



Bòrd Stiùradh na h-ÀCOFR

Miosachan Oifigeal na h-ÀCOFR 2018

The Official Calendar of Avante Gaelic Obscurist Folk Rock

Am Faoilleach / January 2018



Domhnall-Iain's Inauguration – 1 Year On

A year ago this month, everybody in Tong was dancing in the streets to celebrate local man Domhnall-Iain “Donald Trump” Macleod getting lost on the way to the sheep sales in Steinish and accidentally being inaugurated as President of the USA.

Many, many people - people who know about that kind of stuff - believe that Domhnall-Iain bochd still doesn't realise that it's America that he's running, but thinks instead that he's been installed as Commander-in-Chief of his home village.

Strangely enough it wouldn't be an unreasonable mistake to make, as the role of President of Tong is actually very similar to its US equivalent, and the carry-on when a President gets inaugurated in Tong is almost exactly the same as what happens in Washington DC. Oh yus. Fact.

What? “Fake News”, you may cry, but this was all proven in a bigly researched “Made Up History of Stornoway” article last year by Trump associates Steve Balallon, Paul Manafortterrace and Vladimir Spùt-in. None of whom Domhnall-Iain knows or has ever met at all at all, honest.

<https://stornowayhistory.wordpress.com/2017/01/19/presidential-inaugurations-in-tong/>

The East Portico of the Tong Community Centre - Where The Hugest Crowds Ever - at least 2 Million - Gather Bigly for the President of Tong's Inauguration

Àm Faoilleach / January 2018 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Òl-Luain Mon	Òl-Màirt Tue	Òl-Ciadaoin Wed	Òl-Àrdaoin Thu	Òl-h-Aoine Fri	Òl-Sathairne Sat
	1 Bladhna Mhath Ur.	2	3	4 2002 – The Guireans write and record "Alasdair Mackay is God – Sorry, Bod" in an afternoon, and still have time to go home for their tea and go back up town for a pint.	5 D*vid Iain turns off the 2016 Xmas Lights at M*yb*ry Garden.	6 D*vid Iain formally turns on the 2018 Xmas Lights at M*yb*ry Garden.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Ronnie Van Zant's Birthday	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Willie Burns night – inhabitants of Newton toast J*hn H*nry B*nham with Jack Daniels and perform the Address to the Ford Mustang.	26	27
28 Guireans Manager Coinneach's 56th Birthday. An Lanntair's 1 st Sunday Opening day. Fire & Brimstone Rain Down From the Heavens (South Beach).	29	30	31			

An Gearran / February 2018



Chentrification at the Plasterfield Shop

Plastics and other islanders mourning the closure of the much loved Mackinnon's Bakery were cheered last year, when it turned out that Plasterfield's long tradition of premium artisan boulangeries - stretching back to the lechendary Mombasa's and beyond - would continue.

When the Blackhouse Bakery opened, residents were pleased to see that Stoarnoway whuyte loaf (sluyced and unsluyced), plain buns, Wuyna biscuits and all their other favourites were still on the menu.

But some were rather concerned by the modren innovations on show - basketwork shelving, a posh coffee machine and, (fleek's sake!) Parisian-style dining tables outside.

Many Plastics began to worry that this was a first step to chentrification, the expulsion of the populace to the Cearns, and the area becoming a playground for hipsters, foodies, Russian oligarchs and weekendng aristocrats from the Barratt houses.

Luckily that hasn't happened yet. In fact, the residents of Plasterfield have embraced the concept of alfresco continental-style fine dining themselves, and 1 year on, you'd be hard pushed to tell the pavement outside the Blackhouse Bakery from a sophisticated boulevard cafe on thon Champs Elysees.

Plasterfield Residents Enjoy Continental-Style Alfresco Fine Dining.

~ An Gearran / FEBRUARY 2018 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Òl-Luain Mon	Òl-Màirt Tue	Òl-Ciadam Wed	Òl-Àrdoin Thu	Òl-h-Aoine Fri	Òl-Sathurne Sat
				1	2 Groundhog Day (USA) The Guireans announce that their long awaited album "J&E's Democracy" is nearly ready. Again. (Sandwick)	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Harris Tweed found in Harris
11	12	13	14 St Valentine's Day. Don't miss yesterday's sale on Ewe Rolls and Pedigree Tup Mix at the Crofters'. If you did, you're too fleekeen late now.	15 Stornoway Orduighean begin Murdo Maclean's reopens for 1 day only hat sale.	16	17
18	19 BBC Alba screen a programme that's not a repeat. With actual Gaelic in it.	20	21	22	23 Last day for Rubhachs to take their peats home.	24
25 An Lanntair's 2 nd Sunday Opening Day. Beware of Frogs and Boils (South Beach)	26	27	28			

Am Màrt / MARCH 2018



Iceland in Stornoway – The AGOFR Connections

The opening of Stornoway's new Iceland store brings to mind both the numerous connections between the Outer Hebrides and Iceland, and those between the Iceland building and Avante-Gaelic Obscurist Folk Rock.

The building that Stornoway's new Iceland occupies was formerly Templeton's, where Dead Olac Guirean Jr from the Guireans worked between 1980 and 83. Dead Olac's earnings helped pay for the "real" instruments that first appeared on the band's "Jazz Mucus for Funk People" EP (1982).

In keeping with this tradition, Robin Dun Ringle also worked in its later incarnation, Presto's, in the late 1980s and used his earnings to buy his first proper (second hand) keyboard, a Yamaha MX300 which is still in Knock Studios to this day.

Seonaidh Pluckan from Swedish TV used to work there as well, before moving on to run Fonn, the Bayhead music shop where another Guirean, Rod "Actorr" Morison, pretended to work. Which in turn inspired the Guireans to write their Kylie Minogue tribute 'I Could Be Like Pluckan'.

Iceland was settled by the Vikings, who feature on every album ever made by the Dun Ringles.

Iceland is noted for delicacies such as rotten skate, sheep's head and guga, which are also popular in the rural districts of Lewis, and feature extensively in AGOFR lyrics.

Iceland cave in to militant Townie language activists with the branding of their new Stoarnoway shoap
(That's a "U" by the way - not a p'leekeen "V")

~ Àm MÀRTE/MARCH 2018 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Òl-Luain Mon	Òl-MÀIRTE Tue	Òl-Ciadam Wed	Òl-Àrdaoin Thu	Òl-h-Àoine Fri	Òl-Sachurne Sat
				1 Former British Legion building finally reopens - as Stornoway's 1 st (licenced) lapdancing club.	2 Lapdancing club in former British Legion closes due to public outrage.	3 Lardi Gras 2018 – The Legendary Non-existent AGOFR festival (Dunky's House)
4	5 Former British Legion building finally reopens - as Stornoway's 1 st (licenced) Monaco-style high class casino.	6 Huigh Class Casino in former British Legion goes bust after Geordie G*ldy makes a 35p <i>Voisins du zero</i> bet at the Roulette wheel and ends up breaking the bank.	7	8	9	10
11 New Owner Geordie G*ldy reopens Former British Legion building as a cinema showing "J*s*s Chr*st Superstar" every Sunday.	12	13	14 1830 – Original Lewis Chessmen unearthed in Harris (but nicked by some Uigeach)	15 Kinloch Orduighean – beware of celebratory gunfire (again)	16	17
18	19	20	21 Spring Equinox	22 End of 2017/18 Poaching Season (River Creed)	23 Start of 2018/19 Poaching Season (River Creed)	24
25 An Lantair's 3rd Sunday Opening Day. Eternal Darkness despite the change to British Summer Time (South Beach)	26	27	28	29	30 Fleekeen Clapton's Birthday, man. Agree vigorously with everything J*e Ell**t says about him if you want to keep all your teeth until the 31st.	31

An Giblean / April 2018

The Dun Ringles – 25 Years of “Boke Your Drarsh”

2018 sees the 25th anniversary of the Dun Ringles' difficult second album 'Boke Your Drarsh'. This was recorded hot on the heels of the massive global success of Vom Your Sproggans in Dec 1992 (20 copies sold!!).

Once again, and in keeping with Bord dictats, the band concentrated on the similar subject matter of Stornowegian culture.

The album was once more recorded in Knock Studios using the state of the art Vestax MR300 four track. Recording took place between March and April 1993.

“Boke” had 12 songs in total, including a dance number called Don't Kill Whales and a lengthy prog rock piece called Moonlight (Parts 1-4) which to this day has never been performed live as the band can't afford the fees of an orchestra and the drinks bill of a mass gathering of Gaelic choirs.

“Boke” is also notable for two tracks that have remained a staple of Dun Ringle performances (cos they're the only ones the band can remember how to play), namely “Peter Dan the Rubber Man” and “Cromwell St Congregation”.

The full story and a track-by-track analysis of this Prog Rock classic can be found at:

http://www.guireans.com/Dun_Ringles_msn/Tapeography/02_boke_your_drarsh.htm



Album cover for the Dun Ringles' Difficult Second Album "Boke Your Drarsh" (1993).
It's a peatstack with a pair of sunglasses, apparently.

~ An Cìoblean/ April 2018 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Dì-Luain Mon	Dì-Màirt Tue	Dì-Ciadaoin Wed	Dì-Àrdaoin Thu	Dì-h-Aoine Fri	Dì-Sathairne Sat
1 Latha na Gogaireachd April Fool's Day. (National Holiday of Airidhbhruach) Easter (Western Christianity)	2 April Fool's Day again (Airidhbhruach – cos one day's never enough)					
8 Easter (Orthodox)		10	11	12 E	13 Ritchie Blackmore's Birthday. Public Holiday (Wattie's House)	14 Easter (Fr*e Ch*rch Continuing)
15	16 Easter (R*formed Pr*sbyt*rian)	17	18	19	20	21 Easter (Fr*e Ch*rch)
22 Easter (R*formed Pr*sbyt*rian)	23 Feast of St George – Patron Saint of continually mispronouncing “An Lannair” and adding a superfluous “The” at the front, despite having a fleekken cushy job in it.	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

An Céitean / May 2018

Lechendary Recluses of Avante Gaelic Obscurist Folk Rock



In his famous 1945 critique of Avante Gaelic Obscurist Folk Rock, didn't George Orwell himself write that "All amadans are obscure. But some are more obscure than others"? Well, no he didn't, but it's true all the same...

The AGOFR business is full of mysterious recluses who, like Syd Barrett or Brian Wilson (the pop star, not the West Highland Free Press cove) withdrew from rock megastardom at the height of their success.

For example, Bod and Neil Hippy from the Guireans are keeping a very low profile these days. Cyclefoot's Roddy Rev hasn't played live since 1983, and Rab Kuartski hasn't been seen his performance at the 1983 Midge's of Rock Festival in the Scout Hall (with his band 'The Bohemian Crapsodys').

A recent study by Bòrd Stiureadh na h-AGOFR has found that, compared to their mainstream equivalents, AGOFR recluses tend to disappear from the scene for slightly different reasons.

The Bòrd's research shows that it's unusual for an AGOFR star to drop out due to, say, overindulgence in psychedelic drugs, burnout from a relentless touring schedule or constant hounding by the press.

The most typical reasons cited in a recent survey of Avante-Gaelic Rock Recluses are a) getting the cuiream. b) apathy and c) total embarrassment at any association with the genre whatsoever. (Although Rab Kuartski is thought to have been abducted by aliens in 1985)

Popular Avante-Gaelic Rock Recluses Keeping a Low Profile in the Swing Park, Yesterday (L-R):
S*d B*rrer, Roddy Rev (in the bushes), Bod, Neil Hippy, Rab Kuartski

~ An Céitean/ May 2018 ~						
La na Sábaid Sun	Ól-Luain Mon	Ól-Mairt Tue	Ól-Ciadam Wed	Ól-Árdaoin Thu	Ól-h-Áoine Fri	Ól-Sathúirne Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 May Day. 95th Congress of the People's Soviet (Ionad Stoodie, Garrabost)	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Norway National Day. Public Holiday (Port of Ness, Skigersta, Adabroc, Eorpoie, Sula Sgeir).	18	19 Birthday of Gordon "Mod" Macleod from the Guireans. The customary scooter rally and pitched battle with the rockers will take place at the Braighe car park and toilets
20	21	22 Morrisey's Birthday : (Day of Vague Dissatisfaction and Yearning - Innes the Post's House)	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 John F Kennedy's Birthday. His twin brother was born 4 days later, due to a long waiting list at the Lewis Hospital (See June 2)	30	31		

An t-Ogmhios / June 2018



Murdo Maclean's – 1 Year On

A year(ish) on from the closure of Murdo Maclean's - Stornoway's iconic upmarket department store - the populace of the island are still in shock. Cailleachs wander the streets desperately seeking òrduighean hats, while bodachs have no idea where their next pair of funeral trousers is coming from.

Murdo Maclean's was generally too spaideal to cater to the AGOFR industry (whose stars tended to be outfitted by Smiths, Nazirs, Ailig Mhurchadh Nèill's or the Fishermen's Co-op). A notable exception was (probably) fashion-conscious dandy Gordon "Mod" Macleod from the Guireans, who may have got his early-80s pastel Simon Le Bon suits there. More recently, Dead Olac Guirean Jr got a pair of Wranglers in the closing down sale for £19.99 - fleekeen bargain!

There are several other ancestral AGOFR connections, According to proper historical research in the "Dusgadh", the original Murdo Maclean's old man Ruaraidh got cleared out of Orinsay in 1843. Coincidentally, so did the Dead Olac Guirean brothers' great great grandfather. And the Dead Olacs' folks rented a flat above the shop after they got married in the late 50s. Except wasn't the shop along the road a bit back then, before all the Woolies/Library/Buth Sheumais moves? Close enough for this calendar anyway.

Murdo Maclean's RIP

~ An τ-Ogmhios/June 2018 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Òi-Luain Mon	Òi-Màirt Tue	Òi-Ciadaoin Wed	Òi-Àrdaoin Thu	Òi-h-Àoine Fri	Òi-Sathuirne Sat
					1	2 Calum Kennedy's birthday, 4 days after his twin (See 29 May). Public Holiday (South Lochs and Iain Shaw's house)
3 Anniversary of Franz Kafka's Death. National Day of Gloom (Inaclete Road)	4	5	6 Ramadan begins. Fleek's sake – it only gets dark here for about an hour.	7 More Orduighean (Stornoway)	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Rod the Actorr's latest EP of Electronica wins the Smash Hits single of the year (1982).
17	18 Local Story appears in Stornoway Gazette	19	20	21 Summer Solstice. Watch out for fleekkeen beardies from Away (Callanish)	22 Kontrast Day. All Citizens of SY aged 40-65 must report to the Caber car park at 11:55pm and sing "I Recall A Gypsy Woman" slightly out of tune in a dodgy fake American accent	23
24 1314 – Battle of Bannockburn.. 1964- Battle of Beannagburn (Stornoway's 1 st Cailleachs' Lib protest of the 60s).	25	26	27	28	29	30

An Iuchar / July 2018



The Dun Ringles To Play Heb Celt At Last (?)

After 25 years of dedication to the cause of prog-folk rock music, there's still no fleekin' invite to headline the Hebridean Celtic Festival for the Dun Ringles.

Or is there?? The announcement in early December that top Scottish Rock band Deacon Blue are to headline was met with joy in much of the land. However, those playing close attention to the small print in the contract would have seen that the actual name of the 'headliners' is 'Call each an DEACON who wasn't from BRUE, a common pseudonym used by bands in the AGOFR movement attempting to disguise their identity so that they can get a gig.

Could this be the Dun Ringles finally getting a toehold on the HebCelt stage? A supposed provisional set list being circulated on Myspace lends weight to the theory, including as it does such numbers as "Sheep Called Dignity" and "Real Geehonk Kid".

The Guireans may also be scheming to hijack the stage twice this year and smash the festival's long-standing ban on AGOFR acts. Guireans manager Coinneach is allegedly planning to take advantage of recent personnel changes in Skippinish, Tide Lines and Manran, and the consequent inability of anybody to remember who the fleek's in which band any more. "When the Guireans turn up and claim to be Ranlines, Manish or Tidyskip no bleigeard's going to be any the wiser", said Coinneach yesterday, "We've got a chanter and I'm the spitting image of N*rrie T*go (Give or take 30 years) so we're bound to get on".

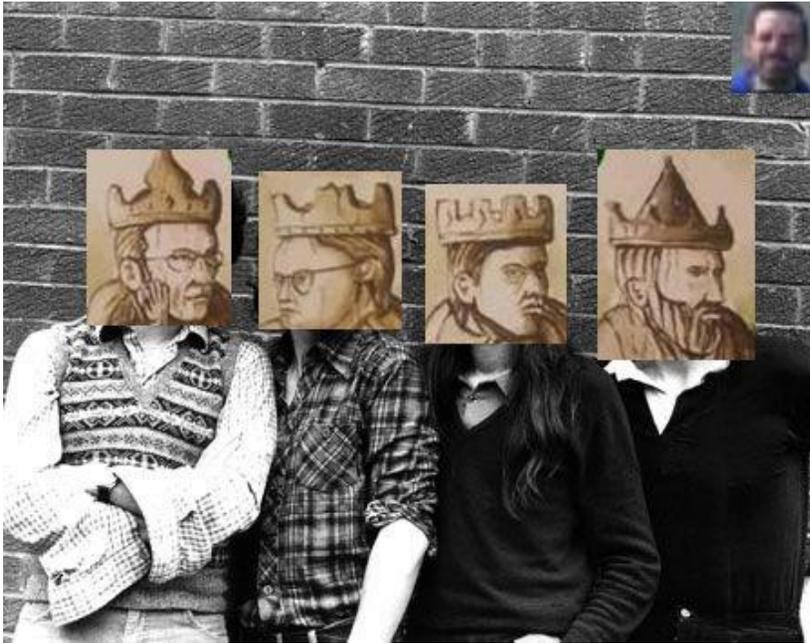
If the Dun Ringles and the Guireans fail to get onstage, Plan B is to set up a rival AGOFR festival somewhere near Mac an t-Shrònaich's cave, "re-orientate" the Heb Celt signs and misdirect all the beardies towards it. Once they hear the happening sounds of Avante Gaelic Obscurist Folk Rock they won't bother going back to look for the real festival, surely.

If the Heb Celt Fest Didn't Ban AGOFR...

~ An t-Iuchar/July 2018~						
La na Sàbaid Sun	Òi-Luain Mon	Òi-Màirt Tue	Òi-Ciadam Wed	Òi-Ardain Thu	Òi-h-Aoine Fri	Òi-Sathairne Sat
1	2	3	4 52nd Anniversary of B*gey getting slaughtered in Macs Imperial to celebrate the Yanks not having to pay any more tax to the Scalpay Common Grazings Committee.	5	6	7 B*b Dyl*n traces his roots to Ballantrushal
8	9	10	11 Heb Celt Festival Begins. Propably no AGOFR bands on the bill.	12 BBC Alba screen highlights of Heb Celt Festival (2007)	13	14
15 8th Anniversary of 1 st Sunday Sailing to Stornoway : High likelihood of it being Judgement Day too.	16 If it wasn't Judgement Day yesterday, carry on.	17	18	19	20	21
22 2 nd attempt at a Sports Centre trials Sunday opening. Weather – Fire & Brimstone all week.	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 2 nd Sports Centre Sunday opening trial abandoned. Comhairle re-hires G**rdie G*lidy to chain up the swings on Saturday nights.	30	31				

An Lunasdal / August 2018

Run Rig's Last Concert & The Gaelic Rock Succession



Gaelic Rock titans Runrig are calling it a day, after decades of entertaining the fans and promoting the ceòl and the cànan, and August sees their farewell Scottish concerts in Stirling. The Scottish Tourist Board are keen to appoint a suitable replacement for Runrig and will be going out to tender this month to fill this very large gap in the music/tourist industry.

Runrig have an especially large fanbase in Germany, and the Tourist Board and Gaelic organisations such as Die Große Scheune von Östaiig are keen to find a replacement who'll continue to appeal in the Fatherland.

It's rumoured that several well known bands are in the frame such as Skipinnish, Tidelines and Manran, but following their (probably) triumphal appearances at the 2018 Heb Celt Fest (See July) it's also rumoured that both The Guireans and The Dun Ringles will be submitting a bid, urged on by their respective shadowy managers, CJ and Coinneach.

It is understood that The Guireans have promised to do an inspiring singalong called 'Loch Branahui'. Messianic frontman Roddy Huggan will be cultivating his mullet and posing about in a suit chacket with the sleeves rolled up, Miami vice-style, in order to replicate the late 80s D*nnie M*no-impersonating-Jim-Kerr-impersonating-God-impersonating-Bono experience as closely as possible.

The Dun Ringles are keeping their plans under wraps, but in keeping with their 70s obsessions they'll probably go for the long-hair-flares-and-bobban-geansaidhs-on-Se-Ur-Beatha angle.

The Run Ringles Prepare to take on the Gaelic Rock Crown

~ An Lùnasdal / August 2018 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Òi-Luain Mon	Òi-Màirt Tue	Òi-Ciadaoin Wed	Òi-Ardaoin Thu	Òi-h-Aoine Fri	Òi-Sathuirne Sat
			1	2	3	4 Stornoway Carnival (probably). Sleet, thunder lightning a Force 9 gale and one of them Stornados anticipated. 35 th Anniversary of Midges of Rock 1983.
5	6	7	8 Rocky Sh*rtpe from R*cky Sharpe & The Replays' Birthday (maybe). Big Session at John Allan's House.	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Phil Lynott's Birthday. Stornoway bye-laws declaring "Whiskey in the Jar" compulsory for all bands playing inside the cattle grid passed on this day in 1974.	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 V*n Morrison's Birthday. The usual Guga with candles in it is dispatched by his granny in Ness. You'd be a grumpy bleigeard too if you got one of these every year.	

An Sultain / September 2018



AGOFR at the Woodland Centre

The recent announcement that The Woodland Centre would no longer be putting on live bands was received with much sadness by the AGOFR community - For many years now, the Woodlands has been the AGOFR movement's very own Grand Ole Opry House (ie the only place that will allow them to play since the Scout Hall banned them).

It is thought that the first AGOFR gig at the Woodlands was the Dun Ringles in 2006, as part of a charity fund-raiser. Memphis Louie & The Rockin' Firebird of Death played in 2007 and 2010 (although claiming to be a "proper" band and not part of the AGOFR movement, the bleigeards in Memphis Louie look suspiciously like certain members of the Guireans and Dun Ringles).

The Lechends of AGOFR supergroup also played in September 2009, soon after their triumphant performance at that year's Sounds In The Grounds. It is rumoured that the band were still trying to find their way home after 'Sounds' and inadvertently ended up on the Woodlands stage as they nipped in to use the bogs.

Controversially, depending who you ask, either the Dun Ringles, The Guireans or the Lechends of AGOFR performed 'Airidhbruach' at New Year 2011.

The Dun Ringles have performed 16 times in The Woodlands. Or maybe 15 (see above).

The Lechends of AGOFR at the Woodland Centre, 2009 (Jason behind the speaker, Bomber behind everybody else)

~ Àn τ-Sultain/September 2018 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Òi-Luain Mon	Òi-Màirt Tue	Òi-Ciadaoin Wed	Òi-Àrdaoin Thu	Òi-h-Àoine Fri	Òi-Sathairne Sat
						1 Boxcar Willie's Birthday. Public Holiday (Leurbost)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Country and Westren fans mourn the 1 st Anniversary of Don Williams' Death. National Day of Mourning (Outside the Cattle Grid).
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 David Coverdale's Birthday. A' ghiadh mhor.	22 Autumn Equinox
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

An Óamhair / October 2018



34th Anniversary of C**I*n B*w Falling in the Dipper

Before today's ultra-modren fank was constructed by the Chob Creation in 1976, the bodachs of North Street used to disinfect their sheep in the dipper on Guireans founder Chames Petrie's croft (pictured).

This month marks the 34th anniversary (probably) of a Saturday morning in 1974 (ish) when the coves were dipping and the late Sandwich lechend C**I*n B*w (perhaps slightly the worse for wear from the 1/4 bottle of Trawler Rum in his boiler suit pocket), fell into the tank.

As C**I*n disappeared beneath the murky solution of organophosphates, sheep mùn and cac, leaving only his bonnet floating on the surface, the bodachs speculated as to whether contact with water had dissolved him altogether, and whether they'd have to refill the tank with a fresh batch to avoid contaminating the remaining sheep.

Emerging eventually from the waters, a saturated C**I*n relit his damp roll-up, said a few swears and squelched off down the road to catch the Melbost bus uptown to the Macs.

What's that got to do with AGOFR, we hear you ask? Well, 10 years later, in 1984, the Guireans released "C**I*n B*w Gets Run Over", a concept album based on the life of the great man, on which they inexplicably forgot to mention this famous episode. Rumours in the AGOFR industry suggest that the band hope to correct this in 2018 by releasing a companion album "C**I*n B*w Has A Lucky Dip". Maybe.

NORTH STREET'S MULTIFUNCTION DIPPER - GREAT FOR DISINFECTING SHEEP AND C**I*n B*w.

~ An Dàmhair/October 2018 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Ùi-Luain Mon	Ùi-Màirt Tue	Ùi-Ciadaoin Wed	Ùi-Ardaoin Thu	Ùi-h-Aoine Fri	Ùi-Sathairne Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Do you think the fleekeen spuds are going to lift themselves, you lazy bleigeard? You were chust as bad this time last year.	12 Thon Kipper National Mod opens in Glasgow.	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Anniversary of Skynynrd's Plane Crash – National day of Mourning (Outer Hebrides) National Mod closes with massed choirs singing "Freebird"
21 Clocks go back. Extra hour in church.	22	23	24 United Nations Day	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Halloween. Tell you something - If the wee brats come round here with a Pumpkin they're getting fleek all. Is a turnip not good enough for kids nowadays?.			

An τ-Samhain / November 2018

DUNRINGLES & DRAGONS LOST MINE OF PHANDELVER BATTLE REPORT 6: THE SPIDER'S WEB (PART 2)

AGATHA'S LAIR & THUNDERTREE

OUR HARDY ADVENTURERS SET OFF FROM OLD OWL Well, following Hamun Kost's directions to Agatha's Lair (all that is except Semaj, who was sent back to Phandalin to report to Daran Edermath about what they had found, and who might just possibly be stopping off at a Bonfire party along the way).

In a dark, mossy section of the forest, the three remaining members of the team rounded a bend and spotted a dome-like structure made of warped and woven branches furnished with a few minimalist items from Elven Ikea. Suddenly, the temperature dropped and an ethereal figure materialised before them, hair waving in a typically Banshee-esque fashion. Agatha demanded to know what they wanted, warning them sternly that they were on shaky ground by even being there.

Leódhas, ever the diplomat, managed to sweet-talk her into answering one question, and she willingly divulged the name of the wizard who had built the tower at Old Owl Well.

Upon doing so, she vanished (leaving our heroes wondering if they'd missed something obvious because that was altogether too easy).

They reported back to Hamun Kost who was delighted to hear of their success and therefore did not set his zombie horde on them. Instead, he gave them directions to Cragmaw Castle and sent them off in that direction via the ruined town of Thundertree.

Thundertree is a shadow of its former self. After the eruption of nearby Mount Hotenow (although it's not hot any more) most of the town was reduced to rubble. Coinneach Gobha, Leodhas Chest-Mane and Grim Dubh-More entered the overgrown streets with trepidation, tip-toeing their way between the ruined buildings, pausing to read the slightly alarming "welcome" sign warning of zombies and plant monsters. They stopped outside the former Brown Horse Inn and peered tentatively through the windows at the shadowy figures slumped against the tables.

At this point Grim decided he'd had enough of pussfooting around and kicked the door down. Immediately, the slumped figures draped across the furnishings began to arise and shamble towards the doorway. Leodhas spotted the threat and immediately sprang into action, attempting to turn the zombies and force them to retreat. Unfortunately, only one of the four succumbed to his spell and proceeded to the corner of the room where he pedalled his little zombie legs while making zero forward progress.

Our heroes retreated to the doorway, where Leodhas and Grim laid into the first zombie. Coinneach suddenly decided to dive between the zombie's legs and attacked from behind. Together they dropped the ash zombie to the ground, but their celebration was short-lived as it staggered back to its feet. And then did so again. Third time lucky, they finally felled it, only to have it replaced with a second undead horror.

This time Leodhas smacked him a beauty with his spectral tairisgeir and Coinneach snuck in to finish him off, having recently read his character sheet properly and realised what he was actually capable of. He doled out massive damage, slicing off several limbs and the zombie crumpled to the ground. Walking away smugly, he was somewhat disturbed to hear the ash zombie returning to his feet (well... foot) again. Battle resumed until eventually the ash zombies were conclusively defeated.

Buoyed by their victory, and their discovery of 30 Gold pieces lying under a fetid bar towel, they plunged onward into the remains of Thundertree. Two ruined buildings nearby were being guarded by six twig blights, soon to be joined by two more. The twig blights proved to be less of a challenge than the zombies, and were summarily dispatched but our exhausted adventurers still felt the need to get their heads down before tackling the rest of the delights that Thundertree has to offer.

Will our heroes find Cragmaw Castle?
Will Semaj make it back from the bonfire in one piece?
Will he bring some leftover sparklers?
Will Grim finally get to encounter the Dragon he's been hinting at since the campaign began?

The answer to at least one of these questions will be "yes" in the next instalment of

DUNRINGLES & DRAGONS

Dun Ringles and Dragons

It's oft been said that the Dun Ringles are delusional and live in a fantasy world, so it was no great surprise when they embraced the role-playing fantasy game Dungeons and Dragons.

Cunningly renaming it Dun Ringles & Dragons in a vain attempt by their shady manager (and evil 97th level necromancer) CJ Mitchell, to try and cash in (as CJ mistakenly thought all the gold treasure prised out of dead orcs' hands was actually real), the band have played on a regular basis.

Under the tutelage of cunning Dungeon Master Froagybeag, the band has taken almost 2 and a half years to nearly complete the entry level scenario 'The Lost Mines of Phandelver' which normally takes beginners a couple of days to get through.

Still, at least it keeps them out of the recording studio.

Post-match Analysis from a recent game of Dun Ringles and Dragons demonstrates nach eil na dalach ud ceart idir, Chust say "no" to Progressive Rock, kids, or this could be you.

-Samhain/November 2018 -

La na Sábaid Sun	Ól-Luain Mon	Ól-Mairt Tue	Ól-Ciadam Wed	Ól-Ardain Thu	Ól-h-Aoine Fri	Ól-Sathúirne Sat
				1 4 Days Till Guy Fawkes: Plasterfield and Parkend declare war but decide they'll have it in Sandwick to avoid damage at home.	2 3 Days Till Guy Fawkes: Parkend begins air strikes on East Street, acting against alleged "Plasterfield mercenaries" in the area.	3 2 Day Till Guy Fawkes: Plasterfield forces cross the North Street border under the pretext of "liberating" tyres that have been "oppressed" by the Sandwick government.
4 Guy Fawkes-1: Hostilities suspended cos it's the Sabbath	5 Guy Fawkes – Parkend and Plasterfield in flames as usual.	6 Tyre collecting for 2018 begins	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Comhairle's Winter 2018/19 Ice Gritting Contract Starts	17 Comhairle's Winter 2018/19 Ice Gritting Contract Runs out of Money
18 5 th Anniversary of Fr*e Ch*rch allowing hymns and musical instruments. Cl*ff R*chard & Frogaidh Beag to play a special rock n roll prayer meeting in the Seminary. Latha Dorch ga riribh.	19	20	21	22 39 th Anniversary of the Guireans recording their 1 st album "Pronounced Guireans" and inventing AGOFR (maybe).	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 St Andrew's Day.	

An Duòhlachd / December 2018



The Ghost of Christmas Plasterfield

Everybody likes a good ghost story at Xmas, and the tales told by travellers who have walked the dark road through Plasterfield can chill many a marrow round the peat fire. Oh yus.

Wayfarers on stormy nights often report being accosted by a spectral white figure opposite the prefabs, beckoning ominously, and silent but for a mysterious rustling like the movement of a great shroud.

Many fear it is the ghost of Ch*rsty Al*ne, searching for a long-lost bottle of 4-Crown hidden in the common grazing in 1964.

Others think it may be the spectre of Clemag, the voracious North Street matriarch sheep of the 70s, seeking vengeance on the flowers and shrubs in the Plastics' gardens.

There are even some crazy amadans on the fringe who subscribe to the outlandish theory that it's an old gravel bag from Angie Shòbhal's, stuck on the common grazing fence. Fleek's sake – some people'll believe anything.

Co dhiù – Happy Xmas and don't have nightmares....

The Ghost of Xmas Plasterfield

~ An Òbhlachd / December 2018 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Òi-Luain Mon	Òi-Màirt Tue	Òi-Giadaoin Wed	Òi-Ardaoin Thu	Òi-h-Aoine Fri	Òi-Sathairne Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 1980 - Jimmy Petrie stages his own assassination to get out of the Guireans. Unfortunately nobody noticed due to events elsewhere.
9	10 Stockholm : Bob Dylan's Nobel prize taken off him and reallocated to Robin Dun Ringle for services to prog rock accordion playing.	11	12	13	14	15
16 6 th Anniversary of the death of Kim Jong Il, Dear Leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. National day of Mourning (Point)	17	18	19	20	21 Dec. Solstice	22 24 th Anniversary of Isles FM. For 24 hours, normal service will be replaced by a special celebratory show: "AJK's Top 1000 Voiceovers 1994-2018"
23	24	25 Xmas Day. Huidh! Them oranges is chust for show! Leave them alone, ya wee bleigeard.	26 Suas an Fheamainn Day. Off down the Braighe to collect your year's supply of rotten seaweed in the middle of a Force 10 gale.	27	28	29
30	31 Oidche Challuinn (Hogmanay)					

ACOFR Agus am Bòrd Stiùradh.

Avante Gaelic Obscurist Folk Rock (ACOFR): An indigenous form of "music" unique to the Outer Hebrides of Scotland, and perhaps to the island of Lewis. ACOFR is characterised by its myopic and parochial lyrical subjects (sheep, peats, tractors, sgadan, getting the cuiream etc) and by its atrocious standards of performance and recording. It may be sung in Gaelic, Stornowaywegian (the patois of the capital's street urchins) or in Beurla Taobh Muih a' Chattle Grid, the pidgin dialect adopted by the natives of the interior when dealing with their urdan betters.

ACOFR was first identified as a musical form around 1979, with seminal artistes such as Zing-Pop and The Cuireans appearing independently in town and country. While Zing-Pop, Cyclefoot and most of the other groups of ACOFR's early period imploded in the early 80s, the Cuireans are still on the go today when they can be bothered. More recent ACOFR acts include the Dun Ringles, Sheep Purple, Coinneach & Cj's Accountants of Rock, The Lechends of ACOFR and Frogaidh Beag..

The industry has struggled on through the 80s, 90s, 00s and 10s in the face of general apathy and ignorance, both in the wider community and among its own practitioners. However, with the massive EucTube success of the Lechends of ACOFR's "Aridhòhruach" performance at Sounds in the Grounds 2009, and the "Dun Ringles" even bigger smash with "Stornoway Skyline" in 2016 - the year ~~2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017~~ 2018 could well see ACOFR influences begin to seep into mainstream culture. There are rumours that Calvin Harris has got the Cuiream and is about to relaunch himself as Calvinist Hearach. Bruno Marrs will be rebranded as Brue-no Marrags, and 2016 chart sensation Sia will be reverting to her full name ("Sia-rach") and releasing her next big hit - "Sheep Thrills" - in early 2018. Oh yus, and apparently, Stornowaywegian substitute swear-word "fleck" is still being used by trendy fashionable types on the mainland - as in "fleck's sake - fleck' is really fleckeen 'on fleck' again this fleckeen year". This follows on from the global adoption of "meh" in recent years, much to the disgust of several local sheep who are considering legal action for infringement of copyright.

Bòrd Stiùradh na h-ACOFR exists to regulate the industry and make sure all this nonsense doesn't get out of hand. We take pride in ensuring that the ACOFR 'music' stays true to its roots by remaining poorly conceived and executed, meaningless to all but a few amadans on a rock in the Atlantic, and unlistenable even to those who make it. We are determined to promote links between ACOFR and other poor quality indigenous musical forms across the globe, and will spare no expense undertaking fact finding missions for this purpose, provided they're somewhere nice and we don't have to go there on the fleckeen ferry.

www.cuireans.com.