

march 2010
mee vayrnt 2010

kiavull manninagh jiu

manx music today

www.manxheritagemusic.org



SHENNAGHYS JIU 1-6 APRIL 2010

www.shennaghys.org

Shennaghys Jiu - Tradition Today - the Island's Celtic Youth Festival has another wonderful line-up. They're bringing an Irish group fronted by Greta Curtin (concertina) as well as a band all the way from Galicia in Spain. **Riobo** brings back Shennaghys Jiu's friend Xose Liz, who has performed at previous festivals with Anton Davila. Xose's wife, Helena, will accompany him and will offer harp workshops.

RIOBO: Begoña Riobó (fiddle) Marcos Campos (Galician pipes, whistles, accordion) Fernando Barroso (guitar) Fernando Pérez (wooden flute) Xose Liz (bouzouki, wooden flute)

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME - SEE WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

Friday 2nd April

7pm Family Concert, Scoill Ree Gorree, Ramsey (price tbc)
Ticket price includes Family Ceilidh at the Masonic Hall, Ramsey, starting 8pm

Saturday 3rd April

11am Music workshops, Ramsey Town Hall
12 noon Music in the Pub, Mitre Hotel, Ramsey
3pm Bree Session, Ramsey Town Hall
7.30pm Galician and Irish Concert, Ree Gorree Theatre

More events will be listed online, and the festival hopes to offer some schools outreach, too.

For more details, email: contact@shennaghys.org or phone Juan Garrett on **819068**

<http://www.myspace.com/riobogz>



Sunday 4th April

2.30pm "Unplugged", St Johns Church
8pm Ceilidh, Masonic Hall, Ramsey

Monday 5th April

12 noon Music in the Pub, Trafalgar Hotel, Ramsey

8pm Finale Session - Bar Logo, Ramsey

Check out the poster at the end of the newsletter - if you get chance, please use it to spread the word!



The Reeling Stones are off to Cwlwm Celtaidd Celtic Festival of Wales in Porthcawl at the beginning of the month - aigh vie! Rumours are that some of the Perree T dancers will also feature at the festival, as will Whistle in the Dark. Have fun!

www.cwlwmceltaidd.com

Kirsty & Katie Lawrence wow audiences at the Danny Kyle Stage at Celtic Connections

Together with Andy Walker, Kirsty and Katie Lawrence took to the Danny Kyle Stage at Celtic Connections as 'Breck' and were met with a very positive response. You can hear their set online on Celtic Music Radio:

<http://www.canstream.co.uk/celticmusic/audio/Breck.mp3>

The trio's skill and musicianship drew attention, as did their inimitable banter, as demonstrated in the following review!

"Kirsty and Katie Lawrence – Incredible trad musicians from the Isle of Man. I found their stage presence refreshing and funny."
(Lori Gordon, Freelance Music Journalist
<http://musicalbletherings.wordpress.com/>)



Ramsey Choral will be holding a Spring Concert on 10 April 2010 at St Paul's Church Ramsey.

They will be performing:

Rutter's 'Requiem'

Tavener's 'The Lamb'

Arvo Part's 'The Beautitudes'.

Rehearsals: Monday 7.30pm, United Reformed Church, Waterloo Rd, Ramsey.

ALL WELCOME!

Cohaglym Celtiagh Eddyrashoonagh International Celtic Congress 2010

The international meeting of the Celtic Congress will return to the Isle of Man this April. Organised by Dr Brian Stowell of the Manx branch, the conference will turn its attention to the theme of inter-Celtic communications. Delegates will be based at the Claremont Hotel on Loch Promenade in Douglas, with registration on Easter Monday 5th April. Anyone can book a place - email Brian on: bstowell@mcb.net

The week's programme includes a gala dinner and ceilidhs each night (all welcome), workshops in Manx song, lectures from all of the Celtic countries as well as excursions around the Island. There will also be an ecumenical service at Loch Promenade Methodist Centre on Thursday 8th April at 3pm featuring music from Caarjyn Cooidjagh. That evening there will be a young people's concert at 8pm, again at Loch Promenade Methodist Centre, featuring music from Beccy Hurst, Mike Boulton's groups and from the Bree trad youth music movement. The final evening features another concert at Loch Promenade at 8pm.

Visiting musicians and singers include South Uist's Sineag Nic an t-Saoir (MacIntyre), who won the Gold Medal at the Mod 2009 and who performed with Maggie MacInnes at last year's Cooish festival. Another familiar face is Máire Ní Choilm, a wonderful sean nos singer from Gweedore who enchanted Cooish audiences a few years ago. The musical riches don't stop there - they will be joined by Dublin harp player Brenda Ní Ríordáin, singer Moe Kease (Cornwall) and singer-songwriter Tecwyn Ifan (Wales).

DATES for your diary:

All at Loch Promenade Methodist Centre:

Thursday 8th

3pm Ecumenical service

8pm Young people's concert (£3, children free)

Friday 9th

Concert featuring Sineag Nic an t-Saoir, Tecwyn Ifan, Máire Ní Choilm, Brenda Ní Ríordáin, Moe Kease & the Mollag Band, 8pm (£4, children free)

For more details: bstowell@mcb.net

"Save the BA Applied Music Course @ Strathclyde University"
<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/savebaappliedmusic/>

Manx Music Summer Season call for performers!

Jan Cowan from IOM Arts Council would love to hear from Manx bands and dance groups who would like to take part in the 2010 Manx Music Summer Season. Taking place in the Villa Marina Arcade in Douglas, the gigs are on Thursday evenings in July and August, starting at 8pm and usually involving at least two groups each night. The season is a great opportunity to bring Manx music and dance into a different venue and to a mixture of tourists and Manx residents.

The dates for this year are:

JULY 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th

AUGUST 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th

Please contact Jan Cowan with as many available dates as possible by **Monday 8 March:**

Jan.Cowan@gov.im or **694596**

www.iomarts.com



Manx Folk Dancing in Australia Report from Margaret Kenning

The Hunter Welsh Folk Dancers will be performing & holding short workshops at two of Australia's largest Celtic Festivals this year, which to my knowledge will be the first time these dances have been performed in Australia.

In May we are dancing at the Australian Celtic Festival in Glen Innes, NSW (where the Australian Standing Stones are). This festival is held over three days in May each year with a different Celtic Country is featured each year. 2010 is the year of the Manx and we are very excited to be dancing there, we have been going to Glen Innes for over twelve years, dancing Welsh & Cornish.

In June we are off to The National Celtic Festival in Portarlington, Victoria to perform and hold workshops - this will be our first time for this festival.

We are busy organising Manx Dance costumes and will send some pics from these festivals.

Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic Festival has an exciting line-up for this summer: already confirmed are Beoga (N. Ireland), Dalla (Cornwall) and Emily Smith (Scotland) plus a Welsh clogging duo... www.ynchruinnaght.com

THE MANX SCALLOP DANCE – WHATEVER NEXT!

TERRY CRINGLE DISCOVERED THESE LINKS ONLINE TO THE DARTINGTON MORRIS MEN PERFORMING THE MANX SCALLOP DANCE TO AN ADAPTED VERSION OF “KELLY FROM THE ISLE OF MAN”

THEIR WEBSITE SAYS THAT THE SCALLOP DANCERS WERE RECRUITED FROM THE EMPLOYEES OF THE LAXEY MINE, AND LINKS BETWEEN THIS DANCE AND DANCES FROM THE BACUP AREA OF LANCASHIRE MAY HAVE BEEN THROUGH ECONOMIC MIGRATION. OR WAS IT THAT THEY JUST HAD A BETTER SENSE OF HUMOUR BACK THEN?!

www.dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk/about-morris/80-manx-scallop-dancing/106-origins

WATCH IT PERFORMED ON YOUTUBE:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9HMboe5CjE#watch-main-area

~ SESSIONS ~

THURS 9pm Singing session at The Brit, Ramsey

FRI 8pm Tynwald Inn, St. Johns

FRI 9pm Irish at The Mitre, Ramsey

First FRI of month, 8pm, Peel Golf Club Centenary Room

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

SAT 10pm Manx at The White House, Peel

Throwing themselves off a cliff...for fun?! Manx Folk Dance Society raise money in sponsored abseil

Report from Mo Robinson

Congratulations and well done to all that took part in the Sponsored Abseil on Saturday 20th February to Raise funds towards the 2011 International Festival. It was a very different way to spend a Saturday morning, hanging from a rope off Maughold Head. The weather conditions were just perfect the snow had stopped and it was brilliant sunshine and more importantly there were no off-shore winds. Ten Brave Manx Folk successfully abseiled down the cliff near to Maughold lighthouse under the supervision of four trained climbers from the Maughold Venture Centre. The climb back up the slippery mud-filled gully with ropes proved to be another challenge as well.

For more information regarding the festival or if you would like to donate please contact Treasurer Freda Black on tel 624858.



Left to Right: Finnlo Shimmin, Fiona Shimmin, Freda Black, Sharon Christian, Allison Cain, Rosemary Evans, Geoff (Rob) Robinson, Rachel Clarkson, Esther Kilgallon, and John Kilgallon.



Above: The Abseil Site

Below: Freda Black



SUCCESSFUL WORKSHOP WEEKEND

Around fifty people attended six workshops in Scottish traditional music, song and dance organised by the Manx Heritage Foundation at the beginning of February. Led by award-winning performers Joy Dunlop and Rachel Hair, the workshops for adults included solo and choral singing in Scottish Gaelic, solo harp and harp accompaniment, step and ceilidh dancing. A special harp workshop for under 16s was also organised to meet the growing demand for harp tuition on the Island.

One of the great things about the weekend was that there was a real mix of people at the sessions – beginners and more experienced singers and dancers – which created a relaxed atmosphere. Songs taught included 'Buain a' Choirce' and 'Sine Bhàn', whilst harp players picked up Calum Stewart's beautiful tune 'Looking at a rainbow through a dirty window'. The dance sessions were very well attended, with Joy testing the dancers with complicated step dance routines before moving to more relaxed mass ceilidh dances.

The workshop weekend concluded with a concert at the Studio Theatre, Ballakermeen, featuring members of The Reeling Stones and Ny Fennee dance group as well as performances from Joy and Rachel.





MANX MUSIC ROADSHOW 2010

With King Chiaulee & Friends

WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

CASTLE RUSHEN HIGH SCHOOL
KING WILLIAM'S COLLEGE
QEII HIGH SCHOOL

THURSDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

ST. NINIAN'S HIGH SCHOOL
BALLAKERMEEN HIGH SCHOOL
RAMSEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Manx music roadshow with King Chiaulee

Last month, Manx instrumental group King Chiaulee and dancers John Kilgallon and Ali Carroon performed a two day tour of the Island's six secondary schools. Organised by Chloë for the Manx Heritage Foundation, the aim of each mini-concert was to complement the Key Stage 3 scheme of work on Manx music. In-between their lively sets which got all of the students and teachers clapping along, the lads described how they had originally formed the band at St. Ninian's High School 12 years ago, talked about their instruments, explained the difference between jigs and reels, and discussed how they learn tunes by ear and compose their own Manx music. The musicians and dancers got an enthusiastic reception from each of the schools, but at Ballakermeen High School, John's performance of Gorse Sticks received both an encore and standing ovation!

Dr Chloë Woolley is the Manx Music Specialist for the Manx Heritage Foundation. She works closely with Maggie Richardson of Music Services to ensure support of Manx music in the school curriculum: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im



BREE FIDDLE SCHOOL

During the Spring half term, Bree held a fiddle school led by tutor Katie Lawrence. Using Manx tunes The Tiger and The Cuckoo along with a waltz and two reels from the wider Celtic repertoire, the young violinists spent the day focussing on bowing techniques and ornamentation, learning by ear, creating harmonies and using improvisation, and playing sets as an ensemble. The group performed for family and friends at the end of the workshop.

The next Bree session will take place from 3 - 4.30pm at Greens in Douglas on **Saturday 13th March**. The following month, the session will be part of the Shennaghys Jiu youth festival and will take place at Ramsey Town Hall at 3pm on **Saturday 3rd April**.

www.myspace.com/breemanx



TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

see www.manxheritagemusic.org for more printable pieces of Manx music

Shannon's Tune

Rosie Shirtliff
Bree Oct 2009



This tune was written by talented young bodhran and recorder player, Rosie Shirtliff, at the Bree trad music weekend last October. For more information on Bree see: www.myspace.com/breemanx or email Chloë Woolley on: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im



soundbites

Monday 15th March
KING CHIAULLEE

Tuesday 16th March
CLASSICAL TRIO

Wednesday 17th March
REDGAP

Thursday 18th March
TRUMAN FALLS

Friday 19th March
THE JIM CAINE QUARTET

Pack up your sandwiches
and come along between
1.00ish and 2.00ish



Admission Free! Phone 694598 for details. www.iomarts.com

King Chiaullee will
head up the IOM Arts
Council's latest series
of Soundbites - free
lunchtime concerts you
can drop into at the
Villa Arcade in Douglas
between 1ish and 2ish
each day

15th-19th March
Stylish lunchboxes
optional!

www.iomarts.com

Manx Music CDs are available online at: www.manxheritage.org/CDs
and in good bookshops, MNH and other gift shops

Duo Si Canta is on Myspace singing some Manx songs! Many years ago, Marianne discovered Manx music through Fenella Bazin's books which prompted her to make a visit. She sought out Colin Jerry in order to learn the Manx pronunciations. You can hear the duo perform 'The Sea Invocation' and 'Tra va mish my ghuilley'

Check them out: www.myspace.com/sicanta

CALENDAR

March

5th The Ballaghs at The Creek, Peel, 9.30pm

5th-7th The Reeling Stones at Cwlwm Celtaidd Celtic Festival of Wales, Porthcawl, Wales:
www.cwlwmceltaidd.com

8th entries due for Braaid Eisteddfod

13th Bree traditional youth music session, Green's Restaurant, Douglas, 3pm FREE

15th King Chiallee at Soundbites, Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas, 1pm FREE

20th Braaid Eisteddfod, Braaid Hall

27th Manx Language Learners Network meeting, St John's Mill, 7.30pm

April

1st - 6th Shennaghys Jiu Celtic Youth Festival

5th - 10th International Celtic Congress, Claremont Hotel, Douglas

8th Celtic Congress ecumenical service with music from Caarjyn Coidjagh & others, Loch Prom Methodist Centre, Douglas, 3pm

8th Celtic Congress Young People's Concert, Loch Prom Methodist Centre, Douglas, 8pm (£3, children FREE)

9th Celtic Congress Concert featuring visiting musicians & singers and The Mollag Band, Loch Prom Methodist Centre, Douglas, 8pm (£4, children FREE)

24th & 25th Perree Bane dancers at Steenvoorde Festival, France

FOR SALE: Two wooden flutes, fully keyed (8 keys) in concert pitch (D with C foot joint), materials - African blackwood and sterling silver. Really excellent professional quality flutes, based on Rudall and Rose design - reason for sale due seller to switching to different system of flute. Reluctant sale. Email Breesha for more information, who will pass on your enquiry to the seller.

GROUPS WANTED FOR NOBLES PARK BANDSTAND PERFORMANCES

Douglas Borough Council's Leisure Services Committee are looking for groups interested in performing at the Nobles Park Bandstand during the coming summer season.

Times, dates and format are all open to suggestion, so if you feel this is something that might interest you please contact Martin Higgins, Parks Administrator on: 696330

mhiggins@douglas.gov.im

Please send in any dates for the months ahead so that we can publicise events here & online

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 (Education) Dr Chloë Woolley: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im

www.manxheritage.org

www.manxheritagemusic.org

Call: 01624 695784

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



Edited by Breesha Maddrell for the Manx Heritage Foundation.

The Editor welcomes submissions but reserves the right to edit for style and space.

Shennaghys Jit



2nd - 5th
April



Fri 2nd 7:00 Concert: Scoill Ree Gorree
8:00 Family Ceilidh: Masonic Hall
Sat 3rd 7:30 Galician & Irish Concert
Ree Gorree Theatre
Sun 4th 2:30 "Unplugged":
St Johns Church
8:00 Ceilidh: Masonic Hall
Mon 5th 8:00 Finale: Bar Logo



Tel: 819068

www.shennaghys.org

Kindly sponsored by: Ramsey Town Commissioners, Millichaps, Royal Skandia, Isle of Man Arts Council, Rotary Club of Ramsey, The Plough, Shoprite, Trafalgar Hotel, Gough Electrical Ltd, Charterhouse, Ramsey Bakery, Scottish Provident Int. Life Assurance.