

Mean Souree 2024 June

MANX MUSIC TODAY

PREMIERE OF NEW MANX DANCE COMMISSION



Culture Vannin is extremely proud to have supported an exciting new Manx dance commission.

Encouraged by the phenomenal standard of young dancers in the Isle of Man, and the strength of Manx dancing at the moment, one of the leading dance schools in the Island has commissioned a new Manx dance piece for their summer show.

With the support of a Culture Vannin grant award, Gena's Dance Academy, based in Peel, have commissioned Grainne Joughin, Manx dancer, instructor, choreographer and leader of Skeddan Jiarg dance team, to create a brand new piece specifically for the event, GDA On Tour, in the Gaiety Theatre, [which took place on] 17 & 18 May 2024.

Grainne Joughin says:

"I was thrilled when Gena Walker approached me to choreograph a Manx Dance piece as part of the 'GDA on Tour' show at the Gaiety, and to be given the creative control and opportunity to really challenge Manx Dancing and push it in directions it's not been pushed previously.

In this month's edition...

- *Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering: More acts announced*
- *The story of Spin Wheel Spin*
- *New EP from Owen Williams*



I've been working with this wonderful team of GDA [Gena's Dance Academy] dancers between the ages of 8 and 16 - most of whom have never done any Manx dancing previously - and together we have created a dramatic piece which we really hope our audiences will enjoy. I hope all the girls now feel some sense of ownership and pride in being part of this poignant step for our Manx culture.

The choreography takes us on a journey 'In search of Manannan' and aims to portray the feeling of adventure and bravery. It's a rather dark piece which marries Manx music and song by 'Barrule', with Manx traditional steps, alongside more contemporary movements and formations. I'm so delighted with how it has all turned out.

We are extremely grateful for the support GDA and I have been given by Culture Vannin to commission this piece. A huge thanks to the GDA teachers for making me feel so welcome, and to the parents who have been taxiing for all the extra rehearsals!

I am both excited (and a touch nervous) to see what everyone thinks. Gura mie mooar eu!"
Caairliagh of Culture Vannin, Chris Thomas MHK, says:

"We are always delighted to support our talented creative community. We are particularly excited when traditional skills and innovation come together like this."

Gena Walker, director of Gena's Dance Academy, says:

"We feel very honored to have received funding from Culture Vannin in order to produce a Manx dance piece for our show. A first for GDA, and a first for any dance school in the Island. Thank you to Grainne Joughin for her choreography and Jamie Smith for the music track. We feel very privileged to have such support and expertise on board!"

www.facebook.com/gdaisleofman

Look out for repeat performance during Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering!!



This image comes from a Culture Vannin film about Skeddan Jiarg - Manx Dance Team at the Lowender festival back in 2017, available here: <https://tinyurl.com/yherp7xu>

Celtic Music, Song & Dance Festival

Concerts | Workshops
Ceilis | Sessions | Craft Fair

22nd - 28th July 2024

celticgathering.com



Every summer in Peel, Yn Chruinnacht Celtic Gathering brings together the music, dance, culture and languages of the Isle of Man, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Cornwall and Brittany.

This year, from 22nd – 28th July 2024, Yn Chruinnacht Celtic Gathering will present a whole array of fabulous entertainment, including an opening night gig with trail-blazing Scottish/Manx band HEISK (featuring Manx fiddle player Isla Callister) and dazzling tunes from Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe and Daniel Quayle. There will be songs and fest noz dancing with Breton mother and daughter duo Brigitte & Katell Kloureg, a variety concert celebrating the Celtic seasons, a lecture about St Bridget, the Mega Manx Ceili in Cathedral Isle of Man sponsored by Fynoderee Distillery, a quirky folklore tour of Peel, the compositions of Katie Lawrence, Manx giant Arthur Caley's 200th Birthday ceili, plus a grand finale from Scottish fiddle legend Duncan Chisholm!

Thanks to Culture Ireland, audiences will also enjoy Irish music and dance from The Len Collective and Céilí le Chéile, along with Cornish song and music from Richard Trethewey and his band, folk duo Tarmac, and lots of Manx talent throughout the whole festival. There is also poetry and film, an artisan craft fair, displays and workshops supported by Soundcheck Charity, and plenty of ceili dancing from the Celtic nations. As well as community outreach performances, there will be family friendly events at the House of Manannan, Black Dog Oven, the Sailing Club and Sailor's Shelter, as well as lunchtime sessions at Noa Market Hall in Douglas supported by IFGL and evening music sessions at The White House and Miller's T'Ale in Peel.

Established in 1978, Yn Chruinnacht Celtic Gathering is known for its small and friendly atmosphere and the fishing town of Peel is the ideal hub for the festival. Language learners and enthusiasts can sign up for Culture Vannin's Manx Gaelic summer school which runs alongside the festival, and boat owners can sail over to the Island for 'Peel Sea Fest' during the final weekend.

A limited-edition festival pass for all events is only £60 but individual tickets are available too! All information on the festival and tickets:

www.celticgathering.im and www.facebook.com/CelticGatheringIOM/

Run by a volunteer committee, the not for profit festival is very grateful for the support of Culture Vannin, the Isle of Man Arts Council, Visit Isle of Man, Isle of Man Post Office and Peel Town Commissioners.

SPOTIFY PLAYLIST OF SOME OF THE 2024 ACTS: <https://tinyurl.com/2p92n3zd>

PHOTOS OF THE 2023 FESTIVAL: <https://tinyurl.com/mrj86z4x>

WATCH 2024 PROMO VIDEO: <https://fb.watch/seSxT6C20D/>



Top clockwise: Katell & Brigitte Kloureg, The Len Collective, Richard Trethewey, Céilí le Chéile, Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe and Daniel Quayle, Duncan Chisholm. Middle: Heisk

ERIN ARTS CENTRE presents

MANANAN FESTIVAL

ELIZA CARTHY

(Solo)

The Queen
of English Folk



Monday 24th June - 7.30pm

Tickets £22/£2

support from Jennifer Reid

Tickets available from:

www.TicketSource.co.uk/ErinArtsCentre
or in person at the EAC Box Office

The Erin Arts Centre is a registered charity 236A



ERIN ARTS CENTRE presents

MANANAN FESTIVAL

KITTERLAND

Live improvised soundscape cinema



Tuesday 25th June - 7.30pm

Tickets £10/£2

Tickets available from:

www.TicketSource.co.uk/ErinArtsCentre
or in person at the EAC Box Office

The Erin Arts Centre is a registered charity 236A

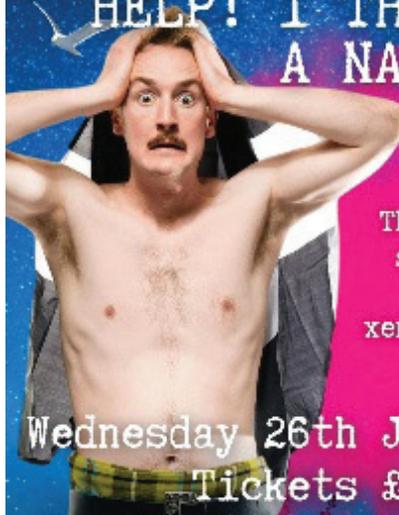


ERIN ARTS CENTRE presents

MANANAN FESTIVAL

HELP! I THINK I'M
A NATIONALIST

with Seamas Carey



The sell-out comedy
show on identity,
second homes,
xenophobia & bagpipes

Wednesday 26th June - 7.30pm

Tickets £15/£2

Tickets available from:

www.TicketSource.co.uk/ErinArtsCentre
or in person at the EAC Box Office

The Erin Arts Centre is a registered charity 236A



ERIN ARTS CENTRE presents

MANANAN FESTIVAL

Monday 24th - Saturday 29th June 2024



Tickets available from:

www.TicketSource.co.uk/ErinArtsCentre
or in person at the EAC Box Office

The Erin Arts Centre is a registered charity 236A



www.erinartscentre.com

An exhibition showcasing photographs captured during Manx National Week 2023 by British documentary photographer Martin Parr.



Delve into previously unseen photographs captured during Manx National Week 2023 by legendary British documentary Photographer Martin Parr CBE.

Parr is known for his photographic projects that take an intimate, satirical and anthropological look at aspects of modern life, in particular documenting the social classes of Britain. His distinctive style of photography captures the oddities and humours of everyday British life through a vibrantly coloured, hyper-realistic lens. Parr has been a member of Magnum Photos since 1994, and was president between 2013-2017. He remains one of the country's most popular photojournalists, contributing to a wide range of printed media. This is his first Isle of Man based project.

The exhibition has been kindly sponsored by the Isle of Man Arts Council and supported by Isle of Man Post.

Manx Museum, Kingswood Grove,
Douglas, IM1 3LY

Exhibition Dates:

29 June 2024 - 6 Oct 2024

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05/06

6PM ONWARDS

DONATIONS IN SUPPORT OF
IOM CHRISTIAN AID PROJECT
IN MALAWI

christian aid BAYVIEW ROAD,
PORT ST MARY
IM9 5AQ

2024

kiull manninagh jiu 06/24 culture vanni

FULL MOON FESTIVAL

JUNE 28TH - JUNE 30TH

ROSE HILL FARM, RICHMOND HILL, DOUGLAS

GW HARRISON

// CALL ME AMOUR //



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SYSTEM OF A DHOON

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RED HOT CHILLI YESSIRS CROTEAU BAHUKI
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FULLY GROWN ADULTS TOM DOYLE DUSTY PLANKTON
C U NEXT FRIDAY OCEANS AVENUE HAN FX JORDI MC CLASH 4
OTTY LOOSE CREW BUNKA DJS NATHAN THOMPSON PETER
DUNE DAN & HENDO SCOTT HOY BRIAN ROONEY DAN HOLDEN
NEIL CLEAGUE NINJA FINGERS AUDIO WOK ALAN STACEY GIDD
MO BEATS THREE STOOLS COLLECTIVE UK SPINNIN VANNIN

ALLAN VANNIN WEZ CLARKE ISLE OF GROOVES HARRY ADAMSON HAMO GREYHOUND YEAROOS
WINTS CONNOR HEATH RAFA KEY FIONN BURG SKILLEN RE-FRESH BIG NATURE WILL RICHARDSON
HENRY WOOD CHRIS BOOTH LEE HARDMAN MATTHEW BRAND MASH MATTHEW NIXON
MICHAEL FARAGHER SAM BOWERS AMII JOHN BOLTON DYLAN FEARON FIONN JAMIE CRAIG
JOE MATTHEWS KYLE MCKEE JACOB KNEALE PAZWEZ CLARKE THE ROCK PROJECT
THE BALLAGHS MANANANS GAFF CRUMPETS CHEMICAL CATFISH MINT GREEN PLANET
THE MOLLAG BAND BUSY LADY SEA-MYTH GYPO SECRET GIG 13TH PILLAR PSYCODELIC
ROCKWEILLERS RICHARD QUIRK MARTIN THOMAS + FRIENDS VIRGE & LUNA
THE DAVE MAP ORCHESTRA ATANTIS 303 DEGSEY TOOKIE POTTER CAMERON BENHAM
ROY DUGGAN KICK HABBITS MATTY B VIXEN BARRY THERON STEVIE BUTT ATILLA SKEPTIC
THE BLANE HOUSE PROJECT T4 DAVE ORGAN ADAM CAIN ALEX COWLEY PANDRUMONIUM

DJ SETS FROM

ANIMA

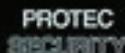
VOLUME



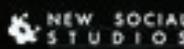
ACROSS 7 MUSIC AREAS, FOOD VENDORS
WELLNESS AREA, FANCY DRESS COMPETITION
DAY, WEEKEND & 3 DAY CAMPING TICKETS

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

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Kiaull as Gaelg session in the Albert Hotel, Port St Mary, Fri 24 May, from 8pm

20 24





Event sponsored by

**BUSHY'S TT VILLAGE
MAIN STAGE**

M A Y

THURSDAY 30th 6.00pm - 7.30pm: THE ED MILLER BAND 8.00pm - 9.30pm: KLEVERSHIRTS 10.00pm - 11.45pm: BUNCHA SKANKERS	TUESDAY 4th 4.00pm - 5.30pm: JAMIE BLACKBURN 6.00pm - 7.30pm: BAHUKI BAND 8.00pm - 9.30pm: FOXTRAP 10.00pm - 11.45pm: LOONEY AND THE VIKINGS
FRIDAY 31st 4.00pm - 5.30pm: ELIZABETH DAVIDSON-BLYTHE & DANIEL QUAYLE 6.00pm - 7.30pm: FULLY GROWN ADULTS 8.00pm - 9.30pm: OCEAN'S AVENUE 10.00pm - 11.45pm: SWEET REVENGE	WEDNESDAY 5th 4.00pm - 5.30pm: ELIZABETH DAVIDSON-BLYTHE & DANIEL QUAYLE 6.00pm - 7.30pm: EJECT 8.00pm - 9.30pm: RED HOT CHILLI YESSIRS 10.00pm - 11.45pm: VOODOO BANDITS

J U N E

SATURDAY 1st 4.00pm - 5.30pm: ALEX HARRIS 6.00pm - 7.30pm: SHADY ACRES 8.00pm - 9.30pm: FIREBALL 10.00pm - 11.45pm: HARVEY MUSHMAN	THURSDAY 6th 4.00pm - 5.30pm: ALEX HARRIS 6.00pm - 7.30pm: CRAWLBOARD 8.00pm - 9.30pm: MOTHER FUNKERS 9.30pm - 11.45pm: 995
MAD SUNDAY 2nd 1.00pm - 5.30pm: MOD SUNDAY 6.00pm - 7.30pm: FUZZY LOGIC 8.00pm - 9.30pm: THE BONEYARD 10.00pm - 11.45pm: THE PERSIAN DOORMATS	FRIDAY 7th 4.00pm - 5.30pm: NASH & BEAN 6.00pm - 7.30pm: NIGHT TIME TENNIS 8.00pm - 9.30pm: SWITCH 10.00pm - 11.45pm: 3 MILLION
MONDAY 3rd 4.00pm - 5.30pm: TERESA MCNULTY 6.00pm - 7.30pm: DUSTY PLANKTON 8.00pm - 9.30pm: SUNSET JET 10.00pm - 11.45pm: ROCKET MAX <small>UK ELTON JOHN TRIBUTE ACT</small>	SATURDAY 8th 4.00pm - 5.30pm: TERESA MCNULTY 6.00pm - 7.30pm: BAREFOOT REVOLUTION 8.00pm - 9.30pm: BAD REPUTATION 10.00pm - 11.45pm: BUNCHA SKANKERS

CLASH VOOAR



Saturday 29th June

Full Moon festival

Tynwald Day 5th July afternoon

Global village/one world village stage

Sunday 28th July

*Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering,
Black Dog Oven*

Saturday 3rd August

Deep South PE beach stage

Wednesday 7th August

Sailor's Shelter

Saturday 31st August

Supporting Keith Angel

Friday 6th September

Atholl Room, Centenary Centre

TYNWALD DAY CEILI



WITH THE
KIPPERCALLIE BAND

THURSDAY 4TH JULY
@ 7.30PM

ANDREAS PARISH HALL
TICKETS £10

Proceeds to Andreas Village Play Park

Contact for Tickets:
Rosie 426263 or Lesley 468423



**PEEL
SEA
FEST**

**26TH - 28TH
JULY 2024**

- TREASURE TRAIL
- QUIZ
- LIVE MUSIC
- BOAT TRIPS
- TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY BOATS
- SEAFOOD
- QUIRKY PEEL HISTORY TRAIL
- ODIN'S 'JOLLY ROGER' BEER
- VIKING HAIR BRAIDING
- BOAT JUMBLE

**A WEEKEND
CELEBRATING
THE SEA FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY**

**LIVE MUSIC THROUGHOUT THE DAY FEATURING
PERFORMERS FROM
YN CHRUINNAGHT CELTIC MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**PEEL YACHT CLUB OPEN
EVERY DAY TO THE PUBLIC**

GRATEFUL THANKS GO TO OUR KIND SUPPORTERS







kiuill manninagh jiu 06/24 culture vannin



Jeant dy mie! Well done to trad music group 'The Skimmees' who won the open instrumental ensemble class at the Manx Music Festival last month. The Skimmees (short for Skimmee Kiaull!) will be performing at Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering in July.

**MAKE
MUSIC**

ISLE OF MAN
Laa Jannoo Kiaull
JUNE 21

Laa Jannoo Kiaull / Make Music Day takes place on 21st June.

Last year, 450 events took place in the IOM & UK involving more than 36,000 music-makers!

You can take part by organising your own event in your own community.

More info:

<https://makemusicday.co.uk>



Un Chorra won the community choir class at the Guild (3rd May). Led by Aalin Clague, the choir performed four songs in Manx Gaelic about the sea and the stars!

LISTEN to their set on Manx Radio:

<https://tinyurl.com/4xf9c3yw>

Watch an video interview with Manx folk music legend, Mike Boulton who has entered the Share na Veg folk group into the Guild for many years:

<https://tinyurl.com/yc6c2ubx>

Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh held a Manx Gaelic picnic last month in Thie ny Gaelgey, St Judes. Skeddán Jiarg performed some Manx dances for the picnickers!





Castletown Festival (19 May) had plenty of sunshine for the Manx dancing display from Perree Bane! www.facebook.com/TheCastletownFestival/



kiuill manninagh jiu 06/24 culture vannin

kiaul1 noa

Ná Srúth an EP Seo/Ny Stroo yn EP Shoh (Don't Stream this EP!) is a new 5-track release from Owen Williams.

Featuring newly-composed tunes in a Celtic style, Owen has mixed traditional instruments (accordion, whistle) with synthesised accompaniment ranging from upbeat polkas to slower marches and the EP is now available to purchase in CD form or on Bandcamp.

Played and recorded by Owen and mixed and mastered by Keith Morrison of WeeStudio (Isle of Lewis), Owen hopes this small project will be of enjoyment!

SPOTIFY:

<https://tinyurl.com/3kawr4tx>

BANDCAMP: <https://owenwilliams1.bandcamp.com/album/n-sruth-an-ep-seo>

A bit of ska from young Manx band Dysfunction Junction! (part of Soundcheck Project)

Give them a listen:

<https://tinyurl.com/nyaytuhf>

Massive thanks to Grey Doyle and Croteau for all the help with the artwork and the mixing. Go and check out their video for their song "not my king" too!

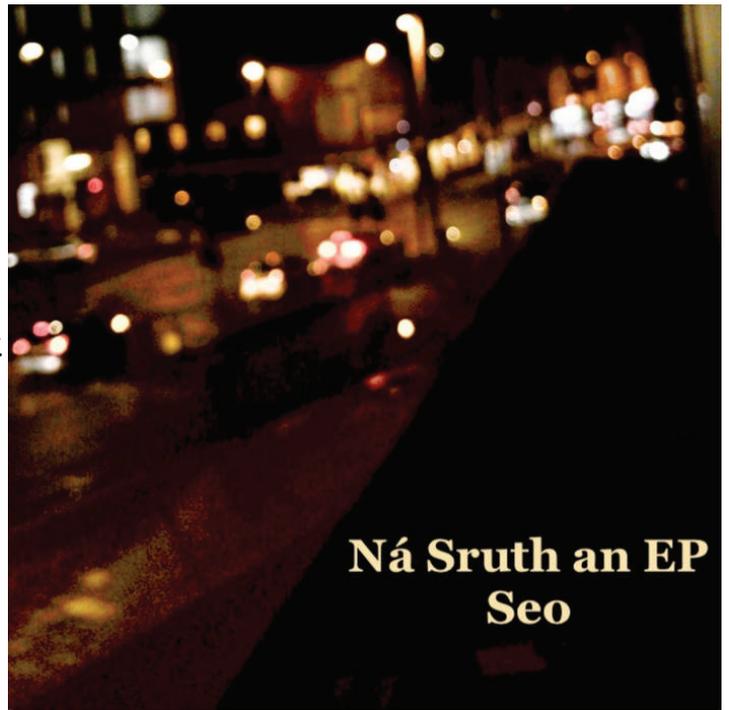
<https://tinyurl.com/bd3wx6uv>



TT FOODIE VILLAGE

Buskers are invited to play at the Manx Food Traders Association's TT food village (27th May - 8th June) in Castletown. Offering local good quality produce (and music!) to the bikers and fans. More info:

<https://tinyurl.com/2bx57x36>



Youtube corner

Hush Thee My Dove - a traditional Manx lullaby performed by classical guitarist Hilary Field and vocalist Patrice O'Neill & guests.

From "Cantilena: Night Songs from Around the World."

<https://youtu.be/UqRIQgWTPcc>

Sasha Bogdanowitsch is singing "Arrane ny Níe," or "Washing Song" -- a lovely Manx lullaby arranged by Carol Walker, accompanied by the New York Dulcimer Orchestra during their performance at the Mahwah NJ Library on 4/28/24. He's singing each verse in Manx Gaelic and then in English. Watch here: <https://tinyurl.com/2nu2u3h2/>



WELL DONE to Biskee Brisht who won the Battle of the Bands in Quid's Inn last month!



The Gaia Installation in St Thomas' Church hosted lots of beautiful music performances: www.facebook.com/stthomasiom
Read more on the BBC website: <https://tinyurl.com/ye29f3jb>

Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea



ELEPHANT SESSIONS
JULIE FOWLIS
MÀNRRAN
NITWORKS

A-Z

BRÌGHDE CHAIMBEUL & AIDAN O'ROURKE / CALA
CALUM STEWART / CÀRNAN / CHLOE MATHARU
CLAIRE HASTINGS / CROFT NO. FIVE / DEIRA
DLÙ / DONALD MACDONALD / FARA
GNOSS / HANNAH RARITY / ÍMAR / IONA LANE
KATHLEEN MACINNES / KIM CARNIE / KINNARIS QUINTET
KRIS DREVER / THE MAGPIES / MAIRI MCGILLIVRAY
MEC LIR / PROJECT SMOK / ROSIE H SULLIVAN
SIOBHAN MILLER BAND / TRIP

WITH SECRET SETS FROM SPECIAL GUESTS
KIDS AREA FEATURING CEILIDH TOTS
QUALITY SCOTTISH FOOD & DRINK

Sat 8 & Sun 9 June 2024
Rouken Glen Park,
Glasgow

**THE
Reeling**

theroeling.com
@TheReelingFest

FOR THE PLANET

Subject to Licence

MEC LIR have a busy summer coming up!

7th June, '24

Galway Folk Festival @ Galway, Ireland

8th June, '24

<https://galwayfolkfestival.com/>

The Reeling @ Glasgow, Scotland

18th July, '24

HebCelt @ Stornoway, Isle of Lewis

25th July, '24

Cambridge Folk Festival @ Cherry Hinton Hall,
Cambridge, UK

26th July, '24

Festival Labyrinthe de la Voix @ Rochechouart,
France

10th August, '24

Guinness Irish Festival @ Sion, Switzerland

12th August, '24

Festival Interceltique de Lorient @ Lorient,
Brittany

<https://meclir.com/gigs/>

53^{ème} FÉSTIVAL AR GELEED

12-18 août
2024

**FESTIVAL
INTERCELTIQUE
DE LORIENT** LA JEUNESSE DES PAYS CELTES

ELIZABETH DAVIDSON - BLYTHE & DANIEL QUAYE

MANX BAND BRINGS ISLAND'S CULTURE DOWN UNDER

Isle of Man based duo, *Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe & Daniel Quaye*, recently represented the island at the Australian Celtic Festival in Glen Innes, New South Wales. The act was chosen to perform as part of the festival's year of the Isle of Man and Ireland and were generously supported by Culture Vannin.



"It was lovely to be on the other side of the globe and see so many Manx flags and Manx language and culture being honoured in such a lovely way. It was really quite moving to be contributing to that." — Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe



The festival saw the Isle of Man honoured with performances from the local group, as well as the Manx Dancers of Brisbane, and was opened with a rousing rendition of Ellan Vannin by the Australian Celtic Women.

Throughout the festival's many events, the Manx flag could be seen flying proudly above the

Australian Standing Stones, and the Manx language could be heard at several of the festival's events, including the Dawn Ceremony at 5am!

The culture wasn't limited to flags, language and music though - with Manx foods being available from several locations on the festival site and beyond - various twists on the traditional Manx bonnag could be found at local cafes, and the duo even got to enjoy a Fynoderee gin at a local bar.

The duo has a busy rest of the summer planned with performances in Wales (Fire in the Mountain), England (Folk in a Field), Belgium (Zilleghem Folk Festival), and the Isle of Man, at both the Bushy's TT Village and Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering, taking place in Peel from the 22nd to the 27th of July.

SEE MORE PHOTOS

www.facebook.com/AustralianCelticFestival





Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe & Daniel Quayle performed at the Australian Celtic Festival where it was the *Year of the Isle of Man* last month: "We had a wonderful time in Australia. It was lovely to be on the other side of the globe and see so many Manx flags and Manx language and culture being honoured in such a lovely way. It was really quite moving to be contributing to that."

Daniel & Elizabeth pictured with Irish fiddle player Gerry O'Connor
WATCH the duo play "Trip to Tartu": <https://youtu.be/NAb9Cz118GU>



The Manx Dancers of Brisbane were honoured to present the dances, songs and music from the Isle of Man - a featured country at this year's Australian Celtic Festival. The group performed "Dance for Three, Hop-tu-naa Hunt the Wren, Gorse Sticks and Return the Blow.

Watch Gorse Sticks:

www.facebook.com/groups/manxmusicanddance/permalink/10161597761357417/

RESEARCH NEWS



NEW ORAL HISTORY Culture Vannin has recorded a conversation with Ann Stacey (nee Quirk) about her childhood and youth in Peel through the Second World War, her experiences as a part of the very start of the Manx Folk Dance Society, and her time in the Wirral Manx Society.

Ann Stacey's oral history, complete with extracts:

<https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/oralhistory/ann-stacey-830063/>

Significant to KMJ readers are the extracts on Manx dance, including Ann being there at the start of the Manx Folk Dance Society in 1952 in Peel, when Manx dance was new to everyone & being taught by Leighton Stowell, and her personal take on the Dirk Dance, which she learnt but never performed.

First-hand memories of the very start of the Manx Folk Dance Society:

<https://tinyurl.com/58t253ew>

An account of the learning of the Dirk Dance:

<https://tinyurl.com/4286ep6z>

Picture above: the dance team of the Wirral Manx Society in the 1950s.
Ann Stacey (nee Quirk) is front row, end right.

Full list of

Transcriptions of the Month!

MANX MUSIC .COM

www.manxmusic.com/learn/tunes/kmj-transcriptions---manx-songs-and-tunes/

How a Lazy Wife and Giant inspired a Children's Song

An article for *The Manx Independent* (16th May 2024) written by
Dr Chloë Woolley, Manx Music Development Officer at Culture Vannin.



SPIN WHEEL SPIN – SNIEU WHEEL SNIEU!

Did Old Trit Trot ever get the wool?! The answer lies in an old Manx song.

One of the most well-known Manx children's songs today is "Arrane Queeyl-Nieuee" (Song of the Spinning Wheel) - also known as Spin, Wheel, Spin! or Snieu, wheeyl, snieu!

The song connects to the story of "The Lazy Wife" – a woman who is far too 'traa-dy-liooar' to get the spinning done. After a day of procrastination, her husband returns from work to find the house is a mess, there's no dinner and certainly not enough wool spun to sell to the weaver.

However, she tricks her furious husband into thinking she's been spinning all day by throwing and catching the same ball of wool up and down from the loft while he counts "nane, jees, tree..."

Now caught out by her own lie, she goes up the hill to the giant (the 'foawr') who agrees to do all of the spinning if she can guess his name by the end of the week. She has no idea of his name until the final night, when her husband returns home and recalls hearing the giant singing "Arrane Queeyl-Nieuee" with words that translated to; "How little she knows, the lazy wife, that my name is Mollyndroat!" Next morning, armed with the correct answer, the wife took home all the balls of wool from a rather angry giant.

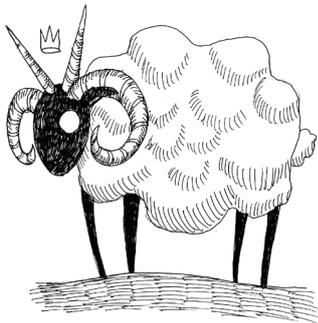


Reminiscent of the fairytales of Rumpelstiltskin (Germany), Trwtyn-Tratyn (Wales) or Whuppity-Stoorie (Scotland), there are other versions of the story in Manx folklore. The giant is sometimes a buggane, or there is an evil queen called Trit Trot who wants to enslave the wife. In other tales, the little people or 'themselves' who live in the tramman tree above her spinning wheel help out.

The bare melody of the song was first collected in July 1895 by WH Gill from Peel 'master mariner', Thomas Crellin (AKA Tom the Mate), who arranged it for piano solo in Manx National Music (published 1898). Folklore collector AW Moore had also called on Crellin, and had taken down a single verse in Manx, which he published in Manx Ballads and Music in 1896.

A decade later, the single verse was taught to Peel children by folklorist and language revivalist Sophia Morrison and they sung it at an Old Christmas concert in 1907. At the end of the concert, a local woman came forward to say she knew the whole song. The lyrics and fairytale were noted, and Morrison joined forces with rising poet and playwright Josephine Kermode (pen-name "Cushag") to write Manx dialect play "The Lazy Wife" which was premiered in Peel Clothworkers' School in 1908. Iliam and Joaney were the character names of the husband and wife, along with the 'Foawr' and his enslaved fairies. Three years later, the full story and song lyrics appeared in Morrison's Manx Fairy Tales (1911).

Shortly after, Mona Douglas also collected the song from Eleanor Callow, a farmer's wife from Cardle Veg in Maughold. Described by the young folksong & dance collector as being "like an ancient Druidess", Mrs Callow (1865-1916) held a strong belief in the Island's old ways and folklore.



Working with English composer, Arnold Foster, Douglas published the song in London in 1930, and it later appeared in the Manx National Song Book.

Even more recently in 1992, Dr Fenella Bazin collected a variant called "A Spinster of Peel" from Mrs Tipping in Glen Mona. "Once there lived spinster, near the town of Peel; Sat she 'neath the tramman tree beside her spinning wheel".

All versions of the song have a repetitive rhythm that imitates the sound of the spinning wheel going round and round.

A set piece in the Manx Folk Awards 2022 and performed just last week at the Guild by Platform Theatre's young Gaelic choir, "Snieu, QueeYL, Snieu" is now a staple of the Manx song repertoire, and you can hear and learn it here:

<https://www.manxmusic.com/learn/songs/arrane-queeYL-nieuee---spinning-song/>

Further info:

- LEARN the song - see end of KMJ for TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH
- STORY in Sophia Morrison's Manx Fairy Tales:

<https://manxliterature.com/sort-by-genre/other/manx-fairy-tales/#the-lazy-wife>

- Discover the DANCE written to the melody - as featured in Dr Cinzia Yates' Manx dance article last month -

www.manxmusic.com/media//Newsletters/KMJ%20May%202024.pdf

Photo of Sophia Morrison at a Spinning Wheel on stage in the Albert Hall, Peel in 1909.

Illustrations by Juan Moore for "Ree ny Marrey" song book [currently out of stock]

THE DANCES - Excerpt from ‘...while the others did some capers’: the Manx Traditional Dance revival 1929 to 1960 by Cinzia Curtis:

3. Unpublished Dances

3.5 Daunseyñ Aeglagh Beg

Another couples dance found probably composed in the same circumstances as that above. It was composed to the air Emshyr Sterrymagh by Susan Highfield.

1. Partners dance 1 MRS back and 1 forward, L hands on hips and R hands up.

Balance and Spin.

2. Boy balances R and L 4 times, both hands on hips, while girl dances round him clockwise, in reel step, arms extended.

3. Partners dance 4 MSS to R and 4 to L, facing (going in opposite directions).

4. Girl balances R and L 4 times, both hands on hips, while boy dances round her in reel step, arms extended.

5. Partners take R hands high and dance 2 HRS, R and L, then turn and change to L hands clasped high.

6. Partners dance 2 more HRS holding L hands high, and turn cc.

7. Partners arm R and L in MRS.

8. Manx Waltz.

READ THE FULL THESIS:

www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/MANX%20DANCE%20THESIS%20Cinzia%20Curtis%202006.pdf

NB. Any readers know this tune, Emshyr Sterrymagh?

“THE ORGANIST BEING INDISPOSED” (1936)

Mr Wilfred Watterson was the chairman at the Wesley Guild on Tuesday. The speaker was Mr Ridgway Kennaugh, of Ballasalla. The vocal tune raiser was Mr W. Watterson, the organist being indisposed. Solos were rendered by Messrs R.H. Kermode and B.T. Haben. A quartette was given by Messrs Ridge Kennaugh, W. Watterson, R.H. Kermode and B.T. Haben. The subject of the address was “Life” and this was discussed by Messrs Robert Kennaugh, R.H. Kermode, W. Watterson, Harry Collister and B.T. Haben.

“[Rushen District News] Ballamoda.” *Isle of Man Examiner* 4 December 1936: 15e.

With “the organist being indisposed,” it fell to W. Watterson to raise the tunes as they were once raised in chapel.

STEPHEN MILLER RBV

Manx Notes: Folkways and Language (chiollaghbooks.com)

Discover a treasure trove of articles about Manx culture, music and dance compiled by Stephen Miller RBV:

www.chiollaghbooks.com/manxnotes/

MANX MUSIC HISTORY & RESEARCH

www.manxmusic.com/history/research/

MANX STAR
11 Mee Houney 1978

ARRANE Y JOUGH

er ny yannoo liorish Shorys y Creayrie, 1978.
(Car: Oie Jelune)

Ta'n arrane shoh ginsh yn skeeal mychione aavioghey yn kiaulleeaght tradishoonagh Vanninagh sy thie-lhonney far-enmyssit 'Y Thie Bouyr' ayns Purt ny hInshey ayns Straid y Chashtal gagh oie Jesarn woish y vlein 1975 as ny yeigh shen – SyC.

Un oie va mee mârish my chaarjyn ayns Doolish -
aynshen dooyrt mee roosyn, C'raad hemmayd roin noight?
Well, shione dooys boayl phrow's mayd ayns Purt ny hInshey
raad yiowmayd gyn boir' erbee palçhey dy yough
She, ayns y thie-lhonney, ayns shen va shin pynteraght
's ghow shin arraneyn as heean shin dy ard
Agh cha mie lesh yn oasteyr nyn giaull, as v'eh gaccan
as ren eshyn shin y cheau magh er y traid.

Faagail yn thie-oast gyn arrys er chor erbee
keimeragh noon as noal rish tammylt liauyr
Fy yerrey shoh dooyrt mee, Shione dooys fer elley
's gyn ourys bee failt orrin ayns y Thie Bouyr¹
'Shen ta mee er chlashtyn dy vel deiney doaieagh
ta cloie daunsyn Manninagh, tappee as moal
Ta feallee dy liooar ayn 's arrane ny jees ocsyn
T'ad sheaney dy mie as ad cur "preab san ól!"¹.

Eisht hie shynyn roin ayn as taitnys mooar orrin -
she, breeoil as niartal yn kiaull as arrane
Cha lajer va'n liggar ry gheddyn sy voayl shen
dy row mee laccal daunsey mârish ny mraane
She, Manninagh dooie ny 'raneyn as reelyn
y lheid nagh geayll shiu rish ymmodee blein
Ve kiart da my chree's bwoailley ny s'bieauee
rish *Eunyssagh Vona* as *Mannin Veg Veen*.

Yn çhamyr veg villish shen plooghit dy slane
lesh deiney goaill soylley mooar ass yn seshoon
V'ad 'pumpal' ny piobyn as kiaulley'r yn chlaasagh
as gobbyr yn dollan dy gastey gyn roon
V'ad teiy y guitar as yn banjo dy skibbaltagh
shéidey oarganyn-beeal as feddanyn staineey
V'ad cloie *Car ny Rankee* as *Jemmy as Nancy*
As ronney ny jees jeh *Mylecharaine*

1 Arrane Yernish: 'cur breb da'n jough.'

Ny lurg hooar shin cuirrey dy gholl dys y chèilidh
va cummit ayns thie na' row foddey ersooyl
Va *poitín* dy liooar ain as *uisge na bracha*
as ghow shinyn toshiaght dy iu er-y-çhooyl
'Shen deayshil yn liggar nyn jengaghyn meeley
dy voddagh shin taggloo er-lleh mychione mraane
'Shen honnick mee doodee lhee row mee er-cannoo
agh va mee ro scoorit dy yannoo mooarane!

Haink çhingys king orrym 's my ghailley myr furnish -
my veilyn va teaymey magh maynrys my chree
Eisht hooar mish mee hene ayns shen paagey ny jeeigyn
's my lhie ayns my skeeah, gyn bea as gyn bree
She, my hiaght mynney mollaght er ughtar yn liggar
t'eh dooney my hooillyn as dooblagh yn raad
Agh s'lickly dy n-iuymys reesht fastyr ny vairagh
as yiwowms mee hene dy feer ayns yn un stayd!

1. The Central Bar, Castle Street, Peel.
Proprietor: Bob Moss.
27-10-1978.

SHORYS Y CREAMYRIE.

Arrane y Jough (1978). Printed in the Manx Star 11.11.1978

This is a song about the early days of the Manx Music and Song Revival in the Thie Bouyr, the Manx name on the Central Bar in Castle Street, Peel. We had to decamp to the White House in 1989 when the Central was converted into a non-alcoholic bar for young people.

By Dr George Broderick

MARGARET CURPHEY (1938 - 2024)

World-renowned opera singer, Margaret Curphey has died at the age of 86.

Margaret was one of the most eminent Manx-born singers of the second half of the twentieth century.

Read about her life in this extensive biography researched and written by Maurice Powell on manxmusic.com:

<https://tinyurl.com/bdnee7jb>

More info: www.margaretcurphey.com/

Obituary in The Guardian:

www.theguardian.com/music/2024/may/02/margaret-curphey-obituary

Obituary in Opera Wire:

<https://operawire.com/obituary-soprano-margaret-curphey-dies-at-86/>



TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

Also known as Spin Wheel Spin, this song has a link to the story of "The Lazy Wife"
www.manxmusic.com/news/how-a-lazy-wife-and-giant-inspired-a-childrens-song-830734/

Arrane Queeyl Nieuuee (Spinning Wheel Song)

Manx trad.

1. Sneeu, wheeyl, sneeu, Sneeu, wheeyl, sneeu; Dy chooil-ley van - gan

6 er y vil - ley Sneeu er - my - skyn. Lesh y ree yn ol - lan, As

11 lhiam pene y snaih; Son shenn Trit Trot Cha vow ish dy bragh!

1. Sneeu, wheeyl, sneeu!
Sneeu, wheeyll, sneeu!
Dy choilley vangan er y villey
Sneeu er-my-skyn.
Lesh y ree yn ollan
As lhiam pene y snaih;
Son shenn Trit Trot
Cha vow ish dy bragh!

2. Sneeu, wheeyl, sneeu!
'Rane, wheeyl, 'rane!
As dy chooilley chlea er y thie
Sneeu er-my-hon.
Lesh y ree yn ollan bane
As lhiam pene y snaih;
Son shenn Trit Trot
Cha vow ish dy bragh!

3. Sneeu, wheeyl, sneeu!
'Rane, wheeyl, 'rane!
As dy chooilley tonn er y traie,
Sneeu er-my-hon.
Lesh y ree yn ollan keeir,
As lhiam pene y snaih;
Son tra vees y Fidder cheet,
Cha vow eh dy-bragh!

1. Spin, wheel, spin!
Spin, wheel, spin!
And every leaf upon the trees
Spin on my behalf.
With myself the spinning
And with the king the wool;
For old Trit Trot
Will never get the wool!

2. Spin, wheel, spin!
Sing, wheel, sing!
And all the tiles on the house
Spin on my behalf.
With the king the white wool
And with myself the yar,;
For old Trit Trot
Will never get the wool!

3. Spin, wheel, spin!
Sing, wheel, sing!
And every wave upon the shore
Spin on my behalf.
With the king the loaghtan wool
And with myself the yarn;
Ready when the weaver comes,
She'll never get the wool!

CALENDAR

MAY

24 Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert Hotel, Port St Mary from 8pm

JUNE

6 Living Hope Community Ceilidh, Port St Mary 6pm

21 Laa Jannoo Kiaull – Make Music Day

24 – 29 Mananan Festival, Erin Arts Centre

28 - 30 Full Moon Festival, Douglas

www.facebook.com/thefullmoonfestival



JULY

5 Tynwald Day

22 – 28 Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering

www.celticgathering.im

AUGUST

3 Deep South Festival, Port Erin Beach Stage

7 Clash Vooar at the Sailor's Shelter, Peel, 8pm

12 - 18 Ny Fennee, Mec Lir, Scran & Ruth Keggins at Festival Interceltique de Lorient

www.festival-interceltique.bzh/

31 Keith Angel in concert, with Clash Vooar, Centenary Centre, Peel

SEPTEMBER

6 Clash Vooar gig in the Atholl Room, Centenary Centre, Peel

20 – 23 Isle of Man Trad Music Weekend, Douglas & other areas

www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan

20 – 21 Candles – the musical, at the Gaiety Theatre, Douglas.

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

www.manxmusic.com & join the party every day at

www.facebook.com/groups/manxmusicanddance

~ SESSIONS ~

TUES 8pm Singaround at The Manor, Douglas

WED 8.30pm Trad Session at O'Donnell's, Douglas

THURS 8pm Singing session at R.A.O.B. (Buffs) Club, Ramsey

FRI 8.30pm Trad session at The Mitre, Ramsey

FRI 8pm Trad session at The George Hotel, Castletown

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

First **SUN** of month 1-4 Trad session in Laxey Sailing Club

Occasional **SUN** 1-4 Trad session in The White House or Black Dog, Peel

Stay up to date: www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan

~ SESSIONS ~

culture vannin

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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