

KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU MANX MUSIC TODAY

February
2009



THE FESTIVAL SEASON'S APPROACHING!



With Easter in sight, Manx Music and Dance groups are getting themselves in shape for upcoming festivals. Two of the main festivals that are looming are **Cwlwm Celtaidd**, the Celtic Festival of Wales, which takes place in Porthcawl (26-29 March) and **Shennaghys Jiu** Celtic Youth Festival based in Ramsey (3-6 April).

Both festivals will feature top Manx acts alongside established and rising stars of the Celtic world. Cwlwm Celtaidd is fast establishing itself as one of the friendliest festivals committed to providing the total Celtic experience. Perree Bane and the Mollag Band are now regular performers at the festival, with newcomers The Reeling Stones appearing alongside fellow Manxies on the bill. Festival organisers hope that this, the 8th year of the festival, will be one of the best. All in all, the festival, situated on the seafront in South Wales' beautiful Heritage Coast, promises to be a great family weekend. To book tickets and check out accommodation, see www.cwlwmceltaidd.com or phone the Festival Office 01656 766667.

A little closer to home, Shennaghys Jiu's focus is on providing a non-competitive environment for young performers from the Island, with guest musicians from other Celtic countries. The festival's ethos means that a wealth of young talent from the Island's schools are given the opportunity to perform alongside more established musicians and dancers. Visiting groups are an important part of this process. This year, an uilleann piper and guitarist from County Mayo have been promised - more news as it happens on the SJ website: www.shennaghys.org

CWLWM CELTAIDD

THE CELTIC FESTIVAL OF WALES
 March 26-29 Mawrth 2009
 Grand Pavilion & Coney Beach, Porthcawl

Specialist live acts performing from Thursday to Sunday at the Grand Pavilion & Coney Beach Complex
 MABON, THE MOLLAG BAND, GWELLOCH, CALAN, RACHEL HAIR,
 THE MIDDEN, COLUM REGAN, GERRY NASH, HARRIET EARIS TRIO,
 BRIGYN, GWYNETH GLYN, ONE STRING LOOSE, REELIN' STONES,
 PETE BERRYMAN, CITY OF NEWCASTLE PIPERS, ALLAN YN Y FAN,
 PERREE BANE MANX DANCERS, CHRISTINE WILSON DANCERS,
 TRIBAN, RIL NA RL, DAWNSWYR PENYFAL, DAWNSWYR TAWERIN

RED HOT CHILLI PIPERS
 Winners of BBC One prime-time show 'When Will I Be Famous?'
 See the hottest show around at the Grand Pavilion.
 Thursday 26th March

- NON-STOP CONCERTS, CELLS, WORKSHOPS AND MUSIC SESSIONS ALL WEEKEND!
 - THREE OF WALES' FINEST BANDS SATURDAY NIGHT WITH MABON, CALAN &
 AILEAN YN Y FAN, FOLLOWED BY BRETON FEST NOZ WITH GWELLOCH
 NEW! THE PARADE OF THE CELTS, SATURDAY ON JOHN STREET, PORTHCRAWL.
 NEW! CELTIC CRAFT MARKET ALL WEEKEND AT CONEY BEACH
 - 10% FESTIVAL DISCOUNT ON MOBILE HOMES AT TRECCO BAY

Gŵyl Celtaidd Cymru
Buy tickets at the Grand Pavilion - Box Office: 01656 813995. For more information
 including artists & programming contact the Festival Office: Tel: 01656 766667
 with support from BCC and Cymru (see logo)

~ SESSIONS ~

THURS 9pm Singing session at The Brit, Ramsey

FRI 8pm Tynwald Inn, St. Johns

FRI 9pm Irish at The Mitre, Ramsey

Last FRI of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary

SAT 10pm Manx at The White House, Peel **SUN** 4pm Irish at the Traf, Douglas

BREE FIDDLE WORKSHOP

SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2009

PHILIP CHRISTIAN CENTRE, PEEL

On the first Saturday of the Spring half term, Bree will be holding a special workshop for young fiddle players. This event is open to current Bree participants and to other violinists in school years 6 to 11 who are interested in learning about traditional music.

One of Bree's expert tutors, Katie Lawrence, will be leading the fiddle workshop on Saturday 21st February at the Philip Christian Centre in Peel. Katie is a primary school teacher who also teaches fiddle and piano, and she has an MA in traditional music performance from the University of Limerick. She has performed Manx music from an early age and with her sister Kirsty on whistle, 'cello and piano, released a CD of traditional and original material called 'Three Baatyn Beggey' in 2006. She also plays with local folk-rock band The Ballaghs and Celtic group Sheear.

During the one-day fiddle workshop the students will explore traditional playing techniques using Manx music (including some of Katie's own tunes) and work on harmonies and arrangements to perform as a string ensemble. As a first event of its kind in the Isle of Man, Bree hopes that this fiddle ensemble may continue as an off-shoot of the umbrella group.



The workshop starts at 10am and concludes with a concert for family and friends at 3pm. The event is free of charge but students must register with Bree co-ordinator Chloë Woolley in advance (**form at end of newsletter**) and bring their own violin (i.e. fiddle!), music stand, *Kiaull yn Theay* books*, packed lunch and refreshments for the day. Under 16s must bring written permission from parents/guardians if they need to leave the building during the day.

Bree was established by the Manx Heritage Foundation in 2006 as an umbrella group of young musicians, singers and dancers interested in performing the Island's traditional music and using Manx Gaelic. It is currently open to secondary school age musicians but organisers hope to soon bridge the gap between primary and secondary education by including year 6 musicians. Since its inception, Bree members have met once a year for a weekend of educational workshops led by local Manx musicians, once a month for the informal music session currently based at Green's restaurant in Douglas and for other performances at community and charity events. New members are welcome to join the group at any time throughout the year and should contact Chloë or Breesha for more details.

See: www.manxheritage.org/bree and www.myspace.com/breemanx

** Kiaull yn Theay 1 & 2 are the 'yellow' and 'red' Manx music books produced by Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh. They are available for around £3 each at most Manx National Heritage Shops and all good bookshops.*



WANTED...

MUSICIANS, COMPOSERS & SONG-WRITERS

A number of events and competitions are coming up which need Manx groups and performers:

Nos Ur Song Competition

If you've got a new song in Manx in a new style, then the deadline for entries in the Celtic and Scots competition is 28 February 2009.

The song competition acts as the regional round for the Liet-Lavlut European minority languages song contest which is a fabulous, televised event and a great opportunity to meet musicians working in other minority language situations.

More details online at: <http://www.nos-ur.eu/>

Jurby Fun Day

Julie King, who works for the Children's Centre based at Jurby Community House, is arranging a fun day on 1 August at Jurby Parish Hall. She would love to include some Manx music in the event if any bands are free? All monies raised go towards the running of the Community House (charity run). Please email her if you can help: julieking@iomcc.org.im

Kiaull Oor night at Yn Chruinnaght 2009

Yn Chruinnaght's Inter-Celtic Festival Committee has come up with the idea of an evening of new music to replace the adult competitions, which seem to have fallen out of favour in recent years. The festival is keen not to lose one of the best aspects of the competitions - the generation of new material. If you have some new tunes or songs and would like to share them with the world in an informal concert during the festival week, then now is the time to start thinking about putting together some sets. The festival's looking for new sets which have never been aired before. Contact Breesha on mhfmusic@mhf.org.im to book a place in the running order.

NEWS OF MANX MUSIC AROUND THE WORLD

Ballaugh-based musician and conductor, Paul Dunderdale is well-known for leading the IOM Wind Orchestra in its successes both on and off the Island. What hasn't been quite as well known up until now is what a talented composer he is. A former teacher at Castke Rushen High School and Ramsey Grammar, his music for school plays and arrangements for various bands and ensembles was always beautifully and cleverly written.

Whilst at CRHS, Paul started work on what came to be known as the 'Manannan' suite. Written for wind orchestra and based on Manx folksongs, the suite has been compared to Holst's writing. Popular with band members and audiences alike, Manannan has finally been published and is available for online purchase at:

www.bandleader.biz/showItems.php?subType=W3
(CATALOGUE NO.: BPW3037, £45.00)

Caarjyn Cooijagh choir has featured on BBC Radio 3's 'The Choir' programme, presented by Aled Jones. In a programme dedicated to West Gallery music, 'The Fall of Babylon' from The Promised Land was used.

Valerie Caine has had more success with her freelance journalism, this time securing an article on the visit of Newfoundland's Celtic Fiddlers to Yn Chruinnaght 2008. The Canadian journal is called *Celtic Life* and aims to bring readers in touch with their Celtic heritage. www.celtic-life.ca

Congratulations to Manx singer Emma Christian and Steve Coren, who got married last month!



Fiona McArdle awarded Yn Gliggyr for contribution to Manx culture

The annual Oie'll Verree at Kirk Michael's Ebenezer Hall was alive with Manx music and dancing on Monday 5 January. With performances from Bock Yuan Fannee and Cliogaree Twoaie, J J Kneen's dialect play 'L'il Smook' was well framed.

KMJ was delighted to hear that Fiona McArdle had been awarded Yn Gliggyr, the annual award for a contribution to Manx culture in Michael.

Fiona has worked tirelessly for the promotion of Manx language, music, dance and culture, since she came to the Island.

The leader of Bock Yuan Fannee dance group, she is in charge of teaching both adults and children. She sings in Manx Gaelic both as a soloist and as a member of Cliogaree Twoaie and has represented the Island at the Pan-Celtic Song Contest and at the Colmcille festival in Ireland. She is the Manx delegate for the Pan-Celtic Festival, organising the participation of Manx groups. For years, she was a hard-working volunteer on the committee of Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic festival.

Fiona is still very active on the Manx scene, organising the annual Cruinnaght Aeg competitions for Manx music, song, dance and recitation – an important part of celebrating Manx culture within the schools.



*Moylley as
soylley
dhyts, Fiona!*

*Fiona in action
teaching Manx dance
at Feile Cholmcille
in Co. Donegal*



Robin Gibb's Ellan Vannin video interview

Last month's KMJ brought news of the downloads available online for Robin Gibb's charity single 'Ellan Vannin'. A video interview is also available online:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/7815971.stm

RESEARCH NEWS

Two research seminars from the University of Liverpool's Centre for Manx Studies concentrate on different aspects of Manx music. In a change to the originally advertised schedule, Valerie Kinrade will talk about the life and work of Harry Wood on 3 February and Laura Payne will share her thoughts on the work of an ethnomusicologist on 17 February. Both seminars are by PhD students studying at CMS and will take place on Tuesdays at 6pm at the IOM College, Rm K217.

Student of the Liszt Academy in Hungary, Christa McCartney, gave an inspiring update on her research to KMJ and CMS research students last month. Christa is currently studying for an MA, work for which has applied Kodaly's rules of analysis and application to Manx folksongs and tunes - we look forward to the results!

George Broderick has re-published a version of his work on Mona Douglas' contribution to Manx folk song, this time in *Bealoideas*.

Transcription of the month see www.manxheritagemusic.org for more printable pieces of Manx music

Willie Clague Jig

adapted to jig time from W H Gill's Willie Clague (march) by BCM



So last month we had the Willie Clague song by W H Gill. Well, messing around with tunes is sometimes necessary in order to take them back into the session... this is one of the results. If you've got any tunes or songs which you'd like to share with KMJ readers, please send them in to Breesha on: mhfmusic@mhf.org.im or at the address at the end of the newsletter - all formats are welcome.

CALENDAR

February

3rd CMS research seminar by Valerie Kinrade on the music of Harry Wood, IOM College, 6pm FREE

7th Southern Befrienders Ceilidh with Calor Gas Ceilidh Band and Perree Bane dancers (and fancy dress!), Rushen Primary School, £5 including supper (under 16s free). Phone 833025 or 468053 for tickets.

13th: Western Live at Home Ceilidh with the Calor Gas, Corrin Hall Peel. 7:30pm. Tickets in advance £7.50/£2.50. Contact Fran on 803012, or email westernlah@manx.net

14th Bree youth trad music session, Green's, Douglas, 3-4.30pm.

17th CMS research seminar by Laura Payne on the ethnomusicological approach, IOM College, 6pm FREE

21st BREE fiddle school (see newsletter for details) - workshop concert at 3pm FREE

21st RADIUS - depression awareness concert, featuring artists including Paul Rogers and Matt Kelly (guitars & mandolin), Centenary Centre, Peel, 7.30pm £3

March

14th Bree music session, Green's Douglas, 3-4.30pm.

26th-29th Perree Bane, the Mollag Band & The Reeling Stones at Cwlwm Celtaidd, Porthcawl (see newsletter for details).

Please send in any dates for the months ahead so that we can publicise events here and on various Manx music & dance websites.



manx heritage foundation

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For info on Manx music & dance contact:

Breesha Maddrell: mhfmusic@mhf.org.im

Chloë Woolley: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im

See: www.manxheritage.org or

www.manxheritagemusic.org

Call: 01624 695159

or write to: MHF Music Team

Centre for Manx Studies,

6 Kingswood Grove, Douglas,

Isle of Man, IM1 3LX



Bree Manx Fiddle Workshop

with Katie Lawrence*

For young players (school years 6 – 11)



Learn traditional fiddle techniques, new tunes
& play as an ensemble

Saturday 21 February 2009
10am – 3.30pm
Philip Christian Centre
 Derby Road, Peel (behind the Town Hall opposite Cathedral)
Free of charge but places are limited - book soon!

Students must:

- be in school years 6 – 11 (GCSE)
- bring own instrument, music stand and *Kiaull yn Theay* books 1 & 2 (if possible)
- bring own drinks, snacks and packed lunch
- bring written permission from parents if you need to leave the building during the day



A short concert for family and friends will take place at the end of the workshops
3pm - Philip Christian Centre

*Bree tutor Katie Lawrence is an experienced performer of traditional music and a qualified teacher.

BREE MANX FIDDLE WORKSHOP 21 Feb 2009
Application Form

Name of Student.....
 School School Year
 Address.....

 Contact tel. no/s. of parent/guardian

 Email

How long have you played the violin (fiddle)?

Have you passed any grade exams? **Yes/No**
 If so, specify grade/level... ..
 Have you played Manx music before? **Yes/No**
 Do you perform in a folk music or dance group
 in or out of school (excluding Bree)? **Yes/No**
 If so, which groups?

** Photos may be taken during the workshop
 and used for future promotional use.
 Parents – **please sign here** if you **object** to
 your child appearing in photographs:*



Please return this application form by Monday 16 February to:
 Dr. C. Woolley, Manx Music Specialist,
 Centre for Manx Studies, 6 Kingswood Grove, Douglas IM1 3LX
For more information:
 email manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im or tel. 695159/404455