



Bòrd Stiùreachd na h-ÀGOFR
Miosachan Oifigeal na h-ÀGOFR 2022

The Official Calendar of Avante Gaelic Obscurist Folk Rock 2022

Am Faoilleach / January 2022

Guireans Manager Coinneach's 34th Birthday (+ VAT)

January 2022 sees Guireans Manager Coinneach's birthday again. Given that the portly Chartered Accountant, Motorhead worshipper, James Last superfan and self-proclaimed AGOFR music biz mogul was born in 1962, Guireans fans had been planning a major celebration to mark Coinneach's 60th in 2022.

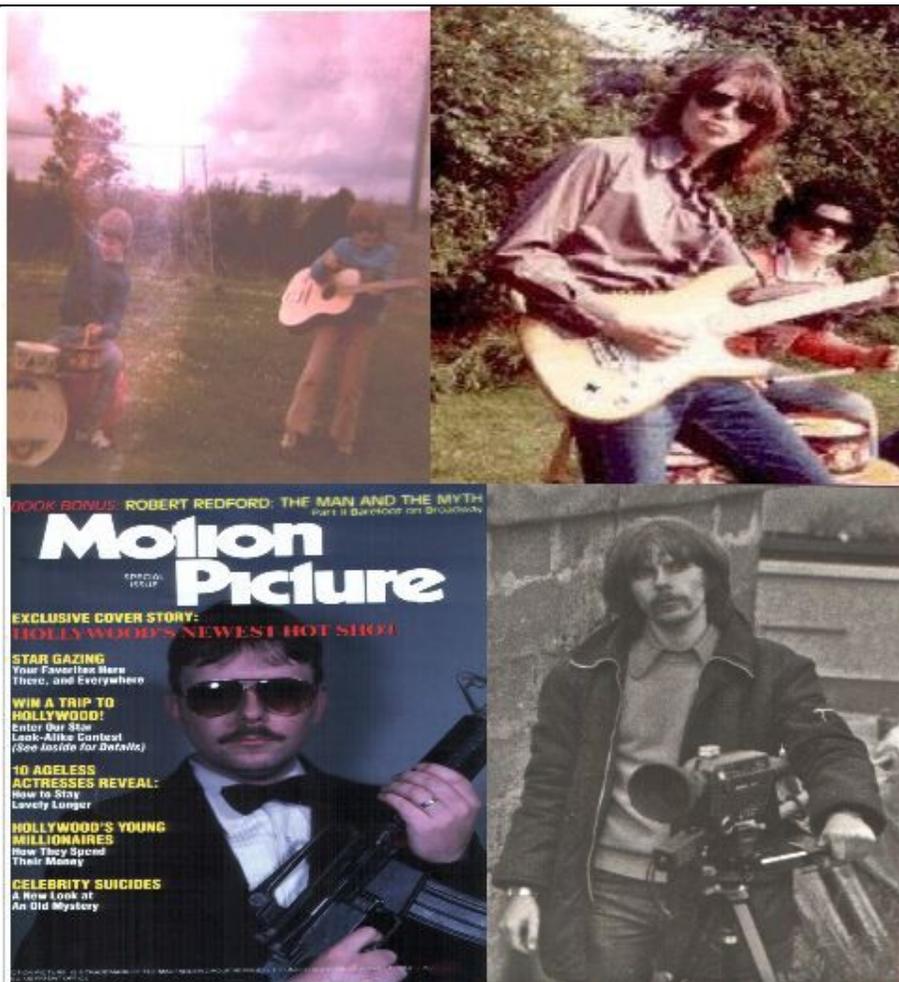
Sadly it turns out that this is a bit premature, as, following some recent creative accountancy, Coinneach himself has declared his age for the 2021/22 financial year to be "34".

What non-accountants fail to realise (Coinneach tells us) is that the other 26 years do not require to be notified within the UK tax jurisdiction because he's transferred them via a private bank in Zurich to an unlisted offshore tax avoidance vehicle in Panama. Or maybe Scalpay. Co dhiu, 34 it is, according to himself, despite it being a matter of record that he made the 1st Guireans album 43 years ago and was old enough to drive at the time.

But neffer fear. Coinneach realises that many Guireans fans not conversant with these accounting subtleties might have been intending to send him gifts commensurate with a more significant birthday. And being such a generous cove, he would naturally hate to disappoint the fans.

So, if you were planning to send him any rubies, or even chust brown envelopes full of used notes, feel free to deposit them in the usual skip round the back of the Gut Factory by the 28th.

And he'll take the bus pass if it's free as well.



Àdair Creative Accounting - Guireans Manager Coinneach aged (clockwise from top left): Mìnus 13 in 1974, Mìnus 6 in 1981, Mìnus 4 in 1983 and a mere +7 (going postal after being snubbed at the Oscars) in 1994.

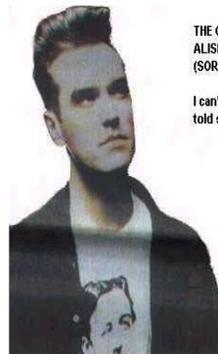
Àm Faoilleach / January 2022 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Òl-Luain Mon	Òl-Màirt Tue	Òl-Ciadam Wed	Òl-Àrdaoin Thu	Òl-h-Àoine Fri	Òl-Sathairne Sat
						1 Bliadhna Mhath Ur. Brexit Day (Again)
2	3	4 20 th Anniversary of The Guireans writing and record "Alasdair Mackay is God – Sorry, Bod" in an afternoon, at Rod The Actorr's house	5 D*vid Iain turns off the 2021 Xmas Lights at M*yb*ry Garden.	6 D*vid Iain turns on the 2022 Xmas Lights at M*yb*ry Garden.	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Ronnie Van Zant's Birthday
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Willie Burns night – inhabitants of Newton toast J*hn H*nry B*nham with Jack Daniels and perform the Address to the Ford Mustang.	26	27	28 Guireans Manager Coinneach's Birthday. All (cash) donations ungratefully received.	29
30	31 Willie Burns night – inhabitants of Newton toast J*hn H*nry B*nham with Jack Daniels and perform the Address to the Ford Mustang.					

An Cearran / February 2022

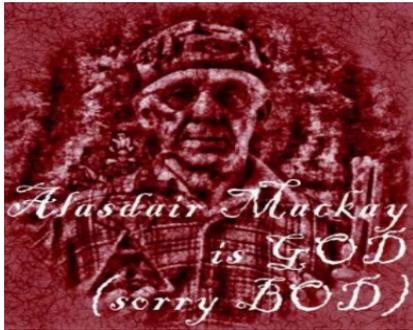


ALASDAIR
MACKAY IS
GOD
- SORRY
BOD



THE GUIREANS say that
ALISDAIR MACKAY IS GOD
(SORRY - BOD)

I can't help wishing I'd been
told sooner



20 Years of The Guireans "Alasdair Mackay Is God (Sorry, Bod)"

Guireans Manager Coinneach's birthday in January has delayed the 20th anniversary celebrations of the band's classic album "Alasdair Mackay Is God (Sorry, Bod)" by a month.

Recorded on 4th January 2002, AMIG(SB) was the Guireans' 1st full album since 1989, so they had a bit of work to do to catch up with all the musical developments of the 1990s. Nevertheless they cracked it in the single afternoon it took to record the album at (formerly) Cadaverous Thespian Roddy "Actorr" Morrison's "Air (is what I had for dinner) Studios" in Barony Square. Everybody from Oasis and Blur to Crowded House and the Spice Girls got dealt with, and in a single track ("R Ewe Being Serviced") they accounted for all the the new genres of dance music that had emerged in the decade AND produced a moving tribute to John Inman and Mollie Sugden (who weren't even dead yet).

AMIG(SB) has great cultural importance as it was the first time the Sandwick and Townie elements of the AGOFR movement had worked together to record 'songs' (Wattie and Jason Dun Ringle turned up at the session). It also led to the very first Sandwick vs Town AGOFR Drinking Contest in the Crown Hotel later that same evening, but nobody remembers who won.

Enigmatic Aird Tong Producer Alasdair "Bod" Mackay's trademark techniques are apparent throughout the album - the subtle but deliberate use of inaudibility, crackling noises, dirty tape heads, flat batteries, and forgetting to press 'record' until half way through each song. Due to Wattie's wee cove having flushed all photographs from the session down the toilet, there's no actual evidence of his presence, but to this day true AGOFR believers are in no doubt that Bod was in the house.

ENTRIES FOR THE "ALASDAIR MACKAY IS GOD (SORRY, BOD) STEVEE DESIGN COMPETITION. TOP LEFT - THE WINNER (RODDY HUGGAN, AGED 36½), TOP RIGHT - 2ND PRIZE ENTRY FROM DUNKY, BOTTOM LEFT - 3RD PRIZE TO RODDY'S BIG BROTHER NEIL, AND BOTTOM RIGHT - SPECIAL PRIZE FOR MINIMUM EFFORT TO JASON DUN RINGLE.

~ An Gearran / FEBRUARY 2022 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Òl-Luain Mon	Òl-Màirt Tue	Òl-Ciadam Wed	Òl-Àrdoin Thu	Òl-h-Aoine Fri	Òl-Sathurne Sat
		1	2 Groundhog Day (USA) The Guireans announce that their long awaited album "J&E's Democracy" is nearly ready. Again. (Sandwick)	3 62 years since Buddy Holy's plane crash.	4	5
6	7	8	9 Harris Tweed found in Harris	10	11	12
13	14 St Valentine's Day. Don't miss yesterday's sale on Ewe Rolls and Pedigree Tup Mix at the Crofters'.	15 Brue Monday – Most depressing day of the year.	16	17	18 BBC Alba screen a programme that's not a repeat. With actual Gaelic in it.	19 BBC Alba screen a programme that's not a repeat. With actual Gaelic in it. Oh no, wait - it's a repeat of that one from yesterday,
20	21 Stornoway Orduighean begin Murdo Maclean's reopens for 1 day only hat sale.	22 Last day for Rubhachs to take their peats home.	23	24	25	26
27	28					

Am Màrt / March 2022



424th Anniversary of the Fife Adventurers

It was a dark day in 1598 when a bunch of bleigeards from Lochgelly or Cowdenbeath or somewhere saw an engraving of Luskentyre beach on ye internette and immediately decided that they had to move to the Outer Hebrides, their 'spiritual home'.

As it happened, Luskentyre wasn't for sale at the time, but King James VIth was very happy to flog the "Fife Adventurers" a royal charter entitling them to seize the island of Lewis and exterminate "a' ye mawwes and tounies that dwelleth therein, wi' fyre, slochter, mutilation and otheris inconvenities untae and includege ye kuramme and wilde elders o' ye Kirke. And if yon disnae dae ye tricke, mebbeez even a bit o' a sang frae Barbraye Dycksonne".

The Fife Adventurers cunningly booked the Macleod Castle (where Number 1 Pier is nowadays) through AirB&B (Bedchamber and Bannocks) and quickly established themselves inside it before the Stornowegians noticed.

Soon the Fifers moved to a more convenient fortress, roughly where Era is today, and took to marauding about the town trying to take over. They set out to subjugate the native population by stealing all their sgadan and playing Jimmy Shand and Proclaimers records at them 24 hours a day.

But the wily Macleods finally defeated the Fifers by the cunning ploy of sneaking into their stronghold without paying, via the back door on Point Street, then kidding on they'd been in there all the time and had just come back from the toilets.

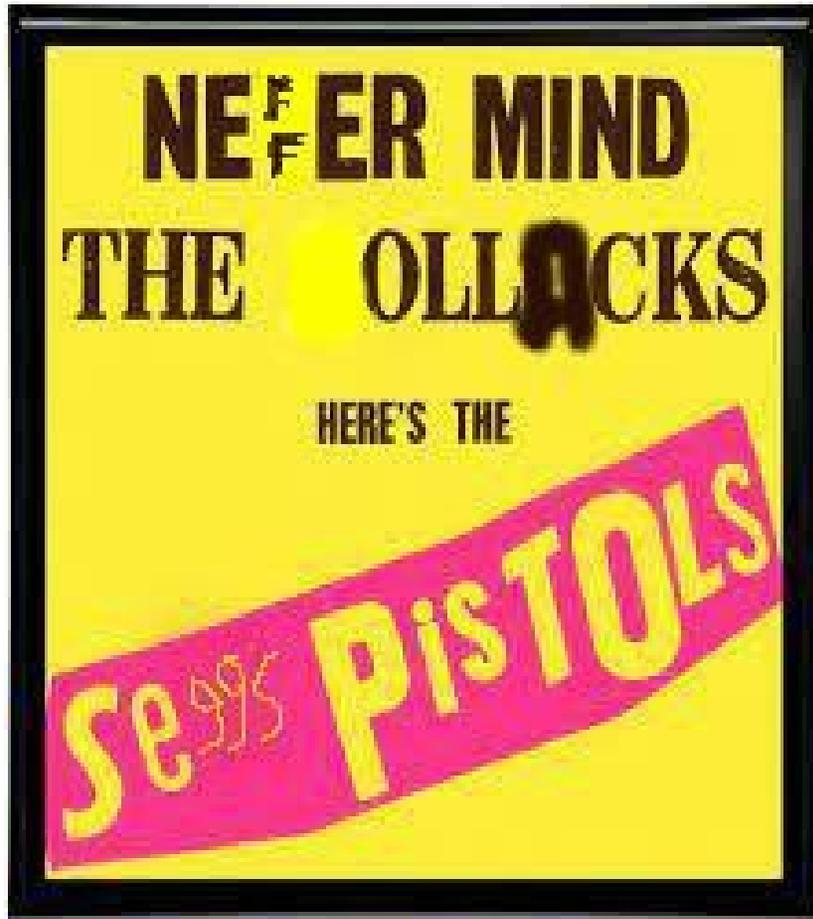
There's admittedly fleek all of an AGOFR connection here, except that the Dun Ringles are said to be planning an epic progressive rock concept album and opera to mark the 500th anniversary in 2098.

A 1598 Engraving of the Stronghold of the Fife Adventurers

~ Àm MÀRƒ/MARCH 2022 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Ɖ1-Luain Mon	Ɖ1-MÀRƒ Tue	Ɖ1-Ciadam Wed	Ɖ1-Àrdaoin Thu	Ɖ1-h-Àoine Fri	Ɖ1-Sachuirne Sat
		1 Lardi Gras 2022 – The Legendary Non-existent AGOFR festival (Dunky's House)	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 1830 – Original Lewis Chessmen unearthed in Harris (but nicked by some Uigeach)	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Spring Equinox	22	23 End of 2021/22 Poaching Season (River Creed)	24 Start of 2022/23 Poaching Season (River Creed)	25	26
27 Clocks go forward (everybody except the Seceders).	28 Clocks go forward (Seceders)	29	30 Fleekeen Clapton's Birthday, man.	31		

An Ciblean / April 2022



50 Years Since Neffer Mind the Ollacks

Is it really 45 years since Punk Rock shook (and briefly ruled) the world with the release of 'Never Mind The Bollocks'? Yes it is, and it's also the 50th anniversary of the album that influenced it.

It's well documented that Malcolm MacLaren used to come to Stornoway, at least once a year, to visit his granny. He would help her out in her wee shoe shop called 'Seggs', which specialised in boot accoutrements.

It was on one of those visits to the island that he first saw local band 'The Seggs Pistols' playing in Mac's Imperial Bar. The Pistols (Shonnie Rottenfish, Steve Blones, Glenriver Mahenlock - later replaced by Sid Fishes - and Paul Fleekingcrook) were different from the other Stornoway bands in that they were much more musically inept. And they all sported weird hair styles (spikey short back and sides and no dossan from Johnny Geeper's), and what's more, they had their clothes held together by safety pins due to tearing them on barbed wire trying to avoid the Creed Gamekeepers.

Who could forget their groundbreaking 1972 gig at Mangersta Free (Church) Trade Hall, deemed by many to be the most influential punk gig ever. Only a handful of people were actually there (and they were expecting a Flair concert) but over the years loads more people have claimed to have been present. Those who were there and saw the Seggs Pistols went off to form their own Punk bands including The MitchellsBusCocks, JoyD*nlop Division, and The Fallfromgrace.

Guireans Manager Coinneach also claims that he was there and ran off home inspired to write "Is Mise Punk", but like many others he's properly talking ruppish.

The Seggs Pistols' first album 'Neffer Mind The Ollacks' sold in no quantities but did give Malcolm Maclaren an idea. The rest, as they say, is madeuphistory.

Before "Sad Day We Left The Croft", even... "Neffer Mind The Ollacks"

~ An Giblean / April 2022 ~						
La na Sàbaid Sun	Ùi-Luain Mon	Ùi-Mairt Tue	Ùi-Ciadaoin Wed	Ùi-Ardaoin Thu	Ùi-h-Aoine Fri	Ùi-Sathairne Sat
					1 Latha na Gogaireachd April Fool's Day. (National Holiday of Airidhbhruch)	2 April Fool's Day again (Airidhbhruch - cos one day's never enough)
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Ritchie Blackmore's Birthday. Public Holiday (Wattie's House)	15	16
17 Easter (Western Christianity)	18	19	20	21	22	23 Feast of St George - Patron Saint of buying houses off the internet without seeing them, moving up from Landan and realising immediately that it was all a terrible mistake... but being trapped here foreffer by rising property prices darn Sarf.
24 Easter (Orthodox Christianity)	25	26 Easter (R*formed Pr*sbyt*rian)	27 Easter (Continuing)	28	29 Easter (APC)	30

An Céitean / May 2022



40 Years Since Jethro Tull's Broadsword & the Beast

The importance of this event in the annals of AGOFR cannot be overstated. "Broadsword and the Beast" was the long awaited 1982 album from prog-folk minstrels Jethro Tull. This album basically set out the template for the Dun Ringles' whole musical career.

Let's start with the cover. Featuring an impressive painting of a mythical and menacing fairy-like creature (more or less copied by Jason for every Dun Ringle cover), it had Viking runes cared around the edges (an idea 'borrowed' by the Dun Ringles for their 'Strange Sounds from the Castle Grounds' album) and drawings of the band members (see The Four Chessmen, Tales from the Minch, etc etc).

"Broadsword" had songs about Hebridean islands, Vikings, seals, mythical creatures and was basically a framework from which the Dun Ringles haven't strayed for 30 years. It's rumoured that all their royalties go straight to Ian Anderson (after CJ gets his cut).

The subsequent world tour of Broadsword also gave the Dun Ringles a few 'ideas'. Tull had a full size Viking longship as a stage set - the Dun Ringles had a cardboard longship strapped to Wattie on their 1994 'Norse Noel' xmas gig in An Lanntair.

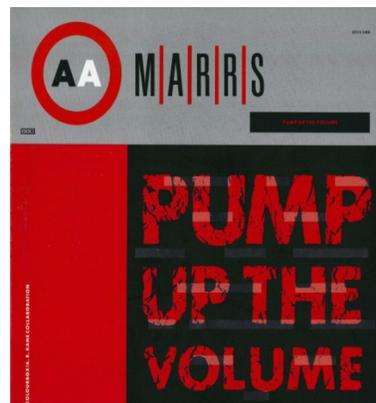
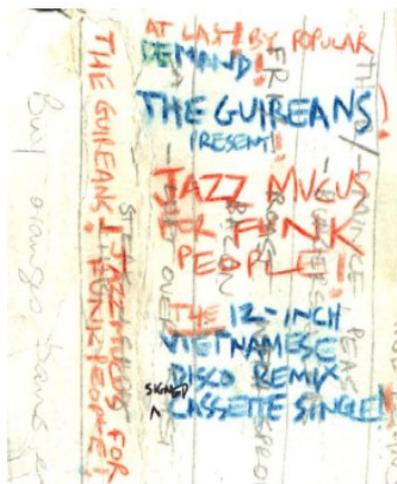
Three stalwart figures from the AGOFR scene (Zing Pop's Wattie and CJ, and Johnny Pluckan from Swedish TV) attended the Edinburgh gig of Tull's world tour and obviously spent the entire show taking notes...

Ever wondered why Crazy Lemon always had a longship on stage with them?

Wattie's Up-to-the-minute Jethro Tull Trousers, 1982.
Tony Hadley, Simon Le Bon and Adam Ant were jealous as Fleck, Allegedly.

~ An Céitean/ May 2022 ~						
La na Sàbaid Sun	Òi-Luain Mon	Òi-Mairt Tue	Òi-Ciadin Wed	Òi-Ardain Thu	Òi-h-Aoine Fri	Òi-Sathairne Sat
1	2 May Day. 105th Congress of the People's Soviet (Ionad Stoodie, Garrabost)	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Finals of the Eoropievision Song Contest (Ness). Garrabost will win again after threatening to invade everyone if they don't
15	16	17 Norway National Day. Public Holiday (Port of Ness, Skigersta, Adabroc, Eorpoie, Sula Sgeir).	18	19 Birthday of Gordon "Mod" Macleod from the Guireans. The customary scooter rally and pitched battle with the rockers will take place at the Braighe car park and toilets	20	21
22 Morrisey's Birthday : (Day of Vague Dissatisfaction and Yearning - Innes the Post's House)	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 John F Kennedy's Birthday. His twin brother was born 4 days later, due to a long waiting list at the Lewis Hospital (See June 2)	30	31				

An t-Ogmhios / June 2022



40 Years of "Jazz Mucus for Funk People"

2022 marks the 40th anniversary of the all-new Guireans line-up (surviving original member Dead Olac Jr, Bod and Roddy Huggan) recording their legendary 1982 "Jazz Mucus for Fank People" cassette EP.

"Jazz Mucus" represented a quantum leap in studio professionalism compared to the band's previous recordings, as it featured a real bass and electric guitar. Although the drums still consisted of a tape box placed near the cassette player microphone and played with two biro pens.

This was the first use by the Guireans of "multi-track" recording, achieved by recording the backing tracks on one cassette player then playing them back while recording on another, and singing at the same time. "Wall of Sound" pioneer Phil Spector was alleged to be quaking in his Cuban-heeled wellies when he heard of the advanced studio techniques being developed in Hitsville, Sandwick.

In a strange postscript, 5 years later, when House music was hitting the nation for the first time, the bassline from "Jazz Mucus's" title track (1982, remember) was spotted on M.A.R.R.S' *allegedly* seminal hit "Pump Up The Volume" (1987).

Exactly how M.A.R.R.S. managed to sample "Jazz Mucus" when there's only one tape in existence is a mystery, and to this day Huggan, Dead Olac and Bod are each convinced that the other two of the trio secretly formed M.A.R.R.S to make a fortune and deprive them of their rightful earnings.

The Guireans' "Jazz Mucus" Sleeve (1982) and M.A.R.R.S.'s "Pump Up The Volume" Sleeve (1987).
Fleekkeen Obvious when you look at them together, isn't it?

~ An t-Ogmhios/June 2022 ~						
La na Sàbaid Sun	Òl-Luain Mon	Òl-Màirt Tue	Òl-Ciadaoin Wed	Òl-Àrdaoin Thu	Òl-h-Àoine Fri	Òl-Sathairne Sat
			1 Calum Kennedy's birthday, 4 days after his twin (See 29 May). Public Holiday (South Lochs and Iain Shaw's house)	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Some Random Guy's latest EP of Electronica wins the Smash Hits single of the year (1982).	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Summer Solstice. Watch out for fleekkeen beardies from Away (Callanish)	22 Kontrast Day. All Citizens of SY aged 40-65 must report to the Caber car park at 11:55pm and sing "I Recall A Gypsy Woman" slightly out of tune in a dodgy fake American accent	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

An Iuchar / July 2022



15 Years of “Strange Sounds from the Castle Grounds”

As we mentioned back in May, there was more than a touch of Broadsword and the Beast on the cover of SSFTCG (as fans snappily call it) with mysterious Viking runes surrounding Lady Matheson's monument.

The album itself is a moving homage to the Lews Castle Grounds, with each song focusing on a particular aspect of the woods. Overlong (well overlong) prog rock epics covered midges, water sprites living in the River Creed, sledging up on the Golf Course and gothic-y goings on in the Castle itself.

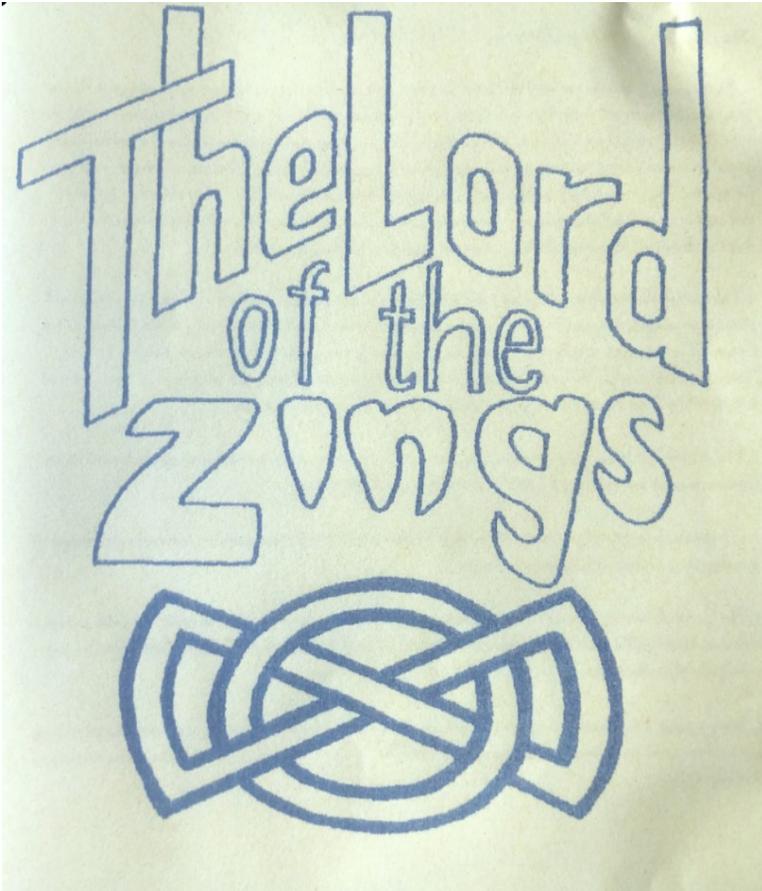
The songs are so complex that the band have been unable to remember how to play them and to this day only one song from the album has been attempted live.

Although it is widely reported that talking and singing to your plants is good for them, this live performance in the Woodlands Centre resulted in killing off all the rhododendron bushes in the Grounds.

Strange Sounds Right Enough - Runes, Rhododendrons 'n' Ruppish from the *Dun Ringles*, 2006

~ An t-Iuchar/July 2022~						
La na Sàbaid Sun	Ùi-Luain Mon	Ùi-Màirt Tue	Ùi-Ciadaoin Wed	Ùi-Ardaoin Thu	Ùi-h-Aoine Fri	Ùi-Sathairne Sat
					1	2
3 1969 - Brian Jones drowns in his swimming pool. The same day, Guireans manager Coinneach drives his pedal car into a bog at the peats, but tragically survives.	4 54th Anniversary of B*gey getting slaughtered in Macs Imperial to celebrate the Yanks not having to pay any more tax to the Scalpay Common Grazings Committee.	5	6	7	8	9
10 10th Anniversary of 1 st Sunday Sailing to Stornoway : High likelihood of it being Judgement Day too.	11 If it wasn't Judgement Day yesterday, carry on.	12	13	14 Heb Celt Festival Begins, Covid Permitting. Propably no AGOFR bands on the bill (again). Except maybe P**t and D**s*I.	15 BBC Alba screen highlights of Heb Celt Festival (2007)	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 / 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

An Lunasdal / August 2022



40 Years of “Lord of the Zings”

2022 sees the 40th anniversary of the Sword & Sorcery Prog Rock epic concept album that was “Lord of the Zings”....

Decades before Peter Jackson’s Lord of the Rings film trilogy appeared, the AGOFR community had already trailblazed the epic works of Tolkien by releasing a concept album. Stornoway Art Schoolesque dilitanties Zing Pop condensed the 3,000,000 word (estimate) trilogy down in to a much more manageable 650 words in the form of 20 songs (none more than 3 minutes long) in a bold attempt to make Middle Earth more accessible to the masses.

Wattie and CJ bashed out the lyrics over a couple days, only occasionally taking liberties with the storyline, and the band came up with the ‘music’.

The Lord of the Zings was recorded in August 1982, over two nights in CJ’s secret Matheson Rd attic recording studio, using the usual Zing Pop musical arsenal (cheap Woolies acoustic guitars, 4 kazoos, an upturned waste paper bin, a Stylophone and a Casio VL-Tone).

20 copies of the tape were made and it’s rumoured that one battered and worn copy eventually made its way to New Zealand and may have played a major part in inspiring a young film maker.

Many years later, when Jackson was deciding on a score for his blockbuster movie trilogy, It is understood that it was a very close call between “Lord of the Zings” and the music of distinguished composer Howard Shore.

Zing Pop’s ‘Lord of the Zings’ (1982)

~ An Lùnasdal / August 2022 ~						
La na Sàbaid Sun	Òi-Luain Mon	Òi-Màirt Tue	Òi-Ciadaoin Wed	Òi-Ardaoin Thu	Òi-h-Aoine Fri	Òi-Sathairne Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 The Late Rocky Sh*rp from R*cky Sharpe & The Replays' Birthday (maybe). Big Session at John Allan's House.	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 51st Anniversary of Woodstock. 38 and a bit ^{hh} Anniversary of Midge of Rock 1983.	16	17	18	19	20 Phil Lynott's Birthday. Stornoway bye-laws declaring "Whiskey in the Jar" compulsory for all bands playing inside the cattle grid passed on this day in 1974.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 V*n Morrison's Birthday. The usual Guga with candles in it is dispatched by his granny in Ness. You'd be a grumpy bleigeard too if you got one of these every year.			

An Sultain / September 2022



An Taigh AGOFR

In recent years, Community Groups throughout the Hebrides have been converting old buildings into state of the art facilities for music, art, writers' retreats, crafts and assorted white settlery things, and calling them An Taigh This and An Taigh That.

Guireans Manager Coinneach and Sinister Matheson Road Pop Svengali CJ Mitchell (87) decided some time ago that the AGOFR industry should get in on the act and open its own immersive experience/visitor centre/recording studio/AGOFR archive/tea shop in the heart of Stornoway, so that visitors, fiasags and locals alike can have a taste of the AGOFR life. All the staff would be unemployed AGOFR band members and would make a fleeked awful racket on waste paper bins and broken chanterers all day, so that visitors could improve their Avante-Gaelic fluency.

Sadly, despite fully costed plans for attractions such as: 'Have a Scone with Chi*rsty Al*ne', 'The Cyclefoot Waxworks', 'Build Your Own Chanter', 'The 3D Midges of Rock 1983 Ghost Train Experience' and the "Caledonian M*cbr*yne 'Toilet on the Sea' Roller Coaster"; Coinneach and CJ have so far been unable to raise the funds necessary to get the project off the ground.

This, strangely, is despite the fact that they've run a Crowdfunding campaign to raise money for An Taigh AGOFR in September of every year since 1964, and received countless grants and loans to do 'feasibility studies' over the years. "Fleek's sake, it's as if they're pocketing all the cash with no intention of actually doing anything with it" said an industry insider yesterday.

When asked to comment, CJ (carrying a big bag with a "£" sign on it) muttered something about "administration overheads" and fleeked off in his Lear Chet.

A Venue for "An Taigh AGOFR" Has Still to be Selected - But Insiders Say It's Between Dead Olac's Sheep Shelter and the Gut Factory

~ An τ-Sultain/September 2022 ~

La na Sàbaid Sun	Òi-Luain Mon	Òi-Màirt Tue	Òi-Ciadaoin Wed	Òi-Àrdaoin Thu	Òi-h-Àoine Fri	Òi-Sathairne Sat
				1 Boxcar Willie's Birthday. Public Holiday (Leurbost)	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Country and Westren fans mourn the 4th Anniversary of Don Williams' Death. National Day of Mourning (Outside the Cattle Grid).	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 David Coverdale's Birthday. A' ghiadh mhor.	22 Autumn Equinox	23	24
25	26	27 Thon Kipper - Day of Atonement for excessive fish smoking (Free Presbyterian)	28	29	30	

An Òamhair / October 2022



45 Years Since Skynyrd's Plane Crash

As we all know, Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Freebird" is the official anthem of Stornoway and by law it has to be the last song played at every gig and disco within the town boundaries (the cattle grids). Skynyrd were liked by everyone - the punks, the skaboyos, Calum Kennedy fans, metal heads, mods and bikers and even those with the cuiream.

The news of Skynyrd's tragic 1977 plane crash in Gillsburg, Mississippi (which only reached Lewis in 1985) brought much wailing and gnashing of teeth across the island.

Prior to the crash, locals had held out hope that it was only a matter of time until Skynyrd actually played in the Outer Hebrides. Indeed it is said that on the fateful night of Oct 20 1977 they were double booked, and had to toss a coin to decide whether to play Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, or a late dance in Shawbost supporting Island Express. Had the coin fallen the other way, they'd have flown with a sensible airline like Loganair and been guided in by Stornoway Air Traffic Control, and the infamous plane crash would most likely neffer have happened.

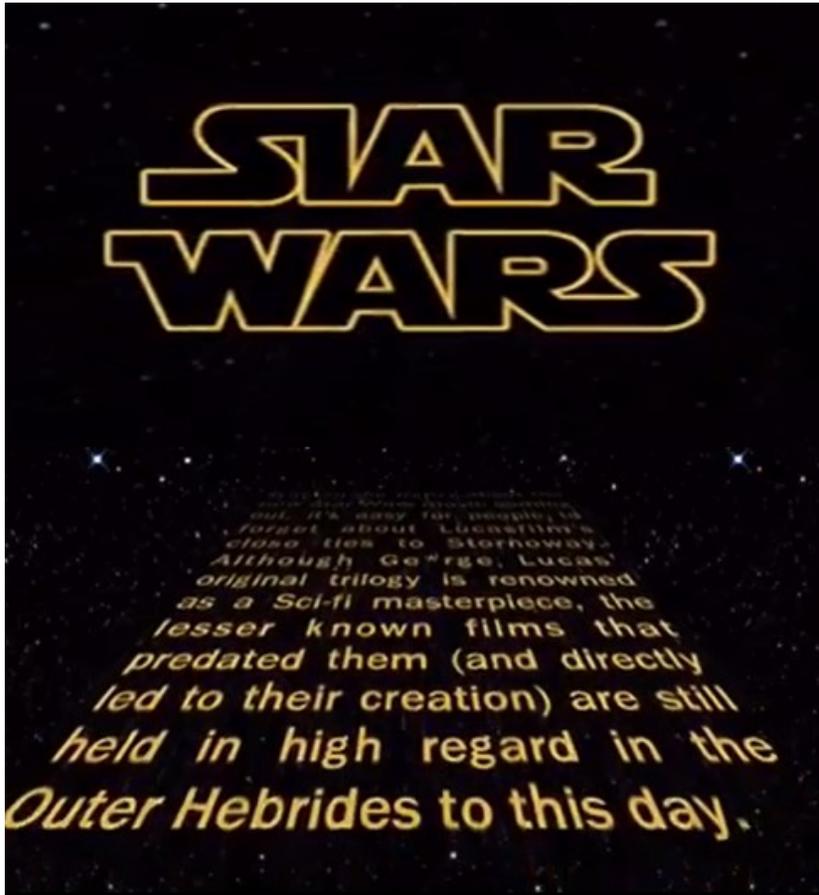
However in other ways it's propaply just as well that Skynyrd didn't visit Lewis. They most likely didn't know Thin Lizzy's "Whiskey in the Jar" or the Eagles' "Take It Easy", and would therefore have fallen foul of the Town's other bye-laws requiring these songs to be played second and third last respectively. This would inevitably have resulted in the good ole boys appearing in disgrace in the court column of the Stornoway Gazette and being sent to Porterfield.

The many AGOFR connections to the Southern boogie legends include Cyclefoot's "Sweet Home Tolsta Chaolais", Bod Strummer & the Dun Guireaneros' "Freechurch", and of course the title of the Guireans' first album.

Sweet Home Ala-Baraòhas: If Lynyrd Skynyrd Had Touched Down Safely in Stornoway (Not Real)

~ Àn Dàmhair/October 2022 ~						
La na Sàbaid Sun	Òi-Luain Mon	Òi-Màirt Tue	Òi-Ciadaoin Wed	Òi-Àrdaoin Thu	Òi-h-Aoine Fri	Òi-Sathairne Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Do you think the fleekeen spuds are going to lift themselves, you lazy bleigeard? You were chust as bad this time last year	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 45 th Anniversary of Skynynrd's Plane Crash – National day of Mourning (Outer Hebrides)	21	22
24	24 United (Denomi)nations Day. Local Presbyterian splinter groups briefly suspend hostilities	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween. 49 th anniversary (propably) of Cailean B*w giving the North St kids 2p then setting the dog on Guireans Manager Coinneach for demanding more.					

An τ-Samhain / November 2022



45th Anniversary of “Star Wars”

Everybody knows that in 2022 it'll be 45 years since George Lucas's "Star Wars" was released. But it's a little known and possibly untrue fact that, while home in Stornoway for the òrduighean in 1976, Lucas nicked all the ideas for his epic space saga (and its countless sequels, prequels and spinoffs) from his big brother B*ll.

The elder Lucas had already developed a concept, plot and characters almost identical to George's 1977 blockbuster.

The only significant difference was that Bill's movie was set on the West Side of Lewis (in space) and was to be entitled "Siar Wars".

Read more about the adventures of Liù Skywalker, Princess Leia Organophosphatesheepdip, Bogie Wan Kenobi, Darth Shader, Mòd Solo and his faithful collie Cù-bacca and many more in the (Made Up) History of Stornoway's scholarly article on the subject here:

<https://stornowayhistory.wordpress.com/2015/12/13/siar-wars/>

The AGOFR connections here are admittedly tenuous, but Sinister Matheson Road Pop Svengali CJ Mitchell's management style is said to have been inspired by Darth Shader.

And corpulent Guireans Manager Coinneach has clearly modelled his image on interglactic master criminal H*bba the Hutt.

The Opening Credits From B*ll Lucas's Original "Star Wars"

- Samhain / November 2022 -						
La na Sàbaid Sun	Òi-Luain Mon	Òi-Màirt Tue	Òi-Ciadam Wed	Òi-Àrdain Thu	Òi-h-Àoine Fri	Òi-Sathairne Sat
		1 4 Days Till Guy Fawkes: Plasterfield and Parkend declare war but decide they'll have it in Sandwick to avoid damage at home.	2 3 Days Till Guy Fawkes: Parkend begins air strikes on East Street, acting against alleged "Plasterfield mercenaries" in the area.	3 2 Days Till Guy Fawkes: Oh fleek.	4 1 Day Till Guy Fawkes: Plasterfield forces cross the North Street border under the pretext of "liberating" tyres that have been "oppressed" by the Sandwick government.	5 Guy Fawkes - Parkend and Plasterfield in flames as usual.
6 Tyre collecting for Guy Fawkes 2022 would begin except it's Sunday	7 Tyre collecting for Guy Fawkes 2022 begins	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Comhairle's Winter 2022/23 Ice Gritting Contract Starts	17 Comhairle's Winter 2022/23 Ice Gritting Contract Runs out of Money	18	19 8th Anniversary of Fr*e Ch*rch allowing hymns and musical instruments. Cl*ff R*chard & Frogaidh Beag to play a special rock n roll prayer meeting in the Seminary. Latha Dorch dha riribh.
20	21	22 43rd Anniversary of the Guireans recording their 1 st album "Pronounced Goo-thans" and inventing AGOFR (maybe).	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 St Andrew's Day. 43 Years since Pink Floyd released "The Wall". (Knocked up in a week after they heard "Pronounced Goo-thans")			

An Dubhlachd / December 2022



Side One:

1. Gunhilted
2. Peatman
3. Take It Easy
4. A Herd Of Sheep
5. Glen Valtos By Night
(It's Alright, It's Alright)

Side Two:

6. Mealisval
7. And The Porpoise?
8. (The) Prawn (In Grassie's Ey
9. Hey Ho Anybody Home?
10. A Tale Of Two Tractors
11. Funky Peatstack

The Band:

Jason - electric and acoustic guitars, drum machine programming, lead and backing microphones.

Robin - keyboards, synthesizers, piano, glockenspiel, backing microphone.

Wattie - bass, lead and backing microphones.

Management:
Iain 'Grassy' McGrath for Hey Presto Management

30 Years of "Vom Your Sproggans"

"It was thirty years ago today, Sergeant Inbhirphefferin taught the band to play" or so they would say if the Dun Ringles came from Dingwall (and if they couldn't spell the Gaelic for "Dingwall"). But they don't.

Yes, indeed, a mere 30 years ago this year, the Dun Ringles taught themselves to play and how to work a Vestax 4 track porta-studio. A Porta-potty might have been cheaper, but the output was much the same.

The Dun Ringles' first album 'Vom Your Sproggans' was largely written in Nov/Dec 1992, although two or three tracks came from the legendary 'Funky Peatstack' sessions from 1991. All the songs were about Stornoway and the Isle of Lewis (more or less) and set the template for all following Dun Ringle albums.

The album cover is notable for Jason spelling the band name wrong, so for the first several years of their existence the band were confusingly known as the 'Dun Ringhills', which undoubtedly led to the band not becoming overnight rock sensations as they should have done.

Note: Track 3 "Take It Easy" isn't the Eagles song of the same name. This caused outrage in the island's substantial "Cove With a Medallion And A Dotchy Tache Who Thinks He's In California in the 70s And Reckons He's Smooth as Fleek" community, leading to the mass burning of copies of "Vom" at the 1993 Parkend gelly).

Vom Your Sproggans - 30 Years Ago.

~ An Òbhlachd / December 2022 ~						
La na Sàbaid Sun	Ì-Ìuain Mon	Ì-Ìairc Tue	Ì-Ìiadin Wed	Ì-Ìardaoin Thu	Ì-Ì-Ìoine Fri	Ì-Ìachuirne Sat
				1	2	3 11 years since Horslips got back together. Public holiday (Wattie's house)
4	5	6	7	8 1980 - Jimmy Petrie stages his own assassination to get out of the Guireans. Unfortunately nobody noticed due to events elsewhere.	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 8 th Anniversary of the death of Kim Jong Il, Dear Leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. National day of Mourning (Point)
18	19	20	21 Winter solstice. Callanish not quite as busy with hippies from Away as it was at the Summer solstice. Fleekeen fairweather freaks.	22 28 th Anniversary of Isles FM. For 24 hours, normal service will be replaced by a special celebratory show: "AJK's Top 1000 Voiceovers 1994-2022"	23	24
25 Xmas. On a Sunday this year. Gaelic service in the Seminary extended by 3 hours as a special treat, (but guaranteed not to include any mention of Xmas).	26 Suas an Fheamainn Day Get down the Braighe to collect your year's supply of rotten seaweed in the middle of a Force 10 gale today.	27	28	29	30	31 Oidche Challuinn (Hogmanay) All festivities to cease at 11:59pm, in time for the Sabbath

AGOFR Agus am Bòrd Stiùradh.

Avante Gaeilic Obscurist Folk Rock (AGOFR): An indigenous form of "music" unique to the Outer Hebrides of Scotland, and perhaps to the island of Lewis. AGOFR is characterised by its myopic and parochial lyrical subjects (sheep, peats, tractors, sgadan, getting the cuiream etc) and by its atrocious standards of performance and recording. It may be sung in Gaeilic, Stornowaywegian (the patois of the capital's street urchins) or in Beurla Taobh Mugh a' Chattle Grid, the pidgin dialect adopted by the natives of the interior when dealing with their urdan betters.

AGOFR was first identified as a musical form around 1979, with seminal artistes such as Zing-Dop and The Guireans appearing independently in town and country. While Zing-Dop, Cyclefoot and most of the other groups of AGOFR's early period imploded in the early 80s, the Guireans are still on the go today when they can be bothered. More recent AGOFR acts include the Dun Ringles, Sheep Purple, Coinneach & CJs Accountants of Rock, The Lechends of AGOFR and Frogaidh Beag..

The industry has struggled on through the 80s, 90s, 00s, 10s and 20s in the face of general apathy and ignorance, both in the wider community and among its own practitioners. However, with the massive EuieTube success of the Lechends of AGOFR's (not the fleekken Dun Ringles) "Àiridh òhruach" performance at Sounds in the Grounds 2009, AGOFR influences finally begin to seep into mainstream culture...

In 2016 the Dun Ringles had an even bigger EuieTube smash with "Stornoway Skyline", and the United States of America elected some fleekken amadan from Tong as its first ever AGOFR President. Then in 2018 rogue unlicensed AGOFR practitioners Deac and Diesel appeared and began their meteoric and continuing (but not in that way) rise to chart-topping superstardom. Now all the top popstars are chumping on the danduaigon. For example, the famous Ariana Grande is opening an elite cosmetic surgery clinic for the rich and ugly at her ancestral shieling out the Pentland Road - It'll be called "Àiridh Na Grannda". And thon Ceard B is investing seriously in scrap òiling and designer fuidheag recycling in the Marybank area. Oh yus, and apparently, Stornowaywegian substitute sweary-word "fleek" is still being used by trendy fashionable types on the mainland - as in "fleek's sake - 'fleek' is really fleekken 'on fleek' again this fleekken year". This follows on from the global adoption of "meh" in recent years, much to the disgust of several local sheep who are considering legal action for infringement of copyright.

Bòrd Stiùradh na h-AGOFR exists to regulate the industry and make sure all this nonsense doesn't get out of hand. We take pride in ensuring that the AGOFR 'music' stays true to its roots by remaining poorly conceived and executed, meaningless to all but a few amadans on a rock in the Atlantic, and unlistenable even to those who make it. We are determined to promote links between AGOFR and other poor quality indigenous musical forms across the globe, and will spare no expense undertaking fact finding missions for this purpose, provided they're somewhere nice and we don't have to go there on the fleekken ferry.

www.guireans.com.