

KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU MANX MUSIC TODAY

april
2009



mee averil

FLYING THE FLAG AT THE PAN-CELTIC SONG CONTEST



The Katherine Crowe Band is off to Donegal Town to represent the Isle of Man at the Pan-Celtic International Song Contest on Thursday 16 April in an event covered by Raidio na Gaeltachta. With a line-up that features Katherine on piano and vocals, Katie Lawrence on fiddle and Lee Quaggin on bass (standing in for Dave McLean), the trio brings a warm and intimate sound to what is a rather dark and twisted song! Bob Carswell provided the translation specially for the qualifying round back in November in what was Katherine's debut singing in Manx. But although she's new to singing in Manx, Katherine is well known as a singer-songwriter both on and off the Island. Her voice has been compared to Tori Amos and Kate Bush (*Classic Rock Magazine*) and *Q Magazine* called her debut album "so confident it's probably time to give up the day job". KMJ caught up with the lovely songstrel to find out more about her and her song 'Shen Mee Hene' ('Just Like Me').

>> *Tell us the story of your song, 'Just Like Me'*

The story of 'Just Like Me' was derived from watching destructive relationships...people in love with each other but abusing each other in some way, whether that be mental, physical or controlling. This song tells of a woman who is desperate for her man to change and become...well just like her because in her eyes she is right...and her way of doing things is the right way and his way is all wrong. I suppose in my song I am able to

take her feeling of desperation to its absolute conclusion which means she actually kills her man to escape the feeling of control that he has over her. In real life most people don't go to such extremes but in a song I was able to play with words and make his ending final and her have a new beginning.

>> *Why did you choose such a dark theme?*

I didn't choose the theme - it really chose me. I have so many people around me in these kind of relationships and although they don't really physically take their husbands into the woods and kill them, they seem trapped and unable to move out of a relationship even when it is not good for either party. So 'Just Like Me' wrote itself really. One night I just felt sad that so many people are hurting in bad relationships when often it is in our very own hands to change our perspective - not necessarily the other person. We put so many expectations on the people we love, and create prisons for ourselves and those we love...which to me is a real shame when often both people are lovely and end up killing each other spiritually.

>> *How did you hear about the Arrane son Mannin competition?*

Dave Mclean who is helping produce my new album **Unbreakable** mentioned it to me whilst we were putting a track down one night. He speaks some Manx and I was interested in learning to sing in Manx. I truly am rubbish at learning languages but when I sing the words they come easier. It's exciting!

>> *Was it easy arranging the translation?*

A friend of Dave's called Bob (Robert Carswell) translated the song for us and what a fine job he did. He put so much work into sending me a phonetic version to enable me to get the pronunciation right that I really felt like I could achieve what I wanted to. He really did a fantastic job!

~ SESSIONS ~

THURS 9pm Singing session at The Brit, Ramsey

FRI 8pm Tynwald Inn, St. Johns

FRI 9pm Irish at The Mitre, Ramsey

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

SAT 10pm Manx at The White House, Peel

SUN 4pm Irish at the Traf, Douglas

>> *This was your first time singing in Manx, how did you find it?*

I absolutely loved it and can't wait to perform it again in Manx. I am hoping to do a gig in October in the Gaiety with the Manx Symphony Orchestra and I would like to perform it in both English and Manx.

>> *What was the best thing about singing in another language?*

It was lovely to see if I could generate the same passion in another language. The Manx language is indeed beautiful and really felt very natural to me to sing. I would find it much more difficult to speak but that is only because of my tendency to be embarrassed whereas when I sing I don't have so much ego involved - it's about the sound of something beautiful and not about me.

>> *The arrangement of the song is very distinctive, how did you come up with it?*

That just came naturally - sat at my piano. Started off with a haunting riff and the rest played itself. Katie Lawrence and Mike Reany made it lovelier as when we were rehearsing they came up with their slight change in the last verse making the song just scrumptious. So I owe it to them for making it sound better and Katie's violin part is just amazing!!! She is fab!!

>> *Who are your singer-songwriting heroines?*

I love a lot of Myspace artists that you might never have heard of. But mainstream, I love Damien Rice, Kate Bush, Tori Amos, Sarah McClaghlan, Kate Rusby, ohhhhh I like so much music that to be honest I really can't say I have a favourite person.

KMJ wishes Katherine the very best of luck for the competition!

Don't forget, if you're interested in entering the Arrane son Mannin comp in future, it's never too early to get started. The heats are in November, but if you want some help in translating your song, then contact KMJ and we will pass your details on.

www.myspace.com/katherinecrowe



It's not just members of Katherine's band who are winging their way to Donegal...
the whole Manx contingent is getting ready to represent the Isle of Man at the Pan-Celtic Festival in Donegal Town 14-19 April: <http://www.panceltic.ie/> Official delegate to the festival, Fiona McArdle, will be heading up entries in the traditional singing classes. Scratch group 'Ny Shenn 'Annagyn' (punsters of the world unite) will venture out again, too.

Congratulations to:

*Grainne Joughin and
Jamie Smith on the birth
of their son Frank*

*Russell and Keyla
on their marriage*

SHENNAGHYS JIU CELTIC YOUTH FESTIVAL 3-6 APRIL 2009

Don't forget to check out Manx and visiting Musicians at this year's bumper Shennaghys Jiu festival. There's a poster and a programme at the end of the newsletter for you to print out. Details of visiting musicians are in past issues of KMJ - check online if you didn't catch them. Festival organiser Juan Garrett tells KMJ that there are lots of family-oriented concerts and ceilis, all very reasonably priced. If you've never been before, make 2009 the year to change all that!

www.shennaghys.org

The IOM Arts Council will again be running a Manx Music and Dance summer season, this time in the newly refurbished Villa Arcade. If you want to take part, it's not too late - contact Jan Cowan on:

Janice.Cowan@gov.im

to be added to the mailing list.

For more details see **www.iomarts.com**

NEW CD FEATURING MANX SONG

Some KMJ readers may remember American singer Ashley Davis who gave some workshops and performances here a few years ago. Her latest album *Down by the Sea* features a version of 'C'raad ta'n Ree?' collected by Mona Douglas, which appears as a track entitled 'Mannanan'.

Check it out online:

<http://cdbaby.com/cd/adavis2>



Well done to Bree members who played at St Matthews Church in Douglas to raise money for the Onchan District Explorer Scouts to go to Nepal to help out at the Namaste Children's House orphanage in Pokhara. Bree is a youth trad music movement which meets monthly for a session at Greens in Douglas and for special weekend courses. For more information see:

www.myspace.com/breemanx

Manx trad musicians were out in force at the **Energy Expo** at the Villa Marina last month. Performances came from newly named duo Strengyn (Matt Kelly and Paul Rogers), King Chiaullee, The Reeling Stones and Skeeal. All credit to Matt Kelly for organising everyone for such a good cause, and to Anglin for doing the sound.

KING CHIAULLEE NEWS...

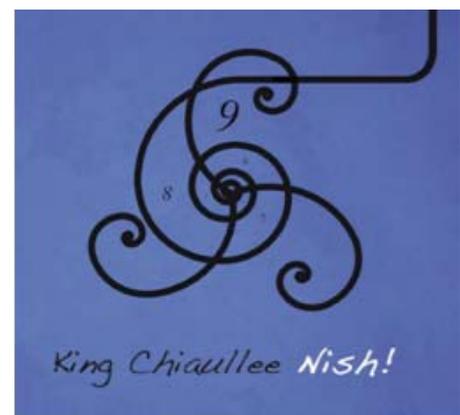
After their success in Lorient last year, King Chiaullee have some exciting gigs lined up for 2009. As winners of the folk trophy, they have been invited to perform in Italy at Folkermesse in Casale Monferrato, Alessandria 10-12 June.

<http://www.folkermesse.it>

They'll be giving two or three gigs while they're there.

Closer to home, they've been asked to support the Red Hot Chilli Pipers at a TT Week gig in the Villa gardens...more details to follow!

www.kciom.com



MANX MUSIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM PROJECTS

NEW BOOKS IN THE KIAULL YN THEAY SERIES PLANNED



New books in the *Kiaull yn Theay* series to follow on from the infamous red and yellow books are planned. Manx Music Development Officer, Breesha Maddrell, is appealing for original tunes and songs as well as older ones which have become established in sessions and performances (live or recorded) and which are not in the first two *Kiaull yn Theay* books. If you have written down your compositions, it would be great if you could

send them in as scanned images, Sibelius files or as photocopies through the post - addresses at the end of the newsletter. Alternatively, you can send in tunes as audio recordings and we will transcribe them.

In one way, there's no limitation to how many you send in, as tunes and songs will gradually fill future books in the series. The initial selection will aim to concentrate on tunes and songs which are played regularly in sessions or by bands, for dances, as well as those which have been recorded. Even if you haven't written any material yourself, feel free to send in a list of tunes and songs (both old and new) which you think shouldn't be forgotten.

The next two books will be planned at the same time, mainly because of the need to decide on colours! *Kiaull yn Theay 3* will be launched at a new music night at this year's Yn Chruinnaght in an evening dedicated to the memory of the series' founder, Colin Jerry.

MANX MUSIC DATABASE – WHAT CAN IT DO FOR YOU?

There are plans to re-design the Manx Music Database within a more general website relating to Manx music and dance. Echoing the structure of the successful LEARNMANX website, it would aim to bring together a lot of information about a wide range of aspects of Manx music and dance. The site could include footage from the recently completed promotional DVD, for example. We'd really like to know what you as the Manx music and dance community would like to be featured there. If you have any ideas, please let Breesha know what you would like to see within the site by **10 April 2009**.

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MHF Music Database

[Music Catalogue](#) [Bibliography](#) [Discography](#) [Dance](#) [Performers](#) [Calendar](#) [Contact Us](#) [Help](#)

Welcome to the Manx Heritage Foundation's Manx Music Database. This database catalogues Manx music as well as information about it and its performers. As the amount of music on the website - this database instead catalogues the music and its location to act as a...

The Database includes information on pieces still in private collections, as well as those in the National Heritage Library and Manx Museum, the British Library, Vaughan William Library.

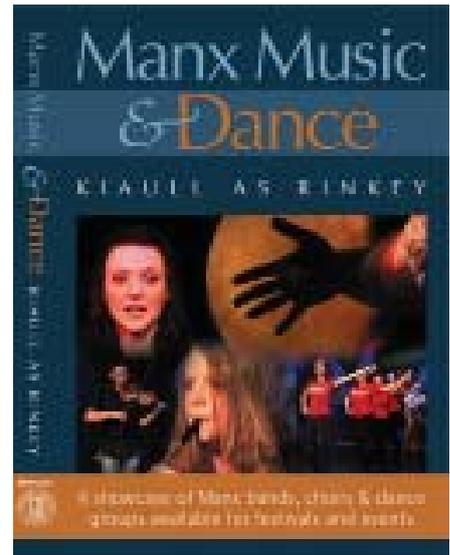
The Database has also been set up in such a way as to suit any type of user:

- ~ If you know exactly what piece you are looking for, you can search by piece name
- ~ If you want a song in Manx with an accompaniment for your choir, categories can be used
- ~ More informed choices as to the nature of the music (range, key, time signature)

Researchers will find the majority of composers, arrangers and styles of composition in the Manx Music Database to develop.

PROMOTIONAL DVD FOR FESTIVALS COMPLETE

Kiaull as Rinkey, the promotional Manx Music and Dance DVD for festivals, is now virtually complete. The project has involved 16 groups, several cameramen, lighting, sound and film engineers, designers and translators over the past few years. The finished product looks really great and includes two contrasting sets from each group, an introductory film about the Isle of Man and a PDF with group and contact information. All of the relevant parts have been translated into French, German and Spanish. The DVD is for promotional use and will be sent to relevant music and dance festivals around the world. The DVD will not be for sale.



Manx Music Specialist, Dr Chloe Woolley, will be on maternity leave from the beginning of April until the 7 September. All enquiries from schools about workshops, guidance on selection of pieces for Cruinnacht Aeg, etc, should be directed to Breesha Maddrell (details at end of newsletter).



The Mollag Band performing at a packed Mooragh Park Cafe in Ramsey as part of their World Tour (photo: Valerie Caine)

RESEARCH

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

Harry Wood: a life in music

Valerie Kinrade

The Wood family originated from Slaithwaite in Yorkshire, but relocated to Douglas, Isle of Man in 1884, where a year later Harry obtained a position as leader and solo violinist in the Falcon Cliff Orchestra. This marked the beginning of Wood's long association with the music of the Manx tourist industry at a time when Douglas was starting to establish itself as a premier



The Wood Family (Harry is on left of picture by the car. (Photo Marjorie Cullerne's archive)

seaside resort. Between 1886 and 1903 Wood held various positions within the Palace and Derby Castle orchestras before his appointment as overall musical director in 1904. The amalgamation of the Palace and Derby Castle Companies in 1898 resulted in a monopoly of musical entertainment on the Island well into the 1960s.

As well as immersing himself in local, amateur music-making, Wood also taught privately. Several of his violin pupils won scholarships to the Royal Academy of Music included his brother Haydn, nephew Hilton Cullerne as well as Manx-born students Kathleen Rydings, Cecil Corlett and Samuel Robinson, the first recipient of the Baume Scholarship.

Wood's musical activities were not confined solely to the Island. Around 1904 he began working with Albert Hengler's Circus, composing, arranging and conducting music in Newcastle, Sheffield, Manchester and Liverpool. With war forcing the suspension of musical entertainment on the Island, he travelled to Blackpool in 1917 to work at the Winter Gardens. Although he returned to the Island in 1918, his association with Blackpool lasted until 1930. Wood maintained that the Blackpool Dance Festival, which started in 1920, was his idea.

After 1918 there were significant changes in music, as North American styles began to dominate the market. As dances changed so did the styles of music played to accompany them and Wood responded, adding saxophones to the band. Throughout his career Wood used arrangements of popular songs for dances. Often these were influenced with his personal connections with three of the major British publishing houses of Francis, Day & Hunter, Feldman's and Lawrence Wright (aka Horatio Nicholls), leading Wood to claim that Douglas was the birthplace of popular song.

Wood's legacy to the music of the Manx tourist industry has to be the popularity that the Palace and Derby Castle ballrooms enjoyed during his time as musical director. Indeed, so well-known and celebrated was the island as a tourist resort that it prompted the poet Betjeman to comment on the dance bands of the Isle of Man.



The IOM Arts Council is delighted to announce that Manx dancing will feature in the final of the Young Dancer of Mann competition on 25 April. Ny Fennee dancers are through to the final after a fiercely contested heat. There will be twelve finalists made up of four groups and eight individuals, with a variety of dance styles including contemporary, hip hop, tap, ballet, modern, Manx and Irish. Competitors range in age from ten to eighteen.

For more information, see www.iomarts.com



MostlyManx is a new outlet which has recently opened on Nelson Street, Douglas.

It is a new business venture spawned from the Laxey Woollen Mills and strives to champion local artists, crafts people and now, musicians. We are looking for Manx made music, not only the traditional genre, but a wide range of styles. We want to support Manx bands, groups and musicians by becoming an outlet for our island's talent. If you are interested in the venture and would like your CD to be sold at MostlyManx, please contact Breeshey Gray by email:

Breeshey@laxeywoollenmills.com

Or phone: 01624 861395



FLITTERING THE TIME AWAY

Flitter Dance is one of the most popular processional dances to teach to beginners. Mona Douglas' informants told her that it was danced in a S shape and performed at the end of celebrations on Good Friday. Its stamping footwork was meant to be to stamp out the embers of the fire after the feast of flitters (limpets). Douglas' papers also link it with a rhyme which very much echoes the 'Oranges and Lemons' pattern:

Pancakes and Flitters is the way of cantailers
I owe you two shillings, I'll pay you tomorrow;
Cur skillen, cur pingyn, cur argid son Caisht
As cha ver oo dou bee oo gheddyn dty vaaish.
(Give a shilling, give pennies, give money for Easter,
And if you don't give it to me you will die.)

Mona Douglas Bequest MNHL9545

For more information on the history of Manx dance, see Cinzia Curtis' MA dissertation '...while the others did some capers': the Manx Traditional Dance revival 1929 to 1960' (2006) - copies at the Centre for Manx Studies and the Manx Museum.

Transcription of the month see www.manxheritagemusic.org for more printable pieces of Manx music

Carval ny Drogh Vraane Jig

Manx trad. arr.
B. Maddrell & C. Woolley



This variation of one of the Carval ny Drogh Vraane tunes goes really well with the Willie Clague Jig that was in February's edition of KMJ. If you have any tunes or songs you want included as Transcription of the Month, please send them into Breesha at the address below.

CALENDAR

April

3rd The Ballaghs at the Creek, Peel

3rd-6th Shennaghys Jiu Youth Music Festival, various venues in the North and East. Full programme at end of newsletter: www.shennaghys.org EVENTS £3 or under

4th Bree Celtic Youth Session at Ramsey Town Hall, 3pm

15th King Chiallee in IOM Arts Council Soundbites Lunchtime Festival, Villa Marina Arcade, 1pm FREE

25th Final of the Young Dancer of Mann competition, Studio Theatre at Ballakermeen, Douglas, 7pm

May

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

15th Bree at CTRL-ALT-DEL show at the Gaiety, Douglas, 8pm, £10, conc. £7 www.villagaiety.com

16th Bree at CTRL-ALT-DEL show at the Gaiety, Douglas, 8pm, £10, conc. £7 www.villagaiety.com

22nd Blass Kiaullee - young trad duos, Centenary Centre, Peel, 7.30pm, details and price TBC

23rd Blass Kiaullee workshops, Centenary Centre, details TBC, 2pm www.centenarycentre.com

24th Blass Kiaullee - young trad duos, Centenary Centre, Peel, 7.30pm, details and price TBC

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



manx heritage foundation undinys eiraght vannin

For info on Manx music & dance contact:

Breesha Maddrell: mhfmusic@mhf.org.im

Chloë Woolley: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im

See: www.manxheritage.org or

www.manxheritagemusic.org

Call: 01624 695159

or write to: MHF Music Team

Centre for Manx Studies,

6 Kingswood Grove, Douglas,

Isle of Man, IM1 3LX

SHENNAGHYS JIU OFFICIAL PROGRAMME FOLLOWS

Shennaghys Jítu

3RD - 6TH
Apríl

www.shennaghys.org

Tel: 819068



Live
lunchtime
music!

Fri 3RD 7:00 Concert: Scoill Ree Gorree
8:00 Family Ceilidh Masonic Hall
Sat 4TH 8:00 Ceilidh: Masonic Hall
Sun 5TH 2:30 "Unplugged":
St Mary de Ballaugh
8:00 Bands Night: Bar Logo
Mon 6TH 8:00 Finale: Rugby Club



Kindly sponsored by: Ramsey Town Commissioners, Millichaps, Royal Skandia, Isle of Man Arts Council, Rotary Club of Ramsey, The Plough, Shoprite, Trafalgar Hotel, Gough Electrical Ltd, Charterhouse, Ramsey Bakery, Scottish Provident Int. Life Assurance.

Claare

Jedein 2 Averil

7.00 p.m.

Failt Oikagh, Halley Baljagh Rhumsaa

Jeheiney 3 Averil

7.00 p.m.

Cuirrey Kiaull ec Scoill Ree Gorree

Share na Veg, Smack the Donkey, Bee er dty Hwoaie, Éanna Ó Croíin & Catherine Ni Shuilleabháin, Scoill Dhoon.

Kied-stiagh £3.00

8.30 p.m.

Ceilidh ec yn Halley Masoonagh

Reeling Stones, Bee er dty Hwoaie

Kied-stiagh seyr lesh sail voish Scoill Ree Gorree

Kied-stiagh £2.00 gyn stub

Jesarn 4 Averil

11.00 a.m.

Brastyl Kiaull Yernagh, Halley Baljagh Rhumsaa

12 munlaa

Kiaulleaght 'sy Thie Oast Crooin Aspick

Kiaulleyderyn Manninagh as joarree

3.00 p.m.

Bree, ec Halley Baljagh, Rhumsaa

8.00 p.m.

Ceilidh ec yn Halley Masoonagh

Ny Fennee, Greg Joughin, Smack the Donkey

Éanna Ó Croíin & Catherine Ni Shuilleabháin

Kied-stiagh £3.00

Jedoonee 5 Averil

2.30 p.m.

Cuirrey Kiaull Accountstagh ec Keel Lonan

Marish:

Éanna Ó Croíin & Catherine Ni Shuilleabháin, Scoill Ballaugh,

Smack the Donkey, Bunscoil, Caarjyn Cooidjagh

8.00 p.m.

Shenn as Noa ec Bar Logo

Marish:

Katie Lawrence, Reeling Stones, Mollags, King Chiaullee,

Éanna Ó Croíin & Catherine Ni Shuilleabháin, Smack the Donkey

Kied-stiagh £2.00

Jelune 6 Averil

12 munlaa

Kiaulleaght 'sy Thie Oast Trafalgar, Rhumsaa

8.00 p.m.

Kiaull Yerrinagh, Club Ruggyr Rhumsaa

Kiaulleyderyn Manninagh as joarree

Kied-stiagh £2.00

Programme

Thursday 2nd April

7.00 p.m. Official Opening

Friday 3rd April

7.00 p.m.

Family Concert at Scoill Ree Gorree, Ramsey

Share na Veg, Smack the Donkey, Bee er dty Hwoaie,

Éanna Ó Croíin & Catherine Ni Shuilleabháin, Dhoon School.

Admission £3.00

8.30 p.m.

Family Ceilidh at the Masonic Hall, Ramsey

The Reeling Stones, Bee er dty Hwoaie

Admission free with stub from Scoill Ree Gorree.

Admission £2.00 without stub

Saturday 4th April

11.00 a.m.

Irish Music Workshop, Ramsey Town Hall

Music in the Pub, Mitre Hotel, Ramsey

Manx and visiting musicians

Featuring:

3.00 p.m.

Bree Session, Ramsey Town Hall

8.00 p.m.

Ceilidh, Masonic Hall, Ramsey

Ny Fennee, Greg Joughin, Smack the Donkey

Éanna Ó Croíin & Catherine Ni Shuilleabháin

Admission £3.00

Sunday 5th April

2.30 p.m.

Shennaghys Jiu Unplugged, Ballaugh Church

Acoustic concert featuring:

Éanna Ó Croíin & Catherine Ni Shuilleabháin, Ballaugh School,

Smack the Donkey and Bunscoil, Caarjyn Cooidjagh

Admission free

8.00 p.m.

Shenn as Noa. Bar Logo

Featuring:

Katie Lawrence, Reeling Stones and Mollags, King Chiaullee,

Éanna Ó Croíin & Catherine Ni Shuilleabháin, Smack the Donkey

Admission £2.00

Monday 6th April

12 noon

Music in the Pub. Trafalgar Hotel, Ramsey

8.00 p.m.

Final Night and Session, Ramsey Rugby Club

Manx and visiting musicians

Admission £2.00