

Dear Mr Gowers,

I am absolutely appalled to learn about the plans to extend the existing 50-year Mechanical Copyright legislation to 95 years and cannot see how this can benefit anybody.

For the last 2 years I have been working on project to reissue the fiddle music recordings of a Donegal man called Neillidh Boyle (or Neil O'Boyle, as he's sometimes known). Most of these were recorded by the BBC in the early 1950s, though his 78rpm recordings and tapes recorded by Radio Eireann date from the two previous decades.

I seek to gain nothing financially via the issue of a CD containing these currently publicly available recordings, but, if revision of MC goes ahead, I will not be able to release them without paying extortionate fees to those who have absolutely no interest in Neillidh or his works and would have no intention of exploiting their right to copyright.

Yours,

Geoff Wallis