

september 2010
mean foyyir 2010

kiavll manninagh jiu

manx music today

www.manxheritagemusic.org

Lorient loves The Mollag Band!

Aalish Maddrell reports...

This year, a record 800,000 people attended the 40th anniversary of the Festival Interceltique de Lorient (FIL). It is really exciting to see Manx performers share the stage with internationally renowned musicians and dancers from across the Celtic world and The Mollag Band certainly didn't disappoint. Their original songs and interesting arrangements ensured a warm reception from the Lorient crowd. They were equally comfortable on stage in front of a packed theatre audience as they were playing to passers by in front of the Manx pavilion. We also really appreciated the efforts they made with the press, with Greg and Julie, in particular, doing several radio interviews - promoting not only their own music but Manx language and culture in general.

The last few years have seen an ever-strengthening Manx presence at FIL, thanks to the support of the festival's Director and his team as well as the work of the Manx Heritage Foundation. We are now about to begin the process of selecting performers for FIL 2011 'Year of the Celtic Diaspora' and are looking for a Manx traditional music group to represent the Island. In order to qualify, you must be confident and accomplished musicians who perform traditional and/or original music in the Manx style. You must also be available to travel to Brittany for the duration of the festival (Aug 5th to 14th 2011).

Please send a CD of at least three tracks to Aalish Maddrell c/o MHF Music Team, Stable Building, University Centre, Old Castletown Road, Douglas IM2 1QB

If you have any queries or require further information please contact Aalish on:

filmanx@yahoo.com

Closing date **November 1st 2010.**

**BANDS WANTED FOR
LORIENT 2011 - APPLY
BY NOV 1st**

Photos: Julie Matthews, Wendy Hurst & Mark Lawrence



Caarjyn Coidjagh in Aviles

With the help of the IOM Arts Council and their own fundraising, Manx Gaelic unaccompanied choir, Caarjyn Coidjagh, performed in Asturias, northern Spain, last month at the invitation of the Aviles Beltaine Inter-Celtic Festival.

The thirteen strong choir led by Annie Kissack performed alongside the choirs such as Cor Caerdydd (Cardiff mixed voice choir), Port Talbot Cymric Male Choir and Cor Meibion Y Fflint (Flint Male Voice Choir). Dancers and musicians from all over the Celtic world were represented and Manx musicians met up with old friends in the form of Kekezza (Cornish dance group) and Breton singer Lors Landat. Both acts had previously featured at the Island's own Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic Festival.

Caarjyn Coidjagh sing almost exclusively in Manx Gaelic and perform arrangements of traditional and newly composed material. Their Director, Annie Kissack, works hard to craft imaginative and varied arrangements, which were greatly appreciated by the crowds in Asturias. The choir performed at the Casa La Cultura and at outdoor venues, generating renewed interest in the Isle of Man as a Celtic nation.

www.myspace.com/caarjyncooidjagh



Piping World

isle of man: a celtic pipe band haven



Ellan Vannin is one of Britain's most remote pipe bands. Situated on the Isle of Man it draws on a timeless history of this ancient Celtic island. PIPING WORLD recently spoke to band secretary Carol Quine about the current status of the band.

PIPING WORLD:

From an outsider's viewpoint the Isle of Man, which is steeped in Celtic tradition, would seem an ideal place to have a pipe band. Is that an accurate overlook?

CAROL QUINE:

The Isle of Man is indeed steeped in Celtic tradition, and has many links to

There is currently only one established pipe band, and before 1984, we know of no pipe bands on the Island since before the First World War.

The isolation imposed on an island nation by the Irish Sea also makes contact difficult, although the band has had some good assistance over the years from the piping family both in Scotland

Ellan Vannin

Pipes & Drums have been featured in August's edition of *Piping World*. Hon secretary for the band, Carol Quine, detailed the history and goals of the band, the qualities of their Manx tartan uniform and their aim to include more and more Manx material in their repertoire. The article thanks the Manx Heritage Foundation, The Manx Lottery Trust and the IOM Arts Council for support over the years. KMJ's thanks must go to the Editor of *Piping World* for permission to use the image (left).

Do you receive the world's best read piping magazine? PIPING WORLD has 20,000+ readers including world champion soloists and pipe band players ... as well as social players. It's jam packed full of great archival articles, misses out on the 'dirge' of ad nauseum competition write-ups that the others carry - AND IT'S FREE! Aye that's right, absolutely, jock-jumping, highland-shouting, chanter-blasting FREE every month direct into your email box - just send us as an email message with 'SUBSCRIBE PIPING WORLD' in the subject box and we'll do the rest.



Arrane son Mannin Song for Mann

Musicians!

£250!



This prize, sponsored by the Manx Heritage Foundation, will be awarded after a competition held at the **Cooish Festival in November 2010**. The prizewinning group will go to the **Pan-Celtic Festival on 26th April - 1st May 2011**, in **Dingle, Co. Kerry, Ireland**, to perform the song in the International Song Competition.

What to do?

Your song must be in Manx Gaelic with instrumental accompaniment. It can be rock, pop, folk, traditional - any type, as long as it's in Manx.

Both lyrics and tune must be a new composition in 2010 and not performed previously in public competition in IOM.

Live group performance of three to eight persons with no previously recorded music or effects. Performance does not need the composer to play.

The song will be judged as follows:

Lyrics: 30 points

Music: 30 points

Presentation: 40 points

The winning group undertake to perform at the **Pan-Celtic Festival in Dingle, County Kerry, April 2011**. A proportion of travelling and accommodation expenses will be paid up to a set maximum.

* **Good song, no Manx?** E-mail for help to find a translator. Entry forms from: **Fiona McArdle Tel: 471543**
E-mail: fmcardle@manx.net

Return entry form by Thursday 30th September 2010
Music to be sent in by Friday 22nd October 2010

WANTED: NEW SONGS IN MANX!

It's that time of year when you should start thinking about penning a new song in Manx Gaelic for the Arrane son Mannin competition in November. The winning song will represent the Isle of Man at the Pan-Celtic Festival in Dingle in April 2011. Last year's winner was Andy North with his group Cabbyl Ushtey. Performing 'Roihaghyn y Cheayn' (the arms of the sea), they were placed a creditable third. Their arrangement included fiddle, banjo, percussion and the extra special sound of the 'hang'.

If you're interested in submitting a song, you need to ask Fiona McArdle for an entry form and get it sent in by 30th September. Fiona can also help you find a translator if you don't have enough Manx to write a whole song - and there are always people to help you with pronunciation. In the past, bands like Tate! and The Katherine Crowe Band have had a go - you don't need to be a fluent speaker to be able to sing in Manx!

A CD of last year's festival's songs and tunes is available from their website priced 12 euro:

www.panceltic.ie/pages/pancelticshop.html

IOM ARTS COUNCIL EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL 18-19 SEPTEMBER ERIN ARTS CENTRE

The IOM Arts Council and Erin Arts Centre are staging an Early Music Festival **18-19 September**. The festival is a chance to catch some exquisite musicianship from the worlds of early and traditional music.



On Saturday 18th, Strengyn are in concert at the Erin Arts Centre, 2.30pm, followed by Festival Evensong with Caarjyn Coodjagh at 5pm in St Catherine's Church, Port Erin. That evening there is the chance to catch the 1607 Ensemble at the Erin Arts Centre, 8pm. The 1607 Ensemble is unique in that they perform early consort repertoire alongside 20th-century vocal jazz - both to a high professional standard - and create their own eclectic compositions using elements from both styles. www.1607ensemble.com On Sunday 19th Lucie Skeaping & Robin Jeffrey (the Burning Bush www.theburningbush.co.uk) present broadside ballads of 17th century England in "Have I Got News For Thee!" at 2pm and that evening, virtuoso harpsichord player, Mahan Esfahani, will perform Bach's Goldberg Variations, 8pm Mahan is a BBC New Generation Artist who has received rave reviews around the world: www.mahanesfahani.com A booking form is at the end of this newsletter. For more details: www.erinartscentre.com

GALE FORCE SUMMER SCHOOL

The Gale Force Summer School yet again included an afternoon of Manx music, song and dance led by the MHF Manx Music Development Team. The session focused on the month of August as the beginning of Autumn, getting ready for the harvest and the accompanying social gatherings. Songs and dances taught included Yn Mheillea, Hunt the Wren, Cuckoo (round) and Haligan Haligan - with a real life niddy noddy! Over 30 children attended this year's Summer School. Pictured right are just some of those who



took part in Yn Chruinnaght's Youth Music Concert at Scoill Ree Gorree in July. Chloë and Breesha made a presentation to Gale Force on behalf of Yn Chruinnaght to thank them for participating in this year's festival. Barbara Gale used this gift to buy prizes of Manx books and dictionaries for her pupils.

Also pictured are Sue Bowring and Gloria Balakrishna presenting prizes to Alice Main and Callum Howard. www.galeforce-online.net

New Kodály Music School (IOM)

Christa McCartney has just established a new music school. An established Kodály practitioner, Christa trained for 3 years at the Kodály Institute in Hungary, gaining a first class MA degree in Music Education from the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest. She also independently studied with the late, great Klára Kokas. She holds diplomas from both ABRSM and Trinity in voice, piano and musicianship and has four grade 8 certificates including Music Theory and Practical Musicianship.

As well as being known for her teaching/classroom work she has a strong practical music background

both in Classical and Folk performance and a working knowledge of many instruments.

Christa also runs the Department of Education's Saturday Morning Music Workshop in Douglas at Cronk-y-Berry school, is Musical Director of Ramsey Choral Society and runs regular harp workshops in Ballasalla.

Christa uses a lot of traditional Manx song in her Kodály teaching.

Her new ventures this year are another pre-school group in Douglas and a 'learn to sing' programme for adults who would like to join in with stuff but feel embarrassed about their voices. All info on the website:

www.kodalymusicschool.vpweb.co.uk

~ 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

IOM ARTS COUNCIL MANX MUSIC SUMMER SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE...



PICTURES FROM THE FINAL NIGHT OF THE MANX MUSIC SUMMER

SEASON AT THE VILLA ARCADE IN DOUGLAS ON 26TH AUGUST: ELLAN VANNIN PIPES & DRUMS, STAA & KING CHIAULLEE.



STRENGYN AT SOUNDBITES...

FREE LUNCHTIME GIGS IN THE VILLA ARCADE PRESENTED BY THE IOM ARTS COUNCIL & ORGANISED BY JONNO. STRENGYN PLAYED ON THURSDAY 26 AUGUST.



Manx Music in Málaga

For the past three years the South of Spain has been hearing a good deal of Manx music. David and Rosie Speers report...

From the early 1980s to the late 90s we played, sung and danced with various Manx groups, such as Perree Bane, Cliogaree Twoaie, Bock Yuan Fannee, The Arthur Caley Band and The Mollag Band, as well as at sessions in the Central, Whitehouse and elsewhere. So we have been enormously pleased to see the emergence of a much stronger Manx culture than existed before that revival.

When we first came to the South of Spain we thought there would be no traditional music sessions so when Rosie met an Irish bar owner on a language course she set up our first session. Since then, along with folk guitarist and singer Tony Wilson from Tyneside, we have been hosting sessions in various bars and playing at functions and festivals as The Sessionistas, for the past year playing every Saturday night in the Irish Times, Benalmadena. The bulk of our sets is Irish tunes and songs but with many Manx tunes thrown in for good measure.



It has been a wonderful experience to meet so many interesting – and interested – people, including some teachers from a local school who we met while playing informally in a pizzeria, and as a result we played as guests of honour at the annual school concert!

We thought we knew the local music scene pretty well but were really surprised earlier this year to find there was another session in a town about an hour and a half away (acceptable driving distances seem to increase to fit the size of the country you're in...). From there we made contacts with traditional musicians both expatriates and Spanish, discovering that there were other sessions in Málaga, Granada, Córdoba and Seville

– all more famed for flamenco than Celtic music. Most of the sessions happen in Irish bars and the Spanish musicians we have met have usually had some contact with Irish music, either by living in Ireland or playing with expatriate Irish musicians. So they are fascinated by the fact that there is another body of Celtic music from our Island and various digital recorders come out when we play (Kiark Catreney and Peter O'Tavy are current favourites!).



Music can open the door to people and places that you wouldn't normally find and that has certainly been our experience here. In April we went on a weekend retreat to swap tunes and get to know each other. Two days (and nights!) of wonderful playing – including our own tunes, of course.

Now we're looking forward to a Fleadh in November in Cáceres (mid-Spain). Meanwhile our own regular session goes from strength to strength, attracting a wide variety of musicians and session-goers.

We have long hoped to get a trip organised for Manx musicians to come to play here so if anyone is interested please contact us through Breesha Maddrell (mhfmusic@mhf.org.im) or our web pages and maybe meet up when we are next back in October.



TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

Squashed Frog

Gilno Carswell 2005



This quirky tune comes from King Chiaullee whistle player Gilno Carswell. It features in their 3.5" Floppy set which you'll find on KC's 3rd CD *Nish!* Gilno has produced written versions of a plethora of tunes for the forthcoming *Kiaull yn Theay 4* book.

**BREE YOUTH TRAD
MUSIC WEEKEND**

**23 & 24
OCTOBER**

**KEEP AN EYE ON
BREE eMAILINGS
AND WATCH THIS
SPACE...**

MANX CLASSES ARE STARTING UP
AGAIN IN THE AUTUMN - FOR
FULL DETAILS CONTACT MANX
LANGUAGE OFFICER, ADRIAN CAIN
ON GREINNEYDER@MHF.ORG.IM

OR SEE

WWW.LEARNMANX.COM &
[HTTP://COWAG.WORDPRESS.COM/](http://COWAG.WORDPRESS.COM/)

CALENDAR

September

4th Bree traditional music youth session, Greens Vegetarian Cafe, Douglas, 3pm

5th Cruinnaght Chreneash - Manx Harvest Celebration including Manx music and dance, Cregneash National Folk Museum, 10am to 5pm, adults £2, children free.

5th Caarjyn Coidjagh at Loch Prom Methodist Centre, Douglas 8pm

10th-12th IOM Music Service Family Singing Weekend, St Ninian's High School tel 686555 to book a free place

18th-19th IOM Arts Council Early Music Festival at Erin Arts Centre and venues around Port Erin featuring Lucie Skeaping, Mahan Esfahani and the 1607 Ensemble. See the booking form at the end of the newsletter for more details, but the festival includes trad cross-over events including:

18th Strengyn in concert, Erin Arts Centre, Port Erin, 2.30pm, £10

18th Caarjyn Coidjagh choral evensong at the Early Music Festival, St Catherines Church, Port Erin, 5pm FREE

24th Music Services' Friday Choir (meeting weekly) starts up again - Salvation Army Citadel, 1.15-1.45pm

October

9th Bree traditional music youth session, Greens Vegetarian Cafe, Douglas, 3pm

16th WaterAid Big National Ceilidh. Will we have a Manx event?! www.bignationalceilidh.co.uk

23rd-24th Bree Trad Youth Music Weekend

31st Hop Tu Naa at Cregneash, 10am to 5pm, normal admission charges.

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

Congratulations to:

Andy & Jen Harding from Perree Bane who got married last month

Welsh band Calan who won the trophy at Lorient - Calan were at Yn Chruinnaght in 2009

Ruth Furber sent the following in if any dancers are interested:

"Next year the Inter-Varsity Folk Dance Festival returns to Bristol for the first time since 1957, to celebrate IVDFD's 60th Anniversary. IVDFD Bristol 2011 will be held from the 25th to 27th February at the University of Bristol Students' Union in the heart of Clifton. We're busy putting together plans for a fantastic weekend which we hope will celebrate the legacy of the UK's longest running national folk festival; and at the same time look forward to a thriving future. The current line-up includes dances with Tickled Pink, Trinculo, The Molecatchers, The Dalriada Scottish Country Dance Band and a contra dance with The Bristol Players. We're also planning a full programme of workshops, sessions, concerts, a display ceilidh and a morris tour. The ceilidhs are being organised by Phil Bassindale, IVDFD 2011 president, who will be calling for the dance with Trinculo on Friday Night."

www.ivfdf2011.org

!Perree Bane recommendation of the month!

www.jigjaw.co.uk

JigJaw combines the percussion and passion of dance traditions with vocal harmonies in a tight, scintillating quartet of singing and dancing talents! PB met the group at the Furness Tradition Festival in July.

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: 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



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 any articles and use them to spread the word about Manx culture

Early Music Festival POSTAL BOOKING FORM

To: Early Music Festival Bookings, Erin Arts Centre, Victoria Square,
Port Erin, Isle of Man, IM9 6LD, British Isles.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Post Code..... Date.....

Telephone.....

Email.....I enclose a cheque made payable
to ERIN ARTS CENTRE for £.....

If you wish to have your tickets returned to you please include a SAE or 40p postage to your cheque.

Event	No of Seats	£	Total	Office use only
Sat 18th Sept Strengyn in concert		10		
Sat 18th Sept St Catherines Church - Evensong Caarjyn Cooijagh		Free		
Sat 18th Sept 1607 Ensemble		10		
Sunday 19th Sept Lucie Skeaping & Robin Jeffrey		10		
Sunday 19th Sept Mahan Estafahani - Harpsicord		15		

If postage is not included, your tickets will be available for collection **FROM SEPTEMBER 8TH**
at the Box Office, Erin Arts Centre, Victoria Square, Port Erin.

Coonceil Ellynyn Ellan Vannin
Isle of Man Arts Council

FEAILLEY KIAULLYNN CHIED EARISH 2010 EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2010



1800 - 1900 Mean-Fouyir 2010
18th - 19th September 2010

Laare Ellynyn Phurt Chiarn, Kerrin Victoria, Purt Chiarn, Mannin
Erin Arts Centre, Victoria Square, Port Erin

Early Music Festival 2010 PROGRAMME

SATURDAY 18TH 2010

14:30 Strenghyn in Concert -
Paul Rogers and Matt Kelly



17:00 St Catherine's Church, Promenade Port Erin -
Festival Evensong
Caaryn Cooiidjagh, Organist Gareth Moore,
Rev'd Canon Norma Cole



20:00 1607 Ensemble in Concert



SUNDAY 19TH 2010



14:00 "Have I Got News For Thee!"
Lucie Skeaping and Robin Jeffrey
(Broadside Ballads of the 17th Century England)

20:00 Rectial - Mahan Esfahani- Harpsicord
The Goldberg Variations J.S Bach



Early Music Festival 2010 PROGRAMME

HOW TO BOOK

By Post

Early Music Festival Bookings, Erin Arts Centre,
Victoria Square, Port Erin, Isle of Man, IM9 6LD
From August 10th: All booking forms will be filed
in date order of receipt.

Disabled Patrons

We welcome disabled patrons. Wheelchair users are
requested to advise the Box Office at the time of
booking. Sennheiser Infrared equipment for the
hard-of-hearing is available. Please ask at the Box
Office for details.

Erin Arts Centre online

For up to date events listings and more information
about the Erin Arts Centre visit www.erinartscentre.com

Email and Mailing List

Keep in touch with events at the Erin Arts Centre
by joining The Erin Arts Club or Mananan Friends
which includes free mailing. Contact the Box Of-
fice or visit www.erinartscentre.com to join.

Ticket Exchange and Refunds

The Festival does not operate a refund policy.
Please check your tickets as soon as you receive
them. We will offer to re-sell unused tickets once
all other tickets for an event are sold. A handling
charge of £1 per ticket will be deducted from any
resulting refunds.

Auditorium Door will be opened 30 minutes be-
fore the start of any performance.

*Artists are correct at the time of going to press and
we reserve the right to change artists and without
notice if necessary. It cannot be assumed that Row A
is the front row. Patrons are respectfully reminded
that latecomers can only be admitted when there is a
suitable pause. The Promoter reserves the right to
refuse admission.*