

mee averil - april 2012

Féile Idirnáisiúnta Pan Cheilteach 2012 International Pan Celtic Festival 2012

by Fiona McArdle

Once again this Easter week the six Celtic nations will be celebrating their linguistic and cultural heritage, this time in Cathearlach, (Carlow) from 10th-15th April. For this 41st Festival the Presidency of Pan Celtic is vested in Margaid Bird, and the Manx contingent in Ireland with her is over twenty strong and ready to showcase their talents in music, song, language and dance.

Carlow is not one of the Irish speaking areas of the Gaelteacht but it has a vibrant interest in the language and culture with a good number of Irish speakers living locally. As this is their first Pan Celtic Festival they have pulled out all the stops for it, including inviting the Irish President Michael D. Higgins to officially open the Festival in the new George Bernard Shaw Theatre and Arts Centre. For his visit the participating

countries of Brittany, Cornwall, Ireland, Mann, Scotland and Wales will be informally providing music and dance in the Arts Centre grounds before their official performances at the opening itself.

Manx group Mooinjerey, Laura and David Rowles with Ruth Keggins and Russell Cowin, will be performing their award winning new song 'Cowrey ny Croshey' along with five other countries' songs in the 'New Song' competition on Thursday 12th April. There are three Manx entries in the solo traditional song competition and one group. Last year the Manx group Falga won the traditional song competition while Mann came second by one mark to the winning Welsh group in the new song. Cliogaree Twoaie choir led by Clare



Kilgallon will be singing in concert and in competition while the duo Strengyn, Paul Rogers and Matt Kelly, will be wowing audiences with their magic strings.

With competitions, concerts, ceilis and sessions it's set to be a busy week for all the participants – so 'here's success to all brave boys (and girls!)' in Carlow.

www.panceltic.ie

Shennaghys Jiu celebrates 15 years

Last weekend saw another fabulous Shennaghys Jiu Celtic youth festival with an action-packed programme of concerts, ceilidhs, sessions and workshops.

Predominantly a platform for young Manx performers, this year's festival showcased school groups Share na Veg, Ny Fennee, Bee er dty Hwoaie, Bree, Ballacottier and the Dhoon School alongside visiting acts Kavan Donohoe and Cairde from Ireland and Nae Reel Ceilidh Band from Scotland.

There was also an ad-hoc appearance from singer-songwriter, Mickey Madden of Irish band Barefoot, who stumbled across the festival whilst working on the Island last week!

Sessions ran into the early hours and many musicians were up at 6am for the first time in a long time!

Local Manx talent also included Barrule, Gilbert O'Sullivan & Friends, Beccy Hurst, Juan Hendy, Adam Melvin, Erika Kelly and Malcolm Stitt, Turrys, Tarroo Marroo Ceili Band and The Mollag Band.

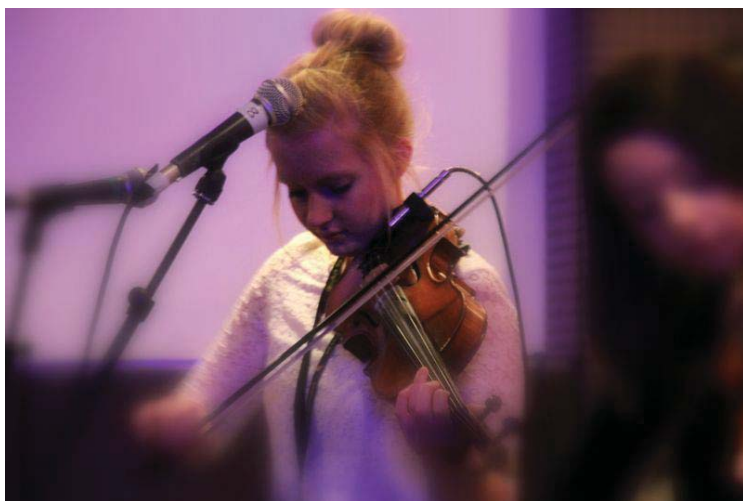
The festival committee is very grateful to its sponsors, most notably the Manx Heritage Foundation, Cemex and the IOM Arts Council.

KMJ sends its own congratulations to the hard-working committee, who put in long hours to make sure that the festival is a success each year.

More photos and news on:

www.shennaghys.org

Thanks to Bob Fennell and Caz Dougherty for photos



WANTED: BANDS & DANCE GROUPS FOR SUMMER EVENTS!

IOM QUEENIE FESTIVAL - SAT 30th JUNE

Tim Croft of the IOM Queenie Festival is looking for bands for an acoustic stage in Port St Mary on Saturday 30th June. there are six slots of 45 minutes each, starting on the hour at 11am and everything finished by 5pm. If you're interested, email Breesha on [mhfmusic\(AT\)mhf.org.im](mailto:mhfmusic(AT)mhf.org.im) asap. Tim is also planning a 'ceili on the quay' event for the evening - hopefully with a big act coming over from Scotland or Ireland...watch this space <http://queeniefestival.com/>

IOM ARTS COUNCIL MANX MUSIC & DANCE SUMMER SEASON - July & August

Jan Cowan from the IOM Arts Council is looking for participants for the following Manx Music Season dates (all Thursdays):

July – 5th 12th 19th 26th *AND* August – 2nd 16th 23rd 30th

In the event she can't fill the dates with Manx music/dance, they will be offered to the brass bands. Please email Jan on [jan.cowan\(AT\)gov.im](mailto:jan.cowan(AT)gov.im) or phone 694596

PORT ERIN BEACH FESTIVAL - FRI 13th JULY

Organiser Aubrey Brooks would like some Manx trad bands with a big sound for the live stage on the beach in the evening (7ish-10.30). This is set to be another great event, with a packed programme of beach sports, music and entertainment all weekend. Please email Breesha on [mhfmusic\(AT\)mhf.org.im](mailto:mhfmusic(AT)mhf.org.im) if you're interested!

Beginning Celtic Fiddle - a class to learn fiddle tunes from all of the Celtic Nations

US supporter of Manx music, Deb Collins, has sent this photo in. This class is one of many interesting classes being offered at Pierce Community College, Continuing Education Department, in Puyallup, Washington, U.S.A.

Names of students:

Row one, (starting at bottom, R to L): Deb Collins (instructor), Robert MacPherson, Stacey Sternling (only 14 years old!), Vicky Cregar

Row two, (R to L): Frank Dooling (in his 80s!), Linda Shaffer, Kathleen Watness

Row three, (R to L): Pam Kaperick, Teresa Teitzel, Sara Hubbard, Blaine Smith



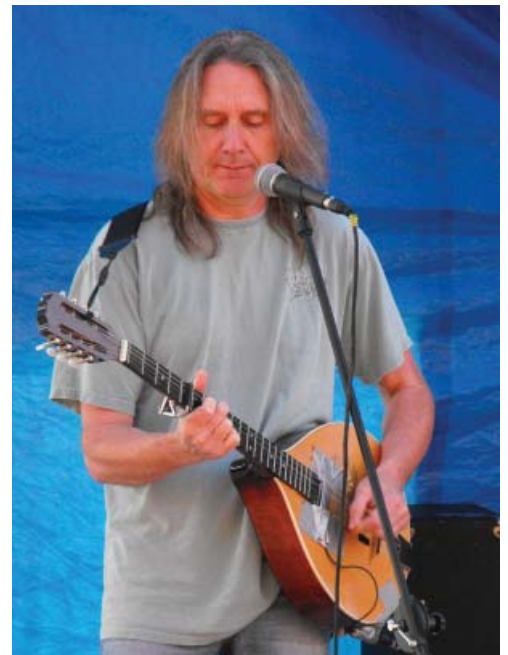
~ SESSIONS ~

THURS 8pm Singing session at The Royal, Ramsey
 FRI 8.30pm Tynwald Inn, St. Johns FRI 9pm Irish at The Mitre, Ramsey
 Folk at the Club (1st or 2nd Fri of month), 8pm, Peel Golf Club
 Last FRI of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary
 SAT 10pm Manx at The White House, Peel

KERRANG MANNINAGH JIU

Unexplored links between Manx traditional music and the songs of Motörhead

Postdoctoral researchers are starting to look at the fragments of Manx traditional music and song in the work of Lemmy and Motörhead. Lemmy (pictured right) has been reluctant to talk to KMJ about how his mutton chops were influenced by that classic ballad, Ny Kirree fo Niaghtey. His Manx connections go back to the days when the Island was a paradise for gambling - hence the Ace of Spades and Eat the Rich, two of the band's most famous songs. More details as they come to light...



Folk Educators Group Meeting

Just hours after the fantastic Manx Folk Awards had come to a close, Chloe and Breesha jetted off to London to attend the Folk Educators Group conference at Cecil Sharp House and to meet the education team of the English Folk Dance and Song Society.

Organised by EFDSS, the one day conference focused on 'folk in schools' and the Manx Music Development Team was invited to report on the exciting work currently taking place in Isle of Man schools. Other presentations included an update on the National Plan for Music Education, information on the Arts Mark award system for schools, an introduction to the new EFDSS online Morris dance resource and information on the Trinity College diploma in dance teaching. The afternoon concluded with a practical session on teaching 'rapper' in schools which Breesha shrewdly avoided (people were safer that way), but saw Chloe entangled with 4 other swordsmen attempting to form a five sword star, coach and horses, puker and a split curly!

The Manx Music Development Team also deposited a substantial collection of Manx music and dance books and CDs with the famous Vaughan Williams Memorial Library which is part of the Cecil Sharp House.



Ellan Vannin Pipes & Drums – Weekend Workshop

by Pipe Major Paul Davenport

The Island's bagpipe band recently held a weekend workshop, with tuition from visiting instructors. The tuition was given by Leading Drummer Billy Kinnaid and Pipe Major Bruce Campbell from the internationally recognised Piping School - www.pipingschool.co.uk

Separate sessions for Pipers and Drummers were held on the Friday evening, where instrument tuning and playing technique were evaluated, and this was further developed during an all day session on the Saturday. Members of the Drum Corps went through technique and set beatings for tunes, and this included work with the snare section, tenors and bass drummers. Pipers were put through their paces on technique for learning and memorising tunes, fingering technique for embellishments and pipe tuning.

The day rounded off with both the Pipe and Drums Corps' playing together under scrutiny and supervision from P/M Campbell and L/D Kinnaid. A further session on the Sunday covered giving instruction to learners and organising and running a band practice session.

P/M Bruce Campbell commented: "In the last five or six years I have travelled a lot of the piping world doing workshops so it was great to be doing work closer to home for a change. I recently spent three months doing workshops in Australia and have also taught in Denmark, Italy, Holland and The Holy Land in recent years as well as Scotland, England and Ireland. The refreshing aspect about the



Ellan Vannin Pipe Band is their eclectic mix of Scottish, Irish and Manx tunes which is totally unique in today's much homogenised music scene. These days Scottish piping almost totally dominates any localised music but not in the Isle of Man where there is a lot of attention paid to local tradition."

Chairman of EVPD, John Struthers went on: "This was a valuable opportunity for members of the band to improve various aspects of their solo and band performances. Emphasis was placed on techniques that encouraged new tunes to be played on the bagpipes rather than hours spent on the practice chanter. The overall sound of the Band was complimented on by the instructors, who offered guidance on the balance of sound between the drum corps and pipers."

Pipe Major of the local band, Paul Davenport agreed. "This was a very intense weekend, but the whole band has learnt a great deal. We hope to carry on a programme of tuition through the Piping School with Bruce and Billy in the coming months. We would like to give our thanks to IOM Arts Council who have helped towards funding this venture, as well as our sponsors, Celton Manx Limited. Without their support, such workshops would not be possible".

Bruce Campbell added: "The band is on an upward swing with a very healthy membership, and if that obvious enthusiasm can be channelled down a productive road it can only bode well for the future of piping on the Island".

Further Background

The band was formed in 1984, and was formally known as the Cair Vie Manx Pipe Band. In 1998, a name change saw it become known as: 'Ellan Vannin Pipes and Drums', as it is still known today.

At the present time there are about a dozen regular pipers, with a Drum Corps of several snare, tenor and bass drummers, who share the different drumming disciplines.

The band plays regularly throughout the year, appearing at such events as Community Fun Days, Parades and Carnivals, and are available for hire to play for all kinds of occasions: weddings, celebrations, funerals, corporate events. Contact the Band Secretary on 316363 or evpd@manx.net

ANOTHER WONDERFUL
WEEKEND OF MUSIC, DANCE
AND SONG AT THE **MHF ADULT
TRAD WORKSHOP WEEKEND**
WITH NOELEEN NI CHOLLA
AND TIM FLAHERTY



The Isle of Man Arts
Council's Soundbites
lunchtime concerts
played host to The
Mollag Band on 21st
March...

A perfect pick-me up in
the middle of the day
and a good mixture
of familiar and new
material.



MANX FOLK AWARDS PRIZEWINNERS

www.manx.net/tv/mt-tv/watch/5019/manx-folk-awards



For full details of classes, please see the wiki (URL at bottom of page)

Class	1st prize	2nd prize
1	Ruby Grant, Dhoon	Emily Slevin & Bethan Cubbon, Auldyn
2	Auldyn	
3	Jessie Quigley, St Thomas'	Mia Dunwell, Auldyn
4	Anya Jagus, Buchan	Charlotte Derbyshire & Graihagh Kelsey, St Thomas'
5	St Thomas'	Ballacottier Infants Choir
6	Alfie McConnell, Auldyn	Fletcher Faragher, Auldyn
7	Kizzy Warrilow, Dhoon	
8	Archie Callaghan & Aalin Penketh, Auldyn	Nathan Wadsworth & Katie Lee Kelly, Ballaquayle
9	Auldyn (Hunt the Wren)	Ballaquayle (Hop tu Naa)
10	Emmie Caine, Scoill Ree Gorree	Josh Brown, Ballacottier
10a	Emily Bridson, Scoill Ree Gorree	Olivia Colgan, Scoill Ree Gorree
11	Share na Veg	Dhoon
12	Bunscoill Ghaelgagh	Dhoon
13	Victoria Road Primary	Marown
14	Nan Williams, Bunscoill Ghaelgagh	Jordan McCarthy, Ballacottier
15	Freya Melvin, Ballaugh	Josh Mills, Ballacottier
16	Ballacottier	Arbory, Year 4
17	John Keig, Arbory	Freya Melvin, Ballaugh
18	Roan Gell, Scoill Ree Gorree	Oliver Cowin, Scoill Ree Gorree
19	Ealish Withington, Dhoon	Ailish Williams, Perree Bane
20	James Kewley & Tia Lisy, Onchan	Aalish Gelder & Ursula Din, Scoill Phurt le Moirrey
21	Onchan	Arbory B
22	Scoill Ree Gorree	
23	Isla Callister-Wafer, QEII	Mera Royle, Bee er dty hwoaie
24	Tom & Rosie Shirliff, Ballakermeen	Hayley Robinson & Catherine Wilson, Bee er dty hwoaie
25	Maian Salmon, RGS	
26	Club Kiaull, QEII	Bee er dty hwoaie
27	Isaac Jagus, KWC	Doona Lambden, QEII
28	Doona Lambden, QEII	Isaac Jagus, KWC
30	Sophie Stoutt, Ny Fennee	Amy Bell, Ny Fennee
31	Josh Corteen, Ny Fennee	Conall Jaques, Ny Fennee
33	Best of Both! Ny Fennee & MFDS	

https://www2.sch.im/groups/manxcurriculum/wiki/a5aaf/2012_Manx_Folk_Awards_Results_.html

“ON THE MANX QUEST” SOPHIA MORRISON AND JOSEPHINE KERMODE BY STEPHEN MILLER

Sophia Morrison (1859–1917) is well known for her involvement with the Manx language movement, especially her many years as the Secretary of the Manx Language Society. She was also a Pan-Celtic activist of note. As J.J Kneen wrote in 1915, “[i]f we had not Miss Morrison at the wheel, I am afraid our ship would have foundered long ago. I only hope that she may be long spared to carry on her labour of love.” Her death was a shock to all in the movement. She was succeeded by the rising star that was Mona Douglas (1898–1987), who had met Morrison as a young girl and then propelled herself into “the cause” as Morrison referred to the cultural struggle for all things Manx and Celtic.

Whilst not the instigator of the purchase of the MLS’s phonograph as often thought, that suggestion was made by John Taylor the Douglas Borough Librarian, Morrison was, nevertheless, the driving force behind its purchase and the guiding light of the recording programme. As seen with Cressy Dodd, she was able to draw into her circle younger members of the movement who in this case duly equipped with said phonograph ventured out to record from native speakers of Manx. In this case, the first were to be, as the Peel City Guardian reported in April 1905, “Mr R.A. Shortland and C.T. Cowell, jun[ior],” who were responsible for the first known recording in the field of Manx speech and song.

But what of Morrison’s own collecting, what do we know of this? Firstly, she did not collect on her own—or, more precisely, she did not travel alone. One of her companions was Josephine Kermode (1852–1937), the Manx poetess known better by her pen-name of “Cushag,” who she seemed to have met in 1907, though soon off to Nova Scotia to nurse a married sister: “I was very greatly disappointed as we had planned a series of excursions on the Manx quest for the ensuing week. She spoke Manx when a child.” In 1909, she wrote to Cushag “I am delighted that you are coming to Peel for a week. I do hope the weather may be fine. I shall much enjoy going round with you to see some of the old people.” It would seem that Kermode’s navigation skills in the Manx countryside were not of the best—“I think that if there is any truth in the old saying, you of all people, should possess a bollan cross—country roads are sometimes misleading,” she enclosing *crosh bollans* “for luck.”

The manuscript evidence for her song collecting lies split between her own papers (MNHL, MS 09495, Box 6) and those of the Kermode Family (MNHL, MS 08979). Whether the material came to Cushag after Morrison’s death in 1917 is unclear. My suggestion is that in fact this material is a copy for Kermode and so forms a record of at least some of their collecting. A point that remains unclear is regardless as to whether they were in fact collected by the pair together, are these song texts transcriptions from wax cylinder recordings? Morrison certainly availed herself of the use of the phonograph and it would be curious if all of this material was noted down and none transcribed from field recordings.

The later years of Morrison’s life were to see her suffer, first problems with her eyesight, and then increasing deafness. An obvious barrier to fieldwork and editing but we can still see her in the field in 1915 from a letter written to her by Cushag suggesting that they meet at Ballaugh, the train arriving here at 1.11 pm:



Josephine Kermode

If I have not got to the station in time will you stroll on to Mary's. We will put a sight on her & then I have a house up the Glen to visit & we would afterwards go to see my friend Mrs Cuptain Stephen (pace Mrs Henry Duke) who if at home will probably give us tea, then we might drive down to Sulby and see Lizzie Craine & you could catch your train at either the Glen or the Bridge [...].

This "Lizzie Craine" is Elizabeth Craine, either the mother or the daughter, who were living at Cooilbane in 1901 as shown by the census. The pair were Elizabeth C. Craine, age 59, born in Jurby, and her daughter also Elizabeth C., age 28, unmarried, working as a dressmaker, and born in Lezayre. Husband and father was Daniel J. Craine, born in Lezayre, also aged 59, and working as a roadman. He appears not to have been a singer. All three were fluent in both English and Manx Gaelic.

The Craines were first visited by Morrison in 1907, the same year as she met Cushag. Whether this was a coincidence or not is unknown. What is known, however, is this pair had previously been visited by W.H. Gill as Morrison recalled in a letter to him:

I think more scraps of music might still be gained. I heard some bits the other day in Sulby Glen at the house of Mrs Craine, but when Mrs Craine & her daughter told me that they had often sung to you, I felt assured that you had collected all they have to give.

This material gathered by Gill is now lost but we do have at least one of the songs collected by Morrison from a session at some date with Elizabeth Craine, "Keayrt va mee aeg," noted as "Taken from the singing | of Mrs Craine, Sulby Glen."

In 1903, W. Boyd Hawkins wrote to Morrison:

I am fascinated by the lore of the Island, which I hope you will not allow to pass away without record. All the fragments should be collected so that nothing be lost. You can do this quietly in Peel—without publishing for the present—I fear, that, if you publish, the old people will not tell you anything!

The "old people" are now past and it is time that we collect "the fragments" together and finally publish them.

KEAYRT VA MEE AEG

Keayrt va mee aeg as nish ta mee shenn
Keayrt va daa sweet-heart aym as nish cha vel 'nane
As jeeagh shiu er my laue, kys ta craa, kys ta craa
As jeeagh shiu er my laue kys ta craa

Lineyn tayms da scribe son dy hoil shagey diu
Kys ta deiney aegey meolhit liorish mraane, liorish mraane
Kys ta deiney aegey meolhit liroish mraane

Ta ny mraane aegey cha laue da frae-terys
Agh tad my-greddin, cha laue ta vy-soon
S'beg cha n'erree vaym's ta beigns mol-tyo liosts,
Yn keayrt jerree vows my hoie, er my lioon, er my lioon
Yn jerree, vows my hoie, er my lioon

Hems roym gys ny cheeraghyn foddey
Ny re dys my reljyn, ta spring-al dy glass
Dy vod fys va echey yn serhll
Ta ren uss mish tregail
As da ren son ben aeg whagh-jioms baase, yiomays baase
As da ren &c. baase

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

see www.manxmusic.com for more printable pieces of Manx music

Loz's Garden

G major

Matt Kelly

The first system of 'Loz's Garden' is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The chords indicated above the staves are G, C, D, G, C, D, G, Em, G, C, D, G, Em, G, C, D. The melody is a simple, repetitive pattern of eighth and quarter notes.

This fab tune is by Matt Kelly and one that he plays with guitar/mandolin duo, Strengyn. He taught it to the Bree session a few weeks ago - it works well in both the key of G and D and either at a laidback pace or at breakneck speed!

Loz's Garden

Matt Kelly

The second system of 'Loz's Garden' is written in D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The chords indicated above the staves are D, G, A, D, G, A, D, Bm, D, G, A, D, Bm, D, G, A. The melody is a simple, repetitive pattern of eighth and quarter notes.

CALENDAR

April

10th-15th Pan-Celtic Festival, Carlow, Ireland
- featuring Clogaree Twoaie and Moonjerey
www.panceltic.ie

14th Celtic Coffee morning (featuring Bree musicians), Methodist Hall, St Johns, 10.30am

27th Manx Music Festival (The Guild) starts
www.manxmusicfestival.org

May

12th & 13th Bree workshop weekend,
Douglas Youth Arts Centre, Kensington
Road, Douglas, 10am-4pm email Chloë on
manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im for full
details.

June

12th Caarijn Coodjagh at St German's
Cathedral, Peel, 7.45pm

16th Bree trad youth session, Douglas Youth
Arts Centre, Kensington Road, Douglas, 3pm

30th Manx music at the IOM Queenie Festival
(daytime and evening)

*Please send in dates so that we can
publicise events here & online*

July

13th Port Erin Beach Festival - Manx music
on the beach outside the Bay, Port Erin
from 7ish

14th **Yn Chruinnaght** Inter-Celtic Festival
starts www.ynchruinnaght.com

CONGRATULATIONS
TO KIRSTY LAWRENCE
& ANDY WALKER ON
THEIR MARRIAGE ON
SATURDAY 7TH APRIL



find
Manx Music and Dance
on Facebook



New Manx band Turrays - Caz Dougherty,
Paul Rogers and Luke Melvin - find them
on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/turraysiom>

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 **Dr Chloë Woolley:** manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im

www.manxmusic.com

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



Written and 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 articles without named authors to spread the word about Manx culture

CELTIC COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 14TH APRIL 2012

10.30AM -12 NOON

ST JOHNS METHODIST HALL
MAIN ROAD, ST JOHNS

with lots of lovely stalls

: homemade cakes :

: white elephant :

: Manx interest

bargain books :

plus

live music from young

Manx musicians!



ADULTS £1 CHILDREN 50P

All proceeds will support the non-profit making
ventures of Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic Festival!

