

Sunday, January 24, 2016 3:00 PM Centretown United Church 507 Bank Street

Ottawa

REPUBLIC OFDOYLE

Old-time songs of Newfoundland from the Gerald S. Doyle collection



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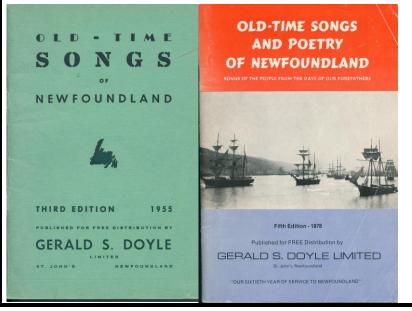
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James "Bruce" Henderson 1950-2015

Bruce was a hiker, poet, traveler and a lifelong learner. Learning new things was Bruce's great delight: singing with the Atlantic Voices, playing bridge, walking on his hands, cooking. He combined two great interests as Poet Laureate of the Rideau Trail. Bruce was well known for his unique sense of humour. The members of Atlantic Voices will miss his voice and his incredible outlook on life. Here is one of his poems, which helps lend insight into this amazing man.

Nature is too Extravagant (November 2006)

When it rains Noah's predicament Comes as no surprise

The leaves pile up in autumn
Enough to bury civilization
If the street cleaners and blowers
Faded away

And winter?
No subtle veneer of snow and ice
But blasting blizzards
That pile it on so deep
The ERs fill with the infarctions
Of desperate shovellers

A little entropy of weather Might be nice The smoothing down Of high pressure and low

A universal calm
When the weather channel chants
'Om"



Our Mascot SS Marítíme Atlantííka RIP 2007-2015



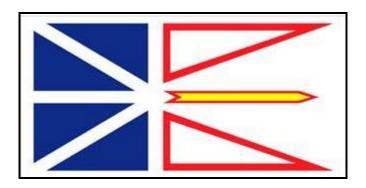
Ode to Newfoundland

When sun-rays crown thy pine-clad hills, And summer spreads her hand, When silvern voices tune thy rills, We love thee, smiling land. We love thee, we love thee, We love thee, smiling land.

When spreads thy cloak of shimm'ring white, At Winter's stern command, Thro' shortened day and starlit night, We love thee, frozen land, We love thee, we love thee, We love thee, frozen land,

When blinding storm gusts fret thy shore, And wild waves lash thy strand, Thro' sprindrift swirl and tempest roar, We love thee, wind-swept land, We love thee, we love thee, We love thee, wind-swept land.

As loved our fathers, so we love Where once they stood we stand; Their prayer we raise to Heaven above, God guard thee, Newfoundland. God guard thee, God guard thee God guard thee Newfoundland.



Atlantic Voices: The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa

Atlantic Voices: The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa was founded in the spring of 2002. Atlantic Voices is an amateur choir in its fourteenth season, with a repertoire consisting mainly of Newfoundland, Maritime, and Celtic songs and music. Its members are primarily made up of expatriate Newfoundlanders, Labradorians and Maritimers, but singers and musicians from any background are more than welcome to join.

Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings at the Riverside Churches of Ottawa (3191 Riverside Drive) from 7-9:30 p.m. If you would like to join the choir, please contact our president by email to: president@atlanticvoices.ca. Visit our website at www.atlanticvoices.ca for more information about the choir.

Scott Richardson, Musical Director

Scott Richardson is active as a freelance accompanist and choir director. He is the pianist for the Ottawa Choral Society, and has also accompanied the Carleton University Choir, the Canadian Centennial Choir and the Ottawa Children's Choir. In addition to his freelance piano work, Scott maintains a busy schedule of private teaching. Since 2007, he has been the Music Director of Atlantic Voices: The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa. As well as conducting Atlantic Voices, Scott is also the Music Director of Musica Viva Singers of Ottawa.

Scott grew up in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and studied music at Mount Allison University. His graduate studies took him in a different direction, however, and he completed a Ph.D. in English literature at the University of Ottawa. As an organist and choir director, Scott has held various positions in the Atlantic Provinces and in Ottawa, and is currently Music Director at Orleans United Church.

Theresa Clarke, Accompanist

Theresa Clarke holds Bachelor of Music and Education degrees from the University of Ottawa. She has enjoyed the past thirty-four years serving Ottawa's musical community as a Musical Director, Pianist, Organist, and Piano Accompanist. Theresa presently teaches Music at Sacred Heart Catholic High School, where she is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Sacred Arts Performance Program which provides training and performance opportunities for young vocalists, instrumentalists, dancers and actors.

Theresa has served as the Musical Director for musical theatre productions for GOYA Theatre Productions, Maple Leaf Productions, Act Out Theatre, and the Ottawa School of Speech and Drama. Theresa is currently the Musical Director for the Confidential Musical Theatre Production (Montreal), the Music Minister and Organist for Emmanuel United Church, and the Piano Accompanist for the Atlantic Voices Choir and for the Ottawa Bach Choir.

Fumblin' Fingers

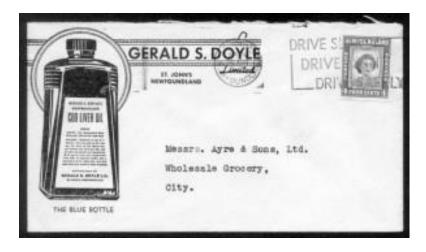
Since its formation in 2005, the Fumblin' Fingers Band has given 166 public performances at various fundraisers, seniors' residences, birthdays, lobster suppers, and kitchen parties. They have recorded 3 CDs, which are available for purchase in the Downstairs Hall following the concert.

Band members are Celeste Bradbury-Marshall (MC, singer, guitar, percussion), Lynn Petros (fiddle, mandolin), Wayne Mercer (guitar, mandolin), Dave Huddlestone (guitar, spoons, bass), Tom Murray (fiddle), and Hannie Fitzgerald (accordions, leader).

They can be contacted via their website: www.fumblinfingers.ca

Email: fumblinfingers@gmail.com





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Atlantic Voices: The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa

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Gayle Dumsday
Marla Fletcher
Gordon Gauld
Allan Higdon
David Huddlestone
Dan King
Roger McCullough
Allan McDonald
Robert Price
Al Ritchie
Lucas Stephenson

Basses

Winston Babin
David Fraser
Gérard Garneau
Victor Laurin
Don MacDonald
Roy Maddocks
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Gerry Matthews
Bill Morris
Doug Murphy
John O'Keefe
Julian Parker
Doug Sinclair
Darcy Terrell
Ted Welch

Programme Notes

Between 1927 and 1978, Gerald S. Doyle produced 5 editions of a Newfoundland songbook that he gave away through his booming pharmacy business. They played a huge role in popularizing homegrown Newfoundland folksongs around the island and far beyond. At the time, song collectors in the English-speaking world were focused on finding scraps of ancient ballads miraculously surviving in the modern world. Doyle, however, was interested not in antiquity but in the recent song-making culture of the island, and he tried to preserve that local musical tradition. Our programme highlights the way these songbooks created our very notion of the 'Newfoundland folksong tradition'.

Ode to Newfoundland

Governor Sir Cavendish Boyle composed the words to this beloved anthem in 1902, as a four-verse poem entitled *Newfoundland*. British composer Sir Hubert Parry, a personal friend of Boyle, set the poem to music. On May 20, 1904 it was chosen as Newfoundland's official anthem. This distinction was dropped when Newfoundland joined the Canadian Confederation in 1949. Three decades later, in 1980, the province re-adopted the song as an official provincial anthem, the first province in Canada to do so.

Bonavist' Harbour (Feller from Fortune)

In the fifties, the National Museum of Canada sent Kenneth Peacock to collect folksongs in Newfoundland. This song was one of his notable finds, collected not in an outport, ironically, but in St. John's. Peacock later travelled to Fortune and inquired unsuccessfully about the 'Feller' of the title. He did record a variant called *The Feller from Burgeo* from a local singer, but the words on the recording were inaudible. Peacock suggests that "the words that were audible indicated that the variant would probably be unprintable anyway." The popular version of *Feller from Fortune* steers clear of anything explicitly obscene, using 'fishing' as a euphemism. Gerald S. Doyle included several selections from the Museum's collection in the 1955 edition of his songbook, and thanks to its appearance in that publication, within a decade of Peacock's visit, *Feller from Fortune* became one of the best-loved Newfoundland songs. Our arrangement is by Newfoundland composer Donald Cook.

The Wreck of the Steamship Ethie

Ed English was captain of the Steamship Ethie on Dec.10th, 1919 when she was set upon by a fierce winter gale and shipwrecked on a shoal near Martin's Point, Bonne Bay, Newfoundland. All 92 on board were

saved, including a baby who was sent ashore in a mail bag. Captain English was presented with an award for his seamanship during this disaster.

Lukey's Boat

Nova Scotia and Newfoundland have both claimed this song as a local composition. Folksong collector Helen Creighton was told by her Nova Scotian singers that 'Lukey' was a Lunenburg man. But according to tradition in Brookfield, Bonavista Bay (NL), the composer was Virtue Kean, a locally famous poet and songwriter who set out to poke fun at local resident Luke Gaulton, and performed the song to great laughter at the Methodist Church Hall. Gaulton later had his revenge by adding his own verse making fun of Virtue's well-known hypochondria, and suggesting some scandal involving Kean and the local doctors. The song was first collected by Elisabeth Greenleaf in 1929 in Twillingate, NL. Its publication in the 1940 edition of the Gerald S. Doyle songbook helped solidify its status as a Newfoundland classic. In 2010, Canadian composer Donald Patriquin arranged Lukey's Boat as part of a set of folksongs commissioned by Musica Viva Singers of Ottawa. He dedicated the arrangement to his own grandson... Lukev! The tune Patriquin used was a Nova Scotian version of the melody, rather than the Newfoundland variant that Great Big Sea made familiar through their recordings.

'Twas Getting Late Up in September

This gentle love song originated in Labrador. It was collected by Kenneth Peacock in Broyle, on Newfoundland's Avalon Peninsula, while he was recording songs for the National Museum of Canada. For the 1955 edition of his songbook, Gerald S. Doyle selected a number of ballads from that National Museum collection, rescuing them from obscurity; 'Twas Getting Late Up in September was one of those additions.

My Father's Old Sou'wester

This song was collected by Kenneth Peacock in 1951 from a traditional singer in Stock Cove, Bonavista Bay. At the time, folklorists were searching for examples of folk culture that had been passed orally from generation to generation, but by mid-century the influence of mass media in even the most out-of-the-way places meant that singers were now mixing the old tunes with adapted versions of songs they had heard on the radio. *My Father's Old Sou'wester* was originally written for the radio drama *Irene B. Mellon*, which was broadcast over station VOGY. It was one of the 18 selections from Peacock's collection (along with *I'se the B'y* and *Feller from Fortune*) that Gerald S. Doyle included in his 1955 edition of the songbook.

The Blooming Bright Star of Belle Isle

This is a Newfoundland adaptation of an old Irish love song, *Loch Erin's Sweet Riverside*. It tells the familiar story of a lover who returns after a long absence, and tests his sweetheart's faithfulness before revealing himself to be her long-lost love. First published in *Ballads and Sea Songs of Newfoundland* in 1933, *The Blooming Bright Star of Belle Isle* was also included in the 1940 edition of the Doyle songbook, though set to a different tune than the one used by Eleanor Daley in our arrangement.

We'll Rant and We'll Roar (The Ryans and the Pittmans)

This Newfoundland favourite was composed in the 1880s by Henry LeMessurier, a civil servant, newspaper editor, and politician who represented Burin in the House of Assembly. The tune is based on the well-known sea chanty *Spanish Ladies*. The outports listed in the final verse are located on Placentia Bay.

Squid-Jiggin' Ground

Arthur Scammell wrote this comic tale of chaos on the squid-fishing ground as a school project when he was just 15 years old, setting his lyrics to the Irish fiddle tune *Larry O'Gaff*. *Squid-Jiggin' Ground* was first published in the 1940 edition of the Gerald S. Doyle songbook. Scammell went on to record the song in 1943. His recording was hugely popular, and the tune was later covered by everyone from Hank Snow to The Irish Rovers. Newfoundland native Kathleen Allan arranged it in 2013 for the Philharmonic Choir of the Newfoundland Symphony.

Kelligrew's Soiree

Johnny Burke, the "Bard of Prescott Street", was a prolific composer of topical songs about St. John's life at the turn of the 20th Century. His Kelligrew's Soiree is a comic ballad in the style of Irish popular songs of the day. A fancy-dress ball ends up in a brawl. The earliest version pokes fun solely at local characters, but in rewriting the song for a non-Newfoundland audience, Burke introduced the names of American political figures, including a few presidents, plus the names of some of the champion boxers of the era. The version we are performing this afternoon was composed especially for this concert by Canadian composer Janet Stachow.

Memorial at Beaumont-Hamel

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. On the first day of the battle, July 1st, 1916, the Newfoundland Regiment suffered horrendous losses in the attack at Beaumont-Hamel, France. Of 780 men who went forward, only 68 showed up for roll call the next day.

The Newfoundland Memorial Park at Beaumont-Hamel, France was dedicated to their memory in 1925. Ottawa choir director and organist Matthew Larkin wrote this composition on the occasion of the visit of the Anglican Chorale of Ottawa to the site. The text of his composition is taken from a poem by the English poet John Oxenham which is inscribed on the Dedication Stone at the memorial:

Tread softly here! Go reverently and slow!
Yea, let your soul go down upon its knees,
And with bowed head and heart abased strive hard
To grasp the future gain in this sore loss!
For not one foot of this dank sod but drank
Its surfeit of the blood of gallant men.
Who, for their faith, their hope,—for Life and Liberty,
Here made the sacrifice,—here gave their lives.
And gave right willingly—for you and me.

From this vast altar—pile the souls of men Sped up to God in countless multitudes:
On this grim cratered ridge they gave their all.
And, giving, won
The peace of Heaven and Immortality.
Our hearts go out to them in boundless gratitude:
If ours—then God's: for His vast charity
All sees, all knows, all comprehends—save bounds.
He has repaid their sacrifice:—and we—?
God help us if we fail to pay our debt
In fullest full and unstintingly!

A Land Called Labrador

Labrador musician Harry Martin spent his working days as a wildlife officer, which instilled in him a deep love of the landscape of the place. He has beautifully expressed that love in this contemporary folksong. Hannie Fitzgerald, a founding member of Atlantic Voices, and a proud Labradorian, has arranged Martin's song for the choir, and we present it today for the first time.

Petty Harbour Bait Skiff

This ballad, written by John Grace of St. John's, commemorates the events of June 8th, 1852, when a skiff was caught in a squall near Petty Harbour and all but one of its crew were drowned. The tragedy was witnessed by the whole community, who could do nothing to help. However, a Mr. Jacob Chafe was able to save one of the fishermen, 'young Menshon'; in a verse not included in our arrangement of the song, Chafe is hailed as "that hero brave". The song was first collected

by Gerald S. Doyle and became widely known thanks to his series of songbooks. Nancy Telfer arranged the song for treble choir in 1992. Her arrangement closes, somewhat surprisingly, with strong accents and a direction to sing forte. According to Telfer, that strong finish represents the grief of the people acting as "a protest against the sea itself."

A Great Big Sea

This song was collected by Gerald S. Doyle and published in the 1940 edition of his songbook. Although the lyrics are playful and are set to a lively dance tune, 'A Great Big Sea' was, in fact, inspired by a harrowing 1920 weather event, when a large storm in Bonavista Bay struck Canaille and Long Beach, pushing the beach across the road and around the home of the Keough family.

I'se the B'y

Kenneth Peacock collected this song from Lloyd Soper and Bob MacLeod of St. John's in 1951. 'I'se the B'y' was published in the 1955 edition of the Doyle songbook, which brought it to the attention of a wider Newfoundland public. It was also featured in the 1954 book Folk Songs of Canada by Edith Folke and Richard Johnston, which was used in classrooms throughout Canada. Through that publication, 'I'se the B'y' became perhaps the best-known of all Newfoundland songs. Our arrangement is by John Churchill, an English composer with an Ottawa connection: he was hired in the mid-1960s by Carleton University to create their new Music Department.

Let Me Fish off Cape St. Mary's

This gentle, nostalgic song about the rugged southern tip of the Avalon Peninsula has become such a part of Newfoundland culture that many assume it is an old ballad. In fact, *Let Me Fish Off Cape St. Mary's* was written in the mid-forties by Otto Kelland, the Superintendent of Her Majesty's Penitentiary in St. John's. He was also a skilled writer and, maker of model boats. The publication of *Let Me Fish Off Cape St. Mary's* in the 1955 Gerald S. Doyle songbook made it one of the most widely-known Newfoundland songs. We present it in a stirring new arrangement by Canadian composer Willi Zwozdesky.



Music Programme

Pre-Show Entertainment provided by Fumblin' Fingers

PART I

Ode to Newfoundland Sir Cavendish Boyle

arr. Hannie Fitzgerald & Norman E. Brown

Bonavist' Harbour Traditional Newfoundland
(Feller from Fortune) arr. D.F. Cook

(Feller from Fortune) arr. D.F. Cook **The Wreck of the Steamship Ethie** Traditional Newfoundland

arr. Donald Patriquin

Lukey's BoatTraditional
arr. Donald Patriquin

'Twas Getting Late Up in September Traditional Newfoundland arr. D.F. Cook

My Father's Old Sou'wester Traditional Newfoundland
(Violin: Ian Richardson) arr. D.F. Cook

The Blooming Bright Star of Belle Isle

Traditional Newfoundland

arr. Eleanor Daley

We'll Rant & We'll Roar

(The Ryans & the Pittmans)

Arthur Scammell

Arthur Scammell

Squid-Jiggin' Ground Arthur Scammell
arr. Kathleen Allen

Kelligrew's SoireeJohnny Burke
arr. Janet Stachow

Intermission & Silent Auction Bidding (Please join us in the Downstairs Hall)



PART II

Memorial at Beaumont-Hamel

(Solo: Doug Murphy)

A Land Called Labrador

Petty Harbour Bait Skiff

A Great Big Sea

(Spoons: David Huddlestone; Violin: Ian Richardson)

I'se the B'y

Let Me Fish Off Cape St. Mary's

Matthew Larkin

Harry Martin

arr. Hannie Fitzgerald

Traditional Newfoundland

arr. Nancy Telfer

Traditional Newfoundland

arr. Lori-Anne Dolloff

Traditional Newfoundland

arr. John. Churchill

Otto Kelland arr. Willi Zwozdesky

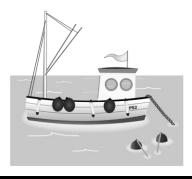
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Website

Please visit our website regularly for the latest information about Atlantic Voices: **www.atlanticvoices.ca**

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Want to hear more? *Atlantic Voices: The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa* has recorded several CDs that include repertoire from previous concerts. CDs and our 10th Anniversary cookbook are available for sale in the Downstairs Hall during the intermission and at the reception following the concert, as well as through our website.



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RIP Ron Hynes "The Man of a Thousand Songs"

Ron Hynes, the legendary singer/songwriter from Newfoundland, died in November 2015. A favourite of many members of Atlantic Voices, Ron was born in St. John's in December 1950, and was raised in Ferryland. He was a founding member of The Wonderful Grand Band, one of Newfoundland's most popular performing groups. Widely regarded as one of Canada's premier singer-songwriters, with a career spanning over 30 years, Hynes' songs have become part of the fabric of Newfoundland culture.

(Taken from Ron's website, http://hynesite.org/)

SONNY'S DREAM

Sonny lives on a farm, on a wide open space Where you can take off your sneakers, and give up the race And you can lay down your head, by the sweet river bed But Sonny always remembers what it was his mamma said

CHORUS

Oh Sonny don't go away, I am here all alone And your daddy's a sailor who never comes home And the nights get so long, and the silence goes on And I'm feeling so tired, I'm not all that strong.....

Sonny carries a load but he's barely a man There ain't all that to do, still he does what he can And he watches the sea, from a room by the stairs And the waves keep on rollin', they've done that for years

And it's a hundred miles to town, Sonny's never been there And he goes to the highway and stands there and stares And the mail comes at four, and the mailman is old Oh.. but he still has his dreams full of silver and gold....

Sonny's dreams can't be real, they're just stories he's read
They're just stars in his eyes, they're just dreams in his head
And he's hungry inside for the wild world outside
And I know I can't hold him, though I tried and I tried and I tried......

Thank you!

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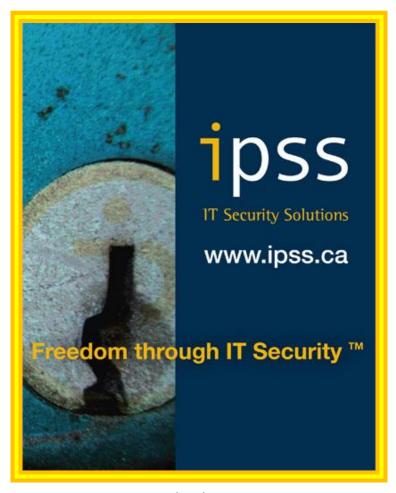
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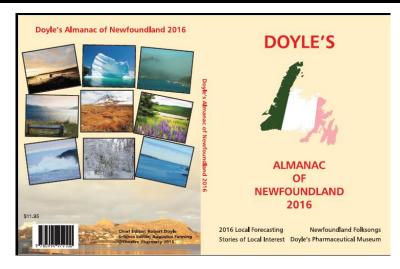
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Our new Atlantic Voices Mascot is the litter sister of our former Mascot, Atlantiika. She is a Newfoundland Dog named 'SS Maritime Splish, Splash', CD, DD, BDD, WRDX, CGN (meaning Companion Dog, Draft Dog, Brace Draft Dog, Water Rescue Dog Excellent, and Canine Good Neighbour), a.k.a. "Splash". Splash was born July 18th, 2007. As is common of her breed, Splash loves people, especially children, and is very gentle. Like many of the Atlantic Voices choir members, Splash's genes go back to the island of Newfoundland. Her ancestors loved the sea and the people of the island. These strong waterdogs were loyal and loving companions who worked very hard on shore and at sea. They pulled in fishing nets, delivered mail, and hauled logs from the forests. They often served as 'living lifelines', rescuing people from the sea. Splash is proud to be the Mascot of Atlantic Voices and hopes that you will love the songs of the sea as much she does!