

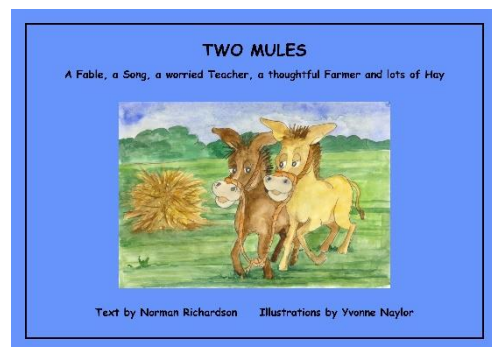
THE CO-OPERATION SONG

A Companion to the Recording

We hope that you will enjoy this new recording of **The Co-operation Song** which has been specially made to accompany the publication of the **Two Mules** book.

The song was written in the late 1980s to support cross-community inter-school workshops on conflict and diversity as part of the Northern Ireland Quaker Peace Education Project. Based on the well-known Quaker poster of *The Fable of the Two Mules: Co-operation is better than Conflict*, it tells the story of how the mules eventually learned how to co-operate, because “working together is smart”! (A previous recording of the song was made in the late 1990s by the BBC for their “One Potato, Two Potato” schools programme, using children from two schools in Strabane.)

The book, **Two Mules**, based on the song, with illustrations by Yvonne Naylor, was published in the early summer of 2022 and this version of the song was recorded around the same time. Children from two Belfast primary schools, Glenwood and Holy Cross Boys, had been working separately and together in an encounter programme with the support of staff from CRIS (Community Relations in Schools) and learning their parts of the song. They came together again at



the end of June to record in the Music Recital Room of Stranmillis University College, Belfast. Special thanks are due to the teachers from both schools (Glen Willis and Orla Cromar-Brooks) and to Lisa Dietrich and the staff of CRIS for their time and enthusiastic support in this project. Grateful thanks also to those listed below who contributed in various ways to the recording.

RECORDING CREDITS

Refrains sung by P7 pupils from **Holy Cross Boys'** and **Glenwood Primary Schools**.

"It's a most important lesson ..." vocals by **Charlie McClelland**.

Instrumental Accompaniment:

Guitar: **Roger Courtney**.

Flutes: **Jessica Bailie*** & **Adam McGrath***

Clarinet: **Nadia Whitten***

'Cello: **Adam Crutchley***

* Student teachers at Stranmillis University College, Belfast

Words & music and narrative vocals by **Norman Richardson**.

Recorded in June and August 2022 by **George Sloan** at Half Bap Studios, Belfast and at Stranmillis University College.

Mastered by **Joel Harkin** of Aye, Sound Mastering, Belfast.

Digital sheet music copies of *The Co-operation Song* are available online at www.corrymeela.org/resources/two-mules, or in hard copy from <https://www.enelarmusic.com/>.