

Wednesday August 16th

Gaelic Cultural Day Camp 10am-2pm

\$5.00 per child or \$10 per family

Christmas Island Firehall

Youth ages 4-12 with an interest in Gaelic language & culture are welcome to join us for two fun filled days of Gaelic oriented activities. Please bring a lunch/water bottle.

Adult Gaelic Classes 10am-3pm

\$25/per day ~ Seniors & Students \$10

Pre-registration is encouraged but not mandatory. Tea & biscuits provided.

Eamag Dhòmhnallach (Emily MacDonald) will lead our beginner class at *St. Barra's church* with a focus on everyday sayings & greetings through interactive teaching methods.

Òmar Bhochanan (Amber Buchanan) will continue your learning through the use of GAB (Gaidhlig aig Baile) or Gaelic of the home. This hands-on method will have you feeling confident in your Gaelic in no time. Fluent conversational & native Gaelic speakers are always welcome. Christmas Island Fire Hall.

Symposium 7:30 pm

Christmas Island Fire Hall Adm. \$10

The Beaton Institute at the Cape Breton University houses a wonderful collection of recordings and other materials gathered from our communities. Join Stacey MacLean, Joe L. MacDonald, Bean an Taighe Lorrie MacKinnon and others to learn about the treasures that our communities contributed to the archive, as well as some of the collectors that made it all possible. Always a great evening! *Tea & lunch served.*

Thursday, August 17th

Gaelic Cultural Day Camp 10am-2pm

This is a continuation from yesterday's camp but is open to those who could not attend the first day. See previous days events for details.

Adult Gaelic Classes 10am-3pm

\$25/per day ~ Seniors & Students \$10

This is a continuation of yesterday's Gaelic classes; new students are always welcome.

Milling Song Workshop 6-7:30pm

\$6 or \$10 for both workshop/Milling Frolic
Learn the choruses to popular Gaelic milling songs and join in at the milling frolic to follow. Angus MacLeod, renowned Gaelic singer and teacher will lead this workshop. Christmas Island Fire Hall.

Milling Frolic 8pm Adm. \$6 (under 14 free)

Milling songs are sung today for the sheer pleasure of it but once they were a very practical method of keeping constant rhythm to the pounding of woven cloth to shrink and soften it for use. Christmas Island Fire Hall. *Tea & lunch served.*

Friday, August 18th

All workshops and will take place at the Christmas Island Fire Hall Adm. \$6

11am-1pm Beginner Fiddle with MaryAnna

Piano accompaniment with Katherine.

Please pre-register if you need a fiddle.

3-5pm Gaelic Song/Puirt a Beul Wkshop.

When musical instruments were banned in an attempt to crush the Highland Spirit, the resourceful Gael used the voice to keep the music alive and provide accompaniment for dance. Instructor is Emily MacDonald.

7pm Féis Children's Concert

Students of our summer music program perform for family and friends. Hotdogs & Ice cream after the concert.

8-10pm Family Square dance

Helen MacDonald, Scott MacKenzie & friends. Adm. by donation.

Saturday, August 19th

All workshops will take place at the Christmas Island Fire Hall and are led by Féis summer music program instructors. Adm. \$6 (Please pre-register if you need a fiddle)

10am-11:30am Beginner Guitar & Step Dance

12-1:30pm Intermediate Fiddle & Step Dance

1:30-3pm Intermediate Guitar

4pm Gabh do Naidheachd / Gabh Òran

Cuiribh seachad beagan do dhuine comhla ruinn agus cluinnidh sibh naidheachd no dhà 'nar measg. This Gaelic speaking story & song session is open to all who want to share a story of song or for those who enjoy listening. Fear an Taigh Hector MacNeil.

Tea & lunch served. Adm. Free.

St. Barra's Church & Communities Centre

P.O Box 317 Christmas Island, Cape Breton

Nova Scotia, B1T 1R7 (Ph: 902-622-2627)

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www.feisaneilein.ca

Féis an Eilein is a Registered Charity with Revenue Canada. Every donation is greatly appreciated & charitable receipt given.

Mòron taing! Many thanks!

Summer Events 2023

Eilean na Nollaig, Ceap Breatainn

Bu Déonach Leam Tilleadh



Christmas Island, Cape Breton

"I Would Willingly Return"

Celebrating our Gaelic Community

Proudly Presented by

Comunn Féis an Eilein

25th Annual Gaelic Concert Series

33rd Annual Féis Week

Gaelic Activity Day Camps

Wednesdays & Thursdays 10am-2pm
July 5-August 17 \$5.00 child or \$10 family

Youth ages 4-12 are welcome to join us at the Christmas Island Fire Hall for fun filled days of Gaelic oriented activities. Youth will participate in Gaelic song, dance, crafts and milling, all taught by our qualified music instructors. Guest appearances by community Gaelic mentors on occasion. Please bring a lunch/water bottle.

Music Lessons Mondays & Fridays

July 3rd - August 14th \$6/half hr \$10/hr
Christmas Island Fire Hall

For information on classes or to pre-register
Phone 902-622-2627 or email:
lessons.feisaneilein@gmail.com

Katherine MacDonald- beginner to advanced piano & accompaniment & step dance.
Emily MacDonald - beginner to advanced piano & accompaniment, beginner and intermediate guitar.
Mary Anna MacNeil - beginner to intermediate fiddle and all levels of stepdance.

Beginner Gaelic Classes

Wednesdays July 5th - August 9th 7-8:30pm
\$30 for 6 classes or \$5 per class. Instructor
Barry George will lead hands-on complete
beginner classes for all ages.
St. Barra's Church & Communities Centre

Bu Déonach Leam Tilleadh 25th Annual Gaelic Concert Series

7:30pm Adm: \$15 | Under 14 \$5
St. Barra's Church, 47 Church Road
Grand Narrows Hwy, Christmas Island, NS

Féis an Eilein is proud to present the 25th annual Gaelic concert series to be held at St. Barra Community Centre. Each bi-lingual, Gaelic and English, two-hour concert will feature some of Cape Breton's finest professional musicians performing with local emerging talent and tradition bearers. We look forward to seeing you!

July 11 Còmhlha Cruinn "Gathered Together for 25 years"

Join us for a fine evening of fiddling & dancing with Howie MacDonald, Beverly MacLean, John Pellerin, Gaelic singing group Mo Chàirdean, piping brothers Aidan and Cameron MacNeil and host/ Bean an Taighe CBU Professor and Ethnomusicologist Heather Sparling. Dancers; Marley Whyte and Féis instructors Katherine & Mary Anna.

July 18 Mod nam Fidhlearnan "The Fiddler's Court"

We have collected some great fiddlers from CB & PEI to play for us this evening, including Donna DeWolfe, Shelly Campbell, Hailee and Ward MacDonald, and pianist Allan Dewar. You will hear Gaelic songs by Bean an Taighe Hannah Krebs and see steps by Marley Whyte, Katherine & Mary Anna.

July 25 An Cèilidh Mòr "The Big Cèilidh"

Féis welcomes back the beautiful Gaelic singing of Joanne Rankin MacIntyre, fiddlers Leanne and Brent Aucoin alongside Kyle and Dawn Gillis with up and coming Gaelic speaker and fiddler Kaj Udby. Steps from Marley, Katherine & Mary Anna.
Fear an Taigh, Gaelic storyteller, Joe Murphy.

August 1 Eilean na h-Oigridh "The Island of Youth"

Tonight we are joined by musical brothers Keith, Kyle and Colin MacDonald playing pipes, fiddle and piano, alongside multi talented fiddler, dancer, pianist & Bean an Taighe Abigail MacDonald. Joining Abigail is former Féis instructor Malcolm MacNeil on fiddle and guitar. We also have the pleasure of hearing the fiddle and piano duo, Stephanie MacDonald and Susan MacLean.
Dancers Marley, Katherine & Mary Anna.

August 8 Gu Smùideadh (Drivin' 'er!)

Great evening of tunes tonight with powerhouse duos Mac Morin & Kimberly Fraser and Dawn & Margie Beaton. We will hear songs from The Northern Connection consisting of Féis instructors Katherine & Emily MacDonald with cousins Chloe Peterson, Morgan MacInnis & Breagh Langille. Fear an Taigh, Gaelic speaker and storyteller Shamus Y. MacDonald.

*Join us October 7th 2pm for our Celtic Colours concert, Còmhlha Cruinn. An afternoon of Gaelic music. St. Barra's Church & Community Centre.

33rd Annual Féis Week August 15-19th, 2023

De th'ann a Féis? What is a Féis?

A féis (faysh) is a community-based festival designed to promote the Gaelic language and culture of an area. The first Féis was held on the Isle of Barra in 1981. The community of Christmas Island, located on Cape Breton, is home to the first féis to be held outside of Scotland. Our inaugural festival was held in 1991. The annual Féis An Eilein week encompasses workshops in Gaelic language and song, step dancing, fiddle and guitar, and Gaelic activities camp for youth.

Tàing Mhòr to our sponsors:



Tuesday August 15th

7:30pm - Céilidh nam Pìobairean
"The Piper's Ceilidh"

St. Barra's Church & Communities Centre
\$15 | Under 14 \$5

The air was electric with tunes on that hot summer night of our first Piper's Céilidh 25 years ago. We promise you another night of unforgettable piping, Gaelic song and dance. Bean an Taighe Mary Jane Lamond will be joined by pipers Kenneth MacKenzie, Keith MacDonald and Ryan MacNeil who will be accompanied by Boyd MacNeil