

KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU

Mee ny Nollick 2023 December & Jerree Geurey 2024 January MANX MUSIC TODAY

Harpists make lifelong memories at Irish gathering

Seven young harpists from the Manx harp ensemble Claasagh worked with some of the world's best Irish harpers and played in a mass ensemble as part of a three-day trip to Tionól Harp and Pipes 2023.

The annual gathering, hosted by Music Generation Laois, took place in Port Laois (3-5 Nov). Culture Vannin harp teacher Rachel Hair, who accompanied the teenagers, said: 'I'm so proud of what Claasagh have achieved this weekend.



'From learning new music

and performing it 24 hours later and showcasing beautifully their own music in front of over 175 musicians at the livestream concert, they represented the Isle of Man wonderfully.

'I am thrilled that they were able to experience the power and emotion that playing music together in such a large ensemble can have and I'm very grateful to both Culture Vannin and the Isle of Man Arts Council for giving them the chance to experience something that they would not be able to do at home.'

The musicians, aged 13 to 16, took part in workshops and enjoyed social events alongside their fellow 120 residential students including a talent show and a ceili, where Manx students Sophia Shimmin and Isla Mealin taught everyone the Manx dance Flitter Dance.

Saturday night saw a mass ensemble of 185 musicians that included more than 120 harpists perform together as part a livestream concert. As part of the concert, Claasagh performed a selection of Manx music that included traditional tunes and Katie Lawrence's tune Dooraght, which featured Isla's Manx dancing. The highlight of the concert saw the mass ensemble perform the world premiere of The Tionól Suite by Ernestine Healy, a piece specially written for the 10 year anniversary of Music Generation Laois.

Claasagh member and Ramsey Grammar School student Sophia Shimmin, aged 14, said: 'Tionól 2023 was an incredible experience and gave me so many lifelong memories.

In this month's edition...

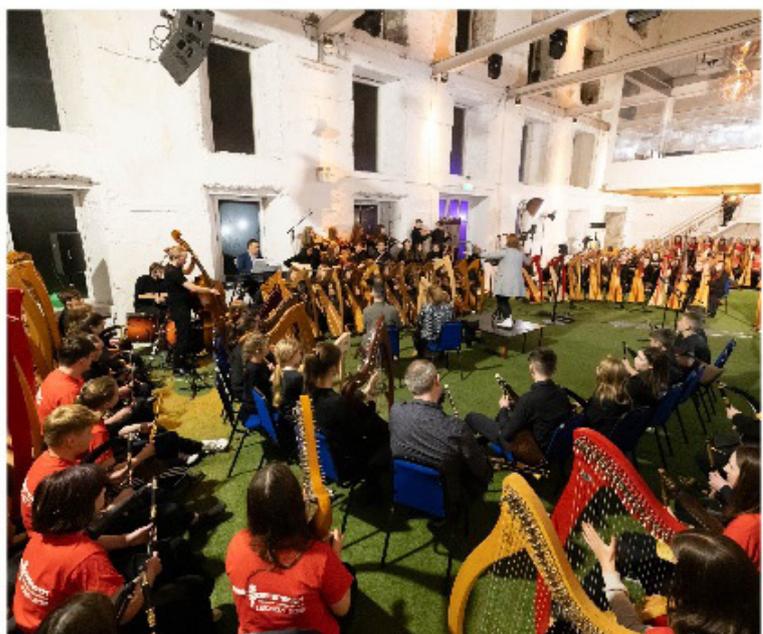
- Kegeesh Ommidjagh
- Manannan's Winterfest
- Oral history with Cliogaree Twoaie Gaelic choir



'Throughout the weekend I made lots of new friends and met the most incredible musicians. 'It was an opportunity of a lifetime to play with so many talented people who have really inspired me as a harpist.'

Rachel thanked Rosa Flannery and Siobhan Buckley of Music Generation Laois for helping organise the trip and lending the ensemble harps to use. The livestream concert can be watched for free via the Music Generation Laois Facebook page.

From the *Manx Independent* www.iomtoday.co.im/news/entertainment/making-lifelong-memories-648978



Enjoy the magic of a Manx Christmas

A variety show celebrating the island's culture and the magic of a Manx Christmas returns to the Gaiety Theatre for a sixth year. *Manannan's Winterfest*, a staple part of festivities for many families, takes place on Friday, December 8.

One of the organisers, David Kilgallon, told Island Life: 'As always the audience can expect the warmth of Christmas on stage, with songs, music, dance, drama and comedy in the hopes you leave with a winter glow.'

'It's a real celebration of our culture here on the island.'

This year's line-up features a stage full of Manx talent.

It includes, amongst others, Kirk Michael Chamber Orchestra, Platform Vocal Ensemble, Cooil Hand Fluke, Dot Tilbury and Geoff Corkish, A cast from Elf the Musical, Chris and Howard Caine, Simon Clarke and Johnny Kaighin, Eve Puzzar, Orry Wilson and Aalish Kilgallon.

David said: 'For me I think the highlights will be hearing over 50 people perform on the Gaiety stage will be something else this year.'

'Two musical numbers in particular will guarantee the hairs on the back of your next stand up.' He added: 'We're now into the sixth year and musically, this year feels different again to any other year, with hints of classical, jazz, modern and traditional genres all blending together to create one evening of unique entertainment at the Gaiety Theatre.'

Asked how rehearsals were going, David said: 'It's coming together quite well now, with a number of rehearsals under way to get everybody together and run some big numbers. 'It's always tricky to get people together all at the same time at this time of year but when we do manage it, it feels magical!'

David said they were excited to have some VIP tickets on sale for pre-show drinks in the Winterfest Bar. Enjoy a Fyn and tonic or Glashtyn rum and ginger along with a Noa mince pie, plus live music, to ease you into the spirit.

Manannan's Winterfest starts at 7.30pm on Friday, December 8.

VIP tickets cost £32 for the stalls and £35 for the circle. The stalls are £23 for adults, £17 for under 16s. Circle tickets are £27. Tickets are available from the Villa Gaiety box office on 600555, from the Welcome Centre and online at www.villagaiety.com

Original article in the Manx Independent: <https://tinyurl.com/2rppcy4z>



Enter the Arrane son Mannin contest

A reminder that the Arrane son Mannin contest is coming up soon, and entry forms need to be with the Manx delegate for the Pan-Celtic International Festival, Fiona McArdle, by 1st December, followed by the Manx lyrics, translation and sheet music by the 21st December.

There's still time to have your song translated into Manx, with pronunciation assistance available, but get in touch with Fiona ASAP to get the ball rolling.

The winner of the Arrane son Mannin on the evening of Friday 12th January 2024 receives £300... and if you go on to be successful at the **International Pan-Celtic Song Contest** in Ireland next April, there's a top prize of €1,500.

More details and entry form: <https://culturevannin.im/news/song-for-mann-805144/>
www.panceltic.ie

The Manx entry for the Pan-Celtic 2023 was Skeeal Elley, who actually won the Arrane son Mannin qualifier with their song, "Oie as Laa" back in January 2020, pre-lockdown! Photo: Valerie Caine



Skeddan Jiarg danced at the Peel Christmas lights switch-on 25.11.23

Photos: Valerie Caine & Jen Hampton

Kegeesh Ommidjagh ~ The Foolish Fortnight

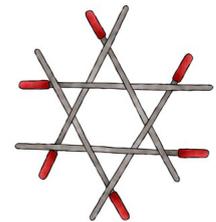
In past-times, the Christmas period was known as 'Yn Kegeesh Ommidjagh'; Manx Gaelic for 'The Foolish Fortnight'! Beginning on Black Thomas' Eve (now 21st December) and ending on the old Christmas Day or Shenn Laa Nollick (Twelfth Night, 6th January), Kegeesh Ommidjagh marked a well-earned rest from the usual hard and relentless routine. Much like today, the foolish fortnight was a time for socialising, eating, music and dancing, as well as practicing some curious customs.

CARVALS AT THE OIE'LL VERREY Although the Manx word, 'carval,' is derived from the English 'carol,' the Manx religious verses bear no relation to the jolly songs we might hear sung at Christmas services today. Traditional carvals were very earnest and serious, sometimes of up to 60 verses in length, dealing with themes such as sin, the threats of ill-living, or Biblical examples of punishments meted out to sinners.

<https://culturevannin.im/manxfolklore/oiell-verree-749403/>

THE WHITE BOYS

A key part of the Christmas period on the Isle of Man is the White Boys play (Ny Guillyn Baney). This traditional Manx 'mumming' play is not performed to any stable script, but it always includes a few key elements: saints, a fight, a death, a resurrection thanks to 'the Doctor' and a happy ending. This play has been seen on the streets of Manx towns and villages all over the Island during the Christmas period in the 19th Century and beyond. The play includes a special White Boys' Carol, and it concludes with a sword-dance which finishing with the distinctive holding aloft of the swords interlocked into a hexagon.



Ny Guillyn Baney

Learn more: <https://culturevannin.im/manxfolklore/the-white-boys-505782/>

THE MOLLAG BANDS



Possan Mollag

Perhaps the most brilliantly rowdy Christmastime tradition in the Isle of Man were the mollag bands. These groups of young lads would roam around the Isle of Man's towns making 'a rare din' with their singing, dancing and loud homemade instruments. An essential part of the tradition was the mollag (an inflated sheep's bladder, traditionally used as a buoy), with which they would hit people on the street as a part of the fun. It was unclear whether people gave them money in thanks for the entertainment or in order to get rid of them! Although they faded out (with the

encouragement of the authorities!) at the turn of the 20th Century, we are pleased to present something of their history here:

<https://culturevannin.im/manxfolklore/the-mollag-bands-559033/>

HUNT THE WREN

Hunt the Wren is one of the most interesting Manx traditions still practised on the Isle of Man today. On St. Stephen's Day (the 26th of December) communities come together across the Isle of Man to dance and sing around the streets. The practice, dating back to pre-Christian times, is centred on a wren, "the king of all birds," which is hunted and then danced through the streets on a special pole. (In case it needs stating, the bird in the wren pole today is just a replica!)



Shelg yn Dreean

More info: <https://culturevannin.im/manxfolklore/hunt-the-wren-469497/>

LAAIR VANE The Kegeesh Ommidjagh rounds off on Twelfth Night with an appearance of the Laair Vane - a white mare who would enter festive gatherings at this time and cause a ruckus as it playfully snapped its jaws at people until it was chased from the room! <https://culturevannin.im/manxfolklore/laair-vane-610609/>

BBC Radio 4 - Love Stories, The Manxman

The Manxman is the story of a love triangle that leaves a woman on the Isle of Man torn between desire and duty and facing the consequences of betrayal.

Childhood friends, fisherman Peter Quilliam and eminent lawyer Phillip Christian are both in love with Kate Cregeen. Kate loves Pete, but her father is against the match, forcing Pete to seek his fortune abroad. When false news comes of Pete's death, Kate becomes involved with Philip, but Pete's return leads to conflict - an unhappy marriage, a tussle for a child, and the creation of a fictional life.

Catherine Harvey's adaptation focuses on the heart of Thomas Hall Caine's novel [1894] - the love triangle between Kate, Philip and Pete - while drawing on the strong sense of community and legend that are present in the original novel, their story told here by a narrator played by Rakie Ayola.

Hall Caine's story mixes humour and pathos, juxtaposing the personal and the mythic. Its themes have a strong modern resonance - fate, love and loss, the guilt of betrayal, the conflict of friendship and desire, the effects of marrying the wrong man for the right reasons, and whether advancement and ambition should be pursued at any cost - ultimately suggesting that sacrifice is necessary to obtain happiness.

With a cast including several native Manx actors and partly recorded on the Isle of Man, The Manxman draws on the distinctive soundscape of the island as well as the unique accent and dialect of the island's people. Broadcast on BBC Radio 4 19/11/23

Listen again: www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001sljj

MUSICAL EXTRACTS

If Young could Swim; Mannin Veg Veen; Mylecharane; Arrane Oie Vie; Hop tu naa; Chyndaa yn Bwoailley; Car ny Rankee; Ushag Veg Ruy; Manannan Ballad; Mylecharaine's March; Arrane Oie Vie; Arrane ny Niece; Mylecharane's March; Mannin Veg Veen; O Kirree t'ou Goll; Mannin Veg Veen.

PERFORMED BY: David Kilgallon, Kiaull Manninagh, Phynnoderee, Caarjyn Coodjagh, Cairistiona Dougherty, Skeal, and The Albert Players.



David McLean MBE



Moylley as Soyley! Congratulations to Dave Mclean who was recently awarded an MBE for his services to the Island's music scene.

Watch an interview on Gef: <https://youtu.be/HxIIOhUIKeI>

The Guild syllabus is out
– pick one up in local shops
www.manxmusicfestival.org

Entries close 3rd Feb 2024

Some classes which may be of interest to Manx folk musicians and dancers:

• **A1 – Musical Composition**

£50 First Prize for both age ranges. To maintain a link with our cultural heritage, the challenge is to compose a piece of music for a maximum of five performers on any theme. Performers are required to arrange a performance of their piece which will follow the adjudication. Time limit 8 minutes. More info in the syllabus.

- **A1(a) Junior - Musical Composition (up to Year 13)**
- **A1(b) Adult – Musical Composition (18+ years old)**
- **JC6 Gaelic Choirs (up to year 6)**
- **M1 – 4 Solo songs in Manx Gaelic** [see later in KMJ for song workshops in January 2024]
- **F1 – 3 Folk song**
- **You could play Manx music in the instrumental solos and ensemble categories**
- **FD Folk dance classes for groups**



Who will be Manannan's Choice of the Year?!

RBV nominations close at 12 noon on Friday 1 December 2023.

<https://culturevannin.im/news/who-should-win-the-islands-top-award-for-manx-culture-802562/>

More info: <https://culturevannin.im/fundingawards/reih-bleaney-vanannan/>

Bee Gees' childhood home up for sale

Gibb brothers lived at St. Catherine's Drive in the late 1940s.

The childhood home of the Bee Gees is up for sale [edit: now under offer!]

For a short while, whilst very young, Barry, Robin and Maurice Gibb lived at 50, St. Catherine's Drive, Douglas - their parents having moved there in 1949. The house has a blue plaque commemorating that time >>

The three-bedroom property is on the market for £379,000.

Listing: www.garforthgray.im/douglas-st-catherines-drive-4/

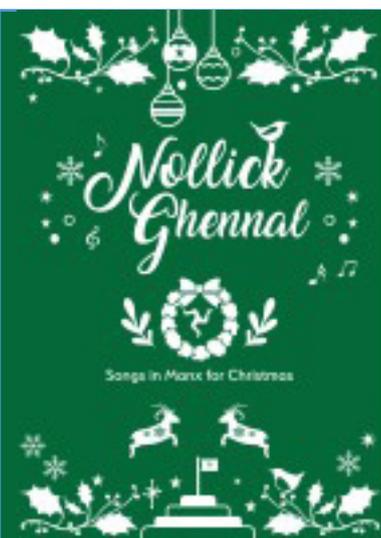
Article: www.manxradio.com/news/isle-of-man-news/bee-gees-childhood-home-up-for-sale/



Manx Christmas songs, old and new are gathered together in this very handy little *Nollick Ghennal* book, produced by Culture Vannin and available in local music and bookshops such as Bridge Bookshop, Manx Museum shops and Mannin Music.

PLUS Discover some well known and lesser known Manx tunes associated with Christmas

<https://tinyurl.com/3efwf7zh>



HUNT THE WREN ~ 26th DECEMBER

See www.culturevannin.im for updates*

PORT ST. MARY: 10am meet in the Scoill Phurt-le-Moirrey car park. Followed by a session at the Albert!

DOUGLAS: 10.15am meet (for 10.30am start) outside the Woodbourne Hotel

RAMSEY: 10.30am meet outside St Paul's Church

St. JOHN'S: 10.30am meet in the Arboretum car park

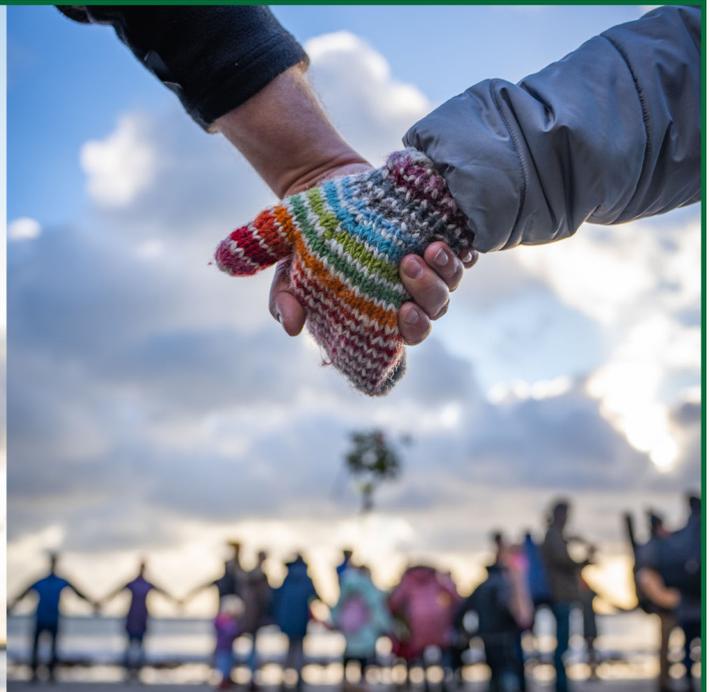
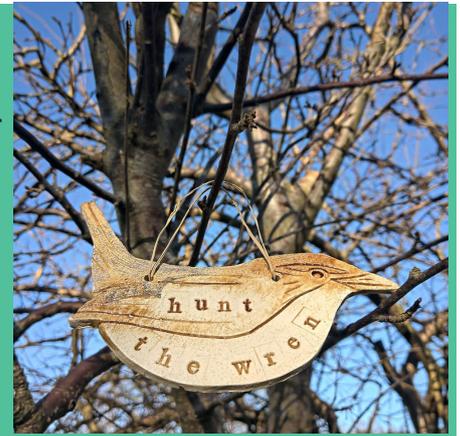
WILLASTON [TBC*]: 10.45am meet in Willaston School Car Park (opp. Manor Pub)

KIRK MICHAEL: 11am outside the Mitre pub (going on to Ballaugh)

BALLAUGH: 11.20am outside The Raven (going on to Sulby)

SULBY: 11.40am at the Sulby Glen Pub

The annual Cammag match: 2pm, St. John's, the Tynwald Fairfield ~ **The North vs the South!** To be followed by a Manx music session in the Tynwald Inn.



Brook Wassall's pics of Port St Mary HTN 2022



Arthur Caley Band presents:

Festive Ceilidh Dance

Laxey Working Men's Institute
Saturday 9th December — 7.30pm onwards

BYO Refreshments Admission only £5!

A Manx Christmas Concert

presented by
"The Northerners"

Manx gaelic choir
Cliogaree Twoaie

Manx dancers and harpists
Ny Fennee




MANNIN MUSIC
Ukulele Group

Sunday, 10th Dec 2023 - 3pm
Lezayre Church & Arts Centre
Free entry with refreshments!

NEW VENUE The Colby Inn trad session has now moved to
The George Hotel, Castletown. FRIDAYS from 8pm.

HUNT THE WREN



Join us at Castle Rushen on Saturday 2nd December from 1 - 5pm when we will be opening our mighty doors to visitors for one festive winter's day in support of Castletown's 'Lights Up Christmas' event with 3fm.

Adults £13 Children FREE

There's a 'Hunt the Wren' trail for families and opportunities to learn some key Manx festive phrases and songs just in time for Christmas. Plus Willow Wreath Workshops. More info:

<https://manxnationalheritage.im>

Bree & Scran Manx youth groups will be busking in the main foyer of Nobles Hospital at 2pm on Saturday 16th December.

Caarjyn Cooidjagh

Christmas Performances

25/11/23 - A Taste of Christmas - Dalby - SOLD OUT

02/12/23 - 2pm - Carol Singing - Tynwald Mills

10/12/23 - 3pm - Carols by Candlelight - Kirk Malew

14/12/23 - 6pm - Bunscoill Ghaelgagh Christmas - St John's fairfield

04/01/04 7:30pm - Oie'll Verree Arbory Parish Hall

Christmas Songs from the Isle of Man

CODY'S PIANO LAUNCH



02.12.23
STARTS AT 11:30AM



Cody died age 17. He was a self taught pianist, composer and artist. Songs were made whilst struggling with bipolar, from creative highs to deep downs. "My mission is to bring awareness to how it feels to live with spiralling emotions." Published posthumously. <https://codyatzori.bandcamp.com/album/whispicity>

YN CHESHAGHT
GHAILCKAGH
SHERVEISH Y NOLICK

Sun Jan 7th at 3pm
Castletown RC Church
Bowling Green Road

House of Manannan

Foyer Lunchtime

Concerts



Local musicians play Every Wednesday

Mid autumn 2023.

12.30 to 1.30pm

With the kind help of The Coffee Station.
Have some lunch and enjoy the
easy listening music.

8/11- Paul R. & Alan Hess

15/11 - Brian & Denise

22/11 - Alan Hess & Sue H.

29/11 - Alan & Chalky

6/12 - Derek & Margaid.

13/12 - Joe Russell

Saturday 2nd December, 11.30am
Soundcheck Charity presents
Cody's Piano ~ Sea Terminal
Everyone is invited to the
launch of this beautiful piano
in memory of musician Cody
Atzori who loved to play on
public pianos. His dearest wish
was for one to be available for
all on the Isle of Man & now
that wish is fulfilled.

LESH SHEE AS GRAIH

ST NINIANS CHURCH
FRIDAY 15th DECEMBER

Tickets £10 Doors 7pm

Rachel Wild's Performance Choir. Jeff Jepson. Truman Falls

SHENNAGHYS JIU

MANX CELTIC FESTIVAL

ACOUSTIC NIGHT

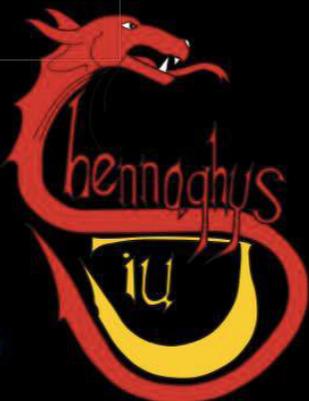
Featuring:

NY CLARSEYRYN TWAQIE
MARK LAWRENCE
MATT KELLY
MARY MOLLOY & SUE COYLE

THURSDAY 30TH
NOVEMBER

8.00 -
ADMISSION FREE

THE MITRE HOTEL,
RAMSEY



Donations on the door

MICHAEL HERITAGE
Eiraght Skylley Maayl



Social Evening

with
SHENANIGANS
BANNED

Monday, 11th December
Ebenezer Hall
7.30pm

Sandwiches etc
Mince pies
Non alcoholic fruit punch
Raffle

MEMBERS ONLY - Tickets £7

Limited places, so seats must be booked - leave a message on 878328 or michaelheritage01@gmail.com

Oie'll Verree

Old Manx Christmas
Arbory Parish Hall, Ballabeg
4th January 7.30pm

TIGGADYN

Music, Song and Fun!
Scan for tickets £8.50 (includes refreshments)
Alternatively you can email
admin@moonjerveggye.org.im

All proceeds will go to Moonjerv Veggye Charity No. 793

YOUNG SINGER OF MANN

at the
Erin Arts Centre

- + JUNIORS (7-12 YEARS)
- + SENIORS (13-18 YEARS)
- + PRIZES £150 / £100 / £50

27-28TH JANUARY 2024

APPLY ONLINE:

WWW.ERINARTSCENTRE.COM

CALL 835858 OR EMAIL HELLO@ERINARTSCENTRE.COM FOR MORE INFO



After quite some time 'at rest', the Mollag Band will play at Black Dog Fri 29th Dec assisted by Boghnid. Also, save the date of 1st March '24 for the Mollags at the Centenary Centre.

MANX VOICES

*Christmas Music from
the British Isles*

*With special guests Christine
Collister & Graham Kirkland*

*Friday 15th December 2023
at 7.30pm at St George's
Church, Douglas*

Tickets £10 inc refreshments

<< Manx Voices will be singing an arrangement by Charles Guard of *Lullaby of the Virgin Mary* and Christine Callister will be singing one of her new songs about the wise woman accused of witchcraft and killed at Slieu Whallian, St John's.

Candlelit Concert
by Ruth Keggin and Rachel Hair
Manx National Heritage

Join us for an unforgettable concert by candlelight performed by Manx Gaelic singer Ruth Keggin and Scottish harpist Rachel Hair in the intimate setting of the Presence Chamber at Castle Rushen.

This very special event takes place on Saturday 16 December and is exclusively limited to 35 tickets, which include warming festive drinks and luxury mince pies served in the interval. **!!! SOLD OUT !!!**

Possible extra date (17 Dec) tbc
<https://manxnationalheritage.im>

Perree Bane dance group are busy this Christmas. They'll be dancing on Saturday 2nd Dec 11am at Port Erin station, and visiting two residential homes in the run up to Christmas. Then all are welcome to attend their Christmas party on Sunday 17th December. From 6pm for children 6.30pm for adults. Bring a plate to share and your own drink.

Countdown to Christmas

SATURDAY 2ND
DECEMBER.

Dancing at 11am

Port Erin Station
All ages please

PIC•COLLAGE

Perree Bane
Christmas
Ceili Party

Sunday 17th
December
Ballasalla
Village Hall

6pm children
6.30pm adults

All welcome. Bring a
plate of food to share
and your own drink.

PIC•COLLAGE

Cree as Annym (Heart and Soul)

Using Manx for worship
in easy and accessible ways



LEARN MANX



Workshop: Discover simple Taizé chants in Manx

Friday 12th January,
6 – 8.30pm

Thie dy Vea retreat house, Peel
www.retreathouse.im

An opportunity to try out some of the most popular of these prayerful, peaceful and beautiful chants, in Manx. The evening will begin with a workshop led by Manx Language Development Officer Ruth Keggin-

Gell, followed by a simple tasty supper with time to chat. The evening will close with a gentle time of worship, using what we've learnt.

Free to attend. Donations to Thie dy Vea very welcomed for supper.

To book your place please email: welcome@retreathouse.im - this workshop was extremely popular last time, and there was a waiting list for places. If you'd like to come along, book early!

Traditional Manx Gaelic song workshop

led by Ruth Keggin Gell



Tar as goaill arrane ayns Gaelg!
Come and sing in Manx! All are welcome to this FREE traditional Manx Gaelic song workshop on **Saturday 13th January** from 2pm - 5pm taking place at Thie dy Vea retreat house in Peel.

No prior knowledge of Manx is necessary as this workshop is aimed at complete beginners. While the workshop is primarily aimed at adults (16+), young people aged 13-16 are welcome when accompanied by a responsible adult.

Ruth Keggin Gell will lead the workshop, guiding participants through a range of traditional Manx Gaelic songs over the course of an enjoyable and varied three hours. Songs will be taught by ear, but printed lyrics will be provided. As well as holding the position of Yn Greinneyder (Culture Vannin's Manx Language Development Officer), Ruth is a critically-acclaimed Manx Gaelic singer, and a qualified and experienced teacher.

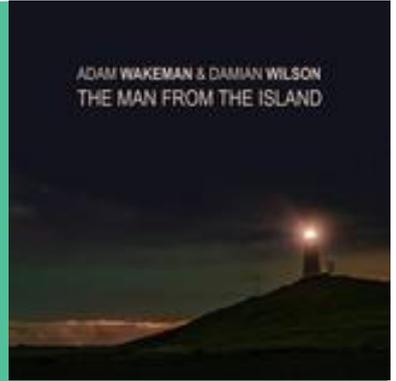
www.learnmanx.com/features/traditional-manx-gaelic-song-workshop---13th-january-2024-808588/

Eventbrite: <https://tinyurl.com/3fwu39ym>

NB. Places are already booking up fast!

THE MAN FROM THE ISLAND

Ahead of his forthcoming album with Damian Wilson in the new year, Adam Wakeman has pre-released a song written in memory of his musical mentor Anglin Buttimore, who died in 2020. Growing up in the Isle of Man and son of prog-rock legend Rick Wakeman, Adam saw local musician and sound engineer Anglin as a huge influence on his career, and he premiered the song at the Centenary Centre last year. Adam's former school friend Mandy Griffin brought together friends and members of her IOM Government Staff Choir to record the choral section at the start of the track, and you can listen to it here:



<https://youtu.be/hLPszbdfH6U?si=hgLgwg-AJpUW888s> & <https://open.spotify.com/album/6X4e9UG1ne3HKx291vSICV?si=a2mTFPueR42Mr4spl9gMQg>

Damian and Adam will release their 3rd full-length studio album 'Can We Leave The Light On Longer?' on January 12th. Pre-order here: <https://cutt.ly/LightOn>

The album, containing 10 new songs, features Damian on vocals and acoustic guitar and Adam on piano, vocals, Hammond organ, acoustic & electric guitars, bass and percussion.

Learn *Shinyn ny Deiney*

- a Christmas song about the wise men written by Annie Kissack.

Join Ruth Keggin and Chloe & Michelle from 'Hello Little People' for this fun lesson >>

<https://tinyurl.com/2rbr8mh6>



Jeff Jepson's new Christmas EP

Listeners may recognise one song in particular from this popular local singer-songwriter's new EP - Jeff was commissioned to write "The Good Night Song" for last year's Manannan's Winterfest (supported by Culture Vannin). Jeff performed it with fellow members of the cast of Once along with other singers from the show.

The song refers to Manx Christmas customs and themes from the traditional "Arrane Oie Vie" song.

Sparkle EP:

<https://jeffjepson.bandcamp.com/album/sparkle-ep>

And Jeff's Meaning Waves album:

<https://spotify.link/mLBUh8icRDb>

Ocean's Avenue

PSYCHO

(Official Music Video)

Song mixed and mastered by Ben Donaldson, Jamie McIntyre & TwoZeroNineMastering.

Video Filmed & Produced by Dario Leonetti at Studio One, Isle of Man.

<https://tinyurl.com/36zhvm6j>

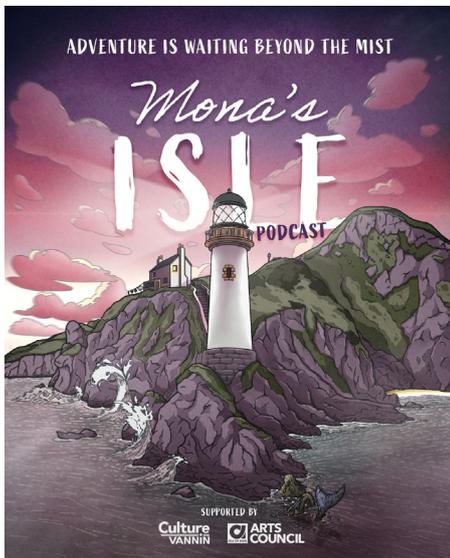
Youtube corner

Shennaghys Jiu festival in Ramsey 2010.

Spot familiar faces in these

video highlights, filmed by Bob Fennell

https://youtu.be/BWdDfVn_TZA?si=T_vEGtXhuFCSr5Pg



“The Dear Old Isle of Man” – sung by producer of ‘Mona’s Isle’ podcast, Kyle Withington with accompaniment by David Kilgallon.

Hear Kyle: <https://tinyurl.com/zn52vh5n>

And listen to the podcast so far on Spotify:

<https://monasisle.im/about>

www.instagram.com/monasisle

TOMAS CALLISTER & DAVID KILGALLON : POPULAR MANX TUNES TUNEBOOK

davidkilgallon.bandcamp.com

In perfect harmony with the holiday season, Tomas Callister

& David Kilgallon are thrilled to announce the release of the Popular Manx Tunes Tunebook.

This beautifully crafted collection of traditional Manx tunes, accompanying the highly anticipated album Popular Manx Tunes, launched earlier this year, is set to hit the shelves just in time for Christmas.

Manx music, known for its captivating melodies and cultural richness, takes centre stage in this exclusive tunebook. The Popular Manx Tunes Tunebook offers musicians and music enthusiasts an opportunity to immerse themselves in the enchanting world of Manx tradition.

Whether you’re a seasoned musician or an aspiring player, this tunebook caters to all levels. With sheet music and chord symbols for each melody, you can learn, perform, or simply savour the pure essence of Manx music from the comfort of your own home. The Popular Manx Tunes Tunebook will be available on Bandcamp and starts shipping 1st December 2023. Make sure to secure your copy and let the enchanting tunes of the Isle of Man become a part of your holiday festivities.

An online version is also available on www.soundslice.com which provides tools to help learn them in your own time. For more information, media inquiries, or to request review copies, please contact kilgallon@me.com or visit davidkilgallon.bandcamp.com

BRAID ~ new electronic music

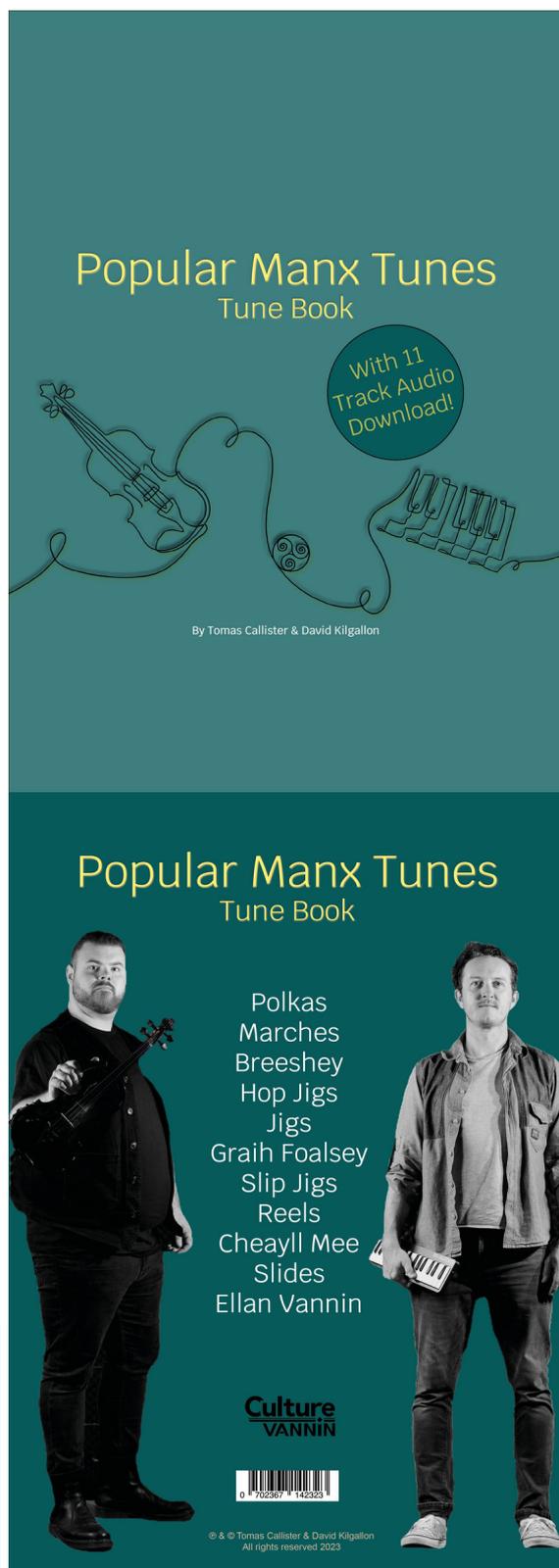
Check out these Manx titled tracks!

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

<https://braaid.im/>

BRAID

- 1 OI GRAIH MY CHREE
- 2 CHOUD'S TAIN TRAA ER-MAYRN
- 3 JEH ARGID AS JEH AIRH



Popular Manx Tunes Tune Book

With 11
Track Audio
Download!

By Tomas Callister & David Kilgallon

Popular Manx Tunes Tune Book

Polkas
Marches
Breeshey
Hop Jigs
Jigs
Graih Foalsey
Slip Jigs
Reels
Cheayll Mee
Slides
Ellan Vannin

Culture
VANNIN



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NOLICK GHENNAL!! Caarjyn Coojdjagh's **Carval Chreneash** album has been released for free... on Spotify, Apple Music, Tidal and other streaming services. Enjoy this Christmas gift from the choir!

Spotify: <https://tinyurl.com/4edx8t87>

Apple Music: <https://tinyurl.com/59phvj3t>



LOVE MANX have released a new song and advert to promote buying local this Christmas!

Video created by *Hello Little People*

Here's to another Year!

Written by Chloe Shimmin and David Kilgallon

Filmed and edited by 9-TEN Media Group

Watch: <https://tinyurl.com/3k2p8d2v>

www.facebook.com/lovelmanx.im

<< Isla Callister's band **HEISK** have a new album coming out very soon!!

The album will be available from the 26th of Jan after the launch gig at Celtic Connections, but in the meantime you can preorder your copy on CD or VINYL.

www.heisk.co.uk

**2121:
A Film by Kitterland
Erin Arts Centre, Port Erin
Sun 17th December**

Adults £5

The 21st May falls on the 21st week of the year. In the course of that week the sun sets at 21 minutes past the 21st hour.

Kitterland is a musical project between Tibor Miklos and Joff Whitten. They create live, improvised music using analogue synths, looping pedals, guitars and voice. Their music has been described as sitting somewhere between Pink Floyd and Boards of Canada. Kitterland have been working with film maker Anthony Dalton on creating films of immersive cinema.

We will be screening their first release, 2121: A film which combines abstracted images of the island with a live performance recorded in the Sound Café on the 21st May. The music was performed over a 2 hour live session. Nothing was prepared in advance, the musicians responded to the views from the café and the changing light in the space as the sun gradually set.

The experience of watching the film is hoped to be peaceful, calm and slowly evolving – perfect for a Sunday winter night just before Christmas!

The film is 40 mins long and the makers will be happy to talk and take questions about their project after the screening.

The film was kindly supported by Isle of Man Arts Council.

Tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/bdhh3af9>



Kitterland

2121

Film screening

Kitterland present their film '2121', a live recording of an improvised performance set against views of the island from sea to river, to forest and field.

17th Dec 2023
7.30pm

Erin Arts Centre
Tickets £5.00

www.ticketsource.co.uk/erinartscentre
The Erin Arts Centre is a registered IOM Charity 2384. Erin Arts Centre, Victoria Square, Port Erin, IM9 6LD
01624 839858 / hello@erinartscentre.com

ISLE OF MAN ARTS COUNCIL



In 1824, Sir William Hillary of the Isle of Man founded what was to become the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLi). In 2024, this lauded and loved institution will be celebrating 200 illustrious years of Saving Lives at Sea.

As a Manx producer The Fynoderee Distillery are delighted to have a fundraising partnership with the RNLi and have launched a Coastal Collection of Spirits to mark the 200th anniversary. **WATCH** a video showing the journey from Ramsey to Douglas by electric tram and horse tram and by tractor to the Tower of Refuge, to the accompaniment of "Irree ny Greiney" by Bob Carswell & recorded by Barrule.

WATCH: <https://tinyurl.com/55hwpd9w>

Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea

Flying the flag for Manx dance 'down under'

Manx dance heritage was on show in Queensland, Australia last month as part of the celebrations for the installation of the Celtic Nations Standing Stones in Brisbane.



The Manx Dancers of Brisbane performed at the ceremony which was organised by the Celtic Council of Australia. The organisation has a wide repertoire of traditional Manx dances and appears at a variety of Celtic events in Australia.

The Standing Stones project was initiated by The Celtic Council of Australia as a national monument to honour all Celtic peoples who helped pioneer Australia. The first place to take up the idea was the town of Glen Innes in New South Wales, with stones dedicated in 1992.

Photo: *Anglo & Celtic Australia*

NA TRADS ~ MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards

Good luck on Saturday the 2nd December to the following Manx (or adopted Manx!!) musicians:

Harp teacher Rachel Hair, who has been nominated in the 'Music Tutor of the Year'; Isla Callister's band TRIP who are in the 'Folk band of the year' category; & Tom Callister and Adam Rhodes' band Ìmar whose album "Awakening" has been nominated as album of the year.

Voting has now closed, and the Isle of Man is crossing its fingers for you all! Tune in to BBC Alba: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001t41n>



ISLE OF MAN ON CBS NEWS

American TV show 60 Minutes recently aired an episode all about the Isle of Man ~ “home to the world's most dangerous motorcycle race”.

During the programme, Yn Greinneyder and Manx Gaelic singer Ruth Keggin sang “Graith Foalsey” (False Love) for presenter, Bill Whitaker.

60 Minutes - CBS News

WATCH 4'50” <https://tinyurl.com/yckecdm7>

CELTIC CONNECTIONS

The Manxies will be flying the flag at Glasgow's Celtic Connections in January 2024.

The international Celtic Odyssee will feature Manx singer Ruth Keggin, and there are some top gigs for Manx instrumentalists Isla Callister (who is a member of TRIP & Heisk), Mec Lir, and Daniel Quayle & Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe! >>

TRIP: <https://tinyurl.com/pzjsnc3r>

Celtic Odyssee: <https://tinyurl.com/yahrae6y>

Mec Lir: <https://tinyurl.com/yx7nj7ew>

Heisk: <https://tinyurl.com/4asfzerz>

Elizabeth and Daniel: <https://tinyurl.com/bdd9zxzy>



www.celticconnections.com/what-s-on/calendar/

Isle of Man theatre group stun Americans with belting musical rendition on board ship

'We were welcomed with open arms with so much fuss'.

Members of Cloideryn Northern Theatre were welcomed with open arms as they joined the Maritime Museum of San Diego's celebrations of the 160th anniversary of the launch of Star of India.

The ship was built and launched from Ramsey Shipyard in November 1863 as Euterpe and is the world's oldest active sailing ship.

The theatre group was invited to travel to California to take part in the celebration after staging a musical about the history of the ship, written by Cloideryn founder and director Heather Ruffino and Marilyn Cannell, last year. Delegates from the museum, including its president, Dr Ray Ashley, were in the audience for one of the performances.



Heather told Island Life: 'We were welcomed with open arms with so much fuss because we were from Ramsey where the Star of India was built.'

'We were on local TV and CBS, we sang on board the Star during sailing, we sang in dock, we sang on the quayside, we sang on the tour trolleybuses and even on the USS Midway aircraft carrier.'

Captain Chris Wood, of Offshore Marine Services, was one of the members who took part in the trip. 'To sail out into the Pacific aboard this beautiful ship has been the most emotional event of a 47-year seagoing career,' he said.

'We're incredibly proud of her Manx history, yet to feel her come alive, sails full, moving to a Pacific swell, with the passion of her crew and the reality of the hardships and glory of that life at sea, was beyond any expectation, very personal, yet embraced all. Basically I'm still stunned by the experience.' He added: 'Their pride in being home to a United States National Monument, the SV Star of India, built in Ramsey, is awesome.'

Heather said she thought there needed to be more awareness in the Isle of Man of 'how famous this ship is and what a gem of Manx history we have for our little town of Ramsey'.

'Just to give you an idea we heard a saying that the Star of India is to San Diego and California what the Eiffel Tower is to Paris and France,' she said.

The Cloideryn members who visited San Diego are part of its singing group. Heather said: 'We decided to give it a name in honour of this 160th celebration and the hard work by all the volunteers who look after the Star so we named our singing group The Star Shanty Singers and we will be about singing during the Christmas season.'

Star of India is the main attraction at the maritime museum. Launched five days before Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, she sailed 21 times around the world.

Original article: <https://tinyurl.com/4uaw8jas>

See TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH for one of the songs from the musical



Lorient Interceltic Festival 2023 | Culture Vannin | Isle of Man

Photographs of the Manx delegation at the Festival Interceltique Lorient just released.

The Breton festival was attended in-person by 900,000 people in August this year (equivalent to over ten times the population of the Isle of Man!), with millions more watching it on television all over France and beyond. These photographs are all posted here courtesy of Festival Interceltique de Lorient, the Manx delegation at the festival, Sarah Callow, James Kitto and members of Skeddan Jiarg.

<https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/imagearchive/lorient-interceltic-festival-2023/>

Festival Interceltique de Lorient have also released a short video of the 2023 highlights - catch quick glimpses of Skeddan Jiarg dancing in the Stadium finale, and artwork by Manx artists Jo Davies and Beth Louella:

<https://youtu.be/dDhxt0a9lCw?si=Hk7KRleLqOma-j1H>



RESEARCH NEWS

ORAL HISTORY RECORDING WITH CLIOGAREE TWOAIE

A conversation with five members of Cliogaree Twoaie, about the Manx choir's 40-year history and some of their interesting experiences along the way.

Founded in 1983 as an impromptu choir to perform alongside Bock Yuan Fannee at a concert for visitors in Douglas, the group of friends enjoyed themselves enough to build on their success and more officially form the group. Upon entering the Manx Music, Speech & Dance Festival (the Guild), they found themselves in need of a name, and 'Cliogaree Twoaie' (Northern Croakers) was created.

After the 1986 Manx Heritage Year performance at the Festival of Folk Dance organised by Sleih gyn Thie in Port Erin, the group soon found themselves on the circuit of inter-Celtic festivals, with trips to Lorient, Lowender Peran in Cornwall, the Dublin Celtic Congress, Islay, the Isles of Scilly and elsewhere.

Clare Kilgallon RBV, Margaid Bird, Rosemary Speers, Kirsten Wafer & David Kilgallon share

memories which span the entire period of the choir's history, touching on some of the following subjects: the founding of the group, rehearsals and Christmas performances, their choice to perform solely in Manx Gaelic, Ny Riftanyn, Mona Douglas and Colin Jerry, their repertoire and recordings, and their decision to disband after four decades, leaving a lasting legacy for those who follow [Recorded 22 Nov 2023]

<https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/oralhistory/-cliogaree-twoaie-807764/>

Listen to Cliogaree Twoaie: <https://culturevannin.im/resources/cliogaree-twoaie-807809/>



MANX CARVALS ~ Claire Clennell

LISTEN: Here is an iMuseum Sound Archive recording of a 1975 Manx Radio programme featuring Claire Clennell talking to David Callister about her recording of Manx carvals. Claire speaks about the carvals and previous translations from the Manx and how she prefers literal translations. Douglas Faragher translated the carvals into English for her with these English translations included in a booklet with the record. The music for her records came from W.H. Gill's collections. They discuss the content and meaning of the carvals and how the carvals are unique to the Isle of Man. Some carvals from her record are played: www.imuseum.im/search/collections/archive/mnh-museum-430898.html

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE CARVAL TRADITION

<https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/videos/oiell-verree--the-manx-carval-tradition-749371/>



DERBY CASTLE, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.

Now 'Strictly' [Come Dancing] season is underway, here's some original dance hall glamour at Derby Castle Ballroom. The late 19th century saw an explosion of entertainment venues in Douglas - this included the Derby Castle, which was situated at the north end of Douglas Bay. Music publisher and 'king of the song-pluggers' Bert Feldman declared Douglas "the home of popular music" in the early 20th century. It's widely claimed Bert's hit song "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" was first sung at Derby Castle Ballroom by Florrie Ford during the summer season of 1913. It went on to become the most famous marching song of the First World War. During the First World War the Derby Castle Ballroom was used as a factory to produce garments and airship ballonets. In the Second World War the ballroom was used to store carpets and floor coverings, on behalf of seafront hotels and guesthouses used as internment camps.

This print is from the National Collections on iMuseum (ref. P.2757) and also on display in 'By Design' - a new colourful wall of recently digitised prints and posters from the Manx National Heritage collections at the Manx Museum: <https://bit.ly/3SSdboO>.

Follow MNH: www.facebook.com/manxnationalheritage

LAA'L CATREENEY

One of the Isle of Man's most odd traditions once took place on Laa'l Catreeney (St. Catherine's Day) on the 6th of December. Involving a mock funeral of a hen with a traditional song, followed by a dinner from the hen's body and the drinking of much 'jough,' the tradition is at the same time both humorous and deeply sinister.



This is perhaps well shown in the song, Kiark Catreeney Marroo:

Catherine's hen is dead,
You take the head
And I'll take the feet,
And we'll put her under the ground.

Learn more: <https://culturevannin.im/manxfolklore/laal-catreeney-503817/>

Here are a few versions of this song to listen to or play:

Pete Lumb teaches it on guitar: https://youtu.be/6tFTTCxEQOo?si=h_JAe9X1azciJeuC

An arrangement by Frank Woolley for 3 or 4 pianists on one piano! [might be handy for the new piano ensemble class in the Guild!] www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_629599.html

Hear Caarjyn Coodjagh sing it:

<https://caarjyncoodjagh.bandcamp.com/track/kiark-catreeney-marroo>

THE DANCES - Excerpt from '*...while the others did some capers: the Manx Traditional Dance revival 1929 to 1960*' by Cinzia Curtis:

2. The Leighton Stowell Book of Manx Dances

2.9 Gorse Sticks or Brasnagyn Aittin

Once again this dance was composed by Stowell based on a poem; this time inspired by meeting a man on Spanish head collecting 'Gorse bons'. Stowell describes Gorse bons as four pieces of gorse tied together, reportedly called a 'kiare' after the four gospel writers (MNHL 09683), although kiare is simply Manx for four. Stowell wanted to write a solo dance for Tony Archibald and so decided to use the poem as a port y beayll, although it meant a tune in $\frac{3}{4}$ time which was difficult to write a dance to as all Manx steps have four beats in them. Stowell altered the steps accordingly, took the stick motifs from Myelcharane's March and used Gorse sticks to match with the poem and composed a dance, to be performed to the singing of Stowell's daughter, Aileen Hall (Stowell: 1972). The dance was published with its port y beayll in Leighton Stowell Book of Manx Dances in 1981 with a note stating that the sticks should be painted red. The dance is popular today as a solo dance for men, although plain sticks are now used, always gorse where possible.



READ THE FULL THESIS:

www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/MANX%20DANCE%20THESIS%20Cinzia%20Curtis%202006.pdf

Photo: Fraser McKenna dancing Gorse Stick at the Manx folk Awards 2023

Watch: <https://youtu.be/K4GixpJzufc?si=EGM7-ksOLY8YttsC>

Rushen Silver Band

origins and early history

by Maurice Powell

Rushen Silver Band is one of the Island's comparatively young bands - both Ramsey and Laxey bands can trace their origins back to the 1840s - and has its roots in the Surby village band,* which, in its earliest form, was founded in 1926, by 'a group of lads' who played six concertinas and kettle drums to entertain the villagers. Two references to the band may be found in the local newspapers, in December 1927** when they played 'collections of Christmas music' at the annual tea and concert of the Mona Rushen Juvenile Rechabite Tent*** on Tuesday 27th December, and in April 1928 in connection with the final social gathering of the Ballafesson Wesley Guild for the session on Tuesday 10th April. 'A good programme was provided (including) selections from Surby Band'.

* Surby is situated between Ballafesson and Fleshwick Bay in the Parish of Rushen which includes the larger communities of Port St. Mary and Port Erin.

** *Isle of Man Examiner* 30.12.27, and *Isle of Man Examiner* 13.04.28.

*** The Independent order of Rechabites (the Sons and Daughters of Recab, 'who drink no wine'), a Friendly Society and part of the wider Temperance movement, was founded in Salford in 1935. Individual groups were known as Tents, and the first Tent on the Island was founded in Douglas on 25th July 1836.

In this form the band lasted until around 1932.* In 1937 James and Thomas Clague re-formed the band, which by that time consisted of mouth organs (harmonicas) in addition to concertinas and a drum and numbered some eighteen members of which only two could read music. Twenty 1s harmonicas were purchased and practices began in J. Clague's home. The band soon began giving performances of carols and earned £16 in their first year. As the *Isle of Man Examiner* reported in January 1938: '... the Surby Band ... are an accomplished group of young musicians who have banded themselves together under the leadership of Mr. Tom Clague and have excellent results'.

* For the story of Rushen Silver Band up to the present day see John Kinleys' excellent article on the band's website at rushensilverband.org.im, which includes an excellent gallery of photographs of the band over the past eighty years or so.

From this time references to Surby Band in the local newspapers become more numerous and yield a little more information about the band's activities. A regular fixture was the band's attendance at the Ballafesson Wesley Guild social evenings, such as the event in January 1938, when a selection of vocal solos and duets, violin duets, mouth organ solos by Mr. J. Clague, and selections from the band were given. The *Examiner*'s report of the occasion* names the band members: Messrs Mr. T Clague, J. Clague, Alfred Clague, H. Watterson, K. Merrifield, Mark Kinley, H. Kinley, M. Kinley, B. Cregeen and K. Collister. Less than a month later the band of fifteen players led by Mr. James Clague was present at another Ballafesson Wesley Guild social together with the Junior Guilders who performed a selection of choruses.

* *Isle of Man Examiner* 21.01.38.

The first reported concert given by Surby Band in its own right took place on Thursday 31st March 1938* in St. Catherine's Hall, Port Erin, under the leadership of Mr. James Clague. What was billed as 'A GRAND CONCERT' commenced at 7.30 pm; admission was 9d, but sadly no details of the programme have survived. On Sunday afternoon 31st July the band gave a concert in Happy Valley, Port St. Mary, to raise funds for Ballafesson Children's Holiday Home which yielded £3 5s. We learn a little more about the 'successful Grand Concert with an excellent programme and a good attendance' which took place at the Level Hall, Colby, on Wednesday 26th October.** The band 'gave a number of items in fine style' conducted by Mr. James Clague and Mr. Thomas Clague'. The programme also included pieces for guitar, a duet for mandolin and guitar, accordion quartets, an accordion solo, recitations and mouth organ pieces played by William (Billy) Cregeen and others.

* Isle of Man Examiner 25.03.38.

** *Isle of Man Examiner* 21.10.38.

The last reference to the band's activities in 1938 appeared in the *Isle of Man Examiner* on 9th December: 'Surby Band, conducted by Thomas Clague, are making a round of the houses in the Rushen district and are continuing up to Christmas' to raise funds for Noble's Hospital. 'As a result of serenading by the Surby Band the sum of £8 was handed over to Noble's Hospital' which constituted one half of the entire collection.

The last year of peace in Europe until 1945 began for the band with its attendance at the Mount Tabor School on 9th February for the Port St. Mary Band of Hope 'Bright Hour' when they played 'musical selections' which were '. . . greatly enjoyed by the congregation'. The final winter session meeting of the Band of Hope took place in March and featured two selections by the Surby Band, and a new feature in the band's programmes, a number novelty 'impromptu contributions' including 'duets on combs'.*

* *Isle of Man Examiner* 04.02.1939.

This is article will continue in the next KMJ and be available in full on manxmusic.com soon

"WITH A BIT OF A SONG AT HER!"

Me oul' gran'mother was always goin' to do the milkin' with a bit of a song at her! There was wonderful singin' goin' in them days. The women would be goin' to milk in the winter on the edge o' dark, and they'd be singin' as they were goin' over the street. There was four girls at Kinnish, Baldhoon, an' if they were all to me cowhouse milkin', man, the fine concert there'd be! Cowleys ones over in the Cronk Mooar wouldn' be goin' to milk till eleven o'clock of a night, but they'd all be singin' too. The place was full of singin'! It was that in the oul' days!

MNHL, MANX FOLK LIFE SURVEY, KM G/I. William Kermode, Baldhoon, Lonan. Collector: I.M. Killip (undated, but "around 1950s").

William Kermode's reminiscence here is a reminder of the occasions when songs were sung and were to be heard, namely when at work. Milking was a daily and repetitive but monotonous task, lightened by singing whilst doing so.

Stephen Miller, RBV



Cathedral
Isle of Man

Join us for

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

DATE: 10 DEC
at
3.00pm

VENUE: PEEL
METHODIST
CHAPEL

For more info:
www.cathedral.im

Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Peel, Isle of Man decorated for Christmas, ca. 1900 - the venue for this year's Cathedral Isle of Man's Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on the 10th December at 3pm.

<<

photo: www.imuseum.im

“THE YOUNG PEOPLE AND OTHERS BROUGHT CANDLES WITH THEM” (1848)

The ordinary list of causes was unusually lengthy, and it appeared the Court was held principally for the hearing of causes connected with the estate of the late John Kelly, of that town, merchant. Several orders were granted by his Worship against parties. Many causes stood continued, and a few were contested by the defendants.

THE CHURCH V. THE DISSENTERS

The case of *Qualtrough v. Moore* occupied the attention of the Court, this being the second day, and terminated in favour of the defendant.

This suit was instituted by the Vicar of Lonan against a parishioner named Moore, for the amount of his Easter offerings,—some few pence for bread and wine!

For the defendant, it was argued, that he was a Dissenter, and did not frequent his church, nor partake of the articles charged for; that he was a member of the Primitive Methodist Society, and had been so during the last nine years, and communed with the members of that Society.

A correspondent, under date January 12, says—

“The defendant is a Primitive Methodist, and claimed exemption on the ground that he never took the Sacrament at church, and that the minister of the parish got all the bread and wine at the expense of the parish. This was produced by one of the church wardens; and that nine shillings or more was paid for bread last Easter. The clerk of the church proved that the money was paid to one of the wardens; but upon cross-examination said it was paid the week before; and that he had bought candles with part of it for Christmas Eve service, and the rest he had for cleaning the church, &c. The warden before stated that he had brought sufficient from Douglas for the occasion; and the Vicar informed the warden that he had no occasion to purchase candles, as it was the custom that the young people and others brought candles with them.

I understood the Vicar-General decided in favour of the defendant, as the law was plain in his favour. So much in favour of Deemsters. It is plain, by this, that those who do not take the Sacrament at church are exempt. The bill for the last year for wine is £3. I may safely say, three dozen communicants is above the average for the year, at the parish church. I was told by one that took the Sacrament at Christmas, that the number was twenty-four, and by another it was said to be nineteen, and the minister and clerk. Who must we blame for all this willful waste, and so many poor in the parish in woeful want.

Mr Moore was church warden ten or twelve years since, and he wished to cause a reform in that case, and bought two or three bottles of wine and sufficient bread, but the rev. gentleman would not take them; they locked them up in the poor-box, in the vestry, till the next time, but when they opened the box the bottles were broken.”

“[Law Intelligence] Vicar General’ Court, Ramsey, January, 7.” *Mona’s Herald* 19 January 1848: [3]d.

As ever, this was found by serendipity, ever that helpmate to research. Only the surname of the defendant is given—Moore—but he was successful in his refusal to pay the Easter Offerings due to him being a Methodist and not attending the services of the Church of England. Few others were present, judging from the number of communicants noted in the piece. The interest here, however, is the mention of the Oie’l Verrey, and the purchase of candles “for Christmas Eve service,” that was deemed unnecessary, “as it was the custom that the young people and others brought candles with them.”

Stephen Miller, RBV



An account of a Manx concert in Agneash in 1899.

This tiny chapel & exhibition above Laxey welcomes visitors all year round - you can even make yourself a cuppa in there! >>

Publication: *Mona's Herald*; Date: 22 Nov 1899; Section: None; P.

MANX CONCERT AT AGNEASH.

On Thursday evening an entertainment of an exceptionally novel and interesting character took place, under the auspices of the Manx class, at Agneash, Lonan, in a large barn kindly lent for the occasion by Mr Clague, Ballacregga. The affair proved an unqualified success. The audience, which numbered about 200, and included both young and old, grave and gay, was drawn from every part of the parish. A "flock of mob-beg" from the Glen also graced the proceedings with their presence, but their behaviour did not, on the whole, cause serious annoyance. Mr Wm. Kermeen presided, while Mr H. Jane acted as musical conductor, and Miss A. Clague (Agneash) as accompanist.

The programme, which comprised some twenty items, opened with a hymn by the choir. This was succeeded by a short but pointed address in Manx by the Chairman, who by the way also used the vernacular in introducing to the meeting the subsequent performances in the programme. Then followed the glee, "O gently breathe," by the choir. Mr K. Kissack next recited in good style the Manx version of the "Prodigal son," Mr R. Corkill following with a creditable rendering of the song, "When you and I were young, Maggie." Mr James Kewley read with effect the 20th chapter of Romans in the native dialect, after which the choir rendered "The village blacksmith." The style in which Mr R. Kissack sang the "Manx wedding"

kaull manninagh jiu 12/23 & 01/24 culture vannin

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

Song of the Fishermen is one of the songs from Cloderyn's musical, The Star of India. Members of the theatre group recently visited San Diego, USA to perform some of the songs on the ship, which was built in Ramsey, Isle of Man, 160 years ago.

Bree students recently learnt the song as part of the Big Bree Workshop Weekend and you can hear it here: <https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/videos/bree-weekend-2023-803426/> [10'10"]

Song of the Fishermen

From the musical -
"Star of India"

Music by Marilyn Cannell
Lyrics by Heather Ruffino

Heave ho, a - way my lads, it's

7 time for us to sail.____ Time to chase the her - ring quick, and beat the com - ing

12 gale.____ Haul the ropes and grasp the nets, and hope that they will be full. And

17 as we work, we hear a - loft each ev - er hope - ful gull.____

21 Heave ho, a - way my lads, it's time for us to sail.____

25 Time to chase the her - ring quick, and beat the com - ing gale.____

29 Heave ho, a - way my lads. Time for us to set sail.

Discover all of the *Transcriptions of the Month* songs & tunes here:
www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_467456.html

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

30 Shennaghys Jiu Acoustic Night, The Mitre Hotel, Ramsey, 8pm, free

DECEMBER

2 Cody's piano launch, Sea Terminal, 11.30am

2 Perree Bane at Port Erin Train Station, 11am

2 Caarjyn Coidjagh singing Tynwald Mills, 2pm

3 IOM Symphony Orchestra, Villa Marina, 2.30pm, villagaiety.com

8 Manannan's Winterfest, Gaiety, 7.30pm

9 Festive Ceilidh Dance, The Institute, Laxey, 7.30pm £5

9 Manx Youth Orchestra Festive Concert, Villa Marina 7.30pm

10 Cliogaree Twoaie, Ny Fennee & Mannin Music Ukuleles in concert, Lezayre Church and Arts Centre, Free

10 Carols by Candlelight with Caarjyn Coidjagh, Malew Church, 3pm

11 Michael Heritage Social Evening, Ebenezer Hall, 7.30pm, £7

14 Tynwald Carol Service, St George's Church, Douglas, 1.10pm

14 Bunscoil Ghaelgagh Carol Service, St Johns Fairfield, 6pm

15 Lesh Shee as Graih concert, St Ninian's Church, Douglas, 7pm, £10

15 Christmas Music from the British Isles, St George's Church, 7.30pm, £10

16 Bree & Scran busk, Nobles Hospital, 2pm

16 SOLD OUT Candlelit Concert with Ruth Keggins & Rachel Hair, 17 Dec - possible extra date TBC <https://manxnationalheritage.im/>

17 Cliogaree Twoaie carol singing, meet Ramsey Garden Centre

17 Perree Bane Christmas Party, Ballasalla Village Hall, 6pm

17 2121: A film, Erin Arts Centre, 7.30pm, £5

26 HUNT THE WREN - Island-wide!!

29 Mollag Band & Boghnid, Black Dog Oven

30 Youth trad session details TBC

30 Concert - Palestine Aid details TBC

JANUARY 2024 ~ Blein Vie Noa!

2 Illiam Dhone ceremony & session, 2pm, Hango Hill, Castletown [Mec Vannin]

4 Oie'll Verree organised by Mooijer Veggey, Arbory Parish Hall, Ballabeg,, 7.30pm £8.50 tickets <https://tinyurl.com/bdmkyufe>

7 Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh Sherveish y Nollick, Castletown RC Church, 3pm

12 Taizé chants in Manx songs, Thie ny Veal, Peel, 6pm welcomer@retreathouse.im

12 Arrane son Mannin - Song for Mannin ~ concert and competition, Peel

13 Manx Gaelic song workshop, Thie ny Veal, Peel, 2pm www.learnmanx.com

18 Jan - 4 Feb 2024 Celtic Connections

27-28 Young Singer of Mann, Erin Arts Centre

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 Trad Session at O'Donnell's, Douglas

THURS 8pm Singing session at R.A.O.B. (Buffs) Club, Ramsey

FRI 8.30pm Trad session at The Mitre, Ramsey

FRI 8pm Trad session at The George Hotel, Castletown

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

First **SUN** of month 1-4 Trad session in Laxey Sailing Club

Third **SUN** of month 1-4 Trad session in The Mitre, Kirk Michael

Stay up to date: www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan

~ SESSIONS ~

culture vannin

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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