

april 2010  
mee averil 2010

# kiavull manninagh jiu

*manx music today*

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

## SHENNAGHYS JIU UPDATE

The Shennaghys Jiu Committee has been in touch to update us about some of their workshops:

**Saturday 3rd April**, Ramsey Town Hall

11am workshops led by Riobo and Irish musicians: including harp, whistle, fiddle, bouzouki etc

3pm Bree youth session at Ramsey Town Hall  
Refreshments included.

Also on that first Saturday, a concert at Ree Gorree Theatre, doors 7.30pm featuring Riobo (Galicia), Achrann (Ireland) and Manx Harps with Elena Paz. Tiered seating and lots of free parking!

**Monday 5th April**

Manx Language display/introduction by Rob Teare  
Masonic Hall during the Ceilidh.

For the full programme, see last month's newsletter or the SJ website: [www.shennaghys.org](http://www.shennaghys.org)

**Achrann (Ireland)**

*This group is made up of Eoin Sullivan (banjo), Gearoid McArthur (guitar and vocals), Natasha Sheehy (bodhran), and Greta Curtin (concertina). They got together as a group about six months ago and play locally around Kerry and Limerick.*

*Natasha, Greta and Eoin have all been part of The Irish Rambling house, which tours England every year. Out of this The Maids of Erin were formed, with Greta and Natasha as two of its six members. The Rambling house has performed in many Irish centres around England and have a number of DVDs released while The Maids have an album launched and have played in various festivals around Ireland.*

*Eoin is reigning All-Ireland Champion on the banjo. He has toured America and Ireland with Comhaltas. All four members have been competing in fleadh's since a young age and been successful on many occasions.*

*Gearoid is in great demand around Ireland for his vocal skills and has been successful in many competitions. He has also toured America and Europe extensively.*

*All four are now teaching music to young people in Kerry, Cork and Limerick. All are students except for Greta who has taken a year out, starting it off with a three month internship in Siamsa Tire (National Folk Theatre of Ireland). Natasha is also part of the community cast. Gearoid is on his way to studying Irish music and Dance in U.L.*

*These musicians play pure traditional Irish music while putting their own stamp on it!*

## Bree Band Camp!

Next month Bree will be holding two special training workshops (Douglas Youth Centre, 2 – 5pm, Saturday 8th and 15th May) where secondary school age singers and musicians will have the opportunity to form their own bands and work on arrangements of Manx traditional songs and tunes.

Designed as a precursor to the new-look Cruinnaght Aeg competitive music concert for secondary schools (7pm, Tuesday 18th May at Douglas Youth Centre), tutors on the Bree Band Camp will help members prepare material for the classes of group singing; group instrumental and imaginative interpretation of a Manx song or melody.

Doubling as a concert, groups at Cruinnaght Aeg can compete to win £50 cash prizes for each category, plus win a trophy and the chance to perform at Yn Chruinnaght inter-Celtic festival in July. A similar event for Manx dance will take place the following evening.

Any secondary school age singer or musician who wishes to attend the Bree Band Camp should return their application form to Chloë Woolley at the Manx Heritage Foundation by 26th April (see end of newsletter for the form). Attendees must be available for both Saturday afternoons and for the Cruinnaght Aeg concert/competition.

Bree Band Camp is open to anyone of secondary school age - even if you haven't ever attended a Bree session/weekend before.



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

Ballagroove Records release  
BGK03 - Compilation of New  
Manx Music

We are delighted to announce  
the release of a great new  
compilation of Manx Music,  
entitled 'BGK03', the third  
of a series of 'Black  
Compilations' released by  
local label Ballagroove  
Records.

Featuring no less than 29  
bands, in just about every  
style imaginable, across 2  
CDs!

We hope this compilation will  
show what a wealth of great  
bands there are hidden away  
on the Island, some of the  
bands will be recognisable,  
many won't as they have not  
released any music before.  
The range of styles covers  
everything from a-cappella  
folk, minimal dance grooves,  
dub reggae, garage trash,  
acoustic songsmithery,  
traditional folk, bouncy big  
beat, hip-hop, psychedelic  
noise, pure-pop through to  
punk rock, so all tastes  
should be catered for.

There are tracks from all the  
current Ballagroove bands plus  
tracks from lots of friends  
who either release music on  
other Manx labels, or, simply  
don't release music generally.  
Most of the tracks are un-  
released, but, there are also  
a few tracks from previous  
Ballagroove releases, so this  
is a great chance to hear  
what's going on in studios,  
practice rooms and bedrooms  
across our Island.

The compilation comes packaged  
in a lovely sleeve which  
we've slaved over as they are  
all handmade. Each one being  
unique.

The cost of the double CD is  
just £5, which works out at  
less than 18p a track, so  
support local music and get  
a copy, go wild and get two  
copies!!

Out Now !!, the CDs are  
available from the following  
outlets; 7th Wave in Port  
Erin, Pete Norris Music in  
Douglas and Shakti Man in  
Ramsey, or on-line from our  
shop at [www.ballagroove.com](http://www.ballagroove.com).

Thanks for listening,  
we hope you like the  
compilation, and if you  
could get in touch with  
us to let us know what  
you think we would really  
appreciate it.

Best wishes from all at  
Ballagroove Records

Phone 01624 832038

Email [info@ballagroove.com](mailto:info@ballagroove.com)

Web [www.ballagroove.com](http://www.ballagroove.com)

### MANX BANDS ON SHOPRITE'S INSTORE RADIO!

Manx music and songs can now be  
heard on Shoprite's in-store radio,  
thanks to an initiative from the  
company's Adam Burnett. Working  
with Manx Music Development Officer,  
Breesha Maddrell, fourteen upbeat  
tracks from some of the most recent  
albums have been selected to be  
played in stores around the island. Who  
will be playing when you pick up those  
frozen peas...?!

## MFDS WEBSITE

THE MANX FOLK DANCE  
SOCIETY HAS A NEW WEBSITE!

[HTTP://MANXFOLKDANCE.ORG.UK/](http://MANXFOLKDANCE.ORG.UK/)





Liet International is a song competition for European minority/lesser used languages. The aim of the competition is to facilitate the creation of interesting, contemporary new songs in minority languages and to offer artistes who sing in minority languages an international stage to perform those songs live. Liet International also acts as a platform to showcase the culture, languages and arts of the region hosting the event.

Moot got through to the final with their song 'Gyn Fockleyn' in 2006 which proved to be a fantastic experience - they travelled to Ostersund in northern Sweden with assistance from the IOM Arts Council to perform in a televised show, attracting media interest from across Europe.

If you would like to submit a song into Liet 2010 then please visit the Liet International 2010 website at: [www.liet2010.com](http://www.liet2010.com)

where you will be able to download an application form from **1 April 2010**. Entries will be accepted until **15 May 2010**.

## Perree Bane report from John Dowling

After a seriously cold winter where dancing was a low-cost way of staying warm, Perree Bane are stirring along with the daffodils and the longer days.

First outing was the Southern Befrienders' ceili, with excitement now building for the trip to Steenvoorde in Northern France. With the unfortunate timing of clashing with several other happenings over that weekend, nonetheless a doughty team of dancers and musicians will be flying to Brussels, with the "roadies" in the persons of the Dowlings and Brian Caine bringing the costumes, props and instruments in the Scudo. The Inter-Celtic festival, in the "Land of the dancing Giants" will indeed be an experience and with the team being accommodated by the locals are assured of a warm welcome. The dance



*A quick note to keep you abreast of goings on at the **Manx Saxophone Ensemble**...Musical Director, Jem Cotton, reports...*

Given that our ensemble has 'Manx' in the title, we thought we ought to include a few Manx items in our repertoire along with the usual mix of jazz, swing, blues, ballads etc. So far, we have we have:

Three Manx Dances - arranged for saxophone ensemble from a score on MHF website.

King of the Earth and Sea - a development of the original tune.

Song of the Three Steamers - a fun semi-medley arrangement based on the original tune, interspersed with snippets of various (contrasting) sea songs - and a final verse with a descant-style line.

The Ensemble will be playing these new arrangements at a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association event on 12th May, and no doubt they'll be heard around the island as part of our summer season performances.

[www.saxband.co.uk](http://www.saxband.co.uk)

workshop conducted in schoolboy French should be interesting...

The week starting 29th March was busy, with the walk out to the Conister Rock at low low tide, and possibly the first Manx dancing to be performed on that edifice, "Morris: a life with bells on" at the Centenary Centre and dance practice on Vicky and John's newly revealed wooden floor...a harbinger of the busy dancing year to come.

<http://www.homepages.mcb.net/mann/>

## ~ SESSIONS ~

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

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

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

**First FRI of month**, 8pm, Peel Golf Club Centenary Room

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

**SAT** 10pm Manx at The White House, Peel

## Pan-Celtic Festival 2010

This year's Pan-Celtic Festival, the 39th, will take place in Dingle Town, Ireland during Easter Week. The Isle of Man is strongly represented with musicians who will participate in both competitions and entertainment during the five festival days, along with groups from the other five Celtic areas- Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Cornwall and Brittany. The streets of Dingle Town will be filled with the sounds and sights of music and dance by day, and its halls by night.

Traditional singing is a prestigious competition with both solo and group entries. The Scottish soloists are usually Mod medallists, having won competitions in their own Gaelic language before participating in Inter-Celtic competition, as are the Irish who have been winners in their An tOireactas competitions. Groups are often more versatile and there is a competition for singing a newly composed song in traditional style which Mann is entering this year with the group **Falga** who will sing Breesha Maddrell's 'Yllagh Ushlagh'. The lead singer is Chloe Woolley, and the group is backed by her husband, Malcolm Stitt, a professional guitarist. They will be playing too in the Manx hosted ceili evening, as will veteran Pan-Celtic performer, fiddler Katie Lawrence, along with performers from Ireland.

The Inter-Celtic New Song competition takes place on the Thursday evening with performances of the best new song from each country in its native language. The role of this competition in promoting new songs in the native languages has been vital in encouraging a new, growing repertoire of vocal music, whether traditional, folk, pop or rock. Mann's representative group this year is **Cabbyl Ushtey** 'Water Horse' with their song *Roihaghyn y Cheayn* 'the Arms of the Sea', written by Andy North who is the group's lead vocalist. Andy's song was inspired by the sight of a seal swimming underwater which seemed to him to be like a selkie – a seal woman of legend – a woman who had abandoned the land and her mortal lover for the sea. The five member band has a line-up of Mike Bell and Hannah Layhe on hang drum, djembe and digital bass drums, Andy North on vocals and banjo, Katie Lawrence on fiddle and Liam Gilman on keyboard. Their song won the 2009 Arrane son Mannin 'Song for Mann' competition sponsored by the Manx Heritage Foundation and the band is very much looking forward to taking it to the Pan-Celtic Festival with support from Isle of Man Arts Council, the Manx Heritage Foundation and the Pan-Celtic International Council.

There are also plenty of chances to perform in concerts and ceilis, not to mention sessions and dancing with musicians from all the other Celtic areas. Dingle Peninsula is a great place in the Irish Gaeltacht (Irish speaking areas) to visit and enjoy the spectacular scenery with great walking, water sports and boat trips, arts and crafts, and local music and dance. Aigh vie! 'good luck' to all the Island's representatives in this year's Festival.

For further information about the Pan-Celtic Festival, visit the website [www.panceltic.ie](http://www.panceltic.ie) where you can find this year's programme, archive photos, national committee contacts and much more.

*Fiona McArdle, Pan-Celtic Mannin Committee, March 2010*



Photo: Valerie Caine





**Perree Bane join forces with Films in Peel for the IOM premiere of *Morris A Life with Bells on***

*Morris A Life with Bells On* was premiered by Films in Peel at the Centenary Centre on Wednesday 31st March. Inspired by similar collaborations in the UK, Perree Bane’s young dancers, who are learning a Morris dance for the Manx Music Festival, asked if they could perform before the film starts. Films in Peel committee member Jenny Oliver said: “We love to make our cinema evenings more of an event by including something topical for our audience and to have some live Morris dancing before we show *Morris: A life with bells on* is just great. We like to collaborate with other community groups, so are pleased the traditional dance group Perree Bane are available to dance for us on the 31st.”

Morris dancing is not something you would normally associate with the traditional Manx group Perree Bane, however over the past couple of months younger members of the group have been learning the Cotswold Morris dance ‘Lads a Bunchum’ in preparation for the Manx Music Festival. Representative for the group, Carol Hayes said: “The nearest to Morris dance that we have on the Isle of Man is the dance Mylecharane’s March; a dance for six men each carrying two stout sticks which they clash with gusto, sometimes causing injury to fingers! The dance was traditionally performed as part of the Christmas ‘Foolish Fortnight’ with the fiddler playing a key role. At the end of the dance the sticks are drawn closer around the fiddler until the dancers cry “Cutting off the fiddler’s head!”

Perree Bane takes its name from the white collarless jacket worn by the male members of the group. Since their formation in 1982 Perree Bane has been active in promoting Manx culture through dance and music, not only at local fairs and festivals but also at festivals further afield such as Cwllwm Celtaid and Llangollen Eistedfodd in Wales, Lowender Peran in Cornwall, and Sidmouth Folk Festival in Devon. Perree Bane has a strong tradition for working innovatively with traditional dances. However, in recent years the younger members have enjoyed working on and performing lively original dance compositions. Perree Bane always welcomes new members who have an interest in learning the dances or playing the tunes. More information about the group, upcoming events and dance courses can be found on the website:

[www.homepages.mcb.net/mann](http://www.homepages.mcb.net/mann)



Manx Folk Dance Society  
**Coffee Afternoon**  
 with Stalls and Entertainment  
**Onchan Methodist Hall**  
**SATURDAY 17th April 2010**  
**2PM TILL 4PM**  
**Admission £1.00**

## CRUINNAGHT AEG 2010 SECONDARY GROUPS CONCERT-COMPETITIONS

This year, the Manx Heritage Foundation has agreed to sponsor group competition entries with prizes of £50 per winning group.

The winning overall group competition entries in song, instrumental music, and dance will also win the annual Manx National Heritage trophies in these categories.

All groups participating may choose to enter performances of around 5-10 minutes either purely as a concert programme OR to have certain classes in their programme also entered in competition. Any solos/duets would form part of a concert performance only.

Full details and rules can be obtained from Fiona McArdle:

**fmcardle@manx.net**

**tel: 471543**



Don't forget that you can come to the Bree boot camp (details on front page of newsletter) for help in developing ideas for group music and song competitions

## MANX MUSIC AND SONG CONCERT AND COMPETITIONS

**Tuesday 18th May 2010**

DOUGLAS YOUTH CENTRE, 7pm

- 19 Senior choir, (boys, girls, or mixed), song in Manx Gaelic
- 20 Group singing, arrangement of a traditional Manx song, in Manx or English
- 36 Group Instrumental, with or without conductor (2 contrasting tunes)
- 37 Imaginative interpretation of a traditional Manx song or tune, using any combination of voices and/or instruments. May include pre-recorded material, e.g. acoustic or natural sound effects, but NOT pre-recorded music

## MANX DANCE CONCERT AND COMPETITIONS

**Wednesday 19th May 2010**

DOUGLAS YOUTH CENTRE, 7pm

- 52 Original team dance in Manx steps and movements, being performed for the first time in competition
- 53 Manx team dance, own choice, to be named
- 54 Balanced programme of Manx dances, not less than four, not more than eight, lasting for around ten but not more than fifteen minutes. Marks will be awarded for presentation and linking material. Dances in classes 52 and 53 MAY form part of the programme, provided clear notice is given in entries.

FOR DETAILS OF HOW TO TAKE PART IN THE CONCERT OR TO OBTAIN RULES & HOW TO ENTER THE OPTIONAL COMPETITION ELEMENTS, EMAIL FIONA McARDLE ON:

**fmcardle@manx.net** or phone **471543**

NB All solo and couples'/duet competitions are still in June/July (general syllabus)

Entries for concerts and competitions MUST be received by **15th May 2010** at the latest.

**THERE ARE NO ENTRY FEES**

# TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

## Flitter Dance Song

Bree Song Writers

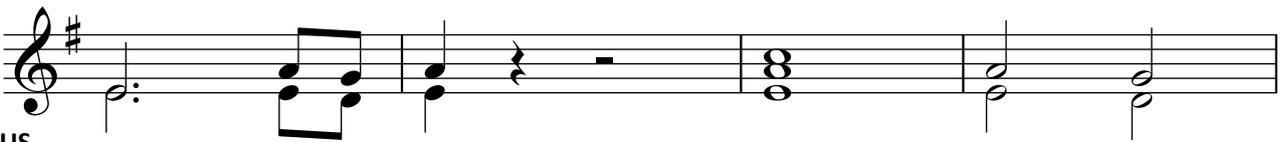
Oct 2009



1. Watch them as\_\_\_ they kick in time As the sun goes down the flit- ters shine  
2. By the sea\_\_\_ we weave our song As we make our mu - sic all night long  
3. Waves are crash - ing on the beach - Stamp - ing, stamp - ing with our feet



On the beach\_ we see them stamp, A - long the shore they dance!  
Sna - king round\_ the glo - wing fire, Their\_ feet they ne - ver tire!  
From the rocks\_ the limp - ets torn, The\_ fires go out at dawn.



CHORUS

Fest - it er creg Ayns shen t'ad



Fest - it er creg Feel the beat drum through the sand!

This song was written to a modified Flitter Dance tune by students at the song-writing workshop during the Bree trad music weekend last October.

For more information on Bree see: [www.myspace.com/breemanx](http://www.myspace.com/breemanx) or contact Chloë Woolley on: [manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im](mailto:manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im) or 695784

### GROUPS WANTED FOR NOBLES PARK BANDSTAND PERFORMANCES

Douglas Borough Council's Leisure Services Committee are looking for groups interested in performing at the Nobles Park Bandstand during the coming summer season.

Times, dates and format are all open to suggestion, so if you feel this is something that might interest you please contact Martin Higgins, Parks Administrator on: 696330

[mhiggins@douglas.gov.im](mailto:mhiggins@douglas.gov.im)



**WANTED!**  
**MANX MUSICIANS  
& DANCERS TO  
PERFORM AS PART  
OF THE IOM ARTS  
COUNCIL SUMMER  
SEASON ON  
THURSDAYS DURING  
JULY & AUGUST!**  
**EMAIL JAN COWAN:**  
[jan.cowan@gov.im](mailto:jan.cowan@gov.im)  
for details

Manx Music CDs are available online at: [www.manxheritage.org/CDs](http://www.manxheritage.org/CDs)  
and in good bookshops, MNH and other gift shops

## April

# CALENDAR

### 1st - 6th Shennaghys Jiu Celtic Youth Festival

2nd Family Concert, Scoill Ree Gorree, Ramsey  
7pm (£3/£1.50)

Family Ceilidh at the Masonic Hall, Ramsey,  
8pm (£5/£3)

3rd April Music workshops, Ramsey Town Hall,  
11am, FREE

Music in the Pub, Mitre Hotel, Ramsey, 12  
noon

Bree Session, Ramsey Town Hall, 3pm

Galician and Irish Concert, Ree Gorree  
Theatre, doors 7.30pm (£5/£3)

4th April "Unplugged", St Johns Church,  
2.30pm

Ceilidh, Masonic Hall, Ramsey, 8pm (£5/£3)

5th April Music in the Pub, Trafalgar Hotel,  
Ramsey, 12 noon

Final Bands Night - Bar Logo, Ramsey, 8pm  
(price tbc)

### 2nd First Friday folk club at Peel Golf Club

### 5th - 10th International Celtic Congress, Claremont Hotel, Douglas

8th Celtic Congress ecumenical service with  
music from Caarjyn Coidjagh & others, Loch  
Prom Methodist Centre, Douglas, 3pm

8th Celtic Congress Young People's Concert,  
Loch Prom Methodist Centre, Douglas, 8pm  
(£3, children FREE)

9th Celtic Congress Concert featuring visiting  
musicians & singers and The Mollag Band,  
Loch Prom Methodist Centre, Douglas, 8pm  
(£4, children FREE)

### 24th & 25th Perree Bane dancers at Steenvoorde Festival, France

27th Strengyn and Fiona Cain at World Bonnag  
Making Championships, Dalby Schoolrooms, St  
James' Church, Dalby, 7.30pm, tickets s £6.50 /  
children £3, includes a shepherds pie supper .  
Tickets on the door - arrive early!

## May

8th Bree groups workshop at Douglas Youth  
Centre, 2pm

15th Bree groups workshop at Douglas Youth  
Centre, 2pm

15th CLOSING DATE for Cruinnaght Aeg  
Secondary Groups Competitions

15th CLOSING DATE for LIET-LAVLUT competition

18th Cruinnaght Aeg secondary schools concert,  
Douglas Youth Centre, 7.30pm

19th Cruinnaght Aeg secondary schools concert,  
Douglas Youth Centre, 7.30pm

### Harp Tuition, folk and classical, for all ages.

Folk harp lessons include learning how to  
harmonise traditional tunes. Harp hire available.

### For more information, please contact Leo Phillips on 473688 or 612294.

Harp for Sale: Starfish Columba lap harp, with  
26 strings and a BIG sound from a small harp.  
Cherry wood with Bavarian spruce soundboard.  
Light and portable - ideal session harp. A rare  
opportunity to buy, these harps are not often  
sold second-hand. Includes carrying case,  
tuning key and spare strings. £1,350. (New price  
including strings - £1,829.)

*Please send in any dates for the months ahead so that we can  
publicise events here & online*

## manx heritage foundation ~ undinys eiraght vannin

For information on Manx music & dance contact:

Manx Music Development Officer **Dr Breesha Maddrell**: [mhfmusic@mhf.org.im](mailto:mhfmusic@mhf.org.im)

Manx Music Specialist (Education) **Dr Chloë Woolley**: [manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im](mailto:manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im)

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

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

Call: 01624 695784

or write to: MHF Music Team, The Stable Building, The University Centre,  
Old Castletown Road, Douglas, Isle of Man IM2 1QB



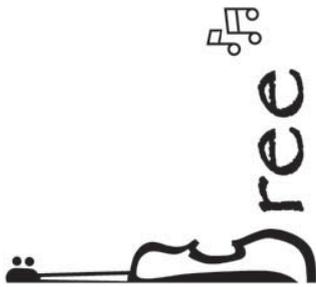
*Edited by Breesha Maddrell for the Manx Heritage Foundation.*

*The Editor welcomes submissions but reserves the right to edit for style and space.*

# Bree Band Camp!

**for secondary school age singers and musicians**

Join us for two afternoon workshops and form your own band in preparation for the **Cruinnacht Aeg secondary groups' concert and competitions**



**Douglas Youth Centre**  
Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2 – 5pm WORKSHOPS  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2 – 5pm WORKSHOPS  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 7pm  
**CRUINNAGHT AEG CONCERT/COMPETITIONS**  
**£50 prizes for winning acts!**

- Students must:**
- ♫ be at secondary school aged 11 - 18
  - ♫ commit to all three dates
  - ♫ bring their own instrument and music stand
  - ♫ bring their own drinks and snacks
  - ♫ bring written permission from parents if they need to leave the building during the day (under 16s only)
- \* no camping required!!*

# Bree Band Camp! & CRUINNAGHT AEG CONCERT & COMPS Application Form

Name of Student.....  
 School ..... School Year .....  
 Address.....  
 .....  
 Contact tel. no/s. of parent/guardian .....  
 Email .....

**Choose your option for the workshops & competitions:**

Singing  Playing  BOTH Singing and Playing

Name your instrument/s .....

*The workshops will prepare material for the **Group Singing** and the **Group Instrumental** classes at Cruinnacht Aeg. All participants will take part in the **Imaginative Interpretation** competition.*

*\* Photos may be taken during the workshop and used for future promotional use. Parents – please sign here if you object to your child appearing in photographs: .....*

*\* Please inform us if there are any medical conditions we should be aware of*

**Please return this application form by Monday 26th April to:**  
 Dr. C. Woolley, Manx Heritage Foundation,  
 The Stable Building, The University Centre,  
 Old Castletown Road, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM2 1QB

**For more information:**  
 email [manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im](mailto:manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im) or tel. 695784/404455