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Feddan Mooar

Manx Music for Flute

Kíaull Mannínagh son Feddan Mooar

Produced for Culture Vannin in conjunction with the Isle of Man Music Service by Breesha Maddrell 2014

Bwooise da—thanks to:

Elaine Hind, flute peripatetic teacher with the IOM Music Service, for developing the project with me and offering clear and helpful suggestions along the way

The IOM Music Service for embracing Manx music

Chloe Woolley for proof-reading

Pete Jones for design

Chris Sheard for the pronunciation guide

Laura Rowles for having started the series of books with Fiddyl and Fiddyl Vocar

www.culturevannin.im

Welcome to Feddan Mooan.

Feddan Mooar is an introduction to Manx music for the flute, and contains solo pieces, duets, and pieces for groups so that you can play with your friends. The book is graded from beginner, through red and blue badges and up to Grade 3, and also contains pieces which may be played in the Isle of Man Music Service graded exams.



The star symbol next to a part means that this part is suitable for you to play at this stage in the book.

You can always go back and play the other parts as you progress.



The keyboard symbol means that a piano part for this piece is available in the teacher's book.

The pieces with piano parts are the most suitable for the grade exams.

'Keim' means 'grade' or 'stage' and is typically followed by a number in Manx:

1 = nane (pronounced 'naírn')

2 = jees (pronounced with a strong j as (d)jeess')

 $\mathbf{3} = \mathsf{tree}$ (pronounced as in the English word 'tree')

Have fun playing!

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All tunes are Manx traditional and arranged by Breesha Maddrell unless otherwise stated

Arrane Queeyl Nieuee

Spinning wheel Song

Manx trad



This is the song which accompanies the story of 'The Lazy Wife' in Manx Fairy Tales where a giant is outwitted by a clever woman—she makes him do all of the spinning for her!

Arrane Ben-Vlieaun





Feddan Mooar © Culture Vannin 2014

Car ny Rankee is a popular dance tune.

Make sure that you keep a strong beat—this is how the dancers stay in time!



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Bee dty host

Manx trad adapted Breesha Maddrell gently

This is a version of a lullaby to the Baby Jesus, sung by the Virgin Mary.

Think about how you can play it in a way that would encourage a baby to fall asleep.



Heart

Breesha Maddrell





Skibbag as lheim

Hop, skip and jump

Breesha Maddrell





Nalbin

Scotland

Breesha Maddrell





Scotland is the closest country to the Isle of Man and we have had links with it throughout history. Musically, we share some of the same material, especially fiddle tunes.

Arrane y Skeddan

Song of the Herring Manx trad arr. Breesha Maddrell with a strict sense of time

Yeesey Creest, Oikan Meen

Robert Corteen Carswell





This is a Christmas song, sung to the Baby Jesus in the manger. It should be played gently but with a sense of flow. The song tells the baby that he is still king, even in a stable, lulling him to sleep gently.

The Manx Gaelic words to the song can be found on the opposite page...



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GORRYM-BLUE

Fin as Oshin

Manx trad adapted § arr. Breesha Maddrell



This song tells of Fin and Oshin going out to hunt with their men and wild dogs—at least a hundred of them! You can hear the full song if you listen to The Mollag Band.

See if you can punch out some of the notes to drive the tune onwards.

GORRYM-BLUE Hi! Juan Jiggison

Manx trad arr. Breesha Maddrell



Juan Jiggison is the name of a very lazy man who won't get out of bed.

The song is told by someone who is laughing at him and warning others to get up in time!

GORRYM—BLUE Oikan ayns Bethlehem

Infant in Bethlehem

Manx trad arr. Breesha Maddrell





Here are two more Christmas songs—although the top part is marked, you can try the second part, too. The Isle of Man has a special tradition of carvals—religious songs not always connected with the nativity—but which often tell of Christ's birth.

GORRYM—BLUE

Carval Chreneash

Annie Kissack





Think about looking up at a night sky full of stars—can you imagine what the shepherds saw all those centuries ago? This is exactly what inspired this Manx Gaelic song.

GORRYM—BLUE Arrane y Chlean



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This is a cradle song—make sure that you keep the tune going while your teacher is busy with lots of faster notes!

GORRYM—BLUE



Fed-

KEIM NANE-GRADE ONE



N1: Smuggler's Lullaby

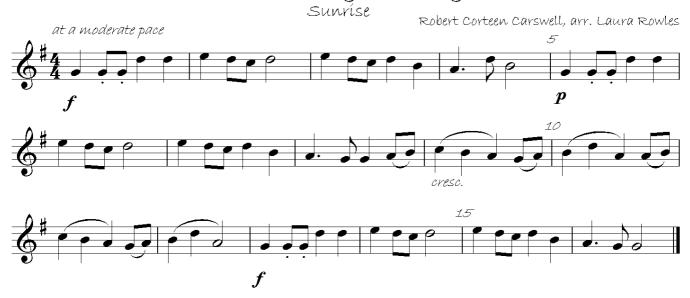
Manx trad, arr. Breesha Maddrell



Smuggler's Lullaby was sung by a mother to her baby whilst warning her husband that the excise men—the police of the smuggling world—were nearby!



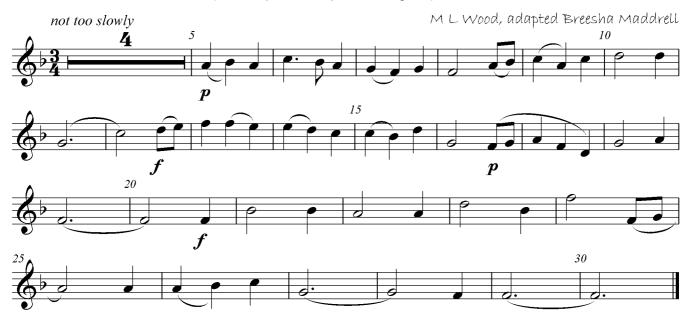
N2: Irree ny Greiney sunrise



This is a modern composition by Bob Carswell from Peel. Look to see if you can find two lines that are almost exactly the same.



N3: Cold Blows the Wind



Cold blows the wind on Bethlehem's hill...this is another Christmas song, composed by Miss M L Wood. One of the founders of the Manx Music Festival, she is sometimes known as the mother of Manx music!





Talented young composer and fiddle player, Cesar Joughín, composed this tune at a Bree workshop weekend.

It celebrates the popularity of Breton dance music at Manx Celtic festivals.

N5: The Chasms

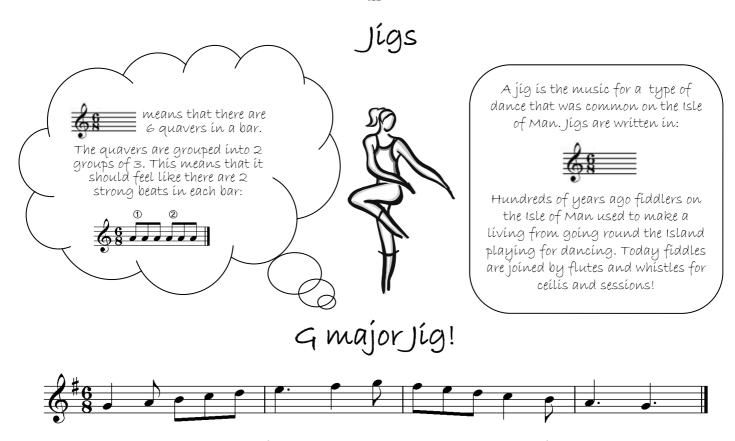




Sharon Christian is one of the most celebrated composers of tunes in a Manx style.

She's a flute player too —what more could you want! Just watch out for the accidental in bar 14.

This tune reflects the beautiful place that is The Chasms, near Cregneash and Spanish Head.



use this G major scale to practise rhythms that you will find in jigs.





KEIMJEES-GRADE TWO

J1: Yernagh Keoie

The Wild Irishman



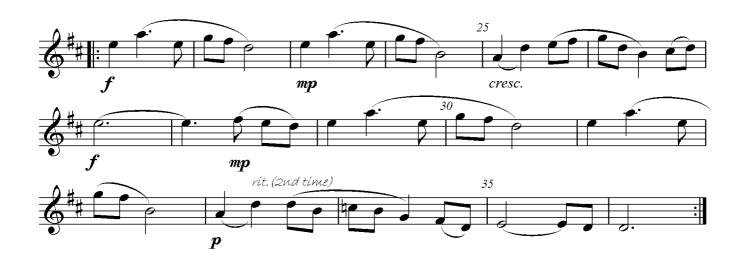
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J2: A Tune For Grandad



This is a lovely slow air written in 1999 by Katie Lawrence. Katie is a fiddle player, teacher and composer based in Peel. You can hear her playing this slow air on her CD Tree Baatyn Beggey.



Try to shape the phrases well to make them sing out.

Make sure you have enough breath for the last low notes of the tune.

J3 The Fathaby Jig





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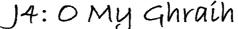
This is a lively jig—music meant for dancing—so make sure that you keep a strong sense of two main beats in each bar. You have some turn-taking with the accompanist—make sure you listen to each other carefully!

KEIMJEES



Feddan Mooar © Culture Vannin 2014







This is a lovely slow tune from the collections...slow but not delicate. Think about creating nice, long phrases and letting the melody really sing out.

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15: Three Little Boats



Three little boats went out to sea on Christmas Day in the morning! This is one of the most popular jigs from the Isle of Man. Keep a strong sense of two main beats in each bar.

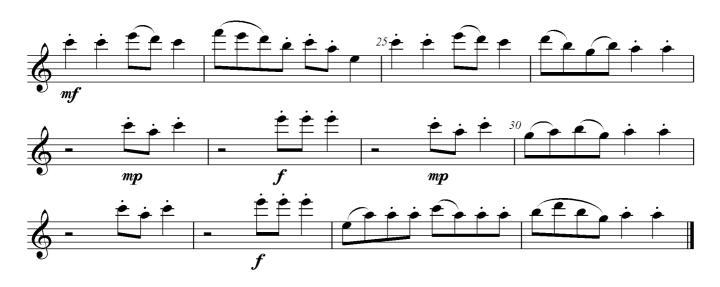
KEIM TREE-GRADE THREE

T1: Polka Drine





KEIM TREE



This is a great tune written by flute player and dancer, Sharon Christian. It has been arranged to show off the spiky nature of the hawthorn—make sure that you keep the staccato notes nice and short.

KEIM TREE



T2: Ta Cashen Ersooyl dys yn Aarkey

Cashen Has Gone to Sea



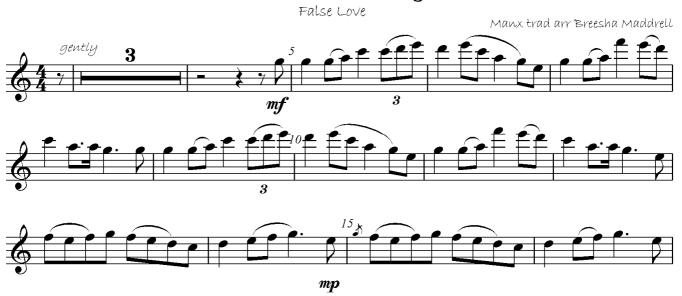
This is an example of an old tune which was completed more recently—this time by harp player, Cristl Jerry, from Peel. The first section or A tune is in a minor key and the second section or B tune is in a major key—listen to the difference.



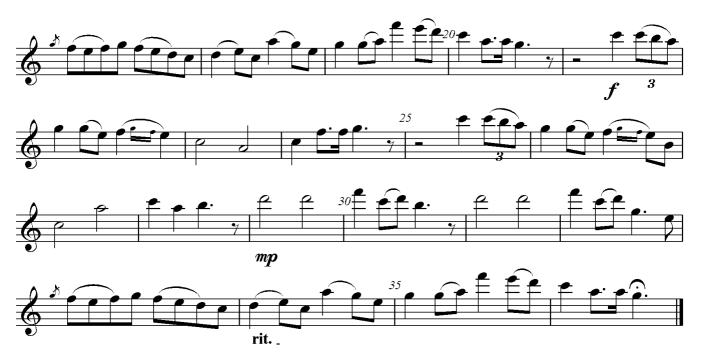
Feddan Mooar © Culture Vannin 2014



T3: Grain Foalsey



This is the tune to a sad song of false love! There are quite a lot of these sort of songs in the Isle of Man—perhaps because the collectors noted them from too many old men!



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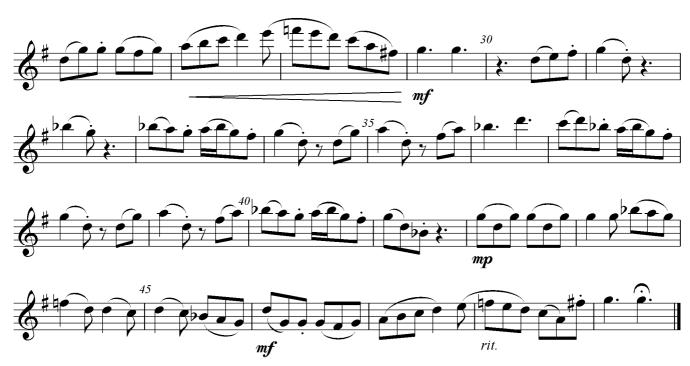
T4: Cum yn Shenn Oanrey Cheh Keep the Old Petticoats Warm



Feddan Mooar © Culture Vannin 2014

Play this with energy and a strong sense of two beats in each bar. Just watch that you don't go too quickly or it will run away with itself!

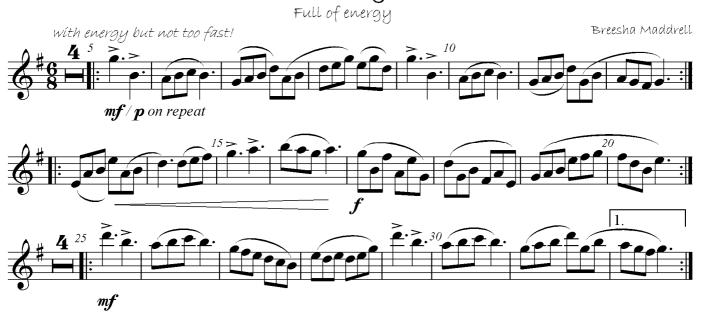
KEIM TREE

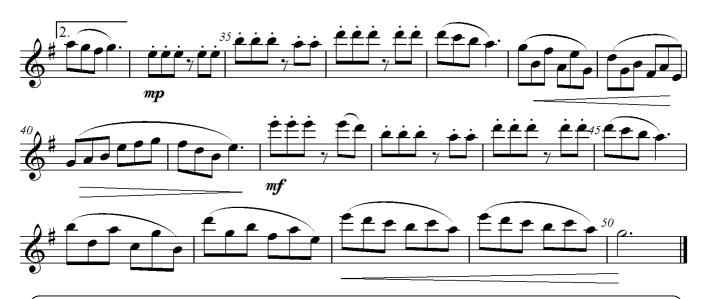


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T5: Lane dy vree

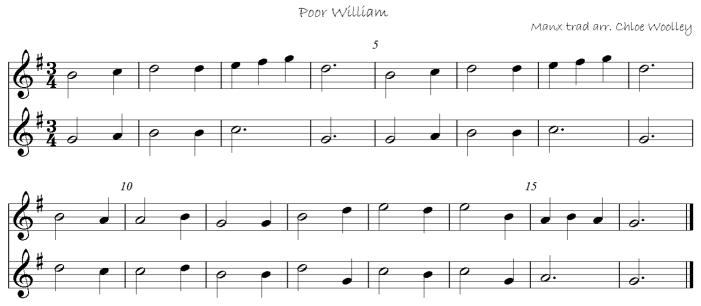




I wrote this tune for Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic Festival one year. I play the flute and love getting my fingers around the falling sixths in bars 17, 38 and 46—hope you enjoy the challenge too!

KIAULL SONJEES NY TROOR

Illíam Boght



DUETS AND TRIOS

The Cormorant Manx trad arr. Chloe Woolley

Mish as y Keayn

The sea and me



Feddan Mooar © Culture Vannin 2014



This beautiful tune is by Annie Kissack, a singer, composer, piano and whistle player from Rushen. At the start, the second part has the tune, but by bar 16, the top part takes over.

The phrases should flow like the waves onto the shore!

Cold Blows the Wind

M L Wood (1839-1925)





You've met this tune as N3 with piano accompaniment. It's also nice to play as a duet.

use the lower part to practise getting really strong bottom notes.



Cold blows the wind on Bethlehem's hill, Where the shepherds their night-watch keep; The wintry stars shine bright and chill, And the shadows are dark and deep Awake, awake, ye sleepers, wake! For heav'n draws near, and its day doth break.

Cuckoo! Cuckoo!



The actual tune starts on line 1 and continues through lines 2 and 3. If you want to play it as a round, the beginning of each line is a good place for another player to join in.

It works well for 2 or 3 players.

Traa dy Gholl dy Valley

Time to go Home

Annie Kissack, arr. B Maddrell



You may remember singing this song at school when you were younger. You may even sing it now! It's a good tune in its own right and can be used to practise dotted rhythms. Make sure you listen to each other carefully so that you are together at all times. When you know it well, experiment with swinging the rhythms a little to make it sound more relaxed.

Deiney Creeney

The Wise Men

Robert Corteen Carswell arr. Chloe Woolley



Myr hooyll mee magh Moghrey Laa Boaldyn

As I walked out on May Day morning

Manx trad arr. Breesha Maddrell



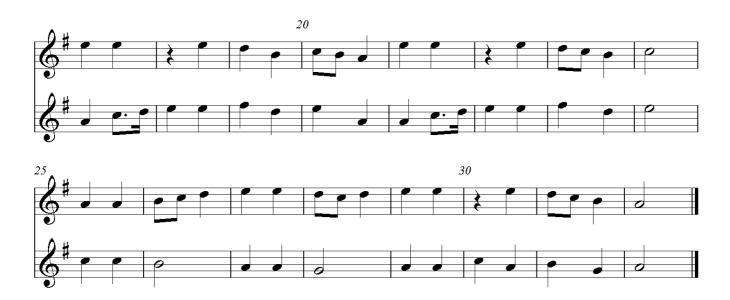
Illíam y Thalhear

William Taylor

Manx trad arr. Breesha Maddrell



Illiam y Thalhear was a man from the Isle of Man who was press-ganged by the navy, forced to join up and sail the seas, leaving his true love behind. Instead of waiting around, his true love dressed up as a man and went in search of him. When she found him, he was walking along the beach with another woman...so his first true love shot them both and was rewarded by her captain with a boat of her own!



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Three Eeasteyryn Boghtey

Three poor fishermen Manx trad arr. Breesha Maddrell

Feddan Mooar © Culture Vannin 2014



Fishing was a very important industry in the Isle of Man so it's natural that there are lots of traditional songs celebrating the industry or commemorating the disasters at sea.

This is a sad song to a beautiful tune. It should work well with the tune and one of the lower parts if you can't find three flute players.

Think about how you could arrange the piece for performance—perhaps playing unison

(everyone on the top part) and then adding harmonies in different combinations.

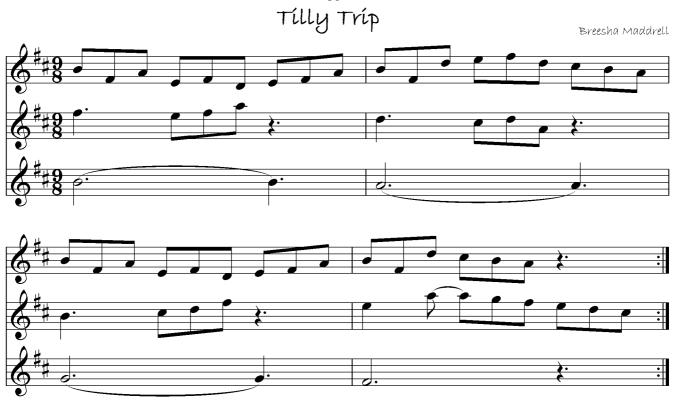
All the Forepart of the Night

Manx trad. arr. Chloe Woolley





Feddan Mooar © Culture Vannin 2014



Make your life a lot easier by playing legato phrases in this tune. Experiment with tonguing the first of each group of three quavers or just the first quaver in each bar...this is how most traditional flute and whistle players manage to play faster dance tunes without exhausting themselves!



Flitter Dance

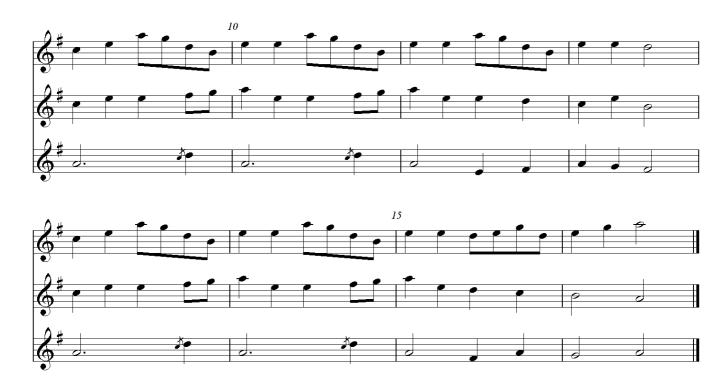
Manx trad arr. Breesha Maddrell





Flitter Dance is a dance to stamp out the embers of a fire on the beach after people had roasted flitters (limpets) to eat!

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Keep a strong sense of rhythm and imagine the dancers snaking out in front of you on the sand!



This was the most popular Manx tune in the Victorian era.

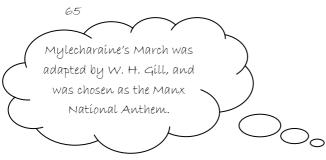
Does it remind you of an often performed Manx song?

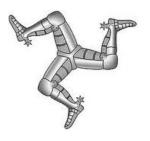
Mylecharaine's March

Manx trad



The dance to this tune was performed every 6th January by six men and a fiddler. During the dance, the dancers would ceremoniously 'cut off' the fiddlers head. The fiddler was then seen to have supernatural powers, and was able to foretell the future. Aren't you pleased that you play the flute!





The Manx National Anthem



O Land of our birth,
O gem of God's earth,
O Island so strong and so fair;
Built firm as Barrule,
Thy Throne of Home Rule
Makes us free as thy sweet mountain air.

Feddan Mooar © Culture Vannin 2014



Discography



Here are some CDs of Manx music that feature flutes and whistles. It's always a good idea to listen to different styles of playing.

Katie and Kirsty Lawrence - Three Baatyn Beggey (2006)

King Chiaullee - Nish! (2006); Reel: Ode (2003); Baase Cooil Stroo (2000)

Mactullagh Vannin - Twisted Roots (2004)

Moot - Uprooted (2001); Holdfast (2006)

Nísh As Rísh - Nísh As Rísh (2011)

Skeeal - Long Story (2005); Slipway (2009)

The Mollag Band - Into the Tide (1997)

Various Artists - The Best That's In (1996); Blass (2013)

More information on artists and recordings online: www.manxmusic.com

Further Material

If you want to learn more about Manx music, or if you want to learn some more Manx tunes on the flute, these books might be helpful. You might also want to try www.manxmusic.com to find out more.

Bazín, F., Much Inclin'd to Music: The Manx and Their Music Before 1918 (1997)

Jerry, C. (ed.), Kiaull yn Theay 1 (1978); Kiaull yn Theay 2 (1979); Kiaull Vannin (1987)

Guard, C. (ed.), The Manx National Songbook Volume 2 (1980)

Maddrell, B. (ed.), Kiaull yn Theay 3 (2009); Kiaull yn Theay 4 (2011)

Woolley, C. (ed.), Bree Session Tunes (2012)

Bree trad youth movement

If you enjoyed these tunes, you will definitely want to join the Bree trad youth movement. We meet at Douglas Youth Arts Centre every month for a session where everyone plays and learns tunes and we also perform around the Island at community events.

If you want to know more, check out the Bree page on Facebook or on www.manxmusic.com



Making Your Own Music!

Manx music is a living tradition—you can make up tunes and songs here if you'd like to write them down.



