



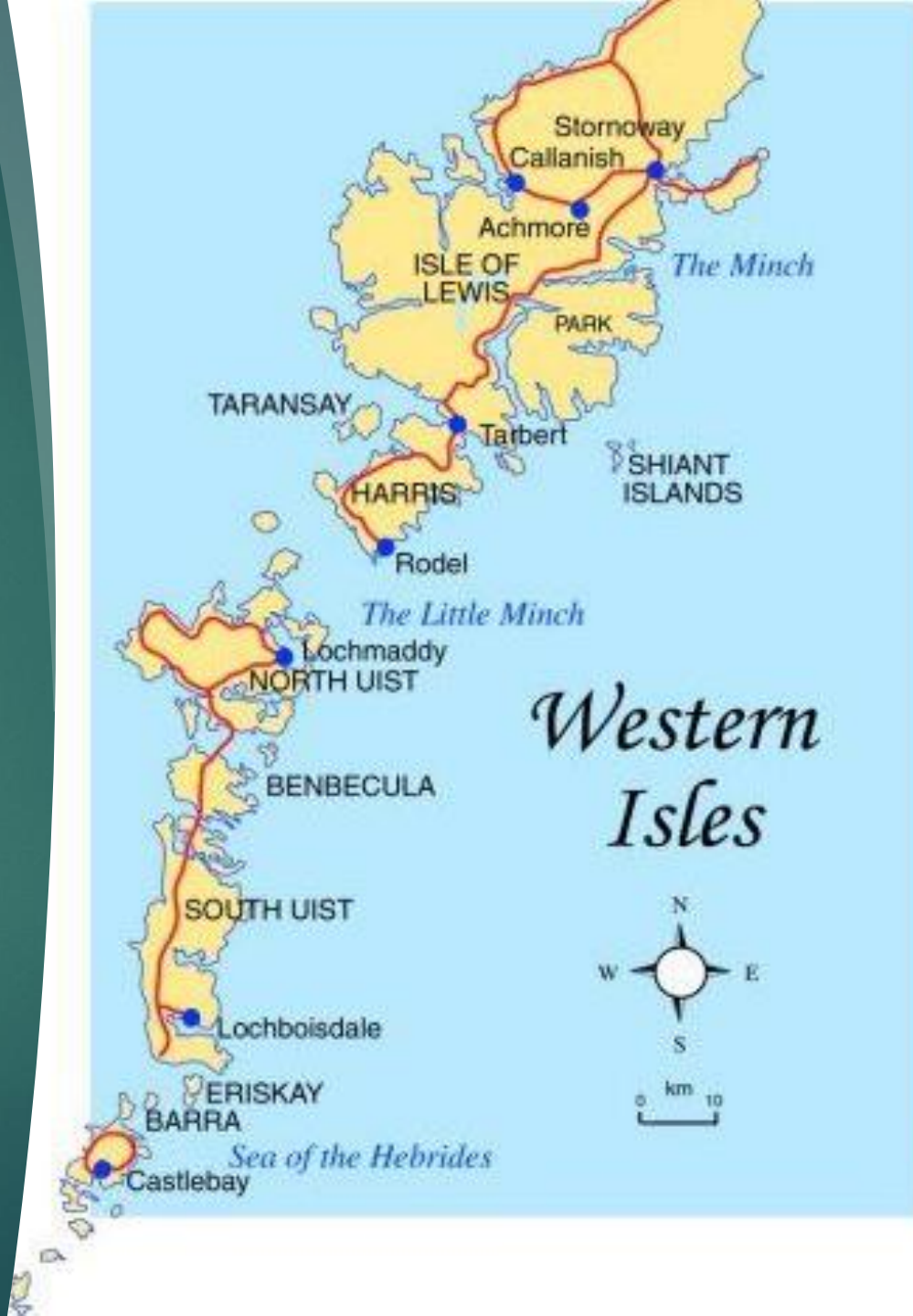
CDIG – An Introduction

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DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Who & What is CDIG?

- ▶ Comann Dualchas Innse Gall – the Outer Hebrides Heritage Forum
- ▶ Est. 2018
- ▶ Umbrella organisation for Western Isles heritage groups
- ▶ 28 members
- ▶ Requirements:
 - ▶ Based in the Western Isles
 - ▶ Written constitution
 - ▶ An explicit focus on heritage



Why do we need CDIG?


- ▶ Isolated work
- ▶ Volunteer-reliant sector
 - ▶ Volunteer burn-out
 - ▶ Skills gap
 - ▶ Knowledge gap
- ▶ Low organisational capacity
- ▶ Limited access to funding
- ▶ Tourism-based heritage sector





What CDIG does

- ▶ Member Networking
 - ▶ Inter-organisational links
 - ▶ Knowledge & Resource sharing
 - ▶ Member collaborations
- ▶ Training
 - ▶ Building skills & knowledge
 - ▶ Provide heritage opportunities
- ▶ Advocacy & Representation
- ▶ Funding application support
- ▶ Increasing sector resilience & sustainability



Developing the Sector

- ▶ Project creation
- ▶ Member Conferences
- ▶ Enhancing visitor experiences
- ▶ Promotion of the local heritage & individuality of islands & areas
- ▶ Supporting sustainable tourism
- ▶ Signposting heritage organisations & their events



Call for new Committee members!

Why join the Committee?

Becoming a committee member is a chance to:

- Play an active role in protecting the heritage of the Outer Hebrides
- Help shape meaningful projects that benefit local communities
- Learn new skills in governance, project development and decision-making
- Share your own knowledge, experience or interest. No specialist background required!
- Meet like-minded people who care about culture, history and the future of the islands

We're keen to hear from people of all ages and backgrounds.

Whether you bring professional skills, local knowledge, creative ideas or simply enthusiasm, your contribution will be valued.

If you care about the culture and heritage of the Outer Hebrides and want to make a real difference, please get in touch:

contact@ohheritageforum.com



Please send us in your news stories so we highlight one another's achievements, events, and successes and help strengthen the whole community.

Issue 8

A 'CHUTHAG

Issue 8 - February 2026



Eaglais na h-Aoidhe

YOUR VOICE MATTERS! HELP US MAKE THE CASE FOR HERITAGE

As we head toward the upcoming Scottish elections, the case for sustained and strengthened investment in culture has never been more important. Across the sector funding is limited, competition is intense, and the pressure on organisations and freelancers continues to grow.

COIG is gathering opinions, short quotes, and real-world testimonies from our members that can be shared with key national bodies such as Historic Environment Scotland and Museums Galleries Scotland. These contributions will help support national advocacy, funding discussions, and press activity - ensuring decision-makers hear directly from those working on the ground.

Government funded bodies like Museums Galleries Scotland play a crucial role in supporting our sector. Clear, collective evidence from our members will strengthen their ability to argue for greater investment, particularly at a time when cultural funding must compete with many other priorities.

If you have a perspective on why funding matters, what's at stake without it, or the impact it makes when it works well, we want to hear from you. Your voice can help shape national arguments, influence policy conversations around the elections, and strengthen advocacy for our shared future.

Send us your thoughts - even a few lines can make a difference!

contact@ohheritageforum.com

Central Idea: Collaboration over Isolation

- ▶ Supporting & Encouraging grassroots heritage
- ▶ Building resilience and sustainability into the sector
- ▶ Ensuring local heritage groups are heard on a national level
- ▶ Protecting Hebridean heritage
- ▶ Sharing Hebridean heritage



Tapadh leibh dhuibh uile!

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ISLE OF BARRA