

Seanchas Ìle

Word List

Here is a small selection of words, collected for Seanchas Ìle, that are more commonly heard in Islay Gaelic than in other Gaelic dialects. Some are unique to Islay Gaelic.

abair - say (normal for 'can')

baibheil - excellent (normal for 'sgoinneil')

baideal/an (m) - large cloud/s (more common than 'sgòth'/'neul')

bàtan (pl) - boats (more common than 'bàtaichean')

bolgam (m) - a mouthful

bolg/an-losgainn (m) - mushroom/s (nas cumanta na 'balgan-buachair')

bròdail - proud (normal for 'pròiseil')

caineab (f) - hemp (normal for 'cainb')

ceathramh - quarter (normal for 'cairteal')

ciabhag/an (f) - long beard/s (more common than 'feusag')

cìob (f) - sponge (normal for 'spong')

clis - quick, swift (normal for 'luath')

cneap/an (m) - button/s (normal for 'putan')

coimheach - shy, timid (normal for 'diùid')

colbhag/an (f) - index finger/s (normal for 'sgealbag')

cosail ri - similar to (normal for 'coltach ri')

crannag/an (f) - pulpit/s (normal for 'cùbaid')

creic, a' creic - to sell (normal for 'reic')

cuisdeag/an (f) - pinkie/s (normal for 'lùdag')

daonnan - always (normal for 'an-còmhnaidh')

deifir (f) - hurry (normal for 'cabhag')

dhèan - did (normal for 'rinn')

drùin - close (normal for 'dùin')

èibhinn - strange (normal for 'neònach')

èidheannach/èidheantach (f) - ice (normal for 'deigh')

fànus (m) - skyline

fairge/annan (f) - sea/s (more common than 'muir')

fan, a' fantail - to stay, to wait (normal for 'fuireach')

fideag/an (f) - pinkie/s (normal for 'lùdag')

figheadair/ean (m) - spider/s (normal for 'damhan-allaidh')

fineagan (f) - woodworm (normal for 'raodan')

fionna fada - middle finger

flat/an (f) - saucer/s (normal for 'sàsar')

flinne (m) - sleet (normal for 'flin')

fuathasach - wonderful

gaodhachail - doing odd jobs

gealbhan/an (m) - fire/s (in the fire place)

geannaire/an (m) - hammer/s (normal for 'òrd')

glè - quite (rather than very)

gort/oirt (m) - field/s (more common than 'achadh')

gun stuth - free of charge (normal for 'saor an asgaidh')

gun robh math agad - thank you (normal for 'tapadh leat')

imir/ean (m) - lazybed/s (more common than 'feannag')

ladhar/dhran (m) - toe/s (normal for 'òrdag')

liathnach (m) - hoar-frost (normal for 'liath-reothadh')

manadh/aidhean (m) - ghost/s (normal for 'taibhse')

mand, a' mandadh - can (i.e cha mhand mi seo a dhèanadh: I can't do this)

maorach/aich (m) - limpet/s / shellfish (normal for 'bàirneach')

mothaich, a' mothachainn - to feel (normal for 'faireachdainn')

muineal/an (f) - neck/s (normal for 'amhaich')

patach/aich (m) - child/ren (more common than 'clann')

peitear/an (f/b)- pictures (more common than 'dealbh')

piocach/aich (m) - saithe (normal for 'saoidhean')

pollag/an (f) - nostril/s (more common than 'cuinnean')

prois (f) - prude (àbhaisteach airson 'neach-nàrach')

rèidh - ready/finished (normal for 'deiseil')

sè - six (normal for 'sia')

sgrog (m) - a bite (to eat)

siop/aichean (m) - shop (more common than 'bùth')

sìthmhearach/aich (f/b) - fairy/ies (more common than 'sìth')

siubhail, a' siubhail - to die (humans only, 'bàsaich' / 'caochail' for animals)

siùdaich, a' siùdach - to begin

sparraich (pl) - household furniture

sreann-chor (f) - whirlwind

suc!suc! - call to sheep

sùgan/an (m) - horse's collar/s

sulasach - over-joyed

an teanntachd (f) - asthma (normal for 'a' chuing')

thalla! - come! (normal for 'trobhad')

tioram/tiomailt air - about (more common than 'timcheall air')

tòrradh/aidhean (m) - funeral (normal for 'tiodhlacadh')

trasda - across (more common than 'thairis air')

trusgan/an (m) - suit/s of clothes (normal for 'deise')