

A QUIET WAY

Song Cycle for solo voice & piano **by Patricia Cullen**

A new song book by local composer Patricia Cullen has just been published by Culture Vannin.

Consisting of six songs for voice and piano, *A Quiet Way – Song Cycle for solo voice and piano* evokes the composer's life-long love of nature and the beautiful landscape of her home in the Isle of Man.

Patricia said; "An island landscape, moors and glens to walk in, the birds in the garden and the changing season with incredible skies and shifting colours. This is where I drew my inspiration for *A Quiet Way*. Though each song relates to countryside or birds – the passage of time is evident."

The character of the songs has been visualised by Bruno Cavellec, who designed the stunning book cover.

Musicians and non-musicians alike can enjoy listening to the new songs for free: Featuring well-known Manx contralto Mandy Griffin, with Patricia on piano, and guest flautist, Simeon Wood, recordings of the whole song cycle are available to listen to on the Culture Vannin SoundCloud:

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/sets/a-quiet-way>

Patricia Cullen trained as a pianist and harpsichordist at the Royal Northern College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music and she has enjoyed a successful career as a performer, composer and accompanist.

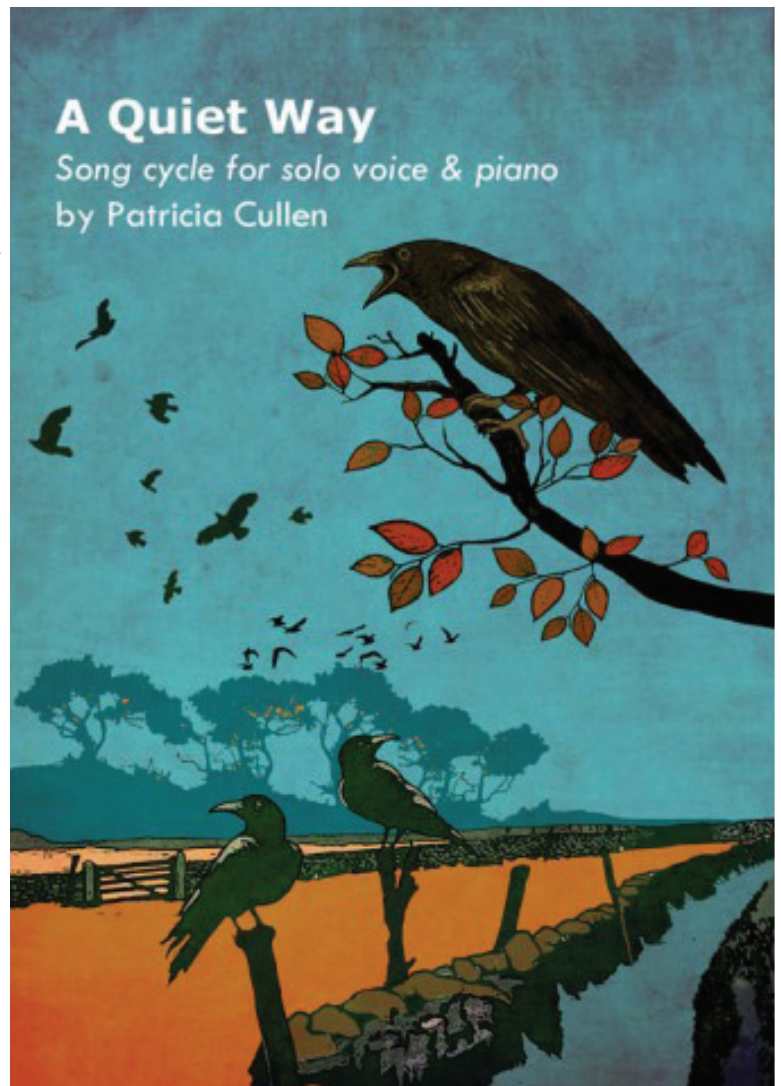
She has given many piano and harpsichord recitals around the world, both as a soloist and as a member of ensembles, and her performances of early music have been featured on BBC Radio 3.

When at home in the Isle of Man, she is a member of the Baroque chamber music group, the Wren Consort, and an official accompanist to the Manx Music, Speech and Dance Festival. Her musical-drama piece, *Pathway to the Sun*, was premiered to great acclaim in 2014. She has also composed a set of solo songs called *Departures*, and Christmas songs, "The Shepherd's Tale" and "The Lonely Path", which are available to download on:

www.manxmusic.com/learn

A Quiet way is £8.50 RPP and is available to buy in the Culture Vannin shop and online, and other bookshops in the Isle of Man.

https://www.culturevannin.im/publication_574906.html



In this month's edition...

- ***NAMA Nominations***
- ***Manx Folk Awards & Guild***
- ***Rushen Silver Band's 70th anniversary***

Culture
VANNIN

MANX FOLK AWARDS 2019

Last month saw the 8th Aundyryn Kiaull-Theay Vannin / Manx Folk Awards, and based on the number of entrants, the high quality of the traditional music, song, dance and recitation, and the smiles amongst the children, adjudicators and teachers alike, the annual competitions are evidently growing from strength to strength!

Held over 5 days in the Youth Arts Centre, Trinity Church and St Johns Methodist Hall, there were 80 classes, 22 Schools, 1,247 competitors 256 dances, 21 new music or dance compositions, 10 harpists, 8 brass players, 14 flautists, 86 Gaelic readers, 611 singers & 12 adjudicators!

*** Folktastic prize-winners for outstanding performance contribution to this year's MFA***

Xander Shirtliff - St Thomas' School - Skeddan Jiarg - Bunscoill Rhumsaa

RESULTS & PHOTOS: <https://manxfolkawards.weebly.com/2019-photos--videos>

More photos online soon!!

The Manx Folk Awards are organised by DESC & Culture Vannin with the support of Manx National Heritage, Youth Arts and the Malcolm Scott Dickinson Charitable Trust.



School kids excel in Manx singing and dancing awards





Shennaghys Jiu

Manx Celtic youth festival, Shennaghys Jiu celebrated 21 years last month, with a fantastic programme of concerts, ceils and workshops. Revellers young and old came together in Ramsey to enjoy the annual festival and learn from each other.

There was even a surprise reunion of Manx band King Chiallee! pto >>

Photos and videos: www.facebook.com/shennaghysjiu

Long-standing committee member Sue-Ling Jaques was also honoured for her valuable contribution to the festival [photo credit: Dhoon School]





Ramsey TT Sprintfest! Ramsey Town Commissioners are seeking Manx trad music and dance groups to perform as part of a series of outdoor gigs during TT week. Help introduce the visiting bikers to a bit of Manx culture while they're here! Performance slots would be between 3 and 5/6pm outside the Courthouse. Provisional dates are from Mad Sunday 2nd till 7th June. Groups/performers will receive a donation.

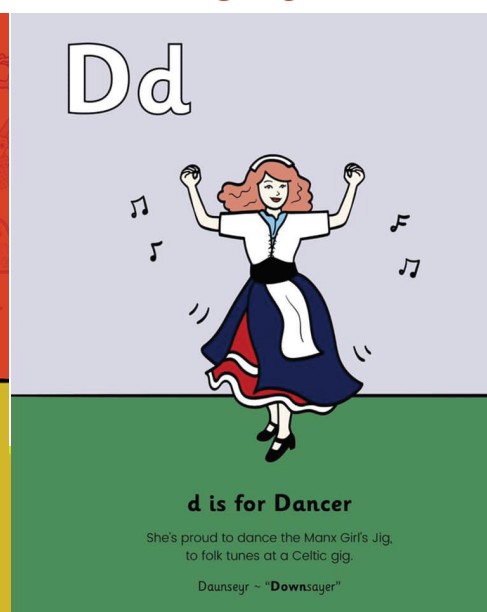
Please contact Steven Bevan if you're interested in getting involved: Steven.Bevan@rtc.gov.im



Learn Letters ✕ Speak Manx ✕ Sing Songs ✕ Find Facts ✕ Hunt the Wren!

M is for Manx Cat is a new children's book by Gemma Hjerth. This lovely illustrated ABC features a Ny Fennee Manx dancer (Gemma used to be a member!) and song lyrics for Laxey Wheel, Hunt the Wren and the National Anthem.

Available in local bookshops. More info: www.facebook.com/isleofmanabc/



d is for Dancer
She's proud to dance the Manx Girls Jig,
to folk tunes at a Celtic gig.
Daunseyr ~ "Downsayer"

NAMA 2019 nominations open

The North American Manx Association is seeking nominations for special young people who deserve recognition in the following award categories:



Outstanding achievement in:

1. Manx Music
2. Arts and Crafts which portray any aspect of Manx life or culture
3. Manx Language
4. Outstanding contribution to Manx Culture
 - a) By a student under the age of 18
 - b) By a student over the age of 18
 - c) By a group of young people under the age of 25
5. The Manx Community
 - a) An award to be made to young people who have made an outstanding contribution to the Manx community in general, either by their work for voluntary organisations or by their involvement with, and assistance to, people or groups of people who need special help such as the elderly or infirm and/or;
 - b) An award to be made to a youngster with special educational needs or disability in recognition of his or her outstanding efforts in overcoming personal challenges, with the criteria here being a determination to contribute to the Isle of Man community, not for the triumph but for the struggle.

You are invited to submit recommendations in respect of the above.

If you wish to submit names, please complete the nomination form:

www.gov.im/media/1355438/nama-nomination-form-2019.pdf

Deadline: Friday 10 May.



(photo above - 2018 winners)



PERREE BANE SUCCESS AT MANX MUSIC FESTIVAL 2019

Perree Bane supported The Guild this year with a side of nearly 50.

20 children up to year 6 including a 2 year old and a 3 year old danced Daunse ny Moain and did very well against much older children.

Perree Bane Aeg in years 7-13 entered 3 dances; the Breton dance, Avant deux Le Travers for 12, Guilley Hesheree for 12 and Rinkey ny Guilley Baney; the six handed sword dance.

Perree Bane Aeg competed in the same class as the Perree Bane adults and were very gracious about the adults gaining

first place with a storming Morris Dance that they were taught at Lowender Peran in Cornwall in November, with an additional master class at Cwlwm Celtaidd in March.

The afternoon finished with an adults class that Perree Bane also gained first in with an amazing mark of 90!

Report by Caroline Helps

>> Four trophies, including the Shirley Savage Silver Salver accepted by Pam Self.



More Manx music & dance success at the Guild

Arbory and Onchan Schools were also very succesfful in the children's dance classes at the Guild, as was Jasmine Colligon who won 1st prize Under 18s Folk Song, with Erin Loach taking 2nd place.

More results throughout the week: www.manxmusicfestival.org/

[photos: Manx Music Festival]





Manx Noises, a newly-formed ensemble, (from The Manx Voices Choir) performed some Manx reels in the Instrumental Small Ensemble Class this morning (1st May) in the Royal Hall. They were toe-tapping and fun and this earned them first place.

L-R - Kath Blackburn, Hazel Stewart, Jacqueline Yates, Angela Stewart, Ellen Stewart, Julie Brew, Rosemary Laughton and Jenna Woodward.

HARPS TAKE OVER THE GUILD!!

24 young harpists entered in the plucked string classes at the Guild aka Manx Music Festival (1st May). That's pretty awesome!! Great work teachers Rachel Hair and Mike Boulton.

In an amazing, huge Plucked String Class (Grades 1 to 3) where all 20 entries played the harp (although any stringed instruments are absolutely acceptable), the winner was Holly Slater. Holly performed Auldryn River by Paul Cringle. She is pictured here with Adjudicator Dennis Lee <<

Winners from the 3 separate classes were Holly Salter, Ruby Grant & Lucy Gilmore. Jeant dy mie!

SAILORS SHELTER

Concerts - Peel

Great acoustic music



Every Wednesday 7.30pm
to 10.00pm - from 8th May.

Free entrance.

Tea and coffee available.

Also – claim your two for one voucher for
sausage and chips from the Quayside
Chippy - £6 for two people!!!

With hosts Paul and Annie/Peter Corkhill

SAILORS SHELTER

Acoustic Gigs - Peel

Shoh Slaynt folk/rock band

Guest - Matt Kelly



Wednesday 8th May
7.30pm to 10.00pm.

Free entrance. Donation requested
for the Sailors Shelter
Tea and coffee available.

Bring Your Own Bottle

Caarjyn Coidjagh

Album Launch — 'Ballakilpheric'

Saturday 11th May 7:30PM at Peel Centenary Centre

Join us for an evening of Manx Gaelic singing as we
launch our new CD.

The Bar will be open and refreshments available.

Free tickets via Eventbrite or email

H.Robinson@manx.net or tel 801925

The Sailors Shelter Concerts – summer 2019

DATE	1ST slot	2ND slot	3RD slot
Wednesday 8th May	Shoh Slaynt	Matt Kelly	Shoh Slaynt(S.Shelter)
Wednesday 15th May	Annie/Paul	Gareth Hardinge	Paul Cringle
Wednesday 22nd May	Annie/Pau/Ken	Joe Russell	Peter Corkhill
Wednesday 29th May	Annie/Paul	Gareth Hardinge	John Cowley
Wednesday 5th June	Shoh Slaynt	Alice Dudley Duo	Shoh Slaynt(S.Shelter)
Wednesday 12th June	Annie/Paul	Brian and Denise	Rob Middleton
Wednesday 19th June	Annie/Paul	Eugene Wilson	Amore
Wednesday 26th June	Annie/Paul/Ken	Peter Corkhill	Adrian Cowley
Wednesday 3rd July	Annie/Paul	Les Williamson	Sue Harrison
Wednesday 10th July	Annie/Paul	Rob Middleton	John Gregory
Wednesday 17th July	Annie/Paul	Al and Geoff	Al and Geoff
Wednesday 24th July	Salty Dogs	Gangplankers(Paul C.)	Salty Dogs(Trad Boats)
Wednesday 31 st July	THE SHELTER IS UNAVAILABLE		
Wednesday 7th Aug.	Peter Corkhill	Adrian Cowin	Derek Oates
Wednesday 14th Aug.	Annie/Paul/Ken	John Gregory	Les Williamson
Wednesday 21st Aug.	Annie/Paul	East Ronague CSB	Al and Geoff
Wednesday 28th Aug.	Annie/Paul	Herringbone John	Derek Oates
Wednesday 4th Sept.	Annie/Paul	End of season	Open Mic party night

Coffee Morning

Saturday 18th May

Ebenezer Hall,
Kirk Michael
10am - 12pm



WIN!!
A festival pass to all
of YC Celtic Gathering
events
worth £55!!

Cake stall
Manx music
Loayrt Gaelg
Raffle & YC goodies
Celtic tombola!



Entry
£1/50p

Organised by
Yn Chruinnacht

Yn Chruinnacht
presents

**FINLAY MACDONALD
& MALCOLM STITT**
in concert
Scottish bagpipes & guitar

with Ellan Vannin Pipes & Drums
& Skeddan Jiarg Manx dancers

Saturday 18th May
Peel Masonic Hall, 7.30pm
Tickets £7 (£3.50 U16) from *Celtic Gold* in Peel
Tel. 07624 302200 or buy online: www.ynchruinnacht.com

Organised by Yn Chruinnacht in association with Ellan Vannin Pipes & Drums



Yn Chruinnacht Celtic Gathering
takes place from 13 - 21 July.
2019 acts include Daoiri Farrell,
Mabon, Rachel Hair, Duo Landat-
Moisson and more events are
being announced regularly.
Grab your tickets early and stay in
the loop!

www.celticgathering.im



MANX MAY DAY AND
EVENING FIRE FESTIVAL

05.05.2019

5TH MAY 2019 - PEEL • ISLE OF MAN



MANX MAY DAY AND
EVENING FIRE FESTIVAL

Sunday 5th May

BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

Peel Beach & Promenade

2.00pm - Music & Food / Viking Games

8.45pm - Fire Show • 10.00pm - Fireworks

FREE EVENT - SUITABLE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

FOR MORE INFORMATION & HOW TO TAKE PART CHECK OUT [f /oievoaldyn](https://www.facebook.com/oievoaldyn)



**The battle is on to find the best
young band on the Island!**

Peel Centenary Centre

Senior (ages 12-18) Heats—Sunday 26th May

Junior (ages 7-11) Competition & Senior Final—Monday 27th May

Senior Prize—£400 and a photo promo package from Phil Kneen

Junior Prize— £200 and a photoshoot with Phil Kneen

Best original song prize—£50 and a chance to record your song at

Ballagrove Recording Studio

If you're aged 7-18, get in touch for a registration form:

iombotb@gmail.com

We are grateful for the generous support of



HANSARD



The Great Manx Shindig 2019

21st - 23rd June

www.thegreatmanxshindig.com



May Day Manx traditions ~ 6th May MNH (photo of Perree Bane), Cregneash, 1-4pm
Join us for an afternoon of traditional Manx dancing, singing and learn how to make a Crosh Cuirn. Standard site admission applies. www.facebook.com/events/2206363009410620/

Tallis Consort and Hartes Ease are delighted to announce what has become an annual Spring Concert at St Ninian's Church, Douglas, on **Sunday 12th May 7.30 pm.** start.

This will be the third year performing together for the Spring Concert event. Both groups have enjoyed performing together and discovering some of the rich repertoire of music written for voices and instruments. The programme will also include a variety of instrumental music and 'a cappella' vocal pieces.

Entry is free with a retiring collection. Donations will be gratefully received, in aid of Church Funds and to charity. This year is our chosen Charity is the Manx Stroke Foundation.

There is plenty of parking with easy access to the Church for anyone with mobility difficulties.



SPRING CONCERT

Hartes Ease &
Tallis Consort

Sunday 12th May 2019
St Ninian's Church,
Douglas at 7.30 pm

Free admission

*Retiring collection in aid of Church Funds
and the Manx Stroke Foundation*

ON A LONELY MOOR

There will be the premiere of a new composition by Roy Baker for solo clarinet and string orchestra inspired by Manx traditional music.

"On a Lonely Moor" will be performed on Sunday 7th July, St Ninian's High School, with soloist – Nigel Harrison & IOM Symphony String Orchestra.

KIRK MICHAEL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA



A Musical Tour of Europe



ST PAUL'S CHURCH, RAMSEY



THURSDAY, 23RD MAY 2019 AT 7.30PM

Admission Free - Retiring Collection in aid of Church Funds

banglann manninagh y chohaglym celtiagh  manx branch of the celtic congress

presents

A Manks Concert for Sophia Morrison

Celebrating 160 years since her birth on 24th May 1859

Centenary
Centre,
Peel

7.30pm
24th May
2019

Tickets £7

Centenary
Centre,
Peel

7.30pm
24th May
2019

Tickets £7

with
Young performers of the **Bunscoill Ghaelgagh**
Dialect recitation with **Deborah Taubman**
Gaelic choir, **Caarjyn Coodjagh**
Award winning harper, **Mera Royle**
Bard Vannin, **Annie Kissack**
Michael Players, RBV

Tickets from Celtic Gold, from Committee members
or online : www.centenarycentre.com

2019
30th-31st August
OUR ISLAND : OUR WORLD
OTLOW
Festival
of Music & Culture

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- BAGHDADDIES • AGBEKO •
- JALLY KEBBA SUSSO •
- FAITH I BRANKO • LAVA •

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Biskee Brisht gig



Compton vaults 3rd May

BOALDYN - MAY more events

12th May - Bree perform at Manx Wildlife
Week Unesco Biosphere event, Manx
Museum, 12.30pm, Free tickets:

www.facebook.com/biosphereisleofman/

15th May - Post Guild Concert in St Johns
Methodist Church Hall, Wed 15th May
7.30pm. Admission on the door £7.50
including country supper.

Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering 2019

Now in its 41st year, the festival's ethos of bringing together the Celtic nations for an annual celebration of music, dance, language, and culture still holds strong.

Taking place from the 15th – 21st July, we are delighted to be hosting -

- Irish singer and bouzouki player Daoirí Farrell, accompanied by bodhran player Robbie Walsh and uilleann piper Michael O'Connell
- Welsh Celtic supergroup, Mabon, who are celebrating their 20th anniversary this year
- Scottish harpist Rachel Hair joined by guitarist Ron Jappy
- The brilliant Lors Landat and accordionist Thomas Moisson from Brittany who are also collaborating with local artists Mera Royle (BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Musician 2018) and composer David Kilgallon
- The magical Davey family from Cornwall who have connections with the festival going back years
- Local greats The Mollag Band and talented composer and flautist Peddyr Cubberley with his trio

During the festival you can enjoy -

- Evening concerts
- Ceilis
- Music and dance displays
- Celtic language taster sessions
- A fabulous Artisan craft fair
- Food and folk sessions

Yn Chruinnaght, meaning 'The Gathering' in Manx Gaelic, was founded in 1978 in Ramsey by champion of all things Manx, Mona Douglas

We're very grateful to our 2019 sponsors -

Culture Vannin, the Isle of Man Arts Council, Culture Ireland, Isle of Man Steam Packet Company, Thornton Chartered Financial Planners, Malcolm Scott Dickinson Charitable Trust, as well as the invaluable support of Manx National Heritage, Cathedral Isle of Man, Department of Education, Sport and Culture, Peel Town Commissioners, Department of Enterprise, Noa Bakehouse & other local venues.

www.celticgathering.im

***Festival Pass for all concerts and after-show access to ceilis only £55* (over half sold out, so don't delay!)**



MANX PERFORMERS

If you or your band would like to be considered for potential gigs, ceilis, festivals, workshops, tuition requests, etc. please get in touch:

manxmusic@culturevannin.im

Also, check your profile is up to date, and let us know if you want to be added:

www.manxmusic.com/performers.html

Rushen Silver Band 70th Anniversary

This year, 2019, marks 70 years since the Surby Silver Band changed its name to Rushen Silver Band. Various events are happening during the year to mark this, including recording a CD, an Anniversary Concert in October, and the return to some venues that the band has not visited for many years.

In the small village of Surby in the south of the island, there is a row of cottages. On one of these, there is a plaque marking the place the Surby Band started. In the same block is Liverpool Cottage. Through his involvement with the Sailors Chapel Mission, a gentleman called Ted Hughes used this cottage in the Second World War to accommodate parties of young people from Liverpool for a break from the bombings and other wartime hardships.

The Sailors Chapel had a band that supported their work, and at Easter they would visit the island, playing at various venues to raise funds for their work. On Good Friday, they would march down to Fleshwick Beach and then hold a short service. After the service the locals in attendance would take the opportunity to roll their hard boiled eggs down the steep banks.

When the Sailors Chapel ceased visiting, the young Surby Silver Band decided to carry on the tradition of Fleshwick on Good Friday. There are photographs from the event in 1946 and 1947. In the 1940s, Good Friday was a particularly busy day for the band, as after events at Fleshwick the players would travel to Foxdale to lead the Sunday School procession and service.

The band has changed much in the 70 years since 1949, but is still very much a community band, and is very aware of its roots.

* * *

Rushen Silver Band held a 70th Anniversary Service at Fleshwick Beach on Good Friday, 19th April 2019.

The event was a historical nod to a tradition from the 1940s, when the Surby Silver Band annually held a service at the beach on Good Friday. Surby Silver Band changed its name to Rushen Silver Band in 1949. The band played Mona's Delight, Ballafesson March, The Manx Fisherman's Evening Hymn and Ellan Vannin during the event, before finishing appropriately with From Newlyn to Niarbyl, which features The Flitter Dance. An encore of Hunt The Wren finished off the memorable afternoon.

Thanks in particular to Reverend Chris Bellfield, the members of Ballafesson Chapel, the Friends of the Band and Daniel at Play Station Child Care for the help in making the event such a success.

More information and to watch videos of the service: www.facebook.com/rushensilverband/

Article compiled by band chairman Tom Sinden with the help of Life Member Jim Crebbin.

PHOTOS PTO >>



www.erinartscentre.com
www.facebook.com/ErinArtsCentre/



Gaelic band, Clash Vooar, one of the many bands who performed at the Without Wings [The Manx Autoimmune Arthritis Trust] fundraiser in Quid's Inn last weekend (27th April).



Young Manx group Bree performing at "On your Doorstep" in Culture Vannin (23 March)

Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea

PAN-CELTIC SONG CONTEST

Ireland clinched this year's top prize at the Pan-Celtic song contest, but 'Drogh Yindys' certainly did the Isle of Man proud in Letterkenny last week.

The lyrics to their song 'Yn Faageyder' (Leaving Thee) were written by John 'Dog' Callister and set to music by Katie Lawrence.

Peddyr Cubberley and Malcolm Stitt also joined the band for the competition and along with Manx delegates Fiona McArdle and Clare Kilgallon, the whole delegation performed and taught Manx music & dance at various concerts, ceilis and workshops.

More info here:

www.manxmusic.com/news_story_566114.html



Isla Callister ~ Recital 'Gow shiu da'n chlieau'

CCA Glasgow ~ Thursday 30th May ~ 1.30pm

Raised on the rich culture and music of the Isle of Man, Manx fiddler and Gaelic speaker Isla Callister has developed a unique Manx sound, whilst drawing influence from the Scottish and Irish traditions and beyond. Now based in Glasgow and in her 3rd year at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Isla's first public recital will take place on the 30th of May at the CCA.

Titled 'Gow shiu da'n chlieau', her recital will explore the concept of 'home' through the traditional tale-telling melodies of the Isle of Man and contemporary and self-penned tunes. Isla will also be joined by BBC Scotland Traditional Musician 2018 finalist Rory Matheson (piano) and All-Ireland Champion Tiernan Courell (flute).

This event is FREE, but please arrive before 1:30pm to secure a seat!

www.facebook.com/events/319318932068082/

Perree Bane flies the flag for the island

Manx music and culture was represented at a folk festival in Wales (March).

Members of the folk dance troupe Perree Bane travelled to the revitalised Cwllwm Celtaidd Celtic festival of Wales, in Porthcawl, South Wales.

They performed a series of displays and workshops alongside artists and acts from the fellow Celtic countries of Scotland, Ireland, Cornwall and Wales itself.



The festival was cancelled last year, but returned this year with a new venue in the seaside town.

The group of 12 dancers, who take their names from their traditional jackets worn by the men in the group, were accompanied by musicians Mark Lawrence on guitar, mandolin player Patrick Fraser and accordionist Paul Helps.

They were also joined by Manx whistle player Beccy Hurst.

The group performed at the main festival venue at the Hi Tide ballroom on the opening night, led a Manx dance workshop on the Saturday afternoon and also took part in a series of outdoor performances on the promenade on Saturday afternoon.

There was also a session of Manx music and a final ceili, led by Perree Bane organiser Caroline Helps.

'It was a great festival for inter-Celtic music and dance,' said Caroline .

'It's always worth it to see friends old and new and to share our culture with the other Celtic nations.'

Perree bane thanked the Isle of Man Arts Council for their support.

AHOY MANANNAN!! www.facebook.com/isleofmansteampacket/videos/413914409174619/

Manx band MecLir provide the soundtrack to the IOM Steam Packet Company's new *Manannan* safety announcement video, starring actor John Rhys-Davies! >>

Welcome aboard me hearties!

MANX MUSIC IN KANSAS

Performed by the Wichita Harp Ensemble at Botanica Illuminations in Wichita, KS, here is a Manx traditional tune, Manannan Beg Mac y Lir, arranged by Charles Guard.

<https://youtu.be/Nxb3pJqcgqg>



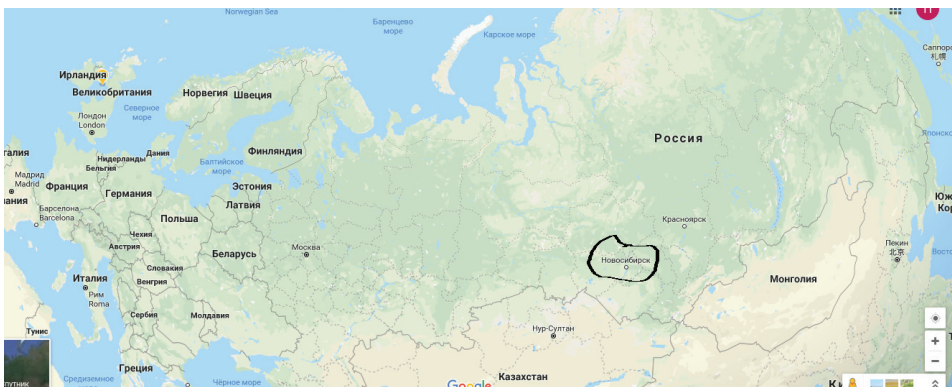
Pass the securing belt around your back, and snap the buckle together at the front

International Celtic Congress - Newquay, Cornwall 2019

The theme at last week's Celtic Congress conference was 'Recording our Past to help inform our future'. Culture Vannin's Online and Educational Resources Officer, James Franklin, gave a talk about his work, and Manx harpist Mera Royle performed in the international concert.



There was also a special feature on **BBC North West News** last month about Mera Royle - a year in the life as 'BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Musician'. The footage also included the Manx music performed by the Dhoon School, and a few words about Mera from Chloe Woolley, Manx Music Development Officer, Culture Vannin.

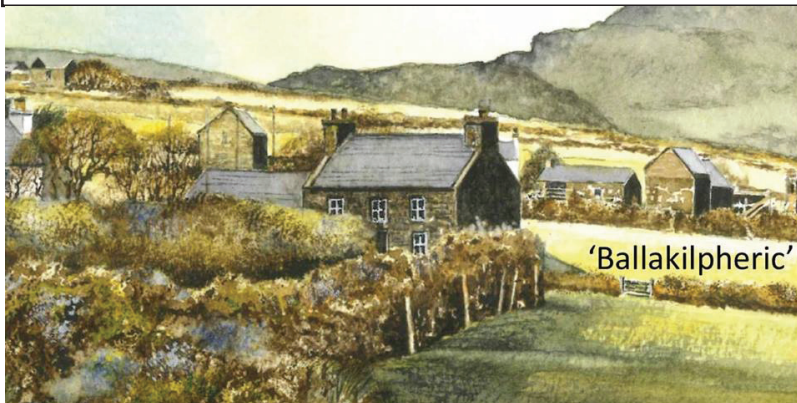


A Russian friend of Perree Bane, Polina, has been teaching Manx dance in Novosibirsk.

<<

Polina and her new husband also visited the Isle of Man last month and enjoyed the Shennaghys Jiu festival as part of their honeymoon!!

kiaul1 noa



ALBUM LAUNCH CONCERT

Gaelic choir Caarjyn Coodjagh will launch their new CD 'Ballakilpheric' at the Peel Centenary Centre on Saturday, 11 May.

Tickets are free so reserve yours now!

More info:

www.facebook.com/events/1018997461635406/

Competition to produce music for a new annual event

Isle of Man Freethinkers are holding a competition for Isle of Man residents to compose a new lament and suite of music suitable for their first secular remembrance ceremony on November 11th. There is £2,000 available in prize money and the closing date is 30th June.

Full information: www.manxmusic.com/news_story_567347.html

Huge congratulations to Dhoon School - the winners of KS2 Original Song award at the Manx Folk Awards 2019. You can watch them perform "Promised Land": www.facebook.com/dhoonschool/



There is a new song about the Manx "Patriot" by a group of 'Spanglerockers' called **Illiam Dhone!**

<https://soundcloud.com/illiamdhone>

Nigel Brown AKA Scaanjoon has recently released his first electronic pop song - "I want to sway with you into the dark"

www.youtube.com/watch?v=wFEZFkQquvA

Youtube/ video corner

Archive recording

Ramsey Grammar School girls & teacher Mike Boulton perform Smugglers Lullaby in Manx Gaelic, recorded by Terry Clough at Kelly Records studio in Douglas Isle of Man, 1976.

<https://youtu.be/U2OAeqOcb2M>

RESEARCH NEWS

A Manx Emigrants' Lament

A different side of Manx history has been brought to life thanks to a new film just released online. An unpublished song passed down through three generations has been captured on film which tells of the heartbreak Manx people felt over 100 years ago when forced to emigrate. Like so many other Manx people in the 1890s, Willie Teare emigrated in the hope of a better life than the poverty he knew working in the Foxdale Mines.

At the age of 20 he set sail for America, heading for the mines of Colorado, but what he found there was something very different to the riches he had hoped for. "We can easily find out about 'The Diamond King' or other successful Manx emigrants, but it's harder to uncover the more common stories of disappointment and sadness," says James Franklin of Culture Vannin.

This is the case with Willie Teare who returned to his beloved Isle of Man in 1893, without the riches he had dreamed of, but with 'The Emigrant's Lament.' This song was heard around the campfires of Colorado at night, telling of the great sadness of the emigrant workers there and bringing even the toughest of men to tears. It left such a deep impression on Willie Teare that he sang it for the rest of his life, passing it onto his son, Dannie, who in turn passed it onto his son, Keith Teare.

It was Keith who investigated the song and was surprised to find that it had never been published and so it was only kept alive by him singing it.

Through online connections, Keith was able to uncover another two verses for the piece from a lady in America, Mary Ward Utterback, who had a note of it in her own family papers. Together it made for a complete song telling the sorry tale of so many Manx people's experience of emigration.

Keith Teare, who performs the song in the new short film, says:

"It captures in just a few lines many of the thoughts and feelings that went with being an emigrant; the longing for the old homeland, the old farmstead and most of all the family and friends they had left behind. In many cases the emigrants would never see homeland or family again."

The song is available to hear: www.culturevannin.im
Music & lyrics:

www.manxmusic.com/news_story_260073.html



>> Thanks to Stephen Miller for finding this 1906 poster of Yn Cheshaght Gailckagh's festival of music in Douglas. Sounds similar to today's Manx Folk Awards!! >>

London lecture on Gill brothers' work

The remarkable contribution to Manx folk song by the Gill brothers was the subject of a lecture at Cecil Sharpe House in London, home of the Folk Dance and Song Society.



The well attended lecture was given by Manxman Stephen Miller, who has a BA in history and an MA in folk life studies, both from the University of Leeds.

The Gill brothers, W.H. Gill (1839-1923) and Deemster J.F. Gill (1842-99) have remained marginalised and neglected figures in the collecting of Manx folk song, overshadowed by A.W. Moore (1853-1909), whose own Manx Ballads and Music appeared in 1896, and by Dr John Clague (1842-1908), whose collection was published in large part in the Journal of the Folk-Song Society between 1924-26, edited by A.G. Gilchrist.

Ironically, the Gills have left more manuscript material behind than any of these collectors, found among the personal papers of Deemster Gill when they were released in 2000. A number of members of the London Manx Society attended the meeting.

Society member Alastair Kneale said: 'It is very important that the work of the Gill Brothers is recognised. 'Stephen Miller gave a really informative and interesting talk that sought to acknowledge the work they undertook on behalf of Manx culture and heritage.'

Mr Miller previously worked at the Austrian Academy of Sciences on the Austrian Academy Corpus and taught recently at the University of Vienna.

He has combined interests in folkloristics and digitisation and has lectured on both.

Research interests include Manx folklore, folk song, and folk dance, and the figures and collectors involved with the Celtic Revival.

Article from the Manx Independent, Friday, 26 April 2019 www.iomtoday.co.im/article.cfm?id=48065

A Forgotten 'Manx' Work ~ T. F. Dunhill's Fantasia on Manx National Melodies

by Maurice Powell

The manuscript collection at the Manx Museum holds a fascinating piece of music with a number of significant Manx connections. It is a concert piece for violin and orchestra (violin and piano copy) based on Manx Melodies by Thomas F. Dunhill.

READ full article here:

www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/Dunhill%20Manx%20Fantasia%20Maurice%20Powell%202019.pdf

Sophia Morrison collected “Arrane Sooree” from Joseph Moore of Dalby and she commented that while he once knew twelve or thirteen verses of it, “now he remembers the first verse & the chorus which came after each verse.” Moore attempted to find others who could recollect more of the song than he could but to no avail. “However, he tried to console me by saying that the missing verses were no loss, ‘jus’ [just] boghtynid,” Cregeen glosses *boghtynid* as meaning “poverty, pooriness” with Kelly the same sense, “poverty, need.” Moore is using it here in the notion of “rubbish,” and that the missing verses were no great loss. This was not the only time that Morrison encountered this feeling. When reporting to the Manx Language Society in 1905 about the activities of the recently purchased phonograph she mentioned a major problem she had encountered in collecting material:

One difficulty in the way of obtaining the material which we want, has been, as I have found by experience, the unwillingness of our intensely earnest and religious peasantry to speak into the instrument such “boghtynid” as folk-stories and sayings and secular songs. They prefer that such a serious thing as a record which is to be handed down to posterity shall consist of Hymns, Scripture, or Carvals.

She went to add, “One who knows them can understand the feeling, but, for the purposes of the M.L.S. more frivolity is to be desired.”

Agnes Wicksey, the schoolmistress of Baaregarroo, recorded in the school logbook for 1874: “Singing not so good; one boy, who has been converted at the ‘revival meetings’ held in this Chapel at the present time, refused to sing school songs, as he thought it wrong to do so.” Methodist revivals were a feature of Island in the nineteenth century. For example, Croit-e-Caley Chapel had revival meetings that lasted nine to ten weeks in the years 1866, 1872, 1876, and 1890. The result of this was as A.W. Moore noted in his *Manx Ballads and Music* (1896), “[t]o this day a score of Manx men will know one or more Manx sacred songs for every one that knows a Manx secular song.”

For one fiddler, it was a meeting with the Devil as well that turned him away from playing his instrument for good, as Edward Faragher recalled:

There was a man once lived at the Sound. He was a very decent old man, and he used to play the fiddle, and the neighbours coming to dance. So he was fiddling away in the dark one evening before the candle was lit and the fire, and all was dark, but the fire blazed up suddenly and he saw the devil or some of his imps on the floor dancing; he threw the fiddle out of his hand and never played a fiddle again.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2019

Manx Music Worthy Frieda Standen

1910 - 2009

Amateur musical and dramatic societies on the Isle of Man have always thrived, and continue to thrive today, witness the excellent concerts of the Isle of Man Symphony Orchestra, the series of television-inspired comedies produced by the Service Players in recent years, and the highly professional productions presented by the Manx Operatic Society, Taylorian Productions and the Douglas Choral Union. These indispensable facets of the Island’s cultural life have been possible only because of the tireless industry of countless talented and enthusiastic individuals who inaugurated, supported and participated in these groups in so many ways, and continue so to do. Frieda Standen was one such person. She was born during the heyday of Music Hall, before the motor car was a feature of most people’s lives. She began her career with the emergence of Variety and Revue, ‘silent’ pictures and the first ‘talkies’; she flourished during the golden years of radio entertainment and into the television age, and on into our own age of the personal computer and the mobile phone. She was a true stalwart of the societies and groups she was associated with: loyal, dependable, energetic, adaptable and undaunted.

READ about this Manx Music Worthy, by Maurice Powell: www.manxmusic.com/bio_page_572891.html



"Completed and Restored to Use"

REVIVAL AND DISSEMINATION OF MANX FOLKLORE AND TRADITION DURING THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Papers by various authors delivered at a seminar in the Manx Museum in 2000 and related articles are available to read online.

Published and edited by Stephen Miller in 2004, papers include:

- *Parallels Between Descriptive Revival Models and the Manx Traditional Music Scene: From the 1970s to the Present Day* Chloë Woolley
- *The Revival and Reconstruction of Manx Traditional Dance* Robert Carswell
- *Revival and Reconstruction of Manx Traditional Dance Music* David Speers
- *The Role and Influence of Inter-Celtic Festivals on the Revival of Language, Music and Dance* Brian Stowell
- *Mona Douglas: A Bibliography* Stephen Miller
- *"My Own Family Circle": The Dancing Forebears of Mona Douglas* Stephen Miller
- *"My Little Tribute to Billy the Dollan": Mona Douglas and her Early Collecting* Stephen Miller
- *"The List would be as Long as this Book": Mona Douglas and her Informants* Stephen Miller
- *"These Men and Women who championed my Childhood and Youth": Recollections by Mona Douglas of her Informants* Stephen Miller
- *"Manx Sword Dance (Solo)": References by Mona Douglas to the "Dirk Dance of the Kings of Man"* Stephen Miller
- *Mona Douglas and her Dances* George Broderick
- *Mona Douglas and her Songs* George Broderick



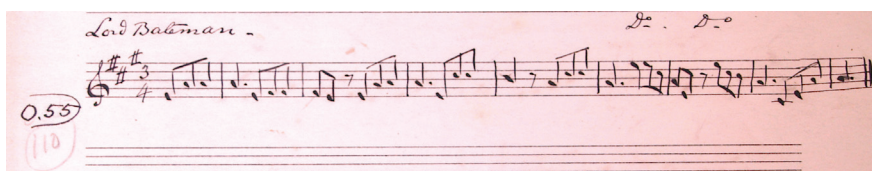
Download: www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/~stephen/chiollaghbooks/MD_SEMINAR_2up.pdf

MONA DOUGLAS AND HER SONGS

This paper by Dr George Broderick has recently been updated:

www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/MONA%20DOUGLAS%20AND%20HER%20SONGS.pdf

LORD BATEMAN



"Lord Bateman" (Child 53) & (Roud 40) is a well-known and widely-distributed English and Scottish traditional ballad. It, too, is known from the Isle of Man having been collected by the Gill brothers on 6 August 1895, from John Callister (1833–1912) who farmed Ballachonelly at Jurby East. Taken down from him as well that day was "The Farmer's Daughter" and "'Twas once I loved a lady fair." As regards the first title, it is fuller "A Sailor courted a Farmer's Daughter" (Roud 993), with the first lines, "A Sailor courted a Farmer's Daughter, / That lived convenient to the Isle of man [*sic*]," and from a broadside published between 1820–40. The first line of the second piece here suggests a number of songs, the words a ready commonplace opener. It is likely connected with the group of songs known as "The False Bride" (Roud 154). Titles such as these link a singer like Callister with a wider song community and one that was outside of the Island itself; living then at Jurby East was no bar to him becoming acquainted with them.

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

This month, we have "Yn Billey Keirn" - a lively Manx dance tune that sort of relates to the month of May!

Billey Keirn is Manx Gaelic for Rowan Tree. In the Isle of Man, it is customary on May eve (Oie Voaldyn) to fashion a 'crosch cuirn' out of two rowan tree sticks and some sheep's wool, and then place the lucky cross over the door in an effort to ward off witches for the rest of the year!

* Find out more about the Crosch Cuirn superstition and other customs relating to Boaldyn (May)*

www.culturevannin.im/manx_year_event_475492.html

However... there is a slightly complicated back story! The jig tune was originally called "Gathering in the Barley" (Fouyr Oarn) and it accompanied a duet dance of the same name written by Leighton Stowell. But, in recent years, this tune has instead become associated with another dance by Stowell called Yn Billey Keirn. And the name has stuck! Anyway, it's a nice tune, and here is the music with counter-melody taken from the book, *Bree Session Tunes*: www.manxmusic.com/publication_216692.html

Yn Billey Keirn (The Rowan Tree) or Gathering in the Barley

The musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of several staves. The first three staves show the main melody with chords Em, Am, and Em indicated above the notes. The fourth staff continues the melody with chords G, C, G, C, G, C, and D. The fifth staff shows the counter-melody with chords G, C, G, C, and G, ending with 'D.C. al Fine' and 'Bm'. The sixth staff is labeled '(8^{va}) second time' and 'counter-melody by C Woolley'. The seventh staff is the end of the counter-melody, marked 'Fine'. The eighth and ninth staves are further musical notation, with the ninth staff ending with 'D.C. al Fine'.

Listen to a 'King Chiauullee-inspired' version of the tune played by Will Quale in the USA:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bxv2Vqez_9Y

CALENDAR

MAY

Now - 4th May Manx Music Festival [Guild]
3rd Biskee Brisht gig, Compton Vaults, 9pm

5th Oie Voaldyn, Peel, 2 – 10pm

6th May Day at Cregneash, 1-4pm

8th Shoh Slaynt & Matt Kelly, Sailor's Shelter,
Peel 7.30pm, free (see poster p. 10 for list of
other Wednesday concerts)

11th Caarjyn Coidjagh Album launch,
Peel Centenary Centre, 7.30pm

12th Hartes Ease & Tallis Consort concert, St
Ninian's Church, 7.30pm

12th Bree play at Manx Wildlife Week, Manx
Museum 12.30pm, Free tickets: [https://
www.facebook.com/biosphereisleofman/](https://www.facebook.com/biosphereisleofman/)

18th Yn Chruinnaght Moghrey Caffee,
Ebenezer Hall, 10-12, £1/50p

18th Finlay MacDonald & Malcolm Stitt
concert (Yn Chruinnaght), Peel Masonic
Hall, 7.30pm £7/3.50 tkts in advance only

23rd Kirk Michael Chamber Orchestra
Musical Tour of Europe inc. Manx music, St
Paul's Church, 7.30pm

24th Celtic Congress Manks Concert for
Sophia Morrison, Centenary Centre, Peel

JUNE

16th – 29th Mananan Festival

www.erinartscentre.com

21st-23rd The Great Manx Shindig [www.
thegreatmanxshindig.com](http://www.thegreatmanxshindig.com)

JULY

5th Tynwald Day & NATIONAL WEEK

7th Premiere of A Lonely Moor by Roy
Baker, St Ninian's High School, time tbc

15th – 21st Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering
www.celticgathering.im

19th-21st Dark Horse festival, Ramsey

AUGUST

2nd – 11th Festival Interceltique de Lorient

31st Our Island Our World festival, Peel

SEPTEMBER

27 – 29th Traditional Music Weekend

www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan/

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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Written and edited by Chloë Woolley for Culture Vannin

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