

# Lhigey, Lhigey

Mona Douglas from  
Mrs Bridson, Glen Maye

Lhigey, lhigey gys y vargey,  
Lhigey, lhigey gys y vargey,  
Lhigey, lhigey gys y vargey,  
Sooree er inneenyn.  
Ghuilley, ghuilley, gow inneen,  
Lhigey, lhigey myr oc-hene,  
Ghuilley, ghuilley, gow inneen,  
Lhigey, lhigey gys y vargey

This tune has many different titles. You may know it as 'The Rakes of Mallow' or 'The Rakes of London'. In this version, it is a song about going to market.

## Performance

Schoolgirls had a game which went with this song. With one knee on the ground, they would strike the other with their right hands as they said each word. A W Moore was given this version by Miss Graves, who probably had it from a member of her family who was Inspector of Schools and collected many songs, particularly from the school at Cronk-y-Voddy.

The Manx words to the song mean:  
Galloping, galloping to the fair/market,  
Courting the girls. Boys, choose a girl!  
Galloping, galloping to the fair/market.

**Allegro**  
D

*mf* Lhig - ey, lhig - ey gys y var - gey, Lhig - ey,

D

lhig - ey gys y var - gey, Lhig - ey, lhig - ey

G A D

gys y varg - ey, Soo - ree er inn - een

f

yn. *f* Ghuill - ey, ghuill - ey, gow inn - een,

2 3 A D  
 1

*mp* Lhig - ey, — lhig - ey myr oc - hene, *f* Ghuill - ey, —

G A D  
 3 3

ghuill - ey gow inn - een, Lhig-ey, lhig-ey gys y varg - ey.

5 1 5 1 4



### Going to market

Before there were shops and supermarkets, most people travelled into the nearest town to sell the butter they had made or the fruit and vegetables they had grown on their farms. It was an important day, and they would have to be up early to get the pony and trap ready. Sometimes, they would have to walk, carrying their heavy load, and sit for some time waiting for customers who wanted to buy their produce.

When the railways opened, it made it much easier to take their goods into the towns. As the towns grew, shops became bigger, and the markets began to be less important. Produce was then sold to the shopkeepers, or to a marketing organisation, which agreed to sell on the producers' behalf.