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), Eric Walker (Treasurer), Scott Gardiner, Ian Russell (Director), Norma Russell (Secretary), Robin Dempsey, and Morag Dempsey

The festival is a joint project between

Cullerlie Farm Park and

The Elphinstone Institute

University of Aberdeen

MacRobert Building

King's College

Aberdeen

AB24 5UA

Tel: 01224 272996

Email: elphinstone@abdn.ac.uk

Directions

Cullerlie Farm Park nestles at the foot of the Hill of Fare where the battles of Corrichie and Cullerlie Moor were fought. It is 6 miles northeast of Banchory and 12 miles west of Aberdeen (follow the A944 towards Westhill). From north or south take the A90 (Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route) and exit at A944 west. At the Westhill traffic lights, turn left on to the B9119 to Garlogie, then fork left again on the B9125 for 3 miles. The Park is on the right behind Birchmoss Depot.

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Breedon Aggregates
Coupers (Fish Processors) of Aberdeen
Joyce and Geordie Murison
The Friends of the Elphinstone Institute
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Programme

FRIDAY

7.30–11.30 **'Come-All-Ye'** – weekenders & guests

SATURDAY

10.00–11.30 **Workshop A** – 'Jewellery Making – Beadwork',

Eydie Riddell

Workshop B – 'Songs from Dublin and Orkney',

Macdara Yeates & Sarah Jane Gibbon

Workshop C – 'Farmhouse Cooking', Shirley Foulkes

Workshop D1 – 'Little Grey Fergies', the Ferguson Club

Workshop D2 – 'Building a Bow Tent', Davie Donaldson

11.45–12.45 **The Cullerlie Hour** (Marquee)

'The Inishowen Song Tradition', Grace Toland

1.00-2.30 **Lunchtime**

2.30–5.00 **Singaround A** – Carole Prior

Singaround B – Mike Tickell

Singaround C - Lainey Dempsey

5.00-7.30 Long Tea Break

7.30–11.00 **Grand Concert** – in the Marquee

All Guests - hosted by Ian Russell and Scott Gardiner

SUNDAY

10.00–11.30 **Workshop A** – 'Jewellery Making – Beadwork',

Eydie Riddell

Workshop B – 'Ballads from the Bothy and the

Borders', Geordie Murison and Mike Tickell

Workshop D1 - 'Little Grey Fergies', the Ferguson Club

Workshop D2 – 'Storytelling in the Bow Tent',

Pauline Cordiner

11.45–1.30 Lunchtime Singarounds

Singaround A – Alan Prior and Sarah Jane Gibbon

Singaround B – Kirsty Hannah and Macdara Yeates

Informal Music – in the tea room

2.00–5.00 **Farewell Concert** – in the Marquee

All Guests – hosted by Ian Russell and Scott Gardiner

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





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 informal concerts featuring the guest singers, singarounds for everyone who wants to join in, workshops, craft demonstrations and a talk.

Guest Singers

Lainey Dempsey is from Glasgow and has been singing since childhood. Her dad was a singer and she grew up around traditional songs. She has many fond memories of listening to wonderful unaccompanied singing around campfires and kitchen tables. Lainey often collaborates with other musicians and artists, lending her voice to films and various art projects. During the pandemic, she has sung regularly at online sessions, including a guest slot at An Góilín in March 2021.

Sarah Jane Gibbon hails from Orkney. Taught to sing by her mother, over the years she has performed with her mother and sister, as a solo artist, in the Song Shop Trio, and in various choirs. She co-led the Big Orkney Song Project with Aimee Leonard, collecting, investigating, reviving and teaching Orkney Songs in the local community. A tradition bearer and singer songwriter, her compositions are rooted in the landscapes, seascapes and heritage of Orkney.

Kirsty Hannah is a singer from Grimsby in Lincolnshire, who has spent time conducting her own research into the history of folk song collecting in the county. Many of the songs now feature in her repertoire and she loves to tell stories of the Lincolnshire singers wherever she goes. A resident singer at Grimsby Folk Club, she has performed at various local festivals and at Whitby.

Geordie Murison is a North-East singer from Netherley near Stonehaven. He is passionate about songs and ballads, especially in his ain mither tongue, the Doric, but has eelectic music tastes forby. He has twice won the Brose Cup at the Elgin Bothy Ballad Champion of Champions competition. He has appeared at various festivals 'oot o sight o Bennachie', from Orkney to Sidmouth, London to Inishowen, and is delighted to be asked back to Cullerlie.

Alan Prior has drawn his repertoire from diverse areas of song. He is well known and respected in many places for his big voice, appearing with his wife Carole at a number of festivals and clubs throughout the UK and Ireland, and in Ian McCalman's production of 'Far Far from Ypres'. Alan enjoys traditional style singing, a sprinkling of Burns' songs, and chooses songs that he identifies with from more recent writers.

Carole Prior is a well-known and powerful singer who, together with her husband Alan, has been invited to many folk festivals and singing weekends throughout the UK and Ireland. Whilst traditional songs and ballads are her first love, she also enjoys newer compositions in a traditional style, particularly when they convey emotional themes or a good story. She dabbles in song writing and composing tunes for poems. Most notably, her tune for Violet Jacob's 'Baltic Street' has become a favourite with many singers.

Mike Tickell learnt his songs from the traditional singers of his area in the North Tyne Valley in the 1950s. He won many Border Ballad competitions in his youth and has a wide repertoire from lively chorus to tragic rural songs. His father and grandfather were singers and musicians. He worked for the Forestry Commission before joining the Horse Guards. He spent his later life working in schools. He has a CD of Northumbrian songs, *Warksburn*, and has recorded a radio series on Border Ballads.

Grace Toland was born and reared in Inishowen, County Donegal, and is a passionate supporter of the rich unaccompanied singing tradition of her native peninsula. Her songs and style come from time shared with older singers, family and friends. Grace has performed and presented at festivals/conferences in Ireland and abroad. A driving force behind the Inishowen Traditional Singers' Circle, she organises sessions, the annual Inishowen Singing Weekend, and a range of archival and performance projects. Grace works remotely in Inishowen for the Irish Traditional Music Archive.

Macdara Yeates ('Dara' for short) is a traditional folksinger with a repertoire spanning 'big' ballads, songs of old Dublin, and ballads from the Traveller tradition. Born and raised in Dublin, Macdara is one of the singers associated with the recent resurgence of young talent in the city. He has performed internationally with the folk band Skipper's Alley, as well as at singing festivals such as the Frank Harte Festival and the FifeSing. Recently he initiated and developed a collaborative project with the Dublin Dock Workers Preservation Society 'Are You A Button Man?', combining the stories of retired dockers with songs of the trade.

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 £15.00 per pitch.

There are several B&Bs in the area – for a list, contact:
Tourist Information: 01224 269180 (Banchory Library 01330 700441)
Bursaries are available for singers under 25 years in full-time education.

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

Traditional Singing Weekend

BOOKING FORM – Please book early to avoid disappointment.		
First Name(s)		
Surname		
Address		
Postcode Email		
Telephone (day) (evening)		
Names of other persons included on form		
Tickets Number of tickets		
All Weekend	@ £38	£
All Saturday	@ £25	£
All Sunday	@£16	£
Sat Eve Concert	@ £12	£
Sunday Concert	@ £10	£
All-weekend meal ticket	@ £48	£
Pitch for Camping	@£15	£
Cheques payable to: 'The Traditional Singing Weekend'. Payment can be made by BACS. Please enquire.		
Total in £ sterling £		
Indicate camping or caravanning requirements:		