

OBAN COMMON GOOD FUND GRANT - END OF PROJECT MONITORING REPORT

The Common Good Fund needs to account for all funding allocated, and therefore request that you complete all sections of this form.

Please note: Financial details pertaining to the grant awarded must be submitted with the End of Project Monitoring Report. If this information is not provided the grant may be reclaimed by the Fund.

Name of Organisation: Oban Gaelic Choir

Contact Details: Margaret Bennett, 1 Keil Croft, Bardsloch,

Project Funded: Attendance at International Choir Festival, Verona ^{PA37 10S}

Grant Allocation: £3000

1 Finance (Please provide a full breakdown of all costs)

Description (from original grant application form)	Projected Costs	Actual Costs
Festival registration incl. accommodation	£7,000	£8,635.56
Coach from Oban to Edinburgh Airport + ret.	£1,000	£800.00
Returns flights to Verona (approx £300 pp)	£10,500	£7112.46
Coach Transport in Verona - Garda (approx £200 per day)	£8,000	£2500.00
Total	£19,300	£18,256.02

2 Match Funding (Please provide details of any match funding received)

Grant Scheme	Description	Amount
Hugh Fraser Trust		£500
Tasgach		£500
Third Sector Fund		£2500
Whittamo Trust		£2500


3 Did you meet the aims of the project – please give details? (The main facts and figures about actual activities, for example the number of people the organisation or project worked with and the main activities undertaken)

See attached

4 What difference did your project make? (This section should also include examples of how individual participants/services users experienced the project/activity -case studies/quotes can be used)

5 Key Learning Points Please detail any unexpected outcomes (positive and negative) including anything that would be done differently in the future.

6 Do you have any comments to help us improve the grant process?

Signature	
Print name:	MARGARET BENNETT
Position held in organisation:	Committee Member
Date:	5/8/16

Please note: The Common Good Fund reserves the right to request copies of all receipts for expenditure.

PLEASE GIVE BREAKDOWN IN TERMS OF AGE AND GENDER

	MALE	FEMALE	0-4	5-9	10-16	17-24	25-64	65+
HOW MANY PEOPLE BENEFITED FROM THE GRANT?	10	20					24	6

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO:

Oban Common Good Fund - Danielle Finlay, Senior Area Committee Assistant, Argyll and Bute Council, Municipal Buildings, Albany Street, Oban, PA34 4AW. Email: danielle.finlay@argyll-bute.gov.uk.

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Oban Gaelic Choir

3. Did you meet the aims of the project – please give details?

We plan to produce a more detailed feedback report but have listed the key points below:

The choir attended the Festival Corale Verona Garda Estate last month and the trip was a great success.

The fourth session of the festival was attended by a number of other international choirs from the Basque region of Spain, Estonia and the Lebanon. We met with the choirs at opening and closing ceremonies and also participated in three concerts and a church service in the Verona-Garda region as follows:

- Thursday 21st July – Opening ceremony with all choirs followed by concert with Begi Argiak Choir (Spain) in Bedizzole
- Friday 22nd July – Concert with Begi Argiak Choir, Hopneri Kammerkoor Choir (Estonia) and Chorale Notre-Dame de Jamhour (Lebanon) in San Bonifacio
- Saturday 23rd July - Concert with Begi Argiak Choir and Hopneri Kammerkoor Choir in Sirmione
- Sunday 24th July – Singing with Hopneri Kammerkoor Choir at church service in Cassette followed by closing ceremony with all choirs

Attending the festival has been a wholly positive experience for the choir as a group and as individuals. It has given us an opportunity to develop further as a group and enabled us to learn from our interactions with very different choirs from around the world – how they prepare and perform.

We have gained further experience of performing in different venues and performing in other languages, learning pieces in Italian and German which were performed during the festival.

Our musical director and committee have made links with other choirs and the festival organisers and we are in early discussion about potential visits by choirs to Oban. The festival gave us to talk to others who share our love of music and to share musical traditions and experiences – including local people and other visitors to the area who were keen to find out who we were and what we were doing on our visit.

We also had the opportunity to tell people about Oban, Argyll and Gaelic culture and traditions including teaching other choirs some of our songs, the basics of the Gaelic language and also how to Strip the Willow! We feel that we have been ambassadors for Gaelic culture and music and for Oban, Argyll and Scotland.

4. What difference did your project make?

While we are still in the process of getting feedback from choir members and our Musical Director and Gaelic Tutor, it is clear that the project has increased the choir's confidence in working together as a musical group and has broadened our range of experience. The project has also raised the profile of Gaelic music and tradition and of Oban and Argyll as an area.

5. Key Learning Points

The organisation of the trip went very well and this was assisted by good coordination by the festival organisers, which continued once we arrived in Italy. We have learnt the importance of being aware of the fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates and how this can have an impact on potential costs and have learnt the value of planning well in advance.

6 Do you have any comments to help us improve the grant process?

We found the grant process straightforward process and do not have any ideas for improvements at this stage.