

KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU

Boaldyn 2021 May

MANX MUSIC TODAY

GAELIC ANTHEM COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

Culture Vannin is excited to announce a competition to compose a memorable new anthem in Manx to mark Gaelg21: a month-long celebration of the Manx language between 9th June and 9th July.

There are three categories for entry: adults (16+), under 16s, and under 11s, so anyone can get involved!

Songs can be in any genre, accompanied or unaccompanied. Lyrics must be in Manx and celebrate the language; think about a loose theme of 'Gaelg aboo!'. Simple and catchy is key!

There will be cash prizes of £150 for adults, £50 for under 16s, and £25 for under 11s.

Guidelines:



- You can submit your song as musical notation or as a soundfile
- If you want to submit a song as a soundfile but are anxious about recording yourself singing, we can link you up with a singer
- For large audio files, send through a file-sharing site like wetransfer.com
- All entries should be sent to gaelg@culturevannin.im
- Deadline for entries – 21st May 2021
- By entering, you agree to winning entries being shared on www.learnmanx.com www.manxmusic.com and on Culture Vannin's social media pages, and being sung far and wide (for non-commercial purposes)!

DISCLAIMER FOR PARENTS of children under 16

- By submitting your child's work, you give us permission to use all or part of your child's performance.
- By submitting your child's work, you also agree to the finished project being shared through all forms of media, including social media.

'Gaelg21' simply means 'Manx21' and the organising group, Jeebin, is keen for everyone in both the language and wider community to be involved in hosting and participating in events and projects. If you're interested in becoming involved, we'd love you to get in touch by emailing: gaelg@culturevannin.im

In this month's edition...

- Folk Song Exchange - Make Music Day 2021
- Boaldyn music, songs and dances
- Tynwald Honour for Ian Cottier

Culture
VANNIN

New songs, tunes and dances to celebrate May / Boaldyn

Traditionally the Manx would gather in villages and towns to enact a fight between Summer & Winter, led by their Queen and King, before going on to community-wide parties with music, dance and feasting. This was most famously done in Castletown square through until the mid-19th century, but it is also recorded as having taken place on the village greens all over the Island.

Although this 'Laa Boaldyn' (May Day) celebration is well documented, there is sadly very little recorded of the particular songs or dances which took place. So, last year Culture Vannin held a competition for new compositions of music, song and dance!

The results were phenomenal, with a wealth of brilliant tunes, songs and dances submitted, and the winning entries can be enjoyed here...

New song: 'Arrane Oie Voaldyn' by Paul Rogers

<https://youtu.be/FwNNCpDBCfw>

Pronunciation guide: <https://youtu.be/hHCxE2-H9vs>

New tune: 'Car Laa Boaldyney' by David Speers

<https://soundcloud.com/culture-vannin/car-laa-boaldyney-david-speers>

New dance: 'Mygeayrt yn aile Laa Boaldyn' by Heike Perry

https://youtu.be/r_hg5gTlSOk

New tune (juniors): 'Yn Voostey yn Arragh' by Frank Joughin

<https://youtu.be/jaBEBD80Jt4>

New dance (juniors): 'Yn Daunse jeh ny Blaaghyn Bwee' by Lowenna Joughin

https://youtu.be/hyP_boKiVQM

We look forward to these becoming a part of the evolving and growing tradition of Manx Laa Boaldyn celebrations, and we hope that we will be able to add more to them over the coming years.

Jeant dy mie to all who entered the competition last year - their new pieces will also be shared by Culture Vannin within a forthcoming 'Boaldyn Collection'.

More about the competition and its winners: www.manxmusic.com/news_story_639970.html

More about Laa Boaldyn and the traditional celebration of the 1st of May can be found here:

www.culturevannin.im/manxfolklore/boaldyn-475492/



YN CHRUINNAGHT

FÄILT ERRIU
ALL WELCOME!

Celtic

GATHERING 2021

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19 - 25 JULY **DOUGLAS** &
19 - 25 JERREY SOUREE **PEEL**, ISLE OF MAN

CONCERTS WITH

- **CHRISTINE COLLISTER** •
- **THE MOLLAG BAND** • **CLASH VOOR** •

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- **THE MANX FIDDLE ORCHESTRA** •

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Festival Passes £35 on sale soon: celticgathering.im
Mega Manx Ceili tickets (not included in Festival Pass): villagaiety.com

Summer Schools

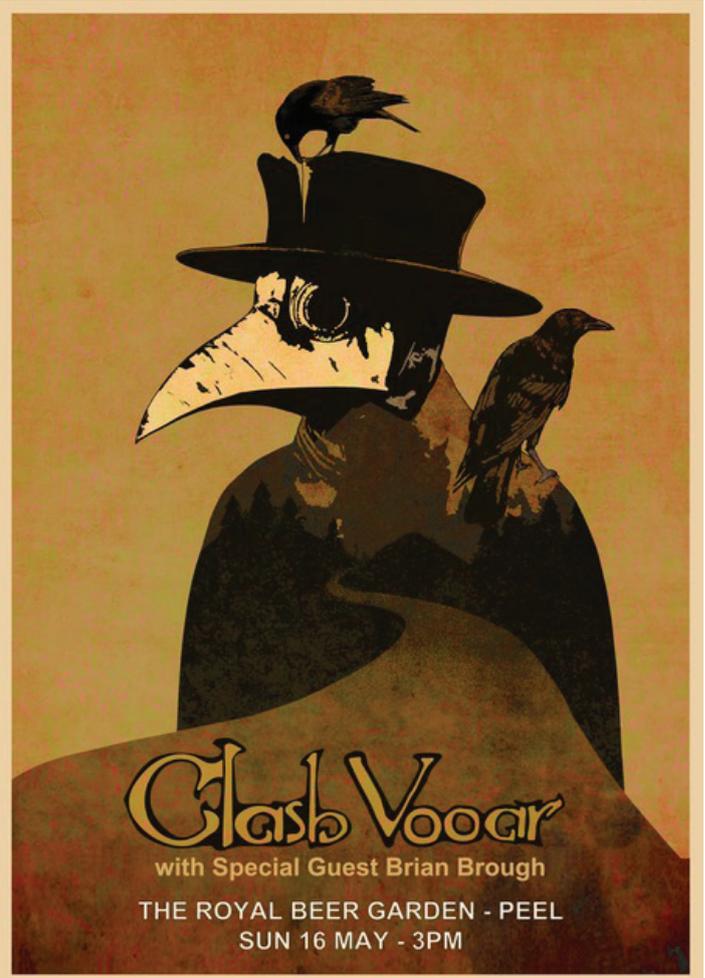
Learn a new skill this summer!

- 28th-29th July, 10am-4pm, Douglas
Ukulele Bootcamp for age 7-11
- 4th-5th August, 10am-4pm, Douglas
Violin Bootcamp for age 7-11
- 11th-12th August, 10am-4pm, Douglas
Recorder and Whistle Bootcamp for age 7-11
- 16th-18th August, 10am-5pm, Onchan
Rock Project Junior School for age 7-11
- 25th-27th August, 10am-5pm, Onchan
Rock Project Senior School for age 12-18



Our summer schools are a great way for children to try a new instrument, or improve on their existing skills. We'll even provide the instruments if you don't have your own!

Have a look at our Facebook pages for more information on the individual schools, or email info@manninmusic.com



Kids welcome. If the weather is bad, postponed to Sun 23rd

Mannin Music introduce their summer instrument bootcamps for 7-11 year olds! They are suitable for complete beginners and beginner to intermediate players who want to improve. It's a great change to learn a new skill, try out a new instrument, play with other musicians, and have a ton of fun!

Please send us a message if you would like a registration form, or email info@manninmusic.com

How will you celebrate MAKE MUSIC DAY!?

LAA JANNOO KIAULL MONDAY 21 JUNE

Make Music Day will take place around the world (in 125 countries) on 21 June!

If you would like to get involved, email Isle of Man representative Chloe Woolley: manxmusic@culturevannin.im

Loads of inspirational ideas and toolkits here:

<https://makemusicday.co.uk/>

Join LAA JANNOO KIAULL The Isle of Man's Make Music Day Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/makemusicday10M/

MAKE MUSIC
JUNE 21

Join the global song swap for Make Music Day June 21st!

Perform a song by another artist, and hear yours covered in return. Songwriters and composers of all styles, everywhere are invited to...

#MySongsYourSong

Register by May 31st!
makemusicday.org/songswap



ISLE OF MAN
Laa Jannoo Kiaull
JUNE 21

GLOBAL FOLK CHALLENGE

Make Music Day takes place in 125 countries across the globe on 21st June. Each of these countries has its own unique folk music tradition which we want to



share and celebrate on Make Music Day. We invite musicians from across the world to take part in this Global Folk Challenge by swapping folk songs. Participating musicians or groups can share a folk song from their country, and in exchange, learn and perform a different folk song submitted by another participating musician. The songs will then be performed and shared on Make Music Day.

<https://makemusicday.co.uk/global-folk-challenge>

Manx piece – Juan y Jaggad Keeir

An old children's song from the Isle of Man about John with the grey jacket getting hit by a bullet from the west!

Juan y Jaggad Keeir song in Manx Gaelic

Performance: <https://vimeo.com/461072895> Song lesson: <https://vimeo.com/461038872>

Sheet music: <https://www.culturevannin.im/media/Sheet%20music/Juan%20y%20Jaggad%20Keeir%20Treisht%20-%20Full%20Score.pdf>

Artist: www.ruthkeggin.com/

Juan y Jaggad Keeir tune on whistle

Performance: <https://vimeo.com/473533337> Whistle lesson: <https://vimeo.com/474763478>

Sheet music: [https://www.culturevannin.im/media/Sheet%20music/Juan%20y%20Jaggad%20Keeir%20\(Polka\)%20-%20Treisht%20-%20Full%20Score.pdf](https://www.culturevannin.im/media/Sheet%20music/Juan%20y%20Jaggad%20Keeir%20(Polka)%20-%20Treisht%20-%20Full%20Score.pdf)

Artist: www.facebook.com/beccyhurstmusic/

OTHER EXCITING GLOBAL PROJECTS TO GET INVOLVED WITH...

- MMD Schools - get singing with Charanga's free resources and join the global Big Sing
<https://makemusicday.co.uk/mmd-schools/>
- MixMash Studios - bringing producers and sound samplers together
<https://makemusicday.co.uk/mix-mash-studios/>
- International Drum Battle - drum and percussion groups make some noise
<https://makemusicday.co.uk/drum-battle/>
- Window Serenades - socially distanced performances for care homes
<https://makemusicday.co.uk/window-serenades/>
- Junkophonics - instruments from found objects
<https://makemusicday.co.uk/junkophonics/>
- #MySongsIsYourSong - swap songs with another artist
<https://www.makemusicday.org/national-projects/mysongisyoursong/>

Proud Manxman Ian to get special honour

Broadcaster Ian Cottier has been nominated for a Tynwald honour.

The proud Manxman will be awarded the accolade on Tynwald Day this year in recognition of his public service to the Isle of Man, particularly in the areas of education, music and the arts, and his long-term charitable work.

Mr Cottier, who lives in Port St Mary, is a former head teacher of Douglas High School and St Ninian's but is probably best known for his long-standing involvement in the brass band scene in the island.

He has presented Time for Brass on Manx Radio for more than 40 years, making him the longest running brass band radio presenter in the world.

Mr Cottier is vice president of Rushen Silver Band which he has been a member of since the early 1950s.

Born in Shore Road, Port St Mary in March 1936, he was among the first cohort to attend the newly opened Castle Rushen High School.

After graduating in English from Manchester University, Mr Cottier went on to work at various schools in the UK, as teacher, department head, deputy head and headmaster, before returning to the Isle of Man. He became headmaster of Douglas High School in 1976 where he had a central role in the 1985 reorganisation of the Douglas schools.

And then he went on to the role of headmaster of St Ninian's High School in 1986 where he taught until his retirement in 1994.

A strong advocate of the Manx language and culture, he introduced Manx language lessons for all pupils in years seven and eight following the 1985 reorganisation of Douglas schools.

He served as a lay member on the planning committee for 13 years with his last term ending in 2020.

In addition to bringing a diligent and thorough approach to evaluating planning applications, he regularly corrected both mispronunciation of Manx place and street names and any grammatical errors in officers' recommendations!

He has been a volunteer steward for the Friends of the Gaiety for more than 30 years.

And for nearly 30 years, Mr Cottier has volunteered for the Manx Blind Welfare Society. As well as being a volunteer driver, one of his regular duties is the recording of the Society's news service for the visually impaired.

From 1980 to 1999, Mr Cottier was on the Isle of Man committee of the Sail Training Association and was also on the island committee of the Jubilee Sailing Trust from 1982 to 1999.

In an interview with Isle of Man Newspapers last September he said: 'I'm the luckiest person on the planet'. He has kept all the playlists of his Manx Radio shows dating back four decades to the very first one in September 1980.

Original article: <http://www.iomtoday.co.im/article.cfm?id=6155>



Share na Veg 45 years mini-doc. Chloe talks to Paul Moulton at IOMTV:

https://youtu.be/mB_l1uDAMNo



**Peel Heritage Trust - Short Films of Peel with James Franklin of Culture Vannin
May 19 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Peel Centenary Centre**

From micro-cars to murder, a night of short films all about Peel.

James Franklin of Culture Vannin will present a series of short films made over recent years about some of the little-known places and stories of Peel.

The films will include: a daring escape by fascists during WW2, a press gang murder, a burial site hidden amongst the gorse which is four times as old as Peel Castle, how WW1 heroism led to one of Peel's oldest fishing boats, what remains of Peel's railway station today, and more.

The evening will also include premieres of films never seen before: a unique film from inside the world's best-preserved Cold War nuclear monitoring station (at a secret location just outside Peel); a short documentary about Peel Engineering, the P50 and other of its creations; the heyday of Traie Fagog swimming baths; and the visits to Peel of a certain talking mongoose...!

This is a ticket only event. Free to members contact vickiatspa@hotmail.co.uk or 844891 to reserve your seat/s. £5 to non-members. Book on Eventbrite via PHT Facebook page.

<https://www.peelheritagetrust.net/event/short-films-of-peel-with-james-franklin-of-culture-vannin/>

NAMA Nominations close soon

There's still time to nominate a worthy young person who has made an outstanding contribution to Manx culture and island life in 2020/21 will be recognised this summer by the North American Manx Association. The North American Manx Awards cover a range of subjects including Manx language, music and art and are largely focussed on children under the age of 18. The deadline for nominations is Friday 7th May. Nominations are now open and can be downloaded <https://www.gov.im/competitions> obtained by emailing cpd.bookings@sch.im or by calling Frances Cowin or Shelley Moffitt on 693830/693836.

The categories are:

- Manx music
- Art and crafts that portray any aspect of Manx life or culture
- Manx language
- Outstanding contribution to Manx culture by a student under 18, over 18 & a group of under 25s
- Outstanding contribution to the community
- Overcoming disability to contribute to the community



Jackie Mattison, who many will remember from the IOM trad music scene, passed away last month in Cornwall where she'd lived latterly. Her funeral was held today.

Never a dull moment when Jackie was about - so chatty and full of mischief!

Thanks to Roger Woodcock for the photo of Jackie and her late husband Robin, and to Fiona McArdle for placing the notice in IOM newspapers.



Monday 29th March – entries open

Monday 3rd May – solo and duet entries close

Monday 17th May – ensemble entries close

Monday 7th June – preschool and key stage 1 competition

Tuesday 8th June – key stage 2 competition

Wednesday 9th June – key stage 3 competition

Wednesday 10th June – key stage 4 competition

For an entry form and some guidelines on how to film and submit your performance please email mvmc2021@gmail.com

Please let us know if you would like copies of our child protection and data protection policy

NB. There's still time to enter MVMC... We're extending the deadline for solo video entries until Sunday 9th May. Classes for all young (U18) voices and instruments, judged by off island adjudicators. Prize money and trophies to be won! PM or email mvmc2021@gmail.com for a registration form.

Ken Crellin was a popular tunesmith

Tributes have been paid to a much-loved and respected musician who sadly died last week.

Ken Crellin, a popular harmonica and concertina player, passed away after spending time in hospital in Liverpool.

A regular performer at the Friday Folk nights at both the Sailors' Shelter and the Athol Rooms in Peel, Ken was a founding member of the folk group Shoh Slaynt and also of popular folk group Pocheen.

The latter are remembered with a great deal of fondness as a band who were part of the burgeoning folk scene on the island during the 1970s, alongside groups such as Mannin Folk and Treadmill plus musicians Marlene Peel (now Maska), Mike Williams, Al Lawrence, John Harrison and many more.

Alongside his life as a teacher, where he spent most of his career teaching at Ashley Hill school in Onchan, Ken was highly regarded as a versatile musician who could turn his talents to playing a wide range of folk tunes and blues.

The website manxmusic.com described him as 'a tunesmith who can play reels, airs and jigs galore. He also loves playing the blues, and accompanies songs, adding so much to each one.'

Paul Reynolds, who played alongside Ken for more than 50 years, said he was a great friend and band mate who will be greatly missed by many.

'He was a very gifted musician and was great to play along with,' said Paul.

'He had a great array of harmonicas, I think about 20 altogether, and in several different keys, and could play anything from the blues to folk, popular standards and hornpipes.

'We played together in Pocheen during the 1970s, with Neil Sadler and Martin Burns, recording an album in the mid-70s with Terry Clough, before Ken had to stop due to his health.

'When we both retired from teaching, we got together again and started jamming together, which led to Shoh Slaynt. We made another album together with Shoh Slaynt, called "Snuff The Wind" in 2011.

'He was a very dear friend and I will miss him dreadfully.'

Paul said that he hopes to be able to put together a tribute concert later this year.

Ken was married to Eileen and had two children, Adrian and Zoe, along with five grandchildren.

Original article 21 April 2021: <http://www.iomtoday.co.im/article.cfm?id=61520>



SATURDAY 10TH JULY 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
CARNANE ESTATE LTD.

The Ellyn Festival <https://www.facebook.com/TheEllynFestival.IOM>

kiauli noa

Forrest Beard brings out new 11-track album

A Douglas singer-songwriter has just released his second album after making the most of his time in lockdown >>

www.iomtoday.co.im/article.cfm?id=61270



Mark and Amy from Whitehead Worship filmed their arrangement of Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) - John Newton & Chris Tomlin; Kinnoull - Peddyr Cubberley and

Eunyssagh Vona - Manx Traditional. <https://youtu.be/vPz8QQs7gC0>

Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL HARP FESTIVAL - NEW GENERATION CONCERT ONLINE

Talented young Manx harpists Arabella and Lucy starred alongside peers from around the world in this online concert last month. Watch the full concert here:



https://youtu.be/-kkA3_4IV5U

Lucy playing Scollag Aeg:

<https://youtu.be/aZwvPfMW86E>

Arabella playing Sac and Three Little Boats:

<https://youtu.be/eOxH2RMiXys>



The 2021 International Celtic Congress 2 - 4 July will be an online event hosted by the Cymru/Wales branch.

The theme of the Congress will be: Sut i Lwyddo fel Celtiaid yn y Byd Busnes Cyfoes | How to be Successfully Celtic in the Modern Business World *The congress will include Manx entertainment.*

JOIN: <https://internationalcelticcongress.org/en/annual-conference/>

Youtube corner!

Juan-Y-Jaggard Kear by Rachel on album O'R Ddwy Ochr / Both Sides 2003 Sain (Recordiau) Cyf.

https://youtu.be/5E0-r1tqp_8

Manx music from Mera Royle and Scran was enjoyed during the coffee breaks at a recent UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies online conference.

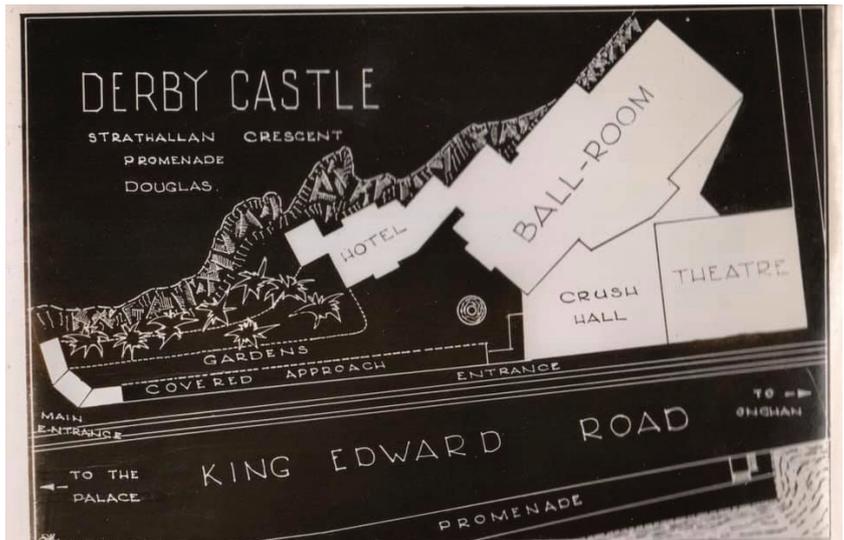
RESEARCH NEWS

Isle of Man Times, Saturday, July 16, 1921

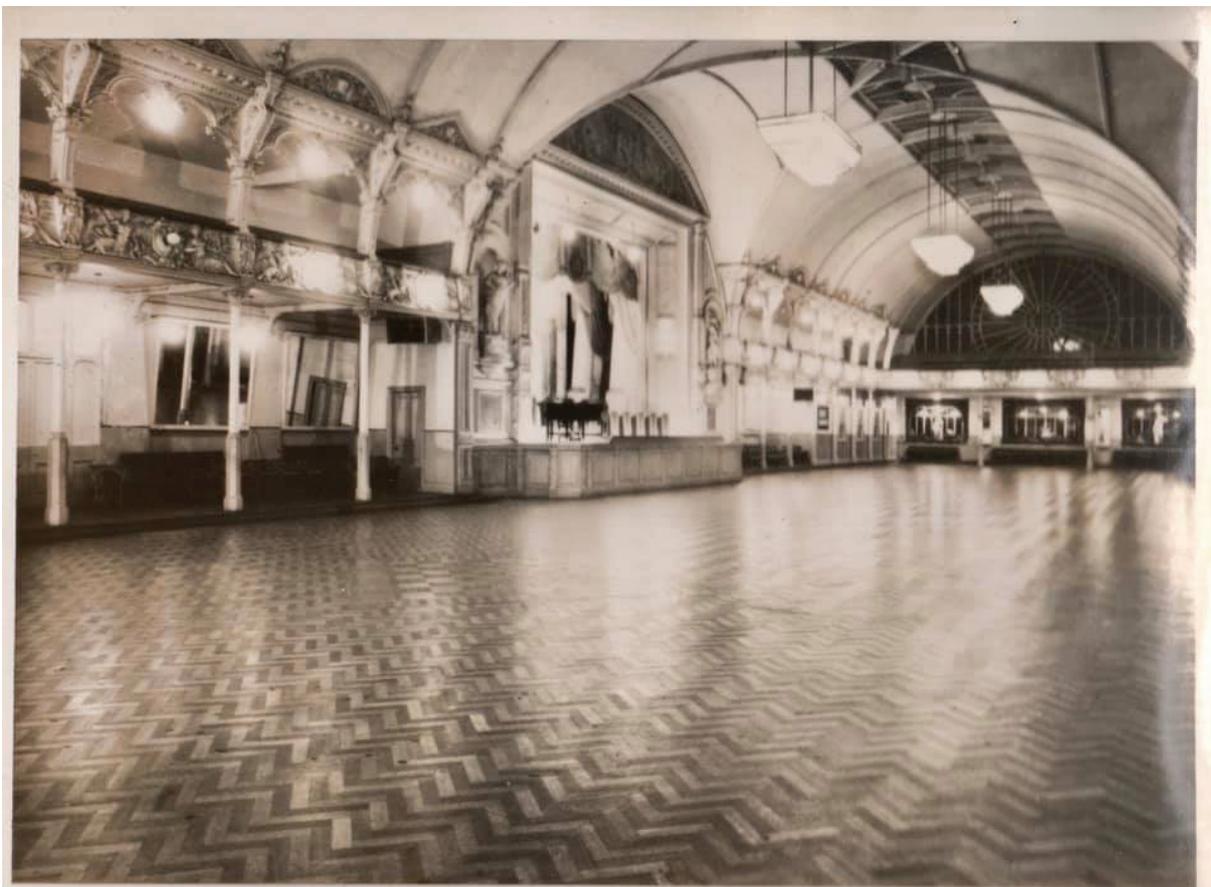
Accommodation Provided.

Some idea of the resources of the Company and of the magnitude of the accommodation afforded by its places of amusement may be formed from the following figures:—

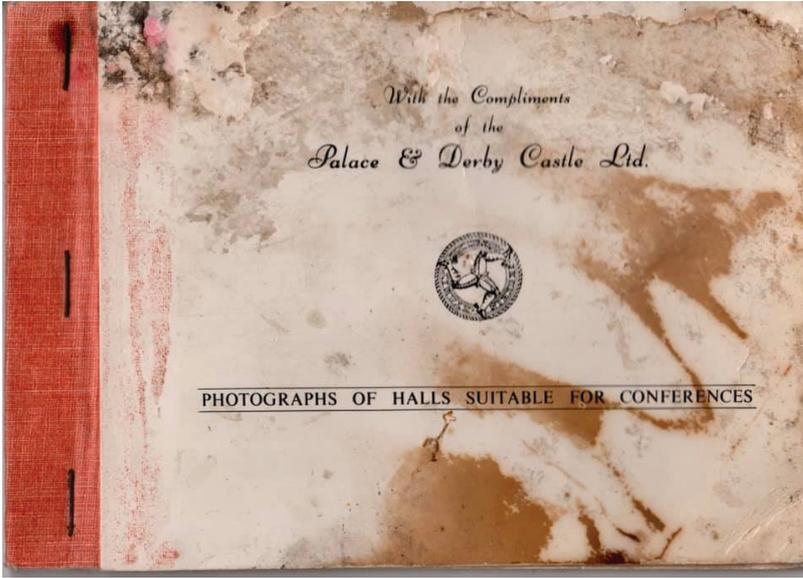
Name.	Seating accommodation for
Gaiety Theatre	2,300
Derby Castle—	
In Theatre	2,000
In Pavilion	3,500
	5,500
The Palace—	
In old Opera House	1,800
In Coliseum	3,000
In Pavilion	6,200
	11,000
Grand Theatre	2,400
Buxton's (Picture House, &c.)...	1,600
Making a Total of	22,800



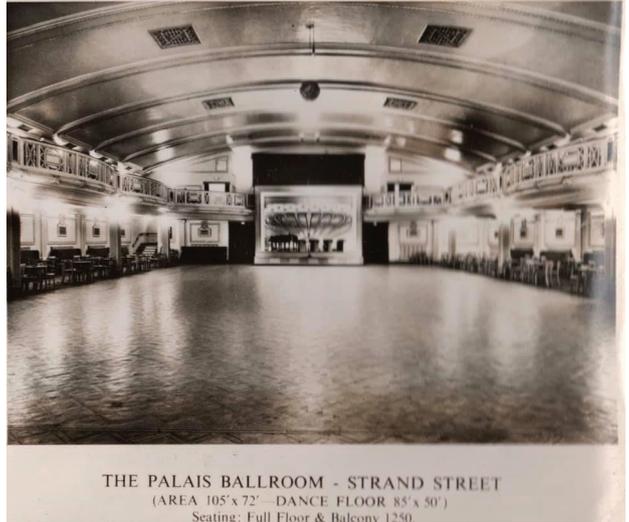
A member of Manx Nostalgia has shared photos from a catalogue of IOM entertainment venues from the 1930s: www.facebook.com/groups/manxnostalgia/permalink/10158954478505049/



DERBY CASTLE BALLROOM - PROMENADE N.E.
(AREA 163' x 45' - ACCOMMODATION APPROX 2,000)



THE CRESCENT PAVILION
(SEATING 792)



THE PALAIS BALLROOM - STRAND STREET
(AREA 105' x 72' - DANCE FLOOR 85' x 50')
Seating: Full Floor & Balcony 1250.



THE STAGE - PALACE BALLROOM

Jean Curphey ~ ‘Manxland’s Ambassadors of Song’

by Maurice Powell

Jean Curphey was one of the finest, most successful and versatile singers the Isle of Man ever produced, an artiste whose voice was as charming as her personality was infectiously cheerful, and who endeared herself to many both on and off stage.

Jean Marguerita Alfreda Curphey was born on 19th March 1926 at the family home, Clifton House, Mona Terrace, Douglas. Her father Alfred (1889-1949) was the first caretaker and assistant at the new Manx Museum, although his role developed to involve a certain amount of conservation work and the organising and setting up of exhibitions.* Jean’s mother Hilda May (1892-1974) was a supportive housewife who ‘loaned’ the museum several items from the family kitchen during the early years of the museum’s history, some of which had belonged to her mother.*

Jean was attracted to music from a very early age. In her private autobiographical account of details and events from her life, she suggested that her earliest musical training took place ‘in the womb’ as her mother frequently listened to music on the radio or played gramophone records. Her mother later recalled that as a baby Jean would settle only whilst a gramophone record was playing, and that she would become increasingly restless when the mechanism wound down and required constant re-winding.

* The Manx Museum was opened in November 1922 on the site of the original Noble’s Hospital. The large-scale contour map of the Isle of Man which can still be viewed was entirely Alfred Curphey’s project. In November 1937, the Isle of Man Examiner reported that ‘Little Miss Jean Curphey, the daughter of A. H. Curphey’, presented a bouquet to Lady Rose Levenson Gower at the opening of the Manx Museum extension. In April 1939 the Manx Museum and National Trust Report (Natural History Section) recorded that Jean had presented a mounted song thrush (catalogue number 4879) to the Museum.

* Reminiscences of Jean’s daughter Jill Kelly, who told me that most of the items were never returned!

Jean attended Finch Road Convent School, an establishment known for its devotion to music and the arts. Her early hopes as a dancer were dashed when her teacher Mrs Rushworth advised that, despite a developed sense of rhythm, she might be better suited to a musical instrument or singing. Discouraging although this may have been at the time, it proved to be sound, even prophetic, advice, as she began to take piano and singing lessons from Agnes Corris.*

* Mrs T. C. Corris was the conductor of the Woodside Ladies Choir, the sixty-voice mixed choir known as the Woodside Choral Society, and Laxey Choral Society. The Ladies Choir took part in several of Kathleen Rydings’ Manx Amateur Orchestral Society concerts during the 1930s. See Maurice Powell, *A Very Gifted Manx Lady*, Wibble Publishing, 2014, and the same author’s *Kathleen Rydings, ‘Manx Musical Worthies’*, manxmusic.com.

The earliest references to Jean Curphey in Manx newspapers date from 1936, but as a budding young pianist. Indeed, the first mention of her was in the Isle of Man Times, 9th May, when she passed her preliminary piano grade. Later that year in December, the Isle of Man Examiner recorded her success in the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music piano, Grade I examination as a pupil of Mrs Corris. The following year, now a pupil at Douglas High School, she appeared in a concert under the auspices of ABRSM at St George’s Hall, Douglas, which was deemed to be ‘a most enjoyable affair’, although poorly attended due to an outbreak of influenza. In July she successfully passed her Grade II piano examination, and in October she entered the open piano solo under twelve years of age class at the Blackpool Music Festival held at the Winter Gardens and tied in seventh place with her performance of Giles Farnaby’s *Pawles Wharfe*. More significantly, ‘little Jean Curphey of Douglas’ entered a singing class for the first time and sang Parry’s children’s song *Rock-a-bye*.*

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE: <https://tinyurl.com/2bz34usn>



ARRANE NY FERESHYN
“SONG OF THE [TRAVELLING] FAIRIES”

MANX READINGS (19 FEBRUARY 1872)

ARRANE NY FERESHYN

This was a song of the Fairies, told of a Manxman, who being jolly got into the hands of the jolly fairies who took him all over the Island, popping him into rich larders and well-stored cellars, where he ate and drank his fill. The song also describes the rare scenes which were dropped upon on the excursion, the audience bursting out into roars of laughter at those points where a Manx maiden and her swain were bowled out “coorting.”

“Manx Readings and Concert,” *Mona’s Herald*, 21 February 1872, 5d–f & 6.

ORDER YN LHIAGH GAELKAGH

The following programme was then gone through with such *éclat* as at times to bring the house down in unbounded applause:

ORDER YN LHIAGH GAELKAGH, EC DOOLISH

Vr Harry Callister, Skeerey Pherick ... Arrane ne Feresihyn (song of the fairies).

“The Manx Entertainment,” *Manx Sun*, 24 February 1872, 4e.

A.W. MOORE, LETTER TO THE MONA’S HERALD (1894)

DEAR SIR,—On the 19th of February, 1872, a Manx Readings and Concert took place in Douglas. At this entertainment, which was reported in the Herald of the 21st of February, a number of Manx songs were sung, and among them, one entitled “Arrane ny Fereshyn.” The words of this song are not given, but there is the following brief account of it: “This was a song of the fairies, told of a Manxman, who being jolly got into the hands of the jolly fairies who took him all over the Island, popping him into rich larders and well stored cellars, where he ate and drank his fill. The song also describes the rare scenes which were dropped upon on the excursion, the audience bursting out into roars of laughter at those points where a Manx maiden and her swain were bowled out ‘coorting.’” My object in writing to you and making this quotation from your issue of nearly 22 years ago is to get the words, and, if possible, the music of this song from any of your readers who may remember them. I should also be glad to know if Messrs Quine Brothers “whose quadrille band gave their services, and played a series of Manx airs and dance music between each reading and song” are still living.

Yours truly, | A.W. MOORE. Woodbourne House, | Jan. 5, 1894.

A.W. Moore, “[Letter to the Editor] Arrane ny Fereshyn,” *Mona’s Herald*, 10 January 1894, 6f.

A.G. GILCHRIST TO MONA DOUGLAS (1923) & (1925)

I do hope you will recover the fairy song—as it sounds so very old and interesting. Even if you don’t, I should be glad to have the scrap of chorus, and will describe the method of performance, which in itself is worth noting!

Letter from A.G. Gilchrist to Mona Douglas (21 November 1923)

I suppose you never obtained that song of the travelling fairies!

Letter from A.G. Gilchrist to Mona Douglas (24 March 1925)

I am sorry you could not get the “Travelling Fairies,” but it is one of the difficulties with folk-singers that if they don’t want to sing, “wild horses” won’t drag anything out of them!

Letter from A.G. Gilchrist to Mona Douglas (26 May 1925)

I suppose you never did get the fairy travellers’ song [...].

Letter from A.G. Gilchrist to Mona Douglas (4 August 1925)

A.G. GILCHRIST (1928)

[*Appendix i, B, Arrane y Glashtin*] Miss Douglas writes that the list of places visited by the Glashtin reminds her of a similar list in a song of “The Travelling Fairies” which she has for some time been endeavouring to obtain from its singer, who could not be persuaded to sing it for her but gave her the “plan” of the song. It mentioned several of the places given in the “Additional Texts” verse, but in this Peel song occur also Ballacashtal (Castletown), Cleigh-yn-arragh, Sloc, Gliion Meay, and Lag Eeval ec Gordon, instead of simply Gordon. In the last verse—so the singer told her—“when they [the fairies] reached Gordon there they stayed over the full moon with great feasting and merriment.” Gordon, adds Miss Douglas, seems to have been a favourite place with fairies. It comes into several stories, and Lag Eeval—a place she knows well—still bears the reputation of being very “gentle.” This fairy song had a refrain of the “Ri fol” type, in which the company joined, and there was a little step-dance by the soloist between the verses, to which the company kept time by clapping their hands. This seems to me to be a different song, but the “travelling” tradition is interesting.—A.G.G.

“Arrane y Glashtin: Va Oie ayns Cronk Ollee Mooar,” in A.G. Gilchrist, “Songs from the Isle of Man (Part i),” *Journal of the Folk-Song Society* vii.28 (1924), v–xvi & 99–198, see 105–06. Also, see “Arrane y Glashtin,” 203–05, in “Additional Texts and Fragments belonging to Tunes in Journal No. 28 (Manx Collection, Part i),” in “Songs from the Isle of Man (Part ii),” *Journal of the Folk-Song Society* vii.29 (1925), v–xi & 203–76.

[MONA DOUGLAS] (1930)

Song of the Travelling Fairies.—I should be glad to obtain the complete words of this song, and the tune of the verse-part. I have been given the air of the refrain and told that the song, which was well known in Peel some years ago, describes the travels of the fairies from one place in the Island to another, and their doings in each place.

Anon [but Mona Douglas], “[Manx Notes and Queries] [Queries] Song of the Travelling Fairies,” *Mona’s Herald*, 14 May 1930, 3f.

Song of the Travelling Fairies.—Words and air of the verses of this song wanted. It is said to have been well known in Peel some years ago.

Anon [but Mona Douglas], “[Manx Notes and Queries] [Queries] Song of the Travelling Fairies,” *Mona’s Herald*, 25 June 1930, 7e.

Song of the Travelling Fairies.—Complete words of this song and air of the verse-part wanted. The song is said to have been well known in Peel some years ago, and describes the travels of the fairies through the Island and the places where they rested.

Anon [but Mona Douglas], “[Manx Notes and Queries] [Queries] Song of the Travelling Fairies,” *Mona’s Herald*, 19 November 1930, 6e.

*

STEPHEN MILLER RBV

NC and Hyndaa yn Bwoalley

by Bob Carswell

In the last KMJ, the extract from Cinzia Curtis's thesis about Manx dance mentions a note in which Mona Douglas contrasted her original notes for Hyndaa yn Bwoalley (Mona's spelling of the name) with the way in which the dance came to be performed on the suggestion of 'another person, N.C. , whose identity is yet unknown'. Mona showed N.C. the dance, Hyndaa yn Bwoalley, in association with a play that was going to be put on in Laxey. Whilst there is no script known to be extant for Mona Douglas's play, *The Master of Raby*, there is at least one photograph and outline descriptions of it in the Manx newspapers for 1927, when it was given at the Gaiety Theatre by The Laxey Players on St Patrick's Night. The photograph shows Mona's father, Frank Beardmore Douglas (1863-1943), in his role as the fiddle player, Juan the Rea. The poster for the Gaiety performance states:

"The Play tells the moving story of Nicholas Colcheragh the hero of the Ancient Ballad " NY KIRRIE FO NIAGHTEY," and of the Great Snowstorm that brought tragedy to Raby in Kirk Lonan. There is plenty of fun, however, and a brave Love Story too, as well as many genuine old Manx Folk Dances."

Unfortunately, the dances themselves are not named or described. The poster and contemporary newspaper articles refer to a mheillea scene in Raby barn. The *Isle of Man Examiner* for Friday, March 18, 1927, p.3, said that 'Brightness was imparted to the harvest scene . . . by several old-fashioned dances stepped to old Manx airs, thanks to the training of Miss A. I. Caine.' The *Ramsey Courier* for Friday, April 08, 1927, p.5, says that 'In the course of the play, in fact, in the opening scene, the opportunity is taken to introduce a few old Manx dances in connection with the Mheilla festivities in the barn at Raby . . .' and the *Ramsey Chronicle* for Friday, April 08, 1927, p.5 also refers to technical support including, "Director of Dances - Miss A. I. Caine."

Annie Isabel Caine (1889-1975) was known as Nance Caine. She had been a head teacher, dialect poet and reciter, a singer who took part in plays and concerts, and was a member of Aeglagh Vannin. She gave talks about Manx folklore and customs and taught Manx classes. She was featured in broadcasts for the BBC. She was the sister of poet and journalist, Philip Wilby Caine, and she and one of her sisters, Nellie (Eleanor Mary), used to sing and recite together. They were the aunts of Bernard Caine and he talks in Manx about them in recordings which are available with a transcript in English on www.learnmanx.com.

Nance Cain is mentioned by Philip Leighton Stowell in a summary of a lecture he gave on 15th September 1964 to the members of the Liverpool University Extra-Mural Summer School in Port Erin, which can be read in Stephen Miller's Chiollagh Books edition for Culture Vannin, "My Folk Dancing Days", p.5: www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/My%20Folk%20Dancing%20Days_.S.PDF

"By 1922, folk dancing in the Island was practically unknown. Some interested Douglas teachers, Flo Moore, Nance Cain [sic], the Misses Lacey, Lottie Gawne and a few others had begun to establish English Country dances, and Mr Bolland, a Laxey headmaster, was teaching his girls Morris dancing, for which there was a class in the Guild."

An English country dance class began in October 1927 as the Douglas branch of the English Folk Dance Society. A Ramsey class opened at the same time and officially became the Ramsey Centre of the English Folk Dance Society in October 1929. The *Isle of Man Examiner* for Friday, December 27, 1929, p.6, has an article about the IOMNHAS AGM, which says that " An interesting lecture on " Folk lore – its bearing on song and dance," by Miss A. I. Caine, headmistress of the Ballamodda school, followed the President's address. The lecture was illustrated by the country dances- "Sellinger's Round," "Jenny Pluck Pears, [sic]..." The English country dance was, therefore, something with which Nance Caine was familiar.

Another N.C., Norah Crellin, was also involved with *The Master of Raby* as piano accompanist. However, Norah Crellin's dance expertise seems to have been in ballroom. If Hyndaa yn Bwoalley was performed as one of the 'many genuine old Manx Folk Dances' as part of *The Master of Raby*, which the Gaiety poster gives us a suggestion, then the person advising Mona on the performance of the dance would appear to have been Nance Caine.

See KMJ April 2021 for **Chyndaa yn Bwoailley** By Cinzia Curtis 2006, taken from thesis:

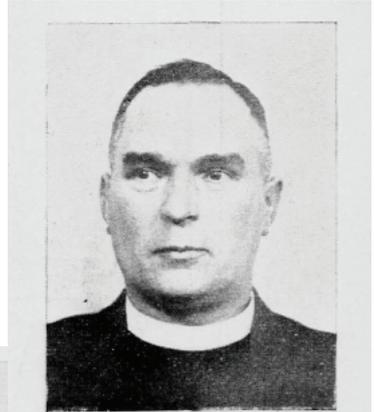
www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/MANX%20DANCE%20THESIS%20Cinzia%20Curtis%202006.pdf

Celtic Congress 1938

Photos from the 1938 Celtic Congress meeting in Douglas. Mona Douglas may have been wearing her Bardic Robes as "Mona Manaw", which was awarded to her in 1917 when she was initiated as a Bard of the Third Degree in the Order of Gorsedds at the Royal Eisteddfod of Wales. *Thanks to Stephen Miller.*



The Mayor's Reception to Delegates to the Celtic Congress:—Left to right: Rev. J. MacKechnie (Glasgow), Mr. P. Diverres (Brittany), Prof. May Williams (Wales), Mr. Llewelyn Davies (Nat. Library, Wales), the Mayor of Douglas, Mrs. H. P. Kelly (hostess), the Mayoress of Douglas, Mr. H. M. Rogers (hon. treasurer, Celtic Congress 1938), Deemster Farrant (president of the Congress), Miss Mona Douglas (hon. secretary, Congress 1938).



The Rev. C. A. CANNAN, B.A., who will read the laws in Manx at the Tynwald ceremony at St. John's. He is a member of a well-known Michael family, being a son of the late Mr J. W. Cannan, member of the House of Keys for Michael. He is a keen student of the Manx language, and has conducted several services in Manx in recent years.



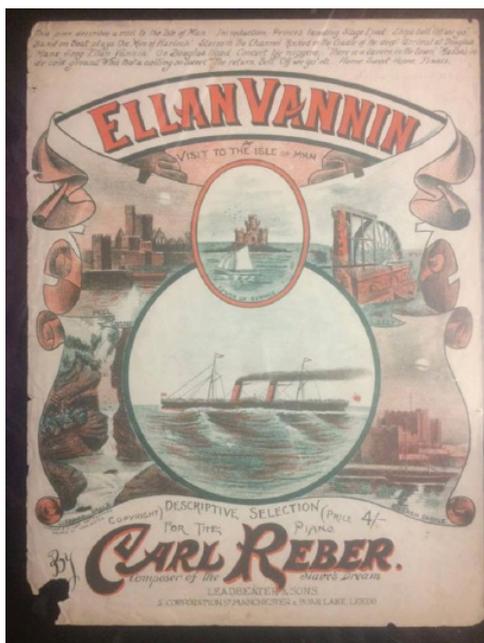
Delegates who are on the Island this and next week attending the Celtic Congress. The Deemster Farrant is in the centre and on either side of him are the Marquis and Marchioness of Ailsa.

An Analysis of Haydn Wood's Mannin Veen as It Relates to Manx Folk Songs and Legends From the Isle of Man

By Haley Armstrong, Director of Bands, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology

Abstract Haydn Wood (1882–1959) was an English composer raised on the Isle of Man. His compositional strengths lay in melodic writing and scoring, and he is best remembered as a composer of British light music. Haydn Wood has also been credited with composing works for wind band, most notably, Mannin Veen: A Manx Tone Poem. Given the lack of research on Haydn Wood, his compositions and his homeland, this article focuses on the transcribed wind work Mannin Veen as it relates to Manx folksongs and legends from the Isle of Man. In this article, comprehensive research on Haydn Wood, The Isle of Man, and Mannin Veen is provided. For the analysis, original source materials are provided that can be used by conductors to better prepare and perform these works. READ HERE:

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/2158244020954930>



<<Last month we featured the front cover from a songsheet entitled **Ellan Vannin: A Trip to Manxland**.

Find out about this song and its composer, Carl Reber in this article by Maurice Powell, published in the December 2016 edition of KMJ:

<https://tinyurl.com/yfctjj5u>

Below:

The Fenella Choristers who performed for the Celtic Congress at Cunningham's Camp in 1938



Miss Effie Fayle and the members of the Fenella Choristers, who are singing at the Celtic Concert at Cunningham's Camp, at 9 p.m. on Sunday.



In April 1957 about 100 members of the English Folk Dance and Song Society visited the Island.

A course was held at the St Ninians section of the Douglas School for Boys and the gym, art rooms and assembly hall were all converted into dance studios for the duration of their stay.

It was recorded in the Isle of Man Times that there was an echoing of “the music of country dancing” whilst they were there. The Society also practiced dancing along Douglas Prom and in the Villa Marina Gardens, as pictured. What a lovely time they must have had! To read the article about their visit to the Island, click here: <http://ow.ly/f03z50Ex0XQ>

Folk dancing at the Villa Marina, April 1957: <http://ow.ly/Tug950Ex0XP>

Manx National Heritage



<< Young Manx dancers from Ballasalla School in the 1980s

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

Two tunes for you this month!

The melody for Lowenna's new May Day dance https://youtu.be/hyP_boKiVQM and an old hymn tune called "May" composed c.1930 by William C Southward, M.L.C., Captain of the Parish of Lezayre. A prolific composer of hymn melodies, WC Southward was a key figure in Sulby Methodist Chapel, and he and his brother Robert owned Sulby Woollen Mill. This hymn tune was transcribed from a handwritten tonic sol-fa manuscript in the Manx Museum. It is quite likely the melody is actually named after his sister-in-law 'Mae', rather than the month!

Yn Daunse jeh ny Blaaghyn Bwee

Variant of Moghrey Laa Boaldyn
by Grainne Joughin 2020

5

9

13

MD 10078/5
7087
Transcribed from
unpublished MS

May 4.7s. [Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star]

W.C. Southward

5

CALENDAR

MAY

2nd Oie Voaldyn, Peel TBC
8th Manx Fiddle Orchestra rehearsal
30th Great Laxey Brass Band Festival

JUNE

5th Manx Fiddle Orchestra rehearsal
9th - 9th July Gaelg21 Manx Langage Month
16th Clash Vooar, The Royal garden, 3pm
21st Laa Jannoo Kiaull - Make Music Day

JULY

5th Tynwald Day
16th - 18th I'm Douglas Live
19th - 25th Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering
www.celticgathering.im
23rd - 25th Dark Horse Festival [sold out]
24th The Ellyn Festival

For updates & news, follow

www.facebook.com/groups/manxmusicanddance

Sailors Shelter Summer Concerts, Peel

Organisers are seeking volunteer performers for the following dates:

12th May, 9th June, 23rd June, 14th July, 4th August.
Each spot is about 35 mins. Contact Paul via Shoh Slaynt:

www.facebook.com/shoh.slaynt



ISLE OF MAN
Laa Jannoo Kiaull
JUNE 21

"I'm Douglas Live"

NEW DATES!

Friday 16th and Sunday 18th July.
20 Douglas venues are now involved.

If you wish to be included as a performer, contact Luis Villalon Gimenez at

dtdcm@douglas.gov.im

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 Trad Session at O'Donnell's, Douglas
THURS 8pm Singing session at The Mitre, Ramsey
FRI 8pm Trad session at The Mitre, Ramsey
FRI 8pm Trad session at the Colby Glen
Last **FRI** of month 9pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary
First **SUN** of month 12.30pm Trad session in Laxey Sailing Club
Third **SUN** of month 12.30pm Trad session in Ginger Hall, Sulby

~ SESSIONS ~

culture vannin

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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