

NUACHTLITIR CHILL CHOMÁIN

Athbhliain faoi sheán agus faoi mhaise agaibh. Ins an eagrán seo den Nuachtlitir caitheann muid súil siar ar na tograí a bhí idir lámhe againn i 2009. Tá súil againn leanacht ar aghaidh leis an bplean oibre atá leagtha amach i bPlean Forbartha Chill Chomáin 2006-2010. Céard atá i ndán don Ghaeilge mar theanga sna fiche bliain atá amach romhainn? Ag deireadh mí na Samhna foilsíodh Dréacht Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010-2030 ina leagtar amach aidhmeanna pholasaí an rialtais i leith na Gaeilge don thréimhse ama sin. Ardaíonn sé ceisteanna mar an rachaidh na beartais atá molta i bhfeidhm ar dhearcadh an phobail i leith na Gaeilge agus cad as a dtiocfaidh an t-airgead chun é a chur i gcrích? Tá tuilleadh faoi seo agus Guth na Gaeltachta ar leathanach 7.

We wish you all a happy and healthy new year. In this edition of the Newsletter we glance back on the projects which were undertaken in 2009. We hope to continue to implement the work plan as set out in The Cill Chomáin Development Plan 2006-2010. Published at the end of November, the Draft 20-Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010 - 2030 outlines the policy and aims of the government in relation to the Irish language over this time-frame. It raises questions such as will the strategy actively engage communities or effect peoples' attitudes towards the Irish language and how will it be funded. For further information on this and on Guth na Gaeltachta's campaign please turn to page 7.

Tír gan teanga tír gan anam!

* Nuachtlitir Áitiúil

* A Community Newsletter

* Guth an phobail ar mhaithe leis an bpobal

* Provides a voice for the local community and an update on development issues

San eagrán seo: In this issue

Sonraí Teagmhála	2
Súil Siar / Annual Review	3-6
Guth na Gaeltachta	7
Dréacht Straitéis don Ghaeilge	7-8
Oiliúint / Training	8
Scéalta Eile / Other News	9
An Scéim Shóisialta Tuaithe / RSS	10

Coiste Bainistíochta an Chomharchumainn /

The Management Committee

Cathaoirleach:	Micheál de Búrca
Rúnaí:	Seán Mac Aindriú
Cisteoir:	Máire Cáit Uí Mhurchú
Na baill eile:	Micheál Ó Seighin Caitlín Uí Sheighin Micheál Ó Murchú Séamus Ó Murchú Uinsíonn Mac Graith Pádraig Ó Dochartaigh

RÁITEAS MISIN – MISSION STATEMENT

Is comharchumann forbartha pobail é Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo atá cláraithe le Clárlann na gCarachumann. Tá sé mar ráiteas misin aige oibriú go gníomhach ar shon forbairt theangeolaíochta/chultúrtha, bhonneagartha, oideachasúil agus shóisialta paróiste Chill Chomáin agus acmhainní nadúrtha agus daonna an cheantair a fhorbairt ar bhealach chomhtháite. Ag comhoibriú le Coiste Ghlor na nGael, grúpaí forbartha áitiúla agus eagraisí éagsúla stáit tá roinnt tograí curtha i gcrích go dáta.

Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo is a community development co-operative which is registered with the Registry of Friendly Societies. Its mission is to work in a proactive way to promote the linguistic/cultural, infrastructural, educational and social development of the parish of Cill Chomáin and to develop in an integrated way the material and human resources of the area. Working in conjunction with Coiste Ghlor na nGael, local development groups and various state agencies a number of projects have been undertaken to date.

IONAD EOLAIS / INFORMATION OFFICE

Tá oifig na heagraíochta lonnaithe sa Seanscoil i gCeathrú Thaidhg áit a bhfuil na seirbhísí seo a leanas le fáil:-

Eolas agus comhairle do choistí pobail maidir le ról na n-eagras forbartha, conas tograí a fhorbairt agus a bhainistiú, foinsí maoinithe &rl.

Foirmeacha iarratais ar scéimeanna éagsúla mar shampla feabhsú tithíochta, deiseanna traenála &rl.

Seirbhísí cóipéala, laminating agus facs

Seirbhísí eolais do chuartheoirí - léarscáileanna, bróisiúirí, leabhráin, dlúthdhioscanna, cártaí poist, leabharlann d'ábhar béaloideas agus liteartha Gaeilge, taispeántas grianghraif &rl.

The organisation's office is located in the Seanscoil, Ceathrú Thaidhg where the following services are available:-

Information and assistance to community groups in relation to the role of development agencies, developing and managing projects, sourcing funding etc.

Application forms on various schemes including home improvement grants, training opportunities etc.

Photocopying, laminating and fax services.

Visitor information including maps, brochures, booklets, CD ROMs, postcards, a library of folklore and Irish language material, photographs etc.

BAILL NUA / NEW MEMBERS

Má tá spéis agat a bheith i do bhall ar an gcomharchumann agus ionchar níos mó a bheith agat ar chúrsaí forbartha na háite déan teagmháil le Treasa le haghaidh tuilleadh eolais.

If you would like to become a member of the comharchumann and have a greater input into the overall development of the area please contact Treasa for further information.

GUTH AN PHOBAIL – HAVE YOUR SAY

Má tá aon tuairimí agat ar ábhar an nuachtlitir seo nó moltaí le haghaidh an chéad eagrán eile ba bhreá linn cloisteáil uait.

We welcome your comments on the items covered in this newsletter and/or any ideas you may have for the next edition.

Déan teagmháil le:-

Treasa Ní Ghearraigh,
Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo,
An tSeanscoil,
Ceathrú Thaidhg,
Béal an Átha,
Co. Mhaigh Eo

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SÚIL SIAR / ANNUAL REVIEW

Ag cruinniú cinnbliana Chomhar Dún Chaocháin Teo sa Seanscoil ar an 3ú Samhain rinneadh cur i láthair ar obair na bliana 2009.

Tá caomhnú agus cur chun cinn na Gaeilge ar cheann de na príomhspríocanna atá ag an gcomharchumann. Léiríonn ‘An Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sna Gaeltachtaí’ go bhfuil dúthshlán roimh pobail agus eagraisí stáit atá ag feidhmiú sna ceantracha Gaeltachta an Ghaeilge a choinneáil beo mar theanga pobail i bhfianaise a phráinní is atá an staid reatha teanga. Eagraíodh cúrsaí Gaeilge agus seirbhísí aistriúcháin in Ionad Seirbhísí Teanga na Seanscoile, áit a bhfuil acmhainní tacaíochta foghlama ar nós leabhair, téipeanna, fiseáin agus bogábhar ríomhaireachta le fáil ag scolairí, grúpaí áitiúla foghlama agus grúpaí a thugann cuairt ar an gceantar le Gaeilge a fhoghlaim nó le taighde a dhéanamh.

I measc na spriocghrúpaí a dhéanann an comharchumann freastal orthu tá páistí réamhscoile agus bunscoile. Is seirbhísí réamhscoile trí Ghaeilge iad Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin atá lonnaithe sa Seanscoil agus Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe atá lonnaithe in ionad tacaíochta teaghlaigh i nGleann na Muaidhe. Eagraítear gníomhachtaí éagsúla do pháistí bunscoile i Seirbhís Iar-scoile Dhún Chaocháin. Faigheann na tograí cúraim leanáí seo airgeadú foirne ón gClár Infheistíochta Náisiúnta Cúraim Leanáí 2006-2010, atá faoi chúram na Roinne Sláinte agus Leanáí agus atá maoinithe ag Rialtas na hÉireann faoin bPlean Forbartha Náisiúnta 2007-2013. Cuireann Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte agus Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo deontas reachtála ar fáil do na naíonraí.

I mí Iúil eagraíodh campaí samhraidh i gCeathrú Thaidhg agus san Inbhear i gcomhar le Coiste Campaí Samhraidh Iorrais, faoi Scéim na gCampaí Samhraidh d’Aos Óg na Gaeltachta. Is í an Ghaeilge an teanga feidhme sna campaí, a chuireann imeachtaí siamsaíochta, oideachaisiúil agus cultúrtha ar fáil d’aos óg na háite.

Leis na hathraithe atá tagtha ar chúrsaí eacnamaíochta agus ar shaol an phobail tá gá le scileanna nua a fhoghlaim nó barr feabhas a chur ar na scileanna atá ag daoine cheana féin sa gcaoi is go mbeidh deis níos fearr acu fostaíocht a aimsiú nó a ngnó féin a bhunú. Rinne an coiste suirbhé (i bhfoirm ceistneora) i mí Eanáir le fáil amach céard iad na riachtanais traenála a bhí ag

muintir na háite agus táthar ag eagrú clár oiliúna bunaithe ar thorthaí an tsuirbhé. Eagraíodh roinnt cúrsaí oiliúna i rith na bliana ina measc Cúrsa Ealaíne agus Ceardaíochta a bhí maoinithe ag Coiste Gairmoideachais Condae Mhaigh Eo; Traenáil Inseirbhíse Réamhscoile i gcomhar le Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo agus Coiste Cúraim Leanáí Chondae Mhaigh Eo; Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge i gcomhar le hIonad na dTeangacha, Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad atá páirt-mhaoinithe ag Údarás na Gaeltachta agus Cúrsaí Ríomhaireachta do dhaoine fásta faoi Chlár Benefit Chomhairle Chondae Mhaigh Eo agus páirt-mhaoinithe faoin gClár DEIS.

Tá Siúlóidí Ceathrú Thaidhg (Lúb na Trá, Lúb Chlann Lir agus Lúb an Chlaí Dhuibh) ag mealladh cuairteoirí isteach sa gceantar. Ag tosnú amach agus ag críochnú ó lárionad na Seanscoile, tá gach siúlóid treormharcáilte le dath difriúil ag brath ar a dianacht. Déanann clár eolais agus bróisiúr dá-theangach ildaite cur síos ar sonraí na mbealaí agus ar phointí suimiúla. Agus é ag déanamh léargais ar shiúlóid Chlann Lir san Irish Independent i mí Márta, ba léir go ndeachaigh áilleacht an cheantair go mór i bhfeidhm ar an iriseoir Christopher Sommerville nuair a scríobh sé *“What unrolled over the next couple of hours was one of the most breathtakingly wild and beautiful coastal walks I’ve ever encountered”*.

Eagraíodh siúlóidí teoraithe i mí Meithimh mar chuid den bhfeachtas *Mayo in Motion* (i gcomhar le Comhpháirtíocht Spóirt Mhaigh Eo) agus ar Lá Domhanda Chroí i mí Meán Fómhair (i gcomhar le Foras Chroí na hÉireann). Faoi threoir Chumainn Mhaigh Eo de Chairde Éanlaith Éireann eagraíodh turas le breathnú ar éanlaith na háite i mí Lúnasa.

Is feachtas féin-chabhrach Na Comhludair Bheo i dtreo bhonneagartha eacnamaíochta agus cultúrtha na háite a neartú. Sé aidhm na gluaiseachta ná próifil an cheantair mar tháirge nó mar cheann scríbe turasóireachta a ardú i measc tíortha Eorpacha mar An Fhrainc agus an Ghearmáin agus líon na dturasóirí a mhéadú. Tá suíomh cuimsitheach idirlíne ina ghné thabhachtach den bhfeachtas atá le feiceáil ag www.gaeltacht.info.

Tionóladh Féile Lúnasa, mórfhéile tuaithe ag comóradh oidhreacht, cultúir agus traidisiúin spóirt Chill Chomáin, in ionaid éagsúla ar fud an pharóiste i mí Lúnasa. I measc na n-imeachtaí a bhí ar an gclár bhí cluichí peile Gaelacha, taispeántas grianghrafadóireachta dar teidil ‘Ar

Bharr na dTonn', siúlóid oidhreacht, ceol, amhránaíocht, damhsa agus biongo mór. Ba iad Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Chill Chomáin, Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo agus Coiste Ghlor na nGael Ceathrú Thaidhg eagraithe na féile le gach brabach ag dul i dtreo Club na mBan agus Club na bhFear Chill Chomáin.



Tuama meigiliteach i nGort Breac (Diana Taylor)

Tá Diana Taylor, atá ar an Scéim Fostaíochta Pobail, ag leanacht ar aghaidh leis an suirbhé ar iarsmaí seandálaíochta an pharóiste agus í ag aimsiú go leor láithreáin spéisiúla, tuamaí meigiliteacha san áireamh.

Thug dhá ghrúpa scoláirí Meiriceánacha ó Scoil Thraenála Idirnáisiúna Bhaile Átha Cliath, in éineacht lena stiúrthóir acadúil Aeveen Kerrisk, cuairt ar an bparóiste i mí Feabhra agus i mí Meán Fómhair. Chas na scolairí, atá ina bhfochéimí ó ollscoileanna éagsúla sna Stáit Aontaithe, le daoine atá páirteach i bhforbairt pobail agus i gcúrsaí timpeallachta sa pharóiste.

D'fhógair An tAire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtas Áitiúil John Gormley gradaim an Chósta Ghlais 2009 agus thug le fios go raibh aitheantas faighte ag cúig thrá i gCondae Mhaigh Eo, ní hamháin ar a nglaineacht ach ar bhainistíocht a n-acmhainní neamhshilteacha cósta chomh maith. Bhí trá Phort a' Chlóidh i measc na dtránna a bhain an gradam náisiúnta seo amach. I gcomhar le Scéim Fostaíochta Pobail Chill Chomáin cuireadh plean bainistíochta trá i gcrích chun a háilleacht a chaomhnú agus cúrsaí sabháilteachta a fheabhsú.

Eagraíodh ceardlann fuinnimh i gcomhar le hEagras Fuinnimh Mhaigh Eo in ionad pobail Ghleann na Muaidhe i mí Márta. Chuir Brendan Killion (MEA) eolas ar fáil don ghrúpa ar insliú,

córais teasa, conas fuinneamh a chaomhnú sa mbaile agus sa láithreán oibre, scéimeanna an rialtais i dtaobh caomhnú fuinnimhe &rl. Tá Diana Taylor i mbun taighde faoi láthair ar na féidearthachtaí atá ann fuinneamh in-athnuaite a fhorbairt sa pharóiste agus beidh sí ag cuir tuairisc ar fáil don choiste in am trátha.

Bíonn margadh ag Margadh Feirmeoirí Iorrais i mBéal an Mhuirthead chuile Shatharn. Tugann an margadh deis do dhaoine áitiúla dul i mbun táirgíochta agus seans do chaiteoirí bia úr, séasúrach agus caighdeánach ó cheantar Iorrais a bhlaiseadh.

Tá caomhnú na hoidhreacht áitiúil ina ghné thabachtach den bhforbairt pobail agus tá iarsmaí stairiúla le fáil ar fud an pharóiste. Ar cheann acu seo tá Teacháin a' Watch (sean-teach faire) atá lonnaithe ar an taobh thiar de Chuan Phort a' Chlóidh. In aice láimhe tá uimhir an stáisiúin 'EIRE 63' leagtha amach ar an talamh le clocha bána. Le himeacht ama áfach bhí fraoch agus caonach ag fás ar na clocha agus ba doiligh iad a fheiceáil. Ach buíochas le hiarrachtaí rannphairtithe na Scéime Shóisialta Tuaithe Chill Chomáin tá athnuachan déanta ar an gcomhartha, atá anois chomh soiléar is a bhí sé an chéad lá.

Le tacaíocht ón gComhairle Oidhreacht faoi Scéim Deontais Fhoilsiúchán 2009, foilsíodh an leabhar Teampall Chill Ghallagáin. Is é cuspóir an thionscadail ná oidhreacht agus stair na reilige a chaomnú don ghlúin reatha agus do na glúine atá le teacht agus plean cruinn den reilig a chur ar fáil sa gcaoi is gur féidir le daoine uaigneanna a muintir a aimsiú go réidh.

Bhí An Bord SNIP go mór i mbéal an phobail i rith na bliana, tagairt do na gearrthacha siar atá beartaithe ag an Rialtas a chur i bhfeidhm le haghaidh na blianta atá amach romhainn. Tá impleachtaí trom-chúiseacha i dTuairisc Mhic Charthaigh ar chuile rannóg rialtais, ach de réir mar a bhaineann sé le pobal na Gaeltachta is iad na gearrthacha siar agus an ath-struchtúir atá molta faoin Roinn Gnóthaí, Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta is mó a ghortóidh cúrsaí Gaeilge agus Gaeltachta. Tá inní ar Mhná Tí a choinníonn scolairí choláistí Gaeilge go gcuirfead deireadh le Scéim na bhFoghlaimoirí Gaeilge agus bhailigh siad in Óstán Chois Fharraige i mí Meán Fómhair chun achainí a chur faoi bhráid an Aire Éamonn Ó Cúiv.

Ba mhaith le Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo buíochas a ghlacadh leis na heagraisí uilig a chuidigh leis i rith na bliana:- An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta, Comhairle

Chondae Mhaigh Eo, Údarás na Gaeltachta, FÁS, Comhpháirtíocht Spóirt Mhaigh Eo, Foras Chroí na hÉireann, Cumann Mhaigh Eo de Chairde Éanlaith Éireann, An Roinn Sláinte agus Leanaí, Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo, Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Coiste Cúraim Leanaí Chondae Mhaigh Eo, Fáilte Ireland, An Taisce, An Chomhairle Oidhreacht, Eagras Fuinnimh Mhaigh Eo, Glór na nGael, Óige na Gaeltachta Teo agus Coiste Gairmoideachais Chondae Mhaigh Eo. Tá súil againn leanacht leis an gcomhoibriú i 2010.

At the Annual General Meeting of Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo in the Seanscoil on 3rd November a report was presented outlining the projects undertaken in 2009.

The promotion and preservation of the Irish language is one of the main objectives of the comharchumann (co-op). The study 'Staidéar Cuimsitheach Teangeolaíoch ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht – A Comprehensive Linguistic Study on the use of Irish in the Gaeltacht' illustrates the challenge facing communities and state agencies operating in Gaeltacht areas to preserve the Irish language, in light of the evidence of its decline as a community language. Irish language courses and Irish translation services were organised in Ionad Seirbhíse Teanga na Seanscoile where a special-purpose training room houses a library of learning resource materials including books, tapes, videos and computer software.

Among the target groups catered for by the comharchumann (co-op) are pre-school and primary school children. Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin in Ceathrú Thaidhg and Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe in Glenamoy are both community run Irish pre-school services which provide for the needs of children and their parents in these areas. Seirbhís Iar-scoile Dhún Chaocháin offers a wide variety of after-school activities. These childcare projects currently receive funding from the Irish Government under the National Development Plan 2007 - 2013 through The National Childcare Investment Programme 2006-2010. The Health Services Executive and Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo also provide funding for the naíonraí.

In July Irish Summer Camps, which offer recreational, educational and cultural activities for local children, were organised in Ceathrú Thaidhg and Inbhear in conjunction with Coiste Campaí Samhraidh Iorrais with the assistance of funding received from Scéim na gCampaí Samhraidh d'Aos Óg na Gaeltachta.

Lifelong learning and the acquisition of new skills is an ongoing process. In January a survey was carried out to assess the training requirements of local people in order to plan courses to meet those needs. A number of training courses were organised during the year including An arts, crafts and textiles course funded by Mayo Vocational Education Committee; Pre-School Inservice Training in conjunction with Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo and Mayo County Childcare Committee; Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge in conjunction with The Languages Centre, University College Maynooth and part-funded by Údarás na Gaeltachta and Computer classes under Mayo County Council's Benefit Scheme and part-financed by the DEIS programme.

The Ceathrú Thaidhg loop walks (Lúb na Trá, Lúb Chlann Lir and Lúb an Chlaí Dhuibh) continue to attract visitors to the area. Starting and finishing at the Seanscoil community centre, each loop is waymarked and colour-coded according to its level of difficulty. A bi-lingual information board and brochure provide details on trail directions and points of interest en route. In a feature in the Irish Independent in March writer and journalist Christopher Sommerville described the Clann Lir walk as '... one of the most breathtakingly wild and beautiful coastal walks I've ever encountered'.



Guided walks were organised in June as part of the Mayo in Motion Initiative (in conjunction with Mayo Sports Partnership) and on World Heart Day in September (in conjunction with The Irish Heart Foundation). A birdwatching tour was also organised in August in association with the Mayo Branch of BirdWatch Ireland.

Na Comhludair Bheo is a self-help initiative towards the economic and cultural revitalisation of the area. Its aim is to raise the profile of the area as a tourism product or destination particularly among European countries such as France and Germany.

To achieve this a website has been designed which can be viewed at www.gaeltacht.eu



Banríon na Féile Lisa Ní Dhomhnaill

Féile Lúnasa, a community festival celebrating the heritage, culture and sporting tradition of Cill Chomáin, was held in various venues throughout the parish in August. The packed programme of activity included a football tournament, a photographic exhibition entitled 'Ar Bharr na d'Tonn – Riding the Waves', a heritage and nature walk, music, song and dance sessions and bingo mór. The event was organised by Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Chill Chomáin, Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo and Coiste Ghlor na nGael Ceathrú Thaidhg with all proceeds in aid of Club na mBan and Club na bhFear.

Diana Taylor, a participant on the community employment scheme, is undertaking an archaeological survey of the parish. She has discovered a number of interesting sites including possible megalithic tombs.

Two groups of American students from the School for International Training Dublin, accompanied by academic director Aeveen Kerrisk, visited the parish in February and again in September as part of their academic studies in Ireland. The students, who are undergraduates from a variety of universities in the US, met with various individuals who are involved in community and environmental development within the parish.

Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government John Gormley announced the 2009 Green Coast Awards during the year. Five Mayo beaches were recognised, not only for their cleanliness but also for the management of their pristine coastal assets. Among those bestowed with this national award was Trá Phort a' Chlóidh. In conjunction with the Cill Chomáin Rural Social Scheme a beach management plan was

implemented to help protect its beauty and enhance safety.

An information workshop on energy was organised in Glenamoy community centre in March in conjunction with Mayo Energy Agency. Brendan Killion (MEA) informed the group of the various steps that can be taken to conserve energy in the home and of the schemes that are available for upgrading heating systems. Diana Taylor is currently undertaking research into the feasibility of developing renewable energies in the parish. She will be presenting a report of her findings in due course.

Margadh Feirmeoirí Iorrais, Erris Farmers Market is held in Belmullet town every Saturday. The market provides a forum for local producers to develop new food initiatives and offers consumers the opportunity to savour the taste and freshness of food produced within the Erris area.



ÉIRE 63 (grianghraf Uinsíonn Mac Graith)

The preservation of local heritage is an important aspect of community development and dotted throughout the parish are a number of historical monuments. One of these, a former look-out post known as Teacháin a' Watch, overlooks Port a' Chlóidh Bay. Nearby the number of the station 'EIRE 63' is outlined on the ground in quartz stone. With the passing of time however, the sign had become overgrown and was barely visible. Thanks to the efforts of participants on the Cill Chomáin Rural Social Scheme it was restored to its former state.

With the assistance of funding received from The Heritage Council under the 2009 Publication Grant Scheme, the book Teampall Chill Ghallagáin was published. The aim of this project is to preserve the heritage of the graveyard for the current and future

generations and to provide a detailed plan so that people can locate their relatives' graves easily.

An Bord SNIP was the main topic of conversation during the year, a reference to the many cutbacks which are proposed by the government in the years ahead. Although The Mc Carthy report has serious implications for every government department, it is the cutbacks and re-structuring that are recommended in the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs which will have the greatest impact on the Irish language and on Gaeltacht communities. Mná Tí who provide accommodation for Irish Summer College students are concerned that Scéim na bhFoghlaimoírí Gaeilge may be shelved. They handed a petition outlining their concerns to Minister Éamonn Ó Cúiv in Galway in September.

Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo would like to thank the following agencies for their assistance throughout 2009:- The Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, Mayo County Council, Údarás na Gaeltachta, FÁS, Mayo Sports Partnership, The Irish Heart Foundation, Mayo Branch of BirdWatch Ireland, The Department of Health and Children, Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo, The Health Services Executive, County Mayo Childcare Committee, Fáilte Ireland, An Taisce, The Heritage Council, Mayo Energy Agency, Glór na nGael, Óige na Gaeltachta Teo and Mayo Vocational Education Committee. We look forward to their continued co-operation in 2010.

GUTH NA GAELTACHTA

Ag cruinniú a reachtáileadh in Óstán an Broadhaven Bay ar an 20ú Samhain labhair urlabhraithe ón ngrúpa nua-bhunaithe 'Guth na Gaeltachta' Eamonn Mac Niallais agus Dónall Ó Cnáimhsí faoin bhfeachtas aontaithe Gaeltachta agus Gaeilge atá siad ag iarraidh a chur chun cinn.

Is é ceann de na príomhaidhmeanna atá ag an bhfeachtas ná go mbeidh muintir na Gaeltachta agus Gaeilge ar aon intinn faoin dteanga agus a todhchaí. Mhínigh na hurlabhraithe go raibh siad ag lorg tacaíocht ó gach Ghaeltacht chun an feachtas i gcoinne moltaí Mhic Cárthaigh a láidriú agus troid i gcoinne na míchothromaíochtaí gearradh siar sna roinn éagsúla. Léirigh Eamonn Mac Niallais go soiléir go raibh sé molta ag an Bord Snip ciorraithe de 58% i gcaiteachas sna Gaeltachtaí agus na hoileáin a chuir i bhfeidhm i gcomparáid le ciorraithe ar mheán 9% sna roinn eile. Mhol sé an scéal a scaipeadh i measc

phobail Mhaigh Eo agus achainí Guth na Gaeltachta a fháil sínithe.

At a meeting held in the Broadhaven Bay Hotel on 20th November spokespersons for the newly formed group Guth na Gaeltachta Eamonn Mac Niallais and Dónall Ó Cnáimhsí described their efforts to establish a united campaign to preserve the Gaeltacht and the Irish language.

One of the main objectives of the campaign is that Gaeltacht communities and Irish language groups would present a united front in relation to the future of the Irish language. The spokespersons explained that they were seeking support from every Gaeltacht area, to oppose the recommendations in the Mc Carthy report in relation to the proposed cutbacks which will have an adverse effect on Gaeltacht areas and on the Irish language. Eamonn Mac Niallais explained that it was proposed by An Bord Snip to reduce expenditure in Gaeltacht areas and the islands by 58% in comparison to an average cutback of 9% in other departments. He recommended that other communities in Mayo should be made aware of the situation and asked to support Guth na Gaeltachta's campaign by adding their names to the written petition.

Dréacht Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010 – 2030

Ag deireadh mí na Samhna foilsíodh Dréacht Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010 - 2030 ina leagtar amach aidhmeanna pholasaí an rialtais i leith na Gaeilge don thréimhse ama sin. Tá sé beartaithe cur leis an méid teaghlach ar fud na tíre a úsáideann an Ghaeilge go laethúil, tacaíocht teanga a chur ar fáil don Ghaeltacht, a chinntiú go mbeidh úsáid na Gaeilge mar rogha ag an saoránach chomh fada agus is féidir agus iad ag baint úsáid as seirbhísí poiblí agus feiceálacht na Gaeilge a neartú. Moltar go ndéanfaí athstruchtúrú ar Údarás na Gaeltachta go heagras Ghaeilge náisiúnta Údarás na Gaeilge. Tá béim ar leith ar chúrsaí pleanála teanga sa Ghaeltacht agus moltar go n-ullmhófar plean teanga Gaeilge do gach ceantar Gaeltachta ag leibhéal an phobail. I gceantair Ghaeltachta ina labhraíonn tromlach na ndaoine Gaeilge, cuirfear béim ar an teanga a chosaint agus a neartú. I gceantair nach labhraíonn ach mionlach den daonra an Ghaeilge ó lá go lá, cuirfear béim ar na gréasáin phobail Ghaeilge atá iontu a neartú. Ach is iad na ceisteanna is mó atá ann ná an rachaidh na beartais atá molta sa straitéis i bhfeidhm ar dhearcadh an phobail i leith na Gaeilge agus cad as a dtiocfaidh an t-airgead chun é a chur i gcrích.

Is féidir an straitéis a fháil ó oifig Chomhar Dún Chaocháin Teo.

Published at the end of November, the Draft 20-Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010 - 2030 outlines the policy and aims of the government in relation to the Irish language over this period of time. It is intended to increase the number of households in the country who speak Irish on a daily basis, provide language supports to Irish-speaking areas, ensure in so far as is possible that every citizen has a choice of using Irish when availing of public services and strengthen the visibility of Irish. It is recommended that Údarás na Gaeltachta be re-structured to form a national Irish agency called Údarás na Gaeilge. Particular emphasis is placed on language planning in the Gaeltacht and it is recommended that an Irish language plan is prepared at community level for every Gaeltacht area. In Gaeltacht areas where the majority of people speak Irish, emphasis will be placed on preserving and strengthening the language. In areas where only a minority of the population speaks Irish daily, emphasis will be placed on strengthening existing networks. The main questions are will the strategy actively engage communities or effect peoples' attitudes towards the Irish language and how will it be funded. A copy of the strategy is available from the office of Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo.

CÚRSAÍ OILIÚNA / TRAINING COURSES

An Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge / Irish Language Courses

Tá an coiste, i gcomhar le hIonad na dTeangacha, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Má Nuad ag eagrú cúrsaí gaeilge Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (TEG) in Ionad Seirbhísí Teanga na Seanscoile i gCeathrú Thaidhg d'fhoghlaimoírí fásta. Tá dhá chúrsa ar bun faoi láthair atá maoinithe ag Údarás na Gaeltachta - leibhéal A1 Dé hAoine agus leibhéal A2 Dé Máirt. Má theastaíonn breis eolais uait téigh i dteagmháil le Vincent ag 087 7557244.

The committee, in conjunction with The Languages Centre, University College Maynooth, is organizing accredited Irish language courses for adults (Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge) in Ionad Seirbhísí Teanga na Seanscoile which are funded by Údarás na Gaeltachta. Two courses are currently underway - Level A1 on Fridays and Level A2 on Tuesdays. For further information please contact Vincent on 087 7557244.

Ag Lámhseáil Meáchain / Manual Handling

Eagraíodh cúrsa ar *Manual Handling* sa Seanscoil ar an 9ú Nollaig le haghaidh foirne na naíonraí agus rannphairtíthe na scéime fostaíochta pobail.

A course on Manual Handling was organised in the Seanscoil on 9th December which was attended by naíonra staff and participants on the Community Employment Scheme.

Cúrsaí Ríomhaireachta / Computer Courses

D'éirigh go han-mhaith leis na cúrsaí ríomhaireachta do dhaoine fásta a d'eagraigh an comharchumann faoi Chlár BenefIT Chomhairle Chondae Mhaigh Eo. Rinne na cúrsaí seo, a bhí páirt-mhaoinithe faoin gClár DEIS, freastal ar leibhéal éagsúla cumais ón mbunleibhéal suas. Seacht nduine fhichead a d'freastal ar na cúrsaí seo.

A very successful series of computer courses for adults was organised by the comharchumann under Mayo County Council's BenefIT Scheme. Part-financed by the DEIS programme, the courses catered for various abilities with a focus on Word Processing, Internet and E-mail access. A total of twenty seven participants benefited from skills acquired on the course.

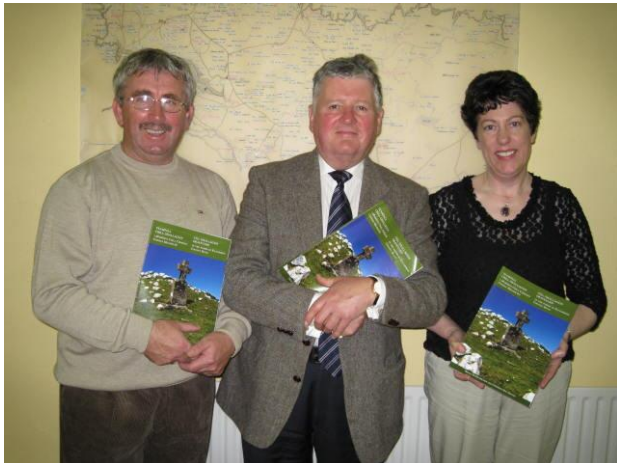
Cúrsa Oidhreachta / Heritage Course

Tá Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, i gcomhar le Coiste Gairmoideachais Chondae Mhaigh Eo, ag eagrú cúrsa oiliúna ar an téama 'Oidhreachta agus Timpeallacht Chill Chomáin' a dhéanfaidh staidear ar acmhainní nádúrtha Chill Chomáin agus an módh gur féidir iad a fhorbairt ar bhealach comhtháthach, inbhuaineach i dtreo pobal bríomhar muiníneach a chur chun cinn. Tá sraith léachtaí mar chuid den chúrsa ina bpléitear an tírdhreach nádúrtha agus daonna, logainmneacha agus béaloideas, eicthurasóireacht, treoraíocht, seandálaíocht, geolaíocht, stair áitiúil agus forbairt páirce Geo. Eagraíodh cúig léacht go dtí seo agus beidh an chéad cheann eile in Ionad Pobail Ghleann na Muaidhe Dé Céadaoin an 13ú Eanáir ag 7.30 i.n. Eagrófar turais páirce chomh maith ina dtabharfar cuireadh do haoi-chainteoirí cur i láthair a dhéanamh ar shuíomhanna spéisiúla sa pharóiste.

*Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, in conjunction with Mayo VEC, is organising a training course entitled **Cill Chomáin Parish - Local Heritage and Environment** which will examine the natural resources of the parish and their potential to sustain*

local communities. A series of lectures forms part of the course where topics include the natural and manmade landscape, placenames and folklore, eco tourism, guiding, archaeology, geology, local history and the possible development of a North Mayo Geo-park. Five lectures have been held to date and the next session will take place in Ionad Pobail Ghleann na Muaidhe on Wednesday 13th January at 7.30 p.m. Field trips will also be organised inviting guest speakers to describe interesting sites in the parish.

SCÉALTA EILE / OTHER NEWS



Seoladh Oifigiúil / Official Launch

Bhí ócáid fíor-speisialta sa Seanscoil i gCeathrú Thaidhg ar an 2ú Dheireadh Fómhair nuair a rinneadh seoladh ar dhá leabhar de bhunadh na háite. I dtosach thug fear a' tí Vincent Mac Graith cuireadh do Thomás Óg Ó Munghaile cur in láthair a dhéanamh ar an leabhar 'Ó Bharr Thrámh go Baile Ghib', leabhar seanchas ina ndéantar cur síos ar stair an phobail nach gcloistear ach go hannamh. Ina dhiaidh sin rinne An Dochtúir Séamas Ó Catháin seoladh oifigiúil ar an leabhar 'Teampall Chill Ghallagáin' atá foilsithe ag Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo agus curtha in eagar ag Treasa Ní Ghearraigh agus Uinsíonn Mac Graith. Tá an leabhar tiomnaithe do na daoine atá curtha i dTeampall Chill Ghallagáin, ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha dílse.

October 2nd marked a special occasion in the Seanscoil, Ceathrú Thaidhg when two local books were launched. Fear a' tí Vincent Mac Graith invited Thomás Óg Ó Munghaile to give a presentation on the book 'Ó Bharr Thrámh go Baile Ghib', which describes the history and traditions of two communities - the nearby village of Barr Thrámh and Baile Ghib in County Meath. This was followed by the official launch of the book 'Teampall Chill Ghallagáin' by Dr. Séamas Ó

Catháin. Published by Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo and compiled by Treasa Ní Ghearraigh and Uinsíonn Mac Graith, it is dedicated to all those who are buried in Teampall Chill Ghallagáin ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha dílse.



Margadh Feirmeoirí Iorrais / Erris Farmers' Market

D'eagraigh coiste Margadh Feirmeoirí Iorrais Margadh Mór na Nollag i gCearnóg Chartúir i mBéal an Mhuirthead ar an 19ú Nollaig áit a raibh réimse leathan bia ó cheantar Iorrais le fáil - glasraí, ábhar bÁCála, iasc, luibheanna agus plandaí beaga, táirgí feamainne agus miasa réamhullmhaithe, cácaí Nollaig, tithe aráin sinséir, brioscaí agus putóga Nollaig. Ba mhaith leis an gcoiste buíochas mór a ghlacadh le chuile dhuine a thacaigh leis an margadh i rith na bliana.

The committee of Margadh Feirmeoirí Iorrais organised a Christmas Market in Béal an Mhuirthead on 19th December where a variety of food from the Erris area was available – vegetables, home baking, fish, herbs & small plants, seaweed products, prepared dishes, Christmas cakes, gingerbread houses, festive biscuits and puddings. The committee would like to thank everyone who supported the market during the year.

Clár Imeachtaí / Programme of Activities

Fógrófar clár iomlán imeachtaí go gairid. Coinnigh súil amach i Nuachtlitir an Domhnaigh agus sna nuachtáin áitiúla le haghaidh sonraí.

A full programme of upcoming activities will be available shortly. Keep an eye on the Sunday Newsletter and on local newspapers for details.

AN SCÉIM SHÓISIALTA TUAITHE / THE RURAL SOCIAL SCHEME

Tá plean oibre timpeallachta an chomarchumainn dá chur i bhfeidhm faoi Scéim Shóisialta Tuaithe Chill Chomáin, atá dá reachtáil ag Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Chill Chomáin faoi scáth Údarás na Gaeltachta. Is iad seo a leanas cuid de na h-oibreacha a cuireadh i gcrích le bliain anuas:-

Oibreacha feabhsúcháin ar sé bhóthar sa pharóiste faoi Scéim na mBóithre Pobail

Oibreacha cothabhála ar shiúlóidí Ceathrú Thaidhg

Bailiú bruscar ag reiligí agus ag trána áitiúla

Athnuachan ar chomhartha ÉIRE 63 i gCeathrú na gCloch

Plean bainistíochta trá ag Port a' Chlóidh mar chuid de ghradam an Chósta Ghlais

€9000 ceadaithe faoi Chiste Fhiontar Chomhraic Teo chun oibreacha feabhsúcháin a chur i gcrích in aice le céibh na Rinne Rua

The Cill Chomáin Rural Social Scheme is managed by Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Chill Chomáin under the auspices of Údarás na Gaeltachta and includes an environmental enhancement workplan submitted by Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo. The following are some of the works carried out over the past year:-

Improvement works on six bog roads under the scheme Scéim na mBóithre Pobail

Maintenance work on the Ceathrú Thaidhg walks

Refuse collection at local graveyards and beaches

Enhancement of the ÉIRE 63 sign in Ceathrú na gCloch

Implementation of a beach management plan at Port a' Chlóidh as part of the Green Coasts Award Scheme

€9000 granted under the Fiontar Chomhraic Teo Fund to carry out improvement works adjacent to the pier at Rinn Rua

Tá tuilleadh eolais le fáil ó Phádraig Ó Dochartaigh (saoiste na scéime) ar 087 9785035



Bóthar Portaigh Bhaile na hAchadh



ÉIRE 63



Siúlóidí Ceathrú Thaidhg – Lean an saighead