

Manx Notes 643 (2024)

“TELEPHONE NUMBER TORQUAY 4693” *

(1959)

This week we have had a letter from a reader in Torquay who says that in December, 1906, he was staying in a boarding-house in Durban, South Africa, when two Manxmen came to stay there. While in South Africa, they had written a Manx song which they published under the title “Boghey Vec Vilish.” He adds, “I managed to strum it on the piano for them and everyone around thought it was good. If any of your people interested in music would like the song—I have not got a written copy—I would either make a small tape recording (if they would send me a tape) or sing it to them over the phone any evening.” The man who makes this novel offer is Mr George Eastman, 2, Atlantic Court, Beacon Terrace, Torquay (telephone number Torquay 4693). By the way, the authors have got astray in the Manx title. It probably is “Boght Veg Villish” (Sweet Little Thing).

Pseud [signed as “Islander”]. “[At Random...] Torquay Offer.” *Isle of Man Weekly Times* 20 March 1959: 3c.

Whilst a kind offer of Mr Eastman, one feels that he has certainly taken his time to inform readers of the *Isle of Man Weekly Times* of his offer. Nevertheless, a reminder of how music making can function as a reminder of places now left.

Stephen Miller RBV

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