

Manx Notes 372 (2019)

JOHN CLEATOR
“OLLICK GENNAL AS BLIEN VIE NOA”
(1932)

OLLICK GENNAL AS BLIEN VIE NOA

Hibben an' Holly; Let all be jolly
An' make a cheerful noise
Through all the lan' with mollag ban'
An' gallant lil White Boys.

An' let all discord have an end,
Let every man now be your friend;
Chris'mas is here an' tha's the for—
Shout Ollick gennal as blien Vie Noa.

J.N.

John Cleator [signed as “J[ohn] N[oa]”]. “Ollick Gennal as Blien Vie Noa.” *Ramsey Courier* 23 December 1932: 4e.

*

The chances of seeing the White Boys and especially the Mollag Band were slight in Ramsey in 1932, but their recalling to mind is still a connection with them and a reminder of past days. Regardless, one can still “[s]hout Ollick gennal as blien Vie Noa,” the very words themselves meaningful only in the Island.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2019

