



MFDS host Mockbeggar Clog Dancers 3rd & 4th May

The May Bank Holiday weekend sees the Manx Folk Dance Society hosting the Mockbeggar Morris dance group from the Wirral. Mockbeggar is a women's morris group who perform a style of traditional English dancing called North West Morris. The word 'Mockbeggar' comes from 'Mockbeggar Wharf', an area of sand at the top of the Wirral Peninsula between Meols and New Brighton. <http://mockbeggarmorris.org/clogs.htm>



The programme is still being finalised, so keep your eyes peeled. The MFDS and Mockbeggar are hoping to perform at the following locations on **Saturday 3rd May:**

11am Farmer's Market, Villa Marina, Douglas
3pm Mooragh Park, Ramsey

Mee Boaldyn – the very merry month of May!

[CROSH-KEIRN] (Mx.), a cross of mountain ash made by passing a piece of twig through a slit cut in another twig. We used to be makin lil crosh keirns and hangin behin' the door, on oul May-day Eve and then no ' bad things ' could get in. (*Vocabulary of the Anglo-Manx Dialect*, 1924)



photo: www.gov.im/mnh

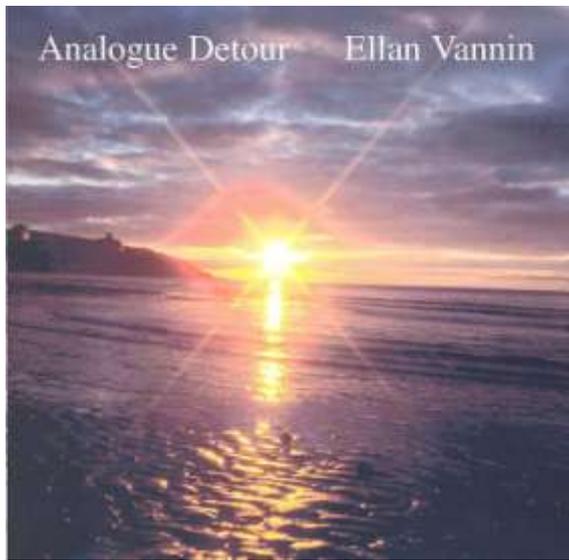
The start of May sees various events around the Island linked to May Eve and Day celebrations. Youth music session, Bree, will be playing at Quayle's Hall for Ramsey Heritage Trust on Saturday 3rd at 2pm alongside a talk by Cathy Clucas on aspects of the May festival in the Isle of Man and beyond. Manx musicians will also be in Ballaglass Glen on Monday 5th at 2pm for Maughold Social Club's Queen of the May children's activities...see the press for more details.



If you're feeling in a musical mood, you might like to look out the following songs, tunes and dances associated with this month's festivities: 'Tappaghyn Jiargey' (Red Top Knots), 'Moghrey Laa Boayldyn' (trad jig, revised David Speers), Ben-rein y Voaldyn (jig), 'She Moghrey Laa Boaldyn' (song by Bob Carswell), Cutting the Turf tune and dance (turf is cut in May!), 'Shooyl Inneenyn' (the 'A tune' is 'Myr hooill mee magh Moghrey Laa Boaldyn') and 'Moghrey Laa Boaldyn' (4/4 tune often played fairly slowly, *Kiaull yn Theay 1*, p.10).

SESSIONS: TUES 9pm Irish in The Rover's Return, Douglas
THURS 9pm Singing in The Mitre, Ramsey
FRI 8pm Tynwald Inn, St. John's, **FRI 9pm** Irish in The Mitre, Ramsey
Last FRI of month 8.30pm, Kiaull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary
SAT 9pm The White House, Peel
Hopefully every 2nd SUN 3pm Irish in O'Donnell's, Douglas

New CD by Analogue Detour



Whilst browsing through the Manx Museum shop, KMJ spied a new CD called *Ellan Vannin* by Analogue Detour. Described as celebrating a walk round the Isle of Man, the disc has 14 guitar-based compositions which draw on both original and Manx traditional material. Analogue Detour is composer and guitarist Julian Morgan with guest artist Angus Hoban on bagpipes and bodhran. A quick search online found another album under the same name called *Avebury*. The CD is available in the Manx Museum shop at £9.99.

Physical Pheck support Daevid Allen's University of Errors

Port St Mary record label, Ballagroove, will host an evening of psychedelic rock from the founder member of Gong and the Soft Machine, Daevid Allen and his band the University of Errors on **Friday 23rd May** at the Centenary Centre, Peel.

This is the first visit to the Isle of Man from a musician who has been at the forefront of the psychedelic music scene for over 40 years.

The infamous and largely bearded Rhysical Pheck will be tripping out tunes from their forthcoming album, *Vitamin D*. Doors 7pm, 7.20pm start.

Tickets £12.50 from 7th Wave in Port Erin; Shakti Man in Ramsey; Celtic Gold in Peel and Peter Norris Music in Douglas. See www.ballagroove.com for more details.



Clogaree Twoaie in Ireland –

a report from Fen Gough

Away back in January when sensible people were recovering from the trials of Christmas and New Year I felt that there was just not enough stress in my life after all and nominated myself for the Traditional Solo Competition in the Pan-Celtic Festival. Nobody laughed at my suggestion I enter so I took this to be a sign that my fellow choir members considered me up to the job, though in retrospect I suspect they were all just relieved that straws hadn't needed to be drawn.

The months passed and I worked on my two songs, 'Oikan ayns Bethlehem' and 'Graith Foalsey'. I learnt them, forgot them, jumbled them up and generally wished my Manx was better. All too soon it was the day of the competition and whilst the rest of the choir were enjoying Donegal Town I was locked in a hotel bathroom with only my fear for company, practising my heart out and unbeknownst to me, serenading anyone who passed in the corridor.

The inevitable delay in the start of the competition actually calmed my nerves, until it happened...the Breton entrant forgot his words...panic set in and I wasn't the only person in the toilets singing through their words. All thoughts of being placed left me and once I was on stage the only thing that mattered was getting through the 2 songs without making a fool of myself.



Although I didn't get placed I was pleased with my performance in a strong field of 12, including gold medalists from the Mod and the Oireachtas. It was also a great way to get to know people especially for my move to Scotland where I am now known as a solo singer. Whilst on a roll, I also sang live on Radio na Gaeltachta's programme from the event and committed myself to being recorded next time I'm in Ireland in May. I think it's time I learnt some more songs!

Thank you to Clare for inviting me, Breesha for pronunciations, Fiona McArdle for speaking on the radio for me and organising everything so brilliantly, Sharon Parkes for translations and Sharon Christian for putting up with me practising in our bathroom... *Fen*

SKEEAL's CD 'Long Story' was reviewed by Norman Chalmers in Scotland on Sunday last month, stacking up a very respectable 3 stars!

Update about the Manx music and dance DVD

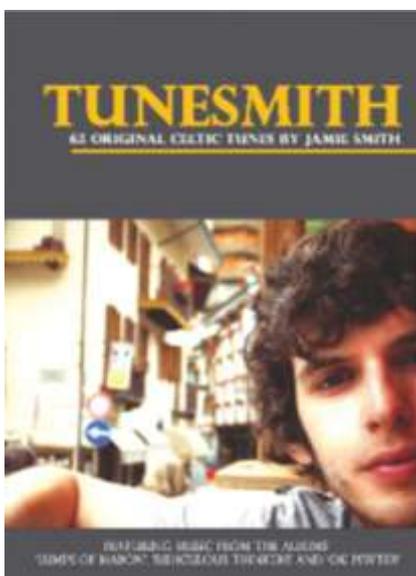


A promotional DVD for Manx music and dance is entering its final stages. The last few groups have been booked in to perform for the cameras around the Island over the next few months. Editing

is more-or-less complete for each group recorded last year when Cinzia Curtis started the project for MHF. Contact details, crawler info (the writing that crawls along the bottom of the screen when the films are playing) are being gathered so that festivals and booking agents will have all the information they need should they choose to include Manx music or dance in their events. The cover and layout of the DVD will then be designed so that the MHF music team can send the finished article to festivals in the Autumn of this year in time for bookings the following summer. Each group will have their two sets on a DVD to do with what they will!

Tunesmith is a book made up of 62 original Celtic tunes all written by Jamie Smith of Welsh band, Mabon. So why talk about it in KMJ? Well, Jamie's tunes include some inspired by his trips here for festivals and holidays like 'Air of Ellan Vannin' and 'On St Patrick's Isle', written to celebrate his wedding. He even transforms a Manx jig into the 'Ta Dick Veg Waltz'. There are also tunes written for and inspired by members of King Chiaullee and Perree T, as well as for his wife, Gráinne Joughin.

At only £11.50 including IOM&UK postage, it's a must not only for Mabon fans, but also for anyone who likes a good tune! Online purchase through Mabon's website: www.mabon.org



Desperately seeking...

1982 Yn Chruinnaght programme!

Yn Chruinnaght committee is collecting together images and information from past festivals for an exhibition celebrating 30 years of inter-Celticity this July. So far, they have managed to beg, borrow or steal programmes from every year with the exception of 1982. Does anyone have one that they could borrow to scan and copy? Even the Manx National Heritage Library doesn't appear to have a copy, so it would be a way of completing their archives, too. If you can help, please contact Chloë on 695159 or email: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im who promises to take care of your programme and return it safely once it's been copied.



Manx music at the Guild

Latest news of Manx music at the Manx Music Festival: Share na Veg won under 12 instrumental ensemble. The boy's solo in Manx was won by Daniel Quayle and the Manx solo by Paul Salmon who sang 'Tree Eeasteyryn Boghtey'. The Girls' solo was won by Michelle Jamieson with the Carval 'Tra Va ruggit Creest'.

Some familiar and not so familiar Manx terms with KIAULL (music)

- kiull** ~ singing, warble (of birds), music, minstrel
- kiull agglishagh** ~ sacred music
- kiull bing** ~ shrill music
- kiull cheerey** ~ folk music
- kiull chochiallee** ~ choral music
- kiull marrey** ~ sea music
- kiull mooar** ~ classical bagpipe music
- kiull ny lomarcán** ~ solo
- kiull oie** ~ serenade
- kiullaney** ~ ado (strife), blatancy, stridency
- kiulldane** ~ tone poem
- kiulleeaght** ~ singing, warble (of birds), music-making, music
- kiulley** ~ sing out, sing up, sing
- kiulleyder** ~ singer, soloist, musician

If you're looking for translations of Manx words, Phil Kelly has a new look online dictionary from Manx to English and from English to Manx which only requires free download of Tshwane Reader: <http://homepages.manx.net/gaelg>

She Moghrey Laa Boaldyn

Bob Carswell

1. She mogh - rey Laa Boal - dyn as hie mee dy hooyl, Va ny blaa - ghyn beg
6
aa - lin gaase er bi - lley ooyl, Va ny blaa-ghyn beg aa - lin gaase er bi - lley ooyl

2. Va ny blaaghyn as duillagyn meein fo my veir
As va bineyn dy ghruight er ny petlyn myr jeeir
As va bineyn dy ghruight er ny petlyn myr jeeir

3. Va ny calmaneyn keylley cauagey dy bing
As fo vian veg va billey as blaa craa nyn ging
As fo vian veg va billey as blaa craa nyn ging

4. Va mee croymmey y chione aym as smooïn'yn dy treih
Er ny blaaghyn as traaghyn sy tourey shoh chaie
Er ny blaaghyn as traaghyn sy tourey shoh chaie

5. Va ny duillagyn moostrey as heose er banglane
Nagh re lhondoo as treshlyn va goaill nyn arrane
Nagh re lhondoo as treshlyn va goaill nyn arrane

6. O dy row aym coraa gollrish ushag vraew choar
Yinnin goaill arrane aalin dy chleayney graih noa
Yinnin goaill arrane aalin dy chleayney graih noa

7. Agh ayns coamrey y touree va ooilley ec shee
As va aalid ny cheerey cur foays da my chree
As va aalid ny cheerey cur foays da my chree

This song about May Day tells of how beautiful everything in nature looks - the blossom on the apple trees, the dew on the flower petals, the birds singing - the final line translates as 'the beauty of the country brings warmth to my heart'

CALENDAR

May

2nd-3rd Manx Folk Dance Society host Mockbeggar Clog Dancers at various venues around the Island (see above)

2nd-3rd Bushy's Big Wheel Blues Festival (featuring Manx and visiting bands)

www.bigwheelblues.com

3rd Laa Boaldyn/May Day celebrations for Ramsey Heritage Trust, including Bree musicians & a talk on May traditions, 2pm, Quayle's Hall, Ramsey, admission free?

3rd Cleveland Medal Night at the Guild, Villa Marina, Douglas: www.villagaiety.com

5th Queen of the May with fairies in the glen at Ballaglass featuring Manx music, around 2-4pm. Fancy dress competition & children's activities. Organised: Maughold Social Club.

14th open Manx music session at Falcon Hotel, Port Erin, 8.30pm - all welcome

16th deadline for entries to Cruinnaght Aeg - contact

Fiona on: fmCardle@manx.net



23rd Rphysical Pheck and Daevid Allen's University of Errors, Centenary Centre, Peel, 7.20pm £12.50 from usual outlets.

24th Manx and Irish session at PSM Yacht Club - contact Mick Kneale for further info

June

18th Caarjyn Coidjagh Manx choir at St Thomas' Church, Douglas, 7.30pm

23rd-27th visiting Scottish trad musicians in schools, organised by Chloë for Dept of Ed
During TT week the usual host of local bands will be playing around the Island. June also sees a packed programme at the Manahan International Festival of Music and the Arts: www.erinartscentre.com

manx heritage foundation
undinys eiraght vannin

For info on Manx music & dance contact:

Breasha Maddrell: mhfmusic@mhf.org.im

Chloë Woolley: manxmusicspecialist@mhf.org.im

See: www.manxheritage.com or
www.manxheritagemusic.org

Call: 01624 695159

or write to: Centre for Manx Studies,
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Isle of Man, IM1 3LX