadh agus gleidheadh dualchas Gàidhlig Ìle, Glendaruel: Argyll Publishing, 2007.

Websites

Tobar an Dualchais (www.tobarandualchais.co.uk)

DASG (dasg.ac.uk)

The Oral History Society (ohs.org.uk)

National Library of Scotland (www.nls.uk)



2.

Ullaich tagradh maoinachaidh

Prepare a funding application

Sònaich dè a' mhaoin as fhreagarraiche airson an tagraidh is a' phròiseict agad m.e. Taic Freumhan Coimhearsnachd, Maoin nam Planaichean Gàidhlig (Bòrd na Gàidhlig), Maoin nan Ealan Gàidhlig (Fèisean nan Gàidheal).

'S ann gu Bòrd na Gàidhlig - Maoin nam Planaichean Gàidhlig a chuir sinn an tagradh maoinachaidh againne. Bha sinn a' meas gur i sin a' mhaoin a bu fhreagarraiche is gum biodh am pròiseact a' coileanadh amasan na maoin seo anns na dòighean a leanas:

- Bhiodh am pròiseact a' cur ri cleachdadh is ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig anns a' choimhearsnachd tro bhith a' toirt dhaoine aig a bheil Gàidhlig còmhla, an dà chuid fileantaich is luchd-ionnsachaidh, airson ionnsachadh bho chàch a chèile agus airson eòlas a chur air Gàidhlig na sgìre.
- Chuireadh muinntir na coimhearsnachd barrachd eòlais air na goireasan a tha rim faighinn ann an tasglannan na Colaiste agus taobh a-muigh.
- Bhiodh cothroman ann goireas a chleachdadh airson cùrsaichean foghlaim is eile a leasachadh stèidhichte air an dualchainnt seo agus dualchainntean eile.
- Bhiodh sinn a' brosnachadh muinntir na coimhearsnachd de gach aois a thighinn an lùib a' phròiseict aig tachartasan airson a chomharrachadh agus a shanasachadh.
- Chuireadh am pròiseact ri cleachdadh a' chànan ann an dachannan oir 's ann bho dhachannan muinntir na sgìre a thigeadh susbaint. Bhiodh seann chlàraidhean gan cleachdadh air a bheil daoine nach eil beò a-nis cho math ri clàraidhean

Identify the most suitable fund for your project and application, e.g. Taic Freumhan Coimhearsnachd, Maoin nam Planaichean Gàidhlig (Bòrd na Gàidhlig), Maoin nan Ealan Gàidhlig (Fèisean nan Gàidheal).

We submitted our own application to Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Gaelic Plans Fund (Maoin nam Planaichean Gàidhlig). We judged this to be the most appropriate fund and that the project would help deliver its aims as follows:

- The project would increase the use and learning of Gaelic in the community by bringing together people who have the language - both fluent speakers and learners - so that they could learn from each other and become familiar with the Gaelic of the area.
- Local people would become more aware of the resources available in the College's archives and elsewhere.
- There would be opportunities to use the resource to develop educational and other courses based on this dialect and others.
- We would encourage community members of all ages to engage with the project through events to celebrate and promote it.
- The project would add to the use of Gaelic in homes, as the content of part of the resource would come from the local community. Old recordings would be used, featuring people who have since passed away, as well as new recordings

ùra a dhèanadh neach-rannsachadh-làraich. Bhiodh e math ceangal a dhèanamh eadar na ginealachan sin nach eil ann tuilleadh is òigridh an latha an-diugh.

- Bhiodh dùil ann gum broснаicheadh seo deasbad is còmhradh is cothroman ionnsachaidh ann an dachannan ann an Slèite (agus taobh a-muigh) is daoine a' cur eòlas air seachas aig an luchd-dàimh aca fhèin is a' Ghàidhlig mar a bhathar/thathar ga bruidhinn anns na bailtean/ceàrnaidhean aca fhèin.

Buidseat

Feumaidh beachd soilleir a bhith aig a' bhuidhinn agad aig an ìre thagraidh a thaobh nan cosgaisean a bhios an lùib libhrigeadh a' phròiseict.

Cuir an cèill na tachartasan is na gnìomhan air am biodh cosgais. Anns an tagradh againn fhìn, chomharraich sinn tuarastalan (neach-obrach an t-Sabhail Mhòir - thigeadh seo bho chuid na Colaiste - agus neach-rannsachaidh-làraich - ri shireadh bhon mhaoin), siubhal, uidheam, tallachan air màl, aoigheachd, dealbhadair-lìn, bathar-bog, trèanadh.

Dè na h-uairean/làithean-obrach a bhios tu fhèin/luchd-obrach na buidhne agad ag obair air a' phròiseact? Am bi seo comharraichte mar chuid na buidhne agad sa bhuidseat? Cuimhnich gum bi Bòrd na Gàidhlig mar eisimpleir a' pàigheadh gu ruige 80% de chosgaisean slàn a' phròiseict.

made by a fieldworker. It would be valuable to create a link between these generations and the young people of today.

- We expected the project to generate discussion, conversation and learning opportunities in homes in Sleat (and beyond), as people got to know the stories their relatives had recorded and the way Gaelic is and was spoken in their own villages or townships.

Budget

Your group must have a clear idea at the application stage of what costs will be involved in delivering the project.

Set out the events and activities that will incur expenditure. In our own application we identified: staff costs (a Sabhal Mòr staff member - myself, for a set time each week - covered by the College - and a part-time fieldworker whose costs would be met from the funding application), travel, equipment, hall hire, hospitality, web designer, software, training.

How many hours/days will you/your staff be working on the project? Will this be shown as an in-kind contribution in your budget? Remember that Bòrd na Gàidhlig, for example, will pay up to 80% of total project costs.

Ma bhios neach-obrach fa leth a dhith, dèan tuairmse air na h-uairean/làithean-obrach a bhiodh iad ag obair air a’ phròiseact agus dè a’ chosgais a bhiodh ann mu choinneimh an tuarastail. Dè an t-suim dheireannach a thathar a’ sireadh?

Structar is stòradh fhaidhlichean

Cruthaich structar fhaidhlichean air SharePoint no siostam stòrais eile, m.e. GoogleDrive, OneDrive, Dropbox (bidh cosgaisean an lùib cuid aca, mar sin, feumar seo a bhith an lùib buidseat a’ phròiseict). Tha e cudromach siostam fhaidhlichean a chleachdadh airson susbaint a thèid cruinneachadh a stòradh, airson nan adhbharan a leanas:

- Eagrachadh agus ruigsinneachd - faodaidh tu faidhlichean a stòradh gu rianail ann an SharePoint agus an cur ann am pasganan le tuairisgeulan, cinn-latha agus metadata eile. Tha seo ga dhèanamh nas fhasa nithean a lorg agus a chleachdadh.
- Co-obrachadh - ‘S urrainn do bhuill den sgioba obrachadh air na h-aon fhaidhlichean aig an aon àm, cur riutha, an deasachadh agus beachdan a chur riutha. Tha seo gu sònraichte feumail ann am pròiseactan far a bheil iomadach neach an sàs. ‘S urrainn dha diofar dhaoine obrachadh bho shiostaman eadar-dhealaichte, m.e. mas e coimpiutair Windows a th’ aig aon neach agus Apple aig an neach eile.
- Tèarainteachd agus cùl-taic - Tha SharePoint a’ tabhann tèarainteachd agus cùl-taic fèin-obrachail, gus an dèanar cinnteach nach tèid susbaint luachmhor a chall.

Com-pàirteachas

Dèan liosta de bhuidhnean leis am b’ urrainnear com-pàirteachadh (sgoiltean, buidhnean dualchais, buidhnean ionadail no nàiseanta is msaa). Ciamar a b’ urrainnear com-pàirteachadh le chèile?

An seo, tha cuid de na buidhnean leis an do rinn Stòras Shlèite com-pàirteachadh sa chiad bhliadhna den phròiseact:

- **Tobar an Dualchais** - fhuair sinn an t-uabhas taic fheumail bho Stiùiriche Thobar an Dualchais, Flòraidh Forrest, a thaobh a’ phròiseict san fharsaingeachd agus air taobhan mionaideach, ionadail cuideachd. Fhuair sinn stiùireadh air: cumail agallamhan, GDPR is cead, pròiseactan coimhearsnachd is sgoile a rinn iad, na dòighean siridh as fheàrr airson susbaint ionadail a tharraing às an stòras aca. Rinn sinn taisbeanadh còmhla ri chèile dha buidheann ionadail, Iomairt Chamas Chros is Dhuisdeil, air amasan a’ phròiseict agus ciamar a bha stòrasan, a leithid Thobar an Dualchais, fìor chudromach airson a leithid a dh’iomairt a thoirt gu buil.
- **Leabharlann Nàiseanta na h-Alba** - bha sinn air leth fortanach gun robh sianar cho-obraichean bhon Leabharlann Nàiseanta gu bhith a’ tighinn dhan Leabharlann tron bhliadhna seo mar phàirt de dh’iomairt aiseag-eòlais. Bha cothrom ann innse dha na co-obraichean seo, a bha ann an iomadh dreuchd agus à iomadh roinn eadar-dhealaichte, mun phròiseact, m.e. fhuair sinn cothrom taisbeanadh ceòlmhor a dhèanamh le taic Dr. Decker Forrest, Ceannard Roinn Ciùil an t-Sabhail Mhòir, agus

If a dedicated member of staff is required, estimate how many hours/days they will work on the project and what the cost would be in salary terms. What is the total amount you are seeking?

File structure and storage

Create a file structure on SharePoint or another storage system such as Google Drive, OneDrive or Dropbox (some of these have costs attached, so that needs to be included in the project budget). It is important to use a file system to store the content collected, for the following reasons:

- Organisation and access - you can store files systematically in, for example, SharePoint and place them in folders with descriptions, dates and other metadata. This makes it much easier to find and use materials.
- Collaboration - team members can work on the same files at the same time, add to them, edit them and leave comments. This is particularly useful in a project involving several people. Different people can work from different operating systems (for example, one using Windows and another Apple iOS).
- Security and backup - SharePoint offers security and automatic backup so that valuable content is not lost.

Partnership

Make a list of organisations with whom you could collaborate (schools, heritage groups, local or national organisations, etc.). How could you work together?

Here are some of the organisations Stòras Shlèite partnered with in the first year of the project:

- **Tobar an Dualchais** - we received a great deal of helpful support from TaD director, Flòraidh Forrest, both in relation to the project as a whole and on specific local aspects. We were given guidance on: conducting interviews, GDPR and permissions, community and school projects they had carried out, and how best to draw local content from their collections. We did a joint presentation for local group Camuscross and Duisdale Initiative on the aims of the project and on how resources such as Tobar an Dualchais are crucial to this kind of initiative.
- **National Library of Scotland** - we were very fortunate that six colleagues from the National Library were scheduled to visit our Library during the year as part of a knowledge-exchange programme. We had the opportunity to tell these colleagues, from a wide range of roles and departments, about the project; for example we gave a musical presentation on songs from Sleat, with the help of Dr Decker Forrest, Head of Music at Sabhal Mòr, and the

an t-seinneadair chliùitich, Christine Primrose, air Òrain à Slèite dha Andrew McDougall, Manaidsear Leasachadh Sgiobachd an Leabharlann Nàiseanta. Tha dùil ann gum bi cothrom ann sa bhliadhna ùir, taisbeanadh a dhèanamh air loidhne dha luchd-obrach NLS air libhrigeadh is toraidhean a’ phròiseict. Tha cothroman mar seo a’ togail inbhe is cliù an Leabharlann is a’ phròiseict agus a’ co-roinn eòlais mun Ghàidhlig is an sgìre le muinntir an Leabharlann Nàiseanta.

- **BBC Alba** - chaidh coinneamh a chur air dòigh le ceannard BBC Alba, Mairead Màiri Mhoireach, agus buill den sgioba aice feuch am biodh iad deònach prògraman rèidio bhon tasglann a shireadh dhuinn. Rinn sinn liosta de Shlèitich a dh’fhaodadh a bhith air an clàradh sna bliadhnan a dh’fhalbh agus thill iad thugainn le stòras de chlàraidhean bho na 1970an gu na 1990an air an robh Slèitich a’ nochdadh, a’ seinn is a’ bruidhinn air iomadach cuspair. B’ iad seo prògraman nach eil rim faighinn air Tobar an Dualchais no àite sam bith eile air loidhne. Bha BBC Alba a’ creidsinn gu mòr gur ann leis a’ choimhearsnachd a bha na clàraidhean agus gum biodh e iomchaidh nam b’ urrainn don choimhearsnachd an cur gu feum.
- **Comann Eachdraidh Shlèite** - bha sinn a’ conaltradh leis a’ chomann eachdraidh ionadail, Comann Eachdraidh Shlèite, bho thoiseach a’ phròiseict. Fhuair sinn cothrom taisbeanadh a dhèanamh dha buill a’ Chomainn airson dà òraid fa leth a dhèanamh air goireasan an Leabharlann is mar a b’ urrainn do mhuinntir an àite feum a dhèanamh asta agus taisbeanadh eile air amasan a’ phròiseict.
- **Bun-sgoil Shlèite** - bha com-pàirteachadh le bun-sgoil na sgìre, Bun-sgoil Shlèite, air leth cudromach a thaobh aon de phrìomh amasan a’ phròiseict, ‘s e sin a bhith a’ dèanamh feum den fhiosrachadh is an eòlas a bha sinn air cruinneachadh agus a thoirt dhan ath ghinealach. Chaidh còisir na sgoile a stèidheachadh às ùr le taic bhuam fhìn is dà phàrant eile agus aig cridhe na h-iomairt seo bha sinn airson cuid de na h-òrain a chruinnich sinn a theagasg do na sgoilearan Tha na sgoilearan air an t-uabhas misneachd fhaighinn às an iomairt seo, gu h-àraid nuair a ghlèidh iad an dà fharpais aca aig Mòd Loch Aillse sa Phloc is iad a’ seinn òrain Shlèiteach a chruinnich sinn. Fhuair sinn cothrom an lùib seo cuideachd film aithriseach a dhèanamh airson BBC Naidheachdan a nochd air tbh air BBC An Là, air Radio nan Gàidheal agus Naidheachdan Air-loidhne.

celebrated Gaelic singer, Christine Primrose, for Andrew McDougall, Head of Staff Development at the NLS. We have an opportunity in the new year to give an online presentation to NLS staff on the delivery and outputs of the project. Opportunities like this raise the profile of the Library and the project, and help share knowledge about Gaelic and the area with staff at the National Library.

- **BBC Alba** - we arranged a meeting with head of BBC Alba, Mairead Màiri Mhoireach, and members of her team to ask whether they would be willing to search their radio archive on our behalf. We prepared a list of people from Sleat who may have been recorded in past years and they came back to us with a substantial collection of recordings from the 1970s to the 1990s featuring Sleat people singing and speaking on various topics. These programmes are not yet available on Tobar an Dualchais or anywhere else online. BBC Alba were firmly of the view that these recordings belong to the community and that it would be appropriate for the community to be able to put them to use.
- **Comann Eachdraidh Shlèite** - we were in contact from the beginning of the project with the local historical society, Comann Eachdraidh Shlèite. We had the opportunity to present to members of the Comann, giving two separate talks: one on the Library’s resources and how local people could make use of them, and another on the aims of the project.
- **Sleat Primary School** - partnership with the local primary school, Bun-sgoil Shlèite, was extremely important in relation to one of the project’s main aims - putting the information and knowledge we had gathered into the hands of the next generation. The school choir was restarted with the support of myself and two fellow parents, and at the heart of this initiative was our wish to teach some of the songs we had collected to the pupils. The children gained a great deal of confidence from this, especially when winning both their competitions at the Lochalsh Mod in Plockton singing songs from Sleat. Through this work we also had the chance to make a short documentary piece for BBC News, which was broadcast on BBC An Là, BBC Radio nan Gàidheal and BBC News Online.

3.

Cùisean laghail, ceadan is conaltradh

Legal matters, permissions and communication



Cruthaich dreach de dh'fhoirm cead agus GDPR airson agallamhan.

Create a draft consent and GDPR form for interviews.

Tha foirmean cead agus GDPR glè chudromach ann am pròiseact beul-aithris sam bith - dèan cinnteach gu bheil gach seòrsa cead agad airson clàraidhean a dhèanamh agus an sgaoileadh. An cois nam foirmichean, tha thu a' dìon còraichean an neach-agallaimh agus a' dearbhadh gu bheil an neach a' tuigsinn mar a thèid an t-agallamh a chleachdadh agus gu bheil iad a' cur an cead an cèill gu soilleir airson sin.

Consent and GDPR forms are very important in any oral history project - make sure you have all the necessary permissions to record and to share material. Alongside the forms, you are protecting the rights of interviewees and ensuring they understand how the interview will be used and that they are clearly giving their consent.

Feumaidh tu cuideachd sealltainn gu bheil thu a' gèilleadh ris an lagh. Tha GDPR (Riaghailtean Coitcheann Dion Dàta) a' cur riaghailtean teann an sàs a thaobh mar a thèid dàta pearsanta a chruinneachadh, a stòradh, a làimhseachadh is a sgaoileadh. Tha na foirmichean riatanach is sinn a' cumail ris na riaghailtean sin.

You must also show that you comply with the law. GDPR (the General Data Protection Regulation) lays down strict rules for how personal data is collected, stored, handled and shared. These forms are essential in ensuring we comply with those rules.

Soilleireachd agus earbsa. Tha sinn a' togail earbsa agus a' brosnachadh com-pàirteachadh nuair a bheir sin fiosrachadh soilleir seachad do dhaoine mu na còraichean aca agus mar a thèid an dàta aca a chleachdadh.

Clarity and trust. We build trust and encourage participation when we clearly explain to people their rights and how their data will be used.

Fianais laghail. Nan nochdadh ceist laghail san àm ri teachd, bhiodh na foirmean ann mar dhearbhadh gun deach cead a thoirt gu foirmeil.

Legal evidence. If any legal question arises in future, the forms serve as proof that formal consent was given.

Rianachd. Tha e cudromach gu bheil sinn a' cumail clàr air cò às a thàinig gach agallamh, dè an cead a chaidh a thoirt seachad agus dè na bacaidhean (ma tha gin ann) a tha nan lùib.

Record-keeping. It is important to keep a record of where each interview came from, what consent was granted and what restrictions (if any) apply.



Bileag fiosrachaidh. Dèan bileag fiosrachaidh mun phròiseact airson fios a leigeil don choimhearsnachd.

B' urrainnear a' bhileag seo a chur ann am bùithtean ionadail, air bùird-shanais, air na meadhanan sòisealta. Bha a' bhileag againne a' toirt seachad fiosrachadh riatanach ann an cruth simplidh, a bha soirbh a leughadh, a chuidicheas daoine a thuigsinn dè tha sinn ris.

Tha conaltradh poblach mar seo cudromach airson muinntir an àite a bhrosnachadh airson cur ris a' phròiseact tro sgeulachdan, dealbhan, ceòl no eòlas air Gàidhlig na sgìre. Tha sinn airson a h-uile cothrom a ghabhail airson aire chultarail a thogail agus an cultar Gàidhealach a chomharrachadh is a bhrosnachadh agus seo uile a dhèanamh follaiseach don choimhearsnachd.

Gabh an cothrom air sanasachd sam bith a dhèanamh airson a' phròiseict. Sgrìobh sinn brath-naidheachd aig toiseach a' phròiseict a chaidh sgaoileadh do na pàipearan naidheachd ionadail (West Highland Free Press, Skye and Lochalsh Echo) agus gu BBC Naidheachdan. Às a sin, fhuair sinn cothrom agallamh beò a dhèanamh air Aithris na Maidne is sinn a' mineachadh amasan a' phròiseict.

Dè bu chòir a bhith anns a' bhileig fhiosrachaidh agad?

- Ainm is logo a' phròiseict airson aire a thogail. Dealbhaich suaicheantas a chuirear air sgrìobhainnean a' phròiseict. B' urrainnear seo a dhèanamh taobh a-staigh na buidhne (nas saoire) no taobh a-muigh ('s dòcha nas proifeiseanta). Rinn sinn fhìn ìomhaigh air leth simplidh le bathar-bog an-asgaidh (GIMP) is sinn a' cleachdadh mapa den sgìre agus ainm a' phròiseict thairis air. Tha mapaichean glè fhreagarrach airson a leithid a phròiseact oir tha thu a' taisbeanadh is a' mineachadh crìochan sgìre a' phròiseict gu soilleir an làrach nam bonn.
- Adhbhar a' phròiseict – Carson a tha e cudromach? (A' dèanamh moladh cuide ris a' choimhearsnachd air dualchas, sgeulachdan, ceòl, dealbhan, dualchainnt na sgìre). Mar a bhios an obair seo feumail do ghinealachan ri teachd.
- Mar a ghabhas daoine pàirt ann. Innis dha muinntir na coimhearsnachd dè bhios tu ag iarraidh bhuapa, ma bhios iad deònach. Chuir sinn fhìn an cèill:
 - 5 prìomh amasan a' phròiseict
 - Mineachadh farsaing air na bha fa-near dhuinn
 - Leigeil fios gun robh sinn gu mòr 's gum biodh muinntir na coimhearsnachd an sàs bhon toiseach
 - Fiosrachadh conaltraidh – Post-d, àireamh fòn, làrach-lìn, meadhanan sòisealta.

Information leaflet. Prepare an information leaflet about the project for the community.

This leaflet can be placed in local shops, on noticeboards, and shared on social media. Our leaflet provided essential information in a simple, easy-to-read format, helping people understand what we were doing.

Public communication of this kind is important to encourage local people to contribute to the project through stories, photographs, music or knowledge of the Gaelic of the area. We want to take every opportunity to raise cultural awareness and to celebrate and promote Gaelic culture – and to make all of this visible to the community.

Make use of any publicity opportunities. We wrote a press release at the start of the project which was sent to local newspapers (West Highland Free Press, Skye and Lochalsh Echo) and to BBC News. As a result, we were invited to give a live interview on Aithris na Maidne explaining the aims of the project.

What should your information leaflet contain?

- The project's name and logo to catch attention. Design a logo to place on project documents. This can be done in-house (less expensive) or externally (perhaps more professional). We created a very simple image ourselves using free software (GIMP), using a map of the area and the project name. Maps are very suitable for this type of project because they clearly show and define the geographical boundaries.
- The purpose of the project – why is it important? (It may be framed as a way of acknowledging the community's heritage, stories, music, photographs and local dialect). Explain how this work will benefit future generations.
- How people can take part. Tell community members what you are hoping for from them, if they are willing. We included:
 - The five main aims of the project
 - A broad explanation of what we were planning
 - A clear statement that we very much wanted community involvement from the start
 - Contact details – email, phone number, website, social media.



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“Slèite dhubh-ghorm thug mi gràdh dhut,
thar gach dùthaich mo rùn gu bràth ort
Aig deireadh ùine is crìoch mo làithean
gum b’ e mo dhùrachd nad ùir bhith a’ cnàmh ann.”

“Dark blue Sleat, I gave my love to you,
above every land my eternal love on you,
At the end of time and of my allotted days,
it is my wish to decay in your earth.”

IAIN MACLEÒID,
GEAMAIR AN TORRA MHÒIR / THE TORMORE GAMEKEEPER.

4.

Cruinneachadh

Collecting

“Bha obair chruinneachaidh air aon de na pàirtean a bu chudromaiche agus a bu thlachdmhoire dhomhsa mar leabharlannaiche.”

Bha obair chruinneachaidh air aon de na pàirtean a bu chudromaiche agus a bu thlachdmhoire dhomhsa mar leabharlannaiche.

Fhuair sinn an cothrom sgrùdadh is rùrachd am measg nan leabhraichean againn agus anns an tasglann againn far an robh an t-uabhas susbaint mun Ghàidhlig agus le Gàidheil ann an Slèite agus a h-uile rud sin a tharraing ri chèile. Lorg sinn gu leòr à sgìrean eile san Eilean Sgitheanach, gu h-àraid sgìre an t-Srath, a dh'fhaodadh a bhith feumail airson ìrean eile den phròiseact san àm ri teachd. Bha sinn a-riamh airson 's gur h-e buannachd mhòr a bhiodh ann nam biodh cothrom aig a' choimhearsnachd eòlas a chur air na tha taisgte anns an tasglann againn is gum b' urrainn dhuinn an t-susbaint sin a chleachdadh airson math na coimhearsnachd.

Clàraidhean. Bha clàraidhean sna cruinneachaidhean againn bho dhiofar phròiseactan beul-aithris a bh' ann roimhe is a bh' air an gleidheadh san tasglann againn, nam measg:

Bha sreath theipichean is thar-sgrìobhadhean ann bho phròiseact beul-aithris a rinneadh san sgìre ann an 1982 is 1983, nuair a chaidh luchd pròiseict a-mach a chlàradh Gàidheil Shlèite is an t-Srath, fo stiùir Eachainn MhicCoinnich, Camas Chros. Tha mu 30 agallamh anns a' chruinneachadh seo agus mu 12 dhiubh sin à Slèite. Bha na teipichean ann am measgachadh de staidhean - cuid aca a bha ann an staid mhath gu leòr, cuid far an robh e doirbh dèanamh a-mach gu soilleir na tha san agallamh agus cuid dhiubh a bha gu tur bàn gu mì-fhortanach. Tha staid nan teipichean a' sealltainn gu bheil e riatanach gun tèid na tha ann a ghleidheadh

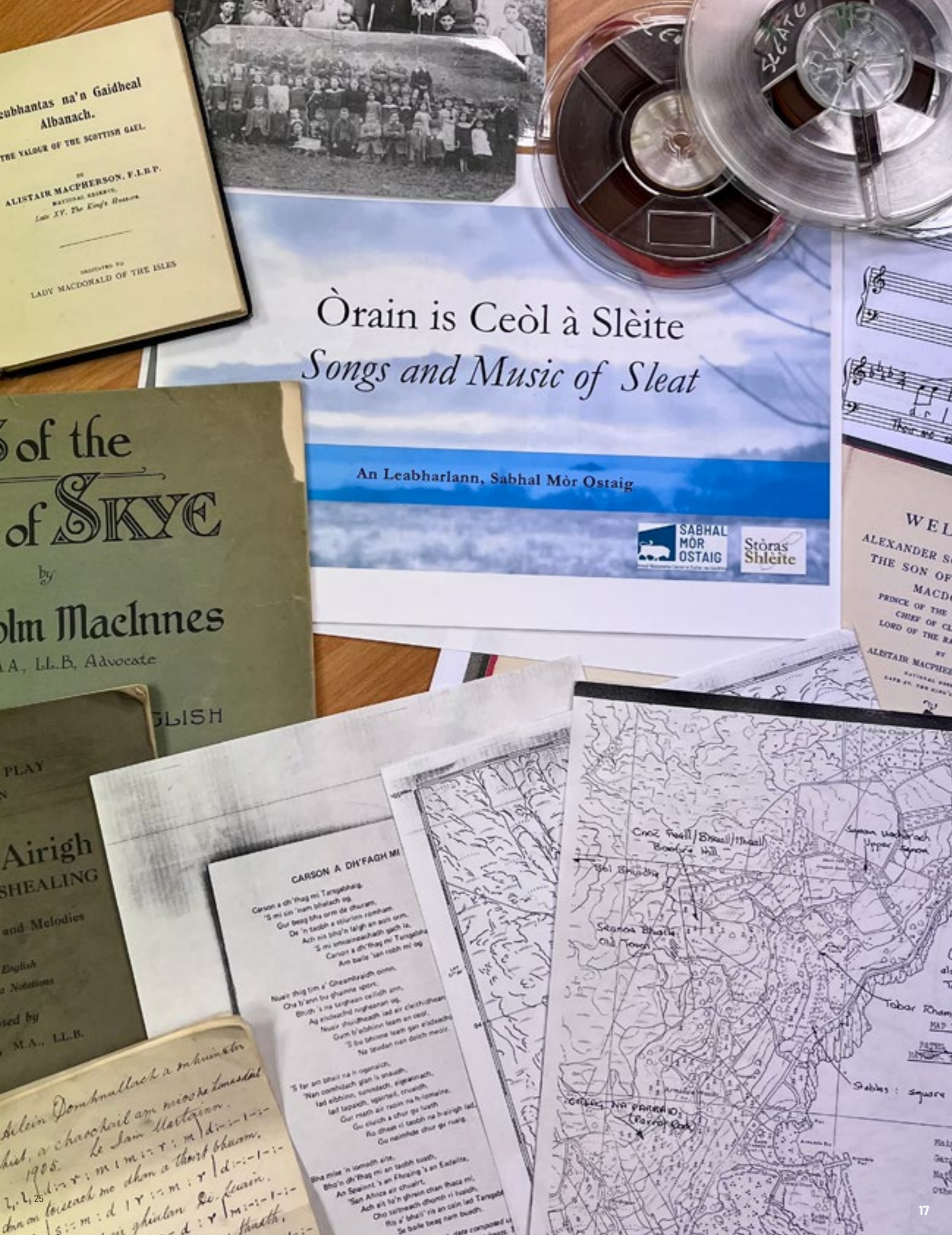
The collecting stage of the project was one of the most important and enjoyable parts of the project for me as a librarian.

We had the opportunity to explore and search among our books and archive collections, where there was a wealth of material relating to Gaelic in Sleat, and to pull all of that together. We found a lot of material from other parts of Skye too, especially Strath, which could be useful for future phases of the project. We had always wanted the community to have the opportunity to get to know what is held in our archive, and to use that content for the benefit of the community.

Recordings. We held recordings in our collections from earlier oral history projects that had been preserved in our archive, including:

A set of cassette tapes and transcripts from an oral history project carried out locally in 1982 and 1983, when project staff went out to record Gaels in Sleat and Strath, under the guidance of Hector MacKenzie, Camuscross. There are about thirty interviews in this collection, around twelve of them from Sleat. The tapes were in varying conditions - some were in reasonably good shape, some were difficult to hear clearly, and some, unfortunately, were completely blank. The condition of the tapes shows how necessary it is to preserve and digitise this material before all of the information and knowledge on them is lost.





agus a chur ann an cruth didseatach mus tèid am fiosrachadh is an t-eòlas a th' orra a chall uile gu lèir.

Leis gun deach na h-agallamhan seo a dhèanamh le daoine nas sine aig toiseach na 1980an, cha chreid sinn gu bheil duine a rinn agallamh beò tuilleadh. Tha sin a' ciallachadh gu bheil an stòras seo nas luachmhoire buileach agus tha e mar dhleastanas oirnn a bhith gan gleidheadh cho math 's as urrainn dhuinn airson na coimhearsnachd agus teaghlaichean an luchd-agallaimh.

Chaidh cuid de na teipichean a bu mhiosa a chur tro phròiseas AI ([LALALAI](#)) airson an glanadh agus na guthan a dhèanamh na bu shoilleire agus fuaimean eile a lùghdachadh. Dh'obraich sin glè mhath agus ged nach eil na clàraidhean buileach 'glan', tha iad fada nas fheàrr agus gabhaidh èisteachd ris na còmhraidhean gu soilleir. Bha cothrom againn na clàraidhean slàn a thoirt air ais do na teaghlaichean on tàinig iad agus iad fhèin air an dòigh cothrom fhaighinn èisteachd ris an luchd-dàimh aca.

Chuir sinn foirmichean cead gu na teaghlaichean bhon dà phròiseact bheul-aithris a bha taisgte feuch am biodh cead againn na clàraidhean seo a chur ris na clàraidhean ùra a rinn muinntir a' phròiseict am-bliadhna.

Gairm airson clàraidhean. Chuir sinn gairm a-mach san sgìre cuideachd feuch an robh clàraidhean aig daoine eile a b' urrainn dhaibh co-roinn leinn. Bha a' ghairm gu math soirbheachail agus thàinig clàraidhean thugainn de dh'agallamhan, pìosan rèidio, òrain, clàraidhean teaghlaich. Am measg nan nithean a b' inntinniche a thàinig thugainn, bha clàradh bho thoiseach nan 1960an a rinn teaghlach san sgìre is iad ag innse an cuid naidheachdan is a' cur an dùrachdan gu neach-dàimh aca a bha air imrich a-null thairis.

Dealbhan. Chuir sinn gairm a-mach don choimhearsnachd na b' fhaisge air deireadh ciad bhliadhna a' phròiseict feuch am biodh daoine deònach dealbhan camara a chur thugainn. Bha sinn a' sireadh dhealbhan às an sgìre gu h-àraid airson an làrach-lìn a sgeadachadh ann an dòigh iomchaidh. Thug seo cothrom do dhaoine pàirt a ghabhail mura biodh e comasach dhaibh agallamh a dhèanamh cuide rinn. Fhuair sinn an t-uabhas air ais às na diofar bhailetean ann an Slèite: dealbhan den chruth-tìre, seann chairtean puist, dealbhan de mhuinntir na sgìre, daoine ri croitearachd is obraichean eile, dealbhan sgoile.

Since these interviews were conducted with older people in the early 1980s, we do not believe that any of the interviewees are still alive. That makes the collection even more valuable, and it is our duty to preserve it as well as we can for the community and for the families of those recorded.

Some of the tapes in poorer condition were put through an AI process ([LALALAI](#)) to clean them up, make voices clearer and reduce other background noise. This worked very well and, although the recordings are not perfectly "clean", they are much better and the conversations are now clearly audible. We were able to return the full recordings to the families they came from, who were delighted to have the chance to listen to their relatives.

We sent consent forms to the families of interviewees from the two archived oral history projects, asking for permission to include these recordings alongside the new interviews made by the project team this year.

Call for recordings. We also issued a call in the community asking whether others had recordings they could share with us. The call was very successful and we received recordings of interviews, radio items, songs and family recordings. Among the most interesting items was a recording from the early 1960s made by a local family, in which they tell their news and send greetings in Gaelic to a relative who had emigrated overseas.

Photographs. Near the end of the project's first year, we issued a call to the local community asking if people would be willing to send us photographs. We were looking especially for images from the area to use on the website. This gave people a way of taking part even if being interviewed was not possible for them. We received many photographs back from different townships in Sleat: landscape, old postcards, portraits of local people, people involved in crofting and other work, school photographs.

5.

An Duanaire Slèiteach: Stòr-dàta de dh'Òrain à Slèite

An Duanaire Slèiteach - The Sleat Song Database

Bha fios againn mus do thòisich Stòras Shlèite gun robh òrain is ceòl anns an sgìre agus 's dòcha cuid a rudan ann nach robh air an tional no an sgrìobhadh air pàipear fhathast ach cha robh for againn gum biodh uiread ann.

Thòisich mi fhìn le taic nàbaidh, a tha uabhasach fiosrach mu chruinneachadh òran is bàrdachd, air na b' urrainn dhuinn de dh'òrain a chruinneachadh às a h-uile tobar ciùil a b' urrainn dhuinn a lorg.

Gu ruige seo, tha sinn air còrr is 200 òran le Slèitich no mu dheidhinn Shlèite a chur ris an liosta. Tha sinn a' comharrachadh tiotal is sgrìobhadair an òrain, ceangal dha na faclan is dhan cheòl ma tha e ri fhaotainn agus ceangal dhan tùs on d' fhuair sinn e. Tha iomadach cothrom air nochdadh cheana airson an stòras luachmhor de dh'òrain ionadail a chur gu feum mar-thà. Thèid an liosta a chur air an làraich-lìn agus tha sinn an dòchas gun tèid againn air duanaire no leabhar ciùil fhoillseachadh stèidhichte air a bheairteas seo san àm ri teachd.

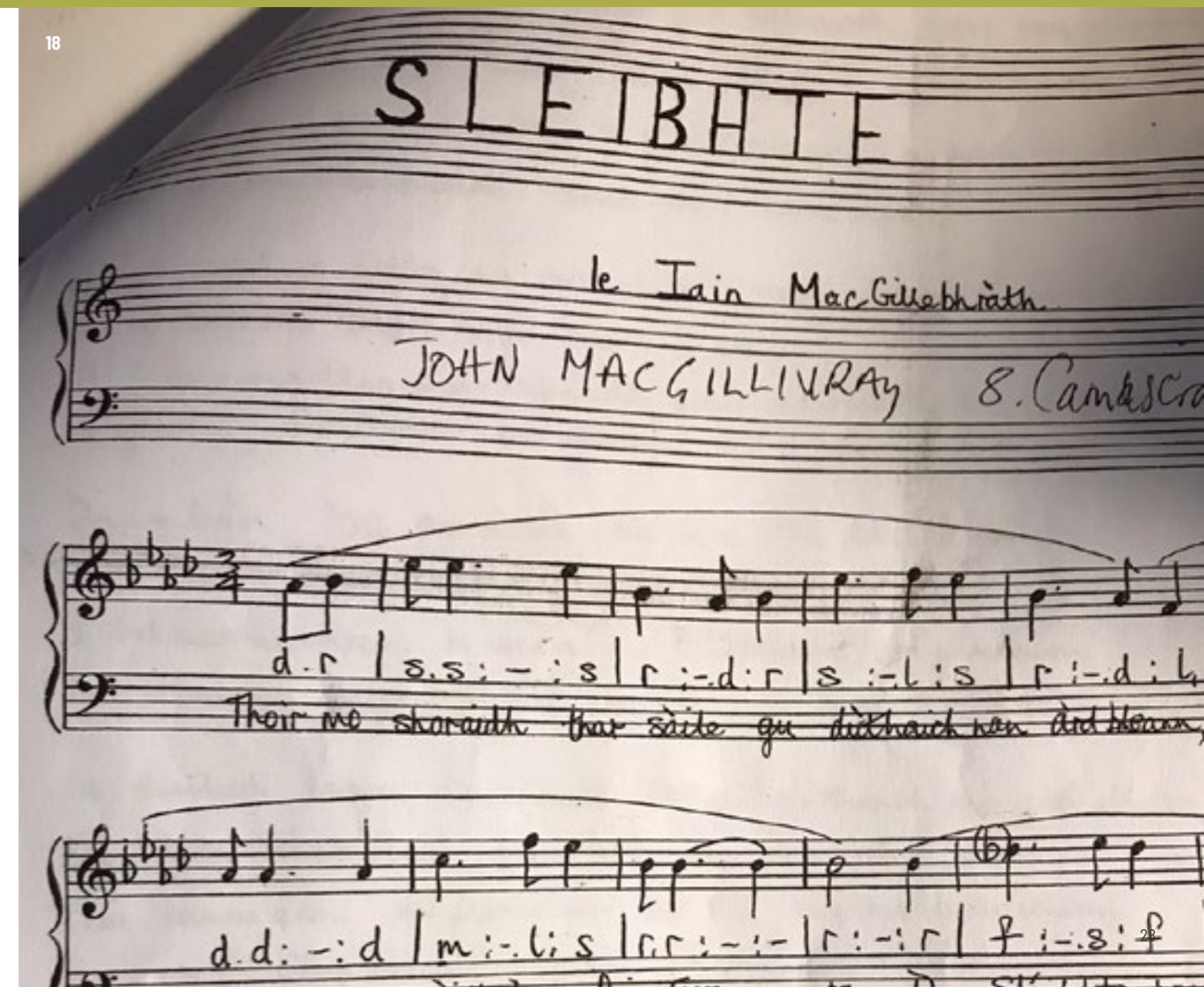
Bha e na iongnadh na bh' ann de cheòl ri lorg ann an iomadach àite, sna cruinneachaidhean aig an Leabharlann, san tasglann againn, air Tobar an Dualchais, ann an tasglann a' BhBC, air làrach-lìn an Leabharlainn Nàiseanta, air clàraidhean a thug muinntir na sgìre dhuinn agus fiù 's ann am pròiseact a rinn sgoilear na h-àrd-sgoile sna 1980an. Bhiodh cothrom ann do sgìrean eile a bhith a' rùrachd is a' rannsachadh anns na tùsan seo agus tùsan ionadail eile airson na b' urrainnear de dh'òrain is ceòl às an sgìre a chruinneachadh, eagrachadh agus a thaisbeanadh.

We knew before Stòras Shlèite began that there were many songs and pieces of music from the area, and that there might be material which had not yet been collected or written down, but we had no idea that there would be so much.

With the help of a neighbour, who is extremely knowledgeable about song and poetry collecting, we began to gather as many songs as we could from every musical source we could find.

So far we have added over 200 songs by Slèitich, or about Sleat, to the list. We have identified the title and author of each song, links to words and music where available, and a link to the original source. There have already been many opportunities to put this rich collection of local songs to use. The list will be placed on the website, and we hope that we will be able to produce a song-book based on this wealth of material in due course.

We were surprised at how much material there was to be found in so many different places - in the Library's printed collections, in our archive, Tobar an Dualchais, in the BBC archive, on the National Library's website, in recordings given to us by local people, and even in a project done by a secondary-school pupil in the 1980s. Other districts could follow a similar path, searching these sources and local collections to gather, organise and present as much as possible of the songs and music from their own area.



6.

Agallamhan Interviews



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Annas a' bhuidseat againn, chuir sinn an cèill gun robh airgead a dhith oirnn airson neach-rannsachadh-làraich no obraiche pròiseict fhadthadha a bhiodh a' cuideachadh le diofar thaobhan den phròiseact ach gu seachd àraid le agallamhan: ag obair leis an liosta againn, a' cur fios dha na daoine feuch am biodh iad deònach, a' cur uair is àite air dòigh, ag ullachadh cheistean, a' dèanamh cinnteach gum biodh foirmichean cead air am mineachadh is air an lionadh, a' dèanamh agallamhan, a' deasachadh nan clàraidhean às dèidh làimh.

Bha sinn uabhasach fortanach gun d' fhuair sinn cothrom Gàidheal às an sgìre, Ruairidh Greumach, fhadthadha latha san t-seachdain, bhon Mhàrt gu an Lùnastal, airson an obair seo a ghabhail os làimh. Bha Ruairidh air leth freagarrach airson na h-obrach air sàillibh 's gum buin e don sgìre is bha cuid den luchd-agallaimh eòlach air is air a theaghlach - uaireannan bha cothrom aige air agallamh nach biodh againn mura b' e e fhèin a bha san dreuchd. Bha beachdan air leth cruthachail aig Ruairidh air diofar dhòighean a b' urrainn dhuinn am pròiseact a leudachadh is a leasachadh agus bha sinn glè thaingeil airson a chuid obrach.

Às dèidh dhuinn liosta a dhèanamh de na daoine ann an Slèite le Gàidhlig bhon ghluin, chuir sinn agallamhan air dòigh cuide riutha, mar as trice anns an taigh aca fhèin. Chaidh agallamh no dhà a dhèanamh air a' bhàr a-muigh cuideachd. Bha seo air leth math airson cuimhneachaidhean a dhùsgadh is airson bruidhinn air cuspairean a leithid ainmean-àite.

Dèan cinnteach mus falbh thu gu agallamh gu bheil a h-uile rud air a chur air dòigh ro làimh mar bu chòir, m.e. gu bheil an t-uidheam

In our budget we indicated that we would need funding to employ a fieldworker or project worker who would help with various aspects of the project, but especially the interviews: working from our list, contacting people to ask whether they would be willing, arranging times and places, preparing questions, making sure that consent forms were explained and completed, carrying out interviews and editing recordings afterwards.

We were very fortunate to get the opportunity to employ a local Gaelic speaker, Ruairidh Graham, for one day a week from March to August to take on some of this work. Ruairidh was an excellent fit for the role as he comes from the area and some of the interviewees knew himself and his family. Sometimes he was able to secure an interview which we would not have obtained had anyone else been in the post. Ruairidh had very creative ideas about ways in which we could expand and develop the project and we were very grateful for his work.

After drawing up a list of people in Sleat who had native Gaelic, we arranged interviews with them, usually in their own home. One or two were carried out outdoors, which was an excellent way of awakening memories and talking about topics such as place-names.

Make sure before going to an interview that everything is properly set up, e.g. that the recording equipment is working.

“Nach gabh thu briosgaid eile!”

“Will you not have another biscuit?”

clàraidh ag obrachadh. Cuir dòigh clàraidh a bharrachd air dòigh air eagal 's nach eil am prìomh inneal a' clàradh airson adhbhar sam bith. Seo far am feum sinn fhìn aideachadh gun deach sinn gu coinneamh anns an robh còmhraidh laghach fad uair gu leth agus nuair a thill sinn don oifis fhuair sinn a-mach gun robh an clàradh air tighinn gu stad ro dheireadh an agallaimh! Gu fortanach, bha sinn a' clàradh air fòn-làimh mar dàrna inneal clàraidh is cha deach susbaint sam bith a chall.

Bha na h-agallamhan ùra a rinn sinn air aon de na rudan a bu chudromaiche a rinn sinn tro bhliadhna a' phròiseict. Bha e na thlachd a bhith a' cur eòlas air na daoine fhèin. Bha cuid a dhaoine ann nach bi a' cleachdadh an cuid Gàidhlig uabhasach tric, mar sin, chaidh innse dhuinn gun do chòrd e riuthasan gu sònraichte. Mar sin, fiù 's airson an cothrom sin fhèin a thoirt gu daoine an cuid Gàidhlig a chleachdadh b' fhiach na h-agallamhan gu mòr.

Airson gach agallamh bha sinn ag amas air uair a thide de chlàradh ach ann an da-rìribh bhitheamaid a' tomhas anns an agallamh fhèin dè cho fada 's a bu chòir dhuinn cumail a' dol. Cha robh sinn idir airson an luchd-agallaimh fhàgail sgìth. Ach anns a' chiad agallamh a rinn mi fhìn le neach-agallaimh air leth a bha còrr is 90 bliadhna a dh'aois is aig an robh pailteas de sgeulachdan, bha mi ann fad trì uairean an uaireadair agus gach turas a dh'fheuch mi ri gnothaichean a thoirt gu crìch, chanadh e, “Tha e tràth gu leòr fhathast! agus “Nach gabh thu briosgaid eile!”

Dh'ullaich sinn liosta de cheistean anns an fharsaingeachd, a' toirt a-staigh iomadach cuspair, a leithid: teaghlach, pàrantan, a' choimhearsnachd, croitearachd, làithean-sgoile, ceòl is òrain, cogadh, obair, taighean, bùithtean, rathaidean, biadh is deoch, beathaichean, dannsaichean, cèilidhean. A-rithist, bha na ceistean is susbaint an agallaimh gu mòr an eisimeil air eòlas is cuimhneachaidhean an neach-agallaimh agus leig sinn leothasan ar stiùireadh tron chòmhraidh.

Feumar dleasan cead is GDPR a choileanadh agus a bhith mothachail orra tro na h-agallamhan agus cuideachd às dèidh làimh nuair a tha sinn a' smaoinneachadh air ciamar a thèid susbaint bho na h-agallamhan a chleachdadh. Chaidh foirmichean cead airson a' phròiseict seo ullachadh le taic oifigeir GDPR an t-Sabhail Mhòir.

Deasachadh. Chleachd sinn fhìn bathar-bog an-asgaidh (Audacity) agus GarageBand a thig cuide ri coimpiutairean Apple airson agallamhan a ghearradh is a dheasachadh. Gheàrr sinn earrannan às na h-agallamhan a rèir chuspairean airson an taisbeanadh air-loidhne.

Arrange a backup method of recording just in case the main device fails for any reason. We must confess that we went to one interview ourselves, had a lovely conversation for an hour and a half, only to discover when we returned to the office that the recording had stopped before the end of the interview! Fortunately, we had also been recording on a mobile phone as a backup device and did not lose any of the content.

The new interviews we carried out were among the most important things we did during the project year. It was a pleasure to get to know the people themselves. Some of the interviewees do not use their Gaelic very often, and they told us that they had enjoyed the experience. Providing that opportunity to use their Gaelic made the interviews very worthwhile.

For each interview our target was to record for about an hour, but in reality we would judge during the interview itself how long we should continue. We certainly did not want to leave interviewees exhausted. That said, in the very first interview we did, with an exceptional interviewee, who was over 90 years of age and who had a wealth of stories, I managed to keep recording for three hours – and every time I tried to bring things to a close he would say, “It's early enough yet!” and “Will you not have another biscuit?”

We prepared a list of general questions, covering a wide range of subjects such as: families, parents and grandparents, the community, crofting, schooldays, music and song, war, work, houses, shops, roads, food and drink, animals, dances and ceilidhs. Again, the questions and content were heavily shaped by the interviewee's own experience and memories, and we allowed them to lead us through the conversation.

It is essential to fulfil consent and GDPR obligations and to stay aware of them throughout the interviewing process and afterwards, when we are deciding how the material will be used. The consent forms for this project were prepared with support from Sabhal Mòr Ostaig's GDPR officer.

Editing. We used free software (Audacity) and GarageBand, which comes with Apple computers, to cut and edit interviews. We edited short extracts from the interviews by theme, for presentation online.

7.

Foghlam agus com-pàirteachadh cultarail Education and cultural participation

Stèidhich sinn às ùr còisir Bun-sgoil Shlèite le taic dà phàrant eile. Bha e mar amas againn gum biodh a' chlann ag ionnsachadh is a' cur eòlas air òrain à Slèite a bha sinn air cruinneachadh gus an dèanadh an òigridh ceangal leis a' chultar ionadail aca.

Bha ballrachd den chòisir roghainneil agus bhiodh eadar 15-20 pàiste ann gach turas. Fhuair sinn measgachadh de dh'aoisean, cuid à teaghlachan le freumhan domhain sa choimhearsnachd is a bha càirdeach de cuid de na bàird a sgrìobh na h-òrain agus cuid à teaghlachan a bha air tighinn dhan sgìre o chionn ghoirid is am pròiseact a' toirt cothrom dhaibh eòlas a chur air ceòl is cultar an àite. Fhuair sinn cuideachd clann bho ionad Beurla na sgoile nach robh fileanta sa chànan ach a bha èasgaidh is deònach ionnsachadh tro na h-òrain.

Chaidh measgachadh de dh'òrain a thaghadh às an stòras airson na cloinne. Chaidh iarraidh air a' chloinn seinn aig cèilidh san sgìre is chaidh iarraidh oirnn fhìn òran a lorg co-cheangailte ris a' chladach. Cha robh mi eòlach air a leithid a dh'òran ach bha pìos bàrdachd ann, Fàilte an t-Samhraidh, le bàrd Chamas Chros, Iain Màrtainn, a bha a' tarraing air an aon chuspair. 'S e pìos bàrdachd sgrìobhte a bha seo a nochd anns an iris Ghàidhlig, Guth na Bliadhna, ann an 1917. Cho fad 's a b' aithne dhomh, cha robh fonn air a-riamh agus bha an dàn mar a bha e ro fhada airson na cloinne. Rinn mi deasachadh air gus am biodh ceithir rannan is sèist anns an dreach againn agus chuir mi fonn ris a fhreagair ri rannaidheachd an dàin. Bha e na adhbhar tlachd gun robh cothrom aig a' chòisir am pìos bàrdachd seo a thoirt beò a-rithist às dèidh

We re-established the Sleat Primary School choir with the support of two other parents. Our aim was that the children would learn some of the songs from Sleat we had collected, so that young people would form a connection with their own local culture.

Choir membership was voluntary, and there were usually between 15 and 20 children at any one time. We had a mix of ages, some from families with deep roots in the community and related to some of the poets who wrote the songs, and some from families who had moved into the area more recently, with the project giving them an opportunity to get to know the culture and music of the place. We also had children from the school's English-medium unit, who were not fluent in Gaelic but eager to learn through song.

A variety of songs was selected from the collection for the children. They were to sing at a local ceilidh and we were asked to find a song connected to the shoreline. We did not know of a song of that kind, but there was a poem, Fàilte an t-Samhraidh, by the Camuscross poet, John Martin, on that very theme. It is a written poem that appeared in the Gaelic journal Guth na Bliadhna in 1917. As far as we knew there had never been a tune for it, and in its original form it was too long for the children. I made an edited version of four verses and a chorus, and put a melody to it that matched the poem's rhythm. It was a real privilege to see the choir bring this piece of poetry back to life after a hundred years by children from the very area it came from. The song has been sung



ceud bliadhna le clann na sgìre on tàinig e. Tha an t-òran air a bhith ga sheinn tric is minig bhon uair sin agus tha e fa-near gun tèid a chlàradh leis a' chloinn ann an stiùideo ciùil na Colaiste.

Bha cothrom againn a' chòisir a chur air adhart gu Mòd Loch Aillse, a bh' air a stèidheachadh às ùr. Dh'ionnsaich a' chlann trì òrain à Slèite airson na dà fharpais aca. Bha e na adhbhar moit is brosnachaidh dhaibh fhèin gun do ghlèidh iad am bonn òir anns an dà fharpais aca. Bha uairean-obrach a bharrachd (ris nach robh dùil san tagradh) an cois na h-obrach ullachaidh, gu h-àraid nuair a bha sinn a' dlùthachadh ri àm a' mhòid. Fhuair a' chlann an t-uabhas às, a bharrachd air na duaisean fhèin. Tha e follaiseach gu bheil na seiseanan còisir a' còrdadh riutha agus tha e na thlachd gu bheil iad a' cur barrachd eòlais air dualchas na sgìre aca.

Tha tè de na pàrantan a tha a' ruith na còisir cuide rium air comharraidhean Makaton a chur ri cuid de na h-òrain a bhios a' chlann a' seinn. 'S e dòigh chonaltraidh chomharran làimh is iomhaighean a th' ann am Makaton a th' air a cleachdadh le daoine air a bheil duilgheadasan conaltraidh is ionnsachaidh. Tha e a' còrdadh ris a' chloinn sa chòisir a bhith ag ionnsachadh nan comharran seo. Tha an dòigh chonaltraidh seo uabhasach soirbh a thaisbeanadh is ionnsachadh agus 's urrainn dhuinn a chleachdadh cuideachd mar shlighe a-steach gu òrain is fuaimean na Gàidhlig le clann nach eil cho cleachdte ri faclan is fuaimean a' chànain, m.e. clann nas òige no clann ann am foghlam tro mheadhan na Beurla.

Chaidh eisimpleirean de ghoireasan teagaisg a chruinneachadh à pròiseactan eadar-theangachaidh anns an robh mi an sàs roimhe airson bhuidhnean a leithid Leabharlann Nàiseanta na h-Alba agus Taighean-tasgaidh Nàiseanta Alba, air iomadach cuspair, m.e. Na Seumasaich, An Saoghal Nàdarra is eile. Tha dùil ann gum bi mi a' co-obrachadh anns a' bhliadhna' ùir, le neach-teagaisg àrd-sgoile ann an Àrd-sgoil Phort Rìgh airson a leithid a phasgan teagaisg a chur ri chèile, stèidhichte air dualchas Shlèite, do dh'Àrd-sgoil Phort Rìgh sa chiad dol a-mach, ach a dh'fhaodadh a bhith air a chleachdadh le sgoil sam bith eile.

Chaidh cruinneachadh beag de leabhraichean is nithean eile ionadail a thrusadh is a thaisbeanadh ann an taisbeanadh beag san Leabharlann. Tha dùil ann gun tèid seo a leasachadh agus gun tèid taisbeanadh de leabhraichean, ceòl, làmh-sgrìobhainnean, dealbhan, innealan-ciùil is eile às an sgìre a chur air dòigh mar phrìomh thaisbeanadh Leabharlann an t-Sabhail ann an 2026. Bheireadh seo cothrom do mhuintir na sgìre is luchd-tadhail na Colaiste eòlas a chur air a' phròiseact, air an stòras a tha an Leabharlann a ghleidheadh agus air an litreachas a tha muinntir Shlèite air cruthachadh thar nan linntean.

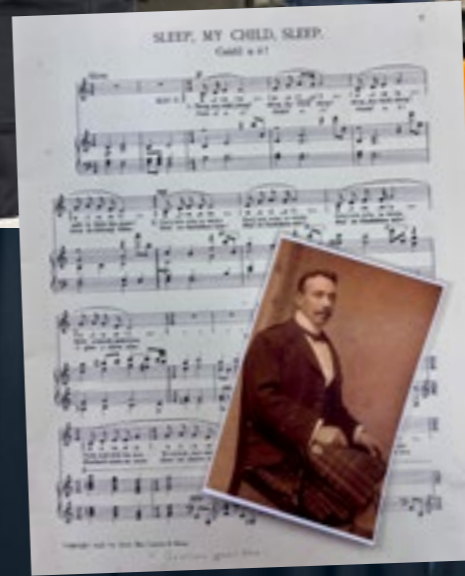
many times since and we hope that the children will get the opportunity to record it professionally in the College's music studio.

We had the opportunity to enter the choir in the newly re-established Lochalsh Mod. The children learnt three songs from Sleat for their two competitions. It was a source of pride and encouragement to them that they won the gold medal in both competitions. There were more working hours involved in the preparations than we had originally envisaged in the application, especially as we approached the Mod date. The children got a huge amount out of it, beyond the prizes themselves. It is clear that they enjoy the choir sessions and that they are gaining a deeper knowledge of their local heritage.

One of the parents who helps run the choir has added Makaton signs to some of the songs the children sing. Makaton is a communication method using hand signs and symbols that is used by people with communication and learning difficulties. The choir children enjoy learning these signs. This method of communication is very easy to demonstrate and learn, and we can also use it as a way into Gaelic for children who are less familiar with the words and sounds of the language, such as younger children or those in English-medium education.

We also collected examples of teaching resources from translation projects I had previously worked on for organisations such as the National Library of Scotland and National Museums Scotland on various topics, e.g. the Jacobites, the natural world. We intend, in the new year, to work with a secondary-school teacher in Portree High School to assemble a similar teaching pack, based on Sleat's Gaelic heritage, for Portree High School in the first instance, but which could be used by any other school.

A collection of local books and other items was gathered and displayed in a small exhibition in the Library. The plan is to develop this into a display of books, music, manuscripts, photographs, musical instruments and other items from the area as the Library's main exhibition in 2026. This will give local people and College visitors an opportunity to learn about the project, about the collections preserved in the Library and about the literature created by Sleat people over the centuries.



8.

Conaltradh is sgaoileadh Communication

A thuilleadh air bileag aig toiseach a' phròiseict agad, gabh an cothrom air taisbeanaidhean poblach a dhèanamh. 'S e dòigh mhath a th' ann airson fios a sgaoileadh sa choimhearsnachd. Am measg nan taisbeanaidhean a rinn sinn fhìn:

- Taisbeanadh stèidhichte air a' cheòl is na h-òrain a chaidh a lorg sa phròiseact do dh'òileanaich Conservatoire Rìoghail na h-Alba a bha a' tadhal air Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.
- Taisbeanadh cuide ri Flòraidh Forrest, Stiùiriche Thobar an Dualchais, do bhuill Iomairt Chamas Chros is Dhuisdeil, air ulaidhean ionadail a tha a' nochdadh air TaD agus air amasan Stòras Shlèite.
- Taisbeanadh do bhuill Chomann Eachdraidh Shlèite air a' phròiseact san fharsaingeachd agus na bha os n-ear sa bhliadhna a bha romhainn.
- Chaidh iarraidh oirnn pannal taisbeanaidh ullachadh airson taisbeanadh ionadail 3 làithean ann an Talla Àird a' Bhàsair a bha a' dèanamh luaidh air na ceanglaichean eadar Ionad Chlann Dòmhnail ann an Armadal agus a' choimhearsnachd.
- Thèid taisbeanadh a thoirt seachad as t-Earrach 2026 do Scottish Academic Libraries Cooperative Training Group - buidheann a bhios a' toirt seachad cothroman trèanaidh is fiosrachadh do leabharlannan air feadh na h-Alba.
- Bidh sinn an sàs ann an eagrachadh cèilidh teaghlach anns an sgìre sa Ghearran 2026 airson còisir na bun-sgoile a thaisbeanadh agus airson làrach-lìn a' phròiseict a chur air bhog.

In addition to the leaflet at the start of the project, take any opportunities to give public presentations. This is an excellent way of spreading information in the community. Among the presentations we gave were:

- A presentation on the music and songs discovered during the project to students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland who were visiting Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.
- A joint presentation with Flòraidh Forrest, director of Tobar an Dualchais, to members of Camuscross an Duisdale Initiative on local material appearing on TaD and on the aims of Stòras Shlèite.
- A presentation to members of the Sleat Historical Society on the project as a whole and our plans for the coming year.
- We were asked to prepare a display panel for a three-day local exhibition in Ardvasar Hall, which focused on the links between Clan Donald Centre in Armadale and the community.
- A presentation will be given in spring 2026 to the Scottish Academic Libraries Cooperative Training Group, a national organisation which provides training and information opportunities for libraries across Scotland.
- We will be involved in organising a family ceilidh in the area in February 2026 to showcase the school choir and to launch the project website.



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9.

Trèanadh

Tha e cudromach gu bheil sinn eòlach air na diofar dhleasan reachdail is laghail an lùib pròiseact mar seo bhon fhìor thoiseach, mar eisimpleir, GDPR. Bha trèanadh GDPR air a choileanadh ro làimh agus chaidh foirmichean cho coileanta 's a ghabhadh ullachadh le taic oifigeir GDPR an t-Sabhail Mhòir.

Tha dùil ann gun cuir sinn trèanadh air WordPress (an siostam làraichean-lìn air a bheil làrach a' phròiseict) air dòigh sa bhliadhna ùir gus an tèid diofar thaobhan den làraich a làimhseachadh is a ghleidheadh san àm ri teachd bho thaobh a-staigh an Leabharlainn seach a bhith an eisimeil cho tric air dealbhadair lìn. Bidh seo cudromach airson cur ris an làraich, airson gleidheadh na tha oirre mar-thà agus airson a leasachadh.

Tha e fa-near cuideachd trèanadh a dhèanamh le Tobar an Dualchais air a' chùrsa trì latha aca '[Ceanglaichean Cruthachail](#)'. Bhiodh an cùrsa seo freagarrach aig ìre sam bith de phròiseact. Bhiodh buannachdan ann a bhith ga dhèanamh mus tòisicheadh am pròiseact airson eòlas a chur air diofar thaobhan de phròiseactan beul-aithris no aig deireadh na h-iomairt nuair a bhiodh cothrom ann a bhith a' co-roinn an eòlais a fhuair a' tro obair a' phròiseict agus airson meòrachadh air na h-ath cheuman a dh'fhaodadh a bhith ann.



Training

It is important that we are familiar from the very beginning with the various legal obligations attached to a project, such as GDPR. GDPR training had already been completed, and consent forms were prepared as thoroughly as possible with the support of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig's GDPR officer.

We plan to arrange WordPress training (the website system used by the project website) in the coming year so that different aspects of the site can be managed and maintained from within the Library, rather than being dependant on a web designer for straightforward changes. This will be important for adding to the site, making edits, preserving what is already on it and further developing it.

The Tobar an Dualchais three-day '[Ceanglaichean Cruthachail/Creative Connections](#)' course would be suitable at any stage of a project - either before your oral history project begins, to learn about the various aspects of such projects, or at the end of the initiative, to share the learning gained through the project's work and to reflect on possible next steps.

10.

Làrach-lìn a' phròiseict (storasshleite.scot) Project website

Rinn sinn meòrachadh air diofar dhòighean airson na chruinnich sinn agus clàraidhean beul-aithris às an sgìre a thaisbeanadh. Dè an seòrsa goireis air an cuireadh a' choimhearsnachd feum? Rinn sinn beachdachadh eadar dà roghainn gu h-àraid, làrach-lìn no leabhar.

Thàinig sinn dhan cho-dhùnadh gum b' e làrach-lìn an roghainn a bu fhreagarraiche. Bha cosgais air aon de na prìomh adhbharan - bhiodh e comasach dhuinn làrach-lìn a chruthachadh taobh a-staigh a' bhuidseit a chaidh sònrachadh airson a' phròiseict. Rachadh na cosgaisean an lùib leabhair (sgriobhadh, deasachadh, foillseachadh) fada seachad air na bha comharraichte sa bhuidseat againn.

Dh'farr sinn barrachd maoineachaidh bho Mhaoin nam Planaichean Gàidhlig airson leabhar a dhèanamh, feuch am biodh sin comasach, ach cha ghabhadh sin dèanamh air sgàth gainnead ann am buidseatan na roinn poblaich. Bheireadh làrach-lìn dhuinn cothrom susbaint a chur ri chèile gun chosgaisean clò-bhualaidh agus gun bhacaidhean air meud no cruth. Bhitheamaid gu mòr airson cothrom a bhith againn fhathast anns an ùine a tha romhainn leabhar fhoillseachadh stèidhichte air a' phròiseact.

Tha buannachdan gu leòr eile an cois làrach-lìn cuideachd - faodar cur ris is ùrachadh san àm ri teachd gun duilgheadas, agus tha cothrom aig daoine air feadh an t-saoghail coimhead air aig àm sam bith. Mar sin, ged a bha sinn mothachail air an iomadach buannachd an cois leabhair, bha làrach-lìn a' freagairt nas fheàrr air na feumalachdan airson na h-ìre seo den phròiseact, a bheireadh dhuinn sùbailteachd agus comas a bhith ag ùrachadh is a' taisbeanadh na susbaint againn don choimhearsnachd.

Chuir sinn liosta riatanasan airson làrach-lìn gu dealbhadair lìn is fhuair sinn air ais tuairmse chosgaisean is liosta ghnìomhan a bhiodh comasach taobh a-staigh a' bhuidseit airson na pàirt seo den phròiseact. Bhiodh sùbailteachd ann - b' urrainn dhuinn comasan a bharrachd a chur ann/a thoirt às nan robh sinn a' teannadh dlùth ris an t-suim anns an tuairmse.



We thought carefully about how best to present the material and the oral history recordings from the area. What kind of resource would the community put to use? We weighed up two options in particular – a website or a book.

We decided that a website was the most suitable choice. Cost being a main factor – we could create a website within the project budget that had been allocated. The costs associated with a book (writing, editing, publishing) would far exceed what we had in our budget.

We sought additional funding from Maoin nam Planaichean Gàidhlig to produce a book, if possible, but that was not feasible due to funding constraints in the public sector. A website, on the other hand, would allow us to bring content together without print costs and without the same limitations on size or format. We would still very much like to publish a book based on the project in the future.

A website also has many other advantages – it can be added to and updated without difficulty and people all over the world can view it at any time. So, although we are aware of the many benefits inherent in a project book, a website met our needs better at this stage, giving us flexibility and the ability to update and present our content to the community.

Thagh sinn na comasan a leanas airson a' chiad dreach againn den làrach-lìn:

- Duilleag-aghaidh le siostam menu gad stiùireadh dha na diofar phàirtean
- Mapa eadar-obrachail de Shlèite a bheir thu gu susbaint a rèir nan diofar bhailtean san sgìre. Fhuair sinn ìomhaigh mapa eachdraidheil hi-res de Shlèite bho chruinneachaidhean an Leabharlainn Nàiseanta airson seo.
- Cluicheadair fhaidhlichean fuaim – airson na clàraidhean againn a chluich
- An Duanaire Slèiteach – dachaigh airson an liosta againn de dh'òrain às an sgìre le ceanglaichean dha na faclan is dha dreachdan clàraichte de na h-òrain
- Duilleagan air gach baile air an cuir sinn fiosrachadh eachdraidheil, dealbhan (bhon tasglann agus ùr) agus na clàraidhean is òrain às a' bhaile sin.
- Liosta de dh'abairtean is faclan is eisimpleirean de dhualchainnt na sgìre.

We sent a list of website requirements to a web designer and received an estimate of the costs and a list of tasks that could be delivered within the budget for this strand of the project. There was flexibility built in – we could add or remove features if we were coming close to the estimated total of our budget.

We chose the following features for this first version of the website:

- A homepage with a menu system leading to different sections
- An interactive map of Sleat linking to content by township. We obtained a high-resolution historical image of Sleat from the National Library's collections for this.
- An audio player for the recordings
- An Duanaire Slèiteach – a home for our list of songs from the area, with links to lyrics and recordings
- A page for each township where we can place historical information, photographs (both from the archive and more recent) and the recordings and songs from that township.
- A list of words and phrases and examples from the dialect of the area.

11.

Gnìomhan cunbhalach

Ongoing tasks

Tha cuid de na gnìomhan is dleasan cunbhalach a choilean sinn sgrìobhte an seo. Tha e cudromach gun toirear sùil orra bho sheachdain gu seachdain aig a' char as lugha.

- Coilean an obair a chaidh comharrachadh mu choinneimh na seachdain
- Cùm sùil air a' bhuidseat
- Faigh taic ma bhios sin a dhìth
- Feuch, cho math 's as urrainn, ri cumail ris a' chlàr-ama
- Ach bi sùbailte – air iomadach adhbhar cha tèid cùisean buileach mar a chaidh ullachadh ach gabh ri sin is gabh ri cothroman ùra a nochdas a chuireas ris a' phròiseact
- Bi mothachail gu bheil an t-uabhas ùine a dhìth mu thimcheall air clàraidhean, a bharrachd air ùine nan clàraidhean fhèin – tha ùine ullachaidh a dhìth, deasachadh, sgioblachadh, deiseileachadh, ceadan is eile.
- Cuir an dàrna taobh rud sam bith nach eil a' dol a dh'obrachadh an-dràsta – cò aige tha fios, 's ma dh'fhaodte gum bi e feumail fhathast nas fhaisge air deireadh a' phròiseict no airson ìre eile dheth
- Cùm fa-near na cinn-latha chudromach a dh'fheumar coileanadh, m.e. bogadh a' phròiseict, clàr nan agallamhan, aithisg gu buidheann mhaoineachaidh
- Lìon leabhar-latha gach latha/seachdain airson cuimhne a chumail air na chaidh coileanadh agus aire a chumail air na tha san amharc fhathast.

Some of the regular tasks and responsibilities we carried out throughout the project are listed here. It's important to review them at least weekly.

- Complete the work set for the week
- Monitor the budget
- Seek help and support if needed
- Try, as far as possible, to keep to the timetable
- But be flexible – for many reasons things will not always go exactly as planned; accept that and make use of new opportunities that will add to the project
- Be aware of the considerable time needed around recordings, over and above the recording time itself – preparation, editing, cleaning, finalising, permissions, etc.
- Set aside anything that is not going to work just now – who knows, it may still be useful nearer the end of the project or in a later phase
- Keep track of key dates that must be met, e.g. project launch, interview schedule, reports to funders
- Keep a daily/weekly diary to record what has been achieved and to keep an eye on what is still ahead.



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12.

Dè tha fa-near do Stòras Shlèite?

What next for Stòras Shlèite?

Stòras Shlèite

An làrach-lìn. Cuiridh sinn ris na clàraidhean a tha a' nochdadh mar-thà air an làraich. Cha robh cothrom ann rè ùine a' phròiseict ach airson glè bheag de na chruinnich sinn a chuir suas air an làraich. Tha dùil ann gun cuir sinn ris na clàraidhean, gan deasachadh is gan cur suas, anns an àm ri teachd. Bidh feum air obair gleidhidh is rianachd bhliadhnail.

Còisir na sgoile. Bidh a' chòisir sgoile ann am Bun-sgoil Shlèite a' leantainn oirre agus cuideam ga chur air na h-òrain a chaidh cruinneachadh mar dhìleab a' phròiseict. Tha sinn an dòchas cuideachd gun tèid na sgoilearan sa chòisir a chlàradh ann an seisean clàraidh aig Stiùideo Ostaig le riochdaire ciùil proifeiseanta agus gun nochd na clàraidhean air an làraich-lìn agus/no air clàr ciùil foillsichte.

Dealbhaich leabhar pròiseict. Tha e san amharc, a rèir maoineachaidh, leabhar pròiseict a dhealbhadh stèidhichte air na h-òrain a chaidh cruinneachadh. Bhiodh e iomchaidh a bhith a' toirt gu buil foillseachadh cho tarraingeach is cho fiosrachail 's a tha foillseachaidhean a leithid 'Òrain Ìleach' (2017) is 'Òrain an Eòrna' (2012). Tha mi cinnteach gun cuireadh muinntir na sgìre is luchd-leughaidh às a h-uile ceàrnaidh fàilte mhòr air a leithid a leabhar.

Taighean cèilidh. Bu thoil leinn, le taic nam pàrantan, buidhnean beaga de sgoilearan bho chòisir na sgoile a thoirt mu thimcheall Shlèite a thadhal air Gàidheil na sgìre nan dachannan is a' chlann

Website. We will add more of the recordings and other content to the website. During the funded period there was time to upload only a small part of what we collected. We plan to continue editing and uploading in future. Ongoing maintenance and administration of the website will be required each year.

School choir. The school choir at Bun-sgoil Shlèite will continue, with an emphasis on the songs collected as a legacy of the project. We also hope to record the choir in a session at the Stiùideo Ostaig recording studio with a professional producer, and to feature these recordings on the website and/or on a published music album.

Project book. We intend, funding dependent, to design a project book based on the songs collected in the area. It would be appropriate to produce a publication as attractive and informative as existing collections such as *Òrain Ìleach* (2017) and *Òrain an Eòrna* (2012). I am certain that local people and readers everywhere would warmly welcome such a book.

House ceilidh visits. With the support of parents, we would like to take small groups of pupils from the school choir around Sleat to visit local Gaels in their own homes, with the

a' gabhail cuid de na h-òrain Shlèiteach a tha iad air ionnsachadh agus 's dòcha piosan bàrdachd is naidheachdan ionadail. Bu thoil leinn cèilidh a chur air cuid de na daoine a bha deònach agallamhan a dhèanamh cuide rinn gus an toir sinn rudeigin laghach air ais airson an cuid ùine a chosg air a' phròiseact.

Pod-chraoladh. Tha sinn air sgrìopt ullachadh airson dreachd de dh'aon eapasad de shreath pod-chraolaidh stèidhichte air cuid de na clàraidhean. Tha susbaint fuaim air leth againn a-nis san tasglann againn agus tha sinn am beachd gum b' urrainn dhuinn, le taic riochdachaidh, sreath inntinneach is tarraingeach a thoirt gu buil airson luchd-èisteachd fad is farsaing. Bhitheamaid an crochadh air taic-airgid airson riochdaire pod-chraolaidh fhadstadh a chuireadh an sreath ri chèile an com-pàirteachas leinn fhìn.

Leudaich sgìre a' phròiseict. Tha stòras math ann an tasglann Leabharlann an t-Sabhail de dh'òrain is làmh-sgrìobhainnean is susbaint eile à sgìre an t-Srath ri taobh Shlèite. Tha a cheart uiread no barrachd a dh'ulaidhean às an t-Srath rin lorg ann an tasglannan an t-Sabhail is ann an tasglannan sgapte air feadh na dùthcha. Bhiodh e fa-near dhuinn pròiseact eile a chur an sàs airson beairteas na Gàidhlig ann an sgìre an t-Srath a thoirt gu aire an t-sluaigh cuideachd.

children singing some of the Sleat songs they have learned and perhaps sharing local poems and stories. We would like to visit some of those who agreed to be interviewed for the project, in return for the time they kindly gave to us.

Podcast. We have prepared a script for a draft episode of a podcast series based on some of the recordings. We now have a wealth of audio content in our archive, and we believe that, with production support, we could create an interesting and engaging series for a wide audience. We would be reliant on funding to employ a podcast producer to assemble the series in partnership with ourselves.

Extend the project area. There is a strong collection of songs, manuscripts and other material from the Strath area in particular in the Library's archive. There are as many – or more – treasures from Strath to be found there and in scattered archives around the country. It would be worth developing a further project to bring the richness of Gaelic in the parish of Strath to public attention as well.

Taing/Thanks

Bu thoil leinn taing a thoirt dhan a h-uile duine a chuidich leinn is sinn a' cur a' phròiseict ri chèile ach gu h-àraid muinntir Shlèite a th' air an ùine, cuimhneachaidhean, òrain, dealbhan is eòlas a ch-roinn leinn. Tha sinn fada nan comain.

We would like to thank everyone who helped us bring this project together, but especially the people of Sleat who have shared their time, memories, songs, photographs and knowledge with us. We are greatly in their debt.

Cuir fios/Contact

Greg MacThòmais – Stiùiriche Pròiseict/Project Leader

gt.smo@uhi.ac.uk/01471 888205

An Leabharlann, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, An t-Eilean Sgitheanach, IV44 8RQ

