

THE BALLAUGH HARVEST HOME
(1874) *



BALANCE-SHEET OF BALLAUGH
Harvest Home Tea Festival & Concert
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE POOR.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.
Received for Tickets	4	16	7
T. Craine, Esq., C.P., in lieu of Tray	0	5	0
Mrs Gill, Chestnut Cottage, do	0	5	0
Mrs Craine, Brook Villa, do	0	5	0
Mrs Harrison, Cheltenham	0	10	0
F.E. Harrison, Esq.	0	5	0
A Friend	1	0	0
A Friend	0	5	0
Cash taken at door	6	19	6
Discount from Mr Mortimer	0	5	0
Do Messrs Brown and Son	0	1	6
Bread and Candles sold	1	18	7
	£ 16	16	2
 <i>Cr.</i>			
Dawson—Coach Hire	0	12	0
Music	0	5	2
Mortimer—Bread Account	5	1	3
Brown and Son—Printing	0	7	6
Curphey do	0	7	6
Coals, 2s 9d; Attendance, 7s	0	9	9
Candles	0	4	6
Hampton, for Tickets	0	14	6
Chair broken	0	4	0
Balance for distribution amongst the Poor	8	10	0
	£ 16	16	2

* Originally published as Stephen Miller, “The Ballaugh Harvest Home (1874),” *Ballaugh Heritage Trust Newsletter* 16 (2018), 14–15.

THE BALLAUGH HARVEST HOME (1874)

During the Christmas there was also collected and received in subscriptions, by the Rector and Wardens, the sum of £22 10s 7d: making a total of £31 0s 7d to be divided amongst the Poor.

“Balance-Sheet of Ballaugh Harvest Home Tea Festival & Concert.” *Isle of Man Times* 9 January 1875: 8d.

The Ballaugh Harvest Home Tea Festival and Concert was held on Tuesday, 24 November 1874, and a write up of the various goings-on and those involved appeared in the *Mona's Herald* in its Thursday issue of 26 November 1874.¹ The publication of the balance sheet is unusual and this is the first one spotted in the Manx papers. It allows for a look at the expenses of the evening and the financial outcome that was intended to aid the poor of the parish of Ballaugh. The total gathered in was £16 16s 2d with with, however, nearly half of that sum, £8 6s 2d, going on the expenses of holding the event. Of that sum, £5 1s 3d went towards the purchase of bread, and one wonders with an expenditure of around £5 just how much bread could be purchased for that amount in 1874. The bread (and the candles for that matter) was not all consumed and some £1 18s 7d came from selling what was left over at the end of the evening. The food on the night was provided by donation, hence the reference to trays and the listing of names in newspaper accounts of those who did so provide. Some chose to make a cash donation as noted here. With no mention of what was on the trays themselves, there is then no insight into what was the typical menu of fare for such a festive event as was the Harvest Home. On a final note, one wonders how the chair came to be broken, but however and whoever, it had to be paid for, and so 4s for the poor was lost as a result.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2018



¹ Anon, “[Ramsey and the North] Ballaugh Harvest Home Tea Festival and Concert,” *Mona's Herald* 26 November 1874: 5c.