

Harpist Mera Royle wins BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award!

Manx harpist Mera Royle has won the BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award 2018 beating talent from across the UK!

18 year old Mera is studying for her A-levels at Ramsey Grammar School, and she has been playing harp, violin and whistle since she was eight years old. She takes harp lessons from visiting tutor Rachel Hair which are organised by Culture Vannin, and she is a



member of the Bree youth folk group, Scran, who are about to release their debut album.

Speaking following her win, Mera said: "I'm so happy to have won the BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award! It was exciting enough for me to just be there surrounded by so many folk legends. It was a really great opportunity and I had an amazing time. Thanks for all the support from everyone back home – it's been so lovely! Thanks to Culture Vannin for all their support, and special thanks to Rachel Hair and Mike Boulton as I wouldn't have even been there without all their incredible help over the years."

As part of her prize, Mera will have the opportunity to perform at several of the UK's major folk festivals.

There was also success for the folk band Ímar. Based in Glasgow, the group of five includes Manx fiddler Tomás Callister and Manx bouzouki player Adam Rhodes. Ímar won the Horizon Award which recognises emerging folk artists.

Another Manx connection was through Jamie Smith, a professional musician who lives in the Isle of Man, as his Welsh group Alaw made it into the finals of the awards for best traditional track. Minister Cregeen said: "There is a real sense of pride today following the success of Manx artists at this year's Folk Awards. I would like to extend my congratulations to all of the Manx-born or based finalists and winners."

"It is not just about natural talent, it takes hard work, dedication and the support of tutors and families to compete at this level. Making it to the finals alone is a magnificent achievement, so it is very special indeed to see artists from the Isle of Man winning awards."

"The Isle of Man has a rich culture and proud heritage which is perfectly expressed through the outstanding musical talent found on our Island."

The awards ceremony, this year held in Belfast, is a highlight of the folk music calendar and was broadcast live on BBC Radio 2. Highlights can be seen on BBC Four this Sunday 8th April at 9pm and the full awards ceremony is available to listen to again online. (photo credit BBC)

In this month's edition...

- *Shennaghys Jiu pics*
- *Cyclefest news*
- *MFA Results*
- *Flitters for lunch?*

Manx Folk Awards 2018



CYCLEFEST 2018 SATURDAY 21ST AND SUNDAY 22ND APRIL

Elephant Sessions and Ross & Ali headline new Festival Club!

Isle of Man Cyclefest presented by Isle of Man Bank returns to the glorious grounds of Milntown Estate for its third edition in 2018 with a new Spring date and an expanded programme of family entertainment. For many visitors to Milntown, however, Cyclefest is all about the soundtrack and there's even more for music lovers in 2018, with Cyclefest's very own Festival Club.

From sundown till late, the Cyclefest HQ will bounce to the new sounds of foot stomping Trad courtesy of the returning Elephant Sessions and this year's BBC Folk Award winners, Ross and Ali.



Fusing rich folk and traditional influences with funk, rock and electronica, Elephant Sessions have become something of a musical powerhouse. Already renowned for their breathtaking live shows on home soil, the band have been taking the festival scene well and truly by storm, including a sold out headline show at Celtic Connections 2017 and a 18-show run at the Showcase Scotland Expo during Lorient 2017.

Ross Ainslie and Ali Hutton, meanwhile, are two internationally recognised multi-instrumentalists, composers and arrangers. Their individual musical journeys have led them through a long list of high profile awards, but it was their much-anticipated collaboration, *Symbiosis*, that confirmed the duo as true pioneers of the ever-evolving Scottish traditional music scene. Combining their love of pipes and whistles with a wider exploration of traditional music and modern studio craft, Ross and Ali's debut album is simply stunning and earned the pair an invite to BBC's Folk Awards at the Royal Albert Hall where they were named Best Duo.

Away from the Festival Club, there's much more for music fans. Fresh from their recent appearance on the returning Old Grey Whistle Test, Wildwood Kin are set to headline Saturday's line up on the main stage. Jake Isaac, meanwhile, visits the Isle of Man after stealing the headlines at Cambridge Folk Festival with his high-energy fusion of soulful roots and funky beats.

There's more for fans of Trad too, as former Folk Awards winner Sam Kelly visits Cyclefest along with his band, The Lost Boys. There's high-octane Americana with CC Smugglers, grunge era roots with William the Conqueror and gospel country with AMA awards winner Yola Carter to name just a few of Cyclefest's dozen acts.

As well as fantastic music, Isle of Man Cyclefest will also deliver a weekend's worth of entertainment catering for young families. All festival events are absolutely FREE upon entry to Milntown Estate and wristbands tickets are available to purchase on the gate on the day. Adult tickets for either day are just £15, whilst kids (under 16s) are half price, and babies and toddlers (4 and under) go FREE! Weekend tickets are also available with a 20% discount.

For more information visit the website at iomcyclefest.com

HURRY! Save further by purchasing your wristbands from the website. Shop closes early April!



Festival-goers had a great time at Shennaghys Jiu at Easter with entertainment, sessions, ceilis & workshops from Splann, Trip, Greta Curtin, Kerry Dancers and a ton of Manx performers. Photo credits: Vannin Photos & Katie Lawrence.

Glasb Voogal and **BISKEE BRIGHT**

Saturday 24th March
Centenary Centre
Atholl Room Bar
Raffle in aid of Friends of the Centenary Centre
Peel

Double Bill

Friday 20th April
Foraging Vintners
The Old Coal Shed
The Breakwater
Port Erin

both at 8pm with FREE ADMISSION

OIE VOALDYN

MANX MAY DAY AND EVENING FIRE FESTIVAL

Sunday 6th May 2018

Peel Beach and Weather Glass Corner

2.00pm - Music & Food / Viking Games
8.45pm - Fire Show • 10.00pm - Fireworks

FREE EVENT - SUITABLE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

FOR MORE INFORMATION & HOW TO TAKE PART CHECK OUT [f /olevoaldyn](https://www.facebook.com/olevoaldyn)



FACEBOOK & SOUNDCLOUD / CHRISGRAYMUSIC

CHRIS GRAY

22.2 VILLA MARINA/SUPPORTING JAKE BUGG
30.3 LAXEY PAVILION/IOM CIN FEST
23.6 AMBER BAR/+SUPPORT
28.6 PEAKY BLINDERS BAR/LIVERPOOL

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES: CHRISGRAYMUSIC@YAHOO.CO.UK

Glasb Voogal

JonnoPromotions

Remembering Jonno

SOMETHING PURPLE

TRUMAN FALLS

Christy de Haven

DJ TOM SLAYER

Saturday 14 April
7:30pm (Doors 7pm)
CENTENARY CENTRE PEEL

Tickets £10 Available From www.etickets.in/vcc or the Usual Outlets

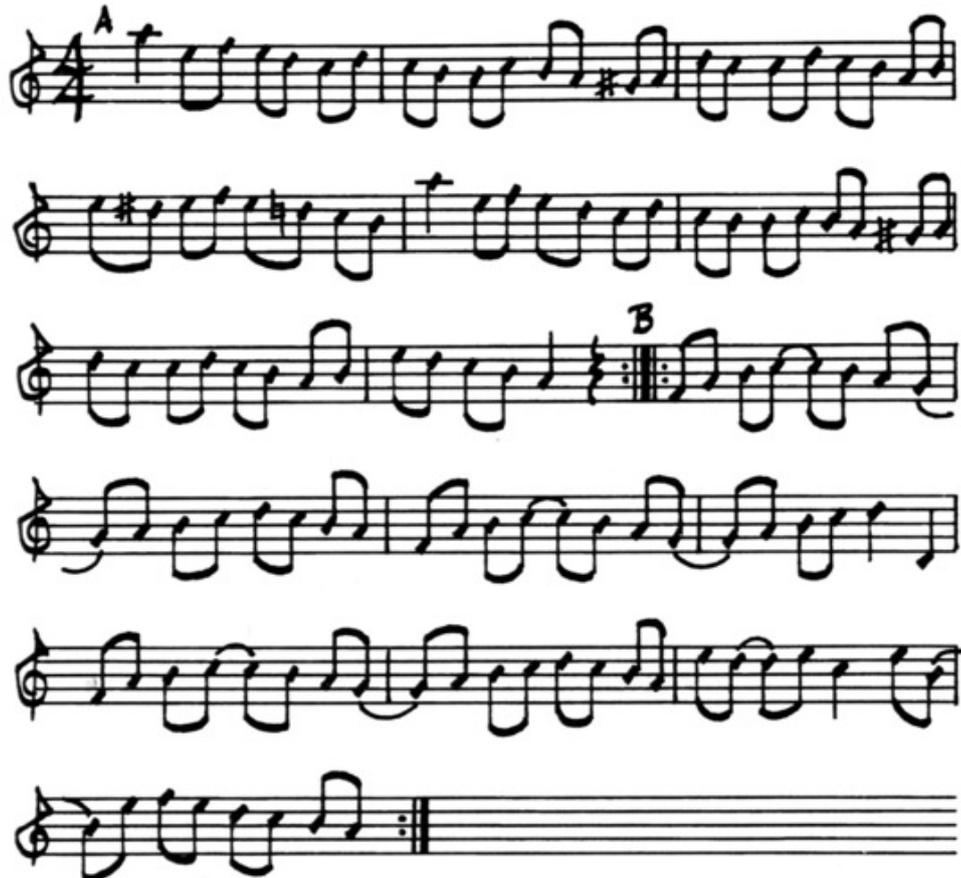
All Proceeds to the Centenary Centre

Folkestra fun!

In February, musicians young and old took part in two inspirational music workshops organised by Culture Vannin, with fiddle maestro Joe Broughton and cahn whizz, Tom Chapman.

Both are members of the Urban Folk Quartet, but Joe also leads the Birmingham Conservatoire Folk Ensemble who have been causing quite a stir at music festivals around the UK in recent times because of the huge number of players, great music and the enthusiasm they exude! Joe shared some of their techniques with musicians at the IOM workshop and encouraged everyone to get on their feet and play out with confidence! Regardless of ability or instrument, everything was learnt by ear, and there was a part for everyone to play in the folkestra. Adult workshop participants played Joe's own tune "Fiddle Castro's Return to Galway" (below) with various harmony parts, while the younger students worked on a creepy atmospheric piece about a spider!

www.joebroughton.com





Manks Concert

As well as a performance of Manx dialect play, *A Lil' Smook*, the Celtic Congress concert at the end of February featured some lovely Manx singing and music from Marlene Hendy and Dilys Sowrey (left) and youth group, Scran (below). The evening was dedicated to Celtic Congress member Roy Kennaugh who passed away at Christmas.

Moylley as Soylley!
Congratulations to Marlene (pictured singing and playing bass) who has recently been elected as an MLC and chair of the IOM Arts Council.

Photo credit: Jiri Podobsky



Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering

11 - 15 July, Peel

YC will be launching the programme and tickets for its 40th anniversary festival soon and will be revealing a very exciting line-up for 2018...

Celtic

GATHERING 2018

PRESENTED BY YN CHRUINNAGHT

RESCHEDULED CONCERT WITH ALAW



Snow scuppered plans for the Welsh trio ALAW last month, but “Welsh folk supergroup” and finalists in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards have rescheduled their debut concert:

Friday 20th April 2018

Doors 7:30pm, starts 8:00pm

Tickets: £14.00 / £8.00 (under 18s & students)

www.etickets.im/cc/

Celtic Gold - Peel / Shakti Man - Ramsey

Thompson Travel - Port Erin / Noa Bakehouse

ALAW (Welsh for “melody”) unites the talents of three exceptional musicians: Oliver Wilson-Dickson on violin, Dylan Fowler on guitar and Jamie Smith on accordion. Originally from South Wales – the trio draw, in particular, on their Celtic heritage. Jamie (Barrule, Mabon) now lives in the Isle of Man.

OIE VOALDYN in Peel

If you would like to take part in this new event then come along to the Peel Sailors Shelter on Sunday 8th April at 2pm - we are looking for people to lead the processions and take part in the processions and we need some Marshals on the beach as well.

You need to be over 16 years old (children are welcome but must be supervised by an adult and cannot carry a flaming torch) and be available for the dress rehearsal on 5th May at 7pm in Peel as well as the evening

of the event 6th May from 7.30pm to 10pm.



This is a year to make the most of our beautiful Island, celebrating the vast amount of things we have to see, do explore and take part in. It is about celebrating our UNESCO Biosphere status through a range of events, activities, trails and celebrations.

www.ourisland.im

- Value all that is special about living on the Isle of Man
- Explore more and discover more on our Island
- See more and do more during the year
- Get involved and help to develop our natural and built environment
- Celebrate in your own way your culture our heritage and our environment
- Share what living on the Island means to you
-

Organisers are looking for members of our community to work with them in 2018 as partners. *If you need help to get an event off the ground or simply want to enhance something that's already happening you may wish to consider applying for funding through the 2018 Year of Our Island project.*

Find out how to apply:

www.gov.im/media/1360165/2018-year-of-our-island-grant-application-form.pdf



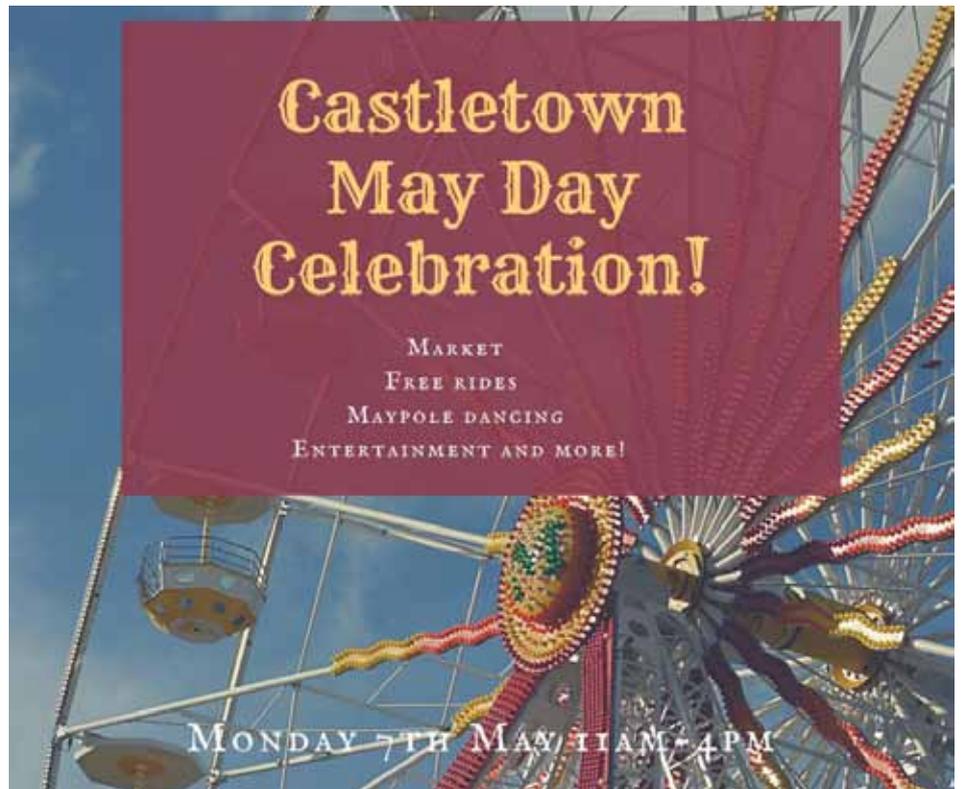
FLITTER DANCE

Good Friday has a curious custom in the Isle of Man, where people were said to have cooked flitters (limpets) on the beach! Yum yum.

Mona Douglas collected a processional dance associated with the custom, where the embers of the bonfire would be stamped out!

Find out more: www.culturevannin.im/manx_year_event_520943.html with accompanying music from the Ruth Keggins band.

Watch the dance being performed: <https://youtu.be/ZEbQsVLvnm0>



Laa Boaldyn – Manx May Day



Cregneash comes alive to the sound of Manx music and traditional dancing.

Date 07/05/2018 –

Time 1pm - 4pm

Location Cregneash

Price Standard admission applies

Local dance group, Perree Bane, perform traditional Manx dancing to live music. Along with Crosh Cuirn making there will also be the scattering of yellow petals – a principal form of protection against mischievous fairies.

New bursary available for aspiring young musicians aged 16-21

Two aspiring young Manx musicians could benefit from a new annual bursary of up to £1,000 each to fund a place at music summer school of their choice in the UK.

The bursary has been established thanks to the generous and thoughtful bequest of Roz Kelly, a talented and accomplished Manx musician who sang with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir and the Liverpool Chamber Choir.

Roz first started to learn the violin while a pupil at Braddan Primary School and also enjoyed singing and playing the piano, often participating in 'The Guild'.

Roz joined the Manx Youth Orchestra in 1981 and took part in various tours. She continued to enjoy music making as a student at Liverpool University where she studied physics and gained a PhD.

After seeing what fun the brass section of the orchestra had, Roz also took up the French horn.

Later, when Roz was too ill to play or sing, music continued to give her great pleasure and she enjoyed going to the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic when she could.

Roz was keen that others would have the opportunity to participate in music as she had and wanted to be able to further that through her bequest.

Maggie Richardson, Head of Music Service, said: "I was very humbled to talk to Roz shortly before she died. She wanted to share with me some of the very fond musical memories she had, especially of playing with the Manx Youth Orchestra. She took part in some tours and her favourite experience was sleeping under the stars during their tour to Israel.

"Roz was so passionate about giving back and her bequest will ensure many years of young people benefiting from her generosity."

Applications are open to Isle of Man residents aged 16 – 21 who are able to demonstrate their musical promise and enthusiasm through a written application and provide a written recommendation from a teacher, musical mentor or similar.

The funding can only be used towards the cost of travel and participation at the music summer school of their choice. It can be for any genre or style of music, from classical music to rock and pop or musical theatre to instrument making.

For more information, interested parties can contact the Department of Education, Sport and Culture's Music Service on 686558 or musicserviceenquiries@sch.im

Applications should be sent to: Chairman of the Friends of the Manx Youth Orchestra, c/o The Music Centre, St Ninian's Lower School, Heywood Avenue, Onchan, IM3 3AR.

The deadline is 4pm on Tuesday 17 April 2018.



kiaul1 noa



a'Nish (formally Nish as Rish) are delighted to be returning to the Isle of Man to launch their brand new album 'Way of the Gull'. With a mix of traditional Irish, Scottish and Manx tunes as well as original material, this is an evening not to miss!

A'Nish album and launch 28th Noa Bakehouse

Noa Bakehouse, Douglas, Isle of Man

Doors at 7.30pm, Gig starts at 8pm

Over 18s only. Tickets: £10

Tickets cost £10: www.ruthkeggin.com/product/anish-album-launch-way-of-the-gull/

Unfortunately, due to venue licensing restrictions this is an over 18s only event. However there is a child friendly concert earlier than day...

a'Nish are delighted to be hosting a family gig at St Ninian's church, Douglas. Doors open at 2.45pm with music from 3.15-4pm. Children and adults of all ages are welcome to this delightful acoustic gig.

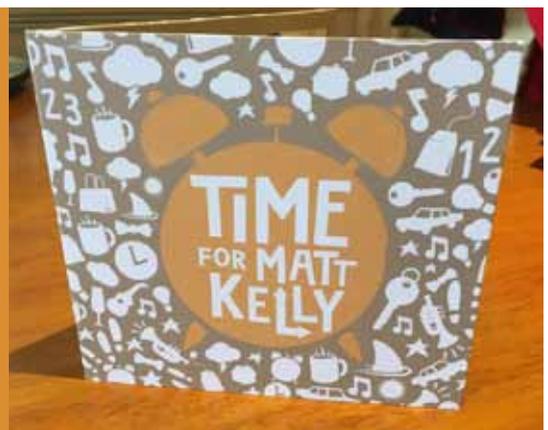
Tickets - Adults £7 / Under 18s £3: www.ruthkeggin.com/product/anish-family-concert-acoustic/

<https://www.facebook.com/anishband/>

Matt Kelly has released a new album!!

Singer-songwriter and guitarist Matt launched his latest album of self-penned songs at the Laxey Institute recently. Tracks included the catchy "Safe as Houses" which also features Alice Dudley and David Kilgallon.

https://soundcloud.com/isleofmatt/matt-kelly-safe-as-houses-1?utm_source=soundcloud&utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=facebook



ISLE OF MAN COMPOSERS GROUP by Tim Price

Welcome to the Isle of Man Composers Network, a group for composers on the Isle of Man who work in the fields of Contemporary Classical/Modern Classical music.

The aims are:

- To encourage a greater sense of community among composers on the Island
- To enable composers to meet together to discuss our work and to learn from each other
- In the long term, to open up more opportunities for performances of new Manx music.

For a while, I have felt that it would be good to establish a group for the Island's composers. There are a number of reasons for this.

While I was at University, we had an informal Composers group that met up after our lectures to share ideas and generally discuss composition and music-related things. I found that being part of this "mini-community" was really helpful, and it's something I've missed since returning to the Island.

I've realized that there is a lot more going on in terms of modern "classical" music on the Island than most music-loving people would know about. Lots of fantastic things have been done to promote and raise the profile of the Manx folk scene, and I think it's about time that something similar happened with Manx "classical" music too.

There can be a lot of other advantages to composers joining forces. This video by composer, orchestrator and online tutor Thomas Goss helps to explain the idea and benefits of Composer groups:

<https://youtu.be/mQKq4hPEQe4>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1150289521774748/about/>

Email: tim_price@manx.net

Kate Matthews is working on a storytelling/folk music project called 'Taken' inspired by the themes and musical snippets from the Manx dialect plays of her Great-Grandfather, Christopher R Shimmin. Kate is based in the UK, but she would be interested in hearing from any Manx musicians who would like to collaborate on the project.

If you'd like to find out more, Chloe at Culture Vannin will put you in touch with Kate. Email:

manxmusic@culturevannin.im

Manx Sheep released in England

A new arrangement of a traditional Manx song by the Bailey Sisters was released just before Christmas in a collection of winter songs. They have called it, "Deep under the Snow" but most will recognise, "Sheep under the Snow" or "Ny Kirree fo Niaghtey". The CD is entitled, "Down in Yon Forest":

<http://baileysisters.co.uk>

Info courtesy:

London-Manx Society newsletter

Mad Daddy – new EP
£5 digital download
High-octane Rock 'n' Roll
Punk Blues from the IOM!:

<https://maddaddy.bandcamp.com/releases>



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

Arts, Culture & Creativity for Everyone: The Isle of Man

A short film was produced to accompany the launch of the National Development Strategy for Culture and the Arts in the Isle of Man (in Manx; Strateysh Lhiasee Ashoonagh son cultoor as ellynyn ayns Mannin)

With music by Mec Lir:

https://youtu.be/WRP_gBjuBJw

There was a premiere of a beautiful new piece for fiddle & wind orchestra by David Kilgallon last month - "Huidd yn Geay". The piece was commissioned and performed by the IOM Wind Orchestra, under the baton of fellow composer, Paul Dunderdale, in a concert of entirely Manx music.

Watch/listen out for another piece of music by David Kilgallon which will be released soon...



APPEAL FOR INTERNATIONAL MUSICIANS

Plans are underway for a celebration of international music later this year, and organisers are looking for musicians of different nationalities living in the Isle of Man (e.g. from Eastern Europe, Africa, South America, etc.) to work with some Manx musicians in an exciting multi-national musical project.

Contact Dave Mclean for more info: dmthebigroom@hotmail.com

OUR ISLAND, OUR WORLD



Festival of World Music & Culture

SAVE THE DATE
7-8 SEPTEMBER
2018



2018 YEAR OF OUR ISLAND
a special place to live & work

Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea



Ramsey Manx dance group NY FENNEE had a wonderful exchange trip to Killarney in Ireland over the February half term. The group have become firm friends with the Kerry Dancers over the years, and they were reunited at Easter at Shennaghys Jiu when the Irish dance group came over to perform at the festival again.

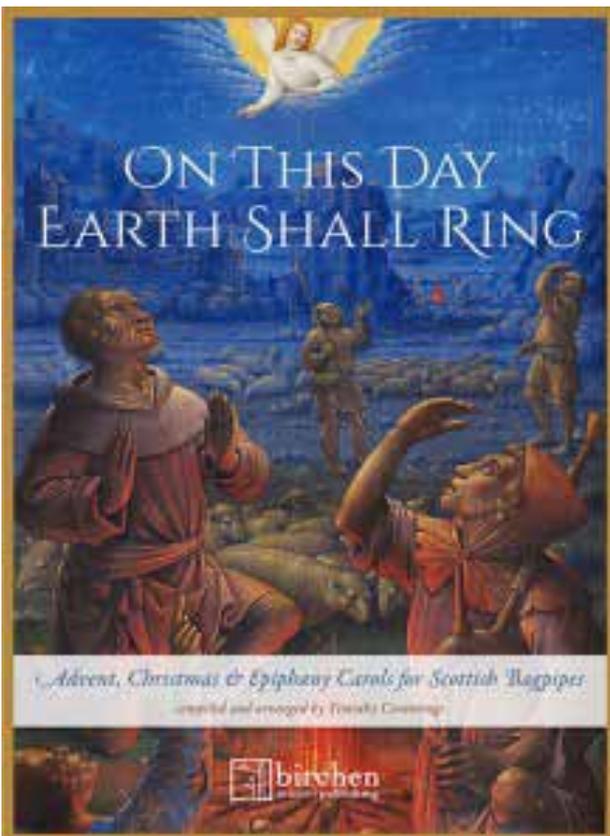
MANX CAROL IN AMERICAN PUBLICATION

On This Day Earth Shall Ring, a collection of 115 ancient and traditional carols arranged for Scottish bagpipes has just been released in the USA!

Composer Tim Cummings was in touch with Culture Vannin last year and he has included two variants of Manx carol, "Oikan ayns Bethlehem".

<http://timothycummings.com/>

\$35 from <http://birchenmusic.com>





EDINBURGH SUCCESS FOR HARPISTS

A group of young Manx harpists performed and took part in workshops at the Edinburgh International Harp Festival over Easter. Members of Rachel Hair's student group, Claasagh, performed in the children's concert and led 100 more harpists from around the world in a set of Manx tunes! Manx Gaelic singer, Ruth Keggin performed with harpist Rachel Hair in an evening concert. Claasagh's festival appearance was supported by Culture Vannin & the IOM Arts Council, with special hoodies sponsored by Ny Fennee.

RESEARCH NEWS

“MANX SOCIAL AT DERBY ROAD”

(1905)

The young people (and divers of the elder folk) connected with the church of the Methodist New Connexion, situated in Derby-road, spent a most enjoyable evening on Easter Monday, their entertainment being dubbed a “Manx Social and Concert.” The first portion of the programme consisted of a number of Manx songs, including “Hush, little darling,” sung by Miss E. Bell; “The Maid of Purt-e-Chee,” Miss Horsley; “Gwendolen,” Miss Spence; “Ramsey Town” and “Ellan Vannin,” Mr W.L. Spence; “The Manx Weddin’,” and “Mannin Veg Villish Veg Veen,” Mr Williamson; and “Mylecharaine” (in the Manx language), by Mr T. Caine. Miss Fargher accompanied. Next followed a dialogue, entitled “The Haunted Room,” in which it is possible that some one or other of the old Manx legends may have had part, followed by what to Manxman and Scotnagh is equally welcome, refreshments. The menu was in Manx, and comprised the proverbial pinjane and bonnag, “arran-chag” (a free translation of lemon-cheese cakes), “arran ben-y-ree” (sultana cake), “arran chapit” (soda-cake), “braghtyn” (cucumber sandwiches), “arran rasa” (seed cake), and the ever-welcome “paggad of tay.” Games followed for another hour, and of all the 100 persons who presented themselves everyone thoroughly enjoyed his or herself. It may be added that a number of the ladies arranging this charming little function were attired in Manx costume.

“[Douglas] Manx Social at Derby Road.” *Manx Sun* 29 April 1905: 5f.

*

Both young and old as the piece reminds us were present on Easter Monday at the Manx Social Concert held at the Methodist New Connexion chapel on Derby Road in Douglas. The turnout was an impressive one with some one hundred people in attendance. Many of the titles of the music on offer are familiar ones from the time—“Ellan Vannin,” “Gwendolen,” “Hush, little darling,” “The Maid of Purt-e-Chee,” “Mannin Veg Villish Veg Veen,” “The Manx Weddin’,” “Mylecharaine,” “Ramsey Town”—though now out of favour but resonating at the time as expressing a sense of Manx-ness. “Mylecharaine” was sung in Manx and the ever-popular “Ramsey Town” was performed, a song that also enjoyed wide popularity with the Manx diaspora. Manx folklore was seemingly featured in the dialogue of The Haunted Room. Then to top off the evening was the food with the menu in Manx and here the *Manx Sun* provides us with a handy vocabulary for navigating such a welcome High Tea in the future. The helpers were attired in Manx costume and this was a feature of such events which overall have not been studied at all.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2018

NEW MANX MUSIC.

SHORTLY will be published, the favourite National Manx Air, "MOLLY CHARRANE," with Variations for the Piano Forte,—dedicated to Mrs. READY, Lady of his Excellency the Lieut.-Governor of the Island. Composed by H. QUARTERMAN, Member of the Royal Academy of Music, London, and Fellow of the Royal Society of Musicians.—Price 3s.

Mr. QUARTERMAN begs to inform his Friends, that he intends publishing Variations for the Piano Forte to all the Manx Airs that are generally known—he having made several Tours round the Island in order to gain, as nearly as possible, the original mode of Singing those Airs. "Molly Charrane" will be published shortly, 100 copies of which will only be struck off; therefore Mr. Quarterman trusts that those Friends who may honour him with their Patronage, will favour the undermentioned with their Names, and what Number of Copies they wish to have, as soon as possible.

Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. WALLACE, Douglas.

Miss GELLING, Castletown.

Mr. CARRAN, Druggist, Ramsey.

Castle-wall, Monday, Jan. 16.

RESEARCH ARTICLES

PHILLIP LEIGHTON STOWELL
(1897–1978) WRITINGS ON MANX
FOLK DANCES AND DANCING
collated by S Miller:

[www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/~stephen/manxnotes/
MN210.pdf](http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/~stephen/manxnotes/MN210.pdf)

THE CLAGUE COLLECTION (MNHL
MSS 448A [1-3], 449B) A CATALOGUE
OF SONG AND TUNE TITLES

By GEORGE BRODERICK

Universität Mannheim

This listing of song / tune titles is to be used in conjunction with David Speers (2014): All data from Manx music mss. [A Catalogue of the Clague Music Collection].

[www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20
photos/Clague%20Mus.Coll.%20Song%20
titles%20G%20B.pdf](http://www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/Clague%20Mus.Coll.%20Song%20titles%20G%20B.pdf)

to accompany photographs of the Clague Collection on: [www.manxmusic.com/bio_
page_129756.html](http://www.manxmusic.com/bio_page_129756.html)

"SAM HAGUE'S MINSTRELS"

(1883)



On Tuesday these minstrels visited the town [*ie*, Castletown]. After parading the streets with the bands, they played in the Market-place for a short time, before dispersing. On re-assembling, they started for Douglas at noon. A great many people, taking advantage of the late train from Douglas, went to witness their performance.

"[Castletown and the South] Sam Hague's Minstrels." *Isle of Man Examiner* 29 September 1883.

Sam Hague's Operatic British Minstrels (to give them their full title) were as the name makes clear a minstrel troupe, though one performing in blackface, there being no African Americans present amongst the players. Hague had owned a previous troupe, *Sam Hague's Slave Troupe of Georgia Minstrels*, who enjoyed an eighteen-year run at St James's Hall in Liverpool, one that ended in the mid-1870s when he sold the company and they returned to America. In 1881, he founded his own minstrel troupe who as seen here turned up in Castletown in 1883. These days it is a trope of Island life that a trip from Castletown to anywhere requires careful planning and an element of foresight—here, they simply took the train to Douglas.

Mitre Sessions through the years!

The Mitre session in Ramsey has been going for over 18 years!

Luckily Wendy Hurst, Bob Fennell and others have been snapping away, capturing magical musical moments every Friday night.

Below are just a few from the huge photo album on the Session Facebook page!

Give them a like, check out the photos, and join them for a tune or song on a Friday night:

www.facebook.com/pg/Friday-Traditional-Music-Session-at-The-Mitre-Ramsey-331478816960980/photos/



AEGLAGH VANNIN

Some readers may recognise themselves here as former members of Mona Douglas' youth group, Aeglach Vannin. We're sure Miss Douglas would have been very proud of the cultural achievements of her students Clare Kilgallon RBV, Annie Kissack and other members. (Thanks to S Miller for the photos)



TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

This year's Manx Folk Awards choir classes were themed around 'Year of Our Island'. The KS2 set song in English was Stewart Watterson's folk song, Livin' on my Island which was recently transcribed and arranged for choir & piano from an old recording. 180 schoolchildren singing it altogether was an impressive sound!

Download the whole score at: http://www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_524678.html as well as the KS1 set song in Manx Gaelic, S'mie Lhiam Mannin! http://www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_524689.html

Livin' on my Island

Stewart Watterson
Isle of Man, ca. 1972
(3 verses version)

Allegretto

1. I'm
2. Pa

Allegretto

3

E_b Cm E_b Cm

li - vin' on my is - land, I'm sur - round - ed by the sea I've
rad - ing forth in sum - mer - time on qui - et glist - 'ning days, My

5

E_b Cm E_b B_b

rol - lin' hills and mount - ain tops, no ci - ty life for me, A per - fect
Is - land seems to show the world its warm and sun - ny ways, With all the

CALENDAR

APRIL

3rd-8th Pan Celtic Festival, Letterkenny
14th Remembering Jonno concert, PCC
7.30pm, £10
20th – 28th Manx Music Festival (Guild)
20th Biskee Brist and Clash Vooar,
Foraging Vintners, Port Erin, 8pm FREE
20th Alaw concert (rescheduled), PCC,
8pm £14/8
21st & 22nd Cyclefest, Milintown, Ramsey
www.iomcyclefest.com
23rd Chris Gray, Amber Bar
28th A’Nish family concert, St Ninian’s
Church, 3.15pm £7/3
28th A’Nish album launch concert, Noa
Bakehouse, 8pm, £10

MAY

6th Manx Festival of Fire, Oie Voaldyn, Peel
2pm, inc. music from Clash Vooar, Bree
etc.
7th Castletown May Day celebrations,
11am
7th Laa Boaldyn May Day event with Perree
Bane, Cregneash 1-4pm (normal admission
cost)
12th Clash Vooar – Blues at the Institute,
Laxey, TBC

JUNE

16th-30th Mananan Festival, Erin Arts
Centre

JULY

5th Tynwald Day
9th - 13th Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering
Noa Bakehouse lunchtime gigs
11 – 15th Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering,
Peel
22nd Clash Vooar & other bands at Dark
Horse Festival, Silly Moos

AUGUST

3rd - 12th Festival Interceltique de Lorient -
Manx acts inc. A’Nish & Kirsty, Katie & Mark
Lawrence

SEPTEMBER

7th & 8th Our Island Our World music
festival, Peel



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

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Written and edited by Chloë Woolley for Culture Vannin
The Editor welcomes submissions but reserves the right to edit for style and space
PRESS: please feel free to pick up articles without named authors to spread the word about Manx culture