



Traditional Singing Weekend

Programme

The Traditional Singing Weekend

Cullerlie Farm Park

Echt, Skene

Aberdeenshire

AB32 6XL

Booking Enquiries – Tel: 07887 843746

Email: ericandtracey@btinternet.com

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 weekend is organised by:

Tracey Walker (Tom & Anne's daughter), Eric Walker (Treasurer), Scott Gardiner, Ian Russell (Director), Norma Russell (Secretary), Robin Dempsey, and Morag Dempsey.

The Singing Weekend 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 north-east 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.

A big 'Thank You' to our sponsors

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Coupers (Fish Processors) of Aberdeen

The Friends of the Elphinstone Institute

And other much appreciated donors.

FRIDAY

7.30–11.30 'The Tearoom Come-All-Ye' – weekenders & guests

SATURDAY

10.00–11.30 **Workshop A** – Irish Songs with Niamh Parsons and Bennery Quinn

Workshop C – Farmhouse Cooking with Shirley Foulkes

Workshop D – Drystone Walling/Dyking, Will Noble

11.45–12.30 **The Cullerlie Talk** (Marquee), Doc Rowe 'The Sang's The Thing' - Doc reflects on nearly sixty years spent recording and filming some of the great Scottish tradition bearers.

12.30–2.30 **Lunchtime**

2.30–5.00 **Singaround A** – Jill Pidd & Moira Stewart

Singaround B – Bennery Quinn

Singaround C – Neil Sutcliffe

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

10.00–11.15 **Workshop A** – Scots Songs with Alison McMorland

Workshop C – Old Time Crafts with Doug Garrick

Workshop D – Horseshoe making with Donald Nicol

11.45–1.30 **Lunchtime Singarounds**

Singaround A – Niamh Parsons & Scott Gardiner

Singaround B – Will Noble

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 **D** = Outside

THE TRADITIONAL SINGING WEEKEND AT CULLERLIE 24-26 JULY 2026

*A celebration of the singing traditions of Scotland,
England, and Ireland in memory of
Tom Reid (1929–2003) and Anne Reid (1939–2006)*



Photo: John A. M. Anderson

Tom and Anne



The weekend 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, and includes workshops, craft demonstrations, and a talk.

Guests Appearing:

Alison McMorland is a stalwart of Scotland's singing tradition. Born in Renfrewshire of Ayrshire, Irish stock into a highly musical family, she was described by her mentor and friend Hamish Henderson "... as one of the principal modern interpreters of an ancestral ballad singing tradition." She learnt from traditional singers, in particular the settled traveller Lucy Stewart and the shepherd Willie Scott. Alison produced his book and also edited Elizabeth Stewart's award winning memoir.

Bennery Quinn was born and raised in Leixlip, Co. Kildare, and surrounded by Irish traditional music and song since she was a child. Her late grandfather Miceal Ned (Mick Quinn) is well known in the traditional singing world, as is her father Mícheál Quinn. Aside from singing, Bennery also plays the flute and tin whistle. She has been a guest performer at Whitby Folk Week, Frank Harte Singing Festival, Inishowen Singing Weekend, "Revival of Life Festival", and Góilín Singing Club.

Doc Rowe has been documenting, recording, and filming the performances and testimony of singers, musicians, and storytellers for over sixty years. His wide-ranging collecting has resulted in unequalled documentation capturing living traditions, individual artistry and community memory, much of which would otherwise be lost. His illustrated talk "The Sang's The Thing" will reflect on the long-standing associations and friendships that are central to his collecting, with selected highlights including, in many cases, the only existing filmed performances by significant Scottish tradition-bearers.

Jill Pidd, a native of Hull, was a founder member of the famous Rugby Hotel Folk club whose residents also included Ian Manuel, Mike Waterson and Jim Eldon. Now living between Whitby and Robin Hood's Bay, she is proud to have toured as one of the Watersons in the first half of the '90s - particularly on their USA tours. She also performed with Mike and Ann Waterson as MichaelAnnJillo, and later in a duo with Mike. For many years she has been a regular at Whitby, The National, Holmfirth, Forkhill, and Inishowen festivals.

Maira Stewart from Turriff has lived in Aberdeenshire all her life. She is a regular prizewinner at festivals throughout north-east Scotland, singing traditional songs and bothy ballads from the area. She learned a lot of these from old tapes and CDs, and is starting to explore the

wealth of songs archived by The School of Scottish Studies in "The Kist o Riches". Her favourite current singers are Sheena Wellington, Christine Kydd and Margaret Bennett.

Neil Sutcliffe is a folksinger and accordionist from Stirling. His style of singing is strongly influenced by the sangsters he has met and learned from - Geordie McIntyre, Alison McMorland, Adam McNaughtan and of course his parents Jo Miller and Steve Sutcliffe. He has a particular interest in political protest songs and humorous songs.

Niamh Parsons has come to be known as one of the most distinctive voices in Irish music. Her voice has drawn comparisons to such venerated singers as Dolores Keane, June Tabor, and Sandy Denny. As well as touring and performing all over the world, Niamh teaches and mentors the students at the Ballyfermot College of Further Education as a valued member of the Ceoltoir traditional music performance course. Niamh also leads a traditional song choir practice at Ceoltoiri Chluain Tarbh in Dublin and is a committee member of the Howth Singing Circle.

Scott Gardiner An amazing singer and all-round fantastic person, Scott also puts together the biographies for the Cullerlie programme :)

Will Noble is a builder, stonemason and champion dry stone waller, who also worked on the land in his younger days and in the field test department for David Brown tractors. He sings traditional songs from the Pennine area of Yorkshire, learnt from wonderful old singers like Arthur Howard and Frank Hinchliffe. He was first asked to sing at a festival in 1981 and since then has performed at folk clubs and festivals all over the UK, and at Pinewoods Camp in the USA.

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.

Bursaries are available for singers under 25 years in full-time education.



Cullerlie Farm Park, Echt, Skene, Aberdeenshire AB32 6XL (07887 843746)

Interactive Booking Form - Please complete online

First Name(s)

Surname

Address

Email

Telephone

Names of other persons included on form

Tickets - This is an interactive form. When paying by Bacs, please complete, save as a file, and email to: ericandtracey@btinternet.com

Number of tickets

All Weekend	@ £48	£
All Saturday	@ £32	£
All Sunday	@ £20	£
Sat Eve Concert	@ £15	£
Sunday Concert	@ £12	£
All-weekend meal ticket	@ £50	£
Pitch for Camping	@ £15	£

Payment preferably by BACS– Sort code: 80 08 41 Acc: 00101805
Ref: TSW + Surname.

Or Cheque payable to: 'The Traditional Singing Weekend' – send with completed form to address overleaf.

Total in £ sterling £

Indicate dietary requirements: