

# KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU

Mean Fouyir 2018 September

manx music today

## It's FESTIVAL MONTH in the Isle of Man!!

Summer might be just about over, but there's still lots of festival fun to be had and fantastic music and dance to watch, listen and take part in this month!

Highlights for KMJ readers will be this weekend's **Our Island:Our World** festival in Peel and the **Isle of Man Traditional Music Weekend** at the end of September.

Manx music and dance displays will be part of the Food & Drink Festival in the Villa Marina Gardens (15th/16th Sep) [www.iomfoodanddrink.com/festival/](http://www.iomfoodanddrink.com/festival/) plus local artists including Mera Royle, Mae Challis and Jeff Jepson will be performing in the IOM Film Festival too (8th Sep).

[www.ourisland.im](http://www.ourisland.im)



OIOW free community day on Sat 8th Sep. See over for more details >>

More info: [www.centenarycentre.com](http://www.centenarycentre.com)

## CELEBRATING OUR FESTIVALS

### SEPTEMBER

Whilst our Island's social calendar is always bustling, the month of September is a particularly busy when it comes to festivals. Whether you're a seasoned attendee or just want to find a weekend activity for the family, there's something new to try this month!

We've curated a list of events throughout September below, click on them to find out more!



THE GREAT MANX SHINDIG	ROSEHILL FARM	31 AUGUST - 2 SEPTEMBER
THE WORLD TIN BATH CHAMPIONSHIPS	CASTLETOWN HARBOUR	1 SEPTEMBER
SUMMER MUSIC SEASON	VILLA MARINA ARCADE	2 - 23 SEPTEMBER
OUR ISLAND: OUR WORLD	PEEL CENTENARY CENTRE	7 - 8 SEPTEMBER
ISLE OF MAN FILM FESTIVAL	LOCATIONS AROUND THE ISLAND	7 - 9 SEPTEMBER
THE ISLE OF MAN SALSA FESTIVAL	THE PALACE HOTEL	14 - 17 SEPTEMBER
ISLE OF MAN FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL	VILLA MARINA GARDENS	15 - 16 SEPTEMBER
MANX LIT FEST	LOCATIONS AROUND THE ISLAND	25 - 30 SEPTEMBER

@ourisland2018 | #ourisland2018 | 687007

### In this month's edition...

- *Kinnoull at the Tattoo*
- *IOM Trad music weekend*
- *Manx Mass Premiere by the new Manx Bard*

# Culture VANNIN

# DANCE LABYRINTH

- 13:00 IOM PREMIER ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCE
- 14:10 SKEDDAN JIARG
- 15:20 INDIAN BALLET & BELLY DANCING
- 16:30 RHYTHM OF BULGARIA

# MUSIC AMPHITHEATRE

- 13:30 SCRAN
- 14:40 VERA VAN HEERINGEN TRIO
- 15:50 FECKTONES

# GLOBAL FOOD

TASTE AFRICA  
PHILIPPINES

BLACK DOG PIZZA OVEN

TEA, COFFEE, & ICE CREAM  
IN CORRIN HALL

OUR ISLAND: OUR WORLD



*Festival of World Music & Culture*

PEEL CATHEDRAL GROUNDS  
AND CORRIN HALL  
SAT 8TH SEPTEMBER 1 - 5PM

*Free family event*

HAPPENING WHATEVER  
THE WEATHER!!!

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE

# FREE MUSIC & DANCE WORKSHOPS

- 13:30-14:30 BOLLYWOOD DANCE
- 14:30-16:30 AFRICAN SINGING

# CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES

- 13:30 & 15:00 CULTURE VANNIN
- 14:00 & 15:30 GLOBAL STORIES

# GLOBAL CULTURES CELEBRATION

REPRESENTATIVES FROM:

BULGARIA, GAMBIA, INDIA,  
ISLE OF MAN, ITALY,  
NIGERIA, PHILIPPINES,  
POLAND, UGANDA

ONE WORLD CENTRE

CAFÉ LINGO, SHAKTIMANN,  
FAIRTRADE, FACEPAINTING,  
CATHEDRAL PRODUCE,  
CULTURE VANNIN

## CELEBRATION OF WORLD CULTURE FREE FAMILY AFTERNOON SATURDAY 8TH 1-5PM

**AMPHITHEATRE**  
LIVE MUSIC

**CATHEDRAL**  
IF DRY: AFRICAN SINGING WORKSHOP  
IF WET: MUSIC AND DANCE

**LABYRINTH**  
DANCE

**CAR PARK**

**FOOD OUTLETS**

**WAR MEMORIAL**

**CENTENARY CENTRE**  
AFRICAN SINGING WORKSHOP IF WET

**CORRIN HALL**  
TEA AND COFFEE  
MULTI-CULTURAL TABLES  
DANCE WORKSHOP  
STORY TELLING

OUR ISLAND: OUR WORLD

*Festival of World Music & Culture*

CENTENARY CENTRE  
TINYD KEEAD BLEN

# ISLE OF MAN Traditional Music Weekend 28 - 30 Sept 2018



**Welcome Session - Friday 28th September**  
8.00 pm - Midnight - Pinewood Community Club, Pulrose.  
Open to all. Admission Free

**Grande Session - Saturday, 29th September**  
12 Noon - Midnight - Brendan O Donnell's Bar, Castle Street, Douglas.  
Open to all. Admission Free

**Farewell Session - Sunday 30th September**  
12 Noon - 8.00 pm - Prospect Bar, Prospect Hill, Douglas  
Open to all. Admission Free

All of the sessions are open and everyone is welcome to come along.  
For details please contact Mary Molloy on 493365 or Ann-Marie Murphy on 451487.

[www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan/](http://www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan/)

# Peddyr Cubberley's 'Kinnoull' used by USA group

A Manx musician's composition was played at the Royal Edinburgh Tattoo.

'Kinnoull' was performed as part of a set by Middlesex County Volunteers Fifes & Drums, from Boston in the USA, at last month's festival.

It was written by trad musician Peddyr Cubberley, from Ramsey, in 1992.

Cubberley says it was inspired by a trip to Scotland - Kinnoull Hill overlooks the city of Perth and the River Tay, the view of which was the birthplace of the piece.

The track has also been played and recorded by Manx group Barrule, as well as the Scottish Power Pipe band.



Article based on:

[www.manxradio.com/news/isle-of-man-news/manx-composition-played-at-edinburgh-tattoo/](http://www.manxradio.com/news/isle-of-man-news/manx-composition-played-at-edinburgh-tattoo/)

Watch the band on BBC here:

[www.facebook.com/Peddyrtradmusic/](https://www.facebook.com/Peddyrtradmusic/) & and Youtube: <https://youtu.be/Yp1seCNP64>



## Yn Mheillea – The Harvest!

Harvest has always been a time for celebration and tradition on the Isle of Man and at the centre of these customs is the Babban ny Mheillea.

Find out more about the traditions and the Manx dance associated with harvest-time:

[www.culturevannin.im/manx\\_year\\_event\\_491585.html](http://www.culturevannin.im/manx_year_event_491585.html)



# Musician and composer crowned Manx Bard

Congratulations to Annie Kissack on becoming the fifth Manx Bard. A teacher at the Bunscoill Ghaelagh, Annie is a composer, poet, musician and she is the conductor of Gaelic choir, Caarjyn Coidjagh. She is also the President of Yn Chruinnaght. The event, which was organised to reveal the Manx Bard for 2018, featured some wonderful Manx music and a walk through the history of Manx poetry.



As well as poetry recitals from Annie, former Manx bards and other performers, the ceremony included Manx music from Sharon Christian on the bagpipes and music from Scran.

Watch the videos here:

[www.culturevannin.im/video\\_story\\_544708.html](http://www.culturevannin.im/video_story_544708.html)

More info: [www.facebook.com/ManxBard/](https://www.facebook.com/ManxBard/)

## Manx Mass Premiere

Cathedral Isle of Man has commissioned a new setting of the Eucharist in Manx from local teacher and well known folk musician Anne Kissack. Cathedral Director of Music, Dr Peter Litman says "we are thrilled that at 10.30am on Sunday 9th September we have Manx Choir Caarjyn Coidjagh, under the direction of Anne Kissack visit to premiere this new mass setting. Anne's work is beautifully written, tuneful and very accessible. We hope that other church choirs will consider adding into their repertoire".

The Manx Mass (Erin Gaelgagh) will be celebrated on 9th September at 10.30am and will be led by Rt Revd Peter Eagles, Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man. This communion service itself will be led by the Bishop and much of it will use a Manx-language order of service.

[www.cathedral.im/news/manx-mass-premiere](http://www.cathedral.im/news/manx-mass-premiere)

## Manx Children's songs on BBC Radio

Manx Gaelic songs from Roie Mygeayrt & Sounds of Mann were featured on BBC Radio 3's Late Junction last month. Many of these songs were penned by the Manx bard, Annie Kissack:

[www.bbc.co.uk/radio/play/b0bf22gp](http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio/play/b0bf22gp)

## SAVE THE DATES!!

### 27th/28th October - the BIG BREE WORKSHOP WEEKEND

An annual weekend of Manx trad music, dance & drama for 10 - 18 year olds. More details in next month's KMJ. [www.manxmusic.com](http://www.manxmusic.com)

### 31st October - HOP TU NAA

Get practising the traditional songs now and look out for the Our Island 2018 special booklet.

Resources: [www.culturevannin.im/manx\\_year\\_event\\_468995.html](http://www.culturevannin.im/manx_year_event_468995.html)

### 16/17th November - COOISH

Yn Chruinnaght will again collaborate with the Manx language festival to provide some Gaelic music and dance entertainment for the Saturday night! [www.ynchruinnaght.com/coolish](http://www.ynchruinnaght.com/coolish)

### 7th December - Manannan's Winterfest

A very special seasonal concert at the Gaiety Theatre featuring lots of wellknown musicians and personalities from the Isle of Man.

Save the date and watch this space for more details...

### Jan 2019 - ARRANE SON MANNIN

Start penning your song for the Arrane son Mannin! The International Pan Celtic Festival will take place in Letterkenny 23 - 28 April 2019, but before that, an original song in Manx Gaelic must be chosen to represent the Isle of Man. This heat usually takes place in early January, so why not get your song translated now, or start penning a new ditty (any genre/style is fine!)

For more info on the rules & regs, contact Manx delegate, Fiona McArdle: [fmcardle@manx.net](mailto:fmcardle@manx.net)

OUR ISLAND. OUR WORLD

**SOOTHSAYERS**  
(AFRO/DUB/REGGAE)

**BAKA BEYOND**  
(WEST AFRICAN)

**ANGEL BROTHERS**  
(LATIN/BHANGRA)

**SHEELANAGIG.**  
(BALKAN/EAST EUROPE)

**VERA VAN HEERINGEN TRIO**  
(AMERICANA)

FREE FAMILY EVENT,  
CATHEDRAL GROUNDS, SATURDAY, AFTERNOON  
MUSIC, DANCE, FOOD, CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES AND MORE

AND MORE STILL TO BE ANNOUNCED

EVENING CONCERTS 7.30PM FRI & SAT £25 PER NIGHT  
**LIMITED EARLY BIRD TICKETS**  
£45 FOR BOTH NIGHTS AVAILABLE NOW.

**7-8 SEPT 2018**  
PEEL CENTENARY CENTRE & CATHEDRAL GROUNDS  
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM CENTENARYCENTRE.COM  
AND USUAL RETAIL OUTLETS

manx radio  
2018 YEAR OF OUR ISLAND

# CLAASAGH

## The Manx Harp Ensemble

CELEBRATING NATIONAL HARP DAY 2018

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award 2018 Winner

# MERA ROYLE



YOUNG FOLK AWARD  
Mera Royle  
2 FOLK AWARDS

Saturday 20th October - 7.30-8.30pm at the Villa Arcade, Douglas. Entry by donation

# Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea

## Mannin at Festival Interceltique de Lorient

The Manx delegation did the Island proud once again at this summer's Festival Interceltique de Lorient in Brittany.

Ruth Keggins' band A'Nish, The Lawrences and Manx dancers Grainne Joughin and Ali Carroon gave stunning performances at Espaces Paroles, Palais de Congrès & the old reservoir, Enclos du Port. The Lawrences competed in the Trophée Loïc Raison Celtic band competition in the Espace Bretagne and they were featured on a France 3 TV programme. Manx music, dance and traditional craft displays were on offer at the Manx Pavilion and stage each day, and

pavilion volunteers Matt Kelly and Caitlin Bennett took to the stage to entertain festival-goers. Janet

Lees, this year's chosen visual artist, had an exhibition in the EuroCeltic Art Gallery. The Manx Pavilion, managed by Peter Young, is sponsored by Culture Vannin, the Isle of Man Arts Council, DEFA & Visit Isle of Man.



**Kirsty and Katie Lawrence, plus Manx dancers Grainne Joughin and Ali Carroon appear on France 3 in a feature about Celtic music in hospitals:**

<https://youtu.be/wtfeSZVfVmY>

Watch videos of beautiful acoustic performances in the Enclos du Port reservoir gigs:

Ny Kirree Fo Niaghtey by Katie: <https://youtu.be/rqe2JJo2r40>

Graih my Chree - Kirsty: <https://youtu.be/U-su8pgsihg>

Photo credits: Janet Lees, Owen Birch, France 3



# Mera's Summer of Folk Festivals

report by Mera Royle Winner of the 2018 BBC Young Folk Musician of the Year

It was amazing to be able to bring a bit of the Isle of Man to some of the UK's top folk festivals this summer. I've had an incredible time, and am very grateful for all the support I've received from back home. Big thanks to Raygie Dolloso and Owen Williams for coming with me to Cambridge and Towersey, and to the boys from Scran for coming with me to Cropredy. The crowds were very lovely and seemed to really enjoy our playing.

Apart from Edinburgh Harp Festival, I hadn't had any experience of what folk festivals were like, and all three of them were very different from each other in many ways but similar in that the audiences were really supportive and enthusiastic and friendly. When we got to Cambridge, it was very hot and sunny. Everyone was sat around in the sun listening to music. I played on Stage 2 which was the second largest stage and my history teacher was there holding up an Isle of Man flag. We played a mixture of Manx, Irish and Scottish tunes but I think the biggest cheers were for the Manx songs, like "Dooraght" by Katie Lawrence and "Auldyn River" by Paul Cringle.

Cropredy was completely different because it was one massive stage. Playing in front of 12,000 people seemed daunting in concept, but we ended up having a really fun time. We played at 12pm, which was the first slot of the day and unfortunately, it rained really heavily throughout our performance. All we could see on stage was a sea of umbrellas! The crowd still all came down to watch us, and we were thrilled to get positive reviews, such as the one below from Anthony John Clark, who was the MC who introduced us onto the stage.

"Mera Royle took the stage at Cropredy 2018 with her band winning the hearts of thousands. Stunning harp player with the confidence of a veteran. Mera is now established as a must for folk festivals."

Towersey was a really fun, creative festival. It had a huge ceilidh tent and everyone was dancing all day and night. You could go to yoga classes or listen to storytelling. The gig was really packed out and Ray was really good at making the audience laugh. He'd brought an egg-shaker and was playing it during Chanter's tune which got the crowd clapping along. When we were walking around the festival afterwards, we got lots of lovely comments about our playing, and the EP sales went really well.

Not only did we play at the festivals, but we also were able to see some really inspiring performers such as Fisherman's Friends and Tankus the Henge. One of our favourite acts, the Soothsayers, played at Towersey and we're very excited because they are coming to the Isle of Man this September to perform at the Peel Centenary Centre. Will be making sure to catch that gig!

Many thanks to Manx Radio and Culture Vannin for their help and publicity. It has been an unforgettable summer.

## PREVIEW CONCERT

In preparation for the UK folk festivals, Mera gave a preview concert at Culture Vannin with fellow members of Scran, Raygie Dolloso and Owen Williams.



Watch the exclusive films here: [www.culturevannin.im/video\\_story\\_541545.html](http://www.culturevannin.im/video_story_541545.html)

**DOWNLOAD** Mera's new EP find out more in KIAULL NOA:

<https://meraroyle.bandcamp.com/releases>

# kiaul1 noa

## Mera Royle – The Ballaglass Set

New EP download £7 (if you're in the IOM):

<https://meraroyle.bandcamp.com/releases>

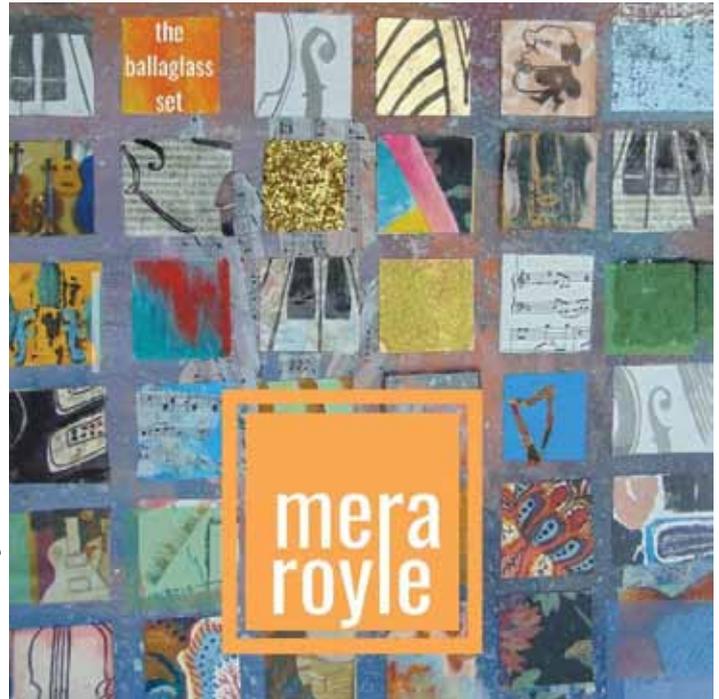
Also featuring Ruth Keggin, Owen Williams and Ray Dolloso, award winning harpist Mera's debut was recorded by Dave Rowles.

### tracks inc.

Graih Foalsey, A Hundred Hours, Auldyn River, Natalianaia, Dooraght, Mylecharaine's March/Moirrey ny Cainle.

## ISLE OF MAN MUSIC CHART

There's a new name for the Manx Music Chart. The chart and facebook group has gathered a lot more followers since Manx Radio's MANX MUSIC DAY, so why not join the others and add your tracks to Spotify to ensure you're added to the weekly chart: [www.facebook.com/iomchart/](http://www.facebook.com/iomchart/)



## Francesca May

Former RGS student, Francesca May (Greenwood) has recently returned to the Island after studying music at LIPA and the young singer-songwriter is embracing the live music scene. She launched her debut EP at the Centenary Centre last month and she can be heard performing her self-penned songs at various venues around the IOM. Follow Francesca here:

[www.facebook.com/FrankieMayMusic/](http://www.facebook.com/FrankieMayMusic/)

Buy her EP on iTunes:

<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/album/home-single/1412032426>

Listen on Spotify and watch 'Fire' performed live with her LIPA co-students at the Centenary Centre:

[https://youtu.be/OJ84w\\_f4puE](https://youtu.be/OJ84w_f4puE)

## Last Drags

Check out this new up and coming rock/funk band from the Isle of Man who are busy creating their own unique sound.

### New single - All my Loving

<https://youtu.be/GBawJelL-qs>

Listen on spotify

<https://tinyurl.com/ydfznqb9>

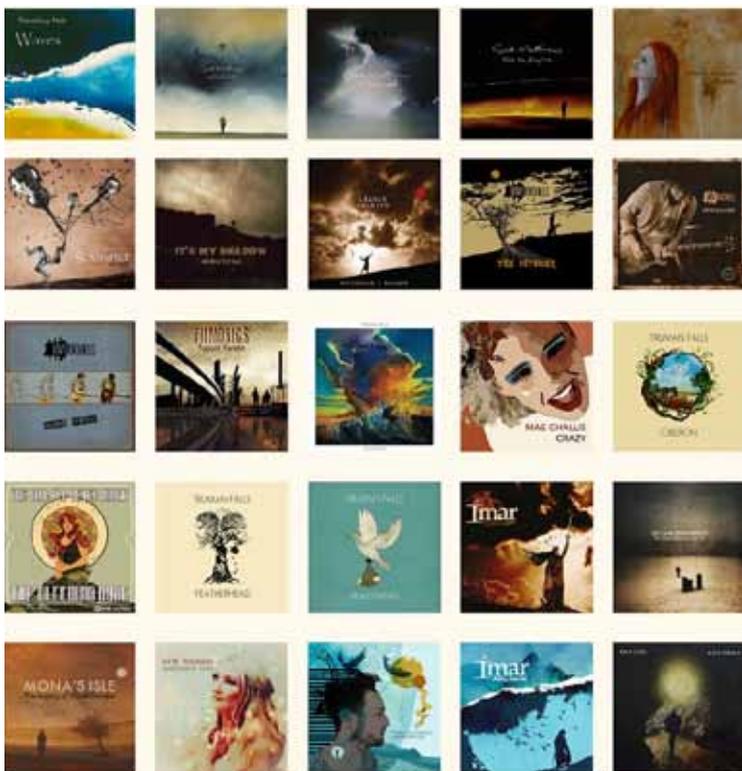
Follow on: [www.facebook.com/lastdrags](http://www.facebook.com/lastdrags)

## Youtube/video corner

### The Worst Thing by Far

A video written & filmed by this year's Lorient/Manx artist Janet Lees and set to the music - 'Scriptures' by local group Post War Stories. Edited by Glenn Whorrall.

<https://vimeo.com/282697576>



## CALL TO MUSICIANS

*Do you have an upcoming album, EP or single that you need professional artwork for? CD covers say a lot about a band or artist, they are the advert for your music's content. Sometimes it's the first impression you give to your audience, so it needs to be professional, unique and truly original. Take a look at some of the covers I've designed and get in touch with your project, let's create something new together!*

[www.brunocavallec.com/section819067.html](http://www.brunocavallec.com/section819067.html)

\*Bruno has produced album art for Clash Vooar, The Mona's Isle (Mona Douglas Song Project), Imar, Truman Falls, Scammylt, Mae Challis and many more IOM performers...

## Imar – mini teaser of forthcoming new album, 'Avalanche'

Award-winning trad folk group Ímar has released a 'teaser'... ahead of its upcoming new album.

'Deep Blue' is to be the first track on the band's new album, 'Avalanche', which is set to be released on 12 October. It's been an important year for the five-piece group, having won the 'Horizon' award at the 2018 BBC Radio 2 Folk awards. Two of the five, Tomas Callister and Adam Rhodes, are from the Island.

For more information, search Ímar on social media or head to [www.imarband.com](http://www.imarband.com)

[www.manxradio.com/news/isle-of-man-news/imar-releases-musical-teaser/](http://www.manxradio.com/news/isle-of-man-news/imar-releases-musical-teaser/)

## NEW SONG about the plight of the Queen's Pier in Ramsey

"Realm of the Pier" is a new poem by outgoing Manx bard Sara Goodwins - an adaptation of the well-known Manx song, 'Pride of Purt le Morra' written by Harry Wood and William Hanby at the end of the 19th Century.

**Listen to The Summer Singers perform Pier of Realm:** <https://vimeo.com/287299309>

This performance was delivered as a part of the event at Moorhouse Farm, Isle of Man, organised to announce the Manx Bard 2018.

More information about the Manx Bard can be found on the Poetry Unlimited website:

[poetryunlimitediom.weebly.com/the-manx-bard.html](http://poetryunlimitediom.weebly.com/the-manx-bard.html)

**See KMJ transcription of the month for the lyrics >>**

Mark Lawrence (from The Lawrences) has written a couple of lovely tunes; "Station Road" and "Fergus's Reel".

Watch him play them live at the Manx Pavilion, Lorient Festival d'Interceltique 2018: <https://youtu.be/-KqvVpUZJXE>

## Manx Music Soundcloud

There are currently 80 tracks to listen to for free, and many more to be added soon:

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/sets/manx-music>



# RESEARCH NEWS

## Oral History interviews on Culture Vannin Soundcloud

*There is an ever-growing collection of fascinating glimpses into Manx life on the Culture Vannin soundcloud of oral history interviews. Here is a selection of some of the music related interviews ready to tune into...*

### Little Miss Dynamite AKA Linda Caulfield

Just 4ft 10 ins in height, Linda Caulfield has forged a successful career here on the Island as an extraordinarily popular pub singer with a strong fan base, the majority of whom, incidentally, are women.

She was born in Liverpool in 1952, moving here with her mum and dad and siblings in 1968. Despite having lived here for 50 years, she has never lost her Liverpool accent!

Although an extremely shy child, she blossomed when invited to get up and sing at family gatherings. She was only nine when she told an aunt that she was going to be a singer when she grew up.

Douglas in the late 60s still had a thriving summer season, which offered Linda the opportunity to sing with dozens of local bands at dozens of venues. This was her training ground for a career that has spanned half a century and is still going strong.

Dressed in her trade mark short, silk, fringed dresses – and looking glamorous with her platinum blond hair and dark eye make-up, she brightens up many a Friday and Saturday night, performing two-hour shows at pubs, clubs and hotels the length and breadth of the Island.

Carla Faragher has been her 'roadie' for the past 10 years.

A large group of female fans paid her a huge compliment recently when they turned up for a show at The Creek in Peel dressed as 'Little Miss Dynamite' look-alikes!

LISTEN HERE: <https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/little-miss-dynamite-linda-caulfield>



### The start of the Braaid Eisteddfod (Florence Kinvig):

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/the-start-of-the-braaid-eisteddfod>

**Legendary figure of the Braaid Eisteddfod, Allan Wilcocks, reflects on one of the main changes in the event over his long involvement with it:**

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/braaid-eisteddfod-now-vs-50-years-ago>

**Allan Wilcocks recalls when musician Joe Loss lived in the Isle of Man and how he would sometimes be fortunate to cross paths with him:**

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/delivering-to-joe-loss-in-douglas>

**Singer Allan Wilcocks recalls sailing on the Steam Packet and being called up to the bridge to sing hymns with 'Skipper Ginger' (see pic>>):**

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/singing-hymns-down-the-mersey-with-ginger-bridson>

**Allan also reminisces about the Start of the Regal Singers in 1966:**

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/the-start-of-the-regal-singers>



# ‘The whole atmosphere was Manxy’

Article by Maurice Powell

One of the more cobwebby corners in the story of Manx music that needs to be investigated further is the way that Manx traditional songs found their way into popular variety entertainment on the Island. Whilst it is well appreciated how composers like Haydn Wood, and Manx-born composers such as John Edward Quayle, incorporated the best-known Manx melodies into their orchestral works such as *A Manx Rhapsody*, *Mannin Veen* and *The Magic Isle*, it is less appreciated that the Island’s variety entertainers included these well-loved songs in their shows and revues.

One perfect opportunity to do so was the end of the summer season farewell night held in entertainment venues both large and small, which often took the form of a Manx Mhelliagh.<sup>1</sup> One of the most authentic of these took place at the Cosy Corner,<sup>2</sup> Ramsey, on Saturday 22nd September, 1923, when the Manx comedian Harry Korris<sup>3</sup> and supporting artistes provided ‘an excellent bill of fare’ to a capacity audience.

The stage represented the interior of a greengrocer’s shop, with “‘greens” of all kinds being conspicuous by their presence’, although, in the words of Florrie Ford’s current popular Derby Castle ‘hit’ song: ‘Yes, We Have No Bananas’. The hall was decked out with Manx flags and ‘the whole atmosphere was thoroughly “Manxy”’.

Harry Korris himself sang *The Manx Wedding* and his long-time partner among the Cosy Corner entertainers Harry Vardon, ‘the little fellow’, sang a rousing *Ramsey Town*. Miss Ailsa Moorey sang *The Maid of Port-e-Chee*, Tom Goode, tenor, the current lessee of the Cosy Corner, gave ‘a splendid rendering of *Mona*’<sup>4</sup>, and Billy Devine and Jack Bennetts sang *Ellan Vannin* and *Hush Little Darling*, which was voted one of the gems of the evening. Harold Dawson delivered gutsy renditions of Harry Wood’s pantomime songs *I’m a native of Peel* and *The Pride of Port-la- Murra*. There is no sense that the Manx songs were deliberately ‘sent up’ or given an overtly ‘revue’ character, but rather were performed in a way that aroused great affection and enthusiasm in an audience delighted to hear them performed by popular local entertainers.

A sale of the vegetables on the stage took place after the show and raised the sum of £2 10s for the Ramsey Boot and Clothing Fund.<sup>5</sup> Harry Korris gave a brief word of thanks to the audience for supporting the event and for their loyal support of the Cosy Corner throughout the season.

Notes.

1. Mhelliagh, Mellow or Meller according to the earliest references; traditionally a dance and supper which originally took place on the day the last corn was cut. It subsequently developed into a Manx Harvest Festival Fair at which produce - grown or homemade - was sold auction-style to the highest bidder.
2. A popular amusement resort on Ramsey’s South Parade, developed by Frederick Buxton of Buxton’s Pierrot Village, Douglas. During WWI he organised dances and variety entertainments at the Villa Marina, and in 1918 purchased and renovated the Grand Theatre, Douglas.
3. Harris Korris, ‘Manxland’s own comedian’, 1891-1971, began his career before WWI with Fred Buxton’s concert parties, and in the 1920s was the manager of the Cosy Corner entertainment venue in Ramsey. He became a well-known ‘Northern’ comedian during the 1930s when he joined Blackpool’s Arcadian Follies, and a household name during WWII as Mr Lovejoy in the BBC Radio show *The Happidrome*. When that show finished in 1947, he brought the stage version to the Gaiety Theatre during the immediate post-war seasons. He retired from the stage in 1950.
4. Fred Buxton’s *Come Back to Mona* or *Mona, I Am Coming Back*.
5. See the Ramsey Courier, 28.9.1923 for a fuller report of the event.

# TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

see [www.manxmusic.com](http://www.manxmusic.com) for more printable pieces of Manx music

This month's transcription is a new song penned by the Fourth Manx Bard, **Sara Goodwins**, and set to the melody of an old song by Harry Wood (see the *Manx National Songbook*). This song, which supports the campaign of the Queen's Pier Restoration Trust, was performed by the Summer Singers at the recent inauguration of the new Manx Bard, Annie Kissack. Watch here: <https://vimeo.com/287299309>

## PIER OF THE REALM

*To be sung to the tune of 'The Pride of Port-le-Murra'*

It's the pride of Royal Ramsey.  
For the town it is quite handy,  
And a marvel of the northern hemisphere:  
It's a great historic feature  
But the structure has got weaker;  
Without help it is about to disappear.

Chorus: Ramsey Pier, oh Ramsey Pier  
You can contribute your pounds and pennies here.  
It's a great historic feature  
But the structure has got weaker;  
Without help it is about to disappear.

So the Queen's Pier Trust was founded  
To repair what sea had pounded  
With specialists employed to engineer;  
They're repairing and replacing  
But financial drains are facing –  
If you want to help raise funds then volunteer!

Chorus: Ramsey Pier, oh Ramsey Pier  
You can contribute your pounds and pennies here.  
They're repairing and replacing  
But financial drains are facing –  
If you want to help raise funds then volunteer!

We're determined to complete it  
And nothing will defeat it.  
And, despite what you might elsewhere overhear,  
Notwithstanding problems lurking  
All together we are working  
So Queen's Pier will be again as yesteryear.

Chorus: Ramsey Pier, oh Ramsey Pier  
You can contribute your pounds and pennies here.  
Notwithstanding problems lurking  
All together we are working  
So Queen's Pier will be again as yesteryear.

# CALENDAR

## SEPTEMBER

7th & 8th Our Island Our World music Festival, Peel

8th Movies, Music & Mark Kermode, featuring some of the Island's top talent. Gaiety, 7pm £12.50/£15

9th Manx Mass premiere, IOM Cathedral, Peel, 10.30am, free

15th & 16th IOM Food & Drink Festival

28th - 30th Isle of Man Trad Music Weekend (see poster)

## OCTOBER

Claasagh harp concert, Villa Marina Arcade, 7.30pm, free

27th & 28th Big Bree Workshop Weekend – Hop tu naa special

31st Hop tu naa!! Island-wide!

## NOVEMBER

16th & 17th Cooish Manx Language Festival in conjunction with Yn Chruinnaght

## DECEMBER

7th Manannan's Winterfest – more details to come

28th Russell Gilmour Trumpet, David Kilgallon Organ, Music Society Christmas Concert St. Pauls Church, Ramsey

**BRIDE.**

Under the patronage of the Rector, Rev D. S. Cowley, M.A., D. Teare, Esq., C.P., Robert Cowley, Esq., J.P. M.H.K., R. S. Corlett, Esq., M.H.K., W. J. Kadcliffe, Esq., M.H.K., etc., etc.

**THE GRAND OPERETTA**  
**“ HAWTHORNGLEN, ”**  
Will be produced in the  
**Bride Parochial Schoolroom,**  
ON  
**EASTER MONDAY,**  
1906, by the members of the Bride Adult Singing Class.

The Operetta will be preceded by a Miscellaneous Programme.

Price of Admission **ONE SHILLING.**  
Early doors open to Ticket Holders only at 7 p.m.  
No money taken at the doors until 7.30 p.m.  
Concert to commence at eight prompt.  
For full particulars of the concert and descriptive account of the Operetta see programmes price 1d each.  
Tickets and programmes can be obtained from the ‘Ramsey Courier’ Office; from Miss B Garrett, Summerland, and from members of the choir.

### Operatta in Bride 1906!

THANKS TO STEPHEN MILLER

Please send in dates so that we can publicise events here & online:  
[www.manxmusic.com](http://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 Manor, Willaston  
Last **FRI** of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary  
Occasional **SAT** 10pm Manx session at The White House, Peel  
Monthly **SUN** 12.30pm Trad session in Laxey

~ SESSIONS ~

## culture vannin

For information on Manx music & dance contact:  
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[www.manxmusic.com](http://www.manxmusic.com)

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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