

## KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU

Boaldyn 2023 May

MANX MUSIC TODAY

**AUNDYRYN KIAULL-THEAY VANNIN - MANX FOLK AWARDS 2023 FILMS RELEASED**

Films of some of the 2023 Manx Folk Awards are now available to watch online. So far, Key Stage 1 and secondary classes have been released, with 150+ more to come!

<https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/videos/manx-folk-awards-2023-ks1-767075/>

**Highlights so far:**

- Outstanding winning performances on the piano, fiddle and harp
- The most joyful 'Chyndaa yn Bwoailley' (the slapping dance!) you will ever see
- A wonderful new tune composed by a young fiddler
- Two beautiful newly composed dances
- The first ever filmed performances of Manx music in the Kiaull yn Theay books by composers like Katie Lawrence and Laura Rowles
- The first ever filmed performances of the traditional dances, 'Jemmy as Nancy' and 'Dance for Five'

This is just a snapshot of the five days of the Manx Folk Awards, at which over 1,000 young people took part with Manx music, song, dance and recitation. The Manx Folk Awards are organised by Culture Vannin and Isle of Man Government, as a way to celebrate the Island's culture and inspire new generations to take part and find expression through it.

More information is here: <https://culturevannin.im/resources/manx-folk-awards-716357/>

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

- *Guild 2023 results*
- *Shennaghys Jiu in pictures*
- *English lyrics for Arrane Oie Voaldyn*



# Manx Folk Awards Review 2023

Aundyryn Kiaull-Theay Vannin 2023



**Over 1000  
entries**

**5 days**

**92 classes**

**200 videos**

**15 choirs**

**11 new compositions**

**310 dancers**

**521 singers**

**12 harps**

**58 Manx readings**

**12 adjudicators**

**And lots of cups of tea!**



With grateful thanks to Kensington Arts, Trinity Methodist Church, St John's Methodist Hall and the Malcolm Scott Dickinson Charitable Trust. And to Paul Boulton and Caitlin Bennett. Gura mie eu.

**26th**

**SECONDARY  
CLASSES**

Malcolm Scott  
Dickinson Charitable  
Trust Folkstastic  
Winner:  
Frank Joughin

**27th**

**KEYSTAGE 1  
CLASSES**

Malcolm Scott  
Dickinson Charitable  
Trust Folkstastic  
Winner:  
Arbory School

**28th**

**KEYSTAGE 2  
SONG/DANCE**

Malcolm Scott  
Dickinson Charitable  
Trust Folkstastic  
Winner:  
Skeddan Jiarg  
Couples

**29th**

**KEYSTAGE 2  
INSTRUMENTAL**

Malcolm Scott  
Dickinson Charitable  
Trust Folkstastic  
Winner:  
Mannin Music

**30th**

**KEYSTAGE 1 & 2  
Manx Language,  
Poetry and  
Recitation Classes**



“As always – a lovely informal atmosphere in which to perform. Our children got a lot out of it. Thanks for organising such a mammoth event.”

“We love the relaxed, competitive atmosphere which encourages participation and allows all the children to shine. The judges are kind and constructive with their comments and this encourages the children to improve rather than leaving them disappointed. The ability to be a little flexible with timings also allows children to take part in more than one discipline.”

“Moylley as soyley diu! Congratulations to everyone involved!”

“This is absolutely fantastic! My daughter took part in the Manx Folk awards a few years ago and it is so wonderful to see it has continued to go from strength to strength!”

Brilliant event as ever! Congrats to the team for organising - the Manx Folk Awards are a joy 🥰

“The amount of work that you guys put into this is immense, and we all really appreciate the relaxed and supportive environment that you create for the kids”

Thank you so much for today. The coffee in the middle of the day was very very welcome! Please pass on my thanks to your lovely stewards who were fantastic with the Rhumsaa children. I really needed their assistance getting everyone on the bus at the end of the session



“Thank you very much for putting on the event! These events help make memories for pupils and teachers alike. An absolute highlight for us all”



It's fantastic. All those children immersed in the music and enjoying the experience!



“One of the highlights of my year! This event is so well organised and is totally supportive and encouraging for the children. It's wonderful to see it grow every year”



## 2023 MANX FOLK DANCE SOCIETY SPECIAL PRIZE

The Manx Folk Dance Society gives two awards for the best solo dancer in key stage 1 & 2. Manx dance adjudicator Rachel Clarkson, has been a member of the MFDS for a number of years and was instrumental in arranging the new award. This year's winner was Cara Rowles who performed the particularly difficult solo dance 'Sharon's Jig'. Rachel said she was thrilled with the standard of dancing and is pleased it will continue to be recognised over the coming years with this new award.





## There's been Manx music and dance galore at the 131st Guild / Manx Music, Speech and Dance festival (22 - 29 April)

There was Manx dancing classes featuring Perree Bane, Rushen Primary School & Skeddan Jiarg, folk song classes, The Laxey Boys sang "Laxey Girls" in the Anything Goes class, the Manx Youth Band performed "Peel Castle", Mannin Mini Fiddlers and Uke Group and Ballacottier Primary School all played Manx tunes in the instrumental ensemble classes, as did the trad music group Skimmee Kiaull and Yn Queig on the bagpipes and snare drum. There were also dozens of Manx trad tunes played by harpists and fiddles, bagpipes, tin whistlers and by woodwind soloists.

The Music hall/comedy song class in the Royal Hall was won by Richard Corlett singing "The Isle of Man" and there were poems by Manx authors, Manx Gaelic solo songs, plus choral songs from Ballacottier and Braddan schools and Un Chorraa with "Skeelalyn Vannin 1" a new medley of Manx songs arranged by Aalin Clague. There have also been original compositions pertaining to the Isle of Man, and of course, the National Anthem at the close of each day!

**RESULTS** [www.manxmusicfestival.org/results/2023/](http://www.manxmusicfestival.org/results/2023/)

**PODCAST:** [www.manxradio.com/podcasts/today-at-the-guild/](http://www.manxradio.com/podcasts/today-at-the-guild/)



Top: Richard Corlett winner of the Music Hall class / Mannin Music Uke Group

Bottom: Mannin Mini Fiddlers and Uke Group





Some of the participants of the Guild who performed Manx music & dance. Top left > clockwise: Aalish Kilgallon on harp, Skeddan Jiarg adult dancers, Yn Queig pipes & drums, Rushen Primary School dancers, Matthew Warren & Skeddan Jiarg kids. RESULTS: [www.manxmusicfestival.org/results/2023/](http://www.manxmusicfestival.org/results/2023/)





**Talented young musician Resa Brown** has been gifted a brand new harp, built especially for her by Killarney Harps in Ireland, thanks to the Isle of Man's Soundcheck Charity!

Resa received the dream-come-true surprise after she was nominated for her ongoing commitment to playing the harp and for her outstanding contribution to Manx music. She was presented with the brand new Celtic harp by two of the Soundcheck Charity directors, Chloe Woolley and Martin Katz.

Having learnt her craft at a young age whilst in Share na Veg folk group at Bunscoill Rhumsaa, Resa is now taught by Rachel Hair and she regularly plays in concerts as a soloist, accompanies folk dancers at Ny Fennee and she is a valuable member of Manx music youth groups, Scrán and Bree.

**Soundcheck Charity** (no. 1259) considers applications for financial assistance throughout the year from young people involved in music and the performing arts, and also from

organisations who encourage and support young people in the Isle of Man to participate in the arts. Recently, the charity has supported the Shennaghys Jiu Celtic music and dance festival, Yn Draamey charity, Battle of the Bands - IOM for young musicians, and the forthcoming Oie Voaldyn celebrations in St Johns.

More information: [www.soundcheckcharity.im](http://www.soundcheckcharity.im)



Last year the British and International Federation of Festivals filmed at the Guild along with festivals in the UK. You can spot some Manx traditional singers, dancers & instrumentalists in this short film which perfectly summarizes the enrichment and joy of the festival movement.

Watch it here!

<https://youtu.be/Z9adJF4CRhM>

[www.federationoffestivals.org.uk/](http://www.federationoffestivals.org.uk/)



# SHENNAGHYS JIU CELTIC FESTIVAL 2023



kiuill manninagh jiu 05/23 culture vannin

More pictures: [www.facebook.com/shennaghysjiu](https://www.facebook.com/shennaghysjiu)





Photo credits: Rob McKenzie & Val Caine



# OIE VOALDYN

SUNDAY 30th APRIL



4pm-7pm



METHODIST HALL

St John's

4PM Face painting, Craft workshops for children

5PM Oie Voaldyn costume contest,

Winter-Summer battle

6PM Music, Dances and Procession



Free entrance and refreshments



LEARN THE SONG & TUNE

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1184678108916656>

SEE TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH FOR THE LYRICS



Manx National Heritage will be celebrating Laa Boaldyn (Manx May Day) this Bank Holiday Monday (May 1) at Cregneash with dancing from Perree Bane.

LEARN ALL ABOUT OIE VOALDYN / LAA BOALDYN CUSTOMS HERE:

<https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/videos/boaldyn-competition-winners-675095/>



# Post Guild Concert



**METHODIST  
CHURCH HALL**

**Wednesday 17th May**

**Start: 7.30 p.m.**

**Compere: Judith Ley**

**Accompanist: Gareth Moore**

Admission £8 including country supper  
All Welcome – Pay on the Door

# Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering

## Coffee Morning

• Kiaull as Caffee •

*Music and Coffee*

**Saturday 20th May**

☕ 10am - 12pm 🎵

**Ebenezer Hall • Kirk Michael**

From 10am-10.30am watch and listen to  
Manx music, dance and songs from the  
2023 Manx Folk Awards

**£1 entry fee includes a cup of tea or coffee**

~ Cake stall and raffle ~ .

All proceeds go to supporting  
the Yn Chruinnaght Celtic  
Gathering Festival for 2023.

More info on the website below

[www.celticgathering.im](http://www.celticgathering.im)



ERIN ARTS CENTRE presents

# MANANAN FESTIVAL

Monday 26th June - Saturday 1st July



Simon Armitage  
Monday 26th June



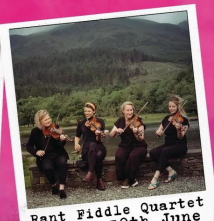
Creeaght  
Tuesday 27th June



A4 Brass Quartet  
Wednesday 28th June



Tim Horton  
Thursday 29th June



Rant Fiddle Quartet  
Friday 30th June



Harvey/O'Higgins  
Saturday 1st July

Tickets: [www.TicketSource.co.uk/ErinArtsCentre](http://www.TicketSource.co.uk/ErinArtsCentre) and at EAC Box Office  
[www.erinartscentre.com](http://www.erinartscentre.com) / Facebook & Instagram @ErinArtsCentre  
Contact: 835858 | [hello@erinartscentre.com](mailto:hello@erinartscentre.com)  
The Erin Arts Centre is a registered charity 236A

BUY TICKETS ONLINE



YN CHRUINNAGHT

**Celtic**  
GATHERING 2023

**DERVISH**

**KARINE POLWART &**

**DAVE MILLIGAN**

**TRIP**

**RACHEL HAIR &**

**RUTH KEGGIN**

**MORVRAN**

**AN CAILÍN CIÚIN**

**THE MEGA MANX CEILI**

**AND MORE!**

24th - 30th July 2023  
Peel & Douglas, Isle of Man

[ynchruinnaght.com](http://ynchruinnaght.com)  
[info@ynchruinnaght.com](mailto:info@ynchruinnaght.com)

*We have a fantastic lineup for this year's Mananan  
Festival and tickets are now on sale to Friends of*

*EAC members using the priority booking code. If you are a member and have not received the code,  
please get in touch with us at [hello@erinartscentre.com](mailto:hello@erinartscentre.com) or on 01624 835858. Tickets will be on  
general sale from Wednesday May 10th: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/erinartscentre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/erinartscentre)*



## Conference: 'Language and Society in the Isle of Man'

iMuseum (Kingswood Grove, Douglas), 15.00, Thursday 11th May – 18.00, Saturday 13th May. FREE. Optional buffet dinner, 1886 (Regent St, Douglas), 20.00 (book by 2nd May).

[www.eventbrite.ie/e/language-and-society-in-the-isle-of-man-tickets-621685356637](http://www.eventbrite.ie/e/language-and-society-in-the-isle-of-man-tickets-621685356637)

### Gig: Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe and Daniel Quayle

1886 (Regent St, Douglas), 21.30, Friday 12th May

All welcome, in conjunction with 'Language and Society in the Isle of Man' conference.

### Trad session: Kiaull as Gaelg / Music and Manx

Whitehouse (Tynwald Rd, Peel), 20.30, Saturday 13th May

All welcome, in conjunction with 'Language and Society in the Isle of Man' conference.



The North American Manx Association is once again, this academic year, presenting awards for outstanding achievement by young people under the age of 18 years on the Isle of Man along with two additional awards for older recipients.

The awards are arranged in five categories and for each category a silver medal has been minted for presentation to suitable candidates.

You are invited to submit recommendations, and full details of criteria can be found on nomination form. To request the full application form, email: [frances.cowin@sch.im](mailto:frances.cowin@sch.im)

Nominations should reach Frances Cowin by Friday, 5th May 2023.

FORM: [www.gov.im/media/1355438/nama-nomination-form-310323.pdf](http://www.gov.im/media/1355438/nama-nomination-form-310323.pdf)

### Call for events - Cooish festival 2023!

This year's festival will take place 1st - 5th November. By vie lhiat taghyrt y reaghey mleeaney? Insh dooin! Would you like to organise an event this year? Tell us by 1st May! Find out more about the Cooish and how you can get involved! [gaelg@culturevannin.im](mailto:gaelg@culturevannin.im)

*Isle of Man Primary Schools Singing Concert  
Presents ...*

**Wed 28th June 2023  
7pm**

**Villa Marina Royal Hall**  
Tickets £10 / Concessions £5  
Available From the Villa Gaiety Box Office

**The Sound of Magic**

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DOUGLAS BUXTON MUSIC TRUST  
email: [dbmt@manx.net](mailto:dbmt@manx.net) / CHARITY NUMBER 246

For updates & news on Manx music & dance,  
follow [www.facebook.com/groups/manxmusicanddance](https://www.facebook.com/groups/manxmusicanddance)





Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman  
CENTENARY CENTRE PEEL  
Saturday May 6th 8pm £15  
Tickets;  
[www.centenarycentre.com](http://www.centenarycentre.com)  
Celtic Gold, Corlett's Jewellers  
Thompson Travel

**FULL MOON FESTIVAL**  
JUNE 30TH - JULY 2ND  
**BUSHWACKA!**

**BUNCH OF BUNKERS** **VOODOO BANDITS** **LEE JAHN**

A STONES THROW BAHUKI  
DROP KICK THE FISH DUSTY PLANKTON  
FRANCESCA MAY JAMIE BLACKBURN  
MOTHER FUNKERS NATHAN THOMPSON  
NEIL COWIE NIGHT TIME TENNIS  
NO ONE DIED OTTY LIVE  
RED HOT CHILLY YESSIRS  
SAMMY J LIVE SAX THE GETAWAYS

3 STOOLS COLLECTIVE ALAN STACEY ALAN VANNIN  
AUDIOWOK BUSY LADY CLASH VOOAR COOL HAND  
CORKWING FLUKE GOMH HALF NAKED HEADLINE JC STORMZ  
LEWIS PARKER LOOSE CREW MO BEATS NINJA FINGERS  
ROGUE FADER SECRET GIG SHADY ACRES THE AAA VIXEN  
THE DAVID MAPP ORCHESTRA TIGER BOOM TREE NY KIARE  
ATILLA DANIEL LOONEY DANNY LIPTROTT PADDY RANTIN STEREO AND MCGRATH  
STEVE BUTT T4 BARRY FEARON BRIAN ROONEY

DJ SETS FROM  
**VOLUME** **MORE ACTS TO BE ANNOUNCED!**

**ACROSS 5 MUSIC AREAS**  
**DAY, WEEKEND & CAMPING TICKETS**

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!  
Gear PROTEC RESTCARS ARTS COUNCIL

**BUY TICKETS - WWW.THEFULLMOONFESTIVAL.CO.UK**

GEF PRESENTS  
**30 UNDER 30 WINNERS**

Gef30Under30

<<

Congratulations to the  
local singer-songwriter  
Ruby Biscoe-Taylor  
from Biskee Brisht!!



# kiaul1 noa



MATTHEW WARREN, who is working at UCM (the College) teaching music, won the Guild's Musical Composition Class.

This class allowed composers to create a piece for up to 5 performers on a theme pertaining to the Isle of Man.

Matthew's piece, "Ayre to Sound" was a suite for clarinet and piano.

A new 4-track EP has been released by clandestine collaborators Alex Dunford and Jeff Jepson. Written, recorded, mixed and mastered entirely remotely between Lancashire & the Isle of Man.

Listen on Spotify:

<https://show.co/uX9IJ5G>

## CHARITY FUNDRAISER TRACK DROP

<https://endopius.bandcamp.com/track/submergence>

New Release - Debut single by Endopius, A collaboration between music producer Gyp Buggane and poet Jacqueline Morrey-Grace. Ballagroove Recording Studio  
The track was created as part of Without Wings The Manx Autoimmune Arthritis Trust March #BeKind2023 fundraiser.

All proceeds go towards the charity's counselling initiative.



The main line-up has been announced for Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering (24th - 31st July) and festival passes are now for sale: [www.facebook.com/CelticGatheringIOM](https://www.facebook.com/CelticGatheringIOM)

If any Manx acts would like to be considered, email [info@ynchruinnaght.com](mailto:info@ynchruinnaght.com) with details.



ISLE OF MAN

Laa Jannoo Kiaull

JUNE 21

Soundcloud & YouTube  
corner

- Check out composer Eleri's
- arrangement of the National Anthem:
- <https://soundcloud.com/eler1/manx-anthem>



# Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea



Over the Easter weekend, Ruth and Rachel were in the beautiful “Burgh” to perform and teach at the Edinburgh International Harp Festival.

The festival was the one of the first places they performed as a duo, and were inspired to make more music together, so it holds a special place in their hearts (not just for obvious harp-related reasons!). Over the course of the long weekend, Rachel taught a popular harp course called ‘Manx to the Max’, where students learnt a variety of Manx melodies arranged by Rachel, along with finding out about the culture of the Isle of Man along the way. Ruth taught an hour-long Manx song workshop to 22 harpists, deliberately choosing accessible repertoire that would also allow harpists to accompany themselves, if they wished.

Ruth and Rachel performed music from their album *LOSSAN* on the evening of Easter Sunday, and loved sharing the night with the talented Scottish harpist Gillian Fleetwood and her ensemble of musicians, who performed a fantastic suite of music featuring harp, fiddle, cello, sousaphone(!) and percussion.

The duo will be at various festivals over the next few months, including Yn Chruinnaght, and the Festival Interceltique de Lorient – keep your eyes peeled on [www.rachelhair.com](http://www.rachelhair.com) for gig dates!



## London Manx Society Presents



Annual Lunch  
13th May 2023

## London Manx Society (Yn Cheshaght Manninagh Lunnin) Annual Lunch

Saturday 13th May at 1pm

Still Time to Join Us for Lunch Followed by Manx Music and Dance on 13th May. There are still a few places available at London Manx Society annual lunch. It will be at the Doubletree by Hilton West End Hotel in London's Southampton Row on Saturday 13th May. Join us - All are welcome as we bring together London Manx Society members, Manx people, those with Manx

connections and friends of the Isle of Man from the south of England and those visiting London and nearby counties. Our guest of honour is Chloe Woolley, Manx Music Development Officer at Culture Vannin who along with members of her family will present examples of Manx music and dance.

Booking is simple and to reserve a place contact: [londonmanxsociety@googlemail.com](mailto:londonmanxsociety@googlemail.com) and there won't be a better value meal that weekend.

[www.facebook.com/groups/1468756610108681](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1468756610108681)

Chloe will also be leading an online session on Manx song, music and culture to students of the Harmony Music School based in Bangalore, India on the 25th May.

Chloe met with the school's founder and director and vocal coach Sandra Oberoi last month when she was visiting the Island.

[www.harmony-themusicschool.com/hsvi](http://www.harmony-themusicschool.com/hsvi)

[www.harmony-themusicschool.com/](http://www.harmony-themusicschool.com/)

Scottish piper Ben Gibbs included Manx tunes Car y Phoosee and Gyn Ennym in his performance at An Lanntair for the BA Applied Music UHI showcase. Backing track by Adam Rhodes.

WATCH <https://fb.watch/kalhioQqiM/>



## Manx music in Kernow!

Visiting Manx musos Beccy J Hurst and Katie Lawrence joined in the Cornish / Celtic Session in Redruth, Cornwall last month.

<https://tinyurl.com/yzdjxytb/>



# RESEARCH NEWS

## London Manx Society.

PRESIDENT: G. W. GIBSON, Esq.

HON. SECRETARY  
MR. G. F. CLUCAS,  
24 GRACEDALE ROAD,  
STREATHAM, S.W.16.

ASST. HON. SECRETARIES  
MISS M. FENTON-JONES,  
"LEZAYRE," 77 SNAKES LANE,  
WOODFORD GREEN, ESSEX.

HON. TREASURER  
MR. W. L. LONG,  
82 KINVEACHY GARDENS,  
CHARLTON, S.E.7.

MR. A. S. BERESFORD,  
39 WOODBERRY GROVE,  
N. FINCHLEY, N.12.

Headquarters:

St. Bride Foundation Institute, Bride Lane, Ludgate Circus, E.C.4.

Saturday 31st January, 1931

at 6.45 p.m.

## MANX EVENING

MUSIC

FOLKLORE

DANCES

OLD CUSTOMS

*"Like ould tunes, like ould rimes,  
That's runnin' in your head, and makin' ye  
A sort of happy . . ."* (T. E. BROWN).

An evening of much more than ordinary interest is promised—the first part of the programme will be supported by the following:

Miss NORAH MOORE (*Soprano*)  
Mr. HAYDN WOOD (*Violinist and Composer*)  
Mr. WALTER McHARRIE (*Baritone*)  
Mr. J. E. CALLISTER (*Manx Recitation*)  
Mr. WILLIAM RADCLIFFE (*Reminiscences*)

The second part consists of a Manx Revue—

### "PHIL CORJEAG'S CHRISTMAS PARTY"

During this party OLD MANX CUSTOMS will be faithfully reproduced. Manx music, Songs and Dances will be given. "THE WHITE BOYS" will appear and "HUNT THE WREN" and other famous traditions will be enacted. There is no doubt that an evening of exceptional enjoyment is promised and no pains have been spared to that end.

**MEMBERS are admitted FREE**

**Friends 1/2 (including tax) payable on entrance**

Yours sincerely,

G. F. CLUCAS.

**Next Meeting—Dance February 14th 1931.**

Chloe will giving a similarly themed talk with musical and dance illustrations this month for the London-Manx Society!! Sat 13th May

[www.facebook.com/groups/1468756610108681/permalink/3392470517737271/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/1468756610108681/permalink/3392470517737271/)



**THE DANCES** - Excerpt from '*...while the others did some capers*': the Manx Traditional Dance revival 1929 to 1960 by Cinzia Curtis:

## 2. The Leighton Stowell Book of Manx Dances - 2.3 Manx Jig

The history of this dance is, as seen earlier, hopelessly caught up with that of the other solo Manx jig, Cum yn Chen Oanrey Cheh. However, although the references to its performance cannot be distinguished from that of Cum yn Chen Oanrey Cheh in the most part, Stowell does tell the story of its composition for an article in Manninagh (1972). When Douglas found the notes to Cum yn Chen Oanrey Cheh in the notes of her great-grandfather she taught some of it to Stowell, but not the entire dance. As Stowell did not have the whole dance, he composed some figures himself and titled it Cum Shenn Oanrey Cheh after Douglas' collected dance, and performed it at the Albert Hall in 1936.



By kind permission of Manx National Heritage.

A2.3.1 "PLS Manx Jig 'High Reels' N.B. (Free toe should be straight down, not held as in photograph)"  
(MNHL PG4963/1)

The tune was also composed by Stowell, although he alludes in some notes to a purt-y-beayll version, words to which have not yet been found. In the 1950s Douglas requested that the MFDS find an alternative name and tune for Stowell's dance to avoid confusion. In his article for Manninagh (1972), Stowell says this was his idea and he then went on to collect a tune from a sheep farmer he met on the Carnanes. Stowell asked if he had heard of a tune called 'Keep the Old Petticoat Warm' a translation of Cum yn Shen Oanrey Cheh and the farmer told him of a tune called 'Red Petticoat'. This tune had a song all about a wedding that was to take place, which had ten verses. This sounds likely to be a local variant of the 'Manx Wedding' as published by Gill in 1896. However, Stowell assumes that this is a dance tune and mentions the plight of a purt y beayll singer having to sing ten verses. The tune is then collected from a Mrs Watterson from the Level, but as Stowell could not find the words he composed some himself about a wedding and keeping a petticoat aired. By this time the dance is most often performed by women, particularly Pat Nicholson.

The dance was published in 1981 in the Leighton Stowell Book of Manx Dances although the tune given is cited as composed by Stowell himself and is evidently not that collected from Mrs



Watterson. It is stated that the arms should be held out to the side throughout the dance.

In her introduction to this volume of dances, Douglas refers to a Southside Jig as collected by Stowell as a boy in Castletown. It seems likely that this refers to this dance, although this information does not tally with that of Stowell's own essay on the dance. It is possible that this refers to Daunse Noo George, which was collected by Stowell, but is not a jig and is a sword dance. It is likely that this small mystery may now never be solved.

### READ THE FULL THESIS:

[www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/MANX%20DANCE%20THESIS%20Cinzia%20Curtis%202006.pdf](http://www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/MANX%20DANCE%20THESIS%20Cinzia%20Curtis%202006.pdf)

MONA DOUGLAS (1926)



This photograph dates from 1926, and was taken on 26 August on the occasion of an excursion by the Isle of Man Natural History and Antiquarian Society to Kirk Christ Lezayre led by William Cubbon. It was taken by a Mr Coole of Cleveland, Ohio, a visiting Manx American along with his wife who features in the photograph. Whilst she is Mona Douglas to us now, she was born Constance Mona Douglas and was known as Constance or “Connie” when younger. It was only when searching the newspapers and not coming across early references to her as Mona Douglas that this becomes apparent. Here she is to be seen in the centre of the group and her style of dress makes her stand out from amongst the others in the party—one feels that she left the Island as Constance and returned as Mona. That there was indeed a change as to how she wished to be addressed is shown in a letter from Roberta Foster in 1930: “My dear C..... (I mean Mona), Yah! you can’t touch me now.” Of interest too is the woman to the left of Douglas who has her hand around her shoulder and is recognisable as one of W.H. Gill’s daughters.

STEPHEN MILLER RBV

For the letter, see Roberta Foster to Mona Douglas, 16 September 1930, MS 09545, Mona Douglas Papers, Box 21. The photograph is to be found at MNHL, PG 5813.

Discover all of the *Transcriptions of the Month* songs & tunes here:  
[www.manxmusic.com/learn\\_page\\_467456.html](http://www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_467456.html)



## Further extracts from Haydn Wood and the Isle of Man, a chronology from the Island's newspapers, compiled and annotated by Maurice Powell.

### Haydn Wood in May

**Isle of Man Times, 7th May, 1892:** DOUGLAS AMATEUR MINSTRELS in the Grand Theatre, Thursday 12th May present an Entertainment in aid of the Children's Free Dinners Fund. 'New Songs! New Jokes! New Stump Speech! A programme of comic songs and choruses beginning with an overture entitled Tit-Bits arranged by Harry Wood, who directed the band from the violin. Master Haydn Wood played a violin solo Le Pirate 'envincing an amount of talent and executive skill quite remarkable in so young a player', which was encored, and sang an 'irresistibly funny' comic duo with Lawrence Rushworth, after which they were repeatedly recalled by the audience. 'Wheezes and local jokes and an infectious spirit of frolic' kept the audience thoroughly entertained.

**Manx Sun, 16th May, 1903:** Haydn Wood awarded the ARCM. He also received the Sir Arthur Sullivan Prize for £5 for composition (for a suite for orchestra).

**Isle of Man Examiner, 8th May 1915:** Haydn Wood's song Bird of Love Divine sung at a London Manx Society Gathering, and was encored.

**Isle of Man Examiner, 10th May 1929:** From The Metronome ( a New York periodical published between 1881 and 1961, devoted primarily to popular music, jazz and 'swing'): 'Haydn Wood is unquestionably extraordinarily gifted as a writer of ballads, and his new song, I Love to Hear You Singing, is one of his best contributions to the melody ballads of the day'.

**Isle of Man Times, 4th May, 1935:** Haydn Wood's new march Homage is to be played by the massed Guard's Bands in London's Hyde Park at a thanksgiving service. Asked by an interviewer from the Daily Mail if he had to wait for inspiration to strike before beginning a composition, Haydn Wood replied: 'I sit at the piano a certain hour each day whether I feel like composing or not. Inspiration is much overrated'.

**Isle of Man Times, 7th May 1938:** Broadcast of the Manx Rhapsody King Orry, conducted by the composer, on Sunday 8th May. The brief synopsis

depicts the Island basking under a false sense of security afforded by the Cloak of Mannanan, shielded from attack by the Vikings. Haydn Wood is described as 'a great Manx musician'.

The 2023 Research Festival will take place at the Nunnery in Douglas on Friday 13th October. The aim of the event is to exchange knowledge and ideas, facilitate collaboration between researchers, on and off-Island, promote the reputation of Island-based research, and to educate. Research can be showcased in either a presentation or poster format.

If you are interested in presenting – spoken or poster - at the 2023 Research Festival please submit the following to [researchvannin@ucm.ac.im](mailto:researchvannin@ucm.ac.im)

More information:

[www.ucm.ac.im/research/research-festival-2023/](http://www.ucm.ac.im/research/research-festival-2023/)

The deadline for submissions is 30th June.



## WILLIAM CURPHEY, FOLK SINGER

There used to be an old man when I was a boy—he was called Willie Curphey, a Jurby man, and he used to be breaking stones by the roadside—this was when we lived at Kerrow garroo in Andreas. He taught my brother Fred to sing Manx songs—he was older than me, and just of an age to learn them—eight or nine, I was only four. My brother used to sing these songs, Ny Kirree Fo Niaghtey was one and there were others, but I have forgotten the titles of the others—but at that age he was good at learning them, and the old man would be singing them to him. When he got older however he got to be that he wouldn't sing them, and he let his knowledge of them go. I was far younger, and I would have had a greater interest in them, but of course I was too young at the time to learn them as Fred had done, from old Curphey. For some reason we always called him "Uncle Peter." Folk Life Survey, c/214, F/1 (1972)

This was the recollection of Robert Christory of Bride interviewed by the Folk Life Survey in 1972. In the 1911 census for the Island, there is a William Curphey, aged 79, whose occupation was given as a stone breaker, living at "Lilac Cottage" in Andreas with his son, John (37), a farm labourer, born in Newtown, Whitehaven, and whose wife was Catherine Agnes (37), born in Dublin. William was a Manx speaker, whilst his son was not. As for breaking stones, this was for the repair and maintenance of the Highways. Robert Christory was twelve at the time of the 1911 census, living with his parents, Robert (40) and Emily (39), at Kerrowgarrow in Andreas, his father working as a farm labourer. All were English speakers. We have here a rare glimpse of the transmission of folk songs in the Island, though sadly with just the one title remembered, "Ny Kirree fo Niaghtey," but a song in Manx itself.

STEPHEN MILLER RBV

For William Curphey in the 1911 census, see *Census Enumerators' Book for Andreas 1911*, TNA, RG14 PN34629 RD635 SD2 ED17/1 SN63; for Robert Christory, *Census Enumerators' Book for Andreas 1911*, TNA, RG14PN34631 RD635 SD2 ED17/3 SN58.



Philip Sear has recorded all three pieces from George Tootell's piano solo (and orchestral suite) "Manx Scenes". Many of you will recognise the popular traditional tune incorporated into A Manx Wedding! **George Tootell: Manx Scenes: 3 Impressions (piano version)**  
[www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQUFHSTUAzIlgN2-2\\_\\_NtS4zbpbCBAMXV](http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQUFHSTUAzIlgN2-2__NtS4zbpbCBAMXV)



# TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

see [www.manxmusic.com](http://www.manxmusic.com) for more printable pieces of Manx music

Join in with the Arrane Oie Voaldyn song and dance during a parade at the St John's Oie Voaldyn celebration (30th April). This song was composed by Paul Rogers and a new processional dance has been choreographed by Grainne Joughin. [www.facebook.com/events/1184678108916656](https://www.facebook.com/events/1184678108916656)

## Arrane Oie Voaldyn

Paul Rogers

Musical notation for the song 'Arrane Oie Voaldyn' in 2/2 time. The notation is written on three staves. Above the first staff are the chords D<sup>5</sup> [Final verse: E5add9], [F#sus4], and [Gmaj7]. Above the second staff are the chords [A6], A<sup>5</sup>, D<sup>5</sup>, Cochiaull, D<sup>5</sup>, and G(add9)/D. Above the third staff are the chords B<sup>b</sup>maj7/D, C<sup>6</sup>, and D<sup>5</sup>. The melody is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb).

### ENGLISH VERSION

1. Fire burning on the hill  
Drums a-beating voices strong  
Ghost and witches flee you will  
Evil spirits get ye gone.

Chorus:

*Noght Oie Voaldyn, aile syn oie,  
Daunse-jee marin, nane, jees, three,  
Ta'n vadran cheet as ver ee lhee,  
Yn Sourey as bluihtyn bwee.*

2. For good fortune we shall get  
Morning dew at break of day  
On each threshold we shall set  
Flowers of the month of May  
Chorus

3. We shall choose a lady fair  
For to be our summer queen  
Crown of hawthorn in her hair  
Flowers white and leaves of green  
Chorus

4. Winter's host will battle bring,  
To the summer's army bold  
Wil the queen defeat the king?  
Driving back the winter cold.  
Chorus

*This song can be sung with four Manx verses  
with a Manx chorus between each verse or four  
English verses with a chorus in Manx.*

Original Manx version with transation:

<https://tinyurl.com/2p8vcn7v>

Music video:

<https://vimeo.com/468473918>



# CALENDAR

## MAY

6 Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman, Peel Centenary Centre, 8pm, £15

11 – 13 Conference: Language and Society, with free music events

13 Manx music and calendar customs – illustrated talk by Dr Chloe Woolley & family, London-Manx Society annual lunch

[www.londonmanxsociety.co.uk](http://www.londonmanxsociety.co.uk)

17 Post Guild Concert, St John Methodist Hall, 7.30pm, £8

20 Yn Chruinnaght Coffee Morning, Ebenezer Hall, Kirk Michael, 10am, £1

25 Manx song session, Harmony Summer Vocal Intensive

## JUNE

26 Elgar in the Isle of Man, lecture by Maurice Powell, Elgar Society, York

21 Laa Jannoo Kiaull / Make Music Day

28 Sound of Magic concert, Villa Marina, 7pm

26 - 1 July Mananan International Festival, Erin Arts Centre

30 – 2 July Full Moon Festival

## JULY

5 Tynwald Day

24 – 30 Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering  
[www.ynchruinnaght.com](http://www.ynchruinnaght.com)



Please send in dates so that we can publicise events here & online:

[www.manxmusic.com](http://www.manxmusic.com)

~ SESSIONS ~

**TUES** 8pm Singaround at The Manor, Douglas

**WED** 8.30pm Trad Session at O'Donnell's, Douglas

**THURS** 8pm Singing session at R.A.O.B. (Buffs) Club, Ramsey

**FRI** 8pm Trad session at The Mitre, Ramsey

**FRI 8pm** Trad session at the Colby Glen

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

First **SUN** of month 12.30pm Trad session in Laxey Sailing Club

Third **SUN** of month 12.30pm Trad session in Ginger Hall, Sulby

Stay up to date: [www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan](https://www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan)

~ SESSIONS ~

## culture vannin

For information on Manx music & dance contact:

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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