

KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU MANX MUSIC TODAY

November
2009



mee houney

AWARD WINNING GAELIC SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS LINE UP FOR THIS YEAR'S COOISH

The Manx and Inter-Gaelic Festival has an exciting line-up of Manx and visiting musicians this year.

Scottish Gaelic singers Mairi MacInnes and Sineag MacIntyre line up with keyboard player, Mark Sheridan, and three talented instrumentalists based in Belfast make the representation from Ireland: Aodán Mac Shéafraidh (pipes), Maeve McKibben (flute) and Michéal Sands (guitar). Both groups will perform alongside Manx singers at the [Cooish's Inter-Gaelic Concert at the Centenary Centre in Peel on Friday 13th November, 8pm.](#)

With tickets priced at £7/£5 concessions (those in full-time education, OAPS and the unwaged), it's a great way to wash away that wintery feeling.

The festival itself stretches over a week and is organised by Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh (the Manx Language Society) with support from the Manx Heritage Foundation, the Isle of Man Arts Council and local businesses.

This year the festival runs from 7-14 November and starts with a residential weekend for Manx learners and speakers at Eary Cushlin. This weekend is free if you sign up in time – contact Adrian Cain on greinneyder@mhf.org.im to reserve a place. Immersing yourself in a Manx speaking environment is one of the best ways to improve your language skills in a relaxed atmosphere – it's great fun too!

Another new venture which will be launched during this year's Cooish is Possan Aeglagh, a Manx Gaelic youth club which will be based in Peel. Organised by IOM Department of Education's Youth Services and led by Manx speaker Cathy Clucas, the club will give young people the opportunity to use Manx outside of the school situation. Contact Cathy for more details: clucas-clugaish@live.com

On Tuesday, the Cooish will be taking over the

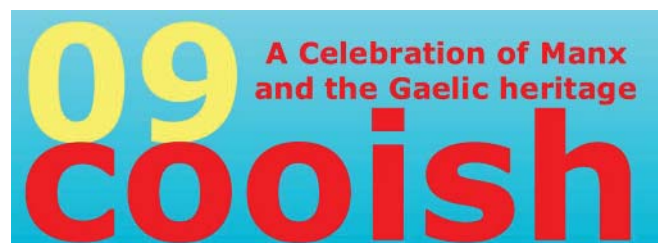
weekly Gaelic Java – a chance to catch up with other Manx speakers at Java in Douglas, 4-6pm.

The [Arrane son Mannin – Song for Mannin competition will happen on the Wednesday evening at the Masonic Hall in Peel, 8pm, FREE admission.](#) As well as the competition songs, a new fiddle group (as yet to be named) Cliogaree Twoaie and Strengyn will all perform.

Each year, a fluent Manx speaker gives a lecture in Manx on a topic not normally associated with traditional culture. This year's Leaght y Ghaauw will be given by Bob Carswell and is entitled *La Serenissima*. The festival isn't just for fluent speakers or advanced learners, though. You'll hear more Manx phrases on the radio and there's a wonderful opportunity to hear enjoy Gaelic singing from the Island and from Scotland. To reserve tickets for Friday email: cooish@manx.net or find them nearer the festival at the usual retail outlets for the Centenary Centre: Peter Norris Music in Douglas, Celtic Gold in Peel and Shakti Man in Ramsey.

The festival finishes off with a lecture in English about language issues. This year, we're delighted to welcome Jenefer Lowe from the Cornish Language Partnership, who will be given the lecture in memory of Ned Maddrell at 2pm on Saturday 14 November at St John's Mill. With an inter-Gaelic session at the Albert pub in Port St Mary that night from 9pm, the festival comes to a close.

Look online for a full programme of events see: www.myspace.com/cooish email cooish@manx.net



King Chiaullee bag Celtic Connections gig!

King Chiaullee plus special guests Greg Joughin, Rachel Hair, Malcolm Stitt and Jamie Smith. Sharing the gig with top Breton band, Pennoù Skoulm and Galician band Marful, they'll be performing in the Old Fruitmarket in Glasgow on **Wednesday 20th January 2010** at 8pm, tickets £16.



King Chiaullee onstage at the Centenary Centre in Peel as part of the Evening for Roly Drower [Photo: Valerie Caine]

This is the first time for many years that the festival has included Manx artists - the first of many, with any luck. Good work, the lads!

Book online now...

<http://www.celticconnections.com/whatson/event/90235-Penno%C3%B9-Skoulm-and-Marful-and-King-Chiaullee>

Celtic CONNECTIONS



Members of Bree present money raised by busking at this year's Yn Chruinnaght to Ruth Baker and James Vickers of Hands of Hope Romanian charity at one of Bree's monthly Greens sessions. The group of buskers raised an impressive £190. Both Ruth and James spend a lot of time in Romania actively working to change the lives of young people for the better:

www.handsofhope.org.im

www.myspace.com/breemanx

Do They Survive?

A.W. Moore's 1896 publication *Manx Ballads and Music* contained a section called "Children's Songs" (pp42-49) which includes such still familiar songs as Ushag Veg Ruy, Fer Dy Clien Click, Juan Y Jaggad Keear and Tappagyn Jiargey.

It appears that Moore was also interested in children's games since he was the Isle of Man's contributor to Alice Bertha Gomme's two-volume collection *The Traditional Games of England, Scotland and Ireland (1894-1898)* - a pity that the Island did not merit a mention in the title.

Born Alice Bertha Merck, she married George Laurence Gomme in 1875 and became Lady Gomme when he was knighted in 1911. Alice Gomme was a founder-member of the Folklore Society in 1878 and a leading figure in its activities for 60 years, serving on its Council from 1912 to 1938. Moore, too, was a member of that society and a contributor to its journal.

Among the games that Moore provided for Lady Gomme's book are Green Gravel*, How Many Miles to Babylon (Burslem in the Manx version), Lady of the Land, Oats and Beans and Barley, Silly Old Man, Three Dukes** (which has come down to us as Tom Dukes a Riding) and Three Sailors.

Is it likely that anyone has heard any of these in primary-school playgrounds in recent times?

John Kaneen

* In *A Vocabulary of the Anglo-Manx Dialect* (1924) - Moore, Morrison, Goodwin.

DAMSEL [damzl], damson. On the other hand 'damson' is some-times said for 'damsel', as in the children's singing game of 'Green gravel'.

Green gravel, green gravel,
The grass is so green;
The fairest young damson
That ever was seen.

** Here Comes Tom Dukes a-Riding - *Kiaull Vannin*

No.146

Premiere of new arrangement of Manx traditional tunes by Raymond Leppard

To coincide with the IOM Arts Council's concerts by the English Chamber Orchestra, conductor and composer Raymond Leppard was inspired to arrange three Manx tunes, 'Manx Men We'll Remain', 'The Parting Hour' (Ta traagholl thie) and 'Arrane Ashoonagh dy Vannin' (the National Anthem). The new work received its premiere on Saturday 31 October at the Villa Marina.



The Heather and the Gorse

Last month, a concert by Ramsey Town Band's junior section, the Neptune Street Nippers, featured the premiere of a new arrangement of Manx tunes by Scottish composer Bruce Fraser.

Bruce was invited over to lead a tutorial weekend for the nippers, and he had composed the Manx medley especially for the occasion. A competition was held to provide a title for the piece and the winner was 'The Heather and the Gorse', suggested by Daisy Revill and Ellen Quane. The new piece, which features Yn Mhelliagh, Smuggler's Lullaby, Peter O'Tavy and Snieu Queeyl Snieu, will soon be available to purchase from Lomond music:

www.lomondmusic.com

Chloë Woolley

~ SESSIONS ~

THURS 9pm Singing session at The Brit, Ramsey

FRI 8pm Tynwald Inn, St. Johns

FRI 9pm Irish at The Mitre, Ramsey

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

SAT 10pm Manx at The White House, Peel

Transcription of the month

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

This month features a tune transcribed by Chloë Woolley from a folder of music belonging to Josephine Kermode, whose pen-name was Cushag. You'll see that from the notes that it was taken down from the singing of Ned Quayle, Croit-y-Caley in 1911.

MS. 08979
Music (Cushag)
Transcribed from
unpublished MS.

[Untitled]



"Guild 1912.

Taken down from the singing of Ned Quayle, Croit-y-Caley, April 21st 1911".

[* Bar value justified - C. Woolley]

Strengyn impress at Back Door Slam gig rave reviews by Liz Corlett and John Gregory

In a review of the Back Door Slam gig at the Gaiety on Monday 12 October, Liz Corlett of isleofman.com gave plenty of space to Strengyn. Here's what she had to say:

"...first came local support duo Strengyn who, in a comparatively modest half-hour set, stole the audience's collective breath.

Trading guitars and mandolins, folk musicians Paul Rogers and Matt Kelly unleashed a series of instrumentals which fused traditional tunes with their own compositions.

Quickfire, dextrous playing and self-deprecating humour made Strengyn (Manx Gaelic for 'strings') a disarming experience, and neither audience nor players made it to the end of their closing number - a deadpan take on 'Duelling Banjos' - without breaking into huge grins.

A guest appearance from unvaryingly talented young fiddler Tom Collister - a talent to watch - was an added joy."

[<http://www.isleofman.com/News/article.aspx?article=19622>]

John Gregory of IOM Newspapers, a longtime supporter of the duo, was also singing their praises:

"The evening, which was streamed live on the internet by isleofman.com began in style with mandolin and guitar duo Strengyn, consisting of Paul Rogers and Matt Kelly who are themselves a brilliant act, who I have enjoyed watching on a number of occasions now. Their Celtic tunes were fantastic and they received a rapturous reception. They also had a special guest - fiddle maestro Tom Callister - who was equally superb."

[<http://www.iomtoday.co.im/what-where-when/Standing-ovation-for-Davy-Knowles.5738051.jp>]

Haydn Wood Celebrations

A special anniversary concert is being held in the Villa Marina on 22nd November to celebrate the influence of Manx music on the compositions of three brothers who became famous figures in the world of Light Music in the first half of the 20th century.

Although born in Yorkshire, Haydn, Harry and Daniel Wood moved here as young children and spent their formative years here. All three went on to pursue highly successful musical careers. Harry remained on the Island and was director of music for the Palace and Derby Castle Company, Daniel was a successful song writer, and Haydn became one of the leading composers of Light Music. His many works include major orchestral compositions, and hundreds of songs, the most successful of which was Roses of Picardy.

All through their lives the Manx influence was evident in the brothers' music and they continuously used Manx tunes and mythology as an inspiration.

The concert will feature the Isle of Man Symphony Orchestra conducted by Maurice Powell, soloists Geoff Corkish, Karen Elliott and Mandy Griffin and the massed choirs of the Isle of Man. The evening will be compered by Charles Guard.

Tickets are on sale now and it promises to be an evening not to be missed:

Box office 600555 or from the Welcome Centre, Sea Terminal, Douglas

www.villagaiety.com

Possan Aeglagh new Manx youth group in Peel

The Dept of Education's Youth Services have a new development - a Manx Gaelic youth club. It's aimed at young people who are happy to be spoken to in Manx and is open to school years 6,7,8 and 9. The club takes place on Mondays at Peel Youth Centre on the prom 7-9pm (NB not at half term) For more details, contact Cathy Clucas on: 827531/ 414331 or email clucas-clugaish@live.com

Rushen Silver Band CD Diamond Celebration

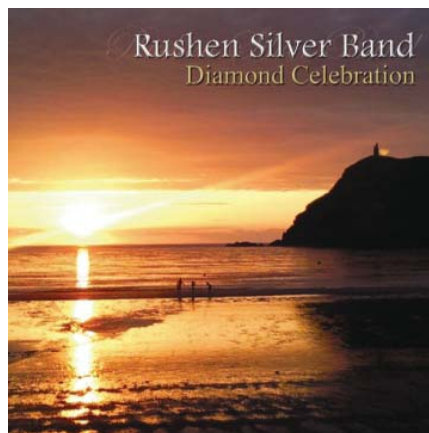
A new CD by Rushen Silver Band features two arrangements by John Kinley. His arrangement of traditional tune 'Hunt the Wren' and a new work, Ballafesson March,

During 2008 the Band decided to record a CD to mark the 60th anniversary.

Funding for the project was received from the Friends of Rushen Silver Band and the Farmer Charitable Trust.

The CD was recorded over a weekend in March 2009 at Castle Rushen High School. Some pictures from the recording session as well as sound bites are available on the website:

<http://www.rushensilverband.org/im/CD/CD%20PAGE.html>



YOUTH GOT TALENT!

Entries are being sought for what has been billed as 'The friendly talent competition'. Organised by IOM Youth Service, the minimum age for entries is school year 4, maximum age 18. The idea is to encourage small groups to get together to enjoy and learn from the experience of creating a performance. Applications are due in by Fri 20th November. More info online:

http://www.sch.im/Youth/IOMYOUTH/home_files/YGT_09_Application%20.pdf

Cinzia Yates PhD Ethnomusicology

Dear Manx Musician

If you have a few minutes, it would be really useful to me, and my research, if you could have a quick look at this questionnaire.

Many of you will have seen me recording at Manx sessions and other musical events and sessions. I'm particularly interested in which tunes we play most often and which tunes we think are most important.

There are no right and wrong answers, I have no idea what the answers will be until I find out from you, the musician. It is purely a survey.

Also, as ever, I do not have a definition for the term 'Manx'. As far as I can tell, Manx music is whatever Manx musicians say is Manx music (the same can be said of Manx musicians) so if you think it is Manx in any way, then please feel free to include it here. It might have started from somewhere else, been recently composed, or be linked to the Isle of Man – I want to know what you think are Manx tunes.

The information I find from these questionnaires will be treated in an anonymous/overview way, and nothing will be attributed to individuals. I am interested in which bands you have been in as I am looking for possible patterns linking particular tunes to particular bands/groups. I am asking for names and bands as, with your permission, I may need to contextualise your comments if you are willing to expand on your ideas. Your names will not be used without your express permission. If you'd be willing to be interviewed on this subject please indicate on the questionnaire below.

Once completed this questionnaire can be sent to me by email to:

YatesCA@Cardiff.ac.uk

Or posted to 124 Cathays Terrace, Cardiff, CF24 4HY

Alternatively if you pass completed forms to Dr Breesha Maddrell or Dr Chloe Woolley at the Centre for Manx Studies I will collect them directly.

Thanks for all your help and I look forward to seeing you all at a session soon!

Cinzia

Manx Musician Questionnaire

Name: _____

Instrument(s): _____

What band(s)/group(s) are you in now?: _____

What band(s)/group(s) have you been in previously (rough dates if possible)?:

What would you say are the ten Manx tunes you play the most?:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____

7. _____ 8. _____

9. _____ 10. _____

What ten tunes would say were most Manx?:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____

7. _____ 8. _____

9. _____ 10. _____

What would you say were the ten best Manx tunes?:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 10. _____ |

What would say were the ten worst Manx tunes?:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 10. _____ |

If you were teaching someone Manx music, what would be the ten 'must learn' tunes?:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 10. _____ |

Would you be willing to be interviewed on this subject for the purposes of my research? (nothing would be published and attributed to you without your express permission)

Yes / No

If Yes please provide contact details:

RAISE FUNDS & PROMOTE YOUR BAND BUSKING

Would you like to promote Manx culture through music and dance, help to create a vibrant atmosphere this Christmas in Douglas Town Centre and raise funds busking at the same time? The Douglas Development Partnership invites Manx music, theatre and dance artists to perform in the high street this up and coming festive season. Even if you are unable to join in with the events on the run up to Christmas, but would like to be added to our database of Street Entertainers, please email Sue Bagnall at the Douglas Development Partnership. Performers who feature on the Manx Music DVD will not need to audition - just contact Sue Bagnall:

sbagnall@douglas.org.im
www.ddp.org.im

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

CALENDAR

November

- 6th First Friday Folk Club, Peel Golf Club, 8pm (Floor singers welcome!) FREE
- 7-14th Cooish Manx and Inter-Gaelic Festival, www.myspace.com/cooish
- 7th Ballaugh School Manx Music Club at British Legion coffee morning, Ballaugh Parish Hall, 11am
- 11th Cooish music night including Arrane son Mannin, PEEL venue TBC, 8pm
- 13th Ballaugh School Manx Music Club at Hollantide Fair, Ballaugh Parish Hall, 7pm
- 13th Cooish Inter-Gaelic Concert, Centenary Centre, 8pm £7/£5
- 14th Bree youth music session, Greens Veggie Cafe, Douglas, 3pm FREE
- 14th Cooish Inter-Gaelic session, Albert Pub, Port St Mary, 9pm FREE
- 18th Caarjyn Coidjagh and Perree Bane for Castletown Heritage Trust
- 21st Caarjyn Coidjagh at A Taste for Christmas, St James Church, Dalby
- 22nd A Grand Concert to celebrate the music of Haydn, Harry and Daniel Wood, IOM Symphony Orchestra and soloists, Villa Marina, Douglas, 7.30pm, £15/£12
- 28th Maughold's Got Talent - talent competition, Maughold Church Hall 7pm. Adults £1, Children 50p

December

- 5th MFDS Social Evening, Ballasalla Village Hall, £2.50 for non-members
- 12th Bree youth music session - BUSKING! Strand Shopping Centre, Douglas, 2pm

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 Breasha Maddrell: mhfmusic@mhf.org.im

Manx Music Specialist (Education) Chloë Woolley: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im

www.manxheritage.org

www.manxheritage.org

www.manxheritagemusic.org

Call: 01624 695159

or write to: MHF Music Team, 6 Kingswood Grove, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 3LX



More dates online... www.myspace.com/manxmusicanddance

cooish

09

Feailley ny Gaelgey
as yn eiraght Gaelagh

**Concerts, workshops,
music and language sessions,
with Manx musicians and singers and
visiting performers from
Ireland and Scotland**

November 7 - 14 Mee Hounney

**For everybody interested in Manx Culture -
we'd love to see you throughout the week**

***Cooish Inter-Gaelic Festival,
PO BOX 17 Purt Le Moirrey IM99 7QJ
01624 838527
www.myspace.com/cooish***

09
**A Celebration of Manx
and the Gaelic heritage**
cooish