

KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU MANX MUSIC TODAY

September
2009



mean foyir

A SUPERMANX LORIENT!

The inter-Celtic festival in Lorient, Brittany, is not only Europe's largest, it's also its most successful. With what was effectively the Isle of Man's reintroduction to the festival in 2008, a good presence at the 2009 gathering was essential. Ny Fennee dancers and Skeel did not disappoint, showing off the Island's talents to the full, with packed programmes of performances for the festival and in the Manx pavilion. The pavilion itself was bigger and better, filled with cultural representatives, tourist information in French and live performances. Dressed in Supermanx t-shirts, a team of volunteers of French speakers and representatives of cultural festivals like Yn Chruinnaght and the Cooish provided information to visitors from all over Europe and further afield. With temporary tattoos, gifts and give-aways, as well as information in French, German and Spanish, the stand attracted large crowds.

The pavilion was organised by Cinzia Yates for the Manx Heritage Foundation, the Foundation having secured money from the Government's Marketing Initiatives Fund to promote the Isle of Man in a variety of ways and to investigate the potential for cultural tourism. With such a successful second year, the Foundation is looking forward to the 2010 festival, as well as a possible "Year of the Isle of Man" which would promote the Island's European and global identity as well as its business, cultural and sporting communities.

The Manx performers at the 2009 festival attracted a lot of attention, performing to the highest of standards to thousands of festival-goers, with media opportunities



a-plenty. Members of Cliogaree Twoaie, Caarjyn Cooidjagh and The Reeling Stones were also at the festival for various reasons, and impromptu performances materialised to entertain the passers-by. With a strong team of supporters made up of pavilion volunteers and holidaying Manxies, Skeel won a place in the final of the trophy for new bands, coming away with a very creditable 4th place, a large trophy and a boxful of delicious cider! Flag bearer and Supermanx superhero for the entire festival was the indefatigable John Kilgallon.

The French version of the DVD of Manx groups available for festivals also had its own press launch at the Palais de Congres.

Festival Interceltique de Lorient celebrates its 40th anniversary next year with a "year of Brittany" – the Isle of Man is sure to be there again in style!

<http://www.festival-interceltique.com>

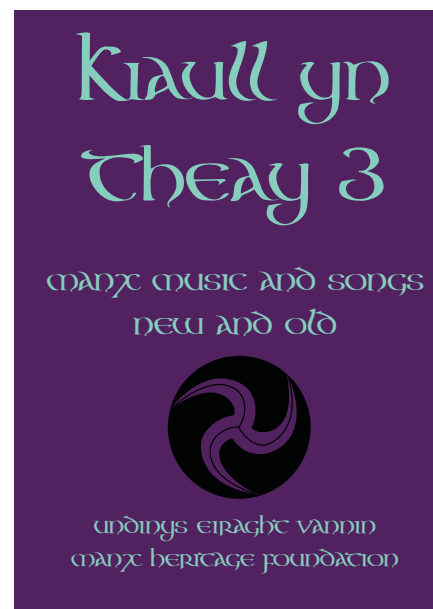


Manx Music Development Officer, Breesha Maddrell, was delighted with the wonderful variety of tunes and songs offered for inclusion in the new book *Kiaull yn Theay 3*. Launched at a special evening of new music dedicated to the late Colin Jerry at Yn Chruinnaght, the book is testament to the creativity and skill of the Manx music community today. Dedicating the book to Colin's memory was an important way of paying tribute to someone who had encouraged so many musicians and singers both directly and indirectly.

Work has already begun on *Kiaull yn Theay 4*, so if you have any new tunes or songs that you would like to be included, please email Breesha on: mhfmusic@mhf.org.im

If any composers have any changes to tunes and songs in Book 3, please email them in before Monday 14 September, so that the next print run has all of the corrections in place. Extra information like year of composition and chords are also welcome.

Kiaull yn Theay 3 should be in the shops early September.



Congratulations to all students who have passed GCSEs and A-levels. Of special mention here are Beccy Hurst (Pobble, Newspaper Dresses, The Bugganes), who has gained a place at Newcastle University to study traditional music and Ruby Biscoe-Taylor (Pobble, Newspaper Dresses), who has gained a place at the prestigious BritSchool. Both are Manx speakers, musicians and composers - jeant dy mie!



Members of The Reeling Stones playing at Peel Clothworkers School in late July. Pupils were particularly impressed that fiddler Tom Callister had once attended the school - the group's playing certainly inspired the pupils to get involved more with their own music!

[www.myspace.com/
thereelingstones](http://www.myspace.com/thereelingstones)

Interview / Ymchwiliad

Out of the question

Mabon guitarist **DEREK SMITH**

CV!

Me and my guitar have trodden a path taking in my floor singing apprenticeship in the South Wales folk clubs, until the Welsh folkdance scene grabbed me for 20 years or so, leading me to all things Mabonic...

What was the defining moment that made you think...I'd like to have a go at this?

Watching my parents as a young teenager; my father would play the guitar and they would sing Worried Men Blues, Freight Train and loads of other American songs. My father gave me his Burl Ives songbook and that was that. I recently passed that book onto my son Jamie and he sang one of the songs at one of our duo gigs. Full circle.

What was the first tune/song you learnt?

lot of time and money on it. It's been well received and will be released nationally later this year by Proper, to coincide with Mabon's first full national UK tour.

What CDs have you bought recently?

The last one was The Fleet Foxes' same name CD. Brilliant!

What is currently on the CD/MP3 at home and in the car?

In the car I'm playing One String Loose's Kumquat, and at home I'm revisiting Roy Harper's Fiat Boroque and Berserk.

Any tips on who we should be listening to?

Up-and-comers I really like are the young Welsh band Calan and the exciting young Manx band The Reeling Stones. But check out the duo Ember too.

butterflies appear sometimes, especially on some of the bigger world stages.

What/who makes you laugh?

Some of the funniest people I have ever seen are from the folk music scene. My two favourites are without a doubt Les Barker and Keith Donnelly.

How do you relax?

My wife Sarah will tell you I can't relax for five minutes and that's probably true. I don't need much sleep so I like to stay up



Mabon guitarist, Derek Smith, features in the 'Out of the question' interview in the last issue of Welsh magazine, Taplas. Talking about his musical influences, he gives a big shout out to two young bands familiar to the Isle of Man - young Welsh band, Calan, who made their IOM

debut at this year's Yn Chruinnaght, and Manx band, The Reeling Stones, who gig regularly on the Island and who wowed Welsh audiences at this year's Cwllwm Celtaidd festival in Porthcawl, a festival run by Derek and Jamie.

Mabon have recently relaunched their website, with new design work by King Chiaullee fiddle and bouzouki player, Adam Rhodes. Mabon are also on a huge UK tour which also takes in the Isle of Man - catch them at the Centenary Centre in Peel on 22nd October - tickets only £10 from all of the usual outlets. In the meantime, check out Mabon's new webpages here:

www.mabon.org



After a few technical difficulties, Staa's new CD 'She Lhong Honnick Mee' should now be in the shops...



~ SESSIONS ~

THURS 9pm Singing session at The Brit, Ramsey

FRI 8pm Tynwald Inn, St. Johns

FRI 9pm Irish at The Mitre, Ramsey

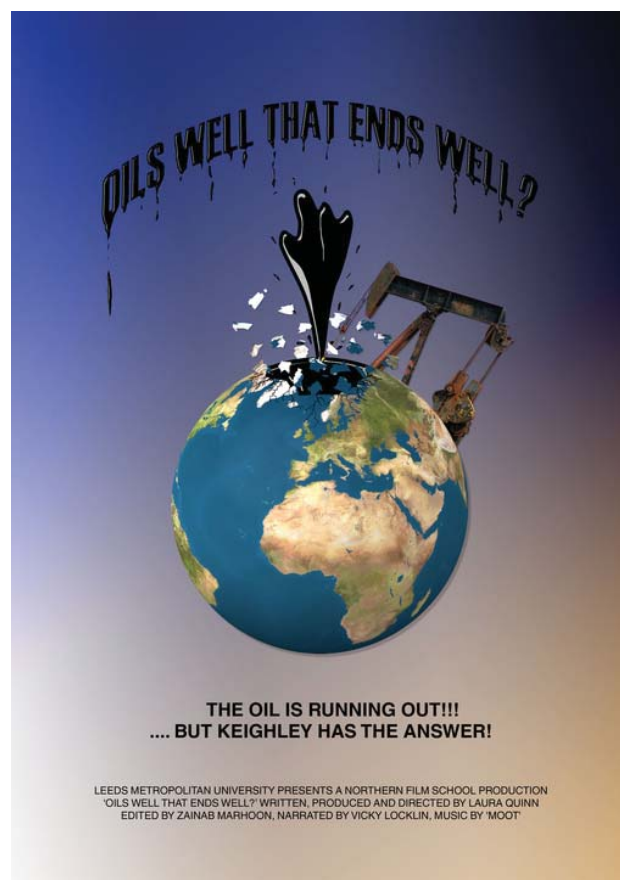
Last FRI of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary

SAT 10pm Manx at The White House, Peel

KATIE LAWRENCE represented the Isle of Man at the meeting of the Celtic Congress in Sligo in Ireland last month. One of the highlights of the trip was playing alongside Brian Stowell's singing of *Ng Kirree fo Naughtey, The Sheep under the Snow*.

Galeforce learns some more Manx music and dance

Galeforce's Summer School proved another opportunity for over 30 children from all over the Island to come together and learn important performing arts skills. MMDO Breesha Maddrell joined them for an afternoon of Manx music and dance. Demonstrating the differences and similarities between silver concert and wooden 8 keyed flutes, she taught a range of Manx material including tune type recognition, the Manx reel step, Hop tu Naa dance and songs by Annie Kissack like *S'feayr yn Oie* and *Traa dy gholl dy valley*. She was particularly delighted to play along with pupils from Rushen Primary who had brought along their orchestra music from the Cruinnaght Aeg competition.



Moot's music has been featured in a new film 'Oils well that ends well' which has been written and directed by Laura Quinn. A final year project at Leeds Metropolitan University, the film is a Northern Film School production. More details online:

<http://drquinn.photium.com/>

www.myspace.com/mootmootmoot

arrane son mannin

Don't forget that entries for the **Song for Mann** competition are due in at the end of September. All you have to do is write a new song in Manx Gaelic in any style, perform it at the Cooish festival in November and see if you get to represent the Isle of Man at the Pan-Celtic Song Contest in Dingle, Ireland, the following April (2010). The winning song gets **£250 prize money** and a trip to Dingle (one of the most beautiful places on this earth!). If you haven't got any Manx but still want to have a go, contact Fiona McArdle on fmcardle@manx.net for help finding a translator. *For further details see the poster at the end of the newsletter...*



Guitar fans are in for another treat with JonnoPromotions' IOM & MGP GUITARFEST 2009 - "Racing Heroes – Guitar Legends". With the support of the IOM Arts Council, Visit Isle of Man and in association with Manx Radio, on September 3, 4, 5 & 6, the festival brings together well-known names from all corners of guitardom. With local acts as support and on the Manx Telecom acoustic stage in the Villa Marina Arcade, there's something for everyone, whether your taste is in folk, world, blues, rock or classical. Check out the poster at the end of the newsletter for more details...

www.iomguitarfest.com

IOM Food & Drink Festival Villa Marina, Douglas 26th-27th September

Manx traditional music will be out in force for the joint DTL and DAFF food and drink festival near the end of the month. The provisional timetable for Manx bands looks like this:

Saturday

1130-1230 Skeeal
1300-1400 Caarjyn Cooidjagh
1430-1530 Manx Folk Dance Soc
1600-1700 Staa

Sunday

1300-1400 Manx Saxophone
Ensemble
1430-1530 Arragh/Ny Fennee
1600-1700 Perree Bane

www.gov.im/tourism/events/food_festival.xml

Belated report of Tynwald Day celebrations in Stavanger

Honorary Representative of the Isle of Man Government in Norway, Juan Cottier, organised some special Tynwald Day celebrations in Stavanger. On Friday 3rd July, he and his wife Katka were joined by Juan Maddrell, who played Manx tunes on his fiddle for the kids to dance to. Children and parents then made Manx flags and bonnag (with added chocolate buttons) and finished with Juan Cottier singing 'O Land of Our Birth'. On the 5th itself, the Cottiers held a house party, with lots of Manx music playing in the background and a taste of Manx cheese, kippers, queenies and loaghtan steaks. Towards the end of the day there was a general nod of approval as Mark Cavendish won the Tour stage.

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

Transcription of the month

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

This month features another tune from Kiaull yn Theay 3. This time it's a tune which features on Skeel's new CD, where it's paired up with a Welsh song - Pontypridd - which has had verses translated into Manx. The tune itself is called 'Twymyn' or 'Fever' by Skeel and Strengyn guitarist Paul Rogers, who named it after a particularly irritating bout of hayfever.

Twymyn

Paul Rogers



To be kind to whistle players who don't like transposing at sight, here's the same tune in whistle-friendly E minor...

Twymyn (E minor)

Paul Rogers



RESEARCH

Contributions should be no more than 400 words and should be sent to the usual address. It may be that you have some comments about a particular song or tune - all musings are welcome, however short. This month, KMJ has borrowed some of Dr Marie Clague's research notes on Manx carvals

Postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Manx Studies, Dr Marie Clague, has been making a catalogue of carvals in a project funded by the Manx Heritage Foundation. Carvals are vernacular religious songs, based on the nativity or preoccupied with repentance and the condition of the soul. The texts are important not only to Manx musicians but also to the Manx language community, as they make up a significant body of original vernacular literature. The dates that they were transcribed have been assessed as being 1770s-1890s. Marie's work is so important because it is the first proper survey of carval material - she is discovering that the extent of the archive is much greater than previously thought. This first stage - a long and laborious task - identifies elements of each carval such as the title, first and last lines and notes any features which might be of interest linguistically or poetically. As a trained linguist, Marie is particularly interested in the language and spelling used, but the social history and folklore side of the work is also proving intriguing. KMJ is excited by the potential for 'new' traditional song texts, which would be a valuable addition to the Manx song corpus.

This month, Marie shares just one verse from a carval book belonging to William Collister. The wonderful imagery in the third verse of the carval 'O annym dooie dooish ass dy Chadley kiune' (O true soul, wake from your calm sleep) shows the richness of the corpus.

Erskyn dy Smooïnaght Etlee trooid yn aer

[Erskyn dty smooïnaghtyn etlagh trooid yn aer]

Above your thoughts flying through the air

Dy vod oo gloyr dy yee y Chur my ner

May you behold the glory of God

Yn Ghrian yn neayst rolageyn beg as mooar

The sun, the moon, stars great and small

Freayll yn leigh slane sy thoshiaght jeant ny gowr

[Freayll yn leigh slane sy hoshiaght jeant nyn gour]

Keeping the whole Law (as it was) made for them in the Beginning

Kodály Confidence

Last month's contributor to the research page, Christa McCartney, is back on the Island after her studies in Hungary. She is offering pre-school music workshops called 'Kodály Confidence' on Wednesday mornings in Castletown Town Hall. The classes employ the world famous Kodály method, which begins with very small babies and childrens and continues throughout the child's life and into adulthood. The classes are fun, and aim to bring confidence in singing and music generally to children and parents, skills which will stay with you for life.

There are three main classes:

09.15-10.00 0-3 years £80 per term

10.15-11.00 3-5 years £90 per term

11.15-12.00 The Joy of Music, The Joy of Life - dancing and singing games
FREE to children & parents who attend any of the other classes

Contact Christa on 836585 or 256804 to register your child

CALENDAR

September

2nd - Strengyn supporting The Ballaghs, The Creek Inn, Peel, 9ish FREE

2nd - Caarjyn Coidjagh Manx Gaelic choir at St Catherine's Church, Port Erin, 8pm FREE

3rd - Moot, Paul Rogers & Katie Lawrence at the Albert, Douglas after the open mic session, 9ish

3rd-6th IOM Guitar Festival various venues

12th - Bree youth traditional music session, Green's Restaurant, Douglas, 3-4.30pm FREE

26th & 27th - Manx bands at the IOM Food and Drink Festival, Villa Marina Gardens, Douglas, 11.30am-5pm

30th - Closing date for entry forms for ARRANE SON MANNIN competition

October

22nd - Mabon at Centenary Centre, Peel 8pm £10 from usual outlets

24th & 25th Bree youth traditional music weekend course FREE but registration essential

31st - Closing date for submission of music for ARRANE SON MANNIN competition

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

manx heritage foundation

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For info on Manx music & dance contact:

Breesha Maddrell: mhfmusic@mhf.org.im

Chloë Woolley: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im

www.manxheritage.org

www.manxheritagemusic.org

Call: 01624 695159

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

The MHF Manx Music Team will be moving during September and October to new premises on the IOM Dept of Education University site at the Nunnery. They will be based in the new MHF office in the old stable block next to the chapel. Full details of postal address and new phone numbers in the next issue.



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

RACING HEROES



IOM GUITARFEST MGP GUITARFEST

3rd - 6th September 2009

Thursday 3rd - Blues / Rock / Party Night

ANGELO PALLADINO & THE SKELETON CREW WALTER EGO

Centenary Centre, Peel - tickets £10 (concessions £7)
Doors 7.30pm, Show 8.00pm.



Angelo Palladino

WORLD CLASS
MUSIC
ON THE ISLAND



Gary Ryan

Friday 4th - Modern Classical & Jazz / Roots / Fusion Recital

GARY RYAN PETE SMITH & ROGER INNISS

Gaiety Theatre, Douglas - tickets £14 (concessions £10)
Doors 7.00pm, Show 7.30pm.



Pierre Bensusan

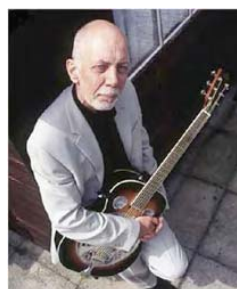


Gordon Giltrap

Saturday 5th - World / Folk / Jazz & Contemporary Concert

PIERRE BENSUSAN GORDON GILTRAP MICHAEL BERK

Gaiety Theatre, Douglas - tickets £18 (concessions £12)
Doors 7.00pm, Show 7.30pm.



Rod Clements

MASTERCLASSES
at
Peter Norris Music
Finch Road
Douglas

Sunday 6th - Slide / Blues & World Music Event

ROD CLEMENTS AMRIT SOND

Centenary Centre, Peel - tickets £13 (concessions £9.50)
Doors 7.30pm, Show 8.00pm.

Tickets for Gaiety Theatre concerts from www.villagaiety.com

Group discounts, festival tickets, weekend & family packages, marshals', riders', racing teams',
other concessions and Peel gig tickets call 01624 694555 or visit the Welcome Centre.

Headliner Masterclasses at Peter Norris Music - tickets from www.etickets.im

GUITARFEST NEWS AND UPDATES VISIT www.iomguitarfest.com

Free entry to The Manx Telecom Acoustic Stage in the Villa Arcade 4, 5 & 6 September 12 noon to 6pm
Featuring local guitarists with guest appearances by visiting support acts.



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 2009**. The prizewinning group will go to the **Pan-Celtic Festival on 6th - 11th April 2010**, 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 2009 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 2010**. 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 and Entry forms from: *Fiona McArdle* Tel: 471543

E-mail: fmcardle@manx.net

Return entry form by Wednesday 30th September 2009
Music to be sent in by Saturday 31st October 2009