



BREE: manx feis for 11-16 year olds

Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 October, 10am to 3:30pm. Douglas Youth Centre, Kensington Road, Douglas.

Bree, meaning vitality or energy is the name for the new Manx feis. Based on the Scottish model of *feisean nan gael*, this two day course has been devised by Adrian Cain, Chloe Woolley and Cinzia Curtis to give secondary school students an opportunity to learn more about Manx music, language and culture in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

Feisean nan Gael organise large scale events across Scotland for musicians of 8years old and up, and many of the feisean now include adults. Similar to a Summer school, feisean are usually residential and include in depth teaching on the instrument of your choice with beginner, intermediate and advanced classes. The feisean structure often supports the use of gaelic throughout the week and often offer teaching through the medium of gaelic.

Based on this structure, Bree will concentrate on secondary school pupils (11 to 16). Much is currently being done to support traditional music and dance in primary schools, and adults (16+) were recently invited to take part in the Adult Workshops, but Key Stages 3 & 4 were, until now, not catered for. It is hoped that Bree will provide an opportunity for young people to learn from experienced musicians and also come together to form friendships, swap ideas and learn from each other as young musicians do elsewhere. It is hoped that Douglas Youth Centre, Kensington Road, Douglas, will provide a relaxed, non-school atmosphere. It is the school holidays afterall and no student, no matter how keen, wants to spend the first weekend of their holidays at school!

Bree offers each participant four classes a day. Performance choice 1, performance choice 2, Gaelg and group playing. On day one Performance choice 1 comprises melody instruments; mandolin/bouzouki, fiddle, whistle/flute, singing English/Manx, and tuition will take place for one hour each morning. Then a short break,

followed by an hour's tuition in Manx language with Adrian Cain. All students will take part in this part of the day. After this information packed morning each student will have an hour break to eat their packed lunch and socialise.

After lunch Performance choice 2 tuition will take place. These are all accompanying instruments as well as dance for those who do not play harmony instruments; piano, guitar or bodhran. This is again followed by a break and then an hour tuition on performance practice and playing in a group. The same structure will be followed on day two, but this time the day will finish with a class in arranging.

At the end of the day two, as parents and friends come to meet the students a short concert will be held in the Youth Centre to give the students an opportunity to put into practice all that they learnt during the weekend.

All classes are free of charge and will be taught by experienced musicians and teachers, all resident on the Isle of Man. All Gaelic tuition will be undertaken by Manx Language Development Officer, Adrian Cain. For the performance classes a first and second choice must be applied for in each instance. Where possible the first choice will be provided, but in case of oversubscription, some children will be allocated their second choice instrument. This will be conducted on a first come first served policy.



Application forms have been sent to each secondary school's head of music and application forms must be submitted for each student attending. An application form can be found at the end of this month's newsletter.

For more information contact Manx Music Resource Coordinator (Cinzia) on 673074 or by email at mhfmusic@mhf.org.im.

Rink

MANX FOLK DANCE SOCIETY VISIT TO UTTOXETER HEART OF OAK MORRIS MEN

Wednesday 23rd August - Tuesday 29th August 2006



In 2004 the Uttoxeter Heart of Oak Morris Men celebrated their 50th Anniversary by hosting a meeting of the Morris Ring. As they could not accommodate their friends from the Isle of Man at the same time, an invitation was extended for them to visit in 2005. Unfortunately this clashed with a visit to the IOM by a German Folk Dance Groups, so the visit to Uttoxeter took place this year instead.

On Wednesday 23rd August 14 members of the Manx Folk Dance Society were met by members of Uttoxeter Heart of Oak Morris and transported for tea at a Farm near Uttoxeter and then collected by their hosts. There followed a Music Session at The Bull in Marchington, where the 'Lady of the house' joined in and provided supper. The dancers could not resist trying some dances in the very confined space between the Pool Table and the Toilets!

The next day was free until the evening when both groups performed outside The Crown at Abbot's Bromley, followed by a supper provided by the Landlord.

Friday was also free and during the day MFDS were joined by 6 more members. In the evening they had a Canal Barge Trip with Fish & Chips-style meal delivered to the Canal Boat en route.

On Saturday 26th August they danced twice at Bramshall Recreation Ground, Uttoxeter and were introduced to the Mayor. There followed dancing at Amertone Farm and afternoon tea. The MFDS members gave the Morris Team a Stainless Steel 'potty' inscribed 'to the Uttoxeter Heart of Oak Morris Men - In their hour of Need!' The Manx Dancers



thought they would use it for collecting, when they danced, BUT instead they filled it with beer!

In the evening they went to the home of one of the Uttoxeter dancers for social evening of dancing (in the road, the garden and garage!), supper and a quiz. Shugborough Hall was the venue for Sunday's dancing, when the MFDS dancers were surprised by a visit of 4 friends who are members of the Wayfarers Folk Dance Group from Birmingham. Again the Uttoxeter Heart of Oak Morris Men and the Manx Folk Dance Society performed twice to an excellent audience and there was a tour around Shugborough Hall, the home of the late Lord Lichfield, photographer and cousin to the Queen. In the evening there was a Folk Dance in Walton Village Hall with Supper and a professional caller.

The next day nearly everyone went to Crich Tramway Village in Derbyshire for a visit. Later there was a Farewell Evening at the Uttoxeter Dancers_ practice Hall in St Johns, when MFDS were given presents of 50th Anniversary Glass tankards and an inscribed plate. On the morning of Tuesday 29th August the Manx Dancers left for home after a wonderful visit to dance with their friends in the Uttoxeter area.

CALENDAR - SEPT 2006

CMS SEMINAR – MANX DANCE

12 October, 7:30pm.

Elmwood House, Isle of Man College, Douglas.

Cinzia Curtis

'...while the others did some capers': the Manx Traditional Dance Revival 1929 to 1960.

See <http://www.liv.ac.uk/ManxStudies>

Young Dancer of Man

Manx Dancer? 19 or under? Don't miss this opportunity to become the Young Dancer of Man. With a cash prize of up to £100 and a beautiful hand sculpted trophy this is the perfect opportunity to get Manx dance put on the map.

The competition is open to dancers of all sorts and has a category for National dance which would be perfect for Manx dancers. As performance and choreography are taken into account this would be an excellent opportunity to show off a new dance. If you want to perform a traditional dance then you just mark the entry form accordingly and you will be marked on the performance alone. Costume can also be a part of your performance so if you want to experiment with some new ideas this would be the time.

The competition will be held on 22 September at Ballakermeen Studio Theatre, Douglas. The time limit is two minutes per dance, but more than one category can be entered. There are three age group categories: 8 – 11, 12 – 15, 16 – 19.

An entry form can be found at the end of this issue.

YOUNG DANCER OF MAN
FOR THE GRASS-ROOTS TROPHY
Judging day
22/10/06

Judging to take place at
studio theatre,
Ballakermeen High School
22nd October 2006

dance categories:
top ballet contemporary
musical theatre ethnic street
ethnic national hip-hop

Judging criteria:
costume musicality technique
expression presentation
space/stage awareness

time limit: 2 minutes
recorded or live music
appropriate props will be allowed
any feature lighting accommodated where possible
age categories: 8-11 / 12-15 / 16-19 yr old

category winner: £50
overall winner: £100 + trophy

Arts Council Third Floor
St Andrew's House
Flech Road Douglas
www.gov.im/artsCouncil
artsCouncil@odi.gov.im
tel: 01624 694596
fax: 01624 685709

Summer Season '07

A recent meeting was held to discuss the recent Arts Council Summer Season of Manx Music. It was decided that the summer season was a great success and is planned to continue for the foreseeable future. A number of issues were brought up and it is hoped that next year will see a suitable PA system in situ for each evening and an increase in publicity. It was also decided to try and organise a specific MC for each evening. So, watch out for further correspondence regarding this. If you are in a group who would like to be involved next year, or fancy a bit of MC-ing please pass your email details to mhfmusic@mhf.org.im and we'll make sure you are informed of any upcoming meetings.

BULLETIN BOARD

This section is an opportunity for you to post notes, requests, information, questions etc. to the rest of the music/dance community.

Guitar Lessons

Greg Joughin is offering guitar lessons in Peel. £15 for half an hour, Saturdays and Wednesday. Call 843318 for details.

Tree Baatyn Beggey

Kirsty & Katie's debut album is now available for sale. £12.50. For more information on outlets and ordering email mhfmusic@hotmail.com.

Daisyrings.com

For those of you who remember Ashley Davies, a full report of her visit to the island can be found at daisyrings.com. Well worth a look for any of your who took part in her workshops or went to see her in concert.

Clinch's Session

At Clinch's Celtic Tavern we would like to become the home of traditional session music. It has proven to be very popular with our regular customers and there is a demand for it on a regular basis. I along with my co-director would like to propose the following:

Thursday Nights to be Session Nights with every other weeks being Manx Session Night and the alternate weeks aimed at the Irish, Scottish or Welsh Session artists.

We will put in place

1. A FREE drink on arrival for all musicians
2. £2.00 a pint or glass of wine for all musicians
3. Complimentary platter of sandwiches/pies/nuts etc
4. Tables reserved for Musicians from 8pm

Everyone's thoughts would be appreciated and we really want to make it work for all musicians and to enable everyone to enjoy traditional music .

We look forward to hearing your comments, please e-mail me at clinch@manx.net

Many thanks

Brendan

Vote for Moot!

As you will have read in last month's newsletter, Moot have been selected to perform their original song, 'Gyn Fockleyn', 'Without Words, live in the final of the Liet-Lavlut minority song competition held in Östersund, Sweden, on 14 October. Moot are one of eleven finalists selected from over sixty entries representing twenty-five minority languages from Europe.

Moot need your help! In addition to TV and radio broadcasts, the song competition is being transmitted live on the internet on Swedish Radio P2 so that people from all over Europe can vote for their favourite song. You can vote for Moot and the Isle of Man by accessing the Liet homepage: www.liet.nl, clicking on your preferred language and then on WEBVOTE. You will only be able to vote on the 14 October from 20.30 until 21.00 Swedish time, so that's between 21.30 and 22.00 Isle of Man time! You can also go directly to the webvoting server at http://vote.sparklit.com/web_poll.spark/1006136 It's only possible to vote once from every IP-address.

Moot are also in the final stages of preparing their second album, Holdfast, which should be appearing later in the month. It's an eclectic mix of songs in Manx and English, traditional and original. Some of the newer tracks are available on Moot's myspace, where you can also find a near final version of the song for Sweden: www.myspace.com/mootmootmoot



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.

Plea for Children's Songs

Dr. Chloe Woolley, Manx Music Specialist for the Heritage Foundation, is hunting for simple songs associated with the Isle of Man for a forthcoming education pack for infant and primary schools. Following the well-received Manx music course now employed by the secondary school music departments, this next pack will use entirely Manx music resources to accompany the national curriculum for music at Key Stages 1 and 2.

Chloe is looking for any Manx music in either Gaelic or English which hasn't been published before and which might be suitable for ages 4-11. Contributions could include: New songs written about a specific place in the Island or especially to mark a local event, nursery rhymes or musical games which may be peculiar to the Island, lyrics or tunes on their own, well known songs which have been adopted and localized in some way by Manx school children, simple songs from your childhood which might have some Manx significance and are little known today, or songs specific to your school which you wouldn't mind sharing with the other schools. If you have any contributions for this educational resource, please contact Chloe at Ramsey Grammar School East on 811144 or by email: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im.

Carval Corner

The Church Crawl 2 September 2006

*Almost 50 people sang heartily on the Church Crawl on Saturday (2 September) under the conductorship of Dr Francis Roads. Starting at Rushen, then to Arbory and Malew, they joined in some of the pieces that would have been familiar to the choirs of the three churches in the early years of the 19th century, when choirmaster William Shepherd was active in the south of the island. The event marked the launch of a new book, *Ye boundless realms of joy*, containing 40 of over 10 items from the manuscript books used by the singers. They're the result of years of painstaking research by Dr Roads, and based on a set of manuscripts in the Manx National Heritage Library. Because some of the singers sang in more choir, and not all were members at the same time, the original part-books are extremely confusing. Dr Roads has not only reunited the parts but, by sheer dint of patient detective work, has travelled the length and breadth of the British Isles, comparing the items with printed books and manuscripts in many research libraries. The result is a splendid collection of some of the items, mainly those which were probably by local composers, perhaps William Shepherd himself, or are significantly different from any of the other versions.*

As well as singers and instrumentalists from the Island, a group of ten people had travelled over for the event from places as far apart as Newcastle and Winchester. Mike Bailey, Chairman of the West Gallery Music Association, commented, 'It was a highly successful day, and we all enjoyed singing together, as well as visiting some interesting churches on the Island.' He added that he hoped it would become an annual event.

There was a warm welcome for the group in each of the churches, and we were also treated to a brief and entertaining history of Malew Church by Jonathan Kewley. Many of the singers commented on how moved they were to know that some of the pieces were not only being performed for the first time for 190 years, but were being played and sung in the buildings that they were written for.

Ye boundless realms of joy is available from bookshops as well as the Centre for Manx Studies at a cost of £12.50. While these would have originally been sung in English, some of the items also have Manx texts. They are particularly valuable for church choirs as, although they are musically not too demanding, they are extremely rewarding to perform. Dr Roads described them 'as far removed from the King's College Chapel sound as it is possible to get!'.

The day was part of the seminar programme organised by the Centre for Manx Studies.

Manx Trad.
New B part
composed 2006
during MHF workshop

Jemmy as Nancy

♩. = 120

Fine

[New B Part]

D.C. al Fine



manx heritage foundation
undynys eiraght vannin

For more information on Manx music and dance contact:

Cinzia Curtis: mhfmusic@mhf.org.im
Chloe Woolley: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im
See: www.manxheritage.com or
www.manxheritagemusic.org
Call: 01624 673074
or write to: Centre for Manx Studies, 6 Kingswood Grove,
Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 3LX.



manx heritage foundation
undynys eiraght vannin

BREE

a manx feis for 11 to 16 yr olds

the manx heritage foundation is pleased to present
a weekend of music, dance and language workshops for
musicians, singers and dancers.

28 – 29 October 2006, 10am – 3:30pm
Youth Centre, Kensington Road, Douglas



- Mandolin, Bouzouki, Fiddle, Whistle, Flute, Singing in English and Manx.
- Manx Language.
- Guitar, Bodhran, Piano, Dancing.
- Group playing and arranging

Application Form

Name of child..... Age

Address.....
.....
.....

Tel..... Email.....

Instrument 1: (Please enter a 1 for first choice and a 2 for second choice)

Mandolin/Bouzouki Fiddle

Whistle/Flute Singing

Instrument 2: (Please enter a 1 for first choice and a 2 for second choice)

Guitar Bodhran

Piano Manx Dance

Please send this application to Manx Music Resource Coordinator, c/o
Centre for Manx Studies, 6 Kingswood Grove, Douglas, IM1 3LX.

Places are limited and if the first instrument choice is not available then
the second instrument choice will be allocated. Children will require a
packed lunch on both days.

A short concert for parents and friends will take place at 3:30pm on
Sunday 29 October when you come to collect your children.

Own instruments will be required where applicable

All workshops are free of charge.

**If you would like to take part or would like any more information
please do not hesitate to contact us:**

**mhfmusic@mhf.org.im, call 673074 or see
www.manxheritagemusic.org/calendar**