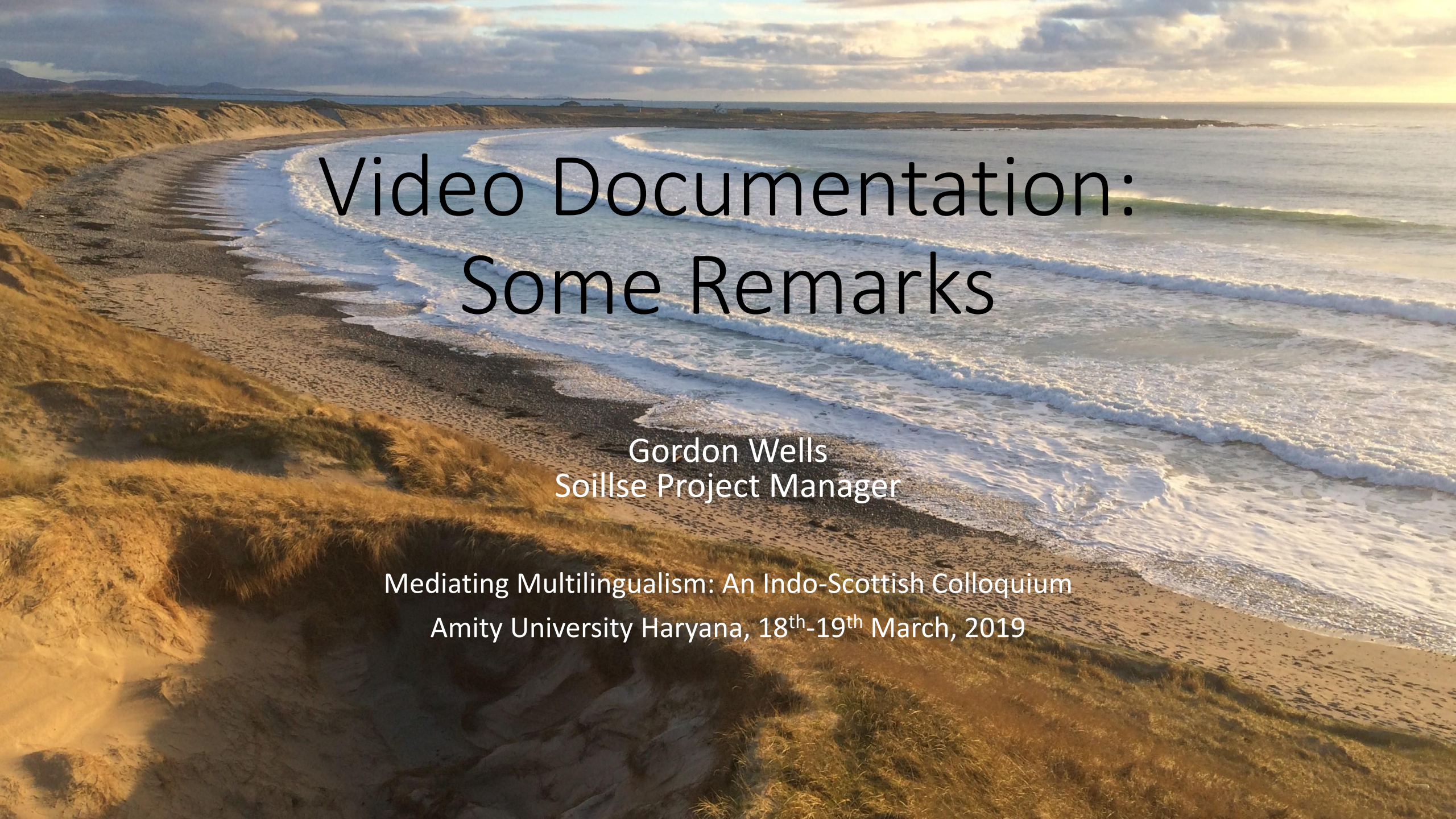




Video Documentation: Some Remarks

Gordon Wells
Soillse Project Manager

Mediating Multilingualism: An Indo-Scottish Colloquium
Amity University Haryana, 18th-19th March, 2019

Case Study: Saoghal Thormoid – Norman's World

- Background
- Contents
- Method
- Sample

Norman Maclean

Edit

1. Saoghal Thormoid



On consecutive days in the last week of April 2016 Gordon Wells recorded a series of Gaelic conversations with famed writer and entertainer Norman Maclean, in which Norman spoke reflectively of his memories and impressions of Gaelic life in Glasgow and the Hebrides from the middle of the Twentieth Century up to the present day. The five videos range between 35 and 55 minutes in length. Word for word transcriptions are also available on Clilstore, enabling instant one-click vocabulary checking for Gaelic learners.

Background

- Island Voices/Soillse partnership
- Stemming from earlier “Sgeulachdan Thormoid” (“Norman’s Stories”)
- Soillse Small Research Fund
- Ethnographic focus in interview schedule

SOILLSE



Contents

- Monday – ancestry
- Tuesday – education
- Wednesday – communities
- Thursday – creativity
- Friday – Gaelic
- Printable Volume



Saoghal Thormoid – Norman's World:
Synopsis and Transcripts

Norman Maclean in Conversation
with Gordon Wells, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig

Foreword by Professor Conchúr Ó Giollagàin,
University of the Highlands and Islands

June 2017

With funding support from the Soillse Small Research Fund



Method (1)

- Preparation
(including Ethics)
- Recording
- Editing
- Transcription
- Approval
- Dissemination



Method (2)

Method

After securing Norman's agreement to take part in this project, Gordon visited him in his home to discuss the format and content of the recordings. During this discussion, they settled on a rough plan for the sessions – namely that they would aim to record for a maximum of one hour per day on consecutive days in the chosen week, and that each session would centre on a different topic. Gordon also supplied Norman with the list of topics they should try and cover and some probable questions, while at the same time stressing that Norman should not feel constrained by the list and should consider himself free to bring in additional issues or anecdotes wherever he felt it appropriate.

The recordings were made simultaneously on two different cameras (one on each speaker). The cameras were allowed to roll from the start of the session to the end without stopping. The material was then edited together to produce a finished product in which both interlocutors could be seen speaking in turn. During the editing process the opportunity was taken to delete a few sections – principally where Norman needed to take a rest or a drink of water, or if the session was interrupted, for example by visitors coming into the room while they were speaking. A small number of 'cutaway' shots was used in the editing process to minimise the visual impact of such interruptions.

On completion of the video editing, the conversations were transcribed verbatim by Gordon. These drafts were then checked by Soillse researcher Pàdruig Moireach. When the drafts were completed Gordon showed them to Norman, together with the video edits, in case he wished to make any changes. He was able to clear up any remaining transcription questions and approve the final versions.

Finally, the materials were placed online – with the videos being posted on the Island Voices YouTube channel, and the transcripts uploaded to Clilstore.

Sample

- Friday session: Gaelic
- “On the last day, Norman is invited to turn his thoughts specifically to Gaelic and its place in people’s hearts and minds, and to Gaelic development efforts. Acknowledging the challenges the language faces in today’s world, he reflects on the complex interplay and relationships between Gaelic and English, and on various ways in which bilingualism can be viewed. *In emphasising its benefits he counsels against the dangers of a monolingual “English ghetto”, colourfully invoking his own observations on the nomination campaign for the American presidential election.* In contemplating bi-directional bilingualism he discusses the challenges of, and offers his own advice on, the learning of Gaelic and, in particular, the place of literacy. Finally, he relates the language issue back to the culture from which it springs, sharing personal thoughts on how his sense of belonging reinforces his sense of identity, and emphasising his own willingness and commitment to pass on his knowledge to others.”

Extract (Clilstore)

Wordlink

Not secure | multidict.net/wordlink/?navsize=1&sl=gd&url=http://multidict.net/clilstore/page.php?id=4514{and}user=GuthanNanEilean

Clilstore Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

Norman Maclean on Friday: Gàidhlig

Dihaoine - Gàidhlig: Saoghal Thormoid

Watch later Share



Thoradh, well, chan eil agad ach coimhead air mac Mhàiri Chaluim, 's e am bumalair sna Stàitean Aonaichte, Dòmhnall Trump. Nis, 's cinnteach gum faigh e an nomination airson na Republicans, ach nuair a bhios tu a' coimhead air na daoine, aithnichidh tu, well 's e mo bheachd-sa nuair a bhios mi a' coimhead air na daoine is iad a' crathadh bratach "The Donald's the man", aithnichidh tu gu bheil iad, chan e dìreach gu bheil iad aineolach, ach gu bheil iad air leth, agus 's e is coireach – chan eil aca ach aon chànan. Tha sin gam fàgail, mar gum biodh, ann an ghetto Beurla.

Agus tòrr dhan fheadhainn a tha airson Dòmhnall còir, 's ann mar sin a tha iad. Tha iad gu h-ìosal measg an t-sluaigh, tha an caothach orra, tha iad a' faicinn gu bheil an obair a' falbh gu ruige Mexico agus air feadh an t-saoghail – globalisation, liberal capitalism – tha sin gam fàgail fiadhaich, agus tha iad a' smaointinn, mac Mhàiri Chaluim, our town..., gur esan an **slànaighear**. Ach, a' coimhead orra, nam bharrail-sa, chanainn-sa, bha iad air a bhith na b' fheàrr nan robh iad air an togail ann an California a Deas, no Florida, no Texas even, agus Spàinntis a bhith aca cuideachd. Cha bhiodh iad cho fiadhaich.

So, tha cunnart ann a bhith a' dèiligeadh le aon chànan a-mhàin. Tha e gad fhàgail, tha thu nas buailtiche a bhith fiadhaich agus a bhith air de dhallach air an dealbh a' fhàgail. Ma tha cànan eile ann tha an caothach a' sìor-leudachadh a muigh.

Clilstore Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

Short url: http://multidict.net/cs/4514

Unit info

Multidict navigation frame Help About

Word Go

slànaighear **slànaighear** ← Slànaighear ← Slànuighear ← slànuighear ↔

From → To @ Dictionary @ Esc

gd English (en) Am Faclair Beag meanbh

Am Faclair Beag

Cainnt nan daoine, leis na daoine, airson na daoine

Cuir a-steach am facal a tha thu a' lorg: slànaighear Lorg!

☒ Lorg adhartach...

Am Faclair Beag Dwelly

slànaighear /sLɑːnɪjɐ/
fir. gin. -eir iol. -an
1 healer 2 saviour 3 (with def. art.
) The Saviour

slànaighear
-ir, sm Healer. 2 Saviour (in a spiritual
sense). An **Slànaighear**, the Saviour.

slànuighear
see **slànaighear**.

cuir slànaighear orm
send me a saviour!

[Molaidhean](#) [Mun Fhaclair Bheag](#) [Taing](#) [buidheachas](#) [Donate](#)

[An duilleag mhòr](#)

Extract translation

- So, tha cunnart ann a bhith a' dèiligeadh le aon chànan a-mhàin. Tha e gad fhàgail, tha thu nas buailtiche a bhith fiadhaich agus a bhith air do dhalladh air an dealbh as fharsaing. Ma tha cànan eile agad tha an saoghal a' sìor leudachadh a-muigh, agus faodaidh tu roghainn a dhèanamh, faodaidh tu deagh thaghadh a dhèanamh.
- So there's a danger in dealing with only one language. It leaves you – you're more likely to be wild, and to be blinded to the general picture. If you have other languages the world keeps widening out, and you can make choices, you can make good choices.

Questions/Reflections

- Definition of aims and purpose
- Securing willing participation and informed consent
- Establishing rapport and minimising discomfort
- Technical quality and simplicity
- Platform(s) for sharing results