

KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU

MANX MUSIC TODAY

Mayrnt 2020 March

MANX MUSIC TODAY

KMJ CONTRIBUTOR AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS PRIZE - STEPHEN MILLER RBV

Stephen Miller's scholarship and dedication to Manx folklore and culture over many decades are recognised in the award of the Reih Bleeaney Vanannan this year.

A dedicated researcher into Manx folklore, folksong, and folk dance, as well as the figures and collectors involved with the Celtic revival, Stephen's time, energy and expertise working on precious archives in the Manx Museum and beyond for over forty years have resulted in an extremely impressive body of work in the field of Manx and Celtic Studies which he continues to share freely online, in print and in person.

An early adopter of technology, Stephen's work has been made available to others on his Chiollagh Books website, by monthly contribution of his research to the Kiaull Manninagh Jiu Manx Music and Dance Newsletter, within the Ballaugh Heritage Trust newsletter, as well as through his own publications and public talks. He remains someone determined to tease remarkable stories relating to Manx cultural and social history out of the archives in order to bring life to some of the key characters who have shaped our Island, to understand what their focus was in terms of collecting, recording or promoting Manx culture, and to share his findings with other researchers.

Stephen grew up in the Island, attending Douglas High School for Boys, and went on to gain a BA in History and an MA in Folk Life Studies from the University of Leeds. Much of his working life was spent attached to various universities, and he has lectured on folklore and folk life. Most recently, his work has taken him to Austria, where he worked at the Austrian Academy of Sciences on the Austrian Academy Corpus as well as teaching at the University of Vienna.

In spite of being based away from the Island, he has been a frequent visitor, collecting oral history reminiscences from people during some trips, walking the hills during others, but, in the main, camping out in the national archives held by Manx National Heritage, painstakingly transcribing, collating and generally making sense of old letters, notebooks and other collected papers.

His interest in Manx folklore encouraged him to transcribe and re-print such important works as William Cashen's Manx Folk-Lore and John Rhys's Manx Folklore and Superstitions, keeping important texts accessible to new audiences. His transcriptions of letters and documents, his tracing of informants

***In this month's edition...***

- *Shennaghys Jiu line-up*
- *Thurot as Elliot song*
- *YC Celtic Gathering launched*

Culture
VANNIN

and collectors through census material, all of this work has helped a better understanding of the work of various waves of Manx antiquarian and cultural revival and interest.

2020 marks the 25th anniversary of Stephen's Chiollagh Books website making it one of the longest running websites in the field of Celtic Studies. As well as works mentioned above, the series also includes reprints of Clague's Manx Reminiscences, Roeder's Manx Notes and Queries, Skeealyn Cheeil-Chiollee: Manx Folk Tales, as well as two editions of Mona Douglas' Collected Writings on Manx Folk Dance and Song. The Manx Notes series on the website now stands at an impressive 410 entries.

Stephen is interested in folklore and digitisation within an international context, too, and his research interests extend beyond the Isle of Man to include other figures in the Celtic Revival, as well as Scottish folklorists such as the Reverend Walter Gregor. His research has been published in national and international journals such as Béaloideas, Béascna, Folklore, Folk Music Journal, Isle of Man Studies, Northern Scotland, Proceedings of the Isle of Man Natural History and Antiquarian Society, Review of Scottish Culture, Studia Japonica Celtica, Zeitschrift für celtische Philologie, among others. Stephen has been invited to share his research at prestigious institutions such as Cecil Sharpe House in London.

Nominations for the award singled out his 2019 collaboration with Culture Vannin on the production of 'a beautiful edition of Karl Roeder's Manx Notes & Queries, Ghosts, Bugganes & Fairy Pigs', which they described as 'his most sumptuous offering so far.' 'It's fascinating and addictive', commented one proposer, 'his knowledge of the material is acknowledged as second to none', noted another.

Stephen was presented with a medal and a cheque, and named Mooinjer Veggey as his chosen Manx cultural cause for the additional donation. For the first time, a certificate designed by Julia Ashby-Smyth was also presented, depicting Manannan with his flowing cloak, staff and Eric Austwick-inspired headdress, mirroring the design of the trophy beautifully.

The selection panel, comprising representatives from Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh, Yn Chruinnaght, Manx National Heritage, IOM Arts Council and Culture Vannin, was delighted to name Stephen Miller 'Manannan's Choice of the Year' in recognition of his research into Manx folklore, music and dance and its collection. Without his research and, most importantly, his generosity in sharing what he finds, Manx Studies and Manx culture would not be the same today.

More information:

www.culturevannin.im

www.chiollaghbooks.com

On behalf of all the KMJ readers around the world - huge congratulations to Stephen Miller RBV!!

Braaid Eisteddford ~ Sat, 7th March, 7.30pm

Get involved in the 71st Braaid Eisteddford, Braaid Hall.

Newcomers welcome!! Competitions include:

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Hymn Raising – Laurie Kelly Cup | 8. Quiz |
| 2. Recitation - to be performed from memory | 9. Folk Song |
| 3. Mens' Solo | 10. Duet |
| 4. Instrumental Solo | 11. Humorous Story |
| 5. Stump Speech | 12. Quartet |
| 6. Ladies' Solo – Sue Howe Cup | 14. Choir |
| 7. Original Poem – John Kennaugh Cup | |



FREE FAMILY ACTIVITIES, sign up taster sessions, community art projects, discover societies & teachers!!

North Arts Hub - Saturday 14th March

11am – 4pm, St Paul's Hall, Ramsey

- Come and join John Dog Callister in making a giant basket using traditional crafting skills!

Interactive information stalls from:

Swing in the Isle, Shennaghys Jiu Celtic Festival, Ramsey Choral Society, Ny Fennee Manx dance group, Cloideryn drama group, Sing Up!, Tantaran Manx Lessons, Northern Writers' Group, Bree Manx youth music group, Secret Stitch Society, Penny Productions, Ramsey Music Society, Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering, Jurby Northern Community Initiative, Mooinjey Veggey, Sharon Rye Dance School, Northern Writers' Group, Oie Voaldyn Manx May Festival, The Summer Singers, Manx Qi Gong, Culture Vannin, the Isle of Man Arts Council and more.

~ Refreshments available from Café St Paulo ~

Free Taster Sessions in St Paul's Hall

More info and sign up here:

www.visitisleofman.com/experience/whats-on/on-your-doorstep

11:00 AM Tantaran Manx Lesson

Enjoy a taster lesson in Manx Gaelic for beginners with Ramsey based teacher, Paul Salmon.

1:00PM Penny Productions

Storytelling and poetry from some of the Island's most dynamic and original performers.

2:00 PM Cloideryn drama workshop

Mini performance and the chance to be in the next panto or play!

2:00 PM Bree workshop / cafe area [10 places]

Bring your instrument and join other young musicians (10-16) and learn a Manx tune or two

3:00 PM Swing in the Isle

Join the latest dance craze, and get in the swing for some Lindy Bop!

West Arts Hub Saturday 14th March

Corrin Hall & Centenary Centre, Peel, 11am – 4pm

Come and join Kate from Artreach Studios to produce a large piece of community art!

- Interactive information stalls from:

Corrin Hall: Cathedral Isle of Man, Momma Moon's Murals, St German's Handbells, Mannic Ukers, Celtic Congress, Culture Vannin, Cathedral Choristers, Gena's Dance Academy, Event Management Solutions, Knockaloe Internment Camp, Artreach IOM Studios, tours of the Cathedral grounds, the IOM Symphony Orchestra, Peel Youth Club, Culture Vannin, Peel Carnival, the Isle of Man Arts Council and more.

Refreshments available from Cathedral IOM cafe

Atholl Room, Centenary Centre: Peel Heritage Trust, Our Island Our World, Friends of the Centenary Centre, Films in Peel.

Free Taster Sessions in the Atholl Room, Centenary Centre

12:00 PM Manx lesson

Enjoy a taster lesson in Manx Gaelic for beginners with Culture Vannin's Adrian Cain.

2:00 PM Beginner's Tin Whistle Lesson

Manx tin whistle crash course for absolute beginners. Bring your own whistle [D] or purchase one on the day from the teacher, Dr Breesha Maddrell.

3:00 PM Cliogaree Twoaie Gaelic choir

Join conductor Clare Kilgallon & members of Cliogaree Twoaie for a sing-along in Manx Gaelic.

South Arts Hub - Saturday 14th March

11am – 4pm, Civic Centre, Castletown

- Come and join Debra Tracey in creating a collaborative community art piece!

- Interactive information stalls from:

The Creative Network, Isle of Man Art Society, Southern Photographic Society, Storytellers Isle of Man, Creativity at the Hub, Mann's Footprints – Post Cards from the Future, Perree Bane, Culture Vannin, the Isle of Man Arts Council and more.

Free Taster Sessions in the Civic Centre

3:00 PM Perree Bane Manx dancing

East Arts Hub - Sunday 15th March

11am – 4pm, Villa Arcade, Douglas

- Come and join Janet Lees in creating a collaborative poetry piece!

- Interactive information stalls from:

Isle of Man Art Society, Isle of Man Poetry Society, The Manx Bard Project, Manx Litfest, Poetry Unlimited, Storytelling Isle of Man, Douglas Town Band, Isle of Man Wind Orchestra, Isle of Man Government Choir, Crafternoon Tea, The Flower Studio, Wearable Art, B*tchcraft: Feminist Craft Club, U3A Isle of Man, Laxey and Lonan Heritage Trust, Ellan Vannin Pipes and Drums, Oie Voaldyn Festival, Isle of Man Trad Music Weekend, Culture Vannin, the Isle of Man Arts Council and more.

Free Taster Sessions in the Villa Arcade

11:00 AM Bellydancing with Gwenaël LaSirène

Known for her graceful and mesmerising performances, Gwenaël LaSirène offers to introduce you to the art of Bellydance. Far from the clichés, bellydance mixes artistry and core work out, with the added bonus of suiting all shapes and ages.

12:00 PM Irish Traditional Music Session

1:00 PM Douglas Floral Art Demonstration

2:00 PM Scrán demo/audition

If you're a talented musician aged 13-18, come and try out for one of the Island's top young folk bands!



The Manx Year

A night of music, song, poetry, dance & drama

Saturday 14th March, 7.30pm
Peel Centenary Centre

Featuring:

Caarjyn Cooijagh / Ruth Keggin
Perree Bane / Greg Joughin / Annie Kissack
Manx harpists / The White Boys
& more

Tickets only £5

Available from Culture Vannin or Celtic Gold or www.centenarycentre.com



Organised by Culture Vannin as part of On Your Doorstep – One Big Weekend

"On Your Doorstep ~ Local music night series"

Groups and soloists are being invited to perform in a new series of local music nights, organised by Peter from Event Management Solutions. He's keen to take Manx culture to community venues around the Island, and has 4 dates in mind. If you'd like to perform at one (or more) of these, please contact

peter@eventsolutionsiom.com

Ballasalla 24th April ~ Ballasalla Village Hall, Mill Road
Castletown 29th May ~ venue to be confirmed
Sulby 26th June ~ Sulby Village Hall TBC
Douglas 31st July ~ venue TBC





SHENNAGHYS JIU CELTIC FESTIVAL

3rd - 5th April

Ceilis, concerts, workshops, art
exhibition & sessions

Ramsey & Peel

www.facebook.com/shennaghys/

<http://shennaghysjiu.com>

We are delighted to welcome visitors:

Project Smok - Scotland

Xosé Liz Trio - Galicia

The Brim - Cornwall

The Echoes is Killarney - Ireland

Greta Curtin - Ireland

Beccy J Hurst - Isle of Man

Heather Ln - Scotland



SHENNAGHYS JIU
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
CORLETT'S
PRESENTS...
A CELTIC MUSIC SHOWCASE

2020
PEEL, ISLE OF MAN

SCRAN

XOSÉ LIZ TRIO

PROJECT SMOK

PEEL CENTENARY CENTRE
SUNDAY 5TH APRIL - 3PM

TICKETS £10 AVAILABLE FROM CELTIC GOLD (PEEL),
SHAKTI MAN (RAMSEY), ONLINE AT WWW.CENTENARYCENTRE.COM
OR ON THE DOOR (UNLESS SOLD OUT).

WWW.SHENNAGHYSJIU.COM
WWW.CENTENARYCENTRE.COM

Culture VANNIN

Performing alongside our visitors will
be many of our brilliant local acts,
including:

Ny Fennee

Skeddan Jiarg

Adam Paul Jon Melvin

Sharon Rachel Rye School of Dance

Jeff Jepson

Mark Lawrence

Clarsach Twooaie

Share Na Veg

Dhoon School



Celtic Communion service
Wednesday 18th March 7.30 pm
Ballabeg Methodist Church

Including material from the Iona and Northumbria communities, Ireland and the Isle of Man, and the service setting composed by Annie Kissack

Music led by Caarjyn Cooidjagh
 Organist Gareth Moore

Singing the Island

Voices of the Fire

Singing Workshops

Come and Celebrate the Spring Equinox
 Cormið-Traa-Aree

facilitator
John Bowker

John Bowker is well known for his friendly light hearted style, his finely crafted songs and his ability to lead a group into magical places.

A Feast of Harmonies; 5 Singing Workshops in a Clockwise Spiral Around the Island

Explore powerful, beautiful African, Celtic, Gospel and Rainforest chants

Fri. Eve. **20th March** 7.00pm to 9.30pm **Peel** Masonic Hall £10.

Sat. Aft **21st March** 2.00pm to 5.30pm **Ramsey** Masonic Hall £15.

Sat. Eve. 7.00pm to 9.30pm **Kensington Arts Centre Douglas** £10.

Sun. Aft. **22nd March** 2.00pm to 5.30pm **Colby Bridge Church Hall** £15.

Sun. Eve. 7.00pm to 9.30pm **St Johns Church Hall Tynwald Hill** £10.

Each workshop will have different songs (go for all price £45)

Absolute Beginners Welcome, no experience needed, Age 14+

All learning will be listen and copy. No need to book, but please come on time.

Info: facebook pages: Oie Voaldyn (or) the Heartsong Project Mobile: 481814



MANX MAY DAY AND EVENING FIRE FESTIVAL

Saturday 2nd May 2020

Peel Beach & Promenade

2.00pm - Music & Food / Viking Games
 8.45pm - Fire Show • 10.00pm - Fireworks

FREE EVENT - SUITABLE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



Aundryyn Kiaull-Theay Vannin 2020

Manx Folk Awards 2020

Douglas & St Johns

Sunday 29th March - Thursday 2nd April

www.manxmusic.com/news_story_612071.html



Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering has just launched its 43rd festival and festival passes are now on sale.

Running from Monday 20th to Sunday 26th July, the Peel-based festival has another amazing line-up of visiting music and dance acts from the neighbouring Celtic countries, as well as plenty of home-grown talent.

Highlights for this year include the return of one of Scotland's top Celtic bands, Deaf Shepherd, who already have a strong link to the Isle of Man, as their bouzouki player, Malcolm Stitt lives in Peel. Deaf Shepherd played at the festival back in 2008 and after a long hiatus, the group reunited last year to celebrate their 25th anniversary with a sell-out gig at Celtic Connections festival in Glasgow. With duelling fiddles, bagpipes, bouzouki, virtuoso bodhran solos and songs in the Scots language, this exclusive gig with Deaf Shepherd is not to be missed.

Likewise, a concert with 'BBC Radio Two Musician of the Year' (2012) Tim Edey will be a rare opportunity to hear one of the world's finest melodeon and folk guitar players. Specialising in Irish music, Tim will be playing at opening night of the concert series at the Centenary Centre.

One of the main evening concerts will be the premiere of a new work by young Manx fiddle player Isla Callister, who is in her final year studying traditional music at the Royal Scottish Conservatoire. Commissioned by Culture Vannin, Isla has written 'Creeaght' [Manx Gaelic for 'courage']; a music project which explores the lives and experiences of women who have shaped the history of the Isle of Man. Inspired by women from different times, places and narratives, their stories will be bound together in a musical performance by an all-female ensemble. Isla said; "I have loved learning and writing music about some of the courageous women of Mann. They have shaped the history of our island, and it's time for their stories to be explored, shared, and celebrated."

If you enjoyed the recent hit film "Fisherman's Friends", then you're also in for a treat! Just like the celebrity boy-band from Cornwall, Bryher's Boys specialise in sea shanties, and there will be plenty of well-known nautical songs for all to join in with. Welsh dance group, Pen-y-Fai are also visiting the festival, and from Brittany, the festival is delighted to welcome back members of the Lorho-Pasco family, who used to visit Yn Chruinnaght in its early days. This musical family from the Auray area of Brittany sing, play and dance and the band will lead Breton fest noz dancing, perform in concerts and entertain at community events. And of course, there will be many Manx music and dance acts performing throughout the festival, including a new Gaelic choir called Un Chora.

In addition to the Centenary Centre concerts, there will be family friendly ceilis in Peel Masonic Hall, lectures, workshops, White House Pub sessions, artisan craft fair and free entertainment in the Cathedral and House of Manannan. And as in previous years, the festival is extended to Douglas through the midweek for the folk and folk sessions at Noa Bakehouse, where customers can enjoy eating Celtic fare accompanied by live music.

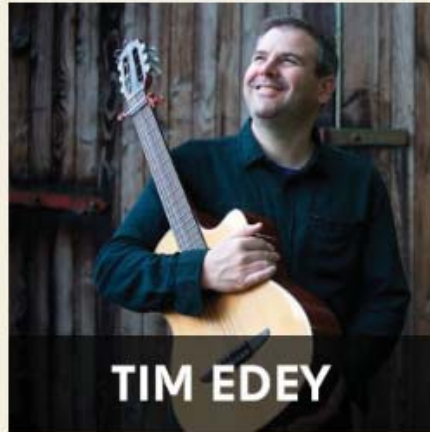
RL360 and Thornton Chartered Financial Planners join Culture Vannin, the IOM Arts Council and Visit Isle of Man in supporting Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering, and pre-festival fundraising events organised by Yn Chruinnaght committee include a Breton Fest Noz with Thomas Moisson and Lors Landat on the 16th April, coffee morning on the 9th May and a Laa Jannoo Kiaull/Make Music Day event in Tynwald Mills on 21st June.

All information on the festival and the £55 early bird festival pass: www.celticgathering.im





DEAF SHEPHERD



TIM EDEY



ISLA CALLISTER



BRYHER'S BOYS



LORHO-PASCO FAMILY



PEN-Y-FAI

YN CHRUINNAGHT PRESENTS

FEST NOZ

BRETON & MANX DANCE NIGHT

FEATURING
LORS LANDAT & THOMAS MOISSON
AND
MERA ROYLE & DAVID KILGALLON
AND **SKEDDAN JIARG**

Thursday 16th April ~ 7.30pm
Peel Masonic Hall

£7.50 ADULTS £2.50 UNDER 16 ~ AVAILABLE AT CELTIC GOLD

WWW.YNCHRUINNAGHT.COM

Yn Chruinnaght presents...

Moghrey Caffee

Coffee Morning

Saturday 9th May 2020
Jesarn 9 Mee Boaldyn 2020
Ebenezer Hall • Kirk Michael
10am - 12pm • £1 entry

Raffle - Refreshments - Music
Cronchor - Bee as Jough - Kiaull

Plus buy your Celtic Gathering Tickets & Merchandise!

21st June ~ celebrate Make Music Day with Yn Chruinnaght
Live music & dance & stalls
at Tynwald Mills

Concert with

Claasagh

The Manx Harp Ensemble



Saturday 28th March

7.30 - 8.30pm

Villa Marina Arcade

Douglas

ENTRY BY DONATION

Culture
VANNIN

Sun 15th March

12pm

Villa Arcade

Whatever you play, or however old you are, come along with your instrument and join musicians from the O'Donnell's Session for an open trad music session as part of the *On Your Doorstep* arts & culture weekend

Paddy's Day Live Music Session

7pm Sun 15th March

Hosted by *Sir Norman's Theatre Bar* (Sefton Hotel) and Isle of Man Traditional Music Weekend

[www.facebook.com/
TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan/](https://www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan/)

Basic Safeguarding Training for Performers & event organisers 6.30 - 9pm, Wed 11th March

DESC and **Culture Vannin** are organising a safeguarding training session for Manx music and dance groups, festival organisers and individuals who regularly work with young people. It will be held on Wednesday 11th March in Bunscoill Rhumsaa and is free of charge to attend. The session will cover basic safeguarding, writing a child protection policy, DBS checks, child performance licences and other topics relating to working with young people. Register with Chloe: manxmusic@culturevannin.im to book your place.



Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea

Skeddan Jiarg, Little Manx and Perree Bane did the Island proud at Cwlwm Celtaidd festival this weekend! photos next month...



CWLWM CELTAIDD
WALES' INTERCELTIC FESTIVAL/GWYL RYNG-GELTAIDD CYMRU
HI-TIDE, PORTHCAWL

MARCH 6th - 8th 2020
MAWRTH 6^{ED} - 8^{ED} 2020
JAMIE SMITH'S (SAT)
MABON

RUSTY SHACKLE (FRI)

SORELA • LITTLE MANX • MANSANT
CALIFORNIA & DISTRICT PIPE BAND
BAGAD GRWNDI THE WELSH FIDDLE ORCHESTRA
PHOEBE REES • SKEDDAN JIARG • KEMYSK
TY TEIRES • FOLKINGEL • SWN CELTAIDD • MIKE GREENWOOD
GARETH SWINDAIL-PARRY • PAT SMITH AND NED CLAMP

DANCE PERFORMANCES, WORKSHOPS AND CEILIDHS WITH
DAWNS, GWEITHDAI A THWMPATHAU

CAT 'S CLAW • TAWERIN • PERREE BANE • PEN Y FAI
BALLOCHLEAM • CALENNIG • BLAENAVON • KEMYSK

WWW.CWLWMCELTAIDD.ORG

TASTE OF LORIENT IN THE ISLE OF MAN

Friday 27th March
7.30pm

Come and join us at Douglas Old Friends Association for a night of music and dance hosted by some of the Island's leading influences in culture and heritage.

A showcase performance with some of the best performers from recent years and a look forward to August 2020, when the Island will be strongly represented at the is hugely important festival.

The Lorient Interceltic Festival is a highlight of the international Celtic community's calendar. Throughout

the year, many musicians, artists and performers hone their skills and give wonderful performances across the Island, and in August the Isle of Man's Delegation will journey to the festival in Brittany.

GET YOUR TICKETS HERE! www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/94167053191



Lorient **INTERCELTIC**
Festival

Isle of Man Pavilion Launch Event

GUITAR PIECE OF THE MONTH

"Guilley Hesheree" (Song of the Ploughboy) is the latest release with video tutorial from Pete Lumb, plus the sheet music/TAB to download.

Check it out here:

https://youtu.be/ua83EG_br4M

www.culturevannin.im/video_story_606045.html

www.culturevannin.im/media/Sheet%20music/Guilley%20Hesheree%20-%20Guitar%20-%20J%20Franklin.pdf

NEW SONG - THE HILLS OF ELLAN VANNIN

Last month on Facebook, "Culture Vannin" posted a poem, "The Hills of Ellan Vannin", written by Josephine Kermode (1852–1937) who was a Manx poet and playwright better known by the pen name "Cushag".

Anthony Archibald contacted CV to say; "I loved the poem "The Hills of Ellan Vannin" which you posted last week, and have set it to music and have just posted it on YouTube and thought you might like it".

<https://youtu.be/EaDXwTOghhl>

The sheet music is written for playing with an autoharp, but the video is accompanied by guitar.

See TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH for the sheet music

Cathedral Concerts

March 26th @ 7pm 'Lent' -Cathedral Choir and King William's College Choir

April 18th @ 7.30pm Ruth Tickell and Jane Corkill 'in Concert'

May 1st @ 7.30pm The Mollag Band

June 19th @ 7.30pm Jack Oades (Organ)

25th @ 7.30pm Manx Youth Band and Concert Brass

July 9th @ 7.30pm Isle of Man Youth Orchestra

18th @ 7.30pm Hartes Ease (Early Music)

September 5th @ 7.30pm Peter Litman (Organ)

10th @ 8.00pm OIOW Festival- Kosmos Ensemble

October 17th @ 7.30pm Manx Voices

November 28th @ 7.30pm Isle of Man Wind Orchestra

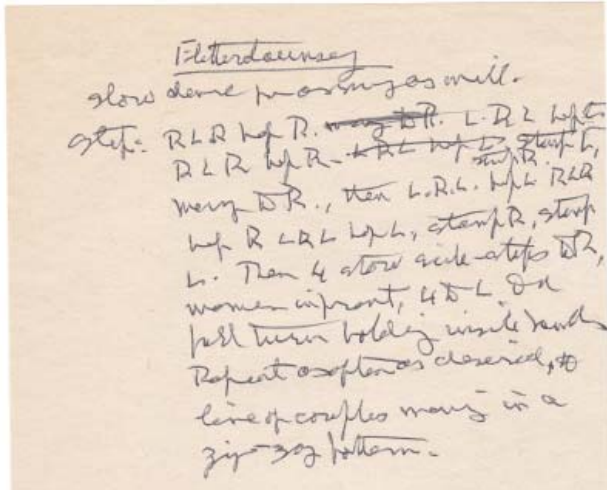
All concerts are free entry with retiring collection

Youtube corner

- "Ta mee nish keayney"
- performed by Clare Kilgallon & Annie Kissack on the Sollys album
- has been set to a nice timelapse film of the Round Mounds archaeological dig in 2017:
- <https://youtu.be/7GAHL9hLnEE>
- (Filmed by Andy Skillen)

RESEARCH NEWS

FLITTERDAUNSEY



Flitterdaunsey

slow dance for as many as will.

Step: R L R hop R. ~~two words unreadable~~ to R. L. R L hop to R L R hop R. ~~L R L hop L~~ stamp L, [step R.] moving to R., then L.R.L. hop L. RLR hop to L & L hop L., stamp R, stamp L. Then 4 slow side-steps to R, women in front, 4 to L & a full turn holding single hands Repeat as often as desired, to line of couples moving in a zig-zag pattern.

The above is a paper slip (the image cropped here) found amongst the personal papers of Mona Douglas now held in the MNHL. A fuller description of the Flitter Dance appears in her notebook recording her folk dance collecting where she states that the principal informant for the dance itself was Ada Skillicorn: "Ada Skillicorn remembers the dance being performed on the Dhoon beach about 1900. Took part in it herself as a child & showed me steps & movements." Besides displaying the somewhat difficult handwriting of Mona Douglas, which you decipher rather than read, this note shows well what we rely on for the documenting of the Island's vernacular culture—as here a simple slip of paper, one easily lost, or for that matter mislaid amongst her papers in the MNHL. But we are fortunate indeed that she was there in the first place willing to collect.

STEPHEN MILLER, RBV

BERREE DHONE - THE SONG

The Isle of Man has a rich history of traditional folk music, dance and tales.

Manx Music Development Officer Dr Chloe Woolley takes a look at some of the stories that lie behind some of the best known songs for The Manx Independent:

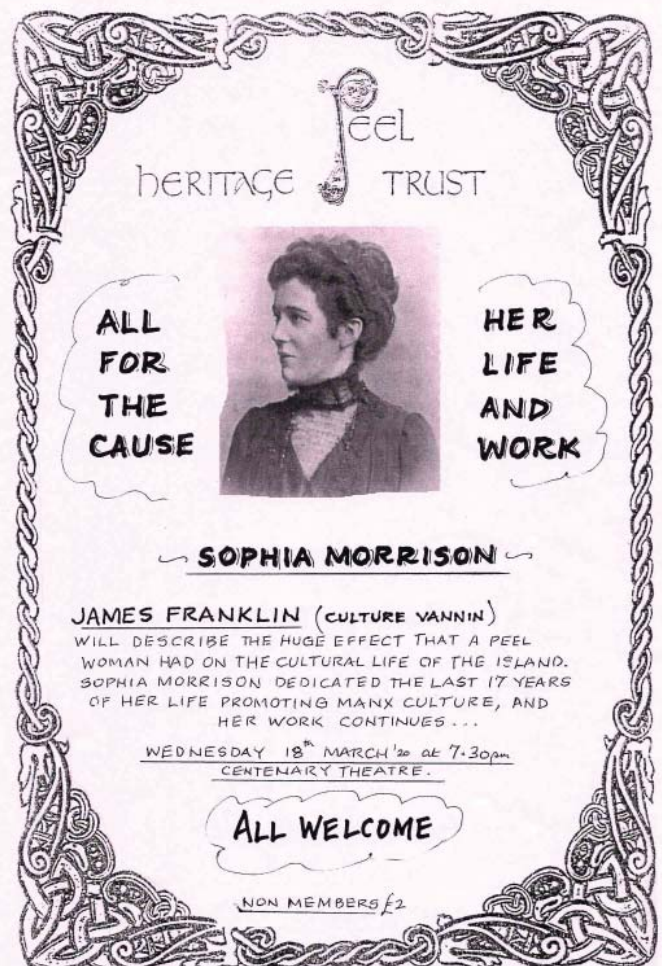
Are you familiar with the traditional song about Berree Dhone, Queen of the Maughold witches?

'Are you in, Berree Dhone?'

'Vel oo sthie Verree Dhone? starts this lively Manx song. It is a good question to ask, just in case a witch is hiding behind the door.

Read the full article here:

www.iomtoday.co.im/article.cfm?id=53968



'Haydn Wood and the Isle of Man: A chronology from the Isle of Man newspapers'

transcribed by Maurice Powell

March 1895

Manx Sun March 2nd: St. George's Parochial Tea and Concert. Master Haydn Wood played a virtuoso violin piece (by Charles Dancla) and . . . 'is making rapid strides in his art, and there is every possibility that he will one day make a name for himself . . . he is a true brother of Mr Harry Wood, who will have to look to his laurels'.

Isle of Man Times 15th March: Vocal and instrumental Concert in the Regent Hall, Douglas on Tuesday 19th March. Solo violins Mr Harry and Master Haydn Wood.

Isle of Man Times 23rd March: Mrs Shaw's Fancy Dress Ball at the Sefton Hotel. Adeline Wood (the elder sister of Haydn Wood) attended as a Highland Lassie and Master Haydn Wood as a Spanish Matador.

Isle of Man Examiner 23rd March: Finch Hill Congregational Church Sale of Work (Bazaar) Wednesday 20th March. Opening ceremony, addresses and concert with Haydn Wood who played a violin solo 'with his well-known skill'. The Finch Hill Black and White Troupe performed 'a laughable sketch' entitled A Concert Rehearsal by Mr Harry Dacre.*

* The pen name of Manxman Frank Dean (also known as Henry Decker), the composer of A Bicycle Made for Two. In 1895 he formed his own publishing company, Frank Dean & Co. See Maurice Powell, Frank Dean, the Manxman Who Wrote the Most Famous Song in the World, manxmusic.com.

Isle of Man Examiner 30th March: Grand Theatre, Douglas, 14th April. Lecture by Rev. T. E. Brown (the Manx National Poet) entitled 'Old Kirk Braddan and Parson Drury'. Proceeds in aid of St. Matthew's New Church.* Music provided by Harry and Haydn Wood, with F. C. Poulter, piano.

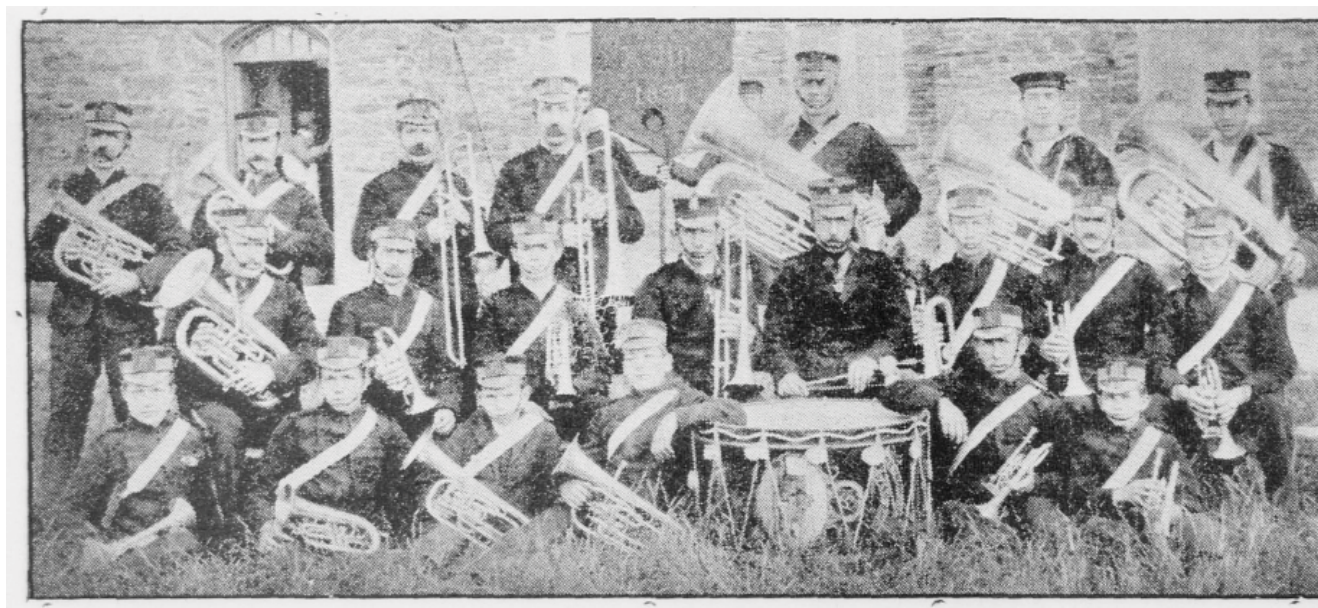
* Built on the site of the Wood family's first Douglas home, the Black Lion Hotel on the North Quay.

Isle of Man Times 30th March: 'A Pleasing Concert' held in the Regent Hall (formerly the Bijou Theatre) for the benefit of Mr Race. Attendance not very large. Haydn Wood played the Fantasia, ou Scene de Ballet op. 100 by de Beriot, and a sonata which, at twenty minutes duration, was considered too long for the programme.



**<< Bessy Quirk
from Ballaugh playing the
accordion, pictured in 06/06/1953
Isle of Man Weekly Times.
Thanks to Stephen Miller.**

THE CASTLETOWN METROPOLITAN SILVER PRIZE BAND



Despite the reproduction from newsprint this is a magnificent photograph of the Castletown Metropolitan Silver Prize Band, known simply as the Castletown Metropolitan Band, or, even shorter, simply as the “Mets.” Resplendent in their uniforms and with an intense manner in their poses, though in the case of one in the front row it is that of nonchalance as he drapes his arm over the drum, the photograph must date close to their foundation in late 1896. The town already had a band, the Castletown Town Band, formed in 1872, but the Mets came into existence as a result of a dispute over who would conduct them in the Island Band Concert of 12 November 1896 held in Douglas. Five bands entered, the Douglas Town Band, the band of the 7th Volunteer Battalion (Isle of Man) King’s Liverpool Regiment, the Foxdale Village Band, the Castletown Band, and the Laxey Temperance Band. Only four competed, the Laxey Temperance Band withdrawing and “[t]he reason was the very excellent one that recently several leading members of the band had left the Island for the gold districts of South Africa.”

The first competition was a quick step played whilst each band marched from the Jubilee Clock along the front at Douglas to the band stand on the Harris Promenade. Then it was inside at the Pavilion for the rest of the competition, the test piece being an arrangement from Verdi’s “Il Trovatore,” then a separate soloists competition again using the Verdi piece, and finally another quick step, each band choosing their own to play. The Foxdale Village Band took the honours on the evening winning the two classes of the contest and the Castletown Town Band came second. Their conductor spoke to the *Isle of Man Examiner* about the result: “Quoth Mr Valentine, ‘I consider the decision a perfect one.’” Not so it would soon transpire in Castletown....

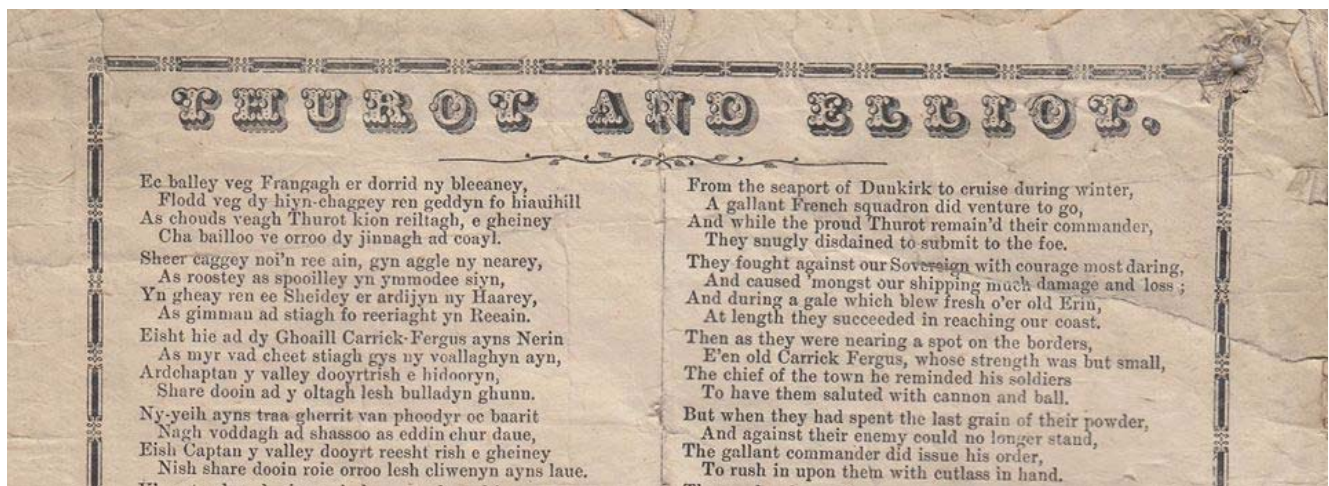
Valentine had not been the choice of conductor for the contest, it was P. Collister who had been with the band from the start as conductor. Valentine was a professional band conductor from England, who had also tutored the band (the Foxdale Village Band also had similar help) and the result led to a schism in the Castletown Town Band with the majority of the band siding with Collister and a faction of ten members led by John Cubbon supporting Valentine.

The instruments used by the band had been purchased with a public subscription and through the proceeds of a bazaar and so did not belong to any one individual. As a consequence the band’s instruments were handed in to the Trustees (one of whom was Dr John Clague) who met to decide their fate. The decision taken was that given there was no good grounds in their opinion why Collister should not continue as conductor, that the instruments would be handed over those members of the band loyal to him. Those who had withdrawn from the band were swift to act on this—the Trustees met on the Friday and by Saturday night Cubbon and the others had replacement instruments after telegraphing to England the previous day.... (and this was the 25 and 26 December).

Recruitment to the Mets was swift with twenty-two players assembled by the close of December. They practised under John Cubbon and the newly-formed band held their first ever concert as such on 11 February 1897 to a full house in Castletown Town Hall when over £17 was taken on the door. Valentine was back as conductor on the evening and the test piece from the contest in 1896 was repeated.

The Mets did not fade away after this but went on to become one of the Island’s premier brass bands and they were to play at “Club Days, concerts, regattas, shows, lifeboat days, private dances, hospital services, sports meetings and other events” showing the range of opportunities to play at and equally to be able to listen to music played.

On a final note, the band once left Castletown for a sports meeting to be held for Kirk Andreas Ascension Day. Travelling by horse-and-trap they left at 5 am for Andreas, when there played all day, and arrived back in Castletown at 4 am. With this in mind, there is no reason now for any reader of KMJ in the South not to go “over the bridge” for a music session in the North of the Island and for those “down the North” not to make the same journey....



If you walked into a Manx cottage 250 years ago, what songs might you hear? [Culture Vannin article]

Well, one would have been about the Isle of Man's most famous naval battle, in February 1760; The Battle of Bishopscourt.

A song in Manx tells us of the heroic end of this great French privateer and scourge of the British Navy throughout the 1750s, the legendary François Thurot. Indeed, the whole of the British Isles arose in excitement as the British Navy chased him to off the Manx coast for the final battle 260 years ago today.

The event echoed throughout the British Isles and entered into folk memory through a number of ballads and songs, such as 'Thurot and Elliot', which appeared in Manx with an English translation including the following memorable lines:

*O country folk and sailors, raise your voices and sing
The Frenchmen are defeated upon every quarter;
Their chief captain he sleepeth in the depth of the sea;
They need not be so proud of great Thurot any more.*

/

*O sleih cheerey as shiolteyrin, trog-jee seose arraneyn
Ny Frangee ta ad castit er dy chooilley heu;
Ta yn chaptan oc cadley ayns diunid ny marrey;
Ny lhig dauesyn ve moyrnagh ass Thurot mooar ny smoo.*

We were delighted to receive an original print of this song recently [PTO]. You will note in the picture here the sewn hole in one corner. Fortified with paste-paper behind, this hole was presumably for tying it up, perhaps to other such songs, or perhaps to be hung up somewhere. One account has these sorts of songs hung up on the owners' walls in their dark smokey Manx cottage, so perhaps that is how we can imagine this print existing.

And so you can imagine it being sung, remembering that great event off the Manx coast 260 years ago!

The ballad can be read here: <http://www.isle-of-man.com/manxnot.../fulltext/mb1896/p028.htm>

We don't know of a recorded sung version, but here is the tune performed by Skeel:

<https://youtu.be/wzs68vo2kco>

A description of Thurot in relation to the Isle of Man can be read here:

<http://www.isle-of-man.com/manxnotebook/.../mnq1904/thurot.htm>

More about the Battle of Bishopscourt can be found here:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Bishops_Court



THURTOT AND ELLIOT.

Ec balley veg Frangagh er dorrid ny bleaney,
 Flodd veg dy hiyn-chaggey ren geddyn fo hianhill
 As chouds veagh Thurrot kion reilagh, e gheiney
 Cha bailloo ve orroo dy jinnagh ad coayl.
 Sheer daggey noi'n ree ain, gyn aggle ny nearey,
 As roostey as spoollley yn ynomodee siyn,
 Yn gheay ren ee Sheidey er ardiyn ny Haarey,
 As gimman ad stiagh fo reeraght yn Recain.
 Eisht hie ad dy Ghoall Carrick-Fergus ayns Nerin
 As myr vad cheet stiagh gys ny voallaghyn ayn,
 Ardchaplan y valley dooyrtish e hidooryn,
 Share dooin ad y oltagh lesh bulladyn ghunn.
 Ny-yeih ayns traan gherit van phoodyr oc baarit
 Nagh voddagh ad shasoo as eddin chur daue,
 Eish Captan y valley dooyrt reesht rish e gheiney
 Nish share dooin roie orroo lesh cliwenyn ayns laue.
 V'an stayd oc danjeyragh dy cronnal ry-akin
 Eish dooyrt oh ree, share dooin er seose hne-aynstrea
 Son foddee mayd jerkabrish baase fegooish myghin
 Neayr's nagh vel shin abyil yn noid y hyndaa.
 Myr shen haink ad stiagh ayn's voayl lan-ny-vairagh
 Dy yannoo myr bailloo rish oolley ny vayn
 Mysh lieh, checad dy Frangee va currit er feayragh,
 Daag Thurrot cheu-chooylloo ny lieh ayns y joan.
 Tra va Carrick-veg-Fergus oc spoollit dy bollagh
 Nagh chiere ad dy roestyn yn Ellan shoh lan
 Agh s'beg erree voayn er guot veagh nyn quailtagh
 As yinnagh yn daarys oc oolley gys klone.
 She Elliot vecit ad rish, ren orroo lloggey,
 As lesh eddin ghebbagh doad orroo aile,
 Hug Thurrot dy-klone lesh oolley yn veayn eihey,
 As sheese berlyn da lloebeg er-bayrd yn Vellisle.
 Tra haink ad dy cheilly as gunnaghyn lloggey,
 As cronaghyn geltagh goll shiar as goll sheear,
 Full Frangagh myr ushtey dy palchey va deayrtey,
 As Vellisle voayr y Thurrot va tholl't myr y creear.
 Ny Frangee myr ceastyn va scarr't er ny deckyn,
 Tra hir ad son Thurrot Gud shillee cha Groun,
 Agh veshyn ny chadley ayns diuid ny marrey,
 The Thurrot's chadley ayns diuid ny marrey.
 Shie shieh reed ayns coontey dy reih gunnaghyn Frangagh,
 Noi gunnaghyn Elliot gueig feed as klare,
 Three fengya nai three ren ad caggey dy barbagh,
 Er derney hooar Thurrot e voynyn syn aer.
 Va oyr oc ny Frangee dy ghebban dy sharoo,
 Son yn oblyr va jeant ayns three lieh-yn oor,
 Three checad reesht jehn cheshagh va llohtit ny marroo,
 As duman dy checadyn goll stiagh s'y thie stoyr.
 Va gueig jee ny Soostynee marroo myr-geddin,
 As mane-jeig as feed gortit s'y chah,
 Agh shinnuey v'er reunaghyn guin yn laa cheddin,
 Er-beg dy ren Elliot comee yn laa.
 Nagh dunnal yn dooinney v'an offisher Forbes,
 Ghon enlyr llong Thurrot, er bonyrd yn chier er,
 As Thomason myr geddin hie sheese ayn's yn aarkey,
 Dy yeigh ny thurt-vanish eek lesh barragh as gierr.
 Fir-veaghee shen-Vannin v'er cheu heear yn Ellan,
 Eer Aspick Mark Hildesley as oolley e hie,
 Ren Jeeaghyn dy tastagh, as Jakin as clastyn,
 Veih hoshaght dy yerrey yn caggey va cloie.
 Croan-spreie yn Vellisle tra ve currit er shiaulley,
 Ve eiryt as immanit stiagh er y traie,
 Ve soit oc yn Aspick son coolagh jehn' chaggey,
 Er yunyd ard-chronnal er-gerrey da e hie.
 Eisht myr-gagrt Klone-ny-haarey gollrish deinely-seyrey,
 Ren ad ny Captee yn loideil seose Rumsaa,
 Ee irree-ny greiney ny Frangee va Keayney,
 Tra honnick ad Thurrot voayr currit gys fea.
 Tra hoig shin ayns Mannin cren ghaue ver gholl shaghey,
 As e'raad va ny deiney v'es reayll jin yn ghaue,
 Ard-phobble ny cheerey, eer mraane charamahs deiney,
 Haink rone dy voeitell ad dy oltaghey daue.
 Va geinayn reih caarjyn oc thesh as shiolteyrin,
 Va moor jeant jehn' cheshaght ren cur lesh y laa,
 As rieu reayr's hianill yn Ree Illiam dy Nerin,
 Cha ren lieid ny laa ghyn solishean er Rumsaa.
 O Sleih-cheerey as shiaulteyrin trojree seose arraneyn,
 Ny Frangee tad eastit er dy choolliey laue,
 Tan chaplan oc cadley ayns diuid ny marrey,
 Nagh llig daue ve moorallagh ass Thurrot myr smoo.
 Nish lheen mayd yn veillee as in mayd dy cheilly
 Leash shee-dy-vea ghennall dys Georgee nyn Ree,
 Son she ny siyn-chaggey ta shia orroo shiaulley
 V'an saase dreill nyn noidyn veih ny Manninee.

From the seaport of Dunkirk to cruise during winter,
 A gallant French squadron did venture to go,
 And while the proud Thurrot remain'd their commander,
 They snugly disdained to submit to the foe.
 They fought against our Sovereign with courage most daring,
 And caused 'mongst our shipping much damage and loss;
 And during a gale which blew fresh o'er old Erin,
 At length they succeeded in reaching our coast.
 Then as they were nearing a spot on the borders,
 E'en old Carrick Fergus, whose strength was but small,
 The chief of the town he reminded his soldiers
 To have them saluted with cannon and ball.
 But when they had spent the last grain of their powder,
 And against their enemy could no longer stand,
 The gallant commander did issue his order,
 To rush in upon them with cutlass in hand.
 Then as he observed a strong force put in motion,
 He said, "Tis best to submit while we may,
 Or death without mercy will soon be our portion,
 Since we are unable to drive them away."
 Next day into fair Carrick Fergus they entered,
 To do as they pleas'd with all they could find;
 About fifty men of bold Thurrot's adventurers,
 Who lay stark and cold, to the dust were consign'd.
 When they left Carrick Fergus, completely ransacked,
 Straight on for lone Mona the Frenchman did steer;
 But who should salute them, they little suspected,
 To finish forever their warlike career.
 Brave Elliot appear'd with broadsides most glaring,
 And with a bold front put an end to their toil;
 Proud Thurrot was caught at the height of his daring,
 And had to submit, tho' on board the Bellisle.
 When warmly engaged in this bloody action,
 The French quickly fell 'neath the thundering squalls;
 Their rigging was scatter'd in every direction,
 And Thurrot's Bellisle was riddl'd with balls.
 The French of all classes, on deck lay in masses,
 When there they sought Thurrot, 'midst cannon and gore.
 But Thurrot was standing below in the ocean,
 No Frenchman need boast of his courage any more.
 The guns of the French were a score and one hundred,
 While Elliot's number'd one hundred and four;
 Three ships against three contended and thundered,
 Until the Bellisle lost her great commodore.
 One hour-and-a-half put an end to their struggle,
 When three hundred Frenchmen fell, wounded or slain;
 One thousand two hundred in sorrow and trouble,
 As captives to prison, were led o'er the main.
 Five men also fell on the side of the English,
 While thirty-one more were hurt more or less;
 But keen had we felt the sharp sting of anguish,
 Had not brave Elliot met with success.
 The Bellisle was secured by Lieutenant Forbes,
 The first man who boarded, and brought her flag low;
 And sav'd by brave Thompson, who died in the ocean,
 And stopped her death leakage with tallow and tow.
 The people who dwell on the west side of Mona,
 E'en Bishop Mark Hildesley, with all of his train,
 Could bear the tough music, as cannons were booming—
 And much of their doings could plainly be seen.
 They saw the Bellisle, when deprived of her bowsprit,
 A log which soon reach'd the Bishop's domain;
 To stand on an eminence, commemorating
 The day, and its deeds with all things that came.
 Then round Point of Ayre, most gallantly leading,
 She brought up their captives towards Ramsey Bay;
 At daylight's returning poor Frenchmen were mourning,
 To know their great Thurrot was lifeless as clay.
 When we understood what dangers had threatened,
 And where were the men who averted the blow;
 The head men of Mona did hasten to meet them,
 To greet and salute them as best they could do.
 To the best of our means they were treated and honoured,
 While Elliot's kindness still gladden'd the place;
 And ne'er since King William sail'd hence for old Erin,
 The good folk of Ramsey knew ought of such days.
 O, landmen and sailors, do you all sing in chorus,
 The French are defeated behind and before;
 And Commander Thurrot laid low in the ocean,
 No Frenchman need boast of his courage any more.
 And now the full bumper, with joy and good feeling,
 We'll drink to the health of our King and our Queen,
 For the gallant vessels on which we are sailing,
 Were the means to keep Thurrot from Mannin-veg-Veen.

Pryntyt as currit magh Iorish Juan Chresteen Fargher, ee yn Herald Printyng Ayns St. John's, P. M. D. C. C. L. X. V.

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

see www.manxmusic.com for more printable pieces of Manx music

The Hills of Ellan Vannin

Josephine Kermod (Cushag)

A R Archibald

♩ = 90

G D7 G C D7 G / G C G / / / D7 G D7 G

Where the sil - ver moon is shin - ing O - ver
Then be - yond the crowd - ed all - eys, Where the

7 C G C / G / C G / / / D7 G D7 G

some far - dis - tant shore; Where the wea - ry sun de - clin - ing Sinks a -
street lets in the sky, Shine a - gain the fai - ry vall - eys On the

11 C G D7 G / D7 G C G C / G / / C

mid the ci - ty's roar. To the toil - er in the ci - ty, To the
toil - er's ti - red eye. Then be - yond the lone - ly mount - ain Burn - ing

15 G / / / D7 G D7 G / / C

ex - ile far from home, Comes the thought of Ell - an
shore or snow - clad plain, Rise the hills of Ell - an

18 G / / D7 G C D7 G / D7 G

Van - nin Dream - ing far a - mong the foam. And they
Van - nin And the ex - ile's there a - gain. Long - ing

21 C G C / G / / C G / D7 G D7 G D7

long for Ell - an Van - in, For the fai - ry is - land home, For the
still for Ell an Van in For the fai - ry is - land home, For the

25 G / / C G / / D7 G C D7 G /

hills of Ell - an Van - nin Gleam - ing through their veil of foam.
hills of Ell - an Van - in Gleam - ing through their veil of foam.

CALENDAR

MARCH

1st M is for Manx Cat, Peel Centenary Centre, 1pm & 3pm £5
6th - 8th Cwlwm Celtaidd, Wales
7th Braaid Eisteddford, 7.30pm
14th - 15th On Your Doorstep Arts and Culture
14th The Manx Year - Culture Vannin Concert, Centenary Centre, 7.30pm £5
17th St Patrick's Day
18th Celtic Communion service with Caarjyn Coidjagh, Ballabeg Methodist Church 7.30pm
18th Sophia Morrison - lecture by James Franklin, Peel Heritage Trust, Centenary Centre, 7.30pm
28th Claasagh Concert, Villa Arcade, Donations, 7.30pm
29th - 2nd April Manx Folk Awards

APRIL

3rd - 4th Liet International Song Contest, Denmark
3rd - 6th Shennaghys Jiu Celtic Festival, Ramsey
14th - 19th Pan-Celtic Festival, Carlow, Ireland www.panceltic.ie

16th Breton Fest Noz, Peel Masonic
25th - 2nd May The 'Guild' www.manxmusicfestival.org

MAY

1st Mollag Band at the Cathedral, Peel, 7.30pm
2nd Oie Voaldyn, Peel
13th Post-Guild Concert, St Johns Methodist Hall

JUNE

21st Laa Jannoo Kiaull - Make Music Day!!

JULY

5th Tynwald Day
20th - 26th Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering www.celticgathering.im

AUGUST

7th - 16th Festival Interceltique de Lorient www.festival-interceltique.bzh/

SEPTEMBER

11th - 12th Our Island Our World festival
25th - 27th IOM Trad Music Weekend

Please send in dates so that we can publicise events here & online:
www.manxmusic.com

~ SESSIONS ~

TUES 8pm Singaround at The Manor, Douglas
WED 8.30pm Session at O'Donnells, Douglas
THURS 8pm Singing session at The Mitre, Ramsey
FRI 8pm Trad session at The Mitre, Ramsey
FRI Trad session at the Manor, Willaston
Last **FRI** of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary
Occasional **SAT** 10pm Manx session at The White House, Peel
Monthly **SUN** 12.30pm Trad session in Laxey

~ SESSIONS ~

culture vannin

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The Editor welcomes submissions but reserves the right to edit for style and space
PRESS: please feel free to pick up articles without named authors to spread the word about Manx culture