

KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU

Mean Souree 2023 June

MANX MUSIC TODAY

Laa Jannoo Kiaull / Make Music Day

Make Music Day is an annual celebration of music-making that takes place in communities across the world on the 21st of June.

Make Music Day builds on a concept called 'Fete de la Musique' started in France in 1982 – that a day each year should be dedicated to music, with no barriers to people playing and enjoying live performance – and has now spread to more than 125 countries.

The 'rules' of Make Music Day are very simple:

1. Events and activities must be free to take part in and watch
2. Events must take place or premier on 21st June
3. Events must involve music

This means that events can be online or in-person, can be professional or for beginners, can be any genre, any scale, and involve everyone and anyone.

Here are some of the events happening in the Isle of Man on the 1st June:

- **Global Folk Music Swap** - <https://makemusicday.co.uk/folk-song-swap/> Bree workshop for 10-18 year old musicians to learn a tune from another country, 4pm in Culture Vannin.

- "Hop tu naa" is the Isle of Man's contribution this year - why not learn it yourselves and release your recording or video on MMD!

<https://tinyurl.com/4rn2c6zf>

- Clash Voar will perform in the Sailor's Shelter, Peel

- Proms in the Playground when Ramsey Grammar School Pep and Street Band will visit Bunscoill Rhumsaa

- Traditional music sessions in Black Dog Oven in Peel and O'Donnell's in Douglas

- The Family Library celebrations will include making DIY instruments and a mini disco!

>> Last year, Breton & Manx dance tunes in the Bunscoill Ghaelagh



In this month's edition...

- Caarjyn Cooidjagh sing the Keeils
- Manx music & dance across the seas
- Photos from the St Johns Oie Voaldyn



St Johns hosted a family friendly 'Oie Voaldyn' gathering last month to welcome the end of winter and the start of summer. Organised by Anna and Paul Rogers and sponsored by Soundcheck Charity, the event included seasonal arts and crafts, cross cuirn making, live music from Bree and dancing from Skeddan Jiarg, followed by a mock battle between the summer and winter (summer won!!), a costumed procession and the performance of a brand new Manx dance choreographed by Grainne Joughin to the melody of Arrane Oie Voaldyn by Paul Rogers.



Photo album by **Sue Jones photography**: <https://tinyurl.com/2kknphkj>



CAARJYN COOIDJAGH SING THE KEEILS

The week 20th-27th May saw the annual *Praying the Keeills* event where groups of walkers visited the remains of the old keeills of the island for pilgrimage and spiritual renewal. At choir practice over the previous months Caarjyn Cooijdagh choir members had mentioned that we would like more opportunities to sing some of our more contemplative/ spiritual songs outside, rather than solely in conventional church or chapel settings. So we contacted the Praying the Keeills Team and met an enthusiastic response from Phil Craine and Revd. Dee Dee Haines who invited us to accompany them on one of the walks.

So on a fine, warm Tuesday evening we met with a large group at Glen Mooar and proceeded with them up the glen to Cabbal Pheric and Spooyt Vane. It was a chance to sing alongside birdsong and water and was indeed inspiring. At the start of the walk, while we were still in sight of the sea, we sang Aalin' Clague's lovely setting of Yn Folliaight (The Secret). This arrangement came out of the Columba initiative and the words, attributed to St Columba and based on a poem of Ulster poet, John Montague, were translated into Manx by Aalin's Mum, Marie. At the keeill itself, where the bluebells were at their best, we sang Padjer Colum Killey and my setting of Son cur my ner, ta'n geurey ceaut ('For lo, the Winter is Past') from the Song of Solomon. In Manx of course! Between the singing there was time for contemplation and to listen to reflections as well as a little of the history of the keeill. Finally we went down to the waterfall itself where we sang Roish my row Flaunys er ny Chroo (Before the Heavens were Created) from the 18th century carval of that name, accompanied by the roar of the water behind us. This is such a lovely poem, it was a pleasure to arrange music for it, though if it was ever sung, it would not have been to this tune or in this way. (You can hear it on Caarjyn Cooijdagh's Ballakipheric CD)

Here are the words - my English version, so 100% accuracy not to be expected, but they give a flavour! [PTO] Recordings of us singing all these pieces outside can be heard on the Praying the Keeills 2023 fb pages: www.facebook.com/PrayingtheKeeills

We thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience and give our thanks to the Praying the Keeills team.
Annie Kissack



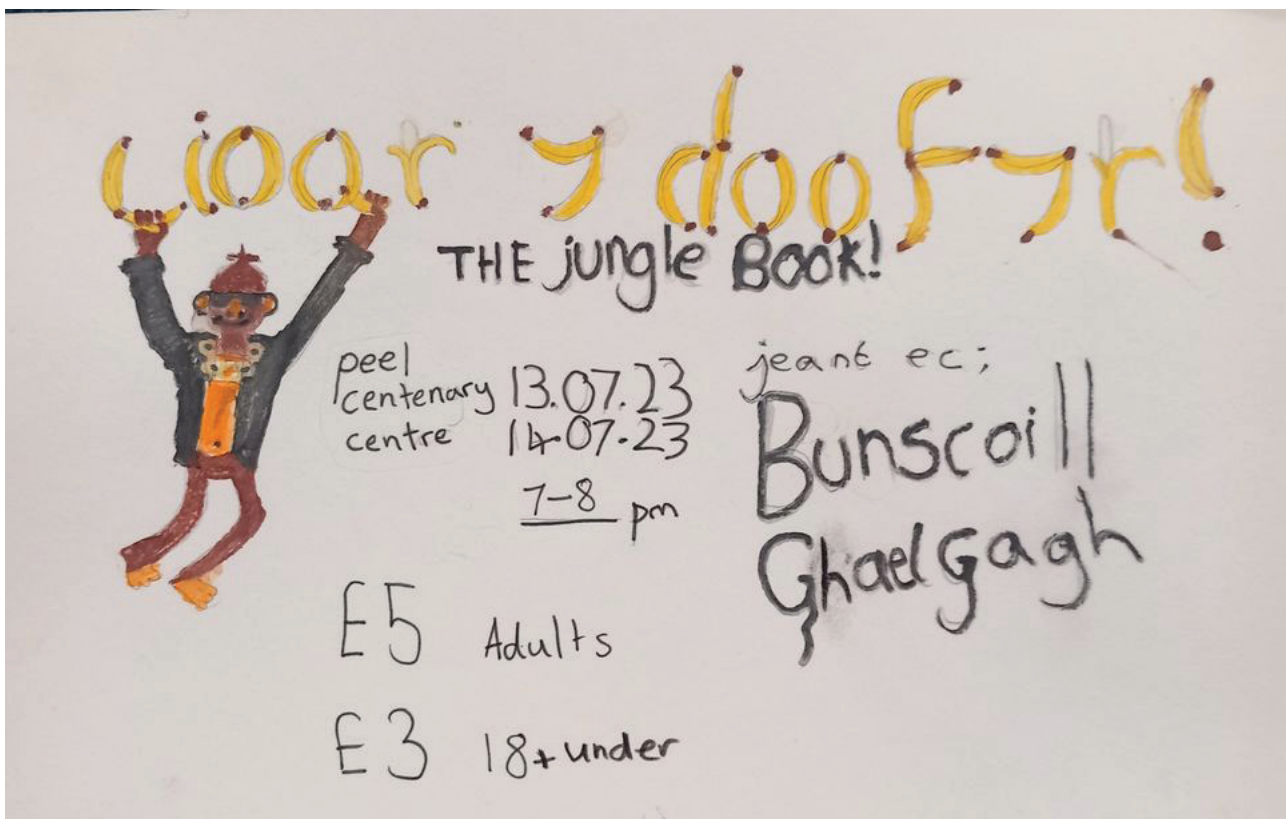
Roish my row Flaunys er ny Chroo (Before the Heavens were Created)

Before the heavens were created
or the bright angels formed.
Before the pure substance was set apart
that brought this miracle to pass;
What then existed
or is this too great to ponder?

Before there was light of sun or moon
or bright star whirling high above
or so much power in brilliant heaven
and measure made of night and day.
What then existed?
Time and season, where were they?

Before the hills raised up their heads,
before the low land appeared
Before rivers ran so smoothly
down through each glen as we see now
What then existed?
Before the great sea, the shores around?

Deep without base and high without peak,
Wide without edge and broad without end
was the everlasting void
and there was neither fire nor water there
nor was there purpose, substance,
but only almighty God.



THURSDAY, 13 JULY & FRIDAY 14 JULY 2023 FROM 19:00-20:00
Bunscoil Ghaelgagh present The Jungle Book, Peel Centenary Centre

Kiaull as Gaelg on Friday 23rd June!!

Music & Manx session, Albert Hotel, Port St Mary from 8pm-ish...

Raidio Failte will over on the Island (from Belfast) and they would love to meet lots of Manx speakers, musicians and singers.

LOOK OUT for Yn Chruinnaght committee band who will busking to raise funds for the festival outside M&S in Douglas on Monday 5th and Thursday 8th June from 11.30am-12.30pm.

Join them for a tune or dance if you fancy!

MORE MANX FOLK AWARDS 2023 FILMS RELEASED

Watch here:

<https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/videos/manx-folk-awards-2023-ks2-song-dance-773833/>

Highlights from this, the third of five days from the Manx Folk Awards, include:

- An amazing performance of 'Bridge Over Troubled Water' in Manx
- Three original newly-composed dances
- Brilliant performances of 'Fer ny Clein Click,' where words are replaced by clicked fingers, claps or mouth sounds as the song goes on
- The first ever video online of the traditional Manx dance, Car y Phoosee
- An original song in Manx, 'Dagh Laa as Oie,' which we've been listening to on repeat in the office, it's so great!
- A breath-takingly confident performance of the dance from Ny Guillyn Baney that won Arbory School the group dance prize
- An award-winning performance by Ballacottier Primary School of a Davy Knowles song, 'Roll Away'

Of course, this is just the third of five days of the Manx Folk Awards, at which over 1,000 young people took part with Manx music, song, dance and recitation.

The first set of 100 videos are available on these pages:

<https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/videos/>

The Manx Folk Awards are organised by Culture Vannin and Isle of Man Government, as a way to celebrate the Island's culture and inspire new generations to take part and find expression through it. More information is here:

<https://culturevannin.im/resources/manx-folk-awards-716357/>



'The Snaefell Summit cafe are planning to nurture a cultural/social environment within their cafe space, with cultural gatherings, Folk readings, performances, exhibitions and various other gatherings during the year. If you'd like to perform, exhibit your work, or have a subject related to the island, that you'd love to educate about, please get in touch with Adriana.snaefell@gmail.com'



Yn Chruinnaght held a lovely ‘Kiaull as Caffee’ fundraiser coffee morning in the Ebenezer Hall, Kirk Michael last month (20 May). There were performances from harp duo Amelie and Amelie, plus Manx dances from Skeddan Jiarg and tunes from Cara Rowles.

Peel community choir, Gobbag Groove, performed a medley of sea themed songs at the recent showing of the new short film, ‘Spuds and Herring’, produced by Neil Corlett (26 May). The choir included I’m a Native of Peel, Isle of Mona, My Island, My Home and an adapted version of What shall we do with the Drunken Sailor, with a Manx twist in the chorus; “Hey boy, and up she rises!”



MOUNTAIN MARATHON 2023 FILM

Claire from ‘Wild Ginger Running’ blog has included a Manx soundtrack to her latest video with tunes from Scran: [How NOT to do the Manx Mountain Marathon - 50k fell race 2,800m ascent \(eg don't navigate by banana\)](https://youtu.be/iP17FBrGCUo) WATCH: <https://youtu.be/iP17FBrGCUo>

ERIN ARTS CENTRE presents

MANANAN FESTIVAL

Monday 26th June - Saturday 1st July

CREEAGHT

A musical celebration of Manx women



Tuesday
27th June
7.30pm
£22

Tickets: www.TicketSource.co.uk/ErinArtsCentre
and at Erin Arts Centre Box Office

www.erinartscentre.com / Facebook & Instagram @Erinartscentre

Contact: 835858 | hello@erinartscentre.com

The Erin Arts Centre is a registered charity 236A

ERIN ARTS CENTRE presents

MANANAN FESTIVAL

Monday 26th June - Saturday 1st July



Simon Armitage
Monday 26th June



Creeaght
Tuesday 27th June



A4 Brass Quartet
Wednesday 28th June



Tim Horton
Thursday 29th June



Rant Fiddle Quartet
Friday 30th June



Harvey/O'Higgins
Saturday 1st July

Tickets: www.TicketSource.co.uk/ErinArtsCentre and at EAC Box Office

www.erinartscentre.com / Facebook & Instagram @Erinartscentre

Contact: 835858 | hello@erinartscentre.com

The Erin Arts Centre is a registered charity 236A

BUY TICKETS ONLINE



Mananan Festival ~ 26 June - 1st July 2023

The Mananan Festival starts a breathless week with a reading by Poet Laureate Simon Armitage, taking on original Manx composition Creeaght, award-winning brass quartet A4, superstar pianist Tim Horton and exuberant folk-fiddlers Rant, before collapsing in a heap on Saturday with the thrilling jazz experience of The Harvey O'Higgins project. Author Shirley Mann restores order on Sunday, with an afternoon launch of her new novel *Bridget's War*. More info: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/erinartscentre>

TTE
2023
line-up

THE BLACK DOG QUEEN

PEEL . ISLE OF MAN

- 01/6 CLASH VOOR
- 02/6 NELL & KELLY
- 03/6 CRYSTAL METHODISTS
- 04/6 THE GETAWAYS
- 05/6 IDEAL FORGERY
- 06/6 TWANG DRAGONS
- 07/6 THE REVEILLETES
- 08/6 THE BALLAGHS
- 09/6 FOXTRAP
- 10/6 STEVE NASH

FREE. MUSIC FROM 8PM

woodfired pizza licensed bar indoor/outdoor seating



truman falls
JEFF JEPSON

THE LAXEY INSTITUTE SATURDAY 22ND JULY
TICKETS £5 DOORS 730
WWW.THELAXEYINSTITUTE.IM



YN CHRUINNAGHT

Celtic

GATHERING 2023

CELTIC MUSIC, SONG & DANCE FESTIVAL

CONCERTS | WORKSHOPS | CEILIS | SESSIONS | CRAFT FAIR

24 - 30 JULY 2023

TRIP

24th July | Jerrey-souree | Peel Centenary Centre
7.30 pm | Tix £15 / 5

More Information: <https://ynchruinnaght.com/>

SONG NIGHT OIE ARRANEAGH

25th July | Jerrey-souree | Masonic Hall Peel
7.30 pm | Tix £5 / 3

More Information: <https://ynchruinnaght.com/>

AN CAILÍN CIÚIN - THE QUIET GIRL (FILM)

26th July | Jerrey-souree | Peel Centenary Centre
7.15 pm | Tix £5

More Information: <https://ynchruinnaght.com/>

FAMILY CEILI

26th July | Jerrey-souree | Masonic Hall Peel
7 pm | Tix £5 / 3

More Information: <https://ynchruinnaght.com/>

KARINE POLWART & DAVE MILLIGAN

27th July | Jerrey-souree | Masonic Hall Peel
7.30 pm | Tix £18 / 5

More Information: <https://ynchruinnaght.com/>

RUTH KEGGINS & RACHEL HAIR

28th July | Jerrey-souree | Lezayre church
7.30 pm | Tix £10 / 5

More Information: <https://ynchruinnaght.com/>

MEGA MANX CEILI

28th July | Jerrey-souree | Villa Marina
7.30 pm | Tix £15 / 5

More Information: <https://ynchruinnaght.com/>

DERVISH

29th July | Jerrey-souree | Peel Centenary Centre
7.30 pm | Tix £22 / 5

More Information: <https://ynchruinnaght.com/>

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE: www.celticgathering.im & in Celtic Gold, Peel

FULL MOON FESTIVAL

JUNE 30TH - JULY 2ND

BUSHWACKA!



VOODOO
BANDITS

LEE JOHN

A STONES THROW BAHUKI
DROP KICK THE FISH DUSTY PLANKTON
FRANCESCA MAY JAMIE BLACKBURN
MOTHER FUNKERS NATHAN THOMPSON
NEIL COWIE NIGHT TIME TENNIS
NO ONE DIED OTTY LIVE
RED HOT CHILLY YESSIRS
SAMMY J LIVE SAX THE GETAWAYS

3 STOOLS COLLECTIVE ALAN STACEY ALAN VANNIN
AUDIOWOK BUSY LADY CLASH VOOR COOL HAND
CORKWING FLUKE GOMH HALF NAKED HEADLINE JC STORMZ
LEWIS PARKER LOOSE CREW MO BEATS NINJA FINGERS
ROGUE FADER SECRET GIG SHADY ACRES THE AAA VIXEN
THE DAVID MAPP ORCHESTRA TIGER BOOM TREE NY KIARE

ATILLA DANIEL LOONEY DANNY LIP TROTT PADDY RANTIN STEREO AND MCGRATH
STEVE BUTT T4 BARRY FEARON BRIAN ROONEY

DJ SETS FROM
VOLUME

MORE ACTS TO
BE ANNOUNCED!



ACROSS 5 MUSIC AREAS

DAY, WEEKEND & CAMPING TICKETS



PROTEC
SECURITY

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

RESTCARS



BUY TICKETS - WWW.THEFULLMOONFESTIVAL.CO.UK

Friday 2nd June

Biskee Brisht on
Port Erin Beach

8pm

free!!



Sunday 4th June

Trad tunes

at the

Black Dog Oven

Peel

1 - 4pm

Manx Primary Schools Singing Concert
Presents ...

Wed 28th June 2023
7pm

Villa Marina Royal Hall

Tickets: £0 / Concessions £5

Available From the Villa Gentry Box Office

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DOUGLAS BUXTON MUSIC TRUST
email: dbmt@manx.net / CHARITY NUMBER 246



For updates & news on Manx music & dance,
follow www.facebook.com/groups/manxmusicanddance

kiauli noa

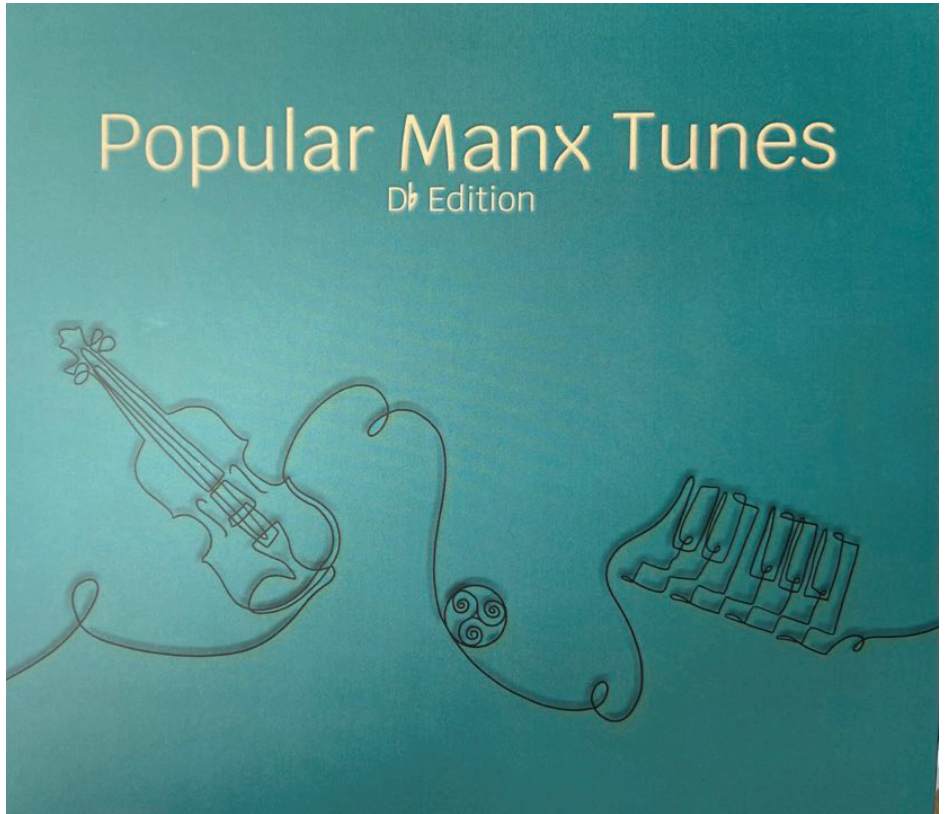
David Kilgallon and Tomas Callister have produced a new album together, to showcase a variety of tunes as they might be heard in a session in the Isle of Man. With the support of Culture Vannin the Manx musicians have finished the CD and it will be ready for sale on 12th June; Bridge Bookshop, Manx National Heritage & Mannin Music.

This album is a selection of popular Manx tunes played in the Isle of Man

today which were originally collected in the late 19th century. Rather

than perform to the notation of manuscripts, we focused

on how each tune speaks to us, reimagining and arranging them with the artistic spirit and flare of the fiddle players of the time.



Includes digital pre-order of Popular Manx Tunes Db Edition. You get 2 tracks now (streaming via the free Bandcamp app and also available as a high-quality download in MP3, FLAC and more), plus the complete album the moment it's released.

digital album releases July 5, 2023 / item ships out on or around July 1, 2023

Head over to bandcamp where you can pre-order today!

<https://davidkilgallon.bandcamp.com/album/popular-manx-tunes-d-edition>

Full Digital Release will be in July.

Thanks go to Adam Rhodes & Adam Brown on Bouzouki & Bodhran as well as Isla Callister for her artwork.

NEW! Check out this atmospheric new May Eve theme composed by David Kilgallon
Oie Voaldyn - Feeagh Ghoo (soundcloud.com)

<https://tinyurl.com/fz7xnd4n>

HARP DUET

"Mannanan Beg Mac y Lir"
performed by Twice as Nice
Celtic Harp Duo:

<https://youtu.be/qvIw4SHMs0g>

• • • • •
• **Soundcloud & Youtube** •
• **corner** •

• "Song for Manannan" •
• Live Loop by Celia Farran •

• <https://youtu.be/yKPIXdfAjpE> •

• • • • •

REVIEW

Single: Montreal Sky

Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe and Everest Witman

The debut single from Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe and Everest Witman is a medley of traditional and contemporary tunes born out of a mutual love of Scottish traditional music, and will be released on 5 May 2023.

Hailed by Folk Wales Magazine as an “incredible fiery fiddler,” Elizabeth’s playing has been described as “a Zen ideal realized in Celtic Music.” She is quickly making a name for herself in the world of traditional music and has performed extensively across Europe and North America. Everest is a sought-after guitarist and mixing engineer based in Montreal, Quebec and has performed across North America, as well as in Europe. His band, Kavaz, is due to release their debut album later this year.

The first tune on the track is the traditional Scottish march, The Eagle’s Whistle, and the second is an original reel by Elizabeth called Montreal Sky, from which the track takes its title. Both having grown up in the northeast of the US, the pair originally played together briefly in the contra dance band Golden before continuing to play for dances as a duo.

Although this is their first recorded collaboration, both musicians have previously released albums of traditional music. Elizabeth released her critically acclaimed debut album *The Coast Road* with Daniel Quayle in 2022, while Everest has released two albums with his popular neo-trad trio, Nova. Nova’s first album, *Little Sky*, came out in 2015, followed by the highly- anticipated *Chasing the Sunset* in 2019.

“Elizabeth’s playing is simply stunning. She has the silkiest, beautiful tone and such effortless ornamentation. And my oh my does she know how to write a tune! Montreal Sky will likely become a firm favourite in the repertoire of trad players. Her new single with Everest Witman is gorgeous. This pair really know how to play music. They hold back in all the right places but can really let loose too! I hope there’s a full album coming!”

- Ryan Young

You can give it a listen on pretty much all streaming platforms (iTunes, Spotify, Amazon Music, TIDAL, etc), and Spotify:

<https://open.spotify.com/track/4sM9FkXIVPsmFuNyrsoyKH?si=783f17f66ab94507>



CHECK OUT THE MANX MUSIC SPOTIFY PLAYLIST & make suggestions of anything missing - manxmusic@culturevannin.im:
<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/4FuL5heugMH5ua8zzxxQIM?si=a97977b5cd0f433e>

Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea



Dr Chloe Woolley (Manx Music Development Officer for Culture Vannin) and her family band performed for the London-Manx annual lunch in Holborn last month (13 May). Chloe was invited to give the annual lecture about Manx music and calendar customs, and each tradition throughout the year was illustrated with a song, tune, dance, poem or recitation in Manx performed by Chloe, husband Malcolm Stitt and children, Cristl and Kerron. The audience enjoyed the variety show and Cristl closed the lecture by leading the whole room in a rendition of "Ellan Vannin".

www.facebook.com/groups/1468756610108681

Chloe also gave an online lecture and song workshop for students of the Bangalore based **Harmony Summer Vocal Intensive** last month.

www.harmony-themusicsschool.com/hsvi

The headteacher and deputy of Gaelscoil Mhíchíl Cíosóg in Ennis, Co. Clare, Ireland paid a visit to the Isle of Man's Bunscoil Ghaelgagh last month. Sinead brought her fiddle and joined Manx musicians for a session in the White House <<



Manx music in Japan - John John Festival played Girls of Balladoole

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/manxmusicanddance/permalink/10160983453462417/>

<https://www.johnjohnfestival.com/johnjohnfestival-english-info/>

The brilliant Japanese trio, John John Festival, pulled out all the stops on a version of 'The Girls of Balladoole,' a traditional piece of Manx music very obviously from Arbory.

Toshi, the bodhran player, discovered the Isle of Man through the music and he even came here to dig deeper into Manx culture. Since then he has been flying the Manx cultural flag in Japan and beyond.



... Culture is a bridge that joins people all over the world, and which can inspire people like Toshi to take the Manx music message far and wide!

This clip is from the Mori, Michi, Ichiba Festival in Gamagori, Japan, last week.

Gura mie mooar ayd, Rachel Hair : Harp Player, for the video clip.

Rachel too, of course, is a leading international advocate of Manx music - and a brilliant one too! More info:

www.johnjohnfestival.com/

www.facebook.com/johnjohnfestival

Festival: <https://morimichiichiba.jp/>

Rachel Hair: <https://www.rachelhair.com/>

EFN EUROPEAN FOLK NETWORK

EUROPEAN FOLK DAY

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS

We are collecting artists' favourite songs and tunes from their repertoire in a public repository of recordings for the European Folk Day's website.

How to submit your music?

Send us your song or tune in mp3 to media@europeanfolkday.eu
Tell us your name, where the piece is from and a statement that you have the rights and you allow us to share it on the website www.europeanfolkday.eu

The European Folk Day (on & around 23 September 2023) is by you for you, by us, for us, for everyone...

Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe & Daniel Quayle

TRAD DUO BRING MANX TRADITIONS TO WALES

Manx Trad Duo, *Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe & Daniel Quayle*, will bring their unique blend of traditional Manx music and contemporary tunes to the Gower Folk Festival on 10 May 2023.

The duo, whose debut album, *The Coast Road*, was released to critical acclaim last September, and contains music from the Isle of Man, Ireland, Scotland and Estonia, where they toured extensively in 2022.



The 27th
GOWER FOLK FESTIVAL
9th – 11th June 2023
AT WEOBLEY CASTLE FARM
LLANRHIDIAN, GOWER SA3 1HB

APPEARING:

- The Melrose Quartet
- Eliza Carthy Trio
- The Canny Band
- VRI
- The Wilderness Yet
- Jez Hellard & The Djukella Orchestra
- Brian Peters
- Bryony Griffith & Alice Jones
- Owen Spafford & Louis Campbell
- Corys Hafana
- Janice Burns & Jon Doran
- Sutherland
- Griselda Sanderson & Louis Bingham
- Kantref
- Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe & Daniel Quayle
- Metheglin
- Seb Stone

Fantastic Music
Real Ales
Great Food
Childrens Entertainment
On-Site Camping

Tickets available on the Festival Website at:
www.goverfolkfestival.co.uk



For further information contact Joy Toole at:
joy@goverfolkfestival.co.uk or text/phone: 07895 033284

“We’re really excited to be bringing our music to Wales for the first time, and to share the beauty of Manx music with the audiences at Gower” says Elizabeth. Although she has toured extensively in France, Estonia, and North America, this will be her first festival appearance in Wales. Daniel thinks it “will be a great opportunity to both learn more about the Welsh music tradition, and hopefully teach some musicians some Manx tunes” and that it will “complement Elizabeth’s popular Manx tune workshops”, which she’s been teaching over Google Meet for the past months.

The Coast Road by Elizabeth Davidson-Blythe & Daniel Quayle was released on Scarleod Records on 30 September 2022, and is available for purchase at edbdq.bandcamp.com

For interviews, hi-res photos and music for review, please contact Daniel at eadbdq@gmail.com

Daniel and Elizabeth will also be representing the Isle of Man at this year’s LOWENDER festival in Redruth, Cornwall 25 - 29 October
www.lowender.co.uk/festival/performers/
www.lowender.co.uk/festival/programme-2023/

RESEARCH NEWS

ARTHUR FREDERICK KILLEY

Ramsey Town Commissioners as part of their business on 7 November 1899, resolved “[t]hat the applications of Thomas Kaye and Arthur Killey for street musicians Licences be not entertained.” Whilst Kaye has been dealt with in another piece, now there is the name of another street musician to be noted. Like Kaye, Killey also had a fondness for the drink.... In 1901, “Mary Jane Smith and Arthur Killey were charged with having been drunk and incapable in Upper Church-street on the Saturday evening previous.” The report in the *Isle of Man Examiner* continued that Killey “contrives to gain a livelihood by playing on an accordion.” The *Peel City Guardian* mentioned that he was “a blind man belonging to Peel,” the evidence of one of the police officers stating that “he was a pauper from Peel, who went about with an accordion begging, and the woman went with him.” The fine was to be ten shillings or fourteen days in gaol. The next year saw the pair being “charged with wandering on the Loch Parade without visible means of sustenance.” There had already been further run-ins with the authorities, the pair having appeared twice before the courts within the past six months for drunkenness. This time they were both sentenced to a month’s hard labour.

In 1901, the census found Killey enumerated as an “[i]tinerent musician,” lodging at 9 Charles Street in Peel, and with his age given as thirty. The next census, 1911, saw him now married and living at Bulrenny Cottage on Richmond Hill in Braddan. His occupation was given as “Miner (Lead)” to which the census enumerator added first, “Retired” and then “Travelling Musician.” In the column “Infirmity,” entered was the comment “Totally blind (Result of accident at 26).” “A Deserving Case.—An Appeal” was the header for a letter to the *Isle of Man Times* in 1894, written by Robert S. Stephen, of Spring Valley near Douglas. Killey had just arrived back in the Island, on Good Friday that year. Born in Peel, he went to sea at fourteen, and was a blue seas sailor. At Iquique in Chile, he fell from the riggings and was taken to hospital. After recovering from his injuries he went to work at the silver mines some seven miles from the port, but “[w]hile engaged in blasting, he was ordered to withdraw a charge which had hung fire. The charge exploded, blew off two fingers of his right hand, and severely injured his eyes.” After being discharged totally blind he had been sent by the British Consul back to England.

The letter writer mentioned that he was now living with his brother and sister in Douglas, adding that “[h]e speaks Spanish fluently, and is learning to play the accordion.” Stephen was attempting to raise £21 in order to sponsor him for the Liverpool School for the Blind where he could learn basket making in order to be able to earn a living in the future. Killey was later admitted to the Poor Asylum and, as with Kaye, there was the inevitable wrangling over who was to pay for his upkeep whilst there. Mentioned was that he was born illegitimate, his mother abandoning him at the age of five when she moved to England and later married there. It was decided that as she could not traced the charge would fall upon the Poor Relief Society for German and Peel. Killey failed in his attempt to be sent to Liverpool and the suggestion was now to try to find him a place at Edinburgh in a similar institution. The *Isle of Man Times* in its issue for 2 March 1895, reported that the application for Killey to be admitted to the Edinburgh Blind Asylum had been refused, and the same date the *Isle of Man Examiner* published a letter from Stephen that subscriptions were to be returned to those who had donated.

Killey was charged in May that year with being drunk and disorderly in Cattle Market Street in Douglas. He was fined five shillings with costs, the High Bailiff commenting that Killey ““had refused many of the kind offers that had been made to assist him, and preferred to walk the streets of Douglas with a harmonium, asking for help.” The month of June saw him arrested again for being drunk and disorderly and fined the same amount, and “Mr Harris warned defendant, that if he was found begging or playing a harmonium in the streets of Douglas he would be sent to prison.”

In 1911, Arthur Killey and his wife, Mary Jane, were admitted to the Poor Asylum. The following year she was summoned before the High Bailiff as it had emerged that her marriage was a bigamous one. Described with the language of the time as a cripple, she had to be “carried into the witness box.” She had married Killey in 1902, having been married before to “a man named Stephenson” when she was sixteen years old, who she later left after sixteen years of marriage. She had been unconcerned about her marital status at the time of her second marriage, answering the question as to whether she knew then if her husband was still alive or not with the answer that “I can’t say I thought of him.” It is not stated how this first marriage was brought to the attention of the authorities but they acted on it: “On Thursday the High-Bailiff of Douglas decided that the settlement of Mary Jane Killey, who was married to Arthur Killey, was Binchester, and an order was made for her removal.”

Stephen Miller RBV

“TOMMY THE TRUMP” (1899)

Last Saturday, at the Douglas Court of Petty Sessions, the Douglas Poor Relief Committee applied for a declaration of the settlement of Thomas Arthur Kaye, alias “Tommy the Trump,” a pauper, now in the Poor Asylum.—Mr Ll. Kneale, advocate, appeared for the committee, and notice had been given to the Poor Relief Committee of Lonan, where it was thought the pauper’s settlement might be.

Thos. Arthur Kaye, examined by Mr Kneale, said he was 49 years of age. He was born in Ramsey, and was brought up in Laxey, and stayed until he was 23 years of age. He then went to Barrow-in-Furness, and stayed in England until 1881. In England he did not reside for three consecutive years in any one place, excepting when he was “doing time” for seven years. A few months after leaving gaol he came to the Isle of Man and had lived in various parts. Douglas had been his home, but he was going back and forward to other parts—Ramsey, Laxey, and Foxdale. At Foxdale he had stayed for four years consecutively.

Henry Cubbon (Douglas) said that Kaye had stayed with him off and on, once for eighteen months at a time.

Theophilus Hogg said he remembered Kaye living in Laxey when a young man. Since 1881 Kaye had travelled the country as a “wandering musician” playing a concertina.—Cross-examined by the Rev. John Quine, on behalf of the Lonan Committee, Mr Hogg did not know that Douglas was the headquarters of Kaye for years back.

Mr W.J. Moore, Inspector for the Douglas Committee, said that Kaye had for the past ten years been wandering all over the Isle of Man playing a concertina. During the last ten years witness was positive Kaye had not resided in Douglas for three consecutive years.

The Rev John Quine said that if the settlement in Foxdale was proved the liability of Laxey would cease.—The matter was postponed for notice to be given to the Patrick Committee.

“Tommy the Trump’s Settlement. A Wandering Minstrel in Truth.” *Isle of Man Examiner* 11 February 1899: 2g.

*

This piece was found as ever by chance and here we have a “wandering musician” in the words of the article here, Thomas Arthur Kaye, who had been travelling around the Island playing a concertina, his nickname being “Tommy the Trump.” He had now fallen on hard times and was in the Poor Asylum and the discussion was over which parish would pick up the bill for his care. His peripatetic lifestyle, shifting from parish to parish in the Island, was what was causing a certain level of consternation, as to which parish the charge for him should fall. Indeed, such was the situation that their deliberations had to be resumed a week later. There are elements of a tragic farce here as each parish tried to pass on the responsibility for Kaye to another and as a result the hearing involved in attendance, as the *Isle of Man Times* reported, two magistrates, their clerk, two advocates, a Poor Relief Inspector, two clergymen, twelve members representing three Poor Relief committees and around the same number of witnesses. In the end, it was adjudicated that Lonan would pick up the tab for Kaye.

By this time, they had discovered that Kaye was born in 1850, in Ramsey but the family moved to Laxey soon after, where he had remained until he was twenty-three years of age. He later left for England, to Barrow-in-Furness, served time for seven years (the offence was not stated), and returned to the Island in 1881. He subsequently worked on-and-off at various jobs, mentioned was working on the Breakwater for eighteen months, spending four years on the washing floors at the Foxdale mines, and working at the fishing for six seasons. However, “[f]or years he had been engaged ‘playing the music’ all over the Island, staying for a few days at intervals of a month or longer at various lodging-houses in the different towns.”

The 1861 census finds Thomas aged eleven and living with his family at 6, Laxey Bridge, in Laxey, his father a lead miner. In 1871, they were still in the village, and Kaye was now working as a labourer at the Laxey Mines. The 1881 census sees him lodging with Ann Quayle and family in Malew; his father too was lodging there. Both men were enumerated as labourers. It is with the 1891 census that he is first enumerated as a musician, residing in a lodging house run by Ann Ross at 3 Strand Street in Ramsey. In 1901, he is returned as a labourer living in what was being run as a lodging house in Back Strand Street in Douglas.

That same year of 1899, Ramsey Town Commissioners turned down Kaye’s application for a street musicians licence—it had little effect, as in 1900, “[o]n Monday morning, before the High-Bailiff of Ramsey, Thomas Kaye, a musician, well-known throughout the island, was fined 2s. 6d. and costs for being drunk and disorderly on Saturday night.” Poor and destitute, his tunes unrecorded, nevertheless he was determined to carry on playing, and left us a record of at least one person who went about the Island “playing the music.”

'Kanie from the Isle of Man'

by Maurice Powell

Dr Chloe Woolley recently informed me of some fascinating finds amongst a collection of recently rediscovered 78" acetate recordings emanating from radio and television dealer T. H. Colebourn in the early 1950s. Among them is a snatch of Eva Kane singing Kanie from the Isle of Man. Here is the story behind this small thread in the vast tapestry that is the story of musical entertainment on the Isle of Man during the heyday of the tourist industry.

Eva Kane, the daughter of Mr and Mrs Leo Kane, for many years the popular proprietors of the Howstrake Hotel, Onchan, made her debut in the local newspapers* when at the age of three she appeared with fifty other children in the annual dancing display given by the pupils of the Misses Olga Harris and Wynne Brown at the Gaiety Theatre on a cold December night in 1926. The 'Olwyn Cabaret' featured Eva and nine other tiny tots in a sequence entitled 'The Babies and their Pets'. The rest, as they say, is history, for Eva became one of the best-loved Manx entertainers: singer, siffleur (whistler), dancer, actress and pantomime star, a 'versatile personality girl'.

* Isle of Man Examiner, 24. 12. 1926

In January 1952, the Mona's Herald announced that Eva - currently appearing in pantomime in Bath - would feature in a song and dance routine with the Twelve Toppers in Richard Afton's television show 'Music Hall', broadcast from the Prince's Theatre, London, on Saturday 16th February,* but the show was postponed following the death of King George VI and re-scheduled for Saturday 3rd May. In April** Eva announced that 'with the object of giving the Island some publicity' she would henceforth be adopting Florrie Forde's famous song Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly as her signature tune, adapting the words of the chorus to 'Kanie from the Isle of Man', and, as she 'swept gracefully on to the stage' dressed in a gown made specially for her on the Island, the orchestra could be heard playing the final bars of that song. Her programme also included Somewhere Over the Rainbow from The Wizard of Oz and the Serenade from The Student Prince during which she demonstrated her prowess as a siffleur. The cast of the show also included two popular Welsh stars: 'Two Ton' Tessie O'Shea and Dorothy Squires.

* Eva had previously appeared on television in February 1950 (together with comedian Monsewer Eddie Gray and 'vent' Peter Brough with Archie Andrews), in March 1950 (together with a young Julie Andrews), and in February 1952 (with pianist Winifred Atwell and comedian Hal Monty).

** Mona's Herald 22.04.1952

Back home, the Kane's had five television sets especially installed at the Howstrake Hotel by Messrs Colebourn in order that their friends could watch the show.

Andreas, May 2023.

LISTEN Oral history interview with Eva Kane:

<https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/oralhistory/eva-kane-350872/>



EFDSS Library Conference: Call for Papers

Friday 5th of May 2023

Folk dance: grappling with tradition

The 2023 Vaughan Williams Memorial Library Conference,

Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 November

Papers can be given in-person at Cecil Sharp House, London, or remotely.

We seek proposals on any form of folk dance relating to the theme of revival, reproduction, reimagination, re-creation, reformation, refashioning and/or reconstruction.

- Papers may interrogate (amongst other things):
- How researchers might go about reconstructing historical forms
- Reconstruction vs reimagination in performance
- How people have sought to revive folk dance(s) in the past and what it takes today
- Traditional forms of dance in contemporary society
- The presentation of folk dance in the theatre
- Why revive? What constitutes success?
- Do invention and innovation destroy tradition or ensure its survival?

Papers can be either historically focused or consider the contemporary context.

Proposals should be no more than 300 words long, and if selected, resulting papers will last c.20 minutes followed by c.10 minutes of questions.

Please email proposals to Tiffany Hore, Library and Archives Director, at tiffany@efdss.org, by 5pm BST on Friday 28 July.

www.efdds.org/about-us/what-we-do/news/12592-library-conference-call-for-papers

THE DANCES - Excerpt from '*...while the others did some capers: the Manx Traditional Dance revival 1929 to 1960*' by Cinzia Curtis:

2. The Leighton Stowell Book of Manx Dances

- 2.4 Manx Duet Dance – Fouyr Oarn (Gathering in the Barley)

Another dance composed by Stowell, although he often uses the term compiled, this time for couple Maisie Allison and Daphne Corlett for a performance at the Victoria Road P.T.A. The only other couples dance available to them was Chyndaa yn Bwoailley which they felt was a little 'hackneyed.' It was based on a poem by Stowell inspired by watching a barley harvest. The tune was composed to accompany the poem and the dance written to the tune. The notes, tune for piano and poem were published in Leighton Stowell Book of Manx Dances in 1981 and the poem is evidently intended as a purt y beayll. (MNHL 09683, Stowell:1972 & Stowell: 1981)

READ THE FULL THESIS:

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

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

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

John John Festival recently played Manx tune, "Girls of Balladoole" at a festival in Japan. Along with Betsy Baker, Isla Callister teaches this tune on one of her *Manx Monday* fiddle tutorials. She says: The Girls of Balladoole'.. was collected from a Wesley Cleator of Peel and Castletown. This tune is played in both 3/2 and slipjig form, so take your pick.. or play both of them like we did!

Both versions of the tune are available to download as a PDF:

www.islacallister.com/images/girlsofballadoole32.pdf (3/2) and

www.islacallister.com/images/girlsofballadooleslip.pdf (slip jig).

Watch the video tutorial: <https://www.islacallister.com/blog/4>

The Girls of Balladoole

3/2

Manx Trad.

Musical notation for 'The Girls of Balladoole' in 3/2 time, featuring two staves of music with first and second endings.

The Girls of Balladoole

9/8 (Slip Jig)

Manx Trad.

Musical notation for 'The Girls of Balladoole' in 9/8 time (Slip Jig), featuring two staves of music with first and second endings.

Discover all of the *Transcriptions of the Month* songs & tunes here:
www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_467456.html

CALENDAR

JUNE

2 Biskee Brisht, Port Erin Beach, 8pm
TT – loads of gigs!!
www.timeenough.im/2023/05/28/tt-bands-2023/
21 Laa Jannoo Kiaull / Make Music Day
23 Kiaull as Gaelg session, Albert Hotel, Port
st Mary, 8pm-ish
26 Elgar in the Isle of Man, lecture by
Maurice Powell, Elgar Society, York
28 Sound of Magic concert, Villa Marina,
7pm
26 - 1 July Mananan International Festival,
Erin Arts Centre
30 – 2 July Full Moon Festival with Clash
Vooar, Scran and loads of Manx acts

JULY

5 Tynwald Day
13 – 14 The Jungle Book / Liooar y Doofyr,
Centenary Centre, Peel, 7pm, £5/£3
24 – 30 Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering
www.ynchruinnaght.com

AUGUST

4 – 13 Festival Interceltique de Lorient



YN CHRUINNAGHT
Celtic
GATHERING 2023

DERVISH
KARINE POLWART &
DAVE MILLIGAN
TRIP
RACHEL HAIR &
RUTH KEGGIN
MORVRAN
AN CAILÍN CIÚIN
THE MEGA MANX CEILI
AND MORE!

24th - 30th July 2023
Peel & Douglas, Isle of Man

ynchruinnaght.com
info@ynchruinnaght.com

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 R.A.O.B. (Buffs) Club, 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
Stay up to date: www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan

~ SESSIONS ~

culture vannin

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

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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