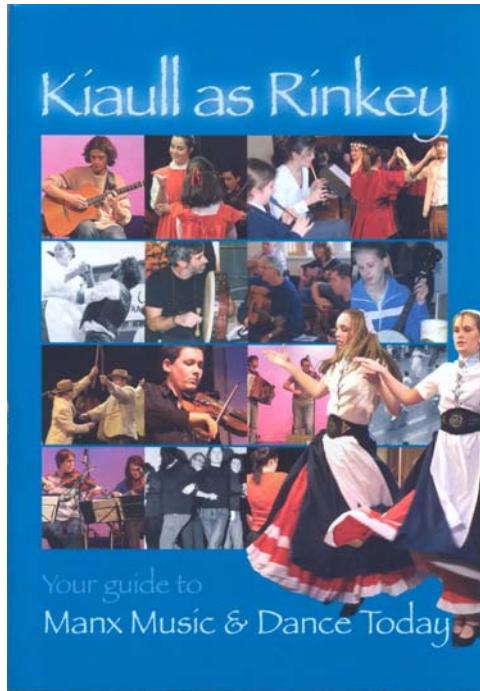




# Nollick Ghennal as Blein Vie Noa!!

A BUMPER EDITION OF KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU WITH NEWS FROM THE MANX MUSIC AND DANCE SCENE, DETAILS OF FORTHCOMING FESTIVE EVENTS, A LOVELY CAROL TO SING, IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS & MANX GAELIC GREETINGS TO WRITE IN YOUR CARDS!

## Kiaull as Rinkey - A New Guide to Manx Music & Dance



A fantastic new guide to Manx music and dance today has just been released by the Manx Heritage Foundation. Compiled and written by former Manx Music Resource Coordinator, Cinzia Curtis, the A2 size fold-up leaflet covers just about everything you need to know about Manx music and dance and acts as a companion to *Gaelg Vio*, the guide to the Manx language, compiled by Adrian Cain, the Manx Language Officer: [greinneyder@mhf.org.im](mailto:greinneyder@mhf.org.im)

*Kiaull as Rinkey* (Music and Dance) provides: contact details of performers who can be booked for events, ceilis and festivals; a list of CDs and publications about Manx music and dance; details of the annual Celtic festivals in the Isle of Man; youth activities such as *Cruinnaght Aeg* and *Bree*; brief histories of Manx traditional music and dance, Church music and tourist music; information about the Manx Heritage Foundation and its music officers; a guide to using the Manx Music Database: [www.manxheritagemusic.org](http://www.manxheritagemusic.org) and advice on applying for funding from MHF and the Isle of Man Arts Council.

Aimed at the general public, schools, music students, local businesses, international festivals and educational institutions abroad, this handy guide will soon be available to pick up for free at Island libraries, music shops, tourist information centres and selected museums. For those living further afield, get in touch with Chloë at [manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im](mailto:manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im) or 01624 695159 and have a copy posted to you.

## BREE GO BUSKING!! Sat 8 December, Strand Shopping Centre

To celebrate Christmas and raise some money for charity, Bree students and tutors will perform on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December in the Strand Shopping Centre, Douglas from 4pm till 5.30pm. They will play a mixture of Manx instrumental tunes along with some Manx Christmas songs and carols.



All the money raised will go to the Manx branch of 'Friends of Chernobyl's Children', who bring Belarusian children over to the Isle of Man each year to have a month's holiday with local families. See: <http://www.focc.co.im/>

**SESSIONS: TUES, 9pm Irish in The Rover's Return, Douglas  
THURS, 9pm Singing in The Mitre, Ramsey  
FRI, 8pm Tynwald Inn, St. John's, FRI, 9pm Irish in The Mitre, Ramsey  
SAT, 9pm The White House, Peel  
Every 2<sup>nd</sup> SUN, 3pm Irish in the Traf, Douglas**

# The Mighty Cooish!!

With fantastic local and visiting musicians, this year's Cooish had something for everyone. Yet again, the festival was delighted to be able to make the Centenary Centre its home, with a wonderful concert on the Sunday featuring Cliogaree Twoaie, Sheear and the Katie Lawrence Three (?!), Staa, as well as stories from the young but talented Chris Lewin. Although scheduled, the evening couldn't include the *Arrane son Mannin* competition in the end, which will now take place at *Yn Chruinnaght Ghennal* [Sat 29 Dec].

Wednesday evening saw a session at the Albert, Port St Mary, which quickly became standing room only, due in part to the visit of the Director of Festival Interceltique de Lorient, Lisardo Lombardia. The fantastic music and songs which ensued more than convinced Lisardo that the Island's music scene is booming!

We were very lucky this year with our visiting musicians - the wonderful Margaret Bennett – musician, writer, lecturer, storyteller, folklorist and broadcaster – entertained a packed Centenary Centre in the Inter-Gaelic concert on Friday with solo songs in Scottish Gaelic, as well as teaching us some of the easier ones at a workshop on the final Saturday. And Ireland was well represented by a trio based in Dublin, Colm O hArgain (fiddle), Peadar O Sé (box) and Seána Davey (harp and dance), who thrilled the audience on Friday, and played into the early hours at the final session at the Albert on Saturday. And local musicians did not disappoint either – armed with both of their singers, Skeéal opened the night, and the mighty King Chiaullee were on fine form, bringing the concert to a fitting close. The visiting musicians also performed at the Bunscoil Ghaelgagh, sharing songs, tunes and Gaelic.



[pictured – Saturday night session at the Albert in PSM]

The Cooish festival was lucky enough to attract a lot of attention this year from the Island's media. With support from Manx Telecom, Manx lessons and Gaelic songs appeared on [www.modo.im](http://www.modo.im) for people to download. Ariane Barua produced pages for the BBC website, Val Caine again came up trumps with an article in Manx Tails, John Gregory from IOM Newspapers ran a series of three articles and Catherine Nicoll of Radio Vannin stalked us with style!

One of the Cooish's aims is to encourage new music and songs, and we were delighted that Annie Kissack, Bob Carswell and Sharon Christian were able to teach some of their newest material.

There's a new Cooish group on Facebook, which will have ideas for next year's festival – who do you want to hear, what do you want to do? Let us know! To keep up-to-date with other Cooish events throughout the year, check out: [www.myspace.com/cooish](http://www.myspace.com/cooish)

The Cooish wouldn't be possible without the support of the Manx Heritage Foundation and the IOM Arts Council, as well as local businesses. Gura mie mooar eu!

Cum seose y Ghaelg!

Bannaghtyn, Bing y Chooish

## Lorient – New Manx Delegate

A new Isle of Man delegate has been appointed for the world's largest Celtic festival, *Festival Interceltique de Lorient* in Brittany. Taking up the role is Aalish Maddrell, a French language graduate who teaches at Scoill Phurt-le-Moirrey.



[pictured – Aalish Maddrell]

Alongside Brittany, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Cornwall, Galicia and Asturias, the Isle of Man has always been a fundamental part of the celebrations. However, Manx representation has diminished over the past few years and the organisers of Lorient have been keen to re-establish the Island's presence at the festival.

The Director of the Lorient festival, Lisardo Lombardia, recently visited the Island to advise on raising the Manx profile through culture, language, arts, tourism and commerce. During his stay, he met with the new delegate, Aalish, and with relevant cultural parties to discuss the future presence of the Isle of Man. With assistance from the Manx Heritage Foundation, Aalish will coordinate the Manx cultural representation and liaise with the festival organisers.

Next year's Lorient festival will celebrate the *Year of Wales* from 1 – 8 August 2008.

For more information on Lorient see:

[www.festival-interceltique.com](http://www.festival-interceltique.com)

For details of the Manx representation, contact the Manx Heritage Foundation.

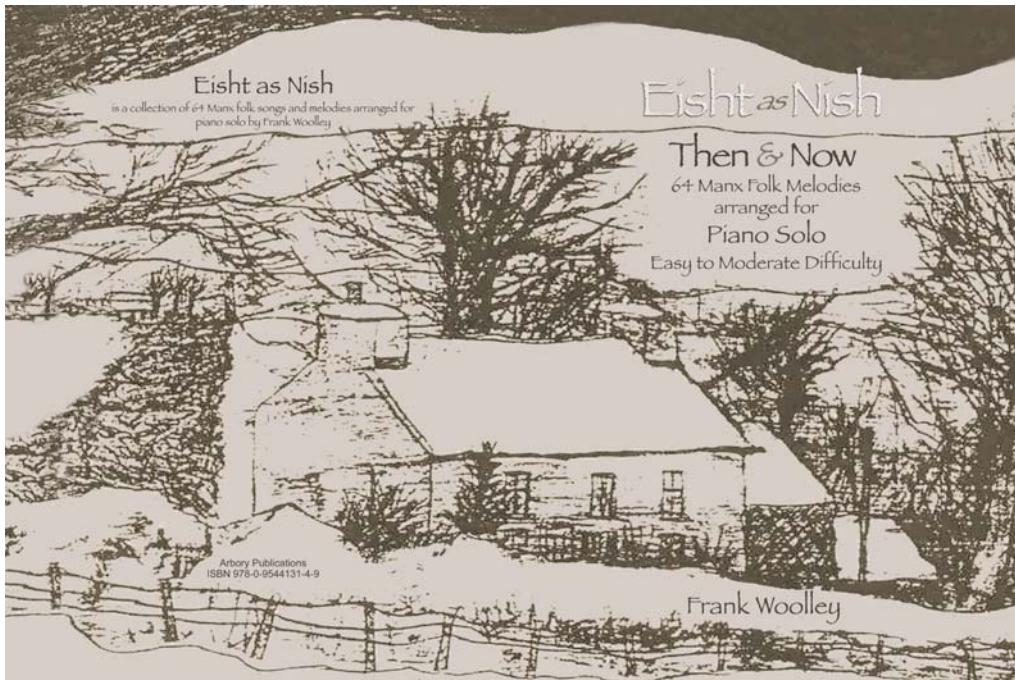
Email: [manxmusicsspecialist@mhf.org.im](mailto:manxmusicsspecialist@mhf.org.im)

or tel. 01624 695159.

# Eisht as Nish Old Manx melodies arranged in a modern style

Looking for a Christmas gift for your musical family and friends? Well, look no further!

A new book of piano solos called *Eisht as Nish* by local composer Frank Woolley has just been published. The book contains 64 creative arrangements of Manx folk melodies of easy to moderate difficulty and is suitable for all ages. As well as its namesake, *Eisht as Nish* (Then and Now), the book features many Manx favourites including *Arrane Oie Vie*, *Hop tu Naa* and *Manannan Song*, along with lesser known tunes collected by Dr. John Clague, W.H. Gill and Mona Douglas such as *Yn Eirey Cronk Ollie*, *Arrane ny Seyir*, and the *Cow Calling Song*.



Here is an arrangement of a 'carval' tune for you to try from *Eisht as Nish*:

*Carvals* are sacred songs which were traditionally performed on the *Oie'l Verrey* (Christmas Eve). When the evening service was over and the Vicar had gone home, the clerk and congregation stayed in the church to perform and listen to carvals. This went on until the small hours, (often with riotous results involving pea shooters!), before everyone headed off to the nearest tavern for some hot spiced ale! Although the word 'carval' translates as 'carol' and the tradition is associated with Christmas, the subject matter does not refer to the nativity, but with judgement, salvation and Christian duty.

**O Cre ta Dooinney?**

*O What is a Man?*  
Manx Gaelic Carval (Carol).

Moderato  $\text{♩} = 100$

23. { *mp dolce* *p* *Simile*

7 { *mf* *mp*

13 { *poco rit.* *rit.*

At £7.50 RRP, *Eisht as Nish* is available to buy from the Manx Museum Bookshop, Peter Norris Music in Douglas, St. Paul's Bookshop in Ramsey and Ramsey Music Supplies, the House of Manannan in Peel and other specialist booksellers.

For overseas customers, it will soon be available through the Manx Heritage Foundation website: [www.manxheritage.org](http://www.manxheritage.org)

or direct from the publishers (IOM & UK sales only) – email: [arborypublications@manx.net](mailto:arborypublications@manx.net) for more details.

[Front cover – Ballachrink Croft, Ballaglass by Maeve Woolley]



**NEW LOOK**  
**Manx Heritage Foundation**  
website: [www.manxheritage.org](http://www.manxheritage.org)

Hear a rare recording of Florrie Ford singing, see a demonstration of an old serpent being played, buy some Manx music CDs and books, watch Manx dancing (and animals being made out of vegetables!) at Laa Columb Killee, access the Manx Music Database... and much, much more at the new look MHF website!!!!

# Yn Chruinnaght Ghennal

**CORRIN HALL, PEEL**  
**SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
**7.30PM**

**CEILI WITH PURT H'NINTAS & SPECIAL GUESTS**  
'OPEN MIKE' – PERFORM A SONG, DANCE, POEM, COMEDY SKETCH...  
**PLUS...ARRANE SON MANNIN COMPETITION**  
**Traditional Manx raffle!!!**

**£5/£2.50 Admission including Manx Supper**  
(in advance from *Celtic Gold* or on the door)  
**CUR LHIAT DTY YOUGH HENE - BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE**

## YN CHRUINNAGHT GHENNAL

In the middle of *Yn Chegeesh Ommidagh*, the Foolish Fortnight of the Manx Christmas and New Year festivities, *Yn Chruinnaght* will be holding their annual get-together, *Yn Chruinnaght Ghennal* (The Merry Gathering). This year, the event will take place at the Corrin Hall in Peel on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> December.

The main entertainment will be provided by the Peel based ceili band, 'Purt h'Nintas', but there will also be a few special acts and an 'open mike' where audience members can take to the stage to sing a Manx song, play a tune, tell some jokes or recite a poem.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the *Arrane Son Mannin* competition had to be postponed at Cooish last month, so it will instead take place at *Yn Chruinnaght Ghennal*. Local songwriters and bands are invited to perform their new Gaelic song for the chance to represent the Manx nation at the Pan-Celtic Song Contest in Ireland next year.  
For an entry form, contact Fiona McArdle: [471543](tel:471543)

For more info on *Yn Chruinnaght*, email:  
[info@ynchruinnaght.com](mailto:info@ynchruinnaght.com)

## Are you in the **Modo** for Christmas?!

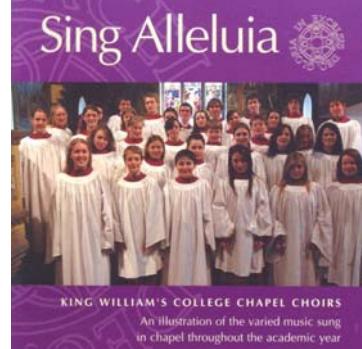
**Modo** at Manx Telecom are adding more local items to their free mobile phone downloads this December. If any individual or group would like to add their recording of a Manx Christmas song, please contact Richard Little: [Richard.Little@manx-telecom.com](mailto:Richard.Little@manx-telecom.com)

Musical tracks already featured in **Modo's 'Manx Stuff'** section are the National Anthem, songs by Moot, Skeeal, Tate!, Chris Sterio and Porn Monkey. [www.modo.im](http://www.modo.im)



## Schools perform Manx songs

It's 'yindissagh' to hear that more and more schools are performing Manx songs and music. Here's a selection of school events that will feature Manx music this Christmas: **Auldyn Infant School** Choir are particularly busy as they will be singing *Tra va Ruggit Creest* and *Hunt the Wren* at various venues in Ramsey: Brookfield Nursing Home (December 4<sup>th</sup>), Grand Island Hotel (12<sup>th</sup>), Ramsey Cottage Hospital (17<sup>th</sup>), Mount View (17<sup>th</sup>) and Kerrooglass Nursing Home (19<sup>th</sup>). **Ballaugh Manx Music Club** will be performing Bob Carswell's *Yeesey Creest* at their Christingle Service, while **Ramsey Grammar School** Choir are singing Paul Dunderdale's arrangement of *Oikan ayns Bethlehem* at their carol service on the 19<sup>th</sup>. **King William's College** is also doing sterling work in supporting Manx music through their Senior Folk Group and Chapel Choir. The choir recently performed a lovely arrangement of *Tra va Ruggit Creest* in Venice and will be performing it in their Carol Service on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The song is featured on their CD 'Sing Alleluia' which can be purchased from the college shop: <http://www.kwc.im>. Ideal Christmas listening!



KING WILLIAM'S COLLEGE CHAPEL CHOIRS  
An illustration of the varied music sung in chapel throughout the academic year

**Ramsey Town Band** also recently performed Katie Lawrence's tune *Dooraight* which was specially arranged for brass band by their guest conductor Alan Fernie.

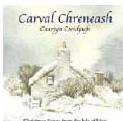
## THANK GOODNESS IT'S FOLK!

One of our UK readers, Dave Eyre, now has his own folk music radio show in Yorkshire. 'Thank Goodness it's Folk' is broadcast every Friday from 10am – 12 noon on Sheffield Live! [93.2 FM] which is available on the internet - [www.sheffieldlive.org](http://www.sheffieldlive.org) or afterwards via a pod cast on <http://www.canstream.co.uk/sheffieldlive>.



Dave would like to feature Manx music in his show, so if any bands would like to send him their CD, contact Chloë [manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im](mailto:manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im) and she'll put you in touch.

## Christmas CDs



### Carval Chreneash

Manx Gaelic Christmas songs from choir Caarjyn Cooidjagh (2004).



### Nollick Ghennal

Popular Christmas carols sung in Manx Gaelic by choir Cliogaree Twoaie (2006).

Available at the Manx Museum Shop & other Island outlets



# Rink

**DANCING UP THE AISLE!!** Congratulations to Manx dancer **Andy Harding** on his engagement to Welsh dancer **Jennifer Randles**. On October 20th, Andy popped the question to Jen at the Lowender Peran festival in Cornwall, a year to the day after they met there! Best wishes to the couple from *Kiaull Vanninagh Jiu!!*

## Bannaghytn y Nollick

Write in your 'Kaart Nollick' with these  
Seasonal Greetings

Nollick Ghennal Happy Christmas  
Nollick Ghennal as Blein Vie Noa  
Happy Christmas and a Good New Year  
Bannaghtyn Blessings/greetings  
Lesh yeeareeyn share With best wishes  
Lesh yeeareeyn share son y Nollick  
as y vlein Noa  
With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year  
Lesh yeeareeyn share ec yn imbagh  
casherick shoh  
With best wishes at this holy Season  
Shee as Boggey erriu Peace and Joy to you  
Lesh Shee as Graih With peace and love  
Hee'm oo 'sy vlein noa See you in the New Year  
Shee erriu car ny bleeaney shoh cheet  
Peace to you throughout the coming year

### A traditional greeting

Nollick Ghennal erriu, as blein feer vie  
Seihll as slaynt da'n slane lugh-thie;  
Bea as gennallys eu bio ry-cheilley,  
Shee as graih eddyr mraane as deiney

A Merry Christmas to you, and a very good year  
Long life and health to the whole household;  
Life and joy to you living together,  
Peace and love between women and men.

### Some other phrases:

Kaart Nollick Christmas Card  
Carval Carol  
Laa Nollick Christmas Day  
Jough y Nollick Christmas Drink  
Oie'll voirrey Christmas Eve  
Billey Nollick Christmas Tree  
Jishag y Nollick Father Christmas  
Fer sniaghtee Snowman

[Gura mie ayd to Adrian Cain, Manx Language Officer for the above]

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



## Yeesey Creest

By Bob Carswell,  
Isle of Man  
1986

1. Yee -sey Creest, oik -an meein, cad -dil oo, my lhian -noo.  
2. Yee -sey Creest, oik -an meein, lhian noo mie as gen -nal.  
  
Yee -sey Creest, oik -an meein, cad -dil oo, my lhian -noo. Eer ayns  
Yee -sey Creest, oik -an meein, lhian noo mie as gen -nal. Ta ny  
  
sta - byl, foast t'ou Ree. Yee -sey Creest, t'ou Uss Mac Yee.  
ree - a - ghyn ayn-shoh. As ny bo - chi - lllyn cur gloyr.  
  
Yee -sey Creest, oik -an meein, cad -dil oo, my lhian -noo.  
Yee -sey Creest, oik -an meein, lhian noo mie as gen -nal.

### Translation

1. Jesus Christ, gentle infant, sleep thou, my baby.  
Jesus Christ, gentle infant, sleep thou, my baby.  
Even in a stable, still you are a king.  
Jesus Christ, you are the son of God.  
Jesus Christ, gentle infant, sleep thou, my baby.
2. Jesus Christ, gentle infant, good and happy baby.  
Jesus Christ, gentle infant, good and happy baby.  
The kings are here, and the shepherds giving glory.  
Jesus Christ, you are the son of God.  
Jesus Christ, gentle infant, good and happy baby.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Post notes, requests, information, questions etc. to the rest of the Manx music & dance community:

FOR SALE: 3/4 size violin outfit. S/H. Good beginner's instrument. Case needs slight repair. £20. Contact Chloë: [manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im](mailto:manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im)

*F.Y.I.*

## Hot Gossip

Although she has headed off to the UK to start her PhD, former editor of KMJ Cinzia Curtis is still kept busy playing traditional music. On a recent holiday to Calgary and Alberta in Canada, she ended up guesting with a traditional music band called *Hot Doris!* Good job she just happened to have her whistle with her...

# Hunt the Wren

The ancient tradition of hunting the wren on St. Stephen's Day is still alive and well in the Isle of Man. With a lively dance, song and tune, and



a wren pole to decorate with ribbons and ivy (and a 'pretend' wren of course), anyone can take part in the fun.

*Just make sure it's all done and dusted by midday!*

Here are details from two teams who are hunting the wren on Wed Dec 26. Just turn up to join in:

**Maughold Social Club.** Meet at Dhoon Church Hall at 10.30am to learn and practice the dance. The group will then relocate to Ramsey to perform at various spots including the MER Tram Station at approx. 11.30pm as part of the Ramsey Heritage Trust's Christmas Exhibition (old Quayle's Hall).

**Bock Yuan Fannee.** Meet at 10am on Alexander Drive, Douglas (John Kaneen's house or the Woodburn Pub!)

## The White Boys



Another tradition associated with Christmas in the Isle of Man is The White Boys - a mummers' play concerning St. George. **Bock Yuan Fannee** will be performing the White Boys' Play from 10am on Michael Street, Peel on Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Instrumentalists are welcome to join in with the band. Aspiring actors who want to volunteer for next year are also welcome to observe and learn the art!



manx heritage foundation  
undinys eiraght vannin

For more information on Manx music and dance contact:

Chloë Woolley: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im  
See: www.manxheritage.com or www.manxheritagemusic.org  
Call: 01624 695159  
or write to: Centre for Manx Studies, 6 Kingswood Grove, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 3LX

# CALENDAR – DEC 2007

## Cliogaree Twoiae

Sat 1 Dec, 11am. Shoprite, Victoria Road, Douglas. Gaelic choir perform carols in Manx.

## Caarjyn Cooidjagh

Sat 1 Dec, 3pm. House of Manannan, Peel. Gaelic choir perform carols in Manx.

## Bree go Busking

Sat 8 Dec. 4pm. Strand Shopping Centre, Douglas. Young Manx musicians busk for charity.

## The Skeealing Stones!

Fri 14 Dec, 9pm. Bar Logo, Ramsey. Skeeal and the Reeling Stones perform.

## Cliogaree Twoiae Carol Singing

Mon 17 Dec, 7.15pm. Nobles Hospital. Meet in foyer at 7pm. All welcome to join in. More info from Clare on 462595.

## Cliogaree Twoiae Carol Singing

TBC. (probably Thu 20 Dec, 8pm, Traf pub, Ramsey). Gaelic carol singing around the pubs in Ramsey to raise money for charity. All welcome to join in. Contact Clare on 462595.

## The White Boys

Sat 22 Dec, 10am. Michael Street, Peel. The traditional mummers' play with dance, music and song performed by Bock Yuan Fannee & friends. Repeated performances.

Get together at  
CHRISTMAS TIME

With mulled wine, mince pies,  
and a night of Entertainment



A variety of Live Music  
Songs, Dancing, Games  
and a Ceili!

Peel Corrin Hall  
8.00pm

Admission £4.

Children under 16 yrs. free.

Not for Profit. These proceeds will pay for Manx dance team Perree T's Hwy Costumes & other expenses when they come over performing in the UK. Thank you.

## Hunt the Wren – Maughold/Ramsey

Wed 26 Dec, 10.30am. Dhoon Church Hall. Join in the dancing or music for Hunt the Wren and perform in Maughold and Ramsey. All welcome.

## Hunt the Wren – Douglas

Wed 26 Dec, 10am. Alexander Drive. Join in the dancing or music for Hunt the Wren and perform in the streets of Douglas. All welcome.

## Yn Chruinnagh Ghennal

Sat 29 Dec, 7.30pm. Corrin Hall, Peel. Purt hy nlinshey ceili band, 'open mike' & Arrane son Mannin contest. Supper included. BYOB. £5/£2.50 from *Celtic Gold* or on the door.

## Cliogaree Twoiae

Sun 30 Dec, 6.30pm. Croit-e-Caley Chapel. Gaelic choir sing at Christmas Service.