

## Calum Tàillear, Taigh a' Bhealaich

Srathspèidh

**Calum Tàillear, Taigh a' Bhealaich cha bu ghaisgeach faoin e,**  
Calum Taylor of Tayvallich was no idle hero,

**Cha robh air thalamh fear cho ealamh ghearradh casag chaol ris;**

There was not on earth one so smart with a well cut coat;

**Measg nam beannachd a bh' air Calum mearachd bha ri faotainn:**

Amongst the blessings that Calum had, there was a fault to be found:

**B' e siud, a dh' aindeoin bean no balach, ghabhadh Calum daorach**

It was this, that despite wife or son, Calum would get drunk

**Thuirt a' chailleach, 's i ga garadh latha gaillinn Faoillich:**

Said the old woman, in her den on a stormy day in January:

**"Thig an latha ort, a Chalum, bhios an rabhadh daor dhut:**

"Take heed of the day, Calum, let it be a costly warning to you:

**Chan fhaic thu falaig anns an Earrach stad ma mhaireas fraoch dhi,**

You will not see a stop to moor-burning in the spring if there is still heather there,

**Ach nuair a ruigeas i an abhainn, thairis oirr' chan fhaod i!"**

But when it reaches the river it cannot cross over."

**Ghaisgeach** - hero; **faoin** - vain, idle; **thalamh** - Earth; **ealamh** - ready, smart; **ghearradh** - cut; **casag** - long coat; **chaol** - narrow, thin, fine; **ris** - with him; **Measg** - amongst; **beannachd** - blessings; **mearachd** - fault; **faotainn** - finding; **siud** - that; **dh' aindeoin** - despite, even; **bean** - woman, wife; **balach** - boy, son; **ghabhadh** - took; **daorach**; drunk; **Thuirt** - said; **chailleach** - old woman; **garadh** - warming, den; **latha** - day; **gaillinn** - storm; **Faoillich** - January; **rabhadh** - warning; **daor**; dear, expensive; **fhaic** - see; **falaig** - moor-burning; **Earrach** - Spring; **stad** - stop; **mhaireas** - lasts, survives; **fraoch** - heather; **nuair** - when; **ruigeas** - reaches; **abhainn** - river; **thairis** - over;

**The moral of the tale is that that you can only get drunk when you have money to pay for it.**

## A' mhisg a chuir an Nollaig oirnn

Srathspèidh

**'S o a' mhisg a chuir an Nollaig oirnn, cha robh dìth dallaidh oirnn;**

The drunkenness that Christmas brought upon us, was not lacking in making us blind;

**A' mhisg a chuir an Nollaig oirnn, cha chuir i tuilleadh call oirnn.**

The drunkenness that Christmas brought upon us, will do us no more harm,

**A' mhisg a chuir an Nollaig oirnn, cha robh dìth dallaidh oirnn;**

The drunkenness that Christmas brought upon us, was not lacking in making us blind;

**(Bass only) A h-uile latha sona dhut gun aon latha dona dhut**

*Every day happy for you not one day bad for you*

**A' mhisg a chuir an Nollaig oirnn, cha chuir i tuilleadh call oirnn.**

The drunkenness that Christmas brought upon us, will do us no more harm,

**Shaoghail, a shaogh'il duibh cò chuir an dallaidh oirnn?**

World, black world who was it that made us blind drunk?

**(Bass only) A h-uile latha sona dhut gun aon latha dona dhut**

*Every day happy for you not one day bad for you*

**A shaoghail, a shaogh'il duibh cò ghabhadh dall sinn?**

World, black world who could have mislead us?

**A shaoghail, a shaogh'il duibh cò chuir an dallaidh oirnn?**

World, black world who was it that made us blind drunk?

**A' mhisg a chuir an Nollaig oirnn, cha chuir i tuilleadh call oirnn.**

The drunkenness that Christmas brought upon us, will do us no more harm.

**mhisg** - drunkenness; **chuir** - put, did; **Nollaig** - Christmas; **dìth** - lack; **dallaidh** - blinded, blind drunk; **oirnn** - us; **tuilleadh** - more, additional; **call** - loss; **uile** - every; **latha** - day; **sona** - happy; **dhut** - for you; **dona** - bad; **a**

**shaoghail** - world; **duibh** - black; **cò** - who; **ghabhadh** - would take; **dall** - blind, mislead;

**We were certainly drunk at Christmas but it wasn't our fault. Somebody led us on.**

*Every day happy for you not one day bad for you.* This is a common Gaelic salutation.