

Mannin / the Isle of Man at the Festival Interceltique de Lorient

Once again, Manx culture will be represented at Europe's largest Celtic festival by an enthusiastic team of musicians, singers, dancers and artists and volunteers.

Ealee Sheard (FIL Manx delegate) and Sarah Hendy (Manx art co-ordinator) lead the official delegation of performers selected by the festival, and Peter Young from Event Management Solutions and his hard-working team of volunteers run the Manx Pavilion, where thousands of festival-goers can enjoy Manx food produce, find out about visiting the Isle of Man, buy local goodies and watch live performances of music and dance on the stage.



This year's Manx performers include: A'Nish, The Lawrences with Manx dancers Grainne Joughin and Ali Carroon, singer-songwriter Matt Kelly and singer/instrumentalist Caitlin Bennett. The visual artist is Janet Lees.

The Manx pavilion is supported by Culture Vannin, IOM Arts Council, Visit Isle of Man and DEFA.

Keep up to date here: www.facebook.com/manxlorient/ & <https://twitter.com/ManninFIL>

Festival Interceltique de Lorient: www.festival-interceltique.bzh/



In this month's edition...

- *Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering in photos*
- *Manx music around the globe*
- *NAMA awards 2018*

Culture
VANNIN

Yn Chruinnaght's Celtic Gathering brings music from around the Gaelic nations to the island

Some of the finest folk talent on the island performed alongside top Irish, Scottish and Welsh musicians and the recent Yn Chruinnaght Celtic gathering festival, which took place over five days last week.

Beginning with a showcase concert, featuring the three Manx BBC Radio 2 folk awards winners, Mera Royle, Tom Callister and Adam Rhodes, on stage with their electrifying pan-Celtic group Imar, the festival featured music, dance and culture from the six Celtic nations.

Las performed Scottish and Irish dance, and the Welsh festival group NoGood Boyo played a raucous set on the Friday Night, before Irish folk legends Altan finished off the festival concerts.

There was also a weekend of display at the House of Mannanan, with Breton and Irish dancing, alongside the Manx dancers of Perree Bane and Skeddan Jiarg.

Jo Callister, one of the festival organisers, said:

'We're all delighted that Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering 2018 was such a great success, especially as it was our 40th Anniversary.

'Those who attended the Ian O'Leary lecture this year, presented by Yn Chruinnaght committee member, Bob Carswell, will know that the 2018 Celtic Gathering has come a long way and despite several changes.

'The ethos remains the same, celebrating and sharing our Celtic music, song, traditions and dance with all the other Celtic nations and making links and friendships, old and new.'

Jo thanked the sponsors Culture Vannin, the Isle of Man Arts Council, Culture Ireland, Thornton Ltd, Malcolm Scott Dickinson Charitable Trust and Year of Our Island 2018.

Article by Mike Wade, Manx Independent: www.iomtoday.co.im/article.cfm?id=41898

For more photos, videos and news:

www.facebook.com/CelticGatheringIOM/

Photo credits:

*Mike Wade,
Vannin Photos,
Valerie Caine,
James Franklin,
YC committee*









The inaugural Manx Music Day on Manx Radio

During the latter part of 2018 Year of Island's July 'culture month', Manx Radio joined forces with Culture Vannin and the Manx Music Chart to put on the first 'Manx Music Day' (Laa Kiaull Manninagh) on Friday 27th July. It was a whole day celebrating the Isle of Man's vibrant music community and introducing local singer-songwriters and bands to new ears.



Manx Radio took the lead with a whole day devoted to the diverse range of original music produced in the Isle of Man. From breakfast to bedtime, listeners tuned in to hear contemporary Manx rock, pop, rap, blues, jazz and classical music, as well as Manx Gaelic language songs and traditional Celtic music.

Joining the regular Manx Radio presenters was a variety of people involved in the Manx music industry, from performers and composers to promoters and recording engineers. Emma Callin, Head of Villa Marina, Gaiety Theatre and the Arts joined Stu Peters on Talking Heads; Culture Vannin's Manx Music Development Officer, Dr Chloe Woolley and musician husband, Malcolm Stitt chatted to Christy DeHaven about their musical backgrounds on Conister Rocks; Gypo Buggane gave an audio tour of his recording studio, and there were guest co-presenters and live performances throughout the day from singers and musicians including Matt Kelly and David Kilgallon, Mandy Griffin, Jeff Jepson, Ruby Biscoe-Taylor, Grainne Joughin and Matt Creer.

Also involved in this new initiative was Arron Clague, who runs the Manx Music Chart. This weekly top of the pops is based on the listening trends on Spotify, where the ever-growing Manx playlist includes tracks by Davy Knowles, Voodoo Bandits, Mae Challis, Kate Dowman, Jules Verne Theory, The Bobbleheads, Alanna Lyes, Matt Creer, Truman Falls, Alex Harris and a'Nish. If you want your music to be included, contact Arron for more details:

www.facebook.com/manxchart/

With the recent successes of Manx musicians, including Celtic harpist Mera Royle who won the BBC 2 Young Folk Musician of the Year, and Laxey girl Sam Barks', who clinched the starring role in the new Broadway production of Pretty Woman, there is currently a lot of interest from around the world and a new-found confidence in the Island's thriving music scene. It is hoped that 'Manx music day' will become an annual event, which could develop to incorporate live gigs around the Island and inspire new musical collaborations.

LISTEN AGAIN to Manx Radio programmes **ON DEMAND** (27th July) www.manxradio.com such as Women Today, Mandate, and Talking Heads plus Christy D's MANX MUSIC DAY SPECIAL:

www.manxradio.com/radioplayer/od/items/1003/

There are also short videos on the Manx Radio Facebook page including some new jingles composed for the day: <https://www.manxradio.com/news/isle-of-man-news/manx-music-valued-far-and-wide/>

More information: www.manxradio.com/on-air/manx-music-day/manx-music-day/

July's Culture Month ~ 2018 Year of Our Island

A little guide book is still available to pick up in Culture Vannin and other information points, but if you're not on the Isle of Man, you can download it here: www.gov.im/media/1362074/culture-booklet-11.pdf
The little booklet includes the tune for Bollan Bane, plus Ellan Vannin and the Manx National Anthem.

#2018 YOOI Whistle players!

30 beginner players of all ages (!!) signed up for the crash course on the Manx tin whistle as part of the 2018 Year of Our Island July culture month! Pictured below are a selection of happy whistlers who'd mastered Manx tunes Bee dty Host, The Cormorant and Smuggler's Lullaby in under an hour!



There are still a few days left to take part in the Cultural Engagement Survey!

The Manx public have the opportunity to help shape the future of arts, culture and recreation in the Isle of Man by taking part in the survey. (Closes 18th August)

You can find the survey here: www.gov.im/culture

Your views are so crucial in order that Government can see what is valued and what is not which will shape future arts and culture initiatives for the Manx public. It aims to find out more about which activities the public take part in and their views on the impact they have on their lives, such as a sense of wellbeing and identity.

If you took part or attended any cultural and/or artistic event, (for example, Tynwald Day, Oie Voaldyn, a Manx language class, an art workshop, saw a show at the Gaiety, visited an exhibition at a gallery, went to any of the Manx National Heritage Sites, went to a festival, play in a band or enjoy watching bands, part of a local club or organisation), whatever it might be, if you would like to keep seeing all these things on the island and more then please make this known in the survey.

And if you do not consider yourself particularly culturally or artistically involved on the island then we would still love to hear your views in the survey.

You can read more information about the Programme for Government here: www.gov.im/performance



NEW Manx bagpipe group SKIRL made their debut at Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering last month.

Follow the group here:
www.facebook.com/skirlIOM/

Laura Barton's Notes from a Musical Island - BBC Radio 4 programme

In this programme aired on 31st July, writer Laura Barton listens closely to music on the Isle of Man. Surrounded by the tempestuous Irish Sea, the island is said to contain all the landscapes of Britain in only 220 square miles. There's a strong tradition of Celtic music but many say you can hear the particular landscape and character of the people in Manx tunes.

On the rugged northern coast, Laura meets a young harpist, Mera Royle, who plays traditional Manx music and received the BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award this year. In the western town of Peel, Laura listens to a variety of performers, including Breesha Maddrell and Aalin Clague from Moot and Clash Vooar, at the Yn Chrunniaght festival. And in a fishing village in the south, Laura meets Gyp Buggane, the bassist of the psychedelic band 13th Pillar, who also runs a studio recording the diverse mix of musicians on the island.

Listen again: www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0bcgslx

Mike Boulton's 80th birthday

Mike Boulton RBV had a big surprise last month! What he thought was a concert, turned out to be his surprise 80th birthday party!



The evening began in disguise as a Manx National Week concert with a performance from Mike's school folk group Share na Veg. Then the MC, Juan Garrett, revealed the truth - that family and friends of all ages had come together that evening (4 July) to celebrate Mike's birthday (real date was later in the month).

After that, there were performances from many of the groups connected to retired teacher Mike and his tireless work in Manx culture over the past few decades. Rachel Hair's young Claasagh harpists performed, as did Ramsey dance group Ny

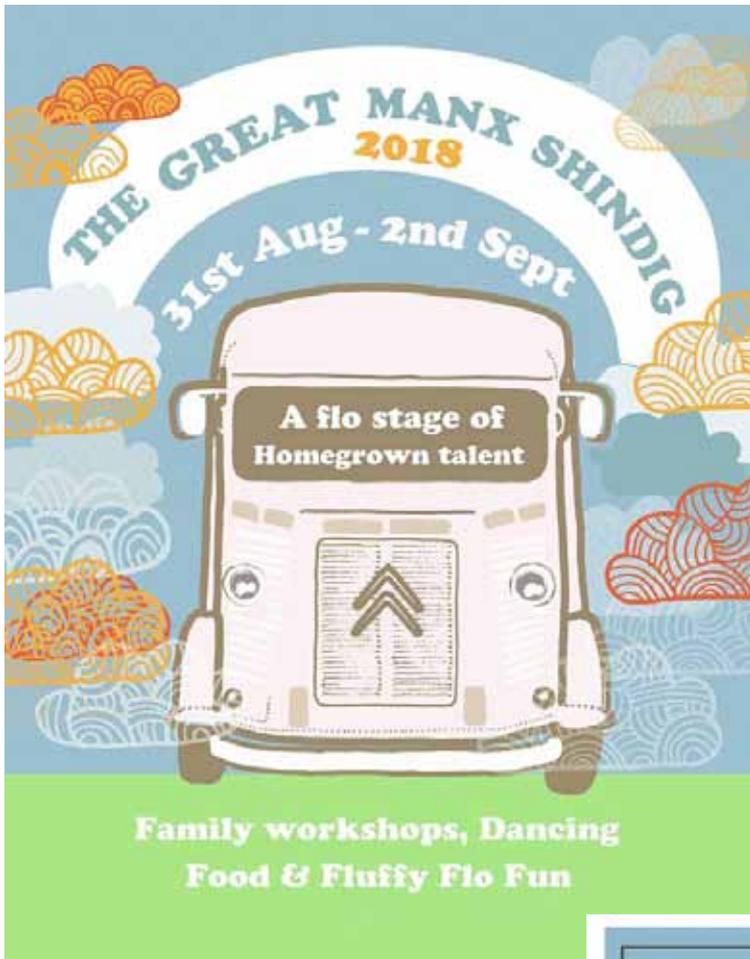
Fennee. Former students, Sharon Sutton, Sue Ling Jaques, Mae Ying Ellis, Chrissy Callaghan and Peddyr Cubberley re-formed as a band and performed some of the Celtic songs and tunes that Mike taught them at Albert Road School several decades ago! Peddyr also performed a new tune that he had composed especially for Mike called 'The Octagenarian'. *Laa ruggyree sonney da Mike!!*

MANX DANCE IN IOM FILM FESTIVAL

Culture Vannin's mini film entitled 'Manx dancing with Skeddán Jiarg' has been shortlisted for the Isle of Man Film Festival 2018. See the film for yourself:

<https://youtu.be/GXIMXpzhhz8>





THE GREAT MANX SHINDIG

31st August - 2nd Sep

Secret location to be announced...

Manx bands include:

- LAVA
- MATT KELLY
- THE FECKTONES
- THE BIRDS AND THE BEARDS
- THE BALLAGHS
- BISKEE BRISHT
- JEFF JEPSON
- THE MOLLAG BAND
- EUGENE WILSON
- POST WAR STORIES
- CLASH VOOAR
- DUSTY PLANKTON
- ADAM MELVIN

More info and tickets:

www.thegreatmanxshindig.com/

MAE CHALLIS



LIVE @
THE RAILWAY
11/08/18
8.30PM

Mae Challis
COMPTON VAULTS
Aug 18
8pm



2018 Summerland Memorial Concert

Dedicated to the 50 men, women and children who lost their lives



HOSTED BY 3RD MANX BARD: JOHN DOG CALLISTER

Mad Daddy
Anna Goldsmith
Hamish Faragher
The Fecktones
The Birds and the Beards

Saturday 4th August
Peel Centenary Centre
Doors 7:00pm - Start 7:30pm

RAISING MONEY FOR ALDER HEY CHILDREN'S BURNS UNIT

Tickets £10 available from:
 - Shakti Man (Ramsey) - Celtic Gold (Peel) -
 - Peter Norris Music (Douglas) - Thompson Travel (Port Erin) -
 or visit www.centenarycentre.com

kindly sponsored by 

SUMMER MUSIC SEASON 2018

VILLA MARINA ARCADE



August

- 2nd Biskee Bricht & Suzy Manton
- 5th Manx Youth Band
- 7th Manx Swing Band
- 9th Les Williamson
- 12th Manx Youth Band
- 19th Jeff Jepsom & Matt Kelly
- 21st Casteltown Band
- 23rd Ellen Vannin Pipes and Drums
- 26th Crosby & District Silver Band
- 28th Manx Swing Band
- 30th The Lawrence Trio & Dilys and Marlene



Music & Dance at the Food & Drink Festival

The Isle of Man Food & Drink Festival will take place on Saturday 15th September and Sunday 16th September 2018, in the Villa Marina Gardens, Douglas. As well as lots of tasty stuff, there will be music and dance entertainment throughout the weekend. www.iomfoodanddrink.com/festival/

OUR ISLAND. OUR WORLD



Festival of World Music & Culture

SATURDAY 8TH SEPT 1-5PM
PEEL CATHEDRAL GROUNDS

FREE FAMILY EVENT

GLOBAL CULTURES CELEBRATION

GLOBAL FOOD

LIVE MUSIC AND DANCE

FREE SONG & DANCE WORKSHOPS

CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE

@ourislandourworld





OUR ISLAND. OUR WORLD



Festival of World Music & Culture

SOOTHSAYERS
(AFRO/DUB/REGGAE)

BAKA BEYOND
(WEST AFRICAN)

ANGEL BROTHERS
(LATIN/BHANGRA)

SHEELANAGIG
(BALKAN/EAST EUROPE)

VERA VAN HEERINGEN TRIO
(AMERICANA)

FREE FAMILY EVENT,
CATHEDRAL GROUNDS, SATURDAY. AFTERNOON
MUSIC, DANCE, FOOD, CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES AND MORE

AND MORE STILL TO BE ANNOUNCED

EVENING CONCERTS 7.30PM FRI & SAT £25 PER NIGHT

LIMITED EARLY BIRD TICKETS
£45 FOR BOTH NIGHTS AVAILABLE NOW.

7-8 SEPT 2018

PEEL CENTENARY CENTRE & CATHEDRAL GROUNDS
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM CENTENARYCENTRE.COM
AND USUAL RETAIL OUTLETS




DANCE LABYRINTH

13:00 IOM PREMIER ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCE

14:10 SKEDDAN JIARG

15:20 INDIAN BALLET & BELLY DANCING

16:30 RHYTHM OF BULGARIA

GLOBAL FOOD

TASTE AFRICA

PHILIPPINES

BLACK DOG PIZZA OVEN

TEA, COFFEE, & ICE CREAM IN CORRIN HALL

FREE MUSIC & DANCE WORKSHOPS

13:30 - 14:30 BELLY DANCING

14:30 - 16:30 AFRICAN SINGING

CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES

13:30 & 15:00 CULTURE VANNIN

14:00 & 15:30 GLOBAL STORIES

MUSIC AMPHITHEATRE

13:30 SCRAN

14:40 VERA VAN HEERINGEN TRIO

15:50 FECKTONES

OUR ISLAND: OUR WORLD



Festival of World Music & Culture

PEEL CATHEDRAL GROUNDS
SAT 8TH SEPTEMBER 1 - 5PM

Free family event

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE

GLOBAL CULTURES CELEBRATION

REPRESENTATIVES FROM:
BULGARIA, GAMBIA, INDIA, ISLE OF MAN, ITALY, NIGERIA, PHILIPPINES, POLAND, UGANDA

ONE WORLD CENTRE

CAFÉ LINGO, SHAKTIMANN, FAIRTRADE, FACEPAINTING, CATHEDRAL PRODUCE, CULTURE VANNIN

Young people honoured by North American Manx Association

Nine young people who have made a significant contribution to Manx culture and the community have been honoured by the North American Manx Association (NAMA).

The annual awards ceremony – which recognises those who have excelled in the fields of Manx music, culture, the arts and crafts, and involvement with the Island’s community – was held at Legislative Buildings in Douglas... The judging panel comprised Professor Ronald Barr, Frances Hampton, and Shelley Moffitt of the Department of Education, Sport and Culture, Aimee Corlett from the World Manx Association, and Anne Minay a life member of NAMA.

Minister for Education, Sport and Culture, Graham Cregeen MHK, who hosted the awards ceremony, congratulated the winners on their success:

‘The Isle of Man has a rich culture, weaving the fabric of our nation, and as a community we are rightly proud. ‘The contribution of our young people is vital, not only to ensuring that our traditions continue, but that they evolve and embrace developments in art, craft, language, and music.

‘The awards are important and recognise real, emerging talent – we need only look at one of last year’s NAMA winners, Mera Royle, who went on to win the BBC Radio 2’s Young Folk Award in April.’



Outstanding achievement in Manx music: Jack McLean, aged 15, Queen Elizabeth II High School

Jack – a fluent speaker of Manx Gaelic – has been a keen member of the Manx youth music movement Bree since he was 10. He plays the accordion, piano, and the organ and demonstrates a passion for Manx music and culture. Jack is also a member of local band Scran who recently recorded their debut album. Jack is also a member of the QEII High School folk group Club Kiaull and also sometimes performs with Manx Gaelic group Clash Vooar. Jack is also an apprentice organ builder.

Manx language: Feeagh Joughin, aged 16, Queen Elizabeth II High School

Feeagh is a speaker of Manx Gaelic and is confident to use the language in school and with his peers. He is involved in Manx music and has represented the Isle of Man at festivals in Wales, Cornwall, and Brittany. Feeagh is described as a credit to his school, his family and the Manx community.

Outstanding contribution to Manx culture by a student under 18: Erin Loach, aged 15, Ballakermeen High School

Erin achieved an A* in her GCSE Manx Gaelic and is currently working towards her A-level in the language – all whilst learning Japanese, for fun. She is passionate about promoting the wider use of Manx Gaelic and understanding of the Isle of Man’s heritage. Erin again won the Girls Solo in Manx class at the Guild this year, the third time in a row. She is a great ambassador for the Manx language and for the Isle of Man.

Outstanding contribution to the Manx culture by a group of young people under the age of 25: Marown Primary School

Yn Chruinnaght nominated the school as pupils are enthusiastic supporters of the Manx Folk Awards. The school has a Manx folk group, a Manx feddan group (penny whistle), Manx choirs, and a new ukulele group. The children are described as having a great passion for Manx music and culture with the support of their enthusiastic teachers.

Eight of the awards – specially minted silver medallions – were presented by Alex Downie OBE as a Friend of NAMA. The award for the most progress in Manx was presented by Laurence Skelly MHK.

FULL REPORT: www.gov.im/news/2018/jul/06/young-people-honoured-by-north-american-manx-association/

Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea

Perree Bane at Ulverston - Report by John Dowling



Perree Bane were invited to participate in the 2018 Furness Tradition Music and Dance Festival by our good friends in Ulverston, Cumbria.

Having participated in this excellent Festival before, we knew that our traditional Manx dancing would be well received and we were not disappointed! In turn we were treated to Morris, Molly and, the local speciality, clog dancing.

A good crossing and problem-free road trip later, the Friday evening of our arrival was great fun, with displays, ceili dances and music items interspersed, so you got a chance to get your breath back between dances!

Saturday was busy, with 5 dance sessions with another Group around the town and at the retirement home.

Saturday evening was the main public performance in the Coronation Hall, which was very well received. Our youngest member with the Men's jig rather stole the show! The format of interspersed dance, ceili and music items throughout the evening once again worked very well.

Sunday morning the groups split in 2, with some outside the Coronation Hall and the others, including Perree Bane, in the Town Square and it's dreaded sloping cobbles. The dancing soon became joining in with each other's dances, quite a sight seeing "Thieving Magpies" Morris dancing Chyndaa ny Bwoailley with diminutive PBs and Molly dancers! Perree Bane wielding huge Morris sticks quite competently instead of their usual gorse sticks was also an eye-opener.

Regretfully we had to pack up and head South again after to lunch, to catch the evening boat back to IOM, but with some wonderful memories and pictures, in the knowledge we had done the IOM proud.

Many thanks to our friends in Ulverston for the invitation; several Morris Groups asked if they could come to the IOM next year and others expressed a desire to re-new their acquaintanceship with Mona's Isle. Especial thanks are due to the Isle of Man Arts Council for their unstinting support, without which such participation would be very much more difficult.

FESTIVAL TOUR

Manx harpist and fiddle player Mera Royle is off to perform at three top UK music festivals this month and will play in front of tens of thousands as part of her prize as BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Musician 2018.

Young Manx musicians Owen Williams and Raygie Dolloso make up the band accompanying Mera on stage at Cambridge Folk festival and Towersey festival, and she will be joined by more members of Manx trad group Scran at Cropredy Festival.

A new track from her forthcoming EP was played on BBC Radio 2's Folk Show with Mark Radcliffe on 1st Aug.

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0bcltvc

(approx. 17 mins)

Mera supported fellow BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards winners, Imar, at their sell-out gig at Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering last month.

Follow Mera:

www.facebook.com/MeraRoyleHarp/

and

<https://meraroylemusic1.bandcamp.com/>



A colorful poster for Fairport's Cropredy Convention. The title 'Fairport's Cropredy Convention' is written in a large, stylized, orange font. Below it, the dates 'THURSDAY 9 FRIDAY 10 & SATURDAY 11 AUGUST 2018' are listed, along with the location 'Cropredy near Banbury Oxfordshire M40 Junction 11'. The poster features a list of performing acts: Brian Wilson presents Pet Sounds, Oysterband, Police Dog Hogan, Smith & Brewer, Fairport Acoustic, Kate Rusby, Cregan & Co, Midnight Skyracer, Mera Royle (BBC R2 YFA Winner), Levetters, Le Vent du Nord, The Travelling Band, Al Stewart, Afrocelt Sound System, Sam Kelly & The Lost Boys, Will Varley, The Bar-Steward Sons of Val Doonigan, Eric Sedge, Richard Digance, and Anthony John Clarke. At the bottom, it says 'BOOK EARLY AND SAVE £££s...' and provides the website 'www.fairportconvention.com' and phone number '0844 581 1396'. Social media handles for @faircropefest and /fairportofficial are also listed.



Jeant dy mie Katie Lawrence & the Ballacottier School Choir who took part in the International Eisteddford at Llangollen last month.

Llangollen 2018



The primary school choir performed Katie's arrangements of Manx songs, "T'an Grine veg Oarn" & "Irree ny Greiney". You can watch their sparkling performance here (under Ballacottier): <http://llangollen.tv/choirs/?lang=en>

NEWS FROM THE MFDS

Summer is here and the Manx Folk Dance Society will visit Sweden and Wales this August 2018.

Our Friends from the Group Hembydgsgillet in Malmo Sweden are this year celebrating their 100th Anniversary, being formed in 1918, MFDS will be with them in the first week of August, the group have invited Volkstanzgruppe-Besse, Germany and also Wayfarers from Birmingham England, we are all very excited as we know most of the people that will be attending, the initial invite was mentioned 5 years ago, which does not seem that long ago. This is going to be a very special celebration, pretty amazing to reach 100 years.

Later in August, MFDS will travel to Carmarthanshire, Wales, as invited guests of Typpn O'Bopeth, their leader being Roberta (Bobbie) Evans, maybe some of you will know Bobbie and her husband Daffyd, as they frequently visit IOM and have been visitors for Yn Chruinnaght. We became good friends with the group during a visit to Gotland in 2004 where both groups were attending a Festival. We are going to stay at Golden Grove, a Gothic Mansion, situated in a Deer Park where just recently it was seen on "Wales on-line" that Dame Judi Dench was shooting her latest film. We are looking forward to performing at the National Botanical Gardens on 25th August www.dawnsio.com, and also at the Golden Grove.

International traveller and Manx musician Alan Hess continues to spread the word about Manx music on foreign shores. He recently performed and taught some Manx tunes at a cancer charity event in Evesham, and he now embarks on a tour of Scandinavia in his motorhome, where he will 'of course do my best to promote the Isle of Man with my small accordion'!

See KIAULL NOA for news of a re-release of a CD by The Stationary Wilberries...



MANX MUSIC IN HUNGARY - report by conductor, Christa MacCartney

This year, on Tynwald day, on an open-air stage in the Hungarian town of Kecskemét, Ellan Vannin and a selection of other Manx folk songs in Gaelic and English, were beautifully performed by six of our island's young singers. We were proudly representing the Isle of Man with traditional, unaccompanied song, traditional dance and harp.

A week before on 30th June Manx flags had been waving at Ronaldsway too, as the six young people of the "Manx Magic Choir" gathered at the airport; beginning their journey to represent their country at the Csipero International festival in Kecskemét, Hungary.

It was a wonderful and important experience in many ways, for both the young people and for me. I am privileged to have spent three

years there studying the Kodály concept at the Kodály Institute. The Kodály approach is particularly focused on teaching music through choirs and I went on the advice of Alan Pickard who admired the Kodály philosophy, and, of course, was passionate about youth choirs. The choral tradition on the island is still hugely inspired by Alan, and in my small way, taking a youth choir to Hungary felt like a thank you to my Hungarian teachers and to Alan.

Of course, for the young people who made up the Manx Magic Choir there was no such poignancy. For them there was joy, delight in each other's company, and the thrill of a new culture to explore for the first time. From the start a firm bond between the group had developed and this only grew stronger as we travelled and continued to rehearse. The choir members stayed with various host families for the trip and their close bond quickly grew to encompass the Hungarian children of these families. Indeed, following our first performance, when the group gathered for a celebratory ice-cream, I discovered my 6 person choir had expanded to a group of 15! It was wonderful to watch them giggling, sharing folk songs, learning each other's language and feeling so naturally comfortable with one another. It is this that makes cultural exchanges such as this so valuable to all involved.

Sharing culture is what the Csipero festival is all about. It was established in 1990 after the fall of the Berlin wall, to enable Hungarian children to learn about, and travel to, other countries. Since then 43 countries have taken part, with the Isle of Man joining, through the Youth Arts Centre, in 2016. We played host to a visiting group of young Hungarians in 2017 and this year it was our turn to travel, taking our performance as a gift.

For our performance we had prepared a 15 minute programme which we performed twice on the open air stage. Our set began with me alone on stage playing the ballad version of 3 little boats on harp, before being joined by Linde at which point the speed was doubled and it became the 'girls jig'. We followed that with Ellan Vannin, Shee, The Sea Invocation, Ushag Veg Ruy, and Juan y Jaggad Keir.

In addition to these performances we were also part of the street parades which open and close the festival. We had a wonderful time parading through the streets in our traditional Manx costume, waving our flags with great energy. A truly special highlight was being asked to perform for the >>



closing ceremony in the palace. This is a great honour. Linde danced and the choir performed our own arrangement of Juan y Jaggad Keeir. Our arrangement is sung in Manx but combined with a Hungarian folk tune and utilises solfège, the teaching language of music in Hungary.

Social media is such an important part of staying in contact today and our Whatsapp group had been ringing off the hook for the entire trip. This was never-more so than as we began our return journey. Emotions had been high as we left the host families who had become, in such a short space of time, so important. Social media allows us to keep in touch with our new friends, expanding the cultural exchange beyond the duration of our physical stay.

We're firmly committed to continuing together as a choir and are all excited about starting rehearsals again in September... who knows what adventures lie ahead for us! Certainly we shall be hosting our Hungarian friends next year, but we're also looking at other festivals we could attend. The Isle of Man has a proud tradition of taking youth choirs abroad, and that is a tradition that I intend to continue in the 21st century working to make our nation as proud of us as we are of it.

Of course this would not be possible without Fiona Helleur at YAC who envisioned the whole Csipero project and who made all the arrangements for us, and the wonderful support of the IOM Arts Council. We are very grateful to them both.



Gura mie ayd Ellan Vannin and köszönöm szépen Kecskemét.

St Germans' Cathedral Choir - Armagh

Check out the Manx choir's Facebook page to hear a clip of "Ellan Vannin" which they performed for the Lord Mayor of Armagh last month:

www.facebook.com/cathedralisleofan/?ref=br_rs

CELTIC CONGRESS - Brittany

Ruth Keggins and Karl Kramer gave a 'magical performance' at The International Celtic Congress in Kemper (Quimper).

Apparently the audience at The Max Jacob Theatre were particularly enchanted by Ruth's singing of "Grah Foalsey".

MeM - Livingroom of languages - report by Greg Joughin

Leeuwadden in Friesland is City of Culture, 2018. As part of their celebrations, the Fresians have built an impressive pavilion in the Prinsentenuin park. The pavilion takes the shape of two female figures combined. MeM is Fresian for mother.

The pavilion provides a stage for music, poetry, storytelling and theatre. There is an air of relaxation with an extensive array of refreshments available.

Every week a different language takes the stage a long side Frisian at MeM. A total of around 30 language communities from around Europe are taking part. The communities take turns to visit MeM for a week and introduce their language and culture in their own way.

On 7th-14th July, it was the turn of the Manx language. Greg Joughin and Phil Gawne travelled to Leeuwadden to represent Gaelg, the Manx language. At a special ceremony the Basque representatives Xabi Paya (singer) Joxan Goikoetxea (accordeon) and Iosune Marin (guitar) 'handed over the batten' to Greg who joined them on stage with a moving rendition of Kirree Fo Niaghtey. After a week of celebrating the Manx language Phil Gawne gave a final Manx farewell and left the stage to the Maltese.

Enjoy a video of Greg and the Basque musicians performing in MeM:

www.facebook.com/bestehitzak/videos/840522749464212/

LISTEN again to Moghrey Jedoonee (29th July, approx 1h10m) on Manx Radio to hear Phil Gawne perform and talk about his experience in Friesland. www.manxradio.com on demand.

The project was supported by Culture Vannin.

GAELG
08/07/2018
Manksk
15/07/2018
500
minútes prate Manksk

It eilán Man

In nje fakowst!
Fan it Manksk lek wol Gaelg of Calick neamt! waard rocht dat it otstoarn wie neidat de léste spékker yn 1974 stoarn wie, mar de bewenner fan it eilán bringe de taal wer ta nij libbe!

Ta graih ayn ert
ik hold fan dy

De meast algemiene groet is "Moghrey mie!"

Wolste in pear wurdjes Manksh laare?

Muzikanten Phil Gawne and Greg Joughin

"Kys t'ou?"
(Hoe is it mei dy?)

"Gure mie ayd"
(Tankewol)

Tip

Sis "Gure mie eu" as mear as ien persoan betankje wolst.

Sis middeis "Fastyr mie" yn stee fan "Moghrey mie".

Brúk "Slaynt" ast in toast útbringe wolst.

STATUS fan de taal

It Manksk is erkend as minderheidstaal op it eilán Man en yn de Britsk-Ierske Ried.

MeM
Livingroom of Languages
Lán fan taal!



Féile Iorrais 2018, Co Mayo. Ireland - report by Peddyr Cubberley

July has been a busy month for me, with a good mix of gigs, festival appearances, and ceilis, both on the Isle of Mann, and in Ireland. One of the highlights for me was appearing at Féile Iorrais in the Erris region of northwestern Co. Mayo, in Ireland, and in particular, being invited to play support to Kíla. Kíla were formed in the late 1980s, and are heralded as one of Ireland's most innovative and exciting bands. I was delighted to have been accompanied throughout the festival by the amazing young Sligo harper Eilís Needham.

Féile Iorrais is centred in and around the Iorras Gaeltacht, and Béal an Mhuirthead (Belmullet), and ran from 18th ~ 21st July, featuring a host of musicians & dancers, both local and from further afield.

On arrival in Belmullet on Wednesday 18th, there was just enough time for a quick rehearsal for Eilís & I, and to grab something to eat before playing a few tunes at the monthly Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann local branch Clann Lír's concert-come-session at Áras Inis Gluaire, Belmullet's Art Centre. We joined a host of other musicians of all ages, some of which have visited the Island to play on a couple of occasions at Shennaghys Jiu, namely Cillian Ó Mongáin (concertina), and Liam McGonigle (accordion). We played a selection of Manx traditional tunes and as well as some of my own compositions, and Eilís also rendered a few Irish tunes on harp and accordion.

Thursday 19th was the 'big day' for us, with another rehearsal, and sound check for our gig supporting Kíla at the Arts Centre in Belmullet's Áras Inis Gluaire. It was also Eilís' birthday and great way to spend it supporting one of Ireland's major bands, and getting front row seats to watch them after our slot. What an incredible band, so full of creativity and energy. I haven't seen them since 1998 at Celtic Connections in Glasgow, and they're even better now than they were then! The night finished up with a music session in one of Belmullet's pubs, along with some local musicians. A brilliant night indeed!



Friday 20th saw us off to Ionad Deirbhile at Each Léim (Aghleam) to perform along with the famous Devane Brothers, Sean Nós dancers & musicians from Connemara. It's 10 years since I last played at Ionad Deirbhile when we had a much bigger Manx contingent, including the very young Tomas Callister back then. Eilís & I were received very warmly by an appreciative audience, of which many were Irish language students from the nearby Coláiste Uisce. Again, we mixed it up with myself playing a selection of Manx trad tunes and my own compositions along with Eilís' excellent accompaniment. The Manx sets were interspersed with several Irish tunes by Eilís on harp and accordion. As is customary in Ireland, the night ended up with another mighty music session in a local hostelry in An Fód Dubh (Blacksod).

Saturday 21st saw us having a drive out to the Céide Fields ancient archaeological site on the north County Mayo coast. I've been here several times over the last 16 or so year, yet I never get tired of visiting this amazing and unique heritage site, and I recommended to anyone, if only just for the views! In the evening Eilís & I were off again to another venue in the Erris Gaeltacht at Dubh Thuama (Doohoma), An Trá Bhuí. We were again accompanied by the Devane Brothers and, yes you guessed it – the night finished off with another trad music session which lasted until 3:30am!

The hospitality that we received from not only the festival committee & organisers, but from our audiences and fellow musicians also, was second to none. I wish to thank all those concerned and in particular to Eilís for agreeing to come and accompany me throughout the festival, and also to her parents for all their much valued and appreciated help, support & encouragement. I'm hoping to have more media from Féile Iorrais on my Facebook in due course. For more info: www.facebook.com/Peddyrtradmusic

Here's one of our sets on Youtube: https://youtu.be/ci_rITTkNt8



KISHMUL

Manx musician and Gaelic speaker Daniel Quayle is a founding member band of a new band in Edinburgh that play Manx, Irish and Scottish music.

www.kishmul.com

Daniel Quayle (cittern & banjo) grew up in the Isle of Man, where he studied classical piano from a young age. Through his involvement with the Bree movement, he became a highly competent accompanist, playing with many of the Island's top young musicians.

On moving to Edinburgh, Daniel took up string instruments, adding mandolin, guitar, tenor banjo and cittern to his armory.

Daniel also regularly plays guitar with Shetland accordionist Loris MacDonald and interceltic band Imbolc.

If you're up at Edinburgh Festival, check out Kishmul at one of these gigs <<



August 2018

Kishmul

Edinburgh Festival



- 2nd August **Festival Folk at the Oak**, Royal Oak, Infirmiry Street (8:30pm)
- 5th August **Pear Tree**, West Nicholson Street (4:00pm)
- 13th August **Cowshed**, Cowgate (6:00pm)
- 20th August **Pear Tree**, West Nicholson Street (4:00pm)
- 20th August **Cowshed**, Cowgate (6:00pm)
- 23rd August **Pear Tree**, West Nicholson Street (6:00pm)



Manx bagpipe tunes on YouTube

Neil Clark, of Falkirk Piping was sent a copy of the new Manx bagpipe book, **Piob Vooar** by members of Skirl in the Isle of Man, and Neil has since recorded some of the tunes on his Youtube tutor site.

His Manx playlist so far includes:

Manx Fishermen's Evening Hymn, Hie Mee Stiagh, the Manx National Anthem, Ellan Vannin & Birlinn Ghorree Chrovan:

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLel4r-3d96fYK8dOqi_cepJAmqbkJ15F

kiaul1 noa



MANX MUSIC CHART

The new top of the pops of Manx music grows from strength to strength, especially since MANX MUSIC DAY.

Manx musicians - add your tracks to Spotify to ensure you're added to the Manx music playlist.

www.facebook.com/manxchart/

**

Discover new Manx music on Christy D's Sunday Soundtrack on Manx Radio too.

Controversial! There is a new interpretation of the Manx national anthem 'O Land of our Birth' by Helen Morrison with her band, Foxtrap. You'll either love it or hate it!

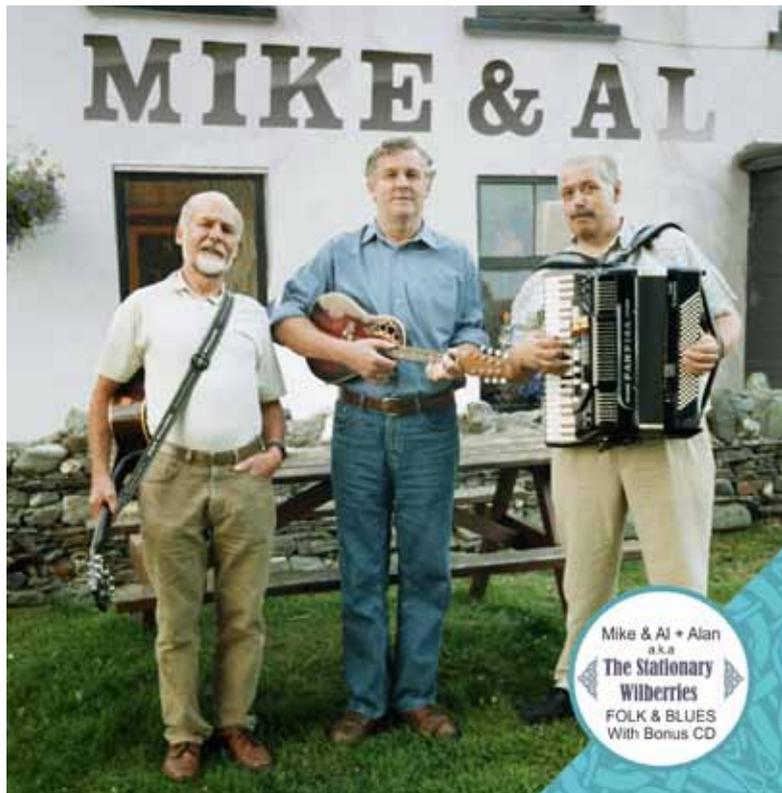
Gef presents... www.facebook.com/gefmongooseiom/videos/2166995626862916/

Re-release: The Stationary Wilberries

Islanders of a certain age will remember legendary guitar folk duo Mike and Al!

Back in 2003 Mike and Al travelled to Switzerland to join Alan Hess for an open air concert. As the sound crew recorded their performance, the group decided to press a CD in support of charities. The 1000 CDs distributed worldwide finally sold out last year, so 'The Stationary Wilberries' have now pressed a further batch to appear in Isle of Man shops and tourist outlets later in Autumn.

Alternatively, they are available worldwide online at <https://store.cdbaby.com/cd/tsw> or directly from Alan Hess (contact via his performer profile on manxmusic.com). All profits will be given to MacMillan Isle of Man or similar Cancer Charities.



There is a mix of popular folk songs, but the CD includes Manx songs, The Pride of Purt-le-Murra and The Ellan Vannin Tragedy. A few extra tracks are included on a free Bonus CD in the packag, including a song about Gef the Mongoose called "The Ghost of Cashen's Gap", written by Mike Sharpe.

Youtube/video corner

Young musician Jack McLean joined Culture Vannin for his school work experience in June. Here, he chats to Manx Music Development Officer, Dr Chloe Woolley about his experience:

<https://youtu.be/jl5e6p-8V2Y>



Imar make double announcement

Imar are going to be on the cover of Irish Music Magazine!

The five-piece folk band, two of whom are Manx, have also announced they're set to release their new album, 'Avalanche', soon. Fans will be able to pre-order their second album from 6 August.

Keep your eyes on the Imar Facebook page for videos, teaser tracks and artwork.

www.imarband.com

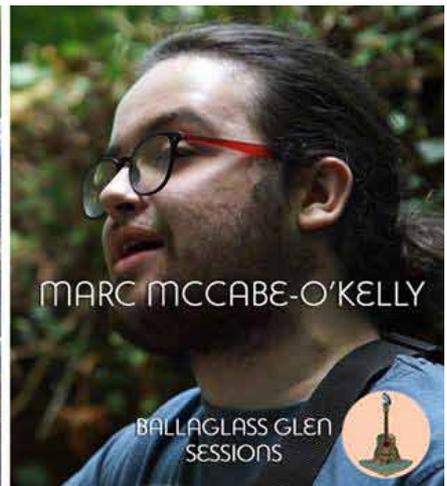
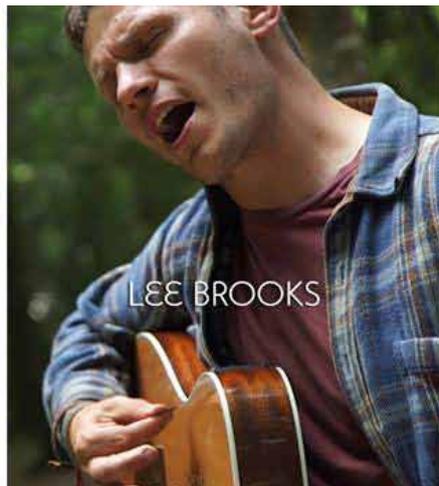
IoM musicians celebrate as band signs with UK label

A band which includes a brother and sister from the Isle of Man is celebrating after securing a contract with one of the UK's top indie labels.

Penelope Isles, which features Jack and Lily Wolter, has signed with Brighton-based Bella Union.

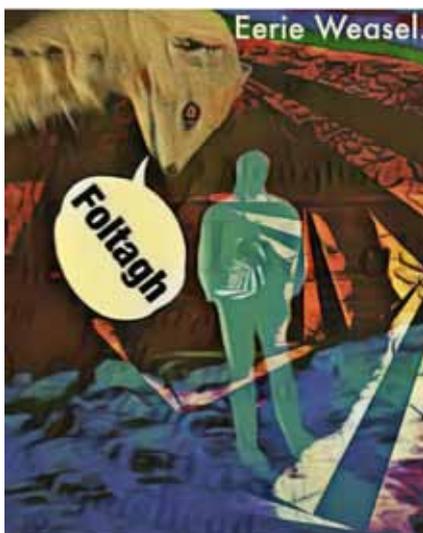
Find out more:

www.manxradio.com/news/isle-of-man-news/iom-musicians-celebrate-as-band-signs-with-uk-label/



Sound Of The Glen is a platform dedicated to showcasing music with the beautiful backdrop of the outdoors - From solo artists to groups - Discover some new music today!

www.facebook.com/soundoftheglen/?hc_location=ufi



New Instrumental Manx Electronic Album "Foltagh"

* Available for Free Listening or Streaming

via Scaanjoon and Eerie Weasel YouTube Playlist*

Foltagh (Foltagh is Manx for hairy) is the debut album by Eerie Weasel - an electronic music project from Nigel Brown (of Scaanjoon), who has been part of the Island's music scene for the last 18 years. The 12 songs are atmospheric electronic soundscapes using the real and imagined Isle of Man as inspiration.

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3HIk_dJ3pTIVBHA5Pn78qO6EpggmeoDH

Tracks include:

It's the Isle of Man, Sunrise Over Sliou Maggle, The Changeling, and Gef's Groove! More info: www.manxmusic.com/news_story_541356.html

RESEARCH NEWS

“AN AMATEUR BAND, CONSISTING OF NINE PERFORMERS”
(1871)

The *Mona's Herald* issue for 12 April 1871 had a round-up of recent Tea Festivals in the Island including one held at Ballakaneen in Andreas. Here, a concert was part of the activities and the “[t]he first piece was an overture by an amateur band, consisting of nine performers, viz., Messrs H. Lanaghan (flute), F. Chrystal, C. Collins, and H. Kissack (1st violins), T. Chrystal and T. Craine (2nd violins), F. Radcliffe and J. Collins (violincellos), and J. Craine (harmonium).” This is a valuable description of, as the piece aptly states, “an amateur band.” But who were the nine?

As regards the Chrystals, there is just the one family of that surname in the 1871 census, living in Ramsey, but only one of the family suggests a match in T[homas] [William] Chrystal, aged 16, a chemists' apprentice and living at 34 Waterloo Road. That leaves F[rederick?] (or F[rancis?]) Chrystal missing from the record. Turning to the Collins, there is a choice between father and son for the first of the pair, both of whom are named C[harles], there being no other name of choice in the census. The senior Charles was 44 years old, born in Co. Down in Ireland, whose occupation cannot be made out, the other one aged 17, born in Douglas, and living at 7 Fancy Street in Douglas. For J[ohn] Collins as he must be (a Joseph Collins being only 8 years old), the 1871 census provides two individuals, John Collins (37), a labourer, living in Douglas at 7 Duke Lane, and another John (31), again a labourer, living somewhere in Rushen (place of residence is not stated) and born in Oxford in England. T[homas] Craine as he must be cannot be narrowed down given that there are 46 individuals with that name aged from 1 to 75 years of age in the 1871 census. H[enry] Kissack was aged 24, working as a watchmaker and jeweller, and living at 1 Market Place in Ramsey. A H[enry?] Lanaghan cannot be found. The 1871 census has just three people with that surname living in the Island, Elizabeth Lanaghan (65) a house keeper, living in Douglas at 19 Market Street, with her son John (35), a shoemaker, and daughter, Christian (17). Frederick Radcliffe was aged 43 and a tailor and draper living in Andreas next to the Rectory with his wife and their neice.

Connecting these individuals with the “amateur band” playing that day at Ballakaneen does seem to be an awkward exercise especially when there is no common place from which they are all drawn making one wonder where they met to play and rehearse. However, what is clear is that there is just one person with a connection to Andreas parish and so not all were from the parish nor for that matter the surrounding ones.

New Research

Mona Douglas and the Flitter Dance – history and collection by Stephen Miller:

[www.manxmusic.com/media/Whats%20On%20-%20Festival%20and%20session%20photos/The%20Flitter%20Dance%20\[Chiollagh%20Books%202018\].pdf](http://www.manxmusic.com/media/Whats%20On%20-%20Festival%20and%20session%20photos/The%20Flitter%20Dance%20[Chiollagh%20Books%202018].pdf)

Manx traditional songs and song-fragments in the end-phase of Manx Gaelic: From the Clague Music Collection (1890s) by George Broderick

[www.manxmusic.com/media/Whats%20On%20-%20Festival%20and%20session%20photos/MANX%20TRADITIONAL%20SONGS%20and%20Song-Fragments%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.manxmusic.com/media/Whats%20On%20-%20Festival%20and%20session%20photos/MANX%20TRADITIONAL%20SONGS%20and%20Song-Fragments%20(2).pdf)

Laxey band [photo below]

An enquiry on Isle of Man History Society FB page asks: Can anyone tell me more about the Callin family who were from Laxey? I have attached a picture which is of the band my great-grandfather, Alexander Claude "Sandy" Callin was in. (1890s) He is the man sitting up the highest in the back row with the tuba. His parents were John and Jane Lewney Callin and he was married to Louisa Kelly who was the daughter of Robert and Mary Ann Kelly. After he was killed in the Snafell Mine in 1897 she remarried to William Henry Quayle and they immigrated to the U.S. in 1914.

www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=2195066790506696&set=gm.84353655836873&type=3&theater

"Ellan Vannin" to Replace National Anthem ?

W.M.A. Seeks Plebiscite

The 52 Manx Societies throughout the world are to be asked their opinion on the adoption of "Ellan Vannin" as the Manx National Anthem in place of "Land of Our Birth."

The suggestion that a change be made came from Mr. Richard Cain, president of the W.M.A., at the annual meeting in Douglas on Wednesday. He remarked that "Ellan Vannin" was always sung at Manx gatherings with great affection, and he thought a plebiscite might be held.

Mr. Charles Craine, secretary, took up the idea, and Mr. John Clucas, for 23 years in Cleveland, and who returned to the Island a few weeks ago, said Manx Societies always used "Ellan Vannin" in preference to the recognised anthem.

Mr. Craine, in his report, said there were 20 Manx Societies when the W.M.A. was founded, the figure now was 52, the latest being Tyneside. They had all done good work during the war entertaining Manx Servicemen in all parts of the world, visiting hospitals, and distributing comforts.

1946 03 08 Examiner



Eighteen young people from the Isle of Man featured in a programme on French National Television this summer. They were participating in the *Festival Interceltique des Cornemuses* which was held in Lorient, Brittany, from the 5th to 14th August. The Manx dances attracted considerable attention and, as a result, the group were invited to dance outside Lorient Town Hall. The dance was televised and the film was later shown on a question and answer programme.

Although the Festival at Lorient was featured on French television and in several French newspapers it has passed almost unnoticed by the Manx press.

The team of eighteen dancers and musicians left the Isle of Man by boat. On arrival in Liverpool they were met and taken by coach to Portsmouth and by cross-Channel ferry to St. Malo. The coach then took them on to Lorient where they joined the other 3,000 participants in the Festival.

Despite the obvious interest in Celtic matters many of these 3,000 had never heard of the Isle of



Man, its language, dances, folklore or Celtic history. The Manx team were inundated with enquiries about the Island and one young man resorted to drawing a map on the palm of his hand showing England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland with the Isle of Man in the middle! The Isle of Man Tourist Board could surely profit from interest at such festivals — and yet, in this case, they were reluctant to supply even a few brochures.

All travelling expenses were paid by the organisers of the Interceltic Festival and accommodation (in a local boarding school) and three meals a day were also provided free of charge. In return the Manx team performed on several



The Manx group show their paces.

Photos: Miss B. A. Cowin.

occasions and found their performance of *Return the Blow* to be most popular.

In the evening of Monday, 8th August, during a display of Breton dances the team was honoured with a request to perform a Manx dance to illustrate the contrast between the respective traditional dances. This was a great honour and the Manx team was thrilled to find its performance so appreciated.

The festivities were not confined to music and dancing as there were also football, golf, tennis and bridge contests between teams from most of the Celtic nations. Perhaps the Isle of Man could feature as the venue for a Celtic Festival of this nature: the idea could be a good idea for the flagging tourist industry.



Interest in Manx dancing has increased dramatically over the last few years and there are now several groups on the Island which perform on public occasions and at special events. This photograph is taken from the Festival programme and is captioned "Danse de travail de L'Île de Man."



Recognise yourself?! Ny Fennee & young Perree Bane members taking part in Yn Chruinnaght 1992
 [Manx Independent]

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

see www.manxmusic.com for more printable pieces of Manx music

A simple little tune from the FEDDAN Manx whistle crash course that beginners tried out in #2018 Year of Our Island's *Culture month*. **Spin Wheel Spin**, or Snieu Wheeyl Snieu is a song which relates to the story of "The Lazy Wife" in Manx Fairy Tales.

Spin Wheel Spin

Repeat Mark
 - play again!

A A F# B G G E A F# F# G G E D E F# D
 2 2 4 1 3 3 5 2 4 4 3 3 5 6 5 4 6

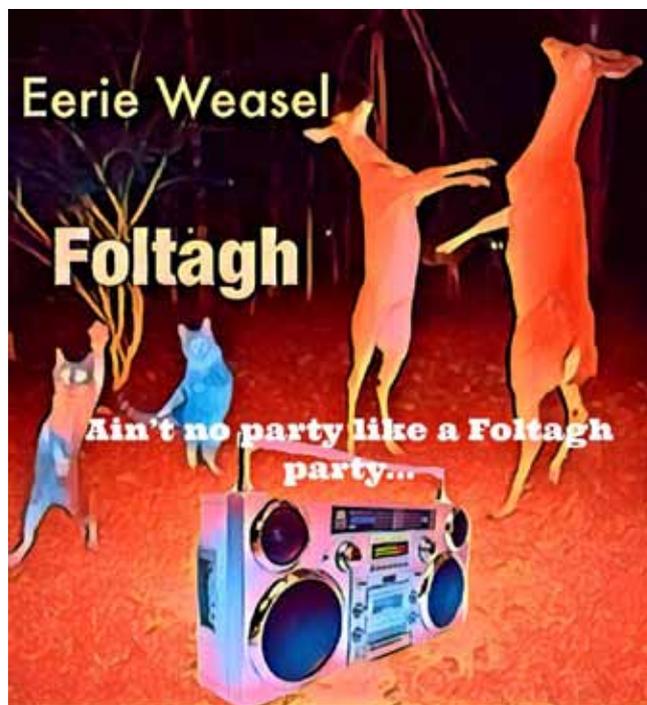
CALENDAR

AUGUST

2nd Biskee Brisht & Suzy Manton IOMAC Summer Season, Villa Arcade 8pm FREE
3rd - 12th Festival Interceltique de Lorient - Manx acts inc. A'Nish & Kirsty, Katie & Mark Lawrence
4th Summerland Memorial Concert, Centenary Centre, Peel 7.30pm £10
5th Peel Carnival
11th Mae Challis Live @ The Railway 8.30pm
12th Groudle Glen Railway's Cliff Top Concerts
18th Mae Challis Live @ Compton Vaults 8pm
19th Jeff Jepson & Matt Kelly IOMAC Summer Season, Villa Arcade 8pm FREE
23rd Ellan Vannin Pipes & Drums IOMAC Summer Season, Villa Arcade 8pm FREE
30th The Lawrences / Dilys Sowrey & Marlene Hendy IOMAC Summer Season, Villa Arcade 8pm FREE
31st - 2nd Sep Great Manx Shindig (see poster)

SEPTEMBER

7th & 8th Our Island Our World music Festival, Peel
15th & 16th IOM Food & Drink Festival
28th - 30th Isle of Man Trad Music Weekend



Please send in dates so that we can publicise events here & online:
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, Kiavull 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:
Manx Music Development Officer **Dr Chloë Woolley**: chloe@culturevannin.im
www.manxmusic.com

Call: Chloë: 01624 694758
or write to: Culture Vannin, PO Box 1986, Douglas, Isle of Man IM99 1SR

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