

Hunt the Wren

A suggested version of the words to accompany the dance. Adapted from various traditional Manx sources and modern performances. Other variations are possible and are encouraged.

1. We'll hunt the wren, says Robin the Bobbin,
We'll hunt the wren, says Richard the Robin,
We'll hunt the wren, says Jack of the Land,
We'll hunt the wren, says everyone.

*Where, oh, where, says Robin the Bobbin,
Where, oh, where, says Richard the Robin,
Where, oh, where, says Jack of the Land,
Where, oh, where, says everyone.*

In yonder green bush, says Robin the Bobbin,
In yonder green bush, says Richard the Robin,
In yonder green bush, says Jack of the Land,
In yonder green bush, says everyone.

2. I see him, I see him, says Robin the Bobbin, etc.
Where, oh, where, says Robin the Bobbin, etc.
How'll we get him down, says Robin to Bobbin, etc.

3. With sticks and stones, says Robin to Bobbin, etc.
Where, oh, where, says Robin the Bobbin, etc.
How'll we get him eat? says Robin the Bobbin, etc.

4. With knives and forks, says Robin the Bobbin, etc.
Where, oh, where, says Robin the Bobbin, etc.
Who'll dine at dinner? says Robin the Bobbin, etc.

5. The King and the Queen, says Robin the Bobbin, etc.
Where, oh, where, says Robin the Bobbin, etc.
He's e't, he's e't, says Robin to Bobbin, etc.

6. The eyes for the blind, says Robin the Bobbin,
The legs for the lame, says Richard the Robin,
The pluck for the poor, says Jack of the Land,
The bones for the dogs, says everyone.

Where, oh, where, says Robin the Bobbin, etc.

The wren, the wren, the king of all birds,
Was caught, St. Stephen's Day, in the furze,
Although he is little, his family's great,
We pray you, good dame, to give us a treat.