



March 2008

# Manx Music Today

Kiaull Manninagh Jiu

## Shennaghys Jiu – Tradition Today! 21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> March

With visiting Scottish musicians Full Spate and multi-instrumentalist duo Michael Hayward and Laura Grime *as well as* a new-look committee, Shennaghys Jiu returns to its roots for 2008. One of the highlights of this year's festival will be a night devoted to new tunes and new(-ish) bands: Pobble, The Reeling Stones, Peddyr Cubberley, The Ballaghs, King Chiallee and Katie Lawrence who will provide something new and something old to hold your interest – Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 8pm at the Grand Island Hotel, Ramsey. In fact, the Grand Island is pretty much the base for the festival. As well as setting the scene for opening concert on Friday 21<sup>st</sup>, there will be a special Bree youth session in the side bar of the hotel – grab your *Kiaull yn Theay* books and come along for a tune or two on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3pm.



Saturday evening is ceili time in the Masonic Hall from 8pm, priced £3. Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> sees a more contemplative mood as Full Spate, Laxey School, Bunscoil Ghaelgagh, Michael Haywood & Laura Grime and Staa perform in the wonderful surroundings of All Saints Church, Lonan, 2.30pm. After the evening concert of new tunes (8pm, Grand Island), the festival heads west to Peel Sailing Club for one almighty session! More information about the festival including displays, workshops and the like can be found online at: [www.shennaghys.org](http://www.shennaghys.org) and [www.myspace.com/shennaghysjiu](http://www.myspace.com/shennaghysjiu)

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>** 7pm Official Opening (invitation only)

### Provisional Programme

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup>**

7pm Family Concert and Ceilidh at the Grand Island Hotel, Ramsey featuring: Share na Veg, Michael Hayward & Laura Grime, Bee er dty Hwoaie, Full Spate, Dhoon School (£3)

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

10am Displays in the Town Hall in aid of Cancer Research featuring: Michael School, Ramsey Grammar School.  
 12pm Music in the Pub, Mitre Hotel, Ramsey featuring Manx and visiting musicians  
 3pm Bree session, Grand Island Hotel  
 8pm Ceilidh, Masonic Hall, Ramsey featuring: Full Spate, Ny Fennee, Greg Joughin, Staa (£3)

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

2.30pm Shennaghys Jiu Unplugged, All Saints Church, Lonan. Acoustic concert featuring: Full Spate, Laxey School, Michael Hayward & Laura Grime and Staa. Admission Free  
 8pm Shennaghys Shindig. Grand Island Hotel featuring: Pobble, Reeling Stones and Ballaghs, King Chiallee, Peddyr Cubberley, Katie Lawrence (£3)  
 10.30pm Informal Session featuring: Manx and visiting musicians. Admission Free

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup>**

10.30 am Children's Music workshop at the Grand Island Hotel. Admission (£1)  
 12pm Music in the Pub. Trafalgar Hotel, Ramsey  
 8pm Final Night and Session, Peel Yacht Club featuring Manx and visiting musicians. Admission free

**SESSIONS: TUES, 9pm** Irish in The Rover's Return, Douglas

**THURS. 9pm** Singing in The Mitre, Ramsey

**FRI, 8pm** Tynwald Inn, St. John's, **FRI, 9pm** Irish in The Mitre, Ramsey

**SAT, 9pm** The White House, Peel

**Every 2<sup>nd</sup> SUN, 3pm** Irish in the Traf, Douglas

## Northern Croakers head west

Good luck to northern Gaelic choir, Cliogaree Twoaie, who are travelling to Donegal Town to take part in the Pan-Celtic Festival (25-30 March) this year.



The choir will also take part in competitions in Oireachtas na Gaeilge  
And very best of luck to Fiona Cain and David Kilgallon with the song 'Bannaght son Mannin' (Salute to Mann) written by David Kelly and Tim Laycock, translated into Manx by Bob Carswell, which is the Manx entry in this year's Pan-Celtic Song Contest.

## Archibald Knox weekend



The Archibald Knox Society celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the famous Liberty designer and Manx artist's death in a weekend full of talks, tours, concerts and dinners. Manx Gaelic choir, Caarjyn Cooijdagh, sang a mixture of old and new songs at the opening concert and lecture at St Matthews, Douglas. The songs selected included a premiere of one of Annie Kissack's latest arrangements – a setting of the Manannan or Traditionary Ballad. John Riley played a wonderful selection of Manx music as the audience arrived, including old favourites from the Manx National Songbook and from Haydn Wood arrangements. On the Saturday night, the pre-dinner reception saw music from Skeeal in the atrium of the Sefton.

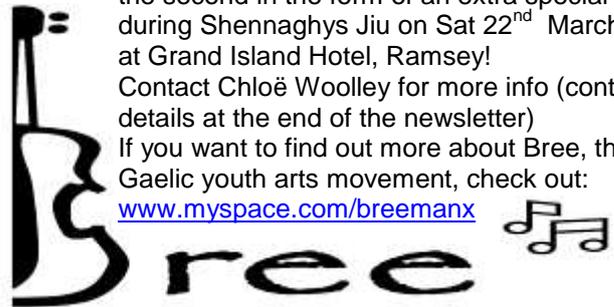
### Why is the WI hitting things in the name of Manx music?!

In what has been described as 'a sort of Stomp for the WI', composer Barry Russell has been leading percussion workshops with members of the WI in preparation for 'Dances in Time of Celebration' which premieres this month. Making use of 'found percussion' instruments such as plastic containers and broom handles, around 20 members from various branches of the Women's Institute are taking part in the two concert exchange between the Manx Youth Orchestra and the Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra on 2 and 16 March. More information on the two performances can be found at: [www.iomarts.com](http://www.iomarts.com) and a full report on the WI workshops is online at: [www.iomtoday.co.im/video/Why-the-WI-are-making.3740984.jp](http://www.iomtoday.co.im/video/Why-the-WI-are-making.3740984.jp)

### March – the most Celtic of months?!

St David's Day (Dydd Gŵyl Dewi Sant) and St Patrick's Day both fall in March, which makes it a rather green and Celtic month, with all those leeks and shamrocks about. According to William Cashen in Paton's *Manx Calendar Customs*, 'No light was expected to be lighted after St Patrick's Day. It was supper at dark and then to bed, both man and beast.' which accounts for the Manx saying: *Laa'! Parick arree, yn dow gys e staik as y dooinney gys e lhiabbee* (Patrick's spring feast-day, the ox to its stake and the man to his bed). You'll undoubtedly find many Manx musicians in the pub playing a mix of Manx and Irish tunes and drinking a pint or two of 'stoo doo' (the black stuff)!

March will see TWO (yes, two!) Bree sessions – the first at Green's Veggie Restaurant, Douglas, Sat 8<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm, the second in the form of an extra special session during Shennaghys Jiu on Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> March – 3pm at Grand Island Hotel, Ramsey!  
Contact Chloë Woolley for more info (contact details at the end of the newsletter)  
If you want to find out more about Bree, the Manx Gaelic youth arts movement, check out: [www.myspace.com/breemanx](http://www.myspace.com/breemanx)



## PERREE T

### AT CWLWM CELTAIDD

Perree T dancers will be strutting their stuff at the Celtic Festival of Wales this month.

In spite of last minute venue changes, the festival is set to be a great success – Perree T will be appearing alongside the likes of Shooglenifty and Mabon.

There will be at least two Manx ceilis led by the group, and some of the dancers will no doubt appear on stage with Mabon, providing spectacular displays to complement Mabon's stylish sets.



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

## Shiaull y Cheayn

Also known as 'Return of the Boats', this melody and words were collected from Mrs. Shimmin, Foxdale by Mona Douglas, no date. The tune is in Kiaull Vannin and Chloë Woolley found the words in the Mona Douglas Bequest in the Manx Museum. This arrangement is used in Gow Aym, the new resource book for schools by Chloë Woolley.

Through the mist I see them app - ear - ing; Boats a - hoy! Boats a - hoy!

Long the wait-ing the wom-en were fear - ing; Now at last they take joy.

Round the Head brown sails are bea - ting; Mak - ing home, Rol - ling home.

Soon shall sing the hap - py gree - ting; All a shore, Here they come!

## CALENDAR

### March

7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Perree T at Cwlwm Celtaidd, The Celtic Festival of Wales, Porthcawl, South Wales. See [www.cwlwmceltaidd.com](http://www.cwlwmceltaidd.com) or phone 01656 766667 for more details.

8<sup>th</sup> Bree session at Greens, 3-4.30pm

14<sup>th</sup> DEADLINE for Nòs Ùr competition

16<sup>th</sup> Music Across the Sea - joint Manx Youth Orchestra & Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra concert, Villa Marina, Douglas, 2.30pm. [www.villagaiety.com](http://www.villagaiety.com)  
21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> Shennaghys Jiu 2008! For more details, see above or [www.shennaghys.org](http://www.shennaghys.org)

### April

26<sup>th</sup> New Rope String Band at the Centenary Centre, Peel: [www.centenarycentre.com](http://www.centenarycentre.com)



### Yn Chruinnaght preview

Check out [www.ynchruinnaght.com](http://www.ynchruinnaght.com) to find out who's coming to play at the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary inter-Celtic festival this July. Acts include Deaf Shepherd (Scotland), Never mind the Bocs (Wales) Niamh Ni Charra (Ireland) and many more. Special visitors from further afield are the magical Celtic Fiddlers from

Newfoundland, who are combining a visit to the Island with a tour of Ireland. The committee is putting together ideas for an exhibition charting the 30 years of the festival. If you have any photos or memorabilia that would be of interest, please contact Breesha (details below).

manx heritage foundation  
undinys eiraght vannin

#### For info on Manx music & dance contact:

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See: [www.manxheritage.com](http://www.manxheritage.com) or  
[www.manxheritagemusic.org](http://www.manxheritagemusic.org)

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