

COOISH MANX AND INTER-GAELIC FESTIVAL 7-13 OCTOBER 2012



Claare yn Choish - Cooish Programme

Jedoonee 7 Jerrey Fouyir – Sunday 7 October

Dr Emily McEwan-Fujita from Canada will discuss the current status of Scottish Gaelic in Nova Scotia. The lecture takes place at 2pm at St John's Mill. Nee Emily loayrt mychione yn çhengey ayns y Chanadey.

Leaght Ned Maddrell – Ned Maddrell Lecture

Jelune 8 Jerrey Fouyir – Monday 8 October

Manx Gaelic Youth Group in Douglas at 7.30pm
Possan aeglagh ec Cafe Laare ayns Doolish

Jemayrt 9 Jerrey Fouyir – Tuesday 9 October

Manx for beginners in Port St Mary at 7.30pm
Gaelg son toshiaghteyryn ec Patchwork ayns Purt le Moirrey

Jecrean 10 Jerrey Fouyir – Wednesday 10 October

Leaght y Ghaaue (lecture in Manx)

Manx Gaelic Lecture entitled Boalley Hadrian with Peter Hayhurst at 7.30pm, Nunnery Chapel, Doolish

Jerdein 11 Jerrey Fouyir – Thursday 11 October

Food & Cooish at Greens, St Johns, 7.30pm (tickets only)
Bee yn Choish ec Greens ayns Balley Keeil Eoin

Jeheiney 12 Jerrey Fouyir – Friday 12 October

Concert in Peel featuring Scottish duo Macmaster/Hay
Doors open 7.30pm for 8pm start, tickets £10/£7 concession on the door or from the usual outlets
Kiaull y Choish en Ynnyd Keead Blein ayns Purt ny h-Inshey

Jesarn 13 Jerrey Fouyir – Saturday 13 October

Fysseree as kiaull ayns Doolish
Information stand and music during the afternoon in Regent Street Douglas (1pm - 4pm)
Gaelg as Kiaull ec yn Albert ayns Purt le Moirrey - Session at the Albert in Port St Mary from 8pm

More info online: www.learnmanx.com

Mona's Isle - a special concert celebrating the life and work of Mona Douglas featuring newly composed songs 22 September, Centenary Centre, Peel



This fabulous concert featured Paul Bradford & Clare Kilgallon, Charles Guard & Annie Kissack, Rachel Clarkson & John Kilgallon with Sharon Christian, Caarjyn Coidjagh, Cliogaree Twoaie and The Band - a group of songwriters, musicians, singers and arrangers who had developed new songs inspired by Mona Douglas' collected material, her poetry and her life. The songs performed were: Winds of Summer (Carswell); Fabulous City (Joughin); Revolt (Kissack); The Garden (Mclean); Who is that Mona Douglas? (Kissack); Kiaulleeaght Kiune (Maddrell/Clague/Carswell); Thie ny Garee (Kissack); Snaih (Clague). The Band was: Dave Mclean, Greg Joughin, Clare Kilgallon, Annie Kissack, Breesha Maddrell, Chloe Woolley, David Kilgallon, Bob Carswell and Aalin Clague. Bob Carswell prepared images which were projected in the main hall, as well as an exhibition in the Atholl Room. *Jeant dy mie, Dave & co!*

Fockle ny ghaa - a word or two from organiser, Dave Mclean

The credit (or blame!) for the idea behind the evening should go to my wife, Lizzie. We have several CDs of musical collaborations in our collection, notably 'The Cecil Sharp Project', where musicians had got together for a week to write a set of songs to honour the English folklorist/collector Cecil Sharp, and then they performed them at Shrewsbury Folk Festival. Lizzie said we should do something similar on the Island, and I immediately thought of Mona. By a spooky coincidence this year was the 25th anniversary of her death.

With a large dollop of 'it seemed a good idea at the time', I asked a bunch of Manx musicians, all better players and stronger characters than me, to get involved, and a couple of workshops and a few rehearsals later we had a set of songs, all very different, but all in some way connected to Mona.

I thought, if it all goes wrong, I hope Mona's spirit will realise that we did it with the best possible motives, i.e. to remind the Island what a huge debt we (and future generations) owe Mona (and a few other notable people, of course!) for preserving so much of our cultural heritage that makes the Island such a special place. I would also like to thank the Manx Heritage Foundation and the Centenary Centre for making the project possible at all.



Photos Jiri Podobsky & Rob Cowley



A spooky weekend of
free Manx music workshops
for young singers,
musicians & dancers
in school years 6 - 13

Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 October
10am – 4pm

Douglas Youth Arts Centre,
Kensington Road, Douglas

Concert for family & friends Sunday at 3pm

FOR MORE INFO email: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im or tel: 695787
Organised by the Manx Heritage Foundation & the IOM Youth Service



Bree 'Hop tu naa' Weekend Workshop 27 & 28 October 2012

On Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th of October the annual Bree weekend will take place at Douglas Youth Arts Centre on Kensington Road. Bree (Manx for 'vitality') is a Manx Gaelic youth arts movement consisting of workshops in music, language and dance.

The workshops are aimed at young people aged 10 to 18 (school years 6 – 13) who sing or play fiddle, mandolin, whistle, flute, guitar, bodhran, piano and harp (although other instruments are accepted if prior notice is given). Previous experience of Manx music or Gaelic is not necessary, but enthusiasm is essential!

With a spooky Hop tu naa theme throughout, the workshops will focus on skills associated with the various instruments, as well as developing group arrangements. Workshops will also take place for those interested in singing, dancing, drama and composition, song writing and improvisation.

The October Bree weekend is led by local Manx musicians, dancers and language experts and ends with a concert for family and friends. The

workshops will take place between 10am and 4pm on both days but will finish with a concert for family and friends at the end of the second day from 3pm.

Bree is organised and funded by the Manx Heritage Foundation and the Youth Service and it is a learning destination for the IOM Children's University.

There is also a Bree youth session held one Saturday a month at Douglas Youth Arts Centre along with occasional workshops from visiting musicians and busking opportunities. Bree is a great place to make new friends, form new bands, have fun and be really creative with Manx culture!

For more information, or for an application form, please contact Dr Chloë Woolley by email: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im, phone 695787 or see www.manxmusic.com [education pages].



Peeps into the Past – historical articles relating to Manx music

Between 1956 and 1971, journalist Syd Boulton wrote hundreds of articles about Manx history for the Ramsey Courier and the Courier (Isle of Man) newspapers. He spent hours in the Manx Museum researching interesting local stories from the Victorian newspapers and brought them back to life for his readers. Last year, Sue Woolley transcribed and reprinted a selection of his articles in her book Peeps into the Past: a Tribute to Syd Boulton (2011), but she also listed every single title from the Peeps into the Past series for the benefit of further research.

Now, the Peeps into the Past articles which refer specifically to the history of Manx music, calendar customs and the tourist entertainment industry have been selected by the Manx Music Development Team and transcribed by David Radcliffe for the Manx Heritage Foundation. The articles selected are:

VARIETY SHOWS IN RAMSEY COURT HOUSE
EARLY DAYS OF "THE GUILD"
CHURCH SERVICES IN THE MANX LANGUAGE
ENTERTAINMENTS OF THE GAY NINETIES
IN THE DAYS OF THE "OIEL VERREYS"
PLACE-LORE OF MICHAEL AND BALLAUGH Penitents Who Danced Scottish Reels
A FLASHBACK TO THE 1890s -The Fourth Music Guild-
MUSIC MAKERS IN MANN -The Days When Every Family Had a Violin
THE STORY OF THE GOOD SHIP 'TYGER'
CHRISTMAS IS COMING AND... Old Customs Recalled - Singing Of Carvals (Carols)
ENTERTAINMENTS OF BYGONE DAYS - The "Bluebeard" Pantomime of 1883
LAA COLUMB KILLEY
THE SOUND OF MUSIC – IN MANN
MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS OF THE 1890s
THE BEST-EVER VISITING SEASON FOR THE ISLAND
ENTERTAINMENT GALORE FOR THE HOLIDAYMAKERS OF 1888
CHRISTMAS SEVENTY YEARS AGO
THE GAY SUMMER OF 1888
THE STORY OF THE RUSHWORTH FAMILY
SPENCE LEES - MUSIC HALL OWNER
DERBY CASTLE – THE FIRST MUSIC-HALL IN DOUGLAS
OLD DOUGLAS THEATRES

These articles can be downloaded for free via http://www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_233711.html
They will also be made available on a DEC educational wiki as a useful resource for the Manx history curriculum. Sue Woolley's book is available in most Island bookshops or online: www.presenceofmann.com/engine/shop/product/peepsbook/Peeps+into+the+Past

ARRANE SON MANNIN ENTRIES SOUGHT!

Arrane son Mannin (a song to represent the Isle of Man) will be held in November/December 2012 and the winning group will go to the Pan-Celtic Festival in Carlow, Ireland, at Easter 2013.

Competition organiser, Fiona McArdle, is hoping for lots of entries - new songs - original lyrics and music - with the option to find Manx translators and people to help with pronunciation. For more details of the competition - which is open to any style of music - please contact Fiona on: fmcardle@manx.net

Full details of the festival are available online: www.panceltic.ie

Spot the Manx harp player..!

The first of 5 LP albums for Claddagh Records of Dublin, it was recorded in April 1977. Photo was taken by Angus Forbes - on edge of Dumbarton Rock looking out over the Clyde estuary - on May 29, 1977, showing Manx harpist Charles Guard, Mick Broderick, Rab Wallace (Lowland Pipes), Rae Siddall (violin), Eddie McGuire (flute, alto flute) and Peter Anderson (side drum). The tracks include Duncan Johnstone's Farewell to Nigg, The Battle of Sheriffmuir, Sword Dance (Strathspey Gillie Callum and 3 reels), 2 Eddie McGuire tunes, The Harper and Mrs McGuire as well as music from Brittany and Ireland.



GROUPS WANTED TO REPRESENT THE ISLE OF MAN IN LORIENT, BRITTANY FOR THE AUGUST 2013 FESTIVAL

In August 2012, Barrule, Ny Fennee and David Kilgallon, Russell Gilmour, Ruth Keggin and Dave Pearce represented the Isle of Man at Europe's largest Celtic festival in Lorient, Brittany. Such a huge festival starts its planning early so now is the time to think about applying to represent the Island at next year's event.

The festival committee has to approve any recommendations made by each nation's delegate, and to do that they are keen to hear recorded tracks and to see video footage of dance groups. Bands who have a CD to sell usually are favoured over those without, although it is not essential.

The festival dates for 2013 look to be 2-11 August. You would be expected to attend for as much of the festival as possible and to perform at the IOM pavilion to support the whole delegation.

Please email Aalish Maddrell to express your initial interest...sending demos will come later:
aalishm@yahoo.com



Funding Applications Invited



Manx National Heritage
Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin

The Department of Community, Culture and Leisure is promoting a new festival for the Isle of Man which will celebrate our unique traditions and heritage surrounding Hop Tu Naa. The Isle of Man already has a busy programme of activities during Hop Tu Naa and we will be incorporating many of them into the festival and including them in the official festival programme.

The Arts Council and the Manx Heritage Foundation have agreed to support the festival and through funding provided by them we can offer some financial support for activities you may be planning during Hop Tu Naa. As well as receiving this support your event will be included in the festival programme and all official promotion. To apply for funding please visit www.iomarts.com or phone 694598 for an application form which should be returned by no later than **10th October**. Your event or activity should promote one or all of the following:

- Community participation
- Youth engagement
- Artistic and craft activities
- Celebration of Hop Tu Naa
- Traditional Manx cultural activities



Bree-lliant opportunities for young musicians!

Young musicians in school years 6–13 are invited to join us at one of our forthcoming events and become a part of the ever-growing Bree Manx music youth movement. We'd prefer you to be fairly competent on your instrument, but no experience of Manx music is required! Singers and dancers are also welcome to join us for our big Bree weekend in October. Each month we have an informal instrumental session where we play from the *Bree Session Tune Book* – this is usually held at Douglas Youth Arts Centre on a Saturday afternoon, but occasionally we take to the streets and busk! Once in a while we have workshops too - the main one being our annual October weekend at DYAC where young musicians, singers and dancers hone their skills and put on a wonderful performance for family and friends. All activities are free.

FORTHCOMING BREE EVENTS 2012

Sat 6 October 3 – 4.30pm Bree Scottish music workshop @ Peel Centenary Centre with singer/guitarist Jenn Butterworth & double bassist Euan Burton

Sat 27 & Sun 28 Oct 10am – 4pm Bree 'Hop tu naa' 2 day workshop Weekend (see application form at end of newsletter) @ DYAC

Sat 10 Nov 3 – 4.30pm Bree session @ DYAC

Fri 7 Dec 7 - 8pm Bree at St Ninians Lower School (Bemahague) Christmas Fayre

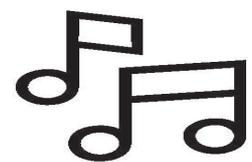
Sat 8 Dec 2 – 3pm Bree Christmas Busking @ Strand Shopping Centre

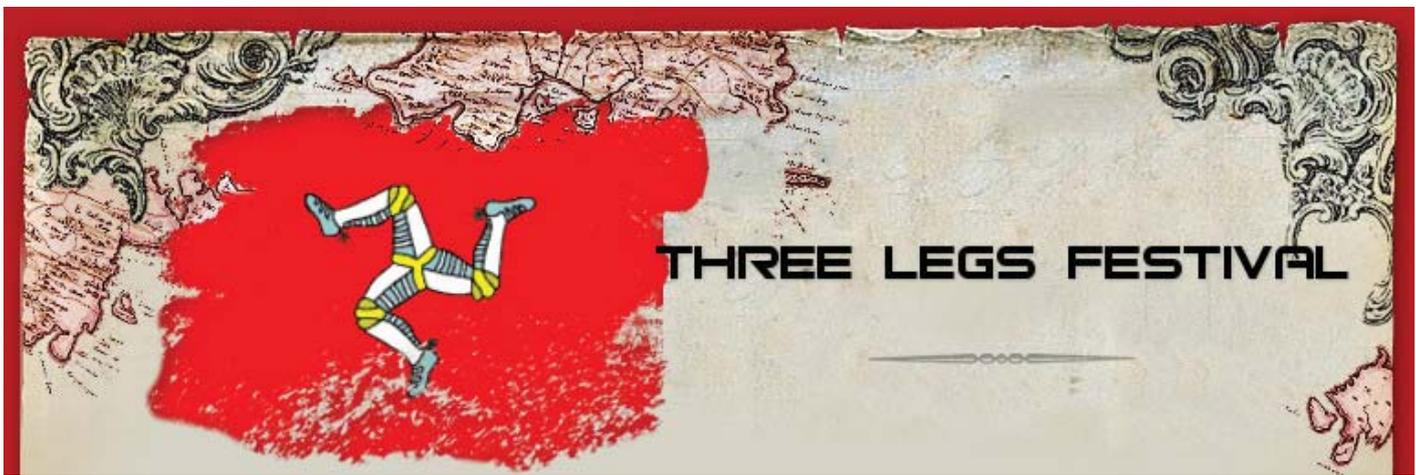
The Bree Session mix 'n' match tune book is available to buy from the Manx Music Development Team for just £10. If you'd like to come along to Bree or buy a book, please contact Chloë:

manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im



reee





Sunday 28 October – LAU www.lau-music.co.uk

Centenary Centre, Peel with support act Erika Kelly & Malcolm Stitt

BBC Radio 2 folk award winners, (best band, 2008, 2009, 2010) LAU are this generation's most inventive folk band - brilliant musicians, thrilling performers and free-thinking visionaries. This is a launch gig for their new album "Race The Loser" which pushes Lau's complex, yet accessible sound, even further to the outer reaches of folk music whilst retaining all the strengths of the original acoustic trio (Kris Drever Vocals/Guitar, Martin Green Accordion, Aidan O'Rourke Fiddle).

Support from the very talented harpist Erika Kelly and outstanding guitarist Malcolm Stitt.

Monday 29 October – "Adventures Of A Waterboy" an evening with Mike Scott

Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas www.mikescottwaterboys.com

The Waterboys' frontman marks the launch of his memoir "Adventures Of A Waterboy" with an evening of readings from the book, followed by a short acoustic set with his colleague, fiddler Steve Wickham. The Waterboys are best known for classic songs like "The Whole Of The Moon" and ground-breaking albums including "This Is The Sea" and "Fisherman's Blues".

Friday 2 November – O'Hooley & Tidow

Centenary Centre, Peel <http://ohooleyandtidow.com>

Belinda O'Hooley and Heidi Tidow met on the Huddersfield music scene and started songwriting and performing together in 2009. According to the Guardian "the weekend's best band" at the recent Cambridge Folk Festival (<http://tinyurl.com/OH-T-Guardian>), this duo's beautifully unusual songs touch on everything from dark folk tales, ecology and cross-dressing historical figures through to the invisibility of the elderly and the global economy.

Tickets for the Centenary Centre gigs from Celtic Gold and Peter Norris Music.

Tickets for the Villa Arcade from www.villagaiety.com

Brought to you by JonnoPromotions, supported by the IOM Arts Council and in association with Peter Norris Music.

**KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR INFO ON WORKSHOPS
FROM THE LIKES OF LAU:
[HTTP://THREELEGSFESTIVAL.COM](http://THREELEGSFESTIVAL.COM)**

**FOR HOP TU NAA, JONNO HAS ARRANGED A WHOLE HOST OF
ACTIVITIES IN THE VILLA MARINA ARCADE ON 31 OCTOBER**

****TURNIP LANTERN CARVING WITH JOHN DOG CALLISTER (2-4PM)**

****FACE-PAINTING WITH JO CALLISTER (2-4PM)**

****MANX SONGS & DANCES WITH THE MANX MUSIC DEVELOPMENT
TEAM (4:30PM-6:00PM)**

****A MANX MUSIC NIGHT AT DOUGLAS YOUTH ARTS CENTRE
(DETAILS AND TIME TBC)**

**ANNIVERSARIES SHOW JUST HOW MANY YEARS
SO MANY TALENTED VOLUNTEERS HAVE PUT
INTO MANX MUSIC AND DANCE!**

HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY TO
PERREE BANE MANX DANCERS

HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY TO THE
PHYNNODDEREE FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC SESSIONS

SOME HOP TU NAA LINKS FOR YOU TO ENJOY:

MIKE JACKSON AND IAN BLAKE FROM SING HOP TU NAA ON
AN EARLY 'WIGGLES' VIDEO 1992!!:

WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=2X2YNBE-SOO&FEATURE=RELATED

HOP TU NAA PACK – DOWNLOAD SONGS, DANCE
INSTRUCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES:

[HTTPS://WWW2.SCH.IM/GROUPS/MANXCURRICULUM/WIKI/
CEF0F/MANX_HERITAGE_FOUNDATION_.HTML](https://www2.sch.im/groups/manxcriculum/wiki/cef0f/manx_heritage_foundation_.html)

HOP TU NAA TRAIN:

[WWW.TICKET-HALL.COM/2012/07/HOP-TU-NAA-GHOST-
TRAINS/](http://WWW.TICKET-HALL.COM/2012/07/HOP-TU-NAA-GHOST-TRAINS/)

CREGNEASH:

[WWW.MANXNATIONALHERITAGE.IM/WHATS-ON/DETAIL/
TRADITIONAL-HOP-TU-NAA/](http://WWW.MANXNATIONALHERITAGE.IM/WHATS-ON/DETAIL/TRADITIONAL-HOP-TU-NAA/)

COMING SOON ...

A free educational resource for viola students will soon be available online. *Fiddyl Vooar* is an extension of the fantastic Manx violin tutor pack, *Fiddyl* which was produced for the Manx Heritage Foundation by Laura Rowles last year.

Fiddyl Vooar is an introduction to Manx music for the viola, and the downloadable book contains solo pieces, duets, and pieces for string groups. Graded from beginner to Grade 3 level, it also contains pieces which may be played in the Isle of Man Music Service graded exams. As it contains some of the same material in the same keys, *Fiddyl Vooar* can also be used alongside the original *Fiddyl* (violin) book and with the piano accompaniments in the teacher's book. The original *Fiddyl* books for violin student and teacher are available to buy from the Manx Heritage Foundation: http://www.manxmusic.com/publication_187495.html



Rachel Hair Trio in concert - Saturday 6 October Centenary Centre, Peel, 7.30pm

"One of the UK's finest contemporary Celtic harpists and tunesmiths" *Songlines*

"Nominated Folk Band of the Year" *Scots Trad Awards*

One of the leading bands on Scotland's vibrant folk scene, the Rachel Hair Trio, presents a sparkling blend of melodic harp mastery, rootsy songs and sophisticated rhythmical drive. Fronted by acclaimed harpist-composer Rachel Hair and featuring the much-in-demand singer-guitarist Jenn Butterworth and top Scottish double bassist Euan Burton, the group has honed a repertoire drawn from traditional, contemporary and international sources to create performances that crackle with character, passion, verve and joie de vivre.

Support is provided by "Claasagh" a group of young Manx harpers that Rachel tutors once a month on the island with the support of the Manx Heritage Foundation.

Tickets are £10 from the usual Centenary Centre outlets or on the door



HOW OLD IS “JINNY THE WITCH”?

by Stephen Miller

Here is not meant the putative witch herself but rather the dating of the rhyme itself. While “Jinny the Witch” is nowadays synonymous with Hop-tu-Naa itself, as a rhyme it is only a part of what once was a much wider song tradition in the Island connected with this Hollantide calendar custom and one which has seen change over the past century or so. It is clear that there was once a very different and, moreover, lengthier song text from the nineteenth century, the one recorded by collectors of the time and versions of which appeared in A.W. Moore’s *Manx Ballads and Music* (1896) and Dr John Clague’s *Cooïnaghtyn Manninagh: Manx Reminiscences* (1911). Moore’s text consists of some twenty-two lines; Clague’s version is slightly longer with twenty-six lines recorded. Sung with a refrain after each line this must have been a lengthy piece to perform and of course thereby reduced the amount of money that one could collect from a household for its performance.

This version (referred to here for convenience as “the nineteenth century text”) appears to have been generally known across the Island and recounts the events of a supposed feast taking place on the (presumably) evening of the 30 October. The action is surrealistic: firstly, a heifer is chosen with which to make broth. Upon tasting it, the broth maker’s throat is scalded and they run to a well to drink water in order to soothe it. Returning, they meet either a witch-cat (or a polecat) and make a hasty flight to Scotland. There, they meet a woman “baking bannocks and roasting collaps,” or cutting cheese.

At the same date that the nineteenth century text was collected, the forerunner of “Jinny the Witch” was also recorded. The first thing that must be noted is the name: “Jenny Swinny,” Dr John Clague [1892 or after]; “Jinny Squinney,” Rev. T.E. Brown (1895); “Jinny the Winny,” Edmund Goodwin (1912); “Jinnie the Winnie,” vamd (1924); “Jinny the Whinney,” W.W. Gill (1932); “Jinny the Winny,” J.J. Kneen (1935); “Jinny Squinny,” Cyril I. Paton (1941); “Ginny the Swinney,” Charles E. Watterson [c. 1948–50]; “Jinny the Spinney,” John Comish (1950–55). Not a witch in sight. Until the recent programme of digitising the Manx newspapers, the earliest reference to “Jinny the Witch” was by one C. Ethel Flanagan from an interview by the Manx Museum Folk-Life Survey in 1957. Newspaper accounts (six in number) giving “Jinny the Witch” (and the rhyme largely in the form that we know it today) date largely between 1944 and 1960—and earlier from 1900, published by “Oie-Hauiney” in the *Manx Sun* for 3 November: “Jinny the Witch went over the house / To get a stick to lather the mouse / Jinny the Witch went up to the claddagh / To get her apron full of faggots.”

What at first seemed like a neat separation (as well as a linear development) between the names of the character has been thrown into doubt by this 1900 text; that said, it is a singular appearance in both the printed and oral record of the rhyme for its date. It is difficult to see how this name (“Jinny the Witch”) was not recorded by any of the figures mentioned above, most of who were in fact active collectors of Manx folklore. That said, even if the 1900 text is an anomalous one, the question still stands as to when and how the earlier recorded names dropped out to be replaced by “Jinny the Witch” and for the rhyme to develop its present form.

Returning to the nineteenth century text, changed and localised versions of that song appear in Castletown and Peel. The action is maintained but “Jinnie the Winnie” now appears, later to be changed to “Jinny the Witch” in the case of the Peel version. The textual addition is simply that, an insertion that does not add to the narrative and so is an episode that stands apart. The lengthier version (from Peel) comes from W.W. Gill’s version published in 1932: “I saw Jinny the Whinney / Go over the lake / A griddle in her hand / All ready to bake / Her teeth were green / And her eyes were red / And a thickness of hair at her / Upon her head.” From Castletown, as noted down by Charles Watterson (c. 1948–50): “Ginny-the-swinney went over the house / To get a rod to baet [beat] the mouse / Ginney-the-swinney went through the hole / To get a rod to baet the foal.” The Castletown episode has the familiar form of the rhyme sung today and would seem to be able to be sung separately unlike the Peel one; but, as ever, without a wide textual base to all of the songs and rhymes much comment remains speculative.

The Castletown version does not appear now to be known at all whereas the Peel text is still in circulation. That there is a differing text sung on the west coast of the Island is often a complete surprise to those on the east coast who know just the “Jinny the Witch” rhyme. (And for that matter the turnip lantern is held differently, the stalk being used as a handle.) Why does this version continue while the

Castletown one has gone? Peel School when opened in 1953, so the Isle of Man Examiner reported in 1967, had held since that date an annual “Hop-tu-Naa Competition,” and that year alone 150 children had entered the competition. The Peel text, published in the Vocabulary of the Anglo-Manx Dialect in 1924, has the cachet not only of obviously being from the town itself and a different and distinctive text from those of the rest of the Island, but also associated with the names of Sophia Morrison and Edmund Goodwin, Peel-born and editors of the Vocabulary. Such an activity as reported here has the result of promoting and maintaining the Peel text for children born and brought up in the town. The Examiner piece reported that “[t]his tradition of ‘hop-tu-naa’ has been carried on in the school since it was first built in 1953 [...]” and further, it is “a 14-year-old Tradition of Peel School.” One might wonder how it can be called a tradition after just fourteen years but it does show how a community handles the notion of tradition albeit here in the form of an institutional setting and promotion rather than as an academic notion.

Hop-tu-Naa is a Manx calendar custom that has come under pressure from two directions. Firstly, from the Church of England, with the accusation of its association with Satanism through the simple name of the subject of the rhyme, “Jinny the Witch” and the common perception that it is a Celtic custom and thereby Pre-Christian and Pagan. The Bishop of Sodor and Mann in 1992 called on his flock (and others) in the title of an article in the Diocesan News to “Celebrate Hallowe’en as a Christian Festival,” suggesting a “Saints and Sausages” or “Banners and Buns” evening instead of Hop-tu-Naa. Secondly, from the increasing influence of the American-inspired commercialisation of Hallowe’en; as Colin Jerry had written the previous year in Yn Pabyr Seyr, it is “Hop-tu-Naa not Hallowe’en” (the title of his article there).

The earliest link between Hop-tu-Naa and the notion that it has an association with witchcraft comes from 1934, when the Examiner reported on St Mathew’s holding a Hallowe’en party for the children of the school. As part of the decoration in the school hall there was what was described as a “witches’ kitchen.” A photograph of the event held the next year, 1935, shows that the witch was no other than the Vicar himself dressed up as an old crone—presumably “Jinny the Witch,” though that, frustratingly, is not stated. He (or rather, when in character, she) is described as “brooding over the pot.”

We are still left to “brood” over “Jinny the Witch” and, for that matter, the “pot” that is Hop-tu-Naa in general. The custom has seen considerable change: the familiar lantern carved from a moot is a recent innovation as indeed is the “Jinny the Witch” rhyme. This has displaced the nineteenth century text all over the Island save for Peel. But even there, that version was maintained through the intervention of Peel School. The incorporation of a notion of witchcraft into Hop-tu-Naa was through the advent of the “witches’ kitchen” in the 1930s at St Mathews. It is somewhat ironic that a custom that was later to be castigated by the Bishop of Sodor and Mann as having satanic roots had its likely origin in the dressing up by one of his former vicars as a witch in more recent times.

Stephen Miller, Vienna

Feddan – phase 3

Five more schools will be tootling away on tin whistles soon as part of the IOM Music Service’s Primary Music Initiative. After half term, whole classes at Manor Park, Jurby, Arbory, Braddan and Foxdale primary schools will be learning Manx tunes such as Bee dty Host, The Cormorant and Traa dy Gholl dy Valley through the Feddan scheme of work led by Manx music specialist Chloë Woolley. Some of the previous participating schools, such as Marown and Peel Clothworkers, have continued playing their whistles and started their own clubs.

To find out more about the 6 week Feddan whistle course, get in touch with Chloë.

~ SESSIONS ~

THURS 8pm Singing session at The Royal, Ramsey
FRI 8.30pm Tynwald Inn, St. Johns FRI 9pm Irish at The Mitre, Ramsey
Folk at the Club (1st or 2nd Fri of month), 8pm, Peel Golf Club
Last FRI of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary
SAT 10pm Manx at The White House, Peel

GIENSE LAA RUGGYREE



PERREE BANE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU
TO JOIN THEM

FOR THEIR 30TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

SUNDAY 16TH DECEMBER.....7PM

BALLASALLA VILLAGE HALL, MILL ROAD

BRING A PLATE OF FOOD TO SHARE AND YOUR OWN DRINK
MUSICIANS, BRING YOUR OWN INSTRUMENTS!!

BOCK YUAN FANNEE
MANX SOCIAL DANCING
AT ST. OLAVE'S HALL, RAMSEY, 8PM

STEPS FOR BEGINNERS/
JUNIORS 7.30PM
2ND AND 4TH
SUNDAYS
OF THE MONTH
23RD SEPTEMBER
14TH AND 28TH
OCTOBER
ADULTS £2 : JUNIORS
£1 (UNDER 10S
ACCOMPANIED)
CONTACT PAT: 366269



LEARN SOME MANX DANCING THIS
AUTUMN AND KEEP FIT, HAVE FUN AND
MEET SOME PRETTY DARNED LOVELY PEOPLE!

LEARN MANX DANCING WITH PERREE BANE
6 WEEKS OF LESSONS AT £3 A WEEK AND THEN A CEILIDH TO
CELEBRATE OUR 30TH BIRTHDAY

STARTS SUNDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 7PM-8PM

BALLASALLA VILLAGE
HALL, MILL ROAD,
BALLASALLA

JUST COME ALONG -
ALL WELCOME!

WE WOULD LOVE TO
SEE MUSICIANS AS
WELL.

PHONE CAROLINE
HELPS 467751 /
833208 FOR MORE
DETAILS IF NEEDED.



Restoration of the organ in the Nunnery Chapel

Well-known organ repairer and tuner, Peter Jones, has been working on the restoration of the organ in the Nunnery Chapel.

The instrument dates from 1869 or earlier and part of the work being carried out is to restore, as far as possible, its original appearance. This has become a significant part of the project and work on the wooden panelling has been deemed necessary, with the introduction of a brass rail as a safety measure for the player.

The work has been funded by the Manx Heritage Foundation.

Peter Jones says "We are continuing to make good progress on the restoration of the organ, though there is still some way to go."

These photos show suggested changes and restoration work in progress.



MANX MUSIC & DANCE AT THE FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL AT KNOCKALOE

PERREE BANE, MFDS AND NY FENNEE WERE ALL DANCING AWAY AT THE FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL. MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT OVER THE WEEKEND CAME IN THE FORM OF STRENGYN, SKEEAL AND STAA, AMONG MANY OTHERS, I'M SURE!



TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

Kiaulliaght Kiune

A
D
E
C#m
D
E

A
F#m
A
D
E
C#m

D
E
A
F#m
A
E
D

E
C#m
A
D
Bm
D
E7
A

Tune collected by Mona Douglas from Mrs Clague, Dalby.

New lyrics in Manx by Breesha Maddrell, Bob Carswell & Aalin Clague

Magh er keayn garroo mooar
Ta tonnyn myr sniaghtey as rio
Ta towl beg gaase ayns my chleean
Cho follym, cho lomarcán mish
By vie lhiam goll magh cho foddey ersooyl
Dys y voayl eddyr keayn as speyr
Sy voayl raad ta kiaulliaght kiune
Kesh ta getlagh syn aer
As lhieeny yn speyr lesh e spreih
Veih drogh-chiarailyn y theihll
Ta feme er kemmyrk as fea
By vie lhiam goll magh cho foddey ersooyl
Dys y voayl eddyr keayn as speyr
Sy voayl raad ta kiaulliaght kiune
Magh er keayn garroo mooar
Caillt ayns gorrym as glass
Ta famlagh filley my chorp
Cho follym cho lomarcán mish
As cassit mygeayrt gyn smooín'yn erbee
Dys y voayl eddyr keayn as speyr
Sy voayl raad ta kiaulliaght kiune

*Out on a great, wild sea
The waves are like snow and ice,
An ache grows in my breast,
How empty and alone am I!
I would like to go out, so far away
To the place between sea and sky,
The place where there is quiet music.*

*Sea-foam flies through the air
And covers the world with the spray,
Needing refuge and respite
From the wicked ways of the world,
I would like to go out, so far away
To the place between sea and sky,
The place where there is quiet music.*

*Out on a great, wild sea
Lost in blue and green
Seaweed entangles my body,
How empty and alone am I
Twirled around without a thought
To the place between sea and sky,
The place where there is quiet music.*

ONE OF THE NEW SONGS FROM THE MONA'S ISLE CONCERT...

Years ago, Bob Carswell rediscovered a tune collected by Mona which we performed at a 'Spirit of Mona' evening at the 2004 Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic Festival. I thought that it would be a good starting place for a song about how Mona's writings pointed to a sense of loneliness, countered sometimes by the peace of the 'space between' and her recognition that we are always journeying. In true collaborative style, I wrote the first verse and Bob and Aalin quickly provided the other two. **Spare copies of the Mona's Isle souvenir programmes with lyrics are available.**

CALENDAR

October

5th Folk at the Club, Peel Golf Club, 8pm £2

6th Bree traditional youth music Scottish workshops (ALL WELCOME), Centenary Centre, Peel, 3pm

6th Rachel Hair Trio in concert with Claasagh in support, Centenary Centre, Peel, 7.30pm £10 from usual outlets

7th-13th Cooish Inter-Gaelic Festival - see newsletter for details www.learnmanx.com

12th The COOISH presents Macmaster/Hay with Ruth Keggin & Matt Creer and members of Club Kiaull (QEII) in support, Centenary Centre, 8pm. Tickets £10/£7 from usual Centenary Centre outlets.

12th Mactullagh Vannin ceili for Friends of Arbory School. Tickets on door or from school. Adults £2.50, children £1.50, Arbory School, 7pm

17th-21st Barrule at Lowender Peran, Cornwall www.lowenderperan.co.uk

27th&28th Bree traditional youth music workshop weekend, Douglas Youth Arts Centre 10am-4pm - see end of newsletter for the application form

28th Lau at the Three Legs Festival with Erika Kelly and Malcolm Stitt in support, Centenary Centre, Peel, 8pm £20

29th Mike Scott at the Three Legs Festival, Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas, 8pm £18 tickets from www.villagaiety.com (NB 6 for the price of 5 deal available)

31st LOTS OF **HOP TU NAA** events around the Island - see press for details, including opportunity to learn Manx songs and dance with the MHF Manx Music Development Team, Villa Marina Arcade, 4.30-6pm and a Manx music gig at DYAC that evening...

Please send in dates so that we can publicise events here & online: www.manxmusic.com

November

2nd O'Hooley and Tidow at the Three Legs Festival, Centenary Centre, Peel, 8pm, £15

11th Castletown Met Silver Band at Remembrance Sunday services, Castletown and Peel

December

2nd Castletown Met Silver Band at St Barbara's Day Parade/Service, St Thomas' Church, Douglas

7th Bree at St Ninian's Lower School Christmas Fayre (Bemahague), 7pm

8th Bree busking in Douglas, Strand Shopping Centre, Douglas, 2-3pm

16th Caarjyn Coidjagh at Malew Church, 6.30pm

16th Perree Bane party and faith supper, Ballasalla Village Hall, 7pm FREE

Irish Set Dancing Classes

Social set dancing class starts

Thursday 13th September

8 pm upstairs at Macbeths Pub,
Victoria Street, Douglas

Beginners will be taught basic steps and movements in a fun environment

Keep fit - Have fun - Have a beer

Anyone interested in having a go at set dancing is welcome

Musicians also welcome to play for dancing or just have a tune

This is a social get together venue with dancing for any ability - beginners to experienced

Turn up and have a go

or just arrive for skeet and beer

THE WEEKEND STARTS ON THURSDAYS!!

For Further information

call **Dave Collister 457268**

manx heritage foundation ~ undinys eiraght vannin

For information on Manx music & dance contact:

Manx Music Development Officer **Dr Breesha Maddrell: mhfmusic@mhf.org.im**

Manx Music Specialist **Dr Chloë Woolley: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im**

www.manxmusic.com

Call: Breesha: 01624 695784 or Chloë: 01624 695787

or write to: MHF Music Team, The Stable Building, The University Centre,
Old Castletown Road, Douglas, Isle of Man IM2 1QB



Written and edited by Breesha Maddrell for the Manx Heritage Foundation

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

BREE OCT 2012 APPLICATION FORM

Name of Student.....
 School.....School year.....Age.....
 Address.....
 Contact tel. no. of parent/guardian.....

Tell us some more about your musical interest:

What instrument(s) you play:

Fiddle Mandolin Whistle Flute Singing
 Guitar Bodhrán Piano Harp Other

What else you are interested in:

Composing Song Writing Manx Dance Drama

How long have you played your instrument/s?

Have you passed any grade exams on your instrument/s? Yes/No

If so, specify grade/level..... Yes/No

Have you played Manx music before? Yes/No

Do you perform in a folk music or dance group in or out of school? Yes/No

If so, which group/s?

- ♫ Students will require their own instruments where applicable.*
- ♫ No experience of Manx music needed, but students are expected to be competent on their instrument and must be in school years 6 - 13.*
- ♫ Students will require a packed lunch or written permission to leave premises (U16).*
- ♫ Students are expected to attend the whole weekend, unless otherwise agreed.*
- ♫ Bree is a Children's University 'learning destination'.*

Please return this application form by Monday 15 October to:

Dr. Chloë Woolley, Manx Music Specialist,

The Stable Building, The University Centre, Old Castletown Road, Douglas, IM2 1QB

FOR MORE INFO email: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im or tel: 695787

Filming and photos may be taken during over the Bree weekend for future promotional use.

Parents – please sign here if you object to your child appearing in photographs:



Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 October

10am – 4pm

Douglas Youth Arts Centre,
 Kensington Road, Douglas

Concert for family & friends Sunday at 3pm

FOR MORE INFO email: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im or tel: 695787

Organised by the Manx Heritage Foundation & the IOM Youth Service

