

Nuachtlitir: Cumann na Gaeltachta

Meán Fómhair 2002

Gaeltacht Seachtaine i mBaile na Fuarán (Caladh Bogaidh)

Chaith scata cróga Gaeilgeoirí an tseachtain 12 – 18 Lúnasa 2002 ag campail i mBaile na Fuarán (Caladh Bogaidh), áit ina bhfuil sé i gceist “Gaeltacht Bhuan” bhunadh. Tuigtear leis na focail “Gaeltacht Bhuan”, i measc rudaí eile, áit in is féidir daoine a dhul agus an Gaeilge a labhairt i gcomhluadar Gaeilgeoirí eile. Le linn na seachtaine i gCaladh Bogaidh, tháinig 15 duine chun an suíomh a iniúchadh (chuaigh beirt eile ar strae ar an bhealach). Bhí daoine ann as Kingston, Ottawa, Toronto, New York agus Washington. Stop leath an uimhir sin tríd na seachtaine ar fud.

Tá 60 acra le fáil go láithreach, agus roinnt eile talaimh le fáil níos dhéanaí. Tá timpeall is 20 acra glan de crainn, agus an cuid eile mar coillte, agus cnoic garbh. Tá sruthán fionnuisce ag dul tríd an seilbh – Halliday Creek – agus deighleann sé an dhá piosa talaimh (talamh glan agus “buis”) as a chéile. Deirtear go bhfuil an iascaireacht iontach maith sa sruthán. Téann an sruthán isteach sa abhainn Madawaska, ceann de na habhann is áille sa Chúige Ontario.

Faoi láthair níl le fáil ar an suíomh ach cúpla scioból polla giúise. Bhí an champáil bunaíoch go maith mar gheall ar sin. Tógadh leithreas sealadach sna coillte an céad lá, agus tógadh cró seasmhach le linn na seachtaine. Bhí an cuid is mó den obair crua tógála déanta ag Tomás Mac Éinrí, Pól Mac Daibhidh, Síle Scott, Póilín Villarreal, agus Aralt Mac Giolla Chainnigh. Tá áis ealaíonta, daingne, compordach againn

Irish Language Week in Springtown (Calabogie)

A group of brave Irish speakers spent the week of 12 – 18 August 2002 camping at Springtown (Calabogie), a place being considered for the establishment of a “Permanent Gaeltacht”. Among other things, it is understood by the words “Permanent Gaeltacht” that there will be a place where people can go and speak Irish among other Irish speakers. During the week in Calabogie, 15 people came to investigate the site (2 more got lost on the way). People came from Kingston, Ottawa, Toronto, New York and Washington. Half of that number stayed through the week.

Sixty acres are available immediately, with additional land available later on. About 20 acres have been cleared of trees, with the rest in bush and rough hills. A clean water stream runs through the property – Halliday Creek – and divides the two portions of land (cleared and bush) from each other. It is said that fishing is very good in the stream. The stream runs into the Madawaska river, one of the most beautiful rivers in the province of Ontario.

At present there is nothing on the site except a couple of log barns. The camping was therefore quite primitive. A temporary latrine was constructed in the woods the first day, and a permanent outhouse was constructed during the week. Most of the hard construction work was done by Tomás Mac Éinrí, Pól Mac Daibhidh, Síle Scott, Póilín Villarreal and Aralt Mac Giolla Chainnigh. We now have an elegant,

anois.

Tá turasóireacht ag fás i gCaladh Bogaidh, agus a lán áiseanna spórtáochta le fáil sa cheantar. Tá an cathair é féin ar taobh an locha Calaidh Bhogaidh, agus trá gleoite ansin. Tá machaire galf ann, agus ionad samhradh nua (7 milliúin dollar) le tógail sa cúpla bliain atá romhainn. Sa geimhreadh tá ionad sciáil Alpach “Calabogie Peaks” ann. I measc na daoine a bhí ag campáil mí Lúnasa bhí 4 déagóir, agus iad lán sásta leis an spórtáocht a bhí le fáil. Cé go bhfuil an turasóireacht ag fás i gCaladh Bogaidh, níl an ceantair millte ar chor ar bith. Talamh fiáin Ceanadach an cuid is mó den críoch.

Tá stair láidir Éireannach sa cheantair. Bhí na chéad seadaitheoirí as Éireann, agus mar gheall ar gárbhantacht an tír, níor tháinig daoine eile in a dhiaidh. Tá ainmneacha Éireannach ar beagnach gach bóthair, loch, agus baile. Réitigh teaghlach dárbh ainm Ó Moghráin ar dtús ar an feirm ina stop muid. Tháinig teaghlach Éireannach eile, na Mórdhaigh timpeall is 100 bliain ó shin, Is iad na sealbhóirí an lá atá inniú ann. Is é Sean Ó Mórdha, ball de na Mórdhaigh sin, agus ball le “Glór na nGael” (eagraíocht Gaeilge in Ottawa), a chur eolas orainn ar an infhaighteacht den fheirm.

Chuaigh muid go teach Seáin – cabán polla giúise, a thóg na Moghráinigh – oíche Aoine. Bhí ceol bríomhar Éireannach, comhrá aerach Gaeilge, agus fiseanna den todhchaí an Gaeltacht Bhuan ann go blásta. Is cinnte nach raibh sin an chéad uair a bhí Gaeilge mar príomhteanga sa teach sin. Bhí sean-mháthair Sheáin ceann de na seanchaí agus stairaí áitiúil is cáiliúil sa cheantar.

Bhí an seachtain taitneamhach ar fud: aer

sturdy, comfortable facility.

Tourism is growing in Calabogie, and a lot of recreational facilities are available in the area. The town itself is situated on the banks of Calabogie Lake, which has a lovely beach. There is a golf course there, and a 7 million dollar 4 season resort is to be constructed over the next couple of years. In the winter there is a downhill ski resort, “Calabogie Peaks”. Among the people who were camping in August were 4 teenagers. They were very happy with the available recreation. But even though tourism is growing in Calabogie, the area is by no means spoiled. Most of the territory remains “wild Canadian country”.

There is a strong Irish history in the region. The first settlers were from Ireland, and few people came after them since the country was so rough. There are Irish names on the almost every road, lake and town. A family named “Moran” were the first settlers on the farm where we stayed. Another Irish family, the Moores arrived about 100 years ago, and the farm remains in the family. It is Seán Moore, a member of this family of Moores, and a member of “Glór na nGael” (an Irish language organization in Ottawa) who informed us of the availability of the farm.

We went to Seán’s house – a log cabin built by the Morans – on Friday night. There was plentiful, energetic Irish music, lively conversation in Irish, and visions of the future of the Gaeltacht. It is certain that this wasn’t the first time that Irish was the primary language in this particular house. Seán’s grandmother was one of the most celebrated local historians and storytellers.

It was a completely enjoyable week: fresh

úr, aimsir breá, snámh, bádóireacht, spaisteoireacht, agus craic. Sna hoícheanta bhí seanchas, amhránaíocht champa, agus breathnú ar réaltaí, réaltbhuíon agus pláinéid. Agus, ar ndóigh, bhí an bia chomh maith le bialann ar bith sa tír – míle buíochas dár cócaire ard-cáil, Síle Scott.

Cad a Dhéanfaimid Feasta Gan Plywood

Thug muid faoi deara go raibh a lán focail nua de dhíth orainn agus muid ag caint Gaeilge in ionadais nua le linn na seachtaine. Léirigh sé gur fhoghlaim muid an cuid is mó dár nGaeilge ag Deireadh Seachtainí Gaeilge – timpeallacht fíor-sainfheidhmeach. Ní raibh aon taithí againn le stór focail a théann le campail, fóirgneoireacht, nó saol faoin tuath. D’fhoghlaim muid cuid maith focal nua i rith na seachtaine, agus tá liosta ceangailte leis an nuachtlitir seo.

Cruinniú in Ottawa

Tá súil agam gur féidir cuid maith ball dár eagraíocht freastail ag an Gaeltacht Deireadh Seachtaine in Ottawa, 4 – 6 Deireadh Fómhair 2002. Ba mhaith liom cúpla saincheist a phlé:

1. Athbhreithnigh ar chuspóirí na heagraíochta chun alt a iniiaigh:

“cothaigh forbairt gnóthaí áitiúil i gceantar an Gaeltacht agus tacaíocht acu ar ár gcuspóirí béascna.”
2. Bailiú airgid.
3. Caitechas samhraidh i gCaladh Bogaidh.
4. Scéim chun talún a cheannach.
5. Gníomhaíochtaí i gCaladh

air, good weather, swimming, boating, hiking and conversation. At night there was storytelling, camp singing, and gazing at stars, constellations and planets. And of course, the food was as good as in any restaurant in the country – a thousand thanks to the excellent cook, Síle Scott.

What Will We Do Now Without Plywood

We noticed that there were a lot of new words that we needed when we were speaking Irish in new situations through the week. This reveals that we have learned most of our Irish at Irish Language Weekends – a very specialized environment. We had no experience with words that go with camping, construction, or life in the country. We learnt a lot of new words during the week, and a list is attached to the newsletter.

Meeting in Ottawa

I hope that a good number of members of our organization can attend the Irish Language Weekend in Ottawa, 4 – 6 October 2002. I would like to discuss a couple of issues:

1. Review of the aims of the organization, in order to include:

“to promote the development of local businesses in the area of the Gaeltacht that support our cultural aims”
2. Fund raising.
3. Expenses during the summer in Calabogie.
4. Land acquisition.
5. Events in Calabogie for next year:

Bogaidh an Bhliain seo chugainn:

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| (a) Seachtaine Oibre, Lúnasa 2003 - foirgneoireacht | (a) Work Week, August 2003 – construction. |
| (b) Deireadh Seachtaine Gaeilge, Lúnasa 2003 | (b) Irish Language Weekend, August 2003. |
| (c) Damhsa Crosbhóthair (Cóisir Dhamhsa Scoibóil) 2003 | (c) Crossroads Dance (Barn Dance) 2003 |
| (d) Coimeád Beiche | (d) Bee Keeping |

Deonacháin

1. \$1000.00 as Pádraig agus Deirdre Scott.
2. \$1000.00 as an “Kingston Irish Folk Club”, chun leabhair a cheannach

Donations

1. \$1000.00 from Pat and Deirdre Scott.
2. \$1000.00 from the “Kingston Irish Folk Club”, for the purchase of books.