

Manx Folklore Printables Free Sample

A taste of the Manx folklore packs



FREE

6 PAGES

A4 + US LETTER

READ THE TALE

The Buggane of St Trinian's

A tailor, a wager and a roof

A FOLK TALE · TOLD AS A STORY, NOT AS FACT

Long ago, some monks built a church to St Trinian below Greeba Mountain. But a Buggane lived in the mountain, and he did not want to hear their jingling bells. On the first night the roof was finished, he threw it off. The people put the roof back, and a storm in the night blew it down again.

Then Timothy, a brave little tailor, made a wager: he would spend the first night under the new roof *and* sew a pair of breeches there.

He lit two candles, locked the door and began to sew. Late at night the ground shook, and a huge head with fiery eyes and tusks came up through the floor. "Dost thou see this big head of mine?" roared the Buggane. "I see, I see!" said Tim, and kept sewing.

Up came the shoulders, the arms, the body, the claws and a cloven foot. Each time the Buggane asked, Tim said "I see, I see!" and sewed faster, with longer stitches.

Just as the Buggane pulled up his second foot, Tim finished, leapt through the window and ran for Marown churchyard, where the Buggane could not follow. Behind him the roof crashed down. The furious Buggane tore off his own head and threw it after Tim. It burst at his feet, and the Buggane was never seen again.

The church was never roofed again. It is called **Keeill Vrisht**, which means "Broken Church".



Retold from Sophia Morrison, *Manx Fairy Tales* (1911), "The Buggane of St. Trinian's". Retold in our own words; short quoted lines are Morrison's.

THINK ABOUT IT

The Buggane of St Trinian's: questions

Answer in full sentences

1. Why did the Buggane keep throwing the roof off?

2. What two things did Timothy wager he would do?

3. What did Tim say every time the Buggane asked a question?

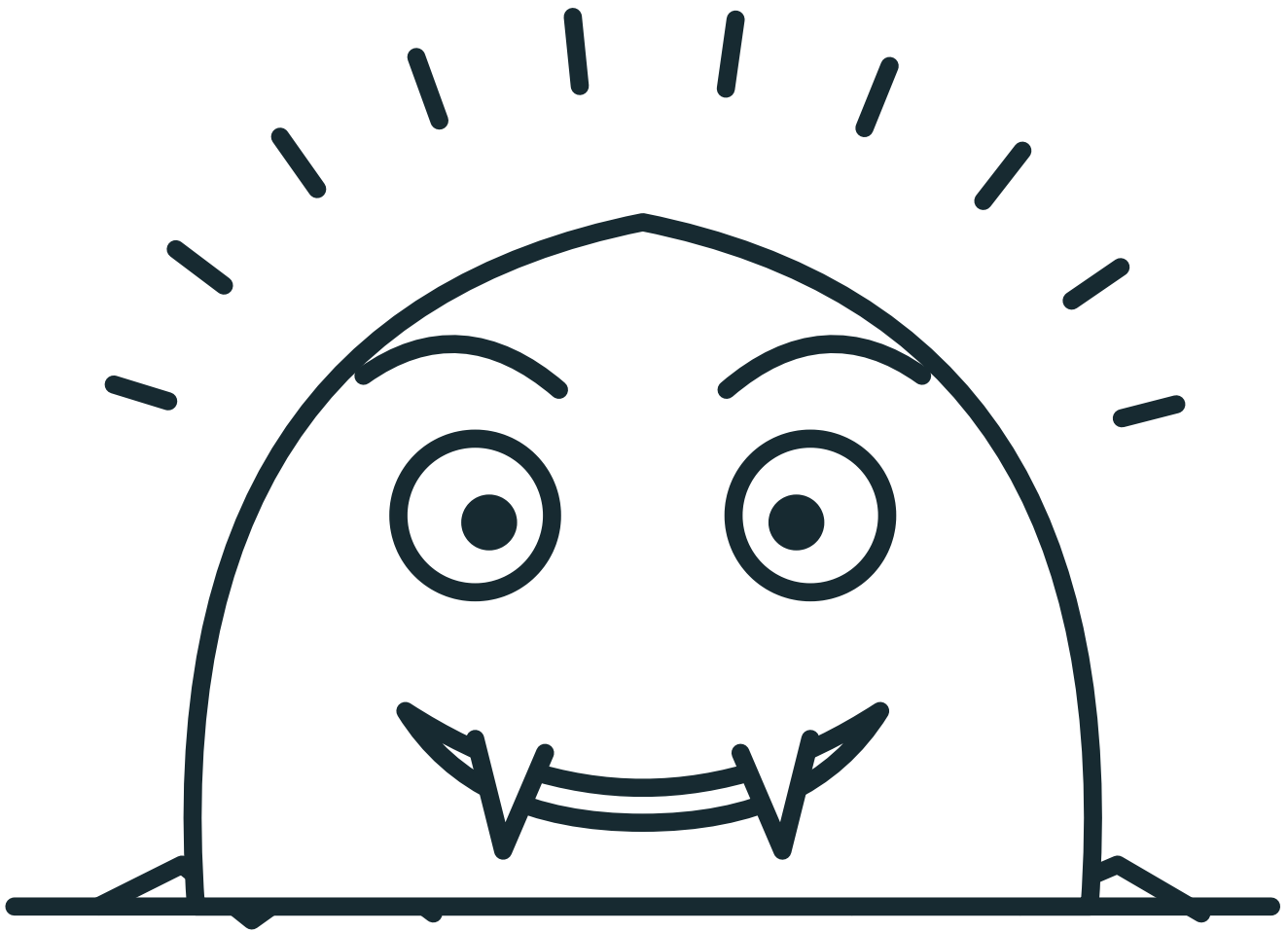
4. Where did Tim run to, and why there?

5. What does "Keeill Vrisht" mean?

COLOUR ME

The Buggane

Colour the Buggane rising up



In the tale: the Buggane rose through the church floor and roared, "Dost thou see this big head of mine?"

ANSWER KEY · FOR ADULTS

Buggane questions

The Buggane of St Trinian's

1. He did not want to hear the church's jingling bells.
2. Spend the first night in the church and make a pair of breeches there.
3. "I see, I see!"
4. Marown churchyard: the Buggane did not have the power to follow him there.
5. Broken Church.

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Credits, licence & help

The small print, kept short

YOUR LICENCE

This free sample is for personal and classroom use. Please share the link to manx.folklore.im rather than the file.

HOW THESE STORIES ARE TOLD

These are **folk tales and beliefs**, retold in our own words. They are not history and not science. Each retelling follows the version printed in Sophia Morrison's *Manx Fairy Tales* (1911); other tellers tell them differently. Where a page states a real-world fact (a date, a custom, a place), it comes from the sources below, checked on 26 October 2026. Short quoted lines and Manx words with their English meanings are taken from Morrison's book.

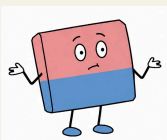
SOURCES

Sophia Morrison, Manx Fairy Tales (London: David Nutt, 1911). Public domain. Read free at Project Gutenberg, eBook #51762
[gutenberg.org/ebooks/51762](https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/51762)

manx.folklore.im reading notes: "The black dog at the gate", "The roof that would not stay on" and "Keep the teller beside the tale"
manx.folklore.im/moddey-dhoo · [/buggane](https://manx.folklore.im/buggane) · [/record-a-story](https://manx.folklore.im/record-a-story)

PICTURES

All drawings, puzzles and layouts are REALLYBYTE's own work. No pictures from any book, museum or website are used.



NEED HELP?

Useless can't help (he's an eraser, and he has been told never to rub out a source), but we can. Problems with your file, or spotted something we should fix? Email **info@reallybyte.com**.

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