



Shennaghys Jiu 2007: another success!

Shennaghys Jiu once again reaffirmed its importance on the Island by staging yet another very enjoyable festival. Celebrating its tenth birthday, Shennaghys Jiu set out to build on the foundations that were laid down during its inception way back in 1998. It continues to let young people enjoy performing and playing music on the same stage as adults and continues to provide them with a focal point for which to prepare their talents.

The tenth festival saw the organisers of the festival drawing together some of the visitors from overseas who have played such a vital role in the festival success, in particular Calum Stewart and Anton Davila. Indeed Calum was at the very first festival and has been in various guises ever since, including as a member of Rain n' Gaels and Three Bags Full. This year gave him a chance to return to the Isle of Man after qualifying for the final of the Young Scottish Traditional Musician of the Year. The festival committee were also delighted that he persuaded Malcolm Stitt of Boys of the Lough fame and local resident to join him on stage. The atmosphere and music they performed was truly exceptional and was appreciated by all those who heard them play.



Anton came to the Festival first in 2001 and provided then a chance for many local people the first hand opportunity to see and listen to the Galician pipes. Since then he has returned alongside Xose Liz and Harry Price. It was with great delight that the committee were able to persuade Anton to return once again to the Island with his own group Aran. Of course there were the tunes which have become favourites of those who have heard Anton play over the years, but there was also the chance to listen to a new depth of Galician music with the pipes, bouzouki, violin and double bass all mixing together to form a very special sound. Perhaps the highlights of their performances

were the guest singers who added a different dimension and enthusiasm to the music which had people smiling and tapping their feet.

In keeping with the young element of the festival the committee also wanted to maintain a link to a younger band and if at all possible a link to James Alexander who was in part responsible for the festival as a whole. This came in the way of Full Spate a young dynamic group from Fochabers who have all been taught to some degree by James Alexander. The folk rock mix was excellent and the Wolfstone like sound created was well received especially by the younger performers and audiences. Their enthusiasm was contagious, playing music into the early hours of the morning on each of the nights they were here.



The programme in essence had not changed dramatically, with yet again another wonderful Children's Concert on the Friday night. The dedication of the children and their teachers should again be credited as without their help and support the festival would be without a future. The concert once again had a very special family atmosphere with many parents and children alike joining together for a dance in the ceilidh that followed.

Perhaps the most successful night was the New Bands Night, this was truly a fantastic concert. It was to have taken place in the main bar of the Grand Island Hotel, but due to worries about children being allowed in, the venue was changed to the main function room. This proved to be the correct decision as it very quickly became a standing room only concert. Once again the family atmosphere was present, with parents and children turning up to give their support to friends and family. All the new acts performed excellently. The concert began with new young group Pobble, joined by Al Lawrence, who performed a selection of

tunes from Ireland. Again the talented young musicianship was there to be seen by all. They were followed by Shear, made up of Chloe Woolley, Breesha Maddrell, Katie Lawrence and Cinzia Curtis. Although all old hands at performing at Shennaghys Jiu, their new piano based sound was lovely to hear.

The third act of the night was the Ballaghs. They added a change of focus for the concert and had everyone singing along to renditions of songs by the Pogues and the Levellers amongst others. The final act of the night were the Reeling Stones, who finished the night as it had been started with young traditional musicians enjoying the opportunity to showcase the different talents they have. This truly was an excellent night, and really was in keeping as to what the festival had been started for,



There were also excellent concerts at Lonan Church, where visiting musicians were joined by Laxey School, Kirsty and Katie and Caarjyn Coodjagh. This concert continues to provide the audience a chance to listen to the music Shennaghys Jiu as to offer in the lovely acoustics of Lonan Church.

Once again a truly exceptional concert was held at The Peel Centenary Centre where the visiting groups were joined by the Mollag Band and King Chiallee. Both these two groups have performed at all the Shennaghys Jiu festivals and again provided the audience the chance to see the talent the Isle of Man has to offer.

The final day began with another well attended Music in the Pub session held at Clinches and then to the final concert and ceilidh. This again was a great night, with many families returning to enjoy a dance and get a last chance to listen to the visting groups perform.

There are many thank yous that need to be expressed; in particular to Chloe Woolley and Cinzia Curtis for running the music workshop, yet again this was a well attended event and continued to show the enthusiasm and talent our young people have on the Isle of Man to keep the culture alive. Also to our list of sponsors, in particular The Manx Heritage Foundation, but also to the Arts Council, Ramsey Town Commissioners, The Department of Education and to the many other organisations of who continue to sponsor the event.

However the main thank you must go to the local groups who have yet again continued to support the festival and made it the great success it is. From the festival committee a really big thank you, you really are appreciated.

So Shennaghys Jieh had ended, another exciting and enjoyable event. For those visiting for the first time we hope it won't be the last and for those who continue to support us, see you next year!

Juan Garrett, Festival Director

Bulletin Board

Conference entertainment database

The DTL are creating a database of Manx performers. The database is being created in the main to serve the increasing number of conferences that take place on the Island and require some entertainment. Local entertainment is often requested. If you would like to add your group or yourself as a soloist to this database please email richard.cuthbert@gov.im or telephone 686888 with Name of Group/Act
Contact name
Contact details (Address, tel and email)
Brief description of the act and how they can involve conference delegates (if possible).

Wedding Bells

Kiaull Manninagh Jiu would like to offer its congratulations to Dr Chloe Woolley (Manx Music Specialist for the Manx Heritage Foundation) and Malcolm Stitt (Boys of the Lough, Deaf Shepherd) on their upcoming marriage. We all wish them the best and a long and happy life together. As it looks to be the Celtic event of the year a write up and a few pictures will probably be included in next month's newsletter!

MNHL
Mona Douglas
Bequest Box 29 of 35
9545

Jerrey'n Laa





The committee of Yn Chruinnacht 2007 is pleased to announce its programme for this year's new look festival from the 18th to the 22nd July.

In addition, from Monday 16th July to Monday 23rd July, a specially commissioned exhibition of Manx art will be displayed by the Courtyard Gallery in the House of Mannanan in Peel. Yn Chruinnacht 2007 will feature the best in Celtic music with top flight professional artists at the Centenary Centre, and a thought-provoking presentation at Ramsey's St Paul's Church of Manx music and satirical poetry. Another intriguing event will be a costume party to celebrate Brian Stowell's Manx language translation of *Alice in Wonderland*. There will be performances by local and visiting musicians in the beautiful setting of the Mooragh Park. Music and language workshops provide opportunities to take part in, and enjoy at first hand, Celtic culture. There will be a night of slightly more alternative Manx music in Douglas at the Villa Marina as part of the Isle of Man Arts Council Summer Season.

The festival will be running alongside Peel Traditional Boat Weekend organised by the Peel Sailing and Cruising Club. The two events will complement one another to bring a festive feeling to the city of Peel.

As Yn Chruinnacht is the Manx National Festival, it will be jam packed full of top quality Manx performers. However, Yn Chruinnacht is also an Interceltic festival and performers from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Cornwall and Brittany will be performing. With a Cornish *Troyl* and Breton *Fest noz* kicking the festival off and complementing a Manx ceili, visitors to Yn Chruinnacht will enjoy the sound of traditional music played by some of today's leading professional bands. Including Irish band Grada, Welsh band Mabon and Scottish band Pipedown.



Grada - Irish music with "enough steam in its heels to leave most of its peers at the starting blocks"
The Irish Times

"The thing that makes **Pipedown** fun to listen to is the relentless invention of the arrangements."
Dirty Linen - USA



Mabon is the Celtic music of accordionist Jamie Smith brought to life through the energetic performances and breathtaking playing of some of the best musicians in the folk scene today.

Yn Chruinnacht values its relationships with other organisations both on and off the Isle of Man. Delegates from the Irish festival *An t'Oireachtas*, the Welsh National *Eisteddfod* and the Scottish *Mod* have all attended Yn Chruinnacht. This year they will be joined by official delegates from Breton and Cornish organisations.

Yn Chruinnacht is pleased to acknowledge the help of Manx language festival Cooshy in organising these delegates as well as organising the Ian O'Leary lecture.

Ramsey Heritage Trust have been instrumental in retaining many of the events that will be taking place in Ramsey and Yn Chruinnacht would like to thank them for all of their hard work so far, and in advance for all their work during the festival itself. Many of the Ramsey events will be supported financially by Ramsey Town Commissioners.

The Department of Tourism and Leisure has been highly supportive and has offered much advice and practical help with regard to publicity and promotion. Yn Chruinnacht could not happen at all if it were not for the generosity of funding bodies on the Isle of Man. The Isle of Man Arts Council and the Manx Heritage Foundation have once again agreed to fund the festival and have supported the changes to the programme for 2007.

For more information and a full programme of events please contact: info@ynchruinnacht.com, see the website www.ynchruinnacht.com, ring the festival office between 9 and 5, Mon to Sat on +44 7624 425957 or keep an eye out for programmes in local shops and at events. Email press@ynchruinnacht.com for a full press pack.



Cruinnacht Aeg

With Cruinnacht Aeg (the youth Manx music, dance and song competitions) getting steadily nearer, please don't forget to send in your entries. These should be sent by May 18th, although numbers will suffice by this date and definite names can be given later. Although many schools will be entering many will not and individual entries will also be accepted. The competitions will be take place over two sessions: June 25th to 27th in the South and July 2nd to 4th in the North. For more information, a syllabus or entries please contact Fiona McArdle on F.Mcardle@doe.sch.im by May 18th.



manx heritage foundation

undinys eiraght vannin

For more information on Manx music and dance contact:

Cinzia Curtis: mhfmusic@mhf.org.im
Chloe Woolley: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im
See: www.manxheritage.com or
www.manxheritagemusic.org
Call: 01624 673074
or write to: Centre for Manx Studies, 6 Kingswood Grove,
Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 3LX

Gaelg Newsletter

Adrian Cain, Yn Greynnedeyr for the Manx Heritage Foundation, has begun a Manx language Newsletter titled Gaelg Vio (Gaelic Alive). The first edition of this is attached at the end of this newsletter. As many musicians and dancers are also Manx speakers or have an interest in it, Adrian has asked that anyone who wishes to receive this newsletter email him greinneyder@mhf.org.im and they will receive it as and when it is published.

CALENDAR - MAY 2007

Bree Session

12 May, 4:30pm, Java Lounge Café, Douglas.
Monthly youth session so bring along an instrument and have a go.

Reeling Stones @ The Sulby Glen

18 May, 8:30pm, Sulby Glen Hotel, Sulby.
Regular monthly gig of the young Manx band, Reeling Stones. To be followed by a session.

Exhibition of Harps

20th May, 2pm til 5pm, The Hilton Hotel, Douglas.
Come and long and join Clive Morley harps for the first ever exhibition of harps on the Isle of Man. For more info email Helen@morleyharps.com or call 01376 860493 or 07737 594453.



Pan Celtic Success

2007 saw the Isle of Man's turn to preside over the annual Pan Celtic festival in Letterkenny, Ireland. A mixture of interceltic competitions and performances, the Pan Celtic is now in its fourth decade and sees many groups from each of the six Celtic nations travel to the festival for a week of celebrations. Fiona McArdle was president of the festival this year and took along King Chiaullee to represent the Isle of Man musically, as well as Margaid Bird and Paul Boulton as Manx judges for the competitions. Arrane son Mannin qualifiers Veih'n Chree also travelled over to take part in the Celtic language song contest, or Celtovision as it is affectionately known.

The Manx were well represented in the competitions with entries in the group singing competitions, fiddle and dance competitions. Cinzia Curtis surprised everyone, particularly herself, by coming out of retirement to win the solo dance competition. Only the second Manx name to appear on the trophy since Greg Joughin's victory in the first year of the competition. Veih'n Chree also faired well in the Celtovision competition, gaining joint second with the Welsh entry. Although there was some confusion over the scores, Mannin were a safe second, and to date have the highest position for a Manx group in the competition. With a song composed by Breesha Maddrell, *Oir ny Cruinne*, they have well and truly thrown down the gauntlet to other Manx groups to enter Arrane son Mannin at this year's Cooish festival and go for first in 2008. A CD of all the entries will be available next year.

King Chiaullee also did the Isle of Man proud, by performing in just about every event, and proving popular with all the visiting groups. Not only did they perform, but they represented the Isle of Man in the parade and also could be seen supporting the Breton performances by joining in the Fest Noz dancing.



SESSIONS: TUES, 9pm Irish in Traff, Douglas,
THURS. 9pm Singing in The Mitre, Ramsey,
FRI, 8pm Tynwald Inn, St. John's, **FRI, 9pm** Irish in The Mitre, Ramsey,
SAT, 9pm The White House, Peel



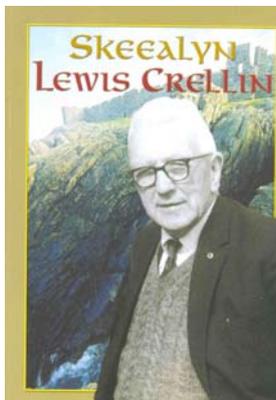
Faill erriu dys Gaelg Vio - Welcome to living Manx

Naight as skeet – News and skeet

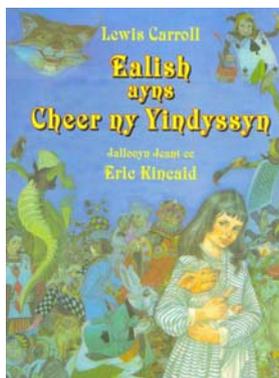
Daa lioar noa - Two new books

With generous support from the Manx Heritage Foundation (Undinys Eiraght Vannin) two new books, **Skealyn Lewis Crellin** (Lewis Crellin Stories) and **Ealish ayns Çheer ny Yindyssyn** (Alice in Wonderland) have recently been published in Manx.

The Lewis Crellin book is a fitting tribute to the work of a great Manxman and Manx speaker.



The text is accompanied by a CD of Stewart Bennett narrating the stories.



Translated by Brian Stowell **Ealish ayns Çheer ny Yindyssyn** (Alice in Wonderland) is accompanied by some stunning pictures by Eric Kincaid. Both books are worthy

additions to Manx Gaelic literature.

Naight y Vunscoil - Bunscoil News



The good news from the Bunscoil is that a decision has finally been

made that the children from the School will continue their education at QE2. They will receive a proportion of their first three years of secondary education through the medium of Manx Gaelic.

Evidence from Scotland suggests that children educated through an immersion setting need to have, at secondary level, a certain amount of their schooling through Gaelic in order for them to maintain their high levels of proficiency in the language. It was pleasing to see that this decision met with a favourable editorial from the Manx Independent. We trust that the continued success at the school is something that the whole Island can be proud of.

The children at the school have just put together their own Manx Gaelic newsletter, which will be of interest to all Manx speakers. The newsletter can be accessed at: www.bunscoil.iofm.net/

Cummal seose y Ghaelg – supporting Manx Gaelic

Gaelg son Dellal - Manx for Business

Last year saw the launch of our *Business Guide for Manx - Gaelg son Dellal*. Supported by a number of local businesses the Guide provides information and support for those wishing to use Manx in ways that are appropriate for them.

We have had some positive feedback about the Guide and it is encouraging to find out that there are an increasing number of organisations who are trying to use the language; and who see the use of Manx as a way of demonstrating their commitment to the Island.

The Guide, which comes with a CD to help with pronunciation, is still available and will be of interest to any local business. If you would like a copy or if you are able to help us with distribution of the Guide then please contact me at:

greinneyder@mhf.org.im



Lauch of the Business guide with Andy Corlett from Cains and the present Chief Minister, Tony Brown

Chellinsh Vannin - Manx Telecom

A great example of business support for the language is the *Manx Telecom Phone Book*, which each year includes more Manx. Hopefully, the language is now an integral and important part of this publication.

**Gura mie eu, Chellish Vannin
Thanks Manx Telecom**

Cowrey y vee - Sign of the Month

It's great to see so many bilingual signs cropping up around the Island. This is the first of an occasional award (sorry but no prizes- just pride at stake here) for my (or indeed your) favourite sign. With so many to choose from it promises to be a competitive business!

Our initial award goes to Port st Mary Commissioners (*Barrantee Phurt Le Moirrey*) for the following:



I reckon this is possibly the first sign in the Island that includes a traffic warning! *Carbid Chyndaa - Beware turning traffic.*

Gura mie eu - thanks to all those Local Authorities that have supported us – it does make a difference.

Fow yn Ghaelg - Find that Manx

Manx Gaelic is more visible than we realise and there is some interesting and modern Gaelic usage to be seen around the Island.

Any idea where the following Manx can be found?



Answer on page 5.

Coyrle as cooney – Advice and assistance

Loayr rish Illiam - Ask Illiam Dhone



We have been very lucky to employ the services on our editorial board of one of the Island's great heroes. Illiam will be our regular 'Agony Patriot' answering your questions on

matters of linguistic importance.

This month Illiam has the following advice for Juan Keig from Colby who asked, '*How can I use Manx in my e-mails?*'

Illiam writes:

'Today it is crucial that we try to use the language whenever we can. Modern technology should be no bar to using Manx Gaelic. Many of my generation find the Internet a bewildering place but it offers the language some exciting possibilities.

Even if your Gaelg / Manx isn't yindyssagh / wonderful you can still use some in your e-mails. I find that the following simple phrases can have a real impact:

Dear Tom = Tom veen

Dear friend = Charrey veen

Yours = lhiats

Yours sincerely = lhiats dy firrinagh

You're welcome = She dty vea

Thank you = Gura mie ayd

See you = Hee'm oo

Lioar Vanannan - Manannan's Book Club

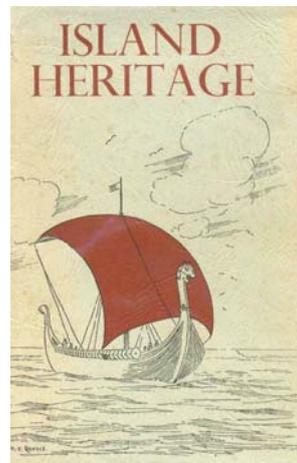


If Richard and Judy can do it then so can Manannan!

That's the thinking behind our regular feature in which Manannan comes out of retirement

to review those Island books that made him who he is today - a semi-retired Celtic deity presently living, and he isn't happy about this, in sheltered accommodation in the south of the Island.

Anyway, here is his first Lioar Vanninagh / Manx Book.



'Published in 1952 *Island Heritage* is a fantastic overview of our Island's history and culture. Written by the former Director of the Manx Museum, William Cubbon, *Island Heritage*

has influenced a whole generation of Manx men and women. For anyone who cares deeply about the Island and who wants to read a book by someone who lived and breathed all aspects of Island life then this is a must. No *Manninagh dooie / true Manxman* should be without a copy of this must have publication.'

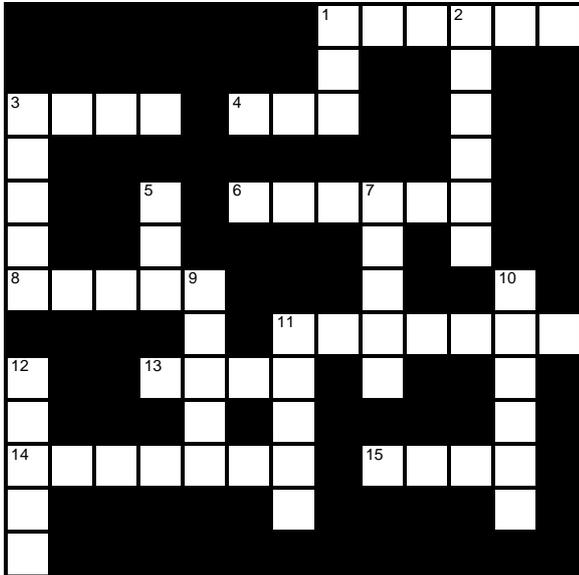
Gura mie eu Vanannan – thanks Manannan

Tooilley ry-heet - more next time

Gammanyn as aitt – games and fun

Crosh-ockle - crossword

Some basic Manx - solution below



Er tessan / across

- 1 Dog (6)
- 3 Rock (4)
- 4 Pig (3)
- 6 Water (6)
- 8 Head (5)
- 11 Gull (7)
- 13 Flower (4)
- 14 Milk (7)
- 15 House (4)

Sheese / down

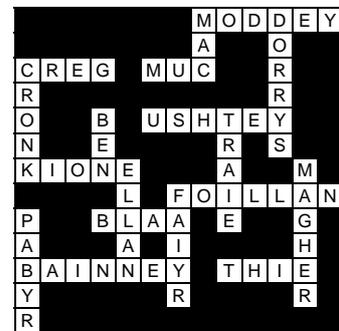
- 1 Son (3)
- 2 Door (6)
- 3 Hill (5)
- 5 Woman (3)
- 7 Beach (5)
- 9 Island (5)
- 10 Field (6)
- 11 Grass (5)
- 12 Paper (5)

Shirrey fockle - word search

Try and find the answers from the crossword in the following word search

X O O E N Z H K M S R Y
 N A L L E A R S Y T Y E
 U S H T E Y L R E H I D
 C R E G L E R L G I A D
 B A K Z I O M K I E F O
 N Y H A D R I A B O F M
 C E R H O O Y J G L F H
 R T B A N K W B W H A K
 O E V E C U M M A O E A
 N Y E N N I A B Y P W R
 K H A L D C F C S B O X
 B Y M R J L B B G Z A P

Crossword solution

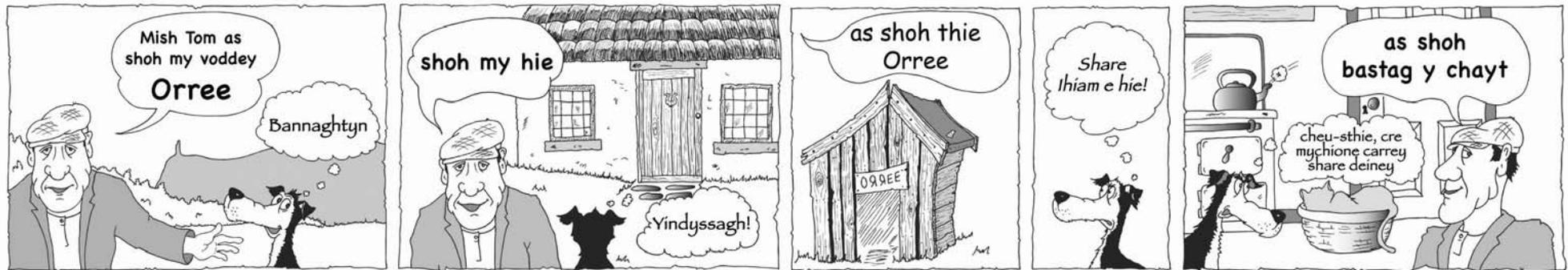


Answer to *Fow yn Ghaelg - Find that Manx.*
 The Lifeboat Shop in Ramsey



Cartoon ayns Gaelg – A Manx Cartoon

Mish as Orree – Me and Orree



Mish Tom as shoh my voddey Orree = I am Tom and this is my dog Orree.

Moddey means dog but after **my** the first letter changes from m to v.

Bannaghtyn = Blessings/ greetings.

Shoh my hie = this is my house. **Thie** = house but again the first letter changes to aid pronunciation.

Yindyssagh = wonderful.

As shoh thie Orree = and this is Orree's house. **Shoh** means this.

Share lhiam e hie = I prefer his house. Again **thie** becomes **hie**.

As shoh bastag y chayt = and this is the cat's basket.

Çheu-sthie, cre mychione carrey share deiney = insside, what about man's best friend.

Çheu-sthie = inside; **cre mychione** = what about; **carrey** = friend.

Produced by the Manx Language Officer for the Manx Heritage Foundation / Undinys Eiraght Vannin.

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