EAGRÁN 17 DEIREADH FÓMHAIR 2010

NUACHTLITIR CHILL CHOMÁIN

Fáilte go dtí eagrán 17 dár Nuachtlitir pobail. Tá súil againn gur bhain sibh taitneamh as na himeachtaí uilig a bhí eagraithe i rith míonna an tsamhraidh. Táimid anois ag eagrú clár imeachtaí an fhómhair (féach leathanach a' 5 le haghaidh sonraí breise).

Níl aon dabht faoi ach gur am cinniúnach atá ann don teanga Gaeilge agus don Ghaeltacht. Cuirfear deireadh leis an nGaeltacht i dtréimhse chúig bliana má chuirtear i bhfeidhm na ciorruithe atá molta ag an Roinn Airgeadais don Ghaeltacht. Seo an teachtaireacht a tháinig as cruinniú de Chomhlachas na gComharchumann Gaeltachta agus na gComhlachtaí pobal-bhunaithe a reáchtáladh i nGaillimh ar an 28ú Meán Fómhair. Tá tuilleadh faoin ábhar seo ar leathanaigh 7 & 8.

Welcome to edition 17 of our community Newsletter. We hope you enjoyed the various activities which were organised over the summer months and we are now planning a programme of activity for the autumn (see page 5 for further details). The Gaeltacht as we know it, will be decimated over a five year period if the cutbacks in relation to it are implemented by the Department of Finance. This was the worrying message which emerged from a meeting of Comhlachtas na gComharchumann Gaeltachta which was held in Galway on 28th September. The Comhlachas represents 29 organisations consisting of community development co-operatives and community-based companies, all operating in Gaeltacht areas. (full story on pages 7 & 8)

*** 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**

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Foilsithe ag Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo (i gcomhar le fo-choiste Ghlór na nGael

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 agus Uinsíonn Mac Graith

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 theangeolaíocha/chultúrtha, bhonneagartha, oideachasúil agus shóisialta paróiste Chill Chomáin agus acmhainní nadúrtha agus daonna an cheantair a fhorbairt ar bhealach chomhtháite. Ag comhoibriú le Coiste Ghlór 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 Ghlór 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 deiseanna traenála &rl.

Seirbhísí cóipéala, laminating agus facs

Seirbhísí eolais do chuairteoirí - léarscáileanna, bróisiúirí, leabhráin, dlúthdhioscanna, cártaí poist, leabharlann d'ábhar béaloideasa 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 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.

Guth an Phobail / Have Your Say

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

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. 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
Guthán: 097 88082 **Ríomhphoist: dunchaochain1@eircom.net**

Seirbhísí Réamhscoile / Pre-school Services

Is seirbhísí réamhscoile trí Ghaeilge iad Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin atá lonnaithe sa Seanscoil i gCeathrú Thaidhg agus Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe atá lonnaithe in ionad nua tacaíochta teaghlaigh ag Bun Altaí, Gleann na Muaidhe atá dá reachtáil ag an bpobal áitiúil, agus a dhéanann freastal ar riachtanais phaistí san aoisghrúpa 2 bl 10 mhí go dtí 5 bl. 'Sé an aidhm atá acu ná (i) seirbhís cúraim leanaí d'ardchaighdeáin a sholáthar (ii) cabhrú le forbairt iomlán an pháiste a chur chun cinn trí mhodh an t-súgartha ag tacú le ról na dtuismitheoirí i bhforbairt agus in oideachas an pháiste agus (iii) deis agus tacaíocht a thabhairt don pháiste óg an Ghaeilge a shealbhú go nadúrtha.

Cuireann an clár solúbtha súgartha, atá bunaithe ar na séasúir, béim ar fhorbairt iomlán an pháiste – forbairt fisiciúil, intleachtúil, shóisialta, teanga, chognaíochta agus samhlaíochta. Eagraítear gníomhaíochtaí mar súgradh le gaineamh agus uisce, péinteáil, ceardaíocht, staidéar dúlra, cluichí samhlaíochta agus tógála, scéalaíocht, amhránaíocht chomh maith le himeachtaí fisiciúla sa ghairdín súgartha. Eagraíonn triúr bhall foirne i ngach sheirbhís, a bhfuil na cáilíochtaí agus an taithí chuí acu, na gníomhaíochtaí seo i dtimpeallacht atá fairsing, sábháilte agus spreagúil do pháistí.

Áiritear sa scéim ard-chaighdeáin an clár súgartha **Loinnir**, an plean teanga **Borradh** agus na scéimeanna caighdeáin náisiúnta don luathoideachas **Síolta** agus **Aistear**. Déanann Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte cigireacht ar an Naíonra faoi Acht Um Chúram Leanaí 1991 agus Rialachán Um Chúram Leanaí 2006. Tugann Coiste Chúram Leanaí Chondae Mhaigh Eo agus oifigeach forbartha Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo comhairle agus tacaíocht don choiste agus don fhoireann freisin le hárdchaighdeán a chothú.

Faigheann na tograí cúraim leanaí seo airgeadú ón gClár Infheistíochta Náisiúnta Cúraim Leanaí 2006-2010, atá faoi chúram na Roinne Sláinte agus Leanaí agus atá maoinithe ag Rialtas na hÉireann faoin bPlean Forbartha Náisiúnta 2007-2013. Faoin Scéim Fóirdheontas um Chúram Leanaí Pobail faigheann na naíonraí fóirdheontas a chuireann ar a gcumas táillí laghdaithe a thairiscint do thuismitheoirí atá faoi mhíbhuntáiste. Cuireann an dá sheirbhís an Scéim um Chúram agus Oideachas Luath-Óige ar fáil chomh maith, a chuireann bliain réamhscoile shaor in aisce ar fáil do pháistí a chomhlíonann coinníollacha na scéime.

Aon pháiste déag atá cláraithe i Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin agus seacht bpáiste déag i Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe don téarma 2010/11. Guíonn muid gach rath orthu.

Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin which is located in the Seanscoil in Ceathrú Thaidhg, and Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe which operates from a special-purpose facility at Bun Altaí, Gleann na Muaidhe, are both community run Irish pre-school services which provide for the needs of children from the age of 2 years 10 months to 5 years. Their aim is (i) to provide a quality childcare service (ii) to assist and promote the total development of the child through the medium of play while supporting the role of the parents in the development and education of the child and (iii) to provide the young child with the opportunity and support to acquire Irish naturally.

The flexible programme of play promotes physical, intellectual, social, linguistic, cognitive and imaginative development and includes sand and water play, arts, crafts, nature studies, imaginative and construction games, songs, stories and rhymes as well as physical activities in the outdoor play area. Three qualified and experienced members of staff in each service organise these activities in a spacious, safe, child friendly and stimulating environment.

*The Quality Assurance Programme includes the play programme **Lonnir**, the language plan **Borradh** and the national quality frameworks for early childhood education **Síolta** and **Aistear**. The Health Service Executive inspects the Naíonra under the Child Care Act 1991 and the Child Care Regulations 2006. Mayo County Childcare Committee and the development officer of Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo also provide advice and support to the committee and staff in promoting quality standards.*

These childcare projects receive funding from the National Childcare Investment Programme 2006-2010 which falls under the remit of The Department of Health and Children and is funded by the Irish Government under the National Development Plan 2007-2013. Under the Community Childcare Subvention scheme the naíonraí receive a subvention grant to enable them to charge reduced childcare fees to parents who are experiencing disadvantage. Both services also operate the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme which offers a free pre-school year to children who meet the required criteria.

Eleven children are registered in Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin and seventeen in Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe for the term 2010/11. Guíonn muid gach rath orthu.

The naíonra supports inclusive services for all children so that they have full and active participation in our early years service. Therefore, if there is anything in relation to the needs of your child that you would like to discuss, or if your child has any particular support needs, a support meeting can be held with staff and any relevant support services involved. Please speak to the Stiúrthóir for further assistance.

Caitlín Uí Mhuineacháin (Stiúrthóir)
Naíonra Dhún Chaocháin
Guthán: 097 88877 nó 097 88977

Máire Cáit Uí Mhurchú (Stiúrthóir)
Naíonra Ghleann na Muaidhe
Guthán 097 87838 nó 097 88863

Margadh Feirmeoirí Iorrais (MFI) / Erris Farmers' Market

Bhronn an Cigire Tomás Ó Fearghail ón Roinn Talmhaíochta, Iascaireachta agus Bia caighdeán dea-chleachtais Bord Bia 2010-2011 ar Mhargadh Feirmeoirí Iorrais i mí Iúil. Tá réimse leathan bia atá úr, séasúrach agus caighdeánach ó cheantar Iorrais le fáil sa mhargadh, atá ar bun i gCearnóg Chartúir i mBéal an Mhuirthead - glasraí, uibheacha circe agus lachan, ábhar bácála, iasc, luibheanna agus plandaí beaga, táirgí feamainne agus miasa réamhullmhaithe san áireamh. Is comhartha aitheantais an teastas seo ar chaighdeán an bhia atá le fáil sa mhargadh.

Inspector Tom Farrell from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food awarded the Bord Bia Quality Practice Standard for 2010 – 2011 to Margadh Feirmeoirí Iorrais (Erris Farmers Market) in July. The market, which is held in Carter Square, Béal an Mhuirthead, offers a variety of fresh, seasonal produce from the Erris area including vegetables, free range hen and duck eggs, home baking, fish, herbs & small plants, seaweed products and prepared dishes. This award recognises the quality and authenticity of the produce on offer.

Ó chlé Máirtín Ó Domhnaill, an Cigire Tomás Ó Fearghail, Bríd Ní Fhloinn, Eibhlín Ní Dhéagánaigh agus Luke Ó Déagánaigh (grianghraf Mary Mc Carthy)

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 hoibreacha atá ar bun faoi láthair:-

* Forbairt áite pháirceála carranna in aice le céibh na Rinne Rua
* Cothabháil ar shiúlóidí Ceathrú Thaidhg
* Tá sé beartaithe gairdín orgánach pobail a fhorbairt i Ros Dumhach ag brath ar airgeadú

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 been undertaken at present:-
The development of car parking facilities adjacent to the pier at Rinn Rua
Maintenance work on Ceathrú Thaidhg walks
It is planned to develop a community organic garden at Ros Dumhach (pending funding)

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

Clár Imeachtaí / Programme of Activities

An Teastas Eorpach sa Ghaeilge / The European Certificate in Irish

Ar mhaith leat Gaeilge a fhoghlaim ón tús nó dul chun cinn a dhéanamh leis an méid atá agat agus cailíocht aitheanta a bhaint amach? Tá Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, i gcomhar le hIonad na dTeangacha, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Má Nuad agus Údarás na Gaeltachta ag eagrú cúrsaí gaeilge sa Seanscoil i gCeathrú Thaidhg d'fhoghlaimeoirí fásta. Bunaithe ar na ranganna agus ar na himeachtaí teanga eile a chuirfear ar fáil i rith an chúrsa, beidh deis ag daoine scrúdú a dhéanamh chun Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge a bhaint amach. Ranganna neamhfhoirmiúla atá i gceist leis an bhéim ar an nGaeilge labhartha agus na focail choitianta a úsáidtear sa ghnáthchaint. De réir a chéile cuirfidh an cúrsa le do mhuinín i dtuiscint agus i labhairt na teanga. Tá cúrsa B1 (meán leibhéal) ar bun faoi láthair agus tá sé beartaithe cúrsa a eagrú le haghaidh tosaitheoirí (A1) ag brath ar éileamh. Tá breis eolais le fáil ó Threasa ag 097 88082 nó ó Vincent ag 087 7557244.

Would you like to learn Irish from the beginning or improve on the level you already have and obtain a recognised qualification in the process? Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, in conjunction with The Language's Centre, University College Maynooth and Údarás na Gaeltachta is organising Irish language courses in the Seanscoil, Ceathrú Thaidhg to cater for adult learners. Based on the classes and on other language activities which are organised during the course, participants will have an opportunity to undertake an exam to obtain the European Certificate in Irish. Classes are informal with an emphasis on spoken Irish and common phrases used in everyday conversation. The course will add to your confidence in understanding and speaking the language. Level B1 (Intermediate level) is currently underway and it is proposed to organise a course for Beginners (A1) pending sufficent demand. For further information please contact Treasa on 097 88082 or Vincent on 087 7557244.

Cúrsa Ceardaíochta / Craft Course

Más maith leat scileanna fuála, cniotála, cróiseála nó obair lása a fhoghlaim, nó barr feabhais a chur ar na scileanna atá agat cheana féin seo é do sheans. Tá Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo ag eagrú cúrsa ceardaíochta ocht seachtaine sa Seanscoil ag tosnú Dé Céadaoin an 29ú Meán Fómhair ag 7.30 i.n. €50 an costas atá ar an gcúrsa agus cuirfear an t-ábhar uilig a theastaíonn ar fáil. Tá tuilleadh eolais le fáil ó Mary ag 087 2740248

An eight week craft course which includes sewing, textiles, knitting, crochet, lacework and rug making will be held in the Seanscoil community centre starting on Wednesday 29th September at 7.30 p.m. The cost of the course is €50 with all materials supplied. For further information please contact Mary on 087 2740248.

Cócaireacht le Calann / Cookery Demonstrations

Tá an cócaire cáilithe Calann Uí Cheallaigh ag leanacht ar aghaidh leis na taispeántais chócaireachta sa Seanscoil ar an 13ú agus 20ú Deireadh Fómhair ag 7.30 i.n. Bia na Samhna atá mar théama ar an dá sheisiún seo agus déanfar bairín breac, flapóga, úlla taifí, pióg phuimcín agus brioscaí. Tá sé molta teagmháil a dhéanamh le Calann roimhré ar 086 1650813.

Qualified Chef Calann Kelly is continuing her series of cookery demonstrations in the Seanscoil on Wednesdays the 13th and 20th October at 7.30 p.m. Halloween fare is the theme of both sessions which will include making barm brack, flapjacks, toffee apples, pumpkin pie and biscuits. It is advisable to book in advance by contacting Calann on 086 1650813.

Imeachtaí Eile / Other Activities

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

The full programme of activities for Autumn/Winter will be available shortly. Keep an eye on the Sunday Newsletter and on local newspapers for details.

Scéalta Eile / Other News

Campaí Samhraidh / Summer Camps

D'eagraigh Coiste Campaí Samhraidh Iorrais campaí samhraidh ag Ceathrú Thaidhg agus ag Barr na Trá i mbliana le cuidiú hairgeadú na Roinne Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta faoi Scéim na gCampaí Samhraidh d'Aos Óg na Gaeltachta. Seachtain siamsaíochta, spraoi, spóirt agus scléip trí Ghaeilge atá sna campaí seo, atá dírithe ar pháistí san aoisghrúpa ó sé mbliana d'aois go dhá bhliain déag d'aois. Ba mhaith leis an gcoiste buíochas a ghlacadh le Bríd Ní Sheighin (Príomhoide Scoil Náisiúnta Cheathrú Thaidhg) agus le Loretta Uí Ghuidhir (coiste bainistíochta Scoil Náisiúnta Bharr na Trá) as a gcomhoibriú agus a gcabhair.

The committee of Campaí Samhraidh Iorrais organised summer camps in Ceathrú Thaidhg and at Barr na Trá with the assistance of funding it received from The Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs under the scheme Scéim na gCampaí Samhraidh d'Aos Óg na Gaeltachta. The aim of the camps, which are targeted at children in the six to twelve year age group, is to encourage them to speak Irish in an enjoyable environment. The week-long programme of activity included sports, art, crafts, traditional dancing, singing and a barbeque. The committee would like to thank Bríd Ní Sheighin (Principal Scoil Náisiúnta Cheathrú Thaidhg) and Loretta Mc Guire (management committee of Scoil Náisiúnta Bharr na Trá) for their co-operation and assistance.

Teampall Pholl a' tSómais / Graveyard Survey

Tá Uinsíonn Mac Graith, thar ceann Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, i mbun suirbhé ar theampall Pholl a' tSomáis chun na huaigheanna uilig a mharcáil ar phlean agus stair an teampaill a bhreacadh síos. Tá sé beartaithe an t-eolas a fhoilsiú i bhfoirm leabhair, cosúil leis an leabhar a foilsíodh ar Theampall Chill Ghallagáin anuraidh. Má tá eolas nó grianghraif agat de do mhuintir atá curtha sa teampall déan teagmháil le Uinsíonn led' thoil ag 087 7928865.

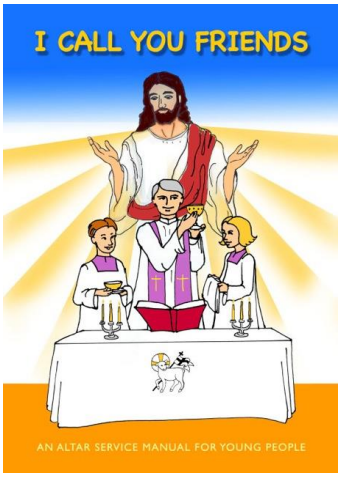
*Uinsíonn Mac Graith, on behalf of Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, is carrying out a survey of the **old graveyard** at Poll a' tSómais to mark the graves on a plan and record the history of the graveyard. It is intended to compile the information in a book similar to the Teampall Chill Ghallagáin book which was published last year. If you*

have information or photographs of deceased relatives who are buried in the graveyard, and would like to have them included in the book please contact Uinsíonn on 087 7928865.

Grúpa Scolairí ar Chuairt / Visiting Students

Thug grúpa scoláirí Meiriceánacha ó Scoil Thraenála Idirnáisiúna Bhaile Átha Cliath, in éineacht lena stiúrthóir acadúil Aeveen Kerrisk, cuairt ar an bparóiste 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.

A group of American students from the School for International Training Dublin, accompanied by academic director Aeveen Kerrisk, visited the parish 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.



GLAOIM ORAIBH MO CHAIRDE - **Treoirleabhar do Fhreastalaithe Altóra**

D'fhoilsigh Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, i gcomhar leis an sagart áitiúil an tAthair Eamon Ó Ruadhagháin, treoirleabhar dar teidil 'Glaoim Oraibh Mo Chairde – I Call You Friends'. Treoirleabhair dhá-theangach atá ann, a bhéas mar áis tagartha do fhreastalaithe altóra a dhéanann, agus a dhéanfaidh, freastal ar an Aifreann i bparóiste Chill Chomáin. Clúdaitear ábhar a bhaineann le saol na heaglaise – stair na Críostaíochta sa pharóiste, ról agus dualgaisí an fhreastalaí altóra, paidreacha Gaeilge, beannachtaí, an tAifreann, féilte na bliana, mion-theagasc Críostaí, téarmaíocht &rl. 'Sé Foras na Gaeilge a rinne airgeadú ar an tionscnamh faoin scéim *An Ghaeilge sa Phobal – Ón mBeagán go dtí an Mórán*.

Comhar Dún Chaocháin Teo, in co-operation with Fr. Eddie Rogan, published a bi-lingual manual for Altar Servers entitled 'Glaoim Oraibh Mo Chairde – I Call You Friends'. The aim of the manual is to provide guidelines and reference material for existing and future altar servers within the parish of Cill Chomáin. Various topics are covered including the history of Christianity in the parish, the role and responsibilities of the altar server, Irish prayers, blessings, the parts of the Mass, the festivals in the liturgical year, ecclesiastical terms etc. This project was funded by Foras na Gaeilge under the scheme 'An Ghaeilge sa Phobal – Ón mBeagán go dtí an Mórán'.

Am Cinniúnach don Ghaeltacht / The Future of the Gaeltacht

Níl aon dabht faoi ach gur am cinniúnach atá ann don teanga Gaeilge agus don Ghaeltacht. Cuirfear deireadh leis an nGaeltacht i dtréimhse chúig bliana má chuirtear i bhfeidhm na ciorruithe atá molta ag an Roinn Airgeadais don Ghaeltacht. Tugadh an teachtaireacht láidir seo ag cruinniú de Chomhlachas na gComharchumann Gaeltachta agus na gComhlachtaí Pobal-bhunaithe, a reáchtáladh i nGaillimh ar an 28ú Meán Fómhair. Léirigh an cruinniú an-imní faoi réamh-mheastacháin na Roinne Airgeadais i gClár Caipitiúil an Rialtais (foilsithe Iúil 2010) ina raibh ciorruithe móra ar chaiteachas na Roinne Gnóthaí Pobail, Comhionannais agus Gaeltachta. Dé réir an chláir sin bheadh ísliú 80% ar chaiteachas na Roinne Gnóthaí Pobail, Comhionannais agus Gaeltachta ó €149 milliún i 2008 go €30 milliún i 2016 – an t-ísliú is mó ar aon allúntas d'aon Roinn Stáit.

Pléadh na moltaí atá i nDréacht-Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010-2030, a foilsíodh ag deireadh 2009. Pléadh chomh maith na moltaí a d'escair as próiseas comhairliúcháin a bhí déanta ag an gComhchoiste Oireachtas i leith na Gaeilge, a foilsíodh i mí Iúil 2010. Thacaigh an cruinniú leis na moltaí a bhí déanta ag ballraíocht uile-pháirtí an Chomhchoiste agus mhol go gcuirfeadh an Rialtas i bhfeidhm na moltaí go luath.

Dúradh go raibh na meastacháin atá i gClár Caipitil na Roinne Airgeadais ag teacht salach go hiomlán ar na moltaí a bhí sa Dréacht-Straitéis agus ar na moltaí a bhí déanta ag an gComhchoiste Oireachtais i leith na Gaeilge. "Níl mórán céille a bheith ag caint ar Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge má táthar chun deireadh a chur leis na hinstitiúidí stáit agus pobail sa Ghaeltacht laistigh de chúig bliana, rud a bheidh mar thoradh ar chur i bhfeidhm na meastacháin seo", a dúirt Gearóid Ó Brosnacháin, Cathaoirleach an Chomhlachais.

Ghlac an Cruinniú le rún ag moladh go gcuirfí maoiniú ar fáil sna blianta beaga romhainn don Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Comhionannais agus Gaeltachta ag an leibhéal céanna is a chuireadh i 2010, sé sin €105 milliún. Bhí an leibhéal maoinithe seo riachtanach chun a chinntiú go mbeadh an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Comhionannais agus Gaeltachta, Údarás na Gaeltachta agus na heagrais eile Gaeltachta in ann feidhmiú go héifeachtach. Tá 29 eagras ó gach ceantar Gaeltachta páirteach sa gComhlachas. Tá ról tabhachtach acu i gcur chun cinn agus i mbuanú na Gaeilge trí thionscnaimh phleanála teanga, i bhforbairt saol eacnamaíochta agus i sholáthar seirbhísí agus áiseanna riachtanacha sóisialta sna ceantracha Gaeltachta.

Mar fhocal scoir tá Conradh na Gaeilge agus Guth na Gaeltachta ag eagrú lá eolais do Theachtaí Dála agus do Sheanadóirí in Óstán Buswells ar an 6ú Deireadh Fómhair (8.00r.n. go 6.00i.n.). Is é aidhm an lae ná a chur in iúl do na hionadaithe poiblí go gcaithfidh an Rialtas (i) glacadh le moltaí an Chomhchoiste Oireachtais um Ghnóthaí Ealaíon, Spóirt, Turasóireachta, Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta maidir leis an Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge agus (2) gan glacadh le moltaí na Roinne Airgeadais i leith na Gaeltachta mar atá leagtha amach sa cháipéis 'Tosaíochtaí Infheistíochta Infreastruchtúir 2010 – 2016' Tá sé fíor-thabhachtach tacú leis an bhfeachtas seo.

There is no doubt but that we are at a crossroads in relation to the future of the Irish language and the Gaeltacht. The Gaeltacht as we know it will be decimated over a five year period if the cutbacks in relation to it are implemented by the Department of Finance. This was the worrying message which emerged from a meeting of Comhlachtas na gComharchumann Gaeltachta and Community-based Companies, which was held in Galway on 28th September. The Department of Finance's pre-estimates for the government's capital programme (published in July 2010), outlining huge reductions in the expenditure budget of the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs, is cause for great concern. According to this programme the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs' expenditure will fall by 80% from €149 million in 2008 to €30 million by 2016 – representing the greatest reduction of funding of any state department.

Items discussed at the Meeting included the recommendations contained in the Draft 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010-2030, which was published at the end of 2009, and also the recommendations which emerged from the report of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Tourism, Culture, Sport, Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs (published in July 2010). The meeting supported the Joint Committee's recommendations and stated that the Department of Finance's pre-estimates for the capital programme were in direct contrast to the recommendations in the Draft Strategy for the Irish Language and those of the Joint Committee. "It makes no sense whatsoever to promote a Draft 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language if the state and community agencies which operate in the Gaeltacht are terminated within five years, which will happen if these estimates are implemented", stated Gearóid Ó Brosnacháin, Chairman of Comhlachas na gComharchumann Gaeltachta.

The Meeting proposed that in the years ahead the same level of funding should be sanctioned to the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs as was sanctioned in 2010 i.e. €105 million. This level of funding was essential to ensure that the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs, Údarás na Gaeltachta and other Gaeltacht agencies could function effectively. The Comhlachas represents 29 organisations in total from all Gaeltacht areas, consisting of community development co-operatives and community-based companies. These organisations have an important role in the promotion and preservation of the Irish language through language development plans, in economic development and in the provision of essential social services and amenities.

Conradh na Gaeilge and Guth na Gaeltachta are organising an information day for TDs and Senators in Buswells Hotel on 6th October (8.00a.m. to 6.00p.m.). The aim of the day is to inform elected representatives of the government's need to (i) accept the recommendations the report of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Tourism, Culture, Sport, Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs in relation to the Draft 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010-2030 and (2) to reject the recommendations of the Department of Finance in relation to the Gaeltacht as set out in the Capital Programme for Government 2010 – 2016. Your support is needed.