



# HEBRIDEAN HOPSCOTCH

More Tunes and Songs from the Scottish Islands  
*selected by Nigel Gratherer*



# HEBRIDEAN HOPSCOTCH



All aboard! All aboard for the second half of our musical journey through the islands of Scotland. The islands have such a strong cultural heritage that you can't help being entranced. We all become islanders!

*Nigel Gatherer*

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# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



## Leaving Barra (MacKinnon)

Gaelic waltz

G D Em G Bm Em D D G Em  
 Bm D G Bm Am D G D Em G  
 Bm Em D D G  
 C D C G Bm G G



## Fair Maid of Barra (Campbell)

Gaelic waltz

D F#m A A D  
 F#m D Em A D Em D  
 Em A D G D A A D

Leaving Barra

Sources: *Leaving Barra* Composed by Michael MacKinnon, this is possibly best known as a song sung by Calum Kennedy. My setting comes from the playing of Jimmy Shand.  
*Fair Maid of Barra* Written by John Campbell of Barra. I once read that the fair maid in question was Morag MacAulay (1911-1998), a Barra historian, storyteller and Gaelic singer.



# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



## *An Cluinn thu Mi Mo Nighean Donn* (traditional)

song air

Chords: G C G D Bm Em G D G C G Em C Bm Em G D G

## *The MacMillans of Eriskay* (Anderson) reel

Chords: G G D7 G G D7 G G D7 G C G D7 G D7 G



Sources: *A Cluinn thu Mi Mo Nighean Donn* A fisherman's song from Eriskay, I first heard it from Bob Massie.

*The MacMillans of Eriskay* Written by fiddler Paul Anderson

*Cluinn thu Mi*

# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



## Rowing from Islay to Uist (traditional)

air

Bm A Bm Em F#m Bm A

F#m A Em D A Bm A Bm A

Bm Em F#m Bm A

F#m A Em D A Bm



D D A A

D Bm A Bm

This is an old rowing tune, found untitled in Patrick McDonald's 1784 collection. Most people today know it from an influential 1978 recording by the group Ossian.



Rowing from Islay to Uist

# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



## The Eigg Poachers (Nigel Gatherer)

slow jig

Em D Em D Em Em D

Em D D Em Em D Em D

Em D Em D D Em

## Kinloch Castle, Rum (Iain Peterson)

reel

Em D Em

D Em D Em G Bm D Em

Em D Em D



Eigg Poachers

*I was inspired by a tune called A Trip to Eigg, but my tune came out very differently, so I renamed it. Kinloch Castle is a mansion on Rum which built between 1897 and 1900. It is now owned by Scottish Natural Heritage.*

# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



## Alas That I was Not Born Blind (Wm Ross)

song air

Chords: G Em C D G C G G

Chords: G C Am Bm Em G C D G

Chords: Em C D G C G G

## The Garden of Skye (Harper)

march

Chords: G D G C



Chords: D C Am D G D G G C G D

Chords: G C G D G C Am D G D G

Sources: *Alas That I was Not Born Blind (Is Truagh Nach D'Rugadh Dall Mi)* is a Gaelic song composed by Skye-born William Ross (1762-1791), about a woman whose face causes anguish to thousands of men. It is sometimes known as Fill o Ro.

*The Garden of Skye* was composed by Wick fiddler Addie Harper, leader of the Wick Scottish Dance Band. The "Garden of Skye" is the Sleat peninsula.



Alas That I...

# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



## Raasay House (traditional)

reel

D D G D A D D  
 D G D A D G D A D  
 D G D A D G A D

## Mrs MacLeod of Raasay (trad)

reel

A A A



Bm E7 A A D E7 A A  
 A E7 A A D Bm E7

Sources: **Raasay House:** I've been racking my brain trying to remember where this came from, without luck. There are two other tunes of the same name, but they are completely different. **Mrs MacLeod of Raasay** is one of the most widespread tunes in the world, with settings from Ireland, the U.S. and Canada. This one here is a standard setting in Scotland.



Raasay House



# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



## The Dark Island (Iain McLachlan)

air

Am Em C G G G

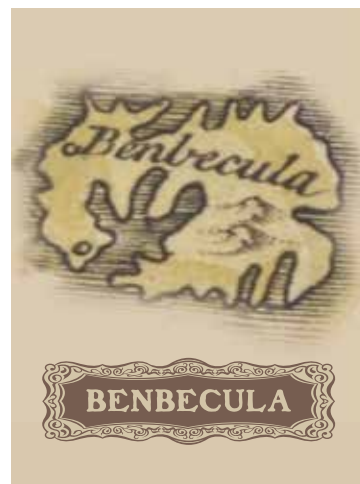
G Am Am Em C G

G D C G

G G C G

G G G Am Am Em

C G G Am C G



Originally called Dr MacKay's Farewell to Creagorry by accordionist Iain McLachlan, the tune was used for a television programme called The Dark Island, and became known under that title forever after. There have been at least three sets of words written to the tune.

Dark Island

# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



## Uidhist Mo Gràidh (Uist My Love) (Matheson)

Gaelic waltz

## S Georgia Whaling Song (MacMillan) waltz



S Georgia Whaling Song

**Uist My Love (Uidhist Mo Gràidh):** Composed by Gaelic singer Alasdair Matheson of North Uist. He was a popular singer who also owned the Crown Hotel in Stornoway. He died in the early 1970s.  
**South Georgia Whaling Song:** Written by Donald "Dottie" MacMillan from Kilpheder in South Uist. Its Gaelic title is Cha Till Mis a' Seoladh.

# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



## Harris Dance (2) (traditional)

reel

## Harris Dance (1) (traditional)



Sources: Both of these tunes come from the Patrick McDonald Collection of 1884, wherein there are many tunes without names, some of which are described as "a Skye dance" or in this case, "a Harris dance". The first is transcribed from the playing of Scots fiddler Alasdair Fraser from a 1986 recording, while the second has been recorded many times by different musicians and groups. This setting is the one played by Blazin' Fiddles on their album *The Key* (2017).



Harris Dance

# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



## Bayble Island (Ian Crichton)

polka

Sheet music for *Bayble Island* in D major, 2/4 time. The music is arranged for cello and includes guitar chords: D, G, D, D, A, D, A, G, D, G, A, D, D, A, D, G, Em, A, D, G, A.



## Lewis Lilt (traditional)

polka

Sheet music for *Lewis Lilt* in D major, 2/4 time. The music is arranged for cello and includes guitar chords: G, D7, G, Bm, Am, C, G, D7, G, Bm, D7, G, G, Am, G, Bm, Am, G, G, Am, G, Bm, D7, G.

Sources: *Taynuilt to Bayble Island* is a 2/4 pipe march composed by Ian Crichton for the writer Iain Crichton Smith, who was born in the village of Bayble on the east coast of Lewis. I have adapted it into a polka. I got *Lewis Lilt* from the playing of accordionist Bobby MacLeod. There is a whole load of tunes related to it. Adapted and arranged by me.



Bayble Island

Bayble Island