

Pan-Celtic Festival, Carlow ~ 8-23 April 2017 REPORT

This year's Festival got off to a great start with a lively Inter-Celtic Opening Concert in the George Bernard Shaw Theatre in the 'Visual' Centre in Carlow where the Island was represented by four members of Cliogaree Twoaie, Margaid Bird, Clare Kilgallon, Fiona McArdle (all members of the Pan-Celtic Mannin Committee) and Gordon Dickens.

On Wednesday it was the turn of traditional singers, both groups and soloists, where the Matt Creer Band, Matt himself with Jo Evans and Katie Lawrence, did the Island proud by winning the New Song in Traditional Style, which forms a part of the whole competition.

Thursday was a busy day for the Manx with the Matt Creer band, together with Biskee Brisht and some Manx Gaelic speakers held a lunchtime 'Cooish as Kiaull' in one of the Carlow pubs.

This was followed by the big event of the week where the six Celtic nations each put forward their national winning new song in an Inter-Celtic competition. This year's event had some very good original entries, and although the competition was won by the Irish entry this time, Biskee Brisht performed their upbeat 'Nagh Abbyr Smoo' (Say No More) with excellent singing from Ruby Biscoe-Taylor, backed by her group with guitar, concertina and two trumpets. If you'd like to buy the songs, both Biskee Brisht (Facebook) and Matt Creer have their songs in Manx and English for sale on C.D. or download.

Following on that same day there was a Manx – Cornish evening of entertainment which had some fine musical performances and some ceili dancing. Our friends, the Bretons, had their Presidential Year this year so they produced their own programme of entertainment, while 2018 will see the Year of the Manx Presidency with Clare Kilgallon as President.

Friday was the last full day for the Manx in Carlow with more relaxed sessions and performances in one of the Carlow hostelries where the manager loves Manx music since last year's visits of Glashtin and Mec Lir.

The Mannin Committee are most grateful for the continuing financial assistance of the IoM Arts Council (Biskee Brisht) and Culture Vannin (Matt Creer Band) which helps to spread the appreciation of Manx culture among the other Celtic nations and further afield.

Looking forward to 2018 and 2019 the Pan-Celtic Festival will be in Letterkenny, Donegal.

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You can keep up to date at www.panceltic.ie

Report by Fiona McArdle (Photos by Bob Fennell & Pan-Celtic)



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Culture
VANNIN



If you enjoyed Biskee Brisht's Pan Celtic song "Nagh Abbyr Shen", you can buy it on bandcamp or message them if you'd like a CD:

<https://biskeebriht.bandcamp.com/album/biskee-briht>

Listen to Matt's prize-winning song "Ny Boallaghyn Shoh" here:

<https://soundcloud.com/davidrowles/these-walls-matt-creer>



Nominations invited for North American Manx Awards

The endeavours and achievements of young people will again be celebrated through the North American Manx Awards.

Department of Education and Children is inviting nominations for the awards, presented annually by the North American Manx Association.

The awards mainly recognise the achievements of under-18s. However, two awards are open to older recipients, too.



The categories are:

- Manx music
- Art and crafts that portray any aspect of Manx life or culture
- Manx language
- Outstanding contribution to Manx culture
 - (a) By a student under 18
 - (b) By a student over 18
 - (c) By a group of under 25s
- Manx community
 - (a) Outstanding contribution to the community in general – eg, for work with voluntary organisations or with the disabled/elderly
 - (b) Overcoming disability to contribute to the community.

Nomination forms can be downloaded via www.gov.im/competitions or obtained by ringing Frances Hampton on 01624 693830. Nominations should be sent to Frances Hampton at:

Department of Education and Children
Professional Development Centre
School Lane
Santon
IM4 1EG

or Frances.Hampton@gov.im by Friday 19th May 2017.

The awards – specially minted medals – will be presented at the Barrool Suite in the Tynwald building on Friday 7th July.

Graham Cregeen MHK, Minister for Education and Children, said: 'These awards were generously instigated by the North American Manx Association to commemorate the millennium of Tynwald in 1979 and have become a traditional high point in the education calendar.

'They reward young people with talent and who give time to the community, including those who overcome considerable challenges to do so.'



ISLE OF MAN MUSICIANS TAKE CENTRE STAGE AS THEY BRING YOU ELECTRIC BLUES, CELTIC, ROOTS AND WORLD MUSIC!

Gathering together young emerging talents with some of the Island's most successful musical exports, this year's Isle of Man Cyclefest presented by Isle of Man Bank has a truly impressive line up of Isle of Man musicians.

SUPER SATURDAY!

After finishing off the Festival in 2016, MEC LIR are back to kick things off on the PokerStars Stage in stunning style. With a line up boasting Tom Callister and Adam Rhodes (Imar) David Kilgallon (Chronicles) and Greg Barry (The Elephant Sessions), Mec Lir have forged a real following with their fresh approach to traditional music and they're fast becoming festival favourites around the world. And with some new tunes ready to be unleashed, the message from the Cyclefest team is simply don't miss them!

Later on Saturday, the PokerStars Stage welcomes DAVY KNOWLES, back on the Isle of Man for a spectacular homecoming gig. Part of the 'Three Miles to Avalon' European tour, Davy will be taking to the stage with his regular US based band to showcase a new collection of songs in what is simply an unmissable show. Expect vintage blues, gutsy guitar riffs and plenty of Davy's famous fretboard fireworks! This could well be the gig of the year!

GOING CONTINENTAL...

Sunday's headliner is no less impressive: Jamie Smith's MABON are consistently celebrated as one of the UK's outstanding roots acts. The 5-piece band of virtuoso musicians, including the Isle of Man talents Jamie Smith and Paul Rogers, have spent several years performing throughout the UK, Europe and further afield and are renowned for their blistering live shows. Filled with energy, joy and real passion, MABON's sound is an irresistible blend of world music and Celtic roots, and bicycle lovers at Milntown can even enjoy the inspired sound of Brittany and northern Spain, those most famous of cycling regions. The perfect way to end the weekend's action!



Meanwhile, Cyclefest will play host to a number of award winning artists and festival favourites with more of the sound of Mann to be found both days on our Village Stage, which is kindly supported by Isle of Man Arts Council.

MUSICAL YOUTH...

Supporting Mec Lir and playing on Saturday morning are SCRAN, stars of this year's Next Big Thing. The young eight-piece originally came together through BREE – the Island's excellent educational movement for traditional music and dance – and boasts the talents of Raygie Dolloso, Jack McLean, James McNulty, Aerin Roberts, Callum and Fraser Rowe, Mera Royle and Owen Williams. Scran certainly know their roots, but they are not afraid to mix things up and give everything a cheeky youthful twist!

Former BREE student Isla Callister also makes a very welcome return to Cyclefest, this time with her new group TRIP who perform on Sunday afternoon. All currently in their first year at the Royal



Conservatoire of Scotland, the six members of TRIP seamlessly mix the cultures and traditions of Scotland, England, Ireland and the Isle of Man. Along with versatile accompaniment by fellow Scots, Rory Matheson (piano) and Craig Baxter (bodhran), TRIP's combination of melodies from Manx fiddler Isla Callister, Newcastle accordionist Michael Biggins and Sligo flautist Tiernan Courell go to produce a powerful, driven and energetic sound, with Lewis singer Mairi MacLennan adding her beautiful vocals to the group's armoury. Arguable a group with a Manx heart, TRIP are six exciting young musicians you should not miss! Tickets for Isle of Man Cyclefest are on sale now at www.iomcyclefest.com and if you order on line before the end of April, you can enjoy a 10% discount.

WITH THANKS Isle of Man Cyclefest would like to take this opportunity to thank Culture Vannin for their valuable support in promoting Manx traditional music, and also Isle of Man Arts Council for their kind support.

SATURDAY 13th MAY – MILNTOWN ESTATE

- 09:00 Gates Open
- 10:30 VILLAGE STAGE: Scran
- 11:30 POKERSTARS STAGE: Mec Lir
- 12:45 VILLAGE STAGE: Katy Hurt
- 13:30 POKERSTARS STAGE: Laura Oakes
- 15:00 VILLAGE STAGE: Dan Bettridge
- 16:00 POKERSTARS STAGE: Elephant Sessions
- 17:00 VILLAGE STAGE: Kizzy Crawford
- 18:00 POKERSTARS STAGE: William the Conqueror
- 19:00 VILLAGE STAGE: Flats and Sharps
- 20:00 POKERSTARS STAGE: Davy Knowles
- 22:00 Gates Close

SUNDAY 14th MAY – MILNTOWN ESTATE

- 09:00 Gates Open
- 10:00 VILLAGE STAGE: Danielle Lewis
- 11:00 VILLAGE STAGE: Dan Bettridge
- 12:00 POKERSTARS STAGE: Laura Oakes
- 13:15 VILLAGE STAGE: Katy Hurt
- 14:00 POKERSTARS STAGE: William the Conqueror
- 15:15 VILLAGE STAGE: TRIP
- 16:30 POKERSTARS STAGE: Elephant Sessions
- 17:30 VILLAGE STAGE: Flats and Sharps
- 18:30 POKERSTARS STAGE: Jamie Smith's MABON
- 20:00 Gates Close

www.iomcyclefest.com

What a Life!

Music from the
WW2 Isle of Man
Internment Camps

Tuesday 16 May 2017
Erin Arts Centre

Wednesday 17 May 2017
The Studio Theatre, Douglas



WHAT A LIFE!

The Royal College of Music and Ensemble Émigré stage a unique concert with music composed on the Isle of Man. This event will present music written by German and Austrian refugees in the WW2 internment camps on the island to cheer up themselves and their British hosts alike. The bilingual revue 'What a Life!' by Hans Gál, a moving and humorous piece of musical theatre inspired by real life in the camps, was performed to enthusiastic audiences in the Palace Theatre in Douglas in 1940 and can now be heard here again for the first time.

Made up of professional soloists and some of the brightest talent from the Royal College of Music, the group of 12 singers and instrumentalists led by German tenor Norbert Meyn also presents chamber music that evokes the beauty of the Manx countryside, including 'Mooragh' by Ramsey internee Peter Gellhorn and Manx Dance Tunes arranged by W.H.Gill, as well as popular Isle of Man tunes like I'm a Native of Peel and Has anybody here seen Kelly.

Tuesday May 16, 7.30pm ERIN ARTS CENTRE, Port Erin, £10, (u18s £2,-) call 01624 832662 to book

Wednesday May 17, 7pm, THE STUDIO THEATRE, Douglas, £12 (concessions £10, £5 under 16), book through Villa Marina hotline 01624 600555 or online at

<https://www.thestudiotheatre.im/what-a-life-music-from-the-isle-of-man>

The ensemble will be joined by talented students from the Isle of Man for this performance. Refreshments available for a donation.

This project is kindly supported by the IOM Arts Council, Culture Vannin and the Malcolm Scott Dickinson Charitable Trust.

Visit the Royal College of Music website for information about Émigré musicians in Britain.

www.rcm.ac.uk/singingasong



Manx Folk Awards Review 2017

DEC, Culture Vannin & Manx National Heritage



1224
entrants

4 days

56 classes

2 venues

16 harpists

112 whistle players

263 dancers

452 singers

24 schools

27 Manx Gaelic Readers

12 adjudicators

7 HOUSE BAND MUSICIANS

THE MANX FOLK AWARDS HAVE BEEN RUNNING FOR SIX YEARS NOW. ORGANISED BY DEC IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CULTURE VANNIN AND MANX NATIONAL HERITAGE, THE AWARDS ARE OPEN TO CHILDREN UP TO AGE 18. THE MANX FOLK AWARDS TAKE PLACE AT THE DOUGLAS YOUTH ARTS CENTRE AND THE ROSEMOUNT TRINITY CHURCH AND INCLUDES COMPETITIONS FOR MANX MUSIC, DANCE, SINGING, RECITATION AND MANX GAELIC READING.



Sun

SECONDARY

April 2nd 2017

Mon

KEYSTAGE 1

April 3rd 2017

Tue

KEYSTAGE 2

April 4th 2017

Wed

KEYSTAGE 2

April 5th 2017

See all the MFA results here: <http://manxfolkawards.weebly.com/2017-winners.html>

"Very well organised event and non-threatening for the kids. Well done!"



"Just wanted to say thank you to all the team for a great 4 days at the Folk Awards. Our children have loved every moment. They have commented on how great it is to be able to hear other schools performing and to enjoy all the performances."

"Thanks again for organising, we all said that the involvement from schools has grown and people are being much more adventurous in their choice of dances. It has really encouraged us to think about what we could do next year."



"My class loved taking part and are already asking if they can do it again next year! It was a brilliant experience for them all"

"Thank you for the great work you've been doing with the Folk Awards and indeed thanks for inviting me to judge. I had a great time, please call on me again in the future if you need me. Gura mie mooar ayd!"



2017 FOLKTASTIC AWARD

New for 2017 3 Folktastic Awards were presented on each of the Primary competition days. Sponsored by the Malcolm Scott Dickinson Charitable Trust the £50 prizes were awarded for the most outstanding performance of the day.



2017 Folktastic prize winners:
Aalish Kilgallon & Joshua Clarkson, Anagh Coar School and the Dhoon School



ISLE OF MAN POST OFFICE CELEBRATES THE ISLAND'S RICH ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

Isle of Man Post Office is proud to present a vibrant and artistic 'Isle of Man Festivals' miniature sheet featuring five popular Manx festivals that celebrate the Island's cultural heritage. The stamps which have been designed locally by Isle of Man Advertising are due for issue 6th April 2017.

Each stamp on the miniature sheet has a value of 75p, a festival image and micro text featuring words relevant to the specific event.

The initial stamp image features the 'Mananan International Festival' using an image of conductor's hands. The festival, which was established in 1975, is held annually at the Erin Arts Centre, and had the late Sir John Betjeman as its first patron. This prestigious event has long attracted leading stars from the world of classical music, jazz, theatre and films to the Isle of Man.

The next stamp in the collection pays tribute to 'Manx LitFest', first held in 2012. The image depicts a reading at the festival which celebrates the written word by bringing together authors, poets and readers from around Britain for six days of literature-focused events.

The third stamp showcases 'The Manx Competitive Music, Speech and Dance Festival', also known as 'The Guild', which marks its 125th anniversary in 2017. The stamp shows an image of a female performing at the festival, which was first held in December 1892 as a one-day event but has now evolved to a week of performance and competition.

The penultimate stamp depicts a traditional dancer at the Ramsey-based 'Shennaghys Jiu', which brings together many young performers from across the Celtic nations. In 2018 the festival will have its 20th anniversary and continues to demonstrate a wide range of talent in music, dance and other disciplines.

The final stamp shows an accordion player at 'Celtfest Isle of Man', the new name for the summer 'Yn Chruinnaght' (The Gathering) unveiled in March. Celtfest IOM features arts, crafts, dance, language and music, and is a celebration of Manx culture and the relationship between the Isle of Man and the other Celtic countries. It traces its origins back to the 1920s, and the work of William Cubbon, becoming established as Yn Chruinnaght in the late 1970s thanks to the efforts of Mona Douglas and others.

Commenting on the stamps, a spokesperson for Culture Vannin said: "We're delighted to see five fantastic festivals in the Isle of Man featured in this issue. Culture and arts are at the heart of our communities, they are key to celebrating a sense of place, and of sharing that with everyone who wants to enjoy it. Not only do we have very fine Celtic traditions here, we have a love of the arts that runs deep within us, that knows that Islands such as our own are meeting places for culture and creativity, for crystallising new ideas and taking them forward."

Isle of Man Stamps and Coins General Manager Maxine Cannon added: "With this year's traditional festivals on the Isle of Man due to begin, we at the Isle of Man Post Office are proud to celebrate the artistic and cultural heritage of the Island with the release of this miniature sheet. The festivals, ranging from those that have been running for more than 100 years to those more recently established, are a tribute to all those who have been involved with Manx arts and culture over the years."

"We'd like to thank Culture Vannin for its support and assistance in helping to bring this stunning sheet together."

The Isle of Man Festivals stamp issue can now be viewed and ordered at www.iompost.com/festivals

Buy the set of miniatures here for £3.75: www.iompost.com/stamps-coins/collection/isle-of-man-festivals/

Lots of familiar faces from Cornwall, Galicia and Ireland joined Manx musicians and dancers to celebrate Shennaghys Jiu's 20th anniversary festival! Check out the SJ Facebook for more pics & videos. Photos: Jiri P



THE MANX MUSIC SPEECH & DANCE Festival

The 125th anniversary of the 'Guild' has been a great success, and there was plenty of Manx music and dance in the classes this year. As well as own choice Manx songs, dance and tunes, a selection of Manx folk songs had been set for all of the children's solo classes; from Fairies' Dance to Red Top Knots.

RESULTS:

www.manxmusicfestival.org/results-2/2017/

<< One winner was Abbigail Radcliffe (pictured with her teacher, Laura Rowles of Mannin Music) who won the Violin Class for Grades 4 and 5. Abbigail played "Flitter Dance" and "Tune for Grandad" by the Guild's

own Katie Lawrence, earning her the L.G. Martin Cup.

Bunscoill Rhumsaa's folk group Share na Veg snapped up first prize in the Instrumental Ensemble yrs 1 - 6 with their set of Manx reels.



Regency Rejigged and Manx Folk Dance Society Easter Weekend

Report by Joan Cowell, MFDS

On Friday 14th April, Regency Rejigged arrived independently, by various means, to stay in a variety of accommodation.

At 10.30am on Saturday 15th April they danced on the paved Square in Laxey Village, near the Electric Tram Station, next to the Main Road with the Manx Folk Dance Society (MFDS). The weather was a bit cool, but the audience who turned up was delighted with the entertainment.

At 8pm that evening they attended the Regency Ball/Dance arranged by the MFDS in Onchan. It was planned that both groups would provide musicians and callers for the 'Regency dances', but it ended up with both groups wanting to try the other's genre, so it was an evening of shared dancing with a delightful 'home-made' supper.

The weather was a bit damp on Sunday 16th April, so Regency Rejigged began their time in Ramsey drinking coffee in the Court Café opposite the

Courthouse, waiting for the rain to ease. Luckily at about 11am the rain stopped, and although a little damp underfoot, they performed outside the Courthouse for a good 30 minutes. After lunch they went to dance under the canopied area in the Mooragh Park, near Costa Coffee, as the rain had become more persistent. That evening members of both groups enjoyed a meal at the Barbary Coast in Douglas.

Then on Monday 17th April, both groups danced in Castletown Square on a lovely sunny morning to an appreciative audience. Just before lunch, they moved into Castle Rushen and both groups danced in the atmospheric Hall next to the Kitchens in the Keep.

It was a wonderful way to end the Easter Weekend of shared dancing.

photo thanks:

*Jiri Podobksy &
Joan Cowell*





Perree Bane
performed
at
Cregneash
on a
beautiful
sunny May
Day.

*Photos by
Ben Harris &
Ali Beales*



Imar (starring
Manx musicians
Tom Callister &
Adam Rhodes)
went down a storm
at the Centenary
Centre last month!

Photo: Val Caine



Music & Arts Festival

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

DARK HORSE

darkhorsemusic.im

Adult Tickets
18 and over - £55.00
Child Tickets
12 and over - £20.00

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,
Mumz Cider Co.

The Dark Horse Stage
Han-FX/JorDMC & The Bendy Sex Whistles, Reetz Stag, Mz. Tiger, The Rock Knights,
Fletcher Christian Mutiny, Phil Reynolds & The Dearly Departed, Post War Stories, The
Fektones, 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, Herma... 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

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

Deep South Festival

Colby, Isle of Man

Friday 30th June Saturday 1st July
and Sunday 2nd July 2017

See Website for ticket information www.deepsouth.im

The Isle of Man Family Festival



MAIN STAGE



FRIDAY

10.00 dodgy
9.00 Bill Ryder Jones
8.00 Clown calls for war
7.00 Phil Reynolds & DD
6.00 Tom 'Mouse' Smith



SATURDAY

10.00 The Beat
8.00 Abel Raise the Cain
7.00 Freddy James Band
6.00 Psychotic
5.00 The Ballaghs
4.00 FCM
3.00 Baad Acid
2.00 People Republic of Mercia
1.00 Ian Thompson Band
12.00 Clash Vooar



SUNDAY

5.00 BEM
4.00 Jake Orritt
3.00 Paul Jackson
2.00 Tender Rage
1.00 Alice Dudley
12.00 Rushen swing



ALTERNATIVE STAGE

FRIDAY

8.00 Dubloons
7.00 Daisy Dixon
6.00 Hamish
Faragher



SATURDAY

7.00 David Castro
6.00 Dave Hester plus
5.00 5 o'clock shadows
4.00 Poetry unlimited
3.00 Castletown Training
2.00 Shoh Slaynt
1.00 Perree Bane
12.00 Ballasalla Choir



SUNDAY

5.00 Irish Dance
4.00 School of Rock
3.00 School of Rock
2.00 Christa
McCartney
1.00 Richardson SQD
12.00 Stereo



FLO'S STAGE

FRIDAY

8.00 The Fektones
6.30 Matt Kelly



SATURDAY

8.00 People Republic of
Mercia
6.30 Loose Crew
5.00 Mad Daddy
3.30 the
1.00 13th pillar
11.30 Eugene Wilson
11.00 yoga w/ tj dreamfish

SUNDAY

5.00 The Mollags
3.30 Kim
2.00 the
12.45 The Ballaghs
11.45 The wild Hive
11.00 Meraki choir
10.00 Gypo

All Artists correct subject going to Press

Bree ayns y Twoaie

Youth group Bree will be 'down North' for this month's session. Open to young musicians and singers 10-18 yrs (and anyone else who fancies joining in with some tunes), the session/workshop will be at Ramsey Town Hall boardroom from 2 - 3.30pm on Sat 13th May.

Sunday Session in Laxey

12.30 - 3pm
4th June

All welcome. Young, old, dogs, cats, rabbits, piano players, Lots of food, lots of fun, fantastic place to spend a Sunday afternoon!!



Tel. Mary for more details: 493365

Bingo Night
St Marks School House
Saturday 6th May 2017
At 8pm
Faith Supper
Prizes to win
All welcome
www.manxfolkdance.org.uk
e-mail: mfds@manx.net

POST GUILD CONCERT

Showcasing
 competitors mainly
 from the West

Wednesday 10th May 7.30p.m.
 St John's Methodist Church Hall

Comper: Judith Ley Accompanist: Gareth Moore

Admission £7 on the door including Country Supper

RUTH KEGGIN BAND at the Mananan Festival

Wednesday 21st June 2017

Ruth Keggín is a Manx Gaelic singer who is passionate about bringing Manx music and language to a wider audience. Her debut solo album, Sheear ('Westward'), which features traditional and contemporary Manx Gaelic songs, was released in February 2014 to critical acclaim. Her second solo album was released in summer 2016.

Ruth and her band have given live performances and interviews on BBC Radio 3, BBC Radio Wales and 'Seirm' on BBC Alba (television), and Ruth has also been a feature-presenter for, and sung on, the BBC 2 television programme 'Coast'.

www.ruthkeggin.com

Starts: 8pm / Tickets: £10 | Under 18s £2

MORE INFO: <http://erinart9.wixsite.com/events/mananan-festival-events>

IOM ARTS COUNCIL MANX MUSIC & DANCE SUMMER SEASON

Free concerts in Villa Marina Arcade, 7.30pm

July

Thursday 6th Gaelic choir CLILOGAREE TWOAIE & the MANX FOLK DANCE SOCIETY
 Thursday 20th Bands nights with the MOLLAG BAND & CLASH VOOAR
 Thursday 27th Gaelic choir CAARJYN COOIDJAGH & Manx dancers PERREE BANE

August

Thursday 3rd MANX TRAD MUSIC & DANCE CONCERT various performers
 Thursday 10th CHRISTA MCCARTNEY singer & harpist plus TBC
 Thursday 17th CLAASAGH harpists & ELLAN VANNIN PIPES & DRUMS
 Thursday 24th PERREE BANE Manx dancers & singer-songwriter MATT CREER

Croan Yn Tead / The Lissenhall Harp Ensemble Easter Cultural Exchange

Report by Peddyr Cubberley

Over the Easter weekend local young Manx trad group Croan Yn Tead hosted a visit to Mann by The Lissenhall Harp Ensemble from Ireland. The visitors arrived in two waves by boat and plane from Dublin and settled in with their hosts before embarking on a busy weekend schedule.

On the evening of Maundy Thursday the two groups held rehearsals at the Mitre Hotel in Ramsey, and then combined to run through their joint sets as one big group in preparation for their forthcoming concerts on Easter Saturday & Monday.



Easter Friday

saw an outing to the House of Manannan and our visitors were very impressed by the site indeed. The day concluded with an evening music session where 30+ people made up from musicians from both groups, descended on the weekly Irish music session at the Mitre in Ramsey. The room was heaving and the music flowed all night!

On Easter Saturday at the Youth Arts Theatre in Douglas, a workshop was held where the two groups took it in turns to trade tunes, and some of the younger local harpers who also attended received one-to-one tuition on their harps.

The workshop was later followed by an evening concert featuring Croan Yn Tead, Fiana Ní Chonail, and The Lissenhall Harp Ensemble. Fiana played a selection of tracks from her debut CD "Dathanna an Cheoil" and was accompanied on bodhrán for a couple of sets by John Corlett of Mactullagh Vannin fame. To conclude the evening, Croan Yn Tead and The Lissenhall Harp Ensemble joined forces for the last quarter of an hour and played a few sets together to a very warm and appreciative audience.

After a day of relaxing on Easter Sunday, the groups and their entourage held a social night at the Mitre Hotel in Ramsey and were treated to an excellent buffet, followed by yet another music session. This was a great time to get to know one another, forge friendships and have a great night of 'ceol agus craic' - music and fun! The final day of activities and music was held on Easter Monday with a visit to Cregneash in the morning, followed by a concert - "Cashtal as Kiaull" (Music at the Castle) in the Presence Chamber at Manx National Heritage's medieval castle at Castle Rushen. The room was packed out and again the audience was very appreciative and a great way to finish off the exchange weekend.

Croan Yn Tead would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all the following people and organisations for their hard work, help and hospitality:- Carl & Selina Joughin and staff at the Mitre Hotel, Ramsey. Fiona Helleur and volunteers at the Youth Arts Theatre, Douglas. Manx National Heritage for the use of Castle Rushen, and for accommodating us during our visits to some of their sites over the weekend. Chloe Woolley of Culture Vannin. And finally, to all the members and families of both Croan Yn Tead and The Lissenhall Harp Ensemble for making the exchange such a memorable and successful weekend – Gura mie moar eu! / Go raibh maith mór agaibh!

MANX ACTS at Lorient 2017

This year's Manx delegation of performers will be Birlinn Jiarg, Annym and Rushen Silver Band! Event Management Solutions manager Peter Young and his team of volunteers will be running

the Isle of Man Pavilion, which, as well as providing visitor and cultural info, local food and drink and souvenirs, will include live entertainment throughout the afternoons and evenings, with the support of Culture Vannin and IOM Arts Council.



www.festival-interceltique.bzh/

MANKS CONCERT ONLINE

The brilliant Manks Concert held in memory of Sophia Morrison is now available to watch online in 19 parts.

The concert which took place in the Peel Centenary Centre on 14 January 2017 marked the centenary of the death of Sophia Morrison, perhaps the most important figure in Manx cultural history. The event was a showcase of the culture of the Isle of Man, including music, dance, song, theatre, poetry, stories and more.



The event was organised by Manx Branch of the Celtic Congress, the Mannin Branch of the Celtic League and Mec Vannin. It was filmed by Culture Vannin thanks to their generosity.

The evening's entertainment included performances by from Peel Clothworkers' School, Ny Fennee, Caarjyn Cooidjagh, Scran, Christine Bregazzi, Clare Christian and others. It culminated in a performance of Christopher Shimmin's 1912 Manx dialect theatre play, 'The Charm', followed by a presentation to the Michael Players of the RBV 2017 for their contribution to Manx culture over the past 60 years.

The full set of 19 videos from the Manks Concert is available to view online here:

www.culturevannin.im/video_story_474392.html

Some wonderful photos by Jiri Podobsky can be downloaded from here: www.flickr.com/photos/146057732@N07/albums/72157679735285746

KIAULL NOA ~ NEW MUSIC

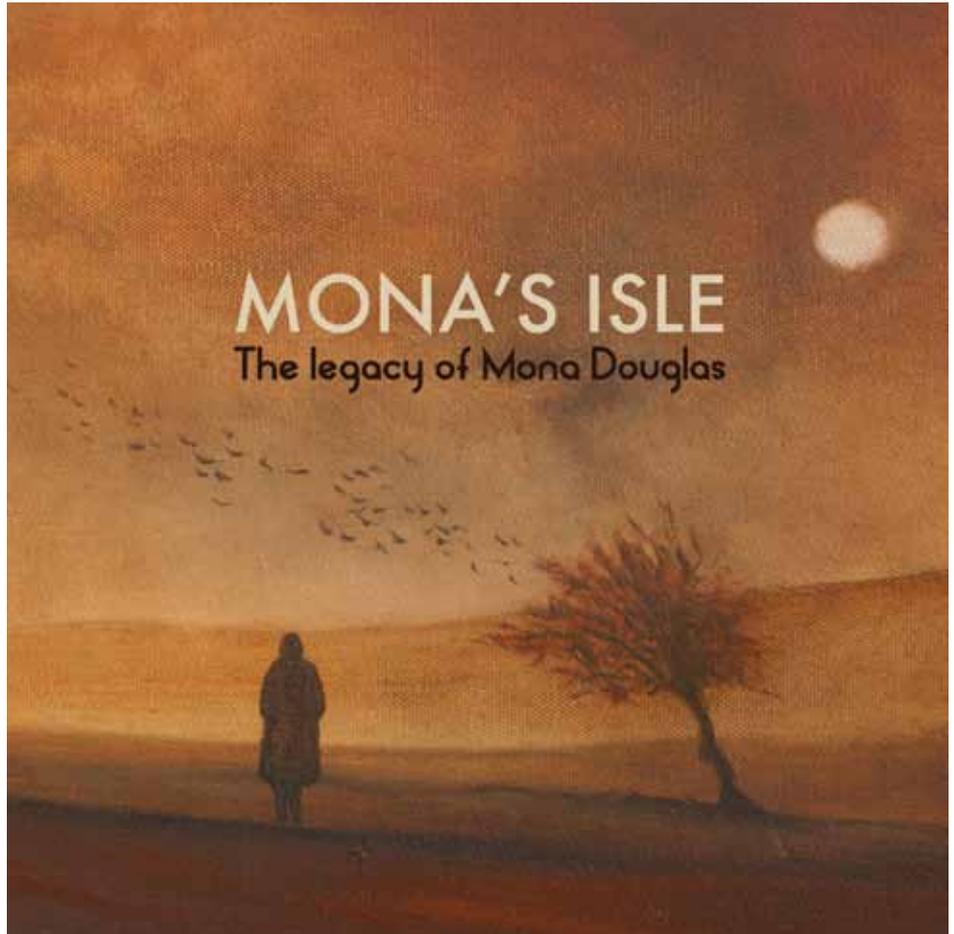
NEW!! Mona's Isle: The Legacy of Mona Douglas

Culture Vannin has released a new CD and DVD gift pack of new songs featuring original and traditional Manx music in celebration of cultural revivalist Mona Douglas.

The CD features 11 tracks and the DVD is divided into 8 sections from a live concert held in the Centenary Centre in 2012.

Musicians are Aalin Clague, Alanna Cowley, Annie Kissack, Bob Carswell, Breesha Maddrell, Bruno Cavellec, Chloe Woolley, Clare Kilgallon, Dave Kilgallon, Dave Mclean, Greg Joughin and Mandy Griffin.

£12.99 in local shops and direct from Culture Vannin.



There is a scutch of music and dance GIFS now available to download and share from Culture Vannin website:

<http://manx.net/isle-of-man-.../82599/manx-culture-on-the-move>



NEW EP from:
*Jules Verne Theory –
Apex Predator*
<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/album/apex-predator-ep/id1215010657>



RESEARCH NEWS



There was an excellent exhibition upstairs in the Villa Marina during this year's Guild. Researched by Nigel Crowe and others, the panels told the story of the Guild from its inception 125 years ago. The committee would like to continue adding to their research and archives:

GUILD MEMORABILIA, ANECDOTES, FAMILY HISTORY?

If you looked hard in that cupboard, photo album or box, would you turn up reminders of personal or family involvement in the Festival? Do you have any stories or anecdotes you could share, perhaps tapes to listen to, or records of a group which used to take part?

As part of the 2017 Festival, and as a way of celebrating the 125th Anniversary, it is intended to work in conjunction with the IOM Family History Society and Culture Vannin. We hope to improve our records of previous Festivals and ensure that, going forward, a formal archive is built up. We are not collecting original artifacts, but would welcome the chance to copy or record anything relevant which you are able to share. An exhibition will run from April 21st to May 17th, 2017 in the Circle Gallery at the Villa Marina featuring some of the new material.

Suggested topics

- A moment in the life of the Guild
- My family and the Guild (perhaps recent family involvement)
- Cleveland medal/trophy anecdotes
- Baume scholarship recipients/memories
- More substantial pieces on families

If you can help, please contact us on manxguild@gmail.com



Ballasalla School Manx Dancing 1980's

One of the photos in the Guild exhibition - do you recognise anyone?!

A NATIVE OF PEEL.

Sung at "King Gobnageay" on Hollantide Night,
November 12th, 1902.

Words by W. Hanby. Music by Harry Wood.

I'm a native of Peel,
And I think, for a meal,
That there's nort'hen like taters an' herrin';
I was reared on the quay,
So I foller the say,
An' its middlin' good fishin's I'm gerrin'.

Chorus.

Then here's to the hake and the herrin',
And here's to the win' blowing free,
To the blue sky above and the gel that I love,
Here's a health to our bhoys on the say.

MANX TRANSLATION.

Purt-ny-hinshey, rag mee,
As son lhongey dy vee,
Cha nel veg goll-rish praaseyn as skeddan;
Va mee troggit er'n key,
Nish goll shiauley ta mee,
As ceastaghyn braew vie ta mee gedding.

Cborus.

Shoh slaynt da'n voekglass as yn skeddan,
As shoh cys yn gheay sheidey harrin,
Gys yn aer gorrym erskyn as y'neen baillish
lhiam,
Shoh slaynt da ny guillyn ain er y cheavn.

J. NELSON.

A Native of Peel Examiner 1902 12 27

The Festival of Man 1951

Maurice Powell would be delighted to hear from anyone who took part in the remarkable Isle of Man Pageants in Ramsey, Peel, Castletown and at the Nunnery in June and July 1951.

Perhaps you were one of the hundreds of children who took part in the Manx dances, or were a Viking, a Celt or a smuggler!

Any surviving photographs or Festival Programmes loaned to him will be very carefully looked after and returned.

Contact Maurice Powell:
jommelli@manx.net
or 07624 426939

“A MANX SONG IN LONDON”

ROBERT BECK AND THE GRAND GAELIC CONCERT

(1899)



The London Gaelic League, an association formed for the preservation of Irish as a spoken language, and for the cultivation of the National Literature and Music, held a Grand Gaelic concert at the Bloomsbury Hall, Hart-street, Bloomsbury-square, W.C., on Tuesday evening last. At these concerts, which are held periodically, all other branches of the Gaelic tongue are represented as well as the Irish, with the result that a programme so varied in speech, and so effective from a musical point of view, could scarcely be presented anywhere else than in London, where, it is said, and to be found representatives of all the nations upon earth. The Gaelic League, is true to its name. It seems odd that in these latter days a meeting can be held in England consisting of people of British or Irish both, and yet not a single word of English spoken from the platform during the course of a long evening. Irish there was galore, Welsh, Scotch Gaelic, Cornish, Breton, and Manx. The indefatigable lady secretary, anxious that no Gaelic tongue should be omitted, hunted up the London Manx Society, and by their help, ran to earth a singer of songs in the Manx language, and accordingly Mr Robert Beck, of Douglas, now residing in London, readily and patriotically consented to represent Ellan Vannin Veg Veen in this modern Babel of tongues, and right well did he perform his task by singing “Mylecharane.” Mr Beck’s song was beautifully rendered, and elicited much applause. The plaintiveness and branty of the air surprised those who had no former acquaintance with the language and music of the Island. It is much to the honour of Mr Beck, who was accompanied by Mr John Prowde, of London, that he so well represented the Island on such an important and interesting occasion. The programme of songs, was varied by instrumental music, consisting of Irish pipes and harp, and Scotch pipes; Irish jigs, reels, hornpipes. Scotch sword dances, etc., and altogether the gathering made up a unique sort of entertainment.

“A Manx Song in London.” *Peel City Guardian* 11 November 1899: [2]g.

In the 1891 census, Robert Farish Beck was 15 years old, and a pupil school teacher living with his family at 11 Dalton Street in Douglas. His father, William, was a corn and flour miller, born in Ballaugh. His other sibling, Sarah, was born in Douglas and

their mother, Eleanor, was English.¹ By the time of the census in 1901, he was now boarding in London at 102 Elderfield Road, Hackney, and employed by the London County Council as an assistant school master.² The 1911 census saw him married to Amelia Mary Beck, from Sheffield, and with a two-year old daughter, Beryl Aldwyth Beck. Whilst still an assistant school master, the family were now living in Walthamstow, Essex, at 18 Silverdale Road, Highams Park, Chingford.³



¹ *Census Enumerators' Book* for Douglas 1891, RG 12/4689, fol. 51, sch. 22.

² *Census of England & Wales* for 1901, RG 13/218, fol. 150, sch. 10.

³ *Census of England & Wales* for 1911, RGI4PN9730 RG78PN514B RDI88 SDIO ED56 SN67.

by Stephen Miller, Vienna

“SUNG OUTSIDE THE HOME OF THE DECEASED” A NOTE ON FUNERAL HYMNS IN BALLAUGH



William Brew, of Frowde's Croft in Ballaugh passed away in 1949. The *Ramsey Courier* reported that '[t]he hymn "O God our help in ages past", was sung outside the home of the deceased and "Abide with me" was sung in Ballaugh Church.'¹ Earlier in 1925, the *Ramsey Courier* carried a mention of the funeral of a Mrs Kinrade of Sulby Glen who was interred at Ballaugh: 'Outside the door of her house at "Killabregga," Mr John Killip (Clenagh) announced the hymn, "Jesu, Lover," [...].'² At Ballaugh Old Church itself, 'the Rector of Ballaugh conducted a service, when the hymn, "Rock of Ages," was feelingly sung by those present.'² This was clearly a common practice at one time in Ballaugh and as ever one wonders if it took place in other parishes as well. It is interesting, however, to see that whereas Kinrade lived in Lezayre she was buried in Ballaugh and this suggests that it may have been a particular practice for people born and buried in the parish.

Stephen Miller, 2017

REFERENCES

Anon, "The Late Mrs Kinrade," *Ramsey Courier* 15 May 1925, 7d.

———, "Funeral of Mr W.A. Brew," *Ramsey Courier* 23 September 1949, 5c.

¹ "Funeral of Mr W.A. Brew," *Ramsey Courier* 23 September 1949, 5c.

² "The Late Mrs Kinrade," *Ramsey Courier* 15 May 1925, 7d.

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

The image shows a handwritten musical score for a Manx song. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are written in Manx Gaelic. The first system begins with the title 'O'lhianyr' and the lyrics 'gemin gannaght daagh oorr. Oyn fakin my sodjey my mee, agh'. The second system continues with 'poreeyn share t'er you ooir, yeagh dooye g'vooion miljid er bee agh'. The third system has 'ghrian shourte jeeaghyn bree. Oyn maghyn fardail da eur meos agh'. The fourth system concludes with 'tra ta mee mayrey jays jee Ja'n geurey myr sourey dou ciht'.

Not transcribed yet, but Kelly McCarthy from the **North American Manx Association** recently found this piece of music with Manx lyrics handwritten by her grandfather, H.P. Kelly (who wrote Cadlee ny Moidyn Moirrey or "Bee dty host, my lhiannoo veen").

We hope to share a transcription of the music and lyrics with translation in a later edition of KMJ. If anyone has any information on the song, please let us know!

CALENDAR

MAY

3rd-5th Celtic Media Festival, Douglas
www.celticmediafestival.co.uk
6th MFDS Bingo Night, St Marks School House, 8pm
10th Post-Guild Concert, St John's Methodist Church Hall, 7.30pm £7 on the door, inc. supper
13th-14th Mec Lir, Mabon, Scran, Trip, Davy Knowles, etc. IOM Cyclefest, Milntown
www.iomcyclefest.com
13th Bree music session, Ramsey Town Hall 2-3.30pm
16th What a Life! Music from IOM WW2 Internment camps, EAC, 7.30pm £10
17th What a Life! The Studio Theatre, Ballakermeen HS, Douglas, 7pm £12
19th NAMA nominations Closing Date
20th Caarjyn Coidjagh, Isle of Architecture concert, Villa Arcade, 2pm
21st Opening of Nick Barlow and Julie Roberts art exhibition, with Manx music from Kirsty Lawrence. Isle Gallery, Tynwald Mills, 2pm

JUNE

16th Clash Vooar and others, Isle of Architecture concert, Peel Lifeboat House
19th – 1st July Manannan Festival, Erin Arts Centre

21st Ruth Keggin Band, Manannan Festival, 8pm £10

30th-2nd July Deep South Festival

JULY

6th Cliogaree Twoaie & MFDS, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
7th-9th Dark Horse Festival, Silly Moos
10th – 15th Yn Chruinnaght presents Celfest Isle of Man, Peel and Douglas
20th Mollag Band & Clash Vooar, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
27th Caarjyn Coidjagh & Perree Bane, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE

AUGUST

3rd Manx trad music & dance concert, various performers, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
4-13th Festival Interceltique de Lorient, Brittany
10th Christa McCartney, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
17th Claasagh & Ellan Vannin Pipes & Drums, IOMAC concert, Villa Arcade, 7.30pm FREE
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

For information on Manx music & dance contact:
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Call: Chloë: 01624 694758
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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