

KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU

Toshiaght Arree 2019 February

manx music today

Winners of the Arrane son Mannin 2018-19!

A large and enthusiastic audience enjoyed a great Manx concert and New Song in Manx Competition on 12th January at the Peel Masonic Hall.

Musical entertainment was provided by Bree as people came in at the start of the evening and the concert itself then began with Ealish Kilgallon (age 7) stealing everyone's hearts with her singing of 'O, S'feayr yn Oie (How Cold the Night).

Owen Williams and his friends Sarah and Jack played and sang a lively set of tunes. Due to school exam commitments they were unable to enter the song competition this year as the Pan-Celtic Festival in Easter week in Letterkenny coincides with the start of school term and external exams. Next year!

Mera Royle, BBC Young Traditional Musician of the Year 2018, then played a mesmerising set of tunes on her harp, demonstrating all the skill which gained her the title.

Caarjyn Cooidjagh Gaelic choir sang a selection of songs from their repertoire, conducted by Annie Kissack, who later swapped roles from choir conductor to become the current Manx Bard when she gave the audience a recitation of two of her works, one of which was a 'rant' about the littering of the Manx countryside, which proved very popular with a sympathetic audience.

Traditional instrumental music was played by duo Peddyr Cubberley on flute and whistles and Malcolm Stitt on guitar, who will be going to play in the Pan-Celtic Festival, while Matt Creer and Josephine Evans played some lovely new music, composed by Matt and available on his new CD 'Patient Steps'. Matt had intended to enter the new song competition and had two songs in Manx translated for



In this month's edition...

- *Brian Stowell 1936 - 2019*
- *RBV recipient announced...*
- *Manx competitive festivals this Spring*

Culture VANNIN

him by Bob Carswell but, alas, the Pan-Celtic this year with a late date for Easter clashed with his prior musical commitments in Mann.

Just when all seemed lost, the Callister clan from Kirk Michael stepped into the breach as Drogh Yindys with a song composed in English by John 'Dog' Callister and translated by Phil Kelly R.B.V. which was sung by husband and wife team Juan and Jo Callister, with sister Jo Callister playing low whistle and Katie Lawrence on piano playing the tune she had composed for 'Yn Faageyder – Leaving Thee'. The three adjudicators were impressed by the catchy tune and poetic Manx and so the £300 prize money, sponsored by Culture Vannin, went to the group who will represent Mannin in competition against the other 5 Celtic countries – Alba (Scotland), Breizh (Brittany), Cymru (Wales) Eire (Ireland) and Kernow (Cornwall) in the Pan-Celtic Inter-Celtic New Song Competition on Thursday 25th April in Letterkenny, County Donegal. Aigh vie orroo!

Report by Fiona McArdle / Photos by Bob Fennell

Link to article by Val Caine:

<http://namanx.org/manx-quartet-to-represent-the-isle-of-man-at-pan-celtic-international-song-contest>

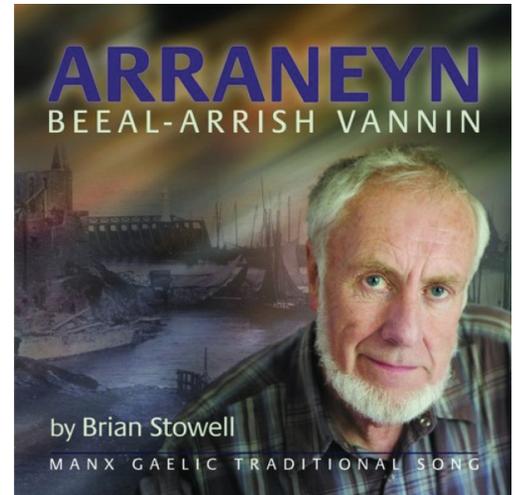


Tribute to Dr Brian Stowell RBV TH - Cooïnaghtyn er Brian Stowell

September 6, 1936 - January 18, 2019

We at Culture Vannin were privileged to have Brian as a Member of our Board for many years, and to serve alongside him on the Gaelic Broadcasting Committee, Bing Ymskeaylley Gaelgagh. In many ways, Brian's work reflected that of the charity itself - we may remember him first and foremost for his contribution to the revival of the Manx language, but he was also a fine musician and singer, a writer, teacher, broadcaster and so much more. The brightest of minds and the most generous of spirits, he was a manninagh dooie, a true Manxman.

One of the driving forces behind Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh, the Manx Language Society, Brian learned to speak Manx by going round with a group who were making sound recordings of the native speakers in the middle of the 20th century. We will quite rightly see many tributes which detail his dedication to Manx culture, to his tireless work to ensure the Manx language was accessible to all. Others will mention the joy of his broadcasting on Manx Radio's Moghrey Jedoonee, a programme where he showcased so much of what is good and interesting about this island and our culture. Brian was one of those rare people who we could genuinely and automatically think of as a national treasure, someone who made an impression on so many people, who talked with passion and knowledge about what was important to a sense of Manxness. What can not be said enough, though, is how he affected so many people's lives on a one-to-one basis, mentoring them in the language, encouraging, giving confidence and precious time. And all this from someone whose career was mostly spent as a physicist. Brian was someone who wore his learning lightly, whose modesty only engendered deeper respect for his skill, knowledge and talent.



We should not forget that Brian was a key figure in the Celtic Congress for decades, organising many events and gatherings, and giving opportunities to young musicians in particular. He was someone who understood the Manx language within its cultural context, and within a wider Celtic world. Tributes have already come in from other language communities who valued his friendship and his willingness to help.

We are fortunate to have recordings of his singing and playing, articles, books and teaching material written by him, translations, and interviews on film. His last act of generosity was to finish work on his autobiography, written in Manx, which will be released later in the year.

His work was recognised in 2008 when he was awarded the Reih Bleeaney Vanannan, the Island's highest cultural honour, and in 2010 with a Tynwald Honour for his outstanding contribution to Manx life.

We will remember him for so many reasons, for his tremendous cultural legacy, but most of all as a friend and supporter, as someone who was never afraid to speak up for what he knew to be right.

Va shynyn ec Culture Vannin rieu moyrnagh as maynrey dy row Brian ny oltey jeh'n ving ain, as she onnor v'eh dy obbragh marish er Bing Ymskeaylley Gaelgagh rish wheesh dy hraa. Er ram aghtyn, ta curymyn Culture Vannin as yn obbyr yindyssagh ren Brian harrish ny bleeantyn goll rish y cheilley - s'liklee dy vel yn chooid smoo dy leih cooinaghtyn er e obbyr vooar ayns aavioghey yn Ghaelg; agh, mastey reddyn elley, v'eh ny arraneyder, kiaulleyder, screeudeyr, fer-ynsee as creeleyder-radio feer vie myrgeddin. Chamamah's e chreenaght as e hushtey, nee mayd cooinaghtyn er e imleeid as feoiltyes cree er son dy bragh.

Ren Brian gynsagh Gaelg ayns bleeantyn meanagh yn eedoo cheead tra v'eh goll mygeayrt yn ellan jannoo recoyrtysyn jeh ny loayreyderyn dooghyssagh as, ny lurg shen, ren eshyn as paart elley cur Yn Çheshaght Ghaelgagh er e toshiaght. Nee ymmodee screeu mysh yn agh v'eh gobbragh dyn scuirr dy hauail ny shenn chliaghtaghyn Manninagh as dy chur ad er nyn doshiaght reesht, as yn agh streeu eh dy frioosagh dy chur caa da sleih aegey ayns Mannin gynsagh nyn glare ghooghyssagh. Nee feallee elley cooinaghtyn er yn agh ghow eh wheesh dy voggey ayns loayrt mysh yn ellan shoh as ooilley e cliaghtaghyn er claare Radio Vannin, Moghrey Jedoonee, dagh shiaghtin. She Manninagh dooie va Brian, fer jeh'n earroo feer veg shen dy leih va



shin ooilley smooïnaghtyn er myr tashtey ashoonagh, v'eh ny charrey firrinagh dooin ooilley.

Cha lhisagh eh v'er ny yarrood cre wheesh dy hraa cheau Brian cooney lesh sleih eddin ry-eddin neesht; ayns brastyllyn begghey, gynsagh, greinnaghey as cur cree da ynseydee. She myr sheanseyr va Brian gobbragh son cooid smoo e vea-obbyr agh cha row e ynsagh ny e hushtey rieau jannoo ard-aignagh ny mooarallagh jeh; dy jarroo, v'eh dy kinjagh imlee as ammysagh as arryltagh dy ynsagh reddy'n noa.

Va Brian, myrgeddin, ny ayn scanshoil jeh'n Cho-haglym Celtiagh rish ymmodee bleeanntyn as eh reaghey taghyrtyn as çhaglymyn sheshoil as cur caa da kiaulleyderyn aegey dy hoilshagh nyn schleiyn da'n theihll. Va toiggal dowin ec Brian er stayd y ghlare Vanninagh, chammah ayns Mannin as harrish y theihll Celtiagh ooilley; ta sleih veih caghlaaghyn çheer elley hannah er screeu hooïn, gra cre wheesh v'ad soïaghey jeh'n chaarjys as jeh yiastyllys echey harrish ny bleeanntyn.

Ta shin feer luckee dy vel recoyrtysyn ain jeh e chiaulleeagh as e artyn, e lioryn, e hyndaassyn as y chooid-ynsee

Gaelgagh chroo eh. Er y gherrit shoh, hug Brian kione er skeal e vea hene, scruit ayns Gaelg, hig magh ny sanmey ayns y vleïn.

Va soïaghey jeant jeh'n obbyr echey ayns 2008 tra va Reih Bleeaney Vanannan (yn aundyr s'yrjey cultooroil ta ry-gheddyn ayns Mannin) er ny chur da. As ayns 2010 hooar eh Onnor Tinvaal son e yeidjys as frioose ayns cur cultoor Vannin er nyn doshiaght. Nee mayd cooinaghtyn er Brian son ymmodee oyrin: myr foawr ayns aavioghey y ghlare dyn dooyt, agh myrgeddin, myr carrey as cumraag, myr persoon yindyssagh va dy kinjagh arryltagh dy chummal seose as dy chaggey son cultoor e ellan as son dy chooilley red elley v'eh graihagh er.

Brian pictured above in the post-William Dhone ceremony session, Castletown 1997 (photo by Chloe Woolley) & below, singing at a Manx Night in the Glen Helen Hotel in 1997 (photo by Wendy Hurst).



**Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh - Music & Manx session to remember Brian
TONIGHT Fri 1st Feb, Albert Pub in Port St Mary**

Bee Oie Kiaull as Gaelg ayn ayns cooinaghtyn jeh Brian Stowell ec yn Albert y Jeheinney shoh, 1/2/19. Tar as cloie, loayrt as goaill arrane as smooïnnee mychione yn dooinney hene. Dooinney niartyl as yindyssagh.

Dr Brian Stowell RBV TH was a wonderful and tireless exponent of Manx music and was at the centre of its modern revival. Through Arraneyn Beal-arrish Vannin recorded in Peel in 1973, Brian was instrumental in making traditional Manx song available to be heard again and it is in his wake that we still hear these songs in schools and on stages today.

One of the most important songs for Manx people in the past, and one apparently known to everyone on the Island at one point, is Kirree fo Niaghtey.

This is sung here by Brian in the 1981 programme, Na Scanáin, created for Irish Television. Watching the full thing comes highly recommended: https://youtu.be/5lQ6_Kov5h8

Listen to Brian singing 'Berree Dhone' in 2011: <https://youtu.be/wQT0EJcyHMo>

A 1981 recording of Brian Stowell singing one of the most beautiful of all Manx ballads, Kirree fo Niaghtey: https://youtu.be/5lQ6_Kov5h8?t=552

More information about Arraneyn Beal-arrish Vannin is available here:

www.culturevannin.im/publication_143813.html

Brian Stowell Resources: www.culturevannin.im/news_story_563986.html

'If it wasn't for Brian, the Manx language would have died out'

Article in the *Manx Independent* by Mike Wade: <http://www.iomtoday.co.im/article.cfm?id=45317>



MTTV film - Remembering Brian Stowell: <https://youtu.be/qyuXjstCMFA>

Laa'l Vreeshey - 1st February

The Manx believed that Breeshey would wander the island on Oie'll Vreeshey (St. Bridget's Eve, January 31), looking for a place to stay. So people would make up a spare bed, leave out food and drink, and recite at the door before bed:

'Vreeshey, Vreeshey, tar gys my hie, tar gys y thie aym's noight.

(Breeshey, Breeshey, come to my house, come to my house tonight.)

Watch Gaelic singer Ruth Keggan tell a story by Ned Hom Tuy and sing the "Invocation to St Bridget": <https://vimeo.com/309252818>

And in Manx Gaelic: <https://vimeo.com/309251368>

More information: https://www.culturevannin.im/news_story_565235.html

Learn the song: https://www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_407801.html

John Kaneen RBV

The familiar voice of Manx Radio's The Folk Show for over 30 years, a superbly talented and larger than life musician, singer and dancer, and a quiet scholar of folk song, John Kaneen is the very worthy recipient of this year's RBV cultural award.

John's contribution to Manx culture and to a wider appreciation of folk music defies simple categorisation. A gifted musician, singer and dancer, he has been known for decades as a performer and as the lynchpin of the Calor Gas Ceilidh Band, which brought joy and laughter to a multitude of social gatherings, charity events, weddings and festivals. John has been a stalwart of the session scene for as long as he has been on the Island, and he has performed with Bwoie Doal, Bock Yuan Fannee, the Manx Folk Dance Society, the Manx Morris Dance Group, The Railroaders Skiffle Group and countless others. Known now as a button accordionist, he also played the concertina and guitar, and featured on the Manx dance cassette for Rinkaghyn Vannin (1986). He was awarded honorary membership of the Manx Folk Dance Society for musical services.

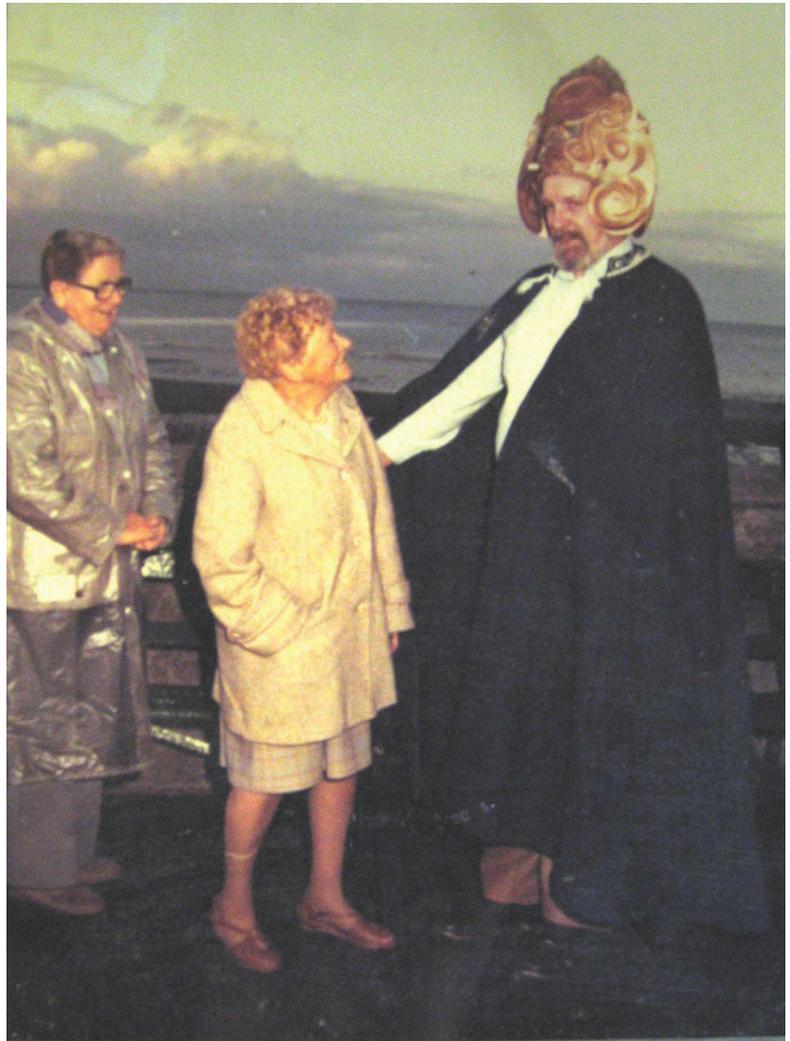
In the 1960s, together with former MLC David Callister, John ran a folk-club in Douglas, organising festivals and events, and John was also a founding member and President of the Manx Ballads and Blues Club which attracted such musicians and song-writers as Stuart Slack and Mike Williams.

In the 1960s went to live and work in Liverpool and became friends with The Spinners folk group, and performed at many folk clubs in the Merseyside area. He returned to the Isle of Man seven years later.

The late Colin Jerry recalled the time when copies were made of the Clague Collection of music at the Manx Museum, noting that John was among those who received one. Together with Colin, John edited A Garland for John Clague. A New Book of Old Songs, which reflected John's extensive knowledge of British folk song collections, and the connections between song and tune titles within that wider context. Whereas Colin and others worked to promote songs in Manx, John retains a particular fondness for English language ballads and songs and has done much to promote them in the Island.

Hunt the Wren saw terrific numbers on St Stephen's Day 2018, and John is one of the people who must be thanked for this revival of interest. Together with Fiona McArdle, he has organised the Douglas Hunt the Wren for long years, raising money for charities including the RNLI.

Yn Chruinnaght Inter-Celtic Festival was the backdrop for many a fine moment from John, but none more striking than his appearance as the Celtic sea-god Manannan, after which the RBV – Reih Bleeaney Vanannan – is named. In early 1980s, fitted out in full length cloak and headdress, the towering figure of 'Big John' became Manannan, captured so beautifully in a photograph of him with the rather more diminutive festival founder, Mona Douglas. In 2008, Yn



Chruinnaght re-created the scene, with John again prepared to take on the role on the proviso that no one set him on fire!

John was also known for his interest in documenting events, setting up his recording equipment to capture concerts, sessions and other gatherings for posterity. His foresight didn't stop there. As part of his Folk Show, John made the conscious decision to encourage young and new groups to record a session of their songs and tunes with him for broadcast. The show is enjoyed around the world, with listeners commenting on the encyclopaedic knowledge of the presenter.

John accepts the RBV this year also on behalf of his cousin, the late Professor Brian Kaneen of Canada.

Those nominating John spoke of his 'generosity of spirit in sharing his knowledge and musicianship with groups and individuals', his 'unique blend of knowledge skills and accomplishments he brings to music and the history of song and dance on the Isle of Man' and summed up his modesty by saying 'Although huge in person and character, John Kaneen is a modest type of chap and I would doubt that he would seek to be awarded anything.'

Port St Mary Lifeboat and Hospice Isle of Man were nominated as the recipients of a donation of £250 each, and a cheque for £500 was presented to John, which he was happy to put towards recent accordion repairs.

The Reih Bleeaney Vanannan is the Isle of Man's highest cultural honour, awarded by Culture Vannin through a panel made up of representatives from Culture Vannin, IOM Arts Council, Manx National Heritage, Yn Chruinnaght and Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh.

John Kaneen was awarded the RBV at a small gathering of family and friends in the Millennium Room of Legislative Buildings.

Photo credits: Yn Chruinnaght archive, Jiri Podobsky & Manx Radio (below: Minister Chris Thomas & John Kaneen)



The Salty Dogs - present
"Paddy's Night"

Tickets - £11

include a delicious hotpot supper!



Peel Football Club, Peel

Saturday 16th March. 8 pm to 11pm

For "Grace Third World Fund"

Tickets from- Paul 842108 Ray 842734,
shohslaynt@manx.net Celtic Gold

Raffle on night

Radcliffe, Russell & Lee



An Evening with
Mark Radcliffe
(Radio DJ/Musician)
and Friends

Centenary Centre - Peel
Thursday 9th May 2019 at 8.00 p.m.

Tickets £10 available from: Celtic Gold - Peel • Thompson Travel - Port Erin
GH Corlett Jewellers - Douglas • Shakti Man - Ramsey
and online at www.centenarycentre.com

All things chocolate!

The Manx Folk Dance Society are having a chocolate night on Sat 9th February at Onchan Methodist Hall from 7.30pm. Cost £4 adults and £2 children. Bring your dancing shoes!

Manx Concert and Supper

Friday 15th February ~ Maughold Church Hall 8pm

Entertainment from the Manx Bard, the Manx Choir, Caarjyn Coidjagh and Harp playing. This promises to be a very special night, which you will be able to savour for a long time afterwards. Tickets: Members: Adult £6, child £2.50. Non-members: Adult £7, child £3.

Ring 812152 or 861039 to book.

Sunday 3rd February at 10.30am
the Manx Gaelic choir, Caarjyn
Coidjagh, will be singing the
Mass in Manx
at St. Matthew's Church, Douglas.

CANDLEMAS CAROL SERVICE

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, DOUGLAS,
SUNDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 6pm

David Kilgallon Organ Recital

St Anthony's Church, Onchan,
23rd February at 2.30pm

Perree Bane have again been invited to St Lupas' Church in Malew this **Sunday 3rd February at 3pm** to a service to celebrate Candlemas. They will be dancing a few dances including, of course, Moirrey ny Cainle!

A dance traditionally performed at Candlemas, Moirrey ny Cainle is performed with four couples and an extra woman, Moirrey, who carries a lighted candle.

Watch Perree Bane perform this traditional dance:

www.manxmusic.com/video_window_130882.html

Spring is the season for Manx competitive festivals!

Coming up in March, April and May are three chances for locals to take to the stage to perform music, singing, poetry, dance, Gaelic and more!

Sat 2nd March ~ The Braaid Eisteddfod

Up to 2am singing songs, telling tales, playing tunes & having a laugh?

That will be the Braaid Eisteddfod!

Actually, it is the Braaid Eisteddfod as it used to be when it first began - these days they do everything the same, but just restrain themselves to try and finish up by midnight!

Get a cushion for 7.30pm start and either sit back and enjoy, or be brave and take part in some hymn raising, singing, playing, dancing, or some other form of entertainment. All information about the event can be found on the Braaid Hall page: <https://www.facebook.com/braaidhall/>

Sun 31st - Thurs 4th April ~ MANX FOLK AWARDS

Celebrating Manx music, song, dance, poetry and Gaelic, the 8th annual **Aundyryn Kiaull-Theay Vannin** (Manx Folk Awards) are competitions for children aged 3 - 18. As well as classes for young singers, instrumentalists, dancers, choirs and folk groups, there are special classes for brass, sax and flute players, whole class whistle groups, and new duologue recitation classes in Manx dialect and Gaelic. This year is themed around the Island's status as a UNESCO Biosphere. Organised by DESC & Culture Vannin and based in Douglas and St Johns.

More information and syllabus: <https://manxfolkawards.weebly.com/>

Closing date for entries: **15th February**

WATCH films from the 2018 Manx Folk Awards: <https://vimeo.com/268756740>



Sat 27th April - Sat 4th May ~ The Guild / Manx Music Festival

www.manxmusicfestival.org

As well as the huge number of classical music, poetry, dancing (and now stand-up comedian) competitions in the beautiful Villa Marina, there are lots of opportunities to take part as a Manx traditional musician, singer, Gaelic speaker or dancer.

Don't delay - the closing date for entries for the 'Guild' is:

9th February



IOM MUSIC FESTIVALS - save the dates!

23rd March **Livestock** <https://www.facebook.com/events/1259533647520888/>

5th – 8th April ~ **Shennaghys Jiu** Celtic Youth Festival
<http://shennaghysjiu.com/>

16th - 29th June **Mananan Festival**, Erin Arts Centre
www.erinartscentre.com

15th - 21st July ~ **Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering** –
The festival will announce the programme and line-up of
visiting acts very soon! www.celticgathering.im

19th - 21st July **Dark Horse** <https://darkhorsemusic.im/>

31st August **Our Island Our World** festival, Peel



Rushen Silver Band - Oie'll Voirrey Service at Kerrowkeil

On 4th January the band took part in the Oie'll Voirrey Service at Kerrowkeil. The event is held on the old Manx Christmas Eve. According to some records, the chapel at Kerrowkeil is the oldest on the island still in regular use as a place of worship. The band's connection with the event dates back to the days of the Surby Silver Band, and 2019 will be the 72nd occasion on which the band has attended. The attached photographs are from the event in 2017 and 2018.

Report by Tom Sinden



Rushen Silver Band 70th anniversary

In the 1940s the band used to go down to Fleshwick on good Friday and hold a short service. In a nod to the band's routes, this Good Friday (April 19th) – the band will be holding a short service to their 70th Anniversary as Rushen Silver Band.

If attending, please do not park at the beach. Transport will be provided from Ballafesson Chapel for anyone that needs it.

The service will be held at Ballafesson Chapel if the weather is inclement.

More information: www.facebook.com/events/1996949733707924/



Traditional Oie'll Verree Plays to a Full House

Organised by Michael Heritage Trust, the traditional Oie'll Verree held at the Ebenezer Hall in the village follows a tried and trusted format, which in the age of contemporary entertainment can still muster a full house.

Members of the audience were welcomed by the Chair of Michael Heritage Trust, David Corlett, before returning compère, Zoë Cannell, took to her feet to act as lynch pin between the varied acts on the programme.



The evening always gets underway with a rousing rendition of *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night* before all eyes turned to the stage for a night of Manx entertainment. Music, recitation, song and dance dominated the programme, with Erin Loach and Paul Costain providing several local songs in both Manx Gaelic and English, Kirsty and Katie Lawrence captivating the audience on fiddle, whistle and cello, and some of the youngest members of the dance group Skeddan Jiarg stepping out onto the compact stage.

They were joined by Marilyn Cannell on piano, who also provided an improvised song, self-penned poetry from the current Manx Bard Annie Kissack and Zoë Cannell and a selection of magic tricks with Island magician Lexi Dernie.

The annual presentation of the award Yn Gliggyr was made during a short interval to Mike Clague, before The Michael Players RBV presented the Manx dialect play *In the Doctor's Waiting Room* written by J. E. Q. Cooil during the 1950s; a perfectly crafted comedy which concentrated on the varied suggestions as to how a pan might be released from the head of a small child - with a twist in the tail.

But the evening closed as ever with the aptly named *Arrane Oie Vie* (Goodnight Song) and a sumptuous home-made supper.



Valerie Caine © January 2019

<http://namanx.org/traditional-oiell-verree-plays-to-a-full-house>

Hear Marilyn Cannell's song: *Our Oie'll Verrey* [photo]

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/our-oiell-verree-a-song-by-marilyn-cannell>

Young singer of Mann and Bree member, Erin Loach performs *Ny Kirree Fo Niaghtey* (Sheep under the Snow) at the Michael Oie'll Verrey:

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/ny-kirree-fo-niaghtey-performed-by-erin-loach>

Concert by Hartes Ease Closes the Festive Season

The annual candle-lit, musical evening held in Holy Trinity Church in the parish of Patrick, has now become an established event on the Manx calendar, with entertainment provided by local early music group Hartes Ease.

They were introduced by Alison Jones, one of the stalwarts behind the emerging Knockaloe Visitors' Centre, which will provide a focal point for descendants of those incarcerated in the Knockaloe Internment Camp positioned across the road from the church during World War I, and those seeking history of the camp, which, at its peak, housed approximately twenty five thousand internees and guards. Poignantly, she also pointed out that as the camp wasn't de-commissioned totally until the autumn of 1919, a number of internees were obliged to spend the festive season of 1918 behind barbed wire.

The programme provided by Hartes Ease largely included music from the Mediaeval period, with one of them, Ein Feste Burg, linking events with one of the many novels written by famous Island novelist Sir Hall Caine. Entitled The Woman of Knockaloe, the story is based upon the love story of a Manx girl and a German internee.

After refreshments the repertoire of Hartes Ease included two Manx tunes, Ushag veg Ruy and Ec ny Fiddleryn ayns y Nollick, arranged by one of their musicians Cristl Jerry. One of her ancestors was interned within Knockaloe Internment Camp.

All money raised during the evening will be donated towards the on-going work of the Knockaloe Visitors' Centre, which will be up-and-running from March this year.

www.knockaloe.im

www.iomearlymusic.net

Valerie Caine © January 2019



OUR ISLAND, OUR WORLD



Festival of Music & Culture

they would love you to come along and show off some aspect of your culture in a child/family friendly way.

Contact Dave Mclean by either PM or phone him on 845146 to find out more details.

Dave says... *Don't be shy, we'd love to have you come along!*

As well as two concerts of brilliant music, **OUR ISLAND, OUR WORLD** is holding our Free Family Global Celebration again this year on August 31st in Peel Cathedral, Grounds and Corrin Hall. But organiser Dave Mclean and his team want it to be even bigger and better than last year! So, if you belong to one of the 161 (!) different communities that live on our Island,

Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea

Winner of BBC Radio Scotland young traditional musician Benedict Morris played Cashen's Gap by Tom Callister in his final set!

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p06zb6f4?fbclid=IwAR3IMhGngUrNLxXXgi-wP3kONdzP2KSzh-z8RZTMakzELYH537J0wSmlWC8

Purt Sheearan Records presents

a'Nish

The Horse and Stables, SE1 7RW
Monday 18th February, 7pm



a'Nish will perform a joyous evening of folk-fusion music! Come and experience a breadth of repertoire from years of collaborating together, and their latest album 'Way of the Gull'.

"a strikingly memorable and original album" - Songlines Magazine

Concert at 7pm | £5 adv, £7 otd
Tickets available at anishlondon.eventbrite.co.uk

Waterloo Lambeth North Way of the Gull [/anishmusic](https://www.facebook.com/anishmusic)

49° EMVOD AR GELTED E

BRETAGNE



Festival **INTERCELTIQUE**
Lorient

2-11 AOÛT

Année de la **GALICE**
2019

L'année Finisère : au bout du chemin, la joie et le chaleur des celtes du sud

www.festival-interceltique.bzh #interceltique19

LORIENT 2019

The Island is set to return to Festival Interceltique de Lorient with a stellar line-up this August!

This year, the festival has invited The Mollag Band, dance group Skeddan Jiarg and harpist Mera Royle (trio) to perform over the 10 day festival. There are also plans for an exciting Breton-Manx music project in conjunction with **Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering** - more news on that to come...

Grainney Sheard has recently taken on the role of Manx delegate to Lorient and she will work with Art Coordinator Sarah Hendy and Peter Young, manager of the Manx pavilion (which is supported by Culture Vannin & the IOM Arts Council), to ensure that the Island showcases its culture, heritage, arts and delicious local produce to the huge European audience!

MANX MUSIC NEWS FROM USA & CANADA

Kevin Kelly from Georgia USA who conducts a chamber choir reports that they included both "Hunt the Wren" and "Oikan ayns Bethlehem" in their recent 'Yuletide' performances (see KMJ transcription of the month for Kevin's choral arrangement).

Meanwhile, Ellen Maclsaac from Ottawa Celtic Choir has arranged Manx Gaelic song "Ny Kirree Fo Niaghtey" for her singers - we will share that with readers in a future edition of KMJ.



Pan Cheiltach
THE INTERNATIONAL
PAN CELTIC FESTIVAL
23-28 Aibreán April 2019



MANX DANCE IN RUSSIA

Oleynik Andrey, a Russian friend of Caroline Helps and the Perree Bane dance group has been teaching fellow Russians about Manx dance and the Isle of Man. Last October Oleynik was invited to a traditional culture festival in Tver (between St Petersburg and Moscow) to present a workshop on Manx and Cornish dance, and he was delighted to be able to take a real Manx flag, which Caroline had sent out to them.

Using resources provided by Caroline, (books, music and notes) Oleynik said that he and friend Yegor taught Hop-Tu-Naa (as it was just the right time to perform this dance!), Yn Mheillea (also fitting with the season) and Chyndaa yn Bwoailley, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Cwlwm Celtaidd preview – Perree Bane by John Dowling

After a years' hiatus due to funding difficulties, Cwlwm Celtaidd Celtic Festival of Wales is back on this year, to the delight of their many friends.

Running from Friday 8th of March through to Sunday 10th, the venue is still the seaside holiday resort of Porthcawl near Bridgend in South Wales, this time in the Hi Tide resort and complex.

Perree Bane have been invited to the revived Festival as the Manx representatives and expect to be doing schools outreach, ceilis, street dancing and workshops as well as performances. That, along with a dip in the excellent pool and a round of crazy golf should make for an excellent weekend!

Newcastle based Manx musician, Beccy Hurst is kindly joining the team as guest musician.



ki aull noa



Livestock - Saturday 23rd March

£10 (in aid of Hospice) at Ballahick Farm Ballasalla
<< Featuring loads of original music by Manx bands

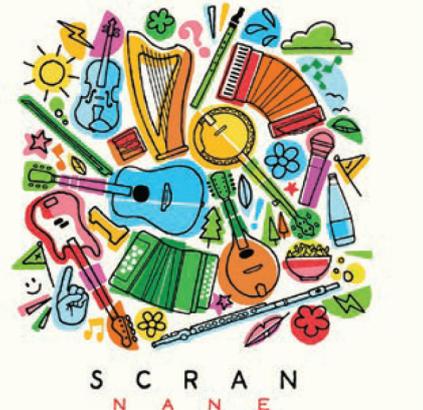
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/livestock-tickets-55402983816?utm-medium=discovery&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&aff=escb&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing>

Biskee live sessions are here!

Check out their upcoming first single 'Not Again'!

www.facebook.com/biskeebriest/

Young Manx tradsters Scran recently got a glowing album review from Canadian magazine, *Celtic Life*:



Scran Nane

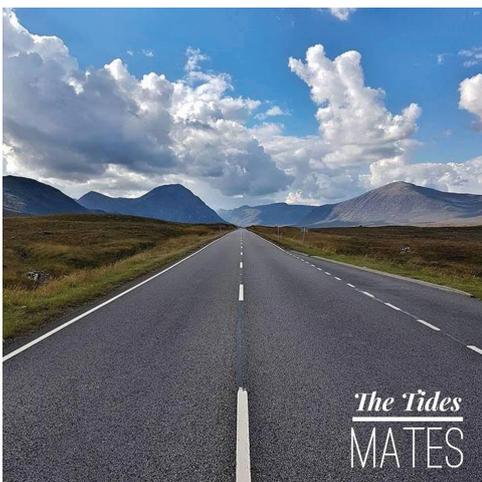
Although less familiar with Manx music than I should be, I am looking forward to hearing more after enjoying this dazzling debut release from Isle of Man collective Scran. Nane (Manx for One) is an exceptional assortment of ten terrific tracks that is sure to get knees-a-slappin', toes-a-tappin' and tears-a-sheddin'. Comprised of some of the most talented young traditional musicians in the smallest of the seven Celtic nations, the group is the offspring of Culture Vannin's Manx music youth movement, Bree. Skillfully guided by mentor Paul Rogers (Mabon, Strengyn & The Fecktones), the band's members are only between 13 and 18 years of age, yet punch well above their musical weight. Hopefully a harbinger of things to come, the project is certainly trending in the right direction. ~ SPC

The Tides - "MATES" single is available on iTunes, Amazon Music & Spotify

<http://itunes.apple.com/album/id1450276649?ls=1&app=itunes>

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Mates/dp/B07N1484L3/ref=sr_1_2...

<https://open.spotify.com/track/4RZlcbGZuRAloqNQq0S87P...>



Produced in the Ballagrove Recording Studio

Youtube/ video corner

CLASH VOOAR IN SESSION

- One of the Island's most in demand bands at the mo,
- Clash Vooar joined Christy D on Manx Radio's Sunday Soundtrack recently, where they recorded a live session.
- Here is a song collected by Mona Douglas;
- "Arrane ny Sheeaghyn Troailtagh".

<https://youtu.be/3jeqpbImzPY>

RESEARCH NEWS

John and Tony Ventro

Not everyone who earned their living as a performer in Douglas during those distant, vibrant summer seasons between the 1920s and 50s - during what we now recognise as the golden age of the tourist industry on the Isle of Man - was a well-known variety or concert artiste, a comedian, ventriloquist, juggler, dancer, impressionist or a member of one of the famous ballroom orchestras. Many local musicians and entertainers were essentially cogs in the well-oiled machine that powered that industry, largely unknown and invisible to the thousands - perhaps tens of thousands - of visitors going about the serious daily business of enjoying a well-earned, fun-filled holiday. At the end of every summer season they quietly disappeared back into the Island's uncertain winter economy.

This is a brief account of the careers of two brothers, one born during the last decade of the Victorian age, the other during the last year of the succeeding Edwardian age. The elder brother enjoyed a modest career as a musician on the fringes of the entertainment business; the younger brother enjoyed a short but illustrious career as a charismatic singer with one of the finest dance bands to have performed here during the decade after the end of World War II.

Read full article by Maurice Powell: https://www.manxmusic.com/bio_page_564326.html

Club enjoyed its Manx Night

EVERYONE present at the January meeting of St John's Church Social Club enjoyed the Manx night in the Church Hall. Adults and children alike were fascinated by the "goings on" revealed by Mrs Bridson of Dalby when she talked to Mr Peter Gelling, of Crosby.

Mrs Arrowsmith and Mrs G. Cowell, of Peel, enthralled and enlightened those not already in the know, with recitations and duologues — "what wonderful memories they have." The audience were

also given the opportunity of hearing the re-enactment of the old custom of "Hunt the Wren" by Caroline and Janice Quayle, of Peel, who brought along two beautiful "Hunt the Wren Bushes" which attracted every eye.

Jane, Sara, and Juan Owen, Louisa and Dennis Bawden (all members of the St John's

Church Sunday School and pupils of Mrs Rosemary Bawden's Dancing School) gave a charming display of ballroom dancing as seen in the Derby Castle in the past.

Mr Harry Owens contributed to the entertainment with Manx songs while the evening's entertainment concluded with Graham Shimmin, Christopher Caley, Louisa and Denis Bawden, Jane, Sarah and Juan Owen singing "Hop-tu-naa". Mr Willie Mylcraine, of Peel, was the chairman.

IOM Courier 12th Jan 1979 [MNHL newspaper archives]

LECTURE IN LONDON

"I am longing for another voyage of discovery in the summer":

The Gill brothers and their collecting of folk songs from the Isle of Man (1894-94)

by Stephen Miller

Wednesday 17 April, 7.30pm at Cecil Sharp House, London

Book now: <https://www.vwml.org/events>

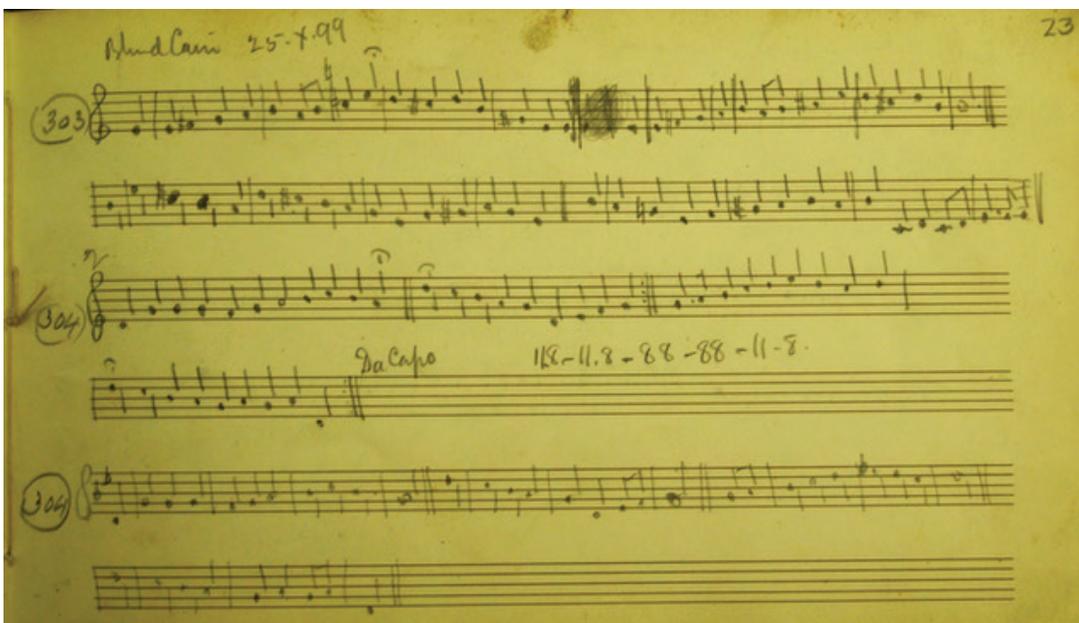
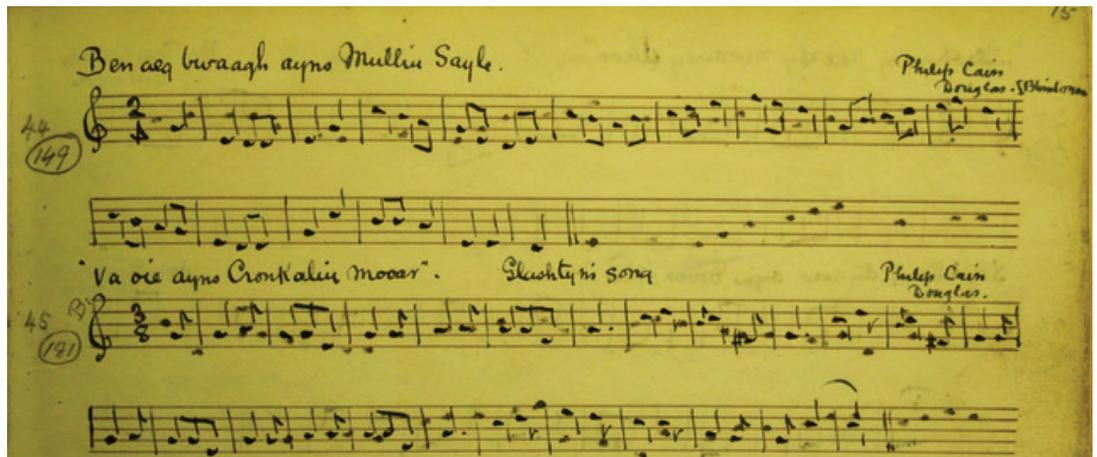
“MR J. CAIN (BLIND) SANG A SOLO IN MANX”
THOMAS WILLIAM CAIN (1833–1913)

“Mr J. Cain (blind) sang a solo in Manx: ‘Tar shiuish ta nish cumraagyn dou,’ and was heartily applauded.” [The title translates as “Come ye who are now my comrades.”] So reported the *Mona’s Herald* in 1899 of an event at the Seaman’s Bethel in Douglas, where William Kneen, the Town Missionary there, also sang “O Yee, cur skianyn credjue dou,” (“O, For the Wings of Faith and Love”) from *Lioar dy Hymnyn* (1846). “He said that he had sung this hymn in Manx amongst his Gaelic friends at a religious service in the Highlands of Scotland a few weeks ago, and he had been treated with great kindness from the people while staying there.” Kneen was the instigator of the revival of Manx, holding a conversation class at the Bethel in 1898, and events there featured as here items sung in Manx and often by Cain.

The newspaper was wrong about his first name and so the initial, as he was properly Thomas William Cain (1833–1913). In the 1901 census, he was enumerated as a street musician, living with his English-born wife, Jane, at 9 Nelson Street in Douglas, and a speaker of Manx. The 1911 census found him residing at 35 Allan Street in the town and recorded that he had been blind for some 30 years. He was a musician in the 1891 one (then at 4 Post Office Lane in Douglas), but in 1881 he was a carter (though blind then). Enumerated as a miner in 1871, and said to be have been blind for seven years, he must have lost his sight through an industrial accident of some nature.

Of interest here is not Cain and the Bethel as such (though that is worth pursuing) but his involvement with Dr John Clague, as tunes credited to him turn up in the Clague Collection in two places. Of the dated material, there are two untitled *carval* tunes dated 25 October 1899, ascribed to “Blind Cain.” The undated but titled tunes are “Ben aeg waagh ayns Mwyllin Sayle” (“A fair young woman in Sayle’s Mill”) and “Va oie aynd Cronk Ollee Moooar” (“One night in Cronk Ollee Mooar”), also known as “The Glashtin’s Song.” There is a problem here in that Clague has entered “Philip Cain | Douglas” against both these tunes, though later squeezing in “[Blind man]” against the first occurrence of the name. It is possible that Clague has confused him with Philip Cain of Baldwin (“Phillie the Desert”) from whom he never collected, it was the Gill brothers who visited him. Whilst the Clague tune books also contain those collected by the Gills, they did not gather these specific ones from Cain, and so it is fair to assume that these tunes do indeed come from Thomas William Cain. The 1899 date is of interest showing that Clague collected on at least one occasion after his involvement with the Gills that ended with their last collecting tour in 1898.

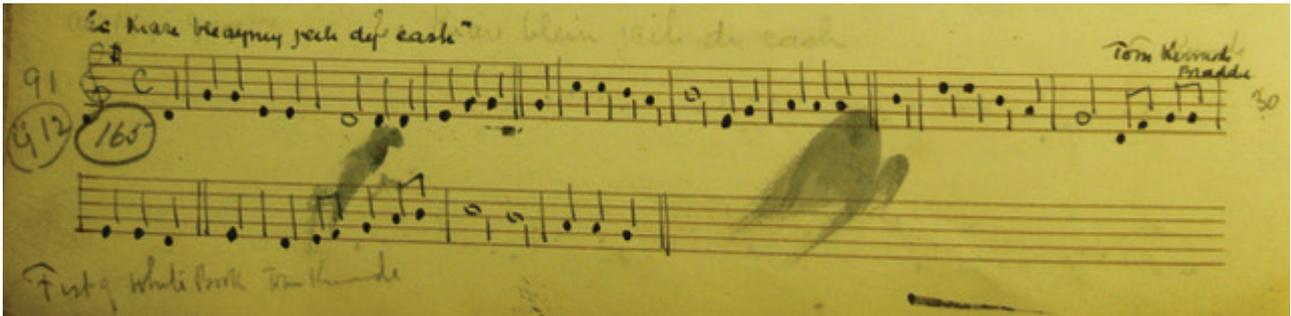
STEPHEN MILLER, 2019



“FIRST OF WHITE BOOK TOM KERMODE”

There is still considerable work to be done on the four tune books that make up the Dr John Clague Collection now deposited in the MNHL (MS 448/1-3 A and MS 449 B) as regards their composition and what that can tell us of the pattern and nature of Clague’s own collecting. He was a poor annotator of the tunes, especially as compared to W.H. Gill, who was precise with the details of the recording sessions of the singers as found by the brothers. As regards Thomas Kermode of Bradda, we know when Clague came across him as it is mentioned in a letter to Deemster J.F. Gill written on 25 December 1895, “I have discovered a new ‘mine’ at Bradda. | An old blind man—Tom Kermode by name, has given me three splendid old songs, and I think I shall be able to get three more yet.” The same letter mentions another singer, Charles Faragher: “I have had three from old Faragher who gave me ‘Shannon Rea,’ and he has another which I shall probably get this week.” Finally, he mentions that “[a]ltogether I have eight or nine ‘new’ songs since the ‘Girls of Balladoole.’” With these tunes, dateable as regards their collecting, an approach can be made to the tune books, seeing just where they to be found transcribed amongst the Clague Collection. In the case of the tunes gathered from Kermode, an annotation made by Clague on one of the pages in MS 448/1 A shows them to have been transcribed from a specific notebook now missing, one presumably with a white cover.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2019



The Clague & Gill Collections photographed by David Speers can be viewed online:
www.manxmusic.com/history_page_129586.html



Button accordion looking for a new home!

We have been donated a Paulo Soprani three row button accordion at Culture Vannin - would any of our local KMJ readers like to have it? A few Manx players have already had a look at it and say it needs a bit of repair work, but it’s free to good home if anyone wants to take it.

NB. It’s also very heavy so wouldn’t be suitable for a child!

Contact Chloe manxmusic@culturevannin.im or tel. 694758.

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

Mannin Aboo! is a short suite of Manx traditional tunes arranged for harp ensemble by Scottish harpist and teacher for Culture Vannin, Rachel Hair. It was premiered at the 2018 Edinburgh International Harp Festival, where over 100 harp players gathered and performed it along with the young Manx harp ensemble "Claasagh".

Each piece has 3 ability levels, with each download containing all the music for each level. Rachel arranged the pieces to be easily accessible by all levels of players, with a focus on the enjoyment of playing the tunes in a mass harp ensemble, but to have them still playable as standalone pieces.

The melodies are: Arrane ny Niece, Auldyn River by Paul Cringle, Flitter Dance and Hop-tu-Naa.

FREE DOWNLOAD: www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_530896.html



HARP 3 - INTERMEDIATE

Arrane ny Nie (Before Auldyn River)

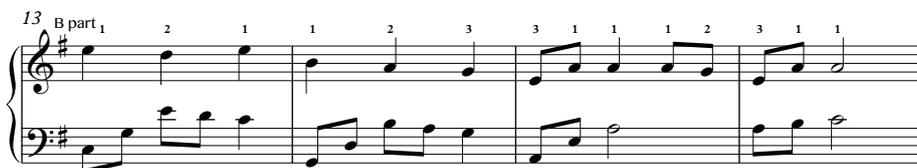
Manx Lullaby

Translating as the washing song, it is said that the fairies sing this lullaby when washing their babies in the waters of Awin Ruy (Red River), on the Isle of Man.

Trad. Isle of Man
Arr. Rachel Hair

♩ = 80, *fingering is a suggestion only*

Intro



Straight into Auldyn River

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

1st Kiaull as Gaelg ayns cooinaghtyn jeh Brian Stowell, Albert, Port St Mary
3rd Erin Gaelgagh (Manx Mass) with Caarjyn Coodjagh choir, St Matthews Church, Douglas, 10.30am
3rd Perree Bane dance at Candlemas, Malew Church, 3pm
9th MFDS Chocolate Night! Onchan
9th Bree session for 10-18 yrs, Culture Vannin 2 – 3.30pm
15th Manx Concert & Supper, Maughold Church Hall, 8pm
18th a’Nish gig, Horse & Stables in London, 7pm £5/7
23rd David Kilgallon organ recital, St Anthony’s Church, Onchan, 2.30pm

MARCH

2nd Braaid Eisteddfod, 7.30pm
8th-10th Cwllwm Celtaidd - Wales Interceltic Festival
16th Paddy’s Night, Peel Football Club, 8pm £11
23rd On your Doorstep – Culture Vannin 12-4pm & Bree youth session 2 -3.30pm
23rd Livestock music festival, Ballasalla £10
31st Manx Folk Awards Secondary competitions

APRIL

1st-4th Manx Folk Awards KS1 & 2
5th-8th Shennaghys Jiu Celtic Festival
17th Manx music lecture by Stephen Miller, Cecil Sharp House, London 7.30pm
19th Rushen Silver Band 70th Anniversary Service, Fleshwick Beach
23rd-28th Pan-Celtic Festival, Letterkenny, Ireland
27th – 4th May Manx Music Festival [Guild]

MAY

24th Sophia Morrison commemoration concert, Centenary Centre, Peel

JUNE

16th – 29th Mananan Festival

JULY

5th Tynwald Day
15th – 21st Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering
19th-21st Dark Horse festival, Ramsey

AUGUST

2nd – 11th Festival Interceltique de Lorient, Brittany
31st Our Island Our World festival, Peel

Please send in dates so that we can publicise events here & online:
www.manxmusic.com

~ SESSIONS ~

TUES 8pm Singaround at The Manor, Douglas
WED 8.30pm Session at O’Donnells, Douglas
THURS 8pm Singing session at The Mitre, Ramsey
FRI 8pm Trad session at The Mitre, Ramsey
FRI Trad session at the Manor, Willaston
Last **FRI** of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary
Occasional **SAT** 10pm Manx session at The White House, Peel
Monthly **SUN** 12.30pm Trad session in Laxey

~ SESSIONS ~

culture vannin

For information on Manx music & dance contact:
Manx Music Development Officer **Dr Chloë Woolley**: chloe@culturevannin.im
www.manxmusic.com

Call: Chloë: 01624 694758
or write to: Culture Vannin, PO Box 1986, Douglas, Isle of Man IM99 1SR

Written and edited by Chloë Woolley for Culture Vannin
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