

# KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU

## MANX MUSIC TODAY

May  
2009



mee boaldyn

## ANOTHER SHENNAGHYS JIU SUCCESS!

Congratulations to all those who organised and participated in this year's Shennaghys Jiu Celtic Youth Festival - another great success by all accounts.

Photos here are of Ben Gibbs, fab piper from Scotland, Ballaugh School Folk Group and the Bree youth music session.

(Photos: Valerie Caine & Chloe Woolley)

[www.shennaghys.org](http://www.shennaghys.org)



### ~ SESSIONS ~

**THURS** 9pm Singing session at The Brit, Ramsey

**FRI** 8pm Tynwald Inn, St. Johns

**FRI** 9pm Irish at The Mitre, Ramsey

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

**SAT** 10pm Manx at The White House, Peel    **SUN** 4pm Irish at the Traf, Douglas

# **Manx invasion of Cwlwm Celtaidd went down a storm!**

*A message from the heart sent by Derek Smith,  
Festival Director, on behalf of the Committee of  
Cwlwm Celtaidd, The Celtic Festival of Wales:-*

Considering the increasing number of weddings and relationships blossoming out of the Celtic song, music and dance scene of our two small countries, it's no wonder that we continue to support each other's festivals in the way we do. From my early visits to Man with Dawnswyr Penyfai and the band Calennig, to Mabon's many visits and to "The Wedding" between the Joughins and us Smiths, I have always felt this closeness and have not only gained numerous friends along the way, many close, but also a daughter-in-law. However, this year I sincerely believe that the already close relationship between Wales and the Isle of Man in Music, Song, Dance & Culture took an extra leap with the simply fantastic contribution made by the Manks representation at our 2009 Celtic Festival. To have so many of you making the long journey to our comparatively small festival has been a humbling experience for us as organisers. From the Manks dance tradition that IS Perree Bane, the simply wonderful songs, arrangements and delivery that can only be Greg Joughin's Mollag Band and to the amazing future for you that is encapsulated in the young musicians of The Reeling Stones and Cinzia Curtis (with Sion on guitar), we are absolutely delighted that they came and performed so well. All of you on the Isle of Man can be immensely proud of them.

Can countries get married?                   Derek

**PS. See you all at Mabon's UK Tour concert  
in Peel's Centenary Centre on  
23rd October 2009**



Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic festival has some stunning acts lined up this year. Check out the provisional programme online:  
[www.ynchruinnaght.com](http://www.ynchruinnaght.com)

bree



## **CTRL-ALT-DELETE**

### **Bree at the Gaiety**

Bree youth traditional music group will take part in a fabulous variety show at the Gaiety Theatre on 15th and 16th May, 7.30pm. Called CTRL-ALT-DELETE, the show is pulled together by some characters that have jumped off a computer keyboard. Alongside Bree, there will be dance, live music, theatre and magic from around 180 young people aged between 8 and 18

Tickets: £10.00/£7.00 (under 18s) bookable online at:

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

For more info about Bree, see:

[www.myspace.com/breemanx](http://www.myspace.com/breemanx)

# KATHERINE CROWE BAND NARROWLY BEATEN INTO 3RD PLACE AT THE PAN- CELTIC SONG CONTEST

Fiona McArdle reports...

The Pan-Celtic was a nail-biting contest this time, certainly. The Katherine Crowe Band line-up was Katherine (vocals, piano), Katie Lawrence (fiddle) and Lee Quaggin (bass guitar), who was replacing Dave McLean, due to Dave's accident earlier this year. The song was 'Shen Ta Mee' (Just Like Me), which, as Katherine says in last month's KMJ, is a dark song about a failing relationship taken to a dramatic conclusion. The venue for the Pan-Celtic festival this year was Donegal Town, where five Celtic nations (nothing from Brittany this time) competed with their newly composed song in their own language. Each participating nation provides an adjudicator, who comes to his/her separate decision based on the criteria given. They're not allowed to vote for their own country, and the marks are then shown on a grid and the total calculated (this time from a total of 40, 10 max. each adjudicator). The Welsh won with 32.5, the Scots were 2nd with 31.5 and the Manx 3rd with 31. The Welsh song was about the break-up of a relationship and the emotional sorrows

resulting from that, the Scots song was about loss of the Gaelic speech in the island of Mull, which has a lot of English immigration (often for holiday homes, getting out of the urban treadmill etc.) and a resulting drain of its own young people who are priced out of housing and have few job prospects. The Manx were great performers on stage and many in the audience were enthused by the quality of Katherine's voice and the band's music, and commented so. We may be a small nation but we were certainly big on talent this time!

Katherine's Band won the 2008 Arrane son Mannin (Song for Mann) competition held during the Cooish Festival in November 2008. So, whoever is out there and feels inspired to sing a new song in Manx for this year's Arrane son Mannin in November, get started now! The winner will receive a £250 prize, sponsored by the Manx Heritage Foundation, and will represent the Island at the 2010 Pan-Celtic in Dingle which runs from April 06-11. Costs of the 2009 visit were met by a bursary for half the total from the Isle of Man Arts Council and the other half from the Pan-Celtic International Council. If you need help with a translation, please contact Fiona McArdle (Pan-Celtic Organiser for the Isle of Man) on:

**fmcardle@manx.net**

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Seventeen Manx artists feature on new compilation charity CD **ONE IN THREE** which marks the 50th anniversary of the IOM Anti-Cancer Association. Organised by Beth Espey and produced by Andrew Clague (Gypo) of local label Ballagroove, it will raise money for the charity. The CD is available in the following shops: 7th Wave (Port Erin), Celtic Gold (Peel), Lexicon Bookshop & the Trafalgar Hotel (Douglas), St Paul's Bookshop & Shakti Man (Ramsey).

**[www.myspace.com/onein3](http://www.myspace.com/onein3)**





## Ny Fennee - runners-up in the IOM Arts Council Young Dancer of Mann competition 2009!

Congratulations to Ramsey-based dance group Ny Fennee for their recent success at the final of the Young Dancer of Mann competition which was held on Saturday 25 April at the Studio Theatre at Ballakermeen. Narrowly missing out on the first prize, Ny Fennee impressed the adjudicators with their stylish displays to live accompaniment. The event was sold out and was enjoyed by all.

*Thanks to  
the IOM Arts  
Council for these  
photographs.*

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



## MANX MUSIC & DANCE AT THE GUILD

Great results from Manx traditional musicians and dancers at the 117th Manx Music Festival, the Guild, including:

- Morris/Sword Dance: Perree Bane (88)*
- Country Dancing (under 12): Onchan School (92)*
- Country Dancing (12 and under 19): Perree Bane (94)*
- Manx Folk Dancing (12 and under 19): Manx Folk Dance Society (90)*
- Manx Folk Dancing (under 12): Scoill Phurt le Moirrey (85)*
- Instrumental Ensemble (under 12): Share na Veg (90)*
- Instrumental Ensemble: Bee er dty Hwoiae (89)*
- Boys' Solo in Manx (under 16): Ben Holmes (83)*
- Girls' Solo in Manx (under 16): Michelle Jamieson (87)*
- Manx Solo (19 and over): Paul Salmon (89)*
- String Class - Viola, Cello, Bass and Harp: Amy Stoutt (85)*

**More results online at:  
[www.manxmusicfestival.org](http://www.manxmusicfestival.org)**



# RESEARCH

KMJ has recently started to develop a section of the newsletter where readers get the chance to share their research or thoughts formally or informally. Contributions should be no more than 400 words and should be sent to the usual address. It may be that you have some comments about a particular song or tune - all musings are welcome, however short.  
This month, Dr Fenella Bazin shares some of her recent work and publications.

The earliest manuscript so far discovered on the Island is a book of social dances dated 1804. There are over a 100 dances that have been transcribed from a manuscript in a private collection and prepared for performance by string or wind trios. They represent the music that was probably performed at a sophisticated event in an Assembly Room in Douglas. As they were probably prepared for a ball attended by the Duke of Atholl, the tunes are Scottish in flavour, both melodically and, in one or two cases, actual arrangements. The Andreas Flute Book is the only other manuscript which shares some of the material.

Because the tunes vary from single lines to rather eccentric three-part arrangements, the publication is a performance edition, with all tunes arranged for two treble and one bass instrument, suitable for performance as they stand or as the basis for further arrangements.

The edition will soon be published as:

Fenella Bazin, *John Moore's Music Book: Scottish dance tunes from the Isle of Man, 1804*

Centre for Manx Studies, Musica Manniae No. 4, Research Report 13, 150 pages

ISSN: 0937 546959, ISBN: 978-1-899338-14-6

Fenella has also just completed and sent off an entry on Manx song, which will appear in the genre volume of the *Encyclopaedia of Popular Music of the World*. This is the second time the Island's music has featured. An introduction to Manx music appeared in Vol. VII: Europe. Volumes II-VII (Locations) are sold as a set for the bargain price of £495!

WOODEN FLUTE for sale: Low Bb, alto, fully keyed (8keys) with sterling silver, and african blackwood. Handmade instrument in excellent condition. Comes with hard case, certificate and number. Easy to play, easy stretch and produces very low, mellow but varied sounds. Great alternative flute to regular 'D' instrument.

Photos/price/more details/sound clips available on application.

All genuine enquiries: contact Breesha, who will pass on your details to the seller.

Simone Renshaw BMus (Hons) is available to teach flute/recorder/theory. Simone plays with Skeal and sings with Manx Voices. Email: simalirog77@yahoo.co.uk or phone 482858 for more details.

## NEWSES!

Congratulations to Chloe Woolley and Malcolm Stitt on the birth of their beautiful son, Kerron McKay Stitt!

Dave McLean of the Mollag Band fame quite rightly received a round of applause as he marched into the White House session in Peel over Easter – on crutches. Congrats at getting out and about, Dave!

John Rhodes of Perree Bane and Calor Gas Ceilidh Band is recovering well after a bout in hospital - very best wishes for a speedy recovery!

# Transcription of the month see [www.manxheritagemusic.org](http://www.manxheritagemusic.org) for more printable pieces of Manx music

Lyrics by Katherine Crowe, translated by Bob Carswell

1. Nagh duirree as duirree mee ort  
Cha ren oo caghlaa  
'Sy dooid my hoie ec yn aile  
Vel my inchyn aggair?  
Oh, mish my ven-phrinse lane dy ghrayse  
Oh, orryms ta beggan dy phreays  
As ta'n treisht goll er coayl aym er agh  
Dy chroo bea dy meen, agh shen mee hene

2. As mish cur orts çhellvane lurg jeih  
T'ou çhellvane lurg tree  
"Cha lhisagh shin eek mayll," t'ou gra,  
"Cre'n fa ping erbee?"

Oh, strooys lhiam dy vel mee rouail  
Oh, shione dou dy vel oo cumrail  
As ta'n treisht goll er coayl aym er agh  
Dy chroo bea dy meen, agh shen mee hene

3. As hug mee lhiam hoal oo gys keyll  
V'ou rooishtit dy glen aym  
Vrish mee dty chione. Fo yn ooir  
V'ou faagit aynshen aym  
Veih'n ghooyn aym eisht skeab mee yn uill  
Jeir ny ghaa aym, eisht ersooyl  
As ta'n treisht goll er troggal er agh  
Dy chroo bea dy meen, agh shen mee hene

*Instead of a transcription this month, I thought it would be nice to include the lyrics to Katherine Crowe's song for the Pan-Celtic. I'll also use this space to appeal for tunes and songs for **Kiaull yn Theay 3 & 4** - deadline is **15 May 2009** for the first batch - any material received later will go in future books in the series. Please jot down the approximate year of composition if you can remember it! All tunes and songs should be sent to Breesha at any of the addresses below.*

## CALENDAR

### May

9th Bree Celtic Youth Session at Greens, Douglas, 3pm

15th Bree at CTRL-ALT-DEL show at the Gaiety, Douglas, 8pm, £10, conc. £7 [www.villagaiety.com](http://www.villagaiety.com)

16th Bree at CTRL-ALT-DEL show at the Gaiety, Douglas, 8pm, £10, conc. £7 [www.villagaiety.com](http://www.villagaiety.com)

19th Marie Clague CMS research seminar on carvals, IOM College, 6pm FREE

29th Caarjyn Cooidjagh at St Mary's on the Harbour, Castletown, 7.30pm £8 including cheese and wine

### June

13th Bree Celtic Youth Music Session, Greens, Douglas 3-4.30pm

15th-19th Yn Chruinnaght school workshops with visiting group from Dundalk (includes a secondary schools folk group workshop)

18th Caarjyn Cooidjagh at World Manx Association supper, St Johns Church Hall, 8pm

29th Manx Music night at the PSM Queenie Festival –

bands including Skeal and King Chiaullee outdoors from 6.30pm, session at the Albert from 9pm

30th -2nd Cruinnaght Aeg (south) Email: [fmcardle@manx.net](mailto:fmcardle@manx.net) for details

*Please send in any dates for the months ahead so that we can publicise events here and on various Manx music & dance websites.*



manx heritage foundation

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For info on Manx music & dance contact:

Breesha Maddrell: [mhfmusic@mhf.org.im](mailto:mhfmusic@mhf.org.im)

Chloë Woolley: [manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im](mailto:manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im)

[www.manxheritage.org](http://www.manxheritage.org)

[www.manxheritagemusic.org](http://www.manxheritagemusic.org)

Call: 01624 695159

or write to: MHF Music Team  
Centre for Manx Studies,  
6 Kingswood Grove, Douglas,  
Isle of Man, IM1 3LX

More dates online...