

Welcome to the April edition of KMJ - lots to tell you about, with new album releases, the results of Manx Folk Awards, anthem mix-ups & an exciting weekend of events for WOSAT in May!!

Barrule to launch their second album, Manannan's Cloak

It's all systems go at Barrule HQ this month as the boys prepare to release the follow-up album to their 2012 award-winning, self-titled debut. It all kicks off with a launch concert at the Peel Centenary Centre on Saturday 11th April, exactly a month before the album is officially released into the wider world. This will be the first opportunity to buy a copy of Manannan's Cloak, and tickets are now on sale for the concert, available online at www.barruletrio.com as well as in the following outlets: Celtic Gold, Peel; Noa Bakehouse, Douglas; Shakti Man, Ramsey. Tickets cost £10.00 each and you are advised to book early to avoid disappointment.

Recorded in December in the historic St. Bridget's Chapel, in the Nunnery grounds, with producer Andy Seward at the helm, Manannan's Cloak takes the trio's emphatic sound to the next level, with guest performances from a support cast that boasts Paul McKenna on vocals, Calum Stewart on uilleann pipes, Dylan Fowler on lap steel and Tad Sargent on bodhrán, not to mention the homegrown talents of regular collaborators David Kilgallon (piano) and Gregory Joughin (vocals).

The lads had an absolute ball recording the album and now they can't wait to get it heard! So if you fancy a sneak preview you can download the free single 'The King of The Sea (Ree Ny Marrey)', featuring Paul McKenna right now! www.barruletrio.com/the-king-of-the-sea

If you want to go one further you can pledge some money towards the making of the album, and receive various goodies in return. Your support is much appreciated!

www.kickstarter.com/projects/1661206924/1760302144?token=1d0ba154



Manx music premieres!

The MYO Concert Band (the Manx youth orchestra's intermediate wind band conducted by John Kinley) gave the 'Manx premiere' of Douglas Wagner's "**Ellan Vannin Suite**" (published by Alfred in the USA) in a concert at St Ninian's High School last month. Meanwhile, the Erin Arts Centre Chamber Orchestra performed a new work by their principal viola player Roy Baker - "**Yn Shenn Laair - To the East Indies we were Bound**".

In this month's edition...

- *MFA 2015 RESULTS*
- *Shennaghys Jiu round-up*
- *Learn the correct National Anthem!!*

Culture
VANNIN

Manx Folk Awards 2015 ~ RESULTS

The end of the Spring term (23 - 25 March) saw another fantastic Aundyryn Kiaull-Theay Vannin - DEC Manx Folk Awards, where schools from all over the Island gathered at the Youth Arts Centre and Rosemount Trinity Church for friendly competitions in Manx music, song, dance and recitation.

Highlights included massed primary school choirs singing set song "The Lady Isabella" from Lin Marsh's New Chronicles of Mann; over 120 young whistle players from 7 schools playing "Bee dty Host" from the Feddan Manx whistle scheme of work; young stars from Castle Rushen High School folk group who called themselves South Barrule!; 6 year old Frank Joughin playing "Flitter Dance" perfectly in tune on his tiny fiddle; the recitation of a new poem about the Isle of Man by Zachary Elliot and stunning playing from talented young harpist Arabella Ayen. [see over for picture collage]

KS1 infants and Foundation stage

Class No 8 Foundation Stage & KS1 Couple Dance

1st Place: Hannah Karran & Isobel Coole

2nd Place: Rhyly Roberts & Isabell

Class No 7 Foundation Stage & KS1 Solo Dance

1st Place: Onnee Ayres

Class No 2 Foundation Stage & KS1 Group Instrumental

1st Place: Bunscoill Gaelgagh (Brastyl 2)

Class No 5 Foundation Stage & KS1 Group Singing

1st Place: Bunscoill Rhumsaa (Auldyn)

Class No 6 Foundation Stage & KS1 Recitation

1st Place: Connor Huyton

Joint 2nd Place: Emily Musgrove & Katie Foster

Class No 3 Foundation Stage & KS1 Solo Instrumental

Joint 1st Place: Frank Joughin & Josephine Addy

Class No 4 Foundation Stage & KS1 Song in English

1st Place: Paige Satt

2nd Place: Lindi and Katie F

Class No 9 Foundation Stage & KS1 Manx Team Dance

Joint 1st Place: Bunscoill Gaelgagh (Blein Toshee) &

Bunscoill Rhumsaa - Auldyn (Hop tu Naa)

Joint 2nd Place: Arbory (Mhelliagh) & Bunscoill Rhumsaa

- Auldyn (Hunt the Wren) & Bunscoill Gaelgagh (Flitter Dance & Hunt the Wren)

KS2 primary

Class No 16 Solo song in Manx Gaelic -

Joint 1st Anya Jagus and Lexi Forbes

2nd place Orrin Gell

Class no 17 Solo Song in English -

1st place Georgia Marsh

2nd place Rose Callow

Class no 19 Group Singing (11-30 children)

1st place Bunscoill Rhumsaa

Joint 2nd Michael & Ballacottier

Class No 21 Solo Girls Dance

1st Place: Isabella Coulthard

Joint 2nd Place: Lucy Gilmore & Tahlia Nicholl Clarke

Class No 23 Couples Dance

1st Place: Tahlia Nicholl Clarke & Ellie Robb

2nd Place: Niamh Coole & Hannah Skehan

Class No 10 Solo Instrumental

1st Place: Arabella Ayen

2nd Place: Allison Ainsworth

Class No 15 Fiddyl/Fiddyl Vooar

1st Place: Abbigail Radcliffe

2nd Place: Juliana Kopacz

Class No 24 Manx Team Dance

1st Place: Onchan School

2nd Place: Bunscoill Rhumsaa

Class No 12 Manx Folk Group

1st Place: Ballacottier

Joint 2nd Place: Bunscoill Rhumsaa & Marown

Class No 13 Instrumental Music Making

1st Place: Bunscoill Rhumsaa

2nd Place: Bunscoill Gaelgagh

Class No 14 Feddan

Joint 1st Place: Bunscoill Rhumsaa (most imaginative performance)

Scoill yn Jubilee - Year 5

Joint 2nd Place: Sulby Glens & Anagh Coar

KS3-5 Secondary

Class No 40 KS 4 & 5 Instrumental

1st Place: Mera Royle

Class No 27 KS3 Solo Instrumental

Joint 1st Place: Owen Williams & Jack McLean

2nd Place: Abby Secretan

Class No 28 KS3 Fiddyl/Fiddyl Vooar

1st Place: Amelia Kopacz

Class No 36 KS3-5 Duet Instrumental

1st Place: Owen Williams & Lukas Hayhurst

2nd Place: Zachary & Archie Elliott

Class No 36 KS3 Original Poetry Composition on a Manx theme

1st Place: Zachary Elliott

Class No 31 Solo Dance

1st Place: Ailish Williams

Class No 39 KS3-5 Original Composition in a Manx Idiom

Joint 1st Place: Owen Williams & Lukas Hayhurst

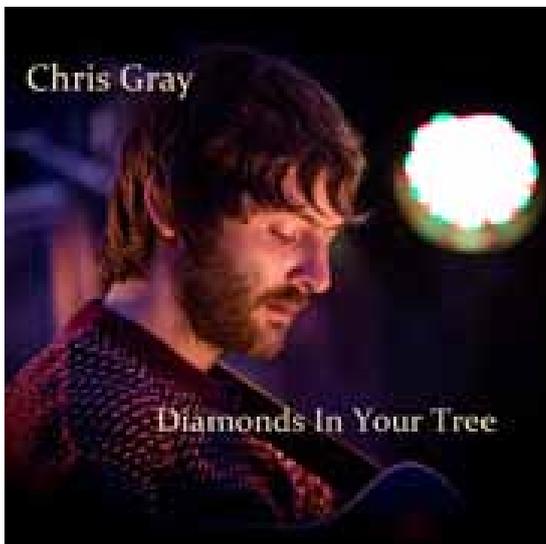
Class No 37 KS3-5 Group Instrumental

1st Place: CRHS (South Barrule)

2nd Place: QEII (Club Kiaull)



ALSO Watch this video about the semi-final heats for students of Bunscoill Rhumsaa:
<http://www.manx.net/tv/mt-tv/watch/70830/manx-folk-awards>



CHRIS GRAY'S NEW ALBUM

5th April sees the release of 'Diamonds In Your Tree' – the debut album of bluesy folk-rock singer-songwriter Chris Gray. Produced by Tony Lowe on Sunn Creative, the album is a unique introduction to Chris' music and will be available on iTunes, Amazon and BandCamp.

Chris Gray is a singer songwriter who creates original music from his home in the Isle of Man. He regularly performs live as a solo acoustic artist and with his band.

Chris opened shows for Roger Daltrey, Peter Green, Status Quo, Matt Cardle, Feeder, John Power, and played alongside The Charlatans, Simon Townshend and Turin Brakes. He recently headlined the Deep South Fest and the Liverpool Food and

Drink Fest. Chris's music has been played on BBC Introducing (Cumbria) and featured numerous times on Isle of Man radio stations, 3FM and Manx Radio; Liverpool stations, Liver Radio, Halton Community Radio, and Internet station, Wolfman Radio. He was a featured artist on BBC ALBA's TV travel program and his new EP is played on Celtic Music Radio and stations above.

Chris was featured on Dermot O'Leary's BBC2 radioshow & reviewed in R2 Rock/Reel magazine! <http://sunncreative.com/latest/chris-gray/>

Check out the video of his really catchy song: "She Loves the Morning": <https://youtu.be/b6pcddxCeKQ>

See also a feature in Acoustic Magazine about Chris: www.acousticmagazine.com/features/on-this-months-cover-mounted-cd/

Adult course - Guitar Accompaniment for Traditional Celtic Music

Budding folk guitarists - learn how to back jigs and reels in a variety of keys with Paul Rogers (Strengyn/Skeel/Fecktones/Bree Supergroup).

During this Culture Vannin course, you will look at chords, strumming, techniques and tricks to help you to join in a Manx/Irish/Scottish session and really enhance the tunes rather than just adding background noise!

Paul will teach you how to back some common Irish, Scottish and Manx tunes as well as passing on general backing skills.

£30 for 6 x fortnightly sessions

Dates and venue to be confirmed

Please contact Chloe Woolley for more details and to sign up: chloe@culturevannin.im

[photo – Val Caine]



WOSAT Festival

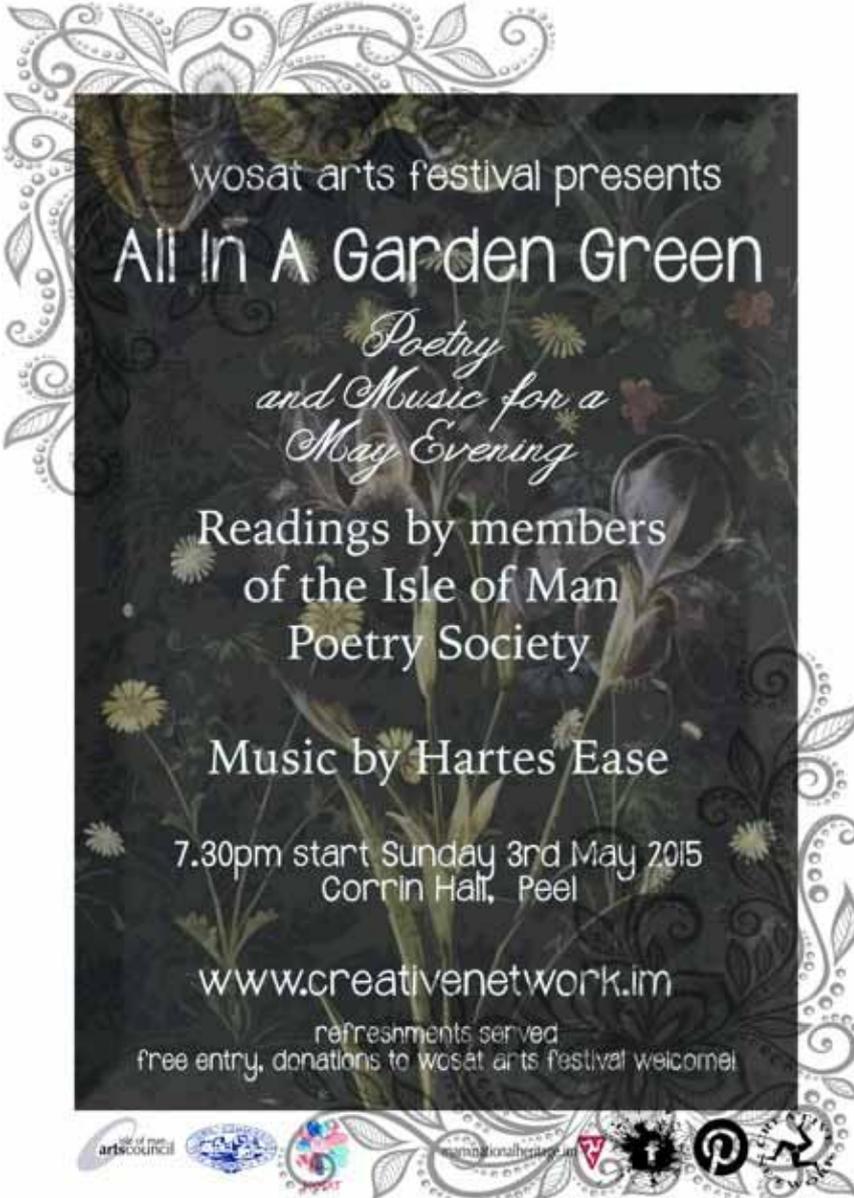
The Western Open Studio Art Trail - WOSAT - is the Isle of Man's premier festival of visual arts. Now in its fourth year, the event encompasses exhibitions, workshops, demonstrations and open access to artist studios. Visitors are able to see inside the artist's studios and exhibition spaces for a unique personal insight into the individual creative processes.

WOSAT is primarily based in the island's western city of Peel, but exhibitions and open studios are spread along the west coast from Dalby and Patrick, to St Johns and Kirk Michael.

WOSAT 2015 will take place over the May Day bank holiday weekend: Saturday 2nd, Sunday 3rd and Monday 4th May 2015.

MUSICAL EVENTS

All in a Garden Green' is a collaboration of music and poetry with Hartes Ease and the Isle of Man Poetry Society. Two complimentary arts combine in a programme to delight the ear, in



praise of May time and the beginning of summer, 'the gentle season'. All are welcome. You do not need a ticket for this event. We hope you will enjoy the evening. There will be light refreshments served. Donations will go towards the WOSAT Arts Festival Funds.

WOSAT MANX BAND & CEILI NIGHT

Sat 2nd May from 7pm

PEEL PROMENADE IN A BEAUTIFUL BIG MARQUEE!

Come along to hear Mae Challis Band, The Mollag Band, Strengyn and dance the nights away to Kippercaillie!

Ticket prices and more details: www.creativenetwork.im/wosat-festival-2015.html

Sponsored by Culture Vannin

Start this Summer's festival with WOSAT ARTS FESTIVAL!

Youtube/video corner

'O Land of our Birth' played accidentally during international football match!

Footage of a bizarre Isle of Man related mix up during an international football match between Argentina and El Salvador has gone viral. The incident came during the national anthem for El Salvador. As the team lined up on the pitch ready to sing their anthem, the band struck up and launched into the Manx national anthem 'O Land of Our Birth'. The gaff was witnessed by millions of people watching the game on television and has so far been viewed over 120,000 times on YouTube.

Watch it here: <https://youtu.be/njhgp0sYpnE>

[Words: 3FM website]

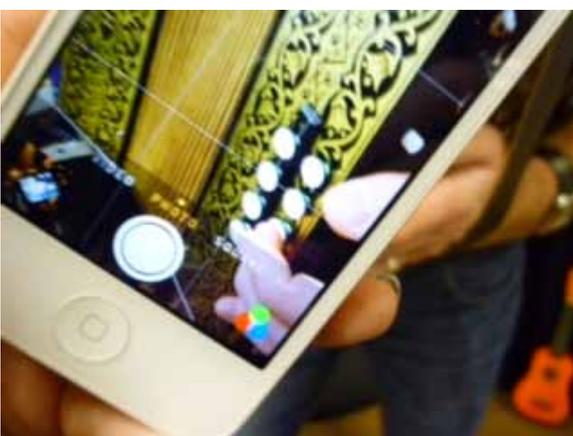
Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea



Wednesday 1st April sees the official launch event of Digital Folk – a two-year AHRC-funded research project that examines the ways in which folk arts participants use digital resources. Led by Dr. Simon Keegan-Phipps at the University of Sheffield and in collaboration with the University of Westminster and English Folk Dance and Song Society, the project also has a substantial Manx connection.

Having graduated last year with a PhD in Ethnomusicology from Cardiff University titled 'Excavating Notes: The Archaeology of Canon Formation in Manx Music' our own **Cinzia Yates** (formerly Manx Music Resource Coordinator) has a major role in the project. Building on her experience in developing the Manx Music Database as well as her academic qualification, Cinzia is currently working as the full-time research associate on this exciting and innovative project.

While the project is concerned with activities 'in England' this doesn't mean that only English folk activities are of interest. Cinzia is keen



to make sure all aspects of folk activity that are taking place in England (which in this case includes Cornwall) are represented and this includes Manx music and dance. Already Cinzia has found a dance side in Sheffield, Lizzie Dripping, who perform Eunysagh Vona (and has the red tap shoes to prove it!)

For more information on the project, regular updates and to take part check out: www.digitalfolk.org

@digitalfolkproj

facebook.com/digitalfolkproj

pinterest.com/digitalfolkproj

Nish as Rish in Norway

Next month the folk-roots collective Nish As Rish (featuring Manx musicians Ruth Keggin and Karl Kramer) are heading off for a two week tour in the beautiful Lofoten Islands, Norway. Their tour is part of DKS ('Den kulturelle skolesekken) – a brilliant national initiative that brings professional musicians and visual artists into schools. Outside of their busy educational schedule, Nish As Rish will also be doing three public gigs - one at the Figurteateret i Nordland (Stamsund) on Sunday 12th April, Kulturfabrikken in Sortland on Friday 17th April and Damadi in Bodø on Thursday 23rd April. If you know anyone living in the Lofotens, or if you'll happen to be there yourself by any strange coincidence, do pop along and say hello!

The group will be packing their warmest woollens... because even in April, this archipelago in the Arctic Circle can be just a bit chilly! Keep up to date with their adventures by giving them a 'like' on Facebook: facebook.com/Nish-As-Rish



"shouting out that Manx music has its place in the contemporary Celtic music firmament"
 "...nothing short of inspired"
 - The Living Tradition

- Mary Ann Kennedy, BBC Radio 3
 "An exciting sound, real zest and quality"
 - The Telegraph



BARRULE

CELTIC MUSIC FROM THE ISLE OF MAN

DOWNLOAD THE FREE SINGLE 'THE KING OF THE SEA' BY VISITING THE WEBSITE: 

"MANANNAN'S CLOAK" ALBUM LAUNCH

PEEL CENTENARY CENTRE, 11TH APRIL

TICKETS £10 FROM: WWW.BARRULETRIO.COM
 DOORS FROM 7:30PM

Joint Concert

Music for Everyone



Bree Supergroup

Manx Music Youth Group

Balley Cashtal Brass



The training band for Castletown Metropolitan Silver Band

Castletown Civic Centre

Friday 17th April 7:00 pm

Admission £3 includes refreshments

in aid of the centenary centre

mostly manx quiz

TEAMS OF UP TO FOUR PEOPLE
SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 7.30PM
 TICKETS £10 INCLUDES FOOD
 COURTESY OF TONY QUIRK

TICKETS FROM CELTIC GOLD PEEL, PETER MORRIS MUSIC, DOUGLAS SHANTHAN RAMSEY, THOMPSON TRAVEL PORT ERIN
 ON ONLINE AT WWW.CENTENARYCENTRE.COM

AN AFTERNOON WITH

★ JACK ★ HONEYBORNE

MUSIC, STORIES & HILARIOUS ANECDOTES

Sunday 19th April 2015

ERIN ARTS CENTRE

Adults £10 Under 18s £1

Performance: 3pm
 Doors: 2.30pm

PIANIST & MUSICAL DIRECTOR TO THE STARS!

Enjoy an afternoon of music and stories with Jack Honeyborne. A brilliant pianist and raconteur Jack has worked with such greats as Vera Lynn, Eartha Kitt, Harry Secombe, Max Bygraves and many others. He recently featured in the film Quartet with Billy Connolly and Maggie Smith, and has just completed a film with Judy Dench.

This will be a memorable afternoon of music, memories and hilarious anecdotes.

BOOKINGS: Call 832662 or Email information@erinartscentre.com

BOX OFFICE OPEN:
 Wed - Fri 10.30am - 4.30pm



Culture VANNIN



RESEARCH NEWS

“AS THE FIRST STEP IN THE PLAN OF CAMPAIGN” W.H. GILL ON HOW TO COLLECT FOLK SONGS (1911)

W.H. Gill collected not just in the Isle of Man but also in Sussex, to where he had retired to live with his daughters in the “White House” at Angmering in West Sussex. This second bout of collecting—the material in large part now lost—started in 1911, and in the course of an article in the West Sussex Gazette about this activity, the newspaper reproduced a letter from Gill in which he laid out his “plan of campaign,” one based on how he had gone about collecting in the Island. The relevant part of his letter is the following:

As the first step in the plan of campaign I would suggest that any of your readers willing to assist in the work should send the name and address of the singer, together with the title of the song, and the first verse either to you or direct to myself. The second step would be to sort the material thus furnished into convenient geographical order: and then, as a third step, I would make it my business to visit each locality and arrange a personal interview. This was practically the plan adopted in recollecting the Manx songs, and proved, as generally admitted, a signal success. Working at that time in London, I spent my annual month’s holiday for three consecutive years with my brother, at Douglas, and each time found awaiting me a list of persons to be interviewed. Then, on my arriving there we visited together each person on the list, and recorded the result, which on my return home, was put into suitable form for publication. This is, shortly, how our collection of Manx National Music, since published by Messrs Boosey, in their Royal Edition, came into being—a result which, had the search been postponed to the present time, could not possibly have been attained.

Leaving aside the final—and somewhat expected—rhetorical flourish, the “just in time” trope which was even then undercut at that date by Sophia Morrison and her circle’s collecting still in the Island, what is shown here is the systematic nature of the approach of the Gill brothers to their own collecting. As Gill made clear, he was using his holiday allowance to be in the Island and so his time had to be maximised. His brother the Deemster could not notate music that was why Gill was essential. The brothers also wished to cover the whole Island, or rather the parishes that Dr John Clague, their collaborator, was not able to visit. Clague lived in Castletown where he had his practice and from where he also visited patients in the southern parishes of the Island.

For the Gills to be successful there needed to be preparation and this is what Gill lays out in his letter—singers to be found and where they lived to be noted down, some idea as to their repertoire formed and so a list of titles to ask after when visiting, and finally, a schedule to be drawn up to allow them to go forth as a folk song raiding party in the Manx countryside. And it was as such a raiding party that the Gill brothers were to be successful.

Stephen Miller, Vienna

Reviving a Slave Song *Thanks to Cathy Clucas who spotted this article from 2008 online*

The Bodleian Library put on show some of its slavery related material which covered the anniversary of the Act coming into force as part of the 200th anniversary of the Abolition of the slave trade in Britain. One of the exhibits will be a copy of Captain Hugh Crow’s Memoirs, one of the last slave traders to operate into Liverpool and one of the very few to write about his experiences.

Nicknamed “One Eyed Crow”, he always claimed to be very good to his slave cargo (there was a bonus for him if he brought a certain percentage back alive), even including in his book a song written in his honour by slaves he’d traded in the West Indies. So, with the help of the Bodleian Library, Professor John Caldwell from Oxford University and Poet Brian Levison, BBC Oxford has decided to revive this song and update it for the two hundredth anniversary.

Full article: www.bbc.co.uk/oxford/content/articles/2007/04/17/slavery_song.shtml

The music & lyrics can also be viewed online via Google Books in
Language in Exile: Three Hundred Year of Jamaican Creole by Barbara Lalla & Jean D’Costa,
University of Alabama 2009: 133.

New 'anthem' for the Island

BELFAST - based harmony duo The Byrons are to launch their latest record "Isle of Man" in Douglas on Thursday, May 2.

Composer Ron McWilliams says: "I have spent many enjoyable periods on the Isle of Man during the past ten years. At the end of each visit I have found it more difficult to leave behind the tranquil way of life on this beautiful Island.

"My song is a musical expression of my feelings for the Island, and its people, now that I have come to look upon it as a haven from the conflict and confusion of the 'outside world'."

Hawk Records says "Isle of Man" is set to become the anthem of the Island.

The record "will have lots of people singing its catchy lyrics this summer whether they've been to the Isle of Man or not.

"Recorded to the backdrop of the rolling sea and plaintive cry of the gull, this record captures a feeling, an atmosphere, rendered by the harmonious singing of The Byrons. Penned by Belfast composer Ron McWilliams, "Isle of Man" could well be a hit in many other places than the Island, at which its praises are directed. Anyone who has ever visited the Isle of Man will want to get their hands on a copy of this record."



The Byrons



Ron McWilliams

The launching ceremony takes place in the Palace Hotel and framed first copy editions of the record will be presented to the Tourist Board, Border TV and Manx Radio.

At night The Byrons will appear in cabaret at Whispers nightclub singing Isle of Man for the first time in public. Ron McWilliams says the record will receive extensive playing time on Irish stations and in the UK.

Chemists

DUTY Chemists Monday to Friday, 6 pm to 7 pm, Sunday and Bank Holidays, noon to 1 pm. Douglas. Sunday, April 14, C. H. A. Flynn, 14 Woodbourn Road.

Onchan every Thursday, 5 pm to 6 pm; R. K. Corkill, Elm Tree House, Main Road, during April.

Ramsey, evenings, 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm. Sundays and Bank Holiday, noon to 1 pm. Wednesdays, 2 pm to 6.30 pm. From Sunday, J. Corteen Ltd, 17 Parliament Street.

Lighting

Fri, Apr. 12 8.44 pm — 5.51 am. Sat, Apr. 13 8.46 pm — 5.49 am. Sun, Apr. 14 8.48 pm — 5.47 am. Mon, Apr. 15 8.50 pm — 5.44 am. Tues, Apr. 16 8.52 pm — 5.42 am. Wed, Apr. 17 8.53 pm — 5.40 am. Thurs, Apr. 18 8.55 pm — 5.38 am.

“THE TOAST AND SONG WENT ROUND” JOHN FELTHAM IN THE ISLE OF MAN (1797–98)

John Feltham visited the Isle of Man in the 1790s and his book based on his travels, *A Tour through the Isle of Mann*, in 1797 and 1798 was published in 1798. Feltham put in the miles around the Island and managed to become lost while making his way from Glen Maye to Castletown. “To cross these mountains is but uncomfortable at best, and if fogs should come on, a stranger must lose his way inevitably.” On this occasion he was put “in the direct road” by someone who could not speak English - his Tour was to contain such handy examples of Manx phrases as “I have lost my way,” “Which is the road to Ramsay?” and “I cannot talk Manks.”

This was the time of the Post-Revestment period in the Island, the Running Trade having been suppressed by the British Crown in 1765. “From political ballads we may catch the sentiments that prevail,” wrote Feltham and he continued:

Sitting around the blazing hearth one evening with a number of Manksmen, and rocking the cradle of an infant beside me, the toast and song went round, in one of which I recollect the following lines, alluding to the transfer of the island.

Besides the charming image of Feltham as a somewhat genial fellow rocking the baby, he goes on to record the lines of one of these political ballads:

“For the babes unborn will rue the day,
That the Isle of Man was sold away;
For there’s ne’er an old wife that loves a dram,
But what will lament for the Isle of Man!”

This is the first record we have to date of a singing session in the Island and of note one where topical compositions were being sung.

Stephen Miller, Vienna

English Folk Group Faustus Bring in the Crowds at the Centenary Centre

The Manx debut of the folk band Faustus at the Centenary Centre in Peel proved beyond doubt how English folk music has evolved in recent years, as the all-male line-up produced a seemingly endless supply of songs and tunes which left the capacity audience gasping for more.

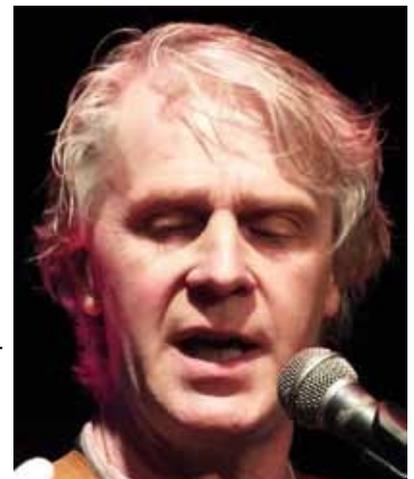
Judging by everyone's reaction the devil had a busy night, as we all sold our souls for the pleasure of listening to a range of music which criss-crossed a number of English counties and devolved seamlessly to an Island which rejoices in its own unique musical heritage.

Benji Kirkpatrick, Saul Rose and Paul Sartin are also involved with a number of well-known groups (Waterson:Carthy, Whapweazel, Seth Lakeman Band, Bellowhead and Belshazzar’s Feast), but their combined efforts as Faustus released a powerful expression of emotion; taking dyed in the wool songs and making them very much their own.

Their professionalism and dedication to the genre shone through as a beacon in the wilderness, rending asunder the historical image of English folk music and launching a thoroughly contemporary expression of some classical compositions.

But prior to their performance, the evening kicked off with local singer/songwriter Greg Joughin [pictured], who presented a selection of retrospective arrangements which lingered sensitively on some of the more poignant aspects of life.

Well known for his long-term association with The Mollag Band, on this occasion Greg was working as a solo artiste which gave members of the audience an opportunity to hear his self-penned work from an unadorned perspective.



Perree Bane at the 2015 Cwllwm Celtaidd Interceltic Festival of Wales

Report by John Dowling

With winter fading and the days growing longer the thoughts of Perree Bane once more turned to our invitation to this excellent Festival that has become a regular entry in the dance calendar. Aply organised by Mel and his team around the Grand Pavilion in Porthcawl, this Festival has blossomed over the years to become one of the major music and dance Festivals.



Travelling down on Thursday and accommodated in the comfortable caravans of the Trecco caravan Park, a convivial evening in The Ancient Briton meeting friends old and new rounded off the day.

This was followed on Friday by outreach visits to local schools; on this occasion a special needs School near Bridgend and a Welsh-medium Primary School nearer Porthcawl. The children, both well-behaved and enthusiastic, applauded our performances and joined in the dances with great gusto. The ever-smiling faces especially of the special needs pupils and their cunning ploys to be involved in every dance despite an "only one dance each" rule was great to see. Unfortunately long-standing member Andy was taken ill and no longer able to take part in the Festival.

Having broken our duck at the schools came a performance at the Grand Pavilion in the evening, in front of a significant audience with the Williams' family youngsters rather stealing the show; it was noticeable that the audiences were up considerably on previous years.

Saturday dawned, and it was problematical as to whether the street dancing would go ahead. However, the rain only came in later in the afternoon once we were all safely back inside. The dancing started a little tardily as the Young Musician of the Festival presentation was a bit late, and indeed we were the only dancers at the venues' appointed times. It did mean we did a lot more dances than just the 2 allowed for! Another performance in the afternoon in the Grand Pavilion and then we were able to take in some of the excellent dancers, musicians and workshops from the other Celtic countries.

Sunday saw the beach ceili cancelled due to rain, (not missed by some, it has to be said). We gave a workshop to a packed tent of very capable dancers that afternoon, who picked them up so quickly that in the 45 minutes we taught them 2 Manks dances instead of 1! The Barrule session in the Cafe Bar rounded off the Manks afternoon. Barrule were much in evidence at the Festival, with a stunning stage performance contrasting a "Meet the Band" acoustic session in the tent.



All in all once more a great Festival with something for everyone; Shooglenifty upstairs going wild with Robin Huw Bowen's harp drowning them out (in the nicest possible way!) downstairs and everything in between. Will we be there next year? Mel in his usual fashion introduced us as regular visitors who "always do the job". It looks likely... Many thanks to dancers and musicians who came from all over Britain, not just from the Island, and especially The Arts Council, for their invaluable help with travel.

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

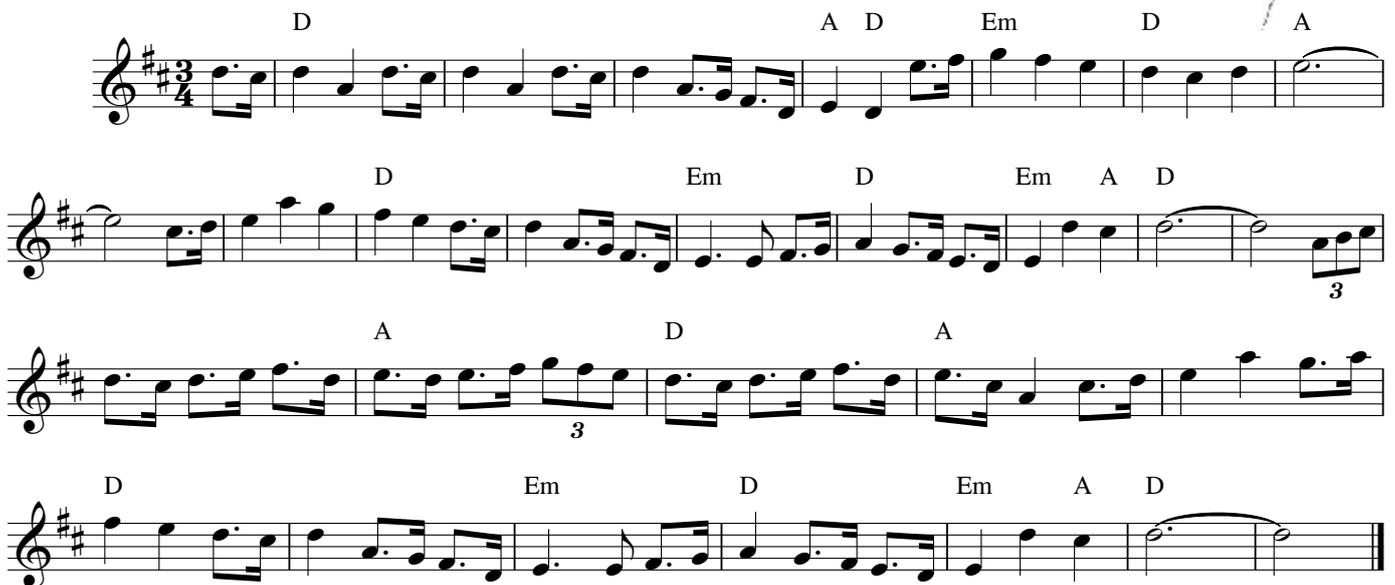
As The Byron's "Isle of Man" anthem of 1985 hasn't taken off yet, and in case El Salvador football team decide to adopt ours, here's WH Gill's Manx National Anthem (1907), plus the folk tune he based it on!

Manx National Anthem



O land of our birth, O gem of God's earth, O
O hal - loo nyn ghooie, O chlie - geen ny s'bwaaie, Ry
Is - land so strong and so fair; Built firm as Bar - rool, Thy
ghed - dyn er ooir aa - lin Yee; Ta dt'Ard - stoyl Reill Thie, Myr Bar
throne of Home Rule makes us free as thy sweet mount-ain air.
rool er ny hoie Dy reayll shin ayns seyr - nys as shee.

Mylecharaine's March



D A D Em D A
D Em D Em A D
A D A
D Em D Em A D



Laa Ruggyree sonney da Laurence!

Happy 100th birthday to Laurence Kermodé!

Well known for his folk-singing with trio Mike, Al & Laurie, for his wonderful recitations of Manx dialect poetry, and for being the grandson of Dr Clague's chief folk song informant in the 1890s, Tom Kermodé AKA Bwoie Doal (Blind Boy), Laurence is a living legend!

All friends and relations of Laurence Kermodé are invited to join him in celebrating his 100th birthday at The Masonic Hall, Derby Road, Douglas on Wednesday 1st April from 6pm to 8pm.

Watch him reciting Manx dialect poetry: <https://vimeo.com/88292153>

CALENDAR

APRIL

3rd Shoh Slaynt at the Tynwald Inn, 8.30pm FREE

7th – 12th Shenn Scoill & Mec Lir at Pan-Celtic Festival, Derry

11th Barrule Album Launch, Centenary Centre, Peel £10

www.barruletrio.com

17th Bree Supergroup & Balley Cashtal Brass concert, Castletown Civic Centre, 7pm £3 inc. refreshments

18th Phil Cunningham & Aly Bain, Centenary Centre, Peel **SOLD OUT**

19th An Afternoon with Jack Honeyborne 3pm, Erin Arts Centre £10/£1 www.erinartscentre.com

24th till 2nd May Manx Music Festival, [The Guild], Villa Marina

www.manxmusicfestival.org

25th Mostly Manx Quiz, Centenary Centre, 7.30pm £10 [see poster]

MAY

2nd – 4th WOSAT Arts Festival, Peel & the West [see feature]

2nd WOSAT Manx bands & ceili night, Peel Prom 7pm

3rd All in a Garden Green with Hartes Ease, Corrin Hall, 7.30pm FREE

10th Young Musician of Mann first stage, Erin Arts Centre

JUNE

22nd - 2nd July Mananan Festival, Erin Arts Centre, www.erinartscentre.com

25th Fraser Fifield & Graeme Stephen, Mananan Festival

JULY

6th Tynwald Day

Every Thursday in July, IOM Arts Council Manx music & dance summer season, Villa Marina Arcade. 8pm FREE. Acts to be announced.

15th – 19th Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic Festival www.ynchruinnaght.com

AUGUST

7th - 16th Festival Interceltique Lorient www.festival-interceltique.com

We welcome your stories, photos, reports, musings - all on Manx music and dance, of course. Just send something in if you want to share it with hundreds of direct KMJ readers worldwide and thousands more online!

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

www.manxmusic.com

~ SESSIONS ~

WED 8.30pm Session at O'Donnells, Douglas

THURS 8pm Singing session at The Mitre, Ramsey

3rd THURS of month Railway Inn session, Douglas

FRI 8.30-11pm Green's Tea Rooms, 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

culture vannin

For information on Manx music & dance contact:

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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