



Tuarascáil Cinn Bhliana
Annual Report

09





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Tuairisc an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh Chief Executive's Report

Janet Muller

I mí na Nollag 2009, bhí sé 10 mbliana ó d'oscail muid oifig POBAL an chéaduaire, i ndiaidh dúinn a bheith ag obair gan deontas, gan phá le beagnach dhá bhliain. Is iomaí athrú atá tagtha ar shaol na Gaeilge ó shin i leith, cuid mhaith díobh siúd mar gheall ar an tionchar ar leith a d'imir POBAL féin ar stádas, ar neartú agus ar úsáid na Gaeilge sa dlíne seo agus mar gheall ar an dea-obair thaighde agus straitéiseach a rinneadh ar bhonn áitiúil agus uile-oileánda.

In 2009, chuir foireann POBAL go suntasach le hobair cheannródaíoch abhcóideachta na heagraíochta ar Acht na Gaeilge TÉ trí imeachtaí bríomhara, stairiúla ar chearta agus ar reachtaíocht a eagrú, obair ar aidhm léi fosta an pobal a neartú agus a bhuanú, agus eolas agus tacaíocht a chur leis. Bhuail muid le hionadaithe Chomhairle na hEorpa maidir le cur i gcrích Chairt na hEorpa do Theangacha Réigiúnacha nó Mionlaigh, agus d'ullmhuigh muid saintuairisc chuimsitheach scríofa do Choiste na Saineolaithe ar an Chairt. Choinnigh muid lenár n-iarrachtaí chun cur le húsáid na Gaeilge agus muid ag cur chun cinn an togra 'Tá' agus ag cur eolais ar fáil don phobal maidir leis an bheagán de sheirbhísí atá ann faoi láthair. D'fhoilsigh an Roinn Oideachais tuairisc taighde POBAL, ullmhaithe ag Deirdre Ní Chinnéide le Seán Mac Corraídh, ar Shianriachtanais an Pháiste Dhátheangaigh, agus tháinig an Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta ar bord le maoiniú do thogra nua, atá dírithe ar riachtanais na múinteoirí agus iad ag tacú le daltaí le sainriachtanais. Is togra taighde uile-oileánda é seo, a gcuirfear críoch leis i mí Feabhra 2010.

In December 2009, POBAL marked ten years since we opened our offices in 1999. This had followed a period of almost two years in which the organisation worked without any public funding at all. There have been many changes in the Irish language community since then, a significant number of them because of the specific influence which POBAL itself has had on the status of the Irish language, and on strengthening the community in this part of the island, and the solid research and strategic work which we have carried out locally and on an all-Ireland basis.

In 2009, POBAL's staff has built substantially on the ground-breaking advocacy work of the organisation on the Irish Language Act for the North, through a series of lively, historic language rights events, work which also increases the strength and sustainability of the community, and which informs and supports it. We had several expert meetings with representatives of the Council of Europe in relation to the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, and we prepared our own comprehensive expert report for the Committee of Experts. We continued our initiatives to increase the use of Irish and we developed our 'Tá' project, providing information to the community on the few Irish language services currently available. The Department of Education published our research report, prepared by Deirdre Ní Chinnéide and Seán Mac Corraídh on the Special Needs of Bilingual Children, and the Comhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta came on board with funding for a new project, focussing on the needs of teachers dealing with children experiencing special needs. This is an all-Ireland research project, which will finish in February 2010.



Ag bualadh le hAíre na Breataine Bige, Brian Gibbons (ar chlé in a shuí) agus Alun Ffred Jones (ar dheis in a shuí)
Meeting Welsh Assembly Ministers, Brian Gibbons (seated left) and Alun Ffred Jones (seated right)



Cruinnú straitéiseach le hOifigigh Gaeilge óna comhairlí
Strategic meeting with the Irish Language officers in the councils

Bliain a bhí ann ina raibh a lán neamhchinnteachta faoi cad é a bhí i ndán don Ghaeilge fud fad na tíre mar gheall ar an ghéarchéim eacnamaíoch, go háirithe ó dheas. Caitheadh tréimhsí fada ag plé moltaí a cuireadh roimh rialtas an deiscirt maidir le ciorruithe suas go 58% ar sheirbhísí Gaeilge agus Gaeltachta. Go mall sa bhliain, d'fhoilsigh an rialtas ó dheas Dréachtphlean 20 bliain don Ghaeilge, atá dírithe ar an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn i gcomthéacs reachtúil, polasaithe, sóisialta agus polaitiúil an dlínse dheisceartaigh. Thug muid le chéile na 7 neagras ó thuaidh atá bunmhaoinithe ag Foras na Gaeilge le himpleachtaí an Dréachtphlean don tuaisceart a phlé, agus tuairim ann nár chóir athruithe a dhéanamh ar ógstruchtúr na Gaeilge sa dlínse seo go raibh cúinsí ar leith an tuaiscirt curtha san áireamh agus bealach straitéiseach chun tosaigh aontaithe. Ar ndóigh, tá sé mar dhuatgas ar an Tíonól, ó bhí 2006 ann, glacadh le straitéis leis an Ghaeilge a fheabhsú, a fhorbairt agus a chosaint. Duine i ndiaidh a chéile, thug triúr d'Airí Cultúir, Ealaíon agus Fóillíochta de chuid an Democratic Unionist Party faoin obair seo, ach go fóill, níl straitéis foilsithe agus tá amhras ann, ag eascairt as cur chuige molta na nAirí aontachtacha seo, go mbeadh a leithéid seo de straitéis inchurtha leis an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn mar ba chóir. D'ardaigh POBAL an gá le straitéis chuimsitheach don Ghaeilge a fhorbairt roimhe seo, agus beidh muid ag tabhairt faoin cheist as seo amach.

This has been a year in which there has been much uncertainty as to what lay in store for the Irish speaking community throughout the country because of the economic crisis, particularly in the south. Long periods were spent discussing proposals put before the Irish government advocating cuts of up to 58% in Irish language and Gaeltacht services. Late in the year, the south's government published its draft 20 year strategy for Irish, intended to promote the language in the legislative, policy, social and political context that exists in the 26 counties. POBAL brought together the 7 northern Irish language organisations currently in receipt of core funding from Foras na Gaeilge in order to discuss the implications of the draft plan for the North. The view has been that changes should not be made to the north's emerging Irish language infrastructure without the specific circumstances of the north being taken into strategic account. Of course, the NI Assembly has had a duty since 2006 to adopt a strategy to enhance, develop and protect the Irish language. Three consecutive Democratic Unionist Party Ministers for Culture, Arts and Leisure have been charged with this work, but no strategy has yet been published, and there is doubt arising from the proposed methodology of these Ministers, that the kind of strategy they envisage will be capable of promoting Irish in the required manner. The need for a comprehensive strategy for the language is something POBAL has highlighted before, and we will be building on this work in the coming period.

Obair shaineolach abhcóideachta

I mbliana, d'éirigh le POBAL tuilleadh tacaíochta idirnáisiúnta a mhealladh d'Acht na Gaeilge TÉ. I ndiaidh dúinn sainiúnaigh a chur roimh Shaineolaithe ag Comhairle na hEorpa, ar Chabhailchoinbhinsiúm um Chosaint na Mionlach Náisiúnta, dúradh:

The Advisory Committee encourages the Government and the NI Assembly to ensure that the process of adopting the Irish language Act is not dominated by political considerations and reflects as far as possible the needs of the Irish-speaking population as set out in the responses submitted to the Government's public consultation process.¹

Le bliain anuas chomh maith, thug muid faoi thionchar a imirt ar na Náisiúin Aontaithe trí obair abhcóideachta agus cruinnithe, agus trí shainiúnaigh a chur rompu. Mar thoradh ar an obair seo, d'fhógair na Náisiúin Aontaithe an moladh láidir soiléir seo a leanas:

The Committee is concerned that there is still no protection in respect of the Irish language in Northern Ireland, whereas the Welsh and the Gaelic languages are protected by the Welsh Language Act 1993 and the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, respectively. [arts. 15 and 2]

The Committee recommends that the State party, or the devolved administration in Northern Ireland, adopt an Irish Language Act, with a view to preserving and promoting minority languages and cultural heritage, and invites the State party to provide detailed information on the progress made in its next periodic report.²

Ábhar áthais dúinn chomh maith ráiteas rialtas na hÉireann sa Dréachtphlean 20 bliain don Ghaeilge, go bhfuil sé de dhuilgias ar rialtas na Breataine a ghealltanas faoi Acht na Gaeilge a chomhlíonadh agus tagairt rialtas na Breataine féin don Acht i bplécháipéis Oifig Thuaisceart Éireann ar an Bhille Ceart.



High Level Advocacy Work

This year, POBAL has succeeded in bringing further international support to the campaign for the Irish language Act in the north. Following expert representations from POBAL to the Council of Europe, the Advisory Group on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities has said,

The Advisory Committee encourages the Government and the NI Assembly to ensure that the process of adopting the Irish language Act is not dominated by political considerations and reflects as far as possible the needs of the Irish-speaking population as set out in the responses submitted to the Government's public consultation process.¹

As a result of our advocacy work, meetings and the expert submissions we put to the United Nations this year, they announced the following strong, unequivocal recommendation,

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We are also pleased at the statement by the south's government in its draft 20 year strategy for the Irish language that the British government has a duty to fulfill its commitment to enact the Irish language Act, and at the reference to the legislation in a consultation document issued by the NIO on the Bill of Rights.



1: ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES, ACFC/OP/II(2007)003, 6 June 2007
2: United Nations, Economic and Social Council, CE/C.12/GBR/CO/5, 22 May 2009

Cearta, feasacht teanga agus Acht na Gaeilge TÉ

I rith 2009, cé go ndearnadh ionsaithe leanúnacha ar Acht na Gaeilge agus orainne mar urlabhraithe so-aitheanta an phobail ar an cheist seo, choinnigh muid leis an obair. Thug muid grúpaí Gaeilge le chéile le comhordú a dhéanamh ar an obair; d'éirigh le POBAL tuiscint, saineolas agus anailís chruinn a chur roimh na polaiteoirí. Bhuail muid le Sinn Féin, leis an SDLP, le Páirtí na Comhghuaillíochta agus le polaiteoirí agus státseirbhísí sinsearachacha ó ranna éagsúla ó dheas, an tAire Éamon Ó Cuív (An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta) agus Roinn an Taoisigh san áireamh. Lean muid linn ag cur teachtaireachtaí soiléire, dearfacha amach chuig na meáin agus chuig lucht tacaíochta na Gaeilge, i gcóngar is i gcéin.

Le linn na bliana, bhuail muid le beirt Airí Cultúir, Ealaíon agus Fóillíochta, mar a bhí, Gregory Campbell agus Nelson McCausland, agus chuir ár gcás go láidir maidir le hAcht na Gaeilge. Chuir muid béim ar dhaingniú níos láidre Chairt na hEorpa do Theangacha Réigiúnacha nó Miontaigh agus ar dhualgais an Tionóil straitéis a fhorbairt don Ghaeilge.

D'iarr muid cruinnithe chomh maith le hAirí Tionóil ó gach páirtí le moltaí maidir le seirbhís Ghaeilge taobh istigh de na Ranna a phlé leo. I mbliana, bhuail muid leis an LeasChéad-Aire, Martin McGuinness, agus le hoifigigh ó Oifig an Chéad-Aire agus an LeasChéad-Aire faoi dhó; bhuail muid leis an Aire Oideachais, Caitríona Ruane, agus le hoifigigh ón Roinn trí huair; bhuail muid faoi dhó leis an Aire Forbartha Réigiúnaí, Conor Murphy, agus le hoifigigh na Roinne agus bhuail muid le hoifigigh ón Roinn Talmhaíochta. Tá muid ag fanacht faoi láthair le dáta le haghaidh cruinniú leis an Aire Forbartha Sóisialta, Margaret Ritchie. Chuaigh ár moltaí agus ár gcur chuige i bhfeidhm ar na Ranna, agus cé nach bhfuil seirbhís chomh cuimsitheach is atá de dhíth á forbairt chomh gasta agus a ba mhaith linn, léirigh na Ranna áirithe seo go raibh siad sásta céimeanna praiticiúla a thabhairt, de réir a chéile.

I mí Feabhra, réachtáil muid ócáid le haird idirnáisiúnta a dhíriú ar Acht na Gaeilge arís, agus thug cuireadh d'Uachtaran Plaid Cymru, Dafydd Iwan, agus do Neasa Ní Chinnéide, cathaoirleach ar an Bhiúró Eorpach do Theangacha Neamhforleathana, teacht a labhairt faoi reachtaíocht. Sheol an Feisire Eorpach, Bairbre de Brún, tuairisc ar an ócáid seo ag bricfeasta ceiliúrtha 10 mbliana POBAL i mí na Nollag.

I mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2009, trí bliana tar éis fhoilsiú Chomhaontú Chill Rímhinn, inar thug rialtas na Breataine gealltanas maidir le hAcht na Gaeilge, réachtáil POBAL mórócaid, Cearta agus Ceiliúradh, in Anonach Naomh Seoirse i lár Bhéal Feirste. Tháinig Aire Oidhreacht na Breataine Bige, Alun Ffred Jones, leis an ócáid a oscailt go hoifigiúil, agus tháinig na sluaite ó gach cearn den tír le freastal ar lá iontach spraoi agus ceart.

Rights, awareness raising and the Irish Language Act

During 2009, even though there were continuing attacks on the Irish language Act and on ourselves as community spokespersons on the issue, we continued with our work. We co-ordinated group work on the legislation and POBAL has succeeded in presenting our understanding, expertise and detailed analysis to politicians. We met with Sinn Féin, with the SDLP, with the Alliance and with politicians and senior civil servants in the south, including with Éamon Ó Cuív, (Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs) and with the Taoiseach's Department. We continued to put out our clear, positive message to the media and to the Irish speaking community, near and far.

During the course of the year, we met with two successive Ministers for Culture, Arts and Leisure, Gregory Campbell and Nelson McCausland, and put our case forward strongly for the Irish Language Act. We also raised the matter of strengthened ratification of Part III of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages for Irish, and the duty placed upon the Assembly to adopt a development strategy for the Irish language.

We also sought meetings with Ministers from every party to discuss with them the implementation of the POBAL proposals for legislation within their own departments. In the past year, POBAL has met with Martin McGuinness, Deputy First Minister and officials from the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister twice, with the Minister for Education, Caitríona Ruane and officials from her Department three times, with Conor Murphy, Minister for Regional Development and his officials twice and with officials from the Department of Agriculture. We are also awaiting a date for a meeting with Margaret Ritchie, Minister for Social Development. POBAL's proposals have influenced the departments, and although the comprehensive service that the community needs are not being developed as quickly as we should wish, some departments have shown their willingness to take small practical steps gradually.

In February, we organised an event to keep international focus on the issue of the Irish Language Act, and invited as speakers the President of Plaid Cymru, Dafydd Iwan and Neasa Ní Chinnéide, the Chair of the south's Committee of the European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages. A report of this event was launched by MEP, Bairbre de Brún at our 10th birthday celebration in December.

In October 2009, three years after the St Andrews' Agreement commitment to enact the legislation, POBAL organised a major event, Rights and Revelry, in St Georges' Market in Belfast city centre. The Welsh Heritage Minister, Alun Ffred Jones, came to officially open the event and the place was packed with people from all over the country who had come to enjoy a fantastic day of rights and fun.

Cairt na hEorpa do Theangacha Réigiúnacha nó Mionlaigh

Tá rialtas na Ríochta Aontaithe faoi cheangal an dlí idirnáisiúnta tuairisc chuimsitheach a chur ar fáil go rialta do Chomhairle na hEorpa ar fhorbairtí faoin Chairt maidir leis na teangacha uilig atá faoina cosaint. Ar na teangacha seo, tá an Bhreatainis sa Bhreatain Bheag, an Ghàidhlig in Albain agus an Ghaeilge i dTÉ. Ba chóir go raibh tuairisc seolta isteach ag rialtas na Breataine i mí Iúil 2008 ach níor tharla sé seo mar gheall ar mhoill 11 mhí bheith ar an phróiseas monatóireachta oifigiúil. Níor chomhlíon rialtas na Breataine a dhualgas mar go raibh easaontas ag an Tionól maidir lena raibh sa tuairisc. Mar sin, bhí ar rialtas na Breataine a fhógairt go gcuirfeadh sé tuairisc isteach ar chur i gcrích na Cairte sa Bhreatain Bheag agus in Albain, ach gan tagairt ann do 29 as 36 d'alt agus d'fho-alt na Cairte a dhaingnigh rialtas na Breataine don Ghaeilge agus a bhaineann le cur i gcrích na Cairte i dTÉ.

Ba chomhartha é seo nárbh fhéidir le rialtas na Breataine a chuid dualgas faoin Chairt a chomhlíonadh mar is ceart i dtaca leis an Ghaeilge de. Nuair a tháinig ionadaithe Choiste na Saineolaithe ar an Chairt go Béal Feirste in 2009 le fiosrúchán a dhéanamh faoi chur i gcrích na Cairte, bhí an príomhról comhairliúcháin ag POBAL. D'ullmhaigh mé réamhthuirisc do na Saineolaithe, agus i ndiaidh na cuairte, chuir muid tuairisc chuimsitheach isteach chuig Comhairle na hEorpa.

1737 Acht um Riar na Córa (Éire)

Lean muid leis an tacaíocht do Chaomhín Mac Giolla Catháin agus é ag cur dúshlán dlí roimh fheidhmiú an Achta seo, a chuireann cosc iomlán ar úsáid na Gaeilge sna cúirteanna anseo ó thuaidh. Bhí muid meallta, ach ní raibh iontas orainn, nuair a d'fhógair an breitheamh nach mbeadh ar Westminster an tAcht a aisghairm. Dar linn go gcruthaíonn cinneadh na cúirte an géarghá atá le hAcht na Gaeilge, le cearta na nGael a chosaint mar ba chóir. Léiríonn an méid a dúirt an breitheamh, Séamus Treasey, nach féidir le pobal na Gaeilge cothrom na Féinne a fháil faoin dlí mar atá sé faoi láthair. Ní leor Comhaontú Aoine an Chéasta, ní leor Acht um Chearta Daonna, ní leor Cairt na hEorpa do Theangacha Réigiúnacha nó Mionlaigh.

The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

The UK government is under obligation in international law to prepare a regular comprehensive report for the Council of Europe on developments under the Charter in respect of those languages under its protection. Among these languages are Welsh, Gaelic in Scotland and Irish in the North. The UK government should have submitted a report in July 2008 but there was an 11 month delay to the official monitoring process. The British government did not fulfil its duty because of disagreement at the Assembly on the contents of the report. Therefore, the British government was forced to announce that it would submit a report on the implementation of the Charter in Wales and Scotland, but without reference to 29 out of 36 paragraphs and sub paragraphs of the Charter which it has ratified for Irish and which relate to the implementation of the Charter in the North.

This was a sign that the British government was unable to fulfil its duties to Irish under the Charter as it should. When the representatives of the Committee of Experts on the Charter came to Belfast in 2009 to investigate the Charter implementation, POBAL had the primary community consultative role. I prepared a pre-report for the Experts and after their visit, we submitted a comprehensive report in to the Council of Europe.

1737 Administration of Justice (Language) Act (Ireland)

We continued supporting Caomhín Mac Giolla Chatháin in his legal challenge against the operation of this Act, which places a complete ban on the use of Irish in the courts in the north. We were disappointed but not surprised when the judge ruled that Westminster did not have to repeal this Act. We feel that the court's decision proves the urgent need for an Irish language Act, to fully protect the rights of Irish speakers. The comments of judge, Séamus Treasey, show that the Irish speaking community cannot achieve fair treatment under the law as it currently stands. The Good Friday Agreement is not enough. The Human Rights Act is not enough. The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages is not enough.



Fógraíodh láithreach go dtabharfaí dúshlán thoradh na héisteachta agus dhírigh muid ar thacaíocht idirnáisiúnta agus ar thacaíocht na bpolaiteoirí a fháil. Thosaigh muid feachtais phoiblíochta i Meiriceá, i gCeanada, san Aontas Eorpach agus sa bhaile. I mí Lúnasa, ghlac Graham Fraser, Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla, Ceanada, lenár gcuireadh teacht go Béal Feirste agus óráid a thabhairt maidir le cearta teanga sna cúirteanna i gCeanada. Ag an ócáid chéanna, labhair Siorcha McKenna ar son Monica McWilliams, Príomhchoimisinéir, Coimisiún um Chearta an Duine TÉ; Mike Ritchie, Stiúrthóir an Choiste ar Riar na Córa (CAJ); agus dlíodóir ar an chás, Micheál Ó Flánagáin. Bhí freastal iontach maith ag an chruinniú, a thug saineolaithe dlí agus pobal na Gaeilge le chéile leis an cheist seo a phlé.

Taighde: Sainriachtanais an pháiste dhátheangaigh

Chuir Deirdre Ní Chinnéide agus Seán Mac Corraigh críoch leis an tuairisc taighde seo, maoinithe ag an Roinn Oideachais, an chéad phársa taighde den chineál a rinneadh ar an ábhar. D'fhoilsigh an Roinn an tuairisc ar shuíomh na Roinne féin, mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2009.

Roinne sin, i mí Eanáir, thosaigh Caroline Nolan mar thaighdeoir ar thogra nua bliana, maoinithe ag an Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaelscolaíochta agus Gaeltachta (COGG), le staidéar a dhéanamh ar riachtanais tacaíochta agus traenála an mhúinteora, thuaidh/theas agus sa Ghaeltacht. Tá obair mhór curtha isteach ag Caroline agus í ag cur béim ar bhailiú eolais chomhordaithe agus ar thairbhí phraiticiúil an mhúinteora ar bhonn uile-oileánda.

Straitéis do na hEalaíona Gaeilge

Rinne POBAL obair straitéiseach a choimisiúnú i mbliana, le tabhairt faoi fhorbairt na n-ealaíon Gaeilge ar bhonn áitiúil, ar bhonn náisiúnta agus ar bhonn idirnáisiúnta. D'eagraigh Sinéad Ní Choinn sraith d'agallaimh agus de chruinnithe poiblí, fud fad na tíre, maidir le riachtanais ealaíon Gaeilge, agus bhailigh sí freagraí ar cheistneoir mionsonrach. Tá straitéis 3 bliana leagtha amach aici, i gcomhar le POBAL, agus iarratas curtha isteach chuig an Chomhairle Ealaíon chun tús a chur leis an straitéis i 2010.

It was announced immediately that the decision would be appealed and we sought to bring international attention and political support to bear. We renewed our publicity campaign in America, in Canada, in the European Union and at home. In August, Graham Fraser, the Canadian Commissioner for Official Languages accepted our invitation to come to Belfast and give a speech on language rights in the Canadian court systems. He was joined by Siorcha McKenna of the NI Human Rights Commission with a message of support from Chief Commissioner, Monica McWilliams, by Mike Ritchie, Director of the Committee on the Administration of Justice and by Micheál Ó Flánagáin, case solicitor. There was a great turn out at the meeting, which gave legal and Irish language community experts the chance to get together to discuss this issue.

Research : The Special Needs of Bilingual Children

Deirdre Ní Chinnéide and Seán Mac Corraigh brought this research report to its final stage. The research was funded by the Department of Education and is the first such piece of research on the issue. The Department published the report on its own web site in October 2009.

Before this, in January Caroline Nolan started work with us on a new one-year project, funded by the Comhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta (COGG) to study the training and support needs of teachers North, South and in the Gaeltacht. Caroline has done great work, emphasising data collection, co-ordination and practical experience of teachers on an all-Ireland basis.

A Strategy for the Irish language Arts

POBAL commissioned strategic work this year directed at the development of the Irish language arts at a local, national and international level. Sinéad Ní Choinn organised a series of interviews and public meetings all across the country on needs in respect of the Irish language arts, and she collected detailed questionnaires. In conjunction with POBAL, she has outlined a three year strategy and we have submitted applications to the Arts Council to start this work in 2010.



Forbairt Straitéiseach Réigiúnach: Na hOifigigh Ghaeilge san Comhairlí

Thug POBAL deiseanna i mbliana do na hOifigigh Ghaeilge atá fostaithe ag comhairlí an tuaiscirt (Doire, an tLúr & Múrn, Machaire Fíolta/Léim an Mhadaigh, An Chorr Chríochach/Dún Geanainn) teacht le chéile agus labhairt faoi riachtanais na hoibre atá ar bun acu. Sa dara leath den bhliain, dhírigh muid ar na hathruithe a d'fhéadfadh theacht i bhfeidhm faoin Athbhreithniú ar Riarachán Poiblí agus ar thábhacht na Gaeilge sna próisis seo uilig.

Ag labhairt ar son ár mballraíochta: Aighneachtaí, eolas agus saineolas

Faoi mo stiúir, cuireadh aighneachtaí cuimsitheacha scríofa isteach chuig próisis éagsúla chomhairliúcháin, próiseas OFCOM san áireamh, a bhain le beartais maidir le húsáid na Gaeilge agus maidir le lógónna dátheangacha, sráidainmneacha, logainmneacha, seirbhísí Gaeilge srl ag Comhairlí i nDún Pádraig, in Lúr Cinn Trá, i gCúil Raithin, i Léim an Mhadaigh, i Machaire Fíolta agus eile.

D'fhreastail mé ar chomhdhálaacha thuaidh agus theas agus ar chruinnithe i ngach contae an tuaiscirt chun cuidiú le daoine agus chun iad a spreagadh le leanúint leis an dea-obair ar son na Gaeilge. Chuir muid amach páipéir fhaisnéise, anailís, bileoga agus fógraí eolais. Rinne POBAL comhordú ar gach gné d'fheachtais eolais ar roinnt ábhar: craoltóireacht na Gaeilge, maoiniú don Ghaeilge, an Gaeloideachas, srl.

Seo thíos cuid de na héachtaí ar leith eile a rinne muid i mbliana:

- Stádas na Gaeilge a ardú
- Rinne muid obair cheannródaíoch ar Acht na Gaeilge TÉ, a chuaigh i bhfeidhm go mór ar an dearcadh idirnáisiúnta;
- Lean muid leis an obair mhór ar Acht um Riar na Córa 1737 agus d'éirigh linn tacaíocht shuntasach i dirnáisiúnta a mhealladh;
- Bhí príomhról comhairlithe againn nuair a thug Coiste na Saineolaithe ar Chairt na hEorpa do Theangacha • Réigiúnacha nó Mionlaigh cuairt ar an tuaisceart. Ó d'fhoilsigh na Saineolaithe a dtuairisc dheireanach, tá tuairisc chuimsitheach ar stádas agus ar chúinsí na Gaeilge ó thuaidh ullmhaithe againn;
- Rinne muid monatóireacht leanúnach ar an Chabhairchoibhinsiún um Chosaint na Mionlach Náisiúnta agus chuir muid aighneachtaí suntasacha isteach maidir leis an Choinbhinsiún ar Chearta Eacnamaíochta, Sóisialta agus Cultúrtha, agus fuair, mar thoradh ar an obair seo, moltaí sonracha oifigiúla maidir le hAcht na Gaeilge;
- Reáchtáil muid mórócáidí le tacaíocht idirnáisiúnta ó eochairchainteoirí.

Strategic development: Irish Language Officers in the Councils

This year, POBAL has provided opportunities for the Irish Language Officers employed by Councils in the North (Derry, Newry, Magherafelt / Limavady, Cookstown / Dungannon) to get together and talk about their needs in the work they are carrying out. In the second half of the year, we focussed on the changes that may come under the Review of Public Administration and the importance of the Irish language in this whole process.

Representing the views of the community Submissions, information and expertise

Under my direction, we put in comprehensive written submissions to a number of different consultations, including OFCOM, Irish language policies, use of bilingual street signage, place names, Irish language services etc in Councils including Downpatrick, Newry, Coleraine, Limavady, Magherafelt and others.

I attended conferences north and south and meetings in every county of the north to support and encourage people in their continuing good work on behalf of the language. We produced briefing papers, analysis, leaflets and information notices. POBAL co-ordinated every aspect of the work on information campaigns on a variety of subjects: Irish language broadcasting, funding issues, Irish Medium education srl.

Among the highlights of this past year, are:

- Improving the status of the Irish language:
- We continued our groundbreaking work on the Irish language Act, having a significant influence on international perspectives
- We continued work on the 1737 Administration of Justice (Language)(Ireland) Act and succeeded in gaining important international support
- We fulfilled the primary role in advising the Committee of Experts on the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages during their visit to the North. We prepared a comprehensive report on the status of the Irish language in the northern context since the publication of the last report by the Experts
- We carried out continuous monitoring of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and made significant submissions to the European Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, succeeding as a result of this work in having significant official recommendations put forward in respect of the Irish language Act.
- We organised major events to showcase international support through a choice of key note speakers.

Úsáid na Gaeilge a neartú agus a chothú

- Rinneadh eolas ar chearta na nGael a fhoilsiú agus a scaipeadh
- Rinneadh seisiúin traenála agus díospóireachta a eagrú
- Tugadh tacaíocht agus comhairle ar leith do dhaoine aonair agus d'eagraíochtaí a raibh cuidiú de dhíth orthu i dtaca le húsáid na Gaeilge sa saol poiblí
- Cuireadh taighde ar shainriachtanais an pháiste dhátheangaigh i gcrích
- Reáchtáladh sraith imeachtaí agus ócáidí le deis a thabhairt do dhaoine teacht le chéile agus Gaeilge a labhairt agus a chluinstin, idir ócáidí ealaíon, ócáidí cultúir agus ócáidí eolais.
- Pobal na Gaeilge a chothú, a neartú agus a bhuanú
- Tacaíocht Straitéiseach

Cuireann POBAL béim ar leith ar dhá ghné den obair: Abhcóideacht agus Tacaíocht Straitéiseach do ghrúpaí Gaeilge ar an talamh. Le ceithre bliana anuas, tá ar na hOifigigh Fhorbartha níos mó béime a chur ar obair abhcóideachta (in áit obair thacaíochta don phobal) mar gheall ar easpa acmhainní na heagraíochta. Chuaigh na hathruithe seo i bhfeidhm ar an chlár oibre thacaíochta i dtaca le grúpaí ar an talamh de.

Cé go raibh brú síoraí ama ar an fhoireann, rinneadh obair mhór ar an togra, Gabh Gaelach, i gceantar Bharr Cluanaí i mBéal Feirste agus tá forbairt fheiceálach déanta ar an talamh i bhFear Manach. D'éirigh linn an pobal fud fad an tuaiscirt a spreagadh le gníomhú go poiblí ar son Acht na Gaeilge agus é anois 3 bliana ó tugadh an gealltanas ag Cill Rímhinn. Cuireadh gach contae ó thuaidh san áireamh agus muid ag forbairt polasaí do na healaíona Gaeilge, agus reáchtáladh cruinnithe ar an ábhar céanna ó dheas chomh maith.

Ag fiosrú agus ag réiteach na bhfadhbanna

Déanann pobal na Gaeilge, idir ghrúpaí ar an talamh agus daoine aonair, déanann siad teagmháil rialta le POBAL maidir le ceisteanna faoi dhea-chleachtas, cearta teanga agus dlí. Lean muid leis an obair thacaíochta seo agus níor mhiste a rá gur éirigh linn roinnt fadhbanna a réiteach go sásúil.

An Fhoireann Reatha

Tá foireann POBAL i dteideal a bheith bródúil as a bhfuil bainte amach againn le bliain anuas. Foireann bheag atá againn, agus is iontach méid agus caighdeán na hoibre atá curtha i gcrích go rathúil faoi choinníollacha iontach deacair. Léiríonn méid agus rath na oibre díograis agus diongbháilteacht fhoireann POBAL. Ach, ag an am céanna, níor chóir go mbeadh ar eagraíocht ar bith ualach chomh trom sin a iompar chomh fada.

Strengthening and encouraging the use of Irish

- We published and distributed information about the rights of Irish speakers
- We carried out training sessions and debates
- We gave advice and support to a number of individuals and to groups who needed help in respect of the use of Irish in public life
- We completed our research on the special needs of bilingual children
- We organised a series of events and occasions to give people a chance to come together and speak and hear Irish; arts, cultural and information events were all included in these
- Encouraging, strengthening and making the Irish speaking community sustainable
- Strategic support

POBAL places particular emphasis on two aspects of our work: advocacy and Strategic support for grassroots organisations. For the last four years, because of lack of resources, our Development Officers have had to put more emphasis on advocacy work (rather than on support for grassroots organisations). These changes have had an effect on the support work in relation to groups on the ground.

Even though our staff work under time pressure continuously, we carried out great work in the Gabh Gaelach project in the Upper Springfield area and visible development is coming about on the ground in Fermanagh. We managed to encourage the grassroots community throughout the north to come out publicly in support of the Irish language Act, even though three years has passed since the St Andrews' commitment. We included every county as we prepared our Irish language arts strategy, and we also organised meetings in the south on the issue.

Investigating and solving problems

The Irish speaking community, both individuals and groups regularly contact us with queries about good practice, language rights and the law. We continued with this support work this year and I am pleased to say that we were able to resolve many of these issues satisfactorily.

The Current Staff

POBAL's staff are entitled to be proud of the organisation's achievements over the past year. We are a small organisation, and it is impressive to see the amount and quality of the work which has been successfully completed under extremely difficult circumstances. The amount and the success of our work reflects the hard work and determination of POBAL's staff. But at the same time, it is not right that any organisation should have to carry such a heavy burden for so long.

Thosaigh Caroline Nolan mar thaighdeoir agus Bríd O'Loan mar Oifigeach Cléireachais páirtaimseartha i mbliana. Tá bliain fhiúntach curtha isteach acu, iad ag obair ar riachtanais traenála agus tacaíochta do mhúinteoirí fud fad na tíre. Tháinig deireadh le post Bhríd O'Loan i ndiaidh síneadh gairid ama le caoinchead COGG. Gabhaim buíochas mór le Bríd as ucht a díograise. Chuir Nic Sadlier agus Séimí Mac Aindreasa an-obair isteach mar Oifigigh Fhorbartha, mar is léir óna dtuairiscí féin. Choinnigh Pól Mac Cana, Oifigeach Airgeadais, Riaracháin agus Pearsanra, muid ar an bhealach cheart. Is duine é Pól a bhfuil scileanna agus buanna aige a bhfuil ráchairt orthu san earnáil ghnó agus san earnáil rialtais. Is méanar dúinn ar fad go bhfuil a chroí istigh sa Ghaeilge. Cuireann sé go mór leis an fhoireann.

Ag amharc chun tosaigh

Cé go raibh deacrachtaí ar leith againn in 2009, mar gheall ar easpa áiseanna, agus muid ag feidhmiú go fóill i dtréimhse na neamhchinnteachta maidir le straitéisí rialtais, chuir POBAL bliain rathúil isteach le fuinneamh agus le samhlaíocht. Tá obair mhór déanta againn ó d'oscail muid na hoifigí s'againne, tá deich mbliana ó shin. Tá saineolas, saintaithí agus seasamh againn agus fianaise ar luach ár gcuid oibre. Tá muid ag dúil go mór le hobair na heagraíochta a fhorbairt níos mó arís in 2010.

Le mórmeas

Gach bliain i dtuairisc na hoibre, glacaim leis an deis le hardmholadh a thabhairt don fhoireann. Déanfaidh mé arís i mbliana é, agus le croí mór maith. Tugaim buíochas do na hoibríthe atá ann faoi láthair: Pól Mac Cána agus Nic Sadlier, Séamus Mac Aindreasa, Caroline Nolan agus Bríd Ó Loan.

Ní thiofadh leis an fhoireann feidhmiú gan tacaíocht an phobail agus choiste POBAL. I mbliana, fuair muid an-chuidí ó Ghaeilgeoirí ar an talamh, a thug spreagadh agus fuinneamh dúinn. Ba dhoiligh iad uilig an ainmniú, ach tá buíochas ar leith ag gabháil do:

Máire Nic Fhionnachtaigh, Séamas Mag Fhionnghaile, Cormac Ó Briain, Micheál Ó Duibh, Bríd Ó Gallchóir, Dónall Mac Giolla Chóill, Éamon Ó Faogáin, Pádraig Mac Fhearraigh, Micí Walsh, Máirtín Ó Muilleoir, Áine Nic Gearailt, Fergus Ó hÍr, Niall Ó Maitiú, Pól Deeds, Pól Ó Frighil, Déaglan Ó Doibhlin, Ursula Mhic an tSaoir, Ursula Ní Fhearail, Séamas Mac Seáin, Gearóid Ó Cairealláin, Eoghan Ó Néill, Eamonn Crilly, Daithí Mac Cába, Seán Ó Muireagáin, Marcas Ó Cinnéide, Máirtín Ó Maolmhuaidh, Dónal Ó Dálaigh, Tomáí Ó Conghaile, Pilib Mistéil, Pilib Ó Ruanáí, Ciarán Ó Pronntaigh, Seán Mistéil, Concubhar Ó Liatháin, Pilib Mac Cathmhaoil, Micheál Ó Flanagáin, Daniel Holder, Mike Ritchie, Seán Ó Coinn, Réamonn Ó Ciaráin, Diarmuid Ó Bruadair, Gary Mac Roibeard, Suzanne

Caroline Nolan began her post as Researcher with us, and Brid Ó Loan continued as part-time Clerical Officer this year. They have put in valuable work, on the training and support needs of teachers throughout the country. Brid's post came to an end in December, after a short extension kindly granted by COGG. I should like to thank Brid for all her hard work. Nic Sadlier and Séimí Mac Aindreasa put in great work as our Development Workers, as their own reports show. Pól McCána, our Finance, Personnel and Administration Officer has kept us on the right path. Pól has specific skills and talents that are much sought after in the government and business sectors. We are extremely lucky that his heart is in the Irish language. He brings much to the team.

The future

Although we had specific difficulties in 2009 because of a lack of resources, and the ongoing uncertainty of the period in respect of government strategies, POBAL has put in a successful year with energy and imagination. We have carried out a huge amount of work in the ten years since we opened our office and we now have standing and evidence of the value of the work we have done. We are looking forward to developing the organisation's work further in 2010.

With thanks and respect

Every year in the work report, I take the chance to give deserving praise to our staff. I will do the same this year, with enthusiasm. I should like to thank our current workers: Pól Mac Cána and Nic Sadlier, Séamus Mac Aindreasa, Caroline Nolan, and Bríd Ó Loan.

The staff could not operate without the support of our community and POBAL's committee. In the past year, we have had great help from grassroots Irish speakers, who have given us encouragement and energy. It is difficult to name them all, but the following people deserve particular thanks:

Máire Nic Fhionnachtaigh, Séamas Mag Fhionnghaile, Cormac Ó Briain, Micheál Ó Duibh, Bríd Ó Gallchóir, Dónall Mac Giolla Chóill, Éamon Ó Faogáin, Pádraig Mac Fhearraigh, Micí Walsh, Máirtín Ó Muilleoir, Áine Nic Gearailt, Fergus Ó hÍr, Niall Ó Maitiú, Pól Deeds, Pól Ó Frighil, Déaglan Ó Doibhlin, Ursula Mhic an tSaoir, Ursula Ní Fhearail, Séamas Mac Seáin, Gearóid Ó Cairealláin, Eoghan Ó Néill, Eamonn Crilly, Daithí Mac Cába, Seán Ó Muireagáin, Marcas Ó Cinnéide, Máirtín Ó Maolmhuaidh, Dónal Ó Dálaigh, Tomáí Ó Conghaile, Pilib Mistéil, Pilib Ó Ruanáí, Ciarán Ó Pronntaigh, Seán Mistéil, Concubhar Ó Liatháin, Pilib Mac Cathmhaoil, Micheál Ó Flanagáin, Seán Ó Coinn, Réamonn Ó Ciaráin, Diarmuid Ó Bruadair, Gary Mac Roibeard, Suzanne Touher, Áine Ní Ghiolla Cheara, Ciara Dunne, Marcas Mac Ruairí, Daniel Holder, Mike

Touher, Áine Ní Ghiolla Cheara, Ciara Dunne, Marcas Mac Ruairí, Lorcán Mac Gabhann, Dónall Ó Baoill, Seán Mac Corraidh, Pádraig Mac Criostail, Julian de Spáinn agus daoine eile nach iad.

Ár mbuíochas chomh maith dár bpríomh-mhaoinitheoirí, Foras na Gaeilge, Belfast Regeneration Office, An Chomhairle Ealaíon, COGG agus an Community Foundation.

Arís i mbliana, gabhaim buíochas ar leith leis na saineolaithe dlí agus cearta teanga agus leis na heagraíochtaí agus daoine aonair uilig a thugann tacaíocht iontach dúinn i rith an ama, agus do Ghrúpa na Meáin Bhéal Feirste agus doibh súid a rinne POBAL a ainmniú agus a chaith a gcuid vótaí ar ár son ag gradaim na hAislinge, duais a thug spreagadh dúinn i rith 2009.

Janet Muller
Príomhfheidhmeannach

Ritchie, Dónall Ó Baoill, Seán Mac Corraidh, Lorcán Mac Gabhann, Pádraig Mac Criostail, Julian de Spáinn agus daoine eile nach iad.

Our thanks also to our principle funders, Foras na Gaeilge and to Belfast Regeneration Office, the Arts Council, COGG and the Community Foundation.

Again, this year, I should like to thank the legal and language rights experts and to the organisations and individuals who have all given us great support again this year, and to Belfast Media Group and those who nominated and voted for POBAL in the Irish Language category of the Aisling Awards which we have celebrated during 2009.

Janet Muller
CEO



Deis ag imreitheoirí na Gaeilge pleanáil teanga a phlé le Alun Ffred Jones agus Leighton James, Tionól na Breataine Bige.
Irish Language figures discuss language planning issues with the Welsh Assembly's Alun Ffred Jones and Leighton James.



Tuairisc na nOifigeach Forbartha Development Officers' Reports

Séamus Mac Andreasa

Cuspóirí an phoist

- teagmháil leanúnach a choinneáil le ballghrúpaí POBAL
 - monatóireacht ar éifeachtacht reachtaíochta reatha, ar pholasaithe agus ar straitéisí a bhaineann leis an Ghaeilge
 - iarracht a dhéanamh chun na haidhmeanna seo agus soláthar seirbhísí eile do phobal na Gaeilge atá in easnamh a mhéadú agus a fhorbairt.
- Tá an post maoinithe ag Foras na Gaeilge.

Obair forbartha

Leanadh ar aghaidh leis an obair forbartha i bhFear Manach i mbliana. Tá mé anois ag obair le Sruth na hÉirne, grúpa Gaelach aitiúil, chomh maith le Comhairle Buirge Fhear Manach, agus Bord Contae Fhear Manach de CLG.

Tá an obair le hOifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge Ghlór na Móna ag leanan ar aghaidh, sa togra Gabh Gaelach. Tá líon na n-eagraíochtaí agus na ngónna atá bainteach leis an togra méadaithe, agus tá fear gnó agus fiontraí anois againn ar an ghrúpa stiúrtha.

Obair eile

Tá ról ar leith ag na hoifigigh forbartha in obair eile na heagraíochta, agus i measc bhuaicphointí na bliana, bhí an t-ullmhúchán don lá mór, Cearta agus Ceilúradh, chomh maith le tograí eile, áit ar oibrigh muid go dlúth le scoileanna agus le grúpaí áirithe, Coláiste Feirste, Bunscoil Phobal Feirste, Comhairle Buirge Fhear Manach agus Glór na Móna ina measc. D'fhreastáil mé freisin ar chruinnithe le Ofcom, agus d'ullmhaigh agus chuir mé isteach chucu aighneachtaí scríofa faoin chraoltóireacht i nGaeilge, ar son POBAL. Bíonn obair leanúnach ar siúl san oifig i gcónaí, ag déileáil le neart fírosrúchán ar an ghuthán, nó le daoine ón phobal a thagann isteach ag cuartú comhairle nó eolais. Tá suíomh nua POBAL anois beo, agus cuirimid ar fad leis an inneachar. Bí m páirteach i gclár raidió POBAL ar Raidió Fáilte go minic.

Acht na Gaeilge/ Cairt na hEorpa do Theangacha Réigiúnacha nó Mionlaigh

Bhí mé mar dhuine de cheathrar ó POBAL a thaistil chun na Breataine Bige i mí an Mhárta, le bualadh le baill de Thionól na Breataine Bige. Ba é cuspóir an turais ná labhairt le baill tionóil faoin chosaint a thug Acht Teanga na Breataine Bige don teanga, agus fosta chun labhairt leo faoi Chairt na hEorpa agus Acht na Gaeilge TÉ. Bhuail muid leis an Aire Oidhreacht, Alun Ffred Jones, agus leis an Aire Rialtais Áitiúil, Brian Gibbons, chomh maith le hionadaithe ón eagraíocht neamhrialtasach, Cymdeithas, agus le príomhfheidhmeannach agus oifigigh shinsearach Bhord na Breatnaise.

Bhí mé gníomhach i gcúrsaí craoltóireachta agus i gcomhairliúcháin éagsúla de chuid Ofcom i mbliana. Chuidigh seo le bailiú eolais dár dtuairisc do Choiste na Saineolaithe (COMEX) ar an Chairt Eorpach do Theangacha Réigiúnacha nó Mionlaigh. Bhuail muid le hionadaithe COMEX i mí Mheán an Fhómhair, agus chuir muid ár gcinntí rompu.

Aims of the post

- Regular contact with POBAL's member groups
 - Monitoring the effectiveness of current legislation, policies and strategies which pertain to the Irish language
 - Attempt to increase and develop these services for the Irish speaking community
- This post is funded by Foras na Gaeilge.

Developmental work

The work in Fermanagh has continued and developed in the past year. I am now working closely with Sruth na hÉirne, the local Irish language group, as well as Fermanagh Borough Council's Good Relations Officer, and the Fermanagh GAA County Board.

Work has continued with the Irish language development officer in Gort na Móna, on the Gabh Gaelach initiative. More organisations and businesses are now involved, and we have recruited a local business man and entrepreneur on to the steering group.

Other work

The Development Officers play a role in other work in the organisation, too, and highlights this year were the preparations for the Rights and Revelry day, as well as other initiatives, during which we have worked very closely with various schools and groups, including Coláiste Feirste, Bunscoil Phobal Feirste, Fermanagh Borough Council, and Glór na Móna. I also attended meetings with Ofcom, and prepared and submitted written submissions on broadcasting in the Irish language on behalf of POBAL. Other work is ongoing in the office, dealing with the many phone queries as they come in, or members of the public coming in seeking advice or information. The new POBAL website is now up and running, and we all contribute to its content and updating. I also participate in POBAL's radio show regularly.

Irish language Act/European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages

I was part of a group of four POBAL representatives who travelled to Wales in March, to meet with members of the Welsh Assembly. The aim of the trip was to speak to Welsh Assembly members about how the Welsh Language Act has helped protect and develop the language, and also to speak to them about the ECRML and the ILA. We met with the Welsh Heritage Minister, Alun Ffred Jones and Local Government Minister, Brian Gibbons, as well as the NGO Cymdeithas and the Chief Executive and senior staff of the Welsh Language Board.

I have been busy with issues around broadcasting and various OFCOM consultations. This helped in the gathering of information for our report for the Committee of Experts (COMEX) on the European Charter for Regional and Minority languages. We met with representatives of COMEX in September, and presented them with the findings of our report.

Chomh maith leis seo, bhuail muid go rialta leis an Ghrúpa Chomhordaithe d'Acht na Gaeilge, agus le polaiteoirí. Ba é buaicphointe na hoibre ar son an Aichta ná an lá mór, Cearta agus Ceiliúradh, in Aonach Naomh Seoirse i mBéal Feirste. D'éirigh go hiontach leis an lá, agus Aire Cultúir na Breataine Bige, Alun Ffred Jones, mar aoi-chainteoir ann. Bhí an t-aischothú ó na grúpaí, a thaistil ó Thír Chonaill, ó Mhachaire Rátha, ón Srath Bán, agus ó Bhaile Átha Cliath, an-dearfach.

Mar chuid den obair ar an Acht, chonacthas ár dtaispeántais ar stair na teanga agus ar an obair i dtreo an Aichta in áiteanna ar fud na Sé Chontae: i scoileanna, in ionaid chomhairlí agus in ionaid áirithe i mBéal Feirste, Machaire Rátha agus Dún Pádraig.

Laigí

Arís i mbliana, an t-aon laige sa phost ná easpa foirne. Tá cuid mhór obair thacaíochta agus forbartha le déanamh, agus níl ach beirt Oifigeach Forbartha ann chun an obair a dhéanamh.

Spríocanna don bhliain seo chugainn

Is iad na spríocanna don bhliain seo chugainn ná:

- Togra ealaíon Gaelach a fhorbairt agus a chur ar siúl i meánscoileanna sa tuaisceart
- Togra ealaíon Gaelach a chur ar fáil do bhunscoileanna Gaelacha sa tuaisceart
- Cur leis an obair leis na grúpaí ar an talamh
- Leanstan ar aghaidh leis an obair ar son an Aichta
- Leanstan ar aghaidh leis an obair ar son Chairt na hEorpa

Buíochas

Buíochas leis na maoinitheoirí, agus le foireann agus coiste POBAL, le Cormac Ó Briain, Oifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge le Glór na Móna, le coiste Shruth na hÉirne, chomh maith leis na scoileanna, comhairlí agus eagraíochtaí a chuidigh linn inár dtionscnaimh éagsúla.

Séamus Mac Aindreasa
Oifigeach Forbartha

As well as this, we met regularly with the Co-ordinating Group for the Irish Language Act, and with politicians from the different parties. The work on the ILA culminated this year in the Rights and Revelry day in St. George's Market in Belfast. The day was a great success, with the Welsh Culture Minister, Alun Ffred Jones as guest speaker. Feedback on the day from groups who travelled from as far as Donegal, Maghera, Strabane, and Dublin, has been very positive.

As part of the work on the Act, our 5-stand exhibition on the history of the language and the work done to achieve an Irish Language Act for the north of Ireland, has travelled to various areas, including schools, council buildings and centres in the Greater Belfast area, Maghera, and Downpatrick.

Weaknesses

Again this year, the only weakness in the work is the lack of staff. There is a lot of support and development work to be done, with only two development workers to carry it out. Aims for the coming year

The aims for the coming year are:

- To develop and produce a series of Irish language arts programmes with secondary schools in the north
- To organise an Irish language arts event for Irish medium primary schools in the north
- Develop the work with the groups in the community, especially in the Fermanagh/Cavan area, and in Upper Springfield
- Continue with the work on the Irish language Act, the European Charter and the other major issues affecting the services and development of groups on the ground.

Acknowledgements

I want to thank the funders, and the staff and committee of POBAL, Cormac Ó Briain, Irish Language Development Officer with Glór na Móna, the committee of Sruth na hÉirne, as well as all the schools, councils and organisations who have assisted in all our initiatives.

Séamus Mac Aindreasa
Development Officer





Nic Saidlier

Is eochairgné de mo chuid oibre í teagmháil leanúnach a choinneáil le pobal na Gaeilge ar fud an Tuaiscirt agus bheith ag freagairt iarratas ar chuidiú i dtaca le ceisteanna ar chearta an Ghaeilgeora agus iarratas ar thacaíocht straitéiseach ó ghrúpaí Gaeilge maidir le tionscadail leanúnacha. Cuireadh go mór leis na teagmhálacha seo le linn na tréimhse a chaith mé féin agus oifigeach forbartha ealaíon POBAL ag an am, Liam Stone, ar Ródseó na Gaeilge, mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2008. Thug an Ródseó ceoltóirí Éireannacha agus Albanacha go dtí na sé chontae uilig, le ceardlanna idirghníomhacha sna gaelscoileanna agus ceolchoirmeacha tráthnóna a chur ar fáil. An taispeántas a chruthaigh POBAL- An Ghaeilge: ag cosaint agus ag cur chun cinn na teanga - chuir muid ar fáil é do scoileanna, do ghrúpaí Gaeilge agus do ghnóna.

Mar chuid den fhorbairt áitiúil straitéiseach ar dhírigh mé uirthi in 2009, d'oibrigh mé le Príomhfheidhmeannach POBAL, Janet Muller, le fóram a chruthú don cheathrar oifigeach Gaeilge sna comhairlí áitiúla a chlúdaíonn Doire, Léim an Mhadaidh/Machaire Fiolta, an Chorr Chríochach/Dún Geanainn agus Iúr Cinn Trá. Ba é cuspóir an fhórait seo ná straitéis a fhorbairt do sheirbhísí Gaeilge sna comhairlí áitiúla agus ceisteanna atá ina gcúis bhuartha, amhail an tAthbheithniú ar Riarachán Poiblí, a phlé. Chun go mbí in ann comhairle agus tacaíocht maidir le hobair forbartha straitéiseach a thabhairt, cuidim le monatóireacht ar éifeachtacht reachtaíochta reatha, ar pholasaithe agus ar straitéisí a bhaineann leis an Ghaeilge, agus déanaim mo dhícheall soláthar seirbhísí eile atá in easnamh ar phobal na Gaeilge a mhéadú agus a fhorbairt. D'oibrigh mé, i gcomhar leis an príomhfheidhmeannach, Janet Muller ar roinnt aighneachtaí tábhachtacha le linn na bliana amhail Dréachtbheartas Gaeilge Chomhairle Chathair Dhoire, beartas Chomhairle Léim an Mhadaidh ar leathnú úsáid lógó dátheangach na Comhairle agus bunú choistí idirthréimhseacha don Athbheithniú ar Riarachán Poiblí. I gcomhpháirt le mo chomhgheteacaithe, chuir muid le chéile tuairisc POBAL 2006-08 ar fheidhmiú na Cairte Eorpaí do Theangacha Réigiúnacha nó Mionlaigh do

A key aspect of my work is keeping in contact with the Irish Language community throughout the North, responding to their requests for help with queries on the rights of Irish speakers and providing strategic support in relation to ongoing projects. My connections with Irish Language groups was maximised by groundwork with POBAL arts officer Liam Stone on POBAL's October 2008 Irish Language Roadshow which travelled with Irish and Scottish musicians to all six counties, providing interactive workshops in Irish schools, along with evening concerts. We also made POBAL's exhibition The Irish Language: Protecting and Promoting the Language available to schools, Irish language groups and businesses.

As part of the strategic local development I focused on in 2009, I worked with POBAL's Chief Executive Janet Muller, to create a forum for the four local council Irish language officers, who cover Derry, Limavady/Magherafelt, Cookstown/Dungannon and Newry Councils, to develop a strategy for Irish services in local councils and to discuss concerns such as the proposed Review of Public Administration. To be able to advise and support this kind of strategic development work, my duties also include helping monitor the effectiveness of existing legislation, policies and strategies in regard to the Irish Language and pushing for the enhancement and development of these and other service provision that we find lacking for the Irish Language community. With Janet Muller, our Chief Executive, I worked on a number of consultations such as Derry Council's draft policy on service provision for Irish speakers, Limavady Council's policy for the Extension of the Use of the Council's Bilingual Logo and the RPA's Establishment of Transition Committees in Statute. Along with my colleagues, we put together POBAL's Report 2006-8 on the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages to the COMEX. I dealt with a number of calls from the public relating to Irish language service provision, especially by state



COMEX. Phléigh mé le scairteanna ón phobal i dtaca le soláthar seirbhísí don Ghaeilge, go háirithe soláthar ranna stáit agus comhairlí áitiúla. B'ábhar imní na fadhbanna a d'éirigh as iarratais ar shráidainmneacha Gaeilge agus bhí mé i dteagmháil le cónaitheoirí agus le comhairlí in Ard Mhacha, Baile Monaidh, an Baile Meánach, an Dún agus Cúil Rathin maidir leis seo. Sampla eile d'obair POBAL ná an réiteach a fuair muid ar dhiúltú DETI glacadh le hainmneacha Naiscoil Mhachaire Rátha agus Naiscoil Charn Tóchair toisc nach raibh siad i mBéarla.

I rith na bliana seo caite, d'oibrigh mé go díograiseach le Janet Muller agus leis an oifigeach forbartha, Séamas Mac Aindreasa, ar chlár POBAL chun feasacht a mhúscailt maidir leis an ghá atá le hAcht Gaeilge do Thuaisceart na hÉireann. Bhuail muid le polaiteoirí, thuaidh agus theas, le DCAL agus le daoine eile cuí. D'eagraigh muid roinnt imeachtaí ard-iomrá ar nós: Díospóireacht Phainéil le Dafydd Iwan, uachtarán Plaid Cymru, agus le Neasa Ní Chinnéide, uachtarán an EBLUL, agus comhdháil ar Úsáid na Gaeilge sna Cúirteanna agus Acht 1737, ar a raibh Graham Fraser, Coimisinéir Cheanada ar Theangacha Oifigiúla, ina aoichainteoir. Ba é 'Cearta agus Ceiliúradh', in Aonach Naomh Seoirse i mí Mheán an Fhómhair, an t-imeacht ba mhó a d'eagraigh muid, imeacht a mheall Gaeilgeoirí agus a lucht tacaíochta de gach aois agus ó achan chearn den tír. Chuir muid críoch le bliain an-ghnóthach le bricfeasta ceiliúrtha 10 bliana POBAL in Óstán an Europa.

Tuigeann POBAL fosta gur gá coinneáil suas le nuálaíochtaí teicneolaíochta chun cumarsáid a dhéanamh le pobal na Gaeilge agus chun an teanga a chur chun cinn. Ormsa atá an dualgas seo san oifig agus bainfidh mé úsáid as smaointe nua maidir le suíomh POBAL, cumarsáid raidió agus eile.

Sa bhliain seo amach romhainn, coinneoidh mé orm ag cur na Gaeilge chun cinn agus ag díriú ar cheisteanna a bhaineann le riachtanais agus le cearta phobal na Gaeilge, amhail an gá atá le hAcht Gaeilge. Lena chois sin, tá mé ag tnúth go mór le bheith ag obair le heagrais agus le pobail Ghaeilge, agus plé a dhéanamh leo ar an obair atá ar bun acu agus ar an dóigh a dtig le POBAL cuidiú leo i bhforbairt a dtionscadal agus chun ceisteanna eile a réiteach

Nic Saidlier
Oifigeach Forbartha

departments and local councils. A main concern was the problems arising from requests for bilingual street names and I was in correspondence with residents and councils in Armagh, Ballymoney, Ballymena, Down and Coleraine in this regard. One other example of POBAL's work was our resolving of DETI's rejection of the names Naiscoil Mhachaire Rátha and Naiscoil Charn Tóchair because they were not in English.

Throughout the past year I have worked hard with Janet Muller and development officer Séamas Mac Aindreasa, on POBAL's programme to raise awareness on the need for an Irish language Act for the North, lobbying politicians north and south, DCAL and other relevant bodies. To this end we organised a number of high profile events, including: POBAL's panel debate with Plaid Cymru president Dafydd Iwan and EBLUL president Neasa Ní Chinnéide and a conference on the Use of Irish in the Courts and the 1737 Act with special guest the Canadian Commissioner for Official Languages, Mr. Graham Fraser. Reports on the latter two events were published. Our biggest event was the Rights and Revelry day at St George's market in October 09 which packed the market with Irish speakers and supporters of all ages and from all corners of the country. We rounded off a very busy 2009 with a breakfast event in the Europa Hotel to celebrate POBAL's 10 year anniversary.

POBAL also understand the need to keep up with technological innovations in communicating with the Irish Language community and promoting the language. I have been charged with this responsibility in the office and I will adopt any new media ideas through our website, local radio and other communications.

In the coming year, I will continue to promote the Irish Language and to address issues concerning the needs and rights of Irish speakers, such as educating and informing people about the need for an Irish Language Act. I am looking forward to working with Irish Language groups and organisations, particularly, to discuss their needs and how POBAL can assist in promoting Irish Language projects and addressing other issues they may have.

Nic Saidlier
Development Officer



Tuairisc an Taighdeora Research Officer's report

Caroline Nolan

I mí Eanáir, cuireadh tús le tionscadal uile-Éireann ar riachtanais oiliúna agus tacaíochta d'earnáil na Gaelscolaíochta agus Gaeltachta i dtaca le páistí le sainriachtanais speisialta oideachais de. Tá POBAL buíoch den Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta (COGG) a thug an maoiniú dúinn chun an obair thábhachtach seo a dhéanamh. Éiríonn an togra bliana seo as luath-thorthaí thaighde Dheirdre Ní Chinnéide do POBAL, Riachtanais an Pháiste Dhátheangaigh (Gaeilge-Béarla), a d'fhoilsigh an Roinn Oideachais, mí Mheán Fómhair 2009.

Diríonn an taighde seo ar: iniúchadh ar an staid reatha san earnáil maidir le hoiliúint agus le tacaíocht; riachtanais traenála earnáil na Gaelscolaíochta ar bhonn uile-Éireann, i dtaca le páistí le sainriachtanais a aimsiú (idir oiliúint tosaigh múinteoirí agus fhorbairt ghairmiúil leantach) ag leibhéal na náiscolaíochta, na bunscolaíochta agus na hiar-bhunscolaíochta; riachtanais tacaíochta, feasachta agus chumarsáide na hearnála a aimsiú agus moltaí mionsonracha a dhéanamh maidir le soláthar oiliúna agus tacaíochta, agus an dea-chleachtas a shainnithint, más féidir.

Is tráthúil an taighde seo i gcomhthéacs an mhúnla chleachtais is déanaí i dTuaisceart na Éireann maidir le freastal ar dhaltáí le riachtanais speisialta oideachais agus de bharr go bhfuil tús curtha le roinnt tograí chun freastal ar an ghá atá le spriochearta sonracha faoi choinne an Ghaeloideachais.

Ar na torthaí is fearr a d'eascair as an phróiseas taighde go dtí seo, tá an comhoibriú méadaithe idir dhaoine agus eagraíochtaí thuaidh agus theas, nascadh na bpáirtithe agus na n-eagraíochtaí éagsúla atá ag obair san earnáil seo, chomh maith le roinnt an eolais le múinteoirí ar an talamh. Léiríonn an taighde go bhfuil gá le comhoibriú, comhordú agus cumarsáid ag gach leibhéal chun leas níos fearr a bhaint as an stór eolais atá ann cheana féin.

I Meán Fómhair 2009, sheolamar na Torthaí Eatramhacha – cur síos praiticiúil ar cad atá ar fáil faoi láthair, agus dréachtpholasaí straitéise - chuig gach náiscoil, bunscoil agus meánscoil sa tír. Chomh maith leis sin, scaipeamar leagan dátheangach den tuarascáil seo chuig na príomhpháirtithe leasmhara i réimse riachtanais oideachais speisialta. Chuireamar béim ar na tosaíochtaí a bhí luaite thar na blianta agus ar na hathruithe a bheadh de dhíth ionas go mbeadh na seirbhísí, na hacmhainní, an oiliúint agus an tacaíocht 'oiriúnach' d'earnáil na Gaelscolaíochta.

An all-Ireland research project on the training and support needs of teachers and playgroup leaders providing for children with special education needs in Gaelscoileanna agus schools in the Gaeltachtaí began in January 2009, with funding from an Chomhairle Um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta (COGG). The need for further research in this area was identified in the findings of POBAL's major research report compiled by Deirdre Ní Chinnéide, The Special Education Needs of Bi-Lingual (Irish-English) Children, published by the Department of Education in September 2009.

This research piece is focussed on: investigating the current provision of training and support within the sector; identifying the training needs of the sector to provide for children with SEN (including pre-service and in-service training); identifying the support, awareness and information needs of the sector and making recommendations in relation to the provision of training and support, identifying best practice, where available.

It is a very timely piece of work as the process and practice of providing for special education needs is undergoing significant policy change in the north of Ireland this year and a number of projects have begun to address the need for specific targeted measures to meet the needs of Irish Medium Education.

One of the most successful outcomes of the research so far has been to facilitate greater cooperation on a north-south basis, linking diverse parties and organisations working in this area, as well as sharing the information with teachers and practitioners on the ground. The need for the greater co-ordination and communication of existing expertise at all levels has been highlighted in the interim findings to date.

In September 2009 the Interim Findings of the research, setting out a draft strategic and policy framework to promote the training and support needs of children with Special Education Needs was sent to all naíonraí, náiscoil, bunscóileanna and meánscoil throughout the country. A bi-lingual version of this report was also sent to all of the key stakeholders in the area of special education needs. In essence, these Interim Findings sought to set out the priorities in relation to 'fit for purpose' training, assessment tools, support services and resources.

D'éirigh leis an taighdeoir POBAL roinnt cruinnithe a éascú chun faisnéis a roinnt ar na rannpháirtithe cuí maidir leis na forbairtí nua. Mar shampla, de bharr cruinníú a eagraíodh idir Coiste Gairmoideachais Chontae Bhaile Átha Cliath agus Coláiste Feirste, i mí na Bealtaine, beidh an chéad scéim phíolótach Gaeilge don Chlár Ard-Tacaíochta Foghlama curtha ar bun sa Cholaíste. Thairis sin, de bharr sraith de chruinnithe i gcomhar le Coláiste Phádraig, Droim Conrach, Coláiste Ollscoile Naomh Muire, Béal Feirste, Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta agus An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta, tá moltaí faoi bhráid an dá Roinn Oideachais chun cúrsa oiliúna ar líne a chur in oiriúint don Ghaeloideachas, le modúil bhreise ar riachtanais oideachais speisialta, ar an tumoideachas agus ar shealbhu an dara teanga. Tá na moltaí faoi bhráid coiste nua trasteorann, a bunaíodh chun comhoibriú a chur chun cinn a thacódh le hoideachas trí mheán na Gaeilge, go háirithe ag leibhéal na hiar-bhunscoile.

Is tionscadal bliana é seo agus tá curtha romhainn an t-aiseolas agus na freagraí bheith ar ais ó na scoileanna agus ó pháirtithe leasmhara chun go mbeidh an tuarascáil deiridh ullamh faoi lár mhí Feabhra 2010.

Ní fhéadfaí an obair thaighde a chur i gcrích go héifeachtach gan tacaíocht agus cúnaimh an Choiste Chomhairligh. Ba mhaith linn buíochas a ghabháil leis na baill a d'fhreastail go fial ar chruinnithe agus a léigh dréachtaí tuarascála, eadhon: an Dr Margaret O'Donnell, Coláiste Phádraig, Droim Conrach; Tarlach Mac Giolla Bhríde, Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta; Jill Garland, Coláiste Ollscoile Naomh Muire, Béal Feirste; Seosamh Mac Ionmhain, Seirbhísí Tacaíochta Náisiúnta Siceolaithe; Siobhán Ní Dhúill, Príomhoide Scoile; agus Janet Muller, POBAL. Bhí Muireann Ní Mhóráin de chuid COGG ina foinse bhuan chomhairle agus thacaíochta. Ina theannta sin, ba mhaith linn buíochas a ghabháil le Bríd O'Loan a rinne sáróbair ag comhordú gach rud.

Caroline Nolan
Bríd Ó Loan

As part of the research work POBAL's researcher also facilitated a number of meetings to share information on new developments. One such meeting centred on piloting the High Support Learning Programme in Coláiste Feirste – the first attempt to deliver the programme in a Gaelscoil setting. Furthermore, a series of meetings in consultation with St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, St. Mary's University College, Belfast, Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta, An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta, also resulted in a proposed being submitted to both Departments of Education to adapt an existing on-line training programme so make it more pertinent and relevant to the Irish medium education sector, with additional modules on special education needs and immersion and second language learning. This proposal also went before a new cross-border committee established to promote greater co-operation at departmental level to support Irish medium education, particularly at post-primary level.

This is a one year project so we intend to have feedback and responses back from the schools and stakeholders and prepare the final report to be ready by mid February 2010.

This research work could not be carried out effectively without the support and assistance of the Advisory Committee. We wish to thank the members who have given of their time to attend meetings and comment on drafts of the report, namely: Dr. Margaret O'Donnell, St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra; Tarlach Mac Giolla Bhríde, Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta; Jill Garland, St. Mary's University College, Belfast; Seosamh Maclonmhain, National Psychologists Support Services; Siobhán Ní Dhúill, School Principal, and Janet Muller, POBAL. Muireann Ní Mhóráin of COGG was a constant source of advice and support. In addition, we must acknowledge the Trojan work performed by Bríd Ó Loan who kept us all in contact and on track.

Caroline Nolan
Bríd Ó Loan

Tuairisc ar obair straitéiseach ar na healaíona Gaeilge

Report of Strategic Work on the Irish Language Arts

Straitéis leis na healaíona Gaeilge a chur chun cinn

Ag tús na bliana, rinne POBAL Sinéad Ní Choinn a choimisiúnú le taighde agus comhairliúchán a dhéanamh ar fhorbairt na n-ealaíona Gaeilge. D'fhiosraigh an taighde an bealach is fearr leis na healaíona Gaeilge a chur chun cinn. D'éascair an tionscnamh as na blianta de chomhoibriú rathúil idir Comhairle Ealaíon TÉ agus POBAL agus as an ghá le straitéis a fhorbairt a chuirfeadh na healaíona Gaeilge chun cinn i dTuaisceart na hÉireann, go náisiúnta agus go hidirnáisiúnta.

Sa chéad dul síos, measadh gur den riachtanas é sainmhíniú a dhéanamh ar cad ba chiall leis 'na hEalaíona Gaeilge'. Chun críoch an taighde seo, baineadh úsáid as an sainmhíniú ar na healaíona Gaeilge ar aontaigh pobal na Gaeilge air i bpróiseas comhairliúcháin POBAL 2004, mar fhreagra ar thuairisc na Comhairle Ealaíon ar Ealaíona na Gaeilge agus Albainis Uladh:

"Is é atá sna hEalaíona Gaeilge foirmeacha ar bith ealaíne á gcleachtadh trí mheán na Gaeilge. Féadann siad a bheith i bhfoirm thraidisiúnta nó chomhaimseartha, foirmiúil nó neamhfoirmiúil."

Bhí ceist na n-acmhainní, idir acmhainní daonna agus acmhainní airgid, ag croílár an taighde, chomh maith le ceisteanna eile praiticiúla. Mar thúsphointe, rinneadh measúnú ar eolas ar earnáil na nEalaíon Gaeilge a bhí bailithe roimhe. Amharcadh ar thaighde a rinne POBAL ar na hEalaíona Gaeilge do Chomhairle Ealaíon TÉ cheana féin.

Bailíodh eolas don straitéis seo as torthaí taighde neamhspleách agus as próiseas comhairliúcháin forleathan a rinneadh in 2009. Chomh maith leis seo, rinneadh agallaimh le healaíontóirí, le heagraíochtaí ealaíon agus le príomh-sholáthraithe eile. Mar gheall nach bhfuil teorainn gheografach leis an Ghaeilge, bailíodh eolas don taighde seo ar bhonn uile – Éireann. Chuidigh taighde uile-Éireann le samplaí dea-chleachtais a aimsiú agus le bheith ag foghlaim ó thaithí ealaíontóirí agus grúpaí a bhfuil baint acu leis na hEalaíona Gaeilge ar fud na tíre. Chomh maith leis seo, bhí ceisteanna sa taighde dírihte ar chur chun cinn na nEalaíon Gaeilge go hidirnáisiúnta.

Reáchtáladh 6 chruinniú phoiblí – i mBéal Feirste, Baile an Chaistil, an Carn, Gaoth Dobhair, an tLúir agus Baile Átha Cliath. Rinneadh poiblíocht chuimsitheach ar na cruinnithe seo sna meáin chumarsáide ó thuaidh agus ó dheas. Rinneadh agallaimh ar Raidió Uladh agus ar Raidió na Gaeltachta. Rinneadh poiblíocht sna paipéir nuachtáin idir fhógraíocht dhátheangach agus eagarfhocail. Ar na nuachtáin sin, bhí The Irish News, The Andersonstown News & North Belfast News, The Coleraine Chronicle & Guardian, The Derry Post agus The Donegal News. Fógraíodh na cruinnithe ar nuachtlitreacha na gComhairlí Áitiúla ó thuaidh agus ó dheas agus ar nuachtlitreacha grúpaí Gaeilge agus grúpaí pobail.

A Strategy for the Irish Language Arts

At the start of the year, POBAL commissioned Sinéad Ní Choinn to carry out this research and consultation on the development of the Irish Language Arts. This research looked at the most appropriate way to promote the Irish language Arts. This research has its origins in the years of successful co-operation between Arts Council of Northern Ireland and POBAL and in the clearly identified need for the development of a strategy to promote the Irish language Arts on a national and international level.

As a starting point for the research, it was deemed essential to identify what is meant by the Irish Language Arts. For the purposes of this research, the description of the Irish Language Arts used is the one agreed upon by the Irish Language community through POBAL's 2004 consultation process in response to the Arts Council NI's report on the Arts of Irish and Ulster Scots:

"The Irish Language Arts are any art forms practised through the medium of the Irish Language. They can be in a contemporary or traditional form, formal or informal."

This research draws on different approaches towards the Irish Language Arts. The question of resources (people and financial) is at the heart of this research as well as other practical considerations. The research began with assessing information that has already been gathered on this sector. This research initially looked at information previously gathered by POBAL and presented to the Arts Council NI.

Information was gathered for the strategy through the results of independent research and an extensive consultation process conducted in 2009. As well as this, interviews were conducted with artists, arts organisations and other key-providers. As the Irish Language is not contained by geographical borders, the research was conducted on an all-Ireland basis. All-Ireland research was conducted to identify good practise and to learn from the expertise of artists and other groups associated with the Irish language Arts throughout the country. The research also was involved with the Irish Language Arts and its promotion on an international level.

6 public meetings were conducted – Belfast, Ballycastle, Tirkane, Gweedore, Newry and Dublin. The meetings were widely publicised through the media North and South of the border. Radio interviews were conducted on Radio Ulster and Raidió na Gaeltachta. The meetings were also publicised through bilingual advertisements and editorials placed in newspapers throughout the country including the Irish News, The Andersonstown News & North Belfast News, Coleraine Chronicle & The Guardian, Derry Post and The Donegal News. The meetings were also publicised in the newsletters of local Councils, North and South, as well as in the news letters of Irish Language groups and community groups.

Seo thíos na príomhphointí a pléadh ag an cruinnithe poiblí:

- Na deacrachtaí atá ag ealaíontóirí atá ag feidhmiú trí mheán na Gaeilge agus deacrachtaí atá ag daoine/grúpaí atá ag obair leis na healaíontóirí seo.
- Cad é an bealach chun tosaigh? Moltaí a chur in ord tosaíochta. Tháinig na moltaí ón cheistneoir a cuireadh le chéile don taighde.
- Cad iad na rudaí praiticiúla is féidir a dhéanamh? Moltaí a chur in ord tosaíochta.
- Cén dóigh ar féidir stádas/iomhá na nEalaíon Gaeilge a ardú? Moltaí a chur in ord tosaíochta.

Rinneadh agallaimh le roinnt eochairsholáthraithe – Oifigigh Ghaeilge sna Comhairlí Áitiúla, oibrithe in Ionaid Ealaíona Gaeilge agus daoine agus grúpaí cuí eile - le heolas bunaithe ar an taithí s'acusan san earnáil seo a bhailiú.

Chomh maith leis na cruinnithe poiblí, cuireadh ceistneoir ginearálta thart ar an phobal le tuairimí a bhailiú ar na príomhcheisteanna agus ar na moltaí a bhí luaithe ann. Is moltaí iad siúd a rinneadh le linn phróiseas leathan comhairliúcháin POBAL ar fhorbairt na nEalaíon Gaeilge, próiseas a d'éascaigh Trevor Ó Clochartaigh in 2004/05. Cuireadh chun tosaigh sainmholtá do phlean cuimsitheach 3 bliana i gcomhair fhorbairt na nEalaíon Gaeilge. Baineadh úsáid as na sainmholtá seo, a tháinig ó phobal na Gaeilge agus ó ghrúpaí eile atá bainteach le hearnáil seo na Gaeilge agus leis na healaíona, chun an ceistneoir a chur le chéile don taighde seo. Pléadh na sainmholtá seo ag na cruinnithe poiblí agus nuair a cuireadh daoine faoi agallamh faoin straitéis. Iarradh orthu na sainmholtá a chur in ord tosaíochta. Is amlaidh a bhí POBAL ábalta na tosaíochtaí is tábhachtaí a aimsiú agus straitéis na nEalaíon Gaeilge a chur le chéile dá réir.

Scaipeadh thart fá 250 ceistneoir ar dhaoine aonair agus ar eagraíochtaí. Scaip an Chomhairle Ealaíon an ceistneoir i measc bhallaíocht 'Aosdána' chomh maith, ar son POBAL. Tháinig 107 ceistneoir comhlánaithe ar ais faoin sprioc-am. Is ionann sin agus 42.8% de na ceistneoirí. Bailíodh eolas, aighneachtaí agus moltaí ó na grúpaí uilig. Baineadh úsáid as an eolas seo le straitéis 3 bliana a dhréachtú le cur chun cinn na nEalaíon Gaeilge a fhorbairt. Cuireadh an straitéis os comhair na Comhairle Ealaíon.



These are the main points discussed at the public meetings:

- The difficulties of artists working through the medium of Irish and also the difficulties of individuals/groups working with these artists.
- What is the way forward? Identify proposals for the development of a strategy. The proposals come from a questionnaire prepared for the purposes of this research.
- Identify practical actions that can be acted upon to develop the Irish language Arts.
- What is the most effective way to promote the image of the Irish Language Arts?

There was also a series of interviews conducted with key-providers in this sector – Irish Language Officers in Local Councils, workers in Irish Language Arts Centres and other appropriate individuals to record their experiences and collect information and opinions on the Irish language Arts.

As well as the public meetings, a questionnaire was distributed to gather information and to assess the response to the proposals featured in the questionnaire. The proposals aimed at the development of the Irish Language were identified by the Irish Language community through POBAL's 2004/5 consultation process facilitated by Trevor O'Clochartaigh. During this consultation process, specific proposals for the development of the Irish Language Arts were made by the Irish language community, artists and other groups involved with the arts sector and these proposals were used to compile the questionnaire. These specific proposals were discussed at the public meetings and with individuals who were interviewed. They were asked to rank the proposals in order of importance. POBAL then assessed the proposals deemed the most important according to the public and this helped develop a strategy for the development of the Irish language Arts.

Approximately 250 questionnaires were distributed to individuals and organisations. An Chomhairle Ealaíon in the south also kindly distributed the questionnaire to their 'Aosdána' membership. 107 filled questionnaires were returned within the allocated time – this meant that 42.8% of questionnaires were returned. Information, submissions and opinions were recorded from all these various groups and this was used to draft a 3 year strategy for the development and promotion of the Irish Language Arts. The strategy has now been submitted to the Arts Council.



Tuairisci Airgeadais: Financial Reports:

Pól Mac Cana

Bliain eile lán d'ócáidí agus d'fheachtais mhóra a bhí i mbliain oibre POBAL 2008-09. Bhí ócáidí móra éifeachtacha curtha ar fáil nach mbeadh ann dóibh ach ab é cúnamh airgeadais ónár maoinitheoirí éagsúla a chuir foireann éifeachtach de sheachtar le chéile agus a sholáthraigh na hacmhainní cuí dár bhfoireann chun an clár straitéiseach s'againne a chur i bhfeidhm. Ba mhór an gar gur éirigh le POBAL punann mhaith éagsúil airgeadais a aimsiú i rith na bliana seo – punann a lig dúinn ár réimse leathan oibre a chur i bhfeidhm chun tairbhe an phobail, .i. obair atá mar bheart straitéiseach againn.

Táimid fíorbhuíoch d'Fhoras na Gaeilge as an bhunmhaoiniú a chuir siad ar fáil dúinn arís. Tá an maoiniú seo iontach tábhachtach maidir le riar na heagraíochta agus maidir le hinmharthanacht obair straitéiseach na heagraíochta, bliain i ndiaidh bliana. Cothaíonn an cúnamh seo na poist seo a leanas: an príomhfheidhmeannach; an t-oifigeach airgeadais, riaracháin agus pearsanra; agus beirt oifigeach forbartha. Chomh maith leis seo, bhí POBAL in ann: leanúint leis an obair ar Acht na Gaeilge TÉ; leanúint leis an mhonatóireacht ar an Chairt Eorpach do Theangacha Réigiúnacha nó Mionlaigh agus le habhcóideacht thábhachtach eile; leanúint leis an tionscadal TÁ; páirt a ghlacadh i bhFéile an Phobail; tarraingt ar thacaíocht agus ar shaineolas ó thíortha eile, leithéidí na Breataine Bige, na hAlban, Cheanada agus tíortha eile nach iad; agus cur le hobair forbartha i gceantair ar leith.

Bhí tacaíocht chistiúcháin go fóill againn ón Belfast Regeneration Office in 2008/09, agus bhí an maoiniú seo ina fhíorchuidiú ó thaobh costais reatha de. Go háirithe agus POBAL ag iarraidh réimse maith tionscadal a chur i gcrích, tá sé rithábhachtach go mbíonn na costais reatha clúdaithe sa dóigh is gur féidir an tairbhe is fearr agus is mó a bhaint as an fhoireann agus as na tionscadail. An méid oibre a cuireadh i gcrích in 2008/09, níorbh fhéidir é gan an tacaíocht seo. Bhí an tacaíocht seo, agus maoiniú ó Chomhairle Ealaíon TÉ níos tábhachtaí ná riamh agus Ródseó na Gaeilge ag leathnú amach le gach aon bhliain chun tuilleadh seónna a stáisiú i níos mó ionad ar fud Thuaisceart na hÉireann, go dtí Nollaig 2008. Ar an drochuair, le deireadh an mhaoinithe ag deireadh 2008, cailleadh post an Oifigigh Forbartha Ealaíon. Ar an dea-uair, áfach, fuarthas deontas beag eile ón Chomhairle Ealaíon le tús a chur le straitéis na n-ealaíon Gaeilge a dhréachtú i rith na bliana 2009.

POBAL's working year 2008/09 was another year full of major events and occasions, which could not have been staged effectively without the financial support of our various funders. POBAL was fortunate to have secured a broad portfolio of funders during this year – a portfolio suitably diverse to support POBAL's wide range of projects aimed at benefiting the community. The funding received enabled the maintenance of an effective team of seven officers and the provision of appropriate resources enabling them to implement our broad-based strategic plan of works.

We are very grateful to Foras na Gaeilge for the provision of a core funding budget to the organisation. This funding is of vital importance to the organisation in terms of supporting the administration of POBAL and the viability of our strategic work on a yearly basis. This financial support employs our chief executive; finance, administration and personnel officer; along with two development officers. In addition to this, POBAL was able to organise the following: continuation of the TÁ project; participation in Féile an Phobail; monitoring of the European Charter for Minority or Regional Languages and other important advocacy work; continuation of work on an Irish-language Act for the north of Ireland; and to draw support and expertise from other countries, such as Wales, Scotland, Canada among others; and add to development work in certain areas.

During 2008/09, we were still receiving grant support from the Belfast Regeneration Office (BRO). This funding was extremely important as regards meeting the administrative costs of the organisation. As POBAL implements its wide range of projects, covering basic administrative costs is vital as it enables the team and projects to meet their objectives in the most efficient and effective manner. POBAL certainly would not have had such a successful year in 2008/09 without this financial assistance from BRO. This assistance, and funding from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, was also more important than ever due to the ongoing expansion of Ródseó na Gaeilge up until December 2008, as it expanded to include more shows and encompass more venues throughout the north of the country.

Ó thaobh Ródseó na Gaeilge de, bhí POBAL sa tríú bliain – an bhliain dheireanach – den tionscadal. Gabhaimid buíochas le Comhairle Ealaíon Thuaisceart Éireann as cistiú a chur ar fáil leis an fhiontar seo a sheoladh i measc an phobail ar fud an tuaiscirt. Fuair muid tacaíocht (deontais bheaga agus chomhchineáil) ó roinnt comhairlí áitiúla (Comhairle Ceantair an tSraitha Báin; Comhairle Ceantair Fhear Manach; Comhairle Cathrach Dhoire; Comhairle Ceantair na Maoile; Comhairle Baile Aontroma) chun an Ródseó a chur ar fáil i gceantair éagsúla, agus mar gheall ar an nasc le hAlbain (bhí Mary-Ann Kennedy agus Maggie McDonald ag seinm agus ag canadh sa Ródseó), fuarthas tacaíocht ó “Colmille – Éirinn ‘s Alba” chomh maith.

Rinneadh taighde ar shainriachtanais pháistí dátheangacha le cuidiú airgid ón Roinn Oideachais go dtí Deireadh Fómhair 2008. Ba é 2008/09 an bhliain dheireanach den tionscadal trí bliana seo. Chuir an maoiniú seo ar ár gcumas taighdeoir agus oifigeach cléireachais páirtaimseartha a fhostú chun dul i mbun an staidéir thábhachtaigh seo do pháistí earnáil na Gaeilge; agus chlúdaigh an deontas bunchaiteachas riaracháin an tionscadail. Cuireadh tús le tionscadal nua taighde le maoiniú ó COGG (An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta), mí Dheireadh an Fhómhair 2008. Maoiniú le haghaidh breis agus bliain a bhí i gceist anseo.

Sna leathanaigh a leanas, gheofar cóip de chuntais iniúchta POBAL don bhliain chuntasaíochta dar críoch 31 Márta 2009.

Pól Mac Cana
Oifigeach Airdeagais, Riaracháin & Pearsanra

Regarding Ródseó na Gaeilge, POBAL was in its third and final year of this project. We wish to thank the Arts Council of Northern Ireland for the provision of grant funding in order to conduct these arts events in the community throughout the north. We also received support (both in the form of grants and in-kind) from various local councils (including: Strabane District Council, Fermanagh District Council, Derry City Council; Moyle District Council; Antrim Borough Council) to promote and stage the Ródseó in various regions; and due to the Ródseó’s musical link with Scotland, in the form of Mary-Ann Kennedy and Maggie McDonald singing and playing on the Ródseó, we received support from “Colmille – Éirinn ‘s Alba” as well.

Research into the special needs of bilingual children was conducted with financial input from the Department of Education until October 2009. 2008/09 was the final year of this three-year project. This project employed a researcher and a part-time clerical officer to implement this important study for children in the Irish language sector; and the grant covers basic expenditure costs for this project. A new research project in this area was begun in October 2008 with funding from COGG (An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta & Gaelscolaíochta). This constitutes funding for over a year.

In the following pages is found a copy of POBAL’s audited accounts for the accounting year ending on 31st March 2009.

Pól Mac Cana
Finance, Administration and Personnel Officer



MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

The members of the Management Committee present their report and the audited accounts financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2009.

Príomhghíomh Principal activity

The principal activity of the organisation is to advance education and the promotion of the arts through the medium of the Irish language.

Stádas Status

Pobal is an unincorporated association.

Stádas Cánach Tax Status

Pobal has been granted charitable status by the Inland Revenue and is exempt from corporation tax on its activities. It is also exempt for value added tax purposes.

Torthaí Results

The results for the year are set out on pages 4 and 5.

Baill den Choiste Bainistíochta Members of Management Committee

The Committee members who served during the course of the year were:

- Maire Nic Fhionnachtaigh
- Cormac O Briain
- Seamas Mag Fhionnghaile

Sócmhainní Seasta Fixed Assets

The movement in fixed assets is set out at note 7.

Ráiteas maidir le freagrachtaí an choiste bhainistíochta **Statement of Management Committee's responsibilities**

Charity law requires the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of Pobal and of the surplus or deficit of the organisation. In preparing these the Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the trust will continue in business.

The Management Committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the organisation and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with current Charity law. Committee Members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Committee and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Iniúcháirí Auditors

A resolution proposing that Thompson & Co. be reappointed as auditors of the Committee will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

This report was approved by the Committee Members on 26 November 2009 and signed on its behalf by:

Treasurer:

S Mag Fhionnghaile

Chairperson:

M Nic Fhionnachtaigh

TUAIRISC AN INIÚCHÓRA NEAMHSPLEÁch do choiste BAINISTÍOCHTA POBAL
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF POBAL

We have audited the financial statements of POBAL for the year ended 31 March 2009 which comprise the Income and Expenditure account the Balance Sheet and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out therein.

Freagrachtaí faoi seach an Choisre Bhainistíochta agus Iniúcháirí
Respective responsibilities of the Committee Members and auditors

As described in the statement of the Members of the Committee responsibilities the Committee members are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

Our responsibility is to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those Accounts and to report our opinion to you.

Bunús an dearcadh iniúchta **Basis of audit opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Dearcadh Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the organisation's affairs as at 31 March 2009 and of its surplus for the year ended.



THOMPSON & CO.
Registered auditors
186a King sway
Belfast
BT17 9AD

RÁITEAS AR GHNÍOMHAÍOCHTAÍ AIRGEADAIS DON BHLIAIN DÁR CHÍOCH 31 MÁRТА 2007
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Acmhainní Isteach Incoming Resources			
Dept of Education	-	35,140	35,140
Foras na Gaeilge	-	179,137	179,137
Arts Council	-	41,076	41,076
COGG	-	17,569	17,569
Derry City Council	-	575	575
Strabane District Council	-	600	600
Moyle District Council	-	550	550
Antrim Borough Council	-	400	400
Fermanagh County Council	-	1,755	1,755
Community Foundation	-	1,000	1,000
Belfast Regeneration Office	-	45,496	45,496
Colmcille Eirinn's Alba	-	2,500	2,500
Rodseo (Net)	-	2,780	2,780
Sundry Income	1,151	-	1,151
Acmhainní Isteach Total Incoming resources	<u>1,151</u>	<u>328,578</u>	<u>329,729</u>
Acmhainní Caite Resources expended			
Management and Administration	-	318,346	318,346
Total resources expended	<u>-</u>	<u>318,346</u>	<u>318,346</u>
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers	1,151	10,232	11,383
Transfers between funds			-
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year	1,151	10,232	11,383
Balances brought forward	-	110,212	110,212
Balances carried forward	<u>1,151</u>	<u>120,444</u>	<u>121,595</u>

Pobal has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year.

All of the activities of the organisation are classified as continuing.

CUNTAS IONCAIM AGUS CAITEACHAS DON BHLIAIN DÁR CHRÍOCH 31 MÁRTA 2007
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

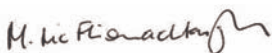
	Notes	Continuing operations	
		2009	2008
		£	£
Turnover	3	329,729	313,445
Administrative expenses	5	<u>(318,346)</u>	<u>(321,406)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) on ordinary activities before taxation		11,383	(7,961)
Retained Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		<u>11,383</u>	<u>(7,961)</u>
Retained profit brought forward		<u>110,212</u>	<u>118,173</u>
Retained profit carried forward		<u><u>121,595</u></u>	<u><u>110,212</u></u>

There are no recognised gains or losses other than the profit or loss for the above two financial years.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2009

	Notes	2009		2008	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Sócmhainní Inlámhaithe					
Tangible assets	7		14,554		16,538
Sócmhainní Reatha Current assets					
Feichiúnaithe Debtors	8	29,933		32,057	
Cash at bank and in hand	9	<u>105,899</u>		<u>70,012</u>	
		135,832		102,069	
Creidiúnaithe Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(28,791)		(8,395)	
Net current assets			<u>107,041</u>		<u>93,674</u>
Net assets			<u><u>121,595</u></u>		<u><u>110,212</u></u>
Capital and reserves					
Profit and loss account			<u>121,595</u>		<u>110,212</u>
Funds	12		<u><u>121,595</u></u>		<u><u>110,212</u></u>

Bhí na ráitis airgeadas ceadaithe ag an Choiste ar 23 Meán Fomhair 2008 agus sínithe ar a shon ag:
 The financial statements were approved by the Committee on 26 November 2009 and signed on its behalf by



Chairperson
 M Nic Fhionnachtaigh



Treasurer
 S Mag Fhionnghaile

The notes form an integral part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

1. Polasaithe Cuntasóireachta Accounting policies

1.1. Coinbhinsiún cuntasóireachta Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise stated.

1.2. Láimhdeachas Turnover

Turnover represents funding from various statutory agencies, voluntary donations etc.

1.3. Bunshócmhainní Inláimhithe agus titim Luacha Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	25% per annum Reducing Balance
Computer Hard/software	-	33.3% Reducing balance

2. Brabús feidhmiúcháin Operating surplus/(deficit)

2009
£

2008
£

Operating deficit is stated after charging:

Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible assets

4,852

4,986

Amortisation deferred credit

-

-

3. Ioncam Income

2009
£

2008
£

Dept of Education*

35,140

57,127

Foras na Gaeilge *

179,137

189,658

Community Foundation*

1,000

4,000

Arts Council - Ealaion *

41,076

26,966

COGG*

17,569

-

Colmcille Eirinn's Alba *

2,500

1,163

BRO *

45,496

32,086

Antrim Borough Council*

400

-

Derry City Council*

575

-

Fermanagh District Council*

1,755

-

Strabane District Council*

600

-

Moyle District Council*

550

-

Rodseo

2,780

-

Sundry Income

1,151

2,445

329,729

313,445

* Denotes Restricted income

4. Management Committee Remuneration

The Members of the Management Committee received no salaries or any other emoluments during the year.

5. Administrative expenses	2009	2008
Wages and salaries	200,712	209,581
Seminars, events etc	24,271	29,989
Computer maintenance	1,374	2,305
Telephone	2,928	2,878
Travel	8,169	6,973
Audit and accountancy	1,645	1,344
Consultancy	5,454	2,365
Sundries	624	1,013
Subscriptions	690	-
Bank fees	724	683
Repairs & Maintenance	-	550
Artists	14,350	10,000
Postage	4,793	3,165
Translations	2,248	1,220
Photocopying	757	663
Printing, stationery etc	14,981	13,290
Training	300	-
Rent	8,505	8,217
Insurance	2,513	1,721
Advertising	18,456	20,063
Petty cash	-	400
Depreciaton on fixtures and fittings	4,852	4,986
TOTAL	318,346	321,406
6. Taxation		
Pobal has been granted Charitable status by the Inland Revenue Ref: XR 31207.		
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	-	-

7. Bunshócmhainní inláimhithe Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Total €
Cost or valuation		
At 1 April 2008	27,270	27,270
Additions	2,868	2,868
At 31 March 2009	30,138	30,138
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2008	10,732	10,732
Charge for the year	4,852	4,852
At 31 March 2009	15,584	15,584
Net book values		
At 31 March 2009	14,554	14,554
At 31 March 2008	16,538	16,538

8. Féichiúnaithe Debtors	2009	2008
	€	€
Foras na Gaeilge	13,230	18,445
Arts Council	-	6,716
Colmille Eirinn 's' Alba	-	1,163
Department of Education	-	4,264
BRO	16,303	1,469
Antrim Borough Council	400	-
	<u>29,933</u>	<u>32,057</u>

9. Fuíleach Bainic Cash and Bank Balances	2009	2008
	€	€
Bank of Ireland Current account	50,088	64,829
Bank Of Ireland - Sainriachtanais Account	30,816	4,194
Bank of Ireland - Ealaion Account	24,928	989
Cash in Hand	67	-
	<u>105,899</u>	<u>70,012</u>

10. Creidiúnaithe: méideanna faoi dhléteanas laistigh de bhliain amháin
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2009	2008
	€	€
Other taxes and social security costs	4,954	6,595
Accruals	4,575	1,800
Deferred Income - COGG	17,450	-
Deferred income - Arts Council/Rodseo	1,812	-
	<u>28,791</u>	<u>8,395</u>

11. Anailís sócmhainní glana idir maoinithe Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted funds	General funds	Total funds
	€	€	€
Fund balances at 31 March 2009 are represented by;			
Tangible fixed assets	14,554	-	14,554
Investments	-	-	-
Current assets	131,509	4,323	135,832
Current liabilities	(28,791)	-	(28,791)
Long term liabilities	-	-	-
Total net assets	<u>117,272</u>	<u>4,323</u>	<u>121,595</u>

12. Réiteach ar bhogadh maoinithe

Reconciliation of movements in funds	2009	2008
	£	£
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	11,383	(7,961)
Opening funds	110,212	118,173
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Closing funds	<u>121,595</u>	<u>110,212</u>

DETAILED TRADING PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT AND EXPENSES SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

		2009		2008	
		£	£	£	£
Income	Note 3		329,729		313,445
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
			329,729		313,445
Administrative expenses					
Wages and salaries	200,712			209,581	
Computer maintenance	1,374			2,305	
Telephone & Internet	2,928			2,878	
Travel	8,169			6,973	
Translations	2,248			1,220	
Postage	4,793			3,165	
Photocopying	757			663	
Training	300			-	
Seminars, events etc	24,271			29,989	
Advertising	18,456			20,063	
Petty Cash	-			400	
Consultancy fees	5,454			2,365	
Audit and Accountancy	1,645			1,344	
Artists Costs	14,350			10,000	
Repairs & Renewals	-			550	
Rent	8,505			8,217	
Printing, stationery etc	14,981			13,290	
Insurance	2,513			1,721	
Bank charges	724			683	
General expenses	624			1,013	
Subscriptions	690			-	
Depreciation on FF & Equipment	4,852			4,986	
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
			318,346		321,406
Operating (deficit)/surplus	5%		<u>11,383</u>	1%	<u>(7,961)</u>

Special Needs Project - Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2009

RECEIPTS	£
Dept of Education	39,405
COGG	35,019
Other	36
	<hr/>
	74,460

PAYMENTS

Wages inc. Pension	37,075
Travel	909
Postage and stationery	750
Rent	2,101
Advertising	1,754
Telephone and internet	474
General expenses	2,665
Transfer to Other Bank Account	2,031
Bank fees	79
	<hr/>
	47,838

EXCESS OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS	26,622
OPENING BANK BALANCES AT START OF YEAR	4,194
	<hr/>
CLOSING BANK BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	<u>30,816</u>

NOTE

All of the above figures have been incorporated into the audited accounts.

Arts Council Project - Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2009

RECEIPTS	€
Arts Council	49,604
Sundry	11,490
Transfer from Main account	9,202
	<hr/>
	70,296
PAYMENTS	
Wages etc	17,799
Publicity/Marketing	5,453
Accomodation etc	4,256
Artists costs etc	13,600
Postage,Stationery, Telephone etc	557
Equipment, Materials etc	636
Project travel	716
Bank Fees	46
Sundries	3,294
	<hr/>
	46,357
EXCESS OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS	23,939
OPENING BANK BALANCES AT START OF YEAR	989
CLOSING BANK BALANCE AT END OF PERIOD	<hr/>
	24,928
	<hr/> <hr/>

NOTE

All of the above figures have been incorporated into the audited accounts.



Notáí

Notes



Tuarascáil Cinn Bhliana

Annual Report

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