

mean foyyir - september 2013

CDS LAUNCHED AND THOUSANDS WOWED BY MANX PERFORMANCES AT BRITTANY'S CELTIC FESTIVAL

Two new Manx CDs were launched and thousands of festival-goers entertained by high calibre Manx acts at Europe's largest Celtic festival in Lorient, Brittany, at the beginning of the month. The three acts demonstrated to the full the sheer variety and professionalism coming out of Manx traditional music circles in recent years: Scammylt, Caarjyn Coidjagh Manx Gaelic choir and trumpet and organ duo Chronicles.

Scammylt chose the festival as a platform to launch their debut EP 'Sheeynt', performing to critical acclaim throughout the festival's ten days. The band infuses traditional and newer compositions in the Manx idiom with jazz. Their good humour and natural warmth on stage won them many fans. Their CD 'Sheeynt' will be available in the Island's shops very soon.

A demo CD by Manx trumpet and organ duo, 'Chronicles', attracted the keen interest of Europe's media. David Kilgallon and Russell Gilmour presented their exquisite arrangements of Manx and other music on trumpet and organ as well as cornetto (early wind instrument) and violin. Performing at an official VIP reception and in the Eglise Saint Louis, they impressed the festival's president, who thought their musicality truly breathtaking. Audiences left gigs feeling uplifted and refreshed!

Ten singers from Manx Gaelic unaccompanied choir, Caarjyn Coidjagh, presented traditional and more recently composed songs arranged by the choir's director, Annie Kissack. As a more established group, they promoted their third CD, 'Skellyn', at the festival, and performed alongside Chronicles in the Eglise Saint Louis, in the large Espace Marine as well as in a wonderful disused underground water reservoir at Enclos du Port. With a ten second natural reverb or echo, the singers had to carefully select and sing material that would work in such an unusual acoustic, adding instrumental sets to bathe the listeners in sound. Caarjyn Coidjagh were delighted to have been selected to appear on the festival's official CD, Annie's original song 'Mish as y Keayn' featuring alongside the likes of Sinead O'Connor, Clannad and Capercaille.

As ever, Festival Interceltique de Lorient provided the perfect backdrop to

promote Manx culture to a wider European market. As one Italian journalist remarked, the Isle of Man always presents something that is remarkable, something a little different – it is this sense of difference that gets us noticed!

Both new CD projects were funded by the Manx Heritage Foundation, an organisation which helps to support and promote Manx culture.

For more about the festival:

www.festival-interceltique.com

photo of Scammylt by Mark Lawrence



Chronicles
Music for Trumpet & Organ inspired by the Chronicles of Mann
Russell Gilmour & David Kilgallon.

Prologue.
Limited Edition EP

1. Swedish Set 05:10	2. Manx Set 08:42	3. Sun Set 05:18
Swedish One (Traditional Swedish Folk Tune)	Berres Dhone (Traditional Manx Folk Tune)	Iree Ny Greinney (By the Waterside, Isle of Man)
Constantine (Traditional Scottish Folk Tune)	Rreaghyn Dy Vannin (Traditional Manx Folk Tune)	Gruagach Bhan a' Mhin-fruail (Traditional Scottish Folk Tune) *Followed by a Whisky Song*
Swedish Two (Traditional Swedish Folk Tune)	Mylecharaine's March (Traditional Manx Folk Tune)	

www.chronicles.im



Visby Folkdansgille visit the Manx Folk Dance Society

30 musicians & dancers from Visby Folkdansgille from Gotland in Sweden took the long journey from their island home, by ferry to mainland Sweden & an overnight stay in Stockholm, to the Isle of Man via Gatwick, arriving in the late afternoon of Friday 9th August. As there were so many of them they stayed in the Trevelyan Hotel in Douglas and not in family homes, which is the usual arrangement for dance groups visiting the Manx Folk Dance Society (MFDS). That evening the two groups got reacquainted over a hotpot meal in Onchan.

The next morning both groups, in dance costume, headed for Peel, by the scenic route so that they could dance for about

1 hour between them by the Lifeboat House, as part of the Traditional Boat Weekend Celebrations. The weather was kind and audience was good, as was the general atmosphere with such a gathering of 'boaties'. After a delicious lunch at the Highwayman (it rained while they were eating!), it was back down for some free time in Peel. In the evening there was a buffet and an exchange of dances in Onchan.

On Sunday the Visby dancers & musicians took the Electric Tram to Laxey – the visitors were amazed to see the cars of the MFDS appearing at various places along the route! There was a quick change over to a reserved Car on the Snaefell Mountain Railway for a run to the top of the mountain with some of MFDS. The tram stopped in line with the Laxey Wheel for a photographic opportunity, before continuing to the top. It was windy – especially for those who wanted to walk to the very top! The mist kept swirling in and out and unfortunately they could not see all

7 Kingdoms, but there were fairly good views of the Island at times. Then they all took the opportunity to get a hot drink before the journey down again. Lunch was at the Corn Mill followed by some free time in Laxey, when many took the chance to get a close-up look at the Lady Isabella. Then it was back onto the Electric Tram to continue the journey to Ramsey and some free time at the Mooragh Park. A fish and chip supper was arranged, with more dancing after the minibus drive back to Onchan.

It was an early start on Monday morning for a ride along the Promenade on the first Horse Tram of the day, pulled by Steve, the horse! With black clouds threatening, both groups walked up to the Douglas



Town Hall to meet Her Worship the Mayor, Councillor Carol Malarkey JP. After signing the Visitors' Book they were taken into the Council Chambers, where the Mayor welcomed them. The Visby Folkdansgille performed 3 dances and presented her with gifts from themselves and their own Council. The Mayor presented both the Visby Group and MFDS with Douglas Town Plaques. The local MFDS group gave the Mayor a copy of their new DVD based on their 60th Anniversary International Dance Festival Concert held in the Villa Marina in 2011. Then refreshments were served. At about 12.10pm both groups danced inside the Strand Shopping Centre for about an hour – there had been a heavy shower of rain just



as they arrived! The Manager of the Strand, John Shakespeare was most helpful and even playing the Bagpipes for MFDS to perform the dance Eunysagh Vona out in Granville Street! Everyone – dancers, musicians & spectators seemed to enjoy themselves! The Swedish visitors then had free time until the evening, when a Buffet and some dancing – in a rather compact area! was arranged at the Hydro Hotel.



The next morning, Tuesday 13th August, the minibuses & cars picked up the Gotland visitors and their luggage, to head down to Cregneash, in particular to see the magnificent Loaghtan Ram, by the Café, before continuing down to the Sound to admire the view over coffee & cake. After a quick drive through Port St Mary, Port Erin for a photo stop and a drive through Castletown Square, lunch was arranged at the Whitestone Inn, Ballasalla. Then a quick drive to Derbyhaven before the visitors had to check in at Ronaldsway Airport at about 3pm. There were lots of hugs and kisses and even a few tears as goodbyes were said and Visby Folkdansgille disappeared into Security to begin their long return journey. After a busy long weekend, there were many tired, but happy dancers and musicians – local & visitors wending their way home!!

Joan Cowell



We're delighted to share the news that Beccy Hurst has graduated from the University of Newcastle with an honours degree in folk and traditional music.

Daughter of the late Vicky Hurst and the late Pat Cully of Port Erin, Beccy's love of traditional music was fostered by her grandmother, Wendy Hurst. Beccy plays whistles and concertina and is a talented and established composer.

An ex CRHS pupil, Beccy is a talented performer and teacher who has played and recorded with The Newspaper Dresses, Pobble, Ruby Biscoe-Taylor and Beki Collings and many others. She has also played for dance groups and is a valued tutor for the Bree traditional youth movement.

Beccy features on the latest Blass CD from MHF and has taught and performed on and off Island with her own band, the Beccy Hurst Trio.

Jeant dy mie, Beccy!

~ SESSIONS ~

**THURS 8pm Singing session at The Britannia, Ramsey
Tynwald Inn CLOSED for refurbishment over summer**

FRI 9pm Irish at The Mitre, Ramsey

Shoh Slaynt open mic (1st Fri of month), 8.15pm, The Crosby Pub

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

SAT 10pm Manx at The White House, Peel



Perree Bane at the Deep South Festival, PSM, which raised money for Rebecca House. Also appearing at the festival were MFDS, the Mollag Band, the Mannin Folk and many others!

Don't be sharing state secrets! A new star is born...



The Manx Music Development Team spent a morning teaching Manx songs and dances to the Galeforce Summer School in St Johns, mid August. Here's a photo of Chloe teaching some dancing.



“MANY OLD MANKS AIRS”

ANNE MCWHANNELL’S LOST MANUSCRIPT BOOK

by *Stephen Miller, Vienna*

In 1895, James McWhannell wrote to Deemster J.F. Gill, a truly remarkable letter, one that opens so: “My dear old Mother had a Manuscript book containing many old Manks airs[.] She was a perfect musician and set the words to the tunes as sung by the folks in our neighborhood.” But what had become of his book? “Unfortunately I cannot say to which of my Sisters was given the Music but if you see Mr. R. Corlett, Craig I think my Sister will be able to give you information[.]”

McWhannell’s mother was Anne McWhannell (*née* Gilchrist) who died in December 1876, aged eighty years of age according to the burial register for Lezayre, and was interred on the fifteenth of that month which would make her year of birth to be 1796. In the 1871 census, she was widowed and living in the Kneale household at 4 Harris Terrace, Douglas. McWhannell possessed not only musical literacy but also an evident interest in Manx folk song. Living at Macduff in Lezayre, it is possible that the farmhouse there hosted local music sessions and that McWhannell literally took down the tunes in her own farm kitchen. Edward Faragher wrote an account of his life at Cregneash that was published in 1901, and he mentioned where in the village he had learnt to sing and dance:

Old ETTY had one daughter, Margot, whom she left heiress to the farm. She was a very good singer and dancer. She lived in the house alone, and it was a great haunt for the young men. She used to learn us to sing and dance. It was a meeting house for both sexes for many years.

In Faragher’s account of “The Devil and the Fiddler,” the fiddler lived close by to Cregneash, at the Sound and, as Faragher wrote, “[h]e used to play the fiddle, and the neighbours coming to dance.” These farmhouse (or cottage) sessions were the subject of a poem by W.W. Gill in 1916, titled “The Oul’ Times”:

Theer’s no times now like the oul’ times / When the singin’ an’ dancin’ was in; / Aw, wonderful times, them oul’ times! / An’ wizeer was the sin? / When the boys an’ gels were meetin’ / In the houses when work was done, / Comin’ in with a joke an’ a greetin’ / An’ the oul’ folks watchin’ the fun.

With the table pushed in the corner / An’ the fiddler perched on high, / An’ as long as his han’s would fiddle / The feet of the gels would fly, / Till the last dance finished in daylight / An’ the last oul’ song was sung. / In the gay times, in the houl’ times— / The times when I was young!

It is certain in this case that Gill was not reflecting upon his own youth as he only came to live in the Island when an adult in the early 1900s, but the details of the poem are borne out by these other accounts. Here we see detail of the session itself: a fiddler present and sitting perched on a table placed in the corner, the room cleared for dancing. Then the moral disapproval (“An’ wizeer was the sin?”) by the prevalent Methodist faith of the Island to such an activity.

Dr John Clague in his semi-autobiographical reminiscences *Cooïnaghtyn Manninagh / Manx Reminiscences* published posthumously in 1911 (he died in 1908), included some detail of these farmhouse sessions:

Young girls, and young boys, met together in the farmhouses, to sing and dance at night.

New songs would be sung at their feasts, and a ballad-singer would come to sing new songs.

The ballad was often on bad paper, and when the paper would be folded, and kept in the pocket for a long time, there would be holes in the ballad, and the ballad-singer was obliged to stop.

More generally, “[i]t was a common work in the houses, in the winter, to make nets. Anyone, who had a new song, was the big man of the house.”

Clague’s notes for his passage survive and read so:

The usual employment was mending nets in the evening | Songs sung to keep them awake—keep up the interest | Songs at weddings and all festive occasions | Ballad singers at the fair—Tissue paper | Hole in the ballad—at the folds of the paper when | Kept in the pocket. | [...] | Boys & girls singing songs in farm house kitchens—Anyone | with a new song the hero of the evening. Form of amusement.

The night’s singing and dancing over, the danger then to be faced was to be waylaid by the “Fairy folk” on the way home to bed:

The fairies could not go through water, nor go over it: even the least sprinkle of water would do. One could therefore see the use of holy water. It was used at the beginning, to keep away bad spirits. Very often young girls, and young boys, were sprinkled with water, when they were going home from dancing, to keep them from bad spirits.

By water what is really meant here is *mooïn* (Manx, 'urine'), which was kept in a crock outside the farmhouse, "every house used to have an old crock somewhere outside the house where they kept the *mooïn ort*, as it was styled in Manx" as Faragher recalled.

Robert Corlett was James McWhannell's brother-in-law and Deemster Gill had followed up McWhannell's letter of 4 July 1895, by writing on some later date to Corlett. On 26 July, he wrote in reply, "I have delayed answering your letter hoping to get some information about Manx Music, but I regret that I have not succeeded." The manuscript mentioned by McWhannell was not in his possession. Part of the delay had been due to him consulting Llewellyn Kneale: "I asked Mr LI Kneale, advocate, if he had any, he thought not, but said he would look through late Mothers Music folio." Kneale was an advocate living in Douglas, his mother, sister to McWhannell, must have recently died as she was listed in the 1891 census.

Yet another possibility was Louisa Higgins: "Mrs Dr Higgins, Peel is the only other person in the Island likely to have any of the late Mrs McWhannels Music, but she off [*sic*] the Island at present—" Louisa Higgins was now widowed and "living on her own means" with her family in Peel, her husband having been a doctor. She, too, was another of McWhannell's sisters. With no letter other than this one present in the Deemster's papers, the success (or not) of the hunt for this manuscript book is, sadly, unknown.

One wonders how many other manuscripts of a similar nature once existed—surely Anne McWhannel could not have been the only person interested in Manx folk song to have noted down material? If so, then she is a singular and remarkable individual in the recording of Manx vernacular culture. And, if as suspected, Macduff was a place where farmhouse sessions took place and moreover were welcomed by the McWhannels ("An' the oul' folks watchin' the fun"), then more praise is due to her and her husband, himself a helper to Deemster Gill. Many were involved in the collecting and recording of Manx vernacular culture and their names deserve to be better known for the selfless work that they did. We are the richer for their activities and the poorer for not knowing more about their names. Stephen Miller

"A HARD MAN, AND WILD MIGHTY..." MONA DOUGLAS AND HER INFORMANTS by Stephen Miller, Vienna

Mona Douglas was a collector both of Manx folk song and dance; she also acknowledged those from who she collected and so there is a good number of names to deal with—in fact, some thirty-two individuals in all. As regards those singers found earlier in the 1890s, nearly all can be identified in the census. As her collecting was of a more recent date, the reliance is on people's memories. Does anyone here recognise or know of any of these figures? Are they in any way related to you? Besides knowing more about the singers and dancers Douglas found, a crucial issue is knowing just when was she collecting, in other words how late was she able to find tradition bearers in the Manx countryside. Surely, someone here must be related to "Kelly the Blackguard," from Dalby, described to Mona Douglas as "a hard man, and wild mighty...!"

The names to date are: (1) Mrs Bridson, Glen Rushen or Glen Maye, Patrick; (2) William Cain(e), Jurby; (3) J. Callow, Lezayre; (4) Mrs Callow, Cardle Veg Maughold; (5) Caesar Cashin, Peel; (6) Mrs Clague, The Niarbyl, Patrick; (7) Miss B. Cooil, Arbory; (8) J. Corkill, Ballaragh, Lonan; (9) Captain T. Craine, Douglas; (10) John Davis, Ballasalla, Malew; (11) John Faragher, Lonan; (12) Mrs Faragher, Kerroglass, Michael; (13) John Kelly, Baldrine or Ballachrink Lonan; (14) [?] Kelly, Patrick; (15) John Kermode, Port Mooar, Maughold; (16) Mrs J. Kermode, Port Mooar, Maughold; (17) Robert Kerruish, Booilley Velt, Maughold; (18) Robert Kewley, Unknown; (19) Mrs Killey, Ballasalla, Malew; (20) J. Kinvig, Ballasalla, Malew; (21) J. Moore, Patrick; (22) Mrs Moore, Malew; (23) John Matt[hew] Mylechreest, Clybane or Thalloo Hogg, Lonan; (24) Catherine Quayle, The Whallag, Arbory; (25) Margaret Quayle, Glen Audlyn Mill, Lezayre; (26) W. Quine, Peel; (27) Mrs RatcliVe, Maughold; (28) Mrs Shimmin, Foxdale, Patrick; (29) Thomas Taggart, Grenaby, Malew; (30) Mrs Teare, Ballaugh; (31) Thomas —, ?; (32) William —, ? [The last two are known only by nicknames, "Tom the Fairy," "Billy the Dollan." It is known that both of them were dead by 1915.]

**CAN YOU HELP FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THESE
IMPORTANT INFORMANTS?**

DVD CELEBRATION OF MANX AND EUROPEAN FOLK DANCE RELEASED



FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL is the name of a brand new DVD from the Manx Folk Dance Society. This DVD production presents in 2 discs an amazing 58 folk dances performed by 13 folk dance groups at the MFDS Folk Dance Festival - at a formal concert in the Royal Hall, Villa Marina, Douglas, and at outdoor displays in Castle Rushen, Castletown and the Mooragh Park, Ramsey. Out of 58 dances, 25 are Manx - so this DVD offers a great opportunity for Manx dance enthusiasts around the world to catch up with different performances. 46 dances are presented in full versions, 11 dances were used in a medley performance by Manx Folk Dance Society.

The DVD is available for sale in the Lexicon Bookshop, 63 Strand Street, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 2RL. Tel: 01624 673004. Fax: 01624 661959 www.lexiconbookshop.co.im

The shop accepts online orders. Look in the "Isle of Man / Manx DVDs" - General section.

For full track listing, check out: <http://manxfolkdance.org.uk/festival-2011/festival-dvd/>

KMJ sends congratulations to Jiri Podobsky and the MFDS for a wonderful new DVD!

NEW CLASSES STARTING SOON AT PETER NORRIS MUSIC

ENQUIRIES TO: KEN@PETERNORRISMUSIC.CO.IM

UKULELE CLUB

SESSION FOR KIDS

SESSION FOR ADULTS

SESSION FOR CLASS TEACHERS

THEORY CLUB

ADULTS SESSIONS

KIDS SESSIONS

THUMB IS KING - FINGER PICKING FOR GUITARISTS

'ON MAUGHOLD HEAD'

An intriguing piece of music by a Manx composer that has not seen the light of day for decades has been discovered in a Winchester attic. Entitled 'On Maughold Head', the substantial tone poem was composed by John Edward Quayle in the 1950s and has never been performed.

On the July 12th this year, the Isle of Man Symphony Orchestra gave the first performance since 1946 of the recently unearthed Fantasy-Overture 'The Magic Isle' by J E Quayle, whose long career the Rolls office masked a full and active musical life as a pianist, organist, violinist, conductor and composer. Unbelievably, just two weeks after that performance, J E Quayle's grandson, Ewan Davidson, discovered the autograph score of a second orchestral work of his grandfather's in the attic of his Winchester home, a substantial orchestral work entitled Fantasy-Overture no. 2 'On Maughold Head'.

Ewan Davidson recalls his grandfather working on the piece whilst he and his brother tried to play quietly so as not to disturb him. The substantial work, which runs to 69 pages of very neat full score, is thought to evoke the many happy weeks that J E Quayle and his family enjoyed in Maughold village and the surrounding area on their summer holidays during World War 1, when civil servants were not permitted to leave the Island.

The musical director of the Isle of Man Symphony Orchestra, Maurice Powell said: 'In the next few weeks I hope to work closely with Manx music specialist Dr Chloe Woolley of the Manx Heritage Foundation, to identify the lovely Manx melodies on which this fascinating piece of music is based'. The orchestra, conducted by Mr Powell will be giving the World premier of 'On Maughold Head' during the 2014 concert season.

This means that no less than four works for orchestra by this accomplished Manx composer have survived, two descriptive Fantasy-Overtures and two delightful shorter works, which are arrangements of Manx national songs.

(Photograph by Jenny Davidson shows Maurice Powell and Ewan Davidson with the score at Maughold Head earlier this month; and photos of score, including the main theme based on the Manx traditional air, Jemmy as Nancy)



MANX RADIO YOUNG SINGER SONGWRITER COMPETITION:
WWW.GOV.IM/EDUCATION/COMPETITIONS/SINGER.XML

NEW CHARITY CD FROM RUSHEN SILVER BAND “SOUNDS OF THE SOUTH”

Rushen Silver Band's new CD 'Sounds of the South' was officially launched at their concert at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin, on 10 July.

Under the baton of Musical Director John Kinley and Assistant Musical Director John Collings, the disc, recorded in March this year at Castle Rushen High School by Music House Productions (Producer Keith Farrington), has been kindly supported by the Gough Ritchie Charitable Trust.

The CD takes its name from the Band's popular regular supporters' newsletter and includes a range of musical styles reflecting the band's place at the heart of the community of the south of the Island - marches, hymns, film music and Beatles - just some of the featured genres in this the Band's third recording in its 64 year history – a successful first CD “A Diamond Celebration” in 2009 and a tape cassette in 1992 – a few rare copies of which do still exist!

Band Chairman, Alan Crebbin, said: “The recording weekend was a great focus for the band and another opportunity to continue to develop as a group. Special thanks must go to the Band's Musical Director, John Kinley, for all his hard work in making this CD happen, to the band members for their commitment and, of course, to the producer, Keith Farrington, for keeping us on the straight and narrow!

“We are most appreciative of the help of the Gough Ritchie Charitable Trust – all proceeds from the CD will help the Band, a registered charity, continue its invaluable community work; and, thanks to Island Express for their support in transporting the CDs to the Island.

“With only a few months until Christmas they're the perfect gift as well as perfect everyday listening – but buy early – when they're gone, they're gone!”

CDs, priced at £10, will be on sale at all band events and are also available from the Secretary, Peter Faragher: secretary@rushensilverband.org.im tel 493193 and via the Band's website:

www.rushensilverband.org.im



TWO NORFOLK ISLAND VISITORS IN SEPTEMBER

Churchill Scholarship recipient and Norfolk Islander Jodie Williams will make a research trip to the Isle of Man in September. With an interest in music, language and soundscapes in general, Jodie's trip aims to trace the lineage of Norfolk Island's sound heritage to its very beginnings in the Isle of Man. She will research, source and collect archival recordings, study contemporary multimedia/film storytelling techniques and compile new music compositions.

For more information on her work as a writer, designer, sound artist and publisher, see:

www.jodiwilliams.com

Adrian Cain tells us that this year's Ned Maddrell Lecture will be held on Saturday 14th September at 3pm at the Stable Block at the Nunnery. It will be delivered by Peter Muhlhausler of the University of Adelaide. He will be speaking about the language situation in Norfolk Island.

Norfolk Island was settled in the 1850s from Pitcairn Island, so Christian is a common name there.

PERREE BANE IN MENORCA

As a result of a chance meeting with the Menorcan traditional dance group Es Pennell whilst on holiday in Menorca Perree Bane was invited to help them celebrate their 25th Anniversary in 2013. Having only ever hosted groups from the Mediterranean area, inviting a group from a rain and wind swept rock in the far frozen North of the Irish Sea was a big leap of faith.

10 dancers and 3 musicians made the trip via Liverpool to Mao in Menorca and were accommodated in hostel-type rooms in the historic town of Ferreries where our hosts are based.

Throughout the week our hosts could not do enough for us and supplied us with breakfast and numerous other meals and on our days off took us about on sight-seeing trips. Well fortified, we presented several school workshops, performing one of our choreographed routines and then involving them in several dances. They were very well behaved and enthusiastic! All performances were in the shade or in the evening as even the locals said it was hot – at times in the mid-30s 'C.

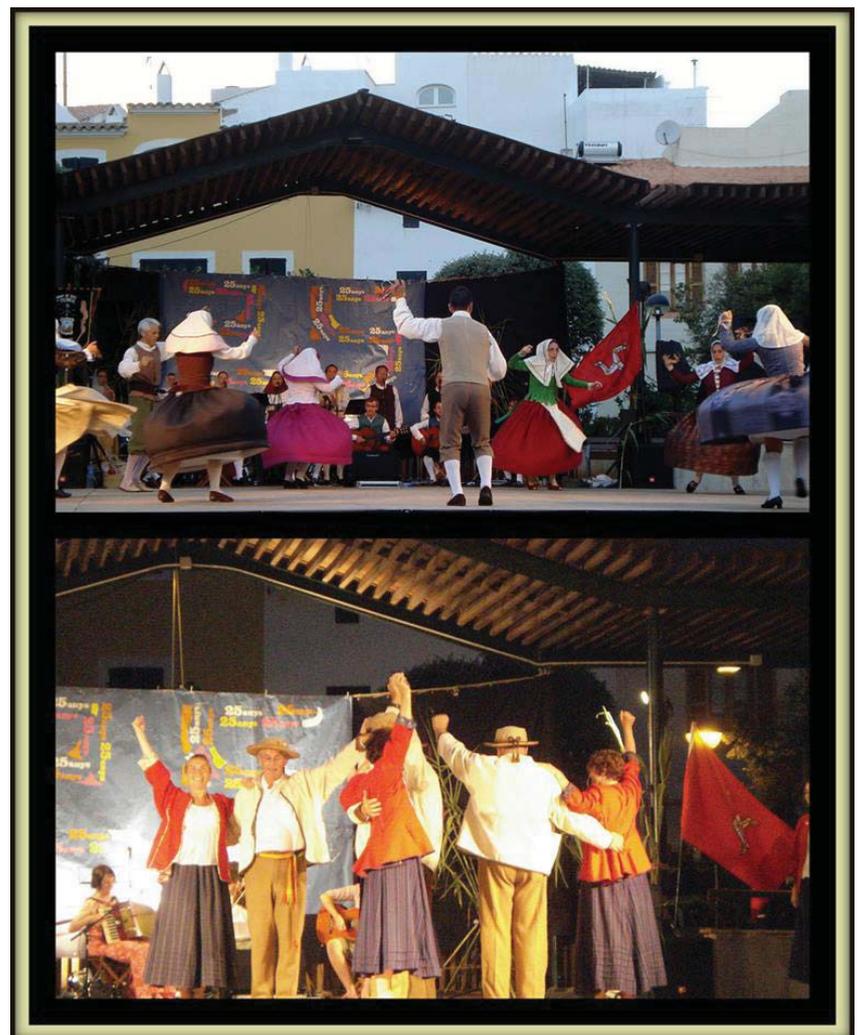
A workshop for local dancers was also very successful, they picked up our dances very quickly.

Having been introduced to the Alcalde (Mayor) and town Councillors, the big Sunday evening performance was on a stage in the main square of Ferreries with upwards of 400 spectators; our hosts danced first and were very impressive with their energetic dances, sometimes with singing accompaniment. We danced two sets, with the excellent Phil and Annie Gawne's singing giving us a welcome break, although by halfway through the second set we were very hot with sweat stinging our eyes, with much swigging of water. The enthusiastic welcome to our efforts more than made up for the discomfort, however.

Many thanks to the members of the team who worked hard in exceptional conditions, to the Gawne family for their musical and singing support and for Grup de ball Es Penell for inviting us and giving us a wonderful time

We are greatly looking forward to their return visit of to the Isle of Man.

by John Dowling



IOM ARTS COUNCIL MANX MUSIC AND DANCE SUMMER SEASON
JULY & AUGUST, VILLA ARCADE
photos by Jiri Podobsky



CLOCKWISE
FROM TOP
LEFT:

PERREE BANE;
PEDDYR
CUBBERLEY &
AMY STOUTT;
TURRYS;
RACHEL HAIR

IOM ARTS COUNCIL MANX MUSIC AND DANCE SUMMER SEASON JULY & AUGUST, VILLA ARCADE ~ PART DEUX!

*More photos - this time of Beccy Hurst, Ruby Biscoe-Taylor and Alasdair Paul from
Bob Fennell and some of the Mollags by KMJ*



More news from Perree Bane

This summer has been a busy time for Perree Bane. During Manx National week we welcomed 'And Sometimes Why' dance group from Massachusetts. They are a lively group of young dancers who have taken an interest in the Isle of Man and have been learning Manx dances. Through a tremendous effort they raised the funds to enable them visit the Island and perform at several venues including Tynwald, Mooragh Park, Cregneash and at the Villa Marina Arcade.



We ran workshops for the group so that they could add to their repertoire of Manx dances. They also performed some of their own dances for us – danced with much gusto and energy. At the end of their stay 'And Sometimes Why' invited us all to join in with some contra dancing at Sulby Community Hall and a good time was had by all! Hopefully they will return to the Island to dance with us again in the future.

Soon after that Perree Bane left for Llangollen International Eisteddfod. It was our third visit to the festival but this time we performed on the outdoor stages rather than in the competitive pavilion. The weather was wonderful if not a little too hot in our costumes! This however made it perfect for audiences and there were many appreciative spectators and also participants in the Manx dance workshops.

We stayed in the nearby village of Carrog where we were warmly welcomed and generously looked after. The Breton dance group were also staying in Carrog so the inter-celtic evening sessions at The Grouse were particularly agreeable.



We spent a lovely morning in Carrog Primary School where we danced for the students and staff before holding an enthusiastic dance session with all the children on the school field.

A packed three days of dancing with a little sightseeing before travelling home made this a thoroughly enjoyable and worthwhile trip.

Perree Bane would like to thank the Isle of Man Arts Council for their support.

by Carol Hayes

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

Miss L F's Favourite

Andreas Flute Book

transcribed Cinzia Yates

Chords and fingering instructions shown in the score:

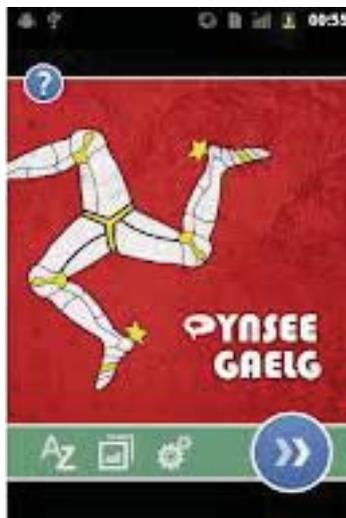
- Staff 1: D⁷ sus₄, G^{1st}, C, D⁷ sus₄
- Staff 2: G^{1st}, C, D⁷ sus₄, G
- Staff 3: E_m, C, G^{1st}, A_m⁷, C, D
- Staff 4: C, G^{1st}, A_m⁷, D⁷ sus₄, G

I thought it would be good to include one of Cinzia's transcriptions from the Andreas Flute Book. The handwriting is a little obscure, so the name sometimes varies. It's nice to include something from the now Dr Cinzia Yates - jeant dy miel!

The final version of the Learn Manx app is now available for Android phones on Google Play at: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.anspear.language.manx>

It now has over 30 units, 260 exercises and 2000+ sound files. The Apple version should be available soon.

This free app from the Manx Heritage Foundation is a great way of learning Manx so that you can sing songs more confidently!



Riognach Connolly to give intimate gig at the Centenary Centre's Athol Room - only a handful of tickets left!

14 September, 8pm (£10)

Armagh born singer and flautist strongly rooted in her trad Sean-nós background, Riognach Connolly also stirs elements of Appalachia, Blues and Jazz into the folk archive cooking pot...

<http://riognachconnolly.com/>





Ruth Keggin journeys north to record her first solo album

This month, I made the long (but exciting!) journey up to Ardgour on the West-coast of Scotland to record a solo album of traditional and contemporary Manx songs at the Watercolour Studio. The experience was fantastic: the peaceful, remote surroundings created a calm atmosphere with few distractions. This helped to fuel productivity and energy, particularly for live group performances in the studio.

The songs on the album are largely performed by a core trio: myself, English guitarist Dave Pearce and Scottish double-bassist Vanessa McWilliam. I met Dave and Ness while studying music at University and have continued to work with them ever since. Irish flautist and sean nós singer Eoghan Ó Ceannabháin and Manx fiddle player Tomas Callister also feature on several tracks.

The twelve-track album incorporates many different textures, from unaccompanied songs like 'Arrane y skeddan' (Song of the herring) through to a more unusual soundscape of bowed guitar, prepared piano, shimmering fiddle and eerie double-bass harmonics used in 'Tree eeasteyryn boghtey' (Three poor fisherman).

I am indebted to the Manx Heritage Foundation who have provided funding for this album. The album is due for release in November. To stay updated with news of the CD (including sneak-previews of songs) and upcoming concerts visit www.ruthkeggin.com or visit my artist page on Facebook.

FACT FINDING MISSION TO BELFAST AND DERRY

MHF officers made a visit to each Culturlann in Belfast and Derry at the end of August. They also visited Belfast's An Droichead, meeting officers involved in the promotion of language, music and culture generally and gaining ideas to enhance their development work here in Mannin.

Rushen Silver Band's concert celebrating the music of Goff Richards will include his arrangement of Ushag Veg Ruy (little red bird) featuring Euphonium Soloist Martin Norbury.

Cornishman, Goff Richards, was one of the best known brass band arrangers and composers. He studied at the RCM and Reading University and later lectured at Salford College of Technology. In 1976, he was made a Bard of the Cornish Gorsedd. His widow Sue is hoping to attend the concert.

Rushen Silver Band
present



A Celebration of the Music of Goff Richards

with
**Guest Conductor
Richard Evans**

Saturday 7th September
7.30pm
Castle Rushen High School

Tickets £6 (£3 under 18s)

For tickets, contact
Band Secretary on **493193** or

secretary@rushensilverband.org.im

Funded by the
**Alistair Drinkwater
Memorial Fund**

Autoharp News from Jan Brodie

Workshop with Mike Fenton - the UK's No.1 Autoharper & Tutor
The Methodist Hall, St. Johns on Saturday, 28th September
10.30am - 4.30pm. £20 for the day (to include light refreshments)

All Abilities. Beginners Very Welcome. FREE Loaner 'Harps Available

Phone or email Jan Brodie on 817735 or 331743
janbrodie01@gmail.com to book or for more information
Supported by the Isle of Man Arts Council

ISLE OF MAN AUTOHARP FESTIVAL 21st – 29th September, 2013

Sat 21st Sep

Mike Fenton in Concert with Rachel Fenton
Thie ny Gaelgey, St. Judes (£10 admission) 7pm

Sun 22nd Sep

Manx Autoharpers & Friends Jam Session (other instruments welcome)
Archibald Knox, Onchan FREE 7pm

Mon 23rd Sep

One to One, Beginners Taster Session (Come and try out an autoharp)
The Bridge Inn, Laxey FREE 7pm

Tues 24th Sep

Singaround, The Manor, Willaston, Douglas Everyone welcome FREE 8pm

Weds 25th Sep

One to One, Beginners Taster Session (Come and try out an autoharp)
The Tickethall Café, Railway Station, Douglas. FREE 6-9pm

Thurs 26th Sep

Manx Autoharpers and Friends Concert, Dalby Church Hall, FREE (Donations to church appreciated), 7pm

Fri 27th Sep

Singaround. Autoharps plus many other instruments & singers, Reayrt y Chrink, Port St. Mary. FREE
(donations welcome for tea) 1.30pm

Sat 28th Sep

Autoharp Workshop with Mike Fenton, Methodist Hall, St. Johns (£20), 10.30am – 4.30pm

Sun 29th Sept

American Old Timey/Bluegrass/Gospel Sing & Play, Northern Lights Community Centre, Ramsey FREE 2pm

Sat 12th Oct

Mike Fenton in Concert at Port Erin Arts Centre, TICKETS ON THE DOOR, 7.30pm

Please come and join us, the Manx Autoharpers, at the 1st Isle of Man Autoharp Festival. There are lots of fun and exciting events to be held during late September/early October. Most are FREE of charge, and those that are not are excellent value for money.

Phone: Jan Brodie on 01624 817735 or 07624 331743 (Mobile)
or email **janbrodie01@gmail.com** for more details
or to book for the workshop on Saturday 28th September.



CALENDAR

September

7th Rushen Silver Band present A Celebration of the Music of Goff Richards, guest conductor Richard Evans, CRHS, 7.30pm £6 from 493193 or on the door

14th Rioghnach Connolly at the Atholl Room, Centenary Centre, Peel, 8pm £10 (including pizza!)

21st & 22nd Manx music and dance (various acts) at the IOM Food and Drink Festival, Villa Marina Gardens, Douglas, 10am-4pm adults £5, U16s FREE:

21st Bree at Food and Drink Festival, Villa Marina Gardens, 3pm

21st-29th Autoharp Festival (see newsletter for details)

October

12th Bree session, Douglas Youth Arts Centre, 3-4.30pm FREE

November

2nd & 3rd Bree annual workshop weekend Douglas Youth Arts Centre, 10-4pm FREE but registration in advance is essential: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im

9th Norwegian fiddle and vocal workshops, House of Manannan, Peel:

11am Norwegian fiddle workshop for intermediate/advanced players (10 places max) with Erlend Aspeneth

12 noon Norwegian song workshop suitable for all abilities (15 places max) with Margit Myhr

Workshops are free but **ADVANCE BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL** due to limited places. Email mfmusic@mhf.org.im to secure a place.

9th A concert of Norwegian and Manx music and song from Erlend Apneseth, Margit Myhr, Ruth Keggin and Tomas Callister, Erin Arts Centre, Port Erin, 8pm ticket price tbc and available nearer the time

Mary Molloy kindly sent in this YouTube link of Mia (14) and friends playing Manx tunes. Mia has Kiaull yn Theay 1 and 2 and has been learning tunes from them for a year, since Mary visited in July 2012.

<http://youtu.be/Az22INgrzrw>

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

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manx heritage foundation ~ undinys eiraght vannin

For information on Manx music & dance contact:

Manx Music Development Officer **Dr Breesha Maddrell:** mfmusic@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