

# Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 088

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**Area: *Srath Spè* (Strathspey): *Gleann Tulchan, An Cnocan Buidhe, An t-Sruthan, Baile a' Bhadain, Poll Creach, Caladar, Dail Riabhach, Achadh na-h Annaid & Dail Chruaidh***

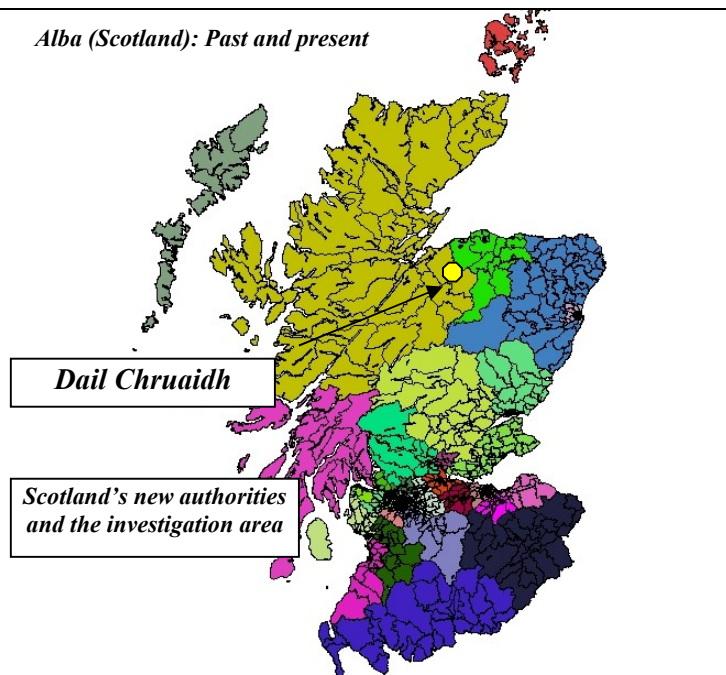
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Glentulchan, Tulchan Lodge, Culfoichbeg, Knockanbuie, Struan, Struanbeg, Delchroy, Balvattan, Polcreach, Callender, Knocktulchan, Culdorachbeg, Culdrain, Achnagallen, Cuchanroy, Aitendow, Dalrioch, Achnahannet, Ballinlagg, Cuchanain, Culfoichmore & Delchroy)

**Number of households: 41      Population present at census night: 181**

**Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 32.7 %**

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
Moray	Inverallan, Cromdale & Advie	Cromdale	4	1 - 4
			5	1 - 4

*Alba (Scotland): Past and present*



## State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

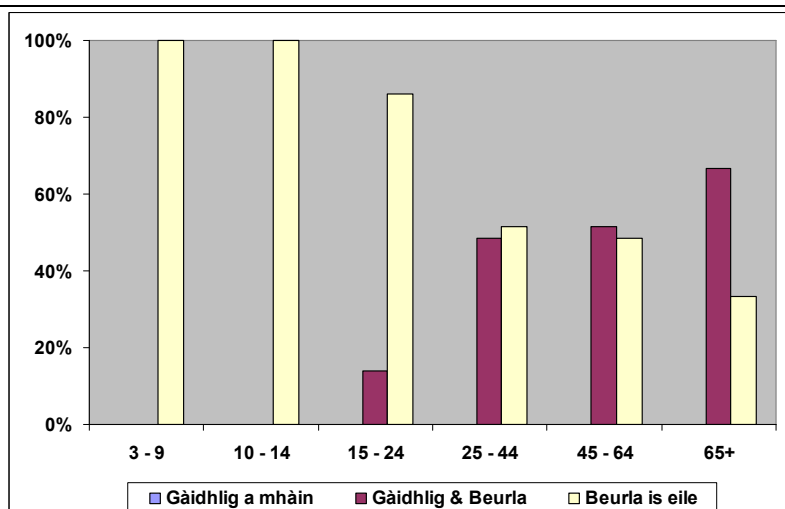
At this time the area was situated right on the “language frontier”. Whereas still many inhabitants of *Gleann Tulchan* (Glen Tulchan) spoke *Gàidhlig*, a few hundred yards away almost no-one spoke the traditional tongue. Looking at the generational facts it is quite clear that people had ceased to raise their children in *Gàidhlig* almost 25 years earlier.

The highest percentages were recorded in the tiny settlements in *Gleann Tulchan* (Glen Tulchan) and around *Dail Riabhach* (Dalriach) with a 40 % share of *Gàidhlig* speakers.

## Area description:

The district under consideration lies on the western margins of the old county of *Moireabh* (Moray). The settlements enumerated in 1891 included the settlements north-east of *Baile Grannda* (Grantown-on-Spey) at the northern banks of *Uisge Spè* (River Spey).

Most inhabitants in dwellings like those at *Caladar* (Callender) or *Tulchan* were concerned with farming activities.



**Age profile: Share of population speaking (1) *Gàidhlig*, (2) *Gàidhlig* & English, or (3) no *Gàidhlig* at all**

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	Population enumerated				Usually resident population (3+)			
	Total	Aged 0-2	Deaf & dumb	Visitors etc. <sup>3</sup>	Total <sup>4</sup>	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<b>Age</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>32.7 %</b>
<b>3-4</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0 %</b>
<b>5-9</b>	<b>15</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0 %</b>
<b>10-14</b>	<b>18</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0 %</b>
<b>15-24</b>	<b>36</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13.9 %</b>
<b>25-44</b>	<b>33</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>48.4 %</b>
<b>45-64</b>	<b>36</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>51.5 %</b>
<b>65+</b>	<b>29</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>66.7 %</b>
<b>Gender</b>								
<b>Female</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>32.5 %</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>33.0 %</b>
<b>Place of birth</b>								
<b>Born in parish</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>28.7 %</b>
<b>In neighbouring parish<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>40.0 %</b>
<b>Gaidhealtachd elsewhere<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>68.2 %</b>
<b>Other places</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12.0 %</b>

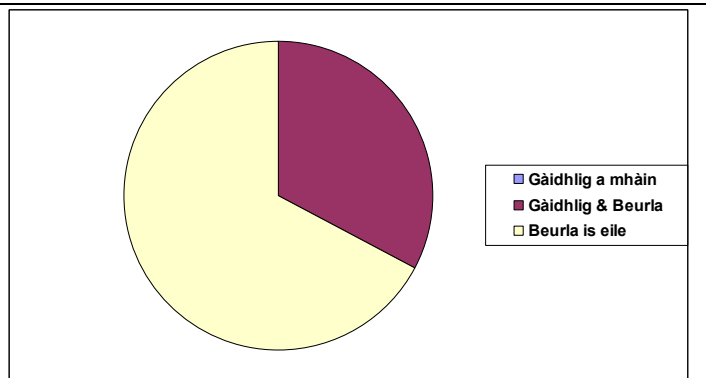
## Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Parishes of Knockando, Dyke, Edinkillie (all Moray); Ardlach (Nairn), Kirkmichael (Banff); Abernethy & Kincardine, Alvie (all Inverness).

<sup>2</sup> Other parishes in Scotland with more than 50 % Gàidhlig speakers in the 1891 census.

<sup>3</sup> People described as visitors, boarders, lodgers or other similar terms.

<sup>4</sup> Number of enumerated persons who were (1) older than 2 years of age, who were (2) not deaf & dumb and who (3) did not live only temporarily in the area.



Share of population speaking (1) Gàidhlig, (2) Gàidhlig & Beurla, or (3) no Gàidhlig at all

## Background of Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profiles:

The 1891 census was the first such enumeration exercise with an unequivocal language question. After more than 100 years the original census forms are publicly available for detailed analysis. During research concerned with the “Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Studies” a vast number of such local statistics have been gathered about the Gàidhlig speaking population of Scotland in that year. As many of these results could not be included in the reports these concise fact-sheets are a welcome way to publish some of the “local gems”. More information is provided at [http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP\\_english.htm](http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP_english.htm).

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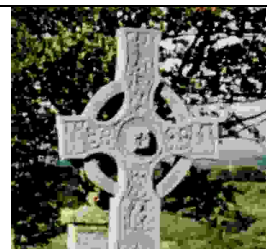
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	House-holds	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<b><i>Gleann Tulchan &amp; Dail Chruaidh</i></b>	<b>41</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>32.7 %</b>
<b>Individual communities</b>					
<i>Tulchan &amp; An t-Suthan Mòr</i> (Tulchan & Struanmore)	12	46	0	19	40.4 %
<i>Dail Chruaidh &amp; Caladar</i> (Delchroy & Callender)	12	41	0	11	26.8 %
<i>Achadh nan Gallan &amp; Dail Riabhach</i> (Achnagallen & Dalriach)	8	35	0	14	40.0 %
<i>Achadh na h-Annaid</i> (Achnahannet)	6	27	0	10	37.0 %
<i>Cùl Fothaich</i> (Culfoich)	3	18	0	1	5.6 %
<b>Language of parents</b>					
<b>Both parents Gàidhlig speaking</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>71.4 %</b>
<b>Single parent Gàidhlig speaking</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16.7 %</b>
<b>One parent Gàidhlig speaking</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>22.6 %</b>
<b>No Gàidhlig speaking parent</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6.1 %</b>
<b>Households with no children (0-14)</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>48.1 %</b>
<b>Occupation of head of household</b>					
<b>Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>36.8 %</b>
<b>Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>33.3 %</b>
<b>Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0 %</b>
<b>Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8.3 %</b>
<b>Living on private means</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Manager, coachman, cook, etc.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14.3 %</b>
<b>Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>30.4 %</b>
<b>Remaining occupations</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>66.7 %</b>

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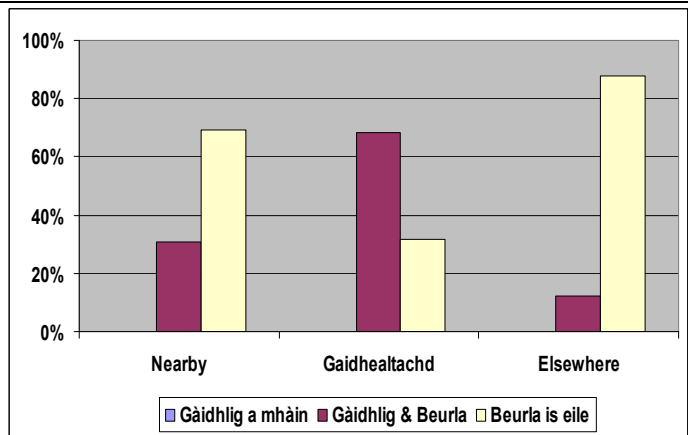
## Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

*Gàidhlig* was spoken by almost a third of locally born residents. Most persons with birthplaces in the wider *Gaidhealtachd* were *Gàidhlig* speakers. The vast majority of those born outside the *Gaidhealtachd* did not speak *Gàidhlig* at all.

### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Born either in Edinkillie or Cromdale, Inverallan & Advie (both Moray) or in the adjacent parishes of Knockando, Dyke (both Moray); Ardclach (Nairn), Kirkmichael (Banff); Abernethy & Kincardine, Alvie (all Inverness).

<sup>2</sup> Born in other parishes of Scotland with more than 50 % *Gàidhlig* speakers in the 1891 census.



Speakers according to place of birth (1) nearby<sup>1</sup>  
(2) in remaining *Gaidhealtachd*<sup>2</sup>, or (3) elsewhere

## Remarks:

1. There were no monolingual *Gàidhlig* speakers registered in the area in 1891.
2. In original census report terms, the district had a population of 181 persons of all ages. 57 enumerated inhabitants spoke “Gaelic and English” leading to an “official” share of *Gàidhlig* speakers of 31.5 %. This was only a very small under-estimate of 1.2 % compared with the realistic figures considering only the usually resident population.