

# **Haydn Wood and the Isle of Man**

A chronology from the Isle of Man newspapers,  
with appropriate references to his talented brothers Harry and Daniel,  
his sisters Adeline, Sophia and Elise, and his nephew Hilton Cullerne,  
between 1891 and 1961.

**Compiled and annotated**

**by**

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## **Foreword.**

Haydn Wood's reputation as a budding violin virtuoso began on the Isle of Man, grew enormously during his years of study in London and Brussels, and reached its full flowering during his years of touring with Madame Emma Albani's concert party and later with his wife Dorothy Court in their own concert party, by which time he had composed his first orchestral works and began to enjoy a reputation as a fine song writer. Even after he ceased to be resident on the Isle of Man he visited virtually every year during August, except during the two world wars, either on holiday (to play golf) and to visit his brother Harry and sister Adeline, or to take part in concerts as the performer or conductor of his own music. His name is absent from local newspapers only in the year 1917, when his brother Harry was also absent from Douglas, engaged as the musical director at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool.\*

During the 1920s and 30s his songs were introduced into the programmes of many of the great singers who appeared at the Palace and Villa Marina Sunday Concerts, and many a local vocalist appeared at the Manx Music Festival singing them. His orchestral works based on Manx traditional melodies, mainly taken from *Manx National Songs*, such as the *Manx Rhapsody*, *Mannin Veen*, *Mylecharane* and *King Orry*, were amongst his most popular compositions, and certainly helped to introduce Manx traditional music to a wide concert and radio audience. Douglas adopted him as 'our young townsman' early in his career, and soon paid him the ultimate tribute by proudly referring to him as a 'Manxman' or the 'Manx-born' violinist and composer.

\* See Maurice Powell, *Manxland's King of Music, the Life and Times of Harry Wood*, Lily Publications, 2018, for further information about the long career on the Isle of Man of Haydn Wood's elder brother Harry, who became the overall musical director of the Palace & Derby Castle Company, and who was one of the most significant and recognisable musical personalities on the Island for more than fifty years.

## **Childhood and the emerging virtuoso.**

### **1891**

*IoMT* Feb 14<sup>th</sup>: 'St. Matthews Popular Entertainment' arranged by Messrs H (Harry) Wood and (Harry) Rushworth at St. Matthews Hall on Monday February 9<sup>th</sup> in aid of the Sunday School

Funds. Miss N (Nellie) Broadbent, **Master Haydn Wood** and Master Lawrence (sometimes given as 'Laurence') Rushworth of 'the juvenile players'\* performed a trio for two violins and piano, and 'secured an encore'. Elder brother Harry Wood played a violin showpiece on themes from Gounod's *Faust*, and the programme, which commenced with the overture *Poet and Peasant* by Suppé, also included songs and instrumental solos.

\*The Douglas Juvenile Orchestral Society was directed by Harry Rushworth and gave concerts on a smaller scale than Harry Wood's Students' Orchestra concerts. Haydn, Elise and Adeline Wood played the violin in this orchestra on a number of occasions along with their friends Maud Quayle, the Mew sisters and Lawrence Rushworth. Harry Rushworth was the son of Joseph Rushworth who became the licensee of the Wood's first Douglas home, the Black Lion Hotel on the North Quay, when Sabra Wood retired.

*IoMT* March 21<sup>st</sup>: Children's Fancy Dress Ball at the Masonic Hall, Douglas. The entrance of the children (according to size) was led by two 'tiny tots, Daisy and Goody Two Shoes'. The musical arrangements were by Harry Wood 'who struck up the Polka' to begin the parade. His sister **Adeline Wood** danced an Irish Jig 'most prettily' and also the appeared as 'Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary'; another sister, **Eliza (Elise) B. Wood\***, appeared as 'Queen of Spades'; **Master Haydn Wood** appeared as the 'Knave of Hearts'.

\* Eliza Beevor (Beever) Wood was known as Elise within the family; it was name she preferred herself, and I refer to her as Elise hereafter.

*Manx Sun* May 2nd: 'Farewell and Presentation to the Rev B. and Mrs Chastel de Boinville', the curate of Braddan at the Union Mills Parochial Schoolroom. Tea and refreshments were followed by a concert arranged by Harry Wood. The small orchestra included **Master Haydn Wood, Adeline Wood**, Blanche Mew and Lawrence Rushworth, violins.\* The programme included an overture, *Si j'étais roi*, by Adolphe Adam, solo pieces and songs.

\* The Mew sisters were well-known in Douglas. Amy, the eldest daughter, a pianist, married Harry Rushworth in 1893, and became the accompanist in countless concerts and entertainments until WWII. Nella and Blanche Mew were both young violinist pupils of Harry Wood and played in some of his Annual Students' Concerts. Nella married Thomas B. Clague; Blanche eventually left the Island and went into journalism. The family owned a Guarneri violin, and one of the daughters had violin lessons with Emile Sauret, possibly at the Royal Academy of Music. The HWMLA has a photograph of one of the Mew sisters holding a violin, but it has not been possible to positively identify which sister is pictured.

## 1892

*IoMT* February 17<sup>th</sup>: Concert in Aid of (the) Free Dinners Fund on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February in the Salisbury Hall, given by members of the Juvenile Orchestral Society, consisting of vocal and instrumental solos, duets, dances and recitations. **Elise and Adeline Wood, Master Haydn Wood**, Maud Quayle (Mentioned in Haydn Wood's undated letter to his brother John William and sister Mary Hannah in Slaithwaite concerning his starting violin lessons with Harry Wood. HWMLA), Emily Moore (drums), Blanche and Nella Mew and Lawrence Rushworth are named as orchestra members. A third Miss Mew played the organ and Harry Rushworth the piano. **Adeline Wood** sang a 'character song' *The Gypsy\** and encored the last verse; Nella and Blanche Mew, **Master Haydn Wood** and Laurence Rushworth played a march for four violins; **Master Haydn Wood** and Miss E. Moore played a duet for violin and piano entitled *Liquid Gem\*\**; **Elise and Adeline Wood** took part in a skipping rope dance; **Master Haydn Wood** and Laurence Rushworth also performed a violin duet by Dancla; **Master Haydn Wood** also played

the auto-harp in a 'humorous melange' entitled *National Airs* arranged by Mr Harry Rushworth.

\* Possibly a song from Vincent Wallace's *Maritana*.

\*\* Probably an arrangement of the song *The Liquid Gem* by William Thomas Wrighton (1816-1880), published c. 1863.

*Mona's Herald* March 16<sup>th</sup>: ENTERTAINMENT AT THE HOSPITAL, Tuesday March 15<sup>th</sup>. The Juvenile Orchestral Society with Harry Rushworth, piano, and Miss Mew, organ, 'gave a delightful entertainment' to the patients of Noble's Hospital. The concert opened with the *Saxon March* by E. Boggetti and concluded with a selection of *Minstrel Melodies* arranged by Harry Rushworth, dedicated to the Douglas Amateur Minstrels.\* **Adeline Wood** sang the song *Gypsy* again; **Master Haydn Wood**, N. Mew, Lawrence Rushworth and B. Mew performed a violin quartet entitled *Scenes That Are Brightest*;\*\* Harry Rushworth's *National Airs* was given again with **Master Haydn Wood** on the auto-harp and other young musicians playing the kazoo, Japanese Fiddle, xylophone and flageolet. The orchestra included three violinist members of the Wood family: **Haydn, Adeline and Elise**.

\* Both Harry and Daniel Wood occasionally appeared with this group of 'burnt cork' entertainers.

\*\* An arrangement of an aria from Vincent Wallace's opera *Maritana*.

*IoMT* April 30<sup>th</sup>: MR HARRY WOOD'S STUDENTS' ORCHESTRAL AND OPERATIC CONCERT. The third annual students' concert on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> at the Grand Theatre, assisted by the Douglas Musical Society. '... the concert was the best given by amateurs within our recollection'. Every seat in the dress circle was pre-booked and elsewhere was almost filled to capacity. The orchestra consisted of 28 musicians of which 11 were local adult players (including J. E. Quayle, violin, and F. C. Poulter, cornet); 16 young violinists were Harry Wood's pupils, including **Master Haydn Wood**. Haydn's elder brother **Daniel Wood** (then studying at the Royal College of Music) played the flute; Miss Etta Wood (no relation) lead the orchestra. There was a chorus of some 50 singers and local vocal soloists Mr. T. Brockbank and Miss Nellie Broadbent. Harry and Daniel Wood played violin and flute *obbligati* in some of the arias. 'An extraordinarily successful concert'.

*IoMT* May 7<sup>th</sup>: DOUGLAS AMATEUR MINSTRELS ('amateur burnt-cork artistes') in the Grand Theatre, Thursday May 12<sup>th</sup>. An Entertainment in aid of the Children's Free Dinners Fund. 'New Songs! New Jokes! New Stump Speech!' Three-part programme with comic songs, choruses, the stump oration and beginning with an overture entitled *Tit-Bits* arranged by Harry Wood. **Master Haydn Wood** played a violin solo *Le Pirate*,\* 'envincing an amount of talent and executive skill quite remarkable in so young a player', which was encored, and sang a comic duet with Lawrence Rushworth ('irresistibly funny' despite the young performers occasionally forgetting their words; they were repeatedly recalled by the audience'). Harry Wood led the adult band from the violin. 'Wheezes and local jokes' ... an infectious spirit of frolic ... the true type of 'nigger' songs, full of fun and sentiment ... as good as ever ... but audience not so good as we have seen ...' Songs included *Keep in de middle ob de road* and *I lub and lubly girl*.

\* Possibly the Variations on a theme from Bellini's opera *Le Pirate* (Il Pirata) op. 6, by Henri Vieuxtemps.

*Mona's Herald* July 13<sup>th</sup>: The Anniversary Service of the Douglas Town and Seamen's Mission held at the Bethel Mission on Sunday July 10<sup>th</sup> followed by an open-air service on Douglas head in the afternoon. A string orchestra and harmonium assisted with the special hymns. **Master Haydn Wood** and Master Arthur Brittain\* were among the musicians. The collection amounted to £15.

\* Arthur Brittain was later associated with the management of the Derby Castle and the amalgamated Palace & Derby Castle Company.

*Manx Sun* September 3<sup>rd</sup>: Complimentary Benefit Concert for Mr Harry Wood at the Derby Castle. **Master Haydn Wood** played a violin solo and **Daniel Wood** a flute solo. Other artistes included Charles Coburn, 'the Society Comedian', The Beautiful Geraldine, trapeze artiste, the soprano Else Joel, the Tiller Quartette, the Little Troubadours and Miss Maggie Rimmer, 'the miniature Lottie Collins'. Harry Wood himself played a violin solo.

*IoMT* October 11<sup>th</sup>: The First Temperance Concert of the season in connection with the St. George's branch of the C.E.T.S., instigated by the Misses Wood (Miss Evelyn Wood, piano, and Esther?) at the Allen Street Mission on 10<sup>th</sup> October. 'We must not forget to praise the splendid performance of our Manx 'prodigy' **Master Haydn Wood**' who played a violin piece based on themes of Ambroise Thomas' opera *Mignon*. 'Most spirited and intelligent . . . very creditable and called forth loud applause'; the piece was encored.

*IoMT* October 22<sup>nd</sup>: St. Matthew's Weekly Entertainments. Second parochial gathering held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>. Songs, comic recitations and a violin solo from **Master Haydn Wood**.

*IoMT* October 29<sup>th</sup>: Kirk Braddan Bazaar in aid of the new organ fund at the Palace Ballroom. Incidental music throughout the proceedings with a small band directed by Harry Wood. Children's dances with the accompaniment played by Miss A. Rowe and **Master Haydn Wood** consisting of popular nursery rhyme tunes.

*IoMT* November 26<sup>th</sup>: A Grand Popular Concert at the Gymnasium, Douglas, in aid of the Gymnasium reading room, on Thursday December 1<sup>st</sup>. Harry Wood organised the music with local singers, entertainers and musicians including **Master Haydn Wood**.

*IoMT* December 10<sup>th</sup>: Isle of Man Fine Arts and Industrial Guild (5<sup>th</sup> exhibition). **Master Haydn Wood** (Tynwald street School) wins 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in the Freehand Drawing, boys under 12 years class. 2/6d awarded. **Adeline** and/or **Elise Wood** may have taken part in some of the singing or sight-singing classes.

*IoMT* December 17<sup>th</sup>: Finch-hill Congregational Church Annual Gathering. Concert included **Mr. Haydn Wood** performing a violin solo based on Bellini's *La Sonnambula*.

*IoMT* December 27<sup>th</sup>: Christmastide Concerts and Services. Monday 26<sup>th</sup>, **Master Haydn Wood** (described as 'small, and apparently young') appeared at a few minutes notice in the absence of another musician on St. Stephen's Day at the Circus, and played 'with remarkable skill' Farmers' *Variations on Home, Sweet Home*\* and the gavotte from Thomas' *Mignon*.\*\* 'A capital winter entertainment' with local singers, humorous, comic and character songs, 'a laughable 'niggers' sketch', a 'vent', a mimic, novelty balancer etc.

\* Henry Farmer (1819-91) was the self-taught, Nottingham-born, violinist and composer of a celebrated Mass in Bb (1843).

\*\* The aria *Me voici dans son boudoir* from Act II.

## 1893

*IoMT* January 14<sup>th</sup>: A temperance Entertainment at St. George's Mission Hall, Allan Street, 9<sup>th</sup> January. Two violin solos, **Master Haydn Wood**. Only the second one named: Farmer's *Variations' on Home, Sweet Home*. '... a very good attendance - especially when the coldness of the night was considered'.

*IoMT* January 21<sup>st</sup>: A House of Industry Concert on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January with the Douglas Juvenile Orchestral Society, organised by Harry Rushworth and Miss (Amy) Mew. **Haydn Wood** and **Adeline Wood** in the orchestra. Programme of solo instrumental pieces, light orchestral pieces, recitations etc. Haydn and/or Adeline may also have taken part in the vocal medley *Johnny Schmoker*.\* 'A very pretty temporary stage, tastefully hung with art fabrics . . the old folks appreciated the entertainment . . .'

\* A whimsical Pennsylvania Dutch song in the style of a round arranged by B. F. Rix during which a German musician imitates the sounds of all the instruments he can play, including violin, trombone, bagpipes, triangle, drum and fife. Any number of verses and instruments can be added. 'The effect of this with a company of children is highly amusing and entertaining' according to the preface of the Root & Cady Edition, Chicago, c.1863.

*IoMT* January 21<sup>st</sup>: The fifteenth entertainment at St. Matthew's Hall (19<sup>th</sup> January). 'Violin solo by **Master Haydn Wood**, encored'.

*IoMT* January 28<sup>th</sup>: Concert at the Gymnasium in connection with St. George's Young Men's Club on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Artists included Miss M. L. Wood whose song *The Bells of Old Kirk Braddan* was performed. **Mr Haydn Wood** played two violin solos: *My Own Guiding Star*\* and *Stabat Mater*. Both pieces were encored.

\* Possibly the ballad *My Own, My Guiding Star* from the popular opera *Robin Hood* by G. A. Macfarren, arranged as a 'morceau de salon'.

*IoMT* February 11<sup>th</sup>: St. George's, Douglas, Annual Parochial Tea Party and concert on Shrove Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February in the Wellington Hall. Songs, duets and trios, instrumental solos, vocal ensembles etc. Musical Director Mt Thos. Brockbank; accompanist Mr L. W. Whalley. **Haydn Wood** played two un-named violin solos and was accompanied on the piano by his sister **Elise**.

*IoMT* February 25<sup>th</sup>: St. Matthew's semi-scaled Thursday evening entertainments on 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Songs, readings, recitations etc. **Master Haydn Wood** played a violin solo which was encored.

*Mona's Herald* March 29<sup>th</sup>: The Second Annual Concert of the Douglas Juvenile Orchestral Society, musical director Harry Rushworth, at the Gymnasium on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Proceeds to the Free Dinners Fund. Haydn's sister 'Little Miss **Adeline Wood**' sang *Do as they do in England* 'with the air of a perfect stage veteran . . . (and) such self-reliant confidence'. **Haydn Wood** was amongst the young instrumentalists and probably took part in the *Reverie in A* for four violins and *Scenes that are Brightest* for violins.

*IoMT* April 15<sup>th</sup>: Mr. Harry Wood's Concert on 13<sup>th</sup> April given by his students, assisted by the Douglas Philharmonic Society and the Volunteer Band. **Daniel Wood** played *Neapolitan Airs* on the flute. 'Two little dots, **Master Haydn Wood** and Master Lawrence Rushworth' played *Two Little Comrades* for two violins\* 'and were warmly applauded'.

\* A Landler for two violins, op.62, by Otto Langley c. 1887.

*IoMT* April 29<sup>nd</sup>: Concert at the Gymnasium in aid of the Baptist Church Building Fund on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April with the Douglas Juvenile Orchestral Society. **Master Haydn Wood** and Master Lawrence Rushworth played the violin duet *Two (Little) Comrades* which was 'loudly applauded'. **Adeline Wood** played in the orchestra.

*IoMT* May 9<sup>th</sup>: Concert in St. Matthew's Hall, New Bond Street as part of a long-running series of concerts to improve the finances of the Sunday School. **Master Haydn Wood** named among the performers.

*IoMT* July 18<sup>th</sup>: '**Master Haydn Wood** who is now an established member of the Castle orchestra, gave a very creditable exhibition of his ability in the violin solo *Scotch Airs* . . . at some ten years old, his performance was wonderfully good'. Marie Lloyd was the star artiste that week and sang *Oh! Mr. Porter* among other songs; the 'Immortal Zaeo', the female tight-rope artiste who was hardly less famous at this time, also appeared.

*IoMT* July 22<sup>nd</sup>: Trinity College Local Examinations in Music Theory held in June. Junior Pass **Haydn Wood**, pupil of Mrs Fielding.

*IoMT* September 12<sup>th</sup>: Benefit concert for Harry Wood at the Derby Castle on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September. **Daniel Wood** plays a piccolo solo *Sylvia* by Le Thiere; **Master Haydn Wood** contributed an un-named violin solo. Local entertainers also took part, and Charles Coburn 'the Society Comedian'.

*IoMT* October 28<sup>th</sup>: 'The First and Great Musical Event of the Winter Season at the Grand Theatre': complimentary benefit to Mr. W. Kewley on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Well-known local entertainers including Harry Wood contributed violin solos and *obbligatti*; **Master Haydn Wood** and Lawrence Rushworth played the duet *Two Little Comrades* again and 'were heartily received'; the Douglas Amateur Minstrels and the Douglas Quartette Party.

*IoMT* November 11<sup>th</sup>: St. George's Mission Hall, Allan Street, on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November. 'An Entertainment' featuring local performers including **Master Haydn Wood** who played Raff's *Cavatina*.

*IoMT* November 28<sup>th</sup>: St. George's Day School Entertainment on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November. A 'Children's Operetta' (pantomime) *Beauty and the Beast*. Orchestra of six including Harry and **Master Haydn Wood**.

*Mona's Herald* December 20<sup>th</sup>: Finch Hill Congregational Church Annual Tea Meeting and Concert in the adjoining school room commencing at 6.00pm. A violin solo by **Master Haydn Wood**, Raff's *Cavatina*\*.

\* Op. 85/3 from Six Morceaux for violin and piano of 1862.

*IoMT* December 30<sup>th</sup>: A Christmas Tree in connection with St. Barnabas. Sale of Work in aid of church funds held in Bourne Hall, Drumgold Street, Douglas, 28<sup>th</sup> December. The Christmas Tree stood in the middle of the hall, 'and was heavy laden'. A musical feast provided by Harry Rushworth's Douglas Juvenile Orchestral Society whose young players included **Master Haydn Wood, Adeline and Elise Wood**, Nella and Blanche Mew and Miss Florence Tambacci.

## 1894

*IoMT* January 20<sup>th</sup>: Mr. Harry Wood's Operatic Concert at the Grand Theatre on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December, assisted by members of the Douglas Philharmonic Society. Vocal and instrumental pieces in Part I; Part II G & S's *Trial by Jury*. Orchestra of 19 dir. by Harry Wood, with Harry Rushworth, piano and Mrs Harry Rushworth (formerly one of the Mew sisters) organ. Nella Mew, **Master Haydn Wood** and Lawrence Rushworth in the second violins.

*IoME* January 27<sup>th</sup>: The Popular Grand Sacred Cantata *David, the Shepherd Boy*\* given by the Douglas Cantata Society on Thursday February 1<sup>st</sup> at the Marina (Pavilion)\*\*. **Mr. Haydn Wood** is named among six 'miscellaneous artistes' who took part in a short miscellaneous programme before the main choral work, which was accompanied by a harp, piano and organ. 500-600 attended.

\* *David, the Shepherd Boy*, a Sacred Cantata for choirs and choral societies, with numbers for children's voices if required, by George Frederick Root (1820-95), with text by Hezekiah Butterworth.

\*\* The Marina Pavilion was a short-lived entertainment venue which was re-designed by Frank Matcham and became the Gaiety Theatre in 1900.

*IoMT* January 30<sup>th</sup>: The Douglas Juvenile Orchestral Society, 3<sup>rd</sup> annual concert at the Salisbury Hall, Fort Street, on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. '**Master Haydn Wood** will play a solo', *Carnival de Venice*. **Elise Wood** performed a piano quartet (four players, two pianos) with Nella and Blanche Mew and Emily Moore.

Douglas Juvenile Oddfellow's Festival, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January at the Wellington Hall. Tea at 6.00pm followed by a concert including a duet for piano and violin\* performed by **Miss E. Beaver Wood** (Elise) and **Master Haydn Wood**.

\* Probably the 4<sup>th</sup> *Air Varié* based on themes from Bellini's *La Sonnambula* by Charles Dancla.

*Manx Sun* February 17<sup>th</sup>: Independent Order of Oddfellows. M.U. The Mona and Victoria Lodges, Grand Concert in aid of a sick brother, in the Wellington Hall, Thursday February 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Miss E. Beever Wood** and **Master Haydn Wood** perform a duet for piano and violin. Songs, comic songs, addresses etc.

*IoME* March 31<sup>st</sup>: Concert at Rose Mount in support of the Rose Mount Wesleyan Band of Hope in the School Room on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March. **Master Haydn Wood** played an un-named violin piece.

**Daniel Sykes Wood**, 22, of Albert Street, Douglas, musician, becomes a Freemason at the St. Trinian's Lodge. The name above his in the register is Alister Proctor, the local baritone.

*IoMT* April 10<sup>th</sup>: Concert at Noble's Hospital, arranged by Mrs Fielding\* who was also the accompanist. **Elise** and **Master Haydn Wood** took part.

\* Mrs Fielding was a Douglas piano and music theory teacher who taught Haydn Wood and coached him for the Trinity College of Music local music theory examinations.

*IoMT* June 9<sup>th</sup>: Victoria College of Music, London. The newly formed Douglas examination centre, secretary Mrs H. Rushworth, held its first examinations on 28<sup>th</sup> May:

Senior Division: Hons. **Haydn Wood**, teacher Mr. Harry Wood.

Junior Division: Miss **Adeline Wood**, piano, teacher Mrs H. Rushworth.

\* The College first offered examinations at local centres (rather like today's ABRSM) from 1890. The College no longer offers full conservatoire services, but acts solely as an examining body.

*IoMT* August 28<sup>th</sup>: ‘A Musician’s Match’. Cricket match at Pulrose between the professional musicians engaged at the entertainment venues in Douglas: Falcon Cliff and the Palace v Derby Castle and the Grand Theatre. **Harry** and **Daniel Wood** were bowled out for 7 runs each, and **Haydn Wood** for 2. Walter Hatton, a ‘cellist with the Derby Castle orchestra, took 7 wickets.

*IoMT* October 13<sup>th</sup>: Grand Theatre 11<sup>th</sup> October the farce *A Manager in a Fix*; the tragic *Death of an Old Showman*; the ‘working mans’ comedy *We All Have Our Little Faults* and the ‘aristocratic domestic drama *A Cup of Tea*, produced by Miss Mabel Allen (Mrs Alfred Hemming the entrepreneur and owner of the Grand Theatre). The ‘small but capable band’ was directed by Harry Wood, who also performed a violin *obbligato* in an aria from *Maritana*. **Master Haydn Wood** ‘showed precocious ability in his rendering of a couple of solos. In time, he bids fair to become a rival to his brother - the ever popular “Harry.” ‘

*IoMT* October 20<sup>th</sup>: The first of a series of winter entertainments at Onchan Board School. ‘**Mr Haydn Wood’s** solo on the violin, Dancla’s 4<sup>th</sup> *Air Varié*,\* was loudly encored’. Haydn also played a second un-named solo. **Adeline Wood** sang the song *Mong*.

\* Charles Dancla composed six *Airs Variés* on themes from the operas of Pacini, Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti, Mercadante and Weigl, and *Airs Variés* op. 118 on themes from Bellini and Paganini. They were amongst both Harry and Haydn Wood's favourite concert pieces, and some of their most advanced pupils debuted with them, including Kathleen Rydings in 1897.

*IoMT* November 10<sup>th</sup>: A Grand Concert in the Masonic Hall in aid of the Baptist Building Fund on 20<sup>th</sup> November. **Master Haydn Wood** to appear with other local artistes and performed Paganini's *Carnival de Venice*.

*IoMT* November 24<sup>th</sup>: Grand Concert in the Grand Theatre in aid of the widows and children of the men lost in the 'Albatross Disaster' on 28<sup>th</sup> November. The Douglas Philharmonic Society. Harry Wood's Students' Orchestra and the Volunteer Band plus local artistes including **Master Haydn Wood** solo violin played *Carnival de Venice* . . . 'a wonderful effort of memory and execution for one so young . . . his playing in harmonics and octaves was something wonderful . . . a distinguished musical talent'. He was accompanied by 'Miss Eveleen Wood' (no relation), not to be confused with Miss E (Elise) Wood, his sister, who had



accompanied him before. **Adeline Wood** presented a bouquet to Lady Ridgeway, the wife of the then Lieutenant Governor.

*IoMT* December 28<sup>th</sup>: The 'Schubert Prize', awarded to the young musician who gained the highest number of marks in the Senior Division during the year by the Victoria College of Music, London, 'was awarded to young **Haydn Wood** of Douglas.

## 1895

*Mona's Herald* January 2<sup>nd</sup>: Christmas at the Hospital. A very substantial dinner including turkeys and geese was followed at 7.30pm by a concert in the Men's Large Ward. **Haydn Wood** played his favourite Dancla's *Variations on a theme from La Sonnambula*.

*IoMT* February 5<sup>th</sup> from the *Huddersfield Examiner*: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February Harry Wood gave a concert in the Liberal Hall, Slaithwaite, together with **Daniel Wood** (flute) and **Master Haydn Wood**, violin, who played Paganini's *Carnival de Venice*.

*IoMT* February 23<sup>rd</sup>: Douglas Philharmonic Society at the Grand Theatre on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February. Partial performance of Wallace's *Maritana*. An orchestra of two pianos (F. C. Poulter and Mrs H Rushworth – formerly Miss Amy Mew), an organ, a harp and two violins played by Harry and **Haydn Wood**.

*Manx Sun* March 2<sup>nd</sup> St. George's Annual Parochial Tea and Concert. **Master Haydn Wood** played a virtuoso violin piece (by Charles Dancla) and . . . 'is making rapid strides in his art, and there is every probability that he will one day make a name for himself . . . He is a true brother of Mr Harry Wood, who will have to look to his laurels'.

*IoMT* March 15<sup>th</sup>: Vocal and Instrumental Concert in the Regent Hall, Douglas on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Solo violins Mr Harry and **Master Haydn Wood**.

*IoMT* March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Mrs Shaw's Fancy Dress Ball at the Sefton Hotel. **Adeline Wood** attended as a Highland Lassie and **Master Haydn Wood** as a Spanish Matador.

*IoME* March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Finch Hill Congregational Church Sale of Work (Bazaar) Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Opening ceremony; addresses and concert with **Haydn Wood** who played a violin solo 'with his well-known skill'. The Finch Hill Black & White Troupe performed a 'laughable sketch' entitled *A Concert Rehearsal* by Mr. Harry Dacre\*

\* The pen name of Manxman Frank Dean (also known as Henry Decker) the composer of *A Bicycle Made for Two*. He formed his own music publishing house, Frank Dean & Co., in 1895. See Maurice Powell, *Frank Dean, the Manxman Who Wrote the Most Famous Song in the World*, manxmusic.com.

*IoME* March 30<sup>th</sup>: Grand Theatre Douglas, 14<sup>th</sup> April. Lecture by Rev. T. E. Brown (the Manx National Poet) entitled Old Kirk Braddan and Parson Drury. Proceeds in aid of St. Matthew's New Church. Music provided by Harry and **Haydn Wood** with F. C. Poulter, piano.

*IoMT* March 30<sup>th</sup>: 'A Pleasing Concert' held in the Regent Hall (formerly the Bijou Theatre) for the benefit of Mr. Race. Attendance not very large. Local vocal soloists with instrumental pieces played by Harry and **Haydn Wood** with F. C. Poulter, piano. Haydn played the *Fantasie*,

*ou Scène de Ballet*, op. 100 by de Beriot, and either he, or Harry, the '5<sup>th</sup> Sonata' which, at twenty minutes duration, was considered too long for the programme.

*IoME* April 20<sup>th</sup>: Mr. Harry Wood's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Student's orchestral and Choral Concert at the Grand Theatre on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April. Band and chorus of 100. Music by Wagner, Gounod, Donizetti, Balfe, Gilbert & Sullivan and Haydn's *Farewell* symphony. **Daniel Wood ARCM**, flute; **Haydn Wood** 'the youngest of the clever trio of brothers' played Dancla's *Air Varié on themes of Vogler* after which 'he bowed three times and was obliged to play part of the piece again as an encore'. **Elise Wood** presented a bouquet to Lady Ridgeway the wife of the Lieutenant Governor. 'A large and brilliant assemblage'.

*Manx Sun* April 27<sup>th</sup>: Concert at St. Matthew's Hall Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April in aid of the Sunday School. A well-filled hall. **Master Haydn Wood** played a violin solo.

*IoMT* May 7<sup>th</sup>: Concert in Aid of the Coffee Barrow in St. George's Mission Hall organised by Miss Etta Wood. **Master Haydn Wood** played a violin solo which was encored. Harry Wood played the violin *obbligato* in the song *By Normandy's Blue Hills*. A small ensemble consisted of Harry and **Haydn Wood**, violins, Miss Evelyn Wood, piano and Miss Rowe, organ.

*IoMT* May 11<sup>th</sup>: Peel Choral Society annual May concert, 2<sup>nd</sup> May, in the Centenary Hall. **Master Haydn Wood** 'received an ovation for his splendid playing on the violin'.

*IoMT* June 8<sup>th</sup>: The opening of the summer season at the Derby Castle. 'The band contains a number of clever soloists, not least being Master Haydn Wood, who was heartily applauded, not only by the audience, but by his brother bandsmen, for his skilful rendering of de Beriot's *Air Varié*.'

*IoMT* August 13<sup>th</sup>: '**Master Haydn Wood**, the talented violinist (and) younger brother of the musical director of the Castle, plays a selection (solo piece) nightly, and is well received'. 'This young musician is really an artist, and there is no doubt that, in the near future, he will occupy the same position in the hearts of that broth-pot of brains at present simmering on the century's hob - London - that does now with those people in Douglas who can appreciate musical excellence'.

*IoMT* October 19<sup>th</sup>: Onchan Harvest Home, tea, concert and sale of work held at the Industrial Home on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>. Violin solo *Bolero* by Edward German\* played by **Master Haydn Wood**.

\* *Bolero* for violin and piano (1883).

*IoMT* October 26<sup>th</sup>: Presentation to Miss M. L. Wood, ARCO (Marie Louise Woods, 'The Mother of Manx Music'.) in recognition of her devotion to the teaching of music and her charity concerts. An envelope containing £135 and a list of subscribers presented by the High-Bailiff of Douglas. After tea was served there was a short recital during which **Master Haydn Wood** played a violin solo.

*IoMT* November 2<sup>nd</sup>: St. Matthew's Church Fund Bazaar. A three-day event in aid of the building of St. Matthew's New Church. Each afternoon Mr Harry Wood's Bijou Orchestra

played selections, and **Master Haydn Wood** played a variety of violin solos. Harry Wood's Students' orchestra gave a concert on the Tuesday evening.

*IoME* November 23<sup>rd</sup>: The Manx Oratorio *The Story of the Cross* by John Craine.\* The Pavilion, Douglas, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Orchestra (16) and chorus of seventy. Harry and **Haydn Wood** in the first violins.

\* Maurice Powell, *Mr. Craine's Oratorio*, manxmusic.com.

*IoMT* November 30<sup>th</sup>: St. George's Sale of Work held at the Masonic Hall. Numerous stalls and other attractions. **Mr. Haydn Wood** took part in the musical entertainments. A 'Miss Wood' (possibly **Adeline** or **Elise**, also took part along with another of Harry Wood's violin pupils Maud Quayle.

*Mona's Herald* December 4<sup>th</sup>: A Grand Concert at the Regent Hall Baptist Church on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. **Master Haydn Wood** performed his current favourite solo the 5<sup>th</sup> *Air Varié* of de Beriot.

*IoMT* December 7<sup>th</sup>: Concert at Ballamoda Board School. **Master Haydn Wood** accompanied by **Miss (Elise) Wood** played Farmer's variations on *Home, Sweet Home* and two un-named pieces.

*Peel Guardian* December 28<sup>th</sup>: Concert in the Centenary Hall in connection with Peel Wesleyan Chapel on the evening of 25<sup>th</sup> December. Harry Wood, **Haydn and Elise Wood** played a trio. **Haydn** also performed a *Rhapsodie Hongroise*. \* Harry Wood played a selection from *Faust* by Alard; Harry, **Haydn** and **Elise** accompanied a xylophone solo, *Rialto*, played by Mr. Callan.

\* Probably Miska Hauser's *Rhapsody Hongroise* for violin and piano. Op. 43.

## 1896

*Manx Sun* January 18<sup>th</sup>: St. Barnabas' Men's Choir in the Salisbury Hall with new conductor Mr. C. H. Smith. Overture Gungl's *Amoretten Tänze*\* with Miss Reeve and **Master Haydn Wood**; **Miss Adeline Wood**, songs *Come and Rest* (?) and *Robin Adair* (Charles Coffey/Lady Caroline Keppel) and encore *Whisper and I shall hear* (M. Piccolomini).

\* Józef Gungl *Amoretten Tänze* Waltzes op. 161.

*IoMT* January 18<sup>th</sup>: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January at the Grand Theatre, first concert of the year by the Douglas Amateur Minstrels. Music arranged by Harry Wood; **Haydn Wood** 'gave a beautiful solo on the violin'.

*IoMT* February 11<sup>th</sup>: St. George's Annual Parochial Tea and Concert on Shrove Tuesday. 'A programme of solos, duets, trios and quartettes'. Harry and **Master Haydn Wood**. Overture *Poet and Peasant* performed by trio comprising Harry and **Haydn Wood** and piano; a *Symphonie Concertante* for two violins and piano.\*

\* Possibly one of Dancla's *symphonies concertantes* for two violins op.98.

*Manx Sun* February 22<sup>nd</sup>: Complimentary Benefit for Mr. James L. Killip, for ten years the stage carpenter at the Grand Theatre, 27<sup>th</sup> February, at the Grand Theatre. Contributions from the

Douglas Amateur Minstrels; Douglas Dramatic Society; Variety Entertainment; the Catholic Dramatic Club. Small orchestra including Harry and **Master Haydn Wood**.

*IoMT* March 14<sup>th</sup>: Mrs Shaw's Fancy Dress Ball at the Sefton Hotel. **Miss Adelaide (Adeline) Wood**, Duchess of Gainsborough; **Miss Eliza (Elise) Wood**, Forget-me-Not; **Master Haydn Wood**, Spanish Matador.

*IoMT* March 14<sup>th</sup>: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March Harry Wood's Concert at the Grand Theatre. Well-filled hall despite it being during Lent. 'Songs, Scene and Story to charm the ear and delight the eye'. With the Douglas Philharmonic Society. Accompaniments played by Harry and **Haydn Wood**, violins, plus piano and organ.

*IoMT* April 25<sup>th</sup>: Douglas Amateur Minstrels in Castletown Town Hall. Harry and **Haydn Wood** take part. **Haydn** plays a violin solo.

*IoMT* May 5<sup>th</sup>: 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May in the Grand Theatre. **Haydn Wood** in the first violins. Harry Wood conducts.

*IoMT* June 30<sup>th</sup>: Afternoon concerts at the Derby Castle with Harry Wood's enlarged orchestra (26) during the 'slack times' ie before the season proper starts in July. **Master Haydn Wood** plays *obbligatos* to various songs sung by Miss Ada Lee 'in a creditable manner'.

*Mona's Herald* August 19<sup>th</sup>: The Pavilion Sacred Concert on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Harry Wood's select choir in music by Rossini, Gounod, Faure, Handel etc. **Master Haydn Wood** plays a violin *obbligato* in one of Miss Lee's arias.

*IoMT* September 1<sup>st</sup>: Temperance Fete in Nunnery Grounds Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August. **Master Haydn Wood** played a violin solo.

*IoMT* September 15<sup>th</sup>: The Hon. A. M. Henniker (daughter of the current Lieutenant Governor) gives concert at the Pavilion in aid of the Isle of Man Fine Arts and Industrial Guild. Harry Wood's orchestra with **Haydn Wood** who plays Sarasate's *Zigeunerweisen*.

*Manx Sun* October 24<sup>th</sup>: Douglas Higher Grade School annual prize day. **Haydn Wood** awarded an Elementary Students' first-class certificate in Freehand Drawing.

## **The Royal College of Music and the Brussels Conservatoire.**

### **1897**

*IoMT* January 19<sup>th</sup>: From the *Huddersfield Examiner*: Mr. Harry Wood and Family on Tour of his former local villages including Marsden and Meltham. Concert at the Liberal Hall, Slaithwaite. Harry Wood, violin; **Elise Wood**, piano; **Daniel Wood**, flute; **Haydn Wood**, violin plus local friends. 'Mr. Haydn Wood especially praised for his performance'.

*IoMT* February 27<sup>th</sup>: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Annual Congregational Tea meeting and Concert at the School Room, Finch Rd Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Harry, **Haydn** and **Elise Wood**. Small ensemble of two violins, piano and organ plays a Rossini overture and three English

dances from Edward German's *Henry VIII*. **Haydn** plays Sarasate *Zigeunerweisen*. Songs performed by local vocalists etc.

*IoMT* March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Royal College of Music (RCM) Scholarship Victory of a Douglas Student. **Haydn Wood** – aged 14 years - wins scholarship; over 100 competitors from the British Dominions. 'Enormous credit on himself, and upon his tutor, his brother Mr. Harry Wood'. \*

\* The scholarship was for the period 1897-1900.

*IoMT* March 6<sup>th</sup>: At the above Tea and Concert: message from the Congregational Treasurer before the concert: a telegram 'had been received from **Mr. Haydn Wood** stating that Dr. Stanford . . . of the London College of Music (actually the Royal College of Music, London) was anxious that Joachim, a musician of world-wide fame, should hear him (Haydn Wood) play. (Applause) . . . a conspicuous honour conferred upon their gifted young townsman'.

*Manx Sun* March 6<sup>th</sup>: 'This is the second scholarship of the Royal College which has fallen to members of this talented family. **Mr. Daniel Wood**, now of Daly's Theatre, London, having won a scholarship some six or seven years ago. **Mr. Haydn Wood** will shortly take up residence at the College. We congratulate him on his success, and predict for him a very brilliant career'.

*IoME* April 3<sup>rd</sup>: RISING MUSICIANS. 'The final examination for the 12 free open scholarships at the Royal College of Music in London took place last weekend'. Numbers had been reduced at local examination centres on February 3<sup>rd</sup>; the final 109 candidates were then examined in London. 'Violin: Haydn Woods (sic) Douglas'. Other contemporaries mentioned in the report included Thomas F. Dunhill, \* of Canterbury, a composition scholar; a piano scholarship to the RAC was won by Felix G. Swinstead\*\* of Stoke Newington.

\* See *IoMT* March 25<sup>th</sup> 1905.

\*\* Remembered today as the composer of dozens of delightful children's pieces for piano familiar to countless ABRSM candidates (he was an examiner for the Board for many years) such as *The Way Ahead*, *Step by Step to the Classics* and *Work and Play*. He spent most of his career as a professor at the Royal Academy of Music.

*Manx Sun* April 10<sup>th</sup>: First Concert by the Douglas Ladies Amateur Banjo and Mandolin Orchestra (24 players) at the Regent hall, 21<sup>st</sup> April. Local vocalist and Guild winners; Xylophone and banjo soloists and **Master Haydn Wood** who played the *Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso op.28* by Saint-Saëns. Banjo band items, marches, sketches, 'Darkie' songs etc

*Manx Sun* September 4<sup>th</sup>: Benefit concerts at 2.30pm and 7.30pm for Mr. Tom Rice, manager of the Pavilion. Artistes from the Derby Castle and Palace appeared and **Master Haydn Wood** and the raconteur and entertainer Mr. G. H. Snazelle.

*Manxman* September 11<sup>th</sup>: 'Miss Vesta Tilley (during her last visit to the Derby Castle) was so highly pleased with the violin playing of **Master Haydn Wood**, the youngest member of the orchestra, that she presented him with a beautiful gold snake ring, \* studded with diamonds'. A characteristic act of generosity from the great star.

\* Present whereabouts unknown.

*Manxman* November 13<sup>th</sup>: Brief note of a concert at the Imperial Institute, London that day, by pupils of the RCM. **Master Haydn Wood** and another violinist, Thomas Morris, play a duet-concerto (*sic*) by Bach.\* He was complimented after the performance by Dr Hubert Parry.

\* Haydn Wood and Thomas Morris had earlier performed the Bach Double Concerto on 10<sup>th</sup> November at the Royal College of Music. My thanks to Marjorie Cullerne, HWMLA, for this information.

*IoME* December 27<sup>th</sup>: A Grand Concert of Manx National Music on St. Stephen's Night at the Pavilion, Douglas. **Master Haydn Wood** is listed among the solo instrumentalists, along with Harry Wood's Students' Orchestra and the Douglas Town Band (who performed a Grand Selection of Manx Airs arr. by Mr. George Thornley), and The Manx National Choir of 50 voices.

*IoMT* December 25<sup>th</sup>: Two reviews from the London *Times* and the *Era* of **Haydn Wood's** violin playing at this time are cited:

From the London *Times*:

'A very young virtuoso of quite extraordinary skill . . . who played an air and variations by Vieuxtemps, with all the *verve* and style that are associated with the most famous of the bravura players *par excellence*'.

From the *Era*:

'An extremely clever performance . . . a very youthful violinist whose rendering of the brilliant air and variations of Vieuxtemps was surprisingly good in tone, execution and, in fact, everything . . . will probably become a celebrity. He was twice recalled at the end of the solo'.

## 1898

*Manx Sun* January 1<sup>st</sup>: Further report on the St. Stephen's Night Manx Concert after he performed a violin solo: 'We are proud now to hail him as a Manx lad, and I venture to predict we will be more proud still some day to claim him as a Manxman'.

*IoMT* March 12<sup>th</sup>: From the *Musical Times*: '. . . **Master Haydn Wood** is making rapid progress at the RCM . . . on the 17<sup>th</sup> ult. A concert was given at the college, at which MHW took a very prominent part.' There follows a brief report of a concert in which three string quartets were played including one by Haydn in D major; the 'four small youngsters' were led by Master Haydn Wood. Reference was made to his small size ('almost to climb his chair') but also his good tone, unerring technique, a rare sense of rhythm and such assurance, that 'is a little bewildering'.

*IoMT* April 6<sup>th</sup>: Report of Harry Wood's annual concert in Slaithwaite. 'The Wood Family on Tour'. Harry Wood described 'as by naturalisation a Manxman'. **Daniel Wood**, flute, travelled from London to take part, as did **Haydn Wood** ('. . . who played several of his choicest pieces'), and Edwin Stead, trombone (of the Grenadier Guards, who was one of Harry's first violin pupils in Slaithwaite before the family moved to Douglas.) **Elise Wood** accompanied some of the soloists. Douglas baritone Alister Proctor and Miss Eveleen Wood, piano, who played a selection of solo pieces, also took part.\*

\* As did a Miss Stead, a rising soprano from Huddersfield, and a prize winner at the Huddersfield Music Competition promoted by Mrs Sunderland, who as a young singer herself had performed at the Harp Inn, Slaithwaite, when Harry's grandfather promoted concerts there.

*IoMT* April 7<sup>th</sup>: St. Andrew's Church Sunday School Anniversary Concert with Harry Wood, Alister Proctor with contributions from **Haydn Wood** and others.

*IoME* December 17<sup>th</sup>: Café Chantant to be given by The Young Helpers' League on 12<sup>th</sup> January at the Gymnasium, Douglas. 'Acting Songs and Tableaux'. Assisted by Miss M. L. Wood with Harry Wood, Miss Wood, and **Master Haydn Wood**. In aid of Dr. Barnado's Children's Homes.

*Mona's Herald* December 21<sup>st</sup>: Concert at King William's College Chapel on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>. The College band was led by Harry Wood and his brother **Haydn Wood**. The *Pastoral Symphony* from Handel's *Messiah* was performed.

## 1899

*IoMT* April 10<sup>th</sup>: Stainer's *Crucifixion* at King William's College Chapel with the College choir and orchestra. Miss M. L. Wood conducted; both Harry and **Haydn Wood** 'who has just returned from the Royal College (of Music), London, among the violins.

*IoMT* July 15<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** awarded the Hill & Sons Violin Prize\* at the Royal College of Music and has received 'a valuable violin with bow and case'.

\* Donated by W. E. Hill & Sons, violin and bow makers of London since 1880. My thanks to Marjorie Cullerne, HWMLA, for drawing my attention to the relevant entry in the RCM Register.

*IoME* December 27<sup>th</sup>: Christmas morning service at St. Matthews Church, Douglas, accompanied by an orchestra directed by Harry Wood. **Haydn Wood** among the violins. J. T. Wood (no relation) played the cornet.

## 1900

*Manxman* March 31<sup>st</sup>: Report of Harry Wood's violin pupil Kathleen Rydings at the Guild (Manx Music Festival) competition: 'Since **Master Haydn Wood** left us to conquer other and larger worlds, no insular executant on the violin has shown so much mastery of the instrument'.

*IoME* April 21<sup>st</sup>: Harry Wood's Students' Concert at the Palace Opera House (the variety theatre before the opening of the much larger Coliseum in 1913) on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April: **Haydn Wood** plays Wieniawski's *Air Russe*,\* Sarasate's *Zigeunerwiesen* and a duet with Kathleen Rydings by Dancla.

\* *Souvenir de Moscou* op.6.

*Manx Sun* April 21<sup>st</sup>: **Haydn Wood** awarded the Morley Scholarship from the RCM after three years study.\*

\* Marjorie Cullerne, HWMLA, confirms that Haydn Wood was awarded an open scholarship to the RCM for the three years 1897-1900, and 'elected to the Charles Morley scholarship' for the following three years, 1900-03.

*IoMT September 1st*: Sunday Concert at the Palace. **Master Haydn Wood** 'who is a young Manxman' plays Sarasate's *Zigeunerweisen* and the *Air Varié* of Vieuxtemps. 'Although very young, he is a violinist of great ability . . . we congratulate our young townsman on the flattering reception he received as a solo violin. He should do great things by and by'.

*Manx Sun September 15<sup>th</sup>*: Sunday Concert at the Palace. **Haydn Wood** played Chopin's *Nocturne in E*; Sarasate's *Gavotte from Thomas's Mignon* and Wieniawski's *Souvenir de Moscou op. 6*. 'The Gavotte was very much out of place; hardly the thing to set us dancing on Sunday, we are still in Great Britain\* . . . a quite telling display of harmonics . . . an evidence of school about the middle . . . he finished up well and pulled capital sweet tone . . . a difficult performance for a mere boy'.

\* At the core of the comments by this pompous ass was the deeply entrenched objection to entertainment on Sundays by the church, individuals in the Government, Douglas Corporation, local Commissioners and other sections of the Manx people. This led to frequent arguments in the local newspapers over what was, and what was not, sacred in music.

*IoMT October 27<sup>th</sup>*: From the *Huddersfield Daily Chronicle* of 26<sup>th</sup> September: **Haydn Wood** plays the three pieces in the above programme at a subscription concert. 'Mr Haydn Wood is not merely a clever violinist as regards mastery of technique . . . he studiously avoids mere showiness, and reproduces the breadth and depth of good music, and remarkably good tone and expressive strength'. The encore was Bach's *Air on a G String*.

## 1901

*IoMT August 24<sup>th</sup>*: Sunday Concert at the Palace: **Haydn Wood** plays 'an arietta and Manx Rhapsody composed by himself'\* and a *Polonaise* by Vieuxtemps. 'In the Rhapsody the blending of music national and redolent of the Island was most felicitously carried out. The little Manx nation should be very proud of this young musician and composer. One day he should win himself *to the very top of the tree*'.

\* An early work not known to the compiler of these reports. Not to be confused with the well-known *A Manx Rhapsody* for orchestra of 1931.

*IoMT August 31<sup>st</sup>*: From a letter to the editor from 'a German lady': 'I am going to the Island, and on Sunday evening I shall listen to Madame Ella Russell, soprano, to Tom Child, the popular Yorkshire tenor, and a youngster named **Haydn Wood**, who plays the fiddle like an angel, and if he chooses to work, may be one of the musicians of the century'. Haydn played his current favourite Wieniawski and Sarasate pieces on that occasion.

*IoME September 21<sup>st</sup>*: The final Grand Sacred Concert of 1901 at the Gaiety Theatre Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>. Harry Wood's orchestra. '**Haydn Wood** the talented violin soloist' among the guest artistes and played Svendsen's *Romance*, Sarasate's *Gavotte* from *Mignon* and his own *Manx Rhapsody*.

*IoMT December 14<sup>th</sup>*: From the *Maidenhead Advertiser*: 'A Talented Young Manx Musician'. **Haydn Wood** performs Sarasate's *Zigeunerweisen* and Saint-Saëns *Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso* at a Monday concert. Two encores. '. . . a revelation . . . (he) proves himself a complete master of the violin'.



*IoME* December 21<sup>st</sup>: *The Mikado* at the Grand Theatre St. Stephen's Night, December 27<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Douglas Choral Union; full orchestra including Harry Wood, **Haydn Wood**, **Daniel Wood** and Harry Rushworth, piano. Cond. F. C. Poulter. 'It certainly looks like a capital musical ensemble'.

*IoMT* December 21<sup>st</sup>: Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup>: Douglas School Children's Concert at the Grand Theatre. **Haydn Wood** plays in Harry Wood's orchestra, but does not perform a solo.

## 1902

*IoMT* January 18<sup>th</sup>: Review of the Wanderers Association Football Club concert at the Grand Theatre. 'We can boast a novelist in Hall Caine, a musician in young **Haydn Wood** and a singer (the baritone Alister Proctor) in the man with a future . . .

*IoMT* March 8<sup>th</sup>: Extract from the *Cambridge University Journal*: the orchestra of the RCM gives a concert in the Guild Hall. '**Mr Haydn Wood** (scholar) gave a brilliant rendering of Saint-Saëns *Introduction and Rondo*. It was delightful to watch the energy he threw into his work, and how thoroughly he entered into the spirit of the composition . . . Mr Wood scored the success of the evening'. He was recalled several times and acknowledged the audience 'with modesty'.

*Manx Sun* March 15<sup>th</sup>: Buck's Road Primitive Methodist Church Sacred Concert on Good Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> March. Both Harry and **Haydn Wood** take part performing all or part of Bach's double violin concert in D minor. The same feature announced Harry Wood's appointment as conductor at the Palace Orchestra, and Haydn Wood's appearance as a soloist at Miss Rowe's Morning Concert on 1<sup>st</sup> April in the Grand Saloon of the Castel Mona Hotel, featuring the Amateur Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar Orchestra (40 players). He received top billing on the advertising posters and performed a *Serenade* by Chopin (?), *Danses L'Ziganes*\* and Achille Simonetta's *Madrigale*.

\* (2) *Danses Tziganes* op. 14 by Tivadar Nachéz.

*Peel City Guardian* March 22<sup>nd</sup>: Miss Henniker's concert at the Palace on 17<sup>th</sup> April announced. J. T. Barnett's *The Ancient Mariner* (a secular dramatic cantata) to be performed by the Douglas Choral Union (70 voices) and Harry Wood's Students' Orchestra, 10 musicians mainly from the Halle Orchestra and **Haydn Wood**, conducted by F. C. Poulter. Haydn Wood played his own *Manx Rhapsody*.

*IoME* April 12<sup>th</sup>: Harry and **Haydn Wood** play at the Braddan Annual Parochial Tea and Concert. 'The treat of the evening was the fiddling of Mr Harry and **Mr Haydn Wood** . . . their finished performances were loudly applauded'. They were accompanied 'brilliantly' by their sister **Miss Elise Wood**.

*IoME* May 17<sup>th</sup>: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May Sunday Grand Sacred Concert at the Palace with Harry Wood's Grand orchestra and **Haydn Wood** 'the talented young violinist'. **Haydn** plays Hauser's *Hungarian Melodies*, Svendsen's *Romance* and Sarasate's *Gavotte* from Thomas's *Mignon*.

*Manx Sun* August 16<sup>th</sup>: **Daniel** and **Haydn Wood** played in the orchestra for the King's Coronation in Westminster Abbey under the batons of Sir Frederick Bridge and Walter Parratt.\*

\* Daniel Wood, flute, was a liveried member of The King's Band.

*IoMT* August 30<sup>th</sup>: Review of Sunday Sacred Concert on 24<sup>th</sup> August with madam Ella Russell, soprano, and **Haydn Wood**. He plays violin *obbligatos*.

*IoME* August 30<sup>th</sup>: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August, Grand Sacred Concert at the Palace with Clara Butt and **Mr. Haydn Wood**, violinist. He plays his own *Manx Rhapsody*, Elgar's *Salut d'amore* and Saint-Saëns *Introduction et Rondo Capriccioso*. 'It is difficult to say too much in praise of Mr Haydn Wood's violin solos . . . a touch so delicate and skilful'. He was recalled twice.

*Manx Sun* September 13<sup>th</sup>: last Grand Sacred Concert of the season at the Palace Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>. **Haydn Wood**, solo violin, played pieces by the Hungarian violin virtuoso and teacher Jenő Hubay (*Plevna Nota*) and Wieniawski. Haydn also played at Harry Wood's benefit concert on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>.

*IoME* November 15<sup>th</sup>: Brief report of a concert in Chester in recognition of baritone Alister Proctor's work for charity since moving to the city. 'The Douglas violinist Mr Haydn Wood scored a big triumph'.

*IoMT* November 15<sup>th</sup>: Baritone Alister Proctor and **Haydn Wood** take part in a concert at St. Mathew's Church, Douglas, on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>. Miss M. L. Wood, organ, and both Harry and Haydn, violin. Haydn plays favourite pieces by Hubay and Sarasate. 'The audience were roused to a pitch of excitement and enthusiasm'. Encores demanded and he played Sarasate's arrangement of a Chopin *Nocturne* and Schumann's *Träumerei*.

*Manx Sun* December 20<sup>th</sup>: Douglas Choral Union present the *Gondoliers* for four nights at the Gaiety Theatre. St. Stephen's Night, December 29<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Seventeen principals; a choir of seventy; a full orchestra led by Harry Wood with **Haydn Wood** ('home from the RCM on holiday') in the first violins; conducted by F. C. Poulter.

*IoME* December 20<sup>th</sup>: Grand Gymnastic Display and Concert at King William's College. Orchestra consisted of Miss M. L. Wood, harmonium, and four violins including Harry and **Haydn Wood**, Miss Grace Pleignier and J.E. Quayle. 'The most perfect orchestral performance ever heard in this district'.

*Manx Sun* December 27<sup>th</sup>: brief report of the annual concert from Eaton College Chapel: 'Some of the items were of a most enjoyable character, notable the violin performances of **Mr. Haydn Wood**, a scholar of the Royal College of Music, and a young violinist of remarkable ability, whose contributions were the *chefs d'oeuvre* of the evening . . .'

*IoME* December 27<sup>th</sup>: Musical Service at St. Matthews Church. Harry, **Haydn and Daniel Wood** take part with Miss M. L. Wood at the organ. Haydn played Svendsen's *Romance*. The church was packed and £3 8s 1d was taken made up of 466 coins!

*Manx Sun* December 27<sup>th</sup>: The annual amount of £13 bequeathed by the late Edwin S. Dove for Royal College of Music pupils who have distinguished themselves was awarded jointly to 'our young townsman' **Haydn Wood** and Thomas F. Morris (violinists).

## 1903

*Manx Sun* January 3<sup>rd</sup>: Review of the Musical Service at St. Matthews on Christmas Day. Two references in these 'Musical Notes' by Miss M. L. Wood, throw some light on the attitudes to music in churches on the Island at the time:

'Mr. Harry Wood's band (in which both Haydn and Daniel Wood played) was a great feature on Christmas Day and makes one think what a loss it is that the fiddles and other instruments have been turned out of the church'.

'It ought to be remembered that these musical services ARE SERVICES and not concerts . . . the (vocal) soloists should never stand facing the congregation as on a concert platform . . . the spirit of reverence will be shown if they simply remain in their places in the choir'.

This seems to be countered by the reported views on church music by Lord Halifax, who advocated the return of the 'old village string bands' who might have been 'left in their galleries at the west end of the church' instead of blocking up the east end of our churches and chancel aisles . . . with organs and harmoniums . . .'

*IoMT* February 21<sup>st</sup>: '**Mr Haydn Wood** was one of the contributors to the programme at a Press Club 'smoker' in London recently'.\*

\* Smoking concerts were all-male social events that took place in clubs or hotels and were popular in the Victorian age and later. Men would smoke, discuss politics and other subject a and listen to mainly instrumental music.

*IoMT* March 14<sup>th</sup>: A brief report of a 'Broadwood Concert' in *The Stage*. **Haydn Wood** and two others give a 'capital performance of an old-world a Sonata of 4 parts by Henry Purcell' (presumably the fourth part was a harpsichord continuo) published by the Purcell Society.

*IoMT* April 4<sup>th</sup>: Haydn Wood conducts his new Suite in D major at a RCM concert.\* It is not certain whether the composition or the orchestra was being 'examined', but the adjudicator August Manns, Sir Charles Stanford and Sir Hubert Parry offered 'our young townsman' hearty congratulations. 'Mr. Wood's scholarship at the College terminates shortly, after which he intends to reside in London permanently'.

\* The suite in D major consisted of three movements: *Andante con moto*; *Variations in B minor* and *Polonaise* according to the *IoMT* 13.8.1904. Only the *Variations* survive today in the HWMLA.

*Manx Sun* April 11<sup>th</sup>: Douglas Choral Union presents the popular nautical comic opera *Billee Taylor* at the Gaiety Theatre, Easter Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Leader of the orchestra **Haydn Wood**; conductor F. C. Poulter.

*Manx Sun* May 16<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** awarded the ARCM. He also received the Sir Arthur Sullivan Prize of £5 for composition (for the new Suite for orchestra?); he was the first non-composition scholarship student to receive this prize.

*IoMT* May 30<sup>th</sup>: Haydn Wood among a number of artistes present at a London Press Club coming of age dinner.

*Manx Sun* June 27<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** performs Svendsen's *Romance* at the St. Matthews Church Sunday evening service on 28<sup>th</sup>. Assisted by Harry Wood's Students' Orchestra.

*IoMT* August 8<sup>th</sup>: Sunday Concert at the Palace. The orchestra performed 'a graceful waltz by **Haydn Wood**'. Harry Wood's orchestra and Douglas Coral Union.

*IoMT* August 15<sup>th</sup>: Palace Sunday Concert with Madame Albani.

*Manx Sun* August 15<sup>th</sup>: Palace Sunday Concert on August 16<sup>th</sup>. Madame Marchesi, soprano, Andrew Black, baritone and **Haydn Wood**, violin, who 'played several selections' by Hubay, Chopin arr. Sarasate and Bach.

*IoMT* August 22<sup>nd</sup>: Lady Raglan's Charitable Bazaar at Government House. **Haydn Wood** performs Hubay's *Plevna Nota*.

*Mona's Herald* August 30<sup>th</sup>: Sunday Concert at the Palace. **Haydn Wood**, violin with Harry Wood's orchestra and Ella Russell, soprano. *Souvenir de Pesht (?)* and Saint-Saëns *Introduction and Rondo Capriccio op.28*.

*IoMT* October 31<sup>st</sup>: Annual dinner of the London Press Club at the Hotel Cecil. **Haydn Wood** among the entertainers.

## 1904

*IoMT* January 16<sup>th</sup>: From the *Halifax Courier*. **Haydn Wood** 'our talented young townsman, performed works by Hubay and Wieniawski at the concert in Halifax. '... his performances were quite distinguished, stamped with a brilliance that we ... seldom have the opportunity of hearing equalled. Mr. Wood's remarkably powerful and clever playing ... secured an enthusiastic encore, and his qualities as a musician of the first order were strikingly exemplified in Wieniawski's composition'.

*IoMT* January 30<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** will travel from London to lead an orchestra of some twenty-five players, conducted by Harry Wood, in the pantomime *Babes in the Wood* for which his brother wrote and arranged the music.

*IoMT* March 12<sup>th</sup>: From the *Gravesend Standard*. **Haydn Wood** plays at a concert in Gravesend, Kent, pieces by Hubay, Chopin, Sarasate and the *Serenade* by Pierne.\* The reviewer comments on his 'unpretentious, almost retiring manner. He keeps his hair short and appears in plain English. For all that he is a marvellous player.' The report of this concert announces that Haydn Wood 'has just gone to Brussels to study with Professor Cesar Thomson ... he expects to be away some time'.

\* This last piece, the *Serenade in A major op.7* by Pierne, was recorded by Haydn Wood in 1907 (available on CD, Symposium 1386) and is the only extant recording of his playing.

*IoMT* August 6<sup>th</sup>: Sunday Concert on 7<sup>th</sup> with Madame Albani and Harry Wood's Palace Orchestra augmented to fifty players. **Haydn Wood** conducted his Suite in D major (only the

*Andante con moto*), 'which he has composed for the next concert of the RCM in London'.\* He also played the violin *obbligato* in Gounod's Ave Maria which Albani\*\* sang with her accompanist Theodore Flint.

\* This suite was conducted by Haydn Wood at a RCM concert at the end of March or beginning of April 1903.

\*\* This may be the first occasion when Haydn played with Emma Albani (1847-1930), the singer with whom he would enjoy a long association as the resident solo violinist with her concert party. She was the first Canadian singer to achieve international fame and was a favourite of Queen Victoria. Daniel Wood played the flute *obbligato* in Handel's *Sweet Bird* from *Il Penseroso*. He, too, enjoyed a, earlier, shorter association with Albani as a member of her concert party.

*Manx Sun* August 6<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** conducts the Bijou Orchestra at the Derby Castle.\*

\* The Derby Castle Orchestra was conducted by A. J. Graham in the ballroom at this time. The Bijou Orchestra performed in the New Bijou Variety Theatre on the same site, described as 'the prettiest and best ventilated entertainment room in Douglas'. The entertainments were mixed and included acrobats, high wire acts, comedians, novelty musical acts and music hall stars such as Charles Coburn. Haydn Wood continued to conduct the band until the end of the season.

*Manx Sun* August 13<sup>th</sup>: The Palace Sunday Concert on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Ada Crossley, contralto, and **Haydn Wood**, violin. 'Mr. Haydn Wood's performances on the violin were a great treat, and, as usual, the audience went into raptures when he ceased playing. Favourite pieces by Hubay and Saint-Saëns and 'a sweetly idyllic composition of his own, *Souvenance*'.

*IoMT* August 13<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** conducts the Bijou Orchestra in the New Bijou Theatre at the Derby Castle. The orchestra was described as 'clever if small' after their performance of an overture by Suppé.

*IoME* August 28<sup>th</sup>: The Palace Sunday Concert on the 28<sup>th</sup> with Albani (re-engaged after just three weeks) and **Haydn Wood** 'the rising young violinist'. Haydn Wood played favourite pieces by Wieniawski and Svendsen and probably the violin *obbligato* in Mozart *L'amero saro costante* from *Il Re pastore*.

*IoMT* September 17<sup>th</sup>: The Palace Sunday Concert on the 18<sup>th</sup> with the Manx Male Voice Choir and Haydn Wood, who played an un-named trio for piano, violin and viola.

*IoME* October 29<sup>th</sup>: Announcement that Harry Wood will go to Glasgow with Hengler's Circus as musical director in December for the Christmas season (three months), 'and will take with him many of the Palace Orchestra players from the recent summer season'. '**Mr. Haydn Wood** is coming to the Island to take charge of Mr. Harry Wood's pupils and arrangements during the latter's sojourn in Glasgow'.

*Peel City Guardian* December 10<sup>th</sup>. **Haydn Wood** takes part in a concert at the Peel Centenary Hall on the Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>. Favourite pieces by Hubay, Sarasate, Raff and his own *Souvenance*.

## Madame Albani's Concert Party

1905

*IoMT* January 7<sup>th</sup>: January 19<sup>th</sup>, the first of a series of Violin recitals given by **Haydn Wood**, at the Grand Salon of the Castle Mona Hotel. This was advertised as 'his first recital' given by 'our young townsman' in his own right after completing his studies. His new song *Cupid's Hunt*, with words by Manx-born Professor Henry Hanby Hay,\* and sung by Miss Dorothy Court, soprano, of the Royal College of Music.\*\* He played violin pieces by Bazzini, Pierne, Sarsate, Hubay, Schumann and his own *Souvenance*. A Chopin *Nocturne*, specially arranged for 'cello and piano for this recital by **Haydn Wood**, was performed by the Douglas 'cellist Mr F. C. Gothard. Dorothy Court sang songs and arias by Verdi, Eva Dell' Acqua's *Villanelle* and Guy d'Hardelot's *Three Green Bonnets* in a 'brilliant and well-cultivated voice'. 'A musical treat and an artistic success'.

\* The full text of this song was published in *IoMT*. Henry Hanby Hay, teacher, lecturer, essayist and poet published two collections of poems: *Trumpets and Shawms* and *Created Gold*. He lived for many years in Philadelphia.

\*\* This is the first mention in Isle of Man newspapers of Haydn Wood's wife-to-be whom he met at the Royal College of Music. She became a noted Savoyard. They married in 1909 and he wrote many of his most famous songs for her.

*IoME* January 21<sup>st</sup>: Daniel S. Wood one of the examiners at the Royal Academy of Music for the degree of LRAM.

*IoME* January 28<sup>th</sup>: Both **Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court contribute to the Music Service at St. Matthew's Church on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January.

*Mona's Herald* February 15<sup>th</sup>: Report of an undated concert in the Musical World given in the Midland Hall, Manchester, in which Miss Millicent Holbrook (singer?) was joined by **Haydn Wood**, who played a number of un-named virtuoso pieces 'with the greatest ease . . . and with a beautiful mellow tone, especially from his G and D strings'.

*IoMT* February 25<sup>th</sup>: *The Gay Little Coons* at the Gaiety Theatre, Thursday March 2<sup>nd</sup> for the benefit of Mr Alf Smith, a well-known Douglas entertainer. Orchestra conducted by F. C. Poulter and led by **Haydn Wood**, 'gave two excellent overtures'. A minstrel extravaganza including a Cake Walk Competition. **Miss Adeline Wood** took part in a 'Coon' duet and dance entitled *I'se a-waitin' for you, Josie*, which was encored.\*

\* Written and composed by Fred W. Leigh and Henry E. Pether (1904) and recorded by the great 'black-face' singer G. H. Elliott in 1906.

*Manx Sun* March 11<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** to take part in the Guild Grand Evening Concert (during which the prizes were awarded) on 23<sup>rd</sup> March together with Harry Wood's orchestra. His performance of Bazzini's 'Scherzo fantastique' *Ronde des Lutins (Dance of the Goblins)*, op. 25 was described as 'the treat of the evening' and 'rendered as to be beyond criticism'.

*IoMT* March 25<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** returned to the Island from London to take part in the Guild concert, having fulfilled six engagements in London. On 9<sup>th</sup> March he performed Dunhill's *Fantasia for violin and orchestra in G minor*,\* based on Manx National Melodies, at a Royal College of Music Patron's Fund concert. Madame Albani was present at the concert and wrote to **Haydn Wood** the following day: 'Your Manx Melodies and cadenza were delightful'. The review also refers to 'another occasion' when **Haydn Wood** and Madame Albani performed

an aria by Mozart with violin *obbligato*\*\* before the H.R.H. the Landgrave of Hesse\*\*\* who 'expressed his great pleasure' at the young virtuoso's playing.

\* Thomas F. Dunhill (1877-1946) was an English composer and writer on musical matters who studied composition at the RCM with Stanford. He founded the Thomas Dunhill Concerts to promote the chamber works of young composers and later became a professor of harmony at the Royal College of Music. He is best remembered for the song cycle *The Wind Among the Reeds* (1912), and his comic opera *Tantivy Towers* (1935,) which would be worth an occasional revival. His brother Alfred founded the Dunhill tobacco empire. A violin and piano edition of the *Fantasia* is in the Manx Museum library (MS 01350). A full description of the piece was included in the *IoMT* review above. See also *IoMT* 8<sup>th</sup> April for letter from W. H. Gill concerning the origins of the piece and its connection with *Manx National Songs*. He composed a virtuoso violin piece for Haydn Wood, 'Founded on Manx Traditional Melodies', op. 12, a copy of which can be found in the Manx Museum (MS 01350); and the operetta *Tantivy Towers* (1935). See Maurice Powell, *A Forgotten Masterpiece?* manxmusic.com.

\*\* *L'ameró, sarò costante* from *Il re pastore*, K. 208.

\*\*\* Prince Frederick William Charles, brother-in-law of Kaiser Wilhelm II of Prussia; his wife was a granddaughter of Queen Victoria. He was King-elect of Finland but renounced the throne in 1918 because of his German birth.

*IoME* July 22<sup>nd</sup>: 'The last issue of "Black and White" contains a splendid portrait of **Mr. Haydn Wood**, the talented young musician'. The article also refers to a performance of his 'thoroughly attractive' suite for orchestra at a Royal College of Music Patron's Fund concert in which the 'clever set of variations' were praised along with the *Polonaise* finale (lost).\* The review also refers to a recent concert with Madame Albani and that he had been on tour with her.

\* Haydn Wood's first song *Spring Time* was written this year.

*Mona's Herald* July 26<sup>th</sup>: The Derby Castle Orchestra 'under the capable baton' of **Haydn Wood**, who conducts 'a perfect little orchestra'. Meanwhile his brother Harry Wood was conducting the orchestra in the ballroom.\*

\* Top of the bill was the great juggler Cinquevalli, himself a budding young violinist before he sustained an arm injury. In a newspaper interview he recalled standing in the wings at the Derby Castle Variety Theatre some years earlier marvelling at the young Haydn Wood playing a virtuoso violin piece.

*IoMT* October 14<sup>th</sup>: Report from the *Bradford Weekly Telegraph* of 4<sup>th</sup> October of a concert given by the Bradford Permanent Orchestra of **Haydn Wood's** suite for orchestra. Mention also of a forthcoming concert tour with Albani to Scotland ('... he has again been engaged'), and the Harrison Tour in January and February 1906 (?). Haydn is invariably described as 'the Manx violinist' in all local newspaper reviews.

*Manx Sun* December 9<sup>th</sup>: The announcement of **Haydn Wood's** engagement to participate in Albani's farewell Canadian concert tour in February. (is this the same as the Harrison tour?)

## 1906

*IoME* March 17<sup>th</sup>: Report of the passenger ship *Numidian* taking thirteen days to sail from Moville to Halifax, Nova Scotia, due to severe storms. Albani and **Haydn Wood** were among the passengers.

*Manx Sun* March 31<sup>st</sup>: Report of the Guild Concert in which the mezzo-soprano Madame Mary Conly sang **Haydn Wood's** song *Spring Time* ('with its pretty cuckoo refrain') with Harry Wood playing the violin *obbligato*.

*IoME* April 7<sup>th</sup>: '**Mr Haydn Wood** of Douglas, who is at present on tour with Madame Albani in Canada', is highly praised as both a violinist and composer.

*IoMT* May 5<sup>th</sup>: Reports published from the *Quebec Daily Telegraph* (17/4) and the *Quebec Chronicle* (17/4) of Albani's concerts. **Haydn Wood**, 'one of the first virtuosi in London . . . our young townsman . . . shared the honours of the evening'. He played solos by Lalo, Fiorillo, his own *Variations on a Caprice of Paganini* and Schumann's *Traumerei* and Dvorak's *Humoresque* as encores. 'Brilliance of tone, technique and phrasing'. The applause 'verged on cheers'.

*IoME* June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Albani and **Haydn Wood** engaged for Sunday concerts that season.

*IoMT* June 23<sup>rd</sup>: Brief report of Haydn Wood playing three pieces at an afternoon concert at the Royal Albert Hall including the violin *obbligato* in a Mozart's concert aria *Non temer amato bene*, K. 490,\* with Albani.

\* Composed for the 1786 Viennese revival of Mozart's 1781 Munich opera *Idomene*.

*Manx Sun* August 4<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** plays pieces by Hubay and Schumann at a King William's College Musical Society concert. The new College orchestra was trained by Harry Wood and showed great promise.

*IoMT* August 4<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood**, 'Manxland's famous violinist', is to leave Island on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> for Ilfracombe where he is to join Albani for a concert on the 9<sup>th</sup>. They then proceed to New Brighton and Wales.

*IoME* August 11<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** and Madame Albani, 'The Canadian *cantatrice*'\* to appear at a Palace Sunday Concert on 13<sup>th</sup> August. He plays his own *Variations on a Caprice of Paganini*, pieces by Fiorillo, Schumann and Cui, and the violin *obbligato* in the Mozart concert aria mentioned above.

\*Albani was nearing the end of her career and had retired from the operatic stage. Nevertheless, hers was still 'a name to be conjured with'. She chose her pieces carefully and her repertoire normally contained arias, songs and ballads by Mozart, Handel, Tosti and favourites like *Home, Sweet Home* and Eliza Flower's hymn *Nearer, my God, to Thee*.

*IoME* August 25<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** appears at a Palace Sunday Concert with Prima Donna Madame Ella Russell on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August. He plays favourite showpieces by Hubay, Chopin and Bazzini.

*IoMT* October 6<sup>th</sup>: Huddersfield is awarded the title of 'Most Musical Town', on the basis that Sir Walter Parratt, organist, Mrs Sunderland, the Yorkshire 'Jenny Lind' and Haydn Wood, violinist, were born in or near there.\* 'Although a native Yorkshireman, most Manxman proudly claim him as one of them'.

\* The Wood family came from Slaithwaite, five miles to the south of Huddersfield in the Colne Valley. Haydn's brother Harry has the closest connection with Huddersfield having played in the Theatre Royal orchestra there



in his teens before moving to the Isle of Man permanently in 1886. See Maurice Powell, *Manxland's King of Music, the Life and Times of Harry Wood*, Lily Publications, 2018.

*IoMT* October 6<sup>th</sup>: Brief announcement that **Haydn Wood** was to play two solos and a violin *obbligato* at an Albani concert at the Royal Albert Hall on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October. 'He is adding daily to his reputation'.

*IoMT* October 13<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood**, solo violinist: ENGAGEMENTS. A list of twenty-six engagements for October, November and December, ranging from Paisley to Eastbourne, Chelmsford to Malvern to Swansea and from London to Darlington.

*IoME* December 22<sup>nd</sup>: Announcement of **Haydn Wood's** forthcoming tour with Albani to India, Australia and New Zealand commencing in April 1907. 'The well-known Manx violinist' had just concluded his 100<sup>th</sup> concert with Albani during 1906.

## 1907

*IoME* February 16<sup>th</sup>: Announcement of **Haydn Wood's** farewell concert 'A Night With the Stars' at the Gaiety Theatre on 7<sup>th</sup> March. 'Four artistes in the very front rank' to appear: Miss Adela Verne, 'England's Greatest Pianiste'; Miss Dorothy Court, soprano, 'who has lately forsaken concert work for light opera'; Mr. Albert Archdeacon, baritone, who had been part of Albani's concert party in South Africa and Canada,\* and **Haydn Wood** himself. Harry Wood's Students' Orchestra to play selections. 'The theatre will be specially heated, and there will be special late trains and electric cars . . . on all lines'.\*\* **Haydn Wood** played pieces by Wieniawski, Johann Strauss, Dvorak and Mendelssohn and his own *Variations on a Caprice of Paganini*. Dorothy Court sang a number of his songs including *Cupid's Hunt*.

\* In the event Albert Archdeacon did not appear and his place was taken by Thorpe Bates, baritone.

\*\* For full programme see advertisement in *Mona's Herald* 6<sup>th</sup> March; for a full report of the concert see *IoME* 9<sup>th</sup> March.

*IoME* March 16<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** leaves the Island for London to join Albani's concert tour.

*IoMT* April 6<sup>th</sup>: From the *Morley Observer* 28<sup>th</sup> March: The marriage of **Daniel S. Wood** to Mary Scholes of Morley, West Yorkshire, a local soprano, at the Queen Street Wesleyan Church, Morley, on 29<sup>th</sup> March. **Haydn Wood** was best man.

*IoME* May 4<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** together with Albani's concert party sail from Tilbury to Australia on the P & O passenger vessel s.s. *Marmora*.\*

\* Built 1903; 10,500 tons; torpedoed off Ireland in 1918.

*IoMT* July 27<sup>th</sup>: Report from the Melbourne edition of *Punch*: '**Mr Haydn Wood** is a splendid artiste. His tone is round, full, sweet and strong. His phrasing, intonation etc. is beyond reproach. Favourite pieces by Hubay, Sarasate, Chopin etc.

*IoMT* August 31<sup>st</sup>: A letter from **Haydn Wood** dated July 21<sup>st</sup>, Bathurst, to the editor containing details of his current concert tour with Albani:

\*Three concerts in Melbourne commencing July 10<sup>th</sup>.

\* Two concerts in Sydney.

\*Two concerts in Brisbane.

\* Charters Towers (a 19<sup>th</sup> century gold mining boom town in Northern Queensland) and Townsville (the major port and service centre for the Cape River with an important sugar industry) with transport by boat as there were no rail links.

\* South to Rockhampton, then hence to Brisbane and Sydney again.

According to the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 19<sup>th</sup> July: '**Mr Haydn Wood**, with an almost feminine finish of style, allied to that of Marie Hall, but characterised by a deeper sentiment.' (This strongly suggests that there was far much more to his playing than the ability to dazzle audiences with the virtuosic tricks of a mere showman.)

**Haydn Wood** meets a number of eminent artistes during this tour including Madame Careno (*sic*) \* and the violinist Marie Hall,\*\* who expressed the desire to perform his *Variations on a Caprice of Paganini*. He subsequently dedicated this piece to her.

Altogether two months were spent in Australia. Then on to Tasmania and New Zealand (including Invercargill and Auckland); India and home via Cairo if time available. The party is due back in London during January 1908. One newspaper report estimated that Albani's concert party had travelled some 41,000 miles during the tour.

*IoME* October 19<sup>th</sup>: Report from the *Hobart Times* (Tasmania): '**Mr Haydn Wood**, the young violinist from the Isle of Man, who has been arousing such unwonted enthusiasm among the musical people in Australia . . . with his solo pieces, his *obbligatos* with Madame Albani, stands high among the elect of Great Britain as a composer as well as an executant.' Reference is made to his *Variations on a Caprice by Paganini*, and the song *Lady Awake!* which was sung by the tenor William Green of Albani's concert party. Other songs are also mentioned in the report: *The Gull*, *Haying Time* and *Wood Violets*, and his newly completed piano concerto about which 'the London critics have saying very flattering things'.

A final intriguing comment may shed some light on **Haydn Wood's** otherwise bizarre idea that using the stage name of Herr Jan Zakovsky would enhance his reputation: '. . . if he had been presented with a fanfare of trumpets, a foreign and unpronounceable name, and the accessory of a wild mop of untamed hair, or some such other eccentricity, **Haydn Wood** would today, in all probability, be quite as much an idol of the musical world as Kubelik,\*\*\* and with quite good cause'. Haydn Wood later admitted in a newspaper article that adopting the stage name Zakovsky was an attempt protect his reputation as a concert violinist and to avoid the stigma of being associated with 'playing the halls'.

\* Teresa Correño (1853-1917), the forgotten diva. She was the internationally acclaimed Venezuelan singer, pianist, conductor and composer of over forty works for piano.

\*\* Marie Hall (1884-1956) was an English violinist who made her London debut in 1903. Despite her *petite* physique, she undertook lengthy concert tours. Vaughan Williams dedicated his *Lark Ascending* to her, and she recorded an abridged version of Elgar's violin concerto.

\*\*\* Jan Kubelik (1880-1940). The Czech violinist and composer of six once popular violin concertos. 'Mr. Kubelik's artistry is of the most remarkable kind . . . few have the power of so ravishing the senses with the sheer beauty of his tone. (New York Times, 1907.)

## 1908

*IoMT* February 1<sup>st</sup>: Report that **Haydn Wood** intends to give a concert at the Gaiety Theatre on 5<sup>th</sup> March. William Green, tenor, Miss Mildred Jones, contralto, and Miss Myrtle Meggy,\* 'a very fine young Australian pianist', all members of Albani's recent concert tour, would be taking part assisted by Harry Wood's Students' Orchestra and F. C. Poulter's choir.

*IoMT* February 15<sup>th</sup>: Booking for the above concert to commence at Blakemore's Music Warehouse, Victoria Street, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. All seats 3s, and no booking fee. There would be late trains on the Port Erin line and a reduction on all return fares after 12.30pm. Electric Cars to Laxey and Ramsey from 11.00pm.

Elsewhere in the same edition: 'The Return of the Native':

'Not content with the subjugation of the Antipodes, "the Manx violinist", a soubriquet by which he will probably be known to posterity, apparently sighs for new worlds to conquer.' The forthcoming concert 'bids fair to be without precedent in point of attraction'. (The writer had clearly been reading Walter Pater's *Marius the Epicurean*, a Victorian novel of impenetrable aestheticism.)

\* Anna Myrtle Meggy (1887-1959) was an Australian pianist and teacher. After Albani's concert tour she returned to London and frequently appeared with the Queen's Hall Orchestra under Sir Henry Wood.

*IoME* March 7<sup>th</sup>: 'Many of the elite of the Island occupied boxes and seats in the stalls'. An enthusiastic reception was afforded **Haydn Wood** at his first concert following his recent tour with Albani. Almost world-wide fame achieved. He played pieces by Pierné (with clavichord accompaniment), Hubay, Saint-Saëns (arr. of *The Swan*), Sulzer (with organ accompaniment), Dvorak, Fiorillo and Arbos (*Tango*), plus encores. William Green sang his new song *For Thee*. For one piece he was accompanied on the clavichord. The concert ended just before 11 o'clock.

*Mona's Herald* April 15<sup>th</sup>: Brief report of a Press Club ladies Dinner at the Criterion restaurant in London at which Haydn Wood was one of the entertainers.

*IoMT* July 11<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** appears at a Palace Sunday concert on July 12<sup>th</sup>. 'A magnificent violinist is Mr. Haydn Wood'. He played pieces by Arbos and Sulzer and his own *Variations on a Caprice of Paganini*.

*Mona's Herald* August 5<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** appears at a Palace Sunday concert on 2<sup>nd</sup> August. His pieces included some that had accompaniments (orchestrations?) arranged by himself: a *Nocturne* by Chopin; Hubert's *Scenes de la Czardas*; Liszt's *La Campanella*. Encores included *Reverie* by Schumann and Dvorak's *Humoresque*.

*IoMT* October 10<sup>th</sup>: A lengthy piece about **Haydn Wood's** childhood on the Isle of Man, his years of study in London and Brussels, his early compositions and tours to Canada and Australia etc with Albani. One interesting snippet concerns a violin concerto, 'the Andante

(sic) and Finale of which he played at Mme Albani's concert at the Queen's Hall two years ago'.\* The article also mentions the *Phantasy for Strings* (sic) with which he was awarded the second Cobbett Chamber Music prize,\*\* and which was performed by the Saunders Quartet in the Bechstein Hall. His new piano concerto was referred to, 'and his first symphony which he hopes to complete in the next few weeks'.\*\*\* His immediate forthcoming concerts included conducting his suite for orchestra at the Bournemouth symphony concerts, and a performance of Bruch's first violin concerto. '... one of our most talented English musicians'.

\* Only the Adagio of this projected concerto in B minor has survived. The performance of the incomplete work took place on 27<sup>th</sup> June, 1905.

\*\* The *Phantasie in F major* for string Quartet was dedicated to Stanford. He later arranged the work for string orchestra as a *Fantasie-Concerto* in three short linked movements.

\*\*\* Lost. Marjorie Cullerne of the HWMLA confirms that among the titles of unpublished works in the composer's own list of his compositions (1951) is a symphony in D minor, 'Score and parts of this work are in the RCM library'. Her further researches have revealed that he submitted the symphony to the RCM Patron's Fund for approval in 1909, and that a trial rehearsal was organised for 13<sup>th</sup> May, 1910 with a view to a performance in July. The death of King Edward VII caused the concert to be postponed, and at that point the 'trail runs cold'.

## 1909

*IoMT March 13<sup>th</sup>*: 'The winner of the only violin scholarship in the open competition of the Royal College of Music, held recently, was **Master F. Hilton Cullerne**,\* nephew and pupil of Mr. **Haydn Wood**. The winner is aged 15'.

Notes: Frank Hilton Cullerne, normally referred to as 'Hilton', was the son of Harry and Haydn Wood's sister Mary Hannah and her husband Francis Hildred Cullerne who took over the running of the family home and hotel business, the Lewisham Hotel in Slaithwaite, West Yorkshire, when their parents Clement and Sabra Wood moved to the Isle of Man in late 1885 or early 1886. He lived with Harry Wood in Douglas for a while, and later enjoyed a very successful career as a violinist and orchestral leader both on and off the Island.

*IoMT April 3<sup>rd</sup>*: The Marriage of **Haydn Wood** and **Miss Clara Dorothy Court**,\*\* in Westerham Parish Church. He is described as 'a distinguished violinist' and she as 'a *prima donna* at the Savoy Theatre'. The best man was Mr. Victor Marmont, accompanist to Mme Albani, who was also among the guests; Harry Wood and **Daniel Wood** and his wife were present; **Adeline Wood**; Mr and Mrs Joseph Gledhill and Mr and Mrs. Walter Gledhill.\*\* The honeymoon was spent in Bournemouth. The bride presented her bridegroom with a gold mounted violin bow.

\* Haydn Wood met Dorothy Court whilst he was at the Royal College of Music between 1902-5. She was engaged by D'Oyly Carte at the Savoy Theatre, London, for the 1908-09 season for roles in *HMS Pinafore*, *Iolanthe*, *The Pirates of Penzance* and *The Gondoliers*. Between 1913 and 1925 the couple toured Britain by car together with their accompanist and a celeste. Their first recorded recital was at Boscombe near Bournemouth on 13<sup>th</sup> October, 1913; thereafter they presented their twenty minute 'highbrow' recital in hundreds of concert and music halls, during which several of Haydn Wood's songs were premiered, many of them adorned with his own violin *obbligatos*.

\*\* Haydn's sisters Sophia Schofield Wood married Joseph Arthur Geldhill in 1896; Elise (Eliza) Beevor (Beever) Wood married Walter John Gledhill in 1902.

*IoMT* April 24<sup>th</sup>: Announcement of **Haydn Wood's** departure for Australia on the P & O passenger ship *China*, on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, for a six-month engagement with Mr. J.C. Williamson\* 'as prima donna in *The King of Cadonia* (music by Sidney Jones, Frederick Rosse and Jerome Kern), *The Waltz Dream* (music by Oscar Strauss), and *The Dollar Princess*' (music by Leo Fall).

\* James Cassius Williamson, American actor and Australia's foremost theatrical manager, founder of the J. C. Williamson Ltd. theatrical empire. He obtained the right to produce Gilbert and Sullivan's operettas in Australia together with musicals, revues, musical comedies, straight plays and concert tours with eminent artistes including Henry Irving and Melba. He died in 1913; his company survived until 1976.

*IoMT* July 31<sup>st</sup>: **Haydn Wood** appears at a Palace Sunday Concert on 1<sup>st</sup> August, with Ada Crossely, contralto, and John Coates, tenor, 'all consummate artistes'. He performed a *Serenade* by Victor Herbert; his own arrangement of Liszt's *La Campanella*; an unidentified piece by Hubay entitled *Zephyr*, and encores. '**Mr Haydn Wood** is of the Isle of Man, and by Manx people is more than esteemed . . . he played to the almost frantic delight of a very musical audience'.

*Mona's Herald* September 8<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** appears at a Palace Sunday Concert on 5<sup>th</sup> September with contralto Mary Conly and popular tenor Charles Saunders. Pieces by Hubay and his own *Variations on a Caprice of Paganini* plus encores by Dvorak and Sarasate.

*Mona's Herald* October 6<sup>th</sup>: St. George's Church Bazaar entertainment. **Haydn Wood** composes a 'Coon' song and dance for **Adeline Wood**.

*IoME* October 9<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** writes a part song *The Phynodderee* for the 1910 Guild, class VI, Choral Societies (open). A brief note in Miss M. L. Wood's 'Musical Notes' in *IoMT* reads: '**Mr Haydn Wood's Phynodderee**\* is not out yet; so we must wait patiently and hope it will be very charming'.

\* See Maurice Powell: *Haydn Wood : The Phynodderree* in [manxmusic.com](http://manxmusic.com)

*IoME* December 4<sup>th</sup>: From Miss M. L. Wood's 'Musical Notes': ' . . . the construction of the music to the meanderings of the merry little man does much credit to the genius of our young townsman'. Words by 'Cushag'.\* A five-part chorus of around 170 bars in length. 'Well calculated to test the abilities of a large choral society . . . the scheme of counterpoint and the clothing of the music generally is likely to cite the highest admiration . . . one marvels at the melodic intricacies which are possible . . .' Miss Wood concluded: ' . . . here is an exquisite outcome of the good work which Miss Kermode is carrying on in the wake of our beloved T. E. Brown.\*\*

In the same article it was announced that music by both **Haydn Wood** and his former composition teacher at the Royal College of Music, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, would be performed in Douglas at the 1910 Guild, as Stanford's cantata *The Revenge* would be performed by the combined choirs in the Guild concert.

Furthermore, the *prima donna* of the Paris Opera Comique, Maggie Teyte, sang **Haydn Wood's** new song *On a Spring Morning* at a recent Chappell Ballad Concert in London.

\* Margaret Letitia Josephine Kermode (1852-1937), known by her pen name 'Cushag', the Manx poet, playwright and folklorist. *Poems by Cushag* appeared in 1907, *Ellan Vannin* in 1911 and *Manx Melodies* in 1922.

\*\* Thomas Edward Brown (1830-97), the Manx National Poet, scholar, school master, Manx dialect poet and theologian.

## 1910

*Mona's Herald* January 5<sup>th</sup>: The Ellan Vannin Disaster Fund\* to close as target of £10,000 was within sight. Concerts in Manchester, Liverpool and Bolton organised by their Manx Societies would help boost the funds, and **Mr Haydn Wood** has promised to offer his services along with the Douglas Male Choristers. The Liverpool concert raised £50-60;

\*The *Ellan Vannin*, the smallest of the Steam Packet fleet, foundered on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1909 approaching Liverpool in stormy weather with the loss of all the passengers and crew. The disaster fund was administered for decades for the benefit of the families of those who lost their lives.

*IoMT* March 26<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** is commissioned to write music for two scenes in the Pageant of London, 'Festival of Empire', at the Crystal Palace during May, June and July.\*

\* In 1951 Haydn Wood was commissioned to provide all the music for the Isle of Man Festival of Britain Pageants, a huge undertaking which he undertook without a fee. The performing material – both words and music – can be found in the library of the Manx Museum. It has never been performed since.

*IoMT* April 9<sup>th</sup>: Lady Raglan's Birthday Fete held at Noble's Hall. **Haydn Wood** among those presiding at the event in order to support three new cots at Noble's Hospital, namely Faith, Hope and Charity. Harry Wood's Students' Orchestra played selections.\*

\* Nora Moore, then aged six, later a popular and accomplished singer on the Island, won a prize at this event for collecting the most half-pennies.

*IoMT* April 16<sup>th</sup>: Ramsey Choral Society performs **Haydn Wood's** *Phynodderee* at the Ramsey Palace. 'Really charmingly rendered'. On the same date, Haydn Wood performed a violin solo *Slumber Song* at a St. Georges' Church Sunday School concert.

*IoME* July 23<sup>rd</sup>: **Haydn Wood** to appear at a Palace Sunday Concert on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Pieces by Hubay, *Zephyr*,\* D'Ambrosio, Tchaikovsky's *Sérénade Mélancolique*, op. 26, and his own arrangement of *Carnival of Venice*. He was 'accorded rapturous recalls' and responded with the Bach-Gounod *Ave Maria*.

\* Number five of six pieces op. 30, entitled *Blumenleben*.

*IoME* July 30<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** leaves Island bound for Marseilles to meet up with his wife who has just returned from an operetta tour of Australia and New Zealand.

*Ramsey Courier* August 12<sup>th</sup>: Palace Sunday Concert 21<sup>st</sup> August with Louise Kirkby-Lunn. Pieces repeated from July concert.

## 1911

*Ramsey Courier* July 28<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** appears at a Palace Sunday Concert on 30<sup>th</sup> July with Miss Perceval Allen, soprano, and Ben Davies, tenor. Pieces by Raff, Hubay and his own

compositions including *Slumber Song* and *Carnival of Venice*. ‘. . . marvellous purity of tone . . . a lightness and firmness of touch’.

*IoME* September 9<sup>th</sup>: Manx flavour brought to Palace Sunday Concert on 2<sup>nd</sup> September with young half-Manx contralto Mabel Corran and **Mr Haydn Wood**. ‘Douglas has good reason to feel proud of them both’.

*IoME* September 23<sup>rd</sup>: **Haydn Wood’s** Grand Concert at the Gaiety Theatre on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Dorothy Court and Adela Verne, piano, Mr Harry Dearth, baritone, engaged and Harry Wood’s Students’ Orchestra. Special late trains to all parts. Dorothy Court sings Haydn Wood’s *Sing, Happy Hearts*; **Haydn Wood** plays his own *Elfin Dance* and *Slumber Song*. \* Miss Verne played a new *Scherzo Fantastique* by **Haydn Wood**.

\*Two Little Pieces for violin and piano, 1911.

## 1912

*IoME* August 3<sup>rd</sup>: Palace Sunday Concert 28<sup>th</sup> June: **Haydn Wood** plays pieces by Tchaikovsky and his own *Slumber Song* and *La Vie de Boheme*. Thorpe Bates sang Haydn Wood’s *Ship o’ Mine* and *The Sea Road*.

*IoME* August 10<sup>th</sup>: Palace Sunday Concert 11<sup>th</sup> August: **Haydn Wood** appears with Signor Lenghi, tenor,\* and Ada Crossley, contralto. He played favourite pieces by Hubay, Tchaikovsky, Dvorak and Paganini. ‘. . . he never acquitted himself so well as on this occasion . . . the audience could not have enough of his exquisite performances’.

\* The first appearance at a Palace Concert of the Italian tenor, Giuseppe Lenghi-Cellini, who became a firm favourite in Douglas.

*IoMT* September 7<sup>th</sup>: **Mrs Haydn Wood** (Dorothy Court) and **Adeline Wood** present at a Douglas Day Nursery\* ‘at home’ at Noble’s Hall.

\* An institution that cared and fed children of parents who worked away from home during the season.

*IoME* September 14<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood’s** song *Fairy Waters* sung by Mable Corran (‘of good old Manx stock’) at a Palace Sunday Concert.

## Haydn Wood & Company tour the halls.

## 1913

*IoME* April 5<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood’s** *Slumber Song* and *Elfin Dance* set for the junior violin solo class at the Guild. The first prize was won by Cecil Corlett, a pupil of Harry Wood.

*IoME* June 21<sup>st</sup>: From *London Opinion*: **Haydn Wood’s** song *Bird of Love Divine* referred to as ‘*Bird of Love and Wine*’ in the *Daily News*. The writer suggested that ‘Mr Cadbury’s journal’ could have amended the title to *Love and Cocoa*.\*

\* *The Daily News* was founded in 1846 by Charles Dickens. Quaker chocolate manufacturer George Cadbury bought the newspaper in 1901. Personal opinion: Not so much ‘fake news’ as ‘non-news’.

*Mona's Herald* July 23<sup>rd</sup>: Miss Grace Ivell, contralto, sings **Haydn Wood's** song *Fairy Waters* at the opening of the Villa Marina Kursaal supper party.

*IoME* July 26<sup>th</sup>: Thorpe Bates reprises his performances of **Haydn Woods'** songs *Ship o' Mine* and *The Sea Road* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

Palace Sunday Concert 27<sup>th</sup> July: **Haydn Wood** plays Svendsen's *Romance in G* and his own *La Vie de Boheme*.

*IoME* August 9<sup>th</sup>: Mr. Frederick Gregory sings 'a sea song of fine swing' by **Haydn Wood** at a Villa Marina Kursaal Sunday Concert.

Palace Sunday Concert on 17<sup>th</sup> August: **Haydn Wood** plays the *Hungarian Rhapsody op. 43* by Hauser and two of his own compositions: *Serenade* and *Air varie*. Two encores, *Lullaby* and *Slumber Song*. 'His technique and execution are a revelation . . . the tone he evolved was just delicious'.

## 1914

*IoMT* June 6<sup>th</sup>: Sunday Concert at the Palace Coliseum: Harry Wood's orchestra plays 'two exquisite *morceaux*' by **Haydn Wood**: *Love in Arcady* and *Pleading* (arrangements for orchestra of *Love in Arcady* for solo piano and the *morceau de concert Pleading*, for solo piano). In the same edition artistes for the coming season are announced including **Haydn Wood & Co**. Described as 'a musical turn which has already been received with the greatest success in the provinces, and which this week, goes to the Empire, London.\*

\* This is the first reference in the Isle of Man newspapers of Haydn Wood's concert party Haydn Wood & Company.

*IoME* July 25<sup>th</sup>: Lenghi-Cellini sings **Haydn Wood's** 'beautiful song' *Summer Dreams* at a Palace Sunday Evening Concert.

*IoMT* August 1<sup>st</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** song *Bird of Love Divine* 'which never fails to take the audience by storm', sung by Miss Alice Lilley at the Pier Pavilion in a concert given by the Douglas Concert Party.

*Mona's Herald* September 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court appear at the new Palace Coliseum\* variety theatre during the 'Oldham Wakes' holidays. 'Both are established favourites in Douglas . . . many of the songs in her extensive repertoire are from the accomplished pen of her husband . . . as an exponent of the art of ballad singing, she has few compeers and few superiors'.

\* Opened in 1913.

## 1915

*IoME* March 27<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** song *The Gunner* sung by baritone Charles Tree at the Guild concert.

*Mona's Herald* March 31<sup>st</sup>: Common Law Division (Summary Jurisdiction) Mortgages Sued For: '**Haydn Wood** and Dorothy, his wife v. George and Elizabeth (Isabella) Sheard and Joseph



Henry Barlow'. A suit for £112, two deeds of bond and security and interest thereon. As George Sheard was abroad ('sailing') at the time, leave was granted to serve notice on his wife. In the same edition a brief reference to Haydn Wood's song *The Gunner* being sung at the Guild by R. C. Clarke 'in admirable fashion'.

*IoME* May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Judgement and execution of £67 4s was granted for the principal deed and bond of security (£60) plus interest.

*IoME* May 8<sup>th</sup>: April 17<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** song *Bird of Love Divine* sung at a London Manx Society gathering and was encored.

*Mona's Herald* August 4<sup>th</sup>: Three of **Haydn Wood's** pieces: *Pleading*, *Love in Arcady* and *Day Dreams* were played by a small orchestra organised by Harry Wood at Lady Raglan's charity 'Garden Party and American Tea' in the Palace Gardens.

*IoME* October 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Hilton Cullerne** (now serving in His Majesty's forces) plays two pieces by his uncle **Haydn Wood** in the Villa Marina Pavilion: *Elfin Dance* and *Love's Garden of Roses*. 'Soldiering has not depreciated **Mr. Cullerne's** execution . . .'

*IoME* November 6<sup>th</sup>: Douglas Teachers and Scholars, on behalf of the Ladies Needlework Guild, social. Hilton Cullerne and a small ensemble perform **Haydn Wood's** *Love in Arcady*, *O Flower Divine* and *Island of Love* plus Harry Wood's *March for the Manx Volunteer Corps*.

*IoMT* November 6<sup>th</sup>: Harry Wood (violin) plays **Haydn Wood's** *Elfin Dance* and *Slumber Song* at Douglas Bowling Club's annual dinner smokers' concert.

In the same edition: **Hilton Cullerne** plays **Haydn Wood's** *La Vie de Boheme* and *Slumber Song* at a Villa Marina concert organised by Noah Moore,\* with members of the Douglas Festival Choir, Douglas Male Voice Chorister and the Festival Ladies Choir.

\* A popular and successful choir trainer, amateur singer and, after WWI, manager of the Villa Marina. The Douglas Ladies Choir under his direction won the Dawnay Shield in London in 1924. He was responsible for bringing some of the world's greatest singers to the Villa Marina Sunday concerts during the 1920s and 30s.

*IoME* November 20<sup>th</sup>: "*Cherie*," the music of which is by **Haydn Wood**, will soon be half over London' says *Daily Sketch* writer describing a new duet.\*

\* Possibly a duet from the musical play *Tina*, for which he wrote seven numbers, which opened at the Royal Adelphi Theatre, London, on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. In 1917 he wrote all the music for the comedy *Cash on Delivery* for the Palace Theatre.

## 1916

*IoME* January 29<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *Lullaby* was played by **Hilton Cullerne** at a reception and dinner given by Joseph Cunningham, MHK, and Mrs Cunningham at the Villa Marina. 'During the dinner **Private Cullerne's** Bijou Orchestra sweetly discoursed' a selection of pieces'.

*Mona's Herald* April 19<sup>th</sup>: Members of St. Thomas's Church Mother's Union and Working Party fortnightly social tea at the Villa Marina. Small ensemble of two pianos and two violin (Harry Wood and **Hilton Cullerne**) perform selections including **Haydn Wood's** *Love Garden of Roses* and *O Flower Divine*.

*Mona's Herald* July 12<sup>th</sup>: From the *Era* of July 15<sup>th</sup>: ‘Bransby Willams\* brought the house down at the Holborn Empire last week with an impromptu about **Haydn Wood** and his charming wife, Dorothy Court, who were also appearing there in their excellent musical *scena*. Coming on just after them, he propounded the riddle, “Why was Dorothy caught?” and he gave the answer, “Because Haydn woo’d.” ‘

\* Bransby Williams (1870-1961) was a favourite entertainer/actor, comedian, monologist – who appeared in Douglas for decades. Known as ‘The Irving of the Halls’, he was famed for his re-creations of many of Dickens’ characters for the stage, and recitations such as *The Green Eye of the Yellow God*.

*IoMT* September 23<sup>rd</sup>: Local soprano May Clague sings **Haydn Wood's** song *Love's Garden of Roses* at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert.

# 1918

*IoMT* May 11<sup>th</sup>: Palace employees fete at the Villa Marina. **Haydn Wood's** song *Roses of Picardy* sung by Miss Leecie (?) Kneale.\*

\*This best-known of all his 200 or so songs was composed in 1916 and first performed from the manuscript by his wife Dorothy at a concert in Belfast that year.

*Mona's Herald* October 2<sup>nd</sup>: Benefit Concert at the Villa Marina for the Manx Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' Association. Duet *When the Daisy Opens Her Eye* and solo song *Love's Garden of Roses* by **Haydn Wood**.

*IoMT* October 26<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** new song *The Wonderful World of Romance* (published by Chappell & Co.) is announced, 'and is being sung and hummed all over London'.

*IoMT* December 21<sup>st</sup>: ‘For the Sake of the Soldiers’, a National Thanksgiving Fete on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> at the Villa Marina. A huge fair with entertainment by local groups staged at the Gaiety Theatre, including two violin pieces by **Haydn Wood**: a Chopin *Nocturne* and *Elfin Dance* played by Miss A. Kaighin.

## 1919

*Mona's Herald* August 27<sup>th</sup>: The variety programme at the Palace Coliseum featured **Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court 'in a musical act that is truly a popular success . . . and shows off the couple to the very greatest advantage . . . he the famous Manx composer and violin virtuoso . . . and she a clever actress and sweet singer'. Dorothy Court sang three of Haydn Wood's songs, *Roses of Picardy*, *I Love Your Eyes of Grey* and *Wonderful World of Romance*.<sup>1</sup> The encore was *Hush a-bye. Ma baby* (The Missouri Waltz Song) with violin *obbligato*. Their pianist was Lily Mackenzie, who also played the spinet! A review of the concert which was repeated the following week describes their 'Interlude' as 'a pleasing entertainment . . . an idyll in which poetry and melody are so skilfully combined as to make a picture in harmony'.<sup>2</sup>

\* The concert party, Haydn Wood & Company, may have been unique in that it featured a husband and wife ensemble. Their stage act was described as 'sophisticated, picturesque, personable and genuinely heart-warming'.

*IoMT* September 6<sup>th</sup>: Palace Sunday Concert with Harry Wood's 'augmented orchestra' featured Agnes Nicholls, contralto, and Capt. Herbert Heyner, baritone, and **Haydn Wood's** *A May Day*\* among the orchestral pieces.

\* The *May Day* Overture – original title *A Rustic Overture* – 1918.

*IoMT* October 4<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *Pleading* and **Daniel Wood's** song *Sunshine All the While* performed at an extra Palace Sunday Concert at the end of the season.

## 1920

*IoME* February 7<sup>th</sup>: **Mr. Haydn Wood** tells the story of how he came to write *Roses of Picardy* to an audience of soldiers at the Fourth London General Hospital (King's College Hospital, commandeered for casualties during WWI.):

'I was going home one night after the theatre on top of a bus when the melody came to me. Immediately jumped off and stood under a dimly-lit street lamp and jotted the refrain down on an old envelope. When I got home I tried it over on the piano and found that it went quite well.'

*IoME* March 26<sup>th</sup>: A Sunday evening concert at Rosemount Church, reviewed by Mr. W(illiam) Ralph Hall Caine\* in which he felt that the arrangement of an un-named song by **Haydn Wood** for string quartet and organ did not do the composer – whom he admired – justice. 'The texture is too slight, too illusive, too gossamer a thing'. The first violinist in the string quartet was **Hilton Cullerne**.

\* Not to be confused with Thomas Henry Hall Caine, the once enormously popular Manx author, but the author of *The Cruise of The Port Kingston*, published by Collier & Co., in 1908, and *Isle of Man*, published in 1909 by Adam and Charles Black.

*Mona's Herald* April 21<sup>st</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** song *O Flower Divine* featured in a vocal solo class at the Guild.

*IoMT* June 26<sup>th</sup>: **Hilton Cullerne** plays **Haydn Wood's** *Vie de Boheme* and Chopin *Nocturne* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*IoME* August 7<sup>th</sup>: Ben Davies, tenor, 'enjoyed his greatest triumph' with **Haydn Wood's** song *Fleurette, I Shall Never Forget* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Mona's Herald*, September 1<sup>st</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *May Day* overture performed by Harry Wood's orchestra at the Noble's Hospital Garden Party on 6<sup>th</sup> September.

*IoME* September 4<sup>th</sup>: 'Manx Composer at Manx Concert'. The article refers to **Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court appearing at the Palace Coliseum 'this past week', and mentions the following songs of his performed there: *Butterfly, It is Only a Tiny Garden, Roses of Picardy, Love's Garden of Roses, I Love Your Eyes of Grey, The Wonderful World of Romance, There's a Song Down Ev'ry Highway* and *Fleurette, I Shall Never Forget*. *Picardy* – already, it seems, his most popular song - is referred to as 'perfectly ubiquitous'. *Bird of Love Divine* is described as 'one of his earliest efforts', and the review continues: 'Mr. Wood has now got the knack, and keeps steadily on'.

In the same edition: ‘**Haydn Wood** (‘Who is a native of the Isle of Man’, and later in a separate round-up for events ‘The Manx-born violinist and composer’.) is again to appear at the Palace on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September and all week, and a number of his songs will be sung by Miss Dorothy Court’. One wonders what he thought of one of the supporting act: the de Dions ‘Pattering Comedy “Bikists.”’ ‘

*Mona's Herald* September 8<sup>th</sup>: 'Mr. **Haydn Wood** and Miss Dorothy Court continue to delight lovers of music with their most artistic entertainment . . . there is a melodious swing in (his) compositions . . .'

*IoME* September 11<sup>th</sup>: The reviewer of the current run of performances by **Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court hoped that he would play his *Elfin Dance*, ‘one of the most charming children of Mr. Wood’s fancy . . .’

*IoME* September 18<sup>th</sup>: The reviewer of the Palace Sunday Concert on 12<sup>th</sup> September paid tribute to Dorothy Court who stood in for the contralto Margaret Balfour at the last moment. Although some of his comments about her singing were muted: 'It would be affectation . . . to claim that Miss Court's voice, charming though it was, was of the calibre appropriate to these concerts', yet he (K. B. White) went on to praise her 'delightfully sweet and clear tone, and her high notes, which were a special source of pleasure'. Haydn Wood's music he described as 'always graceful and melodious'.

## 1921

*IoME* March 19<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** violin piece *Vie de Boheme* is played by **Hilton Cullerne** at the Douglas Amateur Orchestral Society's concert conducted by J. E. Quayle.\* Harry Wood conducted his *Manx Dances* at the same event.\*\*

\*J. E. Quayle was an important Manx violinist, conductor and composer. See Maurice Powell: *John Edward Quayle*, Manx Musical Worthies, [manxmusic.com/biographies](http://manxmusic.com/biographies).

**\*\*** Harry Wood's *Selection on Manx National Airs, 'The Cushag'*, or more popularly *Manx Airs*, was one of his most popular orchestral works, and featured twenty-one Manx National Melodies selected mainly from *Manx National Songs*. Originally written in c. 1916 for a small orchestra, it re-appeared for full orchestra in 1920 and again with additional solo vocal and choral parts in 1927 for 'The Great Homecoming' concert. See Maurice Powell: *Harry Wood's Selection on Manx National Melodies*, [manxmusic.com](http://manxmusic.com).

*Mona's Herald* April 13<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *Melodie Plaintive* played by Miss Muriel Clague in the Guild Junior Violin Class: 1<sup>st</sup> prize with 51 points.

*IoMT* July 9<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court appear at a Sunday Concert at the Palace Coliseum. ‘Theirs is an entertainment that never fails to please . . . a musical turn that cannot be beaten’. Two recent songs: *Little London Flower* and *Little Yvette* were accompanied by a dulcitone\* and with a violin *obbligato*.

\* A portable keyboard instrument invented by Thomas Machell of Glasgow in the 1860s. The sound, produced by a series of tuning forks which vibrate when struck by felt-covered hammers, was limited in volume.

*IoME* August 13<sup>th</sup>: The Palace Coliseum orchestra conducted by Felix Godin ‘gave a charming little trifle’ from the musical *Tina* by **Haydn Wood**.

## 1922

*IoMT* February 18<sup>th</sup>: 'Infringement of Copyright' to be investigated. Douglas Corporation was required to provide details of music performed at the Villa Marina Royal Hall, Gardens and Pavilion, in an action brought by the Performing Rights Society. **Haydn Wood's** popular songs are amongst the pieces referred to by the plaintiff. The Deemster hoped that the parties would arrive at an amicable solution.\*

\* For further instalments in this story see the *IoME* July 21<sup>st</sup>; *Mona's Herald* July 26th. Douglas Corporation objected to paying even a modest annual fee to the PRS. Ten infringements were selected and a fine of 1 guinea per piece levied. During March and April 1939, Haydn Wood received the sum of £6 6s for attendances at meetings of the Classification Committee of the Performing Rights Society, of whom he was a director. HWMLA.

*IoME* June 16<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** new Suite, *Harvest Home*\* performed at a Palace Sunday Concert in the Coliseum. 'The whole composition is a splendid illustration of Mr. Wood's genius for evolving day-dreams – the romantic visions born not of the tranquil, austere night, but of the sunlight and the forest and the gentle stirrings of insects and birds'.

\* The suite was in fact called *Harvest Time*. Three movements are listed in the recording by the Regent Concert Orchestra cond. William Hodgson: *Harvester's Dance; Interlude; Harvest Home*.

*IoME* July 7<sup>th</sup>: Hilton Cullerne conducted the Palace Orchestra at a Sunday Concert which featured the 'negro' tenor Roland Hayes; the audience was 'touched to the depths by the Negro Spirituals. The orchestra played **Haydn Wood's** *May Day* overture.

*IoME* September 8<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court at the Derby Castle. The song *Casey the Fiddler* was, according to the reviewer, 'too high for Miss Court, who experienced some difficulty on the top notes. Other items were well-rendered, and merited unstinted applause. **Haydn Wood** is a master of the violin. The tone he extracts from his instrument is pure and sweet'.

*Mona's Herald* September 13<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court appear in the Palace Coliseum. In the ballroom **Hilton Cullerne** conducted Harry Wood's orchestra for dancing. 'The violin and the piano are almost human voices, and Miss Court's singing challenges even the violin in its appeal to the human heart'.

*IoME* September 29<sup>th</sup>: The last concert of the season at the Palace with Harry Wood's orchestra. Selections include **Haydn Wood's** *Love in Arcady*.

## 1923

*IoME* April 13<sup>th</sup>: *A Brown Bird Singing* set for the Guild Boys Solo Class.

*IoME* June 8<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *May Day* overture played by Harry Wood's orchestra at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*IoME* June 15<sup>th</sup>: The Douglas Municipal Orchestra at the Villa Marina, cond. Felix Godin, play at the Marina Sunday Concerts. **Haydn Wood's** *A Brown Bird Singing* sung by Miss Dora Gibson.

*IoME* June 29<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** 'rollicking' song *Casey the Fiddler* sung at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert by Mr. Maurice D'Oisly, tenor.

*IoME* July 6<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** 'dainty suite' *Harvest Time* performed by Harry Wood's orchestra at a Palace Sunday Concert, 'and rivalled Edward German's dances in prettiness and charm'.

*Mona's Herald* August 8<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court appear at the Derby Castle Variety Theatre for a week's engagement, 'one of the finest vaudeville turns on the stage today. Miss Court has a really beautiful voice, and he is a master of the violin'. Many songs were accompanied by violin *obbligatos* composed and played by **Haydn Wood**.<sup>\*</sup> The couple received a wonderful reception on each occasion. In the ballroom later that evening: Miss Florrie Forde.

<sup>\*</sup> Sadly, most of these *obbligatos*, which fit the songs so perfectly, have not survived although some have been tastefully reconstructed by Haydn Wood scholar Marjorie Cullerne, and can be heard on a CD collection of his songs and ballads entitled *A Breezy Ballad*, available from the music shop at [haydnwoodmusic.com](http://haydnwoodmusic.com).

*IoME* August 17<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court appear at the Derby Castle. '... they brought with them a new atmosphere; "music for the million" in the truest sense, perfect purifying art, yet art to be understood (*sic*) of the people, diffused its elevating influence'. The reviewer concluded: 'Mr. Wood has done a noble work in refining the popular taste.

Later in the same edition: **Haydn Wood** conducted his new suite *Three Famous Pictures*<sup>\*</sup> at a Palace Sunday Concert.

<sup>\*</sup> Luke Fildes' *Village Wedding* and *The Doctor*, and Franz Hals *The Laughing Cavalier*.

## 1924

*Mona's Herald* April 30<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** song *Someone Brought Me Daffodils* set for the Girls' Vocal Solo Class at the Guild.

*IoME* June 27<sup>th</sup>: The soprano Bella Baillie (later better known as Isobel Baillie) sings **Haydn Wood's** songs *A Brown Bird Singing* and *Devotion* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*IoME* September 5<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** suite *Three Famous Pictures* performed at a Palace Sunday Concert conducted by Harry Wood.

## 1925

*Peel City Guardian* April 5<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *Harvest Time* set for the Orchestral Class at the Guild.

*IoME* June 19<sup>th</sup>: *A Brown Bird Singing* sung by Miss Mavis Bennet at a Palace Sunday Concert. Harry Wood conducts the *May Day* overture.

*Mona's Herald* June 24<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** suite *Three Famous Pictures* performed at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert. He is described by the reviewer W. Ralph Hall Caine as 'our friend and comrade. It is a fine work and does the composer infinite credit. If Grieg had never written *Peer Gynt* this suite would have been sufficient to establish **Mr. Wood's** reputation for all

time'. The writer wishes that **Haydn Wood** and his wife could appear more often 'in the flesh' on the Island with 'their artistic entertainment'.

*IoME* July 3<sup>rd</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** song *Devotion* sung by the concert soprano Lilian Stiles-Allen at a Place Sunday Concert.

*IoME* October 23<sup>rd</sup>: Miss Kathleen Rydings - a former pupil of Harry and **Haydn Wood** - engaged to play Thomas Dunhill's *Fantasy on Manx Themes* at the Villa Marina.

*IoME* December 4<sup>th</sup>: *Love's Garden of Roses* performed at the Eisteddfod at Port Erin.

Later in the same edition: Miss Ada Mylchreest, the popular Manx contralto of international fame, sang **Haydn Wood's** song *A Flower Girl* at her triumphant but poorly attended Villa Marina recital.

### **The expanding fame of 'the man who wrote *Roses of Picardy*'.**

#### **1926**

*IoME* February 26<sup>th</sup>: Castletown. The first of series of concerts by the Douglas Amateur Orchestral Society in the smaller towns, during which Mrs Quinten Smith sang *A Brown Bird Singing*.

*IoME* April 16<sup>th</sup>: The duet *When the Daisy Opens Her Eyes* (from *Tina*) sung by Miss May Clague and Miss Lilian Dawson at the Manx Legion concert at the Villa Marina.

*Mona's Herald* May 26<sup>th</sup>: Miss Vera Moore sang *It's Only a Tiny Garden* at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert. Repeated at a later concert in June.

*IoME* July 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** 'dainty little morsel *Day Dreams* performed at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert by the 'symphonised orchestra' (on this occasion sixteen players including two saxophones, cornets and trombones and fewer strings) under the baton of Jack Howard.

*IoME* June 9<sup>th</sup>: Lilian Stiles-Allen sang *A Brown Bird Singing* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Ramsey Chronicle* July 9<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** and his wife, and **Hilton Cullerne**, the well-known violinist and conductor, are spending a holiday on the Island.

*IoME* July 16<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *May Day* overture performed at a Palace Sunday Concert under the baton of Harry Wood.

#### **1927**

*IoMT* June 18<sup>th</sup>: An announcement that **Haydn Wood** is due to travel to the Island from London to conduct his new work for baritone, choir and orchestra, *A Health to All That Cross the Main*,\* with words by Henry Hanby Hay. The fuller version of Harry Wood's *Manx Airs* (1916, 1920 and 1927) with additional vocal soloists and chorus was also performed together with J. E. Quayle's concert overture *Mannin*, an earlier version of his Fantasy-overture *The Magic Isle*.\*\*

\* Composed for the 'Great Homecoming' concert on 19<sup>th</sup> June in the Palace Coliseum. See Maurice Powell, *A Manx Celtic Concert*, manxmusic.com.

\*\* See Maurice Powell, *John Edward Quayle* in Manx Musical Worthies, manxmusic.com/biographies, and *An Island Rediscovered*, manxmusic.com.

*IoME* July 22<sup>nd</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** song *Love's Garden of Roses* rendered on a musical saw by a Mr. Jack Robinson.

*IoME* August 12: Haydn Wood's *Variations for Orchestra on a Once Popular Humorous Song\** (*If you want to know the time, ask a Policeman*) performed by Harry Wood's orchestra at a Palace Sunday Concert on the 7th. '... entertaining, and showed infinite musical skill'.

\* Theme, seven variations and finale. Performed at the Promenade Concert on Saturday September 4<sup>th</sup>, 1926 (no. 19 of that season), conducted by the composer.

*Mona's Herald* August 31<sup>st</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** song *Praise* sung by the contralto Margaret Balfour at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*IoME* September 16<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** ballad *Town and Country* (words by Jessie Court, a relative of the composer's wife), and *Slumber Song* arranged for orchestra, at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*IoMT* September 24<sup>th</sup>: Repeat of the Celtic Concert of 19<sup>th</sup> June.

*Mona's Herald* December 7<sup>th</sup>: Report of the death of **Daniel Wood** at his home in North London on 1<sup>st</sup> December after an attack of influenza.

## 1928

*IoME* January 6<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** 'on the wireless'. Report of a broadcast of a concert of music by the 'Yorkshire-Manxman', conducted by the composer, whom 'we can justifiably claim as a Manxman'.\* The concert was broadcast from London via Daventry and Bournemouth, and then relayed through Hull, Leeds-Bradford, Nottingham and Plymouth. The radio reception was said to be 'as good as could be wished for'. A potential radio audience of millions. The programme included the overture *May Day*; the songs *A Brown Bird Singing* and *Bird of Love Divine* with violin *obbligato* played by the composer; the *Variations on a Once Popular Humorous Song*; the songs *Ship o' Mine* and *The Sea Road*, *Casey the Fiddler* and *Town and Country*, *I Think of You*, *My Sweet* and *It is Only a Tiny Garden*; the suite *Three Famous Pictures*; two short orchestral pieces *Heather Bells* and *Thistledown*; *A Southern Rhapsody*, *Virginia* (1927) into which the tune of *Swanee River* was woven.

\* The article contains some interesting information about the young Haydn Wood in Douglas ie. that he attended Douglas Higher Grade School under the care of F. R. Grundey B.Sc., FCS, the present Director of Education.

*IoMT* January 21<sup>st</sup>: Subscribers to a memorial to Mrs Loughton (a founder and hard-working Secretary of the Manx Music Festival, the Guild) included Harry and **Haydn Wood** who both donated 1 gn, as did Kathleen Rydings, the well-known violinist and teacher, and former pupil of both Wood brothers.



*IoME* March 30<sup>th</sup>: The seventh annual concert given by members of the London Manx Society on 17<sup>th</sup> March at St. Bride's Institute. **Haydn Wood**, 'as near Manx as makes no difference', received an enthusiastic ovation.

*IoME* July 20<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood**, 'a Douglas lad', appears at a Palace Sunday Concert on 22<sup>nd</sup> July devoted to his music. Very large programme similar in contents to the broadcast concert in January, but with additional songs *The Call*, *June's a Gypsy Pedlar*, *Butterfly* and *June is Here*, and the premier of a new song *England* in Part I; in Part II a selection of his most popular songs were played by the orchestra including *Khaki and Gold*, *A Leafland Lullaby*, *Silver Clouds*, *Wonderful World of Romance*, *Roses of Picardy* and *Jimmy Sale Rag*. Haydn Wood played his own *Variations on The Carnival of Venice*. The Palace Orchestra was conducted by Harry Wood.

A full review appeared in the *IoME* on July 27<sup>th</sup> during which the reviewer suggested that **Haydn Wood's** music was characterised by 'elegance, authenticity, benignity and a perfection all its own. His music does not profess to plumb the depths . . . but he has imparted happy dreams to myriads of people simple and cultured, without writing one cadence that would debase public taste'.

*Ramsey Courier* July 20<sup>th</sup>: Sunday afternoon crowds flocked to Mooragh Park for the debut of the new Municipal Orchestra. A popular programme of light classics including pieces by **Daniel** and **Haydn Wood**. Followed by an evening concert in the Electra Grounds with another light classical programme including Harry Wood's *Manx Airs*. The orchestra of six was led and directed by **Hilton Cullerne** who played **Haydn Wood's** *Slumber Song*. The Cushag Choir also contributed to the programme.

*IoME* August 3<sup>rd</sup>: 'It is interesting to note that a movement is afoot to try and arrange a Haydn Wood broadcast concert with Miss (May) Clague as exponents of the famous Manx composer's works'.

*Mona's Herald* August 22<sup>nd</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *A Southern Rhapsody, Virginia* performed at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert at which the young tenor Heddle Nash appeared in place of the indisposed Joseph Hislop.

*Ramsey Courier* August 31<sup>st</sup>: **Hilton Cullerne** and Ramsey Municipal Orchestra. He plays **Haydn Wood's** *Slumber Song* and *Elfin Dance*. Local singer Fred Craine sings *Ship o' Mine* and *Sea Road*.

*IoME* September 7<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *Three Famous Pictures* performed at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert and received 'vociferous applause'.

## 1929

*Mona's Herald* February 27<sup>th</sup>: Announcement of the death of **Haydn Wood's** sister **Sophia Gledhill**.\* The brief notice says that she was 'mainly responsible for the maintaining of Harry Wood's music library at number 1, Osborne Terrace, Douglas, but was perhaps better known in Slaithwaite, West Yorkshire, where she was 'a prominent social worker'. She was interred

in the family grave of her father Clement Wood; **Hilton Cullerne** and **Haydn Wood** were among the mourners.

\* Sophia Schofield Wood, 1879-1929.

*IoME* May 10<sup>th</sup>: From *The Metronome*\* : **Haydn Wood** is unquestionably extraordinarily gifted as a writer of melody ballad, and (his new song) *I Love to hear You Singing*, is one of, if not his best, contributions to the melody ballads of the day . . . There is something about (his) composition(s) that appeals to the American public'. The extract goes on to list the well-known musical directors and performers who feature his music in their programmes including Rudy Vallee, Ben Pollack, Paul Whiteman and Paul Oliver.

\*A New York periodical published between 1881 and 1961, devoted primarily to popular music, mainly jazz and the bands of the 'swing' era.

*Mona's Herald* May 22<sup>nd</sup>: **Haydn Wood's Slumber Song** played by Harold Jones, a member of Harry Wood's Orchestra at a Palace Sunday Concert. 'A very fine violinists who held his listeners spellbound'.

*IoME* June 28<sup>th</sup>: Harry Wood's Orchestra with Harold Jones, violin, perform **Haydn Wood's Slumber Song**, *Elfin Dance* and *Love in Arcady*.

*Ramsey Courier* July 4<sup>th</sup>: Announcement of the marriage of **Hilton Cullerne** (the nephew of Harry and **Haydn Wood**) to Miss Irene A. V. Finnemore on 2nd July at Wesley's Chapel, London. Miss Finnemore, from Natal, South Africa, had been studying at the Royal Academy of Music. The ceremony was attended by his uncle Harry Wood and aunt **Adeline Wood**. **Hilton Cullerne**\* was due to return to the Isle of Man to conduct his Ramsey Municipal Orchestra on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

\* A good head and shoulders photograph of Hilton Cullerne was published with the above notice.

*IoME* July 12<sup>th</sup>: Premier (?) of two parts of **Haydn Wood's** suite *Three Famous Cinema Stars* at a Palace Sunday Concert.\*

Note: of the 'silent' era: Ivor Novello, Delores del Rio and Charlie Chaplin

*Ramsey Courier* July 19<sup>th</sup>: The Ramsey Municipal Orchestra under **Hilton Cullerne** play in Mooragh Park on Sunday afternoon, and at the Ballure Hall that evening: **Daniel Wood's Maritza** and **Haydn Wood's Dreaming**, and *A Southern Rhapsody* and *Love in Arcady*. The evening concert concluded with a selection from Harry Wood's *Manx Airs*.

*IoME* July 19<sup>th</sup>: Joseph Hislop, tenor, sings *I heard You Singing* at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert.

*Ramsey Courier* July 26<sup>th</sup>: The Ramsey Municipal Orchestra under **Hilton Cullerne** play Sunday afternoon and evening in Mooragh Park and the Ballure Hall. Two short pieces by **Haydn Wood**: *A Love Song* and *Longing*. A large number of people attend.

*Ramsey Courier* August 9<sup>th</sup>: The Ramsey Municipal Orchestra under Hilton Cullerne play Sunday afternoon and evening. Hilton Cullerne played **Haydn Wood's Slumber Song**.

*Ramsey Courier* August 16<sup>th</sup>: The Ramsey Municipal Orchestra in the Ballure Hall. **Hilton Cullerne** plays **Haydn Wood's** *La Vie de Boheme* and *Slumber Song*. Vocalist Miss Margaret Minay sang *Do You Know My Garden* and **Daniel Wood's** *Come Along Fairies*.

*Ramsey Courier* August 30<sup>th</sup>: The Ramsey Municipal Orchestra in the Ballure Hall on Sunday evening. Vocalist Mrs Wm. Black, mezzo-soprano, *did not* sing **Haydn Wood's** song *Praise*, but apparently by popular demand, sang *Danny Boy*.

*Ramsey Courier* September 6<sup>th</sup>: The Ramsey Municipal Orchestra under Hilton Cullerne in the Ballure Hall on Sunday evening. **Haydn Wood's** overture *May Day* and *A Southern Rhapsody*;

*Ramsey Courier* September 13<sup>th</sup>: Grand finale to the Ramsey Municipal Orchestra's summer season. **Hilton Cullerne** played **Haydn Wood's** *La Vie de Boheme* and *Slumber Song* as an encore. The orchestra was congratulated on their 'wonderful performances' over the past two seasons . . . in some measure, helping to bring Ramsey back to what it was many years ago'.\*

\*A reference to the decades before WWI when Mr. New's Band was engaged every summer in Ramsey during the season. See Maurice Powell, *Mr. New's Band*, manxmusic.com.

*Ramsey Courier* November 15<sup>th</sup>: The World Manx Association Annual Crunniaght at the Villa Marina. The Ramsey Cushag Choir win the Goldie-Taubman Bowl for their performance of **Haydn Wood's** *Phynodderee* in the Senior Choir competition.

*Ramsey Courier* December 20<sup>th</sup>: Ramsey Cushag Choir at a St. Olave's School concert. Miss Edith Brew sang some of **Haydn Wood's** tuneful compositions.

## 1930

*IoME* April 11<sup>th</sup>: 'Manx Broadcast from Toronto. Special 'Come-on-over and Manxland Broadcast' arranged by Canadian National Railways and relayed to 17 CNR stations and featuring Miss Ada Mylchreest, contralto, and Mr. Walter Quilliam, tenor, with the concert orchestra directed by Mr. R. N. Cornfield. The programme commenced with the Manx National Anthem and included popular Manx traditional songs; two movements from **Haydn Wood's** *Egyptian Suite (Egypta)*: *Slave Dance* and *At the Court of the Pharaoh*; operatic arias and ballads. The broadcast was heard by thousands of Manx people in Canada and the United States. It was hoped that the broadcast would encourage Manx men and women to board the steamer *Doric* in Montreal and attend the 1000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tynwald Day celebrations during June and July.

*Mona's Herald* July 23<sup>rd</sup>: Miss Thea Phillips sings **Haydn Wood's** *It is only a big (sic) 'tiny' garden* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Ramsey Courier* August 15<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** Concert at the Palace, Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup> with Walter Widdup, tenor, Gladys Cole, soprano. **Haydn Wood**, conducted the orchestra of thirty players in some pieces, with Harry Wood as overall musical director. *Fantasy-overture Harlequinade*; *A Southern Suite, Virginia*; *Three Famous Cinema Stars*; three movements from the suite *Egypta*, a selection of songs and *La Vie de Boheme* played by the composer.

*Ramsey Courier* August 22<sup>nd</sup>: Palace Sunday Concert on August 24<sup>th</sup> with **Haydn Wood** conducting his suite *Three Famous Pictures*.

*Mona's Herald* August 27<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** suite *Three Famous Pictures* conducted by the composer at a Palace Sunday Concert. Exceptionally well-attended. The reviewer devoted some space to extolling the excellence of the Sunday Concerts, Harry Wood's orchestra, and of the great artistes that appeared from their inception.

*IoME* August 29<sup>th</sup>: Rotarian Concert assisted by Harry Wood and a small mixed ensemble (quartet), who played an arrangement by **Haydn Wood** of Franz Doppler's *Das Waldvoglein*, originally written for four horns.

*IoME* December 5<sup>th</sup>: A meeting of the Foxdale Wesley Guild heard **Haydn Wood's** song *I love to hear you singing* sung by Miss Hazel Kissack.

### **Maturity and the 'Manx' orchestral works.**

#### **1931**

*Mona's Herald* January 20<sup>th</sup>: The Isle of Man Music Society presented a recital at the Manx Museum. Miss Annie Pickard sang **Haydn Wood's** *Someone Brought Me Daffodils*.

*Mona's Herald* April 28<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** song *The Fairy Changeling* set for the Solo for Boys Class at the Guild.

*Ramsey Courier* May 29<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** song *My Irish Daddy*, with words by Miss Maisie Hurl, recently published by Chappell & Co. George Bernard Shaw, no less, received a copy of the song, and wrote the following 'alternative' first stanza:

*At last I went to Ireland. T'was raining cats and dogs:*

*I found no music in the glens, nor purple in the bogs.*

*And as for angel's laughter in the smelly Liffy's tide!*

*Well, my Irish Daddy said it, but the dear old humbug lied.*

*IoME* June 19<sup>th</sup>: *A Brown Bird Singing* sung by Miss Kathleen Ingram at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Mona's Herald* June 23<sup>rd</sup>: Violinist Harold Jones, a member of the Palace Orchestra, plays **Haydn Wood's** *Slumber Song* at a Palace Sunday Concert. The orchestra under Harry Wood plays *A Southern Rhapsody, Virginia*.

*Mona's Herald* June 30<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *Venetian Pastorale* performed at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*IoME* July 10<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood's** *A Manx Rhapsody\** performed at a Palace Sunday 'Celtic' Concert, and 'stirred up feeling of intense delight'.

\* A significant premier, as *A Manx Rhapsody* was the first of the series of Haydn Wood's orchestral works based on traditional Manx melodies. They are amongst his most attractive compositions and remain popular today.

*Mona's Herald* July 21<sup>st</sup>: *It is only a tiny garden sung* by Thea Phillips, soprano, at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Ramsey Courier* July 24<sup>th</sup>: **Hilton Cullerne**, 'who brought his well-known orchestra to Ramsey during 1928 and 29\* is at present on holiday in Douglas and is staying with his uncle Harry Wood.'

Later in the same feature an announcement that **Hilton Cullerne** would play two violin pieces by **Haydn Wood** (*Elfin Dance* and *Slumber Song*) at the Ramsey Palace on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July.

\* The debut of the Ramsey Municipal Orchestra had taken place in Mooragh Park on July 20<sup>th</sup> 1928.

*Mona's Herald* August 4<sup>th</sup>: *A Brown Bird Singing* is sung by Miss Garda Hall at a Palace Sunday Concert. The orchestra performed *A Manx Rhapsody*.

*Mona's Herald* September 15<sup>th</sup>: Miss Kathleen Ingram sings *A Brown Bird Singing* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

## 1932

*Mona's Herald* March 8<sup>th</sup>: *Fifty Years of Manx Amusements* by Arthur Q. Moore. Fascinating feature extended over several editions. Brief mention of **Master Haydn Wood** in connection with Harry Wood's orchestras at the Palace and Derby Castle.

*IoME* March 25<sup>th</sup>: **Mr. and Mrs Haydn Wood** present at the funeral of Bert Heggie, the MC at the Villa Marina since 1919.

*IoME* April 8<sup>th</sup>: Manx soprano May Clague to give a broadcast recital on 25<sup>th</sup> April on the BBC North regional Station of Manx songs. She was originally invited to give a recital of songs by **Haydn Wood**, but the BBC later decided that on that occasion they would like to make a feature of traditional Manx songs. She would be offered a further recital to include 'miscellaneous Manx songs'. The broadcast was timed to coincide with the Guild Childrens' Festival, and would be heard over loud speakers in the Palace Ballroom.

*Mona's Herald* May 12<sup>th</sup>: A further instalment of *Fifty Years of Manx Amusements* by Arthur Q. Moore. A brief mention of popularity of *Roses of Picardy* during WWI: 'It ranks with the very best of popular ballads'.

*Mona's Herald* May 24<sup>th</sup>: St. Thomas' Church Sunday School Festival on 29<sup>th</sup> May to include a new hymn composed by **Haydn Wood**. The edition on May 31<sup>st</sup> refers to him as 'an old scholar of the Sunday School', but does not give any further information about the hymn.

*IoME* June 10<sup>th</sup>: *The Cuckoo Clock* and *Bird of Love Divine* sung by Miss Garda Hall at a Palace Sunday Concert. The orchestra played *I Want Your Heart* arranged for orchestra.

*Mona's Herald* June 14<sup>th</sup>: Miss Norah Moore, soprano, sang *I Want Your Heart* and *It is only a tiny garden* accompanied by **Haydn Wood** at the following Palace Sunday Concert. Harry Wood conducted the orchestra and the following remark was overheard by the reporter:

‘... if the BBC possessed Mr. Harry Wood’s ability to choose a programme, wireless orchestral programmes would be more popular ... an independent opinion one has held for a long time’.

*IoME* June 17<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood**, holidaying on the Island, was invited to conduct several of his own works at a Palace Sunday Concert on 19<sup>th</sup> June. The reporter reminded the readers that last year he had presented his *Manx Rhapsody* which was conceived on the Island after prompting by his brother Harry that he should write ‘something of a Manx nature’. The rhapsody was first performed by the Brighton Municipal Orchestra under the composer’s baton and the critics apparently took some convincing that the melodies were genuine Manx melodies, such was their beauty.

*Mona’s Herald* June 21<sup>st</sup>: Douglas Boy’s Success. Mr. Jackie Hart is now the leader of his own 32 - piece orchestra with a two-year contract with British Gaumont Films. Himself a song writer, he is including **Haydn Wood’s** new song, which is meeting with success everywhere, *I Want Your Heart*, in his programmes.

*IoME* June 24<sup>th</sup> : **Haydn Wood** at the Palace, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June: Overture *May Day*; orchestral arrangements of *Heather Bells*, *I Want Your Heart* and *Love in Arcady*; *The Laughing Cavalier* from *Three Famous Pictures*; *Manx Rhapsody* - ‘The most popular item in the programme’ with the *Hush Little Darling* section particularly enjoyed.); *Pleading* as an encore. Thea Phillips sang *It’s only a tiny garden*. Harry Wood and the orchestra contributed a number of pieces including **Daniel Wood’s** *Valse Caprice*.

*IoME* July 1<sup>st</sup>: ‘**Haydn Wood** On the Air’: His *Manx Rhapsody* to be broadcast three times: Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July from the National and North Regional transmitters, conducted by Reginald King and his orchestra; on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> by the Commodore Grand Orchestra from the National and Belfast stations and on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> by Quentin Maclean at the organ of the Trocadero Cinema, Elephant and Castle on the National, Cardiff, Belfast and Scottish Regional stations.

*IoMT* July 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mrs Quintin Smith sings *I Want your Heart* at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert.

*IoME* July 8<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood’s** *An Autumn Song* performed by the orchestra at a Palace Sunday Concert conducted by Harry Wood.

*IoMT* July 16<sup>th</sup>: *A Brown Bird Singing* sung by Isobel Bailee at a Palace Sunday Concert during which Harry Wood conducts *A Southern Rhapsody, Virginia*.

In the same edition: Mrs Quintin Smith sings *I Want Your Heart* at an open-air concert at Rushen Abbey.

*Mona’s Herald* August 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Haydn Wood’s** *Tango Morena* played at a Palace Sunday Concert conducted by Harry Wood.

*Mona’s Herald* August 9<sup>th</sup>: *Three Famous Cinema Stars* performed at a Palace Sunday Concert. The Charlie Chaplin movement particularly appealed with its musical evocations of the great comedian’s ‘shuffling walk, tapping cane and other whimsical touches’.

The *May Day* overture was performed at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert on 7<sup>th</sup> August; *Three Famous Cinema Stars* was given at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert on 14<sup>th</sup> August performed by Stanley Holt's orchestra.

*IoME* August 12<sup>th</sup>: Two movements from *Three Famous Cinema Stars* performed at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Mona's Herald* August 16<sup>th</sup>: Florence Austral sang *A Song of Quietness* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

In the same edition a report of a Sunday Concert at the Villa Marina during which *Three Cinema Stars* was performed by Stanley Holt's orchestra.

*IoME* August 19<sup>th</sup>: *Three Famous Pictures* performed at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert.

*IoME* September 16<sup>th</sup>: Harold Jones, a Palace Orchestra violinist, plays *Slumber Song* as an encore at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*IoME* October 21<sup>st</sup>: A programme of Manx music to be broadcast from the Belfast station on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October including the *Manx Rhapsody*, played by the Belfast Wireless Orchestra, Thomas Dunhill's *Fantasia on Manx Themes* played by Ernest A. A. Stoneley, violin, and Dr. George Tootell's *A Manx Wedding*.

*IoME* November 4<sup>th</sup>: *A Manx Rhapsody* and Harry Wood's *Manx Airs* played by the ship's orchestra of the Cunard liner *Lancastria* during its somewhat chaotic Mediterranean cruise which included some sixty-five Manx passengers.

*Ramsey Courier* December 2<sup>nd</sup>: Norah Gell sang *I Want Your Heart* at Miss Effie Fayle's Concert Party at the Presbyterian School Room.

### 1933

*IoME* February 3<sup>rd</sup>: *A Manx Rhapsody* broadcast on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> on the BBC London and Scottish Regional programmes. The February 10<sup>th</sup> edition says only the 'Manx Lullaby', ie *Hush, Little Darling* from the *Manx Rhapsody* was performed.

*Ramsey Courier* March 10<sup>th</sup>: 'Manx Composer's Violin Concerto': from the *Daily Telegraph* the previous week: 'The new violin concerto of **Mr. Haydn Wood** was included in the programme broadcast alt night from London Regional, and made a most favourable impression'. The soloist was 'Mr. Brosa'.\* The first movement *cadenza* was considered to be 'too long, and in the manner of a Paganini study'.

\* Antonio Brosa (1894-1979), the Spanish violin virtuoso, gave the premier of Haydn Wood's violin concerto on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1933, with the BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Joseph Lewis. He later gave the first performances of violin concertos by Arthur Benjamin and Benjamin Britten. He taught violin at the RCM, led a string quartet that bore his name, and later the Pro Arte Quartet in America.

*IoME* March 24<sup>th</sup>: *A Manx Rhapsody* to be broadcast from Belfast on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> from the Classic Cinema, played by George Newell, organ. The *May Day* overture to be broadcast from the New Victoria Cinema, Bradford the following Friday on the North Regional Programme, together with *A Brown Bird Singing* sung by Miss Faye Nicholl, contralto.

*IoME* March 31<sup>st</sup>: *A Manx Rhapsody* to be broadcast on the North Regional, London Regional, Midlands Regional and Scottish Regional transmitters on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, played by the Wireless Military Band.

*IoMT* May 6<sup>th</sup>: Harry Wood recognised as the G. O. M. of the I. O. M. (Grand Old Man; a Manx Honorary title.) in celebration of over forty years of service to the Manx entertainment industry. The article mentions his talented brothers **Haydn** and **Daniel Wood**.

*Mona's Herald* June 6<sup>th</sup>: *A Brown Bird Singing* sung by Thea Phillips at a Palace Sunday Concert. *Silver Cloud* was played by the orchestra as an encore.

*IoME* June 23<sup>rd</sup>: Brosa, the virtuoso violinist, will appear at a Palace Sunday Concert this season to perform **Haydn Wood's** new violin concert with the composer conducting.

*Mona's Herald* June 27<sup>th</sup>: An arrangement by **Haydn Wood** of the popular song *I Hear You Calling Me* played at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Mona's Herald* July 4<sup>th</sup>: The *Andante* and *Finale* of **Haydn Wood's** violin concerto to be performed at the Palace Sunday Concert on the 9<sup>th</sup> \* with Antonio Brosa, violin, and the composer conducting. *Mannin Veen*\*\* and the *Roses of Picardy Rhapsody*\*\*\* will also be performed.

\* The article refers to a performance of the concerto with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra with Antonio Brosa, violin, under Sir Dan Godfrey.

\*\* A new work and another of Haydn Wood's fine orchestral pieces based on Manx traditional melodies.

\*\*\* A fine orchestral version of his famous WWI song.

*Mona's Herald* July 11<sup>th</sup>: The overture *May Day* performed at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

The same edition remarked upon '... the masterly playing of Mr. Brosa' in **Haydn Wood's** 'tuneful and brilliantly orchestrated' violin concerto at the Palace Sunday Concert on 9<sup>th</sup> July.

*IoME* July 14<sup>th</sup>: A further review of the above Sunday Concert. The two movements played by Antonia Brosa displayed '... a wealth of merit and charm that delighted his hearers'. *Mannin Veen* 'held out the greatest appeal', and the *Roses of Picardy 'Paraphrase' (sic) Rhapsody* was described as a 'beautiful arrangement' of his popular song.

*IoMT* July 22<sup>nd</sup>: *A Brown Bird Singing* sung by Elena Danieli, soprano, at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*IoME* July 28<sup>th</sup>: Florence Austral sang **Haydn Wood's** new song *Here's a Happy Day* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

In the same edition: 'Don't Miss This'. Announcement that Manx comedian Harry Korris would be appearing in the 'Arcadian Follies' from the South Pier, Blackpool, and broadcast on 29<sup>th</sup> at 9 o'clock. Also, last Sunday (23<sup>rd</sup>) Reginald King and his orchestra opened their broadcast their midday programme with *A Manx Rhapsody*, which was transmitted to all stations 'and out to the Empire'.



*IoME* August 4<sup>th</sup>: Harold Jones, violin, plays *Slumber Song* at the Palace Sunday Concert at which the dramatic soprano Eva Turner appeared.

*IoME* August 25<sup>th</sup>: '**Haydn Wood** Recital Broadcast'. Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>, forty-minute broadcast on the National Programme of music by **Haydn Wood**: *May Day* overture; *Three Famous Pictures*; the recently published *Mannin Veen* and a selection of songs including *Roses of Picardy*.

*Mannin Veen* was also due to be broadcast on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> on the North Regional and National programmes played by the BBC Orchestra; and on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>, played by Reginald Dixon on the organ of Blackpool's Tower Ballroom, and broadcast on the National, North Regional, Scottish Regional, Newcastle, West Regional and London transmitters.

*IoME* September 15<sup>th</sup>: the *May Day* overture played by Stanley Holt's orchestra at the Villa Marina Sunday Concert at which John McCormack made his third triumphant appearance in Douglas.

*IoME* October 27<sup>th</sup>: Reference made to a British Legion Annual Show at the Palace Coliseum for which Harry Wood composed a *Legion March* for the Legion Band conducted by Tom Lewin. A number of local musicians and singers took part, (German War songs and Sea Shanties!) and reference was made to the 'invaluable assistance in all matters musical, made by Mr. and Mrs **Haydn Wood**.

*IoME* October 27<sup>th</sup>: The Liverpool Manx Society Concert at the David Lewis Theatre, Liverpool, during which *A Manx Rhapsody* was played by Miss Mabel Gregson LRAM, piano.

*IoME* November 3<sup>rd</sup>: A military and naval review *Those Eventful Days* produced at the Palace Coliseum on Armistice Night, 11th November, organised by the Douglas Branch of the British Legion. 'Much of the music written (or arranged) for the occasion by Harry Wood, with assistance from **Mr. Haydn Wood** and Dorothy Court' and played by the Legion Band.

*IoME* December 29<sup>th</sup>: T. E. Brown Night in Cleveland, Ohio. Radio station WGAR broadcasts parts of *A Manx Rhapsody*.

## **1934**

*IoME* January 5<sup>th</sup>: *A Manx Rhapsody* to be broadcast on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> played by the Wireless Military Band and relayed via the London, Scottish, Midland, West, Northern and Belfast transmitters.

*IoME* February 16<sup>th</sup>: Reports from various Manx National Night events from North America and Canada. **Haydn Wood's** violin solo *Manx Airs* performed in Winnipeg.

*IoME* May 11<sup>th</sup>: Brief mention of the Royal Command Variety Performance in London on the 8<sup>th</sup>. 'The prologue to the show was spoken by John Drinkwater, the famous dramatist, to a musical setting composed by **Haydn Wood** . . .'

*Mona's Herald* May 22<sup>nd</sup>: *Love's Garden of Roses* played as a cornet solo at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert.

*IoME* May 25<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** to conduct the BBC orchestra in a broadcast programme from the national transmitters of his own works. Frank Titterton will sing a selection of his songs.

*Ramsey Courier* June 29<sup>th</sup>: The Palace Coliseum, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July: BROADCAST CONCERT of Manx Music from 9-5 o'clock on the Northern Regional Programme, organised by Charles Fox at the invitation of the BBC. Harry Wood's Orchestra conducted by Harry and **Haydn Wood**, and J. E. Quayle. Local vocal soloists including Margaret Minay, Ada Mylchreest, John Christian and J. W. Kelly, and the Cushag Ladies Choir. Programme included *Mannin Veen* and *A Manx Rhapsody*. 'Probably the finest Manx concert ever heard . . .' Further report of this concert in RC, 6<sup>th</sup> July.

*IoME* August 17<sup>th</sup>: Elena Danieli sings *Do You Know My Garden* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Ramsey Courier* September 7<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood** has collaborated with Mr. Philip W. Caine of Douglas in a Manx 'spiritual', *The End of the World*, published by Messrs Ascherberg, Hopwood and Crew Ltd at 2s.

*Mona's Herald* September 11<sup>th</sup>: 'Heavens! this terrible kid again!' A anecdote about the young prodigy **Haydn Wood** being engaged in Douglas for a second week during a summer season to the displeasure of one female member of the audience. But, as the article concluded, 'The terrible kid' grew up and has written some 200 songs and 100 orchestral works.

*IoMT* December 1<sup>st</sup>: *The Huddersfield Examiner* was 'loud in its praises of Haydn Wood, the Manx violinist and composer' (It seems that even the West Yorkshire local newspapers now regarded him as Manx!) who gave a concert of his own music in Slaithwaite Town Hall (the town of his birth) with the Slaithwaite Philharmonic Society. 'Pride of place must go to his *A Manx Rhapsody*'.

*The Journal of the Manx Museum* December 1934: report of a lecture given by Mr. Henry Franklin, of Sligo, at the Manx Museum on October 27<sup>th</sup>: 'The Ancient Music of Man, Scotland and Ireland'. The recital opened with Mr. Franklin playing the *Funeral Dirge of Kirk Christ Rushen*, (words taken from the 90<sup>th</sup> Psalm) 'which has never been heard by a Douglas audience before. It has recently been recorded by **Mr. Haydn Wood** from Mr. Harry Cubbon of Castletown and Mr. Evan Qualtrough the parish clerk of Rushen. It is usually sung at funerals there as the cortege approaches . . . a fine, dignified, and solemn air'.\*

The September 1935 issue of JMM contains further details: That Mr. Qualtrough received the tune from his grandfather, but it appears in several M.S. collections, the earliest from the Edward Gawne collection of 1810, transcribed by one Shepherd, the music master of Kirk Christ Rushen and Kirk Arbory. It was proposed to make a gramophone recording of the tune. See also *IoME* December 13<sup>th</sup> 1935.

\* Possibly the only record of Haydn Wood 'collecting' a Manx traditional tune 'in the field'.

## 1935

*IoME* March 22<sup>nd</sup>: 'Table Talk' by Robin Goodfellow: **Haydn Wood**. 'It would be straining at the truth to describe Haydn Wood . . . as a Manxman . . .' The columnist goes on to recall his childhood on the Island, and reminds the reader that 'his arrangements of various old Manx

airs (in works in such as *A Manx Rhapsody* and *Mannin Veen*) have done much to enhance the prestige of Manx music’.

*IoME* April 12<sup>th</sup>: The Ramsey Cushag Ladies Choir gain 6<sup>th</sup> place in the competition for the Dawney Shield with 166 marks. Lady Alexandra Haig and **Mr. and Mrs. Haydn Wood** guests at the choir’s hotel for an impromptu entertainment.

In the same edition an announcement of **Haydn Wood’s** new song *This Quiet Night* being broadcast for the first time from the Grand Hotel, Eastbourne, sung by Miss Olive Groves.

*IoMT* May 4<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood’s** new march *Homage* to be played by the massed Guard’s Bands in Hyde Park at a thanksgiving service. In the course of an interview with ‘Collie Knox’ of the *Daily Mail*, the composer refuted that he had to wait for inspiration before starting work on a new piece: ‘I sit at the piano at a certain hour each day whether I feel like writing a song or not. Inspiration is much overrated’.

*Mona’s Herald* June 11<sup>th</sup>: *A Brown Bird Singing* sung by Margaret Minay at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Mona’s Herald* August 6<sup>th</sup>: Mr. Haydn Wood at the High Bailiff’s Court charged with causing an obstruction by parking his motor car on Loch Promenade. The High Bailiff enquired “is that the distinguished Mr. Haydn Wood?”

“He is distinguished” replied Mr. Kneale acting for Mr. Wood, “ but he is not the musician”.

*IoME* August 9<sup>th</sup>: **Haydn Wood’s** *Praise* charmingly sung by Miss Nancy Thomas, of BBC fame, at the Bay View Road Methodist Church Sunday evening service.

*Mona’s Herald* September 3<sup>rd</sup>: *I Hear You Calling Me* arranged by Haydn Wood played at a Cunningham’s Camp Sunday Service.

*IoME* November 8<sup>th</sup>: Kathleen Rydings – a former violin pupil of both Harry and **Haydn Wood** - plays *Prelude* and *Slumber Song* at a St. Barnabas Church evensong.\*

\* See Maurice Powell, *A Very Gifted Manx Lady, the Life of Kathleen Rydings*, Wibble Publications, 20149+.

*Green Final* November 9<sup>th</sup>: Armistice Entertainment at the Palace Coliseum featuring the ‘Khaki Koons’ during which Margaret Minay will sing a new song (‘little prayer’) by **Haydn Wood**, *This Quiet Night*.

*IoME* December 27<sup>th</sup>: *Mannin Veen* played by the Northern Ireland Orchestra in a BBC Christmas programme broadcast from Belfast featuring music from the Gaelic ‘fringe’ including Cornwall, Yorkshire (?) Wales, Scotland and the Isle of Man.

*Mona’s Herald* December 31<sup>st</sup>: ‘A Plea for Manx Nationalism’. The popularity and frequent broadcasts of **Haydn Wood’s** music based on Manx traditional melodies cited as an example of the Island having ‘something of its own to offer’ in the realm of music.

**1936**

*IoME* 24<sup>th</sup> January: The *Manx Rhapsody* was performed by the Torquay Municipal Orchestra from the Pavilion, Torquay, conducted by Ernest W. Goss.\*

\* Torquay-born conductor of the Torquay Municipal Orchestra from 1919 until 1953, and manager of the Pavilion 1926-48. He made over 600 radio broadcasts with the orchestra.

*IoMT* 25<sup>th</sup> January: Report from the *Colne Valley Guardian* of a broadcast of **Haydn Wood's** latest composition, the suite *Frescoes*, conducted by Joseph Lewis.\*

\* According to the recollections of Ernest Tomlinson, Haydn Wood was visiting the offices of Boosey and Hawkes in Regent Street and was attracted by the attractive murals in the music salon by Anna Zinkeisen. The first movement is entitled *Vienna, 1913*, and is an evocation of a sumptuous ball complete with an ingratiating Viennese waltz; the second movement, *Sea Shanties*, contains references to *Shenandoah* and *What Shall We Do With the Drunken Sailor*, and the third movement, *The Band Stand, Hyde Park*, is a cheerful march in a summer holiday mood. The murals that inspired the suite were lost in a fire in 1990.

*IoMT* 7<sup>th</sup> March: Broadcast talk on the BBC National Programme about the Isle of Man given by Walter McHarrie, 'a well-known London Manx schoolmaster'. The evening commenced with a performance of *Mannin Veen*.

*Ramsey Courier* 20<sup>th</sup> March: The Manx Amateur Orchestral Society, conducted by Kathleen Rydings, and the Cushag Ladies Choir at the Plaza, Ramsey. Popular local soprano Margaret Minay sang *A Brown Bird Singing*.

*IoME* 27<sup>th</sup> March: *Mannin Veen* performed by the BBC Northern Ireland Orchestra as part of a programme devoted to **Haydn Wood**. Radio reception was excellent, the result of the new transmitter at Lisburn. Earlier in the day an arrangement of *The Sheep Under the Snow* by Orry Corjeag,\* performed by the Isidore Schwiller String Sextet was also broadcast.

\* Orry Corjeag, born Sam Robinson, was an outstanding violin pupil of Harry Wood, and the first Baume Musical Scholar.

*Manx Museum and National Trust Report* 23<sup>rd</sup> April: Appendix II lists **Haydn Wood's** Kirk Christ Rushen Funeral Dirge, *The End of the World*, a Manx Spiritual. Words by P. W. Caine.

*Journal of the Manx Museum* 1st June: Both Harry and **Haydn Wood** donate to the Friends of the Museum Fund.

*IoMT* 6<sup>th</sup> June: Letter to the editor from Mrs William Callow, Leichardt, Sydney, New South Wales expressing delight at seeing a photograph of Harry Wood and his brothers in a copy of the *Times*. 'Not a day passes that we don't hear some of **Haydn Wood's** songs on the wireless. His songs seem very popular with the people here, more so than any other music composer'.

*IoMT* 1<sup>st</sup> August: Mr and Mrs **Haydn Wood** are on the Island for their annual holiday and will devote some of the time orchestrating a new Manx overture, *The Isle of Mountains and Glens*.

*IoMT* 22<sup>nd</sup> August: A letter from Harry Wood to the Editor's Postbag concerning the death of the eminent Savoyard Sir Henry Lytton whom he knew and greatly admired for his 'old world courtesy and unfailing kindness to the younger members of the D'Oyly Carte regime'. Also a reference to the support shown to his sister-in-law, Dorothy Court, herself an ex-Savoyard and wife of **Haydn Wood**, by another eminent Savoyard, the late Rutland Barrington.

*IoME* 4<sup>th</sup> September: The *Manx Rhapsody* to be performed by Reginald King and his orchestra on the BBC National Programme on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> between 5.15 and 6.00 pm.

*IoMT* 5<sup>th</sup> September: Elena Danielli to sing *A Brown Bird Singing* at the Palace Sunday Concert on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

*IoME* 6<sup>th</sup> November: *Mannin Veen* included in a broadcast by the Torquay Municipal Orchestra on 3<sup>rd</sup> during the afternoon. The 'artistic arrangement of Manx airs' was well-received judging by the applause.

*IoMT* 14<sup>th</sup> November: The Douglas Branch of the British Legion Armistice variety Show at the Palace. The evening concluded with community singing led by Miss Marguerite Morton, who sang **Haydn Wood's** *Roses of Picardy*.

*Ramsey Courier* 27<sup>th</sup> November: Harry Wood's lantern lecture at the Sunny Bank Baptist Chapel, Golcar, Huddersfield, with slides and songs by **Haydn Wood** sung by Master Philip Taylor.

*Ramsey Courier* 18<sup>th</sup> December: 'His Excellency Sir Montagu Butler (the Lieutenant Governor) accepts the dedication of Haydn Wood's new concert overture *The Isle of Mountains and Glens*. \* The composer, 'who has done so much for the Isle of Man in musical circles', will conduct the first broadcast performance on the 22<sup>nd</sup> on the National Programme during a Joseph Lewis concert commencing at 6.25 pm. The work was completed during the composer's summer holiday on the Island. 'A graceful musical tribute to the Island'.

\* Better known as The Manx Overture, the fine work is not based on authentic Manx traditional melodies, but is imbued with a strong Manx flavour.

## 1937

*IoMT* 23<sup>rd</sup> January: Report from Slaithwaite of Harry Wood's annual concert in the Parish Church, during which his vesper *Holy, Holy, Holy* was performed and master Philip Taylor sang **Haydn Wood's** *This Quiet Night* and *God, Make Me Kind*. 1700 hundred attended.

*IoMT* 6<sup>th</sup> February: Broadcast of music by **Haydn Wood** on the 11<sup>th</sup> on the 'National waveband' including the new overture *The Isle of Mountains and Glens*, *Sea Shanties* from the suite *Frescoes*, and the suite *Paris*. A novelty is the *Variations on an Original Theme* from the suite in D major he wrote whilst still at college and first conducted by the composer on 25th June 1905 at the RCM Patron's Fund concert.

In the same report: 2<sup>nd</sup> February, Reginald Foort, organ, performed some of **Haydn Wood's** music on the BBC cinema organ in an enjoyable twenty-minute programme.

*IoME* 12<sup>th</sup> February: Harry Wood conducts the 'augmented' Manx Amateur Orchestral Society at a Sunday Concert St. Barnabas' Church, Douglas, in a programme which included **Haydn Woods'** song *This Quiet Night* sung by Master Philip Taylor; *Souvenance* and *Slumber Song* played by Kathleen Rydings, violin; *Prelude* from the suite *Moods*\* played by the MAOS; *Intermezzo* and *Allegro* (or *Allegretto*) in D major (?) by **Daniel Wood** played by Miss Carrie Millars (flute); *The Doctor* (from the suite *Three Famous Pictures*) played by the MAOS and

*God Make Me Kind* with Master Philip Taylor, and Harry Wood's *Holy, Holy, Holy* by the choir, organ and orchestra.

\* The Suite *Moods*, 1932, consists of six movements: Prelude: *Dignity*, Novelette: *Allurement*, Caprice: *Coquetry*, Romance: *Pensiveness*, Spring Song: *Felicity* and the Concert Waltz *Joyessness*.

*IoME* 12<sup>th</sup> February: *The Manx Overture, The Land of Mountains and Glens* performed at the Douglas Gas Exhibition event at the Palais de Danse by the Band of the Band of His Majesty's Scots Guards.

*IoMT* 20<sup>th</sup> February: Gerry (Garry?) Alligan, the radio correspondent of the *Evening Standard*, writes; 'Full credit goes of the BBC for recognising the high merit of **Haydn Wood** as one of our most eminent composers'. This in response to a broadcast of his music on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> conducted by the composer on the national programme. In a subsequent review he referred to him as 'the leading living balladist'.

In the same edition: A special album of 36 colour photographs of the Island compiled by P. E. Davies of Derby Road, Douglas, to mark the Homecoming of the North American Manx Society, to be sent to **Haydn Wood** in London in order that he would display it for the London Manx Society.

*IoMT* 13<sup>th</sup> April: MAOS concert conducted by Kathleen Rydings at the St. Andrew's Schoolroom. The programme included *The Doctor* from *Three Famous Pictures* and *Prelude* from the suite *Moods*.

*IoME* 30<sup>th</sup> April: Broadcasts of music of interest to Manx people to include *Mannin Veen* performed by the BBC Welsh Orchestra; the fantasia *The British Empire* performed by the Commodore Grand Orchestra, and **Haydn Wood** himself will conduct the same work on a special Coronation programme on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May.\*

\* The Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth on the 12<sup>th</sup> May.

*Mona's Herald* 18<sup>th</sup> May: 'The Isle of Man is proud to claim **Haydn Wood** as one of its own though he was born in Yorkshire'. The composer's new Song *A Bird Sang in the Rain* is well received. The composer – 'now considered to be one of the most popular English song writers' - apparently considered it to be his finest song to date. Published by Ascherberg, Hopwood and Crewe Ltd.

*IoME* 28<sup>th</sup> May: **Haydn Wood** to conduct the BBC Northern Orchestra on 5<sup>th</sup> June in a concert of his music.

*IoME* 4<sup>th</sup> June: 'Isle of Man to Go on the Air' in the current series of 'Northern Notions' broadcast on the North Regional Programme. The recording van attended the Regal Cinema to record a recital given by Dr George Tootell FRCO of music by Harry and **Haydn Wood**.

*IoME* 25<sup>th</sup> June: *Mannin Veen* performed by the massed bands of the Brigade of Guards at the recent Trooping the Colour ceremony in honour of the King's birthday.

*Ramsey Courier* 30<sup>th</sup> July: **Haydn Wood** is holidaying on the Island and hopes to complete his new work *Manx Legend* (?).

*Ramsey Courier* 13<sup>th</sup> August: Sunday Concert at the Palace Coliseum on the 15<sup>th</sup>. **Haydn Wood** accompanies the eminent baritone Harold Williams in a selection of his songs including the *scena Sheila* (?). The composer 'received a magnificent reception'.

*IoME* 13<sup>th</sup> August: The Kathleen Rydings Trio played arrangements of **Haydn Wood's** songs at a Sunday evening concert at the Glen Wyllin Pleasure grounds.

*IoME* 27<sup>th</sup> August: *A Brown Bird Singing* sung by Margaret Minay at a Glen Wyllin Sunday Concert.

*IoMT* 4<sup>th</sup> September: Elena Danielli sings **Haydn Wood's** *Memories of Yesterday* and bandleader Joe Kirkham played *Roses of Picardy* as a trombone solo. Harry Wood conducted the orchestra.

*IoME* 5<sup>th</sup> November: Onchan Silver Band's first concert during which Margaret Minay sang *A Brown Bird Singing*.

*IoMT* 13<sup>th</sup> November: Reflections of Trevor Wignall, sports writer for the *Daily Express* during the Stage Golfing Society dinner and concert, later wrote: 'Why don't we cheer more when **Haydn Wood** walks down the street?' He reminded the audience that Stephen Foster is held up as 'the world's champion composer' of ballads in America, but 'Wood could give him fifty yards in a hundred and then beat him at the post'.

Later in the same edition: Mr H. Comish, tenor, (the Guild Cleveland Medal winner of 1936) sings *Roses of Picardy* at the Guild competition.

*IoME* 3<sup>rd</sup> December: 'A Chance for Music Lovers'. Is the Isle of Man a musical nation? Manx choirs and vocalists have achieved distinction in competitions, but 'the Island has never produced a singer or instrumentalist of international repute, if we except **Haydn Wood** whose boyhood was spent in Douglas'. Real opportunity lacking despite talent. A sum of £300 per year should be raised for a scholarship to support a young Manx musician in attending a national music college.

*IoMT* 4<sup>th</sup> December: Associated Board certificates evening at the Gaiety Theatre. Guest adjudicator Thomas Dunhill recalled his last visit to the Island thirty years earlier when collecting material for a violin composition based on traditional Manx melodies written for **Haydn Wood**. He believed that a copy of this work could be found in the Manx Museum.\*

\* See Maurice Powell *A Forgotten Manx Work, Thomas Dunhill's Fantasia on Manx Themes*, manxmusic.com.

## 1938

*IoMT* 15<sup>th</sup> January: From the *Colne Valley Guardian*, Master Philip Taylor sings two songs by **Haydn Wood** at the annual musical service at Slaithwaite Parish Church. This was the last occasion on which Harry Wood attended this event. Every seat occupied, and extra seating sought. A valued link between Slaithwaite and the Wood family and Douglas.

*IoME* 28<sup>th</sup> January: A new Manx rhapsody by Haydn Wood announced: *King Orry*\*. Partly composed during his summer holiday on the Island in 1937, 'and founded on the legend of Mannanan's mantle'. To be broadcast on 17<sup>th</sup> March in a forty-minute programme entitled

‘Music in Manuscript’. The composer and his wife and nephew **Hilton Cullerne\*\*** visiting the Island for a short golfing holiday and staying with Harry Wood at 1, Osborne Terrace, Douglas. They were greeted at the pier by Harry and **Adeline Wood**.

\* First performance earlier in March conducted by the composer at the Bath Musical Festival in the Pump Room Theatre. Includes the Manx tunes *Gwendolen* and *Fair Maids of Man* and a third tune ‘invented by the composer’. Another new work, the overture *Life and Love*, to be broadcast on 10<sup>th</sup> March conducted by Joseph Lewis with the BBC Orchestra.

\*\* A well-known violinist and conductor on the Island since before WWI, and latterly a member of the BBC Empire Orchestra, he would shortly to take up a post in broadcasting in Cape Town, South Africa. He would never see his uncles Harry and Haydn Wood again.

*IoMT* 26<sup>th</sup> February: On February 23<sup>rd</sup> (or 16<sup>th</sup>) **Haydn Wood** conducted the first performance of *Life and Love*.

*IoME* 18<sup>th</sup> March: Broadcast of the Manx rhapsody *King Orry* gives way to the broadcast of the Secretary of State Cordell Hull’s statement on America’s foreign policy to the National Press Club of the USA.

*IoMT* 7<sup>th</sup> May: Broadcast of *King Orry*, conducted by the composer, on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May. The brief synopsis mentions the opening depicting the Island basking under the false security of Mannanan’s Mantle (the Cloak of Mannanan), shielded from the impending attack of the Vikings. The conclusion re-introduces the opening theme evoking the peace and prosperity under a new ruler, Orry the Dane, the first ruler of Man. He is described as ‘the great Manx musician’.

*IoMT* 14<sup>th</sup> May: This report contains a photograph of **Haydn Wood**. The work opening features the tune *Gwendolen*. Later *Fair Maids of Man* appears and is subjected to considerable development; the Manx National Anthem appears to emphasise the Island’s new laws, democratic constitution and justice. (Historians would doubtless disagree with this view of Orry the Dane).

**Haydn Wood** received many telegrams of congratulation after the broadcast including one from his old friend from his RCM days, Herbert Ferrers, a blind composer, whose opera *The Bling Beggar* he was to help orchestrate later in the year. In a letter to the composer quoted in the report, Ferrers recalled the composers ‘sense of humour, quiet fun and many quips’ that imbue many of his works. He went on to suggest that the ‘greater’ **Haydn Wood** was to be found in his more serious works, of which *King Orry* was a fine example. ‘I don’t wonder of you being proud of your Island, and loving its legends and songs as you do very obviously. I hope it is proud of you – it certainly ought to be’. Ferrers even suggested that he write a Manx opera for which he would provide the *libretto*. Sadly, this idea bore no fruit, although glimpses of what such a work might have been like can be perceived in the music he wrote for the 1951 Exhibition.

*IoMT* 21<sup>st</sup> May: Letter to the editor from **Hilton Cullerne**, now the repetiteur violinist with a studio orchestra in Cape Town, and a member of the Cape Town Municipal Orchestra. On the day after his arrival in South Africa he found that someone was about to give a talk entitled



'Haydn Wood and His Music' and was able to offer several significant insights. At the beginning of May he gave his first broadcast of pieces by **Haydn Wood**.

*Ramsey Courier* 29<sup>th</sup> July: Sunday Concert at the Palace Coliseum featured Elena Danielli singing *Memories of Yesterday*. Joe Kirkham, trombone, performed a selection entitled Ballads of the Twentieth Century by **Haydn Wood** (?).

*IoME* 29<sup>th</sup> July: The Kathleen Rydings trio performs a selection of **Haydn Wood's** songs at a Glen Wyllin Sunday evening concert.

*Ramsey Courier* 29<sup>th</sup> July: At the peak of the holiday season **Haydn Wood** is staying with his brother Harry in Douglas for a month. During the forthcoming week no less than fourteen of his works were scheduled to be broadcast! He is referred to as 'the well-known Manx composer and violinist'.

*IoMT* 30<sup>th</sup> July: 'I always look upon the Island as home' he tells an interviewer. He is described as modest and self-effacing. His songs are enormously popular (*Roses of Picardy* is reckoned to have sold one and a half million copies world-wide), but the composer perceived that such songs were not as popular as once they were as people were less likely to make their own music. 'All they do now is turn a knob and listen to anything they like'. He had great hopes for his new songs *A Bird in the Rain* and *Dawn Over London*, and had written a choral ending to *Mannin Veen*, a Manx-inspired work that had been broadcast over 200 times. It was suggested by the interviewer that the 'new' work should be performed at the Command Performance on Empire Day by the massed choirs and orchestras. It would be 'a wonderful recognition of the Manx folk songs, about which he is so enthusiastic'.

*IoMT* 30<sup>th</sup> July: **Haydn Wood** relates two stories from his youth on the Island:

He was once engaged as a solo violinist at the Falcon Cliff for a week, then re-engaged for a second week, only to overhear a lady in the audience with a rather loud voice exclaim: 'Heavens! This terrible kid again!'

He was also asked to write a contest piece for the Manx Music Festival and present the prizes which involved making a short speech. As he was self-conscious about a slight 'lisp', he prepared his speech very carefully, avoiding all sibilants, only find upon returning home that his new car registration was ELH 666. Many friends constantly ribbed him by asking him to say what his car number was.

In the same edition: Concert in the gymnasium of King William's College. Three boys sing **Haydn Wood's** *Songs of the Year*.

*IoMT* 27<sup>th</sup> August: The Manx rhapsody *King Orry* broadcast on the Regional programme on the 26<sup>th</sup>. The story told 'with Manx tunes beautifully arranged and orchestrated'.

*IoME* 2<sup>nd</sup> September: **Haydn Wood** one of 2,500 who visit Harry Kelly's Manx Cottage at Cregneash since its opening this summer.

*IoMT* 10<sup>th</sup> September: Manx-born Mrs Harry Gill nee Waters, who emigrated to Brisbane ten years earlier, and enjoys the open-air life, often listens to the music of **Haydn Wood** 'who is particularly popular in the Dominions'.

*IoME* 16<sup>th</sup> September: The Kathleen Rydings Trio at a Glen Wyllin Sunday evening concert play a selection of **Haydn Wood's** songs, and Margaret Minay sings *Roses of Picardy*.

*IoMT* 17<sup>th</sup> September: A letter from Ostend to a friend on the Island tells that one of **Haydn Wood's** pieces was performed by the band at the Kursaal there, 'and received a great reception'.

*IoME* 30<sup>th</sup> September: Margaret Minay sings several **Haydn Wood** songs at the concert marking the end of the Rotarian Conference at the Villa Marina. Other Rotarians took part including Harry Wood and F. D. Buxton.

*Ramsey Courier* 16<sup>th</sup> December: Harry Wood, brother of **Haydn Wood**, gravely ill in Huddersfield (Golcar).

*IoME* 30<sup>th</sup> December: 'Cavalcade of Music Ended'. Death of Harry Wood on Christmas Day in Golcar reported.

*IoMT* 31<sup>st</sup> December: Recollections of two Wood families from Slaithwaite, West Yorkshire, who settled in the Isle of Man, and contributed significantly to Island life: Harry Wood (and **Haydn** and **Daniel**) and George Henry Wood, the first manager and director of the IoM Railway. Though unrelated, the families had 'known each other for generations' in Yorkshire according to the report which includes a photograph of Pole Moor Baptist Chapel, Slaithwaite and the birthplace of G. H. Wood.

## 1939

*IoME* 3<sup>rd</sup> February: **Haydn Wood** leaves the Island after devoting some weeks to sorting out his late brother's affairs. According to the report, he advised his sister **Adeline Wood** how to best dispose of his brother's magnificent library of music and musical instruments. Sadly, no trace of this library has been found.

*IoMT* 4<sup>th</sup> February: Haydn Wood to conduct a broadcast concert of his works on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> on the National wavelength from 6.40 pm until 7.30 pm. Works to include *King Orry* and a new suite *East of Suez*. \*

\* Completed in 1938 and cast in three movements: *Aziz, the temple dancer*; *Moti Lal, the Charmer of Snakes*; *Susuki, the Geisha*.

*IoME* 10<sup>th</sup> February: Music by both Harry and **Haydn Wood** performed at the Gas Company Exhibition: *The Cavalcade of Creation* and *The Cavalcade of the Sea* by **Haydn Wood**, and *The Cavalcade of Coal* by Harry Wood, accompanied by the Industrial Orchestra.

*IoMT* 11<sup>th</sup> February: **Haydn Wood** to conduct the combined choirs in his *Lochinvar*\* at the Manx Music Festival in April. The final concert was broadcast. He received 'a tremendous ovation' from the audience, was recalled several times after the performance and in a later edition was referred to as 'the great Manx composer'.

\* Based on Sir Walter Scott's ballad *Young Lochinvar*.

In the same edition: The overture *Life and Love*, the rhapsody *King Orry* and the new suite *East of Suez* \* broadcast in a 70-minute programme on the National Programme, with the BBC Orchestra conducted by the composer.

\* Haydn Wood may have been inspired to write this suite by the exotic incidental music that Eugene Goossens wrote for Somerset Maugham's play *East of Suez* in 1922. Perhaps Kipling's evocative line from *The Road to Mandalay*: 'Ship me somewhere East of Suez, where the best is like the worst' also came to mind.

*Green Final* 18<sup>th</sup> February: The opening of Legion House, the new home of the British Legion on the Island. **Haydn Wood**, a long-time generous financial supporter of the Legion, sent a telegram of congratulations and regretted his inability to attend in person.

*Ramsey Courier* 6<sup>th</sup> April: *Mannin Veen* performed by the Concert Band of the University of Washington.

*IoMT* 3<sup>rd</sup> June: The Manx rhapsody *King Orry* played for a party of young Manx farmers at a reception in Northern Ireland.

*IoMT* 10<sup>th</sup> June: **Haydn Wood** appointed to the board of the Performing Rights Society as 'composer-director' in place of the late Hermann Finck.

*IoMT* 24<sup>th</sup> June: **Haydn Wood** to conduct his music at Weston-Super-Mare, Scarborough and Whitby during June and July, and later in the year at Buxton, Margate, Torquay and Bournemouth. 'He always makes a point of doing one of his Manx compositions at these concerts'.

*IoME* 30<sup>th</sup> June: *King Orry* to be broadcast on the Regional, Midland, North and West Programmes played by the BBC Northern Orchestra.

*IoMT* 12<sup>th</sup> August: From the *London Evening News*: 'Fame is Fickle' by **Haydn Wood**, during which the composer reflects on the illusive and transitory nature of fame, citing the careers of Paganini, Sir Frederick Cowen, Paderewski and Rachmaninov, all of whom wrote pieces that became too popular, and led to an unbalanced view of their work as a whole. He believed that his own 'serious' works would have attracted more notice 'had I not made myself notorious as the man who composed *Roses of Picardy*'. He regretted the 'musical snobbery' that existed among some conductors when it came to 'lighter-hearted' music. 'After all, the composer is a businessman, a merchant, who endeavours to sell his wares in the best market'. The lengthy article makes a number of interesting points, especially in respect of his own career. The very different lives of Haydn, Handel and Beethoven are cited along the way. He concludes: 'Music, to be good, must come from the heart, and must play upon our emotions'.

*IoME* 18<sup>th</sup> August: A letter from Canada to Miss Norah Moore (the popular Manx singer) from Mrs Gertrude A. Lewis, Vernon, B.C., who is compiling a cookery book, and hoped Miss Moore would send her a recipe including apples. She also hoped to include the name **Haydn Wood**, 'the celebrated Manx composer', in her book as 'I am very fond of his works'.

*IoME* 25<sup>th</sup> August: The *Manx Overture*, *The Land of Mountains and Glens* broadcast by the BBC Northern Ireland Orchestra on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

*IoMT* 28<sup>th</sup> October: **Adeline, Haydn** and Dorothy Wood, send a wreath for the internment of Charles Fox J.P. Chairman of the Palace & Derby Castle Company, who died at a Manchester Nursing home on 19<sup>th</sup> August. The comedian Billy Danvers and great chorus singer Florrie Forde also sent wreaths.

*Mona's Herald* 28<sup>th</sup> November: Condolences sent to **Haydn and Adeline Wood** from the annual meeting of the Palace & Derby Castle Company on the death of their brother Harry Wood the previous year.

*IoMT* 2<sup>nd</sup> December: New song by **Haydn Wood**: *When the Home Bells Ring Again* included in the revue *On the Dot*.

## **War . . . again!**

### **1940**

*IoMT* 20<sup>th</sup> January: The new *Homage March* broadcast on Monday morning the 15<sup>th</sup>. 'It was really magnificent, reminiscent somewhat of those beautiful marches of Eric Coates, but perhaps even more inspiring'.\*

\* This is the first time that the names **Haydn Wood** and Eric Coates have been linked together in the Isle of Man newspapers. Coates, too, was concerned that his reputation rested too much on his popular works, such as his marches, much to the detriment of his other works. (see *IoMT* 12/08/39 above)

*IoME* 15<sup>th</sup> March: **Haydn Wood** donates £2 2s to the Manx Music Festival.

*IoME* 12<sup>th</sup> April: The *Manx Overture* selected as a test piece for the Pasadena Music Festival, and 'gave great pleasure to the Manx fraternity in California'.

*IoMT* 1<sup>st</sup> June: A Manx lady from Eaglewood, Colorado, Mrs Charlotte Farrell née Wattleworth, formerly of Christian Road, Douglas, attended a local music festival at which the *Manx Overture*, *The Land of Mountains and Glens* was performed. She had lived on the Island in the 1890s, remembered Miss M. L. Wood, and assumed **Haydn Wood** (whom she had hitherto not heard of) was a relative of hers. The article suggests that James T. Wood, a conductor, trumpet player, and director of the Douglas Choral Union, was also a member of the family of Harry and **Haydn Wood**. There is no evidence for this.

*IoME* 9<sup>th</sup> August: Bank Holiday reflections. Happy memories of pre-war Douglas evoked by gramophone recording broadcast of *Mannin Veen* on the Forces Programme.

*IoMT* 10<sup>th</sup> August: 'Forces' reminded of happy holidays' in the 'land of Florrie Forde and **Haydn Wood**'.

*IoME* 30<sup>th</sup> August: The Band of H. M. Canadian Grenadier Guards broadcast the *Manx Overture* from Montreal.

*IoMT* 21<sup>st</sup> December: 'An exceedingly nice Christmas present'. **Haydn Wood** sends a copy of his *Homage March* and two recent songs, *When the Bells Ring Again* and *The Dawn Will Break*, to the *Times* office in Douglas.

### **1941**

*Mona's Herald* 28<sup>th</sup> January: Haydn Wood, Westward Ho,\* donates £5 5s to the *HMS Manxman* Gifts Fund.\*\*

\* Haydn and Dorothy Wood spent much of the war in the West Country, in and around Bideford, North Devon.

\*\* Abdiel class fast cruiser minelayer, commissioned in 1941, broken up 1973.

*IoMT* 1<sup>st</sup> February: New march *Torch of Freedom* given its first performance on the BBC Home Service on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 pm by the BBC Northern Orchestra conducted by Joseph Lewis. The march is dedicated to Churchill. A vocal version to be published shortly. The march was later described as 'beautiful and pulse-stirring'. *King Orry* and *Mannin Veen* have both been chosen as test pieces for the New York State Festival for Military bands.

*IoMT* 8<sup>th</sup> February: A new choral work by **Haydn Wood**, *Ode to Genius*, has been written for the Jubilee of the Manx Music Festival, but doubts are raised that there would even be a Festival during the war years.\*

\* The Festival did continue during the war but on a reduced scale. *Ode to Genius* was performed at the Manx Music Festival in 1946, but is burdened with a cringe-making text praising the merits of various famous composers, that it is not one of the composer's most effective works.

*IoME* 7<sup>th</sup> March: A Mr. Gelling, who trained as a chemist at Brearey's on Prospect Hill, writes to the editor about his life amongst the Zulus in South Africa. He was a good friend of **Haydn Wood** in their younger days.

*IoME* 11<sup>th</sup> April: *Mannin Veen* performed by the Band of H.M. Welsh Guards and broadcast on the Home Service.

*IoMT* 26<sup>th</sup> April: programme of music by **Haydn Wood** to be broadcast on the Home Service conducted by Stanford Robinson, including a new suite: *Pictures in the Fire*, consisting of three movements: *Firelight*, *Reflections*, waltz *Dance of the Flames*.

*IoME* 11<sup>th</sup> July: 'BBC Nearly Paid Tribute to this Island', by 'Spectator's Searchlight'. The BBC Orchestra was due to give a broadcast concert on Tynwald Day of music from England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and a short piece of **Haydn Woods**. 'Spectator' wrote to the conductor, Joseph Lewis, to ask if *Mannin Veen* could be substituted as it was more appropriate for the Manx National Day. Sadly, the request arrived too late for the programme to be altered, and, in any case, the BBC were reluctant to change any item that had already been advertised in the *Radio Times*. Joseph Lewis did say that he looked forward to the day when he could conduct *Mannin Veen* with the new choral ending.

*IoME* 24<sup>th</sup> October: Sunday Warship Week Symphony Concert at the Villa Marina. Eighty plus strong orchestra of the Royal Naval School of Music (stationed near Douglas during the war) play *Mannin Veen*.

*Mona's Herald* 18<sup>th</sup> November: Onchan Branch of the British Legion concert at the Avenue Cinema with fifty young musicians from the RNSM. Margaret Minay especially successful in *A Brown Bird Singing*.

*Ramsey Courier* 24<sup>th</sup> December: New poem by Ruth Rutherford (Ramsey connections, and the lyricist of *Love's Garden of Roses*) published with music by Haydn Wood: *Rise Up for England!*

## 1942

*IoMT* 24<sup>th</sup> January: Obituary of **Hilton Cullerne** who died in Johannesburg on 16<sup>th</sup> January at the early age of forty-eight. The nephew of Harry, **Daniel** and **Haydn Wood**, a fine violinist and musical director, he latterly worked for the South African Broadcasting Company.

*Mona's Herald* 12<sup>th</sup> May: The Manx Rhapsody performed at the Manx Music Festival concert (the Wartime Guild) by the RNSM Orchestra.

*Mona's Herald* 25<sup>th</sup> August: **Haydn Wood's** new suite *London Cameos*\* to be conducted by the composer with the BBC Theatre Orchestra on 2<sup>nd</sup> September in a concert of his music.

\* Composed in 1942 and cast in three movements: Miniature Overture: The City; Intermission: St. Jame's Park in Spring; Finale: A State Ball at Buckingham Palace.

*IoME* 9<sup>th</sup> October: **Haydn Wood** 'paraphrases' Florrie Forde's famous song *Down at the Old Bull and Bush* which was due to be featured in the broadcast of ITMA that evening.

*IoME* 11<sup>th</sup> December: *Mannin Veen*, with the new choral ending, to be broadcast on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> during *Songs for Everyone*. 'Full justice was done to this beautiful piece by the band, which was greeted with a furore of applause'.

## 1943

*IoMT* 24<sup>th</sup> July: *Mannin Veen* performed by the orchestra of the RNSM at a Sunday Concert at the Villa Marina.

*IoME* 17<sup>th</sup> September: *Mannin Veen* performed by the orchestra of the RNSM at a Sunday Concert at the Villa Marina.

*IoME* 3<sup>rd</sup> December: The Manx legend of *The Silver Cup*, turned into play by Miss K. C. Killip of Rushen Central School, broadcast on *Children's Hour*. The *Manx Rhapsody* chosen as part of the incidental music.

## 1944

*IoMT* 1<sup>st</sup> January: Reflections of a Manxman 'down under'. Sergeant F. C. Leece wrote from Melbourne with recollections of his childhood in Douglas. *Roses of Picardy* and *A Brown Bird Singing* frequently heard on the radio in Australia.

*IoMT* 12<sup>th</sup> February: **Haydn Wood** recalled in a letter to the editor that the original title of *Mannin Veen* was *Mannin Veg Veen*, (*Dear Little Isle of Man*) but that he dropped the 'Veg' after hearing a BBC announcer pronouncing 'Veg' as if he were ordering meat and two 'veg'.

*IoME* 31<sup>st</sup> March: **Haydn Wood's** new *Manx Country Sketches* to be broadcast by the BBC Midland Light Orchestra on 1<sup>st</sup> April in the General Forces Programme.

*IoME* 7<sup>th</sup> April: Belated report of a concert of Manx music broadcast from Vancouver on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation on 30<sup>th</sup> January. **Haydn Wood's** *Mannin Veen* and *The End of the World*, and Harry Wood's *Manx Airs* among the works performed.

*Ramsey Courier* 16<sup>th</sup> June: Ramsey Orchestral Society (dir. J. T. Mullineaux) successful concert in the YMCA Hall. Miss Sheila Corlett sang *A Brown Bird Singing*.

*IoME* 30<sup>th</sup> June: premier of **Haydn Wood's** new Manx rhapsody *Mylecharane* broadcast on the 28<sup>th</sup> on the Home Service by the BBC Theatre Orchestra, cond. Harold Lowe.

*IoMT* 15<sup>th</sup> July: **Haydn Wood's** setting of the *Manx Fishermen's Evening Hymn* given a muted reception after a broadcast on the Forces Programme.

*IoME* 4<sup>th</sup> August: 'Flashback' into the Past. A programme for Harry Wood's Students' Concert of 26<sup>th</sup> January 1896 surfaced. Among the young violinists: one **Master Haydn Wood. Daniel Wood** also played the flute in this concert.

## 1945

*IoMT* 6<sup>th</sup> January: The new book of Poems *Second Officer* by Miss Joan Pomfret is praised by writer Godfrey Winn and **Haydn Wood**.

*IoME* 19<sup>th</sup> January: *Mannin Veen* (with the choral ending) broadcast on the BBC Home Service Sunday Rhapsody programme, with Stanford Robinson conducting the BBC Theatre Orchestra and Chorus in a selection of **Haydn Wood's** music.

*IoMT* 24<sup>th</sup> February: Haydn Wood conducted a 30-minute programme of his own music on Monday 19<sup>th</sup>. Few details but works included a Manx rhapsody and a *Nautical Rhapsody*. \* 'In musical circles he stands as high today as ever Hall Caine stood in literature'.

\* *The Seafarer, A Nautical Rhapsody*, 1940, based on Halliard, Capstain and Hauling shanties, including *Hullabaloo Balay*, *Rio Grande*, *Leave Her, Johnny*, *Leave Her, The Drunken Sailor*, *Shenandoah*, *Johnny Come Down to Hilo* and *Roving*.

*Mona's Herald* 29<sup>th</sup> May: 'A delightful evening of music by **Haydn Wood** broadcast on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> on the General Forces programme by the BBC Theatre Orchestra. Works included the *Manx Pastoral Scene* (?) or *Manx Country Sketches* (?)

*IoMT* 13<sup>th</sup> October: Reminiscences of a recent journey through 'blasted Germany'. The audience at the Garrison Theatre, Brussels, lustily sang *Roses of Picardy* and other wartime favourites at an ENSA entertainment.

*IoMT* 27<sup>th</sup> October: 'Let us not put too narrow an interpretation on the word 'Manxman''. **Haydn Wood** is cited as one who has 'put the Island on the map' through the world-wide popularity of his beautiful orchestral works featuring Manx melodies. Many people simply assume that he is Manx by birth, with a family that had lived on the Island for generations. No matter, he is honoured as a 'son by adoption' by the Manx (like the Earl of Derby and Sir Hall Caine).

*IoMT* 3<sup>rd</sup> November: From the *Bideford and North Devon Gazette*: A new ballad by **Haydn Wood** announced: *Prayer in the Desert* performed by George Baker, baritone, at the Strand

Cinema, Bideford, North Devon, on 28<sup>th</sup> October at a concert in aid of The Borough of Bideford Welcome Home Fund. All royalties from sales of the song to go to Field-Marshal Montgomery's Army Comfort's Fund.

*IoMT* 10<sup>th</sup> November: Will there be a concert of Manx music before the end of 1945? The *Times* believes such an event is long overdue and should involve Mr Noah Moore's Folk Song Choir and feature music by **Haydn Wood**.

**The final decade: 'Not all Trippers, Kippers, the T.T. and Tailless Cats!'**

**1946**

*IoMT* 12<sup>th</sup> January: A recent broadcast of music by **Haydn Wood** given by the Harry Fryer Band featured none of his Manx-inspired music! Chance or design?

*IoME* 8<sup>th</sup> February: The 54<sup>th</sup> Guild: **Haydn Wood** due to visit the Island in May and conduct his *Ode to Genius* with the combined choirs (and test piece for the 60 voice choral class) at the Music Festival Concert, written for the Jubilee of the Music Festival in 1940 but that performance was postponed because of the war.\*

\* The Festival Choir dir. by Miss Emily M. Christian won the class with 174 marks, one mark more than the Woodside Choir dir. by Mrs T. C. Corris.

*IoMT* 4<sup>th</sup> May: **Haydn Wood** not to appear at the Manx Music Festival after all. 'We are not surprised,' wrote the *Times* columnist, 'Haydn Wood should have been given the Freedom of Douglas, as should the Manx VC Major R. H. Cain, who won it at Arnhem. But no. Manxland owes debts which it is not ready to pay to such people who have made the Island famous all over the world'.\*

\* It is also an indelible stain on the Island's entertainment industry that Florrie Forde was not given the Freedom of Douglas. Despite a newspaper campaign and a good deal of public support, this well-loved and generous artiste was ignored despite the enormous amount she did for the Island, its reputation and its local charities, from 1900 until 1939. Both Winston Churchill and General Montgomery were given the Honorary Freedom of Douglas (*IoMT* 13<sup>th</sup> July), and once again the names of Major Cain VC and Haydn Wood were put forward for that honour.

*IoMT* 3<sup>rd</sup> August: **Haydn Wood** leaves Bideford in North Devon, his home during the war years. A letter of thanks for his services to the town was sent by the Town Council.

*Mona's Herald* 6<sup>th</sup> August: A new song by **Haydn Wood**, *A Thousand Beautiful Things*, with words by Mr Richard Corrin of Ramsey (Secretary of the Manx Salt and Alkali Company Limited), just published. Band parts are being prepared, and the premier is due to take place at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas, on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> sung by Marie Lawton – one of the irrepressible Four Charladies – in Harry Korris's Happidrome show.

*Ramsey Courier* 16<sup>th</sup> August: **Haydn Wood's** new song performed at a Sunday Night concert at the Ramsey pavilion, sung by Kay Flinn, soprano. The composer was in the audience.

*IoMT* 24<sup>th</sup> August: Thirty-five-minute broadcast with **Haydn Wood** conducting the BBC Orchestra together with vocalist Gwen Catley and a choir in a programme devoted to his music.



*Mona's Herald* 27<sup>th</sup> August: Songs by **Haydn Wood** sung at a Palace Sunday Concert by Olive Groves, soprano. 'Surely this is the best place to sing Haydn Wood's songs' commented the singer, 'for he was a Manxman, wasn't he?'

*IoMT* 28<sup>th</sup> September: MARRIAGES. Wood – Hughes. September 21<sup>st</sup> at St. Peter's Church, Vere Street, London W.1. Major **Gilbert Scholes Wood**, Royal Signals, son of the late **Daniel S. Wood** and nephew of **Haydn Wood**, to Mair Eleanor Hughes, of Wembley Park, Middlesex.

*Ramsey Courier* 11<sup>th</sup> October: From Colin Knox, aka Radiopinion in the *Daily Mail*: 'I recommend **Haydn Wood's** new song *A Thousand Beautiful Things*. After the undiluted tripe which we suffer in the way of lyrics this is a breath of spring'.

*IoME* 6<sup>th</sup> December: **Haydn Wood** and his wife to visit the Island next year to conduct a Manx Concert at the Palace Coliseum on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May in connection with the Rotary Conference. He will arrive on 30<sup>th</sup> April for rehearsals and depart on 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> May.

*IoME* 27<sup>th</sup> December: *A Thousand Beautiful Things* listed in 'Pantomime Hits' in an English newspaper. In a later edition Cecil Wilson reminded readers that *Roses of Picardy* had sold three million records and two million song copies.

## 1947

*Ramsey Courier* 3<sup>rd</sup> January: From the *Music Trades Revue*: A new song with words by T. E. Brown – *I bended unto me a bough of May* - announced. A poem **Haydn Wood** remembered from his youth on the Island.

*IoME* 18<sup>th</sup> April: Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> at the Palace Coliseum. **Haydn Wood** conducts a concert of Manx music featuring local choirs and singers at the conclusion of the Rotary Conference week. Two thousand attended. Orchestra of thirty-five and a choir of seventy. The programme included a new choral arrangement of his march *Torch of Freedom* and *Mannin Veen*. Encores demanded. Tremendous ovation. 'Proof, if proof were needed, that as a great national composer he is the equal of Elgar'.

*IoME* 2<sup>nd</sup> May: **Haydn Wood** and Manx singers (including Miss Norah Moore who sang a group of his songs) give a concert for the London Manx Society on 19<sup>th</sup> April at their HQ St. Bride's Institute.T

*Ramsey Courier* 11<sup>th</sup> July: A Star is Born. Ramsey girl, Jean Crellin, contralto, in the 'Happidrome' show at the Gaiety Theatre, and sings *A Thousand Beautiful Things* to great acclaim. When announcing the song, she made a point of telling the audience that it was written by two Manxmen. She also sung this song from the Ramsey Pool Ballroom for the broadcast of the BBC's *Sing - Song* programme the following month, a Sidney Birchall also sang the new song at a subsequent *Sing-Song* broadcast from Ramsey in September.

*IoMT* 26<sup>th</sup> July: Wanderer's Male Voice Choir at Douglas Holiday Camp Sunday Night Concert. Eileen Peters sang *Roses of Picardy*.

*Mona's Herald* 5<sup>th</sup> August: The 'Manx Suite' (?) performed by the Band of the Army of the Eastern Command of the Irish Band at the Celtic Congress in Dublin.

*IoMT* 16<sup>th</sup> August: **Haydn Wood's** new song *Princess Elizabeth of England* announced. Princess Elizabeth has requested a personal copy of the song.

*Ramsey Courier* 22<sup>nd</sup> August: The Ramsey Cushag Ladies Choir to broadcast from the Villa Marina on 10<sup>th</sup> September, and on the 24<sup>th</sup> August will perform the new song *Princess Elizabeth of England* at a concert in Mooragh Park.

*IoMT* 6<sup>th</sup> September: The Wanderer's Male Voice Choir at a Sunday Concert at Laxey Glen Gardens. Miss Ira Elmar sang a selection of songs by **Haydn Wood**.

*Ramsey Courier* 26<sup>th</sup> September: The Lon Dhoo Male Voice Choir (dir. Douglas Buxton) and the Onchan Ladies Choir at the Ramsey Pavilion for Ramsey's Merchant Navy Week concert. The ladies choir sang the choral version of *Torch of Freedom*.

*IoMT* 11<sup>th</sup> October: Following the Blackpool Music festival, a concert of Manx music is to be organised at the South Pier. The Lon Dhoo Choir and Ramsey Ladies Cushag Choir to take part. The grand finale will be the singing of *Torch of Freedom* by the combined choirs of 90 voices.

*IoMT* 18<sup>th</sup> October: *Princess Elizabeth of England* to be performed on the 28<sup>th</sup> at Walford Town Hall by the combined Luton Girls' Choir and the Luton Choral Society with the London Theatre Orchestra, a total of 250 musicians and singers.

*Ramsey Courier* 31<sup>st</sup> October: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the death of T. E. Brown celebrated at the Villa Marina by the World Manx Association. The event ended with *I bended unto me a bough*, sung by Mrs Douglas Buxton.

*IoMT* 1<sup>st</sup> November: Two brief reports of Manx concerts in Liverpool and Blackpool during which *Torch of Freedom* was performed by 100 voices.

*Ramsey Courier* 14<sup>th</sup> November: Ramsey Ladies Cushag Choir sing *Princess Elizabeth of England* at the Blackpool Music Festival, with Jean Crellin, soloist.

*IoMT* 22<sup>nd</sup> November: Eva Callow sings *Princess Elizabeth of England* at a Castletown Young Men's Club concert in Castletown accompanied by the town band.

*IoMT* 29<sup>th</sup> November: A new song by **Haydn Wood** entitled *When e're you call* was broadcast by Albert Sandler and his Palm Court Orchestra on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> on the BBC Light Programme.

*IoME* 12<sup>th</sup> December: Miss Eva Kane travels to Sheffield to take part in the pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* at the Lyceum Theatre at Christmas. She was well-known in amateur dramatic circles as a principal boy, a singer and *siffleur*, and made a number of gramophone records including on of *Roses of Picardy*.

## 1948

*Ramsey Courier* 9<sup>th</sup> January: *A Thousand Beautiful Things* broadcast on the Light programme in a selection of **Haydn Wood's** works. The words of the song were written by Mr Richard Corrin of Ramsey.

*Mona's Herald* 20<sup>th</sup> January: *Princess Elizabeth of England* and *When e're you call* published by Ascherberg, Hopwood and Crew Ltd.

*IoME* 23<sup>rd</sup> April: *The Manx Country Dance* (*Hunt the Wren*, from *Manx Country Sketches*) and *Mylecharane* (sung by the baritone Owen Brannigan) broadcast on the BBC Light Programme on the 21<sup>st</sup> at 1.15 pm and 2.00pm with Rae Jenkins and the BBC Variety Orchestra.

Elsewhere in the same edition: **Haydn Wood**, among others, sent a telegram of congratulations, 'and a very nice letter', to Miss Norah Moore, the Manx soprano, on her debut at Sadler's Wells Opera Company in *Die Fledermaus* by Johann Strauss II.

*IoME* 30<sup>th</sup> April: Sydney Birchall sings *The Song of a Thankful Heart* on the BBC Light programme. The announcer made a point of saying that the lyrics were by Richard Corrin of Ramsey and the music by 'Manx composer' **Haydn Wood**.

*IoMT* 3<sup>rd</sup> July: **Haydn Wood's** new suite *Snapshots of London* to be broadcast on the Home Service on 6<sup>th</sup> July with the BBC Variety Orchestra.\*

\* One of three 'London' suites, the earlier two being *London Landmarks* of 1942 and *London Cameos* of 1945. *London Snapshots* consists of three movements: a waltz *Sadler's Wells* (at the ballet); *Queen Mary's Garden* and a fine 'Coatsian' quick march, *Wellington Barracks*. The waltz theme was used in the 1950s as part of the television interlude film *The Potter's Wheel*.

*Ramsey Courier* 20<sup>th</sup> August: Guest artiste Miss Dorothy Coffey sings *A Brown Bird Singing* at a concert given by the Ramsey Cushag Ladies Choir in Mooragh Park, in a voice 'of remarkable purity and sweetness'.

*IoMT* 28<sup>th</sup> August: Miss Mollie Faragher sings *A Brown Bird Singing* at a Rushen Abbey Sunday Concert.

*IoMT* 16<sup>th</sup> October: **Haydn Wood** visits the Handside School in Welwyn Garden City where Manx musician and conductor, Harry Pickard, is the music master. Trinity College of Music certificates were distributed (100% pass-rate with 52 entries in his first year at the school); the mixed voice school choir sang *Princess Elizabeth of England* with noticeable zest for the composer.

*Ramsey Courier* 10<sup>th</sup> December: *A Thousand beautiful Things* sung at the Third Northern Music and Drama Festival in Ramsey by the winners of the soprano and baritone class, Olive Cringle and P. K. Cringle.

## 1949

*IoME* 21<sup>st</sup> January: A petition supported by **Haydn Wood** to be delivered to the Lieutenant Governor requesting a grant of £2,000 towards purchasing of musical instruments for the newly formed Manx National orchestra of 35 players.\*

\* The Manx Amateur Orchestral Society, founded in 1930 (formerly the Douglas Amateur Orchestral Society, founded 1917), conductor Miss Kathleen Rydings. See Maurice Powell *ENCORE! The Story of the Isle of Man Symphony Orchestra*, published by the author with support from the Manx Heritage Foundation, 2013.

*IoMT* 29<sup>th</sup> January: The new suite *Snapshots of London* recorded privately for HMV for the Chappell & Company. One of the movements is entitled *Queen Mary's Garden*, and Queen Mary herself has graciously accepted a set of the records.\*

\* In 1941 Queen Mary invited the composer to be present at a concert at the Duke of Beaufort's country seat at Badminton where several of his songs including *Roses of Picardy* were sung. The Queen accepted an album of his songs.

*IoME* 4<sup>th</sup> February: The Manx rhapsody *King Orry* to be broadcast by the BBC Welsh Orchestra on the Light Programme on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> at 11.30 am.

*Ramsey Courier* 11<sup>th</sup> February: 'Music by **Haydn Wood** to be broadcast on the North Regional Home Service on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> with the Northern Variety Orchestra. Dale Smith, baritone, to sing *The Song of a Thankful Heart* and *A Thousand Beautiful Things*.

*IoMT* 5<sup>th</sup> March: Wanderer's Male Voice Choir Silver Jubilee concert and minstrel show, with Mrs Claire Faragher, who sang two songs by **Haydn Wood** 'in a slow and beautiful way'.

*IoMT* 26<sup>th</sup> March: **Haydn Wood** one of four composers invited to write music for the BBC Festival of Light Music. He will conduct his new *Festival March* at the opening concert on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> with the London Symphony Orchestra at 8.30 pm on the Light Programme. Described in the *Radio Times* as 'at once challenging and ceremonial in style, and scored with great effectiveness'. He was described as 'a delightful and very human person . . . although perhaps a little tired of always being associated with *Roses of Picardy*'. He confirmed that he had written his ballads for his wife to sing 'and was very glad that he had done so' particularly as the songs had helped keep the wolf from the door in the early days of his career.

*IoME* 6<sup>th</sup> May: *To Rosemary* set for the tenor solo class at the 57<sup>th</sup> Manx Music Festival.

*Ramsey Courier* 27<sup>th</sup> May: *A Brown Bird Singing* sung by 14 year-old Margaret Gibberd at the opening of the season Sunday Concert at the Villa Marina.

*IoME* 22<sup>nd</sup> July: Famous BBC organist Sandy Macpherson gives a recital at Rosemount Church, Douglas, and opens his programme with the *Homage March*.

*Mona's Herald* 26<sup>th</sup> July: Three new songs by **Haydn Wood** announced: *The Garden of England*; *I Count it all* and *Song of Devotion*. The first song is dedicated to the Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men; the words of the last-named song are by Manx-born Mary Rose Martin.

*IoME* 29<sup>th</sup> July: Letter from **Haydn Wood** to Lewis Gale, winner of the Cleveland Medal and the Lieder Rose Bowl at the Manx Music Festival, after hearing an edition of the BBC's Country Magazine, in which Lewis Gale sang *The Maid of Port-y-Chee*: 'It did me good to hear such an excellent Manx voice on air'. He enclosed a copies of *Mylecharane*,\* arranged for the baritone Owen Brannigan, and the *Manx Spiritual, The End of the World*.

\*He reduced the ten verses in *Manx National Songs* to four, and provided a fresh accompaniment, the song then being 'more suitable for concert use'.

*IoME* 5<sup>th</sup> August: Film star Anna Neagle visits the Island and was accorded a royal welcome. She sang *Roses of Picardy* from the stage of the Regal Cinema.

*IoMT* 20<sup>th</sup> August: Popular Manx soprano Margaret Minay sings *A Brown Bird Singing* at a Wanderer's Male Voice Choir concert in Port Erin during a whirlwind tour.

*IoMT* 19<sup>th</sup> November: Manx Concert in Central Hall, Liverpool. Dan Minay sang the Manx Spiritual *The End of the World*.

*IoME* 25<sup>th</sup> November: A new choir, the Manx Orpheus Choir of 100 singers, to be formed. **Haydn Wood** among the patrons. Conductor Harry Pickard, accompanist Ethel Barrow. The first concert was envisaged for early 1950, one of many in which the MAOS took part.

*IoMT* 26<sup>th</sup> November: Some of **Haydn Wood's** Manx music to feature in an edition of BBC Radio's 'Reminiscent Mood' on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> at 4.30 pm.

*Ramsey Courier* 9<sup>th</sup> December: *Song of a Thankful Heart* is the contralto test piece at the Northern Music Festival in Ramsey.

## 1950

*IoME* 20<sup>th</sup> January: Fifty years of the Douglas Choral Union remembered including their first *Mikado* during the 1901-2 season at the Grand Theatre. F. C. Poulter conducted; Harry Wood led the orchestra which included the young **Haydn Wood** amongst the violins.

*Ramsey Courier* 3<sup>rd</sup> February: New song by Haydn Wood with words by Ramsey lyricist Richard Corrin, *As I Go on My Way*. The song was included in the radio programme Grand Hotel on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March in the Light Programme, sung by Vera Florence, soprano.

*IoMT* 18<sup>th</sup> March: The Spivs Brains Trust (the Manx answer to the BBC's Brains Trust ) met for the last time at Kirk Michael church hall. After two hours of nonsensical debate, a young lady from Ballaugh sang **Haydn Wood's** latest song.

*IoME* 14<sup>th</sup> April: 'Round the World with **Haydn Wood**' is a programme in the new BBC radio series 'Round the World'. He is described as 'still adding to that wealth of English light music' as he had done almost since the beginning of the century.

*Green Final* 15<sup>th</sup> April: Norah Moore sings *A Thousand beautiful Things* on the Light programme, and together with Lewis Gale is to make recordings of Manx songs for the BBC.

*IoME* 7<sup>th</sup> July: Welsh soprano Ceinwen Rowlands sings *A Brown Bird Singing* as her encore at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Ramsey Courier* 28<sup>th</sup> July: Miss Crellin sings *Song of a Thankful Heart* during a Ramsey Cushag Ladies Choir Sunday afternoon concert in Mooragh Park. Miss Marie Radcliffe sings *As I Go on My Way*.

*IoME* 1<sup>st</sup> September: *The Manx Pastoral Scene* from *Manx Countryside Sketches* heard on the Home Service, performed by Mark Lubbock and his orchestra. Later in the month the same forces played *Mylecharane*.

*Mona's Herald* 24<sup>th</sup> November: The Isle of Man Festival of Britain Pageant planned for June-July 1951. A Great Historical Pageant of the Island's story written by Laurence du Garde Peach, directed by Heath Joyce with substantial musical numbers by **Haydn Wood**. See also *Mona's Herald* 24<sup>th</sup> October, 1950; *Ramsey Courier* 17<sup>th</sup> October, 1950; *IoME* 27<sup>th</sup> October etc. \*

\* For the full story of this event and Haydn Wood's significant part in its success see Maurice Powell, *The Isle of Man Festival of Britain Pageants 1951*, manxmusic.com.

*Mona's Herald* 7<sup>th</sup> November: The Liverpool Manx Society include the *Manx Overture* performed by a piano trio in their second meeting of the season in Fairfield.

## 1951

*Ramsey Courier* 19<sup>th</sup> January: The first of several references in local newspapers to the Isle of Man Festival of Britain Pageant. 'A great deal of the music and the songs . . . have been specially written by **Haydn Wood**, one of the foremost British composers of the present age'. See brief references to the music in the *IoMT* 20<sup>th</sup> January; *Ramsey Courier* 16<sup>th</sup> February: Manx choirs (under the direction of Dr George Tootell) receive their music copies.

*Mona's Herald* 24<sup>th</sup> April: **Haydn Wood** refuses fee for his 'labour of love' in writing the music for the Manx Pageant 'in gratitude to his childhood home'. He will receive the gift of a radiogram instead.

*Mona's Herald* 15<sup>th</sup> May: Villa Marina Sunday Concerts to be conducted by Jack Leon, who will introduce the infrequently heard *Mayday Overture* and other Manx pieces into the programmes. 'A nice touch'.

*Ramsey Courier* 1<sup>st</sup> June: The March *Montmartre* from the suite *Paris* performed at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*IoMT* 30<sup>th</sup> June: **Haydn Wood** and the others who made the Manx Pageant possible invited to a reception at Government House.

*IoME* 17<sup>th</sup> August: *Love's Garden of Roses* sung by Eileen Peters at a concert in Bradda Glen, Port Erin.

*Ramsey Courier* 31<sup>st</sup> August: The 100% Manx *Song of a Thankful Heart* with words by Richard Corrin of Ramsey and music by **Haydn Wood** has been recorded by the Parlophone Co., with the Luton Girls' Choir in a clearing 'among the oaks and elms' at the lake in Black Park, Iver, Buckinghamshire. The song is described as 'a song of great character' and 'a standard' of the repertoire.

*IoMT* 1<sup>st</sup> September: Charles Williams and his orchestra broadcast the *Manx Country Dance* from *Manx Sketches* and a movement from *London Pictures* on the BBC's morning music programme. The *Manx Country Dance* was also included in the Palace Sunday Concert on the 9<sup>th</sup>, and *Mannin Veen* during the final Sunday Concert of the season on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Jack Leon conducted the Place Orchestra.

*Mona's Herald* 6<sup>th</sup> November: T. E. Brown Night in Manchester, with the works of other Manx poets including Kathleen Faragher and Richard Corrin, and a performance of *A Thousand Beautiful Things*.

*IoME* 30<sup>th</sup> November: The Lon Dhoo Choir receive a letter of congratulation from **Haydn Wood** after their achievement at the Blackpool Music Festival in winning the Grundy Bronze Challenge Trophy.

*IoMT* 29<sup>th</sup> December: Summer season of 1950 and 51 'cannot be called good', despite attraction of the Pageant. 'Mr Haydn Wood is proud to call himself a Manxman, and the Manx people are proud to consider him one'.

## 1952

*Ramsey Courier* 18<sup>th</sup> January: The lyrics to **Haydn Wood**'s latest song *Remember Me* are written by Marie Rose Martin of Ramsey. Her second setting by the composer.

*Ramsey Courier* 1<sup>st</sup> February: Mr and Mrs **Haydn Wood** hope to be present at the next meeting of the London Manx Society film and concert evening on 16<sup>th</sup> February, together with friends and young Manx students studying at the Royal College of Music.\*

\* Subsequent brief reports of the event confirm that the composer and his wife were able to attend.

*IoME* 13<sup>th</sup> June: Homecomers (Manx Canadians and Americans) follow the Homecoming Queen and Pages through the Villa Marina Gardens to the accompaniment of **Haydn Wood**'s *Manx Processional*, written for the 1951 Manx Pageants. Robert Nicholl sings *Roses of Picardy*.

*Mona's Herald* 17<sup>th</sup> June: Gwen Cately, soprano, sings *Memories of Yesterday* at a Palace Sunday Concert.

*Ramsey Courier* 4<sup>th</sup> July: BBC Broadcast of music by **Haydn Wood** from Manchester on 'the true Tynwald Day' (5<sup>th</sup> July). The programme included the *Manx Overture*, *The Isle of Mountains and Glens*, *Manx Countryside Sketches* and *Mannin Veen* conducted by the composer.

*Ramsey Courier* 22<sup>nd</sup> August: Financial losses take the edge off attempt to promote series of concerts at the Ramsey Pavilion. Local artistes included Robert Nicoll and Jean Curphey. *A Thousand Beautiful Things* among the songs. Accompanist Frieda Standen.\*

\* See Maurice Powell, *Frieda Standen*, [manxmusic.com/biographies](http://manxmusic.com/biographies).

*Mona's Herald* 16<sup>th</sup> September: 'Manx Night at the Villa'. Jean Curphey and Dan Minay among the guest artistes at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert. Jean Curphey sings Haydn Wood's new song *The Stars and the Music and You* 'which would have given immense pleasure to the Manx composer had he been present'. Jack Leon and his orchestra played the *Manx Country Dance* from *Manx Country Sketches*.

*IoME* 3<sup>rd</sup> October: 'Ship's Joiner is Spare Time Composer'. Edward Corteen has written a six movement *Barrovian Suite* for strings, dedicated, not to King William's College, but to the Barrow-in-Furness string orchestra. 'Now don't build me up as a second **Haydn Wood**, I'm only an amateur, and likely to remain one for a long time'. He began composing in 1947 after piano lessons with Mrs Amy Rushworth and composition lessons with Dr George Tootell. The new suite was described as 'very Manx in character'.

*IoME* 7<sup>th</sup> November: Manx soprano Jean Curphey, undertaking various engagements in London, takes tea with Mr and Mrs **Haydn Wood** in their Baker Street flat, and is complimented by the composer on her performances of his recent song *The Stars and the Music and You*. Later that week: tea with entertainer 'Cheerful' Charlie Chester.

*IoMT* 8<sup>th</sup> November: **Haydn Wood** makes his first television appearance in the series *Music for You*.

## 1953

*IoMT* 10<sup>th</sup> January: **Haydn Wood** adapts his song *Princess Elizabeth of England* into a Coronation song: *Elizabeth of England*. Three thousand song copies of the original song and 'a stack of records' sent to Australia ahead of the Princess's projected there in 1952. After the death of King George VI they were withdrawn and a new version with new lyrics has been issued. The reporter in the *London Evening Standard* wrote: 'Once a song writer really gets into the vein, there is no getting him out of it. At 70, Haydn Wood is as full of tunes as a June blackbird . . .'

*IoMT* 17<sup>th</sup> January. 'Fame'. A Christmas letter simply addressed to '**Mr Haydn Wood . . . somewhere in England**' finally caught up with him in Manchester after an epic journey of some 2,000 miles which began in Montreal on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

*Ramsey Courier* 23<sup>rd</sup> January: A lullaby (un-named) with lyrics by Rose Martin of Ramsey, with music by **Haydn Wood** and arranged for three-part female voice, has been dedicated to the Lezayre Women's Institute of which Mrs Martin is a member.

*Ramsey Courier* 2<sup>nd</sup> April: *A Thousand Beautiful Things* sung by Jean Curphey at an entertainment organised for Election Workers at the Mitre Hotel, Ramsey.

*IoMT* 25<sup>th</sup> April: The Manx Girls' Choir, conductor Harry Pickard, accompanist Ethel Barrow, return to the Island following a triumphant visit to Norway including a joint concert with the Steen Og Strom Choir of Oslo. The programme included **Haydn Wood's** vocal arrangement of the final of his Manx tone poem *Mannin Veen*.

*Mona's Herald* 16<sup>th</sup> June: Jack Leon's Villa Marina Orchestra play the march *Elizabeth of England* at a Sunday Concert in which the popular piano duettists Rawicz and Landauer\* also appeared as the guest artistes.

\* The famous piano duo were interned on the Isle of Man in the so-called 'Artists Camp' in Hutchinson Square. The camp commander arranged for two pianos to be installed so that they could continue playing.

*IoMT* 7<sup>th</sup> November: **Haydn Wood** donates £3 3s to the Noah Moore Memorial Fund.\*

\* The prominent Manx violin teacher and conductor Kathleen Rydings, a pupil of both Harry and Haydn Wood, donated £1 1s.

*Ramsey Courier* 24<sup>th</sup> December: **Haydn Wood's Lullaby** included in a concert given by the Lezayre Women's Institute.

## 1954

*IoMT* 12<sup>th</sup> June: BBC Children's Hour (third series) features the Isle of Man and visits various parts of the Island. **Haydn Wood's Manx Rhapsody** performed by the Queen's Hall Light Orchestra.



*Mona's Herald* 6<sup>th</sup> July: 'cellist Reginald Kilbey\* plays an arrangement of *Roses of Picardy* at a Villa Marina Sunday Concert.

\* A member of the famous Max Jaffa Trio.

*IoME* 23<sup>rd</sup> July: Samuel Shakespeare of Wallasey looks back on fifty years of visits to the Island, and recalls the young **Haydn Wood** as a playmate. This article was more-or-less reprinted without alteration in the *IoME* 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1957.

*Ramsey Courier* 6<sup>th</sup> August: Sudden death of Richard Corrin, 'the Manx songwriter' (lyricist), at the age of 58 years towards the end of a bicycle ride to Bride. He wrote the words to **Haydn Woods** song (*The World Holds*) *A Thousand beautiful Things*.

## 1955

*Ramsey Courier* 11<sup>th</sup> February: Old Time Fair proposed for Manx National Week in Ramsey. It was suggested that **Haydn Wood's** 'Manx medley' could be played as a last waltz at an evening dance.\*

\* It is uncertain to which work the newspaper was referring.

## 1956

*Mona's Herald* 10<sup>th</sup> January: Second article in the series 'The Manx Influence' featured Dr E. L. Pritchard, a Brythonic Celt, who visited the Island, became interested in Manx folklore and found inspiration for his music in Manx poetry. His works included a Celtic Symphony, organ music and song cycle based on Manx poems. Reference is made to **Haydn Wood's** 200 or so songs and his orchestral works based on traditional Manx melodies.

*IoMT* 16<sup>th</sup> March: **Haydn Wood**, 'the famous Manx composer and violinist' is seen on television being presented with an Ivor Novello award for his services to British popular music.

*Ramsey Courier* 13<sup>th</sup> July: Sunday School Anniversary Sermons at Waterloo Road Methodist Church, Ramsey. 'Special soloist' Miss Lillie Radcliffe sang *Song of a Thankful Heart*.

*Mona's Herald* 6<sup>th</sup> November: Manchester Manx Society T. E. Brown Night. Other Manx poets mentioned included Kathleen Faragher of Ramsey; Thelma Cubbon of Douglas; 'Cushag'; Hilda Cowin of Douglas and Ambrose Maddrell of Port St. Mary. Eliza Craven Green, author of *Ellan Vannin* is also mentioned. **Haydn Wood's** song *I bended unto me a bough* was – as usual – sung on the occasion. The song appeared again at the October meeting of the Society.

*IoMT* 9<sup>th</sup> November: Remembrance Week brings back memories of *Roses of Picardy*, **Haydn Wood** and his brother Harry. The short piece concludes with an unsupported account of how the composer came to write his famous song. Two roses from Picardy were kept in a book by an Army Captain and his wife. Upon his death, she sent the preserved flowers to the composer, 'which inspired him to write *Roses of Picardy*'. This charming story is at variance with the story related by the composer himself on many occasions.

## 1957

*IoME* 22<sup>nd</sup> February: 'It happened 50 years ago'. A series of snippets from the past in the *Examiner* including a reference to **Haydn Wood's** farewell concert in the Gaiety Theatre before leaving the Island to tour New Zealand, Australia and India' with Madame Albani's concert party.

*IoME* 23<sup>rd</sup> August: Reminiscences of Samuel Shakespeare (aged 71, of Wallasey), a long-time visitor to Douglas, in Arthur Moore's 'Summertime Notebook'. Memories of Fred Buxton's Pierrots, Cunningham's Holiday Camp and childhood friendship with **Haydn Wood**, then a young violinist in Harry Wood's orchestra at the Derby Castle.

*Ramsey Courier* 8<sup>th</sup> November: *I bended unto me a bough* sung at Manx Society T. E. Brown Night in Manchester.

## 1958

*IoMT* 21<sup>st</sup> March: '**Haydn Wood** wishes to thank all those who sent kind expressions of sympathy and floral tributes on the occasion of his recent bereavement'.\*

\* Dorothy Wood née Court died 6<sup>th</sup> March aged 74.

*IoMDT* 6<sup>th</sup> May: Mrs Robert Newby, 'the Island's only woman photographer' reflects on some of the famous stars and personalities who have visited her one hundred year-old studio on Prospect Hill: Wee Georgie Wood, Florrie Forde, Dorothy Ward, G. S. Melvin, **Haydn Wood**, Jon Pertwee and Tessie O'Shea.

*IoMT* 9<sup>th</sup> May: ITV's 'Holiday Town' to be broadcast for the second time, recorded on 20<sup>th</sup> May, and broadcast from Douglas on 28<sup>th</sup> June. The BBC Northern Orchestra conducted by Stanford Robinson, and the BBC Dance Orchestra, conductor Alyn Ainsworth, are to visit, and the BBCNO will play **Haydn Wood's** *Mannin Veen* and music by Gounod and Wagner at the Villa Marina on 19<sup>th</sup> June for the programme 'On Tour'.

*IoME* 12<sup>th</sup> June: Remembrance of the pantomime *King Gobnegeay*, Hollantide Night, November 1902, with words by William Hanby and music by Harry Wood, who directed the performances, with young **Haydn Wood** as orchestra leader. Their sister **Adeline Wood** devised the dances and played the part of Dame Qualtrough.

## 1959

*IoMT* 16<sup>th</sup> March: Arthur Moore's Miscellany. 'Roses will bloom again in Picardy this summer - but the man who made them musically immortal is dead . . .' An interesting obituary with references to the careers of both Harry and **Haydn Wood**.

*IoMDT* 17<sup>th</sup> March: Brief notice of the death of **Haydn Wood** on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at a London Nursing Home. The memorial service will be held at St. Mary's, Bryanston Square, Marylebone, on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 12.30 pm.

*IoME* 19<sup>th</sup> March: Death of **Mr Haydn Wood**, the famous composer who lived in Manxland. Includes an obituary and appreciation.

*IoME* 30<sup>th</sup> April: *Roses of Picardy* 'by the late **Haydn Wood**' sung by Jean Curphey at the London Manx Society gathering at St. Bride's Institute.

## 1960

*IoMT* 12<sup>th</sup> February: 'The Old Order Changeth'. The Amusement Arcade at the Derby Castle. John Quirk looks back of the glory days of the popular entertainment venue, whose stage was graced by no lesser stars than Florrie Forde, Vesta Tilley, Dan Leno, Harry Lauder, Lester Barrett and George Robey. The Sunday Concerts with Harry Wood's orchestra included **Master Haydn Wood** among the violins and as a soloist at the age of ten.

*IoMDT* 23<sup>rd</sup> February: Rushen W. I. meeting at Port St. Mary Town Hall. An 'interesting and enjoyable' talk on piano accompaniments by Mr Dennis Thompson, with an illustration from *Roses of Picardy*.

*Ramsey Courier* 4<sup>th</sup> November: *I bended unto me a bough* sung at a Manchester Manx Society T. E. Brown Night.

*IoMT* 30<sup>th</sup> December: Tribute to the late Manx mezzo-soprano/soprano Margaret Minay and her singing of *Roses of Picardy*.

## 1961

*IoMDT* 27<sup>th</sup> February: Reminiscences of William (Willy) Holden, aged 82, violinist, and, as a child, a member of the famous Holden Family Miniature Orchestra who gave concerts and played for dancing at the Belle Vue Pleasure Grounds and the Injebreck Pleasure Grounds during the 1880s and 90s. He recalled playing the violin with **Haydn Wood**, and may have been a pupil of Harry Wood.

## Afterword

The above extracts from the Isle of Man newspapers were initially compiled for my friend and colleague the Haydn Wood scholar Marjorie Cullerne as a series of working notes to aid her in her research for her forthcoming life and works of the composer. She is the great niece of the Haydn Wood, lives in Victoria, Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada, and is the custodian of the Haydn Wood Music Library and Archive (HWMLA). Now completed, revised and annotated, I have deposited these notes in the library of the Manx Museum, and made them available on [manxmusic.com](http://manxmusic.com), so that future students of Haydn Wood will not have to spend too much time trawling through our local newspapers for traces of him. Good luck to you in your endeavours.

**Maurice Powell, September 2019.**

**Haydn Wood's compositions mentioned in the text, with dates of composition where known.**

His 200 or so songs present a particular problem. I have arrived at provisional dates either from the publication dates, if known, or from the date of their earliest recorded performances

in Douglas. Often the only clue from the local newspapers is the designation 'new' song, which in some cases may simply mean 'new' to the Isle of Man. To attempt a more accurate dating is beyond the scope of this piece.

(?) indicates a work that I have been unable to positively identify.

### **Orchestral works:**

Suite in D major. (Only the second movement, *Variations in B minor*, survive.)

Overture *May Day*, 1918-9

Suite *Harvest Time*, c. 1921 (also edition for piano)

Suite *Three Famous Pictures*, 1923

*A Southern Rhapsody, Virginia*, 1927

*Variations on a Once Popular Song*, 1927

Suite *Three Famous Cinema Stars*, 1929

An Egyptian Suite: *Egypta*, 1929

*The Manx Rhapsody*, 1931

Suite *Moods*, 1932

*A Manx Tone Poem, Mannin Veen*, 1933

*Roses of Picardy Rhapsody*, 1933

Suite *Paris*, 1935

*Suite Frescoes*, 1936

*The Manx Overture* subtitled *The Isle of Mountains and Glens*, 1936

*The British Empire Fantasia*, 1937

The Manx Rhapsody *King Orry*, 1938

Overture *Life and Love*, 1938

Suite *East of Suez*, 1939

*The Seafarer: A Nautical Rhapsody*, 1940

Suite *Pictures in the Fire*, 1941

Suite *London Cameos*, 1941-2

*Manx Countryside Sketches*, 1943

A Manx Rhapsody *Mylecharane*, 1944

Suite *London Landmarks*, 1946-7

*Snapshots of London, 1948*

**Marches:**

*Homage March, 1940*

*March Torch of Freedom, 1941*

*Festival March, 1949*

*March Elizabeth of England, 1952*

**Misc:**

Incidental music for the 1951 Isle of Man Festival of Britain Pageants.

Incidental music for the 1939 Gas Company Exhibition in Douglas: *Cavalcade of Creation* and *Cavalcade of the Sea*

**Concertos:**

*Adagio* from a lost or incomplete violin concerto in B minor 1905

Piano Concerto, 1907-9

Violin Concerto, 1928

*Phantasie-Concerto* for String orchestra (arr. *Phantaise* for string quartet in F major), 1949

**Small orchestra:**

*Love in Arcady* (arr. of piano piece or song)

*Pleading* (arr. of piano piece)

*Day Dreams* (arr. of piano piece)

*Heather Bells*

*Thistledown*

*Tango Moreno*

*An Autumn Song* (?)

*Venetian Pastorale* (?)

**Violin pieces:**

*Manx Rhapsody* (?) 1902

*Souvenance* for violin and piano, c. 1904

*Elfin Dance* and *Slumber Song* for violin and piano, c. 1911

*Morceau Daydreams*, c. 1917

*Melodie Plaintive* for violin and piano, c. 1920

*La Vie de Boheme* for violin and piano

*Variations on a Caprice of Paganini* for violin and piano

**Chamber works:**

*Phantasie* for String Quartet in F major, c. 1905

**Piano:**

*Scherzo Fantastique*, 1911

*Love in Arcady*

*Pleading*

*Day Dreams* (?)

**Songs:**

*Spring Time*, 1905-06

*Cupid's Hunt*, 1907

*Haying Time*, 1907

*Wood Violets*, 1907

*The Gull*, 1907

*Lady Awake!* 1907

*For Thee*, 1908

*On a Spring Morning*, 1909

*Ship o' Mine*, 1910

*The Sea Road*, 1910

*Sing! Sing! Happy Hearts, Sing!* c. 1911

*Fairy Waters*, 1912

*Bird of Love Divine*, 1912

*God Make Me Thine*, 1912

*Love's Garden of Roses*, 1914

*Summer Dreams*, 1914

*Khaki and Gold*, 1915

*Love in Arcady*, 1915

*O Flower Divine*, 1915

*Island of Love*, 1915  
*The Gunner*, c. 1915  
*Roses of Picardy*, 1916  
*The Wonderful World of Romance*, 1918  
*I Love Your Eyes of Grey*, 1919  
*There's a Song Down Ev'ry Highway*, c.1920  
*Fleurette, I Shall Never Forget*, c.1920  
*Butterfly*, c. 1920  
*It's Only a Tiny Garden*, c.1920  
*Casey the Fiddler*, 1921  
*Little London Flower*, c.1921  
*Little Yvette*, c.1921  
*Brown Bird Singing*, 1922  
*For England*, c. 1922  
*Someone Brought me Daffodils*, c. 1924  
*Devotion*, c. 1924  
*A (The) Flower Girl*, c.1925  
*Do You Know My Garden*, c. 1926  
*Town and Country*, c. 1927  
*Praise*, c.1927  
*I Think of You, My Sweet*, c. 1927  
*The Call*, c.1928  
*June's A Gypsy Pedlar*, c.1928  
*June is Here*, c.1928  
*A Leafland Lullaby*, c.1928  
*Silver Clouds*, c.1928  
*I Love to hear You Singing* c.1930  
*My Irish Daddy*, c.1931  
*The Fairy Changeling*, c.1930

*When Dawn Breaks Through*, c. 1930

*The Cuckoo Clock*, c.1932

*I Want your Heart*, c.1932

*A Song of Quietness*, c.1932

*An Autumn Song*, c.1932

*Here's a Happy Day*, c. 1933

*The End of the World, A Manx Spiritual*, 1934

*A Bird (Sings) in the Rain*, c. 1934

*Memories of Yesterday*, 1935

*A (This) Quiet Night*, 1934

*God Make Me Kind*, c.1937

*Dawn Over London*, 1938

*When the Home Bells Ring Again*, 1939

*The Dawn Will Break*, 1940

*Rise Again (up for) England*, 1941

*To Rosemary*, c. 1941

*Prayer in the Desert*, 1945

*(The World Holds) A Thousand Beautiful Things*, 1946

*Princess Elizabeth of England*, 1947, adapted to a Coronation song *Elizabeth of England* in 1953

*I bended unto me a bough*, c. 1947

*Song of a Thankful Heart*, 1947

*When 'ere you call*, 1948

*The Garden of England*, 1949

*I Count it All*, 1949

*Song of Devotion*, 1949

*As I Go on My Way*, 1949

*Remember Me*, 1951-2

*The Stars and the Music and You*, 1952

**Musical Plays:**



*Tina*, 1916, duet *Cherie* and duet *When the Daisy Opens Her Eye*

**Choral works:**

*The Phynodderee*, 1909

*A Health to All That Cross the Main*, 1927

*Lochinvar*, 1939

*Ode to Genius*, 1940-1

*Torch of Freedom*, choral version, 1947

**Haydn Wood's principal publishers:**

Ascherberg, Hopworth and Crew Ltd.

Boosey & Hawkes

Bosworth & Company (Leipzig)

Breitkopf & Härtel

Chappel & Company

Francis, Day & Hunter

Keith Prowse Music Publishing Company Limited.

Novello & Company Ltd.

Peter Maurice Music Company Ltd.

Stainer and Bell Ltd.

Universal Edition, London

**Abbreviations used in the text:**

**RAM:** Royal Academy of Music

**RCM:** Royal College of Music

**DAOS:** Douglas Amateur Orchestral Society.

**MAOS:** Manx Amateur Orchestral Society.

**Sources:**

*IoMT:* *Isle of Man Times*; *IoMDT:* *Isle of Man Daily Times*; *IoME:* *Isle of Man Examiner*; *Manxman*; *Manx Sun*; *Mona's Herald*; *PCG:* *Peel City Guardian*; *Ramsey Courier*; *Ramsey Chronicle*; *JMM:* *The Journal of the Manx Museum*; *The Green Final*.

HWMLA: Haydn Wood Music Library and Archive, Victoria, BC, Canada.

**Related books by the compiler:**

*Manxland's King of Music, the Life and Times of Harry Wood*, Lily Publications, 2018.

*A Very Gifted Manx Lady, the Life of Kathleen Rydings*, Wibble Publishing, 2014.

**Related articles by the compiler:** see [manxmusic.com](http://manxmusic.com)

*Loose Ends and More Loose Ends.*

*Mr. Craine's Oratorio.*

*An Enchanted Isle.*

*A Manx Celtic Concert.*

*Harry Wood's Selection on Manx National Melodies.*

*John Edward Quayle*, [manxmusic.com/biographies](http://manxmusic.com/biographies).