

GLASHTIN win Arrane son Mannin 2016!

A full house enjoyed a great evening's Manx entertainment for the 11th Arrane son Mannin in Peel [9th January 2016]. The New Song Competition in Manx attracted two contrasting entries, from Glashtyn and Adhene, round which there was Manx music, song, dance and recitation.

The evening began with music from Tree Cassyn Vannin (actually Daa Chass Vannin as there were two), Isla Callister-Wafer, fiddle, and Paul Rogers, guitar, which got the evening off to a rousing start. They were followed by John Kilgallon dancing Gorse Sticks and dancers from Skeddán Jiarg, a new Manx dance group for adults and children formed by Grainne Joughin and based in Peel, with musicians for the event, David Kilgallon and Cinzia Yates.

Clogaree Twoaie, the long established north based Manx Gaelic choir, performed the first part of their set and then Bob Carswell stepped out of his comfort Gaelic zone into an English and dialect performance to great applause. Marlene Hendy and Dilys Sowrey, who have recently released a CD 'Fy-Yerrey' made a sparkling end to the first part of the concert.

Three adjudicators, James Harrison, Dot Saunders and David Kilgallon, then made ready for the competition entries, the winning one of which goes to the International Pan-Celtic concert in Carlow, Ireland to perform against the top songs from the other Celtic nations on 31st March in Easter week. The song can be in any genre but must be newly composed and performed in the native language of the country.

First came Glashtyn, a six piece band, whose vibrant, foot tapping entry 'Pynt dy Lhune' (A Pint of Ale), written and sung by Andy North, with Manx lyrics by Paul Rogers, was an instant hit with the audience. It was followed by Adhene whose lovely tune 'Awin Auldyn' (Auldyn River) was written by Paul Cringle, a great guitarist who has been on the local folk scene for many years, with English words by Wendy Hurst, translated into Manx by Fiona McArdle, and sung by Margaid Bird.

This year the new song to go forward to Ireland will be 'Pynt dy Lhune' by Glashtyn and they received the £300 prize money, sponsored by Culture Vannin, from Dot Saunders, who was also happy to announce that 'Awin Auldyn' by Adhene qualified for a Pan-Celtic prize of £50 to enter the competition in Ireland for a new song in traditional style, and this year they will also be going to represent Mann in Carlow. Glashtyn played their winning song again, this time with many of the audience dancing along enthusiastically.

The second part of the concert began in great style with Owen Williams, accordion, accompanied by Paul Rogers, guitar, followed by a set of song and guitar from Adhene. Ruth Keggan and Sarah Hendy's beautiful duets, some accompanied by David Kilgallon on keyboard, held the audience's rapt attention, while Clogaree Twoaie gave a spirited finale to the evening, singing three of their favourite songs.

The event was free, thanks to sponsorship from Culture Vannin and all the performers who gave freely of their time and talents to make it a memorable evening. Gura mie mooar eu.

REPORT by Fiona McArdle, Pan-Celtic International Council (Mannin Branch)

For more information on this year's Pan-Celtic Festival in Carlow: www.pancectic.ie

www.iomtoday.co.im/news/isle-of-man-news/song-dedicated-to-pint-of-ale-is-a-winner-1-7674922#ixzz3xauXwhfR



In this month's edition...

- *Manx music & dance over the sea!*
- *New adult improvers session*
- *'Song' by Madeline Kelly*

Culture
VANNIN



Photos of Arrane son Mannin & Manx concert by Bob Fennell

Greenshoots trad music session

Thursday evenings

in the Deemster's Bar, Green's in St Johns

starting 4th Feb 2016



7.30pm - an opportunity for 'Greenshoots' adult improvers to work on Manx tunes at a steady pace

[initial 6 weeks with tutor supported by Culture Vannin]

8.30pm - trad music session

*All welcome to come along
and play, sing or listen!*

For more info: manxmusic@culturevannin.im
painting by Heather Hall

**Culture
VANNIN**

Hone your skills and learn some tunes at the new **GREENSHOOTS** session!

A new traditional music session dubbed 'Greenshoots' is starting in the Deemster's Bar at Green's Kitchen & Tearoom in St Johns this week. Starting on the 4th February, it will take place weekly on Thursday evenings.

The 'Greenshoots' part of the evening will start at 7.30pm and this will be an informal opportunity for adult improvers to learn and work on some Manx tunes at a steady pace.

With the support of Culture Vannin, the first 6 weeks will be led by Dr Cinzia Yates who is a well known whistle player, singer and Manx dancer.

Then from 8.30pm, there will be a traditional music session where all are welcome to come along to share tunes, sing or just listen.

For more info, contact Dr Chloe Woolley, Manx Music Development Officer for Culture Vannin:

manxmusic@culturevannin.im

REMINDER: 19th February is the closing date for DEC MANX FOLK AWARDS entries

Classes will be at the Youth Arts Centre and Rosemount Trinity Church on:

Sunday 20th March - Secondary

Monday 21st March - Keystage 1

Tuesday 22nd March - Keystage 2 (singing/recitation)

Wednesday 23rd March - Keystage 2 (dance/instrumental)

syllabus here: <http://manxfolkawards.weebly.com/>



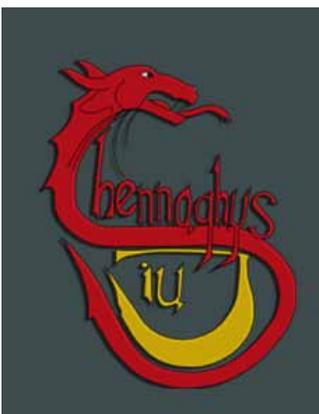
**Shennaghys Jiu
25 - 28 March**

**NEW BANDS WANTED FOR SHENNAGHYS JIU
OPEN MIC NIGHT**

- Bar Logo on Mon 28th March -

The line-up and programme for SJ 2016 will be revealed very soon, but in the meantime, the committee are searching for up and coming talent for their Monday night event. The Celtic youth festival is introducing an open mic element to their bands night in Bar Logo on Monday 28th March. There will be short slots available for players/groups of up to 4 members to perform and the festival would particularly like to encourage new groups, new music and new arrangements.

If you're interested, Russell Cowin is organising the event - we can put you in touch: manxmusic@culturevannin.im



Very sad news this month with the passing of three well-known characters from the music scene in the Isle of Man.

Firstly, a highly respected exponent of Irish music and a regular at the Friday night Mitre sessions.

Andrew Knight 1949 - 2016

Born and raised in Banstead, Surrey and schooled at Reigate Grammar, Andrew left home to study chemical engineering at Newcastle University in 1967. He learned to play the guitar and succeeded in failing all his second year university exams.

Unperturbed, he bought a second-hand concertina and embraced a musical life on the dole. Although his playing developed apace, there was clearly little prospect of establishing a viable career in music, so he turned to computer programming and eventually established Croft Computers in 1979.

During the seventies and eighties Andrew was a leading player at sessions, clubs and festivals in Britain, Ireland and further afield. He played for Clann na Gael Irish dancers at festivals in England, Europe and America and was always popular in the set dance and playing for it. His accompanied balladry was widely acclaimed.



In later years Andrew removed to the Isle of Man where he was a significant and colourful figure on the local session scene. His ascerbic wit and scintillating concertina playing will long be remembered.

Tribute written by Pat Knight, Andrew's brother.

Photo above by Bob Fennell / photo left by Wendy Hurst:

She said it "was taken at the very last Mitre session Andrew came to (Friday 8th Jan) and he died on the 11th. In all the years it's been going he never missed his Friday nights except when he was off the Island".

Here's a video of a lively Mitre session, featuring Andrew, on concertina, in full swing in 2013.

https://youtu.be/a5_HsJkoJPc

OBITUARY IN *THE GUARDIAN*: www.theguardian.com/music/2016/jan/28/andrew-knight

JC Callister

guitarist and singer with *The Tholtan Builders*

Tribute by fellow band member Kin, (David Kinley):

We were just a few months off our 25th anniversary of our first gig, which was at the legendary Jurby pub, when John passed away. A number of us in the band had known him for years before, myself since a young lad in Castletown, and friendships had already formed amongst us all. The Tholtan Builders have always been a rough and ready crew, the real deal, songs were rehearsed at gigs, and rehearsals were for yarning and organising gigs, whether they be at Yn Chruinnaght, Pan-Celtic or Peel, wherever they were, JC would have told a story or joke to everyone in the venue, individually by the end of the evening! John wrote many songs, some of which were Builders tunes, and our collaborations produced songs very similar, about real people, doing real things, mostly ridiculous, because life is, the scrapes we get into, and making light of it, folk music. If we wrote a song about his life, some would say it was far fetched. As a band, this is by no means the end, 'just play' was his mantra to us all. His input, which was plentiful, and analysis of our world was quite unique, and accurate too.

*Wherever you were with JC, and whatever you were doing, you knew you were doing it with JC, he was the real deal. R.I.P. JC, this bird has flown. **The Builders X***

Read more: <http://announce.jpress.co.uk/isle-of-man-today/obituary/john-callister/44756355>

Watch this film of the Tholtans playing at the Deep South Fest last year:

<https://youtu.be/J9BU1MMrt2Q>

www.iomtoday.co.im/what-s-on/manx-entertainment-news/manx-sound-exchange-musician-jc-was-hero-to-multiple-generations-1-7674688

Photo from Wendy Hurst - JC in 1994 on stage at Yn Chruinnaght.



SIMON BUTTIMORE

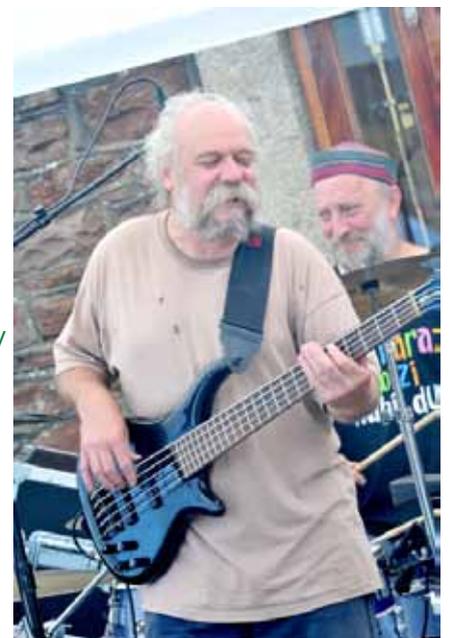
Well known as an artist and film maker, Simon Buttimore was also a familiar face in Manx music circles, and he played bass with various bands including The Bar Toads. Simon died in a motorcycle accident earlier this month aged 56.

Have a listen to some of Simon's music and watch some of his films here: www.fandalism.com/butti

Filmed less than a month ago, here's a funky jam with Simon on bass from the New Year's Eve celebrations in *The Creek*.

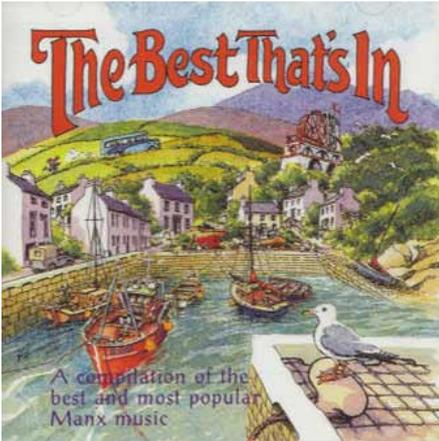
https://youtu.be/WOLUDw_1IrU

Obituary: www.iomtoday.co.im/news/isle-of-man-news/artist-simon-buttimore-dies-1-7682460



Above photo from Wendy Hurst - Simon playing with 'Anglin Buttimore & Friends' in 1997 at Yn Chruinnaght festival in Ramsey. Right - Simon playing The Bar Toads at Peel Carnival 2014 [IOM Newspapers]

KIAULL NOA ~ NEW MUSIC



MEC LIR new single and video – Chase the Ace

This fantastic Manx trad group have released a new single which you can download here:

<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/album/chase-the-ace-single/id1072058869>

Video here:

https://youtu.be/WQYvNJbC9_Y



The Best that's In – Back in stock

It was sold out in all major stores for a wee while, but this popular compilation of the best and most popular Manx songs is now back in stock.

The CD includes Ellan Vannin and the National Anthem, and retails at £12.99.

SHOP HERE: http://manxmusic.com/publication_130099.html or pick it up at the Lexicon Book Shop and other local shops.

ORIGINAL SONGS WANTED FOR CHARITY FUND-RAISER

Friends of Ninas Haven is a Manx charity which raises funds for a shelter for stray dogs in Croatia. At the moment Nina's Haven caters for 30 dogs. www.facebook.com/groups/905602442813033/?fref=ts

The charity are asking musicians to donate an original song which can be downloaded for £1 with the proceeds going to the shelter. They'd be grateful for any help you can give.

UPLOAD your song to www.songark.org and select "Friends of Nina's Haven" as the chosen charity (see the FAQ for advice).



Jamie Smith's **Mabon** have just released their latest album and you can also get a free download of the title song "The Space Between":

www.jamiesmithsmabon.com

Youtube/video corner:
 Let Me Hold You One More Time (The Cathedral Sessions)
 New single and video from Manx song-writers Scarlett Parade who will be in concert on 13th Feb [see above]. Video also stars Kirsty and Katie Lawrence.
<https://youtu.be/hBMvnhJZlos>

Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea

MANX-FUSION DANCE SHOW

The University of Glasgow's primary dance society - 'Glasgow Student Dance Company' are putting on their annual show on the 19th/20th February entitled 'Live, Love, DANCE!'

Ramsey student Hollie Jaques has choreographed a Manx-fusion dance incorporating

modern style movements with traditional steps and arms. It's a storytelling piece, about the fairies of the Isle of Man called 'A Manx Fairytale', with a battle of good vs. evil!

Hollie says; "All 25 of my dancers have been fantastic and thrown themselves into it, hopefully with amazing results!"

Also featured on the night is a never-seen-before inter-Celtic mash-up of Irish, Highland and Manx dance! It includes all 22 choreographers for GSDC who will first showcase each individual style which then leads on to a fusion of all three.

Manx band Mec Lir are performing on the Saturday evening show to accompany the above two pieces and for the whole company finale, with their sets, "Three Little Boats", "Fair Wind" and "The Ram"!

JEANT DY MIE HOLLIE!

Manx dancer Hollie is also heading to the USA in the summer, as she embarks on a year at the University of Idaho. Hollie [pic - right], who performs with Ny Fennee when she is on the Island, has been awarded the Ella Oleson scholarship: www.iomtoday.co.im/news/isle-of-man-news/hollie-wins-chance-to-study-in-america-1-7655075



Manx session in Edinburgh

IOM student Daniel Quayle has set up a Manx session at Edinburgh uni!!: www.facebook.com/ManxMusicEdinburgh/?fref=ts

Cwlwm Celtaidd 4-6th March 2016

Skeddan Jiarg [left] are a new dance group based in Peel who will be representing the Island at Cwlwm Celtaidd festival in Wales. Perree Bane are also participating. www.cwlwmceltaidd.org

Ruth Keggin in Scotland

The start of January was a busy time for Ruth Keggin and her band! With a set of brand new arrangements up her sleeve, Ruth headed to the west Highlands of Scotland to record her second solo album of Manx Gaelic songs and tunes up at Watercolour Music studio. As with 'Sheear', Ruth's first album, this new record incorporates a mixture of traditional and contemporary songs and melodies, but also includes some original writing by Ruth, and her guitarist David Pearce, as well as a more unexpected 'transatlantic' version of a well-known traditional Manx song... keep your eyes peeled for the launch date in summer 2016!

Ruth and her band spent four days recording the album before heading down to Celtic Connections through a very snowy Glencoe, and performing at the 2016 festival in the National Piping Centre on Sunday 17th January, along with fantastic Québécois band Les Poules à Colin. Originally scheduled to be a performance by Aon Teanga:Un Çhengey, band-member Mary Ann was unwell and had to pull out the night before the gig. Fortunately, as Ruth and her band were fresh from the studio, they were able to step in last minute to provide a set of brand new tunes and songs! The audience were very appreciative and the music of both the Ruth Keggin Band and Les Poules à Colin complimented each other well.



After an unexpected, but enjoyable, gig on the Sunday night, Ruth and her band fulfilled their original engagement at Celtic Connections, filming songs and an interview for an episode of 'Seirm' for BBC Alba. Four bands performed live to a studio audience in the quirky venue of the Hillhead Bookclub in Glasgow's west-end. Also on the bill was Kathleen MacInnes with a band that included Brian Finnegan, Dermot Byrne and Mike Vass; Blue Rose Code; and Scottish singer-songwriter Siobhan Wilson. As the first Manx Gaelic singer to appear on the programme, Ruth was excited to share her band's new arrangements of Manx traditional songs like 'Tra Va Ruggit Creest' and 'Arrane ny Niece', as well as performing Annie Kissack's beautiful song 'Mish as y keayn', and a Manx Gaelic version of the Runrig song 'Chi mi'n geamhradh', which went down particularly well with the audience. The show will be broadcast on TG4 in Ireland during the spring, and in early autumn on BBC Alba.

www.ruthkeggin.com

Barrule Review in Huffington Post

Stephen D Winick, music critic and US advocate for Manx music, had some very positive things to say about Barrule and the Island's culture in the Huffington Post: http://.0www.huffingtonpost.com/stephen-d-winick/highlands-and-islands-rec_b_9023642.html

OUR JAPANESE CORRESPONDENT - Japanese journalist Toshiya Matooka met lots of musicians and dancers when he was at the Lorient Festival 2015. He then returned with the delegation to the Island to find out more. **Here is his report:** http://magazine.artespublishing.com/web/celtmusic_isleofman

The Australian Celtic Festival in Glen Innes is celebrating the IOM this April!

Singer **Christine Collister** will be waving the Manx flag in a series of concerts and school workshops.

www.australiantcelticfestival.com



* News from the Glasgow offshore branch *

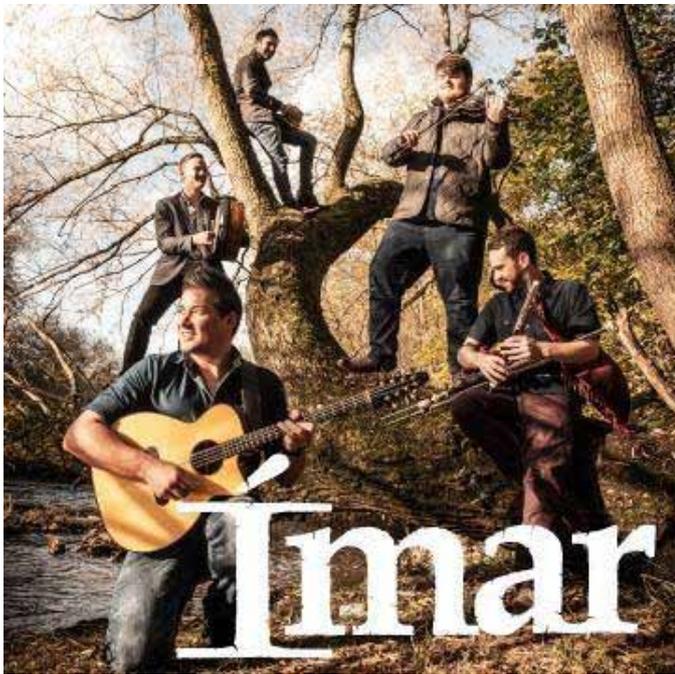
Mec Lir gig at Celtic Connections

January is usually a fairly quiet month for musicians, but that's not the case in Glasgow, where one of Europe's biggest celtic festivals takes over the city for three weeks. This year the Isle of Man was represented twofold, with the three Manx lads from Mec Lir, along with their Scottish drummer Greg Barry, playing at the Òran Mór, and Ruth Kegginn playing with her band at the Piping Centre. The lineup of artists at the festival is extremely varied, and features some well respected global names, so it is great that the island was able to contribute not one, but two groups amongst that line up for this year's festival.

The Mec Lir lads whipped the crowd up a storm at their sold out Saturday night Òran Mór gig, getting people dancing even though it was an early 7:30pm start. They played some of their new material, including the two new singles recently released online. The evening was expertly finished off by the popular Scottish group, the Scott Wood Band.

Watch Mec Lir's new video here, filmed by Manx film maker Sam Hurt:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=WQYvNJbC9_Y



IMAR – new Celtic supergroup

A few weeks ago Manx exports Tom Callister and Adam Rhodes launched a new band with three other musicians, all currently living in Glasgow. Ímar (pronounced ee-mar) was a Norse king, who at one time ruled the Isle of Man, Dublin, the Western Isles, Orkney, and large parts of the northern and western Scotland. The perfect name to give to a band consisting of musicians from the Isle of Man, Ireland and Scotland!

The five guys, who met while playing sessions together in Glasgow, include uilleann piper Ryan Murphy from Scottish chart toppers Mànran, bodhrán player Adam Brown from Scottish band RURA, and concertina virtuoso Mohsen Amini, from Radio 2 Folk Award winning band Talisk. They play trad tunes from all around the world, including of course Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man.

Within just days of launching the band, their facebook page had quickly amassed thousands of likes, with their promo video being seen by hundreds of thousands of music fans from around the world!

Two new singles are available as a free download through the band's website - www.imarband.com, and you can watch their promo video for the track 'Canadian Sunshine' here:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=hur5jYWD9B4

Keep an eye out later in 2016 as Tom and Adam are hoping to bring the new band over from Glasgow to perform on the Island at some point.

LIKE them on Facebook: www.facebook.com/imarband/

MANX HARPISTS TRIP TO LIMERICK

A talented quartet of young harpists from Ramsey Grammar School will be travelling to Limerick in March to take part in workshops and concerts organised by Irish harpist Fiana Ní Chonail and Manx flautist Peddyr Cubberley. The group is called 'Croan Yn Tead' and the girls are all students of harp teacher Rachel Hair and members of her harp group Claasagh. Travel support from Culture Vannin.

Kirk Michael's Oie'll Verree Brings in the Crowds

Despite an array of contemporary entertainment, the annual Oie'll Verree in Kirk Michael still attracts a full house to the Ebenezer Hall, situated in the centre of the village.

Many, but not all, of these concerts have fallen by the wayside in recent years, although this particular event continues to grow in popularity. Now organised by members of Michael Heritage Trust, the evening follows a tried and tested format which draws people from all walks of life; and indeed from various parts of the Island.

The lynchpin of this year's event was southern based farmer, Paul Costain, who skilfully introduced each performance with cheerful alacrity and a few quips of his own - ably supported by accompanist Marilyn Cannell.

The first part of the concert followed a typical pattern, with entertainment provided by Manx Gaelic choir Caarjyn Coodjagh, traditional dancing by Louise and Matt Callister, an interlude of magic from Juan Moore and a selection of local recitation from Pam Evans and Rebecca Traynor.

But it's the Manx dialect play which attracts the most attention. This year Matt and Juan Callister brought something new to the Manx stage, before everyone settled down for the main feature; A Cat and Dog Life by the late Kathleen Faragher. Its two characters, Betsy Quaggan and Kirry Taggart, were played admirably by Marilyn and Chrissie Cannell.

There's been a resurgence of interest in the local dialect poet, Kathleen Faragher, who was born in Ramsey in 1904, and went on to become a popular writer and performer. She was a prolific writer of books, poetry and short stories, acknowledged as one of the most important dialect poets on the Isle of Man.

After her death in 1974, she was buried in a family grave at Kirk Maughold, but lately it was realised that her gravestone needed some attention, which was carried out by Gregg Memorials and funded by Culture Vannin.

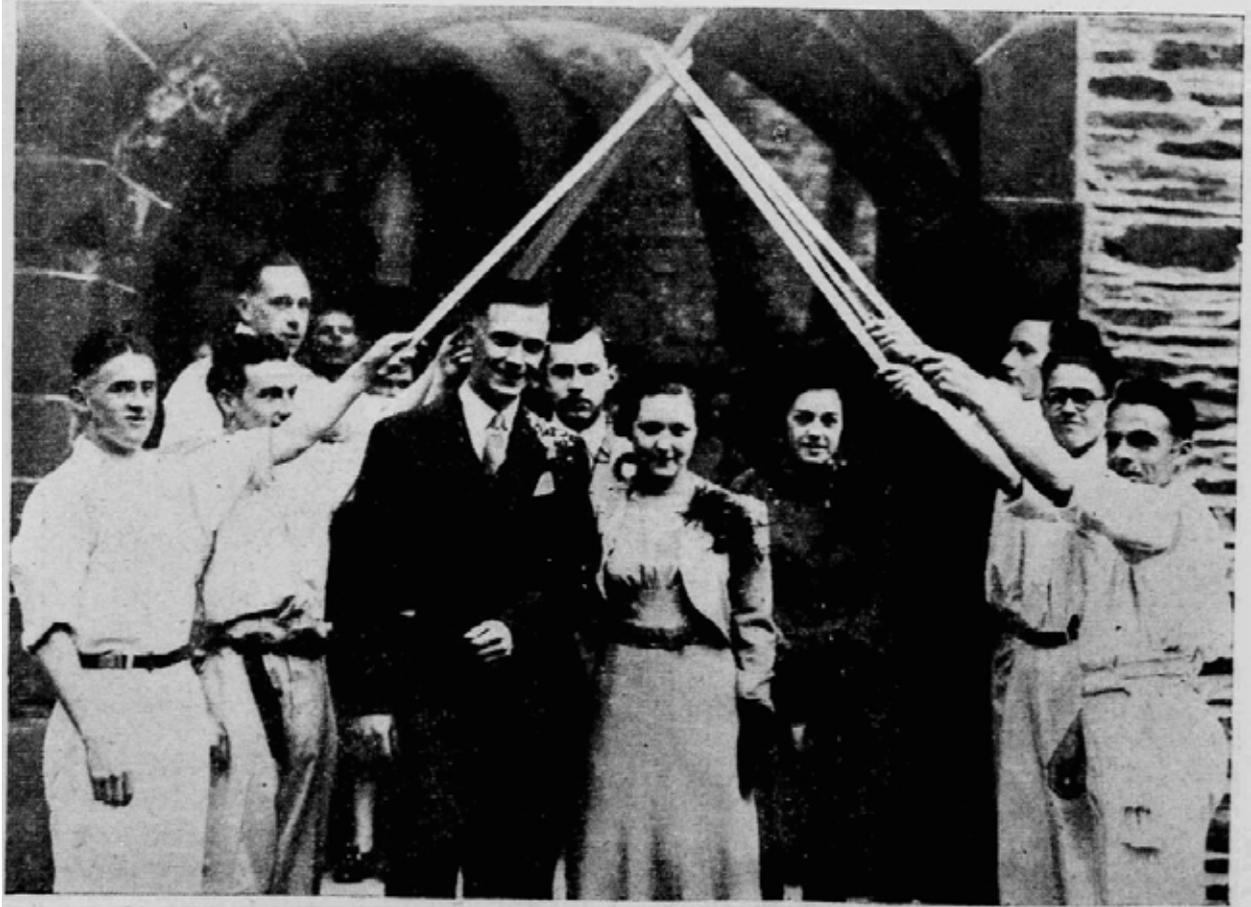
A project dedicated to recording memories of Kathleen Faragher is currently underway with Culture Vannin. If you have any memories you would be willing to share, contact the project organiser, James Franklin, at manxliterature@gmail.com, or c/o Culture Vannin, PO Box 1986, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM99 1SR.

Valerie Caine © January 2016



RESEARCH NEWS

THE ST ANDREW'S FOLK DANCERS



The “Billie Cain” of Dirk Dance fame, properly William A. Cain, married Alice Reynolds of Douglas at St Mary’s Roman Catholic Church, in May 1939. At the end of the service, the St Andrew’s Folk Dancers, “made a ‘clash’ of folk dance ‘swords’ over the happy couple as they left the church.” This group was Cain’s own team of dancers, his bride also a member, and named as the “swordbearers” were Donal Arbuckle, Ronald Bott, Stanley Cowley, Robert Stewart, Claude Cowley, and Ernest Stewart. The order given presumably matches the faces in the photograph in the *Isle of Man Times* of the happy couple leaving the church. This team of dancers calls for more research: when they were founded, how long they lasted, especially their repertoire of dances, and any others involved not named here. Cain later left the Island and lived in the West Country in England and worked there for the English Folk Song and Dance Society. He remained in touch with Mona Douglas and there are a small number of letters amongst her papers.

By Stephen Miller, Vienna

“The Revival of Manx Traditional Music - From the 1970s to the Present Day”

Phd Thesis by Dr Chloë Woolley (2003)

Now available to download: www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/Revival%20of%20Manx%20Trad%20music%20PhD%20thesis%20C%20Woolley.pdf

Manx Tay and Concert - ad in the *Peel City Guardian* 1932
 Manx concert - advert in the *Manxman*, 20 Feb 1897

Wednesday Next,
 DECEMBER 7th
Manx Tay
and Concert
 In the CENTENARY HALL
 A Rale Trate will be provided
 YOU MUST SEE ...
Juan Noa's Manx Play
"THE RAFORMAH"
 By the Ramsey Players
 MANX FOLK DANCES
 by RAMSEY BOYS
 SOLO DANCING
 by the noted Exponent
 MASTER BILLIE CAIN
 JUAN NOA and MR LEIGHTON
 STOWELL will recite and Solos will be
 given by well-known artistes
 TEA at 5 p.m. CONCERT at 7-30
 Chairman: C. J. Cringle, Esq.
ADMISSION: 1/- (Tea and Concert)
This is something no one should miss

ARTISTES—
Miss NELLIE BROADBENT,
 SOPRANO.
Miss A. A. TURNER, R.A.M., Soprano.
Mrs W. J. CORLETT, Contralto.
Mr JAMES WOOD, Tenor.
Mr A. M. PROCTOR, Baritone.
 Reappearance of
Mr CHARLES J. TEARE,
 The Popular Douglas Basso.
Solo Violin--Miss KATHLEEN RYDINGS.
 Important engagement and first appearance in Douglas
 of **Mr EDWIN STEAD,**
 Solo Trombone of the World-renowned Grenadier
 Guards Band, London.
 By special request the programme will embrace, along
 with other high-class music, Solos, Choruses, and
 Dances selected from the Deemster Gill, Dr Clague,
 and Mr W. H. Gill's collection of Manx National
 Songs, including "Ramsey Town," "A Manx Wed-
 ding," "The King of the Sea," "Hunt the Wren."
 "Hop-tu-naa," "The Rival Cockades," and the
 Christmas Play, "The White Boys," in character
 (Fisherfolk, Smugglers, Villagers, etc.) by the
MANX NATIONAL CHOIR.
Grand Orchestra of 35 Performers.
 Leader - - - Mr W. E. QUAYLE
 Pianoforte - Miss EVELEEN WOOD
Conductor - Mr HARRY WOOD
ADMISSION:—DRESS CIRCLE, 2s. 6d. (Reserved
 Seats, 6d. extra, which may be booked at the "Isle
 of Man Times" Office, Douglas, on and after Satur-
 day, February 20th, at twelve Noon); Orchestra
 Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit and Upper Circle, 1s.; Gallery, 6d.
DOORS OPEN 7-30; CONCERT AT 8 PROMPT.
EARLY DOOR (for Ticket Holders) AT 7.
TICKETS EVERYWHERE.

Does anyone remember Captain Swing?!
 [Manx Star April 1980]



The members of the "progressive blues" band
 Black Mass relaxing after a hectic Easter week...

Captain Swing arrive on the folk scene

A NEW and talented folk group, Captain Swing have emerged on the island after a group of College of Further Education lecturers decided to dedicate their spare time to the production of their own music.

Apart from the repertoire of traditional and contemporary folk songs, Captain Swing have written ten of their own compositions since formation — less than three months ago.

The group, who build their music around the sounds of string and wind instruments includes Michael Casey — lecturer in law, Peter

Heyes — catering lecturer Chris Whiteman — lecturer in business studies and Chris's wife Jan — a housewife to the couple's two children although a trained teacher by profession.

The name Captain Swing comes from a book of the same name. It tells of a mysterious character responsible for the organisation of a series of riots by a group of agricultural luddites who rampaged through farmyards destroying threshing machines and burning hay ricks.

In memory of Captain Swing who, incidentally, was never caught and punished for his crimes,

the group have written a song called, simply, "Captain Swing".

Considering the short time they have been together they have produced a highly polished and refreshingly original sound. Another of their songs tells of the plight of the whale and members of the group hope to get the Greenpeace organisation interested in the composition.

Other song titles written by Captain Swing include: Jurby Jean, Work all day, Zero population growth, Hot

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

Here is a setting of TE Brown's "Song" by local composer and pianist Madeline Kelly. Download the whole song at http://www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_409984.html Madeline has also written a beautiful piano suite based on Manx melodies which you'll hear more about soon. You can hear her play at the Braaid Eisteddfod and at the Guild.

SONG

Words by
Thomas Edward Brown

Music by
Madeline Kelly

Calmly ♩ = 104

The musical score is written in 6/8 time and consists of four systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand. The vocal line is in a soprano range. The score includes dynamic markings such as *pp* (pianissimo) and *p* (piano), and performance instructions like *Con ped.* (con pedale) and *pp*. The lyrics are: "Wea - ry wind of the west O - ver the bil - low-y sea Come to my heart, and rest! Ah, rest with me. Come from the dis - tance dim Bear - ing the sun's last".

WHITEHOUSE SESSION

The infamous Saturday night Manx music session in the Whitehouse in Peel is now fortnightly. Peel residents Ian Allen, Cinzia Yates and Mike Wade will get the tunes going every other Saturday, but they hope to attract people wanting to learn, as well as the more established musicians. Primarily, they just want to have a laugh doing it! The gang have started a FaceBook page called 'Whitey Tunes' and the first February session will be on Saturday the 13th from around 9.30pm:
www.facebook.com/groups/538460652994762/?fref=ts



Looking for entertainers

Beaconsfield Residential Home, Jurby Road, Ramsey is looking for songsters/musicians to entertain residents for an hour or so any afternoon, including Saturdays or Sundays. If you feel you could spare a little bit of time to cheer up these elderly folk, please contact Sue Woolley suew@manx.net or 815705/490054 who will put you in touch with the entertainments co-ordinator.

BRAAID EISTEDDFOD

The famous Braaid Eisteddfod will be at 7.30pm on the 12th March in Braaid Hall. While there will be the traditional musical and literary classes, the organisers are always happy to create new classes on the evening to suit competitors.

Full syllabus: http://manxmusic.com/event_detail_409128.html

Organisers say: *We would love to see lots of new faces performing at this year's Eisteddfod to keep such a wonderful event flourishing. It's a great opportunity for people who are entering the Guild to practice their piece and receive feedback from the judges as well as a very appreciative audience.*

SIX NATIONS WILD WEST FUNDRAISER

Date : Saturday 20th February 2016
Location : Vagabond's Clubhouse
Time : 7.30 pm til late
Tickets : £15 per person - includes food.
Tables of 10 available.

Live music from
The Fecktones

Contact Julia on fundraising@crossroadsiom.org to book your tickets, or call 623050 for further information.

**Fancy dress optional - dig out those boots!

in aid of **Care**
The of Manx registered Charity No. 383



Saturday, 20th February 2016

*** 8pm ***

** Everyone welcome **

No booking required - just turn up on the night
Faith Supper ** £2.50 (members £1)

Event: Manx Folk Dance Society
www.manxfolkdance.org.uk

Reih Bleeaney Vanannan 2016

AN EXCEPTIONAL DECISION FOR TWO EXCEPTIONAL CULTURAL CHAMPIONS - THIS YEAR'S RBV AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY TO BERNARD CAINE AND JOHN KENNAUGH

Cultural champions of the highest order, Bernard Caine and John Kennaugh, have been honoured posthumously with the Reih Bleeaney Vanannan – Manannan's Choice of the Year – cultural award for 2016.

The RBV selection panel, made up of representatives of cultural organisations, made this exceptional decision in recognition of two exceptional champions of culture and community. Close family and friends gathered in the Methodist Chapel in St John's on Friday 29 January to receive the honours.

Bernard Caine's interests and legacy are both wide and far-reaching. He became actively involved in Manx culture from his early years and this continued throughout his life. He served as a Trustee of the Manx Museum and National Trust for many years, being appointed its Chairman in 1985. A fluent Manx speaker, Bernard was President of Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh, the Manx Language Society, and represented the Island at international meetings of the Celtic Congress.

A superb entertainer and singer, he was in demand within concert parties and as a solo performer – his lively sketches, songs in Manx accompanied by autoharp, or tunes on the whistle were well loved, with his hymn raising, solos and humorous stories a keystone of local eisteddfods. Bernard's deep love of the Island and his great enthusiasm for all things Manx was matched by an ability to convey this enthusiasm to others, quietly sharing his vast store of knowledge of the history, customs, music and language of the Isle of Man. He wore his scholarship lightly and shared it willingly.

A love of the Island, of singing and of the importance of community link these two remarkable men. Bernard was a member of church choirs for over sixty years and John Kennaugh was one of the Manx Music Festival's best known faces and voices and a cornerstone of the Farmers' Quartet.



Commissioner and Captain of the Parish of German, John Kennaugh was a farmer, family man and a true Manx gentleman. A Methodist lay preacher, magistrate and radio broadcaster, his voice was at the heart of the community and of a sense of Manxness. His lifelong knowledge and love of Manx farming and the Manx country way of life was shared with all, in later years through his 'Countryside' programme for Manx Radio. A former president of the Manx National Farmers' Union, he often expressed thankfulness that he was able to follow a farming life, spending time on the hills that he loved so much.

This sense of place was key to his love of the works of Manx national poet, T E Brown. John was well-known for recitations which featured on recordings such as The Promised Land CD, Emily Cook's visual poems for Island of Culture and on the 2014 BBC Songs of Praise programme where he spoke about Brown's poetry expressing the 'soul of the Island'. The Manx Music festival was blessed by his involvement, with

John participating and being placed in many classes over the years, including the Victorian and Edwardian Ballads, Spoken Word, Folk Song and Bible Reading, as well as competing with the Glenfaba Chorale. On his passing, the festival paid tribute to what they described as a 'carrey jeh scansh' – an important friend.

Chairman of Culture Vannin, Hon Phil Gawne MHK, commented 'Bernard and John were frequently to be seen working side by side at the very heart of our community. With their breadth of knowledge and deep love of the Island, its history, landscape and culture, we rightly recognise them now as Manninee Dooie, as true Manxmen, as shining inspiration to future generations.'

The two families were each asked to nominate a charity for a donation of £500. Mrs Caine chose to donate money to the Manx Branch of the Celtic Congress, with which her husband was long involved and which, this Easter, will host the international gathering in Douglas. Mrs Kennaugh asked for £500 to be donated to the Manx Music Festival, an event and organisation which her husband loved dearly.

'Manannan's Choice of the Year' or the 'Reih Bleeaney Vanannan' is an annual cultural award from Culture Vannin made to an individual (or group) who has made the greatest contribution to the Island's cultural heritage. The nominees come from a wide variety of backgrounds, working to promote and support language, literature, art, music, dance, history, education and the environment, and many more.

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

3rd Post War Stories & In The Blood in Amber, Douglas 9pm. FREE
4th Greenshoots Session starts 7.30pm, Trad session 8.30pm, Green's, St Johns
13th Bree Session, YAC 2-3.30pm
13th Scarlett Parade, Ruth Keggin & Matt Creer, Centenary Centre, Peel 7.30pm £8 in adv/£10 door <http://www.etickets.im/cc/>
13th Manx music Session, White House Pub, Peel 9.30pm
20th Spring Folk Dance [MFDS], Waterloo Methodist Hall, Ramsey, 8pm. Faith supper £2.50/£1 members [see poster]
20th Wild West fundraiser with The Fecktones, Vagabonds 7.30pm £15
27th She'koyokh [Klezmer band], Centenary Centre, Peel, 8pm £15

MARCH

4th-6th March Cwlwm Celtaidd, Wales <http://www.cwlwmceltaidd.org>
12th Bree Session, YAC 2-3.30pm
12th The Poozies [Scottish band], Centenary Centre, Peel, 8pm £15
12th Braaid Eisteddfod, 7.30pm [see feature]
19th Richard Walters, The Institute, Laxey 8pm £15 <http://etickets.im/jp/>
19th & 20th Live, Love, Dance – Manx-fusion dance show, Mitchell Theatre, Glasgow 7.30pm

[Fri] at 2pm & 7.30pm [Sat] £10/£5 [see feature]
20th -23rd DEC Manx Folk Awards KS1&2, Youth Arts Centre & Rosemount Trinity Church <http://manxfolkawards.weebly.com/>
22nd Nish as Rish, Black Swan Inn, York, 7.30pm £8 <http://nishasrish.com/>
25th-28th Shennaghys Jiu festival, Ramsey <http://shennaghysjiu.com/>
31st - 5th April International Celtic Congress, Empress Hotel <http://celticcongressmannin.com/isle-of-man-2016/>

APRIL

16th MFDS Social Evening, Methodist Hall, Colby (by Bridge), Faith supper, 8pm
22-30th Manx music festival, Villa Marina www.manxmusicfestival.org/

MAY

JUNE

18-29th Mananan Festival, Erin Arts Centre

JULY

5th Tynwald Day [and Manx National Week]
9th MFDS Social Evening, St Peters Village Hall, Onchan
13th-17th Yn Chruinnaght, Peel & Ramsey www.ynchruinnaght.com

Please send in dates so that we can publicise events here & online:

www.manxmusic.com

~ SESSIONS ~

TUES 8pm Monthly session at The Mitre, Kirk Michael
WED 8.30pm Session at O'Donnells, Douglas
THURS 8pm Singing session at The Mitre, Ramsey
THURS 7.30pm Greenshoots 8.30pm Trad session at Green's, St Johns
FRI 8pm Trad session at The Mitre, Ramsey
FRI Trad session at the Crosby
Last **FRI** of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary
Fortnightly **SAT** 10pm Manx session at The White House, Peel

~ SESSIONS ~

culture vannin

For information on Manx music & dance contact:
Manx Music Development Officer **Dr Chloë Woolley**: chloe@culturevannin.im
www.manxmusic.com

Call: Chloë: 01624 695787
or write to: Music Team, Culture Vannin, The Stable Building, The University Centre, Old Castletown Road, Douglas, Isle of Man IM2 1QB

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