



Public Meeting to be held to decide fate of national festival

Thursday January 11, 7:30pm, Ramsey Town Hall

After a number of disappointments since the successful festival of 2006 Yn Chruinnaght has reached a turning point in its history. It either needs help or will have to fold entirely. December 28th saw a disappointing turn out at the Yn Chruinnaght Ghennal celebrations which included sets from Moot, The Mollag Band spin off Dog Breath and the Mothers of Melancholy, Kirsty and Katie and the Bock Yuan Fannee Whiteboys. As many usually avid Yn Chruinnaght supporters chose to stay in the pub and wait for the session afterwards it is becoming increasingly apparent that Yn Chruinnaght is no longer fulfilling the needs of the community of the Isle of Man. With a depleted committee, problems with accommodation and venues and an increase in cultural events generally it is now time to reassess the situation and find a new place in the Manx calendar for the festival. It is hoped that this meeting will encourage people with an interest in the festival to come forward and voice their views on the best way to proceed, ideas for the future and criticisms that can be learnt from. Yn Chruinnaght never was a festival only for music and dance, but was designed to incorporate all elements of Manx culture, especially language, but also including dialect, art, crafts, sport etc. If you have any interest in these or related subjects and would like the opportunity to be heard please come along to the meeting. For more information call Cinzia in 673074 or email info@ynchruinnaght.com.

Youth Session off to a 'craic'-ing start! (groan)



To carry on the good work started at the Bree Manx feis weekend held last Hop tu Naa December 9th saw the first gathering of the new Bree session. Held at Clinch's Celtic Tavern in Douglas, nearly twenty people arrived to plat tunes together. As the owners of Clinch's kindly allowed us to use the wine-bar upstairs before it opened, the musicians could play away in a traditional pub atmosphere without the smoke and noise of other regulars. The session was a great success and enjoyed by all with Manx tunes played along side tunes from all the Celtic countries and musicians old and young joining together to enjoy playing. As the session was such a success they shall be held every second Saturday of the Month, the next taking place on Saturday 13th January, 4 to 6pm. For more information contact Cinzia on 673074 or mhfmusic@mhf.org.im.

Song for Mann

As I'm sure most of you already know, Cooish saw the second annual Arrane son Mannin competition to decide the Manx offering at the annual pan celtic song competition. The competition is for original songs written in the native language of each Celtic country. The competition, between two entries, was stiff. The first, a song composed by Sharon Christian was performed by Claire and David Kilgalon and was a rousing sing with a distinctly traditional feel. The second song was written by Breesha Maddrell and performed by new duo Veih'n Chree. After much deliberation judges John Kilgallon, Bob Carswell and Eilin Begley decided that the song by Breesha Maddrell should go through to the competition to be held once again in Letterkenny, Ireland.

The song, Oirr ny Cruinney is a happy song of love and the memories of childhood. Breesha Maddrell is well known for her song writing skills, although not usually of such an upbeat nature. When asked Breesha told reporters that this was an

outlet for her more positive side. Veih'n Chree hope to continue their partnership with Breesha as they feel that her songs have a certain something often missing from the Manx vocal genre. The costumes worn by Veih'n Chree reflected the references to starlight and moonlight mentioned in the lyrics and were no way influenced by the spoof Eurovision entry as seen on Father Ted. Veih'n Chree (Cinzia Curtis and Chloe Woolley) with vocals, piano and whistle follow in the footsteps of other Manx bands such as Skeaal, The Tholtan Builders and Cherles Guard. The competition is fierce in other countries with the Welsh heat broadcast on live television with a public phone vote to decide. All entries in the pan-Celtic competition are recorded live and published on a CD. Veih'n Chree will travel to Leterkenny in Ireland with King Chiaullee at Easter, 2007. For a full report of Cooish 2006 see next month's edition of Kiaull Manninagh Jiu



CALENDAR - JAN 2007

Yn Chruinnaght Public Meeting

11 January, 7:30pm, Ramsey Town Hall.
Public meeting to discuss the future of the National celebration of Manx Culture. Email info@ynchruinnaght.com for more information.

Bree Session

13 January, 4pm, Clinch's Celtic Tavern.
Session for young musicians (and the not so young). Upstairs in Clinch's, all ages welcome including parents. Bring an instrument. For more information call 673074 or email mhfmusic@mhf.org.im

Isle of Man Children's Centre Ceili

13 January, 8pm, Peel Centenary Centre.
Ceili in aid of Isle of Man Children's centre starring Greg Joughin, Staa and the Reeling Stones. Tickets available from Celtic Gold, Peel; Peter Norris, Douglas; Shakti Man, Ramsey or fundraising@iomcc.org.com

Reeling Stones and session

26 January, 8:30pm, Sulby Glen Hotel, Sulby.
Upcoming Manx traditional band Reeling Stones will be wowing audiences with a mixture of instrumental and vocal offerings. Bring an instrument as this will be followed by a session.

Bollan Bane

Transcribed from unpublished manuscript MNHL MS 09702 J.F. Gill Collection, p. 110.

[Taken down by Mr. John] Lacey, Schoolmaster, from the singing of Cannell (aged about 70) of Kk. Michael Village January 1896



Note by Mr. Lacey

Old Cannell, when he tells the story, finishes by catching up a walking stick, or the poker, runs this along his arm in imitation of playing the violin, dances, and sings vigorously the above air and the syllables: "Dam, Dam, the diddle dam!" "Dam, Dam the diddle dam!"

Rink MFDS launch air route



On the evening of Sunday 29th October 2006, eight MFDS Dancers and two Musicians flew with Manx2.com to Stansted Airport, where they were accommodated overnight in the SAS Radisson Airport Hotel which is joined to the Airport by a walkway. At 8am the following morning they found the Manx2 Check-in Desk and danced for approximately one and three quarter hours for the Press, Airport Staff and Passengers on the first flight from Stansted to the IOM with Manx2. Most of the people seeing the performance were surprised and delighted. Refreshments were provided by the Hotel. The MFDS members enjoyed their 'flying' visit and the chance to dance in yet another unusual venue! Later the same day they flew back to the Island. The plane carries 19 passengers, the co-pilot was the Air Steward! and gave the safety announcements and demonstrations. Half way through the flight he left the cockpit to distribute small brown carrier bags to everyone, containing bottled water, a packet of crisps and a 2-finger Kit-Kat bar!
By Joan Cowell.

SESSIONS: TUES, 9PM IRISH IN TRAFF, DOUGLAS, THURS. 8PM CLINCH'S, DOUGLAS FRI, 8PM TYNWALD INN, ST. JOHN'S, FRI, 9PM IRISH IN THE MITRE, RAMSEY, SAT, 9PM THE WHITE HOUSE, PEEL

Hunt the Wren Alive and Well!



The Manx tradition of Hunt the Wren was seen around the Island this St Stephen's day with teams in Ramsey, Maughold, Douglas and Port Erin.



manx heritage foundation undynys eiraght vannin

For more information on Manx music and dance contact:

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