

The Traditional Singing Weekend Cullerlie Farm Park

Echt

Skene

Aberdeenshire AB32 6XL

Booking Enquiries – Tel: 01224 645486

Please note:

Because of the limited number of places available, priority will be given to those who are coming for the whole weekend.

Please book early to avoid disappointment.

The festival is organised jointly by:

Tracey Walker (Anne's daughter) and Eric Walker

Jim Taylor (Tom's nephew) and Scott Gardiner

on behalf of Cullerlie Farm Park

and

Ian and Norma Russell on behalf of

The Elphinstone Institute

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Bandy's Roup

This was one of Tom's favourite songs. It was written by Jimmy Wright of Alford.

Aul Bandy, he wis roupin oot, his fairmin days wir deen,
He'd bocht a wee bit hoosie in the toon o Aiberdeen,
Noo aa his stock an implements wir aa gyan up for sale,
He'd even sell the moose-trap an the auld slop pail.

Noo the foreman an the second-lad wir pit tae wash the cairts,
An pent them up aa green an reid an ile up aa the pairts.
The halfin pentit aa the ploos, the harras an the grubber;
The baillie he red up the nowt wi dandy, kame an scrubber.

Syne on the mornin o the roup, aathing wis spic an span.
We hid a barrel fu a beer, we'd plenty beef an ham.
For nae aabody wid come tae buy bit jist tae hae their fill.
Aul Bandy kent the drill fu weel, he'd deen the same himsel.

Noo aa wis ready for a start, a crood hid gaithert roon,
The auctioneer cried oot for bids, ye cuidna hear a soun.
He thoct he'd got them in the mood, an cries, 'Look here, noo, Dixen,
This horse he'll dee the work o twa an help oot in the kitchen!'

Noo the fairmer fae the Mill o Lyne he come tae buy a stot;
Fin he saw Bandy's Bell gyang by, he set aff at the trot.
She says, 'Look here, my little man, I'd like tae ken yer game.'
Says he, 'Noo, Bell, ye brawly ken, ma game it's aye the same.'

Well, nae maitter fit his game wis, bit it seems Bell liked it fine;
For noo she is the fairmer's wife, doon at the Mill o Lyne.
But sometimes noo he winners an thinks whiles till himsel,
I should hae stuck tae buyin stots an nae chased Bandy's Bell!

Of coorse, the weemin fowk wir there tae hae a wee bit splash;
Afore the aifterneen wis by, they'd buy up aa the trash.
The sairvant quine fae Pittney's, she wis keen on deein some biddin;
She got on the dyke tae get mair hicht, bit fell back intae the midden.

The doctor fair enjoyed himsel, he'd drunk some muckle beer;
His wife made up a lame excuse, she cuidna staun the steer.
He waved his han tae let her ken he'd be wi her ayenoo,
But afore he kent, he'd gaen an bocht aul Bandy's breedin soo!

Noo bit fan the roup wis feenished an the last chiel left the scene,
Aul Bandy he'd a last look roon, a tear come tae his een;
Syne doon the brae he wannered, far he'd played fin jist a loon,
Bit I'm sure his hert wis heavy, as he set aff tae the toun.

About Cullerlie

Cullerlie Farm Park and Heritage Centre was set up by Tom ('Tam') and Anne Reid in 1993 and is now run by Anne's daughter Tracey Walker and her husband Eric, as well as other members of the family. Tom moved to the Cullerlie Estate with his parents in 1935, and worked with his father in the traditional way of farming. He kept the traditions alive by turning the old original steading into a farm museum with one of the largest privately owned collections of farming and domestic memorabilia in Scotland. Anne, who was from nearby Peterculter, joined Tom when they married in 1975.

Tom (born 1929) was a legendary singer, having been crowned, in 1977, the Bothy Ballad King before a crowd of 10,000 at the Haughs in Turriff, a title that remained his until his death in January 2003. Anne (1939-2006) was also a fine singer and promoted the traditions of the North-East through singing and speaking workshops with schoolchildren and adults at local schools and at the museum, as well as hosting regular Saturday-night ceilidhs. It is the family's express wish that the festival should continue to run in memory of Tom and Anne.

At the Park there is a large tearoom where the staff serve soup, sandwiches, and lots of delicious home baking. They cater for all needs with a baby changing area plus disabled facilities.

The Park nestles at the foot of the Hill of Fare where the battles of Corrichie and Cullerlie Moor were fought. It is 6 miles north-east of Banchory and 12 miles west of Aberdeen. From Aberdeen follow the A944 to the Westhill roundabout, then fork left on the B9119 to Garlogie, then fork left again on the B9125 for 3 miles. The Park is on the right.

The Traditional Singing Weekend at Cullerlie 20-22 July 2012



A festival to celebrate the singing traditions of Scotland, England, and Ireland in memory of Tom and Anne Reid

The Festival

The Festival is a unique celebration, bringing together outstanding traditional singers from Scotland, England, and Ireland. The event is especially for those who like to hear, enjoy, and join in unaccompanied traditional singing. Essentially informal, friendly and non-competitive, it will be just the place to encourage the young and less experienced as well as the old hands. The weekend includes ceilidhs featuring the guest singers, singarounds for everyone who wants to join in, workshops, and a talk.

The Guests

Joe Aitken, a leading exponent of the North-East bothy style, is one of the most popular singers at events throughout Scotland, not forgetting his local Kirriemuir Festival. A former haulage contractor and one-time berry farmer, he can be heard on many recordings documenting Scottish songs. A four-time winner of the Champion of Champions Bothy Ballad Competition in Elgin, he was voted the 'Scots Singer of the Year' at the Scots Trad Music Awards in 2010.

Natalie Chalmers from Fraserburgh, is a young Scots singer, who also enjoys reciting and storytelling in Doric at concerts and festivals around Scotland. Having won several prizes at junior and senior level, Natalie has qualified for the 2012 Bothy Ballad 'Champion of Champions' at Elgin. She has studied at the National Centre of Excellence at Plockton and her influences range wide – from Geordie Murison and Elizabeth Stewart to the Clash and Nirvana.

Jock Duncan, born in 1925 at Gelliebrae, by New Deer, is a national treasure. As a singer of the muckle sangs and bothy ballads of his native Aberdeenshire, Jock is a tradition bearer of great authority. He comes from a highly musical family and in his youth the celebrated John Strachan was a regular visitor at their home. His knowledge of local tradition, history and characters is exceptional. In 2006 Jock was inducted into the Scottish Traditional Music Hall of Fame. Jock joins us for Sunday only.

Sarah Jane Gibbon is a native of Orkney. She began learning songs from her mother at a very young age and over the years has performed with her mother and sister, as a solo artist, as a member of the Song Shop Trio, and the Song Shop Choir. She recently co-led the Big Orkney Song Project which collected, investigated, revived, and taught Orkney songs within the local community. She continues to maintain her island heritage by writing contemporary folk songs.

Len Graham from County Antrim, one of Ireland's leading traditional singers, learnt his craft in the company of older singers such as Eddie Butcher and Joe Holmes. His achievements have been recognised by numerous awards including the first TG4 National Music Award for 'Traditional Singer of the Year' in 2002 and the 2011 CCÉ Bardic Award at the All-Ireland Fleadh. He has performed at many international festivals and in 2010 his book about the songs, music, and traditions of Joe Holmes was published.

Nell Ní Chróinín is a *sean-nós* singer who comes from the Múscraí Gaeltacht, the Irish speaking area of West Cork, where there is a very strong song tradition. She began singing at the age of 11 and has been very successful over the years, winning several medals and singing titles at prestigious competitions. At present she is teaching in Gaeilscoil Osraí in Kilkenny, where she is encouraging the youth to take part in the tradition

Kate Taylor from nearby Garlogie lives within 'walking distance', which makes her the most local guest this year. She started singing at ceilidhs when her husband, Jim, was compering. She is a keen supporter of the TMSA and has competed at many festivals, winning the traditional singing on several occasions. She is passionate about singing and has been inspired by Jeannie Robertson, Lizzie Higgins, Jane Turriff, and Elizabeth Stewart, as well as singers on the current circuit.

Mike Tickell learnt his songs from the few remaining singers of his area in the North Tyne Valley and won many Border Ballad competitions in his youth. Brought up on a hill farm, both his father and grandfather were singers and musicians. He worked for the Forestry Commission before joining the Horse Guards, and subsequently in education, while studying at university. In 1995 he released his solo CD, *Warksburn*, and has recorded a radio series on Border Ballads.

Jeff Wesley, a retired dairy farmer from Whittlebury in Northamptonshire, has been singing all his life, around the farm while milking or on a tractor. The songs were anything that took his fancy, with most collected from local singers. He didn't sing in public until he was about forty. A folk club opened in the village, but even then it was about seven years before he attempted singing on his own. He now often sings at festivals and clubs around the country.

Chris Wright comes from Dundee and has been singing songs from the Scots tradition since his teens. He now works for the landmark Kist o Riches project, cataloguing the Scots songs recorded by the School of Scottish Studies in Edinburgh, and has himself begun collecting songs from his native area. Chris recently founded the World's Room traditional singing club in Edinburgh, and often sings in a duo with Lucy Pringle.

Food will be available over the weekend.

There will be no bar – BYOB.

Camping and caravanning can be booked. There is a charge of £5.00 per pitch.

There are many B&Bs in the area – for a list, contact:

Tourist Information at Banchory: 01330 822000 or Aberdeen: 01224 288828

Bursaries are available for young singers in full-time education.

Cullerlie Farm Park, Echt, Skene, Aberdeenshire AB32 6XL (01330 860549)

Programme

Friday

7.30-11.30 **Welcome 'Come-All-Ye' – everyone**

Saturday

10.00-11.30 **Workshop A1 – tbc**

Workshop A2 – 'Rug Making', Isobel Gregory

Workshop B – 'The Big Orkney Song Project', Sarah Jane Gibbon

Workshop C – 'Farmhouse Cooking', Shirley Foulkes and friends

Workshop D – 'Rope Making'

11.45-12.45 **Illustrated Talk in the Marquee - 'Up Yon Wide and Lonely Glen': Travellers' Songs, Stories and Tunes of the Fetterangus Stewarts, Elizabeth Stewart, with Alison McMorland**

1.00-2.30 **Lunchtime – informal sessions**

2.30-5.00 **Singaround A – Joe Aitken**

Singaround B – Jeff Wesley

Singaround C – Kate Taylor

5.00-7.30 **Long Tea Break**

7.30-11.00 **Grand Ceilidh Concert – in the Marquee**
All Guests – hosted by Jim Taylor and Ian Russell

Sunday

10.00-11.30 **Workshop A1 – tbc**

Workshop A2 – 'Rug Making', Isobel Gregory

Workshop B – 'Songs from the Ulster Tradition', Len Graham

Workshop C – 'Farmhouse Cooking', Shirley Foulkes and friends

Workshop D – 'Rope Making'

12.00-1.45 **Lunchtime Singarounds**

Singaround A – Nell Ní Chróinín & Chris Wright

Singaround B – Natalie Chalmers & Mike Tickell

Session C – informal music

2.00-5.00 **Farewell Ceilidh in the Marquee with Jock Duncan**

All Guests – hosted by Jim Taylor and Ian Russell

A = Marquee B = Bothy/Wash Hoose C = Tea Room D = Outside

Traditional Singing Weekend

Booking Form

First Name(s)

Surname

Address

.....Postcode

Telephone (day)

Telephone (evening)

Names of other persons included on form

Tickets

Number of tickets

.....All Weekend @ £26 £

.....Concessions @ £20 £

.....All Saturday @ £16 £

.....Concessions @ £13 £

.....All Sunday @ £10 £

.....Concessions @ £8 £

.....Sat Eve Ceilidh @ £8 £

.....Concessions @ £6 £

.....Sunday Ceilidh @ £6 £

.....Concessions @ £4 £

.....Pitch for Camping @ £5 £

Cheques Payable to: The Traditional Singing Weekend.
Please enclose evidence for concessionary rate.

Total in £ Sterling £

Indicate camping or caravanning requirements:

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