

Manx Notes 591 (2022)

“MANX BROADCAST” *

(1932)

A talk on Manx folksongs was broadcast from the North Regional Station on Friday evening, the speaker being Mr Ramsey B. Moore. H.M. Attorney-General, who in a very charming manner told the story of how the Manx airs were collected and preserved from dying out by the quiet researches of Dr John Clague, of Castletown. He described how Dr Clague, going on his rounds as a physician, would chat with old cottagers, and persuade them to sing the old scraps of songs remembered from an old-style Manx childhood, or would “yarn” with the fishermen and sailors aboard their smacks and schooners. Songs were rendered by Misses Nora Gell and Margaret Christian, Messrs John Christian and Alan Quirk, with Mrs H. Towler at the piano.

“Manx Broadcast.” *Ramsey Courier* 24 June 1932: 3d.

As to whether or not Clague went among the Island so collecting folk songs, a familiar conceit, see Stephen Miller, “‘The Ploughman in Wind-Swept Fields,’ The Folk Singers found by Dr John Clague,” *Manx Notes* 147 (2013), 1–4.

Stephen Miller, RBV

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* Originally published as Stephen Miller, “‘Manx Broadcast’ (1932),” *Kiaull Manninagh Jiu* December (2022), [18].