



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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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



BARRA

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

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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

Ukulele notation (TAB) and staff notation for *An Cluinn thu Mi Mo Nighean Donn*.



The MacMillans of Eriskay (Anderson) reel

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

Ukulele notation (TAB) and staff notation for *The MacMillans of Eriskay*.

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

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air

Rowing from Islay to Uist (traditional)

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




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

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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

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

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Alas That I was Not Born Blind (Wm Ross)

song air

Ukulele notation for "Alas That I was Not Born Blind" (Wm Ross). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The notation includes a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp and a ukulele staff with a key signature of one sharp. The ukulele staff includes fret numbers (0-5) and chord symbols (G, Em, C, D, G, C, G, G, G, C, Am, Bm, Em, G, C, D, G, Em, C, D, G, C, G, G).

The Garden of Skye (Harper)

march

Ukulele notation for "The Garden of Skye" (Harper). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notation includes a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp and a ukulele staff with a key signature of one sharp. The ukulele staff includes fret numbers (0-5) and chord symbols (G, D, G, C).



Ukulele notation for "The Garden of Skye" (Harper). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notation includes a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp and a ukulele staff with a key signature of one sharp. The ukulele staff includes fret numbers (0-5) and chord symbols (D, C, Am, D, G, D, G, G, C, G, D, 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...

reel

◆ RAASAY ◆

reel

HEB

4/4

120

RAASAY

4/4

4-2 0-0 2-0-2 0 4-4-2-4 4-2 0-0 2-0-2 0

4/4

2-2-0-2-5-4-2 0-0 2-0-2 0 4-4-2-4 0 2-2-4-2-0-2-4 0 2-0 2-0 1 4-2 0-2-4-5-7-0-4-0 4-4-2-4-4-2

4/4

0-2-4-5-7-0-4-0 2-2-0-2-5-4-2 0-2-4-5-7-0-4-0 4-4-2-4 0 2-2-4-2-0-2-4 0 2-0 2-0 1



Raasay House

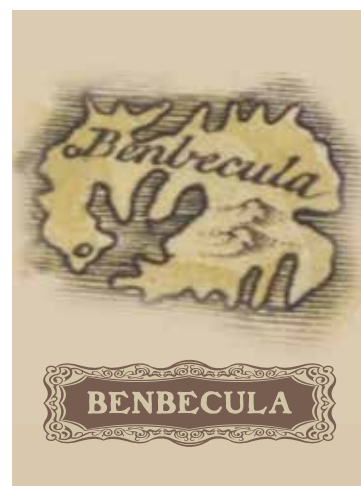
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The Dark Island (Iain McLachlan)

Ukulele notation for "The Dark Island" in G major, 3/4 time. The piece consists of 24 measures across six systems. Chords are indicated above the staff: Am, Em, C, G, G, G, G, Am, Am, Em, C, G, G, D, C, G, G, G, C, G, Am, Am, Em, C, G, G, Am, C, G.

Ukulele tablature is provided below the staff, with fret numbers (0-5) and fingerings (1-4) indicated. The notation includes standard musical symbols for notes, rests, and bar lines.



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

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Uidhist Mo Gràidh (Uist My Love) (Matheson)

Gaelic waltz

Sheet music for Uidhist Mo Gràidh (Uist My Love) in 3/4 time, key of D major. The music is written for guitar and ukulele. The guitar part is in standard notation, and the ukulele part is in tablature. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 3/4. The music is a waltz.

Chords: G, G, C, D, G, Em, Bm, D, G, Em, C, D, G, D7, C, G.

S Georgia Whaling Song (MacMillan)

waltz

Sheet music for S Georgia Whaling Song in 3/4 time, key of D major. The music is written for guitar and ukulele. The guitar part is in standard notation, and the ukulele part is in tablature. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 3/4. The music is a waltz.

Chords: 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.

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reel

Harris Dance (2) (traditional)

Sheet music for Harris Dance (2) in G major, 4/4 time. The music is written for guitar and ukulele, with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The guitar part is written in standard notation, and the ukulele part is written in tablature. The music consists of three systems of staves, each with a guitar staff and a ukulele staff. The first system has a G chord above the first measure and an A chord above the second measure. The second system has an Em chord above the first measure and an A chord above the second measure. The third system has an A chord above the first measure and a G chord above the second measure. The music ends with a double bar line.

Harris Dance (1) (traditional)

Sheet music for Harris Dance (1) in C major, 4/4 time. The music is written for guitar and ukulele, with a treble clef and a key signature of no sharps or flats. The guitar part is written in standard notation, and the ukulele part is written in tablature. The music consists of three systems of staves, each with a guitar staff and a ukulele staff. The first system has a C chord above the first measure and a C chord above the second measure. The second system has a C chord above the first measure and an Am chord above the second measure. The third system has an Am chord above the first measure and a G chord above the second measure. The music ends with a double bar line.



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

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Bayble Island (Ian Crichton)

polka

Sheet music for Bayble Island (Ian Crichton) in 2/4 time, key of D major. The music is arranged for ukulele and includes a treble clef staff and a guitar-style staff with fret numbers (0-5). The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked as a polka.

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 (traditional) in 2/4 time, key of D major. The music is arranged for ukulele and includes a treble clef staff and a guitar-style staff with fret numbers (0-5). The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked as a polka.

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