

# NOLICK GHENNAL AS BLEIN VIE NOA!

## MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Possan Mollag

**'At Christmas play and make good cheer,  
For Christmas comes but once a year'**

Music and dance traditions play a big part in Manx Christmas celebrations over the Kegeesh Ommidjagh or Foolish Fortnight, and there are plenty of opportunities for everyone to get involved in the festivities!

Read more about Hunting the Wren, pea-shooting at the Oie'll Verrey services, the White Boys' play, the raucous Mollag Band and other unusual customs associated with this time of year!! [http://manxmusic.com/news\\_story\\_505045.html](http://manxmusic.com/news_story_505045.html)

[Manx advent calendar images by Mary Cousins for Culture Vannin]



## Hunt the Wren

*St. Stephen's Day 26 December*

10am Scoill Phurt le Moirrey, Port St. Mary

10.15am The Woodbourne Pub, Douglas

10.30am Arboretum Carpark, St. John's

10.30am St. Paul's, Ramsey

11am The Mitre, Kirk Michael

11.20am The Raven, Ballaugh

11.40am The Sulby Glen Hotel



Shelg yn Dreean

*In this month's edition...*

- Kate Dowman CD
- Folkestra workshops
- The Christmas Fiddlers
- Twelve days of Christmas - IOM version

**Culture**  
**VANNIN**

## KATE DOWMAN - WHISPERING TIDES new album of Manx Gaelic songs

Although her career has taken her around the world, and back again, the Isle of Man has never left singer Kate Dorman's heart.

This month, the classical and opera singer releases her debut solo album, 'Whispering Tides', a collection of Manx songs, all sung in the Manx tongue, which will bring Manx music to whole new, international audience.

Having performed opera at some of the world's most prestigious venues, such as The Sydney opera House and the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, as well as high-profile appearances at Twickenham and Selfridges, Kate has returned to her roots, performing songs she learned as a child.

'Recording this album has been a dream come true,' said Kate.

'These songs are so personal to me and singing in Manx Gaelic again was like baring my heart and soul. I have returned to my true voice.'

'Whispering Tides' features 14 of some of the most well-known songs, taken from the annals of Manx folklore, and including 'Little Red Bird', 'Son of the Sea' and 'Ellan Vannin', the lullaby 'The Parting Hour', and through to some of the lesser-known tunes, such as 'The Fairy Washing song', and 'The Secret Island'.

All 14 tracks have been gloriously arranged into an ethereal and highly-atmospheric collection by Kate and the Grammy-nominated producer Chris Craker, creating a sound that has more in common with the lush, dream-like sounds of Clannad and Enya than trad folk music.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE by Mike Wade: <http://www.iomtoday.co.im/article.cfm?id=37380>

WATCH A CULTURE VANNIN INTERVIEW WITH KATE: <https://vimeo.com/245881437>

Buy the album in the Lexicon Bookshop, MNH museum shops, Bridge Bookshops, Tynwald Mills & Presence of Mann or: [www.katedorman.com](http://www.katedorman.com)





## CHARITY SINGLE

Young Manx student Lula Brown has released a download single of 'Ellan Vannin' in aid of a water charity she has created called GushGush.

9 year old Lula Brown was joined by singers Ruth Keggan, Matt Creer and her mum Amanda Brown at Ballagroove Studio to record one of the Island's favourite songs in English and Manx.

**BUY for £2**

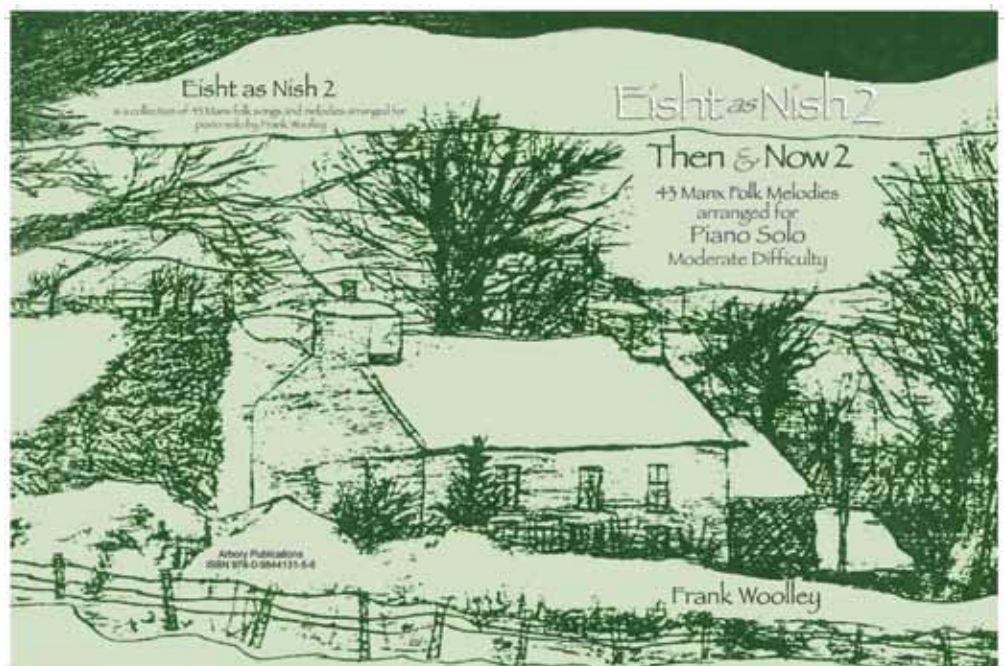
<https://lulabrown.bandcamp.com/>

75% of your donation goes to getting clean water to the poorest people on the planet. 15% to bandcamp to keep their site going and promote new artists, and 10% to processing fees.

WATCH THE MUSIC VIDEO: [www.facebook.com/Gushgushwaterprojects/videos/1961677444054086/](https://www.facebook.com/Gushgushwaterprojects/videos/1961677444054086/)

### SOON TO BE RELEASED new book of piano solos

A decade after his first book of easy to moderate level Manx piano arrangements, composer Frank Woolley is about to release the second book in the series - *Eisht as Nish 2*. This book contains 43 Manx melodies arranged for moderate difficulty. The first book is also being reprinted and both will soon be available to purchase for £12 each. Keep an eye out for information on [www.manxmusic.com](http://www.manxmusic.com)



LOOK OUT for a couple of festive music videos featuring the Mollag Band coming soon on [www.culturevannin.im](http://www.culturevannin.im)  
Two members of the Mollag Band - Hillary Gale and Greg Joughin >>

In the meantime, listen to a selection of Manx music Christmas on this playlist:  
<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/sets/manx-christmas>







**New stamps include Manx dancers!** The Isle of Man Post Office have produced a lovely set of stamps designed by Catherine Rowe this Christmas, and it looks like Ramsey based Manx dance group, Ny Fennee have made an appearance on the 9th day! Buy them here:

[www.iompost.com/stamps-coins/collection/the-twelve-days-of-christmas-by-catherine-rowe-stamp-collection/](http://www.iompost.com/stamps-coins/collection/the-twelve-days-of-christmas-by-catherine-rowe-stamp-collection/)



After 36 wonderful years being Chairman of the Manx Folk Dance Society, **Joan Cowell** (pictured dancing in yellow waistcoat) has decided to step down from the role.

The society are thankful for the time and dedication she gave to the Manx Folk Dance Society over these years. She has seen many changes and made many friends along the way. We are sure you will all wish her a Happy Retirement, but she will always be a dancer and will continue to be an active member. Rachel Clarkson has accepted the challenge of becoming Chairman with the support of the rest of the committee.

Rachel can be contacted on:

[mfds@manx.net](mailto:mfds@manx.net)

[photo thanks - Jiri P]

# Manx shine in Celtic dance fest

Report by Mike Wade



Manx dancers, both adult and the very young, made sure that the island's culture and music was well represented at a festival of music and dance over the weekend.

More than 35 dancers from the Skeddan Jiarg dance group made the trip to Newquay, in Cornwall, for the annual Lowender Peran Celtic Festival of Music and Dance, to take part in showcase performances, hold workshops and host family ceilis.

They were accompanied by more than 13 top, Manx musicians who performed for the troupe, and also held music sessions for the crowds of fellow players, dancers and enthusiasts of Gaelic culture.

The large contingent, and the confident manner in which the dancers, especially the younger ones, held themselves, made a huge impression on the crowd, and their confident performances in front of large crowds brought huge cheers.

The Skeddan Jiarg group, a relatively young dance group, having only been formed three years ago by Manx dancer Grainne Joughin, featured 20 very young performers, all aged under 10 years old.

The youngsters performed classic folk dances, such as 'Chyndaa yn Bwoailley', the 'Mheillea' and 'Hop Tu Naa'. Six of them also performed the classic White Boys dance, featuring clashing swords and some intricate moves.

They were complimented by a troupe of 15 adult dancers.

The whole group took part in a huge dance spectacular on Friday night, and performed an hour-long routine on Saturday afternoon. After both displays, the crowd was invited to take part in Manx ceilis, with Grainne calling the dance steps.

A supergroup, featuring Katie Lawrence, David Kilgallon, Jamie Smith and more finished the festival off in style with a three hour ceili .

Festival organiser Peggy Morris was delighted with the Manx contribution to the festival, and said it was great to see children taking part in festivals .

'It's lovely to have such small children coming along, and becoming the next generation of dancers' she said.

'Grainne came to the festival as a child herself to dance, and it is amazing that now she is training and bringing along a whole new crowd of young dancers.

'It think it is amazing to see such a big Manx contingent here. My daughter met a visiting Manx group in Inverness at a festival, in 1985, and they have been friends ever since. That says a lot about our links with each other and our friendships, which are a very special thing, that you make at festivals such as these.'

[www.iomtoday.co.im](http://www.iomtoday.co.im)

Culture Vannin has released some short films featuring interviews with Grainne Joughin and young members of Skeddan Jiarg. [http://culturevannin.im/news\\_story\\_503415.html](http://culturevannin.im/news_story_503415.html)

There is also footage of dance, 'Cutting the Turf' filmed during a rehearsal in a carpark in Cornwall!

[www.culturevannin.im/video\\_story\\_502169.html](http://www.culturevannin.im/video_story_502169.html)



# JOE BROUGHTON FOLKESTRA WORKSHOPS Feb 2018



Join incredibly talented, fiddler and multi-instrumentalist Joe Broughton (Birmingham Conservatoire Folk Ensemble, Urban Folk Quartet, Albion Band) and one of the UK's most innovative percussionists, Tom Chapman, for an exhilarating practical workshop of folk-jazz-classical-funk fusion (with a Manx twist!)

All instruments are welcome (bring your own), there's no need to be able to read music, and as long as you can play a simple tune, all abilities will be catered for!

Organised by Culture Vannin, these two hour practical workshops will take place in St Johns Methodist Hall on Saturday 10th February. The first one is for adult (over 16s) and the afternoon one is for students aged 10-16 years (Bree, MYO, and other musical youths welcome).

Be part of a big, fun folk music ensemble, and give a mini performance for family and friends at the end!

*The more the merrier!!*

## St Johns Methodist Hall on Saturday 10th February 2018

11.30am-1.30pm

Folkestra workshop 16+ and Adults £10.00

2.30pm - 4.30pm

Youth Folkestra workshop for 10-16 year old students £5.00

**Book your Eventbrite tickets via: [http://manxmusic.com/news\\_story\\_505708.html](http://manxmusic.com/news_story_505708.html)**

### WATCH JOE IN ACTION

with his **Birmingham Conservatoire Folk Ensemble at Shrewsbury Folk Festival 2017**

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rl-1ssLzdo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rl-1ssLzdo)

Find out more about Joe: [www.joebroughton.com](http://www.joebroughton.com) and Tom: [www.tomchapman.net](http://www.tomchapman.net)

Photo by Simon Goff and Tom Chapman.





## NEW CHORAL WORK FOR BISHOP PREMIERED

St German's Cathedral Choir, directed by Peter Litman, recently performed a new anthem by Paul Mealor which was commissioned for the Enthronement of the Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man 2017: [https://youtu.be/gW2\\_lbccbGY](https://youtu.be/gW2_lbccbGY)  
More info on the composer: [www.paulmealor.com](http://www.paulmealor.com)

Newcastle based Manx group, Birlinn Jiarg put their own spin on the old stick dance tune, Gorse Sticks. Here they are performing it live at Interceltique de Lorient 2017: <https://youtu.be/iwVy0izDnuM>



## Sam Barks - Debut album

Celebrity star of Les Mis, Oliver and Chicago, Samantha Barks, returns to her Manx roots on her debut album and she includes a lovely version of Ellan Vannin: [www.samanthabarks.co.uk/Shop/](http://www.samanthabarks.co.uk/Shop/)  
<https://youtu.be/fw6WPpA-IIQ>

Listen to a song about Gef the Talking Mongoose or the Isle of Man's "Dalby Spook" sung by legendary folk Manx duo "Mike and Al" with Alan Hess as the Stationary Willberries: [https://youtu.be/39\\_KBe\\_22nY](https://youtu.be/39_KBe_22nY)

## On the theme of this talking mongoose...

Eerie Weasel is based in the fictitious Manx Village of Ballajoon, situated somewhere on the South Coast of the Isle of Man and is the latest musical brainchild of Nigel Brown.

The name Eerie Weasel comes from a newspaper article in the 1930's which described the Dalby Spook as that "Eerie Weasel".

The creation of the backstory adds a twist to this musical venture and provides avenues and inspiration for the creation of music, art and song. Nigel has produced a number of pieces of art based on the village; a fake newspaper and also considered constructing a fake tourist brochure to leave down at the Sea Terminal. The project sits in the electronic /folk horror/ hauntology genre, drawing on nostalgia and the blanks of growing up in the 1970's and trying to fill in those gaps with music. He is trying to conjure up the sort of music the villagers may make if presented with a ship full of synthesizers, a mix of old and new; influenced by nature and folk music.

### The Back story

In 1979 a ship full of synthesizers, headed for a trade show in England ran aground in a fierce storm, on the rocks near Ballajoon. The next morning the beach was covered in synthesizers, which were pillaged by the villagers and lovingly restored to working order. Rather than make music with traditional instruments, the villagers began to make music with synthesizers creating their own unique sound.

In remembrance of that fateful stormy evening, the village created a synth henge.

### • • • • • Youtube/video corner • • • • •

- Ballajoon National Anthem
- by Eerie Weasel:

• <https://youtu.be/hQOUMI-eymc> •





**www.Knockaloe.im**

### "Kiaull ny Nollick Veg Knockaloe"

Following a sell-out concert last year come and join us for a candlelit evening of seasonal renaissance music & song to celebrate Manx Old Christmas with local group:

### "Hartes Ease"



**8.00pm on Friday 5 January 2018**

Holy Trinity Church, Patrick, Isle of Man

Tickets £10 each include complimentary interval mulled wine and homemade sweet treats

Limited seating so early booking recommended via [www.knockaloe.im](http://www.knockaloe.im)  
Or contact : Rachael Wood on 648477 or via email [info@knockaloe.im](mailto:info@knockaloe.im)

[knockaloeinternmentcampisleofman](https://www.facebook.com/knockaloeinternmentcampisleofman)

Registered Charity No. 1150



## Sunday Session in Laxey

**12.30 - 4pm - 7th January**

Lots of food, lots of fun, fantastic place to spend a Sunday afternoon!!

Tel. Mary for more details: 493365

All ages & abilities welcome.

### << Kiaull ny Nollick Veg Knockaloe

Early music group **Hartes Ease** will include a selection of Manx music in their performance on January 5th - a medley of the two variations of Oikan ayns Bethlehem and Arrane Ghelby and an arrangement of Manx cradle song, Arrane Saveenagh, all arranged for viols and recorders by Hartes Ease member, Cristl Jerry. Make sure you book your tickets soon, as last year was very popular!

**The Crosby Friday Night Folk Music session has now relocated to the MANOR HOTEL in WILLASTON, DOUGLAS. 8pm till 10.30pm(ish)**

Regulars would like to thank The Crosby Hotel for letting them play at their establishment for the last few years, as it has been great. They are looking forward to some more fun music nights at the Manor and extend a warm welcome to everyone.



# Mollag Ghennal

**Fri, 29 Dec 2017, 7.30pm prompt at the Douglas Legion**

**Tickets £13 (inc supper) Celtic Gold, Peter Norris, Thompson Travel & Shakti Mann**

**Mega line-up includes:**

**Rachel Hair & Claasagh harpists, Matt Kelly, Scran, Jamie Smith, Malcolm Stitt, Ruth Keggins & Jamie Smith, Skeddan Jiarg, Caarjyn Cooidjagh, Clash Vooar and The Mollag Band!!**



Carval

## Tynwald Christmas carol service

The annual Tynwald Christmas carol service will be held at the Church of St Mary of the Isle, Hill Street, Douglas at 1.10pm on Thursday December 14. It will include a performance of Manx music arranged for brass ensemble by John Kinley, plus the Tynwald Choir will sing new carol 'Shine Star Shine' by Breesha Maddrell and Frank Woolley:

[http://www.manxmusic.com/learn\\_page\\_398946.html](http://www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_398946.html)

You can also hear Cronk y Berry singing it in the 3FM/Spar Christmas carol cup competition!

<https://www.facebook.com/3FMradio/videos/10155430771224285/>

## Carolling around the pubs

Manx Gaelic choir Cliogaree Twoaie will be carol-singing in Manx round the pubs of Ramsey, for the Ramsey charities on Monday 18

December....all welcome to join in, whether you speak Manx or not. Meet at the Traff 7.30 - 7.45pm.

*NB. Kirk Michael Oie'll Verrey, Ebenezer Hall 5th January is now SOLD OUT*

## MANX FOLK AWARDS 25 - 29 March 2018

Organised by the Department of Education, Sport and Culture (new name for DEC), Culture Vannin and Manx National Heritage, Theay Aundrynn Vannin or the Manx Folk Awards will be held the last week before the Easter holidays in the Douglas Youth Arts Centre, Trinity Church and in St Johns Methodist Hall. With classes for 3 - 18 year olds in music, dance, song and recitation, the Manx Folk Awards are very informal and new schools are encouraged to take part. Organisers Jo Callister and Chloe Woolley are on call to come in and help out teaching simple dance steps, tunes and assist with Manx pronunciation. So there's no excuse not to get involved! It's all about the FUN!

The 2018 set pieces will be themed around the 'Year of our Island'.

**SYLLABUS COMING SOON!**

<https://manxfolkawards.weebly.com/>

## Save the date!

Cyclefest at Milnton,  
April 21st and 22nd 2018

Visiting music groups include Sam Kelly, Ross and Ali, and Na Trad award winners, The Elephant Sessions...

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

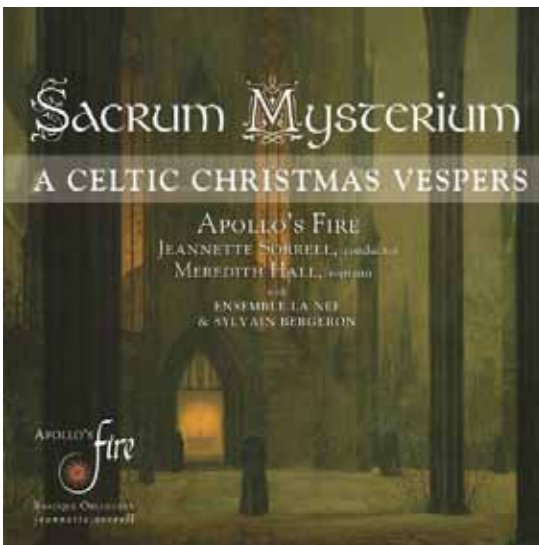




Photos by Jiri Podobsky of the fabulous Bulgarian & Manx music and dance concert at Ballakermeen Studio Theatre (Nov 2017)



# Harrish y Cheayn – Across the Sea



## Sacrum Mysterium (A Celtic Christmas Vespers)

Watch an atmospheric rendition of Manx carval, "Oikan Ayns Bethlehem" by Apollo's Fire – the Cleveland Baroque Orchestra

<https://youtu.be/1lr0gJd7szg>

Download the track here:

[www.amazon.com/dp/B0092PROMQ/ref=dm\\_ws\\_tlw\\_trk1](http://www.amazon.com/dp/B0092PROMQ/ref=dm_ws_tlw_trk1)

As well as Manx lullaby, "Ushag Veg Ruy":

[www.amazon.com/dp/B0092PRZCA/ref=dm\\_ws\\_tlw\\_trk20](http://www.amazon.com/dp/B0092PRZCA/ref=dm_ws_tlw_trk20)

<https://apollosfire.org/about/apollos-fire/>

## ***Is there such a thing as 'Celtic music' and if there is, what exactly is it? >> NEW BOOK to accompany The Celtic Songlines series***

These are some of the questions that Dónal Lunny sought the answers to following The Celtic Songlines (RTE TV series). Dónal travelled to all of Europe's Celtic nations from the Hebrides in the north to Galicia in the south visiting the Isle of Man, Wales, Cornwall and Brittany as well as Ireland. Along the way he met with musicians, historians and folklorists who helped build a fascinating picture of what Celtic musical identity means in modern Europe. €19.99

[www.currach.ie](http://www.currach.ie)



(above) Here's a photo of Alan Hess (playing accordion) teaching the locals to play the Manx tune 'Three Little Boats' at the Townhouse Pub, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada.



Manx musical traditions got a mention in the Christmas edition of Canadian magazine, Celtic Life!

<https://subscribe.celticlife.com/>

# RESEARCH NEWS

**DO YOU RECOGNISE THIS SINGER?** A traditional Christmas-time 'carval' from the Isle of Man, 'Oikan Ayns Bethlehem,' sung by an unknown singer at a Christmas church service in 1968.

The tune for this song in Manx Gaelic was first collected by W. H. Gill in the 1880s, from Tom Caine, who was 84 at the time. It is performed here as a part of a live recording of a Christmas-time church service, perhaps in Lonan, which was made by Baron Nikolai Giovanelli in 1968.

Do you know who the singer might be? Please get in contact as we would like to know any information that you might have on this: [culturevannin.im/page\\_286013.html](http://culturevannin.im/page_286013.html)

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/oikan-ayns-bethlehem-manx-carval-1968/s-Cmf9E>



## **Fifes, fiddles, hurdy-gurdy, Tom Taggart's cello and serpents!**

The Manx museum's collection of instruments can now be viewed online via their [imuseum](http://imuseum.im) website.

Photographed in great detail, here are a few examples from their collection. Search for 'music'.

### **FIDDLE** late 19th-early 20th century

Description: This violin is made of maple, with a spruce top, and fittings of an unknown dark wood. The instrument originally belonged to John Hudson, a sailor who lodged with donor

### **DRUM** late 18th century

Description: This rope-tensioned wooden side drum with a calfskin skin head was used by the Royal Manx Fencibles.

### **MELODEON** early 19th century

Description: This melodeon is made of painted wood, with mother of pearl keys (some broken) and was owned by Mr John Clark of Ballavolley, Ballaugh, in the early 1800s.





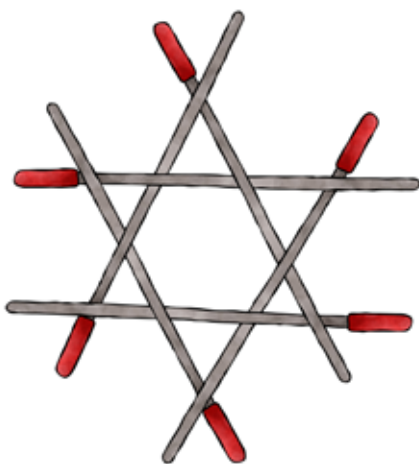


## **The Christmas period on the Isle of Man used to include performances of the White Boys play (Ny Guillyn Baney).**

This traditional Manx 'mumming' play would not have been performed to any stable script, but it always included a few key elements: saints, a fight, a death, a resurrection thanks to 'the Doctor' and a happy ending. This play could have been seen on the streets of Manx towns all over the Island during the Christmas period in the 19th Century and beyond.

The play included a special White Boys' Carol, and it was concluded with a sword-dance which finished with the distinctive holding aloft of the swords interlocked into a hexagon.

FIND OUT MORE: [www.culturevannin.im/manx\\_year\\_event\\_505782.html](http://www.culturevannin.im/manx_year_event_505782.html)



Ny Guillyn Baney

photo:

Leighton Stowell's dance class,  
performing the White Boys Dance.  
1948 (Leighton Stowell, third from  
right).



## THE CHRISTMAS FIDDLERS OR “CALLERS”

The *Manx Sun* in its issue for 14 December 1901 reported on the Christmas “Callers” in Castletown:

These musicians, who make night hideous with their stentorian shouts and ear splitting have been—thanks to the police—put a stop this year. They made a start about a week ago and went their rounds between midnight and 3 o’clock in the morning, wakening and alarming the peaceful citizens with their “Good mornings.”

However, the *Isle of Man Examiner* the next week (21 December) under the heading of “Baseless Rumours” commented that:

A rumour has got abroad that the police or Town Commissioners had decided to put a stop to some of the old customs, *viz.*, callers, white boys, and bands playing after ten o’clock at night. Upon enquiry we are able to state that those bodies are quite ignorant of any such regulation, and have felt annoyed by the charges made.

From Ballasalla came the remark that “[t]he string band will be missed this Christmas, and if no one is allowed to sing after ten o’clock it is going to be a very tame one too.” This also brought forth a letter from someone signing themselves as “Lillipudian,” part of which reads as follows:

I have recently heard that the Commissioners of the above town have prohibited Christmas “rowdyism” after 10 pm. They have even prohibited carol singing—what for, I wish to know? I suppose they are all going to bed early on those nights and don’t want their slumbers disturbed.

The writer went on to add that “I see all the leading men in the Island are endeavouring to promote Manx customs and now Castletown has actually passed a new law prohibiting them.”

James Cowin in the *Examiner* earlier in 1898 wrote a piece about the “Christmas Fiddlers” as he termed them, beginning his piece saying that “[t]his has been my first Christmas in Douglas, to the best of my knowledge, that this old Manx custom has to me been conspicuous by its absence.” The Christmas Fiddlers or Callers first appeared at the end of November and continued going around until Christmas Day. They knocked on doors in the early hours of the morning and when the household was aroused commenced to sing “Good morning, Mr —, good morning, Mrs —, and all the rest of your family; fine morning, half-past two o’clock.” This could be lengthened by adding in the names of other members of the family. Once that had been done they would start again but moving the time forward (“[t]he half and full hours as a rule were only called”) no doubt until they were given money. Often the rhyme was made specific to a family as when a trade or profession was involved as here with a baker and Methodist preacher:

Good morning Mr Corkhill,  
Not forgetting your wife,



You deal in the bread that perishes,  
And in the bread of life.

As to numbers active, “[t]here were generally three or four lots of callers, and very often the street got at least two lots in the night.”

Cowin makes it clear that they were welcome visitors, writing “it was said that some so much coveted being called, that they conveyed the desire and knowledge to the caller,” and as to the annoyance of being woken so early, “no one was expected to complain of being wakened up, but on the contrary, felt that they had scored by being singled out for a call.” Whilst the suppression of the Christmas Callers in Castletown in 1901 seems not to have happened, it is clear that their visits were not, in some quarter at least, as welcome as in the days of Cowin’s youth.

In its first issue for 1904, the *Examiner* commented that “1904 was ushered in quietly enough,” going on to add that “[q]uite a halo of romance and tradition has ever been associated with the birth of a New Year, but these are prosaic times, and each succeeding twelve months sees less and less observance of old customs.” It was this slow but steady withdrawal of support or sanction that saw the passing of many a Manx custom or tradition.

STEPHEN MILLER

#### REFERENCES

The newspapers accounts from 1901 are, “[From the South Side: Castletown News] The Christmas ‘Callers,’” *Manx Sun* 14 December 1901: 5d; “[Castletown] Baseless Rumour,” *Isle of Man Examiner* 21 December 1901: 5f; “[Ballasalla] The string band ....,” *Examiner* 21 December 1901: 5g. The letter to the *Examiner* is, Pseud [signed as “Lillipudian”], “[Letter to the Editor] The Suppression of the ‘Waits,’” *Examiner* 21 December 1901: 5f. For New Year 1904, “1904 was ushered ....,” *Examiner* 9 January 1904: 4e. James Cowin’s account is “‘The Fiddlers’ or ‘Callers’: A Reminiscence of Fifty Years Ago,” *Examiner* 31 December 1898: [3]e.



# TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

## *THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS - ISLE OF MAN version!*

*penned by Cairistiona Dougherty, Christmas 2016*

*On the first day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
The bus fare to Laxey*

*On the second day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Two R.A.T.s*

*On the third day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Three little boats*

*On the fourth day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Four jinny wrens*

*On the fifth day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Five M.H.K.s*

*On the sixth day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Six Celts a-playing*

*On the seventh day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Seven Vikings killin'*

*On the eighth day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Eight fairies dancin'*

*On the ninth day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Nine kippers smokin'*

*On the tenth day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Ten loaghtans leapin'*

*On the eleventh day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Eleven bikers racin'*

*On the twelfth day of Christmas, Manannan gave to me  
Twelve wallabies jumpin'*



# CALENDAR

## DECEMBER

15th Lesh Graih – concert with Truman Falls, Anna Goldsmith, Post War Stories, Jeff Jepson St Ninians, 7pm £5  
16th Caarjyn Coidjagh busking Tynwald Mills, 2-4pm  
17th Caarjyn Coidjagh perform at Malew Church Service, 3pm  
17th Perree Bane Christmas party, Ballasalla Village Hall, 6.30pm  
18th Carol singing around Ramsey with Cliogaree Twoaie, 7.30pm  
21st Caarjyn Coidjagh perform at Port Erin Commissioners, St Catherine's PE  
26th Hunt the Wren – Island-wide! Till noon  
29th Mollag Ghennal, Douglas Legion, 7.30pm £13

## JANUARY 2018

5th Kirk Michael Oie'll Verrey SOLD OUT  
5th Old Christmas concert with Hartes Ease, Patrick Church  
6th Arrane son Mannin and Manx concert, Peel Masonic Hall, 7.30pm FREE  
7th Monthly trad Session in Laxey, 12.30pm  
13th Bree Session, YAC 2-3.30pm

## FEBRUARY

3rd Manks Concert in aid of Sophia

Goulden memorial, Centenary Centre, Peel, details tbc

10th Folkestra workshops with Joe Broughton & Tom Chapman, St Johns Methodist Hall, £10 / £5

## MARCH

25th – 29th Manx folk Awards  
30th – 2nd April Shennaghys Jiu Celtic Festival <http://shennaghysjiu.com/>

## APRIL

21st & 22nd Cyclefest, Milntown

# NOLICK GHENNAL AS BLEIN VIE NOA!!

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 Session at O'Donnells, Douglas  
**THURS** 8pm Singing session at The Mitre, Ramsey  
**FRI** 8pm Trad session at The Mitre, Ramsey  
**FRI** Trad session at the Manor, Willaston  
Last **FRI** of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary  
Occasional **SAT** 10pm Manx session at The White House, Peel  
Monthly **SUN** 12.30pm Trad session in Laxey

~ SESSIONS ~

## culture vannin

For information on Manx music & dance contact:  
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[www.manxmusic.com](http://www.manxmusic.com)

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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