

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 117

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Area: *Caladar (Cawdor): Cluaineas, Brèighinn, Droighneachan & Na Srianaih*

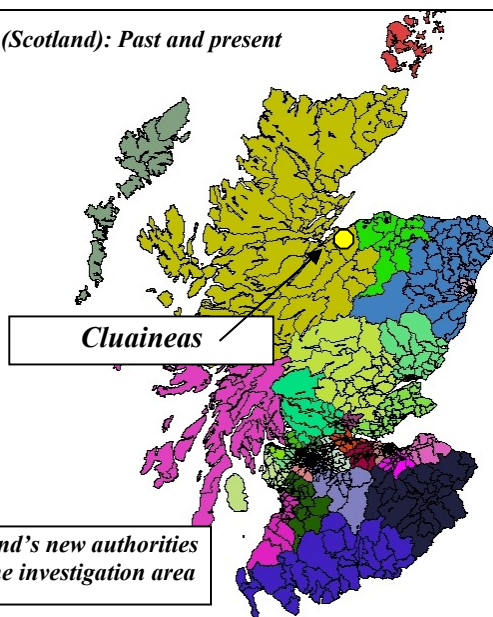
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Little Urchany, Drumcharrel, Ordbreac, Torbreac, Clunas, Andrain, Brough-Mary, Drumdevil, Lynethobair, Tomcluic, Innis nan Caorach, Achanin, Reriach, Braeval, Foxmoss, Rehiran, Dalcharn, Barievan, Achindoune, Inchyettle, Knockandubh, Dailess, Carnoch, Drynachan)

Number of households: **59** Population present at census night: **313**

Share of resident population (aged three years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: **42.3 %**

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
Nairnshire	Cawdor	Cawdor	4	1 - 6
			5	1 - 7
			6	1 - 2

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

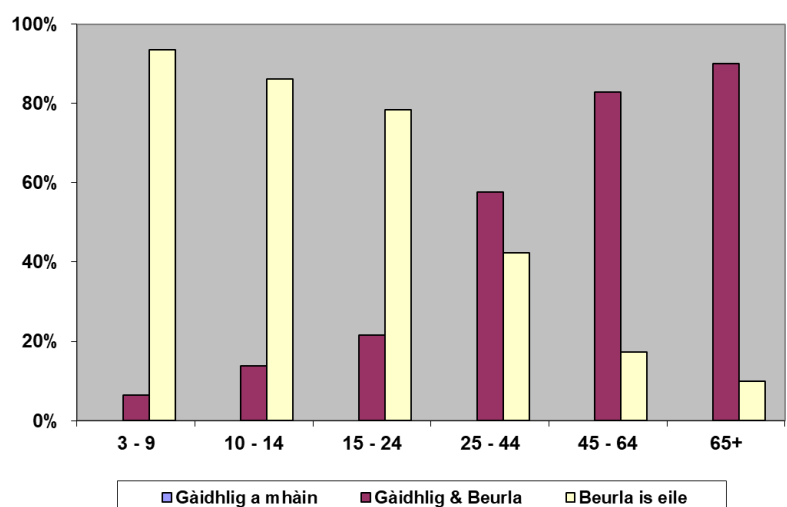
The language had apparently declined in use since the 1870s as the age structure of the Gàidhlig speaking community suggests. There were no monolingual Gàidhlig speakers left. But it is quite clear that the area had been a genuine part of the Gàidhlig speaking world because also many locally born people were returned as speaking the traditional language as well as English.

Gàidhlig was less strong in the lower parts of the area than around Droighneachan (Drynachan) near the famous Na Srianaih.

Area description:

This factsheet is concerned with the hilly hinterland of the village of Caladar (Cawdor) in the former county of Narann (Nairn).

Most residents were living from the land, either as farmers, foresters, agricultural labourers, or servants. The open moorland and hill country around the gorge of Na Srianaih (The Streens), however, was the world of shooting lairds, Gamekeepers, and shepherds.



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. ³	Total ⁴	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
Age								
Total	313	16	0	4	293	0	124	42.3 %
3-4	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0.0 %
5-9	38	0	0	0	38	0	3	7.9 %
10-14	36	0	0	0	36	0	5	13.9 %
15-24	75	0	0	1	74	0	16	21.6 %
25-44	60	0	0	1	59	0	34	57.6 %
45-64	58	0	0	0	58	0	48	82.8 %
65+	22	0	0	2	20	0	18	90.0 %
Gender								
Female	148	7	0	1	140	0	57	40.7 %
Male	165	9	0	3	153	0	67	43.8 %
Place of birth								
Born in parish	137	11	0	1	125	0	49	39.2 %
In neighbouring parish¹	78	3	0	1	74	0	25	33.8 %
Gaidhealtachd elsewhere²	61	2	0	0	59	0	40	67.8 %
Other places	37	0	0	2	35	0	10	28.6 %

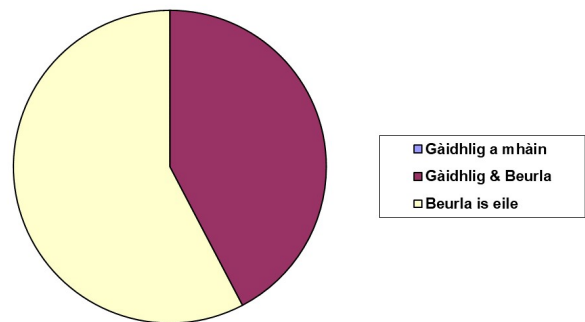
Notes:

¹ Parishes of Croy & Dalcross, Moy & Dalarossie (both Inverness-shire), Nairn, Ardlach and Croy (all Nairnshire).

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

³ People described as visitors, boarders, lodgers, or other similar terms.

⁴ 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 & English, 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 factsheets are a welcome way to publish some of the “local gems”. More information is provided at http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP_english.htm.

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	House-holds	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<i>Caladar: Cluaineas & Droighneachan</i>	59	293	0	124	42.3 %
Individual communities					
<i>Cluaineas (Clunas)</i>	23	133	0	53	41.7 %
<i>Innis nan Caorach & Brèighinn (Innisnancaorach & Barevan)</i>	32	153	0	55	39.3 %
<i>Droighneachan (Drynachan)</i>	4	27	0	16	61.5 %
Language of parents					
Both parents Gàidhlig speaking	14	94	0	35	37.2 %
Single parent Gàidhlig speaking	7	39	0	18	46.2 %
One parent Gàidhlig speaking	5	37	0	12	32.4 %
No Gàidhlig speaking parent	3	25	0	1	4.0 %
Households with no children (0-14)	30	98	0	58	59.2 %
Occupation of head of household					
Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.	26	143	0	75	52.4 %
Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar	5	31	0	12	38.7 %
Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.	1	2	0	0	0.0 %
Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.	5	21	0	6	27.3 %
Living on private means	1	1	0	0	0.0 %
Manager, coachman, cook, etc.	0	0	0	0	-
Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.	18	80	0	27	33.8 %
Remaining occupations	3	14	0	4	28.6 %

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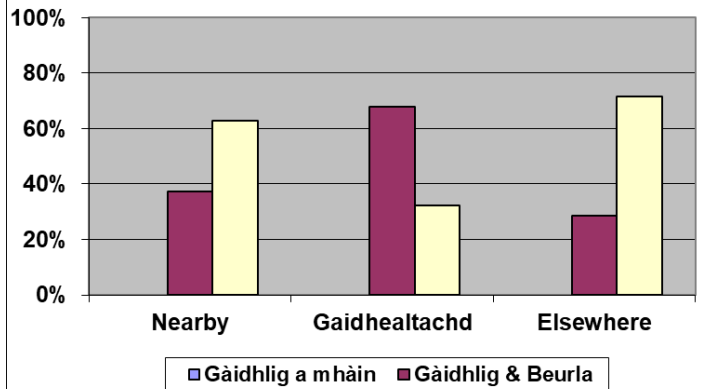
Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

The language was common language amongst incomers from the *Gaidhealtachd*, and still prominent amongst locally born and bred people.

Notes:

¹ Born either in Cawdor or in the adjacent parishes of Croy & Dalcross, Moy & Dalarossie (both Inverness-shire), Nairn, Ardelach and Croy (all Nairnshire).

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



Speakers according to place of birth (1) nearby¹
(2) in remaining *Gaidhealtachd*², or (3) elsewhere

Remarks:

1. Official census figures reported 125 bilingual inhabitants out of a total population of 313 persons (39.9 %). The usually resident population, however, consisted of 124 *Gàidhlig*-speakers (42.3 %) out of a total population of 293 residents.
2. There were no persons reported with “no English”.