

KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU

Jerrey Souree 2017 July

manx music today

A fresh new look for a familiar July festival: *Celtfest Isle of Man* 10-15 July 2017, Peel, Isle of Man

Yn Chruinnaght still exists as the organising force behind a festival which once bore the same name but their July event has been re-branded as Celtfest Isle of Man in an effort to take Manx and Celtic culture to an even wider audience.

This year's focus is on upbeat Celtic music from the very finest acts from Ireland and Scotland. From Talisk and Connla, two of the hottest young bands, to the soulful singing of Riognach Connolly and the beautiful arrangements flowing through Hamish Napier's The River, there are concerts for every taste.

Even with tickets sold out online for Professor Alice Roberts' opening talk on The Celts, there are still a smattering of festival passes available which get you access to all events, and, of course, individual tickets for the Centenary Centre gigs - check out www.celtfest.im for more details.



ConisterBank | Malcolm Scott Dickinson CHARITABLE TRUST | Thomson | shoprite | Paradise & Gell | ARTS COUNCIL | Culture VANNIN

So who are the bands and what should you come to?

Talisk are winners of the 2015 BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award and featuring the talents of 2016 BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year, Mohsen Amini (concertina), Hayley Keenan (fiddle) and Craig Irving (guitar), Talisk create a captivating, energetic and dynamic sound. Mohsen appeared with his inter-Celtic band Imar alongside Tomas Callister recently - his is a talent to watch. Kindly supported by Thornton Chartered Financial Planners

Armagh born singer and flautist Riognach Connolly Band guests regularly with Afro Celt Sound System, and fronts the foot-banging sound of Honeyfeet and the soulful beauty of Realworld Records' The Breath. A huge voice and personality, she has been a guest of the Centenary Centre and of the IOM Blues Festival in recent years.

Connla are the hottest group out of Ireland at the moment, and feature Ciara McCafferty (vocals), Ciaran Carlin (whistles), Paul Starrett (guitar) and siblings Emer and Conor Mallon on harp and uilleann pipes. Driving tunes and stunning songs will captivate you.

For something different, Hamish Napier's The River celebrates his local river, The Spey. The perfect soundtrack to the stunning scenery of Speyside and the Highlands and featuring the musical talents of a who's who of Scottish music: *Hamish Napier, Ross Ainslie, Megan Henderson, James Duncan Mackenzie, James Lindsay, Martin O'Neill, Calum MacCrimmon, Dave Milligan and Tom Gibbs*. Hamish will also work with Bree supergroup Scran to programme the first half of the concert. The River is sponsored by the festival's travel partners, Isle of Man Steam Packet Company.

In this month's edition...

- National Week events
- Lorient update
- Show your Bolla Bane!
- Donal Lunny in the IOM

kiaull manninagh jiu 07/17 culture vannin

A new event for 2017 will be The Gathering, a free family day based in and around Cathedral IOM on the final Saturday, sponsored by Conister Bank. With July's skies full of sunshine, you will be able to enjoy music and dance performances, our famous artisan craft fair, and opportunities to get creative in mini-workshops and children friendly activities. Food and drink from local producers and the gorgeous cool spaces within the Cathedral itself make this the perfect event to drift in and out of throughout the day. Manx performers will be joined by Celtic harpist, Rachel Hair, yarn-spinner and puppeteer Fi Angwin from Wales, who will bring the traditional stories of the Celtic lands alive, and so much more.

The 2017 festival is very much about taking Celtic music into new spaces and to new people, so Celtfest organisers are delighted to have teamed up with Noa Bakehouse for a week of free lunchtime sessions and mini-gigs featuring talented local singer-songwriters and musicians - every day from 1pm and kindly supported by Shoprite. 800 schoolchildren will also benefit from Celtfest's outreach programme during the festival week, enjoying concerts from visiting and Manx acts, made possible by support from the Malcolm Scott Dickinson Charitable Trust.

Celtfest Isle of Man is brought to you by Yn Chruinnaght, a group of like-minded individuals who love all things Celtic. The organisers are grateful for the wonderful support of Culture Vannin and IOM Arts Council. Find out more on Facebook, Twitter and website: www.celtfest.im

Tickets are available online www.celtfest.im/tickets - for all other enquiries, try the festival line on 302200.



ISLE OF MAN
Symphony
ORCHESTRA

Summer Concerts 2017

Friday 7th July 7:30pm

St. Ninian's Church, Douglas

Saturday 8th July 7:30pm

Bunscoll Rhumsaa, Ramsey

A Concert of Light Music

In support of the Queen's Pier Restoration Trust



Conductor : Maurice Powell

Leader : Tom Field

Patron : Charles Guard

www.iomso.co.uk

Tickets : Adult : £12

Child/Student : £2.50

Email : paulawadsworth@manx.net

Also available from :

Shakti Man & Peter Norris Music

The Isle of Man Symphony Orchestra is a registered charity no. 570

MATT CREER JULY GIGS

2ND, 2PM: ISLE GALLERY, ST JOHNS

14TH, 1PM: NOA BAKEHOUSE

21ST, 7.30PM: THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

CASTLETOWN

29TH, 7.30 PEEL CENTENARY CENTRE

(SUMMERLAND MEMORIAL CONCERT)



PHOTO: PAUL KILLEN

Braddan Commissioners would like to invite musicians and dancers to be part of their fun Parish Day in the field on Strang Corner on Sunday 23rd July. There will be a stage/PA from 12pm - 4.30pm and space around the field for dance groups. Later on, there will be acoustic musicians on stage, international food hall, and outdoor cinema. Please contact Paul Parker if you're interested: paul@braddan.im



Manx Music Concert

Manx youth group **Bree**
& special guest
Arabella Ayen on Celtic harp

St Olave's Church, Ramsey

2pm

Saturday 8th July

Free admission

Celebrating Manx National Week

www.flowerfest.im
flowerfestim@gmail.com

2017 Summerland Memorial Concert

Dedicated to the 50 men, women and children who lost their lives



JEFF JEPSON MATT CREER
THE TIDES MAE CHALLIS
THE FECKTONES

Saturday 29th July
Peel Centenary Centre

Doors 7:00pm - Start 7:30pm

RAISING MONEY FOR ALDER HEY CHILDREN'S BURNS UNIT

Tickets £10 available from:
- Shakti Man (Ramsey) - Celtic Gold (Peel) -
- Peter Norris Music (Douglas) - Thompson Travel (Port Erin) -
or visit www.centenarycentre.com

Kindly sponsored by 



| What's On | Where | When |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Castle Rushen High School Big Band | Front Green | 9:00-9:40 |
| The Viking Village | Cool y Ree | 9:00-17:00 |
| One World Village | Arboretum | 9:00-17:00 |
| Manx Folk Dance Society | Front Green | 9:40-10:10 |
| Sue Quilliam's Craft Workshop | TynwaldFest Tent | 10:00-16:00 |
| Perree Bane and Friends | Fairfield | 10:00-12:00 |
| Yarney Grainne - Yarn Workshop | Bunscoil Ghaelgagh | 10:00-16:00 |
| Onchan Silver Band | Front Green | 13:30-14:20 |
| Jamie Smith- Celtic Accordionist | Chapel | 13:30-14:00 |
| Isle of Man Wind Orchestra | Fairfield | 14:00-15:00 |
| Ruth Keggins and Malcolm Stitt- Manx music duo | Chapel | 14:05-14:45 |
| "Grand Manx Dance" with the Manx Folk Dance Society, Perree Bane and Skeddán Jiarg | Front Green | 14:20-15:00 |
| Lecture marking 600 years of the Customary Law Act | Chapel | 15:00-15:45 |
| Gena's Dance Academy | TynwaldFest Tent | 15:00-16:00 |
| Castletown Metropolitan Silver Band | Chapel | 16:00-17:00 |
| The Fairly Famous Family | Front Green | 16:00-16:30 |
| The Regal Singers | Chapel | 17:00-18:00 |
| The Fairly Famous Family | TynwaldFest Tent | 18:00-18:30 |
| Ellan Vannin Pipes and Drums | Tynwald Hill | 22:00-22:30 |

Featuring...



| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Birlinn Jiarg | 17:00-18:00 |
| Retrospect | 18:30-19:30 |
| Kipper Ceili | 19:45-22:00 |

It's nearly that time of year again! A time to all come together and celebrate our National Day! This year Tynwald Day is to see a number of changes, with the biggest being the introduction of TynwaldFest. In a move to create more of a social, festival atmosphere, top bands will come together alongside local artisanal Manx food and drink producers to give the Manx people a good 'ol knees up.

The changes have been brought about by the new Tynwald Day Enhancements co-ordinator Gráinne Joughin, who identified a small lull in the day's celebrations, and realised that there was the opportunity to create something inclusive and dynamic into the national day's proceedings.

"In addition to everything that happens on the day, we have introduced the new TynwaldFest stage to bring everyone together towards to end of the day to celebrate as a community in the best way we know how...with good food, good drink and good music! The whole idea behind the new stage is to make Tynwald Day more inclusive, something for everyone. I want to create that vibe, similar to what you find in Europe where the community all come together... That's the concept behind it'

Anglo-Manx folk group Birlinn Jiarg and soul funk group Retrospect will play in the early hours of the evening, followed by the traditional ceili by KipperCeili, before the atmospheric sounds of the Ellan Vannin Pipe Band, performing on Tynwald Hill, which will bring the day to a close.

Birlinn Jiarg feature Manx whistle virtuoso Becky Hurst, alongside her band of talented folk artists from across the UK play trad folk, with Manx music very much at the centre of their sound. They will play from 5pm, and infamous, island-based funk band Retrospect will keep the party going from 6.30pm. After that, the Ceili band will get the people up on their feet!

Throughout the day, there will be entertainment from the circus act, The Fairly Famous Family, who will also perform in between bands during the festival.

Local food and drink will also be on offer courtesy of Noa Bakehouse, The Manx Cider Company and Ballakarran Lamb with their lovely roast Manx lamb, lamb and veggie hotpot alongside some lovely Noa Bread.

During the day (10-3pm) the stage area will feature children's crafts by the fabulous Sue Quilliam and, from 3pm, dancers from Gena's Dance Academy will perform.

Fear not! The formerly known "Homecomers Tent" - now known as The Manx Tent - is not lost! It's just being relocated. You can now come together with lots of Manx groups and societies in The Manx Tent on The Fairfield, next to the Tynwald Memorial Stone. This year The Manx Tent welcomes The Mannin Quilters, The Rock Project, CeltFest, Peel Heritage... to name just a few!

Also returning this year is The One World Village, located in The Arboretum, featuring international cuisine and entertainment.

Something for everyone! So come one and come all, to Tynwald Day 2017.

** To close the official service in the Royal Chapel, composer Frank Woolley will perform his own organ work, Celebration March - a new piece based on Mylecharaine's March and Ramsey Town.*



The Manx Folk Dance Society's Swedish dancer friends arrive this week. **HEMBYGDSGILLET** from Malmo in the South of Sweden will be with the MFDS for several performances:

Wednesday 5th July - Tynwald Day

14.30 Hembygdsgillet dance at Arboretum

Thursday 6th July

19.30 Hembygdsgillet & MFDS at Villa Arcade

Friday 7th July

11.00 Hembygdsgillet dance in Regent Street

Evening Music Session at the Crosby Pub

Saturday 8th July

Evening Farewell Party at Onchan Parish Hall





Music & Arts Festival
7th, 8th & 9th July 2017
Silly Moos Campsite Ransey

Adult Tickets
18 and over - £55.00

Child Tickets
12 and over - £20.00

DARK HORSE
darkhorsemusic.im

Arts & craft activities with Art Reach Studios. Wood sculpture with Gavin Carter

Food and drink vendors: The Secret Pizza Co, What The Fork, Jabali, Jerk Mek Ya, The Burger Bar, Roots Beverage Co., The Hooded Ram, Manx Cider Co.

Other activities available in the HIVE Wellness Area will include: Acro yoga, Yoga, Crystal healing, Mindfulness, Poetry, Massage, The Glitter Shack

BOMBS
DISHY TANGENT
THE MOUSE SUIT
THE BALTIC STATES

The Dark Horse Stage
Han-FX/JorDMC & The Bendy Sex Whistles, Reetz Stag, Mr. Tiger, The Rock Knights, Fletcher Christian Murray, Phil Reynolds & The Dearly Departed, Post War Stories, The Fecktones, Sera-Tones, Dubloons, Loose Crew, Paddy Ranting, Dark Horse DJs

The Mill
Warbird, The Tides, The Bad Noise, Dan Buttimore, Rivvy, The Shads, Baad Acid, The 13th Pillar, Sophia & Jen, The Rock Project, Conulyt, Jamys Woolley, Dusty Plankton, Clash Vooar, Man In The Woods

New Social Studios
Corkwing, Wino Boys, Georgian Wires, The Night Pattern, Sandfingers, Twice Dead

Mother T's
Sound Records - vinyl record shop, Vintage clothing/festival gear, Vegan/veggie kitchen, Resident Funk and soul DJ, Open mic, Poetry, Activities for kids, Games/arts and crafts, Hula hoops, Tarot reading, Henna... And our famous chai.

Plus more acts to be announced.

Many thanks to the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company for their support and sponsorship

Sunday Session in Laxey
12.30 - 4pm
2nd July & 6th August

All welcome. Lots of food, lots of fun, fantastic place to spend a Sunday afternoon!!

Tel. Mary for more details: 493365



PORT ERIN BEACH STAGE

Port Erin's Festival of the Sea will have a music evening on Fri 21st of July – if your band would like to perform, get in touch with Phil Gawne:

philliebeg@gmail.com

Isle of Architecture Celebrates with Concert in Peel Lifeboat House

As part of the closing events for the year long initiative Isle of Architecture, a special concert reflected a diverse use of a very special building in Peel.

Isle of Architecture is a celebration of the built environment, encouraging appreciation of the Island's rich, architectural heritage, as well as exploring the future of building on the Isle of Man itself.

The lifeboat station, which houses the vessel Ruby Clery (currently celebrating twenty five years service), is situated by the breakwater in readiness for any sea-faring problems, but on this occasion was being used as an unusual concert venue for three local groups.

Built in 1885 at a cost of £500, the concept encouraged music lovers to fill the building to capacity to hear up and coming Scran, new group Clash Vooar and the popular Mollag Band.

Scran is relatively new on the music scene, consisting of some of the more experienced members of the Manx youth group movement Bree. Aged fourteen to eighteen, their music introduces a modern, dynamic twist, with vocals in both Manx and English.

Clash Vooar (Big Groove) is also a relatively recent addition, developing Manx music and Gaelic song using the distinct medium of a gypsy, jazz groove.

The evening closed with the ever popular Mollag Band, who diversified their programme with a selection of songs from their Manx-Anglo Pop Project and a number of favourites from their back catalogue. All proceeds from the evening were donated to the RNLI.

Tourist and locals alike can enjoy a summer season of free concerts organised by the IOM Arts Council and Culture Vannin, and held in the Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas.

From Gaelic acapella choirs and funky new sounds in the Manx language to massed harp ensemble and bagpipes; from colourful dance displays to contemporary songs and lively tunes, there is a something for everyone! The season is launched this Thursday evening at 7.30pm with Manx choir Cliogaree Twoaie and the Manx Folk Dance Society, who will be joined by some visiting Swedish dancers.

More information: www.manxmusic.com

The Arts Council Presents in association with the Villa Marina

Manx Music & Dance Season 2017

Thursdays @ 7.30 pm, Villa Marina Arcade

FREE



July 2017

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| THURSDAY 6 TH | CLIOGAREE TWOAIE (GAELIC CHOIR) | MANX FOLK DANCE SOCIETY + Swedish guests HEMBYGDSGILLET |
| THURSDAY 20 TH | SCRAN | CLASH VOOAR (GAELIC BAND) |
| THURSDAY 27 TH | CAARJYN COOIDJAGH (GAELIC CHOIR) | PERREE BANE (MANX DANCERS) |

August 2017

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| THURSDAY 3 RD | MANX MUSIC & DANCE CONCERT | |
| THURSDAY 10 TH | CHRISTA MCCARTNEY (HARPIST/SINGER) | BISKEE BRISHT (GAELIC BAND) |
| THURSDAY 17 TH | CLAASAGH (CELTIC HARP GROUP) | ELLAN VANNIN PIPES & DRUMS |
| THURSDAY 24 TH | PERREE BANE (MANX DANCERS) | MATT CREER BAND |

Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea



Irish trad superstar Donal Lunny (Planxty, Bothy Band) made a brief appearance in the Isle of Man last month.

He was over filming for an RTE TV production exploring the links between Celtic cultures, and during the trip, Donal had a chat, song and a tune with Gaelic singers Aalin Clague and Breesha Maddrell from Clash Voar.

IMAR on CRAGGY ISLAND

Tom Callister & Adam Rhodes' Celtic super-group Imar recently stopped outside the Father Ted's infamous Parochial House and bashed out the theme tune in honour of the classic comedy show!

<https://youtu.be/0hq4FUtcyLI>



LUGHT-THIE Chloe Woolley, husband Malcolm Stitt, and children Kerron and Cristl will be joining members of the Celtic Congress for the annual Celtic meeting in Perth later this month. Chloe will give the Manx presentation on the topic of this year's conference; 'The Musical Traditions of our Celtic Nations', and the family band, 'Lught-Thie' will be performing a selection of Manx Gaelic songs, dances and tunes in the Inter-Celtic concert. <http://ccheilteach.ie/>





Interceltique de Lorient 2017 - Manx Delegation

The latest update from Ealee Sheard - Manx delegate to the festival:

After being spotted at the Manx pavilion last year, Beccy Hurst's Manx band Birlinn Jiarg have been invited back by the festival to feature in the official FIL 2017.

www.festival-interceltique.bzh/artistes/722/birlinn-jiarg/

New duo Annym will also be representing the Island at the festival. Singer, guitarist and whistle player, Cairistiona Dougherty and fiddle player Isla Callister will join forces with harpist Rachel Hair and four Manx dancers to perform at various venues during the festival. Annym and the dancers will also be teaching a Manx dance workshop at the Salle Carnot.

www.festival-interceltique.bzh/artistes/762/annym/

Rushen Silver Band will be taking part in the Grand Parade and will feature in the televised Nuit Interceltiques evenings in the stadium. The band are working on a project with a Scottish Pipe Band and Welsh male voice choir to perform "Conquest of Paradise" as the finale:

www.festival-interceltique.bzh/artistes/523/rushen-silver-band/

Meanwhile, at the Manx Pavilion, which is organised by Peter Young and supported by Culture Vannin and the IOM Arts Council, there will be daily entertainment on the stage featuring the above acts, and a Manx dance group made up of talented volunteers who are also helping out with the shop/bar/cafe/tourism info this year.

www.festival-interceltique.bzh/



Celtfest Isle of Man Presents

NOA BAKEHOUSE

THE LUNCHTIME SESSIONS

MONDAY 10th - FRIDAY 14th JULY | DAILY AT 1PM

A brand new event as part of Celtfest Isle of Man, these mini concerts provide an exciting new platform to promote some of the Island's most accomplished and entertaining Celtic artists in a relaxed cafe environment. And with Noa's famous breads, cakes and bakes available to purchase as normal, what better way to discover the music of the Isle of Man!



Supported By

shoprite

The Island's Exclusive Stockists of NOA BAKEHOUSE BREAD

New recordings from harpist and singer, Christa McCartney:

Ambient Manx Gaelic songs combining nature and spirit with harp and voice. A mystic celtic world, hypnotic, sensuous and, just ever so slightly, dangerous to enter.

Shee Nane, Padjer Columb Killey, Clean Suggane (Breeshey), My Caillin Veg Dhone:
https://youtu.be/Va64GSXF_yg

Hear Christa live at Celtfest Noa session, Wed 12th July, 1pm FREE and at the Villa Marina Arcade, Thurs 10th August, 7.30pm FREE



Manx musician **Kirsty Lawrence** has one of her own tunes featured in a new book: *The Aberdeen Collection: 250 Contemporary Scottish Tunes in Traditional Style.*

Snap up a copy:
<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/news/10887/>

SCRAN MEMBERS GO VIRAL

A couple of Manx students have had over 13,000 views since yesterday morning for a video posted by The Irish Post of them performing Manx music:

www.facebook.com/TheIrishPost/videos/10156191488963452/

The Irish Post is "the biggest selling national newspaper for the Irish community in Great Britain."

Both the students, Raygie Dolloso (QE2) and Mera Royle (RGS), are members of Scran, the young Manx music group which is supported by Culture Vannin and which grew out of the youth group, Bree. Scran recently won second place in The Next Big Thing and they perform regularly at events (like CycleFest and CeltFest etc.): www.facebook.com/ScranMusic/

The song, Auldyn River by Paul Cringle, was written for the Pan Celtic Song Competition in 2016, where it competed in the New Song in Traditional Style class:

www.isleofman.com/lifestyle/culture-entertainment/arrane-son-mannin-2016/

Scran also 'went down a storm' when they performed for cruise ship visitors on the Hebridean Princess last weekend.

PREMIERES - NEW MANX MUSIC

Madeline Kelly will be premiering her piano suite, *Isle of My Heart* at the Celtfest Gathering, Peel Cathedral, Sat 15 July 3pm. That same afternoon, Director of Music for Cathedral IOM, Peter Litman, will be performing a selection of organ solos from new book, *Celebration & Contemplation.*

- • • • •
- **Youtube/video corner** •
- Inspired by the story of Margaret Quane, the only woman executed for witchcraft in the Isle of Man,
- here is **Jules Verne Theory** – Hauling Witches
- www.facebook.com/julesvernetheory/videos/1155675384550611/
- • • • •



SEVEN KINGDOMS – new works for brass band

2017 marks 80 years since Onchan Silver Band first formed, and to celebrate, the band embarked on a very special voyage!

On Saturday 24th June, OSB boarded the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company Ben-My-Chree for its round-the-island cruise. We were accompanied by a number of friends (thanks to our helpers from both Ramsey Town Band and Rushen Silver Band, as well as Tim Payne from MYB and former OSB member Grant Taylor), including five of seven composers specially commissioned by the band to produce a brand-new suite of music. The final work, the Seven Kingdoms Suite, was given its world premiere on-board as the ship made its way around the Isle of Man.

Each of the seven kingdoms visible from the Island (England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, IOM, Sea and Heavens) was represented by a separate movement within the suite, and each had been created by a different composer. We are incredibly grateful to the extremely talented pens of our seven composers for putting together such a fantastic piece of work! - Paul Dunderdale, Michael Radcliffe, Russell Gilmour, Ian Astill, David Kilgallon, Robert Quane and John Kinley.

Guests on the Ben-My-Chree were treated to some fantastic views on the trip, along with the entertainment provided by the band. We would like to extend a special thanks to the Steam Packet Company, who have been extremely supportive and helpful in making our vision become a reality. We hope all the guests and staff enjoyed it as much as we did! *REPORT from Onchan Silver Band Facebook*

MMTV INTERVIEW: www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQ0QwrJ-EKc&feature=youtu.be

Celebrating the Isle of Man's rich cultural heritage

Isle of Man Post Office is proud to present this miniature sheet featuring popular Manx festivals which celebrate the Island's rich artistic and cultural heritage.



www.iompost.com/stamps-coins/collection/isle-of-man-festivals/

RESEARCH NEWS

'Let's have a song about the Isle of Man'

Florrie Forde at the Derby Castle: 1900-1939

Maurice Powell

Florrie Forde was the best loved and most enduring variety artiste who ever appeared in Douglas, and the variety artiste that the Manx truly took to their hearts. She made her debut at the Derby Castle on 10th September, 1900, at the beginning of a two-week engagement, billed as 'The charming and popular comedienne', supported by Zanfretti and Napio, the 'continental grotesques and musical knife grinders', and Bedini and Arthur, a comedy juggling act.

Variety artistes - 'all of them very good ones' - appeared during the intervals in the very full dance programmes during which the 'believers in the poetry of motion', and 'lovers of the terpsichorean art', jostled around the magnificent ballroom of the 'Palace by the Sea', to the enchanting music from Harry Wood's excellent band.

READ FULL ARTICLE: http://manxmusic.com/news_story_483541.html

AI taught to write Irish folk music, independently and with human collaborators!

Thanks to Ffnlo Craine for the link:

https://eandt.theiet.org/content/articles/2017/05/ai-taught-to-write-irish-folk-music-both-independently-and-in-collaboration-with-human-composers/?utm_source=Adestra&utm_campaign=New%20EandT%20News%20-%20Automation%20FINAL%20-%20MEMBER&utm_medium=Newsletters%20-%20E%26T%20News&utm_content=E%26T%20News%20-%20Members&utm_term=https%3A%2F%2Fcontent%2Farticles%2F2017%2F05%2Fai-taught-to-write-irish-folk-music-both-independently-and-in-collaboration-with-human-composers%2F

UCC
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh
University College Cork, Ireland

A Conference on Gaelic Song
25th and 26th Aug 2017

AMHIRÁN AIRRANE ÒRAN

Confirmed Speakers:
Virginia Blankenhorn,
George Broderick,
Margaret Callan,
Anne Frater,
Anne Lorne Gillies,
Iain Mac a' Phearsain,
Gilbert MacMillan,
Breesha Maddrell,
Thomas McKean,
Triona Ní Shiocháin,
Róisín Nic Dhonncha,
Sorcha Nic Lochlainn,
Ciarán Ó Gealbháin,
John Shaw.

UCC - ADMISSION FREE
www.ucc.ie/en/modern-irish | sorcha.niclochlainn@ucc.ie

FRIENDS OF MANX NATIONAL HERITAGE

LECTURE - Tuesday 18th July

'Smugglers, Pirates, Slave Traders and Rich Merchants: The Isle of Man, 1651-1831.

Illustrated talk by Dr Kit Gawne. 11am

House of Manannan - Free to members

Kit Gawne will be giving a talk at the House of Manannan in Peel at 11am on Tuesday 18th July about the Island and the sea, with musical illustrations from Bob Carswell. Kit's talk will concern smuggling; Thurot and Elliott; the ill-fated voyage of The Tyger; and the Island's connections with the slave trade. Many songs in the Manx collections relate to these events and tales.

<< *There will be a strong Manx presence at this forthcoming conference in Cork.*

Breesha Maddrell, George Broderick and David Speers will be delivering papers on a variety of Manx song subjects.

JOSSEPH CANNELL AND HIS
“IMPRESSIONS OF CHRISTMAS IN
DOUGLAS FIFTY YEARS AGO”

(1935)

[2a] “These waits or callers were sailors of the Quayside, commonly called ‘hobblers,’ and one noted character was ‘Tommy the Wod.’ Nobody in town was better known than Tommy the Wod. He went along with the callers, playing on his fiddle some tricky old jigs to which—although lame—he danced. Coole the grocer’s warehouse on North John Street had a trap door down to the cellar where they rolled down hogsheads and barrels and spirits. This trap door had always a [2b] fascination for Tommy. When out with the callers, particularly if he had a ‘drop in his eye,’ he couldn’t resist stopping at ‘Coole’s Corner’ to do a little step on the trap door.”

[2a] “The day following Christmas before daylight there would be a noise of horns blowing, then: ‘Oh—The Wren, the Wren, the King of the Birds.’ Looking out of the window you would see a lot of sailors, with a bush mounted on top of a long boat oar gaily trimmed with coloured ribbons, singing lustily ‘Hunt the Wren,’ going from door to door. If any prosperous tradesman happened to walk past, these men would surround him, singing their song until he handed out a silver coin. They would then give him a feather for luck.”

Source: Joseph Cannell, “Impressions of Christmas in Douglas Fifty Years Ago.” *Bulletin of The North American Manx Association* 9.1 (1935): 2.

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The “Christmas Callers” as they were termed were not favoured by all. In December 1901, the *Manx Sun* in its issue for 14 December reported from Castletown that “[t]hese musicians, who make hideous with their stentorian shouts and ear splitting music have been—thanks to the police—put a stop to this year. They made a start about a week ago and went their rounds between midnight and and 3 o’clock in the morning, wakening and alarming the peaceful, sleeping citizens with their ‘Good mornings.’” This brought forth a letter in the next issue from someone who signed themselves “Lillipudian,” not all of which can be read as the newsprint is so poor, but the first paragraph makes clear the thrust of his letter:

Kindly favour me with a few lines in your valuable journal to express my sympathy with the Castle “waits.” I have recently heard that the Commissioners of the above town have prohinited Christmas “rowdyism” after 10 p.m. They have even prohibited carol singing—what for, I wish to know? I suppose they are all going to bed early on these nights and don’t want their slumbering disturbed.

That same day in the *Isle of Man Examiner* reported from Ballasalla that “[t]he string band will be missed this Christmas, and if no one is allowed to sing after ten o’clock it is going to be a very tame one too.” However, on the same page this appeared:

BASELESS RUMOUR—A rumour has got abroad that the police or Town Commissioners had decided to put a stop to some of the old customs, viz., callers, white boys, and bands playing after ten o’clock at night. Upon enquiry we are able to state that those bodies are quite ignorant of any such regulation, and have felt annoyed by the charges made.

That year, at least then, it was still safe to go out on the rounds.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2017

References: “[From the South Side] [Castletown News] The Christmas ‘Callers,’” *Manx Sun* 14 December 1901: 5d; Pseud [signed as “Lillipudian”], “[Castletown] [Letter to the Editor] The Suppression of the ‘Waits,’” *Isle of Man Examiner* 1901: 5f; “[Ballasalla] The string band ...,” *Isle of Man Examiner* 21 December 1901: 5g; “[Castletown] Baseless Rumour,” *Isle of Man Examiner* 21 December 1901: 5f.



BETSY BAKER

Last month, we mentioned the Manx tune Besty Baker: <https://thesession.org/tunes/13073>

Here is another thread of info about the song lyrics: <http://mudcat.org/thread.cfm?threadid=27192>

Betsy Baker

A musical score for the tune 'Betsy Baker' in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is written in a simple, folk-like style with eighth and quarter notes. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff features a more rhythmic pattern with eighth notes. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line and repeat dots.

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

Bollan Bane (White Wort)

Manx trad.
AW Moore &
Clague/Gill Collection



Bollan Bane

NEW video: <https://youtu.be/2Bfe8sO2z1o>

The title of this tune refers to the plant worn to ward off evil spirits in the Isle of Man for Tynwald Day on the 5th of July. It relates to a traditional Manx folktale: a person is lost on the mountains and hears a tune played by Themselves (the fairies). It is the best tune they have ever heard and so they try to learn it, but each time they leave to get home, the tune is forgotten, and so they cannot but return to listen to the tune again.

Versions of the tale (and different tunes by the same title) exist in many manuscripts and publications across the 19th and early 20th centuries. The tune played here appears in the Clague Collection and the Moore Collection of Manx traditional music. It was first published in 'Manx Ballads and Music' by A. W. Moore in 1896.

This performance is by Phil Gawne and Annie Kissack, who perform in a number of Manx groups, including Caarjyn Coidjagh.



CALENDAR

JULY

5th Tynwald Day
6th Cliogaree Twoaie & MFDS, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
7th-9th Dark Horse Festival, Silly Moos
7th IOM Symphony Orchestra concert, St Ninian's Church, 7.30pm £12/£2.50
7th MFDS & Hembygdsgillet perform Regent Street, 11am
7th MFDS music session, Crosby
8th Manx music concert by young musicians, St Olaves Church, Ramsey, 2pm
8th IOM Symphony Orchestra concert, Bunscoill Rhumsaa, 7.30pm £12/£2.50
10th – 15th Yn Chruinnaght presents Celtfest Isle of Man, Peel and Douglas www.celtfest.im
15th YC Celtfest's The Gathering 12-5pm in Peel Cathedral Grounds inc. Manx piano & organ music, St German's tower bells, Share na Veg, Ruth Keggins, Skeddans Jiar, Perree Bane, Bree, workshops, etc. FREE
17th-22nd Celtic Congress, Perth 'The Musical Traditions of our Celtic Nations'
20th Scran & Clash Vooar, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
21st Matt Creer & Ruth Keggins, The Old Grammar School, Castletown, Isle of Architecture concert, 7.30pm

21st Festival of the Sea, evening music stage at Port Erin Beach
23rd Braddan Commissioners Parish Day inc. Manx dancing & music, 12pm
27th Caarjyn Coojdjagh & Perree Bane, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
29th Summerland Memorial Concert, Centenary Centre, Peel 7.30pm, £10

AUGUST

3rd Manx music and dance, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
4-13th Festival Interceltique de Lorient, Brittany
6th Laxey trad session, 12.30pm See inside KMJ for more info
10th Christa McCartney & Biskee Brisht, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
17th Claasagh & Ellan Vannin Pipes & Drums, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
13th Groudle Cliff-top Concerts
24th Perree Bane & Matt Creer, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE

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

www.manxmusic.com

~ SESSIONS ~

TUES 8pm Singaround at The Manor, Douglas
WED 8.30pm Session at O'Donnells, Douglas
THURS 8pm Singing session at The Mitre, Ramsey
FRI 8pm Trad session at The Mitre, Ramsey
FRI Trad session at the Crosby
Last **FRI** of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary
Occasional **SAT** 10pm Manx session at The White House, Peel

~ SESSIONS ~

culture vannin

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