

Bookings to

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
University of Aberdeen
MacRobert Building
King's College
Aberdeen
AB24 5UA
Tel: 01224 272996
Email: elphinstone@abdn.ac.uk

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About Cullerie

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 tearoom where members of staff serve soup, sandwiches, and lots of home cooking. 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.



'Oor Fairm Toon'

A favourite song from Tom Reid, attributed to 'Mr Laird' of Memsie in the Greig-Duncan Folk Song Collection

The wife's awa frae hame the nicht, so I hae jist come roon,
Tae tell ye aa the ongyangs at oor fairm toon,
We hiv a grievie, a second lad, a baillie, an a loon,
Oh, they're fine folk, the fee'd folk, at oor fairm toon.

We rise up in the mornin at oor fairm toon,
Wi hinna time for snorin at oor fairm toon,
We trail awa until oor brose, they skirl as they gyang doon,
They're nae sic thing as ham an eggs at oor fairm toon.

Wir baillie he's a queer chiel at oor fairm toon,
He curses like the very deil at aathing roon an roon,
He's bandy legged, he's pirn-taed, in fact he's nae near soun,
He flaps his lugs tae fleg the craas fae oor fairm toon.

We've things for biggin rucks upon at oor fairm toon,
They're achteen inches aff the grun at oor fairm toon,
Ilkae een his airpipes fae the easin tae the foun,
Oh, the rottans dinnae like tae bide at oor fairm toon.

We hiv a sonsie kitchie lass at oor fairm toon,
And for a beauty she wid pass at ony fairm toon,
She maks wir maet, she cleans wir plates, her name is Bessie Broom,
Oh, the lads they come fae far an near tae oor fairm toon.

I dinna think I'll tell ye mair about oor fairm toon,
For I see the fairmer's sittin there fae oor fairm toon,
And gin I bide oot late at nicht, the wife she claas ma croon,
So that's the wey the rows begin, at oor fairm toon.

The Traditional Singing Weekend at Cullerlie

25–27 July 2014



*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, craft demonstrations and a talk.

The Guests

Aileen Carr was brought up in Perthshire in a musical household. As a youngster she sang in a concert party but it was the influence of the great traditional singers that she heard at the early Blairgowrie and Kinross Folk Festivals that became the catalyst for a life-long love affair with traditional song. An eclectic singer with a wide repertoire of songs, she has sung throughout the UK and abroad and is one of Scotland's best known traditional singers.

John Crawford grew up in Dunfermline but has lived in Aberdeen for more than 30 years. He spent many years playing bass and guitar in very noisy bands before seeing the light. He has since won a number of prizes for his singing, including the Jeannie Robertson Memorial prize. He mainly sings Scottish traditional ballads, including those learned from Elizabeth Stewart, Stanley Robertson and Norman Kennedy.

John Greaves is a retired farmer from Little Beck in the North York Moors and his songs are mostly from that area. He tends to sing in his own dialect and has also written songs about farming and his locality. He is one of the founding members of the Yorkshire Garland Project, which is a website devoted to collecting and recording songs. He now lives in Helmsley in North Yorkshire.

Kathy Hobkirk was born and brought up in the auld toon o' Ayr and has been in the Border toon o' Hawick for a wheen o' years. She likes singing auld dreech sangs fu' o' bluid, guts, gore an' houghmagandy – whiles a' at yince! Her repertoire covers a' things frae muckle sangs, tae Burns, tae daft wee ditties, a' delivered in her ain unique style.

Norman Kennedy was born in Aberdeen into a family of shipbuilders and merchant seamen. He learned songs, stories and folklore from family members and neighbours, most notably Jeannie Robertson. He travelled regularly to the Outer Hebrides where he carded, spun and wove wool, and also absorbed traditional Gaelic songs and culture. Norman moved to the USA in 1966 and since that time he has kept alive the singing and weaving traditions. In 2003, he was awarded the NEA (National Endowment for the Arts) National Heritage Fellowship for his work in preserving the traditions of Scottish ballads and hand weaving. He is the only UK recipient of this prestigious award.

Kevin Mc Gonigle (James Eoghain) is from the Inishowen Peninsula in Co. Donegal. Born into a family of singers and musicians, he inherited his love of singing and a wealth of songs from his mother Roseanne and his late father, Charlie. With a strong commanding voice and easy going nature, Kevin is warmly regarded as a performer and as a caller in sessions. He is Chairperson of the Inishowen Traditional Singers' Circle organising sessions, workshops and the annual singing festival in March.

Cuthbert Noble comes from Shepley in the foothills of the South Pennines – an area rich in traditional singing which has survived largely through the after-hunt sings of the Holme Valley Beagles. Cuthbert has learnt many songs from his father Will Noble and at local sings. As well as working at the family trade of dry stone walling with his sister Lydia, Cuthbert is a practising contemporary artist and has recently graduated from Wimbledon College of Art.

Emma Spiers was brought up listening to folk music and learned songs like 'The Back o Bennachie', almost as soon as she was walking. However, as a teenager her musical interests changed. In 2011 she started singing informally with her parents, which rekindled her interest in traditional music, and the Spiers Family group was formed. She is now also building up a solo repertoire which she enjoys using at sessions and concerts.

John Valentine, from Cove near Aberdeen, spent his childhood between salmon fishing with his father and helping on a local farm. He enjoyed the songs and humour on his grandad's 78s of Harry Gordon, Willie Kemp and the Cornkisters, and later discovered Simon Broon and Ian Middleton. He used to sing whilst first-footing round Cove and at village pensioners' parties. Geordie Murison introduced him to the TMSA and folk festivals, which opened up a whole new world of friends and fun.

Róisín White hails from the Mourne Mountain area of south County Down. She grew up in the 1950s and 60s in a home filled with music, song and story. Her mother sang constantly as she worked around the house and small farm. Róisín has travelled extensively with her love of traditional song, being guest at many gatherings in these islands, and further afield. She has a great love for the songs/singing of her native Ulster, and songs in the Irish language.

Food will be available over the weekend in the tea room.

You can buy an all-weekend meal ticket at a discount.

There will be no bar – BYOB.

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

There are several 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.

**Cullerie 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 – 'Hand Weaving', Jimmy Hutchison

Workshop A2 – 'Lacemaking', Bon Accord

Bobbin group

Workshop A3 – 'Quilting', Eleanor Chadburn,

Lynne Marco

Workshop B – 'Greig-Duncan's Women',

Aileen Carr

Workshop C1 – 'Making Smallpipes', Ian Kinnear

Workshop C2 – 'Farmhouse Cooking',

Shirley Foulkes

11.45–12.45

The Cullerie Hour – Marquee

Norman Kennedy in conversation with Ian Russell

1.00–2.30

Lunchtime – informal sessions

2.30–5.00

Singaround A – John Crawford

Singaround B – John Greaves

Singaround C – Kevin Mc Gonigle

5.00–7.30

Long Tea Break

7.30–11.00

Grand Ceilidh Concert – in the Marquee

All Guests – hosted by Scott Gardiner, Jim Taylor and Ian Russell

SUNDAY

10.00–11.30

Workshop A1 – 'Hand Weaving', Jimmy Hutchison

Workshop A2 – 'Lacemaking', Bon Accord

Bobbin group

Workshop A3 – 'Quilting', Eleanor Chadburn,

Lynne Marco

Workshop B – 'My Journey through Songs',

Róisín White

Workshop C – 'Making Smallpipes', Ian Kinnear

12.00–1.45

Lunchtime Singarounds

A – Kathy Hobkirk and John Valentine

B – Emma Spiers and Cuthbert Noble

C – informal music

2.00–5.00

Farewell Ceilidh Concert in the Marquee

All Guests – hosted by Scott Gardiner, Jim Taylor and Ian Russell

A = Marquee

B = Bothy/Wash Hoose

C = Tea Room

Traditional Singing Weekend

Booking Form

First Name(s)

Surname

Address

.....

.....

Postcode Email

Telephone (day) (evening)

Names of other persons included on form

.....

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Tickets

Number of Tickets

..... All Weekend @ £28 £.....

..... Concessions @ £22 £.....

..... All Saturday @ £18 £.....

..... Concessions @ £14 £.....

..... All Sunday @ £12 £.....

..... Concessions @ £9 £.....

..... Sat Eve Ceilidh @ £8 £.....

..... Concessions @ £6 £.....

..... Sunday Ceilidh @ £6 £.....

..... Concessions @ £4 £.....

..... All-weekend meal ticket @ £33 £.....

..... 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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