

august 2010
mee luanistyn 2010

kiaull manninagh jiu

manx music today

www.manxheritagemusic.org

Well this month's edition is more like a photo journal than a newsletter! It just goes to show how busy Manx musicians & dancers are during July! Thanks to all of the photographers, most notably Bob Fennell, Valerie Caine, John Dowling, Peter Hayhurst & Carol Quine.

Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic Festival 2010

proved a great success with a sell-out gig from Irish band Beoga to round off the nine days. Many thanks to all of the wonderful performers - both Manx and visiting - for their generosity of spirit and time. Lots of new friendships were made, great music and dance was everywhere

and even the weather smiled on outdoor events. Special thanks to all of the sponsors (IDM Arts Council, Manx Heritage Foundation, Manx Telecom, Ramsey Town Commissioners), collaborators, venues and Cruinnaghteyryn!



Cruinnaght Aeg results

Report by Sue Woolley, IOM Newspapers

Cruinnaght Aeg junior performing arts prize-giving and concert was held before a packed audience at Scoill Ree Gorree during Ramsey National Week (Thursday 8th July). This was the culmination of several weeks of competitions held in the north and south of the Island.

Organiser, Fiona McArdle compered the concert and introduced the winners, who each performed their star pieces of poetry, song, instrumental music and dance. She also thanked the teachers and helpers who devote their time to encouraging these subjects, which the children find so enjoyable.

Trophies provided by Manx National Heritage and certificates were presented at the end of the evening by Dr Chloe Woolley, Manx Music Specialist with the Manx Heritage Foundation.

Individual Winner's Trophies

Arraneys (singing): Erin Loach (Bun-Scoill ny Gaelgey); Adele Harris (Perree Bane).

Carryn (instrumental): Emily Moran (Share na Veg) and Rushen Primary School Orchestra.

Rinke (dance): Josh Corteen (Share na Veg); Clare Harris (Perree Bane).

Aaloayrtys (recitation): Clare and Adele Harris (Perree Bane).

Individual Winners' Certificates (North)

Highest mark for song in Manx Gaelic: Erin Loach (BScG), Imogen Skillicorn (BScG), Christina Kermeen (RGS).

Best song in English, Manx theme: Poppy Kennish (Auldyn), Gabriella Reeve (Sulby), Isaac Jagus (Sulby School), Megan Oldfield (Ballaugh School), Christina Kermeen (RGS).

Best solo instrumental: Anna Tramontana (Auldyn), Keira Heavy (Auldyn), Emily Moran (Share na Veg), Isla Callister-Wafer (QEII), Darryl Goss (Bree), Catherine White (Bee er dty Hwoaie).

Best solo dance: Girls, Daniella Stoutt (Share na Veg); Boys, Josh Corteen (Share na Veg).

Best couples' dance: Fern Christian and Nicholas Harvey (St Thomas's School).

Best dialect recitation: Nick Harvey (St. Thomas's School).

Best Recitation in English from a Manx author: Arabella Ayen (Auldyn).

Best Reading in Manx Gaelic: Ella Paul (Scoill Vallajeelt), Rania Gomaa (Scoill Vallajeelt), Aimee Smith (Scoill Vallajeelt), Mia Greenwood (St. Thomas's School), Voirrey Bethune (QEII), Erin McNulty (QEII).

Group /School Trophies (North and South)

Arraneys (Singing): KS1, Auldyn School and Sulby School; KS2, Sulby School; Secondary, Bree.

Carryn (Instrumental Music): KS1, Auldyn School; KS2, Share na Veg; Secondary, Bree.

Rinke (Dance): KS1, Scoill Phurt le Moirrey/Auldyn School; KS2, Scoill Phurt le Moirrey; Secondary, Manx Folk Dance Society.

Aaloayrtys (Recitation): KS1, Auldyn School; Secondary, Erin McNulty (QEII).



PRIDE OF MANN

Manx traditional music, dance and language featured heavily in this year's Isle of Man Newspaper's Pride of Mann awards. Multi-talented Fiona McArdle (pictured above) was a runner-up in the category of the Promotion of Manx Culture, singers Dilys Sowrey and Marlene Hendy (Mannin Folk) were runner-ups in the award of Performer of the Year, and talented young Manx musician Illiam Quane won his category of Child/Young Person of the Year (under 16).

Primary Music Initiative

An initiative to encourage a love of music among primary school pupils will soon include Manx music on the penny whistle. The Primary Music Initiative is being piloted in Peel Clothworkers, Onchan, Laxey and Fairfield, and it is hoped that the initiative will eventually be extended to all 35 primaries. Run by the Department of Education and Children's Music Service, the children have so far been given the chance to sing, learn instruments such as the uilleann pipes and African drums and to listen to live performances from the Manx Youth Orchestra and a visiting tuba quartet. From September, the 4 schools will enjoy playing Manx music via a short course on the penny whistle delivered by Chloe Woolley, Manx Music Specialist with the Manx Heritage Foundation.

The IOM Arts Council Early Music Festival will be held at the Erin Arts Centre and venues around the south over the long weekend 17th-19th September 2010.

Featuring Lucie Skeaping and fabulous harpsichord player Mahan Esfahani, the festival is a rare chance to catch some very fine musicians playing some exquisite music.

This year, the festival will also feature a folk cross-over element, with performances from mandolin/guitar duo Strengyn and Manx Gaelic choir Caarjyn Cooijagh. Keep the dates free and keep your eyes on the EAC website, which will have details of the festival online soon:

www.erinartscentre.com



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

Bree raise funds for the National Autistic Society: Isle of Man

Despite the intermittent showers of rain, Bree Manx youth music group busked in Michael Street, Peel on Saturday 17th July as part of Yn Chruinnaght festival and raised £105 for the National Autistic Society: Isle of Man (soon to be re-named Action4Autism IOM). Funds will go towards a new youth club for 10-13 year olds with Asperger's syndrome.



The Ballaghs' Glastonbury appearance

has already gone down in legend. Managing to get mandolin player Matt Kelly in by hook or by crook, their gig on the RabbitHole stage went so well that they're hopeful of a return invitation next year.

Glastonbury was very hot and very dusty...but members of the band got to see the likes of Seasick Steve, The Dead Weather, Muse, Kangaroo Moon, Slash and the Levellers. The Ballaghs had a post-Glasto gig in the Whitehouse, Peel where they promised to wear various unwashed items of clothing so you could share some of the atmosphere of The Ballaghs at Glastonbury...what a sharing, caring bunch!

Nish as Rish - schools tour

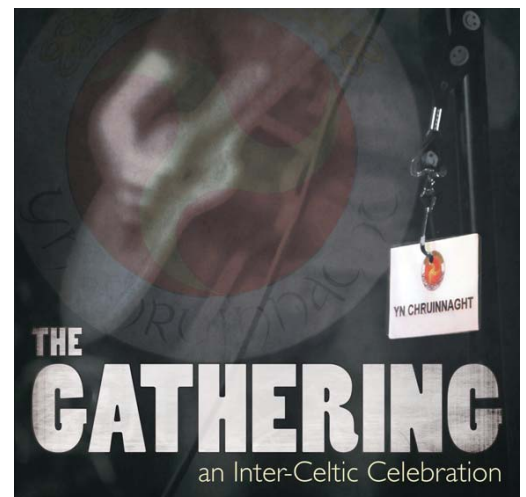
Isle of Man schools were treated to performances of Celtic music last month by the Yn Chruinnaght educational tour with Nish as Rish. Based at York University music department, the students visited 8 schools in their four day tour, where they performed a variety of songs and tunes, introduced their instruments, taught a GCSE class about jigs and reels, and got the children to try out Scottish waulking songs. Yn Chruinnaght presented Nish as Rish with a glass trophy courtesy of Manx Inspirations. The Department of Education and Children supported the tour.

Photos – Nish as Rish receiving YC trophy, playing Tynwald and waulking the tweed at the Bunscoill



YN CHRUINNAGHT CD

Due to arrive on Manx shores very soon, Yn Chruinnaght festival has produced a compilation CD featuring past performers from each of the Celtic countries: Leski and Scoot (Cornwall); Lors Landat and Trio Froger (Brittany); Imrama and Leo McCann (Ireland); Pipedown and Rachel Hair (Scotland); Never Mind the Bocs and Mabon (Wales); Sheear and Staa (Isle of Man). An interesting variety of songs and instrumental music, each track has been kindly donated by the artistes for this fund-raising CD. If you would like to pre-order your copy of the CD and have it posted to you when it is available (IOM, UK & Europe), send a cheque for £12 made payable to Yn Chruinnaght c/o Manx Music Team, The Stable Building, The University Centre, Old Castletown Road, Douglas, Isle of Man IM2 1QB. The CD will also be available in selected shops or from the YC committee for £10.



~ 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

Perree Bane at the Furness Tradition Festival in Ulverston

John Dowling reports...

Perree Bane thoroughly enjoyed their first trip to the Festival some 10 years ago, but it has always since clashed with Tynwald day. With this year's event falling on the weekend after Tynwald, a return visit was possible.

The majority of dancers travelled via Heysham whilst 3 travelling to Liverpool were collected by the organizers. Ulverston is very compact and there are plenty of town centre hotels and B+B's so we were all close to the action and every venue was within easy walking distance, even lugging swords and sticks! The Kings Head in Queen St. was the headquarters for Perree Bane. Saturday morning saw showers of rain, so the parade was cancelled and we danced on the slippery cobbles of the market cross, amazingly only one of us slipped and fell (me!). Dancing indoors at the old folks home (weaving in and out the zimmer frames), and then at a sheltered housing complex, paired up with the Buttercup Belles and Englands Glory ladies Morris sides (and very jolly ladies they were too!).

By now everyone was more than somewhat damp, so after the lunch-break the dancing was moved into the Coronation Hall, much better in the dry and a sprung wooden floor! Back at the hotel there was singing, PB teaching the assembly "The Laxey Wheel" complete with actions, and finding they already knew "The Ellan Vannin Tragedy"!

The evening concert was very well-run, finishing in the allotted time, they used the main stage for the ceili band and had two small stages for music performers and dance group musicians and it worked very well, no tedious set-ups between performances and a varied and interesting programme.. We did our slot, and enjoyed the ceili dances and music groups.

Sunday was dry and all the dance groups met at the Market Cross, dancing in sequence, with a mass Morris dance at the end involving everyone; Ali's packet of Kleenex gave us hankies to wave as we pranced around! It was noticeable that most of the Morris dancers had never seen Manx dance before and watched us with rapt attention, there were many compliments on the variety of dances and the energy, enthusiasm and precision with which they were danced. The Morris sides seem to have strict rules governing their performances (shades of "Morris: Life with bells on") and our offer of joining in with "Lads a Buncham" that Perree Aeg performed at the Guild was greeted with sucking of teeth and "Have to ask the Squire", so we didn't!

The Festival rounded off nicely at the Lantern House, with lunch and an impromptu Manx dance workshop and the chance to see and hear again some of the artistes who had performed during the Festival. Our young ladies chummed up with the local young musicians, teaching then "Lhiggey Lhiggey" and taking them on later at the Kings Head in darts; most parties displaying more enthusiasm than accuracy!

A great weekend, many thanks to the Committee for inviting us, Peter and Eric for the music and to the Isle Of Man Arts Council for their support.



King Chiallee Folkest 2010

Not only were they selected alongside Brian Stowell by Mary Ann Kennedy for a new compilation CD - guide to Celtic Music - but King Chiallee plus Tom Callister disappeared off to Folkest in Italy to play some gigs. David Kilgallon reports...

KC recently flew to Venice to play at the Folkest festival, their second time to Italy (playing at Celtica) but first time with the Italian agent FramEvolution.



Their first gig was indoors, a good thing since the heavens opened!, at a town called Fiumicello which is a few hours away from Venice. Their gig was well received by the crowd and no surprise really with a three fiddle strong group featuring guest musician Tom Callister.

The second acoustic performance was held at the top of a mountain in Gemona Castle grounds where the band played to around 100 audience. One gentleman came to the stage later and presented a Manx flag he had made and spoke a few Manx words also...small world!

They hope to return next year under the same agency and aim to throw in Celtica again also.

The notorious scallop dancers!



Shoes were scuffed, blood was drawn...just look at the determination on the faces of these Tynwald members & friends!

Thanks to Carol Hayes for choreography, Caroline Helps for general Helpfulness and Krista Magee for late-night shell-drilling.

Participants: David Callister MLC, Geoff Corkish MBE, MHK, Graham Cregeen MHK, David Cretney MHK, Tim Crookall MHK, Phil Gawne MHK, Quintin Gill MHK, Eddie Teare MHK, Juan Watterson MHK, Jonathan King & Roger Phillips.

THE MOLLAG BAND IN SHOCK SPONSORSHIP DEAL?! PEEL CARNIVAL 2010



Photos (clockwise from top left)
The Mollag Band, Ny
Fennee, Pete Lewis & Brian Myers, The Red
Barrows and Perree Bane.

SINGLETON CLOGGERS

The Singleton Cloggers were on the Island for Peel Carnival as guests of Perree Bane. They performed at outdoors venues around the South, had a special giense in Peel and even joined in with The Flitter Dance (right).



More about
Caarjyn
Cooidjagh's
recent trip to
Aviles, Asturias
in next month's
KMJ

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

Slippers

Laura Rowles

This great tune from fiddle and viola player, Laura Rowles, featured in a song for the Arrane son Mannin competition last November. 'Slippers' will keep you on your toes with its changing time signatures and will feature in *Kiaull yn Theay 4* later this year.

LORIENT 2010 This year, the Isle of Man will be represented by the huge creative force that is The Mollag Band. Together for almost 20 years, the Mollags, as they're affectionately known, perform an eclectic mix of self-penned songs and traditional material. Known for their songs of social and political comment in both Manx Gaelic and English, the band is popular with festivals, having performed at Lorient back in 2000 and more recently at Cwllwm Celtaidd Celtic Festival of Wales and Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic Festival to name but a few. The band has featured on Celtic compilations and has made three of its own recordings to date, their CD *Into the Tide* appearing in 1997 and a new CD eagerly anticipated for 2010.

The festival line-up is: Greg Joughin (vocals, guitar), Hillary Gale (vocals, viola), Julie Matthews (vocals, flute), Sarah Hewson (vocals, flute), Russell Cowin (bass guitar), Gordon MacKenzie (drums) and Caly Roberts (harp). All members are well-known on the Isle of Man as musicians and dancers with a range of groups, the band's lead singer, Greg, having most recently joined forces with King Chiaulle to perform to much acclaim at Celtic Connections in Glasgow in January 2010. Both Greg and Julie are fluent Manx speakers, who have featured on television and radio around the world.

CALENDAR

August

1st Manx music and dance - various groups - at Peel Carnival, on the prom, Peel.

5th, 12th, 19th & 26th IOM Arts Council Manx Music Season at the Villa Arcade, Douglas, 8pm FREE www.iomarts.com

6th-15th The Mollag Band at Festival Interceltique de Lorient, Brittany www.festival-interceltique.com

6th-8th Mannifest - see www.mannifestlive.com for more details

27th-29th IOM Guitar Festival - see www.iomguitarfest.com for more details

September

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

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

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

Want to learn Manx or to improve your language skills? There are two weekend courses at Eary Cushlin in August (7th-8th and 14th-15th) which are free! Book a place by emailing Adrian Cain on:

greinneyder@mhf.org.im tel: 838527

LOST PROPERTY

YN CHRUINNAGHT FESTIVAL HAS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

METAL AND ORANGE BEAD NECKLACE
GREY LIGHT JACKET WITH LIPSTICK IN THE POCKET!

Congratulations to:

David and Ciara Kilgallon who were married on 10th July

Kirsty Lawrence and Andy Walker of Breck who have just announced their engagement

John Kilgallon and Rachel Clarkson of MFDS for their exciting news

Tom Callister of The Reeling Stones for being accepting on the HNC traditional music course at Benbecula



!! This has been such a busy month that there are bound to be things which have been missed from this edition. Please send me any information and photos which you think should feature and I'll endeavour to put them in September's KMJ.
Lhiuish, Breesha

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:

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

www.manxheritage.org www.manxheritagemusic.org

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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.