



TAKING OUR CULTURE FORWARD

OUR VISION



CULTURE VANNIN

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Our culture is key to who we are. It guides us in the way that we relate to each other within our communities and in projecting an image of ourselves internationally. A vibrant and dynamic living culture has at its heart what we have to say and how we want to say it, it is how we choose to define our world. It is about the stories and images that shape our strong sense of belonging, no matter where we once started.

Culture Vannin builds on a strong legacy of grant giving and development work which has been at the forefront of publishing on aspects of Manx culture, custom-made educational resources for our schools, Manx language, music and dance.

Culture Vannin takes our culture forward in creative, innovative ways. We invite you to join us on that journey!

Phil Gawne MHK

CULTURE VANNIN

Culture Vannin is the new name for the Manx Heritage Foundation. As a key funder for the Island of Culture celebrations throughout 2014, the organisation has changed its name to reflect its continued work to promote our culture in inclusive, engaging and creative ways.

Culture Vannin has a strong and proud history of supporting and promoting Manx culture through development, education and grant - giving work since the Manx Heritage Foundation was set up by Act of Tynwald in 1982.

Culture Vannin believes in developing innovative, inclusive and exciting projects that promote and support Manx language, Manx music and dance, People and Places.

Culture Vannin will continue to develop and encourage innovative and exciting projects that enable us all to engage meaningfully in our Island life. This, we believe, makes the Island a more attractive place to live, adds to a sense of community and distinguishes us from our international competitors by reinforcing an inclusive national identity.

A strong and vibrant language, exciting traditional music scene and growing sense of identity send out a message to the world of a confident, innovative and proud Island nation.

CULTURE VANNIN: TAKING OUR CULTURE FORWARD

- 1 Celebrating Manx culture
- 2 Supporting Manx creativity through innovation
- 3 Promoting a vibrant national identity for the Isle of Man
- Inspiring life-long learning and discovery 4
- Sharing an understanding of our Island story with everyone, everywhere 5
- 6 Developing educational resources and research opportunities
- 7 Offering ways to connect with our unique identity
- 8 Ensuring a strong living culture for future generations
- 9 Recognising the inclusive nature of our cultural identity
- 10 Culture Vannin at the heart of our community

taking our culture forward



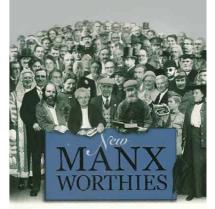












General Editor Dollin Kelly

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WHO WE ARE

MANX LANGUAGE

SHINYN

OFFICERS | OASEIRYN

Culture Vannin employs development officers who work to promote and support Manx language, music and dance, and oversee the collection and dissemination of our everexpanding media archive, publications and educational resources.

We work closely with other government departments and organisations as well as businesses in the private sector. We have developed extensive resources for the Department of Education and Children, are working with DEFA on their Biosphere Vannin designation application, with the IOM Arts Council on Island of Culture 2014 and other projects, with Manx National Heritage, with Tourism within DED, with the University of Liverpool's Centre for Manx Studies and many more.

BOARD MEMBERS | OLTEYNYN Y VOAYRD

Culture Vannin is governed by a board made up of two political members appointed by Tynwald, three members of the general public nominated by CoMin and approved by Tynwald, and a representative from both the Isle of Man Arts Council and Manx National Heritage. It is chaired by the Hon. Phil Gawne, MHK.

Pat Skillicorn, Catriona Mackie, Liam O'Neill, David Wertheim

WHAT WE DO | YN OBBYR AIN

Culture Vannin awards grants and initiates schemes whilst supporting the work of the development officers. The work of Culture Vannin has been fundamental to the revival of interest and support for both the Manx language and culture over the last twenty years. The members meet on a regular basis throughout the year to consider applications for grants and to develop schemes which range over a wide area of Manx culture including art, wildlife, geology, language, music, archaeology, history, oral history, social anthropology, archiving, education and the production of books, recordings and videos.

Culture Vannin recognises the importance of Manx Gaelic as part of the unique culture of the Island. We firmly believe that continued support for the language should be at the cornerstone of the work of the organisation.

Culture Vannin has its own language officer - Yn Greinneyder - who is responsible for a widerange of projects aimed at promoting, supporting and developing the language. 2013 saw a number of high profile projects for the language:

The iconic The Gruffalo and The Gruffalo's Child have now both been translated into Manx.

"The publication of the Manx Gaelic version of 'Neen y Ghruffalo is something Lloyds TSB is very proud to have supported. It's further illustration that the language community is vibrant and that the language has a really bright future". (Peter Reid, Island Director & Head of Banking Operations, Lloyds TSB)

Two fantastic Manx Gaelic apps have been downloaded over 4,000 times.

"Sure Isle of Man were proud to assist in the development of a Mobile App working on both iPhones and Android devices to bring our Manx Language into the 21st Century. It takes seconds to install, is free, fun and educational. Not only do you get a translation you also get to hear it! Leaving you with no excuse to start learning our Manx language". (Andy Bridson, Business Director, Sure Isle of Man)

A superb DVD box-set of 13 half-hour episodes in Manx of the award winning Friends and Heroes animation was released.

"It has been a pleasure to work with Adrian and the whole team at Culture Vannin in order to produce the world's first Manx language animation dub. We've learned so much about the importance of the Isle of Man's Celtic language - it is interwoven with the history, faith, culture and social development of this wonderful Island nation". (David Dorricott, Managing Director, Friends and Heroes)

Other projects supported and directed by the language office over the last year have included the Manx Gaelic film, Solace in Wicca, the first e-book in Manx, Peter Pan, and a wide range of publications aimed at increasing the quality of spoken Manx on the Island.

"We are only just beginning to discover the benefits of reviving our language". (Chris Stott, Chairman and Chief Executive of Mansat)

taking our culture forward







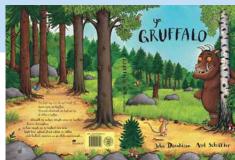






MANX LANGUAGE

GHAELG





Roie Mygeayrt Annie Kissack as Jenny Kissack Songs A B C 12 3 Info



LEARN MANX

Culture Vannin encourage, support and promote the use of Manx Gaelic. The last few years have witnessed the development of an integrated Manx language programme for adults, the production of support materials such as the language apps and a growth in the usage of the language amongst learners.

Our adult language programme has been very well received by learners:

"Adrian got me speaking Manx from my very first class."

"Best language teaching method I've ever experienced."

"Thank you for making learning Manx fun."

"I think the lessons are great and it is good to see someone so committed to doing this. Keep going!"

"None of the languages that I've tried to learn has given my anything like the pleasure and satisfaction that I find in Manx. Or the frustration!

Thinking back over the years I can't remember a time when there was this much excitement and involvement with reviving Manx Gaelic, and I think it's a great service to the Island now, and also for posterity. Our Learn Manx app which accompanies the adult language programme has also generated a positive news story for both the language and the Island:

"A fantastic resource with easy, clean and simple layout."

"Thank you. I have been looking for an app like this for years. This will now give me the chance to realise and lifelong ambition. Thanks again."

"Great app for on-the-go revision. Yindyssagh!"

"Amazing. I love this app."

"This is simply a brilliant app, fun, enjoyable, well thought out and so easy to get started with and get going on. I'm not the best with new languages but I've already got a number of phrases and words licked. Can't rate highly enough!"

"Fantastic! Audio and visual word recognition combine well with a complex flash-card system in this app'. There is nothing to improve here."

"Great! Sincere thanks to the developers. Crackin' app!"

Island of Culture 2014 will see a number of exciting and innovative projects for the language. The 1000 words in Manx challenge, the new podcast for beginners and the 365 videos project - a Gaelic video a day - will allow people to engage in the language in new and challenging ways.

"Over the last three decades, Culture Vannin has played an instrumental role in the revitalization of the Manx language and culture. Its staff has worked tirelessly to preserve and promote the Isle of Man's unique linguistic and cultural heritage in a way that is relevant and meaningful to the Island's present and future inhabitants. This innovative and engaging approach to linguistic and cultural revitalization has gained considerable international recognition, and has become as a model for other small islands and indigenous communities around the world."

Dr. Gary N Wilson, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Northern British Columbia

"The Manx Language Development Officer, Adrian Cain, is an exceptionally energetic worker, good at motivating people and helping them see a purpose for the Manx language within the context of an English - speaking society. He is also a talented and innovative language teacher. The Kaurna language movement has been inspired by the on-line teaching materials that Adrian Cain and Culture Vannin have created."

Dr. Rob Amery, University of Adelaide, South Australia and Mobile Language Team

taking our culture forward

"The work of the Manx Language Development Officer has in recent years brought tangible results for the language by promoting its visibility and by encouraging many Manx people to learn it. The promotion of Manx brings real benefits to the Island by encouraging greater pride in local culture and by emphasising its distinctive nature."

Dr. John Walsh, Vice-Dean for Research, College of Arts, Galway University

"The adult learning and language promotion programmes run by the Manx Language Development Officer are of key importance. Their achievements shine as a beacon and example for language revitalisation movements worldwide."

Dr. Julia Sallabank, Senior Lecturer in Language Support and Revitalisation, Department of Linguistics, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

www.learnmanx.com

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MUSIC & DANCE











KIAULL AS RINKEY

Music and dance are at the heart of cultural identity in the Isle of Man. They offer important ways to promote a sense of community and belonging and for everyone to participate in and celebrate our cultural identity. Our performers represent the Isle of Man at festivals and events around the world, helping to establish a sense of difference internationally as well as adding to our high quality of life at home.

Culture Vannin employs two development officers, one working with IOM Schools and the IOM Music Service to develop curriculum and resources and the second with the wider community, supporting the production of CDs, DVDs, books, new musical commissions and online resources. The team promote a wide range of genres within Manx music, including church, concert, music hall, West Gallery and traditional music - as well as the supporting the development of Manx dance.

BARRULE - A MUSICAL SUCCESS STORY WITH EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

Barrule's self-titled debut album funded by Culture Vannin represents the first professionally produced and promoted Manx music CD. Featuring the talents of gifted young fiddler, Tom Callister, accordionist and singer Jamie Smith and bouzouki player Adam Rhodes, the CD presents a contemporary take on the traditional music of the Isle of Man, exploring a diverse collection of material from rousing marches and jigs to sorrowful slow airs. Culture Vannin's development work has taken Barrule to the Island's schools through educational tours and schools concerts at the Gaiety Theatre, to UK universities teaching traditional music and to trade fairs like WOMEX. Barrule's excellence continues to raise the profile of Manx music internationally, gives our own young musicians something to aspire to and takes our culture forward in fresh new ways. www.barruletrio.com

"A perfect balance of excellent examples of Manx music and culture with fun to appeal to the children" (Ballacloan Infant School)

"[Barrule] are fantastically good musicians... rest assured there will be a lot more Manx tunes heard in the North-East now!" (Dr Simon McKerrell, Lecturer in Music, Newcastle University)

"Thanks so much for Barrule. They were absolutely fantastic and went down a storm" (Anna-Wendy Stevenson, Programme Leader BA (Hons) Applied Music UHI Benbecula)

"Without support from Culture Vannin we wouldn't have been able to attend WOMEX to promote Barrule and raise awareness of the Isle of Man within the music industry." (Jamie Smith, Barrule)

BREE MANX TRADITIONAL MUSIC MOVEMENT - DEVELOPING FUTURE STARS

Culture Vannin's Bree brings youngsters who are interested in Manx culture together for informal music sessions, performances in the community, and workshops with experienced tutors from the Manx music and dance scene. Bree works closely with the IOM Youth Service and is also a Children's University 'learning destination'.

"At the YAC we encourage all sorts of performing arts and from its opening three years ago Bree and Manx music and dance has always been a vital part of its programme. It is as important to youth culture as any modern art form and we welcome it" (Fiona Helleur, Head of Youth Arts, Youth Arts Centre)

"Bree is a very happy part of my life - I have loved every moment of Bree since I joined when I was 10. It has improved my confidence, playing and performance skills, thank you so very much! You have been very kind and helpful tutors - it is an utterly fantastic group to be involved with" (Bree student)

"Culture Vannin has had an incredible impact on our family. [You]... have given our family a strong sense of the Manx culture and allowed us all to participate in many different ways, the most obvious is encouraging our children's involvement with Manx music and supporting their development, but more than that you have made it fun for them!" (Bree parent)



The Manx Music Development Team also coordinates with the IOM Music Service, the Youth Service and all local schools by providing resources, organising and leading workshops, and by encouraging participation in the annual DEC Manx Folk Awards.

- 1000 students have received whole class tuition through the Feddan Manx whistle scheme
- 150 violin students are learning through the *Fiddyl* books
- 23 young harpists have lessons supported by Culture Vannin



Coraa Manx Songs for Choirs

taking our culture forward



















MUSIC & DANCE

PEOPLE & PLACES

KIAULL AS RINKEY

SLEIH AS BUILL



The workshop was well led and it was a joy to learn new folk songs in a different language and without having to read the music...only problem the time went too guickly and I hope there will be another chance to do some more!

I thought the Norwegian weekend was wonderful! The workshops were great. The evening was of course fantastic. More please ...

The workshops and concert were great. The concert was particularly brilliant, and I'm looking forward to the book of songs and tunes. I hope that there is continued collaboration.

LINKING AND DEVELOPING TRADITIONS THROUGH THE NORWEGIAN MANX PROJECT, A BRIGHT NEW MUSICAL COLLABORATION

What happens when you take two up-and-coming musicians from the Isle of Man and send them to meet their musical equivalents in Norway? This was the starting point for a pilot project looking at how our ancient 'thing' sites like Tynwald link us culturally and how we can explore that through musical collaboration. The second half of that journey saw the Norwegian musicians come to the Island to record an EP, to give workshops and a sell-out concert.



The project's sold-out concert was filmed and broadcast on YouTube so that even more people can come into contact with the project. A limited edition book of songs and tunes featuring the 3-track CD will be published later in the year as part of the Island of Culture celebrations and the band are now looking at exciting festival prospects around the world. Further development plans include educational tours in the Isle of Man and Norway.

The project shows how music can be used as a common language to explore commonalities and differences, to gather people together in ways that echo resonances from our cultural past. Re-connecting places through our living culture creates new musical ideas and new understandings and places our traditions firmly on the international stage.

Culture Vannin publishes, initiates projects and produces educational resources that explore all aspects of Manx culture and heritage; including art, architecture, history, music, literature, folklore, archaeology, Manx language, industrial development, law and ecology.

Illiam Dhone

As 2013 was the 350th anniversary of the death of Illiam Dhone, Culture Vannin took the lead in bringing this historic occasion to the public's notice. There was no biography of this important character in Manx history so Culture Vannin commissioned new research for Dr Jennifer Kewley Draskau to produce the definitive book on his life and times. The mid-17th century was one of the most exciting periods of Manx history, and in order to bring it alive in the anniversary year, Culture Vannin also commissioned a new drama entitled The Ghost of Illiam Dhone which was played in the open air at Milntown, Illiam Dhone's birthplace, and Castle Rushen, the place of his trial. The event was a huge success and has revived an interest in the age-old discussion on whether Illiam Dhone was a 'patriot' or a 'traitor'. The event also provided new resources for the Island's schools, bringing Manx history to life.

Education Videos

Culture Vannin continues to provide important resources for Manx schools. One way we do this is by creating specially written and filmed videos on specific Manx topics such as coastal erosion and the effect that is having on the north of the Island; the history of the Island's tourist industry and a day in the life of a Laxey miner in which presenter Alex Brindley goes deep underground in the Laxey mines to experience what the working conditions were like for Victorian miners. The latest production is about the Island during the Second World War. This programme will look at life in the Island's internment camps, rationing and air raid precautions, and will investigate some of the many sites where the thousands of military personnel were trained as bombers, radar operators, gunners and pilots.

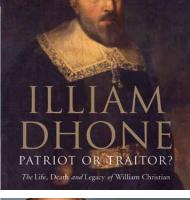
"The help and assistance that DEC have had from Culture Vannin has been invaluable. In my post as Advisory Teacher for the Manx Curriculum I support the teaching of Manx history, heritage and culture within our schools and without organisations such as CV this would be incredibly difficult. CV can be relied upon to provide relevant, high quality resources which complement both the primary and secondary curriculums and they work alongside DEC to ensure that educational resources produced first and foremost support the teachers. CV also play a large role in DEC's continued professional development programme and have provided training to both newly qualified teachers and also specialised training for both Manx language and Manx music and dance. From teaching entire classes how to play the penny whistle and advising teachers on how best to use Manx language in the classroom, to producing WWII child friendly newspapers and researching Manx note-worthies, CV and all their staff are a valued and much appreciated organisation in DEC."

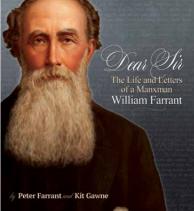
(Jo Callister, Advisory Teacher for the Manx Curriculum, Department of Education and Children)

www.manxmusic.com

taking our culture forward

JENNIFER KEWLEY DRASKAU



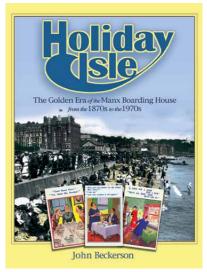








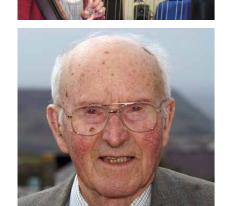




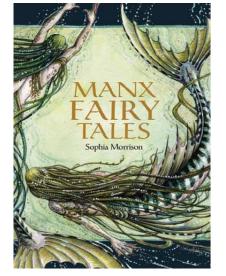


PEOPLE & PLACES









Culture Vannin commissions and supports a wide variety of projects relating to the changing culture of our Island. Grant applications are carefully considered by the board members and awarded to a large number of community organisations and individuals each year.

Erika Kelly – grant for a Lyon and Healy electric harp

Erika Kelly is a talented young harpist and singer whose musical career began through Manx traditional music. After building up a significant YouTube following with her creative pop song covers, Erika applied to Culture Vannin for a grant to buy a versatile Lyon and Healy electric harp. Since purchasing the harp, Erika has performed as a duo with Malcolm Stitt at Manx festivals and has also used her harp to produce a single, complete with video.

'Tell Me' Project

The 'Tell Me' Project was a four-year inter-generational project that gave older people the opportunity to share their memories with primary and secondary school children through interviews. The recorded interviews were published and archived to form an important record of social history. Culture Vannin provided funding for publishing costs for the 2010 and 2011 books. 80% of Primary and Secondary schools participated in the project and almost 1000 teachers, pupils and older people were involved.

Mona's Queen Memorial

The anchor from the Mona's Queen III, which lies at Kallow Point, is a memorial to those who lost their lives in Operation Dynamo. During the 1990s, divers exploring wrecks off the coast of Dunkirk identified that one of the anchors from the wreck of the Mona's Queen III had become detached and therefore could be considered separate to the untouchable war grave. After much hard work and campaigning, the anchor was finally returned to the Island in October 2011 and officially opened on 29th May 2012 - the 72nd anniversary of the loss of the three ships. Culture Vannin gave substantial funding for this important memorial.

New edition of Manx Fairy Tales, by Sophia Morrison

Lily Publication's new edition of Sophia Morrison's Manx Fairy Tales includes all 52 fairy tales edited and re-told by Bob Carswell, a number of stories and music on an audio-CD, and some beautifully rich colour-illustrations by local artist Julia Ashby Smyth. The result is an attractive, contemporary-feeling hard-back edition of this well-loved traditional book which was first published in 1911. Culture Vannin had a considerable involvement in the book, providing a grant towards publication costs as well as producing the audio CD.

Groudle Glen Railway - grant to rebuild the original locomotive 'Sea Lion' and for a custom-made battery for the 'Polar Bear'

'Sea Lion' is the original steam locomotive built for Groudle Glen Railway in 1896. In 2012 she was removed from the glen so that major work on her boiler, motion and paintwork could be carried out. Groudle Glen Railway were supported by staff at Isle of Man Railways and the Isle of Man Steam Packet Workshops, and the work and repaint into an accurate representation of her original 1896 livery was funded by Culture Vannin. The 'Polar Bear' is a replica of one of the two battery electric locomotives that operated on the railway in the 1920s. The current locomotive was rebuilt by Alan Keef Ltd. to aesthetically match the original Polar Bear of 1921. It entered service in 2003, and ran for ten years before its second-hand batteries wore out. Following an application for funding, Culture Vannin provided the locomotive with a new set of batteries giving her a new lease of life. At Christmas 2013 she hauled four days worth of Christmas services, carrying almost 4000 passengers.

"Quite frankly the restoration project of the railway since 1982 by a small group of volunteers wouldn't have been possible without the substantial and continuing support of Culture Vannin. Over the years Culture Vannin has provided assistance in many projects...The volunteers are extremely grateful for this assistance, as it has ensured that the railway hasn't been consigned to the history books and has continued to flourish as a restored attraction, with the railway having won the Best Attraction Tourism Award in 2013." (Alex Brindley, Groudle Railway)

ORAL HISTORY AND MULTI-MEDIA ARCHIVE

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An important part of Culture Vannin's work is to record the changing Island. We have a scheme for photographing buildings that are due to be demolished or altered and for recording landscapes that are changing as a result of development. Find this on www.culturevannin.im

But we also record human memories as well. Dozens of oral history interviews are undertaken every year and these are carefully transcribed and made available on our website. Often they are accompanied by the personal photographs of the interviewee and these give an especially fascinating insight into times past on the Island. This is an important national archive providing, as it does, an insight into the lives and times of those who have made the Island what it is today.



taking our culture forward

















AWARDS

REIH BLEEANEY VANANNAN

Clare Kilgallon

Clare is one of the most talented performers and teachers of Manx culture in all its forms. For her it is a life-long passion, and her warmth in passing that on to others is truly remarkable.



NATIONAL CULTURAL AWARD - REIH BLEEANEY VANANNAN

Since 1986, cultural icons have been celebrated through the national cultural award, the Reih Bleeaney Vanannan – Manannan's Choice of the Year. The RBV is an annual award made by Culture Vannin to the person or group who, in the opinion of the panel of assessors, has made the most outstanding contribution to Manx culture.

CLARE KILGALLON

Appropriately for Island of Culture 2014, this year's recipient of the Reih Bleeaney Vanannan is Clare Kilgallon, who has made a huge contribution to Manx music and dance. Clare was introduced to Manx culture at a young age when she became a member of Aeglagh Vannin, learning songs, dances and stories from Mona Douglas. She has followed in the footsteps of her mentor, passing on the tradition to her own children and students of the Manx youth music movement, Bree.



Well-known as a Manx Gaelic singer, Clare regularly performs at Manx cultural events and features on various musical recordings. She leads the Manx language choir Cliogaree Twoaie and often represents the Island with them.

Clare is also a long-term member of Manx dance groups Bock Yuan Fannee and the Manx Folk Dance Society. Clare's enthusiasm for traditional Manx culture has been invaluable and Culture Vannin is delighted to present her with the award this year. Previous awards have been made for outstanding contributions in the areas of the visual arts, archaeological and historical research, the environment, music and Manx language and literature. Here is a selection of past RBV recipients:

CONSTANCE RADCLIFFE MBE (1921 - 2004)

The late Constance Radcliffe was awarded the RBV in 1989 for her enormous contribution to Manx society as a teacher, writer, historian and musician. She researched and published several important books about Maughold and Ramsey, recorded Manx dialect poetry and helped many to research their Manx roots.

DR BRIAN STOWELL

Dr Brian Stowell received the RBV in 2008 for his significant contribution towards the revival of Manx Gaelic. Having learnt from the last native speakers, Brian was the first Manx Language Officer for the Department of Education, he has translated and published many works in Manx and he continues to present a weekly programme on Manx Radio which explores a wide range of Manx subjects.

MARSHALL CUBBON OBE (1924 - 2012)

The 2002 Reih Bleeaney Vanannan Trophy was awarded to a former director of the Manx Museum: Marshall Cubbon OBE for his contribution in the preservation and communication of Manx archaeological, historical and cultural records and buildings. Significantly, in 1950, he almost single-handedly saved the Old Grammar School in Castletown from destruction, literally pinning the preservation order to the door as the bulldozers approached!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pete Jones	Manx Na
Ruth Keggin	Profile B
Phil Kneen	Adam Rl
Simon Lees	Chris Sh
Orry Lewin	Ruth Sut
Lily Publications	
	Ruth Keggin Phil Kneen Simon Lees Orry Lewin

Manx National H Profile Books Adam Rhodes Chris Sheard Ruth Sutherland

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Constance Radcliffe MBE



Dr Brian Stowell



Marshall Cubbon OBE

REIH BLEEANEY VANANNAN



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Culture Vannin is proud to support Island of Culture 2014

