

Gael-Talk

Learning Gaelic Year 1 Caibideil 18

Nas fheàrr a' Ghàidhlig bhriste n' a' Bheurla chliste!

Better Broken Gaelic than fluent English!

A little reminder –
We really should pay the piper
(mòran taing to those who have!)



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This week we will learn ...

- Sean fhacal na seachdain
- Ath-sgrudadh: How to say you like something
- Dialogue –liking something

- Vocabulary: A' Bhùth Mhòr!
- Òran na seachdain – *a ghaoil leig dhachaigh gum mhàthair mi*
- Dualchas nan Gàidheil – **(as time allows)**

Sean fhacal na seachdain

In the spirit of the vocabulary of the week ...

Chaidh sin do Chalum mar a chaidh an taigeis leis a' chat



That went “pear-shaped” / horribly wrong for Calum

... like haggis with the cat

(in other words, the cat didn't
know what to make of the haggis)

How to say you like something or like to do something

Gaelic rarely gives us a break, but this week will get one, for the structure of saying that we like something or like to do something is in some ways similar to that which we learned in chapter 8 for saying we want something or want to do something.

With one difference (can't get too greedy!).

First the difference, and in some ways it's a big one, for it introduces us to a whole other way of saying "be".

Is -- The Assertive Verb "be"

Gaelic has two words (verbs) to express the idea "to be." We're not going to go into complete details right now, but it's necessary to introduce the overall idea of a very basic way of saying that we like something or like to do something.

- **Bi** – the word we've been using in the form of tha and bha
- **Is** – the 'assertive' verb that we've seen in our dialogues in such phrases as

'S mise Seumas

The 'S is the contraction for the present tense form of the verb ('to be') *Is* (and you didn't even realize you were using a whole other word!)

So, the basic form of saying that we like something is

'S toil leam uisge-beatha – I like whiskey.

Cha toil leatha cèic – She doesn't like cake.

An toil leat cofaidd – Do you like coffee?*

Nach toil leis tì? – Doesn't he like tea?

*Note: the use of the prepositional pronoun **le (+)** which we will cover below.

**Note: the "toil" the same we learned with "please" – as in "if it is your pleasure" -

- mas e do thoil e (familiar)
- mas e ur toil e (plural, formal)

I promised something "easy" with this form, and here it is. The way that we communicate **we like to do** something is very similar to how we say we **want to do something** – we can use the **a bhith** insertion.

- 'S toil leam **a bhith a' snàmh**. – I like to swim. (like to be swimming)
- 'S toil leatha **a bhith a' dansadh**. – She likes to dance. (likes to be dancing)
- 'S toil le Seumas **a bhith ag òl uisge-beatha**. – Seumas likes to drink whisky (to be drinking whisky)

Note that if you use a definite article with the noun, the "le" picks up an **s** (actually an 'is') ...

- 'S toil le~~is~~ na coin a bhith a' ruith anns a' phàirc – **The** dogs like to run in the park (to be running in the park)
- 'S toil le~~is~~ an tidsear a bhith a' leughadh. **The** teacher likes to read.

Otherwise ...

- 'S toil **le** cù a bhith a' ruith anns a' phàirc.
- 'S toil **le** Seumas a bhith a' leughadh.
- 'S toil **le** tidsear a' bhith a' leughadh.

'S toil le (+) means literal something like "Is pleasure with x" and works like this:

Phrase	"literal" translation	Colloquial English meaning
'S toil leam -.-	Is pleasure with me	I like
'S toil leat --	Is pleasure with you	you like
'S toil leis -.	Is pleasure with him	- he likes
'S toil leatha - -	Is pleasure with her	She likes
'S toil leinn -.	Is pleasure with us -	We like
'S toil leibh-.	Is pleasure with you (pl/frml) -	You like
'S toil leotha -	Is pleasure with them -	They like

The '**S**' is a contraction for the "assertive" verb to be *Is* (The Gaelic "is" not the English). So, each one of these expressions could be written

- **Is** toil leam
- **Is** toil leat
- ... etc.

Past tense:

The past tense of the Gaelic **Is** is **bu**, so each one of these phrases would look like ...

- **Bu** toil le (+)
- Cha **bu** toil le (+)
- Nach **bu** toil le (+)
- Am* **bu** toil le (+)

(*Following the *bowl of fluffy mashed potatoes* rule.)

So, sentences would look like:

- **Bu** toil leam biadh Meagsagach. I **liked** Mexican food.
- Cha **bu** toil leis biadh Meagsagach. – He **didn't** like Mexican food
- Nach **bu** toil leotha biadh Meagsagach? – **Didn't** they like Mexican food?

- Am **bu** toil leibh biadh Meagsagach? – **Did** you all like Mexican food? (or ‘you’ formal)

Bu can also communicate the subjunctive or the conditional – in other words, *would* or *would be*:

- Bu toil leis cofaidh. – He **would like** coffee.
- Bu toil leam a bhith a’ dol dhan a’ chèilidh. – I **would like** to go to the ceilidh.

Admittedly, taken out of context a single sentence might be ambiguous in the sense that

Bu toil leis cofaidh

Might mean

- He **would** like coffee

Or

- He **did** like coffee.

Context – in this context – however, is everything and should make it clear which meaning is intended.

One last note on **toil**: sometimes you will see it spelled **toigh**. If this is the case, don’t freak out, don’t be confused! It is the same word. The spelling used here (*toil*) is the one more commonly used today.

Dialogue:
'S toil leam biadh Meagsagach.

Catriona, Una, Seonaidh, and Calum are discussing what to do one evening.

Catriona	Càit' a bheil thu a' dol a-nochd, Una?
Una	Tha mi a' dol dhan chèilidh còmhla ri Raonaid. Tha sinn ag iarraidh a bhith a' seinn aig a' chèilidh. Càit' a bheil thu fhèin a' dol?
Catriona	Chan eil fhios 'm.
Una	Trobhad dhan chèilidh còmhla ruinn, ma tha.
Catriona	Chan toil leam cèilidhean.
Seonaidh	An toil leat biadh Meagsagach?
Catriona	'S toil. Tha e uabhasach math.
Seonaidh	Tha mise agus Calum ag iarraidh a bhith a' dol a-mach dhan taigh-bìdh Meagsagach a-nochd. Thugainn còmhla ruinn.
Catriona	Ceart gu leòr. Cuin a tha sibh a' dol a-mach?
Calum	Aig ochd uairean.
Una	Tha dannsa ann as dèidh a' chèilidh.
Seonaidh	Cò tha a' cluich aig an dannsa?
Una	An còmhlan <i>Na Bà Sgiathadh</i> . Tha iad math fhèin. An toil leat sa* iad, a Sheonaidh?
Seonaidh	Chan eil iad dona, ach cha toil le Calum iad idir, idir, idir.
Una	Nach toil leat iad, a Chaluim?
Calum	Cha toil.
Una	Carson?
Calum	Tha iad grod!
Seonaidh	Cuin a tha an dannsa a' tòiseachadh?
Una	Mu aon uair deug.
Calum	Uill, bu toil leam a bhith a' dol còmhla ribh, 's dòcha. 'S toil leam a bhith a' dannsadh, cia ta.

Note on pronunciation:

Bh: at the beginning of a word, always a 'v' sound.

However, in middle of word sometimes a 'v' and sometimes silent:

Abhainn pronounced either > aa-ven or aa-wen

***leatsa** = the -sa suffix is emphatic

An toil **leatsa** iad? Do **you** like them?

We can also achieve this effect by using "fhèin":

An toil leat fhèin iad?

Vocabulary

aig a' cheilidh – at the ceilidh	còmhlan – band (musical)
aig ochd uairean – 8 o'clock	Cuin a tha sibh a' dol a-mach – when are you going out?
a-nochd – tonight	dannsa – dance
biadh – food	dhan chèilidh – to the ceilidh
biadh Meagsagach – Mexican food	dona – bad
bu toil leam – I would like	grod – rotten, lousy
ceart gu leòr – right enough! Right!	idir – at all (repeated for emphasis)
chan eil fhios 'm (chan eil fhios agam) – I don't know	ma tha – then (as a punctuation at the end of a phrase or sentence, not a conjunction)
cia tà – though (as a punctuation at the end of a phrase or sentence, not a conjunction)	mu aon uair deug – about 11 o'clock
Cò tha a' cluich – who is playing	Na Bà Sgiathadh – The Flying Cows
còmhla ri Raonaid – along with Rachel	's dòcha – perhaps
còmhla ribh – with you (pl. / form.)	taigh-bìdh – restaurant
còmhla ruinn – (along) with us	thugainn – come (imperative)
	trobhad – come (imperative)

A' rumastaireachd ann am bogsa nan roimhearan

Rummaging around the preposition box

Le agus le +

The word “le” means “with” in English in one sense, and sometimes “by” as in a book’s author –

- *Moby Dick* **le** Herman Melville.

In this chapter’s lesson, it is used in the expression “toil le (+)” to signify liking something, and is often used in its prepositional pronoun form:

Le + mi = leam	With me	Le + sinn = leinn	With us
Le + thu = leat	With you	Le + sibh = leibh	With you (plural / formal)
Le + e = leis	With him	Le + iad = leotha	With them
Le + i = leatha	With her		

We’ve already seen this at work in the expression for thank you:

- Tapadh leat - thanks with you – (Thank you)
- Tapadh leibh – thanks with you (pl / frml) – (Thank you)

When you’re not referring to a pronoun (me, him, her, etc), but to a name you simply use le + (name):

- 'S toil **le Seonaidh** dannsa. Seonaidh likes dancing.
- Cha toil **le Calum** an còmhlan. Calum doesn’t like the band.
- Cha toil **le coin** cait. Dogs don’t like cats.

Following the rule of “vowels in different words don’t like to hang out together” – when whatever is doing the liking is a noun with a definite article, the “le” take the form of “leis” –

- 'S toil **leis an teaghlaich** biadh Meagsaganach. – The family likes Mexican food.
- 'S toil **leis na coin** a bhith a’ ruith anns a’ choille. – The dogs like to run in the forest.

Eacarsaichean

Eacarsaich #1:

Pick the appropriate prepositional pronoun

'S toil leis / leotha a' Ghàidhlig.		
Cha toil leinn / leis cèlidhean		
'S toil leotha / leibh a bhith a' seinn		
Cha toil leatha / leinn an oifis.		
'S toil leat / leinn a bhith a' seòladh anns a' bhàta còmhla ri chèile.* Còmhla ri chèile = with each other		

Eacarsaich #2:

Read the information about the following people. Then answer the questions about what they like and don't like by filling in the blanks in the sentences below.

Seamus: 'S toil le Seamus a bhith a' seòladh anns a' bhàta agus ag iasgach. 'S toil leis cuideachd a bhith a' sgrìobhadh bàrdachd agus a' cluich camanachd. 'S toil leis a bhith a dannsadh agus cha toil leis an Fhraing.

Iseabail: 'S toil le Iseabail a bhith a' seinn agus a' dannsadh aig na geamannan Ghàidhlig agus 's toil leatha a bhith a' coimhead air an telebhisean agus a' cluich teanas. Cha toil leatha ball-coise agus cha toil leatha biadh Meagsaganach.

Dòmhnull: 'S toil le Dòmhnull a bhith a' seinn an fhidhill. 'S toil leis cuideachd a bhith a' cluich golf. Cha toil leis idir a bhith a chluich ball-coise.

Màiri: 'S toil le Màiri a bhith ag èisteachd ri ceòl. 'S toil leatha cuideachd a bhith a' seinn agus a' ruith. Cha toil leatha a bhith a' fuireach ann am baile mòr, agus cha toil leatha biadh Meagsaganach.

Fill in the spaces in the sentences below:

1. Cha toil le _____ agus _____ ball-coise.
2. _____ toil le _____ agus _____ biadh Meagsaganach.
3. 'S toil le _____ agus _____ a bhith a' seinn.
4. _____ toil le _____ agus _____ a bhith a' dannsadh.
5. _____ toil le _____ a bhith a' fuireach ann am baile mòr.

Eacarsaich #3: Còmhradh –

Use the following questions to prompt a conversation. Prepare answers and follow-up questions:

1. An toil leat a bhith a' coimhead air an telebhisean?
2. An toil leat biadh Meagsaganach?
3. An toil leat a bhith a' seinn aig a' chèilidh?
4. An toil leat a bhith a' dol dhan chèilidh?
5. An toil leat cait no coin?
6. An toil leat a bhith a ruith?
7. An toil leat a bhith a' seòladh air a' mhuir?
8. An toil leat a bhith ag iasgach?
9. An toil leat a bhith ag ithe iasg?
10. An toil leat a bhith a' leughadh?

Vocabulary:

Baile mòr – big city

Camanachd – shinty, a game kind of like field hockey.

Còmhla ri chèile = with each other

Fidheall / air an fhidhill = fiddle, on the fiddle

Seòladh = sail

Teanas = tennis



Tha sinn a' dol
dhan a' bhùth



bùidsear / feòladair



feòil-uain



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leis ... ?
 - Am bu toil leis ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leis ...
 - Bu toil leis ...
 - Cha bu toil leis ...

Taigeis

- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leinn ... ?
 - Am bu toil leinn ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leinn ...
 - Bu toil leinn ...
 - Cha bu toil leinn ...

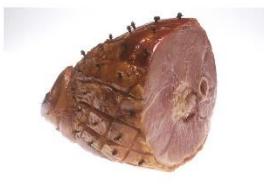


'S e bùth a th' innte

- Tha mi ag iarraidh a bhith a'
ceannach gròsaireachd aig a'
bhùth mhòr



Hama



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leat ... ?
 - Am bu toil leat ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leam ...
 - Cha toil leam ...
 - Bu toil leam ...
 - Cha bu toil leam ...

mairtfheoil



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leatha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leatha ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leatha ...
 - Cha toil leatha ...
 - Bu toil leatha ...
 - Cha bu toil leatha ...

lsbean / isbeanan



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leibh ... ?
 - Am bu toil leibh ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leibh ...
 - Cha toil leam ...
 - Bu toil leibh ...
 - Cha bu toil leibh ...

Iasg



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leatha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leatha ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leatha ...
 - Cha toil leatha ...
- Bu toil leatha ...
 - Cha bu toil leatha ...

biadh-bainne



Bainne



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leat ... ?
 - Am bu toil leat ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leam ...
 - Cha toil leam ...
- Bu toil leam ...
 - Cha bu toil leam ...

Ugh / uighean



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leis ... ?
 - Am bu toil leis ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leis ...
 - Cha toil leis ...
- Bu toil leis ...
 - Cha bu toil leis ...

Càise



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leatha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leatha ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leatha ...
 - Cha toil leatha ...
- Bu toil leatha ...
 - Cha bu toil leatha ...

ìm



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leinn ... ?
 - Am bu toil leinn ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leinn ...
- Bu toil leinn ...
 - Cha bu toil leinn ...

Deochan



Leann



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leibh ... ?
 - Am bu toil leibh ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leinn ...
- Bu toil leinn ...
 - Cha bu toil leinn ...

Fionn



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leatha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leatha ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leatha ...
 - Cha toil leatha ...
 - Bu toil leatha ...
 - Cha bu toil leatha ...

Uisge-beatha



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leat ... ?
 - Am bu toil leat ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leam ...
 - Cha toil leam ...
 - Bu toil leam ...
 - Cha bu toil leam ...

Teatha / tè



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leis ... ?
 - Am bu toil leis ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leis ...
 - Cha toil leis ...
 - Bu toil leis ...
 - Cha bu toil leis ...

Cofaidh



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leatha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leatha ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leatha ...
 - Cha toil leatha ...
 - Bu toil leatha ...
 - Cha bu toil leatha ...

Deoch-lag



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leinn ... ?
 - Am bu toil leinn ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leinn ...
 - Bu toil leinn ...
 - Cha bu toil leinn ...

Uisge



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leibh ... ?
 - Am bu toil leibh ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leinn ...
 - Bu toil leinn ...
 - Cha bu toil leinn ...

Glasraich 's measan



Curran / curranan



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leotha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leotha ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leotha ...
 - Cha toil leotha ...
 - Bu toil leotha ...
 - Cha bu toil leotha ...

Càil / Càiil



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leat ... ?
 - Am bu toil leat ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leam ...
 - Cha toil leam ...
- Bu toil leam ...
- Cha bu toil leam ...

Cularan / cularanan



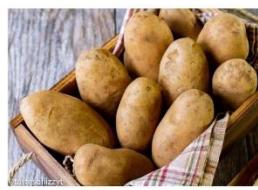
- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leis ... ?
 - Am bu toil leis ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leis ...
 - Cha toil leis ...
- Bu toil leis ...
- Cha bu toil leis ...

Tomàto / Tomàtothan



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leatha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leatha ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leatha ...
 - Cha toil leatha ...
- Bu toil leatha ...
- Cha bu toil leatha ...

Buntàta



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leinn ... ?
 - Am bu toil leinn ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leinn ...
- Bu toil leinn ...
- Cha bu toil leinn ...

Orains / Orainsean



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leibh ... ?
 - Am bu toil leibh ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leinn ...
- Bu toil leinn ...
- Cha bu toil leinn ...

Ubhal / übhlan



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leotha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leotha ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leotha ...
 - Cha toil leotha ...
- Bu toil leotha ...
- Cha bu toil leotha ...

sùbh-làir / sùbhan-làir



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leat ... ?
 - Am bu toil leat ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leam ...
 - Cha toil leam ...
- Bu toil leam ...
- Cha bu toil leam ...

Banana / bananathan



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leat ... ?
 - Am bu toil leat ... ?
- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leam ...
 - Cha toil leam ...
- Bu toil leam ...
- Cha bu toil leam ...

Sirist / siristean



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leis ... ?
 - Am bu toil leis ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leis ...
 - Cha toil leis ...
 - Bu toil leis ...
 - Cha bu toil leis ...

Brot



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leatha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leatha ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leatha ...
 - Cha toil leatha ...
 - Bu toil leatha ...
 - Cha bu toil leatha ...



Lite



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leotha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leotha ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leotha ...
 - Cha toil leotha ...
 - Bu toil leotha ...
 - Cha bu toil leotha ...



Suiteis / candaidh



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leis ... ?
 - Am bu toil leis ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leis ...
 - Cha toil leis ...
 - Bu toil leis ...
 - Cha bu toil leis ...

Grosaraich pacte

gràinean braistaist



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leibh ... ?
 - Am bu toil leibh ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leinn ...
 - Bu toil leinn ...
 - Cha bu toil leinn ...

Tiops



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leat ... ?
 - Am bu toil leat ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leam ...
 - Cha toil leam ...
 - Bu toil leam ...
 - Cha bu toil leam ...

Bèicearaidh / taigh-fuine



Pàidh / Pàidhean



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leatha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leatha ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leatha ...
 - Cha toil leatha ...
 -
 - Bu toil leatha ...
 - Cha bu toil leatha ...

Briosgaid / briosgaidean



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leinn ... ?
 - Am bu toil leinn ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leinn ...
 -
 - Bu toil leinn ...
 - Cha bu toil leinn ...

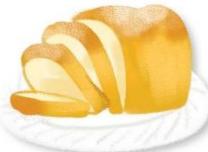
Cèic



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leibh ... ?
 - Am bu toil leibh ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leinn ...
 - Cha toil leinn ...
 -
 - Bu toil leinn ...
 - Cha bu toil leinn ...

Aran



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leotha ... ?
 - Am bu toil leotha ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leotha ...
 - Cha toil leotha ...
 -
 - Bu toil leotha ...
 - Cha bu toil leotha ...

Bannach / bannaich



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leat ... ?
 - Am bu toil leat ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leam ...
 - Cha toil leam ...
 -
 - Bu toil leam ...
 - Cha bu toil leam ...

Aran milis



- Am faighneachd:
 - An toil leis ... ?
 - Am bu toil leis ... ?

- Am freagairt:
 - 'S toil leis ...
 - Cha toil leis ...
 -
 - Bu toil leis ...
 - Cha bu toil leis ...

An dràsta, tha sinn a' pàigheadh!



'S tha sinn a' dol dhachaigh!



Òran na seachdain

Aon turas èille –

One more time!

“A ghaoil, leig dhachaigh gum mhàthair mi”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jou0qORSdk0>

This week, we'll look at the language a little more closely

A ghaoil, leig dhachaigh gum mhàthair mi;
A ghràidh, leig dhachaigh gum mhàthair mi;
A ghaoil, leig dhachaigh gum mhàthair mi –
An tòir chrodh-laoigh a thàinig mi.

A ghaoil & a ghràidh = vocative form of 'love' or
beloved one

Dhachaigh = homeward, to home; directional
Gum mhàthair = gu mo mhàthair – to my mother
Gum mhàthair mi – note 'mi' at end, common feature
– shift object of verb to end of phrase
An tòir chrodh-laoigh a thàinig mi = (it was for) 'the
getting of the cattle that I came'

Gur ann a-raoir a chuala mi
Mo ghaol a bhith ri buachailleachd,
'S ged fhuair thu 'n iomall na buaile mi,
A ghaoil, leig dhachaigh mar fhuair thu mi.

Gur ann a-raoir = (that) it was last night ... very
often you'll see something like 'S ann a-
raoir – it was last night; 'S ann anns a'
bhaile ... = it was in the town ... etc

Chuala mi = I heard (simple past tense)
A bhith ri buachailleachd – a form of a'
buachailleachd, signifying not just a 1-
time action but more habitual or
continual

Fhuair – simple past tense of faigh, which we've seen
as a' faighean, often translated 'got' but in
some contexts can mean 'found'

'S mi dìreadh ris na gàrraidhean,
'S a' teàrnadh ris na fàirichean,
Gun d' thachair fleasgach bàigheil rium,
'S cha d' dh' fheuch e bonn ga chàirdeis rium.

Thachair – past tense of 'tachair' – happen or
happen upon (meet, though not pre-
arranged)

Thachair ri – happen upon (meet up with)

Dh'fheuch = try

Bonn ga chàirdeis – 'bonn' = foundation, lowest part
... he would not try the lowest sort of
friendship on me

Ged bheireadh tu crodh agus caoraich dhomh,

Love, let me (go) home to my mother
Darling, let me (go) home to my mother
Love, let me home to my mother
I only came for the cattle.

It was only last night
That I heard that my love was herding
And though you found me at the edge of the cattle
fold
Love, let me home as you found me.

I was clambering up the dykes
And descending the ridges
When a friendly lad met me
And he did not enforce his friendship on me.

Though you were to give me cattle and sheep

Ged bheireadh tu eachaibh air thaodaibh dhomh,
Ged bheireadh tu sin agus daoine dhomh,
A ghaoil, leig dhachaigh mar fhuair thu mi.

bheireadh – would give; the conditional form
eachaibh – the old ‘poetic’ plural; modern = eich
air thaodaibh = passive ...
domh = do mi = to me, for me

Trodaidh m' athair 's mo mhàthair riut,
Trodaidh mo chinneadh 's mo chàirdean riut,
Ach marbhaidh mo thriùir bhràithrean thu
Mura tèid mi dhachaigh mar thàinig mi.

Trodaidh = the simple future; we have seen it as
“bidh iad a’ trod riut”
Mo chinneadh = cinneadh / “kin” / kinfolk
Thriùir = three, special number form for people
Mura – if not

Gheall mo mhàthair gùn thoirt dhomh,
Gheall i ribean a b' ùire dhomh,
Is gheall i breacan ùr thoirt dhomh
Ma thèid mi dhachaigh mar fhuair thu mi.

Gheall = promised (geall)
A b' ùire = most new, the comparative
Thoirt = a thoirt ... to give, the infinitive of the verb

Though you were to give me tethered horses
Though you were to give me that and men
Love, let me home as you found me.

My mother and father will chastise you
My clan and my relatives will chastise you
But my three brothers will kill you
If I don't return home as I came.

My mother promised me a gown
Decorated with the newest of ribbons
And she promised me a new plaid
If I return home the way you found me.

- Òran na seachdain -

?

Dualchas nan Gàidheil –
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