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B 0478  
 British Transport Commission (H)  
 KYLEAKIN FERRY  
 Accompanied Motor Car 22/6 For One Return Journey  
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 AT OWNER'S RISK  
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 KYLEAKIN FERRY  
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# 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

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

Chords: Bm D G Bm Am D G D Em G

Chords: Bm Em D D G

Chords: C D C G Bm G G

## Fair Maid of Barra (Campbell)

Gaelic waltz

Chords: D F#m A A D

Chords: F#m D Em A D Em D

Chords: Em A D G D A A D

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.

Leaving Barra

# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



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

song air

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



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

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

Chords: Bm A Bm Em F#m Bm A

Chords: F#m A Em D A Bm A Bm A

Chords: Bm Em F#m Bm A

Chords: F#m A Em D A Bm

Chords: D D A A

Chords: D Bm A Bm



Rowing from Islay to Uist

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.





# 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

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.

Eigg Poachers

# Nigel Gatherer's Scottish Collection



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

song air

Musical notation for "Alas That I was Not Born Blind" (Wm Ross). The piece is in G major, 3/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble clef staff and a mandolin tablature staff below it. Chords are indicated above the notes.

System 1: G Em C D G C G G

System 2: G C Am Bm Em G C D G

System 3: Em C D G C G G



## The Garden of Skye (Harper)

march

Musical notation for "The Garden of Skye" (Harper). The piece is in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble clef staff and a mandolin tablature staff below it. Chords are indicated above the notes.

System 1: G D G C

System 2: D C Am D G D G G C G D

System 3: 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

Musical notation for Raasay House (traditional) in D major, 4/4 time. The piece consists of three systems of music, each with a treble clef staff and a mandolin tablature staff below it. Chord symbols (D, G, A) are placed above the treble staff. The tablature uses numbers 0-5 to indicate fret positions.



## Mrs MacLeod of Raasay (trad)

reel

Musical notation for Mrs MacLeod of Raasay (trad) in D major, 4/4 time. It consists of one system of music with a treble clef staff and a mandolin tablature staff. Chord symbols (A) are placed above the treble staff.

Musical notation for Mrs MacLeod of Raasay (trad) in D major, 4/4 time. This system continues the piece with a treble clef staff and a mandolin tablature staff. Chord symbols (Bm, E7, A, D, E7) are placed above the treble staff.

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



air

## The Dark Island (Iain McLachlan)

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

Musical score for "Uist My Love" (Uidhist Mo Gràidh) by Matheson. The score is in 3/4 time and G major. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble clef staff and a mandolin tablature staff. The chords are: G, G, C, D, G, Em, Bm, D, G, Em, C, D, G, D7, C, G.



## S Georgia Whaling Song (MacMillan) waltz

Musical score for "S Georgia Whaling Song" by MacMillan. The score is in 3/4 time and A major. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble clef staff and a mandolin tablature staff. The chords are: A, F#m, C#m, E, A, C#m, F#m, E, A, F#m, C#m, E, D, C#m, D, A, D, F#m, C#m, E, D, F#m, A, E, A, F#m, C#m, E, D, C#m, D, A.

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

Musical notation for Harris Dance (2) in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music, each with a treble clef staff and a mandolin tablature staff below it. Chords G, A, Em, and A are indicated above the notes. The tablature uses numbers 0-5 to represent fret positions.



## Harris Dance (1) (traditional)

Musical notation for Harris Dance (1) in C major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music, each with a treble clef staff and a mandolin tablature staff below it. Chords C and Am are indicated above the notes. The tablature uses numbers 0-5 to represent fret positions.

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

Musical score for Bayble Island, featuring treble and bass clefs, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The score includes chord diagrams (D, G, A, Em) and fret numbers for the mandolin.



## Lewis Lilt (traditional)

polka

Musical score for Lewis Lilt, featuring treble and bass clefs, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The score includes chord diagrams (G, D7, Bm, Am, C) and fret numbers for the mandolin.

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**