



Bí bródúil as do theanga

# An Fhuinneog Ghaelach

Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile

Geimhreadh 2007  
1-06-2007

## D'fhreastail deichniúr páistí ar "Lá na bPáistí".

**F**áilte go heagrán an Gheimhridh den Fhuinneog Ghaelach. Nuair a smaoiním ar mo théarma mar Uachtarán agus mé ag scríobh an alt seo, ritheann mo smaointí ar na daoine a oibríonn gan scíth chun an Ghaeilge a chur ar aghaidh. Mar is iondúil táimid thar a bheith buíoch do na múinteoirí díograiseacha a bhíonn ann gach seachtain: Daithí Ó Luasaigh, Doireann de Faoite, Siún Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh, Stuart Traill, Criostóir Ó Maonaigh, Muiris Ó Scanláin agus Éamon Ó Neachtain.



*One of our young visitors at Lá na bPáistí*

Mo bhuíochas, freisin, don choiste a oibríonn go crua i rith na bliana:- Leas Uachtaráin Gabhan Ó Dubhthaigh, Rúnaí Leyla Jevtovic, Cisteoir Marc Ó Cléirigh agus Eileen Savedra, Siún Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh, Éamon Ó Riain. Seán Ó Caolaidhe, Una de Neefe, Mark Deasy, Muiris Ó Mórdha agus Uinsíonn Ó Gormáin.

Beidh an Cruinniú Ginearálta ar siúl ar an 26ú Meithimh (a thuilleadh eolais san eagrán seo) agus molaim do gach ball a bheith i láthair mar is é seo an t-aon cruinniú ar féidir leat an bhéim a chur ar obair an Chumainn. Bí cinnte go bhfuil do shíntiús íochta agat chun cead bhótála a bheith agat. Níos luaithe i mí Bhealtaine d'eagraíomar "Lá na bPáistí". D'fhreastail deichniúr páistí ar an lá sin. D'éirigh go h-álainn leis na gníomhachtaí agus ár mbuíochas do Sheán agus Pamaladh a bhí i mbun ghnóthaí agus do Chaireann as ucht a cabhair ar an lá agus roimh ré. Tá sé in intinn againn lá mar seo a chur ar siúl níos minicí sa todhcháí.

In ainm an Chumainn guím rath agus beannacht ar an Scoil Gheimhridh i Sydney. Ócáid speisialta í i mbliana toisc go mbeidh na h-Albanaigh comhpháirteach sa scoil. Mar chríoch, buíochas do Stuart, Siún agus Éamon as ucht an nuachtlitir den ard chaighdeán seo a chur amach gach téarma. Seo tuairim a cuirim faoi bhur mbráid – bíodh tú líofa nó ag tosnú- scríobhaigí alt nó gearr scéal le haghaidh an nuachtlitir !

Cáit Ní Mhúdaigh, Uachtarán.

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[www.gaeilgesanastrail.com](http://www.gaeilgesanastrail.com)

## SANAS — Liam Ó Muirthile

**A**n bunchnuasach filíochta is téagartha agus is ilghnéithí ag an údar le tamall. Dhá chnuasach ar shlí é in aon cheann amháin, scátháin a chéile mar a thuigfí ó phalandróim an teidil. Dánta clasaiceacha máistriúla cuid díobh, agus saothair eile a shíneann a ngéaga go raidhsiúil agus go fairsing i mbun súgartha. Tá CD suaitheiseach ag gabháil leis ar a bhfuil ceol le roinnt de na dánta. I bpáirt leis an amhránaí Iarla Ó Lionaird a rinneadh an taifeadadh.

*In Dineen's dictionary, sanas has a multiplicity of meaning – 'special knowledge, occult knowledge, a secret, a suggestion, a hint...a farewell, a greeting'. It is also a palindrome, a word that dovetails on itself. Liam Ó Muirthile's latest collection is a journey in and out of language ('an turas isteach agus an turas amach') and feeling. Here are fifty new poems whose themes, words, images and sounds echo each other, spark off each other, whisper to each other. Here are poems in honour of musicians, poets and story-tellers, including Rory Gallagher and Michael Hartnett. There are love poems; jokes and word-games; lyrics and lullabies; and responses to war, death and personal loss. Simultaneously sparse and complex, elegiac and celebratory, Sanas is perhaps the most beautifully constructed collection yet from Liam Ó Muirthile, one of Ireland's leading poets. In the accompanying CD, Ó Muirthile's extraordinary voice comes alive – this is poetry that sings – in a series of magical soundscapes created by singer and composer Iarla Ó Lionaird.*

Rugadh Liam Ó Muirthile i gCathair Chorcaí i 1950, an chéad duine de naonúr clainne. D'fhreastail sé ar Chlochar na Toirbhirte, Scoil Chríost Rí agus Coláiste Chríost Rí. Chuaigh sé chun na hollscoile i gCorcaigh ar scoláireacht ón mBardas sa bhliain 1968, agus bhain sé amach céim BA sa Ghaeilge agus sa Fhraincis. Chaith sé tréimhsí sa Fhrainc le linn a chúrsa ollscoile. Chaitheadh sé tréimhsí i nGaeltacht Chorca Dhuibhne ó bhí sé ar an meánscoil. Bhí an Ríordánach agus an Riadach i mbarra réime san Ollscoil i gCorcaigh san am. Ba é Seán Ó Tuama an tOllamh le Gaeilge. Bhí Michael Davitt, Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill agus Gabriel Rosenstock ag gabháil don Ghaeilge an tráth sin agus chuir siad tús leis an iris filíochta *Innti* agus iad san ollscoil.

D'fhág Liam Corcaigh agus tháinig go Baile Átha Cliath i 1972. Bhí sé ag obair i nGael-Linn ar feadh tamaill ach fuair sé post in RTE go luath ina dhiaidh sin. Bhí sé ar fhoireann lánaimseartha na Nuachta ó 1973 go dtí 1991, ag obair ar an raidió agus ar an teilifís. D'éirigh sé as a phost ar fhoireann RTE i 1991 chun breis ama a chaitheamh ag gabháil den scríbhneoireacht chruthaitheach i nGaeilge. Bhíodh colún seachtainiúil Gaeilge aige in *The Irish Times* ó 1989 go 2003.

Ba é *Tine Chnámh* a chéad chnuasach filíochta agus ghnóthaigh sé Duais an Ríordánaigh san Oireachtas. Bronnadh duais an Fhorais Ghael-Mheiriceánaigh air sa bhliain 1984, Gradam an Bhuitléaraigh (1996), Gradam Chló Iar-Chonnacht (2000) agus Duais na Comhairle Eálaíon (2001). Saothraíonn Liam an drámaíocht Ghaeilge freisin. Léirigh Amharclann de hÍde a dhráma *Tine Chnámh* i mBaile Átha Cliath i 1993, *Fear an Tae* in Amharclann Lána Aindriú i mBaile Átha Cliath i 1995 agus *Liodán na hAbhann* sa bhliain 2000. Gnóthaigh an t-úrsceál *Ar Bhruach na Laoi* duais Oireachtais 1995.

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'Is annamh dánta a fháil i nGaeilge atá chomh críochnúil leis na dánta seo.' **Foinse**

'É ina chomharba ar Mháirtín Ó Cadhain, ar Mhyles na gCopaleen, ar Sheán Ó Ríordáin, ar Bhreandán Ó hEithir, ba mhór an dúshlán é. Ní foláir don cholúnaí a stíl féin a ghreanadh is a chur os ard, agus ní foláir dó a bheith inléite, intuigthe, inaitheanta agus séala láidir pearsanta a bhualadh anuas air. Níl aon amhras ná gur éirigh go binn thar barr amach le Liam Ó Muirthile é seo a dhéanamh.' **Alan Titley, Irish Book Review**

Leabhar agus CD : €15

Foilsithe / Publication date: Déardaoin 15 Márta / Thursday 15 March 2007

Tuilleadh eolais / further information: Liam Carson. Ríomh-phost: liamog62@eircom.net

## Words from the President

**W**elcome to the winter edition of An Fhuinneog Gaelach. As I write this I reflect on my term as President and those who work so tirelessly to make the Cumann what it is. As always we are indebted to our hard-working teachers who give up their time each week to teach: Daithí Ó Luasaigh, Doireann de Faoite, Siún Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh, Stuart Traill, Críostóir Ó Maonaigh and Muiris Ó Scanláin and Eamon Ó Neachtain for their work with the ard rang.

My thanks also to our hardworking committee over the past year: our Vice President Gavan Ó Dubhthaigh, Secretary Leyla Jevtovic Treasurer Mark Ó Cléirigh and our committee members Eileen Savedra, Siún Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh, Eamonn Ó Riainn, Seán Rickarby, Seán Ó Caollaidhe, Mark Deasey, Una de Neeffe, Mauris Ó Mórda and Uiníonn Ó Gormáin.

A reminder that the AGM will be held on Tuesday 26 June (more detail in this issue) and I would encourage all our members to attend as this is one forum where there is the opportunity to have a say about Cumann matters. Current financial members are eligible to vote so make sure your membership is up to date!

Earlier in May we held a very successful Children's Day with ten children participating in activities followed by a light lunch. Our gratitude to Seán Ó Caollaidhe and Pamaladh Uí Néill who ran the sessions and to Caireann Ní Dhiamán for her assistance prior to and on the day. This is an event we hope to run a bit more regularly in the future.

On behalf of the Cumann I would also like to wish Sydney the very best for the upcoming Scoil Gheimhridh. This year will be a special one as the Scottish language speakers join the Irish for a joint school.

Thanks also to Stuart and Joan for producing a newsletter of a consistently high standard. I encourage all those learners and fluent speakers to take the opportunity to practise your written Irish and submit an article for publication.

### More recognition for Irish Language in Australia

Last year the Canberra committee came third in the international section of the Glór na nGael "Global Gaelige" competition. As a result two teachers from the capital will travel to Ireland this year to attend Irish courses.

Glór na nGael received sponsorship from the Irish Consulate in Sydney and at the March céilí to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge, his excellency Máirtín Ó Fainín presented a cheque for \$5,000 to Máire Nic Mhainais.

Barney Devlin (múinteoir an ardranga) and Bruce Kenna (múinteoir an bhunranga) will attend courses at Áras Uí Cadhain, an Cheathrú Rua, Bearnaí in July and Brús in September. They are both looking forward to a great time.

Prior to travelling to Ceathrú Rua, Bearnaí will attend Cúrsa Cruinnis at Gleann Cholm Cille in Donegal, conducted by Éamon Ó Dónaill. We expect there will be a greater emphasis on grammar in class following his return !



*Páistí ag obair*

## Nuacht ó Canberra

### **A**n Comórtas Domhanda "Global Gaeilge" Urraithe ag Foras na Gaeilge

Tréaslaímid **Cairde na hÉireann, Canberra** as ucht an tríú duais a bhuaigh siad le gairid sa Chomórtas Domhanda, eagraithe ag Glór na nGael. Is iontach go bhfuil aitheantas tugtha dóibh as an obair atá déanta acu le blianta beaga anuas chun an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn i gCanberra.

We congratulate **Cairde na hÉireann, Canberra** on recently winning third prize in the "Global Gaeilge" competition organized by Glór na nGael. It is wonderful that they have been recognized for their work in promoting the Irish Language in Canberra.

### Duais Eile Bainte ag an Astráil sa Chomórtas Domhanda

Anuraidh tháinig an coiste i gCanberra sa tríú háit sa Chomórtas Domhanda le Glór na nGael agus dá bharr sin beidh beirt de na múinteoirí as an bpríomhchathair ag taisteal go hÉirinn i mbliana chun freastal ar chúrsaí Gaeltachta.

Fuair Glór na nGael urraíocht ón gConsalacht i Sidní agus ag an gCéilí Mór a bhí ar siúl ann i mí Márta chun Seachtain na Gaeilge a cheiliúradh bhronn an tambasadóir Éireannach, a Shoilse Máirtín Ó Fainín, an seic ar \$5,000 ar dhuine de na hiníonacha léinn as Canberra, Máire Nic Mhanais.



Beidh Bearnaí Ó Doibhlin, múinteoir an ard ranga, agus Brús Ó Ciannaith, múinteoir an bhunranga, ag freastal ar chúrsaí in Áras Uí Cadhain, an Cheathrú Rua, Bearnaí i mí Iúil agus Brús i mí

Mheán Fómhair. Tá siad dís ag tnúth le am ar dóigh ann. Roimh an gcúrsa ar an gCeathrú Rua beidh Bearnaí ag freastal ar an gChúrsa Cruinnis i nGleann Cholm Cille, le Éamonn Ó Dónaill – is dócha go mbeidh béim níos mó ar an ngraiméar ina ranganna nair a fhilleann sé chun na hAstráile!

### Irish Music and Poetry Soiree at St Carthage's

123 Royal Parade Parkville

Sunday July 1st 2007 at 7:30 pm

Music from Euphonia :

Mairead Hannan: Violin and voice

Deirdre Hannan: Lute and voice

Alice Garner: Cello

With Deidre Rubenstein reading Brendan Kennelly's translations of Irish poetry

Entry fee \$15 per person \$10 concession

Pay at the door or call Kim at the Celtic Club on 03 9670 6472

Light supper provided

### Cruinniú Bliantúil 2007

#### Toghchán an Choiste le haghaidh na bliana 2007

Annual General Meeting and Election of Committee of Management 2007/08

7.30pm Dé Máirt 26<sup>ú</sup> Lá Meitheamh  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June (last Tuesday in Term 2)  
First floor Celtic Club

## Leabhair nua le fáil

**L**ook out for a new series of three books all written by Garry Bannister and priced at a modest 10 euro each.

Titles available are

- Essential Irish (a concise grammar reference)
- Gaelic Idioms (English-Irish)
- Nathanna Cainte (Gaeilge-Béarla)

Here are just a dozen random examples -

It's a mans world *Gruth don mhac is meadhg don iníon*

He had to swallow his pride *Bhí air deoch ar a náire a ól*

I didn't promise you a rose garden *Níor gheall mé saol an mhadra bháin duit*

She's done for *Tá a gnó déanta*

He says more than his prayers *Ní grian a ghoras a ubh*

It's all terribly hush hush *Is rún daingean ar fad é*

The sandman has come *Tá Seán O'Néill tagtha*

He made light of it *Rinne sé beag is fiú de*

This is a grey area *Is limistéar doiléar é seo*

I'm not blaming you *Níl guth agam ort*

I was hopping mad *D'éirigh mé ó thalamh*

I'm up to my neck in work *Tá seacht gcúraimí an tsléibhe orm*

Highly recommended for intermediate level students who want to increase conversational ability, or just for readers who find delight in the power of language - **The Irish Times.**

The books are published by  
Forsai Publications [www.forsai.com](http://www.forsai.com)

and are distributed by  
Áisínacht, 31 Sraid na bhFíiníní,  
Baile Átha Cliath 2, Éire

Internet sales via [Litriocht.com](http://Litriocht.com)

**T**he new book entitled "Teach Yourself Irish Grammar" by Éamon Ó Dónaill is a welcome update to the long running series published by Hodder And Stoughton. This is a well thought out and accessible book with lots of good examples, but there are a couple of things to watch out for -

On page 2 it explains that eclipsis can affect both consonants and vowels but only demonstrates it on consonants, omitting the vowels. It then continues with a discussion of prefix t and prefix h, which some readers may assume is still part of the same topic (ie eclipsis). In fact prefix t and h follow completely different rules and are not connected with eclipsis.

And on pages 218 & 219 in chapter 21 there are some wrongly chosen examples.

Chuala mé nach mbíonn tú ann ró mhinic

"I heard you're not there often"

Cloisim nach mbeidh tú ann

"I hear you won't be there"

Deirtear nach mbíodh mórán daoine ann

"It's said that there used not to be many people there"

Dúirt sé liom nár bhuail sé leat

"He told me he didn't meet you"

These four sentences are all grammatically correct but are **not examples of relative clauses**, which is what chapter 21 is all about. They are examples of what is known as indirect speech which is the subject of lesson 22 in the book.

Ordering details of this and other books in the Teach Yourself catalog can be found at

[www.teachyourself.co.uk](http://www.teachyourself.co.uk)



Your questions answered by *The Grammar Doctor*

**P**eople sometimes ask what's a *transitive* verb and how does it differ from an *intransitive* verb. Dictionaries use abbreviations like vi and vt but what exactly do they mean?

The answer is that transitive means having a direct object, while intransitive means without a direct object. Great, but what's a direct object? That's something that is the recipient or outcome of some action as opposed to being indirectly involved. Not all sentences have an object let alone a direct one. Eg *Sammy kicked the ball* has a direct object which is *ball*. But *Sammy ran off the field* has another kind of object known as indirect which is *field*, so it's not counted as direct. *I swim every week* has no object at all.

Verbs of motion (eg. go, fall, crawl, walk) are typically intransitive but there are many others as well. Some verbs can even be both transitive and intransitive (eg. to give). Many verbs are accompanied by prepositions (eg. wait for, look at, listen to) which have the effect of making the object into an indirect one, so technically this counts as intransitive.

Here are some examples in English, see if you can put them into Irish. Look out for direct and indirect objects and even some where there is no object of either sort.

- Bill painted the wall last week
- Bill was painting the wall when his wife called
- Bill gives blood every year so he went to the Red Cross
- Bill's wife said that she gave already
- Bill was giving blood when he remembered the phone call
- Bill got a wee badge saying "For those who gave generously"

Why does all this matter? The distinction between transitive and intransitive has no real bearing on the verb stem, or the verb ending, or any visible aspect of the verb in any of the above examples so who cares? What these examples do show is that sometimes the same verb can have **either** a transitive or intransitive *usage* depending on the context and that the English is **not** always a good guide to the Irish. This is because Irish often uses prepositions that are not there in the English.

Where it really matters is when we use the infinitive form of the verb (eg. to go, to look at, to shut, to give, to break, to meet with). In Irish these have **different word orders** depending on whether it's a *transitive or intransitive usage*, and that's why you need to be able to recognise the two types.

So an intransitive sentence like - Would you like to stay here? Ar mhaith leat fanacht anseo, has a different word order from this transitive one - I'm not able to hear the teacher. Ní féidir liom an múinteoir a chloisteáil.

See how the word order in the second one puts the direct object (the teacher) ahead of the verb (to hear) and also the extra word "a" was inserted, and this in turn caused lenition of the verb. Likewise, compare these pairs of examples

He told me to go home - Dúirt sé liom dul abhaile. He told me not to do it - Dúirt sé liom gan é a dhéanamh, I am anxious to meet you - Tá fonn orm bualadh leat. I am anxious to get a job - Tá fonn orm post a fháil.

Now try these three examples yourself— Bill gives blood every year. Bill likes to give blood. Bill likes to give whenever he can.

The basic rules can be summarised as follows

- When translating to Irish do not follow the English word for word
- Irish often uses prepositions that are not found in the English, causing a change from a direct to an indirect object
- If there is a direct object in the Irish, then you have a transitive verb
- If there is no direct object, or if the object is indirect then it's an intransitive verb
- Use the appropriate word order when dealing with verbs in the infinitive

After a while this all becomes automatic, so don't panic if it seems confusing at first. Practice by picking sentences out of a newspaper to see if you can tell what type of object is being used. Can you find examples of each type in the Irish used elsewhere in this newsletter?

More examples can be found in the textbook *Progress in Irish* on page 63 for intransitive, and on page 64 for transitive, and also have a look at *Teach Yourself Irish* lesson 13, the section on verbal noun clauses.

## Litreacha don Chumann

**From:** Pádraig <coisceim@dublin.ie>  
**To:** feedback@gaeilgesanastrail.com  
**CC:** info@gaelminn.org, daltai1@daltai.com,  
 philo-celticsociety@yahoogroups.com,  
 aireacha@scoilgaeilge.org,  
**Subject:** AIRE: Leabhair Gaeilge COISCÉIM  
**Date:** Mon, 12 Mar 2007 22:04:43

Dia Dhuit,

Comhgháirdeachas ar an suíomh idirlíne agaibh. Is iontach an dul ar aghaidh atá ann. Táim ag scríobh chugat ag fiosrú faoi an éileamh a mheasfá a mbeadh ar leabhair i nGaeilge a fháil go leictreonach. Is feachtas úr é seo a dteastaíonn uaim a chuir i gcríoch. Mar shampla . . . Leabharlann Leictreonach as Gaeilge le fáil ag cách ar leabhair i nGaeilge ar cíos nó ar dhíol.

Má amharcann tú ar **www.coisceim.ie** tá an cuid is mó de na leabhair ansin ó 1996 ar aghaidh le fáil ar pdf. Ach sula dtéim i dtreo an fheachtas seo ba mhaith liom fáil amach ó na Ghaelgóirí thar lear - an mbeadh éileamh ar a leithéid de stórchiste?

Samhlaím féin go mbeidh éileamh air de bharr mé-adú costaisí an phoist, go háirithe le beart trom leabhair á sheoladh thart na cruinne agus go mbeidh an leagan leictreonach le fáil níos éatroma. Ach, ní an rud céanna atá i gceist, an ea? Ní féidir titim i do chodladh le do ríomhaire sa leaba, in ionad leabhar?

Do thuairimí, led' thoil ?

Sonas Ort, Pádraig Ó Snodaigh

### Key Dates for June and July 2007

|               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| 5th June      | Nominations open for AGM |
| 8th—10th June | Winter school in Sydney  |
| 19th June     | Last class of term 2     |
| 26th June     | AGM                      |
| 3rd July      | no class                 |
| 10th July     | no class                 |
| 17th July     | Teacher meeting          |
| 24th July     | First class of term 3    |

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*Information given here about term dates is for students in Victoria only. Interstate students should check with their local teacher.*

## Fógraí áitiúla

### Irish History Circle

The Irish History Circle meets in the Celtic club, 320 Queen Street, Melbourne, at 8 pm on the third Monday of each month

A variety of short papers on topics of Irish historical interest are presented. Everyone is invited, either to give a talk or just to come along and listen.

### Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann

Do you live in the Melbourne area and are you interested in Irish traditional music and dance ? Come along to the Comhaltas sessions every Wednesday night at 8 pm

We meet in St Philips Church hall, Hoddle street, Collingwood (adjacent to Collingwood town hall) and we cater for all levels so if you are a musician or a dancer then come along !

Contact Noel McGrann (03) 9584 4908

See our website at [www.comhaltas.ie](http://www.comhaltas.ie) for details of branches in Adelaide, Perth and Canberra

### Glór na nGael

Can be heard every Saturday at 11 am and Sunday at 6 pm, on Radio 3ZZZ, broadcasting on 92.3 fm in Melbourne.

Programs are also available on the internet at [www.3ZZZ.com.au](http://www.3ZZZ.com.au)

The Irish language program can be heard on first Sunday of each month. Become a subscriber and help to keep community radio alive.

You can contact Radio 3ZZZ on -

Office ph (03) 9415 1928

Office fax (03) 9415 1818

Studio (03) 9415 1923

## Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile Teo

Éarlámh: Máire Mhic Ghiolla Íosa

IRISH LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.

Patron: Mary McAleese, President of Ireland



*go raibh maith agat.....agus an  
chéad iomaitheoir éile le do thoil !*

Cumann Gaeilge na hAstráile, the Irish Language Association of Australia is a non-profit organisation run entirely by volunteer tutors and a voluntary committee of management. Its aim is to promote the Gaelic language as a second language within the Australian community, and to form networks with other cultural, heritage and Gaelic-speaking groups.

Formally established back in 1992, the ILAA offers structured weekly language classes to students of all ages, nationalities, and walks of life, across a range of levels — absolute beginners, basic, intermediate, advanced — as well as the opportunity to practice and converse together in a supportive environment. Members receive a quarterly newsletter; access to the library; and also enjoy weekly singing and informal conversation sessions; as well as participation in occasional social events and residential language schools.

Irish Language Association of Australia Inc., 320 Queen Street, Melbourne VIC, 3000.

### Annual Membership Application

or notification of change of address, telephone number, mobile, email.

New Membership     Renewal     Update

Sloinne .....  
(surname)

Guthán (bh) .....  
(phone)

Céad ainm .....  
(first name)

(ah) .....

Seoladh .....  
(address)

Fón póca .....  
(mobile)

.....

Ríomhphost .....  
(email)

Membership fee is \$30 per annum and due each January. Class fee is \$3 per week.