# Scottish Lexicography: Major resources in Minority Languages 

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#### Abstract

This paper focuses on current aspects of the lexicography of two minority languages in Scotland, Scottish Gaelic and Scots, and looks at two projects at either end of the lexicographical spectrum: Faclair na Gàidhlig, an on-line full historical dictionary of Gaelic and the new edition of the Concise Scots Dictionary (CSD, 1985), a one-volume derived dictionary of Scots. A brief outline of the history of both languages is given. Each in turn was the dominant language in Scotland until both were replaced by English. The paper looks at how Scotland's minority languages have benefited from the skills of the Scots who contributed to English lexicography. Sir James Murray, first Editor of the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), pioneered the application of historical principles to English lexicography and his colleague, Sir William Craigie, applied those same principles to the Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue (DOST) which covers the Scots language from the $12^{\text {th }}$ century to 1700. These skills are now being transferred into Scottish Gaelic. Faclair na Gàidhlig will be an on-line historical dictionary of Gaelic compiled on similar principles to OED and DOST. The major challenge in establishing a project of this magnitude is to create a lexicographical tradition as effectively and efficiently as possible. The paper outlines the approach adopted. A draft noun entry is examined with discussion of entry structure and organisation. Scots is equipped with two historical dictionaries, DOST and its modern counterpart the Scottish National Dictionary (SND). CSD is a one-volume distillation of these works. The second edition will use a more user-friendly structure and update coverage to the $21^{\text {st }}$ century. Sample entries are examined. Scottish lexicography will continue to build on its historical tradition providing Gaelic and Scots with resources comparable to English.


## 1. Introduction

Language is a fundamental part of who and what we are. It is the means by which we express ourselves and our culture in speech, literature, poetry and song and it is in our dictionaries that this view of reality is described and defined. This paper focuses on current aspects of the lexicography of two minority languages in Scotland, Scottish Gaelic and Scots, and will look at two projects at either end of the lexicographical spectrum: Faclair na Gàidhlig, an on-line full historical dictionary of Gaelic beginning in the $21^{\text {st }}$ century, and the Concise Scots Dictionary, a one-volume derived dictionary of Scots.

By way of providing the briefest possible background, Scottish Gaelic is a Celtic language belonging to the same group as Irish and Manx and Scots is a Germanic language descended from the Old Northumbrian dialect of Old English. Their history is inextricably linked to the history of Scotland and affected to varying degrees by political, religious and economic factors in different geographical areas and social contexts. Scottish Gaelic is evidenced in Argyll from the $6^{\text {th }}$ century and gradually became the dominant language. Change began to come about in the $12^{\text {th }}$ century when David I succeeded to the Scottish throne, and, perhaps influenced by a period of exile in England he, and also his immediate successors, invited Anglo-Norman and Flemish landowners, monks from England and France, and Englishspeaking burgesses to found new monastic orders and settle in the newly-established burghs. By the $14^{\text {th }}$ century, the variety of northern English spoken by most of these immigrants, the language we now know as Scots, had become the dominant language in the Lowlands and Gaelic was receding to the north and west. By the $15^{\text {th }}$ century, Scots was the language of government and administration. However, a process of Anglicisation had begun and was to continue inexorably until English became the main language. Both Scots and Gaelic enjoyed a resurgence in the $19^{\text {th }}$ century which saw the greatest number of speakers of Gaelic and an expansion of literary and lexicographical output in both languages. Unfortunately, this century also saw the passing of the Education Act of 1872 which introduced a system of state
education and made English the language of instruction. Gaelic and Scots were no longer encouraged or indeed tolerated. Having lost their dominant status, both have had to endure the challenges faced by minority languages, made all the more intense by having English, a language of global dimensions, as their nearest neighbour. Despite this, both have survived into the $21^{\text {st }}$ century as vibrant languages possessing excellent literatures and a rich diversity of dialects. In $21^{\text {st }}$ century Scotland, both are now beginning to enjoy increased prestige in such areas as government, education and the arts.

In the field of lexicography, Gaelic and Scots have turned the global status of their closest neighbour to their advantage. This is a direct result of the contribution the Scots have made to historical lexicography. Sir James Murray, from Denholm near Hawick in the Scottish Borders, pioneered the application of historical principles to English lexicography which resulted in the structure used in the first edition of the Oxford English Dictionary (OED). His colleague on the $O E D$, Professor Sir William Craigie, a native of Dundee, was the first Editor of the Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue (DOST), where those same editorial principles were applied to, and developed for, Scots. DOST covered the language from the $12^{\text {th }}$ century to 1700. Its modern counterpart the Scottish National Dictionary (SND), begun by William Grant and edited on a different basis, was completed in 1976. DOST completed publication in 2002 making the remaining gap in Scottish lexicography all too obvious. Our linguistic and cultural history will not be fully understood until an equally authoritative historical dictionary exists for Gaelic: a dictionary which will complete the picture of our linguistic heritage and show, most particularly, the interfaces between Gaelic and Scots, Gaelic and Irish and Gaelic and English.

## 2. Faclair na Gàidhlig

In 2002, an inter-university partnership comprising the universities of Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Strathclyde and the UHI Millennium Institute through the Gaelic college, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, established the Faclair na Gàidhlig project. It aims to produce an historical dictionary for Scottish Gaelic by transferring the skills from Scots, similar to the transfer that had taken place from English to Scots a century before. In order to achieve this, the project has been divided into three major stages: Phase 1 the Editorial and Textual Foundation ${ }^{1}$, Phase 2 the Technical Foundation and Phase 3 the Dictionary.

Phase 1, the Editorial and Textual Foundation, has three aims: to formulate editorial policy at the outset, to establish the method for transferring skills and to provide background information on key texts on which the dictionary will be based. In the editorial foundation, lexicographical structures are being investigated to meet the specific needs of Gaelic through the compilation of sample entries. These entries are accompanied by detailed instructions to guide the trainee lexicographer from excerpted quotations to dictionary entry. This simulates the traditional method of working with an experienced lexicographer and learning the job 'inpost'. At present, instructions for sample entries range in size from 38 to 84 pages. The Textual Foundation consists of reports on a selection of 205 printed texts, dating from the first Gaelic printed book in 1567 to the $21^{\text {st }}$ century, and covering all genres evidenced in the written language. These will form a Text Manual which will be an indispensable training aid and reference tool. Texts have been assessed in terms of their usefulness to the dictionary. Information is provided on such aspects as register, style, geographical origin, social context,

[^0]language date and bibliographical details. Abbreviated reference styles for use in dictionary entries have also been formulated. Manuscript material from the $12^{\text {th }}$ century to the $19^{\text {th }}$ has been the subject of a pilot study and will form a challenging part of corpus compilation. The Textual Foundation will give lexicographers instant access to information on texts at a level of detail usually only acquired after some years in post.

Phase 2, the Technical Foundation, will be a full-text database designed as part of the Corpas na Gàidhlig project at the University of Glasgow, consisting of the 205 texts referred to above, manuscript material and a citation database to be constructed at a later stage. The creation of the full-text database is underway at the University of Glasgow under the auspices of its Digital Archive of Scottish Gaelic (DASG) project which aims to develop digital lexical resources for Gaelic. DASG will use technology similar to, and compatible with, that of the Scottish Corpus of Texts and Speech (SCOTS) project also based at Glasgow. This is a largescale electronic corpus of written and spoken texts in the languages of Scotland. DASG is currently scanning text, performing optical character recognition (OCR), proof-reading and correcting. Over one million words have already been processed. A Technical Manager will be appointed to produce the specification for the on-line corpus database, develop a prototype entry system for the database and the necessary software to enable lexicographers and other researchers to search and excerpt from both the Corpas na Gàidhlig and DASG archives. The Editorial Foundation will continue to be developed during this phase of the project.

As Phases 1 and 2 near completion, training of the first historical lexicographers in Scottish Gaelic will begin. In the proposed timescale, and dependent upon sufficient funding, this is scheduled to begin in 2013 with Phase 3, dictionary compilation, starting in 2016: a mere 13 years after the establishment of the project. These lexicographers will learn their skills from the sample entries produced in Phase 1. The first entry chosen was craobh (a tree). This was based on quotation slips produced in the 1960s by the University of Glasgow for an historical dictionary of Scottish Gaelic. Due to a lack of continued funding, the absence of a tradition in historical lexicography in Gaelic and its existence in a time when the benefits of sharing expertise across disciplines and institutions were not recognised, this project was eventually suspended with no published output. However, an archive of over 500,000 slips was created. This was generously made available to Faclair na Gàidhlig and has enabled dictionary structures to be worked upon from the earliest stages of the project.

The draft entry displayed in this paper does not use any customised software and the actual dictionary will look very different. However, it illustrates the type of structure and levels of information Faclair na Gàidhlig will provide. The top line is a banner showing the headword and part of speech. The headword will be the accepted modern spelling. The buttons below indicate the information which can be displayed. Those which are shaded have been 'pressed' to display the information in this particular entry:


Current Forms displays a smaller banner, and, in the case of nouns, the forms listed are the nominative singular, genitive singular and nominative plural from which other cases can be conjugated:
craobh, n.f. gen. sing. craoibhe; $p l$. craobhan

Clicking on the Declension link will take the user to a grammatical explanation of how nouns decline.

Spellings lists all the evidenced spellings. The most modern spelling forms are listed first. Those which are obsolete will be indicated as such: for the purposes of this paper they are in bold italic:
craobh, n.f. Sing. Nominative, accusative: craoibh. Vocative: a chraobh. Genitive: craoibhe, craobh, craoibh. Dative: craoibh, craobh, BDL creive. Dual dá chraoibh. Pl. Nominative, accusative: craobhan, craoibh, craobha, croibhion. Genitive: craobhan, craobha, chraobhan, chraobh, craobh. Dative: craobhan, craobha, craobhaibh, craobhuibh.

The letters $B D L$ indicate a form from the Book of the Dean of Lismore. This has been highlighted in this way because this $16^{\text {th }}$ century manuscript is written in a middle Scots spelling system.

Etymology lists comparative material in other languages:
[E.Ir. cráeb, cróeb, E.Mod.Ir. craobh branch, occas. tree.]
It is hoped in the long term to train specialist etymologists and to make this level of the dictionary more detailed and informative.

The main body of the noun entry is divided into two sections, Section A focusing on orthography and Section B focusing on semantics. Pressing the button A Forms displays a referenced quotation for the earliest example of each spelling in Section A. Forms are divided into singular, dual and plural and sub-divided into nominative, accusative, vocative, genitive and dative. Material is included in this section purely for orthographic reasons and additional examples of forms may be given if they are deemed of interest to those with an interest in orthography:

[^1]m'àitheanta; ... 'An sin bheir mise dhuibh uisge 'na àm féin, agus bheir am fearann a mach a thoradh, agus bheir craobhan na machrach am meas uatha; Seann Tiomn. Lebh. 26: 4. ...

In the recent past, guidelines on Gaelic orthography have been produced by the Scottish Qualifications Authority. These Gaelic Orthographic Conventions were originally created to standardise orthography in Gaelic in education but continue to be revised and developed on account of the expansion of the use of Gaelic in public life. Used in conjunction with the fully-searchable corpus, this section of the dictionary entry will be indispensable in determining orthographic policy and in studies of orthography.

Quotations displays referenced quotations in Section B showing the evidence for the senses. If this button is not pressed, only the definitions are displayed. Section B focuses primarily on semantics, and the sorts of syntactic structures usually included in the sense analysis. Sense divisions are listed in chronological order showing the historical development of the word so, as with Section A, the earliest examples of senses must be quoted. Definitions are in English to maximise accessibility to the language:

## B. Senses

I.1.a. A branch of a tree.
$\mathbf{1 3}^{\text {th }}-\mathbf{1 6}^{\text {th }} \mathbf{c}$ Madh nacha bí $\mathbf{c r a o b h}$ 'na crann, do chí barr caomh os do chionn; Adv. $72.2 .216 r .17^{\text {th }} \mathbf{c}$ Gearrfoighthear libhse cuig cuala no se craobha; NLS 1745 10r. 1751 Bi'dh cruinn, 's am bàrr mar sgárlaid, Do chaorabh aluinn ann, 'S croibhion bachlach, árbhui, A faoisgnidh árd ma d' cheann; MAC-DHONUILL Ais-Eiridh 87. $1868 \mathrm{Na}-\mathrm{m}$ faiceadh tu 'n druid air craoibh, 'S i 'n a ruith o thaobh gu taobh; Mac-Mhuirich An Duanaire 120. ...
I.2.a.(1) A tree. Quot. 1 Righ 4: 33 in 4 below is a further example.

1659 Do bheir guth Dhia ar aidhaibh allt' grad sgartachdin ren laodh; Is lomaidh sud na coillte dlu ag ruscadh barr na ngcraobh; Psalms 29:9. 1741 Crann, Craobh A Tree; MacDonald Leabhar a Theagasc Ainminnin XLIV sv Crann. 1751 'S ioma craobh 's an choill Tha fior loineagach, Blath is cairt a crainn Go fior shóghraghach; MAC-DHONUILL Ais-Eiridh 27. ...
I.3. A representation of a tree.

1751 'S mairg naimhde do'n nochd iad fraoch, Long, leoghann, craobh, 's laimh-dhearg; MAC-DHONUILL Ais-Eiridh 54. ...

The remaining buttons are further possibilities. B References Only would allow the quotations to be suppressed in Section B and would display only senses and references. Synonyms would show a list of synonyms and provide the basis for a thesaurus. Date chart would show the chronological distribution of the evidence for each sense in chart form. DASG would be a direct link to additional evidence of usage in the Digital Archive of Scottish Gaelic. Tobar an Dualchais would be a link to the Tobar an Dualchais/Kist o Riches project which is digitising the Scots and Gaelic sound recordings of the School of Scottish Studies at the University of Edinburgh, the John Lorne Campbell Collection on the island of Canna and the Gaelic department of BBC Scotland. Links to this on-line resource would enable the dictionary user to hear the word used in continuous speech.

Section II of this entry lists phrases:
II. 6.a. Religious: Craobh na beatha The tree of life.

1785 An neach bheir buaidhe amach, deir se an Tighearna, bheir mi dha re ichea' do chraobh na beathai; Leanmhuinn Criosd 68. 1810 A's craobh na beatha fo' blàth ann, A's meas a fàs orra dlùth; Campbell Laoidhean Spioradail 6. Tha 'n amhuin mar chriostal, tighinn fo' chathair na'n gràs: 'Scraobh na beatha re taobh a' fàs-Gach mìos anns a bhliadhna, a's i meudachadh blàth; Campbell Laoidhean Spioradail 64. ...
II. 6.b. Religious: Craobh eolais maith agus uilc The tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

1659 Agus ag toirmiosg dho ni ar bioth ithe do chraoibh eolais maith agus uilc faoi phein a bhais; Adtimchiol an Chreidimh App. II 234. 1816 Fhuair iad aithne gun ni air bith ithe do'n chraoibh eòlais a' mhaith agus an uilc; Leabhar Aideachaidh $A^{\prime}$ Chreidimh 17.

[^2]In this type of compound, the genitive noun behaves like an adjective. Craobh is a feminine noun and so the adjective is lenited to bheithe.

Work is also underway on samples for verb, adjective and preposition entries. All these entry structures will continue to be developed and refined in the next phase of the project. It is impossible to pre-empt every challenge to be met in the compilation of the dictionary. The project aim is that, after following compilation instructions for the sample entries, trainee lexicographers will be equipped with enough core skills to cope with the challenges of lexicography from first principles. Thus, Scottish Gaelic, a minority language in a small country, will be provided with an historical lexicographical resource equal to that of English. However, the accomplishment of such an authoritative and definitive work is not an end in itself. In fact, it is only the beginning of the story.

## 3. Concise Scots Dictionary - Second Edition

Scots lexicography demonstrates how the lexicography of a living language is never completed. Following the publication of the final volume of DOST in 2002, a new body, Scottish Language Dictionaries, was established to steward the historical resources for Scots, namely, DOST and SND. These two works comprising a total of 22 volumes and defining the Scots language from the $12^{\text {th }}$ century to the present are now freely available on-line as the Dictionary of the Scots Language (DSL). Since the completion of SND, many works derived from the authoritative historical dictionaries have been published including the Essential Scots Dictionary, the Pocket Scots Dictionary, the Scots Thesaurus and the Concise English-Scots Dictionary. Scottish Language Dictionaries also continues to augment the record of spoken and written Scots in its Word Collection which uses a network of informants and specialist readers, corpora such as the SCOTS Corpus, the Corpus of Modern Scottish Writing and other on-line resources. This material feeds into all dictionary projects and serves to keep the
lexicographical record of Scots constantly updated. Its most important manifestation is as the second supplement to $S N D$ which was added to DSL in 2005.

The Concise Scots Dictionary (CSD) is the most successful dictionary ever published for Scots. Produced in 1985, it is the definitive one-volume dictionary of the Scots language. As a distillation from the five published volumes of DOST, unpublished DOST copy in the editing process and all ten volumes of $S N D$, it provides a complete history of the language at an affordable price. However, in the twenty-five years since it was published, Scots has continued to evolve and lexicographical theory and methodology have advanced. A second edition is now being compiled with significant changes in structure and content. The first edition was severely restricted by space and preferred to subsume derivatives, compounds and phrases under the main headword. It followed the $S N D$ practice of including material that was confined to Scots, Scots and northern English or was chiefly Scots. However, it chose to go a step further than $S N D$ and, once words were included according to the above criteria, overall usage was covered, albeit not in the clearest or most satisfactory manner. This involved giving a definition, usually the first definition, as equal to that of English:
sang, song la16-n $\mathbf{1}=$ song la14-. $\mathbf{2}$ the noise of the sea breaking on the shore la19-, local Sh-Kcdn. $\mathbf{3}$ a fuss, clamour, outcry, freq mak a ~ aboot etc 18 -.

This exempted CSD from having to specify all senses and constructions shared with English but demanded that the user consult an English dictionary to access the full range of meaning. The corresponding section of this entry in CSD2 is:
> sang ${ }^{1}$ song $n 1$ the action or art of singing, vocal music; something sung lal4-. 2 the musical utterance of birds 15-. $\mathbf{3}$ the noise of the sea breaking on the shore la19- Sh NE. 4 a fuss, clamour, outcry 18-19, 20- NE T. 5 poetic composition $15-16.6$ the music played on or the sound of a musical instrument lal5. 7 (the continuity or narrative of) events la15-e19; compare: anither sang ANITHER.

mak a sang aboot, mak a sang ower naething make a fuss 19-. ...
CSD was also dependent on its parent dictionaries in other ways, most particularly in etymologies which often refer the user to $S N D$ or $D O S T$ and occasionally to $O E D$. However, for its time, it was a masterpiece of space management and lexicographical engineering. The main criticism levelled at it has been that it is too dense, resulting in a dictionary packed with information but not easy to use. As part of the project planning for the second edition, SLD carried out a user survey which would inform editorial policy in the revised edition. The broad outcome was that a much more user-friendly format was required and that updating of content was essential. These issues have been addressed in compilation of the new edition.

One resultant change has been to split many of the longer entries, raising derivatives and compounds, where appropriate, to headword status. For example, the commonly used word pinkie (little finger) was, in the first edition of CSD, listed as a derivative of the much less common pink (anything very small):

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\(\mathbf{p i n k}^{\mathbf{2}} \boldsymbol{\&} \mathbf{c} n\), now \(\operatorname{chf} \sim \mathbf{i e}\) anything very small, a small thing or creature; a speck, tiny hole, speck of light la16-e20. ...
~ie \(n \mathbf{1}\) see \(n 1.2\) the little finger 19-. adj \(\mathbf{1}\) tiny, minute 19-, now Loth Lnk. ...
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In CSD2 this entry is as follows:
pinkie ${ }^{1}$ pinky [pigke, pigki] $n$, $\mathbf{1}$ the little finger 19-. 2 anything very small, a small creature; a speck, tiny hole, particle of light la16-
[PINK ${ }^{3}$ with dimin suffix]
Where different parts of speech previously appeared in the same entry, they are now listed as separate headwords with homonym numbers and sub-numbers which preserve ordering to keep etymologically-related homonyms contiguous:

> redd ${ }^{1.1} \ldots . n \ldots \mathbf{1}$ the act of clearing away or tidying up; a putting in order; a cleaning, tidying lal5-. $\mathbf{2}$ rubbish, rubble etc which has been or is to be cleared away 16 -
> redd ${ }^{1.2} \ldots v . . .1$ put (things) in order, tidy up (a room, building etc) $16-\ldots$
> redd $^{1.3} \ldots$ adj... 1 of land, fields etc cleared of its crop, bare after cropping or ploughing lal5-. 2 clear (of impediments, obstructions, rubbish; occupiers), unencumbered la16-. ...
> redd $^{2.1} \ldots n \ldots \mathbf{1}$ fish- or frog-spawn la15-. $\mathbf{2}$ the rut in a riverbed made by salmon for spawning in $19-\ldots$
> redd $^{2.2} \ldots$. ..of fish spawn $18-\ldots$

Another simplification lies in the decision not to give date ranges for variant spellings. Noncurrent spellings are simply marked with the conventional dagger symbol. The date range and geographical spread are still given for senses:
pauchle ${ }^{1.1}$, pockle, poackle, pochle, †pechle, †pauchald, †pakkald ['p xəəl, pכkəl, 'pokəl] $n \mathbf{1}$ a small bundle or parcel of something, a quantity of something; specifically a small quantity of something taken by an employee from his employer, either furtively or as a perquisite; goods or money acquired dishonestly 20 EC Borders. 2 the personal belongings of someone living and working away from home 20-TEC. 3 a swindle, a piece of trickery la20-C. 4 a packet (of letters) 16-17. 5 a bundle, a package, a (small) load (of goods or merchandise); sometimes as taken by or in the possession of thieves 16-19. ...

Etymologies are being revised and increasing use will be made in CSD2 and throughout Scots lexicography of data from Faclair na Gàidhlig as it becomes available. Detailed etymologies are neither possible nor desirable in a concise edition and cognates are only rarely given. However, every entry will have an etymology, which is not the case in CSD. Etymologies are normally limited to the immediate etymon although the source of this may also be given if it is of particular interest. An innovation is the recognition of Norn as the source of many Orkney and Shetland dialect words, although the Old Norse etymon is also given, where known:
pinnish, pinish, pinnis ['pinif, 'pinis] v suffer pain or discomfort, especially from cold or hunger 20-Sh. pinishin a bitter, biting cold 20-Sh.
[Norn pinnis < ON pínask be tormented (with shortening of the long vowel)]
With respect to content, in 1985, DOST was in the course of publishing the letter P, some further access was available to as yet unpublished edited copy for $\mathrm{P}, \mathrm{Q}$ and R and thereafter $C S D$ had to rely on the $O E D$ 's comparatively sparse coverage of Scots for early material in the later part of the alphabet. The remaining seven volumes of DOST are now available and CSD2 will include a full record of Old and Middle Scots in its concise format. Material exclusive to Shetland and Orkney or Shetland, Orkney and Caithness was omitted from CSD1 on the grounds that this was to form a separate dictionary which would show the distinct linguistic heritage of these areas. This material is being included in the new edition.

Many new words are also being added which had not been sufficiently well-attested in the 1980s but which the Word Collection shows are now established in the language. One such is pagger (to fight), a word associated with the travelling people and the dialect of the East of Scotland. This word has been increasing its geographical spread because of its use by the
well-known author, Irvine Welsh. Other new terms now well enough documented for inclusion are cooncil juice (water), water being a service provided by the local council in Scotland; and cooncil curtains (boarded up windows), referring to unoccupied property boarded up by the council to prevent vandalism. Another example is cooncil telly, a jocular term for terrestrial television. Conversely, it is also used in some circles for satellite television because of the proliferation of satellite dishes in some council housing estates.

The headword of each entry, which in CSD followed the form used in $S N D$ or $D O S T$, is being chosen on a re-assessment of the evidence, and for the current language will follow the spelling preferred in modern use.

The new edition is being produced from a tagged electronic version of the first edition. With some extension and refinement of the tagging system, it will be possible to convert the editorial files for the new edition into a database to facilitate future updating and to allow further editions to be produced more frequently and more efficiently.

## 4. Conclusion

And so, Scottish lexicography continues to develop, building directly on the work of Murray and his successors and providing two minority languages with resources comparable to those of English. Advances in corpus linguistics and the growing number of computer corpora being created enable research and access to linguistic data on a scale never before possible. These resources remain partial in nature without fully-updated comprehensive dictionaries to explain the treasures within them. Scottish lexicographers will continue to record and define Scotland's languages, working together and sharing best practice: aims very much in concord with those of Euralex.

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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Phase 1 of the project has received funding from Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, the Gaelic Language Promotion Trust, the Leverhulme Trust, the Scottish Funding Council and the Scottish Government.

[^1]:    A. Forms

    Singular
    Nominative: $\mathbf{1 3}^{\text {th }}-\mathbf{1 6}^{\text {th }} \mathbf{c}$ Madh nacha bí craobh 'na crann, do chí barr caomh os do chionn; Adv. 72.2.2 16r. 1449-93 Freim na feile. trén $\mathrm{g}^{\mathrm{c}}$ tíre nior ér aoinfher no dáimh doiligh craobh fhial oinigh ó fhiadh noilagh nior fhás uime acht rioghna is ríogha; Bk. Clanranald in Rel. Celt. II 264.
    Accusative: 1567 Na Phairisidh, neoch ré bfaicthear an dadamh a suil a chumpanaigh agas nach bfaiceand craobh mhor ina tsuilibh féin; Carswell 784. ...
    Vocative: $\mathbf{1 7 7 6}$ Ursainn-chatha Innse-gall, ... Iuchair flatha na'm fior rann, A Chraobh sin a theasd do shiol Chuinn; Comh-chruinneachidh Orranaigh Gaidhealach 24. ...
    Genitive: 1774 Pheacaich iad an aghaidh dhe, le ithe do mheass craoibh araid a thoirmisg Dia dhoibh fuidh bheinne bais, gein; Da Leabhar Cheistin 42/9. 1783 Gach gnè chraobh air son bìdh; Seann Tiomn. Lebh. xix 23. ...
    Dative: 1512-42 Dy $^{\mathrm{t}}$ chottonew is dew ${ }_{3}$ egrir ye ny ${ }^{\mathrm{t}}$ barg fa chreive laigh [Meek 1997, fá chraoibh liag]; $B k$. Dean Lismore p 263. 1659 Agus ag toirmiosg dho ni ar bioth ithe do chraoibh eolais maith agus uilc faoi phein a bhais; Adtimchiol an Chreidimh App. II 234. ...
    Dual
    1631-c1642 Sgotha a bpóir, préamha arda, dá chraoibh uaisle a h-aonplannda; ionann treabh dóibh badh dhéine - cóir an bhean mar bhainchéile; Ó MuIrgheasáin in Scottish Gaelic Studies XIII 298 §35.

    ## Plural

    Nominative: 1751 Bi'dh cruinn, 's am bàrr mar sgárlaid, Do chaorabh aluinn ann, 'S croibhion bachlach, árbhui, A faoisgnidh árd ma d’ cheann; MAC-DhOnUill Ais-Eiridh 87. 1783 Agus ma ghleidheas sibh

[^2]:    II. 7.a. Craobh an aiteil The juniper tree.
    18.. 'S ann a thug thu dhomh do ghaol Fo dhubhar craobh an aiteil; MacKellar Caran an t-Saoghail 270/14.
    II. 7.b. Craobh-na-geanmnachd The tree agnus castus, the chaste tree, so-called because it was believed to be a preservative of chastity.
    1911 Craobh-na-geanmnachd, s.f. Agnus castus; Dwelly s.v. Craobh-na-geanmnachd.
    II. 7.c. Craobh-nan-smeur The mulberry tree.

    1787 Fa chomhair chraobh nan smeur; Seann Tiomn. 2 Sam. 5: 23. 1911 Craobh-nan-smeur, § s.f. the 'mulberry tree' of Scripture, supposed to be the aspen (critheann.); Dwelly s.v. Craobh-nan-smeur.
    II. 7.d. Craobh nan Teud The Tree of Strings, a periphrastic expression for the harp; cf. Ir. chraoibh-chiuil (DIL sv úallánach).
    1931-41 Agus air creachainn chèin fhàsmhoir chinn blàthmhor Craobh nan Teud, 'na meangach duillich $t$ ' aodann, mo chiall is aogas rèil; MacGill-EAIN Dàin do Eimhir xliii 18. ...
    The Biblical examples in sense 6 are treated separately from those referring to actual trees and are labelled as Religious. In 7.d., the earlier usage in Irish adds clarification and the user is directed to the Dictionary of the Irish Language.
    Structures for compound entries are currently under consideration. In craobh these consist of significantly more material than the main entry. It is envisaged that they will be done as separate entries with etymologies which link them to the appropriate sense in the main entry and explain the compound structure, for example, noun + genitive noun:
    craobh-bheithe $n f$ Sing. Nominative: craobh bhethc. Dative: craoibh bheithe. [craobh n. I.2.a. and beithe genitive of BEITH $n f$ ] The birch-tree.
    1741 Of Barren Trees. ... Craobh Bhethe The Birch-tree; Mac-Dhonuill Leabhar a Theagasc 65. ... 1971 Nuair a chithinn ... craobh bheithe lom a' deàlradh ri gréin a' gheamhraidh ... dh' éireadh samhla na bhàis'nam inntinn; WATT in Gairm 75 217. ...

